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## UPMINSTER &amp; CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## Proposed Government reform of planning committees

Hidden amongst their major overhaul of the planning system, the Government recently held a consultation on their proposals to reform the role of Planning Committees. Such committees are created by local authorities to decide some of the planning applications in their area, with committee members (consisting of elected councillors) making a decision on important applications and those 'called in' by ward councillors.

A 'call in' is usually made when one or more ward councillors feel that an application that may be approved by Local Planning Authority Officers should be heard and decided on by the planning committee, as there are substantial reasons why a refusal should be considered. An example of this is where a new building or extension is proposed that may be overbearing and/or cause undue loss of light to a neighbouring property. Often the application never reaches the committee, as the Planning Officers decide to refuse the application, but when this is not the case, a 'call in' is a useful tool for ward councillors to have.

Amongst the Government proposals were ones that would severely restrict the types of applications that can be heard by Planning Committees, thereby preventing most 'call ins'. Applications that could not go before a committee would include householder developments (such as extensions), minor commercial developments and minor residential developments (such as a small number of new houses or flats).

Over 90% of planning applications are already decided by 'Delegated Authority' (by the council's Planning Officers themselves), with very few 'called in'. However, if the Government bring this change in with these proposals, local democracy will be reduced in one small but important way.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

## Havering Council Elections in May 2026

Local Council elections in Havering will take place in May 2026 and a number of your present Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association Councillors will not be seeking re-election. This is an exciting opportunity for anyone who is interested in being part of the future development and running of our area and its facilities to join the strong UCRA team of local representatives.

You are eligible for consideration as a candidate if you have been a member of the UCRA for two years, which is anyone whose household have paid their annual subscription to The Bulletin and who has not held office in, or been actively engaged in any national party political organisation for the last two complete calendar years.

Anyone who feels that they could make a valuable contribution to our Borough as a UCRA Councillor should contact Stewart Thomas, the Hon. Secretary ([sdthomas49@msn.com](mailto:sdthomas49@msn.com)) who will provide them with the necessary application forms.

Our present Council Members will be more than happy to discuss what the roll entails with interested individuals. Their contact details may be found on page 2 of The Bulletin.

Before you move on, stop for a moment and ask yourself 'Could I make a positive difference to where I live?'

## Save the Date – Upminster Christmas Celebrations

Upminster & Cranham Residents Association are organising this year's event, to take place on the afternoon of Friday 21 November.

The Association is pleased to be able to be in a position to fund Christmas lights in the main shopping areas and a Christmas tree. This is due the generosity of several local businesses by way of sponsorship, full details of whom will be provided in due course.

Further details of the Christmas Celebrations on Friday 21 November will follow.

## New Met Engage platform

In June, the Metropolitan Police launched their new Met Engage platform, which allows members of the public to subscribe to receive updates about what officers are doing in their area. These messages will be a mixture of updates on how the police are tackling issues in the area, crime prevention advice and invitations to engagement events. People who sign up to the platform will be encouraged to help the police identify and address the crimes that matter most to residents. The Met Engage platform can be accessed by visiting [metengage.co.uk](http://metengage.co.uk).

Cllr JOHN TYLER




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## ASSOCIATION COUNCILLORS

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CouncillorChristopher.Wilkins@havering.gov.uk

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**John Tyler 07982 962925**



@CllrTyler

JohnTylerUCResidents@outlook.com

**Phil Ruck 07778 569759**



philruckucra@yahoo.com

## Progress on the Upminster Travelodge – a note from the developers

“We are making good progress and have been quite fortunate with the weather. The slab should be complete in the next couple of weeks which will allow us to commence the actual build. Our target is to have a watertight building shell erected before the worst of the winter weather so we can concentrate on the interiors. You may be interested to note that Loungers have secured a licence for the larger commercial unit. They operate about 200 Lounge restaurants in the UK and are intending to offer all day dining including breakfast. They recently opened in St Albans.”



As we get further news, we will update you.

## Subscriptions

The annual subscription per household is £2 per year. We are currently collecting subs. Whilst we hope to cover the cost of The Bulletin through advertising, we need funds to cover any legal bills to fight on your behalf. If we have left an envelope with you please return to the address on the front. A number of residents are happy to pay by cheque and increase their donation. Cheques should be made payable to Upminster & Cranham Residents Association. We take an active role supporting you and we will continue to do so. We are active all the time, not just at election times.

