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THE BULLETIN your local voice on the Council

Havering College - Ardleigh Green

We refer to previous Bulletin articles regarding the planning application for "the erection of 2/3 storey 87 bedroom and suites care home for the elderly, with ancillary and communal accommodation with landscaping, car and cycle parking" on land off Nelmes Way on the college site. This was discussed at the Strategic Planning Committee last month. Local Councillor Bob Perry who is active in the Havering Residents Association, attended the meeting to support our Emerson Park Residents' team who have been active on behalf of the community on this planning application. Please see below a number of the objections that were received by the Council:

- The size of the proposed development will dominate the street view and impact negatively on the character of Nelmes Way.
- The proposal is out of character. This is a residential area and cannot cope with a large care home facility.
- Concerns about the level traffic to be generated as a result.
- Insufficient parking facilities (only 46 spaces are planned).
- A three-storey building that can accommodate 87 bedrooms will be impossible to screen sufficiently and will cause issues with privacy in overlooked rooms.
- It is believed that the original traffic monitoring survey at the site was carried out during lockdown when no one was out and the college was closed. This does not reflect normal traffic levels. Parking and traffic in this section of Nelmes Way is already very busy when the college is open and this will be made worse by the number of employees and visitors generated by such a large facility.
- Both Nelmes Way and Platford Green would be adversely affected by this development with increased traffic from staff and relatives visiting residents.
- This is in a residential area that already suffers from terrible traffic with all the visitors and parents parking along Tyle Green to pick up children from Nelmes School and Campion School. A care home will only mean more traffic and more people and residents do not want to live in such a busy area.
- The building's excessive depth and height, would result in an unsatisfactory relationship between building blocks leading to loss of outlook.
- This is an overdevelopment of the site.
- More trees should be planted instead.

The 'Luck Estate' or commonly known as the duck pond estate comprising of Newman's Close, Platford Green, Tyle Green, Wakerfield Close, Peacock Close, Brindles, Russets, Acre View, Garland Way have only one entry in and off the estate onto Nelmes Way.

The four Conservative Councillors on the Committee voted for permission, clearly ignoring local views.



Havering Residents Association

The Squirrels Heath Residents' Association are proud to be members of Havering Residents Association - working together on behalf of local people across Havering.

Your help please


As reported in the October issue we lost Christine Kershaw due to personal circumstances and as a very capable team member she will be sadly missed. This has left a gap in the team that we need to fill, do you feel you have what it takes to become a Havering Residents Association Councillor in Squirrels Heath ward? If you do, please contact us for a friendly chat. Alternatively can you help us deliver our literature in your street? By supporting us you will be supporting your area by getting the Councillors you deserve. Please contact if you can assist.

Cllr BOB PERRY



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SQUIRRELS HEATH AREA

	
Bob Perry 07708 350 069 bob.perry@havering.gov.uk	Doug Rushworth 07909 886 260 drushworthhaveringra@gmail.com

Email: info@raep.org

Volunteer leaflet deliverers for the HRA

In the run-up to the local elections in May 2022, Havering Residents Association (HRA) will be raising their profile in areas of Havering that have never fielded Residents' Association candidates before. To do this, we will be delivering leaflets on a weekly basis in selected areas of Romford and the north of Havering.

We are presently looking for additional volunteers of any age, to help our friendly delivery team. Delivering, which lasts 1-2 hours, normally takes place weekdays, in the morning or evening, once or twice a week. Volunteers can come along as many or as few times as they like.

If you would like more information or to go on our list of volunteers, please send your name and contact details to HaveringRA@gmail.com.

of the Church Hall for hire. Phone the Hall Booking Secretary on 01708 445292. Also check out the calendar on the website, www.aschornchurch.org.uk

Your Safer Neighbourhood Team

Your dedicated ward Officers in the team are:

APS Sheppard	4219EA
PC Chris Brown	4185EA
PC Hannah Thornton	3227EA
PCSO Tolu Ajagbe	7156EA

You can contact Squirrels Heath Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team via email Squirrelsheath.SNT@Met.Police.UK or by phone 07876396930

Officers in the team work shifts, when they are not on duty there is a 24 hour answering service. Please leave a message and an Officer will return your call when next on duty. Please note this is not an emergency number. In cases of emergency please call 999. For anything else please dial 101. Some crimes can be reported online. For more information please visit the Metropolitan Police website www.met.police.uk

