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- Refuse & recycling – www.havering.gov.uk/recycling
- Driving out crime – www.havering.gov.uk/enews
- Crow Metals – www.crowmetals.co.uk
- Crow Skip Hire – www.crowskiphire.co.uk
- Restart your electronics – www.havering.gov.uk/restarters
- Romford Market – www.havering.gov.uk/romfordmarket
- Saint Francis Lottery – www.sfh.org.uk/lottery
- Real Nappies – www.havering.gov.uk/realnappies
- Stubbers – www.stubbers.co.uk
- Home Furniture – www.THomeFurniture.com
- Everything Glass Ltd – www.everythingglassltd.co.uk
- ITC Service Ltd – www.itcservicesltd.co.uk
- General Election – www.gov.uk/register-to-vote
- Little Adventurers Nursery – www.littleadventurersnursery.co.uk
- Adopt a child in Havering – www.havering.gov.uk/adoptions
- Uk Power Networks – www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/priority
- Harold Wood Funeral Services – www.hwfunerals.co.uk/
- Fostering with Havering – www.havering.gov.uk/fostering
- High-Tech Membrane Roofing – www.flatroofs.net
- West & Coe Funeral Directors – www.westcoe.co.uk
- To Let Hillery Chaplin – www.hillerychaplin.co.uk
- To Let Ac Commercial – www.ac-commercial.com
- Lingham Place – www.nhhg.org.uk/lingham
- Anzac Day – www.havering.gov.uk/ww1
- The Cranleigh – www.thecranleighhornchurch.co.uk
- Your Council, Anytime – www.havering.gov.uk/myaccount
New Letting Options for Havering landlords

Guaranteed monthly payments ▶ no hidden costs

Property management service
▶ 100% guaranteed rent paid in advance with no hidden charges
▶ competitive management fees
▶ ‘one-off’ cash incentive payments of up to £1,000
▶ some repairs free of charge
▶ payment of a bond guarantee
▶ free annual gas safety checks

Property leasing service
▶ long leases
▶ guaranteed rent even if the property is empty
▶ some free repairs

Shared accommodation service
▶ pay you for each room - increase your income
▶ pay for the gas, electricity, water and Council Tax bills

Leader’s welcome
Welcome to the Spring 2015 edition of Living in Havering.

The past few months have been even busier than usual with the budget consultation and then revising our budget proposals to reflect what residents want from the Council.

We believe we have now got the balance right and the Council Tax agreed on Wednesday 25 February is a fair one which allows us to provide the services that are needed at a cost which is affordable. A summary of the budget changes is on pages 16 and 17 of this magazine.

Clean, Safe, Proud is the vision of the future we want for Havering and details of what we are aiming to do, and some of which has already been done, can be seen on pages 19 to 24 including how we are cracking down on fly-tipping across the Borough as well as how we are working with Havering Police to make the area even safer.

In this issue we are also looking at some of the groups that make Havering such a special place.

Young people
The Borough’s young people are proud to be members of the Havering Hurricanes, our team that does so well in the annual London Youth Games and you can find out how to support them on pages 14 and 15.

Also featured are the Havering Talking Newspaper (pages 12 and 13) and the Gidea Park Bowling Club (pages 28 and 29) – two very different organisations but both bringing together local residents who want to give something to our community and have fun at the same time.

The General Election takes place on Thursday 7 May and on page 31 you can find out how to check you are on the electoral register and how to vote in that election. It is important that every resident has the opportunity to vote in that election to choose our national government for the next five years.

Cost saving
As part of our cost-saving work we are offering more of our services online, and that includes how we keep in touch with residents and businesses.

More than 37,000 people now subscribe to our ebulletins to keep up to date on a wide range of Council services. If you are not already a subscriber, have a look at www.havering.gov.uk/Havering-Updates to see what you’ve been missing.

Roger Ramsey
Councillor Roger Ramsey
Leader of the Council

Council Tax set
Havering Council has set its Council Tax at £1,514 for a Band D property, an overall increase of 1.326% - once the Greater London Authority (GLA) precept is included Havering’s Council Tax was last increased six years ago, but faced with increasing financial pressures the Council decided a further freeze would be too damaging for local services. It would require more cuts than are required to fully close the £45 million budget gap by 2018.

The budget took account of the priorities highlighted by residents in the consultation and decided the Council will continue to do its best to give residents a borough that is clean, safe and where residents are proud to live.

Havering Council Leader, Councillor Roger Ramsey, said: “In our recent budget consultation, residents said they did not want to increase Council Tax above the two per cent threshold and this budget reflects that view.

“When we decide how that money is spent, we focus on services we have to provide by law and those residents tell us are their priorities, which are summed up as keeping Havering clean, keeping people safe and making Havering a place where residents are proud to live.”

More information:
www.havering.gov.uk/CouncilTax

The cover picture shows Raphael Park’s fountain is now lit up by LED lights, thanks to a £5,681 grant from Veolia North Thames Trust (VNTT). More information: www.havering.gov.uk/RaphaelPark
LED street lights
Havering Council is seeking to cut its energy bills by around £500,000 a year by converting more than 90 per cent of the borough’s street lights to Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights.
More information
www.havering.gov.uk/LEDlights

Training lorry drivers
Havering Council has been running courses for lorry drivers to help them achieve their Driver Certificate of Professional Competence (DCPC).
The courses focus on safe professional driving and interaction with vulnerable road users, including cyclists. The next course is on Monday 23 March.
More information
www.cycletestraining.com/courses/cpc

Sports bursaries
Havering Sports Council runs, on behalf of Havering Council, a sports bursaries scheme for sports persons resident in the borough, the awards are for sums up to £100.
Bursaries are awarded in March, July and November and are subject to the nominees reaching set criteria.
More information
www.havering.gov.uk/sportsbursaries

New trains for District Line
New ‘S stock’ trains are now operating on the District Line from Upminster.
These trains are air-conditioned, with walk-through carriages, automated visual displays and station announcements, plus CCTV.
They also have dedicated wheelchair areas, wider doors and walkways, lower passenger alarms and easier access between the train and platform.

Celebrating ANZAC Day
Saturday 25 April is the centenary of the landing of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) at Gallipoli in 1915. The Australian and New Zealander soldiers were part of an Allied expedition that set out to capture the Gallipoli Peninsula.

In January 1916 Grey Towers in Hornchurch became England’s first defeat for the New Zealand contingent. A memorial service will be held at St Andrew’s Church, High Street, Hornchurch from 4pm and all are welcome to attend.
More information
www.havering.gov.uk/WW1

Waste guaranteed
Havering Council and Serco have launched the Waste Collection Guarantee (WCG).
The WCG applies if Serco don’t collect your waste or recycling on time, and are unable to return to collect it in time after you’ve reported the missed collection, they will donate the cost of your collection to local charities.
More information
www.havering.gov.uk/WasteGuarantee

New lettings agency

Liberty Housing
Havering Council has launched a new lettings agency, Liberty Housing, in Hornchurch Town Centre.
The agency will see Council staff work with private landlords hoping to let out their properties to handpicked tenants. Landlords will then hand over management to the Council in return for guaranteed market rents, even if a property remains empty.

