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The official Bulletin delivered by The Havering Residents Association

London Borough of Havering 2022/23 budget and council tax

The 2022/23 Council Tax and Budget were agreed on 2 March 2021 at Full Council. The Conservative Administration have increased this year's Council Tax by 2.99%. The total rise in Council Tax could be higher, if the Mayor of London goes ahead with plans to increase the Greater London Authority's precept to fund transport and policing. The Administration plans around £13 million in savings for 2022/23, more than half of which (£7m) would come from a reduction of around 400 staff roles. The Leader of the Council tried to justify the increases in Council Tax, service cuts, and staff redundancies. However, many residents in Havering will be very disappointed when they receive their Council Tax bills in early April. Upminster and Cranham Residents' Councillors proposed an amendment to the budget, which included a leaner committee system, which would have significantly reduced Councillors' allowances, and offered up costed savings, which could be reinvested in front line services. These included funding road and pavement repairs, as well as improving street cleaning. This amendment was narrowly defeated. Councillors Ford, Ower, Wilkins and Tyler spoke during the Budget debate and raised concerns about the affect the £13 million cuts will have on services, and what impact of a further reduction of valid staff will have on those remaining, who will have to do more for less, which will have a significant impact on how services are delivered effectively to our residents. Please rest assured that your local Residents' Councillors will continue to hold the Administration to account and will ensure value for money is obtained, and services are delivered effectively in the forthcoming year and beyond.

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS

Election Volunteers

As we approach the local elections in May we urgently need volunteers to help us with our campaign. If you can help deliver letters in your road, display a Residents' Association poster or help man the polling stations on the 5th May please get in touch. We really can make a difference together and with your help, we hope to be able to represent the local residents of Harold Wood on the Council. Please call one of your resident team members (details on page 2) if you can help.

YOUR HRA TEAM HAROLD WOOD HRA



Havering Residents Association

"Change is Coming"

Adela, Dan and Katy are proud to be members of Havering Residents Association - working together on behalf of local people across Havering.

Youth Opportunities

I have often encountered bored teenagers hanging out on the younger kids apparatus in playgrounds, and questioned whether they should be on there. But when you think about it, there is a distinct loss and lack of council resources for this age group. Teenagers are dependent on the voluntary and private sector for clubs and activities.

The concern is without sports clubs and areas enabling them to thrive, create and channel their youthful energy, they start to look for alternative ways to entertain themselves, this can be entirely innocent but can be interpreted as a nuisance in parks, shopping centres and on the streets. This can ultimately result in criminal activity.

Our childhood and adolescent years are the most influential, our youth need opportunities to grow and develop. I would like to see money spent by the Council on creating these spaces and outlets because the children of today are the leaders of tomorrow.

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Dogtastic

In March I was involved in a help the Ukraine dog walk which raised nearly £1,500 for the refugees from the war torn country. Everybody was invited

to bring their beloved pooches dressed in the blue and yellow flag colours and participate in a walk. Key rings, cupcakes and dog biscuits were also for sale and the event brought a much needed sense of solidarity to all who attended whilst raising vital funds

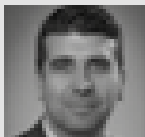
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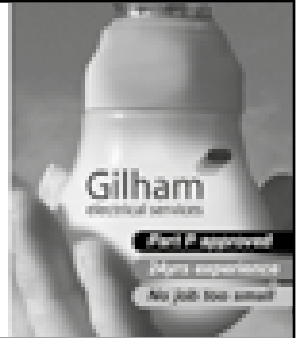
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for those who have been forced to flee their homes. Community spirit at its best.

ADELA MEER

Planning applications on the RAEP website

Havering Council publishes a weekly list of planning applications received within the previous seven days. We have become aware the number of households informed of a planning application is often less than most people would expect. The Weekly Planning List is available on our website. To view the applications visit <http://www.raep.org> and search for 'planning applications'.

