

# BILLERICAY TOWN 2016

*All you need to know*  
**Local Guide**  
**The Town Council**  
**Clubs & Societies**  
**Arts • Sport**  
**History**  
**Education**  
**Facilities**

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*Guide and*  
*Information*  
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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Contact the Town Council by writing to the Town Clerk, The Loft, Crown Yard, Billericay CM12 9BX; telephone: 01277 625732 or emailing: townclerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk



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*Front cover photograph: Festival Gardens*  
*Back cover photographs: clockwise from top – fountain at Lake Meadows, bluebells in Norsey Woods, Sun Corner, Outwood Common and Queen’s Park Country Park.*

Every effort is made to ensure that information is correct, however Billericay Town Council will accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions.



# TOWN COUNCIL



## TOWN GUIDE INTRODUCTION

I am really pleased to be able to write this introduction to the Billericay Town Guide as the new Chairman of Billericay Town Council. This is the ninth edition of this guide which contains a great deal of information about the social life of Billericay through the sections on, Arts & Crafts, Sport, Clubs & Societies and Places to Visit. The guide is also useful on a day to day basis for information on the Town's schools, health services and churches as well as a detailed map of the Town in the centre fold.

The Guide has been produced by the Town Council as one of the services it offers to local residents and is delivered free of charge to every address in the Town Council area.

*Cllr Jim Devlin, Chairman Billericay Town Council*

## THE TOWN COUNCIL

Billericay Town Council has 20 members elected every four years, with the next election due in May 2016. The members all give of their time without remuneration and we have two members of staff, the Town Clerk and the Committee Clerk. The Council offices at The Loft, Crown Yard, just off the High Street also contain our meeting room where Council and Committee meetings are open to the public. These meetings normally take place at 7pm and they are advertised on our notice boards and on our website.

The Council has three standing committees, Planning Committee, Environment Committee and Finance & General Purposes Committee, each of which have a number of sub-committees (known as working parties) which report to them.

Billericay Town Council is the lowest level of council, known as a Local Council, the other two councils that cover this area being Basildon Borough Council and Essex County Council. Each Council has defined areas of responsibility with Basildon Borough Council covering housing, planning decisions, leisure & recreation, refuse collection and street cleaning whereas Essex County Council covers roads & street lighting, education, social care, libraries

and waste disposal. Billericay Town Council provides the services that make Billericay a great place to live. We provide the Christmas Lights, the skateboard park and other facilities in Lake Meadows (which is run by Basildon Council), litter picks, Festival Gardens, hanging baskets and plantings in the High Street, many of the salt bins in town, together with some of the bus shelters and Town Walks and recreational cycle and walks guides. The Town Council also produces a sister publication to this guide, the Town Crier, which is delivered to every household quarterly and up to the minute news is available on our website at [www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk) or by following our twitter account.

2015 has been a milestone year for the Council's Planning Committee as, in conjunction with Basildon Borough Council, we have produced a Supplementary Planning Guide for the Conservation area in and around the High Street. This Guide will be used by Basildon Council when assessing the merit or otherwise of developments in the Conservation area and alterations to shop fronts and other buildings. This is so important for the character of the Town as it will preserve and enhance the look and feel of the Conservation area and thereby attract more people to shop and use Billericay High Street. We can maintain a thriving High Street full of character whilst preserving the heritage and surroundings of over 40 listed buildings.





# BYTC

## BILLERICAY YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

There has been a Youth Council in Billericay for the last sixteen years, with Youth Councillors working alongside Town Councillors to achieve many things during this time. There are up to twenty members aged between 11 and 18 years of age, and they either attend one of the three senior schools in the town – Billericay School, Mayflower or St Johns, or live in Billericay but go to school outside the area.



Elections are held every two years, with the last one being held on the 16th October 2014. The Chairman for the past two years has been Harrison Birch and he is assisted by a Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. The Youth Council meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month during term time and are mentored by Town Councillors. The Council are a really exciting, enthusiastic group, full of ideas for how they can help in their community.

During the past Term of Office the Youth Council has;

- Laid a wreath on Remembrance Sunday
- Taken part in the Town Council’s Christmas Lights Switch-On – handing out balloons to children and standing in for a Choir at the last minute

- Assisted Town Councillors in judging the Best Christmas Shop Window Competition
- Held cake sales in the Reading Rooms
- Held a Mother’s Day Gift and Craft Event for Under 10s
- Had a stall at Summerfest to raise funds
- Staged an Essex Urban Games event for 11-16 year olds at Lake Meadows
- Been on a team building day out at Rope Runners, Brentwood
- Visited the Houses of Parliament



*Youth Councillors with John Baron MP*



*Team Building day at Roperunners*

The Council spend a lot of their time at meetings discussing possible projects to undertake during their term of office and members always display a level of enthusiasm, creative and logical thinking and pure passion which highlights the superb potential of our Youth Town Council. If you would like to get involved then please contact the Town Clerk.

## ARMY CADET FORCE

The Army Cadet Force is a fun exciting way to stay active and have good times. It is a military themed youth organisation offering a massive range of opportunities for girls and boys aged between 13-18. You will be able to learn all sorts of things from marching to shooting and from first aid to cleaning weapons. The Army Cadet Force caters for all and offers a large selection of adventurous activities like rock climbing, mountain biking, obstacle courses and archery. To find your local detachment go to [www.armycadets.com/county/essex-acf](http://www.armycadets.com/county/essex-acf). Visit your local detachment for a few weeks at no cost and see if the Army Cadet Force can inspire you.



GB is led by Christian women from local churches. These leaders are trained volunteers who are committed to provide a regular schedule of activities and skills for girls and young women. Worldwide (GB operates in over 60 countries) the charity seeks to enable girls and young women to develop in confidence, ability, friendship and citizenship, and is committed to nurturing the unique value of every girl in its care. [www.billericaybaptist.net/YouthSite/girls\\_brigade.php](http://www.billericaybaptist.net/YouthSite/girls_brigade.php)



For information about our local company or to add your daughter's name to the waiting lists, please contact [admin@billericaybaptistchurch.net](mailto:admin@billericaybaptistchurch.net) 01277 654316.

## BILLERICAY BAPTIST CHURCH – BOYS BRIGADE

As part of the Youthwork at Billericay Baptist Church, we support the organisation of the Boys Brigade. BB has been part of this church for many years and many boys and men can say that this organisation helped them in life.

In the Youthwork we have Company Section for lads in the age range of 11-14 (years 7-10). They meet from 7.45-9pm on Thursdays.

We have a dedicated team from the church, who help see these lads develop into young men.

Such activities include model making, sports, life skills, BB camp, bowling, mega zone.

We also run BB for younger boys on Thursday evenings 6-7.30pm from age 6.

If you want more information please contact Gary Bott (Chaplain), Barbara Hough (Age 6 to yr 3, and yrs 7-10) and John Hancox ([john.hancox@billericaybaptist.net](mailto:john.hancox@billericaybaptist.net)) Captain and yrs 4-6.

## BILLERICAY JUNIOR BADMINTON CLUB BBC90

BBC90 Junior Badminton Club meets every Saturday afternoon at Hannakins Community

## 2ND BILLERICAY GIRLS' BRIGADE

Does your daughter... enjoy meeting friends? Get excited by challenges? Like being active? Love learning new skills? Then Girls' Brigade (GB) could be for her!

Girls' lives transformed, God's world enriched, are the words that are central to our international GB vision. GB aims to encourage every member to develop through an exciting range of activities and badgework in local groups. 2nd Billericay company has 4 different age-based sections for girls aged 5 – 18 years old, which meet weekly on Mondays in term time.

Recent themes for badgework have included: Food, Easter, Health, First Aid and Kindness. A highlight of each year is our weekend away at an outdoor adventure centre.



Centre between 4pm and 6pm where we have the use of two badminton courts. We cater for youngsters between 8 to 18 years of age (the ages are flexible) who have some badminton skills. During the two hours we give advice and encouragement to our Club members on how to improve their skills and interaction during games. We also encourage the youngsters to enter authorised tournaments. We are involved in the Jack Petchey award scheme which has been a great help to the Club.

We welcome those youngsters who have no badminton skills to come along and after a short assessment, will give advice and point them in the right direction for coaching, if necessary.

If any parent/guardian wishes to seek further information, then please contact:

Terry Mathews – 01277 624523 / 07949 900517  
or Mike Cole – 01277 840485.

### **CHRIST CHURCH YOUTH GROUP**

The Youth Group at Christ Church is open from 8.30pm to 10pm on Friday nights during term time. We meet in the Hall complex. For further information contact Liz on 07752 776190.

### **EMMANUEL CHURCH – ROCK SOLID**

Rock Solid is a Youth Club which happens on Friday evening during term times. The group is for young people who are in school years 8-11.

The evening has various different activities ranging from football, games consoles, games, chill out, music and many other things.

It costs £1 for entry and we also have a tuck shop with crisps.

Friday nights at Emmanuel Church (Laindon Road, Billericay) 7.30 to 9.30pm.

Contact: rayskudder@billericay-churches.com

### **EMMANUEL CHURCH – PULSE**

Pulse is a Discipleship group for young people aged between 13-18. We meet every Wednesday evening in the mayflower/pilgrim room at Church.

The group discuss many topics about Christianity ranging from Who is Jesus, What is God, How can we have the Holy Spirit but also discussing things like prayer.

The group is open to anyone in that age range

who wants to discover more about what it means to be a Christian.

### **UNIFORMED GROUPS – SCOUTS, GUIDES, CUBS, BROWNIES, BEAVERS AND RAINBOWS**

Here at Emmanuel we are blessed with having a number of thriving Uniformed Groups. Membership is open to any child, or young person, regardless of whether or not they, or their family, are regular church attendees. Uniformed Groups meet every week and Parade services usually take place on the first Sunday of every month at 10.30am.

On other months the first Sunday of the month services at 10.30am are All Age Worship, when the whole church family worships together, and, like our Parade services, are suitable for children. Please read our “Bringing your children to church” page for further information.

If you, or your child, are interested in joining one of our Uniformed Groups, please contact us through our church office and someone will get back to you.

Contact: Emmanuel Church, Church View, Laindon Road, Billericay CM12 9LD. 01277 632120.

### **BILLERICAY METHODIST CHURCH**

We have two sites: Western Road (WR) Billericay CM12 9DT and The Christian Link (QP), Queens Park Avenue, Billericay CM12 0GP.

We have many uniformed organisations that are contactable via their own sites – scouting or girl guiding:

**Rainbows WR**

**Brownies QP WR**

**Guides QP WR**

**Senior Section WR**

**Beavers WR**

**Cubs WR**

**Scouts WR**

**Explorer WR**

Here is a list of the groups that we run – whilst some groups may charge and some invite voluntary donations we do not exclude anyone due to cost. Please contact us to discuss this in the first instance to ensure that the group is

briefed on this:

**Toddlers group Monday WR 1:30-3:30pm  
QP 1:30-2:45pm, Tuesday WR 1:30-3:30pm.**

Friendly groups where mums/dads/grandparents/carers can come with their children to play, meet other parents etc. and have fun in a safe environment. Coffee, drinks and biccies for children. Nominal charge.

**Sunday groups for children WR 10-11am,  
QP 11-12am – term time.**

Groups from 3 years plus (younger if parent staying on site), fun, games, bible stories, cooking, craft etc. FREE.

**LINKS QP monthly – please see poster  
outside QP.**

Year 7 up. Fun group which plays games, chat and fun, food and friends, all while we discuss life issues such as 'Would Jesus go on Facebook?' or 'Does the bible mention chocolate?'. FREE.

**INTERS WR 6:15-7:30pm – Youth Club –  
Term time.**

Year 3-7 inclusive. A very popular club with sports such as football, craft activities, wii, xbox, pool/snooker table, table football etc. This group is very popular so you will need to pop along on a Friday and register to go on the waiting list. £1 entry – up to 50p for sweets (this is optional).

**Coffee and Craft WR – last Friday of  
month/term.**

A very popular group where there are a variety of craft activities for adults and children often led by visiting crafters. Large toy and craft area for children. Home-made cakes, plenty of coffee, chat and fun. Donations accepted towards craft materials but not necessary.

**Messy Church QP – Sunday 3-5pm once  
a month – see posters/contact to go on  
mailing list.**

Whatever your experience of church – this is completely different! A fun afternoon suitable for all the family. Every other month we have Messy church (Lite) does craft, does Lego, does games etc. Every month we have lots of fun. Lots of messy stuff, songs and stories and food. Free. Donations towards food/materials accepted.

**Child Contact Centre – 2nd & 4th Sunday  
2:30pm WR.**

A secure and safe contact point for children and their estranged family members – Please contact us directly for access to this service.

**Youth Cell Group WR Wed 7:30-9pm.**

Age 14 upwards. Come along to discover faith and discipleship in a friendly environment.

**ROYAL AIR FORCE AIR CADETS**

The Royal Air Force Air Cadets have been in Billericay since 1941 and currently 2393 Squadron have their headquarters in Laindon Road, just behind the Fire Station. We meet on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Boys and girls over 12 years of age, provided they are in Year 8, may join.



**Why should I join the air cadets?**

Not only is it fun, but you will make new friends, learn unusual skills, take part in activities that are not available at your school. Also, you can gain nationally recognised qualifications such as BTECs, a great help for your CV. On parade nights you will learn everything you need to know about flying, adventure training and field craft. During school holidays you will have the chance to put this knowledge and training into practice. There are opportunities to attend camps on RAF bases, some overseas, where you join in with their day-to-day operations. It is also

the Air Cadets' aim to include some flying and gliding during your time with the squadron.

### **How much does it cost to join?**

It is inexpensive with only a small amount of subs. Your uniform is provided, on loan, by the Royal Air Force. All you need to buy are shoes and boots.

### **Do I have to join the RAF?**

No. However, being an Air Cadet won't just help

you if you want a military job but will give you a head start whatever career path you choose.

### **Interested in joining?**

Find out more by attending our induction meeting where all will be explained and your questions answered. We are currently recruiting, so phone us on 01277 652794. Please leave your name, phone number and we will get back to you with full details.



## **CLUBS, GROUPS AND SOCIETIES**



### **BASILDON & BILLERICAY UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (U3A)**

The "Third Age" has been defined by some as that period in life in which full time employment has ceased, and by others as a "Golden Age".

The University of the Third Age is a learning co-operative of older people which enables members to share many educational, creative and leisure activities at this later time of life. This local branch is one of about 890 U3As nationally with a combined membership in excess of 298,000. We are a growing, dynamic and outward-looking movement which has a positive and creative approach to retirement. We aim to take part with others in informal learning and leisure activities - thus providing an opportunity to remain active and furthering good mental and physical health.

The guiding principle of U3A is that members share the knowledge, skills and experience that they have gained during their working life to teach each other, without any need for paid teachers. Group members are both learners and teachers, and there are no exams to pass or qualifications awarded. All you need is the enthusiasm, willingness and desire to enrich your days with new activities, both physical and mental. Each branch of U3A is independently organized by volunteers and adheres to the principles of the Third Age Trust. We are also a registered charity.

Currently this branch has over 40 study and activity groups which cover a variety of interests from Archaeology to Yoga, and which ideally

meet in members' homes, but sometimes in small halls if this is appropriate. Some groups will organize walks or rambles through the local countryside, or maybe in London. Others plan outings or visits to exhibitions, theatres and places of interest, both historic and modern industrial sites. New groups can be started at any time if they have the support and interest of enough members.

There is also a programme of monthly meetings open to all members, held on the fourth Friday of each month (not August or December). These are held in The Pastoral Centre (behind the Catholic Church), 21 Laindon Road, Billericay CM12 9LL. Meetings, which usually feature a professional speaker, start at 2.30pm and finish at 4pm with a short break for refreshments.

In 2014 we celebrated the 25th anniversary of this branch with many special events, culminating in an "Essex History" study day.

You will find more information at our website at <http://u3asites.org.uk/bb>, from our Membership Secretary on 07857 969083, or at our Information table at our monthly meetings, where visitors are welcome.

### **BASILDON MODEL BOAT CLUB**

Basildon Model Boat Club was founded from the Wat Tyler Model Club in 2004 then moved to Gloucester Park in Basildon. The club then moved again as a new development was to be built on the grounds. Its sailing waters are now at Lake Meadows, Billericay, located in the boathouse in the park where we have toilet facilities, a very good cafe and wonderful

surroundings and wildlife. The club meets on Thursday and Sunday mornings, 10am-2pm throughout the year (weather permitting), and a very friendly welcome is extended to all visitors. Our models range from tugs, fishing boats, naval crafts and yachts.



The club has a thriving membership of 25 modellers and is hoping to increase membership. Our members also display their models at other clubs and events throughout the year.

Anyone interested in starting the hobby or joining the club is welcome to come along to the lake on a club morning for information.

A membership application form is available from the club secretary David White at [whitedj@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:whitedj@blueyonder.co.uk) or 07954 143293.

## **BASIS BILLERICAY**

### *Keeping the visually impaired fit.*

The local group of Blind and Sight Impaired Society (BASIS), which offers a range of activities for the sight impaired, continues to meet in the Reading Rooms on a Tuesday morning between 10.00am and 12 noon. The focus of the Billericay group is gentle exercise to music from 10am to 11am. If you do not want to join in the exercises, you are free to come along afterwards for tea or coffee and a chat. We charge £3.50 for the exercise class and £1.50 for refreshments to cover our costs. Coming to a new group can be daunting for anyone so we are happy to have a chat with you on the phone or arrange for someone to meet you at the door.

For more information about the group or any other matter relating to visual impairment, please contact BASIS on 01268 522817 or email [basissouthessex@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:basissouthessex@hotmail.co.uk)

## **BILLERICAY COMMUNITY ARCHIVE**

The Billericay Community Archive has grown since it started in 2010 in partnership with Essex County Libraries and the Essex Record Office. The Archive is internet based and contains memories, photographs, historical research and video about Billericay and the surrounding villages. The website runs to over 500 pages of information.

We also have a recently launched Facebook page at Billericay Life & Times on which you can post your memories relating to the Billericay area and any photos that you wish to share. The Archive will then place those memories and photos that should be preserved onto the main website. The Billericay Life & Times Facebook page is a group that you have to join to share in the nostalgia.

We also have regular sessions in Billericay Library when anyone can bring in photos to share on our websites. Check with the library for when we are there or drop off items and we will get them returned to you. We can also come to you – just contact our editor, details are shown below. Best of all go to our website at [www.billericayhistory.org.uk](http://www.billericayhistory.org.uk) and you can upload items yourself and comment on those already there. Alternatively you can post on our Facebook Group – Billericay Life & Times.

We are always looking for people with an interest in local social history to join us and help with our work preserving the photos and memories of Billericay for the future. Contacts email: [editor@billericayhistory.org.uk](mailto:editor@billericayhistory.org.uk) or 01277 656937.

## **BILLERICAY DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

2016 is the year of the 90th anniversary of the foundation of the original Billericay Residents' Association, which was merged with the Buttsbury Residents' Association in the 1970s to form the Billericay District Residents' Association.

Over those years the BDRA has always made a valuable contribution to the life of the town, always trying to make Billericay and its outposts of Great Burstead, Little Burstead and South Green better places to live.

Now, the Association has about a third of all households in the area in membership, for the princely annual subscription of £2.

The Association is entirely volunteer run, and produces a newsletter 10 times a year delivered by one of about 150 "road-reps" to every member household within the first 10 days of each month (August and January excepted). This newsletter, "The Resident", provides up to date topical information about life in Billericay, including schedule of events organised by many other community groups, and advertisements for local businesses and tradesmen.

The Association is managed by three committees, two for distinct areas, namely Billericay West and Burstead/Billericay East, and an Executive Committee, whose members will take up any matter which concerns the town and will endeavour to get the proper authorities to act to remedy any areas of concern.

Members benefit from a choice of coach trips to places of interest, always at excellent rates because of the ability to obtain group discounts, and without the hassle of managing travel arrangements.

To find out more visit the web site [www.bdra.org](http://www.bdra.org) or contact the Chairman, [chairman@bdra.org](mailto:chairman@bdra.org).

### **DOG TRAINING SCHOOL**

At Billericay Dog Training School we offer a wide range of obedience classes from puppy to advanced level. In addition to this, we offer special classes for greyhounds, 1-2-1 lessons and the Kennel Club Good Citizen awards. As well as this, we run courses and workshops for agility, Rally-O, tricks and games, Working Trials, scent work, recall, retrieve and much more.



We welcome dogs of any age and breed and are happy to help with any issues your dog may have. All our courses and classes are taught using kind, positive training methods. We have 2 indoor areas, a fully enclosed astro-turf outside area, plus a 4.5 acre enclosed field which is available to hire for exercising your dog/dogs. If you are experiencing problems with your dog indoors then home visits are available by appointment.

You are required to enrol as a member of BDTS to be able to attend or to use any of the facilities. For more information phone Pauline on 01268 492237 or Dot on 07951 196776. Or visit our website [www.bdts.org.uk](http://www.bdts.org.uk)

### **THE BILLERICAY LADIES PROBUS CLUB**

The Club meets for lunch at 12.00 on the second Monday of each month at the Mount Avenue Banqueting Suite, Hutton CM13 2NS, where a three course lunch is served and is usually followed by a speaker. We also have coach trips, holidays and occasional coffee mornings. New members are always welcome, why not bring a friend along? If you would like any further information please contact. Jenny: 01277 633115.

### **BILLERICAY MAYFLOWER TWINNING ASSOCIATION**

*Billericay, UK – Billerica, USA.*

The Billericay Mayflower Twinning Association was formed in 1998 to facilitate and manage links between Billericay and its twin town of Billerica, Massachusetts, USA. The Charter was signed on 21 August 1998 formalising the link.

By way of historical background, four of the settlers (including the ship's governor) who sailed on the Mayflower in 1620 and founded Plymouth Colony were from Billericay. In addition the town of Billerica, Massachusetts, founded in 1655, was named by its first residents after their home town in Essex. Contacts and exchanges between the two towns have taken place since the mid-19th Century to mark the link.

There are a number of items in the Cater Museum which have been donated by visitors from Billerica over the years, including a

“limited edition” hand painted chair showing historic Billerica scenes which was presented to the town in 2005 during a Billerica Twinning Group visit to mark the 350th anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Billerica.

The Association usually holds a number of fundraising and social events each year which include coach trips to places with an American connection, such as Rotherhithe, where the master of the Mayflower lived and is buried, and Sulgrave Manor, the ancestral home of George Washington.

