TheResident

Billericay District Residents' Association





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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

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.

- Burns Close Area (15 members)
- Horace Road (15 members)

jimandjanweir@gmail.com



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

A big THANK YOU to Lisa Ronchetti and Pat Garcka for their commitment and hard work over many years in delivering to our members in Burns Close Area and Horace Road

BDRA NEWS





LOCAL PLAN UPDATE — YET ANOTHER CONSULTA

asildon council only planned to hold one public consultation before they published the final version of the new Local Plan. It took place between last December and this January. They then held a second consultation in February to cover items that were missing from the first. Now there is going to be a third in November – mark your calendars!

In part this has been due to ever changing Government planning policies, but we still believe that essential information has yet to be made available for residents to consider and comment on. This includes further definition of the grey belt, and details of infrastructure provision to support the proposed massive house building plans. We must see how roads, schools and health facilities will match what will be more than a 30% increase in the borough's population over the next 20 years.

For more information, please keep an eye on the website, www.billericayactiongroup.org.uk, and look out for further updates in future editions of The Resident.



REMINDER...

We can now offer an e-version of The Resident. If you opt to receive the eversion 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.

The George Hurd Activity Centre

Over 50's Activity Centre based in Basildon Open Monday to Friday 10.00am - 4.00pm

We offer a range of over 25 classes, from Art to Bowls, Keep-fit to Sit-Down Yoga, Card Making to Ballroom.

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Letters to the Editor ...

Dear Sir/Madam,

My family and I are ardent enthusiasts of Julian Whybra's historical articles Parts 1,2 and 3 published in the May, June and July/August editions of The Resident. Entitled "Residents Rise Up Against the Local Plan" his knowledge and scholarship concerning the Peasants' Revolt is enthralling and explains the rebellious nature of outspoken Essex people centuries ago. Continuing in the spirited nature of his articles we request The Resident publishes the names, preferably accompanied by photographs, of the Chair and Members of the Basildon Borough Council's Planning Committee who persist in betraying the majority of Billericay's residents by approving multiple new housing developments on our Town's diminishing and once productive green fields. By doing so your readers will be under no illusion as to the identities of the councillors responsible for corroborating with the dictates of Central Government against the majority of Billericay's population. The continued desecration of Billericay's open spaces is a mis-appropriation of what purports to be a democratic planning system. This tide of disproportionate over development is working against the wishes of the Townspeople. Who with authority or influence is prepared to affirm their objectivity and raise their heads above the parapet? Have we any councillors who have had the moral courage to oppose the miscarriage of "Planning Power" against these steamrollered planning decisions?

Julian Whybra we are totally behind you in supporting your declaration to object in the strongest terms to the local plan.

Yours faithfully,

Peter J Strong. Dip Arch. RIBA (Rtd) Resident of Little Burstead One of the very few Essex Conservation Areas

Note: The Planning Committee is set up proportionately, based on the number of seats each party holds on the Council. It's was until the last meeting, 4 Labour, 2 Conservative and 1 Independent. Votes on most of the big applications In Billericay tended go 5 for with the 2 Conservatives voting against. Recently the Reform Party has taken 2 former Labour seats. This has resulted in Sam Journet, Reform Party, replacing a Labour Councillor. As a consequence, the voting at the Planning Committee of the 7th August was different.

The link below details the names and contact details of the Planning

Dear Editor,

I have found the series of articles along with their illustrations by Julian Whybra, with regards the Peasants Revolt of 1381 and the parallel with our modern-day Local Plan, relevant, entertaining as well as educational.

John Smart BTW

Dear Editor,

I always enjoy reading The Resident, but I did notice that any readers' letters usually are complaining about something or other. Years ago, when I saw Kate Adie's book The Kindness of Strangers, I remember thinking how sad that it doesn't happen anymore. Well, I was proved wrong. On 28 June I got a puncture, driving through Brookside. So, there we were, two 80+ year olds, trying not to panic, when a resident came over to see if he could help. When he found out that I had a spare wheel, he offered to change it for me. It was very hard work on a boiling hot day. His wife came out to see if we would like a drink. Chatting to her we found out that they had just got back from holiday and she needed to go and pick up their dog. Her husband has just been to purchase an electric tyre pump for his son which he promptly unwrapped and used to pump up my spare tyre. They wouldn't accept anything as a thank you and their kindness and not only saved us hours waiting for the RAC, but it also allowed my friend to get home in time to catch the train to Norwich for his 6 o'clock meeting.

