Dear Members,

Hopefully we are all keeping well and looking forward to our 2017/18 programme of events.

Although our coach company Swallows have increased their hire costs we are going to keep the coach seat price at £18. However I believe we will get the required numbers for our coach trips to maintain an overall balance of our finances, fingers crossed.

On the subject of support, if anyone feels that they could give some assistance with the running of our events, then please let me know and we could discuss which part of our group needs would suit the best.

As we have done in earlier years, if anyone would like to write a short account of a birding/nature holiday which was enjoyed, or perhaps an event which caused amazement/humour that you think we could issue, on our web pages or even in the next edition of this newsletter then please send me your article.

Carol Bonham who runs our 100 Club would like to encourage more members to join our charity fund-raiser, so if you would like to join or would like another ticket, give her a call. The cost is £12 per year and a draw is made twice each year. There are five prizes to be won starting at £100 followed by £50 then £25 and then two at £12.

Our Indoor Meeting on 12 January 2018 is not to be missed, Peter Holden MBE is presenting another of his illustrated talks entitled ‘Born to Travel’ the story of bird migration, including the migration strategies of other animals and insects.

Mike Hughes
The results of the 9 September 2016 draw were as follows;-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prize</th>
<th>Ticket</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>E.A.Marson</td>
<td>£100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Jean Cobb</td>
<td>£50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Mrs.J.Giller</td>
<td>£25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>Mrs.C.Piper</td>
<td>£12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>Mrs.C.Ashley</td>
<td>£12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The results of the 10 March 2017 draw were as follows;-

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Prize</th>
<th>Ticket</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mr.D.Dawson</td>
<td>£100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Jean Cobb</td>
<td>£50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mr.A.Shearman</td>
<td>£25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mary Goodwin</td>
<td>£12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>Mr.K.Sharp</td>
<td>£12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The next draw is on 8 September 2017 at the indoor meeting.

If you wish to join the 100 Club or take an additional ticket then please contact Carol Bonham. Entry into the 100 Club cost £12 per annum.

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**Publicity Officer**

I hope you have had a wonderful and relaxing summer and you are now looking forward to our new season of events.

Unfortunately, we continue to see a gradual decline in the number of people attending both our coach trips and our indoor meetings. And, I guess my role as Publicity Officer is literally, ‘to get more bums on seats’!

We have an exciting programme of events planned, and if you have not been before, then do please come along, we are a friendly bunch and you will be made most welcome. If you already get actively involved, thank you and have you considered inviting a friend or family member along with you next time?

We have our own Local Group Facebook page where you can keep up to date with all our events and contact us @rspbhavering

Please feel free to contact me, alanshearman@hotmail.co.uk or 07446083120 and I look forward to seeing you at our next event 😊

**Alan Shearman**
Blog - http://rovingbumbarrel.blogspot.co.uk/
NOTICE BOARD

Ruth Tombs

Ruth a long-standing member of our group, passed away in July. She had been a keen member and enjoyed both indoor and coach outings until health reasons made this difficult. She had also been an active fundraiser for the R.N.L.I. holding coffee mornings and selling merchandise. Ruth was awarded the RNLI Gold Medal for her work.

Janet Silver

Email addresses

As a group we are always looking to promote the sending of our newsletter via email. This saves the group the expense of having the newsletter printed, put into an envelope with a postage stamp and then finally posting. Of course not all of us have the method of receiving an email, but I would appeal to those who have, to consider supplying your email address for this purpose.

Mike Condon, our Information Officer, would welcome you to send your email address to him. This will enable our newsletter to be sent without delay and of course save the expense of creating and sending of the newsletter and your cost of supplying stamps to cover the postage.

Mike Condon’s contact information: Mobile telephone: 07973-724969
Email: rspb.havering@gmail.com

Data Protection Act (DPA)

The DPA is there to stop unscrupulous people gaining information for inappropriate and unauthorised proposes and as the data controller for the group I hold the following member’s information in an electronic format:

Name/ Address/ Telephone number/ E-mail address

These details are only used by committee members for the benefit of the RSPB Havering Local Group and its members. The data held will not be divulged to any other party.

