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The official Bulletin delivered by the Havering Residents Association

Council Finance update

On 1st March 2023, at Full Council, the annual Budget and Council Tax was set for 2023/24. This has been one of the most challenging times a Council has faced to set budgets. It was agreed that the 2023/24 Council Tax will increase by 2.99%, with an additional 2.00%, set by Government for Social Care. This will make a total proposed increase of 4.99%. This does not include the Mayor of London's precept. The Budget will ensure residents continue to receive the key services they value and rely on, amid massive savings' targets. These savings will include keeping our roads/pavements repaired, making the Borough safer, responding to climate change and building more homes. The Budget will include the following:

- £6million investment in roads and pavements
- £650,000 to provide 30 minutes free parking in Hornchurch and Upminster town centres to encourage more trade, and to provide a boost for local businesses
- £1million to replace old lampposts with more energy efficient ones
- Additional £50,000 to upgrade lampposts for EV charging
- £290,000 to continue Council-funded Section 92 police officers
- £3.5million to push forward upgrade of CCTV in Borough
- £2.5million for improving school classrooms and buildings

Finally, I would like to remind residents that there is support available for those who need it, either through our Cost-of-Living campaign, or our Council Tax Team.

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS

Being your Councillors

Since being elected as Emerson Park Councillors myself and David have been very busy settling into the Town Hall. We get numerous calls on planning matters, potholes and street care and each call is so different and requires us to take action with Council Officers. We both attend a wide range of meetings on various Council services with the aim to ensure the best interests of our residents are considered.

Cllr LAURANCE GARRARD

Pothole success

Many of you will have noticed the potholes in Berther Road and Nelmes Road have been repaired and the roads are now once again safe to drive through. Despite taking a while for the Council Officers to appreciate the extent of the damage, we finally arranged a site meeting with Councillors and Officers to show them the extent of the damage. We will continue our campaign to make sure that the most badly damaged roads that need resurfacing are attended to.

Cllrs LAURANCE GARRARD and DAVID GODWIN

Crime reduction

We have noticed over the last month that the level of crime has dropped in our area; this could be the increased police patrols or the private security patrols as detailed in The Bulletin (repeated in this issue on page 21). Either way, it is a relief to have some good news regarding the safety and security of our area. If you would like to join the private security which is available by subscription please visit their website on emersonparksecurity.com (see page 21).

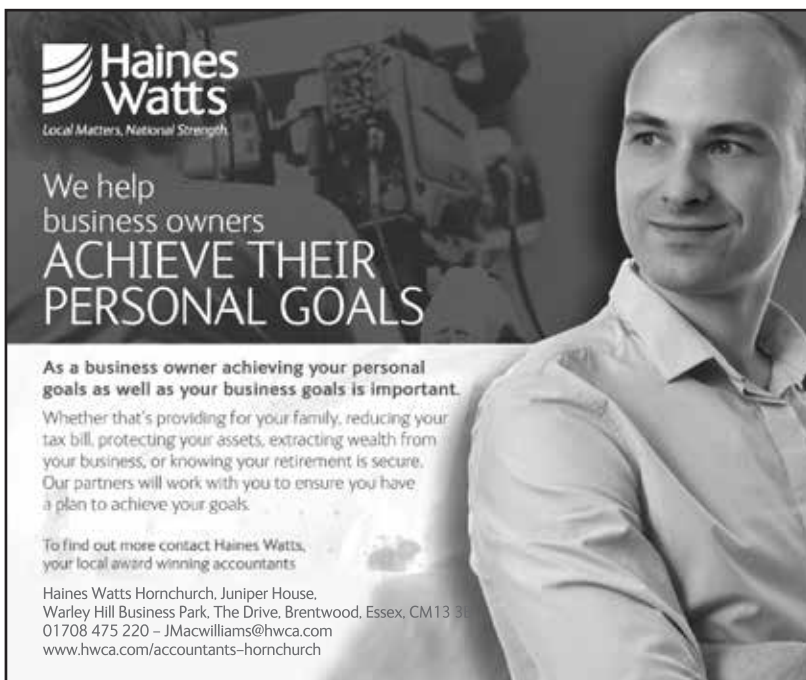
Help with Bulletin distribution in Emerson Park

We are looking for volunteers who would be prepared to give us 15 minutes of their time to help deliver The Bulletin to around 50 local homes each month. This helps us keep in touch with residents and provides vital feedback from your Councillors, especially for those residents without social media. Currently we have over 70 deliverers who circulate The Bulletin to 4,500 homes every month. In addition there are 15 distributors who ensure The Bulletin is circulated to deliverers. If you can help deliver or distribute The Bulletin please call Laurance on **07973 856195** - thank you.