Improvements, costing around £250,000 and funded by Transport for London, are underway in Hornchurch on the corner of Billet Lane and the western junction of the High Street.
Pavements and forecourts will be resurfaced, large trees removed and replaced with more appropriate trees, and new street furniture installed during the works that are due to be completed this summer.

Seven households a week move into properties of their own as part of our Liberty Housing scheme
More information
www.havering.gov.uk/LibertyHousing

Health app launch

The names, locations and opening hours of every pharmacy, GP surgery, urgent care centre and hospital A&E in Havering are on a new smart phone app launched by local GPs. The app is part of a joint campaign by health and council bosses to make sure people can find the right NHS service for them.
More information
www.haveringcrp.nhs.uk

Care at home
Thousands more patients in Havering will benefit from improved care at home after local GPs have decided to proceed with home-based community treatment team (CTT) and intensive rehabilitation service (IRS) from April 2015.
During a 14 week trial more than 10,000 patients received care, compared to around 1,300 under the old system, while nine out of 10 people did not need hospital admission.

Easter & Summer Refuse & Recycling

Collection Dates 2015
Collections will go ahead as normal on Good Friday (3 April)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Normal Collection Date</th>
<th>Revised Collection Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Monday 6 April</td>
<td>Tuesday 7 April</td>
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<td>Tuesday 7 April</td>
<td>Wednesday 8 April</td>
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<td>Saturday 11 April</td>
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Collections return to normal on Monday 13 April

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<td>Thursday 7 May</td>
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<td>Friday 8 May</td>
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<td>Saturday 9 May</td>
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Collections return to normal on Monday 11 May

<table>
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<td>Wednesday 27 May</td>
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<td>Thursday 28 May</td>
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<td>Friday 29 May</td>
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<td>Saturday 30 May</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Collections return to normal on Monday 1 June

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Revised Collection Date</th>
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<td>August</td>
<td>Tuesday 1 September</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 2 September</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 3 September</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 4 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saturday 5 September</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Collections return to normal on Monday 7 September

Please note that all revised collection arrangements also apply to the garden, clinical, cardboard and trade waste schemes.

For further Information
www.havering.gov.uk/recycling

Images of Havering
A photo of Dagnam Park won Maggie Kut, of Harold Hill, a meal for two at Upminster’s Top Meadow Golf Club and Hotel.
The judges’ said: “We like the way the subject is framed by the surrounding trees. The image is very sharp and makes good use of contrast.”
Havering is 50 years old

Fifty years ago, on 1 April 1965, the London Borough of Havering was formed when the Municipal Borough of Romford and the Urban District of Hornchurch were merged to form the new council.

And to mark the 50th anniversary of this historic event there are a number of events happening.

The Robert Beard Centre in Hornchurch started the programme when it celebrated its 50th anniversary in February.

From Wednesday 1 April until Friday 12 June there will be a display at the Havering Museum, in Romford High Street.

Visit our website for updates on what’s happening to mark 50 years of Havering.

Did you know?

- The name originates from the Royal Liberty of Havering which covered broadly, but not exactly, the same area and had been abolished in 1892.
- Hornchurch UDC’s offices at Langtons House, in Billet Lane, became the Borough’s Register Office as the new council based itself at Romford Town Hall.
- Havering elects 54 councillors from 18 wards.
- Havering covers 43 square miles (111.4 km²). Large sections of Havering are parkland and more than half the Borough - 23 square miles (60 km²) - is Metropolitan Green Belt protected land.
- In the 2011 census the borough had a population of 237,232 and more than 7,000 businesses.
- The first Mayor of Havering was Alderman Arthur Twigger.

Tell your tale
If you have lived in Havering for the last 50 years send us your stories and any photos you have of events in the borough’s history.

More information
www.havering.gov.uk/50years

£5,000
was won for the Mayor of Havering’s charities when a vintage steam train float built by construction students and staff at Havering College’s Rainham Campus Construction Centre, received third prize in London’s New Year’s Day Parade. Time FM provided music on the float, which was built thanks to sponsorship from Lycamobile and support from Rainham Steel, Plant and Logistics Limited and Brewers of Collier Row.

37,383
Havering residents or businesses have signed up to get email bulletins from Havering Council.

37,383
Havering residents or businesses have signed up to get email bulletins from Havering Council.

150
students from local colleges are working with retailers in Quadrant Arcade, off Romford Market Place, to attract more shoppers to visit.

Tell your tale
If you have lived in Havering for the last 50 years send us your stories and any photos you have of events in the borough’s history.

More information
www.havering.gov.uk/50years

“We are driving out crime from the borough. Last year there were 429 fewer burglaries.”

Harold Wood Safer Neighbourhoods Team

To find out more about police in your area go to:
www.havering.gov.uk/newscontent.met.police.uk or follow
@MPSHavering
Arcade remade

A major rebranding exercise is proving a hit with retailers in The Quadrant, off Romford Market Place.

The project brought together Romford Contemporary Arts Programme (RCAP), Havering College, Havering Sixth Form College and Redbridge College in a bid to revolutionise the 1930’s shopping centre.

RCAP, which is supported by Havering Council, has taken over the shopping centre for a year to transform it into the new creative hub of the town. An arcade re-brand and a variety of new creative start-up businesses have kick started the exciting changes.

Students and graduates from the Havering College’s BA Honours Graphic Design course led teams of creative arts students, who worked with nine tenants to re-brand, promote and develop their businesses.

Success

Philip Davis, the owner of Travel Right, is already reporting a boost in business. He said: “I used to put a lot of stock outside the shop and you couldn’t really see inside. The students made a new sign based on my logo that I can put outside. I liked the idea and it seems to work. There were a lot more people coming into the shop on Saturday.

“It is good to see some young people with enthusiasm and new ideas. We had several meetings and it has been a good experience.”

Meat Express manager Daniel Walsh said the company would look at incorporating some of the students’ ideas into a shop revamp planned for March. He said: “Some of the ideas the students came up with were good.”

Havering College final year BA Honours Graphic Design student Heera Taak, 21, from Ilford, was project leader for the two student teams appointed to rebrand Vicky’s Chippy.

He said: “We made the posters, leaflets, A2 signage boards and the new temporary sign at the top. Vicky is looking to get the signage made up. Overall it was a fantastic experience.”

Parking permits, anytime

Parking permits are the latest council service that residents can access online.

If you need to apply for, or renew, a resident’s parking permit or if you need visitor parking permits you can now place your order online, 24/7.

For a resident’s permit the vehicle owner needs to register for Havering Council’s My Account service. That simple registration then allows you to apply and pay securely online for your parking permit.

When applying you will need to scan a copy of a recent utility bill, with the applicant’s name on it, and a copy of the Vehicle Registration (V5) document.

The My Account registration also allows you to access a whole range of other services available from the Council.

Once your application is completed parking permits are posted to you within 10 working days, and an email reminder will be sent to alert you when your permit is about to expire.

More information: www.havering.gov.uk/parkingpermits

Did you know we do SKIPS for rubbish?

