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Council Finance Update

A recent report at a Havering Cabinet meeting gave an update on the Council's financial position, and the processes which will be taken to balance the budget for 2024/25. The report identified that the Council is still in a difficult position financially, with continued high inflation and increased Social Care demands and costs, placing further pressures on the budget. The report shows a projected £14 million budget gap for 24/25. There is a comprehensive review of all Services being undertaken over the summer in order to fully verify pressures and identify savings and efficiencies to close the gap. The review showed the Council, like many other London Boroughs, are facing significant increased demands on our Services, such as in Housing, in particular homelessness, and Social Care. Homelessness is an emerging issue across London and Havering, like many other Boroughs, have shortages in housing compared to demand leaving the Council no option but to use high-cost temporary accommodation. Havering has also seen a sharp increase in the number of Looked after Children requiring complex packages. The Council will continue to fully meet its statutory duties. However, increased demand is placing further pressure on an already stretched budget. The Council has already identified £21 million in year budget pressures. The Council is working hard to control the 2023/24 budget position, in order to minimise the impact on future years. Historic Government underfunding has resulted in Havering already having some of the lowest levels of reserves in London. The report highlights how Havering continues to be disadvantaged by the Government's decision to use outdated formulae to apportion central grant.

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS

Congratulations Jacqueline Williams



We are pleased to inform you that Jacqueline Williams was elected to Havering Council as one of your Residents' Councillors at the by-election held on Thursday, 10th August for the ward of Upminster. Jacqueline fills the vacancy which arose following the sad passing of Councillor Linda Hawthorn. Jacqueline lives in the Upminster ward, is a former Chair of the Upminster & Cranham Residents' Association and is very familiar with the work of the UC&RA and the issues that are important to residents locally. She is looking forward to representing you at the Town Hall and in next month's Bulletin we will hear from Jacqueline directly.

New Waste and Recycling Contract

Havering Council has a new waste and recycling collection contract, which is due to commence on 22 October 2023. The new Company, Urbaser Ltd, will take on the current in-house Street Cleansing Service, the existing outsourced Waste and Recycling and Weed Control Services. The contract will also include the Green Garden Waste Collection Service, fly-tipping clearance, graffiti cleaning and collection of clinical and bulky waste. Havering's existing street cleansing staff, as well as those from the current waste collection contractor, will be fully supported as they transfer over to Urbaser Ltd at the start of the new contract. As well as continuing with weekly waste and recycling collections, Havering will also see an improved recycling service - with glass being included with orange recycling collections for the first time. The range of plastics collected in more robust orange recycling bags will also increase, to include pots, tubs and trays. The contract will also offer a range of environmental improvements, including a new fleet of waste, recycling, street cleansing vehicles and electric powered equipment. The carbon emissions generated by the non-electric vehicles will be offset using accredited Carbon Capture schemes in the UK, and as a result, the contract will contribute to meeting net zero emissions.

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS

Subscriptions

Have you paid your £2 annual subscription for the UC&RA? Whilst we hope to cover the cost of The Bulletin through advertising, which we generally do, we need funds to cover any legal bills to fight any problems on your behalf.

continued on page 2

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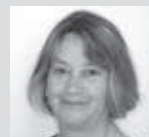
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Phil Ruck 07858 188939



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If you are out we will leave an envelope. Please return this to the address on the front. A number of residents have indicated they are happy to pay by cheque and increase their donation. Any cheques should be made to Upminster & Cranham Residents' Association. We take an active interest in supporting you and will continue to do so. We are active all the time, not just election times.

Your help needed

We need a volunteer please each month who could drop off Bulletins to 4/5 of our deliverers. If you could also assist with delivering The Bulletin to around 40 households in Upminster each month please contact me. Help us to help you. If you can assist please contact me on 07908 916119 or email gjo.anastasi@hotmail.com or bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk.

company and the developer. The developer was granted a licence and the Council has to work with the contractor around the dates and safety of the site. Despite efforts to get an alternative hopper bus in place for the residents in Avon Road during the closure, both TfL and the developer failed to support our numerous requests. We also suggested the increase in frequency of the 347, which was also refused. We would like to take this opportunity to thank those residents who supported neighbours during this period, who did not have access to alternative transport.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Recent planning application at mini golf site refused

Havering Council announced in July that a recent planning application (P0552.23) at the former mini golf site in Hall Lane had been refused, citing seven reasons for the decision. The application was for an extra house, in addition to the ones already approved, as well as other relatively minor alterations to the approved plans.

