



HOLLAND ON SEA  
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION  
*established 1926*

# Community Magazine

AUTUMN 2021



# Holland Residents Association Community Magazine

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*Articles for the Winter edition of the HRA Magazine are to be submitted to Maureen Cochlin ([littlemaur199@gmail.com](mailto:littlemaur199@gmail.com)). Final date for submission is the 1st of November 2021.*

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The HRA Magazine is printed by Dolphin Artwork, Walton-on-the-Naze.

*Our front cover picture was provided by Peter Deering. Thank you Peter.*

# Welcome to your Community Magazine

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Holland on Sea Residents' Association magazine.

Summer was here and now it's gone. Our little village seems a bit empty now that all the staycationers have gone home, the children have gone back to school and the older children have gone off on their chosen route to university or wherever. But once you get used to the absence of people it's rather nice to have our little village (and the house) to ourselves again. At least we can now get on with all those jobs we had to postpone because the children were around. Even though we love them it's nice when they go home.

Looking at the previous edition of this magazine I see it had a Welcome written by the Chair Rita Garnett and a note from husband Dave Garnett who had just taken on the role of Editor. Unfortunately no sooner had Dave finished sharpening his Editor's blue pencil than he was forced to lay it down again when he was diagnosed with bowel cancer. Fortunately and following successful surgery Dave seems to be on the road to a full recovery though as many of you will know it's a long road and we wish him well on this journey.

With the sudden resignation of Rita and Dave this of course left the Committee looking for suitable new members. Two people have come forward to offer their services – Carol Cooper and Shaz Pritchard – and they have been invited to join the Committee.

With life slowly emerging from lockdown

the HRA held its first public meeting for a year and a half on 29 July. This was a well-attended and lively meeting. It included a presentation by Dr Farukh Shamshad, lead GP at the newly opened Kennedy Way Medical Centre. All patients from the former Frinton Road Medical Centre have been transferred to this new facility. Dr Farukh emphasised the importance of being involved in our own health care. As patients we are all consumers of health care. But we also 'co-produce' our own health – or ill health – by the actions we take in relation to diet, exercise and other lifestyle choices. Actually Dr Farukh didn't say this but I am because it brings me to another important point. Having a supportive network of family, friends and neighbours – and in particular being a member of a club or organisation – adds years of healthy life. It doesn't matter what you choose – tennis, golf, bowls,



HOLLAND ON SEA  
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

*Keep up-to-date with your community  
Visit [www.hollandresidents.co.uk](http://www.hollandresidents.co.uk)*

*This magazine can also be viewed online*

knitting, litter-picking or gardening. If you go along you will make friends and those friends will give you more friends. Which brings me on to the Community Garden in the middle of the car park at the new Kennedy way Medical Centre. A verdant oasis of tranquillity and spiritual uplift. Well no, not yet but that is the vision and it needs volunteers – see opposite page.

In fact the Community Garden is only one aspect of the Social Prescribing Hub. If like me you had not previously come across the term 'Social Prescribing' you can Google it. It's big. It's the latest bit of jargon from the NHS but it's backed up by a huge amount of academic research and common sense and it's all about the benefits of the social networks that I have just talked about.

And before I finish I should mention the PPG – the Patient Participation Group

which is a group set up to represent and reflect the views of patients at the medical centre. In fact Rita Garnett was the very active representative on the PPG for Kennedy Way – a role that she relinquished to concentrate on her husband's recovery and as a result the Group is now looking for a new representative. If you would like to become involved please contact the Practice Manager Lisa Maddox by email [neecg.kennedywaymedicalcentre@nhs.net](mailto:neecg.kennedywaymedicalcentre@nhs.net).

So in conclusion and now that the grandchildren have gone I'm going to get on with something useful and important like arranging a game of tennis, cutting the lawn, cycling to the shops or going to the tip. Life is good in Holland on Sea. Enjoy the Autumn everyone.

**Andy Dunnett**, Treasurer HRA

## Quarterly Meeting

Our next quarterly meeting will be at Holland Public Hall on Thursday 21st October at 7.30pm.

At that meeting we will update you on local issues.

We shall be inviting a guest speaker and our councillors.

We are, of course, hoping that Covid will not restrict numbers. However, please check our notice boards - at the Roaring Donkey and Public Hall - one week before the meeting.

Members who have provided their e-mail addresses will receive confirmation of the meeting by this method. Members who have not provided their e-mail addresses but who would like to do so should contact me.