Keeping our area clean

Having received several complaints regarding dog owners not cleaning up after their pets we wanted to remind owners to please pick up, bag and dispose of any dog litter. This is especially important as there are fines for not doing this and there will shortly be wardens patrolling - please be considerate to other residents and our area.

Cllrs DAVID GODWIN and LAURANCE GARRARD



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David@raep.org

Squirrels Heath and Harold Wood contact
bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk

Neighbourhood Watch volunteers

Is there a Neighbourhood Watch in your road or area? If yes would you like to join up and if no would you like to form one? It is generally felt that a local scheme helps deter criminals and with the current increase in crime this can only help make us safer. To set up or check please access www.ourwatch.org.uk or contact David Godwin or Laurance Garrard for more information of the local co-ordinators - there is also a very informative website at www.owl.co.uk

Havering Council's Empty Homes Project

Havering Council have recently launched their Empty Homes Project, which is helping to locate empty properties and bring them back into use. These can be in any condition, as the Council have various options to make them viable housing again. Havering residents are encouraged to let the Council know about any empty properties they know of by visiting www.havering.gov.uk and entering 'report empty properties'

in the search box, e-mailing landlordlicensing@havering.gov.uk or phoning 01708 432 006.

Stop and Search

Stop and Search issues are often in the press, usually with the Police being challenged over its use. Each London Borough has a Stop and Search Community Monitoring Group (CMG) which is made up of representatives from the community, who meet quarterly with police. These meetings are an opportunity to hold the Police to account by examining data regarding the use of stop and search, including reviewing the officers grounds for the stop, which is required by law. In addition, a sample of officers Body Worn Video recordings are viewed on a monthly basis by the group's representatives. CMG members are able to challenge the police on all aspects of stop and search. Havering has had a successful CMG for many years; however our membership has reduced recently. We are therefore seeking new members to join the CMG. Anyone living or working in Havering is eligible and we would especially welcome young people who are more likely to be stopped. If you are interested in joining the CMG please email our Chair i.weatherley@btinternet.com for further information.

LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

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

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Havering Against ULEZ



Cllrs David Godwin, Gerry O'Sullivan,
Laurance Garrard, Gillian Ford, Oscar Ford and
Graham Williamson.

Your local Councillors were joined by Havering Residents in the protest against ULEZ in London in March. Myself and David Godwin were with Councillors from Cranham, Hornchurch, Rainham and Upminster. Whilst Havering Council have raised their objection to the implementation of ULEZ, and refused to cooperate with the Mayor, our best hope is that we can persuade the Prime Minister to intervene and stop this unfair tax, that will hit the poorest and least able to replace their cars together with local businesses and visitors to our area.

Please write to: **The Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Rishi Sunak, 10 Downing Street, London, SW1A 2AA** explaining why you feel the ULEZ extension is unfair for Havering. We feel that if everyone

sent a letter it would have more impact than numerous emails. Please help, let your voice be heard and help us to get the message to the Government that Havering does not want need or deserve the ULEZ extension.

Cllr LAURANCE GARRARD

Lower Thames Crossing

As we were going to print the Government's decision to delay Lower Thames Crossing for 2 years was announced. Your Residents' Association had submitted comments to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the Lower Thames Crossing Planning Process. Our full submission can be seen on our website. The submission covered:

Local Traffic Impact, in particular seeking to offset the effect of higher volumes of traffic.

Ensuring Public Rights of Way are not blocked with effected footpaths etc sensibly rerouted.

Concerns about **Air Quality and Health Impacts** are addressed through a full assessment of likely impacts on resident health in the vicinity.

Effective measures are put in place

to offset the loss of **Green Belt and Wildlife Habitats**.

Effective monitoring to restrict all pollution for residents from **Construction Compounds and Traffic**.

A **Climate Change Risk Assessment** is undertaken to protect properties in the area.

Offset the **Loss of Ancient and Other Woodland** by the acquisition of land within Havering and planting for outdoor recreation.

When the **New Road Opens** an effective programme to mitigate noise and National Highways undertake regular monitoring.

MIKE LONG

Queen's Theatre defibrillator

We have been keen supporters of the installation of defibrillators in our area. I saw one being installed at the Queen's Theatre when delivering the March Bulletins and obtained the following information from the Theatre"

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a defibrillator bought through them. We applied for the grant and succeeded but we still had to cover the remaining cost. We were looking at fundraising ideas and spoke to Cliff Reynolds (Chairman of Havering over 50s Forum) to find a way to raise the rest of the money. A few weeks later, I received an email from Yorkshire Building Society in Elm Park to say Cliff had contacted them and they would like to put us forward for their Small Change Big Difference Scheme, where customers can choose to donate the pence of their interest to a local charity. Again, we were successful with this and were awarded £2,000. This covered the remaining cost and installation of the defibrillator.

