

The Resident

Billericay District Residents' Association



May 2025

Photo: St Mary the Virgin at Little Burstead by Linda Skaret – Photofold Camera Club



***Don't forget – The BDRA Annual
General Meeting – 21st May PAGE 2***

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at The Billericay Men's Shed PAGE 4***

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Your subscription for membership costs £5, which includes 10 editions of The Resident.

Visit the BDRA Website at: www.bdra.org

Billericay Needs You!

BDRA VACANT ROLES

Chair Good Chairs are – Assertive, Decisive, Good Listeners, Adaptable, Diplomatic, Impartial Attentive and Concise.

Do you think you have these skills? Do you care about the future of Billericay? Have you some time to spare?

You sound just like the type of person we are looking for. BDRA now has a vacancy for a Chair.

If you are interested, please contact resident@bdra.org



Road Reps

We are desperately in need of new volunteers to help us distribute and manage our magazine. Can you spare just a few hours a month to help us deliver our magazine to your street?

A Road Representative usually covers the same roads once a month.

Brookside (15)

Contact jimandjanweir@gmail.com

Area Membership secretary for Great Burstead & South Green

Membership Secretaries look after their particular area. The role will normally take a few hours a month and would suit anyone looking to give something back to the community. Use of email would be an advantage. Interested?

Contact resident@bdra.org

BDRA NEWS



"Help us to help you"



Planning Matters

The latest public consultation on the emerging Basildon Local Plan closed in April. We are not expecting any further public activity on the plan until the council publishes a final version towards the end of this year. There will be another consultation at that point. Basildon council is working towards submitting the final Local Plan to the Government for examination early next year.

Bln parallel to the Local Plan, we are continuing to see planning applications being submitted for large scale housing estates on our Green Belt land, the latest being for 310 houses off of Greens Farm Lane.

This location was muted for development as long ago as 2013, and as recently as last year the land agent held a consultation on their plans. No doubt emboldened by the Government's relentless focus on house building, changes to national planning policies making it easier to get planning permission, and the recent approvals of other Green Belt developments around Billericay, it is not surprising that this new application has come to light. Sadly, we don't think it will be the last with developments on Outwood Common Road and Southend Road being considered. Our Green Belt is in danger of becoming grey! To keep up to date with planning matters please follow the Billericay Action Group on their Facebook group 'Save Billericay From Housing Developments'.



Members of the BDRA Committee inspecting the picnic bench for wheelchair users, purchased by FOLM with a donation given on behalf of our members. (See FOLM article page 6)

You are invited to The Billericay District Residents' Association

Annual General Meeting 21st May 2025 at 7.30pm

As a member you are invited to our Annual General Meeting at

**The Parish of The Most Holy Redeemer
Laindon Road, Billericay CM12 9LL**

Our speaker will be HM Deputy Lord-Lieutenant of Essex

Professor Michael Almond QVRM AE DM MRAes FRCP DL VR

Appointed in 2020



Mike spent almost 25 years as a consultant physician at Southend University Hospital before joining Anglia Ruskin University as the Professor of Veterans and Families Studies in 2018. He was an RAF Reserves Medical Officer for over 30 years being mobilised 5 times including duty in the Middle East, Afghanistan and South Sudan as an aeromedical evacuation officer and a physician. He is County Chairman of the Essex Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association and sits on the Essex Civilian Military Partnership Board. As a Liveryman of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries he is a Freeman of the City of London. Originally from Yorkshire he has lived in Billericay since 1991 with his wife Jean.

After the HM Deputy Lord Lieutenant's talk, the agenda will include: -

Chair's Report, Local Plan Report, Treasurer's Report, with the Accounts and the election of the Independent Examiner, Motions put forward by the Committee, see below, and Nomination of Officers, see below.

Proposed Motions to be put forward by the Committee: -

Changes to the Constitution

- Housekeeping – Throughout the document, the title of Editor has been amended to Magazine Coordinator.
- Section 6d has been replaced to read: A minimum of 21 days' notice of the AGM date, time, place, and agenda, shall be provided to members. The agenda shall include the election of the officers, the financial report, and any motions proposed by the ExCo. The detail of any Motions, Nominations for Officers and the Auditor, shall be provided to members, a minimum of 14 days before the AGM.

