

E-Newsletter – 29th September 2023

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1) Information Corner



Save the Date!!

Who: **BERA**

What: **Coffee Morning**

Where: **Thorpe Bay Methodist Church** (corner of The Broadway and Johnstone Road).

When: **Thursday 19th October 2023 at 10.00am to midday**

Please join us for engaging chats and laughter, accompanied by free tea, coffee, homemade cakes and biscuits. We will be bringing stretchy keychains and other devices to keep you safe.

Bring along a friend and we look forward to welcoming you once again.

Veolia Ward Walk

Ron has taken Veolia around the area and shown them the large amount of weeds. They are now working to remove these from our gutters and pavements and hopefully you are beginning to see the difference.

Cadent Gas

A member has contacted us as on Tuesday (26th), a gentleman from Cadent Gas knocked on their door and said that this November and December (and over Christmas), Cadent will be installing new gas pipes in this area. He asked to look at the members gas meter and said he needed to test the pressure, which he did. He then asked to see the boiler but the member refused. The member then asked how they would be replacing the pipes and he said the road and pavement would be dug up, along with their driveway, possibly their hallway and a box would be fitted outside the front of their house, with copper pipes running to their gas meter. He said that there was going to be a lot of upheaval.

The member informed the gentleman that they do not give them permission to put a box on the front of their house, or dig up their driveway and most certainly not their hallway! He said that a few residents had already objected and so he needed to inform his boss and he took the members name and telephone number. The member said they would be happy to speak to the boss direct and tell them exactly the same information!

The gentleman said that the people who had not objected did not really know what was involved and if you kicked up enough of a fuss, they can use a flexible pipe instead of copper pipes but that was all dependent on the size of the pipe on the gas meter.

The member reiterated their refusal on the above and the gentleman said that it was not really his job to do this type of surveying, as he was normally a fitter and the member said that they did not think he was going to have very many residents happy with this in this area. He agreed!

Please be aware.

Celebrate the 59th Essex Open Art Exhibition at Beecroft Art Gallery

As Beecroft Art Gallery marks its remarkable 70th year, the highly anticipated Essex Open Art Exhibition returns this October, gracing its walls once again.

Established by the gallery's visionary founder, Walter Beecroft, in 1957, this exhibition stands as the largest and most enduring open art showcase in our region.

Inspired by the world-renowned Royal Academy Summer show, Walter Beecroft envisioned an event that captured the vibrant essence of the prestigious London exhibition and gave it a home in Southend.

Over the years, the exhibition has evolved into a cornerstone of the local cultural scene, drawing participants from across Essex and East London. It has provided a platform for both seasoned professionals and budding amateurs to proudly display their creations within the hallowed halls of the Beecroft.

In this special platinum year, the event returns to its roots, welcoming entrants to personally deliver their works to the gallery. This approach has yielded a rich and diverse array of pieces, from which our esteemed independent selector, ESCALA

curator Dr. Sarah DeMelo, curated a captivating exhibition that promises to leave a lasting impression.

The eclectic mix of artworks never fails to captivate visitors, with many available for purchase. Additionally, visitors can take part in the Southend Adult Community College-sponsored People's Choice Award, where they can cast their votes for their favourite piece.

Beecroft Art Gallery extends a warm invitation to all art enthusiasts. The gallery is open to the public from Wednesday to Sunday, 11am to 5pm, with admission being entirely free.

The 59th Essex Open Art Exhibition officially opens its doors on Saturday 7 October, and will be on display until Sunday 31 December.

2) Scam Alerts

a) Fraudsters target Halifax customers

These messages appear to come from Halifax, but the true sender addresses are hijacked TalkTalk and Tiscali accounts.

The scammers used convincing Halifax branding and claimed to be asking customers to 'refresh their contact details' as an extra security measure, inviting them to click a link that redirects to a fake Halifax website.

Legitimate banks will never ask for sensitive information such as your PIN or full password via email.

b) How scammers exploit the news agenda

Fraudsters are quick to exploit major news events to deceive unsuspecting victims.

Scammers can easily set up copycat websites or social media profiles in just a matter of minutes, posing as an organisation currently in the headlines and using these platforms to trick people into various scams.

