

BASILDON Standard RECORDER

No. 737 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1967 BA 4d.



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Billericay Relief Road Council try to win public confidence

BASILDON COUNCIL took an unprecedented step towards winning public confidence and approval at a public meeting at Billericay on Friday when they made a clean breast of their development proposals for the town centre and surrounding roads.

But, at the same time, it was announced that the Council are going to apply to Essex County Council for planning permission for Billericay Inner Relief Road. This is in spite of objections raised by the public at a Ministry of Housing inquiry a year ago and without the Minister's go-ahead.

"We are tired of waiting for the Minister's decision on the Relief Road," said the Council's Tory Leader, Coun. Anthony Stockley, "and we intend taking this action to force him to consider the problems we are up against in Billericay."

"We do not intend to sit back and wait for the Government. The problem is of such great urgency that we need action now, and the Inner Relief Road is the only answer to Billericay's traffic problems."

There had been a widespread misconception that the Relief Road was envisaged as a by-pass around Billericay, he said.

"It is merely intended to get local traffic from one end of Billericay to the other without using the High Street. The County Council have other plans to build a proper by-pass around the town to take all the heavy through traffic."

Only way

"I am convinced," he said, "that although the Relief Road proposal is far from ideal it is the only way to save the High Street."

"If we were building the High Street from scratch we would not do it this way, but, as it is, we must be prepared to sacrifice some of the town's charm to preserve the majority."

Council Engineer Mr. S. A. Wadsworth said the Council had considered numerous other ways of dealing with the traffic flow in and around Billericay, but they were all aesthetically undesirable or fraught with technical difficulties.

"One alternative put forward was to widen the High Street," he said, "but this would have meant wholesale demolition of many valuable properties on one or both sides of the street."

Character

Referring to the preservation and demolition of properties in the High Street, Coun. Stockley said it was the Council's aim to preserve the present character of the High Street.

MAKE IT A SAFE CHRISTMAS

THE CHAIRMAN of the Council, Coun. A. Baron Burn, J.P., and the Member of Parliament for the Billericay Constituency, Mr. Eric Moonman, have issued the following Christmas message to all residents of the urban district:

"In wishing all families in the area of our Urban District Council a happy and restful Christmas, we should like to add just a word of caution at holiday time.

"The accident rate on the road caused by careless driving is a blot on our enjoyment. We urge you to take particular care when driving home from parties, dances and socials.

The Council had not accepted all the proposals put forward in the High Street Report, compiled by architect planners Building Design Partnership and published in January. They were at variance with the Partnership on various points.

"We envisage the High Street as one continuous line of shops, for example," he said, "and not split up into the little squares proposed by the Partnership."

But he hastened to add that if the Council's proposals were followed to the hilt, all or part of the High Street would eventually become a pedestrian precinct.

Chaired by Council Vice-Chairman Terry Chapman, the meeting was a completely orderly affair in contrast to the public meeting which followed the publication of the High Street Report.

Both Coun. Stockley and Mr. Wadsworth were applauded and there was no heckling.

See Page 6 for a detailed report on the Council's development proposals for Billericay, outlined by Mr. Wadsworth.

Council must buy cottage

BASILDON Council, who have been served with a purchase notice to buy a cottage in Runwell Road, Wickford, are to ask Essex County Council to foot the bill—because the property will be affected by the proposed Wickford Inner Relief Road.

The Council's Planning Committee heard at their last meeting that the owners of Rose Cottage served the notice because the land was "incapable of reasonable beneficial use in its existing state, and that it could not be rendered so capable following the refusal of planning permission."

Permission has been refused for six two-bedroomed flats on the site.

THIS IS OUR OPINION

AT A TIME when doctors are leaving the country for greater opportunities abroad it is surprising that some local doctors are against the idea of providing new facilities in the form of a health centre at Vange.

Less credible is their reason for disagreeing with the project. A health centre is not necessary, say the Essex Executive Committee of the National Health Service.

Fortunately Basildon Council have taken a strong line in rejecting the Committee's pronouncement and are going to press for this facility in Vange.

Their claim that the centre will serve an ultimate population of somewhere in the region of 50,000 people is argument enough to support the Council. But there is a wider issue which has more than just local significance. That is the service to the public.

The National Health Service, in spite of the fact that we pay through the nose for it, is cumbersome, inadequate, understaffed, and, from the public's point of view, timewasting. Any effort to produce an improvement in service is welcome. The "mini-hospital" idea of a health centre with all services centralised is certain to be an improvement.

COUNCIL FRANKNESS WILL BE WELCOMED BY PUBLIC

WITH UNPRECEDENTED frankness Basildon Council finally owned up about their development proposals for Billericay Town Centre and the surrounding road pattern at Friday's public meeting.

A landmark in the history of local public relations, the meeting was the result of a long and bitter struggle between the Council, the public and the Press.

At last it seems the Council have accepted that the electorate have a right to be told in detail about overall schemes which may affect their livelihoods, surroundings, or way of life before they become a reality.

There are two lessons to be learned from the public meeting. Firstly, the Council must in future make sure that the public are kept informed about schemes having such far-reaching effects as the construction of an inner relief road if they are to win back the respect and confidence lost since the controversy came to a head at the beginning of the year.

Secondly residents must realise that it is inevitable that some of Billericay's charm will have to be sacrificed if the majority is to be preserved.

It would be folly to pretend that the construction of an inner relief road will not radically affect the pattern of life in the town, but it appears to be the only alternative to demolishing half the High Street in order to solve the traffic problem.

Feather in the cap of Wickford traders

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OVER TWO MILLION LETTERS AND CARDS —AND NO PANIC

OVER TWO million letters and cards, besides thousands of parcels, have been dealt with by Basildon Post Office in the great pre-Christmas rush.

PEAK days were Monday and Tuesday... Monday alone saw a record 260,000 letters and cards posted in Basildon.

PARCELS from all over Britain for the whole of Essex were dealt with at the Town Centre.

POST of letters—everything with a 4d. stamp—was as normal, despite the flood.

For the Post Office separated the letters from the second class mail like cards. These mounted in vast piles, but most went through the letter boxes by today (Friday).

Said Postmaster Mr. Ron Read: "This is more mail than I have ever seen here at this time. In the morning. Today is the peak."

He was speaking to a reporter in the sorting office on Tuesday. His deputy, Mr. E. J. Dickenson, added: "We are one delivery in hand all through the week. This means that when the people come in from their rounds there is another delivery waiting for them."

Operation Post has been tackled by 120 casual workers in the sorting office and 176 part-time postmen and women doing the rounds.

An indication that things also went well on the national scene was that letters posted all over the North of England on Monday were being delivered as usual on Tuesday.

Mail went to and from London on most trains in and out of Llandow where postmen stood by until midnight every day.

In the front counter of the Town Centre Post Office the big rush for stamps kept two dozen cashiers busy. In a few days £71,000 worth of 3d. stamps were sold in Basildon.

If your children happened to address a letter "Santa Claus, North Pole" or "Father Christmas" don't worry because they will get a reply. A special Post Office department at Edinburgh answers the letters with the pen name "Father Christmas."

But there is less hope for the lady who posted her shopping list... and those of you who put blank envelopes into the red box!

No stamps!

Stampless cards amounted to hundreds. There were 50 in an hour on Tuesday morning alone. Most will probably be lucky—seasonal goodwill and a busy Post Office means postage due often gets forgotten.

Yet almost everyone did remember that parcels should be wrapped. The tape and glue surgery—dealing with badly-made packages—wasn't so busy.

Despite the record post—1,042,390 items stacked by Monday night—the number of hours worked by the staff was down on last year.

Weather was also on the side of the postmen.

No rain or fog meant more efficiency.

"We are going very well," said Mr. Dickenson proudly.

Mr. Eric Moonman, M.P., visited the Post Office on Monday morning to see how they were dealing with the Christmas mail and had breakfast with the early shift. He is seen above with postmen F. Rance, W. Watts, E. Macarree and J. Hazell.

Lead singers in London

TWENTY-SIX members of the Billerica Youth Opera Company attended a concert of carols in London, at Cecil Sharpe House, the Headquarters of the English Folk Dance and Song Society on Sunday.

The Company arrived three hours before the performance to rehearse their parts. The concert consisted of old carols sung to traditional folk tunes and wassail songs. The Company, who were the lead singers, performed to the 400-strong audience for two-and-a-half hours.

So successful was the Company's performance that they have since been approached by the Essex Contingent of the English Folk Dance and Song Society with a view to producing a folk opera.

OUTWOOD BOUND
A cinema and wine evening was held by Outwood Bound Ladies' Club on Monday, in place of the usual meeting. There were 24 members present. Mrs. Tina Webster presided and a raffle was won by Mrs. Ivy Morgan.

INQUIRY CANCELLED

LINK Homes have asked the Minister of Housing to hold their appeal against a Basildon Council planning refusal in abeyance.

The Minister has agreed and the local inquiry fixed for Tuesday was cancelled.

The inquiry was into the Council's refusal to permit residential development at the south end of Fourth and Fifth Avenues, Shotgate.

VICAR WAS THE EVIL FAIRY

WITH their Vicar as the Evil Fairy, the young people of St. Andrew's Church, Basildon, put on a modern production of "Sleeping Beauty" at the weekend.

Said the Vicar, Rev. Keith Wood: "All I want is to be loved—but they always give me someone evil for my part!"

Calling themselves the 656 Drama Group, the youngsters produced a cut-about modern version of the pantomime with guitar playing and slapstick.

Producer: Ernest Foster. Music: Alex Alexander. Costumes: Jean Walker.

Cast: Heather Taylor, John Whitlock, Richard Foster, Larry Martin, Jean Walker, Paul Davis, Paul Kelly, Christine Clifford, Carolyn Soutton, Keith Wood, Leslie Walker, Leslie Hine, Mary Bloor, Christine Chinery, Pat Klus, Ian Blackburn, Lynn Klus, Molly Sumpter, Gillian Hughes, Jane Taylor and Jane Agnew.

OVER 100 IN PLAY

DUE to their hall being too small, South Green Infants' School had to hold two separate performances of their Nativity play, so that everyone who wanted to could see it. Both took place on Friday, the afternoon showing for parents of children not in the play, and in the evening it was for parents of those acting, as well as visitors.

Over 100 children took part in the play, which was produced by Headmistress Mrs. E. A. Hunt, and in the evening performed before an audience of 300 people.

Scenery was designed by Mrs. G. Hewitt, and painted by some of the older children. More than £15 was raised in a collection, and it will go to the needy old folk of the district.

ALL DRIVERS SAW WAS A SHADOW

ALL THAT two motorists saw of a man crossing Runwell Road, Wickford, in the evening of October 17th was a shadow. Then he was involved in an accident with one of the cars, receiving multiple injuries from which he died.

This was stated on Monday at the inquest at Brentwood on Mr. James Arthur Clements (72), of Kingsway, Billerica.

A verdict of accidental death was returned.

Mr. Robert Chambers, painter and decorator, of Southend Road, Wickford, was a passenger in a car being driven towards Wickford. They were near the Quart Pot when he saw "a shadow walk across the road some way away."

The next he knew a car coming in the opposite direction swerved and hit the shadow.

Swerved

Mr. Reginald Bigwood, painter and decorator, of Harold Gardens, Wickford, was the driver of the car in which Mr. Chambers was passenger. "I saw the oncoming car swerve and I saw a shadowy object thrown up," he said.

Miss Josephine Voyce, of Linford Drive, Runwell, was walking home at the time of the accident when she saw an elderly man start to cross the road at an angle.

Before the accident she did not hear the car, which was coming from behind her.

No path

The accident was on a bend where there was no footpath on one side of the road. Anybody who knew the road would not have crossed there.

The car driver, Mr. Arthur Turtle, machine

operator, of South House Farm, South House Chase, Maldon, said he was going home from work and was driving on dipped headlights.

His speed was about 35 m.p.h. when a shadowy figure suddenly loomed up in front of him. "I swerved and braked and felt an impact. I stopped and got out and ran back and there was this elderly gentleman lying in the gutter," he said. "He kept saying he wanted to get up and he didn't see the car."

Mr. Turtle said he had been driving for 21 years. There were no proceedings being taken against him as a result of the accident, the Coroner (Dr. Charles Clark) was told.

They shopped in comfort

THURSDAY was late-night shopping day for 100 old and disabled people in Basildon. Four large stores in the Town Centre opened especially for them.

Transport to and from the town was organised by the Rotary Club, Physically Handicapped Association and Salvation Army.

Organiser was Mr. Ted Hilburn, Chairman of Rotary's Community Service Committee, who brought 60 people himself.

The idea was first put into action last year. "I hope to make this an annual event," said Mr. Hilburn.

Stores opening for two hours were Woolworths, Littlewoods, Timothy's Whites and Boots. The first two also served tea and biscuits for the shoppers.



There were many striking fancy costumes at the fancy dress dance organised by Standard Telephone and Cables, Ltd., Basildon, in the dining hall on Saturday.



THE 9th BASILDON CUB SCOUTS HELD THEIR CHRISTMAS PARTY AT KINGSWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL ON THURSDAY WEEK.

VETERAN READERS' PAGE



Basildon No. 1 Senior Citizens held their Christmas dinner and party at Fryerns Community Centre on Tuesday week.

"Little Nellie," the born organiser

"MY NAME IS REALLY ELLEN—BUT EVERYONE KNOWS ME AS 'LITTLE NELLIE'!" LAUGHS MRS. E. CHAPMAN.

Little Nellie or Ellen—Mrs. Chapman is very well known indeed to the old people of the district. She has lived in Withchards, Basildon, for seven years, but before that she and her husband lived in Laindon for 23 years.

Ever since her girlhood in the East End of London Nellie has been interested in social work. She is a born organiser, and is Social Secretary of Laindon No. 1 branch O.A.P.

"I love the work; I don't care what I do for them!" she says. During her 18 years with them she must have organised hundreds of outings and parties.

She remembers collecting for hospitals and carnivals at the Assembly Hall in Mile End Road when she was very young, indeed. She remembers her first job—



Mrs. E. Chapman

packing cigarettes for 4s 6d a week; her mother took four shillings and left her with 6d pocket money. "Still, it was worth something in those days," she says.

She met her husband while she was working at the Discharged Soldiers and Sailors Club after the First War. They have been married for 44 years; both their children were born in London, but they moved to Laindon because of their younger daughter's health.

She belongs to Basildon No. 1 Senior Citizens and Ghyllgrove Pensioners' Clubs, but her heart is really with Laindon No. 1. "They're a lovely family crowd," she says proudly. "It's such a happy little branch."

Nellie was a member of their concert party for a long time until the loss of their pianist when they disbanded.

For 10 years Mrs. Chapman's husband has been a P. Perkins and his daughter would like them to go to live with her in Jersey. "But I Mrs. Harvey, with Mrs. Tan couldn't go—I'd hate to give up my work and all my friends. I just don't know what I'd do without all this!" says Nellie.

Certainly Laindon No. 1 would miss her sorely. Already Mrs. Chapman is making the necessary plans for holidays for them bridge.

A "Queen" was there

MEMBERS of Lee Chapel North Darby and Joan Club held their annual Christmas dinner on Thursday week at the Community Centre, Ballard's Walk, Basildon.

The festivities were opened by Community Centre Queen Miss Josie Sullivan. There were 132 members present, and among the guests of honour was Dr. Mitchell, President of the Community Association. After dinner, everyone joined in dancing to Mr. and Mrs. Frank White and their music of compeere was Mr. McMaster. Mrs. Pearce and Mrs. Reenan rendered solos. Members donated 87 prizes for the lucky dip, draw by the Community Queen.

The Crackerjacks Concert Party, recently formed, entertained with a most enjoyable programme, and the party ended with a vote of thanks to Mrs. Peters and her band of helpers, who provided refreshments during the evening.

FESTIVE EVENING

Members of Buttsbury Social Club were delighted to find that the hall of Buttsbury Junior School, where they hold their weekly meetings, had been decorated by the children in time for their Christmas party. It was a really festive evening, and there was a present for every member. Party games and a Christmas hat competition were all part of the fun. Mrs. Kiddell won first prize in the competition. The evening finished with everyone singing carols. Before the party ended, the Chairman and Committee were thanked for all their hard work.

Dinner was a success

CHAIRMAN Mrs. E. Thurston presided over the weekly meeting of Basildon No. 1 Senior Citizens on Wednesday week. Community singing was the order of the afternoon, with Mr. Hardy at the piano.

Mr. Chatting served the tea, and every member received a slice of Christmas cake, donated by the Carnival Queen.

The Club's Christmas dinner was a great success. Members presented Mrs. Thurston with a bouquet of flowers, and a box of fruit was given by Mrs. Tibbitt.

Dancing followed dinner, and a wonderful time was had by everyone.

SENIOR CITIZENS

MEMBERS of Basildon No. 2 Senior Citizens enjoyed their Christmas dinner last Thursday at Penny Hall, Basildon.

Members sat down to an excellent meal, and afterwards were entertained by their own concert party, who gave a most enjoyable show. Among the guest soloists was Mr. S. Walker, who gave a rendering of comic songs. These were greatly appreciated by everyone.

Chairman Mrs. N. U. Baker presented officers with gifts to mark her appreciation of all the work they have done during the past year.

FILM SHOW

A film show was greatly enjoyed by members of Wickford No. 2 branch at their weekly meeting last Friday. Members saw films of factoties at work and a comedy, and afterwards Chairman Mr. Perkins thanked the operators for a splendid show.

Birthday honours went to with Mrs. Harvey, with Mrs. Tan couldn't go—I'd hate to give up my work and all my friends. I just don't know what I'd do without all this!" says Nellie.

Certainly Laindon No. 1 would miss her sorely. Already Mrs. Chapman is making the necessary plans for holidays for them bridge.

They enjoyed the turkey

TURKEY, and all the trimmings of Christmas dinner, was thoroughly enjoyed by 85 members of Shotgate No. 1 Branch at Shotgate Community Hall last Saturday. Toasts were proposed by Mr. Warner, Mr. Shepherd and the Branch President, Mr. C. F. Deacon. Chairman Mr. H. Bunce responded.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank White provided music for dancing, and the evening's entertainment included a fancy dress parade, won by Miss Card, with Mrs. Gregory as runner-up.

Mr. Warner was M.C., and Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Peters were in charge of the bar.

At the weekly meeting two days previously Mrs. Drake, Mrs. Miles and Miss Mary Smith received a special welcome back. News was received of branch sick members, including Mr. Steadman and Mr. Good, still not much improved; Mr. Baker, hoping to return shortly; Mr. Staines and Mr. Griffin, not too well.

Bingo and community singing ended the afternoon.

A pleasant surprise

MR. AND MRS. R. Cottis and Dr. and Mrs. Martin were guests of honour at Langdon Hills Over-60 Club Christmas dinner on Thursday.

Members had a pleasant surprise during dinner, when a tape-recording of the Chairman's voice was played, which he made from hospital, saying how much he would have liked to be present and sending greetings to all members.

Vice-Chairman Mrs. Sheppard presided. A special raffle was held, with several prizes given by a good friend of the Club. Games and community singing followed dinner and a visit from the ever-popular Gay Links concert party.

THEY FELT PROUD

Members of Langdon Hills and District branch greatly enjoyed their Christmas dinner and concert last week. At the meeting that followed on Friday Mrs. Hedges spoke on behalf of all members, warmly thanked the branch officers for all the work they had put in to make the dinner such a success. Mr. A. Vickers presided. He announced that Carnival Queen Geraldine Gahan had presented a Christmas cake to the branch. He also reported on the Sick Committee's work, and members felt a tinge of pride when they heard how much care taken in visiting sick colleagues and taking them gifts.

SILENT TRIBUTE

Silent tribute was paid by members of Pitsea branch for the passing of another of their old members Mrs. Williams of Rectory Road, Pitsea. She was aged about 86, and had a smile for everyone. Mrs. Fletcher and Mrs. Luck are reported to be very ill. Miss Tibbitt celebrated her birthday, and was accorded birthday honours. The usual raffle was held, for branch funds, and Mr. Higgins contributed some daffodil bulbs to be sold. Members spent the rest of the afternoon playing Bingo. Tea hostesses were Mrs. White, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Gilder and Mrs. Garney.

The Salvation Army Dunrobin Physically Handicapped Club held a Christmas party in the Laindon Community Centre, Laindon, on Wednesday week. The Laindon Community Association provided the dinner.



The Senior Citizens of the Sunshine Club, Laindon, held a Christmas party on Wednesday week in the Cromer Avenue Community Centre, Laindon.



THE PICTURE ABOVE WAS TAKEN AT THE IMPRESSIVE NATIVITY PLAY PERFORMED BY CHILDREN OF SUNNYMEDE COUNTY JUNIOR SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY WEEK.

Father Christmas in the canteen



Father Christmas was a popular chap at Bonallack and Sons' children's party in the works canteen on Saturday.



Members of Shotgate Wives' Social Club are seen above enjoying their 13th annual Christmas party at Shotgate Community Centre on Wednesday week.

★ ★ ★



BELOW ARE SOME OF THE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS OF THE KINGSWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH JUNIOR BOYS' BRIGADE, WHO HAD AN ENJOYABLE PARTY IN THE CHURCH HALL ON SATURDAY.

"The Batsman's Bride"



Above are the principals in "The Batsman's Bride," which was given in an evening of musical entertainment at Mayflower County Secondary School last week.



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ENGINEER TALKS ON THE FUTURE BILLERICAY

BASED ON the concept of an inner relief road running almost parallel to the High Street along Chapel Street, Basildon Council's Billericay town centre and road development proposals are derived from the Billericay High Street Report.

Consideration of the Report by a study group confirmed the Council's approach to the control of High Street development, Engineer Mr. S. A. Wadsworth told the public meeting on Friday.

He said that very careful consideration had been given as to whether there was sufficient character in the High Street to warrant its preservation.

Having decided that there was, the study group drew up four principles to be followed in the development of the town. They are:-

1. The present character of the High Street should continue to be preserved.

2. As soon as practicable all through traffic should be diverted from the High Street.

3. Commercial traffic having business in the High Street shopping areas should be diverted from the High Street.

4. Consideration should be given in due course to the elimination of all traffic from the High Street or from specific sections of it.

Mr. Wadsworth then set out to explain what the Council proposed to do in Billericay, the reasons for their decisions, and how their plans coincide with the principles laid down by the Study Group.

There was quite a high proportion of the building frontage in the High Street considered worthy of preservation by the Ministry of Housing, he said.

The Council would be giving more detailed consideration to areas with "townscape value." In consultation with the County Council and Building Design Partnership, areas of special merit which might form conservation areas would be determined.

The problems

Referring to the second principle, he highlighted the problems which arose in the High Street because of traffic - pedestrians endeavouring to cross virtually four lines of traffic, including two lines of parked cars, and double parking - which all helped to delay through traffic and add to the crush.

Mr. Wadsworth was not, however, immediately concerned about the problem of through traffic.

"The County Council are looking into this matter," he said, "and I understand there are plans to build and improve roads which bypass Billericay completely."

Moving on to the third principle, he said the

diversion from the High Street of commercial traffic with business in shopping areas would prove much more difficult.

Rear access

It would involve the provision of rear servicing areas whenever the opportunity occurred in connection with redevelopment proposals.

Where practicable, access to rear servicing areas would be provided for by an alternative access road to the High Street, but there would be cases where the only solution would be access to the rear servicing areas from the High Street itself.

He then went on to consider the fourth principle involving traffic which could by-pass Billericay altogether and traffic which could be diverted from the High Street on to a relief road.

"I am convinced that in order to deal with traffic, which must necessarily pass through Billericay, some provision is needed in the way of a relief road," said Mr. Wadsworth.

"As for through traffic, the County Council have routes which are being improved to the east of the town and a new route which is proposed to the west."

"These routes are being designed by the County Council as high speed access-free routes and although distances may be greater than would be involved in using a direct route through the High Street, they are likely to be preferred by through traffic," he said.

But having made plans for this traffic the problem remained of traffic which had to pass through Billericay High Street for one reason or another.

High speed

In order to get some measure of the proportion of traffic which could be diverted from Billericay by way of the County high speed routes, a traffic census was undertaken by the Council in 1961.

From these figures the percentage of bypassable traffic was established to be something in the order of 25 per cent.

This information enabled the Council to find out the volume of traffic with which they have to deal domestically in Billericay, which needs to go from north to south or vice versa.

The 1961 figures have been

checked with vehicle counts every year since and by applying a nationally accepted traffic growth figure of seven per cent per year it has been possible to establish traffic flows for which provision has to be made in the road system to accommodate north/south traffic through Billericay.

The target

These figures indicate that towards the end of the century, the High Street or a substitute road will have to carry flows in excess of 1000 vehicles per hour in one direction.

The practical capacity of the High Street is about 800 per hour and the present flow is over 1,100.

The practical capacity of a road is the flow which can be comfortably contained with regard to safety, manoeuvring and visibility," said Mr. Wadsworth, "and most people in Billericay will appreciate that not only do the figures show the practical capacity has already been exceeded, but it is also borne out by conditions in the High Street."

Obviously a relief road is justified. The traffic figures clearly show the High Street is inadequate and will be come progressively more inadequate.

The Council had never felt, however, that the route taken by the inner relief road as shown on the County Development Plan was ideal, said Mr. Wadsworth, and alternative routes had been considered at the County Development Plan Inquiry at Chelmsford in May last year.

"In a town which has grown so rapidly, with little thought to the growth of vehicle ownership, it would be surprising if an 'ideal' could be established," he said.

The Council and the County Council feel there is no practical alternative to the inner relief road. Even when the County Council have developed the new cross-country link to the east, followed by the development of the cross-country road to the west, relief to the High Street will be essential, and whilst the route chosen for the inner relief road is not ideal, it is the only practicable route available to us."

Mr. Wadsworth pointed out, however, that the inner relief road would be a completely different type of road to the County Council's high-speed limited access cross-country routes.

Although the section through the town is proposed as a dual carriageway it is likely to carry a 30 m.p.h. speed limit, and the frontment of junctions will prevent traffic negotiating them at speed.

There would be no public road direct on to the roundabout. The northern section of Stock Road adjacent to the roundabout would become a cul-de-sac, although pedestrian access would be preserved.

A pedestrian underpass is also proposed in the construction of the syntony system. Pedestrians leaving the station would be able to walk along the western side of Stock Road bridge on a new footpath, across Western Road and the High Street, and, by way of the underpass, under the inner relief road, to the eastern side of town.

Subject to the Minister's approval of the appropriate Traffic Order, the Council are proposing to start work on the Noak Hill Road Stage

IV improvement scheme, which is on the route of the proposed inner relief road, in the near future.

The scheme entails the construction of a single 24-foot carriageway and the regulation of traffic on Laydon Road to travel north-south only, and on Sun Street east-west.

"The reason the Council are proposing this at this stage is that the improvement of Noak Hill Road will soon be complete up to Kennel Lane and they have been faced with a decision on how to improve the unsatisfactory conditions which will then remain between the Kennel Lane junction and London Road at Sun crossroads," said Mr. Wadsworth.

In addition, the presence of the primary school in Laydon Road, which is to be substantially enlarged and the present traffic and pedestrian problems on this length of road.

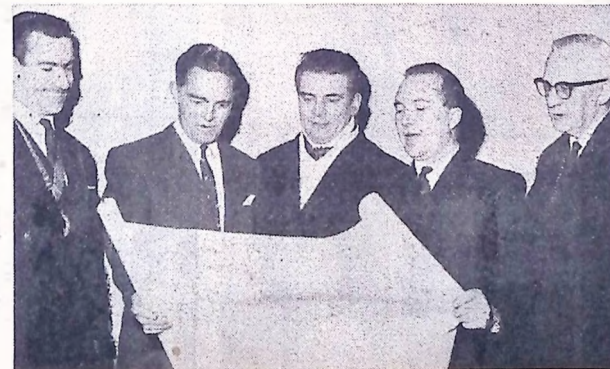
To improve Laydon Road by widening it sufficiently to deal with the traffic would have meant buying land from properties abutting the road and would have inevitably affected a number of buildings," he said.

Before any start can be made on the inner relief road, however, a planning decision by the Minister of Housing and Local Government will have to be made and in making that decision he will have to take account of the representations of all who objected at the inquiry.

And before the Noak Hill Road Stage improvement can go ahead the Council will have to consider any formal objections made to the Traffic Regulation Order relating to one-way traffic in Laydon Road.

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Above are the Vice-Chairman of the Council (Coun. A. Chapman), who presided at the meeting, Mr. S. A. Wadsworth (Council Engineer), Mr. D. Taylor (Town Manager), Coun. Stockley and Coun. Champ, M.B.E. (Chairman of the Planning Committee).



Mrs. Woods, Playgroup Supervisor, with some of the young guests at their party at the Community Centre, Ramsden Bellhouse, on Saturday.



Runwell Infants' School, Ganevdon Gardens, Runwell, were entertained by a puppet show last week. These lucky children went backstage to meet the stars of the show.

Where did they get those hats?



Buttsbury Social Club held their Christmas party at Buttsbury Junior School on Thursday evening. During the party a competition was held for the most attractive Christmas hat.

