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# HO, HO, HO!



We would like to announce that due to residents' generosity, we have raised an incredible and whopping £2,809 for the Rainbow Trust Children's Charity in Harold Wood from our Santa Claus Xmas float. An enormous thanks to those people who kindly donated within our community. Our thanks also go to all the collectors (especially Mayoress Bunny and Barbara who were out every night), our Santa Claus (Bob), the drivers and our sponsors (the Chippy in Station Road, Shepherd and Dog and McDonalds Restaurants

(Romford, Gallows Corner and Harold Hill) with whom we could not do without. However a big thank you has to go to our Mayor, Cllr Brian Eagling, whom each year assembles and dismantles the Xmas float with the help of his neighbour (Richard) and who manages the logistics and organisation on the collection nights. A terrific result all round and well done for supporting this important charity within our community.

Cllr DARREN WISE, Cllr ALEX DONALD

## Havering Grant to Reduce by 96%

Further to last month's update on the budget, the recent central grant settlement for Havering is far worse than anticipated. This is largely due to the government adopting a completely different formula when assessing grant. In summary, our grant goes from £31m this year down to £1.4m in 2019/20 – a 96% cut. Havering has seen much bigger reductions than its neighbours with no account taken of the increased pressures we face through an ageing population, children's services and environmental costs. We shall be lobbying the government hard to review this most unfair situation. Of course, this makes balancing the budget more difficult than ever and will mean making very difficult choices. Among other changes the government have made are:

- A 2% levy on council tax to support Adult Social Care
- Public Health budgets reduced
- New Homes Bonus cut from £7m to £4.3m
- Full retention of business rates after 2020

I shall keep residents advised as we go through the whole budget process.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

## Variety Show

Please note The Mayor Councillor Brian Eagling's and Mayoress Bunny Eagling's Variety Show, to raise funds for their charities, takes place on Sunday 3rd April, 7pm at the Queens Theatre, Hornchurch. Tickets are now available at £15 each from Brian on 01708 373 027. This promises to be a fantastic evening.

## Residents' Parking Schemes



At the Highways Committee in January, the Committee gave approval for three schemes to be consulted upon with residents. The areas are:- Reginald Road and Woodlands Road which will look at the provision of more residents parking spaces; Melksham, Camborne

Way, Alverstoke, Holt Way area and Wednesbury Road/St Neots Road area which will look at a possible residents parking scheme in those areas. The consultation letters have been issued and we would urge everyone to respond to the letters and give their view.

Cllr DARREN WISE

## RA on Social Media

As well as phoning or emailing us (see contact details at the back), you can join in the local discussion and get all the latest updates on our Facebook group 'Harold Wood Hill Park Residents' Association'. You can also find @darrenwiseRA and @CllrAlexDonald on Twitter, and @CllrAlexDonald on Instagram where we are directly available for any issues you wish to raise.

Cllr ALEX DONALD

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## New Gym



If your new year's resolution was to do more exercise, then it's not too late! A new gym in the Bates industrial estate off

Church Road has been given planning permission after I called it in at Regulatory Services committee (responsible for planning). The site will be strictly supervised, including with CCTV. It is well-lit, will have no effect on local residents, or any parking issues. I'm sure you'll agree this will be a positive and healthy addition for our area.

Cllr ALEX DONALD

## Hornchurch Town Centre Congestion

At the end of last year, we received a number of complaints over traffic

congestion in Hornchurch especially in North Street. Councillor Ron Ower took this up with the Council. Kindly note following reply:  
"Dear Councillor,  
I am writing to advise that we are current receiving complaints about traffic signal issues in Hornchurch. Normally, the signals are all linked together and under regional control. As part of some commissioning work, Transport for London have had the signals on local control for detailed testing and we are informed that they are planned to revert back to regional control at midnight tonight. I had reported the area as having a possible fault, but have only just been informed what has been going on. I will be raising this at my next coordination meeting with them as we clearly would have liked to have known what was going to happen in advance."

## Harold Wood Memorial Hall

Very pleased to inform you the end of year Christmas Lunch at

the Line Dancing lunch at the Harold Wood Memorial Hall went well.

As usual a high quality three course lunch with all the trimmings was enjoyed by the line dancers.

Janet Jackson closely assisted by her husband Michael laid on this annual treat for the members. A number of the club also assisted on the morning of the club.

The Hall was decorated and a Christmas Tree with silver lights by Janet and Michael on the week end before so that all the other hall activities could get the benefit.

Ray Holt

## New Playground Equipment

**£7,200 spent on Harold Wood Park playground equipment**

At Harold Wood Park, a new quarter pipe, grind rails and a skateable bench have been added to the area which is popular with scooter and skate enthusiasts. The enhancements to the skate park area were made following

discussions between Havering Council's Youth Services team, young people who use the skate park area and the local community. The equipment has been installed thanks to funding support from Veolia North Thames Trust, through the Landfill Communities Fund.

