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Local Issues Raised with Police



Cllr Brian Eagling and I attended the Police ward panel meeting in February and we raised a number of issues including drug dealing in the area, Noise nuisance coming from the Banqueting Suite in Farringdon Ave, anti-social behaviour by Camborne Shops and burglary and motor crime statistics which will be key priorities for the Harold Wood Police Team. We also discussed Speed checks in Church Road and Shepherds Hill where officers caught people speeding and using mobile phones and thus will now get penalty points and fines.

Cllr DARREN WISE

Redden Court School Funding Challenges

Ward Councillors Alex Donald, Brian Eagling and Darren Wise attended a meeting with the Head Teacher and Business Manager to discuss potential funding challenges with additional costs been pushed onto schools by Central Government. Whilst many schools are facing this challenge there is a petition to the government to ask them to review the National Funding Formula and you can sign this on the following link -

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/182705>

We are also in discussions with the Council to consider how the funding formula for Special Needs Children is calculated and whether higher priority and more funding is given to those schools such as Redden Court whom have specialist units as they are incurring far greater costs than those secondary schools who are not as inclusive as Redden Court.



Illegal Pavement Crossing on A12

A resident contacted me to show the damage caused by vehicles driving over the A12 grass verges between Painsbrook Park and Court Avenue. I raised this with Transport for London (TfL) and am pleased to confirm that timber knee high rail fencing will be installed to the back of the grass verge as soon as the TfL 2017/18 budgets are released.

Cllr ALEX DONALD

Help, please

Due to an increased volume of *Bulletins* on the Kings Park Estate we require a volunteer who could deliver 50 *Bulletins* a month, If you are interested please contact Cllr. Brian Eagling on 01708 373027 or email on eaglibri@talktalk.net

All Stars Cricket

Ardleigh Green Cricket Club (Petersfield Avenue, Harold Hill) is taking part in All Stars Cricket, an exciting and fun new cricket initiative for 5-8 year olds. The first session will be the 19th May at 18:00 please feel free to come along on the evening and join in. For further information, please contact agcc75@hotmail.com

St. Peter's Men's No Lunch

We have some Good News and some Bad News. Bad News first - there is NO LUNCH this month because May is our annual outing time.

But the Good News! Well, normal lunch service resumes on Tuesday, 13th June when we look forward to a 'Summer Special' with some special guests - more details next time. Booking for this event will open on 9th May.

Chris Knowles, Julian Harris and the Men's Lunch Team.

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Flower Festival & Fayre

All Saints Church, Ardleigh Green are holding a Flower Festival and Fayre on Saturday 3rd June from 10-4pm and Sunday 4th June from Noon-4pm. The theme is 'Childhood Memories'. Come and see the beautiful flower arrangements with this theme. The Fayre will have all the usual stalls: Tombola, Plants, Jewellery, Cakes a Raffle and many more. There will be Refreshments and Light lunches on sale. Admission is free.

Become a Scout Volunteer

Are you a responsible adult who could help with the Friday evening meetings for the 7th Squirrels Heath Scout Group? They are looking for new helpers and leaders for the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts at the Nelmes United Reform Hall in Burntwood Avenue between 4.30 and

9.30pm. Full training given and volunteers will be subject to vetting, please contact Barbara the Group Scout Leader by phone on 01708 920637 or 07968 658107 or email on Barbara-morgan1@sky.com

Ingrebourne Valley Visitor Centre

A full range of Events for the May/June Term School Holidays are planned, please see our website for further details. We are open 7 days a week 9 am - 5pm. Hornchurch Country Park, Squadrons Approach, Hornchurch, RM12 6DF (6TS SAT NAVS). 01708 520364.