For more information, please contact Geoff Douglas, Membership Secretary, on 01277 650631, or see our website: [www.billericatwinning.org.uk](http://www.billericatwinning.org.uk)

### MODEL RAILWAY GROUP

**B**illerica Model Rail Group BMRG meets weekly in the premises of a local business. A group of like-minded people gathered together about 3 years ago with the intention of building a model railway layout designed for exhibition. We have been very successful to date attending over 20 shows around the southeast corner of the UK but, having been invited to the Warley show at the NEC next year, we expect to be invited to more northern shows in the future.

We model within the group in both OO and N gauge although members own layouts embrace TT, HO, EM and 5” gauges.

We are currently building an N gauge Finescale modular layout whilst the OO members are designing and producing the early parts for a layout ‘Shoreditch’ based in the early sixties which will include the underground, surface passenger and goods lines.

Regrettably the local business which has supported us has been given notice to quit our meeting rooms so we are forced at the moment to seek new premises ideally in Billerica. As the layouts need to remain in position all of the time, we need as an ideal situation approximately 1000 square feet of space; right now we will take whatever we can get.

We are also looking for new members interested in joining a small friendly group. If you are interested why not call or log on to our website and send us a message. We will be pleased to hear from you. [www.billericaymrg.org](http://www.billericaymrg.org)

### BILLERICAY SCRABBLE CLUB

**Y**oung or old, you are invited to the Billerica Scrabble Club which meets on Wednesdays from 7pm at the St Mary Magdalen Church, High St, Billerica CM12 9BS. If you need more information please ring Terry on 01277 623869.



### BILLERICAY SOCIETY

**B**illerica Society, motto “To Protect our Heritage” – celebrates 80 years maintaining the character of the town’s heritage; local footpaths and our local Green Belt area. If you think these aspects are worth saving you should join the Society. Membership fee for all from January 2016, is £5 per person with a £2 discount for couples. The Society meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the Day Centre, Chantry Way at 8pm. We have an interesting programme of speakers on a variety of subjects. A quarterly newsletter updates members on what is happening in the town. There was an Exhibition of our 80 years of activities in St Mary Magdalen in August 2015.

Major success: Our initial actions, latterly with the support of the Town Council have achieved for the land known as Sun Corner the legal designation and protected status of a “Queen Elizabeth II Field”. It is now therefore protected land for the people of Billerica to enjoy in perpetuity. To achieve this we twice defeated developers who wanted to build on the land starting in 1978 and again in 2004. We are now looking for younger people to continue the necessary work of keeping watch on the best interests of Billerica.

The character of the town also maintains house prices, space for healthy walking and paths for dog owners to use. Once these facilities go they cannot be replaced. If you want a good environment for your children in the future

you need to be active for the town's future, now. Leaving it until later may be too late.

Formed in 1935 the Society wanted to prevent developers turning Billericay into a boring clone of a town. Realising what was happening The Society joined The Council for the Preservation of Rural England (CPRE). Due to the current power of developers, CPRE is now campaigning for the "Protection of Rural England/Essex". A significant change of emphasis. The town's future is in your hands.

### **BILLERICAY TWINNING ASSOCIATION**



**W**e have been twinned with Fishers in Indiana since June 1999 and subsequently with Chauvigny in France in April 2004. There are two sub-committees which deal with the two towns, from raising funds to help with entertaining our visitors whenever they come to England.

**FISHERS** – A group of teachers and students come here every year in the summer from their two High schools which correspond with our Billericay and Mayflower schools. Our guests stay with families from the two schools and this is reciprocated when we go to Fishers in the autumn of the same year. While they are here we try to show them something of British life which includes an English afternoon tea at the Church in the High Street. We also make sure the Fishers flag is flying at the police station to make them feel at home.

Those going to America will see many familiar things such as Billericay Park with its red telephone box and the Billericay Town Council flag. At the Renaissance Fayre they can meet the Mayor of Billericay and will find Norsey Woods and Tye Common on the map. A new musical trio out there has called itself "The Billericay Trio" so the links are strong.

These exchanges allow the youngsters from both sides of the Atlantic to experience the life and culture of another country and is often the start of lifelong friendships.



*The Fishers Flag*

**CHAUVIGNY** – Chauvigny is an historic town near Poitiers. In the Upper Town there are five chateaux dating from the 11th century and a restored mediaeval church. Visits, either our guests from Chauvigny coming to Billericay or Billericay residents going to Chauvigny, are arranged bi-annually. Their visit in 2014 celebrated 10 years of friendship and was marked by a reception given by the Town Council. Whilst here they went to Camden Palace, the home of Napoleon III and Empress Eugenie followed by a tour of Chartwell, Winston Churchill's home.

Social evenings are held with a French theme, and often a French singer.



*Chauvigny Castles*

Each year a week-long Walk of Friendship takes place in Europe involving the other towns who are twinned with Chauvigny. Wherever we go, we receive a wonderful welcome and make enduring friendships.

Twinning affords many ways of forging stronger links with our neighbours across the Channel as well as enabling some of us to use our language skills. For more information about the Twinning Association, visit our website [www.billericaytwinningassociation.org.uk](http://www.billericaytwinningassociation.org.uk) or phone the secretary Peter Copsey on 01277 651800.

### **THE BILLERICAY TWINS CLUB**

**T**he Billericay Twins Club is a voluntary organisation, established by two young enterprising mums back in 1977. Today, with over 100 families as members, its main function remains the same as 38 years ago, to provide support and advice to families with twins, triplets and more!

Our Nursery Group meets every Monday in term time, from 10.30am until midday, in the church hall at the rear of Christ Church in Perry Street. The group welcomes multiples from birth until

they leave for school together with their siblings within this age group. We warmly welcome expectant mums too. It's a great opportunity for them to receive some invaluable hints and tips and regain their sanity after discovering they are expecting more than one bundle of joy! The cost is £4 per family per session which includes refreshments for all.



In addition to the Nursery Group, we organise a variety of social events throughout the year, providing members with an opportunity to meet with other parents of multiples, both with and without their children! Events include farm visits, picnics, pamper days, quiz nights, summer drinks and an excellent programme of events at Christmas.

The accompanying photo was taken at a very recent outing to Barleylands Farm. Twins of all ages agreed to pose for the camera with many more looking on making them smile!

For more information about the club visit our website [www.billericaytwins.co.uk](http://www.billericaytwins.co.uk) or email: [billericaytwinsclub@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:billericaytwinsclub@hotmail.co.uk) or telephone our Chair, Amanda Deacon, on 01277 653752.

### **BILLERICAY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

2016 is a very significant year in the life of Billericay WI - for the first WI to open in Essex in 1916 - it will celebrate its centenary during the month of March.

This fact makes it unique in the County and because it meets twice a month - on the first and third Wednesdays of each calendar month, except August - marks it as exceptional in the Country.

Billericay WI is fortunate to own its own premises, which are situated in St Edith's Lane - just off the High Street and meetings start at 2pm, when members gather to hear a varied programme of speakers, and share quizzes, beetle drives and knit and natter opportunities, which

always benefit local charities.

Some of the recent subjects on the agenda include: "I am a tulip, what are you?"; "My life in ladies underwear"; Evacuation in World War II; Jack the Ripper murders; Before and after beauty.

We visit London by coach to enjoy the West End shows, a summer's day outing in June is usually on the Agenda and Ely Cathedral has been a very popular destination in November for their Christmas Gift and Food Fair. Every Friday features a coffee morning in the hall from 10am; our choir rehearses on Tuesdays at 2.30pm, while the Keep Fit group is active on Thursdays at 2pm. In September we take part in the World's Largest Coffee Morning in aid of the Macmillan Charity and enjoy participating with other WIs at the County Annual meetings and at other events organised by the Essex Federation, which will be 100 in 2017.

Subscriptions are currently £36 per annum and £1 is paid at the door for a choice of tea or coffee and the Essex News - the Federation's monthly magazine - which advertises the County's tempting selection of events on offer. Visitors are always welcome and pay an entry fee of £2 at the door. So much to do; so much to share; so much to enjoy. Make sure you don't miss out.

Contact Doreen Potter 01277 624255

### **BILLERICAY & DISTRICT BRANCH OF PARKINSON'S UK**

With over 230 members (run solely by willing volunteers), the Billericay & District Branch of Parkinson's UK provides essential and valuable support to people with Parkinson's and their families in the region, hosting many day trips, events, fundraising activities and support meetings throughout the year. Above all, it's about friendship, community and enjoyment for all!



Highlights of our Branch activities include:

- Providing the opportunity through meetings and events for people with Parkinson's and their carers to find support and friendship on

a regular basis.

- Establishing a network of communication across the district sharing information, knowledge and experience as well as raising awareness of other services available via the NHS, Parkinson's UK, Clinical Commissioning Group and other local charities.
- Organising great days outs designed around the needs of our members as well as trips to the theatre, lunches and of course our monthly meetings where we often have special guest speakers to entertain us!
- Providing singing and movement classes aimed at meeting the needs of people with Parkinson's.
- Delivering a monthly newsletter and regular updates for our members
- Hosting various fund raising events during the year including quizzes, Fun Walks, and 'Cake Days'!
- Raising over £65,000 for Parkinson's UK and the Cure Parkinson's Trust, funding essential research into improving on-going treatment and ultimately finding a cure for Parkinson's.

2.30-4.30pm Third Saturday of Every Month.  
Emmanuel Church, Laindon Road, Billericay CM12 9LD. We'd love to meet you! For more information contact Joanne Wright email: joannefwright@icloud.com tel: 07795 071280 or Lynda Van Veen email: lynda.vanveen@btinternet.com tel: 01277 623016.

## **BILLERICAY & DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

We are a welcoming group of stamp collectors, of all ages, who normally meet at 8pm on the first and third Thursday of each month (no meetings in August) at The Fold Arts Centre, Laindon Road, Billericay CM12 9LD, located off Quilters Road at the rear of Reids restaurant (just beyond Sun Corner) and there is ample car parking.

Our varied programme includes speakers with displays, quizzes, open evenings with 'Bring & Buy', and visits to other stamp clubs and exhibitions. Stamp Collecting is for all - and over the years its popularity has steadily increased. We are all enthusiasts in varying degrees and are

keen to share our hobby with others in friendly and relaxed surroundings. Our club is open to all regardless of how or what they collect, whether it be by country, or theme, such as football, penguins, Boer War, teddy bears, Royalty, Red Cross, RAF, technology, stained glass windows, etc. etc., and these are just some of the subjects covered by our members who also augment their collections with postcards, coins, and other memorabilia. It isn't just about stamps!



The club provides the opportunity for collectors to expand their collections through an Exchange Packet Scheme whereby books of stamps or covers are circulated to members from which they can make the purchases they need for their collection, at the same time gaining experience of the many and varied subjects upon which collections can be formed.

Visitors and new members are always very welcome to join us, so please contact the Secretary, Alan Jubb, (alanjubb@btinternet.com, 01277 653891, or 07742 011474) for further information or come along to one of our club evenings. We look forward to seeing you.

## **BILLERICAY BRIDGE**

Numerous Bridge Clubs of varying standards exist in or close to Billericay, and in addition, The Essex Contract Bridge Association ([www.essexbridge.co.uk](http://www.essexbridge.co.uk)) organises county events.



The clubs have well over 300 members of all

## LOCAL BRIDGE CLUBS

**Monday:** Barleylands 1.30pm Start  
Contact: Derek Stewart 01277 652322  
EBU Affiliated – Standard: Good

**Monday:** Barleylands 7.30pm Start  
Contact: Bernie Hunt 01268 533961  
EBU Affiliated – Standard: Good

**Monday:** Brightside 7.30pm Start  
Contact: David Palmer 01277 654065  
Standard: Moderate

**Tuesday:** Hannakins Farm 1.30pm Start  
Contact: Pat Saunders 01277 622999  
EBU Affiliated – Standard: Moderate

**Tuesday:** Barleylands 1.30pm Start  
Contact: Bernie Hunt 01268 533961  
Standard: Moderate

**Tuesday:** Mountnessing Village Hall 7.30pm  
Contact: Carol McCue 01277 655785  
Standard: Strong

**Wednesday:** Hannakins Farm 9.30am Start  
Contact: Patrick Dumont 01277 225226  
EBU Affiliated – Standard: Moderate

**Wednesday:** Barleylands 1.30pm Start  
Contact: Bernie Hunt 01268 533961  
Standard: Good

**Wednesday:** W I Hall 7.30pm Start  
Contact: Linda Fleet 01277 429088  
EBU Affiliated – Standard: Good

**Wednesday:** Barleylands 7.30pm Start  
Contact: Peter Mamelok 01277 353202  
Standard: Moderate

**Thursday:** Hannakins Farm 1.30pm Start  
Contact: Jeanne Slater 01277 656019  
Standard: Basic

**Thursday:** Barleylands 7.30pm Start  
Contact: Bernie Hunt 01268 533961  
Standard: Moderate

**Friday:** Barleylands 7.30pm Start  
Contact: Bernie Hunt 01268 533961  
Standard: Strong

**Friday:** Billericay Tennis Club 1.30pm Start  
Contact: Pam Perry 01277 354542  
Standard Basic.

standards playing regularly. Most clubs play in local halls, but also Billericay is fortunate to have a dedicated facility at Barleylands providing numerous club sessions and where tuition is provided for beginners by Bernie Hunt and his team. New courses start every six months: details appear on his website [www.firstclassbridge.com](http://www.firstclassbridge.com). Further details of the clubs are listed below:-

First Class Bridge Academy, Suite 60 Barleylands Craft Village, Billericay CM11 2UD. 01268 533961. 07973 925315. Further details can be found on [www.firstclassbridge.com](http://www.firstclassbridge.com)

## BPW BILLERICAY

**B**PW Billericay is part of a national and international organisation of Business and Professional Women founded in the 1930s to help women advance their opportunities and careers and to remove prejudice and discrimination. The aim of the organisation now is to carry on with this work by helping women to achieve their full potential in all aspects of their lives, through networking, training, personal development, support and friendship. Another important part of our activities is lobbying: at present we are concentrating on the gender pay gap, getting women on Boards, gender-friendly employers and encouraging women into public life. We also follow closely legislation and initiatives relating to violence against women and girls.



BPW Billericay meets at The Fold, Laindon Road, Billericay at 7.45pm on the first and third Thursdays of the month for a short business meeting followed by a speaker or a discussion – sometimes serious, sometimes more light-

hearted. In the autumn we hold a local heat of our national Public Speaking Competition for young people and award bursaries to girls going off to study the sciences, medicine, engineering or technology at university, in line with the government's promotion of girls taking up the STEM subjects. At Christmas we celebrate with a lunch.

The BPW Annual Conference, held in Edinburgh in 2015, is reported at a lively supper evening and the International Lunch, when we remember our members around the world, is a highlight of the year. Members also make visits to concerts and the theatre and join with other clubs for days out. You're welcome to come and see who we are and what we do, or visit the website: [www.bpwuk.org.uk](http://www.bpwuk.org.uk) Alternatively you can contact Ann Wiseall on 01277 623867 or email her on [annwiseall@hotmail.com](mailto:annwiseall@hotmail.com)

### **ESSEX WILDLIFE TRUST, BRENTWOOD AND BILLERICAY GROUP**

The Essex Wildlife Trust (EWT), a charity, was established in 1959 and is one of a network of Trusts across the country, all of which promote wildlife conservation by owning and managing nature reserves, promoting public interest in the environment and seeking to protect and enhance wildlife habitats and biodiversity in our towns and countryside.



The local Brentwood and Billericay Group holds indoor meetings monthly from September to May at Shenfield Parish Hall. These feature illustrated talks on a wide variety of wildlife topics of local, national and international interest. Half-day and full-day Wildlife Walks are organised on a monthly basis, usually visiting nature reserves in Essex and surrounding counties. These walks are of particular interest to birdwatchers (50 or more species are sometimes seen in a day) but rare species of butterflies and flowers are often found as well.

Group volunteers support the management of Warley Place nature reserve, formerly the garden of Edwardian plants-woman Ellen Wilmott, and help in the shop and cafe at Thorndon Countryside Centre. More locally, members have been working on the Living Landscapes project to improve wildlife habitats by planting new hedges, clearing old and creating new ponds and encouraging landowners to adopt more wildlife-friendly management practices. They have also worked with the Town Council to publish a series of Countryside Walks leaflets to encourage more residents to explore the countryside around our town.

Members of the Group also maintain a watch on local Planning and Development issues and have submitted robust responses to recent consultations, emphasising the importance of retaining the Green Belt in its existing form.

All local residents who are members of the EWT are automatically members of the Group but our activities are also open to non-members. Details of meetings, etc can be found at [www.essexwt.org.uk/local-groups/brentwood-billericay](http://www.essexwt.org.uk/local-groups/brentwood-billericay) and further information can also be obtained from our Secretary, Sue Newth-Gibbs on 01277 822183 or [newthgibbs@btinternet.com](mailto:newthgibbs@btinternet.com).

### **FRIENDS OF LAKE MEADOWS**

Friends of Lake Meadows is a friendly, local group of people who are interested in the care and development of Lake Meadows park. To that end we became a registered charity in 2014. We hold annual events such as the Great Lake Race, Jazz Concert, Dog Show, Photography Competition and Carol Singing.

Working closely with the Basildon Borough

Council Parks Team is very important and we enjoy a fantastic working relationship with them.



What a difference we have made to the park! Our past years' projects include the wood carvings of a Wizard and Dragon, creation of our Information Centre, sensory flower beds, our outdoor gym equipment, a tree walk, notice boards at all the park entrances and the planting of two oak trees and an olive Tree of Peace to commemorate WW1.

We have a gardening group on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month and also a working party which meets once a month on the 2nd Saturday. We should love more people to come and help us!



To find out more about us or to join in with our many varied activities, please go to our website [www.lakemeadows.org.uk](http://www.lakemeadows.org.uk)

### **THE MAYFLOWER MORRIS MEN OF BILLERICAY**

The Mayflower Morris Men is a revival side formed in 1973 to dance the Morris in and around Billericay, to learn new dances, and to maintain the traditions of the Morris.

Why Morris-dance? Well, it's good company, good exercise, gives something back to the community, keeps an English tradition alive, is all-age friendly, and is enjoyment personified! Most rewarding hobbies involve giving and taking – the more you put in, the more you get out – and that's certainly true of the Morris.

The Morris is an English traditional male ritual dance. Each village had its own dance-style and dances; nationally there's a canon of around 350 dances. The dances have been passed down, not written down, so there's this feeling of being a link

in an unbroken chain from time immemorial. In days gone by, to be chosen to dance the Morris was an honour; for us it's still a privilege. For beginners, learning is easy to start with but gets more difficult as you become more accomplished so there's always a fresh challenge and something new to learn.

We dance at pubs and fêtes throughout the summer, besides a May Day Tour, a St. George's Day Mummers' Play, and displays at the traditional times of year. The side is easy-going and sociable and comes from all walks of life. New dancers/musicians (age immaterial) are always welcome.



We practise at St. Mary Magdalen Church in the High Street on Thursdays at 8pm; two left feet and a pulse are all you need (but you must be male and you do need a pair of handkerchiefs!). There is no subscription and tuition is free, so if you fancy helping to keep a little bit of Old England alive, why not give it a go? You'll be made most welcome!

Contact: Geoff Douglas T 01277 650631.

E: [bagman@mayflowermorris.com](mailto:bagman@mayflowermorris.com)

W: [www.mayflowermorris.com](http://www.mayflowermorris.com)

### **MAYFLOWER WINE (AND SOCIAL) CLUB**

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at the Day Centre, Chantry Way, Billericay at 8.00pm. We have interesting talks on various subjects, some musical entertainment, quizzes, and, of course, wine tastings. We also have group holidays, an annual supper and a summer barbecue. In addition we enjoy meals out, theatre trips and a Christmas party. New members are always welcome and our annual subscription is £22.00. For more details phone Paulette Nicholls on 01277 652001.

## MILL MEADOWS SOCIETY

**M**ill Meadows Local Nature Reserve is located on the south east side of Billericay close to the High Street. It is one of the finest ancient meadow systems in Essex. Access is permitted and there are several entrances and there is a marked trail which is signed throughout the Reserve.

The Mill Meadows Society advises the owner, Basildon Council, in the management and conservation of The Reserve. We participate in work parties, arrange talks, issue a quarterly newsletter to members and maintain a web site.

Indoor meetings are usually twice per year, including the AGM in April. These meetings will feature talks on subjects related to nature conservation.

There are regular guided walks to look at wildlife at the appropriate time of the year. Dates of the meetings and walks are publicised on the web site, in newsletters and on the information boards located at the main entrances.



For further information, including a map which shows the fields, entrances and a Marked Trail through the Reserve, guide, photographs and how to join us, see the website [www.millmeadows.org.uk](http://www.millmeadows.org.uk). or use the contact details: Chair: Neil Sumner, [chair@millmeadows.org.uk](mailto:chair@millmeadows.org.uk) 01277 630849. Secretary: Peter Croot, email via Chair.

## NORSEY WOOD SOCIETY

**T**he Society works closely with Basildon Borough Council, the owner and manager of this ancient woodland, to promote the interests of this Local Nature Reserve, Site of Special Scientific Interest and Scheduled Monument. We have provided equipment such as picnic

tables for the Wood, sponsored the horse logging demonstration at Open Day and been instrumental in obtaining grants for facilities such as the dipping pond at the Information Centre. Members participate in projects in the Wood such as recording Special Trees and walking Butterfly Transects to count the numbers and species seen on a consistent basis year to year.

We also work to promote public interest in natural history and conservation and co-operate with other appropriate local organisations to promote and support wildlife conservation and biodiversity in Billericay and the surrounding area. Society representatives attend meetings of the Council's Wildlife and Countryside Forum and a number of members have been active in supporting the Essex Wildlife Trust's "Living Landscapes" initiative. We have also contributed to Consultations on the Borough's draft Local Plan, stressing the importance of protecting the Green Belt and preserving and enhancing green corridors. In addition we have opposed Planning Applications which we feel are detrimental to the environment and sought to ensure that ancient trees are properly protected.

We support the Ranger's Working Party which meets every Thursday morning at 10.00 in the wood, details from the Ranger on 01277 624553. We also hold four open meetings a year with illustrated talks by experts. Recent subjects have included "Living Seas" and "Non-native Invasive Species". Details of forthcoming events are on the website and in the quarterly newsletter sent to members.

Membership costs £5 a year per household; application form is downloadable from the website or from the Membership Secretary. Contacts: Paul Hudson, Secretary, 5 Cavell Road CM11 2HS, 01277 656047. Janet Clark, Membership Secretary, 15 Upland Road, CM12 0JP.

