



HOLLAND ON SEA
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
established 1926

Community Magazine

WINTER 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 Spring edition of the HRA Magazine are to be submitted to Mo Cochlin (littlemaur199@gmail.com). Final date for submission is the 3rd of February 2025.

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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

It seems only yesterday that I welcomed you to the Spring edition of the HRA magazine; and now Winter is almost upon us. That said, may I still welcome you, even if it is to the time of inclement weather and darker nights. Bear in mind also that we had some reasonable weather in October and November, so maybe we shall not miss the government's winter fuel payment as much as we think!

Over the past couple of months, the HRA have been busy acting on your behalf. The relocation and design of the new Village Sign is progressing, given the possible red tape to come.

The requirement for a bus route to the Kennedy Way surgery is constantly being pressed for. These items take time to come to fruition but hopefully, in the future, we can celebrate positive outcomes.

As usual, our social team are busy thinking up events to involve our community and we thank you for all your support. Scarecrow trails, Garage Sales, Charity Quizzes, Christmas Fayres, to name just a few, are ways in which we can help bring our residents together.

Not to forget, of course, our 2025 Calendar which will make a welcome gift for Christmas and the New Year. It is a unique calendar, unlikely to be repeated, so please contact myself to secure a copy (carol.cooper17@talktalk.net or 07944 097887).

The HRA are always looking for ways in which we can improve things for our residents and involve them where possible, so please feel free to send us suggestions. Our Facebook page is a way in which you can receive information and keep in touch with us.

Our public meetings give an opportunity to listen to relevant speakers and pose questions to our Councillors, who have promised to continue Saturday morning surgeries in the New Year. Watch out for future dates.

So, alongside wishing you health during the winter months, remember: Three phrases that sum up Christmas are; "Peace on Earth." "Goodwill to Men." and, "Batteries not Included."

Carol Cooper
Chairperson of HRA



**To all our readers and advertisers, we
wish you a Very Happy Christmas, and a
Wonderful New Year.**



Purple Pals



Hello all! Not sure how it happens but the festive season is almost upon us again! It can be a fantastic time, but there are those who struggle at this time of year for various reasons.

This is when our fur babies come into their own. Like us, they love to play around and get presents but more importantly they are there for the times when it is quiet, and no one is around visiting. A loyal companion who will provide the support and comfort we all need.

One important thing to remember at this time of year is all the tasty goodies that are about – sadly a lot of them are toxic for our furry friends. With this in mind – just a gentle reminder to put things out of reach when you are not there – or even when you are! Having had the dustbins of all dogs,

a Labrador, she would be able to sniff out even the smallest item and if she wanted something she would do her best to try and get to it.

We will be doing our Christmas walk this year which is always very well attended! Treats for the dogs and a few nibbles for us humans too. We are looking at Sunday 22nd of December meeting at 10am at York Road car park green area and then mooching down the front – a chance to be as Christmassy as you want and even dress the dogs up. If there are any changes it will be posted on the 'Purple Pals' page on Facebook so, please keep an eye on there.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year!

Naomi Lawrence

Scarecrow Trail 2024



This year's Scarecrow Trail was another success, with over 20 properties taking part. Lots of maps were sold and the HRA would like to thank Morrisons Daily and Kings Avenue Post Office for selling the Trail Maps. It was lovely to see lots of people walking round our lovely village looking out for scarecrows.

There were some fantastic creations on show, and our judges had a tough job. The HRA would like to thank the judges for their time and judging skills.

Business winners were 1st Mansion House Florist, 2nd Gwinells, 3rd Stroke Association.

Residential Homes were 1st Hector by Carol Mackin, 2nd Bert the Chimney Sweep by Celia and Gary Porter 3rd Cruella DeVille by Ann Dunnington.

People's Choice winner: Ariel by Karen Gittings.

Thank you everyone for taking part in the event.

Trail winners 1st Donna, 2nd Naomi, 3rd Carol.

HRA would also like to thank Chas. Bowers Butchers in Kings Avenue, Grandma Lillys and Golden Fillet for their continued support of this event in donating vouchers for the winners.