For future events and news follow us on Facebook EWT Ingrebourne or www.essexwt.org.uk - What's on at Ingrebourne

Jess's Kilimanjaro Climb

Next September, I have taken on the task of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro for Meningitis

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Research. Meningitis and Septicaemia are most common in young children and students. However, the awareness of these diseases is not strong enough. I would like to send a heartfelt thank you to all the staff and pupils of Emerson Park Academy who were involved in the "I'm a Celebrity" eating challenge earlier in the year, which raised £242 towards the charity. If you would like more details on the challenge, here is my fundraising link:
<https://southamptonkili.everydayhero.com/uk/jess-kilimanjaro-climb>

May at St. Peter's

10.00am, Bank Holiday Monday, May 1st. St. Peter's is hosting a Community Flower and **Craft Festival** on the early May Day Bank Holiday - the theme is Festivals and we welcome anybody from the Parish to participate and enjoy a cup of tea and homemade cake! There will also be plants and crafts for sale and model gardens made by local school children on display along with flower

arrangements made by members of local organisations.

Haverling Singers' Concert - 6th May, 7.30pm. Karl Jenkins' 'The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace' and John Rutter 'Gloria'. Tickets £14 or £13 if bought in advance from 01708 341265 or via haverlingsingers.org.uk.

Life Explored - Thursday 18th May to Thursday 6th July. What's the best gift God could give you? Come and explore in this new course, running for seven weeks on Thursday evenings (with a break for half-term). Contact our Associate Minister Rob Hudson on rob.hudson@stpetersharoldwood.org for more information.

Ascension Day Missionary Meal - Thursday 25th May, 7:30pm. Jesus' last message recorded by Matthew include the words: "Go, make disciples of all nations." This year's missionary meal and focus is 'Europe: can it be re-evangelised?' Come along to find out! For more details on these and our other weekly and monthly groups and events, please see our website www.stpetersharoldwood.org Or pop in and visit us on Gubbins

continued on page 3

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Sunday service times are 9:15am,
11am and 6:30pm.
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David Banting, Vicar of St. Peter's

Ardleigh House Trips

Thu 18 May 2017 "Lunch on a
steam train" Price £50.00 (incl.
morning coffee, return train ticket
& lunch & coach). The day starts
with a visit to Bocketts Farm for
morning coffee before we head on
to the Mid-Hants Railway, better
known as "The Watercress Line",
where our steam train will be
waiting to give us a return ride
through the picturesque
Hampshire countryside, whilst we
enjoy a 2-course lunch. Upon our
return, there will be time to soak
up the nostalgia or visit the local
town of Alresford before we start
our journey home. (The lunch
menu is on the website).

Thu 15 Jun 2017 "Day Trip to
Oxford" Price £18.50. Oxford, the

City of Dreaming Spires, is famous
the world over for its university and
place in history. For over 800 years
it has been the home for Royalty
and scholars. With its mix of
ancient and modern, there is
plenty for the tourist to do.
Whether it is visiting one of the
many historic buildings or
shopping till you drop! Oxford, has
it all.

Wed 30 July 2017 "Day Trip to
Whipsnade Zoo" Price £42.50
Child (3-15) £37.50 (Price includes
entry to zoo). Our price includes
your entry ticket into the zoo. (Hire
of Adult/Child wheelchairs free but
subject to £25.00 refundable
deposit on the day). Part of London
Zoo, Whipsnade Zoo is the largest
zoo in the UK and concerned with
the welfare of animals all over the
World. At Whipsnade, there is lots
to see and do. There is also a train
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Wed 30 Aug 2017 "Day Trip to
Brighton with option to ride the
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(The additional i360 price - adults
£14.40 seniors £12.15.) For full
details see the website:
www.ardleighhouse.org or
telephone 01708 440660.

Word Processing

I've always had a fascination with
our language and by avid reading
I suppose I've extended my
vocabulary, even though I'm a bit
wary on pronunciation.
In my working life, most of the
words were rarely used, but with
retirement they have helped with
crosswords and I still discover
words new to me. I'm often
amazed to discover a word for
something particularly obscure
and wonder why somebody
bothered to introduce a word for
it, unless it was just to confuse
crossword fans.


