

The Resident

Billericay District Residents' Association



"Help us to help you"



September 2026

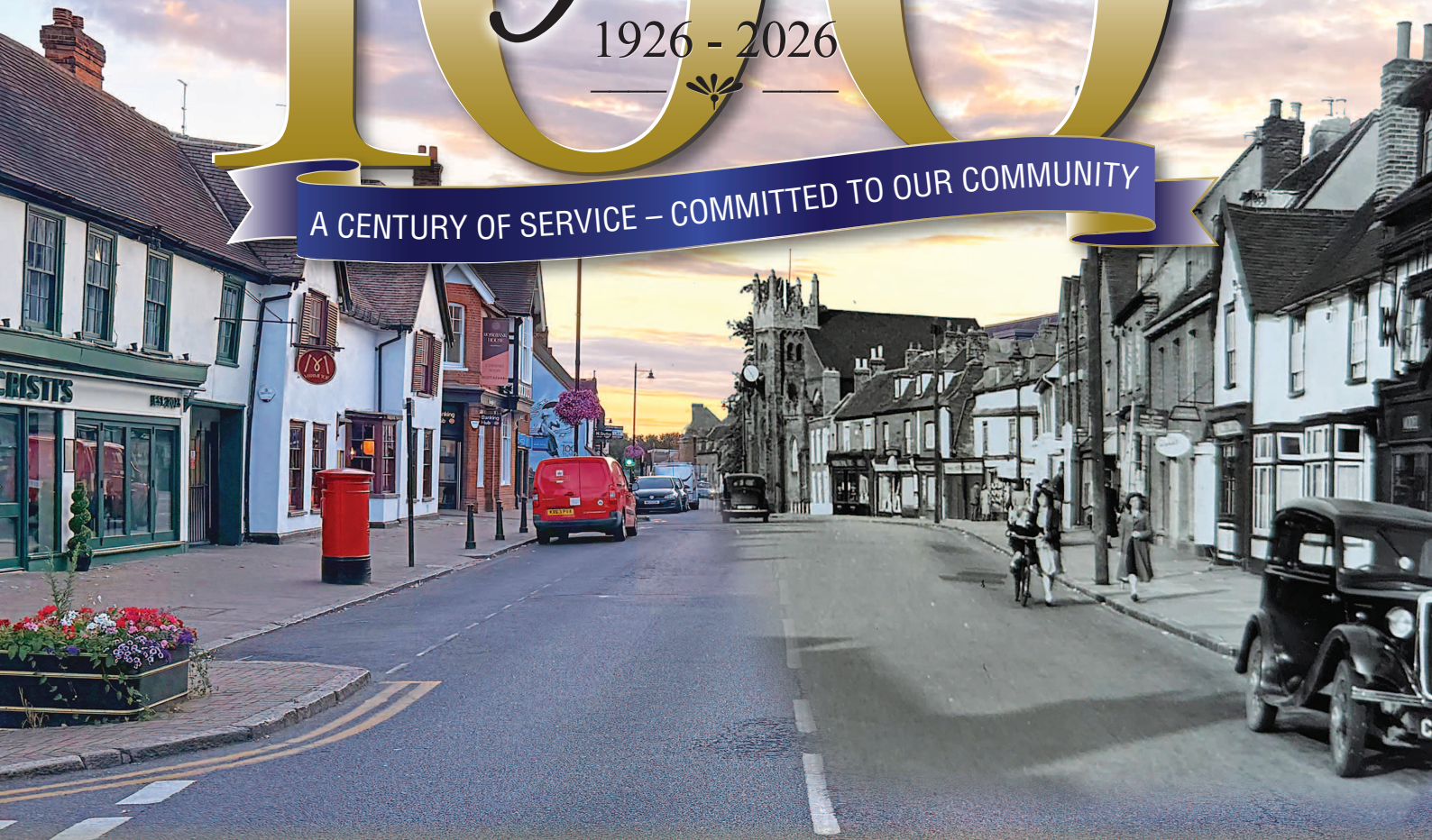
EST. 1926

— CELEBRATING —

100 Years

1926 - 2026

A CENTURY OF SERVICE – COMMITTED TO OUR COMMUNITY



***BDRA – A Century of Community –
Your Invitation to help us celebrate***

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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

Billericay Needs You!

