

**BASILDON,
BILLERICAY
&
WICKFORD**

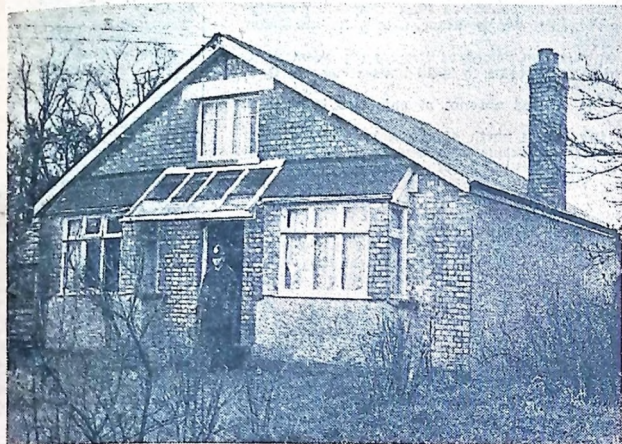
STANDARD

10 SOUTHERNHAY, BASILDON (Telephone: Basildon 22651), and 72 HIGH STREET, BILLERICAY (Telephone: Billericay 845)

No. 695

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1967

FOURPENCE



BUNGALOW MYSTERY IS CLEARED UP

**ARRESTED YOUTHS UNCONNECTED
WITH ELDERLY WOMAN'S DEATH**

FOUR YOUTHS were charged at Basildon Police Station this week with breaking into a Laindon bungalow in which a 79-years-old woman was found dead on Saturday.

Afterwards Police announced: "We are now quite satisfied that there was no connection between the break-in and the death."

The arrest of the youths "cleared the air" after the woman, Mrs. Violet Horner, had been found dead in the bedroom of her Victoria Crescent home (seen above) on Saturday afternoon.

The discovery was made by a passer-by who noticed the front door open and flapping in the wind. Inside, Mrs. Horner, who lived alone and rarely spoke to people, was dead on the floor at the side of her bed.

Police who went to the house found the bungalow had been broken into and the rooms ransacked.

A "murder" scare immediately went up and

detectives headed by Det. Supt. Jack Barkway of Chelmsford and Chief Det. Insp. George Barton of Basildon visited the house.

They were followed by the Home Office pathologist, Dr. E. Camps, who made a preliminary examination of the body before it was removed to St. Andrew's Hospital, Billericay, for the post mortem.

This took place late on Saturday night, and it was afterwards announced that Dr. Camps found no marks on the body consistent with violence.

Police inquiries on Saturday

and Sunday revealed that Mrs. Horner last drew her old age pension on January 6th. Her pension book still contained the slip for January 23th and Police believe she probably died about that time. The four youths who were charged this week were released on bail. They will appear at Billericay Court at a later date.

BASILDON RATE SURPRISE?

A RATE rise of sevenpence was being considered by Basildon Council as the "Standard" went to Press on Thursday evening.

This, added to the County Council 3d. increase, would put the rate up to 13s. 6d. in the £ for the coming year, a possible increase of 10d.

Taking into account the new Government subsidy of fivepence for domestic ratepayers, the cost to the average Basildon household could be about 30s. a year. Industrial and commercial premises, of course, will not benefit by the Government subsidy and will pay the full increase of 10d.

The County's share of the rate is now just under 9s. Basildon take the remainder—about 4s. 6d.

Street names

Chelmsford Rural Council's Buildings and Planning Committee have approved a suggestion by Woodham Ferries Parish Council that four new streets at the Nursery Estate, South Woodham Ferries, be named Manor Road, Tythe Barn Way, Chase Drive and Poplar Close.

* Basildon Master Plan revelations *

£1,500,000 plan for leisure activities in Basildon

A HUGE £1,500,000 plan for leisure activities in Basildon is being negotiated, disclosed Basildon Development Corporation on Tuesday.

The site figuring in the negotiations is land to the west of the Ford Tractor Plant in Cranes Farm Road.

Speaking at the Master Plan inquiry, Mr. R. C. G. Boniface, the Corporation General Manager, said the scheme was only in the embryo stage and many details had yet to be discussed, but if it goes through almost every form of leisure activity will be catered for.

"If we can get this to go ahead nothing must stand in its way, not even the selfish interests of one Company," he said.

Mr. Boniface was obviously referring to the Ford Motor Company who, although not represented at the inquiry, made recent representations to the Minister because no allowance had been made in the Master Plan for the expansion of their tractor factory.

The General Manager said the Corporation would oppose any extension to the site, the boundary of which was clearly defined in 1960.

At the moment, he said, only 28 per cent of the 100 acres was covered by buildings. Car parking took up a great deal of space and this problem could be overcome by introducing multi-storey parking.

Mr. Boniface said other reasons why the Corporation were against expansion included the traffic problem in Cranes Farm

Road, which would be aggravated by a bigger tractor plant than the 4 to 5,000 employees originally estimated.

Corporation do not want Bowers Gifford

Basildon Development Corporation are hotly opposed to bringing Bowers Gifford into their Master Plan proposals instead of Langdon Hills. Their objection is based on cost; the need to avoid joining Basildon with Baffett; and the unnecessary disturbance of nearly 250 homes.

This was stated by Mr. Boniface on Tuesday in his 4-hour summing-up on the

ninth day of the public inquiry into the 140,000 population plan.

In addition to having specific instructions from the Minister to keep the proposals within the present designated area, the Corporation considered development at Bowers Gifford would involve unnecessary high expenditure to overcome road communication and drainage difficulties.

They did not want Basildon to become further joined to the conurbation area of Southend and also considered that development at Bowers Gifford would destroy the unity of the New Town.

LUSTFUL EYES

"I must admit I have often cast lustful eyes on the Bowers Gifford acres which I can see from my office window," said Mr. Boniface. "I have also thought what a mess Pound Lane is whenever I drive through it."

"But we have looked at this suggestion very carefully and consider that it has no merit whatsoever," he said.

To confirm this opinion Mr. Boniface produced a string of figures compiled by his staff on a survey of Bowers Gifford.

Taking an area stretching from the designated area boundary to Pound Lane, he said, 435.4 acres of farmland

(Continued on Page 22)

The new Councillor



Winner of Pitsea by-election, Mr. Fred Mercer (second left) hears the result from Town Manager David Taylor. His agent, Coun. Bernard Laine, is on the left and Council Chairman Coun. Arthur Baron Burn on the right. (Story on Page 3).



Fingerprint officer Det. Sergt. E. Llewellyn takes away a window frame for examination from the bungalow where a 79-years-old Laindon woman was found dead on Saturday.

HOSPITAL FRIENDS SAVE LIVES

A NUMBER of people are alive today who would have died if it had not been for the cardiac monitoring apparatus which St. Andrew's Hospital League of Friends presented to the hospital last year, and which has been in constant use ever since.

Mr. R. T. Booth, consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist, told this to over 200 of the League's members, their friends and guests at the League's annual dinner on Thursday week at Hutton Masonic Hall.

Mr. Booth, who was proposing the toast to the League, referred to other gifts supplied by them, saying they included books for the doctors' library and patients-staff signalling systems for wards.

They had given £2,000 towards the cost of the new staff recreational hall and £750 towards furnishings.

He also referred to gifts which had been given to the Mayflower Hospital and said he knew they were all appreciated by the elderly patients.

NOT A FRIEND

Responding, Mr. S. C. Squires (League Chairman) said he could remember the days when it seemed as if St. Andrew's had not got a friend in the world. Since then, however, the League had been formed and they had changed things.

One often heard of invisible exports, but the League had introduced to the hospital "invisible imports." They had gathered several hundred people together, people who were prepared to see that St. Andrew's was a good hospital and were also pleased to pay 10s. 6d. a year subscription for the privilege of using it.

Prowler a boy of 14

HEARING A noise while in bed, a householder in Hovefields Avenue, Pitsea, saw a boy creeping across the lounge.

The french windows were found to be open and a handbag was on the floor and its contents strewn about. It was stated at Billericay Juvenile Court on Monday.

A boy of 14 admitted house-breaking with intent to steal and was put on probation for three years. The boy, who had no previous convictions, returned to the house and said he entered it to get a drink of water. Questioned by the Police, he said: "I went in to steal something."

Cross-roads accident

The notorious Harrows crossroads was the scene of another accident on Wednesday evening when a moped rider was involved in a collision with a car.

The moped rider, Mr. Freeguard, of Vulkrie Road, West-cliff, was slightly hurt. The driver, Mr. Cox, of Wick Lane, Wickford, was unhurt.

WESLEY GUILD

Wednesday week's meeting of Wickford Methodist Wesley Guild was opened by Mr. R. Martin. Mrs. Jessie Under gave a talk about how she produced a facsimile of a newspaper, and Mrs. W. Emery also took part.

THIS IS THE MASTER PLAN OUR OPINION NOW IT'S JUST WAIT AND SEE!

AT LAST BASILDON'S new Master Plan Inquiry is over. People everywhere must be heaving a sigh of relief. All that remains now is the verdict of the Minister of Housing, which is unlikely to be announced before the summer.

But, looking back at the nine-day Inquiry, several things come to mind. There can be no question but that the Development Corporation were firmly in command of the situation for the vast majority of the time. Only occasionally was their authority seriously questioned. No matter what opponents thought of the Corporation's Plan, they must surely admit respect for their protagonist, Mr. Boniface, if only for his sheer grasp of such a vast subject.

Broadly speaking, the basic objection voiced at the Inquiry seemed to be aimed at the Corporation's proposals to build houses close to One Tree Hill and Westley Heights. But, equally striking, was the curious absence of objectors to certain other aspects of the Plan.

Where, for example, were the people north of the Arterial Road who seem destined to become part of Steeple View and Noak Bridge, two newly-named Corporation neighbourhoods? Where were the objectors to development, including the new industrial estate on the extreme west of the New Town?

Several times during the Inquiry the point was made that if only people knew about the proposals they would have been there. There is obviously a good deal of truth in this assertion. When the Minister finally announces his decision the Corporation can stand by for a fresh crop of objections from people who had "heard nothing about it."

CAR PARKING DELAY IS A BIG MISTAKE

WHEN BASILDON Council's Executive Committee decided in January to set up a study group to investigate the car parking problem in the district we were the first to welcome their decision. But we said then that they should refuse to accept the Town Manager's contention that the prior existence of other study groups makes it a lower priority. We are adamant about this as ever, and we regard the Executive Committee's decision to delay the establishment of this study group until after the Council's annual meeting in May as mistaken and regrettable.

The car parking problem has been with us for years, but it is none the less an urgent one and it deserves urgent consideration.

Probably the Executive Committee will not now be persuaded to change their minds, but, as a result, there will be many people who will consider that their decision was due to a lack of courage.

Car parking is, of course, a problem which poses tremendous difficulties, but these difficulties can be tackled. Why should not the Council build multi-level car parks, for instance? With careful planning they could be blended into their surroundings, even in design-conscious Billericay and Wickford.

The Executive Committee are not tackling this problem with anything like the vigour and radical outlook that it needs.

POLICEMAN FOILED RAID ON JEWELLERS

A POLICEMAN on the beat foiled a smash-and-grab raid on D. H. Smith, Ltd., Jewellers, Town Centre, just before midnight on Monday night. A man was seen running away.

The manager, Mr. G. W. Bishop, "Something was thrown at the glass of the watch section, which made a big bang."

The window was smashed and the damaged saw. It was mainly Mr. Bishop went on. "We are still stock-taking, but we don't think anything was taken."

Workmen repaired the window on Tuesday.

Carnival switch?

MEMBERS of S.E. England Carnival Association Guild for the past two years, Wickford Town Show and Carnival Organisations are considering a switch.

At their meeting on Friday they agreed to send President Mr. George Dockrill and Chairman Mr. Harry Reeves to a meeting at Maldon, in March, at which the setting up of an Essex Carnival Association Guild will be discussed.

Committee member Mr. Ray Saunders, who has attended several meetings of the Guild, told the "Standard" afterwards that membership of an Essex Guild would have several advantages.

"The existing Guild is a good organisation, but it is very much dominated by the numerous London and Kent Coast Carnival Associations," he said.

"Naturally, much of the discussion deals with their problems, and when you have to give up a Sunday for an all-day conference at Maldon, it is almost a waste of time. And there is the question of expense to consider, too."

The Organisation have been invited to the March meeting by Mr. E. M. T. Kimm, who is acting as convener with the backing of Maldon Carnival Association.

In a letter sent to Associations all over the county, he says the purpose of an Essex Guild would be to disseminate the information and exchange ideas.

It might also eventually be possible for it to assist in exchanging and hiring out equipment between members.

Critical of own Government

WICKFORD Labour Party have criticised their own Government's policy on cutting defence and education costs.

In an article in their monthly magazine, "The Wickford Supplement," they state: "It is regrettable the Government, when attempting to cut its expenditure, should appear to hit where it hurts most."

"This is true of the Government's initial proposals to cut expenditure in Malta and even more so of the Government's cuts in subsidies for overseas students."

The editorial staff, says the magazine, find it deplorable that a Labour Government should hurt only those students who come from the poorest families and preserve university education for the more wealthy by raising university fees for overseas students.

They applauded a resolution passed recently by the General Management Committee of the Billericay Constituency Labour Party, which condemns the action of the Secretary of State for Education as "undoubtedly correct in its judgment."

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FOOTPATHS ARE BEING DELIBERATELY OBSTRUCTED?

FIFTY PER CENT of the footpaths around Billericay had been wilfully obstructed as a direct result of Basildon Council failing to take adequate action, members of Billericay Group of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England were told on Saturday.

The report of the Group's Trees and Countryside Committee stated although they had repeatedly reported obstructions of public footpaths, it appeared, judging from results, that the Council had done very little about the majority of them and had been noticeably more reluctant to take adequate action during the last year.

"As a direct result of their failure to grasp this nettle, we are today in the unhappy position where 50 per cent of the public footpaths around Billericay have been wilfully obstructed," said Mr. R. W. Butcher.

"Not only are these paths obstructed at this moment, but many of these have been in this condition for up to six months and the Council know that, too," he added. "We can show you paths so heavily ploughed that they are a danger to any person trying to use them. Others where tons of soil have been dumped on the path in combination with five and six feet high, others where 10 feet ditches have been dug across the path and no attempt made to provide a way across."

"It cannot be claimed that the persons obstructing these paths are not aware of their existence. Following complaints from this committee in previous years, the Council has sent out a map to these people over 12 months ago. It still fails to render these paths unusable and consistently fail to reinstate them."

"And," Mr. Butcher went on, the Council "wilfully obstructs the public at their own expense by closing off branches of the Access to the

Countryside Act and the Highways Act by their inaction. It is robbed of a valuable amenity."

The responsibility for ensuring that public footpaths were not obstructed rested fairly and squarely with the Council powers and the duty had been laid upon them by the Act of 1949 to protect the rights of way, Mr. Butcher added.

He hoped that the meeting would leave the Council and the Works Committee who had the matter, and the councillors, in no doubt of their feelings.

Swimming pool delay

BASILDON Swimming Pool is months behind schedule. Though completion date was Thursday week, the pool definitely will not be finished until after July.

A Basildon Council spokesman confirmed the delay. He said the Executive Committee have ordered that the pool be finished by the contractor, Norman Simmonds, Ltd., of Ealing.

He could not say how much will be taken off the £235,000 contract figure. "This will be worked out," he said, "after the negotiations have been completed and the contract has been known for several months."

However, two weeks of the delay, as an extension of time to cover bad weather during the winter had previously been agreed.

The Committee minutes noted that the decision to deduct damages was taken after careful consideration. Work on the 110ft. long main pool started in 1965.

Dangerous entrance

BASILDON'S Further Education Sub-Committee's decision to defer a request for floodlighting at the entrance to the Evening Institute at Mayflower Secondary School at Billericay, was challenged at day week's Council meeting.

But reference back to Committee moved by the Chairman of the Evening Institute Management Committee (Lab. Coun. Mrs. Elizabeth Forster) was defeated by 13 votes to 11.

"I wanted it referred back because at the moment I consider this entrance very dangerous," she told the "Standard" later.

House for midwives

THE PROVISION of a midwifery service in the Runwell/Wickford district has been hindered by lack of housing accommodation for midwives.

In a bid to solve the problem Essex County Council's Health Committee is planning to buy a property at Ramden Heath for £24,700 and make it available for appropriate nursing staff.

The Committee, in a report to the County Council on Tuesday, stated that while a district nurse, midwife, who had been able to get the tenancy of premises owned by the Council, had been appointed, it was considered that the future position would be safeguarded if suitable housing accommodation at the disposal of the Council were available for her successor.



Tory victory at Pitsea was expected

RETURNING A Tory candidate with a 310 majority, marginal Pitsea Ward produced no surprise in the by-election on Saturday.

Conservative Mr. Frederick Mercer polled 860 votes against 550 for Labour's Mr. William Dorrington. Reason for the election was the non-attendance at Council meetings—since July last year—of Pitsea's former Tory Councillor, Roy Thorpe. Because of this he was

ing stopped—and showed a high poll by Pitsea standards of 86.8 per cent. Our picture above shows Tory supporters distributing 'Vote for Mercer' balloons to youngsters in Rectory Road on Saturday.

Second Easter Derby

BASILDON ROUND Table are planning their second Easter Monday donkey Derby. Aim is to help bring their current charity effort up to its target of £1800.

So far just over £1000 has been raised towards a holiday home for Basildon sub-normal children. This will probably be built on the edge of Wickford Memorial Park.

Land for the project has been given by builders Carter and Ward. Planning permission is now being sought from Basildon Council.

Work, says Round Table Chairman Tony Essex, "Has only just started. We have still to roll up our sleeves and get down to the hard work of building the place."

Many local traders are backing the donkey Derby, which will be held at Fobbing Farm, Nether Mayne. Community Service Chairman Mike Revell said Round Table hoped to raise over £500 from the Derby.

Wanted to rest his eyes

A BASILDON man who allegedly drove his lorry at between 55 and 60 miles an hour along the Stanford Bypass, overtaking other vehicles and only showing one side light appeared before Magistrates at Grays on Friday.

He was Dennis Charles Fowler, a lorry driver of Whitmore Way, Basildon, who pleaded not guilty to dangerous driving and failing to display front lights, and guilty to careless driving and speeding.

A Police officer driving a patrol car behind Fowler alleged that the lorry was only showing a light to the front offside and was overtaking several vehicles. He said that in his opinion this was dangerous driving as it was a dark night and the vehicle might not be discernable as a lorry to other people on the road.

Fowler told the Court that he checked his lights on the afternoon of the day in question and saw the front near-side light was not working because of a faulty connection.

He "fiddled" with it and got it working before he drove home. He said that after he was stopped by the Police he tried unsuccessfully to get it working, but later it was on and had been working since then.

Fowler said he did not have his headlights on because he wanted to rest his eyes. He did not think he was driving dangerously and added that he could see without his headlights.

A representative from Basildon T.O.C. gave the Bench a letter from his organisation telling them of the work Fowler did for them. The Bench dismissed the charge of dangerous driving, but found Fowler guilty on the other charges and fined him a total of £21.

PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

On Tuesday members of the Essex branch of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy held a meeting at Southend General Hospital, part of which was addressed by Dr. L. Henderson, Consultant in Radiotherapy at Southend General Hospital.

FASHION PARADE FOR KINGSWOOD LADIES



Seen above are models from Millies, of the Town Centre, Basildon, when they showed some of the latest fashions to members of Kingswood Ladies' Club at the Community Centre on Wednesday. They are Linda Smith, Muriel Gillmore, Kay Lazell and Jenny Tunbridge. Said store manageress Mrs. I. Cook: "We featured teenage trends, including the cape, which is the in-thirng now in London. It is black with a red lining and ornamental fastening." For the really with-it there were uniforms. These included the nautical coat. Mrs. Cook spoke of the value of fashion shows: "You can't visualise clothes on a hanger. You must see them on—they look far different then."



Defeated at Pitsea: Labour's Mr. Bill Dorrington.

disqualified by Basildon Council.

Mr. Thorpe left Basildon for Australia in the middle of last year—but never resigned his Council seat.

The new councillor is 53 and an insurance broker with his own company at Leigh. Mr. Mercer lives in Highlands Road, Bowers Gifford, and was fighting his first election.

Politics is not a new interest for Mr. Mercer. He has been a Tory party member for 50 years. Chairman of Westcliff Club, his other interests include growing roses. He has over 200 varieties.

The result was declared at 10 p.m.—an hour after vot-



Children and parents of Ghyllgrove Tenants' Association are seen above before they left by coach to see "Sleeping Beauty on Ice" at Wembley.

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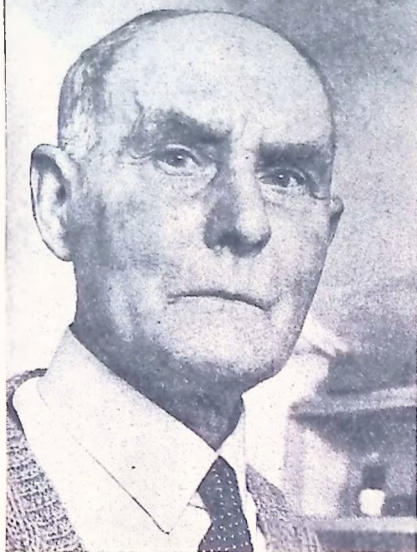
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VETERAN READERS' COLUMN



Craftsman who has transformed his home and garden

EVERYWHERE YOU look in 76-years-old Mr. James Kemp's neat garden or charming cottage shows unmistakable signs of his artistic capabilities. Little stone arches, with each stone carefully placed; tiny windmills gaily revolving in the breeze, and unexpected nooks and crannies with dwarf varieties of spring flowers just showing all help to make his garden a joy to wander in. The cottage to one side of it might have come out of the pages of a fairy tale book. Mr. Kemp is seen above.

As one steps inside, Mr. Kemp's talents can be seen everywhere. The dining room ceiling gives the impression of aged oak beams, but they are the product of a craftsman's brush. The sitting room hearthrug was designed by Mr. Kemp from a favourite country scene. He and his wife made it between them and it won them first prize at a local horticultural show.

Everywhere there are souvenirs and trophies quite a lot of them from the First World War. One of them is a spiked Prussian Guards helmet. All the brasswork is kept beautifully polished. The bright paintwork and impeccable finished wallpaper show clearly that Mr. Kemp was formerly a decorator and paperhanger.

It is in the kitchen that his talents really come into their own. Originally it was a tiny cottage scullery, bleak and dismal. Now an impression of space is given by a false "window" created by Mr. Kemp with white painted woodwork and giving the illusion of an open eastment looking out on to a country scene. The "window" is complete with window-sill, which stand pots of growing plants, and has dainty white curtains.

The real window, over the sink, looks out on to the wall of the shed. Mr. Kemp disguised this with another scene, this time of a farmyard, with a ploughboy leaning on a gate. "That old yokel looks at me every time I wash up!" laughs Mrs. Kemp. James was six-and-a-half when he first came to live in an old cottage, near St. Mary's Church, Langdon Hills. He attended the old village school there and sang in St. Mary's choir all his young days.

"I very well remember the old post office," he says. "It was thatched, like the school. My brother was its first messenger boy to have a uniform and a bicycle—and wasn't he proud of it!"

Mr. Kemp remembers the two cottages on Crown Hill. One was the tea-shanty and the other was the Police-mans' house. In those days, the policeman's boat

stretched between Langdon Hills and Merndon, a distance of some miles. He went on foot, carrying a bull's-eye lantern and a walking stick, and he was accompanied by a black dog.

Another of Mr. Kemp's early memories that is still vivid is the first motor car in the district. It was a French car, chauffeur-driven. It could achieve a speed of 40 miles per hour and it was the only car for miles that could get up the steep Crown Hill without boiling half-way up!

During the First World War James and his brother joined the Royal Artillery and went to France together. James' service was cut short, however, when he was wounded and taken prisoner. He spent the rest of the war years in a prison camp in Germany.

Determined that the Second World War should be more rewarding to him, he started off in 1939 as an air-raid warden. When this failed to prove exciting enough he joined the Home Guard. For a short while he joined the Regular Army again, but left to join the Air Force. They taught him the trade of shoe repairer and he spent the rest of his service at Southampton repairing Air Force boots! Even now his skill as a shoe repairer is much in demand and Mrs. Kemp has not found it necessary to send a pair of shoes out for snobbing since the war.

Mr. and Mrs. Kemp have been married for 48 years and have known each other since their childhood days. They have a son and a grandson.

Film show

MEMBERS OF Langdon Hills Over-Sixties Club greatly enjoyed a visit from a travel agency representative, who showed two travel films at their weekly meeting on Thursday week at the W.I. Hall.

The films took them on a tour of Norway and through six countries to San Remo and Venice. Afterwards Mr. W. J. Pyner, announced that the first outing of the year would be to the Bognor Regis on May 15th. Tea hostesses were Mrs. Prickett and Mrs. Sherriff.

DANCED WITH AID OF STICKS

FRIDAY'S MEETING of the Basildon No. 1 O.A.P. was held at Vange Community Hall. Mrs. F. Pantland, the Chairman, presided.