BELOW: Basildon Samaritans held a wine and cheese party at St. Martin's Hall, Basildon, on Friday. During the evening the Christmas draw was drawn by Mrs. Burn, wife of Coun. A. Baron Burn, J.P. (Chairman of Basildon Council). Also in the picture is Rev. A. J. Dunlop (Rural Dean) and two members of the Samaritans.



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THIS PLAY COULD HELP CHILDREN IN EXAMINATIONS

NICHOLAS SECONDARY SCHOOL, BASILDON, PUT ON THEIR FIRST-EVER MAJOR THEATRE PRODUCTION AT THE SCHOOL ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EVENINGS.

It was not the traditional Shakespeare school production, but a play by J. B. Priestley called "An Inspector Calls." The play is, in fact, in this year's C.S.E. syllabus, so it fulfilled two purposes for the school. The cast are seen above with backstage workers.

The children of Nicholas not only acted, they made all the scenery and many of the costumes. The furniture was supplied by a local store.

Headmaster Mr. J. Greener said he was very pleased with the results of the play, even though attendances were low on

both Friday and Saturday.

"The actors were only 15 years old," he said. "They did very well. We have got some fine actors in the making, a couple of them with great potential."

The play was a difficult one for young people to produce, set in a scene of middle class prosperity

which is gradually revealed to be rotten beneath.

The cast was as follows:

Arthur Birling — Graeme Sweeney; Sybil Birling — Elaine Pryor; Sheila Birling — Christine Bean; Eric Birling — Andrew Granath; Edna — Diane Ratcliffe; Gerald Croft — Mervyn Wharton; Inspector Goole — Michael Camp.

Understudies: Sybil Birling — Carol Dyde; Sheila Birling — Diane Ratcliffe; Edna — Anne Parsons.

Producer — Mr. Griffiths; stage manager — Mr. Pardee; scenery — Mr. Layton and Mr. Saunders; lighting — Mr. Bignall; costume — Mrs. Turner; make-up — Mrs. Oakden; business manager — Mr. Ratcliffe; typography — Diane Ratcliffe and Karen Kemp.

Your cinemas

Radion, Laindon

Closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Showing Wednesday and Thursday "Peter Pan" is the ever-popular story of the little boy who never grew up and his adventures in Never Never Land. Friday and Saturday "That Darn Cat" is an enjoyable comedy about how a crime is solved with the help of a very intelligent cat. Sunday and Monday "Revenge of the Blood Beast" is a spine-chilling horror story.

Ritz, Billericay

Theatre closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Wednesday "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" is the cartoon version of the delightful story of the little princess who sought refuge from the wicked queen with her friends in the woods. Friday and Saturday "The Ugly Dachshund" is a Walt Disney story about the odd-mannered dog who saves the day out in a litter of peddlers. Sunday and Monday "The Sorcerers" is a horror film involving the use of strange hypnotic powers.

Odeon, Brentwood

Sunday for six days (closed Christmas Day) "Born Free" tells the fascinating story of Elsa the lioness and her devotion to a game warden's wife.

Century, Pitsea

"The Wizard of Oz" (Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday) and "Tom Thumb" is a double-feature programme which should appeal to children and adults alike. "The Wizard of Oz" stars Judy Garland in what was perhaps the most popular film she ever made and Peter Sellers, and Terry-Thomas revive the famous story of the tiny boy and his friends.

Lifeboats need cash

BASILDON branch of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution made a profit of £113 last year.

But nationally the Institution's deficit is likely to be greater than the £124,000 loss suffered in 1966.

Main reason for the loss, says a letter sent to the Basildon branch, is that money from legacies has gone down.

"This comes at a time when expenditure on new boats and designs is higher than ever before and when our lifeboat and inshore rescue boat crews are answering more and more calls, setting up a new all-time record for launches year after year," it states.

Vice-Chairman

Coun. A. J. Middleton has been appointed Vice-Chairman of Basildon Council's Youth Sub-Committee.

OUTWOOD COMMON DELAY

BASILDON Council's Executive Committee are to be recommended by the Finance Committee to defer for six months — until November, 1968 — the £31,500 improvement scheme for Outwood Common Road, Billericay. The deferment is one of a number of capital programme alterations brought about by the economic situation and restriction on capital expenditure.



South Green Junior School, Billericay, presented "Little Gipsy Gay" at their Christmas concert last week. Our picture shows some of the cast.

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SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS
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THE LEGEND OF LOBO
4.40 7.20 (U)
Special Matinee Thursday at 2.0
Friday, Dec. 29 TWO DAYS
Walt Disney's
THE UGLY DACHSHUND
5.0 8.25 Mat. Sat. 1.45 (U)
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WINNIE THE POOH (U)
Last Complete Programme 6.55
Sunday, Dec. 31 TWO DAYS
Boris Karloff Elizabeth ERIC
THE SORCERERS
5.15 8.10 (X)
Adults Only
Vincent Price, Michael Bates
TOWER OF LONDON (23)
Last Complete Programme 6.40

RADION BASILDON 44880
Wednesday, Dec. 27 TWO DAYS
Walt Disney's
PETER PAN
5.40 8.40 Mat. Wed. 2.30 (U)
Walt Disney's **TOMMY TYLER** (U)
Last Complete Programme 7.0
Special Matinee Wednesday at 2.30
Friday, December 29 TWO DAYS
Walt Disney's
THAT DARN CAT
HAYLEY MILLS DEAN JOANS
4.55 7.45 Mat. Sat. 1.50 (U)
Walt Disney's
GERONIMO'S REVENGE (U)
Last Complete Programme 6.50
Sunday, Dec. 31 TWO DAYS
Barbara Steele IAN OGILVY
BARBARA STEELE IAN OGILVY
REVENGE OF THE BLOOD BEAST 5.55 8.49 (X)
Jean-Paul Belmondo
WORDS OF BLOOD
Adults Only 4.20 7.10 (X)

QUEEN'S THEATRE HORNCURCH
COMMENCING BOXING DAY (Dec. 26)
FOR FIVE WEEKS
MOTHER GOOSE
Written by ALAN VAUGHAN WILLIAMS Music by ANTHONY ISAAC
First and Second Weeks: Monday to Saturday, 2.30 and 7.30 p.m.
Third, Fourth and Fifth Weeks: Monday to Thursday 6.30 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 7.30 p.m.
Matinee Thursday and Saturday 2.30 p.m.
Prices 2 6 8 10 12 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80 85 90 95 100
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Box Office will close 6.30 each evening from December 18 to 23 only
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THEATRE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 18 TO 22
FOR PANTIMIME REHEARSALS
Commencing SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 7.30 p.m. for five weeks
Closed Christmas Day • Boxing Day 2.0, 5.0 and 8.0
Monday to Friday 2.30 and 7.30
Saturdays: Three Performances Daily — 2.0, 5.0 and 8.0
GEORGE LACY ALEXANDER BRIDGE
GERALDINE MORROW
Robinson Crusoe
WITH
KIRBY'S FAMOUS FLYING BALLET
PRICES OF ADMISSION 8/6, 6/6, 4/6 and 3/6
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THE NICK GEOFF MUNDAY'S
FAREWELL CHRISTMAS
RAVE
UNDER THE MISTLETOE WITH THE
SOLE REASON and CLES SET
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23rd, 7.30
NICHOLAS YOUTH CENTRE, NICHOLAS LANE

A very Happy Christmas to you
from
BASILDON FULL GOSPEL CHURCH
(ASSEMBLIES OF GOD)
We invite you to our
Carol Service
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24th at 6.30 p.m.
Ghyllgrove Community Hall, Butneys
SUNDAY SCHOOL PUPILS TAKING PART

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ALL-CARTOON FEATURE in Technicolor
Weekdays 2.10 5.40 9.10 Sundays 5.0 8.40 (U)

WALT DISNEY presents

THE ADVENTURES OF BULLWHIP GRIFFIN

RODDY McDOWALL SUZANNE FLESCHETTE KARL MALDEN
Technicolor Weekdays 3.30 7.05 Sundays 6.35 (U)

SATURDAY CLUB for Boys and Girls, 9.30 a.m. Adm. 6d., 9d.

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Prices: Circle 8/6, 7/6, 6/6, 5/6, 4/6, 3/6, 2/6, 1/6, 1/2, 1/4, 1/8, 1/16, 1/32, 1/64, 1/128, 1/256, 1/512, 1/1024, 1/2048, 1/4096, 1/8192, 1/16384, 1/32768, 1/65536, 1/131072, 1/262144, 1/524288, 1/1048576, 1/2097152, 1/4194304, 1/8388608, 1/16777216, 1/33554432, 1/67108864, 1/134217728, 1/268435456, 1/536870912, 1/1073741824, 1/2147483648, 1/4294967296, 1/8589934592, 1/17179869184, 1/34359738368, 1/68719476736, 1/137438953472, 1/274877906944, 1/549755813888, 1/1099511627776, 1/2199023255552, 1/4398046511104, 1/8796093022208, 1/17592186044416, 1/35184372088832, 1/70368744177664, 1/140737488355328, 1/281474976710656, 1/562949953421312, 1/1125899906842624, 1/2251799813685248, 1/4503599627370496, 1/9007199254740992, 1/18014398509481984, 1/36028797018963968, 1/72057594037927936, 1/144115188075855872, 1/288230376151711744, 1/576460752303423488, 1/1152921504606846976, 1/2305843009213693952, 1/4611686018427387904, 1/9223372036854775808, 1/18446744073709551616, 1/36893488147419103232, 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Sleepy local drama

• BY RODNEY LEGG

TYPICAL sleepy local drama is a fair description of the Laidon Community Drama Club weekend production "Love From a Stranger."

The story is boring and it only came to life in the last act when we discovered that the leading character was a mass murderer.

About the only change from the average set-scene of a middle-class living room was that the suite did not look borrowed from a jumble sale. It was on loan from a Basildon furniture store.

Only Geoff Lane as the murderer kept the play going. He was completely in command of his part and showed more potential than the play itself.

The writer of the drama seemed unable to decide if it should be a comedy or a thriller. His way of solving the problem was to introduce about three comic characters into an otherwise serious plot.

Most promising actress in the performance was Doris Gladwin, who took the part of the murderer's wife. The other members of the cast were unlucky to have roles where to sound genuine was impossible.

The play is a period piece from the stagnant days of amateur drama. It should be left to gather the dust which already covers its attitudes—corpses cannot be revived.

Producer: Lily E. Collinson. Cast: Lyn Lane, Lynette Stevens, Doris Gladwin, Geoff Lane, David Strelitz, Bill Johnson, Valerie Thomas and Vic Cole.

SISTERHOOD

Members of Wickford United Sisterhood held a carol service at the Methodist Church on Tuesday, and Christmas readings were given by Mrs. B. Taylor. Letters were read by Mrs. R. Emery. Mrs. J. solo was sung by Mrs. Bolter. Mrs. F. Hubbard thanked all who had taken part, and took the closing devotions. Mesdames Barney, Hitchcock, Farley served tea.

Parliament will hear about a Basildon soldier's death

FAMILY KEPT IN THE DARK

A BASILDON family, shattered by the death of their soldier son, are demanding an inquiry into why the Army left them in the dark.

Their son, 18-years-old Allan Norman Bailey, of Trindehay, Lee Chapel North, died on December 10th, two days after he was involved in an accident while on service in West Germany.

The family were not told how he died until the following Thursday, only one day before he was flown home for the funeral.

The first the family heard of the accident was on December 8th when they received a telegram which said that Sapper Bailey was "seriously ill with head injuries".

No other information was available except that he was not at his station in Pataborn, but at St. Andrews Hospital, in West Thalia.

On Sunday, December 10th, they received the last telegram regretting that their son had died and saying that an officer would call to discuss funeral arrangements.

In spite of their efforts, they were unable to obtain any further information until December 14th, said Allan's brother, Raymond.

When the family have approached Mr. Eric Moonman, M.P., to find out why they were kept in the dark and why they were not flown to Germany to see their son.

Said Raymond: "The terrible things about all this is

that we don't know how he died. If he was in pain or in a coma.

"If the Army knew he was critically ill why didn't they fly my parents or one of my parents over to see him? Why were we not told that he was involved in a motor accident before Thursday—six days after the accident?"

"We think that the whole thing has been handled abominably. We were kept completely in the dark from the original message my parents could not have understood how grave the situation was, but the Army must have known and they should have told us."

Another tragic incident was that the day after Mr. and Mrs. Bailey heard that their son was dead (on the Monday) they received a letter from him which had been posted the previous Wednesday.

In it he said he hoped everybody had a good Christmas, but as far as he was concerned he would be working on Christmas Eve until Boxing Day.

He also mentioned a friend to whom he had been writing. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey are anxious to contact Miss Sybil Stanton, whom he described as 20 years old and about 5 feet 9 inches tall.

Allan was in the Royal Engineers. He had signed up for a nine-year period at the age of 16 and he loved the Army. Previously he had worked for the Gas Board in Basildon but took to the Army to further his career.

The Bailey family were visited on Sunday by Eric Moonman and local Councillor John Costello.

Afterwards Mr. Moonman said he was asking the Minister of Defence, Mr. Denis Healey (for a formal statement) on the case as quickly as possible. He also intends to put down a question in the House regarding the Ministry's handling of the affair.

Mr. Moonman said: "It seems to me there has been gross discourtesy by the Ministry and also a lack of proper decision-making which has resulted in unnecessary anxiety and upset to the whole family."

"It is wrong that the family received a letter about the cause of the accident. Then the sentence referring to the cause was only 12 words long," he said. "Even now the family have not had a full explanation."

Mr. Moonman has seen Mr. Healey.

"We regret no recommendation was made to provide air passage for a member of your family to go to Germany," the Ministry have replied.

"The authorities in Germany will be holding a board of inquiry into the death of the young man," Mr. Healey personally has conveyed his sincere sympathy to the family.

Said Mr. Moonman: "I expressed deep concern to the family about the way they had been treated by the Army. They told me the body was with the Co-op at Grays, but that the Army would not let them open the coffin."

"The mother's cry to me was: 'How do I know this is my son's body?' It wasn't until Monday night that a member of the family was allowed to see the body. I have been very angry over the way the Ministry of Defence have handled this case from the time of the accident up to Monday of this week when they finally allowed the body to be seen. I will insist that a full statement of the kind of inquiry is given to the family. If the Ministry have made a mistake I will ensure that full apologies are made to the family."

If a member of the family wishes to hear the board of inquiry in Germany Mr. Moonman will approach the Ministry and attempt to arrange this.

Good health!

MR. ROBERT McCrindle, Conservative candidate for Billericay, in a Christmas greetings message this week wished his "opponents" the "health and strength to face the rigours of 1968."

He said: "As we take our rest from the political scene over Christmas, I should like to send my good wishes to all friends and supporters who have made my early months in the constituency such a happy experience."

"I send my best wishes for the new year, when we shall be increasing our efforts in the common cause."

"To my opponents, too, I extend compliments of the season. Especially do I wish them health and strength to face the rigours of 1968."

DISCLAIMER

Mr. George Hurlock, of 11, Boytons, Lee Chapel North, has asked us to point out that he has no connection with a man of the same name who appeared at Billericay Magistrates' Court last week. A report of those proceedings appeared in our issue dated December 15th.

BILLERICAY YOUNG LIBERALS ADOPT NEW TACTICS

THEME OF BILLERICAY YOUNG LIBERAL ASSOCIATION'S LAST MEETING PROVED TO BE QUITE A SUCCESSFUL AND REWARDING IDEA. THEY COMBINED "EDUCATION" WITH A SOCIAL ATMOSPHERE BY HAVING SPANISH FOOD, WINE AND MUSIC FOR A "PAELLA EVENING."

"We have learnt that by including such themes, especially on an international basis, it can mean a complete breakthrough in our social activities," said a Committee member.

And to keep up the idea they have planned an original programme for 1968, which they hope will help to attract new members so that an efficient

and strong political, yet social, group can be built up.

Mrs. Jo Mastersen, Vice-President, has presented a cup to the Association to be presented to the most active and helpful member.

The 1968 programme includes dances, help in elections and the building of a Basildon Young Liberal Association.

QUEENSLAND COLLEGE

BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL 100 CROWSTONE ROAD, WESTCLIFF Telephone: SOUTHEAST 4066
A LIMITED NUMBER OF YOUNGLADIES FROM FOUR TO SCHOOL-LEAVING AGE
Spacious Classrooms, Dormitories, Promises and Grounds. Also Section for Boys
C.I. and R.D.S. Exams taken for which excellent results have been achieved
IN FULL Grammar School curriculum. Tennis, Netball and all-the-year-round Swimming taken by Qualified Staff. Apply SECRETARY

GORGEOUS GUY GALA

(SPONSORED BY WATNEY MANN LTD.)

Featuring

THE MOODY BLUES

THE MARMALADE

IVAN ST. CLAIR & the SYSTEM SOUL BAND

ED STEWART

LOCARNO, BASILDON • FRIDAY, DEC. 22

8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

ADMISSION 12/6 — All proceeds to The Multiple Sclerosis Society

DESPAIR? SUICIDE?

WHO CARES?

THE SAMARITANS

Ring BASILDON 2222

DAY or NIGHT

24-hour drain clearing service

FOR INDUSTRY COMMERCE AND THE HOME

Drains, Sewers Toilets, Baths Wash basins Sinks Stock pipes Waste pipes Urinals

ALL PIPES CLEANED FULL BORE LIKE NEW

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Call the man in white—day or night.

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KURSAAL DANCING

Telephone: SOUTHEAST 66276

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

COME DANCING—CHRISTMAS DANCE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

You may Dance in the Ballroom and the Estuary Room ONE ADMISSION CHARGE — 8/6

★ FRANK WEIR AND HIS MUSIC
★ THE MUSTANGS
★ DENNIS HAYWARD AND HIS BAND
8 p.m. to 11.45 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

IN THE BALLROOM

Pre-NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL

FRANK WEIR AND HIS MUSIC

THE MUSTANGS

Commencing 8 p.m. — Admission 8/6

IN THE ESTUARY SUITE

Pre-NEW YEAR'S EVE BUFFET DANCE

DENNIS HAYWARD AND HIS BAND THE MUSTANGS

Commencing 8 p.m. — Admission 21/- including Buffet Evening Dress Optional

Tickets now on sale — early application is advisable.

BASILDON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS A

GRAND NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

WITH MUSIC FOR ALL AGES provided by these ELECTRONIC WIZARDS

SOUND ENTERPRISES

at the

FRYERNS COMMUNITY CENTRE

WHITMORE WAY, BASILDON, ESSEX

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30 — 8.0 to 12.30

LICENCE APPLIED FOR REFRESHMENTS

— DISPLAY OF SCOTTISH DANCING

TICKETS 5/- — Children will be admitted for Half Price at the Door

The GOLDEN CROWN CHINESE RESTAURANT

5 HIGH STREET, BILLERICAY

(NEAR STATION)

Telephone: BILLERICAY 52488 or 51635

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MENUS

COMMENCING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19 — TO

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Bookings now taken • Fully licensed • Parties catered for

"A" — £11.0 PER PERSON

Chicken with Shark's Fin Soup or Crab and

Sweet Corn Soup

Appetising Barbecued Spare Ribs

Hong Kong Sweet and Sour Pork

Fried Crispy Chicken

Kung Crab with Mushrooms

Shredded Meats with Bean Shoots

Special Fried Rice

Choice of Sweets as "F"

China Tea or Coffee

"B" — £11.50 PER PERSON

Chicken with Shark's Fin Soup or Crab and

Sweet Corn Soup

Appetising Prawns on Toast

Fried Prawns with Tomato in Gravy

Hong Kong Sweet and Sour Pork — Lemon Chicken

Shredded Meats with Bean Shoots

Cashew Nuts with Pineapple and Chicken

Special Fried Rice

Choice of Sweets as "F"

China Tea or Coffee

"C" — 16/6 PER PERSON

Creamed Tomato Soup or Fruit Juice

Roast Chicken with Stuffing

Roast Potatoes, Brussels Sprouts

Mashed or French Fried Potatoes

Choice of Sweets as "F"

China Tea or Coffee

"D" — 17/6 PER PERSON

Creamed Tomato Soup or Fruit Juice

Grilled Filet Steak

French Fried or Mashed Potatoes, French Beans

Choice of Sweets as "F"

"E" — 18/6 PER PERSON

Creamed Tomato Soup or Fruit Juice

Roast Turkey with Stuffing

Roast Potatoes, Brussels Sprouts

French Fried or Mashed Potatoes, "F"

Choice of Sweets as "F"

"F"

Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce or Mixed Fruit Cocktail and Ice-Cream

Choice of Tea

People — and what they are doing...



AT 71 SHE ENJOYS HER SWIMMING

MRS. JESSIE GREENSTED CAN SWIM EIGHT LENGTHS OF THE BATHS AND TWICE A WEEK SHE GOES TO MEDAU—KEEP FIT—CLASSES. AS A HOBBY SHE HAS MADE 50 3FT.-TALL RAG DOLLS (SEE PICTURE ABOVE)

Unusual? Perhaps not, but Mrs. Greensted is 71-years-old. And that, she says, people will just not believe.

Not surprisingly, if they happen to know that she spends every Friday at evening classes—swimming up and down the pool at Barnstable School.

"I have seen her swimming during a storm in Cornwall when she was the only person on the beach who would go in the water," says her husband, George.

When people live busy lives they always have time to fit in some more work. So Mrs. Greensted is no exception. She goes in for knitting and makes the dolls to earn a little pocket money.

On her living room walls at Clicket Hill, Basildon, are several paintings. "They are good," thought this reporter. He happened to comment on one.

"Oh, the paintings—they are mine," said Mrs. Greensted. "I work in water colours. Some of my paintings have been in exhibitions."

At the age of 70 she decided it was time she had a course in art and went to Basildon Evening Institute. She is too modest to say why she left the course—probably there wasn't much they could teach her.

Her two grown-up married sons would agree with that remark. The walls of their homes, both at Wickford, also support mother's paintings of people and animals.

Mrs. Greensted is determined to keep painting. "I must try to get down to it again," she says.

Since she was at school, painting has been a hobby. Apart from her keep-fit activities, she also has a social life and has gone to Catholic Women's Guild meetings for the nine years she has lived at Basildon.

The Greensteds came from Hornsey and George retired from Carreras five years ago. They are looking forward to 1969—and fifty years of marriage.

Her Indian cookery book

ONE OF Basildon district's most well-known personalities, Mrs. Savitri Chowdhary, has had a book accepted by one of the national book clubs. It is her book on Indian cookery, originally published in 1954, now to be issued to all members of the book club concerned.

Mrs. Chowdhary, aged 60, was a Laindon resident for 30 years; she is the widow of Dr. D. S. Chowdhary and is a trained journalist.

The cookery book arose from a letter to "The Times" in which she published an Indian recipe. It aroused so much interest that she was persuaded to write a more extensive collection.



Mrs. Savitri Chowdhary with her book on Indian cookery.

He is meeting a new challenge

SAD TO be leaving all his friends in Basildon, but looking forward to the challenge of his new job is Geoff Munday, 36-years-old Warden of Nicholas' Youth Centre.

He will take over the huge Stevenage Youth Centre, Bowes-Lyon House, after Christmas. The scale of the Centre is vast compared with Basildon youth centres—it contains a gym, rifle range and dance hall, which holds 700, cost £140,000 to build and is the only youth centre in the area.

Mr. Munday, who lives in Ravens Crescent, Billericay, with his wife and child, first came to Basildon 10 years ago as a physical education master at Laindon Secondary.

In 1964 he became part-time Warden of the Nicholas' Youth Centre, and in September of the next year he took it over full time.

"It's not that I don't like Basildon," said Mr. Munday. "I have made a tremendous number of friends over the years, particularly with my staff. It is going to be quite a wrench."

"I will be able to run my own show completely there. It's not on school premises like this Centre."

Mr. Munday's successor has not yet been decided. Interviews will be held in the near future.



George and Barbara Gough School of Dancing held a presentation dance at Kingswood Community Centre on Friday evening. Two popular award winners were Tracey Stevens (8) and Robert Game (9). They both took their Silver Ballroom Dancing Medal, Bronze Latin-American and the Cha-Cha Pin.

Successful producer

A TEACHER who took much of the credit for the success of Fryerns Grammar Technical School's fine production of "Pygmalion" last week only joined the staff 12 weeks ago.

At the final performance on Saturday the master, Mr. John Hodgson, was presented with a cigarette lighter by the cast in appreciation of his work as the producer.

In his speech of thanks Mr. Hodgson said Fryerns must be a unique school in the co-operation they received from all the staff and many pupils in the production of the annual play.

He paid a special tribute to "the many" behind the scenes for their contribution to its success. Other thanks were given by Headmaster Mr. C. Bagg.

The last-night audience included Basildon Council Chairman Coun. A. Baron Burn and his wife. They called the cast back for several curtain calls.

GOLD AWARD WINNERS



ENVY OF all their companions at the Wickford Air Training Corps are 17-years-old Simon Waiding and Christopher John Morell, who have been awarded the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, the highest honour under the Duke's Scheme.

Simon, who lives at London Road, Crays Hill, Billericay, has worked hard for a year to win the award. "It's not easy to get," Simon smiled, "but it was a challenge worth taking up."

Simon, a pupil at Chelmsford Technical High School, has been a member of the A.T.C. for three-and-a-half years, joining soon after he moved to Crays Hill.

Cadets have to pass four tests under the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. They have to achieve a high standard of ability in four different sections of athletics; score high points in a 63 miles three-day expedition; do at least 24 hours public service; and maintain a leisure-time pursuit for over a year.

The most gruelling part of the exercise is the 63 miles expedition, which involves map reading. It took Simon 15 months to earn the award because a lot of his time is taken up studying for three "A" level G.C.E.s—chemistry, geography and mathematics.

Simon wants to be a geologist and hopes to go to university. He joined the A.T.C. because he likes camping and general athletics. He has won a gliding certificate.

Simon finds little time for his hobbies—collecting stamps and reading science fiction and classic books—because he is a member of the Little Bad-dow Youth Group.

Equally proud of his Gold Award is Simon's colleague, Christopher John Morell, who lives at Lou-vaine Avenue, Wickford.

Chris, a member of Wickford A.T.C. for nearly four years, has also got his gliding licence and hopes to join a gliding club in Kent next year.

A former pupil of Clark's College, Southend, Chris, who was born in Wickford, works in his father's

183-years-old family building business at Covent Garden, London, as an office clerk.

Chris worked with Simon to get his gold medal and also took up cycling as part of the qualifications. But Chris has now progressed on to a Mini Cooper and spends much of his spare time underneath the bonnet tinkering with the engine. He likes motor racing as well.

They're good dancers

PRESENTATIONS of dancing awards to 32 children and 16 adults of the George and Barbara Gough School of Dancing were made at Kingswood Community Centre on Friday.

Highest honours in the Dancing Masters' Association examination went to 13-years-old Miss Terry Morgan, of Bealeigh West, and Mr. and Mrs. G. Gower, of Waldegrave, who took third gold bar awards. Robert Game and Tracey Stevens, both aged eight, are now the youngest couple in Basildon to take the silver medal for ballroom dancing. They also won a bronze award for Latin American dancing.

New J.P.s

TWO NEW Justices, Coun. F. S. Saunders, of Goldings Crescent, Vange, and Mr. Jethro Williams, of Curlew Tye, Basildon, were welcomed by the Chairman (Mr. H. R. Dunican) at Billericay on Tuesday.

Keep fit

Billericay Ladies' Keep-Fit Group celebrated their tenth anniversary at their end-of-term class at the Women's Institute Hall on Monday by donating all their surplus funds to the W.R.V.S. for their Christmas dinner for the housebound.



Christopher John Morell.

Old-Timers all dressed up



Some of the guests at the Wickford Old-Tyme Dance Club fancy dress party at the Community Centre on Monday.

PRIME MINISTER'S OBSESSION WILL MAKE US TUMBLE

—Says Mr. McCrindle

IN A SCATHING attack on Prime Minister Harold Wilson, Mr. Robert McCrindle, prospective Conservative parliamentary candidate for Billericay, said at a Conservative Association meeting on Tuesday: "It would seem a pity if we are all to tumble because of one man's obsession with staying at No. 10, Downing Street."

Mr. McCrindle, speaking at the Association's office in Billericay, was commenting on the Government's handling of the "arms to South Africa" controversy.

"No wonder the public views politicians with suspicion and cynicism. We have just had a demonstration by the Prime Minister of the most blatant disregard for the future of everyone except the Labour Government—and himself," he said.

Knowing that he is going to be faced with rebellion among the left wing when the tough economic measures are announced in the New Year, he hit on arms for South Africa to demonstrate that he at least still has his heart left of centre.

Fascinating on to this so-called moral issue, he told the Commons that so long as he is Prime Minister we shall not yield. And if it were not for George Brown (conveniently not around at the time) this issue would never have seen the light of day.

"These tactics, designed to rally the Left Wing to Wilson, only succeeded in splitting the Cabinet and dislodging Wilson from what his enemies would concede was his one remaining strength, that he was THE boss. So the authority of the Government is further eroded, the Labour Party becomes more restive and the country will now have to pay for a government which is not only incompetent, but divided.

"This whole matter has really very little to do with South African arms, but just for the record I should say that while I oppose the sending of equipment which could assist in the extension of apartheid, I fail to see why we should not sell submarines and possibly aircraft. If we don't, France will.

