

New Chairman for Basildon Business Group

Not only does The Business Association have a Chairman from Palmers Solicitors so does the Basildon Business Group who has elected a new Chairman - Clive Tant, a partner in Palmers Solicitors which has offices in Basildon, Chafford Hundred and South Woodham Ferrers.

Mr Tant said: "Taking over from Phil Griffiths who has chaired Basildon Business Group (BBG) for the last two years will be challenging but it has never been more important for businesses across the Borough to be working together if we are to make sure that Basildon is leading the economic recovery.

"BBG is an excellent forum for representatives from local business organisations and major employers to meet key people from Basildon Council so we can agree the way forward for mutual benefit.

"In addition the regular Business Breakfast Briefings attract more than 100 local business people to find out what is happening in the area and to keep in touch with changes in the law and regulations affecting businesses.

"I am looking forward to my two years as Chairman and to working with colleagues to make sure that Basildon is seen as the leading economy not just in the Thames Gateway but across all of Essex!"

"Basildon has a lot going for it and under Clive's chairmanship BBG will be able to build on the excellent foundation we have to boost business in the Borough."



A bit more difficult this time. Whereabout in the midde east is this? Have a wild guess. Last issues picture was taken of the Somme in Amiens.

Don't forget the AGM at the Holiday Inn 11th October

Your Committee

President: John Stewart;

Officers:

Chairman: Joanne Smith;
Vice Chairman: Geoff Morris;
Secretary: Janet Hart;
Treasurer: Janet Hart

Committee:

Kate Boucher, Mike Hayward, Peter Patterson,
Clive Pike, Ann Quinn

The ultimate shopping experience comes to East London with c2c

Opening on 13 September, Westfield Stratford City is a fantastic new retail experience in the heart of East London. And there's no easier way to get there than by train with c2c. We offer fast, frequent services to West Ham, with late departures and car parking at most stations. From there it's just a five-minute tube journey on the Jubilee line to Stratford and then a few steps to Europe's largest urban shopping centre.

With our great-value fares, you'll have more money to make the most of the fabulous shops, restaurants and entertainment at Westfield Stratford City.

The shopping centre reinvented

Westfield Stratford City is so much more than just a shopping centre. As well as high street favourites and speciality stores, there are over 50 places to dine, a 17-screen, all-digital cinema, the UK's largest casino, three hotels and a 14-lane bowling alley, not to mention public art spaces and a classic market.

Fast, frequent services

Travelling to Westfield Stratford City with c2c means choice and convenience. During the centre's opening week, longer trains will operate on all services.

Mondays to Saturdays

- All stations Shoeburyness to West Horndon 4 trains an hour
- Stanford-le-Hope and all stations to Rainham, Chafford & Ockendon 2 trains an hour

Sunday services may vary.

No Service

Talking about trains reminded me about an incident I had at the end of August. I was in Clacton for a few days the weather sunny and warm. I fancied a walk in the fresh air so strolled along the front into Frinton a few miles away. I was pushing a wheelchair at the time.

We decided to have tea and cakes in one of those old fashioned tea shops. My 'passenger' in the wheelchair said that he would quite like to return to Clacton by train. We walked to the station at the end of the High Street. I thought I had better ask if the trains were wheelchair friendly. Unfortunately I was unable to find a member of staff to ask.

I did see an 'information' sign with a button which I pressed and after a few minutes a voice asked if they could help.

I explained my concern that there could be a problem with getting the wheelchair on and off the train. His response was to ask a member of staff. I explained I was unable to find any to which after a conversation at his end he told me the staff finish at 1.00pm, the time now was 3.45pm.

He did tell me however that I could have help with the wheelchair - wait for it - but they need twenty-four hours notice! I politely told him that I wanted to travel at the time and not the following day, but he was not able to help.

Enquiring of a passenger at the station I was told that I could get a bus to Thorpe-le-Soken and then change buses to Clacton. The buses ran every two hours; so we walked the seven miles back to where we were staying!



Healthy Breakfast

On Tuesday 6th September sixteen members attended a continental breakfast meeting held at Neon Hair & Beauty Salon which is based in 40 Bowlers Croft Basildon.

Joint owners, Alex and Sandra welcomed us and showed the group the differing types of equipment that could be used. Some of the braver members volunteered to try these out while the others stood and watched!

Besides toning tables there is the hair salon for both sexes; sunbeds, spray on tan and not forgetting a section set aside for nails.

A fairly comprehensive beauty business.

If you are interested their telephone number is 01268 931164.



Our chairman decides to try it out



Sandra and Alex demonstrating the benefits of the toning tables

St. Lukes Breakfast Meeting

Back in July the TBA held a breakfast meeting in the grounds of St. Luke's Hospice in Basildon.

The weather was very kind to us and a good breakfast was made available for everyone.

We were given a short talk about the hospice and for those who wanted to stay there was a visit inside the hospice afterwards showing the facilities.

Mike Hayward volunteered to take part in the ST. Luke's Triathlon in October. This involves a 400metre swim, 20 kilometre bicycle ride and a 5 kilometre run. Those attending are sponsoring him and anyone else who would like to do so can go onto <http://www.justgiving.com/mike-hayward>



Mike Hayward volunteering for the Triathlon!



Art in Basildon

Back in July I was invited with others interested in the arts to the opening of a new gallery in the Eastgate Centre.

The venue is in the Upper Mall opposite New Look and Topman. Local artists were present and there were many styles of art on display.

Eastgate has joined forces with the Basildon Arts Trust, The Basildon Heritage Trail, The Basildon Arts Trail and South Essex College to make this new venture possible.

Titled "Basildon Eastgate Art", the gallery will be resident within Eastgate over several weeks during summer and possibly even longer. It will exhibit a variety of works including paintings (some of which come from the valuable BAT collection), photography and sculptures. The gallery will also host educational sessions and workshops as local artists give advice to those wishing to pursue art either as a hobby or even a career.

The concept of an art exhibition at Eastgate is not exactly new: a previous gallery here in April 2006 attracted 51,000 visitors over a six-month period which demonstrates the interest in, and popularity of, art within the borough.

The new BEA gallery is a really exciting project for Eastgate and the community as a whole. It will demonstrate the depth of artistic talent that exists within our midst, provide a wonderful cultural attraction for shoppers and make a huge, positive statement about Basildon.

Over 2500 visitors viewed the gallery in the first week. It is well worth a visit as it does add a that bit of culture the town needs. It is also a good place to visit when your spouse is looking around the clothes stores in Eastgate and you are left twiddling your thumbs waiting outside the changing rooms!

Lets hope it remains there.

For your Diary

11th October	Lunch Meeting AGM
13th December	Lunch Meeting Christmas Special
January 2012	To be advised
February	To be advised

Financial Planning

Dan was a single chap living at home with his father and working in the family business.

His father wasn't a well man and it dawned on him that one day he would be very wealthy. He decided to look for a wife.

One evening at an investment meeting he spotted the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. Her natural beauty took his breath away.

He smiled at her and said "I may look just like any other guy in this room but in a short while I will inherit £200 million pounds from my sick father."

She was obviously impressed because she asked for his business card.

Three days later she became his stepmother!

Women are so much better at financial planning than men!