

Thousand people ask about the full mortgage houses

**BUT LOW INCOMES WILL
BE A BAR TO MANY**

THE BAIT of 100 per cent mortgages has brought Basildon Development Corporation a flood of inquiries about their 121 unsold houses on Basildon's Castle Mayne Estate.

By Wednesday the Corporation had accepted "nearly 50 'initial' deposits on the empty houses and other applications were being sifted.

Since the Ministry decision to allow the Corporation to give maximum mortgages was publicised recently, interest in the empty houses has been revived and the Corporation have dispatched 1,000 brochures to people all over the country in answer to inquiries.

"We are hopeful that many of these will bring definite applications," said a Corporation spokesman.

Under the terms of a Ministry circular received on Friday, the Corporation were given the all-clear to give mortgages of up to £7,500, as opposed to the old limit of £5,000.

If they are satisfied with the circumstances of the applicant, the Corporation can give these mortgages on any pro-

perty they own and not just for the Castle Mayne houses.

The flood of inquiries has kept Corporation housing staff busy recently. "Many of these people have little hope of a mortgage because of their low rate of annual income," said a spokesman.

At the present rate of interest monthly repayments of Corporation mortgages over a period of 30 years would be (approximately): £5,000—£34; £6,000—£41; £7,000—£47; £7,500—£51.

Collapsed

Mrs. Kathleen Bacon, of Woodside Gardens, Tottenham collapsed on Monday outside Vane and Pitsen Working Men's Club. She was taken to Billericay Hospital, but not detained.

£5,655,000 hospital

THE NEW hospital planned for Basildon will cost an estimated £5,655,000.

The figure is given in the progress report made by the Chairman of the North-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, Sir Graham Rowlandson, M.B.E., J.P.

His report was presented at the Board's meeting on Wednesday afternoon.

The hospital is among the schemes planned to start within the period up to 1975.

LOCAL WILLS

Mr. Alfred Stanley Wilkins, of Content, Gardiners Lane, Crays Hill, Billericay, who died on February 24th, 1961, left £2,255 gross, £1,212 8s. net value. Duty paid £25.

Mr. Kenneth Marshall, of 19, Little Noisy Road, Billericay, late local government officer, who died on October 10th last, left £3,643 1s. gross, £3,547 2s. net value. Duty paid £213.

Of course it fits!



Of course the slipper fits—it would have upset things if it didn't! This was one of the scenes in the Mala School of Dancing's annual pantomime—this year "Cinderella"—at the Archer Hall, Billericay, last week-end. Sylvia Surret was Cinderella and Reisin Elliott Prince Charming. More pictures on Page 3.

COUNCIL CAN OFFER NO ACCOMMODATION FOR SOVIET VISITORS TO WICKFORD

WICKFORD COMMUNITY Association, who are proposing to become a host organisation for one of the visits to Britain by a Soviet Youth Group, have had their request for assistance in accommodating the visitors denied by Basildon Council.

But, in spite of this setback, Community Centre Warden Miss Mona McCormack is going to go ahead with her plans to accommodate 10 Russians in Wickford.

"By far the biggest obstacle I have got to overcome is the rule laid down by the 'Sputnik' organisation, who arrange the visits, that the parties must not be split-up," Miss McCormack told the "Standard" this week.

"It would be easy if I could split them up into two's and three's and board them with several different families, but instead I have got to search for a large building, such as a school, which we could furnish with beds."

Commented a Council spokesman: "We would

very much like to see a party of Russians visit Wickford, but there is a considerable lack of hostel-like accommodation in this area and there is nothing we can do to help."

"We get hundreds of similar inquiries from all sorts of people, and the Council have started a register of accommodation in a bid to combat the problem."

£40,000 on Perry Street

Basildon Council are to spend £40,225 on improvements to Perry Street, Billericay. Approved lowest tender so far and subject to loan sanction is from W. and C. French Ltd.

£1,700 DAMAGES

DAMAGES of £1,700 were awarded to Mr. John Thomas Frawley, of Clay Hill Road, Basildon, in the High Court on Thursday. They were for injuries received when he was knocked down by a motor cycle in July, 1963.

Judgment by consent with costs was given by Mr. Justice Milmo against the motor cyclist, Mr. John McMillan, of Priors East, Basildon, who had denied liability.

£7 speedster

For speeding in a built-up area, George Arthur Wright, of Wickhams, Basildon, was fined £7 at Chelmsford on Thursday.

What do I think of Wickford?



Mr. David Prance and Mr. David Hawkins, both active members of the St. Andrew's Church, Wickford, Youth Club, braved the cold winds on Saturday afternoon, inviting passers-by to record their opinion on a variety of subjects about Wickford. The tape will be played at a club meeting and will form the basis for a discussion group. The young lady being interviewed was Miss Pamela Denison.

"CINDERELLA" AT BILLERICAY



"Never again!" says Baroness Hardup (Margaret J. Upton) — the morning after the grand ball!

IT WAS A SPLENDID PRODUCTION

WHAT ARE the ingredients of a good pantomime? First and foremost, in my book, anyway, is comedy, writes JOHN COLE. The singing, dancing, colour and pace are important, of course, but it is the ability to make people laugh which is the vital factor.

And, judged on this basis, there is no doubt at all that the Mala School of Dancing's presentation of "Cinderella" at the Archer Memorial Hall, Billericay, on Friday and Saturday was an out-and-out success.

And, as is only right and proper, it was the Ugly Sisters, played by Terry Ferriss and Gillian Roots,

who raised most of the chuckles.

They created a minor sensation every time they came on stage, mainly because of the sheer gaudiness of their costumes and the improbability of their design.

One of Gillian Roots' creations actually included coat hangers as ear-rings! Though more conventional, the other costumes were equally good, particularly the ballroom gowns,

which had the little girls in the audience green with envy.

Principals this year were the School's star pupils, Sylvia Surret, who played Cinderella, and Rolin Elliott, who was Prince Charming, and they handled their roles with great confidence.

They were well supported, and the singing and dancing was of a high standard, with younger pupils less accomplished, but just as entertaining in their way.

Younger members of the audience were treated to a lollipop each, and the pantomime also included an illuminated coach and a giant coloured butterfly special effects which drew a well-earned round of applause.

The huntmen and courtiers made a brave show.

As usual, the cast was well over the 100 mark, but they were well ordered and there were no mishaps.

Proceeds from the show this year will go to the

etc., A. Davis, S. Hopkins, L. Harrison, S. Merrin, A. Moss, S. Prowse, S. Robins, C. Simmons, P. Savage, J. Stollery, L. Sharp, G. Clark, Z. Carey, A. Collier, E. Davey, J. Brown, P. Dell, C. Guest, J. Imbert, D. Langdon, S. McCoid, D. Niles, S. Rainey, W. Taylor, A. Wood, J. Woods, S. Worrall, S. Veale, C. Andrews, J. Bath, R. Birdsell, V. Bond, M. Burton, C. Buxton, P. Coates, Y. Harmon, A. and S. Harrison, C. Hanford, G. Landridge, A. Lidlow, D. Pitts, H. Ricketts, V. Singh, J. Arnold, S. Atkinson, A. Blackwell, T. Byth, A. Brown, T. Coake, J. Cunningham, T. Davis, K. Dobson, P. Dillon, J. Dunmore, J. Fish, A. Halls, D. Hazell, G. May, M. Merrin, D. Price, A. Fridham, S. Prowse, K. and L. Rogers, Y. Stace, R. Sharp, A. Stevens, D. Smith, F. Taylor, T. Wakefield, T. Wardrop, R. Welby, S. White, D. York, Fairies, Birds, Foxes, etc., K. Anderson, M. Anderton, R. Andrews, L. Ardley, J. Bath, I. Bradshaw, M. and H. Butler, J. and L. Carter, H. Casey, L. Casey, P. Coates, C. Cunningham, J. Fautley, Y. and L. Harmon, P. Hewitt, A. McQuaker, M. Miller, J. Ricketts, N. Singh, A. and R. Smith, M. Strickland, T. Swift, K. Thoman, D. Watford, Z. Walker, D. Ware, C. Archer, J. Bolton, L. Eye, S. Cardwell, C. Godwin, S. Healey, R. Hughes, C. Lodge, M. Mears, B. Noyes, J. Parr, D. Pratt, D. Quirk, M. Riddle, A. Riggs, G. Rouse, C. and E. Smith, S. Tidey, J. Wakefield, S. At the piano, Mrs. Jon Bracken; on the drums, Mr. David Pitts, choreography, Miss Margaret J. Upton; stage manager, Mr. K. Britton; lighting, Mr. Ferriss; make-up, Mr. and Mrs. Morley.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Luncheon Club

SIR.—With reference to your article on the W.R.V.S. Luncheon Club in Pitsea there might be an impression that the previous staff left the new members stumped. I wish to clarify this in fairness to the ladies who have worked so very conscientiously cooking meals during the past four years.

I had offered to assist the new staff in their first week, but unfortunately was prevented by a bereavement in the family.

I am sure Mrs. Wager did not intend the interpretation implied, and I can assure you this is not the attitude of loyal W.R.V.S. members. I have resigned after a period of 25 years on my doctor's advice.—M. D. DICKINS (Mrs.), late Sub-Centre Organiser.

WOMEN AT WORK

JUST UNDER a third of the 19,784 people employed in Basildon's 119 factories are women.

The figures at the end of 1966 were: Male—13,309; female—6,475.



Dandini (Christine Waldie), Lady Christine (Joan Hudson) and the Chancellor (Janet Britton) are seen above.

Shaftesbury Homes for Crippled Children.

Characters (in order of appearance): The Fairy Godmother, Marilyn Judd; The Chancellor, Janet Britton; Dandini, Christine Waldie; Sally, the Farmer's Daughter, Jannette Preen; Lady Christine, Joan Hudson; Cinderella, Sylvia Surret; Buttons, Christine Philip; The Brokers Men, Hilary Roberts; Marilla Thacker and Valerie Newman; Prince Charming, Rolin Elliott; Baron Hardup, Frances Gibbs; Mirabelle and Isabelle, The Ugly Sisters, Terry Ferriss and Gillian Roots; Baroness Hardup, Margaret J. Upton; Pages, Gillian Allen, Anne Morrell, Ann Merrin and Rosemary Gale; Courtiers, Christine Wakefield and Madeline Robinson; Huntsmen and Villagers, Linda Dover, Anne Bues, Patricia Daly, Carole Carter, Glynda Davis, Margaret Fox, Theresa Hughes, Jennifer Morley, Karen Pells, Joy Pridham, Susan Riches, Faisie Simmonds, Anne Woodward, Susan Barrett, Alison Elsmore, Janice Carter, Sharon Frye, Janice Garrett, Linda Gwilliams, Rahna Healey, Susan Jepson, Susan Kelly, Penelope Gurnett, Judith Mussen, Ann McCurdie, Lorraine Miller, Judith Powell, Claire Sundry, Hazel Savage, Elizabeth Skewick, Anne Wood, Susan Duxbury, Theresa Morley, Susan Merrin, Linda Vine, Elaine and Yvonne Willis, Fairies, Squirrels, Butterflies,



Left to right: Fairy Godmother (Marilyn Judd), three broker's men (Hilary Roberts, Marilyn Thacker and Valerie Newman), Buttons, front, seated (Christine Philip), and Sally, the farmer's daughter (Jannette Preen), standing, rear.



Above are (left to right) Baroness Hardup (Margaret J. Upton), Baron Hardup (Frances Gibbs) and the Ugly Sisters (Terry Ferriss and Gillian Roots).

VETERAN READERS' COLUMN



MISSED THE BOER WAR BECAUSE HE GOT MARRIED!

"I CAN'T say I've had a very eventful life—but I've potted about!" says Mr. William Poole. In actual fact, however, Mr. Poole seems to have crammed quite a lot into his 90 years, and even now a little gentle gardening keeps him active.

He was born at Harrow-on-the-Hill, where he lived for some years. His very first job was with a firm of printers, where he earned the princely salary of 3s. per week. "It seemed to go a lot further then than £3 goes today!" says Mr. Poole. "You could have a really good night out for a shilling, with beer at 2d a pint and Woodbines at five a penny!"

He served with the East Surrey Territorials during the Boer War, but never went to South Africa. The day all his friends and colleagues said, William had a very important engagement to keep—he got married! So the ship sailed without him, and, shortly afterwards, the war came to an end. William and his bride headed for Folkestone, where he had been offered a job with the "Pall Mall Gazette."

Here he stayed for some years, until the First World War, which saw the end of that paper. William joined the R.A.S.C., and was soon on active service, mostly in Russia, where he helped to get an electric railway running between Murmansk and Popoff, for the carriage of vital war supplies.

When he was demobbed in 1919, he obtained a job at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, as a porter. Feeling that he would prefer to work outdoors, he took it, more or less as a temporary measure—but he was still there in 1940, when he had to retire because of age reduction.

William and his wife moved to Dinton, where they lived until she died in 1957. William moved to Linstead, where his surroundings, though a little rural, were nearer to the buses and shops, and he lives there still, in a neat bungalow which he shares with his housekeeper. His years sit very lightly on William's shoulders, he very much enjoys his membership of the London Old People's Welfare Centre, which he visits regularly, and was delighted last week to be taken by them to a pantomime in London.

A resignation

MEMBERS of the Lee Chapel North Dorby and Joan Club spent a happy afternoon in community singing, accompanied by Mrs. Evans at the piano, at their weekly meeting at the Community Hall on Thursday. The sing-song was followed by Bingo, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

Chairman Mr. Heeger presided and he sent the good wishes of the Club to all sick members for an early return to health. It was reported that Mrs. Marshall had suffered a bad fall and would be unable to return for a while. She sent a donation to the Club funds. Musical birthday honours went to Mrs. Wood. A new member, Mrs. Holloway, was welcomed to the Club.

It was with great regret that the resignation of Mrs. Heeger was accepted. Members nominated her a vote of thanks for her past services, and Mrs. Bennett volunteered to take over her duties.

A raffle of 50 gifts concluded the afternoon, and the meeting ended as it had opened, with a hymn.

GHYLLGROVE O.A.P.

An afternoon of music, with singing and dancing, was in accordance of Mr. W. Denney and Mrs. Manning. Social Secretary, at the piano, was enjoyed by the members of the Ghyllgrove O.A.P. branch at their weekly meeting on Monday. Mr. J. R. Chapman (Chairman) presided and thanked Mr. Denney and Mrs. Manning for their splendid efforts. He also thanked everyone who brought gifts for the table. A sister

was Rev. A. Dunlop, who has been elected Vice-President of the branch. Mr. Rowe, of the Gore, Basildon, has also been elected Vice-President, and Rev. R. H. Williams, Congregational Church minister, was re-elected as President. Mr. Humphries was reported to have been taken into hospital, and Mr. Griffiths is also receiving hospital treatment. Other sick members were sent the good wishes of their colleagues. Mrs. Cruden was welcomed back to the branch after a spell of illness, and hostess was Mrs. Pattison, and her helpers.

MATCH BOX CONTEST

There was a capacity crowd at Tuesday week's Wickford Salvation Army Corps Silver Threads Over-60s Club, when the main feature was a match box competition. Winner was Miss Williams. A "Birthday Time" feature was led by Mrs. Ada Little, when greetings were sung for Miss Birt. Treasurer Mrs. Baylis read the roll call and arrangements were made for a week's holiday in Belgium in May. Refreshments were served by Mesdames Gentry, O'Leary, Isaac, Casbolt, Purdy and Shuttleworth.

HER PARTY

Chairman Mrs. E. Thurston presided over the annual New Year party which she gives each year to the members of the Basildon No. 1 Senior Citizens' Club. It was held on Wednesday at the Fryers Community Hall. The entertainment, which consisted of community singing, accompanied by Mrs. Russell at the piano, and jokes from Mrs. Pluin. Ninety members attended the party, and Mr. Chatting and helpers served the tea. Members also approved and accepted the financial report from the Treasurer, and sick members were sent the good wishes of the other members. The meeting closed with the usual song.

CHAIRMAN INDISPOSED

The weekly meeting of the London Dorby and Joan Club was presided over by Vice-Chairman Mr. Hardy, in the absence of the sick Chairman Mr. Casselden. Good wishes for his recovery and for all other sick members were expressed by the members. A hearty welcome to a former member who has returned to the Club was accorded to Mr. Harrison. Birthday honours went to Mrs. Livermore and tea hostesses were Mrs. Divine and Mrs. Chapman, and their band of willing helpers. Members held a special competition to swell the Club funds, and the afternoon's entertainment consisted of Bingo.

VANCE O.A.P.

A visit from Mrs. Harris' concert party was greatly enjoyed by the members of the Vange O.A.P. branch, at their weekly meeting at St. Chad's Church, Vange, on Friday. Birthday honours went to Mrs. Rodd and Mrs. Moore, and new members, Mrs. Woodman and Mrs. Blattery, received a hearty welcome to the Club.

