

Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year to all our Members



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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.

A number of small roads off Valley Road – 31 magazines

Contact Jan on 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

Magazine Article Coordinator

Our magazine now needs a new person at the helm. The main responsibilities of the role include:

- Collating notes and articles about local subjects
- Research and producing small written articles
- Determining the content of the monthly magazine
- Liaising with the magazine printers and advertisers.

Interested? Contact resident@bdra.org for more details.



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 would prefer to receive The Resident in this format, please email resident@bdra.org

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.

BDRA NEWS



"Help us to help you"



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Executive Committee took the decision recently to increase Membership fee. This has remained at £3 since 2019. We have not taken this decision lightly.

The Local Plan Consultation is imminent and we want to be in the position to submit a legal challenge if the plan is not right for the residents of Billericay. The increase in membership fees will support these costs, which could be substantial.

Therefore, from February 2025, the membership fee will be £5 per annum. We trust you will agree this is still good value for money. However, we recognise that some Members may feel they cannot afford this increase, or are unwilling to pay the increased fee. We have, therefore, decided that for those Members who elect to take The Resident in the e-version, there will be no increase. Additionally, we do not anticipate any further increase for the next three years.

We trust this will be acceptable to you and look forward to having your continued support to assist the BDRA in its work for the residents of Billericay.

HELP US TO HELP YOU

Letters to the Editor...

Dear Editor,

Billericay's New Fishing Lake

Lake Meadows has had what the Germans call a Verschlimmbesserung - an improvement which makes things worse. The creation of the new fishing 'bays' along its north side are yet another example of the interests of the minority prevailing over those of the majority. No doubt Basildon Council wanted the extra income from fishing permits. Fishing bays are now placed in the only open spaces between bushes along two of the lake's three sides, obstructing the view across it and destroying the aesthetic. The benches, placed to take advantage of that view, have been made redundant; on Saturday my view was only of the rear of two large brown fishing tents placed 'illegally', not in a fishing bay but on the green sward behind it. It has now become a fishing lake around which people are allowed to walk and a cash cow for the Council.

Julian Whybra



Thankyou to those of you who forwarded their comments and photos re the overgrown condition of pavements, as a result of last months article. There is still time to send in your comments and photos. resident@bdra.org

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A New Draft Plan

Basildon Council has released details of a new Draft Local Plan to cover the 20 years from 2023 to 2043. We do need a Plan, but the current proposal would bring decades of chaotic degradation.

The intention is to meet the new government housing need target of 27,100 dwellings in full – this includes around 10,000 on brownfield and 17,000 on what is now protected Green Belt.

The borough's population would grow by 65,000 by 2043 – more than the current populations of Billericay and Wickford combined. The Draft Plan is extremely vague at this stage – but it appears to be proposing around 5,300 houses between the Railway Line/Norsey Wood down to the A127.

Targets

Basildon's true local housing need could be met without using Green Belt.

- Official government projections (from the Office of National Statistics – ONS) show Basildon requires 450 houses per year (9,000 over a 20 year Plan Period. 300 per year of this is the needs of local people, with the rest to allow for in-migration from the capital to continue at recent rates. But this scientific approach is not the basis of government Housing Target algorithms.
- Under the spell of the rich and powerful development lobby, the old government's contrived algorithm inflated the ONS figures to 1,040 per year (20,800 over twenty years).

This would rapidly accelerate in-migration to the area.

- The new government have put that on steroids, with a target of 1,355 per year (27,100 over twenty years).

Worse still, the new government has made it much harder, perhaps impossible, for Green Belt LAs to undershoot these targets as they could before. Communities all over the country face mounting pressure from developers - with even those with an adopted Plan being required to review their Plans to meet these unjustified new targets.

Recent History

In March 2022 the Council withdrew the draft Local Plan (covering 2014 to 2034) in order to protect more of the borough's Green Belt. Since then, the twelve Billericay sites that were to be included in the old Plan were at elevated risk at appeal until a draft new Plan was in place. Two sites were successfully defended at appeal, two lost and another approved by the Basildon Planning Committee.

We now have a new draft Plan to cover the period 2023-2043. We had hoped that the new draft Local Plan would undershoot the governments advisory Housing Targets and so use little or no Green Belt. But the government's planning reforms have changed everything.

Affordability and Viability

You'd think that a hyper-supply of housing would have the silver lining of lowering house prices, helping people to buy their own home. But experience in many places shows this has little or no effect.