I'm now at the age when it seems
half the words I did know have
been erased from my memory.
Recently I gave up on a
crossword clue and the solution
turned out to be AMBISINISTER.
I did find it in Chambers and it
means "clumsy with both
hands". I've occasionally been
guilty of such a charge, but I was
merely called "cack-handed" so I
got the message. Perhaps if the
accuser had used the obscure
word it wouldn't have been so
bad! Only last week I came across
"VERSO" and "PHILTRUM" but I
haven't been able to work them
into conversation!
Equally, I'm lost with the social
media speak of the young.
Blogging, vlogging and
geotagging all sound a bit violent,
not euphonious like my
examples, so I shan't use them. I
was going to include
"DUNANDUNATE" which
apparently means "overuse of a
word that one has recently
discovered", but the OED has
rejected it as a non-word and
"rejection" itself is a frequently
encountered non-word for
writers!

Dennis Goodwin

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Report a Problem – No Need to Register

Not everyone wants to register on the Council website simply to report a pothole, dog fouling or an overflowing litter bin. The site is currently being developed to offer users a choice as to whether to register before reporting a defect or making a service request. So far, reporting fly-tipping and animal carcass removal can be done with the option of registering or not, and it is planned to roll this out more extensively.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT



being disposed of responsibly. If you witness or recognise any dog owner not cleaning up after their animal, or leaving used

dog bags on the public highway, you can report this to the Council on the Council website <https://my.havering.gov.uk>. You can also make a request for dog mess to be cleared on the website. We do have an incredibly high number of residents that clean up after their animals, we now need to find and educate those that are set on making the area messy.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD.

A Minority of Dog Walkers

As a nation of dog lovers, it seems incredible that we still have some people that feel it necessary to leave their dog waste for others to dispose of. There have been a number of locations reported to me that are experiencing the dropping of used dog waste bags on the pavement, rather than

No Local Elections Here

Many areas have local elections this month. Election for Councillors to the London Borough of Havering take place in MAY 2018. We will keep you up to date on this.

Lower Thames Crossing

The route for the new Lower Thames Crossing has been announced as Option C which is set to run from the end of the M2, through Gravesend, Orsett and then joining the M25 between junctions 29 and 30 with the creation of a new junction. Despite opposition from the Residents' Association, Havering Council and many others to the option, the government have pressed on regardless. The route will cost up to £5.9 billion to build and will be a Toll Road. More details to follow.

Thames Chase

Celebrating trees in May
Since Thames Chase Community Forest was established in 1990, the 40sq miles of forest has gone from just 6% native tree cover to around 18% cover in the 48 sites that have been regenerated. During May, Thames Chase Trust is celebrating the importance and beauty of trees in a photographic competition to choose the Forest's favourite tree, enter by 26th May. In London Tree Week

from Saturday 27th May to Sunday 4th June the photographs will be on display in the Forest Centre for the two favourite trees to be chosen by public vote. There will be a winner from under 18s and an overall winner. So get out and enjoy the woodland whilst choosing your favourite tree!

Activities at the Forest Centre in May
Saturday 13th May 10am-12noon & 12.30-2.30pm. Fun family drama workshops. Leave your inhibitions at home, become a thespian and create unusual characters. £10 for parent and child

Friday 19th May 2.30-4.30pm – scrumptious cream tea with live music. £9 per person

Sunday 21st May – monthly Sunday Market, 10am -3pm

Friday 26th May from 10am. Guided walk to Stubbers Historic Park. Meet in the car park.

Sunday 28th-Monday 29th May 10am-5pm – Guild of Essex Craftsmen's Annual Craft Fair with a wealth of handmade crafts for sale and being demonstrated Tuesday 30th, 31st May and 1st June 10.30am-12.30pm Children's half term holiday activities around the theme 'Growing and thriving'

continued on page 7

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Pages Wood Parking – Beware!

We have been contacted by a local resident who received a parking ticket in the Pages Wood car park as they had two wheels on the kerb as the car park was full and by doing so was trying not to block the exit. There were other cars that also got caught so we would remind you to avoid this scenario in case you receive a penalty ticket.

