

Community Magazine

AUTUMN 2024



Holland Residents Association Community Magazine

is delivered **FREE** in print form to every home in Holland-on-Sea.

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We thank all our loyal advertisers who support the production of this magazine. Committed to providing the best information in your local area, our own dedicated members are fully involved in every step of this process.

Articles for the Winter edition of the HRA Magazine are to be submitted to Mo Cochlin (littlemaur199@gmail.com). Final date for submission is the 4th of November 2024.

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HRA does not officially endorse any advertising material in this publication.

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

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 HRA Committee Members page.

Our front cover picture was provided by Nigel Wood. Thank you Nigel.

Welcome to your Community Magazine

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the HRA magazine. The summer, it seemed, was as changeable as our MPs in Westminster. We "boomers," however, will have been through such changes many times before, so will no doubt take it all in our stride.

Life certainly goes on in Holland-on-Sea, with the Residents Association planning future events and capitalising on the help we receive from our local councillors.

The recent Garage Sale was a success, with the weather proving just right (for a change). I wonder how many of you bagged a bargain or now, having sold all your wares, have space in your cupboards and a bit of extra money in the bank. It is hoped the Scarecrow Trail will prove to be as popular.

In this quarter's magazine we ask you to let us have your views on the new Village Sign, to replace the one previously standing proudly in front of the Public Hall. Unfortunately, that sign, erected in 2000, became so unsafe as to render it beyond restoration.

Our public meetings will now be held at 2.30 p.m. rather than 7.30pm, due to darker evenings. I would urge you to attend as, apart from visiting speakers, we hear from our local councillors on a range of matters directly affecting our residents. The next public meeting will be at Holland Hall on Friday, 25th October.

Our monthly surgeries, attended by our councillors, will hopefully continue. This is an opportunity to raise and discuss on a one-to-one basis, issues that are pertinent to you personally.

Last, but not least, our HRA 2025
Calendar is now available for purchase.
This is a limited edition and the photos, kindly submitted by Richard Walker, have proved it to be something special. Each month depicts an image of Holland-on-Sea that no longer exists. My favourite shows the Boxing Day Hunt beginning in front of the Roaring Donkey. The cost of each calendar is £5 and well worth the price. They will be available to buy at the next public meeting but, should you wish to reserve your copy, please email me at carol.cooper17@talktalk.net.

Wishing you a happy and healthy Autumn, the "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness" – John Keats.

Carol Cooper Chairperson of HRA



Keep up-to-date with your community Visit www.hollandresidents.co.uk

This magazine can also be viewed online





Hi all, hope you have enjoyed the good weather while we have had it, not sure if it was a summer or not but what else would we talk about if not the weather?

For those of you who do not know what 'Purple Pals' is, we are a group of like-minded people who meet up for a very chilled and relaxed walk along the prom every other Sunday morning to one of the lovely cafés we have on our doorstep. It is a dog walking group, but anyone can come along even if you do not have a dog.

I started the group over 5 years ago in recognition of the Purple Poppy which is

for all service animals past and present. It has grown over the years, with people making friendships and meeting people that may not necessarily have crossed paths with otherwise.

There is a Facebook page called 'Purple Pals' which is where updates will appear on the times we walk and also if it is awful weather etc. but as any dog owner knows – they still need a walk even in bad weather and I am always willing to meet up with those mad enough to join me!

Look forward to seeing you in the coming months!

Naomi Lawrence



Tendring Neighbourhood Watch

Affiliated to Essex County Neighbourhood Watch Association Charity Number 1168988

If you would like to receive up to date reports on crime in your area you can do nothing better than to join Tendring Neighbourhood Watch. However, the NHW committee are looking for volunteers to become part of the Tendring branch who meet four times a year at Rosemary Road, Clacton on Sea. A chance to become involved in protecting our area from potential crimes. For further details please contact David Sexton at tendringnhw@outlook.com or 07900430088.

Please note below for reporting crimes and suspicious activity. For crimes that you are witnessing now you should phone 999.

