

# THE BILLERICAY REFERENCE BOOK

EDITED BY *Wynford P. Grant.*

PRICE 6d.

*A complete guide to local  
organisations, including a short  
history of Billericay and handy  
general information . . . .*



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# INTRODUCTION

For many years consideration has been given to the publication of a complete guide to local organisations and Places of Worship, also including handy general information, and a short history of the town. The "Billericay Observer" decided in March to publish such a guide, and the "Billericay Reference Book" is the result.

The first edition includes over fifty entries, and should provide a handy comprehensive guide. Letters were sent to all known local organisations, although it is possible that there is an odd omission. If this proves to be so, please accept my apologies.

It is intended to publish a revised edition in January 1963, and thence yearly. I will be pleased to receive any suggestions or comments for future editions.

## SECTION I GENERAL INFORMATION

Handy Addresses  
Administration &c.

### Part 1 - Administration & Statistics.

The estimated population of Billericay is 19,500. Billericay forms part of the Basildon Urban District for local government purposes. This was formed as the Billericay Urban District in 1934, replacing the Billericay Rural District, the change of name to Basildon Urban District taking place in April, 1955. The Urban District is the 3rd largest in England and Wales in acreage, the 4th largest in population, and the 18th largest in rateable value. The rate for 1962/3 is 23/10d.

For election of Councillors the Urban District is divided into 9 wards returning 28 Councillors, Billericay returning 5 Councillors. The present local Councillors are:-

W.J.ELAIR, 266, Perry Street, Billericay. Independent Residents' Association. Term of office expires in 1965.

K.C.COOK, 299, Mountnessing Road, Billericay. Independent Residents' Association. Term of office expires in 1965.

MRS.J.LUNT, "Robin Lodge", Stock Road, Billericay. Independent Residents' Association. Term of office expires in 1963.

A.P.PHELPS, 82, Western Road, Billericay. Conservative. Term of office expires in 1963.

H.E.WILKINS, 313, Mountnessing Road, Billericay. Independent Residents' Association. Term of office expires in 1964.

The present constitution of the Council is:-

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Conservative -----                      | 10 |
| Independent Residents' Association ---- | 4  |
| Labour -----                            | 13 |
| Liberal -----                           | 1  |

The offices of the Council (except the Health & Housing Departments) are at:-

Key House,  
88, Town Square,  
Basildon.

Phone Basildon 22881 (9 lines).  
Night telephone - Basildon 22889.

The Health Department is situated at 98/98A High Street, Billericay  
Phone Billericay 1800 - 6 lines.

The Housing Department is situated at 96, High Street, Billericay.  
Telephone Billericay 1800.

There is a collecting sub-office at Burghstead Lodge, High Street, Billericay on certain days.

The Clerk of the Council is Mr.A.Hatt LL.B., (Lond.) D.P.A.,  
Barrister-at-Law; The Engineer & Surveyor is S.A.Wadsworth  
A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.Mun.E.; The Treasurer is L.R.Cousins.



General Information - Administration & Statistics, continued.

For County Council purposes Billericay forms the electoral division of Billericay North, together with Wickford. The present County Councillor, who retires in April, 1964, is:-

County Councillor Mrs.E.Coker,  
31, Bull Road,  
Basildon. (Conservative).

The Billericay Constituency includes the Urban Districts of Basildon and Brentwood. The present Member of Parliament is Mr.Edward Gardner Q.C. (Conservative). Voting at the General Election in 1959 was: E.Gardner (Con.) 29,224; Rita Smythe (Lab.) 24,402; Peter Sheldon-Williams (Lib.) 9,347; Conservative majority 4,422.

Part 2 - Handy Addresses & Telephone Numbers.

Civil Defence - the Billericay Civil Defence Centre is situated at Burghstead Lodge, High Street, Billericay, phone Billericay 871.

Hospital - St.Andrew's Hospital, Stock Road, Billericay. Phone Billericay 602.

Inspector of Taxes - 63, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea. Phone Southend-on-Sea 44455 and at West Street, Grays, Phone Grays Thurrock 3220 and 3901.

Library Services - Main Branch, 97, High Street, Billericay. Telephone Billericay 624. Open 9.0 a.m. to 7.0 p.m. weekdays, except Thursday 9.0 a.m. to 1.0 p.m. The Mobile Library visits Grange Road, South Green from 10.15 a.m. to 12 noon on Tuesdays, and Outwood Common Shopping Centre from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday mornings.

Minister of Labour and National Service - 151, High Street, Brentwood. Phone Brentwood 277.

Minister of Pensions and National Insurance - 26, London Road, Brentwood. Phone Brentwood 2008.

National Assistance Board - 11, Queens Road, Brentwood. Phone Brentwood 3581.

Newspapers:-

"Billericay Observer", 143, Perry Street, Billericay, Essex. Phone Billericay 1927.

"Billericay Times", 70, High Road, Laindon. Phone Laindon 3136.

"Essex Chronicle", 98, High Street, Chelmsford, Essex. Phone Chelmsford 58285.

"Essex Weekly News", 26, High Street, Chelmsford, Essex. Phone Chelmsford 55501.

"Southend Standard", 72, High Street, Billericay, Essex. Phone Billericay 845.

Police Station - High Street, Billericay. Phone Billericay 407.

Post Office - High Street, Billericay. Phone Billericay 313.

Post Office Telephones - 9, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea. Phone Southend 49401.

Registrar of Births and Deaths - 94, High Street, Billericay. Phone Billericay 195. Open: Mondays 9.0 a.m. to 12 noon, Wednesdays 9.0 a.m. to 12 noon, Fridays 2.0 p.m. to 5.0 p.m.

Schools:-

Primary:

Billericay County Infants and County Junior School, Laindon Road, Billericay. Phone Billericay 339.

Buttsbury County Primary School, Perry Street, Billericay. Phone Billericay 121.

South Green County Primary School, Hickstars Lane, Billericay. Phone Billericay 1897 (Canteen - Billericay 1896).

Sunnymede County Primary School, The Meadoway, Billericay. Phone Billericay 1364.

Secondary:

Billericay County Secondary School, School Road, Billericay. Phone Billericay 303.

**Transport:-**

Billericay Railway Station, Station Approach, Billericay, frequent electric train services to London and Southend. Phone Billericay 34. The Stationmaster is Mr.C.Turner.

The area is also served by several routes of the Eastern National Omnibus Company. The Head Office of the Company is in New Writtle Street, Chelmsford, phone Chelmsford 3431.

## SECTION 2

# HISTORY OF BILLERICAY

The first evidence of settlement in the area can be traced back to the Middle Stone Age, in the form of some burnt bone, pottery, and a Flint Axe Head, found on the slopes south-east of the town some years ago.

There was definitely some sort of Bronze Age settlement in Billericay, as is shown by the well used Bronze Age burial mounds in Norsey Woods. Many relics of the Iron Age (dating from 500 B.C.) have also been discovered, particularly in the area of the Hospital. It has been suggested that Billericay was one of the major hill forts of the Trinovante tribe, and this is quite possible, considering the commanding view which may be obtained from the ridge where the High Street now stands.