## Your help please

We often need Bulletin deliverers in Upminster. In particular if you could assist in delivering 30 Bulletins each month to the flats above the parade of shops in Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, please contact me at bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk

Many Thanks.  
Gio

## ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

<b>Commercial Advertising</b> Martin Flower 07785 244212 bulletinadvertra@yahoo.com	<b>Bulletin Editor</b> Richard Paling bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk
<b>Upminster Organiser</b> Gio Anastasi 07908 916119 gio.anastasi@hotmail.com	<b>Cranham Organiser &amp; Residents' Association Website</b> John Tyler (07982 962925) www.ucra.co.uk

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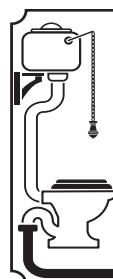
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## Lower Thames Crossing

As the July Bulletins went to press, the Government announced that they were giving £590 million to what is being called the A122 Lower Thames Crossing. We have publicised news on the project numerous times in the Bulletin. This was the lead story in the May 25 Bulletin where Councillor Gillian Ford reported that the Secretary of State for Transport had finally approved the scheme. National Highways have been working on this for around 16 years and it has been estimated that £1.6 billion has already been spent on planning and design! The new road will link to the A2 in Kent a distance of 14.2 miles of which 2.6 miles will be in two tunnels, one southbound one northbound. They will be UKs largest road tunnels.

National Highways now have to source private finance to complete the project with a total estimated cost of £10.2 billion, with the works starting in 2026 and expected opening in 2032. However, I did see concern in the National Media that the costs



could rise significantly!

Over the years your Upminster & Cranham Residents Association has made representations on the significant impact this will have on our community, holding a huge number of meetings with the Council and National Highways on the predicted disruption locally.

We will keep you updated on this important project in The Bulletin and on our website.

(Please note Bulletins can also be seen on our website.).

RON OWER

## Upminster Police update

The recent ward panel received the quarterly crime stats which have shown a marked reduction in some motor vehicle crime. Theft from motor vehicles reduced from 16 to 8 but thefts of motor vehicles remain high, reducing from 25 to 22, with a number from the C2C car park at Upminster station. The majority of thefts of motor vehicles are from keyless cars. The police message is to use a Faraday bag or a steering lock to deter criminals. Shoplifting has shown a small reduction in the latest period from 53 to 49, although there have been a number of shoplifting incidents where violence has been used. However there has been some excellent work by our SNT and the stores to identify a prolific shoplifter, statements taken and an arrest made. The suspect has been remanded in prison. In addition, our SNT stopped males believed to have stolen goods, goods were found, returned to the shops and arrests made. This work will continue as shoplifting together with Robbery and

Burglary are the ward priorities for the next quarter. With the warmer weather, residents are reminded to ensure doors and windows are secured even if leaving the house for a few minutes - most burglaries are opportunist. If you have any concerns regarding crime please contact me so I can ensure this is discussed with the police.

LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

## Grass verges follow-up and road resurfacing

With reference to my previous articles regarding damage to the grass verges in some roads in Cranham Ward, I contacted the council to ask for repairs, giving locations and providing photos. Unfortunately, the reply I got was that although they would inspect the affected verges, they would not repair them until the autumn, when it was easier to re-seed. I can understand their point about the seeding but many of the affected verges simply need flattening and/

continued on page 5

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or filling with additional soil, as the grass will often naturally re-establish itself. I will re-visit the verges in the autumn to make sure that the council do not forget about my original request. Unfortunately, in the meantime, a few of them are in quite a state.

On a more positive note, it was good to see that both Severn Drive and the northern part of Marlborough Gardens were resurfaced in June. Marlborough Gardens in particular badly needed this doing, something Cranham Ward councillors have been highlighting to the council for some time.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

## Reporting abandoned vehicles

Although there don't seem to be as many abandoned vehicles about as there were a few years ago, I am sometimes contacted by residents who have noticed that a car or van that has not moved for weeks, if not months. If you know of such a vehicle,

you can report it via the Havering Council website – [havering.gov.uk/environmental-issues/keeping-havering-clean/4](http://havering.gov.uk/environmental-issues/keeping-havering-clean/4). If you own a vehicle that is ready to be scrapped, you can report this via the same link and Havering Council will collect it for free.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

## Queen's Hospital - robots delivering patients' medicines faster

Patients at Queen's Hospital will get the medicines they need faster after the Pharmacy department installed two new robot dispensers. The robots - named Elizabeth and Victoria after two of our most famous queens in honour of being based at Queen's Hospital - pick and place medicines onto a conveyor belt. Once a dispenser requests a certain medicine, the robots send

it directly to them. The dispenser then labels, and double checks it against the prescription before it is given to the patient. The robots, which were named following a staff vote, are an upgrade to our previous system, delivering medicines much faster and more efficiently than before.

Staff are fully trained on the new system, which means patients get the benefit of faster medication immediately.