A hearty welcome was given to a new member, Mrs. Oliver, and six members were wished a speedy recovery by their colleagues.

Mrs. M. Bird and Mrs. J. Thompson (better known to members as "Joyce, the Market Queen") have given members much pleasure by accepting the position of President and Vice-President respectively.

Mr. Plumb conducted the sale of needs and the raffles and tea was served by Mrs. Bridger, Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Ratcliffe.

The afternoon's entertainment was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Frank White, who provided music for dancing and singing. There were sales from Mr. C. Dobbinson and Mrs. Jermyn, who is 92 and danced with her colleagues by performing a little dance, aided by two walking sticks.

A welcome guest!

LAINDON NO. 1 O.A.P. members gave a hearty welcome to Mrs. Lenz, a former member who was visiting the district, and called to see them. She brought with her a selection of cakes for their tea, which were greatly appreciated.

Musical birthday honours went to Mr. Chapman and wedding anniversary greetings to Mr. and Mrs. Pyner, celebrating their 53rd anniversary.

After the business of the meeting was concluded, members enjoyed an afternoon's entertainment given by Mr. and Mrs. Frank White, who played the piano, drums and electric organ.

Good wishes for the recovery of sick members were expressed by the Chairman on behalf of all present.

They had 42 prizes

LAST WEEK'S meeting of the Darby and Joan Club was opened with a hymn at the Lee Chapel North Community Centre. Mrs. Bennett and Mrs. Allsop were welcomed back after illness.

Six members were reported to be away ill and the good wishes of their colleagues. Forty-two gifts were received for the raffle table.

The rest of the afternoon was spent in enjoying the music of Mr. and Mrs. D. Humes, who played the piano and electric organ. Mrs. Humes also gave a few songs. The meeting ended with the usual closing hymn.

MEMBERS OF Laindon Darby and Joan Club stood in silent tribute to their former Chairman, Mr. A. Casselden, at their weekly meeting on Friday at the Laindon Community Centre.

He died in hospital after a short illness. It was a great shock to the members and he will be sadly missed.

Birthday wishes went to Mrs. Divine and anniversary greetings to Mr. and Mrs. Pyner. Ten hostesses were Mrs. Divine, Mrs. Chapman and helpers. Mrs. Hardy, Vice-Chairman, thanked everyone for the generous gifts for the raffle table.

The rest of the afternoon was spent in playing Bingo, with Mr. O. Waters and Mr. J. Hardy as callers.

A CONCERT

Frank Sawyer and his Concert Party entertained the members of the Blue No. 1 branch at their weekly meeting at St. Michael's Hall, Pitsea, on Tuesday. Anniversary honours went to Mr. and Mrs. Bayley. It was announced that a trip to a London theatre had been arranged. The meeting opened with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne." Pianist was Mrs. White.

SILVER THREADS Special guest speaker at Tuesday's meeting of Wickford Silver Army Corps Silver Threads Over 60's Club was Mrs. Wood, District Manager for the National Council Social Security. The meeting was led by Captain Brian Taylor and refreshments were served by Mrs. D. Gentry and helpers.

HE WANTS TO HELP

"The Area Council should be a go-between for branches and the Federation," claims Mr. J. H. Wilkinson, Chairman for the Essex Area Council for the Federation of O.A.P. Associations. At their monthly meeting at Vange Rest Rooms on Friday, he expressed himself dissatisfied with the Council's activities. He wants to stimulate the interest of the branches and would be happy to see the interest of the branches by invitation to help them to learn the difficulties and to tell them what the Area Council can do to help them.

Among the topics discussed at Friday's meeting was the vexed question of concession fares for pensioners. The Council felt that this was not the real answer to the problem. "We don't want charity, we want a help which is so that we can pay our own way!" said Secretary Mr. F. Rogers.

Members felt that as the cost of living affected everyone young and old alike, the proposed relaxation of the concession that some sections of the community were shortly to enjoy, should be extended to them in the form of an increased pension. They, therefore, asked the Rogers to write to the Regional Federation.

It was announced that Mrs. Looker had undergone an operation and was as well as could be expected.

Anniversary honours went to Mr. and Mrs. Plinner and Mr. and Mrs. Cushman.

Members enjoyed an afternoon of Bingo, with Mrs. Cole as caller. A trip to the theatre was planned for the near future.

Tea was served by Mr. Chatfield and helpers, and the meeting was brought to a close with the singing of the usual closing hymn.

Good news was received of Mr. J. Stokes, who has recovered from his operation and will be shortly going away for his convalescence.

Members were told that they will be entertained next week by their own concert party, The Gay Timers. The rest of the afternoon was spent in the usual playing Bingo.

WICKFORD NO. 2 O.A.P. A film about tea plantations in Ceylon provided entertainment for members of Wickford No. 2 O.A.P. Club at their meeting in the Community Centre on Wednesday week. Chairman Mr. F. W. Perkins presided and birthday greetings were accorded to Mrs. Goodfellow. A stall was run by Mesdames Oliver and Red, and tea was served by Mesdames Fildard, Perkins, Hill, Carmen and Hitchcock.

Married 53 years



Mr. J. R. Chapman (Chairman of Ghyllgrove O.A.P.), centre rear, with Mr. J. Pyner, married for 53 years and celebrating their wedding anniversary this week.



Members of Basildon No. 1 O.A.P. branch are seen above enjoying a cup of tea at their meeting held at Vange Community Hall last week.

READY TO GIVE FIRST-AID



Members of the victorious 4th Basildon team, Boys' Brigade, who competed in a first-aid competition for the Dublin Trophy against 2nd Wickford (standing, rear). Seen with them is Mr. W. Higgs, St. John Ambulance Brigade Superintendent from Hockley, who judged the competition.



Brownies from the 8th and 9th Basildon Packs at their joint fancy dress party held at St. Martin's Hall on Tuesday week.

Honeymooning in the New Forest are Mr. John Alan Blake and the former Miss Muriel Dorothy Diver, who were married at Holy Cross Church on Saturday (they are seen on the right).

Mr. Blake is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Blake, of Waterbeach Road, Dagenham, and his bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Diver, of East Thorpe, Basildon.

The couple were married by the Rural Dean, Rev. Arthur Dunlop. The bride wore a full-length duchess satin dress with French lace coat buttoned to the waist with pearl buttons. She had a short veil and carried red roses, orchids and freesias.

The bride's attendants were Mrs. S. Cannon, Mrs. P. Hickmott, Miss J. Blake and Miss N. Home. Page boy was Gary Cannon. Mr. M. Blake was best man. (Picture by J. Iearne).



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Petty squabbles and jealousies in Labour Party

President's slashing attack on disunity

PETTY SQUABBLES and jealousies inside Billericay Constituency Labour Party were the target of a slashing attack by Mr. Peter Clyne (President) at the annual meeting on Friday.

He gave party members six points to think about in an attempt to regain unity.

Mr. Clyne, who lives in Wickford, spoke of the Party's political year, now ending, as having started with a magnificent victory both nationally and locally.

"This should have been a solid foundation upon which we could build a strong and united Party. But, after the jubilation and enthusiasm created by a successful General Election campaign, the Party quickly reverted to a pose with which we have all come to be familiar."

"The controversy over the presidency of the constituency last spring was unpleasant. One would have hoped that it indicated a burning concern with the efficiency of the Party."

Still weak

"This was not so," said Mr. Clyne, adding, "for too long has Billericay suffered as a result of petty squabbles and jealousies, and though they may have lessened in intensity, nevertheless they are still with us. It would do us good to remember that Party is as strong as the combined strength of all its members said, by this standard, our Party is still weak."

When elected President, said Mr. Clyne, his task was clearly to make efforts to improve the harmony and understanding in the Party. With this in mind, he had instigated some activities and supported others.

"We are moving slowly in the right direction, and I trust the speed with which we are moving will quicken during the coming year."

He went on: "On the credit side we have appointed a well-qualified and experienced and full-time agent in Eric Batchelor. We have agreed a new constitution and standing orders which we are all obliged to respect and adhere to; we have made a tentative start towards having a programme of social activities; and last, but not least, we have a good Labour M.P. in Eric Moonman."

On the debit side we have lost control of Basildon Council; our public image in the area has not improved, apathy and cynicism still reign in sections of the Party, and ignorance of the work to be done and how to do it is apparent in many quarters. "This is not a happy picture, but it is an accurate one. However, it is a picture of past mistakes, and the future must be rosier. Let us look ahead confident that we are willing to learn from our mistakes and forget our differences. We are in this game

together, so let us work together."

Mr. Clyne put six points which he thought might be worthy of consideration and which, he said, were based on his experience over the past year. They were:—

"It is our first duty to understand and obey the rules we established for the better running of the Party."

"We must aim at a much closer liaison between the different elements of the Party, inter-party debates, socials, conferences, study groups etc."

"If we decide to organise an activity, let us be resolved to make it succeed—there are examples galore of good ideas falling flat because of apathy and indifference."

"Due to the size of the Constituency we have many problems. Some of these will ease if we increase our membership. However, we cannot expect to increase membership until we have become more attractive to outsiders."

"I believe we can put our house in order if we really want to. So in order to do this we need to combine our varied backgrounds and experiences and co-ordinate our energies. Let us see more councillors at general meetings, and active, more active committee members."

"The important gathering of Party members in order to discuss the most important part of all of us is to discuss the problems of our political and social life."

"We are the plain duty of there among us who feel inclined to argue, and this should be all Socialists to take our Party into other meetings, trade unions, the House, the Council, Co-op Party, consumer groups, etc."

Mr. Clyne said that at the meeting, House, Brentwood was elected Party President for the coming year.

Under-age charge dismissed

AFTER TWO 14-years-old boys had admitted and been fined £1 each at Billericay on Monday for buying intoxicating liquor under age, the manager of the off-licence at Stacey's Corner, Basildon, where they bought two bottles of light ale, pleaded not guilty to selling intoxicating liquor to a person under 18.

He was Arthur Cox and the offence against him was dismissed, the Chairman stopping the case, after Police evidence, saying the prosecution had not proved their case.

The Bench accepted, he said, that Mr. Cox could reasonably have thought the boys were 18.

Both boys, called as prosecution witnesses, said Mr. Cox asked the one who asked for the light ale if he was 18, and the boy had said he was.

Serious car aspect in New Town

A CAR taken from outside Carreras Social Club, Basildon, was later recovered, but the radio had been stolen, Mr. T. Lavelle said at Billericay on Tuesday.

Paul Gowland (18), of Whitmore Way, Basildon, and a 16-year-old boy, admitted taking and driving away a vehicle without the owner's consent, driving without insurance, and stealing a radio.

Gowland was sent to a remand home for 14 days for reports. The boy was put on probation for two years, fined £30 and disqualified for a year.

In a statement Gowland said the boy kept a look-out while he opened the car door with his keys.

"A serious aspect of this case is that young men in Basildon carry pockets full of keys which can unlock any car which takes their fancy," said Mr. Lavelle.

Family moved from damp house

DAMPNESS HAS forced Basildon Development Corporation to rehouse a family living on the new Siporex estate at Laindon. They are Mr. and Mrs. Jim Davies, of Spurriers, who have four children.

New home for the Davies family is at Northey, which is also on the Davies family is at Northey, which is also on the Davies family is at Northey, which is also on the Davies family is at Northey.

Said a Development Corporation spokesman: "One of the bedrooms of the house is built over a footpath and was very cold. The building has a condensation problem, and is now being insulated."

"We helped the family with fan heaters, but we didn't think they would be happy if they stayed at Spurriers."

The spokesman confirmed that the family have now moved to their new home at Northey.



Billericay Constituency Labour Party held their annual general meeting at the Co-operative Hall, Billericay. Seated (centre) is their new President (Mrs. Helen Sparrow) with their retiring President (Mr. Peter Clyne). Standing rear (left to right): Mr. E. Batchelor (Agent), Mr. Eric Moonman, M.P., Mr. W. Davis (Vice-President) and Mrs. S. Davey (Vice-President).

Red Cross hut shambles

CALLED TO the Red Cross hut in Lake Meadows, Billericay, on Saturday, following reports of a breakdown, Divisional Officer Mr. Fred Riches found "the worst shambles I have ever seen."

Bandages were unrolled on the floor, cotton wool, bedding, medical instruments and medical bowls were strewn all over the place, he told the "Standard."

Money had also been taken from a tin and a screen was badly damaged.

The hut is used by the Red Cross from Easter to October every year as a first-aid centre. Over 100 people are treated there every season.

All equipment is bought through local detachment funds and the articles damaged will have to be replaced from these funds.

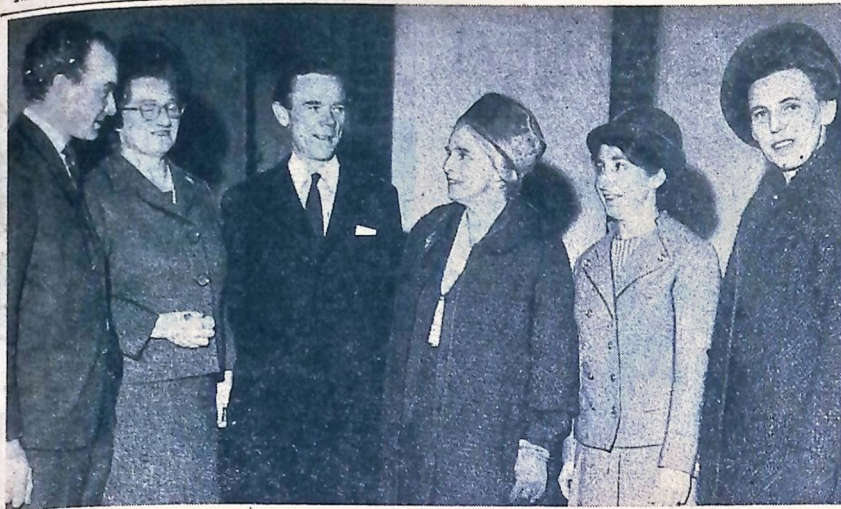
PLANNING PERMISSION

Following agreement with the County Council, Basildon Council's Planning Committee Chairman has authorised the granting of conditional planning permission for residential development at Belmont Avenue / London Road, Wickford.

The Chairman has also authorised the approval of conditional planning permission for two detached houses with integral garages in London Road. He had decided that a one-bedroomed attic conversion at 59, Elizabeth Drive, could be regarded as permitted development and would not be subject to planning permission.

REPRESENTATIONS

So that they can have an opportunity of making representations, Basildon Council's Planning Committee Chairman has given authority to notify with the owners consent, adjoining occupiers of the receipt of an application for residential development at Highcliffe Estate, Wickford.



Watch out for budget shocks!

A SUBSTANTIAL increase in taxation in the April budget was forecast by former Opposition Front Bench spokesman on treasury and economic affairs Mr. William Clark on Wednesday week.

Mr. Clark, M.P. for Nottingham South, 1959-1966, was speaking at the annual meeting of the Billericay, Brentwood and Basildon Conservative Association's Women's Advisory Committee.

"Government expenditure is up by £660 million," he said. An increase in taxation is inevitable to cover this increase. But already the Socialists are wriggling and squirming in an effort to convince people that it is not much of an increase.

"An 8 per cent increase in expenditure is absolute madness when production is stagnant. How long would the housewife last if she overspent her housekeeping allowance by 1s. 8d. in the £?"

"Yet, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Callaghan, says this is economically sound — proof that we must have a chance at the Treasury!"

Then he went on to comment on the Government's policy of nationalisation.

"Labour," he said, "is slowly but surely taking away more and more of our freedom."

"Liner trains will give a much needed boost to the railways, but the National Union of Railwaymen would not work the Tartan trains, controlled by private enterprise."

"Did the Government stand firm? Not a bit of it. Tartan trains were nationalised — paid for by taxpayers' money to overcome stupid dogma about private enterprise."

"What a weak ineffective Government this is, or is there a sinister reason for all this? The obstinacy of the railwaymen was a very vicious excuse to nationalise a bit more, and this left-wing Government seized the opportunity with both hands," he concluded.

At the annual meeting speech officers elected were: President, Mrs. M. Laurie; Vice-President, Mesdames

J. Edwards and S. E. Griggs; Chairman, Mrs. P. Coleclough; Vice-Chairman, Coun. Mrs. M. Hutton and Mrs. J. Wheeler; Treasurer, Mrs. P. A. Carmichael; Minutes Secretary, Mrs. N. Mathers; Social Secretary, Mrs. A. Clements.

Terrified girl on train

BECAUSE she was frightened by the actions of a man in her railway carriage as a train neared Wickford, a 12-years-old girl pulled the communication cord and kept on screaming until the guard arrived.

Mr. T. Lavelle, prosecuting, told this to Billericay Justices on Tuesday, when Michael Hanley (28), of Rainsford Road, Chelmsford, admitted indecent exposure.

He was put on probation for three years.

In a statement to the Police Hanley said, "I am sorry for upsetting the little girl in the train. I had no idea she was looking. . . I don't know what made me do it."

"Yes" to some development at Freshfields

AN APPEAL against Chelmsford Rural Council's refusal to give planning permission for the residential development of just under six acres of land at Freshfields, Brook Hill, Wickford, has been partially successful.

The Minister of Housing has allowed the appeal in respect of 2.2 acres and dismissed it so far as the remaining 3.6 acres are concerned.

When the matter was argued at a local inquiry last November it was stated on behalf of the appellants (the executors of the late Mr. M. W. Pierce) that the site was ideal to accommodate 17 high-quality buildings costing between £28,000 and £10,000. It was believed there would be a ready sale for such houses in this area.

On the other hand, the Council said the site was outside any area intended for such development on the approved town map for Wickford and was within the Metropolitan Green Belt in the County Development Plan review.

If permitted, the proposal would, it was claimed, create a precedent for similar development elsewhere in the Green Belt.

Billericay, Brentwood and Basildon Conservative Party Women's Advisory Committee held their annual general meeting at the Archer Hall, Billericay. In the picture (left to right) are Mr. Dirk Vettevinkla (Agent), Mrs. P. Coleclough (Chairman), Mr. William Chalk (Speaker), Mrs. V. Laurie (President), Mrs. P. Poulmar (Minutes Secretary) and Mrs. P. Carmichael (Treasurer).

Rotary get up to date

A CALL for Rotary Clubs to come up to date and look a little further afield than distributing Christmas parcels to old people, was made at Basildon Rotary Club's President's Ball at Hutton on Friday.

It came from Rotarian Geoffrey Player (Vice-Chairman South of District 108), who, in his toast to the Basildon Club, said it was necessary for the organisation to have a great deal of rethinking.

The Basildon President Rotarian Len Stubbs, responded.

The toast to the guests was proposed by Vice-President Rotarian Vic Bartholemew, who welcomed other Presidents, Jack Crawford (Brentwood), Stan Ward (Wickford), Leslie Kersey (Billericay) and Eddie Dorington (Harlow) and Basildon Round Table Chairman Tony Essex.

Mrs. Betty Wren responded.

Music for dancing was provided by Bobby Bean's Band. Mr. Owen Tovee was M.C.

Langdon Hills bride



Mr. Roger Mignot, son of Mrs. Mignot, of Dagenham, and the late Mr. Mignot, and Miss June Iris Barker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Barker, of Victoria Avenue, Langdon Hills, were married on Saturday at the Church of St. Mary and All Saints, Langdon Hills, by Rev. F. C. Telford. Given away by her father, the bride wore a full-length gown of white lace over satin and her veil was secured by a head-dress of two roses. She carried a white Bible and an orchid spray. Bridesmaids were the Misses Maureen Barker, Janet Saville, Jane Smart and Lorraine Morley. Mr. John Mignot was best man.

(Photo by Fiores Photographs)

Sainsbury's return probe forms

THE SHOPWORKERS' Union probe into employees' views on Basildon Town Centre shop hours has so far met with only one problem. A batch of questionnaires sent to Sainsbury's was returned blank.

U.S.D.A.W. organiser Mr. John Summerhill told a reporter: "This is the only shop which has objected to our questionnaire. The whole Town Centre has been circularised and we made the proper approach through the manager."

"When I asked a Sainsbury's head office spokesman to give reasons in writing he refused."

Sainsbury's head office told the "Standard": "We are strictly neutral over union matters but we don't distribute union literature on the premises. We might appear biased to non-union members."

He pointed out that Sainsbury's already operate a five-day week.

Regulations tightened

SELLING FOOD from stalls and vans in Basildon may be an offence if the trader is not registered with the Council, Town Manager Mr. David Taylor warns this week.

New regulations are also in force which require stalls and vehicles selling food to be equipped with sinks and hand-washing facilities unless exempted.

Tightening-up of the regulations is being carried out by the Public Health Office at High Street, Billericay.

NO FAR-AWAY CARNIVALS FOR OUR GIRLS

SENDING BASILDON'S Carnival Court to events all over the South-East will not recur this year, Basildon Carnival Association decided on Wednesday week that only 13 local carnivals will be visited.

"There will only be 13 visiting queens in our procession — and we are only going on 13 visits," said Chairman Mr. Mick Willis. "This is now definite policy."

Expense involved in sending girls to far-away carnivals often resulted in rows within the Carnival Committee in the past. This year's Basildon

Queen will be chosen at a dance on the factory estate in May. Before this there will be just one big all-inclusive heat at the Century Cinema, Pitsea, during April.

On their programme the Association hope to use the crest of Basildon Council. They also want Town Manager Mr. David Taylor to meet the three local carnival groups — Basildon, Wickford and Billericay — about the possibility of going ahead with a top-town competition.

Six bands are being booked for the actual Basildon Carnival procession. Bands being asked are the City of London Drums, Basildon Drum and Trumpet Corps, Sutherland Pipes and Drums, Basildon A.T.C., Basildon Girls' Brigade and Billericay Silver Band.



The folk above were having a good time at the Ghyllgrove Tenants' Association dance held at the Community Centre on Saturday.

Your cinemas

Radlon, Laindon

A tense drama "The Chase" (Sunday and Monday) tells of a young man who is a "chase" on a couch (Thursday for three days) is a knock-about comedy starring Jerry Lewis. It is about a young man who impersonates four other people in order to win a wife.

Ritz, Billericay

Sunday and Monday "Frankenstein 1960" tells how a film company come to use the Baron's castle as a background for their latest production. By day Frankenstein is a charming host, but by night he carries on his horrific work in the cellar. One Million Years B.C. "Tuesday for five days is an epic adventure story of early man. The animation of prehistoric monsters is particularly lifelike.

Century, Pitsea

"The Family Way" (Monday for six days) tells of a young man who is a "chase" on a couch (Thursday for three days) is a knock-about comedy starring Jerry Lewis. It is about a young man who impersonates four other people in order to win a wife.

ABC, Southend

"Drop Dead, Darling" (showing up to and including Wednesday) is a farcical comedy about murder and confidence tricksters. The male co-lead is Nick Johnson, who has made his way in the world by persuading rich ladies to marry him and then getting rid of them.

Rio, Canvey

Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday, "Tom Curtin" is an exciting film about a young scientist who defects to East Berlin followed by his fiancée. Friday and Saturday, "Arabesque" tells how a professor of ancient languages is kidnapped and involved in a complicated plot of espionage and double-dealing.

Odeon, Southend

"The Night of the Generals" (showing up to and including Wednesday) is the story of a strange manhunt for a psychopathic sex killer, told against the background of the Nazi occupation in Warsaw and Paris during World War II and in modern Germany.

Ritz, Southend

A sequel to the successful "Magnificent Seven" (Sunday for seven days) stars Yul Brynner. The same team of village is in trouble again. All the men have been kidnapped, when Chris, the original leader of the Seven, hears this he rounds up a new set of gunnates to help him free the captives.

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IN AID OF WESLEY C. C.
Admission 5/- M.C. & Toastmaster JOHNNY BLAKE

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Hadheli Parish Church Hall, Hadheli Road, Basildon
SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 3 p.m.

THE ANSWER

to Drug Addiction
THURSDAY, MARCH 3

A FILM
at CHYLLGROVE COMMUNITY HALL, BUTNERYS, BASILDON
at 8 p.m. Admission Free
Presented by BASILDON FULL GOSPEL CHURCH

ST MARTIN'S HALL

JUMBLE SALE
FRIDAY, MARCH 3
at 2.30 p.m.

GREYHOUND RACING

(Under N.G.R.C. Rules)

FIRST RACE 7.30 p.m.

AT
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This Saturday, MARCH 4th

Covered Accommodation for ALL

MEETINGS EVERY THURSDAY & SATURDAY
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WALKED OUT OF CAR SMASH, BUT HE DIED FIVE WEEKS LATER

On the road, not field!

STOPPED BY A Policeman in Butnerys, Basildon, while riding a motor cycle which had no front brake and silencer, a boy of 14 said "I got it to ride round the fields."

This was stated at Billericay Juvenile Court on Monday, when the boy admitted driving under age, having defective brakes on a motor vehicle and having no Test Certificate, Insurance, silencer and Road Fund licence. He was fined £3 and disqualified from driving for three years.

A MAN appeared to have escaped with only superficial injuries from a car smash at the Harrows crossroads at North Benfleet, but five weeks later he was dead.

