The Resident

Billericay District Residents' Association

"Help us to help you"

Billericay Action Group

July/August 2026



Photo: Jamie Langridge

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Your subscription for membership costs £5, which includes 10 editions of The Resident or £3pa if a member takes the e-version.

Visit the BDRA Website at: www.bdra.org



URGENT: We Need You to Save Billericay District Residents' Association (BDRA)!

For 100 years, the BDRA has been proud to work for our community by campaigning on your behalf. In the past we have been influential in: -

- The formation of Billericay's Town Council.
- Campaigning for parent and child car parking spaces in the car park behind Iceland.
- With Billericay Society, we ensured that Sun Corner, the Queen Elizabeth II Field, was granted protected status in 2012, securing this vital green space and recreation area in Billericay in perpetuity.
- Fighting the draft Local Plan, which proposes 8,000 new homes to be built in Billericay, all on Green Belt. Our partner Billericay Action Group has led this challenge on its Facebook page Save Billericay From Housing Development and the BDRA has used its funds to pay for professional advice. While the plan is not right for Billericay, we will continue to campaign on your behalf and use our funds to pay for professional advice.
- Going forward we have new ideas, but in particular we are very concerned about the lack of public services and infrastructure being provided in the Local Plan to support the extra 8,000 new homes; especially the lack of planning relating to education facilities and the increase in traffic through the town.

We currently have vacancies for three very important roles, the Chair, Vice Chair and ExCo Secretary, as well as a Social Media volunteer. Already many of the Committee members are undertaking dual roles and because of a shortage of volunteers coming forward we are facing the very real possibility of having to dissolve the association entirely. None of the vacant roles require a massive time commitment, and the skills needed for the vacant roles are varied: -

- Leadership & Management
- Minute-taking: Recording notes during official meetings.
- Social media: Posting updates and engaging members.

Have you got a few hours to spare a month? Or have you or anyone you know have the skills mentioned above. If so, we urgently want to hear from you.

Take Action Now. Please don't let the BDRA disappear. Contact resident@bdra.org to arrange an informal, no-obligation chat to see how you can help keep the BDRA working for the community. Want to know more about us, please visit our website www.bdra.org .

BDRA VACANT ROLES

Social Media volunteer

We are seeking a creative Social Media Volunteer to help us amplify our engagement with our community, and grow our online presence. You will be required to create eye-catching posts and graphics across several platforms e.g., Instagram, TikTok, Facebook. Help develop fresh, exciting content for campaigns and events, and keep the community updated with what is happening in Billericay. What we're looking for is a creative thinker who knows their way around the latest social media trends. This could be your opportunity to do something for your community, while gaining some experience in Digital Marketing. *Interested? Please email resident@bdra.org*

Road Reps

A Road Representative is needed for Balmoral Close *(5 members)*
Contact jimandjanweir@gmail.com

BDRA NEWS



Billericay Action Group

Failing Our Future:

The glaring lack of education provision in the Draft Local Plan

As we have reported before, the emerging Basildon Local Plan is proposing the building of around 8,000 new homes within the three district wards of Billericay West, East and Burstead, the vast majority of which are in Burstead stretching to Dunton Road at Steeple View. These will be on several locations right across our area. However, the draft Local Plan document is contradictory, with the opening summary saying one thing and the specific site policies another. Our calculations based on the specific site policies equates to 9,100 homes being proposed.

Frustratingly, many of the proposed sites have been subject to speculative planning applications and we have seen 1,500 houses approved so far with a further 3,850 yet to be decided. A further 1,500 are yet to get to a planning application with no doubt more to come.

This scale of development will put huge pressure on our public services, especially education, where so far, we have only seen scant details of three new primary schools. One to the east of Southend Road, one off Tye Common Road and another at Dunton Road. We have no details of their size or when they would be completed.

The situation is no better when it comes to secondary education; There are no plans to build new secondary schools in Billericay, relying on new schools being built outside of Billericay to reduce the number of students coming from elsewhere that go to Mayflower and Billericay schools. This is a very fragile strategy as those new schools are far from guaranteed, especially when you consider that the Local Plan is proposing a further 20,000 new houses in those areas. The problem is everywhere!

The Essex County Council (ECC) approach is that each home generates a need for about 0.3 Primary places, and 0.21 Secondary places (excluding 6th Form). The difference being that primary schools have 7-year groups, and secondaries only 5. ECC regard 1400 houses as generating the need for a new standard sized primary school. The standard size school has 2 classes in each year group (though a few have 3); educating 420 children. Plainly the Council's current housing target for Billericay would require 6 or 7 new Primaries! School size is less cut and dried for secondaries, but you can see that a vast number of places would be needed, either in Billericay or other parts of Basildon.