Cllr DARREN WISE

U.C.R.A Coach Outing News

Henley On Thames, 17th June 2017. Back by popular request to the 12th century market town of Henley on Thames where you can stroll along the banks of the river or enjoy a boat trip along the 'Regatta Course'. There are many buildings of historical and architectural interest such as St Mary's Church, The Town Hall and Henley Bridge. The award-

winning River & Rowing Museum is also well worth a visit. Tickets are £15.00 each and booking details can be found on page 22.

Big Changes to Business Rates

Supporting our local businesses is vital to the success of our local economy, creating jobs and keeping our town centres thriving hubs of choice and activity. A reality for businesses is the recent revaluation of premises and, for many, a sizeable increase in Business Rates bills. Although the government have increased the threshold for 100% small businesses rate relief, there are still many businesses facing large hikes. There is relief available through capping the increase and a £300m discretionary rate relief where councils will have flexibility as to where to apply additional support. From 2019, councils will retain all Business Rates instead of the current 50%. This is a significant shift in how local authorities are funded and emphasises the importance of local councils working in harmony with the business sector. I am fortunate to be on a national local government working group looking at Business Rates and would be happy to pick up any

issues or questions readers may have.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

A127 Ardleigh Green Bridge Update

We have received further communication from TFL on this and it now looks as though the bridge will not be put in place until the end of this Summer and thus surrounding roads such as Bryant Avenue will not now be opened up until later in the year. This is totally unacceptable for TFL to over-run this project and that residents have to endure even more substantial traffic issues around Tesco at Gallows Corner.

Cllr DARREN WISE

Crematorium Cafe

The cafe at the Upminster Crematorium was reopened in February last year by WISG (Works, Skills & Independence Group). WISG were granted initially one year pilot scheme to reopen the



cafe after a period of refurbishment and closure, due to the previous lease holders change to their business plan. The initial one

year pilot scheme has been a great success. WISG have enhanced the menus, catered for small wakes and bereavement industry meetings, installed free WIFI for customers and created many placements and opportunities for adults with learning difficulties. In 2016, the tea room was awarded five stars in The Food Hygiene Rating Score, assessed by the Council's environmental health service, the highest grade the cafe has ever achieved.

Havering Council has offered WISG a three-year lease which will give them the security to upgrade the facilities, replace furniture etc. and be able to put in place a three-year placement programme for adults with learning difficulties. The cafe is well used and provides an annual rent to the Council. Well done WISG.

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Aug 17th, Thu: Broadstairs: Folk Week, Morris dancers, lovely beach, Adults £26; OAP £25; Under 16's £18. (2 Coaches going, one family/one Adults). Call for Family prices.

Aug, 22nd, Tue: Southwold Trip: Beautiful beach, Suffolk. Price £26; Child £23.00.

Jan 2018; Wed 31st, Sunset Boulevard, Cliffs Pavilion Matinee; No coach, £35 front stalls.

Feb 2018: Sat 24th: Brick Lane Music Hall: Aladdin Pantomime, (the cheeky version, adults only) Matinee with 3 course lunch pre-show. £62. Coach Meeting Time Approx. 11:00am. With three course lunch Pre-Matinee Show. Licensed bar, disabled Friendly venue.

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Tax Refund Scams

With the old tax year finished, fraudsters are using the opportunity to send fake emails to residents, supposedly from the Inland Revenue, declaring a tax refund is due. All they need is your personal information and bank account details to send this on to you! Many people will have received these phishing emails/texts and after either downloading a file attached to the emails or clicking on a link, devices have been infected with Dridex (a type of banking malware) or Locky ransomware (which locks devices and demands a ransom) from a hacked website. When victims click on the link in the HMRC spoofed texts they are redirected to a registration page requesting personal details. The emails and texts appear genuine and the victims who have provided their

continued on page 11

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Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Old Chapel Events

Tue 3rd May 7:00pm-9:30pm - Adults Pottery Café

Enjoy a creative evening painting pottery. Booking is required and is £5 per person including refreshments but not the pottery items.