Ipswich Road Garden

We have now extended the wildflower area and have sown next year's seeds. We were pleased with the display this year, having never tried anything like this before. Once the flowers had finished, we had to cut them back and then leave everything in situ to allow seeds to drop. We then had to rake away everything and hopefully we'll see more blooms next year.

We've continued to maintain the garden next to the former toilets. This does not need too much maintenance and continues to evolve. We've also worked on other areas towards the back of the wooded area. This includes removing a lot of dumped shrubs, twigs and branches which had accumulated over time. We've now planted over two hundred daffodils that should provide a striking display next spring. We've also added more bluebells to our bluebell area which was the only gardening disappointment we had as not many bloomed.



We are upset by the thoughtlessness of the few who seem to think that the area by the bottle bank and rubbish bin is an ideal place to dump whatever they see fit.

We always need new volunteers: we hope that we are creating a lasting legacy and we do need new helpers. No knowledge of gardening is needed: just the willingness to give up an hour (10am-11am) on some Saturdays. Every project needs fresh blood in order to keep going. Ours is no exception, so if you can spare the time, please join us.

Holland on Sea Public Hall

The groups that meet at the Holland on Sea Public Hall are gearing up for the Christmas season including a pantomime by HOSTS our local theatre company, please look out for notices at the Hall, on Facebook and local notice boards.

Our regular groups and societies are booked in for 2025 and you will find posters and listings for these on the notice boards at the Hall and include social groups, art, singing, U3A, yoga, pilates, fitsteps, and many others.

2025 is also booked up for a number of one-off events fairs, fetes quizzes and dancing.

There is such a variety new members and visitors are always welcome.

Every group that books the Public Hall contributes towards the upkeep of the Hall and helps keep us vibrant.

We look forward to seeing you.

Hotel Hospitality At Holland on Sea

Mention, to any resident of Holland on Sea, Hotels in the village and there will be a united cry of The Kingscliff, and rightly so; however, this was not the first hotel in our village.

At the end of the 1920's, two houses were built on the corner of Holland Main Road (now known as Frinton Road) and Norman Road, by Claude Chaston, and called Suffolk House and Norfolk House. They were subsequently linked by a curved sun lounge and became The Suffolk House Private Hotel, being advertised in the summer of 1929 as newly erected. Sitting in grounds with a frontage of 125 feet and a depth of 260 feet, the hotel comprised of nine large double bedrooms, two large single bedrooms, two bathrooms (no en-suite in those days), a dining room, oak panelled billiard room (which could be used as an extra dining room), sun lounge, two lower halls, cloak rooms, double kitchen and wash-up, plus larders, cupboards, WCs and other offices. Outside were the gardens which were laid out with three lawns, a small orchard, kitchen garden and large private car park. There were gravel drives around the garden, one of which led to the garage; this was detached and could accommodate four large cars and

offered an inspection pit, electric light, with water laid on and a large car wash down; the eaves of the garage provided good storage.

The hotel remained in the ownership of the Chaston family and was run by Mrs Chaston. In the 1931 Holland on Sea Guide there was a full page advert which boasted that it was on a "Special List AA Inspected Private Hotel" which, in some ways, could be read either way!! The advert claimed just three minutes from the sea, which certainly meant stepping it out, separate tables, and near the tennis courts. In 1931 the tennis courts referred to sat between Kings Parade and



The sun lounge, with its 1930's opulence, welcoming guests to the hotel.



The oak panelled billiard room, shown doubling up as an extra dining room. Was the main dining table also the billiard table?



The apparent sweeping drive, and sun lounge linking the two separate properties, made Suffolk House Hotel look very inviting.



With the seafront Road, and The Grove (Queensway) yet to be made up. the Highcliffe Hotel proudly shows off its spiral corner roof.

Madeira Road, abutting York Road, where the Holland on Sea Bowls Club and car park now stand. For more information about The Suffolk House Hotel, and its tariff, you could telephone Clacton 4x6.

A good three-quarter year trade was carried out but, understandably, its peak occupancy was between June and September; Easter and Whitsun also proving very good business periods. By the 1950s the hotel industry had changed and the two properties making-up the hotel were separated and became residential occupancies, reverting to the names Suffolk House and Norman House respectively.

