

### The Journal

INGATESTONE, BLACKMORE, STOCK & MARGARETTING
Issue No. 154 February 2014

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New Years Eve Ingatestone firework display taken by Camera Club member David Oxley more inside.

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### **JAMIE WILLIAMS & THE ROOTS COLLECTIVE**

Jamie Williams & the Roots Collective are making a rare home town appearance at the Ale House in Chelmsford on 1st February in support of their new album DUG DEEP, FOUND STEEL which is due for release on 3rd March



Jamie Williams & the Roots Collective love playing live & 2014 will see them playing the Broadstairs Blues Bash in February; Cosmic Puffin; Cambridge Rock Festival & the British Stage at the 25th Colne Great British R&B Festival, with more to be announced soon. Their next local gig will be at the legendary Railway Hotel in Southend, home to Wilko Johnson amongst others on Sunday 2nd March.

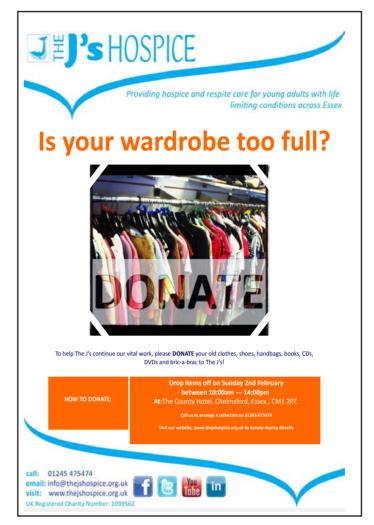
DUG DEEP, FOUND STEEL their 3rd album in 4 years will be available on Amazon & iTunes as well as for download. The album was recorded at Saint Studios in Burnham on Crouch & was produced by local legend Pete Crisp who captured the essence of their live performances, delivering an earthy, gritty collection of songs chronicling life's vagaries both happy & sad.

The band comprises Jamie on lead vocals, rhythm guitar/mandolin; Lizzie B on vocals/acoustic guitar; Chris Found on lead guitar; Kev 'the Rock' Warner on bass, 'Charity' Nick Garner on harmonica and not forgetting Dan Mills on drums.

There's certainly an Americana feel to the music, as though the band were born & raised on the Delta... it's groovy, it's rocking" Firebrand Magazine

"a gritty sound that made me think of the sound of The Kinks of the mid-sixties (or imagine The Feelgoods with acoustic guitars)" - Blues In the North West

For more information and the latest tour dates, please visit http://www.jwroots.co.uk



### General Knowledge Quiz - Answers

- 1. Windsor
- 2.9
- 3. Edinburgh
- 4.8600
- 5. Istanbul
- **6.** 26
- 7. Average 238,857
- 8.3
- 9. Oysters
- 10. Tribbiani
- 11. Italy
- 12. Florida
- 13. Canterbury
- 14.90
- 15. Mr. Jingles
- 16. Geese
- 17. Trevor
- 18. Butcher, baker and candlestick maker
- 19. Animals
- **20.** Sega
- 21. Diagnosis
- **22.** Pink
- 23. 4
- 24. 27
- 25. Buckinghamshire
- 26. Mickey Mouse

- 27. Candle In The Wind
- 28.6
- 29. Mercedes-Benz
- 30. Wings
- 31. Distict Line
- 32. Forearm
- 33. Camulodunum
- 34. China
- **35.** Dog
- 36. Roald Dahl
- **37.** May
- 38. The Loire
- 39. They are all body joints
- 40. Bacon
- 41. Eyelids
- **42.** 21
- **43.** 10
- 44. Mount Everest
- 45. Tsunami
- **46.** O
- 47. 'A' and 'I'
- 48. X
- 49. United Kingdom and
- Argentina
- 50. Burger King 51. Kelly Clarkson
- 52. Margaret Thatcher

- 53. Black
- **54**. 12
- **55.** 10 feet
- 56. Over 27 years
- 57. The Sun
- 58. Optic nerve
- 59. Venice
- 60. Glacier
- 61. Oxford
- 62. Dover
- 63. Yellow
- 64. Great Fire of London
- 65. The Tube
- 66. Stratford, East London
- 67. Twickenham
- 68. The Shard
- 69. The Clash
- 70. St. Paul's Cathedral
- **71.** London Heathrow
- 72. Chimpanzee's/Dolphins
- 73. Glucose
- 74. Carnivore
- **75.** 4
- 76. Aston Villa
- 77. Chelsea
- 78. Manchester City
- 79. 26 miles and 385 yards

- 81. South Africa
- 82. Alan Shearer
- 83. 2011
- 84. Circumference
- 85. 10,080 minutes
- 86. 112
- 87. Sphere
- 88. Roy's Rolls
- 89.22
- 90. Emmerdale Farm
- 91. Warwick Davis
- **92.** Dave
- 93. Bridge Street
- 94. Mercredi
- 95. Oxford Street 96. Sam Snead
- 97. William Shakespeare
- **98.** Knot
- 99. John Candy & Steve Martin
- 100. Jeremy Irons

### Ingatestone & Fryerning Horticultural Society

#### **OUTINGS 2014**

RHS Gardens Wisley Saturday 14 June 2014 Coach & entrance: £16 IFHS

Coach & entrance: £16 IFHS member/£19 non-member

### Hampton Court Flower Show (or Palace) Thursday 10 July 2014

Cost for coach only: £17.00 IFHS member/£20.00 non-member

(Does not include cost of entrance)

### Waterperry Gardens, Oxfordshire – 'Apple Festival' Weekend

### Saturday 11 October 2014

Cost for coach and entrance : £22 IFHS member/£25 non-member

In the case of RHS members who are also IFHS members the cost will be  $\mathfrak{L}17$  and for RHS members who are not members of the IFHS Society the cost will be  $\mathfrak{L}20$ . This discount only applies to Member 1 in the case of a joint membership.