Crow Skip Hire

Please call us on 01708 760767
www.crowmetals.co.uk www.crowskiphire.co.uk

Crow Metals

Metal Recycling

Crow Lane · Romford · RM7 0EE
Mon to Fri 8am – 6pm · Sat 8am – 3pm

Restart your Electronics

Havering Council is introducing a new kerbside recycling collection service for small electrical items very soon. For further details visit www.havering.gov.uk/recycling

Even better than recycling is to repair and reuse your electrical items. Did you know that ¼ of all waste electronics taken to Reuse and Recycling Centres could have been repaired?

We are looking to recruit and train volunteers who can help others to repair and reuse electrical items.

We are also interested to hear from community groups and schools that would like to host a reuse and repair workshop.

For further details and to register your interest, please visit www.havering.gov.uk/restarters

©Heather Agyepong
A masterplan for the south of Havering

The developing ‘masterplan’ for the south of Havering – focused on the Rainham area along the A1306 – will be exhibited at three events this month.

These events will allow residents to comment on plans to turn old industrial or ‘brownfield’ sites along the A1306 into an attractive new neighbourhood, while protecting historic Rainham Village and the marshes.

The exhibitions will be held at Rainham Library on Saturday 21 March from 10am to 2pm and Monday 23 March from 4pm to 7pm. There will be a further exhibition on Tuesday 24 March from 4pm to 8pm, at the Mardyke Community Centre, South Street, Rainham, RM13 8PJ. The plans can also be seen online.

In recent years there have been various stand-alone proposals to build in this area – for example at Dover’s Corner - which have been unattractive and out of keeping with the Council’s ambitions for the south of the Borough.

Affordable Homes

The masterplan will look at the area as a whole and ensure that the needs of local people are put first – including proposals for a new railway station and a tree-lined boulevard along the route of the old A1306, with homes that are affordable for local people, properly supported by new public services like schools and transport.

More information

www.havering.gov.uk/RiversidePlan

St George’s Day Celebrations
Sat 25 April
Free children’s face painting
St George & the Dragon characters
Royal British Legion Band
Hornchurch Drum & Trumpet Corps Band
Town Crier
Circus performers
Inflatable slide/ride
Time 107.5FM broadcasting live
Real donkeys

Sean Wilson Roadshow
Sat 4 April
Come along and meet Sean Wilson, a well-known actor, (most famously, Martin Platt in Coronation Street), presenting his award winning cheeses and a range of preservative free products here in Romford Market

Easter holiday entertainment
Wed 1 April to Sat 11 April (Market days only)
Easter Egg Hunt
Easter Bonnet Hunt
Children’s Face Painting
& Real donkeys

Romford Market, Market Place, Romford RM1 3ER
For full entertainment details, or to book a stall, please visit www.havering.gov.uk/romfordmarket

@LBofHavering

Enjoy Romford
your local market

romford market
WEDNESDAYS - FRIDAYS - SATURDAYS

Enjoy great shopping, family entertainment
and service with a smile
Bringing words to life

Losing your sight means there are many everyday things you can no longer do, such as reading local newspapers, but thanks to a team of 30 volunteers, the news from Havering reaches the ears of more than 230 local residents each week.

The Havering Talking Newspaper record items from the Romford Recorder each week, and all articles from Living in Havering every quarter, and copy them to batches of memory sticks before sending them out every Friday morning.

Chairman, Bob Wickington, said “We have three teams which helps spread the workload. The articles are cut from the printed version, allocated to readers who take it in turns to record their cutting so that each story is read by a new voice so listeners can tell when a new article begins.

Two hours

“The recording and editing takes about two hours to complete on a Thursday evening. Then, the next day, our duplicating and despatch team produce 230 memory sticks with the recordings on; they put the sticks into pouches and take them to Royal Mail’s main sorting office in Romford from where they are delivered free of charge under the government’s “Articles for the Blind” scheme.

“Once our listeners have heard the news they put their memory stick and address label into the pouch and pop it back in the post to us – again free of charge.

“I’ve been involved for 14 years and it’s very rewarding as well as great fun.”

When launched in 1975 the Havering Talking Newspaper used audio cassettes but memory sticks are more reliable to use and, for listeners without a computer, a memory stick player is provided on free loan.

And it isn’t just news that is recorded, events listings are sent out every two weeks alternating with a feature called Shopping Basket which rounds up the special offers available at local supermarkets.

Special offers

Bob added: “If you are blind or partially sighted you may not be aware of special offers that can help save you a lot of money, so this is a popular service we provide.

“We also encourage our listeners to feedback to us through our weekly “Talkback Spot” and we are also exploring the launch of a YouTube channel as an addition to what we currently do.”

The Havering Talking Newspaper works from a studio in The Drive, Harold Wood and welcomes new volunteers wanting to get involved. The Living in Havering recording can be heard on the Living in Havering pages of the Council’s website.

More information
www.havering.gov.uk/living
bobwickington@btinternet.com

Try out Real Nappies

Why not try cloth nappies, a natural, environmentally friendly alternative to disposable nappies and save up to £500 over your baby’s nappy wearing life.

For just £5, Havering parents are being offered a sample pack of Real Nappies and accessories worth £30 to see how easy and convenient these nappies really are.

Real Nappies for a real difference

You can now earn green points with Havering’s new London Green Points - Havering scheme when you redeem your voucher for a real nappy sample pack.

Four good reasons to use real nappies:

• Save money
• Less chemicals on babies skin
• Better for the environment
• Lots of choice and easy to use

For more information on real nappies, to find out when our nappuccino events are, what’s included in the sample packs and how to get your pack, including an online application form, please visit our website.

www.havering.gov.uk/realnappies

The Havering Talking Newspaper

If you know anyone who could benefit from our FREE service, please call: 01708 449409

Registered charity no: 265339

www.havering.gov.uk/realnappies
Striving for sporting success

Once again this year young people from across the Borough will be competing in the London Youth Games – for the 37th year. The competition attracts more than 70,000 competitors, aged seven to 18 years, from London’s 33 boroughs. Havering is the most successful borough in London Youth Games history. They won the Jubilee Trophy at the first ever London Youth Games in 1977, launched to mark the Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, and has won the overall champions title on 15 additional occasions since. The Balfour Beatty London Youth Games is Europe’s largest youth sports festival. It takes place over nine months and includes more than 85 School and Community Competitions across 30 different sports.

To get the maximum points towards the Jubilee Trophy, Havering Hurricanes aims to enter as many of the 48 scoring competitions, including the ParaGames events, as possible making their distinctive pink tops ones for other teams to fear due to the high standard of sporting excellence within the Borough.

Trials are held throughout the year for individuals wanting to take part in the different sports, as well as for school and club teams wishing to represent the Borough. Regular training sessions are then offered to the successful entrants to help them further develop their expertise.

In the first event of the 2015 competition Havering’s female cross-country runners (pictured, left) finished in eighth place, with the Under-17 squad winning silver medals, while the male team ended in eleventh place.

Spectators are welcome to come along and cheer the Havering Hurricanes to victory at many of the events – further details are on the London Youth Games website.