The 2024 version of the Constitution, and the 2024 draft AGM minutes can be found at bdra.org/Assoc-Papers.

Officers to be nominated for 2025-26: -

Executive Committee

Chair
Vice Chair
Treasurer
Secretary
Magazine Co-ordinator
Membership Database Sec

Vacant

**Stephen Chapman
Susan Harrington
Marian Jones
Viv Burling
Gordon Shand
Andrew Wilson**

Billericay Action Group

Chair

Phil Dove is nominated as the Independent Examiner

Motions, Nomination for Officers and the Independent Examiner, can be put forward by Members as long as they are received by the Secretary at resident@bdra.org, at least 14 days before the AGM.

THE RESIDENT is published by the Billericay District Residents' Association.

Vice Chair: Stephen Chapman. Magazine Coordinator: Viv Burling. Email: resident@bdra.org

BDRA website at: www.bdra.org

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Our holiday at Howden Court Hotel, Torquay

A great time was had by all on the holiday at Howden Court Hotel, Torquay, between the 15th and 21st March. The weather was superb so everyone could get out and about. The photo was taken at the Texas themed entertainment night. **Want to join in?** See the new holiday advertised on page 12 for March 2026. **Don't wait, these holidays are quickly fully booked.**

Our best wishes go to Pat who is back home recovering from a fall she had on holiday.



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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The Men's Shed



Have you heard of the Men's Shed? It's an initiative that was developed to offer a safe and supportive space for men to socialise with like minded individuals and have fun through activities such as woodworking, quizzes and games. It's particularly aimed at men who are dealing with changes in life brought about by retirement, dealing with mental health issues, or just looking for a bit of male company.

The Men's Shed started in 2019 at Little Burstead Hall and was set up by friends, one of whom had a father living with dementia (seeking practical activity), and got underway locally with the help of the Essex Shed Network.

Little Burstead Village Hall Committee, kindly provided the accommodation, and there were many generous donations received from local community groups, individuals and national charities.

Sessions are now held at Lake Meadows, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and for each session there is a charge of one pound. Every session has a different focus. Mondays are for a cuppa and a chat, Tuesday is woodworking, after all that the main purpose of a man's shed, and Wednesday is for those dealing with dementia and their partners. This is the only day at present, that is for men and women.

Their woodwork is supported by Friends of Lake Meadows, whom the group help with the renovation of benches and the construction of small items required in the park. Groups of children from Quilters School attend regularly and help finish these and other products, by sanding and painting. The results of their work are available for a donation at one of the events they hold or attend and are very much appreciated by all at the shed.

Upcoming events, where the Shed will have a pitch:

**Norsey Woods Spring Fayre
11th May**

**Blackmore Village Fayre
25 and 26th May**

They are particularly proud of the dementia group; as well as offering

activities for those living with dementia and their partners, family or carer, it is a time when carers can get support. There is always help or advice or just a kind word from someone who is in the same situation, or maybe just a 10-minute break to go and make a cuppa and have a chat while someone takes over the caring role. Singing and dancing supported by a local musician, is particularly popular and the group performed at the Volunteer Awards Ceremony at the Towngate Theatre on the 4th March. The Happy Wednesday Dementia Group also hold a pop-up session at the Human Kind Café on the last Wednesday of every month with music, art, crafting and games.

Is this for you, are you missing male comradery, looking for a different focus in life, or just a friendly face and a chat? Then you should head for Men's Shed next to the Bowling Club, in Lake

Meadows, where there will always be a warm welcome.

Quotes

- **Jan** who is a trustee and has been volunteering for 2 years, said *'she retired early and this voluntary role has given her a new purpose in life'*.
- **Wayne**, said *'he had worked with men all his life and missed the chat and banter, and it gave him a break from the wife!'*
- **Bob** said that *'visitors to the Men's Shed all come as different people, but when you get here you are all the same and it has certainly helped with my mental wellbeing'*.

The Committee thought this was a great community initiative, helping men struggling with change in their lives and supporting those living with dementia and their partners. In recognition of Dementia Action week, the BDRA has donated £100 to this initiative.

Billericay's Dementia Action Week 19-25 May 2025



Dementia Action Week runs from 19th to 25th May this year and the Billericay Dementia Friendly Community will be raising awareness and taking action to support families living with dementia.

