

# BILLERICAY OBSERVER

Tuesday June 6th, 1961.

Number 88.



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"The only newspaper printed and published in Billericay".

## HOSPITAL FETE BROKE ALL RECORDS

The 7th Annual Hospital Fete, organised by St. Andrew's Hospital League of Friends, at the Football Field and Archer Hall last Saturday afternoon, broke all records! The amount raised was well above last years figure of £500 - a provisional estimate is £800. Over 2,000 programmes were sold at the gate, and 5,000 were sold beforehand. An estimated 4,000 people attended the Fete, and the number of stalls and sideshows was another record - 52. The draw raised a record figure of nearly £170.

The Fete was opened by Miss Q.M. Jackson, Matron of St. Andrew's. She said that the Hospital valued the friendship extended by the League enormously. She continued; "Since the League were formed in 1954 they have given a very valuable service to the Hospital. We need friendship and we need staff, and we have certainly got friendship from the people of Billericay". Miss Jackson was presented with a bouquet by Sheila Overing, aged six, the youngest member of the League, and granddaughter of the Chairman, Mr. S.C. Squires.

In addition to the stalls and sideshows manned by the League and the majority of the organisations in the town, there were displays by Billericay Art Club, Billericay Group of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England, and Basildon Urban District Civil Defence Corps Rescue team, who demonstrated from a 25 ft. high tower.

During the day Mr. Keith Fearn, his son, Peter, and a friend, Michael Cullum, toured the town wearing large carnival heads in the shape of a mule, a duck, and a schoolmaster. They also met the Rumford Morris Men and Girls Life Brigade Band at the Station, and escorted them in procession through the town to the Fete ground. Many shops in the town were decorated with flags and bunting, in response to an appeal from the League of Friends.

Other highlights of the afternoon were a display of police dogs, and a Fancy Dress Competition, organised by Mrs. K. Hartley and Mrs. A. Mitchell, and judged by Matron. During the afternoon Mr. Jas Hunter flew a plane over the Fete Ground, in a "Guess The Height" competition. After landing, he returned to the Fete Ground, and announced the height of the plane - 672 feet. The competition was won by Mr. Triece, who estimated the exact height. Prizes were presented to the champion programme sellers, Graham Meekings and Ian Hunt, both of Gardiners Lane, Crays Hill, who between them sold 1,500.

Among the many items provided for the Hospital by the League since 1954 are; G.P.O. Trolley Telephones, Garden Furniture, Record Player, Summer House for Staff, Cubicles for Wards, Radio Headphones, Television Receivers, Toys for the Children's Ward, Armchairs for Old People, Fireworks for the Children, Adjustable Footrests for Old People, Bulbs and Flowers for Wards, Special Chair for Spastics, and £150 for a proposed Staff Hall.



#### COUNCIL'S FIRST WOMAN CHAIRMAN ELECTED

At last Thursday week's meeting of Basildon Council Cllr. Mrs. Gadson of Wickford was elected the first woman Chairman in the Council's history. Voting was; Mrs. Gadson 18, Cllr. Dove (Leader of the Opposition), 7. Cllr. A.P. Phelps of Billericay was elected Vice-Chairman, without any contest.

Speaking about the retiring Chairman Mr. W.H. Davies J.P., who was defeated in the recent elections, Cllr. Phelps said that when the election fever had died down the electors would realise the loss caused to public service by the defeat of Mr. Davies.

In reply Mr. Davies stated that he was not going to make the usual remarks of a retiring Chairman, for all that needed to be said had been said on May 13th by the electors of Billericay. However, as a token of appreciation, he had made arrangements for the presentation of a chain of office to the Vice-Chairman. Mr. Davies then went and sat - of all places - in the Labour Opposition benches.

Mrs. Gadson, who was first elected in 1955 and was Vice-Chairman under Cllr. Davies for two years, then made a special address to the women of the district. She emphasised the Council's importance in matters of health, education, welfare, and home safety. She asked all women to take a greater interest than they had done in the next year in the work of the Council and the County Council. She ended; "The work of the local authority has a great influence on our lives, so let us ensure that we have a great influence on the local authority."

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS WILL BE OPEN TO THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

As from today all meetings of the Finance Committee of Basildon Council will be open to the Press and Public, except when matters of a confidential nature are being dealt with. This Committee consists of all members of the Council and thus comes under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960, which came into effect on the 1st of June.