The country's housing stock has grown faster than the population. We probably have enough, and probably build enough homes, but they're in the wrong hands. More and more of our housing stock is being bought up by investors, making demand almost infinite and pushing up prices. And it should be noted that neither the last, nor the current governments actually want house prices to fall.

Our borough does need more Council houses for social rent but we haven't seen any indication of this so far.

To be fair, the Plan includes a requirement for 50% "Affordable" homes on Green Belt sites. Good in theory, but the term "Affordable" is a misnomer. Affordable Homes are discounted just 20% from the astronomical market rate.

Worse still, developers will be able to wriggle out of building "Affordable" homes, citing "Viability". Viability is the government guarantee that the development cartel is entitled to a 20% profit per site – with the developer doing most of the accounting.

How to Help

The situation is very bad, but it's too soon to despair. It will be several years before a Plan is adopted, and the situation will evolve a great deal in that time.

As a community we must do all we can to shape the borough's future for the better. We need as many people as possible (individuals not households) to engage with the process and respond to the consultation which runs until January 12th.

The best way to stay up to date is to join the **"Save Billericay from Housing Developments"** Facebook group that's run by BAG. Information will also be posted on the Billericay Action Group website – <https://www.billericayactiongroup.org.uk/>

See map on front cover. The map shows potential development areas around Billericay.

- H1 – SE Billericay (1,500 houses)
- H2 – West of Gt Burstead (200)
- H3 – South of Gt Burstead (1,000)
- H4 – West of Laindon Road (250)
- H5 – Laindon Common Road (Unclear)
- H6 – South of London Road (680)
- H7 – West of Mountnessing Road (540)

There are three "Infill" areas, though the housing totals are these locations aren't clear.

- IF1 – Break Egg Hill and neighbouring areas. This would place development on the SE border of Norsey Wood, harming wildlife there.
- IF2 – Broomhills Chase Plotlands, Little Burstead
- IF3 – Green Lane Plotlands, south of Little Burstead

AS1 and AS2 in north Billericay are "Alternative Sites" that may be added as the plan develops.

New housing\employment areas would also extend northward from Basildon.

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Litter Group Celebrate 5 Years of Keeping Billericay Tidy! by Karen Sinclair

Here at the Billericay District Residents' Association, we would like to say a huge thank you and congratulations to the excellent Billericay Litter Pickers who celebrated their 5th Anniversary on the 20th November, and in true community spirit they celebrated... you've guessed it, with a litter pick! (see pic below). With over 1,410 volunteering hours/55 litter picks and the collection of over 600 sacks, equivalent to approx. 2.5 tonnes of litter, under their belts this is certainly no mean feat!!

So where did it all start, we hear you ask. Brainchild of Billericay resident Jon Gibbon, the group was formed to help make Billericay a better place to live. Jon has a penchant for all things rubbish, dating back to his days working for 'Keep Britain Tidy' where he managed the survey team, which involved him touring the UK monitoring litter and giving advice to local councils. In 2017 Jon decided to start litter picking himself on the way home from the station, which led to his wife and children joining in. A few years later Jon and his wife founded the group. Since then they have organised many outings on the streets and green spaces of the town to pick up rubbish and keep Billericay looking tidy. They also aim to protect wildlife by keeping the area clean and tidy and promote environmental issues such as climate change.

With over 700 followers on Billericay Litter Pickers Facebook page the momentum is really growing! Reaching kids is a vital part of the group's ethos; they have achieved this by partnering with local associations such as the Scouts, Beavers, Girls Brigade, Guides, the Duke of Edinburgh Award and the Rotary Club and also by allowing and encouraging children and families on the litter picks.

Speaking about the permanence of litter in the local community co-founder of the group Vikki Gibbon stated: "When we first started there was a lot of historic litter but now, we are finding there is less litter in places like Lake Meadows but other areas and streets are pretty consistent with the amount of litter we are collecting. Gas canisters and



vapes, however have become more prevalent."

Local businesses such as Crocus Wealth and the Moir Health Osteopathy and Sports Massage Clinic support the group by helping with sponsorship and their insurance. They are also supported by Basildon Borough Council and Billericay Town Council.

'Active Essex' point to litter picking as having far wider benefits for participants than just cleaning up the community, these include social, mental and physical benefits. They state: "Not only are you serving your community by helping provide clean and safe environments it

also allows you the opportunity to meet likeminded individuals and create a sense of community and wellbeing. The physical benefits are plentiful, you are on your feet and actively travelling around your area which improves peoples' physical activity levels and their step count, without even thinking about it."