All tickets to be paid for upon booking. For further information or to book please contact Ann Monk on 01277 352869; details of all outings can be found on the Society's website www.ifhs.org.uk



### The Music of Mozart

Litaniae Lauretanae - Coronation Mass Piano Concerto in G - Concert Rondo in D

with

The Covent Garden Chamber Orchestra Kirsty Hopkins (soprano) Kate Telfer (mezzo) David De Winter (tenor) Colin Campbell (bass) Tim Carey (piano)

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm King Edward VI Grammar School

### Andrew Fardell - Conductor

Tickets: Centre £13 (£11 concessions, £5 under 16s) from James Dace & Son Ltd., 22 Broomfield Road, Chelmsford; Kate (07808 584 826), any choir member, or at the door



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### PROPERTIES OF THE MONTH

### Tor Bryan, Ingatestone - £685,000



Situated on a corner plot fronting Roman Road, this home of architectural distinction offers superb, modern entertaining space, with a striking entrance hall and well planned family accommodation.

The ground floor offers an expanse of social living space to include a lounge measuring 20ft 9 max x 18ft 1, a spectacular entrance hall, dining room/sitting room, good size study, kitchen/ breakfast room





and ground floor WC. To the first floor are four bedrooms - one en-suite and two benefitting

from vaulted ceilings - as well as a family bathroom and a good size, bright landing. The size and arrangement of the windows gives excellent natural light, creating bright spaces throughout, regardless of the weather. Externally the property offers a double garage (with personal rear door accessible via a covered walkway from the kitchen), a good size driveway providing private parking, and a generous rear garden with south and south westerly aspects.

Offered with the benefit of NO ONWARD CHAIN. Viewings by appointment via Walkers on 01277 355005.





### PROPERTY OF THE MONTH







### Beautifully situated and presented apartment located amongst picturesque surroundings in the heart of Fryerning.

Quite simply a unique FOUR bedroom apartment situated within a part moated, Grade II listed former Manor House with origins dating back to 1732, occupying a prominent position within the heart of Fryerning. Of notable architectural interest and offering many period features including 10ft high ceilings an easy rise staircase, evidence of original window shutters and wide hallways with original mouldings. The accommodation offers a bright dual aspect sitting room with picturesque views of the gardens, separate dining room and fully fitted kitchen. The Master suite has a large four piece ensuite and dressing room with extensive range of fitted wardrobes. Three further bedrooms and family bathroom. Of further interest is the impressive entrance vestibule together with a spacious hallway and landing offering additional concealed storage. The property further benefits from its own garden amidst the grounds which has been beautifully landscaped in keeping with its surroundings and planted with a traditional English Country Garden theme. In addition to which there are a garage, potting shed and summerhouse. This apartment truly needs to be viewed to appreciate both the peace and tranquillity of the location together with the quality and level of accommodation on offer. EPC Rating D. **GUIDE PRICE £845,000** 

SALES: **01277 356456** LETTINGS: **01277 263444** 

www.hilberychaplin.co.uk

### To wear or not wear a Helmet on the slopes?

Following Michael Schumacher's recent devastating accident the debate has been reignited on whether to wear or not wear a helmet on the

With about 60% of skiers in some European resorts and almost 90% of snowboarders now wearing helmets, there is still a large group of people who don't wear a helmet. So, let's look at the main issues that affect helmet wearing?

#### Does a helmet really improve my safety upon impact?

The answer is, it depends upon the speed of impact. Helmets are designed to protect and absorb impact at speed of up to around 25 km/h - 15mph.

At much higher speeds, snowsport helmets cannot practically be the thickness and weight required to absorb the impact completely.



Salomon - Icon Air helmet

However at more controlled speeds a recent study from brain injury charity Headway found:

Forces exerted on the skull were "four times less" when head protection was worn. A helmet's liner absorbs a proportion of the impact; the acceleration of the head is reduced; and the impact on the skull is spread over a larger area.

So, realistically we have to look at helmet wearing as part of an overall safety approach. A helmet will help protect you from more serious head injuries on impact whilst maintaining sensible speeds on the slopes, which will also help protect those around you from all sorts of injuries. A helmet on its own will not improve slope safety, it can help make you safer but being a responsible slope user goes a lot further in making everyone safer.

"Quite often impact at very high speeds is the result of skiing or boarding out of control.'

So – this leads on to our next question.

#### Does wearing a helmet make people ski or board faster?

One of the arguments against wearing helmets is that people ski or board faster because they feel more protected, and as a result become more of a danger to their fellow slope users and themselves.

People need to know that a helmet doesn't make you invincible and they shouldn't be skiing or boarding at speeds or in a way that they wouldn't do without a helmet.

#### Are helmets heavy and uncomfortable to wear?

One main reason why skiers in particular resist wearing a helmet is that they are just not used to it. They think it will be very heavy, sweaty, uncomfortable and not look stylish enough.

Helmets are now more stylish than ever before and a lot lighter than you'd imagine - most weighing around the 500g mark. They are warm, and if you choose a model with adjustable ventilation, you can open the vents when you need to make it more breathable. No need for a sweaty head! See the Scott - Roam helmet with adjustable ventilation (pictured

When choosing a helmet, go to the store and try on different makes,



because most often you will find one make matches your head shape better than another. This you cannot see from an image in an on-line shop!

#### So do I convert to a helmet?

Michael had been wearing a helmet which broke on impact whilst skiing inbetween pistes at Meribel. However doctors have said that if he had not been wearing a helmet he would most probably have died then and there on the piste.

It's personal choice. More people than ever are wearing helmets out there and there's no escaping that.