Non-members will be welcome. However, should there be a restriction on the number attending, priority shall be given to members. If restrictions are in place, we regret that admission will be on a first-come basis.

**Stephen Collitt**, Hon Secretary  
E-mail: [secretary.of.hra@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.of.hra@gmail.com)

Coming soon ...

# Kennedy Way Community Gardens

A Community Garden is being created beside the new Medical Centre at Kennedy Way.

If you are interested in helping out by either tending the garden, or on the allotment or you may want to help set up the new Men's Shed <https://menssheds.org.uk/> or simply have a chat, make friends and see what it's all about, then register your interest by phoning the numbers below.

The initiative is part of a new Social Prescribing project attached to the Kennedy Way Medical Centre and is run by Community Voluntary Services Tending. Social Prescribing is about supporting people to get active, make new friends, increase skills and improve wellbeing.

Applies to all ages. Even those old enough to remember Fred Loads of Lancaster and Bill Sowerbutts of Ashton-under-Lyme or young enough to think that Monty Don is really rather nice.

Water, electricity and tools – and friends – available although if you have got any



good quality tools you want to donate for the garden or the Men's Shed that will be welcome.

Call Mo on 01255 719191 or the CVST Office on 01255 425692 and ask for Nicky.

## Garage Sale a BIG success

The sun was shining and the crowds were out at the 3rd Holland on Sea Garage Sale on Saturday 17 July. Over 70 households took part in what is becoming an annual event in Holland on Sea. It was lovely to see people walking or cycling around the village to the different addresses picking a bargain or two on the way.

General feedback from the event was not so much about how much money people raised personally or for a number of good causes, but the feeling that we were getting back the community spirit in Holland on Sea, after a long time of not being able to mix with our neighbours. One comment from a resident was, they had the best day, getting to know their neighbours since they moved in 18 months ago.

The event raised £270 for HRA funds.

# Do Join Me for a Drink

In the 19th century, when Little Holland was just a small settlement of, primarily, farm houses one such property, a farm cottage belonging to Bennetts Farm, became the beer house. It was situated close to the border of Great Clacton and acquired the name The Princess Helena.

One of the earliest landlords was William Cole who was followed by Fleetwood Codd, he transferred the licence to Joseph Gould – a carpenter of Little Holland but Codd was no scholar and simply signed his name with a fancy cross; the licence subsequently transferring to Frederick



*The Princess Helena with Kings Avenue in the distance.*



*The Boxing Day hunt departs from the Roaring Donkey in the 1950's.*



*The partially built Hotel awaits completion.*

Gould. It was a modest establishment serving a very small community at the time, but was a meeting place for the inhabitants of Little Holland.

In 1900, when David Cripps Preston purchased the large area of land that small community at the time, but was a meeting place for the inhabitants of Little Holland.

In 1900, when David Cripps Preston purchased the large area of land that was to make-up Holland on Sea he planned to see a hotel being built as the starting block for development in the area; providing visitor accommodation to those interested in investing in potential building plots (now drawn-up on paper, along with appropriate roads).

A suitable site, on the corner of Kings Parade and Kings Avenue was identified but attracted no interest from potential buyers when first put up for sale. Later Samuel Newstead, who owned the

Carlton Restaurant in Clacton, put in a successful bid and work began on the building. By now The Princess Helena had been purchased by the Bury St. Edmunds brewers Greene King who put in an objection when an application was submitted for an alcohol license for the partly built hotel. Greene King's argument was that with so few houses having been built on the new estates any further licenses issued for selling alcohol would threaten the viability of The Princess Helena. Greene King's objection proved successful, and further applications were repeatedly contested by the brewery and always won the day. This resulted in the building of the hotel coming to a grinding halt; that is until 1925, a quarter of a century after the very first application had been refused.

Sadly any celebrations were short-lived as Newstead passed away and the half-built hotel lay abandoned. Despite attempts to market the now deteriorating

site it took four years to find a new buyer, and ironically it was Greene King that became the owner in 1930; two years later The King's Cliff Hotel was opened for business.

Meanwhile the Princess Helena had received a number of improvements and extensions, the last being in 1933. By this time Little Holland had seen a significant growth in residential development and had changed its name to Holland on Sea; Little Holland on Sea being perceived as being too much of a mouthful.