"This is the trouble with having a government full of spurious high purpose. As Confucius is reputed to have said, 'He who stands on his principles falls on his posterior.' It would seem a pity if we are all to tumble because of one man's obsession with staying at No. 10, Downing Street."

No store allowed

CHELMSFORD Rural District Council's Planning Committee have refused planning permission for French Bros (Bentbuilders), Ltd., to erect an open store for boats and glass fibre moulds at Mayhill Works, Battlesbridge.

The Committee say the land—in a Green Belt—should remain undisturbed.

HIGH TIDE AT SOUTHBEND

(figures in parentheses indicate height of water above datum.)

	3 P.M.	6 P.M.
Fri.	3.23 (16.1)	3.59 (16.3)
Sat.	4.5 (16.0)	4.47 (16.0)
Sun.	4.52 (15.9)	4.40 (15.8)
Mon.	5.47 (15.7)	6.41 (15.7)
Tue.	6.53 (15.7)	7.52 (15.5)
Wed.	8.11 (15.8)	8.2 (15.3)
Thurs.	9.25 (16.4)	10.7 (16.8)
Fri.	10.36 (17.0)	11.6 (17.3)

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

UNDER NOTICE
Owners of land adjoining Elm Cottage, Coxes Farm Road, Billericay, are to be served with an enforcement notice by Basildon Council. The Council alleges that the land is being used to store and break up motor vehicles, and that a caravan is parked there without their permission.

Free swimming for pensioners and young children?

BASILDON COUNCIL'S Recreation Committee have recommended concessions on admission fees to Gloucester Park Swimming Pool, which will open next year.

If the full Council agree, children under three accompanied by an adult, and old age pensioners will be allowed in free.

The Committee discussed other aspects of the pool: there will be no towels for hire at the pool; the tariff at the pool catered for will cover labour charges, but not overheads; there will be no soft drink vending machine.

Landscaping of the pool's immediate surroundings has been approved and the Committee have asked for £15,000 in next year's estimates.

The Committee hope that work will start on landscaping before the next financial year.

The Finance Committee have also been asked to provide funds for additional items including 100 chairs, easy chairs for the foyer, extra microphones and electric heaters.

WHEN MR. PATIENCE LOST HIS PATIENCE

HOW MR. PATIENCE lost his patience was described at Essex Quarter Sessions on Monday when a Hutton man, father of four children, appealed against a six months' prison sentence imposed on him by Billericay Magistrates.

He was William Percival Frederick Pinner, of Greenstead Close, Hutton, who had been found guilty at Billericay of assaulting bus conductor Mr. Herbert Patience, of Pilgrim's Hatch, causing him actual bodily harm.

The Court varied the sentence to 18 days' imprisonment and as Pinner had already served that period this meant his immediate release.

Mr. John Turner, for respondents, said that on August 23rd Pinner and some young children were waiting for a bus at Sun Corner, Billericay. The bus drew up slightly past the bus stop and Pinner and the children got on.

It was alleged that Pinner told the conductor, "Your — driver was trying to leave me behind." He continued being abusive and was told that unless he stopped he would have to leave the bus. At that he pushed the conductor, Mr. Patience, against a seat.

Mr. Patience told Pinner to leave the bus.

Appellant then punched him several times in the face and mouth.

Counsel went on to say that Mr. Patience got off the bus and called his driver, whereupon Pinner attacked him again, knocking him to the ground. As a result of the attacks Mr. Patience was cut and bruised.

Mr. R. Hedon, for appellant, said that in 1951 Pinner suffered serious injury, including a fractured skull, when he fell into the hold of a ship. In 1959 the inner chamber of his ear was affected by a disease, symptoms of which included frequent black-outs and violent headaches.

The 18 days Pinner spent in prison had had a very salutary effect on him.

Fireworks let off in road

TWO Wickford youths were each fined £3 at Chelmsford Magistrates' Court on Thursday week after each had pleaded guilty to letting off a firework in Hailbridge Road, Woodham Ferrers.

They were Richard George Anderson (17), of Farms Way, and John Russell Tennant Berry (16), of Jersey Gardens.

Insp. F. G. Johnson said that on the evening of October 21st P.C. M. Howitt saw a group of youths in the road and heard a firework explode among them. Then he saw Berry light a firework and throw it into the road. Anderson admitted throwing the first firework.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTY
Wickford Parish Young People's Fellowship held their Christmas party at St. Andrew's Hall on Monday.



At Lee Chapel South Infants' School Nativity play—some of the choir.



Laindon Kingswood Youth Fellowship held a "Koffee Klub" evening in the Kingswood Baptist Church Hall on Saturday.



Basildon Full Gospel Church held a party for the Sunday School children on Saturday in the Ghyllgrove Community Centre, Basildon.

FACTORY GOSSIP



FIGHTING THE EFFECTS OF DEVALUATION

W. C. WARE and Sons, Timber Merchants, of Vange Wharf, Vange, are fighting the effects of devaluation with increased efficiency and an entirely new method of delivery.

They are using new delivery vehicles fitted with Hiab hydraulic hoists that save time, money, manpower and physical effort (see picture above).

Combined, these things will help to alleviate pressures on the timber industry which have accumulated since the war—the introduction of man-made substitutes and, more recently, devaluation.

Chairman and Managing Director of Wares Mr. M. Measures said last week that streamlining the industry in this way would make it competitive with other products and help offset the effect of devaluation which touches timber importing.

The lorries themselves are conventional except for the hoist, which is operated by three levers.

Quick work

One man delivering a six-ton load of timber can unload his vehicle in 20 minutes—15 minutes sometimes—on his own. He can also off-load parts of the timber at different sites or plots quickly.

This does away with manual handling of the timber after it has left the depot by the driver and by builders working on site.

Mr. Measures said that in his opinion timber prices could be affected by as much as 20 per cent by devaluation and much of the charge would have to be passed to the customer.

He estimated that a builder might pay an all-in cost of £10 to off-load a vehicle. Now, this cost could be eliminated. With the new service the same builder could save up to £20 a load, taking into account time, labour, transport and storage.

The wharf

W. C. Ware and Sons acquired Farquharson's wharf between 1960 and 1965. They deal in timber to a large number of builders and retail outlets.

Helping to stop foot and mouth disease

TO COMBAT the risk of spreading foot-and-mouth disease by milk lorries and other vehicles, farmers are now making use of a new portable Butyl rubber road bath for disinfecting the tyres of any vehicle passing through it.

The road bath, which is being marketed by Butyl Products, Ltd., of Radford Way, Billerica, was designed by a Surrey farmer, Mr. D. A. Young.

Made of heavy-duty Butyl sheeting, the bath is 8ft. 6in. wide and 22ft. long. It has built-in nine-inch diameter tubes, which allow the sides to be inflated, while the ends are raised on sand or earth ramps under the Butyl.

After the recent sudden outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, Butyl Products, Ltd., started round-the-clock working to meet the anticipated demand for the tank.

One of the first places at which the bath was used was the Animal Health Trust Farm at Stock. Director of the farm Dr. K. C. Fellers told the "Standard Recorder": "I think the bath is a great improvement on the disinfectant-soaked straw bed, and if you have to disinfect car wheels it is an excellent idea.

We have now had it a fortnight and it has proved quite successful," he added.

Factory "pirates"



A crash programme

COLOUR cameras and other television equipment were flown out to Bangkok by the Marconi Company in a crash programme to put Thailand on the air with live colour programmes.

Within six weeks of winning the order, Marconi engineers completely equipped a two camera outside broadcast unit for the Bangkok Broadcasting and Television Corporation. Its first assignment was the Thailand Beauty Contest, the nation's first scheduled live colour transmission.

Soccer star was bench judge

BOBBY MOORE—the pin-up boy of English football—judged work benches on Friday in a Pretty Dress Company factory floor smothered in Christmas decorations.

The girls worked hours to produce the gayest scene on the Basildon Industrial Estate. And, being in the Rag Trade, they made their own costumes.

Each bench had its own theme. Bobby Moore picked the "Black and White Minstrel Show" as winners, with "Export Boat" runners-up and "Treasure Island" third (see picture below). The footballer spent two hours at the factory signing autographs and posing for pictures.

His visit was meant to be secret until he arrived, but the news leaked that the captain of the World Cup winning team was coming—and photographs of Bobby Moore appeared from nowhere.

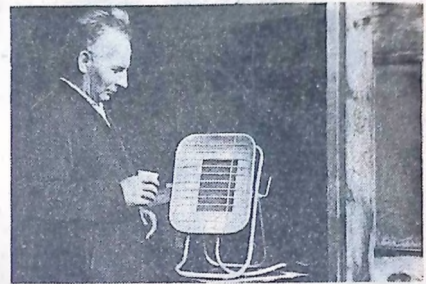
He lives near to Pretty Dress Managing Director Mr. Jack Grant at Manor Road, Chigwell. By the time he arrived at the factory West Ham colours and rosettes sprouted all round. To bring the Christmas spirit into the factory, the girls managed to borrow a left, long boat and a discarded skull.

All 200 workers at the factory were involved in the fun. Said Mr. Grant: "It is just for one day and they don't lose any time. Everything is very original and nobody knows what the other benches are doing until the night before the party."

The girls worked till late Thursday night preparing the factory and some came in at 6.45 the next morning.

They all proved they could sing and work at the same time and offered to work on Saturday if time was lost. Productivity note: Thirty per cent of the clothes made at the factory are for export.

IT'S INSTANT HEAT WITHOUT PROBLEMS



SEEN ABOVE demonstrating a new low-cost portable radiant heater, the "Maxi-heater," manufactured by Maywick Appliances, Ltd., of Wickford, is Mr. Fred Strand.

Mr. Strand has been with Maywick for over seven years and has been employed on a great deal of the firm's development work with their patented "Kerogas" fuel system.

A resident of Fourth Avenue, Shoigate, Mr. Strand is married with two sons. During the past five years he has been involved in manufacturing and development work on flame cultivating machinery, and he has also worked on soil sterilisation projects for market gardeners and specialised heating equipment for winter building.

The "Maxi-heater" has a 12,500 B.T.U. burner, and operates from a small propane cylinder. It has a wide variety of uses in the construction industry, among local authorities, and in workshops and factories. Laid on its back with the burner in a horizontal position, the "Maxi-heater" can be used for cooking on. This type of heater is now providing a replacement for the solid fuel brazier used in watchmen's huts, and has the advantage of providing instant heat with no lighting or stoking problems.

The firm then consisted of Mr. Griffiths (36) and another Wickford man, Mr. Edward Hood (37), of Rettendon View. They now employ nine men. Both Mr. Griffiths and Mr. Hood have been in the joinery trade for 18 years and both served their apprenticeships with Essex firms.

After working in the garage for three months they found that they badly needed extra room, so moved to Battlesbridge, where, after four months, they took on one employee. "We kept expanding from then on," said Mr. Hood.

At Battlesbridge they made built-in furniture and various other purpose-made joinery, but after a year needed to expand as they had so many orders that they didn't have the room to do the work. Due to difficulty in getting planning permission, they had to move to larger premises at Hanningfield.

Work carried out by the firm now ranges from cigar boxes to bank fitting, office furniture and display work.

They're still growing

A FAST-GROWING joinery firm is Griffiths and Hood, of East Hanningfield. Started three years ago at the Sharlands Close, Wickford, home garage of Mr. Ronald Griffiths,

Garters represented song titles

GIRLS from the Rag Trade, the staff of Julian Jerseywear and their friends, had the firm's annual party at Pembury Hall, Fairview Road, on Friday (see picture below).

The Lambourne Dance Band, from Linton, provided the music and there was plenty of festive spirit to liven up the proceedings.

High spot of the evening was a "garter competition," where the ladies' garters represented song titles.

Winner was Ivy Chapman with "Big Spender"; 2, Gwen Devor with "Up, Up and Away"; 3, Betty Morris with "When the Good Apples Fall."





Visit a House of God



THE MOST HOLY REDEEMER, R.C.

LAINDON ROAD, BILLERICAY

CONFESSIONS

FRIDAY 6.30 to 7.30 p.m.
SATURDAY 3 to 4 p.m.; 5 to 7.30 p.m.
11 to 11.30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE

HOLY MASS 8 to 9 a.m.; 10 to 11.30 a.m.; 5 p.m.

CAROLS

from 11 p.m. until Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

HOLY MASS midnight; 8 to 9 a.m.; 10 to 11.30 a.m.

BOXING DAY

HOLY MASS 10 a.m.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY and ALL SAINTS

LANGDON HILLS

CHRISTMAS EVE

8.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION in the
PARISH HALL
11.00 a.m. MATINS
3.00 p.m. UNITED CAROL SERVICE
with Blessing of Tree and Crib
11.45 p.m. MIDNIGHT EUCHARIST

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
11.00 a.m. SUNG EUCHARIST
4.00 p.m. INFORMAL SINGING OF CAROLS
ROUND THE CRIB

VANGE PARISH CHURCH

(ALL SERVICES IN ST. CHAD'S)

CHRISTMAS EVE

8.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
10.45 a.m. FAMILY SERVICE
6.30 p.m. EVENING PRAYER (SAID)
11.30 p.m. THE MIDNIGHT COMMUNION

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
10.45 a.m. FAMILY COMMUNION
4.15 p.m. EVENING PRAYER (SAID)

METHODIST CHURCH WESTERN ROAD BILLERICAY

CHRISTMAS EVE (Sunday, December 24)

11.00 a.m. FAMILY SERVICE with
NATIVITY PLAY
6.30 p.m. CAROL SERVICE led by
REV. DR. B. HOLLAND

CHRISTMAS DAY

11.00 a.m. UNITED SERVICE at the
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,
BILLERICAY

ST. PETER'S NEVENHOLM

Christmas Services

Sunday, December 24
9.45 a.m. Choral Eucharist
1.30 p.m. Carol Service
Christmas Day, December 25
9.45 a.m. Choral Eucharist

LAINDON BAPTIST CHURCH

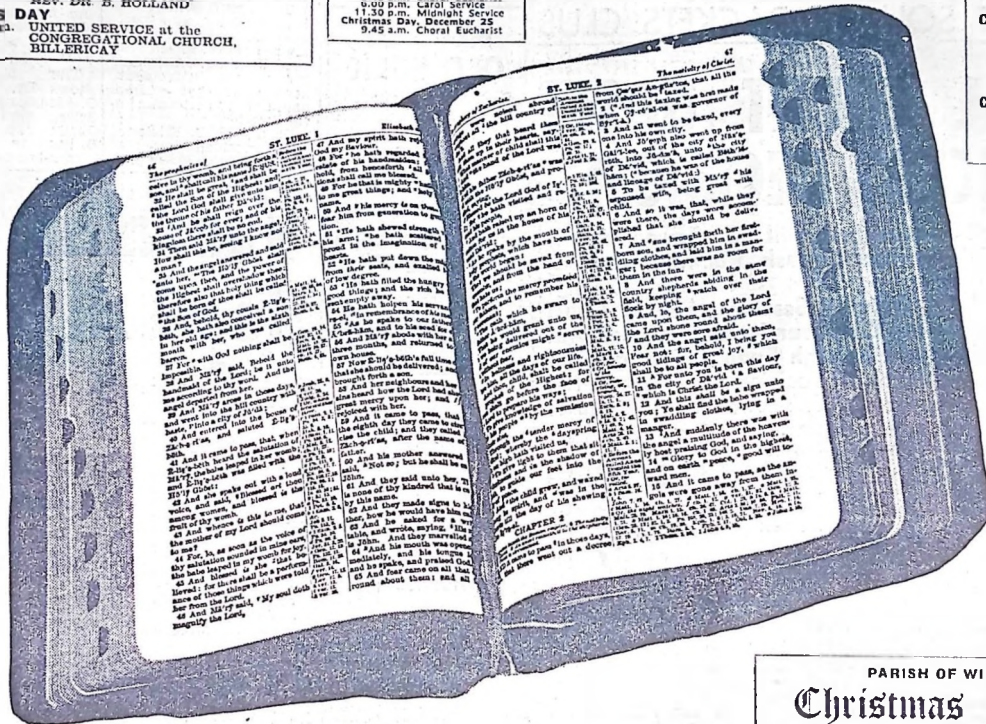
HIGH ROAD
LANGDON HILLS

CHRISTMAS EVE

11.00 a.m. Family Carol
Service
3.00 p.m. United Carols
at St. Mary's
6.30 p.m. Carols by
Candlelight

CHRISTMAS DAY

11.00 a.m. United Service
at Manor
Mission
Laindon



PARISH OF PITSEA THE CHURCH OF ST. GABRIEL

DECEMBER 24

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (ST. MICHAEL'S)
10.30 a.m. Children's Pastoral
6.30 p.m. Service of Lessons and Carols
11.30 p.m. Midnight Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (ST. MICHAEL'S)
10.30 a.m. Family Service
11.15 a.m. Holy Communion

DECEMBER 31

3.00 p.m. Young People's Pastoral

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

BASILDON

CHRISTMAS, 1967

CHRISTMAS EVE (Sunday, December 24)

8.30 a.m. Holy Communion
4.00 p.m. Family Service and Lighting of the
Christmas Tree Lights (taken by the
Children)
6.45 p.m. Evening Prayer (Said)
8.00 p.m. Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
11.30 p.m. Midnight Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY (Monday, December 25)

8.30 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Family Service
12.00 noon Holy Communion
5.00 p.m. Evening Prayer (Said)

"O COME, LET US ADORE HIM — CHRIST THE LORD!"

PARISH OF WICKFORD Christmas Services

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

6.30 p.m. United Festival of Lessons and Carols
at CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ST. CATHERINE'S Southend Road

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

11.30 p.m. Blessing of the
Crib and
Midnight
Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Christmas
Morning Service
12.0 noon Holy Communion

ST. ANDREW'S London Road

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

11.30 p.m. Blessing of the
Crib and
Midnight
Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.00 a.m. Christmas
Morning
Communion
12.0 noon Holy Communion

CHRIST CHURCH

PERRY STREET, BILLERICAY

CHRISTMAS EVE (December 24)

0.30 a.m. MORNING PRAYERS
12.15 p.m. HOLY COMMUNION
4.00 p.m. HOLY BAPTISM
6.30 p.m. NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS
11.45 p.m. MIDNIGHT COMMUNION

CHRISTMAS DAY (December 25)

9.30 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION FOR ALL THE
FAMILY

THE PARISH OF BOWERS GIFFORD

CHRISTMAS EVE

11.45 p.m. CAROLS followed by MIDNIGHT MASS
(ST. MARGARET'S)

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 a.m. MASS OF THE DAWN (ST. JOHN'S)
10.00 a.m. MASS OF THE DAY, with Carols
(COMMUNITY HALL)

ST. BASIL'S LUNCIES ROAD CHRISTMAS SERVICES

MASS 12 midnight
9 a.m., 11 a.m. CHRISTMAS DAY

SACRED HEART CHURCH, VANGE

MASS 11 a.m. CHRISTMAS DAY
LOURDES HALL, WHITMORE WAY
MASS 12 midnight
10 a.m. CHRISTMAS DAY

ST. MARTIN'S—Town Centre, Basildon

CHRISTMAS EVE

0.15 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
4.00 p.m. CRIB SERVICE FOR PARENTS AND
CHILDREN
11.15 p.m. MIDNIGHT COMMUNION

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.15 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION WITH CAROLS
11.00 a.m. FAMILY SERVICE
4.00 p.m. EVENSONG

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

9.15 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION
11.00 a.m. CHILDREN'S SERVICE
4.00 p.m. SERVICE OF READINGS AND CAROLS

ST. NICHOLAS'—LAINDON

CHRISTMAS EVE

10.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION (SAID) WITH
HYMNS
4.00 p.m. SERVICE FOR CHILDREN AND
PARENTS
11.30 p.m. CONGREGATIONAL CAROL SERVICE
11.55 p.m. BLESSING OF CHILD AND MIDNIGHT
COMMUNION

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION (SAID)
10.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION (SAID) WITH
HYMNS

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

There will be no formal service on the Sunday after Christmas. Instead
there will be carols in preparation for the Midnight Communion.
People may enter when they wish.

HOLY CROSS—BASILDON

CHRISTMAS EVE

8.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
3.00 p.m. FAMILY SERVICE (a dramatic act
of worship led by the children)
11.30 p.m. MIDNIGHT COMMUNION

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

6.15 p.m. SERMON OF LESSONS AND
CAROLS



The Billericay Women's Institute held a Christmas party in their headquarters on Wednesday week. The two Vice-Presidents, Mrs. G. Bunn (left) and Mrs. P. Harvey, cut the cake.



NEW £2,400 ORGAN IS DEDICATED

BILLERICAY METHODIST Church's new £2,400 organ was dedicated on Saturday by the Minister (Rev. Dr. Bernard Holland) and there was a recital by Dr. Edgar Brice, of Brentwood School, with Mr. David Curtis (baritone) as soloist.

The organ, which has been paid for, was specially designed for the church and voiced for the building. Although not a large instrument, quality rather than quantity was the aim of the builder.

Dr. F. W. B. Rillstone, J.P., presided at the dedication and there was

an introduction by Rev. G. R. Maland, Superintendent of the Romford Circuit.

The picture above shows Dr. Holland, Rev. G. Mayland, Mr. Edgar Brice, organist; Mr. D. Curtis, baritone, and Mr. B. Bunting, of the firm of organ builders.

DRINKS AT SQUASH RACKETS CLUB

APPEAL COURT UPSET JUSTICES' DECISION

GUESTS AS well as members will be allowed to buy drinks at the Kingswood Squash Rackets Club at Basildon.

On Tuesday Essex Quarter Sessions Appeal Court allowed an appeal by the Club founder and licensee, Mr. William Rex Guppy, of Hadleigh Road, Leigh, against Billericay Licensing Justices' decision which made the grant of an on-licence for the Club conditional on guests not being permitted to buy liquor.

Mr. John Marriage, for appellant, said Mr. Guppy, a squash enthusiast, started the Club on a commercial basis, capital of £60,000 being invested in the venture. The Club premises, having six courts, a bar and lounge, was opened last October by the Minister of Sport and was, it is claimed, the best international centre for squash in this country.

As squash was not a great spectator game it was contended that guests, as well as members, should be allowed to buy drinks at the bar, especially in view of the fact that the Club premises were half a mile away from the nearest public house.

In reply to the Chairman, Mr. J. Roland Adams, Q.C., counsel said it was claimed that the Justices' condition was a bad one and that it was virtually unenforceable. He added that the Police had raised no objection to the application.

Mr. Guppy said the Club had 739 members and it was believed their guests would feel much happier if they could reciprocate their hosts' hospitality by buying drinks.

Mr. R. C. C. Boniface, General Manager of Basildon New Town Development Corporation, said during discussions about the Club the Basildon Licensed Premises Committee, of which he was a member, fully understood

there would be a need for guests as well as members to buy drinks.

Mr. M. A. Medawar, for the respondents, said the Licensing Justices considered it would not be proper in the public interest to permit the purchase of drinks by guests. They considered the facilities should be for Club members only and saw no reason why this particular Club should be treated differently from many other somewhat similar clubs.

Announcing that the appeal would be allowed, the Chairman said: "We have been very impressed by what we have heard about this Club. It is a remarkable thing that facilities of this kind should be provided by private enterprise and we do not think it necessary to impose restrictions such as were imposed by the Justices."

SANG CAROLS

A sing-song which included all the popular carols was thoroughly enjoyed by members of Vange Branch O.A.F. at St Chad's Hall, Vange, on Friday. Mrs. Harris was the pianist. The Chairman mentioned how successful the Christmas dinner had been the previous evening, and that 105 members had attended. Good wishes went to all sick members, and to those who were absent through other reasons.

Police oppose bail

WHEN THE manager of an off-licence opened his branch at High Road, Laindon, he found a hole in the wall from empty premises next door. About £600 worth of stock was missing, said Det.-Insp. Eric Smith at Billericay on Tuesday.

Before the Court, charged with breaking into the premises and stealing the goods was Jack Lowe (24), of no fixed address.

He was remanded on bail of £100 in his own recognisances and two others in £500 each until January 2nd.

Bail was opposed by the Police. "We have every reason to believe he will abscond," said Det.-Insp. Smith.

Det.-Insp. Smith said that following the notification of the offence, Police went to a house at Ramsden Bellhouse where they saw two men, one Lowe, and recovered about one-third of the missing property.

The other man had been bailed to appear at the Court in January.

NEWS OF OLD FOLK

PARTY TIME

Between 65 and 70 residents and guests attended the party given by Basildon Council at the old people's homes at Kents Way, Wickford, last week. Among the guests were Councillor and Mrs. R. G. Brown, and representatives of the Housing Department staff. Similar parties were given at Cromer and Arne Courts, both in Laindon. About 40 people were at the Arne Court party, where the Laindon Salvation Army band played a selection of carols.

FOR OLD FOLK

Nine hosts of the Double Six public house, Basildon, Dot and Roy Follister laid on a Christmas spread for 130 old folk on Sunday. Patrons have been raising money for the meal throughout the year.

RAISED £70

The Christmas draw organised by Basildon branch of the Samaritans raised over £70. Most of the prizes were given by local traders.

CHURCH'S PARTY

Forty housebound and disabled old people were given a "tea" by St. Martin's Church, Town Centre, on Saturday. Singing followed and the guests were each given a present made by Basildon Guides company. Transportation to and from the church hall was arranged.

RESIGNATIONS

Members of Ghyllgrove O.A.F. Club were thrilled to receive a magnificent Christmas cake from Carnival Queen Geraldine Gahan. Everyone received a slice, and expressed their grateful thanks for such a lovely and seasonal gift. A warm welcome back went to Social Secretary Mrs. Manning, returning after a long illness. Members were sorry to hear however, that she would no longer be able to continue in office, and had tendered her resignation. Also resigning from the Committee was Mrs. Peterson who regretted that her health would not allow her to continue her work for the Club. Chairman Mr. E. Adams announced that the next meeting in 1968 will see the election of new officers and the Committee, and asked that everyone should make the effort to attend. Good wishes went to all sick members, Mrs. Jennings, Mr. Maw and Mr. Godfrey received musical birthday honours. Mrs. Jennings' honours went to Mr. and Mrs. Heston. Club Treasurer Mrs. Adams read the financial report, which showed a healthy balance. A warm welcome went to Rev. A. Dunlop, and refreshments were served by Mrs. Looker, Mrs. Scaysbrook, Mrs. Patterson and Mrs. Ball.

Vandalism by football fans - Court story

THREE FOOTBALL fans—one a boy of 14—had to be handcuffed and three others had to be guarded by detectives to prevent a "nasty situation" from flaring up at King's Cross Underground station.

Between two and three hundred other West Ham supporters were on the platform and Police feared an attempt would be made to help the arrested fans escape, said Mr. Victor Lissack, prosecuting at Clerkenwell.

It happened, he said, after the Arsenal-West Ham match on November 25th. A special squad of transport Police officers were on duty to deal with football vandals in view of the difficulty there had been after these matches.

Mr. Lissack said the allegations against the arrested fans were that some of them had been seen by detectives jumping on seats, on a train. Others had been seen twisting strap-hangers to try and break them off and others had been spotted ripping down advertisement boards and maps, and hurling them from windows on to platforms or into tunnels.

Before the Court were the six fans, Peter David Clark, aged 19, labourer, of Furlongs, Basildon; Norman Charles Meek, aged 22, plasterer, of Bracondale Road, Abbey Wood; two 16-years-old shipping clerks from Dagenham, a 14-year-old schoolboy from Newbury Park and a 13-year-old schoolboy from Manor Park.

All denied causing wilful damage amounting to £5 15s. on a train between Arsenal

and King's Cross and behaving in a disorderly manner on the railway. Magistrate Mr. J. D. Purcell, convicting them all, commented: "This kind of hooliganism and vandalism is going to be stopped and must be stopped by any means."

Four London Transport detectives told the Court what they had seen the defendants doing on the train and what damage had been caused. All six defendants denied that they had done anything wrong. They blamed other supporters for the damage and disorderly behaviour.

Clark was ordered to spend 12 hours at an attendance centre, with periods every Saturday afternoon. He was also fined £5 and ordered to pay 3 gns. costs.

Meek was fined £10, ordered to pay 3 gns. costs and £5 15s. compensation to London Transport.

The four juveniles were remanded on bail for sentence at Juvenile Courts.

M.P.'S QUESTION

Billericay M.P. Mr. Eric Moonman is to ask the President of the Board of Trade if he will take steps to provide ad hoc arrangements to meet the increases in the cost of importing newspaper, metal and other materials resulting from devaluation, in view of the further depressing effect the increases will have on the newspaper industry.

The Friendship Club held their party at Lourdes Hall, Whitmore Way, Basildon, on Thursday week.



To combat the risk of spreading foot-and-mouth disease by lorries and other vehicles farmers are now using a new portable rubber bath for disinfecting vehicle tyres, made by Buyl Products Ltd., of Radford, Billericay. Our picture shows the road bath being used at the Animal Trust Farm, Stock. See story on Page 12.



Church with the Christmas card look

THE LIGHTS go on this weekend to give Pitsa Parish Church — on the hill above the railway station — a Christmas-card look.

