BILLERICAY TRESSES SCHEME
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Basildon Council's Works Committee have approved a scheme submitted by Billericay Residents' Association for the planting of trees in roads in Billericay. Under the scheme the cost of the trees is borne by the householders in the street concerned, the Association undertaking the collection of the money, and the work being carried out by the Council. The Council have agreed to maintain the trees at their own expense, subject to the approval of the Engineer & Surveyor of the number and type of trees to be planted, and their positioning.

Explaining the scheme to the "Observer" on Saturday Mr. V.C. Ireland, Chairman of the Billericay Residents' Association "Trees Make Towns" Sub-Committee said that the idea had originally been tried out by the Upminster & Cranham Ratepayers Association on a new estate on Cranham. There it had been "a huge success", and the result was today that the estate was one of the most beautiful in the area. Asked about the cost Mr. Ireland said that in Upminster it had worked out at about 19/- per household, and £500 had been collected in three roads. Mr. Ireland admitted that there were special snags in the Billericay area, which had not existed in Upminster, but he felt that these could be overcome. His Committee had Cromwell Avenue, Lake Avenue (both shortly to be made up) and possibly Hill House Drive in mind for the first schemes. They also hoped that the Council would plant flower beds at the approaches to the town e.g. Perry Green. Concluded Mr. Ireland; "Our object is to beautify the town and improve its amenities."

Another suggestion for improving the amenities of Billericay is included in the current issue of the "Billericay Bulletin", newsheet of Billericay Council for the Preservation of Rural England. The article states; "It has been suggested once again that the High Street should take place in a Civic Trust 'Face Lift'. This is a Comprehensive Scheme of repair, improvement, and redecoration of all properties, together with the elimination of all unsightly adverts and posters and the tidying up of lamp posts and other street furniture so that the area has an air of well being. It will be, remembered, however, that when the Trust previously suggested to the Council that Billericay High Street would be a good subject, the Council turned down the idea as they felt that the visual aspect of the High Street was safeguarded by the operations of the Consultative Panel. Recent happenings in the Central area, however, lead one to doubt the adequacy of such safeguards in more ways than one." The article points out the success of the scheme in other towns, and asks members to approach their friends who own properties in the High Street to test their views.
NEW SPEED LIMIT PROPOSALS.

Basildon Council are to ask the Minister of Transport to approve the following speed limit changes in Billericay:

A.129, London Road, Sun Corner to Mountnessing Road: Present limit of 30 m.p.h. to be increased to 40 m.p.h.
A.129, Southend Road, Gatwick View to Duke of York: Present limit of 30 m.p.h. to be increased to 40 m.p.h.
A.129, Duke of York to Armstrong Whitworths: Present de-restricted 40 m.p.h. limit to be imposed.
Mill Road and Church Street, Great Burstead, from Southend Road to Noak Hill Road: Present de-restricted, new limit of 30 m.p.h.

LAWN TENNIS FINALS.

In the finals of the Brentwood & District Individual Tournaments held last Saturday week, two members of the Billericay Lawn Tennis Club, Mrs. M. Clamp and Mrs. H. Atkinson won the Ladies Doubles title by beating Mrs. F. Sprigg and Mrs. M. Dayner, the defending champions, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2. After leading 4-1 in the first set, the Billericay pair lost the next eight games to lose the first set and trail 0-3 in the second. At this point the Billericay pair staged a comeback and with some very good smashes and service work by Mrs. Atkinson, combined with some penetrating services and accurate driving from Mrs. Clamp, the Billericay pair earned an extremely good victory.

LAINDON ROAD IMPROVEMENT.

It was reported at the last meeting of Basildon Council’s Works Committee that the improvement of the length of Laindon Road, Billericay, between Sun Corner and the Primary School, had been included in the Council’s major works programme for County highways. In view of the increasing volume of traffic using the road, and the increasing number of children attending the School the County Surveyor had suggested that a detailed scheme be prepared for submission to the Council. The Committee agreed that a detailed scheme be approved for submission to the Council.

SOUTHEND RD. FOOTPATH -- LATEST.