So after around 25 years of skiing I finally converted to helmet wearing. Mainly because having been taken out by an "out of control" skier in the past, I now feel that I would be vulnerable to head impact from a collision with a skier or boarder who is wearing a helmet when I'm not.

You can be a very capable skier, control your speed and slope awareness, but you cannot control that of those using the slope around you! I feel safer buckled up!

The Alpine Room in Danbury sell 5 different makes of snowsport helmets. Salomon, Scott, Smith, Bern and Uvex. Come and view our ranges where we can measure your head and help you find the make and style that fits your head shape most correctly. Visit the Alpine Room at 71-73Main Road, Danbury, Essex. CM3 4DJ or find them on-line at: www.alpineroom.co.uk



### **Chelmsford Star Searches for**

New Charity of the Year!

Local Co-operative Society, Chelmsford Star has embarked on its annual search for its next 'Charity of the Year' for 2014/15. Pauline Dodd, Society President said; 'The Board of Directors are currently looking for local registered charities to put themselves forward as potential candidates backed up with a written statement on what the funds are required for. They compile a short list in early March and then invite the 850 members of the Society's employees to vote on their preference.

The name of the charity with the most votes is declared at the annual general

meeting at the end of April. After which the new charity and Society work together on fund raising ideas for the year, including collecting tins featured at

over 150 till points as well as sponsored events and raffles.

As the Society trades from 49 branches from Braintree to Southend-on-Sea, prospective candidates should be able to demonstrate that their cause would be recognised by customers across all stores. The chosen charity is then encouraged to work with the Society's stores and offer assistance and support in all major initiatives as and when required.

Chelmsford Star is now more than half way through with this year's nomination, Essex Dementia Care.

Debbie Davis, Fundraiser at Essex Dementia Care said; "We were delighted to have been chosen as Chelmsford Star's 'Charity of the Year'. The money raised will make a huge difference by enabling us to assist many more people with dementia.

In 2012/2013 the Society raised just over £36 000 for Canine Partners (Essex) and over the past 6 years has raised in excess of £180 000 for Essex charities. Interested parties should email Pauline Dodd, President at coty@chelmsfordstar.coop or write to her at 220 Moulsham Street, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 OLS by Friday 28th February, 2014.

### Also ... New Year, New Challenge?

Local Co-operative Society, Chelmsford Star is currently on its annual recruitment drive to fill vacancies within its governance structure through its popular 'Meet the Directors' evening. The event aims to discuss the options available including the Board, the Membership Committee and the Members Council.

Now in its 147th Year with an annual turnover fast approaching £100m, the society is one of Mid-Essex's biggest employers, with a workforce of over

The strategy and way forward for this ambitious organisation is determined by a non executive board of 10 Directors, all of whom are voted into their position by the membership.

These Directors come from a variety of background; some are employed in commerce and industry, whilst others are now retired. However, they all have two things in common - a belief in Co-operative Principles and a desire to work together for the benefit of all Members and the community

They meet monthly in the evening with the Chief Executive Officer, whose role is to guide and advise the Directors before implementing agreed policies. All Directors give at least three hours a week to their position and receive regular training.

If you have enthusiasm and experience in matters that could benefit other members, customers or the communities in which it serves then you may be just what the Society is currently looking for. For those that may wish to be less involved initially, there are elected places available on both the Membership Committee and Members' Council. These meet six and four times a year, respectively.

So, if you need a fresh challenge, believe in the ethics of the Co-operative and are people minded this could be a rewarding option. Why not find out more by contacting the Society for more details or reserve a place at the 'Meet the Directors' evening on Tuesday 25th February in the 'quadrant' department store, Chelmsford. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

Simply ring Ellen Tredwin on 01245 216916 or visit our website

www.chelmsfordstar.coop for more details. The iournal 5

### **Brentwood and District Fine Arts Society**

Nicola Smith's talk to the Society in January was on "Pugin and the Gothic Revival". It was a striking tale, which she brought to life in her talk and in her illustrations.

Augustus Pugin's life was short - he was born in 1812 and died in 1852. His father, Auguste Pugin, was a draughtsman who had settled in England to escape the French revolution. He was a Gothic enthusiast and published books of architectural drawings on Gothic buildings. Pugin learned drawing from his father and worked in his office.

Pugin started to get commissions of his own. Then, in 1834, his life was transformed when he became a Catholic, leaving behind his mother's Scottish Presbyterianism. From then on, his approach to architecture and to life reflected his Catholic morality. In particular, he rejected the utilitarian view of church building, designed to provide maximum space at minimum cost. Equally, he rejected what he saw as the hypocrisy of decoration for decoration's sake. Decoration was good, but it must be integral to the design.

A further transformational milestone came in 1836, when he published "Contrasts", a campaigning book which argued for a return to medieval architecture and values. In a series of drawings he contrasted medieval buildings and compassion with the buildings and harshness of 1830. It was so successful that a second edition was published in 1841. It was influential too, charting the way for a stronger Gothic revival.

Conversion to Catholicism did not make life easier for Pugin. Legal discrimination might have ended with Catholic emancipation, but prejudice remained. On the other hand, he got commissions from the Catholic community. This could be problematic, when poor Catholic parishes had not the money to build the sort of church Pugin favoured. But wealthier Catholic patrons like the Earl of Shrewsbury did enable him to create striking buildings like St. Giles' Catholic Church, Cheadle.

A major opportunity came with the competition to design the new Houses of Parliament to replace medieval buildings lost to fire. He helped the winner, Charles Barry, with the Gothic design. Charles Barry then invited him to supply detailed designs for the interior. Pugin designed everything, even things like umbrella stands and desk calendars, for which no medieval model existed. His designs

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2014

Parish Council meetings are usually held the first Thursday of each month at Seymour Pavilion, New Road (7.30pm).

Press and public welcome to attend.