A short time after the crash Mr. James McGinness (49), of Whitmore Way, Basildon, complained of stomach pains and he was taken to St. Andrew's Hospital, Billericay, where he died.

And at the inquest at Brentwood on Thursday week, a verdict that he died from pancreatitis and that death was accidental was returned.

Miss Lorraine McGinness, a student nurse, said her father picked her up from the hospital on December 15th. They were travelling at between 45 and 50 m.p.h. on the Arterial Road. She saw there was a Jaguar ahead and a Morris in front of that. She was suddenly flung forward and knocked unconscious. "When I came round my father was sitting next to me and he said he was all right," she said.

Driver of the Morris, Mr. Martin Allwright, student apprentice, of West Park Hill, Brentwood, said as he approached the Harrows crossroads he saw an articulated lorry jutting out into the carriageway. A car had smashed into it. He pulled up and the car behind, a Jaguar, pulled up.

"I then started to close up the gap between my car and the car in front of me and when I heard a scream of brakes and looked in my mirror and saw a car hit the Jaguar. It pushed forward and it just caught my back bumper," he said.

The Jaguar driver, Mr. David Wall, of Cambridge Park, E.11, said he could see cars ahead in a line and this suggested there had been an accident.

He was driving in the fast lane at about 45 m.p.h. as he realised there was something coming up from behind. The Morris car in front of him pulled up. "I pulled up and about half a minute afterwards a car drove into the back of me. I heard a vehicle coming for some distance as I had my window open. It did not appear to be going to stop so I drove back some distance from the car ahead hoping I would be able to pull ahead if there was only a slight collision," Mr. Wall said.

"It appeared he did not attempt to brake and the next thing I knew he had hit me," he added.

Mr. McGinness was sitting on the centre reservation near his car when P.C. Woodhouse arrived. "The only visible

injuries were lacerations to his face. He then complained of stomach pains and I told him to go and sit in his car. He did, and did not get out until an ambulance arrived," said P.C. Woodhouse.

Witnesses said he saw Mr. McGinness in St. Andrew's Hospital, Billericay, on December 16th. He asked him about the accident and Mr. McGinness said, "I saw the other car stop there so I braked, but I could not stop."

Asked if he had skidded, he said, "Yes, I think I must have done because my brakes are normally very good."

Thinking Day for Guides

BROWNIES, Guides and Rangers of Pitsea and district met on Wednesday week for their annual Thinking Day Ceremony. It was held at Beech Road Scout H.Q., Basildon, and District Commissioner Mrs. Camp presided.

After games, originating from different countries, parents and friends watched each girl light a candle and ask for the thoughts of those present to be directed to the Guides of the country she was representing. Between them, the Guides and Brownies represented ten countries.

Members of the Local Association provided the refreshments, which were followed by a campfire sing-song. Mr. Pitcock, District Commissioner for Scouts, led the company on a lion-hunt, an action game involving considerable action!

Among the guests were Miss Ault (Assistant District Commissioner for Pitsea), Mrs. Prior (Assistant Commissioner for Training), Mrs. Frith (Assistant Commissioner for Brownies) and Mrs. Woodard (District Secretary).

The evening ended with a film.

Mrs. I. E. Pettit (Vice-President of the Basildon Division) thanked everyone who had made the evening such an enjoyable occasion.



Zoot Money and his Big Roll Band pictured with some of the members of Nicholas Youth Centre before the group's performance there on Thursday. They are Angela Blair, Valerie Horsey, Christine Hart, Janice Conrad, Sharon Cottage and Sandra Johansson.

CENTURY PITSEA Vango 2106
open 4.10 (Wed-Sat 1.45) MARCH 5 WEEK 1st Show 7.30

The BOULYING BROTHERS production

Hayley MILLS
Hywel BENNETT

John MILLS
Marjorie RICHMOND

THE FAMILY WAY

WEST: Paul MCCARTNEY EASTMAN: COLOUR (with HILDAFELT) ADULTS ONLY
5.30 8.15 (Wed-Sat 2.45 also) 4.45 7.30 (Wed-Sat 2.9 also)

Spike Milligan Meets Joe Brown & The Bluebelles Today till Saturday
Sunday, THE HAUNTING March 5 MURDER MEN 7.25 THE BLUE MAX 8.45

RITZ BILLERICAY 259
Sunday, March 5 TWO DAYS
BORIS KARLOFF TOM BUGGAN
FRANKENSTEIN 1970
5.45 8.20 Mon-Sat 8.30 (X)
Vincent Price Carol Ohmart
HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL
4.30 7.05 Mon-Sat 7.05 only (X)
Adults Only

Tuesday, March 7 FIVE DAYS
RAQUEL WELCH
JOHN RICHARDSON
ONE MILLION YEARS B.C.
5.45 8.15 Sat-Sat 2.25 (A)
FULL SUPPORTING PROGRAMME
Last Complete Performance 7.25

RADION LAINDON 2199
Sunday, March 5 TWO DAYS
MARLON BRANDO JANE FONDA
THE CHASE
4.30 7.40 Mon-Sat 5.00 (X)
Adults Only
Gerty Gynn Alex Gallier
THE RUNAWAY
L.C.P. Sunday 6.35 Monday 6.50

Tuesday, March 7 TWO DAYS
WILLIAM HOLDEN
RICHARD WIDMARK
ALVAREZ KELLY
James Stacy William Wellman
WINTER A-GO-GO (U)
Last Complete Performance 6.54

Thursday, March 9 THREE DAYS
JERRY LEWIS JANET LEECH
3 ON A COUCH
4.10 8.10 Sat-Sat 1.30 (U)
Audie Murphy Broderick Crawford
THE TEXICAN (U)
Last Complete Performance 6.40

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ODEON SOUTHEAST 4444 34
THURSDAY, MARCH 2 7 DAYS
Doors Open Week 1.10 Sunday 4.00 Week 12.50

THE NIGHT OF THE GENERALS

PETER OTOOLE
OMAR SHARIF
TOM COURTNEY
DONALD PLEASANCE
JOANNA PETTER
PHILIPPE NOIRET

Panavision Technicolor (A)
Wk. 2.20 5.10 8.05 Sun. 4.50 7.45
LOOK AT LIFE (U)
Wk. 2.0 4.50 7.40 Sun. 4.30 7.25

THE SATURDAY CLUB FOR BOYS & GIRLS 5.30 a.m. Adm. 6d. & 9d.

RITZ SOUTHEAST 4444 34
SUNDAY, MARCH 5 7 DAYS
Doors Open Sun. 4.0 Week 12.50

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RETURN of the SEVEN

CO-STARRING
ROBERT FULLER JULIAN MATES
FESTIVAL ALL 7 WEEKS
Sun. 4.50 8.40 Wk. 1.10 5.0 8.0
Hugh O'Brian Mickey Rooney
James Mitchell

AMBUSH BAY
Colour
Sun. 6.25 Wk. 2.45 6.35
ALL 7 WEEKS
Elizabeth Taylor CLEOPATRA (A)

ABC SOUTHEAST Tel 44580 V
COMMENCED THURSDAY, MARCH 2 FOR SEVEN DAYS
Doors Open Weekdays 1.15 Comm. 1.30 Sunday 4.00 Comm. 4.30

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DROP DEAD... DARLING

Technicolor Week 1.45 5.20 8.50 Sunday 4.55 8.40 (X)
Warren Beatty Leslie Caron
Promise Her Anything Week 3.30 7.9 (A) Sun. 6.40

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and THE AVENGERS

ESTUARY ROOM
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HOWARD BAKER AND HIS EMBASSY BAND
STRICT TEMPO SESSION

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REHEARSALS: MONDAY AND FRIDAY 7.45 P.M., WOODLANDS GIRLS' SCHOOL

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 Hay Wharf, 42 High St., S. Benfleet

A night out for Rotarians



Basildon Rotary Club President's Ball was held at the Masonic Hall, Hutton, on Friday. Our picture shows some of the guests.



Basildon and District Cage Bird Society held a presentation social at St. Martin's Church Hall on Saturday evening. Our picture shows a group of the juvenile trophy winners.

THEY WANT THIS MINIBUS



Langdon Hills Baptist Church held a jumble sale at the Old Fire Station, Laindon, on Saturday morning, and the proceeds (£15) were for the mini-bus fund. Seen with the mini-bus are Mrs. Bentley, Mr. Winsfield and Rev. M. Churchill. Because of the lack of Sunday bus services the church want the vehicle to convey children and elderly folk to worship.

Jesus Christ. The Same Yesterday and Today and For Ever. Do you believe it? We have proved it! — at the Elfm Pentecostal Church GUN HILL, PITSEA. Hear some more of this man each SUNDAY AT 8.30 P.M. — ALL ARE WELCOME! —

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6/- per oz. paid for suitable hair tied at cut end 8in. or longer.
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LADIES' HAIR FASHION SALON
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SPECIAL OFFER: JAMAL MILK WAVE PERM, normally £2.12.6 30/- (no extras) on TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY
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FREE WITH EVERY £1 SPENT ON

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CARPET BRUSH • ASH PAN • BATH RACK • SHOE BOX
VACUUM FLASK (up to 7/11) • CUTLERY TRAY
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ROYALE - MARMET - LEWAY PEDIGREE - RESTMOR, Etc., Etc.
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I gather...

A "STANDARD" REPORTER'S DIARY



Traders' new President attacks apathy

MR. PETER TOOMEY is the new President of Basildon Chamber of Trade. Under a revision of Chamber rules he will also act as chairman at meetings.

He lives at Westley Road, Langdon Hills, and is managing director of the family motor business in Laindon High Road.

Chairman of Langdon Hills Cricket Club, 42-years-old Mr. Toomey is a member of Rotary and Past Chairman of Basildon Round Table.

He is married, with two children — Denise, aged 8, and Graham, 6 — he is seen above with the children.

After his election he talked to a reporter about the troubles of the Chamber of Trade, which came largely from lack of support. "Apathy comes from affluence," he said.

"Traders seem to be doing well and have nothing to band together about."

Billericay shopkeepers have joined together to talk on planning proposals. "They have something to fight about," Mr. Toomey pointed out. "Otherwise they would just bob along as they are."

On the national scale the Chamber of Trade have attacked the Selective Employment Tax. "But local traders don't realise this," he said.

Yet to take effective action nationally the Chamber needs local support, Mr. Toomey stressed. Had the Chamber more active members they would be taken notice of.

"I think we could be a lot more forceful in the planning of the New Town if we got this support."



Mr. E. C. Dobbs was presented with a new Ford Cortina and Mr. D. Hanks with £100 at Hensmans (Billericay), Ltd., last week. Also in the picture is Mr. Ian Wade (sales manager) and Mr. John Barrett.

Surprised winners

TWO Billericay men have won fine prizes in the Ford Motor Company's recent "Pursuers in Progress" competition.

The idea of the scheme was for Ford employees to take a prospective customer along to their main Ford dealer, and on completion of a sale the names of the employee, customer and dealer were automatically entered for a raffle.

Lucky winners of the third prize in the sixth and final draw were Ford employee Mr. Charles "Ernie" Dobbs (37), of Mountnessing Road, who was presented with a Cortina; customer Mr. Derek Hanks (37), of Bootham Road, who received a £100 gift voucher, and Hensmans (Billericay), Ltd., who supplied Mr. Hanks with a new car.

Hensmans' General Sales Manager Mr. Ian Wade passed on the dealer's prize — a £25 gift voucher — to his salesman, Mr. John Barrett (23), of the High Street, who negotiated the deal.

Mr. Dobbs, who is married with two children, told the "Standard": "I was astonished when I heard

that we had won. I never thought anything more about it after we entered the competition. It is the first time I have ever won anything but in my life."

Said Mr. Hanks: "I treated the whole thing as a bit of a giggle. I never dreamed I would win as much as £100. I have a wife and daughter and the voucher will enable me to get a few extras for my house and family."

Good luck!

CHAMPAGNE glasses were lifted in the Golden Crown, Billericay's first Chinese restaurant, on Sunday evening to wish owner Mr. Robert Yau every success in his new venture.

Mr. Yau (27), who is married and has a three-week-old son, comes to the town from Colchester, where he was manager of a similar restaurant.

He entertained a party of local people on Sunday evening — the restaurant opened on Monday — and his menu included lemon chicken and sweet and sour pork in a long list of Chinese dishes.

Another three years

THREE further years of service on behalf of colleagues in the wallpaper and paint retailing trade lie ahead of Mr. M. J. Cheshire, a director of the Billericay and Grays-based Chess Wallpaper Co., Ltd.

He has just been re-elected for a third three-year term of office on the 16-strong National Executive of the Wallpaper and Paint Retailers' Association of Great

Britain, of which he was thought to be the youngest-ever member when first elected six years ago.

Married with an 11-years-old son, Mr. Cheshire has been in the wallpaper and paint retailing trade all his working life. His father



Mr. M. J. Cheshire.

founded the Chess Wallpaper Co., Ltd., in 1935 and he joined it straight from school.

Now he, his wife, Mrs. J. M. Cheshire, and his mother, Mrs. E. M. Cheshire, run the business with one shop in Grays and the other, opened two years ago, in Western Road, Billericay.

A resident of Fourth Avenue, Stanford-le-Hope, he attends eight meetings of the Wallpaper and Paint Retailers' Association National Executive each year and this sometimes involves travelling as far afield as Sheffield.

Chairman six years

"I'VE held every office in the Guild except Treasurer—but I don't think it is because they do not trust me with their money!" laughed Mrs. E. Wallbank, retiring from

office after six years as the Chairman of the Wickford Co-operative Women's Guild.

She was presented with a travelling clock, suitably inscribed, by Mrs. N. Grubb, a former Treasurer of the Guild for several years, on behalf of all the members.

Mrs. Wallbank has been a member of the Wickford branch ever since she first came to live in the town, eleven years ago, and immediately after joining was persuaded to take office, at first as Secretary, then as Chairman. She was Chairman for six years.

Altogether she has a long and proud record of Guild membership—38 years, in various branches. She was one of the founder-members to open a branch at a little town near Sidcup, in Kent.



Officials of the Ladies' Co-operative Guild, Wickford: Mrs. E. Wallbank (seated, left) with Mrs. F. Hubbard (Chairman); standing, rear, are Mrs. G. Niel (Treasurer), Mrs. B. Askew (Secretary) and Mrs. B. Rowlands (Assistant Secretary).



Headmaster Mr. J. R. Wiggins (seated, centre) with members of the "Any Question?" team who answered the questions of the Langdon Hills Primary School parents on Thursday.

READY FOR SERVICE



So much is heard these days about "ton-up tearaways" on powerful motor cycles that it is most refreshing to meet a young man who uses his for the good of the community. Richard Pitt (21), seen above, is a member of the Voluntary Emergency Service and is on call during his spare time to ferry essential supplies of drugs, etc., to local hospitals. He is one of about 300 volunteers in Essex who can be called on at any time for this work. His instructions come from the V.E.S.'s organiser in Billericay, Mr. J. Webber, and he keeps his machine, a Honda 250 c.c. 672, in constant readiness. Apart from this essential service, Richard is also a member of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and helps with the Boy Cadets. He works at Runwell Hospital as an assistant cook. He was a former pupil of Timberlon Secondary School.

and remembers pushing her baby in a pram over the hopfields to get to meetings. Mrs. Wallbank is succeeded as Chairman by Mrs. F. Hubbard.

Question time

QUESTIONS that ranged from the H-plus examination to the modern methods of teaching such subjects as mathematics were fired at a panel of experts at an "Any Questions" session held at Langdon Hills Primary School last week.

The session was arranged by the Headmaster, Mr. J. R. Wiggins, who felt that it would possibly be of more value to the parents than the more usual "open evening."

The assembly hall held a good gathering of parents, many of whom had submitted their questions in advance.

The panel who joined the Headmaster comprised Mr. A. L. Brown, County Psychologist; Miss M. D. Taylor, County Meals Organiser; Mrs. H. Nash, District Health Visitor; Mr. N. Knapp, District Education Officer, and Mrs. W. Archibald, Chairman of the School Managers.



CANON KING COMES HOME

CANON JOHN KING—who left Basildon for Nigeria six years ago—has returned to Britain and hopes to take a parish in Northamptonshire.

He has come back because of family responsibilities. His wife's parents live in Northants. In Nigeria he was the personal chaplain to the Bishop of Lagos, Seth Kale, and was on the staff of Ede's Cathedral.

On Saturday he returned to St. Andrew's, Fryerns, which was his New Town parish for seven years. During this time the church was built and in 1961 the parish was taken over by the present vicar, Rev. Keith Wood.

He looked back on his work in Nigeria: "I lived among an excited and warm-hearted people who work very hard at the educational, social and economic development of their own country."

"We must understand that the recent tribal troubles have occurred in a federation of diverse peoples. A wonderful thing is the way that the Nigerian Civil Service has maintained the day-to-day life of the nation in a pleasant and useful way."

Mr. King stressed that the racial differences in Nigeria—from Arab to Negro—were greater than anything to be found in Europe. It was like English, Italians and Russians living together as a nation.

Churches in Nigeria are invariably packed. "Religion is a vital part of people's lives," he pointed out. "Their great need—as it is here—is to apply their Christian belief to the practical things of everyday life."

Mr. King's visit to Basildon was one of 16 he will be making. Aim of these trips is to tell of the opportunities for service with the church overseas. Oxford, London, Reading and Exeter Universities will be among his calls.

Aged 41, he attended the party at Basildon with his wife Denise.

"It is a wrench to leave Nigeria," he told a reporter. "We have many friends there and it is interesting work. And the Nigerians were sorry to see us go."

It was after hearing a talk that Mr. King felt God had made a personal call to him to help in the church mission service overseas. "Those six years were a thrilling experience and will always remain a great joy in our lives."

Canon John King and his wife Denise (left) with Rev. and Mrs. Keith Wood at St. Andrew's Church, Fryerns, on Saturday.

HOME LEAGUE

Main feature at a meeting of Wickford Salvation Army Corps Home League in the Guild on Wednesday was a Bible quiz. The meeting was led by Home League Secretary Mrs. D. Cox, and refreshments were served by Mesdames Sillett, Isaac and Purdy.

Wickford Town Show will have a Continental atmosphere

FOR THE first time Wickford Town Show will have a theme. Things in the show—from September 2nd to 8th—will have a Continental touch, a meeting decided on Friday.

"We decided the week needed brightening up and thought a theme would persuade people to dress up a bit more," Secretary Mrs. Doris Saunders told the "Standard".

"We chose a Continental theme because it offers such a wide scope for costumes."

The theme will not extend to September 9th—Carnival Day itself—however.

Programme

The Organisation are still seeking designs suitable for their programme cover this year.

Last year it was decorated with a Harlequin figure drawn by Committee member Mrs. Pat Goodyear, of 21, Marguerite Way, and she is organising the competition for this year's design.

Entries, executed in no more than three colours, should be sent to her by April 30th.

Entries since we advertised the competition last month, but we could do with more," said Mrs. Saunders, "to ensure that this year's design is of the same high standard as Mrs. Goodyear's." The Organisation's next event will be a women's fashion show at the Community Centre on March 15th.

Aimed at boosting their funds, it will be staged by a local ladies' outfit. "Originally, we wanted to widen its appeal by presenting men's fashions, too, but we couldn't find a men's outfitter willing to take part," said Mrs. Saunders. After the fashion show the Organisation will be presenting a colour film of last year's Town Show and Carnival, probably at the Community Centre on April 13th. At this event Carnival Queen Pat Bird will present cheques to representatives of the Guide Dore for the Blind and Rochford Hospital Pat chose the Guide Dore and the Hospital's heart-machine fund as beneficiaries when she raised £45 by taking part last year in the London-to-Southend Carnival Queens' Walk, organised by the South-East England Carnival Association Guild.

Training Centre

ESSEX COUNTY Council on Tuesday gave approval to the erection at Basildon of an adult training centre for mentally subnormal persons.

It is estimated that building work will cost £81,000 and furniture and equipment £10,000.

TWO HOUSES ENTERED. Two houses, Nos. 19 and 123, Salesbury Drive, Outwood Common, Billericay, were broken into during the weekend. Money was taken.

J. R. ROBERTS STORES LTD.

WHITE SALE

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STOCK UP YOUR LINEN CUPBOARD

BLANKETS

at Bargain Prices!

Gay Reversible CONTINENTAL BLANKETS. lovely colours, size 60in. x 80in. 29/11. Perfect. Usually 37/6. Each

COTTON SHEETS

Famous RIGGS BLEACHED COTTON SHEETS. five-year guarantee. Full three yards long. Size 90in. x 108in., usually 29/11, each 26/11. Size 80in. x 108in., usually 27/11, each 23/11. Size 70in. x 108in., usually 24/11, each 21/11.

FLANNELETTE SHEETS

DURODOWN Coloured FLANNELETTE SHEETS. very slightly substandard. Size 90in. x 100in., when perfect 31/11, each 22/11. Size 80in. x 100in., when perfect 26/11, each 19/11. Size 70in. x 100in., when perfect 23/11, each 16/11.

Multi-Striped FLANNELETTE SHEETS. perfect. Size 90in. x 100in., usually 33/11, each 28/11. Size 80in. x 100in., usually 28/11, each 25/11. Size 70in. x 100in., usually 23/11, each 21/6.

PILLOW CASES

WHITE, housewife style. Perfect. 1/11 1/2. Usually 2/11. Each

CANDY-STRIPES, housewife style. 2/6. Usually 3/6. Each

Terylene-filled WASHABLE QUILTS. lovely designs on white and coloured grounds. Double bed size, usually 75/-, each 65/-. 49/11. Single bed size, usually 59/11, each 49/11.

TRIGEL FITTED COVERLETTES almost Half Price! Valued at 10/- and 15/5.0. Usually 14/10.0 and 15/5.0. 59/11. All one price

TEA TOWELS

500 dozen, coloured check. Usually 2/3. 1/9. Each

COT BLANKETS

pastel coloured, also fancy designs. 6/11. Usually 8/11. Each

FLANNELETTE COT SHEETS. size 30in. x 40in. Usually 5/11. Each 3/11

DORMA TERRY TOWELLING. 30in. wide. Usually 9/11. Yard 6/6

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SUPER Carpeting in 100% Nylon or Courtelle and Evlon

Normal price 64/- square yard

WHITE SALE PRICE 32/- sq. yd. — To clear many attractive colours —

REST ASSURED DUCHESS DIVAN SETS

Size 4ft. 6in., usually £29.19.6. 30 gns. Now

Deposit £6.6 — 24 monthly payments of £1.0. Total H.P. 39 gns.

Size 3ft., usual price £26.19.6. 20 gns. Now

Deposit £4.4 — 12 monthly payments of £1.8. Total H.P. 28 gns.

AUSTIN BEDROOM SUITE

Usual price £39.19.6. 78 gns. Now

Deposit £16.18.8 — 24 monthly payments £2.14.2. Total H.P. £78 gns.

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No Deposit — 9 equal monthly payments £24.4. Total 19 gns.

Size 4ft. 6in., usually £41.12.0. 29 gns. Now

No Deposit — 9 equal monthly payments £37.8. Total 29 gns.

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See our fine range of Terylenes and Cottons, also ready-made Terylene Curtains

1500 yards TERYLENE. Half Price. Manufacturer's stock cleared

FANCY AND PLAIN TERYLENES, very slightly substandard. 60in. wide, when perfect 6/11, yard 3/6. 48in. wide, when perfect 5/11, yard 2/11. 36in. wide, when perfect 4/11, yard 2/6

FLOCKED TERYLENES, very slightly substandard. 48in. wide, when perfect 7/11, yard 3/11. 36in. wide, when perfect 5/11, yard 2/11

READY-MADE TERYLENE SHORT NET by the yard, very slightly substandard. 90in. deep, when perfect 19/11, yard 9/11. 81in. deep, when perfect 18/11, yard 7/11. 72in. deep, when perfect 13/11, yard 6/11. 63in. deep, when perfect 12/11, yard 6/6. 45in. deep, when perfect 9/11, yard 4/11. 40in. deep, when perfect 8/11, yard 4/6

Silver Seal FLOCKED TERYLENES Saving 33%. White and coloured. Perfect. 48in. wide, usually 6/11, yard 5/6. 36in. wide, usually 5/6, yard 3/11 1/2

FRIILLED TERYLENES Saving 33%. Perfect. 60in. 60in. wide, usually 9/11, yard 7/6. 48in. wide, usually 8/11, yard 6/11. 36in. wide, usually 5/11, yard 4/6

READY-MADE TERYLENE SHORT NETS by the yard. Perfect. 27in. deep, usually 3/11, yard 3/11. 22in. deep, usually 3/11, yard 2/11. 18in. deep, usually 3/6, yard 2/6

SOFT FURNISHING BARGAINS

These are but a few of the many Money-Saving Offers from our wide range of BROCADES, CRETONNES, DAMASKS, etc.

