

PERRY STREET DEVELOPMENT.

More Shops to be erected
Townsend & Partners appeal against the decision of the council about public house.

By Wynford Grant.

Shops.

Barkers & Pickney of Romford are shortly going to erect a parade of shops on the site of a derelict house at the Perry Street - Mountnessing road corner. A notice on the site for building states so. Do we really need these shops?

PUBLIC HOUSE.

Townsend & Partners (Ham mersmith) have decided to appeal against the council's refusal to allow them building permission for licensed premises at the corner of Upland Road - Perry Street.

The appeal will be held at the Council Offices, 94, High Street Billericay, Essex on Tuesday March 25th at 11a.m. Any person who intrested in the erection of the public house may attend.

A representative of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government will be present. The Billericay Observer is against the erection of a public house.

Auction of Lakeside Nurseries. (Radford's)
Preperations are now in progress for the auction of Lakeside Nurseries (or Radford's) on Wednesday 26th March at 11a.m. The auctioneers are Protheroe & Morris of the City of London

ROAD - SAFETY EXHIBITION.

Basildon U.D. Road Safety organisation are holding a Road - Safety Exhibition this week at the Recreation Rooms, Billericay.

NEW GAS MAINS.

New gas mains are being laid by the North Thames Gas Board replacing old ones in Queens Park.

THIS IS

THE

FREE GIFT EDITION
ENCLOSED WITH THIS 'PAPER
IS A FREE GIFT. IT IS FOR
YOU AS A RETURN FOR YOUR
CO-OPERATION IN THE PRODUCTION OF THIS NEWSPAPER.

Inside
INTRESTING

NEWS.....

LETTERS.....

ARTICLES.....

HOSPITAL HOLDS JUMBLE SALE.

St Andrew's hospital leauge of friends held a jumble sale at the Rising Sun Hall, Sun Street, Billericay on Friday March 21st. The jumble sale commenced at 2.30p.m. There was an admisson fee of 2d. There were refreshments.

TRAIN TIMES ALTERATION.

The 4.5a.m from Southend (Victoria) will commence From Southend at 4.25 instead of 4.5a.m. during March 25th - 29th inclusive. The train will leave Billericay at 4.54 instead of 4.34. The train will connect with the 5.5 from Shenfield

NEW SHOP.

A new shop will be opened in the High Street shortly. The shop will trade under the name of R.J. Smith and Son and will sell Greengrocery, Fruit. The shop will also be a florists. The proepietors are the owners of the Cottage Nurseries, Buckwyns, Billericay, Essex. The shop is in a central position near the Church. A lot of the shops goods will be obtained from the nurseries.

STOP PRESS

Round and About by "Wanderer".

I often see notices stating that _____ will hold a Jumble Sale at the _____ hall; yet sometimes I see _____ will hold a RUMMAGE sale at the _____ hall. What is the difference between a Rummage Sale and a Jumble Sale? I decided to consult the dictionary to find out. This was the result; a Jumble Sale is a sale of old clothes and miscellaneous things for a charitable purpose; a Rummage Sale is a sale of unclaimed goods or remainders of old clothes and odds and ends. But do the proprietors of these sales we have in Billericay adhere to the dictionary meaning? I often wonder. I still am against the erection of a public house and dance hall in Perry Street and I have three good reasons for saying so.

- (a) The noise.
- (b) A dance hall should be built in a central position near the High Street if one is built at all. Anyway there are frequent dances at the Archer Memorial Hall.
- (c) A public house and dance hall would lower the tone and standard of the neighbourhood.

May I make it clear that my task is to comment not to report on local events.

I hear that Billericay Secondary School plan to build a swimming pool. Is there a need for this? And will local primary schools be able to use the pool when it is completed? There is some doubt about this. It is a great pity I say that fathers should have to give up their weekends to work on the pool. Can't some other method be used?