Dates for 2014 are as follows:

February 6th and March 6th

**Highwood Village Hall** Home-made cakes Loves Green, Highwood appuccinos/latte Chelmsford CM1 3QG quality stalls. illage Agent and suppor nmunity Spirit Cafe in 2014. ALWAYS FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH (except January):- 10am-12 no ALL WELCOME! th February 7th Novembe 7th March, 4th April, 6th June 4th July, 1st August, 5th September

influenced many, including William Morris.

His swansong came with the Great Exhibition, where his medieval court at the Crystal Palace attracted much attention.

Pugin worked immensely hard. He also had a demanding family life. Married young, his first wife died in childbirth, leaving him a daughter. His next wife, who died in 1844, bore him six children. His third wife bore him a son.

Had Pugin lived, say, ten years longer, he would have become a model for architects and antiquarians. Yet despite his short life, he inspired young architects like Norman Shaw and George Gilbert Scott, who carried forward his vision . In the end, his Gothic Revival triumphed. It was his designs and his ideas that were to be found in the Victorian churches built in the British Isles and beyond. The sadness was that Pugin did not live to see his triumph.

Next month, we hold our AGM and supper at 7 pm on Wednesday 19 February, followed by William Tyler. William, an experienced adult educator and enthusiastic historian, will be talking on "Rose and Thistle", a very topical study of the history of English/Scots relations. This is a members only occasion.

Our next "public" talk is on Wednesday 19 March and is by Kevin Karney. Kevin's talk is on "The Life and Times of the Sundial - a Perspective on Civilisation's most enduring Timekeeper".

After Cambridge, Kevin was a VSO teacher in North Borneo for two years and then worked for 33 years in the oil business in exploration and production, mostly overseas. With a great grandfather and uncle who were notable gnomonists (those interested in sundials), he has had a lifelong interest in the art and science of sundials.

The talk is at the Community Hall, Ingatestone at 7.30 for 8pm. Visitors are very welcome. The entrance fee for visitors is £7.

Full details of our future talks and other activities are on our website brentwood-dfas.org.uk

### Local Banjo Band Plays For Charity

From Girls' Choir To Banjo Band In 30 Years - and now threatened with extinction!

Fun Packed – Lots Of Laughs – Swinging Banjo Music – JOIN THEM NOW!

The DIGSWELL BANJO BAND, based in Blackmore, Essex, plays regular entertaining charity sessions at venues including Townswomen's Guilds, Women's Institute, and Senior Citizens' Homes.

You have to be a fun person to play the happy sounding banjo like the Digswell mob, currently sporting several banjo players – plus a tuba – a washboard and even a female vocaliste! – and it's not just sing-along stuff that's performed; catching one of the Banjo Band's gigs will have you laughing, and your feet tapping to tunes varying from Latin favourites like La Paloma to jazz standards of the Sweet Georgia Brown variety.

The band began life as an evening class for girls' choir over thirty years ago but somehow metamorphosed into a group having a plucking good time. So strong and irresistible was the rhythm that they were soon asked to play at local venues and have even made a T.V. appearance.

We're sadly lacking in numbers right now but you too could join in the merriment. If you have a sense of humour and are a closet banjo player looking for an outlet or a guitarist/mandolinist looking to have a jolly fine social time, then you will be welcomed with open arms. Tuition can be supplied so you could start right now and join in revelry.

Call David Price on 01277 824616 for a chat.

### **NEW YEAR! NEW ZUMBA CLASSES!**



"Hi ...my name is Christina and I'm a fitness instructor specialising in Zumba and Latino aerobics .

Zumba has revolutionised the way we exercise, is great fun and a terrific fat burner! Zumba uses easy to follow Latino rhymes such as salsa and meringue in a simple exercise based format. The music is uplifting and the steps are easy to follow....all you need to bring is yourself (of course!) wearing trainers and lose comfortable clothing, a towel (for the sweat!) and a bottle of water.

The classes are only £5 for a one hour session and you pay as and when you come along.

I have been teaching aerobics and fitness for more than 20 years and free lance for the prestigious David Lloyd group of clubs. I love teaching all sorts of exercise classes but Zumba is my favourite and I am thrilled to be teaching some new community based Zumba sessions. The classes are suitable for all ages, shapes and sizes and presented in a relaxed ,non intimidating style.

To find out more or to reserve your first class free, you can contact Lme on **07737 351501.** 

Feel the music and let loose!"

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### INGATESTONE AND DISTRICT CAMERA

You are warmly invited to join us. We meet on a Friday eve in the Parish Rooms Stock Lane at 7.45pm for 8pm start, ring for a programme or go on line http://www.ingatestonecc.org.uk

We continue to welcome new members to the Club, and almost all agree that the Practical and the Competition evenings in terms of learning about our equipment are the most helpful. As a Club we try to have practical evenings to help us all to learn more, so why not join us on the meetings dated below when practical issues are explored?

Our next meeting is on the 7th of Feb when Gordon Branham gives us his International Acceptances. On the 14th we hold our 5th Club competition with Judge Dave Wilcox from Upminster Camera Club. On the 21st and 28th we have 'Hands on a Laptop' these evenings are designed to help us hone our skills using dedicated software manipulation programmes. We usually have 8 or 9 laptops available and readers are welcome to join us. On March the 7th we explore our skills with 'Table Top Photography' Again join us if you can. Bring your camera!

Max Carter 01277 226 848. Tom Smith 353645, Roland Neville 354 144.

or Elly Dorman 355188

Website: http://www.ingatestonecc.org.uk

Max Carter Club Chairman

### **Unpublished Mary Shelley letters** discovered at Essex Record Office

Thirteen unpublished letters by Frankenstein author Mary Shelley have been discovered in the Essex Record Office (ERO) archives by Nora Crook, Professor Emerita at Anglia Ruskin University.