In 1935 The Princess Helena was demolished and the current public house was built, and at the same time it acquired a new name – The Roaring Donkey. Since that time there have been many suggestions as to why it acquired this new name, which is the only one in the country, although readers of the Arthur Ransome "Swallows and Amazons" series of books will be aware of such a fictitiously named

pub appearing in "The Big Six", on the Norfolk Broads. In 1958 local historian Denis Kennell recorded that many older inhabitants told the story of a carrier who used to work with a donkey and cart around Holland, and he would call into the Princess Helena for a midday pint. No sooner had he finished it than his donkey would start braying and he had to go out, so never allowing him the chance of a second pint.

During the 1930's and through to the 1950's the licensee of the Roaring Donkey was John Bloomfield and his wife, and his understanding was that there was a blacksmith nearby who owned an old jack ass that used to start roaring at around 3:00 p.m. every day. Local resident of that time, Mr Kerford-Byrnes, stated that every night a donkey, which was tethered in a field behind, used to bray and most of the people in the village used to call the Princes Helena 'the pub next to the roaring donkey'.



*The flag flies briskly at the King's Cliff Hotel.*





*The Roaring Donkey boasted a bowls club but this sadly closed in 1979.*

The late Group Captain Ray Howard of Holland on Sea, who was the great grandson of Joseph Gould, related how his grandfather ran bathing huts on the beach by the pier and had a number of donkeys to give children rides along the beach. The donkeys were brought back to the Princes Helena each evening and kept in a small holding. One of the donkeys, however, had a very loud bray and its braying used to echo across the marshes and fields to Great Clacton and Great Holland, particularly first thing in the morning.

The local people used to rely on the braying to wake them up and would rise with the words 'There goes the roaring donkey'; it was not long before the men-folk, going out for a pint, used to say to their wives 'I am going to see the roaring donkey'.

For some decades the Roaring Donkey and The King's Cliff were the only two



*An advert for the newly opened King's Cliff Hotel; the ' was later dropped.*

public houses in the village but in 1962 The Oakwood Inn opened its doors as a public house. Originally the farmhouse of Kents Farm, and subsequently a private residence – Oakwood Hall, occupied by Major W. W. Williams had become the Oakwood Hall Guest House until the early 1960's, with a very attractive tea garden. Then, in the swinging 60's it was converted into a public house.

Those who have known the village for a good many years might recall that the Roaring Donkey and the King's Cliff were always externally painted with cream walls and white window-frames and both boasted substantial flagpoles from which a yellow flag would fly with the name of the relevant establishment picked out in green letters; all this adding to the attractiveness of Holland on Sea in the 1950's and 60's.

**Richard O. Walker**

# Purple Pals



Hello to all – hope everyone is well!

This year continues to be strange for many of us and I think change will be very slow in coming. As for our 4-legged friends – some of them are now having to adapt as more and more people are back in offices and away from the home – are they coping? Hopefully yes but for those who have gone out and purchased 'lockdown' dogs it is all very new, and there is a lack of experience.

Hopefully this group of friendly and often very experienced dog owners along with our new owners can share their pearls of wisdom so no one feels lost or uncertain. I am very fortunate

that the group are so very welcoming and as mentioned have so much experience we can normally help – or know someone who can!!

With that in mind – even if you don't have a dog but just fancy a walk every other Sunday morning please feel free to join us – join the Facebook page – Purple Pals for updates. Look forward to seeing you all soon.

Say safe

**Naomi Lawrence**



## HOLLAND LADIES

We are looking forward to be able to welcome you back to Holland Public Hall on Monday 13th September, from 2-4pm. As long as Government guidelines allow.

All welcome, no annual fees, £3 per visit, which includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

We hold a raffle, have a quiz and play bingo.

We meet on the second Monday of each month.

# Forgotten Gifts



When I was a small girl my parents gifted me a book titled 'Wildlife on your doorstep'. It was a guide to the wildlife of our towns and cities first published in 1986. I remember it was one of my cherished possessions. Of course I'd carefully written my name all over the inside cover in case my brothers borrowed the book or it ever journeyed to school to be proudly presented at show and tell! It wasn't a children's book but I loved browsing through the beautiful glossy photographs and learning all about the plants and animals presented within.

These days the book sits on a shelf gathering dust. It's seen better days. The edges are worn and some of the pages are stained with tea and pen marks. I took it down a few days ago and read the section on hedgehogs. The photo of a mother hog leading her babies (known as hoglets) greeted me like an old friend. I read the facts about their life cycles, behaviours, favourite foods, hiding places. Did you know for example, young are born with only around 100 spines? Adults have between 3000 – 7000 spines. Amazing.