But going back to the 1930s and along the seafront, on the corner of Kings Parade and The Grove, originally known as Kaiser Grove and now called Queensway, was Holland's oldest seafront house named Highcliffe, built in 1903. In 1923 it was owned by a Mrs Butler, but by 1930 its owner was Mr Finimore, and it was in the 1930s that it became The Highcliffe Private Hotel, owned and run by Mr and Mrs Ernest Phillips. The hotel sat in half an acre of ground, was listed

by both the AA and RAC and was proud to offer its own garden produce, hot and cold running water, separate tables (which seemed an important point to potential guests), midday dinner, cosy lounge, and garaging facilities. The phone number was Holland on Sea 2207, but by the 1950s, with the new owners, Mr and Mrs A Huntley, there was a new phone number – Holland on Sea 2178. As with the Suffolk House Hotel, the 1950s saw the decline in patronage and the building reverted to residential use; much of the garden, both fronting Kings Parade and to the rear, in Queensway, was sold for building plots, the spire roof on the front east corner was removed, and a dormer window placed in the roof. Also demolished was the attractive adjoining greenhouse.

It is pleasing that Suffolk House, Norfolk House, and Highcliffe are still standing, albeit in reduced grounds, and provide a timely reminder of what Holland on Sea had to offer visitors who wished to spend some time relaxing away from it all in our lovely village.

Richard O. Walker

Surgery News



By the time you read this the new *askmygp* system will have been in operation for some four months. Most patients seemed to have been able to register without too much difficulty, however it has become a bit like marmite – you either love it or hate it. Some patients think it is brilliant whilst others consider they are worse off.

Contrary to what we were led to believe by “Evergreen”, the company behind the software, the system is not available all day. Indeed, once capacity has been reached the system is shut down for clinical use; in practice this means usually within an hour or two of opening. Introducing this system has not increased the clinical capacity available daily at the surgery. However, the surgery is currently employing one locum virtually full time to cover maternity leave and two new GPs have recently joined the surgery in November. The staff that are there are trying their best to keep the surgery running. Please bear that in mind when contacting the surgery.

I have been in contact with another user surgery of a similar size to ours in Bury St Edmunds where they tell me that they are happy with *askmygp* and it is available all day. However, they have at least three if not four GPs working on a daily basis for some time.

It should be noted that those patients who are able and willing to use *askmygp* can input their request whenever the system is open and generally receive a response within about 30 minutes. Those who have to rely on the telephone can be at a disadvantage. Particularly as our situation has been made worse by the fact that the new telephone system which allows patients to be called back instead of hanging on or re-dialling is still not in operation. BT promised this before we went live and at the time of writing they still have not enabled it.

Correction - a couple of issues ago I said that you no longer needed to provide identification to receive a copy of blood test results. This should have read you will no longer have to fill in a form to receive blood test results but you will still have to prove your identity.

Rita Garnett
Patient Group Chair

Tending Specialist Stroke Services

The Stroke Charity is now housed in its new S.T.A.R. Building Specialist Therapy and Rehab Centre at 85 Frinton Road. The building has undergone a restoration, and it has a small book shop area. The building offers a wide range of activities for those with a stroke or neurological condition, including seated yoga on Wednesday mornings, community yoga on Tuesday from 6.30pm, a friendship meal, Wednesday lunchtime, to book onto these sessions please contact us on 01255 815905 or come in and see us. The centre is introducing other exercise programmes, early evenings and on a Friday. The charity has a team of professionally trained staff to support people to maintain and improve their health.

The charity has their BIG Christmas Raffle, just £1 a ticket and the top prize is £50, and a host of other prizes. The draw will be on Tuesday 17th December. Still time to purchase tickets!

The charity is always looking for good quality books and unwanted gifts for their fundraising, keep us in mind post-Christmas. Your pre-loved gifts will support our fundraising.

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.

2025 we will be celebrating our 60th Anniversary.