Article & Advertising Submission Deadlines

Articles - 1st Month Advertising - 3rd Month

Copy to be received on or before the above dates one Month prior to the publish date. Please note that submitting an article does not guarantee publication. Email: bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk

All Saints Church

Reverend Chris Wragg of All Saints, Ardleigh Green Road, has told us they're extending the availability

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Upminster weapons sweep

On a very wet September morning, I joined Sgt Sehmy and a team of 12 police officers/PCSOs, together with StreetWatch, to undertake a routine weapons/drugs sweep from Hornchurch Stadium car park to Hacton Lane, along the Ingrebourne river and surrounding area. There was no specific intelligence to suggest the area was problematic, but there have been previous reports of drug taking in the area so the exercise was precautionary. We checked in undergrowth and around trees. A number of residents walking in the area asked me what we were doing and I was able to inform them it was routine. The police presence was reassuring and some officers engaged with residents and children. I am pleased to say nothing was found which was regarded as a good result. This type of exercise is repeated in other areas from time to time when police resources are available. All part of your Safer Neighbourhoods Team's role.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Lock your vehicles

May we remind you not to leave valuables on display in your vehicles please and also ensure they are locked when not in use. Sadly opportunist thieves are out there!

Informing residents of planning applications

A few months ago, we started publishing Havering Council's Weekly Planning List on our website. We did this because we felt that the Council were not publicising planning applications widely enough, often not informing residents close to the application.

It has been highlighted to us that in a recent application for a small block of flats in Upminster, even homes that would be overlooked by the proposed building were not informed of the application by the Council, potentially denying

householders the chance to submit comments. We have raised this matter on several occasions with the Council's Planning Department, but we are not confident that they will change their current policy.

We would therefore encourage people to take a regular look at the Weekly Planning List on our website - www.ucra.co.uk, where you can also view applications for the last eight weeks.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Havering in Bloom

We are proud to have the refurbished working Windmill in our area and delighted to inform you that the Upminster Windmill Visitor Centre garden has won first prize in the Havering in Bloom 2021 competition. Our congratulations go out to all those who have worked hard to get this award.

Dogs' Mess

Further to the article in last month's Bulletin on "Dog Poo",

we have been in touch with the Council over a number of areas where bins needed emptying etc. The Council will be erecting "Dog Foul Stickers" in several areas to warn residents to be careful of dog poo deposited in the bin. We have also been asked to request dog owners to carefully deposit bags with poo in the bin. Can we also remind residents that street bins are not to be used for depositing household waste, which adds to the issue of bins becoming overfull. Thank you.

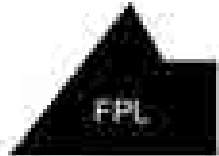
Upminster Fireworks Display is back!

Please come along to our Fireworks Display on Saturday, 6th November, at Upminster Infant/Junior School Playing Field (next to the Crumpled Horn). Doors open at 5pm, display at 6:30pm. All information, including tickets, will be on our website www.uspfa.co.uk.

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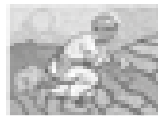
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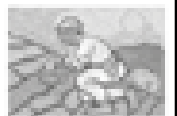
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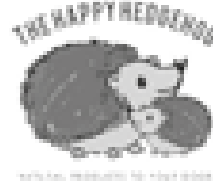
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Let Havering Cycle protest ride

In mid-September I had the pleasure of joining fellow cyclists on the 'Let Havering Cycle! Protest Ride' from Harrow Lodge Park to the Town Hall. The ride was a follow-up to last year's protest, when a petition calling for the Council to take action to improve cycling facilities in the borough was presented to the Leader of the Council. Since then it is claimed that little has been done to address the issues raised.

The suggestion that things are bad for Havering cyclists is backed up by the Healthy Streets Scorecard coalition, which recently ranked Havering as second worst in London for cyclists and for making changes to make our streets healthier.

Cycling from the park to the Town Hall I took the opportunity to talk to several of the riders, asking them what their key wishes were for better provision. They identified some specific elements such as better signage, more dedicated cycle routes and, where

practical, shared footways, but the overwhelming desire was to be listened to and to have their views properly taken into account. Looking at the Council's plans for better cycle provision it is hard to find any clearly defined strategic approach.