A lively programme

A VARIED and lively programme of songs and dances was enjoyed by members of the Basildon No. 2 Senior Citizens' Club, at their weekly meeting on Thursday at Pemberry Hall, Church Road, Basildon. Pianist was Mrs. Merday, and Mr. Bundy played the drums.

Afterwards a vote of thanks was proposed by the Chairman, Mrs. Baker, who also thanked everyone for the gifts they had brought for the table.

Sick members were remembered and wished a speedy recovery by their colleagues. Tea hostess was Mrs. Chandler and her helpers.

A special thank-you from Mrs. Baker, Chairman, goes to Messrs. David James, Chemists, of Whitmore Way, Basildon for their generous gifts to the Club.

SENIORS ENTERTAINED

Entertainers at Friday's meeting of Wickford No. 2 O.A.P. were the Seniors concert party, whose programme consisted of songs and monologues. They were thanked by the Chairman, Mr. P. W. Perkins, and Mrs. Manning. James Oliver and Read, and ten served by Mesdames Read, Filstead, Garmen, Perkins, Hill and Hitchcock. Opening and closing songs were accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Tanner.

Mr. O'Dare is now the President

Mr. T. O'Dare, former Chairman of the Essex Area Council of the National Federation of O.A.P. Associations, has accepted the position of President of the Council "with great pleasure."

Mr. O'Dare was forced to retire from the position of Chairman because of ill-health, and members felt that, as he had done such a splendid job as Chairman, they would not like to lose him altogether. His letter accepting the Presidency was read to the members present at the Area Council's first meeting of 1967 at the Rest Rooms, Vange, on Friday.

Officers were elected, and Chairman will be Mr. J. H. Wilkinson, delegate from Canvey Island's No. 1 Branch. His wife, Mrs. D. G. Wilkinson, accepted the position of Minute Secretary as Mrs. F. Pugh will shortly be leaving the district. Mr. F. L. W. Rogers will continue as Secretary, and Mr. A. Judge will carry on as Treasurer.

It was announced that the annual conference will take place in Margate, early in April, when many questions of interest and importance to old folk all over Great Britain will be thrashed out.

NEW MEMBER

The weekly meeting of the Langdon Hills Over Sixties Club, held on Thursday at the W.I. Hall, Langdon Hills, was presided over by Mr. W. J. Holland. Musical birthday honours went to Mr. and Mrs. Spencer, and Mr. Holt. Mrs. Goodwin, a new member, was welcomed to the Club. Mrs. Peters was also accorded a hearty welcome, returning after illness.

LANGDON HILLS O.A.P.

A well-attended meeting of the Langdon Hills O.A.P.s enjoyed an afternoon of Bingo on Thursday, at the Community Centre, Langdon. Chairman Mr. A. Vickers presided, and sent the good wishes of the Club to all sick members. Mrs. Webb was welcomed back after a spell of sickness. Future events include a theatre outing, and there are plans for various seaside visits during the forthcoming year. Birthday honours were accorded to Mrs. Boylett and Mr. Pike.

HANDICAPPED CLUB

Members of the Basildon Physically Handicapped Club enjoyed a visit from Sister Margaret Smith, Dames of the Methodist Church, Basildon, who gave them an interesting talk on a caravanning tour. Chairman Mr. E. Smart, who presided, thanked the speaker. A speedy recovery was wished to all the sick members, including Mrs. Mumby, Mrs. Ringrose, Mrs. Powell, Mrs. Harold, Mrs. Jiggins, Mr. Bearman, Mrs. Dart, Mrs. Greengrass and Mrs. Oldman. Mrs. Lee was welcomed back to the Club, after a spell of sickness. After the business of the afternoon was concluded (the afternoon was concluded) Mr. Smart accompanied soloists Mrs. Fuchs and Mrs. Oldman. Monks on the piano, and they gave an entertainment to the rest of the members which was greatly appreciated by all. Tea was served by Mrs. Contman and her helpers.



Mrs. K. Baker (seated, centre) was celebrating her 70th birthday when we visited the Pitsea Fuchsia Club at their weekly meeting on Monday at Vange Working Men's Club Room.

Ready for a song and dance!



Members of the Ghyllgrove O.A.P. enjoy a song and a dance to the music of Mr. W. Denney's accordion at their weekly meeting at Ghyllgrove Community Centre on Monday.

OVER FIVE HUNDRED AT THIS PARTY!



WE COULDN'T GET ALL THE FIVE HUNDRED CHILDREN WHO WERE AT CARRERAS' ANNUAL PARTY ON SATURDAY IN ONE PICTURE, SO WE TOOK THREE! TWO ARE ON THIS PAGE AND THE OTHER IS ON PAGE 14. THE PARTY — A GRAND AFFAIR — WAS ORGANISED BY THE MANAGEMENT AND WORKERS.



MUD, MUD, GLORIOUS MUD?



A workman takes a broom to the inch of mud coating Redgrave Road, Basildon. People have complained that sometimes the mud has been ankle-deep.



COUN. JOE MORGAN SEES THE MUD—AND HEARS ABOUT THE REDGRAVE ROAD PROBLEM FROM MOTHERS! COUN. MORGAN WAS ACCOMPANIED BY COUN. ROY BUCKLEY AND MR. GEORGE ELDER, WHO WILL LATER CONTEST BARSTABLE WARD.

"WE'LL TAKE ACTION" THREATEN TENANTS

MUD, MUD, glorious mud may be popular for a theme song on hippopotami, but mud in Redgrave Road, Basildon, Manor Avenue and Kenneth Road, Pitsea, makes the residents flaming mad!

People living in Redgrave Road threaten to clean the road of its tin mud coating and then put up barricades to stop building workers using it.

from on top. Mud falls from the top of the lorries."

Also at the mud meeting on Sunday was Mr. J. Elder, Labour candidate for Barstable and agent for the Pitsea candidate, Mr. J. Dorrington. "This mess costs people money," he said. "I wonder how the Council would like to collect the bills for new carpets."

Stuffing books in their coats

TWO GIRLS, aged 14 and 11, who were seen stuffing books inside their coats at W. H. Smith and Sons' bookshop in Basildon, appeared at Billericay Juvenile Court on Monday.

Questioned by Police, they admitted stealing the books and also taking knitting needles from Basildon Co-operative store earlier that day, said Mr. J. Chipperfield, prosecuting.

Both girls were given a conditional discharge, and their parents were bound over in £25 each to ensure their good behaviour.

Twenty women talked of this and other tactics on Thursday week in a street protest meeting with Labour Councillor Joe Morgan. He told the angry women he would ask Basildon Council to serve an enforcement notice on the contractors—Sir Lindsay Parkinson, Ltd.—forcing them to either clean the road or stop work.

The mud came in November when the New Town building line moved with a vast estate of factory-built houses into Vange. Said Mrs. Barbara Woodard of No. 21: "It is worse now than when they were building our home 16 years ago."

"On Saturday the mud came over my ankles—my husband is a building worker and he would be fined if he left a mess like this."

With Coun. Morgan were Coun. Roy Buckley and Labour candidate Mr. George Elder. A Council health official in gumboots looked into complaints of a lack of lavatories on the building site. But the Engineer's Department refused to send a representative.

Mr. Elder told tenants they should list damage caused by the mud and tell him. Then I will face Corporation General Manager Mr. Boniface with it—and ask for compensation."

A Pitsea revolt!

For the past eight weeks the people of Manor Avenue and Kenneth Road, Pitsea, have been cursing the mud and grit which has clogged on their shoes, clogged the drains, punctured their car tyres, ruined their carpets and generally made their lives a misery.

Then on Saturday Mr. William Tebbutt, who has lived in Pitsea for 29 years and in Manor Avenue for six, decided he had had enough. From his neighbours and from other Council tenants in Crest Avenue, and St. Mary's Crescent, he collected 60 signatures in a matter of hours, and called a meeting in the mud of Manor Avenue on Sunday morning.

The petition which went to the Council on Monday called for quick action in clearing the road and pressure on the contractors building council houses nearby to keep their lorries clean.

By Tuesday afternoon Council officials had inspected the roads and men were busy scraping and washing away the mud and grit. "We have been in touch with the contractors and will be keeping an eye on the area," said a Council spokesman.

"We've had as much as we can take of this mess," said Mr. Tebbutt. "If the Council had not taken action we would have had to. We were planning to blockade the contractors' lorries out of Manor Avenue and force them to use another route. And some of my neighbours were talking of withholding their rent."

A lot of the mud came from the wheels of contractors' lorries, he said. "But most of it comes



Sixty signatures have so far been collected for the Manor Avenue petition about their muddy road. Left: Petition organiser Mr. William Tebbutt.



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S.B. or D.B. DINNER SUIT £2. Chest 34 to 50, all fittings.
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TROUSERS only £1.5.0. Waist 28 to 50, leg 29 to 34.

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DRESS SUIT & WHITE WAISTCOAT £2.15.0. Chest 34 to 46, all fittings.
DRESS COAT only £2.5.0. Chest 34 to 46, all fittings.
DRESS TROUSERS only £1.5.0. Waist 28 to 50, leg 29 to 34.
DRESS VEST only 17/6. SM, M, OS, XOS.

MORNING WEAR

MORNING COAT, GREY VEST, STRIPED TROUSERS £2.10.0. Chest 34 to 50.
MORNING COAT only £2. Chest 34 to 50.
MORNING TROUSERS only £1.5.0. Waist 30 to 50, leg 29 to 34.
GREY VEST only 17/6. SM, M, OS, XOS.

ACCESSORIES

WHITE POPLIN SHIRT with Dress Collars, size 13½ to 17½, 17/6.
EVENING DRESS SHIRT with Collars, size 13½ to 17½, 17/6.
Soft WHITE SHIRT, Collar-attached, size 13½ to 17½, 17/6.
WHITE or BLACK BOW-TIE 2/-. GREY TIE (Wedding) 2/-.
CUFF-LINKS, STUD SETS 3/-.
BLACK SILK or GREY HAT, 6½ to 7½, 17/6.
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WHITE or GREY GLOVES, size 7 to 10, 4/-.
CUMMERBUNDS, black or maroon, 5/6.

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LAINDON'S FIRST QUEEN'S GUIDES

LAINDON'S first Queen's Guides received their awards and badges on Friday at a social at Manor Mission, Manor Road, Laindon (see picture on left).

They were Pamela Robertson, of 2nd Laindon, and Molly Richardson, of 1st Laindon. Both girls are 15 and go to Laindon Secondary School, where they are deputy head girls.

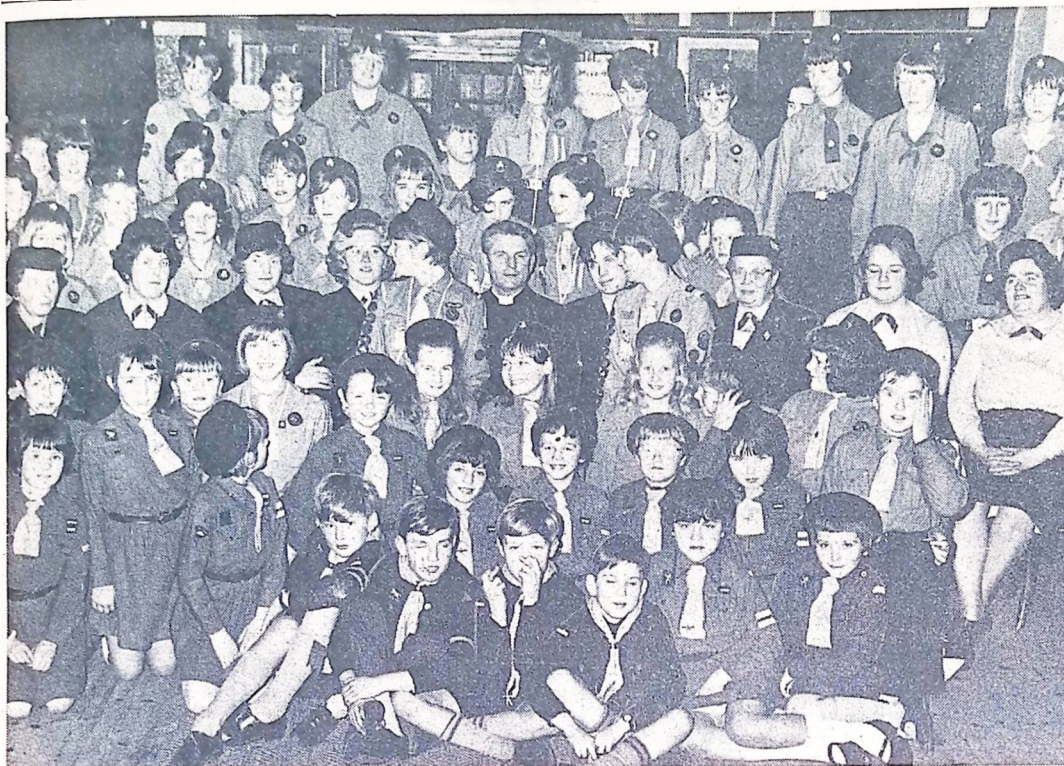
The awards were presented by Miss M. Baerlocher, Divisional Commissioner (see picture below).

Pamela is too young to take out a warrant as Assistant Akela, but has been working as a Cub Instructor.

Molly is a Sunday School teacher at Langdon Hills Methodist Church.

Miss Pat Hutchins, Captain of the 3rd Laindon Guides, led the sing-song that followed the presentation, in which about 70 Guides and Brownies took part.

Special guests at the social were Rev. K. Kulik, Pastor of Manor Mission, and four Cubs from 1st Laindon Pack.



Youngsters in the picture below were at Laindon Baptist Junior Sunday School's party held at the Church Hall on Saturday.



A KNOTTY PROBLEM!

What better place to tie a reef knot than around your own knee?

A scene at the Patrol Leaders' Training Course for Guides, held at St. Andrew's Hall, Wickford, on Saturday afternoon.



In spite of the fact that they had just got up from a really good tea, these Scouts of 3rd Billericay Scout Group have been taught "Waste not, want not"—and gave practical assistance in clearing up the odd cakes left lying about! They were at the Scout Group's party at Mayflower School, Billericay, on Saturday evening.

Your cinemas

Century, Pitsea

"The Ten Commandments" (Monday for one week) is a mighty film in every sense of the word, doing full justice to its theme. Cecil B. DeMille's great epic is a pageant of Old Testament history, a sweeping spectacle covering the life of Moses.

Radion, Laindon

"See You in Hell, Darling" (showing Sunday and Monday) concerns a TV personality who specialises in exposing rackets and defying wrongdoers to confront him. This is a heavy melodrama.

"After the Fox" (Tuesday and Wednesday) stars Peter Sellers as a small-time Italian conman who manages to escape justice many times by his clever disguises.

"Dr. No" (Thursday for three days) is a story adapted from Ian Fleming's popular novel about James Bond, the immaculate, resourceful and fearless British agent who prevents an Oriental master criminal gaining world domination.

Ritz, Billericay

"The Trap" (Monday for three days) is an exciting and unusual love story of 100 years ago. Eve, a young mute girl, is bought by a husky trapper and taken to his log cabin, where she learns the hard way that hate can turn to love.

A good old-fashioned sentimental Western, "The Rare Breed" (Thursday for three days) concerns the establishment of a new breed of cattle in Texas 80 years ago. James Stewart and Maureen O'Hara star in this pleasing mixture of wide open spaces, fights and cattle.

Ritz, Southend

Comedy adventure reviving the exploits of Sapper, famous gentleman prize-baiter, Hugh "Bulldog" Drummond, "Deadlier than the Male" (showing Sunday for one week) concerns an oil millionaire who is murdered in his own plane. It is set against a background filled with electronic gadgets such as man-size remote controlled chessmen and neat little bombs, which are finally used to eliminate their inventor.

Odeon, Southend

"Fandor's Keepers" (showing until Wednesday) set against magnificent Spanish scenery, is another pop musical adventure featuring Cilla Richard and The Shadows. The U.S. Air Force "lose a bomb and the lads are mistaken for British counter-spies, but after a mad chase through a Spanish fiesta the problems are solved.

HELPERS AT CARRERAS PARTY



SOME OF THE HELPERS PICTURED AT CARRERAS CHILDREN'S PARTY HELD IN THE WORKS CANTEN ON SATURDAY.

"THE GHYLLGROVIAN" HAS RIVAL PUBLICATION!

Mini-concert

Children of St. Mary's Church Sunday School, Laindon Hills, gave a "mini-concert" at the Church Hall on Saturday. About 35 children took part, and Mrs. M. Whitbread was producer. Mrs. E. Pike was the pianist, and Mr. R. Pike made the scenery, including a beautiful cardboard Noah's Ark. The costumes were made by Mrs. P. Gribbman, also the highly-effective animal masks. The aim of the concert was to get the parents and Sunday School teachers to know one another, and there was an excellent attendance.

