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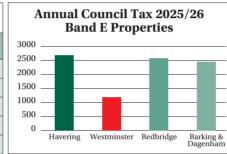
UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Havering Council Tax

In the May 2023 and September 2024 Bulletins, I gave the comparison of the Council tax for Havering with that for our neighbours in Redbridge and Barking and Dagenham Councils and also with the much wealthier borough of Westminster. These are still available to view on our UCRA website.

We now have the figures for 2025/26 and these set out below. These show a similar position with the rates for Westminster being just over 40 per cent of those for Havering for similar rate bands.

Annual Council Tax Rates 2025/26				
Band	Havering	Westminster	Redbridge	Barking & Dagenham
D	£2,314	£973	£2,190	£2,098
E	£2,828	£1,189	£2,676	£2,564
F	£3,342	£1,406	£3,163	£3,031
G	£3,856	£1,622	£3,649	£3,497
Н	£4,627	£1,946	£4,379	£4,196



These reflect the unfairness of the present Council Tax system which is based on the position for almost 40 years ago. I wonder when will any Government have the courage to change this unfair system. Please write to your MP and also to the Minister responsible, the Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution, Jim McMahon, at <code>jim.mcmahon.mp@parliament.uk.</code> The Council also have a petition which you can sign at <code>https://consultation.havering.gov.uk/coo/gov-funding-formula-petition-24-25/.</code>

RON OWER

New Village Green in Emerson Park

The community of Platford Green and Tyle Green in Emerson Park celebrated the dedication of its new village green on Sunday, 20 July 2025. This follows18 months of campaigning to have this valuable area protected from future development. (more on page 3)

From left to right are Cllr Ray Morgon, Cllr Laurance Garrard, Cllr David Godwin and Cllr Graham Willimson.

Cllrs DAVE GODWIN and LAURANCE GARRARD



Illegal tobacco and vapes seized in Upminster

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Recently Havering Council's Trading Standards and enforcement teams seized £17,300 worth of illegal hand-rolling tobacco, cigarettes and non-compliant vapes and Shisha tobacco from an Upminster business. The teams were joined on the operation by Metropolitan Police officers and sniffer dogs. The raid on the business was part of Operation CeCe, which focuses on the sale and distribution of illicit and counterfeit tobacco products.

This was a multi-agency operation consisting of Trading Standards, His Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) and Police. The aim is to crack down on those selling and supplying counterfeit and non-compliant tobacco products and vapes, which are often linked to organized crime and can also pose health risks to the public.

Businesses can face loss of a licence and a ban on selling tobacco, plus individuals found guilty can face substantial fines and even prosecution, with up to 10 years in prison and an unlimited fine. The business cannot be named at this time due to the ongoing investigations.

Cranham Play sites

Two play areas are set to see some improvements. Cranham Brickfields and Fleet Close Village Green are receiving some very welcome funding and would appreciate residents' input into how the money is spent. Fleet Close Village Green Friends Group is being set up and we would welcome people

continued on page 2





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to come forward for Cranham Brickfields. If you are interested in either group, drop an email through to councillorgillian. ford@havering.gov.uk or ring

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Battery Energy Storage System in St. Mary's Lane to go ahead

01708 641317.

The planning application for the construction, operation and maintenance of a Battery Energy Storage System on land adjacent to St. Mary's Lane, Upminster (east of Warley Street) went before Havering Council's Strategic Planning Committee Meeting on Thursday 10 July 2025. At the meeting, despite objections presented by the Upminster Ward councillors and local residents, the committee granted planning permission by three votes to one, with one abstention.

Your Residents Association Councillors, who opposed this decision, will now seek to ensure that all of the conditions and mitigations accompanying the

application are adhered to, but there will be impacts on local residents, and disruption to the local roads is likely as and when cables are laid. There is no start date for installation works at this time.