Illuminating St. Michael's has been a tradition for the past eight years and the church now own a set of floodlights.

"It gives people passing by the opportunity to look up and see the old church as it stands over the community," said Rector Rev. Arthur Harvey.

Dogs barred from course

DOG-LOVING golfers will not be allowed to take their pets with them on Basildon Golf Course if a Recreation Committee decision is upheld.

At the last meeting of the committee it was reported that golfers' dogs were fouling greens and bunkers and causing damage.

Michael J. LADIES' HAIR FASHIONS

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DETENTION SENTENCE QUASHED

INSTEAD OF being sent back to a detention centre a Basildon youth was ordered to pay a fine of £25 by Essex Quarter Sessions Appeal Court on Monday.

He was John Terence Glendennan (18), of Long Lynderswood, who appealed against sentence of three months' detention imposed on him by Billerley Magistrates for using threatening behaviour in a public place.

Mr. Maryn Ward, for the respondents, said shortly after midnight on September 30th a group of youths, including Glendennan, were shouting and swearing in a fish and chip shop in Basildon Town Centre.

As three other youths were leaving the shop one of them said they should behave themselves and stop swearing, whereupon appellant, it was alleged, struck one of the three on the jaw, knocking him down.

Then someone (not appellant)

lashed the lad, who made the remark about swearing, on the head with a bottle. This lad was then attacked by appellant, who had obviously had some drink, but was not drunk.

A week after his conviction he was released on bail from the detention centre to which he had been sent.

The Court was told that appellant had previously borne a good character. His father testified to his good behaviour and urged that he should not be returned to the detention centre.

Announcing that the appeal would be allowed and detention substituted by a fine, the Deputy Chairman, Sir Orby Mootham, said the Court took into account appellant's previous good character, and accepted that he was normally not a person of violent character.

STEPHEN CHOSEN FOR SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

AN EXCITING Christmas present for 15-years-old Stephen Bamfield, of Kathleen Ferrier Crescent, Laindon, was the welcome news that he has been accepted for a two weeks' cruise on the Sir Winston Churchill training ship next April.

Stephen's name was put forward for the cruise by one of the masters at his school, Laindon County Secondary, and he and his parents are very thrilled about his acceptance.

Apart from the fact that the ship leaves from Plymouth and comes back to the Thames, Stephen has no idea where it will take him, but he knows that he will get a chance to try his hand at everything to do with its running. Navigation, cleaning duties, even a spell in the galley—they will all come his way.

Stephen loves the water—he goes sailing whenever he can—and one day he hopes to join either the R.A.F. or the Navy. He says happily that he is a good sailor, and that rough weather does not worry him! Even in his choice of pets Stephen is not very far from the water—he has a terrapin!

A chance for those protesting tenants

TENANTS WHO have asked for rent reductions on the new Vange housing estate are to meet the Corporation's Housing Committee early in January, it was disclosed this week.

In the meantime, the Corporation's Housing Manager Mr. H. Dant has been visiting houses on the estate to see at first hand problems being faced by tenants.

Two weeks ago a petition containing 100 signatures was submitted to the Corporation by Mr. Eric Moonman, M.P., it demanded rent reductions.

This week Mr. Moonman said the Corporation had told him about the forthcoming meeting. "I hope the tenants will see that their representatives who attend are in possession of all the facts and feel this is a once and for all meeting."

"To those who have grumbled should ensure these are passed on to their representatives," he said.

Mrs. Brenda Nacey, of Swansted, one of those who prepared the petition, said this week that about four people will represent the estate at the meeting.

COMBINED SERVICE

A service at Wickford Methodist Church on Saturday was taken by Mr. W. Nelson. At the Methodist and Congregational united service at the Congregational Church, Rev. John Gamson officiated.

Police talk

Police-Sergeant Harvey, of Basildon Police, gave a talk on "Crime Prevention in the Home" to members of Laindon Women's Institute last week. He suggested ways in which householders can foil intruders and protect their property from theft. Members presented a cut glass bowl to Mrs. Bolton, and a competition for three mince pies was won by Mrs. Green. Everyone joined in the carol singing which followed, and new President Mrs. Hird expressed seasonal greetings to all members.

Free carols

MEMBERS of Wickford Parish Church went carol singing on Tuesday evening, but they provided carols with a difference. They sang them "for the sake of singing" and not for money.

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CHILDREN'S PAGE



Your gifts made 240 parcels

WELL, IT'S all over for another year—our Grand Christmas Appeal came to a happy ending on Saturday!

And what an ending! Although at one time I very rashly boasted that I hoped to get 500 parcels this year, I found that I was over-optimistic in this estimate. Nevertheless, the final total was 240 parcels, which is an increase of 40 on last year's total, and I am more than pleased with the result.

I had a very exciting time collecting up all the magnificent heaps of goodies that you all took to school, bless you. They had to be stored at my home this year, because there was no room in the office. My sitting room was like a supermarket!

On Friday afternoon, our Editor very kindly lent me a huge van, and a brawny driver with a sack-barrow. He and his mate loaded all the groceries into the van, and off we set for St. Martin's Church Hall.

Here we unloaded everything and put it all into heaps on trestle tables; six charming young people from Timberlog Secondary School—headed by Valerie Wilson, one of our most talented and business-like Happy Pals—descended on the groceries and carrier bags like a plague of locusts; and by 4 p.m. there wasn't a packet of tea or a tin of fruit in sight. Everything was packed into carriers, ready for collecting by the people

who were going to fetch them; and the children had gone home. Don't you think they worked hard?

On Saturday, representatives from five districts came to collect their share of parcels, in time to give them out to the old people by Christmas. Represented were Billericay, Wickford, Laindon and Basildon Central Old People's Welfare Committees and Basildon W.R.V.S. — and they all received 40 parcels each.

A Probation Officer also came along and took away four big paper sacks of toys and a carrier bag full of sweets and chocolate bars for children of families in real want.

Handing over all these wonderful things was our very good friend Coun. A. Baron Burn, J.P., Chairman of Basildon Council, who spared us some of his precious time to come along to do this. We were so grateful, because he is such a busy person; and it was so very nice to see him and his charming wife. Everything was packed into carriers, ready for collecting by the people

another person whose time is never his own — who generously lent us the hall on Friday for packing and again on Saturday morning for the ceremony. — In the picture above are the Council Chairman and his wife, the Rural Dean, Mr. K. H. Broadley, M.B.E., Editor of the "Southend Standard" series, and representatives of various organisations.

Now, I can hear some bright Happy Pal counting busily somewhere, and saying, "Well, five lots of 40 makes 200 — what happened to the other 40 parcels?" Well, done, that child! You are quite right — there were 40 parcels left over — but not for long!

You remember we asked for names of old people who are bedridden or housebound, and never get out to clubs or get visitors to bring them gifts and parcels, well, I got forty names and addresses, and, by the time you read this, I shall have delivered them all over the place. — Basildon, Pitsea, Vange, Laindon, Wickford, Billericay and Ramsden Heath.

Then, you know, I think I shall have earned a nice, long sleep over Christmas — who knows, I just might even get a cup of tea in bed on Christmas Day!

AUNTIE LIZ

Appeal thanks

I HAVE SUCH A LONG LIST OF PEOPLE TO THANK THIS WEEK FOR THEIR HELP IN VARIOUS WAYS TOWARDS OUR APPEAL THAT I HARDLY KNOW WHERE TO START!

Firstly, to all the schools that have helped us so much—this week, Chowdhary Junior, Bardfield Primary, Moat House Special School, Langdon Hills Primary, Laindon Park Primary—all for gifts of grocery collections.

South Green Infants' School for the magnificent sum of £15 2s. 7½d., which was their cash collection at their Nativity play this year.

Mrs. Hansen, Headmistress of Timberlog Secondary School, for the loan of six of her scholars; the children she sent, for all their hard work and help.

Charlie and Fred, my stalwart helpers from our Southend office, who "humped" groceries in and out of vans and awkward doors with never a murmur; my daughter Linda, who helped with the supervision of packing and party arrangements; Rev. A. J. Dunlop, who lent St. Martin's Hall; to all the supermarket managers who broke off their work to attend to collecting up the groceries that their head offices had promised me.

To all the many kind people who called at our office with gifts of groceries and toys, including Mrs. Waters, of Long Gages, Basildon, groceries; Mrs. Allen, Gippeswyk, Basildon, books; Cheryl and Murray Dellow, of Great Gregorie, Basildon, toys; Miss Adams, of Pimhill, Basildon, toys and books; and all the kind people who prefer to "do good by stealth" and would not leave their names when bringing in goods.

Also for the cheque I received on Monday morning for two guineas from Basildon Checkmates Netball Club. Could I please have the address of your Secretary, so that I may write to thank you for your kind gift?

Thanks to the Fryerns Ladies' Club for a lovely box of groceries; to Mrs. Chardeen, of The Knowle, Basildon, for a little pushchair; and Mrs. Stanger, of Falkenham Rise, Basildon, for books.

Our thanks are also due to Messrs. Green's, of Brighton, who brought in a gift carton to our Billericay office; and to Carol and Philip Buckfield, who brought in some books.

Children of Bardfield Primary School held their Nativity play on Thursday week, at which they presented gifts for our appeal fund at the crib. Here they are with just a few of the groceries and other things they had brought. Thank you all, children — you did it all beautifully!

Greetings

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY IS WISHED THIS WEEK FOR THE FOLLOWING HAPPY PALS:

Valerie Osborne, of Great Knightleys, Basildon, age not known, David Paul, of Delhi Road, Pitsea, 14, Gary Desmond Bedford, of Norfolk Road, Laindon, six, John Lambert, of Hickstars Lane, Billericay, 10, and Peter Davies, of Plumberow, Basildon, four, all on Friday, December 22; Peter Burton, of Falkenham Rise, Basildon, 13, Tina Ann Alderman, of Codenham Straight, Basildon, five, Ian Michael Gourley, of Moss Close, Vange, five Gary Brewer, of Tavistock Road, Laindon, eight, and Robert Bullock, of Basildon, Sweep, Basildon, one, all on Saturday, December 23. Kevin Nigel Gordery, of Primrose Field, Harlow, six, Caroline Jane Taylor, of Horsley Cross, Basildon, three, both on Sunday, December 24. Caroline Wale, of Ceylon Avenue, Westcliff, 10, Valerie Anne White, of Codenham Green, Basildon, nine, Danielle Elaine Fuller, of The Knowles, Basildon, six, and Amanda Jane Gilbey, of Tangham Walk, Basildon, one, all on Monday, December 25 (I do hope you all get birthday and Christmas presents, children!). Caroline Town, of Somerset Gardens, Pitsea, two, and Frank Norris, of Ballards Walk, Basildon, 12, both on Tuesday, December 26; Brian Crosby, of Wyvernhoe Cottages, Little Wakering, 12, Susan Christine Jennings, of The Slades, Basildon, eight, and Kevin Peter Bates, of Valley Road, Billericay, eight, all on Wednesday, December 27.

Olive Tebbutt, of High Road, Laindon, 12, Ann Joten, of Highland Grove, Billericay, 11, Carol Ann Bridge, of London Road, Pitsea, 10, and Philip Hughes, of Tyrrells Road, Great Burstead, nine, all on Thursday, December 28.

DUMBELLE ***

LET'S ALL GO DOWNSTAIRS AND LOOK FOR THE LITTLE PEOPLE, DUMBELLE

by Benjamin Richardson



Bowling Club official used money for his own use—fined £150

MONEY HE received from members of Standard Telephone Cables, Ltd., Social Club Bowling Section to pay for coaches when they went to away matches was used for his own use by the Section's Secretary - Treasurer, Brian Martin.

Mr. D. Chipperfield, prosecuting, told this to Billericay Justices on Tuesday when Martin (28), of Rantree Fold, Basildon, pleaded guilty to five charges of fraudulent conversion involving a total of £114.

He was fined £150, to be paid at £2 a week, with three months imprisonment in default.

Mr. Chipperfield said that four of the charges related to money received by Martin for coach hiring for away matches of the Bowling Section and the fifth for hiring the Mecca for a dance.

Martin said he had been in serious financial difficulty and had used the money to get himself out of it and to live each week.

Raised £66

A BAZAAR held by Wickford Clinic Mothers' Club on Saturday raised £66. Part of this will go towards the After-Care Clinic at Basildon.

The Club was formed four years ago to welcome young mothers new to the area. In the last six months membership has jumped from 35 to 75.

Said Club Chairman Mrs. Irene Edwards: "We only started working for the bazaar at the end of October, and I am very pleased with the amount of goods which we got."

Stalls and stallholders were: Dolls, Mrs. Trudy Blunden; table decorations, Mrs. E. Wood; cakes, Mrs. Irene Bovill and Mrs. Elaine Biggs; potted plants, Mrs. Yvonne Toone and Mrs. D. Crook; fancy goods, Mrs. Peggy Binks; toys, Mrs. J. Spear; knitwear, Mrs. B. Murphy; aprons, Mrs. B. Hewlett; white elephant, Mrs. Jean Zear; foodstuffs, Mrs. E. Battye; bran tub, Mrs. Barbara Webb. Raffle tickets were sold by Mrs. B. Dabson and Mrs. Linda Baxter. Mrs. Mary Stephens was at the door.

Invitation to church

YOUNG people over 11 years old are being asked to join with St. Catherine's Junior Church, Wickford, at Wickford Church of England Infants' School on Sundays at 11 a.m. to receive religious instruction from Rev. Timothy Gilling, the recently-appointed assistant curate.

It is hoped to build up a strong group of youngsters of 11 years old and upwards who will be able to go to the Young People's Fellowship on Monday evenings at St. Andrew's Hall, Wickford, for social activities.

SALE OF LAND

Basildon Council's Housing Committee have approved the sale of a piece of land in Moreland Road, Wickford, to the London Borough of Waltham Forest. It was announced this week.

AMERICAN GUESTS

MEMBERS of Ramsden Heath Women's Institute entertained officers' wives from the U.S.A.F. Base, Wethersfield, at their Christmas and birthday party this week. Other guests included members of Billericay and Stock Women's Institutes.

Preparations were carried out by Ramsden W.I. committee members, who made cakes from American cake mixtures presented to the Institute last year by the officers' wives.

The party ended with carols and "Auld Lang Syne."

At an earlier meeting Ramsden W.I. were given an interesting talk by Mrs. Chowdhury, who spoke on the role of women in India today.

TWO ELECTED

Two former Billericay residents were elected as officers of "D" Group of the British Legion at the annual meeting last week. Mr. Tom Kennedy was elected the Group's first President after being Chairman for many years, and Mr. Charlie Livermore was re-elected Secretary and Treasurer.

BUSY NIGHT FOR COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

GUEST of honour at the Kingswood Conservative Association dinner-dance at the Commodore on Friday was Chairman of the Council Coun. A. Baron Burn—but he and his wife had no time to stay for the dancing.

For after the dinner they had to race on to the Samaritans' wine and cheese party where Mrs. Burn made the draw, then to the Police ball at the Basildon Locarno.

Coun. Bernard Beasley, the only Conservative councillor at present holding a seat in the Central Ward, was the main speaker for the evening. He appealed to the 50 people at the dinner for more members, and, especially for potential councillors, for the next local elections.

8-week wait

ON AVERAGE, each planning application made to Chelmsford Rural District Council is decided upon after 8.86 weeks.

When the decisions are made by the Council the time taken averages 8.33 weeks, whereas an average of 16.24 weeks elapse when applications are referred to County Council.

WIVES' GUILD

Mrs. Jean Harper presided at a meeting of Wickford Methodist Wives' Guild on Thursday, when a carol service was held. There was also a discussion on 12 items connected with Christmas.

They tried to get cheap travel

FACTORY worker Arthur Clifford, of Quilters Straight, Basildon, was fined a total of £5 at Billericay on Tuesday for deliberately rubbing out the date on a railway ticket with intent to avoid paying his fare.

Prosecuting, Mr. J. Hiscox told the Court that Clifford produced the defaced ticket at Laindon Railway Station and said he had bought it at Bow Road Railway Station.

It was later discovered, however, that no ticket in that condition had been

issued from the booking office at Bow Road, said Mr. Hiscox.

Said Clifford in mitigation: "I normally buy my return ticket to Laindon at Bow Road in the morning so I can get straight on to the train in the evening, but on this occasion I must have forgotten."

"I produced the defaced ticket thinking I had bought it that morning. I did not rub the date off, it

must have rubbed off in my pocket."

BARMAN FINED A 210-a-week barman who covered the code number and expiry date on a railway season ticket with his thumb and later used a juvenile season ticket belonging to his brother appeared at the same Court on two charges of failing to pay his railway fare.

He was 18-years-old William Quinton, of Kathleen Ferrier Crescent, Laindon, who was fined a total of £15 with £3 costs, and ordered to pay at the rate of £1 a week.



A VERY HAPPY XMAS and the brightest-ever New Year are the wishes of

SELINA SQUIRREL

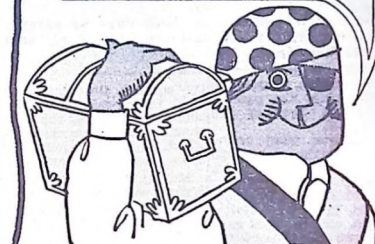
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whose Manager (Mr. P. Kistruck) and Staff thank the Public for past custom and tolerance of inconvenience during the change-over to

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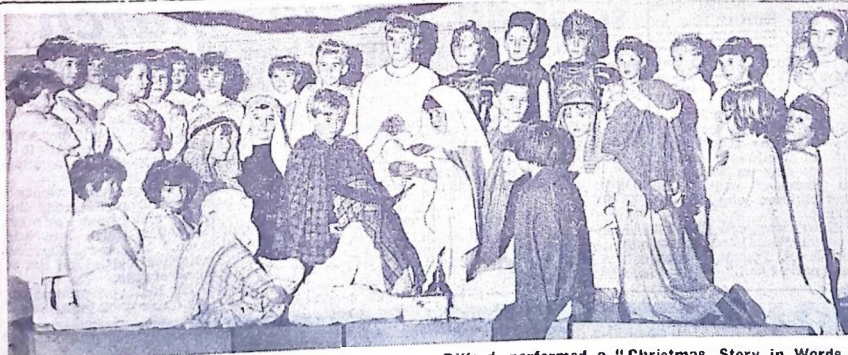
EMI Record Tokens

for all records, exchangeable at most record retailers including WHS branches. From 5/- upwards. Card 6d extra.

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New this year—for stationery, gifts, pens etc. Exchangeable at most stationers including all Smith's shops. From 5/- upwards. Cards 6d extra. They're all so quick and easy to buy from

W. H. SMITH & SON
THE SHOP FOR ALL THE FAMILY



St. Margaret's Church of England School, Bowers Gifford, performed a "Christmas Story in Words, Music and Mime" in the school hall.



The infants at Vango Primary School held a Nativity play in the school hall on Monday.

GLASS

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THIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN AT WICKFORD CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL'S NATIVITY PLAY LAST WEEK.

Christmas festivities at the schools

STAFF AT Wickford Infants' School had "very encouraging" support from parents and friends when the school held their Christmas festivities on Wednesday week and Thursday.

"The hall was packed on both days by parents and friends and it was a well-supported effort," said head teacher Mrs. M. B. Bone.

The 332 infants staged Nativity plays, a pantomime and entertained the parents with dancing displays and carol services.

The children were entertained on Tuesday week with a Punch and Judy show and a magic act.

Every child in the school took part in some activity. The eight older classes gave a concert on Wednesday week, and the six-year-olds performed the pantomime "Hansel and Gretel." The seven-year-olds staged a Nativity play.

The newest pupils, who started in September, showed their worth on Thursday with a performance which included a Nativity play and dancing act.

The events were organised by the teaching staff.

the concert, Headmaster Mr. E. E. Living said that he felt that it maintained the traditional high standard of which it has had just cause to be proud in the past.

Mr. R. Buckley (Chairman of the Governors) read Nativity passages from the Bible; Mr. D. James, B.Sc., was the accompanist, and in general charge of the concert was Mrs. M. Greenwood. Members of the audience joined the choir in singing six carols.

Soloists were Rosemary Abrahams, Linda Eggleston, Geraldine Rouse, Denise Mackinnay, Pauline Clifton, Christine Ashford, Lorraine Shim, Pamela Moore, Mrs. Sweeney and V. Williams.

Four members of the staff—Mrs. J. Snowden, Mr. and Mrs. R. Rogers and Mr. M. Turner—sang in the choir with the children.

Novel and modern

Novel and modern was Bryn Infants' School Nativity play last week. The stage was turned into a theatre workshop as parents watched.

"They created their own theatre—a play within a play," said Headmistress Miss G. Jones. "It was based on a poem."

But on other days the 130 children took part in a traditional Christmas entertainment of songs and games.

AT SPRINGFIELD

Mothers who are members of the Parent-Teacher Association helped with parties at Springfield Infants' School on Wednesday and Thursday week.

All 154 children took part in these and concerts a few days earlier. Fryerns Darby and Joan Club members were invited to one performance.

ALL TOOK PART

All 143 children at Greensted Infants' School took part in a Nativity play on Wednesday week and Friday.

Teachers and parents made the costumes and the hall was packed by parents both days.

PACKED HALL

Sixty children from all classes in the school took part in Whitmore Infants' Nativity play on Wednesday and Thursday week. The other children joined in the singing.

"It was very well attended by parents," said Headmistress Miss R. E. Pounds, "there was a packed hall."

Present for 'lollipop' man

BILLERICAY Junior School held two carol services this week—one on Monday and the other on Wednesday. Both services began with singing by all the children and their parents and this was followed by a Nativity play by Class 10.

Three carols were given by the school violinists and recorder players.

Both services ended with carol singing by everyone present. After the service on Wednesday a presentation was made to Mr. Spenser, the "lollipop" man who has guided children across the road outside the school for seven years. Said Headmaster Mr. Jack Wilson: "All the children brought in sums of money and we were able to present Mr. Spenser with a cheque, which he was very pleased with."

Sunnymede concerts

Nearly 300 pupils of Sunnymede Junior School took part in school concerts on Wednesday and Thursday week. There were four performances—two by the older children and two by the younger.

The children took part in two short plays, recited verses and sang hymns and carols. The events were organised by the teaching staff. About 800 parents and friends are estimated to have attended the performances.

A high standard

PARENTS and friends of Craylands Secondary School pupils thronged the school hall on Tuesday evening for the school's annual concert of Christmas music.

Among the guests were Mr. G. A. White (County Chief Inspector of Education), members of the school governors, Miss Moss, Deputy Head of Fryerns Technical Grammar School and Mrs. Nunn (Warden of Craylands Youth Centre). Commenting afterwards on

THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING DAY IS CHRISTMAS DAY

CELEBRATING THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING ON CHRISTMAS DAY WILL BE MR. JOHN EDWARD EVEREST AND HIS WIFE, SUSAN ELIZABETH, OF ALDERNEY GARDENS, WICKFORD.

And 50 years ago on that Christmas Day, 1917, when they were married at St. Barnabas' Church, Bethnal Green, it was "cold, bright and clear," recalls Mrs. Everest.

It was a 10.30 a.m. service as Mrs. Everest's father had to be on duty as a park attendant in the afternoon. "And I did not want anyone else to give me away," said Mrs. Everest.

She is 72 years of age and her husband is 75. At the time of their marriage he was a postman. He had been in the Royal West Surrey Regiment — he is one of the Old Contemptibles — at the outbreak of war, but had been discharged because of wounds he received in France in 1915.

He rose to the position of supervisor of messenger boys in the G.P.O. before his retirement about 11 years ago.

Before moving to Wickford in 1926 the couple lived at Bethnal Green. They had their house built in Wickford, and it is in this one, after 50 years of marriage, they celebrate their golden wedding anniversary.

During the last war Mrs. Everest was in the W.R.V.S. Rest Centre in Wickford and was also active with the local Women's Institute at the preservation centre, where she canned and bottled fruits and vegetables.

She is now a member of Runwell Women's Institute and only recently retired as their Meals-on-Wheels organiser.

Mrs. Everest's hobby is cookery and she has won a number of prizes at local shows. In 1963 she took the Best Cook Cup at Runwell Horticultural Society's show. She is also keen on needlework.

Mr. Everest, whose hobby is radios, is also a member of the Horticultural Society.

He is Treasurer of Runwell O.A.P. Association branch, of which his wife was formerly a tea hostess.

For the branch meeting on Wednesday week she made over 100 cakes for members to have with their tea to celebrate the golden wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Everest have a daughter and two grand-daughters, who will be taking part in the Christmas Day celebrations.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

MORE THAN 130 guests were welcomed at Billericay Women's Institute Christmas party last week by President Mrs. Amy Shipton. They included visitors from Little Burstead, Ramsdale and Ramsden Heath Institutes.

Carols sung by the choir, under the direction of Miss Phillips, were enjoyed, and a one-act comedy—"Mad Hatter of Mayfair"—was presented by the Drama Group.

Mrs. H. Francis was producer and Mrs. O'Driscoll was stage manager.

Taking part were Mesdames R. Everitt, L. Knibbs, M. Butler, S. Drury, P. Reed and E. Mabey.

Highlight of the afternoon was the cutting of an iced Christmas cake, made by the President, by the two Vice-Presidents—Mrs. G. Bunn and Mrs. P. Harvey.

They want a new church

ST. TERESA'S Church, Langdon Hills, raised about £180 at their Christmas bazaar at the Laindon Community Centre on Saturday.

Organisers were pleased with the result since this was the first time since the Roman Catholic Church had held their own bazaar. For some years the Christmas effort has been staged in conjunction with Holy Trinity Church at Roundacre.

The money will go straight into the St. Teresa's Development Fund.

Father Terence Keating explained: "We are trying to build up a fund for a new church in the future."

"As the New Town grows we expect to grow with it and we must look ahead to building a new church."

The bazaar had plenty of support from Saturday shoppers and went on from 10.30 a.m. until late afternoon. Father Christmas attended and he did not run short of gifts.

The lucky programme number (prize unclaimed) was 370.

Careless scooterist

ROBERT JONES (17), of Harold Gardens, Wickford, was fined £5 for careless driving at Billericay on Tuesday.

Prosecuting, Mr. P. K. Watkins told the Court that Jones, a scooter driver, pulled out of Wick Lane, Wickford, into Southend Road without looking and collided with a motor cycle.

Jones told the Court: "I wanted to see if the road was clear so I edged out to get a better view and the motor cyclist ran into me."



St. Teresa's Church, Langdon Hills, held a bazaar in the Laindon Community Centre on Saturday.

HELPING A MAGICIAN



Martine Lester (6) was pleased to help the magician, David Douglas, at the children's party held by Wickford Medau Rhythmic Movement Group at Castle Hotel on Saturday.

GIRL DID NOT KNOW WHAT HAPPENED DURING BLACKOUT THEFT CHARGE DISMISSED

THE CASE AGAINST A 19-YEARS-OLD CRAYS HILL GIRL CHARGED WITH STEALING WAS DISMISSED AT BILLERICAY ON TUESDAY AFTER MAGISTRATES HEARD EVIDENCE WHICH SUGGESTED SHE DID NOT KNOW WHAT SHE WAS DOING.

Jacqueline Dowsett, of Crays Hill, pleaded not guilty to stealing a scarf and gloves worth £1 8s. 10d. from Littlewoods and a diary worth 6s. 6d. from Boots in Basildon.

Mr. Dowsett told the Court that his daughter was very subject to blackouts and fainting attacks and she had been attending hospital as an out-patient for some time recently while specialists tried to find the cause of her illness.

"When she gets one of these attacks she becomes confused and vacant for some time before she actually blacks out," he said, "and during this time she does not know where she is or what she is doing."

Prosecuting, Mr. P. K. Watkins said defendant was seen by Mrs. Irene Dagnell, of Herondale, Basildon, a shop assistant at Boots, to pick up a diary and walk out of the store with it without attempting to pay for it.

Defendant later blacked out during an interview with Boots' Manager Mr. Edward Campton, of Vernon Road, Leigh, after also admitting that a scarf and gloves from Littlewoods also did not belong to her.

Said Jacqueline's advocate: "Jacqueline was obviously in the throws of one of these attacks when she took these things."

"She has a scarf just like the one from Littlewoods, and in her confused state she probably picked it up with the gloves thinking they belonged to her."

Dismissing the charges, Chairman Mrs. C. Gunter said: "We feel there is an element of doubt in this case because of your illness."

PARTY AND A SOCIAL

NEARLY 100 children attended the Christmas party given by the Sports and Social Club of the Transformer and Electrical Company, Basildon, at Fryerna Community Centre.

The party included a high tea followed by a film show and party games.

Father Christmas arrived later to give each child a present and a few sweets.

In the evening the Social Club held their own celebrations with a social and dance. About 200 people attended.

SCOUTERS CELEBRATE

THE TROOP Scouters' Council—for Scouts leaders of the 12 groups in the Billericay and Wickford district—ended a busy year on Saturday with a Christmas party in St. Andrew's Hall, Wickford.

Organisation was by a sub-committee headed by Derek Edwards (A.D.C.), Don Hurrell (2nd Billericay) and John Tarkling (3rd Billericay).

Guests were fellow Scouters in charge of Cub-Scout packs in the district, lay members of the District Scout Council, with wives, husbands and friends.