How about introducing a little column in The Resident telling us about other kindnesses. It might cheer us all up during these times of political and environmental gloom and doom.

Senta Jordan

Great idea from Senta. Have you got any good Samaritan stories? Send them in, we will be happy to receive them.





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The first record of Morris in Billericay was 450 years ago THIS YEAR in 1575 outside a High Street inn. We reckon that makes us Billericay's oldest club or society. We even know the name of one of the dancers: Geoffrey Cole (because he was arrested!). To mark the anniversary, the Mayflower Morris Men will dance outside The Chequers on Thursday, 4th September from 7.30 p.m. We hope that there'll be some late summer warmth and that no-one will be arrested this time!

All over the country Mummers' plays and Morris dancing are back in fashion; among the young because they think it's 'cool' and 'folky'; among the middle-aged because they think it's 'English' and 'traditional'; and among older men because they think it's good exercise and social. All that's true so it's a good time join your local side. Prospective new dancers of any age (Morris & sword), musicians (accordion, violin, or pipe & tabor), and

actors for the Mummers are all welcome. Our new season's first practice is at 7.30 p.m. Thurs. 11th September at St. Mary Magdalen, in the High Street. Tuition is free — all you need is a pair of white hankies.

Julian Whybra

Mayflower Morris Men 01277 654228

Billericay Young Citizen of the year 2025

eet Jessica Elsdon who attends Mayflower School and is returning to school in September to take her A levels. Whilst studying at Mayflower many pupils have the opportunity from year 9 to take the Duke of Edinburgh award, starting with Bronze and working up to Silver and Gold.

You will have seen the article in the June Resident about teenagers swapping time in bed for helping in the community. Jess is one of those volunteers who decided to work towards her Bronze DofE award by volunteering at the weekly parkrun held in Lake Meadows. She started off working towards her Bronze and stayed to achieve her Silver, and even that was not enough, she enjoyed it so much that she has volunteered on a Saturday mornings for over a year, maybe Gold is next. No Saturday lay-ins for Jess.

Jess was aware of the parkrun, having participated with her parents at a young age so chose this voluntary role for her DofE; Never did she think that she would stay so long. Asked what she got out of her volunteering, she said she loved the community spirit, the atmosphere was great, she loved talking to people and being part of the volunteer team, and how it had improved her confidence. She arrives at



Jess with Mark Thomas, deputy chair of Billericay Town Council and Alexa Joel, Jess's DofE scheme volunteer assessor and run director at Billericay parkrun

8.30 every week, helps with the last of the setting up and examines the rota to determine what role she has been allocated. There are various roles, but she likes the photography role best. Having seen her photos she really captures the essence of the parkrun, which is all about community and good fun!

Jess was nominated for the award by David Hayday, the parkrun Event Director, because of her commitment and reliability and her continued support for parkrun even after she had achieved her bronze and silver awards. An average of 300 people participate in the weekly parkrun, which is organised and run totally by volunteers, like Jess.

Well done Jess.

What does a table top sale have to do with volunteer work in Cambodia in summer 2026?

t's a good question and stems back to Autumn last year when I went to a presentation at school to learn about the work of Camps International in Cambodia. This is an organisation which supports students in volunteering abroad supporting disadvantaged communities.

I was drawn to Cambodia's rich history with many temples including Angkor Wat. However, Cambodia has suffered one of the worst crimes against humanity when the Khmer Rouge killed up to two million people in the 1970s. Many rural Cambodian communities still feel the impact of this to this day. The trip is centred around helping rural communities by digging wells, supporting irrigation, and improving access to clean drinking water. There is further work in helping with infrastructure in local schools and reforesting areas with native saplings. I will be working for 4 weeks in the heat and humidity, living with the local population and there will be no luxuries that a tourist would perhaps expect! I saw this as an exciting opportunity to see the world

and help those less fortunate than myself. A central part of the challenge is to raise money to pay for the trip. So far, I have organised a Christmas Quiz, participated in two boot sales, and sold a variety of 'preloved' items on ebay and vinted. My next fundraising activity is a Table Top Sale at the Methodist Church on Western Road on Saturday 11th October from 11am-3pm. Readers or welcome to come along to purchase items or if you would like to book a table to sell 'preloved' items or crafts, please contact me at billericaytabletopsale@gmail.com We hope to see you there!