To raise awareness of how important it is for us all to do our best to understand and show empathy for members of our community living with dementia, shops, cafes and business in the High Street (and beyond) are invited to turn their windows forget-me-not blue and to display posters to raise awareness and signal support for people living with dementia. If you would like posters or more information, please message us via our Facebook page.

On Friday 23rd May from 10.00am to 1.00pm, you are invited to come along to the Chantry Centre for coffee and biscuits and meet representatives from organisations and support services who will be able to advise and support you if you are worried about a member of your family or a friend who has a dementia diagnosis or who may need to go through that process.



Basildon Council Community Outreach

Basildon Council Community Outreach will be coming into Billericay Library to support members of the public with a variety of issues, this is in place of Citizen's Advice, who have withdrawn from the area. The sessions will be taking place from 6th May, every second Tuesday of the Month 9:30am - 12:30pm.

There's a wide range of issues they can help with. Including, but not limited to;

- Council tax enquiries (arrears, disregards & exemptions)
- Council tax reduction/support applications
- Housing benefit and universal credit enquiries and applications

- Discretionary Housing Payments enquiries and applications
- Housing and homelessness enquiries and applications
- Finding out what you are entitled too
- Signposting to other agencies for mental health, help with finding work and debt and money advice

Residents Rise Up Against Local Plan!

Julian Whybra

Basildon Council's Local Plan will create seismic change to Billericay and to the lives of its people. Carried out by local government based on a diktat from central government, it is astonishingly similar in format to a previous attempt to impose overwhelming change on Billericay's inhabitants. Then, in 1381, people rose up in the so-called Peasants' Revolt to try to prevent it. So far I have found 64 local men and women who took part. Will their 2025 descendants be equally determined to face the challenge to their way of life?

To raise money for a war against France, a poll tax of 12d per adult was imposed, the third one in four years, to be paid by rich and poor alike. It occurred against the background of a raft of earlier grievances during the reign of 13 year-old boy King Richard II. Control of central government was in the hands of his uncle John of Gaunt, but the poll tax was collected by local Commissioners. On 30th May 1381 Commissioner Bampton arrived at Brentwood to collect the tax owed by villagers from Barstable Hundred (each shire was divided into Hundreds) but was chased away by a large crowd among whom were "a certain weaver", wisely anonymous, from Billericay, John Stubber of Ramsden Bellhouse, and Richard atte Ree of Buttsbury. A second attempt to collect

the tax was made on 2nd June and met armed resistance.

Over the next ten days the peasants organized themselves. Messages were sent from village to village across Essex; letters went to neighbouring counties asking peasants to rise; and a general outbreak of riot and plunder broke out. This presupposes the rebels' prior local and national preparedness and organization. Locally, William Cole and William Rydelere of Ramsden Bellhouse were part of a gang which attacked the King's mother's house at North Weald Bassett. The Sheriff's house at Coggeshall was attacked – William Saman of Great Burstead took part; and Childerditch manor was also attacked. John Geoffrey, Bailiff of East Hanningfield,



John Ball, mounted, preaching to the peasant 'army'. Wat Tyler, left, is in the black hat. From a contemporary manuscript in the Public Domain.

led a band of rebels in an attack on Cressing Temple (its Prior was responsible for devising the poll tax) which included the "certain weaver" from Billericay, John Stubber, Richard atte Ree, and John Neuman of Rawreth.

There was clearly an organized, literate leadership at work, headed by three men: Wat Tyler, a tiler from Colchester and the rebels' commander-in-chief; Jack Straw, Captain of the Essex 'army', and Tyler's second-in-command; and John Ball, a Colchester priest born in Peldon and the 'brains' behind the Revolt.

Tyler and Straw crossed to Kent with 100 Essexmen to kick-start the revolt there. Acting in concert, the Essex and Kent contingents, intent on forcing the King to abolish the tax, set off for London on 11th June, gathering adherents en route. The Essex 'army' stopped at Chelmsford to attack the manors of the Bishop of London, and the Abbot of Westminster. By nightfall on the 12th the Essexmen were camped at Mile End and the Kentishmen at Blackheath outside the walls of London, each 'army' over 20,000 strong.

To be continued...