Famous FOTHERCARY CRETONNES. 48in. wide, usually 10/11, yard 7/6. 36in. wide, usually 5/11, yard 3/11 1/2

FULLY REVERSIBLE CRETONNES. 48in. wide. Lovely range of designs, printed both sides. 8/11. Yard

SCREEN PRINTED FURNISHING SATINS 48in. wide. Usually 16/11. Yard 12/11

SUPER QUALITY BARKWEAVES 48in. wide. Usually 10/11. Yard 5/11

1500 yards REVERSIBLE WEAVES 48in. wide. Ideal for curtains and loose covers. 7/11. Yard

EXTRA-WIDE REVERSIBLE BROCADES 68in. wide. Usually 14/11. Yard 10/11

FURNISHING REPS 48in. wide. Usually 10/11. Yard 8/11

REVERSIBLE BROCADES in two widths. Seven lovely colours. 48in. wide, usually 9/11, yard 7/11. 36in. wide, usually 7/11, yard 5/11

HIGH TIDE AT SOUTHEND

Figures in parentheses indicate height of water above datum.

	a.m.	p.m.
Fri.	4.55 (16.9)	5.32 (15.9)
Sat.	5.52 (15.8)	6.35 (14.8)
Sun.	7.12 (14.9)	7.59 (14.2)
Mon.	8.49 (14.8)	9.28 (14.4)
Tue.	10.3 (15.4)	10.35 (15.0)
Wed.	11.10 (16.1)	11.26 (15.6)
Thurs.	11.58 (15.6)	—
Fri.	12.6 (16.2)	12.37 (17.0)

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

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FACTORY GOSSIP



Some of the Pretty Dress workers busy with an Iron Curtain order. Left: Forewoman Mrs. P. Smith.

extension. "Then we will be able to put the canteen out of the main area and bring in some more machines," said Mr. Grant. "But we are not getting as much co-operation as we might from the authorities over this."

★ ★ ★

Broken into new market

THE five-years-old Heron Way, Wickford, firm of Plastic Extruders, Ltd., have for some time been exporting their PVC lay-flat tubing to Canada, South Africa and all over Europe. Now they are adding the South Americans to their ever-expanding list of customers.

Their Sales Executive, Miss June Lee, disclosed last week that they are shipping their tubing out to Caracas, in Venezuela, in very large quantities.

"We are very excited at having broken into a new and prosperous market, of course," she told the "Standard," and added that the firm's Joint Managing Director, her brother, Mr. Peter Lee, might well fly to Caracas to arrange for further promotion of their products.

She and her brother have been doing this in Scandinavia and Holland and their vigorous sales talk has earned them flourishing markets in those countries.

They also export to Switzerland and Malta and, all in all, their overseas sales are booming.

"It's hard to say what proportion of our production is now devoted to export, but it's quite large," said Miss Lee. "Foreign customers are coming to us—as specialists in lay-flat tubing production—in ever-increasing numbers. So far we have not taken on extra employees, but we have certainly had to step up production."

The foreign firms are using the tubing to market liquid products like cosmetics and shampoos, and some of them are also buying plastic tennis court marking sets made by Plastic Extruders.

"We obviously don't lose any opportunity to find export markets for our other products," said Miss Lee.

Our picture shows her with plastic technician Mr. John Campbell (41), of The Knarres, Basildon, preparing boxes of tubing for dispatching.

Tea will be made for her now!



FOR THE last three of her 39 years with Carreras Miss C. Jolly has worked in the canteen of the Basildon factory.

Now her tea-making days are over. And to show appreciation, the firm presented Miss Jolly with a morning tea-maker on Friday.

During her time with Carreras she worked in most departments of the factory, starting off in the leaf department at City Road.

"The funny thing is I only got the job through cheek in the first place," said Miss Jolly, who lives in Chittock Gate. "I was walking past and decided to ask if they had any vacancies. It was very difficult to get a job there. But the man told me he'd give me a job for my cheek."

From Plaistow, she has lived in Basildon for eight years and intends spending her retirement here. "I have been very happy with the firm," said Miss Jolly. "I have enjoyed every minute of it."

The picture above shows Mr.

J. E. Close, Carreras' Personnel Manager, Miss Jolly, Mr. I. Banyard (Cigarette-making Department Manager) and Mr. L. McGill (Catering Manager).

★ ★ ★

Into space!

IN their spectacular review of activities the Marconi Co., Ltd., have an impressive section in the successes of the electronics group, especially in the break-through into space communications.

They built the Ascension Island earth satellite communications station in a record time of only 11 months and delivered three military mobile ground space stations for the British Government in only 12 months.

Not including their outside fixing team of eight, Timeco Joinery, Ltd., of Robert Way, Wickford, have this month increased their factory and office staff to a record figure of 50.

And they have achieved this despite the economic problems currently besetting every business in the country.

Works manager Mr. Ronald Still told the "Standard": "Obviously we have been feeling the pinch, too, but so far we have managed to secure a steady flow of work. The continuing growth of the firm is an indication of how successful we have been."

One of the reasons for the firm's buoyancy is the sound reputation they have established with a number of municipal authorities, notably Southend Corporation and the Greater London Council.

At the moment they are working on a £24,000 contract to supply fittings for phase two of the new Southend College of Technology, and they are also supplying furniture for Southend's new Priory House Old People's Home, under a contract worth £8,000.

A £12,000 contract for door frames and windows and the like for towering new flats at Hornchurch and a number of smaller projects complete a picture of prosperity which Mr. Still is confident will continue in the months to come.

"We are pricing a terrific amount of work at the moment, and a lot of it will come our way, I am sure," he said.

Our picture shows 36-years-old Mr. Still, who is married with a daughter aged nine and lives in Hockley, inspecting some cabinets bound for the Priory House Old People's Home.

With him are works foreman Mr. Frank Richardson, of Laurel Avenue, Wickford, and joiner Mr. Dave Crawley, of Whitmore Way, Basildon.

Teaching Iron Curtain countries Britain can produce on time!

BY MIDSUMMER Basildon's Pretty Dress Company expect their complete production of jerseywear to be for export.

"We began exporting in earnest last summer," director Mr. J. Grant told a reporter. "Now 60 per cent goes abroad and the proportion is rising all the time."

Biggest orders, surprisingly enough, come from Russia, with additional sales to Poland, Czechoslovakia, Western Europe and the States.

Our picture shows some of the Pretty Dress workers busy with an Iron Curtain country order and on the left is Mrs. P. Smith, a forewoman.

"Getting the deliveries off on time is the important factor," said Mr. Grant. "Britain has built up a bad reputation with Europe for late deliveries. But during the last year I think firms have been pulling their socks up, partly because of government pressure and partly because the home market has been tougher."

Since the export orders began arriving, Pretty Dress have taken on an extra 40 women, bringing their total to 220.

"In the beginning you can lose out on export work," admitted Mr. Grant, who is head of the 26-sub-sidiaries group known as



Pretty Dress director Mr. J. Grant.

Amalgamated Textile Industries. "But the quantity and continuity of orders make it well worth while. Our targets for Basildon is £200,000

worth of exports per year, and I think we will achieve this before long. There are an awful lot of women in Russia, Europe and the States—and they all buy dresses!"

Not only the firm are doing well out of the steady orders coming in from abroad.

"To help orders go out on time, some of the girls here have offered to work evenings and Saturdays at ordinary rate," said Mr. Grant. "This was their own idea. Normally they would get one-and-a-third pay for this. But they feel it's in their interest to keep the wheels turning. The continuity lets them earn good money."

He also has plans for a factory

Miss June Lee, sales executive, watches Mr. J. Campbell packing for export at Plastic Extruders, Ltd., at Wickford.



THERE'S A BIG CHALLENGE TO BILLERICAY

A "PLAY it cool" for the time being policy on redevelopment proposals for Billericay High Street was advocated to members of Billericay Group of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England by their President (Mr. G. S. Amos) at their annual meeting on Saturday.

He warned that the coming year was going to be one of the most important they had ever had and it was going to be a "tremendous challenge."

Mr. Amos spoke of envelopes coming to him from Basildon, Billericay, Wickford and elsewhere. "I don't know why apparently Billericay doesn't exist. What is this place called Basildon? It isn't only Basildon which has got to face the future. I think we have in Billericay, this Group in particular, and I believe it is going to be one of the most important years that this Group has ever had to deal with," he said. "I think," he went on, "it is going to be a tremendous challenge—the most important one we have ever had in our life."

Some people said the Group dealt far too much in the past. "I want to refute that. I think it is very untrue and unfair, but it is only by slighting the past, its glories and its mistakes, that we are able to understand the present, and also that we are able to contemplate and appreciate the future with all its pitfalls," Mr. Amos said.

They had to ask themselves a number of questions—what had the planners and the people that be in store for them; what about the High Street plan; what would be the outcome of the fight about the relief road; when would they get a by-pass and where would it be; how many more of the old buildings would be swept away; how many more fields, hedges and trees would be lost to bricks and mortar; how much chance have we of shaping the destiny of this town?

These were questions they

had to ask themselves, and this was one reason why he thought they had a busy year ahead.

BILLERICAY - LOVERS

"It is you people who live here, work here and love Billericay who must know what you want and what you don't want. We mustn't allow these so-called planners to thrust their ideas down our throats, whether they come from Basildon, Westminster or anywhere else. Anyway, experts are almost always wrong."

"It is you who know what is best for you and what is wrong, and, therefore, we people of this Group have got to face the future... Billericay has to face the future without fear or favour and absolutely independent of party politics; look what a mess they have got themselves in down at Basildon because of party politics," said Mr. Amos.

As a "bit of an artist," he added, he knew what happened if red, blue and yellow were mixed. One got black.

Turning to the recently-divulged plan for Billericay High Street redevelopment, Mr. Amos said he supposed many members would be expecting him to make a violent attack on it. "I am sorry to disappoint you—I am not going to blow my top," he said.

He noted the Group were not consulted by anyone about the plan, even though they had been in the planning field for longer than any of the other bodies or political parties. In 1944 we prepared our plan for Billericay. It appeared they had looked at the problem far too much on paper instead of reality. "We have a fine little town—it has far more character left in it than any other town



Billericay branch of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England held their annual general meeting at the Women's Institute Hall, Billericay, on Saturday. Our picture shows the officers of the Committee.

In South-East Essex. It is the time being," Mr. Amos added. "He went on to call for members to join the Group's various sub-committees and said that in the year ahead they had to be constructive. The C.P.R.E. was already a power in the land, not only in Billericay, but also in England and Wales."

The Treasurer (Mrs. S. Gilles) reported a satisfactory financial position, with £4 9s. 5d. cash in hand and £112 10s. 2d. cash at bank. A talk on the "Face of Essex" was given by Mr. W. H. Liddell, M.A., of the Department of Extra-Mural Studies, University of London.

Modern planners, he went on, only seemed to think in terms of squares and cubes.

The Group were interested not only in the High Street, but in a larger area. No one would deny that the idea of closing the High Street to through traffic was a good idea, but what effect was it going to have on Chapel Street, Western Road and further out into the country-side?

The whole thing had got to be considered in one great plan; it was no good dealing with the matter piecemeal.

NOTHING OFFICIAL

Mr. Amos said he wanted everyone to realise the consultant's plan was not an official plan; it was merely the suggestion of a firm of consultants.

"We must give these various plans, not only this new one for the High Street, but the relief road and by-pass, our deep thoughts, and in the modern idiom I think they say we should 'play it cool' for

Boy's fall on concrete

Stephen John Perry (18 months) fell from an upstairs bedroom window in Curlew Crescent, Basildon, on Saturday morning to the concrete path.

He was taken to hospital and was found to have a fractured skull, but his condition has been described as "not serious."

WIDER WALK

If the Government made a 75 per cent grant Essex County Council will spend £1,052 on widening the footpath in Runwell Road, Wickford, near the cricket ground.

PRISON AND FURTHER DISQUALIFICATION

GEORGE BARRETT (20), of Hackley Close, Basildon, was driving through Brentwood High Street in a car when P.C. John Wiles recognised him.

The Policeman jumped in another car and stopped him.

The sequel was on Tuesday at Billericay, when Barrett pleaded guilty to taking and driving away a motor vehicle without the owner's consent; stealing wing mirrors and parking light; driving while disqualified and driving without insurance.

He was sent to prison for six months and disqualified from driving for two years, to start at the end of his present disqualification.

The car, said Mr. T. Layelle, prosecuting, was taken from Kennel Lane, Billericay.

When Barrett was interviewed he said that when stopped he was on his way back from London to leave the car where he had found it.

He had taken the car to save bus fares while he was looking for a job.

RUBBISH FIRE

A pile of rubbish on a site which is being cleared in Hertford Road, London, caught fire on Wednesday morning. Basildon Fire Brigade attended.

HUSBAND GETS A DECREE

THE co-respondent was ordered to pay the husband's costs at Southend Divorce Court on Tuesday, when a decree nisi was granted to Mr. David Sutherland Dunn, of Elizabeth Osborn Road, Langdon Hills.

He successfully petitioned for divorce on the grounds of adultery by his wife, Elizabeth Dunn, with a Mr. Jim Wright.

Married in Fife, Scotland, in 1957, they have two children, now living in Scotland with Mrs. Dunn.

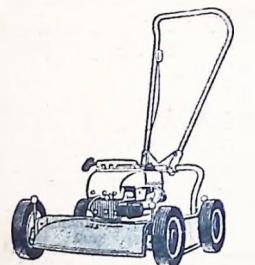
The Special Commissioner exercised the Court's discretion in respect of the husband's admitted adultery.

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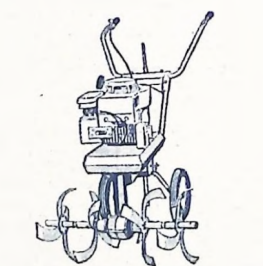


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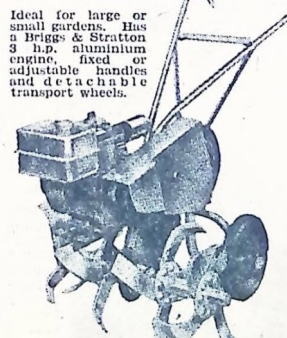
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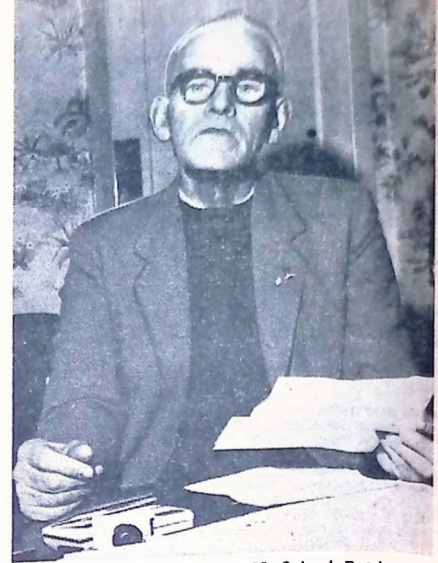
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Here is a picture of
School Road.

Mr. W. Tucker, of No. 35, School Road.

'Save our homes' plea by School Road residents

AN IMPASSIONED "save our homes" plea by 35 residents of School Road, Billericay (seen above), has been sent to local M.P. Mr. Eric Moonman and the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

Basildon Council are investigating modernising the 34-years-old properties in School Road, or demolishing them with a view to redevelopment.

The residents state: "We wish to express our indignation and deep distress at the proposed demolition of our homes."

"We have reached the stage and time in life when we expect to live out our remaining years in peace and comfort, not to be uprooted from familiar surroundings which we have been instrumental in forming over the past 30 years."

"For many, this means great hardship. Many suffer from bodily ailments, some are blind, and dispossession creates great anguish. We ask you to intervene on our behalf and let us live our remaining years in peace."

Organiser of the petition is 64-year-old Mr. William Tucker, who has lived in School Road with his wife, Winifred (61), a registered blind person, ever since the houses were built. A retired decorator and Secretary of the Billericay branch of the National Society of Painters, he suffers from chronic bronchitis.

"We got sick of hearing rumours about our houses, so about three weeks ago I wrote to the Council to try and find out what is going to happen," he told the "Standard" this week.

"They replied that they were going to modernise them or

redevelop them, but this is no different to what they told us a couple of years ago when these proposals were first mooted.

"Since then, our rents have gone up 7s. to £2 13s. 2d. a week to cover the increase in cost of repairs and providing new houses," he added, quoting a letter from the Council, "and now they say there is a likelihood that they are to be demolished after all."

Mr. Henry Hayden (73), who is bedridden with arthritis, and his wife, Kate, were also one of the first couples to move into School Road. A former Civil Servant, he is a member of the Constituency Labour Party and he has stood unsuccessfully seven times as a councillor.

"We just couldn't afford to move now," he says.

"Modernisation, not demolition, is the answer. I know we haven't got hot and cold running water and no outside toilet and things like that, but it must surely be cheaper to modernise than to pull the places down."

Widow Mrs. Ethel Bridge (83) has lived in School Road since 1835. "I don't want to be uprooted at my time of life," she says.

"I have got good friends here and good neighbours. In fact, almost everybody I know in the world lives in this area and I would be lost if I was pushed away to somewhere strange."

Commented a Basildon Council spokesman: "The Council's architect is in touch with the Minister of Housing and when the views of the Minister are known the

matter will come before our Housing Committee for a decision. All representations and the views of residents will also be considered."

Said Mr. Moonman: "I am writing to Basildon's Town Manager for full details regarding any proposals for School Road."

Mrs. Bridge, who lives at No. 11, School Road.



Wrong way —then crash

AT 11.5 on Christmas Eve a Billericay youth drove a car the wrong way down one-way Chapel Street, Billericay, into the High Street, then collided with a vehicle parked on the offside of the road facing Stock.

This was stated at Billericay on Tuesday when the youth, Malcolm Atkinson, of Woodside Road, Billericay, pleaded guilty to driving the wrong way down a one-way street, and also driving carelessly. He was fined £5 on the first offence, £10 on the second and ordered to pay £5 2s. costs.

MOTHERS' UNION

An Archdiocesan meeting for committee members of the Langdon Hills Mothers' Union is to be held this month at St. Martin's Church, Basildon. Tea and coffee will be provided, but members who attend will need to take a packed lunch. The programme will include a Forum entitled "Meeting the Needs of the Branch."

THE MOST SPOILED GIRL IN PARIS

CLOTHES and perfume by Balmain, hair by Alexandre, 104 proposals of marriage a year and trips to Istanbul, Madrid, Greece, Nigeria, the Lebanon and Stockholm—these are some of the perquisites in the day-to-day life of Pierre Balmain's popular English mannequin, 26-years-old Valerie Thurlow-Sellen, of Greenways, Norsey Road, Billericay. Perquisites that, by her own modest definition, add up to her probably being the "most spoiled girl in Paris"!

Valerie makes her English television debut on March 7th in Anglia Television's new series "Women and Beauty" in a behind-the-scenes interview with John McGregor and modelling some of the most beautiful clothes in the world from Balmain's ravishing spring collection.

Psychology behind the choice of a new mannequin for one of the great Houses of Haute Couture in Paris is simple—their must "inspire" the creative designer in this case Pierre Balmain. Almost two years ago Valerie Thurlow-Sellen, in Paris on a short trip, dropped in on the House of Balmain. The impact she made was immediate. He liked English nonchalance and "mad" named her "Lady Bread and Butter" and hired her on the spot.

Prospective mannequins make the rounds of all the great Paris couturiers in December and June for this is in the embryonic stage and a new mannequin may spark ideas, while series of original

"HORSEY" TO HOTHOUSE

The exclusive hothouse existence Valerie now enjoys sometimes seems a little incongruous to her for she had lived most of her life in the country where she rode to hounds and milked cows.

Such was her devotion to horses as a child that she had solemnly sworn to marry for a brisk gallop in the beautiful forests surrounding Megève. Once a new collection is "launched" there is ample time for such pursuits or to earn extra money as a freelance photographic model.

However, this is only possible after the two most important

words in the Balmain calendar, December and July, are over. During these months Valerie must be in at nine around seven, and not if the work into Balmain wants to. She is expected to keep hours by endearing, unabashedly, 150 shades of champagne go into just one dress. If the dress is a great success and sells particularly well Valerie will receive a certain amount of each season she is also given the opportunity to buy of the originals!

Valerie has no immediate plans for marriage, which is just as well for she is adding a second string to her bow in order to give a lecture tour of the United States and American audience for her. The tour by Balmain, Marriage and perhaps a career in journalism, she hopes are in the future.

AT THE annual general meeting in March of Burstead Works, Kennel Lane, Billericay, the Chairman (Mr. F. E. Ball) will announce the group profit before taxation for the year ended September 30th, 1966, was £90,966 compared with £113,319 in the previous year.

This fall in profit is entirely accounted for by the initial trading and development costs of the two new subsidiary companies, Ball Expanded Plastics, Ltd., engaged on insulation materials for the building and refrigeration industries and Ball Displays, Ltd., producing point of sale display material.

The electro-plating and electrical engineering divisions have made further progress and this has offset a small fall in profits from the plastics division.

Government restrictions have affected this latter section, engaged as it is on work for the building, motor and consumer goods industries. However, the volume of new orders is satisfactory and is keeping the toolrooms at both Clacton and Billericay fully occupied. This augurs well for the future.

Capital expenditure on new buildings and equipment during the year amounted to £289,880 upon which investment grants of £14,744 are receivable. A further £64,100 will be expended to complete the programme during the current year. The factory erected at Billericay for Ball Expanded Plastics, Ltd., commenced production early in 1966 with new and up-to-date plant equal to any to be found in Europe at the present time. The usual problems on projects of this kind have now been largely overcome and the expansion of production, which will inevitably follow, gives directors considerable hope for the future.

The directors have always been mindful of the need to maintain a modern and efficient production unit and the decisions made to modernise plant and build extensions have been continued in spite of the present economic conditions. It is the Board's intention that the completion of the present programme of capital expenditure a period of consolidation will follow during which the firm hope increased profitability from investments will be demonstrated.

Group profit down

Mock trial

SOUTH-EAST Essex Young Conservatives' Divisional Chairman Richard Sear was in the dock at Billericay on Monday facing charges under the Vagrancy Act of 1824.

He was only on mock trial, however, and the jury were Billericay Young Conservatives at their weekly meeting at the Constitutional Club.

Mike Nicholls was prosecuting counsel and spent the evening trying to destroy the defendant's good character, but Chris Cannon argued skilfully in his defence and a verdict of not proven was returned, the jury dividing 26—26.

Witnesses were Geoff Wheatley, Fern Dee, S. Bird, Paulette Nicholls, But.



Mr. and Mrs. Hayden have lived at No. 37 for 33 years.

The rejected Nethermayne footbridge

WORKS COMMITTEE UNDER FIRE FROM LABOUR MEMBERS

BASILDON COUNCIL'S Works Committee came under heavy fire from the Labour benches on Thursday over their rejected decision not to provide a footbridge at Nethermayne.

Coun. Alf Dove led the attack. It was bad ethics, he said, for the Works Committee to press the Corporation for a footbridge and then to decide against providing one when told the road was theirs.

"I hope this will never happen again," he said. In defence of the Works Committee, Vice-Chairman Coun. Derrick Pope said everyone had seen

how the public failed to make use of footbridges. "I took the trouble to take photographs in East Mayne showing women crossing the road while their children went over the bridge," he said.

The Committee decision was taken with road safety in mind. They had felt that a pedestrian light-controlled crossing was preferable.

"A footbridge is not a talisman which keeps away accidents by its presence," said Coun. Pope. "It has to be used."

There was no question of cost figuring in the Committee decision. "We had been assured that the cost of traffic lights or footbridge would be about the same."

"I beg the people of Basildon, if we put a footbridge in Nethermayne, to use it," said Coun. Pope. "Let children see that you are using it."

But Coun. Joe Morgan described the Works Committee handling of the affair as "a right mess." They had been left in no doubt of the public feelings. A petition signed by 1,700 people had been before them.

"We should have gone to the Minister for loan sanction," he said. "We refused it we should meet it out of revenue. We can afford an Arts Centre. We can afford a footbridge."

Coun. Gerald Krelz described the traffic lights suggestion as a retrograde step. Traffic flow had to be considered. "Can you imagine the sort of thing that would have happened here—like the jokers jack-knifing—on this downhill stretch."

Left husband in the 17th Century to emigrate

ABOUT 1616 Margaret Reade, the daughter of Edmund Reade, of Wickford, came to live at Great Fanton Hall, North Benfleet (not far from Wickford), as the bride of John Lake, but, after some 15 or so years of marriage and bearing eight children, she left John to emigrate to New England with her two daughters, her sisters and their families.

After living for many years at New London, Connecticut, with the family of her brother-in-law, Governor John Winthrop Junior, she spent the last ten years of her life in Ipswich, Massachusetts, where her daughter Martha, and her brother-in-law, Deputy Governor Samuel Symonds lived. Some thirty years after she left her husband she wrote to her brother-in-law, Governor Winthrop, who was in London, asking if he would enquire about her husband's death and how he ended his life to know, had he left her anything.

A number of Margaret's family had left Wickford for New England which had prob- ably unsettled her. Her younger sister, Elizabeth Reade, about 1631, married John Winthrop Junior and emigrated to New England where he became Governor of Connecticut.