George Keating Billericay School



Billericay Citizen of the Year 2025



ohn Smart who many of you may know headed Billericay Tree Wardens (BTW) has recently retired. Just to round off his retirement as the Chair & Secretary to BTW, the Town Council bestowed on him the Citizen of the Year Award – 2025.

John said that the award was only achieved by having a good membership team about him. He was in the Chair position from 2017 onwards and has made sure that the Chair position is now in safe hands. He is now the BTW's Honorary Vice-President but remaining low-key whilst others are carrying on the work! Councillor Jim Devlin announced the award at the Lighting of the Beacon ceremony on May 8th. See John's article on page 6.

Billericay Striders 10k Road Race 2025

huge well done to the 623 runners who took part in the 10k race on Sunday 6th July, and a huge thank you to the many supporters and marshals. The rain held off which was much appreciated and the recent heatwave had passed, leaving almost ideal conditions – for spectating, anyway!

Temperatures were still on the warm side for the runners, but fortunately the locals provided some welcome cooling.





A competitive men's race saw Shane Boxall of City of Southend on Sea, 31.58 and Peter Coates of Braintree and District AC, 32.06, battling it out over the closing stages with Shane winning, 8 seconds ahead of Peter. In the women's category, Jackie Stretton of Nuclear Races, 39.07 had a 2-minute cushion over second placed Kirsty Osborn, Thurrock Harriers, crossing the line in 29:07.

We hope everyone enjoyed the day. From comments received so far, our trial summer event appeared to work very well but we are keen to hear more runners' feedback, particularly from those who have done both the November and July events. Please do get in touch. Finally, and most importantly, a huge thank you to all our sponsors old

and new! Without your support this event would not take place. See you all next year on the 5th July 2026 at the earlier start of 9.00am.







nce again, Jazz in the Park was a resounding success in July! The weather was absolutely perfect – hot and sunny with a lovely cool breeze, the sky was a beautiful blue and there was plenty of cooling Pimms to enjoy thanks to Billericay Town Rotary Club. Everyone enjoyed the three sets, with many joining in for 'Sweet Caroline', whilst a group of children danced in front of the stage! Our thanks to everyone who came along and for your generous donations, which helped fund the event, as well as boosting our funds for improving the park. We look forward to another event next year.



In recent weeks we have held a bat evening, led by Peter Claughton from the Essex Bat Group, when a number of different bat species were noted. And a group of youngsters attended yet another Photography session with Nigel Harris, our resident photography expert. Our next event is our AGM on Thursday September 25th at 7.45pm at Christ Church, Perry Street, to which everyone is welcome, whether you are a member or not. Once again, we shall have a mystery speaker, who will talk about something interesting to do with the park.

You will recently have seen that new kneerail fencing has been put up in the garden area. The materials for the fence were provided by the Friends of Lake Meadows and the fencing was put in place by a contractor for Basildon Parks and Countryside team. A real partnership working together to achieve something that will hopefully last many years. You may have wondered about the fencing around the

flower meadow, which was taken down a few months ago because it was rotten. It is hoped that this may be replaced in the autumn with wood cut in Norsey Woods.

And finally, the geraniums in the raised bed are looking a picture thanks to the continued hard work of our team of gardeners. Every week, they make sure the plants are watered, weeded and dead headed, so they look their best. Our gardeners struggle to keep on top of all the garden areas that we look after at the park, so if you can spare an hour or two on a Tuesday morning to join our team of friendly gardeners, we would welcome you with open arms! No experience or special skills needed, tools provided, just come along with gardening gloves and sensible shoes. We look forward to seeing you soon!

For any information about the park please contact us via our website: www.lakemeadows.org.uk



The Antidote to Heatwaves is Among Us!

This recent heatwave is where our Billericay mature trees, woodlands and tree belts have come into their own combatting respiratory diseases and ailments that are a feature of heatwaves. Sustained heatwaves are noted for filling up our hospitals with the elderly with their respiratory problems and shortening lives. Heatwaves are something that we are likely to experience more and more as the climate warms.

Thankfully our extensive tree coverage throughout the town acts as a "Green Lung" by absorbing air pollution and exuding oxygen and in addition lowers the ambient temperature as their collective shade is invaluable in this respect. Houses in close proximity to a grove of trees benefit by remaining cooler in hot weather. There are other benefits from having a significant tree coverage, slowing the wind speed down and after rain the canopies of trees hold a reservoir that slowly drips and evaporates helping to avoid flash flooding whilst additionally pleasantly cooling the air.