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

Our Winter programme is as follows:

Thursday, 5 December 2024 Christmas Party. Disco and Refreshments (Held one week earlier)

Thursday, 9 January 2025 Sit Down Dancing with Pauline. Bring and Share Supper

Thursday, 13 February 2025 Ghosts and Ghostly Tales in Essex. Sharon Moody

Thursday, 13 March 2025 Annual General Meeting – starts at 7 pm followed by
The Changing Face of Shopping in Clacton. George Hardwick

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

Registered Charity Number 1099182



TENDRING DISTRICT U3A UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Tendring District U3A is an independent group and part of the national Third Age Trust which aims to provide social learning opportunities for people in older age who are no longer in full time employment.

We have been operating for over 30 years with monthly speaker meetings and separate interest study groups. There are around 30 such groups, using both Holland Public Hall and members' homes, meeting on a wide range of subjects from Art Appreciation to playing the Ukulele.

Our monthly speaker meetings are held at Holland Public Hall on the first Friday of each month with doors open from 1.45pm for a 2.15pm start including refreshments. Our winter programme for 2025 is as follows:

January 3rd 'From London firefighter to Author with Russell Webb.

February 7th 'The Wonder of Norway' with Joanne Lerner.

March 7th History and developments in Nursing Care' with Gary Jones CBE.

April 4th Annual General Meeting.

The membership fee is very reasonable at £14 yearly from 1st January.

For any further details, please contact Paul Bryant, Membership Secretary, on 01255 479613.

Kennedy Way Community Garden

We are coming to the end of a successful growing season. We celebrated the end of the summer season with a successful Harvest Day event on the 28th September which was well attended by the local community. Prior to the day, we were overwhelmed by the generosity of the garden community in donating plants and seeds to sell. The garden has raised money that should make the wheelchair path in the sensory garden a reality. The gardeners have started to put the raised beds to sleep. We will be using green manure to improve the soil quality.

The gardeners have been working like squirrels collecting seeds for next year.

Talking about squirrels, we have watched them pinch the sunflower heads to have a nibble on the seeds. The most talked about harvested vegetables were the multi coloured Popcorn Sweetcorn and the sweet potatoes. There is always plenty to do as all gardeners know. We have a new group of Market Field students who have been helping one morning a week in the garden. It's wonderful to see all the different ages working together.

The Men's Shed is going from strength to strength. We have now opened up on Tuesday mornings for another session. Colin has made brightly coloured animal puzzles and Brian is busy finessing clocks. The hedgehog boxes have also proven to be popular. The whole site works hard to help our local wildlife.

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@cvstending.org.uk.

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



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 Cycling!

Free and Easy

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 10:30 am



Trending Winner
of Active Essex
Award



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, Brownies, Guides, martial arts, fitness dancing, Choir, Knit 'n' Natter, Ukulele etc.

Sunday 22nd December 18:00 Christmas Carol Service.

Sunday 26th Jan 2025 10:30 Rev. Chris Collict's Last Service here.

Saturday 1st Feb 2025 16:00 We say Farewell to Rev. Chris Collict after 9 years of service to Holland on Sea.

You are all very welcome.

From Holland on Sea Methodist Church



We have Holland Hub every other Thursday in the Holland Methodist Church Hall.

A social afternoon with refreshments and activities, all are welcome 2.00 pm to 4.00pm
£3.00

Next meeting Thursday 14 November.

Christmas Concert by Tendring Male Voice Choir Sunday 1 December 2.30pm in the Church.

Carol Service followed by coffee and mince pies Sunday 22 December 10.30am.

All are welcome.

From St. Barts



Christmas at St Bart's

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER - 4:00PM

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

CHRISTMAS EVE - 6:00PM

**TRADITIONAL CAROL
SERVICE**

CHRISTMAS DAY - 9:00AM

HOLY COMMUNION

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH PATHWAY

The Parish Council of St Bart's respectfully request dog walkers using the church path to please clear up after their dogs. The path is not a public footpath, but the council appreciate that it makes a handy short-cut. Please also be aware of the uneven surfaces when walking through the grounds.

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For more information please contact Mavis Stephens on 01255 426151



Holland Art Society



At the Public Hall, Frinton Rd, Holland

WORKSHOPS

You are very welcome to join our group exploring the different methods and mediums of creative art. Also a cup of tea and a chat! On 13th Jan, 10th Feb and 10th March.