BDRA VACANT ROLES

Our Vice Chair has been doing a sterling job standing in for the Chair, whilst this vacancy has existed. He resigned at the AGM in May 2026 and we are desperate for a Chair and Vice Chair. If you, or maybe someone you know, has time to spare, maybe just retired and are looking for something different to do, we would love to hear from you to arrange an informal chat. We have a great team on Committee and all our other volunteers, waiting to support you.

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.

Vice Chair

This role acts as the primary deputy to the Chair, supporting Committee leadership, managing actions and tasks, and presiding over meetings in the Chair's absence.



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

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.

- **Stuart Way, Balmoral Close & James Square – 5 magazines to deliver**
- **Robin Close and Stock Road 134-216 Even Side Only – 17 magazines**
- **Briar Close, Briar View, Burstead Drive, Kevin Close, Patricia Gardens. 20 magazines.**

Contact jimandjanweir@gmail.com

Thank you to...

Dee Mathers who has volunteered to be the Road rep for Outwood Farm Road & Close

BDRA NEWS



"Help us to help you"



Planning Committee update

We are grateful to the planning committee for rejecting two proposals:

- **310 houses east of Greens Farm Lane and Mill Meadows**
- **420 houses west of Laindon Road, the so-called 'Phase 2' of the scheme approved last year.**

We will contest both of these as and when they go to appeal.

Local Plan Update

A consultation on the latest draft of the Local Plan was launched on 10th August and runs to 22nd September, so by the time you receive this there won't be much time to reply.

The map shows where 9000 new houses around Billericay, including the development that would merge Billericay with Basildon, are intended to go. Each estate is referred to by a policy number (H1, H2a, H2b, H3 etc). The population of Billericay would grow by over 60% over the next 17 years.

The borough's housing target is 28,000 over this period, this compares to the borough's true housing need of around 6,000, a figure which could easily be met without using Green Belt land.

Root causes

All this derives from a remote cross-party political class competing for donations from developers, and then allowing them to dominate policy making.

Chief among the changes secured by the developers, is a national annual housing target of over 380,000 houses, when the government's own figures show that only around 150,000 per year is needed.

Since 2000 - when housing was much more affordable - the country's housing stock has grown faster than the population. The large rise in housing costs was not caused by undersupply.

About the consultation

The previous 'Regulation 18' consultation was the Council asking us what should go in the Plan. This 'Regulation 19' consultation, though managed by the Council, has the Planning Inspector as its audience.

The Council has this draft Plan it intends to submit to the Inspector, and we are being asked whether its content is 'sound'.

Soundness means that the pressure to deliver housing, has been properly balanced against harms caused, and the requirement for new transport, education, health, open space and other infrastructure.

The Inspector's job is to examine the Plan in detail to see whether it adequately balances these competing priorities. Ahead of the "Examination in Public" (EIP) the inspector issues the council with many hundreds of questions about the Plan and their approach. The Examination Hearings are based on these questions.

The public know the area better than planning officers and certainly the Inspector, so our job is to help the Inspector by telling him about all the issues and harms so that this triggers difficult questions for the Council.

Responding to the consultation

The Council Consultation Portal can be found here – <https://basildon-lp-reg19.commonplace.is/>.

The portal is fairly user friendly and has improved since last time.

The BAG website has some information and tips – www.billericayactiongroup.org.uk

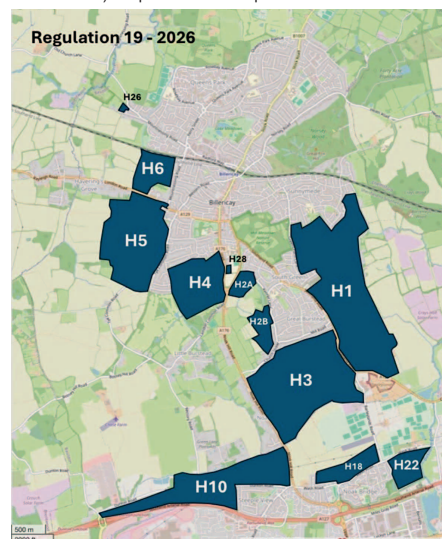
These tips include e-mail and postal options for replying, in the event you have problems with the portal.

We need as many people (not households) as possible to respond to this consultation highlighting current problems and the environmental, infrastructure and other impacts of this ruinous Plan. The consultation runs until 22nd September, so time is short!

Remember that the developers will be replying too, trying to persuade the Inspector to include more housing and weaken their already pathetic infrastructure obligations.