Overall, adequate future education facilities look to be a serious concern, not just to the existing population of Billericay, but all the expected new residents who could also struggle to find their children places. We believe that the education planning is inadequate with nowhere near enough places being planned for the expected children from at least 8,000 new homes, especially when you consider that the current schools are close to, or at capacity today. There seems to be a disconnect between Basildon Council and the local Essex Education Authority in this regard. The latter being currently responsible for education provision, which brings into question whether adequate planning is taking place.

The final version of the Local Plan and the associated Infrastructure Delivery Plan have yet to be published. It might provide more detail on the plans for education, but we are not optimistic from what we have seen and investigated so far.

There will be a further public consultation called Regulation 19 where residents can express their concerns on whether the Local Plan has been soundly prepared. We encourage you to get involved in the process. We will provide more details once the dates of the consultation are known.

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BDRA website at: www.bdra.org

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What Are Your Memories of The Mayflower Hall?



In November this year we are celebrating the opening of the Mayflower Hall, Chapel Street, Billericay. It is the 100th anniversary. The hall was built for the use of Billericay United Reformed Church and for the community of Billericay.

There must be many stories about this building and its uses over the years, and if you have a special story to tell please get in touch with Margaret Dunn, ***margaretdunn78@outlook.com***

Celebrations as ex BDRA volunteer reaches 100



Meet Jean Casey, who used to deliver The Resident to homes in the Outwood Common area in the 1980s/1990s. She will be turning 100 on the 14th of July. She has lived in Billericay since 1960, before that living in Cairo Egypt and Accra Ghana. Her sons Martin and Niven are holding a small party at a local church hall on the 11th of July, in celebration of the occasion.

Being a road rep for the BDRA must be good for your health, we have had several reach 100. Either that or its just living in Billericay, with its great community.



REMINDER...

We can now offer an e-version of The Resident. If you opt to receive the e-version you will be required to pay your subs by bank transfer. If you take the e-version your subs will be £3pa, as opposed to £5pa for the hard copy.

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Hitting the High Notes for Charity

Local band Rumatica have gone from strength to strength over the last few years. Alongside performing at street parties, garden parties, fundraisers and celebrations, the band have also provided entertainment for organisations including Billericay Good Companions, WI, U3A, Probus, and Rotary, helping to raise money for many charitable causes. To date £13,000 has been raised.



Photo – From Left to right:
Backrow – Cliff Fudge, Les Clements, Alan Vowles, Alan Pattle
Middle – Maureen Chapman, Berna Edwards
Front – Trevor Anderson, Sue Fuller, Roy Saint

With a group of highly experienced and talented musicians, Rumatica create a truly unique sound. Their music features ukuleles across the full range — soprano, concert, tenor (both four-string and eight-string), and baritone models — combined with a mix of electro-acoustic and solid-body steel-strung instruments, either connected through a sound desk or amplifiers.

The rhythm section is powered by a Yamaha five-string bass and a Pearl Midtown drum kit, giving the band a rich and dynamic backing sound. With no boundaries when it comes to musical genre, Rumatica offer a varied and entertaining repertoire to suit all occasions.

More information can be found on their website: www.rumatica.co.uk, where there are also links to their Facebook and Instagram pages.
Maybe you are a BDRA volunteer and were at our 'Thank You' event on the 1st November 2023, and were entertained by Rumatica.

The BDRA will be celebrating our 100-year anniversary on the afternoon of the 9th October for our volunteers past and present, and Rumatica will be entertaining us again. We will be sending out invitations to those for whom we have an email address, and publishing an invitation in the September edition of The Resident.

If you would like to attend, you can get your name down early by emailing ***resident@bdra.org*** with your name and round number/position held. If a large number want to attend, we may have to restrict the numbers.

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Burghstead Lodge: *A Hidden Gem on our High Street*



Set slightly back from the High Street, adjacent to the library, Burghstead Lodge is one of Billericay's most historic buildings. A survivor of a time of Georgian elegance and prosperity, this fine brick house was built in 1769. The date and the initials of its first owner, Smith Taylor, a wealthy wine merchant and landowner, can still be seen on top of the rainwater pipes on the library side of the building. Taylor's family had long owned this land, and the house he built was substantial: set in nine acres of grounds, with a separate kitchen built onto the side, stables, a coach house, a barn and various outbuildings.

Auction catalogues from the 1780s, when the house was occupied by attorney James Vanderzee and his wife Philadelphia, offer a glimpse of its richly furnished interior: copper coffee, tea and chocolate pots, framed portraits of King George III and Queen Charlotte, and a four-poster goose feather bed among many other treasures. The only interior feature surviving from that era is the imposing oak staircase, now so fragile that only one person may use the upper part of it at a time.

