

Thursday March 6th
ISSUED 5 P.M
WEEK ENDING
MARCH 8TH

STILL NO MOVE TOWARDS PEDESTRIAN CROSSING IN HIGH ST. by W. Grant.

The council have not made any more attempts recently to secure a pedestrian crossing for Billericay High St. On Saturdays there is an almost continuous stream of traffic. I have sometimes had to wait nearly two minutes to get across. There being no crossing also means doubling back up and down the High Street to the two safest crossing places outside Woolworths and the Civil Defence Headquarters. Also another danger spot is Western Road. Standing on the Western Road - High Street corner you can only see about one yard down Western Road and there is also traffic coming from the Norsey and Stock Roads into Western Road and High Street. Also traffic comes from behind you from the High Street and some of this traffic may come into Western Road. CONTINUED PAGE 4.

SAFER CYCLING LEAGUE FIRST BICYCLE INSPECTION.

The Basildon Urban District safer cycling league promoted by the Basildon & District Road Safety organisation will hold its first bicycle inspection on Saturday March 8th. The inspection will be held in the Council Offices car park, High Street, Billericay at 9.30 am. The safer cycling league is for children owning cycles. Every member of the league has a cycling license and if seen riding their bicycles carelessly or if their cycles are faulty at an inspection their license may be endorsed. Any person who goes through a year without their licenses being endorsed receive a certificate. N.B This report was composed on Wednesday March 5th and it is was not then known when the 'paper' would be issued some tenses may be wrong. This article was written in a future tense (Tense - Time)

SCOUTS HOLD JUMBLE SALE.

The second Billericay group boy scouts are going to hold a jumble sale on Saturday March 15th at 2p.m in the "Rising Sun" Hall Sun Street, Billericay. Scouts have issued a circular to some houses in Billericay asking if the occupiers would give them something towards the sale.

COUNCIL DEPARTMENT
CHIMNEY CATCHES ON FIRE.
A chimney at the clerks department of Basildon U.D.C council caught fire on March 1st. The Billericay fire brigade did not attend. The fire occurred about 11.0 a.m and the chimney burned for about twenty minutes.

EXTENDED
not four BUT SIX PAGES!
of

ORIGINAL NEWS.....
ARTICLES.....
LETTERS.....

Round and About by
"Wanderer"

which includes IS THE
RITZ CI NEMA GOING TO
CLOSE?

Letters from
'Exhausted Ratepayer'
'Disgruntled Female'

SUPER
COMPETITION
~~SIX~~ - PAGE SIX
YOU
MAY WIN ANYTHING
FROM A LEMON PIP
TO A BAR OF
CHOCOLATE

ROUND AND ABOUT BY
'WANDERER'.

There have been rumors circulating recently that the RITZ cinema is going to close. This the only cinema in Billericay and if it closed people would have to go to Laindon, Southend, Brentwood or Chelmsford to see a film. There has been a considerable drop in cinema attendances all over the country and many cinemas have closed. The main reason for this is television and in a recent opinion poll which appeared recently every sixty-five people out of a hundred had television. Increased prices may also be blamed. If it was not for the confectionery served in the cinema prices would be a lot higher. Will the RITZ cinema close? I don't think that it will close -- yet; though it might in a year or two.

PUBLIC HOUSE AND DANCE HALL FOR PERRY STREET? This was a headline in the No. 1 edition of the Billericay Observer. The report continued 'A petition is being organised against the proposed public house and dance hall' - and I say quite rightly it should be petitioned against. Perry Street is a quiet residential area of Billericay and it does not want to be turned into a haunt for hooligans and drunkards. Most of Perry Street is against the proposed public house and dance hall. I don't see how it could pay. An inquiry will be held by the council who are against the public house and dance hall. If the council refuse building permission the brewerie will take up the matter with the Town and Country Planning. The people who are petitioning against the public house have a fund of over £20 part of which will go towards a solicitor. There are plenty of public houses in Billericay anyway. As for a dance hall if one was built in Billericay it should be built in a central position in or near the High Street.