## Havering Council's weed treatment schedule 2025

Every year Havering Council spray weeds growing along our roads and pavements three times, from March to October. In 2025, Upminster Ward should receive weed treatments in April, July and October, with Cranham Ward being in May, August and November.

For further details visit [havering.gov.uk](http://havering.gov.uk) and enter 'hedges leaves and weeds' into the search box.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

## Annual cricket match, Upminster CC v Essex CCC XI

The annual cricket match between Upminster and Essex will take place this year on Sunday 21st September, at Upminster Park. This will be the 25th time that the fixture has taken place since 1997. This year's match will be in aid of Nick Browne's Testimonial Year. Nick has been a loyal servant of the County for more than a decade and is a hugely deserving recipient of a Testimonial Year.

The main event for the day will once again be the T20 Match between the two sides, starting at 2.45pm, but before that there will be several cricket related activities taking place on the ground involving 100s of players representing all aspects of Upminster Cricket Club.

On the day there will be a number of refreshment kiosks on the ground for the public to enjoy, as well as the beer tent, and

*continued on page 7*

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lots of opportunities for young spectators to grab a photo or autograph with the Essex players.

Programmes for the event will be available from the club and local businesses during August and September (more details available at: <https://www.upminstercricketclub.com/>).

The event is always a great way to finish the summer, and we hope the Upminster public will once again turn out in force to support the occasion, as they have done for every match since 1997.

## New Windmill Hall Upminster

### Highlights from the AGM

- Christmas Day Lunch: We hosted fifty seniors in festive style with thirty volunteers
- We launched the Community Café & Warm Space, welcoming fresh faces every Friday
- Numerous volunteers and generous donors helped foster community connections. Special thanks to Steve Fluin & Champagne Club Greyhound Racing, Waitrose, Nadine King & family from Leave It To Us Catering, Stephen James

Estates, Thames Roofing, Catholic Women's League, Kim Smith at LBH and all our amazing volunteers and supporters.

### Challenges for the future

We face financial strain from backdated bills and a lease break clause affecting funding bids. We need community support to raise funds for essential works. Our JustGiving campaign launched in July. Please help us secure the future of your community hall. For event and fundraising notifications or to find other ways to support us, email [nuhsocials@outlook.com](mailto:nuhsocials@outlook.com)

### Regular Events at the Windmill Hall

#### Stay & Play - every Wednesday

12 till 2 Soft play - Ball pit - Mini slide - Reading area. The Colouring Cafe is open 12 till 2 serving hot and cold food and drinks. Booking is recommended, you can turn up on the day but no guaranteed spaces.

#### Community Café - every Friday 11 till 3

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## Hornchurch Football Club

I am delighted to inform you that Fred Hawthorn has been appointed President of Hornchurch Football Club. Fred has been Vice- President for many years. He has a huge knowledge on football especially non - league teams having visited many grounds over the years. He has also written a book on the history of our local Hornchurch Football Club. Well done Fred - our congratulations to you.

In addition, before the new season starts, please keep an eye on the club's excellent website for details of Friendlies" and of course the coming season fixtures. Please support the Urchins.

RON OWER

## The Wesley Players

### 'Agatha Crusty and the Village Hall Murders' by Derek Webb.

Agatha Crusty is a crime writer of some repute who is quite adept at solving crimes! She is visiting her sister-in-law, Alice, in the quaint village of Chortelby. Quaint it may be but it's definitely not quiet. There have already been several 'accidental' deaths and now the police have been called. Enter Detective Inspector Twigg, the most gloriously incompetent policeman you've ever met.

As the bodies and suspects start to pile up, can Agatha guide DI Twigg to the real killer? While packed full of wit and laugh out loud scenes, this is also a genuine murder mystery that will tax your little grey cells to the very end.

Performances: are at 8pm on Thursday 25th, Friday 26th and Saturday 27th September 2025 at Wesley Hall, Upminster Methodist Church, 12, Hall Lane, Upminster, Essex. RM14 1AE.

**Prices:** When bought online in advance, Adults £9, Concessions £7 and children £5 (up to 16).

*continued on page 9*

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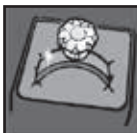
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## National Highways and Historic England sign Memorandum of Understanding

On 2 June 2025, National Highways and Historic England signed a Memorandum of Understanding at the Tithe Barn in Upminster. The agreement sets out how the two organisations will work together to conserve and enhance sites of heritage significance alongside motorways and major A roads, and applies throughout the country.