You may at any time request to see what data we (RSPB Havering Local Group) hold on you and within 28 days we will reply. Every time you are contacted by e-mail you will be given the option of unsubscribing from our e-mail list.

Our preferred means of communication is e-mail as it is efficient and cost effective and if you do elect to have your information removed we will no longer be able to keep you informed of the group’s activities.

Mike Condon – Information Officer
EVENTS NOTES

**Coach Outings**

When booking a seat/ s on the coach please refer to the instructions on page 9. It is most important to provide a telephone number in case of late changes to the outing.

If you have booked a seat for a coach outing and are unable to attend, please advise Mike Hughes as soon as possible as other members may be on a waiting list.

You can phone Mike Hughes on the morning of the trip, between 6:00am and 6:30am if there are any late reasons for non-attendance.

**NB.** It does cause distress to the organisers if we fail to pick-up members.

All the coach pick-up locations are at bus-stops; -

- 07:00hrs - Redbridge Underground Station - bus stop on the A12
- 07:05hrs - Gants Hill (A12) – First bus-stop along Eastern Avenue – Eastward bound (coded EC)
- 07:10hrs - Newbury Park Underground Station (A12) – Station Bus Stops
- 07:30hrs - At Romford Town Centre on St. Edwards Way just after Church Lane, first bus-stop
- 07:37hrs - On the A12 Colchester Road, approx. 50yards after the Gallows Corner round-about.
- 07:45hrs - On the A12 Colchester Road, just past the traffic lights at Gooshays Drive.
- 07:47hrs - On the A12 Colchester Road, just before the junction with Dagnam Park Drive.

If you require any further information on the pick-up locations then contact Mike Hughes on 01708 250585

Coaches will leave exactly on the time stated, so please do not have an extra ten minutes in bed.

Please note that RSPB membership cards are required on all visits to RSPB reserves and failure to present a card may result in an entrance fee payment.

On all outings we advise strong waterproof footwear and warm waterproof clothing. Participants on coach outings should bring a packed lunch.

When muddy/ wet conditions prevail, please bring boot-covers for the homeward journey to avoid excessive dirtying of the coaches.

**We have been advised by Swallow Coaches** that it is a legal requirement that “before the coach can move off that all passengers are seated and have their seat belts in place. Also that we take note of all emergency exits in case of an incident” – similar to the advice given by airlines.

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**Indoor Meetings**

All meetings are held on the second Friday of the month in the upstairs Meeting Room at the Hornchurch Library; 44 North Street, Hornchurch RM11 1TB

Telephone; 01708 434903

**Doors open at 7:30pm** and the event **commences at 7:45pm**

There is a 5 minute interval at 9:00pm and all meetings **finish at 9:45pm**.

**Admission; £3.00 per person.**

**Note:**
The Library is next to Hornchurch Fire Station and it has a wheel-chair friendly lift to the upper floor. There are car-parking spaces at the rear of the Library and buses 165, 256 & 370 stop nearby.
Events Programme – September 2017 to June 2018

2017

8 September    Indoor Meeting – EWT Hanningfield Reservoir, Essex
Tonight we welcome Bill Godsafe, Essex Wildlife Trust Warden at Hanningfield Reservoir. His illustrated talk shows us the work and wildlife around the reserve. Tonight we also have the 100 Club draw.

30 September    Coach Outing – SWT Rye Harbour NR, East Sussex
An interesting area with varied habitats; sea, sand, shingle, pits and grasslands. Possible sightings at this time of year are early spring migrants or over-staying vagrants such as wildfowl, water-rail, bitterns, etc

28 October    Coach Outing - RSPB Titchwell Marsh NR, North Norfolk
This popular reserve on the north Norfolk coast has something for everyone. A walk from the visitor centre down to the sandy beach takes you past reed-beds and shallow lagoons which are often full of birds. You can sit on benches or watch from spacious, wheelchair-accessible hides.
In summer, marsh harriers float over the reeds, where bearded tits nest. On the lagoons are avocets, gulls and terns. In autumn and winter you can see up to 20 species of wading birds and lots of ducks and geese.
A well-stocked shop has a wide range of RSPB gifts and books and a large selection of telescopes and binoculars. There is a servery and inside eating area selling a selection of hot and cold food and drinks, as well as snacks and locally-made cakes. There is a separate toilet facility.

