

# *The Resident*

*Billericay District Residents' Association*



"Help us to help you"



**February 2025**

***Has the sun set over this view forever?***

***See page 2 – Lost Forever article***

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

**Visit the BDRA Website at: [www.bdra.org](http://www.bdra.org)**

# Billericay Needs You!

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If you are interested, please contact [resident@bdra.org](mailto:resident@bdra.org)

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

Bootham Road area approximately 18 members

Contact [sheilascottage@talktalk.net](mailto:sheilascottage@talktalk.net)

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Contact

[jimandjanweir@gmail.com](mailto:jimandjanweir@gmail.com)



## Magazine Distributor

The Magazine Distributor takes delivery of approximately 4000 magazines from our printers and delivers them to 12 distributors, who deliver them to the road reps, for delivery to our members. Our magazine is printed 10 times a year, there is no magazine in January or August. The role involves the loading and unloading of boxes. Therefore, this role would suit someone who is fairly fit and has the use of a car, for which a mileage allowance will be payable.

Contact [resident@bdra.org](mailto:resident@bdra.org)

**Thank you to Brian Boxall, who has delivered to Bootham Road for many years**



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:resident@bdra.org) and request the bank details you will require.

From February 2025, the BDRA membership subs has increased to £5pa. If you elect to take an e-version the subs will remain at £3.pa. If you want to change to the e- version please contact [resident@bdra.org](mailto:resident@bdra.org)

## BDRA NEWS



"Help us to help you"



## LOST FOREVER

**Basildon Borough Council approve 250 houses, off Laindon Road, adjacent to Frithwood**

The view on the front cover could be lost forever following last month's decision by Basildon Borough Council's Planning Committee to approve a planning application for 250 houses on Green Belt land west of Laindon Road running across the rich farmland to Frithwood Lane and ancient Frith Wood.

The primary justification was a dire shortage of new property and a somewhat convenient reclassification of the land as 'grey belt' under very new planning guidance, supported by a recent Green Belt Study, that weakens the

protection of much of the land around Billericay. This is clearly a very sad and worrying outcome, potentially setting the scene for what is to come in the future, with several other planning applications awaiting a decision. However, the application is now subject to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government considering calling-in the application for review and we have started lobbying for that to happen. We would like to thank the several hundred residents that objected to this application, and very specifically those that attended the planning committee meeting and spoke out in public. As always, resident action and involvement is important.

**We must use our voices.**

## Maitland Lodge, South Green

Two years ago, an application for 47 houses at Maitland Lodge, Southend Road was approved on appeal by a Planning Inspector whose report included an opinionated mini-rant about the importance of the 45% 'affordable' (albeit unaffordable, being discounted 20%) element of the proposal.

But now the developers are trying to wriggle out of this, reducing the 45% 'affordable' (21 homes) to 15% (7 homes) claiming 'viability' – the government's guarantee that developers are entitled to at least a 20% profit margin.

Again and again we will see the 'affordable' element used as justification to build on Green Belt, with the proportion later reduced after approval is given.

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

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BDRA website at: [www.bdra.org](http://www.bdra.org)

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# Letters to the Editor...



Dear Editor,

I have noticed there seems to be less wildlife on the Lake Meadows lake. I think this is probably due to the 4 fountains which seems to be on continuously. Is this necessary in November?

Anonymous

*We were interested in this view so asked Billericay Tree Wardens for their opinion and got the following response:-*

## The Lake at Lake Meadows:-

It has been well-demonstrated that the fish and hence other aquatic life have proliferated since the lake was oxygenated. The anglers bear witness to the fact. Nighttime bat life over the lake has also continued to be productive with Daubenton's skimming the surface for the abundant emerging aquatic insect life and the pipistrelles joining in. The oxygenation has reinvigorated the lake's aquatic insect population providing the food chain link that has led to the abundant fish life. Fish eating Cormorants sometimes visit the lake that tells its own story!