From the late 1870s Burghstead Lodge was home to the Sparvel-Bayly family, whose daughter Edith left a vivid memoir of her childhood there. This is available to read in the library today. Edith describes modern gas lighting in every room, except for the dining room, where candlelight was considered more refined. Mr Sparvel-Bayly was an amateur archaeologist, and "Papa's study" resembled a small museum. He was also a writer who submitted various melodramatic stories to newspapers, including one featuring Burghstead Lodge and a ghost that was said to haunt one of the upstairs rooms. Having heard rumours of a hidden cellar, Mr Sparvel-Bayly managed to locate and open it up, only to find it contained nothing but a single empty wine barrel. Edith and her sisters played in the large garden and, she wrote, buried containers of "treasures" there for future children to find.

The next occupants, the family of Major General Brydges Robinson Branfill, made the house a centre of community life. In 1889 for example, a Christmas dinner was held here in for "aged women" from the workhouse, the British Legion used the grounds for their fete after the First World War, and in 1927 Billericay's first May Queen was crowned in the garden. After the Major General's death his widow and daughters continued his philanthropic work. The youngest, Damaris, a talented musician and familiar figure around town in her donkey cart, regularly held charity concerts at the Lodge.

Mrs Branfill died in 1935 and the house passed to Mr and Mrs Basil Brooks. During the Second World War the hidden cellar was reopened as a public air raid shelter, while a fete in the grounds raised money for a fighter plane during the 1943 "Wings for Victory" week. In peacetime the Brooks created a private bar in the main cellar, wryly named the Fall-out Inn. Its sign still hangs at the cellar entrance today.

In 1952 the Brooks sold the nine acres to housing developers, giving Billericay the streets named Everest Rise, Tensing Gardens and Mallory Way in honour of the conquest of Everest. The house was leased to Essex County Council for the Civil Defence Corps, set up in response to the cold war and threat of nuclear bombs. Fortunately, they never had to deal with such a catastrophe, though they did shelter flood victims in the cellar in 1958. Sadly, Mr and Mrs Brooks both died shortly after leaving Billericay when their de Havilland Comet flight crashed, killing everyone on board, and the house passed permanently into council ownership.

When the Civil Defence Corps was disbanded in 1968 the building became a public library, and in 1971 a modern extension was built on the site of the old kitchen and kitchen garden. The library moved into the new wing, while the historic rooms of the original house have since provided a home for the Citizens Advice Bureau, the Street Pastors and other community organisations — continuing a tradition of public service that stretches back to Mrs Branfill's garden fetes.

Edith Sparvel-Bayly's Victorian time capsules have never been found. Could they still be there, waiting to be dug up?

Rooted in Community: *The Wildflower Garden*

Have you seen the wild flower boarder created by Jon Chaproniére, of Garden Wise? Jon lives in a property backing onto the Queen Elizabeth Field, at Sun Corner. The field is mostly grass where children, teenagers and dog walkers congregate, but the area backing onto Rushdene Road, is a very rough overgrown area, full of brambles, rubbish and rats!

Jon is aware that the UK has experienced significant biodiversity loss over the last decade, with 16% of over 10,000 species assessed, now threatened with extinction. The Uk is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world, not something to be proud of. So, Jon being a professional gardener and a lover of nature, as well as Billericay could see the potential in this bit of waste land at the rear of his property and decided to do his small bit to help our struggling wildlife.

The first hurdle to overcome was to get permission from Basildon Council to whom the land belongs. Jon approached the Parks Department and was pleased to receive enthusiasm and support for his idea. When he first started to plant the area, there were a few misunderstandings; some residents thought that Jon was encroaching on land that did not belong to him. At one stage his wildflower boarder was vandalised, and he even received a letter from the Council solicitor, telling him that he was required to put the area back to its original condition without fail! Once Jon displayed the Council notices, giving permission to develop his wildflower boarder, there were no more misunderstandings.

Not only has Jon cleared the land and planted the seeds, he has installed a bug hotel, bird boxes and rocks, all to attract wild life. All this has been extremely successful in the first year. He has seen a huge increase in the number of insects and birds, particularly butterflies, apart from the pleasure of seeing the wild flowers bloom.

We are now in the second year of the project, the wild flower boarder is expected to look beautiful again, with further seeds planted and hopefully he will be able to attract hedgehogs by building hedgehog homes. He is still getting a lot of support from the locals. Children playing football, keep an eye on it the dog walkers continue to bring him seeds and take an interest and hopefully the inspiration to develop their own wild flower boarder.

If you are in that area, go and look, maybe take Jon some seeds or wildlife sanctuaries to help his project along. Maybe it will give you inspiration to get some of the community together and do the same. It is expected to start flowering this month, through to August. Not only is it helping the wildlife it is improving our environment and bringing pleasure to everyone who passes. Well done Jon!



If you want to speak to Jon of Garden Wise about starting your own wildflower garden or boarder, you can reach him on **07765444841**.

The photo was taken of the boarder last summer; Jon is hopeful that it is going to be just as beautiful this year.

Friends of Lake Meadows BILLERICAY

Registered Charity 1157058

July is a busy time at Lake Meadows! Not only do we have another Jazz in the Park event, but at the end of the week it is Love Parks Week.