#### ALLOTMENTS NEGOTIATIONS GO AHEAD.

In reply to a question from Cllr. Tesoirere at the recent Council Meeting it was stated that negotiations for land known as Andersen's Nurseries in Mounthessing Road had now started.

#### "BAD FEELING" DUE TO POOR PUBLIC RELATIONS?

Referring to an item in the Minutes at last Thursday week's Council Meeting, referring to the concern of South Green residents over the removal of childrens' playground equipment, Cllr. Dove stated; "A letter explaining our decision is not sufficient - we must meet the residents and explain our decision. I am of the opinion that a great deal of the bad feeling between the residents of Billericay and the Council is due to bad public relations".

In reply it was stated that the decision had been taken on the advice of the Road Safety Committee. Rumours stating that the Council wanted the land to build on were "a lot of nonsense".

#### NEW CHURCH FOR PERRY STREET - MEETING ARRANGED.

A meeting will be held on Thursday 6th July at the Christ Church Mission Hall, Perry Street, commencing, at 8.0 p.m., to discuss ways and means to promote the building of a new permanent Church.

An invitation is extended to all who are interested in the work of the Church in this area, to be present on this important occasion.

The present Church is a wooden building, almost opposite Buttsbury School. There is sufficient room to build a new Church alongside the existing building, and use it as a hall.

#### COUNCIL ACQUIRE LAND FOR HIGH STREET/WESTERN ROAD JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT.

Basildon Council have accepted an offer from prospective developers of land at the corner of Western Road and the High Street to dedicate land owned by them for highway improvement purposes. The Council are also negotiating with the owner of "The Bijou" for the acquisition of this property.

#### OLD PEOPLE'S OUTING TO CLACTON.

Billericay Old People's Welfare Committee are planning an outing to Clacton on Monday 10th July for old people. A coach will leave the Archer Hall at 10.30 a.m., lunch will be provided at Clacton and tea at Maldon, returning to Billericay around 7 p.m. Transport will be organised for people from their homes to the coach. Any pensioners who do not get out much should contact Mrs. Barr at 273, Mounthessing Road. (Phone 522).



## POLICE ASK COUNCIL TO PROVIDE CAR PARKING SPACE IN LAKE MEADOWS.

Basildon Council have received a letter from the Chief Superintendent of Police, Brentwood drawing attention to the serious interference with normal police work occasioned by the lack of parking facilities at Lake Meadows. He states that no less than two officers have to be detailed at week-ends, and that at Whitsun all available beat officers at Billericay, as well as a constable from detachment, were fully engaged in dealing with the regulation of parking, and therefore no officers were available to attend to normal police work i.e. supervision of property and traffic in other parts of the district. He asks whether the Council, as a temporary measure, would consider setting aside an area for parking within the grounds.

The Council have also received a letter from the Group Secretary of the Hospital Management Committee drawing attention to the fact that because of the lack of car park facilities at Lake Meadows, visitors to the recreation ground appear to be parking within the hospital grounds, and along the hospital's new driveway.

The matter is being treated by the Council as one of urgency, and is on the Finance Committee agenda for today (Tuesday).

## OPEN DAY AT FIRE STATION.

42 adults and 73 children visited Billericay Fire Station during the Annual Open Day last Saturday. The open day was the 4th held - they were started in 1958 with the twofold aim of commemorating the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Essex County Fire Brigade, and giving the public the chance to view the equipment and appliances used by the Fire Brigade, and to increase general public knowledge about the Fire Brigade. The appliance that visitors saw on Saturday, however, was an old wartime model. The normal Billericay engine, which carries 200 gallons of water in its tank, is away at the Brigade Workshops for its annual overhaul. And even the spare appliance wasn't there all the time - in the afternoon the firemen were called out to deal with a grass fire in Laindon Link, Basildon. This year's Open Day coincided with Commonwealth Technical Training Week.