DEPUTY WARDEN

Mr. D. C. Burman has been appointed part-time Deputy Warden at Fryers Community Centre. His appointment will last in the first instance until August 31st, 1967.

GOOD NEWS....

THE GOLDEN CROWN CHINESE RESTAURANT OPEN SOON IN BILLERICAY!

BASILDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEET YOUR COUNCILLOR

Residents are invited to meet their Councillors at the following venues from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Laindon Community Centre	FRIDAY,
Bardfield County Primary School	FEBRUARY 3
Former Council Chamber, Billericay	
Wickford Community Centre	FRIDAY,
Council Chamber, Fiddersham, Basildon	FEBRUARY 10

DAVID H. TAYLOR, Town Manager

DID YOU MAKE A NOTE?

SATURDAY

JULY 1st

1967

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St Martin's Church Hall
- Any Morning -

WHAT HAS happened to "The Ghyllgrovian"? The failure of Ghyllgrove Community Association's magazine to make an appearance during the last three months was the main topic at last week's committee meeting.

Man in the hot seat was magazine editor Mr. Bill Bond. The reason for the magazine's non-appearance since his election was quite simple, said Mr. Bond. "All we need to produce 'The Ghyllgrovian' is someone to type the stenils. I can't type and I have not been able to find a volunteer. I have even tried the Education Office and the Development Corporation. They would not do it, and other people have let me down."

The problem was solved on the spot by Mr. David Shearcroft, who offered to become permanent Ghyllgrovian typist.

"In that case the magazine will appear next month," said Mr. Bond.

A rival

But in the meantime a "rival" publication has appeared, the Committee learned.

Fed-up with lack of publicity for their events, the social section have launched their own newsletter.

Said social section spokesman Mrs. Eileen Dudley: "We have been losing out on all our activities because of lack of publicity. We decided the only answer was to publish a newsletter of our own. We have delivered the first through every door in Ghyllgrove."

Regardless of the future of "The Ghyllgrovian", a social section newsletter was a good idea, said Chairman Mr. David Harding. It will reach more people than we can afford to reach with the bigger magazine.

Mrs. Dudley went on to criticise the main committee for their lack of support at social events, and asked for more financial independence for the social section. "Only one main committee member looked in at our children's party," said Mrs. Dudley. "We were proud of that party and we would have liked you to see what we were doing for the Association. We had 225 children there and made it pay for itself."

"If I had been invited I would have been there," said Mr. Harding. "But I don't think any committee member is less of a com-

mittee member because he does not sell tickets for an event or help run a greasy-pole exhibition. No one should be criticised on those grounds."

The social section were doing a very good job, said Treasurer Mr. Bernard Lautman. "The children's party cost the Association absolutely nothing. It is very commendable."

But he was completely opposed to the social section running their own financial affairs. "This would make my job terribly complicated."

Mrs. Dudley accepted his argument and withdrew the request, but asked for action to speed work on the hall extension. It was agreed to approach the Corporation.

The Cree-character still shines through

AT LAST Friday's Billericay Folk Club, guest singers The Cree provided a programme of song ranging from sea shanties to the modern parables of Tom Paxton.

The group now sing regularly with Alex Campbell, whose influence was clearly obvious in their programme and style of presentation.

Unfortunately this has detracted from the group's natural character, which still shone through in the strong solo singing of Julie Byrne, accompanied by her two colleagues.

The Club is soon to start a folk dance section, with regular meetings in Billericay. One of the first activities will be a meeting with the Benfleet Hoymen as guests.

FIRM NO SERMON

A film show replaced the sermon at Sunday Church, given by Rev. R. Saunders, a representative of the Church of England Children's Society.

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January 29 STUDD LONIGAN x double-x programme - adults only
Today until Saturday JAMES MASON, LYNN REDGRAVE - GEORGY GIRL x adults only

RITZ
BILLERICAY 250
Sunday, January 29 ONE DAY
RICHARD TODD PETER SELLERS
NEVER LET GO
5.10 8.10 (X)
Mara Corday, Lili Milan
GIRLS ON THE LOOSE
6.40 only (X)
Adults Only

Monday, Jan. 30 THREE DAYS
RITA TUSHINGHAM OLIVER REED
THE TRAP
4.50 8.10 (A)
Brian Bedford, Julie Sommars
THE RARE BREED (A)
Last Complete Programme 6.35

Thursday, Feb. 2 THREE DAYS
James STEWART Maureen O'HARA
The RARE BREED
5.10 8.15 Mat. Sat. 2.10 (U)
Peter Mann, Jocelyn Lane
THE SWORD OF ALI BABA (A)
Last Complete Programme 6.45

RADION
LAINDON 2150
Sunday, Jan. 29 TWO DAYS
BARRY SULLIVAN LLOYD NOLAN
SEE YOU IN HELL DARLING
Sun. 5.0 8.0 Mon. 5.10 8.15 (X)
Cesare Danova, Willard Hyde-White
CHAMBER OF HORRORS (X)
L.C.P. Sunday 6.30, Monday 6.45
Adults Only

Tuesday, Jan. 31 TWO DAYS
PETER SELLERS VICTOR MATURE
AFTER THE FOX
5.15 8.10 (U)
William Lucas, David Sumner
TOUGH GUYS (A)
Last Complete Programme 7.0

Thursday, Feb. 2 THREE DAYS
Sean CONNERY Ursula ANDRESS
DR. NO
4.30 8.20 Mat. Sat. 2.25 (A)
Sean CONNERY Daniela BIANCHI
FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE
Last Complete Programme 6.20

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FINDERS KEEPERS
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Wk. 3.25 6.10 8.55 Sun. 5.45 8.35
WALT DISNEY'S
THE TATTOOED POLICE HORSE
Technicolor (U)
Week 2.15 5.0 7.45 Sun. 4.30 7.25
THE SATURDAY CLUB FOR BOYS & GIRLS, 9.30 a.m. Adm. 6d & 9d

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SUNDAY, JAN. 29 7 DAYS
Doors Open Sunday 4.0, Week 1.30
RICHARD JOHNSON
ELKE SOMMER
DEADLIER THAN THE MALE
Technicolor (X)
Sun. 4.50 8.10 Wk. 2.0 5.20 8.45
Adults Only
BOBBY DARIN EMILY BANKS
GUN FIGHT IN ABILENE
Technicolor (A)
Sun. 6.30 Week 3.40 7.05

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Metrolcolor Week 2.0 5.30 9.0 Sunday 5.0 8.45 (A)
CONNIE FRANCIS HARVE PRESNELL with HERMAN'S HERMITS
Metrolcolor WHEN THE BOYS MEET THE GIRLS
Week 3.30 7.10 Sunday 6.40 (U)

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STRICT TEMPO SESSION



Youngsters and helpers pictured at Acadex children's party held at Fryerns Community Centre on Saturday.

M.P. asks about mental health after-care

SPECIAL FINANCIAL assistance to local authorities to enable them to carry out their obligations for mental health after-care is being sought by the M.P. for Billericay, Mr. Eric Moonman.

The M.P.'s move follows the answers given in Parliament this week by Minister of Health Mr. Kenneth Robinson to a series of questions on mental health asked by Mr. Moonman.

He wanted to know the annual hospital admission rate for the mentally ill in the Basildon and Brentwood Urban Council area; how the rate compares with the national average; what percentage of mental patients in the two areas have a history of relapse, and what percentage of mental patients are discharged annually.

The Minister replied that separate figures for Basildon and Brentwood are not available. But the latest information for the catchment areas of Runwell Hospital (which covers Basildon) and Warley Hospital (which covers Brentwood) showed that the annual admission rate for the mentally ill is 2.5 and 2.2 respectively per 1,000 population, compared with the national average of 3.35.

Of the patients admitted to these hospitals, 61 per cent and 56 per cent have a history of relapse and 95 per cent and 96 per cent are discharged within one year.

Mr. Moonman was assured that, where necessary, all mental patients, particularly those with relapse histories, are followed up within a month of discharge.

In answer to a further question on what facilities are provided in Brentwood and Basildon to aid rehabilitation, the Minister answered: "In addition to general advice and support provided by mental health social workers, after-care services for the two areas include a social club, some hostel places and the help of the Disablement Resettlement Officer."

Said Mr. Moonman afterwards: "I am not satisfied

with the uneven range of the statistics and I intend to press the Minister further."

"Local authorities should be charged with greater responsibility," he says. "They are given no special financial assistance to carry out their obligation, and any additional expenditure on mental after-care has to be made at the expense of other health functions."

"This is utterly wrong," continued Mr. Moonman, "particularly when it is realised that the number of ex-mental hospital patients in the community is now 70 per cent greater than in 1959, when the Mental Health Act was passed."

Schools wanted

Basildon Deacons have asked for two Church of England schools in the New Town. They will shortly make detailed application and hope to have the schools included in the 1970 estimates. Sites are being considered at North Pitsea and Langdon Hills. The Diocese will pay 20 per cent of the cost.

FRYERNS ON TOP

FRYERNS Grammar School team won the Basildon round of the County Youth Public Speaking Contest held at Woodlands School on Wednesday.

Team Chairman was John Cockell, of Archibald Terrace, Laindon, and the other Fryern sixth formers were John Batcliff and Robert Edwards. Two other teams took part—Basildon Congregational Youth Group and Nicholas' Secondary School. They were placed joint second.

Fryern's topic was "That too much specialisation in school is a mistake." The other teams covered comprehensive education and capital punishment.

Organiser Basildon Youth Officer Mr. J. T. Edmondson thanked the adjudicator, Mrs. B. Bridgen, Personnel Officer of Marconi, Mr. G. Whitehead, Head of Harstable Grammar School, and Mr. J. McQuibban, Deputy Head of Woodlands Boys' School.

Mini-bus overturned

A MINI-BUS skidded and overturned in High Road, Pitsea, on Sunday. The driver, Mr. Cyril Bailey (42), Ropers Avenue, Chingford, was taken to St. Andrew's Hospital, Billericay.

Mr. Bailey was said to be making "satisfactory progress" by a hospital spokesman on Tuesday.

CLARK'S SHELLFISH are now doing Hot Eels, Hot Pies and Mash and other Hot Foods from 6 p.m. every Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Hoy Wharf, 42 High St., S. Benfleet

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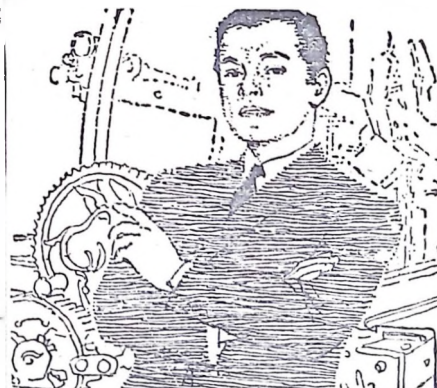
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Issued by the Newspaper Society



Guests are seen above at John Tamm Social Club's first dinner-dance held at the Bull's Eye, Basildon, on Saturday.

I gather . . .

A "STANDARD" REPORTER'S DIARY



GRANDDAD WILL FLY TO TASMANIA

EVERYONE AT 8, Cleveland Road, Basildon, will fly to a new life in Tasmania next month—including 81-years-old grandfather Mr. Martin Quegan.

They are the Fayed family.

Father is Mr. Rind Fayed, a radio officer with a Greek shipping line. He is aged 56 and an ex-major in the Egyptian army. It was in Egypt where he met his wife, Mary. She taught in the country for ten years and is now Deputy Head at Cedar Hall School, Thundersley.

Already at Hobart, Tasmania, is their 22-years-old son, Ramsey—at present on his honeymoon. He is a big name in the British computer industry.

Executive in charge of computer development for the Motor Agents' Association, London, Ramsey has taken a three months' break from work.

"He has just finished a new computer system for the car companies," said Mrs. Fayed. "He married an Australian girl, who was a nurse at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea."

In February he returns to London and computers. "We hope to see him before he leaves," Mrs. Fayed said. "But the arrangements are rather long-winded and we may not get there in time."

With Mr. and Mrs. Fayed will be son Ralph, aged 23. An ex-Fryerns schoolboy, he will take a course in economics at Hobart University. And for the Fayed's youngest son—Ryan, aged eight—it will be school in another land.

The Fayed family are no newcomers to New Town life. They came to Basildon from Harlow. First they lived at Rodegate and three years ago moved into Cleveland Road—into the show house for a small estate of lesser factory-built homes.

The picture above shows Mr. and Mrs. Fayed; sons Ralph and Ryan and grandfather, Mr. Quegan.

Triumphed in rally

BRITAIN'S ace Monte Carlo Rally driver, 31-years-old Vic Elford, flew into London Airport to a hero's welcome on Monday.

Vic was third in the rally in a German Porsche, and he was the only British driver to

get in the top three placings. With him were his parents, Mr. Harry Elford and his wife, Kathleen, and Mr. Albert Bevis, licensee of the Red Lion, Billericay, where the Elfords are living temporarily.

All three flew out to Monte Carlo the previous Friday to see the rally prize-giving on Saturday morning, and in the evening they dined, danced and until 2 a.m. at the Rally Ball at the Monte Carlo Automobile Club.

They spent the rest of their time in the "Millionaires' Playground" sightseeing and ended up with a visit to the casino, where Mr. Bevis gambled away 100 francs (£7 15s.) and Mr. Elford won 115 francs!

Commented Mr. and Mrs. Elford on their son's success: "We were overjoyed when we got the news. He has entered the rally eight times and this is his first major success."

"We had a really wonderful time in Monte Carlo. We were treated like celebrities, and it is one holiday we shall never forget."

Mr. and Mrs. Elford and Mr. A. Bevis, of the Red Lion.



building has given way to bright new cream paint, and the old beams and ceilings are also being given a facelift.

"The idea is to broaden the cafe's appeal and do a slightly better and more expensive trade, particularly in the evenings and on Sundays," explained Mrs. Doris Fisher, Chairman of Ye Olde Chantry Company. "We shall, of course, continue to serve cheaper business lunches, morning coffee and afternoon teas," she added, "but we are also going to start catering for evening meals by appointment."

Instrumental in bringing about the cafe's "new look" will be two new managers—Mr. Charles Jenner (49) and his wife, Hilda—who, starting Wednesday, will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the cafe—they are seen in our picture.

The Jenners moved to Barleylands Road, Billericay, two years ago after Mr. Jenner was forced to give up his job with a firm of London caterers when he was partially crippled in a motor cycle accident.

"We hadn't planned to stop in Billericay," he told the "Standard," "but the offer of this job decided us to. It was just the sort of thing we wanted, away from the rush and bustle of the City."

Changes at Ye Olde Chantry

THE atmosphere and appearance of Ye Olde Chantry Cafe in Billericay is gradually changing. Drab time-worn wallpaper which used to cover the walls of the 400-years-old

Why not join them?

THERE has been a small "but enthusiastic" response to Outwood Common Residents' and Community Association's efforts to form a photographic and cine club which we publicised three weeks ago.



School's link with the Norman Conquest



"Argent, in a bordure azure, an escarbuncle of eight staves fleury sable." That, in an heraldic nutshell, is the new blazer badge of Chalvedon Comprehensive School, Pitsea.

"We wanted something that was basically simple, and that linked us with the past of Pitsea and Vange," said Headmaster Mr. R. E. Ford, seen above with the design. "After quite a bit of work someone discovered that one of the main people with an influence on this area was William the Conqueror's half-brother, Bishop Odo of Bayeux, who fought beside him at Hastings."

Part of his reward was two manors at Vange. The abbey he founded at Colchester owned Pitsea Hall in the Fourteenth Century.

"We felt this was a strong enough link, and we liked his arms anyway! They were probably derived from the iron bands used to strengthen a shield, but for the school's purposes they are going to represent unity and diversity."

"At the moment the badge is only being used for blazers. We will probably extend its use later," said Mr. Ford. "to football shirts, ties and so on."

"We don't have a cap—I think the school cap is obsolete—so the badge won't be used like caps, and I don't think they're particularly useful as headgear."

Several keen amateur photographers have contacted the Association's 18-years-old organiser, Mr. John Pettit, to express their interest and with one or two more members he hopes to be able soon to call an inaugural meeting.

Writing in this month's Association magazine he tells readers: "Even if you cannot take a snap we would be glad to have you and pass on our knowledge, which was probably gained in a similar way."

Commuting 50 years

ON a continuous succession of season tickets over the past 50 years, approximately 650,000 miles have been covered by Mr. Bert Rickett, aged 64, of Meadowcroft, Hillside Road, Billericay.

He travels to Liverpool Street every day to get to his office in the accounts department of the Solicitors Law Stationery Society, Ltd.

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of his first journey on January 22nd Mr. Rickett remembered the cost of his first weekly season was 6s.