Email: [norsey1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:norsey1@hotmail.co.uk)

Website: [www.norseywood.org.uk](http://www.norseywood.org.uk)

## PHOENIX DOG TRAINING CLUB

**P**hoenix Dog Training Club is a voluntary organisation, which is operated entirely on a not-for-profit basis. Our main aims and objectives

are to help people with pet dog training and to promote responsible dog ownership.

Our training facilities, which comprise two indoor working areas and a grassed outdoor enclosure are based at Steeple View Farm, Dunton Road, Laindon SS15 4DB.

The Club offers a variety of one-hour Obedience Classes in a relaxed and friendly environment. We cater for dogs of all ages, as five different levels of training are available, ranging from Puppies through to Advanced.



A warm welcome awaits anyone wishing to view our facilities, thereby providing the opportunity to gain an insight into our training methods, which are all reward based.

Once Novice Level Obedience is achieved at the Club, there is the opportunity to go on to attend Fun Agility Classes.

Alternatively, Heelwork to Music (including freestyle) is for anyone who might like to try something different with his or her dog. These classes are held on Thursday evenings every fortnight.

Throughout the Summer months our Pet Dog Demonstration Team can be seen out and about, providing displays, appearing as an arena event at various Fetes or Fun Days.

For further information or details regarding class times, please call 01375 641421 for Jackie Mann (Club Secretary) or 01277 656077 for Audrey Jones (Chief Instructor).

## THE ROTARY CLUB OF BILLERICAY

The first Rotary Club to be founded in Billericay, we celebrated our 55th anniversary last November at our Charter Lunch. We remain a small lunch-time club with approximately 25 members – and yes, we would like more – made up of retired or current business people, most of whom who have been associated with businesses and professions as the town has grown. Clarke's Butchers existed in the High Street for many years and Ben Clarke is now still a club member and former club president. Patrick Rothern, of Unbar Rothern, is the son of one of our founder members, Felix Rothern, and continues to support the club and provide valuable assistance for all our events which are committed to raising money for all charities and good causes. For a small club which punches above its weight regularly, we have raised a great deal of money for such as stroke awareness locally and Shelter Box aid for international disasters. We support all youth ideas, being the first Rotary club to involve Interact with Billericay School and Rotakids with Quilters School (all details on our website – see below) and organise annually a Rotary "Kids Out Day" – this year to Tropical Wings at South Woodham Ferrers with the disadvantaged pupils from Thriftwood School, Galleywood. In the current year we have won the Rotary District website award for the second year running and introduced a glossy 12-page newsletter which we circulate to all other area Rotary clubs.

We are a lunch-time Club, meeting every Monday at Reids (formally The Ivory Rooms) in Laindon Road from 12.45 for 1pm three-course lunch followed by a speaker, a business meeting or a fellowship lunch. All good fun – why not join us?

Contact: Secretary: Michael Ginn: 01277 654882; Mobile: 07941 231283.

Email: [pmginn@waitrose.com](mailto:pmginn@waitrose.com)

Website: [www.billericayrotary.org](http://www.billericayrotary.org)

We are also on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/BillericayRotary](http://www.twitter.com/BillericayRotary) and Facebook: [www.facebook.com/BillericayRotary](http://www.facebook.com/BillericayRotary).

## STEPPING FORWARD BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Stepping Forward is a social group aimed to give support to people who have lost their

husband, wife or partner. When people want to start taking up their life again, finding new interests, meeting new friends, and talking to individuals who can relate to their feelings, our social group may be the way forward.

On the third Saturday of each month meetings are held, when members come along to find out what social activities have been arranged. The events range from quiz nights, dog racing, cream teas, boat trips, BBQs, meals at various restaurants and much more. New members are encouraged to bring along a family member, friend or neighbour on their first visit to help them feel comfortable. The group is open to both ladies and gents of all ages. There is no membership charge, but many local companies

offer their support and help.

Should anyone require further details about the group, please contact either Jan 01268 767119 or Val 01277 658646 and they would be pleased to provide further information, or alternatively email lyn-currie@hotmail.co.uk

### OVER 60'S WELCOME CLUB

This friendly, sociable group for the over 60's meets on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at the Chantry Way Day Centre from 9.30-12pm. Tea, coffee, buns and cakes are always available whilst you chat with friends and neighbours. There is snooker and also a men's barber on Tuesdays and ladies hairdresser on Thursdays and Fridays. Contact Pat Cooke on 01277 656994.

## CLUBS, GROUPS & SOCIETIES

Code is 01277 unless otherwise stated

Basildon & Billericay University of the Third Age (U3A)	Membership Secretary <a href="http://u3asites.org.uk/bb">http://u3asites.org.uk/bb</a>	07857 969083
BASIS Billericay	Jan Yeo email:janyeo53@gmail.com	01268 711076
Community Archive	Jim Devlin editor@billericayhistory.org.uk	656937
District Residents' Association	chairman@bdra.org	www.bdra.org
Dog Training School	Pauline Chaplin	01268 492237
Ladies Probus Club	Jenny murrayjam@btinternet.com	633115
Mayflower Twinning Association	Isobel Greenshields www.Billericaytwinning.org.uk	
Model Railway Club	Nigel Fisher, Secretary email: secretary@billericaymrg.org www.BillericayMRG.org	07802 785032
Round Table	chairman@billericayroundtable.co.uk www.billericay.roundtable.co.uk	
Royal British Legion	Tony Motley, Chairman email: tmotley@hotmail.co.uk	
Scrabble Club	Terry Corps email: terryandjennyc@googlegmail.com	623869
Billericay Society	Doug Smith email: dougandjuls@hotmail.co.uk	623560

Twinning Association	Peter Copsey	651800 www.billericaytwinningassociation.org.uk
Twins Club	Mrs A Deacon	653752 email: billericaytwinsclub@hotmail.co.uk www.billericaytwins.co.uk
Womens Institute	Doreen Potter	624255
Billericay & District Branch of Parkinsons UK	Joanne Wright	07795 071280 email: joannefwright@icloud.com
	Lynda Van Veen	623016 email: lynda.vanveen@btinternet.com
Billericay & District Philatelic Society	Alan Jubb	653891 email: alanjubb@btinternet.com
Bridge Clubs (see separate panel on page 15)		
BPW Billericay (Business & Prof. Women UK)	Ann Wiseall	623867 email: annwiseall@hotmail.com website: www.bpwuk.org
Essex Wildlife Trust, Brentwood & Billericay Group	Sue Newth-Gibbs	822183 newthgibbs@btinternet.com
Friends of Lake Meadows		www.lakemeadows.org.uk
Lions Club of Billericay		08458 339849 email: info@billericaylions.com www.billericaylions.com
Mayflower Morris Men	Geoff Douglas	650631 email: bagman@mayflowermorris.com website: www.mayflowermorris.com
Mayflower Wine & Social Club	Paulette Nicholls	652001 email: tbbrothers@btinternet.com
Mill Meadows Society	Neil Sumner	630849 chair@millmeadows.org.uk www.millmeadows.org.uk
Norsey Wood Society	Paul Hudson	632353 email: norsey1@hotmail.co.uk website: www.norseywood.org.uk
Phoenix Dog Training School	Jackie Mann	01375 641421 or Audrey Jones 656077
Rotary Club of Billericay	Michael Ginn	654882 07941 231283 email: pmginn@waitrose.com www.billericayrotary.org
Rotary Club of Billericay Mayflower	Ian Miller	email: imiller1@gmail.com
Over 60's Welcome Club	Pat Cooke	656994



# ARTS AND CRAFTS



## BILLERICAY ARTS ASSOCIATION

Behind an unassuming wall in Laindon Road lies one of Billericay's hidden gems – The Fold – home of Billericay Arts Association, now in its 36th year. It is a thriving art centre, run entirely by volunteers for the community.

It's a very friendly place where you can join a class to learn a range of activities at a reasonable cost. The classes include pottery, painting, life drawing with model, mixed crafts, woodcarving, china painting and sewing. There are also music appreciation class and a history in art class. For children there are an art class and fashion and textile class. We would love to hear from anyone who could teach other classes. There are independent groups who teach languages, yoga, keep fit, stained glass and music lessons.



The Fold stages plays, storytelling and hosts art and photographic exhibitions. There is a variety of types of live music with musicians ranging from talented local people and students from the Royal College of Music to musicians of international standing.

Many groups meet at The Fold including Archaeological & Historical Society, Folk at The Fold, Essex Handicraft Association, Dollhouse Group, Photofold Camera Club, Literary Society, Thameside Woodturners, Evening Painters, Patch & Chat, Miniatures Club, Tales at The Fold, Philatelic Society and Chess Club. Frances' School of Drama is also based at The Fold.

Volunteering at The Fold is a great way to meet people and make new friends. We are always keen to welcome new volunteers. Perhaps you have skills that would be an asset to The Fold.

There is no need to feel bored or lonely. Look out for our leaflets in Billericay Library or visit our website [www.baathefold.org.uk](http://www.baathefold.org.uk) to find details of

what is going on. Better still, come and visit and see for yourself. We are easy to find – in Laindon Road, past Reids.

The Fold, 72 Laindon Rd, Billericay CM12 9LD. 01277 659286.

## ART

### BILLERICAY ART CLUB

Billericay Art Club is an enthusiastic group of local artists who meet once a week to share the enjoyment of painting and sketching. The subject of the evening will vary from a colourful still life arrangement to a challenging portrait! We often choose a theme on which to paint, anything from a seascape or cityscape to a favourite poem. During summer months (weather permitting!) we often meet at a local beauty spot to capture the day or evening in paint or pastel. We exchange tips and ideas and learn from one another but do not provide tuition. If you are interested in joining us please pop in for a visit. We meet at St Mary Magdalene church hall in Great Burstead each Thursday evening from September to May 8-10pm There is an annual fee to cover costs. Contact the secretary Patience Williams 01277 652008.



### BILLERICAY ART TRAIL AND FESTIVAL

The Billericay Art Trail is part of the annual Essex Summer of Art. Organised by a small band of local volunteers, and with major financial support from Billericay Town Council,



the first Billericay Art Trail was held in 2012.

The aim of the event is to bring together artists, retailers, caterers and community groups in Billericay to highlight the talents of local artists and to encourage more people to visit the wide variety of shops, cafes, restaurants, pubs, churches and other community venues (such as the Library and The Fold) that the town has to offer.

Widely viewed as successful, the event has been steadily growing, culminating in 2014's event which involved 22 different venues across Billericay and a Festival with lunch time and evening concerts, an exhibition of children's photographs, an Arts Village, Storytelling, Jazz in the Park, Noursey Wood Sculpture Trail, Festival Picnic, Drama Events and Lake Meadows 'Big Draw' which provided an opportunity for hands-on drawing experience with free advice from artists. The Hub exhibition in the church, open throughout the art trail, featured works from each exhibiting artist and provided information about the event. Post Trail surveys revealed that both Trail followers and host venues enjoyed the experience, with comments referring to "accessible art and culture", "a sense of community", and "celebrating local life through art". Both community and commercial venues reported increased footfall by residents and visitors.

The event's success was due to the dedication of the volunteers, the willingness of the various venues to host artists (and sponsorship from many who were not able to host), and of course the skills of the participating artists, performers and craftspeople.

The Arts Trail is taking a rest in 2015. A new committee formed in April, is working hard to build on the success of July 2014's event to provide an even bigger and better programme for 2016. This includes moving the event to the early part of September with plans to extend from one to two weeks and will again be combined with a local Billericay Festival.

Anyone interested in taking part in next year's programme or in joining the organising Committee (all hands on deck greatly appreciated!) should email [BillericayArtTrail@gmail.com](mailto:BillericayArtTrail@gmail.com). Please "like" our Facebook page

[Facebook.com/BillericayArtTrail](https://www.facebook.com/BillericayArtTrail) where you'll be kept up to date with progress.

Budding artists and craftspeople have plenty of time to produce work for next year – and if it's anything like 2014 your works will be seen by a large number of people both local and from throughout Essex.

We look forward to hearing from you.

### **THE STUDIO GROUP**

Formed in 1992 by a group of people with interests in all the different forms of art we meet at The Fold on Wednesdays from 10-1pm. All different forms of art are used, i.e. pencil, pastel, watercolour or acrylic and oil. The studios are well equipped with easels and good lighting and coffee is also available when a break from the pleasures of art is needed!

There is no tutor, but other members are always on hand to offer advice and help. During the winter months we exhibit and many of our artists have had their work displayed in local and London galleries.

We try and meet to paint outside during the summer months but obviously this is weather dependent in Britain! For a relaxing stress free hobby spent doing something you love with like minded people why not give us a go? Call Beryl Meadows on 01277 652603.

### **WILD ROSE CHINA PAINTERS CLUB**

My name is Linda Tweedie and I have been a member of the Wild Rose China Painters Club which meets in Stock Village Hall for several years. I am a tutor and have been painting for at least 40 years with different mediums. I have been working on china now for over 20 years and have a great passion for the work I do. I paint on all sorts of shapes; lamps, vases, bowls and tiles which could be framed. We have several meetings per year with a very good Committee. It would be so lovely to see new members. You can come along as a visitor to start with and see what we all paint. We have two very experienced demonstrators at each meeting. It is so rewarding to eventually produce a piece that looks acceptable. The club has been going for many years and we are all very passionate members. You would be made very welcome and everyone will be helpful. We also have good contacts with suppliers to get all the

white china and brushes, paint and materials needed with this work. Please come along and see if you would be interested in the hobby of china painting. Our Secretary is Betty O'Shea telephone number: 01702 204334.

## **DANCING**

### **ANDERSON DANCE GROUP**

Established in Billericay for over 21 years Anderson Dance Group have been bringing dance to the town for all ages. Our home is at Hannakins Farm Community Centre, Rosebay Avenue, Billericay. The teachers Wendy and David Anderson are both highly qualified with the IDTA the world's largest dance teachers' organisation. David Anderson regularly appears on TV shows and Dance Videos.



Ours styles of dance cover Ballroom & Latin American, (children and adults), Freestyle Gymnastic dance, Street dance, Rock N Roll. First Dance Wedding and Hen Parties.

We like to offer a service of learn to dance for fun or learn to dance to compete.

For further information look at our website [www.andersondancegroup.co.uk](http://www.andersondancegroup.co.uk) or telephone 01277 633509 / 07788 971433.

### **BILLERICAY DANCING CLUB**

Every Wednesday evening during term time we meet at the Buttsbury Palais, a.k.a. Buttsbury Infant School, from 8-10pm.

For a membership fee of £1 and then a charge of £5 per session (including refreshments) you and your partner can enjoy ballroom, latin, sequence and old time dancing. No instruction is given and all music is recorded and is entirely strict tempo. The club is fully licensed by the PPL for the playing of recorded music and is operated by the Sound of Music Discotheque.

Please come along and join us for an enjoyable social evening. New members are most welcome at

Billericay's best ballroom! For more information telephone Denis Hart on 01277 654768.

### **DANCE STEPS ACADEMY**



Dance Steps Academy is a professional school of the arts located in the heart of Billericay High Street, with all classes operating at their very own dance studios. Dance Steps Academy offer classes for both children and adults, starting from as young as 18 months in Ballet, Tap, Modern, Commercial Street Jazz, Boys Street Dance & technical training, Musical Theatre, Tots classes, Gymnastics 4 Dancers, Private vocal tuition and dance lessons, advanced training timetable for professionals, Adult Ballet, Tap & Singing, Zumba, Metafit, Yoga & Drums Alive. All dance classes are ISTD affiliated with the opportunity for students to take exams and appear in a full scale theatre show. We have an elite dance group that train and perform at external events. We also offer a children's party service for all ages and school holiday clubs for 3 to 10 yrs. For all enquiries contact us on 07745 645999 or email [dancestepsacademy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dancestepsacademy@hotmail.co.uk)

### **BILLERICAY FOLK DANCE CLUB**

The Club started over 40 years ago. We enjoy gentle exercise and making new friends. Our numbers have dwindled in recent years and we always welcome new members. You don't need a partner to join us. The first evening is free! Come and see how much fun we have. We meet Tuesday evenings from 8-10pm (except the 2nd Tuesday of the month) in the WI Hall, St Edith's Lane, Billericay CM12 9BU. Beginners are very welcome. All dances are walked through and called. Our evenings are very sociable with a party at Christmas. There are several Saturday dances with live bands. Tea, coffee and biscuits are included in the weekly subscription. Great value at only £3.00. Contact Helen on 01268 541059 for more details.

### **DRAMA**

#### **BILLERICAY DRAMA SCHOOL, FRANCES' SCHOOL OF DRAMA (FSD).**

Frances School of Drama (FSD) based at The Fold, Billericay Arts Centre is celebrating its 20th Year Anniversary this year. An Independent

Drama School, where every child matters, is like a big family welcoming everyone. The mix of children with talent, with talent waiting to be found, with confidence that needs a little boost, or simply with a love for performing, provides a friendly, hardworking atmosphere for all students between the ages of 4 and 18.

FSD's first production, with a cast of 28, was Charlie and the Chocolate Factory performed on a small stage in a Brentwood school. Now, bi-annually they perform at the Chelmsford Civic Theatre, with two casts to ensure that every child still shines. Past productions include Oliver, Annie, Oklahoma and The Wizard of Oz. In between these musical theatre shows the students perform more intimate drama productions at the Brentwood Theatre, each class of between 10 and 16 having their own 30 minute play. In recent years FSD has performed locally in flash mobs in Billericay and Brentwood and also in London's West End at Her Majesty's Theatre.

The principal, Fran Collier, started the school on her own, but now they have a whole team of Teachers and Class Assistants. The team are a friendly, encouraging and approachable group who are totally dedicated to FSD, the students, and who all love doing what they do.

Support from students and parents over the years has helped FSD through its fantastic journey. Our 20th Anniversary was celebrated with an evening at Greenwoods in Stock on September 12th 2015. This was for past and present parents and former students over the age of 18. Entertainment was provided by current and past students.

If you have any questions about the Drama or Musical Theatre Classes please contact [k.stockbridge@fsdonline.co.uk](mailto:k.stockbridge@fsdonline.co.uk) or Tel: 07739 358063 or visit our new website [www.fsddramaschool.co.uk](http://www.fsddramaschool.co.uk)

## **FLOWER ARRANGING**

### **BILLERICAY FLOWER ARRANGING GROUP**

Billericay Flower Arranging Group opened in 1960 and is affiliated to NAFAS - the National Association of Flower Arranging Societies. NAFAS is divided up into areas and we belong to London and overseas.

It is through this organisation that we engage

the qualified demonstrators for our monthly meetings on the 1st Wednesday of each month (except January) at the Billericay WI Hall, St Edith's Lane at 8pm.

Members pay an annual subscription of £16 which includes the capitation fee to NAFAS plus £2 at every meeting, to which visitors are always welcome at a fee of £5. Everybody loves flowers and to watch an expert create shapely arrangements in tonal shades to further enhance their beauty is a most relaxing exercise.

Every gifted exponent chooses a topic for the evening, which features in their commentary, and is represented in their displays, which are the raffle prizes at the end of the evening. Some of the titles we've recently enjoyed: At Twilight Time; Winter is Nigh; A Box of Delights; Tales of the Orient; The Way I Like It.

Demonstrators have individual styles so while the format is ever the same, the outcome is always different and pleasantly so.

There is a common misgiving among those who've never been to a BFAG meeting that members of the audience are required to be involved in the demo; nothing could be further from the truth. Flowers remain in the expert's hands until they are presented to the lucky winners of the raffle on the night.

But then, when flowers are at the forefront on a well lit stage with each arrangement fully in the spotlight before an appreciative audience, everyone feels like a winner. Why not pay us a visit? Or contact Doreen Potter on 01277 624255.

## **HANDICRAFTS**

### **ESSEX HANDICRAFTS ASSOCIATION – BILLERICAY BRANCH**

If you would like to try a craft without having to buy a lot of materials and equipment you are welcome to join us as a visitor or member.



We meet once a month to enjoy a 'hands on' activity or listen to a speaker. Our members vary a great deal in interests and experience but all share the fun of learning and being creative.

Our recent talks have been on Rag Rugs, making stitched and felted bags and Scandinavian textiles. At our 'Hands on' Meetings we have stitched on plastic, canvas and gingham and made rag rugs.



Our future programme includes silk painting, paper dyeing and folding. Future talks are about the Foundling Tokens, textile art, spinning and woodcarving.

Our membership fee is £20 a year and £1 for each meeting. Visitors pay just £4 per evening.

We meet at The Fold, 72 Laindon Road, Billericay CM12 9LD normally on the last Monday of the month (excluding August and December) 7.45 for 8pm.

For more information about dates and programme of events, please ring 01277 213610, Email: [kirsten.yeates@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kirsten.yeates@tiscali.co.uk) or look for information at The Fold.

## LITERATURE

### BILLERICAY LITERARY SOCIETY

The Society meets at 8pm on the second and fourth Thursday evenings from September to June at The Fold.

Our meetings begin with an informal chat whilst

people arrive. A member then briefly introduces the chosen book, giving their response and some limited background information. This is followed by general discussion, informal but relevant, of the issues raised by the book and the way it has been written. Whilst many informed and stimulating opinions are exchanged, our meetings are always lively and relaxed. Billericay Library provides some copies of texts on a group loan basis. Most texts are available in paperback. We are a friendly group and as well as our usual meetings we have social meetings 3 times a year. We place a poster each 2 weeks in Billericay Library and at The Fold showing the next chosen book. Contact name: Sue Tomlinson Tel: 01277 623684.

## MUSIC

### BILLERICAY CHORAL SOCIETY

Billericay Choral Society has been part of the local scene for over 40 years and we pride ourselves on being a relaxed and friendly group. We usually perform three concerts a year and our repertoire stretches from the great choral works of composers such as Bach, Handel, Mozart, and Verdi, to Folk Songs and choruses from musicals and operettas. We have sung from the great American songbook and even the Beatles.



We were founder members of the Brentwood Choirs Festival, an event in which we join with other local choirs to perform a major work with full orchestra in the beautiful setting of Brentwood Cathedral. The 25th anniversary of these concerts will take place in 2016.

We are extremely fortunate to be working under a brilliant young musical director, David Todd, who is making his name as an up and coming choral and orchestral conductor both here and abroad. David's approach to rehearsals is both inspirational and great fun.

We are always happy to welcome new members. We don't hold auditions and are pleased to welcome you whether you are an experienced singer or have never belonged to a choir before.