DEMONSTRATIONS

Watch a professional as they produce a picture, and tell you how it's done. On 27th Jan, 24th Feb and 31st March.

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

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We wish you all a Merry Christmas
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Gut Microbiome



All our gut bacteria is individual to ourselves like a finger print, we are born with a certain amount and acquire more in our early years.

Unfortunately, our lifestyles, diet, medications can have a big impact on our gut bacteria, it can cause an imbalance and allow bad bacteria to become dominant. This in turn has an impact on our overall health.

Our Gut Microbiome is mainly in our Colon (large Intestine) and has been shown to be stored in our appendix. It helps to maintain a healthy digestive system, including the breakdown and digestion of food, helps to maintain, repair and restore the cells in our digestive tract.

Some symptoms of gut bacteria imbalance may include Low Energy Levels, Low Immunity, Allergies, Poor Sleep, Inflammatory Symptoms, IBS Symptoms, Bloating, Constipation, Diarrhoea, Difficulty in losing weight.

Having a gut bacteria test can highlight which bacteria is present and if there is an imbalance.

We can help to support our gut bacteria through lifestyle, diet and supplements:

*Try to Reduce Stress - take time to relax when eating

*Don't overeat - give your digestion time to rest

*Increase fibre in your diet, including local grown Fruit and vegetables- your gut bacteria loves fibre

* Use a good Probiotic - help to re balance, especially if on Antibiotics or regular medication.

*Try Fermented foods - which can help Good bacteria, Kimchi, Sauerkraut, Kefir

- Consume foods rich in polyphenols: dark chocolate, green tea, onions, blueberries, almonds.

- Prioritize healthy fats from olive oil, avocados and nuts.

- Avoid processed foods, refined sugars and saturated fats.

For advice on how you can improve your symptoms, or to book a gut health test to see the balance of your Gut Bacteria contact me for a free 15 minute chat.

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

Email: Gutandwellnessclinic@gmail.com Mobile: 07720385068
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To find out more, please contact us or visit us online at www.blackswan.co.uk.

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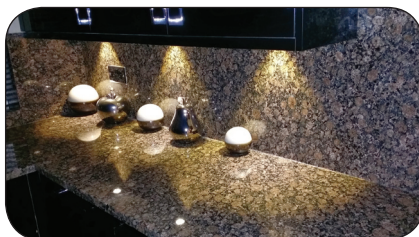
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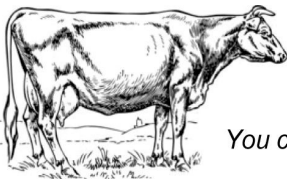
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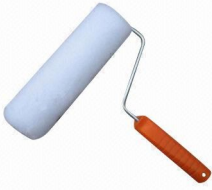
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FUTURE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Two members of the committee have announced their intention to stand down in April. This means that the committee will comprise just seven members and we do need to replace these two hard-working and loyal members.

As well as having two vacancies, the committee will also be increasing the size of the committee (but not exceeding twelve members) subject to member's approval.

Full details about becoming a committee member will be provided in the next edition of the magazine as well as giving more details about the existing vacancies.

The committee meets once a month, except for August, and arranges four public meetings throughout the year.

As well as organising various community events, the committee has strong ties by working with Holland's councillors.

Even if you are not keen on joining the committee, please renew your annual subscription (minimum £2).

In the meantime, if you would like more information about the work we do and your likely commitment, please contact the secretary, preferably by e-mail: secretary.of.hra@gmail.com.

HRA PUBLIC MEETING

Our next public meeting will be on 13th January at 2pm at the public hall.

We have invited Jenny Johnson, from the NHS. She will be talking about research in NHS General Practices.

As usual, all of our councillors have been invited to speak, and there will be an update of the committee's activities.

All residents are welcome.

HRA MEMBERSHIP

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 e-mailed information, please let me know.