Meeting point

BILLERICAY and Wickford residents will have another chance to discuss problems and seek information from their local councillors in the next fortnight. More of Basildon Council's highly successful "Meet Your Councillor" sessions have been arranged. The first will be at the Old Council Chamber in Billericay High Street next Friday and the second at Wickford Community Centre on Friday week.

To speak at a world conference

REV. Karel Kulik, Pastor of the Manor Mission at Laindon, will be one of the speakers at the World Conference of the Evangelical Mennonite Church, which will be held in Amsterdam at the end of July and beginning of August.

He will also be a leader in the discussion groups.

The conference will be conducted throughout in English, and churches from all over the world will send delegates.

Similar conferences are held every three years, and the last one took place at Kitchener, Ontario.

Although the Mennonite Church is not so well known in this country, it is a very strong movement in Canada and the United States, where it has a membership of over 1,000,000. Its main doctrine is the promotion of world peace.

Mr. Kulik has been in Laindon now for seven years. Before that he was at various missions in London for about 25 years. He has visited Amsterdam before, and likes Holland very much.



Rev. Karel Kulik, Manor Mission Pastor.

Let the gipsies clear scrap from district!

COUNCILLOR'S REVOLUTIONARY PLAN

A PLAN to use gipsies to legitimately clear the Urban District of scrap has been put forward by a Labour member of Basildon Council's Gipsy Study Group.

The man who believes the gipsies' adeptness in locating scrap could be put to good use is Coun. Kenneth Tyson, of Knights, Basildon.

In his report to the Study Group he said: "Let the Council set up a proper site with electricity and sanitation laid on, in addition to facilities for sorting and breaking of scrap and other unwanted materials."

"Then give them permission to use the site only if they agree to bring in all the scrap and not leave it where they choose."

"It is obvious that the gipsies should not be a financial burden on the payer," continued Coun. Tyson's report, "and some means would have to be found to cover the cost of the site and the provision of amenities."

"This ought to be the subject of an investigation to see

if some form of revenue could be obtained from the scrap collected by the gipsies, perhaps making a levy on the moneys received from their collections. This could be done with the co-operation of the existing scrap dealers," he suggests.

This week Coun. Tyson revealed that on certain points he was not fully in agreement with the other two members of the Council's Study Group (both Conservatives), who last week agreed to recommend a Basildon site for gipsies for acceptance by the County Council.

A statement issued by him this week read: "There is little doubt that in the course

of time, gipsies will be absorbed into the community, and Basildon Council in common with other local authorities have been called upon to make a contribution towards this end.

"The problem appears to be how best this can be done. At this point a difference exists between myself and the two Conservative members of the panel.

"I first believe that the ratepayer should be fully informed as to the Council's intentions and also about the actual site where the gipsies will be located, as soon as possible.

"In my opinion an attempt should be made to absorb them into society, but at the same time they should make a contribution to society itself.

"There is little doubt in my mind that when a settlement is established in Basildon it will still be very much a social experiment. The ratepayer must not be unduly burdened by the extra cost of providing water and other services on sites which the Conservatives are to recommend to the County Council for acceptance, when there is already in existence a site which can provide most of the required amenities without extra expense," concludes Coun. Tyson's statement.

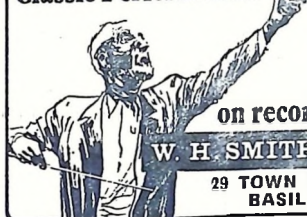
A sermon that made history?

REV. M. Churchill, Baptist Church Minister, of Langdon Hills, preached the sermon at St. Mary's Church, Langdon Hills, on Sunday. He and Rev. E. Telford, Rector of St. Mary's, believe that this is the first time that a Minister not ordained into the Church of England, has preached in an Anglican Church in the district.

It was part of the Prayer for Christian Unity Week, and ministers all over the country are exchanging pulpits in a similar manner.

Rev. A. J. Abbey, from St. Nicholas, Laindon, preached at the Laindon Baptist Church, and Rev. E. Telford was at the Langdon Hills Methodist Church.

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Boots the Chemists (Southern), Ltd., 27, Town Square, Basildon, and David Smith, Ltd., 10, The Broadway, Pitsea, will be duty chemists for week commencing Monday (January 30th). They will be open every weeknight (except Wednesday and Saturday) from 6 to 7 p.m. On Sunday (January 29th) Boots the Chemists, Ltd., will be open from 11 a.m. to 12 noon, and on Wednesday from 6 to 7 p.m.

BILLERICAY

M. W. Shadforth, 47, High Street, Billericay, will be duty chemist for week commencing Monday (January 30th). They will be open until 6.30 p.m. every weeknight (except Thursday, when they will be open from 7 to 8 p.m.). On Sunday they will be open from 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

WICKFORD

L. A. Garbett, 23, High Street, Wickford, and M. W. Shadforth, 53, High Street, Wickford, are open alternate evenings from 6 to 7 p.m. also alternately on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 12 noon (name of duty chemist noted on the door of both shops).

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MOTEL AT DEATH CROSSING INQUIRY IS POSTPONED

A planning inquiry due to be held next week at Basildon into a proposal to build a motel at the death crossing at the Harrows on the Arterial Road at North Benfleet was postponed on Wednesday.

The postponement was ordered by the Ministry of Housing at the request of Charringtons, the brewery firm behind the project.

"The Ministry say Charringtons cannot prepare their case in time," said a Council spokesman. At the inquiry, Basildon Council were to object to the building of the motel on several grounds, one being that it would add to the traffic hazards at the crossroads—the scene of a three-death crash recently. On Wednesday Charringtons's Essex manager at his office in Hornchurch insisted that the inquiry was still on. So also did several officials at the Company's Head Office in London.

"We have been told nothing," said a spokesman, "and cannot understand why the Council are telling people it is off."

But later Charringtons sorted out the muddle. "The postponement has been agreed between the Ministry and our Estates Manager," they said, "pending further negotiations with the authorities concerned."

Savage attack at Basildon Bowling Alley

FINES WERE imposed on two youths at Billericay on Tuesday for what the Chairman (Mr. H. S. A. Rothson) described as "a very savage attack" at the Basildon Bowling Alley.

From Basildon, they were Thomas Charles King (20), unemployed labourer, of Southcoke Crescent, and Tony James Coleby (18), a carpenter, of Battleswick.

King admitted assault occasioning actual bodily harm on William Benjamin, and also unlawful wounding of Trevor Groom, and was ordered to pay £15 on each offence. Coleby also admitted assault occasioning actual bodily harm on Groom and was fined £25. Both were ordered to pay £4 2s. costs, and allowed six weeks to pay or two months in prison in default.

Mr. Rothson told them: "I can assure you that if you repeat this violence in any form you will go somewhere where you cannot be violent at all."

Prosecutor Mr. Malcolm Parsons said the offence occurred on December 23rd, when Mr. Groom was at the bowling alley with his brother and Mr. Benjamin, who got into an argument with a friend of the defendants and started fighting.

Mr. Groom then felt a blow on the right side of his face, deliberate beating up.

and collapsed. While on the ground he felt further blows on his face. Helped to his feet, he collapsed again and was later taken to hospital where he had six stitches inserted into cuts above and below his eye.

Mr. Benjamin said that the defendants' friend jumped on his back and he received a number of punches, some of which he knew came from King.

Mr. Simons added that the fighting was also witnessed by bowling alley staff and one of them said Coleby punched Mr. Groom while he was on the floor and also saw King bring his left heel down on Mr. Groom's face.

Mr. J. Pollard, for defendants, said that both defendants denied "putting the boot in." They thought Mr. Groom might have hit his head when he fell or that it happened in the general milling around, although King also admitted he might have stumbled over Mr. Groom.

He asked the Bench to regard the attacks "as of a minor nature which got out of hand due to misguided legacies, rather than as a deliberate beating up."

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FACTORY GOSSIP

ORDER BOOKS FULL



at their Basildon factory.

And there to present her with a large bouquet of flowers was Mrs. Clarke's old friend, colleague and neighbour, Mrs. Mabel Mitchell. Mrs. Mitchell joined Pembroke two years after Mrs. Clarke. Both are now supervisors in quality control and both live almost opposite each other in Ingaway, Leo Chapel South.

Also at the presentation was Mrs. Clarke's husband, Arthur, who has worked in Pembroke's finishing department for the past three years.

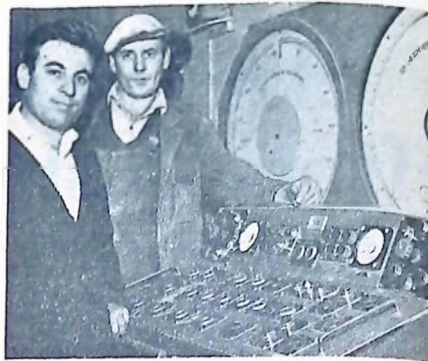
So many workers squashed into a corner of the factory for the presentation to Mrs. Clarke that a microphone was laid on for Managing Director Mr. M. J. Mitchell — "No relation!" pointed out supervisor Mrs. Mitchell.

On behalf of Pembroke's he presented Mrs. Clarke with a gold wrist watch, the first 25 years award for two years.

"We are no longer a little company," he told her. "Now we are one of Britain's top six printing firms. We could not have achieved this without employees like you. We owe a great debt of gratitude to many people, but especially to our long-serving employees."

Said Mrs. Clarke: "I've been very happy working here and I hope I go on for a few years yet."

The presentations to Mrs. Clarke — managing director Mr. M. J. Mitchell is on the right.



IF ALL the concrete churned out by the seven Karri-mix plants up and down the country during the past seven years was laid down as a road 9ft. wide, the road would stretch from Land's End almost to John o' Groats.

This was how Mr. Roy Carter, a director of the Wickford building contractors Carter and Ward, Ltd., illustrated the success of their subsidiary, Karri-mix, Ltd., suppliers of ready-mixed concrete.

The company started in Wickford in 1957 with just eight concrete-mixing trucks, but since then they have had to tear down two of their plants and erect new ones, each bigger than the last, to maintain their continuous expansion.

Now the firm own over 40 trucks which operate from plants at Colechester, Grays, Danbury, Barking, St. Osyth and Tiptree, as well as Wickford, and three years ago they also bought three gravel pits to ensure a regular supply of essential aggregate and ballast.

"Our main customers are large-scale builders and sub-contractors," explained Mr. Carter, "but we also do business with

the private individual who requires relatively small batches of concrete for laying paths, garage floors and so on.

"Our order books are always full and often we are engaged in supplying ready-mixed concrete to several mammoth sites at once.

"At present, for example, we have regular runs to the methane gas terminal under construction on Canvey Island and an Eastern Electricity substation being built at Rayleigh."

Pictured above is Wickford Plant Manager Mr. Colin Barge (35), of Leigh, who was a truck driver with the firm for seven years until three weeks ago, when he gained his promotion. With him is the plant operator, 36-years-old Mr. Fred Alp, of Toppesfield Avenue, Wickford. A married man with two children, he has been with the firm for nine years.

£25 AND £35 SUITS ARE SO VERY POPULAR!

Pembroke's tribute

BUSINESS IS booming in the tailoring trade. In spite of the squeeze, the Willerby factory at Basildon have doubled their output of suits during the last year and the boom shows no sign of falling back.

"We have achieved this increase with almost exactly the same number of staff that we were employing a year ago," said Manager Mr. R. J. Johnson. "And

there has been no factory extension. We have simply changed our methods and layout, gone in for time-study and are reaping the benefit of £30,000 spent on new machinery in the past two years." Mr. Johnson is seen above with best-grade supervisor Mr. Joe Cassar.

The result has been trouser production rising from 700 to 1,500 a week and jackets from 700 to 1,100. To Willerby's two factories—one in London and one in Basildon—has been added a third at Aberdeen. "Whatever effects the squeeze has been having on other people," said Mr. Johnson, "we are doing very well in spite of it."

The big leap forward has largely been for Willerby's better-grade suits, selling at between £25 and £35.

"Waistcoats are also back in style," said Mr. Johnson. "Eighteen months ago they were dead, but they are certainly back now."

Other fashion trends? "No turn-ups, of course. Vents in jackets. Trousers with 16 or 17. Lightweight conventional cloths rather than man-made fibres."

Mr. Johnson's tip for 1967 is patch-pocket sports jackets.

"We are very happy all round at the moment," he said. "Labour relations have never been better and the staff situation is good. Our turnover of employees is down to a minimum."

Perhaps one reason for this is the third week's holiday they will get this year! The works will shut down completely.

Geoffrey Buckley, Executive Director of Ford Tractor Operations, sales of tractor units topped the 700,000 mark. Ford produced 119,000 of them, and the Basildon factory's share was 55,000.

Last year saw a general improvement in the farm economy of many areas in the world," said Mr. Buckley. "There is growing awareness of the need to increase production of food and fibre for the world's expanding population."

"A sustained increase of four per cent per year is necessary for the next 15 years to avoid a serious breakdown of the precarious balance between population and food supplies."

Committee members of John Tann's Social Club (Billericay) pictured looking over the wine list at the Club's first dinner-dance held at the Bull's Head, Basildon, on Saturday.



A boom in tractor sales

A BOOM in world tractor sales is shown in the Ford report on 1966. For the first time in more than a decade, says Mr



THIS WAS NOT THE PLAYERS' BEST PRODUCTION

WICKFORD COMMUNITY Association Players gave their most depressing performance to date when they produced John Osborne's "The Entertainer" at the Community Centre on Friday.

The play hinges on one character — third-rate comedian Archie Rice, who is clinging to the fading glamour of the music hall in the face of mounting opposition from his family and creditors.

Christopher Mills, who has acting ability and can be very funny, had the rather unhappy task of portraying the comedian and he did not meet the success he had gained in the past.

This does not mean, however, that the rest of the cast were above criticism—far from it.

The overall standard of the acting was much lower than that normally associated with the Players.

The only two really worth-while performances were given by Philip Walls as Frank Rice and Iris Orr as Phoebe Rice.

Others in the cast: David Watson (Billy Rice), Brenda Denison (Jean Rice), Harold Humberstone (William Rice), Terry Fletcher (Graham Dodd), Janice Thurlay and Margaret Downes (showgirls), Brian Pavell (dancer), Brian Wheeler, Reg Goodyear, Terry Dowling and Tony Ferrier (ball bearers).

Orchestra: Violin (conductor), Stanley Hewitt; trumpet,

Peter Little: cello, William Wortley: clarinet, Gaynor Davidson: pianist, Gaynor Robinson: percussion, James Woodard.

Behind the scenes: Stage Manager, Ray Saunders; Assistant Stage Manager, Mavis Fletcher; Deputy Stage Manager, David Broad; properties, Eleanor Muckett; lighting, Ray Muckett; lighting assistant, Peter Seward; effects, Nigel Carlisle; sound, Ian Dell; musical director, Stanley Hewitt; director, Terry Daly.

Home for an old soldier

A REGIMENTAL Memorial Home at Brentwood is being offered to an old soldier of the Essex Regiment by the Essex Regiment Association.

The house is semi-detached and has three bedrooms, two living rooms, kitchen bathroom, etc.

The house is offered unfurnished rent free to an ex-Regular of the Regiment.

Last week we published pictures of the cast of "The Entertainer" and above we show the orchestra under the leadership of Mr. Stanley Hewitt, who is head of the music department at Billerica Secondary School.

Laindon Camp hutments for homeless?

COULD Laindon's Camp hutments be used as a staging area for homeless families? is a suggestion from Basildon Council to the County Council—who plan to demolish the disused huts.

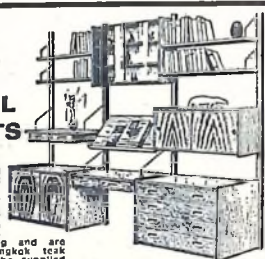
It was the Council's study group on gipsies who first thought there should be an attempt to stop the camp being pulled down for the time being.

Recently the camp—which is at Langdon Hills and is outside the urban district boundary—was acquired by the County Council for clearance.

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Miss Gillian Caulfield married Mr. Roy Haswell at St. Catherine's Church, Wickford, on Saturday. Mr. Haswell is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Haswell, of King's Road, Laindon, and the bride is the daughter of Mrs. Caulfield, of Elm Road, Wickford, and the late Mr. Caulfield. She wore a full-length white satin dress trimmed with pearls and with a train, and was attended by her bridesmaids—Norma Caulfield, Shaen Cansdale, Sandra Harvey and Carol Harvey. Best man was Mr. John Thorpe.

(Photo by Stan Caldwell)

BIG SALE OFFERS in Furniture, Divans, Blankets Household Linens, Furnishing Fabrics and Nets China, Glass and Hardware



The picture above shows folk enjoying themselves at the E.T.U. shop stewards' dance at the Fryerns Community Centre on Saturday.

★ ★ ★

On the right: A scene at Billericay Congregational Junior Sunday School party on Saturday.

★ ★ ★

Below: A member of the Standard Telephones Company fire personnel trains his hose on the blaze at Ridgeway Plastics factory.