For other non-urgent incidents and for reporting a crime that has already taken place you should phone 101. Alternatively, you can report non-urgent incidents or suspicious activity and crime on-line at https://www.essex.police.uk/and click on the appropriate button.

There is also a live chat on the website available Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays) between 10am and 9pm.

You can also report crime anonymously by phone to **Crimestoppers** on 0800 555 111 or report it on-line at www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

The Village Sign

The Village sign, which was outside the Public Hall, had to be removed due to extensive rot in the post. We are grateful to the two residents who first alerted us and also to Holland Roofing for taking it down safely. We are now planning on restoring it and putting it back in place.*

The post needs 5ft adding to it and there are some small bits of rot at the top of the frame which could be repaired by a carpenter. The sign itself needs a lot of work and it may be better to replace it with a new sign.

The big question is: do we have a completely new, more modern, sign possibly in steel or do we repair the existing one? A third option is to replace like for like, but the sign definitely needs to be replaced/renovated. We have had an idea put forward to start the ball

rolling, but we are open to ideas from anyone who lives in Holland on Sea. Any comments or ideas can be sent to: hollandvillagesign@gmail.com.

Below is a picture of the existing sign and also a suggestion for a new sign.

*We have asked Tendring Council whether the sign could be re-sited on to the grass verge outside the Public Hall, thus making it more prominent.





Holland on Sea Public Hall

The Holland on Sea Public Hall continues to be very well used. We hope you have been able to enjoy some of the events that have been held so far this year and continue to support us.

Groups and organisations that meet regularly at the Public Hall advertise on the notice boards and on local social media. Whether you have specific interests or are looking for somewhere to socialise there is likely to be something to consider from gentle exercise to something more energetic, art, horticulture, indoor bowls, dance, singing, acting or special support groups. Do have a look at what is going on. New members are always welcome.

In addition to the groups and organisations that meet regularly there are also one off events such as quizzes, shows and theatre productions, so please look out for these as well.

Although it seems a long way off, our Christmas fair will be held on Saturday 9th November with plenty of stalls and refreshments. More details nearer the time. We look forward to seeing you.

Treading the Boards At Holland on Sea

The village of Holland on Sea in the 1930's was not just growing as a place of residence, but also a tourist attraction. although that maybe makes it sound a bit grander than it was. Nestled alongside the more famous Clacton on Sea, it offered a peaceful and gentle "get away from it all". One of those residents who was a mover and shaker of Holland, at the time, was Walter Johnston. He resided at "Arcady" in York Road (much later to become "York House"), with his wife, and was a local builder who had seen the potential in renting some of the cliffs and foreshore from the Lord of the Manor, and establishing refreshment kiosks, changing pavilions and beach huts.

One of his early schemes was the building of the Queen's Hall in Kings Avenue, opposite the Kings Cliff Hotel and set back from the seafront by what was to become a tea garden. The Hall housed a cafe and shops and was opened in 1932, and further work was undertaken which, in 1935, resulted in a 350 seat theatre opening its doors. The summer season, that year, offered the Henry Clay Pops, a typical seaside variety show with a song, a dance and much good humour; this



The Queen's Hall Theatre with its ornate orange canopy including opaque glass trim, and red neon sign aloft the brickwork – a welcoming sight.



Henry Clay (second from the right) and his "Pops" in 1935.

proved popular with visitors and residents alike. Of course the summer months were when the theatre was both at its busiest and making money. During the "closed" season the Hall would be used by the local amateur dramatic society for putting on plays, whist drives and dances, and the Oueen's Hall Social Club was formed. The cafe and tea garden proved popular and the waitresses would be smartly attired in their dark dresses, pinnies and caps. The garden itself was neatly laid out with a footpath that lead both ways and met in a large circle, the innards of which was overflowing with plants. Running alongside Kings Avenue and Kings Parade was an arbour covered in roses: it certainly made an impact on the area. To crown it all, Johnston also offered holiday accommodation above the shops.

Throughout the 1930's Holland on Sea was expanding, and growing in popularity for holidays but this was to come to an abrupt halt when the Second World War was declared; the summer of 1939 seeing the war clouds gather across Great Britain and Europe. During the next five years the Hall went from initial dormancy to its use as a NAAFI and social hub for those service people stationed at Holland on Sea.