Tony and Jean Loveday (2nd Wickford) led a team who made the buffet arrangements and the evening's programme included quizzes, folk dancing and games.

Cub-Scouts mimed Christmas play

IN CLEAR, cold weather on Sunday afternoon Cub-Scouts from Billericay and Wickford, with their leaders and some parents, celebrated the coming of Christmas with traditional carol services.

The four packs of Wickford, with the 1st Runwell and the new Shotgate Pack, held their service at St. Andrew's Church, where the Rector of Wickford, Rev. Frederick France, officiated. In their Nativity play Mary was played by Carol Rowson, daughter of the 1st Wickford Pack's Akela, Mrs. I. Rowson.

A new feature this year was the appearance of nine Cub-Scouts dressed in the uniforms worn by their fellow Cubs in other countries. They also carried national flags, made by Mrs. Elsie Wilson, a Benfleet Cub-Scout leader, and formed a symbolic tableau round the crib.

A special choir, led by Leslie King, a 1st Runwell Scouter, sang, and Cubs from Runwell

DUTY CHEMISTS

BASILDON
Sunday (December 24th) Timothy White and Taylors Ltd., 21, Town Square, Basildon, will be open from 11 a.m. to 12 noon, and on Wednesday from 6 to 7 p.m. Christmas Day (December 25th) Timothy Whites and Taylors, Ltd., will also be open from 11 a.m. to 12 noon, Tuesday (26th) Boots the Chemist, Ltd., 27, Town Square, Basildon, will be open from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. On Thursday and Friday David James, Ltd., 98, Whitmore Way, Basildon, will be open from 6 to 7 p.m.

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

BILLERICAY
Sunday (December 24th) M. W. Shadforth, 40, High Street, Billericay, will be open from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Christmas Day (25th) and Boxing Day (26th) J. G. Smith, Ltd., 111, High Street, Billericay, will be open from 11 a.m. to 12 noon, on Wednesday and every weekday to 6.30 p.m. (except Thursday, when they will be open from 7 to 8 p.m.). On Sunday (December 31st) Nix Ltd., will be open from 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

Magistrate says decent people can avoid "good Scout and churchgoer"

A 16-YEARS-OLD Basildon Scout, who is a "good churchgoer," was described by Mr. H. R. Dunnico, Chairman of Billericay Juvenile Court, on Tuesday, as "a person the public should be made aware of."

Mr. Dunnico ordered that his name could be used by the Press so that "decent members of society can avoid him."

Before the Court was Paul Davies, of Great Spenders, who admitted assault occasioning actual bodily harm, a breach of the peace, and indecent assault.

Mr. Vernon Frost, prosecuting, said the offences involved three Basildon girls whom Davies followed and frightened.

The first offence—assault occasioning actual bodily harm—said Mr. Frost was committed against a 19-years-old housewife on September 14th. The housewife noticed Davies staring at her in Whitmore Way and realised he was following her home. She began to walk faster when she got to Danbury Down, but Davies caught up with her, put his arm round her shoulder and committed an offence.

The housewife freed herself and ran to tell her husband.

Mr. Frost said Davies committed similar offences at the footpath under Roundacre Roundabout on November 7th and at Norwood End on November 10th.

The girls screamed and became hysterical and on each occasion the defendant ran off.

On the last occasion, said Mr. Frost, the girl gave a description and the Police went to Davies' home the same night. He at first denied the allegations, but later said: "At first I just wanted to chase her for a giggle."

Mr. Frost said Davies was a boy of good education and from a good home.

Davies' father added: "He's a good boy... a good Scout and a good churchgoer."

Mr. Dunnico said the parents would have to pay for any psychiatric treatment they think he needs.

"People like you are already costing the country too much," said Mr. Dunnico.

Davies was fined £5 for each offence.

Expensive temptation

BASILDON motorist Robert Vernon Pearson could not resist the temptation to look at an accident-wrecked car as he drove on Canvey Island.

Seconds later he had an accident himself, he was the last vehicle in a four-car concertina crash, said Mr. Tom Lavelle prosecuting at Rochford Magistrates' Court on Wednesday.

The 28-years-old driver, who lives at Mableford Sweep, Basildon, was fined £10 for careless driving and ordered to pay £2 costs.

First car in the concertina, said Mr. Lavelle, stopped behind a bus, another vehicle stopped behind him, a third, driven by a Mr. Rowe, then ran into it pushing it forward and finally Pearson ran into the back and concentrated the vehicles again.

Pleading guilty, Pearson told the Court: "I could not resist the temptation to look at the other accident and when I looked back the traffic ahead had stopped."

A similar case against Mr. Rowe was adjourned until January so that he can attend Court.

TO THE EDITOR Town full of talent

WHAT a lot of talent we have here in Wickford. On Saturday I went to see "Do Not Spit on the Stairs" by Mr. T. Daly at the Community Hall. The songs were written by Mr. T. Fletcher.

What a success it all was—a really delightful piece of entertainment. I feel sure that other drama groups will be falling over themselves to act the play.

Congratulations again to the Community Players. It was well worth leaving a warm fireside to enjoy this entertainment. Aren't we lucky here in Wickford to have local people giving us first-rate drama, choral concerts, etc.? What more could we want? — M. BROOKS (Mrs.), 26, Rectory Grove, Wickford.

Fined £15

Fines totalling £15 and £3 18s. 4d. costs were imposed on Edward Houghton, of Ganel's Road, Billericay, at Billericay Court on Tuesday for making a false declaration to obtain a Road Fund licence and for driving an untaxed vehicle.

Airman from Aden a bridegroom



Mr. Ronald Allan Peddar, of Grove Park Road, Rainham, and Miss Pauline Anne Holloway, of Weymarks, Basildon, were married at St. Nicholas' Church, Laindon, on Saturday. Given away by her father, the bride wore a full-length white lace dress, and a short veil and floral head-dress. She carried white roses. The bridesmaids were Barbara Brown, Teresa Holloway and Jacqueline and Teresa Cross, who wore rose pink dresses. The bridegroom has just returned from serving with the R.A.F. in Aden—he returned to this country on Withdrawal Day.

(Photo by Florides Photographic)

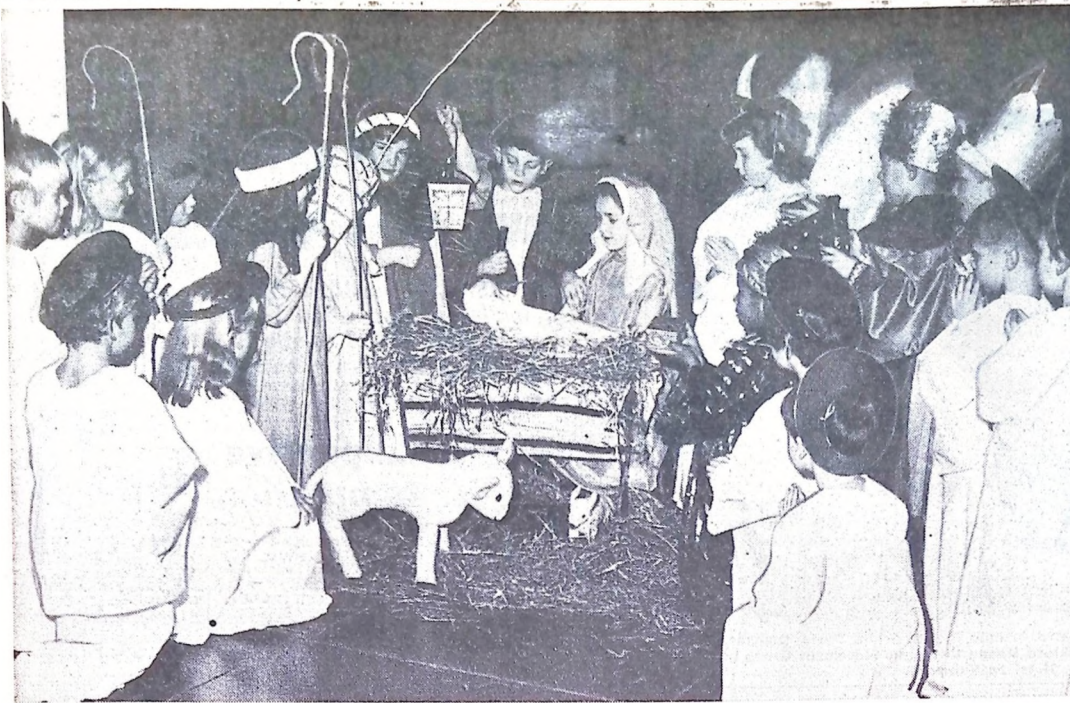
Samaritans ran draw

THE WIFE of Basildon Council's Chairman, Mrs. A. Baron Burn, drew for the winning numbers in a draw organised by Basildon Samaritans at their wine and cheese party on Friday week.

First prizewinners were: £10 Christmas hamper, V. Wind; £5 hamper, A. Moore; and turkey, A. Patterson. Other winners were C. Turner, T. Jones, Mrs. T. Jones, A. Hard, Mr. May, Mr. Norvick, G. E. Miles, Mr. Edwards, M. E. Piggott, Mr. Hitchcroft, J. Alter, Dr. Jones, Mrs. Hines, E. Nunn, L. Williams, Mr. Wells and S. Cunningham.



Members of Ford's Tractors Department and their wives left the Basildon Town Centre on Saturday for an evening out in London.



PARENTS WERE INVITED TO GREENSTED INFANTS' SCHOOL, BASILDON, LAST WEEK, WHEN THE CHILDREN PERFORMED AN IMPRESSIVE NATIVITY PLAY.

CHRIST FEST



THE FAIRY STORY OF "HANSEL FOR CHILDREN OF WICKFORD" SEE



Wickford Clinic Mothers' Club held their Christmas party in the Clinic on Wednesday week.



AT WHITMORE



SCHOOL STAFFS ARE NOT ALWAYS THANKED FOR THEIR BASILDON PARENTS AND VISITORS DO RESPOND WELL, AT CHRISTMAS. THE PICTURE ABOVE IS OF YET ANOTHER



No stage nerves in the youngsters seen above! They are children at Bryn Infants' School waiting to go on stage for the Nativity play.

The old 'uns also have plenty of Christmas fun. Below: Basildon No. 2 Senior Citizens' Club held their Christmas dinner at the Pemberry Hall in Fairview Road, and entertainment was provided by the club's own concert party. They are (from the left) Mrs. E. Le Brun (70), Mrs. I. Hart (65), Mr. W. Bundy (69), Mrs. J. Mereday (68) and Mrs. R. Holt (72).



Woodlands Girls' School produced "Orpheus and Eurydice" last week. Above are Carole Birkins (Eurydice), Pat Rayment (Amor) and Mrs. Anna Groves (Orpheus).

IT'S

Below at children derful field in Christmas nee



STIDE TIES



"EL" WAS THE PLAY CHOSEN
SCHOOL, SOME OF WHOM ARE



Another Nativity play was staged at Kingswood Infants' School, where the children, like those at the other schools, gave simple, yet very impressive, interpretations of the Christmas Story.

Festivities of a different kind were arranged by the Billericay Mayflower Evening Institute's Keep-Fit Class. The members seen below enjoyed an end-of-term party in the gymnasium.

NTS' SCHOOL



PRODUCING NATIVITY PLAYS AND CONCERTS, BUT IN
ARE APPRECIATIVE OF THE EFFORTS FOR CHILDREN
THE NATIVITY PLAY—AT WHITMORE INFANTS' SCHOOL.



Owl and the Pussy Cat



THE CHRISTMAS PLAY PRESENTED BY BLUE-
HOUSE JUNIOR SCHOOL, BASILDON, LAST WEEK
WAS "THE OWL AND THE PUSSYCAT."

SEEN ABOVE ARE MARIA SHEPHERD (PUSS),
COLIN GRAY (OWL) AND MAUREEN STEADMAN
(RUNCIBLE CAT).

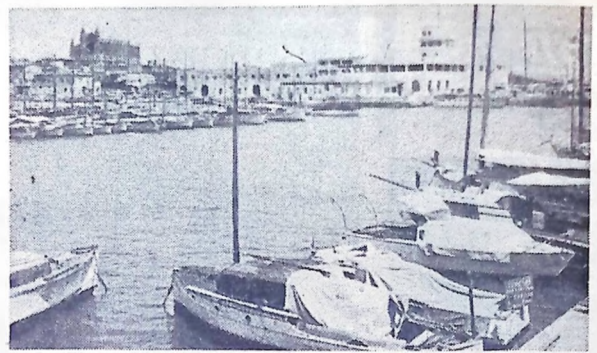


Fairhouse Junior School, Basildon, held a carol concert in the school hall, and below is a picture taken at the Wickford Family Planning Association's Christmas party held at the Basildon Health Clinic.



PLAN YOUR HOLIDAY NOW!

Collect a bunch of travel brochures and pore over them on Boxing Day when the whole family are gathered around the fire.



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PLANNING a holiday can involve a great deal of preparation, especially when you're going abroad. If the maximum amount of enjoyment is to be derived from it without incurring unnecessary expense, then the expert should be consulted.

One such firm is Adcock's, of 22-24 The Broadway, Wickford, which was founded in 1935 as a newsagents, stationers and tobacconists and in 1951 introduced a travel and theatre booking agency in its services to the public. Since that time Kenneth Adcock has followed the policy of dealing only with operators of highest repute. This assures the best possible value to clients and has resulted in numerous recommendations from many of them. Mr. Adcock is a full member of the Association of British Travel Agents and the Booking Agents' Association, which ensures you a satisfactory holiday.

Whether you intend travelling by land, sea or air, the firm will be able to arrange everything for

you without any additional cost. One usually associates holidays with summer months, but many people now go abroad during our winter to dodge the severe weather. If you are one of the fortunate ones who can get away during our winter you will find that many resorts have arranged "bargain" winter holidays.

If you intend taking your car with you on holiday, car and passenger ferries operate from most ports to many parts of the world.

As agents for Eastern National and London Coastal Coaches, Adcock's can issue tickets for journeys at the time of booking. This means no loss of time waiting in queues at coach station booking offices and assures you of a seat on a particular coach. It matters not whether the journey is for a day excursion, a stay of a few days or a prolonged holiday; you can book it at Wickford and in a great many cases board your coach in The Broadway — and you need not hump your luggage until you reach your destination. These operators cover principal holiday resorts in the country.

Block bookings for works or clubs are part of the regular business of Adcock's and Kenneth Adcock is invariably at hand to give personal guidance if needed. If not, then his chief clerk, Miss Linda Dean, who has been with him since 1963, is on duty. Many people have expressed appreciation of the thorough manner in which Linda has completed bookings and arranged their holiday.

Barrie Adcock is likewise on duty to assist, so that at all times clients know they are assured of the best attention to all their business. Barrie joined the firm 15 years ago and plays an important part in running the business.

Mr. Adcock is of the opinion that in 1968 we shall see an increase in the popularity of cruises as one means of overcoming the devaluation problem. Already the majority of operators have issued the brochures and literature for 1968 and anyone interested can call at Adcock's to receive them. If it is more convenient they can be posted. However, please indicate which area you most prefer and the approximate time of your proposed holiday.

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This allowance should, on the whole, be enough for the average British family. European holidays, especially in Spain, are really good bargains, but all offer exceptional value. Saving is made because transfers to and from hotel, service charges and local taxes are included in the arrangements, some of which even take in such extras as beach charges. In this way you know exactly where you are and from the start you will know exactly how much spending money is available.

FARES IN STERLING

The cost of the actual travel to the chosen resort or on a coach tour together with the cost of transfers from terminals to your hotel, doesn't come out of the £50 allowance. So fares by plane or train, coach or ship don't affect your spending money — they're all paid for in sterling before you leave. Your foreign currency

allowance has to pay for accommodation and meals. It also has to cover any sightseeing trips which you may book. And, of course, day-to-day spending (coffee and drinks and tips and souvenirs) comes out of the foreign currency, too. So obviously it will be to your advantage to look through the brochures of the "package deal" holidays and check exactly how your money is spread over your holiday.

THE V FORM

When you book through an agent the sum of foreign money to be sent abroad for your hotel expenses is known as the V form. This is clearly shown in most of the holiday programmes issued by the agencies. Subtract this amount together with any seasonal charges, from your £50 and what's left is spending money. In addition, of course, you will have the usual £15 sterling.

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Nearly £400 was handed over to charities, and dozens of Christmas cakes went to O.A.P. organisations as a result of the hard work of Carnival Queen Geraldine Gahan and her Princesses, Kerryanne Butterfill and Christine Wass. As reported in our last issue the money was distributed last week, and in our picture are the Carnival Queen and her Court: Coun. A. Baron Burn, J.P. (Chairman of Basildon Council), and Mrs. Burn, and representatives of organisations who received cheques.



"Poaching" accusations anger Wickford's taxi-drivers

WICKFORD'S TAXI-DRIVERS are seething over accusations of "poaching" fares in areas where they are not licensed to operate, says the Taxi Proprietors' Association Chairman, Mr. Terry Dove.

Mr. Dove was commenting on Basildon Council's threat to revoke the licences of proprietors whose taxis operate outside their designated district.

Town Manager David Taylor said that the operation of Wickford-based taxis in the New Town meant that Wickford people were not getting the service the Council would like.

Mr. Dove, whose Wickford-based taxi is frequently in the New Town, has now told Basildon Council: "I take my taxi back to Wickford—when you give us a rank to put it on."

And he added: "If they want to take my licence away they can try it. I am sitting tight and, if necessary, I will take any revocation to an appeals court."

Two ranks

Mr. Dove's case is that the nine taxis operating in Wickford have only two ranks in Wickford—at the station. "How can I operate

from there under these conditions?" he asks.

"There isn't even a proper taxi rank in Basildon Town Centre. The rank there belongs to the Corporation. It's part of a car park and could be taken away from us at any time. The Council should be ashamed of themselves. They have issued more than 40 hackney carriage licences and there are only five ranks in the whole urban district."

"It is the Council who are responsible for the public not having a good service."

Mr. Dove also has a personal bone to pick with Basildon Council. They won't let him use his "London" taxi.

He bought the taxi to replace one of his saloon car cabs. Basildon Council passed the taxi as mechan-

ically sound and Mr. Dove asked for one of his plates to be transferred from a saloon car to the taxi.

London cab

"It's a beautiful cab," said Mr. Dove. "Even the Council think so, but now they won't let me use it because it is five years old."

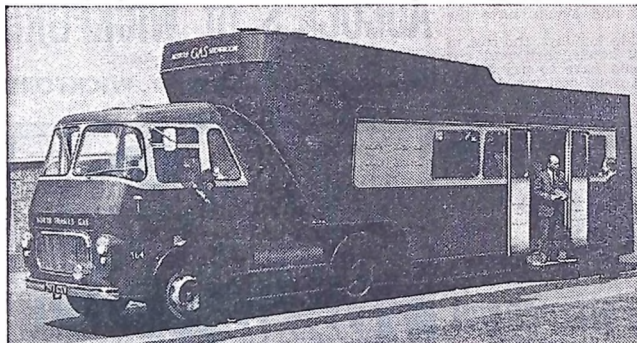
"And yet their own inspection said there was nothing wrong with it, and the new cars I buy only last about 18 months or two years."

"My London taxi will last another five years. It's more comfortable for passengers and it is easier for elderly or crippled people to get into."

A Basildon Council spokesman said it was the Council's policy not to allow vehicles above a certain age to be used as taxis. This was a well-known fact, he said.

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GIRLS OVERCAME MANY PROBLEMS TO PRODUCE THIS SPLENDID OPERA

THAT THE girls of Woodlands Girls' School, Basildon, put on two operas in nine months was praiseworthy; that they made such an overwhelming success of both of them was a real tribute to the staff who coached them.

writes ELIZABETH WALL.

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday last week they presented "Orpheus and Eurydice," by Christoph Willibald Gluck. It was every bit as enjoyable as their Easter production of "Lido," and the chorus was as musically perfect through many long and difficult passages. (See picture on page 20).

Mrs. Anna Groves, who sang Orpheus, traditionally sung by a contralto, coped beautifully with a register lower than normal for her; if she disused pitching her voice to these depths, she concealed the fact very well. Her rendering of "She Is Gone"—better known to many as "What Is Life?"—made famous by Kathleen Ferrier—was truly lovely.

Carole Birkins played Eurydice; now 16, she is no longer a pupil of Woodlands, but works in a bank. She returned especially to play this part—and one can quite understand why she felt she had to take part in the opera. She would have been a great loss to the cast if she had

not been available; as it was, her lilting soprano lent poignant contrast to the deeper tones of Orpheus.

Little Patricia Rayment, who had a small part in "Lido" earlier this year, blossomed out into a much more important role this time. She was Amor, or Cupid, the God of Love; and a roguish and appealing boy-god she made. It was told that she was nothing unusual about her own voice, and takes it very much for granted; but it would be a great loss to music lovers if Patricia decided not to sing any more.

The Narrator, who told the story before each act, was Susan Pope.

Mrs. E. Condon, who produced the opera, said every time she remembered how few were the times the children had been able to use the stage she shuddered! Rehearsals for "Orpheus" should have started at the beginning of term, but owing to a water leak, which necessitated the replacing of all the tiles in the hall, the girls could not begin to stage their dramatic action until mid-October. Mrs. G. Robinson, pianist, had held practice sessions at her own

house, which helped considerably; but stage-work had to be postponed until work in the hall was finished.

Mrs. J. Marshall, Head of the Needlework Department, and her girls, made the many excellent costumes; fortunately many of them could be adapted from those made earlier for the other operas. The most striking were those of the Furies and monsters that guarded the gates of Hades; the clever use of "dry-ice" to produce wreaths of fog around the players' feet was most effective.

Apart from the players already mentioned, the chorus was as follows:

Chorus: Cheryl Caddick, Margaret Lee, Pat Povey, Karen Goodman, Lorraine Allison, Irene Chalk, Denise Bradshaw, Dawn Eldon, Julia Beard, Janis Hunt, Lesley Adkins, Anna Bakeman, Julie Hopkins, Janet Vernon, Linda Hamberger, Maureen Creed, Janet Blake, Pat Fennelly, Shirley Peters, Lorraine Vicki, Susan Day, Susan Peck, Julie Sussex, Vivien Owens, Marilyn Beal, Maureen J. Jones, Teresa Bradshaw, Gillian March, Jennifer Babbage, Dorothy, Vicki Carter, Linda Staines, Pauline Tappender, Jennifer Ward, Rosalyn Spencer, Linda March, Christine Prosho, Rosemary Freestone, Janet Reeve, Susan Jackson, Trudi Smith, Angela Marsh, Christine Lindop, Brenda Turner, Lynne Norris, Susan Field, Jane Dalton, Wendy Wood, Marion Eames, Wendy King, Cheryl Allen, Pat Gower, Anna Fickett, Valerie Butler.

Furies: Susan Roe, Anna Purkiss, Linda McKinnell, Denise Evans, Diane Campbell, Christine Cox, Teresa Povey, David Goodman, Christine Milan, Christine Bliss, Suzanne Parker, Margaret Cane, Pauline King.

Spirits: Tina Jacobs, Joanne King, Karen Kirby, Janet Allen, Linda Charles, Marilyn Jones, Susan Wilson, Marilyn Brazier, Janet Phillips, Nina Williams, Linda Viskin, Janice Cornwell.

Mime: Susan Roe, Christine Bliss, Marilyn Welch, Bridget Marrey, Denise Drewitt.

TONTONTON GETS LATE WINNER

HADLEIGH ATHLETIC 2
FRYERNS (BASILDON) 3

AFTER TWICE being in arrears against the current Southend and District League (Division I) leaders on Saturday, Fryerns fought back magnificently to emerge worthy winners by the odd goal.

Fryerns were rather lucky not to go behind early in the game when a shot hit their goalkeeper and cannonned off for a fruitless corner.

After this Fryerns began to play attractive football, and well-prompted by Haynes, they went near on several occasions, both Haynes and Hurley hitting the spinwork.

A few minutes from half-time Hadleigh went ahead against the run of play when their inside-right slotted the ball home after a mix-up in the Fryerns defence.

The second half began with Fryerns pushing hard for the equaliser and after Hawke and Taylor had gone close, Kelly finally found the net in the 55th minute.

Fryerns' defence, with Heek and Randall prominent, dealt capably with most of Hadleigh's attacks, but it was a defensive blunder that allowed them to regain the lead after 70 minutes.

Five minutes later Fryerns equalised when a long ball down the middle the defender on to Kelly who notched the best goal of the match.

Fryerns then increased the pressure and with five minutes left Tointon slammed in the winner from close range to clinch the match.

CATHOLIC UNITED HIT FOR SIX

CATHOLIC UNITED 1
FRYERNS BOYS' CLUB 6

DESPITE LOSING a player in the second half, Fryerns ran out clear winners in this Youth Section Southend Charity Cup quarter-final on Saturday.

Fryerns adapted themselves quickly to the small uneven pitch, forcing three corners in the opening minutes and going ahead after ten minutes when Kenneth jumped high to head home a Diver corner.

Fryerns kept up the pressure, and after 20 minutes they deservedly went two up, Diver hitting a long, hard shot which the keeper touched but could not hold.

Catholic came more into the game after this, and went near with one shot just past a post, but Houghton, Caffin and West marked tight, and Catholic side got few chances.

Three minutes from half-time Houghton overtopped on the right-wing, and his cross was cleverly hooked in by Dallimore.

Catholic started the second half at a rush, keeper Beeton had to fly to kick the ball to safety from outside the area, but then Gadden beat him with a fine shot which hit the bar. Beeton saved another effort, and after this Fryerns retained their grip on the game. The ball bobbed around in the Catholic penalty area, and Keeley raced in to score.

After 15 minutes of the second half Diver had to go off with an injured knee, but Fryerns kept control. Minutes later Dallimore made the result safe, converting a May centre. Then the same player scores his third after good work by Vincent, Turner and May.

Catholic pulled a goal back with 15 minutes left when Adkins headed home, but they were not able to make any further impression on Fryerns' lead.

Fryerns now meet Rangers Sports in the semi-final. Their team on Saturday were: Beeton, Houghton, Caffin, Vincent, West, Turner, Diver and May, Kenneth, Diver and Keeley.

CRAYS WERE UNLUCKY AT CANVEY

CANVEY TOWN 1
CRAYS HILL ATHLETIC 2

A FAR superior team, Crays Hill Athletic were unlucky to win by only one goal in their Southend and District League Division I clash with Canvey Town on Saturday.

Crays hit the net six times altogether, but four goals were disallowed for offside. Dominating a good 75 per cent of the play, the Crays forward line pounded the home team's goal relentlessly, but the Canvey goalkeeper was in great form.

First goal of the match came after 10 minutes when Cowdin crossed the ball from the right, wing and inside-left Merry scored.

The Canvey defence seemed to fall to pieces in the second half. Good combined efforts by the Crays forward line completely baffled the home team.

Crays scored five goals in the second half, although four were disallowed and badly disputed.

A solo effort by left-half Repenbury gave Crays the deciding goal with a 10-yard shot which gave the keeper no chance.

Wickford side fails at home

Wickford Town 2nd XI 0, Great Wakering Res. 4
WICKFORD TOWN 2nd XI were unlucky to lose by such a large margin when they met Great Wakering Reserves in a Southend and District League Division I match at Wickford on Saturday.

The score flattered the visitors, for Wickford played well and were unfortunate to miss the net on several occasions. But Wakering, nevertheless, deserved to win.

METHANE GAS (CANVEY) 0, WICKFORD 4TH XI 1

A POWERFUL defence earned when they played Methane Gas (Canvey) in a Southend District League (Division IV) match on Saturday.

Wickford never looked in difficulty although the non-scoring defence was not too defensive.

It was not until the 20th minute that a combined effort resulted in right-back Abbott setting the only goal of the match.

Wickford had more of their own way in the second half, but were unable to crack the tight Methane defence. Wickford's goalkeeper only touched the ball four times.

No opponents

Wickford Football Club's third team's home fixture with Consett Rangers on Saturday was cancelled because the visitors failed to turn up for a Southend League Division III match. Wickford are to contact the league officials to discuss what action should be taken.

Fryerns pip West Enders

FRYERNS AREA 4
BASILDON WEST END 3

FRYERNS AREA finished their pre-Christmas programme with an excellent win over Basildon West End in the Southend and District League on Saturday.

After an early start of even play, Fryerns got on top and scored the first goal through Housley after 15 minutes.

Play really opened up in the 25th minute when the West End equalised after five minutes and took the lead 10 minutes later.

These goals roused Fryerns, who hit back to equalise through Penrose and go ahead through Clark.

In the 77th minute Pearce added another goal to make it 4-2, West End replying a minute later from a penalty.

NINE GOALS AFTER BREAK

BASILDON WEST END II 3
FRYERNS AREA RES. 5

FRYERNS AREA Reserves continued their recent run of success with a good away win in the Southend and District League on Saturday.

Play was very even in the first half and the teams crossed over with the score at 1-1.

The second half provided a goal rush, nine being scored by the two sides, seven of them by Fryerns.

Goalscorers for Fryerns were Housley (3), Meek (2), Avers, Pavey and one own goal.