The defibrillator unit has been installed and has been registered with The Circuit (The National Defibrillator Network). It is also connected to London Ambulance Service. This means if someone was to call 999 and needed a defibrillator the London Ambulance Service could tell them the exact location and the access code for them to use it and could help save someone's life.'

The defibrillator is outside the building close to the stairs into the Theatre.

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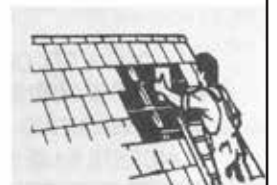
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Tackling the immediate impact of such a disaster is dependent on aid which Havering residents have played a role in, through clothes, goods and money collections. The Hornchurch & Upminster Rotary Club are not new to donating to those in need, as they regularly raise funds for local charities including First Step and St Francis Hospice. They also provide support when there are international disasters and on this occasion they funded two Shelter boxes to be sent to Turkey.

Each box typically contains a disaster relief tent for a family, thermal blankets and groundsheets, water storage and purification equipment, solar lamps, cooking utensils, a basic tool kit, mosquito nets and children's activity pack.

If you would like to be part of an

organisation that raises funds for those in need, think about joining the Rotary Club, we would love to see you at one of our meetings so you can see and hear for yourself what we can do together to help others. Contact: **Terry Monk 01708 226305**

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

'Try Before You Bike' comes to Havering

Thinking of taking up cycling but not sure it's right for you? Try Before you Bike is a scheme that allows anyone who lives, works or studies in Havering to try out a new or nearly new bike for a monthly fee which you can claim back if you want to buy the bike. The monthly fee to hire a bike starts at £10 per month for kids bikes, £30 per month for a standard hybrid bike or folding bike. The bikes comes with lights, lock and a helmet and free delivery to your door by a cycling expert who will help get you started. If you love your bike you get the hire fees deducted from the price and you can pay the balance through an interest

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ULEZ – an unfair tax

Whilst we have heard that Havering Council has voted against the expansion of the ULEZ area, there are many concerns about the impact this unfair tax will have on a large number of people, particularly pensioners

and those that are less well off. I bought a Volvo petrol car in 1999 which at the time was considered to be one of the most efficient and long lasting vehicles. Over the last 3 years our average annual mileage is only 1,800 miles, but our short journeys are essential and public transport cannot be used for them. As an example, public transport is not available to take our grandson from Upminster back to Warley after school, nor is it feasible to travel from Upminster to be at a Riding School for 9am where my wife is a volunteer helper for Riding for the Disabled Association. The stables are not accessible by public transport. I am 78 and it is not sensible to spend a huge amount of money to buy a new car or even a compliant second hand vehicle, which I have found to be in the region of £15,000 upwards. New cars are not readily available and there are lengthy waiting lists even if one could afford this.

It is the pensioners, the poor and those that have looked after their vehicles and not been profligate in buying new cars every few years that are being punished. I fear many who think that this tax

continued on page 7

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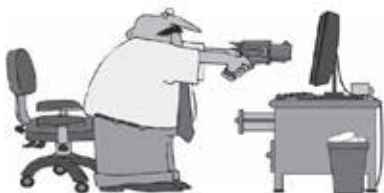
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does not affect them now, will find that within two or three years their vehicles will be deemed non-compliant. It seems that there is nothing that can be done to get this unfair tax deferred until viable travel alternatives are available to those affected.

Sadiq Khan has boasted that the expansion will bring in £300million and that this is a great success. It is not. No-one wants to pay the charge but they will be forced to do so because they have no alternative. I sincerely trust that our Council will insist on deferring this tax until viable travel alternatives are available to those affected. We must bring what pressure we can to highlight this undemocratic action by the Mayor of London.

RICHARD MOOREY

Ukrainian Community Café

At the end of January the café opened in Church House, Romford Market thanks to a grant from the London Borough of Havering's Homes for Ukraine

department. Hosted by a small team of Ukrainian project workers, the café is open to the public for tea, coffee and light refreshments, plus a range of relaxing creative activities. All are encouraged to come along and take part in the different activities and learn new arts and crafts. The café is open from 10am to 2pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays during term time. Everyone is welcome.

Cabinet Member for Adults and Health

Over the last few months having taken over the role of Cabinet Lead for Adults and Health, I have been visiting the care provision that Havering has to offer, including day services for adults with special needs and disabilities. The Council do not own any care homes but we do place residents in these homes and have a responsibility to oversee their wellbeing. It is therefore important that I get to know the issues and challenges

that all parties face including capacity in the system and staffing levels. This has already resulted in some changes in practice for the benefit of all.