If you would like to help spruce up your surroundings, you can join on a one-off or regular basis, or even bring a group along! Meeting dates are usually on a Saturday or Sunday for about 1.5 hours. Anyone is welcome to join the group's Facebook page 'Billericay Litter Pickers', where upcoming litter picks will be advertised.



QUEENS PARK COMMUNITY CHURCH ART GROUP

On Wednesday 23rd October the art group met to celebrate the retirement of Pat Carter and Pat Crabb who have run the art group for 21 years.

The ladies were presented with a voucher each, cards and a laminated display of some of our art work. We also shared a celebration cake. We all want to thank the two ladies for

their commitment to the art group, they will be sorely missed.

Luckily, Barbara Almond, is happy to take over the group, which hopefully will be able to continue for the foreseeable future. The group has around 20 members who are a friendly and welcoming bunch of people with a shared love of all types of art. We meet every Wednesday morning and everyone is welcome.



COACH TRIP TO ROMFORD DOG STADIUM

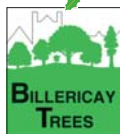
44 people went on the coach trip to the Romford Dog stadium, on the 29th October. No one won big, or if they did, they weren't telling! As you can see from the photo everyone had a great time.

See all our latest coach trips on the back page.



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

On the 10th November, to honour those who died in past and present conflicts, the BDRA Vice Chair, Stephen Chapman, laid a wreath at the War memorial in the High Street. We also donated £80 to the Royal British Legion, to support their work providing lifelong support to serving and ex-serving personnel and their families.



Billericay Tree Wardens (BTW)

To Pave Over or Not to Pave Over? – That is the Option!

With reference to some front gardens that have been converted to a car park; this can be a controversial subject. Apart from ensuring that such coverage does not increase the risk of flash flooding by use of a porous material or the introduction of a drainage system, there is no regulation in place (that we are aware of) preventing such a makeover.

Property owners have a right to do so but nevertheless our Street Scene greenness is being reduced. Now that our young folk are generally staying longer at home because of the lack of availability of local housing stock and the difficulty faced by first time buyers to acquire a mortgage, households can have several cars. We have moved into an era when the design of housing estates of yesteryear were never designed to allow for such an increase in population density as there is today and their original design concept has been compromised. Front gardens as we have known them, with their green and well-

tended plots with perhaps a tree, shrubs and a lawn that help to provide shade in hot weather and offer a niche for wildlife, are now in retreat as coverage by concrete and pavements becomes ever more prominent. And the use of artificial grass is viewed by many as a retrograde step! Where a stretch of several of these paved-over front gardens occur side per side, it can represent a stark view especially when graced with their Wheelie Bins standing as if alien sentinels in a row! With inventive design, such makeovers could have included both a horticultural patch and also allow for



additional car parking. That is, both worlds could be have been addressed. But do our local landscaping companies encourage that option? The Mayor of London may launch a scheme whereby property owners will receive funding to

revert their paved over front garden back to greenness to avoid the risk of flash flooding, enhance biodiversity and visually improve the streets. Could there be a similar incentive launched in Billericay?

BILLERICAY COMMUNITY CINEMA



Pillow Talk

Sunday 19th January (1959, PG)

Tickets £4.00 from Billericaycine.com

Doors open 2:30pm, film 3pm

**A cuppa, home made cake,
a natter & a film
That's Sunday Matinee**

SUNDAY MATINEE



Back to Black

Thursday 9th January (2024, PG)

Tickets £5.00 from Billericaycine.com

Doors open 7pm, film 7:30pm

Wine, Billericay Brewery beers,
cocktail, mocktail, tea/coffee, snacks

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During the past month, the Friends have been working closely with Jan Tutton, one of our members, who herself keeps bees and who is Vice Chair and Membership Secretary of Chelmsford Beekeepers. a division of Essex Beekeepers Association (EBKA).

The British Beekeepers' Association, known as BBKA, was established in 1874 as a London-based club, but quickly grew to include the rest of the country, as well as Ireland; Scotland and Wales forming their own associations. The Chelmsford division was established in 1918 to encourage beekeeping as an occupation for those returning from the war.

Today, the BBKA represents around 30,000 beekeepers across the country, and works to support education around honeybees, while actively campaigning to raise awareness of threats to pollinators.