Southend District League places

PREMIER DIVISION									
	W	D	L	F	A	P			
Basildon Res.	5	0	5	3	6	17			
Basildon Res.	3	1	2	20	11	7			
Basildon Res.	3	1	2	20	11	7			
Basildon Res.	3	1	2	20	11	7			
Basildon Res.	3	1	2	20	11	7			
Basildon Res.	3	1	2	20	11	7			
Basildon Res.	3	1	2	20	11	7			
Basildon Res.	3	1	2	20	11	7			
Basildon Res.	3	1	2	20	11	7			
Basildon Res.	3	1	2	20	11	7			

PREMIER RESERVE DIVISION									
	W	D	L	F	A	P			
Basildon Res.	7	1	0	45	20	15			
Basildon Res.	2	2	2	27	16	12			
Basildon Res.	2	2	2	27	16	12			
Basildon Res.	2	2	2	27	16	12			
Basildon Res.	2	2	2	27	16	12			
Basildon Res.	2	2	2	27	16	12			
Basildon Res.	2	2	2	27	16	12			
Basildon Res.	2	2	2	27	16	12			
Basildon Res.	2	2	2	27	16	12			
Basildon Res.	2	2	2	27	16	12			

DIVISION I									
	W	D	L	F	A	P			
Runwell Hosp	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Hadleigh Ath.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Crays Hill	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Fryerns (B) C	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Hadleigh Ath.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Thundersley U.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Wickford Town	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Wickford Town	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Wickford Town	7	0	3	36	14	14			

DIVISION II									
	W	D	L	F	A	P			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			

DIVISION III									
	W	D	L	F	A	P			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			

DIVISION IV									
	W	D	L	F	A	P			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			

DIVISION V									
	W	D	L	F	A	P			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			
Basildon Res.	7	0	3	36	14	14			

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THUNDERSEY AND
HADLEIGH 1

THIS SOUTHERN and District League Division I game at Runwell on Saturday opened with Runwell going straight into the attack and a defender was unlucky to clear the ball when he tried to clear the line, but only put the ball into his own goal.

Runwell kept up the pressure and were rewarded again in the 15th minute when T. Jasper drove the ball hard for goal. It came out of a post and J. Hartley headed the ball back into the net.

Thunderseley and Hadleigh tried hard to cut back the arrears, but were eventually rewarded when R. Neal collected a good pass in the middle and drove the ball home in the 24th minute.

There was no further score until two minutes from the interval when P. Mahoney headed the ball into the net to put Runwell 3-1 up at half-time.

On the restart the Hospital side went straight into the attack again, trying to substantiate their lead. They succeeded in the 40th minute when J. Hartley robbed a defender, pivoted round and fired the ball into goal.

Although Runwell kept hammering at the goal, it was not until the 85th minute when T. Jasper floated the ball across and I. Burrell headed it home, a nicely-taken goal.

One of the stars of the match was the Thunderseley goalkeeper, who made many grand saves in a first-class performance, one of the best seen at Runwell for a long time.

London clash

Although local football clashes often end all square, the games between Fulham and Chelsea at Craven Cottage are exceptions. Chelsea have won the last five clashes.

In the second half the Cats were well on top, but could not convert their superiority into goals. Wilson and Phillips both hit the woodwork and McBride went near with a flying header, but it was not until the first period of extra time that the deciding goals came.

Wilson prodded home a Cowman cross and the third and clinching goal came from a brilliant diving header from link man Darroch after a Crancher corner.

Darroch blotted his copy-book minutes later, missing from the penalty spot.

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RECORD FOR BASILDON WALKER

BASILDON'S INTERNATIONAL WALKER JOHN WEBB SET UP A COURSE RECORD OF 36s. 14m. WHEN WINNING THE ILFORD INTER-CLUB FIVE MILES' ROAD WALK ON A HILLY CHIGWELL COURSE ON SATURDAY.

Ken Eastlea, of Enfield, came second in 37m. 41s. and Alec Banyard (Southend) third in 38m. 3s.

BADMINTON

Lobley Cup success for S.T.C.

STANDARD TELEPHONES 5, MARCONI 4

AFTER A TENSE and exciting struggle, Standard Telephones badminton team finally won their way into the next round of the Lobley Cup last week. S.T.C. went into a commanding 4-1 lead in the early stages of the match, but Marconi fought back well and looked in with a chance. A win by Green and Patient against Cranston and Wilby made the S.T.C. position safe, however, and they now go on to face Ford's in the next round.

Roy Green had a particularly successful evening for S.T.C. With Coombes as a partner he featured in wins against both Marconi's men's doubles pairs. Another good win came for S.T.C. in the ladies' doubles where Hopper and Patient finally won against Frost and Wilby.

Results (Marconi names first):

Men's doubles: Bethell and Hilton beat Devin and Hopper 14-17, 15-9, 18-14; lost to Green and Coombes 13-21, 21-15, 15-9, 10-15.

Setter and Cranston beat Devin and Hopper 21-11; lost to Green and Coombes 15-4, 12-15.

Ladies' doubles: Frost and Wilby lost to Hopper and Patient 12-15, 15-9, 10-15. Mixed doubles: Bethell and Green lost to Devin and Stribling 10-15, 15-9, 8-15; Hilton and Green beat Coombes and Stribling 21-17, 21-15; Setter and Frost beat Hopper and Hopper 21-7, Cranston and Wilby lost to Green and Patient 13-21.

MARCONI 6, HASSENBROOK 3 AFTER A TREMENDOUS start to this Basildon Badminton League match, with the first three games all going to three sets, Marconi ran out clear winners.

The first three games took up so much time that the remaining six had to be limited to 21 points, and Marconi seemed to adopt themselves better to the shorter game, winning four of the last six. Bethell and Hilton and Miligan and Setter had 100 per cent records.

Results (Marconi names first):

T. Cranston and B. Kean lost to S. Aymer and M. Baker 15-13, 9-15, 12-15; lost to G. Phillips and B. Harris 13-21, 15-9, 10-15; K. Burton 13-21, 15-9, 10-15; A. Miligan and B. Setter beat S. Aymer and M. Baker 21-3, beat G. Phillips and B. Harris 15-7, 14-18, 15-10; beat M. Cave and K. Burton 21-3, 21-14, 15-10; R. Bethell and D. Hilton beat S. Aymer and M. Baker 21-14, beat G. Phillips and B. Harris 21-15, 15-9, 10-15; K. Burton 15-9, 10-15, 18-14.

BASILDON ATHLETES BID FOR TITLES

JOHN DRAKE won the Junior title and Brian Lester the senior title, which brought together the club's two outstanding cross-country runners, the holder, John Drake, and Paul Bishop.

On a bitterly cold afternoon, the best race was for the Junior title, which brought together the club's two outstanding cross-country runners, the holder, John Drake, and Paul Bishop. Drake retained his title by a margin of 40 seconds, but was helped when Bishop suffered a fall and a badly cut hand near the end of the race.

But for this, the handicapper would have been pleased with his work as John won the handicap prize by only 14 seconds. Times for the five-mile course were Drake 26m. 51s. and Bishop 27m. 31s.

In the senior race, a new name went on the Len Marconi Trophy, when Brian Lester won in his first year as a senior. He completed the 7 1/2 miles in 43m. 40s. and was beaten for the handicap by Alan Rouserson, whose allowance of 2m. 10s. gave him a net time of 42m. 48s.

Defender champion Dave Minns turned out despite a troublesome injury and was beaten for most of the race before retiring on the last lap. The boys' title was won by Doug Ainslie in 10m. 38s. Basildon's next fixture is in the S.E. Essex League at Hoveton on Saturday week.

SOCCER ACTORS

GAMESMANSHIP is overcom-

ing the manliness of the modern player, says Gary O'Keefe, a footballer in the current issue of the football magazine.

"A large percentage of the bad tactics and so-called dirty football just aren't there at all," he argues. "It's actually 'Chaps go rolling over in agony and the crowd roar. But a couple of minutes later they are all right again. Some of the lads today should be on the stage rather than the football field."

The Cardiff manager admits he was a hard player and a tough player. One of the toughest of his era. "In my day," he says, "we didn't even like to show we were hurt. It was regarded as the thing to do to keep pain to yourself if you could."

Is Mr. O'Keefe saying, then, that the modern footballer is soft? He says: "I wouldn't accept that. There are still as many as 100,000 who are cutters."

Basildon Table Tennis

Leaders grab more points

WITH THE programme nearing the half-way stage, the Basildon Table Tennis League leaders in the four divisions are Carson "A", B.S.L. "A", Carreras "B" and Ford "B". They all won again last week.

League team crashes to Romford

BASILDON LEAGUE II 3. ROMFORD LEAGUE II 7.

THE BASILDON Table Tennis League's second team are finding it tough going in the Essex Reserve Division 1. Last week they went down again, this time to Romford, writes INTER-LEAGUER.

"They are being handclapped by the shortage of women players. Unless another is found shortly they will have to play short in their next game. Making his debut for Basildon, Alan Timewell went on for the first game of the evening and was beaten in straight games by Bond.

He was followed by Stan Dixon, who was completely out of touch against Dupree, mustering only nine and 11 points in the two games. Then Basildon fell 3-0 behind when Linda Castle lost to Mrs. Chapman. The Basildon girl led 20-15 in the first, but threw it away. Mrs. Chapman winning seven points on the trot to win 22-20.

Miss Castle also led most of the way in the second, but was caught at 10-11 and overtaken. Basildon's three wins were all achieved in singles. Timewell did extremely well to beat Dupree, Anderson beat Bond in straight games and Mrs. Ivy Baker beat Mrs. Launder. Results (Basildon scores first):

A. Timewell lost to B. Bond 17-21, 15-21; beat M. Dupree 21-18, 17-21, 21-12. S. Dixon lost to M. Dupree 9-21, 11-21; lost to J. Bright 16-21, 19-21.

G. Anderson lost to J. Bright 18-21, 10-21; beat B. Bond 21-14, 21-17. Mrs. Baker beat Mrs. P. Launder 21-15, 21-17. Miss Castle lost to Mrs. O. Chapman 20-22, 18-21.

Dyson and Anderson lost to Bright and Dupree 17-21, 16-21. Mrs. Baker and Miss Castle lost to Mrs. Launder and Mrs. Chapman 21-17, 17-21, 11-21.

Important date for anglers

SEVEN OUT of the 14 angling clubs in the Urban District have agreed to form an Angling Section of the Sports Council.

On January 8th they meet again at the Jolly Friar to decide exactly how their section should operate.

Secretary of the new section, Mr. J. Hunter has appealed to all the angling clubs to be represented to come forward. "I would like all the clubs to join on January 8th," he said, "when a committee will be elected."

At every angling club joined there would be an estimated membership of around 500, and the section could form a powerful united voice for fishermen.

NETBALL

Checkmates beaten at Tilbury

TILBURY V.C. 23. CHECKMATES WHITE 26. TILBURY WERE slightly the better side in this Basildon Netball League match at Tilbury last week. At half-time Tilbury led by one goal and Checkmates made a determined effort to wipe it out in the second half. But come very good teamwork by the Tilbury team saw them increase their lead to three by the end.

Shell "B" 32, Fryerns Girls Club "B" 13. Shell outscored the value of good teamwork when beating Fryerns Girls Club at Widdowes. The Basildon Netball League.

Fryerns played quite well, but they were out of sync for the experienced Shell team, who used all their players to full advantage.

The win put Shell well in the lead in Division III.

Basildon Netball League results: Div. I: Shell "A" 35, V.K. 1; Billerica N.C. 24, Tilbury Ladies 18.

Div. II: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. III: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. IV: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. V: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. VI: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. VII: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. VIII: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. IX: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. X: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. XI: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. XII: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. XIII: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. XIV: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. XV: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. XVI: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. XVII: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

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Div. XIX: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. XX: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. XXI: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. XXII: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. XXIII: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

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Div. XXVII: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

Div. XXVIII: Nichols "A" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11; Shell "B" 22, G.P.C. 11.

New Towners outplayed

THURROCK BOYS 5. BASILDON BOYS 9.

OWING TO illness left-half J. Hardcastle (Lennards) was unable to play for the Thurrock Fifth Year district team against Basildon in the first game of the two to play to qualify for the final of the Essex Schools Championships (Smeathers Trophy) and R. Martine (Aveley Technical) was brought in. But being a forward several positional changes were necessary to allow him to play in the forward line.

The changes did not upset the Thurrock team very much and, once P. Lalley (Courts) had opened the scoring midway through the first half, it was clear the Thurrock boys were much the better side.

Glaring misses were made by Clive Martine and Clout, otherwise the score line would have been much wider.

Defender J. Dunwell (Aveley Technical) had a real joy day, scoring all four of his goals. Thurrock goals. His first and Thurrock's second came in the first half, his third in the second half, and his fourth in the third half.

Wilson was kept very busy in the second half and brought off many good interceptions, but he could not prevent Dunwell scoring three more goals.

A long fast dribble by Lalley followed by an accurate pass to Dunwell in an open space and the ball was cranked into the net. A bad pass back on which Dunwell eagerly pounced and his third goal was scored.

Finally left-winger Clive did the necessary approach work before feeding Dunwell, who again applied the final killing shot.

A 1930's style dance at Millers' Ruckey Club on Saturday night attracted over 40 people, many dressed "like Bonny and Clyde."

There was dancing to the Mosby, and a competition for the most authentically dressed man and woman was won by Vivienne Day and Gregory Barnes.

Big night Former Southend United utility player Lou Costello was at right-back in the Chelmsford team which knocked Oxford United out of the F.A. Cup at Brentford on Monday.

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12 goals in cup final

FRYERNS 12. O.F.K. COLTS 0.

STAR OF this Play Leaderships junior cup final on Saturday was forward Danny Fraser, who scored five goals, four with headers.

Other scorers were Goodwin (2), Hemmings (2), Bone and Doyle.

O.F.K. kept playing away in spite of the severity of their defeat. Their forward line played good football, but the defence had too many gaps which Fryerns exploited.



Fryerns, who beat O.F.K. Colts 12-0 in the Junior Play Leaderships Cup Final on Saturday, receive their trophy from Basildon Council's Recreation Committee Chairman (Ooun. D. Pope).

SWIMMING GALAS MUST BE MADE ATTRACTIVE

COUNTY SWIMMING galas will not be held at Basildon Swimming Pool, Basildon Sports Council heard on Monday, until they learn to make their competitions attractive to watch.

Baths Manager Tom Robson told the Sports Council: "When they have put their own house in order they will get the baths as much as they require, but they have to make the galas attractive, at the moment there are too many entries, perhaps 24 heats of backstroke through the whole evening. It's boring, it chases the crowds away. They would like swimming in Basildon."

Later in the meeting Mr. Robson said he would also oppose any sub-aqua club using the pool.

"It is not going to do with the sport," he said, "I am a keen sub-aqua man myself, but I am thinking of just one about the pool."

But I am thinking of just one about the pool. If one the is taken off the whole pool could be cleared for six months at a cost of £10,000 — and it's easy to do."

TONY BABB IS THE TOP SCORER

OUTWOOD COMMON'S Tony Babb is well out in front in the Sunday League scoring charts with 20 goals to his credit this season.

Leading scorers are: Premier Division: R. Page (Sorrento) 12; A. Derby (Sorrento) 9; R. Williams (Double Six) 8; A. Holden (Pitsea) 8; B. Harphel (Canvey) 3.

Division I: A. Babb (Outwood Common) 20; I. Anderson (Carrington) 16; S. Sharpe (Chesthall) 15; S. Smith (Stability) 14; G. Babb (Outwood Common) 13; R. McQueen (Stability) 13; Gregory (Outwood Common) 10.

Division II: D. Moran (S.E.M.) 14; M. Dean (Canvey) 13; M. Savage (S.E.M.) 12; M. Moss (Canvey) 10; B. Orchard (Sorrento) 9; A. Lloyd (Scott Hale) 8.

Division III: B. Eaton (Double Six) 12; R. Harris (Essex C.C.) 10; B. Smith (Essex C.C.) 10; A. Cud-bull (John Raper) 9; S. Bean (Double Six "B") 9.

Country Club side marches on

Essex Country Club 8, S.E.M. "A" 1. S.E.M.'S MUCH-CHANGED side, with right-half Jim Ashton in goal, were no match for the goal-hungry Essex Country Club side in this Basildon Sunday League game.

With new signings G. Willis and M. Parsley in their side, S.E.M. started off with plenty of promise on the treacherous surface, but failed to take their early chances.

The Country Club went ahead after 20 minutes and just on half-time made it 2-0.

Early in the second half S.E.M. suffered a setback when left-winger Craven slipped on the dangerous surface and had to be carried off. He later went to hospital.

The Country Club took advantage of this to net twice in two minutes, but the Mokes replied a minute later through Willis.

Paul Bloomfield then came on in place of the injured Craven, by this time nothing could stop the Country Club men, although Ashton did save a controversial penalty.

The Country Club scored four times in the last 20 minutes to keep their unbeaten league record intact. They would have had more but for Tony Hamlyn, the S.E.M. pivot, who returned after an eight-weeks lay-off.

9-0 victory for 10 men

SCIMITAR 9, MURGO 0. DESPITE FIELDING only ten men, Murgo Sports retained their unbeaten league record with a crushing win over Scimitar at Gloucester Park on Sunday.

Murgo got off to a brilliant start thanks to Smith, who netted a hat-trick in the first 34 minutes.

Two minutes later Hapton scored the fourth goal in defence-splitting pass from Morgan.

In the second half Murgo showed their continued superiority with another goal in the first minute from Gurr. Another two followed from Hapton in the next seven minutes.

Smith netted his fourth and Murgo's eighth 20 minutes from the end and Gurr completed the scoring in the 18th minute.

New signing Judd had a good debut at centre-half, as Briggs and Smith were the meek of the match.

Smith gets winner for Ghyllgrove

CHYLLGROVE 1, A 2. A GOAL 10 minutes from time by Barry Smith gave Ghyllgrove both points in this bottom of Division II Sunday League clash at Stanford.

For the first 10 minutes Shell took control of the match with some excellent play provided their forwards with some excellent through balls. One of these eventually produced a well-taken goal by their right-winger.

The Grove were shaken up by this goal, but soon found their feet and took play much more to the other end.

Ten minutes from half-time they equalised when the Shell goalkeeper was tripped under the new four-step rule. Graves teed the ball up for Nunn to hit it home.

In the second half Ghyllgrove got more and more on top, but Shell managed to hold them out for 10 minutes from the end, when Frank Dropped across a hard centre which Barry Smith headed home. This proved to be the winner.

Ghyllgrove's man of the match was newly-signed centre-half Ken Drake.

SORRENTO STAGE FINE RALLY IN SECOND HALF

GHYLLGROVE 2, SORRENTO 7. TWO-ONE DOWN at the interval, Sorrento had to pull out the stops in the second half to beat lowly Ghyllgrove in this Sunday League encounter. They took an early lead, allowed Sorrento to get break, went in front again.

In the second half Sorrento made the 'Grove work hard to keep the score down as they piled on the pressure. Page headed an early equaliser from Upton's cross and two minutes later Upton put them ahead after good work by Gard and Jewell.

Number four went to Jewell who headed in a fine cross from Page and the fifth to home a beauty from the crackled Card got the sixth and the seventh to complete the rout.

The Six started off the second half like champions and in five minutes were 3-1 up. Williams nodding home a goal West ended for his third of the game.

Shortly after this the Six's right-winger, Joe Hucl, crashed off by the referee and for the rest of the game they had only ten men.

A second blow followed five minutes later when Williams was injured and replaced by Barrett, the substitute.

For the remaining minutes the Double Six had to fight hard to keep out Prior who only managed to score once more.

The two sides were pretty evenly matched in the goalless first half although Bonallack twice hit the crossbar. The second half saw Bonallack get on top and stay there. Legrave and his fellow defenders having little trouble with the Sorrento forwards.

Then brothers Peter and John Barney combined in a clever move which resulted in Bonallack taking the lead. John was brought down in the area and from the penalty Peter scored.

Keeping up the pressure Bonallack forced the Sorrento goalkeeper into some fine saves before he was beaten again by a crackling volley by Dean from J. Barney's pass.

Bonallack had two more chances before the end, but both failed to produce goals. From the first Hilditch hit the bar and from the second J. Barney had his shot narrowly smothered by the goalkeeper.

Gasmen got a late equaliser. CRAYLANDS Y.C. 1, CALOR GAS 1. A GREAT action in left-winger Billy Leung enabled Calor Gas to earn a well-deserved Sunday League (Division II) point from Craylands on Sunday.

The game started off at a moderate pace with plenty of excitement at both ends, but there was no score until the 32nd minute when Craylands took the lead from a move started by Algar on the half-way line.

The ball then went via Webster and Moore to Hucker, who created it home.

After the interval the Gas pressed for the equaliser only to be held by Craylands' defence until 10 minutes from the end when Leyton hit home his point-saver.

NORTON SPORTS 6, DOUBLE SIX 3. DOUBLE SIX were thrashed by Norton Sports in Division II encounter at Wickford Memorial Park.

Sports, who played one of their best seasons, were in excellent form.

Goalkeeper R. Wiseman was called on in the first five minutes but Sports tore through Double Six's defence and hit the net after ten minutes from the start.

A shot by outside-left D. Dixon was deflected on the line, but had been headed on by Norton's good keeper, tested by captain B. Hunt and B. Tilson.

Double Six reduced the deficit in the 40th minute when R. Pinch converted a penalty which was awarded after Sports' defender punched the ball off the goal-line.

Double Six hit back relentlessly in the opening minutes of the second half and it was no surprise to see D. Ellerby find a way through Sports' defence and score in the 50th minute.

A brilliant header by B. Facey gave Nortons their fourth goal following a newly taken corner in the 60th minutes.

Centre-forward P. Taglion repeated the move a few minutes later and headed home Norton's fifth and last goal.

After a way through Sports' rocket home the sixth goal after cutting in from the left.

PEGASUS GRAB POINTS FROM SHELL

PEGASUS 2, SHELL 0. AFTER GOING ahead in the first half, Pegasus made hard work of capturing both Essex Business Houses' points against Shell at Herd Lane on Saturday.

The early goal came from a job by Furlong after some good running by Furlong. A later Pegasus played good mid-field football, but lacked determination and urgency and their forwards were often caught outside.

Barter had the ball in the net, but the point was disallowed for offside and Dinmore and Furlong went close with long shots.

At the other end Shell's centre-forward caused some anxious moments with his bustling style.

The score remained at 1-0 until the second half when Hayward added number two from close range after good work by Whitmore, who played well at half-back. Coleman and Owen also got through a lot of work.

On the whole it was a disappointing Pegasus performance.

WICKFORD CUBS CLASH

4TH WICKFORD CUBS 7, 1ST WICKFORD CUBS 1. THE 4TH WICKFORD dominated the Ellis Cup six-a-side match at Nevedon Park on Saturday.

In the first half long shots by Daniels and Morrell gave them an early two-goals lead and just before half-time Morrell made it 3-0 from close range.

After the break four more goals came from Daniels (3) and Morrell. 1st Wickford replied once.

4th Wickford Cubs "B" 0, 1st Wickford Cubs "A" 1. Fine defensive work by Brindle and Watling kept the Runwell score blank in the first half of this friendly on Saturday.

The 4th Wickford kept it up in the second half until a breakaway gave Runwell their first goal. After this they put on the pressure and scored again to settle the match.

The 4th Wickford's chief of the match for Wickford came in the last few minutes, but Morrell shot wide.

4th Wickford Scouts 5, 1st Wickford Scouts 1. The 4th Wickford went ahead in the first five minutes of this friendly when Ford scored with a fine hard shot from good move initiated by Matthews.

The 1st Wickford soon equalised, but before half-time goals from Bovill and Smith gave the 4th Wickford 3-1 up.

In the second half the 4th Wickford remained in full command and further goals from Bovill and Ford finished off their opponents.

Outstanding player on the field was the 1st Wickford goalkeeper.

MOTORS ON GOAL TRAIL

SOUTH ESSEX MOTORS 5, SCOTT HALL 0. ALTHOUGH SCOTT HALL not back to full strength, S.E.M. had little trouble in containing Scott Hall in this Sunday League match. The result earlier in the season.

The regular run competition was between S.E.M. forwards Morgan and Savage, who are scorers crown.

This week Morgan got two to Savage's four, the scoring being completed with two excellent goals from winger Beck.

Both teams played clean football and referee Fred Izzard had an easy game.

Cup battle

BASILDON United have an attractive cup tie against Southend side Monarchs at Holy Cross on Saturday in the Southend Cup.

The United's side will be selected from: Smith, Bryan, King, Aker, Brown, M. Barham, Mann, Hucker, M. Smith, Waite, Rosewell and Price.

Billericay on top in rugby match with Prison XV

Chelmsford Prison 6 pts., Billericay R.F.C. Sunday XV 17 pts. STAMINA WAS the keynote of this hard-fought rugby match on an ice-hard pitch at Chelmsford Prison on Sunday.

A game of missed chances, the ball was moved from one end of the pitch to the other, and play deteriorated towards the end as the freezing conditions and constant movement sapped both teams' strength.

Best in the line-out, Billericay completely dominated the set and loose scrums, and if it had not been for some mishandling by the three they would have run out winners by a far greater margin.

Edwardians beaten 8-6

BASILDON IV'S 8 PTS., OLD EDWARDS 6 PTS. CONDITIONS WERE ideal for open rugby at Gloucester Park on Saturday, but 1st's defence was not up to the clean forward struggle with intermittent flashes of three-quarter play.

Basildon attacked from the off with a long kick deep into their opponents' 25, and this pressure was maintained for long periods with relief for Edwardians coming only from the occasional wild kick upfield. It was from such a breakaway that Edwardians opened the scoring with a try just in from the left touchline, the conversion falling when the ball hit an upright.

Shortly after the referee blew his whistle for half-time, with the score remaining at 3-0, 6 pts. in favour of the visitors.

The second half began with the pressure in reverse with long periods of play in the Basildon half, but they were away into the opposition 25 Basildon were awarded a penalty. J. Sullivan converted from 35 yards to level the scores.

Roused by this Basildon began to regain the semblance of the control which they had achieved in the first half.

Pressure increased as they proved too much for the salient Edwardian defensive line. J. Sullivan converted over for a try resulting from a blindside movement. J. Sullivan once more doing the honours with a good conversion from a narrow angle.

Basildon continued to press and were unlucky not to score on two further occasions when K. Williams crossed the Edwardian line, only to be recalled for previous infringements.

As the match came to a close, a final do-or-die effort by the opposition was rewarded by a controversial nullity converted try, thus ending a sporting game.

BRILLIANT BULLDOGS

BARKING TECH. 3 PTS., BASILDON BULLDOGS 39 PTS. BASILDON KICKED-OFF with fourteen men, but soon settled down to some fine attacking rugby, with B. Rodman at scrum-half providing his three-quarters with an impeccable service.

After some fine handling by the Bulldogs three-quarters, W. Jenkins, using his shoulder effectively, forced his way over in the corner, R. Vaughan coming to the touching.

It was not long before R. Vaughan was once more involved, the time after some fine running, he crossed the line.

WICKFORD Y.C. 7, TALENT 0. A VERY weak defence cost Talent the points when they met top-of-the-table Wickford Y.C. in a Southend Sunday League Division VI match at Wickford.

Goals came easy for Wickford's forwards because of errors by Talent's goalkeeper. The teams were generally balanced well, although Wickford maintained an advantage throughout.

Wickford were three-up at half-time, one of the goals coming from a penalty slammed home by Sandford.

Centre-half Matthews had a good game and was instrumental in building up strong Wickford attacks.

Jay, the Wickford Y.C. goalkeeper, saves a dangerous shot during the Southend Sunday League game with Talent at Wickford. The home team won 7-0.

Barstable Grammar School rugby teams had a successful day on Saturday. Their first team won the first ever fixture with the Old Boys by 18 points to five and three of their other four teams also won.

The under-15 side played away at Hassenbrook and won by 26 points to three. The under-14 side, the only team to lose, went down by 43 points to five to a hard-nosed determined Hassenbrook side.

The under-13's won by 26 points to eight due to their weight and speed, although their handling left something to be desired. The forwards were particularly effective in the scrums, winning all but one of them.

The under-12's, the first years, had their first-ever game and played well after doing too much kicking in the first half. They won by nine points to three.

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Spotlight on Basildon Football League FA CUP RESERVES PREMIER CUP

LAINDON ATHLETIC ON TARGET

YORK SHIPLEY 0 LAINDON ATHLETIC 8

ALTHOUGH LAINDON Athletic won this Basildon League Cup quarter-final by a big score on Saturday, the game was no walk-over and York Shipley showed enough to suggest they will give someone a real shake-up soon.

L.A.C. scored twice through Owens and Rose in the first 17 minutes, but then tended to become complacent and several times York Shipley went close to levelling the scores. Only indifferent finishing and last-ditch tackles saved the day.

The fact that the Athletic had to improve must have sunk in during the break for within two minutes of the restart Pidgeon had made it 3-0 and eight minutes later West put the issue beyond doubt with a fourth.

During this time and until the final whistle Brian Owens really stamped his personality on the game by carving up the Shipley defence in a clinically efficient manner.

The Athletic scored four more in seven minutes and had another two goals allowed in a spell which had Shipley reeling.

