

2024 Fun Walk

Press Pack

PUBLISHED JANUARY 2025

The 2024 Fun Walk raised nearly £101,000 for local charities and good causes.

2024 SPONSORS:

- Greater Anglia
- Brown & Carroll
- Butyl Products Group
- IFE Global Logistics
- Tunnelcraft
- Sanctuary Housing
- Hunt Smee
- Mr Barrie Stone and others.

Founded in 2002, the Fun Walk Trust has since raised more than £1.6 million for good causes across Essex and beyond.



The Fun Walk

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Event Announcement



FUN WALK: Louise McKinlay, Deputy Leader for Essex County Council with Trustees Chris Brewster, Sandra Bastow and Sylvia Kent at BBW CVS Charity Sector Event on March 20

At a Charity Sector event last week held by BBW CVS, the Trustees met with the Deputy Leader of Essex County Council, Louise McKinlay to promote the Fun Walk and were also there to encourage organisations to register for the September Fun Walk. The Fun Walk trustees Sylvia Kent, Christine Brewster and Sandra Bastow met some of the amazing organisations that the Fun Walk has helped, and also talked to staff from other charities and community groups that were looking to boost funding for their projects and good causes.

The Fun Walk team provides the sponsorship forms for the walks, which may take place anywhere and anytime during September. Then with the generous support of local businesses the Trust tops up the sponsorship money raised by each organisation, on a pro-rata basis, which last year equated to a 40 per cent bonus.

Sandra Bastow said: "The Fun Walk is extremely grateful for the local businesses that have already confirmed their support of the 2024 event including Greater Anglia, Butyl Products Group, Tunnelcraft and others. I am delighted by the number of organisations that have already registered."

For more information, and to register a team or organisation, please visit the Fun Walk website at thefunwalktrust.co.uk.

2024 Fun Walk Launches with Support from Local Businesses

Written by Paul Golder in Local news
Tuesday 2 April 2024, 6:56pm

1,817



Fun Walk Registration now open

At a Charity Sector event last week held by BBW CVS, the Trustees met with the Deputy Leader of Essex County Council, Louise McKinlay to promote the Fun Walk and were also there to encourage organisations to register for the September Fun Walk.

BRENTWOOD Gazette

10 GAZETTE WEDNESDAY APRIL 10, 2024 ALSO SERVING: BILLERICA, WICKFORD AND DUNGAY

News

Fun Walk team gearing up for their next charity fundraiser in September

FUN WALK trustees have met with Cllr Louise McKinlay, the deputy leader of Essex County Council, to promote this September's event and encourage organisations to register for it.

Mayor and Honorary Mayor John Smith and the team started the Fun Walk in 2002 to commemorate the Queen's Golden Jubilee and raised £400K for six charities and projects.

The event became an annual one and continues to grow.

In 2019 the Fun Walk became a registered charity and is now officially known as The Fun Walk Trust (Registered Charity No. 1131462).

In 2019 Honorary Mayor and Wickford Cllr was appointed as patron and is now chair of the Trust.

It has been over 20 years since the Fun Walk started. Sylvia Kent, Christine Brewster and Sandra Bastow, trustees of the Fun Walk, have already confirmed their support of the 2024 event, including Greater Anglia, Butyl Products Group, Tunnelcraft and others, and I am delighted by the number of organisations that have already registered."

The Fun Walk team provides the sponsorship forms for the walks, which may take place anywhere and anytime during September.

Then, with the generous support of local businesses, the Trust tops up the sponsorship money raised by each organisation, on a pro-rata basis, which last year equated to a 40 per cent bonus.

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For more information, and to register a team or organisation, please visit the Fun Walk website at thefunwalktrust.co.uk.

The event is not confined to charities; any good cause or project may join now supported by the Trust. For example, many, pet-related, and school, church, and community groups regularly participate.

In 2020, given the challenges presented by Covid-19, the decision was made to switch to a virtual format, allowing supporters to walk the distance any time during the month, which has raised over £1,000,000 since the Fun Walk's inception.

The Fun Walk Trust organises the walk and raises over £100,000 for local charities and good causes. The amount raised in 2023 brought the total raised to £1,000,000.

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Event publicity included multiple articles in local newspapers, community websites and on social media.