All for now

Wanderer

THE WANDERER WELCOMES LETTERS.

LETTER OF THE MONTH.

Dear Sir,

I read your first edition with interest and would like to make a few comments if I may. There is always a demand for good, accurate and objective reporting. The Observer appears to meet that demand. The variety of news makes for interest and in this the Observer excels. May your venture flourish.

One item of news I think might interest your readers is whether the Billericay RITZ cinema is to close or not. There seems to be some doubt of this and as this is the only cinema serving the whole of Billericay. I feel you would be serving your public by getting the facts about this threatened closure.

About your article on the resurfacing of Lakeside. Although sympathising with the inhabitants of this road I felt that the dreadful condition of

Perry Street calls for more comment and speedy action.

Perhaps as Editor you will stimulate some interest in this question? Whilst on the subject of amenities you might also point out how dreadfully ill-equipped Perry Street is with public lightning.

I would heartily agree with your comments about cycle riding on the footpath from Perry Street to the railway station. It should be stopped forthwith.

I noticed the other day that the North Thames Gas Board has been busy laying new mains in Lakeside.

If Walton on Naze boasts the second longest pier in England where is the longest.

May I ask as a keen gardener whether your gardening column is going to carry hints and tips for gardeners?

I suggest a timely note for your next edition would be a reference to bulbs.

CONTINUED
ON PAGE 5

LETTERS.

The response to the request for letters has been excellent. The editor comments at the bottom of each letter.

Dear Sir, L.L.L.

I don't know why you call your 'paper' the Observer when you report so slipshodilly on the weather. Why don't you give a day to day account of what the weather has been and how it has affected the farmers, school children and every one else? Could'nt you take readings of the temprature and pressure every morning for inclusion in your 'paper? Apart from that your 'paper isn't so bad.

Yours Sincerely,
Well Wisher.

Ed; I will have to think about it. Below there is a letter from a person who names hiself "Lord Mayor of Stock".

Dear Mr W. Grant,

I must write and say how I wish you and your paper every sucess. I have long been trying to stimulate some such activity at Stock but with no sucess. When they see your 'paper they may try to emulate you. I hope so.

Yours Sincerely,
Charlie Snooks,
Lord Mayor, Stock.

Ed; Oh! And since when has Stock had a mayor. Ive never heard of a mayor let alone a Lord Mayor.

Dear Sir,

What you want in your paper is a good competition, with some prizes for getting the right awnsers.

Yours Sincerely,
Hopeful.

Ed; I will consider the idea.

Dear Sir,

Its about time you got some feminine intrest in your Paper. ~~Don't-that-half.~~ Don't forget that half your readers are females. No mention of of fashion news or cookery or anything

What a 'paper'!

Blimey

Yours Sincerely,

Disgruntled Female.

Ed; If there was any interesting fashion news in Billericay I would include it in the 'paper but there isn't. Where am I to get news of feminine intrest?

Dear Sir,

I have lived in the area for some time now and what I can't understand is, why don't we have a bus service on Perry Street. What with all the new houses that have gone up and everything you would think they would put on some buses wouldnt you. Its such a long walk to the bus stop at the end of the road and I get tired walking home of a night time after a hard days work. My wife often says to me "Henry"

she says "I wonder they don't put buses along this road same as we used to have in Bermondsey".

Yours Sincerely,

Exhausted Ratepayer

Ed; write to the Eastern National Bus Company.

To the person with the white mice who are turning green. What if thier coats turned to Blue and Yellow stripes with green coats? But seriously they must have some awful diease like 'Mateousley Arriminachaca'.

Dear Sir,

I am forwardin these letters@ to you as the Billericay Times has gone out of buisness as a

CONTINUED PAGE 4

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SEND LETTERS send them to EDITOR, LETTERS, BILLERICAY OBSERVER, 143 PERRY STREET, BILLERICAY, ESSEX.

BACK ISSUES

Back Issues may be obtained by request from regular readers.

APPLY W. GRANT, BACK ISSUES, BILLERICAY OBSERVER

EDITORIAL CORNER

BILLERICAY OBSERVER

143, Perry Street, Billericay.