Various events were organised, including dances, and soon the military and those civilians who remained in the village, were enjoying some light entertainment to relieve the worry and anxiety of possible wartime invasion.

When the war ended, Holland on Sea returned to 'normality' and once again the Queen's Hall sprung back to life. In the summer of 1946 the Holland Highlights Show, at the theatre, was providing daily entertainment, and the tea garden was transformed back to its former glory. The show was put on by Will Hammer who continued to operate at Holland on Sea right through to the 1950s. Hammer already provided the entertainment at the Westcliff Theatre, which, along with The Savoy, he owned at the time. Will Hammer, real name William Hinds, was a modest performer who aspired to own a number of theatres. He also formed Hammer Film Productions Ltd. and his name is now associated with horror movies: the Hammer House of Horror having a cult following throughout the world.

However, even back in the 1950s the holiday appeal of British seaside resorts was starting to decline and theatregoers were reducing. 1957 saw the last professional performance when "Stringing Along" – The Ovaltine Puppet Show with Gerald Stafford (the versatile entertainer) concluded a rather disappointingly supported season; even the addition of delightful vocalist Jean Marsh, with Florence Miles at the piano, failed to attract sufficient numbers.

In 1958 the Holland Players, a local amateur group, took on the summer season but they could not stem the falling numbers. So the 1960s saw closed doors at the Queen's Hall Theatre, although the shops and cafe remained open.

Johnston had, for very many years, operated his building business from offices within the Queen's Hall, and in 1965 the



The Cafe and tea garden – waitress service of course.

Essex Executive Office rented the Hall to act as offices for the administration of its health practitioners. This was seen as a temporary solution and when Clacton Urban District Council built a three floor office block behind the newly erected Clacton Library (formerly housed in the first floor of the Town Hall, using the Alexandra Road entrance), the health service vacated the Queen's Hall. The tea gardens had seen a continuing fall in numbers and planning permission was sought to replace the Hall and grounds with flats and offices; this was approved in 1971. The demolition of the building was carried out in 1972 and in its place was erected Maplin Court along the Kings Avenue frontage.

For quite a period the ground floor comprised of open fronted hollow shells in the hope of attracting offices, or possibly shops, but interest was not forthcoming and approval was later given to turn these into residential accommodation.

The Kings Parade frontage, once home to the delightful tea gardens, was developed into flats known as Queens Court, complete with a restaurant on the corner of Kings Avenue, opened as the Palma Nova; and with it went all traces of forty years of Holland's very own theatre and tea gardens, becoming just a memory of happier times.

Richard O. Walker

Surgery News



The new on-line system askmygp went live on Tuesday 30th July. The system can be accessed using the app or from the surgery website.

The new website name is www.clactoncommunitypractices.nhs.uk. If using the website click the appointments heading and you will find a green banner for askmygp. The first time you use the system you will need to register by answering a few simple questions.

The system is an easier way for you to request help from the practice, for yourself, your child or someone you care for. They will contact you within working hours and this may be via message, telephone or face- to-face appointments as determined by the clinician.

If you cannot or do not wish to use the system you can still phone during surgery hours and a member of staff will enter the details into the system for you.

It is early days but initial feedback from the surgery indicates the launch is going well. Having spoken to other surgeries that have askmygp they are of the opinion that it works well. Specifically having a large percentage of requests via the on-line system frees up the telephone for those who need to use it.

A new telephone system will also shortly be installed (when BT get their finger out). This will have 100 incoming lines and will tell the caller where they are in the queue. Also, if the caller doesn't want to wait they can keep their place in the queue and press the button for a ring back.

The next half day closures for training will be on Wednesday 30th October.