Cllr DARREN WISE

## Read All about it!

I've written on the history, the street names, the oldest buildings and the joy of living in this other Eden. With current affairs it's difficult, as at 89 I'm not in touch with the working community. The Retired Men's Lunch, the Good Companions at the church, the Library reading group and my Yoga circle, are hardly venues for keeping ones finger on the pulse of vibrant Harold Wood. Being a shy person, I can't worm my way into groups. As an old man, I daren't chat to kids; have little in common with Mums and babies, dog walkers or joggers. I'm on nodding

*continued on page 3*

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acquaintance with a few old people, most of whom tell me about the good old days in "the village" every time we meet. The majority of the population are at work out of necessity to keep up with the repayments, those around in the day seem to be conversing in Slavic tongues. The Recorder rarely mentions Harold Wood, being full of "rising stars about to hit the big time", photographs of slimmed down ladies, lost inside an outsized pair of trousers they never owned or an embarrassed group holding up an unwieldy giant cheque they've won. To find out what's really happening one must turn to the *Bulletin*.

Road closures, traffic gridlocks, bus replacement services, all of Harold Wood's rich tapestry is contained in its green pages. Events at the Library, Guildonian Players, Neighbourhood Centre and the Methodists are there to be wallow in. Delivering the *Bulletin*, I do enjoy meeting enthusiastic readers, especially the discerning

ones who comment favourably on my pieces!  
With the majority commuting, it's difficult to get to know what goes on beyond the letterbox. Whatever it is, it can't be more exciting than the attractions listed in the *Bulletin*!

Dennis Goodwin

## Santa and Christmas Lights

We were lucky that we had our grandchildren staying with us when you visited Church Road with your Santa Float before Christmas and many thanks for the lights in Station Road, Harold Wood.

Doreen and Bill

## St Peter's Car Show

This will take place on the 18th June at Redden Court School.  
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www.stpeterscarshow.co.uk  
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Money raised at the show will go to the London Air Ambulance.

## Planning Application for Advertising Hoarding

A planning application (A0083.15) has been received for the installation of 2 externally illuminated '96 sheet' (12m x 3m) advertisement in a 'V' formation at the junction of Gooshays Drive

and Colchester Rd. I have requested that the Regulatory Services Committee review this application as it is unsightly and an unnecessary distraction for drivers at this busy junction. It is also out of keeping with the local area. I shall keep you informed on this.

Cllr DARREN WISE

## Pub Clubs

Tapestry Pub Clubs offer older people the chance to meet new people in a cheerful setting, have a good laugh, and enjoy some hearty pub grub. We host a club on the third Tuesday of the month at the Village Bar and Restaurant, Station Lane in Hornchurch, and on the last Wednesday of the month at The Golden Crane, Avon Road, Cranham. Both provide a delicious two course meal with a tea or coffee for a special price of £6.95. For more information about our Pub Clubs or to book your place, please call Gemma on 01708 796 609.

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## Shirley Gives

Shirley Ward (Shirley Tours) gave £1,100 donation each (Total £4,400) to the following organisations:

The James Oglethorpe Infants and Junior School, Cranham Hall Mead Senior School, All Saints Church, Cranham All Saints Scouts (1st Cranham).

Thank you to all who came on my trips in 2015 who helped fund raise the above amount. If you would like a list of my proposed trips for 2016 please send me a stamped addressed envelope to 15 Worcester Avenue, Cranham, Upminster Essex RM14 3LB, or e mail me to join mailing list [shirley@shirleytours.co.uk] shirley@shirleytours.co.uk or call on 01708 227884.

## Bus Routes

I have been trying for some time to get a bus route to serve the area Gaynes Park Road/Hacton Lane area. Possibly a small Hoppla type Bus. This would have been subject to Public Consultation. Unfortunately, Transport for London who manage and decide on bus routes have advised that no plans are being considered at present for any extra services, and

they are concentrating on having extra buses on their existing services. I am still trying to get a direct service from Cranham/Upminster to the Queens Hospital, Romford, also an increased service for St Francis Hospice, Havering Atte Bower. I will keep you up to speed on these.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

## Upminster Windmill

Real progress is being made on the restoration of Upminster Windmill. A contract has been placed to build the new Education and Training Centre. Work will start on 18 January and take around six months. A temporary access track has been installed for the construction traffic.

Tendering for the restoration work on the windmill is underway and contract is expected to be agreed shortly. Work would then begin in the spring, probably with the removal of the cap and sails for refurbishment. The Mill will be closed for two years but will then be in full working order. The Friends of Upminster Windmill will need additional

volunteers to act as visitor assistants in the new building and to help with garden duties. If you are interested please contact Gemma Smith at gsmith@upminsterwindmill.co.uk Although the volunteering work will start later in the year, Gemma will be organising informal social events (at Upminster Old Chapel, St.Mary's Lane) to keep volunteers informed of developments.