Hall Lane road closure

At the time of writing the Hall Lane road closure is underway. This was to connect the former Pitch & Putt housing development into the main sewer. This is not a Council planning matter but an arrangement between the utility

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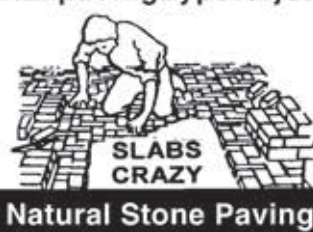


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ULEZ - The fight continues

On Saturday, 5th August HRA Councillors Laurance Garrard, Gerry O'Sullivan and David Godwin attended the ULEZ demonstration in Trafalgar Square. We firmly believe that ULEZ is not in our best interests. Whilst the initiative aims to reduce air pollution, we must consider its economic consequences and how it could burden our local businesses and residents. Many of our residents do not have compliant cars despite the London Mayor's claims and do not have the funds to replace them. Local public transport is also more limited than in Central London. We are not happy that people's choices are being taken away from them and we have met many people from all over London who feel the same.

Cllr DAVID GODWIN

Rail ticket offices

As the July Bulletins were being delivered I heard the Rail Delivery Group's announcement to shut

974 rail ticket offices. Locally on the C2C line it proposes all ticket offices, with the exception of Fenchurch Street where there could be amended opening hours, would be shut. Only 21 days were allowed for formal Consultation so we were unable to publicise this in the August Bulletin. Following around 170,000 responses, the Consultation was extended to 1st September. Whilst a number of people are happy to use machines for tickets, there are many who cannot use the machines. There are also thousands of users who also want to see a friendly face and ask a number of questions. We have often mentioned the improvements over the years at Upminster Station and the excellent service we get from C2C. Your Residents' Association was delighted when the side entrance was opened in Station Approach. We had requested this many times and to have a ticket office there was very useful. We will keep you informed on this.

RON OWER

Bins and Foxes

A reminder to be considerate and to plan ahead when you put your bins out for collection. Where

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possible avoid putting them out the night before. This is to help curb the impact of the foxes who can often tear open bags left on the ground in search of food. The refuse crew will help pick up any mess, but are not expected to do so and it can result in any spillages being in place for a while attracting vermin as well as creating an eye sore.

Cllr PHIL RUCK

London City Airport expansion blocked

Towards the end of 2022, the owners of London City Airport submitted a planning application to Newham Council to expand the use of the airport, including allowing flights on a Saturday afternoon, extra flights in the first hour of operation and an increase in passenger numbers from 6.5 to 9 million.

In July, Newham Council rejected the application, citing noise pollution and environmental effects from extra flights. The airport's owners subsequently indicated that they intended to appeal (which they may have done

by the time you read this). If this happens, there may be a public inquiry to decide the matter.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Further planning news

Interesting to read in the National Press that the Government's Housing Secretary is planning more than a dozen new development corporations to boost house building in urban areas. Amongst the headlines was the Government's plans to "seize brownfield sites in big-city building bonanza." It appears that these corporations would use compulsory purchase orders and grant planning permission. The reports read that a super squad of planning experts will be created and sent to Cambridge in the first of a series of efforts to unblock big developments. Whilst many brownfield sites will have access to services already and have decent roads etc, it concerns me that locally democratically elected Councillors will be merely over looked. Thus residents may be unable to comment on what could be on their doorstep? Does this mean that the Green Belt local

continued on page 5

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RON OWER

New way of reporting litter, fly-tipping and noise etc

Havering Council have simplified the way people can report litter, fly-tipping, problems with trees and noise and several other issues online. These can all now be done via the Council's Environment webpage havering.gov.uk/info/20013/environment

Please note that the Love Clean Streets app is no longer being used in Havering.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Upminster CC v Essex CCC

The Annual Benefit Match against the Essex County Cricket Club

Eleven will be played on Sunday 10th September next. During the morning there will be various youth cricket matches taking place together with coaching sessions for our young players. The main match against Essex will commence at 2:30pm. The usual refreshments will be available on the ground throughout the day. The Club looks forward to the usual support from the Upminster public.

DAVID PARISH

Grass is not always greener

Local authorities struggled to get their grass cutting season underway due to the long wet spring. This resulted in a delay to the grass cutting programme and grass being left to lengths we would not normally expect to see.

When the grass was eventually cut, the cuttings were of an unacceptable length to residents and the standard of cut was poor. We have raised this with the service and have been advised that new machinery is being considered and the maintenance of the existing equipment will be

undertaken. Hopefully this will address the problems that we have all experienced.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

TfL Superloop consultation

Transport for London (TfL) have been holding a consultation into proposals for a new express bus service in north-east London, called SL2. Local Residents' Association Councillors are extremely unhappy at the proposals, as the route does not come anywhere near us (it would run from Walthamstow to North Woolwich) and would therefore be of no benefit to the residents of Havering, at a time when TfL are introducing the controversial ULEZ scheme. The transport network in inner and semi-inner boroughs is already far superior to what we have locally and we once again appear to be being neglected by TfL.