For more information on the Healthy Streets Scorecard visit their website www.healthystreetscorecard.london/

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Hornchurch Football Club

Please note following home fixtures at the Stadium, Bridge Avenue:

- Saturday, 6th November Merstham. Kick off 3pm.

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- Tuesday, 9th November Haringey Borough. Kick off 7.45pm.
 - Saturday, 20th November, Carshalton Athletic. Kick off 3pm.
 - Saturday, 4th December, Kingstonian. Kick off 3pm.
- It's a great friendly club, go along and support The Urchins your local team. The club also has an excellent website <https://www.hornchurchfc.com/>

community to decorate trees for this event.

The Festival opens on Saturday, 4th December at 10am and there will be refreshments available all day.

The opening times are Saturdays 10-4pm, Sundays 2-5pm and weekdays 2-6pm.

We hope community groups and schools will visit during the week to see the trees. Entrance is free, and money raised through donations will be given to our chosen charity, which this year is St Francis Hospice.

For more details, please contact the church office **01708 222278** or email upminstertreefest@gmail.com

Christmas Tree Festival 2021 - 4th to 12th December



Once again Upminster Methodist Church is preparing for their Christmas Tree Festival and this year

it is back in the church. It will be the eleventh year the church has arranged this event which provides a lovely introduction for all ages to the Christmas season.

We will be inviting local schools, organisations from the church and

Havering Council street trading survey

Havering Council are currently conducting a public survey, prior to introducing a street trading policy. They want to hear from local businesses and residents about what the policy should

continued on page 7

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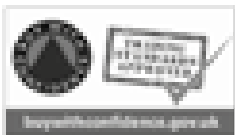
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include, so that they can help create a safe environment for businesses to trade outside on the street, while preventing crime and anti-social behaviour.

The consultation will cover the use of tables and chairs and advertising boards outside premises, and licensing for businesses that operate outside, like ice cream vans, and pop-up stalls.

The consultation runs until Tuesday, 9 November 2021 and can be accessed via [consultation.havering.gov.uk/environment/street-trading-policy/](https://www.havering.gov.uk/environment/street-trading-policy/).

Cut the grass

Back in the late summer the Council introduced so called "Urban Meadows" in a number of areas where they believed they would be environmentally attractive. One area was in Lichfield Terrace and Westbury Terrace, Cranham where the grass was not cut back. It very soon looked miserable and became scruffy and some rubbish was dropped there and was somewhat different to the wonderful

display on the field in front of our Windmill where there was an abundance of wild flowers.

Your Upminster Resident Councillors Linda Hawthorn, Ron Ower and Chris Wilkins inundated the Council with requests to have the grass cut and the area cleared.

We are pleased to inform you that the grass was cut on 11th October. We appreciate the area we live in.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN,

Cllr RON OWER,

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS

Christmas Menu at Jobber's Rest

Bookings being taken for Christmas party menu, £32.50 for 3 courses plus tea, coffee and mince pies. Available from 18th November.

London Marathon

Congratulations to all those who took part in this year's London marathon. Well done and a huge thank you for the money you raised for the various charities. Pictured is local resident Kevin

Flower who was one of 5 running on behalf of local charity First Step - supporting families of children with special needs. Between them they have raised over £9,000 so far.



National Trust

We are very lucky to have the Thames Chase Community Forest on our doorstep and you will read elsewhere in The Bulletin events they are holding this month.

We were reminded that there are other National Trust sites/buildings close by - merely search 'National Trust near me'.

One Way Flight

Local author David Taplin has just released his new novel One Way Flight, based upon an Upminster boy who slips into the criminal world, biting off much more than he can chew. You can hear from David as he will be speaking at the Havering Literary Festival on Monday, 11th November at 2 pm at Upminster Library. The book is now available on Amazon.

Cicerella: A Modern Fairy-Tale

At just 19 years old, local resident, Mitzi Harris has self-published her debut book, Cicerella: A modern fairy-tale. Mitzi's book is now available to buy on Amazon as either an eBook or in paperback. Mitzi's book, Cicerella, has been entered into the Kindle Storyteller Competition and therefore relies on support from people who read and review her book.