There's so much to play for, and even broadly sound local Plans are usually required to make numerous changes as a result of the process.

Please don't let this opportunity slip by.





BDRA

Centenary Celebration

100 Years

of the Billericay District
Residents' Association

An Invitation

to All Past & Present BDRA Volunteers

You are warmly invited to join us for a special
afternoon of celebration on: -

Friday 9th October 2026
14.00 to 17.00
Emmanuel Hall
Laindon Road, Billericay.

The Billericay District Residents' Association was formed in 1926 and has been serving the residents of Billericay for 100 years. Throughout that time, the Association has been supported and sustained by the dedication, commitment and goodwill of its volunteers.

To mark this special milestone, we would be delighted if all past and present volunteers of the Association could join us for an afternoon of celebration, appreciation and shared memories. This special event is being held in recognition of the contribution you have made over the years and in celebration of the Association's continuing role in the community.

During the afternoon, archive material showing some of the history of the BDRA will be on display, kindly lent by the Cater Museum. A further highlight will be the opening of the Time Capsule, by Richard Holden MP, originally put together by the Association in 2016, with contents relating to Billericay. Together, these will offer an opportunity to reflect on the changes that have taken place in Billericay over the past 100 years.

The afternoon will include food and refreshments, together with music by Rumatica, a local band who kindly donate fees from their performances to charity. We hope you will be able to join us for this special occasion. **Please confirm your attendance no later than 30th September 2026 by emailing resident@bdra.org.** If you are unable to respond by email, please text or WhatsApp 07952751750.

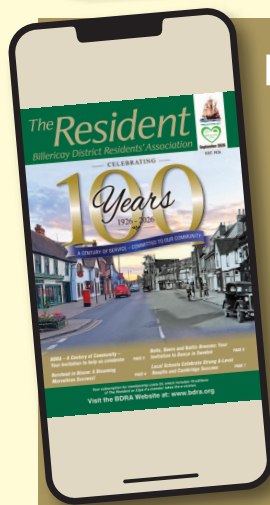
Please let us know if you have any special dietary requirements.

We look forward to celebrating this special milestone with you.

With best wishes,

The Executive Committee of the Billericay District Residents' Association

Please respond promptly; if there is too much interest the numbers may have to be restricted. Places will then be allocated on a first come first served basis.



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.

If you receive a hard copy of The Resident and would prefer to pay your subs by bank transfer, please email resident@bdra.org and request the bank details you will require.



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Local Charities Grow Our Community Garden

The Billericay Community Garden are pleased to announce that they have been selected as one of the community groups to receive a share in the surplus funds collection, generated by screenings at The Billericay Community Cinema, during July through to December 2026. We are going to use this donation to continue to develop this community space and provide more opportunities and events to welcome our broad range of visitors to the garden, not only on our Saturday discovery days but also on midweek visits. We are also excited by a £500 donation from Waitrose from their local good causes collection at the tills finishing this month. 3,000 has been raised.

The garden is looking for volunteers, especially with weeding and watering in the summer months when our organic produce is growing. Join us to plant, weed, water and share in the produce.

You can contact the garden team, see our September discovery day poster attached with contact details, via FB messenger is the best way to contact us to volunteer.



Discovery Days 2026 Saturday 5 September

9.30am to 1.00pm

Looking at wildlife in the garden

Build a mini Bug Hotel to house creepy crawlies in your own garden!

Find out about goodies and baddies and how to encourage or deter them.



You're guaranteed a friendly welcome plus jobs to do with an opportunity to help some great food develop, or if you just want to look around and have a chat you're welcome too!

You can find us at the rear of:
Emmanuel Church car park.

Can't make the date?
Here are some more discovery opportunities...
There will be new 'Discoveries' every month.

5 September, 3 October,
24 October, 21 November,
5 December

billericaycommunitygarden@gmail.com






Burstead in Bloom: A Blooming Marvellous Success!

Now that the secateurs have been safely put away, the bunting is down and the final teacups have been washed and dried, we can look back on what was an absolutely spectacular weekend of Open Gardens. Thanks to the incredible hard work, hospitality, and dedication of our wonderful community, this year's *Burstead in Bloom* was a resounding success. We are absolutely delighted to announce that over the course of the three days, we raised a truly magnificent grand total of £3,067.76! Making a Difference Locally and Nationally.