The Fun Walk was also featured on-air by Phoenix FM and Gateway 97.8, and John Baron was interviewed about the 2024 Fun Walk success on BBC Radio Essex



Pre-Event Coverage (May - August 2024)



2024 Fun Walk bonus pot gets boost from Brown & Carroll Ltd

10th May 2024 | Posted by Aston Avery

At a visit to long term Fun Walk Trust sponsor Brown and Carroll's office in Basildon last week, the Fun Walk Trustees John Baron MP, Sylvia Kent, Christine Brewster and Sandra Bastow were able to share the great news that pledges from local businesses to the 2024 Bonus pot have now exceeded £30,000 and to thank Brown & Carroll for their donation this year and in preceding years.

John Baron said:

"On behalf of the trustees and team, I would like to convey a personal thank you to Brown and Carroll, and to all the other sponsors that have pledged a donation to the 2024 Fun Walk Bonus Pot. They include Greater Anglia, Butyl Products Group, Tunnelcraft, IFE Global Logistics, Swan Housing Group, RIS Group, Mr Barrie Stone and others. The Bonus pot now exceeds £30,000 and this will be distributed on a pro rata basis to all this year's participating organisations."

"We continue to encourage good causes to register for the September Fun Walk, please come and join us to raise money for your community projects. For more information, please visit the Fun Walk website: www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk."

In welcoming the Fun Walk Trustees, Steve Brown, co-founder and Director at Brown and Carroll, said:

"We have been supporting the Fun Walk since 2018 as this is a great way of providing important funding to many local good causes. It also aligns really well with our Social Impact objectives. We wish all participants well and look forward to hearing of the total monies raised."

This year the sponsored walks can happen anytime during September and at any location chosen by the registered charity or local community group. With the generous support of local businesses, the Trust tops up the sponsorship money raised by each group on a pro-rata basis, which last year equated to a 40% bonus over and above the amount each organisation raised themselves.

BRENTWOOD LOCAL NEWSWALK DAY EXPRESS ONLY KIBBLEVALE NEWS

Gazette

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024 ALSO SERVING: BILLERICAY, WICKFORD AND ONGAR www.brentwoodgazette.co.uk

6 GAZETTE WEDNESDAY MAY 15, 2024

News

Bonus pot for charity's annual walk reaches £30,000 in pledges

PHILIPPER News local businesses to the Fun Walk's 2024 bonus pot have now reached £30,000.

The news was revealed during a visit to long-term Fun Walk Trust sponsor Brown and Carroll's office in Basildon by Fun Walk Trustees John Baron MP, Sylvia Kent, Christine Brewster and Sandra Bastow.

They were also able to thank Brown & Carroll for the donation this year and in preceding years.

Mr Baron said: "On behalf of the trustees and team, I would like to convey a personal thank you to Brown and Carroll, and to all the other sponsors that have pledged a donation to the 2024 Fun Walk Bonus Pot. They include Greater Anglia, Butyl Products Group, Tunnelcraft, IFE Global Logistics, Swan Housing Group, RIS Group, Mr Barrie Stone and others. The Bonus pot now exceeds £30,000 and this will be distributed on a pro-rata basis to all this year's participating organisations."

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2024 Fun Walk Bonus pot gets boost from Brown & Carroll Ltd

Written by Paul Golder in Local news
Saturday 4 May 2024, 11.49am

2,788



Steve Brown, director of Brown & Carroll with Fun Walk trustees. L-R: Sandra Bastow, Sylvia Kent, John Baron MP, Steve Brown and Christine Brewster.

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SYLVIA KENT'S READING & WRITING FORUM

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024

OUR FUN WALK ACTIVITIES ARE HAVING SOME WONDERFUL RESULTS

A history and lifestyle journal
www.svwj.co.uk

ABOUT ME

Name: Sylvia Kent
Location: Billericay, Essex, United Kingdom



90 Organisations registered with an estimated 3,000 participants.

The 2024 Fun Walk raised nearly £101,000 for local charities and good causes.



Essex Fun Walk Gives Boost to Local Charities

Written by Paul Golder in Local news
Thursday 6 June 2024, 5.58pm 1,771



The Fun Walk Trustees had the pleasure of visiting the BCCS offices in Billericay last week following an invitation from Community Engagement Officer Damian Dillon, to see how the funding provided by the Fun Walk Trust is being used. The trustees were delighted to meet with the BCCS team and to be shown around their wonderful facilities being used to support Essex children.

