



Billericay Town Crier

YOUR QUALITY COUNCIL

www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL

October 2011

For over three years, Billericay Town Council has reviewed various means to ensure that Sun Corner is preserved as a place of leisure in perpetuity for the residents and visitors of Billericay. To this end, we recently suggested and progressed with Essex County Council the possibility of establishing Sun Corner as a Queen Elizabeth II playing field in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. It will then form part of a selected network of playing fields across the country. We have pleasure in announcing that our activities have been successful to the extent that Sun Corner has been nominated as one of the Queen Elizabeth II playing fields. The official press release is published below and provides potent evidence of progress achievable when Essex County Council, Basildon Borough Council and Billericay Town Council strive for a common objective:

SUN CORNER



saved for future generations



After years of uncertainty, the future of Sun Corner in Billericay will be preserved thanks to a joint venture between Essex County Council, Basildon Borough Council and Billericay Town Council. The land at the south end of the High Street known locally as Sun Corner will be kept as a public space via proposals to nominate it as a Queen Elizabeth II playing field. The Queen Elizabeth II challenge was set up to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. Sun Corner will now be nominated to be one of 2,012 specially selected outdoor recreational spaces across the country set up as a permanent tribute to the Diamond Jubilee. The idea to apply for the initiative originally came from Billericay Town Council and Essex County Council – as owners of the land – is very pleased to submit the application. Sun Corner has always been used for fetes and community gatherings but this now secures the space from commercial development for future generations.

County Cllr Kay Twitchen, Member for Billericay and Burstead and Vice Chairman of Essex County Council said, *"I am very enthusiastic about the proposals to protect Sun Corner by making it a designated QEII playing field. This will ensure that the land is protected in perpetuity from development and stays as a valuable area for sport and leisure that all members of the community can enjoy. We are also proud to play a part in Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee."*

Cllr Anthony Hedley, Essex County Council Member for Billericay and Burstead added, *"the future of Sun Corner has been a long running saga and I am absolutely delighted that together we have found a solution which will benefit the whole Billericay community."*

Cllr Phil Turner, Cabinet Member for Resources on Basildon Borough Council and local Councillor said: *"There has been a lot of discussion about this over the years and I am pleased that this conclusion will be for the benefit and in the interest of local residents."*

David Knight, Vice Chairman of Billericay Town Council and Chair of the Environment Committee commented, *"Billericay Town Council is very pleased that Sun Corner is to be nominated as a QEII site. The area will now be preserved for the good of the people of Billericay and provides a fitting tribute to Queen Elizabeth our monarch"*

SKATE PARK



Representatives of the Essex County Council, Basildon Borough Council, Billericay Town Council and the Youth Council were all in attendance for the official opening of the revamped Skate Park on Saturday 23rd July. The day proved to be a great success with demonstrations and competitions taking place involving BMX bikes, scooters and skateboards.

It has been noted, however, that those using this very popular facility are dropping litter which is totally unnecessary, unsightly and irresponsible as litter bins are provided in the area. Please, please dispose of your litter in the bins provided or take it home with you and respect this new facility which has been provided.



For further information and general enquiries contact:

Town Clerk • Billericay Town Council • The Loft • Crown Yard • High Street • Billericay CM12 9BX

T: 01277 625732 • **F:** 01277 634784 • **E:** townclerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk • **W:** www.billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk

Official Office Opening times 9.30am - 2.30pm Mon-Fri. Outside these hours please ring as there may well be office staff present.

Details of Town Councillors can be obtained from the Town Council website or Offices.

WINTER IS COMING

This winter, Billericay Town Council, with the help of Essex County Council, will again be providing free bags of salt to assist local residents in coping with roads and pavements during icy or snowy conditions. Details will be available shortly.

In addition, members of the Town Council have carried out a survey of roadside salt bins, recording the location and condition of each. We have obtained confirmation from ECC that these will be filled with salt grit mixture before the onset of bad weather.