More information
www.havering.gov.uk/lyg
www.facebook.com/haveringlyg
Making the changes you asked us to make

In September last year Havering Council launched a budget consultation, which included proposals to make savings of £17.2 million over the next two years, on top of the £40 million saved during the last four years.

That consultation ended in December. Since then the responses received have been analysed and councillors have been looking at what changes could be made to reflect the views of local people.

The revised budget was approved by the Council on Wednesday 25 February and comes into force on Wednesday 1 April.

Leader of Havering Council, Councillor Roger Ramsey, said: “The main priorities of local people remain the cleanliness and safety of the Borough and our budget supports those aims.

“Where residents highlighted other issues, we’ve looked again to see what can be done.

Pressing concerns

“We’re facing very large cuts in our funding, so we’re only able to make fairly modest changes to our proposals, but we’ve tried to address some of our residents’ most pressing concerns.

“The revised proposals keep Upminster library – our third busiest – open for longer each week; they will allow for a stronger youth service in the future, keeping young people safe and off the streets; they will ensure that parking in parks is affordable during the week and free at weekends and they will phase the cut in subsidy to the Queen’s Theatre over a longer period to make it easier for the Theatre to adjust.”

The main changes are summarised here with full details available on the Council’s website.

Libraries

- Upminster Library (together with Harold Hill, Hornchurch, Rainham and Romford) to be open 50 hours a week – with the other libraries opening for a minimum of 24 hours per week
- Use of computers in libraries to remain free, with the proposed charges replaced by increased fines for late returns of books, DVDs etc
- Protection for the summer reading challenge with an extra staff post
- A staff post to remain in the Local Studies and Family History Centre.

Youth Service

- The Council will support the setting up of a Youth Trust (employee-led mutual) to provide targeted youth services
- The Council will explore a partnership arrangement with the YMCA
- These proposals will be subject to a full consultation later in the year.

Queen’s Theatre

- The £200,000 reduction in the Council’s subsidy for Queen’s Theatre will be staggered over three years, rather that two.

Parking in parks

Revised tariffs for car parking in parks:

- 20p for up to three hours and 50p for up to five hours, Monday to Friday 8am – 6.30pm
- Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays – free to park
- Free at all times for registered disabled users
- Some smaller parks where parking facilities are not viable would be exempt.

Three public meetings were held with 170 people attending

Havering’s grant for 2015/16 is £61.6m down from £69.7m in 2014/15

3,645 consultation responses were received

83,110 residents are due to pay Council Tax

More information www.havering.gov.uk/CouncilTax
Clean, Safe and Proud

Three words that sum up the vision of Havering's future that has been adopted by the Council

The vision has been developed by listening to residents at recent public meetings and Meet the Leader events, as well as from comments made during the budget consultation.

The main parts of that vision are:

- We want Havering to be clean, and to look after our environment for future generations.
- We want you to be safe – whether you’re a pensioner walking through the town after dark, or a child growing up without the security of a loving home.
- And we want you to be proud to live in Havering – where we respect each other, value our traditions and work together to improve our quality of life.

Leader of Havering Council, Councillor Roger Ramsey, said: “Delivering that vision takes more than the Council working on its own; we need to involve businesses, community groups and individual residents if we are to succeed.

Support community

“But the Council will lead the way. We will support our community by spending your money on the things that matter most to you.

“We will support local firms to grow and create jobs; we will re-energise our towns, to improve the quality of life in Havering and we will help local people bring about the changes they want to see in their neighbourhoods.

Use influence

“We will use our influence to bring more jobs, homes, schools and transport to Havering.

“We will use our planning powers to balance the growth of business centres, with the protection of ‘greener Havering’ and its quieter communities.

Lead by example

“We will lead by example by running a low-cost Council that respects you, by using your money wisely.

“We will work with others to reduce costs; we will help people do business with us at any time of day or night; we will hold ourselves to the high standards you expect from us and we will spend each penny as if it were our own.”

More information

www.havering.gov.uk/vision
Targeting fly-tipping

Havering Council is clamping down on fly-tippers and dog mess offenders as part of its Cleaner Havering campaign, with a number of successful prosecutions.

Councillor Robert Benham, Cabinet Member for Environment, said: "There’s no excuse for fly-tipping. There are plenty of places that will take waste legally, so to just leave it somewhere and expect the taxpayer to foot the bill of clearing it is unacceptable.

"So we’ll do everything we can to bring offenders to justice, and I ask residents to report any information they have about fly-tippers. "We’re going to be expanding our reach with CCTV in rural areas, and people should know that we’ll be watching."

Random checks

As part of the crack-down, Havering Council officers were out in force with local police to track down possible fly-tippers and illegal waste carriers.

A team of officers took to Straight Road in Harold Hill to pull over motorists and check for any possible illegal activity. Vehicles were pulled over at random, while vans that appeared to be used for carrying waste were stopped and checked.

The police focused on tackling uninsured drivers, while Council enforcement officers checked the back of the vans for waste, and for a waste carrier licence.

Resident’s help

Residents can help the campaign by reporting any fly-tipping they see using the Report It section of the Council’s website.

If it is possible to safely take photographs of the fly-tipping to send in that is helpful, especially if vehicles and people doing the fly-tipping are in the photographs.

Tough penalties

Any driver who carries waste but does not have a licence can receive a £300 Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) or be fined up to £5,000 in court. If they have a licence but no waste transfer notes, they can also receive a £300 FPN or a fine of up to £5,000 in court.

Fly-tipping carries a maximum penalty of £50,000 and/or 12 months imprisonment when the case is heard in the Magistrates’ Court, or a five-year prison sentence and unlimited fine if the case goes to the Crown Court.

Court crackdown

Among recent cases which ended up in court:

Mehmet Arnavut, age 48 of Gidea Park, was caught on CCTV dumping around 10 black bags of building materials in Little Gerpins Lane, Upminster. He pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay a fine of £500 with £430 costs and a £20 victim surcharge at Barkingside Magistrates’ Court on Friday 12 December.

James Atkins, age 21 of Dagenham, was photographed dumping around 15 tonnes of waste near unused garages in Ongar Way, Rainham. He was fined £1,125 with £972 costs and £112 victim surcharge at Romford Magistrates’ Court on Tuesday 9 December.

Jason Sabine, age 53 of Wickford, was caught on CCTV dumping a large drum, which happened to be full of dog mess, in Upper Rainham Road, Hornchurch. He pleaded guilty at Barkingside Magistrates’ Court on Friday 9 January and was fined £200, ordered to pay £438 costs and a £20 victim surcharge.

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Foster carers carry out one of the most important jobs in the borough, which is why Havering Council foster carers can earn up to £428 a week.

The Council is always on the lookout for more people like you to foster, as it needs a wide variety of people to look after the children in its care. It doesn’t matter if you’re a homeowner, married or what your sexuality or religion is, the Council just wants to hear from you if you have the space in your home and time in your life for a child.

Havering foster carer Vanessa Holmes has been fostering for over a decade, she said: “Fostering is me. I do it full-time and I love doing it as it’s so rewarding and you never know they are part of your family. I started because I wanted to make a difference in their lives.