For details of the consultation and to take part visit haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk/sl2-superloop, e-mail haveyoursay@tfl.gov.uk, ring 0203 054 6037 and leave your contact details for them to ring

back, or write to them at Freepost TfL Have Your Say (SL2). The consultation is open until 4 September 2023.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Thames Chase September Guided Heritage Walk

Come and join our guided heritage walk of Hornchurch Country Park on 1st September, an area of rich aviation and military heritage. Our walk will also lead us to Ingrebourne Hill, where all of Rainham and wider London can be observed, with picturesque views atop Ingrebourne Hill. The built heritage of the area will also be explored, with our walk stopping off at Rainham Hall and Albans Farm. Altogether, this walk will cover the built, military and natural heritage of Rainham, be sure to come along. The walk will start at Hornchurch Country Park visitor centre. Toilet facilities, parking and refreshments will be available at Hornchurch Country

continued on page 7

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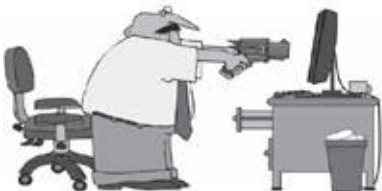
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Park's visitor centre. Suitable for age 16+ years.

Please wear suitable clothing and please note walk timings are approximate and can depend on weather conditions and number of attendees. You can book online by visiting: [Eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk) and search for 'Thames Chase'.

Upminster Tithe Barn Museum open days

The Museum of Nostalgia in Upminster Tithe Barn, Hall Lane, Upminster RM14 1AU will be open from 10.30am - 4pm on two Saturdays a month throughout the summer. For anyone who has never been there, the museum is well worth a visit.

Entry is free but a donation is welcomed, to help maintain the upkeep of the museum and its many exhibits. Plenty of free parking is also available (entrance next to Upminster Golf Club). The remaining dates for 2023 are 2 & 16 September & 7 October.

For further details visit www.upminstertithebarn.co.uk/.

Art Exhibition 2023

The 2023 Thames Chase Art Exhibition begins on 2nd September until 10th September.



With over 20 exhibitors confirmed so far we are really looking forward to hosting this event and showcasing the very best local artists. Entrance is free and the exhibition will be open daily from 10am-4pm.

Younger artists were also invited to get involved with our Children's Art Competition expressing how visiting the forest makes them feel. Entries were

judged in 3 categories: ages 4-6, 7-10 and 11-16 years. The Children's Art Competition closed on 29th August but all entries will be displayed at the Forest Centre from 2nd to 10th September.

Family Barn Dance and Walk for Judy

There are two upcoming events being held to raise money for The Brain Tumour Charity - the Judy D'cruz Fund. As of 19th July 2023, The Judy D'cruz Fund stands at £97,199 and we will continue to raise funds so that the "terminal becomes treatable".

- A Family Barn Dance will take place on Saturday, 23rd September between 7:30pm to 10:30pm at the Cranham Community Centre, featuring a live band and caller. Tickets £10 (children under 16 go free) and can be bought by calling 07896 724768 or by emailing judyandwin@ntlworld.com. Please bring your own food and drink.
- On Sunday 1st October, the Walk for Judy will take place to

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commemorate Judy's birthday. A 10k walk starting at 4pm at the Golden Crane pub, and we are aiming to surpass the last walk held in 2018. Entry costs £10 (children under 16 go free). There will also be entertainment for children in the Golden Crane and food will be provided!

Register for the walk by calling 07896 724768 or email judyandwin@ntlworld.com and make sure to include your t-shirt size.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

It's with sadness that we announce Upminster & Cranham Poppy Appeal Organiser Barry Winfield passed away in April. He was involved with Poppy Appeal for over 30 years and for 15 years as the Organiser raising over £340,000 during that time. Our new Organiser is Paul Hyde and deputy Lisa Hyde. They look forward to working with the local community groups and businesses and thank them for

continued on page 9

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their continued support. Anyone wishing to help with 2023-24 appeal, or you require any Poppy stock items please email upminsterrbl@aol.com. The 2022-23 has raised a total to date of £22,870.94.