The Romans first built a fort in Norsey Woods, and a later one at Blunta Walls at Tye Common, where excavations covering four acres still existed in the 19th century. Many Roman remains have been found in the area, particularly near the Secondary School. Also many coins have been discovered, especially in the area of Dr. Rilstone's house in the High Street. Around 1800 a hoard of over 1,000 Romano-British coins was discovered at Tyld Hall (off Outwood Common Road). Two known Roman roads led into Billericay (the age-old route from Tilbury to Chelmsford, and one from Brentwood to Rayleigh) and it is highly probable that a small Roman town existed on the site of the present one.

The question arises - did the name of Billericay come from Celtic, Roman, or Norman times? Many hundreds of suggestions have been made, including Villa Erica (Latin - The Fair Heath) and Beleuca (Norman-French for a moated manor), but the experts state "No suitable explanation can be found for the origin of this name".

Around 400 A.D. the Roman garrisons left Britain to defend Italy, and the East Coast became an easy target for Saxon invaders. They established themselves at Great Burstead (Burghstede - site of the fort), away from the ghosts of the Roman cemeteries on the hill. These were followed by the Danes, and then by the Normans. Several manors in the Billericay area were granted to Bishop Odo, half-brother of William the Conqueror, and he made Burstead his Chief Manor in this area.

By 1147 the Manor had come into the hands of the Monks of Stratford Langthorne (near Bow). When they were driven out by floods, they removed their headquarters to Burstead. In 1253 they were granted the right to hold a weekly Market, and two Annual Fairs. By this time Billericay had grown again, and established itself as head town of the Barstable Hundred (which stretched to the Thames), used by the people of the surrounding villages as a place for selling their farm produce, and obtaining the necessities of life. The Market was held in the High Street every Tuesday (which is why the High Street is so wide), and the administration was carried out from the Market House, which stood at the junction of High Street and Chapel Street, with the pillory and stocks. The town also became the centre of a number of prosperous woolmen. The Book of Chantries stated that Billericay was a Haven Town i.e. a place where goods were stored, and collected for transport abroad from the Thames at Leigh. It is quite probable that there was some trade in this direction, although the town's distance from the Thames, in those days of terrible roads, tends to suggest that it was rather small.



## History of Billericay, continued.

One thing is certain - the town was a popular overnight stopping place for people on the way from Chelmsford to Tilbury, among them a large number of pilgrims travelling to Canterbury, and this gave rise to a number of Inns or Hosteleries.

Many of the tradesmen were rich enough to be able to issue their own Tradesmen's Tokens. In 1485, a Billericay man, Robert Basset, was Mayor of London.

Although the town had a population of 1,200, when few had a population of more than 2,000, those wishing to worship, including the pilgrims, had to travel to the Parish Church at Great Burstead. And as one old writer said; "The journey was at best times noisome and at worse impossible".

Therefore in 1342 the Chantry (later the Chapel) of St. John the Baptist was founded on the site of the present Church. This was rebuilt in 1490, 1775, and again in the 19th century, but it was not until 1860 that Billericay became a Parish in its own right, and the seat of local government.

The Peasants' Revolt of 1381 ended in Norseay Woods, when a large number of peasants were routed by the Army, in the Battle of Billericay. Over 500 were killed, and relics of the battle have been discovered in modern times.

Billericay is famous for its part in the Reformation and its connection with the "Mayflower". A large number of local people were burnt at the stake during the Marian Persecution. Later six local people sailed in the "Mayflower" from Leigh, including Christopher Martin of Billericay, who was responsible for the victualling of the ship. Later colonialists founded the town of Billerica (Billericay was then spelt without the "y") in the State of Massachusetts, North America.

Billericay played little part in the Civil War, although with its strong Puritan bias, it was probably on the side of Parliament.

In 1684 the Samuel Bayly Grammar School was founded, starting in a room in the Market House, being transferred to the Town Hall (now the Council Chamber) when the Market House was demolished in 1831, and finally closing at the beginning of the present century, although it still "exists" as a foundation for four local boys to Brentwood School.

During the 18th century the town's coaching inns (sixteen at one time) were kept busy. Towards the end of the century Thos. Wood, Billericay's "ghastly miller", became famous on account of his rigorous slimming diet.

There were garrisons here during the Napoleonic Wars, but their sites are not certain.

However, when the town was by-passed by the railways in the 19th century, a severe decline set in.

Continued Overleaf.

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## History of Billericay, continued.

The Markets and Fairs dwindled to very small affairs (they were finally closed around 1900 owing to complaints of "rowdiness") and the town had to "fall back on" its traditional industries of brick and tile making, tanning, and the new Iron Foundry in Laindon Road, which did good business for a while. However, when the Workhouse (now St. Andrews Hospital) opened in 1860 it had no lack of customers! During one depression in the late 19th century Major Spitty of "Hurlocks" created local employment by taking advantage of the seven springs on Hill House Farm to construct the well-known Billericay Lake! It said that he wanted to build this in the shape of a "S", but started the wrong way round.

When the railway did eventually come in the 1880's it was too late to shake Billericay out of its legarthy. For the next seventy years it remained a sleepy little town, only shaken out of its slumber when a Zeppelin crashed at South Green in the 1914-18 war, turning the town into a ten days' wonder.

However from 1950, the bulldozers have been at work, creating new estates all over the town, and more than trebling the population in ten years. This growth is still going on, and Billericay will no doubt continue to change, probably more in the next ten years than in the last thousand! Let us hope that it changes for the better.

Editor's Note:- In the small space available it is only possible to give a condensed outline of the history of Billericay. If readers would like further information they should consult the Billericay History Series, published by the "Billericay Observer". The aim of this series is to produce a number of interesting booklets on local history at a low price. The first booklet - "Early Billericay" - is now available, price 6d. This booklet covers the history of Billericay from its geological beginnings to Roman times. From 143 Perry Street, Billericay (Phone 1927).

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# SECTION 3 - GUIDE TO PLACES OF WORSHIP & LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

## Part 1 - Places of Worship

All Places of Worship and local organisations are included in alphabetical order.

### 1. Billerica Christian Spiritualist Church.

Meetings are held in the Co-operative Hall, High Street, Billerica. All are welcome.

Service times:-

Sunday - 6.30 p.m. - Address and Clarivoyance.

Thursday - 2.30 p.m. - Address and Clarivoyance.

Healing Service after each meeting.

Enquiries to Mrs. B. Swaby, "Castle House", 19, Tanfield Drive, B/cay.

### 2. Christadelphians. (Greek for brethren of Christ).

A community founded by John Thomas, an English doctor of medicine, who migrated to America in 1844. The experiences of a threatened shipwreck, and especially the conduct of his fellow passengers in this crisis, made him resolve to make a research into the whole field of Christian religion to find the truth in Christ. The result of his searchings was seen in the production of "Elpis Israel", a book still in publication. The Bible is accepted as the sole authority for all the beliefs of the sect, which embrace the innate mortality of mankind, conditional immortality being the hope set out in scripture for believers. The orthodox views of the Trinity are rejected in favour of "One God", and a strong millenarian belief is actively fostered, centred in a future world-wide rule by Christ over all nations from Jerusalem. The local organisations, called ecclesias, have no distinction of clergy or laity. Serving brethren are elected, who serve without compensation. Membership requires an acceptance of the same doctrine, and baptism by complete immersion. For other details and service times see Page 8 ....