I hope you enjoy this second edition of the Billericay Observer. Please continue to send in letters on any aspect of the newspaper or any local event. Will readers please appreciate that a few typing errors cannot be avoided.

Yours Sincerely

W. Grant Editor

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING CONTINUED.

The council still don't do anything about the pedestrian crossing or the car parking which is allowed on both sides of the High Street and causes congestion and is a trouble to pedestrians. Can't a car park be built? But again the council takes little or no action.

CHURCHES 34th ANNIVERSARY.

The Methodist Church, Western Road, Billericay is celebrating its 34th anniversary by church services on March 9th (Sunday) at 11.0 a.m and 6.30 p.m. The preacher will be the reverend Norman J. Earl. On Tuesday March 11th there will be a gift day starting at 7p.m and the guest speaker will be the reverend L. Barnby.

BILLERICAY BRASS BAND FORMED.

A Billericay brass band has been formed. The band needs recruits and beginners practice is held at the Congregational Church, Chapel Street every Wednesday evening. The band is now rehearsing 'Joy of Youth' for the Chelmsford concert in April. We need a few more interesting activities and organisations like this in Billericay.

SPECIAL SERVICES TO OUR READERS.

BACK ISSUES

On application to W. Grant by regular reader back issues may be obtained.

GARDEN ADVICE

Write or apply to 'Garden Advice', Billericay Observer, 143, Perry Street, Billericay, Essex for advice on any aspect or problem of gardening. Your letter and our answer will appear in 'In The Garden'.

LETTERS (CONTINUED)

result of the competition of your excellent paper.

Yours Sincerely

@-letters enclosed
Ed; have they?

RUMMAGE SALE.

THE Billericay K.F group held a rummage sale at the Rose Hall, Chapel Street, Billericay on Tuesday March 4th. The sale started at 2 p.m.

STOP PRESS.

TOWNSEND AND PARTNERS PARADE OF SHOPS FULL DETAILS EDITION NO 3.

HAILSTONES.

There was a shower of hailstones in the Billericay district on March 6th. The shower only lasted for a few minutes

JUMBLE SALE.

British Legion Womens section held a jumble sale on Monday March 10th. The admission was free and the sale commenced at 2p.m.

JUMBLE SALE

The congregational church are going to hold a jumble sale on Monday March 10th at 2.30p.m. The sale will be held in the mayflower hall, Chapel Street, Billericay. Admission is twopence and there will be refreshments.

STOP PRESS.

TOWNSEND & PARTNERS PROPOSE TO ERECT PARADE OF SHOPS ON UPLAND ROAD - PERRY STREET CORNER. CIRCULAR PETITION FOR SHOPS DISTRIBUTED IN DISTRICT. Billericay Observer @ 4.50p.m

LETTER OF THE MONTH
CONTINUED.

How do you care for bulbs that have flowered in the house? Should they be dried out before re-planting etc. Is April a good month to start a lawn. Discuss the pros and cons of lawn seeds and turf.

I noticed there was no reporting on local sport in the Observer. Surely this is an omission in a newspaper that purports to report all the local news? How is Buttsbury school football team progressing this season?

A column my wife would like to see in the newspaper would be one on nature study. Observations of the flora and fauna of Perry Street and environs. After all we have, in Lake Meadows, a delightful area close at hand in which wild fowl and cultivated flora live side by side. Have you seen the big fish pulled out of the lake just now?

Another idea my wife suggests is the inclusion of a crossword puzzle in your newspaper. No newspaper is complete without pictures and I feel that snapshots of local views and/or celebrities would be of interest to your readers.

I scanned your columns to find news of the local scout/cub organisations but failed to spot anything. Was this an oversight.

I trust you will take these comments and suggestions in the spirit in which they are intended. Once again wishing you all success in your venture,

I am,

Yours Sincerely

Geoffrey Mitton.

COMMENTS BY EDITOR NEXT
COLUMN.

COMMENT ON LETTER OF THE MONTH
by W. Grant Editor.