Royal British Legion Club

We have a programme packed with entertainment including football premier league games and the new season's friendlies or just come in and watch sport of your choice, we have access to most Sky and BT Sport channels. Live music at the weekends is on weekly with new artistes and bands being introduced all the time. Quiz night is always the last Friday of the month - come along and have some fun.

Our Knit Sew and Natter goes from strength to strength. We recently donated garments (including prem-baby) and blankets to Queen's hospital maternity unit. We support the Poppy appeal with our sales. Everyone is welcome, you don't have to be able to knit, you can just come along for a cuppa and

natter £2 a session, Thursdays 2-4pm.

Unwanted, out of date coins and notes (any currency and age) are still being collected and exchanged for cash supporting the Poppy appeal. To date we have raised nearly £900. Dig out your old holiday money for us. Any donation welcome.

Contact-UPRBLClub@gmail.com, 01708223157, 316 St Marys Lane, Upminster, RM14 3HL, (just by Coopers School).

Roomes, Upminster

We are pleased to share this nice message from a local resident, wanting to express their gratitude for the outstanding service they received at Roomes furniture store in Upminster. The resident recently purchased an item from Roomes, and experienced a small issue with the manufacturer. Roomes intervened and resolved the issue, whilst ensuring a high level of customer care and satisfaction. They felt strongly that this service deserves to be rewarded and that it would be a travesty if such a store was not on

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In today's fast-paced world where offers are available online and there are additional challenges such as competition with larger stores, it is often a difficult task for local businesses to keep customers happy. The resident commends Roomes for consistently maintaining a high standard of service and level of excellence.

Education 4 Independence

Education 4 Independence is part of Havering Adult College and is for adults aged 19+ with learning difficulties and disabilities. To celebrate Learning Disability Week in June, students organised and took part in a range of activities.

The theme this year was smashing misconceptions about what people with learning disabilities can do and the students certainly did this. The week kicked off with a sponsored walk to the park, followed by a bake sale, circuit training and a car wash, all to prove that people with learning disabilities can achieve anything

they want to.

During the sponsored walk, students had the opportunity to observe plants and identify different bird songs. All the treats available at the bake sale were made by the students, including cupcakes, shortbread, bread pudding, fruit cake and macarons. They also helped to man the stalls, where they had the opportunity to utilise their money skills. Students planned and created their own circuit training session, including specially adapted activities for wheelchair users, with activities such as bicep curls, floor ladder, an obstacle course, shadow boxing and keepy-uppies using a racket and tennis ball.

The week ended with the students taking part in a car wash. Six cars were cleaned inside and out, with students sponging, scrubbing, jet washing and hoovering. Fortunately, the weather was fine!

The students researched charities to support and chose Great Ormond Street Hospital, where some of them were treated when they were little. They planned the timetable for the week and sent themselves a target of £75 to raise for GOSH. In fact, they smashed

continued on page 11



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their target, raising a massive £786! The staff are incredibly proud of all the students. Education 4 Independence is based at Upminster Bridge, contact us on **01708 445694** for more information or check out the range of activities we get up to on Facebook.

All Saints Players

All Saints Players are presenting Escape Room, a comedy, on Thursday, 14th, Friday 15th and Saturday 16th September at All Saints Church Hall, Ardleigh Green Road, Hornchurch, RM11 2LG.

It is the summer of 2022 and an amateur dramatic group are visiting an Escape Room. They hope the experience of trying to get out will act as a team building exercise and bring them closer together. Unfortunately, things do not go according to plan and their efforts just drive them further apart. Not funny for them, but hilarious for the audience...

Doors open at 7.30pm and shows start at 8pm. Tickets are £8.50 from boxoffice@allsaintsplayers.org.uk or **01708 456683**.

The Wesley Players present Secondary Cause of Death

Secondary Cause of Death, by Peter Gordon, is the eagerly anticipated riotous comedy sequel to the author's hit comedy thriller Murdered to Death.

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Performances: 8pm on Thursday, 28th September, Friday, 29th

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September and Saturday, 30th September.

Prices: On the door: £10 Adults, £8 for concessions and £6 for children (u16). Book online for a £1 discount on all tickets. Senior Citizens admitted FREE on Thursday and Friday shows.

Location: Wesley Hall, Upminster Methodist Church, 10 Hall Lane, Upminster, Essex, RM14 1AE

Pay by card/cash on the door or book in advance at www.wesley-players.co.uk

Tickets can also be reserved by text to the Box Office on **07708 214742**.

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Havering Police Cadets recruiting

Havering Police Cadets are looking to recruit some new members. If you know anyone who may be interested please get in touch with PC Anthony Kiddle 2380EA via Anthony.Kiddle@met.police.uk. You have to be aged between 13 and 18 years old. The weekly sessions are held Thursdays at Sacred Heart St Marys' School (Chapel) 7pm to 8.30pm.