At their recent meeting the Works Committee of Basildon Council was informed that the provision of a footpath along Southend Road between Mill Road and Armstrong Whitworth’s factory was included in the Council’s major works programme, but was not yet approved for grant purposes. In a recent campaign to get a footpath, a number of residents living in the area partially obstructed the road with cars, erected posters and banners, and distributed leaflets. It was stated that the County Surveyor felt that the provision of a footpath was most desirable. However, a considerable amount of land acquisition was involved, and also realignment of the road, and funds for major improvements of this type were extremely limited. It was felt that the Minister might accept acquisition of land for grant purposes, and in that case the work should be carried out from classification estimates.

It was decided that the Engineer & Surveyor should negotiate with the owners of the properties on the west side of the road for dedication of the land required free of charge. Should any owner be unwilling to do so the Engineer was asked to report to the Committee as soon as possible. It was also decided to serve notices requiring the removal of posters from the side of the road, and if this was not done within a month the Engineer was authorized to remove them.

CHURCH STREET IMPROVEMENT.

Basildon Council’s Works Committee were informed at their recent meeting that traffic along Church Street, Great Burstead, had increased considerably, and the road was unsuitable for the present volume of traffic. It was agreed that a scheme providing for a 24 ft. wide carriageway, and a 6 ft. footpath on one side be submitted to the County Council.

PART-TIME BUILDERS.

ALTERATIONS — GARDEN WALLS — PATHS — GARAGES — FURNITURE REPAIRS — CHIMNEY REPAIRS — INTERNAL & EXTERNAL DECORATIONS — CONSERVATORIES — BUILT-IN CABINETS

ESTIMATES GIVEN. APPLY: R. CAMP, 7, FERRY STREET, BILLERICAY.
HEADMASTER OPENS CHURCH FETE.

"For children to be brought up in a Church atmosphere today is a real and satisfying achievement in face of all the modern distractions," said Mr. C. A. J. Bromhead, Headmaster of Battersby School, opening Christ Church's Garden Party in the grounds of Will Hill House last Saturday week. It was obvious that this was being achieved through the Sunday School at Christ Church.

Mr. Bromhead drew a comparison between the Church and School, both of which were overcrowded. Both had been put up as temporary buildings in the 1930's, and in both cases "temporary" had been a long time. There were still more classrooms to be erected at the School to deal with the increase of pupils (now 300, expected to rise to 600), and he hoped that the new Church would be erected soon afterwards. With such a band of energetic workers he was sure that their efforts would not fail.

Mrs. Bromhead received a bouquet from Ann Simpson (aged 4) and Mrs. Ball, wife of Mr. W. W. Ball, whose kind permission the Fete was held in his garden, received a bouquet from Sheila Wilson.

Christ Church organisations, Billericay Parish Church, and Toc H manned the stalls and sideshows. Many hundreds of people visited the Fete during the afternoon.

Displays were given by Billericay (Medau Group) (Keep Fit) and 1st Billericay Brownies (Country Dancing).

In the evening the stalls were cleared away, and floodlight dancing to records was held on the lawn.

The Garden Party made a profit of £90 towards the Christ Church Development Fund for a new Church in Perry Street. £700 has already been raised, and a Public Appeal for funds is being launched in October.

Fancy dress results (judged by Mr. & Mrs. Bromhead):
1. Janet Tovey (Queen of Hearts).
2. Michael Humphrey (Spaceman).
3. Carol Humphrey (Poodle).

CARNIVAL OBJECTIVE DIFFICULTY.

The well-attended annual meeting of Billericay Carnival Assn. last Tuesday week had difficulty in deciding the objective for Billericay's 1963 Carnival. Improvements to playing facilities, a community centre, and the University of Essex were among the many suggestions put forward, but it was finally decided to carry the matter forward to the next meeting on October 16th, when it was hoped that some firm ideas would be put forward.

A letter was read from Billericay Town Sports Club, which regretted that there was little prospect of the Carnival Assn. using their ground in Laindon Rd. as the Fete Field next year, because of its poor condition.

Mr. J. A. Dodd (Secretary) said that he had made inquiries about alternative grounds.

Mr. S. C. Squires felt that there was some hope of being able to use the ground.