## Wildfowl and Gulls:-

Prior to their being a series of mild winters, the lake hosted a healthy population of visiting wildfowl and gull species in sometimes impressive numbers; taking refuge from the freezing conditions as the lake represents an inland micro-climate. But since we have been experiencing a succession of milder winters the visiting birdlife has diminished. It could be the case that the mildness of the winters has meant that the waterbirds have not had to seek the lake as a refuge.

Several naturalists pointed out, whether coincidence or not, that when the feeding of the wildfowl ceased by the public because of a rodent problem, the wildfowl and gull visitors plummeted dramatically (Although one can feed them grain but on lesser scale).

*John Smart &  
Neil Sumner*



**Billericay Tree  
Wardens (BTW)**



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# Thank you, thank you, thank you!

You will be aware that The BDRA with our partner group the Billericay Action Group (BAG), has been undertaking a campaign to make residents aware of the Local Plan consultation which was open for comment from the 18th November – the 12th January 2025. This was a big ask due to the short notice we received, for the date of the consultation.

Once the leaflets were finalised and printed, we needed volunteers to help with the distribution. Many of our road reps came forward and volunteered to post leaflets to non-member houses on their rounds and take up extra volunteering roles and other volunteers came forward as

word spread through the Save Billericay from Housing Development Facebook page. Overall, we have delivered and handed out over 12k leaflets, a huge undertaking. We have been at the Christmas market, in the rain, stood outside the station in the freezing cold, leafletted the



parkrun, attended the Evening Echo protest at Coniston, attended a Billericay Football match, given out leaflets at the Chancery LP consultation meeting and generally spread the word at meetings and clubs we attended. Thank you to Little Burstead Parish Council, who liaised with us on the distribution of leaflets and posters to attendees at their meeting to discuss the Local Plan. We believe that through our magazine and the leaflet we have reached 99.9% of Billericay residents. Thank you to Askin, who organised two events in The Reading Rooms to help those

residents who wanted to comment on the plan but were thwarted by the technology and lastly but certainly not least, thank you to the BAG members who have done a tireless job in keeping us informed via the 'Save Billericay from Housing Development' Facebook page', to enable us to complete the Local Plan consultation.

I hope I haven't missed anyone out, you all know who you are. After all that volunteering I hope you found the time to comment on the Local Plan yourselves! Well done to you all, we couldn't have done it without you.

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# Closure of South Green GP surgery

**The BDRA contacted Councillor Schrader relating to concerns re the closure of South Green GP's surgery. His response is shown below.**

**T**hank you for getting in touch. I can confirm that all the Billericay Councillors have been made aware of the proposed closure of the South Green Surgery on Grange Road, and the merger with The New Surgery on Stock Road.

Residents are collecting signatures for a petition, and I have assisted them by setting up a Change.org online petition, 'Save South Green GP Surgery' <https://www.change.org/p/save-south-green-gp-surgery>.

I attended the patient engagement meeting at South Green Memorial Hall yesterday evening, which was well attended. Our Member of Parliament, the Rt. Hon. Richard Holden, M.P., raised the matter in Parliament with the Health Secretary and I know he has also arranged a meeting with the Mid & South Essex Integrated Care Board.

The South Green Surgery is in a difficult position, as the landlord has served notice, which gives them little choice but to close. Under the circumstances, the option of merging with The New Surgery would appear preferable to the only other alternative, which would be what the ICB calls a 'managed dispersal' of the surgery's patients. I do not think that would be in the best interests of the surgery's patients, and the merger will allow for continuity of care. But I think it is generally recognised by everyone that the whole situation is profoundly less than ideal. I have grave concerns about capacity issues but, more