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

Holland Residents Association

Committee Members

President	Colin Sargeant	
Chairperson	Carol Cooper	Email: Carol.cooper17@talktalk.net
Secretary	Stephen Collitt	Email: secretary.of.hra@gmail.com
Treasurer	Andrew Dunnett	Email: andrew.dunnett@live.co.uk
Magazine Editor	Mo Cochlin	Email: littlemaur199@gmail.com
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Social Secretary	Sandra Tank	Email: sandratank23@yahoo.co.uk
Trade & Commerce	Shaz Pritchard	Email: s4azza@aol.com
Open Spaces	Nigel Wood	Email: black-puma90@outlook.com

The committee can be contacted through the Hon. Secretary at:
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Who to Contact

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Eastcliff Ward	Andy Baker	Email: cllr.abaker@tendringdc.gov.uk

Your County Councillor



As I sat down to write my penultimate article, I realised I was saddened to be leaving Holland-on-Sea as your County Councillor. I thank all those who wished me well so far and explained why I will still stand as a County Councillor but, with the boundary change I will now be, as usual, standing in the area where I live which has always been Great Clacton.

That doesn't mean that I have stopped working for residents in Holland-on-Sea, far from it. Since my last article I have been out with all three district councillors representing Holland-on-Sea, attending their surgeries, registering potholes with them and tackling the pollarding of trees which seems to be a real issue all of a sudden. The councillors' surgeries are great and a real opportunity to raise issues with your councillors such as the Traffic Regulation Order that some residents discussed with us. These were being moved forward, but as usual ECC is a very slow beast.

I had the opportunity to pop into the library at the Holland Hall and has a good chat with the staff. I noted that it was very quiet. I remember the battle we had to keep the library and yet it seems we don't use it. A quick investigation showed that footfall is low and I wanted to take this opportunity to encourage people to use the library. The staff in the library are excellent and I will challenge every resident to visit it in the next three months to see what is on offer. I think you will be surprised!

It would be remiss of me not to mention the winter fuel allowance. The government has done what it has done, but I wanted to make sure that none of my residents are not missing out on the pension credit. There are several reasons why you might not be claiming it, but it is worth on average £3,900 a year or around £80 a week. I am happy to speak to and do a free check for any resident all in total confidence. My contact details can be found on page 43 of the magazine.

One last thing as I am running out of room. Every Essex Councillor receives a small amount of money called locality fund. I am hopeful that, along with the other seven County Councillors, to introduce Teentalk in Clacton which helps teenagers with life's issues. This has worked very well in Harwich and we are looking forward to it being expanded to this part of the world.

Mark Stephenson
County Councillor
Clacton East

Your District Councillor



By the time you read this, the clocks will have gone back, and so it will be darker earlier, so please take care when out and about our lovely village, when visiting the many events that are to be on, prior to the festive season. I am hoping to attend as many as I can, where time permits.

As in my usual report I have wandered round the Ward, when able, making note of issues that need to be dealt with, and reporting them where necessary, as well as responding to resident's emails, phone calls and concerns about a variety of issues.

As not everyone can make the Quarterly Meetings that the HRA hold, Joint HRA and Councillor monthly Surgeries have been held on a Saturday for two hours, over most of this year. Going forward it has been decided that these will continue in 2025, albeit every two months, as we attend, where we can, the 4 meetings held by the HRA each year. Those dates have yet to be booked, as I type this, but will be publicised as soon as the dates are confirmed. We would like to thank the HRA for financing the cost of the room hire for this year.

You may have noticed that an earth 'bund' has been installed at the Marine Parade East end of Eastcliff field. It has taken a while to get this done, but now it is here, and once established I am hopeful that the wooden posts will be removed. Several new trees have been planted, as well as replacing those that have been destroyed.

You will remember from my last report that I had asked our County Councillor, Mark Stephenson, to make enquiries as to when the pavements in Dulwich Road and Preston Road are likely to be resurfaced. Unfortunately there has not, as yet, been any positive news, but I will keep pressing for them to be done.

As you are all aware, I also deal with many issues involving the three Portfolios I am responsible for, Housing, Licensing and Planning, which involve weekly meetings with senior officers, a monthly meeting with Housing Team Managers on all things Housing and Homelessness, as well as meeting with Cabinet colleagues on a frequent basis, as well as other Committee meetings I am connected to.