Another younger sister, Martha, on the death of her first husband married Samuel Symonds, from Tounshfield in

Essex. They, too, emigrated to America in 1637. Margaret was later Deputy Governor of the colony of Massachusetts Bay. Her brother, Thomas, also a rich man, emigrated and settled in Salem, New England, where he was made a freeman in 1634 when he was 22. The 300 acres of land north-west of Salem which he was granted in 1634 he called "Wickford." Margaret became captain of the watch in 1647, but later returned to England.

Margaret's mother, after her father's death, married the Rev. Much Peter, and he, too, emigrated and joined his wife's children in New England. Ann, Margaret's daughter, who was born at North Benfleet in 1621, married, about 1642, Captain John Gallon, who served in the English fleet in 1637 and was killed in the Narragansett Swamp fight in King Philip's War, 1675. The other daughter, Martha, born in 1624, married Thomas Harris, of Ipswich, Massachusetts, in 1647.

Coun. Withrington gave him the assurance. "In the past not enough consideration has been given to these carriage ways," he agreed. "This Council must in future press to ensure me that thought will be given to pressing the Corporation for an underpass here." "I am thinking of the proposed primary school south of the railway line. A lot of traffic will be using the road with Laindon 4 and 5 on one side and the school on the other."

Coun. Bernard Laine: "I hope before we take over any more roads from the Corporation we look into these matters. We should look for things like schools on one side of a main road and housing estates on the other."

In view of tonight's discussion, can the Leader assure me that thought will be given to pressing the Corporation for an underpass here? "I am thinking of the proposed primary school south of the railway line. A lot of traffic will be using the road with Laindon 4 and 5 on one side and the school on the other."

Coun. Withrington gave him the assurance. "In the past not enough consideration has been given to these carriage ways," he agreed. "This Council must in future press to ensure me that thought will be given to pressing the Corporation for an underpass here."

Abolish all Public Schools, says M.P.

ERIC Moonman, Basildon M.P. wants to abolish all public schools as quickly as possible. "There can be no place in a modern society for the so-called benefits of the public schools," he said in a speech on Monday.

Speaking to the Students' Union of Goldsmiths College, at the University of London, Mr. Moonman said he was "delighted to be able to support the statement recently produced by the National Union of Teachers on the ending of public schools."

"I suggest," he said, "that the public schools be given to the local education authorities to be used as L.E.A. boarding schools, as special schools, as colleges of education or in whatever way is thought best. The N.U.T. statement said that partial integration would be disastrous," he continued. "I couldn't agree more. Such a method would divert public money into private education; it would not break down existing social barriers. The form of partial integration most favoured by public schools would enable them to select certain pupils of high ability from the maintained sector. This is sheer arrogance, which would run counter to the movement now being encouraged throughout the State system."

Mr. Moonman described much of the teaching in public schools as "second rate."

LOCAL WILLS

Mr. Stephen Wilkie, of Rushdene Road, Billericay, who died on December 12th, intestate, left £2,308 4s. gross, £2,232 7s. net. Letters of administration have been granted to his widow, Mrs. Mabel Wilkie.

Mrs. Alice Emmanuel, of Heathwood, Norsey Road, Billericay, who died on November 27th, left £27,070 8s. 10d. net, £26,984 19s. 7d. net (duty £24,875). Subject to a bequest to a brother, she left her property variously to her daughters, Alice E. Shaw and Elsie E. Heard.

RIGHT-OF-WAY
Approval has been given by Basildon Council's Housing Committee Chairman to terms negotiated with the developer for a right-of-way across the rear of the existing Council shop yards at Grange Road, Billericay.



The battered cab of a bread van after it was in collision with a car at the junction of Dry Street and Nethermayne on Friday afternoon. The driver, Mr. David Hill (26), was taken to hospital with slight injuries. He was not detained.

COUNCIL OFFER A ROOM FREE FOR M.P.'s "SURGERY"

COMMENTS MADE BY TORY COUNCILLOR REG BROWN AT BASILDON COUNCIL ON THURSDAY ABOUT MR. ERIC MOONMAN'S "SURGERIES" HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER WERE COUNTERED BY THE M.P. THIS WEEK.

"Coun. Brown's observations reflect all that is mean and contemptible in Conservative politics,"

Mr. Moonman told the "Standard."

"If he imagines that by his remarks the Labour Party will close down the surgery, he is mistaken. I would warn him that whether or not the Council allow me to use their room, the advice centre will continue to function in Basildon."

The centre had dealt with over 300 cases. Labour Group Leader Coun. Joe Morgan and other Socialist councillors often assisted at the "surgeries."

He noted that the Council had followed his lead and set up their own centre, which suggested that Coun. Brown's remarks were made either in "spite or simple jealousy."

Mr. Moonman claimed Coun. Brown did not speak for the Tory Group as a whole — in fact, he said, several members had told him privately that they felt the advice centre was useful for the community in Basildon.

The matter of £10 rent said to be owing for the room was brought up by Coun. Brown at the Council meeting. He said the room was used by Mr. Moonman to meet the "people and Coun. Tyson."

The first he heard about the matter came not from the M.P., but from Coun. Morgan, who he described as "his tutor."

The officers were dealing with an M.P. so they didn't think fit to draw up

an agreement. They sent a letter saying: 'You can use the room at a £1 a time.'

At the end of last year a £10 account was sent. Then Coun. Morgan went to the Council Treasurer and suggested the bill was waived because of the "good job" Mr. Moonman was doing.

In future, Coun. Brown announced, the Council would be quite happy to give the facilities free.

Coun. Tyson said it was "despicable" that Coun. Brown saw fit to make fun of the M.P. of the district. He was backed by Coun. Morgan, who claimed the bill had been paid.

He said the Council agreed — when his party was in control — that the room could be used at a peppercorn rent. The amount was left to an officer to fix.

"We will never again allow an officer to fix anything — whether it is 10s. or £10," Coun. Morgan said. He said the reason Mr. Moonman did not have the time to deal with the matter last April was that he was doing work left by the former member.

"A lot of hot air," remarked Council Leader Coun. Harry Withrington. He said the offer to the M.P. of a room free of charge was a service which should be followed by councils throughout the country.

DUTY CHEMISTS

BASILDON

Boots the Chemists (Southern), Ltd., 27, Town Square, and David Sames, Ltd., 10, The Broadway, Pitsea, will be duty chemists for week commencing Monday (March 6th). They will be open every weeknight (except Wednesday and Saturday and David Sames Thursday) from 6 to 7 p.m. On Sunday (March 5th) David Sames will be open from 11 a.m. to 12 noon and on Wednesday from 6 to 7 p.m.

BILLERICAY

Nis (Chemists), Ltd., 111, High Street, Billericay, will be duty chemist for week commencing Monday (March 6th). They will be open from 6 to 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. Garrett, 23, High Street, Wickford, and M. W. Shindforth, 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).

MINIBUS FUND

The jumble sale held by Laindon Baptist Church on Saturday raised the first £15 towards the £200 needed to pay for the Church's Minibus. Because there are no buses running in the district on Sundays, elderly people and children find it extremely difficult to get to church, and when Rev. M. Churchill had the opportunity to purchase the minibus he was delighted to take it. Now some 50 children and a number of elderly folk can be transported to and from church each week. There will be other fund-raising schemes to pay off the debt in the near future.

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CHILDREN'S PAGE

FRIDAY, THE CAT ENJOYS YOUNG ANTIRRHINUMS!

HAVE YOU—or your parents—lost your young antirrhinum plants in the spring? Do they disappear mysteriously, bitten off at the top as clean as a whistle?

If you live in the Clay Hill Road district then the answer might not be slugs, or even birds—it could be that the culprit is Friday, the cat which loves the taste of young, fresh antirrhinums!

Friday belongs to two of our very first Happy Pals, Jacqueline and Gillian Lucas; and she is a cat who absolutely loves flowers. Quite a lot of cats go for catmint, that pretty rockery plant with the little spiky mauve flowers, but Friday loves to lie on the table beside a vase of carnations or roses just sniffing ecstatically.

Geraniums are also "tops" with her—she drifts into a blissful sleep with her head amongst the flowers!

NOT BLACKBIRDS!

One thing that petrifies Friday with fear is a blackbird! She doesn't mind smaller birds, though she gives them a very wide berth, but blackbirds she cannot abide! She lowers her tummy to the ground

and slinks off in the opposite direction!

And whereas most cats will spit defiance at an intruding dog, Friday takes one look and seeks instant refuge!

As to her diet—her favourite "cats" are roast beef with two veg! Potatoes and greens make the dinner worth eating as far as Friday is concerned!

Another thing she likes very much is cottage pie.

She is definitely a personality all on her own—unlike most cats, who at best suffer grooming with brush and comb as a necessary evil.

Friday will sit just as long as anyone is willing to wield a brush, obviously revelling in the attention she is getting. And very often she will sleep on her back, with all four feet in the air, and remain like this for ages.

Have you ever heard of such antics in a cat? I have had many cats of my own, but not one of them behaved like this! Nevertheless, Friday is very sweet natured and affectionate and Jacqueline and Gillian wouldn't part with her for anything.

The big picture on the right shows Gillian Lucas with Friday.



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

NOT SO many birthdays this week, but many happy returns of the day to:

Pamela Cronin, of Chaucer Walk, Wickford, 10 on March 5th; Philip Giles, of Lake Avenue, Billericay, 9, Paula Tyler, of Osborne Road, Basildon, 7, and Heather Jane Pegrum, of Globe Road, Ramsden Bellhouse, Billericay, 2, all on the 9th.

Somehow our Happy Pals just haven't got birthdays at the beginning of March, have they? Anyway, very warmest greetings to you all.

AUNTIE LIZ.

A CALL FOR CHRISTINE AND PAMELA

CALLING Christine and Pamela! They could be friends, sisters—or twins; and I'm afraid I don't know their surname, or their address.

I have had a letter from a Mrs. Crudgington, who lives at Scarlets, The Upway, Basildon. She writes: "... Christine and Pamela brought me a present and a card at Christmas. I had had a fall and hurt my legs a few days before. ... They said they lived in a turning off The Upway. I have been trying to find the names and addresses of these dear girls so that I can write to them. I thought they might be two of your members."

Mrs. Crudgington goes on to tell me that she is 89 years old, and housebound. She does not know anyone around her present home, as she only moved there from Pitsea a year ago. She ends her letter by saying that Christine and Pamela were "the only ones over here that troubled about me at Christmas."

If these little girls would like to write to me I will forward the letter on, or they could write direct to Mrs. Crudgington, at No. 2, Scarlets. I know that she will be very happy to hear from you, girls, so that she can write and thank you for all your kindness.

Love from,
AUNTIE LIZ.

THE HANDSOME PANTOMIME CAT SEEN BELOW IS JOHN BYRON (13) WHO APPEARED IN THE REVELLERS' PANTOMIME, "DICK WHITTINGTON," LAST WEEK, AT THE LAINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE. DOESN'T HE MAKE A FINE CAT? HE WAS VERY GOOD, INDEED, AND STOLE THE SHOW!

This is John's third pantomime appearance. In the other two, he appeared as an elf and as a member of a crazy band.

He has also been in lots of sketches, and has compered a show. At 13 this is quite a record, isn't it? Well done, John!

John attends Laindon High Road Secondary School and his favourite subjects are P.E. and games. He loves football and usually plays full-back.



'Standard' Happy Pals League

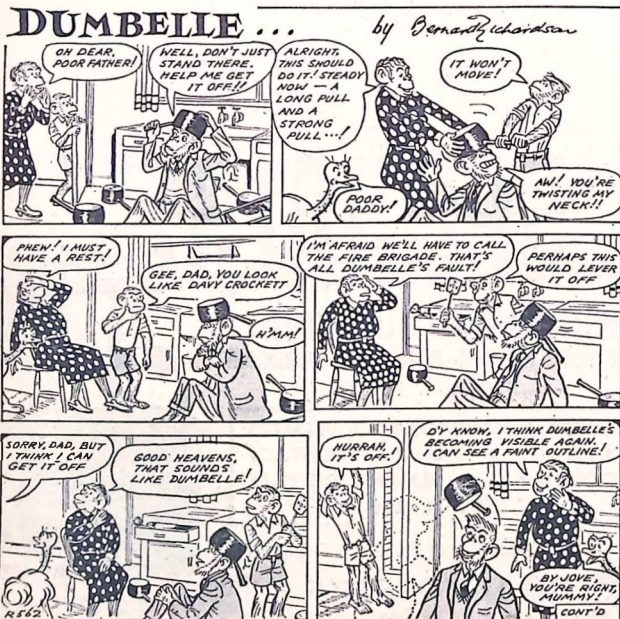
ENROLMENT FORM

YOUR FULL NAME _____

YOUR ADDRESS _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

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



County's overspill warning

THE TRANSFER of population from London to Essex since the war has had an adverse effect on the County from both the planning and financial points of view as well as in the provision of services to its existing population.

This is stated by the County Planning Committee in their observations on the preliminary report of the Greater London Development Plan.

Such a situation, say the Committee, cannot continue in decade after decade without the virtual abandonment of basic planning aims.

"If the continual expansion of built-up areas to meet London's overspill needs is not curtailed, serious danger of coalescence of built-up areas on a vast scale, particularly in the south of the County, must follow," the Committee warn.

It is pointed out that since the war the present County of Essex has received a third of the total movement of population from London and a third of the planned movement of population (new towns, town development and out-boundary estates) on the housing authorities now forming part of Greater London.

Commuting

Essex County Council, say the Committee, wishes to see future commuting to London from Essex minimised, and would welcome a statement of policy from the Greater London Council that it recognised that the solutions to the problems of housing and employment of people from London should be sought in areas further afield than Essex.

Power stations

Regarding additional power station sites, it is pointed out that the most convenient and appropriate appeared to be on the Thames Estuary in areas predominantly industrial and as close as practicable to the area of demand.

Almost all the Thames-side sites in Essex which could be considered for the purpose had either already been developed by the Central Electricity Generating Board or had been earmarked for some other essential port activity.

The G.L.C. is therefore urged to reserve suitable sites for power stations within its own area instead of depending on sites in Essex.

In view of the fact that the future development of Essex is dependent on more water from outside sources, the G.L.C. is asked to recognise the County's needs when preparing its own requirements.

Refuse disposal

Regarding refuse disposal, Essex welcomed the G.L.C.'s co-operation in enabling hitherto wasted land to continue to be brought into positive use in future by means of refuse tipping and raising the land and in enhancement of the down-river scene.

It also welcomes the G.L.C.'s affirmation of its support for the Green Belt and its intention to resist further urbanisation of this land.

The Committee stresses the need for improved communication between the Thames-side area of Essex with Kent, the Channel ports and the Channel Tunnel on the one hand, with the industrial Midlands on the other.

It is emphasised that the North Orbital and "D" Ring Road to and from the Dartford Tunnel must be given high priority, and the G.L.C. is invited to join Essex in stressing the urgent need for the provision of this route.

Viking Way

A suggestion by developers of a new estate of 110 dwellings at Rushall, that the new Viking Way, which has been approved by Chelmsford Council Buildings and Planning Committee,

Helping those released from jail

AFTER A year's experience of running a hostel for ex-prisoners at Chelmsford the Friends of Essex Prisoners (formerly the Essex Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society) are anxious to make similar provisions in other parts of the County, it was reported at the annual meeting of the Friends at Chelmsford on Thursday week.

But it was pointed out that any such development would involve the society in substantial capital expenditure for which its present resources are insufficient.

The Chairman, Mr. F. D. Holder, M.C., J.P., D.L., paid tribute to the work of Mr. F. C. Thomas, who had been Hon. Treasurer of the Society for 25 years and was retiring.

The Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Col. Sir John Rugges-Brise, Bt., C.B., O.B.E., T.D., J.P., was re-elected President, as were the Vice-Presidents, with the addition of Mr. Thomas.

Mr. Holder was reappointed Chairman, Mr. E. O. Reed, J.P., Vice-Chairman, and Mr. A. W. Burton, Secretary. Mr. J. H. L. Bell was elected Hon. Treasurer to succeed Mr. Thomas.

A talk on the changing methods of the treatment of prisoners was given by Capt. W. I. Davies, Governor of Chelmsford Prison.

ROTARY CLUB Billerica Rotary Club's monthly business luncheon meeting on Monday at the Archer Hall annex was attended by 36 members. Rotarian Leslie Kersey presided and welcomed Canon John King, formerly of Basilidon, Lagos, Nigeria, who is on leave in this country.

Police dog search

POLICE with dogs searched the Barstable area early on Thursday morning when a householder disturbed two intruders in his Long Riding home.

Mr. Brian Wisdom heard noises and came downstairs to find two youths rifling the meter.

They made off with the money. The search of the area revealed nothing.

THINKING DAY

The new form of Guide promise was used at the Laidon District Girl Guides' Thinking Day service last week. The service was held at the Methodist Church, Langdon Hills, and was conducted jointly by Rev. J. Rooney and Rev. A. Abbey. After the Renewal of Promise, a short dramatic presentation of the Spirit of Guiding encircling the world was given. The service was extremely well supported and the church was full to capacity.

County Council budget RATE UP 3d. TO MEET HEAVIER SPENDING

ESSEX County Council on Tuesday approved an overall revenue and capital budget totalling more than £69.1M, an increase of nearly £4M, on the current year, and agreed to add 3d. to the rate to bring it to 9s. in the £.

Gross revenue expenditure in the coming financial year is estimated at £59,848,486, a rise of £3,698,507, and it is expected that income will go up by £2,371,789 to £38,692,844.

Expenditure to be met from rate income is put at £21,115,642, an increase of 6.69 per cent.

At £39,076,780, the estimated bill for education is up by over £3M. Expenditure on highways of £5,431,220 shows a drop of over £270,000. The budget includes nearly £3.1M. for health services and just over £1,751,000 for welfare purposes.

PENNY RATE — £198.675

It is forecast that the product of a penny rate will be £198,075, an increase of just over four per cent.

On the capital account expenditure of £9,750,437 is shown. Nearly £7M. of this will be financed by way of loan.

POLICE HOUSES USED TO FIGHT 'CATHY' PROBLEM

BY USING former Police houses as accommodation for families whose children are in care, Essex County Council have anticipated, and found, constructive solutions to some of the problems posed by the television play "Cathy, Come Home."

During the past year the Council have taken over six of these properties, with the result that no fewer than 30 children who were in their care have been able to return to live with their parents.

Each family has been charged a rent comparable to that they would pay for a similar council house and have been helped to re-establish themselves until they can be rehoused, thus making way for another family.

Before returning to their parents under this arrangement five of the children were in residential nurseries, 15 in children's homes and ten in foster homes.

The families selected for the houses have been those for whom it seemed clear it was in the interests of both parents and children that they should be reunited in a home of their own.

The total net annual cost of keeping the 30 children in care was estimated at £14,581, whereas the cost of making the six former Police houses

available for the families is estimated at £1,217 a year.

All the families made considerable efforts to get as much furniture and equipment as possible, but some help was needed, particularly for families comprising only a mother and children.

Preparation of the houses for occupation cost the County Council about £500, but it is hoped no further expense of this kind will be needed while the houses are occupied by the present tenants.

A report giving this encouraging information on this social issue was presented by the Children's Committee to Essex County Council on Tuesday.

While not claiming there had been an immediate saving of over £13,000 a year, it pointed out that there had been a saving of the boarding-out allowances paid in respect of ten of the children who were with foster parents, while 15 "rentily" needed places in homes had been freed.

This would ultimately have an effect on the amount of accommodation the Council would have to provide in homes and nurseries.

Footnote: The cost of a new children's home works out at about £800 a year per place.

DRUGS LECTURES IN SCHOOLS OF ESSEX?

A MOVE to introduce drug lectures in Essex schools was made by Rochford County Councillor Harry Ellis on Tuesday.

He suggested to the County Council that talks should be held with top-level Essex Police to arrange lectures for selected age group children and parents of all school children of any age in an effort to save future generations from drugs.

His move was prompted by recent Southend Police arrests of holders of large quantities of drugs en route to Southend.

"The resultant conclusion and arrests is that a large market exists for drugs," he said.

Education Committee Chairman, Mrs. E. Coker, said consultations were being held with the Chief Constable and Medical Officer and a report would be given to the appropriate sub-committee. But she warned: "There is a danger that these lectures could draw attention to the ease with which drugs can be obtained."

MUSEUM GUIDE With a centre page of pictures showing various exhibits, the Cater Museum, High Street, Billerica, has just issued an abridged guide, which is on sale to the public for one shilling. It has a general introduction noting that there were over 4,000 items on view, and goes on to give the main features in the various rooms.

Civic Arts poetry

AN ANTHOLOGY of children's verse is the latest project to be set under way by Basildon Civic Arts Society.

Entries are expected from many local schools and from individual children, and it is hoped the anthology will be published.

The decision to go ahead follows the success of last year's competition for local junior poets. This time entries are being sought from S.E. Essex schools as well as those in the Basildon division.

Four sections are proposed, for under-fives, for under-eights, for under-twelves and for under-fifteens. Entry forms will go out during the next few weeks.

New Town M.P.s talk

TWO MEMBERS of Parliament with New Towns in their constituencies, Mr. Eric Moonman (Basildon) and Mr. Stan Newens (Harlow), presented a joint paper to the Parliamentary Labour Party at a private study group session in the House of Commons on Thursday.

The paper, which extended to some 12 pages, dealt with the problems of housing and the New Towns in particular.

Mr. Moonman has been working very closely with Mr. Newens on the subject since he was returned at the last election.

Mr. Moonman said, "The more constructively thought we put into our policies now, well in advance of a General Election, the more likely we shall get public support for what we have to do ultimately. Certainly, in the field of housing, a really dynamic approach is required if we are to give every family the type of home they want and need."

ST. MARY'S A.G.M.

The annual parochial church meeting and vestry of St. Mary's Church, Langdon Hills, will be held this month in St. Mary's Parish Hall. Announcing this in the parish magazine, the Secretary says this is the meeting which elects the people who run the affairs of the church, and adds, "If you do not come to help choose them, you must accept without comment whatever they decide... In any case, you owe it to the other members of the church to be present."

For the . . .

BEST CARS

in BASILDON and DISTRICT

See the STANDARD MOTOR MARKET each week

VANGE LADIES' CLUB
Members of the Vange Ladies Club enjoyed a lecture and film show on the wine industry by a representative of a local wine firm at their weekly meeting last week. Afterwards they were invited to taste the various wines. Teas were served by Mrs. Roberts, and Mrs. Bliss. The raffles were run by Mrs. Canfield.

"It has unfortunately been delayed by the lack of staff in the office," Coun. Harry Withrington told Coun. Bill Archibald at Thursday's Basil-don Council meeting. "We hope to get it off the ground in the next 12 months."

SUNDAY PREACHERS
Preachers at Wickford Baptist Church on Sunday were Mr. C. A. Robinson, of Leigh, in the morning and the Minister, Rev. Brian Gameson, in the evening.



Billericay branch of the British Sailors' Society held a jumble sale at the Recreation Rooms, Billericay, on Saturday morning. Our picture shows the organisers and stallholders.

"I think Coun. Morgan arrives at his figure by calculating from late in 1962," said Coun. Lyon, "but the next five months were under Tory control and during that time we made up 2½ miles of roads. That makes his figures look even worse."

improvement

The Town Manager have shown us that the Socialist policy of parks and roads was carried out to the best of their ability, the Labour Group accept the need for the Engineer and Surveyor to have more staff to continue the work laid down by the 1963-66



Billericay Methodist Youth Club held a jumble sale at the Church Hall on Saturday afternoon. The proceeds went towards buying new table tennis equipment for the club. Presiding over the refreshment stall were, left to right, Mary Jubb (10), Marion Wood (16) and Jackie Steward (15).



Members of Basildon Women's Labour Club are seen above at their wine and cheese evening held at Fairhouse Junior School on Monday.

WICKFORD TOWN SHOW AND CARNIVAL

A dispute over Queen's driving course awarded

A BEHIND-THE-SCENES controversy involving Wickford Town Show and Carnival Organisation and Wickford's Morris School of Motoring has been raging since Carnival Day last year.

It has resulted in a refusal by the driving school to fulfil their promise to award a course of driving lessons to last year's winner of the Carnival Queen contest, Patricia Bird.

These facts were unearthed by a "Standard" inquiry this week, following a meeting of the Carnival Organisation on Friday. The controversy had its origins several months before the carnival when an offer from the directors of the Morris School of Motoring, Mr. John E. Morris and his wife, Lynn, to also provide transport for the Queen on carnival day was accepted.

Nothing more was heard from Mr. and Mrs. Morris, however, until late on the night before carnival day by which time the Carnival Organisation, thinking that they must have withdrawn their offer, had made other arrangements for the Queen.

"We have given prizes and done a lot of work for the carnival ever since it was restarted in 1963, and never has anything like this happened before," Mrs. Morris told the "Standard".

GREAT SHOCK

"It was a great shock and a terrible disappointment when they said they didn't want us after all the time and money we had spent in taking one of our cars on the road and decorating it for the procession," she said.

Said Mr. Morris: "We lost about £20 on that one day alone because that car was out of service, but it's not just the money, I am fed up and disgusted with the Carnival Organisation that they should have done this to us after all we have done for them."

"From then on we decided to have nothing further to do with them. We are sorry for

the girl who has had to go without, but it's a matter of principle," he said.