The lesson here is that one needs to protect existing mature trees as well as plant trees for the future. Both approaches complement each other.

Hopefully it will make up for the mature trees that have been and will be felled in the name of the Local Plan due to the ongoing

long-term construction of residential development. Thankfully, there is a procedure in place whereby the Developer is required to undertake an independent tree survey at his own expense and discuss the findings with Planning to check what tree coverage can be removed and what is to stay. This (in theory) avoids the risk of rampant clear-felling of our trees on the development sites in and around Billericay that have the potential for 1,912 new build houses built on 10 of the Planning Application sites – A proportion of which have already been approved by Planning. To sum up — Our town's "Green Lung" represents a health-giving asset fending off respiratory problems that the aged are especially susceptible to. Hence overall protection of our trees is paramount. Heatwaves are now predicted to be a regular feature of our summers from now on.

John Smart BTW.







Billericay Good Companions Club

The Billericay Good Companions Club had a meeting in August at the Chantry Centre when we celebrated our first 100th birthday for Brenda Scragg who is also our longest participating member.

The St. Luke's Hospice Singers entertained us by singing many of Brenda's favourite songs including 'We'll Gather Lilacs in the Spring Again' She was presented with a lovely Birthday Cake and afternoon tea was served to all the members. Brenda Commented on one of the advantages of being a senior citizen is that your qualify to become a



entertainment and making everyone

comfortable. This results in the club living



up to its title "The Good Companions".

The Club meet in the Chantry Centre on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each Month, from 2.00pm until 4.00pm. You need to be 65 years or over.

Membership subscription is £5.00 a year and there is a £3.00 charge per meeting to cover entertainment,

afternoon tea, plus birthday and Christmas gifts. We are not a drop in club just for registered membership.

Enquires are welcome on 01277 654319

Billericay Enigma Ensemble

History

The Enigma Ensemble formed approximately 30 years ago for the purpose of allowing amateur musicians an outlet to play together. It previously met at Little Burstead Village Hall until the end of 2022 when the original director, Michael Aarons, retired from that role. We now meet at St John's Church, Outwood Common Road, where there is plenty of car park space, and meet fortnightly during term time on a Monday from 11am to 1pm.

The Ensemble

Currently our Ensemble consists of a string section with 2 violins, 1 cello and 1 double bass; the wind section has 2 flutes, 2 clarinets and 1 oboe. Our standard is from Grade 3 level up to about grade 7, and each piece of music has easier or more demanding parts available. One of our members, Jill, previously ran a Junior School orchestra and now leads our playing. Another member, Theo, acts as co-ordinator and obtains and arranges new pieces of music to suit the requirements of our various instruments as well as giving us the opportunity to listen to the arrangements on our web-site, so enabling us to practice alongside the music. We play a varied repertoire which includes Classical, Musicals, Folk and Pop although mostly from the 60s and 70s in the last instance.

The Benefits

Playing a musical instrument has many positive health and social benefits which includes strengthening the memory and boosting well-being. We are a friendly group who enjoy making music together as well as socialising over coffee and biscuits at break-time.

Why not join us?

If you have previously learnt either a stringed or woodwind instrument, however long ago, and are roughly Grade 3 standard (or beyond), here's what to do. Notify our co-ordinator Theo on theo@theotodman.com so that he can find or produce the music appropriate for your instrument. You are welcome to come to the first session as a 'taster' for free; we normally pay £20 per term to cover fees for hall hire. Our new term starts on the 8th September.

Please view our Website for further information: www.enigmaensemble.co.uk



Pre-school Celebrates 50 Years of Nurturing Young Minds

Duttsbury Pre-school recently marked a significant milestone by celebrating its 50th birthday on Friday 13th June. The celebration took place at the pre-school on Perry Street, Billericay, bringing together current and former families, staff, and community members for a memorable afternoon of festivities.

"It was heartwarming to see so many familiar faces come together to celebrate this important milestone," said Julie Crosby, Business Manager of Buttsbury Pre-school. We are grateful to everyone who has been a part of our journey over the past 50 years. This event highlighted the strong sense of community we foster here and the enduring impact we have on families' lives."

The anniversary celebration also included a special exhibition showcasing the history of Buttsbury Pre-school, featuring photographs and stories from the past five decades that resonated with all who attended.