Because of the generosity of visitors, we are able to split proceeds to support two fantastic causes:

£1,032.26 to the Little Burstead Village Hall: Raised through ticket sales and catering, these funds will go directly back into supporting our community hub.

£2,035.50 to the National Garden Scheme (NGS): Raised from ticket sales and additional donations, this will support the NGS's incredible nursing and health charities.

A Heartfelt Thank You

An event like this simply doesn't happen without a village, and there are so many people to thank:

To the wonderful garden owners: Thank you for opening your gates, sharing your private sanctuaries, and spending countless hours weeding, pruning, and perfecting. Your gardens looked spectacular and brought so much joy to everyone who visited. To our amazing army of volunteers: Whether you were baking delicious cakes, pouring endless cups of tea, selling tickets, or donning a disguise to direct traffic in the car park, you were the friendly faces that made the weekend run like clockwork. We couldn't have done it without your energy, enthusiasm, and smiles.

Looking Ahead... There can be no doubt that Burstead in Bloom is here to stay. It has firmly cemented itself as a proud highlight on Little Burstead's annual calendar. Thank you all for making Little Burstead so colourful, vibrant and welcoming. It was so much fun, that we might just have to do it all over again next year... so consider this a very gentle hint to keep your eyes peeled for 2027!



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100 Years

A Century of Community

The Billericay District Residents' Association (BDRA) is a non-political, non-sectarian community group that has been a prominent voice for residents since its founding in 1926, representing thousands of households across the Billericay area.

KEY HISTORICAL DATES

- **1926** – The original Billericay Residents' Association is established to give local people a voice.
- **1957** – Proposed developments north of the railway line, triggers concern for residents and the Sunnyville Residents' Association is formed. This later evolves into the Buttsbury Residents' Association, which launches its own communication journal, *The Buttsbury News*.
- **1960** – The original Billericay Residents' Association begins publishing its first major official journal, *'The Mayflower'*.
- **1960s–1970s** – The association plays a considerable role in local governance. During the 1970s, it successfully campaigns for, and holds all nine Billericay seats on the Basildon District Council.
- **1978** – Facing upcoming electoral boundary changes the Billericay and Buttsbury associations vote to merge. On 3 March 1978, the modern Billericay District Residents' Association (BDRA) is born. On 1 May 1978 *'The Resident'* Newsletter, is launched. So, our Resident magazine has been coming to your door for the last 48 years!

- **2014-To Date** – Alignment with the Billericay Action Group (BAG): To combat local council housing expansion. In 2018, BAG officially merges into the BDRA, bringing together resources to represent nearly half of the town's population.



LOCAL RECORDS

If you are attending the 100th Anniversary Celebration, there will be historical documents on display, kindly lent by The Cater Museum. We have been examining some of these documents, mainly relating to the 1970s Buttsbury Residents' Association. Its May 1970 newsletter, *Buttsbury News*, shows the annual subscription as 25p, this would have been just one month after the introduction of decimalisation. The newsletter itself was a double-sided sheet of A4 paper, printed in black and white, and rather plain compared with our current magazine, *The Resident*.

By comparison, today's £5 subscription represents excellent value when the

quality, content and scope of the current magazine are taken into account.

QUESTIONS FROM THE ARCHIVES

The May 1970 newsletter reports that planning permission had been granted for the Billericay Inner Relief Road, at a projected cost of £500,000. Does anyone know where this road was intended to be built, or whether it ever materialised? Could it have been Noak Hill Road?

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION CANDIDATES

During the 1970s, the BDRA put forward its own candidates in local and county elections. On 13 May 1971, Horace Wilkins, the Buttsbury Ward candidate, won his seat and went on to become a long-serving local politician in Essex. He represented residents at District, County and Town levels, serving as Vice-Chairman of Billericay Urban District Council from 1980 to 1981, representing Basildon in the 1985 Essex County Council election, and becoming the first chairman of Billericay Town Council after its formation in 1997.

He was clearly a man deeply interested in, and committed to his community and his political career began with the BDRA. Are any of his relatives still living in the town? Election leaflets for F. "Bill" Young show that he stood successfully for Billericay West on 7 June 1973 and later for Burstead in 1976. His leaflet highlights the Residents' Association's objection to the Billericay Relief Road, suggesting that, six years after planning permission was

granted, construction had still not begun! He also referred to the ongoing fight to preserve the Green Belt — an issue that remains just as relevant today. Some things, it seems, never change.