Denis Coombs

holiday camps for 7-16 years olds, birthday parties and corporate activities, Stubbers is open to the public all year round - come and take a stroll in 130 acres of open space, enjoy waterfront views or relax in our a on-site coffee shop Source with a hot drink.

## Havering Museum

**Havering Museum Groups or Business Room Hire**

If you wish to hold a group or business event at Havering Museum then we have several rooms available at reasonable charges. For Corporate Events businesses have the opportunity to hire the whole of the Museum. Enquiries via Pamela Wilkes, bookings@haverlingmuseum.org.uk or by telephoning 01708 749 119.

**Beer and Food Tasting at Golden Lion - 8 February**

On Monday 8th February at 7 pm Havering Museum will be holding its 3rd annual beer tasting event. In partnership with the Golden Lion and the Brentwood Brewing Company we are having a beer and food tasting event this year.

*continued on page 7*

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The event is upstairs at the Golden Lion and starts at 7pm. Tickets are £15. Bookings via [hmmarketing@btconnect.com](mailto:hmmarketing@btconnect.com) or ring the Museum to reserve tickets.

**Antiques and Collectibles Event, Saturday, 27 February at 1pm**  
Come along to our fun packed event where you will learn about antiques and collectibles and take part in a mock auction. Refreshments included. Tickets

are £6 per person and can be reserved by email - [hmmarketing@btconnect.com](mailto:hmmarketing@btconnect.com) or by telephone the Museum on 01708 766 571.

**Family Events for Half Term for children aged between 4-10. Wednesday, 17 and Friday 19 February, 11 am - Forensics**

Children have fun by becoming detectives, solving crimes by looking at evidence and finger printing. **£3 per child, accompanying adult free**

**Wednesday, 17 February, 1pm - Ferocious Beasts Through The Ages**

Calling all children, come along to discuss your favourite predators and learn about some new ones. Activities include constructing your own fearsome 3D creations. - **£3 per child, accompanying adult free**

Tickets for family events must be

reserved in advance by emailing [hmmarketing@btconnect.com](mailto:hmmarketing@btconnect.com) or by telephoning 01708 766571

**Saturday, 27 February, 1pm - Family Tree - Military Records**  
Interactive talk on the availability and interpretation of military records and an opportunity to discuss your personal family history tree. Tickets £5 and must be booked in advance.

**Saturday, 12 March, 1.30pm**  
The London Cinema Museum **£5.00**

Martin Humphries from the Cinema Museum will be sharing the fascinating history of the Cinema Museum and will be bringing along a range of cinema memorabilia to Havering Museum. To reserve a ticket either email [hmmarketing@btconnect.com](mailto:hmmarketing@btconnect.com) or telephone 01708 766571.

## Lunchtime Recitals

Thursday Lunchtime Recitals at St Laurence Church, Upminster 1.05pm- 1.50pm.

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- Piano)
- Feb 11th - Richard Brasier, organ (St Laurence)
- Feb 18th - Centre for Young Musicians Showcase Concert
- Feb 25th - Ourania Gassiou, organ (Megaron Concert Hall, Athens)

## Race Night

Please note date for your diary on Saturday 19th March.

Havering East Rotary Club are holding a Race Night at the Albany School. For further details please telephone 01708 780 158.

## Calling all bakers...

Happy New Year. Do you love to bake? Please join us. Our bake club is next meeting on Monday 8th February at The Old Chapel, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, from 18.30 to 20.30. We are a group of keen but amateur bakers who meet every 6/8 weeks to swap support, stories and baked goods. We all bake something to bring along to share. February's theme is Valentine (following the theme is not compulsory). £5 fee to

cover hall, tea, coffee etc. For more information contact [Sharon@vanillabakeclub.com](mailto:Sharon@vanillabakeclub.com) or check out our website [www.vanillabakeclub.com](http://www.vanillabakeclub.com) or find us on Facebook or Twitter.

## Coach Outings for 2016

Listed below are the Association coach outings for the 2016 season.

16th April - Bury St Edmunds  
14th May - Marlow  
18th June - Saffron Walden  
23rd July - Worthing  
13th August - Eastbourne  
17th September - Ely  
15th October - Canterbury  
12th November - Kingston  
Please check the "Association Diary" on the back page of your *Bulletin* for booking details, whom to contact and cost. Kindly note trips cannot be booked until booking details have been published. With *The Bulletin* now being distributed to other parts of Havering, it is becoming difficult to accommodate all the requests for the UCRA coach outings with our diminishing team of volunteers. Anyone interested in

*continued on page 9*

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joining our team please ring Mrs. Bezant as we do need "new" blood to enable to continue these well patronised trips.