Upminster Tithe Barn was chosen for the location of this important event, as (working

with Havering Council - who own the Tithe Barn) its restoration is an example of the kind of partnership the agreement is designed to promote, having been funded with help from National Highways Designated Funds.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

## All Saints Players

All Saints' Players are pleased to announce their forthcoming production of 'Ladies of Spirit', a comedy play written by *Georgina Reid*. Gibraltar School was founded as a school for young ladies by the two dear old Misses Pye, now deceased. The long-suffering teachers now have their lives made miserable, not only by their pupils but also by the present headmistress, Miss Rowe, known universally as "Hard Rowe". Since Gibraltar is a private school, they resign themselves to the fact that there is little they can do about it, but find help coming from a very unexpected quarter indeed!!

Performances will be at All Saints' Church Hall, Ardleigh Green Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM11 2LG from 11th-13th September

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2025. Performances start at 8pm and doors open half an hour before curtain up. Tickets cost £8.50 including tea or coffee in the interval and can be obtained from the Box Office on 01708 456683 or Email: [boxoffice@allsaintsplayers.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@allsaintsplayers.org.uk). You can also follow us on Facebook and visit our website.

## Havering in Bloom

Entries are now open for this year's Havering in Bloom competition. The competition is a great way to help make the Borough a bright and attractive place to live, work, visit and go to school.

This year's categories are:

- Best School Display
- Best Front Garden
- Best Back Garden
- Best Communal Garden
- Tallest Sunflower
- Best Hanging Basket

To enter please email your details along with a picture to [inbloom@haverling.gov.uk](mailto:inbloom@haverling.gov.uk). Entries close on Monday 1 September. The judges will be looking for:

**Creativity and innovation** – How creative is your entry and have you taken time with your entry and created an original display

**Colour and freshness** – Does your entry have a range of colours, are the colours eye catching and do they stand out

**Neatness and workmanship** – Is your entry well kept and can we tell it has been well looked after

## A new bridge over the A127

As part of the works undertaken in connection with the Lower Thames Crossing, a new low carbon footbridge is to be constructed across the A127 near Cranham. This will restore the connection between Moor Lane and Folkes Lane improving access to the woodlands in the area, and further afield providing part of a walking link to Brentwood.



Cllr Gillian Ford, Deputy  
*continued on page 11*

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ACCA

Leader of Havering Council and Cabinet Member for Adults and Wellbeing, announced the winners of the bid on Monday 19 May, at an event held in the Institution of Civil Engineers' (ICE) Grand Library at One George Street, London. The architects have agreed to work closely with Councillors and residents during the project, taking into account feedback from consultations so look out for the opportunity to have your say.

## A stress-free veterinary visit?

We all feel stressed when visiting the doctor or dentist and our pets are no different. So, what can you do to help your pet? Help starts at home by getting your pet used to having their ears, mouth and paws touched and examined. There should be lots of rewards to reinforce good behaviour. Trying to stay calm yourself will also help as your pet may pick up on your anxiety.

What can we do for your pet? We always try to approach our patients with a calm and

confident, friendly manner. Treats often work wonders. If you feel your dog may show aggression due to fear, please warn the Veterinary surgeon. If we consider there is a risk of injury, we may decide to use a muzzle to protect our staff. Getting your dog used to wearing a muzzle outside of the surgery will help as does using your own muzzle and placing it on your dog prior to entering the consulting room.

On rare occasions it is safer to sedate the patient for examination or treatment. This is less stressful for the patient as they will have no memory of the event once they recover.

If you would like advice on easing the anxiety of Vet visits for your pet, please contact Lawton and Stoakes on **01708 384444**

## Donate school uniforms at Havering libraries

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asking for donations again. If you have any school wear in good condition that you'd like to donate, please take it to your nearest library (they cannot take underwear, socks or shoes). There will be a rail in each library for people to browse and take what they need. The initiative will run throughout the summer.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

## Queens Theatre pantomime competitions

Queens Theatre have launched two creative competitions as part of this year's pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk, at Queen's Theatre Hornchurch.

**Design a Dame – Costume Design Competition** This competition invites young people (up to age 18) to design the opening costume for our panto character Dame Trott. The winning design will be professionally made and worn on stage this Christmas, with the winner also receiving a behind-the-scenes experience, Press Night tickets and a panto goody bag.

**Jack's Beanstalk – Growing Competition** We're also encouraging young people to get growing and enter our tallest beanstalk competition – with tickets to Press Night up for grabs. For more details see the theatre website <https://queens-theatre.co.uk/>

## 2nd Cranham Scout Group needs You!

Based behind St Luke's Church on Front Lane, 2nd Cranham Scout Group is passionate about providing young people with the chance to learn skills for life. In order to continue providing these opportunities, we are in need of Section Team Leaders or Members for our Beavers and Scouts sections. These roles involve working with young people and other Group volunteers to deliver weekly meetings during term time. We'll provide you with all of the support and training required and along the way you will learn some valuable skills that are transferrable

continued on page 13

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to the workplace and further education. Volunteers from every community and background are welcomed and you do not need to have been a Scout yourself. If you, or someone you know thinks that this opportunity is for you, please do contact us at [2ndcranhamcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:2ndcranhamcommittee@gmail.com) as we would love to hear from you.