I will also, by the time you read this, have attended the Annual Remembrance Sunday service at Clacton War Memorial, to remember all those who have died in the service of our country. It is something I feel very passionate about and it is heartening to see many of our younger residents come to also pay their respects.

I took a couple of weeks away from my desk in early November, this was due to taking our annual holiday in the sun, to relax and recharge the batteries, so my apologies if you tried to contact me in those weeks.

As always, if you need to contact me, my email details are elsewhere within the magazine or I can be contacted on 07773 008077. Stay safe and keep well.

Andy Baker
District Councillor
Eastcliff Ward

Your District Councillor



Dear Residents,

I hope you are all well, and looking after yourself as the dark nights draw in.

For those of you that might be struggling with the changes in government policy on the heating allowance please do check on our face book pages or with CVST to see if they are running benefit surgeries, just to make sure you are receiving all the benefits you're entitled to. CVST will also be able to direct you to the nearest winter warmer event where you're able to get a warm coat should you need one. If you're struggling and for one reason or another you're unable to access, please do let me know and we will see if we can help.

As always, the school uniform bank is going from strength to strength, and it is excellent thanks to the amazing volunteers we have, these ladies give their time freely to support this community and I am so proud of everything they do.

I spoke at the Holland Resident Association about the End-of-Life Care (terminal adults) Bill that is currently being debated in Parliament giving you all an update. If this Bill gets through the MP's vote on the 29th of November, I will be happy to give a talk one evening at the hall on what it might look like. I can tell you that the criteria are going to be extremely strict, in order to make it as safe as possible.

I have spoken with you before about the work that the hospice is doing around compassionate communities and how we are trying to connect with local groups to build a network of compassionate ambassadors. If there are any groups in Holland that would like to know more, please let me know and I will happily come along and talk to you all about it.

Anyhow that's me for now, any worries please do contact me via my email: cllr.cdoyle@tendingdc.gov.uk.

I apologise that there is sometimes a delay, but I will get back to you as soon as I can.

As this is my last update before Christmas, may I wish you all an incredibly happy Christmas and a wonderful 2025.

Carrie Doyle
District Councillor
St. Barts Ward

Your District Councillor



Dear Residents,

I have recently increased my walks. I am determined that I will keep this up throughout the winter months and establish a routine. Whilst this has obvious health benefits for me, this also gives me more opportunity to meet residents.

As your Councillors we are often asked for information. The challenge we face is how to pass that on. We have monthly surgeries at Holland Hall. This may alter in the New Year we will probably move to every 2nd month.

Councillors attend the HRA meetings and other meetings when we are invited (and sometimes when we are not).

I cycle with the Get Cycling Sunshine Coast cyclists and meet up with Holland on Sea Bluetits. We post on several Facebook groups.

We welcome any other ways to engage and look to you all for suggestions how to achieve this.

I have noticed how many people take photos of where we live. I must meet two or three people every day taking a photo of Holland on Sea. For me that is when you know you live somewhere special and let's work together to make it even more special.

The gym at York Road is now open. The official opening on the 4th November. It has specialist strength and balance equipment. We are currently exploring options on ways to give training on how to use that equipment.

Have a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year and please say hello if you see me around.

Adrian Smith
District Councillor
St. Barts Ward

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

The minimum subscription is £2 per year and the maximum £20. You can pay directly into our bank account the details of which are:-

Name: Holland Residents Association
Sort code: 30-65-22
a/c number: 81400160

For the reference please write SURNAME HOUSE NUMBER POSTCODE (for example: smith12CO151AB) which will enable us to record the payment against each household on our database) (if you are already on there.). If you have never been a member of the HRA before please email our Treasurer andrew.dunnett@live.co.uk so that we have your details (surname, house number, postcode).

It will of course still be possible to make payments by cash or cheque at Kings Avenue or Stratford Road Post Offices. Alternatively, cheques (no cash) can be sent to: The Secretary, HRA, 37 Ingarfield Road, CO15 5XA.

Please complete the form opposite.