Rita Garnett
Patient Group Chair

Tendring Specialist Stroke Services

The Stroke Charity is continuing the restoration of their building. When the new centre opens in September a small book shop with good quality books will help the charity to raise funds. We accept donations of good quality books, once we are open again, in small volume. We will introduce more activities and support those who have a neurological condition, as well as our regular events for the community. If you have time come and volunteer with us! Remember the charity is keen to remind the community to be health aware, ensure you are well hydrated, as dehydration causes a raised blood pressure. Find ways to get out and enjoy the beautiful coastline and fresh air, as well as making time for exercise and finding calm in an often busy and pressured world. If you need support, remember our support is for those with a neurological condition and their families, please contact us on 01255 815905 or info@tendringstroke.org.uk.



Clubs

Holland-on-Sea 129 Ladies Club

Holland 129 Club is a friendly Ladies Club and has met in Holland-on-Sea for 58 years – when it began as a Young Wives Club at 129 Fleetwood Avenue.

We meet at Holland Public Hall, Frinton Road on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Doors usually open for members at 7pm for a 7.30 pm start. Membership is £26 for a ful year (from April 2024) and £15 from September 2024. Visitors are welcome and pay £5 for the evening.

Our Autumn 2024 programme is as follows.

Thursday, 12 September Make Do and Mend. Amanda Sutherland will show us how to

adapt our wardrobes. Items for Sale

Thursday, 10 October Harvest Supper - Fish and Chips

Musical entertainment - Eddie Nash

Thursday, 14 November Demonstration - Ways with wrapping

How to wrap presents - Audience projects. Dorothy O'Grady

Clubs birthday/Craft Stalls

Thursday, 5 December Christmas Party. Disco and Refreshments (Held one week earlier)

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

Dates for your Diary



21st September, 10am-11.45am – Councillors' surgery, public hall.

5th October - HRA quiz.

19th October, 10am-11,45am – Councillors' surgery, public hall.

25th October – HRA quarterly public meeting, public hall, at 2.30pm. Open to all residents.

16th November, 10am-11,45am - Councillors' surgery.

7th December - Christmas event.

13th December – HRA quiz.

Kennedy Way Community Garden

It's been a rollercoaster ride as far as the weather is concerned. The plants have not been sure whether to show themselves or not. But the gardeners are a resilient bunch, and the rain has not stopped them. They have started planting the sensory garden. Gloriously scented roses with Phlox and Monarda have been planted. There are two tactile beds with soft velvety Verbascum, spiky Echinops amongst the other touchy-feely plants. We also now have installed a small pond in the silent space to invite more wildlife into the garden. Things are moving gently on.

Vegetables are being harvested with plenty of onions, courgettes and potatoes. And for the first time we are growing kohlrabi which is a first for many to taste. The multicoloured popcorn sweetcorn is growing very well and we wait in anticipation to taste the cobs. In the polytunnel, a loofah plant, melons and sweet potatoes are growing merrily away along with aubergines and peppers. There is plenty for you to come and explore.

Market Field College students have been doing community work in the garden and they have been wonderful. They brought such positive energy and everyone in the garden has thoroughly enjoyed working with them.

On the 28th of September we are hosting another open day with the theme 'Harvest'. We are thinking of a competition for the wonkiest, ugliest and biggest plants. Watch out for Facebook posts to see what we have planned.

If you would like to take part in any of these projects at the garden, please pop in for a tea or coffee to chat to our lovely volunteers. Or alternatively give Lynn Reed-Golden a ring on 07759 128447 or email her on lynn.reed-golden@cvstendring.org.uk.

For more information about all the CVST ongoing activities and projects visit www.cvstendring.org.uk or visit us on Facebook: CVSTendring or on XTwitter at cvstendring.





Seated Yoga at Kennedy Way

Day: Thursday

When: 1.15pm - 2.15pm

Cost: £4 per session

Tai Chi at Kennedy Way

Day: Tuesday

When: 1.30pm - 2.30pm

Cost: £4 per session

Mind the Music

Last Friday of every month. 1pm -

2.30pm

Singing with dementia







Sports & Leisure

Get Cyclin Free and Easy

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

The 'meet' is outside the Kingscliff Hotel at 10:30 am



Tendring Winner of Active Essex / Award





(ActiveEssex (M) KINGSCLIFF

Spending time on two wheels can have a big impact on your health too. It blitzes calories between 440 and a huge 1,080 an hour depending on your weight, and helps build muscles in your legs, bum and hips.