JIVE TIME FOR TORIES



OUR PHOTOGRAPHER ARRIVED AT BILLERICAY CENTRAL WARD CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION'S DANCE WHEN THEY WERE JIVING. THE DANCE WAS AT THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HALL, BILLERICAY, ON SATURDAY.

Money for extra school building

Southend Education Committee had been told by the Department of Education and Science that they will be allowed £155,000 both in 1968/69 and 1969/70 for additional building needed in connection with raising the school leaving age.

The Education Committee have also been told it is estimated their ultimate allocation needs would be three times the 1968/69 allocation.

The Chief Education Officer will submit a report on the proposed projects to be undertaken for their March meeting.

LOCAL WILLS

Mr. Frank Silvester, of the Poplars, Lake Avenue, Billericay, who died on September 21st, left £11,336 8s. gross £11,270 12s. net (duty paid £284).

Mr. William George Potter, of Mount Road, Wickford, who died on November 9th, intestate, left £4,252 gross, £3,389 19s. net.

Mr. Sidney Charles Jones, of Sparrows Herne, Kingswood, Basildon, formerly of Broadway Newsagency, High Road, Pitsea, who died on November 2nd, left £9,899 gross, £9,769 19s. net (duty paid £2682).



Over 500 children were at Carreras annual party on Saturday, and some are seen on the right. It was a joint effort between management and workers.

ALL HELPERS WERE IN FANCY DRESS, AND THE AFTERNOON STARTED WITH COMMUNITY SINGING.

CONJURERS JOHN MARTIN AND KEN PLESTED ENTERTAINED THE SIX TO TEN YEAR-OLDS, TOGETHER WITH PRINT DEPARTMENT WORKER MR. G. SYMONS AND HIS THREE-PIECE BAND.

FATHER CHRISTMAS MR. S. GREEN, OF THE LEAF DEPARTMENT, WAS IN A BIG ICED CAVE MADE BY MR. R. BONSON, OF THE CIGARETTE-MAKING DEPARTMENT. EACH CHILD LEFT WITH A GIFT.

"IT WAS ONE OF OUR MOST SUCCESSFUL PARTIES," SAID ORGANISING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MR. S. BAKER.

OTHER PICTURES ARE ON PAGE 5.



New R.C. Primary School

Footbridge offer can swing argument

ONCE ALMOST a non-starter, the Roman Catholic Primary School proposed for a site near the junction of Coxes Farm Road and Southend Road, Billericay, now looks certain to go ahead.

The Roman Catholics' offer to meet road safety objections by providing a footbridge across busy Southend Road and by contributing towards the making-up of the junction footway looks like swinging the issue in their favour.

At their last meeting Basildon Council Executive Committee heard that members who inspected the site and discussed its drawbacks considered the Roman Catholic offer would overcome the objections.

They thought the footbridge should be provided just north of Tyrells Road, and they also considered that both the nearby bus stops should be moved adjacent to it, to encourage its fullest possible use.

The Executive Committee decided that the formal objection to the proposed allocation of the site for a

primary school in the County Development Plan Review should be withdrawn, subject to formal agreement being reached and the Planning Committee being satisfied on the planning aspects.

Two-form entry

The proposed school was also under consideration by the Council's Schools' Administration Sub-Committee at their last meeting.

Members had before them new requests from the Roman Catholic Diocesan Schools' Commission, and they agreed to amend the proposed one-form entry school to two-form entry.

STOP-GAP TO HELP THE ARTS

AS a stop-gap measure to help the Arts in Basildon, schools and community centres may be used to provide facilities.

Three Basildon councillors will meet officers of the Civic Arts Society to discuss this way to beat the premises shortage which will face the Society before the Arts Centre is in use.

Stole Excise licence

FOR STEALING an Excise licence, Robert Grindrod, of Hockley Close, Basildon, was fined £5 at Billericay on Tuesday. Grindrod told the Court he found the licence while working on the Ford site at Dunon.

"I don't usually use the car," he said in Court. "I just stuck it on the wind-up for a journey of about half a mile."

He pleaded guilty.

More Catholic schools to be built in Basildon?

More Roman Catholic schools will be built in Basildon if the County Education Committee back a suggestion from Basildon's School Administration Sub-Committee.

This is to provide two Catholic comprehensive secondary schools—one for boys and the other for girls—with a combined sixth form.

The Committee ask for the secondary schools to be included in the 1968-69 main building programme.

Also needed are two extra classrooms at St. Teresa's School, Vange. But the Committee have still to decide about a call from the Roman Catholic Diocesan Schools' Committee for primary schools at Pitsea and Langdon Hills. First they will wait for a final decision on the expansion of the New Town.

"Wild and utterly irresponsible act" ends in probation

FOR WHAT MR. JUSTICE CHAPMAN DESCRIBED AS "A WILD AND UTTERLY IRRESPONSIBLE ACT," OSCAR WILLIAM LOCK (19), OF BEACH AVENUE, WESTCLIFF, WAS PUT ON PROBATION FOR TWO YEARS AT ESSEX ASSIZES AT CHELMSFORD ON TUESDAY.

He pleaded guilty to sending a letter demanding £100 with menaces from Mr. John Albert Sibson, of Spurriers, Laindon, works manager at Kasparians (U.K.), Ltd., Laindon, a firm for which accused worked for some time.

Mr. Duncan Macrae, prosecuting, said the letter suggesting that if he did not pay the money some injury would be caused to him, was received by Mr. Sibson at his home. When accused left the firm last September he asked Mr. Sibson for references and was given some, but was refused one for the time he was not working for the firm.

Counsel went on to say the letter, made on to magazine cut-out letters, asked Mr. Sibson to leave the money in a lavatory at Chalkwell Station. The Police were told and a packet was left in the lavatory, but accused did not put in an appearance.

Subsequently accused admitted the matter. Asked for an explanation, he said he wrote Mr. Sibson for references because the first one had not been returned by a Naval Training School to which he applied.

Mr. Sibson replied that his employers would not write another one. The

statement also said he wanted to make Mr. Sibson upset. "Just like I was." The statement also said: "I don't know why I did it because I really liked him."

Det. Sergt. John Chapman reported that Lock had made two previous Court appearances. In reffer he asked Mr. Sibson for references and was given some, but was refused one for the time he was not working for the firm.

Mr. J. Ashmore, defending, said the letter was written out of a sense of injured pride and in a moment of depression and anxiety. Mr. Sibson had, in fact, shown a great interest in Lock and been good to him.

The Judge told Lock: "You will have to pull yourself together and not give way to doing things like this otherwise drastic steps will have to be taken."

Going up

At the end of 1966 there were 16,266 dwellings (Corporation and private) built in the New Town and over 1,500 were under construction.

Town Centre black-out explained to M.P.

WHY A power failure blacked out Freedom House, Basildon Town Centre, has been explained to local M.P. Mr. Eric Moonman by the Eastern Electricity Board.

Says the Manager of Southend District, Mr. A. T. Durbidge: "The link between our equipment and the landlord's switchboard failed on Monday, January 9th, and although temporary repairs were carried out another failure occurred the following day."

"There are many separate consumers in this large building and the extra heating load because of the cold weather, proved too much for part of the equipment."

"Our own service cable for the building is of ample capacity and the fuses controlling the whole supply have been strengthened as a precaution."

OH, BLOW IT!



Akela Mrs. M. Ayres urges her team to greater efforts in a party game that involves blowing and bursting paper bags and lots of running! It took place at the 3rd Billericay Cubs' party held at Mayflower School, Billericay, on Saturday.

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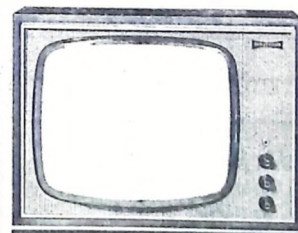
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By law you now have to pay 42 weeks' rental in advance. But by paying for only 10 weeks more on the REDIPLAN, your first annual payment for the set can be as little as £16.18.0 instead of £21.9.0! And if you continue to pay annually, you go on getting the discount!



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£20 trade-in allowance

Even if you already own a set it can pay you to switch to Rediplan today. Rediffusion allow up to £20 on your old set. So don't miss this special Rediplan offer.

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CHILDREN'S PAGE

500 HAPPY PALS!



AND STILL WE'RE NOT YET ONE YEAR OLD!

WELL, WE have done it! Our Happy Pals League now has 500 members and our League, you will remember, was formed less than a year ago! Your page has now become an established feature of the paper and from the many letters you write to us, we know that you enjoy the page.

But, apart from the League membership, Happy Pals have already become an important part of Basildon and your good work for old and lonely people last Christmas is but one indication of how useful young people can be. So, the more Happy Pals we get, the greater will be our influence and usefulness.

We had a rush in enrolment this week and in one envelope there were membership applications from four sisters — Elaine, aged 11, Wendy, 10, Christine, 9, and Julie, 8. They all live at Mollands, Vange, and the two elder girls attend Pitsea Junior School, where they have just sat for the 11-plus examination.

As there was such a pile of enrolment forms I had to take them all in strict rotation so as to be as fair as I could in picking No. 500 — and the name that was entered against this number was Wendy Sey.

Congratulations, Wendy — we are so very pleased to have you — and, of course, your sisters — and you will be receiving a book token for one guinea for being our 500th member. In the picture above Wendy is on the right with Julie on her lap, beside her is Christine and at the back Elaine.

Wendy's mother tells me that she is a real book-worm, and is either out visiting the library or at home reading the books she has brought back! I'm so glad you like to read, Wendy, because there are so many worth-while books in the world to explore. I love reading myself, but, alas, I don't get a lot of time for it these days. One day, when I am a very old lady, I am

going to buy myself a hammock for the summer and a rocking chair for the winter and just sit and read and read!

Elaine told me she likes drawing — so I hope to see some of your drawings, Elaine, when we next have a competition, Christine, who goes to Bard-

field Primary School, likes playing with her friends — and Julie is really one of the most energetic little girls I have ever met. She trots busily round and round all day long — and her daddy says ruefully, half the night too! When her turn comes to go to school I am sure she will shine on the sports field.

I loved coming to see you, girls, and I expect I shall see you again when I visit your school. Now that we have 500 and more members — let's see if we can get up to 600, shall we? Keep the forms coming in — and if you haven't got a form, don't worry. Just send your name, address and date of birth on a piece of paper!

Lots of love, from
AUNTIE LIZ.

Secret message

TJ'WJ QH PI IQW MBSJ
NQFEWJEPH DJDLJW
NVSJ ZIQ JFWIGGJE V
FJT NVHHZ HVG ZJP ?

'Standard' Happy Pals League

ENROLMENT FORM

YOUR FULL NAME _____

YOUR ADDRESS _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

Please send this form to "Auntie Liz",
"Standard" Office, 10 Southernhay,
Basildon.

WE FOUND ten very enthusiastic children, enjoying the dancing and generally having a wonderful time at the dance and social which was given by the East Essex branch of the Camping Club of Great Britain, and the Mayflower Scottish Dancers, at Beauchamps Secondary School, Wickford, on Saturday. They are seen in our picture below. In some of the more intricate Scottish dances they could teach the grown-ups a thing or two — no doubt because they learn them at school!

A very happy birthday is wished this week to the following Happy Pals:

Shirley Margaret Broom, field, of Pendle Drive, Basildon, who is 12 on the 26th (your birthday would normally have been mentioned last week, Shirley, but of course, you have only just joined us!); Ray, Beadle, of Knightsbridge Mansfield, of Spensers Close, Basildon (5), and Christopher, Ronald, of The Gore, on the 29th; James Ander-

son, of Cavell Road, Billericay (4), and Geoffrey Mingail, of Osborne Road, Basildon (10), on January 31st; Lorraine Chermis, of Waldegrave, Basildon (8), on February 1st; and Elizabeth Jean Thomas, of Hope Road, Benfleet (13), on February 2nd.

Many happy returns of the day to you all.

AUNTIE LIZ.



DUMBELLE



A COUNTY COUNCILLOR AFTER SEAT ON BASILDON COUNCIL

A LABOUR County Councillor is to stand for Basildon Council in the May elections. On Essex County Council for two years, Coun. Joe Buckley will stand for Vange, one of Labour's safest seats.

A 40-years-old surveyor with British Rail, working from Kings Cross, he has lived in Mid Colne for 13 years, since he and his wife moved south from their native Newcastle.

Their second son was born last week.



County Councillor Joe Buckley.

The County Council gave Mr. Buckley his first Council seat, at his first bid for election. Two years ago he was one of Basildon Council's nominations for the Development Corporation Board.

He is on the County Planning Committee and on the Parliamentary and Local Government Committee, and is Secretary of the County Council Labour Group.

Outside politics, he is a member of Basildon Karate Group and Treasurer of 3rd Basildon (Fairview) Scout Group.

Decree for mother of seven

MOTHER of seven Mrs. Alice Ada Amelia McCormack, of Salesbury Drive, Billericay, was granted a decree nisi at Southend District Court last week on the grounds of her husband's adultery.

She married Mr. William Walter McCormack, formerly of Hildaville Drive, Westcliff, at West Ham in 1925.

Evidence in support of the petition was given by private inquiry agent Mr. Stuart Palmer, of Perry Street, Billericay.

Matters of maintenance were referred to chambers and Mrs. McCormack was granted costs.

SHOPBREAKING CHARGES

TWO MEN were remanded in custody until Tuesday at Billericay on Wednesday charged with shopbreaking and larceny of 13.125 cigarettes, 760 cigars, 1lb tobacco and £39 in cash from Roland's tobacconists, Southend Road, Wickford.

They were James Charles Ross, of Hildaville Road, Rayleigh, and Dudley Graham Tibbitt, of Alborough Road, Upminster.

Tories take up action stations

BILLERICAY, BASILDON and Brentwood Tories are to concentrate their energies on the County Council and Basildon and Brentwood Urban Council elections before starting the process of selecting a new prospective parliamentary candidate.

After their Chairman (Mr. Brian Edwards) had given his views on how they should select a successor to former M.P. Mr. Edward Gardner, Q.C., who has resigned, this was the course of action decided upon by the Association's Executive Committee at a meeting on Thursday week.

Not until late May, when the local elections are over, will the first stage of selection—the receipt by the Association of a list of recommended candidates from Conservative Central Office—take place.

The list will then be reduced to a short list during the summer months, the short list going forward to a joint meeting of the Association's Basildon and Brentwood District Committees to enable a new candidate to be adopted by a general meeting in the early autumn.

Mr. Edwards told the Executive Committee that it was natural that some would feel the selection of a new candidate should go ahead with all speed, but he hoped the problem would be viewed in its true perspective—as just another step in winning the next General Election.

The Association should not be tempted into precipitate action at the expense of other necessary

steps towards the same objective, he said.

"I refer particularly to the County Council and Basildon and Brentwood Urban Council elections in April and May. All three are Conservative-controlled, and we have a clear duty to ensure that they remain so."

Additionally, he regarded these elections as being vital to Conservative hopes of winning the constituency back at the next General Election. They needed results which would re-establish the Association as having a monopoly of success in the constituency—a reputation which had done much for their past successes.

He pointed out that delaying selection of the new candidate until after the local elections would also give Central Office time to compile a list of "the very high standard which the constituency deserves."

The meeting decided to appoint a Selection Committee consisting of the President, Chairman, Deputy Chairman, the

Ladies' Chairman, Young Conservatives' Chairman and District Chairmen, Treasurer, Agent and four additional representatives from the District Committees.

The Selection Committee's job will be to decide which applicants to interview, and then proceed with the interviewing and compiling of a short list for presentation to the joint district meeting.

"They will have a very large task to perform," said Mr. Edwards, "as the interest which is being shown in this constituency is considerable."

"Both the Agent and I have received inquiries from interested candidates, and I have no doubt that this interest will be reflected in the size and standard of the list of applicants we eventually receive."

Valued part in town's musical life

WHEN Billericay Amateur Operatic Society present "Iolanthe" at the Archer Hall in March, among those who will be applauding their choice for their 1967 production will be the President, Dr. Frank Rillstone.

He made this evident at the Society's annual dinner, during his speech, in which he revealed himself as a confirmed Gilbert and Sullivan enthusiast.

Saying that he regarded himself as being in some respects on the fence between the Society on one hand and the public of Billericay on the other, Dr. Rillstone felt he would like to take the opportunity to come down on the latter side for a moment to thank the Society on behalf of the people of Billericay for the valued contribution which they had made to the musical life of the town with their spring operettas and autumn choral works.

The dinner, the first to be held by the Society, was attended by 100 members and friends.

Organisers were Anne Miles and Judith Whitaker.

Mr. Colin Harris, who was M.C., was also responsible, with the assistance of Sheila Bond, for the hall decoration.

Entertainment was by Peggy and Jimmy Anderson and other members of Southend Amateur Operatic Society.

Salesman borrowed, gambled, jailed

A Carreras salesman who borrowed £20 from money handed to him by a customer tried to replace it by gambling with other money he had collected.