Examples are:

- 1) impersonating Ofgem to offer an 'energy bill rebate scheme' to families struggling to meet their payments.
- 2) Fake pandemic supplies
- 3) Cost of living payments
- 4) Cath Kidson collapse

c) How much do you know about phone scams?

Phone scams, commonly known as 'vishing', involve fraudsters trying to deceive you over the phone.

It can be challenging to detect a phone scam, as there are many types in operation. One common example is when fraudsters spoof phone numbers to impersonate your bank's fraud department. They then urge you to transfer your money to a 'safe' account before disappearing with your cash.

Always approach unsolicited calls with caution. Scammers can be persuasive, so don't trust calls that come out of the blue.

How to stay safe from scams

If you're asked for your personal, financial or banking details, always stop and wait five minutes. Use the time to think about how to verify what you've been told - for example, by contacting the relevant organisation using trusted contact details. When Googling an organisation's website, don't click on paid-for adverts in the search results (these will be marked with the word 'ad'). Scammers sometimes buy up ads on Google to imitate genuine retailers.

Avoid clicking on links or dialling phone numbers given in unsolicited emails and text messages.

Look out for spelling mistakes, poor grammar and dodgy formatting, which are the hallmarks of a site that's been hastily cobbled together.

3) National Corner

Sunak will soften green rules to build 140,000 new homes

The Prime Minister Rishi Sunak is reportedly preparing to use the Conservatives' 60-seat majority to force through proposals to soften green rules to build up to 140,000 new homes. Downing Street is understood to be drafting plans for a new bill that would allow the Government to ditch "nutrient neutrality" rules.

Sick days at work hit highest level for 10 years

UK workers are taking more sick days than at any point in the last decade, research suggests. The Chartered Institute for Personnel and Development found staff took on average 7.8 sick days in the past year, up from 5.8 before the pandemic, which the trade group said was due to stress, Covid and the cost-of-living crisis.

More than a million appointments hit by NHS strike

More than one million NHS treatments and appointments have been cancelled in England due to strike action by staff. NHS England announced the milestone had been reached following last week's walkout by consultants and junior doctors, with

the true scale of the disruption likely to be higher as many hospitals reduce bookings on strike days to minimise last-minute cancellations.

Surge in scams involving one of UK's most popular cars

Vehicle scams have soared by 74 per cent in the UK in the first half of the year with victims losing almost £1,000 on average, with one of the nation's favourite cars the Ford Fiesta the most popular vehicle to be used in scams. Victims, often responding to bogus online advertisements, are being duped into paying deposits to "secure" a vehicle in the face of what sellers say is stiff competition, according to a study by Lloyds Bank.

Energy cost pressures rising, says Citizens Advice

By the end of August, Citizens Advice had offered food bank referrals and other charitable support to 159,360 people - up 16 per cent on the same period last year, which itself was a record. Those facing difficulties, such as debt or unaffordable bills, face additional pressures this winter such as rising private sector rents, the charity said.

Two thirds of new GPs part-time

The NHS has to train two GPs to produce one full-time family doctor because so many have started to work part-time, new research reveals. A report by the Nuffield Trust health thinktank also shows the large number of nurses, midwives and doctors who quit during their training or early in their careers.

4) Crime Report 18th to 24th September 2023

Ward	Southchurch
Crime Reference Number	42/169794/23
Offence Description	Theft from a motor vehicle
Reported Date and Time	14/09/2023 15:00
Committed Date (From)	03/09/2023
Street partial postcode	BURLESCOOMBE ROAD SS1 3
Offence Details (MO)	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE ON TWO SEPARATE OCCASSIONS BROKEN INTO THE VICTIMS WHITE JAGUAR EPACE AND HAVE STOLEN AN ITEMS TO THE APPROX VALUE 2000.00GBP.

Ward	West Shoebury
Crime Reference Number	42/171643/23
Offence Description	Theft from a motor vehicle
Reported Date and Time	24/09/2023 11:18
Committed Date (From)	23/09/2023
Street partial postcode	ELM ROAD SS3 9
Offence Details (MO)	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE GAINED ENTRY TO THE VICTIMS SILVER FORD TRANSIT BY SMASHING THE PASSENGER WINDOW AND HAD 2000GBP WORTH OF GARDENING TOOLS STOLEN. MAKITA GARDENINGTOOLS, HEDGE TRIMMER, LEAF BLOWER AND MORE.