Mr. A. P. Bryant said that the ground was owned by the County Council, and earmarked for use as a Community Centre. The Sports Club were merely the tenants of the County Council. He knew that the Club was rather upset last year because they did not get any money from the Carnival but they had not put in a claim. It was time this matter was brought out into the open.

It was agreed that the Association should ask for a meeting with the Sports Club to clear things up.

A cheque for £532-3-1d, it was stated, would be given to Billericay Recreation Rooms from the proceeds of this year's Carnival. The Association was thanked by Mr. C. W. Odell, on behalf of the Recreation Rooms. The Recreation Rooms are used as an Old Folks' rest room, and by various local organisations for all types of functions. Part of the money will go towards a Kitchener project, and also to pay the £100 worth of materials for the re-decoration of the Rooms. This has been carried out by the voluntary labour of Billericay Toc H in association with the Billericay Christadelphians. It is estimated that £300 has thus been saved in labour charges. Work started on August 1st, and should be finished by the end of the month.

Page 3.
EDITOIAL

Editor:- Wynford P. Grant.

Editorial Offices:-
"Billericaay Observer", 143, Perry Street,
Billericaay, Essex.

Phone:- Billericay 1927.

Since the last issue a further 160 copies of "The Mills of Billericay" second booklet in the Billericay History Series have been sold, making a total sale to date of 510 copies. This is composed of 400 copies of the first impression, and 110 copies of the second impression, printed shortly after the last issue. I have just a few copies of the second impression left, and any reader who would like a copy should get in touch with me as soon as possible. The price is 6d (Postage 3d) and this booklet deals with the history of all known mills in and around Billericay, also including the famous and amusing story of Billericay's 'ghastly miller', Thomas Wood.

Sales of "Early Billericay", the first booklet in the Billericay History Series, now total 640 copies. I have just a few copies left of the 6th impression. This booklet (price 6d) deals with the history of Billericay from the Stone Age to Roman times, and includes a map of Billericay as it was in Roman times.

Whilst a great deal of the Royal Commission on the Press's findings do not apply to the "Observer", the Commission's remarks on advertising revenue are relevant. The Commission states that there is no doubt that the Press would be more economically healthy if newspapers relied less on advertising revenue, and more on the selling price.

What should be remembered is that if, for example, there was no advertising the "Observer" it would cost at least 4d. a copy, and even then operate at a small loss. Advertisements often prove to be of great service to readers - I can give examples of this. I am of the firm opinion that newspapers should continue to devote space to advertising, although care should be taken to see that no more than one-third of the paper is composed of adverts. I always try to ensure that this is so in the "Observer". --- The Editor.

SPIRELLA

RESIDENT CORSETIERE

MRS W. LENNON
"Danwyn", Beaufort Road, Billericay
Phone Billericay 1827.

MADE-TO-MEASURE FOUNDATIONS AND SWINGSUITS.

My advice on your corsetry problems is always available without obligation.

LIVE WELL!
1st YEAR HENS WILL ROAST OR BOIL!
ONLY 2/2d per lb!
CHEAPER THAN SAUSAGES!
PREBAKED FOR THE OVEN FREE!

Also Rabbit's True-Bred N.Z.W. & Californian. Reasonable prices. All ages.

Apply:- "Noss Bank", Woodside Rd.,
Perry Street, Billericay.
(Between Queens Pk. & School).

PLANTS TO PLANT NOW ! ! !

WALLFLOWERS RED & GOLD ....... 9d Doz.
BROWNING STOCKS ........... 2d each
SWEET WILLIAMS ............. 2d each
WINTER CABBAGE .............. 10d score
SPRING CABBAGE .............. 10d score
ALSO PERENNIAL ROOTS ....... 6d each

The above are strong plants - they are not seedlings.

Apply:- "Noss Bank", Woodside Rd.,
Perry Street, Billericay.

GOOD SPEEDS.
1, CHAPEL STREET.
(Opp. War Memorial).
Established 35 years.

EXPERT FISH FRYER.
SMOKED HADDON A SPECIALITY.
FROZEN FOODS STOCKED.
OPEN ON FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS UNTIL 8 p.m.
Phone Billericay 280.