Mitzi has always loved writing and completed her first book at

continued on page 9

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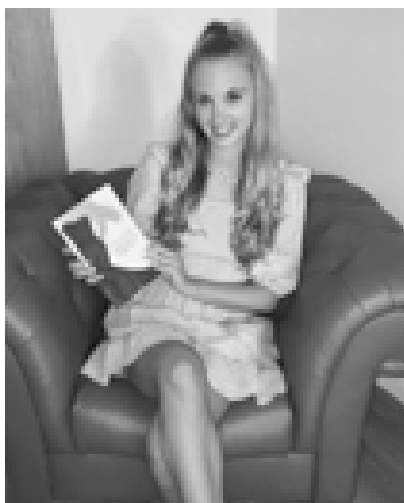
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just 13 years old. It was during the uncertain times of the pandemic that Mitzi started focussing on her writing again, completing five children's books during that time! She decided to publish Cicerella, which is a reimagined classic of the traditional tale of Cinderella. Through her work, Mitzi hopes to resonate with young people. She hopes to inspire young writers and is excited to be working with schools in the local area. Please support Mitzi by reading her book and following her on social media for latest updates @mitziwrites .



Pinney Talfourd free seminars

Pinney Talfourd is delighted to announce the return of their popular seminars. Following two successful events in October 2021, the firm has confirmed that the next seminars will be taking place on the following dates:

- Friday, 5 November 2021 and Saturday, 6th November @ 10am, Upminster office
- Friday, 28 January 2022 and Saturday, 29 January 2022
- Friday, 11 February 2022 and Saturday, 12 February 2022

In the talks, the speakers will look at why having a Will is so important, what a Lasting Power of Attorney is, and how they can help with both. There will be refreshments on offer and lawyers from the team will be available to answer any questions attendees may have.

For more details visit their website here <https://www.pinneytalfourd.co.uk/news/free-wills-lpa-january-february-upminster>

To book a free place, email

Marketing Manager Jo Smith – joanna.smith@pinneytalfourd.co.uk or call her on 01708 229444.

Fireworks at Coopers Coborn School

Come along to the Coopers Coborn School Annual Fireworks Display on Saturday, 13th November 2021. Gates open at 5.30pm with the display due to start at 6.30pm. Limited free parking available on site. BBQ/bar and live music throughout the evening.

Advanced tickets Adult £5, Children (Under 16s) £3, Family ticket £14 available from the School Shop or Office. Tickets on the night £6 Adults, Children £4.

Hibernating your tortoise this year?

This has been a strange year not just for us humans coping with a pandemic but also for our tortoises coping with

bizarre weather conditions. This summer is supposed to have been the warmest on record, but it doesn't feel that way to me. Short heatwaves interspersed with cooler, wet weather have meant that tortoises kept outside may have eaten only sporadically throughout the season. Many female tortoises have laid eggs or become eggbound this year, some despite never having laid before or for many years. Others have poor appetites and are not thriving. If you are considering hibernating your tortoise this year, try to check on it periodically. Provided it stays cool you will not wake it. Check for response to touch, for signs of urination or any discharges from the nose or mouth. If you are uncertain about your tortoise's health during hibernation, then bring it out artificially by placing under a heat lamp and giving warm baths. Once awake tortoises should never be allowed to go back into hibernation until the following autumn. For advice on hibernating your tortoise please phone Lawton and Stoakes on 01708 384444.

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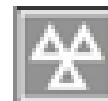
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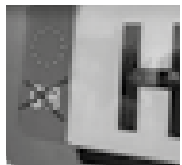
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Driving in Europe



If you intend to drive your British vehicle in Europe you will now need a "UK" sticker on

your car. The new rule came into effect on 28 September for British registered cars driving outside the UK, with the exception of Ireland, which does not require a sticker or magnet. UK government guidance states: "If you have a GB sticker, cover or remove it."

Vehicles obscuring their number plates

Recently, we have been informed of a number of times where vehicles have been seen to have their number plates covered up when parking on yellow lines etc., in an attempt to avoid getting a parking ticket. This particularly appears to be the case outside some homes where building work is taking place.

Residents Association Councillors enquired with Havering Council whether wardens are able to remove coverings over number plates to obtain the registration numbers, and received the following reply:

"Thank you for your enquiry regarding builders obscuring vehicle number plates to avoid a Penalty Charge Notice being issued. It has been confirmed that Civil Enforcement Officers are allowed to remove anything that is obscuring a vehicle's registration number and issue a Penalty Charge Notice, as long as this will not cause damage to the vehicle, and then replace it once a Penalty Charge Notice has been issued. Please note this is also a criminal offence and the Police should be notified."

