

BILLERICAY OBSERVER.

TUESDAY AUGUST 4TH, 1959.

EDITOR WYNFORD P. GRANT. EDITION NUMBER 40. PRICE 1½d.

TRAFFIC—NEED FOR DETAILED CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE USE OF LAND IN CENTRAL AREA SAYS COUNCIL

Basildon U.D. Council Development Committee were advised, on July 14th, of discussions taking place on Town Map proposals for Billericay, and noted the need for detailed consideration to be given to the future use of land connected with the serious traffic situation in Billericay.

It is hoped that the County Council will agree to the immediate preparation from the aerial survey recently undertaken by the Council of a large scale map of the area, to enable detailed proposals to be formulated so that the control of development can be properly exercised.

The "Observer" has reason to understand that there is a possibility, that on the advice of the Council, the County Council will build a new road from the Ritz in Chapel Street, through the Chantry Barn coming out in Crown Road.

COUNCIL WILL ENFORCE LITTER ACT ON MISUSERS OF COMMUNAL REFUSE BINS

Basildon Council will enforce the Litter Act on people who throw rubbish round communal refuse bins instead of putting the rubbish in them, warned Counc Phelps at last Thursday's meeting of Basildon U.D. Council.

"If this practice does not immediately cease the Council will have no hesitation in enforcing the Litter Act", said Counc Phelps.

FOUND FISHING IN LAKE AT 11.30 p.m.

Basildon Council's Finance Committee decided on July 21st, to institute legal proceedings against a person found fishing in Lake Meadows Park Lake on 3rd July at about 11.30 p.m.

WORK TO BE STARTED ON LAKE MEADOWS EXTENSION SHORTLY.

Work will start shortly on the preparation and seeding of two fields between Lake Meadows and Knightbridge Walk shortly.

The land, when developed will provide extra sports pitch facilities as an extension to Lake Meadows. The Council release that there is an urgent need for such facilities in the Billericay area.

RENTS UP FOR COUNCIL TENANTS WHO
DON'T KEEP THEIR GARDENS - PAGE 6.

HEADMISTRESS RETIRES AFTER 17 YEARS.

After 17 years as Headmistress of Buttsbury Primary School, and after 40 years service to education in the district Miss N.M. Corcoran of Lion Lane, Billericay retired at the end of last term.

On Tuesday July 21st she was presented with a record player, record tokens, and cheque, £71.19s. 10d was raised towards the fund. The presentation was made by F.C.E. Manns, Esq., M.Sc., the Divisional Education Officer. Mrs F.C. Johnson of Stock represented contributors not directly connected with the school.

BILLERICAY MUSEUM SHOULD BE READY BY SPRING.

The Billericay museum, sponsored by the local group of the Council For the Preservation of Rural England should be ready for opening by the Spring.

The museum will draw exhibits from an area bounded by Ingatestone, Wickford, Stock, and London.

WORK WILL BE STARTED SHORTLY ON SEWERAGE SCHEME.

Work will commence shortly on the Buttsbury High Level Scheme, first proposed in 1912. When the scheme is completed people living in the Stock, Norseay, and Upper Perry Street areas will have main sewers, in place of the present cesspools.

PRIME MINISTER WILL VISIT BASILDON.

The Prime Minister, will visit Basildon New Town on Wednesday August 5th.

COUNCILLORS WALK OUT.

When prayers were said for the first time at a Basildon U.D. Council Meeting on Thursday two councillors left the chamber.

At the last Council Meeting, after a stormy debate, the Council carried a motion that prayers would precede Council Meetings.

APPLICATION FOR LOCK-UP GARAGES.

The Basildon Council Development Committee were told on July 14th that an application had been received for the erection of lock-up garages between properties fronting the High St. and Chapel St. It was decided that the Council might wish to acquire the site and it was decided that the owner would be approached.

CINEMA DIARY,
RITZ CINEMA, CHAPEL STREET,
BILLERICAY.

Thursday August 6th, Three Days.