If you are interested, why not check out our website? [www.essexinfo.net/billericaychoral](http://www.essexinfo.net/billericaychoral)

Or phone Anne on 01277 658740 or Doug on 01277 624524. Alternatively, just turn up at one of our rehearsals, from 8pm on Tuesday evenings in the Mayflower Hall in Chapel Street. You will be made most welcome.

### **BILLERICAY OPERATIC SOCIETY (BOS)**

**B**illericay Operatic Society (BOS) is an award winning society which specialises in performing musical theatre shows and concerts and has been entertaining Billericay since it was founded in 1929. BOS welcomes new members of all ages (from age 14 upwards) to join their friendly society.

BOS generally rehearses on Friday evenings from 8-10pm, either at Brightside School or The Fold in Billericay.



BOS normally performs at least twice a year, with one main production at the Brentwood Theatre and then smaller concerts or unique events such as a 'Show In A Day' where people turn up, learn a show and then perform it to a paying audience that evening! In recent years BOS has performed the musicals "Fiddler On The Roof", "Parade" and "Chess" to sell-out audiences at Brentwood, gaining critical acclaim and awards for performers. BOS members also enjoy a range of social events, including treasure hunts, quiz nights and meals, to name a few.

BOS are currently rehearsing for their next big production, "Oliver", being performed at the Brentwood Theatre in March 2016. Having successfully auditioned over 100 children at open auditions, rehearsals are coming along nicely and the children are already sounding fantastic. This

show will sell out fast, so don't leave it too late to book your tickets.

For more information, contact Mark Clements, Chairman, Billericay Operatic Society on Tel: 07733 306192, check out the BOS website [www.billericayoperaticsociety.co.uk](http://www.billericayoperaticsociety.co.uk) or contact Brentwood Theatre Box Office on Tel: 01277 200305; check out their website [www.brentwood-theatre.co.uk](http://www.brentwood-theatre.co.uk)

### **THE BUCCANEERS MINI-CORPS**

**T**he Buccaneers Mini-Corps are looking to recruit talented musicians for brass and percussion at beginner to intermediate level. We are also interested to hear from any dance orientated people to take part in a unique performance style using various forms of equipment.

The Buccaneers Mini-Corps, is a group of talented musicians and colour guard who meet in Billericay and Basildon to practise and perform in the exciting American drum corps style - but on a much smaller scale! Formed in the summer of 2013, and founder members of the British Mini-Corps circuit, we have performed in competition and exhibition around the country and have gained a reputation for providing accomplished, feisty and highly entertaining sets. We are looking forward next season to competing against more like-minded mini-corps as they form around the country, inspired by our lead! Our humour and enjoyment of our craft is always apparent both in our rehearsals and our performances alike, and we always have enormous fun.

The Buccaneers Mini-Corps is a self-funding group and will be competing and performing not only musically, but with movement and visual effects through an organising body known as SoundSport, which provides an indoor environment for groups of various performance styles to meet, share, and perform their skills to a paying audience.

As current members, we first discovered this unique style of music performance when we were in our early teenage years. We were all members of local groups from the Billericay, Basildon and Dagenham areas, including Billericay's own Mayflower Corps, and even competed against one another. It is therefore at the heart of our ethos to encourage youth into our movement, and so

we want to spread our enthusiasm, and provide an opportunity for local teenagers to experience the hugely rewarding thrill of performing music and showmanship together, as we enjoyed in our youth.



We are currently actively looking for new members of any age and ability – we want to gain interest from people within the local area and beyond, and introduce more people to this performance style, improve them as musicians and artistes and, by adding to our membership, provide a solid sustainable base for The Buccaneers to continue for many years to come.

So who are we looking for? The Buccaneers would like to hear from brass instrument players of all levels, percussionists for not only drums but tuned percussion instruments and also those that may be interested in movement and dance using various forms of equipment, including flags, rifles, ribbons, hoops and whatever other inspiration our music suggests! We also use electronic keyboards so pianists would not feel out of place either. Presently, we have a limited amount of instruments which would be loaned to members for their use. It is not necessary to be highly proficient at an instrument, we will always train you if you have enthusiasm and a wish to succeed and enjoy the ride with us.

We would currently also be very keen to hear of any opportunities to take part in local concerts and displays, including school events – to publicise our group, raise funds, gain members, and of course because we just love to perform!

If you would like to join us, or if you could offer an opportunity for us to perform at your event, please get in touch as soon as possible by emailing our Corps Director Andy Marck on [thebuccaneers@sky.com](mailto:thebuccaneers@sky.com), or drop into our rehearsals at any time for a chat : rehearsals normally take place on Sunday mornings at Billericay School from 10am-1pm – please drop

in any time to see what we do and have a chat.

The Buccaneers Mini-Corps are waiting to hear from you!

## THE CHOIR FOR ALL SEASONS

This mixed voice chamber choir, founded in 1975, have been enjoying the celebration of forty years of music making for the people of Billericay and beyond. We still present concerts with energy and distinction, consistently drawing generous praise from our appreciative audiences. In July this year we performed a special 40th Birthday Party Concert, highlighting the premiere of 'Primo Deus', a work we commissioned from popular local composer Clive Smith, whilst the rest of the programme was chosen by the choir as a birthday treat!

Most of our concerts have a theme title, backed up by our very wide repertoire, ranging from madrigals and motets through part songs and folk songs to pop standards and excerpts from musicals, covering both sacred and secular music. Our programmes are refreshingly different, and most years we also present a words-and-music entertainment, which is always popular.

We rehearse on Wednesdays in term time in the Music Suite at Mayflower High School, Stock Road, Billericay 7.45-9.45pm, and give 4-5 concerts a year in Billericay and surrounding areas. We give opportunities in concerts to members with solo vocal or instrumental abilities. New members, especially men and couples, are welcome, to help balance our numbers and in developing future concert plans. The ability to read music is always helpful, but by no means essential. What is needed is a love of a wide range of music styles, a willingness to learn and a sense of humour! In addition we organise a regular programme of social activities for members and their families.

Plans for the coming months include: 'An Evening of Folk Carols' (with guests Potiphar's Apprentices making a welcome return) on Saturday 5th December 2015; 'Beautiful Baroque' (music by Vivaldi, Bach and Handel) on Saturday 19th March 2016; and 'Green' (a words-and-music entertainment) on Saturday 2nd July 2016 (date t.b.c.). All our concerts begin at 7.30pm.

Contact Michael Hewitt (musical director) on

01277 656935 or by e-mail: janetmichael2@gmail.com. Why not visit our colourful website as well: [www.thechoirforallseasons.co.uk](http://www.thechoirforallseasons.co.uk)?

### ENCORE HARMONY SINGERS

Encore Harmony Singers are a Billericay based group of guys who perform across South Essex for clubs, organisations and events. They sing songs, loved by all, such as music from the shows, standards and songs from the era we all relate to. Encore have sung at events organised by Rotary, Lions and Probus etc. Other venues are senior citizens clubs, pubs, care homes, private parties and after-dinner entertainment.



They are all part of The Essex Chordsmen, a choir of 30 men well known for their Red Jacket outfit, who are always on the lookout for singers of any age. The Chordsmen rehearse weekly. Visitors are always welcome to come along to see what it's all about.

Further information about hiring Encore or singing with the Chordsmen can be obtained from John Darwent (01277 654525).

### FOLK AT THE FOLD

Folk at The Fold (72 Laindon Road, Billericay CM12 9LD) meets on the last Friday of the month, except in December, at 8.15pm. Singers, musicians, poets and reciters of monologues are welcome. Some of the music is outside any strict definition of folk music, including country music and old time music hall songs, and other songs that have survived for a long time. Admission is £2, and those coming along to perform or watch and listen are invited to bring their own drink with them. For further information please contact Clive Hammond on 01277 622793.

### HIGH VOLTAGE BIG BAND

The Band - High Voltage Big Band is a 27 piece brass & percussion ensemble based in Billericay. The band consists of 20 brass

players, four percussionists, two vocalists and a conductor. The band was formed in June 2011 as a group of friends from a drum corps and marching band background and is a totally self-funding, non-profit organization. Now in our 5th year, we are going from strength to strength as a unit. The band is open to anyone who would like to join, where we have vacancies, regardless of experience or ability. We also teach music theory and technique and our rehearsals are open to anybody, even those who haven't played before and wish to learn.

The Music - The band has an extensive repertoire of music from swing, jazz & blues to modern day rock & pop music. We cater for all types of musical tastes and ages and are keen to keep developing our repertoire and exploring new genres. Our music ranges from the classic songs of Frank Sinatra, Judy Garland, Michael Buble and Shirley Bassey through to the latest hits by Bruno Mars and Pharrell Williams. We also play many songs from musicals and films and can adapt our repertoire to suit the event.



In The Community - High Voltage have performed at a number of local fundraising events since formation including the St George's Day event at Wat Tyler two years running plus the annual St Luke's Hospice summer fete in Basildon for the past four years. Early in 2015, the band were able to help in a school fundraising event at the William de Ferrers school, in South Woodham Ferrers, by offering to step in and perform at short notice with our smaller MegaBlast! ensemble. Over 150 students were up, dancing and clapping along to our performance of pop songs including hits by the likes of Bruno Mars, Avicii, Daft Punk & Pharrell Williams and finished with a rousing, arm waving rendition of Neil Diamond's Sweet Caroline. The band also took part in the Civic Reception at Emmanuel Church to round off the

Billericay Community Weekend event including learning 14 hymns specifically for this event. Most recently, the band helped a local young art student in her studies by performing a custom written piece of music that reflected her art work. This performance was filmed and then shown at her exhibition alongside her artwork in front of her tutors which will help her towards gaining her art degree next year.

On Stage – In 2012, High Voltage had the huge privilege to perform at The Towngate Theatre with the West-End musical star Phil Cavill in our production One Man Standing (...and 25 seated!). In 2013, High Voltage showcased local youth talent at The Towngate Theatre in our production entitled ‘Expression!’ (A celebration of music and dance in Essex). A number of local youth groups were given the chance to perform on stage in front of an audience of over 300. High Voltage performed a set before welcoming the whole cast back on stage for a rousing finale! 2014 saw the band’s latest production at the Towngate Theatre called Bond & Beyond! Kicking off with a couple of James Bond themes, the band went on to complete 2 full sets of music for the first time. Each year in December, the band also stages its Festive Brass series of concerts at various venues around Essex. Each concert also features guest performers which have included local bands, singers, dancers & most recently the Exaltation Gospel Choir.

Contact Us – For general information on the band, contact the Director, Steve Lees. T: 07800 998717. E: [info@highvoltagebigband.org.uk](mailto:info@highvoltagebigband.org.uk)

To book the band for your event, contact the Assistant Director, Marcus Weekes. T: 07968 719836. E: [media@highvoltagebigband.org.uk](mailto:media@highvoltagebigband.org.uk)

Find us on:- [www.highvoltagebigband.org.uk](http://www.highvoltagebigband.org.uk)

Twitter: @HighVoltageBB

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/High-Voltage-Big-Band/298905923461557>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTqjs2NLBqrmFGdeeLwXrmQ>

Rehearsals are every Monday evening (7:30-10pm) and on the occasional Sunday (10:30am-3:30pm) at the Billericay School. All of our rehearsals are open to anyone to come along for a listen and a cuppa.

## MODEL MAKING

### BILLERICAY MINIATURES CLUB

Our club sessions are on the 4th Wednesday afternoon of the month at The Fold when we usually make an item for our dolls houses. In addition to this we have an ongoing project for the year, which we then display at our bi-annual Exhibition held in November in the W.I. Hall (next one in 2016). The photo is of two of the locals playing boules in our 1/24th scale French village, which was on display last year. We are now planning to ‘downsize’ and create an English village in the even smaller scale of 1/48th. We also have occasional coffee mornings and outings to places of interest to miniaturists! We always support a charity and this year our proceeds from bring-and-buy sales etc. are for the Essex Air Ambulance. We welcome new members and further information about the club can be obtained from Janet (tel: 01277 622297) or Wendy (tel: 01277 651941).



## PHOTOGRAPHY

### PHOTOFOLD CAMERA CLUB, BILLERICAY

Our club has been in existence for 34 years and we are members of the East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies.

*What do we offer?* – We provide an opportunity for people to explore and express their creative talents. We are a friendly club with a varied programme of speakers, competitions, open evenings, practical evenings, team projects and monthly outings, culminating in the Annual Exhibition of members’ work at the end of August. This year’s programme subjects are “challenge of photography on a coach tour”, “creating mood in photography”, “California

Dreaming”, and many more. Practical evenings have included “The art of Macro Photography”, the process of creating “Panorama”, and audio visual techniques.



**Why join?** – We have members with a range of ability from people new to photography to some very skilled and advanced members in digital, print, colour and monochrome. Most people learn very quickly by discussing their work with others and seeing what other people do. Our members are happy to share their knowledge. We also help members learn about software.

**Is the membership varied?** – Yes we have male and female members.

**Where do the monthly outings go?** – They are predominantly day trips and we share cars.

Recent trips have been to London, the Suffolk Coast, Stowe and Wisley.

**Why did I join?** – I retired four years ago and decided I wanted to take up photography. My only knowledge on the subject was as a tourist with a point-and-go camera. Since then I have progressed to a digital SLR camera with a number of different lenses.

One thing I have learnt is that wherever I go I take my pocket size Canon compact camera, as you never know what is likely to crop up. Some tips to follow; make sure your camera battery is fully charged; never take photographs directly facing the sun and remember photographs of family and friends are not always good with them posing and looking straight at you.

**When and where do we meet?** – The Club meets at 8pm at The Fold, 72 Laindon Road, Billericay CM12 9LD, on Tuesday nights with short breaks at Christmas and Easter and a longer break in the summer. Visitors can come along for a trial period for a small fee if they are unsure about joining.

Why not log-on to our web site which is [www.photofold.org.uk](http://www.photofold.org.uk) or better still come along on Tuesday; all are welcome.

For further information, Contact: Ray Waters on [ray90@btinternet.com](mailto:ray90@btinternet.com) Jim Brewster on [jbrewst@sky.com](mailto:jbrewst@sky.com)

### THE ARTS IN BILLERICAY

Code is 01277 unless otherwise stated

Billericay Arts Association

659286

[www.baathefold.org.uk](http://www.baathefold.org.uk) contact details only

#### ART

Billericay Art Club

Patience Williams 652008

[patience\\_williams@btinternet.com](mailto:patience_williams@btinternet.com)

Billericay Art Trail

Jo Adshead

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

Buttsbury Arts Society

227296

[susan\\_e\\_harison@hotmail.com](mailto:susan_e_harison@hotmail.com)

The Studio Group

Beryl Meadows 652603

Wild Rose China Painters Club

Betty O'Shea 01702 204334

#### DANCING

Anderson Dance Group

Wendy Anderson 633509

07788 971433

[www.andersondancegroup.co.uk](http://www.andersondancegroup.co.uk)

Billericay Dancing Club (Adults)		654768
	Dennis Hart, 19 Atridge Chase, CM12 0HR	
Dance Steps Academy		07745 645999
	dancestepsacademy@hotmail.co.uk	
Billericay Folk Dance Club	Helen	01268 541059
	letter sent to: 21 Rushdene Road, CM12 9NH	

## **DRAMA**

Frances' School of Drama	Fran Collier	07739 358063
	email: k.stockbridge@fsdonline.co.uk	
	website www.fsddramaschool.co.uk	

## **FLOWER ARRANGING**

Billericay Flower Arranging Group	Doreen Potter	624255
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## **HANDICRAFTS**

Essex Handicrafts Association	Kirsten Yeates	213610
	email: kirsten.yeates@tiscali.co.uk	

## **LITERATURE**

Billericay Literary Society	Sue Tomlinson	623684
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## **MUSIC**

Billericay Choral Society	Anne	658740
	Doug	624524
	www.essexinfo.netbillericaychoral0	
Billericay Operatic Society		07751 923224
	email: billericayoperatic@hotmail.co.uk	
Buccaneers Mini-Corps	Andy Marck	
	thebuccaneers@sky.com	
Choir For All Seasons	Michael Hewitt	656935
	email: janetmichael2@gmail.com	
Encore Harmony Singers	John Darwent	654525
Folk at the Fold	Mr Clive Hammond	622793
High Voltage Big Band	Steve Lees	07800 998717
	Marcus Weekes	07968 719836
	email: info@highvoltagebigband.org.uk	
	media@highvoltagebigband.org.uk	

## **MODEL MAKING**

Billericay Miniatures Club	Janet Lee	622297
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# BILLERICAY

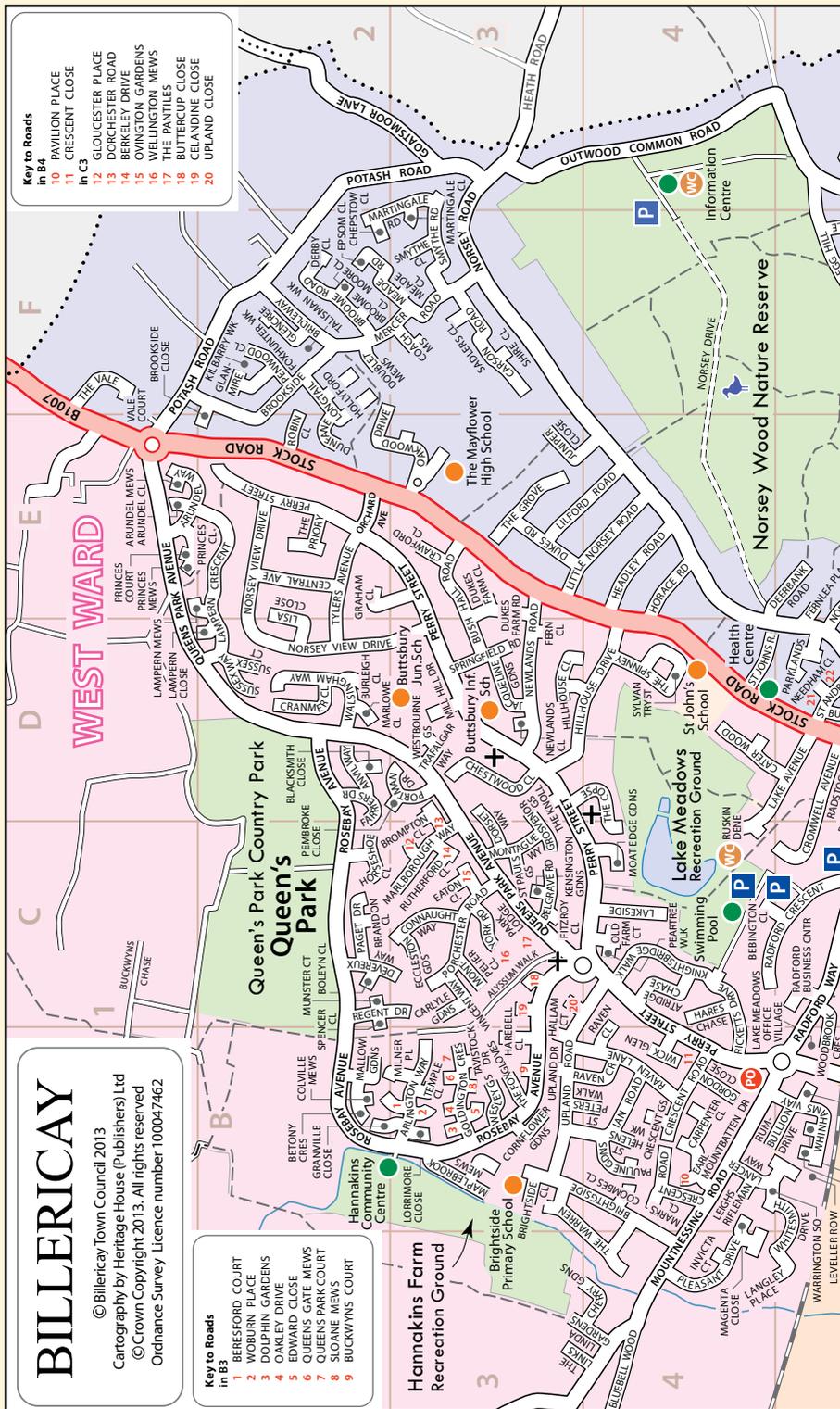
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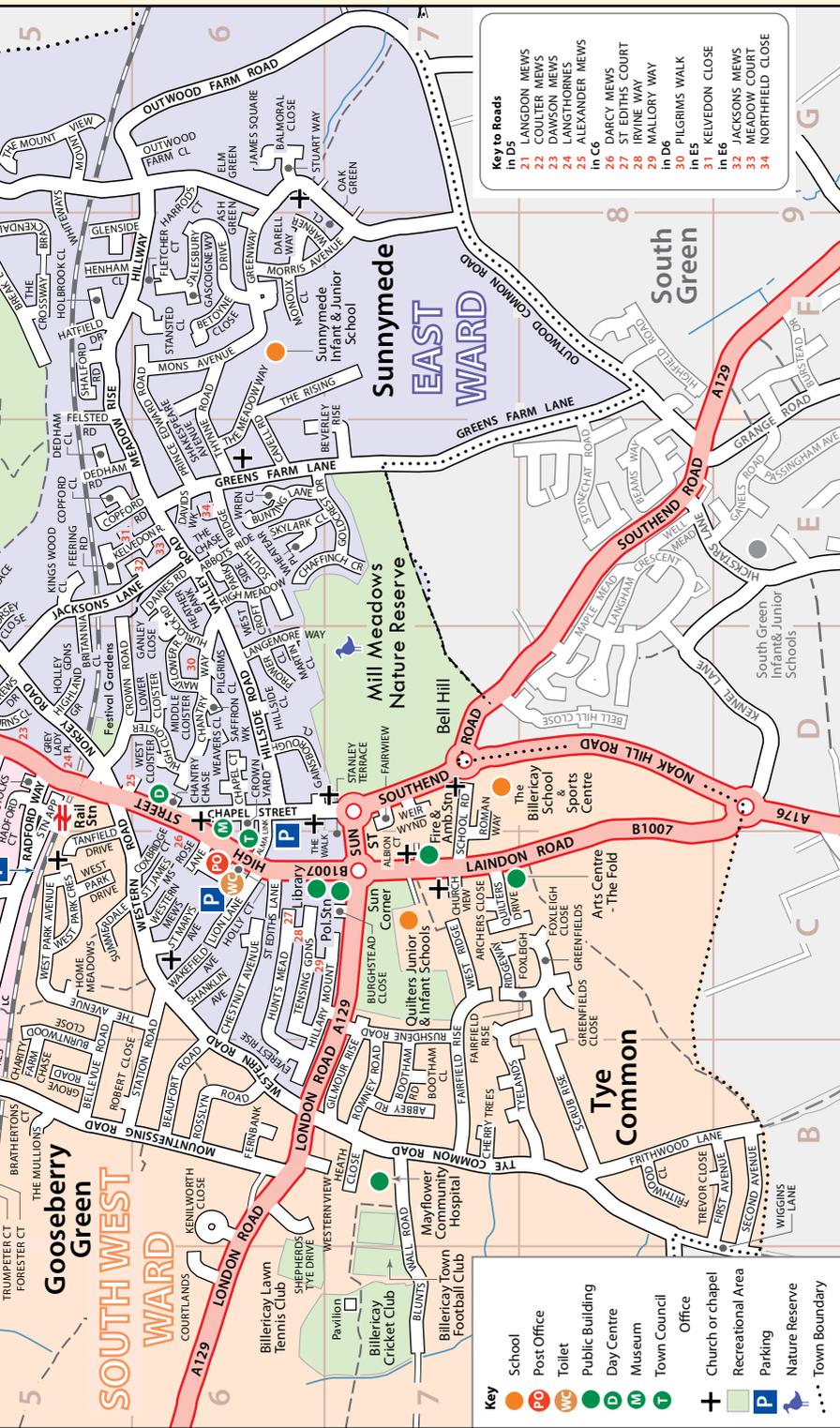
## Key to Roads

- in B3**
- 1 BEFESFORD COURT
  - 2 DOUPHIN PLACE
  - 3 DOLPHIN GARDENS
  - 4 DAKLEY DRIVE
  - 5 EDWARD CLOSE
  - 6 QUEENS PARK COURT
  - 7 SLOANE MEWS
  - 8 SLOANE MEWS COURT
  - 9 BUCKWYNS COURT

## Key to Roads

- in B4**
- 10 MILLON PLACE
  - 11 CRESCENT CLOSE
- in C3**
- 12 GLOUCESTER PLACE
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  - 20 UPLAND CLOSE





**Key to Roads**

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- 22 COULTER MEWS
- 23 DAWSON MEWS
- 24 LANGTHORNES
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- 29 MALLORY WAY
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- 34 NORTFIELD CLOSE

**Key**

- School
- Post Office
- Toilet
- Wc
- Public Building
- Day Centre
- Museum
- Town Council
- Office
- Church or chapel
- Recreational Area
- Parking
- Nature Reserve
- Town Boundary

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Outwood Farm Road	G6,G7	Skylark Close	E6		



## BILLERICAY JU JITSU

**Who we are** – Billericay Ju-Jitsu Club is registered with the British Ju-Jitsu Association Governing Body which is Sports Council recognised. All of our instructors are fully trained and qualified in coaching methods and our club has a friendly atmosphere coupled with high training standards.