We already knew much about these little creatures by the time this book was written. They had relatively few natural predators and weren't particularly shy, so as long as you were willing to go out at night, track and observe them you could learn a lot.

The children's writer, illustrator, and natural scientist Beatrix Potter perfectly captured their spirit in the twinkling eyes of her beloved character Mrs Tiggly-Winkle.

In contrast, sadly we knew almost nothing of the detrimental impact we were already having on hedgehogs back in the 80's and were woefully unprepared for their sudden

demise over the next three decades.

The author touched on human caused risks such as poisoning from pesticides and slug pellets but at the time links between chemical use and hedgehog mortality hadn't been widely studied. Hedgehogs were well established in our towns. The chapter ended with:

"Their willingness to live in man-dominated environments means that they are not threatened by the march of progress, characterised by the urban sprawl... When so many species are threatened with decline and possible extinction today, it's reassuring to know that hedgehogs will be an endearing feature of gardens and other man-made habitats far into the future, just as they are now"

How wrong we were. We'd neglected to see the harm being inflicted on our spiny friends. Just like a familiar book, we thought they'd always be there beside us, but populations were already frayed at the edges. We'd taken for granted their adaptability to our concrete world. The pace of change was just too great. It's simply unfair to assume they'll continue to adapt. Unless we make space for nature, a precious gift, only their photos will be the remaining cherished memories our children take to show and tell.

Useful links on how to help:

<https://ptes.org/campaigns/hedgehogs/>

<https://www.essexwt.org.uk/actions/how-build-hedgehog-home>

<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/adopt-animal/adopt-hedgehog>

**Srina Patel**

# Community Pages

## Useful Numbers

### **Emergency – Police, Fire, Ambulance 999**

**Police (non-emergency) 101 – Health (non-emergency) 111**

Kennedy Way Medical Centre	01255 449270
Clacton Urgent Treatment (ex Minor Injuries)	call 111
Clacton Hospital (outpatients X-rays etc.)	01255 201707
Colchester Hospital	01206 747474
Citizens Advice Bureau	01255 377080
Bus Passes	0345 200 0388
Benefits, Housing, Council Tax	01255 686868
T.D.C. Emergency contact after office hours	01255 222022

Dangerous pavements, potholes, faulty lights	0345 6037631
Fly Tipping	01255 686359
Unlawful parking	01206 282316
Illegal seafront parking and seafront issues	01255 686969

*A full range of District Council Services is available online  
via [www.tendringdc.gov.uk](http://www.tendringdc.gov.uk)*

# Clubs

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**Holland 129 Club** is a friendly Ladies Club that has been meeting in Holland-on-Sea for 55 years. We welcome visitors (£3) to come and join us for the evening and consider joining (£20 annual membership).

We look forward to re-starting our Club at our new venue – HOLLAND PUBLIC HALL, Frinton Road on THURSDAY, 9 September 2021 from 7.30 pm.

## Autumn Programme

Thursday, 9 September: Welcome Back Meeting/Craft Stalls

Thursday, 14 October: Harvest Supper with entertainment from Eddie Nash

Thursday, 11 November: Radio Essex – Steve Scrutton and Ian Wyatt 'Our lives on Radio'

Thursday, 9 December: Christmas Meal: Wick Lodge

## Post Lockdown Gathering for members

Over 25 of our members gathered on Thursday, 24 June 2021 on the recreation ground by the Leisure Centre to provide an opportunity to meet up and socialise. The weather was beautiful and everyone who came was delighted to see each other again after 15 months since our last meeting in March 2020. So happy to meet up again!



We would be delighted to meet any ladies who would like to come to our welcome back meeting as a visitor in our new venue.

For further details, please contact **Carole Parmenter** on 01255-813315.

# From Holland on Sea Baptist Church

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I was reminded recently that *the strength of a rope is determined by the amount of strands that are woven together* and it dawned on me that a rope is a helpful metaphor for what God intends us to be. There is only so much we can do alone, but when we are woven together our strength and effectiveness is multiplied.

Did you know that there are 57 references to 'one anothering' (e.g. love one another, encourage one another etc) in the New Testament? In other words, there are 57 commands from Jesus that can't be obeyed if we try to live out our faith alone.