## Stewart Avenue Allotments

All smiles as Stewart Avenue allotments presented a cheque earlier this year for £1,131.67 to St. Francis Hospice from their Open Day and weekly Produce & Plant gate sales during 2024. An earlier presentation of £746.51 collected at the allotment Christmas Fair was made to Little Havens Children's Hospice.

Site steward Andy Skeggs said "Once again we are not only indebted to our wonderfully generous plotholders but also to the many local businesses who sponsor our events with donations of raffle prizes and of course the people of Upminster

and Cranham who visit the site. Their continued support enables us to maintain the site as well as raising substantial amounts of money for charity."



This year the ever popular Open Day will be on Saturday 16th August. Come along and enjoy a cuppa and home-made bakes. Chutneys, jams, plants, fresh produce and flowers will all be available as well as a raffle, tombola, craft stall and children's activities.

We would like to thank the many local businesses who have supported our events. These include: Waitrose, Tesco, Roomes Stores, Barracuda, Crazy Beat Records, C. Johnson Butchers, Cranham Golf Club, Thurrock Garden Centre, Sweet Rose Cakery, Coffee Bloom Cafe,

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## Summer events for the Judy D'cruz fund

Thank you to all the good people of Upminster and Cranham who have been supporting the Brain Tumour Charity - the Judy D'cruz Fund for a number of years. As of writing the fund stands at £149,507.58. I just wanted to remind you about an event we have going on in August, when the Cruisers will be playing at the British Legion Upminster on Saturday 9th August. Free entry for members. Non-members £10. Fantastic live music though all the decades. Bring your dancing shoes!!

WIN D'CRUZ AMBASSADOR  
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## Trinity Church coffee morning

Coffee morning and sale will be held at Trinity Church on Saturday 9th August from 10-12 on the front lawn (weather permitting). On sale will be plants, jewellery, puzzles, china, books and craft items. All proceeds will go to church funds towards refurbishment of the Roope Hall.

## Thames Chase Summer of Fun August 2025

Join us at the Thames Chase Forest Centre this summer! We have a variety of activities for children and adults available during August including:

- Follow the Bird Trail at the Forest Centre
- Keyring Making - August 5th
- Tree Nursery Garden Session -

*continued on page 15*

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- Circus Skills Workshop - August 15th
- Crafty Tuesday - August 19th
- Back to School with Party Monsters - August 26th
- Paint Your Own Biscuits - August 27th

For information and to book your tickets online please visit:  
[www.tickettailor.com/events/thameschase](http://www.tickettailor.com/events/thameschase)

## August at Upminster Windmill

The Windmill, Garden and Visitor Centre will be open from 10am - 4pm on Saturday 9th/Sunday 10th August. Games and activities for all the family, with Windmill tours available on both days - Adults £6, Children £2 [Minimum height 100cm]. Closed in footwear is required. The Garden

and the Visitor Centre will also be open on Wednesday 27th August from 11am - 3pm.

Entry is free to the site, the garden and to the visitor centre. If not touring the windmill itself, come and relax in our peaceful Wisley award winning garden with tea/coffee and a cake, and learn in the visitor centre of the stories of the two families that owned the windmill for most of its working life. For full details of opening times in 2025 please visit [www.upminsterwindmill.org](http://www.upminsterwindmill.org).

## UCRA coach trip news

**Saturday 13th September  
Faversham & Whitstable**

A morning visit to Faversham featuring charming medieval streets, a historic guildhall, and a traditional market selling local produce. Then on to Whitstable, a seaside town famous for its oysters, traditional fishing harbour and its bohemian atmosphere. £19.50

**Wednesday 26th November  
The Music of Bond**

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and a special guest presenter for its much-loved The Music of Bond show - live, for one night only, at the Royal Albert Hall. Featuring influential classics from John Barry and David Arnold, to chart-topping hits by Paul McCartney and Adele - each timelessly depicting everyone's favourite Secret Service agent, 007. Whether you're a die-hard Bond fan, or simply fancy an excuse to dress up and don your (very much optional) black tie, this sensational show promises to impress and thrill in equal measure. This is an evening performance. The price of £44.50 includes return coach from Upminster.