“You just love the children; they are part of your family. I love doing it as it’s so rewarding and you never know who’s going to be coming into your house. I also enjoy meeting and getting to know the families when I have the opportunity.”

Providing welfare for vulnerable customers during power cuts

Most people mistakenly contact their electricity supplier instead of their power distribution company during a power cut. In Havering, it is UK Power Networks (UKPN) who own and maintain the electricity network and who are responsible for keeping the light on. During a power cut we understand that some people may need extra support and can offer priority assistance for our vulnerable customers.

If we know where you are, we can help. We hold a list – called Priority Services Register – of thousands of customers who may feel more vulnerable during a power cut and we provide them with extra support if needed.

Who can apply?

Customers who are dependent on medical equipment, customers who are chronically sick or have a disability; customers who are blind, visually impaired or deaf; customers with young babies; nursing or residential homes and elderly customers. We will consider other cases too if you think you would need extra support during a power cut.

What we can do

We can’t get your power back on more quickly (although we will try our hardest) but we can:
• Call you pro-actively if we expect bad weather in your area that could result in a power cut and offer useful advice on how to prepare
• Offer you a special priority phone number that you can call if you have a power cut
• Keep you updated during a power cut, either by sending you text messages or calling you
• With your agreement, we can ask the British Red Cross to visit your home for extra help and support

How to apply

If you or someone you know, meets our criteria above and lives in London, the South East of England or the East of England then please apply by either:
• Call on 0800 3163105 (from a landline) or 0333 3222105 (from a mobile)
• Emailing psr@ukpowernetworks.co.uk
• Writing to Customer Relations team, UK Power Networks, Fore Hamlet, Ipswich, IP3 8AA

Applying online here
data@ukpowernetworks.co.uk

Safe at home and on the streets

Havering is one of the safest boroughs in London and last year saw the number of crimes recorded in the Borough fall by 378 – a 2.4 per cent decrease on the previous year.

But we are not resting on our laurels as Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services and Community Safety, Councillor Osman Dervish, explained: “Following the success of the joint Havering Council and Havering Police community safety campaign in Gidea Park, Marshalls Park and Rise Park, a similar campaign was launched in Harold Wood and Harold Park last month.

“Across the area posters and banners are on display showing how crime in Harold Wood is falling and a number of crime prevention events have been taking place including giving leaflets to commuters at Harold Wood Station.

“During February two Harold Wood Safety Zones have been established where residents have been given crime prevention advice and encouraged to set up Neighbourhood Watch Groups to keep burglars away.

“Such initiatives need to have continuing support from local residents and we are keen to keep as many people in touch with what’s happening as possible.

“Already around 37,000 local residents receive our email bulletins each month. You can keep up to date with crime prevention campaigns and advice by signing up for your local On the Beat email bulletin.

“During the year more home safety initiatives will take place in other parts of the Borough as we continue working together to drive down crime.”

Powercut?

Contact us:

call 0800 3163105
call 0333 3222105 from a mobile

tweet us or send us a Facebook message

Need extra support during a power cut? We can help! Sign up to our free register

www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk

More information www.havering.gov.uk/fostering

www.havering.gov.uk/CommunitySafety

www.havering.gov.uk/living

More information

www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/priority

www.havering.gov.uk/CommunitySafety

www.havering.gov.uk/SAFER-HAVERING

www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk

www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/psr
Food, glorious compost

Waste not; want not could be the motto of Crownfield Infant School, in Collier Row, where Ecowarriors turn waste food into compost using a special machine.

Headteacher, Mrs Sharon Nacmias, said: “We are an extremely environmentally friendly school and composting is our latest scheme.

“Into the machine goes all the food waste from lunches, which is matched with woodchips delivered by tree surgeon, Jason King.

“The handle on the machine is turned daily by our Ecowarriors, who are members of the school’s Ecoclub, and after four months, out comes lovely compost to be used by our Gardening Club to grow plants and flowers.

“Recycling in this way saves the school money as we don’t have to pay for food waste collection or buy compost and at the same time we are helping the environment.”

Jason King, of Hornchurch-based Kings Cut Tree Services, said: “It’s great that the school is using its food waste in this way and I am happy to supply the woodchips free of charge to help them make their compost. I am happy to supply any other local school with woodchips if they are running a similar project.”

In the last year Branfil Primary School and Upminster Junior School composted around one tonne of food waste.

New sacks for garden waste

Havering Council has launched a new service to help residents turn garden waste into compost.

The Council’s Wheeled Bin Garden Waste Collection Service provides residents with a cost-effective method of composting green garden waste.

Now Havering residents can subscribe to a new compostable garden waste sack service, which has replaced the green plastic sack service.

The compostable sacks are collected every two weeks by the same vehicle that collects the Wheeled Bin Garden Waste. The sacks will break down at the composting site.

The sacks will take flowers, plants, garden weeds, grass cuttings, hedge trimmings, leaves, small twigs and branches.

More information

www.havering.gov.uk/greenwaste

Keeping in touch

If you’re into recycling or a cyclist, want to avoid travel hotspots or check out the latest licensing applications, are over 55 or a Neighbourhood Watch member or just a resident or business wanting to know what’s happening in Havering the Council has an email bulletin for you.

And more are being added each month - due to start soon are bulletins on Building Control and for Council tenants and leaseholders.

More than 37,000 residents have signed up to receive one, or more, of the 24 different bulletins on our list.

Sign up today to keep in touch with your Council.

More information

www.havering.gov.uk/Havering-Updates

Fostering with Havering

Havering Council foster carers earn up to £428/week

Come to an information evening
2 April • 7 May
Town Hall, Romford
6 - 7.30pm

Call today: 01708 434 574
www.havering.gov.uk/fostering

email fostering@havering.gov.uk
Annual report from the Director of Public Health

Introduction
Welcome to the fourth instalment of our Healthy Year – Healthy Havering annual report from the Director of Public Health.

The report, which has previously been presented as a hefty tome with lots of facts and figures, is now issued as part of themed-instalments in your Living in Havering magazine, and on the Council’s website, www.havering.gov.uk/healthyhavering, to help you improve your health.

Vaccinations bring protection
Vaccines can protect children from a number of diseases which can cause serious illness. Vaccines given to pregnant women can also protect new-born babies.

Childhood vaccinations – Has your child had theirs?

Havering children are now offered a wide-range of protection from diseases through immunisation. It is important that every child receives their vaccinations at the right time, so they are protected from diseases such as measles and meningitis C.

In Havering, the level of childhood immunisation is good; nonetheless 1 in 10 haven’t had the recommended vaccinations at age one.

If you are not sure if your child has received all of their immunisations, then check with your doctor.

For a checklist of vaccinations that your child is eligible for and when they should have them, please visit the NHS choices vaccination schedule page.

www.havering.gov.uk/childvaccinations

Pregnancy vaccines
Protection can begin even before your child is born. Pregnant women are offered vaccinations for whooping cough between 28 and 36 weeks of their pregnancy, and also seasonal flu, when flu is in circulation during the autumn and winter months. This allows protection to pass from the mother to their baby so they are protected during the first few months following birth, before the baby’s vaccination course can begin.