I am also responsible for Health, which includes chairing the Havering Place Based Partnership Board. The membership of the board includes, the NHS, NELFT, BHRUT, GPs, Council, Healthwatch. I am delighted to say that the work that is starting to come out of the Partnership is looking very positive. The Cost-of-Living work and website link has been one such initiative that the Council has led on, supported by our partners. Another is the £100k coming from the NHS to support community groups through the 'Community Chest'. The role for the Council was to undertake the application process and the allocation of the funds. I am pleased to say some great community projects have been beneficiaries including 'Proper Blokes' who hold a walk and talk group for men in Upminster. The group aim to support men, who would not normally talk about their situation including problems from addiction, mental health, relationship problems, or just the

need for space to walk and talk to someone.

In the coming months I hope to be able to share a number of initiatives that will be rolling out across the Borough.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Council emergency number

Kindly note the Council's out of hours emergency number is **01708 433999**. Please try and give the post code for where the problem is or as much information as possible. The office hours number is **01708 434343**.

Moor Lane Church Pre-school

We have places available for September 2022 at our small friendly pre-school in Cranham. We take children from two and a half years offering morning

continued on page 9

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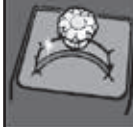
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sessions 9am - 12.10pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday or full day sessions 9am - 3pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday term time only. If you would like to come and visit please contact us to arrange this, we would love to show you our preschool.

For more information, please email moorlanechurchpreschool@gmail.com or call Anita on 07599 930469.

Upminster Dementia Choir

Dementia can be a particularly isolating disease, both for the person living with, and their carer, but it doesn't have to be. There are a variety of different cafes, groups and organisations ready and waiting for you to join them.

I set up the Upminster Dementia Choir a number of years back, first starting at All Saints Church, with the kind support of the Rector Marion Williams. Since COVID we have relocated to the Queens Theatre in Hornchurch which provides parking and is on a bus route.

We start with tea and coffee at 10am for a little socialising and then the Choir starts at 10.30am until 11.30am. All of the song words are printed and laminated, so there is no need to worry about not knowing the words, and there is no competition for the best singing voice! We like taking requests for your favourite songs and are building up a good repertoire.

It is £2 per session and we meet every other week. If you are living with dementia or care for someone living with dementia, come along and enjoy some light relief with a cheery sing and chat.

For further information contact: Gillian Ford - 01708 641317

Havering On Line Watch Link

As an effective way to deter car thieves, the Police continue to advise car owners to have the registration number of their vehicle permanently security-marked onto all the windows. Simply by fitting false number plates, a thief can alter the true identity of any car in minutes

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- but having to replace every piece of glass would prove time-consuming and very expensive.

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

Thames Chase

Spring is here! Make a beautiful Spring wreath on Sunday, 2nd April at Thames Chase with Clare from Bliss Flowers. All materials will be provided and the wreath will last the season. If you have anything you wish to add to your wreath please bring it with you on the day.

2nd April from 10.30am - 12.30pm, £40 per person. Please call the visitor centre reception to book: 01708 642970.

Save the date! The Thames Chase Spring Fair takes place on 16th April. Join us from 10am. The day will include heritage book talks, led by local author and historian Sue Smith plus various guest authors speaking on local history from 10.30 - 11.30am. Stalls showcasing our local heritage

including Upminster Tithe Barn plus various demonstrations of crafts will be on show. Families can make a mini scarecrow, take part in seed planting or enjoy an Orchard Walk. Food will be provided by the Giggly Pig and refreshments by The Beanery. Full details of the day will be shared on our website: www.thameschase.org.uk and across social media.

Big Band event

The Rotary Club of Hornchurch and Upminster will be holding their annual charity Big Band event at The New Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster. The event will feature the Ken Turner Big Band who will entertain us with music from the fabulous swing era. The date is 29th April 2023 with music from 8pm. Admission is by prepaid ticket only on sale at £25 each which includes a fish and chips, chicken and chips or vegetarian option supper. All proceeds from the evening will be donated to local charities. For tickets please contact Terry Monk on 01708 226305.

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First Step Golf Day Friday 26th May 2023

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Full details on our website: www.firststep.org.uk or call Caroline or Catherine on 01708 556355

Not a golfer? You can still support this event by sponsoring a Golf Hole, please give us a call
Vital funds raised at this event will help us with our work in supporting families of babies and young children with special needs and disabilities.

Contact details: 01708 556355 or

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Website: www.firststep.org.uk RCN: 1106002



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Cost of living support

Please check Havering Council's website haverling.gov.uk/costofliving. You will find advice on budgeting, financial support and debt advice and help with energy costs.

There is a dedicated team to help residents who need extra help and support telephone **01708 432 280**. The website also gives details of a number of organizations offering warm spaces facilities.