CLlr Ian Davie – Chairman, Salt Bin Project Group



ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL – WINTER PRECAUTIONARY GRITTING NETWORK

Notification has been received from the Essex County Council that their policy remains constant as to what highway roads are included in their precautionary gritting network. This totals 40% of all roads within the county and includes the following:

- All A roads
- All B roads
- All roads served by a regular bus service which has more than 4 return journeys per day, 5 days a week
- A rural link road connecting the main area of every parish of more than 50 settlements to the main network
- Access roads to hospitals, ambulance and fire stations
- Access routes for sites of national significance; this includes such sites as ports, oil refineries, airports, etc.

A basic map showing the precautionary and reduced network is available on the Essex County Council website and updated information during the winter will be available on: www.essex.gov.uk/winter

I LOVE BILLERICAY

At a recent Project Group meeting, ways of promoting Billericay were discussed. Amongst the various ideas put forward was to consider organising a community event during 2012. This would ask residents, communities and traders to sign up to a charter which would:

- make Billericay an even more pleasant place to live, play, work or visit;
- encourage people to use the local shops, restaurants and businesses;
- facilitate 'green' responsibility in the town.

We encourage you to come forward with ideas to help achieve these objectives and you may even suggest further ideas. This is a community project of which the Town Council is acting as facilitators. We are also discussing this with the Residents' Association, Chamber of Trade, Billericay Round Table, Lions and Rotary clubs.

Any members of the public and organisations interested in participating are welcome to contact the Billericay Town Council on 01277 625732 or by email: townclerk@billericaytowncouncil.gov.uk

CLlr Daphne Spencer – Chairman, I Love Billericay Project Group

PLANT A SHRUB

The second Plant A Shrub event to be held this year took place on 29th September when one shrub was planted in the 'Child in the Park' garden, Lake Meadows in memory of a child and ten shrubs were planted in

Festival Gardens in memory of loved ones that had died. The next such planting will take place in March, 2012.



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

A date for the diary..... the switching on of Billericay's Christmas Lights will take place on Saturday 26th November. Father Christmas, the Town Crier and members of the Youth Town Council in colourful costumes will be in attendance along with the Wickford Salvation Army Band who will support Billericay School Choir and residents in carol singing. The celebration will take place outside the Chequers Public House with the switch-on of the traditional motifs at 4.00pm.

This year will see more lights than previously as the Essex County Council will be replacing six lamp columns within the High Street which we were unable to use in the past.

Put this date in your diary and celebrate the start of the festive season in our town.

Also again this year a Christmas Shop Window competition will take place, the aim of which is for the shop windows to complement the decorations erected in the High Street. All shop windows will automatically be judged so there is no entry procedure. The judges will include Town Councillors and representatives of the Youth Town Council.



BILLERICAY IN BLOOM

Winners



On Friday 22nd July the winners of this year's Billericay in Bloom competition were announced at the Annual Prizegiving held at the Canon Roche Social Centre. This was, as usual, a very enjoyable occasion as there was a record number of entrants in attendance to hear the results, ranging from School children through to residents of Sheltered Accommodation. Also in attendance were Cllr Mo Larkin, Chairman of Basildon Borough Council, representatives of the sponsors and Ken Crowther, BBC Essex Radio presenter who presented the prizes. Our thanks go to all the sponsors as indicated in the list of prizewinners.

WINNERS – BILLERICAY IN BLOOM 2011

BEST SCHOOL GARDEN – Sponsors: Waitrose

Buttsbury Infants School	First
Quilters Infants School	Second
South Green Infants & Nursery School	Third

BEST GARDEN IN A POT – Royal Wedding Theme –

Sponsors: Bennetts Funeral Directors

Lucy Alford	First
Lewis Attridge	Second
Spencer Buddell	Third
Benjamin Rodgers	Highly Commended

BEST KEPT SMALL FRONT – Sponsors: Michael Letch & Partners

Carol Pressman	First
Mr & Mrs Biggs	Second
Mr Lee Caswell	Third

BEST KEPT LARGE FRONT – Sponsors: Jarvis Print

Mrs. Anne Morris	First
Mr & Mrs G Turner	Second

BEST KEPT SMALL BACK – Sponsors: Billericay Lions

Maureen Higdon	First
June James	Second
Mr & Mrs Biggs	Third

BEST KEPT LARGE BACK – Sponsors: Village Bar & Grill

Mr & Mrs G Turner	First
Mrs M Pellatt	Second
Mrs Jill Leslie	Third

BEST HANGING BASKET – Sponsors: Billericay Nurseries

Reg O'Neill Dental Practice	First
Mrs Anne Morris	Second
Carol Pressman	Third

BEST SHELTERED ACCOMMODATION – Sponsors: Billericay Rotary Club

Mrs Iris Rist	First
Mrs G Armstrong	Second
Mr David Bowtell	Third

BEST COMMERCIAL PREMISES – Sponsors: Chequers Public House

The Cater Museum	First
Bennetts Funerals	Second
Reg O'Neill Dental Practice	Third