CHRIST CHURCH, PERRY STREET.

Services:- Sundays at 9.30 a.m.,
1st & 3rd, Holy Communion, others Matins.

Young Wives Fellowship:- Meetings at Christ Church on alternate Tuesdays, 8-9 p.m. Details from Mrs. Stott, 10, Uplands Close.

Page 4.
On the 12th September there was a good attendance. With regard to sick members it was stated that Mrs. Joseph was in Hospital and had had an operation on one of her eyes, Mrs. Wakeling had had an operation, and both were as well as could be expected. Mrs. August, Mrs. Dalgarno, and Mrs. Walters were all improving, and Mr. Pierce was now convalescent. All were wished a very speedy recovery to good health. An Afternoon Cloth, which one of the members had embroidered when in Hospital, was ruffled. Entertainment was by Monty Clark with his Recorder.

On the 19th September there was a very good attendance. Mr. Joseph presided. With regard to sick members it was stated that Mrs. Joseph was as well as could be expected, Mesdames Wakeling, Dalgarno, Walters, and Train were improving, and Mr. Pierce was convalescent. All sick members were wished a speedy recovery. Mrs. August was welcomed back to the Branch after her long absence through illness. The Secretary asked all members who wished to attend the Annual Dinner, which was being held on October 8th at the W.I. Hall, to give in their names, as he wished to know how many were going, because of the catering. A splendid afternoon’s entertainment was given by Bilsen Farrow of the Westcliff Operatic Society and Palace Theatre with songs, accompanied by her pianist Mrs. E. Smith, Mr. J. Walker, an old Member of the Branch rendered Banjo Solos, with Mrs. Dawkins as Pianist.

Battsbury Monday Club.

Meetings are held every Monday from 7 to 9 p.m., at Battsbury School in Perry Street, where new members will be very welcome.

Have YOU bought your copy of "THE MILLS OF BILLERICAY"?

by Wynford Grant. No. 2 in the Billericay History Series.

If not, you should hurry and buy your copy from your newsagent or from the "Observer" Offices, 143, Perry Street, Billericay, price 6d + 3d postage. Over 500 copies sold to date.

Read about Billericay’s many mills -- how a mill works -- the amusing story of Billericay’s famous "ghastly miller", Thomas Wood. Drawings of Thomas Wood and Billericay mill, and two maps.

P.S. -- Just a few copies left of the 5th impression of No. 1 in the Series, "Early Billericay". Price 6d + 3d postage.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO BOOK A CRUISE OR HOLIDAY ABROAD

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HOROLOGIST
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REPAIRS TO WATCHES AND CLOCKS.

The "Billericay Observer" is Printed & Published by Wynford P. Grant Ltd. at their Registered Office at 143, Perry Street, Billericay, Essex. c Wynford P. Grant Limited.
Old Billericay was well known for its extremely strong puritan beliefs. During the Marian Persecution several local men and women were burnt for their Low Church beliefs. At a later date Billericay sent six men on the "Mayflower" to find freedom from religious persecution in the New World, and provided the governor for this famous ship. Later colonists founded the town of "Billericay" in Massachusetts, today a thriving town of some 20,000 people. And right up to modern times Billericay was noted for its strong tendency towards Nonconformity. At one time or another most of the Nonconformist denominations have been represented in the town, and the Quakers, Methodists, and Congregationalists flourish today.

In 1646 the Quarter Sessions Court received a petition from a number of local inhabitants, who complained about a Puritan sect that had sprung up in Billericay. This "dangerous sect" was accused of "holding meetings of their owne with the admittance of all comers even in the time of publique worshippe; their preachers brand the order of our Church as anti-christian; they administer the sacrament of the supper, rebaptise men and women, and vent the poysen of unsound opinions." Apparently the "poysen" they were accused of was advocating religious tolerance and the repeal of anti-Puritan laws! The petition goes on to accuse the sect of "boldly attempting to disturb us in the publique worshippe, and in the face of the congregation to quarrel at the truth delivered, to the seducing of the people, the scandal of many, the distraction of all, and the great indangering of the publique peace."