First Step Golf Day 2023

On Friday, 26th May, First Step will be holding their annual golf day at Langdon Hills Golf Club. On the day you will enjoy

a full english breakfast, 18 holes, dinner and presentations. Prizes for individual winner, winning team, nearest the pin and longest drive, plus prize holes. £95 per person (£380 per Four-Ball). To book your Four-Ball go to <https://www.firststep.org.uk/fundraising/first-step-golf-day-2023/> or call the office and speak to Caroline or Catherine on **01708 556355**.

Havering Association for People with Disabilities

Most people know us as H.A.D. We are a small charity based in the green hut just off Wingletye Lane in Hornchurch. We provide a range of groups from social clubs to wellbeing activities, art sessions, days out and lots more for adults with additional needs. All our regular groups and activities cost less than £5 and are held in our hall which is fully accessible.

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fundraising events:

24th April - Quiz Night at the Crumpled Horn, Upminster, 7pm start, £5 per person.

12th May - Golf Day at Maylands Golf Club, Romford. Meet at 9.30am for coffee and a light breakfast, £200 for a four-ball including breakfast and lunch.

If you would like to get involved or require more information you can contact us on **01708 476554**, e mail admin@hadhaverling.co.uk, follow us on social media @hadhaverling or check out our website www.hadhaverling.co.uk

Building repairs at St Laurence's Church

From mid-March until approximately the end of June, St Laurence's Church in the centre of Upminster is undergoing a programme of internal and external repairs to ensure that this beautiful, peaceful and historic place of worship can continue to be available to the local and wider community. One aspect of the

repairs will be the replacement of the weathervane that was damaged last year by Storm Eunice.

The church will continue to be open daily to visitors during this period and services continue as advertised, but please be mindful of safety when near areas where work is taking place.

As a separate initiative, the church continues with plans for a project which will introduce improvements to the building including a disabled toilet and better meeting facilities. More information about the plans is available inside the church.

The Brain Tumour Charity - The Judy D'cruz Fund

Many of you may have heard by now that my lovely wife Judy D'cruz passed away on 20th January this year after a brave and long battle with a Brain Tumour. The Judy D'cruz Fund

continued on page 13

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which has been set up to fight to find a cure for this deadly disease currently stands at £80,210.21. I will continue this fight until a cure is found. To this end we are holding an evening of live music at the "SX", Essex Arms, 10 Warley Hill, Brentwood (30sec walk from Brentwood Station) from 8pm -11pm on Saturday, 20th May. Tickets are just £12 with every penny going to the cause due to the kind sponsorship of E.J. Roberts Roofing. Please come and join us for the first ever "JudeFest", we will raise a glass to her memory and then dance the night away as she would have loved us to do. You can donate at any time to the fund via www.judydcruz.com

WIN D'CRUZ, Ambassador,
The Brain Tumour Charity

Artisan events UK craft markets

Please note following dates at The New Windmill Hall, Upminster.
April is on Sunday, 16th and May on Sunday, 14th - both trading between 10am to 3pm.

Hornchurch Football Club

We are almost at the end of the season and what a season it has been for our local club. There has been some terrific games at the local stadium and good attendance levels. Please note the following home fixtures at The Stadium, Bridge Avenue - kick off 3pm.

Saturday, 8th April home to
Billericay Town

Saturday, 15th home to
Bowers and Pitsea

Come along, you'll have a great afternoon and the club also has a really nice bar.

Please keep an eye on the club's website for further news.

Upminster weather

When you meet people and mention that you are living in Upminster, many will say yes it's at the end of the District Line and a number will say you have a working windmill. With the BBC weather programme showing Upminster every day in their

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UCRA Coach outing news

Brighton and St Mary's House & Gardens, Bramber - Saturday, 10 June

A morning visit to Brighton with its extraordinary mix of attractions such as the Victorian Pier to the exclusive boutiques in 'The Lanes', a treasure trove of things to do and places to eat where you can obtain some lunch before our afternoon visit to St Mary's House, West Sussex.

St Mary's is a magnificent Grade 1 Historic House with 500 years of history. It is set in the downland village of Bramber and is surrounded by formal and topiary gardens with pools and fountains. After exploring the house and gardens we will have tea and biscuits served in the charming cottage style tea rooms. Price £34.50

For information and availability on our trips why not join our mailing list. Contact gina.savill-turner@email.com; tel **07958 006503** or **01708 228270**

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Easter Greetings

As nice as they are, Easter is not about chocolate eggs, chicks, bunnies, or even hot cross buns, but the fact that Jesus Christ was put to death, unjustly and cruelly, to restore our relationship with God. Yes, it was our sin that nailed Him to the cross - He became our substitute, so that anyone who believes and trusts in Jesus will not die, eternally, but instead, have the certain hope of Heaven. There's lots more to explain, so why not join our service on Good Friday at 10.30am in Upminster Park (or Trinity Church, if it's raining), or visit one of our churches over the Easter period? Website details are on www.ctucno.org. Happy Easter!