Slippery slope finally ends in broken bones

There is a well used pathway leading out from Kings Park

Estate, used as a shortcut across the front of the flats to the bridge taking you directly to Harold Wood station. Unfortunately, due to bad planning the actual concrete pathway takes pedestrians and commuters out of their way to the gate exit. As a result the grass verge leading down to Gubbins Lane has been made into a make shift path on either side of a concrete block.

Last week in the pouring rain a lady used this muddy makeshift slope to descend and subsequently slipped and fell. Following several days in hospital it transpired she has broken three bones in her ankle and is out for 6 months. I am investigating who is in charge of this area which will be the responsibility of the Council or management company. The pathway needs to be redesigned to allow people to safely take the shortest route out. Without this redesign it will continue to not only act as an eyesore to the landscaping of the estate, but more importantly will pose as a persistent hazard which has proven to end in devastating results for a member of our community.

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Tragic events in the Ukraine

We will all have been touched by the mindless war taking place in the Ukraine and the need for families to find refuge and safety. At the time of writing, the UK Government is yet to determine the guidance for receiving Ukrainian refugees. London Councils is liaising with Government on behalf of all London local authorities and Havering will liaise with them if we have anyone present to us before guidance is in place.

Havering is not currently engaging with residents seeking to assist with an offer of a room in their own home. This is a complex area, particularly the care required in matching hosts and guests, and how to manage things where for example the relationship between host and guest breaks down.

Specialist charities that work with people who wish to for example offer a room in their property are Refugees At Home and Room for Refugees. AirBNB.org-Get Involved is also seeking new hosts to support people fleeing the Ukraine.

Concerns have also been raised around Council funds being invested in Russia. The Council have no treasury instruments linked to Russia, and in relation to the Pension Fund, they have no direct holdings. However, some of the investments are in funds, where there is some exposure. In total, the Council's exposure is approximately, £3.8m. This equates to 0.4% of the total Havering assets. Based on a valuation of £948m. International sanctions will impact on the movement of funds, and this will be done as soon as possible in line with commercial considerations.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Riding for the Disabled Upminster

The group have had to change venue and due to that reason we are in need of volunteers to assist our riders. Horse knowledge is not essential, training will be given. We are based at Eastminster Riding School, just off of Upper Rainham Road and ride on

Wednesdays during school term time. If you would like to know more contact Stella on 07717 883846.

My sincere thanks

May I take this opportunity in thanking all of you who have been in touch following my announcement that I will not be seeking re-election to Havering Council. I have been touched with your kind comments. As you can imagine it was a very difficult decision, but having been involved with local government affairs for over 53 years I felt it was time for your Residents' Association to choose another candidate. Being a Councillor formerly representing Cranham, and for the last twelve years in Upminster ward, has been a pleasure and a privilege. Local Government has changed considerably. Havering Council is facing enormous pressures and I am delighted that the Association has chosen Oscar Ford to replace me. I believe he will be an excellent colleague for Linda and Chris as a lifelong local resident

and with a wealth of experience as a former council officer. I will still be taking an active part in the Association. My thanks to you all.

Cllr RON OWER

M25 traffic noise in Upminster and Cranham

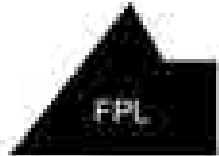
Have other residents noticed the considerable increase in noise from the M25 over the last 10 years? Since the widening of the M25 from the tunnel to Junction 29 the noise from tyres has become unacceptable. The motorway on this stretch is raised on an embankment and noise baffles that were promised have not been installed. The M25 flyover crossing the A127 is also completely open and requires baffles. Please give your views so that action can be started. Lets' bring back some peace and quiet. Please contact Cllr John Tyler to share your views - see contact details on page 2.