10 November    Indoor Meeting – Wildlife Down Under
A welcome return to a popular speaker, Chris Ward who is presenting his illustrated talk, ‘Wildlife Down Under’

25 November    Coach Outing - RSPB Pulborough Brooks NR, West Sussex
Pulborough Brooks is set in the sheltered Arun Valley within the South Downs National Park. The Visitor Centre and reserve are open all year and boast a great variety of habitats including wetlands, woodland, and heathland. Pulborough Brooks is a haven for a wide range of wildlife and the reserve offers a good cross-section of passerines, waders and wildfowl.
It also has four hides and three viewpoints, a café and toilet facilities.

8 December    Indoor Meeting - Christmas Social
Our annual get-together before the Christmas rush, a time for exchanging Christmas cards, chatting, a quiz, a raffle and of course the buffet supplied by all of our members.
Do come, it’s a fun evening - Entrance is free.
9 December  Christmas Ramble – RSPB Rainham Marshes NR
Come and join us for a gentle stroll around our local RSPB reserve to enjoy the views, fresh air and see some good birds at the same time.
Our local reserve with its modern visitor centre which has a café, gift shop and toilets.

We meet in the reserve car-park, off the New Tankhill Road, Purfleet at 10:00am.

2018

12 January  Indoor Meeting – Born To Travel
Tonight Peter Holden MBE presents an illustrated talk entitled ‘Born to Travel’ the story of bird migration.
The talk will also include the migration strategies of other animals and insects, helping to give a more complete overview of this fascinating subject. Not to be missed.

27 January  Coach Outing - RSPB Dungeness NR, Kent
The reserve is set amidst mile after mile of shingle. From the visitor centre you can look out through a huge picture window at all the water-birds on the large gravel pit just outside, often a rare grebe or diver is among them. There are six hides on the main nature trail.
Dungeness's position, jutting into the English Channel, makes it ideally placed to watch for migrant birds arriving or departing, with wheatears, swallows, martins and warblers regularly seen.
The visitor centre has a gift shop and sell hot and cold drinks and confectionary.
There is a separate toilet facility.

Seats cost £18.00 each. Please book before: 19 January

9 February  Indoor Meeting – Members Film Night
As in previous years we are looking forward to a relaxed fun evening, when our members show their own photographs. For those wishing to take part, contact Alan Shearman in plenty of time to plan the evening.
Contact details for Alan ; Email – alanshearman@hotmail.co.uk

24 February  Coach Outing - RSPB Frampton Marsh, Lincolnshire
A major new extension to this coastal wetland reserve includes a reed-bed, large freshwater scrapes and wet grassland. These habitats have all been created to bring the wildlife of the Wash closer to you.
Frampton Marsh is at the leading edge of visitor and habitat nature conservation planning. Designed to maximise every aspect of the new habitats and facilities for wildlife and visitors.
There are three hides for you to view nature.
New facilities include a visitor centre with toilets and a refreshments area where you can get a hot or cold drink and a snack.

Seats cost £18.00 each Please book before: 16 February

9 March  Indoor Meeting – Cumbrian Wildlife
Tonight’s illustrated talk is presented by John Attiwell, a former group member. His illustrated talk is of his time spent as Assistant Warden in 2015 at the Cumbria Wildlife Trusts, South Walney Nature Reserve.
Tonight we also have the 100 Club draw.
24 March  **Coach Outing - RSPB Lakenheath Fen NR, Suffolk**
At Lakenheath Fen, the RSPB has converted an area of arable farmland into a large wetland, consisting mainly of reed-beds and grazing marshes. The cranes which bred for the first time at Lakenheath Fen in 2007 should be more visible at this time of year. There are four viewpoints and one hide along the nature trail. There are toilet facilities in the visitor centre and they sell hot or cold drinks and snacks.