I greatly criticise the local Council for the way they manage their financial affairs. Couldn't some economy be made to reduce this high rate? Perhaps even economy in council offices might bring it down off the rate. A big stores firm are saving up to £80,000 a year on office economy. Can't the council follow their example?

All for now,

Wanderer

THE WANDERER WELCOMES
CORRESPONDENCE.

BILLERICAY OBSERVER announcement

LETTERS; please send us letters on any local/national subject or controversy or any aspect of this newspaper. They can be given to the editor when this newspaper is returned or sent at any time to the Editor at the offices of the Billericay Observer, 143 Perry Street, Billericay, Essex.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTS

Full details of this new service to readers may be obtained from the Advertising Manager of the Billericay Observer or on application to the Editor when he collects this newspaper. Box Numbers available.

GARDEN ADVICE

On application by regular reader to Garden Advice Dept the answer to any garden query you have will be published in "In the Garden".

BACK ISSUES.

Back Numbers may be obtained by application to Back Numbers Dept, Billericay Observer, 143, Perry Street Billericay. Back Issues may only be given to regular READERS.

WINNER OF COMPETITION IN EDITION NO. 3

Mrs M. Mitton, 139, Perry Street, Billericay, Essex. Congratulations Mrs Mitton. Keep up the good work!

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS.

Personal.

What we need is a ratepayers association. Who questions the council when they decide to raise the rate to 20/5? One of the highest in the country? What are we getting for our money? Ratepayers of Billericay unite. Down with rates!

For Sale; Pair of Dark Oak Twin Beds. Excellent Condition. No Mattress. Reason for sale, room wanted. Bargain - £5 the pair. Apply, Box 6, Billericay Observer.

Dear Sir,

In your last edition you comment that the council should stop spending huge amounts of rate-payers' money on highway development etc; and yet the Wanderer advocates the spending of more money on lights in Perry Street. Has your 'paper got a consistent policy or hasn't it? This sounds like special pleading to me. If Perry Street should have better lights, why shouldn't other streets, and I am sure the residents of a lot of these unmade roads in Billericay would like to see more and not less money spent on roads.

Yours Sincerely,

Fairplay.

Ed; Our 'paper has got a consistent policy. The conflicting statements were due to editorial mistakes.

Sir,

When you say that the Council should spend less money on highway development I say you are talking silly. Here we are in Perry Street ruining our bikes on the pot holes and bad surface that runs the whole length. Surely we want more money not less spending on our roads. There's room for economy in other directions. Why should Billericay residents subsidise Basildon council house tenants?

Yours,

'Disgusted'

Ed; There have been unconfirmed reports recently that a Billericay-Wickford U.D. Council will be formed and that Basildon New Town will have a separate council. This arrangement would be excellent as the Basildon Area costs a lot to maintain. Then the two separate councils could have cheaper rates.

Sir,

Thank you for your advice about my guinea pigs. The guinea pigs are all dead but your advice was very nice to read. I think it isn't 'H' bombs but the weather which has affected all my livestock. I was wrong about my hens. They haven't got p.u.b. after all.... they are suffering from coccidiosis which is even worse. S'truth..... Billericay is a terrible place for pets to live in. I wonder we are not all dead by now what with the damp and cold.

Yours Sincerely

Animal Lover

Ed; Why do your pets die when other peoples do not? Write to me if you wish for more precise advice.

WRITE US A LETTER AND WIN A PRIZE!

Write us a letter entitled "HOW I WOULD IMPROVE THE BILLERICAY OBSERVER". The letter need not be too long - minimum 35 words - The best letter will be published and the writer will receive a good prize. At the same time you will be assisting the editor. Send your letter to Competitions Dept, Billericay Observer, 143, Perry Street, Billericay, Essex. By sending in a letter you will help the Editor in improving the 'paper.

Rules.

1. The editors decision in all matters relating to the competition is final.
2. Each reader may not send in more than one entry.