Sensei Steve Fitch 3rd Dan and Neil Treloar 3rd Dan are the senior instructors, ably assisted by Dave Poulter (Shodan 2012), Michael Lewis and Andy Patterson (Shodan 2014).



**What we do** – Ju Jitsu is an ancient art of self-defence which includes elements of various martial arts, but primarily concentrates on throwing, locking and restraint techniques which can easily be applied to the modern world. The very first lesson you attend will teach you something useful.

It was originally developed as an unarmed combat system for the legendary ‘Samurai’ to enable them to continue fighting if they had fallen from their horse and/or lost their weapons.

It is suitable for both males and females and all ages/fitness levels as techniques are very adaptable to suit individual characteristics. Whilst there are competitions during the year, the emphasis in our training is on practical self-defence techniques.

**What will you be taught?** – Compared to other styles, Ju-Jitsu may appear a lot less spectacular to the casual observer. Our expertise is predominantly based on simple self-defence techniques in the early belts. You will learn a variety of skills which will include break falls, blocking, evading, striking, throwing, restraining, and locking.

**Where we are and when** – The club runs sessions at the Billericay school sports centre as follows: Thursday night – Junior club 7.15-8.15pm Adult club 8.30-10.15pm Sunday morning – Juniors and Adults 10-11.30am.

Fees per quarter are currently: Juniors £45 (one session) or £60 (both sessions) Adults £75 (one session) or £100 (both sessions).

Contact details – Steve Fitch 01277 811870 or e-mail [Toni.treloar@talktalk.net](mailto:Toni.treloar@talktalk.net)

## ESSEX ROADS CYCLING CLUB

**O**ur Sunday club rides meet at 9am every Sunday morning in the car park behind the Iceland store in Billericay High Street. We have 4 levels of club ride to suit all abilities. Novice ride/Social ride, Touring rides, Club rides and Training rides.



On our Sunday club rides we ride out through quiet Essex country lanes, stopping for tea and cake somewhere along the route at some of our favourite cafes before heading back to Billericay. We also run a weekly time trial series from April to the end of August at East Hanningfield. This is a timed event where you ride a set distance in the quickest time possible. It’s a personal challenge to keep improving your own time over a set distance as well as trying to beat your club mates! We also organise 2 cycle sportives called “Spring Lambs” and “Autumn Leaves” as well as a charity sportive event called the Orchid Cycle Charity Ride. These events are very well attended and we see 500+ riders entering each event from in and around the home counties. We also run U16 Go-Ride events allowing children the opportunity to take part in racing, all by age category and we run a weekly coaching session for U16s at Hadleigh Infants and Juniors every Saturday

morning from 10-12noon. These events teach the vital bike handling skills and co-ordination in a controlled environment with qualified coaches to assist in their development into cycling whatever their interest is in our sport. We also organise a number of other time trials, a road race and a cyclo-cross race throughout the racing calendar suitable for all ages. During the winter months we have a weekly club meet with winter training sessions at Billericay Scout Hut, Greens Farm Lane, Billericay from 8pm September to March.

We have invested heavily into our U16s racing and club group adding six new bikes for children to use as well as providing on going support and funding for riders who wish to develop their talent in our great sport. Membership continues to grow year on year. The club has also invested in training up more coaches through the British Cycling programme.

We will be running our Spring Lambs, Orchid and Autumn Leaves Sportives with a new event headquarters. The dates of these events and details of how to enter can be found on our website [www.essexroadscyclingclub.com](http://www.essexroadscyclingclub.com). We are also running our Essex Roads CC Road Race, and we will continue to run our popular time trial series held every Wednesday evening at East Hanningfield Village Hall as well as our Go-Ride programme for the under 16s.

Main contact is Dave Brown, Membership Secretary. [membership@essexroads.com](mailto:membership@essexroads.com). Phone number 01268 768879. Mark Stanbury – General Secretary – [secretary@essexroadscyclingclub.com](mailto:secretary@essexroadscyclingclub.com)

### **BILLERICAY AND DISTRICT ANGLING CLUB**

Formed in 1957, the Billericay and District Angling Club (BDAC) is now the premier fishing club in Essex. With thirty-three lakes for members to fish and several miles of rivers, all within the County, together with optional membership of the Fishers Green Consortium waters in Hertfordshire, the Club facilities for all types of course angler are second to none. Our club waters also hold specimen carp, bream, roach, rudd, perch and tench. Since its early days, when only a handful of local anglers met occasionally to fish one or two local waters, the Club has grown both in numbers and in profile and now boasts a membership of four thousand. The Club prides itself as being a

family friendly club, with family groups forming a good percentage of our total membership. This is reflected in the facilities provided at its three freehold fisheries. A complex of eight lakes at Southminster, a lake nearby at Asheldham and two lakes and a stretch of the River Blackwater at Braintree. Each has on site; permanent ladies and gents flush toilets with washing facilities, easy access and secure parking. The vast majority of the Club's other leasehold fisheries are provided with chemical toilets and car parking. Amongst the waters the Club controls, are lengths of the Rivers Roding, Pant, Blackwater and Wid in Essex and a stretch of the Suffolk Stour near Sudbury. These, along with the many lakes across Essex for which the Club has fishing rights, are open to all members at a very reasonable annual fee, which currently stands at £78, including a first year joining fee. There are concessions available for Senior Citizens, juniors, disabled and non-fishing associate members.



Applications for membership, joining instructions and other useful information, including catch reports and fishery profiles can be found on the Club website [www.bdac.co.uk](http://www.bdac.co.uk). On joining BDAC you will receive a membership card and a handbook showing maps and giving details of all the Club's fisheries, with locations and directions by road.

The Club also has a healthy match-fishing scene with many trophies available for the winners. We have regular junior matches held on Saturdays, adult/senior matches on Sundays (including ladies and mixed pairs) and retired/disabled matches on Wednesdays.

If you like fishing, you will like Billericay and District Angling Club. [www.bdac.co.uk](http://www.bdac.co.uk)

Robin Driscoll, General Secretary.

## **BILLERICAY LAWN TENNIS CLUB**

**B**illericay Lawn Tennis Club is a friendly, well run tennis club with excellent facilities. The club has been in existence for over 50 years and is thriving with over 240 adult and 220 junior and mini tennis members. We do not operate a waiting list and strive to accommodate any child who is interested in playing tennis with age groups between 4 and 18 years. Adults of all ages and abilities are also welcome.

We have some of the most modern tennis club facilities in Essex including a large four-acre site with ample parking, well maintained grounds, a large brick-built clubhouse and 10 floodlit tennis courts. We have 7 artificial grass courts and 3 artificial clay courts. Since 2013 the club has an airdome covering the 3 clay courts from September to March which enables members to play through the winter months no matter the weather. The clay courts have proved particularly popular with our junior and adult members alike.

The clubhouse has a large club room and bar, a fully equipped kitchen, changing rooms, showers and toilets. There is seating provided around all the courts and an outside deck area for social functions and barbecues. All this has been built and maintained by club members over the years.

We have 5 full time coaches and 2 part time coaches providing both group and private tuition at all levels and all ages. Junior squads and coaching takes place on weekday afternoon and evenings and Saturday mornings. The club offers adult team tennis in both mid-week and weekend local leagues. There are also social sessions during the week and at weekends for players of all abilities.

The club has several different categories of membership, including an off-peak mid-week membership, to suit a variety of standards and needs, from complete beginners to experienced players and new members are always welcome.

For more information contact the membership secretary by email at [membershipsecretary@billericayltc.co.uk](mailto:membershipsecretary@billericayltc.co.uk) or visit our website at [www.billericayltc.co.uk](http://www.billericayltc.co.uk)

## **FC REDWING**

**O**ffering FREE soccer coaching for four to six year olds, FC Redwing has long been

established as the premier youth football club serving the local community.

We are a "Family Club" with the emphasis on FUN. FC Redwing's main aim is to get children from a young age to fall in love with the beautiful game. Run by a team of volunteers who are all FA qualified coaches, we pride ourselves on being a friendly club. We are also the only team in the area to offer free sessions to children looking to take their first footballing steps.



With 16 teams and 185+ registered players, we are one of the largest clubs in the area and this year is our 15th Anniversary. We are Essex FA affiliated and run in line with the FA Respect programme. Our teams range from the Academy (U6) all the way to Adults with many of our teams having played together their whole childhood.

We do have some FREE spaces available now in our academy so please contact Clive Ashdown, the Head Coach of our Academy, on 07736 370 419 or at [clive@cwgrain.com](mailto:clive@cwgrain.com) and we can get your child playing this weekend.

## **BILLERICAY STRIDERS RUNNING CLUB**

**I**n 2016 Billericay Striders will celebrate 30 years as a running club. It is an England Athletics Club Mark accredited club with qualified coaches for adults and an expanding junior section. Currently we have 196 members including 50 Junior Striders.

Members are of all abilities including those who regularly compete in road and cross country races, including Essex County events and local park runs, those who run to keep fit and others running purely for enjoyment.

There is also a special coached 10-week course, for people who want to start or are returning to running, organised annually in the Autumn.

The Striders retained the South Essex Cross Country League Championship in 2015, a trophy

we have won more times than any other club.

The Annual 10k Road Race in November, which has been voted the best organised road race in Essex, continues to attract a field of 750 runners and enables the club, each year, to support local and national charities.



The club meets at Hannakins Farm Community Centre on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7pm and in Lake Meadows on Sundays at 8:30am.

For further information about the Billericay Striders activities and the 10k Road Race check the web site [www.billericaystriders.com](http://www.billericaystriders.com)

### THE ESSEX SPARTANS

The Essex Spartans American Football team was established in 1988 under the guise of 'Basildon Chiefs' by the late Tony Palmer. Beginning competitive football as the Essex Spartans in 1999, the team now has an inclusive academy and a senior roster of more than fifty players, competing in three sectors around the country.



Headed up now by former Tony Palmer protégé Head Coach Sean Benton, The Essex Spartans overturned a dismal period in the 2014 season with 4 wins and saw a record turnout for their recruitment drive last winter. Now sitting comfortably mid-table after 3 great wins and three games still to play, now is a great time to find an old passion for American Football – or develop a new one!

The Essex Spartans Academy is open to young men and women aged 14 and over; they operate in Under-17s fully-kitted tournaments and within the Under-19s BAFA league. Run by former Senior Spartan Steve Watson as Head Coach, the Academy has developed tenfold this year and provides a great opportunity for Essex local youth.

All branches of the club train at Hannakins Farm, Billericay on Sundays between 12midday and 4pm, with the majority of games played on Sunday afternoons.

@EssexSpartans

@ESAF\_Academy

Find us on Facebook – [www.facebook.com/EssexSpartansAmericanFootball](http://www.facebook.com/EssexSpartansAmericanFootball)

### YUSHIKAI KARATE ACADEMY

Different forms of martial arts have been practiced for thousands of years, and for a very good reason – they're beneficial. Regardless of your age, background, fitness level, or health, martial arts can benefit you in some way.

Karate is one martial art form in particular that has dozens of benefits. For the younger ones, it's a fun and exciting way to learn discipline, respect, and of course self defence. For the adults, it's a practical way of keeping yourself fit and healthy without spending hours in the gym; you're also bound to pick up some self defence techniques in the process.



Above all, when you start practicing karate you'll notice that your mindset begins to change. You look at things in a new light and have a much more collected approach when you're faced with difficulties.

Yushikai Karate Academy's full-time dojo is located at 14a Radford Crescent in Billericay. We have a wide range of classes available to suit just about anyone: kids, teens and adults. Visit our website ([www.yushikai.co.uk](http://www.yushikai.co.uk)) or call 01277 650366 to see what we have on offer!

## BILLERICAY SPORTS FACILITIES

Below are some of the sporting organisations available in Billericay, their location, and the contact name and telephone number to obtain details. Code is 01277 unless stated otherwise.

### **AEROBICS**

Billericay Sport & Fitness Centre	Sarah Avery	655545
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### **AMERICAN FOOTBALL**

Essex Spartans	email: <a href="mailto:secretary@essexspartans.co.uk">secretary@essexspartans.co.uk</a>	
	<a href="http://www.essexspartans.co.uk">www.essexspartans.co.uk</a>	

### **BADMINTON**

Billericay Junior Badminton Club	Michael Cole	840485
Billericay Sport & Fitness Centre	Billericay School	655545
Buttsbury Badminton Club	Sarah Avery	655545
Badminton at Hannakins Farm	Hannakins Farm	630851
	<a href="http://www.hannakins.co.uk">www.hannakins.co.uk</a>	
Mayflower Badminton Club	Paul Farrow	625126

### **BOWLING**

Billericay Bowling Club	Rex Hobbs	632018
	<a href="http://www.billericaybowlingclub.co.uk">www.billericaybowlingclub.co.uk</a>	
Bowling (General Public)	Lake Meadows	01268 294910
Short Mat Bowls	Hannakins Farm	630851
	<a href="http://www.hannakins.co.uk">www.hannakins.co.uk</a>	

### **BASKETBALL**

Wildcats Basketball	<a href="http://www.sites.google.com/site/billericaywildcats/">www.sites.google.com/site/billericaywildcats/</a>
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### **CRICKET**

Billericay Cricket Club	Blunts Wall Road
	<a href="http://www.billericaycricket1875.co.uk">www.billericaycricket1875.co.uk</a>

### **CYCLING**

Essex Roads Cycling Club	Dave Brown
	email: <a href="mailto:membership@esssexroads.com">membership@esssexroads.com</a>

### **DODGEBALL**

Dodgeball	Hannakins Farm Mike Linger
	07912 979927
	<a href="mailto:mike@wingersportsacademy.com">mike@wingersportsacademy.com</a>
	website: <a href="http://wingersportsacademy.com">wingersportsacademy.com</a>

### **FISHING**

Billericay and District Angling Club	Fred Barnes	<a href="http://www.bdac.co.uk">www.bdac.co.uk</a>
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### **FOOTBALL & FOOTBALL COACHING**

Billericay Town Football Club	Blunts Wall Road	652188
	<a href="http://www.billericaytownfc.co.uk">www.billericaytownfc.co.uk</a>	
Billericay Town Colts Football Club	<a href="http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/billericaytowncoltsfc/">www.pitchero.com/clubs/billericaytowncoltsfc/</a>	
Intersports Football Club/Coaching	Barleylands	<a href="http://www.intersportsfc.com">www.intersportsfc.com</a>
Billericay Sport & Fitness Centre and Coaching	Billericay School	655545
Hannakins Farm Football Club	Hannakins Farm	630851
	<a href="http://www.clubwebsite.co.uk/hannakinsfarmfootballclub/">www.clubwebsite.co.uk/hannakinsfarmfootballclub/</a>	
FC Redwing	Clive Ashdown	<a href="mailto:clive@cwgrain.com">clive@cwgrain.com</a>

**GOLF**

Stock Brook Country Club		650400
	<a href="http://www.stockbrookgolfclubessex.co.uk">www.stockbrookgolfclubessex.co.uk</a>	

**GYMNASIUM**

Billericay Sport & Fitness Centre	Billericay School	655545
LA Fitness, Radford Way		633633
	<a href="http://www.lafitness.co.uk/gym/billericay/">www.lafitness.co.uk/gym/billericay/</a>	
Studio 360 Fitness	Radford Way	424360
	<a href="http://www.studio360fitness.co.uk/">www.studio360fitness.co.uk/</a>	

**MINI GOLF & PUTTING**

Basildon District Council	Lake Meadows	01268 294910
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**JUDO**

Martial Arts Club – Sakura Kwai	Club Secretary	01268 479117
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**JU-JITSU**

Billericay Sport & Fitness Centre	Billericay School	655545
Billericay Ju-Jitsu Club	Steve Fitch	811870
	email: <a href="mailto:Toni.treloar@talktalk.net">Toni.treloar@talktalk.net</a>	

**KARATE**

Yushikai Karate Academy	Dave Paulus	650366
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**KEEP FIT**

Keep Fit Association	Christine Bannister	211050
LA Fitness, Radford Way		633633
	<a href="http://www.lafitness.co.uk/gym/billericay/">www.lafitness.co.uk/gym/billericay/</a>	
Over 50's Keep Fit	Hannakins Farm	01268 763393/07939 286028
	Contact: Jill Milne <a href="mailto:jillz111@btinternet.com">jillz111@btinternet.com</a>	
	website: <a href="http://www.jillz.co.uk">www.jillz.co.uk</a>	
Studio 360 Fitness	Radford Way	424360
	<a href="http://www.studio360fitness.co.uk/">www.studio360fitness.co.uk/</a>	

**NETBALL**

Netball	Hannakins Farm	630851
	<a href="http://www.hannakins.co.uk">www.hannakins.co.uk</a>	

**RUGBY**

Billericay Rugby Club	<a href="http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/billericay/">www.pitchero.com/clubs/billericay/</a>	
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**RUNNING**

Billericay Striders Running Club	<a href="http://www.billericaystriders.com">www.billericaystriders.com</a>	
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**SWIMMING/SUB AQUA**

Stratus Swimming Club	Billericay School	655545
	<a href="http://www.stratus.st">www.stratus.st</a>	
Billericay Sub Aqua Club	G Blyth	01277 652125
	<a href="http://www.bsac1620.co.uk/">www.bsac1620.co.uk/</a>	
First Strokes Billericay Swimming Pool	Lake Meadows	0845 8388954
Basildon, Billericay & Wickford Disabled Swimming Club	Barbara Smith	01268 732382

**TABLE TENNIS**

Billericay Table Tennis Club	John Parodi	658123
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Billericay Sports Table Tennis Club	www.tabletennis365.com/brentwood	
Buttsbury Youth Table Tennis Club	George Gaze	840940
Table Tennis	Hannakins Farm	630851
	www.hannakins.co.uk	

### **TAI CHI**

Taoist Tai Chi Centre [www.taoist.org.uk](http://www.taoist.org.uk)

### **TENNIS**

Basildon District Council	Lake Meadows	01268 294910
Billericay Lawn Tennis Club	www.billericayltc.co.uk	
Tennis at Hannakins	Hannakins Farm	630851
	www.hannakins.co.uk	

### **WALKING**

Basildon & District Rambling Club Mike Wares		07855 665519
	email: <a href="mailto:enquiries.badrc@btinternet.com">enquiries.badrc@btinternet.com</a>	
Ramblers Association – Basildon Greenway Group	Geoff Forward	654626
	Joyce Cleary	625493

### **WORKOUT**

Street Dance	Billericay School	655545
Zumba	Billericay School	655545

### **YOGA**

Yoga at The Fold – HATHA beginners & mixed ability – Mon 1.30 & Thurs 9.45 Jean Bader 01268 270490



## **HISTORY**



### **MEMORIAL BENCHES IN THE HIGH STREET**

ORE STABIT FORTIS ARA REPLA CETO  
RESTAT

If this phrase is transcribed correctly it defines several locations in Billericay High Street. These are the memorial benches donated by individual or organisations in memory of Billericay residents or events that have occurred.

There is no definitive list of these benches or the memories behind their donation. This article is an attempt to correct that and contains information that has been gleaned. Further information would be welcomed from any person reading this who has knowledge of these past residents.

Let's take a stroll along the High Street starting at the southern end on the west footway outside the Police Station. The first bench bears the plaque showing the bench was provided by

the Abbeyfield Society. This is a replacement installed in 2012 as the original one had become dilapidated and unsafe. It had been placed there to mark the opening of Archer House by Princess Royal in 1986.

The neighbouring bench is dedicated to Ian Masters, unfortunately further information is not known.

The bench outside number 127, near Frizzell House, was provided by the Women's Institute in 1966 to commemorate its own golden jubilee. This branch was the first W. I. to open in Essex, and their premises are situated in St Edith's Lane, a mere 100 yards from the bench's position.