### 3. Church of England.

St. Mary Magdalen, High Street. Billerica Parish Church.

Sunday Services:-

1st Sun., Holy Communion 8 a.m., 11.30 a.m., Family Matins 10.30 a.m.

Sunday School 3 p.m., Baptisms 4 p.m., Evensong 6.30 p.m.

2nd Sun., Holy Communion 8 a.m., Pilgrims Service (for young people aged 11-14) 10 a.m., Matins 11 a.m., Sunday School 3 p.m., Evensong 6.30 p.m.

3rd Sun., Holy Communion 8 a.m., 11 a.m. (Choral), Pilgrims Service 10 a.m., Matins 11 a.m., Sunday School 3 p.m., Evensong 6.30 p.m.

4th Sun., Holy Communion 8 a.m., Pilgrims Service 10 a.m., Matins 11 a.m., Sunday School 3 p.m., Evensong 6.30 p.m.

Week-day Services:-

Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saints Days, Holy Communion, 10 a.m.

Christ Church, Perry Street.

1st & 3rd Sundays, Holy Communion, 9.30 a.m.

Other Sundays, Matins, 9.30 a.m.

Sunday Schools:-

10.30 a.m. Kintergarden.

11.30 a.m. Junior Grade.

2.30 p.m. Bible Class.

For details of other parochial activities see separate headings under "Youth Organisations" and "Womens' Organisations".

Places of Worship, continued.

4. Billericay Congregational Church, Chapel Street.

Services on Sundays at 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

Childrens' Church, Sundays, 11.30 a.m., in Mayflower Hall, Chapel Street. Sunday School, 3 p.m., in Mayflower Hall.

Service on Tuesday evenings at 7.45 p.m.

Women's Guild - 2nd Wednesday each month 3 p.m., Mayflower Hall.

Young Wives Fellowship - Thursday at 7.45 p.m., Mayflower Hall.

Young People's Fellowship - Friday 7.30 p.m., Mayflower Hall.

Girls' Life Brigade - Monday at 6 p.m., Juniors; 7 p.m., Seniors and Pioneers; Friday 5.30 p.m., Cadets.

Billericay Sisterhood - Thursdays, 3 p.m., Mayflower Hall.

Minister: Rev W.J. Wilkinson, "The Manse", Chapel Street.

Church Secretary: W. Taylor, "The Old Vicarage", Chapel Street.

Sunnymede Chapel is within the pastoral care of the Billericay Congregational Church.

5. Billericay Methodist Church, Western Road.

Sunday Services at 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

Sunday School (for children of 3 years of age and upwards) at 3 p.m.

The School has departments for Beginners, Primary, Junior, Senior, and Young Peoples age groups. Young People's Fellowship at 8 p.m.

Tuesdays - Guild at 8 p.m.

Wednesdays - Women's Rest Hour at 3 p.m.

Prayer Meeting (first Wednesday in the month) at 8 p.m.

Thursdays - Young Wives Fellowship at 2.45 p.m.

St. John's Ambulance Cadets at 6.30 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal at 8 p.m.

Fridays - Youth Club at 7.30 p.m.

Further information may be obtained from:-

The Minister,

93, Mountnessing Road, Billericay. Tel: Bill. 85.

THE

# CHRISTADELPHIANS

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meetings*

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WEDNESDAY EVENINGS @ 8.0 p.m. - DISCUSSION.

" " @ 9.0 p.m. - QUESTIONS.

Further information and free literature is obtainable from:-

The Librarian,  
Mr. J. Stokes,  
"Furnessia",  
Highfield Road,  
South Green.



Places of Worship, continued.

6. Society of Friends (Quakers), Bell Hill.

The Billericay Meeting began in 1667, appointed as a Meeting at Quarterly Meeting at Halstead, George Fox himself being present. In 1704 an old Trust Deed shows the Meeting House stood on the site of the present Elizabeth Cottage and adjacent properties, and burial ground on Churchill Johnson's yard. In 1789 only occasional meetings were being held. In 1846 meetings finished and property sold.

In 1873 the Meeting House was a Beerhouse called the "Royal Oak". In 1938 Friends' Meeting started again in home of Robert and Mabel Sheppard. Later transferred to temporary premises in Women's Institute, only an "allowed meeting" at this time. In 1957 Billericay was re-instituted as a "Particular and Preparative Meeting" at Quarterly Meeting at Saffron Walden, with Walter Walkey as Clerk. In 1958 the Meeting was transferred to the new Meeting House at Bell Hill, after the conversion of the old Red House for religious purposes.

Further information from:-

Walter Walkey (Clerk), Harrod's Farm, Outwood Common Rd., Billericay.  
Arthur and Margaret Mann (Wardens), Meeting House Cottage, Bell Hill, Southend Road, Billericay.

Times of Meeting:-

Meeting for Worship - Sunday morning, commence 10.45 a.m.  
Childrens' Meeting - " " " " " "  
Evening Meetings - as announced at morning meetings or as advertised.

7. Catholic Church of The Holy Redeemer, Laindon Road, Billericay.

Services:-

Sundays - Masses at 8.30 a.m., 10 a.m., 11.30 a.m., Evening Mass at 5 p.m.

Weekdays - 8.30 a.m.

Parish Priest - Canon A Roche,  
9, Lion Lane,  
Billericay. Tel. Bill.891.

For information regarding the social activities connected with the Church please apply to:-

Mr.D.R.Donovan,  
26, Chantry Way,  
Billericay. Tel.Bil 285.

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Section 3, Part 2 - Social Service organisations - on next page.

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## Part 2 - Social Service Organisations

### 1. Billericay Recreation Rooms. (High Street).

The above rooms were built in the year 1883, with funds obtained from public subscription, to be held on trust by a Management Committee, for the benefit of the inhabitants of Billericay. The objects included a Library, Reading Room, and recreational facilities.

It functioned for many years as it was intended to do, but eventually in recent years it became a Billiards Club with the installation of two tables. Members began to dwindle, and very little use was made of the Rooms.

In 1957 the Christadelphian Ecclesia commenced to hold their services at the Rooms, and in February 1959 a new Management Committee comprising representatives from various local organisations was elected to explore the possibility of making a better use of the rooms for the benefit of the local community.

As there was very little support for Billiards the two tables were dismantled and facilities for Table Tennis provided with a first class table, and organisations commenced using the Rooms for social activities and meetings. Hiring fees are very moderate, although very little assistance can be obtained from official quarters as far as finance is concerned. A Rest Room for elderly persons has been established by the Old People's Welfare Committee on three mornings a week. A Table Tennis section has been formed for recreational facilities.

