

E-Newsletter – 8th March 2024

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1) Information Corner



BERA Coffee Morning

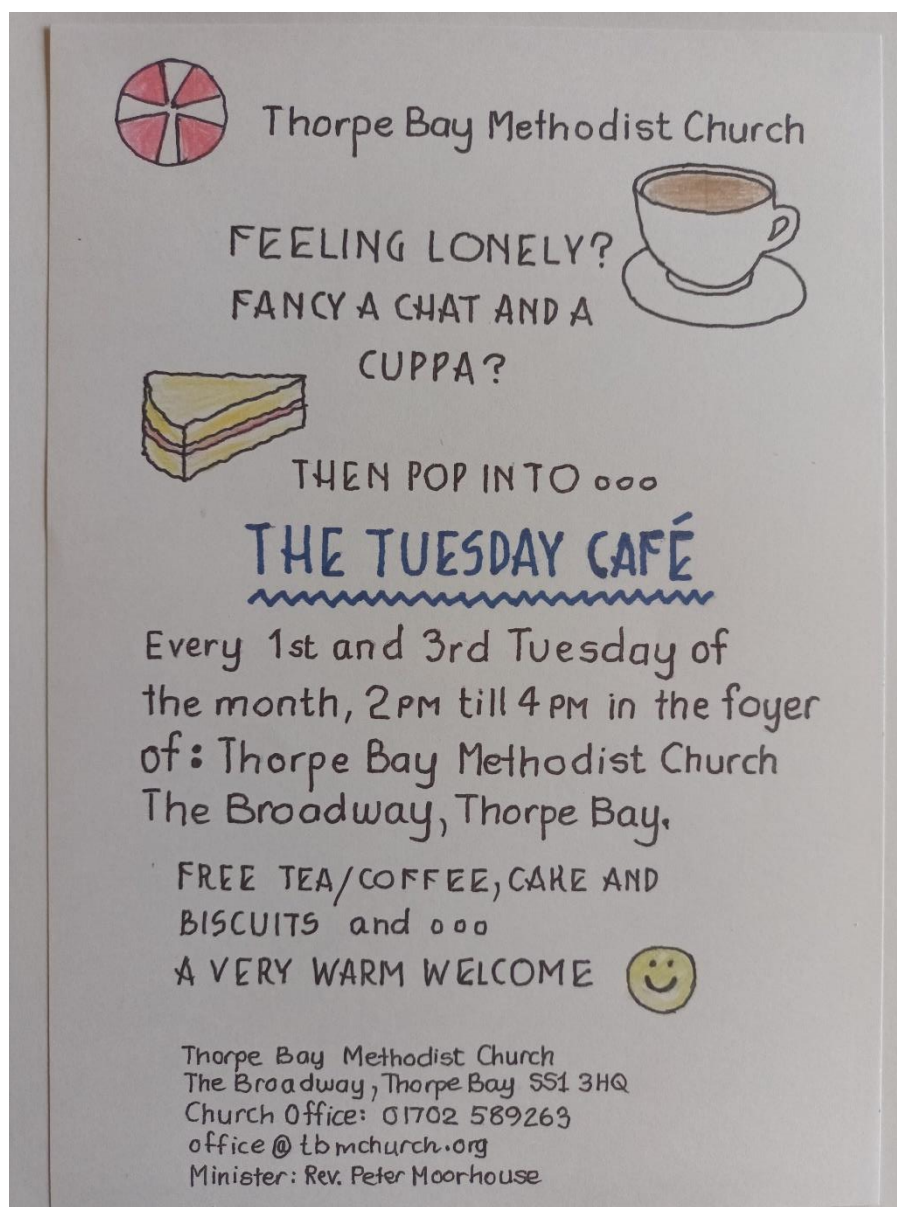
Where: **Thorpe Bay Methodist Church** (corner of The Broadway and Johnstone Road)
When: **Thursday 21st March 2024 at 10.00am to midday**

Our next coffee morning Thursday 21st March, so please join us again for engaging chats and laughter, accompanied by free tea, coffee, and homemade cakes.

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

BERA Renewal

If you have not yet renewed your BERA membership either by cash, cheque or bank transfer, please do so by the 31st March 2024 to enable us to continue the good work that we do for you and our area. Thank you



Southend stakeholders meet again to review future priorities for bus services

The Southend Local Bus Forum, a group of key local stakeholders, will meet again on Monday 18 March to review future priorities for bus services.