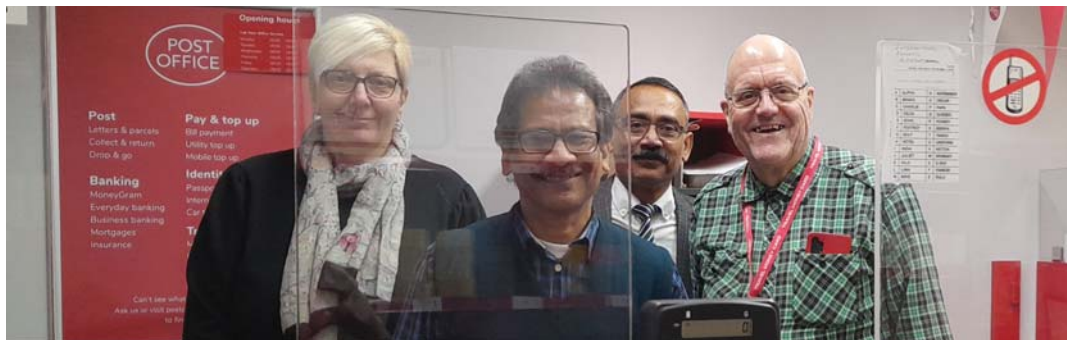
importantly, The New Surgery is more than a mile and a half away from South Green and will leave that community effectively with no local GP services.

The priority now must be to try and work with the ICB to identify a new site in the Great Burstead and South Green area from which a local surgery could operate in the future. In the meantime, however, it seems unlikely that a new situation will be found before the surgery closes in March of next year. We shall really have to hold people's feet to fire to ensure that this service is ultimately re-provided in Great Burstead and South Green.

Anything the BDRA can do to help promote the petition and raise awareness will, I am sure, be greatly appreciated by the affected residents.

## MEET YOUR NEW POST MASTER

**H**ave you visited the new Post Office in the High Street? King Kanagasundaram our new Post Master opened the new Post Office on the 4th November 2025, to great fanfare, with our MP Richard Holden, Basildon Borough and Town Councillors and the Basildon Mayor all present to celebrate the opening of our new Post Office, at 103c High Street.



King came to this country from Sri Lanka in 1989 to escape the Civil War, following his elder brother Prince, who came to study in this country. If you are wondering about those names; King's parents being Christian and keen royalists gave all their children regal names. Roal, Prince, Duke, Countess and Queen, as well as King. He met his wife, a teacher, in England, and they married in 1998.

They have two children, Noah a Lawyer and Faith a Junior Doctor. He started his career as a petrol pump cashier, moved on to be a Post Office cashier, and then saw the opportunity to be his own boss as Post Master in 1999. Since then, for the last 25 years he has operated Post Offices in Essex and Suffolk, and still retains Post Offices in Holland on Sea and Collier Row along with Billericay.

The Team at Billericay is made up of King, his brother Duke, and to keep the regal theme going, Lord Robert, also known as Geoff! Heather, who has transferred from the One Shop Post Office completes the team.

King currently lives in Clacton-on-Sea and is undertaking the A12 commute every day but intends moving to Billericay later this year. He served as a Councillor for Tendring District Council for 16 years and only gave up in 2023 when the move to Billericay looked likely. Billericay is lucky as he has not given up on his civic aspirations and intends putting himself forward as a Councillor in Billericay either for the borough or Town Council. He is even thinking of joining the BDRA Committee.

Opening the Post Office at such a busy time of year has been

hard work, but he has found Billericay residents warm and welcoming. He is very pleased to have retained their High Street Post Office. The Post Office offers all services, banking, bill payment and top ups, Passport Applications (new and renewals and the check and send service) DVLA Photocard Renewal and Vehicle Tax, Foreign Currency, Travel Insurance and Travel Money Cards

See the website for more details. [www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder/011104x/billericay#ServicesAvailableAtThisBranch](http://www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder/011104x/billericay#ServicesAvailableAtThisBranch)

The Post Office is open 9.00am-6.00pm, everyday apart from Sundays.

King is glad the Christmas rush is over and the Post Office is now quieter, but hopes to see you all again soon.



**Now you see it...**

**U**nfortunately, the sweet gum or liquid amber tree in Lake Meadows, adjacent to the Garden of the Child, had to be cut down. It had a double head and the wind brought half of it down. There is still hope that it may sprout again from the trunk, most which was left standing. Let's hope it does. Just as well we featured it on the front of our November magazine.

**...now you don't**







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**M**any years ago, local people experienced some really hard winters, but these days the climate has changed, and it is rare to even get snow, let alone a hard frost. Between 1600 and 1814, there were seven severe frosts, when the Thames froze over for up to two months at a time and Frost Fairs were held on the ice, with skaters selling their wares and holding bonfires.