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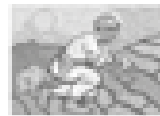
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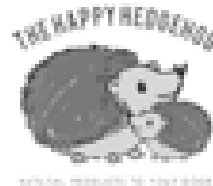
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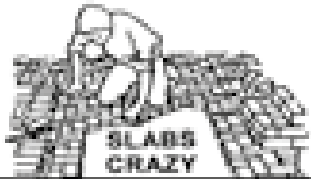
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OSCAR FORD

Hornchurch Football Club

As we come towards the end of the football season it was great hearing that Hornchurch Football Club were awarded "Sports Club of the Year" at the Havering Sports Council awards. Our congratulations to the Club.

Please note the following home fixtures this month at The Stadium, Bridge Avenue.

Saturday, 16th Brightlingsea Regent and on Saturday, 23rd Wingate and Finchley. Kick off at 3pm. The club has an excellent bar. Please go and support your local family friendly club.

No Fault divorce

Divorce procedures overhauled in one of the biggest changes in recent times.

Currently, to divorce you need to prove that the marriage has irretrievably broken down by showing unreasonable behaviour, adultery, desertion, two years separation (if the parties agree) or five years separation. This often leaves couples who have

been separated for less than two years in a difficult position where one party must blame the other party for the breakdown of this marriage. Family lawyers have been campaigning for decades for the law to be changed to allow for a divorce to take place without one party being blamed for the breakdown. After a very long wait, no fault divorces will become effective in England and Wales on 6 April 2022.

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To find out more details visit tapestry-uk.org/new-food-delivery-service, e-mail them via hello@tapestry-uk.org or call them on 01708 796 600.

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continued on page 7

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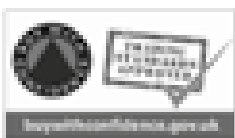
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In memory of Sanders-Draper

Back in 2020, Sutton Lane's Sanders School was renamed to Sanders Draper in memory of the heroic American Spitfire pilot, Flying Officer Raimund Sanders-Draper. Head teacher, Stuart Brooks who had joined

in 2018 was determined for the change to be made in honour of the selfless actions of the war-time Hornchurch Airfield pilot. Due to the COVID pandemic, celebrations of the name change were curtailed until Mr Brooks and staff decided to mark the event on what was the 79th anniversary of the pilot's death on the 24th March.

As a showpiece of the celebrations and anniversary, the school commissioned extracts from the well-known and very popular "The Good Intent" to be performed by the pupils. The play itself celebrating 25 years since its debut performance as a stage musical at the Queen's Theatre in 1997 which was written by Cranham's own Gerry Sweeney and then Queen's Theatre front of House Manager Dave Ross. Gerry stated that for the play to be chosen and performed at the very school that features so much in the story on the extremely poignant anniversary of Sanders-Draper's death, was a privilege and honour. Sanders chose to guide his stricken aircraft into the grounds outside of the school to protect the buildings and students within.

The Spitfire skidded along a cinder pathway, eventually coming to rest against the exterior walls of two end classrooms. Tragically Sanders-Draper did not survive the crash.

Book Review: The Old Explorers Club by Peter Larner

Imagine a group of time travellers who have been on thrilling adventures, live in the house just next door to you. How cool would that be?! Well, that's exactly what happened to Billy in the Old Explorers Club.

This teen fiction book was gifted to me by the author Peter Larner who lives locally in Upminster and has based several of the characters on friends and relatives. It has a slow start, but is worth persevering with, as it has a daring storyline with lots of twists and turns that keep you gripped and wanting to read the next page.

The book has links to true stories, including their references, which makes it seem more exciting and realistic. The language is very advanced and sophisticated and I found myself re-reading sections to help with understanding. I would therefore recommend this book for an older teen age group.

Many books leave the reader with endings that are open to interpretation. However, this book neatly ties up every loose end and would suit people who love reading action adventure stories.

ROSIE MEADWAY

Poppy appeal update

The Royal British Legion of Upminster and Cranham wish to thank the residents, local businesses, schools, local youth organisations and churches for their support during our poppy appeal last year. To date our total stands at £18,985.40. This is an amazing amount and proves we're moving in the right direction.