To celebrate 150yrs of the BBKA, Chelmsford Beekeepers and the BBKA have jointly funded the planting of a tree in

Lake Meadows. All member Associations and Branches throughout the country have had the opportunity to plant one.

A very special tree has been chosen – a Tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) – particularly because bees love the nectar produced by the unusual flowers, which appear in June and July. It is a most unusual and attractive large tree which has received the RHS Award of Garden Merit. Its distinctive unusual foliage is bright green, turning clear yellow in autumn. Honey bees, bumblebees and many other species depend on trees for food. The Tulip tree is a rich nectar source at a period traditionally known by beekeepers as 'the June gap' which occurs when there is a dip in forage for honeybees.

So, keep your eyes open for the new tree, which you will find on the north side of the park, near the flower meadow. Hopefully this and the other BBKA trees will last well into the future, perhaps even another 150 years!

Finally, once again we should like to invite people in Billericay to

come and join us for Carols in the Park this month. The annual event will be held on Saturday December 14th, assembling near the Bowls Pavilion at 3.30pm for mince pies and mulled wine, and carols from 4pm. The event is free, but please bring a torch and some cash for the collection.



International Volunteers Day is an annual event that honours the invaluable work of volunteers and volunteer organisations. It aims to inspire more people to engage in volunteer activities and promote the idea that volunteering contributes to building a better and more inclusive world.

International Volunteers Day is observed globally on December 5th each year. This date offers a chance to acknowledge and celebrate the remarkable achievements of volunteers and to reflect on the

impact of volunteerism on society.

This is a chance for the Committee to thank all our 160 volunteers; from those who direct the association to those

who deliver The Resident, and all those in between. And of course, the ladies who organise our successful coach trips. We make a great team of volunteers, representing the voice of Billericay residents.



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A Closer Look at Tax Adjustments in the Autumn Budget

The Autumn Budget generated significant speculation about potential changes to Inheritance Tax (IHT) and Capital Gains Tax (CGT). Here, we examine the key points discussed in relation to these taxes.

The Chancellor's comments on IHT focused on a "balanced approach," with current allowances remaining and frozen until 2030. Those are the tax-free allowance of £325,000 on all estates and an additional residence nil rate band of £175,000 for those passing residential property to their descendants with an estate of under £2,000,000. The tax rates, with the standard being 40% on any assets above those thresholds, remain unchanged.

The standard IHT rate of 40% on assets above these thresholds also remains in place. Unused allowances can still be transferred to spouses and civil partners, preserving a combined IHT-free allowance of £1,000,000.

There was no mention of lifetime gifts in relation to IHT, suggesting the current rules will remain. However, CGT rates will rise from 10% to 18% for standard rate taxpayers and from 20% to 24% for higher rate taxpayers.



Additionally, Business Property and Agricultural Property reliefs will be adjusted from 2026, making 50% of qualifying assets over £1,000,000 taxable.

A significant change for many is the announcement that inherited pensions will be included in estates for IHT purposes starting in 2027, effectively returning to the pre-2015 approach. This change will impact many estates and requires careful planning, as

pensions were previously excluded from estate calculations.

There is no one-size-fits-all advice at this stage. We always encourage clients to review their estates after any major life changes or, in any case, every few years to ensure their wills and tax planning through trusts, gifts, and other means are working most efficiently in the given circumstances and accurately reflect their intentions.

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Billericay Striders 10K

3RD November 2024



Billericay Striders 10K Road Race was back with a vengeance and lots of smiles for its 27th running this year after having to cancel the day before last year due to unsafe conditions at the ford. Luckily, this friendly and popular race is still a hit with runners and sold out in an incredible 2 days. Roughly 50% of last year's entrants deferred their places to ensure they were at the start line this year.

Running conditions were perfect: dry but cloudy and not too chilly for standing around at the start and with very little wind..

First place in the men's race went to Road Runner's Paul Whittaker, who ran the race in 30.01 which was a course record and earned himself £100 and a special Striders' Salver. He also took home an extra £100 for breaking his own course

record set in 2015 by exactly 30 seconds. In second place was Adam Hickey of City of Southend on Sea in 30.16 (which also beat the previous course record) and in third Jim Dodsworth of Leigh on Sea Striders (33.54). Jim also picked up the prize for Vet 40.

The women's race saw Lindsay Coleman win again this year - who also scooped the V40 award. Consistent achiever

Stephanie Migliorini of Leigh on Sea Striders came second and third place went to City of Southend's Juliette Le Mare.