## BUSY TIME FOR FIREMEN.

Billericay Fire Brigade have had a busy time in the past fortnight. On Sunday the 21st they were called to assist Laindon Fire Brigade at New Century Road, Laindon. In the morning of Monday the 22nd they went to assist Brentwood at Ingrave, and in the afternoon of the same day they dealt with a grass fire at Shenfield. On Friday they were called to a rubbish fire by the old buildings at the rear of the Chequers, when they were assisted by Brentwood. Damage was very slight. On the evening of the same day they were called to assist Brentwood at a fire at Hutton. On Saturday the 27th they were again called to Hutton to assist Brentwood - this time to D'Arcay Close. The same day they attended a grass fire in Tye Common Road. On Monday the 29th they were called to an electricity cable, which had caught fire at Ramsden Heath. The fire was caused by two wires rubbing together. The Eastern Electricity Board were also in attendance. On Tuesday the 30th they stood by at Laindon, and on the 31st they assisted Brentwood at Hutton. On Thursday the 1st they put out a grass fire in Tye Common Road, and on the 2nd they assisted Laindon at a fire in a greengrocers shop in High Road, Laindon.

## CHAPEL STREET JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT MADE PERMANENT.

At a recent meeting of the Council Works Committee the Engineer & Surveyor reported that he considered no new factors had arisen which would affect the design of the Chapel St./Sun Street junction, and recommended that it should be constructed in a permanent form with installation of electrically lit bollards. The Works Committee were in agreement with this proposal, and their decision was approved by the Council at their recent meeting.

## TWO NEW BUS SHELTERS FOR BILLERICAY.

Basildon Council are to provide two new bus shelters in Billericay. One will be situated in Sun Street, Billericay (subject to the site being agreed on), and another will be provided on the west side of Stock Road, Billericay, near Station Approach. A further three shelters have been allocated to sites in other parts of the Urban District, and a further three shelters have yet to be allocated.



### EDITORIAL.

Editor:- Wynford P. Grant.

Editorial Offices:-

"Billericay Observer",  
143, Perry Street,  
Billericay,  
Essex.

Phone:- Billericay 1927.

No more entries can now be accepted for the "Billericay Observer Mystery Story Award". The result of this competition will be announced in the "Billericay Observer" in July.

Sales of the "Billericay Observer" are now 570 a fortnight.

Plans are going ahead very well regarding the "Observer" entry in this year's Carnival. Of course, I have no intention of pushing a wheelbarrow as I did last year - this time a float is being entered.

----- The Editor.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Forthcoming Events in Billericay.

Thursday 15th June:- Basildon Urban District Council Meeting at the Old Council Chamber, High Street, Billericay.

Wednesday 21st June:- Annual General Meeting of Billericay Residents' Association at the Women's Institute Hall, starting at 8.0 p.m.

Saturday 24th June:- Billericay Carnival. Procession leaves Hiliary Mount at 3 p.m., and goes via Western Road to the High Street, arriving there about 3.30 p.m., and arriving at Sun Corner at 4 p.m. The Fete will be held on the Archer Hall Field, opening at 2.0 p.m.

THE BILLERICAY WOMEN'S CO-OP GUILD  
MEETS ON MONDAYS IN THE CO-OP HALL,  
HIGH STREET, 2.30 to 4 p.m.

June 12th - Speaker on Manor House Hospital.

### COUNCIL LIGHTING SCHEME.

As part of Basildon Council's Third District Lighting Improvement Scheme the following Billericay roads will be lit: Long Meadow Footpath (9 lamps), Hickstars Lane (4), Norsey Road (3), Passingham Avenue (2), Central Avenue (2), Norsey View Drive (7) Kennel Lane (14) Station Footpath (4), Laindon Common Road (11), Little Norsey Road (2), and Tylers Avenue (3).

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### BILLERICAY FLORAL ARRANGEMENT GROUP.

"Summer Flowers from the Garden"

Demonstrator Mrs. Warner

W.I.Hall on Wednesday June 7th at 8p.m.

Members competition "Fireside", a  
frontal mass not to exceed 3½ ft.

Members 2/-

Non-members 2/6

Details of meetings may be had from  
the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Clayton, 41,  
Hillside Road, Billericay.

.....  
ADVERTISEMENT RATES from the Editor.



# FOR THE OLD FOLK

## Billericay O.A.P. - 24th May Meeting.

There was a very good attendance. With regard to sick members it appeared that Mr. Ramage and Mrs. Wormald were improving; Mr. Hall and Mrs. Gray were not quite so well; Mrs. Marshall and Mrs. Stanton were about the same. Mr. Pegg had met with an accident, and was in hospital. All sick members were wished a speedy recovery to good health. Mrs. Swaby entertained, accompanied by Mrs. Dawkins. Sick members were Mrs. McCarthy, Wakeling, Mrs. Hill, and Mrs. Cayser.