Ed; Is the Ritz cinema going to close? see Round and About by 'Wanderer'. Souhend boasts the longest pleasure pier in England. Lawns? See 'In the garden'. No sport? This is due to the fact that the editor has been engaged for the past few weeks on Saturday afternoon when most sport is played. There may soon be a Nature column. There are no pictures because eight at a time would have to be taken so they could be developed and films and developing costs a lot of money. No photographs for financial reasons. If there has been any interesting news in the scout/cub circles we have I am afraid to say failed to obtain it.

Thank you for your letter
Yours Sincerely

W. Grant

IN THE GARDEN.

We have received a request asking us to discuss the subject of lawns. WE are in this column to comply with this request..

When is the best time to start a lawn? The Autumn and the Spring are the best times. Don't start a lawn in June, July, August, December, January or February, if you do the lawn will fail and you will have wasted money. In reply to a request April is a good month to start a lawn but the best month is September. If I wanted a lawn I would chose turf. Why? Because I would have my lawn there right away and it would almost certainly take. I would have to wait at least two months and the birds might eat a lot of the seeds and then I would get a poor lawn if the birds ate a lot of the seeds. Those are the disadvantages if you use seeds. The new roots method is a good way of making a new lawn.

WRITE TO 'GARDEN ADVICE' BILLERICAY OBSERVER, 143 PERRY STREET BILLERICAY FOR ADVICE ON ANY ASPECT OR PROBLEM OF GARDENING. YOUR LETTER AND OUR ANSWER WILL APPEAR IN THIS COLUMN.

PUZZLES AND QUESTIONS TO AMUSE YOU AND MAKE YOU THINK.

I. Peter, John, Thomas, William and Michael are waiting in a bus queue. From the facts below place them in their order in the queue (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th).

JOHN IS FOURTH

COMPETITION

PETER IS NOT NEXT TO JOHN AT ALL BUT HE IS NOT FIRST.

WILLIAM IS IN FRONT OF PETER.

MICHAEL IS NOT LAST.

THOMAS IS BEHIND JOHN.

capitals of FRANCE AND ITALY. PUT YOUR ANSWERS ON A PLAIN PIECE OF PAPER AND SEND IT TO COMPETITION, BILLERICAY OBSERVER, BILLERICAY, ESSEX. Chose a number from 1 to 4 and put this on the entry paper as well. Each number represents a prize, if you are one of the four readers who qualify for a prize you will receive one according to your number. If more than one of the readers qualifying for a prize chose the certain number a simple eliminating contest will be arranged. READERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO SEND IN MORE THAN ONE ENTRY PER PERSON.

SHOPS IN BILLERICAY. (OPINION POLL)

Question 1. What type of shop do you think we have got too many of in Billericay.

50% said grocers

30% said butchers

20% said confectioners

Question 2. What kind of shop do you think we have not got enough of?

Bakers said 40%

cycle shops said 10%

music shops said 20%

chemists said 10%

sports outfitters said 20%

I agree with the majority in both questions. We have only got one bakers shop. There are at least seven shops selling grocery up the High Street. There are only two fishmongers and ironmongers yet there are six butchers.

NEXT EDITION WE HOPE TO HAVE AN OPINION POLL ON LOCAL AFFAIRS, MOSTLY ON ROAD PROBLEMS AND CONTROVERSIES.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES IN EDITION NO. 1

II. SALVADOR IS FIRST

can't do it?

CURLEW IS SECOND

it's easy if you know how.

SEAGULL IS THIRD

heres a tip

PUFFIN IS FOURTH

use your definite facts first.

ENTERPRISE IS FIFTH

QUESTION NO. 3 Continued.

2. ROMFORD, L

ILFORD, A

CHELMSFORD, J

LEYTON, S

CLACTON, Y

SOUTHEND, M

Burnley, Derby County, Everton, Notts County, Preston North End, Stoke, West Bromwich Albion and Wolves

General Questions

1. Rutland

2. ~~Santa~~ San Marino

3. Accrington, Aston Villa, Blackburn Rovers, Bolton Wanderers

4. Cardiff City F.C

CONTINUED ABOVE