St Mary Magdalene, North Ockendon

The Revd Marion Williams, Rector of All Saints Church, Cranham, has been licensed by the Archdeacon of Barking to the Church of St Mary Magdalene North Ockendon,

as Priest in Charge. The services will be held once a month on the third Sunday at 4pm and first Wednesday of the month at 10.00am followed by a pop-in café. All are welcome.



Marion signing her licence watched by the Archdeacon

Happy Hedgehog Family

Being aware of many items being put into general waste when they could either be reused or recycled, I have put together a Guide to Recycling. It offers ideas of where to recycle or send things for a

second life - everything from wax crayons to toothpaste tubes. The guide is regularly updated and is available to view on the website <https://happyhedgehogfamily.co.uk>

Please take a look to find out all you need to know about where and what to recycle in Havering.

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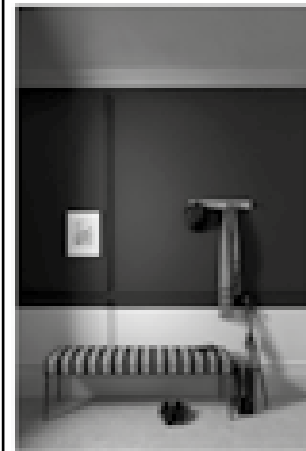
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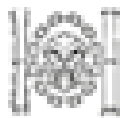
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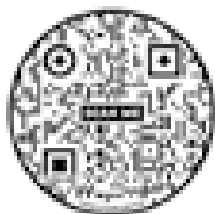
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Thames Chase Seasonal Events

With winter upon us, we have scheduled a host of seasonal events for the local community.

- Saturday, 20th & Sunday, 21st November, 10am - 4pm, annual Thames Chase Christmas Craft Fair has lots of local craftspeople in attendance to help you find that perfect Christmas gift or decoration.
- 5th December, the Christmas winter walk returns, with festive treats for all. New for 2021 on the same day, is a Christmas wreath making session between 2 and 4pm, £36, booking essential.
- The annual Christmas celebration returns on Sunday, 19th December with a host of Christmas crafts for sale, as well as seasonal musical performances. There will also be a Christmas table decoration session between 2 - 4pm, £36, booking essential.

Please visit www.thameschase.org.uk or the Facebook page for more information on all events.



Please be careful

All sorts of work is taking place in a number of local homes. Please advise your builders etc to ensure that their vehicles are fully locked whilst working on your dwelling. We have received a report of an opportunist thief trying the doors on vehicles locally.

Margot and the Magical Plant

In the June Bulletin we introduced the children's book by local author Jane Rhodes, which follows Margot's exciting growing adventure as she plants her tomato

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seeds and encourages readers to do the same. Merchandise is now available to offer children a whole experience to make their planting more interesting and personal to them. Please see the add on page 17 or visit <https://margotmagicalplant.com/>.

Kids Inspire Charity wins Queen's Award

The recognition evening for the Queen's award for Voluntary Services (in the charity space the equivalent of the MBEs) took place on 26th September with the Lord Lieutenant for Essex, the Mayor and top Council officials. Martyn Mead, a local Emerson Park resident and a supporter of the Residents' Association is an active volunteer and fund raiser for the Charity Kids Inspire, who celebrate their 14th birthday this year and were among the winners.

Kids Inspire have grown from supporting 25 children to supporting over 5,000 children, young people, families, siblings and grandparents providing services tailored to individual needs.

Huge congratulations and thanks go to everyone involved with Kids Inspire and also to the other worthy winners.

DAVID GODWIN

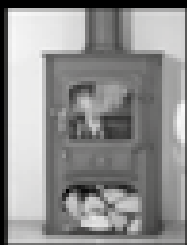
H.A.D - The Little Green Hut

Do you know who we are? Havering Association for People with Disabilities (H.A.D) offer a broad range of services and activities for people with disabilities with the object of improving their quality of life, promote independence and meet their physical, emotional, and recreational needs.