Macmillan Cancer Support

Please remember that on Friday, 29th this month the annual Macmillan Coffee Morning takes place. It is an excellent opportunity to raise funds for the amazing work of the Macmillan Nurses. Last year the event raised over £12million. The Macmillan website www.coffee.macmillan.org.uk provides lots of information about how you can support their wonderful work.

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London Youth Games

In July I was proud to receive a salver for the Havering team who came third in the London Youth Games. Haringey came first and Richmond second. Presenting the trophies was Prof Geoff Thompson MBE FRSA DL chair of London Youth Games. The games took place at the Olympic Park and we were invited previously to watch table tennis and BMX competitions. Well done to the Havering team – this is a great achievement.

Cllr STEPHANIE NUNN
Mayor of Havering

Hornchurch Football Club

Our local football team have the following home fixtures this month. All games kick off at 3pm at The Bridge Stadium, Bridge Avenue, Upminster.

- Saturday, 16th September
Dulwich Hamlet
- Saturday, 30th September
Hastings United

In October, Saturday 21st, home

to Bognor Regis Town.

Please check the club's excellent website for further news. Go along and support the Urchins. The club is celebrating 100 years since Upminster Wanderers was formed.

Line Watch Link

As an effective way to deter car thieves, the Police continue to advise car owners to have the registration number of their vehicle permanently security-marked onto all the windows. Simply by fitting false number plates, a thief can alter the true identity of any car in minutes - but having to replace every piece of glass would prove time-consuming and very expensive.

The Identimark car window etching service is £29.95 per vehicle at your premises. Please contact for appointments/advice - Matthew Marcus - Identimark Mobile Operator (1985). Tel: **07518 999175**.

Dick Whittington at The Queen's

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Queen's Theatre is known for its fabulous pantos. It will run from Thursday, 23rd November until the end of December. The Box Office is open now, call **01708 443 333**. What a nice way to start your Christmas celebrations with a visit to The Queen's Theatre.

Havering Association for People with Disabilities (H.A.D)

H.A.D have had a busy spring and summer of days out and fundraising events. We held our quiz night at The Crumpled Horn in Upminster in late April and then our annual Golf Day in early May. Both events were a great success and helped us to raise much needed funds. We run supper clubs every couple of months which are always enjoyed and had a Coronation Celebration and Garden Party which was attended by the Mayor. We have also been out and about bowling in Romford and venturing up to London to visit Madame Tussauds. Our next trip will be a day out to Southend visiting the

Sea Life Centre and having a fish and chip lunch.

Coming up we are hoping to host an early Christmas shopping event in the building on 11th November and our Christmas "Carols in the Garden" is planned for 13th December. These will be open to the public and we hope that the weather doesn't scupper our plans for the carol concert as it did last year!

If you or any friends and family are over 18 and have a physical or sensory disability and would like to join any of our groups, please do get in touch or drop in to see us.

Our address is: Whittaker Hall, 1a Woodhall Crescent, Hornchurch RM11 3NN, call us on **01708 476554** or e mail admin@hadhaverning.co.uk

Your UCRA Councillors are on Facebook

For Upminster search: **'UCRA Oscar Ford'**

For Cranham search: **'UCRA Phil Ruck'** or **'Councillor Gillian Ford'**

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on Suite 5, Essex House, 15 Station Road, Upminster, RM14 2SJ.

Any deeds, documents and Wills currently held by Stanton and Doran
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Upminster Windmill

As reported in previous issues of the Bulletin, Upminster Windmill is now open to the public after a long period of closure for restoration work. The remaining

opening weekends are 23rd & 24th September and 28th & 29th October. Entry to the mill will be by ticket, ordered on-line from EventBrite, and costs £6 for adults and £2 for children (minimum height 110cm). For full details about visiting the mill on open days and to purchase tickets – please see our website: www.upminsterwindmill.org/visit

Friends of Upminster Windmill
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Film Review: Barbie

Everyone is talking about the one billion dollar grossing film that has taken the world by storm - Barbie. This fun, heartfelt and inspirational film is a must watch

for all generations.

From the very start, this film transports you to the pristinely pink Barbie Land where everything appears to be perfect. It's not until Barbie visits the real world that she understands that not everything is sunshine and rainbows.

However, some reviewers criticised the film for being too realistic and would have preferred a traditional Barbie narrative. I feel Barbie has been brought into 2023 with a bang and makes necessary comments towards patriarchy and women's role in society, all while retaining the timeless humour and dazzling fashion sense that makes Barbie so iconic.