Our poppy appeal continues until 30th September 2022. We *continued on page 9*

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Prices: £7 Adults, £5.50 for concessions and £3.50 for children (up to 16). As usual Senior Citizens are admitted free on the Thursday

and Friday evening shows.

Tickets will be available on the door but book in advance to avoid disappointment. Text or call 07708 214742 or contact Tickets@Wesley-Players.co.uk. We are now accepting card payments on the door.

Performances: 8pm on Thursday 19th, Friday 20th and Saturday 21st of May 2022

Location: Upminster Methodist Church, Hall Lane, Upminster, RM14 1AE.

RAF Hornchurch Heritage Museum

The RAF Hornchurch Heritage Centre is open every Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 4pm at 119-121 Suttons Lane RM12. This hidden gem has 10 rooms telling the story of Hornchurch Aerodrome through the first world war and destruction of the first German airship through the interwar years. You can find out its opening as RAF Hornchurch in 1928, its defence of London

and the home counties during the battle of Britain and World War 2, to the post war years until its eventual closure in 1962. Entrance is £5 for adults, children £2.50 and under 5s are free. The centre has an onsite shop and vintage tea rooms and is well worth a visit. For more details see www.rafhornchurch.com

Welcome Run Active

We are pleased to see at 181 St Mary's Lane, Upminster Run Active Essex have taken over the former Marie Cure Charity Shop. The shop specialises in equipment clothing for runners etc. Please look at Run Active's website for further details. They also provide a personal fitting service so you "RunHappy" - 100 percent staffed by runners.

Can you volunteer?

Guide Dogs are looking for volunteers in Upminster and the surrounding areas to play a vital role in the early development and

education of our dogs, providing a loving home for puppies as they grow towards the next stage of their training. Could you and your family care for a guide dog puppy?

This is a full-time volunteering opportunity as the puppy will live with you for 12-16 months. All puppy raisers receive training and a local staff contact who will be with you every step of the journey. If you would like to be a part of a life changing journey join our puppy raising community today. For more information please contact Tyne at Tyne.Samuel@guidedogs.org.uk or call 07423 600 020. The Guide Dogs family means that together we will be helping more people with sight loss to live actively, independently, and well. 'Raising guide dog puppies has been the restoration of my mental health. As a family we get equally as much out of being a Puppy Raiser as we put in.'

Platford Green tidy up

Some local school children were challenged to raise funds for a much needed Trim Trail at

continued on page 11

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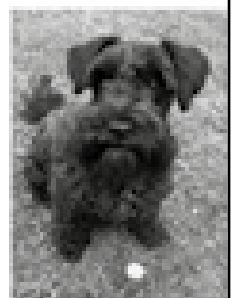


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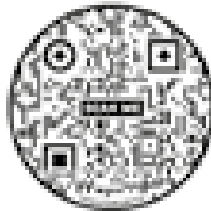
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HAD Havering Charity Golf Day



On Wednesday, 11th May HAD is organising a golf day at Top Meadow Golf Club. All monies raised will go to Havering Association for People with Disabilities, a charity supporting

adults with additional needs and disabilities in Havering. The day will start at 9.30am with a light breakfast and a coffee, first Tee off at 10.28am, followed by lunch, presentation and raffle. £180 for a four ball, £45pp. To book your place for your team please email admin@hadhavering.co.uk or call **01708 476554**

Havering Multi-Agency Safeguarding Partnerships website

Havering Council have launched a new website to provide information on a range of different safeguarding issues, which they hope will be helpful to Havering residents, be they adults, children, young people or their parents and carers.

There is also information on safeguarding policy, guidance and practice issues which will be useful for practitioners, volunteers and anyone else who works across the local multi-agency partnerships

for adults and children.