Jazz in the Park takes place this year on Saturday July 11th between 4pm until about 7.15pm. As usual the Friends have a brilliant afternoon organised, with three great bands playing and, as in the past few years, a Pimms' stall manned by our friends the Billericay Town Rotarians.

At 4pm, Nimrod Margalit will be kicking off the event with his band and hopefully a few of his students too. They are followed this year by a new band - The Replacement Hipsters – a band of chaps who play music together for the hell of it! We can't wait to hear them! Finally, the Brentwood Jam Factory covers the last set - a big band with a difference, playing blues, jazz, funk, reggae & soul, this local band of intermediate instrumentalists enjoys playing under the guidance & enthusiasm of Julia Austin-Brenes. Some of them play by ear and some read the notes, whilst others improvise, backed by some professionals.

Do think of joining us. The event is **FREE!** Even the parking that afternoon will be free, by special arrangement!! Both the Lake Meadows car park and the Radford Crescent car park will be available, although, to be honest if you can walk to the park, it would be so much better! One couple were spotted last year with their festival trolley walking along Stock Road, loaded up as if they were off to Glastonbury! Bring your own chairs and a brolly if it's hot, as well as a picnic. You will find it's a great atmosphere, with children dancing in front of the stage and grown ups swaying to 'Sweet Caroline' and many other favourites. We say it is free, but we always have a collection and hope this year we shall make even more than last year – all of it going to improving the park and covering the cost of the event. Fingers crossed for good weather yet again!

Two weeks after Jazz in the Park, from July 24th to August 4th, the whole country will be celebrating **Love Parks Week**, an annual event organised by Keep Britain Tidy. All the Parks and Open Spaces in Basildon Borough are joining together to celebrate how important parks are to us all. Events during that week at Lake Meadows will include a 'Meet the Volunteers Session' at our Information Hut on Saturday 24th, along with a short survey of park users to find out **What you love about Lake Meadows** and the benefits it provides to you and your family. A scavenger hunt for children will be run for them to find interesting things around the park. Then there will be 'Have a go at Fishing' one day during the week and maybe one or two other sporty activities and Go Bonkers will hold their regular sessions. On the Tuesday, we shall be holding our usual gardening morning, when anyone can join the regular volunteer gardeners to help with a little weeding or dead heading! If any other Billericay groups would like to join in, then you are welcome to get in touch with our secretary who is helping organise events both here at Lake Meadows, and in the Basildon Borough. **secretary@lakemeadows.org.uk**



Photo by Peter Williams

Parks play a huge role in keeping our communities happy, active, and connected. Let's celebrate the beautiful green spaces that bring us together!

And finally, you can **Go Batty** with us at the end of August, looking for bats after dark!

We look forward to seeing you at the park! Do check the website for details. ***www.lakemeadows.org.uk***

National Emergency Briefing

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Billericay

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Teenage Triumph: Jamie Langridge wins Gold on the European Stage

Meet 17-year-old Jamie Langridge, who competed in the JKA European Karate Championships in Norway on the 8th & 9th May and came back with Gold, for England in the individual Kumite category. Jamie went to Norway with a team of 7 and their trainer Dave Paulus, from the Yushikai Karate Academy, of Radford Way, Billericay, and competed against twenty-three other countries.

Jamie practices a particular form of Karate called Shotokan, which is a traditional form and closest to karate's routes. Shotokan takes two forms Kata and Kumite. Kata is a routine sequence of movement, and Kumite is the contact sport. Jamie competed at both disciplines; at Kata he won Bronze and at Kumite he won Gold. He also competed in the team competition with two of his club mates, and they won Bronze.

Jamie comes from a sporting family, his dad has always participated in some type of martial art, his older brother has previously gained Gold in the JKA European competition, and his younger brother is already following in the family footsteps, but is too young to compete. This type of achievement has taken dedication, hard work and discipline from Jamie, who trains 10-12 hours at Yushikai Karate Academy, as well as working out in the gym and running. This is on top of studying for this 'A' levels at Mayflower School. He says it is not all hard work as he and his academy mates also have a good social life together and the discipline gained through Karate helps him particularly in his learning, but also in other parts of his life. He is also used to this level of dedication as he used to be a Gymnast in which he also competed at a national level. Regretfully, he could not sustain both Gymnastics and Karate at this high standard, so at 16 he had to choose; Karate won out.

Jamie as well as coming from a sporting background has had a top Coach in Dave Paulus, not only is he the coach at the Yushikai Karate Academy he is also the England Coach. Well done Jamie and all your team mates on these great achievements. We wish you well as you build on this success and look forward to sharing your next great sporting achievement, creating the next generation of champions.



Jamie Langridge, Zezhao Xiong, Dave Paulus and Oliver Sargood

Does Jamie's success make you think you would like to give it a go? Ready to start your own karate journey?