The petitioners conclude: "Therefore out of a deep sence of the danger of the peoples' soules, the hindrance of the progress of the gospelle, and the Reformation in hand, the subversion of the truth, and power of religion; the Anarchy, and confusion likely to overspread us iff not timely prevented, do humbly address ourselves to your pious and justiciable majesties by such remedy; as may prevent the further spreading of their most wicked opinions; restrain their violence, and restore to us a peaceable enjoyment of our religion."

However, the petition does not seem to have "restored a peaceable enjoyment of our religion", for later in the year there is a report of a riot in Billericay Church. Apparently one Jos. Salmon, accompanied by a mob, "did lately in a mentionous and disorderly manner enter into Billericay Church immediately after sermon and did abuse Mr. Smyth (who had then preached) and divers other present."

The accused were fined 40/- each - a hefty sum, considering that 1/- a week was a fair wage. There was no more trouble until 1691 when a riotous mob smashed down the Chapel (Church) door and removed the surplice and common prayer book, and caused other damage.

During the rule of Oliver Cromwell those who broke the Sabbath were very severely dealt with. In 1653 Thos. Sturgin of Billericay was in trouble for suffering disorderly persons in the house, and tipping on the Lord's Day. He also committed the dreadful sin of travelling on Easter Sunday. In 1658 Mathew Hedge, an alehouse keeper, was in trouble for allowing a number of people to drink, tipple, and "take tobacco" on the Sabbath. For this "great profanation of the Lords Day" he was fined 10/-. Henry Hixson of Great Burstead was also in trouble for having company in his house on a Sunday "at the sermon time". To Be Continued In The Next Issue.

**BILLERICAY TOP TEN** - Based on sales of records at Stanwood Radio Ltd., High Street, Billericay. Last time's positions in brackets.

1. EGA.1303 - She's Not You (Elvis Presley) (i).
2. POP.105 - Be Austria With A Kiss (Brian Hyland) (7).
3. DB.14886 - It'll Be Me (Cliff Richard) (5).
4. R.4930 - Don't That Beat All (Adam Faith) (-).
5. F.11494 - Telstar (The Tornados) (-).
6. DB.4870 - Guitar Tango (The Shadows) (3).
7. DB.4896 - I Remember You (Frank Ifield) (7).
8. F.11488 - Main Title Theme (Jet Harris) (-).
9. POP.1034 - I Can't Stop Loving (Roy Charles) (-).
10. 7N.15457 - Spanish Harlem (Jimmy Justice) (-).
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All types of fencing and walling · rustic work · garden seats · garden gates supplied and fixed · trellis work · car run in · tarmac and shingle paths and drives.

Turfs supplied best quality A1 meadowland · Top soil peat · sand · ballast · concrete slabs · garden furniture concrete figures · bird baths sundials · york stone · broken paving. All types of garden manure and fertilizers supplied.

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2nd BILLERICAY SCOUTS AND CUBS
GRAND AUTUMN SALE
Saturday October 13th.
WATCH FOR DETAILS!
Contributions of bottled and
boxed goods, groceries etc. will
be gratefully received - Hon.Sec.
16, Mayflower Road, Billericay.

OLD TYME DANCING
EVERY THURSDAY
AT ROSE HALL
CHAPEL STREET
BILLERICAY
ADMISSION 1/6
8 - 10.45 P.M.

TEL BILLERICAY 1413
BILLERICAY TAXI & HIRE SERVICE
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DAY & NIGHT SERVICE.
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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

HAIRDRESSING - Hairdressing in
your own home. Ring Billericay
228 for appointment.

PETS - SHELLERICAY SHETLAND
SHEEPDOGS - Pedigree Puppies,
sable white, champion sire, R.C.
registered, breeding terms avail-
able, wonderful companions.
Apply: - Mrs.Hopkins, "Orchard
Cottage", Station Rd., Billericay.

DRESSMAKING - Reasonable prices;
Apply 1280, Western Road,
Billerica. Phone Bill.1213.

Classified Advertising Pays -
1/- for up to forty words.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.
What's On In & Around Billericay.