Virtually next to the WI bench is one dedicated to Derek Greenfield. He was one of the first Town Councillors to be elected to the newly formed Town Council in 1997. His wife was an Essex County County councillor who was largely

responsible for the introduction of Town and Parish councils into the Basildon Borough area.

Further along the High Street there are benches outside numbers 123, 119 and 117. These benches are dedicated to Doris Shorthouse, Ken Mills and Frank Pipe respectively. Once again no further information is available regarding these past residents.

As we approach the junction with Western Road, there is a bench with no dedication.

Crossing over the High Street to the east footway and walking up to number 40 we find a bench donated by the Billericay Society. As this is near a bus stop it is used extensively by people waiting for a bus.

At the War Memorial by Chapel Street the bench is dedicated to Leslie Wainwright, a tutor at the Fold.

Outside numbers 70, 98 and 100 the benches are dedicated respectively to Pat Howard, a local teacher for over 40 years; Julian Shone, murdered during a robbery at Sparklers jewellers; and, again, Pat Howard with her son David. The bench outside number 136 is dedicated to Captain Joseph Tesoriere who died in 1984. He was a member of the Billericay Society, the horticultural society, the silver band and the Royal Nation Lifeboat Institute.

This brings us to the end of our stroll, so take a rest on one of the benches and consider the correct transcription of the opening phrase in this article which should be read as:

O REST A BIT FOR ITS A RARE PLACE TO REST AT

### **THE GHASTLY MILLER**

**T**here were once two windmills on Bell Hill in Billericay. One was on the east side of the hill on Mill Meadows, behind the cottages called Mill Cottages which are still there. This was a post mill, meaning that the whole body of the mill rotated around a central post in order to face the sails into the wind. The mill stopped being used for milling in about 1866, and gradually got more and more derelict, and was eventually blown down in a gale in 1929.

The other mill was on the other side of Bell Hill, near where School Road is today. This was a

tower mill. In this type of mill, only the top of the mill rotates with the sails to turn them into the wind. This mill was still standing in 1870, but was dismantled shortly after that.

To see preserved examples of each type of mill, visit Mountnessing for a post mill and Stock for a tower mill.

Enough about the mills, what about the ghastly miller? Thomas Wood was born on 30th November 1719, and was a very jolly miller. He ate large amounts of meat three times a day, consumed huge amounts of butter and cheese and drank gallons of ale. By the age of 40 he had grown very fat, and became known as the “monster miller” of Billericay. He also became quite ill.

When he was 43, he was given a book by an Italian nobleman, which recommended a very strict diet.

Wood became convinced that all his ills were caused by his intemperate life. He gradually reduced his consumption of animal food, such as meat, and limited himself to one pint of ale per day. From January 1765 he drank only water. From October 1765 until May 1766 he drank no liquid, and then he had 2½ glasses, after which he didn't drink anything for the rest of his life. He also gave up eating normal foods, and invented his own biscuit pudding to be eaten once a day. This consisted of 1lb flour boiled with 1½ pints of skimmed milk, left to stand overnight. That was when people started calling him the “ghastly miller” of Billericay.

The effect was incredible. He lost ten or twelve stone, and his body shrank with the loss of the weight. He took to carrying quarter-ton sacks of corn around the mill, which he had never done before!

News of his achievement spread far and wide, and doctors came to find out if it was true. Fat men, even a member of parliament, came to see him to discover his secret.

His health was so much improved that he lived to the ripe old age of 65, which was a good age in the 18th century, and the milling business, with both mills, was passed on first to his son Thomas Wood junior, and then to his grandson William Wood who died in 1866.

Surely Billericay will never again have such an

interesting character as an inhabitant.

[More information is available in the booklet “The Mills of Billericay” by Wynford P Grant, published in 1959, available in Billericay Library.]



## EDUCATION

### EDUCATION IN BILLERICAY

Billericay is lucky to be served by excellent schools. The two secondary schools, Mayflower High and Billericay schools are both academies with excellent examination results.

There are three pairs of Infant and Junior schools, Quilters, Buttsbury and Sunnymede of which Buttsbury Junior school is an academy. Brightside school is a Primary school combining the Infants and Juniors. St. Peter's Primary is a catholic school based at South Green. In addition St. John's is a fee paying school catering for pupils between the ages of 3 and 16.

Information about some of these schools is shown in the following pages or see the contact details at the end of this section which also includes local playgroups, toddlers groups and private nurseries.

### BILLERICAY EDUCATIONAL TRUST

The Billericay Educational Trust traces its roots back to 1685. It has developed over the years and today its principal aim is to provide grants to enable deserving young people to benefit from Further Education. All beneficiaries are local and the assistance provided is greatly appreciated. The Trustees have experience gained in business, education, politics, religion and the voluntary sector. Their time and energies are given freely. Our funding comes from a portfolio of securities, fund raising activities and the support of local organisations and individuals. However, the demand for assistance outstrips our income and we are, therefore, unable to

assist all worthy applicants. We have a need for additional funds and are actively involved in persuading local businesses to donate or sponsor the Trust. We also seek legacies from individuals. More information is available on [www.billericayeducationaltrust.co.uk](http://www.billericayeducationaltrust.co.uk)

### THE BILLERICAY SCHOOL

The Billericay School is an academy and a specialist college for Mathematics and Computing. We are proud of the range of educational opportunities, the care offered to our 1700 students and the high educational standards achieved.

The Billericay School boasts a large Sixth Form of over 300 students, with a wide choice of subjects at A Level and very good examination results. Almost all of our students go on to Higher or Further Education.

The school provides an extensive range of modern ICT facilities across all subject areas and is innovative in its use of ICT. As well as well-equipped classrooms and labs, all our students and staff are able to access their work from any computer at home or abroad through our “portal.”

Over the past few years we have been working hard to improve our facilities and have recently completed a £5million extension and refurbishment programme, which has provided our students with modern classrooms, new laboratories and improved social areas. Last year we installed an all-weather pitch which is now also being extensively used by football

clubs and others in the wider community. We have a thriving public use Sports Centre, open in the evenings and at weekends, which provides opportunities for participation in a diverse range of sports and fitness activities at an affordable cost.

The Billericay School works in close collaboration with all our local Primary feeder schools to ensure a smooth transition to secondary school where each child's individual needs can be considered. Primary children often visit our school to take part in extension activities and enrichment days and our resources are made available to primary pupils and the local community.

The school has taken on the lead role in a "Teaching School Alliance" which is responsible for teacher training and development. We are also the umbrella organisation for Billericay School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) which trains new teachers at both primary and secondary phases. Up to 80 teachers will be undertaking their training with us each year, together with our partner schools in Billericay and across Essex.

All students at our school are encouraged to develop their talents whatever they may be; our very extensive extra-curricular programme provides a diverse choice of clubs and learning opportunities, including music, drama, games (e.g. chess), public speaking, Duke of Edinburgh Awards and study support courses. In sport we enjoy great success in district and Essex competitions, with many of our students winning trophies in both team and individual sports. The school also organises numerous visits, exchanges and overseas trips which give students the opportunity to widen their horizons to experience active learning and cultural and social activities.

We actively encourage our students to take an interest in society both at a local and national level: they are involved in charity work, fund-raising, as representatives on the Billericay Youth Town Council and they take part in many events and competitions. We also have an active school council.

We believe in a well ordered school environment and have high expectations of our students. Our system for support and guidance is based

on Houses; this ensures that every individual is well supported and has access to advice and guidance in a caring environment. All students are allocated a tutor who remains with them throughout their school life, and helps and guides them to reach their full potential.

The school's principal aims are to ensure the academic success of its students, by providing them with excellent teaching, and to provide every child with the environment and opportunity to thrive, achieve, excel and enjoy.

## **BUTTSBURY JUNIOR SCHOOL**

**B**uttsbury Junior School provides a safe, inclusive and challenging learning journey in a fun environment where there is pride in achievement, and teamwork that builds respect and trust.

We are a vibrant, over-subscribed, four-form entry junior school situated in the North-East of the town. We pride ourselves in ensuring that the children who attend our school benefit from an exciting curriculum which is enriched by numerous visits and visitors. We have high aspirations in all that we do and take great pride in our many achievements. We are an inclusive school and ensure that all children have the opportunity to fulfil their potential, readily celebrating the success of individuals, teams and groups. We offer a very wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities. We work in very close partnership with our parents and operate an 'open door' approach. The school has undergone numerous changes in the recent years, in terms of its building, resources and approaches to teaching. In March 2015, Ofsted graded us as 'Good' in all areas.





'Children Altogether' (CAT Club) which provides both before and after school provision is on site. We work with and support other local providers of education particularly Buttsbury Infant School and Mayflower High School and community services, including Noah's Ark Pre-school and Christ Church. We have a very active Friends' Association which organises a large number of events throughout the year in order to raise additional funds for the school. Our facilities include a state-of-the art ICT suite, two halls, music room, Learning Resource Centre (comprising four group rooms) and a community room. There are special reduced rates for community groups to hire our facilities.

### **MAYFLOWER HIGH SCHOOL**

**M**ayflower High School is an 11-19 comprehensive academy, serving the local community in Billericay. We offer excellent facilities to support and enhance all areas of the curriculum and we are well equipped to cater for the needs of every learner. Students' social development is outstanding, as is the care, guidance and support given, ensuring that all students receive the help they require. As a caring school, we are always focused on realising the maximum learning potential of all students and celebrating their success. Each child is challenged and guided towards achieving across the full range of their potential. There are opportunities to be involved in a wide range of clubs and activities for all students.



We have a long-standing reputation for achieving high academic standards at all levels. Students excel in their subjects and leave the school with results that enable them to progress on to the next stage of their education with confidence. The broad and balanced nature of the curriculum ensures success and opportunity for all students.



In the Senior School, pupils follow a broad curriculum, which leads to GCSE courses in years 10 and 11. Additional subjects including Psychology, PE, Humanities, Drama and Statistics are offered alongside the more traditional subjects. Pupils make excellent progress throughout the school and GCSE pass rates are consistently high.



Mayflower High School's students are fully involved in the life of the school, our local community and beyond. During the course of the last year they have participated in trips to France, Spain, Italy, Belgium and the United States of America, as well as numerous outings to locations across the United Kingdom. The school was proud to have been selected as the venue to launch the county's Poppy Appeal in October 2014, the centenary year of the outbreak of World War I. Our students have been heavily involved in raising thousands of pounds for other charities and good causes. We are very proud of our school and very proud of our students.

### **ST JOHN'S SCHOOL, BILLERICAY**

From the moment children enter St John's, whatever their age, they are treated as individuals, and our passion is to ensure that when they leave they have fully achieved their potential. The youngest pupils in the Kindergarten benefit from having specialist teachers for Music, IT and PE. From year 3 onwards, pupils study verbal and non-verbal reasoning and continue to have specialist teachers for subjects such as French, Music, Art, IT and PE.

Our Sport England standard Sports Hall provides the opportunity for a wide range of sporting clubs and activities including trampolining, cricket, table tennis, badminton, and basketball to name but a few. In addition to this, our lower field and netball courts enable us to take part in matches and fixtures against other schools. We also have success in field events with pupils participating at the ISA National events. A wide range of extra curricular clubs and activities are offered including, karate, fencing, cookery, street dance, homework club, cheerleading, film club and gardening club. Pupils have the opportunity to have instrumental lessons and can also join the school orchestra or the many choirs and ensembles that take place each week.

A child's education is one of the most important factors in their well-being and success. We offer a unique blend of happiness and achievement –

truly the best of both worlds. We firmly believe that only within a safe and caring environment can children flourish. We instil all the virtues of politeness, integrity and consideration of others into our pupils, and this creates a magical atmosphere where learning, creativity and success

is enjoyed by everyone. Although our academic success over the years has been exceptional, we are equally proud that we have educated thousands of children who are confident, successful and who genuinely make a positive contribution to society when they leave.

## SCHOOLS AND PLAYSCHOOLS

Code is 01277 unless otherwise stated

### Primary Schools

Brightside Primary, Brightside	655955	<a href="http://www.brightsideprimary.com">www.brightsideprimary.com</a>
Buttsbury Infants, Perry Street	622821	<a href="http://www.buttsbury-inf.essex.sch.uk">www.buttsbury-inf.essex.sch.uk</a>
Buttsbury Junior School, Norsey View Drive	623217	<a href="http://www.buttsbury-jun.essex.sch.uk">www.buttsbury-jun.essex.sch.uk</a>
Quilters Infants, Laindon Road	624773	<a href="http://www.quiltersinfantsschool.org.uk">www.quiltersinfantsschool.org.uk</a>
Quilters Juniors, Laindon Road	652339	<a href="http://www.quiltersjuniorschool.com">www.quiltersjuniorschool.com</a>
Sunnymede Infants, Mons Avenue	624592	<a href="http://www.sunnymede-inf.essex.sch.uk">www.sunnymede-inf.essex.sch.uk</a>
Sunnymede Juniors, Meadow Way	651364	<a href="http://www.sunnymede-jun.ik.org">www.sunnymede-jun.ik.org</a>

### Secondary Schools

Billericay School, School Road	655191	<a href="http://www.billericay.essex.sch.uk">www.billericay.essex.sch.uk</a>
Mayflower High School, Stock Road	623171	<a href="http://www.mayflowerhigh.essex.sch.uk">www.mayflowerhigh.essex.sch.uk</a>

### Private School

St. John's, Stock Road	623070	<a href="http://www.stjohnsschool.net">www.stjohnsschool.net</a>
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### PRE-SCHOOLS AND PLAYGROUPS

Billericay Catholic Pre-School, The Pastoral Centre, Laindon Road <a href="http://www.billericaycatholicpreschool.co.uk">www.billericaycatholicpreschool.co.uk</a>		07890 411925
Billericay Methodist Pre-School, Western Road – mornings only <a href="http://www.billericaymethodistpreschool.co.uk">www.billericaymethodistpreschool.co.uk</a>		01277 624533
Buttsbury Pre-School, Buttsbury Infant School, Perry Street <a href="http://www.buttsburypreschool.org.uk">www.buttsburypreschool.org.uk</a>		01277 631816
Gooseberry Green pre-School, Sunnyside Centre, Rosebay Avenue – Tuesday – am only		01277 634700
Noah's Ark Pre-School, Mill Hill Drive <a href="http://www.noahsarkbillericay.co.uk">www.noahsarkbillericay.co.uk</a>		07780 368923
Step by Step Pre School, Baptist Church, Perry Street – Mon-Fri am only <a href="http://www.step-by-step.org.uk">www.step-by-step.org.uk</a>		01277 654473
Sunnymede Pre-School, Mons Avenue <a href="http://www.sunnymedepreschool.co.uk">www.sunnymedepreschool.co.uk</a>		01277 654879
Further details about any of the pre-schools can be obtained by contacting: Essex Family Information Service <a href="http://www.essexcc.gov.uk">www.essexcc.gov.uk</a>		0800 055 6874

## PRIVATE NURSERIES

Carousel Day Nursery, 32 Thynne Road	<a href="http://www.carousedaynursery-billericay.co.uk">www.carousedaynursery-billericay.co.uk</a>	01277 632428
Goldcrest Day Nursery, Mons Avenue	<a href="http://www.gcdaynurseries.com">www.gcdaynurseries.com</a>	01277 632428
Harlequin Montessori Nursery, School Road	<a href="http://www.harlequinmontessorinursery.co.uk">www.harlequinmontessorinursery.co.uk</a>	01277 633223
Oakdin Montessori Kindergarten, 67 Perry Street	<a href="http://www.oakdinmontessori.com">www.oakdinmontessori.com</a>	01277 633055
Dizzy Ducks Buttsbury, Perry Street	<a href="http://www.dizzyducks.co.uk">www.dizzyducks.co.uk</a>	
Schools Out Before School 7am-9am After School 3pm-7pm		
Pick/Up drop off Buttsbury Inf & Jnr, Brightside, St Peters		
Holiday Club Open 5 days a week 7am-7pm throughout school holidays		01277 650538
Dizzy Ducks Mayflower, Stock Road – Open 7am-7pm	<a href="http://www.dizzyducks.co.uk">www.dizzyducks.co.uk</a>	01277 633555
Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery, Chapel Street	<a href="http://www.monkeypuzzlebillericay.co.uk">www.monkeypuzzlebillericay.co.uk</a>	01277 624999

## TODDLER GROUPS

Baptist Church, Perry Street		
Baby Club drop In session Tuesday 9.30-12.00		
Little-Fishes Pre-Schoolers 12.30-2.00		
Friday Toddler Group 9.30-10.45		01277 654316
Soft Play Group, Hannakins Farm Community Centre		
Nicola Harris	Monday 9.45-10.45	07951 216686
Sing and Sign, Hannakins Farm Community Centre		
email: <a href="mailto:gillparnabysingandsign@yahoo.co.uk">gillparnabysingandsign@yahoo.co.uk</a>	Gill Parnaby	07801 823435
Methodist Church, Western Road	Monday	01277 659869
Methodist Church, Western Road	Tuesday 1.30-3.30	01268 718238
Little Sparrows, Queens Park Community Church		01277 652176/651155
Essex County Council carries out annual inspections of pre-schools, playgroups etc.		
Details of these inspections can be found on the website: <a href="http://www.essexcc.gov.uk">www.essexcc.gov.uk</a>		

## ADULT EDUCATION CENTRES

Basildon Adult Community Learning		01268 520599
Mid Essex Adult Community Learning (Bishops Hill)		
email: <a href="mailto:lifelong.learningwest@essex.gov.uk">lifelong.learningwest@essex.gov.uk</a>		0845 603 7635
Adult Community Learning, Beeches Close, Chelmsford		
email: <a href="mailto:lifelong.learningcentral@essex.gov.uk">lifelong.learningcentral@essex.gov.uk</a>	0845 603 7635	
Adult Community Learning, Broadmayne, Churchill Avenue, Basildon		
email: <a href="mailto:lifelong.learningsouth@essex.gov.uk">lifelong.learningsouth@essex.gov.uk</a>	0845 603 7635	

Details of all adult community learning centres and courses can be found on [www.essexcc.gov.uk](http://www.essexcc.gov.uk)



# BILLERICAY SERVICES



## BILLERICAY COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

We are a group of volunteers who respond to emergency calls in the area where we live or work on behalf of the East of England Ambulance Service. As we are local we usually arrive within minutes and can start treating the patient before the ambulance crew arrive. This is important as minutes count when a patient has a potential life threatening emergency.

Community First Responders are dispatched to the patient by the Ambulance Service at the same time as an ambulance. We respond to life threatening conditions like cardiac arrests, heart attacks, chest pains, strokes and difficulty in breathing.

If the Ambulance Service can send a Community First Responder who is trained in basic life support, the use of a defibrillator and in administering oxygen to the patient who is in cardiac arrest, the patient's chances of survival will increase by 10% for every minute that the Community First Responder is there prior to the arrival of the Ambulance crew.

### Family's Comments:

*"During the course of the last few months I have had cause to dial 999 for my mum on two occasions. In both occasions the First Responders have arrived in minutes. It has been the same young gentleman on both occasions. He was brilliant and I just wanted to give our appreciation & thanks for this fantastic service".*

The Ambulance service gives full training to enable you to deal with the situations you face. It is very rewarding being able to help someone at their time of need. If you feel this could be for you Email responderadmin@eastamb.nhs.uk for more information.

## BASILDON, BILLERICAY & WICKFORD NCT BRANCH

NCT is the UK's largest parenting charity and campaigns as the voice for parents on the issues they care about. Our main aim is to improve the experience of becoming a parent in the UK through providing support and evidence-

based information in pregnancy, birth and early days of parenthood.

At the Basildon, Billericay & Wickford branch we aim to support these goals through a wide variety of activities and services, which are detailed below.

The branch is run by volunteers, who are parents who have benefitted in some way from NCT and volunteer so that the branch can continue to provide that level of care and support to other families in the local area.



As well as offering antenatal courses led by fully qualified NCT antenatal teachers and breastfeeding counsellors, we also run the following groups and events for the local community:

- NCT Bumps & Babies group: Meets every Wednesday 10am-11.45am at Noak Bridge Village Hall. Drop in and enjoy tea, cake and have a chat with enough toys to amuse babies through to toddlers and a music session each week.
- NCT Nearly New Sales: Held twice a year, Spring and Autumn, our NCT Nearly New Sales give you the opportunity to purchase good quality secondhand toys and nursery equipment, to help you reduce the cost of kitting out your new babies.
- NCT First Aid Evenings: We work with the British Red Cross to provide an informative evening for anyone who wishes to learn immediate first aid skills for babies and young children. These are held quarterly, dates will be announced on our Facebook page and our website.

- NCT Baby Welcome Afternoons: We offer baby welcome afternoons once a quarter at Noak Bridge Village Hall for parents that have had a baby in the previous 3 months. This is a great opportunity to make some new friends and have a chat. Please see our facebook page for full details.
- We also run other events including our Bumps Family Day, Bluebell Walk, Halloween Party, and Christmas events. The NCT also have a wide range of postnatal courses/workshops, full details can be found on our website.

If you want to find out more or get involved as part of the branch then contact us on:

Facebook NCT Basildon, Billericay & Wickford

Email Branch.Basildon@nct.org.uk/  
Coordinator.Basildon@nct.org.uk

Webpage [www.nct.org.uk/branches/basildon-biller-wick](http://www.nct.org.uk/branches/basildon-biller-wick)

Webpage [www.nct.org.uk/branches/basildon-biller-wick](http://www.nct.org.uk/branches/basildon-biller-wick)

### COMMUNITY PRIMARY CARE HUB CLINICS

**B**B Healthcare Solutions is an organisation formed by 15 GP practices from the Basildon & Billericay areas that came together to submit an application via the Prime Ministers Challenge Fund Wave 2. The 15 practices wanted to provide extended access for their patients delivered through Community Primary Care HUB Clinics.

The service provides extra GP, Nurse, Healthcare assistant and District Nurse appointments between 18:30 to 20:00 Monday to Friday and 08:00-20:00 Weekends & Public Holidays.

To book an appointment patients should call their own GP surgery telephone number and the call will be answered by a receptionist who will book an appointment. The Community Primary Care HUB clinics will be based at 2 of the GP surgeries from the 15 practices Monday to Friday and at weekends and Public Holidays. There will be a third Community Primary Care HUB clinic based in Basildon Hospital which will allow patients the choice of where they would like to be seen. The service was launched on 5th October 2015 and allows patients to be seen at a time that is convenient to them. For further information please go to our website: [www.bbhealthcaresolutions.co.uk](http://www.bbhealthcaresolutions.co.uk)

### THE BILLERICAY READING ROOMS

*Large Hall and Committee Room for Hire Telephone 07917 076490.*

**T**he Reading Rooms were started in 1864 with the current building being opened in 1886. This was paid for from monies raised by local business men and women of Billericay organising a variety of events. Their idea was that the Rooms would be for the use of the people of Billericay, as a place for local Residents to learn and practise reading, providing a source of newspapers and trade papers so people could find jobs, there being no such things as libraries or job agencies available then. Books and papers then were only a luxury for the very rich.