Margot Robbie (Harlequin,

Wolf of Wall Street) is the ideal 'stereotypical Barbie' with her blonde hair and doll-like features - she is beauty personified. Also she gives Barbie a sense of vulnerability and intelligence, making her much more than a mere toy. Meanwhile, Ryan Gosling (La La Land, Blade Runner) brings charm, charisma and just the right amount of cringe to the role of Ken.

Not only is this film uplifting to watch, it also creates a sense of community. Seeing diverse groups of people dressing in shades of pink at the cinema certainly made me happy. So even if the film itself isn't your cup of tea, I would highly recommend popping to your nearest cinema and witnessing the pink buzz.

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A study carried out by the Royal Veterinary College showed that almost a quarter of pet rabbits had painful ear conditions and loss of hearing. Signs of ear disease in rabbits are often non-specific and can easily be overlooked. Head shaking and head tilt or scratching at the ears are more obvious signs but also reduced responsiveness to sound or reduced playfulness or activity may be the only indications of a problem. Lop-eared rabbits were more commonly affected due to the drooping nature of their ears. As a result of this study the RVC want to raise owner awareness of the condition and encourage owners to seek veterinary treatment if they are concerned about their rabbit's behaviour as it could indicate a painful underlying condition. If you have any concerns about your pet's behaviour and would like to have a health check for your pet, please telephone Lawton and Stoakes on **01708 384444** and ask for an appointment with one of our vets.

Shirley Tours

Thursday, 30th November. Mrs Doubtfire. £50pp. Shaftsbury Theatre, London. Matinee show starts 2.30pm, good front dress circle seats. No coach.

Tuesday, 12th to Wednesday, 13th December. Thursford Spectacular Show, Norfolk. £279pp. By coach with overnight stop at hotel in Norwich, with light lunch at Pensthorpe Wildlife Bird Sanctuary en route, Tickets for Thursford Matinee Show and Dinner at overnight hotel. 4 hours free time in Norwich next day before returning home.

Saturday, 17th February 2024: Brick Lane Music Hall, Adult Panto - Peter and the Loose Boys. £86pp. Price includes 3 course meal, matinee show, coach travel to the venue, a converted church setting in Silvertown.

Email: shirley@shirleytours.co.uk or call **01708 227884** or **07966 146956** (leave name and contact details on mobile answerphone). Fund raising for James Oglethorpe, Engayne, Hall Mead schools, All Saint's Church and All Saint's scout group. Pick-ups from Jobbers Rest (can park cars there), Plough Pub, Avon Road both ends.

OUT AND ABOUT - CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Havering Astronomical Society

Wednesday, 20 September, 7.15 for 7.30pm. Paul Money - regular and popular speaker to our society; also Reviews Editor for the BBC 'Sky at Night' magazine - will present a talk entitled: 'The Trials and Tribulations of Voyager'.

Young Astronomers (aged 8-16)

Thursday, 28 September, 7 to 8pm. This is a mix of space news, talks and observing when possible. Please contact young.astronomers@havastro.co.uk for further details.

All meetings are held at Thames Chase Forest Centre, Pike Lane, Upminster. If you are interested in joining the society, please email enquiries@havastro.co.uk or look at our website www.havastro.co.uk.

Friends of the Old Chapel - Tea and Talks

Wednesday, 13th September - Mediaeval food and feasting. What did ordinary people eat in

continued on page 19



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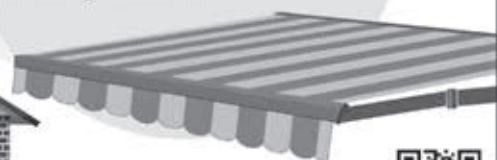
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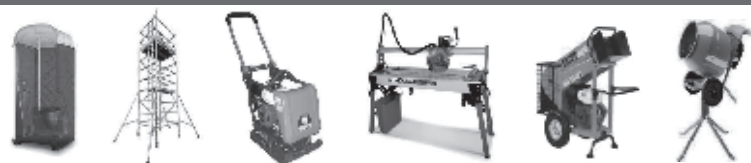
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Venue: Roope Hall, Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster. Doors open at 10am – talk starts at 10.30am. £2 supplement for members. £4 admission for non-members. Teas and coffee served at the end of the meeting.

Upminster Park Townswomen's Guild

We are a friendly group of ladies enjoying a chat over tea and biscuits, listening to a good speaker or entertainer, going on outings/theatre trips and promoting friendships and well-being. We meet at St Laurence Church, main hall Upminster on the third Monday of each month at 1.45 pm until 4.00 pm. For further information contact Anne Monk 01708 226305 or simply come along.