PAUL THOMPSON:

Leader of King's Church, Upminster, on behalf of 'Churches Together in Upminster, Cranham and North Ockendon.'

Shirley Tours

11th - 12th May, **West End Musical - Six**. Hotel stay with breakfast. Good seats in stalls for show. 8.30pm start. £99, plus £5 donation to Shirley Tours. Twin rooms, no coach.

29th July **7 nights music themed cruise "Land of the Vikings"** (Limited availability) Motown meets rock n roll legends with Kiki Dee plus Elvis impersonator. Ambassador Cruises sailing on cruise ship Ambience from Tilbury port. Ports of call include Gothenburg, Copenhagen,

Kristiansand with possible chance to visit "Graceland" new Elvis themed museum in Aarhus Denmark. Booking now, request flyer for details. Full vaccinations required.

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

February 2024: We will be making a return visit to **Brick Lane Music Hall, Adult Panto - Peter and the Loose Boys** - contact Shirley for details.

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

OUT AND ABOUT - CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES Havering Ladies Probus Club

Ladies are you retired, like meeting new people and enjoy a nice luncheon in beautiful

surroundings? If so why not come along to our meetings on the first Wednesday of the month at Top Meadow Golf Club, Fen Lane, Upminster. We are a very friendly group and have really interesting speakers and quizzes as well as theatre trips and outings, but more importantly it's a great opportunity to socialise and have a good chat and make new friends. If you would like to know more or to come along please contact our Secretary Barbara on **01708442756**. We look forward to hearing from you.

Havering Antique Collectors Club

Friday, 21st April - Steve Jester - jewellery back to basics. 7.30 for 7.45pm start. Harold Wood Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane - Annual Membership £35, Guests £5. Chairman Mrs Chris Lovett **079 4736 7258**.

The Old Chapel Tea & Talk

Wednesday 12th April - **Two Victorian Philanthropists** - Margaret Mills will talk about two Victorians with a social conscience, Sir Titus Salt and Angela Burdett-Coutts. Opinions are divided about them, and one of them scandalised Queen Victoria!

Email: friendsoldchapel@mary.havering.sch.uk

Roope Hall, Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster.

Doors open at 10am - talk starts at 10.30am, £2 supplement for members, £4 admission for non-members. Tel: **01708 224830** or Mob: **07870 558408**.

Havering & District National Trust Association

We meet on the 4th Saturday of the month in the large hall at Ardleigh House, Hornchurch. Meetings start at 2.30pm and run for 90 minutes. Our speaker on 22nd April is Paul Harrison, speaking about the '50 perennials every garden must have'. Others talk this year range from the 'world of spring flowers' to 'seasonal customs and traditions of Essex'. You don't have to be a member of the National Trust to attend. Visitors are welcome at a cost of £3 per meeting. For further details e-mail HaveringNTA@hotmail.com or call the Secretary on **07939101802**.

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 29th April and the club would welcome all new members. Enjoy a great social calendar

continued on page 17



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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 upminstergolfclub.co.uk for full details including pictures. If you prefer to talk and have any questions, then please contact Debra Shaw on **01708 222788** or email Debra@upminstergolfclub.co.uk We look forward to hearing from you.

The Arts Society, Havering

Our April talk will be 'Babylon: Art and Legend' by Sue Rollin. Once one of the greatest cities in the ancient world, a vanished metropolis which lay ruined and deserted for over 2000 years, its history has become bound up with myth and legend but it has never been forgotten. Taking place on Tuesday, 11th April at 10.30am at the New Windmill Hall, Upminster. Visitors welcome 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**.

Havering Astronomical Society

Wednesday, 19th April, 7.15 for 7.30pm. **Konrad Malin-Smith**, founder member of the HAS, and a regular speaker to our club, will present a talk entitled '**Supernovae of the First Kind: white dwarf detonations**'

Young Astronomers (aged 8-16)

- Thursday, 27th April 7-8pm. There is a mix of space news, talks observing when possible.

All of the above meetings held at Thames Chase, Pike Lane, Upminster. New members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining us there are more details on the website www.havaastro.co.uk or email enquiries@havaastro.co.uk or email young.astronomers@havaastro.co.uk

Bretons Sea Angling Club

Bretons are an established sea angling club in Havering and all of Essex. New membership is now open to anyone that may be interested in joining. Novices are very welcome and friendly advice is always available. If you are interested call Peter on **07837 729229**.