> Cllr OSCAR FORD **Upminster Ward**

Cranham's road improvements

Over the last three years we have seen a number of Cranham's roads resurfaced. Front Lane. Hall Lane, Severn Drive, Queens Gardens and most recently Marlborough Gardens. Next on the list is Avon Road, the improvement of which will take place in September. Neighbours will receive a letter advising them of the works and details will be published on the UCRA website and on Facebook platforms. Cllr GILLIAN FORD



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Emerson Park Village Green

The first of five more village green dedications for this year, Platford Village Green joins the five village greens at Fleet Close, Cranham, Wennington Green, Wennington Village, Hitchin Close, Harold Hill. Gooshays Drive, Harold Hill and Dover's Corner at New Zealand Way, Rainham dedicated last year. Village green status ensures that Platford Green and Tyle Green will remain undeveloped in perpetuity; safeguarding the area for the enjoyment of future generations.

The event marks another milestone in the borough's commitment to enhancing green spaces for all residents and featured speeches by Councillor Ray Morgon, Leader of Havering Council, Councillor David Godwin, Emerson Park Ward Councillor, and Councillor Graham Williamson, Cabinet Lead for Development and Regeneration. Councillor Morgon, said: "I am so pleased to celebrate this first milestone. as we deliver on our promise to

our residents to protect these much-loved green spaces. "By the end of the summer, we will have ten village greens in Havering for residents and visitors to enjoy." The formal dedication ceremony was a community celebration and was followed by refreshments on the new village green provided by local ward councillors, David Godwin and Laurance Garrard.

> Cllrs DAVE GODWIN and LAURANCE GARRARD





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A127 cycle path

Following many complaints from local residents we approached TfL to have foliage along the pavement of the A127 trimmed and swept for both cyclists and walkers. This would enable them to enjoy this facility which links Romford, Hornchurch and places beyond as far as Southend. This frequently used path needs to be preserved not only for the enjoyment of current users, but also to encourage cyclists and walkers to take advantage of a quick and safe option to travel.

Police success

which was believed to be used for man was arrested and found with information from local residents

so if you believe that someone you know is dealing drugs you can report this to police via 101 or via met.police.uk or anonymously at crimestoppers-uk.org.

Nyth Close and Plough

I met with residents in Nyth Close earlier in the year, as they have been experiencing long-term problems with larger vehicles seeking to access the Close, due to parked cars and vans in the narrow entrance road. I am now working with Havering Council to present a proposal to residents to solve the problems.

In the same road, it was also pointed out to me that delivery vehicles often drive over the inner end of the central green, even though there is an ample turning area. Havering Council have responded to this by installing wooden bollards to prevent this. In Plough Rise, there has been a problem with vehicles parking in the turning area at the end of the close, meaning that larger delivery lorries have often reversed onto

continued on page 5

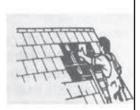
in drug raids We received an update from our

local police about a successful raid on a property in Havering the supply of drugs. A 49 year old drug dealing articles following which the property was boarded up with a closure order. This action was only possible following

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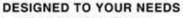
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a resident's driveway to turn around. I have been liaising with Havering Council for over two years to have yellow lines installed in the turning area, to remove this issue, and I am pleased to say that this has finally been approved.

I find the Council officers responsible for such schemes very helpful, but the extended period this has taken is a good example of how reduced resources are effecting the Council's ability to undertake necessary measures such as

Cllr JOHN TYLER

New Roads and Street **Works Act** 1991

It is always frustrating when utility companies in particular seem to dig up roads or pavements soon after they have been resurfaced. However, to reduce the number of times this happens, Havering Council often use their powers under the New

Roads and Street Works Act 1991 to impose restrictions on such works. The council must publish notification of their intention to do so beforehand and once this has been done, restrictions can be imposed for quite long periods.