Upminster Lymphoma and other Blood Cancer Support Group

We are an independent, friendly support group and welcome anyone who has received a blood cancer diagnosis and would like to be involved with others in a similar position who have this shared experience. We have formed strong links over the years with Queen's hospital and the Haematology department and had the benefit of listening and learning from members of the teams there who have come to talk to the group. At a recent meeting we were taught resuscitation by a consultant anaesthetist which turned into a practical session on resus dummies which was a huge success with everyone. We share helpful information on topics like the difficulties of getting appropriate travel insurance, how best to prepare for an appointment, or simply sharing our cancer journey experiences. Some people attend for a few months to help them through difficult times and others form friendships and have attended for years. We meet monthly at 1.30pm on a Tuesday afternoon at Upminster Baptist Church, Springfield Gardens. Partners and carers are also most welcome. If you would like more information please get in touch.

Doreen & Ian Russell -
Ian.doreen@btinternet.com
Denise Hosking -
Denise.hosking@gmail.com

The Arts Society, Havering

Our talk for September: **The Impressionist Landscape by Dr Lois Oliver**. Following in the footsteps of Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro and Pierre Auguste Renoir, we analyse what was modern about Impressionist landscape paintings: their experiments with colour theory, new synthetic pigments, and, most importantly, the distinctly modern landscape that they chose to depict.

Tuesday, 12th September at 10.30am at the New Windmill Hall, Upminster RM14 2QH. This event is open to visitors for a fee of £8. Please visit our web site:

<https://tashavering.org.uk/Lectures/FutureLectures.aspx>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/199870022175485>

or contact us at info@tashavering.org.uk, or telephone 01708 221903.

Craft sale – Trinity Church

Coffee morning and craft sale on Saturday, 9th September from 10 to 12noon at Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster. All proceeds to Harold Hill Foodbank.

Upminster and District Probus Club

Gentlemen, are you retired or semi-retired? Our Probus Club meets at the Cranleigh Restaurant in Hornchurch on the last Wednesday of each month, where we enjoy a 3-course meal and are entertained by a speaker. If you wish to attend a meeting, please book your lunch in advance. Contact Robert Langstone on 01708 226705 or email him at upminsterprobus.lunch@gmail.com. Lunch costs just £20, payable at the meeting. To find out more: <https://upminsterprobussec.wixsite.com/upminster-probus>

Harwood Ladies Probus

We are a group of retired ladies who meet each month to socialise, enjoy a three course lunch and listen to a guest speaker. We meet at Top Meadow Golf Club on the second Wednesday of each month and currently have vacancies for new members. If you enjoy making and meeting new friends, please contact Beverly on 01708 227694 or Chris on 01708 225990.

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Upminster Police Update

The ward panel welcomed a number of new members to the meeting in August, including representatives from the retail community. Looking at the period May to July for 2022 and 2023, there has been a welcome reduction in some of our ward priority crimes. Theft of motor vehicles has reduced from 20 to 13 and theft from has reduced from 15 to 13. Whilst this is good news, residents are reminded to ensure vehicles are securely locked and keyless vehicles have keys kept in Faraday bags or have steering wheel locks fitted with no valuables on display. Residential burglary has reduced from 4 to 3 and commercial burglary reduced from 10 to 5. The news on Robbery is not so good. There has been an increase from 2 to 6 and shoplifting has gone from 25 to 28. Much of the shoplifting is from food stores. The ward priorities will remain as Robbery, Vehicle crime and Burglary for the next three months. Less good news is that there is an increasing drug issue with one example being at the Crumpled Horn. Door staff are now employed who have instructions to check for drugs and refuse entry if drugs are found,

this is mainly an issue in the younger age group. Police will be working with this venue over the next period.

Upminster Methodist Church's Summer Fete

As part of its 100 year celebrations of the current church building, Upminster Methodist Church held a Summer fete on 1st July. We were very lucky with the weather so that we could be outside at the front of the Church building making use of the lawn. The main aim of the day was for everyone to have fun, so most of the stalls were games. Many of the games were inspired by a fund raiser for the building in 1923 which was held in the Ilford Town Hall. We are grateful to everyone who helped in any way with the Summer fete or came on the day. Our thanks also go to Church members, Circuit members, the United Reformed Church, 3rd Upminster Scouts, Osteria, Salon 52, Greggs, Boots, Flaxen Cards, Coffee Bloom, Ace Creams & Tapas, The Little Pink Co, Floral Affairs, Studio Florist, Costa and Brewdog for their support, time, prizes and gifts. Once again, thank you to everyone

who supported us and helped make it a great day.