Also if there is a group/individual interested in running coach trips in their area, then members of the Upminster & Cranham Residents' Association Coach Outing Committee are willing to give advice and help to set up a similar committee. As a result more Havering residents could enjoy a day out at an affordable price and a nominated charity would also benefit. Our Chair Mrs. Thelma Bezant can be contacted on 01708 226 815. And finally in view of a recent situation, the Coach Committee wish to make it clear that a waiting time of 15 minutes maximum will be allowed before the coach will depart. It is therefore your responsibility to be at the designated pick-up point at the stated time. Please ensure that you have the organiser's mobile telephone number for emergency use.

## Parking Problems

We often get complaints of drives being blocked, etc.

If you experience a problem and wish to report a vehicle, please note following Council numbers during office hours: 01708 432 787. Out of office hours: 07946 738 495.

## Alert for Tortoise Owners

Owing to the unseasonably mild winter weather many tortoises were late in going into hibernation and consequently may have used up some of the reserves they laid down over the summer months. This raises concerns over their ability to survive the hibernation period and Lawton and Stoakes are therefore advising all tortoise owners to check for signs of activity in their pets. If you notice signs of urination, faeces or weight loss of more than a few grams it may be wise to artificially wake your tortoise and keep them warm until the spring. If you have concerns over your tortoise's health please telephone 01708 384444 for advice or for a copy of our "Over Wintering tortoise" leaflet.

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Upcoming events at the Old Chapel Creative Craft Sessions

Weds 3 February, 3.00pm -

5.30pm - Heartfelt Craft Session with a Valentines theme.

Weds 2 March, 3.00pm - 5.30pm

- Spring is on the way!

£3 per child, suitable for ages 4+, no need to book.

Tues 16 February, 10am - 2pm - Pottery Painting Café

Come to the Old Chapel to have a cuppa and get creative! Entrance is free and you pay per item you paint. we operate on a first come, first served basis.

For any more information please call Gemma Smith on 01708 222660 or email [gsmith@mary.havering.sch.uk](mailto:gsmith@mary.havering.sch.uk)

## Discovering Thames Chase

Do you recognise this picture? If you do, maybe you can help us compile a history of the Community Forest - why and how it has developed in this part of East London and south west Essex during the last 25yrs. Even if you don't recognise it, join us for



a coffee morning on the second Friday each month and share your memories and pictures and learn the story of the Forest. We will start with the history of Broadfields Farm, the home of the Forest Centre on 12th February at 10.30am.

Would you like to know more about woodland management or maybe learn some of the traditional skills involved? Our experienced conservation volunteer teams welcome you to join them at Broadfields whilst they are coppicing the hazel plantation and planting new areas of woodland for the Forestry Commission during February and March. Dates and further information are available on the website [www.thameschase.org.uk](http://www.thameschase.org.uk) or from the Forest Centre, Pike Lane.

Also at the Forest Centre -

*continued on page 11*

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**Sunday 14th February 10.30am-3pm.** Wildlife Photography Exhibition including a talk from Gordon Vaughan at 10.30am and advice on achieving the best images. Admission free.

**Monday 15th-Friday 16th February.** Half term holiday programme 'Don't throw it - reuse it!' A different activity each day - information from the Visitor Centre or online.

**Friday 19th February 2.30-4.30pm.** Valentines Cream Tea with live music. Cost £8 per person (Booking essential)

**Sunday 21st February 10am-3pm.** Sunday market including woodcraft demonstrations.

## Bereavement Support

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Are you or someone you know struggling with everyday life after your loss?

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grief strikes we so often find ourselves unprepared. We wonder if we are normal, or going mad! The world seems to expect us to "get over" our loss within a few weeks of the funeral. Yet as time passes we find ourselves wrestling with the same unanswered questions.

Joining a group of like-minded people, such as a HOPE Bereavement Support Course developed by West and Coe may help you. The course allows you to talk things over in a friendly, confidential environment where you have the opportunity to express feelings and fears. You will learn about the grieving experience, share feelings, and questions with other people who have suffered a loss. Whoever you have lost, there is a place for you.

The sessions last about an hour and a half and are led by trained facilitators. They are free of charge and open to people of all faiths and none. The next group will be held in Upminster on Friday morning, starting on the 12th February.

To book a place or to find out

more information please contact Linda Legrand by phone -07500 724169 email [heathandhaveringhope@gmail.com](mailto:heathandhaveringhope@gmail.com)

## Escape Fun Casino Night

**Saturday 6th February 2016**

Back by popular demand, the Escape Group is holding what will be the 5th Fun Casino Night on Saturday 6th February 2016. The venue is North Street Halls and the start time is 7.30pm. Tickets are £9.00 per person.

It's an opportunity for the ladies to wear a glamorous evening gown and for the men to dress in lounge suit or black tie and dinner jacket! Upon arrival, guests are greeted with a glass of sparkling wine and given the chips and paper credits to use when playing on the various Casino tables. The object (like Monopoly) is to accumulate as much winnings as possible before the tables close around 10pm. The winner receives a bottle of Champagne!

Hot and cold canapes and finger food is served during the evening and there is a bar and raffle.