Bob Sutton got the fifth and Synnott followed up with two in a minute, one after a brilliant solo run. The eighth and final goal was scored by West to seal his very fine performance.

Off target

Sheffield United, struggling at the foot of the First Division, have scored once in their last five matches.

BASILDON LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION LEADERS IRISH CLUB ARE OUT OF THE CUP. WOODLANDS YOUTH CENTRE WERE THE TEAM TO UPSET THEM 4-0 IN THE QUARTER-FINALS ON SATURDAY.

For 75 minutes the score-sheet was blank, but Woodlands then scored four times in 15 minutes to run out easy winners. Burns got two of the goals, one from the penalty spot.

Now the Irish are out of the Cup. They took over the favourites following their 4-1 win over Nicholas Youth Centre. Nicholas were always struggling to keep in the game and were well beaten in the end.

Woodlands also advanced to the semi-final stage with a 4-1 win over Basildon and Pitsea and Linstead Athletic are there again, too, as a result of crushing Luckless York Shipley 8-0.

In Division 1 Belhus Park seem to have lost their early season form completely. After two successive defeats they only managed a 2-2 draw on Saturday with Manor United.

Woodlands Reserves continued in winning vein with a 7-3 win over Outwood Common. The Irish Club Reserves moved up to second place by virtue of their 7-0 thrashing of Fyerns.

Woodlands Reserves pushed the Nicholas Reserve side to the bottom of the table and did their own record some good with an odd goal win.

Colingdale also had a rare but fine win over Moors, who lost their goalkeeper during the game.

Results

Premier League Cup (quarter-finals): Basildon and Pitsea 1, Yardley 4; Nicholas 4, Irish 4; Woodlands 4, Irish 4.

MOORES 5-1 DOWN

MOORES UNITED 1 CORRINGHAM SPORTS 5

TWO new signings in a rearranged forward line, Corringham gained valuable Basildon League points against Moors on Saturday.

Moors scored first from a well-taken set piece after ten minutes but then lost their goalkeeper with a knee injury. He had to be replaced.

Corringham found it difficult to settle down, but after much effort finally equalised with a good goal by new centre-forward D. Stanley.

In the second half Corringham showed better form and they were soon in front with a goal from a set piece.

For the rest of the match Corringham pounded the Moors goal and only some excellent play by the substitute goalkeeper kept the score down.

The third Corringham goal came from a ground shot by left-half Sparks and inside-right Stale made it four. The fifth goal was a scorcher driven from left-winger Stokes which gave the goalkeeper no chance.

Berry Boys in command

OUTWOOD COMMON 1 BERRY BOYS 8

BERRY BOYS recorded their best win of the season on Saturday, beating Outwood Common 8-1 in the Basildon Youth League match.

Playing up the slope in the first half, Berry soon settled down and were one up inside five minutes through A. Woolley.

Wordsworth, who played well at centre-forward, hit the bar twice in two minutes before Oughton netted number two. Berry some fine work by Mumford.

A Woolley made it 3-0 just before half-time with a fine header.

Outwood pulled one back early in the second half before Berry took command again to add five more through Wordsworth, Blackwell, Oughton and Waddingham.

IRISH CLUB FOUR UP AT INTERVAL

IRISH CLUB RESERVES 7, FYERNS 0

IRISH CLUB Reserves continued their revival at Whitmore Park on Saturday with a crushing 7-0 victory over Fyerns in the Basildon League.

For the record, the goals were scored by Barrett (3), Kenny (2), O'Reilly and Edhouse, but it was a victory for good football with the whole team pulling in the stops.

With a little extra luck and without the woodwork the score might have been doubled.

If any individuals must be selected for special mention, Barrett should go on the list for his ability to turn half-chances into goals.

Batchelor proved well to find the sans in defence and

Gunnors crash to Yardley's

BASILDON AND PITSEA RESERVE 1 YARDLEY 4

EVEN WITHOUT star forward Jackie Sharpe, Yardley had enough punch to penetrate a strong Basildon and Pitsea defence on Saturday.

Premier Division League Cup. Yardley inside-forward Skinner did most of the damage, netting through a tremendous amount of work and scoring twice.

Skinner got the first goal, set a neat overhead kick by Crowley, but there was no further score in the first half. Twenty minutes into the second half Benham put Yardley two-up, shooting from well out on the left and sending the ball sailing into the far corner of the net.

Benham was again on target to score Yardley three, shooting from the edge of the area and seeing the ball go in off a post. Yardley's striker got at this point, and paid the price when the Gunnors' inside-left pulled a goal back.

Yardley made quite sure of victory before the end, however, when Skinner scored the best goal of the match, shooting from the edge of the area.

Yardley's Grimble, Docherty, Linnace, Carlo, Korth, Stevens, Ward, O'Neill, Crowley, Skinner, Benham.

FRYERNS NET 14

FRYERNS BOYS' CLUB 14, CRAWLANDS Y.C. 0

FRYERNS PLAYED as a team, Crawlands was not. One of the main differences that led to Fyerns' big score in this Basildon Division 1 game on Saturday.

Fyerns adopted themselves better to the slippery conditions from the start, and Bushell the Crawlands' keeper, was under constant barrage of shots. Bushell stood well, and with Anderson played out to the Crawlands side.

Goals for Fyerns were scored by Faulkner (4), Head (2), Warwick (2), Wright, Barrington and Bassett.

UNITED WANT JIM STORRIE

SOUTHEND UNITED Manager

Ernie Shepherd has made an offer for Jim Storrie, the Aberdeen centre-forward who has a spell with Leeds United.

Shepherd immediately after Friday's Scots Hall game against Port Vale and Watford.

At the beginning of the season Aberdeen were valuing Storrie in the £15,000 bracket, but Shepherd's assessment is something much lower than this.

Jackie Ferauson, plus a cash advance, is likely to be Southend's negotiating basis and they expect to hear from Aberdeen at the weekend.

Two more Scottish youngsters have arrived at Roots Hall. They are Ian Fern and John Mcadden, an inside-forward and a winger, who have both played in Scottish under-18 representative games. Both are 17 and have been recommended by United's Scottish scout, Nick Larkin.

Comments: The United Board will shortly have to announce a change of policy or else there will have to be some "unloading" if the playing staff is to be kept to the 17 stated at the beginning of the season.

Big soccer pay-out

THE FOOTBALL League will be paying out £104,733 4s. 5d. on January 1 (January 1st) to professionals who have now ended their careers.

It is a pay-out from The Football League Provident Fund into which an annual percentage of players' incomes is paid by the League itself on behalf of players whose salaries are above a certain income maximum.

Among the well-known players in the pay-out are names like Derek Pace (Sheff. United) and Walsall's Bobby Smith (Burley), now manager of Preston. Roy Stephenson (Blackburn), Leicester's Ian Smith, John Ayofo (Bristol City), Noel Cantwell (Manchester United), Nobby Stiles (Aston Villa), Stuart Imach (Crystal Palace) and Nottingham Forest's Groves (Aston Villa).

Other names are Jimmy McIlroy (Burley and Oldham), now manager of Oldham, and Peter Egan (Aston Villa, Blackpool and Port Vale) and Jim Langley (Fulham) and Queen's Park Rangers).



Records tumble at the Basildon Bowl

RAY TEAR just missed the perfect game when, in a fantastic 267, he rolled nine strikes in a row during an Industrial League match at the Basildon Bowl. He failed to convert his spare in the last frame and finished with a 586 series.

Had it been a perfect game, Tear would have been the third person in Britain this year with the achievement. It was a day of league records for Pauline Phillips rolled 204, 174, 190 to make a 556, which is the highest series ever achieved by a lady bowler in the Industrial League.

It has also been an important week for the tottering Southend Area Tenpin Bowling Association, which survived a meeting at Basildon Bowl.

Moves were made to wind up the Association—but they failed. New life and renewed interest is the hope for 1968. Already a big tournament is planned for Basildon in March. "It all depends on the support we get from the local bowlers," said one committee member.

Officers for next year are John Brereton (President), Bill Ainger (Vice-President), Pat Hepple (Treasurer) and Bruce Collins (Secretary).

Action at Basildon Bowl this weekend centres on the freestyle Britvic Novelly Tournament at 7.00 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

Looking ahead, the six managers of Essex bowls are organising a county contest for

February with the finals in Ipswich.

The Essex team will meet representatives of other counties. The Essex men and women will be held at the Wetherfield U.S. air base.

Basildon hopes will fight it out in the first heat at the New Year in the first week of the season. They stand a good chance of forming the backbone of the Essex team.

Congratulations of the week go to Joyce Allen and Shirley Gile, of Basildon, for passing the A.M.F. instructors course. They are now qualified to instruct new bowlers on the lanes.

ATLAS LEAGUE			
Grimes	W	L	Pts
Grimes	26	15	10072 16
Corke	25	14	10100 35
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FIRST LEAGUE			
Grimes	W	L	Pts
Grimes	26	15	10072 16
Corke	25	14	10100 35
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MONDAY MIXED DOUBLES			
Ray & Norma	W	L	Pts
Ray & Norma	26	15	10072 16
Corke	25	14	10100 35
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TUESDAY MIXED DOUBLES			
Ray & Norma	W	L	Pts
Ray & Norma	26	15	10072 16
Corke	25	14	10100 35
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WEDNESDAY MIXED DOUBLES			
Ray & Norma	W	L	Pts
Ray & Norma	26	15	10072 16
Corke	25	14	10100 35
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THURSDAY MIXED DOUBLES			
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FRIDAY MIXED DOUBLES			
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SATURDAY MIXED DOUBLES			
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SUNDAY MIXED DOUBLES			
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Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35

WEDNESDAY MIXED DOUBLES			
Ray & Norma	W	L	Pts
Ray & Norma	26	15	10072 16
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35
Corke	25	14	10100 35

Castle 19 20 11442 56

Three highest games scored by Tom and Sally Under 385, 355, 352. Steve Edge and Yvonne Bradshaw 352.

Three highest series scored by Tom and Sally Under 1070, Steve Edge and Yvonne Bradshaw 558, Bill and Nell Sheed 928.

Basildon hopes will fight it out in the first heat at the New Year in the first week of the season. They stand a good chance of forming the backbone of the Essex team.

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The Junior Youth Bowling Club held their annual party and presentation afternoon on Saturday at the Ambassador Bowl, Basildon. Pictured above are the award winners and organisers.

JUNIOR CUP TRIPS

THE LAST two Basildon sides in the Essex Junior Cup, Basildon United and Teltelex, have both been drawn away in the fourth round.

The United, Essex Business House League side Lathol and Teltelex, travel to play Bishops Cleeve. The games take place on Saturday week.

If they get through the United will have another away game but Teltelex will have a home tie.

Basildon United and Teltelex, have both been drawn away in the fourth round.

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BASILDON 20171

OUTWOOD WERE TOO COMPLACENT

OLD MALDONIANS 1, OUTWOOD COMMON 1
WASTED OPPORTUNITIES and slack defensive work almost cost Outwood Common both points when they met Old Maldonians at Meridale in a Mid-Essex League Division I fixture on Saturday.

Old Maldonians were subjected to a tremendous onslaught in the first half by the eager Outwood forwards, and constant pressure, due mainly to the effectiveness of inside-left Dave Pemberton, brought a goal from George Baker.

Bobb went near to scoring following a well-placed header, but the keeper averted the threat.

The second half saw Outwood drop badly. Probably over confident, they let chances slip by without any effort.

Poor marking and defence allowed Claxton to equalise for Old Maldonians. Had it not been for the safe hands of goalkeeper Jupp and ruthless tackling by right-back Tommy Newman, Outwood would have undoubtedly been defeated.

Round the dart boards ANOTHER BIG WIN BY THE CENTRAL LEAGUE LEADERS

ANOTHER GREAT 8-1 win by the Gun over the Jolly Friar kept them at the top of the Basildon Central Darts League last week.

Their two main rivals, the Plough and Tractor and Basildon Bull, also both won.

Results: Owl and Pussy 3, Plough and Tractor 3, Albert Youngs 3, Basildon Bull 3, Double Six 3, Teletex 3, Gun 8, Jolly Friar 1, Meridale 2, Compton 7, Crane 2, Marconi 1, Castle 3, Ford 3.

KEEN FIGHT AT THE TOP

ONLY ONE point separates the top four teams in the Standard Darts League.

Last week's leaders, Laindon Crown, lost ground when they went down 5-3 to the Rising Sun in their second team. King's Head, dropped a point by drawing with the Pitsea Bull.

Results: Rising Sun 5, Laindon Crown 3, King's Head 3, Pitsea Bull 3, Calverley 3, Taverners 4, Gun 4, Railway 1.

LEAGUE TABLE

Team	W	D	L	Pts
Laindon Crown	7	1	2	43
King's Head	7	1	2	43
Gun	7	1	2	43
Rising Sun	7	1	2	43
Pitsea Bull	7	1	2	43
Taverners	7	1	2	43
Calverley	7	1	2	43
Castle 3	7	1	2	43
Ford 3	7	1	2	43

P.O.W. three points ahead

THE WINSTON Club slipped a place in the Laindon Darts League championship race last week when they were narrowly beaten 5-4 by the Owl and Pussy Cat.

The leaders, Prince of Wales, won again and are now three points in front of the Crane and four in front of the Winston.

Results: S.T.C. 3, Marconi 6, Essex C.C. 1, Ford's 5, Marconi Colts 2, Kerry's 7, P.O.W. 6, Crane 6, Sherwood's 5, P.O.W. 6, Owl and Pussy 4, 5, Winston 4, White Hart 5, Owl and Pussy 5, B 1.

LEAGUE TABLE

Team	W	D	L	Pts
Prince of Wales	7	1	2	43
Winston	7	1	2	43
S.T.C.	7	1	2	43
Owl and Pussy	7	1	2	43
Owl and Pussy	7	1	2	43
Kerry's	7	1	2	43
Essex C.C.	7	1	2	43
P.O.W.	7	1	2	43
White Hart	7	1	2	43
Marconi	7	1	2	43
Marconi Colts	7	1	2	43

Results of first round, Captains' and Secretaries' Cup

EIGHT-GOAL ROUT IN SECOND HALF

Ramsden Y.M.C.A. 11, Barnston 2
AN EIGHT-GOAL avalanche in the second half gave Ramsden Y.M.C.A. their easiest win this season when they met Barnston in a Mid-Essex League Division III encounter at Ramsden on Saturday.

Several changes were made in the Ramsden combination. Pigg, Evans and K. Gifford were all off sick and C. Berry, R. Birnie, S. Smith and C. Avery were brought in.

Barnston, however, of the table, had nothing in reply to Ramsden's superiority. D. Richards scored six goals.

The first goal came from Berry, who collected a good pass from R. Birnie which he called over the heads of the visitors' defence. Further goals for Ramsden in the first half came from B. King and D. Richards.

Barnston, in their few

Billericay Town hed at home

BILLERICAY TOWN 1, DORSET PRESS 1
A DRAW was the only fair conclusion to this Olympian League match between Billericay Town and Dorset Press on Saturday.

Both combinations were well-organised—both in defence and attack.

Right-winger Wilson netted Billericay's only goal after a fine effort.

6-1 defeat by the Warren

WARREN 6, BILLERICAY TOWN 1
BILLERICAY slipped badly in their Mid-Essex League Division I match with Warren on Saturday.

Poor defence work and a weak forward line proved Billericay's downfall and Warren, on their own ground, completely dominated the play.

Billericay's only goal came from inside-right Newgent, who hit the net in one of Billericay's rare attacks.

Exiles win

EXILES 3, BILLERICAY TOWN 0
GIVING THEIR poorest performance this season, Billericay crashed to a 3-0 defeat in their League Division III encounter with Exiles on Saturday.

In this game, Chelmsford Billericay failed to combine and lacked co-ordination in defence and up to the visitors' surprise to see the visitors losing 3-0 at half-time.

The second half was similar to the first with Billericay the weaker team and Exiles confidently taking control.

Essex Junior Badminton Championships

THE SINGLES events in the Essex Junior Badminton Championships took place last week at Leyton Sports Baths in the Under-18 singles, the two finalists were as expected, Keith Arthur and Ray Stevens. Stevens retained his title by a very close margin, winning 15-12, 15-10.

Linda Spencer, who lives at Stanford-le-Hope and plays at Westcliff, also retained her singles title, beating Janet Bass in the final.

The general standard in the Under-18 events was the poorest for some years, indeed, the only outstanding player was the winner of the girls' singles, Barbara Giles—who dropped only seven points in all. In the final she beat Miss Troubridge 11-1, 11-1.

John Stretch (East Ham) won the boys' Under-15 singles, while Robert Williams (Aveley) being the only player to give him any trouble.

RAMS BANG ON THE TARGET

CARRERAS 2, THE RAMS 0
THE RAMS were no good for Carreras at Basildon on Saturday and easily collected two Southend and District League Premier Division points.

With David Chance absent a reshuffled Rams attack had new boy "Johnnie Sims on the wing. He quickly "made" a goal for Nixon and added a second himself before the Rams defended against following a defensive blunder.

By the break, however, Phil Gurney, helped himself to his minimum of one goal per match to put Rams 3-1 in front.

Chris Smith and "Burl" Baker added further goals for Rams before Carreras reduced arrears and then Nixon completed the scoring with a sixth goal for Rams.

The Carreras' keeper was concentrated by players and spectators for a really outstanding display.

In the reserve match at Fairview the Rams also won 5-2 with goals from Phil Jenkins (2), Andy Percy, Dave Booty, Graham Smith (penalty) and Gary Chapman. New signing Peter Nicholls impressed in goal.

GALLEYWOOD CRASH TO BOWERS

GALLEYWOOD 0, BOWERS UNITED 5
RESERVE 5

BOWERS UNITED Reserves gained a comfortable 5-0 victory over their hosts at Galleywood on Saturday and visited a useful Mid-Essex League points.

Bowers held the upper hand throughout and the pattern was set early in the match when a good cross from Giles was headed narrowly over the bar by Storey. The home side held out against almost incessant pressure until the 22nd minute, when Pitt broke through on the left and his low shot was easily cleared to let who mimmed the ball home.

The second goal came ten minutes later when one of Galleywood's frequent raids was broken up by Winstanley, who hit a long ball back through the home defence and Storey ran on to net easily.

Two goals ahead, Bowers began to over-elaborate and they paid for the penalty when Galleywood broke away and netted, but fortunately the point was not set for a foul on the keeper.

After the interval Bowers continued to dominate, even though kicking up the slope when Giles met Pitt through, the home defence brought down in the area. Pitt took the resultant spot-kick himself and made the score 3-0.

The fourth goal came as a gift when a home defender passed back straight to Storey, who made no mistake, and Bowers completed the scoring when a save by the keeper, Storey and Pitt ended with the centre-forward sweeping the ball into the net.

In the later stages some casual defensive play by Bowers was seen in Galleywood, but on each occasion Andrew came to their rescue with good saves.

WANDERERS 3-1 UP

METHOD WANDERERS 3, WICKHAM SPORTS 1

METHOD WANDERERS comfortably took the two Mid-Essex League points in their match with Wickham Sports on Saturday.

Flashed down the slope in the first half, Method did most of the attacking, but some brilliant saves by the capable Wickham goalkeeper restricted them to one goal from C. Hives before the break.

Soon after the change round Method scored twice, in quick succession through R. Weston and D. Collier to really settle the issue.

Wickham kept trying and were rewarded when a shot was deflected into the net by a Method defender in the dying minutes.

Tee closures

Two tee closures a month have been agreed on Sunday next year for Basildon Golf Club competitions at the Basildon Golf Club. Tee closures must not run consecutively, says Basildon Council's Recreation Committee.

Move to add punch to United attack

WITHOUT A match this weekend, Southend United's one consolation is that, whatever happens in the other results on Saturday, they cannot drop more than one place to fifth in the Fourth Division table before their next match against Brentford at Griffin Park on Boxing Day morning, writes ALF SMIRK.

And, as every point becomes more vital than ever as the season starts on its second half, Manager Ernie Shepherd changes his line-up in an attempt to infuse goals into a shot-shy forward line.

Part of the change is forced upon the manager. Shepherd through a recurrence of John Huber's leg injury received at the London hospital for treatment.

The only other doubt is a slight being in the 11.15 a.m. kick-off and Jackie Fergusson will probably stand by in case he is needed.

In his change of line-up, Manager Shepherd reverts to Eddie May at centre-half with Joe Ashworth switching to his original wing-half position to allow May to move up into the front line. Derek Woodley will come in for the injured Huber.

Trevor Roberts, Tony Bentley and Graham Birks; Joe Ashworth, Eddie May and Woodley, Mike Beasley, Andy Smith, Phil Chisnall and John Maynard, Sammy Millan are the most likely substitutes.

It will be interesting to see if Manager Shepherd allocates a front-running role to Chisnall now that Hestley is moved up into the position where he can act as link-man with Stevenson instead of one of the back line of four.

It is up front that something has got to be pulled out of the bag. And as there is still no news of further signings to accomplish this, then the players already at the club must have to pull out that little extra.

And a little extra they must have! Only on rare occasions have they shown the form which even a few players are capable of producing. But rare though they might have been, it has been proved the players can do it.

I think they now owe it to the club, management and direct support by any means least, to their faithful fans who have supported them so admirably this season, to turn in more of those flashing displays.

Two points at Brentford would be a great way of showing their appreciation and swell the note for the return at Rotherham.

Hall the following Saturday.

One home defeat

Brentford, knocked out of the Cup by the away team, will be all out to redeem what little they can of their reputation.

Of their 12 home games this season they have won only one, drawn three and conceded 27 goals and conceding 10.

It is up to Oxford to give them a delayed Christmas box by saying it with goals!

Billericay Table Tennis

GOOD WIN TAKES THEM OFF BOTTOM

BILLERICAY RECREATION "A" MOVED OFF THE BOTTOM OF THE PREMIER DIVISION OF THE BILLERICAY AND DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE WITH A 6-4 WIN OVER BRENTWOOD Y.C. LAST WEEK.

Terry Eyres and Eric Newson beat Mick Hooks and Dudley Davenport, and, for Brentwood, Peter Gunn and Steve Willis beat Cliff Paine and Arthur Triggs. Billericay won both doubles in three.

Billericay Rec. "A" later went down 8-2 to St. Paul's "A", however, Len Thompson and Brian Eve beat Eric Newson and Ron Moss. Mick Ford beat Cliff Paine and Arthur Triggs and Eric Smith beat Arthur Triggs, but lost to Cliff Paine. Both teams won a double.

St. Paul's "A" went on to score another 8-2 victory over Billericay Cricket Club "A". Brian Cole and Bill Murray beat Eric Smith and Mick Ford. Ron Foulter beat Len Thompson and Brian Eve, and Jerry Lyons beat Len Thompson, but lost to Brian Eve. Both teams won a double.

7-3 defeat

In Division II Old Brentwood just got the edge over St. Joseph's "B" to beat them 7-3. Martin Evans and Keith Gubbee beat Ted Knight and Roy Davis. N. Nuttall and W. Robinson beat D. Sanders and both lost to Frank Craddock. Both teams won a double.

St. Joseph's "B" recovered their first point of the season when they beat their own "B" team 8-2. Ash-ton and Terry Stallard beat Ted Knight and Roy Davis. Fred Frier beat Frank Craddock and Roger Fuller. Richard Walmesley lost to both. Both teams won a double.

Bardwell "B" recovered their first league win of the season when they beat Retford "C" 9-1. Barry Bonner and Doug Onale beat Pat O'Brien and Fred Fuller. Tony Arthurton beat Dave Kington and Paul Hammond, and Ron Gore beat Barry Hammond, but lost to Dave Kington. Bardwell won both doubles.

All square

In Division III the match between Bardwell "C" and Incidents ended 5-3 after a series of very close games. Bardwell Cyril Knights beat Ray Waters and George Watts. Sawyer beat Ray Waters, but lost to George Watts. Doug Onale beat J. Jones and Gordon Hughes, but both lost to both. Incidents won both doubles in three.

Another unbeaten record fell when Essex "A" went down 8-2 to St. John's. Brian Newell and David Platt beat Alex Paine and Peter Joly. Colin Hughes beat Cyril Kirby and Ian Hasted, and Ron Gidman beat Ian Hasted in three, but lost to Cyril Kirby in three. Both teams won a double.

Wickford "A" had some close games before beating Brentwood School "A" 8-1. Ron Coughlan and Terry Dunning beat Quentin Ford and Tim Harrison. Alan Warner beat Douglas Wignall and N. Meadmore, and Ken Lloyd beat N. Meadmore, but lost to Douglas Wignall in three. Wickford won both doubles.

Hutton "D" finally beat Cray Hill "B" 7-3 after five matches had gone to three. Mike Wright beat Ken Kerslake and Cyril Drake in three. D. Plant beat Ken Kerslake, but lost to Cyril Drake 2-3. In the third, Rex Doby beat Joy Chaplin and Peter Macklesworth, and Winifred Willis beat Joy Chaplin, but lost to Peter Macklesworth in three. Both teams won a double.

In Division III South Weald and Selo "A" fought a good 5-3 draw. For Weald D. Pooley beat J. Brodie and D. Smith, but M. Roberts lost to both. Trevor Roberts beat Gordon Hill and Doug Wignall, but G. Poppewell lost to both. Both teams won a double.

St. Paul's "B" kept in top spot with an 8-2 win over

GOLF NOTES

CHRIS THOMPSON, with a score of 70 net, won Basildon Golf Club's Christmas Fave and December medal at the weekend.

Ken Kelly came second and Ray Syrett (the junior medal winner) third. The competition was played on Saturdays and Sunday, when conditions were vastly different on the two days. The course and scores were very high. The top three players all played their rounds on Saturday.

Tom Arundel won the Kingston Knock-Out Trophy on Sunday when he beat Bernard Krise 9 and 2. It was Herard's last appearance in a club competition before leaving for Australia this week. All the club members will wish him well in his new home.

There was a good gathering at the clubhouse on Sunday night for the Christmas Fave Prizegiving.

The draw was also made for the winter knock-out competition which starts shortly.

Grand form

Cheltenham, topping the Fourth Division with a 100 per cent record at home so far this season, have netted 15 goals in their last five outings.

Brooklands "A" did well to hold South Weald Y.C. to 5-5. John Dwyer and Dave Rossell beat David Pooley, both lost to Trevor Roberts. John Poppewell beat Roberts and G. Poppewell, but both teams won a double.

8-2 success

In Division IV Runwell Hospital proved too strong for Andrews' Hospital, who went down 8-2 after five games had gone to three. Pat O'Brien and G. Saunders beat M. Olsen and G. Saunders, but both lost to S. Hall. Russell and G. Saunders won both doubles.

Brentwood School "B" scored a close 6-1 win over Wickford "A". Mark Aker beat Paul Cobbett, but Dora Saunders and W. Newman lost to both. Wickford won both doubles.

The two top teams, Etchingham and J. Randall, both lost to Leon Lewis. Both teams won a double.

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New Towners' fine record shattered

Great Eastern Mechanics 7, Basildon 2. BASILDON WATER polo team's unbeaten record was shattered when they found Great Eastern Mechanics in a scoring mood in their last away game in the Essex Winter League.

Basildon were forced to defend from the start and were fortunate to be only one goal down at the first turn. Thomas and Darnley were tremendous in defence and the bookkeeping of Lardine was close to miraculous.

In the second quarter Basildon showed signs of strain and some goal shooting by Lardine and Darnley made the score down to four.

But Basildon played away and reduced the arrears with a well-taken goal by Frank.

Unlucky

The second half continued in much the same way with Basildon gradually beginning to match the more experienced water polo play of their opponents.

They were unlucky to be further behind with two rather

Saveall gets a hat-trick

BILLERICAY Y.C. 5.

A HAT-TRICK from Barry Saveall helped Billericay Youth Centre score an easy victory against Stebbing in their Mid-East League fixture on Saturday.

At times the keeper was steady and keepers became a little frayed, but the occasional flashes of good football proved that both teams were capable of better performances.

Stebbing held only nine men in the first ten minutes, two of their players went to the wrong ground.

Billericay found things difficult against the depleted Stebbing team in the opening minutes and were unable to gain any advantage.

In front

When Stebbing was at full strength the Billericay forwards mounted a series of attacks which resulted in Barry Saveall opening the score after 15 minutes. Five minutes later Ron Addy scored a centre.

The home team continued to press in the second half and were rewarded after only two minutes when a well-placed pass by Jim Covey to his brother, headed into the net by Brian Adams.

Three minutes later Barry Saveall converted a centre from Ron Addy to score their fourth goal.

In one of Stebbing's rare attacks Harris was judged to have unfairly brought down the ball. Although disputed, Stebbing earned a penalty and scored their only goal.

Temperatures heated from this point, but two minutes from the end, Saveall rocketed home a fine shot from a Ron Addy pass.

Lathol bid for honours

LATHOL RESERVES 3. FORD (BASILDON) 1. LATHOL CONTINUED their dominance in the Essex League Division II honours with a fine 3-1 victory over Ford (Basildon) on Saturday.

After a goalless first half Ford scored when a beautiful header off the post was pushed home, but it was not long before Lathol equalised from a Patten ten minutes.

Ten minutes later Anderson scored with a beautiful header from a Selmes cross, and after Ford's miss a penalty. Lathol's eighth win in nine games.