Do we need to apologise for our individualistic attitude towards faith? Is it time to pause and consider, who is God weaving us together with? How can we work with God, rather than resisting as he weaves us together? Who can we encourage and build up today?

God has called each of us to work with others and perhaps as local communities we need to reflect more on the things we can do together well as we learn to share resources, gifts and our experiences together. Together we can accomplish so much more and this may be within our community, it might be that as groups that we could work together to birth something new and to resource new adventures.

Perhaps it is time to ask whether we are content being a strand alone or whether it is time to commit to being fully woven into the rope!

## Activities at Holland on Sea Baptist Church

Sunday – Family Worship service 10:30 approx. 1 hour everyone welcome.

Tuesday – Parent and Toddlers 9:15.

Tuesday – Prayer meeting 10:00.

Tuesday – Friendship club 1st Tuesday of month 14:00 (2 hours) fun, games, Speakers, Friendship and refreshments.

Wednesday – Care group, discussion and friendship.10:00 (90 mins).

Wednesday – Craft and Coffee 11:00.

Thursday – Lunch Club (12:30) open to all, booking necessary 4 course lunch.

Thursday – Care group, discussion and friendship.19:30 (90 mins).

Friday – Care group, discussion and friendship.10:00 (90 mins).

With various other activities throughout the month, martial arts, fitness etc.

For any further information please feel free to contact us on 01255 814617 or [revcollect@aol.com](mailto:revcollect@aol.com)

## **From St. Barts**

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Our church family is looking forward to welcoming enquiries from anyone wishing to have their children baptized or those seeking a church wedding. Of course this is in accordance with whatever current guidelines are in place at the time.

The church is also open on Wednesdays and Sundays for worship both at 10am.

Please check the notice boards for an updated on the activities we are hoping to run during the autumn.

Every Blessing,

**The Revd Susan Wiggins**

Associate Priest at St Bartholomew's Church



# Surgery News

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The doors to the new Kennedy Way Medical Centre opened to the patients of Frinton Road and Epping Close Surgeries on Tuesday 2nd May 2021 with the official opening ceremony on Monday 17th May attended by Councillors Andy Baker and Mark Stephenson, Giles Watling MP, Rita and Dave Garnett representing Frinton Road PPG and Vic Graves representing Epping Close PPG along with members of the Community Voluntary Services Tendring and North East Essex CCG.

For those who have visited the Kennedy Way Medical Centre I'm sure you will agree how wonderful the new facilities are and what an improvement they are compared to the old sites of Frinton Road and Epping Close.

The move has not been without some teething problems including technical issues with the new website ([www.kennedyway.co.uk](http://www.kennedyway.co.uk)) and online services which have now been rectified. Due to a number of patients complaining about getting through on the telephone we have been working with the telephone company and staff to make patient access easier for our practice population.

It was lovely to meet some of the Holland Residents Association members when Dr Shamshad and I were invited to the first post lockdown meeting on 29th July. We noted that patients were not always aware of when the practice was closed for education afternoons, therefore I have listed these below for the rest of the year (there will be no closure in December):

Thursday 19th August

Thursday 30th September

Wednesday 27th October

Wednesday 24th November

We have started to set up the new Patient Participation Group for Kennedy Way and have been contacting previous members of Frinton Road and Epping Close along with new applications already received for Kennedy Way. If you would like to join or know more about the group, please contact the surgery or use the PPG registration form on our website.

We have set up a drop session every Tuesday and Thursday between 1pm and 3pm where a senior member of the team will be available to discuss any concerns or issues that our patients are experiencing, we hope that by working together we will be able to keep improving our services.

**Lisa Maddox**

Practice Manager, Kennedy Way Medical Centre





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# Sports & Leisure

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A leisurely hour long cycle ride along the traffic free National Cycle Route 150 taking place on the second and fourth Sunday of every month, weather permitting. We never cycle on the road.

The 'meet' is outside the Kingscliff Hotel at 10.30am.



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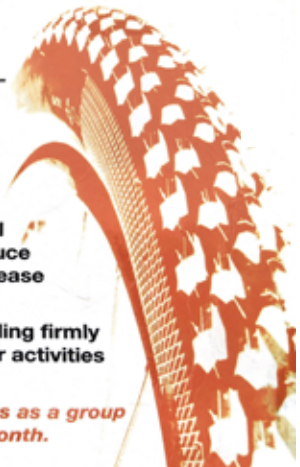
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It's no wonder that a new poll has placed cycling firmly at the top of the list when it comes to outdoor activities in the UK.