A CONDITION

Mr. Morris' original offer to provide the Queen's prize was, however, conditional on an undertaking by the Carnival Organisation that they would not accept any similar help from any other local driving schools.

"We expect to get a small return in publicity, and we didn't consider it would be fair to us if another school was also involved," he explained.

A MISUNDERSTANDING

Said the Chairman of Wickford Town Show and Carnival Organisation, Mr. Harry Reeves: "It is one of these occasions that has grown up from an unfortunate misunderstanding."

"But it is the attitude of these people who think they are doing something for us that leads to these misunderstandings. They are not doing it for us, they are helping us do it for charity, and we think theonus was on Mr. and Mrs. Morris to contact us earlier than they did."

"We cannot go on chasing these people, and so we had to make alternative arrangements," he said. Discussing the undertaking they gave Mr. and Mrs. Morris, Mr. Reeves went on: "We were upset that we had to do this, but beggars, and we are beggars, can't be choosers, and we had to abide by the conditions if we wanted to take advantage of the offer."

"You should be prepared to work for charity with charity in your heart, not what you get out of it."

Note: Patricia Bird will not be taking part in the driving lessons. Another Wickford driving school, the Giles School of Motoring, are paying the cost of the car for the Queen and the remainder will be paid by the Carnival Organisation.

The school will also provide the next Queen's prize of free driving lessons.

Trophy for Billericay

THE FANNY Adams Trophy may come to Billericay! Ladies' Circles from all over Essex compete for it on a knock-out basis each year and now Billericay Circle have reached the final.

They beat Goodmayes Circle in a game of "tell me" in the first round, then Brentwood at carpet bowls in the second, and on Tuesday they defeated Barking at darts.

Date of the final has not yet been fixed, but opponents will be either Shenfield and Rutton Circle or Romford Circle.

Tuesday's semi-final was held at the White Horse, Ramsden Heath, and the Billericay team comprised Mesdames J. Denby, B. Lowman, M. Watson, R. Hawes, M. Ash, B. Golder, Allan, E. Roy and J. Brauch.

Nurse wrote the best poetry

Winner of the Civic Arts Society Dove Award for poetry this year is Mrs. Doris Knight, of Pinmill, Basildon. The poem that won her the award was "Somerset Nights" and it is published with the work of a dozen other local poets in Basildon Poetry Group's third anthology.

A member of the Poetry Group for the past year, she has had nothing published since she wrote for her school magazine. "I let the interest lapse," she said, "and it's thanks to the Society that it has revived." Both Mrs. Knight and her husband are State Registered Nurses and have lived in the district for 16 years, first at Laindon, then for seven years in the New Town. They have two children.

Singing is one of her main hobbies. She has been in Laindon and Basildon Ladies' Co-operative Choir for 15 years and helped them win the choir award at Southend Musical Festival for the last three years in succession. She also belongs to Basildon Choral Society and the M.C.C.

The Dove Award will be presented at the Civic Arts Society annual dinner in April. Entries were judged by the Editor of the "Basildon Standard", Mr. K. H. Broadley, M.B.E. The anthology costs 3s. 6d.

PITSEA'S YEAR OF MUD HAS ARRIVED

Church starts a petition

THE YEAR of Mud which Pitsea residents were warned about by Basildon Corporation has arrived!

THEY WILL FIGHT THE ELECTION

BILLERICAY and Buttsbury Residents' Associations will definitely fight the Basildon Council elections in May. This decision was taken at a special joint Election Committee meeting on Monday.

Afterwards Billericay Residents' Association Secretary Mr. Brian Hooks told the "Standard" that they did not wish to release any details until the Association's Executive Committee meeting on Friday.

We understand, however, that their candidates are: Billericay Residents' Association Chairman Mr. John Abbott, of Second Avenue; Mr. Jim Hopkins, of Station Road; Mr. Laurie Garrard, of Brightside; Mr. John Barr, of Mountmanning Road; and Mr. Allen McQuaker, of Chantry Way.

At Pitsea this week members of the parish church began drawing up a petition aimed at the dirt and danger which redevelopment has put on their doorsteps and at the attitude of the authorities, which, they claim, has been deplorable.

Also running for the authorities last week was Armand Taylor's factory on the marshland at Pitsea, who complained that mud from convoys of lorries had turned Station Lane into a skating rink.

In Basildon Council Chamber on Thursday Coun. James Lyon, Works Committee Chairman, faced a question from Coun. Roy Buckley on the "appalling condition of Redgrave Road, Vange, and Manor Avenue, Pitsea."

He told the meeting: "It is practically impossible to stop mud getting on to the highway when extensive building is going on. Action can only be taken against the driver of the vehicle concerned."

Wet weather had hampered clearance arrangements made with the Corporation at the Redgrave Road site.

In Manor Avenue the Council's own contractors were involved. Every effort would be made to improve conditions, said Coun. Lyon. "The whole matter will be considered at the next Works Committee meeting."

RECTOR'S COMPLAINT

The Rector of Pitsea, Rev. Arthur Harvey, told a reporter: "There have been so many complaints about the state of Rectory Road that we felt something had to be done. No councillors actually live in Pitsea. It seems we have to look after ourselves."

The main cause of the trouble was over-loaded lorries taking earth away from the building sites, said the Rector. "Nets which are supposed to secure the load are not being fastened properly, and sometimes there are none at all. The road is so lumpy that the clay is bound to bounce off."

The double bend halfway down Rectory Road is at the heart of the muddy zone. "It is a very dangerous point," said Mr. Harvey.

"There has already been an accident and it is not surprising. There are shops there and parking is inevitable. The carelessness of the people who should be responsible for keeping the road fit for use has been unbelievable."

The main problem was the reluctance of anyone to accept any responsibility. There had been many approaches to the contractors and the authorities, but little organised effort was apparent. About a dozen people are involved in the petition and expect no shortage of signatures.

CONSTANT FEUD

Mrs. E. D. O'Brien, sales manager at Armand Taylor's factory beyond the railway line at Pitsea, told a reporter: "We seem to be in a constant state of feud with the Council."

"The staff arrive at work splashed with mud from the overfull lorries and all the Council seem to do is pass the buck. That is the most frustrating thing about it—the attitude of the Council staff that nothing can be done."

"We know the development has to be done, but it need not cause this amount of trouble. The road has become very dangerous."

C.D. numbers down

At the end of 1966 the strength of the Essex Division of the Civil Defence Corps was 6,029, compared with 6,112 three months earlier. The reduction was due largely to the sacking of ineffective members.

Cyclists collide

Two pedal cyclists riding in Kathleen Ferrier Crescent, Laindon, were taken to St. Andrew's Hospital on Wednesday after they had collided. They were Mr. Arthur Stropher, 67, and Miss Jill Fletcher, both of Elgar Close. Mr. Stropher was detained. His condition is said to be satisfactory.

COUNCIL CRITICS OF SCHOOL PLANS

BASILDON COUNCIL will in future ask to see the plans of all schools in the district before they are built.

The decision was prompted by what the Council regard as "inadequate safety measures and car parking facilities and the need for wider driveways at two new schools—Bardfield Infants and Northlands Junior School, Pitsea."

On Thursday the Council resolved to make strong representations to the County Council at their lack of provision. They asked for wider footways, improved waiting areas for parents, bigger car parks, and more thought on road safety.

They are also seeking a temporary footbridge across Rectory Road in time for the opening of Northlands School, and are urging that the Clay Hill Road underpass should be constructed at the same time as Bardfield Infants' School.

Coun. Alf Dove, former Education Chairman, told the full Council meeting: "I support everything in this resolution. We already have problems of car parking in the access roads to Fryerns and Mayflower Schools. Bad planning in the initial stages has brought repercussions on

the local education committee afterwards."

He could not remember ever having seen plans of schools at the local committee.

Coun. F. J. Champ, Chairman of the Planning Committee, told him: "If the Education Committee wanted to see them I cannot see any objection being possible. School governors see them."

A suggestion from Coun. G. T. Field, Education Committee Chairman, that plans should always be sought when a new school was under way, was approved.

A130 DUAL CARRIAGEWAY

Expenditure estimated at £159,000 for a scheme to provide a dual carriageway on the A130 at Rettendon from Highlands Farm to Hoe Lane was approved by Essex County Council on Tuesday.

MR. B. K. BUSBY AND MISS G. HARRISON. Wearing a full-length gown and a bouffant veil with a floral head dress, Gwendoline Harrison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Harrison, of Hoe Lane, Basildon, married Mr. Brian Keith Busby, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Busby, of The Scarlets, Basildon, on Saturday. The service took place at Holy Cross Church, Basildon. The bride was given away by her father and her brother, John Harrison, was best man.

GOOD WORK FOR SAILORS

CONGRATULATIONS were in order for the year-old Billericay branch of the British Sailors' Society at their first annual meeting at 32, Summerdale, the home of their Secretary, Mrs. M. S. Dickens, on Tuesday.

For with their first jubilee sale on Saturday they raised £20, which was two-thirds of their total income in the preceding year, visiting Essex Organiser Miss S. Macrae was told.

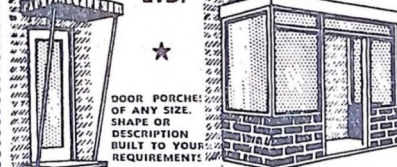
She praised their efforts, and it was decided that the first £20 should be sent to the chaplain looking after British sailors' interests in Antwerp.

Part of an organisation formed to help merchant sailors and their wives and families in emergencies while they were separated, the 10-strong branch welcomed two new members, and enrolling more sailors' wives in the district will be one of their main tasks in the new year. They have a whist drive and coffee morning arranged already and anyone interested in attending is invited to contact Mrs. Dickens, who was re-elected as Secretary. Mrs. C. Jackson was re-elected Chairman and Mrs. P. Chadwick Treasurer.

UNDER AGE

For drinking liquor under age at the Brent and Chess public house, Benthall, 17-year-old David Michael Lovett, of London Road, South Benfleet, was fined £5 at Rochford Magistrates' Court on Wednesday.

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THE YOUNGSTERS IN THE PICTURE ABOVE AND ON THE RIGHT WENT ALL WESTERN DURING THE WEEK-END AND PROVED THEY COULD BE QUICK ON THE DRAW!

The 3rd Wickford Girl Guides Company adopted the "Country and Western" theme at the Rayleigh Division's Thinking Day ceremony at Runnymede Hall, South Benfleet, on Friday and our picture above shows Margaret Hearne, Pamela George, Janet and Ruth Griffiths all trigger-happy!

It was a case of who was quickest on the draw—the Cubs seen on the right or the photographer! A scene at the 2nd Billericay Scout Group jumble sale at the Laindon Road headquarters on Saturday.

Martin McPherson (7), Jeremy Reed (8) and Ian McPherson (10) are in the picture and have obviously come under the Western spell!



Nothing for young people? ... Here's an answer!



"Basildon has nothing to offer its young people" is an old cry. Basildon for six years, and fed up with the district's lack of entertainment he and his friend Peter Platt (18) are setting out to do something about it. On Saturday night they ran—as an experiment—a party at Yarns Community Hall. They laid on a "pop" group and a free buffet, charged men £1 a head and girls 10s. to eat in—and found they had a great success on their hands. "We had more than 80 people there," said Terry, a press operator with Ben Williams living at Clayburn Circle. "It was too many really. We want to do the same thing again, but we need a bigger hall. We are not out to make a profit," he told a reporter. "We just want to give people a good time and to cover the costs. I don't have anywhere to go on a Saturday night. Nor do a lot of other people of our age. Sometimes we go up to London. When you go to the Locarno three nights a week you don't want to go there on a Saturday, too."

BASILDON...
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The music comes out here!



The American Base Commander of R.A.F., Wethersfield (Colonel D. G. Cummins) and his wife paid a return visit to Billericay's Mayflower Secondary School on Thursday week—bringing with them the 35-strong United States 3rd Air Force Band! The band, who are based at West Ruislip, gave a programme of military and popular music, conducted by Warrant Officer H. R. Uhlund. The picture above shows Airman 2nd Class S. M. Webster entertaining some of the pupils with an unrehearsed solo on his sousaphone.

WAY TO GROW BULBS!



"Just grown," has resulted for the last ten years in an annual bulb-growing competition for the Hills Primary School. Children buy the bulbs from school, and have to grow them in pots. The bulbs at home, and by February they are usually in flower and can be entered in the competition. This year there were 80 entries of a remarkably high standard. The flowers exhibited were of various types and had been lavished on them. Results were as follows: 1st year—Lynn Peters; 2nd year—Martin Lockett and Roger Edwards; 3rd year—Keith Mitchell and John Adams; 4th year—Gwynor Collier and Susan Fordham. The prizewinners are seen above.

Development on the Nevendon Road

BASILDON Council's Tory-controlled Executive Committee were attacked at Thursday's Council meeting over their decision to advertise an application for residential development on the 34-acre Nevendon Road, (Wickford), brickworks site for further consideration in light of "representations received."

Labour leader Coun. Joe Morgan said the application was a substantial departure from the Council's comprehensive development plan for the Wick area, and it was wrong that it ever had been deferred.

"It should have been rejected," he said. If the Executive Committee approved it, they would be taking a large slice out of the comprehensive development area and possibly be giving preferential treatment to one developer.

He was supported by his Deputy, Coun. Alf Dove. "This area must be dealt with comprehensively," he protested. "How can we do it if we allow private developers to develop piecemeal right in the centre?"

Moving reference back, he told the Council, "I think we should refuse this item until we all meet together to discuss it." His motion was lost by 14 votes to 11.

Council Leader Coun. Harry Withington pointed out the Executive Committee had not granted planning permission.

"In the end it will be the County Council and the Minister who will decide whether it will be used for private development or in the comprehensive development area," he said.

Boy injured

Ten-years-old Trevor Jupp, of Kingsway, South Green, Billericay, was treated, but not admitted, at St. Andrew's Hospital, Billericay, on Friday after being in an accident with a car near his home.

THURSDAY CLUB

Members of South Green Thursday Club held a minute's silence at their social afternoon in the Memorial Hall last week in memory of Mr. Clivers, who died recently. Community singing and charades provided the entertainment.

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Should Arterial Road be classified as a motorway?

The Council think so

IS IT time the Southend Arterial Road was re-assessed by the Minister of Transport as a motorway? Basildon Councillor Dr. Geoffrey Bond thinks so and at their meeting last week the Council agreed with him.

Without any discussion at all, they unanimously adopted his proposal that they should seek the Minister's comments on the idea.

"I was amazed at the speed at which it went through," said Coun. Dr. Bond afterwards.

He raised it following the recent triple fatality at the notorious Harrows crossroads at North Benfleet. At the inquest which followed, a Police spokesman claimed motorists often put themselves in danger by regarding the Arterial Road offside lanes

Council are also to tell the Minister that in their view lights should be compulsory fittings on the sides of lorries.

He proposed this because the triple fatalities occurred when a lorry stopped in the intersection at the unit junction with its rear sticking into the fast lane.

The Council's Works Committee have already decided to ask the Minister to consider improving the lighting there and also to consider some form of traffic control — possibly traffic lights.

MONEY RAISING

With Peter Moore the salesman, Billericay Motor Club held a money-raising bring-and-buy sale at their headquarters, the Artichoke, Brentwood, recently. Next Friday they are holding a dance at the same place.

SLIDES OF DUBLIN

Showing slides of her visit to Dublin, Miss Turner gave a talk about the Associated Countrywomen of the World at last month's meeting of Downham Women's Institute. The deferred January competition for a knitted square was won by Mrs. Aney, and she also won the February competition for an edible necklace. The money-raiser winners were Mrs. Viscardini and Mrs. Knox, Mrs. James, Long, Mattiand, Smith, O'Shea and Patmore served the tea, and Mrs. Clark presided.

Master Plan in planning — the summing up

(Continued from Front Page)

ever to come from a planning authority.

"They are saying that these young people should be forced out like the last tribe of chudra so I tend to agree. This is utterly wrong and irresponsible," he said.

Mr. Boniface also dealt with the County Council's other objections, including the opposition to the spread of expansion and to the spread of development to Basildon.

On population, he quoted a County Council estimate which had agreed a consideration of but agreed a consideration of expansion of Basildon being gone into by their technical officers.

If they had seriously wanted to object to the bigger population, submitted Mr. Boniface, they would have done so at that time in the same way as they had objected to Harlow's expansion.

"We were criticised for being too parochial and insular and for preparing a plan which looked outside at surrounding towns. If this is the crux of the County's plan, it is not a very good plan."

"We were told we ought to have waited for a regional plan but we have been waiting for that for many years. There is no plan that we were told by the Minister to prepare a new plan as a matter of urgency."

"We were also told that was happening in Southend, Rayleigh, Colchester and Chelmsford, but I submit we probably know more about what is happening in Southend than the County Council themselves."

"We are certainly not trying to compete with Southend. What we are proposing is in with what is happening there," he said.

Mr. Boniface then turned for the need for offices in Basildon. He said the County Council disputed strongly on the second day of the inquiry on the grounds that Southend was the recognised office centre for this part of Essex.

He quoted the County Council's statement in connection with the County Development Plan in which they said that both in Harlow and Basildon some redress of balance in favour of Basildon was needed, particularly for the generation of school-leavers.

"As asking for just 800,000 sq. ft. of office accommodation split between Basildon, Laindon and Pitsea, we are not trying to compete with Southend as the County suggest Southend are having 2,000,000 sq. ft."

"All we need is a modest amount of offices in the New Town to meet a need. If we fail to get it, we will never address the balance which the County Council say is necessary."

NEW HOMES
The County Council also stated at the inquiry that Basildon would make little contribution to the housing problems of London under the new plan, but Mr. Boniface disputed this, saying that homes would be found for 1,300 Londoners under the new proposals.

He warned that should the Minister not approve the plan, drastic cuts would have to be made in the housing programme which has already been approved up to 1971.

Unless the cuts were made from 1968, some expansion of Basildon was inevitable.

The Corporation were, however, against making cuts and they had said so in a letter to the Ministry a short time ago.

It stated, according to Mr. Boniface, that the Corporation were just recovering from "the Selwyn Lloyd freeze" which caused the housing programme to go that it would be sheer nonsense to reduce the programme if Basildon was to make any substantial contribution towards London's housing problem.

Mr. Boniface said he noted that there had been no objection to the inquiry to the plan to place a 10,000 population neighbourhood to the north of the Arterial Road, in fact, quite naturally, in his opinion, the main cause of objection was the proposals for three housing neighbourhoods in the south-west corner of the designated area—the Dry Street, Langdon Hill area.

NOT VANDALS
The Corporation were not this area, but wanted to plan it with some method for housing and leisure purposes.

"Of course, this is a beautiful spot and it will be made more beautiful in the hands of the skilled planners of the Corporation rather than left as it is at the moment. We want to reserve this area as a fine and open space for the future and I have not been one argument at this inquiry to

show that the Corporation are going to destroy it. I admit we are going to take some ground and the most regrettable part of that we have to destroy is the Dry Street area, half of which will be used for urban development and land for open space."

"My Corporation are concerned about Mr. Partridge. He is an excellent farmer and if we can do anything to prevent him going out of business we will do it."

"I have said he is not suitable for 10 years," said Mr. Boniface, "and also that his farmhouse, where John Wain once stayed, will be saved."

COMPENSATION
Mr. Boniface went on to speak of a Ministry of Agriculture circular which had arrived at the Corporation in connection with the compensation for farmers like Mr. Partridge. He said that the Ministry's proposal to increase the rate of compensation payable to farmers was a law by the time Mr. Partridge has to move, said Mr. Boniface.

He said that the Ministry would be able to allow the rate to go on as it is at present—steadily deteriorating.

"There is very little arable and there is a hawthorn scrub which will come on like a Quaternary expanse. The whole of the land, if it is not kept under control, might look like it but farmers certainly don't."

Referring to the old plan's proposal to return the land to agriculture, Mr. Boniface said such a policy, if adopted, would mean the acquisition of the houses of the present objectors much earlier than under the new plan.

Mr. Hollander, who had the view that the Corporation had made no attempt to make their agricultural policy work, but he denied this. "Even after we had stated it might not be practicable to make it work we tried to convert plot land to sizeable agricultural units. But the very difficult as the County Council know full well from their experience."

In 1952 the Ministry of Agriculture refused to support the return of the plot land to agriculture partly because of the cost involved and partly because the land itself was not suitable for the farming standpoint.

"Despite this we carried out surveys of the land, and looked at the possibility of creating big smallholdings on the edges of the town," continued Mr. Boniface.

INDUSTRIAL SITE
He then turned to the need for creating Basildon's fourth industrial estate at Dunton on a site of 112 acres.

"This is closely related to the development of residential areas in the west and will not come into operation until 1963."

"Our experience shows that industry wants good road communications and it will be possible to give them this on this site."

There were difficulties in taking industry to the marshland sites at Pitsea, although it was proposed to take some service to the town there.

Mr. Boniface also mentioned the need for the County Council to purchase the new Low Dunton Road as a Basildon bypass through road between the A127 and the A13.

The present state of the road was the main objection to the inquiry by Dunton Council, who said they would not agree to traffic being diverted until the road was improved.

"We have promised we will not connect us to this road until 1971," said Mr. Boniface. "But unfortunately the County Council have been unable to give us an assurance at this inquiry that they will have carried out their road works by then."

"I hope the Inspector will emphasise in his report to the Minister the importance of these road improvements being carried out in time."

They are not, Mr. Boniface said, "Netherthorpe and Upperthorpe will go on for too long bearing the bulk of this through traffic."

Concluding his long address, Mr. Boniface said, "I started off this inquiry by saying that was a simple plan. I will end it by quoting the Minister of Transport, Mr. James, who described it as a humane one."

Trader's fatal collapse
Well-known Laindon trader Mr. William Emery collapsed and died in the garden of his house in Basildon Drive, Laindon, on Sunday.

Mr. Emery, who was 62, had lived in Laindon for 35 years and had been a successful trader in Basildon Drive since 1941. He leaves a widow and one son.

GARDENERS MEET
Wickford Horticultural and Allotments Society had an excursion to the garden of the February meeting in the June school, when there was a lecture on the subject of "The Garden of the Future" by Mr. George Wainwright, a well-known grower.

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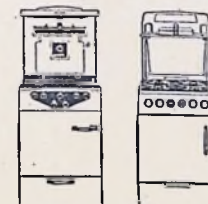
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Vandals at Red Cross hut



The Red Cross first-aid hut in Lake Meadows, Billericay, was broken into by vandals during the night of Thursday week. Not only did they steal first-aid equipment, but they made a shambles of the hut. Our picture shows 14-years-old Red Cross Cadet Andrew Lincoln clearing up some of the mess they left behind.



After a wait of over 20 years, work has started on the new canteen at Langdon Hills Primary School. The children are watching it with interest.



Wickford Old Tyme Dance Club held a dance at the Wickford Community Centre on Saturday evening. Our picture shows the dancers enjoying themselves.



Leaving Holy Cross Church, Basildon, after their wedding on Saturday, are Mr. Brian Keith Busby, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Busby, of Scarletts, Basildon, and his bride, the former Miss Gwendoline Harrison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Harrison, of Holden Road, Basildon. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a full-length dress. Her brother, Mr. John Harrison, was best man.
(Picture by Highlands Studios).



The wedding took place on Saturday of Mr. Christopher Orroch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orroch, of Borwick Lane, Wickford, and Miss Ann Page, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Page, of Cranfield Park Road, Wickford.

The service was held at St. Catherine's Church and conducted by Rev. F. France. The bride was given away by her father and wore a full-length gown of cream lace, with a full-length cream coat cut into a train. A Juliet can held her long bouffant veil, and she carried a bouquet of white orchids and carnations. She was attended by Miss Helen Orroch (sister of the bridegroom) and her own cousin, Hazel Morter. They wore dresses of pink satin and nylon. Page boy was Master Garry Sullivan, bride's cousin, who wore black silk trousers and a lace shirt. Best man was Mr. M. Mooney.

(Photo by Stan Caldwell)



The League of Friends of St. Andrew's Hospital, Billericay, held their annual dinner and dance at the Masonic Hall, Hutton, on Thursday. Our picture shows their chairman, Mr. S. Squires, with Mrs. Squires, waiting to receive their guests.
(Story on Page Two).

CELEBRATE LAINDON PLANS

"AIRY-FAIRY and idiotic planning utterly ill conceived." This was how Laindon Community Association's Warden described Basildon Development Corporation's brainchild Master Plan for Laindon on Thursday week.

Speaking at the public inquiry into the Plan at Laindon, the Warden (Mr. Ron Moorcroft) continued: "If the Corporation are getting old with a vision that is glazed and impaired, a period in dry dock is called for. Their policy for community development in the area is leaking and listing and they are tackling the problem in a pussfoot manner."

Hub of social life

Mr. Moorcroft was speaking on behalf of Laindon Community Association, whose main objection to the Plan is that Laindon Community Centre—the hub of Laindon's social life—may be affected by development in the High Road after 1981.

Not only, they say, has Laindon Community Centre been left completely off the Plan in its present position, but no allowance has been made for a sports area outside which the Development Corporation promised some years ago.