Dancing to DJ Robbie V follows closure of the Casino tables, to round the evening off. In the past, we have found that about 90 guests is an optimum number and given the continuing popularity of the evening, we recommend booking or purchasing tickets as early as possible. Tickets can be obtained from: Alan Ruyten (Tel: 01708 448050) or Rod Glover (Tel: 07445 714151).

Alan Ruyten

## Hornchurch Football Club

Our local team have the following "Home" fixtures this month: Saturday 6th Cheshunt, 20th Wroxham and on the 5th March Sudbury and on the 12th March Aveley.

Kick Off at 3pm. Go along to the Bridge Stadium and support your local team. Further details on the clubs web site.

## Shirley's Tours

Further to the article regarding Shirley's Donations please see the following trips she has organised:

*continued on page 13*

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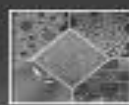
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**February 10th**, Wednesday  
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(seat value £69.50).

**May 13th** Departs; **Norwegian  
Fjords**, weeks cruise on Fred  
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details/prices. Leaflet available.

**May 28th, Saturday; Troop  
Colour rehearsal**, Major Generals  
Review: Taking names now,  
donation of £5 from adults,  
children free, no coach.

**June 2nd, Motown the Musical:**  
Thursday Matinee, top price seats,  
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value £69.50)

**June 18th**, (for Fathers Day);  
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**November 28th** to 1st December  
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**December 15th**; Thursday 2.30  
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## James Oglethorpe Primary School

The James Oglethorpe Primary  
School, in Ashvale Gardens,  
Cranham, have taken part in  
fundraising for the Mayor's  
Charities and the children were



delighted to present the Mayor with  
a cheque for £264.40 in a special  
assembly this morning.  
Head Teacher, Deborah Rowles,  
commented that "There is a strong

tradition of charitable fundraising,  
here at The James Oglethorpe  
Primary School and our children  
dug deep to support the Mayor's  
two special charities. We were all  
delighted that the Mayor was able  
to come in and thank the children  
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## C2C Rail

Further to my previous articles in  
the *Bulletin*, please see latest

reply from C2C regarding the  
stopping of some of the trains  
along the Southend direction  
platform:

"The trains stopping halfway  
down the platform should be  
resolved by Easter. We have a  
project under way which is  
installing cameras instead of  
mirrors at the key vantage points.  
Originally, we had hoped to get  
this work finished this year, but it  
has slipped slightly due to the  
other projects we have been  
managing at the same time."

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

*Kindly note Cllr Clarence Barrett  
has written to C2C regarding  
recent changes to their timetable  
following complaints. We will keep  
you informed.*

## Windmill Quiz Night

Kindly note this popular quiz night  
is being held on Saturday 27th  
February at 7 pm for 7.30pm at the  
the St.Laurence Church Main Hall.  
Tables of 8. Please bring your own  
refreshments.

*continued on page 15*

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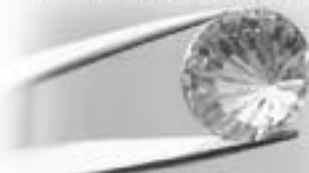
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CLlr LINDA HAWTHORN

## Jump the Q

The Queens Theatre have their "Jump the Q" tickets deals again this year. See three great shows from just £12.50 each on shows Tuesday to Thursday, at previews or Saturday matinees. Or you can upgrade for £49.50 ie £16.50 each to include Friday and Saturday evenings. From the 4th to the 26th March they have Shakespeare's riotous comedy "Much Ado About Nothing". From the 15th to the 7th May The Silver Gym and from the 27th May to the 18th June The Romford Rose. Make a note in your diaries now! Three wonderful productions. Please telephone the Queens Box office on 01708 443 333 for tickets and further details or visit the Queens web site [queens-theatre.co.uk](http://queens-theatre.co.uk). Jump the Q tickets make a fantastic gift.

## Upminster Wesley Guild

The Guild has two meetings in February as follows:

**Thursday 11 February** - "The work of All We Can", an illustrated talk by Sue Drury (All We Can is the new name of the Methodist Church's Relief and Development Fund)

**Thursday 25 February** - "Behind Closed Doors", a talk by retired Prison Officer, Pauline Martindale.

Meetings held at Methodist Church, Hall Lane from 2pm for further details please contact Ian Leadley on 01708 229 550.

## Tree Festival

The Christmas tree festival held at the Upminster Methodist Church in the first week of December was a great success. The church, decorated with 31 beautifully decorated trees attracted many visitors each day.

From the Festival donations, we have given £1000 to each of our chosen charities - St Francis Hospice, Crisis and First Step.

Engayne Primary School was the winner of the best-decorated tree, voted for by visitors to the festival,

and the runners up were the 3rd Upminster Beaver Colony. More information and photos about the festival can be found on the church website:  
[www.upminstermethodistchurch.org](http://www.upminstermethodistchurch.org)  
We thank the Residents Association for their support and for publicising the event, which we plan to repeat in December 2016.