Learn, Laugh and Live

Havering U3A has a change of venue, with monthly meetings taking place in the Hall of Romford Baptist Church, Main Road, RM1 3BL. We meet at 2.15pm, on the second Wednesday of the month, doors open 2pm.

Wednesday, 12th April - Peter Jones - How to do Everything and Be Happy. Peter's recent book is for ordinary people with ordinary lives. It's for people who have been ambling along and wondering why they're not, well, just that little bit happier. It's for most people and that includes you.

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

Harwood Ladies Probus

We are a group of retired

continued on page 19

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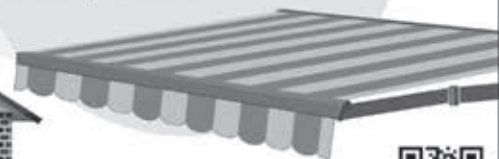
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or Helene Carter on **01708
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Upminster and District Probus Club

Gentlemen, are you retired
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Club meet at the Cranleigh
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speaker will be Steve Redfern who
will be talking about offensive
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by visiting our website [www.
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co.uk](http://www.upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk)

Craft sale – Trinity Church

Coffee morning and craft sale
on Easter Saturday, 8th April
from 10 to 12noon at Trinity
Church, Station Road, Upminster.
All proceeds to Harold Hill
Foodbank.

Wednesday Afternoon Music at Hornchurch Library

1st floor meeting room (lift
available). Start 2pm ending by
4pm.

12th April - **The Gramophone
Company** presented by Stephen
Raindle.

26th April - **The Fifth Dimension**
presented by Harry Newman.

No need to book - just turn up,
admission is free and interval
drinks are available at a nominal
charge. Buses 165, 256 and 370
stop near to the library and there
is limited free car parking behind
the library. Further information
you can phone Stephen **01708
470670** or email [sraindle@aol.
com](mailto:sraindle@aol.com)

Essex Wildlife Trust, Havering – Monthly Walk

Saturday, 6 May 2023 -
Fingringhoe Wick Nature
Discovery Park, South Green
Road, Fingringhoe, Colchester
CO5 7DN - A wonderful place
to see nightingales. This walk
is free to attend, meet at the car
park next to the visitor centre
at 10am. The walk will take
approx two hours so please wear
suitable clothing and footwear.
Any questions, please contact
07802212151 or email [ts15457@
netscape.net](mailto:ts15457@netscape.net).

Dogs allowed on a lead. There
is a designated dog trail which
is approximately 1 mile. Dogs
are not permitted in the Nature
Discovery Centre or on events.

Facilities Toilets / Shop / Cafe/
refreshments / Picnic area /
Accessible toilet / Baby changing
facilities.

Tea, Cakes and Chat - Social Group

We meet at Havering Indoor
Bowls Club, Harrow Lodge Park
RM11 1JU on the last Friday of
the month. If you are 55 and
over and would like to meet new
friends and be able to socialise in
a warm and friendly environment
come and join us.

From 1:30pm to 4pm, £5 entry.
We hold different arts and crafts,
informative chats and activities
as well as having a hot drink and
a cake. For further details email
Lauren at [teacakesandchat@
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Cop Corner - crime prevention advice

Hello Residents,

Now the lighter evenings are with us and Spring is finally here, we need to be aware of Rogue Traders.

We need to look out for our loved ones and elderly neighbours, who may be targeted by builders, looking to carry out repair work and charging exuberant prices

Advise elderly neighbours not to engage with any persons knocking on their door, looking to carry out building work. If they persist, then dial 999 and Police will come and deal accordingly.

If you are looking for a competent builder or tradesman, then visit trusted traders where you live and obtain three free quotes (on paper) before making a decision. Never feel pressured into making a decision and never pay money upfront. Agree to pay in full after the job has been completed. You could also look on their website and view customer reviews about work they have carried out.

Stay safe

Damien Williams PCSO 7127EA
Dedicated Ward Officer (DWO)
- Emerson Park SNT Phone: 101 -
Police Non-Emergency

Reporting crime

Whilst 999 is for emergencies, the other number for reporting non urgent crimes 101 can often be rather busy. An alternative method is to report online at www.met.police.uk. Details of local crimes and feedback from our local Police Officer, Damien, can be found on [Twitter @MPSEmersonPark](https://twitter.com/MPSEmersonPark).

Pantry Shelf, Butts Green Road

Pantry Shelf is a new shop whose aim is to make living sustainably more accessible to our local community. In store they stock a wide selection of natural products including loose dried pantry cupboard food, herbs and spices, liquid eco-friendly toiletries / cleaning refills, freshly roasted coffees, looseleaf teas, locally produced chutneys and preserves as well as supporting local UK farming with a range of cheeses. They also offer a weekly Zero Emission local delivery service to homes and businesses via their website www.pantryshelf.co.uk Customers are encouraged to re-use containers by bringing

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them into the store to refill, or they supply paper packaging to encourage the reduction of single use plastic waste. Open weekly Wednesday to Saturday, with Artisan pastries and sour dough loaves available on Saturdays - give them a try for good old fashioned service.