## Buttsbury Monday Club - 29th May Meeting.

Mr. Percy Williams presided. 31 members enjoyed an evening of games. A raffle organised by Mrs. Webb resulted in a good sum of money being raised.

## Pensioners' Club Formed In Sunnymede.

At a meeting organised by Billericay Old People's Welfare Committee at Meadow Way Primary School last Wednesday the Outwood Common & Sunnymede Friday Club was formed by the 30 people present. Mrs. Brent was elected Chairman, Mrs. Morrison was elected Secretary, and Mrs. Andrews, Treasurer. The first meeting was arranged for today (Tuesday), but as from Friday week meetings will be held every Friday from 7 to 9 at Meadow Way School. All interested should contact Mrs. Brent at 11, Warner Close, Outwood Common.

The Billericay Old People's Welfare Committee have been given, for free disposal to pensioners, the following items: A 3 year old gas cooker (2 burners, grill, and oven), a gas wash boiler, 2 Rexine armchairs, A two-seater settee (wooden arms), a fireside chair (wooden arms), 2 budgies in a cage, another budgie complete with cage. All enquiries regarding these items should be referred to Mrs. Barr, 273, Mountnessing Road. (Phone 522).

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CHRIST CHURCH, PERRY STREET.

Services:- Sunday June 4th, Holy  
Communion, 9.30 a.m. Sunday June  
11th, Family Matins, 9.30 a.m.

Young Wives Fellowship:- June 20th,  
8 to 9 p.m.

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STOP PRESS NEWS.



THE "OBSERVER" CINEMA GUIDE, RITZ CINEMA, CHAPEL STREET, BILLERICAY.

Monday June 5th (3 Days):- David Farrar, Adam Faith in "BEAT GIRL" (X). Also "SWAMP WOMAN", (A).

Thursday June 8th (3 Days) Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin in "OCEAN'S ELEVEN". Full Supporting Prog. As this is an "A" programme a special "U" programme will be shown on Saturday at 2.30.

Monday June 12th (3 Days), Robert Preston, Dorothy McGuire in "THE DARK AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS" (X). Also Linda Lawson in "THE THREAT".

Thursday June 15th (3 Days), Edmund Purdom, John Barrymore Junr. in "THE COSSACKS" (U). Also "KETTLES ON OLD MacDONALD'S FARM" (U).

#### COUNCIL NEWS IN BRIEF.

At last Thursday week's Council Meeting the Chairman's allowance was fixed at £450 for the year. Explained Mr. A. Hatt, Clerk of the Council; "£350 normal allowance, and £100 allowance for entertaining visitors etc."

No charge will be made for the parking of cars in Lake Meadows by persons who are taking part in organised games, owing to the difficulty in collecting the money.

The Council have applied to the Minister of Housing & Local Government for permission to spend £1,500 on extending the Bowling Green in Lake Meadows and £600 on a cricket table for New Lodge Recreation Ground, Tye Common Road.

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN.

The following Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman were elected at the recent Council Meeting for the forthcoming Council year:

Finance:- Chairman Cllr. H. G. Pembroke, Vice-Chairman, Cllr. E. H. Merrin,  
Committee for Education:- Chairman, Cllr. A. P. Phelps, Vice-Chairman, Mrs. C. J. Gadson, Health Committee:- Chairman, Cllr. C. V. Rolph, Vice-Chairman, Cllr. W. C. Redbond,  
Development & Planning:- Chairman, Cllr. A. F. Quirk, Vice-Chairman, Cllr. C. H. Weston, Establishment, Chairman Cllr. C. H. Weston, Vice-Chairman, Cllr. D. V. Morley, Housing:- Chairman, Cllr. D. V. Morley, Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Mrs. E. M. Taylor, Parks:- Chairman, Cllr. C. D. Pope, Vice-Chairman Cllr. J. J. Tesoirere, Works:- Chairman, Mrs. C. J. Gadson, Vice-Chairman, Cllr. C. E. Hendy.

Billericay Councillors are on the following Committees:-

Cllr. Morley:- Health, Establishment, and Finance.  
Cllr. Phelps:- Education and Finance.  
Cllr. Quirk:- Education, Finance, Health, and Development & Planning.  
Cllr. Tesoirere:- Health, Parks, Works, and Finance.  
Cllr. Wilkins:- Education, Finance, and Parks.