CHRISTMAS QUIZ

**FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER
AT THE PUBLIC HALL**

PLEASE ARRIVE AT 7PM FOR 7.15PM START



Teams of up to six - £3 per person.

Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

Booking is essential – please call Sandra – 0793 246 7420

OR e-mail: secretary.of.hra@gmail.com



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

Final date for submission is **Monday 3rd February 2025.**

HRA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP (1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER)

Name (Please print)

Address

Post Code

If you would like to receive regular updates about matters of local interest please provide your email address

Please take this completed form and your subscription to Kings Avenue Post Office or Stratford Road Post Office (cheques payable to Holland Residents Association please). Our postmasters make no charge for this service. Membership forms and cheques can also be sent to:- Stephen Collitt, Secretary HRA, 37 Ingarfield Road, Holland-on-Sea, Essex CO15 5XA

Data Protection Act: In providing your personal details you are giving consent for them to be stored on the Association's membership database. No Information will be divulged to any third party.

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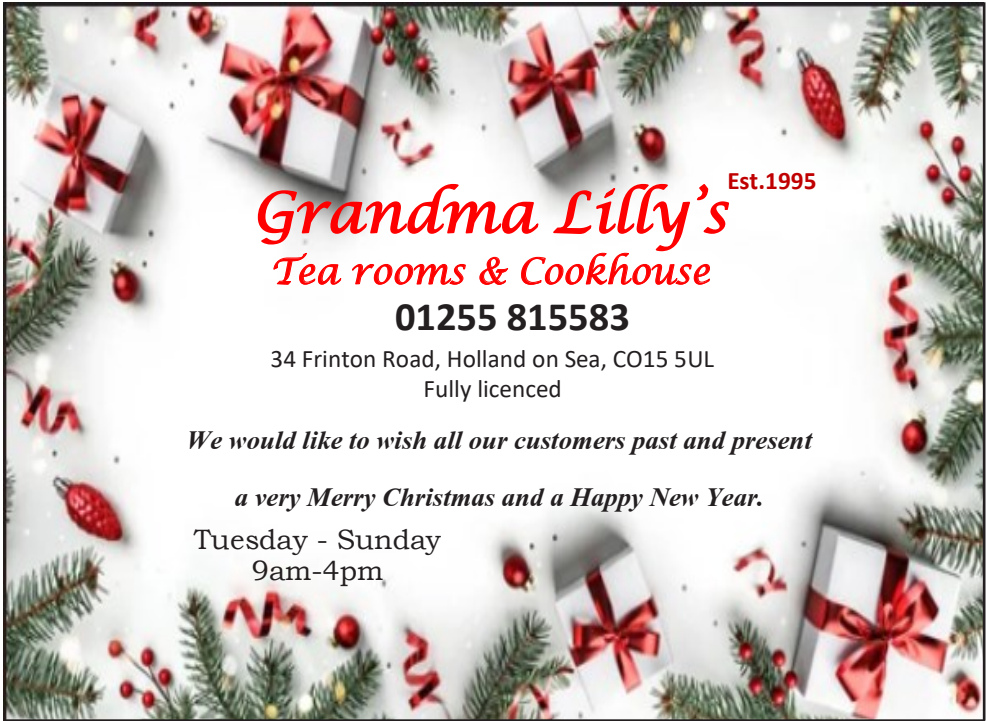


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The Robin Hood



How to Book Your Seat

In Person at the Triangle
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Frinton on Sea

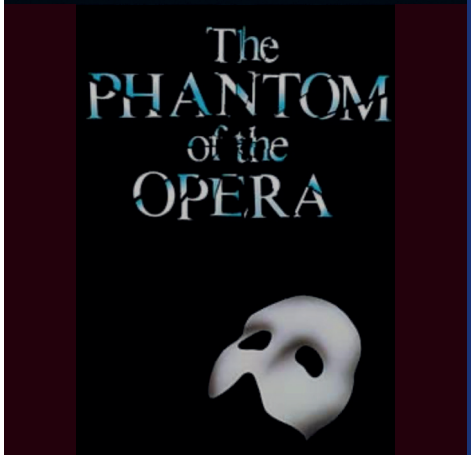
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