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Norsey Wood Spring Fayre 11th May 2025

Norsey Wood Society in conjunction with Basildon Council look forward to welcoming visitors to this year's Spring Fayre with something for all ages. Attractions will include Imperial Birds of Prey Academy from Barleylands, who will do a couple of educational displays, the Mayflower Morris Dancers, Face Painting, Human Fruit Machine, Billericay Men's Shed, and various wildlife and conservation organisations.

Members of the Society will also be demonstrating woodland crafts, plus there will also be Pond Dipping, which is always a favourite with the youngsters as well as being educational. The local Scouts will provide refreshments, plus there will be a colouring competition for the children.

We are hopeful that the Bluebells will still be showing to bring some Spring colour to the Wood.

The Fayre will be open from 11.00am – 4.00pm, but parking will be very limited, so please walk in via Break Egg Hill, Lilford Road or Potash Road pedestrian entrances.

www.norseywoodsociety.uk

The rhododendrons are out now in the walk between the café and the gardens. Planted ten years ago by the Town Council, advised by RHS Hyde Hall, most have survived and create a beautiful scene, under planted with the pale-blue forget-me-nots.

Rhododendrons are a very large genus of over 1,000 species of woody plants in the Ericaceae or heather family and they can be either evergreen or deciduous. Species are generally native to eastern Asia and the Himalayan region but can be found anywhere in the world and are

widely distributed between latitudes 80°N and 20°S, being native to areas from North America to Europe, Russia, and Asia, and from Greenland to Queensland, Australia and the Solomon Islands. It is the national flower of Nepal and several other eastern countries.

Rhododendrons are not well-liked in the animal kingdom. Some moths and caterpillars will eat them, and weevils live amongst them, but they are known to be poisonous to cattle, and people have died eating 'mad honey' made by bees feeding on rhododendron and azalea flowers.

Do you like to take photos? Why not take some of the park and enter our competition, which runs all year until October 31st. Details of the competition and the rules and entry form are on our website: **www.lakemeadows.org.uk**. If you have children or grandchildren, encourage them to join up for the photo workshops that we run at half term and in the summer holidays.

Are you looking for something new to do? Can you spare a

couple of hours a week to help us? We are currently looking for two extra helpers to man our little Information Hut at the Park. The Hut is a small Tardis full of information about the park, lots of old photographs, information about the history of the park and what the Friends do to improve it. Our team are all friendly and will welcome you. You will be partnered with an experienced helper, with whom you can arrange the times you are on duty. You will make new friends, enjoy the fresh air at the park and will be helping others to enjoy the park. If you are interested, please email Rosie on **secretary@lakemeadows.org.uk**

We were pleased to be able to use a generous donation from BDRA to provide a picnic table with wheelchair access near the skateboard area.



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Contesting a will: *Understanding undue influence*

In the 2019 case of *Rea v Rea*, the Court of Appeal upheld a will despite claims of undue influence. The deceased had changed her will, leaving everything to one child instead of dividing it equally among four. The defendants argued undue influence, but the court found insufficient evidence, highlighting how challenging it can be to prove undue influence in will disputes.

Recognising undue influence

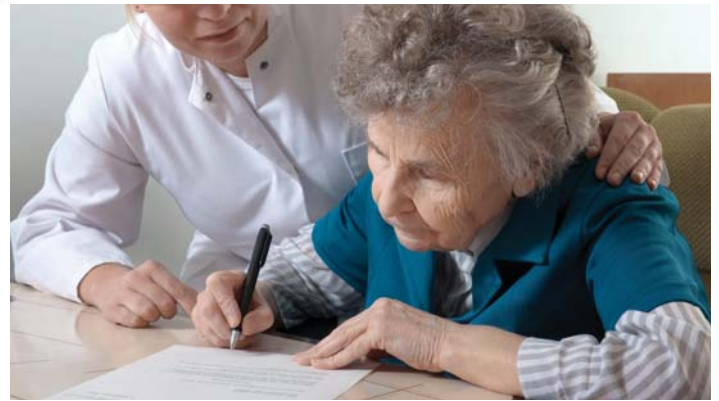
Undue influence often arises when a relative pressures a vulnerable person into making a will. Older individuals may be more susceptible to manipulation, especially by relatives they trust. Common signs include:

- Sudden changes to a will close to death
- Unusual bank withdrawals
- Unexpected beneficiaries

- A beneficiary's involvement in the will-making process
- Witnesses closely related to a beneficiary

Challenging a will on the basis of undue influence

A will can be set aside if undue influence is proven. The court defines undue influence as pressure that overpowers the testator's free will,



amounting to coercion or fraud. Factors the court considers include the testator's physical and mental condition, the duration of pressure, and whether professional legal advice was given.