Damian Dillon said:

"BCCS is committed to supporting a future where children and young people have a voice that is heard, enabling them to access the best possible mental health support. In recognition of our 40th anniversary this year, we will be holding a number of walks during the summer months in support of children's mental health. The Fun Walk Trust has helped us boost our fundraising by means of their generous Bonus pot, and has been an important source of funding for us over the last 8+ years."

Special Needs and Parents (SNAP), is a local charity that has also been part of the Fun Walk for nearly a decade. Fiona Townsend, Fundraising Officer for SNAP said:

"Support from the Fun Walk Bonus Pot helps us continue to be there for more than 4,000 Essex Families. Thanks to the Fun Walk Team and the companies that generously contribute, families can continue to rely on a variety of therapeutic and developmental sessions for children and young people with an additional need or disability. We are looking forward to this year's event and we hope to encourage even more of our supporters to get involved."

The Fun Walk invites Essex charities or local community groups to register for the September Fun Walk, to raise money for their projects. The sponsored walks can happen anytime during September and at any location chosen by the charity or community group.

John Baron, Chair of Trustees, said:

"Like BCCS and SNAP, many charities and good causes are not just benefitting from raising funding through their own sponsorship efforts, but also from The Fun Walk Trust's Bonus Pot which last year topped-up sponsorship monies by 40%. Each year local businesses and individuals donate into the Bonus Pot and this year, so far, they include Greater Anglia, Brown & Carroll, Butyl Products Group, Tunnelcraft, IFE Global Logistics, Swan Housing Group, RIS Group, Mr Barrie Stone and others."

NEWS POLITICS

Fun Walk Trust gives boost to local charities

By Staff Reporter June 6, 2024

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Essex Fun Walk gives boost to local charities

7th June 2024 Posted by Aston Aven

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For more information, please visit the Fun Walk website: www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk

News



Fun Walk trustees learn how vital cash is helping children's charity

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From left, Christine Brewer (Fun Walk Trustees), Damian Dillon (BCCS), Fiona Townsend (SNAP), Julie Abbott and Christine Walker (BCCS)

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Your continued commitment enables us to provide essential services, support families and individuals in need of mental health assistance, and create a safe space where people can find hope and healing. We could not achieve this without your generosity and belief in our mission.

Sally Jackson-Robins
Fundraising Officer

Radio Romford

COMMUNITY

Essex Charities Prepare for September Virtual Fun Walk

10 July 2024 - by admin



The Fun Walk organisers are estimating that over 80 charities and a record 3,000 supporters will take part in this year's walk, and look forward to seeing all the returning organisations as well as those participating for the first time.

There is still time for charities, local schools and churches, grass roots sports teams and other community interest groups to participate – they can register at www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk

The event allows supporters to complete their sponsored walk anytime during September, with sponsorship forms and guidance available from the Fun Walk team.

John Baron, Chair of the Fun Walk Trustees said:

"The Fun Walk has raised over £1,500,000 for local charities and community groups since it started in 2002, and many use this as a key funding event for the year. We have a 'Bonus Pot' ready to distribute, courtesy of our wonderful local businesses who have already pledged over £30,000 for this year alone. They include Greater Anglia, Brown & Carroll, Butyl Products Group, Tunnelcraft, IFE Global Logistics, Swan Housing Group, RIS Group, Mr Barrie Stone and others."

In Your Area

IN YOUR AREA COMMUNITY

Essex charities prepare for September Virtual Fun Walk

Things to do in your area
By NOTICEBOARD · 12 July 2024



Fun Walk organisers are estimating that over 80 charities and a record 3,000 supporters will take part in this year's walk, and look forward to seeing all the returning organisations as well as those participating for the first time. There is still time for charities, local schools, churches, grass roots sports teams and other community interest groups to participate.