The sequel was at Billericay on Tuesday, when the salesman, Leslie Graham Ling (28), of Station Lane, Childerich, appeared on two charges of embezzling sums of £170 9s. 1d. and £158 8s. 6d.

He pleaded guilty and was jailed for six months on each charge to run concurrently, having previous convictions for burglary and larceny of potatoes.

He was also ordered to pay back the money he owed Carreras and jailed for six weeks in default, to run concurrently with his other sentence.

Prosecuting, Mr. Malcolm Simons said Ling's job involved visiting customers and taking orders, and sometimes money, which the firm liked banked or sent to them in the form of postal or money orders after banking hours.

On September 23rd Ling received £150 1s. 11d. from a customer, and from what he told the Police later it seemed he borrowed £20 and delayed banking the money until he received £170 9s. 1d. from another customer on October 6th. He then took £20 from that money, made up the first sum again and banked it.

But he did not bank any of the money he had just received. He said he started betting to try to recover the £20 he had borrowed and lost the lot. He then collected £158 8s. 6d. from another firm and gambled that away as well.

Ling told the Court he borrowed the money in the first place because he needed £18 to pay for a children's party.

"I never intended stealing it. I intended repaying it when my expenses came through, but they were delayed and I was in a mess. I was so dead worried I foolishly tried to recover the money by gambling. I was making ridiculously large bets in the end."

Unemployed and living on National Assistance, he was said to be legally separated from his wife and two children and living with another woman who had three children.

He told the Court he was owed £52 expenses by Carreras, but had told them to keep it.

Dunton would have a village hall now if the E.C.C. had kept their promise

—Dunton man's claim

DUNTON WOULD have a village hall now—if the Essex County Council had honoured a promise to the former trustees when the old hall was burned down 20 years ago.

The claim has been made by Mr. Bert Davison, of Helmore Crescent, Dunton, who is now the only trustee of the insurance money paid on the hall and of the land where it stood.

"We allowed the County Council to use the hall during the war for school children's meals," said Mr. Davison, "on condition that they eventually returned it to us in the state they took it over. When we tried to claim they began to split hairs, and we never got enough money to build another hall."

But that was all Mr. Davison would tell the "Standard" about the old hall and the trust.

He refused to give details of exactly what money there was, only saying that "the money available is totally inadequate to build a hall."

"I'll give the answers to anyone who has the right to know," he said, "but to no one else. I can tell you that there is certainly no prospect of the land being sold, but that's all."

The "Standard" had made inquiries after receiving a letter about the fund from Mrs. Henrietta Holmes, of Victoria Road, Laindon, suggesting a Nissen hut be put up for a youth club on the site with the money available.

"A lot of boys round here are growing up," she said, "and many of them hop around on their motor bikes. This could at least be somewhere for them to get some amusement."

At the moment the plot of land where the hall used to stand is being used by Mr. Davison to store wood in connection with his business. "I had permission," he said.

When asked who gave him permission, he replied, "The people in authority." But he would give no hint as to who these people were, only that they were local residents who had once been concerned with running the hall.

"Other people are just poking their noses in," he said. "It's got nothing to do with them."

Pensioner and a sheepskin coat

Magistrates return it to him

AFTER BUYING a sheepskin coat from a youth for £2, pensioner Mr. Henry Speller, of School Road, Billericay, realised it was worth much more and took it to the Police.

It was "a very public-spirited act," said County prosecutor Mr. Malcolm Simons at Billericay on Tuesday.

And the Bench agreed with him. After hearing that the owner had not come forward and was unlikely to do so, they decided to give the coat back to Mr. Speller.

Mr. Simons was applying for an order under the Police Property Act "for the protection of the Police."

"As I see it there are two alternative courses of action," he said.

"The coat could be regarded as lost property and sold for County funds, in which case it would probably not raise very much, or it could be returned to Mr. Speller."

"He has no legal title to it, but he has more claim than anyone else and it would amount to natural justice."

Deciding in Mr. Speller's favour, the Chairman (Mr. H. S. A. Rothson) commented: "We do not want to discourage people from going to the Police in this way."

Mr. Simons said Mr. Speller bought the coat when he met the youth outside a secondhand shop in Billericay.

Later dealt with by a Juvenile Court for a number of offences, the youth had been trying to sell the coat in the shop, but unsuccessfully because they did not take clothing.

Fined and banned

ARTHUR Edward Lawes, of Middlemead, West Hammingfield, was fined £30 and disqualified for six months at Chelmsford on Thursday for careless driving, having no driving licence, insurance and test certificate and using a test certificate with intent to deceive.

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The Sale you know is Genuine Commences Thursday Next, February 2

SEE next week's "Standard" for exciting details

SEE our windows full of splendid bargains early next week

SEE the wonderful reductions - truthfully portrayed on our tickets

Here's a collectors' corner!



PLENTY OF STORIES ABOUT THESE PUBS!

LAST WEEK the "Standard" featured Billericay's seven Town Centre public houses. This week we take a look at seven pubs on the outskirts of the town which can also fairly claim to "provide an opportunity to drink in uniquely interesting surroundings every night of the week," writes JOHN COLE.

They vary in age, size and appearance, but one thing they all have in common - hosts and hostesses who know how to make you welcome and with whom it is possible to spend an interesting hour or two.

Dig deep enough, too, and you can unearth some unusual former occupations, and these folk on the other side of the bar have an amazing range of pastimes. Travel out of the town towards South and along a mile down the Street Road you will come to the Old King's Head.

At this pub there is a new licensee, but Mr. Barrie Davis and his wife Iris are anything but newcomers. For Mr. Davis took the licence over from his mother, Mrs. Doris Davis, on January 1st.

A native of Forest Gate, Mrs. Davis, senior, is now enjoying a well-earned semi-retirement after 22 years of pump pulling in the pub.

Four or five hundred years old, it has not been altered much in that time, but it has a distinctive interior. Mr. Davis is a vintage car enthusiast - acting as host to local members of the International Sports Car Club once a month and the pub has become almost a motorist "museum."

Mr. Davis renovates old cars - he has 12 at the moment - and the walls and nooks and crannies in the pub are covered with shiny insects and lamps and the like.

Mr. Davis means of transport is a 1922 open Morris Rover limousine, and at one time the Old King's Head was the only team in the County travelling to away matches in a lorry.

Thriller customers are only too well aware of Mr. Davis's hobby. A lot on a bulb horn announces "last orders" and a blast on a siren is worse news, signifying "time, gentlemen, please."

The Old King's Head is also renowned for its musical evenings, and is equipped with a station for piano, but at The White Horse, Ramsgate Heath, there is a different atmosphere.

This fine old building was taken over by Mr. Ken Travis and his wife Vera, three and a half years ago. Their first pub, it had a distinctly "honky-tonk" atmosphere about it.

prominent members of Southend Operatic Society of which Mr. Travis is still Chairman.

A trip down Church Road to The Fox and Hounds, Ramsgate Heath, is worth while, too. Licensee there is Mrs. Edith Smith, who moved there from The Brewery Tap, Brentwood, six years ago, but she is helped by her son Brian, whose main interest in life is antiques.

Result, naturally, is another pub "museum." The building is only 45 years old, but

Extensively redecorated in period style, with a collection of antiques to make any connoisseur's mouth water! At the Fox and Hounds, Ramsgate Heath, a customer, Mr. H. J. Jones, tries out the grand piano. Miss hosts Mrs. Edith Smith and her son Brian appreciate the music.

there is more of historical interest in its walls than in many pubs 10 times older. Mr. Smith collects antiques wherever he goes and is a knowledgeable talker on the subject. "If I had space for every time I have been asked about just one of them, the horse father scrap, I would be a rich man," he said.

The Fox and Hounds is another pub with a piano in the saloon bar, which was recently extended, and it also has a dining bar called "The Nosebag." This is quite new, but increasingly popular, and customers can also drink sherry from the wood in this bar.



A feature of the Old King's Head, Stock Road, Billericay, is the wonderful collection of car bumper lamps and mascot. In the picture are Mrs. Davis, who has recently retired, and her son Barry, also in the picture.

The pub's origin is unusual. For a long time there was a Fox and Hounds in Ramsgate Heath - now a private residence - but the brewers decided to move it to its present site when they heard that there was a proposal for a railway station in the village. The station never materialised, but the pub and locals are no doubt grateful to British Rail for that, anyway!

Down Church Road to London Road and heading back towards Billericay, it is but a 10-minute ride by car to the King's Head at Great Burstead. This does not look at all like some of the other, but it does, in fact, date



The exterior of the Fox and Hounds, Ramsgate Heath.



ad, is the district's only modern Ruff hopes to find time to take sport of cycling.

at too expensive as friends were always calling round. "Outcome was that he started charging them and then got summoned for selling beer without a licence. He solved this by applying for a licence and that was later transferred to this building."

The beerhouse was also a doss-house for a time, but shot to respectability when the Duke of York gave permission for it to be called after him. He was visiting the area to organise the local home guard in the years when Napoleon was threatening invasion.

Since then there have been alterations, mainly to enlarge the premises, but the pub still retains its historic associations.

And it has another attraction—business luncheon compared with the Continental touch by Mrs. Thorneycroft. It is a great favourite local industry's luncheon clubs.

Licensee of the newest pub building in the Billericay district is Mr. John Bull, of The Burchstead Plough, which is also in London Road. At 24 and married with a son, Peter, and five, he is one of the youngest landlords, but he has had a good many years' experience in the trade.

Born in Huntingdon, he came to Billericay a year ago from The York and Albany, near Regent's Park, and before that was trained at the Harrow Tavern. He was also employed at a licensed restaurant in Margate after running a cycle shop for two years in Worthing.

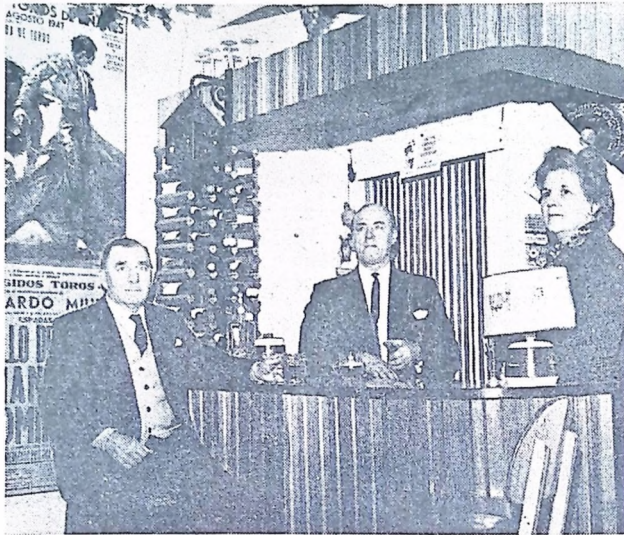
He was a keen sport in his younger days and still follows the sport with interest, but he gets little time for riding now. His wife, too, was an enthusiast and they actually met when she went to his shop to buy her first machine.

Mr. Bull is also a keen darts player and a great cricket fan, mainly following the fortunes of Essex in his native county. His pub is four years old, although its predecessor, The Plough, was in business for many years in a Nissen-type hut on the site.

Last pub on the borders of Billericay is The Duke's Head, London Road, Common, which is not the prettiest of buildings outside, but is cosy and comfortable once you are through the door. It has been in the hands of Mr. Leslie Hewson and his wife, Kathleen, since 1956, although Mr. Hewson was also employed until 1956 when he retired at 55 after nearly 30 years in the manual nursing profession. He started training at West Ham Mental Hospital in 1926, combining with great distinction and when required he was Chief Male Nurse, responsible for male patients at South Oxendon Hospital and its new clinic, and for a small hospital at Dorecourt, a house at Gress and for Watley Lodge and Kings Lodge in the Common Road, Billericay.

The Duke's Head is another pub renowned for its business luncheons. Mr. and Mrs. Hewson and their daughter, Leslie (16), recently moved out of the pub, leaving their Manager, Mr. Albert Carter, in residence, and their dining lounge is now the dining room. The pub is long established, but was rebuilt after a fire at the turn of the century in Victorian style and Mr. and Mrs. Hewson have expanded a great deal of work and energy in turning it into its present condition. It was the Duke's Head that Billericay Rotary Club held the first meeting and house. There have been many other assemblies since.

A touch of Spain here!

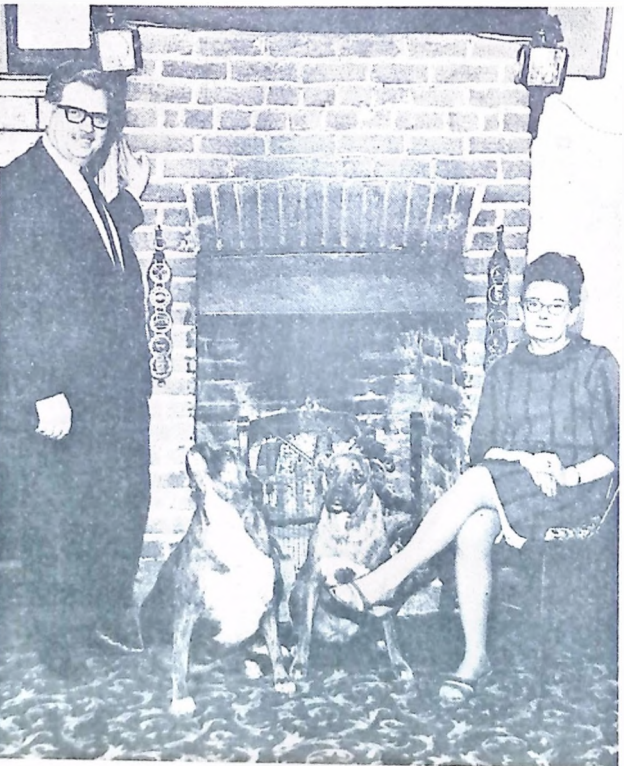


The Duke's Head, Little Burstead, Billericay—the pub with a Spanish flavour! Seen in the new dining room/bar are licensees Leslie and Kathleen Hewson and manager Albert Carter.



Mr. and Mrs. K. M. Travis in their well-appointed bar at the White Horse, Ramsden Heath.

Below: The Duke of York, South Green, Billericay, was at one time a toll house. It has been restored as nearly as possible to the original, keeping as much of the charm of the old building as is compatible with comfort. Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Thorneycroft are seen at the fireplace.



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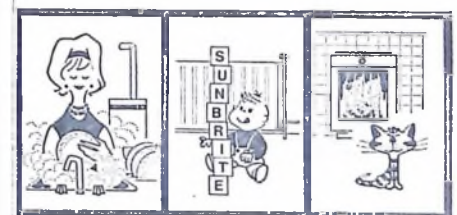
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FORTY PAGES WITH EXPLANATORY DRAWINGS

BILLERICAY AND WICKFORD ROBBERIES

DIVISIONAL C.I.D. officers are this week investigating a spate of robberies at Billericay and Wickford.

At Billericay, thieves broke into Green's Stores in the High Street on Wednesday week and broke open a safe containing £50.

They transferred their attention to the Stores after trying unsuccessfully to open a safe in Kingston's Butchers next door.

The same day two cartons of 10,000 cigarettes were stolen in daylight from a delivery van parked in the High Street outside the Candy Box.

At Wickford two men are assisting Police with

their inquiries into the theft of cash and a watch from a house in Mount Road on Monday, and a burglary at Karmix, Ltd., works canteen on Wednesday, when a quantity of cigarettes were stolen.

CRASH VICTIM DIES

Mr. James McGuinness (48), of Whitmore Way, Basildon, injured in a three-car crash near the Harrows on December 15th, died on Monday in St. Andrew's Hospital, Billericay.

New Catholic priests



HE SOON MEETS SOME PROBLEMS!

LANGDON HILLS' new Roman Catholic priest is 35-years-old Father Terence A. Keating, who took up his post last week. He was previously at Brentwood Cathedral for five years.

Born at Hornchurch and brought up at Upminster where he was ordained into the priesthood, Father Keating's first parish was at Leyton.

He has not yet had time to take very much stock of his new parish, but one thing that strikes him is the fact that people coming to Mass have a long trek from the bus stop to the church.

On Sunday, as an experiment, he held an extra Mass in the British Legion Hall, which is the other end of the High Road.

Langdon, and this was so successful that he hopes to repeat it on Sunday. He would like, if possible, to obtain larger premises for this purpose.

One day he hopes a new church and a school will be built in Langdon Hills. The present church has no hall, which means that a lot of possible activities, such as a Scouts' and Guides' movement, cannot at present take place.

Father Keating succeeds Father J. Aydon, who has moved to Harwich and Dovercourt.