*Now get your bike out and use it by joining us as a group on the second and fourth Sunday of every month.*



Jam jars are needed again. Strawberry Sue and Marmalade Mike are at the late riser boot sale again, collecting for Air Ambulance, selling delicious jams, marmalades and pickles but they need jars with metal lids. Please contact me and I will collect from your front door. Dave: 07549007380

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Launch Night  
Photos By Robert  
Wong Creative  
Photography

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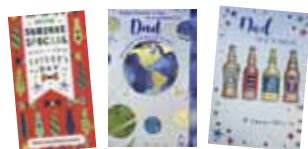
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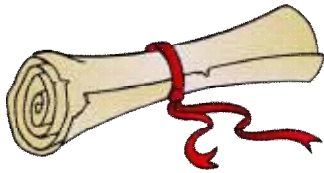
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# Parliament Update

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Dear Holland-on-Sea residents,

I thought that for this issue, I would open up the records from my post bag from the last few months and summarise the most topical issues that people have written to me about; e-scooters, immigration, and the future post Covid.

Before I start, let me again welcome the record of our local NHS and Tendring District Council. We come out of this pandemic in a robust manner thanks to their amazing efforts.

Firstly, let's talk about e-scooters. Let me say, I do understand local concern! As you know, there is a period of trial and reflection.

I will await the outcome without prejudice, however, I am well aware of the issues they pose and will require some convincing that this is a good move. It should be borne in mind that there was a time when the motor car was regarded with suspicion and they made a man walk with a red flag in front!

As an aside, I visited Tallinn in Estonia a couple of years ago. There they are well advanced in the acceptance of e-travel – everything from lorries to scooters. After some teething troubles, they seem to have achieved great success. The city is now a very clean place with remarkably few cars and very low emissions. The scooters there are generally confined to special lanes and are highly regulated. I fully realise that there are major infrastructure differences, but these could be overcome so, as far as I'm concerned, the jury's still out.

Turning to immigration and the illegal boat crossings, I know how much people want to see this mess come to an end. As promised, we have already legislated for a new tougher "points based" immigration system, to tighten the system up.

It is certainly right to say illegal immigration is a momentous issue, and I am reassured that this issue is being very robustly focused on by the Home Secretary. But that should not obscure the fact that this issue is complex and we are not fighting a few little boats, but massive criminal enterprises.

I support any moves to put a stop to this appalling illegal trade in human misery. After all, every boat represents an unsafe and illegal trade in human life.

Finally, let me touch on what life is shaping up to be following our amazing vaccine rollout. We should not govern by fear and liberty must be restored with lockdown ending – however, that is contingent on people doing the right thing and getting

the vaccine. I am not happy about the idea of domestic passports, and I have made this view known to the government – we need to balance safety and liberty. However, everyone has a duty to each other by getting the vaccine. After all, returning to lockdown is unthinkable, so we all need to be willing to do our bit. I do feel that Covid passports for international travel is valid for the time being on the grounds as we need to protect ourselves from foreign and new variants.

I hope that wisdom on the part of the younger generation will get them to take up the vaccine offer, which makes it easier for me to oppose passports for domestic settings.

So hope that gives you a flavour of my views on some of the issues that many people are interested in at the moment. If you ever want to know more about what is happening locally or in Westminster, then please email me on [Giles.Watling.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:Giles.Watling.mp@parliament.uk) and ask to join the “Clacton conversation” e-newsletter. You will also hear about my campaigns.

Until next time

**Giles Watling**

Member of Parliament



*The Holland Residents' Association is by its constitution a non (party) political organisation. That said we are always happy to engage constructively with duly elected representatives – MP/Councillors (irrespective of any political groups to which they may belong) to keep them informed on matters of local interest, to seek their assistance in representing the interests of residents at their respective levels, and to hold them to account for their actions, or inactions.*

*To this end we offer them space in this magazine to give a (short) report on their activities over the past three months. Their names and contact details appear on the inside back cover of this edition.*

*Please note that the elected councillors for St Batholomew's Ward that covers most of Holland on Sea - Councillors King and Winfield represent a political party – “Holland on Sea and Eastcliff Matters”. This group has no connection with the Holland Residents Association. In particular, the HRA does not sponsor that group and nor does that group represent the HRA.*

# Your County Councillor

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The last three months since my last article have been interesting. I have now settled back into Essex County Council and it's refreshing to have an active District Councillor, Andy Baker, chasing me to do things in his ward. I have dealt with several highway problems he brought to me from residents, added three local highway panel schemes and had two ward walks to discuss the issues that we will need to work together on. Eastcliff Ward is lucky to have him.