We welcome and support people with a variety of disabilities and long term health conditions. All our activities are held in our accessible and welcoming community Hut in Wingletye Lane. We hold classes Monday through to Friday, these include social clubs, art and wellbeing and computer classes. There is a fully accessible computer suite which is available for use. We also have occasional day trips and meals out for all to enjoy.

continued on page 15

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OUT AND ABOUT IN YOUR LOCAL AREA

Upminster and Cranham Royal British Legion

You don't have to be ex-services to

join the RBL, everyone is welcome as a Social Member. Take a look at what we have coming up.

- **Christmas Market** - 13th November 11am - 3.15pm. Paul will be outside with his "Poppy Shop". Parking at Coopers School from 9am.
- **Unwanted travel money collection** - proceeds to the poppy appeal.
- 14th November, **Remembrance Sunday** followed by "Frankie Rockin Smith" at 3pm
- 17th December, **Christmas Bash** with "The Fabs"
- 24th December **Christmas Eve** get together with family and friends
- 31st December **New year's Eve** with "Love DJs"

We also have a quiz bingo on the last Friday of each month, our Knit, Sew & Natter (Thursdays 2 - 4pm) is going from strength to strength (call **Lorraine 07796 992000** or the club **01708 223157**) and we will be showing all major sporting events on Sky Sports and BT Sport. Check the British Legion Branches website or call the club **01708 223157** for more details.

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Our repertoire includes music by living composers such as John Rutter, as well as classical work such as Brahms and Mendelssohn, and early music by William Byrd and others.

Rehearsals on Thursday evenings, 7.30 - 9.30pm at Trinity United Reformed Church, Station Road, Upminster for a Christmas concert in early December, which will include a number of carols. New members welcome so why not come along? If you are interested

please contact **Ian Pirie** on **01708 641718**, email: ian_michael_pirie@btinternet.com

Art exhibitions at Upminster Library

Upminster Art Society will be exhibiting members paintings from 15th to 27th November. Janet and Terry Doyle are exhibiting their work from 29th November to 11th December. All paintings will be for sale. For enquiries please call Terry Doyle on 01708 532967.

Hornchurch Photographic Society

We are a friendly group of amateur photographers looking for new members to join our club. We meet on a Monday night, 7.45 - 10pm at Ardleigh House Community Association/Havering College in the main hall. If you have an interest in photography

continued on page 17



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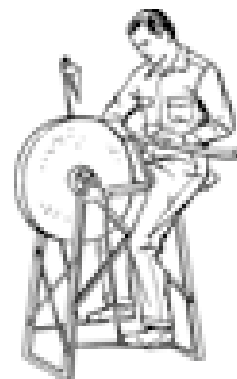
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A musical evening - Thames Chase Forest Centre

An evening of music showcasing songs from shows and films, welcoming back the Dominic Ashworth trio with Jill Luff on vocals.

At the Forest Centre Cafe on Friday, 12th November 2021, 7.30 - 9.30pm. Tickets £10. Telephone **01708 642970** to book your place. Bring your own nibbles and drinks, tea and coffee will be available.

Christmas Fair at Langtons

The beautiful historic Langtons Gardens in Hornchurch plays host to a Christmas Fair on Sunday, 21st November. Please contact Langtons for further details.

Oglethorpe WI

Please note the change to our regular meetings. Now at 1.45 until 4.30pm on the 4th Wednesday of every month, at Cranham Social Hall, Front Lane, Cranham.

Our next meeting is on the 24th of November when we will be having a handicraft session making cards, etc. We look forward to seeing all our members again and visitors are warmly welcomed. For further information please contact Secretary Mrs. E. Bell on 01708 251161.

Christmas Shopping Event

The Cranham Community Centre is hosting a Christmas shopping event on Saturday, 20th November 2021 between 10am to 4 pm. Entry is free. Please come along and support the centre. We have lots of stall holders selling a variety of things.

The Arts Society, Havering

Our November lecture will be "Sir Stanley Spencer: an autobiography in pictures" by Carolyn Leder. Spencer (1891-1959) was one of Britain's greatest painters, famous for his beautiful realistic landscapes and remarkable images of the two World Wars.

This lecture will be held on Tuesday, 9th November 10 - 12pm at the New Windmill Hall, Upminster. This event will be available to visitors for a fee of £8. Please visit our website: <https://tashavering.org.uk/Home.aspx> or contact us at info@tashavering.org.uk.