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Mr. Harvey, of Highlands Boulevard, Leigh-on-Sea, had 5 electric storage radiators installed in 1964. He was so pleased with them, that when he extended his house this summer, he added two more. The 5 radiators cost £44.8.2 to run over a full year, or 17s. 1d a week. Mrs. Harvey says "Our one wish is that we could have installed the radiators years ago when the children were younger. As a housewife, I find the system extremely labour saving."

Electric Central Heating is cheap to buy, cheap to install, and runs on half-price, off-peak electricity.

Eastern Electricity



Met three Popes



FATHER AMBROSE O'Gorman, the new parish priest of St. Basil's, Vange (seen above), took up his appointment this week.

Twenty-six years a priest, he was ordained at Brentwood on the same day as his predecessor, Father Barrett. He is 52. Coming to Basildon from Harwich, he was born in Donegal and went into his parents' grocery business. Before entering the priesthood.

"Golf is my only interest outside the Church," said Father O'Gorman. "I play a lot, especially against other priests. I try to get a game in every week."

He has never reached handicap status though he belongs to several clubs. Travel also plays an important part in his life. Two years ago he spent several weeks holidaying with relatives in America, visited the White House and met President Johnson.

He has travelled widely in Europe, has been to Rome many times and has met Popes Pius, John and Paul. "I like to get abroad on my holidays," said Father O'Gorman. "If I don't go to Ireland I like to go to Europe."

Footnote for everyone except Father Barrett: Father Barrett is being enticed back to Basildon from his new post in Colchester for a presentation social at St. Teresa's School on Sunday evening. He is now a Canon.

Temporary parking relief

A TEMPORARY solution to the car parking problem at the Evening Institute at Mayflower County Secondary School has been found. Basildon Further Education Sub-Committee heard that the School Governors, still anxious to avoid the general use of the playground, suggested providing temporary additional parking space elsewhere on the site.

The Sub-Committee approved expenditure of up to £250 on temporary surfacing to provide the extra space and also decided that when it was ready, regular parking in the playground should be prohibited.

They deferred consideration of a request for floodlighting at the entrance to the existing fire path road.

FRIDAY CLUB

The Mayflower School, under the direction of Mrs. Lily Knowles, held a Sherry and Friends in the Junior School last night.



Neighbouring firemen lend a hand

FIREMEN FROM a nearby factory helped save Rydgeway Plastics Works in Howard Close, Basildon, from being burned out on Friday week (see picture above).

The firemen, from Standard Telephones' factory, were quickly on the scene as the blaze swept through a store at the rear of the premises.

The flames were spreading towards the main works which contained highly inflammable materials and chemicals.

As the 70 employees stood around in groups watching the thick pall of black smoke rising above the industrial estate, 20 appliances and 40 firemen from Basildon, Wickford and

Billericay fought the blaze.

After half-an-hour they had it under control and the threat to the remainder of the works had been averted.

A fire officer said: "We just caught it in time. If the flames had reached the works, it would have gone up like a bomb."

The store where the blaze started contained fibreglass items which had been made at the factory.

"We have no idea how it started," said Mr. R. Meadows, a Director of the Company.

Time for wine tasting!



TWO CHARMING HANDMAIDENS OF HEBE? THEY WERE DISPENSING THE WINE AT A WINE-AND-CHEESE PARTY HELD BY THE INTERNATIONAL HELP FOR CHILDREN ORGANISATION, BRENTWOOD AND DISTRICT BRANCH, AT THE GWENDOLYN LEWIS ROOM, SHENFIELD, ON SATURDAY. THEY ARE MISS ROSEMARY KEITHLEY AND MISS M. BECKETT.

Protesting to the Ministry

ACCUSING Basildon Development Corporation of lowering living standards, Basildon Council Executive Committee are concerned with a high density project for Pitsea.

Nearly 20 homes to the acre, the Committee feel, will lower standards in terms of privacy, noise and garden space.

But points they made about the plans have not yet been answered by the Corporation.

They have decided to protest to the Minister of Housing about the failure of the Corporation to keep the Council informed of action taken.



The East Essex Section of the Camping Club of Great Britain combined with the Mayflower Scottish Dancers to hold a dance and social evening at Beauchamps Secondary School, Wickford, on Saturday evening.

A king's son was educated at Billericay

IN THE 19th Century Billericay had a number of schools or academies, as they called them then, for "young ladies and gentlemen," as well as a grammar school.

Shoredays, No. 22, High Street, originally built in the 16th Century but refronted in Georgian times, was a boys' academy kept by the Rev. George Porter, and here George Fitz George, an illegitimate child of George IV, was a pupil. When he was 11 years old he was drowned in a pond near the house and where a memorial to him can be seen over the south door of the church.

The Rev. Porter's son, George Shoredays Porter, was also educated here; he became a chaplain of Bothurst, Cape of Good Hope. Another pupil was Thomas Scrutton, later a rector of Great Sutton.

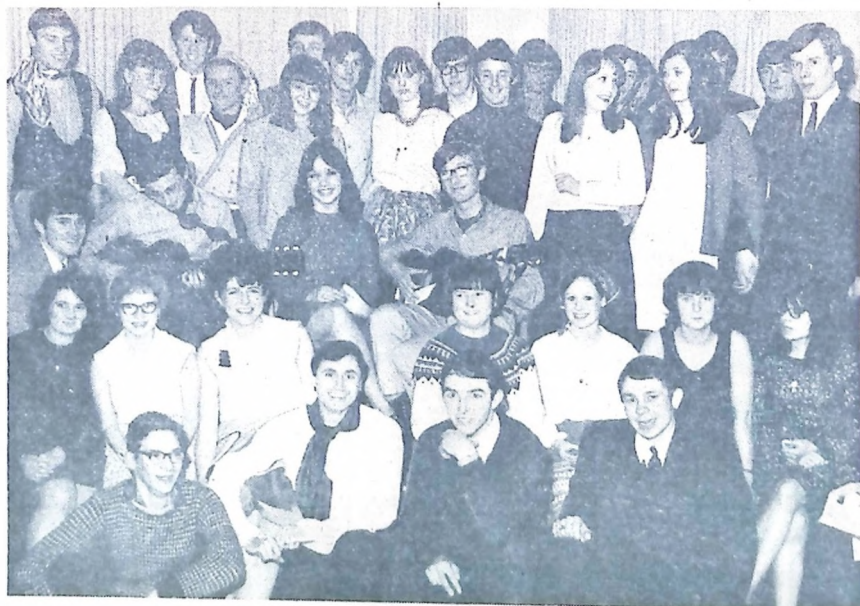
A relic of the school remains, the names or initials of pupils scratched in the brickwork of the north wall of Shoredays.

Manor's Garage, 115-117, High Street, stands on the site of Greywells (1113) and Burstead House (1172); these were originally one house dating from the 15th Century. About 1673 there was a girls' academy at Greywells. Miss Elizabeth Chapman was the principal. Burstead House, next door, was a boys' school known as Burstead House

by
J. K. PAYNE

Academy, later known as Price's Academy. In 1862 it was described as a boarding house for young gentlemen. The old school bell which hung by the side entrance remained until the house was sold.

In 1848 a girls' boarding academy was kept by two ladies in their fifties, the Misses Sarah and Deborah Crass, at the ancient St. Aubyn's, 5 Chapel Street, Crescent House, 51, High Street, was, during the 19th Century, a girls' academy. Later it was a boys' academy with about 20 pupils under the Rev. F. S. Sparks. The boys were mainly of 16-18 years of age and some lodged at 45, High Street. They had their own cricket team to play an annual match against Billericay XI. The children of the poor also had a chance of education. In 1773 Mr. James Mabbell provisioned in his will for the education of poor children to be chosen by St. Peter's Vestry Meeting. House of



Organisers and guests pictured at Basildon Young Conservatives' "Gipsy Whirl" held at the Women's Institute Hall, Laindon, on Saturday.

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For the sightseers Tunisia is a dream. From the city of Carthage and the Phoenicians to the latter-day Arab invaders, it is a land steeped in history and of civilisations which have flourished and then died, leaving only ruins as a memory of their splendour.

The countryside offers a variety of interests — there is the mysterious enchantment of the Saharan oases of Tozeur and Nefta, the snowy loveliness of the Khourmire forests, the excitement of the wide, golden beaches of Hammamet and Gammareth, the Polynesian-like magic of Djerba and the secret village of Sidi-Bou-Said set on a rock overlooking one of the most beautiful gulfs in the world.

Over 800 miles of Tunisian coastline, lapped by the warm Mediterranean, provides safe bathing and facilities for water-sports such as water skiing and skin diving.

You can see Bedouin dancing to flute, drums and pipe music, sword dancing in Nefta and the water jug dance in the Kerkenna Islands and a coral festival in Tabarka. Tunisian wines are superb and inexpensive and the food from "briks" to "kebabs" and "meloukhia" is delicious.

Lunn-Poly have a number of Tunisian holidays arranged and Keddies of Southend will provide full details

COACH TOURS

Jersey in May and September

There are many people even in these days who really prefer to go by road and sea to their holiday venue, and it is for these people that Reliance Luxury Coaches, of Hillside Road, Benfleet, have organised their coach / steamer / coach tours to Jersey.

Tours, operating only during May and September, start from Southend, Leigh, Hadleigh and Benfleet, and have been most carefully planned. Two of Jersey's leading hotels offer every comfort including English and Continental cuisine. All tours on the island are included in the cost of the holiday. In fact everything is inclusive and there will be no worries about passports, currency or language. Mr. and Mrs. Tichen will be personally conducting each tour, which lasts one week.

Full details from the Hostess.

WINTER IN SPAIN!

WHILE MOST people are now thinking of spring and summer holidays, there are still many booking winter sunshine holidays. Fortnight holidays in Majorca and Southern Spain are being operated now with Saturday departures from Southend Airport. Prices range from £37.10.0 for 15 days in Palma to £55.0.0 for a fortnight in Torremolinos. This includes hotel with private bathroom and return Channel Airways flight from Southend which includes hot meals and free wine.

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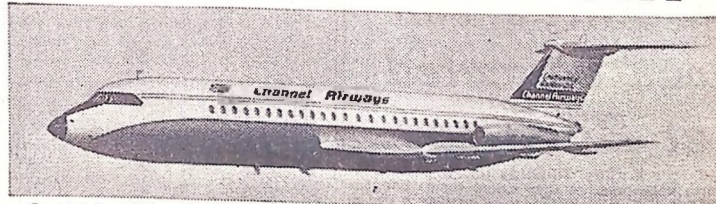
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PITSEA INFANTS' SCHOOL ROW

Council reject the Managers' proposals

IN THE last eight years, Pitsea Infants' School has had four headteachers. This is the background to a row between the school's Managers and Basildon Council, for the Managers are worried about the effect of too many changes on the school's work.

"We put forward a possible solution," Rev. Arthur Harvey, Rector of Pitsea and Acting Chairman of the Managers, told a reporter this week. "It has been pushed aside and we are very hurt about the way we have been treated."

The solution proposed by the Managers was the temporary merging of Pitsea Infants' School with the Junior School under one headteacher, and the appointment of a senior mistress with sole responsibility for the infants, under the junior head for administrative purposes. The Managers asked for the position to be reviewed annually.

Their proposal was turned down by the Council's Schools Administration Sub-Committee who then saw a deputation from the Managers, and rejected the scheme again. But the main Education Committee, after hearing from Ald. Barry Turner, rejected the matter back to the sub-committee once more.

"The implication was that they thought our idea deserved some more investigation," said Mr. Harvey. "But the next thing we knew the minute was before the full Council meeting on December 20th. The sub-committee proposal was vetoed through and the result is that a new head-

teacher was appointed on Monday. The minute was not referred back in spite of the Education Committee decision."

The Managers would be discussing the position on Monday, said Mr. Harvey. "For some time the authority of managing bodies has been undermined. Considering the appointments system, this is hardly surprising, and many managing bodies have been responsible for the disappearance of their own powers."

So many Managers are regarded, and even regard themselves, as people who turn up to meetings three or four times a year and sit in on sports day, and drink tea in the head's study, that their voice is bound to suffer."

But the fact remained, said Mr. Harvey, that managing bodies had a job to do. It was a pity that when one body took its duties seriously, the authorities were reluctant to accept their recommendations, particularly when they went against mainstream policy.

"Our job as Managers is to see the school from a round level," said Mr. Harvey. "We must see it from

the point of view of teachers, parents and children. We are in a position to do this more thoroughly and efficiently than a big body with responsibility for many more schools. Our views are worth something."

The new Headmistress is Mrs. C. M. Goscomb, at present deputy head of Faubert and Barnard Primary School, Harlow.

Death of former Wickford Minister

A FORMER Minister of Wickford Congregational Church, Rev. Robert James Marles, has died at Aylesbury, in Bucks, aged 59. He leaves a widow.

Minister at Wickford for 12 years prior to moving to Aylesbury at Christmas, 1957, he did much to make the Church a strength in the community. He also held the positions of Essex Congregational Youth Secretary and Secretary and Chairman of the Essex Congregational Union.

He started his vocation in a novel manner, preaching while he worked among the lumber camps of Canada and Newfoundland.

After 10 years of this he entered a Canadian Theological College, but a serious accident prevented him from completing his course. He then spent three years as Lay Pastor of Ongar Congregational Church before entering Paton College, Nottingham, from where he moved to Wickford.

Mr. Marles was cremated at Amersham, near Aylesbury, on Thursday, following a service conducted by Rev. W. J. Cogan, Moderator for the Congregational Union in the West Midlands Province, and attended by several Wickford members.

Fur and education

Ramsdale Women's Institute heard furrier Mr. I. Blunkfield give an outline of the history of the fur trade and the story of the fur coat from trapper or farmer to retailer last week. After refreshments, members discussed the merits and drawbacks of comprehensive education, and also the Plowden Report. Particularly unpopular was the idea of the "September Intake" system whereby many winter-born children would not have the advantage of starting school at the age of five.

long since gone, the Corporation are still prepared, with the Minister's approval, to let people put their views at the inquiry.

"We think this is the democratic way of doing things," said Mr. Boniface, "and we are programming these people so that they have to spend as little time as possible hanging about at the inquiry."

Mr. Boniface estimates the hearing will last for 2½ weeks. "But it could easily stretch into a fourth week," he added.



Billericay Town's under-14s, who play in the Basildon Youth and Boys' League.

Successful first social by the new golf club

THE FIRST social function of the new Basildon Golf Club was held at the Bull's Eye on Monday evening and was attended by over 170 members and friends. Everyone had a most enjoyable evening and many won prizes from the tombola, which was provided by the generosity of the local traders.

In the competition Mr. and Mrs. Bert Gannon won a lone weekend in Paris.

Full credit for the success of the evening must go to Mrs. Jim Freedy who was assisted by her husband, Ted, daughter Yvonne, and Derek Sturges.

All first round matches in Basildon Golfing Society Michael Trophy competition have been completed, only one being a walk-over. The results received this week are: Stan Sheard beat Edwin Doe by 7 and 6 at Burnham, Wally Perry beat Alf Snowball by 3 and 2 at Burnham and Norman Goker was given a walk-over by Jim Lawrence.

In the first match, Sheard was 6-up at the turn, but lost the 18th to a birdie by Doe. However, Doe lost the next two holes and so was beaten on the 12th.

In the second match Perry was three-up at the turn and won the 10th to go 4-up. After halving the 11th he also won the 14th to increase his lead to 5-up. Snowball won the 16th and halved the 17th to make the match dormie 4, but was forced to concede a half on the 15th and so lost.

Magill leads

January cards for the Tee Cup are beginning to come in and another good card from Henry Magill has put him firmly into the lead. Nevertheless there are still two rounds to play and Woolfs, Coker and Hull are not far behind.

The team of Freedy, Coker, Thompson and Harris have received their first challenge. This is from four brothers: Jack, Walter, Albert and Ron Hull, who are all prepared to challenge any other four brothers in the country.

The winning team in this match which is to be played next week has been challenged by four members of Ford's Golf Section.

There will be a meeting of the Golfing Society on Monday.

WICKFORD PROTEST TO LEAGUE

WICKFORD TOWN have sent an official protest to the South-end and District League about the referee of their away match against Thursley and Hadleigh last week. Town claim one of his decisions robbed them of a point, an probably two, and cost them the lead in the championship race.

This week Wickford entertain Runwell Hospital in what is sure to be a hard match. It is a "new-look" first team; last week's showing was considered unsatisfactory by the selectors.

The team will be: Watkins; Ashton, Huber; Pendle, Parsons, Oldham; Read, Crowe, Hayzell, Johns, Stammers.

Wickford beat the Hospital 4-3 away. Johnny Hayzell comes into the side after netting four goals in the second team's 6-1 home victory against Basildon West End whom they beat 3-0 away. Other marksmen were Horrie Waddy and Alf Wilmet (four).

The second team have no match this week, but the third team will play on Saturday whom they defeated 7-0 on Saturday.

First teamer Micky Benning played on the left-wing in this match in his first appearance since he fractured his right ankle in a match on December 10th.