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SHIPMANS DRESSED CRAB -----	SAVE 4d, REDUCED FROM 1/6d to 1/2d.
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JACOBS CREAM CRACKERS -----	SAVE 2d, REDUCED FROM 1/- to 10d.
P.F.STAR ASST BISCUITS -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 1/4½d to 1/1½d.
TYNE STUFFED PORK ROLL -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 1/8d to 1/5d.
BRANSTON PICKLE -----	SAVE 4d, REDUCED FROM 1/10d to 1/6d.
HEINZ SALAD CREAM -----	SAVE 4d, REDUCED FROM 2/1d to 1/9d.
COLMANS PICNIC MUSTARD -----	SAVE 1½d, REDUCED FROM 7½d to 6d.
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LIBBY'S RED SALMON -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 4/6d to 4/3d.
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GOLD REEF PEACHES -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 2/9d to 2/6d.
FRAY BENTOS LEANCUT BEEF -----	SAVE 4d, REDUCED FROM 2/8d to 2/4d.
SHREDDED WHEAT -----	SAVE 2d, REDUCED FROM 1/4d to 1/2d.
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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir,----- We are sure that a large proportion of the community are not yet aware of the Meals-on-Wheels Service for the aged and housebound people of Billericay which the W.V.S. introduced over two months ago.

At present we deliver hot dinners twice a week, to an average of 17 old people, but as the numbers increase, and the need for expanding the service becomes necessary, we do require more help, especially with transport.

We should like to make this appeal to the public for drivers with cars, and a "mate" if possible, who have time to spare on Tuesdays and Fridays between 12 noon and 1.30 p.m. to come forward and offer their services, thus helping us greatly to carry on this most essential and gratifying service for the elderly, housebound people of the district.

All enquiries should be made to the W.V.S. office in Chapel Street (corner of Hillside Road), telephone Billericay 583. ----- MARGARET J. PHILLIPS, Centre Organiser W.V.S., Basildon Urban District.

## 13 RECORDS BROKEN IN SCHOOL SPORTS.

13 records were broken and 5 equalled at the 34th Annual Sports of St. John's School Billericay on Wednesday 24th May (at the School) and Saturday 27th May (at Willowbrook Sports Ground).

The prizes were presented by Mr. H.S.A. Rothon M.B.E. J.P., President of Billericay Rotary Club. Mr. Rothon said that one had to be enthusiastic about something in life, and sport was a good thing to be enthusiastic about.

Senior Victrix Ludorum was won by S. Thornton, Senior Victor Ludorum was won by R. Gentle, Intermediate Victrix Ludorum was won by L. Gantzer, Intermediate Victor Ludorum was won by W. Dobie, Junior Victrix Ludorum was won by Susan Hunt, and the Junior Victor Ludorum was won by K. Gray.

Champion House (Girls) were Somerville, and Champion House (Boys) were Magdalen. Field Events Championship (Girls) was won by Queens, and Field Events Championship (Boys) was won by Magdalen.

GARDENERS LOOK! Pure potash for top dressing  $\frac{1}{2}$  cwt bags 2/- or six bags 10/-. Apply "Mossbank", Woodside Road, Perry Street, Billericay. (Between Queens Park and School).

## PARISH CHURCH £1,500 IN DEBT.

In a progress report on improvements to Billericay's Parish Church, St. Mary Magdalen, J.L. Baucher Appeal Committee Chairman states that the Church is £1,500 in debt. The report reads; "Although we were in debt in May last year it was decided to proceed with the building of the much-needed vestries. These have now been completed, although there is still some interior decoration and furnishing to be carried out. The inside of the Church is about to be redecorated, and, in addition, more pews are to be provided in the place of the old Choir Vestry in the south-west corner of the Church; so the work of maintaining and improving the fabric of our Church still goes on. But we must not relax our efforts - we are still £1,500 in debt".

## COUNCIL NEWS IN BRIEF.

.....  
In reply to a question from Cllr. H.E. Wilkins at the recent Council Meeting it was stated that alternative specifications had been invited for the make-up of Station Road, Billericay. It was also stated that when the frontagers submitted their petition the period for objections had expired. The matter is being considered by the Finance Committee tonight (Tuesday).

.....  
The Parks Committee have raised no objection to a proposal that Selworthy Nursery in Kennel Lane, Billericay be acquired in the future as playing fields for South Green School, provided that other suitable land is available as a nursery in the Urban District, and subject to the payment of full compensation by the County Council.