BEST PUBLIC HOUSE – Sponsors: Billericay Town Council

The Chequers	First
The Rising Sun	Second
White Hart	Third

BEST SCHOOL VEGETABLE PLOT –

Special Award – Buttsbury Junior School Academy
The judges thought that this was wonderful

BEST VEGETABLE PLOT – Sponsors: Billericay Cook Shop/Emporium

Mr Daniel Gould	First
Andrew Leslie	Second
Mr Doug Smith	Third

BEST GARDEN DESIGN – Sponsors: Michaela, Beauty Consultants

Mr & Mrs G Turner	First
Mrs Mary Pellatt	Second
Mrs Anne Morris	Third

BEST WATER GARDEN – Sponsors: Hallmark Care Homes

Mrs Mary Pellatt	First
Mrs Janet Lott	Second

Open Garden event at 22 Fairfield Rise (one of the winners of the Billericay in Bloom competition) on 30th and 31st July raised £1,130.58 in aid of Remus Horse Sanctuary with over 180 people attending. Mrs G Turner wishes to thank all those people that attended and made this event so successful.





BILLERICAY RACE IS ON!

The Billericay 10k (6.2 miles) always attracts some of the best athletes in the County as well as enthusiastic fun runners. This year's race will take place on Sunday 6th November 2011. It will be the 16th running of this popular run organised by Billericay Striders Running Club. The race will start at Hannakins Community Centre at 9.45am and finishes at Brightside School. A proportion of the race entry fee will be donated to the Club's nominated charity – St Luke's Hospice.

If you would like to enter the race, you can download an entry form from www.10k.billericaystriders.com but be quick, there is a limit of 750 entrants and this limit is expected to be reached soon.



BILLERICAY CHRISTMAS MARKET

SUNDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2011 – 11am to 5pm

Following an outstanding success last year, the Mayflower Rotary Club will be closing the High Street to traffic again to stage this event. In addition to 2010's attractions: 120 Farmers', Craft, Charity and Continental Market Stalls, 80 shops open, Santa's parade and grotto hosted by The Lions, 2 stages of entertainment and kiddies rides, there will be a surprise attraction from Round Table never seen before in Billericay. Keep checking www.billericaychristmasmarket.co.uk for an announcement. Entry and parking are free so make a date to enjoy the festive food, drink, entertainment and atmosphere to launch your Christmas celebrations.

BUTTSBURY ART SOCIETY

will be holding their next Exhibition at The Fold on 18th & 19th November.

BASILDON, BILLERICAY & WICKFORD NATIONAL CHILDBIRTH TRUST EVENTS

Messy Play – Sunnymede Infant School, The Meadow Way, Billericay CM11 2HL. 26th November, 2011 at 10.00 – 12 noon £3.50 per child. No need to book this event, just turn up for some messy fun.

Christmas Party with Rocky – Emmanuel Church Hall, Laindon Road, Billericay. 10th December, 2011 at 2.30-4.30pm – Under 1's £6, over 1's £8.50 (incl. child's food & gift).

To book online:
www.nct.org.uk/branches/basildon-billericay-wickford/online

BUTTSBURY PRE-SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENING

This year's Buttsbury Pre-School's Christmas Shopping Evening will take place on Thursday 10th November, at Buttsbury Infant School Hall, doors open at 8.00pm and entry will cost £3.50. Tickets bought in advance from the pre-school will receive a free raffle ticket. All tickets will include a complimentary glass of wine/fruit juice and a seasonal biscuit/pie.

Please contact: 01277 631816 for further information.