The Male Youth Award for young runners under 21 years old was won by Billericay local Lucas Sanchez in 39 minutes and the Female award was won by Jemima Knightsbridge of Brentwood Beagles in 44.57.

The Women's Team Award went to Phoenix Striders and the Men's to Leigh on Sea Striders.

The club has already been overwhelmed with messages of thanks and compliments on social media for the excellent organisation and the support given throughout by the marshals.

The club would like to thank its long-term sponsors Ground Control and Fisher Jones Greenwood. We had a new sponsor this year, Fairfield Farm crisps, and they were very well received by runners and supporters alike. Run Active also generously donated spot prizes and gave vouchers for the winning teams.

The club charity this year is Prostate Cancer UK which was supported by our favourite coach Keith Walker who sadly passed away earlier this year. There was a moving moment at the start line where all the runners were asked to show their appreciation of Keith's tireless efforts with the club.

Due to the increasingly frequent 'weather events' we are going to hold the race in summer next year. We have set the date for 6th July 2025. We will be taking to social media to let everyone know when entries will be opening - probably around the beginning of April.

All results and photos can be found on the dedicated Facebook Billericay Striders 10K Page.

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- Billericay Town Council Meetings** Planning, **7th, 21st January, 4th February**; Health, Wellbeing and Environment **14th January**; Financial & General Purposes **5th December, 5th 23rd January**; Town Council **30th January**



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** meet at The Fold, Laindon Road **Friday 6th December** 'Les enfants francophones pendant la Grande Guerre' a talk in French by Vivien Newman; **Friday 3rd January 2025** at 8pm, Social to celebrate 'La Fete des Rois' with homemade Galettes des Rois to share. Friday 17th January 'Beret ou chapeau melon?' - a humorous look at how the British and French see each other, a talk in French by Babette Knott. All welcome, visitors £5. www.basildonandbillericayfrenchcircle.com or contact 07986 293419 **Friday 7th February** at 7pm 'Le Pastel' a talk in French by Fabienne Manele. Please note this meeting is on ZOOM. Contact nealpeartree@gmail.com or contact 07986 293419 for information on how to join the meeting
- 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 December 9th** '15 Minutes of Fame' - Members of BAHS; **13th January 2025** - Rameses II - How Great Was He? - Janet Brewer Non-Members £2, Raffle £1, refreshments £1 per person. Contact alantaylor8@btopenworld.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 the **first Wednesday of each month** at 7.30pm for 8pm start in the W.I. Hall, St. Edith's Lane, Billericay. Visitors welcome at £7 each. Contact Linda Gilbey on 01277 656217 or email ljgilbey@oal.com
- Billericay Horticultural Society** meet at the Chantry Centre from 8pm-10pm, visitors welcome £3.00. Refreshments available. **December 16th** Christmas Social, **January 20th** Working for BBC Essex as Gardening Presenter for over 30 years - Ken Crowther 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 Care 2** at The Reading Rooms, 73 High Street, Billericay CM12 9AS - for unpaid Carers, former Carers and their supporters and those interested in signing, Sign Along Christmas Carols with Deborah Young **Tuesday 10th December** 2pm-3.30pm To book a free place phone 03003033464. For course content - www.wea.org.uk and click on Skills for Life: Courses for Carers. Course Code: Q00019596. Local contact: Billericay.branch@wea.ac mailto:Billericay.branch@wea.ac
- Billericay WEA** at The Reading Rooms A Christmas Quiz with Mel Jackson - Bridge - **Wednesday 11th December** 2pm-4pm. Donations please to cover costs. Contact Billericay.branch@wea.ac
- 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 9th December**. 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
- Norsey Wood Society** will be holding our next illustrated talk at 7.45pm **Monday 20th January 2025** at The Fold, 72 Laindon Rd, Billericay CM12 9LD. Terri Dawson, Education Officer, the Wilderness Foundation will present 'Wilderness Nature Therapy: Learning Outside, Changing Inside' Everyone welcome to this free event. It will be preceded by a short AGM. Visit norseywoodsociety.uk or mail norseywoodsociety1977@gmail.com if more details required.
- 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** **5th December** Wreath Making Workshops - The Reading Rooms, 73 High St Billericay CM12 9AS 10am-12.30pm or 1.30pm-4pm.; **15th December** Carol Service at The Sanctuary 2pm for 2.15pm start. Due to lack of parking space only members/sponsors; **22nd December** Online Auction via Remus Facebook Page. Starts 11am; **22nd**