Sun 7th May, 2.00pm - 5.00pm - Recital: With a song in my heart
Sopranos Daphne Ewington and Jill Luff will be exploring the well known and loved music of the famous duo Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein. Songs will include Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered, Blue Moon and many more. £4 per person or £3 for Friends of Old Chapel. Booking is required.

Wed 10th May, 10.30am - Tea and Talk, Bata Shoes

Paul Addington will be here to talk about the history and wildlife of Bata Shoe Factory. £2 for non-members.

Sun 21st May, 2.00pm - 5.00pm - General Open Day

Tue 30th May 10:30am-12:30pm - Creative Craft

Come to the Old Chapel for a decoupage craft session. We will be gluing sticking and decorating trinket boxes and other items which you can keep. Drop in session and £3 per child.

For booking on the above talks/adult pottery café/recital contact Charlotte Coombes on 01708 642919

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continued on page 13

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Welcome Charlotte

Delighted to inform you that Charlotte Coombes has been appointed Heritage Officer for the Old Chapel and Engagement Officer for Our Upminster Windmill. Charlotte lives locally and is excited to be working for two wonderful heritage sites in our area. She previously worked at the local history museum of Barking and Dagenham Valance House. She studied tourism at and Heritage at the University of Winchester. We are very lucky to have Charlotte and I know she is looking forward to continuing the work at the Old Chapel and the Windmill which is currently being restored.

CLlr LINDA HAWTHORN

Cranham Whist Drive

Cranham Community Centre
Whist Drive organisers, Linda and Harry, would like to extend a

cordial invitation to all visitors who may be interested in joining our Whist Club.

If you enjoy playing card games, you will be at home with the Cranham Whist Drive members. No need to book, just turn up between 7 and 7.15pm and ask for Linda or Harry.

Further information can be obtained from either Linda (01708 458328) for Wednesday, or Harry (01708 227457) for Friday. Both start at 7.30pm.

Wednesday Music Evenings

10th May - A Musical Menagerie - let loose by Alan Tomlin who invites us to a not too serious look at the world of animals through the eyes of the composer. **24th May - The John Wilson Orchestra and Repertoire** - Brian Luck recalls his meeting with Conductor John Wilson at a Festival Hall concert and will be playing many of the orchestra's recordings. Held in the 1st Floor Meeting Room at Hornchurch Library, North Street at 7.30pm and finishing at 9.30pm. Admission is free of charge but we do ask for a nominal donation for interval refreshments. For further information contact Stephen

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Lidl Hornchurch

Planning permission has finally been given for the supermarket chain, Lidl, to open at 31 High Street Hornchurch, on the site of the former Mecca Bingo Hall, and of-course at one time Towers Cinema. Sadly, the iconic building will not be used, however, one of the conditions is that a detailed scheme is agreed by the Council for the re-use of the "Towers" lettering taken from the front of the building. Following concerns from Councillors about traffic congestion, there will be no right-hand turn into the car-park coming from the east (Upminster) and left hand turn only when leaving.

Prostate Matters

When I was diagnosed with prostate cancer some two years ago I felt that my cosy world had fallen apart. Like many men, the thought of getting prostate cancer crossed my mind but really didn't

take up too much time. During a routine check up with my G.P. he suggested that it might be advisable to have a blood test to check my Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) level. When the result came back, and that the level was higher than normal, I was referred to hospital where various tests confirmed that I had prostate cancer. I was prescribed a course of hormone therapy. To be honest my life has changed very little in that time and I am extremely grateful to my G.P. and Queens Hospital for their excellent care in diagnosing my condition and for the treatment that I am receiving. So far for my story but the first point I would like to make is that the sooner this problem is detected the better. Often more types of treatment are available if prostate cancer is caught in the early stages. The second point is that I personally found the support provided by PHASE (Prostate Health, Advice Support and Education) very reassuring when I was first diagnosed. Meetings are held 10 times a year at the Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane Harold Wood. Further information can be found at www.phasehaving.org.uk.

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Upminster Floral Art Society

We have our meeting on the 17th May when we have Patricia Ellis with her dem called "Do It With Passion". We meet in the New Windmill Hall every third Wednesday. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.45 start. We are looking for new members. Why not come along for free on your first night to see if you like us.