The benefits aren't just physical though, cycling can improve your mental health by triggering the release of endorphins - our feel good chemicals - in the brain, which can reduce stress levels, help you sleep better and even ease feelings of loneliness.

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.



From Holland on Sea Baptist Church



Activities at Holland on Sea Baptist Church

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

Tuesday - Prayer meeting 10:00.

Tuesday - Friendship club 1st Tuesday of month 14:00 (2 hours).

Fun, Quizzes, Games, Speakers, Friendship and refreshments.

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

Thursday – Lunch Club (12:30) all welcome. Booking necessary 4 course lunch.

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

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

With various other activities throughout the month, martial arts, fitness dancing, Choir, Knit 'n' Natter, Ukulele etc.

Sunday 22nd September 10:30 Mission Focus with Mission Aviation Fellowship, from Australia.

Sunday 29th September 10:30 Harvest Service with special focus on Food Bank. Followed by Poverty lunch

Feel free to contact us on 01255 814617 or revcollict@aol.com

Hall hire, Weddings and Funerals.

From Holland on Sea Methodist Church



From 5th September we run a Holland Hub group which is open for all.

Every fortnight £3.00 each.

Tea/coffee and cake and fellowship.

Also from September every Friday morning is coffee morning from 10.30am till 11.30am.

Again all are welcome for coffee and chat and fellowship.

Frinton Road Short Mat Bowls Club Holland-on-Sea

Looking for something to do?

Then why not try out Short Mat Bowls in the Public Hall*

We are a friendly group who would make you feel very welcome - especially if this is your first try at bowling.

We will provide some woods to start with (a pair of flat-soled shoes would be handy).

The new season starts on Monday 2nd September 2024.

We meet Monday mornings 9-45am to 12-15pm and Thursday afternoons 1-45pm to 4-15pm



For more information please contact:

Martin 01255 818096

Or Google: Short Mat Bowls Clacton

* 137-139 Frinton Road Holland-on-Sea C015 5UR

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www.clactonartsandlits.com

For more information please contact Mavis Stephens on 01255 426151



Holland Art Society



At the Public Hall, Frinton Rd, Holland

WORKSHOP 7 – 9pm on October 14th, November 11th and December 9th. Come along and chat and work with fellow artists.

AGM is on October 28th, and the Christmas Fish 'n' chips supper with quiz is on November 25th.

Contact - Steve Howell, club Chairman on **07952 343424** or Email: hollandartsociety@email.com

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Boosting our Immunity Naturally

Most people you speak to nowadays seem to just be getting over another, cold or viral infection. Our immune system is constantly warding off bacteria, viruses and fungi and keeping us well. However, our diets, lifestyle plus new strains of viruses are making it harder for our immune systems to work well.

Good sleep allows our bodies time to rebuild our defences during the night. Having high stress levels can lower our immunity making it difficult to fight infections. Using meditation, yoga and relaxing techniques can help.

One of our forms of defence is our stomach acid, this helps to prevent bad bacteria moving into our digestive system. Having a good balance of gut bacteria can help our overall wellbeing by working alongside our immune system. Adding in prebiotic foods rich in fibre can help to promote good gut bacteria.

We can look to nature in the form of herbs, spices and foods that contain powerful natural compounds which help to support and stimulate our immune systems.

Consider adding foods that are Antioxidants and that contain the Vitamins and minerals that our immune systems require. Vitamin C and Zinc increase the production of infection fighting white blood cells. Vitamin E, Selenium and Beta Carotene stimulates the killer cells which protect us from infection.

The following Foods and Spices in rich in immune boosting properties:

Green Tea Lemons Onions
Oregano Oranges Garlic
Turmeric Elderberries Ginger
Liquorice Berries Broccoli

Mushrooms Nuts & Seeds Probiotic Yogurt



Foods and spices can be added to dishes, juiced or had as a snack.

An easy way to increase your immunity is to make tea from herbs and spices. Steeping in boiling water for 10 minutes, strain and drink 2-3 cups a day.