BRENTWOOD Gazette

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2024 ALSO SERVING BILLERICAY, WICKFORD AND ORINGAY www.brentwoodgazette.co.uk

News

Record number of supporters set to take part in the Fun Walk

THE Fun Walk organisers are estimating that more than 80 charities and a record 3,000 supporters will take part in this year's event. They are looking forward to seeing all the returning organisations as well as those participating for the first time. There is still time for charities, local schools and churches, grass roots sports teams and other community interest groups to participate by registering at www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk. The event allows supporters to complete their sponsored walk at any time during September, with sponsorship forms and guidance

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MP Mr Baron and his team started the Fun Walk in 2002 to commemorate the Queen's olden Jubilee and raised £6,000 for six charities and projects. The event became an annual one and continues to grow. To assist with its growth, in 2013 the Fun Walk became a registered charity and it is now officially known as The Fun Walk Trust (Registered Charity number: 1151626). In 2019 Basildon Billericay and Wickford CVS was appointed to administer the event on behalf of the trustees. Mr Baron continues his role with the charity as chair of the trustees and by soliciting support and



Sandra Bastow, a Fun Walk trustee, with the total raised last year

sponsorship from local businesses. The Bonus Pot is a unique feature of the event, into which local businesses and individuals kindly donate and which is then distributed to participating organisations on a pro-rata basis in addition to the monies they

themselves raise in sponsorship. The 2023 event raised more than £85,000 for local charities and community groups. The Fun Walk Trust organises the walk and takes care of the paperwork, leaving the projects free to focus on raising sponsorship.



Fun Walk team visits Essex Therapy Dogs ahead of September Virtual Fun Walk

23rd August 2024 Posted by Aston Avery

The Fun Walk Trustees were delighted to visit Witham Leisure Centre to see the work of Essex Therapy Dogs, who are one of the many charities and local community groups registered for this year's Fun Walk.

Tina Jullings, who founded Essex Therapy Dogs in 2021, said:

"In 2023, we were invited to join the Fun Walk for the first time. Registration was simple to do, and we were provided with posters and sponsorship forms which were sent to all the members of Essex Therapy Dogs."

"As the event was so flexible, our members were able to complete the 5k sponsored walk anytime between 1st - 30th September, and we decided to schedule a week of sponsored walks in Colchester, Braintree, Southend, and Chelmsford during the first week of September where we raised over £300. The Fun Walk Trustee's then gave us £122 from the bonus pot. As a small charity, every penny raised helps us provide comfort, help and support to people who need it. For these people, a visit from a therapy dog can be the highlight of their week, as our dogs can help the sick, lonely and elderly people feel happier and not so alone."

"We have signed up again to do it this year and are looking forward to raising more much needed funds for our amazing dog therapy group."

Richard Moss, Community and Health Development Manager at Witham Leisure Centre said:

"Essex Therapy Dogs have been joining us at our Social Spaces sessions for over a year now. They have proved hugely popular with visitors, in particular children. We love the partnership with Essex Therapy Dogs and we are fully supportive of their mission statement. The dogs bring real joy to members and visitors at Witham Leisure Centre."

The Fun Walk team is estimating that over 90 charities and a record 3,000 supporters will take part in this year's walk, and look forward to seeing all the returning organisations as well as those participating for the first time.

Fun Walk Trustee, Sandra Bastow, said:

"There is still time for charities, local schools and churches, grass roots sports teams and other community interest groups to participate – they can register at www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk"

"We are lucky to have the support of wonderful local businesses who have donated over £30,000 to this year's Bonus Pot. They include Greater Anglia, Sanctuary Housing Association, Brown & Carroll, Butyl Products Group, Tunnelcraft, IFE Global Logistics, Mr Barrie Stone and others."



Fun Walk Team visits Essex Therapy Dogs ahead of September Virtual Fun Walk

Written by Paul Golder in Local news
Friday 23 August 2024, 5.09pm

1,051



Essex Therapy Dogs with Fun Walk Trustees and Richard Moss

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Tina Jullings, who founded Essex Therapy Dogs in 2021, said:

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IN YOUR AREA COMMUNITY

Fun Walk team visits Essex Therapy Dogs ahead of September virtual Fun Walk

A community news update from your area

By NOTICEBOARD - 28 August 2024



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Thank you goes to the generous organisations that contributed to the bonus pot which was shared between the good causes taking part in the event.



Thank you so much the money will make such a difference to our project and our walkers will be so pleased they have made a difference when I tell them.

Christine Barlow
Clerk to Bowers Gifford & North Benfleet Parish Council

Event Coverage

Rotary Club of Billericay Newsletter
 Rotary GB41 Best Club Bulletin 2017 & 2018
 September 2024

Walking for Charity - and for Fun!

See Inside: Billericay Fun Walk; Rotary Reunion Supplement; Renovating the Billericay Signs; Civic Service and much more

Fun in the Sun!