Membership is open to all residents and the annual subscription is 10/-. Further information will be gladly furnished by the Hon. Sec., Mr. C.W. Odell, 5, West Park Drive, Billericay. Tel. 22.

### 2. Billericay Rotary Club.

Billericay Rotary Club was inaugurated in 1958, and chartered in 1959. Mr. H.S.A. Rothon M.B.E., J.P., was the Founder President and Mr. Stanley Harvey the Founder Vice-President. The motto of the Rotarian movement is "Service above Self", and publicity is not sought.

### 3. British Legion.

Headquarters: Rose Hall, Chapel Street, Billericay. Hon. Secretary: Mr. S.R. Forder, "Ka Ke", Stock Road, Billericay. "Service Not Self". The objects of the Legion are to:-

Perpetuate the memory of those who died in the service of their country.

To assist ex-service men and ex-service women and the widows, children, and dependants of those who served, in matters relating to pensions, allowances, grants, and war gratuities.

To raise and co-ordinate funds for the purpose of assisting ex-service men and women and their dependants.

The Service Committee meets every Wednesday at 8 p.m. to hear cases requiring assistance.

Service Committee Hon. Secretary: Mr. P.C. Munn, "Slindon", Western Road, Billericay.

Social:-

Wednesday 7.30 p.m. - Members Recreational evening.

Thursday 8 p.m. - Old Time Dancing. Open to the general public.

Friday 7.30 p.m. - Whist Drive. Open to the general public.

Periodical visits to places of interest and entertainment.

The Rose Hall may be hired for functions. For hall booking apply to Vere & Co. Ltd., 26, High Street, Billericay, or Hon. Secretary.

### 4. Citizens Advice Bureau.

The office is in the W.V.S. building in Chapel Street (corner of Hillside Road) and is open on Tuesday afternoons from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and on Thursday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Advice is free and strictly confidential.





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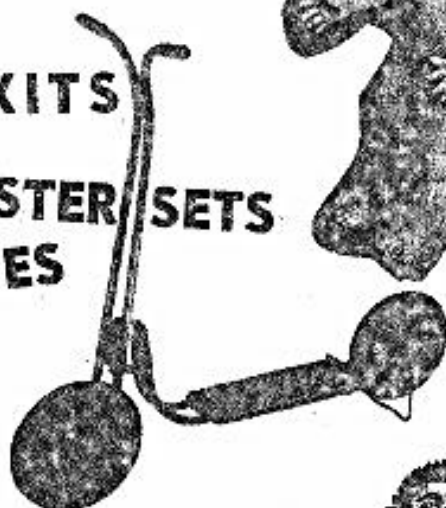
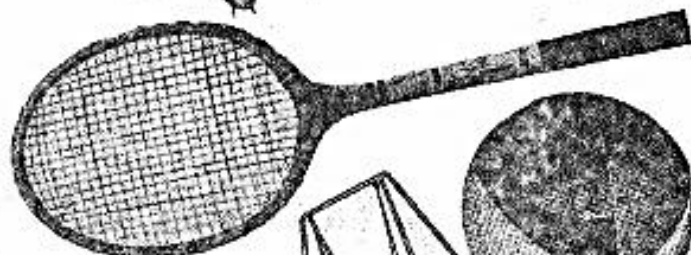
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5. The League of Friends of St. Andrew's Hospital.

The League was formed in October, 1954, and now has a membership of 239. The aim of the League is to raise money to purchase extra comforts for the patients and staff of St. Andrew's Hospital which are not provided under the National Health Service. It also provides members who visit patients who have no relatives or friends and to shop, write letters for them, and to read to them. There is a newly formed team of men who visit patients' homes and make any necessary adjustments to rails, shelves etc. to suit the patient's disability. Gifts are given to patients and staff at Christmas, and holidays arranged for long-term patients. The subscription to the League of Friends is 10/6d per year, and further information may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Irene Peach, 13, Chantry Way, Billericay (Phone 689) or the Membership Secretary, Mr. John Harrison 87, High Street, Billericay.

6. The Children's League of Pity (Junior Branch of the N.S.P.C.C.)

The Billericay Branch of the League of Pity was started in November, 1961, and now has a membership of thirty-two. The badge which is a Blue Bird is available for 1/-, and all League members have a savings box, which they try to make as heavy as possible, awards being given to those saving the most. Members are also sent the Blue Bird magazine free. Full information from the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Marjorie Casson, "Windward", Norsey Road, Billericay or the Hon. Asst. Secretary Mrs. Brenda Catherall, 16, Mayflower Road, Billericay.

7. Billericay Old People's Welfare Committee.

The Committee is non-political and non-sectarian and exists solely to help Billericay's old age pensioners in any way that it can. The two most important functions are the advisory and home visiting services. Under the former, any pensioner can obtain confidential help and advice from our Secretary (Mrs. Barr, 273, Mountnessing Road - telephone 522) on any problem whatsoever.

Under the visiting scheme, a band of volunteers keep in touch with their given groups of pensioners and very regular visits are made to the housebound. More volunteers are always needed.

We have a Rest Room (almost opposite the Parish Church in the High Street) open on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings where pensioners can meet their friends and have refreshments at reasonable prices. Helpers are needed here also.

Regular outings (parties, shows etc.) are arranged for the housebound. At Christmas parcels of food are sent to over 100 pensioners. The Committee has wheelchairs to lend out, and also passes on second hand clothes, stoves and the like, to those who need them.

8. Red Cross.

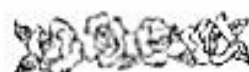
Essex/53 Billericay Men's Detachment formed 1948. Commandant Mr. F.C. Riches, "Rosedene", Ramsden Heath. Phone R. Heath 368. Essex 134 Billericay Women's Detachment formed 1926. Commandant Mrs. S. Drury, 287, Mountnessing Road, Billericay. Phone Bill. 1598. Cadet unit 4144/134 and Link No. 309, girls aged 9-16 years, formed 1948, Cadet Officer, Mrs. G. West, "The Cozy", Ferry Street, Billericay. Cadet Unit 4590/53, boys aged 11-16 years, formed 1951. Cadet Officer, Mr. K. Simpson, 24, Prince Edward Road, Billericay. Essex/53 and Essex/134 meet each Tuesday evening at 7.45 p.m. in the Physiotherapy Dept. of St. Andrews Hospital for training in First Aid, Nursing etc. Cadet units meet each Thursday evening at 6.30 p.m. at Billericay Secondary Modern School for training in First Aid, Nursing, Mothercraft, Drill etc. First Aid duties are carried out at Lake Meadows and various Sports Meetings, Fetes etc. Voluntary nursing duties are carried out at St. Andrews Hospital. Items of medical equipment are loaned out for short terms free of charge. A Club for Physically Handicapped started in 1959, now has a membership of 38, meeting in the Rose Hall on Monday afternoons. Welfare visits are made to housebound and disabled ex-service men.





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## Social Service organisations, continued.