Herbs and Spices with immune boosting and Anti-viral properties ideal for teas:

Thyme, Sage, Ginger, Garlic, Lemon, Echinacea, Goji Berries, Hibiscus, Rooibos, Matcha Tea, White Tea, Chamomile.



For more advice on how to boost your immunity or other Natural Remedies, please contact me for a free 15-minute phone chat.

Lucille Cowell ND DipHomACH DipN.Adv Naturopath, Classical Homeopath, Naturopathic Nutritional Advisor

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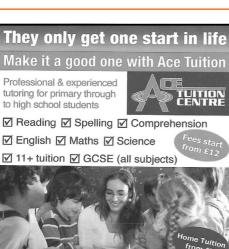
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Articles for the Winter edition of the HRA Magazine are to be submitted to Mo Cochlin (littlemaur199@gmail.com).

Final date for submission is **Monday 4th November 2024**.

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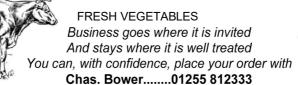
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Your County Councillor

This is most likely to be my penultimate article for the HRA. As I promised in the previous article, I would update you on the Essex County Council Boundary Review. The final recommendations have been submitted and while they are still recommendations it is very unlikely that they will now change. Someone asked why I wouldn't stand in Holland-on-Sea (Clacton East) and I have known the answer for a while. Although many of you know me and I do feel very supported here, a fundamental belief of mine is that a councillor should live in or be very close to the Division they represent. Local knowledge can be invaluable when trying to argue the case for, or against something.

The previous Division boundary allowed me to uphold that belief, but this new boundary review has split my Division in half forcing me to choose between Great Clacton, where I live, or Holland-on-Sea where I have so many friends and supporters. It was a close decision, but I have chosen to go with Great Clacton and maintain my belief that councillors should represent where they live.

That choice was made easier by knowing who I would want my successor to be. You may remember that in my election I was endorsed by Cllr Colin Sargeant, a lovely and well-respected man, who supported my election and in the initial days once I had been elected. It now falls to me to endorse my choice for your next County Councillor for next year's elections. My support will go towards Cllr Adrian Smith. Adrian has already done huge amounts of work as a district councillor. He has also helped me many times with various elements of County work and represents his residents well. I know he will do well for you if elected as a County Councillor.

On to other things and the new pothole scheme has started well with potholes in Nansen, Colchester and Slade roads having been repaired (reported in the last article). At the time of writing, First Avenue was having paths fixed, the entrance to Hazelmere car park was being dug out and resurfaced and some difficult repairs in Great Clacton are all to be done this week. My submissions for eight weeks-time pick up all the potholes on London and Wellesley Road heading into town as I wisely thought we shouldn't repair them during the school holidays. Also on the list are Fleetwood Avenue, Park Boulevard, St Johns Road and a drain in Grenfell Avenue. It's not a complete list but please email me about any that you think should be added as they do seem to be getting done now.

Well, that is all from me for now. I hope you have enjoyed the Summer and the Airshow and take advantage of the wonderful area we live in. I am sure I will see some of you on my travels.

Mark Stephenson County Councillor Clacton Fast



Your District Councillor

Well, what a strange start to the summer, heavy rain one day and then bright hot weather the next! I hope you have all had a lovely summer, enjoying our wonderful beaches and open spaces, and of course also eating ice cream!!

I have walked around the ward noting things that need to be done, whether that be a road sign needing replacing, or more potholes needing reporting. I have pointed out to our County Councillor, Mark Stephenson, where I would like to see some repairs under the new scheme that ECC introduced some time ago.

I have also asked Mark to make enquiries as to when the pavements in Dulwich Road and Preston Road are likely to be done, hopefully they are due to be done, it's no doubt a matter of when!

I have also been responding to residents' emails and concerns about a number of things each week, including waste bins, overgrowth on the verges and elsewhere, potholes, litter, fly tipping to name but a few.

I have been made aware that a lot of issues are commented about on social media, it is much better that you contact us, via email preferably, as we can then note the issue and take it further with TDC or whoever is responsible, and follow up if necessary. Unfortunately we cannot monitor all the numerous groups that are on Facebook, for example.