Today the Rooms are managed by a Charitable Trust, with a Committee of Local Trustees, working hard to keep the Rooms open to provide a suitable venue for events of all kinds. Currently the Rooms are used for exhibitions, ballet classes for children, cake icing classes, classes for the blind and partially sighted, meditation, the Workers Education Association classes, church and prayer meetings, weight management and various other celebrations.

The main hall with its lovely glass vaulted ceiling retains many of the original features, with a hatch leading to a modern fitted kitchen and facilities for wheel chair users, and a baby changing unit. In addition there is a Committee Room for smaller events and meetings.

There is now free Wi-Fi available on request for certain events.

If you are thinking of arranging an event, why not give us a ring on 07917 076490 or email us on [sheilascottage@talktalk.net](mailto:sheilascottage@talktalk.net). Our website [www.Billericayreadingrooms.org.uk](http://www.Billericayreadingrooms.org.uk) has further information and details.

## Exhibition of Billericay in The Great War 1914-1918.



Following on from the very successful Celebration in March 2014 to Commemorate the 150 years of the Reading Rooms, the Trustees decided to undertake a further Project in March 2015 to commemorate the involvement of the people of Billericay during WW1. The same four schools who were involved in 2014 all readily agreed to be part of this Project and following a Grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund of £6,700, over the weekend of the 6th-8th March an Exhibition was held in the Reading Rooms at 73 High Street and was extremely well supported over the three days.

For more pictures of the event go to our website [www.billericayreadingrooms.org.uk](http://www.billericayreadingrooms.org.uk).

### **BILLERICAY LIBRARY**

Your local library is about so much more than books. Open 9am till 5pm Monday to Saturday, we offer WiFi, internet access, and assistance with finding information, be it online, in reference books or from other organisations.

You can of course borrow books, including those in large print, electronic format or in other languages. You can also borrow music, films, books on tape, or language courses for a fee.

We also have rooms for hire for meetings, community groups etc. And we are interested in any ideas you might have for how we can make more use of our space and other resources.

Internet use is free either by using a library computer or using the WiFi to connect your own device. Use Ancestry to look up your family history, write your CV, or do your online shopping or banking. If you don't know how, you can learn how to use a computer and the internet

by booking sessions with a member of staff.

There are learning opportunities with Universal Class (over 400 online courses), Theory Test Pro for driving test practice, Go Citizen to prepare for the Citizenship test, and many more. We also subscribe to many online reference sources. You can use many of these from home as well as in the library.

We work closely with the local Children's Centre and have a number of brilliant volunteers who help us deliver daily activities for preschool children. Baby and toddler sessions run every day of the week.

We support many reading groups, and we have author events, especially during the Essex Book Festival in March.

We are always looking for volunteers to help us deliver IT coaching, job seeking skills, baby and toddler sessions and our Home Library Service. If you think you can help please get in touch with Graham at the number below.

It's free to join – just ask at the library and get a library ticket straight away so you can borrow from the library or use the computers.

Contact us on 0845 603 7628 or by e-mail: [billericay.library@essex.gov.uk](mailto:billericay.library@essex.gov.uk). We are always interested in new ways to work with the community or make our resources more readily available.

Essex Libraries are open 24 hours a day via our website – check the library catalogue, renew things you've borrowed or get help with your enquiries at [www.essex.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.essex.gov.uk/libraries).

We are also on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. Just search for EssexLibraries.

### **BOSP**

**B**OSP (Brighter Opportunities through Supported Play) is an Ofsted Outstanding registered charity (1107392) which has been offering support for 24 years to local families, by providing short break care for their children and young people who have moderate to profound learning and physical disabilities.

BOSP services are open to children and young people with any disability, aged 4 years and up.

Based in Billericay High Street, BOSP offers

regular clubs in the evenings, weekends and school holidays providing fun and exciting activities with social opportunities. In addition to hall based clubs in Basildon and Billericay, BOSP offers ‘out and about’ group opportunities in the community. This can include social activities such as bowling, cinema, treasure map trails, night clubbing and dining out in restaurants. This allows the young people to practise life skills, such as handling money, turn taking or road safety.



As well as providing much needed respite for families, BOSP aims to develop the children and young people’s independence, self-esteem and social skills in a supportive environment. BOSP has a very high staff ratio, so that medical and behavioural needs can be met.

If you would like more information on how we can support your family, or if you would like to volunteer as part of our fundraising team, please call the BOSP Office on 01277 624300, email us at [enquiries@bosp.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@bosp.co.uk) or visit our website at [www.bosp.co.uk](http://www.bosp.co.uk)

Twitter: @BOSPessex Facebook: @Brighter Opportunities through Supported Play

### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BILLERICAY

CTB is an ecumenical forum and focus for inter-church action in the town. Member churches meet together every other month for worship and prayer (usually at 6.30pm in St Mary’s, High Street) and to plan and encourage various forms of Christian outreach and service to the community, such as Street Pastors, Essex Savers and Schools Ministry Billericay (SMB), as well as one-off events throughout the year. Further details can be found on the website [www.billericaychurchestogether.org](http://www.billericaychurchestogether.org)

### ESSEX SAVERS

Essex Savers net Credit Union is neither a bank nor a building society. It is a financial co-operative designed to help ordinary people give each other financial help. It is owned and managed by its members. Member savings accounts accumulate to form a “communal pot” from which low-cost loans can then be made to members. It’s completely safe and is regulated by the Bank of England – just like any other high street bank branch. If you live or work in Essex you can apply to join; for more information please visit the website at [www.essexsavers.co.uk](http://www.essexsavers.co.uk).

For savers there are a range of accounts to help you save securely for many purposes. The range includes:

- Savings accounts
- Junior Savers for young people under 16
- Budget accounts to receive your salary, pension and/or benefits and then help with regular expenses
- Rent Direct Account: for regular deposits so Essex Savers can pay your landlord monthly for you
- Special saving accounts to fund major purchases
- Prepaid debit cards (to shop, pay bills and/or obtain cash).

Investments are protected by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme up to £85,000. Savings accounts pay a dividend if Essex Savers is in surplus for the year.

For borrowers there are competitive loan rates, with no hidden charges and flexible terms on its range of loans:

- General loans for up to 3 years to finance a variety of purchases.
- Short term loans to tide you over until your next pay day or for just a few months.
- Small business loans to help growing enterprises with their promotion.

There are no hidden costs, arrangement fees or penalties for early repayment.

The service point for Essex Savers in Billericay was established at Billericay Library in February 2014, joining others across the county. It aims

to attract savings from members of the public who live in Essex which can be used to provide affordable loans to its members.

The service point is run by volunteers, who give a couple of hours a month to run the service. This minimizes administration costs and releases more funds for lending. More volunteers are always welcomed. You can see details of both the services and volunteering at the Essex Savers website or by visiting the service point in Billericay Library on Tuesdays between 10.00am and 12.30pm.

### **BILLERICAY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEMES**

#### *Crime cannot flourish in a community that cares*

The Neighbourhood Watch office is based in the Police Station and, although an independent voluntary organisation, we work closely with Essex Police. We have approximately 160 Watches in the Town covering 4700 properties. The area covered is the same as the Billericay Neighbourhood Policing Teams and includes four Wards Billericay East, West, Burstead and Crouch (Noak Bridge, Steeple View, Crays Hill and Ramsden Bellhouse).

We hold regular Public Meetings at Billericay Town Football Club, Blunts Wall Road on the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, October and December at 8pm, where we invite Guest Speakers to talk on matters of crime and other related subjects. These meetings are also attended by our local police personnel.

We are administered by a Support Group and have a Direct Telephone Line which acts as an answer machine when the office is not manned. We produce a Newsletter and would welcome new members. If you are not aware of a Watch in your road please contact us, and we can start one or include you in an existing one.

Membership is free and we thank Essex Police for our Office accommodation, Crystal Print and Colt Security Systems Ltd for our Newsletter Sponsorship, Billericay Town Football Club for our meeting venue and Billericay Lions for our Direct Telephone Line.

Contact - Fred Good - Liaison Officer for Billericay Neighbourhood Watch

Mobile 07908 821404 or e-mail - fredcarol@

btinternet.com

Billericay Police Station, High Street, Billericay. CM12 9AB.

Telephone (Direct Line) 01277 633090.

### **PHOENIX FM**

Phoenix FM is a non-profit making organisation which broadcasts to Billericay and Brentwood on 98.0FM and online at phoenixfm.com. We promote local schools (we set up and operate an internal radio service for Quilters Junior School earlier this year), community groups, charities, artists and musicians and we also have celebrity interviewers and presenters. Our website has seven years of archived programmes and interviews and receives over 200,000 visitors a month.



Paul Golder, Phoenix FM

The Brentwood Centre, Brentwood CM15 9NN

Tel 01277 203035 Mobile 07771 664661

Website [www.phoenixfm.com](http://www.phoenixfm.com) and we're also on Twitter, Facebook and Youtube

### **STREET PASTORS**

Billericay Street Pastors was two years old as a local community project in November 2015. Since beginning our High Street patrols in 2013 we have been out every Friday and Saturday operating from our safe hub at St Mary's Church. We begin at 9pm and are available to help anyone who needs it until 2am. We don't judge anyone who needs us as we only wish to help. We continue to carry free flip flops for young ladies who dispense with their footwear during the evening, bottles of water to keep people hydrated and lollipops to aid conversation.



If you would like to know more about who we are or what we do then pop into our hub to see us, follow us on Facebook or Twitter or email us at [Billericay@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:Billericay@streetpastors.org.uk). If you are a church goer, over 18 and have the support of your local Minister then you could join us as we are an inclusive group always looking to encourage people to join us to help out.

## WICKFORD AND DISTRICT TALKING NEWSPAPER FOR THE BLIND

Registered Charity No: 273685

Our name is historical but our service is very much 21st century. Wickford and District Talking Newspaper proudly record local news in audio format every week to visually-impaired people in Billericay and the surrounding areas. It was just tapes we sent out but now our service provides audio recordings on CDs, memory sticks and the web. To listen to us on our website: [www.wickfordtalkingnewspaper.org.uk](http://www.wickfordtalkingnewspaper.org.uk)

Not only do we provide weekly local news, we also send out a monthly magazine and monthly information. The service is totally free to the Listeners, and postage free under the 'Articles for the Blind' scheme. Completely run by volunteers,

### PLACES OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP

<b>Christ Church (CofE)</b> , Perry Street <a href="http://www.christchurch-billericay.co.uk">www.christchurch-billericay.co.uk</a>	Office : 630144
<b>Emmanuel (CofE)</b> , Laindon Road <a href="http://www.billericaychurches.org">www.billericaychurches.org</a>	Office : 632120
<b>St.John's Church (CofE)</b> , Outwood Common <a href="http://www.billericaychurches.org/html/sjd">www.billericaychurches.org/html/sjd</a>	656266 email: <a href="mailto:st.johns@billericaychurches.org">st.johns@billericaychurches.org</a>
<b>The Most Holy Redeemer RC Church</b> , Laindon Road <a href="http://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk">www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk</a>	624891
<b>St.Mary Magdalen (CofE)</b> , High Street	Angela Clarke : 624778
<b>Sunnymede Chapel</b> , Thynne Road <a href="http://www.billericaybaptist.net">www.billericaybaptist.net</a>	224561
<b>Billericay Spiritualist Centre</b> , 16 West Park Crescent <a href="http://www.billericayspiritualistcentre.org.uk">www.billericayspiritualistcentre.org.uk</a>	Pat Brodie : 657897
<b>Christian Growth Centre</b> , Billericay School, School Road <a href="http://www.cgcbillericay.com">www.cgcbillericay.com</a>	email: <a href="mailto:info@cgcbillericay.com">info@cgcbillericay.com</a>
<b>Baptist Church</b> , Perry Street <a href="http://www.billericaybaptist.net">www.billericaybaptist.net</a>	Office : 654316
<b>Methodist Church</b> , Western Road <a href="http://www.bmchurch.org/">www.bmchurch.org/</a>	Rev. David Bagwell : 659019 email: <a href="mailto:contact@bmchurch.org">contact@bmchurch.org</a>
<b>Queen's Park Community Church</b> <a href="http://www.queensparkcommunitychurch.co.uk">www.queensparkcommunitychurch.co.uk</a>	Office : 651155
<b>Seventh Day Adventist Church</b> , North Drive, Hutton	Mrs Brenda Hill : 651070
<b>United Reformed Church</b> , Chapel Street <a href="http://www.billericayurc.org.uk">www.billericayurc.org.uk</a>	Ken Woods : 657114
<b>Billericay Evangelical Free Church</b> , Chapel Street	Stan Portch : 625350
<b>Jehovah's Witnesses</b> , Kingdom Hall, North Drive, Hutton	L J Lea : 622384
<b>Dial a Bible Message Ministry</b>	654455

who not only read, but provide technical skills and administration.

*Our Listeners call it their 'Life Line.' We can let them know about important and relevant events of which they might not otherwise be aware.*

Council matters, re-generation, re-cycling, road works, crime, travel, special offers. Would you or someone you know like to receive our News recordings?

Contact can be made by email: [wickfordtalkingnewspaper@gmail.com](mailto:wickfordtalkingnewspaper@gmail.com) or by phone: 07766 671695 or write to: Wickford and District Talking Newspaper, George Hurd

Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, SS14 2FL.

More information can be found on our web-site and how to become involved as a supporter or volunteer. We are particularly looking for someone interested in the technical side. Full training will be given.

[www.wickfordtalkingnewspaper.org.uk](http://www.wickfordtalkingnewspaper.org.uk)

Please also refer anyone you know who may like to receive our recordings to this web-site where they can find details for contacting us. There is a facility where the sight-impaired can listen to the content of each page.

### GPS IN BILLERICAY

<b>Dr S Butler &amp; Partners</b> , The Surgery, 41 Western Road, Billericay, CM12 9DX	01277 658117
<b>The New Surgery</b> , The New Surgery, 27 Stock Road, Billericay, CM12 0AH Dr N Dabas	01277 633144
<b>Billericay Medical Practice</b> , Billericay Health Centre, Stock Road, Billericay, CM12 0BJ	01277 658071
<b>Dr R Rasheed</b> , 93 Chapel Street, Billericay, CM12 9LR	0844 477 3945
<b>Oakdin Surgery</b> , 58 Laindon Road, Billericay, CM12 9LD	0844 477 3619
<b>Queens Park Surgery</b> , 24 The Pantiles, Billericay, CM12 0UA	01277 626446

### PHARMACIES IN BILLERICAY

<b>MW Shadforth</b> , 49 High Street Billericay, CM12 9AX	01277 622927
<b>Shadforth Pharmaceutical</b> , 25 Stock Road, Billericay, CM12 0AH	01277 652241
<b>Boots</b> , 64-66 High Street, Billericay, CM12 9BS	01277 655233
<b>Lloyds Pharmacy</b> , 111 High Street, Billericay, CM12 9AJ	01277 622828
<b>Boots</b> , 10-11 The Pantiles, Queens Park Avenue, Billericay, CM12 0UA	01277 653035

### DENTISTS IN BILLERICAY

<b>McCarthy &amp; Murphy</b> , 43A High Street, Billericay, CM12 9AX	01277 622834
<b>St Andrews Dental Practice</b> , Billericay Health Centre, Stock Road, Billericay, CM12 0BJ	01277 633404
<b>Billericay Dental Care</b> , Crown Yard, High Street, Billericay, CM12 9BX	01277 625456
<b>Stock Road Dental Surgery</b> , 29 Stock Road, Billericay, CM12 0AR	01277 636313
<b>Reginald P.J. O'Neill Dental</b> , 105 Chapel Street, Billericay, CM12 9LR Care - Private Patients	01277 658895
<b>Sunny Smiles Dental Practice</b> , 103b High Street, Billericay, CM12 9AJ Private Patients	01277 653266

### OPTOMETRISTS IN BILLERICAY

<b>Boots Opticians Ltd</b> , 55 High Street, Billericay, CM12 9AX	01277 622414
<b>Boots Opticians Ltd</b> , 132 High Street, Billericay, CM12 9DF	01277 622522
<b>Aquila Optometrist</b> , 72 High Street, Billericay, CM12 9BS	01277 624916
<b>Specsavers Opticians</b> , 68 High Street, Billericay, CM12 9BS	01277 635610
<b>Stratton &amp; Stratton Opticians</b> , 14 The Pantiles, Queens Park Avenue, Billericay, CM12 0UA	01277 650584

## HALLS AND MEETING PLACES FOR HIRE IN BILLERICAY

<b>Anisha Grange Community Room</b> , Outwood Common Road		01277 658529
<b>Billericay Reading Rooms</b> , High Street email: sheilascottage@talktalk.net	www.billericayreadingrooms.org.uk	07917 076490
<b>Canon Roche Social Centre</b>	Elizabeth Day, Bookings Officer	07437 443738
<b>The Coach House</b> , Crown Yard	Billericay Town Council	01277 625732
<b>Emmanuel Church Hall</b> , Laindon Road		01277 632120
<b>The Day Centre</b> , Chantry Way		01268 294525
<b>Hannakins Farm Community Centre</b> email: hannakinsfarmcc@hotmail.co.uk	Nikki Harvey	01277 630851
<b>Mayflower Hall</b> , Chapel Street email: diannealan@lough1969.fsnet.co.uk	Dianne Lough	01277 655879
<b>St Mary Magdalen Church</b>	Angela Clarke	01277 624778
<b>St John's Church Centre</b> www.billericaychurches.org	Jackie Bentley	01277 655144
<b>Queen's Park Community Church</b> www.queensparkcommunitychurch.co.uk	Kate Venables	01277 651155
<b>WI Hall</b> , St Ediths Lane	Doreen Potter	01277 624255
<b>The West Room</b> , WI Hall (smaller version of WI Hall)		01277 624255

## HOTELS IN BASILDON AREA

<b>Crondon Park Golf and Country Club</b> Crondon Park Lane, Stock, Ingatestone CM4 9DP		Tel: 01277 841115
<b>Greenwoods Hotel and Spa</b> , Stock Road, Billericay CM4 9BE		Tel: 01277 829990
<b>Holiday Inn</b> , Basildon Waterfront Walk, Festival Leisure Park, Basildon SS14 3DG		Tel: 01268 824041
<b>Hotel Campanile</b> , Basildon Southend Arterial Road, Basildon SS14 3AE		Tel: 01268 530810
<b>Premier Inn</b> , Basildon East Felmores, East Mayne, Basildon SS143 1BW		Tel: 01268 522227
<b>Premier Inn</b> , Basildon Festival Leisure Pipps Hill Road N, Festival Leisure Park, Basildon SS14 3WB		Tel: 01268 290418
<b>The Chichester Hotel</b> , Old London Road, Wickford SS11 8HE		Tel: 01268 560555
<b>The Harvard Inn Stock</b> , High Street, Stock CM4 9BJ email: reception@theharvardinn.co.uk		Tel: 01277 840008
<b>The Old Rectory</b> Lower Dunton Road, Dunton Wayletts, Brentwood CM12 3SW		Tel: 01268 544417
<b>Travelodge Hotel</b> , Basildon Festival Way, Festival Leisure Park, Basildon SS14 3WB		Tel: 020 3195 4701
<b>Travelodge Hotel</b> , Basildon Wickford, Runwell Road, Wickford SS11 7QJ		Tel: 020 3195 4704



# PLACES TO VISIT



## ANTIQUES & CRAFT CENTRES

### **Baddow Antiques Centre, Church Street, Great Baddow.**

Baddow Antiques Centre has been established for over 30 years. It comprises over 20 Antique Dealers under one roof offering a constantly changing selection of Quality Antique Furniture, Porcelain, Silver, China, Glass, Paintings, Longcase Clocks and other collectors items. Café. Tel: 01245 476159.

Web: [www.baddowantiques.co.uk](http://www.baddowantiques.co.uk)

### **Moulsham Mill, Parkway, Chelmsford.**



Early 18th century water mill housing a variety of workshops and small businesses. Crafts include jewellery, pottery, flowers, lace-making, dolls houses, decoupage and bears. Picnic area nearby. Hairdresser on premises. Café. Tel: 01245 608200. Web: [www.moulshammill.co.uk](http://www.moulshammill.co.uk), Bus 100 towards Chelmsford. Every 15 minutes. Get off at Job Centre.

### **Barleylands Craft Village, Barleylands Road, Billericay.**

Interesting craft centre comprising of craft studios and glass blowers shop, tea-rooms/ restaurant ideal for cream teas and lunches. Free car parking. Facilities for people with disabilities. School/Lecture room available (seating for 60). Farmers' Market twice monthly. Café. Tel: 01268 290218. Web: [www.barleylands.co.uk](http://www.barleylands.co.uk) Bus 100 towards Lakeside. Every 15 minutes. Stops outside.

### **Megarrys Antiques, Blackmore.**

This apparently tiny shop is in fact rather like Dr Who's Tardis. A walk through is lined with display cabinets filled with small antiques, collectables and jewellery. The relaxed and friendly tea & coffee shop caters for every taste in hot and cold beverages, and offers a wide choice of sumptuous home made cakes and sponges, rock and cup cakes. Tel: 01277 821031 Web: [www.teashopblackmore.co.uk](http://www.teashopblackmore.co.uk)

### **Battlesbridge Antiques Centre.**

Five period buildings, housing over 80 dealers. Established in 1967. Displaying in 5 complexes of over 30,000 sq ft. Buying and selling antiques and collectables of all descriptions. Tel: 01268 769000. Web: [www.battlesbridge.com](http://www.battlesbridge.com) Train towards Southend. Change at Wickford for train towards Southminster. Get off at Battlesbridge. Every 40 minutes. 10 minute walk.