Emergency works are understandably exempt but if they do have to take place, whoever does the work is often required to re-instate the road or footway to a much higher standard than normal. A recent example of this was when a water leak occurred in Queens Gardens (which had been recently resurfaced) at the junction with Roseberry Gardens. Once repaired, Essex and Suffolk Water were required to fully resurface the affected section of road, rather than just undertake a normal patching repair.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Action on road works

Whilst the Gallows Corner flyover replacement takes place, the Council's Highways Department are liaising with Transport for London to minimise the

www.pinneytalfourd.co.uk inevitable disruption to traffic flows across the borough. Unfortunately, it is not possible to avoid some urgent utilities repairs. It is annoying though when the traffic controls are left in place with no apparent action on the ground. This was the case outside St. Joseph's School, St. Mary's Lane recently, causing major tail-backs and congestion. I took this up with the Highways Department who contacted the statutory undertaker and got them to remove the redundant controls ahead of their licensed period, a welcome intervention

Cllr OSCAR FORD

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Time-lapse video of **Tithe Barn** restoration

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National Highways (Lower Tames Crossing) have released a short time-lapse video of the restoration of Upminster's historic tithe barn, to commemorate the project

that they helped finance in partnership with Historic England and Havering Council. To view the video visit youtube. com/watch?v=Xk5LJtsH4NY.

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Cllr IOHN TYLER

Planning application for Green Belt land refused

The Upminster Ward Councillors recently called in a Planning In Principle request for a housing development on land adjacent to the Ladyville Lodge. The plot of land, designated as Metropolitan Green Belt lies at a strategic location on the edge of the North Ockendon village, and as such marks and provides for a green transition to the open farmland beyond. Of particular note, the Ladyville Lodge care home, which is adjacent to this plot, is set back from Fen Lane and presents a green frontage with mature trees. Allowing development here would set a precedent, opening

the door for other similar plots

continued on page 7



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of Geen Belt to be developed in this and other locations. We are pleased to say that the application has been refused by the Local Planning Authority, though as always, the applicant has the right to appeal this decision.

Cllr OSCAR FORD

Weeds, weeds

You will not have missed the amount of weeds that appear like triffids in the area. I and other Councillors shared our disappointment with Council Officers. I made it clear that we needed the monitoring of weed spraying, as it appears to be being sprayed everywhere other than on weeds and that the detritus in the gulleys needed manual removal to prevent drain blockage and further weed growth. I am pleased to say that we are now seeing this being actioned. If, however, you have an area in your road that has not been cleared, you can report this online, using the following link: https://www.havering.gov.uk/ environmental-issues/treesgrass-hedges-leaves-weeds/4

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

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

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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.

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

Hornchurch Football Club

As the season has really got going, our local football team have the following home fixtures at the Stadium, Bridge Avenue, Upminster.

Saturday 13th FA Cup fixture with details to be confirmed.

Saturday 4th October Horsham . **Saturday 18th** Bath City.

Kick off for these last two games is 3pm.

Please keep an eye on the club's excellent website for any news

please. Go along and support your local team.

Queens Theatre

Into the Bolly-woods - Surinderella tickets on sale now for 30 Sep - 5 Oct 25!

Meet Surinder – sweet, strong, and stuck in a never-ending chore list thanks to her two selfie-obsessed, Insta-vlogging stepsisters, Lovely & Bubbly. Her only real support? The one and only Basanti, a cow with more attitude than a desi girl. Meanwhile, Prince Kavi is drowning in shaadi pressure from his royal family. But when he accidentally bumps into Surinder, sparks fly faster than a Bollywood dance sequence!

Enter the fabulous Devi Godmother, arriving in fullon glam mode with magic, 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! Get ready for an evening of laughter, romance, and largerthan-life entertainment!

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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). Seniors are FREE on 25th & 26th

September. Book direct through our website. www.weslevplayers.com. We also accept card payments on the door. Alternatively, you can reserve tickets by Text to Box Office on 07708 214 742 or email tickets@ wesley-players.co.uk.

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 longsuffering 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

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2LG from 11th-13th September 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. You can also follow us on Facebook and visit our website.

Havering Antiques Collectors Club

Havering Antiques Collectors Club meets on the 3rd Friday of each month. Guest speakers cover a wide range of topics - art, pottery, jewellery, fashion etc. In December Mark Smith, renowned expert in medals etc will value any militaria and Paul Atterbury is our January speaker - both from the BBC Antiques Roadshow.