Professor Crook writes about the find in the latest Essex Record Office blog, published today.

"New Mary Shelley missives surface from time to time, but this is the largest cache to surface for decades," explains Nora, who found references to Shelley in ERO's online Seax catalogue following a Google search.

The discovery of items previously unread by Mary Shelley scholars prompted a visit to the ERO to examine the letters more closely.

"The letters were written between 1831 and 1849," she continues. "Eight of them are to Horatio (Horace) Smith and the rest to his eldest daughter Eliza, aka 'Tizey'. Smith, a stockbroker, wit, and minor author, became friends with Shelley [Mary's husband – poet Percy Bysshe Shelley] in 1817, and handled his money affairs when he went to Italy. After Shelley drowned in 1822 the Smith family befriended his widow. They remained among her warmest friends until her death in 1851.

"The letters show Mary Shelley in many lights – playful, charming, wheedling, fashion-conscious, anxious about riots in Sussex, apologetic, flustered, in pain.

"To me, this is a prime example of how online catalogues of county record archives are helping scholars to 'tread in unknown paths', in Mary Shelley's words.

"Many, many thanks to the superb ERO archivists!

Councillor John Jowers, Cabinet Member for Libraries, Communities and Planning, said: "This discovery illustrates the importance of archiving local documents – many of which have greater significance than first imagined."

The full blog dedicated to the letters, their contents, and how they came to be archived at the ERO, can be read at http://www.essexrecordofficeblog.co.uk/your-favourite-ero-documents-thirteen-letters-by-the-author-of-frankenstein-in-the-ero

Volunteering opportunities for young people

Essex Libraries are looking for young people to volunteer for a variety of exciting projects. The first opportunity is for young people aged 12 to 16 with an interest in art to help develop a project called ImagiNation which has been funded by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

Over the summer Essex Libraries will be running a series of art workshops for young people. They are now looking for young volunteers to become Project Planners and select the artists for the project and help design the workshops.

The selection of the artists will take place on 21 February in Chelmsford and reasonable travel expenses will be paid. There will also be planning sessions for the summer workshops taking place in May. Young people are invited to volunteer to take part in the artist selection, the workshop planning, or both. The application deadline for this project is 7 February.

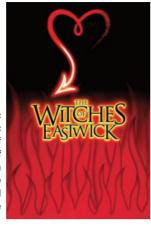
Essex Libraries are also looking for young volunteers aged 14 and above to work alongside Essex Library staff to run the annual Summer Reading Challenge, supporting children to take part in the challenge. Last year nearly 44,000 children took part in Essex by reading books to gain rewards. This year's challenge is called Mythical Maze.

Libraries are looking for volunteers who can commit to a minimum of 15 hours from 19 July to 3 September. The closing date for applications is 23 May. To find out more about both opportunities and to apply go to www.essex.gov.uk/libraries and click on 'Volunteering with libraries'.

Councillor John Jowers, Cabinet Member for Libraries, Communities and Planning, said: "These are fantastic opportunities for young people to engage with professional artists, their library and their local community. It's a brilliant way to meet new people, have fun and it looks great on the CV."

### **CAODS SPELL-BINDING** THE WITCHES **OF EASTWICK**

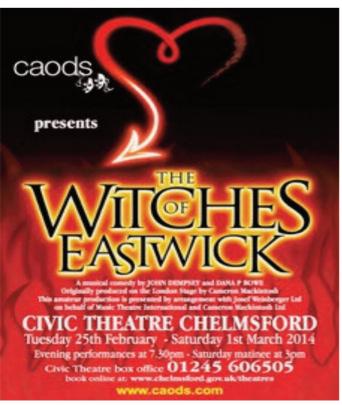
Chelmsford Amateur Operatic & Dramatic Society (CAODS) return to the Civic Theatre, Chelmsford with the premiere of the musical version of 'The Witches of Eastwick', playing February 25th - March 1st 2014. The combination of Sallie Warrington's dynamic direction and choreography with a bewitching cast make this musical comedy unmissable.



In the New England town of Eastwick, a place of clapboard houses and picket fence mindsets, nothing much happens to the bored inhabitants. Three local women - Alex, Jane and Sukie - frustrated by the constant scrutiny and disapproval of their neighbours, fantasize about their ideal man. When their longings are made flesh in the timely arrival of the wickedly devilish Darryl van Horne, all hell breaks loose - quite literally! Darryl seduces each of the three 'witches' in turn and shows them how to expand the forces locked within them through a 'ménage a guatre' that scandalises the town. As their power grows, his corrupting influence pushes them to extremes and the coven resolve to use it to rid themselves of the Prince of Darkness.

For those with expectations based around the acclaimed 1987 film 'The Witches of Eastwick', there are strong parallels to be drawn with the three superb leading lady performances in CAODS production. All have amazing vocals - Claire Carr (Alex), Sarah Barton (Jane) and Alison Hartley (Sukie) play the witches of the title, respectively repressed, tongue-tied and stroppy until they meet the demonic Darryl van Horne, and are transformed into vampish femmes fatales. Gareth Barton is excellent as the sycophantic seducer. The devil of course always has all the best tunes, and he swaggers magnificently through the 'Glory of Me' and the louche 'Dance with the Devil'.

'The Witches of Eastwick' has it all - slick special effects and sleight-of-hand magic, flying witches, superb singing, exuberant dancing and plenty of humour too. In every sense, CAODS spring production is a truly magical show! Book your tickets now on tel: 01245 606505 or www.chelmsford.gov.uk/theatres.



### The Fighting Essex Soldier: Recruitment, War and Remembrance in the Fourteenth Century A one-day conference at the Essex Record Office

During the fourteenth century, successive English kings sent their armies to do battle in Scotland, France and Ireland. As a result, the number of men involved in warfare increased dramatically. What's more, these soldiers are well documented, enabling us to find out more about the men who served in these campaigns than any earlier ones, especially those drawn from the gentry and nobility. This conference will take a look at the impact these many conflicts had on Essex society, and how soldiers were remembered after their deaths.