## Badminton Players

Emerson Park Badminton club requires players 16 plus for social badminton on Thursday nights at Emerson Park School, Wych Elm Road, off Wingletye Lane-term time only 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm. No membership, just turn up and play

£4. For further information call Kevin on 01708 250 803.

## Valentine's Day

This year Valentine's Day is on Sunday the 14th; why not spice up your evening at The Alishan Indian Restaurant, Station Road, Upminster booking details on page 18.  
The staff are very happy to answer any questions.

## Saturday Talks Club

The Golden Age of Venice. The speaker is Anne Stott.  
Saturday February 13th, 2.15pm (doors open 1.45pm).

continued on page 17

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## Wednesday Music Evenings

**Wednesday 3rd February - LOOKING BACK AT THE THIRTIES** presented by Jim Uffindell.

Tonight we welcome back Jim Uffindell for a programme featuring an extensive and engaging selection of music from the 1930s, a decade that gave us the still fresh Astaire & Rogers movies together with the musical film extravaganzas of the great Busby Berkeley; the golden age of the dance-band; and a plethora of great singers including the amazingly popular Peter Dawson who Jim will feature. Jim's choice of music will again range across a wide variety of musical genres.

**Wednesday 17th February - THE VERY BEST OF BRITISH LIGHT MUSIC** presented by Alan Tomlin. Ernest Tomlinson is one of our great light music

composers and a man who did so much to promote the genre during his lifetime, and his death last year has prompted Alan to explore the contents of the steady stream of light music CDs that has been released over the past ten years. These, in the main, short musical sketches can be brilliant, witty, reflective or exciting - but above all they are consistently tuneful. Many, like Charles William's Devil's Gallop (Dick Barton - Special Agent), have attained fame as the introductory music to radio and television programmes and Alan guarantees you an entertaining and occasionally nostalgic evening.

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For more details call Stephen Raindle 01708 470670 or email [sraindle@aol.com](mailto:sraindle@aol.com)

## Clubbercise

Sally Guise has this class on Wednesdays at 7.30pm till 8.30pm At Coopers Coborn School, St. Mary's Lane, held in the Main Theatre at the school.

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Contact Sally Guise 07855 534 631 to book your place.

## Dog Poo

We have had a number of calls asking for dog owners to dispose of their dog poo bags responsibly. The vast majority do but leaving them in the street can attract vermin, etc. Many thanks.

## Guides' Quiz

Cranham Park Friends of Guiding are holding a Quiz Evening on Saturday 5th March, 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm start.

At The Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens. Tickets £7.50, includes a Ploughmans Supper. Tables of not more than 10. Bring your own drinks and glasses. Contact Barbara Levis on 01708 250941 or Doris Harding on 01708 226725.

## Havering Concert Orchestra

The Havering Concert Orchestra invites you to their Spring Concert on Saturday 19 March, 7.30pm, Frances Bardsley Academy. The repertoire

*continued on page 19*

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  - Mendelssohn - Violin Concerto - Madeleine Mitchell
  - Tchaikovsky - Symphony No 5
- The HCO is delighted to welcome Madeleine Mitchell as soloist for the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto. Madeleine has a distinguished career as violin soloist, chamber musician, dedicated teacher and artistic director. She has performed in some 50 countries and made many recordings and broadcasts, whilst making a regular commitment to her Royal College of Music teaching. We look forward to seeing you on the 19th March to enjoy this music programme.

## FIG Play Group Quiz

Please note on the 6th February Charity Quiz Night in aid of FIG Play Group, to be held at Cranham Community Centre, 7.30pm start. Tickets £8 each including fish / chicken / veggie burger and chips. Contact Janet on 01708 509 434 for tickets / more information.

PC Mark Edwards

## Dangerous Parking

Police have received yet more complaints about motorists stopping and parking on the School Zig Zag lines outside Upminster Junior/Infants School both on the Corbets Tey Rd entrance and the St Mary's Lane entrance. Of the several motorists that have spoken to over the past few weeks all have been parents of children who actually attend the school. Officers wish to thank those parents and other motorists who follow the rules in assisting them in making the area outside school safe. Just a reminder, the lines are painted there to prevent children being knocked over when crossing the road in the vicinity of the school and to provide a clear vision for children and parents alike. Parking on the lines is not allowed. Stopping on the lines to drop children off is not allowed. Further incidents of inconsiderate dangerous parking outside school will be dealt with in the necessary manner by police and the local authority. The very last thing we want to deal with is a collision outside our school involving a child.