### 9. Toc H.

Membership is open to all over 16 years of age. Toc H, originally know as Talbot House (signallers abbreviation Toc H) was created to enable Forces men in the 1914/18 war to find a haven of rest and fellowship, Talbot House being just west of Ypres. Since its establishment in England in 1922 (it is now world wide) it has endeavoured to seek out the needs of others and where possible to fill the need in fellowship and service. Membership is restriced only so much as members are required to embrace the common Christian life regardless of denomination. It is by no means an ex-Service organisation. Further details from:- C.R.Sanders, "South View", Kennel Lane, Billericay (Phone 1874).

## *Part 3 - Womens Organisations*

### 1. Billericay Business & Professional Womens' Club.

Meeting Place: The Old Shambles, High Street, Billericay.

Times: 2nd and 4th Thursday in each month at 7.45 p.m. Affiliated to the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Aims and Objects: To awaken and encourage in business and professional women a realisation of their responsibilities in their own country and consequently in world affairs. To facilitate effective co-operation between business and professional women throughout the world. To raise the standards of education and training for business and professional women. To work for the removal of sex discrimination in opportunities for employment and selection for office, for promotion and for remuneration.

### 2. Inner Wheel Club of Billericay.

The story of Inner Wheel goes back to the time of the first World War when Rotarians asked their wives for help in service to the community, help which proved so successful that the wives decided to extend their efforts by working on their own account, and so formed groups for this purpose throughout the country.

The aims and objects are; To promote true friendship and the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service and betterment of social conditions, to promote good international relations through the interchange of ideas and a spirit of service among the womenfolk of Rotarians.

Subscriptions at the moment are 27/6d yearly, and membership is open to the wives of Rotarians. Secretary: Mrs.G.Clows, "Little Farthings", Western Road, Billericay. Tel.426. (After July 1st, Mrs.I.Kersey, "Barry House", Morsey Road, Billericay. Tel.782).

### 3. Billericay Ladies Circle.

Billericay Ladies' Circle, formed in 1959, is part of an Association which is both National and International. Only wives of Round Table members are eligible for membership. Meetings are held at the "Old Shambles" Hotel on the third Monday of each month. The annual subscription is 25/-.

In its short existence the Circle has organised Fashion Shows Sales of Work, Coffee Mornings and Cake Stalls, and from these and other events, has donated money to the Billericay Secondary School Swimming Pool Fund, Old People's Welfare Committee, National Council for Unmarried Mothers, Cancer Research, and Spastics, as well as giving practical help to many organisations. Secretary is Mrs. Joan Turner, 2, West Park Drive, Billericay.

### 4. Mothers' Union.

Billericay Parish Church Mothers' Union meets last Wednesday of each month in the Archer Hall Annexe, 2.30 p.m., 2nd Monday 7.45 p.m., Archer Hall Annexe. Enrolling member - Mrs.Brown, 17, Lion Lane.



5. Billericay Women's Institute.

Billericay Women's Institute was one of the first Institutes to be formed in Britain. The National Federation of Women's Institutes came into being in 1917, and it was in this year that Billericay was formed. Originally created with the idea of providing facilities for social intercourse for women in rural areas and for fostering home arts and crafts, the Women's Institute has kept in step with modern life and now caters for the ever widening interests of women who live in a community where town and country meet. The old feminine skills of cookery, sewing, and handicrafts are still stimulated, but intellectual and artistic interests are not neglected.

The Institute has its own hall, situated, just off the High Street, in St. Edith's Lane. It is the only Institute in the country to meet twice a month, all other Institutes meeting only once monthly. The meetings are on the first and third Wednesdays in the afternoon. Membership (3/6d a year) has to be limited to 165 because of accommodation, but visitors are welcome and application to be put on the waiting list can be made.

President; Mrs. M. Mann, "Bell House", Bell Hill, Billericay.  
Secretary; Miss Girling, "Beech Trees", Lake Avenue. Tel. Bil. 1497.

6. Great & Little Burstead Women's Institute.

The main purpose of Women's Institutes is to improve and develop conditions of rural life by providing centres for educational activity and social intercourse.

Subscription 3/6d. Meetings - 2nd Thursday in the month in Little Burstead Village Hall at 2.30 p.m. Secretary:- Mrs. T. W. Thompson, "The Lawns", Little Burstead, Billericay.

7. Women's Voluntary Service for Civil Defence.

Office: 61/65, Chapel Street, Billericay. Phone Billericay 583.  
Office hours: 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. During office hours welfare foods are distributed. All enquiries are dealt with. E.G. clothing and furniture in good condition may be handed in during office hours. Any enquiries may be made to:-

Mrs. M. I. Phillips,  
Centre Organiser,  
"Shrewsbury House",  
Stock Road, B/cay.  
Tel. Bil. 258.

Mrs. E. L. Lodwick,  
13, Cavell Road,  
Billericay  
(Dep. Centre Organiser)

8. Young Wives' Group (St. Mary Magdalen).

3rd Wednesday, 8 p.m., Archer Hall Annexe. Group Leader, Mrs. Baucher, "Little House", Laindon Road, Billericay.

9. Young Wives' Group (Christ Church)

Alternate Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Christ Church. Group Leader, Mrs. Stott, 10, Upland Close, Perry Street, Billericay.

## *Part 4 - Educational Organisations*

1. Workers' Educational Association.

Founded in 1903, the primary object of the Association was to provide adult working people with the opportunity of pursuing a higher education. The W.E.A. is nation-wide, non-political, and non-sectarian, and draws its members from all walks of life.

Afternoon and evening classes are held in this district from September to March, and members are able to choose from a wide variety of subjects. Summer schools in attractive parts of the country are held each year, with a full programme of social activities. Branch Secretary Mrs. W. Power, "North View", Southend Road, Billericay (Tel. 497) will be pleased to provide further information.



# Part 5 - Youth Organisations

## 1. Church of England Youth Organisations.

a) A.Y.P.A. for young people aged 17 and over. Sunday evenings after Evensong at the Vicarage. b) Pilgrims - for those aged 11 to 14. Thursdays at 7 p.m., Archer Hall Annexe. Leader: Mr.B.Richardson, 261, Mountnessing Road. c) Twenteens - For young people aged 15 and over. Tuesdays at 8 p.m., Archer Hall. Secretary: Mr.C.Wheatley, "Red Bricks", Norsey Road.

## 2. Congregational Church Young People's Fellowship.

Registered youth organisation connected with the Billericay Congregational Church. Meets every Friday 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. in the Mayflower Hall, Chapel Street. Leader: Mr.P.Powell, 9, Fair View, Billericay.

## 3. Girls Life Brigade.

The 1st Billericay Company is attached to the Congregational Church and meets in the Mayflower Hall on Monday evenings. Juniors 6-7.30 p.m., Seniors and Pioneers 7-9 p.m. Cadets meet on Friday from 5.30 to 7 p.m. Ages range from 6 years upwards. The Chaplain is the Rev.J.S.Wilkinson. Captain: Mrs.M.Simpson, 24, Prince Edward Road, Billericay. Secretary: Miss I.A.Gayes, "Rosedale", Stock Road.