My number one priority remains the flooding of Pickers Ditch at Sladburys Lane which also regularly floods the Happy Valley Bowling Club. Working with Cllr Baker, we had the roads swept ahead of a gulley (drains to you and me) clearance and jetting. My new highways buddy thinks this will solve the problem, but alas, we know it won't, been there and done that! Not to be deterred, I have finally managed to get an onsite visit with Natasha King, the Environment Agency representative for our area. Hopefully, this will stop the procrastinating around getting Picker's Ditch dredged, which incidentally, is classified as a river. I'll update you on how that meeting went in the next edition.

On the 29th of June the HRA had a quarterly meeting and I, along with Cllr Baker, gave reports on the work we had done. There was also a presentation by Dr Farrukh Shamshad who runs Kennedy Way. Now I don't know your thoughts on Kennedy Way, but my personal perspective is that, while it is having teething problems, it is a vast improvement from what came before. That said, there is room for improvement and the best way for us to voice our concerns is through a Patient Participation Group (PPG). My understanding is that Kennedy Way doesn't have one at the moment and I will be working with Dr Shamshad and the practice manager to get one up and running as soon as possible. Hopefully, in the next issue, I will be able to report back on the success of that.

Lastly, I went litter picking with the Holland Litter Pickers on the 4th of August. I had a good walk around with one of the organisers. On our travels, I came across varying issues such as low hanging branches, serious path defects, several blocked drains and bushes growing across the path. I took pictures to report later but it still surprises me when residents don't raise these issues themselves. So, as I love making work for myself, can I please ask that you get in contact with me about any issue you have in your street, if we don't report them they will never be fixed.

As usual, I have more to say than one page will let me. If you have an issue please contact me you will find my details in the back of the magazine.

Until the next time

**Mark Stephenson**  
County Councillor  
Clacton East



# Your District Councillor

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This is my first full report since being elected and I have been quite busy over the last three months.

I have joined the Tendring Independent Group and now sit on the Planning Committee as well as the HR and Council Tax Committee.

At my first Planning Meeting on the 8th June, coincidentally my birthday!, my first job was to put forward objections to the Sladburys Lane application, the main one being about the potential risk of putting even more water into Pickers Ditch and a holding pond behind the houses in Sladburys Lane. Thankfully the Committee listened and have deferred that matter until they receive more detail to then make an informed decision.

I have also had meetings with officers from TDC about improvements on Eastcliff Field, including a new fence, some picnic style tables at the top end, and better waste bins. I am hoping a lot will have been done by the winter.

I have also been pushing for something permanently to be done about the continual fly tipping occurring at the Valley Road Recycling area. I am reporting fly tipping twice a week on average. I have asked for CCTV to be put in and evidence to be gathered to prosecute those who can be identified. It is not likely to be a quick fix, but it is one of my priorities.

I have received several enquiries from residents around issues personal to them, which I have dealt with as best I can, along with a number contacting about speeding in the area, and not just in my Ward. I was fortunate to be able to ask the police to undertake some enforcement recently and joined them for an hour or so on Kings Parade. I am glad to say only 2 vehicles out of possibly a hundred or more, were stopped for speeding. This is something I will be asking them to do on a more regular basis.

The flooding in Sladburys Lane and Pickers Ditch is also an issue that needs to be dealt with, and together with our County Councillor, Mark Stephenson, this is now our top priority to try and resolve.

I have also been out on a regular basis with the Volunteer Litter Picking Group on a Wednesday, around both Eastcliff and Holland. I have also been out around our beaches on several evenings to clear up anything that has been left behind, which has unfortunately included disposable BBQs, from not only the beach, but also Eastcliff field, all of which were still warm!

I can be contacted via email, [cllr.abaker@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.abaker@tendringdc.gov.uk) or mobile phone 07980 287991. I also have a Facebook Group, Andy Baker – Councillor for Eastcliff.

**Andy Baker**  
District Councillor  
Eastcliff Ward

# MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Membership of the Residents Association now runs for 12 months from 1st January to 31st December. **NOT** from the date subscriptions are paid.

Therefore, if you haven't paid since September 2019 subscriptions for 2021 are now due.