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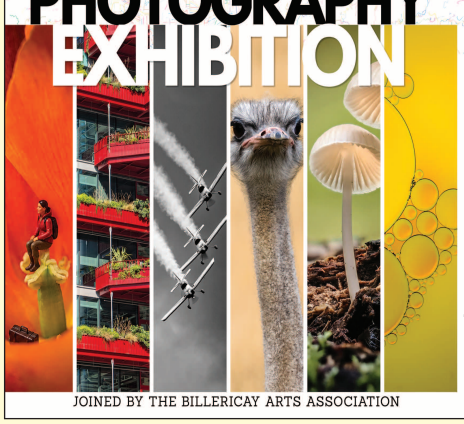
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Dates for your Diary!





Town Council Meetings

- **Billericay Town Council Meetings** Planning **7th July, 4th August, 1st, 29th September**; Health Wellbeing and Environment **14th July, 8th September**; Finance and General Purpose **23rd July, 24th September**; Full Council **30th July**. All meetings start at 7pm.



Clubs and Societies

- **Anna's Place** For older adults. Dementia friendly. Crafts, puzzles, games, music, singing, lunch, and refreshments 10.30am -2pm **every Tuesday**, Christ Church Hall, Perry Street, Billericay. For more information phone 01277 630144
- **Basildon and District Rambling Club** Come and join us for a walk on **Saturday afternoons** starting at 2pm SHARP. For further details go to https//basildondistrictramblingclub.co.uk or call our Ramble Secretary on 07890 585619
- **Basildon Mind** A local Charity focusing on helping people with their mental health. We hold pop-ups at the Humankind Café **every Wednesday**. We are still looking for Billericay Representatives. Contacts: 01268 289700, john@basmind.org
- **Billericay Archaeological and Historical Society** meet at The Fold, Laindon Road. Start time 8pm. **Monday July 13th** Captain James Cook and His Three Voyages – Richard Pusey. **Monday September 14th** Britain's Railways Between the Wars – Adrian Wright. Non-Members £3, Raffle £1, refreshments £1 per person. Contact alantaylor8@openworld.com
- **Billericay Art Club at The Fold Thursdays** 9.30-12.30 New members wanted to join small group of friendly, encouraging amateur painters at The Fold Refreshments and free parking available. Call Eileen on 01277 659347 for more information.
- **Billericay Choral Society** – Come and Sing, **Tuesdays** at 7.30pm, (term time only) at Methodist Church, Western Road, Billericay.
- **Billericay Dementia Friendly Community** is happy to report some new and exciting developments. Billericay Talks – open to all but designed to be particularly suitable for people living with dementia. **Second Friday of every month** at the Chantry Centre 10.30-12 noon. An opportunity to find out, question and talk. **June 12th** The Accidental Major- Bob Massey (ex Mayor of Chelmsford). Free to attend. We hope to see you there. Billericay Community Dance at the Chantry Centre, Chantry Way CM11 2BB. The first Wednesday of the month, 2-4pm. £5 entry, carers free of charge. An inclusive event for adults with SEN and a dementia friendly event. For more information Anna- Anna@bennettsfunerals.co.uk or Jo – Jocurd@bluebirdcare.co.uk
- **Billericay Flower Club** meet on **1st Wednesday of each month** at 7.30pm for 8pm start in WI Hall, St Edith's Lane, Billericay . Visitors welcome at £8 each. Contact billericayflowerclub@gmail.com
- **Billericay Handicraft Society** We meet at The Fold, Laindon Road on the **last Monday of the month**. We enjoy a range of activities with demonstrations from outside Speakers as well as practical crafting experiences from our talented 'in house' members. Visitors welcome £4. Refreshments provided. More information : judithisobel@talktalk.net
- **Billericay Horticultural Society Monday July 20th** Success at Shows, Thomas Carpenter; **17th August** Winter Interest in the Garden – Kevin Tooher (aka Sir Plantalot); **September 5th** Annual Show; **September 21st** Our Jungly Journey with Exotics – Steven Edney. Meet at Chantry Centre from 8-10pm. Visitors welcome £3.00. Refreshments available 43trouble@gmail.com
- **Billericay Lions Club** meet in The Duchess Suite at The Duke's Head PH on the **second Monday every month** 8-10pm. If you would like to make new friends, whilst helping those less fortunate than yourself, please get in touch 0345 833 9849. For more information www.billericaylions.com
- **Billericay Men's Shed** Generally **fortnightly** – **Mondays** – Tea 'n chat, **Tuesdays** – Woodworking, **Wednesdays** – Volunteer supported sessions for those with dementia and their carers. Meet in Lake Meadows adjacent to the Bowls Pavilion. Contact billericaymensshed@gmail.com or phone 07544 752686.
- **Billericay Branch of The Mother's Union** meet on **4th Wednesday each month** at 1pm for 1.30pm start in the Mayflower/Pilgrim Rooms of The Emmanuel Archer Hall 66-68 Laindon Road, Billericay CM12 9LD. We have a variety of Speakers and activities. Contact Pauline 07939102945
- **Billericay and District Parkinsons Support Group** We have **every Monday and Tuesday** at 11.30am at Studio360 our exercise classes; every other Tuesday Let's Sing Group meet at 2pm in Christchurch, Wickford, our Walk and Talk Group meet **every Thursday** at 11am at main entrance of Lake Meadows to walk a loop or two and tea at the end; Monthly meeting on **3rd Saturday of each month** at Emmanuel Hall at 2,30pm.
- **Billericay Enigma Ensemble** meets on **alternate Mondays** in term time at St. John's Church, Outwood Common Rd. CM11 2LE from 11am-1pm. Parking on site, Most instruments accepted. No auditions, see www.enigmaensemble.co.uk. Contact theo@theotodman.com or phone 07908-076303
- **Carers Peer Support Group** meet at 2pm in Education Room of Billericay Medical Centre on **last Monday of the month**. To book: Contact Jenny. Goodson@carersfirst.org.uk
- **Gone Too Soon** Bereavement support group for Parents who have lost a Son or Daughter in any circumstances and if recent or a while ago. Meet at The Chantry Centre, Chantry Way **Monday 13th July**, **August 10th** and **September14th**. Parents are given a warm and friendly welcome in a safe environment. Contact Lyn on 07387805406 or e-mail lyn-currie@hotmail.co.uk www.gone-too-soon.online
- **Hearing Help Essex** – Hearing Aid Support Session. **Monthly** maintenance sessions for NHS hearing aid users at The Chantry Centre. To book an appointment call 01245 496347, text -07950 406173 or book online at www.hearinghelpessex.org.uk
- **Mayflower Morris Men** The town's Morris Men practise on **Thursday** in St Mary Magdalen, High Street at 7.30pm. Beginners, dancers and musicians- old and young welcome! Tuition is free. You supply the hankies; we do the rest. For more information 01277 654228 or http//www.mayflowermorris.com.
- **Midweek Break Community Social 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month**, 2-4pm at St. John's Church, Outwood Common Road, CM11 2LE. Join us for chat, games, activities, guest speakers and more. All adults welcome. No need to book. Free entry and refreshments.
- **Offshoots Singing Group** meet on **1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month** at St Johns Church, Outwood Common Rd CM11 2LE from 7.45-9.45pm. No auditions. Parking on site. Contact geoffrudd47@gmail.com or phone 07763424206.
- **Peer Support Group for Late Diagnosed Neurodivergent Adults** This is a welcoming space for adults who have discovered their neurodivergence later in life. Meeting the **1st Wednesday of every month**, 6.30-8pm at The Chantry Centre. Please register your attendance by searching "better late than typical" on Eventbrite, Supported by www.safeessex.org.uk
- **Photofold Camera Club** meet at The Chantry Centre, Chantry Way on **Tuesdays** 8-10pm, doors open at 7.30pm. Info at www.photofold.org.uk
- **Probus Retired Men's Club** Join other retired professional and businessmen at our **monthly** lunch, usually with a Speaker. Contact Steve on 07817 694980 or stevejk88@outlook.com for more details.
- **Probus Club of Billericay and Shenfield** welcome retired gentlemen members to our 3-course lunch meetings, which includes a guest Speaker at Mount Avenue Banqueting Suite, Hutton on the **last Thursday of every month**. Please contact ianmarshall112@gmail.com for more information.

