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BILLERICAY OBSERVER.
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EDITOR WYNFORD GRANT.

"The only newspaper published and printed in Billericay".

"WE WANT PAYING MEMBERS TO BECOME PLAYING MEMBERS".

"PARISH CHURCH STILL GREATLY IN DEBT".

Mr F.C. Jobson, J.P. opens Great Burstead Parish Christmas Bazaar. Opening the Christmas Bazaar of Great Burstead Parish Church on Saturday November 22nd at the South Green Memorial Hall Mr. F.C. Jobson J.P. said that the Church needed the paying members to become playing members and come along to Church on Sundays. "At church", stated Mr Jobson, "We try to play the game of life".

Introducing Mr Jobson, the Vicar of Great Burstead stated that the Church was greatly in debt, but that was little to worry about with all the generous people, like those who had organised the bazaar were churchgoers. He said that he thanked the people for giving up their spare time and money to help the Parish.

A vote of thanks to Mr Jobson was proposed by Mr Ashley.

There was a large number of stalls at the bazaar which was very well supported.

MR HATT RECOVERS.

It was reported at the last meeting of the Basildon U.D.C. that Mr Hatt (Clerk of the Council) was recovering from his recent illness and was hoped to return to work sometime in December.

STREET WORK PROCEEDING.

It was reported at the last Council Meeting that work was proceeding on street works at Lakeside, Perry Street, Billericay and also Fairfield Rise, Tyebury Common Billericay.

OTHER NEWS.

Noak Hill Road Lighting Plan.
Street Naming Problem.

"COMRADESHIP AND FRIENDSHIP IN LEGION".

Opening the British Legion's Christmas Bazaar at the Rose Hall on November 15th, Mrs Gunter J.P. spoke of the comradeship and friendship in the British Legion.

She said that many people had developed friendships in the British Legion with a sense of comradeship. Mrs Gunter said that she never managed to get her Christmas shopping done before the last minute rush, despite her resolutions but this year with the wonderful array of stalls round her, she thought that she would at last achieve her resolution.

She said that often very little thought was given to the people who had worked so hard to organise and help in the bazaar.

She then declared the bazaar open.

Stalls were Groceries, Treasure Hunt, Ping-pong, Raffles, Bottle Stall, Embroidery and Fancy, Sweets, Bagatelle, 1/- in bucket, teas, cakes, Guess the dolls name and hanky girl. Also there was Father Christmas and a lucky dip.

1,000 HOUSES VISITED IN "ROLL CALL FOR VICTORY".

Over one thousand houses in the Billericay have been visited this Autumn in conjunction with the Conservative "Roll Call for Victory" campaign states the current issue of the "Tory Times", official newspaper of the Billericay-Brentwood Conservative Association.

ROUND AND ABOUT

by
'WANDERER'.

Often now one hears a complaint from a person about school-children on buses and trains.

I wonder WHO is ruder the general public or schoolchildren. I can recall quite a few instances.

Giving my seat up for an old lady for instance. She got off after about a mile and I went to sit down again.

I went to but was grabbed by a man who pushed another person into the seat and started giving me a lecture on "His old school master and politeness"

"Its a wonder they let these school brats on the buses" etc etc. They DON'T do hard work.

May I respectfully point out that I get up at 6.30 and leave home at 7.15 and don't get home until 5.0. if I am lucky 4.45 but sometimes 5.45. I am out for 9½ to 10 hours a day - much more than quite a few people. As for not working hard, although we get long holidays we work hard at school - and at our homework though I am not grouching - we do it willingly. Perhaps we SHOULD get a little more politeness from the PUBLIC. We are not grouchers about hard work or impolite but really the Public are at fault as well.

At the recent meeting of the Council For the Preservation of Rural England, I am informed, twelve new members joined making a total of just over 250 members. The C.P.R.E. welcomes all the residents of Billericay as members. They do some very good work in preserving the district. They plant new trees and maintain and preserve old ones, stop the countryside being spoilt in any way, and preserve records of the past, maps, old tools, ornaments etc for a Museum, in the case of Billericay to name but a few good things they do. Altogether a very useful collection of services to the community.