It would be appreciated if you could renew as soon as possible please.

*Thank you.*

## Holland on Sea Branch of the Royal British Legion



With life beginning to return to normal with the relaxation of some of the rules imposed upon us when the pandemic struck and intervened with our busy and social lives, hopefully, by the time you are reading this we will have had our first meeting since COVID-19 struck last year as it is planned to hold our first Branch meeting on the 28th August 2021.

Future meetings will be held on the 4th Saturday of each month and are usually held in The Tavern, Frinton Road Holland on Sea and we look forward to returning members joining us once again.

Remembrance Sunday falls on the 14th November this year with a Service of Remembrance being held at St Bartholomew's Church. Branch members will be busy with the annual Poppy Appeal some two weeks beforehand. Your support for this appeal would be very much appreciated. Last year we raised in excess of £2000 which was a fantastic amount considering the restrictions we were operating under.

If you aren't already a member and would like to join us please feel free to turn up for an informal chat at one of our meetings, or if you would like further information please contact me on 01255 212034.

**Geoff Manning**, Branch Chairman.



Articles for the Winter edition of the HRA Magazine are to be submitted to *Maureen Cochlin* ([littlemaur199@gmail.com](mailto:littlemaur199@gmail.com)).

*Final date for submission is the 1st of November 2021.*

**H.R.A. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP (1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER)**

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# Meet the

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## Committee



I retired last year, having worked primarily as a civil servant in Clacton. Between my two roles in the Civil Service, my wife Gill, and I bought the post-office in Stratford Road and we ran that together from 1997 to 2004.

I was born locally and as a child lived in Clarendon Park and then Bedford Road with my younger brother and sister. I attended Holland Park (then known as Holland Road) Primary School and then went to CCHS. Gill and I have two daughters and four grandchildren.

Whilst our children were at Holland Haven Primary School I was an active member of the PTA, and was very much involved with helping to organise events, especially the annual fete. I also served as a governor, working on the personnel committee and then becoming Chairman for a while. It was great to be involved so closely with the school.

I have been a member of the HRA for a number of years and joined as I wanted to support a voluntary organisation which has the interests of Holland on Sea and its' residents at heart.

Having just retired, I was seeking another interest besides gardening and my allotment, and was co-opted as secretary earlier this year. The duties include most of the HRA's administrative work: correspondence, booking meetings, arranging agendas, keeping in touch with our members and being the main point of contact for the organisation.

Since joining the committee I have realised how much behind-the-scenes work is done. We have an active social calendar and community-based events are run either by ourselves or in co-operation with other local organisations.

I'm pleased to be a member of a well-established and thriving organisation, and hope that I can continue to be of help for some time to come.

**Stephen Collitt**  
Secretary

# Holland Residents Association

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## Committee Members

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President	Colin Sargent	
Hon. Secretary	Stephen Collitt	Email: <a href="mailto:secretary.of.hra@gmail.com">secretary.of.hra@gmail.com</a>
Hon. Treasurer	Andy Dunnett	Email: <a href="mailto:andrew.dunnett@live.co.uk">andrew.dunnett@live.co.uk</a>
Magazine Editor	Mo Cochlin	Email: <a href="mailto:littlemaur199@gmail.com">littlemaur199@gmail.com</a>
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Seafront & Open Spaces	Penny Gagne	Email: <a href="mailto:penny.j.gagne@gmail.com">penny.j.gagne@gmail.com</a>
Social Secretary	Sandra Tank	Email: <a href="mailto:sandra.tank23@yahoo.co.uk">sandra.tank23@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Minutes Secretary	Stephen Collitt	Email: <a href="mailto:secretary.of.hra@gmail.com">secretary.of.hra@gmail.com</a>

The committee can be contacted through the Hon. Secretary at:  
[secretary.of.hra@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.of.hra@gmail.com)

## Who to Contact

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### ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Mark Stephenson Email: [cllr.mark.stephenson@essex.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.mark.stephenson@essex.gov.uk)

### DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

St. Bart's Ward	Colin Winfield	Email: <a href="mailto:cllr.cwinfield@tendringdc.gov.uk">cllr.cwinfield@tendringdc.gov.uk</a>
St. Bart's Ward	K. T. King	Email: <a href="mailto:cllr.kking@tendringdc.gov.uk">cllr.kking@tendringdc.gov.uk</a>
Eastcliff Ward	Andy Baker	Email: Please refer to Committee Members

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