- **Billericay Ladies Probus Club** If you are retired and would like to make new friends, join us for a **monthly** lunch, chat, and speaker. Contact stephanie4probus@gmail.com for more details.
- **Outwood Common Tenants and Residents** Chat with a Cuppa – A warm space and a friendly face **every Friday** 10-11.30am, for an informal chat, a cuppa, and biscuits. Everyone welcome. St. John's Church, Outwood Common Rd CM11 2LE
- **Remus Horse Sanctuary 12th June** Summer Sale, Stock Village Hall 11am -2pm; Afternoon Tea at the Sanctuary. 2.15pm start. £25 pp. Booking essential. **13th July**, **20th July**, **17th August**, **14th September**. **15th July** Remus AGM 11am at Billericay Reading Rooms – limited to members of the Sanctuary. Summer Sale at Billericay Reading Rooms 9am-4pm **18th July**; Online Auction, via Remus Facebook Page, starts at 11am **19th July**, **16th August**, **27th September**. Open Day at the Sanctuary 2**nd August**, **6th September** 1-4pm. Curry Lunch at Nirvana Indian Restaurant, Ingatestone. £22 per person. 2pm for 2.15pm start. Booking essential **19th July**, **16th August**, **27th September**. Contact Office 01277 356191; Contact https://www.remussaecembernctuary.org/events.
- **Royal British Legion Billericay Branc**h meets on **last Wednesday of the month** at 8pm in the Chantry Centre. You do not have to have served in the Forces to join or help. Contact Derek on 07757 313688, derekgprior@hotmail.com
- **The Next Chapter Bereavement Group** We meet **every 2nd Saturday of the month** at Emmanuel Church Hall at 10.30am-12.30 for coffee and chats for widows and widowers. For more information ring Sandra 07957 348006
- **The Wallace Singers** Summer Concert 'United in Song', songs from around the world. **Saturday 11th July** at 7.30pm at Wessex Auditorium, Brentwood School CM15 8EE. Price £15 for adults, children 14 and under £8. Box Office 0333666 33 66 htpps//www.ticketservice.co.uk/the-wallace-singers
- **U3a** Membership Subscription is £15 for the year, £10 if joining after 1st October. Guests are invited to attend 2 meetings a year at a charge of £2. If they then decide to join, this fee will be refunded. Meetings start at 2.30pm on the **4th Friday of the month. 24th July** AGM. Richard Pusey The London of Samuel Pepys. Meet at Canon Roche Centre, 21, Laindon Road, Billericay. Contact bb.u3asite.uk
- **APPLE Bridge** Friendly Club for Duplicate Bridge, meets at Hannakins Farm, Rosebay Avenue on **Wednesday mornings**, 9.30am for a 9.45am start. Sessions cost £3 per session. Plenty of parking available. Contact Sandra Lowe 07552 753075
- **Anne Owen Bridge Club** meets at Hannakins Farm Community Centre, Rosebay Avenue CM12 0SY on **Tuesday afternoons** at 1.15pm for 1.30pm start for friendly bridge. Members £3, Visitors £4 per person per session. For further information, contact Mrs Janet L'Estrange on 01277 624078.