Seats cost £18.00 each  
Please book before: 16 March

13 April  **Indoor Meeting – A Journey Through the Seasons of My Local Patch**
Tonight we welcome Simon Ginnaw who is presenting his illustrated talk about the wildlife of his local patch which is Mote Park in Maidstone, Kent.

28 April  **Coach Outing – Paxton Pits NR, Huntingdon, Cambs**
77 hectares of lakes, meadow, grassland, scrub and woodland next to the River Great Ouse where you can enjoy a wealth of wildlife all year round.

Seats cost £18.00 each  
Please book before: 20 April

11 May  **Indoor Meeting - AGM and Guest Speaker**
An illustrated talk will be presented by a guest speaker, which will follow our AGM.

Note: If you feel you would like to give some of your time to assist the committee and would like to join in with our fund-raising efforts, then please don’t hesitate to contact a committee member at the meeting.

Don’t forget that your views and comments are important in keeping our group lively and interesting.

02 June  **Coach Outing - RSPB Minsmere NR, Suffolk**
Minsmere is the RSPB’s flagship reserve and I am sure that it needs no introduction as most of our members have been many times. There’s so much to see and hear at Minsmere: splendid woodland, wetland and coastal scenery, rare birds breeding and calling in on their migrations, shy wildlife like otters, the booming call of bitterns in spring, beautiful bugs and colourful wild flowers in summer. The visitor centre has a well-stocked shop with a wide range of RSPB gifts and books and a large selection of telescopes and binoculars. It also has a restaurant and toilet facilities.

Seats cost £18.00 each  
Please book before: 25 May
Committee members

Group Leader: Mike Hughes, 19 Bridge Avenue, Upminster, Essex. RM14 2LX
   Tel: 01708 250585 Mob: 07967 343861 or e-mail: mikeboyo15@gmail.com

Group Secretary: Janet Silver, 310 Brentwood Road, Gidea Park, Romford, Essex. RM2 5TB
 & Indoor Meetings: Tel: 01708 452171.

Treasurer: Mike Condon, 235, Coventry Road, Ilford, Essex. IG1 4RF
   Mob: 07973 724969 or e-mail: rspb.havering@gmail.com

Outings Organiser: Mike Hughes, 19 Bridge Avenue, Upminster, Essex. RM14 2LX
   Tel: 01708 250585 Mob: 07967 343861 or e-mail: mikeboyo15@gmail.com

100 Club Promoter: Carol Bonham, 14 Tennyson Road, Romford, Essex. RM3 7AD
   Tel: 01708 376822 or e-mail: carolbonham@sky.com

Publicity Officer: Alan Shearman
   Mobile - 07446083120
   Email – alanshearman@hotmail.co.uk
   Blog - http://rovingbumbarrel.blogspot.co.uk/

Information Officer: Mike Condon, 235, Coventry Road, Ilford, Essex. IG1 4RF
   Mob: 07973 724969 or e-mail: rspb.havering@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Mike Hughes, 19 Bridge Avenue, Upminster, Essex. RM14 2LX
   Tel: 01708 250585 Mob: 07967 343861 or e-mail: mikeboyo15@gmail.com

Support Members

Rainham Marshes Representative: George Fair

Film Night Organiser: Alan Shearman

Raffles-Indoor: Valerie Baker

Raffles-Coach: Rita Bloys & Malcolm Rush

Indoor Sales Table: Janet Silver
Please note we require booking by cheque or on-line, no cash payments please. It is recommended to book early to avoid disappointment.

**Booking by Cheque:**

1. Please make cheques payable to **RSPB Havering Local Group**.
   
   Send completed booking form and cheque to:
   
   Mike Hughes: 19 Bridge Avenue, Upminster, Essex. RM14 2LX
   
   If you require written confirmation of your booking please include a stamped addressed envelope.
   
   Note: If you supply your email address I can send confirmation by email.

2. If booking more than one trip, please provide separate cheques.

**Booking On-line:**

1. Send email to Mike Hughes explaining that you want to book a seat/ s on a coach outing.
   
   Include; name/ s; number of seats; venue; telephone number; pick-up location.