Jim Davidson also stood as a Buttsbury councillor in May 1970. His election leaflet referred to the Queens Park development and argued that developers must ensure shops, schools and roads keep pace with new housing. "Good intentions are not enough," he said.

That concern remains familiar today. The lack of detail in the Local Plan on infrastructure continues to be a major concern for both the BDRA and local residents.

CONTINUING COMMUNITY CONCERNS

The Billericay Residents' Association lost power on Basildon District Council in 1998, when the Conservatives won a majority and ended the BRA's long period of influence over Billericay's district representation. Yet many of the issues faced by today's councillors echo the same concerns that occupied our councillors decades ago.

Looking through these historic documents has been fascinating, bringing to light the BDRA's long-standing role in the community. They also remind us why it is so important that the Association continues. Our past, present and future depend on the hard work of volunteers who give their time and energy to support Billericay. **To all of them: thank you, and well done.**



Registered Charity 1157058

Well, what an amazing summer, especially for those of us who have enjoyed spending time at Lake Meadows!

In July we held our amazing Jazz in the Park event, which brought families to listen to the three different bands. Many children, and a few brave parents, enjoyed dancing in front of the stage, whilst the rest of the audience clapped along to well-known tunes. A special thank you to all those who gave donations, which helped pay for the event, as well as adding to our funds to make further improvements in the park.

Next came Love Parks Week, promoted by Keep Britain Tidy, when parks all over the country celebrated our wonderful parks. All Basildon parks were involved and over 60 events were put on across the Borough during the week, as well as a special event at Wat Tyler Country Park, where we all the volunteers celebrated together.

As part of Love Parks Week, the Friends of Lake Meadows undertook a survey of

Park users — 339 people, of all age groups, completed the survey. The results showed how vital the Park is to residents with over 95% emphasising its importance and a majority believing it was a benefit to their health and well-being.

Recently, hopefully, we will have held our very popular Bat evening, which once again has been oversubscribed. Bats are such an important asset to our biodiversity here in the park, where at least five types have been noted at past events.

Soon we shall be holding our AGM — an opportunity for anyone local to come along and hear about what we have achieved during the year, as well as listening to an interesting speaker. This year, for the first time, the topic is not linked to Lake Meadows, but does sound very interesting. Many of you will be aware of Greenwood's, the Hotel and Spa in Stock but few will know about its

history as a girls' home, nor of the boys' home nearby. The talk will be given by local Peter Bailey which he is calling 'Teaching Teenage Tearaways!'. Join us at Christ Church on Thursday September 24th at 7.45pm. Everyone welcome!

We are always looking for new members to join FoLM. Membership is a mere £5 per year for your whole household. If you have been inspired by the park then do think of supporting us. Your support will show just how much you value Lake Meadows and all the work that we do. Volunteering is definitely not expected! However, we do have vacancies for anyone interested in joining our gardeners on a Tuesday morning, manning the hut during the summer months or joining our committee to help run the Friends. If you'd like to know more, do ring us on **07843 860135** or contact us via the website: Contact Us and Find Lake Meadows - **Friends of Lake Meadows**

Bells, Beers and Baltic Breezes: Your Invitation to Dance in Sweden



The Mayflower Morris Men have been invited to take part in a 5-day Midsummer Folk Festival in Hornung, Dalarna, Sweden in June 2027. Accommodation & board will be provided. However, in order to fulfil our obligations, there, we really need another 3 or 4 dancers and a musician.

We start our autumn practice session at 7.30 pm on Thurs 10th September at St. Mary Magdalen in the High Street. We reckon that we can teach new members 5 or 6 dances before we go to Sweden. Learning Morris starts easy, builds gradually, is great fun, and is open to all ages. Tuition is free. So, if you're up for waving the flag abroad and proudly presenting a bit of Old English culture, come along and have a go. Musicians could play the fiddle, accordion, anglo-concertina, or pipe & tabor. *Vi kommer att ha det jättetrevligt!*

If you are interested, please contact: Julian Whybra **01277 654228** – julianwhybra@hotmail.co.uk



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★ Local Schools Celebrate Strong ★ A-Level Results and Cambridge Success

Mayflower High School has once again seen a leap in its A-level results this year.

Year 13 students at the school's sixth form, in Billericay, collected their A-level results today after the summer's exams.

Following on from increases in the number of students securing high grades over the last three years, two per cent more of this year's cohort have achieved A* and A grades. This year's sixth formers also achieved a four per cent rise in A* to B grades, compared to last year.