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## LOCAL FUTURE EVENTS FEBRUARY

- 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 'Feeding the Family in the First World War' with Mike Brown. The Internet & Technology Group meets at the same venue 11am - 1pm where a Q&A session is followed by Useful Websites with Eric Probert. Teas and coffees can be purchased. Members and visitors welcome to either or both.
- 6 Saturday - **Hornchurch and Upminster Sugarcraft** have a demonstration on "Silhouette's with Quilling Tree" by Elaine Haynes held at Hornchurch Library, North Street, Hornchurch. Entrance fee Pay at Door £6 includes Tea and Cake. 1.30pm - 3.30 pm.
- 7 Sunday - **Traditional Chinese Lion Dance Parade.** To celebrate Chinese New Year in Upminster Town Centre. Commencing at Bell Corner at 12 noon.
- 8 Monday - **Quiz at Crumpled Horn Pub,** Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, from 19.30 for a 20.00 prompt start. Tables to a max of 8 persons at a cost of £6 each and to include a superior ploughmans supper. In aid of Little Havens Hospice. From Bob Blunden on 01708 - 226154 for any queries and bookings.
- 9 Tuesday - **NAEFAS (Havering)** welcome Mr Ian Swankie with a talk entitled "Thomas Heatherwick: The Modern Leonardo". Lecture 10.45 am. Coffee from 10.00 am. Visitors welcome at £8.

The meetings are held at The New Windmill Hall, St. Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QH. Further information on the Society, future lectures and visits can be found at [www.haveringdfas.org.uk](http://www.haveringdfas.org.uk).

- 18 Thursday - **Upminster Wine & Social Club.** We are a fun group with an interest in wine appreciation and enjoying many social events. We hold meetings every third Thursday of the month with a variety of speakers and a wine tasting. Meetings are held in the Cranham Social Hall, Front Lane, Cranham; start 8 pm. For more information contact Maureen Jasper on 01708 223956, or simply come along on the night. You will be most welcome.
- 19 Friday - **Havering Antique and Collectors Club** meet at the Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood have Guest Speaker David Tweddle on "Venice Brush Strokes and some Venetian Artists". 7.30 pm for 8 pm start. For further details please call our Chairman Mrs Chris Lovett 01708 221851.
- 24 Wednesday - **Upminster Townswomen's Guild** have Guest Speaker Brian Billings talking on "Essex Smugglers". Come along and join us at 1.45 pm in St Laurence Church, Derham Hall, Upminster. For more details phone Shirley on 01708 224219 or Bertha on 01708 222410.
- 26 Friday - **Cranham Social Hall** hold a **Coffee & Conversation** morning with a Welcome return to Singer William Byrne. Visitors welcome. Tickets £3.50 Pay at the Door, including refreshments served from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm at Cranham

*continued on page 24*

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## Q and A from Pinneys

### LEGAL HELP WITHOUT THE HASSLE from Pinney Talfourd LLP Solicitors

Pinney Talfourd LLP Solicitors is a leading Legal 500 law firm with offices in Upminster and Hornchurch. This month Catherine Loadman, a Partner in the family team looks at what happened in 2015.

#### Q1. What were the most influential family cases of 2015?

A. It was a busy year in the family courts. There were 2 cases that stand out which were widely reported.

Wyatt v Vince. An attempt by the ex husband to strike out his ex wife's claim for financial relief 18 years after their divorce. The Supreme Court allowed the ex wife to proceed with her application as there is no cut off time for an application for financial relief after divorce. Sharland and Gohil. Two separate cases brought by ex wives who discovered their ex husbands had been less than truthful in their financial disclosure in financial proceedings. The Supreme Court said that the general principle that fraud unravels all is correct and confirmed that the family court is no exception to this rule.

#### Q2. What is the impact of these cases?

Wyatt v Vince reinforces the point that without a court order

dismissing financial claims on or after divorce the door is left open to a claim being made, however many years have passed since the parties separated or divorced. Sharland and Gohil makes it clear that anything less than full and frank financial disclosure will not be tolerated by the courts. This can be of huge importance where the assets available on the face of the disclosure made are not enough to meet the parties' needs.

#### Q3. What big change is in store for 2016?

A. The "No Fault Divorce Bill" will receive a 2nd reading on 22 January 2016. The Bill proposes an amendment to family law which would enable couples to apply for a "no fault divorce". At present couples who want a divorce have to apportion blame either due to adultery or unreasonable behaviour in order to divorce (unless they have been separated for 2 years and both agree to a divorce). If the law were changed it could take some of the friction out of the divorce process and allow couples to proceed simply on the basis that they agree their marriage has broken down irretrievably.

#### Need more advice?

If you need any family law advice, please contact Catherine Loadman on 01708 229444 or visit the website

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## Note of thanks

We want to pass on our thanks to the residents of Church Road, Harold Wood, who so generously donated items to the Harold Hill food bank recently. We had over 100 items given to us which was a fabulous response.

Thank you! Paula and Peter at No 217.

## Pirates of Penzance

I am performing in Havering Music Makers' latest stage musical Pirates of Penzance which will be performed at Kenneth More Theatre, Ilford from 25th-27th February 7.30pm nightly with a 3pm Saturday matinee. Tickets are available online at [www.kmtheatre.co.uk](http://www.kmtheatre.co.uk) or contact 020 8553 4466. Havering Music Makers are always looking for new singers, actors and dancers to get involved in their very inclusive group. If you are interested, please contact

Charlotte on 07843 088166.