The forum was set up as part of the Southend-on-Sea Enhanced Partnership, following on from the council's Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP), which was put into place in October 2021.

At the initial meeting of the forum in September 2023, forum members agreed, out of the seven BSIP objectives, the following two objectives should be prioritised:

- to manage the highway network to improve the reliability of local bus services
- to make local bus journeys quicker, especially on key routes in Southend.

The BSIP was produced in response to the government's 'Bus Back Better' National Bus Strategy to put bus services across England on a sustainable long-term footing following the global pandemic. The BSIP now needs to be refreshed in line with government guidance, and the forum's role is to help advise on the strategic priorities for that.

The Local Bus Forum includes representatives from Southend-on-Sea City Council, adjoining councils, the three local bus operators (Arriva, First and Stephensons), Southend Area Bus User Group, Campaign for Better Transport, Bus Users UK, Southend City BID, Essex Police and Transport Focus.

It is a meeting in public and members of the public are being invited to ask questions or make comments to the forum about the items on the meeting's agenda, which will be published on the council's website later next week, along with details of how to do that.

The meeting of the Southend Local Bus Forum will take place on Monday 18 March 2024, at 5pm in the Jubilee Room at Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, SS2 6ER, and online.

Major Works 10/02/2024 - 17/02/2024

Address	PARKANAUR AVENUE
Start	08/01/2024
End	04/04/2024
Works Reference	AZ502-1001279887
L.A.Ref	140247
Works Status	IN PROGRESS
Highest TM	MULTI-WAY SIGNALS - DELAYS LIKELY

Address	FERMOY ROAD
Start	12/02/2024
End	11/03/2024
Works Reference	AZ502-1001280566
L.A.Ref	140357
Works Status	IN PROGRESS
Highest TM	ROAD CLOSURE - DELAYS LIKELY

Address	STATION ROAD
Start	23/02/2024
End	15/03/2024
Works Reference	AZ502-1001280567
L.A.Ref	140383
Works Status	IN PROGRESS
Highest TM	MULTI-WAY SIGNALS - DELAYS LIKELY

Address	JOHNSTONE ROAD
Start	01/03/2024

End	22/03/2024
Works Reference	AZ502-1001280608
L.A.Ref	140358
Works Status	PROPOSED WORKS
Highest TM	MULTI-WAY SIGNALS - DELAYS LIKELY

Address	THE BROADWAY
Start	04/03/2024
End	28/05/2024
Works Reference	AZ502-1001280674
L.A.Ref	140362
Works Status	IN PROGRESS
Highest TM	SOME C/W INCURSION - DELAYS UNLIKELY

2) National Corner

‘Cash for care jobs’ investigation

Campaigners have called for the Home Office to urgently introduce more checks on foreign workers following an investigation which shows untrained and overworked migrant staff are caring for older people. It is reported that some rogue firms are charging overseas applicants fees of up to £20,000 to help them get a visa.

National campaign will target voters who face being excluded

Citizens UK is launching a campaign to register around 1 million "at risk" voters before the country heads to the polls for a General Election at some point this year. The Electoral Commission has warned that there are potentially as many as eight million people not correctly registered at their current address. Campaigners are also concerned that new photo ID rules have a disproportionate impact on those with disabilities, people from poorer backgrounds, and ethnic minorities.

Tax and spending cuts will backfire, economists warn Hunt

Leading economists have warned that Jeremy Hunt will “cost the country dear” if he gambles on pre-election cuts to tax and spending in this week’s Budget. Former Treasury advisers Dimitri Zenghelis and Anna Valero, backed by other economists, said the Chancellor should focus on the long-term national interest with measures to spur investment and growth.

Biggest jump in people out of work long-term since 1980s, study shows

The number of people off work long term has seen its highest jump in more than 40 years in the course of this Parliament, according to new analysis by the House of Commons Library, commissioned by Labour. Almost 9.3 million people aged 16-64 were economically inactive in the last three months of 2023, an increase of 670,000 or about 8 per cent compared to the start of the current Parliament in 2019.

Hate preachers to be barred from UK after ‘shocking increase’ in extremism

Hate preachers will be blocked from entering the UK under new plans being drawn up by the Government amid a “shocking increase” in extremist activity. Officials will identify the most dangerous extremists from countries including Afghanistan,

Pakistan and Indonesia, so they can be added to visa warning lists, with those on the list to be automatically refused entry to the UK.