2. Mike will confirm your preliminary booking and will instruct you to proceed with the on-line payment. – See below.

3. When Mike receives confirmation of your payment, he will send you an acknowledgement that your booking is now completed.

**Electronic payment - Guide to paying on-line**

The following is a guide to setting up the online payment to RSPB Havering Local Group. It is based on HSBC / First Direct, but all Banks will follow the same “General Principle”, but some of the wording could well be different. Although anyone using online banking will be familiar.

1. Log-in to on-line banking
2. Select “payments & transfers”
3. Select “Pay a bill or transfer”
4. Select “Pay another Person”
5. Enter “destination sort code” - (30-90-79) (Lloyds Bank)
6. Enter “destination account number” - (31470168)
7. Enter “destination name” - (RSPB Havering Local Group) – as much of name as possible.
8. Enter “reference” – (Your surname & Initial) – 18 characters max
9. You may need to generate a “Transaction Security Code” as this is the first payment to RSPB Havering Local Group. (Bank Dependent)

**Date: 30 September 2017**

**Venue:** SWT Rye Harbour NR, East Sussex

From: ___________________________ Please reserve ____ seats at £18.00 per seat. Total cost of seats £_____

Tel no: ___________________________ Email address: ___________________________

Pick-up point (Please tick) : Redbridge Underground Station ☐ ; Gants Hill ☐ ; Newbury Park Station ☐

Romford Town Centre ☐ ; Gallows Corner ☐ ; Harold Hill ☐ ; Harold Park ☐

Please book before: 22 September.

**Date: 28 October 2017**

**Venue:** RSPB Titchwell Marsh NR, North Norfolk

From: ___________________________ Please reserve ____ seats at £18.00 per seat. Total cost of seats £_____

Tel no: ___________________________ Email address: ___________________________

Pick-up point (Please tick) : Redbridge Underground Station ☐ ; Gants Hill ☐ ; Newbury Park Station ☐

Romford Town Centre ☐ ; Gallows Corner ☐ ; Harold Hill ☐ ; Harold Park ☐

Please book before: 20 October.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>Pick-up point (Please tick)</th>
<th>Tel no</th>
<th>Email address</th>
<th>Please book before</th>
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<td>___________________________</td>
<td>Redbridge Underground Station ☐; Gants Hill ☐; Newbury Park Station ☐; Romford Town Centre ☐; Gallows Corner ☐; Harold Hill ☐; Harold Park ☐</td>
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<td>– 17 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 January 2018</td>
<td>RSPB Dungeness NR, Kent</td>
<td>___________________________</td>
<td>Redbridge Underground Station ☐; Gants Hill ☐; Newbury Park Station ☐; Romford Town Centre ☐; Gallows Corner ☐; Harold Hill ☐; Harold Park ☐</td>
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<td></td>
<td>– 19 January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 February 2018</td>
<td>RSPB Frampton Marsh NR, Lincolnshire</td>
<td>___________________________</td>
<td>Redbridge Underground Station ☐; Gants Hill ☐; Newbury Park Station ☐; Romford Town Centre ☐; Gallows Corner ☐; Harold Hill ☐; Harold Park ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 March 2018</td>
<td>RSPB Lakenheath Fen NR, Suffolk</td>
<td>___________________________</td>
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<td>– 16 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 April 2018</td>
<td>Paxton Pits NR, Huntingdon, Cambs</td>
<td>___________________________</td>
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<td>– 20 April</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 June 2018</td>
<td>RSPB Minsmere NR, Suffolk</td>
<td>___________________________</td>
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<td></td>
<td>– 25 May</td>
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The RSPB is the country’s largest nature conservation charity, inspiring everyone to give nature a home. Together with our partners, we protect threatened birds and wildlife so our towns, coast and countryside will teem with life once again. We also play a leading role in a worldwide partnership of nature conservation organisations.

The RSPB is part of BirdLife International, the global partnership of bird conservation organisations.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is a registered charity: in England and Wales no. 207076, in Scotland no. SC037654