Busy athletes

EXPLAINED BATTY and several other Taversham athletes are expected to run at Nijmegen in Belgium on January 7th after the Essex Championships on January 6th.

EXTENDED BOOKINGS OF WICKFORD CRICKET PITCHES

NEVENDON PARK Cricket Club are to apply for an extended booking of the Wickford Memorial Park number two pitch until 1972.

Several other clubs in the area have obtained similar bookings from the Council.

For next season 16 matches out of a programme of 20 have already been arranged.

At the Club's recent meeting the Chairman, Mr. Norman Wright, congratulated the Club's recent success in season on and off the field.

The Sunday team played 13 matches, winning three, drawing three and losing four. The Youth side won the Youth Cricket League, winning three and tying two of their five games.

Commenting on the average, Secretary Mr. N. E. Willis said they were improving each season, and that 1243 runs had been scored for each wicket compared with 1053 by opponents.

He made special mention of the success of the Lathol team who set up a Club record opening partnership of 184 against N.E.C.

Averages

SUNDAY XI BATTING	Runs	Wickets	Av.
K. Linzell	13	3	81
J. Linzell	10	1	73
N. Hird	10	3	26
D. Langford	10	0	44
Barry Vincent	4	4	95
Nick Hird	4	2	14
Nick Hird	4	1	38

SUNDAY XI BOWLING	Runs	Wickets	Av.
N. Hird	35.8	32	266
C. Ellis	129	9	347
J. Row	40.4	4	101
C. Neal	194	24	314
Paul Chapman	5.3	3	16
Nick Hird	24.0	3	85
Barry Vincent	18.1	1	63

Quiz victory for Southend referees

THE SOUTHEND Referees' Society Christmas meeting last Thursday was not as well attended as usual, but the members enjoyed the proceedings which were both enjoyable and instructive.

The more serious side of the meeting was devoted to a First Round meeting of the County Penfold Cup quiz competition. Basildon Society provided the opposition and Mr. R. E. Evans (Romford) was the quiz master.

The Southend team of Messrs. J. Miller, C. Gibbs and M. Eichen were the winners and they are at home to the Harwich Society the Second Round.

As this is due to be decided by the end of January some difficulty could be experienced in fixing a date for it is a long way for Harwich team to travel, including the difficult journey home.

Pictured below are the two teams. On the left are Basildon (W. Poppinga, E. Phillips and C. Evans) with the Harwich team (J. Miller, C. Gibbs and M. Eichen) on the right.

In the centre is quiz master R. E. Evans (Romford).

Locked "devil"

He was well aware that United were lacking "devil" and a bit of fire in the box, but hoped this would be overcome, if not by the players at his disposal then by others he would have to buy.

Mr. Shepherd said it was not always advisable to publish the names of players in whom he was interested.

This could well kill any deal and was why so many names were mentioned, as the Press could only guess at their identity.

But, concluded Mr. Shepherd, everyone at Roots Hall was determined to get promotion this season.

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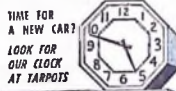
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64 MG VIVA D.L. disc, Persian blue	£365	£125	£11. 9
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66 MG SUPER MINX 1725 c.c. o.d.	£465	£220	£20. 14
67 (late) FORD Popular Saln. blue	£395	£135	£12. 13
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69 SINGER Vogue, duo-blue	£445	£130	£14. 7
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80 VAUXHALL Viva D.L. Saln. succie grey	£335	£110	£10. 9
81 TRIUMPH Herald Convertible, red	£395	£135	£12. 13
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84 VAUXHALL Viva 1.1 own, disc brake	£395	£135	£12. 13
85 HILLMAN Minx Series VI, 1 own.	£425	£145	£13. 8
86 CORTINA 2.0 D.L. white	£420	£140	£13. 2
87 AUSTIN 1100 1 own, Arancia beige	£425	£175	£16. 15
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(Continued from Page 35)

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BUILDING LAND urgently required for clients, large or small parcels. Essex area particularly. RAYLEIGH, ROCHFORD, BENFLEET, WICKFORD, SOUTHEND, SOUTHMINSTER. Immediate decision, no commission required. Please write, call or phone with details.

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TO HOUSEOWNERS BY WAY OF
SECOND MORTGAGES
 Net interest 5% — 9 years or less to repay
 OUR REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE PLEASED TO CALL AT YOUR CONVENIENCE
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 ☆ NO HIDDEN CHARGES
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ARDLEIGH ESTATES
 104 NORTH STREET, HORNCHURCH

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WANTED to rent, 2-bedroomed flat or house with bathroom. Write 481 Standard Recorder, 10, Southernhay, Basingstoke.

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 WANTED business for retired couple. Would do prompt settlement. Write Mrs. Langford, c/o Cecil Court, Victoria-st., Southend, A168

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EAST Ham Loan Co., 212, Hinn-st., North, East Ham, E.6 (for 1st). GRANTWOOD 2221. Unsecured loans. £10 upwards. 464207C
 EXTRA cash by second mortgage and remortgage for house repairs, refinancing new car, business or use the money how you like. Large or small bank overdrafts paid off. Pages 102, 103, 104. Sevenways-st., Gunts Hill, Ilford, Essex (CR68C) 15151. 9848TC
 EXTRA cash by second mortgage and remortgage for house repairs, refinancing new car, business or use the money how you like. Large or small bank overdrafts paid off. Pages 102, 103, 104. Sevenways-st., Gunts Hill, Ilford, Essex (CR68C) 15151. 9848TC

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Condition immaterial, or building site, BILLERICAY area. Cash available for quick settlement, no fees. Vacant possession not urgent. Particulars to: Lake Avenue, Billericay Telephone: Billericay 4585

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This Office will be CLOSED for the CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS from SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23 (12 noon), until WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 27 (9 a.m.)

WOULD YOU PLEASE SEND ME INFORMATION CONCERNING THE TYPE OF PROPERTY I HAVE INDICATED BELOW?

NAME

ADDRESS

PRICE £.....

DISTRICT: ☐ BILLERICAY ☐ WICKFORD☐ BASILDON ☐ RAYLEIGH☐ BUNGALOW ☐ HOUSE ☐ CHALET

QUIRK & PARTNERS

Surveyors, Auctioneers and Estate Agents



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46 HIGH STREET
BILLERICAY
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- LIBERAL MORTGAGES

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

- £5,900. **WOODHAM FERRERS**. — Detached HOUSE. Solid fuel central heating, three bedrooms. Integral garage. **HOCKLEY**. — New detached three-bedroomed CHALET, with garages. Full gas-fired central heating, coloured suites. Near station, shops and schools.
- £5,950. **RETTENDHAM**. — Detached three-bedroomed CHALET. Full oil-fired central heating, large plot.
- WOODHAM FERRERS**. — Three-bedroomed Semi-Detached CHALET, solid fuel central heating. Garage. £4,950.

ESTABLISHED PROPERTIES

- HOCKLEY**. — Detached three-bedroomed BUNGALOW, central heating, garage, plus extension giving self-contained flat. £7,450.
- HOCKLEY**. — Three-bedroomed Semi-Detached CHALET, garage space. Road charges paid. £4,450.
- CANEWOOD**. — Detached pre-war BUNGALOW, plot 34ft. x 190ft. Two reception rooms, two bedrooms. Garage space. £5,900 o.n.o.
- HOCKLEY**. — Semi-Detached BUNGALOW, built seven years. Plot 20ft. x 150ft. Three bedrooms. Garage space. £4,600.
- WICKFORD**. — Detached older type BUNGALOW, plot 40ft. x 160ft. Made road. Two bedrooms, kitchen, lounge, garden. £4,450.
- RAYLEIGH**. — Three-bedroomed Semi-Detached HOUSE. Large garden. £5,100 o.n.o.
- RAYLEIGH**. — A Three-bedroomed Detached HOUSE, with heat- ing garage. Large plot. £5,750.
- WICKFORD**. — Detached PROPERTIES, Link development. Highcliff Estate. Three and four bedrooms. From £5,700.

Please tick boxes of interest for prompt reply

NAME

ADDRESS

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 Telephone: WICKFORD 3760

WATSON, TEMPLE & WAYMOUTH

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74B HIGH STREET, BILLERICAY, ESSEX
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- £2,500. **CANVEY ISLAND**. — A Detached timber-framed BUNGALOW, occupying a corner position, within easy reach of shops and buses. Accommodation comprises lounge, three bedrooms, kitchen, conservatory, w.c., spare for bathroom. Garage space. Cash transaction.
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THIS WEEK'S NEW PROPERTY FEATURE

£5,050. Early occupation available. — One fully centrally heated three-bedroomed Semi-Detached HOUSE, at **LANGDON HILLS**, with close living accommodation, garage. Also similar type with part central heating. £4,950. Early application advised.



OTHER NEW PROPERTIES available at BILLERICAY, from £5,000 to £15,000 and WICKHAM BISHOPS, near Witham, from £6,250. EXTENSIVE RANGE OF ESTABLISHED PROPERTIES. EXCELLENT MORTGAGE SERVICE TO PURCHASERS. AGENTS CO-OPERATIVE PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY. BASILDON Area served by our branch. ESTATE OFFICE, STATION APPROACH, LAINDON. Basildon 44600.

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THUNDERLEY. — Delightful and extremely well-built Semi-Detached HOUSE (1952). Central heating, first-class condition throughout. Hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom/w.c. Garage. Scullery garden. £4,995 freehold.

NEW PROPERTIES

GREAT MADDOX (near Chelmsford). — Very attractive development of HOUSES in course of construction, situated in lovely setting. Excellent specification including full central heating, woodblock floors, fitted kitchens, hall, lounge, dining room, three bedrooms, bathroom and w.c. Garage. Prices from £4,950 freehold. Only one available.

BUILDING LAND

BUILDING LAND urgently required for clients. Large or small parcels. Essex area, particularly RAYLEIGH, ROMFORD, BENFLEET, WICKFORD, SOUTHEAST, SOUTHMINSTER. Immediate decision, no commission required. Please write, call or phone with details.

TOWN & COUNTRY ESTATE AGENCY

wish all past and future Clients a

Merry Christmas

and a Prosperous New Year

109 HIGH ROAD, SOUTH BENFLEET Telephone 2127

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TO HOUSEOWNERS BY WAY OF

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Net interest 5%—9 years or less to repay

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★ TAX RELIEF ON INTEREST

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 44640

ARDLEIGH ESTATES

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1957-built semi-det. house: 3 bedrooms, 2 recep. rooms, bathroom and kitchen, det. brick garage, £4,900. freehold. 10, Gordon-close, Perry-st., Billericay (53278). B.M.

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Wiggins-built 1937 Semi-Detached

BUNGALOW. Two bedrooms, two

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BUNGALOW, just off A13, BEN-

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ADDRESS

PRICE £.....

DISTRICT: ☐ BILLERICAY ☐ WICKFORD☐ BASILDON ☐ RAYLEIGH☐ BUNGALOW ☐ HOUSE ☐ CHALET

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BILLERICAY

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 • HOUSES WANTED BY GENUINE PURCHASERS
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NEW DEVELOPMENTS

- ☐ £5,500. WOODHAM FERRERS. — Detached HOUSE. Solid fuel central heating, three bedrooms. Integral garage. £5,150.
- ☐ HOCKLEY. — New Detached three-bedroomed CHALET, with garages. Full gas-fired central heating, coloured walls. Near station, shops and schools.
- ☐ £5,550. RETTENDON. — Detached three-bedroomed CHALET. Full oil-fired central heating, large plot.
- ☐ WOODHAM FERRERS. — Three-bedroomed Semi-Detached CHALET, solid fuel central heating. Garage. £4,950.

ESTABLISHED PROPERTIES

- ☐ HOCKLEY. — Detached three-bedroomed BUNGALOW, central heating, garage, plus extension giving self-contained flatlet. £5,500.
- ☐ HOCKLEY. — Three-bedroomed Semi-Detached CHALET, garage space. Road charges paid. £4,450.
- ☐ CANEVON. — Detached pre-war BUNGALOW, plot 34ft x 150ft. Two reception rooms, two bedrooms. Garage space. £3,600 o.n.o.
- ☐ HOCKLEY. — Semi-Detached BUNGALOW, built seven years. Plot 28ft x 150ft. Three bedrooms. Garage space. £4,600.
- ☐ WICKFORD. £4,450. — Detached older type BUNGALOW, plot 40ft x 160ft. Three bedrooms, two bedrooms, kitchen, lounge, bath, etc. £4,450.
- ☐ RAYLEIGH. — Three-bedroomed Semi-Detached HOUSE. Large plot. £5,150 o.n.o.
- ☐ RAYLEIGH. — A Three-bedroomed Detached HOUSE, with heating, garage. Large plot. £5,750.
- ☐ WICKFORD. — Detached PROPERTIES. Link development. Highgate Estate. Three and four bedrooms. From £5,700.

Please tick boxes of interest for prompt reply

NAME

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WATSON, TEMPLE & WAYMOUTH

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74B HIGH STREET, BILLERICAY, ESSEX
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- ☐ £2,500. CANVEY ISLAND. — A Detached timber-framed BUNGALOW, occupying a corner position, within easy reach of shops and beach. Accommodation comprises lounge, three bedrooms, kitchen, conservatory, w.c., space for bathroom. Garage space. Cash transaction.
- ☐ £4,500 o.n.o. BILLERICAY. — Situated off main Stock Road. — A Semi-Detached L-shaped BUNGALOW, with hall, two bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, lounge 18ft x 17ft. Attached garage. 45ft. rear garden.

THIS WEEK'S NEW PROPERTY FEATURE

£5,050. Early occupation available. — One fully centrally heated three-bedroomed Semi-Detached HOUSE, at LANGDON HILLS, with spacious living accommodation. Garage. Also similar type with part central heating. £4,950. Early application advised.



OTHER NEW PROPERTIES available at BILLERICAY, from £5,000 to £15,000 and WICKHAM DISHOPS, near Witham, from £6,250. EXCELLENT MORTGAGE SERVICE TO PURCHASERS. AGENTS CO-OPERATIVE PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY. BASILDON AREA served by our branch at ESTATE OFFICE, STATION APPROACH, LONDON. Basildon 44000.

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- ☐ THUNDERSLEY. — Contemporary Semi-Detached CHALET, built four years. Full gas-fired central heating, hall, large lounge-diner, kitchen (stainless steel sink-unit), three good bedrooms (first bedroom with balcony), bathroom, built-in wash w.c. Garage and space for second garage. Secured garden. £5,250 freehold.
- ☐ THUNDERSLEY. — Delightful and extremely well-built Semi-Detached HOUSE (1952). Central heating, first-class condition throughout. Hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, w.c. Garage. Secured garden. £4,995 freehold.

NEW PROPERTIES
 GREAT SADDON (near Chelmsford). — Very attractive development of HOUSES in course of construction, situated in lovely setting. Excellent specification including full central heating, woodblock floors, fitted kitchen, hall, lounge, dining room, three bedrooms, bathroom and w.c. Garage. Prices from £4,950 freehold. Only one available.

BUILDING LAND

BUILDING LAND urgently required for clients, large or small parcels. Essex area, particularly RAYLEIGH, ROCHFORD, BENFLEET, WICKFORD, SOUTHEND, SOUTHMINSTER. Immediate decision, no commission required. Please write, call or phone with details.

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wish all past and future Clients a
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104 NORTH STREET, HORNCHURCH

PROPERTY FOR SALE, EXCHANGE OR WANTED

DETACHED house, West Thurrock; 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, bathroom, kitchen, shower, garage. £5,500. Tel. Grays Thurrock 391/1/2.

1957-built semi-det. house; 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, bathroom and kitchen; det. brick garage. £4,900 freehold. 10 Gordon Close, Perryville, Billericay (SS278).

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Day and Night Telephone:

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WANTED to rent, 2-bedroomed flat or house with bathroom. Write 461 Standard Recorder, 10, Southern Way, Basildon. PMS

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WANTED TO PURCHASE

DETACHED OLDER

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Write telephone or call

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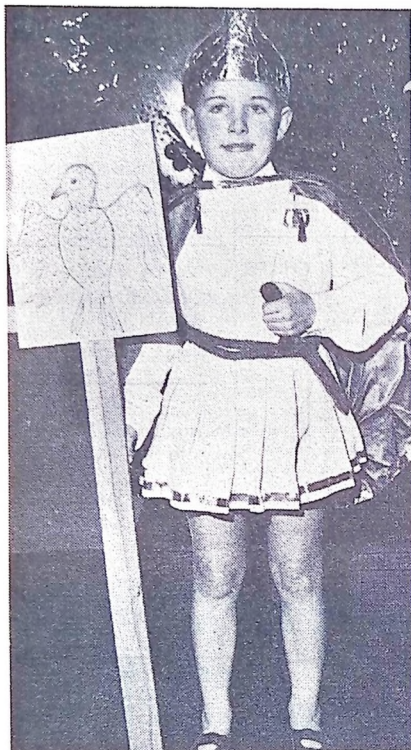
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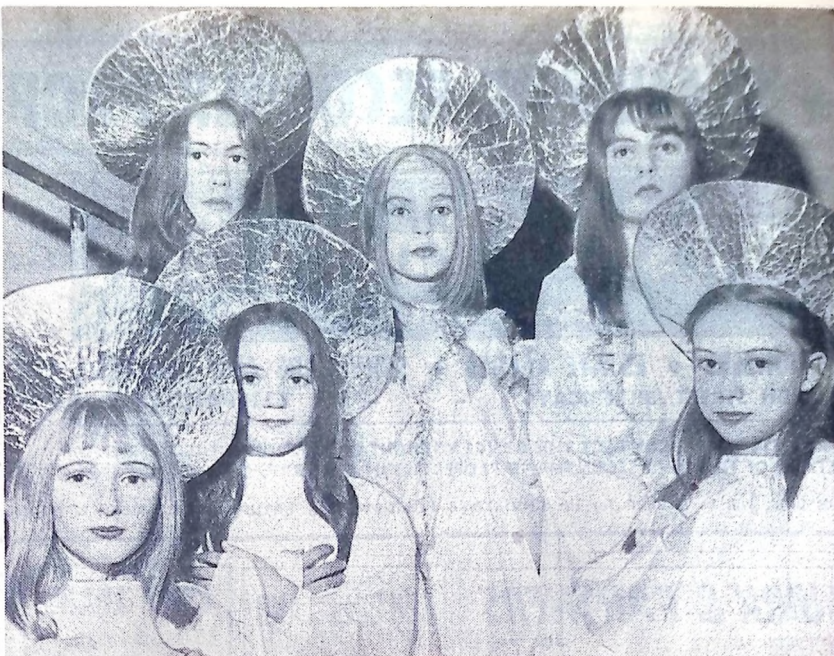
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ROMAN SOLDIER WHO WASN'T!



GRAHAM HARDY, AGED SEVEN YEARS, OF WICKFORD CHURCH OF ENGLAND INFANTS' SCHOOL, WAS TO BE A ROMAN SOLDIER IN THE SCHOOL'S NATIVITY PLAY LAST WEEK. HE HAD REHEARSED VERY HARD, AND HIS MOTHER MADE HIS COSTUME. BUT ALAS, WHEN THE GREAT DAY DAWNED, HE WAS TOO ILL TO PERFORM—AND HAD TO LEND HIS COSTUME TO HIS UNDERSTUDY! BY FRIDAY HE HAD RECOVERED SUFFICIENTLY TO HAVE THIS PICTURE TAKEN SPECIALLY!



ANGELS AT THE WICKFORD JUNIOR SCHOOL NATIVITY PLAY LAST WEEK. LET US HOPE THAT THEIR HALOES ARE STILL AS BRIGHT!

Wickford traders complain about dangerous paths and flooding

WICKFORD CHAMBER OF TRADE ARE PROTESTING TO BASILDON COUNCIL TO GET THE DANGEROUSLY UNEVEN PATHS IN THE HIGH STREET RENEWED BEFORE SOMEBODY HAS A SERIOUS ACCIDENT.

Their action follows reports that two women—one elderly—recently fell over and sustained cuts and bruises. One woman nearly fell through a shop window.

Mr. Brian Lovesay, Press Officer for Wickford Traders, said: "Two people have come into my shop personally and asked for something to be done. It's the Council's responsibility — and they should be made aware of how dangerous the pavements are."

FLOODING

The Traders are also complaining about flooding of pavements outside Adcock's, the newsagents.

"The pavements have really been neglected," said Mr. Lovesay, "and we can only keep pushing the Council to get moving and make the paths safe for everybody."

"The pavement outside Adcock's is really bad."

Shoppers have to walk into the road to avoid getting their feet wet.

"We are only asking the Council to flatten the pavement and renew paving stones where necessary. The people of Wickford are entitled to it. We are continually pressing the Council about this but so far with no success."

A Basildon Council spokesman told the "Standard Recorder": "We are arranging to renew the path outside Adcock's in January following a complaint about this stretch of path."

"However, we are satisfied that the remainder of paths in the Broadway are up to standard and we do not appear to have had a complaint to the contrary."

League raised about £118

THE RUNWELL Hospital League of Friends raised about £118 from their Christmas sales held at the Hospital's recreational hall and in Wickford Market. Many of the articles sold were made by local women's organisations and church organisations throughout the area. Members of the organisations also manned the stalls. The first sale was held at the Hospital Hall on Thursday. Visitors, staff and patients found good value in the articles and many of the stalls were sold out after a short time.

Christmas Greetings

ANN PAGE & STAFF

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A VERY HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

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Priory
Nathan
Dunlopillo
Stonehill
Wrighton
Vi-Spring
Stevens
Remploy
Cornwell
Norton
Lawrence
Lurashell
Strongbow
Europa
etc. etc.



WICKFORD WINEMAKERS' CIRCLE HELD THEIR CHRISTMAS PARTY AT WICKFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE ON THURSDAY.

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"Sooty" was at this party



Christine Wood (7), with Sooty, was one of the guests at Ramsden Bellhouse Nursery Playgroup party, held at the Community Centre on Saturday.

RESIDENTS WIN FIRST STAGE OF "BATTLE"

RESIDENTS in the Hill House Drive area of Billericay have won the first leg of their battle to stop a developer building a road from Hill House Drive to three proposed houses.

More than 100 residents signed a petition protesting about Basildon Council Recreation Committee's approval of the scheme, which still needs planning permission.

And the Committee last week rescinded their earlier decision because of the protests.

The existing roadway is used by pedestrians as an entrance to Lake Meadows. The developer wants to build behind houses backing on to Lake Meadows and use the roadway for access to the houses.

The Recreation Committee

are now to tell the Planning Committee that they do not approve the road being made up to normal highway standards.

The Council received a petition with 103 signatures on and 11 letters of personal protests.

The residents complain that the access is a pleasant walk and would be spoilt by development; it would produce a road safety hazard because it is not wide enough, and that in its existing state it is an amenity to the area.

The Council's Planning Committee have decided to refer the planning application to the Executive Committee.

Nativity play in canteen



ONLY THE MOTHERS WERE ALLOWED TO SEE THEIR CHILDREN PERFORM A SHORT NATIVITY PLAY GIVEN BY PUPILS OF BILLERICAY INFANTS' SCHOOL—SEE PICTURE ABOVE. REASON WAS THAT THE SCHOOL HAVE NOT GOT A HALL—AND THE PLAY TOOK PLACE IN THE SMALL CANTEEN.

About 120 pupils—all members of the top three classes—sang carols under the direction of Mrs. G. Gay, the music teacher, who was the organiser.

"NO SMOKING" BY ORDER, IN BILLERICAY?

IT WILL be "No Smoking" by order in the South Green area of Billericay next year if a Basildon Council proposal is approved by the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

The area will come under the Council's seventh Smoke Control Order in the urban district and the first to cover the Billericay area.

October 1st, 1968, will see the Order imposed if the Minister gives confirmation.

By then 1,730 premises, which will be affected, will have had to be adapted to comply with the Order, or their owners will be subject to a fine of up to £10 for every day smoke comes from their premises.

The Council estimates that heating appliances will have to be adapted in about 500 homes.

Under the Order residents will have to use an authorised fuel, which in-

cludes anthracite, coke, carbonised fuel, gas and electricity. Wood and paper will be taboo, so gas or electricity will have to be used for lighting fires.

Oil-fired central heating installations, provided they are properly installed and in good working order, do not require any adaptation to comply with the Order, say the Council.

THE AREA

The area covered is bounded by the south side of Sun Street, the east side of Landon Road, the east side of Oak Hill Road to Church Street, the north side of Church Street to a point due east of 191, Church Street, and the rear of properties on the south side of Church Street and Mill Road.

Also in the Order will be the rear of properties on the west side of Southend Road to Wheatlands; the rear of properties on the east side of Southend Road to a point at the rear of properties on the south side of Highfield Road; the rear of properties in Highfield Road to the eastern boundary of Kugatau, Outwood Common Road, across Outwood Common Road to the eastern boundary of Canaletto, Outwood Common Road; the northern boundary of properties in the road to the rear of properties on the east side of Beams Way; the rear of properties on the east and west side of Southend Road to Sun Street.

Copies of the Order and the map of the area will be on view for free inspection at the Council Offices, Fodderwick, Basildon, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday, and on similar times in the Public Health Department, 88a, High Street, Billericay, during the six weeks from December 20th.

Officers will be available to provide assistance and advice.

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Fyne-Ladye
Vono
Austinsulte
Jentique
Priory
Nathan
Dunlopillo
Stonehill
Wrighton
Vi-Spring
Stevens
Remploy
Cornwell
Morton
Lawrence
Lurashell
Strongbow
Europa
etc. etc.



The first and second year pupils of Buttsbury Junior School, Billericay, joined in a Christmas party in the school hall on Monday.

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Prehistoric man of Basildon



THIS "CAVE MAN" IS MERVYN TUNBRIDGE, OF BELLS HILL, BASILDON, WHO SEEMS TO HAVE CHANGED A BIT SINCE HE WAS A REPORTER FOR THIS PAPER!

HE WON THE FANCY DRESS PARADE AT A FANCY DRESS DANCE ORGANISED BY STANDARD TELEPHONES AND CABLES, LTD., OF BASILDON, IN THE FACTORY DINING HALL ON SATURDAY.

Old folk's home

BASILDON Council's Planning Committee have raised no objection to a proposal by Basildon Development Corporation for an old people's home at Berry Lane, Langdon Hills.

M.P. GETS HIS M.Sc.

ACCOMPANIED by his wife, Jane, and two of his sisters, Mr. Eric Moonman, M.P. for Billericay, went to Manchester University on Tuesday to receive his M.Sc. degree.

The degree is the result of research work he did at the university before becoming a Member of Parliament.

On going to the House of Commons he became a "broken-time" student and, as the field work on the thesis had been finished, was able to do some of the statistical and other work.

His thesis, "Communication in an Expanding Company," is a study of employees' attitudes at a time of take-overs and mergers.



What the usually well-dressed Vange Ladies' Club members were wearing on Wednesday week is shown in the picture above. They organised a tramps' supper in Vange Hall and had a jolly time.

New health centre—doctors say "no" to the Council

BASILDON COUNCIL ARE FIGHTING A HEATED BATTLE OVER THE PROVISION OF A NEW HEALTH CENTRE PROPOSED IN CLAY HILL ROAD AT VANGE.

The Council are determined to go ahead with the centre, but are being opposed by local doctors and the Essex Executive Council of the National Health Service.

The Executive are opposed to the centre on the grounds that there is no need for one in the Vange district. They said so in a letter to Basildon Council.

But the Health and Welfare Committee of Basildon Council say the National Health Service Executive are really equally divided—four against, four in favour and two abstaining from the vote.

Chairman of the Council's Health and Welfare Committee Coun. Desmond Savage told a reporter this week: "There has been a great deal of heated discussion about this on our Committee."

"We have come to the conclusion that the doctors of the Executive are wrong in their thinking. We believe they have forgotten a very important thing—service to the public. We have decided to

press ahead with our plans to build the centre."

Coun. Savage claimed that four doctors had announced their support for the new centre and the Ministry of Health had, in fact, already issued edicts that more centres of this kind should be built.

His Committee has recommended that the Essex Executive Council should be asked to reconsider their verdict.

"We think that with doctors' support and the Ministry, we will eventually win through anyway," he said.

The centre will be on similar lines to the centre planned for Laindon. They will be "mini-hospitals" with doctors' surgeries, dental surgeries, laboratories, midwife and welfare services.

The centre at Laindon has

already passed the planning stages and is expected to be completed by 1968-69 near the Laindon Link.

Said Coun. Savage: "Although the Executive Council oppose the Vange project, we estimate that it will only slightly retard Ministry approval. The Vange centre should be ready by 1969-70."

Population figures for the Vange area by that time will be about 50,000 according to Basildon Development Corporation. This will include outor districts like Pitsea and Bowers Gifford.

Coun. Savage added: "With population figures like this, ten doctors could not give a sufficient service without a properly run health centre."

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Prilory
Nathan
Dunlopillo
Stonehill
Wrighton
Vi-Spring
Stevens
Remploy
Cornwell
Norton
Lawrence
Lurashell
Strongbow
Europa
etc. etc.



All the benches of Pretty Dresses, Ltd., of Basildon, were decorated for the annual party, and at one were these girls dressed as nigger minstrels. See story on Page 12.