PRIZE.

A GOOD QUALITY PENCIL.

"IN THE GARDEN".

This week we are going to answer some reader's queries

Q; I have grown a number of spring bulbs in my garden this year but will want to transfer them to a more permanent spot soon. How do I do this? Is there any special treatment of the bulb? Do they need to be dried?

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Mitton.

A; After the flowers have died down cut the flowers off, lift bulbs with leaves and tie in a bunch and hang them in a shed or cupboard to dry. In late summer rub the bulbs clean and plant in Autumn were required to flower.

Q; Where can I hire a rotavator cheap? Or a lawn mower?

A; not sure, watch High Street shops advertising boards for rotavator for hire or Southend Standard adverts. Lawn Mower? Keep sheep you wont want a lawn mower?

EDITORIAL CORNER

Dear Readers,

We have decided to give you a free gift in return for your co-operation in the production of this newspaper. In this 'Editorial Corner' I aim to give you a idea about the intentions of the Billericay Observer. We aim to place the facts before our reading public, these facts are usually not ~~presented~~ prejudiced it is for are readers to decide, we put the facts before them in an interesting, readable way. We aim to inform the reader of what is going on in the district. We also comment on what is happening in the locality in 'Round and About by Wanderer'. We want letters because we want to publish your point of view on various subjects. Also if you send us letters stating how you would improve the 'paper' it gives us ideas how to improve the newspaper. I as editor hope to give you a good, interesting newspaper.

I am also a reporter and the only person on the staff of the newspaper. My 'paper' is completely independent. If you have a idea for a new feature suitable for this newspaper send it to Improvements Dept, Billericay Observer, 143, Perry Street Billericay. Excellent suggestions will be awarded a prize (yes, Suggestions Hooplae).

MOTHERS DAY.

Christ Church, Perry Street, Billericay held a special Mothers Day service on Sunday March 16th. Children attending Sunday school at Christ Church came with their mothers. The mothers received gifts of flowers. The service was held in the afternoon. There was no Evensong or Sunday School. B.O reporter.

GUIDES.

The 1st Billericay girl guide group held a hike on Saturday March 15th. They also had a camp fire.

SCHOOL FOOTBALL.

Gt Burstead or Billericay C.P school I Buttsbury C.P school O. Gt Burstead's goal was the result of Brown (D.) of Buttsbury putting the ball through his own goal! A return match between the two sides is being arranged. The match was played on the morning of Saturday March 15th.

RUMMAGE SALE.

The Billericay K.F group held a rummage sale on Monday March 17th at the Rose Hall, Chapel Street, Billericay.

JUMBLE SALE.

Billericay Methodist church young wives held a Jumble Sale on Tuesday March 18th. The sale commenced at 2.30p.m.

FROGMEN.

Essex County Police frogmen have commenced training in Lake Meadows. They started training from Friday March 14th.

WOMENS INSTITUTE.

Billericay Womens Institute were given a talk on the Danes and Denmark on Wednesday March 19th. The fortnightly meeting and the talk were held in the afternoon.

pagre five.

LETTERS

There have been a number of letters recived by us, they are included in the letter page below. The editor (Ed) comments at the end of most letters.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to support your line about the proposed building of shops in Perry Street. Personally I feel that anyone who has come to live in this delightful spot has come because it is unspoilt. A piece of countryside. We don't want the town brought to the country. There are enough shops and mobile shops to satisfy our needs. If people object to a weekly walk to Billericay through the lovely Lake Meadows park they should go and live elsewhere, and leave us who are happy to make that walk in peace.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs M. Mitton.

Ed: A very sensible and well-composed letter, I agree with you.

CHEAP MILK FOR O.A.P.'s ?

Dear Sir,

I read that Billericay Womens Institute want cheap milk for Old Age Pensioners. What a nice idea. They must be charming ladies at the Institute. It is the old folk that need help in these things. Milk is so nourishing ...but so costly nowadays.