Annual membership is only £40 and our new season starts on Friday 19th September. Guests are assured of a warm welcome only £6 (£8 in December). We meet at Harold Wood Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, RM3 0QA from 7.45 - 9.15

pm. Bus stop outside for 346, 256

MINI MADNESS - Stay & Play

Including soft play, bouncy castle, bubbles, games and much more, we meet every Wednesday from 10 - 12 at Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens, where there is free parking, For ages 6 months - 4 years. PAYG £6 (No need to book)

New at Cranham Baptist Church

Cranham Baptist Church is opening for a weekly 'coffee stop' on Thursdays, 2-4pm. Please pop in and see us for a drink and a chat if you're free! Donations welcome

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Wednesday 10th September Roope Hall, Trinity Church,

continued on page 11







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Station Road, Upminster

Valence House - the only surviving manor house in Dagenham Leeanne Westwood, Museum and Collections Curator will talk about the history and art collection of Valence House. Doors open at 10am - talk starts at 10.30am. £2 supplement for members £4 admission for nonmembers. Tea and coffee served at the end of the meeting.

Email: friendsoldchapel@mary. havering.sch.uk

Havering Local Group EWL Trust

Monday September 8th 2025 2.00 - 3.30pm The speaker will be Emma Grove who will be giving a very interesting and detailed talk on deer. She recently held a talk on this subject at Bedfords Park.

Saturday 6th September 2025 10.30 - 12.30pm Join us for a walk around Cranham Marshes Reserve led by Tony Gunton. Meet at 10.30am at the end

of Park Drive, Upminster by the kissing gate. Wear suitable clothing and footwear for outdoor conditions and weather. Walk will last about 2 hours and is suitable for adults and accompanied older children. All welcome. NO need to book. NO cost.

Contact David on **07857422843** or email David.c.marshall.t21@ btinternet.com or visit www. Essexwt.org.uk/events for extra information

Romford Scrabble

The club meets every Wednesday night at the Gidea Park Methodist Church on Brentwood Road. We play three games of competitive Scrabble between 6..30 and 9:30 pm. Everyone is offered refreshments. There is no age barrier, our youngest player is 11 our oldest player is 78 years old. We would be delighted if anyone would like to join us to play Scrabble competitively. My contact details are: Fazilez@ hotmail.com and 07553 509 550.

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Immerse yourself in a world of carnations, tulips, hyacinths and roses as you discover the history of the famous Turkish Iznik ceramics, from its origins imitating Chinese porcelain to its 16th-century heyday and subsequent decline. The focus on flowers makes this an ideal subject for spring but it works equally well at any time of year. Our speaker, Dr Antonia Gatward Cevizli is an independent art historian specialising in both Italian Renaissance art and Ottoman art. She gained her PhD from the University of Warwick. Her publications focus on cultural and diplomatic exchanges between the Italian city-states and the Ottomans

Tuesday September 9th 2025 at New Windmill Hall Upminster RM14 2QH at 10:15 am

Open to visitors for a fee of £8:00. Please visit our web site: https://

tashavering.org.uk/Lectures/ FutureLectures.aspx or contact us at info@tashavering.org.uk, or telephone 01708 221903

Trinity Church coffee morning

Coffee morning and sale will be held at Trinity Church on Saturday 13th September from 10-12 on the front lawn (weather permitting). On sale will be plants, jewellery, puzzles, china, books and craft items. All proceeds for church funds towards refurbishment of the Roope Hall.

Upminster Horticultural Society is 118!

The Upminster Horticultural Society was formed on 18th September 1907 which means it is 118 years old. Although we have no meetings in September, watch this space for details of our October talk. Not many Societies can boast this long history but we need new committee

continued on page 13

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members soon so that the Society can continue for another 118 years. For further details please go to our website *www. Upminsterhorticulturalsociety. co.uk*

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Regular Events

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

A warm welcoming space serving hot and cold food and drinks. A place to meet friends or come alone for a cuppa and a chat. Different activities each week include bingo, small quizzes, hand massages, singers and dancers. Come along and meet the team. Free entry.