For further information on both these trips please email Gina on [ginasavillturner@outlook.com](mailto:ginasavillturner@outlook.com) or tel **07958 006503**

## Spare plots in Ashvale Gardens Allotments

There are a few spare plots in Ashvale Gardens Allotments, next to Oglethorpe School in

Cranham, available for anyone interested in growing their own fruit and vegetables whilst keeping fit. Gardening is a really good exercise and you get the additional benefit, satisfaction and value of doing it yourself and hopefully getting lots of very fresh fruit or vegetables. Advice is always available if required. Contact Mike Willcocks **01708 501505** or [mike@willcocks.me.uk](mailto:mike@willcocks.me.uk)

## Hornchurch Grammar School (HGS) 50 year reunion

For HGS 1968 intake (1973 - 75 leavers) we are organising a 50 year Reunion on Friday 12 September 2025 in Hornchurch. Details are on the Hornchurch Grammar School page on Facebook. If you or anyone you know were at HGS during that time, please email [netty4242@yahoo.com](mailto:netty4242@yahoo.com) with HGS and your name in the subject heading and we will get back to you. Alternatively call Jeanette Martin on **07791 972203**



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## OUT AND ABOUT Hornchurch Photographic Society

We are looking for new members to join our friendly club at Ardleigh House Community Association, Havering College, Gidea Park. We meet every Monday at 8pm to 10pm in the Main Hall. If you have an interest in photography and would like to improve your skills, come and visit our friendly group. Our more experienced photographers are always on hand to help with camera skills and know how. Contact: Chairman Jean McGowan **01708 727694** or General Secretary Sean Callis: [seanallis@outlook.com](mailto:seanallis@outlook.com) or Email: [steve\\_hps@yahoo.com](mailto:steve_hps@yahoo.com) (Publicity Secretary).

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## Friends of Clockhouse Gardens

Just to note that the Friends currently work at the gardens on the last Sunday of the month although this may change in

the future. Work has started on returning the gardens to their former glory but more help is required.

## Havering Astronomical Society

We hold a variety of monthly meetings and observing events. At our monthly meetings, we host talks by visiting speakers and our own members on various astronomy-related topics. Our Young Astronomers Group is for young people aged 8-16 who wish to find out more about the night sky. We normally meet at Thames Chase Forest Centre, Pike Lane, Upminster every month but do not have a meeting in August.

If you are interested in joining the society, or have any queries, please email [enquiries@havaastro.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@havaastro.co.uk) or see our website [www.havaastro.co.uk](http://www.havaastro.co.uk).

## Havering Joggers

Havering 90 Joggers is a running club for adults aged 18+. We meet Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7.30pm at Upminster Rugby Club, Two Gables, Hall Lane, Upminster. We also have a Sunday group that runs from a different park in Havering every week at 9am. We periodically arrange a Learn-to-run (Couch to 5k) coached 10 week course. Please get in touch if you are interested in joining future courses.

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## Upminster and District Probus Club

Are you a retired or semi-retired Gentleman? In August our Probus Club meets at the Top Meadow Golf Club, Upminster on the second Wednesday of the month, where we enjoy a chat and a drink before a 3 course lunch. Our speaker, Mike Brace CBE, will be talking on "It's Ability That Counts". Wonder if you'll fit in? You'll be sure of a warm welcome. Lunch costs just £25, payable at the meeting. You can find us on Facebook or on [upminsterprobussec.wixsite.com/upminster-probus](http://upminsterprobussec.wixsite.com/upminster-probus). If you wish to attend, you will need to book your lunch in advance by telephoning our Lunch Secretary, Richard Saville on **01708 221903** or **07858 693027** or email him at [upminsterprobus.lunch@gmail.com](mailto:upminsterprobus.lunch@gmail.com)

## Trinity Leisure Club

Trinity Leisure Club (affectionately known as TLC) meets every Thursday from 1pm until 3pm in the Roope Hall, Trinity Church (next to Roomes Store) and everyone is welcome. Just ring the bell for access. We play board and card games and enjoy a chat over a hot drink and biscuits or sometimes even

cake! Some people bring their knitting but, whatever your preference, it's a fun afternoon in pleasant company. At only £1 per session (proceeds to the church and charity) it's an inexpensive afternoon out. Why not give us a try or bring some friends and get some TLC!

## Wingletye Ladies Probus Luncheon Club

We are a friendly group of ladies, aged 50+, who meet at The Square, Deyncourt Gardens on the 1st Wednesday of each month. We have a 3 course lunch and after lunch we have a speaker. At present we have a few vacancies and you are assured of a warm welcome if you wish to join us. For further details please contact Sheila on **01708 469235**

## Havering Ladies Probus Club

Ladies are you retired or about to be do you like meeting new people and enjoy a nice lunch in beautiful surroundings. If so, why not join our meetings at Top Meadow Golf Club, North Ockendon. We are a friendly group and have interesting speakers and quizzes and it is a great opportunity to socialise. For

more information, please phone our secretary on **01708 701 545**

## Harwood Ladies Probus Club

We are a group of retired ladies who meet at Top Meadow Golf Club on the second Wednesday of each calendar month to socialise, enjoy a three course lunch and listen to a guest speaker. If you would like to join us, please contact Lesley on **07931 974794**. If no reply, do please leave a message giving your name and contact details.