The Relatives & Residents Association (Essex) is here to help and offer advice on the decision to move into Residential Care and can help answer those important questions such as:

- Is this the right thing to do?
- What are the alternatives?
 - What will it cost?
 - Will I have to sell my house?
- How do I find a home to suit me?
- What can I expect of a residential home?
- What can I do if I find I can't settle into my new home?

The number for the Helpline is: 08450177720

Information is also available online at: www.relresessex.org

The Relatives & Residents Association (Essex) has the backing of Essex County Council, the NHS and Primary Care Trusts.



ROUNDTABLE

BILLERICAY NO. 594

Billericay Round Table Charity Firework Display Saturday 5th November

Once again the skies of Billericay will be brought to life with fire and sparkles as Billericay Round Table celebrate Guy Fawkes Night on Saturday, 5th November with their 42nd annual bonfire and fireworks extravaganza.

With more than 17,000 visitors last year, the event is eagerly awaited by many across Essex and beyond, with literally hundreds of enquiries for tickets and information already coming through the website.

As well as the bonfire and a £18k firework display from European firework display champions, Jubilee Fireworks, there will be a live roadshow provided by Heart FM again this year, with hosts Martin and Su lined up as usual.

visit www.billericayfireworks.co.uk for ticket prices and further event details.



CATER MUSEUM

74 High Street, Billericay
For further details telephone: 01277 622023

EVERY OBJECT TELLS A STORY



One of the museum's most interesting books relating to life in the past is a dissertation written in 1966 by Wendy Grounds.

The title is "Social Welfare in Billericay from the Late 18th Century Until the Early 20th Century". It tells the story of parish relief, the pre-1834 workhouse system, the Billericay Union Workhouse, vagrancy and sanitation.

Did you know that the original workhouse in Billericay was built in 1719 near Sun Corner, on the right hand side of the road leading to Laindon? Comforts were lacking, as was privacy. Only the "Master's Room" had curtains! Relief was refused if the pauper was found drunk, failed to accept work offered to him, or kept a dog!

The Billericay area suffered greatly until the Second World War from contagious diseases. In the years 1856-59 diphtheria reached epidemic proportions, with Sussex, Norfolk, Kent and Essex being the worst affected counties. Dr. F. Carter worked to educate the residents and local government of the importance of isolating infected members of a family from those who were healthy but noted that "Children ill with an infectious disease were often sharing a bed with a healthy brother or sister."

This fascinating book is available to read in the Cater Museum.

FLU VACCINATIONS

Evidence collected over the last few years has shown that patients in at-risk groups were **11 times** more likely to die from seasonal flu than otherwise healthy individuals, which shows the importance of the flu vaccinations for those groups. Flu symptoms hit you suddenly and sometimes severely; these can include fever, chills, headaches and aching muscles often with a cough and sore throat.

Flu is caused by viruses and not bacteria, so antibiotics won't treat it.

Some people are more susceptible to the effects of seasonal flu. For them it can increase the risk of developing more serious illnesses such as bronchitis and pneumonia, or can make existing conditions worse. In the worst cases, seasonal flu can result in a stay in hospital, or even death.

Please ring your surgery and check eligibility for free flu vaccinations NOW.



QUEENS PARK

PLAYGROUNDS PROJECT

During August 2011 a series of meetings with the senior officers from Basildon Borough Council (BBC), the local charity Hemraj Goyal Foundation (HGF), Basildon, Billericay & Wickford Council for Voluntary Service (BBWCVS) and residents took place to agree the repair works needed on all 4 playgrounds.

Starting on 31st August for 3 days the HGF Youth Team met up to do a massive 'Playground Tidy Up' project which involved a playground consultation with local residents before the works begun.

The next stage of the project will be installation of new playground equipment. We need your suggestions!!! Please contact Artak on 01277 658086 to submit your proposals. The list of playground equipment can be viewed at the office at Hannakins Farm Community Centre.

HAMELIN TRUST

FURNITURE RE-USE CENTRE

The Hamelin Trust have opened a furniture re-use centre in Radford Crescent and are looking for more donations of household items and clothes.

The centre is open Monday-Friday 9.30am until 4.30pm and 10am until 1pm on Saturday.