For more details please email newwindmill@hotmail.co.uk

Other events

Craft Fair *Sunday 14th September* 10am till 3pm - Free entry - cafe open

Monthly Quiz Night 30th September - 28th October

and 25th November 7pm till 10pm - £5pp teams of 6-8

Sunday Lunch & Dancing -Sunday 19th October 12pm till 3:30pm - 2 course meal £25pp lots of dancing

Party Night - Saturday 25th October 7:30pm till 11pm - £12pp with great company and friends For more information, please email nwhsocials@outlook.com or pop into the hall.

Romford Floral Art Society is 65!

Romford Floral Art Society are celebrating its 65th anniversary on Tuesday, 30 September 2025 at the New Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster RM14 2QH. Doors will open at 12.30 for a 1pm start. The afternoon will



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consist of a lunch, served with wine or orange juice and followed by a flower demonstration. This year's demonstration will be by Lee Berrill and is called 'Back to the Future'. The arrangements will be raffled afterwards. Tickets to attend the lunch are £40 for non-members.

For further information please contact *01708 228390* or *07938 677904* or to book please call *01708 747831/0776 2055922* (the deadline for booking is 22 September)

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to give every child an opportunity to grow independently in a happy, safe and secure environment and prepare them for all that school has to offer. We have very experienced, highly qualified staff and work to ratios of 1:4 which allows staff to integrate fully with the children. We also offer lots of 'extra' experiences; an allotment patch in Stewart Avenue, we mix with the older generation through the church's Men's Shed group and the Monday club. We make visits to the farm, park, library, windmill and have visits from sports coaches.

For further information please email: Caroline at *springfieldpg13@gmail.com*. You can also find us on Instagram and Facebook – Springfield Playgroup.

Thames Chase Art and Sculpture Exhibition

The annual Thames Chase 2025 Art and Sculpture Exhibition launches on September 1st. We

continued on page 15

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are thrilled to be showcasing the work of local artists this month at the Art & Sculpture Exhibition, hosting a variety of works supporting local artists.

Entry is FREE and works will be available to view and purchase daily from 10am-4pm until September 10th at the Thames Chase Forest Centre, Pike Lane, Upminster RM14 6NS. If you require further information please call *01708 64297*

Heritage Open Day at Thames Chase

Come to the Thames Chase Forest Centre on September 14th between 11am - 2pm for our Heritage Open Day! This open day, in partnership with the Upminster Windmill, will celebrate the history of both Thames Chase and the Windmill. There will be talks on Broadfields Farm, the Essex Barn and Upminster Windmill. Interesting talks, a wonderful setting and complimentary refreshments this is not one to miss if you have a keen interest in local history. We shall be unveiling Thames

Chase's new oral history listening post that will showcase six stories from local people about their experiences of WWII. This listening post is a step forward in exhibiting the social history of the Thames Chase Community Forest, so make sure you come along to check it out!

11.00am - 12.30pm: Talks from Thames Chase and Upminster Windmill

13.30pm - 14.00pm: Unveiling of Oral History Listening Post Cost: Free, no booking required

Upminster Camera Club is 70

Anniversary Exhibition At The Windmill

Join us at the iconic Upminster Windmill for Upminster Camera Club's 70th Anniversary Exhibition on September 13th and 14th! Discover a captivating showcase of more than 200 images by local photographers. In 1955, the first club meeting was in a room above Upminster's Govani's Chemist, so we're really excited the exhibition coincides

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with the Windmill's heritage based open weekend.

Macmillan Cancer Support

Macmillan's do a huge amount of work on cancer support. Please note this year's national fund raising Macmillan Coffee Morning is on Friday 26th September. Please see their excellent and very helpful website for further details on how you can get involved. The website also has a huge amount of information on the fantastic work they do.

'Open Week' at My Pilates Fix Studios

My Pilates Fix has relocated to beautiful studios opposite Upminster station and in September we are celebrating with an 'Open Week' where you can try Pilates and massage at discounted prices. Upstairs in the spacious matwork studio we offer Pilates classes using small equipment or the wall towers and springs. Downstairs is a reformer

and apparatus studio, and two therapy rooms – one for sports massage and one for holistic therapies. We continue with our private Pilates sessions and physical rehab, working closely with the local Physios and Osteos. Class numbers are capped at 8 for Reformer/Tower and 10 for Matwork so that you are closely observed/corrected within a small group, working at your own pace without pressure to work beyond your means.