SALES OF WORK ETC. - Autumn Sale,
Billericay Recreation Rooms,
Saturday 13th October, 11 a.m. to
5 p.m. in aid of 2nd Billericay
Scout Group funds.... Rummage
Sale, Saturday 20th October, at
2.15 p.m. in the British Legion
Hall, Chapel Street, organised by
the Operatic Society.

TALKS & LECTURES - Billericay
Horticultural Society, "Pest
Control" at W.I. Hall on the 15th
October.

Next Basildon Council Meeting ---
Thursday 11th October, 6.30 p.m.,
Wickford Junior School, Market
Road, Wickford.

BIG ATTENDANCE AT TALK ON PLANTS.

53 members attended a meeting
held by Billericay Horticultural
Society at the W.I. Hall on Monday
17th September, when Mr.Davidson
of Rochford's Ltd. gave a talk on
House Plants.

Mr.Davidson told members that
House Plants thrived on good food
and drink, although they did not
like to be left in blazing sun-
shine, but preferred good light in
a sheltered position.

A large selection of plants
were shown to the audience, and
advice on the care and propagation
was given for many varieties.

B.B.C. ARTISTES FOR BILLERICAY.

When Billericay Operatic and
Choral Society sing "The Bartered
Bride" in the Archer Hall on
Saturday September 29th they will
have as their guest soloists John
Ford and Ranken Bushby.

These two busy artistes have
sung in Billericay many times. It
was in 1957 that the Society's
conductor, Charles Western, first
met Ranken Bushby, when they were
working on the same television
programme at Lime Grove. This
concert version of opera is
proving very popular with the
singers, and it seems certain
that the audience will find it so
too.

BUSY WEEK FOR M.P. - Billericay's
M.P., Mr.Edward Gardner Q.C., is
spending the week starting 24th
September in his constituency. He has a full programme for the week,
which starts with a Press
Conference, and will visit local
Schools and factories, as well as
meet local Conservative groups.
Dear Sir, — The leading article in the last issue was the fifth or sixth in succession devoted to Mr. Wernick and the Residents. Might I suggest that there are more important topics than this extremely parish-pump affair?

For example, there is the crying need to improve Education. A survey presented to the recent British Association meeting showed that only one-third of our grammar schools, due partly to poor primary schooling, and the unequal distribution of grammar places, 17% of English 13-year olds go to grammar schools, compared to 25% of Welsh children of the same age. In Essex the chance of going to Grammar was once in seven, but in Middlesex it was once in five.

The Labour Party, both nationally and locally, is very concerned about this problem. Billericay Party will probably be holding a meeting on secondary education when speakers are available. "Stop go-ahead" is the national policy, advocates a big increase in school building and teachers — "Since the burden imposed on the RATEPAYER is one of the main obstacles to conceding adequate teachers' salaries, this responsibility must in future be borne mainly by the Exchequer."

The real meat of politics is vital matters such as this, and not rows and partisanship — John Allard, "Lilias", Jacksons Lane, B/cay.

Editor: Not all of the Editorials have been completely devoted to the matter Mr. Allard mentions. It is interesting to note that he was sufficiently concerned about this "parish pump" affair to write a letter to the "Observer" about it. Also, most of the Editorials were replies to further speeches by Liberals. As a local newspaper we naturally trace most of these local affairs in the national newspapers and magazines. However, we do appreciate that national problems have local implications, and our Editorials on such matters as Education have often tried to examine the local problems in a national context.

I am in full agreement with Mr. Allard about the need to improve educational facilities. All the local primary schools are overcrowded, and how ever good the teaching, overcrowding is bound to result in worse results. Planning ahead with a viable population increase by the answer — a temporary halt in development would also help. I also feel that Billericay needs its own Grammar/Technical School — Billericay children have to travel miles daily to reach the nearest Grammar Schools. A look at the equipment and state of repair of Grammar Schools would not be amiss.

## LONDON ROAD IMPROVEMENT

At last Tuesday week's meeting of Basildon Council's Works Committee the Engineer & Surveyor submitted a detailed realignment scheme for London Road, Billericay, and the entrance to Hillary Mount. The realignment provided for a footpath at road level on the north side to connect Hillary Mount with High Street, with improved sight lines at Burghstead Close, and an increased carriageway width of 24 ft. together with an additional bus layby on the north side to serve east-bound buses, which at present stop in Sun Street. It was agreed to submit the scheme to the Council.