Young vape users more likely to suffer anxiety and loneliness, study finds

Young vape users are more likely to suffer from anxiety, loneliness and insomnia, a study of students has found. Researchers analysed a group of young adults in England and found that vaping “significantly impacts sleep quality and anxiety levels” in young adults.

Tube and train fares to be cut on Fridays to lure people back to London

London's Tube and train fares will be cut on Fridays as the capital's mayor tries to lure more people on to public transport. Sadiq Khan hopes that increasing the number of workers going to offices on Fridays will raise extra money for the hospitality sector through additional spending on lunches, after-work drinks and evening entertainment.

GP shortages

Patients in parts of England are facing an uphill struggle to see a GP, experts say, after an analysis showed wide regional variation in doctor numbers. The Nuffield Trust think tank found Kent and Medway had the fewest GPs per person, followed by Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes. It comes as ministers have struggled to hit the pledge to boost the GP workforce by 6,000 this Parliament. But the Government said it had plans in place to tackle shortages. Last year, it published a 15-year workforce plan - the first time such a strategy had been developed.

3) Crime Report 26th February to 3rd March 2024

Ward	Southchurch
Crime Reference Number	42/31016/24
Offence Description	Theft of a motor vehicle
Reported Date and Time	26/02/2024 10:09
Committed Date (From)	26/02/2024 10:09
Street partial postcode	BRIGHTON AVENUE SS1 2
Offence Details (MO)	
SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE STOLEN THE VICTIMS VAN BY UNKNOWN MEANS. FOUND.	

Ward	Southchurch
Crime Reference Number	42/32027/24
Offence Description	Theft from a motor vehicle
Reported Date and Time	28/02/2024 10:52
Committed Date (From)	28/02/2024 03:49
Street partial postcode	POYNINGS AVENUE SS2 4
Offence Details (MO)	
SUSPECTS UNIDENTIFIED ENTERED THE VICTIMS BLUE FORD S MAX THAT WAS PARKED ON THEIR DRIVEWAY. STOLEN - PHONE CHARGER : STOLEN / RECOVERED - POUNDS.	

Ward	Southchurch
Crime Reference Number	42/32087/24
Offence Description	Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)
Reported Date and Time	28/02/2024 12:36
Committed Date (From)	27/02/2024 21:30
Street partial postcode	ARLINGTON ROAD SS2 4
Offence Details (MO)	
SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE GAINED ENTRY TO VICTIMS WHITE HYUNDAI SANTA FE BY MEANS UNKNOWN AND ONCE INSIDE HAVE MADE A MESSY SEARCH AND STABBED HIS FRONT SEATS WITH A KNIFE, LEAVING THE KNIFE IN SITU.	

Ward	Southchurch
Crime Reference Number	42/32246/24
Offence Description	Interference with a motor vehicle
Reported Date and Time	28/02/2024 16:26
Committed Date (From)	27/02/2024 23:30
Street partial postcode	WANSFELL GARDENS SS1 3
Offence Details (MO)	
SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE SNOOPED THROUGH THE VICTIMS VEHICLE.	

Ward	Southchurch
Crime Reference Number	42/33400/24
Offence Description	Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)
Reported Date and Time	01/03/2024 15:08
Committed Date (From)	01/03/2024 12:00
Street partial postcode	SHERWOOD WAY SS2 4
Offence Details (MO)	
SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS CAUSED CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO THE VICTIMS VEHICLE BY KICKING THE DOOR. THE VICTIMS VEHICLE IS A PEUGEOT 207 SILVER.	

Ward	Southchurch
Crime Reference Number	42/33741/24
Offence Description	Theft of a motor vehicle
Reported Date and Time	02/03/2024 08:50
Committed Date (From)	01/03/2024 19:30
Street partial postcode	SOUTHCHURCH BOULEVARD SS2 4
Offence Details (MO)	
SUSPECTS UNKNOWN REMOVED THE VICTIMS VEHICLE, A BLUE TOYOTA RAV4 INDEX NUMBER EJ19*** , BY MEANS UNKNOWN FROM THE DRIVEWAY OF THE VICTIMS PROPERTY. THE VICTIM WAS STILL IN POSSESSION OF THE KEYS.	

Ward	West Shoebury
Crime Reference Number	42/31703/24
Offence Description	Theft of a motor vehicle

Reported Date and Time 27/02/2024 10:50
Committed Date (From) 27/02/2024 03:00
Street partial postcode ST. ANDREWS ROAD SS3 9
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS STOLEN VICTIMS VEHICLE, EK17*** , A GREY
FORD MONDEO ESTATE.