The timetable spans 7 days and 5 evenings, including 7am classes and lunchtime classes. A great new addition is our 'Gentle' Pilates classes for those who need to take it easy. Always inclusive, we cater for all adult ages and abilities plus individual restrictions/medical conditions. Go to www.mypilatesfix.co.uk to get your Open Week discount or email contact@mypilatesfix.co.uk

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continued on page 17

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the healing vibrations of crystal bowls and Tibetan bowls with a gentle meditation. Let the tones clear your mind, balance your energy and bring peace to your soul. Feel free to bring yoga mats and pillows for your comfort. Friday 26th September Time: 7.15 -8.45 pm. Cost: £12 per person at Ardleigh House 42 Ardleigh Green Rd RM11 2LG next to Havering College. To book contact Tracey: 07940254630

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OUT AND **ABOUT Havering Astronomical** Society

Adult group Wednesday 17 September, 7.15 for 7.30pm

Jerry Workman, one of our regular speakers, who has been Chairman and Meetings Secretary of a number of astronomy clubs, will present: 'Curiosity at Mars'.

Young Astronomers (aged 8-16) This group meets on the first Thursday of the month, 7 to 8pm This is a mix of space news, talks, activities and observing when possible. Please contact young. astronomers@havastro.co.uk for further details.

Please note that all our meetings are held at Thames Chase Forest Centre, Pike Lane, Upminster. If you are interested in joining the society, or have any queries, please email enquiries@ havastro.co.uk or see our website www.havastro.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.

Runners of all abilities are welcome, from beginners learning to run, to those that wish to jog, chat and get a bit healthier, to those that want to improve their race times or train for specific distances. Come and try it for free.

Further information can be found at www.h90j.org.uk or email membership@h90j.org.uk

Wednesday **Afternoon** Music at Hornchurch Library

While we have no meetings in September our programme starts in October.

Wed 1st October at 2pm Into the Autumn - Our presenters Dawn, Mike, Graham and Stephen welcome you to the new season of wonderful music with a preview of programmes you can expect to hear over the coming 3 months. Something for all musical tastes.

Wed 15th October at 2pm Night & Day - presented by Mike Beaman. From Music of the Night sung by Alfie Boe and Lovely Day by Bill Withers, through to Eric Clapton, Frank Sinatra and good old Wolfgang Amadeus plus the Dubliners to the Eagles and beyond.

All programmes are of recorded music played on high quality audio equipment and take place in the 1st floor main meeting room, Hornchurch Library, North Street, RM11 1TB commencing at 2pm and finishing by 4pm. Admission £2 per person with interval refreshments available

continued on page 19



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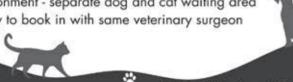
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Upminster Lymphoma and Blood Cancer Support Group

If you or anyone you know have been diagnosed with a blood cancer, then why not come and join us at one of our monthly meetings where you will find the support of people going through a similar journey as yourself. We meet monthly at 1.30 on a Tuesday afternoon at Upminster Baptist Church in Springfield Gardens. There's time for a chat over a cup of tea and a program of interesting speakers talking on various topics. We'd be happy to see you if you just turn up or email one of the team if you would like more information. Carers welcome too.

23rd September

21st October

18th November

9th December 12.30 Christmas lunch.

Ian.doreen@btinternet.com Denise.hosking@gmail.com

Upminster and District Probus Club

Are you a retired or semi-retired Gentleman? Our Probus Club meets at the Square in Deyncourt Gardens, Upminster on the second Wednesday of each month, where we enjoy a chat and a drink before a 3-course lunch followed by tea or coffee. At our September meeting our speaker will be talking about a short history of place names. 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. 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.

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

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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**

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. This month's speaker will be Nick Wickenden from Tiptree Jams. Entry is £5. For more information, please contact Kevin on 07727 497367

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!