Two students have secured offers from the University of Cambridge, with many others going on to study at Russell Group universities. Among the top achieving students this year are –

- **Erin Lambe** who achieved A* in geography and PE and grade A in economics and maths and will study geography at the University of Cambridge

- **Benjamin Simpson** who picked up A* in biology and EPQ and grade A in chemistry and psychology and will study medicine at Kings College

- **Poppy Barham** with A* in criminology, A in sociology and B in business studies and is going on to Anglia Ruskin University to study primary education

- **Ralph Gilroy** who achieved A* in maths and grade A in chemistry and physics and will study theoretical physics at Kings College London

- **Isla Joyce** who picked up grade A in politics and history and grade B in economics and will study history at Leeds University

- **Joseph Paddock** with A* in politics, grade A history and economics and grade B in classics and will study politics, philosophy and economics at Exeter University

- **Libby Young** who achieved grade A in geography, psychology and sociology and will study education with psychology at the University of Bath

Headteacher Damian Lee, who arrived at the school in 2023, said: *"Each student's individual results are a testament to the hard work, ambition and determination this cohort has demonstrated throughout their post-16 studies"*.

Stuart Fawell, head of sixth form, said: *"Our Year 13 students have been an exemplary group to lead over the past two years, combining academic diligence and an impressive work ethic with outstanding personal character."*

"We are tremendously proud of everything they have achieved during their time in the sixth form. Whether heading to top-tier universities, prestigious higher apprenticeships, or entering the workforce directly, they leave us fully prepared for the future."

On behalf of the entire school community, we wish them every success in their next chapter."



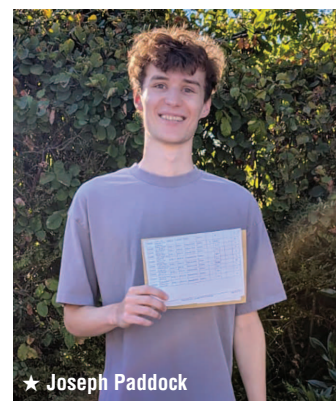
★ Benjamin Simpson



★ Isla Joyce



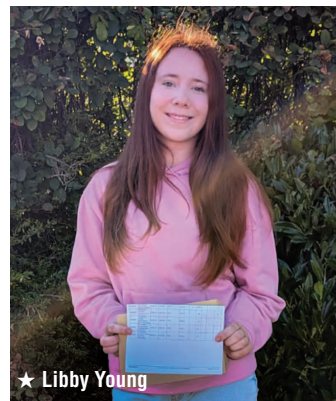
★ Poppy Barham



★ Joseph Paddock



★ Ralph Gilroy



★ Libby Young



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Whether you are just curious about AI or already using it, the training meets you at your level and builds from there.



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Learn by doing, using real tasks and situations that matter to you, at home or at work.



Find Your AI Opportunities

Discover where AI could save hours, remove repetitive work and unlock better ways of working across your business.



Why I do this

I believe AI should feel useful, not intimidating. I help people understand what it can do, where it can genuinely help, and how to use it with confidence.



FREE 15 MINUTE AI 1:1

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Questions?

john@letsdemystifyai.com



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Dates for your Diary!



Town Council Meetings

- **Billericay Town Council Meetings** Planning **29th September**; Health Wellbeing and Environment **8th September**; Finance and General Purpose **24th September**. 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 Billericay French Circle** meets at The Fold, Lindon Rd, Billericay. **Friday 18th September** 8pm Hughes Aufray et Francis Cabrel revisitent Bob Dylan. Bob Dylan: du folk a la chanson francaise – a talk in French by Vincent Raymond Barker. All welcome, annual membership £35, visitors £7. www.basildonandbillericayfrenchcircle.com or 07986 293419
- **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 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. Arrival 10am for 10.30-11.45am An interesting talk (different topic each time), a chance to chat to others and coffee and biscuits all in a supportive, friendly environment. Looking forward to seeing you there. For more information Billericay@Unitedinkindness.co.uk 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 21st September** 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 Literary Society** A friendly book club meets on **2nd and 4th Thursday** of the month 8-9.30pm at The Fold, where we discuss a wide range of books from classics to new releases. New members welcome. Please contact Sue Tomlinson on 07940 015535
- **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 September 14th**. 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 13th September** Sponsors Day – come and meet your sponsored animal, 2-4pm. Limited spaces. Booking essential. Afternoon Tea at the Sanctuary. 2.15pm start. £25 pp. Booking essential. **14th September** Online Auction, via Remus Facebook Page, starts at 11am, **27th September** Open Day at the Sanctuary **6th September, 4th October** (Celebrating World Animal Day) 1-4pm. Curry Lunch at Nirvana Indian Restaurant, Ingatestone. £22 per person. 2pm for 2.15pm start. Booking essential **27th September**. Contact Office 01277 356191; Contact <https://www.remussaecembernctuary.org/events>.
- **Royal British Legion Billericay Branch** 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
- **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**. 25th September Tony Harris Portrayal of Winston Churchill. 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.