The aim is to help girls to become self-reliant, responsible, and useful Christian women by means of spiritual, physical, social, and educational activities. The motto is - "To Save Life". This year the Brigade celebrates its Diamond Jubilee being the oldest uniformed organisation for girls in the country (to mark the Jubilee the Brigade's crest will be depicted in flowers in Lake Meadows this Summer). It was founded by the National Sunday School Union in 1902 and the Brigade maintains a close link with Churches and Sunday Schools throughout the World. Its membership of 110,000 girls, including some 40,000 overseas, has long been an example of leadership training in the life of youth.

## 4. The King's Own Bible Class.

Girls - 11 yrs. and over - Sundays 9.45 a.m. - 10.45 a.m. at the Womens Institute, St.Ediths Lane, Billericay and 3 - 4 p.m. at the home of Mrs.Lees, "Nutwood", Norsey Road (From whom further information can be obtained).

Boys - 11 yrs. and over - Sundays 10 a.m. - 10.45 a.m. Evangelical Free Church, Chapel Street, Billericay.

Chorus singing, talks and discussions etc. The King's Own Bible Class (interdenominational) is held in various parts of the country. The purpose is to bring young people to know God through personal faith in His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the study of the Bible, to build a sound Christian character. Summer camps are held each year for members to meet the other classes. Also organised are Rallies and Sports Days.

## 5. Billericay Youth Centre.

The Billericay Youth Centre, run under the auspices of the Basildon Education Committee, meets on five nights a week in the Billericay Secondary Modern School. It caters for boys and girls aged 14 to 21, and offers accommodation for them to jive, play table tennis, snooker, badminton, darts, and many other less energetic games. The young people appear to enjoy meeting together for a "coke" or cup of coffee etc. in their club room, with its coffee bar bright wall posters and furniture, to the background of all the latest "pop" records.

Recently a football team has been organised and performs vigorously most Saturday afternoons in the Basildon Minor League. The Warden and his staff (together with class Tutors) are always on duty during the evening (7.0 to 9.45) and encourage the boys and girls to take part in all the activities available, including the fortnightly dance, when music is provided by several local jive groups, occasional visits to other Centres, and theatre outings to London, organised for members and their friends.



## Billericay Youth Centre, continued.

A number of members are keen to start a basketball team, swimming and girls' netball teams, which it is hoped will be possible in the near future.

Membership reached its highest level last term when, together with the over 21's who attend the 50 odd classes held during the week, the figure was over 700. Practical, recreational, and academic classes are held on almost every subject, and these have proved so popular, both with the Youth Centre members and the adults, that there are now waiting lists for such classes as Judo. Examinations are organised by national bodies such as the Royal Society of Arts, Pitmans, College of Preceptors etc., and the members are all encouraged to make use of the facilities offered for continuing their education as well as enjoying the freedom and good comradeship offered by the Youth Centre & Evening Institute.

## *Part 6 - Horticultural Organisations*

### 1. Billericay Horticultural Society.

The object of the Society is to encourage the practice of horticulture in all its branches by arranging annual shows and talks of interest to members. At present the Society has some two hundred members and its affairs are conducted by a Committee of ten members elected at the Annual General Meeting. Membership fee is 5/- per annum, 7/6d double, with reduced rates for old age pensioners. Two shows are held annually, in July and September, and during most months of the year talks are given by selected speakers covering all branches of gardening and floral topics. The Society is affiliated to four National Societies and the Essex Federation. Secretary: R.F.Lindsey, "The Haven", Frithwood Lane, Billericay. Membership Secretary: N.Wright, "Bracondale", Laindon Road, B/cay,

### 2. Billericay Floral Arrangement Group.

Meetings the first Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. in the W.I.Hall. Membership 2/6d per year, plus 2/- each meeting. Visitors 2/6d per meeting. The Group was formed in September, 1960. Its aims are cultural and educational, its purpose being to stimulate interest in the art of flower arrangement in the home, and to improve the standard of flower decoration at Competitions and Shows. To attain these objects the Club organises Talks, Lectures, Practices, and Demonstrations by leading personalities in the world of flower arranging. Membership is open to any amateur. Further details from the Secretary, Mrs.P.Clayton, 41, Hillside Road, Billericay (Phone 1187). Details of meetings are to be found in the "Billericay Observer" and in the window of Youngmans one week prior to the meeting.

## *Part 7 - Public Halls*

### 1. South Green Memorial Hall.

The South Green District War Memorial Fund was first started on V.E. night 1945, the object being to erect a useful memorial to those of South Green, men and women, who served the country during the war. A committee was formed to organise functions to raise money and as a result of sheer hard work, the South Green Memorial Hall was opened in July, 1957.

Events held at the Hall each week include:-

Sunday - South Green Chapel (Covenanters) Sunday School.

Monday - Keep Fit, 7.30 - 9.30 p.m., 1/6d.

Tuesday - "Bingo", 8 p.m. sharp, 2/6d.

Wednesday - Whist Drive, 7.45 p.m., 1/6d.

Thursday - Thursday O.A.P. Club.

Friday - Keep Fit, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m., 1/6d.

Saturday - Bookings. Apply in writing to Secretary, "St.Helens", 12, Mill Road, South Green.

It is hoped to commence Old Time Dancing instruction in September, 1962, 8-10 p.m., with qualified instructor, 2/-. For membership apply to Secretary - evening to be allotted will be notified.



## Part 8 - Political Organisations

### 1. Billericay Conservative Party.

The offices of the Billericay & Brentwood Conservative Association are at 99a High Street, Billericay, phone Billericay 1242. The Agent and Secretary is Mr. I. B. Greer. The Billericay Conservative Branch meets frequently for both social and political functions. The Chairman is Mr. T. Thomas of "Brays", Laindon Road and the Secretary is Mr. D. Tobitt of "Fridwin", Outwood Common Road, Billericay. Attached to the Branch is the Billericay Conservative Ladies Section which meets on the first Thursday of each month in the Women's Institute Hall at 2.30 p.m. Their programme includes interesting talks on both political and non-political subjects, together with social functions. Further details of the ladies programme may be obtained from the Chairman, Mrs. P. Thomas, "Brays", Laindon Road or the Secretary, Mrs. K. Catherall, 16, Mayflower Road.

### 2. Billericay Labour Party.

The Billericay Labour Party was formed between the wars and is affiliated to the Labour Party via the Basildon Constituency Labour Party. The local party functions as a Ward Party, and meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at the Co-operative Hall (above London Co-op shops) at 8 p.m. Further details may be obtained from Mr. E. A. Rolfe, 11, Bootham Road, Billericay. (Tel. Bil. 1529).