"Celebrating our 50th birthday has not only been a joyous occasion but a reminder of the invaluable relationships we've built and the memories we've created over the years," said Tracey Woodman, Playroom Manager of Buttsbury Pre-school. "We are excited to continue this journey and serve the children and families of our community for many more years to come."

Buttsbury Pre-school extends heartfelt gratitude to all who attended the event and contributed to its success. We look forward to continuing our commitment to nurturing and educating young minds in the years ahead.

For more information about Buttsbury Preschool and their history, please visit www.buttsburypreschool.org.uk or contact: 01277 631816



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Dates for your Diary!





 Billericay Town Council Meetings Planning, 16th and 30th September, Health, Well-Being Environment 9th September, Finance and General Purposes, 18th September, Full Council 25th September, all at 19.00.



- 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 Mind 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 September 8th How Railways Began 200 Years Ago Adrian Wright. 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, term time only, 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 Monday 15th September
 Plants for an East Anglian Garden Robin Carlsberg 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 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 Course Reading Rooms, High Street CM12 9AS Italian Renaissance Art, exploring early Renaissance art and sculpture, the artists, patronage and techniques. Rosanna Eckersley. Starts Wednesday 17th September 2-4pm (including tea break)-6 session course. Fee £50.40. Reference: Q00022308
- 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 8th September –
 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
- 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 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 15th September, Afternoon Tea at the Sanctuary. 2.15pm start. Cost £25 per person. Booking essential; 14th September Online Auction via Remus Facebook Page. Starts 11am; 14th September Curry Lunch at Nirvana Indian Restaurant, Ingatestone. £22 per person. 2pm for 2.15pm start. Booking essential; 27th September; Afternoon Tea at the Sanctuary, 2.15pm start. £25. Booking essential; 28th September Harmony Brass Evening Stock Village Hall 4.30pm start; 5th October Open Day at The Sanctuary 1-4pm. contact Office 01277 356191; Contact https://www.remussanctuary.org/events.
- 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
- Stock Brook Ladies Probus 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 stockbrookladiesprobus @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 OSY 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



- 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/lakemeadowsjuniors/ 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). Email 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 August for events taking place between 10th October and 9th November



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



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.

GUIDED TOUR OF THE ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA (90 MINS) (HOME OF THE CHELSEA PENSIONERS) AND VISIT TO THE NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM – THURSDAY 16TH OCTOBER

We spend the morning at the National Army Museum which has several galleries displaying army uniforms, military vehicles, a Lynx helicopter and exhibits from army history dating from the 1600's to the present. There is a skeleton of Napoleon's horse Merengo, an amputation saw used to amputate the Earl of Uxbridge's leg at the battle of Waterloo and a section of the Berlin wall. There is a cafe which serves light lunches snacks and drinks. After lunch we go nearby to the Royal Hospital Chelsea and enjoy a guided tour led by one of the Chelsea Pensioners. We will explore some of the most stunning historic buildings in London and gain an insider's perspective on what life is like as part of this unique community. Apart from seven steps which has a handrail and a chair lift it's all on the flat.

Cost: £45.00 which includes coach, entry to the National Army Museum, entry and guided tour of the Chelsea Hospital

Depart: GG 8.15am. OA 8.20am. LR 8.30am. SG 8.35am. Back in Billericay approximately 6.30pm.

Please ring as soon as possible if interested in this trip

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

Telephone: 01277 622342

ELY CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS GIFT AND FOOD FAIR – THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2024

This hugely successful Christmas gift and food fair is one of East Anglia's exceptional shopping experiences. Discover perfect presents for friends and family from over one hundred boutique stalls located in the cathedral. Two supersized marquees adjacent to the cathedral will host a further hundred stalls selling gifts and festive produce. There will be plenty of food vendors on site providing hot and cold drinks.

You might like to visit Oliver Cromwell's house cost £8.00.

Cost: £33.00 which includes coach and entry to the cathedral fair.

Depart: GG 8.30am. OA 8.35am. LR 8.45am. SG 8.50am. Back in Billericay approximately 6.00pm.

Please telephone to book after 9am on Monday 15th September

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

Telephone: 01277 622342

NEW FOR 2026 - COACH HOLIDAY AT 2024 PRICE!

IMPERIAL HOTEL EASTBOURNE – SATURDAY 14TH MARCH 2026 -WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH 2026

ONLY ONE ROOM AVAILABLE (TWIN OR DOUBLE)

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).

\star NEW 🖈

FOR 2026

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

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

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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.