## CANAL CRUISES

### **Chelmer Cruises, Paper Mill Lock, Little Baddow.**



Cruising along the Chelmer and Blackwater Canal provides a unique view of rural Essex. The barge Victoria is available for hire by groups (max. 48). Individual trips on Bank Hol weekends only. Bar facilities. Meals by prior arrangement. Tel: 01245 225520. Web: [www.papermilllock.co.uk](http://www.papermilllock.co.uk)

## CHURCHES

### **Brentwood Cathedral, Ingrave Road, Brentwood.**

The new (1991) Roman Catholic classically-styled cathedral church of St. Mary and St. Helen incorporates the original Victorian church. Designed by distinguished Classical architect

Quinlan Terry with roundels by Raphael Maklouf (who was also responsible for the relief of the Queen's head on current coins). Tel: 01277 265235. Web: [cathedral-brentwood.org](http://cathedral-brentwood.org) Bus 9 towards Warley. Every 30 minutes. Get off in Ingrave Road at Queens Road. Or train towards London. Every 20 minutes. Change at Shenfield for TFL train towards London. Get off at Brentwood.

**Chelmsford Cathedral, New Street, Chelmsford.**

15th century building on the site of a church built 800 years ago. Christianity was introduced to Essex by the Romans and again by St. Cedd (AD 654). Worship has continued ever since and in 1914 the diocese of Chelmsford was created. Notable for the unity of its perpendicular architecture. Memorial windows to USAAF based in Essex. Shop. Tel: 01245 294492. Web: [www.chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk](http://www.chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk) Bus 100 to Chelmsford. Every 15 minutes. Get off at Duke Street.



**St. Mary Magdalene, Great Burstead.**



The notable wall paintings discovered in 1989 date from 1320. Those now restored depict scenes such as the Annunciation, the Nativity, the Adoration of the Magi, the Resurrections and the Weighing of Souls. Christopher Martin of the Mayflower was churchwarden here – a plaque commemorates the 375th anniversary of its sailing. Web: [www.greatburstead-church.co.uk](http://www.greatburstead-church.co.uk) Bus 9 towards Basildon. Every 30 minutes. Stops outside.

**GARDENS**

**Royal Horticultural Society's Garden, Hyde Hall, Rettendon.**

A visit to the 360-acre Hyde Hall estate is unforgettable in any season and allows visitors to immerse themselves in nature. Café. Tel: 01245 400256. Web: [www.rhs.org.uk/Gardens/Hyde-Hall](http://www.rhs.org.uk/Gardens/Hyde-Hall) Train towards Southend. Change at Rayleigh for bus 3 towards Chelmsford. Hourly. Stops outside.

**Barnards Farm Gardens, West Horndon.**

The 17 hectares of gardens at Barnards Farm range from landscaped walks through young woodland to the precise detail of the Japanese garden. The more formal gardens including a parterre, herbaceous borders, a living wall and the vegetable garden are found nearer the house. A walk through the managed landscape will take in the long avenue, a stream, ponds, and the Euro wood. A striking feature in the SW corner is the belvedere, planted largely with roses providing a blaze of colour in summer. Tel: 01277 811262. Web: [www.barnardsfarm.eu](http://www.barnardsfarm.eu)

**HISTORIC SITES AND HOUSES**

**Hadleigh Castle, Hadleigh.**

Ruins of castle built for Edward III and immortalised by John Constable. The curtain walls and two towers, which survive almost to their full height, overlook the Essex marshes and the Thames estuary. Web: [www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/hadleigh-castle/](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/hadleigh-castle/)

**Tilbury Fort, Fort Road, Tilbury.**



The largest and best preserved example of 17th century military engineering in England, commanding the River Thames and showing the development of forts over the following 200 years. Near the site of Queen Elizabeth's famous pre-Armada address. Audioguide, inclusive of entrance charge, exhibitions. Tel: 01375 858489. Web: [www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/tilbury-fort](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/tilbury-fort)

### **Hylands House & Estate, Writtle, near Chelmsford.**



Over 500 acres of beautiful parkland including lawns and formal gardens. Host to the national award winning 'Chelmsford Spectacular' and 'V' Festivals. Hylands House was restored in 1998. A summer events programme takes place in the gardens. Tel: 01245 605500. Web: [www.chelmsford.gov.uk/hylands](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/hylands) Bus 100 towards Chelmsford. Every 15 minutes. Get off in Wood Street outside Tesco. 1 mile walk.

### **Ingatestone Hall, Hall Lane, Ingatestone.**



16th Century mansion in eleven acres of grounds. Built by Sir William Petre, secretary of state to four Monarchs, whose family continue to reside here. Contains family portraits, furniture and memorabilia accumulated over the centuries. Guided tours for groups between Easter and the end of September outside opening hours by arrangement only. Shop. Café. Tel: 01277 353010. Web: [www.ingatestonehall.com](http://www.ingatestonehall.com) Train towards London. Change at Shenfield for train towards Braintree or Clacton. Every 30 minutes from Shenfield. Get off at Ingatestone. ¾ mile walk.

### **Maeldune Heritage Centre, Plume Building, Maldon.**

This historic building houses a 42 foot Maldon embroidery which celebrates the 1000th anniversary of the Battle of Maldon as well as art exhibitions. Tel: 01621 851628. Web: [www.itsaboutmaldon.co.uk/maeldunecentre/index.shtml](http://www.itsaboutmaldon.co.uk/maeldunecentre/index.shtml)

### **Moot Hall, Maldon.**



15th Century brick building with an interesting spiral staircase, 18th century panelled room, Court Room, remains of old gaol and panoramic views of Maldon and surrounding area from the roof: Guided Tours of Moot Hall take place every Thursday, Friday and Saturday afternoons from March to October. Tel: 07711 985540. Web: [www.themoothall.co.uk](http://www.themoothall.co.uk)

### **Plume Library, Maldon.**

One of the oldest private reference libraries in the Country containing around 8,000 volumes accumulated by Dr Plume 1630-1704. Opening hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 2pm-4pm Saturday 10am-12noon. Web: [www.itsaboutmaldon.co.uk/plume/index.shtml](http://www.itsaboutmaldon.co.uk/plume/index.shtml)

## **MUSEUMS**

### **Brentwood Museum, Lorne Road, Brentwood.**

Small, picturesque, cottage museum concentrating on local and social interests during late 19th and early 20th centuries. Set in an attractive disused cemetery, itself of unique interest. Car parking available on site. Tel: 01277 218854. Web: [www.brentwoodmuseum.org.uk](http://www.brentwoodmuseum.org.uk) Bus 9 towards Warley. Every 30 minutes. Get off at Warley Mount. 2 minute walk. Or train towards London. Change at Shenfield for TFL train towards London. Get off at Brentwood. Every 20 minutes. 15 minute walk.

**Chelmsford Museum and Essex Regiment Museum, Moulsham Street, Chelmsford.**



Local and social history from prehistory to present day; Essex Regiment history; fine and decorative arts (ceramics, costume, glass); coins; natural history (geology, animals, live beehive). Exhibitions, “craft window”, events. Set in park with children’s play area. Tennis courts. Shop. Tel: 01245 605700. Web: [www.chelmsford.gov.uk/museums](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/museums) Bus 100 towards Chelmsford. Every 15 minutes. Get off in London Road after Wood Street roundabout.

**Cater Museum Trust, 74 High Street, Billericay.**

Folk Museum of bygones, mid-Victorian sitting room and bedroom. Billericay at war 1939/45. Tel: 01277 622023. Web: [www.catermuseum.co.uk](http://www.catermuseum.co.uk)

**Combined Military Museum, Station Road, Heybridge, Maldon.**



Houses thousands of artefacts dating from the middle ages to the present day, including a number of items of national importance –

including the only surviving MK2’ Cockle Canoe. Also to be seen is probably the best spy collection on public display, including ‘James Bond’ type gadgetry. Tel: 01621 841826. Web: [www.cmsm.co.uk](http://www.cmsm.co.uk)

**Maldon District Museum, Mill Road, Maldon (entrance to the Promenade Park).**



Maldon Museum exhibits items directly related to the District, whether they are domestic, industrial, natural or manufactured, discovered locally or collected from afar. Tel: 01621 842688. Web: [www.maldonmuseum.org.uk](http://www.maldonmuseum.org.uk)

**Museum of Power, Steam Pumping Station, Langford (on the B1019 north west of Maldon).**



Set in 7 acres, an old waterworks pumping station with steam engine and pumps. Exhibits cover all areas of power from batteries upwards.

Many special events held throughout the year including train rides on the miniature railway. Tel. 01621 843183.

Web: [www.museumofpower.org.uk](http://www.museumofpower.org.uk)

### **Kelvedon Hatch Secret Nuclear Bunker.**



Come and witness the three lives of the bunker starting with its role as an RAF ROTOR Station, then a brief period as a civil defence centre through to its most recent life as a Regional Government HQ. Designed for up to 600 military and civilian personnel, possibly even the Prime Minister, their collective task being to organise the survival of the population in the awful aftermath of a nuclear war. Tel: 01277 364883. Web: [www.secretnuclearbunker.com](http://www.secretnuclearbunker.com)

### **NATURE RESERVES**

#### **Hanningfield Reservoir Nature Reserve, Hawkswood Road, Downham.**



The nature reserve offers some beautiful walks through the woodland, taking in bird hides, ponds and views across the reservoir. The reservoir itself is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) due to the important numbers of wildfowl that use the reservoir in the autumn and winter, including gadwall, tufted duck and pochard. Grid ref: TQ 725 971 Tel: 01268 711001. Web: [www.essexwt.org.uk/reserves/hanningfield-reservoir](http://www.essexwt.org.uk/reserves/hanningfield-reservoir)

#### **Blakes Wood, Little Baddow, nr. Chelmsford.**

A Site of Special Scientific Interest, this ancient woodland of hornbeam and sweet chestnut is renowned for bluebells. Grid Ref. TL 773068. There is a circular way-marked walk of 1½ miles. All walks/visits are self-guided.

#### **Danbury & Lingwood Commons, Danbury, nr. Chelmsford.**

These two large commons are the highest point of the gravel ridge between Maldon and Chelmsford. Grid Ref: TL 781044. There is evidence of Napoleonic defences and old reservoirs. Circular nature trails. Tel: 01245 222669. Web: [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/danbury-commons-and-blakes-wood/](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/danbury-commons-and-blakes-wood/)

#### **Norsey Wood Local Nature Reserve, Outwood Common Road, Billericay.**

Traditionally coppiced ancient woodland steeped in history: it was here that 500 men led by Wat Tyler were massacred by King Richard's soldiers during the Peasants' Revolt of 1381. Easy access trail of about ¾ mile. Wheelchair available. Guided walks can be booked by interested groups (max 30). Information centre. Car park at Grid Ref. TQ 690956. Tel: 01277 624553. Web: [www.norseywood.org.uk](http://www.norseywood.org.uk)

#### **Mill Meadows Nature Reserve, Billericay.**

90-acre Local Nature Reserve and one of the finest ancient meadow systems in Essex. Centuries of grazing have created the ideal conditions for a wonderful diversity of wild flowers, fungi, insects and invertebrates, many of which are rare. It contains an area of 16.63 acres (6.73 ha) declared as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for its unimproved neutral grassland. Web: [www.millmeadows.org.uk](http://www.millmeadows.org.uk)

### **PARKS**

#### **Thorndon Country Park, The Avenue, Brentwood.**

Old parkland, lakes and woods. Thorndon North Countryside Centre has an exhibition and gift shop. A powered scooter is available (book in advance). Thorndon South Pavilion includes a small gallery, seating area and refreshments. Guided events programme runs throughout the year. Parking charge. Refreshments, gift shop,

wildlife exhibition, mobility buggy. Tel: 01277 211250. Web: [www.visitparks.co.uk/placestovisit/thorndoncountrypark.php](http://www.visitparks.co.uk/placestovisit/thorndoncountrypark.php)

**Weald Country Park, South Weald, Brentwood.**



A former estate with medieval deer park, partially landscaped in the 18th century. Lake and woodland. Visitor Centre, landscapes exhibition, gift shop. Fishing and horse-riding. Parking charge. Guide by prior arrangement. Mobility buggy available for disabled (book in advance). Guided Events & Activities Programmes throughout the year. Gift shop, exhibition. Tel: 01277 261343. Web: [www.visitparks.co.uk/placestovisit/wealdcountrypark.php](http://www.visitparks.co.uk/placestovisit/wealdcountrypark.php)

**Danbury Country Park, Woodhill Road, Danbury, Chelmsford.**



Part of old park, woodland, lake and ornamental gardens. Coach parties by prior arrangement. Guide available by appointment. Parking fee £2.00. Good wheelchair access. Fishing. Tel: 01245 222350. Web: [www.visitparks.co.uk/placestovisit/danburycountrypark.php](http://www.visitparks.co.uk/placestovisit/danburycountrypark.php)

**Wat Tyler Country Park, Pitsea Hall Lane, Pitsea.**

Over 120 acres of parkland, bounded on three sides by water. Operated by Basildon District Council with emphasis on conservation and natural history. Features include, visitor centre, historic buildings and miniature railway. School groups welcome – education staff available. Café. Tel: 01268 550088.

Web: [www.wattylercountrypark.org.uk](http://www.wattylercountrypark.org.uk)

**Barleylands Farm Park, Barleylands Road, Billericay.**

Meet and feed the friendly farm animals, including ferrets, rabbits, sheep, goats and ducks, visit the falconry area, ride the miniature railway, and let off steam in the adventure play area. Free car parking. Café. Tel: 01268 290218. Web: [www.barleylands.co.uk](http://www.barleylands.co.uk) Bus 100 towards Lakeside. Every 15 minutes. Stops outside.

**Marsh Farm Country Park, South Woodham Ferrers.**



Marsh Farm is a working farm where children can get close to farm animals and play safely in the adventure play areas. There is also a Country Park, which boasts excellent coastal walks and superb views of the River Crouch. Tel: 01245 321552.

Web: [www.marshfarmcountrypark.co.uk](http://www.marshfarmcountrypark.co.uk)

**Old MacDonald's Animal Petting Farm, South Weald.**

Farmyard favourites and other more exotic animals including some rare breeds combined with an all-weather adventure park of fun activities to keep children fully entertained, including some special attractions. A gift and souvenir shop, classroom and café are also available. Tel: 01277 375177.

Web: [www.omdfarm.co.uk](http://www.omdfarm.co.uk)

### **Hadleigh Country Park, Hadleigh.**

Fields and woodland overlooking the Thames estuary. Remains of a castle close by, accessible by footpath. Access via Chapel Lane. Parking fee £2 on Suns and Bank Hols in Summer. Guided events programme running throughout the year. Information room. Tel: 01702 551072. Web: [www.hadleighcountrypark.co.uk/](http://www.hadleighcountrypark.co.uk/)

### **Langdon Hills Country Park, One Tree Hill, Westley Heights, Basildon.**



Hilly landscape of wood and farmland. Wide variety of wildlife. Panoramic views over south Essex. Guide available by appointment. Coach parties by prior arrangement with Rangers. Guided events programme running throughout the year. Free parking. Information room. Tel: 01268 542066. Web: [www.thurrock.gov.uk/countryside/langdonhills/](http://www.thurrock.gov.uk/countryside/langdonhills/) Bus 100 or 9 towards Lakeside/Basildon. Change at Basildon Bus Station for bus 15A to Langdon Hills, Westley Road. Every 20 minutes from Basildon. 5 minutes walk.

### **Festival Gardens, Crown Road, Billericay.**

The Festival Gardens is at the corner of Norsey Road and Crown Road. It was given to the people of Billericay by an anonymous donor in 1951 to commemorate the Festival of Britain. With its rose bushes and other shrubs it is an oasis of tranquillity only a few yards from Billericay High Street.

### **Queens Park Country Park, Rosebay Avenue, Billericay.**

60 acres of former amenity parkland, now managed to enhance the area for wildlife. Free parking. Tel: 01277 624553.

### **Lake Meadows Park, Radford Crescent, Billericay.**

40 acres of parklands, fishing lake, six-rink bowling green, golf, novelty golf, football field, hockey pitch, cricket pitches, children's playground, sport pavilion, tennis court (hard surface), swimming pool, formal gardens, cafeteria (open Apr to Oct) Tel: 01277 622271

### **TRANSPORT MUSEUMS**

#### **Epping Ongar Railway.**



Step back in time and experience the romance of travel in bygone times while passing through picturesque countryside, beautiful forest and historic towns. Vintage buses start from the front door of Epping station, whisking you back in time to our period stations with steam and diesel hauled heritage trains. No public parking at Ongar station. Tel: 01277 365200 Web: [eorailway.co.uk](http://eorailway.co.uk) Train towards London. Change at Shenfield for the EOR special bus service 339. Check EOR web site for times.

#### **Stow Maries Aerodrome, Purleigh.**



Restored 1st World War airfield. Opening times Friday, Saturday, Sunday. 10am to 4pm. Entrance fees are £8 per adult £6 concessions, Free entry to currently serving members of Her Majesty's Armed forces and their immediate family upon production of an ID card. Tel: 01245 808744. Web: [www.stowmaries.org.uk](http://www.stowmaries.org.uk)

## **Battlesbridge Motorcycle Museum (at Battlesbridge Antiques Centre).**



A small informal museum of two halls containing over forty motorcycles and hundreds of exhibits illustrating motoring history. Open Sundays. Tel: 01268 769 900. Train towards Southend. Change at Wickford for train towards Southminster. Get off at Battlesbridge. Hourly. 10 minute walk.

## **SOFT PLAY CENTRES**

### **Rocky's Funhouse, Western Road, Billericay.**



At Rocky's Funhouse we pride ourselves on offering your children a fun, safe, and clean environment to play in while the adults can relax with a cup of the finest Starbucks Coffee, in comfortable surroundings knowing they can see their children while they play. Tel: 01277 626668. Web: [www.therockygroup.com/rockys-funhouse-billericay.html](http://www.therockygroup.com/rockys-funhouse-billericay.html)

### **Monkey Madness, Miles Gray Road, Basildon.**

We offer one of the tallest play frames in the UK and a frame created for the under 5s. Monkey Madness is the best choice for children to have fun and benefit from some great exercises whilst they burn off that excess energy. We offer a healthy delicious menu that will suit their

tummies as well as your pockets! We even host children's birthday parties and a range of parent and child classes throughout the week, so you really can make the most of your visit! Tel: 01268 288211. Web: [www.monkeymadnessplay.com](http://www.monkeymadnessplay.com) Bus 100 towards Lakeside. Every 15 minutes. Get off in Miles Gray Road outside Asda.

### **Stay & Play, Durham Road, Laindon.**

Indoor ball pool and adventure centre for toddlers to 10-year olds. Children's parties and special events organised. Café. Tel: 01268 491511. Web: [www.stay-play.co.uk](http://www.stay-play.co.uk) Bus 100 or 9 towards Lakeside/Basildon. Change at Basildon Bus Station for bus 8 towards Laindon. Get off in Durham Road, opp. Police Station. Every 20 minutes from Basildon.

## **SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT VENUES**

### **Basildon Sporting Village, Cranes Farm Road, Basildon.**

Basildon has a rich and proud sporting heritage. Sport is at the heart of the ambitious regeneration plans for the area. The Basildon Sporting Village is not only the best sports and leisure facility in Essex, it is the best in the East of England. Tel: 01268 722450. Web: [www.everyoneactive.com/centre/basildon-sporting-village/](http://www.everyoneactive.com/centre/basildon-sporting-village/) Bus 100 towards Lakeside. Every 15 minutes. Get off in Miles Gray Road opp. B&Q. 5 minute walk.

### **Swimming Pool, Lake Meadows, Billericay.**



Managed by First Strokes primarily as a swimming school, there are sessions available for "just swimming". Tel 0845 838 8954. Web: [www.firststrokes.com](http://www.firststrokes.com)

**Brentwood Leisure Centre, Doddinghurst Road, Brentwood.**

One of the top entertainment venues in the UK, which hosts an extensive programme of events, from concerts, shows and bands to top names from the world of comedy. Sporting and fitness facilities for individuals and the whole family. Special activities planned for everyone from children to senior citizens. Pools, sports hall, fitness centre, health suite, sunbeds. Jacuzzi, sauna and steam, squash courts. Café. Tel: 01277 215151.

Web: [www.brentwood-centre.co.uk](http://www.brentwood-centre.co.uk)

**Riverside Ice & Leisure, Victoria Road Chelmsford.**



Leisure Centre comprising ice rink, indoor and outdoor swimming pool, sports hall, fitness centre, children’s indoor adventure playground, restaurant and bar. Café. Tel: 01245 615050. Web: [www.chelmsford.gov.uk/riverside](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/riverside) Bus 100 towards Chelmsford. Every 15 minutes. Get off at Chelmsford Railway Station. 10 minutes walk.

**WINDMILLS**

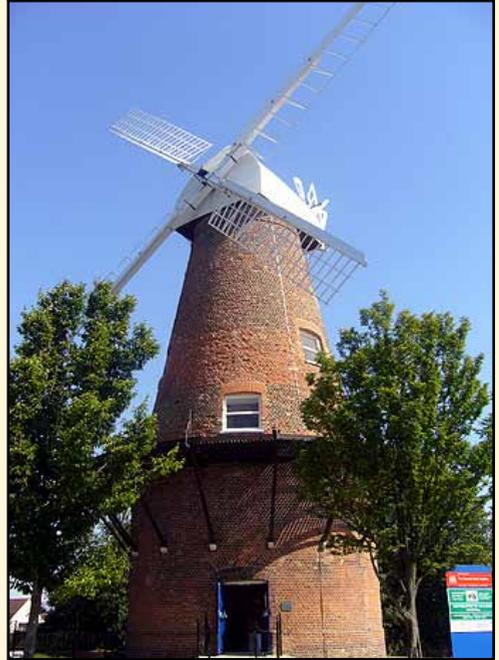
**Mountnessing Windmill, Roman Road, Mountnessing.**



A traditional weatherboarded post mill, built in 1807 and restored to its original working condition in 1983. See the huge wood and iron gears, with one pair of stones opened up for viewing. Subject to wind, guided groups may be able to see sails turning. Tel: 01245 437663.

Web: [www.essex.gov.uk/mills](http://www.essex.gov.uk/mills)

**Rayleigh Windmill, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh.**



Built around 1798, the tower mill houses an interesting collection of bygones mostly used in and around Rayleigh. Close to Rayleigh Mount. Tel: 01702 318120. Train towards Southend. Get off at Rayleigh. 10 minutes walk.

**Stock Windmill, Mill Lane, Stock.**

Early 19th century tower mill on five floors, with excellent late 19th century machinery. Restored to working order. Subject to wind, guided groups may be able to see sails turning. Guide and souvenir book available on open days. Tel: 01245 437663. Web: [www.essex.gov.uk/mills](http://www.essex.gov.uk/mills) Bus 100 or 140 towards Chelmsford. Get off in Stock High Street. 10 minutes walk via Common Road.



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