4) Scam Alert

Scams to watch out for

Scammers often use emails containing malicious links or phone numbers that 'phish' for your details. This continues to be a common tactic used to deceive victims, and lots of dodgy emails have been circulating this week.

For instance, people searching on Google for intel about a Pegasus spyware email has spiked in recent days. This scam attempts to blackmail you into handing over cash, usually in Bitcoin, to avoid them exposing personal images and videos of you.

With a quarter of people receiving suspicious emails every day, it can be challenging to distinguish between genuine emails and those created by fraudsters.

Email scams - Revolut account takeover warning

Two Revolut customers contacted Which? after being scammed by fraudsters who pretended to be calling from Revolut's fraud team. The fraudsters had passed a series of security checks, including the 'selfie security check'.

One victim lost £165,000, rendering his business on the brink of bankruptcy, while the other lost over £40,000 in 10 minutes.

Account fraud - Can you detect a phone scam?

It can be challenging to detect phone scams, as there are many types in operation. One common example is when fraudsters mask their phone numbers to disguise themselves as your bank's fraud department – known as spoofing. They then urge you to transfer your money to a 'safe' account before disappearing with your cash.

Scammers can be persuasive, so don't trust calls that come out of the blue.

5) List of Applications Registered Week Ending 8th March 2024

Application Number: 24/00367/NON

Ward: Southchurch

Officer: Hayley Thompson

Replace plan number P1000 Rev A with 24-008-PP-01 and 24-008-PP-02 - alterations to glazing and roof windows (Non-material Amendment to Planning Permission 22/01103/FULH dated 29/07/2022 - Install two dormers to front elevation and erect a single storey rear and side extension)

32 Hamstel Road Southend-on-sea Essex

Application Number: 24/00368/FULH

Ward: Southchurch

Officer: Scott Davison

Install porch and window to front elevation

47 Steyning Avenue Southend-on-sea Essex

Application Number: 24/00391/FULH

Ward: Southchurch

Officer: Hayley Thompson

Erect single storey rear and side extension, install roof mounted solar PV panels to south elevation and canopy to front

55 Arlington Road Southend-on-sea Essex

Application Number: 24/00336/FULH

Ward: Thorpe

Officer: James Benn

Install dormer to rear/side to form habitable accommodation in loftspace, erect single storey rear extension, convert garage into gym

62 Thorpe Hall Avenue Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 24/00373/AMDT

Ward: Thorpe

Officer: Kara Elliott

Application to remove condition 10 (BREEAM certificate) (of planning permission 22/01367/FUL dated 18/01/2023)

97-99 And 101 Shaftesbury Avenue Southend-on-sea

Application Number: 24/00385/AD

Ward: Thorpe

Officer: Scott Davison

Application for Approval of Details pursuant to condition 05 (details of bicycle storage) of planning permission 23/02022/FUL dated 14/02/2024

161 - 163 The Broadway Thorpe Bay Southend-on-sea

6) List of Decisions Issued Week Ending 3rd March 2024

APPLN. NO: 23/00644/FUL

Ward. West Shoebury

Officer: Hayley Thompson

CHANGE OF USE FROM COMMERCIAL/LIGHT INDUSTRIAL USE TO A SCRAP METAL RECYCLING BUSINESS (SUI GENERIS), ERECT TWO STOREY TEMPORARY OFFICE, SINGLE STOREY STORAGE BUILDING, WEIGHBRIDGE WITH OFFICE, 3M SCREENING AND CONCRETE WALL (RETROSPECTIVE)

25 TOWERFIELD ROAD SHOEBURYNESSE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

Date Decision Issued: 1st March 2024

Decision Type: Development Control Committee DC Committee

Date (if applicable): 28th February 2024

APPLN. NO: 23/01406/FULH

Ward. West Shoebury

Officer: James Benn

LAYOUT HARDSTANDING TO FRONT, INSTALL VEHICLE CROSSOVER ONTO
ELM ROAD

17 - 19 ELM ROAD SHOEBURYNESSE ESSEX

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 24/00018/PA64

Ward. West Shoebury

Officer: James Benn

CHANGE USE OF EXISTING GROUND FLOOR COMMERCIAL UNIT (CLASS E)
INTO ONE SELF-CONTAINED FLAT (CLASS C3) (PRIOR APPROVAL)

67 WEST ROAD SHOEBURYNESSE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA

Decision: Withdrawn

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