Saturday 8 March 2014, 9.30am-4.15pm Essex Record Office, Wharf Road, Chelmsford, CM2 6YT £15 including refreshments and buffet lunch Please book in advance on 01245 244614 For more information please see http://www.essexrecordofficeblog.co.uk/conferences/



### SATURDAY 12th July 2014 "BOUNCERS", WICKHAM BISHOPS, **ESSEX CM8 3JJ**

OPERA IN THE ORCHARD was started by Robbie Bishop. Whilst he was working in Rome he went to many operas and realised that opera was enjoyed by all the family from grandparents to grandchildren. With this in mind he opened up the gardens of his home for performances of classical opera, encouraging families to see opera for themselves in a relaxed atmosphere; children come free with their families. This is our twelfth year and many people have been coming from the beginning. This is still a family affair run by Robbie's children, grandchildren and friends.

We are thrilled to have Garden Opera returning to perform La bohème. The two previous years have been such a huge success; this is reflected in the many thank you letters we have received.

Giacomo Puccini's romantic depiction of bohemian Paris. This love story drawn from everyday life, has captivated audiences round the world, making *La bohème* one of the best-loved of all opera, containing some of Puccini's finest music.

The plot centres around a community of artists in Paris, particularly between the romantic relationship of poet Rodolfo and grisette Mimi. Their love is not without conflict and they are united tragically as Mimi returns to the garret and dies there, surrounded by her friends.

EARLY BIRD TICKETS £20PP BEFORE THE END OF MARCH

Price of tickets are £30 (1st April to 9th July) £40 (after 9th July) Children up to 18yrs FREE

Performance; 17:00hrs (gates open 15:00hrs) Interval 18:00hrs -19:30hrs

Refreshments - Make up your own picnics from the food stalls supplying local produce. Bouncers roast meat rolls, Caprilatte ice-cream, Lottie and Jakes cupcakes, licensed beer tent selling Farmers Ales from Maldon, wine, tea, coffee will be available before the performance and during the interval.

Camping - £10 per pitch per night.

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The journal

### **Margaretting Recreation Ground and Village Hall Trust**

Wantz Road, Margaretting CM4 0EP (Registered Charity No. 301365)

### What's on in February

**Mondays** 

Pilates 9.30 – 10.30am Main Hall
7 – 8pm Main Hall
Margaretting Friends – 17th – 7.30pm – Chelmer Room – All welcome

Tuesdays

Stitch and Chat  $-4^{th}$  and  $18^{th}$  9.30am -12 noon - Meeting Room Art Class  $-4^{th}$ ,  $11^{th}$  and  $25^{th}$  2 -4.30pm - Chelmer Room

Wednesdays

Dance to Fitness – 9.30 – 10.30am – Main Hall French Class – 10am – 12 noon – Meeting Room Over 60's Club – 5th and 19th – 2pm - Main Hall

<u>Thursdays</u>

Pilates 9.30 – 10.30am Main Hall
7.30 – 8.30pm Main Hall
Art Class – 6th, 13th and 27th 9.30am – 12 noon – Chelmer Room
Village Hall Committee meeting - 6th – 7.30pm – Meeting Room
Parish Council meeting – 13th – 7.30pm – Meeting Room
Essex Handicraft – Shaving Foam Marbling - 27th – 7pm – Chelmer Room

<u>Fridays</u>

Stitch and Chat – 9.30am – 12 noon – Main Hall

<u>Sundays</u>

Loose Threads Patchwork Group – 16th – 9.30am – 6pm – Main Hall Archery Club AGM – 2<sup>nd</sup> – 10am – 4pm – Main Hall

For further information please contact the Booking Secretary on: 07794 187741



### Save the Date for the Chelmsford Marathon!

Could Chelmsford be hosting the most scenic marathon in the South East? The J's Hospice are delighted to announce the date of the very first Chelmsford Marathon - to be held on Sunday 19th October 2014!

Essex boasts some of the flattest and most beautiful scenery in the UK, attracting runners of all levels, and the Chelmsford Marathon promises to establish itself as a unique race not to miss in the running calendar

With a route that takes runners through five of Chelmsford's most beautiful parks; Central Park - where the Marathon begins - through Admirals Park, Tower Gardens, Bellmead Park and the award-winning grounds of Hylands Park, via the picturesque village of Writtle, the route showcases some of the best of Essex countryside.

The idea for a Chelmsford Marathon was generated from some very keen interest and demand from local running enthusiasts who could see the need for The J's Hospice to showcase Chelmsford's new 'city' status and our beautiful parkland.

Over six months of planning, discussions and consultation have brought us to the point of launching the Marathon with the enthusiastic approval and backing of local authorities.

Dominique Brunning, Fundraising Manager at The J's Hospice had the following to say:

"We wouldn't have got to this point without the support of the local community - everyone has recognised this as a unique opportunity; not just runners but the general public have taken the idea - and run with it!"

Potential Marathon runners can register online or using dedicated leaflets from Tuesday 25th February - keep the date in your diary! Entry costs just £28 per person, but of course we're hoping that runners will raise their own sponsorship for a very worthy cause.

This event will raise much-needed funds for The J's Hospice as well as creating a lasting legacy for the City of Chelmsford of a successful marathon that can grow year on year, bringing visitors to the city and highlighting all that the city has to offer.

You can register to take part in the Chelmsford Marathon online by visiting www.thejshospice.org.uk from 25th February or call The J's on 01245 475474 to request a registration form to be sent to you.