In the 1800s, many winters also caused rivers and lakes to be frozen, but for shorter periods. The Great Blizzard of January 17th to 20th 1881, brought huge snow falls across the whole country, with the thermometer showing 22 degrees of frost. There was a tremendous gale and huge drifts in which horses and carts got stuck. The snow had piled up as high as the top of the hedges and was hard enough to walk on at that height. Two men were sent by their master to Billericay with a cart and two horses to fetch some grain, but on the way back were caught in the snowstorm and got stuck in a drift in Back Lane. It took them three or four hours to get the horses out and the cart remained where it was for three weeks.

People like Major Spitty enjoyed holding skating parties on their lakes. On January 18th 1908, there was a report in the Essex Newsman of skating in many parts of the county including 'many skaters on the lake at Billericay, part of the late Major Spitty's estate'. Curling was also played on the ice there – a pastime probably brought by the Scottish farmers, who came down to farm in Essex in the 1880s.

There were several incidents on the ice on the lake at Lake Meadows last century and lives were sadly lost. Whilst it may be tempting to think it is safe to walk on the frozen lake people, especially youngsters, need to know that stepping out onto the ice can be extremely dangerous

and potentially fatal. Not only are these individuals placing themselves in perilous danger, they are also risking the safety of those who come to their aid, if they get into difficulty.

We have not had a severely cold winter here since 1982 when some of us can remember quite deep snow in the days leading up to Christmas. The weather will certainly bring rain in the coming weeks, but hopefully there will be no more snow or severe frosts this winter.

If it isn't snowy, our volunteers will start gardening again in the next couple of weeks. If anyone would like to join us, they will be most welcome, just bring gardening gloves and wear sensible footwear; we have plenty of tools.

We hope to see you at the park any Tuesday morning from 9.30am.

We are pleased to see that the café has reopened under new management and we wish Mike and his team all the best in his new venture.

You may be interested in seeing the report following the survey that the Friends undertook of park users last summer. The report can be found on our website at [www.lakemeadows.org.uk](http://www.lakemeadows.org.uk) along with details of this year's photography competition. The finalists' photographs from our 2024 competition will be on display at Billericay Library throughout the month of February. Do take a look at the wonderful photos of our amazing park.



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# Grounds for challenging a will: What you need to know

**I**t is possible to contest a will if it appears to be invalid or fails to make reasonable financial provision for an eligible applicant.

If a will is successfully contested and found invalid, it will be set aside, and the estate will be distributed under the previous will (if one exists) or under Intestacy Rules (if no previous will exists). The court can vary the will and make financial adjustments where appropriate if the will is valid.

Challenging a will can be particularly significant in cases involving substantial estates or complex financial arrangements. A claimant must have legal grounds to successfully challenge a will. The most common

grounds include:

- **Lack of capacity** – The testator did not have the mental capacity to make a will.
- **Lack of knowledge and approval** – The testator was not aware of the contents of their will.
- **Want of due execution** – The will was not executed properly.
- **Undue influence** – The testator was coerced into making the will by someone else.



- **Fraudulent calumny** – Someone poisoned the testator's mind against an individual who would naturally inherit, leading to that person being disinherited.
  - **Fraud or forgery** – The will was forged by someone else.
  - **Rectification** – The will does not reflect the deceased's wishes due to a clerical error or a failure to understand the deceased's instructions when the will was prepared.
  - **Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975** – The will fails to make reasonable financial provision for an eligible applicant under the Act.
- A claim under these grounds requires evidence, often focusing on what happened when the will was made, which can be difficult to obtain.
- If you believe there may be grounds to challenge a will, seek expert legal advice early to protect your interests.