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 September for events taking place between 10th October and 9th November

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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.

★ **NEW TRIP** ★

SATURDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2026 – CRUISING INTO CHRISTMAS, INCLUDING BLUE BADGE GUIDE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND FISH & CHIP SUPPER

THERE ARE VEGAN, VEGETARIAN AND GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS

We arrive at Royal Greenwich to enjoy an afternoon of Christmas shopping in the covered market & boutique style of shops with time to visit the National Maritime Museum & the Queen's House (both are free entry).

We meet our Blue Badge Tour Guide at Greenwich Pier at 3.45pm, as the sun sets, for a one-hour cruise to Westminster, with a fun & informative Cockney skipper's commentary. We pass the Canary Wharf, all lit up like a mini-Manhattan. We sail beneath a floodlit Tower Bridge and through the glistening City & West End.

Our coach driver meets us at Westminster Pier ready for a tour of Christmas London by night. It's great fun seeing the busy shopping streets from high up in your coach.

The tour is much more than the Christmas Lights though as we'll also show you some of London's most beautifully illuminated buildings and we go off the beaten track to bring you up to date with what is new in the capital.

At 6.30pm we finish our day with a fish & chip supper, a hot drink & will be ready to head home at 7.30pm.

Cost: £67.00 All Inclusive.

Depart: GG 12.00pm OA 12.05pm. LR 12.15pm. SG 12.20pm. Back in Billericay approximately 8.30pm.

Please telephone to book any time after 9.00am on Saturday 25th September

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

★ **NEW TRIP** ★

MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER – GUIDED TOUR OF THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AT KENNEDYS RESTAURANT

Join us to discover where history is still being made in our guided tour of the Houses of Parliament. Find out how Parliament works as we travel through the Commons Chamber and the Lords Chamber, be inspired by Westminster Hall which is almost 1000 yrs old. An expert guide will accompany us on this 75-minute tour that recounts the history of The Palace of Westminster and describes how the business and traditions of both Houses contribute to the day to day working of the UK Parliament. Our MP Richard Holden will meet us prior to our tour, if he is able to.

After our tour we travel to Kennedys Restaurant for lunch.

Kennedy Menu – Fish and Chips, Vegan Plant Based Fish Chips & Mushy Peas, Butternut Squash Leek & Goat's Cheese Pie Chips & Mushy Peas, Three Cheese Pasty Chips & Mushy Peas.

Either Mushy Peas or Garden Peas available. Quarter Roast Chicken instead of Fish is available

All served with Tea or Coffee and water on the tables.

Cost: Coach Tour and Lunch £40.00

Depart: GG 8.00am. OA 8.05am. LR 8.15am. SG 8.20am. Back in Billericay approximately 5.30pm.

Please telephone to book after 9.00am on Saturday 26th September

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

★ **NEW TRIP** ★

SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2026 – ESSEX COUNTY CHRISTMAS FAIR

This year the fair has moved to the beautiful grounds of Boreham House. Get your Christmas shopping all wrapped up at this fair. With over 150 stalls featuring handcrafted items, unique gifts, artisan food and drink and festive decorations this really is the ultimate Christmas shopping experience. Stalls will be located within heated marquees and outside in the grounds. There will be heated seating inside the marquees There will be live music every day as well as LED performers still walkers, tempting food trucks and festive tipples to keep you warm. Keep an eye out for Father Christmas roaming around the event and stopping for photographs with visitors.

Cost: £24.50 for coach and entry to the fair.

Depart: GG 9.30am. OA 9.35am. LR 9.45am. SG 9.50am. Back in Billericay approximately 4.00pm.

Please telephone to book any time after 9.00am ASAP

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.