For more information visit safeguardinghavering.org.uk/

Cllr JOHN TYLER

S.O.S. at All Saints'

Before the pandemic Revd Marion Williams from All Saints' church started a monthly lunch group for local single, over sixties.... S.O.S. It had just got established when the pandemic stopped all such meetings. Despite that hiatus, a number of 'friendships' formed in those early days did continue during the pandemic with people looking out for each other and keeping in contact to avoid the isolation experienced by many during that difficult time. The good news is that these monthly lunch meetings have resumed and I attended the February one. There is a maximum number of 30 people who sit down to a very nice lunch cooked and served by Marion's small band of helpers. It was clear by chatting to many that they valued the opportunity to make new friends, enjoy great food and spend time in a

positive environment just having important social interaction with others. There is always a scramble to get your place booked early. There is no charge for lunch but a donation is welcomed. This is a great initiative which continues to contribute positively to the local community.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Thames Chase 10k and Family Fun Run

The annual Thames Chase 10K and Family Fun Run is back on 5th June after a two year hiatus. The completely off-road event takes place at the Forest Centre site on Pike Lane, Upminster and the multi-lap course follows a network of gently undulating footpaths. All funds raised help to maintain our community's invaluable green spaces and woodland. Why not challenge yourself this year while supporting this brilliant local charity? It's suitable for all levels with no cut-off time.

continued on page 15

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We're also looking for volunteer marshals for the day, as well as local companies who might be interested in sponsoring or advertising at the event. If you'd like more information about either, please get in touch with Mary Wright mary.wright@thameschase.org.uk

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A big thank you

Thanks to all who came and supported us to raise monies for Cancer Research on the 26th February at The Royal British

Legion in Upminster, as well as those that donated monies but were unable to attend. In particular, thanks to Peter Rowell of Havering Denture, Billet Lane, Hornchurch for his generous donation - I'm pleased to confirm we raised a little under £1,000. Thanks also to Cheryl and Stuart Richardson for organising the raffle and my son Bryan C for doing the children's disco.

ROCCO

The Hornchurch Passion Play returns

On Friday 15th, Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th April at 7.30pm, you can relive the last few weeks of Jesus' life, as the Passion Play 2020 returns to the Green by the Queens' Theatre in Hornchurch after a two year delay! With a cast of over 70 and a full choir and band, the experience is one not to be missed. This is a free event (no ticket required, just turn up and watch).

For more information, please visit our website www.hornchurchpp.co.uk.

OUT AND ABOUT IN YOUR LOCAL AREA

The Saint Francis Hospice Choir

This year is the 10th Anniversary of The Saint Francis Hospice Choir. With the decrease in COVID cases and relaxation of restrictions, now is the time to celebrate our anniversary, raise our voices and raise some funds for the Hospice, which is in need of funds now, more than ever before. So please join us for An evening of Light Music, at St Andrew's Church, Hornchurch on Saturday, 23rd April at 7pm. Tickets £5 at the door.

St Andrew's is a large building with space to allow us to keep our distance. We hope you will feel comfortable to come along and enjoy an evening of music and fun to lighten our hearts after so many dark days.

JOHN MORRIS (conductor)

The Old Chapel Tea and Talks

Wednesday, 13th April - The Tidal Thames - its folklore and traditions. Mark Lewis explores the rich tradition of lore and legend in the tidal reaches of London's river, including pagan gods, riverside taverns, ghosts, ceremonials, frost fairs, tales of smuggling and pirates.

Wednesday, 11th May - The Ghost walks on Friday. Kate Poole will tell us about the London theatres that are haunted by ghosts - some endearing and some tragic! Please note our AGM will be held at 10.15am before the talk at 10.30am.

Fees: £2 for registered members and £4 to visitors with refreshments after the talk. Doors open 10am - meeting starts 10.30am.

Contact: friendsoldchapel@mary.havering.sch.uk for further information.