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# Christmas Day Lunch at Emmanuel Church



**For those who would otherwise be on their own**

A Christmas Day lunch for those who are on their own is planned each year and part-funded by 'Churches Together in Billericay' (CTB). Each year one of the Billericay churches hosts the event and it is organised by one or two members of the churches together with an army of volunteers from the community. This year it was decided to hold the event at Emmanuel Church, Laindon Road, and the first task was to reach out for donations to fully fund the event, followed by finding volunteers for the day. In the usual great Billericay community spirit, after many weeks of planning there was a huge turnout of 28 volunteers (including children) on Christmas Eve who arrived at Emmanuel to help set up the party. Tables and the hall were decorated and the kitchen organised ready for the big day. Everyone worked together and got the tasks done.



The exquisite table centre pieces were kindly donated by two local florists, JB's Florist and Flourishing Flowers. The Shepherd & Dog pub and the Burstead Golf Club kindly donated the majority of the meals, all cooked by their amazing team of chefs. Christmas morning saw volunteers collecting the food and bringing it back to the Emmanuel Church. This meant, the kitchen team who usually cook all the meals, had a much easier time. The generosity provided by these two businesses was outstanding. We also received a large donation of frozen food from the Cook Shop which meant the Christmas dinner was complete.

In total, 49 volunteers, including a 1 year old, and several other children, assisted throughout the day. The volunteer drivers went out to collect the guests and during the day more volunteers arrived to welcome guests, seat them, and begin the wonderful festivities. As the 75 guests arrived for 1 p.m., they were welcomed with Bucks Fizz, kindly donated by

Cellars. They were greeted by the music of a stunning violinist, who volunteered her time, and performed Christmas music. All soft beverages on the day were donated by Steve Nightingale at Britvic. At 1.15 p.m. members of Billericay Round Table arrived to give a food box to each guest to enjoy on Christmas evening or Boxing Day. In the boxes were cheese and biscuits, chutney, mince pies and more. It was a delight to see two charities work together. At 1.30 p.m., a live singer, who also volunteered his time, sang Frank Sinatra songs whilst the guests ate their lunch. The church hall was alive with chatting, happy faces and music. Once all the lunches had been served, everyone came together to say a big 'thank you' to every person who volunteered and those who donated. For two minutes it was time to think about others and be together as one big family. Next came dessert, much of which had been donated by Waitrose. Christmas pudding, trifle, lemon, tart, mince pies, and brownies arrived from the kitchen, along with hot drinks.

A quiz took place at 3 p.m. followed by the King's Speech after which time the event came to an end. As guests began to leave, they were each handed a Christmas gift, kindly donated by parents of the Mini Athletics South West Essex group. Volunteer drivers arrived to take guests home safely, whilst other volunteers helped to clear up. However, on Boxing Day another 20 volunteers returned to properly clean the hall, put back the kitchen in order, and take all the rubbish home.

Along with the donations received above, CTB also received financial donations from Cardinal Maritime, the Reading

Rooms, Co-op, and the Billericay District Residents Association, which all together paid for the event. Local members of the community who saw the adverts also donated items.

Christmas is for spreading joy, kindness, and bringing people together. This wonderful event which Churches Together in Billericay helps to organise each year, shows what a great community of local people and businesses we have in Billericay. We look forward to the next Christmas meal in 2025, and hope to reach even more people who might otherwise spend Christmas alone.

## Guests' comments

*"I thought it was absolutely wonderful; I am on my own, I am 91. It was the best thing, everyone worked so hard and made it special". Iris Williams*

*"I am 93 and I had the best time". Ron Tamcken*

## Volunteers' comments

*"I keep reflecting on today and the conversations had. I feel grateful to have been a part of a wonderful day created". Carly Kemp*

*"Thank you for the opportunity to volunteer, looking forward to doing it all again next year". Steve Jordan.*



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## BILLERICAY TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Support Your Local Football Club

# Dates for your Diary!



## Town Council Meetings

- **Billericay Town Council Meetings** Planning, **4th, 18th February**; Health, Wellbeing and Environment **25th February**