.....  
The Council have raised no objection to an application by Mark Lane (Billericay) Ltd for a betting licence in respect of a room at the rear of 108, High Street, Billericay.

.....  
The Chairman and members of the Works Committee are to meet frontagers in Lion Line and Wakefield Avenue to discuss the make-up of these two roads following an approach from four frontagers on the surfacing of the section near the High Street.

.....  
The Council have granted a request from Billericay British Legion that the Legion's badge be florally depicted at Lake Meadows during this year - the 40th anniversary.



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BORDEAUX ROUGE 7/-

ENTRE DER MERS 7/-

BORDEAUX BLANC 7/-

CHATEAU HAUT BOUSCAT 8/6



## "BILLERICAY IN THE PAST".

by the Editor. Series 2. No.5.

### "Billericay and Cricket".

With the advent of the summer months this is an appropriate time to review the story of Cricket in Billericay.

The town's association with this game goes back to the days when it had not been in existence very long. The first recorded game of Cricket in Billericay was played in 1771. A cutting from the "Chelmsford & Essex Chronicle" of August, 1771 reads; "To all lovers of the game of Cricket. This is to give notice that on Monday next, August 26th, 1771 a game will be played at the "Crown" in Billericay, between the gentlemen of Temple Mills, Essex and II picked men of the same county for £20. The wickets will be pitched at 11.0. A cold ordinary field". A later issue states that Temple Mills won easily.

The next recorded Cricket Match in Billericay was played in 1776, and this time gold-laced hats were the prize. The "Chelmsford & Essex Chronicle" of 31st May, 1776 reads; "To be placed at the White Hart, Billericay, on the 5th of June, 1776. A match of Cricket between II picked gentlemen of Barstable and Chafford Hundreds, against II of Billericay, for II gold-laced hats. The wickets will be pitched at 10.0 and the match played out". There is no record of the result.

The date of the foundation of Billericay Cricket Club is a matter of some dispute. It was certainly founded by 1875, although regular matches seem to have been played for several years before. However, it is without a doubt, one of the oldest in Essex.

At first matches were played on the site of the Roman Catholic Church in Laindon Road, but the ground was later moved to Quilter's Meadow in London Road, and then to Laindon Common.

In the 1885-6 season the Club engaged its first Professional and Groundsman, and the numbers were considerably augmented by engineers working on the Shenfield - Southend railway. It was during this season and those following, that the Club was at its best - indeed it was one of the most powerful in Essex.

Today matches are played by the railway off Mounthessing Road. And at their ground at Willowbrook the St. John's Sports Association play regular matches.

## ROUND AND ABOUT

by  
"WANDERER".

Basildon Council have received a complaint from the Police regarding the number of men that are needed to control the traffic jams resulting from the closure of the Car Park in Lake Meadows. On Whit Monday cars were parked on both sides for most of the Industrial Estate road.

The Car Park was closed, following a petition from over 1,000 local residents. It was not their wish that the Police should be taken from duties such as the protection of property, so that cars coming to Lake Meadows could be controlled. What they did want was to be able to go along to Lake Meadows on a Sunday and not find it full of visitors from Dagenham and so-on, for which it appears to have a hypnotic attraction.

It is my opinion that the Council should not allow any parking inside the Park, nor should they encourage the provision of alternative car parking. People who come from outside the Urban District all have Parks in their own areas. They should go to their own Parks, instead of crowding into Lake Meadows, and leaving a trail of litter behind them. Billericay is not a resort, and its residents should not have to share their only local park with people from Dagenham, Ilford, Chelmsford etc. I trust that the Council will not revoke their decision to not allow cars in Lake Meadows, before consulting the views of the local residents, who the Park belongs to.

The League of Friends do wonderful work for St. Andrew's Hospital and it was most pleasing to see the widespread public support for their Fete on Saturday. It is to be hoped that Billericay Carnival will receive similar support. But surely it would be better if these "big two" events of the year were spaced further apart. I suggest that one take place in June, as at present, and the other in August.

The news regarding the proposed High Street/Western Road junction improvements is most welcome. As I have said many times before this is a real danger spot, and action must be taken as soon as possible. Pedestrians coming from the High Street to cross Western Road, cannot see vehicles coming up Western Road. I trust that the Council will speed up negotiations as far as possible, before an accident occurs.

----- "Wanderer".