

**BERA E-NEWSLETTER 18th October 2018 – www.bera.co.uk
(printable version of Newsletter is available soon on website if needed)**

Reminders:

BERA – Special Meeting for Members (including a social get together) Tuesday 23rd October at St Augustine's Church from 8pm

We will have a short presentation by Jean Broadbent, the Healthwatch Southend CEO, followed by a question and answer session. Please see link <https://www.healthwatchsouthend.co.uk/> for the health advice and social care they offer.

There will then be a short break for refreshments, after which we will have a short presentation by Southend Fire Station followed by refreshments at the end, and a chance for you to speak to local Independent councillors about any concerns you may have.

If you have elderly neighbours without computer access, who you know are BERA members, could you kindly advise them of this meeting.

The next BERA sponsored coffee morning will be on Thursday 15th November 2018 at The Methodist Church on the corner of Johnstone Road and The Broadway from 10am to 12 midday.

We will be bringing alarms/signs in case any of you want to buy them. The costs are:
PIR sensor alarm £7.38 (the white one)
Defender shock/contact alarm £9.94 (the grey one)
Garage and shed signs £1.19 each

We also have free panic and personal alarms and car key signal blocking pouches available for BERA members.

Which subscription logon details:

Username: burgesestate

Password: BERAResidents

1. Southend NHW Crime (8-14 October 2018)

Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO – filtered
Southchurch	42/145873/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	08/10/2018 07:28	07/10/2018 21:00	Plymtree	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE BROKEN INTO THE VICTIMS AUDI Q7 BY MEANS UNKNOWN AND HAVE CONDUCTED A MESSY SEARCH OF THE INSIDE. SUSPECTS HAVE TAKEN A BABY BAG CONTAINING BABY CLOTHES, A CHANGING BAG CONTAINING NAPPIES AND NAPPY RASH CREAM AND A DOUBLE BUGGY. ALL ITEMS HAVE BEEN FOUND DUMPED DOWN THE ROAD.
Southchurch	42/146332/18	Other criminal damage to a dwelling (Under £5,000)	08/10/2018 21:34	08/10/2018 09:00	Newington Avenue	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNIDENTIFIED HAS ENTERED VICTIMS PREMISES BY SMASHING REAR DOOR AND FLOODED THE PLACE BY BREAKING TOILET AND PIPES.
Southchurch	42/146898/18	Theft if not classified elsewhere	08/10/2018 14:21	17/09/2018 17:00	Wakering Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS TAKEN TREADING MACHINE ACCESSORIES

WITHOUT
PERMISSION BY
MEANS
UNKNOWN.

Southchurch	42/147286/18	Burglary - Residential - Dwelling	10/10/2018 17:18	10/10/2018 17:18	Southchurch Rectory Chase	Southend-on-Sea	UNKNOWN SUSPECTS HAVE ENTERED VICTIMS PROPERTY VIA FRONT DOOR WHICH WAS LEFT OPEN. HAVE LOOKED THROUGH HIS JEWELLERY BOXES BUT HAVE JUST STOLEN £5 FROM HIS DRESSER AND HAVE EXITED VIA ENTRY POINT.
Southchurch	42/147804/18	Theft or Unauthorised Taking of a Pedal Cycle	11/10/2018 16:08	11/10/2018 16:00	Lifstan Way	Southend-on-Sea	NAMED SUSPECT HAS APPROACHED VICTIM IN THE SMALL PARK THAT BACKS ONTO THE RAILWAY LINE AND STOLEN HER LIV TEMPT BICYCLE COLOUR BLACK AND BLUE.
Southchurch	42/148337/18	Attempted Burglary - Residential - Dwelling	12/10/2018 16:01	24/09/2018 15:00	Southchurch Boulevard	Southend-on-Sea	UNKNOWN FEMALE SUSPECT HAS ENTERED THE VICTIMS ADDRESS THROUGH AN INSECURE DOOR WITHOUT PERMISSION WHEN CONFRONTED THE SUSPECT HAS LEFT.

Southchurch	42/148258/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	12/10/2018 14:16	11/10/2018 17:30	Archer Avenue	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS ENTERED THE VICTIMS SECURE FORD FOCUS BY MEANS UNKNOWN. MESSY SEARCH MADE AND SOME OAKLEY SUNGLASSES HAVE BEEN REMOVED.
Southchurch	42/148762/18	Aggravated vehicle taking	13/10/2018 05:45	13/10/2018 00:00	Apollo Drive	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT NAMED HAS TAKEN HIS FATHERS WHITE TOYOTA AURIS WITHOUT HIS PERMISSIONS, SUSPECT HAS THEN BEEN INVOLVED IN AN RTC.
Southchurch	42/148835/18	Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)	13/10/2018 13:28	12/10/2018 17:30	Archer Close	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT NAMED HAS THROWN EGGS AT THE VICTIMS VEHICLE A RED VAUXHALL. THE EGGS HAVE NOW DRIED AND WILL BE HARD TO GET OF THE VEHICLE.
Southchurch	42/148922/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	13/10/2018 15:10	12/10/2018 16:30	Wick Chase	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS GAINED ENTRY TO THE VICTIMS GREY BMW BY SMASHING THE PASSENGER SIDE WINDOW AND STOLEN A BAG THAT WAS LEFT ON THE PASSENGER

SEAT CONTAINING
A WORK TABLET, A
LAPTOP IN LAP TOP
BAG.

Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO – filtered
Thorpe	42/146673/18	Theft of a motor vehicle	08/10/2018 12:01	05/10/2018 19:30	Eastern Esplanade	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS REMOVED THE VICTIMS GREY RANGE ROVER SPORT FROM THE CAR PARK BY MEANS UNKNOWN.
Thorpe	42/146664/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	09/10/2018 14:46	08/10/2018 22:00	Tyrone Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN GAINED ACCESS TO THE VICTIMS VEHICLE A BLACK RANGE ROVER SPORT BY MEANS UNKNOWN AFTER THE VICTIM LEFT IT SECURE ON HIS DRIVEWAY. A SEARCH WAS CARRIED OUT OF THE CENTRE CONSOLE AND A SMALL AMOUNT OF LOOSE CHANGE AND A KEY OF NO SIGNIFICANCE WAS TAKEN.
Thorpe	42/147972/18	Interference with a motor vehicle	09/10/2018 14:31	09/10/2018 00:00	Fermoy Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN GAINED ENTRY TO

THE VICTIMS
VEHICLE BY
MEANS
UNKNOWN. ONCE
INSIDE THE
SUSPECT CARRIED
OUT A SEARCH OF
THE GLOVE BOX
AND CENTRE
CONSOLE.
NOTHING TAKEN
FROM WITHIN. NO
DAMAGE CAUSED
TO THE VEHICLE.

Thorpe 42/148500/18 Theft if not
classified
elsewhere 10/10/2018 10:15 09/10/2018 20:35 Woodgrange Drive Southend-on-Sea

SUSPECT
UNKNOWN HAS
STOLEN THE
VICTIMS ROLEX
WATCH WHICH
WAS LEFT
UNATTENDED AT
THE LOCATION.

Thorpe 42/149314/18 Theft from a
motor vehicle 12/10/2018 06:58 11/10/2018 20:00 Kensington Road Southend-on-Sea

SUSPECT
UNKNOWN HAS
BY MEANS
UNKNOWN
GAINED ENTRY TO
THE VICTIMS
BLACK BMW 320 .
THE SUSPECT HAS
THEN CARRIED
OUT A MESSY
SEARCH OF THE
VEHICLES
INTERIOR. THE
SUSPECT HAS
SELECTED ITEMS
FROM WITHIN
AND LEFT TAKING
THE PROPERTY
WITH HIM.

Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO – filtered
West Shoebury	42/146415/18	Interference with a motor vehicle	08/10/2018 20:35	08/10/2018 00:26	Aylesbeare	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE ATTEMPTED TO TAKE THE VICTIMS VEHICLE.
West Shoebury	42/148512/18	Other criminal damage to a dwelling (Under £5,000)	10/10/2018 23:30	10/10/2018 23:30	Saxon Gardens	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS THROWN UNKNOWN AT THE VICTIMS WINDOW CAUSING THE OUTER PANE TO BREAK ON THE FRONT WINDOW TO THE FLAT.
West Shoebury	42/149438/18	Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000)	14/10/2018 12:44	10/10/2018 00:00	Saxon Gardens	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS THROWN A CIGARETTE BUTT ONTO THE VICTIMS PLAYACTIVE TRAMPOLINE WHICH HAS CREATED A HALF INCH HOLE ON THE TRAMPOLINE.

2. Plans to scrap leaseholds

The Government's plans to scrap leaseholds, which can trap homeowners into their own properties through ground rents which double every decade, making the property hard to sell, have been set out further. The Government has announced a technical consultation on the issue, expected to last up to six weeks, with proposals thought to include capping ground rents at £10. The Housing Secretary, James Brokenshire, said: "Unfair ground rents can turn a homeowner's dream into a nightmare by hitting them in the back pocket, and making their property harder to sell. That's why I'm taking concrete action to protect homeowners and end those unscrupulous leasehold practices that can cost tenants hundreds of pounds."

BERA have been arguing for this change since 2012 so we are delighted with this decision.

3. Southend Fostering Service are looking to recruit local foster carers for local children.

Any child who needs to become looked after, be this for a short time or much longer, feels a sense of loss. Carers can help them to look to the future whilst they need to be away from their families – however long this period may be.

Could you be this person?

Could you help a child either for a few days or longer, to help them to stay at their school and to maintain links with their families and friends?

We are looking for people who have a spare bedroom and the time to be able to help a child through a difficult time.

In response, Southend Fostering Service will offer you support and guidance; training and an allowance to care for the child.

We will be there for you 24/7 and you will become a part of a strong community of foster carers.