Venue: Roope Hall, Trinity URC Church, 29 Station Rd, Upminster RM14 2SJ

Craft sale

Coffee morning and sale of crafts, books, jigsaws etc at Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster, on Saturday, 9th April from 10am - 12 noon. All proceeds to Avaha (formerly Hope4Havering).

Liberty of Havering Outdoor Bowls Club

We are holding our open days on Friday, 6th May @ 11am - 4pm and Sunday, 8th May @ 11am - 4pm. Our sociable, friendly club is looking for new members, especially ladies, and we invite you to 'come and have a go'. Equipment provided, but please

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wear flat soled shoes or trainers. Refreshments available. Club is located just beyond the Leisure Centre's car park in Harrow Lodge Park. RM11 1JU. Our club members will be available throughout both days to give advice. Please contact Sheila 07949307336 or Richard 01708 449245 for more information. We hope to see you.

Upminster and Cranham Royal British Legion

Knit, sew and natter: Come and join us for a friendly, social afternoon at the club. If you can't knit, crochet or sew don't worry, we will help, or just come for the 'tea and chat'. For more information call the club 01708 223157 or Lorraine on 07796992000.

Entertainment:

Saturday 9th April, Easter sale of hand knitted items by our own knitting club, tea, coffee and cake, Pauls' Poppy shop and much more - 11am to 4pm. Parking at Coopers school. Will be followed by singer Nick Brown at 8.45pm.

Friday, 29th April, Quiz Bingo.
Saturday 30th April, Frankie Rockin' Smith.

Saturday 21st May, Gaz Vegas.
Friday 27th May, Quiz Bingo.
Saturday 28th May, Sly Fox.

Check the website for full details.
<http://branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/upminster/news-events>

Shirley Tours

Thursday, 9th June, **Brick Lane Music Hall "70 Glorious Years"**. Celebrate the Queen's reign on the throne with a fun day out. Includes coach departing mid-morning from the Jobber's Rest car park, Plough Pub in Cranham and Avon Road.

Enjoy a three course hot lunch before watching the matinee

show. Arrive home approx 6.30pm with usual drop offs en-route. Cost £72pp.

Email: shirley@shirleytours.co.uk or call **01708 227884**; or **07966 146956** (mobile has answerphone so please leave clear message, with name and your contact details).

Fund raising for James Oglethorpe, Engayne, Hall Mead schools, All Saint's Church and All Saint's scout group. Last few places left.

Havering Antique Collectors' Club

Friday, 8th April - Gordon Bailey speaking on Artefacts Through the Ages - £5 for guests (one week early due to Easter).

Friday, 20th May - Mark Watson speaking on Archaeology - "Beneath our Feet" - £5 for guests.

Annual membership £30, guests £5/£8. Harold Wood Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood. Chairman Mrs Chris Lovett 07947 367258.

The Arts Society, Havering

William Kent: Artist, Architect and Garden Designer by Caroline Knight - meeting on Tuesday, 12th April at the New Windmill Hall, Upminster. Doors open 10 am for 10.45 start. This event is open to visitors for a fee of £8. Please visit our website <https://tashavering.org.uk/Lectures/FutureLectures.aspx>

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

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

"Learn, Laugh and Live!"

Havering U3A meets at 2.30pm, second Wednesday of the month at St. Michael's Church Hall, Main

continued on page 19




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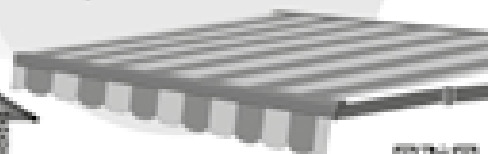
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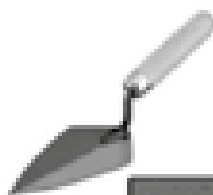


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If you would like to be more independent in your own home or help someone else, then please contact us for further details quoting UP21.



Havering Telecare Centre
Web: <https://www.havering.gov.uk/telecare>
Email: telecare@havering.gov.uk
Phone: 01708 432843



Road, Gidea Park. Interest groups run throughout the month.