## 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 entertainers, going on outings/theatre trips and promoting friendships and wellbeing. We meet at St Laurence Church Main Hall, Upminster on the third Monday of each month from 1.45pm until 4pm. For further information contact Anne Monk **01708 226305** or simply come along.

## Cranham Engayne WI

Would you like to belong to the friendliest WI around? We meet on the third Tuesday of every month at the Cranham Community Centre (Avon Road end of Marlborough Gardens) 2-4pm. We have interesting speakers as well as a full social calendar, with trips to theatres, RHS gardens etc, and also our "Ladies Who Lunch" afternoons. For more details phone Una Henderson on **01708 225088**, or simply come along to one of our meetings.

## Carousel Women's Club

Are you looking for a friendly woman's club to join? We are currently enrolling new members and you would be made very welcome. We meet on Monday evenings 7.30 - 10 pm at the Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens, Upminster. We have a wide range of events and activities including interesting and varied speakers, karaoke and other music evenings, quizzes, craft evenings, fish and chip suppers, cheese and wine, and pizza evenings. We also arrange theatre outings and coach trips.

If you are interested, please call Eve on **07768160042** or Marion on **07976692010**, or simply come along to a meeting

## Summer breaks

No meetings in August for Upminster and District Horticultural Society, The Arts Society of Havering, Wednesday Afternoon Music at Hornchurch Library Havering Local Group Essex Wildlife Trust and Friends of the Old Chapel.

## Upminster Wine and Social Club

We are a very friendly and welcoming club who meet 8pm on the third Thursday of every month at Cranham Social Hall in Front Lane. Here we enjoy each other's company, listen to a speaker and finish with a glass of wine. Entry is £5. For more information, please contact Kevin on **07727 497367**

## Gadabouts

We are a social club for single people and have a varied programme each month. Our age range is for those between 40-70 years. If you would like to know more, please email [elizabethwooding@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:elizabethwooding@hotmail.co.uk)

## Deyncourt Ladies Probus Club

We are a friendly group of retired or semi-retired ladies who meet every 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Masonic Hall, Deyncourt Gardens, Upminster. We enjoy a chat and a drink before a three course lunch with coffee/tea and a speaker to follow. Outings are also organised during the year. For more information, please contact our secretary Pauline Diable on **01708 524 897**.

## Oglethorpe Women's Institute

We meet at Cranham Social Centre on the 4th Wednesday of every month from 1.45pm to 4pm. We are a very friendly, welcoming group who enjoy speakers, activities and a chat with a cup of tea. If you would like to find out more, please contact our Secretary, Pat Bridge on **01708 225616**.



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[www.Communi-TeaCircle.org](http://www.Communi-TeaCircle.org)  
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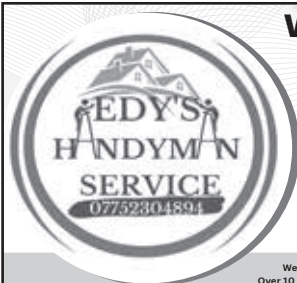
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## Ardleigh House Trips

**Wednesday 26 November -  
Christmas at Waddesdon Manor**

Waddesdon Manor and grounds will be transformed for Christmas. Enjoy beautifully decorated interiors in the House, a glittering light trail in the gardens and a Christmas Market in wooden chalets in the grounds plus a new light projection on the Manor façade. Price including entry £70 (National Trust members £50 but you must bring your membership card with you).

**Monday 15 December - Cruise  
into Christmas on the Thames**

This is traditionally our last trip of the year. A 3-hour cruise along the Thames with a free glass of prosecco, 3 course Christmas hot turkey lunch, with all the trimmings, tea/coffee, a DJ and Christmas music and everyone dancing. It's become our Christmas party on the Thames. Price £78.

To book go to our website [www.ardleighhouse.org/trips](http://www.ardleighhouse.org/trips) or telephone **01708 440660**.

Ardleigh House also offers many Leisure activities and we list a few below:-

Yoga and Chair Yoga - Crafts -  
Spanish lessons - Keep Fit - Short  
Mat Bowls - Ju Jitsu - Pottery -

Social Club - Pilates - Table Tennis and much more. Check out our "What's On" page on our website [www.ardleighhouse.org/](http://www.ardleighhouse.org/) for full list of what is happening at Ardleigh House.