Ward	West Shoebury
Crime Reference Number	42/171791/23
Offence Description	Theft from a motor vehicle
Reported Date and Time	24/09/2023 15:46
Committed Date (From)	23/09/2023 15:00
Street partial postcode	ELM ROAD SS3 9
Offence Details (MO)	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS BROKEN INTO VICTIMS VAN AND STOLEN VARIOUS MAKITA TOOLS. STOLEN - TOOL BOX TOOLS STOLEN WERE A SET OF MAKITA 18V 5AMP CORDLESS TOOLS - 1 X HAMMER DRILL 1 X NORMAL DRILL 1 X IMPACT DRIVER, 1 X JIGSAW 1 X TRIM SAW 1 X SANDER 3 X BATTERIES 1 X DOUBLE CHARGER UNIT.

5) List of Applications Registered Week Ending 29th September 2023

Application Number: 23/01345/FULH **Ward: Thorpe**
 Officer: Hayley Thompson
 Raise ridge height, hip to gable roof extensions and front dormer to form habitable accommodation in the loftspace, erect two storey side/front extension, single storey rear/side extension and first floor front extension with balconies to front, erect porch to front and detached garage to side, alter elevations
47 Thorpe Bay Gardens Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 23/01473/FULH **Ward: Thorpe**
 Officer: Gabriella Fairley
 Erect boundary wall to rear
9 Thorpe Bay Gardens Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 23/01485/FULH **Ward: Thorpe**
 Officer: James Benn
 Erect part single/part two storey side/rear extension and alter elevations
28 Greenways Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 23/01487/FULH **Ward: Thorpe**
 Officer: James Benn
 Erect porch to side and single storey extension to opposing side, alter elevations
92 St Augustines Avenue Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 23/01449/FUL **Ward: West Shoebury**
 Officer: Abbie Greenwood
 Erect two dwellinghouses with associated amenity space, parking and bin store, form new vehicle crossovers onto Ness Road
Land At 121 Ness Road Shoeburyness

Application Number: 23/01478/FULH
Officer: Kara Elliott
Erect single storey rear/side extension
12 Elm Road Shoeburyness Essex

Ward: West Shoebury

Application Number: 23/01479/CLE
Officer: Hayley Thompson
Single storey garden room/office to rear (Certificate of Lawful Development - Existing)
58 Tudor Gardens Shoeburyness Southend-on-sea

Ward: West Shoebury

6) List of Decisions Issued Week Ending 24th September 2023

APPLN. NO: 23/01275/FULH **Ward. Southchurch**
Officer: James Benn
ALTER FRONT ELEVATION AND REMOVE WINDOW TO FIRST FLOOR LEVEL
96 ASHURST AVENUE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX
Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 23/01283/FULH **Ward. Southchurch**
Officer: James Benn
ERECT SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION WITH ROOF LANTERN AND ALTER SIDE ELEVATIONS
16 WICK CHASE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX
Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 23/01237/FULH **Ward. Thorpe**
Officer: Hayley Thompson
ERECT PART SINGLE/PART TWO STOREY SIDE/REAR EXTENSION WITH ROOF TERRACE TO REAR, ERECT DOUBLE GARAGE AND ENTRANCE PORCH TO FRONT AND ALTER ELEVATIONS (AMENDED PROPOSAL)
60 WYATTS DRIVE THORPE BAY ESSEX
Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 23/01266/AMDT **Ward. Thorpe**
Officer: Kara Elliott
APPLICATION TO REMOVE CONDITION 07 (FIRST FLOOR FLAT RESTRICTION) TO ALLOW THE FIRST FLOOR FLAT TO BE USED AS A SEPARATE UNIT WITH NO CONNECTION TO THE GROUND FLOOR UNIT (MINOR MATERIAL AMENDMENT OF PLANNING PERMISSION 10/01986/FUL DATED 10/12/2010)
196 EASTERN ESPLANADE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX
Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 23/01273/CLP **Ward. Thorpe**
Officer: Jennifer Doherty
OUTBUILDING TO REAR (LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE - PROPOSED)

35 DUNGANNON DRIVE THORPE BAY ESSEX

Decision: Grant Lawful Dev Certificate (Proposed)

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