

gratuit, and inrowing cuewing gun and cigarette butts on the floor, are all offences. Street scene enforcement officers can issue spot-fines, or start criminal proceedings against culprits.

Say on health

REDBRIDGE folk can have their say on health and social care services, as part of a new government scheme, LiNK so improvements can be made. Redbridge Local Involvement Network (LiNK) wants positive and negative feedback, and may meet healthcare professionals to make suggestions as a result. For more information or to add your views, visit the team at 3rd Floor, Forest House, 16-20 Clements Road, Ilford, call Ravinder Binning on 020 8553 1236 or email info@redbridgeLINK.net

Ghost stories

CREEPY Christmas stories will be performed at a Wanstead hall tonight (Thursday), in Ghosts of Christmas Past. Festive tales of ghosts, and ghouls, performed by Sarah Obermüller-Bennett, will be put on by Wanstead Historical Society at Warren Hall, Cambridge Park Road, Wanstead. Doors open at 7.30pm, tickets are £2.

Blaze probe

FIREFIGHTERS battled a blaze at a Springfield Drive, Barkingside, house, early Friday morning. Three people had escaped before a crew from Ilford fire station arrived at just before 3.15am. The fire damaged part of the ground and first floor of the building, a motorbike and a car. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

LIONS ROAR IN WITH HOSPITAL BEDS

FOURTEEN beds were delivered to a children's ward, as an early Christmas present last week.

The beds, donated by community group the Lions Club of Fairlop, will be used so parents can get a good night's sleep while they stay with their unwell children at King George Hospital, Barley Lane, Goodmayes.

Clover Ward manager Anne Honey described members as "angels in disguise" after the much-needed delivery.

Money for the beds, which cost £2,700, was raised in a charity walk by the Lions in the summer.

Asking what the hospital wanted, club secretary Paul Chakravarti was told of the desperate need for parents' beds.

Paul explained: "They said we couldn't have asked at a better time because they'd been trying to get funding for them. The parents had to sleep on chairs which were not very comfortable."

The cut-price beds were from Dreamland Beds and Furniture, Ilford. They also delivered them to staff at the ward.



● CHRISTMAS COMES EARLY: Little Olivia Ukueje, aged 20 months, with mum Stephanie, and Fairlop Lions president, Guy Jandoo in King George Hospital

Ilford Recorder - 18/12/08

By-election battle lines drawn

THE battle of Valentines is on, with three candidates hoping to win in next month's by-election.

Cliff Nadia Jabine Shariif (Lab) resigned in October after marrying and moving to Cardiff.

The by-election will be on Thursday, January 29, the winner joining Labour councillors Linda Eyre, and Virenda Tewari on the ward. Conservative candidate is businessman Ikram Wahid, aged 31, of Cavendish Gardens, Ilford.

The dad-of-three said: "I am standing, as I want to contribute something back to the community."

"I am keen to keep the streets clean and tidy and have surveyed the area and found out people are worried about feeling safe on the streets, and around Ilford train station, in Cranbrook Road. I will be giving these issues priority."

The Labour candidate is Surinder Pahl, 52, also a dad-of-three. He stood in the 2006 elections for Cranbrook, but lost to three Conservatives.

The freelance regeneration consultant and charity worker, of Courtland Avenue, Ilford, said: "I aim to promote community cohesion, fight crime and disorder, encourage recycling, and keep the area clean and tidy."

"I also hope to encourage younger people to vote and get involved." Shoaib Patel, 41, is the Liberal Democrat's man. The property owner said: "We have problems with a lack of school places, and a lot of work is needed to repair roads and pavements."

"A big issue is the lack of sporting facilities since Ilford Pool closed, and I will put pressure on the council to do something about this."



● CANDIDATES: From left, Surinder Pahl, Labour; Ikram Wahid, Conservative; and Shoaib Patel, Lib Dem

sex offenders register."

Redbridge Police was called to the scene, and handed a fine to the man, said to be a crew supervisor in his 30s, for urinating in a public place.

Miss Dowsett had dropped the incident exposure charge at the time because she "didn't want to relive the experience in court", but she has now decided to reinstate the charge because she believes the man is going to appeal the fine.

Mr Williams said: "Someone working at Enterprise (the company he was told is contracted by the council to collect refuse), told me the man 'won't be doing it again'."

A spokesman for Redbridge Council said: "We are aware of a complaint from a resident, and our refuse and recycling collection contractor is investigating."

She refused to say whether the man had been suspended or removed from certain duties.

The latest incident is not the first report of its type in the Recorder.

In November last year a binman was accused of defecating in Cavendish Avenue, South Woodford.

He kept his job after denying the claim.

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