Veterans of War

The Hollies' Ian Parker will be appearing at Grove Social Club, Chadwell Heath on Friday 12 May at a charity evening for Veterans of War. Tickets £10 call 07940 161223

Brass Band Concert

Music from Stage & Screen by the Becontree Brass Band is a fund-raising event being held on Sunday 14th May, 3pm at Upminster Methodist Church, Hall Lane, Upminster, RM14 1AE. Tickets are £10 and are available from Carole or David on 01708 500134.

Queen's Theatre

The **Queen's Theatre Hornchurch**, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, is set to launch a very exciting audio and visual exhibition inspired by local voices, **Women's Stories of Ford Dagenham**. The Theatre recruited

continued on page 17

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and trained 10 young women from the local community to interview and record stories from over 50 machinists, Ford Dagenham workers, family and friends. The documentary video will showcase an eclectic range of transcripts, stories and personal photographs, exploring how far we have come since those cold winter days and how much further we must go to achieve equal rights for all. 16 May – 29 May.

The **Queen's Theatre Hornchurch** is set to stage a refreshing take of **Willy Russell's** classic comedy **Educating Rita**, with Rita being portrayed as an 'Essex girl', instead of being Liverpudlian. For the first time in **Queen's Theatre** history, audiences will be able to get up close to the action as the theatre will be extending the stage into the auditorium to offer a truly unique and intimate setting. With limited seating on the stage, it's a viewing experience not to be missed!

Educating Rita runs from **22 April – 13 May**. Tickets are **£12.50 - £29** and can be purchased from the **Box Office** on **01708 443333** or online at queens-theatre.co.uk.

Please note the production is suitable for people aged 12+ as it contains some strong language.

Barn Dance

The Not Forgotten Association (a unique national tri-service charity which provides entertainment and recreation for the benefit of the serving wounded, injured or sick and for ex-service men and women with disabilities) is holding a Barn Dance on the 17th June 7pm – 11pm at Bulphan Village Hall, Church Road. RM14 3RU. Music is by the Hillbillies Band with caller and supper included. Bring own drinks and glasses, £20.00 per head. Tickets from Shirley McLean Tel. 01708220096 or mobile 07947045344.

Art Exhibition

Janet and Terry Doyle will be holding an exhibition of their paintings at Upminster Library from Monday 8th to Saturday 20th May. Enquiries 01708 532967.