December Curry Lunch at Nirvana Indian Restaurant, Ingatestone. £20 per person. 2pm for 2.15pm start. Booking essential; **26th January** Online Auction via Remus Facebook Page. Starts 11am.; **26th January** Curry Lunch at Nirvana Restaurant. £20 per person, 2pm for 2.15pm start, Booking essential. 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, derekprior@hotmail.com
- **Spike's Place Jazz Club Bardwell Social Club** Weald Rd, Brentwood CM14 4TJ 8pm start. Phone 01245 420475. www.spikesplace.co.uk. Prices on website. Fully accessible. **Tuesday 3rd December** Laura Klain, Nigel Price, Nat Steele, Lorenzo Morabito; **10th December** Christmas Party with Alan Barnes and Al Nichols, John Pearce, Andy Cleynert, Matt Skelton.
- **Stock Brook Ladies Probus Group** meets on the **3rd Wednesday of each month** to listen to a speaker and take lunch together at Crondron 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
- **Venturers' Bridge Club** meet on **Thursdays** 1.15pm at Hannakins Farm, Rosebay Avenue for social bridge in a friendly environment. £4.00 per session. Contact graham@forsythe.co.uk

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** 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 January for events taking place between 10th February and 9th March

Computer Problems?

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

Call Gary Mander,
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- 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



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.

*Kathleen and Yvonne would like to wish everyone who supported the trips
a very Happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you next year*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ THURSDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2025 – BROOKLANDS AVIATION AND MOTORING MUSEUM, GUIDED TOUR INCLUDED

**SEATS AVAILABLE – PLEASE PAY
NOW**

Brooklands welcome us to the birthplace of British motor racing, a powerhouse of British engineering. Discover the speed, glamour & endeavour that made Brooklands a household name for much of the Twentieth Century. Enjoy the interactive experiences & explore the world's most extraordinary collection of historic cars, classic racing cars, buses, vintage aircraft & the iconic Concorde. See inside the award-winning Aircraft Factory, at the world's first purpose-built racetrack. Walk in the footsteps of the motor sport & aviation legends that shaped & changed the world forever right here at Brooklands. Brooklands also offer a Concorde Experience, to see inside the world's most famous aircraft. Re-live the excitement of the supersonic age on this 25 minute tour.

The Concorde tour cost is £6.50 and is not included in our price, but can be booked, please let me know when booking.

Cost: £43.00 Coach, Entrance & Brooklands 360 1 hour tour.

Depart: GG 8.15am. OA 8.20am. LR 8.25am. SG 8.30am. Back in Billericay approximately 6.00pm.

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

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ HOLIDAY ★ HOLIDAY ★ HOWDEN COURT HOTEL TORQUAY – SATURDAY 15TH MARCH - FRIDAY 21ST MARCH 2025

★ NEW FOR
2025 ★

**ONLY THREE ROOMS AVAILABLE –
WAITING LIST FOR SINGLE ROOMS**

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

This family hotel is situated a ten minute walk to the shops. The hotel's private path takes you to the harbour and seafront in seven minutes. It has a separate dining room bar and lounge. All bedrooms have tea and coffee making facilities, TV, and hair driers. There is a

lift, ground floor bedrooms with wet rooms and Wi fi in all communal areas and most bedrooms.

ITINERARY

Saturday 15th March

Travelling to Torquay with stop for lunch at Dobbies Garden Centre

Sunday 16 March

Babbacombe Model Village cost £12.50 Please ring Kathleen ASAP if you want to go (Optional)

Monday 17th March

Plymouth (Optional)

Tuesday 18th March

Free day

Wednesday 19th March

Exeter (Optional)

Wednesday 19th March

Evening Theatre trip book at hotel (Optional)

Thursday 20th March

Free Day

Friday 21st March

Travelling to Billericay with stop for lunch

This hotel has 510 five star reviews on Trip Advisor.

Included:

- 9 single rooms available without a supplement (only one room per person per booking)
- Full English breakfast and three course evening meal with tea or coffee, with waitress service.
- 3 day excursions (to be arranged)
- Evening entertainment Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, a theatre trip can be organised for Wednesday evening.

Cost: £499.00 deposit £50.00. Balance to be paid mid January.

Pick up and departure times to be arranged. Departure times will be in February's Resident. Labels for your cases will be given to you on the day at your departure point.

Please telephone to book as soon as possible

**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.