For more information, visit www.hamelintrust.org.uk



For over 30 years Synergy has been delivering a wide range of Addiction Treatment, Counselling services and Training for the benefit of the local community.

Our experienced counsellors and psychotherapists provide support for difficulties arising from alcohol dependency, stress, depression, panic attacks, emotional and/or relationship problems, anger management, anxiety and bereavement. We also offer yoga, osteopath, nutritional therapy & food allergy testing and Phase 4 Cardiac Rehabilitation at the Centre.

If you need help please contact Synergy Therapy & Addiction Centre, Marie Cottage, 14 Chapel Street, Billericay, CM12 0UU or Telephone 01277-655662 or email us at info@synergytherapycentre.com or visit www.synergytherapycentre.com

BYTC

Youth Council

or post it to the Town Council Offices. The closing date for the submission of material is 20th November, 2011 and the competition will take place on Saturday 14th January, 2012.

Proceeds from this event will be forwarded to the charity **HELPING** (Help for Education and Local Projects **IN** the **Gambia**).

Youth Councillors Sophie Harrison and Tayler Cronly-Dillon were selected as finalists in the Essex Police Young People of the Year Awards and although not winning were awarded a cheque for £50 for the Youth Town Council. Some of the stories of the finalists were very moving, courageous and awe-inspiring.

Following the success of two previous events, members of the Billericay Youth Town Council have launched their next 'Billericay's Got Talent' competition and are inviting those wishing to participate to forward a video/recording of their act to: BGTcompetition@hotmail.co.uk



TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS NOVEMBER 2011

Thursday 3 TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday 8 Planning
Tuesday 22 Planning
Tuesday 29 Environment

DECEMBER 2011

Tuesday 6 Planning
Thursday 8 Finance & General Purposes
Thursday 15 TOWN COUNCIL (Estimates)
Tuesday 20 Planning

JANUARY 2012

Tuesday 3 Planning
Tuesday 10 Environment
Tuesday 17 Planning
Thursday 19 Finance & General Purposes
Thursday 26 TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday 31 Planning

All meetings start at 7.00 p.m. in The Coach House, Crown Yard, High Street and are open to the public.

Parking Enforcement

Issues within the town are now being dealt with by the South Essex Parking Partnership based at Chelmsford Borough Council and can be contacted on 01245 606710.

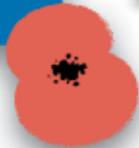
Essex County Council's Recycling Centres for Household Waste (RCHW) Service

Arising from the significant increase in kerbside recycling services, the Essex County Council has reviewed the services provided at the RCHWs within the county. As a result of this Barleylands Recycling Centre now opens from 9.00am every day as opposed to 8.00am and the late night Tuesday opening has been removed.

Essex Police

24 hour non-emergency number 0300 333 4444

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



POPPY APPEAL – Can you spare a little time to help our soldiers, sailors and airmen and their families?

The Billericay Branch of the Royal British Legion will be losing their Poppy Appeal organiser at the end of this year as Margaret Knight who has undertaken this task for the last six years will be retiring because of other commitments. The Royal British Legion are very grateful for the work undertaken by Margaret, particularly as during the last six years the amount raised through the Poppy Appeal has increased every year.

The Branch are now looking for a replacement, someone who can give a little of their time in the run-up to Remembrance Sunday to help with the annual Poppy Appeal – No military background necessary.

Anyone interested should contact the Secretary, Mik Dunn by telephone on, 01277 654539, or email on morse-morse@hotmail.co.uk or by writing to Mr J.M. Dunn, 78 Pery Street, Billericay, CM12 0ND.

BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCILLORS

Name	Address	Phone No.	E-Mail	Ward
Tina Arnold				E
Peter Bowditch				W
John Buchanan				E
Robert Chapman				E
Ian Davie				W
Jim Devlin				W
Colin Dyer				W
Terence Gandy				W
Edgar Guest				SW
David Knight				E
Susan McCaffery				SW
Kevin Mesnard				W
Moira Moore				E
Rod Rapley				W
James Shrubbs				E
Daphne Spencer				E
Trevor Stansfield				W
Pamela Went				W
Marion Wilson				E

CHAIRMAN: Cllr John Buchanan

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