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LOCAL FUTURE EVENTS MAY

- 6 Saturday - **The Havering Branch of the East of London Family History Society** hold meetings on the first Saturday of every month at Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster RM14 2SJ doors open at 1pm meeting starts at 2pm. This month the talk is 'The Queen bought me a drink when I was doing National Service' with Derrick Reynolds. The Internet & Technology Group meet at the same venue 11am – 1pm where a Q&A session is followed by 'DNA' with Dr. M Gleeson. Teas and coffees can be purchased. Members and visitors welcome to either or both.
- 6 Saturday - **British Sugar Craft** have a demonstration on 'Rice Paper Decorations' by Chris Avey at 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm at Fairkytes Art Centre, Billet Lane, Hornchurch, Entry Price is £6 includes Tea and Cake.
- 7 Sunday - **Indoor Table Top Sale**, Coopers' Company & Coborn School, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 3HS. School tables £12, Sellers table £8. Sellers arrive between 7- 8.30am. Buyers doors open 9am. 50p entrance fee for adults, children free. Entrance is free to all from 10.30am. Sellers must book and pay in advance. Please call 07508135449 to book or email bootsales@cooperscoborn.co.uk.
- 8 Monday - **Havering Branch Essex Wildlife Trust** have an illustrated talk by Bill Godsafe, Warden at Hanningfield Reservoir. Meetings are held in the 1st floor meeting room in Hornchurch Library from 8.00 pm to 9.45 pm. Donation of £2.50 to help cover hall hire, this includes tea, coffee and biscuits. For more information contact the Secretary Joy Emerson on 01708 440297.
- 8 Monday - **Pussycat Lodge Trust** are holding their **Pub Quiz Night** at the Crumpled Horn Pub, 33-37 Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, Cost £6, you can have as many on a table as you like. Included in your entry fee is sausages (veggie on request) chips, bread & butter. **Over 18's only.** To book a place contact Jacqui on: JacquelineDuly@outlook.com or ring 07751 199 037. Start Time 7 pm.
- 9 Tuesday - **NADFAS (Havering)** welcomes Mr John Iddon with a talk on 'Hockney at 80 – Tate Britain 2017'. Coffee from 10 am, Lecture at 10.45 am. Visitors welcome at £8. Meetings held at The New Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QH. Further details of forthcoming lectures, speakers and visits can be found at www.haveringdfas.org.uk
- 9 Tuesday - **Upminster Horticultural Society** have Guest Speaker Geoff Hodge on **Happy Healthy Roses**. The talk will take place in the New Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster from 7.45 pm to 9.45 pm, doors open at 7.15 pm. Entrance is free to members, non-members very welcome for a fee of £2.00. For further information on Upminster Horticultural Society see our website www.upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk or info@upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk
- 10 Wednesday - **Nelmes Women's Institute** meet on the 2nd Wednesday of every month and welcome new members of all ages. Meetings are held at Nelmes United Reformed Church Hall (corner of Nelmes Road and Burntwood Avenue, Hornchurch, RM11 3JA). Meetings start at 2 pm promptly. Please contact Ruth McDougall on 01708 448431 or Ruth.wellwisher@gmail.com for further details.
- 11 Thursday - **Upminster and Cranham W.I.** are looking for new members. We meet in the St. Laurence Hall (next to the Library) in Upminster on the second Thursday in the month. Doors open at 1.30 pm for a 2 pm start till 4 pm. We have talks on a wide range of subjects. We have lunches, afternoon teas, Outings and more. Why not come along and give us a try and meet new friends. For more information please contact President Margaret Reynolds on 01708 471977.
- 16 Tuesday - **Cranham Engayne W.I.** welcomes new members and visitors. Meetings held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2 pm to 4 pm at the Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens.

continued on page 19

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18 Thursday - **Upminster Wine and Social Club** meet on the third Thursday of the month at 8 pm in the Cranham Social Hall, Front Lane, Cranham. We hold meetings every month with a variety of speakers and wine tasting. For more information contact Maureen Jasper on 01708 223956, or simply come along on the night. You will be most welcome.

19 Friday - **Haverling Antique and Collectors Club** meet at the Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood. Guest Speaker Edward Gribben on 'Portrait Miniatures'. This talk will start at 7.30 pm. Guests £4. For further details please call our Chairman Mrs Chris Lovett 07947 367258.

22 Monday - **Breathe Easy - Haverling** meet at St Andrews Church, Hornchurch, in aid of the British Lung Foundation on the last Monday of the month. We are a support group for people with COPD, Asthma or other Breathing Difficulties. For details please ring Joyce on 01708 226696 or Elaine on 01708 509127.

22 Monday - **Romford and Historical Society**, meetings are held at myplace, 343 Dagnam Park Drive, Harold Hill, Romford, RM3 9EN. Access is from 7.30 pm and the meeting commences at 8 pm. Admission is free to members and £2.50 to for visitors.

24 Wednesday - **Upminster Park Towns Womens Guild** meet on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 2 pm to 4 pm in Derham Hall (behind Upminster Library), Upminster. Afternoon tea, talks and outings amongst a friendly group of ladies, all most welcome. For more information contact Deborah Pryor on 01708 226127 or Ann Monk on 01708 226305 or simply come along.

31 Wednesday - **Upminster and District Probus Club** meet at The Cranleigh, 84 Station Road, Hornchurch, RM12 6LX, generally on the last Wednesday of each month. We also have outings, which are run jointly with Deyncourt (Upminster) Ladies' Probus. If you think you would be interested in joining our club please contact our Secretary, Barry on 01708 703783 and leave a message or send an email to: secretary@upminsterprobus.com.