Guy Williams in "THE SIGN OF ZORRO". (U). Having learned of the injustices being inflicted on the people of the pueblo of Los Angeles by a rascally commandante Don Diego decides to act. Convinced that open resistance to the tyranny would be fatal, Diego decides to portray the role of an indolent and ineffectual man. Under this guise, he decides to take the role of the masked Zorro and to defeat the corrupt rule of the commandante. Also "THE LIGHT IN THE FOREST". (U). A "different" Indian story.

Monday August 10th, Three Days.

Sophia Loren and Anthony Quinn, a team with box-office magic star in this warm and human comedy-drama - "THE BLACK ORCHID". (U). A beautiful, young gangster's widow, Rose Bianco, and Frank Valente, a law-abiding business man, fall in love, only to have their romance threatened by their children. Ralphie, Rose's 12-year-old son is a juvenile delinquent. Mary, Frank's daughter, disapproves of Rose and her past so much that she almost ruins her father's romance as well as her own.

Thursday August 13th, Three Days.

Arthur Askey, Sidney James, Kenneth Connor, Martin Benson, Sally Barnes in "NAME MINE A MILLION". (U). This amusing comedy tells the story of how Sid Gibson (Sidney James) tries to sell a new detergent to a public which is shy of buying anything that has not been advertised on television. With the help of Arthur Ashton (Arthur Askey) who works in the National T.V. Studios he evolves a daring plan to insert an advert for the detergent in front of the cameras during a spectacular number. This succeeds, and following the detergent selling out again and again, the wholesalers demand it is advertised on T.V. again. Arthur and Sid with friends contrive an ingenious pirate t.v. station and insert adverts during the Ascot Races and a high spot at the Edinburgh Festival. They then decide to televise an advert during a reception at London Airport for the Prime Minister and President and for the first time things go wrong for the T.V. station is in a mail van and is mistaken for a real one. But to see what finally happens you must see the film for yourself.

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ROUND AND ABOUT
by
"WANDERER".

You will have no doubt read on the front page concerning the Council's proposals for easing the traffic situation in Billericay. Any plan to put a road through from the Ritz Cinema is dangerous. Crown Rd is dangerous enough - it's no use making it more dangerous.

It is high time the Council produced one comprehensive plan to deal with the Billericay Traffic situation.

Here is mine ("Observer" readers in the central area have expressed similar opinions).

(a). Pedestrian Crossing. (Shortly to be constructed).

(b). One-Way in Chapel Street from High Street to Sun Street. This would eliminate danger to people using the crossing and would make the narrow, pathless-at-places, Chapel Street safer. Chapel Street was not intended for today's traffic.