All for now,

Wanderer

Our ed has made a decision. He has decided that he cannot write "Political Landscape" for every edition and has decided to resume "Sports Observer" on the alternate fortnight.

Looking back through the back issues I note that in the the edition of the 2nd of September the "Observer" forecasts for who goes up and down etc are given. (The bottom two of 4th division candidates according to us are Crewe A, Gateshead, Oldham and Southport).

Let us take the First Division for example to illustrate what I am driving at. The various four top choices are 1st, 3rd, 4th and 16th. The forecast for the bottom four are positioned 21st, 20th, 12th and 9th! Our forecaster has been LUCKIER than some. In division 3 one of his top four is bottom! I say you CANNOT FORECAST FOOTBALL CORRECTLY. Even if you have an electronic brain or have somebodys forecasts. You have just as much chance to win £215,000 with a pin as an electronic brain. Sometimes you might get it by an electronic brain - just as often as with a pin. The electronic brains said Ah! Bourne mouth will beat T & M about 6-1. Hardly anybody dreamt that Tooting & Mitcham would win. The Electronic Brains and Score-Eazy did not dream that Hitchin would draw with Millwall. Even the Hitchin secretary thought they would lose Ah! they said Bath City are sure to draw at Colchester. They lost 2-0.

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THE HISTORY OF BILLERICAY.

Chapter Seven, Before the Norman Conquest by H. Richman.

By the beginning of the 11th century, the Billericay district still consisted mainly of woodland much of which was not cleared for another hundred years or so. There was also the Wastleland in the form of Commons and Greens and, among all this, the collections of cottages - such as they were - near the Churches and Manor Houses which were themselves not much more than great barns in appearance. Nearby, the fields were cultivated in the strip pattern of the period.

On the hill was the Hamlet of Billericay where two parishes - Burstead and Mounthessing - met, their boundaries running roughly down the centre of the present High Street, the west side being Mounthessing, and the east in Burstead.

Signs of the Strip Cultivation of the time can be clearly traced by studying modern Air photographs of the meadow at the corner of London and Laindon Roads, formerly part of the Town Farm.

There were churches at Burstead, Mounthessing where Roman titles are included in the structure, and Buttsbury then known as CINGA, and it is interesting to note that, in each case, the population in later years left their original village centres for a new one on the main road. Stock, in fact, whose Saxon name denotes it's wooded site, is in three of Buttsbury's manors and did not exist as a separate parish for many years after the Saxon era.

The names of some of the Saxon landowners of this period sound queerly to our ears, but we can imagine these people occupying and going about their affairs in our neighbourhood, all those centuries ago. Some of them must have lived in houses on the sites of those existing today, such as the three ladies, INGWAR, ALFEGA and ALGAR, of Mounthessing and ALWIN of Cowbridge. Not far off at Hutton was the man with the curious name of GOT, and at Cinga (Buttsbury) lived BOND.

Most of these together with INGAR of Burstead were to be replaced by Normans, after the Conquest, as we shall see.

We shall also find that the Billericay people of this period were also troubled by Floods which, before the days of hard roads and modern methods of drainage, must have been as much, or even worse a problem than nowadays.

THESE ELECTRONIC BRAINS DON'T CALCULATE ONE FACTOR!

Continued From Page 2.

Another few instances to show that you have just as much chance to win on the football pools with pin as with an electronic brain. West Ham were beaten 3 - 0 by Leicester down in the doldrums. Spurs were beaten 4 - 0 by Birmingham in what was forecast as an easy Spur swin. Plymouth drew 2 all with Wrexham in what SHOULD have been an easy home win. Who thought that lowly Villa would beat championship challengers Preston N.E.? Hardly anybody, except a few "pin-forecasting" fans.

There is one important factor that the electronic brains don't take into account - LUCK AND CHANCE-Rulers of football.

NOAK HILL LIGHTING SCHEME.