What to do if you suspect undue influence

If you suspect undue influence while your loved one is alive, discuss your concerns with them. Encourage them to create a new will if necessary or consider a Lasting Power of Attorney to protect their finances. If the person

has passed, you may need to pursue a Probate claim or contest lifetime gifts made to a potential perpetrator.

Seeking legal advice

Proving undue influence can be difficult, and without proper evidence, you could face significant costs. It is essential to seek expert legal advice to understand your options and pursue a claim effectively.

James Pettit

james.pettit@birkettlong.co.uk

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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 Billericay French Circle** meets at The Fold, Laindon Rd **Friday 16th May** at 8pm. Coluche: chanteur, acteur, comique, homme sérieux – a talk in French by Vincent Raymond Barker. All welcome, Visitors £5 www.basildonandbillericayfrenchcircle.com or contact 07986 293419
- **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, **Monday May 12th** London Through Artists Eyes- Mark Lewis Non-Members £2, 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 at Methodist Church, Western Road, Billericay. For more information contact www.billericaychoral.co.uk
- **Billericay Flower Arranging Group** meet on **1st Wednesday of each month** at 7.30pm for 8pm start in WI Hall, St Edith's Lane, Billericay. Visitors welcome at £7 each. Contact Linda Gilbey on 01277 656217 or email ljgilbey@aol.com
- **Billericay Horticultural Society 19th May** Exotic Gardening and More 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 and fourth Mondays 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** – Coffee n chat, **Tuesdays** – Woodworking, **Wednesdays** – Volunteer supported sessions for those with dementia and their carers. Lake Meadows to the front of the bowls building, just beyond the bowling green. Contact billericaymensshed@gmail.com or phone 07544 752686
- **Billericay Model Railway Group Exhibition Saturday 24th May** at Hannakins Farm Community Centre, Rosebay Avenue CM12 0XP. Open 10am-4pm. Prices: Adults and Unaccompanied children £5, Concessions £4.50, Under 18 £3, 5 and Under Free. Family Ticket £13. Features 12+ layouts, 7 Traders Stands. Contact: exhibitionmanager@billericaymrg.org
- **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 WEA** Courses at The Reading Rooms High Street, Billericay CM12 9AS. WEA Learning Circle Course – 2 evening courses, Essex Objects (looking at Museum pieces) with Claire Parker, **Wednesday May 14th, Wednesday 21st May** 19.00-21.00. Donations to cover costs please. Enrol Billericay.branch@wea.ac.uk. WEA Course – What Do You Know About Spain with Derek Robinson. Evenings starting **Wednesday 4th June** 19.00-21.00. Fee £50.40. Code Q00021276. Enrol www.wea.org.uk or 03003033464
- **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
- **Chelmsford and District Welsh Society Annual Concert** presenting Godre'r Aran Male Voice Choir at Chelmsford Cathedral **Saturday 17th May** at 7.30pm. Doors open 6.45. Tickets £22.50 per person. Contact chelmsfordwelsh@gmail.com or phone 07724144432
- **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 12th May**. 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
- **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
- **Norsey Wood Spring Fayre Sunday May 11th** 11am -4pm. Birds of Prey, face painting. Morris Dancing, pond dipping and other wildlife attractions for all ages. Free entrance, but limited parking (CM11 1HA). Cycle or walk to large picnic area via Lilford Road pedestrian entrance.
- **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** welcomes 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 Probud Club** If you are retired and would like to make new friends, join us for a **monthly** lunch, chat and speaker. Contact stephanie4probud@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 17th May** Fashion Show Stock Village Hall. Starts 1pm. Tickets to be purchased in advance at £7 per person. To book, call 01277 356191; **18th May** Online Auction via Remus Facebook Page. Starts 11am; **18th May** Curry Lunch at Nirvana Indian Restaurant, Ingatestone. £22 per person. 2pm for 2.15pm start. Booking essential; **25th May** Enrichment Workshop At the Sanctuary 11am-3pm Learn about different enrichments you can try with your animals. £40 per person. Booking essential. **1st June** Open Day at The Sanctuary 1-4pm. Refreshments available. Contact <https://www.remussanctuary.org/events>. **8th June** Volunteer Day at the Sanctuary. Special event dedicated to celebrating and learning more about lasting impact gifts in wills can have for animals in need; **9th June** Afternoon Tea at the Sanctuary. 2.15pm start. Cost £25 per person, includes glass of Prosecco. Booking essential
- **Royal British Legion Billericay Branch** meets on **last Wednesday of the month** at 8pm in the Chantry Centre. You don't have to have served in the Forces to join or help. Contact Derek on 07757 313688, derekgprior@hotmail.com
- **South Green Memorial Hall V.E. Day Commemorations Bank Holiday Monday 5th May** 10.30-2.30. FREE ADMISSION. Displays, stalls, refreshments, children's activities Come and see what groups meet regularly in our Hall Southend Road CM11 2PR, contact 01277 653369
- **Spike's Place Jazz Club** Bardswell Social Club, Weald Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4TJ. 8pm start Telephone 01245 420475. www.spikesplace.co.uk or Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. £15 cash on the door. Fully accessible. **Tuesday 6th May** Tough Tenors, Brandon Allen and Alex Garnett, organ tba, Dave Ingamells drums; **Tuesday 13th May** Matt Wates alto sax, Leon greening piano, Julian Bury bass, Matt Fishwick drums; **Tuesday 20th May** Elaine Delmar, John Pearce piano, Simon Thorpe bass, Bobby Worth drums
- **Stock Brook Ladies Probud Group** meets on the **3rd Wednesday of each month** to listen to a speaker and take lunch together at Crondon Park Golf Club. All are welcome. Please contact stockbrookladiesprobud@talktalk.net for more details.
- **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