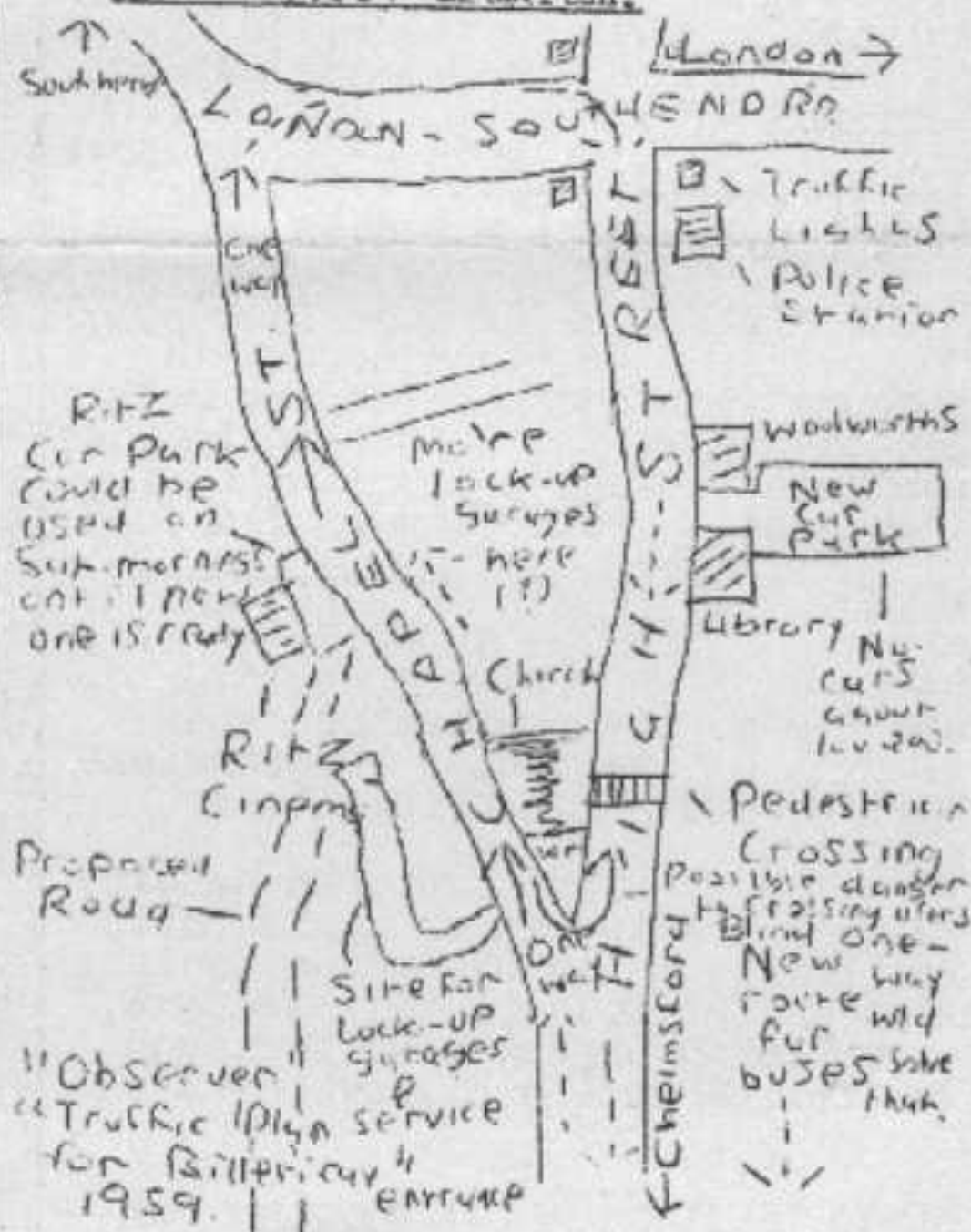
(c). No road from Cinema to Crown Rd. Silly and dangerous and it would involve the destruction of the medieval Chantry Barn and a Roman Villa.

(d). 34, 34a and other routes that turn round by the Church continue up Chapel St. and down High St.

(e). Council lock-up garages on present eyesore behind Chequers to Godspeed's yard. Make it also a service entrance. (less danger).

(f) LAST BUT NOT LEAST A CAR PARK.

Explanatory diagram.



The printing strike after several weeks is over. It all seems so illogical! Perhaps that is just what Britain is becoming! The strike weapon now reduces the country to chaos, just as civil strife does. I met an Indian who had come to England for a course of studies and to collect a diploma. Asked what it was he said - a diploma of logic. Well, it is wise to be logical.

And again on the topic of India. The Director of a regional meteorological centre that broadcasts weather forecasts, and for newspaper offices, shipping companies, farmers etc., was told his forecasts were often wrong. He explained that he gave a forecast of conditions for areas and so the doubting one who had experienced rain instead of sunshine had been in the wrong place for which the forecast was valid. He explained the forecasts are for a 25-mile radius and not by the mile. So the next time you go out without an umbrella and it rains you are in the wrong yard, stated the Director.

The International Meeting of Judicatives held in Geneva to consider the position of Tibet said that if something is not done to halt this overrunning of small countries it may be serious for all. Many people feel this should be taken to the United Nations for early deliberation.

From the "Catholic Universe". A Bullfighter Fernando de les Reyes Pichardo received the award of "Rose of Guardilupe" award by the Archbishop of Merando, Mexico. The Torreador (Bullfighter) told the Archbishop he wouldn't exchange it for a thousand gold bull's ears.