JUNE

3 Saturday - **The Haverling Branch of the East of London Family History Society** hold meetings on the first Saturday of every month at Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster RM14 2SJ doors open at 1pm meeting starts at 2pm. This month the talk is 'Nursing through Shot and Shell' (How women went across the channel to nurse the injured without state backing) with Dr. Vivien Newman. The Internet & Technology Group meet at the same venue 11am - 1pm where a Q&A session is followed by a workshop. Teas and coffees can be purchased. Members and visitors welcome to either or both.

3 Saturday - **British Sugar Craft** have a demonstration on 'Battenburg Lace' by Kusim Mendes at 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm at Fairkytes Art Centre, Billet Lane, Hornchurch, Entry Price is £6 includes Tea and Cake.

6 Tuesday - **Oglethorpe Women's Institute** have Guest Speaker Gabrielle Clark on 'Nutrition for Memory and Dementia' meet at Cranham Social Hall, 103 Front Lane, RM14 1XL at 7.45 pm. Visitors are always welcome.

7 Wednesday - **Harold Wood Evening W.I.** meet on the 1st Wednesday on the month at the War Memorial Hall in Gubbins Lane 7.30 pm for 7.45 pm start. Visitors welcome entrance is £2.50, which includes refreshments. For further details call Joanne on 0787 5670419.

8 Thursday - **Upminster and Cranham W.I.** are looking for new members. We meet in the St. Laurence Hall (next to the Library) in Upminster on the second Thursday in the month. Doors open at 1.30 pm for a 2 pm start till 4 pm. We have talks on a wide range of subjects. We have lunches, afternoon teas, Outings and more. Why not come along and give us a try and meet new friends. For more information please contact President Margaret Reynolds on 01708 471977.

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Council act on Flytipping

Around 100 local residents packed into St Joseph's Social Hall on Wednesday 1st March to hear Havering Council's Director of Neighbourhoods Steve Moore talk and answer questions about the UK problem of fly-tipping. Steve also had members of his team present as were the Police. The meeting, organised by Upminster Ward Residents Councillors, as Upminster is the most affected ward, heard Steve explain about the difficulties of CCTV cameras, the possible closure or width restrictions for some minor country lanes, and other details of what the Council are doing. The Police emphasised that details could not be made too public, and pointed out not to use Facebook to discuss this as it is monitored by criminal gangs. It was noted that the problem was nationwide and organised by professional gangs - any fly-tipping seen by public should be reported to the multi-agency group Operation Bayleaf on 0800 80 70 60 and it is for large scale fly tipping not the

odd fridge etc in a ditch. Those attending had their questions answered.

The fly-tipping petition is now live at
<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/189472>

347 Bus route

Following my article a few months back, a number of people raised the issue of the 347 bus route, and how they would like to increase it. TFL who run the route would too, however the revenue grant they receive from the central government has been phased out, so all routes have to be self sufficient. This is a blow to all rural services, which are so useful to the local residents, but their small numbers mean the service runs at a loss. Hopefully central government might change it's mind - but I'm not holding my breath.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Grass Verges

Following representations from Ward Councillors, the Council are looking to get a Capital Funding

bid together to convert some of the grass verges into parking areas for residents. We have identified a number of roads in the Harold Hill part of our ward and we will be discussing these with Officers. No final decisions will be taking place for a while but if you think you have grass verges that can be removed in your road for additional parking then please email us at

hwhpra@btinternet.com and we

can pass this on. We will keep you informed once we know more from Officers.

Cllr DARREN WISE

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continued on page 22

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Woolwich Ferry Update

A number of local residents use the ferry from time to time. Please note Transport for London has today advised the Council. 'Work has been undertaken to extend the life of the ferries. We have no proposals to remove the ferry at present.'

Coach Outing

Saturday 17th June Upminster & Cranham Social Committee
Coach trip to **Henley on Thames** leaving the Bell School at 9am after usual pick-ups.
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