- **APPLE Bridge** Friendly Club meets at Hannakins Farm, Rosebay Avenue on **Wednesday mornings** for duplicate sessions at 9.45. Sessions cost £4 per session. Bring own refreshments. Contact 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.

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 Burstard WI** meet on the **second Thursday of the month** from 2pm-4pm at Little Burstard 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** We train at Billericay Town FC. Men 50+ on **Mondays** 8pm-9.30pm and **Thursdays** 10am-12pm (£6 per session) **Mondays** 7pm-8pm for Ladies 40+ (£5 per session). E-mail Bill at btfcwf@gmail.com
- **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 May for events taking place between 10th June and 9th July.

THE
CHIROPRACTIC CENTRE
BILLERICAY • BRENTWOOD

DO YOU HAVE PAIN?

Call us **TODAY** on
01277 631025





★★★★★

- Low back pain
- Neck pain (including Whiplash)
- Hip and knee osteoarthritis
- Shoulder pain
- "Frozen" shoulder
- Tennis elbow
- Knee pain
- Plantar Fasciitis
- Dizziness (cervicogenic)
- Migraine and headaches



Computer Problems?

Don't struggle to carry it up to the shop or put up with expensive call out charges.

Call Gary Mander,
Computer Technician
on 01277 636358
for a no obligation chat

Gary@PCTechnician.co.uk

No Call Out Charge!



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.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ BLETCHLEY PARK THE HOME OF THE CODEBREAKERS – SUNDAY 18TH MAY

SEATS AVAILABLE – PLEASE PAY NOW

If you have been to Bletchley before, there are now new and exciting exhibitions. You can also learn about AI and how it will affect all our futures. Children welcome.

Find out where it began and discover the story of the amazing achievements of the WW2 Codebreakers in the place where it happened. Explore 11 historic buildings, visit the iconic mansion, step inside the restored codebreakers huts, take in the faithfully recreated interiors. Discover 12 exhibitions and the wartime blocks. Immerse yourself in a cinematic experience, enjoy interactive displays and hands on exhibits. Marvel at the extraordinary achievements made by brilliant minds and complex machines.

New for 2025 is a temporary exciting exhibition discovering how Artificial Intelligence is a part of our lives today and how AI can affect our future. There are free guided tours and multi-media guides. Relax in one of two cafes for lunch and refreshments.

Cost: £43.50 Coach and Entrance

Depart: GG 8.00am. OA 8.05am. LR 8.15am. SG 8.20am. Back in Billericay approximately 6.30pm.