From Sussex comes this news. The local Tories were concerned that the new Labour Council Chairman, a railway clerk with a crippled wife, had to use a cycle. So they secretly bought him a little car and gave it to him anonymously. It is in the spirit of true Christianity to give and not make known your virtues. Oh for more of this spirit! It is dormant but will be re-kindled more profusely one hopes.

After 34 years at the Foreign Office, once a Diplomat, and retiring at the age of 61 Sir Derwent Kermode takes Holy Orders and becomes the Rector of a small parish. He says - to work in the service of others, however humble, is profitable to one's soul.

And news about New York. It is reported that a Negro Farm Worker had escaped from a chain gang whilst shackled to other prisoners on a rock breaking task. The shackling of prisoners at the ankles by chains savours of the slave days rather than democracy.

A report from India says Democracy in its parliamentary form is in the retreat almost all over Asia. Even in Ceylon, Prime Minister Bandaranaike expresses doubts of the present system of parliamentary democracy. He says it might be wiser to revert to the system that prevailed in the last days of British rule.

"Sickness Prevention" - For severe sun blisters and sun rash - do not apply water for a few days. - "JANUS".

REPORT FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN NEW ZEALAND - RUSS BENNET.

Since the last newsletter from New Zealand, which predicted the menace to the British Isles "Lions" Rugby Team as Don Clarke the forecast came only too true last Saturday, when the All Blacks won the first Rugby test by 18 pts. to 17. Kicks from up to 45yds out spelled doom for the visitors, but also spelled doom for New Zealand's title of the "Champion Rugby Side".

This test was very definitely a moral victory for the British team, and will give them a 100% following with the New Zealand public, when the second test comes up for decision in Wellington.

There will be plenty of moans and groans if the New Zealand selectors fail to give the All Blacks a "new look". There are even some who would like to see Don Clarke absent from the team, so that the home side could win on its merits.

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The recent Royal National Lifeboat Institution Flag Day, organised by Councillor J.J.A. Tesoirere raised £172 - 10 - 4 in the Urban District and £47 - 9 - 3 in Billericay. This is an all-time record.

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EDITOR'S NOTES.

(No of copies)

Circulation

The Observer

500

400

15

500

375

250

240

125



The book regarding the history of the paper is progressing well and should be ready soon. It will cost 6d. Proceeds will go to our general and improvements funds. During July we made a loss on the paper.

"Longlight" is now back and will resume his articles from next edition onwards. His articles will now definitely re-start on October 2nd.

The Town Crier is not ready yet. (The "Ob" emblem). It will probably start in conjunction with a big publicity campaign in mid-late September. As a part of this we hope to get the "Observer" on sale in the newsagents.

Readers will appreciate the fact that there is a lack of local news in the second half of August and Early September. Therefore there will be more articles in the next two editions.

A New Zealand friend of the "Observer", (not Miss Bennet) writes that she has (being an ex-school-teacher) helping out at the local school. When a fellow teacher saw the

"Observer" he was very interested for he had been telling some of his classes about the "Ob" and trying to instil some drive and enterprise into them.

A.P. Scott - Editor

TREE

SURVEY.

It was reported to the General Committee of the Council for Preservation of Rural England at their meeting last Tuesday that the Trees & Countryside Sub-Committee, following the request of Basildon Council, have divided the Billericay district into eleven sections for the purpose of surveying and plotting all trees thought suitable for a preservation order. Further members of the Group are being co-opted in order to assist with this; special help is required in the Perry St., South Green, Laindon Common and Outwood Common areas. If any person is willing to help in any practical way or knows of any suitable trees worthy of preservation (other than woodlands which are already covered) the Secretary of the Trees and Countryside Sub-Committee would be pleased to have details. Miss M. Wood, "Foxburrow", Deerbank Drive, Billericay or in the Perry St. area Mr Hammond, "Up-a-Long", Perry Street.

The trees planted in Norsey Meadows, last October, and the two in Laindon Rd, planted by the County Council on the Group's suggestion have all died and steps are being taken to have them re-planted.

CONSULTATION ON SHOP PLANS.

Basildon U.D. Council Planning Committee decided on July 16th to advise the developer who wished to demolish the present building and erect a new shop with offices over that owing to the Council's concern regarding the development of Billericay High Street, he should consult with the Engineer and Surveyor on the design.