Check out the details at:

www.havering.gov.uk/motherflu

www.havering.gov.uk/whoopingcough

This instalment picks up in March where we focus on the help available for people with Dementia which is one of the most feared illnesses in people over the age of 50. There is lots of help and support available in Havering and in our article we look at some of those.

Many diseases, which in the past were killers, are now avoidable thanks to vaccinations and in April’s report we look at the vaccinations available for children and pregnant women, so we can keep these diseases out of our borough.

Dementia in Havering
Dementia is one of the biggest health crises facing England and one of the most feared illnesses in people over the age of 50.

Havering has an ageing population and after the age of 65 the likelihood of developing dementia doubles every five years.

There are 45,500 people aged over 65 in Havering, it is estimated that 3.41% of those have dementia, which is predicted to rise to 3,793 by 2020. In this age group 10 per cent of deaths in men and 15 per cent of deaths in women are attributable to dementia.

A little help from friends...
People with dementia get by with a little help from their friends, and anybody can become a Dementia Friend, by learning a little bit about what it’s like to live with dementia, and then turn that understanding into action.

Being a Dementia Friend isn’t about volunteering or fundraising. You just need to watch a short video or come along to one of the free information sessions being run in Havering.

More details are at www.dementiafriends.org.uk.

...and from the community
As well as individual Dementia Friends there are Dementia Friendly Communities too and Havering’s application for that status was accepted last October so we are now actively working to achieve that status.

That means in our community people will be aware of and understand more about dementia. People with dementia and their carers will be encouraged to seek help and support, and people with dementia will feel included in their community, be more independent and have more choice and control over their lives.

Local Dementia Services
If you are concerned about your memory or the memory of someone close to you encourage them to visit their GP who can make a referral to the Memory Service, which offers assessment, diagnosis, treatment and therapeutic interventions.

Memory problems can be caused by many different things, but in some cases can be an early sign of dementia. Other symptoms of dementia include mood changes and confusion.

Other local services to help people with dementia, their family and carers include:

Tapestry Dementia Advisory Service
www.tapestry-uk.org

Alzheimer’s Society Information and Advice Service www.alzheimers.org.uk

www.havering.gov.uk/HaveringDAA

4 out of 5 people with dementia feel anxious or depressed.

2 out of 5 people with dementia say they have lost friends.

2 out of 3 people with dementia feel lonely.

Half the people with dementia feel they are a burden on their families.

2 out of 3 people with dementia say they have lost friends.

2 out of 3 people with dementia feel lonely.

Half the people with dementia feel they are a burden on their families.
Bowling Havering over

The hundreds of motorists who use the Gallows Corner flyover each day probably don’t realise that nestled in the corner, where the A12 meets Main Road, is the Gidea Park Bowling Club.

Formed 103 years ago, when it used a green at Gidea Hall, the club moved to the Gallows Corner Sports Ground in the 1920s and has thrived with around 100 members enjoying not only the fun of regular bowls matches but also the packed social calendar run by the club.

And as the new season starts two open days are planned so anyone can come along and see if they enjoy the game.

Club Secretary Les Howard said: “The club enjoyed a very successful 2014 and is keen to build on that success by attracting local men and women who may want to try their hand at the game.

“Bowls is a very sociable game that can be played by both men and women, young and old. It doesn’t favour one sex over another. It doesn’t depend on strength, speed or stamina. It’s a skill, which simply requires technique. This can be taught very quickly by our friendly local coaches who will be on hand to help and guide newcomers.”

The club has welcomed pupils from Frances Bardsley and Marshalls Park schools who have played bowls as part of the sports curriculum.

Groundsman Luke Davis clears the dew from the green

OPEN DAYS
11am to 4pm
Saturday 9 May
Sunday 17 May

Keeping the green in first class condition is the job of Havering Council’s ground staff. Current groundsman, Luke David, has a tough act to follow as his predecessor, Brian Kempster, was awarded the MBE after 30 years of service.

Luke said: “I love working with the club members to make sure they have a top class green which helps make sure they have a good, enjoyable game.”

The club also has a purpose-built clubhouse and bar, built in 1998 with £110,000 from the Lottery Fund which matched funds raised by members. It organises an annual tour (a September week at the seaside), quiz, cabaret and jazz nights and a summer barbeque.

Mixed pairs competition winners Madeline Copping and Alan Sessential with Lady President Doris Butler and Gents President David Flanagan

More information
www.gideaparkbowlingclub.co.uk

The Romford and District Bowls Association organises competitions and leagues as well as providing information about bowls in Havering. www.rbabowls.co.uk

Other local clubs include:
Clock House (Upminster) Bowling Club
www.bowlsclub.org/club/2747

Elm Park (Hornchurch) Bowls Club
www.elmparkbowlsclub.moonfruit.com

Harold Hill Bowls Club
www.haroldhillbowls.com

Havering Indoor Bowls Club
www.haveringibc.com

Haynes Park Bowling Club, Hornchurch
www.bowlsclub.org/club/2777

King George’s Bowls Club
www.kinggeorgesbowsclub.co.uk

Liberty of Havering Bowling Club
www.bowlsclub.org/club/2789

Rainham Bowls Club
www.bowlsclub.org/club/2810

Upminster Golf and Bowls Club
www.upminsterbowlsclub.co.uk

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www.flatroofs.net

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Havering recruits join up

Reading about the life of Havering Army Reservist, Kevin Costigan, in the last edition of Living in Havering, inspired two local residents to apply to join him.

Bernadette King, age 24, and Tom Evans, age 33 (pictured), have signed on to train with 151 Regiment The Royal Logistics Corps, based at Warley Army Reserve Centre.

Regimental Operational Support Officer, Captain Derek Gregory MBE, said: “The level of interest we have had from Havering has been very good with several people apply to join the Army Reserves.

“To join the reserves is straightforward. Applicants register interest, complete a simple application form and medical declaration – all online.

Applicants are then interviewed to check they meet the eligibility criteria, followed by a two day selection process at the Army Assessment Centre, at Pirbright in Surrey, where they do physical, aptitude, medical and initiative tests.

“When those are passed they enlist, complete phase one training over four weekends and two full weeks, which is then followed by training in their chosen trade.”

Bernadette, of Hornchurch, said: “My dad was in the army so when I was thinking of joining the reserves both parents were very supportive.

“My job involves a lot of admin so the time with the reserves is very different and with challenges I wouldn’t normally meet.

“I’m looking forward to my assessment at Pirbright in March and to then being trained to drive an LGV.

“I’ve been training to improve my physical fitness as you have to be able to run 1.5 miles as well as a range of strength and stamina tests.

“The reserves based at Warley have been a really friendly group and the clinics they hold help you prepare for Pirbright.”

Tom, of Romford, added: “I used to work in banking, but I am currently looking for a job as a mechanic and having an LGV licence would open opportunities for me.

“I was concerned at the time commitment but even when you are qualified it is just 27 days a year that is required which isn’t a lot.

“The people at the Warley Centre are very friendly and there is no pressure to speed you through the process so you can make sure it’s right for you.”