## Battery Energy Storage System

We refer you to previous articles in the Bulletin regarding Planning Application reference P1498.24. for "Land adjacent to St.Marys Lane, the construction, operation and maintenance of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with associated infrastructure and works including highways access, landscaping & biodiversity enhancements".

There has been a lot of concern over this. As we go to press, we understand that the Council's Strategic Planning Committee are deciding on this. Please note that the outcome and further details can be viewed on our website.

## Urgent - donations required by St Vincent's

St Vincent's are urgently looking for donations of clothing, shoes,

bags, accessories, books and bric a brac to our charity shop in Station Road, Upminster. We have depleted our summer storage of stock and desperately need a top-up to get us through the next few weeks. This helps fund services such as a food bank and drop in centre in Southend, our befriending programme for those who are elderly, vulnerable and in poverty and need in our local communities and various projects that aid those who need it most in the current financial climate.

Donations are very much appreciated between the opening hours of 9-5 Monday-Saturday or 10-4 on Sundays.

## Long House Plants - Noak Hill

We have some open gardens - there will be tea and cake!

**For the National Garden Scheme  
Wednesday 6th August 11am-4pm.**

**For Harold Hill Salvation Army  
Saturday 16th August 11am-4pm.**

**For the National Garden Scheme  
Wednesday 3rd September 11am-4pm.**

**For Harold Hill Salvation Army  
Saturday 13th September 11am-4pm.**

**For Macmillan Cancer Support -**

*Saturday 27th September.*

Adults £7.00, children 5-16 £3.00, under 5's free.

There is around an acre of tranquil garden with paths that are (apart from a few areas) suitable for wheelchairs. The planting includes day lilies, Penstemons, Hydrangeas, Ferns, Agapanthus and grasses, with some hot exposed areas and some sheltered shady spaces. There are plenty of seats and places to shelter in the garden.

The charities supported are grateful for the funds and in 2024 £7900.00 was raised in all.

Please see Long House Advert on Page 10 for full address etc. It is a really wonderful set of open gardens.

## Stop scams - dial 159 to reach your bank

Stop Scams UK is an organisation with membership from many of the major banks, technology and telecoms industries set up to fight back against fraud and scams. Widely promoted, including by the BBC, they have a simple message - 'If you think someone is trying to trick you into handing

*continued on page 22*

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For further information visit [stopscamsuk.org.uk/our-work/159-phone-number/](http://stopscamsuk.org.uk/our-work/159-phone-number/).

Cllr JOHN TYLER

## Queens Theatre

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makeovers, and masala moves. With a dazzling Bollywood Ball, a mystical slipper, and a lot of bakwas, Surinder's destiny is about to get a serious glow-up!

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## Hornchurch Scouts - Adventure Island wristbands

Hornchurch District Scouts (charity no. 303699) are selling Adventure Island wristbands at a discounted price of £15 each. Wristbands purchased this year have an expiry date of 31st December 2025. To purchase call Debbie on 07805612706 or collect from Pink Parachute, 6 North Street RM11 1DX during opening hours. Debit/credit cards and cash accepted as payment, with card payment only at Pink Parachute.

## Outside Letterboxes

May we warn you again please on the following. A number of properties including apartments

have outside letterboxes. We urge you to empty these as often as possible.

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## Havering Citizens Advice

If you should need to contact the Citizens Advice Bureau for any advice or issues, they are at CAB Havering, First Floor, Romford Central Library, St Edwards Way, RM1 3AR. Telephone **01708 763531**

## Can you help deliver the Bulletin in Avon Road or Kings Gardens?

In Cranham Ward we are seeking help to deliver Bulletins at the shops end of Avon Road (houses only - no flats) and Kings Gardens. We rely heavily on our team of volunteers, without whom we could not deliver to every road in Cranham and Upminster. If any readers have 20-30 minutes spare per month to assist us in either of these roads, please contact Cllr

John Tyler via my details on page 2. Thank you

## Save water

With more hot weather forecast this summer, water companies are asking everyone to look at how they use and conserve water. Essex and Suffolk Water, Thames Water, and Anglian Water all have helpful tips on saving water and making small changes when using water in your home and gardens. Please see their websites for details.

## Upminster Library

Whilst a number of Councils have closed Libraries Havering has a wide range of Libraries. We are fortunate to have in Corbets Tey Road an excellent Library. Apart from a huge stock of books the library is well known for a wide range of functions. We urge you to visit the library and see what is on offer .

## New Ventures

Over the years The Bulletin has publicised a wide range of new businesses in our area. If you are starting a new venture, please let us know at [bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk), We'll help spread the word.



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