Additional Security In Emerson Park

We have been contacted by one of over 120 residents who have signed up to My Local Bobby Security company to patrol the Emerson Park area. At the moment based on the numbers that have signed up they have managed to get a 12 hour patrol for 7 days a week. Ideally they would like to increase this to a 24 hour patrol. It appears that many of the residents are still unaware of the scheme as it was initially promoted by word of mouth in response to the spate of burglaries before Christmas. If you would like to sign up or for more information please check the website: emersonparksecurity.com. As always we recommend being careful, ensuring doors, windows and cars are locked to prevent criminal activity in our area. Also joining your neighbourhood watch team or

setting up a WhatsApp group in your road will help.

Cllr LAURANCE GARRARD

Adventure Island

Hornchurch District Scouts (charity no. 303699) are selling Adventure Island wristbands at a discounted price of £16.50 each. Also available, Southend Sea-life Adventure tickets adult/child £7.50 each and Adventure Golf tickets £6 for 18 holes.

Wristbands purchased this year have an expiry date of 31st December 2024 and are available to purchase all year round for any day the park is open. To purchase call Debbie on **07805612706**, Louisa on **07498575296** or collect from Pink Parachute, 6 North Street RM11 1DX during opening hours. Debit/credit cards accepted as payment with card payment only, at Pink Parachute

Planning applications on the RAEP website

Havering Council publishes a weekly list of planning applications received within

continued on page 22



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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 www.raep.org and search for 'planning applications'.

Contacting Your Councillors

Contact details for your Residents' Association Councillors Laurance Garrard and David Godwin can be found on page 2.

Social Media

During the last few years our presence on social media has grown and we have a strong following on Facebook under our group page. Please look us up and join us as we are able to publish instant news and views affecting the area. Search for "Residents' Association of Emerson Park".

Foodbank

With the rising cost of living 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. And 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/give-help/donate-money/> Please consider donating - it could make so much difference to a family in need.

Can't Sing Won't Sing! - Nelmes Community Choir on the Corner

Everyone recognises we need more 'Community'. 94% of people involved in a choir thought it 'made the mood more positive'. Community activities are known to improve a sense of belonging and pride. Having had a wonderful Christmas, we are looking forward to meeting new people in this New Year, perhaps you fancy trying it out.

We meet each Tuesday at Nelmes URC on the corner of Nelmes Road and Burntwood Avenue, RM11 3JA at 8pm.

Singing talent is not a required qualification, but a willingness to have a go. We learn some lovely songs and singing in harmony. Join in a lovely group of people with vocal coaching, exercises and musical guidance and perform locally in our community. Any questions to info@echomusic.co.uk or simply just turn up.

Ardleigh House

Day trip to Oxford or Bicester Village - Thursday, 27 April. A day out to Oxford with 5 hours to explore the city or shop till you drop. If Oxford isn't your scene stay on the coach to Bicester Village for 4 hours of shopping. Price £33pp

Day Trip to St. Albans - Wednesday 17 May. It's market day in St. Albans and their market is thriving! Plenty of stalls and lots of shops to explore. There is also St. Albans Cathedral that is well worth a visit and it's still free to enter. At the top of the High Street is the Clock Tower. Built in 1405 it is the only Medieval Town Belfry in England. Price £23pp.

Fish & Chip cruise on the Kentish Lady - Friday 23 June. Cruise the river Medway for 3 hours with a fish & chip lunch, fresh fruit

dessert with tea/coffee. There are separate toilets on board and there is a bar if you fancy something stronger. Price £65pp

Sunday lunch Pullman Style - Sunday, 23 July. Take the coach to Kent and our Pullman train. We have chartered the whole train so you dine amongst friends. Dine in genuine 1920's and 1930's Pullman First Class coaches. Waiters are dressed in full Pullman Car Company uniforms with silver service at your own reserved table with your own Pullman place cards and a commemorative menu. This is sheer luxury you will not find on any modern train. Price £130pp.

Day Trip to Broadstairs - Sunday, 13 August. Our annual trip to the seaside. Broadstairs has lovely sands set in a horseshoe shaped Viking bay. This was home to Charles Dickens and you can visit his home as it over looks Viking Bay. In August Broadstairs is full of life and everything is in full swing. Price £28pp.

See the website for more details <https://www.ardleighhouse.org/> or telephone the office **01708 440660**.



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