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COMMENT.

Several City Councils have excluded press representatives and the public from their meetings recently. Many others (including Basildon) keep open only part of their Council Meetings open to Press & Public. In the case of Basildon, though, Press Statements are issued.

The N.U.J., Institute of Journalists, many other paper organisations, and the Minister of Housing & Local Government have condemned this state of affairs. But still the Councils refuse to open the meetings.

This paper believes that meetings in secret are a bad thing for the country and that every meeting should be open to the Press & Public.

An opponent to this stated that Councillors would feel afraid of free speech if there were reporters there. Surely, Councillors should not be frightened to have their views printed. If not, they cannot, really 100% believe in them.

To rid another obstacle. Many opposers say that reporters are too busy to attend all Committee meetings. So they are but Press Statements should still be issued in case they were not. And members of the public might want to attend.

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YOUNG WIVES FELLOWSHIP.

Owing to the Summer Holidays, the Young Wives Fellowship will not meet until September 15th, 2 to 3 p.m.
CHURCH SERVICES:- Communion; 1st Sunday in Month, 9.30 a.m. Evensong; 3.30 p.m. except 1st Sun. in month.

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BILLERICAY O.A.P.'s.
 Wednesday 22nd July, 1959.

At the Meeting of the Billericay O.A.P. held at Rose Hall there was a very good attendance. Mr. Joseph was in the Chair. Enquiries were made as to Members away sick, and were wished a speedy recovery. Birthday honours were recorded Mrs O. Smith. The Secretary gave details of the outing to Stratton on August 17th. A new member was cordially welcomed. Entertainment was given by the "Estonians" Concert Party from Wickford. Tea hostesses were Mesdames Joseph, Cayser, and August. War.

WEDNESDAY 22nd JULY.

At the Meeting of the Billericay O.A.P. held at the Rose Hall on Wednesday last there was a very good attendance, considering the storm at the time of the meeting. Mr W. Joseph presided. The "Crackerjacks" Laindon No. 1. Concert Party entertained and gave a very excellent programme. They were given a very hearty vote of thanks for coming along, for the enjoyment of the members, on such a stormy and very wet afternoon. Tea hostesses were Mesdames Joseph, Lawis, Porter, and Cayser.

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LATE NEWS.

COUNCIL TENANTS WHO DON'T KEEP THEIR GARDENS TIDY WILL PAY HIGHER RENT.

Council Tenants of Basildon Council who do not keep their gardens tidy and cultivate them properly will, in future, be given twenty-one days to remedy the garden. Unless they do so they will be given a Notice to Quit and will be offered a new tenancy at a higher rent.

This decision of the Council's Housing Committee on 16th July was approved by the Council last Thursday.

Before coming to this decision the Committee had sent letters to three-hundred tenants who had neglected their gardens. All had either made some attempt to remedy matters or give some reason. Further approach had been made to the latter category of tenants and in a few cases there had been no success in securing compliance with the Council's requirements.

Tenants who neglect their gardens will, at the same time, pay the Council for cutting down grass and weeds.

CIVIC ARTS SOCIETY COMING TO COUNCIL FOR MONEY "COMPLETELY WRONG".

In a debate on financial assistance to Basildon Civic Arts Society at the Basildon Council Meeting on Thursday Council Mrs Gadson said that it was completely wrong that the Basildon Civic Arts Society kept coming to the Council, year in, year out for money. There are many other societies sponsoring Art in the area, and most make a loss but they don't come wailing to the Council to make up their loss, continued Mrs Gadson.

An alteration was made to the Council's financial aid to the Civic Arts Society.

GRANTS POLICY.

Basildon Council Finance Committee decided on July 21st to make a general policy concerning grants to local organisations.

It was decided that grants would only be made to organisations that served the whole Urban District and were appropriate in the first instance to Basildon U.D. Council.

The reason for giving grants is stated as the purpose is to encourage the voluntary spirit and the giving of public service in causes closely associated with the Council's functions.

Basildon U.D. Old People's Welfare Committee get a £200 per year grant.