Cllr ALEX DONALD

## Charity Fundraising Concert

Havering Group Diabetes UK is holding a Charity Fundraising Concert by the Brentwood School Big Band on Saturday 27th February 2016 at St. Peter's Church, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood, Romford RM3 0QA. Monies raised will be going to Diabetes UK for Research. The Concert starts at 7.30 pm. and tickets priced at £10 can be obtained from Debbie Broom on 01708-473314 and [debbie.broom@tesco.net](mailto:debbie.broom@tesco.net) or David Squibb on 07713-069309 and [david@squibb.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:david@squibb.eclipse.co.uk). We hope you will be able to join us and look forward to your support.

## Men's Lunch

Please join us for our next St. Peter's Men's Lunch  
This will be held on **TUESDAY, 9th FEBRUARY 2016**, from 11.30am in St. Peter's Church Centre, Harold Wood.

continued on page 22



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It's been a real joy to have welcomed a number of new faces at recent lunches, there's still room for more so please do consider joining us or inviting a friend - it would be great to see you. Our guest after lunch' speaker for February - **COLIN WHITE**. Colin has been a member of the St. Peter's fellowship for many years and is currently one of our Church Wardens. He is also a retired Police Officer so it is bound to be an interesting talk, one not to be missed! As always, to reserve your lunch place, please telephone St. Peter's Welcome Desk on **01708 342080**, or email: [welcome.desk@stpetersharoldwood.org](mailto:welcome.desk@stpetersharoldwood.org).

## The Romans' Holiday Club

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Social Hall, 103 Front Lane, RM14 1XL.  
 29 Monday - **Breathe Easy - Havering** is a support group for people suffering from breathing difficulties, COPD, Asthma. etc. We meet on the last Monday of the month at St. Andrews Church Hall, Hornchurch at 1.30 - 3.00 pm. Light refreshments are served and we have guest speakers talking on a wide range of subjects such as - coping with COPD, gentle exercising, home safety, etc. New members, family and carers are always welcome; a voluntary donation of £2 is appreciated. Please contact Joyce 01708 226696 or Elaine 01708 509127 for more details.

### MARCH

- 1 Tuesday - **Oglethorpe Women's Institute** are holding a "Let's cook foreign food again!". Our meetings are held at Cranham Social Hall, 103 Front Lane, RM14 1XL at 7.45 pm. Visitors are welcome.
- 2 Wednesday - **Harold Wood Evening W.I.** have Guest Speaker Steve Beachey speaking about **Bees, their history and what they do**. Meetings held at the War

Memorial Hall in Gubbins Lane, 7.30 pm for 7.45 pm.  
 Visitors are welcome entrance is £2.50, which includes refreshments. For more details please ring Marion on 01708 349038.

- 5 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. The Internet & Technology Group meets at the same venue 11am - 1pm where a Q&A session is followed by workshop. Teas and coffees can be purchased. Members and visitors welcome to either or both.
- 5 Saturday - **Hornchurch and Upminster Sugarcraft** have a demonstration on "Pressure Pipes Animals" by Tessa Whitehouse held at Hornchurch Library, North Street, Hornchurch. Entrance fee Pay at Door £6 includes Tea and Cake. 1.30pm - 3.30 pm.
- 8 Tuesday - **NADFAS Havering** Following the Annual General Meeting we welcome Mr Martin Heard with a talk entitled "Tulipmania: Bloom and Bust". AGM

- 10.15 am, Lecture 10.45 am. Coffee from 10.00 am. Visitors welcome at £8. The meetings are held at The New Windmill Hall, St. Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QH. Further information on the Society, future lectures and visits can be found at [www.haveringdfas.org.uk](http://www.haveringdfas.org.uk)
- 8 Tuesday - **Upminster Horticultural Society** have Guest Speaker Caroline Holmes on **Garden History and Follies**. Caroline is a garden historian, international lecturer, broadcaster and author. Her presentation is a look at garden history from the 17th to 20th centuries. 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](http://www.upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk) or [info@upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk](mailto:info@upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk).
- 9 Wednesday - **Cranham Social Hall**, 103 Front Lane are holding a **Tea Dance**. Tickets £3.50 Pay at the Door. 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm.

## ASSOCIATION DIARY

### FEBRUARY

3 Wednesday **Upminster Ward Meeting** at St Joseph's Social Centre at 8 pm  
 11 Thursday **Cranham Ward Meeting** at Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens at 7.15 pm  
 23 Tuesday- AGM at St Joseph's Social Club Hall at 7.30 pm.

### MARCH

2 Wednesday **Upminster Ward Meeting** at St Joseph's Social Centre at 8 pm  
 10 Thursday **Cranham Ward Meeting** at Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens at 7.15 pm

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