More information www.havering.gov.uk/reservists

Will you be able to vote in the General Election?

On Thursday 7 May Havering residents will be able to vote in the General Election to decide who will form the next government.

To vote in that election you must be:

- 18 years old or over
- on the electoral register and
- a British, Irish or Commonwealth citizen.

From this year each individual is responsible for making sure they are on the electoral register (the head of household can no longer add you to the register). Registration can now be done online. Being on the electoral register may help your credit rating.

If you are 16 or 17 years old or if you are a national from another European Union country you can still be added to the electoral register using the online application but you will not be able to vote in the General Election.

Moving house

If your address changes and you are eligible to vote, you must complete a new registration online to update their records. If you change your name, you need to contact the elections team so that you will still be able to vote.

Voting by post

Some people find it easier to vote by post rather than go to the polling station. You can apply for a postal vote online. Postal votes should arrive no later than Tuesday 28 April and must be received at the Havering Town Hall not later than 10pm on Thursday 7 May.

Going away?

If you are unable to vote in person, or will be away from your registered address between Tuesday 28 April and Thursday 7 May you can apply for someone else to vote on your behalf (a proxy vote).

Polling cards

If you do not receive a polling card by Friday 10 April, you need to check you are on the electoral register. Some polling stations have changed, details are on the polling card.
Building for future success

Construction firms in Havering are urged to take advantage of some free training aimed at helping them win contracts in the capital.

The scheme, which is funded by the London Enterprise Panel (LEP) and the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB), is being delivered by Montpellier International Consulting Limited. There is a series of learning approaches that are free to SME construction businesses and have places available for Havering businesses on a first-come, first-served basis.

To provide maximum flexibility, the learning will be available in Workshop, Workbook, e-Learning and Webinar formats. Other support includes some 1-2-1 telephone help.

The training will be delivered locally or online with the key learning areas being:

- Tendering to win
- Selling for profit
- Excelling at customer service
- Diversification to grow
- Business planning for success
- Marketing for results

There is also a Toolkit containing advice and guidance on the policies and procedures SME’s need to put in place to win more business, especially in the public sector, which contain templates and examples of policies they can adapt for their own businesses.

More information
www.havering.gov.uk/ConstructionTraining

Business Case Study

Rainham ideal for plastics recycling

Location, location, location was the reason that plastics recycling firm Ecotech Corporation Limited opened its recycling plant at the heart of Rainham’s London Riverside BID in April 2014, after nearly two years of exploring alternative site options. Chief Executive Officer, Javed Mawji, explained: “The unit is relatively modern, and was the right size and shape for our recycling operation while the industrial estate has good security thanks to the London Riverside BID.

Excellent transport

“We are just five minutes away from the M25/A13 junction, which is very important as our raw materials come in by lorry, we also have good train links into London, which should be even better when Crossrail arrives and the new station at Beam Park opens.

“One of the key factors for us was how supportive the landlord and Havering Council were during the initial discussions and that continued through the planning and licensing process. We have found them very easy to work with and also very fast, they understood we were working to a deadline and helped us achieve it.”

Flakes to punnets

The 40,000 square feet unit will be used to recycle 17,500 tonnes of PET plastic each year.

In less than an hour the plastic is helped us achieve it.”

More information
www.ecotechcorp.co.uk

£7m investment

Chief Operating Officer, Halil Bedevi, said: “We are investing more than £7 million so the location had to be right. The STF Group equipment we use handles around 80 per cent of PET recycling in Germany.

“STF Group works with more than 50 PET recycling factories world-wide and we are their exclusive partner for the UK which puts Rainham at the centre of PET recycling in the UK.”

More information
www.ecotechcorp.co.uk
Helping your business grow

The Government has launched the Business Growth Service which consolidates three previous schemes into a single service. The Business Growth Service will make it easier for businesses with the potential, capability, and capacity to improve and grow, to access expert advice and support. Businesses that require export support will be referred to UK Trade and Invest (UKTI) and UK Export Finance. The service is also closely linked to InnovateUK and the British Business Bank.

More information
www.investinhavering.co.uk
www.havering.gov.uk/BusinessGrowth

Networking group dates

Networking is a proven way to build good relations with other businesses, which can lead to referrals and new contracts. There are a number of networking groups in Havering including those listed below.

**4N**
This networking group meets every fortnight at Liberty Bell, Mercury Gardens, Romford RM1 3EN on Thursdays from 8am until 10am.
www.4networking.biz/Events

**BNI Integrity (Romford)**
This networking group meets every Thursday at Barking and Dagenham College, Dagenham Road, Romford RM7 0XU from 6.45am until 9.10am.
www.bni-ine.com/london-n-e—integrity

**ebn (Effective Business Networking)**
The ebn Upminster and Hornchurch group meets at Manor Hotel, Berwick Pond Road, Rainham RM13 9EL from 8am until 10am on alternate Tuesdays.
www.effectivebusinessnetwork.co.uk

**Havering Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HCCI)**
HCCI holds networking events at the Queen’s Theatre, Billet Lane, Hornchurch RM11 1QT on the first Friday of each month from 7.30am until 9am.

**NELE (Networking in East London and Essex)**
This group meets at The Railway Hotel, Station Lane, Hornchurch RM12 6SB, from 12.30pm until 2.30pm on:
- Tuesday 24 March 2015
- Tuesday 28 April 2015
- Tuesday 19 May 2015

**www.networking-in-east-london-and-essex.co.uk**

Diary Dates

**Leader’s Business Network Events**
5.30pm, Town Hall, Main Road, Romford, RM1 3BD
- Thursday 21 May
- Thursday 10 December

**Women in Business (WIB)**
5.30pm at Havering College, Ardleigh Green Road, Hornchurch, RM11 2LL
- Wednesday 15 April
- Wednesday 17 June
- the ladies only gym at High Street, Romford, sponsors WIB
Booking at: www.havering.gov.uk/events

Banking on The Vault

After eight years as an account director of a London fashion PR company, Romford businesswoman, Lauren Martin, decided to use her expertise to open her own vintage store in Romford’s Quadrant Arcade.

Lauren said: “I think fashion can be a tool to engage young people so they develop the skills they need for life and employment, which is why I have worked with Havering Council’s youth team at myplace in Harold Hill and Rainham Royale. The up-cycling and fashion customisation done at those workshops was inspirational and led to me opening The Vault in November 2014 and I also have an online shop.

“I personally source the vintage items we sell from England, France and Italy; mainly its clothes but we also offer furniture and other items, such as suitcases.

“Romford Contemporary Arts Programme (RCAP) is working with Quadrant Arcade retailers to boost our marketing. It has been very productive and inspiring to work with the students to come up with ideas on how we can promote the shop and what we sell.

**Opportunity**

“I’m a local resident, was born in Harold Wood, went to Coopers School in Upminster and live in Romford now so wanted my shop to be local too.

“There’s a lot of kindness in Romford, the people are magic and I believe we need to use young people’s creativity to boost Romford so they take ownership of our town. I’m very proud that The Vault is helping to do that.