## 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 21st February** at 8pm \*Le Pantheon: aux granda hommes, aux grandes femmes... la patrie reconnaissante' a talk in French by Maryse Wright. All welcome, visitors £5. [www.basildonandbillericayfrenchcircle.com](http://www.basildonandbillericayfrenchcircle.com) or contact 07986 293419 Supported by L'Alliance Francaise de Londres
- **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](mailto:john@basmind.org)
- **Billericay Archaeological and Historical Society** meet at The Fold, Laindon Road, **Monday February 10th** 'The Beginnings of British Working-Class Culture Ted Woodgate. Non-Members £2, Raffle £1, refreshments £1 per person. Contact [alantaylor8@btopenworld.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:ljgilbey@oal.com)
- **Billericay Horticultural Society February 17th** How to Commit the Perfect Murder (Humorous) – Guy Deakins – meet at the Chantry Centre from 8pm-10pm, visitors welcome £3.00. Refreshments available. [43trouble@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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** at The Reading Rooms, 73 High Street, Billericay CM12 9AS – We have a full programme of courses for Spring Term on **Wednesday afternoons** 2-4pm. Check our posters around town. Local contact: [Billericay.branch@wea.ac.uk](mailto:Billericay.branch@wea.ac.uk) <mailto:Billericay.branch@wea.ac.uk>
- **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](mailto: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 10th February**. Parents are given a warm and friendly welcome in a safe environment. Contact Lyn on 07387805406 or e-mail [lyn-currie@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lyn-currie@hotmail.co.uk) [www.gone-too-soon.online](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 16th February** Winter Sale Stock Village Hall 11am-2pm; **22nd February** Winter Sale Billericay Reading Rooms 9am-4pm; **23rd February** Online Auction via Remus Facebook Page. Starts 11am; **23rd February** Curry Lunch at Nirvana Indian Restaurant, Ingatestone. £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](mailto:derekprior@hotmail.com)



- **Spike's Place Jazz Club** Bardswell Social Club, Weald Rd, Brentwood CM14 4TJ 8pm start. Phone 01245 420475. [www.spikesplace.co.uk](http://www.spikesplace.co.uk). Prices on website, Fully accessible. **Tuesday 6th February** Derek Nash, Gunther Kurmayr, Dave Green, Steve Brown; **13th February** The Ted Beament Trio; **20th February** Sam Brasher, Matyas Gayer, Dave Green, Josh Morrison
- **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](mailto: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** 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](http://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/](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:resident@bdra.org)**

**Deadline for the next issue is 10th February for events taking place between 10th March and 9th April**

## Computer Problems?

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- Tennis elbow
- Knee pain
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- 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.*

## THURSDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> 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 worlds 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. Relive 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, Ingatstone,  
Essex CM4 9PW. Telephone 01277 840560**

## ★ HOLIDAY ★ HOLIDAY ★ HOWDEN COURT HOTEL TORQUAY – SATURDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025

★ NEW FOR  
2025 ★

**DUE TO CANCELLATIONS SOME SINGLE ROOMS ARE  
AVAILABLE NOW WITH A SUPPLEMENT OF £140 PER WEEK  
ALSO DOUBLE AND TWIN ROOMS AVAILABLE PLEASE RING  
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF INTERESTED.**

***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.

**Depart:** QPR 7.30am. GG 7.45am. OA 8.00am. LR 8.15am. SG 8.30am.

**Please telephone to book as soon as possible**

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

## THURSDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025 – RYE ON MARKET DAY WITH FISH AND CHIPS AT THE PILOT INN

**JOIN US FOR ONE OF OUR  
MOST POPULAR TRIPS**

★ NEW FOR  
2025 ★

Rye is one of the most picturesque towns in England with its cobbled streets and Tudor, Stuart and Georgian houses. There are many interesting shops to browse and plenty of restaurants to get a snack or light lunch. The market has a wide variety of stalls where you can pick up a bargain. We end the day at the Pilot Inn in Dungeness a short drive from Rye. The meal includes fish, chips, and peas with bread butter and tea or coffee (vegetarian option available)

**Cost:** £36.50 includes coach and fish and chip meal

**Depart:** GG 8.15am. OA 8.20am. LR 8.30am. SG 8.35am. Back in Billericay approximately 7.30pm.

**Please telephone to book after 9.00am on Monday 17  
February**

**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.