RICHARD SAVILLE

Gardens of Easton Lodge

The Upminster & District Horticultural Society's lecture for November is on a garden with royal connections. Angus Driver will tell the story of this historic garden from the 1590s to the present. The garden is open to the public on a few days of the year and not to be missed are the spectacular Snowdrops towards the latter part of January. Join us to find out more on Tuesday, 9th November, 7.45 to 9.45pm, New Windmill Hall, Upminster. There will be an interval for tea and biscuits and a raffle will be held at the end of the evening.

continued on page 19



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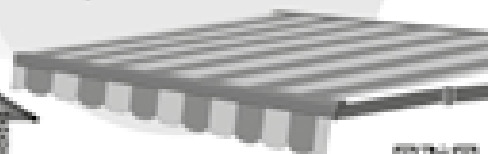
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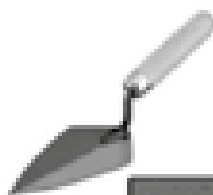


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Assistive Technology includes but not limited to: **Pendants** that can be worn in the garden and bath, **Smoke & Carbon Monoxide detectors** monitored 24 hours a day (we call Emergency Services if you are unavailable i.e. in hospital), **Bed sensors** that can switch on lamps when you get out of bed.

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Havering Singers

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To mark the 75th anniversary of the choir please join us for a free concert on Saturday, 6 November @ 7.30pm, St Peter's Church, Gubbins Lane.

Our Christmas Carol concert will be on Saturday, 18 December @ 7.30pm, All Saints Church, Ardleigh Green Road. Admission £12 adults / £5 children.

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- Thursday, 9th June 2022 - 70 *Glorious Years to Celebrate Queens Reign* - £72 per head

Coach departs from the Jobbers and The Plough in Cranham. Bookings now being taken for both trips. To book, email shirley@shirleytours.co.uk or call 01708 227884. Cheques payable to Mrs C. S. Ward, 15 Worcester Ave, Upminster, Essex RM14 3LB.

SHIRLEY WARD

Havering Astronomical Society

- Wednesday, 17 November, 7.15 for 7.30pm - **Nik Szymanek**, 'New Adventures with Robotic Imaging'
- Wednesday, 8 December, 7.15 for 7.30pm - **annual Christmas Quiz**, presented by **Peter Morris and Magda Wheatley**.

Please email secretary@havaastro.co.uk if interested.

- Thursday, 25 November, 7,00 - 8.15pm - our exciting Young Astronomer program continues now in person. Thames Chase Forest Centre, Pike Lane, Upminster. Email young.astronomers@havaastro.co.uk

Havering U3A

Meetings have recommenced and will take place on the second Wednesday of each month in the Main Hall, St Michael and All Angels Church, Main Road, Gidea Park at 14.30pm.

- Wednesday, 10th November Bernard Locket - The musical theatre of Gilbert & Sullivan
- Wednesday, 8th December - Daniela Bartlett - "Tis the Season to Be Jolly"

Check out the website <https://u3asites.org.uk/havering> for further details or just come along. New members always welcome.

Upminster and District Probus

Meetings held at The Cranleigh Restaurant in Hornchurch. At our last meeting we were entertained by Toni Mount speaking about Life in Medieval London (Sex in the City). At our November meeting we will be serving a 3 course lunch and our speaker will talk about Marilyn Monroe. Are you retired? Would you like to join us?

Find us on Facebook or visit our website on <https://upminsterprobusec.wixsite.com/upminster-probus> or contact our secretary, **Barry** on 01708 703783 or upminsterprobusec@gmail.com

South Essex Townswomen's Guilds Leisure Day 2021

Our annual leisure day will be held at The New Windmill Hall, St. Mary's Lane, Upminster on Tuesday, 23rd November 2021. Doors open from 09.30am. Tea and coffee will be served followed by three informative and entertaining speakers. With a break for lunch between 12.15pm and 1.55pm, ladies can enjoy the local lunch venues. The event will finish at 3.30pm.

Tickets are priced at £8 (includes tea and coffee) payment at the door. Please contact **Chris Scott** on 01708 221528.

Upminster Art Society

Do you like painting and drawing or would like to develop an interest in art?

We are a small, friendly group who meet at Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens on Wednesday evenings from 7pm. We have a programme covering all aspects of painting and drawing, demonstrations by visiting professional artists, workshops, social evenings and exhibitions of members work. New members welcome, please call **Terry Doyle** on 01708 532967.