If you feel that this could be you, please contact Southend Fostering Service for more information on 01702 212938

It takes a special person to do this but if anyone feels able to help young children then please do.

4. BERA Trees

BERA have funded the planting of trees in our community and have arranged for up to 900 shrubs in total to be planted in Acacia Drive, Station Road and Parkanaur Avenue and one in The Broadway, to improve the street scene. Don't forget to let Mike Stafford (email: cllrstafford@southend.gov.uk) know if there are any places you feel a tree or shrub should be planted for next year.

5. Battle's Over –Southend Commemorates WW1 centenary

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council is playing its part in Battle's Over - an international commemoration marking 100 years since the guns fell silent at the end of World War I.

Organised by Pageantmaster Bruno Peek LVO OBE OPR, Battle's Over takes place on 11 November 2018, with events throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, and at scores of locations overseas, including New Zealand, Ireland, Australia, Bermuda, France, Belgium, Canada, the United States and Germany.

It begins at 6am with lone pipers playing Battle's O'er, a traditional Scottish air played after a battle, outside cathedrals in the country, following which a specially written tribute will be read out. At the same time, over 1,000 pipers will be playing the tune in individual locations within their local communities.

At 6.55pm buglers will sound The Last Post at more than 1,000 locations. At 7pm beacons will be lit in a tribute called Beacons of Light, signifying the light of peace that emerged from the darkness of four years of war.

Then at 7.05pm over 1,000 church and cathedrals will ring their bells as part of Ringing Out for Peace organised in association with the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, which represents 65 societies of ringers from the British Isles and overseas. Also at 7.05, more than 140 town criers will perform a specially written Cry for Peace Around the World, the first of them in New Zealand and then across the globe through the various time zones.

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council is taking part in the following events:

- Pipers will be playing Battle's O'er at the Shoebury War Memorial, Southend Cenotaph and at Eastwood Memorial Hall at 6am
- Last Post will be performed at the Southend Cenotaph at 6.55pm, and at Churches around the area, including at – St George's RC Church, Shoeburyness, St Clements Church, Leigh on Sea, St Barnabas Church, Hadleigh and St Mary's Prittlewell Church in Southend.
- A Beacon will be lit at the Southend Cenotaph at 7pm.
- The Town Crier will perform "Cry for Peace Around the World" at the Southend Cenotaph at 7.05pm
- At 7.05pm Church bells will be rung out across the town, including – Holy Trinity Church, Southchurch, St George's RC Church, Shoeburyness, St Barnabas Church, Hadleigh, St Saviour's Church, Westcliff, St Andrew's Church, Shoeburyness, St Clement's Church, Leigh on Sea, St John's Church, Pier Hill, Southend, St James the Less Church, Hadleigh, and St Mary's Prittlewell Church, Southend.

· Members have also agreed to dedicate part of the Cliffs gardens to commemorate our country's heroes.

In addition to Battle's Over, Southend will again host its annual Remembrance Day Services and parades. Further information about these events will be publicised at www.southend.gov.uk/southendremembers in the coming days.

6. A joint council and Essex Police campaign is underway

It has been devised jointly with Essex Police and has come out of the Violence and Vulnerability strategic group. It has an objective of educating parents in the borough about County Lines (ie criminals forcing children to transport and deal drugs between London and Southend), as well as giving parents the signs to look for in their child, and how to report any concerns.

The campaign has a phased launch with some activity from today, and the majority of activity going live on Monday 22 October.

The campaign will be highly visible and will go out across a range of mediums, including external outdoor, social and digital media, and traditional media.

This campaign aims to have a strong and immediate impact on parents in our borough.

For more information please visit: <https://www.southend.gov.uk/seethesigns>

7. Shoebury Common Consultation

Three consultations are planned and they will be taking place at Thorpe Bay Yacht Club. The preferred option seems to closely mirror the one suggested by BERA in 2013. As soon as we find out the dates we will let you know.

8. GCSE results improve once again

GCSE statistics published this week show that the borough's pupils have performed above the national average in all headline performance measures once again, improving on 2017's impressive results.

Last year the Government introduced a new numerical (9 to 1) grading system in English language, English literature and maths, with other subjects continuing to be graded A* to G.

Over 2,000 young people were entered into GCSEs at schools in Southend-on-Sea. Figures published by the Department for Education show that Southend-on-Sea is again performing above the national average in the Attainment 8 measure (average grade across the same suite of eight subjects) and also above the national average for Progress 8 (average of all students' progress across eight subjects between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4).

In Attainment 8 measures Southend-on-Sea pupils rank 13th out of 151 local authorities in

the country compared to 15th in 2017. In Progress 8, Southend-on-Sea pupils rank 32nd in the country compared to 40th in 2017/

The percentage of pupils achieving a standard pass at GCSE (9-4) in English and maths has risen and is also above the national average again (71.5 per cent compared to 63.9 per cent). Local pupils also performed above the national average in the percentage achieving a strong pass (9-5) with 55.1 per cent, compared to 42.4 per cent.