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

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ THE SAVILL GARDEN AND 2 HOUR THAMES CRUISE WITH CREAM TEA – THURSDAY 26TH JUNE

Our first stop is The Savill Garden a hidden gem in the heart of Windsor Great Park. There will be plenty time to explore the beautiful gardens. It has two gift shops, a farm shop and a plant shop. You can purchase a drink, a sandwich, or a meal in one of the cafes or if you prefer bring your own food and have a picnic. After lunch we board the coach for the 15-minute journey to Runnymede where we board our boat. Our cruise with commentary will take us to the back garden of Windsor Castle with views of the Castle, Royal Farm and Queen Adelaide's Cottage. We will also go through Old Windsor Lock, the village of Datchet and Romney Lock. A cream tea will be provided during the cruise. Please mention any dietary requirements when booking. Any drinks bought on the boat must be paid for in cash.

Cost: £58.50 which includes entry to the garden, cruise and cream tea.

Depart: GG 8.30am. OA 8.35am. LR 8.45am. SG 8.50am.

Please telephone to book after 9.00am on Monday 14th April

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

Telephone: 01277 622342

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ A VISIT TO ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS, LUNCH ON THE SPA VALLEY RAILWAY AND TIME PERMITTING A STOP AT POLHILL GARDEN CENTRE – SATURDAY 12TH JULY

FULL – PLEASE PAY NOW

On leaving Billericay we make our way to the charming historic town of Royal Tunbridge Wells, which has been attracting visitors for 400 years. We will be here before our train trip, to allow us to explore some of the town and The Pantiles which is the old part of the town, where there are shops galore, or just enjoy a cup of coffee in one of the many cafes. Tunbridge Wells West station is located at The Pantiles end of town which is a 10/15 minutes' walk. We board our train at 12.30pm and depart at 12.45pm. Our freshly prepared fish and

chip lunch will be served on our journey and includes a drink and cake dessert. On our journey home and time permitting we are planning to stop at Polhill Garden Centre to end our day.

Cost: Coach, Train Tickets, Fish/ Sausage and Chip Lunch (Veggie Burgers & Chips are available). £50.50

Unfortunately, the railways are unable to cater for vegans or gluten free requirements, due to their suppliers.

Depart: GG 8.30am. OA 8.35am. LR 8.45am. SG 8.50am. Back in Billericay approximately 6.30pm.

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

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ BBC GARDENERS WORLD AUTUMN FAIR AT AUDLEY END HOUSE AND GARDEN, SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX – SUNDAY 31ST AUGUST

★ NEW TRIP ★

WHAT'S ON: TOO MUCH TO DETAIL AND WILL BE A FULL DAY. SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE, SO HERE IS A SUMMARY:

Expert tips + Garden inspiration + Plants to buy + Great shopping + Showcase Gardens + Beautiful Borders + Plant Expert Tours + NEW! Autumn Table + Hands-on workshops + BBC Gardeners' World Magazine Stage + Good Food Market + Street food + Live music + Access to Audley End House and Garden. Also, importantly meet The Experts, who will be announced nearer our date and have fun.

Cost: Coach & Entrance Under 65 – £42.00 **Concessions:** Over 65 – £40.60

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 13th May

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

Telephone: 01277 840560

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ NEW FOR 2026 – COACH HOLIDAY AT 2024 PRICE! IMPERIAL HOTEL EASTBOURNE – SATURDAY 14TH MARCH 2026 - WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH 2026

★ NEW HOLIDAY
FOR 2026 ★

Included:-

- 5 days half board
- 2 full day excursions (places to be arranged)
- 1 evening half price bar (5pm till 9pm)
- Entertainment every evening

Usual pick up points times to be arranged.

The Imperial Hotel is ideally situated 100yards from the beach and close to the shops. All rooms have a television and tea and coffee making facilities. There is a lift and also a bar and a separate lounge area. A coffee shop and snack bar are situated in the hotel. Wi Fi is available.

There are 16 single room available with no single supplement. (Only one room per person can be booked).

Cost: £299.00. Deposit £30. Balance due January 2026.

Please telephone to book after 9.00am on Tuesday 20th May

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

Telephone: 01277 622342

In case of cancellation please arrange your own insurance as a refund can only be given if your room can be reallocated

**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.