Mr. Moorcroft, in his long address to the Inspector, issued a warning to the Corporation. "If they hope to put up the hurricane shelters of promises and wait until the storm has blown out, they will be sadly mistaken."

Roots and traditions

"For the first time they are coming to an area which is established with roots and traditions. These we are determined to maintain," he said.

Mr. Moorcroft said his Centre may not be affected for 30 years, but the Association's present generation had a moral obligation to see that future generations did not inherit a position they inherited, where the most elementary facilities for simple activities did not exist.

The Association were opposing any suggestion to resite the Centre. It was still in the centre of the area and it should remain where it is, with ample room for development of outdoor facilities surrounding it. They did not accept the view that land was too valuable because nothing could be too valuable for community development.

To achieve a strong degree of community development, Laindon had to have a strong heart and it was necessary for this to be the hub and focal point of community life—to be in the centre of the area.

Half a lung

"Half a lung is no good," said Mr. Moorcroft. "We must have a complete facility, and for maximum efficiency they must surround the Centre."

Mr. Moorcroft then turned to the Corporation's policy of having a community hall in each neighbourhood. Under the new Plan, he said, Laindon would be divided up into ten compartments, which would mean ten separate halls.

"The Association submit this policy would be wrong," said Mr. Moorcroft. "Laindon North, Laindon West, and Langdon Hills etc., should only be so for administrative purposes. Thinking on these lines would be fatal for successful community development as it tends to shut people off in compartments."

"If the Corporation build these halls," continued Mr. Moorcroft, "they will be all working within Laindon Community Association's sphere. The result would be certain chaos and confusion and great duplication of activities and costs all completely unnecessary."

Should the Corporation carry out the policy of dividing the area up into compartments, community development will be put back years, it was doubtful whether it would ever recover."

Fatal mistake

Attacking the planners, Mr. Moorcroft said they should not make the fatal mistake of giving people what they think they should have, but within reason, what the people want.

He accused the Corporation had a difficult task, but argued that the planners ought to get out of the habit of talking to themselves and start walking hand in hand with those whose responsibility it is to weld people into a community.

The benefits of leaving the Centre on its present site and providing outdoor facilities around it were immeasurable, contended Mr. Moorcroft, to the Association's work of community development.

"This must not be sacrificed for a few shops or offices that may or may not be wanted, or for the financial gain resulting therefrom."

Final analysis

"In the final analysis, the argument rests on the fact that Laindon Community Association promises as much for the future of mankind in this area as any institution created to further the well-being of the community."

"The Corporation's proposals are so airy-fairy, it may or it may not be so serious a matter they would be utterly ill-conceived," he said.

For the Development Corporation, Mr. Douglas Galloway (chief architect) said there was no intention of excluding Laindon Community Centre should be excluded from the

In this connection he commented that existing recreational facilities in various new towns were underutilised and did not foresee any remarkable change in the leisure habits of the population in the future towards outdoor sports despite an increase in leisure time.

Mr. Palmer thought the provision of an industrial sports area to the west of Gardiners Lane was unnecessary in view of the large acreage involved.

If there had to be a break between the industrial areas, he favoured a stretch of natural countryside with a few houses rather than an artificial break such as a flat playing field.

He further thought the planners might also be forced to change their minds about the sports area if neighbouring industries (Ilford, Ltd. and Ford's) found it necessary to expand in the future.

"A situation might arise whereby our clients may have their land acquired for one purpose and subsequently find industrial buildings on their former holdings," he said.

GOOD GROUNDS

"I feel these people have good grounds for objection, since this appears to be one of those cases where the planners' desire for tidiness and conformity has clouded their judgment."

Mr. Palmer considered it was premature to zone the land as open space; he believed the use of the land should be allowed to remain unaltered, or that it should be zoned for industrial purposes.

During cross-examination, Corporation General Manager Mr. R. G. Boniface said local industry, including Ford's, Ilford's, Standard Telephones, Yodel's, Marconi and York Shipley would be needing "something in the region of 35 acres" for sports grounds.

Mr. Palmer answered: "I accept this, but you will still have ample land left on this area without touching anyone's people's homes and land."

Mr. Boniface said: "Would you not be happy to give a guarantee of 10 years' stay for their homes and premises to review the situation regarding their land in five years?"

Mr. Palmer: "I cannot speak for them as some would still be robbed of their livelihood if they lose their land."

Mr. Douglas Galloway (Corporation's chief architect) said the reservation of the 100 acres between Gardiners Lane and Ford's plant would ensure sufficient land had been set aside to meet the anticipated demand for outdoor recreation.

There had already been considerable demand for industrialists' sports fields and the area in question was "eminently suitable" for such use.

He referred to demands from the industrialists for sports fields known to the Corporation, and mentioned that Ford's—the town's largest single employer—had not yet provided a sports ground for employees.

The residents' solicitor (Mr. K. S. Hinde) produced a letter from Ford's saying they were not interested in buying the land for a sports ground. "It is unsuitable for our present needs," it stated.

Answering this, Mr. Galloway said Ford's might not be interested in buying at the present time, but this did not mean they were against leasing the land from the Corporation.

Also at Thursday's hearing Mr. L. B. W. Mansworth, of Victoria Road, Laindon, objected to Road 60 (Laindon to Duntun) which might affect his two-years-old home.

Representing Mr. Mansworth, Mr. Michael Gullen suggested the road should be realigned nearer Manor Road which he described as "just a track."

For the Development Corporation, Mr. Hubert Bryant (chief engineer) said the proposed road might affect Mr. Mansworth's property; if it was affected only a few feet of land would probably be needed.

Mr. Bryant could not give a definite answer until the detailed planning was carried out. Mr. Boniface said every effort would be made to avoid touching the property.

SELF DENIAL
Another individual objector was Mrs. G. Alderton, of Lower Avenue, Duntun, who said her bungalow was built by "real hard work and self denial." She had no wish to leave to make way for industry.
If she was forced to go, Mrs. Alderton said she would want a freehold property in exchange.
For the Corporation, Mr. Boniface said they were prepared to give her a legal assurance that the property would not be touched for 15 years.

SOCIETY'S HISTORIC BUILDINGS OBJECTION

AN OBJECTION that the Master Plan makes no mention of historic buildings worthy of preservation, came from the History of Basildon Society at Friday's public inquiry.

The Society's Secretary, Mr. Rodney Legg, argued that a full investigation into local historic buildings ought to have been made in 1949.

Had serious thought been given at that time the number standing today would probably be double, he said.

He complained that buildings worthy of preservation had been left empty and boarded up and an open target for vandals.

VANDALISM

Laindon Hall, which was burned down by vandals, was cited as an example. No attempt was made, he said, to remove the fine Elizabethan staircase at the hall.

Mr. Legg said the Society would fight for the preservation of the remaining historic buildings in the area, and he hoped the Minister would give firm guidance to the Corporation on preservation of specific buildings.

Mr. Douglas Galloway assured the Society that as part of their policy and under the present plan, the Corporation try, whenever possible, to preserve buildings of real historic interest.

They supported the Society in their view that every effort should be made to avoid the destruction of buildings worthy of preservation.

Mr. Galloway submitted a list of 16 old buildings to the inquiry with comments about them. In most cases the Corporation hoped to preserve.

SALVATION ARMY
Sunday meetings of Wickford Salvation Army Corps in the Citadel last week were led by two cadets from the Army's International Training College. They were Colin Styles and Colin McAuley. It was the Young People's self denial service when the children brought gifts of money. Altar flowers were provided by Captain and Mrs. Brian Taylor.

Basildon to be region's centre

THE CHIPS are piled high on Basildon becoming a regional centre. In fact, its regional draw is already being felt.

This was stated by Basildon Development Corporation's General Manager Mr. R. G. Boniface at the last day of the Master Plan inquiry on Tuesday.

He was replying to the County Council's opinion expressed earlier at the inquiry that Basildon would never become a centre for the region in spite of the Corporation's hopes.

"Around Basildon we have many places that have not been well planned. Wickford is one. When I came here it had a population of 6,000 and a shopping street resembling a film of Wells Fargo without the cowboys."

"It might have a Woolworths and a car park, but it can never become a regional centre when it is such a short distance away from Basildon with its 150 shop units and planned accommodation for 10,000 cars."

"The whole build up of our town centre and Gloucester Park is conducive to the creation of a magnet for shopping, employment, leisure and almost every form of human activity."

"If Basildon is being planned in that way and there is evidence to prove it, the town cannot fail to become a strong regional centre."

"It is even very pronounced at the present time, as a survey on cars in the Town Centre on a Saturday some time ago proved. It showed that 40 per cent of the cars came from outside Basildon," said Mr. Boniface.

He also spoke of the County Council's view that to attract further employment to Basildon would act as a stimulus to bring people into the Green Belt.

"Quite clearly this is not so," said Mr. Boniface. "The stimulus is created by economic conditions and Government policy."

"The bringing of the Ford Research Centre to Basildon was nothing to do with the Corporation's plan. It was Government policy. We only provided the site," he said.

Young car driver fined £40

THERE WAS a crowd in the centre of Basildon about 11.15 p.m. on January 29th, when a car was driven at speed from Southernhay into Market Access Road, said Mr. T. Lavelle, prosecuting, at Billericay on Tuesday.

Pounder said he had followed a car into Access Road. It stopped suddenly, causing him to brake sharply. He followed the car across the car park and because his vehicle's clutch was very fierce and he was not used to it the rear wheels skidded.

"The whole attitude of the Policemen was forceful. It was as if they were saying to themselves 'We have tonight to pinch someone like this driver,'" said Pounder.

For the third offence he was fined £10 and on the first two he was fined £30.

Mr. Lavelle said the car turned into the Access Road with tyres screaming. He accelerated and eventually pulled up in the car park.

Policemen went over to Pounder, who was with a group of youths. They had some difficulty in getting him to admit he was the driver.

He refused to give his name and address and his manner was threatening, said Mr. Lavelle.

Caravan people angry

ANGRY RESIDENTS of the Trailer Park caravan site, Crays Hill, held a protest meeting on Monday over a proposed increase in their rates.

They have received letters from Basildon Valuation Office stating: "It has recently been decided by the Court of Appeal that, in certain circumstances, a caravan should be valued together with its pitch as a separate assessment for rating purposes."

The new assessments, say the residents, would be back-dated to April last year, and could cost them another 5s. a week on top of their site rent of 21 10s. a week.

The meeting was conducted by site owner Mr. Norman Beadie, a member of Crays Hill Ratepayers' Association, who said the proposed increase was only applicable to caravans which were sub-let, and as this was not possible on his site, he saw no reason for the increase.

Residents will object to any increase in rates, and it was decided to take legal advice on the best way to do it.

No smoking ban on councillors and the public?

A BAN on smoking at public Council meetings is being recommended to Basildon Council.

The decision was taken this week by the Public Health Committee following the Government's request to local authorities to display "No smoking" signs in places where public gather.

The Committee's four members—Coun. D. R. Savage, Coun. N. J. Trew, Coun. P. Saunders and Coun. C. Thirkettle—unanimously agreed positive action on the matter ought to be taken.

They are recommending the Council to display the public under the Council's control, and to ban smoking at meetings of the Council or committees which are open to the public.

Road Safety artists

BASILDON U.D. ROAD SAFETY ORGANISATION



Winners were chosen this week in the Basildon round of a children's road safety painting competition to mark the golden jubilee of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

Julia Munday, aged 11, of Wickford Junior School, won the senior class of the contest. Runners-up were Richard Acton, of Wickford, and Susan Burton, of Buttsbury School. With a well-painted owl, 10-year-old Keith Harris, of Bryn Junior School, won the second section. Runners-up were Simon Marchant and Susan Broad.

In the younger class Karen Butler, aged six, of Springfield Infants, was the winner. Peter Aylme, of Chylverne Infants, and Lore Tobin, of the same school, were runners-up. Mr. Owen Davies (Basildon Road Safety Officer) is seen above with the winner.

The nine pictures were selected from an entry of 118. Regional finals for East Anglia will be held at Cambridge. If any of the Basildon prints are selected they will go on to the national finals in London.



Billericay Youth Centre hold a very well-attended ballroom dancing class at their Buttsbury School annexe. Fred and Margaret Horner are the instructors, and they are seen demonstrating the tango to their 70-strong class.

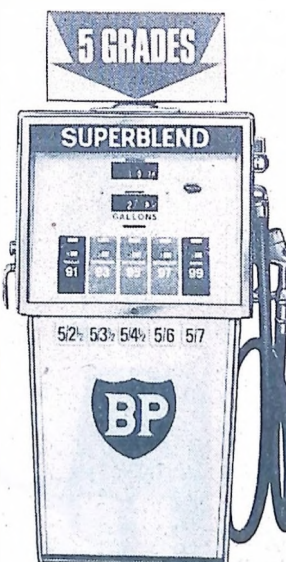


The 1st Wickford Scout Group held an open evening at Wickford Congregational Church Hall on Saturday. Our picture shows some of the Cubs who entertained parents and friends.



Basildon Squadron of the Air Training Corps (No. 2243) marched to a service at Holy Cross Church, Fryerns, on Sunday to the music of the Southernland Pipes and Drums. Rural Dean Rev. Arthur Dunlop and Curate Rev. Brian Buxton took the service. Heavy rain marred the march from Squadron Head-quarters at Cherrydown, Basildon. Above are (left to right) Flying Officer R. Stevens, Flight-Lieut. K. Knight, Rev. Mr. Buxton and Warrant Officer A. John.

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LAINDON REVELLERS MADE IT A GRAND SHOW

Youth band competition suggested

BASILDON Drum and Trumpet Corps want to organise New Towns Youth Band competition in Basildon this Autumn. Their big difficulty at the moment is to find a venue, but they have already drawn up fairly detailed plans of the competition.

They want to promote friendly competition between the young bands in all the New Towns, and intend to hold the event annually once they have got it going. Maximum age of performers would be 18.

The Corps want to stage their competition on grass, and facilities would be laid on for spectators, such as refreshments, seating, car and coach parking.

An official of the Corps pointed out: "We have been to competitions all over the country, but never has there been one in Basildon. This would be a day worth remembering, and would help put Basildon on the map. I think we can cover the cost from admission charges and refreshments, our main trouble is to find somewhere to stage the bands."

CONSIDERING the youth of the cast, most of whom were aged between eight and 14 years, the Revellers' pantomime "Dick Whittington" turned out to be an extremely good first production for Mrs. Jean Jagger last week.

While their singing voices were not very strong, they put plenty of energy into their dancing and appeared to enjoy their efforts enormously. Bill Guy made an excellent dame, and the traditional slapstick cookery routine, where the pastry gets beaten to death and the oven explodes with a vivid blue flash was slick and funny.

Principal Boy Lorraine Goddard, 14, has a tuneful and sweet voice and the long shapely legs necessary to show off her costumes to the best advantage.

John Byron (13) made a most appealing Cat, full of feline pranks, but Storyteller Susan Addy was practically inaudible times. Full cast was: Dick Whittington, Lorraine Goddard; Alice, Janet Bentley; Idle Jack, Lou Jagger; Mr. Fitzhugh, Fred Penson; Mrs. Fitzhugh, Jean Cooper; The Cat, John Byron; Bessie, Audrey Carter; Mrs. Jones, Bill Guy; Emperor, Ray Lawrence; Fairy Queen, Christine Batchford; Spirit of London, Judith Duttall; Ship's Mate, Lois Scott; Prime Minister, Barbara Hurley; Cap-

tain, Jean Turner; Chorus, Helen Thomas; Gipsy, Linda Selby; Guest Artist, Avis Taylor; Storyteller, Susan Addy. The script was by Mr. C. R. Clark, and pianist was Frank Addy. Other back room workers were T. Pletcher W. Jagger, O. Selby, L. Carter, J. Turner. Audrey Lawrence, in charge of refreshments and sweets, Mesdames Penson, Guy, Addy and Waldon. Mr. Waldon was in charge of the hall.

AN APPEAL

Because Basildon Council have failed to give a decision in respect of demolition of existing buildings and reconstruction of two shops at ground floor level and offices over on the first floor at 26-28 High Street, Billericay, an appeal has been lodged with the Minister of Housing and Local Government, Appellant, Miss B. M. Wormald has been informed that a public inquiry will be held into her appeal on March 20th at the Council Chamber, Fodderwick, Basildon.

The Laindon Revellers presented a pantomime, "Dick Whittington," at the Laundon Community Hall on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Our picture shows the cast.

The cigarettes were costly

"I DID it to get some cigarettes," said a 14-year-old Basildon boy at Billericay Juvenile Court on Monday when he faced four offences and asked for five to be considered. The boy admitted stealing £14, the money of the North Thames Gas Board, stealing 1s. while working as a paper boy, embezzling 10s. 1d. and stealing a purse containing £5 10s. belonging to his mother. He was conditionally discharged for 12 months. His father was bound over in the sum of £100 for the boy's good behaviour during that time.

WORKERS WANTED

St. Mary's Church, Langdon Hills, is to hold its Parish Festival in August. They want the help of everyone who attends the church for arranging flowers, scrubbing, making tea, making music, washing up, secretarial duties—in fact, they want anyone who can do anything! Collecting names of volunteers is Mrs. Holmes, of Valcanta, Nightingale Avenue, Langdon Hills.

TEENAGERS STAGE MUSICAL REVUE



Hard work and enthusiasm won success

A LOT of hard work and boundless enthusiasm went into the musical revue, "The Show Boat," which was presented by the Basildon Congregational Church's Dramatic Society last Saturday at the Church Hall and which was seen by about 80 people.

The entire cast were aged between 13 and 16, and the whole thing was organised, sketches written and dances arranged by the young people themselves.

The producer was Jean Prosho, a 16-year-old apprentice hairdresser, who wrote some of the sketches.

Susan Ladyman, also 15, who is at present doing the extended course at Woodlands Girls' School, was the choreographer.

Susan and Jean are seen above—Jean is on the right. Taking part were Susan Ladyman, Linda and Christine Prosho, Lesley Fincham, Linda Staines, Marion Dosssett, Janet Bean, Christine Elles, Carole Crammer, Linda Weddall, Pamela Ellison and Jackie Lord. Pianist was Susan Thomas, announcer was Janet Bean, and make-up, wardrobe and hairdressing were in the capable hands of Susan Houghton, Susan Trattell and Lynne Wheman.

Ailing committee wound-up

BILLERICAY Residents' Association's ailing North Area Committee was officially wound-up at its annual meeting at the Mayflower School on Thursday.

Reason? — Only five people turned up to the meeting—three Committee members and two Executive Committee members—and there were not enough people present who were prepared to serve on the Committee.

Tending his resignation, the Chairman, (Mr. Ralph Cox) said: "This Committee has survived with difficulty during the year because of the dwindling core of committee members who have left because of other commitments, or because they have moved away from the area."

"We were hoping there would be a full attendance and that a number of people would be prepared to serve on the Committee, but this has not happened. We shall, however, continue to do our best to represent our 58 members in this area

because we believe people are interested in the Association's work, but that they cannot for one reason or another get to our meetings."

It was agreed the North Area would be serviced by the Sunny Mede Area Committee. North Area representatives would be elected and they would report back to the Sunny Mede Area Committee, who would take up any queries on their behalf.

A door to re-forming the North Area Committee was left open, however.

Said Mr. Cox: "While Sunny Mede are dealing with any problems that might arise in the North Area, it is hoped the area representatives will take the opportunity to find people who will be willing to serve on the Committee. As soon as enough people were found, the Committee would be re-formed."

The retiring Committee were Messrs. Cox, Brian Elsworth, Reg Young, Bob Hall and Derek Holmes, who were all elected North Area representatives to the Sunny Mede Area Committee.



NEW TOWN WALKER RETAINS HIS ESSEX TITLE

BASILDON ATHLETIC CLUB'S WALKER, JOHN WEBB, RETAINED HIS ESSEX 10 MILES' TITLE ON SATURDAY AND SHOWED HE HAS ALMOST RECOVERED FROM THE INJURY WHICH HAS PLAGUED HIM SINCE DECEMBER.

In a field of 40 Webb shared the lead for the first few miles with Colin Young (Essex Beagles) and Alex Banyard (Southend A.C.).

Billericay runner was second

MICHAEL WALDEN, the young runner from Billericay, secured in the Essex junior cross-country at Chelmsford on Saturday, thus qualifying for the final in the Essex team which will run in the National at Sheffield on March 18th.

The run was the highlight of the day for the Billericay and junior runners, which although they ran well, failed to make any real impact on the senior championships. The senior team did not, in fact, compete in the inter-district competition as they had only five runners.

The junior race was the first to be run, and 13 full teams of eight runners completed the 2½-mile course. Michael Walden ran excellently to finish 20 yards behind the winner, D. Corcoran, of Dartford, and the team came fifth with a points total of 218.

The course, which was knee deep in mud at places, seemed to affect the intermediate runners most. G. Jeffrey, Billericay, had a hard-planned headstart in the mud and lost many places before coming in 24th. Corcoran, of Dartford, ran excellently, however, to take 10th place.

The Billericay team came 8th, with 284 points.

Both the junior and intermediate teams were weakened by the absence of Essex, Vail and Henkey, all members of the successful Fryers Grammar School side when played football in the Cook Cup competition that morning. They were too exhausted to compete.

Considering how the standards have risen, both these teams can be pleased with their performances.

R. Layzell, one of the five members of the senior team, can also be pleased with his performance. In his first year as a senior he ran very well to take 14th place in the gruelling race—five miles of muddy, hilly country, including a river and a marsh.

Billericay Rugby Club avenge Burnham defeat

Billericay R.G. 17 pts., Burnham-on-Crouch R.G. 3 pts.

DETERMINED TO Avenge a 6-5 defeat suffered earlier in the season, Billericay Rugby Club succeeded in great style at Willowbrook on Saturday, although they were so far ahead at the break they lost much of their fire and enthusiasm in the second half.

Billericay played open attacking rugby from the first whistle and opened their account very nicely as a result of a good three-quarter movement which was well supported by the pack.

Right-winger John Brown picked up a pass from Stanley Ball to score a good, but unconverted, try in a corner.

Then skipper Richard Shipton made the second try back to John Willowbrook, who barged through three tackles to score to the right of the posts.

This try was converted by Shipton and shortly afterwards he put Billericay further ahead with an excellent drop goal, which was the perfect example of quick thinking and acting under pressure.

The homesters increased their lead to 14 points just before the break when they were awarded a penalty right in front of the posts.

The Burnham scrum-half was caught outside when No. 8 forward John Reid held the ball in the set scrum, and Shipton converted with ease.

In the second half Billericay were nowhere near as authoritative and only added to their tally towards the end, when second-row forward Bill Thorne picked up a loose ball near the try line and barged over.

The try was not converted and in the dying minutes Burnham at last got a score. A good three-quarter movement by Billericay broke down when Sheppard intercepted a pass, and he raced 75 yards to score a very fine try.

Basildon athletes at Romford

BASILDON ATHLETIC Club took part in Romford A.C.'s seven-mile inter-club cross-country on Saturday, and, though there were no prizes or team points at stake, they found the competition as keen as ever.

Sid Purkis took the lead right from the start and held off strong challenges to win for the home club in 36 mins. 28 secs., pulling away from his rivals with a powerful last lap.

As usual, the Basildon athletes started slowly, but by the end of the first lap they were on the heels of the leading group and for most of the race Dave Minnis and Alan Rogers ran together, gradually making their way up through the field.

On a hilly course through damp woods positions changed only slightly, but the Basildon pair moved up to 7th and 8th during the middle lap of 2½ miles, and they continued to improve.

Rogerson finished 6th in 39 mins. 12 secs., with 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th.

They scored 31 points to 15 by winners Essex Beagles and 20 by Romford.

The youths' race was over 2½ miles, but Basildon were without a full team and best results were: 9th by Banks (16 mins. 2 secs.) and 15th by Smith (17 mins. 28 secs.).

Early on they held 7th and 10th places, but misjudged their efforts and dropped back. Banks climbing again by virtue of a strong finish.

Rowland (Romford) won the race in 14 mins. 23 secs.

DARTS

Leaders lose again

A FEW weeks ago the Essex Country Club had a virtually unassailable lead in the Laindon and District Darts League.

But another defeat last week, the hands of their nearest rivals, Owl and Pussy Cat "A", narrowed their lead to two points and made the championship race wide open again.

Results: Owl and Pussy Cat "A" 6, Essex 3; Sherwoods 5, Jolly Friar 1; Ford's 5, Owl and Pussy Cat "B" 3; Standard Telephones 5, Marconi 4; White Hart 5, Laindon C.C. 4; Keros 3, Winston 6.



The captain of Laindon Youth Centre cricket team, 16-year-old Derek Callow, receives instruction from Basildon Cricket Club captain Bob Ayres at Laindon Secondary School.

Basildon Ladies draw at Westcliff

Old Westcliffians 3, Basildon 3

BASILDON LADIES' Hockey Club fought an exciting 3-3 draw with Old Westcliffians at Westcliff High School on Saturday. The game got off to a flying start, with both teams attacking strongly.

Westcliff's right-inner was particularly dangerous, but Basildon repelled all but one of the attacks in the first half and it cost them the only goal of the half.