His first come-back match was the previous week when he played in goal in the fourth team's 4-2 victory over Rayleigh United. The fourth team have no match this week.

HIGH TIDE AT SOUTHBEND

Figures in parentheses indicate height of water above datum.

	a.m.	p.m.
Fri.	12.56 (17.2)	1.21 (17.9)
Sat.	1.37 (17.6)	2.5 (18.2)
Sun.	2.19 (17.9)	2.50 (18.1)
Mon.	3.3 (18.0)	3.36 (18.2)
Tue.	3.47 (17.9)	4.22 (17.7)
Wed.	4.31 (17.5)	5.19 (17.0)
Thurs.	5.19 (16.8)	6.3 (16.2)
Fri.	6.08 (16.0)	7.9 (15.4)

(February 3rd)

Tidal predictions supplied by Liverpool Observatory and Tidal Institute (Copyright reserved).

Grim start, but cheerful end!

THE YEAR 1966, which started out to be "a rather grim year," finished on quite a cheerful note, Ramsden Bellhouse Community Centre's Chairman, Mr. Bob Catchpole, told members at their annual meeting on Wednesday.

"As most of you know, in early 1966 we were in dead trouble financially," said Mr. Catchpole. "We probably spent just a little bit too much the year before and having to meet the major alterations and additions we had in mind, we set out just to pay our bills and not go any further into the red."

"But, in fact, we have managed a small number of improvements, thanks to the support from the sections, which has been absolutely terrific."

Fete and bazaar increases, he said, and a money-raiser introduced by the newly-started youth club, had also made a great contribution. And though it was not shown in the accounts, the New Year's Eve dance made a record profit of £23 — a most encouraging start to 1967.

He added that sections were progressing well except for the motor club, which had collapsed through lack of support, and the ladies' keep-fit class, which was in danger for the same reason.

He also had good news of the Women's Institute. "This time last year I announced they had broken up, but they are about to be re-formed, which the outgoing committee were very pleased to hear." The Centre's monthly magazine was also going on quite smoothly. But he would like to see more articles from members and longer articles from sections.

"It does cost us money," he pointed out. Secretary Mrs. Valerie Cummins said the Centre's improved finances showed in the books. It was only two evenings a month and was also booked regularly one morning and three afternoons. She said advanced bookings were also very satisfactory.

The accounts showed a balance of almost £600 and Mrs. Cummins said the Centre had turned a £200 excess of expenditure over income into a £260 profit, an improvement of £276. She hoped this would enable the Committee to get on with improvements.

It was agreed that they should look into providing a hard surface children's playground and a car park, and also improving the car park and installing a notice board outside the Centre.

A decision as to which body will benefit from the Centre's charity work will be made shortly. Last year it raised £28, 10s. Talking Books for the Blind.

Committee elected were: Chairman, Mr. Catchpole; Secretary, Mrs. Cummins; Mr. and Mrs. G. Higgins, Mr. F. Smith, Mrs. G. Smith, Mrs. Light, Mr. D. Bolt and Mrs. D. Bolt.

Nobody volunteered for Treasurer's position vacated by Mr. Ron Blake and the Committee will try to fill it at their first meeting.

BASILDON MASTER PLAN INQUIRY

BASILDON'S new Master Plan inquiry next month may last up to four weeks if some of the present objectors do not make a late withdrawal.

Although the closing date for objections set by the Minister of Housing was October 31st, the Corporation are still receiving letters from people asking to put their views at the inquiry.

At one time the number of objections reached 96, but this figure has now been reduced by 12. "It is quite clear that

COULD LAST FOUR WEEKS

many of the objections are based on misapprehensions or wrong reading of the plan. If we can remove some of these fears before the inquiry a great deal of time will be saved," said the Corporation's General Manager, Mr. R. C. C. Boniface, this week. Although the closing date for objections has



Berry Boys football team.

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Fencing titles
won by
Mike and Janet

SWOLLEN BY a steady influx of new members in the past year, Wickford Community Association's flourishing Fencing Club are now sufficiently strong to stage their own individual Fencing Championships.

The first was completed last week when Mike Newson, one of 13 entrants, won the men's shield. Janet Simmons won the ladies' shield, for which there were five competitors.

She and Pat Read each won three fights to battle it out in the final, which Janet won by four hits to three.

The shield was presented by the Club's instructor, Mr. Norman Sharp, and there was a medal for Pat Read. Third was Dorothy Smith.

The men's competition was also started, but there was not enough time to complete it and the championship continued later with a final pool of six fighting for the title.

The fencing was of a high standard and Mike Newson and Chas. Read provided an exciting final. Read took a four-hits-to-two lead, but Newson attacked hard to level at 4-4 and then scored the winning hit.

He, too, received his shield from Norman Sharp, who presided over the final fights. Chas. Read received the runners-up medal and third place went to Tim Stout.

SWIMMING

BARSTABLE
BEATEN

BARSTABLE GRAMMAR School, Basildon, lost their swimming match against Rayleigh Sweeney by 24 points at Barstable on Friday. It was the first time in fact that the Basildon school down, for the boys won their part of the match.

The match was swum in three sections, under-13, under-15, and over-15 and the final combined totals were Barstable 189, Rayleigh Sweeney 213. All sections raced in the four basic swimming strokes, but there was no diving.



The Graylands Secondary School under-15 team, who won their section of the Schools' Gymnastic Championships at Nicholas Secondary School. The team: P. Valentine, D. Golding, J. McIntyre and T. Horsley.

Fine performances by
young gymnasts"Better Soccer
for Boys"

"THINK ABOUT the same," says Mr. Tommy Docherty, in his recently published book "Better Soccer for Boys," and as one of the most successful club managers in the game today he should know.

He goes on to talk about and illustrate just about every skill required in soccer, with 112 photographs, seven diagrams and his own observations on all of them. Having completed this, Mr. Docherty analyses the patterns of play in football today, with references to systems like the "Bolt" and the "Whirl".

The book is aimed at the aspiring young player, but it supplies a comprehensive guide for any footballer prepared to learn how to improve his game.

"Too many things to do, too few staff to do them."

Competitors had to work out their routines — and some were excellent — in their spare time, with masters helping out of school hours. There simply is not enough time in the P.E. master's crowded routine to train a full team and many of the secondary schools in the district did not even manage a single entry.

Surprisingly enough, the standard of these boys' performances was high, certainly far better than last year. Many boys have obvious potential, but whether they will ever get the chance to develop it is doubtful.

The competition took a new turn this year, coming into line with Olympic-type

gymnastics, and giving entrants 30 seconds of completely free-choice floor-work.

Each competitor was able to arrange six mats as he wanted around the gymnasium, complete freedom in his choice of exercises. The judges were looking for: (1) difficulty, (2) an unbroken sequence of movements, (3) a certain amount of trust between movements.

"This is the first year we have tried such a thing," said Mr. K. Dunstan, schoolmaster at Basildon, who was presenting prizes, "and we can honestly say the boys have done proud. They have worked extremely hard for a time on these exercises. It is a lot of care and a lot of sheer physical courage. Basildon has every cause to be proud of these young men."

The competition was split into two parts, for under-15s and under-13s. Clear winners of the under-15 team competition were Graylands with 12 points, and equally easy winners of the under-13 competition were the Chaldeon school with 151.07 points.

In the individual competition, of Graylands, the under-15 and Males, Chaldeon, the under-13.

Full results were:—

Under-13 competition:
Chaldeon, 151.07; 2, Laidon, 123.0; 3, Mayflower, 102.68; 4, individual—1, Males (Chaldeon), 42.15; 2, Basildon, 36.9; 3, Corringham, 35.75; 4, Mayflower, 34.5; 5, Basildon, 31.9.Under-15 competition:
Graylands, 12; 2, Nicholas, 142.85; 3, Barstable, 116.8; 4, individual—1, Valentine (Chaldeon), 47.2; 2, Golding (Graylands), 43.5; 3, Pennyfather (Mayflower), 42.3; 4, Jorrell (Mayflower), 41.2; 5, Males (Graylands), 40.3.NETBALL
THRILLS

A GOAL in the last second saved Basildon Checkmate from a 2-1 win over Corringham Social Club Division III of the Basildon Netball League this week.

Another close match was 10-8 won by Basildon Wanderers over Laidon in Division II.

Other result:— Division III Corringham Social Club Corringham Y.C. 8.

MID-ESSEX
RESULTS

MID-ESSEX Football League results last Saturday were:—

Premier Division — Basildon 1, Pitsea Reserves 1; Basildon 2, E.C.C. 1; Braintree Nomads 4, Fynewick 2; Great Badminton 2, Great Waltham 1; Midway Ironworks 2, Mayflower 1; Hatfield 1, Park Avenue 1; Basildon 1, Pitsea Reserves 1.

Division II — Billericay 1, Basildon 0; Chelmsford 1, Y.M.C.A. 1; Burnham 1, Basildon 0; Bowers 1, Maldon St. 1; 3, Gallewood 2; Mayflower 1, Basildon 0; 5, Gallewood 1; 6, Basildon 0; 7, Basildon 0; 8, Basildon 0; 9, Basildon 0; 10, Basildon 0; 11, Basildon 0; 12, Basildon 0; 13, Basildon 0; 14, Basildon 0; 15, Basildon 0; 16, Basildon 0; 17, Basildon 0; 18, Basildon 0; 19, Basildon 0; 20, Basildon 0.

Division III — Basildon 1, United 6; Rowell 1, Basildon 0; Outwood 1, Basildon 0; 2, Basildon 0; 3, Basildon 0; 4, Basildon 0; 5, Basildon 0; 6, Basildon 0; 7, Basildon 0; 8, Basildon 0; 9, Basildon 0; 10, Basildon 0; 11, Basildon 0; 12, Basildon 0; 13, Basildon 0; 14, Basildon 0; 15, Basildon 0; 16, Basildon 0; 17, Basildon 0; 18, Basildon 0; 19, Basildon 0; 20, Basildon 0.

Wickford Fencing Club championships were won by Mr. Mike Newson and Miss Janet Simmons, pictured in the front after receiving their awards from Mr. Norman Sharp (centre) following a tournament at Wickford Community Centre.



Great bowling by Ambassadors in marathon matches

THE AMBASSADORS tenpin bowling team proved their complete supremacy over all local teams in their 12-hour marathon challenge match on Sunday. They took on, and beat, the best five teams in Basildon, and were still strong enough after 10 hours' play to smash the Bowl five-man team game and series records in their last match.

The challenge began at 10 on Sunday morning with a match against Lathol, Ambassadors went straight into action with Colin Tucker bowling a 210, to hit an 87 game and take a 176-pin lead. The second game contained a great 245 from Dave Buckley and a 205 from Don Wood, which boosted the game total to 804, almost 200 better than Lathol. Another 900 game followed with 208 from Vic Collins and Don Wood for a grand total of 2766 and victory by 520.

The next challengers to step up were the Hells Angels, but they met Ambassadors in peak form, and even though the Angels bowled 887, they found themselves trailing 21 pins behind the Ambassadors. The Angels' morale slumped and they managed only 767 in the second game, 110 behind the Basildon champions, and although the challengers hit form again in the last game to bowl 872, they still found themselves trailing behind, this time by 61 pins. Ambassadors' total was 2728, with Don Wood hitting the high series of 585.

After a few minutes' break, Harn Lacer took the lanes to try their luck, and after a near start, they moved rapidly to give Ambassadors their biggest fright of the whole challenge. Ambassadors were 34 pins ahead after the first game, then had their lead cut to 10 pins by a Harn Lacer game of 872.

Harn Lacer began the third game full of fight, and leapt into a 60-pin lead by the fourth frame, but Ambassadors showed true champion qualities at this point and they fought their way back into the lead, finally totalling a 2908 score for a 23-pin victory.

Fourth opponents were Shell Club, and it looked Ambassadors team made hard work of beating them, bowling a 2475 score to win by 35 pins.

Great display

Their greatest struggle still looked to be in store for them for the fifth challengers were the Lathol, but the Ambassadors reacted to the challenge superbly, producing over the next two hours, the best bowling ever seen on the Basildon lanes.

Leg by a 276 from Colin Tucker, they established a 124 lead with a first game of 821, but, instead of sticking to their then record game of 1045, with Wood, Buckley, Collins and Tucker all rolling over 200 and Davy Prince 101.

This total put them over 300 ahead, and they went on to roll an 884 in their third game to score a 2840 series total, easily another new record.

The press presented to the opponents in the final game will be given to Harn Lacer on Sunday for their 8495.

The Basildon Bowl will be held on Sunday to the general public while an estimated 5000 people are expected to be in there for the South-East Area Bowling Association Championships, the first open championships held by the Association.

Bowling will start at 10 a.m. Bowler manager Jim Grimwood said: "We hope they will finish about 6 p.m., but this depends on the number of entries." "These entries are still fixed in at the Bowl, many of them of course, from Basildon."

The Ambassadors' tenpin bowling team, pictured at the Basildon Bowl on Sunday, where they were holding a marathon bowling session against five other teams from the area.

2-0 for Essex

In the third round of the F.A. County Youth Cup on Saturday, Leicestershire and Rutland lost 2-0 to Essex.

CRAYLANDS JUST FAIL IN CUP-TIE

Buckhurst Hill County High School (Under-15) 3, Craylands Secondary School (Under-15) 2. CRAYLANDS, trailing 3-1 and with captain Terry Scales a limping passenger, fought back like heroes in this Cook Cup match on Saturday. They pulled back one goal and could have easily got another, but were eventually beaten by a side which always moved the ball quicker.

Craylands scored the first and the last goals, and for the first 20 minutes of this game, it seemed they would run their opponents off their feet. They made chance after chance, and wasted all but one of them, when a Gordon Hulbert, shot was beaten out by the keeper and Broderick Keeley followed up to tap the ball home.

As the game progressed, Buckhurst began to get their share of the ball in midfield, and just before the interval they broke away to level the scores, the ball going in off the foot of a Basildon defender. In the second half Craylands, playing up the slope against a slight wind, got rather bogged down in the heavy conditions, delaying their final pass too long and allowing the big Buckhurst defenders to get a grip on the game.

At this point Terry Scales pulled a hamstring in his leg, a recurrence of the trouble which kept him out of the previous round of the Cook Cup and Craylands were in trouble.

Buckhurst stretched the Craylands defence with a series of quick raids. Then Rippon picked up a bad clearance, and spurred down the middle and

Schools rugby

Victory for Laindon

Laindon Secondary School (Under-13) 32 nts, Woodlands Secondary School (Under-13) 12 nts. WOODLANDS WON the toss in this rugby encounter and elected to play against the slope, hardly a wise decision as it turned out, for by the interval they were 15-0 down. Although they came back in the second half, they never got within striking distance of Laindon.

From the kick-off Laindon surged into the attack and Groat got their first try after an excellent run past three Woodlands players. They ran up their score to 15 points by half-time. Groat increased their lead after the interval, dribbling the ball up the slope to make it 18-0.

Then came the Woodlands rally which took them within six points of the Laindon total. Williams began the revival with two quick tries and, as Laindon tired, Williams again made the score 18-12.

In the last 10 minutes, however, Laindon sprang to life again. Blunstrad scored after an excellent 50-yard sprint and, keeping up the pressure, Laindon increased their score to 32. Their try scorers were Groat (4), Blunstrad (2), Cole, Collins, Williams and Ellis.

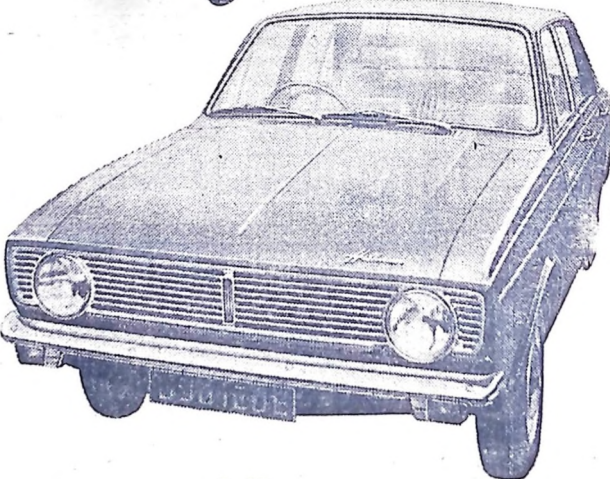
German athletes for Southend

A German athletics team will be entertained by Southend Athletic Club from August 27th to September 2nd. The Parks Committee have granted the free use of sports facilities and a marquee at the cost of its installation and removal.

First since 1958

The inter-counties 71-mile cross-country championship at Leicester last Saturday was won by Surrey for the first time since 1958. The individual title went to Dick Taylor, of Warwickshire.

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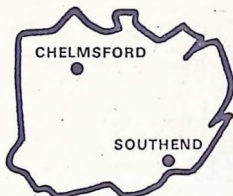
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a return visit has
arranged on Sunday in
don.