### Love your library this February for the chance to win an iPad

This February Essex Libraries are celebrating National Libraries Day February 2014) and all the fantastic services they offer. During Februar new members who join the library will be entered into a prize draw to v an iPad. Existing members can get involved too; recommend a friend friends) to be entered into a separate prize draw with the chance to win iPad when their friend joins up.

New members are often surprised by the range of services which  $\epsilon$  available with a library card. Essex Libraries offer much more than boo (although there is still an unrivalled range of these too).

- Choose from hundreds of courses with computer based learning a online tutors available for support and guidance
- Help getting online courses from the basics of using a keyboard a mouse to online banking and shopping
- A wide choice of ebooks and e-audio books compatible with ma e-readers, smartphones, tablets, MP3 players and iPods
- Events and activities for visitors of all ages from Baby and Toddler Rhyr Times to the popular Summer Reading Challenge
- Access to the library online from home including the Homework Help Service and many online resources
- Make new friends at a Book Club, Knit and Natter group or view a locart exhibition
- · Library job clubs for help with job hunting, CVs and interview practice
- Free use of the library computers and free Wi-Fi for visitors who bri their own laptop
- Helpful booklists for advice on specific topics ranging from health parenting

Councillor John Jowers, Cabinet Member for Libraries, Communities a Planning, said: "We're quite rightly very proud of Essex Libraries as a pla for all members of the community to meet, read, share, enjoy and learr would encourage you to celebrate National Libraries Day by joining up by helping to spread the word to friends and family about the fantas services available."

Essex Libraries are free to join, in person at any library or mobile library or online at <a href="www.essex.gov.uk/jointhelibrary">www.essex.gov.uk/jointhelibrary</a>. Prize draw entries will accepted from 1 February to 15 March 2014. Prizes have been kind sponsored by BorrowBox.

**10** The journal

### WORCESTER AIR LTD.

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These days most of us are concerned about ways to protect our planet, especially for the future of our children for generations to come. We are being encouraged to recycle where we can and to make sure that we do not use more than our fair share of our limited natural resources.

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The products we use feature advanced air purification technology, so allergy sufferers and asthmatics especially will find this incredibly beneficial.

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### **Steve Dodge of the Independent Financial Advice Centre writes** Do Nothing and lose £137,500

April the 5th is the end of the tax year and once again we find that a decision must be made regarding pension funds as yet more rule changes come into effect. Doing nothing could easily cost you a fortune.

Currently we are all allowed a maximum pension fund of £1,500,000. It used to be unlimited, then £1.8M now £1.5M and on April 6th it reduces to £1.25M.

Now I can hear the cry "for goodness sake, how many people will this affect"? Well 360,000 of us apparently and the largest proportion of these are here in the South East.

The point is that it is possible to keep the £1.5million pound allowance if you sign a form to protect it, called "Fixed Protection". The downside of this is that you can no longer make any pension contributions, and you must not have applied for any previous form of protection "Enhanced" "Primary" or "Fixed 2012".

So, should you make a large, final perhaps, pension contribution before April 5th? If your fund is over £1.25 million on the 5th April you can also apply for "Individual Protection" so if your fund is say £1.4million you can apply to have that limit instead of £1.25M. The daft thing is if you apply for individual

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protection you can carry on making pension contributions!

But why limit your fund to £1.4M when it could be £1.5M. It is possible therefore that the right thing to do is apply for both forms

Please don't make the mistake of thinking your fund is presently well below the limits, you need to think what it could be in future. An £800,000 fund at 7% growth only takes 6.5 years to reach 1.25M! Even a £400,000 fund could grow to £1.25M in only 17 years without adding any contributions.

If your fund exceeds the limits, when you draw the benefits the surplus is returned to you as a lump sum, LESS 55% Tax!! Getting it right is therefore rather important. Signing a form before April 5th could mean an extra £250,000 in your pension "pot". Do nothing and you could pay £137,500 extra tax instead! April 5th is also the deadline for this year's ISA (Individual Savings Account) allowance. It is possible to invest up to £11,520 per individual in an Equity (Share based) ISA account and pay no higher rate tax (up to 45%), capital gains tax (up to 28%), or have to declare anything to the Inland Revenue.

There was a rumour that the Government would like to stop these accounts, or limit the amount you can invest as they are losing a lot of revenue, so make sure you use the allowance, while it

So should you make perhaps a final pension contribution before April 5th, apply for fixed protection 2014, individual protection, or invest in ISA's both before and after the deadline?

As usual your IFA should have the answers for you but please don't leave seeing them until the last minute, this is a complex situation requiring careful thought not a rushed last minute panic.

> 01277 (Billericay) 630873 97 High Street CM12 9AJ email: help@impartialadviser.com www.impartialadviser.com

### County Council to launch survey on usage of recycling centres

Essex County Council (ECC) is launching a new survey to look at

Essex County Council (ECC) is launching a new survey to look at how residents use recycling services across the county, starting on Monday 27th January 2014.

This survey is the start of a process to review and understand how recycling centres need to change in order to meet the long term requirements of residents, and to ensure this service is delivered in the most cost effective way for Essex taxpayers.

ECC currently operates 21 recycling centres located across the county, at an annual cost of around £6.4m. Significant investment in kerbside recycling services has been made in recent years by ECC and district, borough and city councils, which has resulted in fewer residents needing to dispose of waste at recycling centres. In addition, although many of the centres are modern purpose-In addition, although many of the centres are modern purpose-built facilities, it may be the case that some of the older sites may no longer be best placed to meet the needs of a modern recycling

ECC is currently facing significant financial challenges and needs to make savings of at least £235m over the next three years. The authority is therefore reviewing spend across all services, and waste management activities have to make a contribution towards this savings target.