A scheme to light Noak Hill Road Billericay, costing £1,600 was revealed at the Basildon U.D.C. meeting on November 20th. The road, thoroughfare between Billericay and Laindon is to be lit with bracket lamps. The Council intended to wait until the road was widened, thus avoiding the cost of moving the lamps again but the need was so urgent that it was decided to do it now. It was reported that in the scheme covering the whole district of lighting with lamps of electricity posts nearly 1,200 lamps had been put up. Now, it was stated, the difficulties of timing, boughs of trees obstructing lamps etc were being smoothed out.

DIFFICULTY IN STREET-NAMING.

It was said at the meeting of the Basildon U.D.C. on November 20th that the Council had "some difficulty" in choosing the road names for new estates submitted by developers in order to blend with the existing amenities. The following names have been approved by the Council:

Beverley Rise, a cul-de-sac off Jacksons Lane.

Newlands Close, a cul-de-sac off Newlands Estate.

Jaqueline Gardens, a new street in an estate near Bush Hall and between Stock Road and Perry St. Billericay.

GARAGING INQUIRY.

"Wont tolerate grass verges, littered with cars and motor-bikes on the new estates".

An enquiry has been made by the Council into garaging facilities on the new estates in the locality. Despite the fact that there is not adequate space for garaging parking on the grass verges will not be tolerated, it was stated. Another enquiry will be made.

STOP PRESS

The editor apologises for any change in printing colour due to printing faults.

EDITORIAL CORNER.

Editorial Offices,
143, Perry Street.

Dear Readers,

Once again it is time to write a small note to you.

It is hoped that soon we shall be mentioning some names of some houses and families in H. Richman's History of Billericay. I hope you enjoy this edition as much as previous ones.

Yours Sincerely,

Editor.

FOR

THE

GARDENER.

At this time of year it is necessary to have a lot of bonfires. Often as not these just fizzle out in our damp and wet climate. The "Observer" have experimented with a new way of lighting bonfires and a large bonfire lit in this way burned for 27 hours. Here is the method.

First of all make a hole in the top of the bonfire and put in this loosely screwed balls of paper. On top of this put some DRY leaves, but first of all light the paper. Once the bonfire has gained a hold you can pile your wetter refuse on the bonfire. Do not at any time poke or in anyway disturb the bonfire.

One note. If you can get a old wheel and place about four bricks high at four corners. This creates an air-flow. Do this whether you use the "Observer" bonfire lighting method or not.

GARDEN ADVICE - FREE

Address your Garden Querys to us and we will give you expert answers by our expert in this column.

"LONGSIGHT".

In a traffic jam on the Riveria drove a British wife who would not wait for this congestion to clear, so pulled out tried to slip out past the other cars, the police officer waved her to stop, which she did, with the front wheel on the police officer's toe. Next the police officer waved the Mrs "Moncheroty", wife of the millionaire Mike Duke Armor Morcherty to move on off his toe, she did so, but when requested to produce identification papers, the police officer alleged, she slapped his face, for that slap Mr S C was fined £ 9.

Here we have a nasty incident by a British woman. We surely cannot maintain our prestige abroad when we have such silly and hot-tempered people from our country and acting in this manner. I myself have witnessed the same of thing during my travels in India. It is sad to think that some of these high spirited ladies and some men too, when abroad forget their manners and treat some natives and even their own countrymen as - MUCK. I maintain Be British at all times and play the game where ever you are, thank goodness these offenders are in the minority.

The Downfall of Man.

I understand that on Tuesday Nov 18th, on the Moat Edge Housing Estate, under construction, an employee of Mr Sherrif, fell from the scaffold, and was taken to Hospital by ambulance, for an examination. The patient was found to be suffering from a knee injury and will probably be working again in a week or two. I am sure we are all glad that no very serious injury was sustained by the fall.

The Next Move.

It is rumored that the new house adjacent to the grocer shop i.e. Queen's Park Stores is for sale and a new house is to be built opposite the footpath to the Station for the tenant.

Do we need rubber necks?

I really think so, especially at the junction of Western Road, High Street and Norsey Road one has to carefully

(Continued in next column).

"LONGSIGHT".