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After walking around the ward, Councillor Bob Perry and Doug Rushworth are in disbelief at the neglect of roads and pavements everywhere they go. As a sitting Councillor, not yet in Squirrels ward, Bob said "I cannot believe how bad the streets in Squirrels have become, the current Councillors have completely failed the people they were elected to represent and one of those is the Leader of the Council. This is completely unacceptable - under the control of Havering Residents Association this would never happen. Residents are telling us on the doorstep that they have emailed their Councillors regarding an issue in their road, many told us that they rarely get the courtesy of a reply, that would not happen on our watch. If, as we hope, we are given the opportunity next May to represent you, we promise you that you will never be ignored."

In the last three months your HRA team have achieved more than the sitting Councillors have in three years. We are here for you now and whenever you need us, if you do have an issue in your street, please do get in touch with us, we promise we will do

everything possible to help and will not ignore you.

Please keep our area tidy

Whilst we appreciate the hard work put in by street care to keep our streets litter free, at this time of year, with the battle of the Autumn leaves, there seems to be more and more litter discarded on our streets. Some people seem to think that it is someone else's job to clear up after them, we all need to be more socially aware - please keep Squirrels Heath tidy.

Macmillan coffee in the garden

Once again, we threw the gates open in Brooklands Gardens, Hornchurch to raise money for Macmillan - such a worthy cause. Thank you to all those who came and gave so generously.

This year, we were particularly remembering Maureen Burfield, whose funeral many attended the previous Monday. The Macmillan nurses at Queen's hospital had been a huge support and help to her and to me, her daughter, Diane.

The sun shone and the regulars

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arrived with friends. One such friend was Emily who donated the most delicious cupcakes from her very own company, Emily's Cakes. These have to be seen and tasted to be believed.

There were the beautifully crocheted items for sale (all hand made by Jackie) and many terrific raffle prizes, kindly donated, that helped to raise money.

Maria donated items from her wedding tables that had been for sale on Facebook Marketplace. When Maria heard why we



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needed them, she scrapped the charge and brought the items along as a gift. Such a lovely thing to do. Macmillan is a cause close to Maria's heart. For her wedding, the couple preferred donations to Macmillan rather than gifts for themselves ~ fantastic.

Bunting waved in the gentle breeze; the smell of freshly ground coffee, delicious cakes and conversation filled the air. It was a wonderful morning.

DIANE NASH

Elf the Musical

Brookside Theatre is proud to present this year's Christmas spectacular. Based on the much loved 2003 film, starring Will Ferrell, Elf the Musical is the hilarious tale of Buddy, a young orphan child who mistakenly

crawls into Santa's bag of gifts and is transported back to the North Pole. Unaware that he is actually human, Buddy's enormous size and poor toy-making abilities cause him to face the truth. With Santa's permission, Buddy embarks on a journey to New York City to find his birth father, discover his true identity, and help New York remember the true meaning of Christmas.

Performances run from 10th to 23rd December. Brookside Theatre, Eastern Road, Romford. Ticket prices £20 adult, £17 under 16. Call or email for more details.

Box office **01708 755775** or info@brooksidetheatre.com



Foodbank

The Foodbank is under severe strain with increased requests for assistance. If you can donate via one of the supermarkets, that's great, but not everything clients need is donated in sufficient quantity so it is helpful for them to have monetary donations as well so they can stock up on items donated less often. They have to meet the costs associated with running a warehouse: it all adds up. You could send a cheque, payable to Kingdom Storehouse Ltd, to the Harold Hill Food Bank, Unit 1, Guardian Business Centre, Faringdon Avenue, Romford, RM3 8FD, or you could go online to <https://haroldhill.foodbank.org.uk/>

Please consider donating - it could make a big difference to a family in need.

PAT CLARK

Neighbour of the Year 2021 Award

People across the UK are being invited to take part in our annual hunt for the UK's 'Neighbour of the Year' - a nationwide search undertaken in partnership by Co-op Insurance and Neighbourhood Watch.

To nominate your Neighbour of the Year or Young Neighbour of the Year (for people aged 21 years and under) please visit coop.co.uk/noty.

There have been many examples of good neighbours across our community and if you feel one or yours has been exceptional please nominate.

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