### 3. Billericay Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

Opposes all preparations, material and political, to engage in nuclear war or to threaten it as a means of national policy. It stands for the unconditional renunciation by Britain of the manufacture, testing, and possession of all nuclear weapons: these measures to be announced by our Government, and carried out by given dates, whatever other nations may decide. Britain must cease, permanently and on principle, to make or possess nuclear weapons, whether designed as an independent "deterrent" or as a contribution to an Allied force. Nuclear disarmament involves the abolition of all bases in Britain - whether British, American, or Anglo-American - for bombers, missiles, and missile-carrying submarines. Negotiations must be opened for the removal of American bases within a stated period of time. It would be impossible for a Britain which commits itself to nuclear disarmament to belong to NATO and all military alliances which rely on nuclear weapons. Billericay CND is a group of the national campaign, which was formed in 1957. For further information: Mr. E. Rolfe, 11, Bootham Road, Billericay. (Tel. 1529).

## Part 9 - Sporting Organisations

### 1. Billericay Cricket Club.

Billericay Cricket Club was established in 1875, although there are records of cricket being played even before then by "an eleven from Billericay". Thanks to the late landlord, Mr. H. A. Ricketts, and the Ricketts family, the Club has been playing for about forty years at its present attractive ground in the Mountnessing Road (entrance by Gooseberry Green railway bridge). Earlier games were played on Laindon Common and on the site of the present Secondary School. In days gone by the Club employed a professional at a wage of £1 a week. Although not now able to aspire to this the Club is active, and fields two teams on Saturday, and one on Sunday. Intending members are invited to contact the Hon. Secretary (D. R. Chapman) at 4, West Park Drive, Billericay (Tel. Billericay 443). The Club welcome spectators who can easily reach the ground from the High Street by the Gooseberry Green footpath, which starts almost opposite St. Marys Avenue in Western Road. Teas are available at the ground.

### 2. Billericay Recreation Table Tennis Club.

The Table Tennis Section of the Billericay Recreation Rooms (opposite the Church) has playing nights on Thursdays and Fridays during the season from September to April and competes in the Billericay and District Table Tennis League. Enquiries to Club Secretary, P. E. Collins, 7, Rushdene Road, Billericay.



## Sporting Organisations, continued.

### 3. Billericay Lawn Tennis Club.

The Club came into being about 1930, but owing to the war became derelict; it was again revived by members of the Western Road Lawn Tennis Club, who were forced to vacate their premises. In 1952 the Club raised a loan from its members and with a grant from the Playing Fields Association laid two new hard courts and at the same time obtained a lease from the landlord for 21 years, for the ground in Mountnessing Road. There are also in addition two grass courts but there are plans to convert one of these into a further hard court, while a pavilion has just been completed. The senior membership is 65, and just recently the junior membership reached a total of 70.

Friendly matches are played with local clubs and three teams are entered in the Brentwood League. Last year the 1st and 2nd teams won their respective divisions. New members are welcome. Annual subscriptions are: Seniors £3-13-0d plus 5/- entrance fee, Intermediates (16 to 18 years) £1-11-6d plus 5/- entrance fee, Juniors (up to 16 years) 15/- plus 2/- entrance fee. Hon. Secretary W.A. Hawes, 12, Moat Edge Gardens, Billericay. Phone Bil.1244.

### 4. St. Johns (Billericay) Sports Association Ltd.

The Association was formed in 1934 as a section of the Old Boys and Old Girls Association of St. Johns School, reformed in 1947, and later moved to the existing site of "Willowbrook" in Stock Road. Facilities exist for cricket, rugger, hockey (mens and mixed), tennis on hard courts, and table tennis, at the new ground with its spacious club house (with licensed bar), changing rooms, and shower facilities situated about one mile along Stock Road. An entrance fee of 10/- is payable as a life payment, together with an additional annual subscription of 10/- for social purposes. Cricket £2-2-0d plus match fee of 3/6d, Hockey £1-1-0d plus match fee of 2/6d, Rugby £1-1-0d plus match fee of 2/6d, Annual Tennis £4-4-0d, Annual Family Tennis £5-6-0d (husband, wife, one child 14-18), £1-1-0d each additional child within age limits, Annual Junior (16-18 no play after 7 p.m.) £2-2-0d, Junior Holiday Membership (14-18 restricted to Monday-Friday mornings of school holidays. Secretary: Mr. D. Cook 607, Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood.

## *Part 10 - Old Peoples Organisations*

### 1. Billericay Old Age Pensioners Association.

The Billericay O.A.P. was founded by Mrs. Law M.B.E., J.P., in 1947 with 12 members, there being only one remaining with the Branch. The membership is now 120, and meetings are held every Wednesday at the Rose Hall. Mrs. Law is still President of the Branch. The oldest member is Mrs. Darling, aged 91.

The object of the Branch is to give as much enjoyment as possible to old folk. Three outings are held each year, partly subsidised from Club funds. The Branch does not receive any outside financial help, and all funds are raised by members. The Branch runs its own Horticultural Section and each year competes for the Mrs. Law trophy. Meetings are commenced with "Keep Right On To The End Of The Road" and closed with "Abide With Me".

### 2. Buttsbury Monday Club.

Founded April, 1961. Membership open to all persons over 50, especially those retired. Aims are mutual help, social life amenities, and general comradeship. Meetings every Monday evening (7.30 - 9.30) in Buttsbury School. Subscription 2d per week.

### 3. South Green Thursday Club.

Membership limited to 80, and confined to the elderly people of the South Green area. Affiliated to the Nat. Fed. O.A.P.'s. Aims are entirely social - to provide meetings, entertainments, film shows, outings etc. finances coming from club membership, raffles, Bingo, Flower Shows, sale of produce etc. Our sick visitors call on those ill with sweets, lucosade, flowers, eggs etc.



## Old People's Organisations, continued.

### No.4. Sunnymede & Outwood Common Friday Club.

The club will be celebrating its first birthday on 6th June. Meetings every Friday 7-9 p.m. at Sunnymede Primary School. The Club is anxious to build up good fellowship between the Sunnymede and Outwood Common estates, and work in this direction is progressing very well. Meetings consist of Quiz games, competitions, concerts, Old Time music etc. Any person over 50 years can join, and the subscriptions are only 2d a week. We build up our funds with raffles donations, gifts etc. There is also a Thrift Club, where members can pay what they like each week towards socials and outings. A very cordial welcome is extended to any one who would like to come along for a very pleasant evening.

## *Part II - Residents Associations and Amenity Societies*

### No.1 - Billericay Residents' Association.

This Association was first formed in 1927, and was then called the Buttsbury & Queens Park Residents Association; as far back as the late 20's the Association was very active, and the results of that activity is still with us. The footpaths from Billericay Station to Gooseberry Green and from Billericay Station to Perry Street were made up by the Association, and the upkeep provided by them.

The name of the Association was changed in 1935 to Billericay Residents' Association. Since the early inception of the organisation it has carried on the work of improving the amenities of the area. In 1960, it was decided by the Association to enter candidates for local elections, and since that date four councillors have been elected. The whole emphasis of this entry into elections was based on the determination of the Association to fight party politics in local government. Membership of the Association is open to every Tenant and Householder alike living in Billericay. Secretary:- D.Wilby Esq., 137, Perry Street, Billericay. Tel.Bil.1671.