## BILLERICAY FLORAL ARRANGEMENT GROUP

Next Meeting --- Wednesday October 3rd, W.I. Hall at 8 p.m.

Demonstration by Mrs. Starling on "Line and Design".

Members 2/-, Non-Members, 2/6d. Everyone Welcome.

Page 9.
HALL WAS A BLAZE OF COLOUR FOR AUTUMN SHOW.

Billingeay's Archer Hall was a blaze of colour last Saturday week when Billingeay Horticultural Society staged their Annual Autumn Show. During the afternoon hundreds of people toured the exhibits.

Entries were up by 44-360 as compared against 314 last year.

The judges had high praise for the standard of the exhibits.

Commented cookery judge Mrs. G. Wilby; "A very pleasing set of results. The entries were of a higher standard than have previously been shown".

Commented the flower judges Mr. E. J. Morley and Mr. V. Thorne; "The dahlias are very good. The chrysanthemums are good. Some very good entries. Roses very nice exhibits."

On the vegetables they said; "Perhaps not quite so good but there were one or two very nice exhibits". The fruit, they felt, was quite good, and the blue ribbon really earned. Concluding their remarks they said that the whole show was well staged.

Main awards: - Charlotte Gunter Cup, highest aggregate of points in Summer and Autumn Shows, Mrs. J. Norris; J. Layland award to runner-up to Charlotte Gunter Cup, Mr. J. Baldwin; Julia Wood Challenge Cup for highest aggregate of points for perennials (Summer Show) and Michaelmas Dahlias (Autumn Show) Mrs. G. Norris; Horticultural Society Autumn Cup for best exhibit in Vegetable Section, Mr. J. T. Baker; "Womans Own" medal for best cookery exhibit, Mrs. K. C. Coe; National Chrysanthemum Society Silver Medal, most outstanding exhibit, Mr. H. J. Ward; National Chrysanthemum Society Bronze Medal for highest aggregate of points, Mr. H. J. Ward; National Dahlia Society Silver Medal for most outstanding exhibit and Bronze Medal for highest aggregate of points, G. A. Jerse; "Smallholder" Blue Ribbon and Presidents' Cup, best exhibit in Fruit Section, Miss I. Gayes; "Smallholder" Certificate of Merit for runner-up to Blue Ribbon, Mr. A. J. Baldwin; Little Burehead Horticultural Society Silver Cup, best exhibit in Floral Art Section, Mrs. C. Whellams.

ROUND AND ABOUT

by "Wanderer".

The news that the Council have given their blessing to the trees scheme of Billingeay Residents' Association is very pleasing indeed. Anything done to enliven the concrete wastes that some of our new housing estates are is a step in the right direction. It is now up to individual householders to co-operate with the Council and Residents. It is to be hoped that in future when new estates are planned, provision will be made for space for trees at the plans stage.

The Council should give the most serious consideration to the proposal of the C.P.R.E. for giving the High Street a "face lift". It is certainly in need of one! This Civic Trust scheme has been successfully carried out at Norwich, Windsor, and many other towns too numerous to mention. A scheme is currently being prepared for Chelmsford. In each case the scheme has resulted in an increase in trade. It is to be hoped that the Council will give every possible help and encouragement to this proposal.

One of the main difficulties is that there is no Chamber of Trade in Billingeay. Where the scheme could be placed before the traders as a whole. It is high time that Billingeay possessed such an organisation, which could also include industrialists and businesses outside the centre of the town.

I feel that it is a great pity that the Council have decided to increase the speed limit on the Southend Road to 40 m.p.h. Whilst this is classified as an "A" road, the carriageway is far from "A" standard and it possesses many dangers. For example - the sharp bend at the end of Sun Street, at the junction with Chapel Street; the bend by School Road; the almost right-angled bend by Hickstars Lane; the Recreation Ground; and the lack of a clear view near the "Duke of York". In view of the number of children that use this road it does not seem to me that it is a suitable case for an increase in the speed limit.

--- "Wanderer"