Cater Museum

Monday 6th July Cater Museum Talks. Last Orders: Our history of pubs, inns, and brewing 7.30pm-8.30 (doors at 7.15); Chantry Centre, Chantry Way. Tickets are £5 and are available via our website's events page or on the door.

Monday 17th July Cater Museum Fundraiser Quiz. 6.30pm-8.30 (doors at 6); Chantry Centre, Chantry Way. Tickets are £15pp (which includes a welcome drink) and there is a maximum of six to a team. Tickets are best booked in advance via our website's events page and your team can win an escape room experience for six courtesy of Hackers! We'll also be unveiling our exciting new partnerships!

Monday 7th September Cater Museum Talks. Billericay's Zeppelin: The Last Flight of the L32. Back by popular demand! 7.30pm-8.30 (doors at 7.15); Chantry Centre, Chantry Way. Tickets are £5 and are best booked in advance (available via our website's events page).

Monday 5th October Cater Museum Talks. Hidden Things: Folk, Magic, and Memory. 7.30pm-8.30 (doors at 7.15); Chantry Centre, Chantry Way. Tickets are £5 and are available via our website's events page or on the door

The WI

- **Billericay WI** meet at the WI Hall, St. Edith's Lane at 2pm on the **first and third Wednesday of each month**. Contact 01277 624255.
- **Buttsbury (Billericay) WI** meet on the **2nd Tuesday of the month** at Canon Roche Hall 8pm-10pm. New members welcome. For more details contact Jan Nash on 01277 630147
- **Little Burstead WI** meet on the **second Thursday of the month** from 2pm-4pm at Little Burstead Village Hall. Contact 01268 491396
- **South Green WI** meet on the **third Thursday of the month** at South Green Memorial Hall, Southend Road. CM11 2PR. Contact 01277 652739



Fitness and Sport

- **Billericay parkrun** Every **Saturday** 8.45am at Lake Meadows, parkrun provides a free, timed 5k run, jog or walk for all standards from 4years+ Visit www.parkrun.org.uk/billericay or visit our Facebook page.
- **Lake Meadows junior parkrun** Every **Sunday** at 8.45am at Lake Meadows, parkrun provides a free, timed 2k run, jog, or walk for all standards from 4-14 years. Visit www.parkrun.org.uk/lakemeadows-juniors/ or visit our Facebook page: Lake Meadows junior parkrun
- **Billericay Town Walking Football** e train at Billericay Town FC. Men 50+on **Mondays** 8pm-9,30pm, **Tuesdays** 10-11.30am and **Thursdays** 10am-12pm, **Mondays** 6.45-8.15pm for Ladies 40+. All levels are welcome. All sessions £6. E-mail Bill at btfcwf@gmail.com for more information
- **Outwood Common Tenants and Residents** – Seated Yoga **Friday** 11.15-11.45am at St John's Church. £1.50 a session. **First session free.** Open to everyone of all ages and abilities

To advertise your event here, please email resident@bdra.org

Deadline for the next issue is 10th August for events taking place between 10th September and 9th October

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Billericay District Residents' Association COACH TRIPS



ON THE DAY OF THE TRIP ONLY THE EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER IS 07518 122647

Please note that all payments should be made as soon as possible and sent to the person named on the trip advertisement. Cheques should be made payable to BDRA and the trip title shown on the back of the cheque.
Departure points for all trips:
QPR – Queens Park Roundabout *(for holiday trip only)*, GG – Gooseberry Green, bus stop at roundabout, OA – Orchard Avenue, approaching Stock Road, LR – Laindon Road, bus stop between Sun Corner and the fire station, SG – South Green, bus stop to Wickford, opposite the retirement apartments

Please note – When a trip is confirmed the fare must be paid as soon as possible.