More information
www.ilovethevault.co.uk

From cars to care

A divorce and successfully completing an Open University Social Science degree, after spending 15 years studying for it, prompted Ginnette Moore to launch her own home-based, child-minding business this summer.

Ginnette, who lives in Hornchurch, said: “I spent 17 years in the motor industry and two years at a local architect’s but getting divorced and gaining my degree made me look at my life.

“At the same time my own child-minder stopped and I realised there was a local need.

“My own children are of school age now so don’t need day-time care but there are a lot of parents who need child-care so they can work the hours they need to do.

“My experience meant I was able to develop a business plan, to make sure I could afford to look after my own family. Becoming self-employed is a big step but it hasn’t been that bad.

“The one problem I had was underestimating the time it takes to become registered as there were so many different agencies involved including Havering Council, OFSTED, and the DBS, which checks criminal records.

“My registration allows me to have 12 children in total, or six, if they are under eight years old, and the word-of-mouth network soon filled those places for me.

“It’s hard work. The first child arrives at 7.15am and the last leaves at 6.30pm. But it’s also a lot of fun and very rewarding, as you see a child develop new skills, confidence and expertise.

“I’m glad I made the change as it’s helped me see what I’m capable of doing too, which has been great for my own personal development.

More information
www.ginetteschildminding.co.uk
All numbers are 01708 unless stated.

Libraries
Havering Libraries hold many events, of interest to all ages. Booking is usually advisable.

Collier Row - 434936
Eton Park - 434919
Gidea Park - 434978
Harrow Wood - 434975
Hornchurch - 434930
Romford - 434970
South Hornchurch - 43238789
Upminster - 434921

Cabinet and Council
Cabinet and Full Council meetings are open to the public and are held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Main Road, Romford, RM1 3BB. All meetings are on Wednesdays and start at 7.30pm. They can also be watched online at www.havering.gov.uk/webcast

Visit www.havering.gov.uk for latest info.

Historic Buildings & Gardens

Tuesdays and Fridays
Rainham Hall
4, 5, 18 and 19 April
8am - 4pm

Windmill Open Days
St Mary’s Lane, Upminster
7 June, 2.30 - 5pm

Recycling Initiatives

Give and Take Days
Last Wednesday of every month, at Romford Central Library, from 10.30am - 1.30pm and at the Salvation Army, High Street, Romford, on the first Friday of every month from 10am - 1pm
www.havering.gov.uk/Giveandtakedays

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www.havering.gov.uk/Giveandtakedays
SPRING Lane, Upminster RM14 2QH
Spring Fantasy Concert
Havering Concert
Remember
4 April, 10am
upminster.co.uk
RM14 2QR
St Mary’s Lane, Upminster
An Evening of Story Telling
15 May, 7.30pm
www.rgcasc.org
Rush Green
Association Quiz
24 April, 7.30
Romford RM7 0LB
www.havering.gov.uk/living

ANZAC Day
25 April, 4pm
Memorial service at St Andrew’s Church
High Street, Hornchurch
RM12 60P
Havering.gov.uk
WW1
Havering Talking
Newspaper Annual
General Meeting
26 April, 2pm
New volunteers welcome.
Methodist Church Hall
The Drive, Romford
RM7 0LB
www.rgcasc.org
Gadabouts Club
First Tuesday of the month
6–10pm
Havering Indoor Bowls Club,
Rear of Hornchurch Leisure Centre,
Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch
RM11 1LU
www.rgcasc.org
Haven Ladies Club
Alternate Tuesdays
6–8pm
Havering Green Community Centre,
Rush Green Road, Romford
RM7 0LB
www.rgcasc.org
Havering Over 50s Forum
Second Tuesday of each month
9.30am – 12.30pm
Council Chamber, Havering
Town Hall, Main Road,
Romford RM1 3BD
www.Havering.50sForum.org
Hornchurch and District
Hornchurch Library,
44 North Street
Hornchurch RM11 1TB
h.barns@btinternet.com
Hornchurch
Life in a Day
Last Friday of each month
except July, August and
December,
Hornchurch Library,
44 North Street
Hornchurch RM11 1TB
h.barns@btinternet.com
Ladies Guild
Last Thursday of each month
8.30pm
Salvation Army Citadel,
High Street, Romford,
RM1 1SH
charleswendythompson@
rthworld.com
Parkinson’s UK Havering
and District Branch
First and third Tuesday of each month
2–6pm
United Reformed Church,
58 – 60 Park Street,
Romford RM7 0LP
www.parkinsons.org.uk
Rush Green Community
Association Over 50s Club
Fourth Friday of each month
7.30 – 9.30pm
Rush Green Community Centre,
Rush Green Road, Romford,
RM7 0LB
www.rgcasc.org
RSBP Havering Branch
Second Friday of each month
September to May,
7.30 – 9.45pm
Upstairs Meeting Room,
Hornchurch Library, North Street,
Hornchurch RM11 1TQ
The Computer Group meets
11am – 1pm

Four Seasons Knitting
and Craft Club
Every Monday, 7–10pm
Rush Green Community Centre,
Rush Green Road, Romford
RM7 0LB
www.rgcasc.org

East of London Family
History Society Havering
Branch
First Saturday of each month
2pm
Trinity Church, Gaynes Road,
Upminster RM14 2YS
The Group Computer meets
11am – 1pm

Sport and Fitness
Albany School
Badminton Club
Every Tuesday during term time,
8 – 10pm
The Albany School,
Broadstone Road,
Hornchurch RM12 4AJ
www.badminton1.co.uk
Elm Park Lawn Tennis
Club
10 Western Avenue
Elm Park RM12 4HG
www.elmparkrcls.org.uk
The computer Group meets
11am – 1pm

Music
Funky Voices
Mondays, 8 – 10pm
Fartwakes Arts Centre
51 Billet Lane Hornchurch
RM11 1AJ
www.funkyvoices.co.uk
Havering Concert
Orchestra (HCO)
Wednesdays, during term time,
7 – 9.30pm
North Street Hall,
Hornchurch RM11 1QX
Last Saturday of each month
(May to September) 7pm onwards
depending on pick up coach trips.
www.rspb.org.uk/groups/havering

Where to Celebrate
Christenings, Birthdays, Engagements
Wedding and Anniversaries in Style
84 Station Lane, Hornchurch RM12 6LX
www.thecranleighhornchurch.co.uk
01708 443229
Your Council, Anytime

Save time by accessing services online when it’s convenient for you with Your Council, Anytime. You can apply and pay for services, and report issues online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Register for ‘My Account’ to access over 100 Council services online:

Apply
» Council or Housing Association housing
» Council Tax Support and Housing Benefit
» Parking permits (residential and visitor)
(see inside this issue, page 9)

Pay
» Council Tax
» Housing rents

Report
» Fly tipping
» Missed household rubbish and recycling collections
» Problems with street lighting

Register for ‘My Account’
Registering for ‘My Account’ takes just a few minutes and all you need is an email address. Once registered, you will be able to login and pay, apply and report online for services provided by Havering Council.

To sign up for an account www.havering.gov.uk/myaccount

Don’t have internet access at home?
We have computers you can use in our libraries and the Public Advice & Service Centre (PASC).