(Continued from Preceding Column)

look RIGHT, LEFT, IN FRONT AND BEHIND, then happily step off the road to beat a hasty retreat onto the pavement again and step on some dear old souls corns to the tune of Honk, honk, ho--nk, hoo--nk as a car has appeared from nowhere. Naturally one has to put up with a snuff and dirty look for trading on other peoples corns, such is life. That makes me feel? I wonder if our readers have experienced such as I have. I have now come to the conclusion that;

The Main Object?

Me apparently crossing the road!

The question is often asked, can a woman keep a secret?

Longsight says yes she can, the reason I give is; They will never tell you their age or their weight.

Clohen speaking to Ike. Vot a terrible fire you had at your shop last Vensday my tear (scar).

Ike, not last Vensday my tear, next Vensday.

Miles of Smiles.

'Longsight'

(More Agony Next Edition)

"BRITISH NAPLES"

(Plus the Gasworks).

It all goes into the holiday guides, Britains Naples, Britains Monte Carlo etc.

So off I go to Resort 'X' where I am assured of delightful winter weather with the same transport services and entertainment.

I arrive at Resort 'X' in pouring rain - it just CANT go on.

I hire a taxi and I arrive at the towns top hotel the Ritz

Continued on Page 6.

BRITISH NALPES.

(Continued from Page 5.)

I am assured by the "Ritz" winter brochure that the orchrestal will play throughout the Winter season. In the evening I go to the hotel dance hall but I am told by the manager "Oh yes the band plays in the Winter-every Friday!"

In the sunny morn I look across the wide expanse of storm-tossed sea (calm in Winter as in Naples Summer states the guide) to where the gasworks (modern architecture) can just be seen.

I decide to go by the pier by bus (frequent service on 1,4,9,9a,9b,9c and 9d routes).

I wait fifteen minitues for a bus. Conductor's explanation; Winter Service, only 4,9a and 9b.

I arrive at the pier; "Staffed in winter as in summer; full train service to Pier Head". I buy my ticket from a solitary attendent and stroll on to the platform.

After waiting twentwy minitues and no sign of a train from the other end I asked the attendent. In the winter Fred who drives the train looks after the Pier Head - its Winter you know. After waiting another 10 minitues I am on my way to the Pier Head. When wanting to return to the shore I return to the Station I see a notice - NEXT TRAIN 1.0. The time Hotel Dinner starts. I walk to the Shore and catch a bus to the hotel after waiting ONLY 12 minitues.

Looking at my guide I saw that the plays continued as usual nightly at the Winter Gardens during the Winter.

Arriving at the Winter Gardens I bought my ticket and went in. For the next two hours I was tortured to the antics of a horrible local variety group.

NEVER TAKE A WINTER HOLIDAY!

GOOD LUCK TO THEM!

I applied the Liberal councillors that are running services on a route underserved by London Transport services. They are now attempting to get a licence to run a fair-paying service. So far only one licence has been granted to a private operator in the London Transport under-served areas. I think that in districts London Transport have withdraw their routes private operators should take over. The Little Man pays a way.

LETTERS.

Letters should be sent to the Editor and either signed with the real name of the sender or a suitable nom-de-plume.

Dear Sir,

Why doesn't Billericay have a good football club? For a town with about 13½ thousand people, surely there must be some footballing talent among all these inhabitants.

"Curious". Ed; often mere villages have football teams in leagues like the Eastern Counties. Size is not a factor to calculate

footballing value by. Nearest Senior football clubs are Southend U. (3rd division) Chelmsford C. (Southern lge) Romford (Isthmian lge) and less important teams nearer Basildon T. (London League Div I) and Brentwood & Warley (Delphian League).

Dear Sir,

You report that Mr Amos at the C.P.R.E. meeting said that all the features of a modern town should be available in Billericay. He continues "Why not? I say because the newcomers like the old-world atmosphere and they don't want huge development. They want to have open, undeveloped countryside, they

do not want what they had before in London. We came to Billericay for countryside and old-world shops - not a Dagenham II.

"Newcomer".