Soon after the restart Old Westcliffians scored again to lead 2-0, only for Basildon to sweep back into the attack to equalise with two quick goals from left-inner Monica Munro.

Then Basildon went ahead when right-half Ruth Carter took the ball upfield and sent over a splendid inswinger which Pat Greedley deflected past the goalkeeper with the tip of her stick.

The last goal of the match was scored by the home side from an accurately placed shot.

Basildon: Jean Rattray; Janet Metcalfe, Marion Love, Ruth Carter, Judy Bootham, Margaret Southcott; Jenny Pateman, Pat Greedley, Maureen Ames, Monica Munro, Diana Bowden.

On Saturday Basildon Ladies are away to Harlow.

Billericay score six

OLD SOUTHERNDIAN LADIES 2, BILLERICAY LADIES 6

BILLERICAY LADIES' Hockey Club recorded a convincing victory over Old Southendian Ladies at Southchurch on Saturday.

Goalscorers were H. Bushnell (4), M. Bates and B. Leyton. Tomorrow Billericay play Sharnbrook Ladies at Wansstead.

Warm hearts

Billericay Town Sports Club on Tuesday held a spontaneous collection for the widow of Tom Alden, the 21-year-old Highgate United centre, half killed by lightning in an F.A. Amateur Cup quarter-final match on Saturday. Held at a member's guests' social at the Club pavilion, it realised £8 1s, which will be sent to Mrs. Alden subject to Essex F.A. approval.

BIG WIN FOR WICKFORD

WICKFORD DISTRICT CUB SCOUTS 6, RAYLEIGH DISTRICT CUB SCOUTS (NORTH DIV.) 0

THE BETTER team all round, Wickford Cub Scouts took a three-goal lead against Rayleigh (North Div.) Cub Scouts in their second match at Wickford Memorial Park on Saturday.

In the second half they doubled it and their visitors could make no impression on their sound defence.

A Bowditch put them ahead in the fifth minute after beating two defenders, and he also scored their second. A Rodge netted the third five minutes before the break when the Rayleigh keeper failed to hold a hard shot from Ford.

Goals from Morrell and Waddy put the result beyond doubt in the opening minutes of the second half, but the visitors tried hard to fight back and Wickford completed their tally a few minutes from the end.

Scorer was Rodge, who took a long ball down the left wing to thump it home hard and high—the best goal of the match.

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Orkans outpace Aces

ORKANS R. EPPING ACES 38 WITH ONLY six riders. Orkans scored a conclusive victory against Epping Aces last week, dropping behind in the first three heats, then coming back strongly, with Dave Tulloch scoring maximum points.

The Orkans' revival began in heat four, when they took a maximum five points, with guest rider Pete Childer barging up Tulloch in second place.

Then, in heat five, Dave Symonds and Colin Wheeler made it another 5-1. By the halfway stage Orkans were in the never looked back.

John Strong scored his senior maximum, and Dave Tulloch got his second maximum of the year and Wheeler dropped only one point.

Lead, after having machine trouble, was his last two out-riders to make this a great day for the Orkans.

Last year's league averages, riders in the top 20. They are: Dave Tulloch, 245; 13th, Colin Wheeler, 22; and 16th, John Strong, 22.

On the Saturday Hockets at Southend.

NARROW FOR THE TOWN

BILLERICAY Town first team, who beat Collier Row 2-1 at home in the Essex Olympian League last week with goals from Terry Sears and Len Hill, are without a match tomorrow (Saturday).

However, the second team are at home tomorrow and their line-up will be: Giaraki, Snelling, Hooper, Cole, Anastasi, Morton, Turner, Fuller, Negust, Daniels, DeAth.

Last week they beat Galleywood 3-2 away, Brian Hooper and Reer Fuller (2) scoring the goals.

The third team was beaten 5-3 at home by the Mid-Essex League Second Division title favourites, Warren. They were in no way inferior to their visitors in their football, but threw away the points by conceding an own goal and three "soft" goals.

Their marksmen were Terry Chapman and Dave Mander, a Warren defender contributing the other goal.

Away to Swan Villa, their team will be Paul, Jack, Hatch, Stratton, Haxby, Callaghan, Hutchinson, Wilson, Chapman, Mander and Naples.

Without a match last week, the fourth team are at home to Rayne and their line-up is: Stewart, Jones, Triggs, Smith, Edwards, Hanks, Palmer, Dalton, Markham, Martin, Shepherd.

Last week the fifth team lost 4-1 away to Benthalls after leading 1-0 for 60 minutes. They will be out for revenge when they meet Benthalls again in the second round of the Chelmsford and Mid-Essex Combination Division III Cup on Saturday week.

Playing Old Chelmsfordians III at home tomorrow, their team will be Harley, Devey, Bennett, Taylor, Blanchflower, Palmer, Murrell, Butler, D. Edwards, Cooper, Bates.

Two 5-0 victories

LAINDON SECONDARY
TIMBERLOG SECONDARY
(UNDER-15) 5

THE STAR-STUDDED Timberlog side, with five district players, proved too strong for Laundon on Friday, but the Laundon boys never gave up and played their part in producing a fast, exciting match.

The District players were Hunt, Cotter, Reynolds, Wilson and Adderton and they always were their side the edge. Timberlog also had most of the luck going, with two of their goals given to them after mix-ups in the Laundon defence.

Laundon (Under-15) 5, Timberlog (Under-15) 0.

The Laundon Under-13 side avenged their seniors' defeat on the same day with some excellent football under difficult conditions. Timberlog spent most of the game defending, and only good keeping by Murnon kept the score down.

Timberlog played well for Murnon at centre-half, but he fought alone, and his forwards did not have the power to break through the Laundon defence.

They were Grount, at centre-half, Simmons at inside-right and Ellis at centre-forward.

Poor record

North Essex based at Basildon last Saturday with the poor record of having lost each time in the past four seasons.

SHOEBURY BEATEN IN COOK CUP

FRYERS GRAMMAR SCHOOL 4, SHOEBURY COUNTY HIGH 2

THE mature young Fryers side, producing fine football with their 4-2 victory over Shoebury, stormed through to the third round of the Cook Cup on Saturday.

Fryers set right on top. The first half, but many chances, went begging as Fryers dashed across goal with no one to touch them in Fryers scored first, a lucky goal, from away by a long shot, but the keeper to the net.

But Shoebury came storming back and after a few minutes burst through Fryers' back four and put his side into a 2-1 lead, a lead which they held until the interval.

After the break, however, Fryers set right on top. Fryers' snappy Fryers' winger, gave the Southern side a lot of trouble with his swerving runs, and he put his side back into the game with an acute angled shot after beating two players.

Fryers were looking for goals, and, finally, it was Essex in terrific form, who put his side into the lead, he shot from the edge of the area, then with his left foot, a low and powerfully into the corner of the net.

Still Fryers pressed for goals. Fryers got to the middle of the field and sent a beautiful pass through the defence. Gilmore, running on, scored.

That finally wrapped it up. Shoebury fought on, but the score stayed at 4-2.

This win puts Fryers through to the third round proper of the Cook Cup, the further any Basildon side has gone for many years.

Fryers—Moorehouse, Vall, Conway (capt.), Nicholls, Townley, Henkey, Gilmore, Essex, Gibbs, Moorcroft.

Bowers grab two goals in the last five minutes

SAWBRIDGEWORTH 1, BOWERS UNITED 3

BOWERS UNITED stopped a six-game winning streak by Sawbridgeworth when they beat them 3-1 at Sawbridgeworth on Saturday, thanks to two goals in the last five minutes. A bumpy pitch and gusty wind made conditions far from ideal and play tended to be scrappy at times.

Although kicking against the wind in the first half, Bowers had a fair share of the play, and, in fact, looked the more dangerous of the two sides. Sawbridgeworth were fortunate when Gardner beat the goalkeeper to a long ball, but the left-back cut across and cleared the winger's shot from the line.

Great finish

For a while it looked as though Sawbridgeworth would take control and Bowers seemed unable to get back into the game. But then they struck a good patch and had Sawbridgeworth defending desperately. Storey had a shot kicked off the line and then Gardner had a close-range shot well saved by the goalkeeper.

With five minutes to go the game took a dramatic turn when Giles slipped the ball inside to Allen and, from the wing-half's short left cross, Bonning half-volleyed the ball on the turn into the roof of the net.

Before Sawbridgeworth had got over the shock Bonning shot his head to a good cross from Fleetwood and the goalkeeper half saved it, but the centre forward recovered quickly to strike the ball home for his hat-trick.

Sawbridgeworth were now a beaten side and were lucky to escape another goal before the end.

Bonning scores

At the other end Levey saved well for Bowers beneath the bar from a near-swirling shot. Then Sawbridgeworth's goalkeeper courageously saved at Bonning's feet when the centre-forward broke through before being beaten by the goalkeeper in the 42nd minute.

A long cross ball from Giles found Bonning on the half and he raced forward and shot over the diving goalkeeper to give Bowers the lead.

In the few remaining minutes of the half Sawbridgeworth tried hard for an equaliser, but the Bowers defence held out.

Five minutes after the interval some casual play by the Bowers defence gave the home side the equaliser. Levey saved by a long ball from the centre-forward as he broke through, but the ball ran loose to the

GUNNERS THROUGH

BASILDON AND PITSEA 3-0 OLD CHELMSFORDIANS 3-0 BASILDON AND PITSEA 3-0

comfortable winners of the second leg of this second round Olympian League fixture, retaining their performance of the first leg to go through to the semi-final 6-0 on aggregate.

The Gunners started at a lively pace, and Holden headed a narrowly over in the opening minutes. The locals continued to put on all the pressure, they went into a deserved lead to Tony Holden, and the latter outpaced the defence and crashed the ball home.

Only two smart saves from the visiting keeper prevented the Gunners quickly scoring further goals.

The O.C.'s attacks were being firmly dealt with and their long shots were limited mainly to the left wing, of which from over the bar.

But with Stevens working energetically in defence and attack, Pitsea continued to dominate play, and went further when they again through Holden, with a fine shot from an acute angle.

Wiltshire, Staff and Holden were all playing well for the Gunners and three came close to increasing the lead before the break. Staff hitting the bar on one occasion.

The Chelmsfordians were pressed back again in the second half, but they broke good chances, both of which were missed. After 20 minutes they found that their third goal, an opportunistic thing goal, as a goalkeeper to all in bringing the scoring

Players were now feeling the effects of the hot ground and they all seemed to be tired by the final whistle.

Early goal put Armada on top

ARMADA 1, CORNINGHAM AND PLYMOUTH 3

FOUR-ONE UP after 10 minutes seemed assured to Corningham as they cruised to an easy win in this Thursday afternoon Combination game, but a late recovery by Armada kept the game open until the final whistle.

Armada started off great style with a neat, quick, brilliant running ball home after a neat pass from Blunston to

passing minutes of the first half. Blunston found back and reversed the score, when their centre-forward, Owen, tripped the Armada goalkeeper to score.

This spurred the Pirates, and within a minute they were in front again, Blunston collecting a great through pass from Blunston to

later the same combination clicked into action again and Blunston secured a late equaliser, but a late recovery by Armada kept the game open until the final whistle.

When the referee blew the whistle, the referee ruled that a foul had been committed in a half-back, Bastable. Bastable, who dazed after his knock, had to miss the rest of the game, and the defence had to be reshuffled.

Finally in this incident, a penalty was awarded to Armada, but minutes from the break, but Mann's shot thudded against the crossbar and was cleared.

The second half was a different story, with Corningham coming right back into the game and reducing the arrears after 15 minutes when Blunston scored.

Blunston's pass, ten minutes later it was 4-2 when Dave Murray got into the scoring net, beating three players before slamming the ball home from the edge of the area.

The game swung from end to end now, with both sides fighting for the lead. The Pirates, Kilm, Flack and Bastable all had to receive treatment for knocks in a half, but not dirty, game, and it was Armada who were happiest to hear the final whistle.

TILBURY ATHLETIC 1, ARMADA 3

ARMADA SERVED A much-improved display to come away with two comfortable wins in the Mid-Essex Combination League points from their visit to Tilbury on Saturday.

It was a happy reappearance for Ron De Bond following his return from Laidon. He was the scorer of two early goals which put the Pirates in command, a position they never lost.

De Bond's first came after 10 minutes, when he was on the spot to shoot a right-wing cross from Lane wide of the goalkeeper.

Five minutes later he pushed home number two from a cross by the other winger.

With the advantage of the wind, Armada had the better of the exchanges in the first half, with Lane sending over some fine crosses and Gentry, at centre-half, backing up.

Half-way through the half Armada increased their lead to three when Matthews set the ball over and Lane motored in to force it home.

In the second half Tilbury failed to make best advantage of the wind, their attacks continually coming unstuck on the edge of the box, while the left-half Beckman set through a lot of work.

Then, from a good moment from defence, John Bulker put the Pirates four up, a goal which was not after Patterson had missed an easy chance.

Needing a point in and when Chapman gave away a penalty Tilbury reduced the arrears.

PEGASUS WIN 3-0

PEGASUS 3, PLESSEY 0

PEGASUS HAD HARD work securing three points against Plessey in this Premier League match at Herd Lane on Saturday.

Pegasus started off well, but a narrow escape from a goal by Plessey's goalkeeper kept the game open.

Only Sharpe, in a forward line, showed any real threat, but he was not able to score the first Pegasus goal.

In the second half Plessey tried hard to come back, but they never bothered the Pegasus defence, in which Ward and goalkeeper St. Flair played well.

Late in the second half Pegasus increased their lead with a corner from Thorpe, which floated direct to the net, but Plessey's goalkeeper, who they got a third, Pennock, kept the finishing touch at bay, at least for four minutes.

Pegasus have now won their third game, but it was Peter Barnes who scored the goal at that time, months with a fractured ankle.

'Pool to win'

Stoke, who travel to meet their next Saturday, have a good chance of winning the pool, but they must first win the match.

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OLYMPIAN LEADERS BACK TO FORM

BURNHAM RAMBLERS got back into their winning ways when they defeated their nearest rivals, Essex Police, by a first half goal scored by skipper Richmond. This was a match that proved to be a really hard tussle, with neither side being prepared to give a thing away.

The result was just about what Burnham needed, as they looked dangerous. Essex Police were without their coach and Secretary John Burke, who was rushed to hospital to have his appendix removed.

Wiltshire, who paid the penalty for not playing to the referee's whistle, the result being that Little Waltham scored their second and decisive goal.

Billericay Town beat Collier Row by the odd score of three. Both the Town's goals came in the first half. Sears scored the first, after touching a defender on the way. The second was scored by a long ball from the wing down the left wing by Wilson. After 15 minutes of the second half Collier Row scored through Mayes.

The opening 20 minutes of Sawbridgeworth United was dominated by the home team, but they were not able to score.

This was done by Bowers' centre-forward five minutes from the start. The second half was almost a repeat performance, this time, however, the home team man-

TOMORROW'S FIXTURES

Basildon v Darnley Press v League v Pitsea; Waltham v Essex Police; Old League Cup — Bowers United v Bishop's Stortford; Writtle v Burnham Ramblers.

Basildon League Review

LAINDON UPSET
IRISH CLUB

Laindon Athletic 5, Irish Club 1

LAINDON ATHLETIC Club brought off the big upset of the day in their Premier Division game against the Irish Club in the Basildon League on Saturday.

The Irish were unfortunate to lose West, but Laindon did well against the wind in the first half and looked the more penetrative side.

Five minutes from half-time Ron Bolman, Danted over, a corner which Gay crashed into the net on the turn.

Going flat out after the interval, the Irish club forced the Athletic back, and they got the equaliser when the ball bobbed about in the Laidon goalmouth. The Irish claimed the ball crossed the line. Laindon defenders disagreed, but the referee awarded a goal.

Within five minutes Steve Synott had dealt two blows which virtually finished the game. Twice he slammed the ball into the net to make the score 4-1.

From then on L.A.C. were completely in control and twenty minutes later the interval a quick bout of passing between Thomas, Gay and Rose left the ball at the feet of Sutton, who flashed an unstoppable drive into the net.

The final goal came with 15 minutes to go through Thomas.

3-1 defeat
for Fryerns

Fryerns Area 1.

CARRERAS 3
OPENING WELL in this South-east and District League game. Fryerns took the lead through Betts. But this was short-lived.

High wind helped Carreras to equalise after ten minutes, and then take the lead almost on half-time.

In the second half, with the wind against them, Fryerns played better, however, they were scrappy and Fryerns failed to pull back a goal. After 45 minutes, Carreras made it 3-1.

Youth results

BASILDON FOOTBALL LEAGUE Youth and Boys' Section results:

Division 1: Stanford 3, Corringham 2.

Division II Cup, semi-final, second leg: Billericay 2, Nicholas "B" 3 (Corringham win 8-3 on aggregate).

Fryerns 2, Basildon Boys "C" 2 (Basildon Boys "C" win 8-4 on aggregate).

League Division "B" 7, Thorney Bay 0.

Under-14 Cup, semi-final, second leg: Billericay 2, Fryerns 4 (Billericay win 10-6 on aggregate).

GOOD DOUBLE FOR
BASILDON BOYS

Basildon Boys "B" 7, Thorney Bay 0 completed the Basildon Youth League double over Thorney Bay on Saturday, beating them 7-0 at Markhams Chase. In the first encounter Basildon won 7-1.

Kicking against the wind in the first half Basildon Boys were kept on the defensive. In the early stages and goalkeeper Aldrich made some fine saves to keep the Canvey boys at bay.

After Kelly had put Basildon ahead from a Marven pass, they took control and notched another when a shot was deflected into the net by a defender.

Soon afterwards Davis netted number three with a great first-time kick.

Kelly, working well with Marven, had several fine shots saved and when Kelly miskicked, his partner was on the spot to make it 4-0.

Ten minutes from half-time after a good clearance by Palmer and fine run by Kelly, Davis got his second goal.

Steady defence

Thorney Bay's attack tried hard, but could make little impression on the Basildon defence in which Spike, Woolter, Fednro and keeper Furdy played well.

Play started slowly in the second half, but Basildon kept up the attack and found difficulty in penetrating Thorney Bay's packed defence.

Kelly and Marven had several good shots stopped before Davis netted his third of the same after being put through by Kelly.

Near the end a shot from

G.P.O. SHOCK
BELHUS

THE BASILDON League's Division 1 Cup semi-final between Basildon G.P.O. and Belhus Park is still undecided. The teams ended up sharing four goals after extra time on Saturday and have to replay this week.

The result was a shock for Belhus, who beat the Postmen 8-2 in the league only two weeks previously.

Win of the day was by Laindon Athletic, who crushed the Irish Club.

Irish Sports had shocks before beating improved Basildon Athletic at Markhams Chase. At one stage the factory side were 3-1 down, but fought back to win by the odd goal of nine.

Canvey made the other club's job a bit harder, but Dutton Park, fight all the way before losing 2-1.

With Division 1 leaders Nicholas not playing, and second in the table Belhus playing in the cup, Moore and Scott had the chance to improve their position at the expense of lower teams. But both lost. Moore's 4-1 to Laindon Athletic Reserves and Scott's 4-2 to Bford Reserves.

Premier Division: Dutton 2, Canvey 1; Basildon Athletic 4, Bford Sports 5; Laindon Athletic 5, Irish Club 1; Kingswood 6, Yardley 4.

League Cup, G.P.O. 2, Belhus Park 2 (after extra time). League Bford Reserves 4, Scott 2; Moore's United 1, Laindon Athletic Reserves 4; York Shipley 2, Manor 0.

SATURDAY'S GAMES: The big game on Saturday is the Premier Division Cup semi-final between Dutton Park and Laindon Athletic at Gloucester Park. Waiting to meet them in the final are the Irish Club.

While the cup battle is going on, the other interested parties in the league race, Irish Club, Moore's and Woodlands, should win their matches against teams lower in the table.

In Division I Nicholas return to the fray and should account for Moore's to keep their unbeaten record.

Premier Division fixtures: Cup semi-final: Dutton Park v Laindon Athletic; Woodlands v Canvey; Bford's v Kingswood; Irish Club v Yardley's.

Division I Cup replay: Basildon G.P.O. v Belhus Park; Basildon Athletic Reserves v Bford's; Manor v York Shipley; Moore's v Nicholas.

DEFENSIVE MANOR
BEATEN TWO-NIL

York Shipley 2, Manor United 0

MANOR UNITED killed this Basildon League match stone dead with their defensive tactics. They obviously decided to keep the score down and the plan almost gave them a goalless draw. It was not until the 71st minute that cup finalists York Shipley managed to break through and take the lead.

Manor's defence led by Francis had all the answers to Shipley's attacks in the first half and desperation kept into their play as they tried all ways to break down the barrier.

Hagerty, Loveland and Mann all had attempts saved by Dixon in the Manor goal and Loveland hit the crossbar. A shot from Mann also hit the woodwork and bounced across the line before being cleared.

When Manor did attack, Kearsey, Cockerton and King dealt easily with them and over half-an-hour had gone before goalkeeper Paxman touched the ball.

Facing the strong wind and kicking into the sun, Shipley continued to attack after the break and forced corner after corner. Centre-half Cockerton joined Harmer in going up for the corners, but the ones they collected either hit the woodwork or were saved by Dixon.

Cockerton did so close when he outjumped the defence and had his header charged down. He collected the rebound and had his scissors kick saved on the line.

Mann continually made runs round the Manor right-back and it was via him that Shipley eventually broke through. Receiving from Green he stroked off past three defenders before slipping the ball past Dixon.

Seven minutes later Shipley scored again. Loveland firing the ball over Dixon's shoulder from the edge of the goal area. After this Manor put up their defensive wall again and there was little hope of further goals.

Off the line

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Some of the guests who attended the Wickford Football Club dinner and dance at the Castle Hotel, Wickford, on Friday evening.

Bowers Res.
head Exiles
to defeat

BOWERS UNITED RESERVES 5.

BOWERS UNITED Reserves had a comfortable 5-0 win at the Gun Meadow on Saturday, four of their goals coming from inside-right Yates.

At the start Bowers had a shaky spell and Exiles prompted by their experience half-half might well have gone into an early lead.

Bowers survived this spell and midway through the half produced some fine football which completely demolished the Exiles' defence and produced four goals in 15 minutes.

Their account was opened when a right-wing corner by Pitt was slipped to centre-forward Naulis, who cracked a first-time into the net.

Yates scored number two with a fine header from Pitt's centre and the third followed shortly afterwards following a fine move down the right wing. The ball shot into the net.

Basildon 4th XV (away to May and Baker): Marley, Williams, Dwyer, Brown, Lockett, Berry, Loney, Savage, Worthington. Hammond.

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Another
rugby
success

BASILDON 1ST XV 3 PTS.

FELTHAM 1ST XV 6 PTS.

A TRY by skipper Bill James after a blind side break enabled Basildon's 1st XV to chalk up their 19th win of the season at Feltham on Saturday. They have now scored 271 pts and conceded 90 in their 22 games.

Neither side managed a score in a hard-fought game. Both sides had chances to convert penalties, but all kicks failed.

In the second half both sides of forwards produced some scrappy play and Feltham narrowly failed to score from a break by their strong half-centre.

Basildon gradually gained advantage with the forwards playing splendidly. Eventually they clinched the match when skipper Jenkins went over the line from a blind side break.

BASILDON 2ND XV 13 PTS.
FELTHAM 2ND XV 3 PTS.
ONLY THREE points up at interval. Basildon's 2nd XV went on to record a sound victory over Feltham on Saturday.

After 20 minutes a break by Legassick resulted in Basildon taking the lead with a try by Dave Bounce. It was not converted.

After the interval, some more breaks by Legassick came to nothing and it was left to the forwards to supply the rest of the scoring. Tries were scored by Dave Bounce, Kink, and the fine game and Kink scored both.

To minutes from the end Feltham scored a consolation try from a fine break by full-back.

Tomorrow's rugby teams—Basildon 1st XV (home to Wasps), 2nd XV (home to Wasps), 3rd XV (home to Wasps), 4th XV (home to Wasps), 5th XV (home to Wasps), 6th XV (home to Wasps), 7th XV (home to Wasps), 8th XV (home to Wasps), 9th XV (home to Wasps), 10th XV (home to Wasps), 11th XV (home to Wasps), 12th XV (home to Wasps), 13th XV (home to Wasps), 14th XV (home to Wasps), 15th XV (home to Wasps), 16th XV (home to Wasps), 17th XV (home to Wasps), 18th XV (home to Wasps), 19th XV (home to Wasps), 20th XV (home to Wasps), 21st XV (home to Wasps), 22nd XV (home to Wasps), 23rd XV (home to Wasps), 24th XV (home to Wasps), 25th XV (home to Wasps), 26th XV (home to Wasps), 27th XV (home to Wasps), 28th XV (home to Wasps), 29th XV (home to Wasps), 30th XV (home to Wasps), 31st XV (home to Wasps), 32nd XV (home to Wasps), 33rd XV (home to Wasps), 34th XV (home to Wasps), 35th XV (home to Wasps), 36th XV (home to Wasps), 37th XV (home to Wasps), 38th XV (home to Wasps), 39th XV (home to Wasps), 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