A home for the Rovers

A Planning Application (P0995.23) has been made by Upminster Rovers Junior Football Club (UPRJFC) and Ingrebourne Valley Limited to bring land adjacent to Bramble Lane up to a standard to support sixteen football pitches of varying sizes, and some ancillary buildings for storage. The plan has the support of the Essex Football Association.

The initial works would involve the import of inert materials to the former quarry site in order to create a suitable surface for the pitches to be laid on, at the same time providing for the necessary drainage for such a facility. UPRJFC are a long-established Club and currently have teams spread across the Borough and using pitches in parks and schools. The new facility will enable the teams to have a stable home provision.

It is considered that the site

restoration and preparation works will take somewhere between two to three years to complete. There are no plans to place large infrastructure such as floodlights, stands or terraces on the site, and the plans include enhancements to the boundaries to support biodiversity with wildflower, tree, hedgerow and shrub planting.

Cllr OSCAR FORD

Engayne School Streets Scheme

Cranham ward Councillors were surprised to see the return of a consultation to introduce the School Streets Scheme at Engayne Primary School. This was the third time the scheme had gone out to consultation which had previously been refused by the residents. Having listened to residents' concerns, Cranham ward Councillors determined that the scheme was not acceptable and refused its introduction.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Your Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association Councillors are on facebook

For Upminster search: 'UCRA Oscar Ford'

For Cranham search: 'UCRA Phil Ruck' or 'Councillor Gillian Ford'

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Stewart Avenue allotments

Please note the allotments in Stewart Avenue off Corbets Tey Road hold a Produce Sale every Saturday morning 10am-12 noon during the season. Available produce depends on seasonality and plot holders' donations of excess produce. Go along and purchase some delicious items. They regularly donate to St Francis Hospice.

Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens

Coffee, cake and chat morning
Wednesday, 13th September
10.30am to 12pm. Everyone welcome Cost £2.

We started our 'pop up' shops earlier this year and they are proving very popular. It started with a view that there must be lots of local people that make/bake/sew/sell, but don't always have an outlet in which to do it ... so we provided the space for them. If anyone is interested in having a stall please let us know - cost £10.

Quiz night, Friday, 29th September - 7.30pm start. Tables of up to 10, cost £10 per person.

Christmas shopping event/fayre - Saturday, 25th November 10am to 3pm. There will be a variety of stalls providing lots of Christmas present ideas. We will also be selling tea/coffee etc, hot dogs and a large choice of hot and cold food, cakes etc. A very popular event in the Community Centre calendar. If anyone would like a stall please contact the office on 01708 220941.

Rooms/halls for hire - the centre has lots of lovely rooms to hire for clubs/meetings etc. We also hire for private functions including children's parties. If anyone is interested in starting a new group etc we would love to hear from you. Tel: **01708 220941**.

Charity Christmas card sale - Upminster Methodist Church

The organisers of the Christmas tree festival are already thinking ahead and would like to advertise that on Saturday, 4th November we are holding a Charity Christmas card sale at the church from 10am -12pm. If you are involved in a charity and would like to sell your own cards and promote your charity at this event, please contact us by

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email upminstertreefest@gmail.com or phone 01708228317. The Christmas tree festival will be back in the church this year from 2nd -10th December and will start with a Christmas market on Saturday, 2nd December. For more details about having a stall at this event, please contact us by email.

Cranham ward Councillor drop-in sessions

Do you have any problems with Council services in the Cranham ward? Your Cranham ward Councillors can be contacted throughout the year, but if you want to talk to them in person you can meet them at one of their drop-in sessions. The next one will be on the 6th September, 11am-12noon, Cafe 4 You, Front Lane. Other dates this year are 4th October and 1st November.

Upminster Police - Community contact sessions

Please note this month the Upminster Safer Neighbourhood

Team (SNT) will be at:

- Nationwide on Friday, 8th September between 10am to 11am.
- Caffè Nero on Tuesday, 12th September between 4pm and 5pm.
- Upminster Park by the Kiosk on Sunday, 24th September 12pm to 1pm.

In the event of any urgent business arising the SNT team might not be able to attend.

Upminster Park

It's great to see how well our award winning park is used in Upminster. Especially the children's play area close to Corbets Tey Road. I believe there is not a day in the year when the swings and roundabouts are not used, even during poor weather.

Near to the play area is a kiosk serving refreshments and snacks, a great addition to the park so go along and say hello. Please support this service. The park has an active Friends Group and on 10th September, Upminster Cricket Club will be hosting Essex Cricket Club at their Annual Benefit Match.

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