### No.2 - Buttsbury Residents' Association.

This is a non-political and non-sectarian organisation formed in 1956 for the benefit of the residents of the area. Its aims and objects are:-

- a) To protect and improve the amenities of the district.
- b) Guard the interests of all members.
- c) Promote the election of suitable persons with non-political affiliations to the Urban District Council.

A committee elected from the membership is responsible for the running and administration of the Association and general meetings are held at regular intervals throughout the year. At these meetings progress reports are given to members and business in hand is discussed. Speakers from local and County authorities are invited to attend from time to time, and the membership is thus kept in touch with current affairs.

Among the matters at present receiving the attention of the Association are Education, Transport, Roads, Street Lighting, Planning and Development, and Community Centres.

The Association also organises social events and supports local charities. It would welcome new members living within the Buttsbury area, the membership fee being 2/6d per year for any member of a household over 21 or 3/6d per year for joint membership of husband and wife. For application form and further particulars please apply to Cllr.K.C.Cook (Hon.Secretary), 299, Mountnessing Road, Billericay. Tel.No.794.



## Residents' Associations and Amenity Societies, continued.

### No.3. Council for the Preservation of Rural England, Billericay Group.

(Registered within the Civic Trust).

Its main object is to protect and safeguard from disfigurement the appearance, the rural scenery, the amenities, and the features of local interest in and around the township of Billericay. It also gives and obtains advice and information about all matters which affect development and the preservation of the beauty of the town and its surrounding countryside. The Group arranges visits for its members to local and other places of interest and holds meetings on matters connected with the activities of the Group. The annual subscription is 5/-; Junior Members under the age of 18, 2/6d. There is a separate junior section of the Group which meets and acts independently within the general policy of the Group.

Hon.Secretary: W.Taylor, "The Old Vicarage", Chapel Street.

### No.4. Outwood Common Residents' and Community Association.

Secretary: Mr.K.Miles, 58, Morris Avenue, Billericay.

Entertainments Secretary: Mr.Sexton, 11, Monoux Close, Billericay.

## *Part 12 - Museums and the Arts*

### 1. Cater Museum - 74, High Street, Billericay.

Founded in 1960 by Mrs.A.M.Cater in memory of her husband Mr. William Alexandrear Cater F.S.A., and vested in Trustees and a Governing Body as a home for items concerned with the life and history of the district from its earliest days.

Three rooms are fitted up as an Open Fire Kitchen and c.1865 Bedroom and Sitting Room, and on the top floor is the series of authentic model fire appliances from 1666 to 1957, contributed by the late Mr.E.V.Sutton of Billericay.

The general display includes items of Pre-Historic, Roman and Medieval interest found in the neighbourhood, small collections of English coins including 17th cent. Billericay trade tokens, toys and games, and photographs and souvenirs of local trades and industries etc.

A Reference Library of books, maps, and documents etc., is available to visitors on request. By arrangement with the Governing Body the Museum forms the official Headquarters of the Billericay Group, Council for the Preservation of Rural England, whose Junior Section (J.C.P.R.E.) has its own meeting room on the top floor (members only).

Opening Times:-

Monday, Tuesday, Friday - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Other times by appointment with Curator (Mr.H.Richman), 5, Chapel Street, Billericay. (Tel.366).

### 2. Billericay Folk Players.

Amateur dramatic society formed in 1946 in succession to the Billericay Players. Winners of F.C.Jobson trophy, 1961. New members welcome. Applications to Mrs.C.I.Hillary (Hon.Secretary), 52, Hutton Village, Hutton, Brentwood. Phone Brentwood 514.

## *Part 13 - Miscellaneous*

### 1. Billericay Carnival Association.

Formed in September, 1961, as successor to Billericay Carnival Committee, which organised local Carnivals in 1960 and 1961. The object of the Association is "to organise a main annual event to be known as the Billericay Carnival in conjunction with other local organisations or individuals for the purpose of raising funds for objectives to be decided at a Public Meeting to be held annually in September". Membership is open to all interested residents, and to representatives of local organisations. Secretary: Mr.J.Dodd, 227, Perry Street, Billericay. (Phone 1457).



## 2. Billericay Industrial Group.

This Group has only recently been formed. Membership is restricted to Industrial undertakings actively operating in the Billericay area, and the objects are to consider and act on any matters of mutual interest and concern. Secretary:- G.S.J.Hussey, c/o N.V.Machinery Co., Radford Crescent, Billericay. (Tel.1804).

## 3. Royal Observer Corps.

The Billericay Post of the Royal Observer Corps is a unit in a nation wide organisation which is responsible to R.A.F. Fighter Command for the recognition and tracking of low flying aircraft, and to the Home Office for the measurement and plotting of radio active "fall out" from nuclear explosions. In peace time the Royal Observer Corps is largely a spare time organisation, members being required to attend training meetings and exercises for a total of about 18 hours every six months. Members of the R.O.C. work in underground posts which are fully equipped with instruments used in performing their duties. The Billericay Post R.O.C. has, this year been awarded a silver cup for the most efficient Post in the Group consisting of over fifty posts. Membership is open to men of British nationality between the ages of 18 and 50 years. Nine members are welcomed and anyone interested in joining can obtain further particulars from Chief Observer, F.L.Wyatt, "Glenwood", Norsey Road, R.F.H.Chambers, 101, Passingham Avenue, South Green or R.S.Johnson 34 Attridge Chase, Perry Street. Members receive free uniform, and an annual crash grant, together with travelling and attendance money.

## 4. Trefoil Guild.

This a group of non-active but still very interested members of the Girl Guide movement. Any former Brownie or Girl Guide can join. Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday in every month, to discuss local events, at which the Guild is called to help at times. Testing Guides and Brownies for badges is another service performed. Further information from Mrs.J.D.Reed, 20, Warner Close, B/cay.

## Too late for classification - Boy Scouts Association.

District Commissioner - Phillip J.Hawes, "Harrow Farm", Brock Hill, Wickford, Tel. Ramsden Heath 322.

Local Association Secretary - Charles R.Sanders, "South View", Kennel Lane, Billericay. Tel.1874.

2nd Billericay Group - Scout H.Q., Laindon Road, Billericay.

Meetings - Cubs, Weds. 6-7.30 p.m., Scouts, Fri. 7-9 p.m.

Group Scoutmaster - T.R.Hamilton-Mac Laren, "Cullins", Church Road, Ramsden Bellhouse. Tel.Ramsden Heath 408.

3rd Billericay Group - Church Hall, Perry Street, Billericay.

Meetings - Cubs, Tues., Scouts, Fri. Group Scoutmaster - A.Bond, "St.Catherines", Wiggins Lane, Tye Common Road, Billericay.

4th Billericay Group - Roman Catholic Church Hall, Laindon Road.

Meetings - Cubs, Tues., Scouts, Fri. Group Scoutmaster - F.J.Gee, 3, Bluebell Wood, Mountnessing Road, Billericay. Tel.869.

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## SPIRELLA-RESIDENT CORSETIERE

MRS.W.LENNON.

"Danwyn", Beaufort Road, Billericay.

Phone Billericay 1827.

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