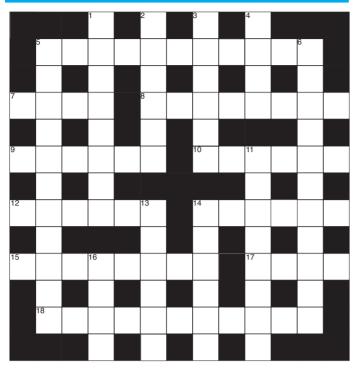
The survey will ask residents how they use the recycling centres and other recycling services at present, and what the most important features of the service are to them.

County Councillor Roger Walters, Cabinet Member for Waste & Recycling, said: "The County Council is keen to ensure that it continues to provide the very best recycling services for residents, however maintaining expenditure at existing levels in the current financial climate is unsustainable, and we have to look at where efficiency savings could be made.

"We are keen for as many residents as possible to complete this survey, to find out what is most important to them about our recycling centre service. The responses we receive will be carefully considered and reviewed alongside information we already hold on recycling centre usage.

The survey will be available to complete from Monday 27th January at www.essex.gov.uk/recyclingcentres. Paper copies of the survey will be available to pick up at libraries and recycling centres. The survey is open until Sunday 20 April 2014.

### CROSSWORD



#### **ACROSS**

- 5 Having a row with Tim, go in where there are patient people not yet treated (7-4)
- 7 Dwell tediously on heavenly kind of instrument (4)
- 8 They verify things in a game of draughts (8)
- Alteration in balance of money returned after payment (6)
- 10 Gregarious in the Channel Islands also (6)
- 12 Moves stealthily among commonly disliked people(6)
- 14 Eric's starting being a writer (6)
- 15 Own up to breaking rod in heavy fall of rain (8)
- 17 The impetuous rush out of Ireland! (4)
- 18 Think Dear Ed will turn out to be benevolent (4-7)

#### **DOWN**

- Speeds in to make up medicine (8)
- 2 Move round and round (6)
- All at sea, Reg consents
   (6)
- 4 Employment creating musical composition? (4)
- 5 Small firm making chart for the week that shows which way the wind is blowing! (11)
- 6 Academic cap is just the thing for the builder to use when mixing cement (6-5)
- 11 Fast naval vessel taking five to Crete (8)
- 13 She too becomes calm (6)
- 14 Master-switch controlling current (6)
- 16 Not any result from neon production? (4)



LAST
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ANSWERS

### Is Your Neighbourhood Switched On?

Please carry out a weekly task of setting your automatic light timers to come on earlier - It is now starting to get dark at around 16:00

As the autumn nights draw in it's time to think about the burglar out there and not leaving them "tell tale" signs that your home is empty and vulnerable. The art of illusion is to try and make it look as though your home is occupied even though you are not there. Provide that first impression to the "would be" burglar that this house is occupied, it looks too difficult to get into and that if they do try there is a good chance they will get their collar felt!

- Lighting, if your house is overlooked and there is the chance of burglars being seen they will prefer to go elsewhere, so get some decent lighting on your house. Dusk till dawn activated lighting on the front and rear with energy saving bulbs, not only deters the burglar but you can see who is at your door or around your home, and also when you return home you have a welcoming light.
- Burglars will prefer to gain access out of sight at the rear? Burglars will prefer to gain access out of sight at the rear. Where possible fence and gate access to rear gardens, top this with some trellis or spiky toppings (the spiky topping requires a warning notice). How about some defensive planting, what's this you ask.....something like Berberus, Pyracantha or Hawthorn around perimeter fencing or anything else you wish to protect i.e. domestic fuel tank (some garden centres sell more established plants).
- The illusion: Try to make it look similar to when you are there table lamps inside on timers (don't use energy saving bulbs with digital timers it shortens the life of the bulb) or use a "dusk till dawn" sensor (bulbs are now available with a built in sensor), a radio on a talking programme, it all helps. You can even buy a device now called "Fake TV" that mimics the light from a television. Out and about? For a little extra confidence consider carrying a personal attack alarm, many come with a torch and are quite cheap from DIY stores, internet etc. Most all be aware of your surroundings, avoid concentrating on mobile phones and music devices whilst out and about.

If you would like further advice on home security please contact Trisha Staerck on 101 extension 421132

### Wickford Breathe Easy

Wickford Breathe Easy, a social group for anyone affected by lung disease. Meetings take place on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at Small Hall, Our Lady of Good Counsel, 61 London Road, Wickford SS12 0AW, from 1.30 - 3.30pm. We offer mutual support/friendship/guest speakers and COPD information.

Come along (bring a friend) and join us for tea/coffee and a chat.

The speakers booked for the first few months of this year are;-

**Feb. 12th** Simon Dinsdale talk on his time as body guard and protection officer to royals/politicians

Mar 12th Brenda Weaver & Dog talk on training Guide Dogs for the Blind

April 9th Breathe Easy Groups Area Quiz Competition, open to all. (We could use the help) May 14th Entertainment by Sylvia LLoyd and her

keyboard

For further information contact Margaret on 01268 769843

or Dianne on 01268 524023.

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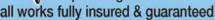
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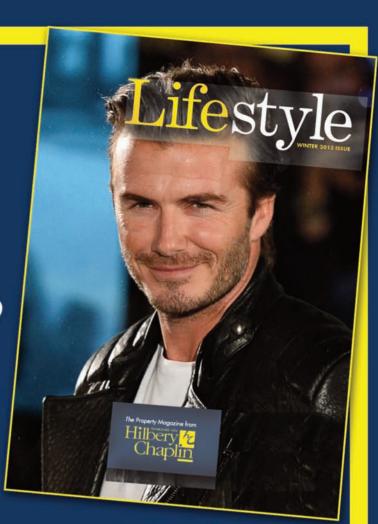
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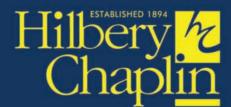


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