Our upcoming meeting, Wednesday, 13th April - April Rose Twidell will be telling us about "The First Essex Witch Trials".

Doors open 2.15pm. For more information come along or see our website: u3asites.org.uk/havering.

Havering & District National Trust Association

We meet on the 4th Saturday of the month in the large hall at Ardleigh House, Hornchurch. RM11 2LG. Meetings start at 2.30pm, and last approximately an hour and a half. At each meeting we have a speaker. On 23rd April Tim Batchelor will be talking about "Behind the Scenes at Tate Britain and Their Masterpieces".

You don't have to be a member of the National Trust to attend. Visitors are welcome at a cost of £2 per meeting. For further details e-mail HaveringNTA@hotmail.com or call the Secretary on 07939101802.

Secrets of Hever Castle

Join the Upminster and District Horticultural Society on Tuesday, 12th April where Neil Miller, Head Gardener will present this lecture in the New Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster. We go behind the scenes of the gardens at Hever Castle from their implementation in the early 20th century to current times. Plus if you like what you hear, we have a coach trip to Hever Castle later this year.

Doors open at 7.15 pm with the lecture starting at 7.45pm and ending at 9.45pm. There will be refreshments served during the interval finishing with a raffle at the end of the evening. Entrance is free to members and is £2 for non-members. You can find out more about our society by visiting our website.

Interested in Playing Bowls?

Have you ever fancied taking up the best game in the summer sunshine? Then join us at Upminster Bowls club for the finest scenic setting in Essex and take up the wonderful game of bowls. The season officially begins on 1st May and the club would welcome all new members. Enjoy a great social calendar throughout the year and all the additional facilities at Upminster which include a subsidised licenced bar with Sky TV, a snooker room and a restaurant. The club has a lot to offer so please come down and check us out for yourself or visit the website at www.upminstergolfclub.co.uk for full details including pictures.

If you prefer to chat or have any questions, then please contact Nick Cole on 07798922528 or email cole.n@tiscali.co.uk

Keep Fit 50+

Are you feeling less fit, less mobile and missing social life following the COVID pandemic and subsequent lockdowns or maybe newly retired or new to the area?

If so why not come along and try our Exercise, Movement and Dance Class on Wednesday 2pm-3.30pm at the St Laurence Church Hall, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster RM14 2AJ. Everyone is encouraged to work to their own ability and body needs; taking it easy, maybe sitting for a while or pumping it up if happy to do so. A friendly class which will be restarting after the Easter Holidays on 20th April. **FIRST CLASS FREE.**

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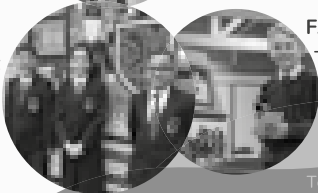
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Cop corner

Hello residents, this month I am going to raise awareness regarding bogus fundraisers and charity collectors.

THINGS TO KNOW - Genuine charity collectors will always have all the necessary official documents relating to their charity. Be sceptical if the charity isn't named and if in doubt, don't share personal details or make donations, INSTEAD take details and do some research.

THINGS TO DO - It is always good practice to check the collector's ID badge, documentation, including the charity's registration number. **BE NOSEY:** Ask about the charity they are raising money for. For example: where money raised will go, if donations are taken towards administration purposes if so how much and how much of the donation will go directly to help the charity. Ask collector for details about how to donate online, this gives you more time to research before donating.

UPCOMING ENGAGEMENTS - April community contact point sessions - 2nd April at 16:00hrs outside the Co Op Brentwood Road and 24th April, at 15:00hrs outside Nelmes Primary School on Wingletye Lane.

Help the needy NOT the GREEDY!!