If you are a solo traveller on a trip, we ask you to provide a contact number when booking, in case of an emergency on the trip.

SATURDAY 25TH JULY – SNAPE MALTINGS AND ALDEBURGH

SEATS ARE AVAILABLE – PLEASE PAY NOW

We begin our day at Snape Maltings, sited on the River Alde, surrounded by an area of outstanding beauty. You can decide to just sit by the river and take in the surroundings or visit a collection of stylish, independent shops & the galleries housing, a collection of carefully selected home wear, clothing, ceramics and much more. Before we leave enjoy a coffee in the eateries all housed in Victorian buildings.

Leaving Snape Maltings we make our way to Aldeburgh, a town situated on the Suffolk coast. Aldeburgh is world renowned, thanks to its connection with Benjamin Britten. Pastel-coloured 19th Century holiday villas line the promenade and to the east, the pebble beach with fisherman's huts. Many people are attached to the whimsical charm of Aldeburgh with its vibrant arts centre, bustling shops, award winning Fish & Chip shop & the museum housed in the iconic Moot Hall, one of the UK's most important timbered framed public buildings dating back to the early 16th Century.

Cost: £24.00.

Depart: GG 8.00am. OA 8.05am. LR 8.10am. SG 8.20am. Back in Billericay approximately 6.30pm.

Yvonne Cave. 11 The Vale, Stock, Ingatestone, Essex, CM4 9PW.
Telephone 01277 840560

SUNDAY 23RD AUGUST – FOUR HOUR HORSE DRAWN CRUISE WITH PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH

We arrive at Kintbury at 12 noon and board our horse drawn barge. We will enjoy a four hour cruise on the beautiful Kennet and Avon canal. Lunch includes a baguette, butter, three varieties of cheese, pickle and cherry tomatoes. Tea, coffee or a soft drink is included. There is a bar where you can purchase drinks and snacks. There is also a toilet on board. Weather permitting, we can walk along the tow path if you want to stretch your legs.

Cost: For coach, cruise and lunch £66.50.

Depart: GG 9.00am. OA 9.05am. LR 9.15am. SG 9.20am. Back in Billericay approximately 6.30pm.

Kathleen Fox, 72, Perry Street, Billericay, Essex, CM12 0ND.
Telephone 01277 622342

★ NEW TRIP ★

SUNDAY 16TH AUGUST – ZERO 2 BUS MUSEUM AND TRIP ON A VINTAGE BUS

Join us on a fun day out at this recently opened vintage bus museum at Great Yeldham. The museum house 60 buses ranging in age from 1932 to1938. Most are displayed in their restored condition but some can be seen in a state of restoration which is lovingly done on site. You can board the buses and explore them at your leisure, some of which you may recognise from their appearance in films such as Call the Midwife, Christopher Robin and A Good Night Out. There is also an exhibition of 10,000 models of buses, coaches, trams and trolley buses. Hot food, drinks and ice creams are available on site. If you prefer you can bring your own picnic. In the afternoon we will be taken out on one of the vintage coaches on a tour into the Essex countryside. The site is fully accessible for wheelchair users.

Cost: Adult: 32.50. Child: £23.50 age 5-15 which includes coach, entrance to the museum and the trip on the vintage coach.

Depart: GG 9.00am. OA 9.05am. LR 9.15am. SG 9.20am. Back in Billericay approximately 6.00pm.

Please telephone to book after 9.00am on Tuesday 14th July

Kathleen Fox, 72, Perry Street, Billericay, Essex, CM12 0ND.
Telephone 01277 622342

If concession prices are quoted (i.e. seniors, children) these should be requested at the time of booking or the full price will apply. In the event that you need to cancel all efforts will be made to resell your tickets, however if we are unable to resell your tickets you are liable for payment.

PRIVACY NOTICE We understand that you consented to BDRA holding personal details about you when you subscribed as a member of the Billericay District residents' Association and a recipient of the Resident magazine. The information which we hold is your name and address, and we may hold additional information which you have provided such as your email address and/or telephone number.
We hold this data for the purpose of delivering the Resident Magazine to you and to collect and administer your subscription payments. We will hold your personal information only for as long as is necessary for these purposes. Personal data is held securely and will not be shared with any third parties. You have the right to request to see what information we hold about you. You have the right to instruct us to delete your personal information from our records at any time. This would result in the termination of your membership of the BDRA.