Yours Sincerely,

O.A.P.

Dear Sir,

I see that Billericay Womens Institute want cheap milk for Old Age Pensioners. And who is to pay for this cheap milk I ask? Haven't Old Age Pensioners just had an increase in pension? What more do they want?

Yours Sincerely,

Teen - Ag er.

Dear Sir,

To improve your 'paper why don't you run a serial story? They are very popular you know.

Yours Sincerely,

Improver.

Ed: Who is going to write the serial story? Certainly not me! And what type of serial story? Explain your requirements more fully please.

LIBERALS HAVE A SAY!!

Sir,

Seeing all these letters from political parties to your news paper I thought that THE party of the moment, the up and coming Liberal party, should have it's say. We stand for the freedom of the individual. Freedom of trade. Co-ownership in industry. Fewer controls more liberty. Cuts in defence expenditure. Reduced Taxation. What other party has such a wonderful platform?

Billericay needs LIBERALISM.

England needs LIBERALISM.

Yours Sincerely,

Ewart Gladstone Junior

Ed: How are you going to reduce taxation? There are a few holes in your "wonderful platform".

Why don't you make a small charge for your newspaper and then you could run better competitions.

Yours Sincerely,

Competitor.

To the "Wanderer"

Dear Sir,

Have you observed the new housing over Lake Meadows Park? I have recently observed great

activity there myself. Where there were two houses three weeks ago there are now nine! The rooks are busy

Yours Sincerely,

Longsight.

Dear Sir,

I read that they are asking for a fund to build a swimming pool for Billericay Second School.

CONTINUED

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page six.

Letter Continued

Pupils are being asked to raise money. Parents to work on the site. How disgusting this is. What are the council doing with this 20/5 rate?

Horrified Rate Payer.

Ed; I wonder what they do with it too.

Dear Sir,

I am very glad to note that your excellent newspaper is made available free of charge. It helps the deserving poor to read and keep up to date with what is going on of interest all around them. Keep it up I say. At the same time I think the editor ought to provide himself with a dictionary. Some of his spelling is atrocious. Good English, correct grammar, correct spelling are the basics of a good journalist. They are his stock in trade as it were. Watch your spelling Sir, say I. But at the same time carry on the good work.

Yours Sincerely,

Well Wisher.

Ed; if there are any words which I am not sure of the correct spelling I consult a dictionary. There are only two or three unavoidable spelling mistakes in each edition.

How I would improve the Billericay Observer

Dear Sir,

First of all I must say I think the 'paper is good. What I have to say are therefore minor criticisms only. I think there should be an illustrated page once in a while. I'm sure you could borrow suitable photographs. You might even run a snapshot competition publishing the best you receive, with a small prize to encourage the winner. I was going to suggest a poem corner, but I see your latest issue contains one. good effort! Line drawings, line cuts, prints, sketches might be published. I still think you ignore the feminine interest... a special feature appealing to women would improve the 'paper in their eyes.

A matter of local interest went by unnoticed in your 'paper namely the staging of "TOM JONES" by the Billericay Amateur Operatic Society. Don't forget that culture is important to a local community and not as abundant as some of us would like to see. Book reviews might be included occasionally. Criticisms of films, etc of note would be interesting. How is Essex's own atomic powered electricity station at Bradwell progressing?

Yours Sincerely

Mr Christiansen.

Ed; Thank you for your letter. We did not report on "TOM JONES" because it was so prominently advertised that it was our opinion that most of our readers knew about it. We were aware of the production of this opera. How are we to obtain photographs of interesting subjects?

Sir,

What about telling your readers what is currently showing at the local cinema? And the time of showing? And what about a brief resume of the film. You could have a film of the month. Ask your local cinema manager who will give you lots of information I feel sure.

Yours Sincerely,

CINEMA GOER

MORE
LETTERS
ON PAGES 3 and 5