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 **07976 692010**, or simply come along to a meeting.

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.

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.

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.









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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 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/for full list of what is happening at Ardleigh House.

Congratulations **Upminster Park**

We are delighted to inform you that Upminster Park has been awarded the prestigious "Green Flag " award. This is an international mark that recognises the best kept spaces in the UK. The Park has an active excellent Friends Group and is also home to the Upminster Cricket Club.

The Park is widely used and is a real asset to our town centre. The Association and its Councillors were active in getting the children's play area moved and extended to its current position at the front on Corbets Tey Road. Not a day goes by when the play area is not used!

Well done to all those that assisted in achieving the Green Flag.

Brookside Theatre

We are also lucky to have the Romford based Brookside Theatre at 21A Western Rd. Romford RM1 3NH located a few minutes

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from bus stops and Romford Station. They have a wide range of fantastic shows. September offerings include until Sunday 7th "Open All Hours - The Play" -millions loved the TV episodes. This has been authorised by the creator Roy Clarke, and has been adapted from several of his original iconic sitcom scripts.

Friday 12th Tribute to Michael Jackson, from Thursday 18th to Sunday 21st Wizard Of Oz Musical, Friday 26th Alex Mc Aleer - Mind Reader and then on Saturday 4th October Tribute to Kate Bush.

Their website has all the details. The Box Office is on **01708 755** 775. Really great entertainment at a fraction of West End prices. A great local theatre.

Long House Plants- Noak

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

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

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

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

London Fire **Brigade wildfire** advice

After the heavy rainfall in July, the risks of wildfires breaking out locally receded.

However, for long periods of hot, dry weather, the London Fire Brigade has a Grass and Wildfires webpage, available via londonfire.gov.uk/safety/grass-andwildfires/, giving advice on how to prevent grass fires, protecting your home from vulnerability to

continued on page 22

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wildfires and what to do if you discover a wildfire.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Upminster Windmill in **September**

The Windmill will be open with sails turning subject to weather 10am to 4pm on Saturday 13th/ Sunday 14th September as in association with Thames Chase, we celebrate the heritage and restoration of the two sites. Activities for all ages - learn about the families who owned the windmill during its working



life and try to identify the use for some of their personal and domestic possessions from an earlier age. For children there will be the chance for some "practice archaeology"! There is also free entry to an exhibition Camera Club celebrating their 70th anniversary.

Windmill tours are available both days - Adults £6, Children £2 [Minimum height 100cm]. Closed in footwear is required. Entry is free to the site, the garden and the visitor centre

The Garden and the Visitor Centre will also be open on Sunday 28th September from 11am to 3pm, where you can relax with tea/ coffee and a cake in the garden. For full details of opening times in 2025 please visit www. upminsterwindmill.org

346 Bus Route

On several occasions we have reported on the 346 bus route often referred to as the Cranham Hoppa. This Association was very active in the early 1980s in getting the service started. I am pleased to inform you that the 346 is getting busier, with local residents using the bus to get to the Polyclinic in Harold Wood, Harold Wood Station to connect to the Elizabeth

Harold Hill.

of photographs from Upminster

Line and of course going onto

As a reminder of the route, the service links Lexington Way, Moor Lane, St. Marys Lane, Upminster Station, Hall Lane, Harold Wood Station, Tesco at Gallows Corner, and Dagnam Park Square. Harold Hill. Transport for London's website has more details.



Abandoned vehicles

We regularly get asked about vehicles that appear to have been dumped locally especially in parking bays. Please use the Governments MOT/ ax Check merely put the vehicle registration number in and it will advise if

the MOT and Tax has run out. If so, the Council will take action to remove the vehicle.

Subscriptions

The annual subscription per household is £2 per year and we are currently collecting these. 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 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 as the activities of your councillors outlined throughout this Bulletin highlight.

Council Emergency Number

Kindly note the out of hours emergency number is 01708433**999** and the Office hours number is 01708 434343 If you need to contact the Council, please try and give the post code where the problem is or give as much information as possible.

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