PC PATEL 1306EA I Dedicated ward officer for EMERSON PARK

Copthorne Gardens latest update

Laurance Garrard, Councillor Bob Perry and myself met residents of this road regarding the Planning Application PIP 0001.22, which relates to the land opposite their houses. They advised us of their concerns and Councillor Bob Perry attempted to call this in to Havering Council for a proper discussion and debate. However the application had been made through a "PIP" which is different to a normal planning application. This is a Planning Permission in Principle application with no need for outline permission on Brown field Land. The effect of a PIP is similar to an outline planning permission, where approval is then only needed for the details, but with the opportunity to secure any required mitigation and infrastructure contributions. This PIP application will need to be determined within 5 weeks and every effort needs to be made to ensure that the application is determined within

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this period. This site though is within the Green Belt and the prospect of receiving planning permission is highly unlikely to anyone trying to develop the land.

As soon as we were aware of the PIP scenario, we suggested to ALL residents in the road, that they needed to submit their objections individually ASAP by email to Planning@havering.gov.uk; or post quoting application number PIP 0001.22.

We hope that by working together with the local residents

that we get this application refused.

Events have moved on and the HRA team is happy to inform you that this application is now under review. Officers are aware of potential prosecution after the landlord removed trees under Tree Preservation Orders in 2021.

The week after the application for the PIP was sent out, we received worried calls from residents in Copthorne Gardens about 2 diggers tearing down trees. Councillor Bob Perry and David Godwin visited the site and

continued on page 22



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found the work being carried out was actually on a field to the rear of this land. The site manager showed us their plan and said they were trimming the bramble and hedgerow back to the boundary. We had a look and did not see any evidence of trees being chopped down, but the trees have been roughly pruned by the digger. Their intention for this field is to use it as a paddock.

DAVID GODWIN

##STOP PRESS## Copthorne Gardens

Further to the above article on the Planning Application.

Please note as we go to press Havering Council has "refused planning permission".

Thanks to all of you who wrote in.

DAVID GODWIN

Your HRA Team

Over the past month we have been out meeting people in Ardleigh Green, Romford, Hornchurch and Collier Row. Thank you to all those who came

and spoke to us.

Different wards all working together for the good of the borough.

Butts Green Road – Good News!

We are pleased to confirm the pothole by Emerson Park station and the drain has been fixed.

DAVID GODWIN



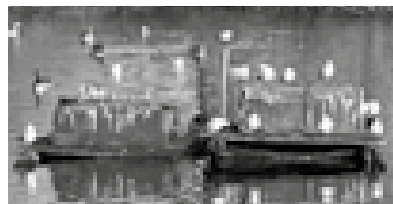
Duckpond Platford Green

Having been approached by many worried residents who enjoy the wildlife around the Platford Green duck pond and as a local resident myself, I am aware that the pontoons are in a terrible state of disrepair and need changing. Recently we have been trying to contact the Parks Development department

regarding this issue.

Over the last 6 to 9 months 2 large trees have been taken down for various reasons, so the pond feels much more exposed, potentially making wild fowl vulnerable if they nest on the banks. Swans lay their eggs late April, early May so this is time critical. Whilst we have been promised replacement trees, they will take time to grow.

We have now received the following response from the department concerned.



"We are aware of the rafts here and the Rangers service have plans to revamp them. If it is possible to do before nesting season we will, but at the moment the ground conditions do not allow the Rangers access with the vehicles, winch and trailer needed to get the rafts out and up the bank. We do not want to tear up the ground and create other problems with dips and ruts etc. They are keeping an eye on it but if it gets too late in the season we may have to leave them this

spring and get them out after nesting ready for next year."

As soon as we have any updates we will let you know.

DAVID GODWIN

Hornchurch Photographic Society

We are looking for new members to join our friendly club at Ardleigh House Community Association, Gidea Park. We meet every Monday at 7.45pm. If you have an interest in photography and would like to improve your skills, come and visit our friendly group. Be our guest for a few evenings before you join. We have all the necessary software to enable us to hold instructional evenings on a digital set up. Our more experienced photographers are always on hand to help out with camera skills and know how.

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