Within the last three months I have also attended quite a number of meetings, including my weekly meeting with senior officers regarding housing and planning, my monthly meeting with Housing Team Managers, the Tenants Panel, with Cabinet colleagues, Essex Police, as well as the monthly HRA surgeries and quarterly meetings, as well as attending the memorial services held at Clacton War Memorial.

As well as the above, I am also dealing with many issues involving the three Portfolios I am responsible for, Housing, Licensing and Planning.

I took a week away from my desk in late July, this was due to my youngest daughter getting married in Norfolk, so my apologies if you tried to contact me in that week. I think I have since responded to all enquiries.

As always, if you need to contact me, those details are elsewhere within the magazine. Stay safe and keep well.

Andy Baker District Councillor

Eastcliff Ward

Your District Councillor

Dear Residents,

I hope you are all well and enjoying the summer sun, although I trust you are all looking after your well-being through this hot period, keeping yourselves hydrated and wearing a good sunscreen.

The Councillor surgeries have continued at the public hall, on a monthly basis. Andy Adrian and I have attended and welcomed the feedback and interaction with those residents who have attended. Whilst it's great to receive emails and calls, I really enjoy seeing you face to face, as it enables us to really see the impact that the concerns you raise have.

As independent councillors we continue to work together to make our locality a wonderful place to live. I am always overwhelmed by the passion our community has to make our little bit of the world a better place and I never forget just how honoured I am to represent you all.

As always, the activity that takes us most of my time is our amazing School uniform bank which has been up and running for 1 year now. In that time, we have recycled almost two thousand items, providing pre-loved uniform to over four hundred people.

Our annual school uniform bank event was at the hall a fortnight ago. This well attended, and I would like to share some of the comments received by families "what an amazing service this is, I have 4 children so you can imagine how this helps" "I love my new blazer, I'm not taking it off until I start my new school in September" "This is just brilliant"...

We could not have held this event if the HRA did not offer to cover the cost of using the assembly hall, so a big thank to Mo our advocate, and to the committee. Also, the Hall committee, especially Glennis, and Vicky for supporting us by letting us use the small room to store our stock and use to meet families on our monthly open sessions.

Tom our caretaker, is a jewel in the Crown, being one our original group of volunteers and always supporting us with his tenacity and can-do, attitude. Our team of volunteers are amazing and growing in number, so I need to give a shout out to them all, THANK YOU x lastly thank you to all who donate items and the families that come and collect items, this is really what community is about and I am so proud of all that together we are achieving.

Kind and respectful regards.

Carrie Doyle
District Councillor
St. Barts Ward

Your District Councillor

Dear Residents,

I have attended several events outside of Tendring as a networking exercise that I hope will bring benefits to St Barts Ward and also Tendring as a whole. These included Essex University, Anglian Ruskin University and the Rivercare Beachcare AGM just outside of Peterborough.

The last one I attended with Councillor Goldman where we discussed issues surrounding litter and Himalayan Balsam. Which is of particular interest, as it erodes river banks and was quite prevalent along Pickers Ditch (especially the part by Slade Road). Thanks to a fantastic group of volunteers this is largely under control now.

This leads nicely into the volunteers at Ipswich road, run by the Holland Residents Association (HRA), the transformation is immense and shows the amazing achievements of residents working together. The work there is ongoing and more people are always welcomed, they meet 10am on Saturdays.

The three paths in Holland on Sea that lead onto Frinton Road have all been cut back.

My thanks to Chris (a resident) without his help and encouragement the path leading from Slade Road to Frinton Road would have been too big to have tackled on my own. Since we cut back the worst parts, he has been strimming the path to keep it under control.

I have been out many times with Councillor Stephenson looking to repair potholes and pavements. Essex County Council has a new system and with both District and County Councillors working closely together we are starting to see many improvements.

Adrian Smith
District Councillor
St. Barts Ward

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Membership of the HRA has been steadily increasing. However, some of you may not have provided an e-mail. If you are a member and not receiving any-mailed information, please let me know.

Stephen Collitt, Secretary. secretary.of.hra@gmail.com

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