The Billericay Fun Walk has had the Rotary Club of Billericay's support for many years because it helps raise money for many charities in the district through sponsorship of the walkers. In 2023 we received a bonus pot for which the Rotary Club of our town, John Barst, successfully solicited donations from local firms amounting to thousands of pounds, each year.

What a Bonus
 John Barst PPS and his team started the Fun Walk in 2002 to commemorate the Queen's Golden Jubilee and raised £6,000 for six charities and projects. The event became an annual one and continues to grow - the amount of money raised from the bonus pot varies each year according to how much they raise, and the total in the pot has not varied between 100% of the money raised (in 2002) to over £1,000 (in 2023) and the charity received a further £1,000 down to 2025. In 2023 we received an extra 40% bonus!

What's It a Real Walk!
 To fund the total raised by all participants in 2023 was a total of £85,102.46, including a 40% bonus provided by the Bonus Pot Sponsors. This means that from his inception, the Fun Walk has raised over £1,535,000 for local charities and community groups. Hopefully the help from local businesses will allow us to receive an even larger bonus this year.

What's It a Real Walk!
 Entering a town is a fantastic way for groups to have fun outside, with a raising money for a good cause. Once again, the walk is a "real" walk to

... instead of a mass walk of all participants walking together" around a fixed course at Billericay, each charity could choose their own route of 2, 5, 10 or more with the only requirement being that it had to be completed in September. It may be a "virtual" walk, but it does involve a real walk over 2 kilometers, with a computer simulation.

The Intrepid Team
 We earned the weather forecast and chose to walk on September 17, at one time the only "non-raining" day for a couple of weeks. In fact, the forecast changed, and we were in the middle of a rain squall.

So on that day Priscilla, Patrick, Barbara, IPP, Roger, Katie, Brian, William, Peter and Christine Saving, Les

... continued on Page 2

Fun in the Sun! (continued)

Page 4 www.clubcano3527276.org www.facebook.com/BillericaRotary www.billericayrotary.org

BOSP
 Brighter Opportunities for Special People

In Your Area

IN YOUR AREA COMMUNITY

In pictures: Around 3,000 supporters took to the streets of Essex for the Fun Walk 2024

Local businesses top up the amount each organisation raises

By NOTICEBOARD · 31 October 2024



WALKERS UNITE: St John's and St Mary's churches plus St John's Childcare joined in

This year's Fun Walk saw 90 local charities and community groups register, and an estimated 3,000 supporters take part in sponsored walks across Essex.

The Fun Walk Trust helps charities, local schools and churches, grass roots sports teams, and other community groups raise funds for their projects and initiatives.

A bonus pot sponsored by local businesses tops up the amount each organisation raises themselves.



ALL MARCH: Basildon Twinning join the Fun Walk



STAND TOGETHER: The Cidran Sailing Trust join the Fun Walk



PLOTTING A ROUTE: Billericay Rotary Club join the Fun Walk at Little Burstead

"To see more photos and learn about the Fun Walk, please visit our website: thefunwalktrust.co.uk



CANINE COMPANIONS: Basildon Borough Heritage Society joined in



TAKING PART: Manor Mission Church joined the Fun Walk

"We could not hold this event without the generous support of local businesses who sponsor the bonus pot.



BEST FOOT FORWARD: Baddow Hall Schools PTA took part



WALKING TALL: Basildon Operatic joined the Fun Walk at Wat Tyler Park

"They include Greater Anglia, Sanctuary Housing Association, Brown & Carroll, Butyl Products Group, Tunnelcraft, IFE Global Logistics, Mr Barrie Stone, and other individuals. Our thanks go to them all!"



DRESS TO IMPRESS: Friends of Billericay School joined the fun

As a small independent charity who is self-funded, help from friends in the community makes an enormous difference to us.

On behalf of the children, parents & siblings who benefit from our services may I again express our huge appreciation for your support, your kindness really makes a difference.

Helen Diddams
 BOSP Community Fundraiser

News

Thousands help to put fun into Fun Walk while raising funds for causes

CELEBRATION EVENING IS PLANNED FOR LATER THIS MONTH

This year's Fun Walk saw 90 local charities and community groups registered and an estimated 3,000 supporters take part in sponsored walks across Essex.

The participating organisations are currently collecting their sponsorship money, and the Fun Walk team is set for a 'grand reveal' of the amount raised at their Celebration Evening on November 29.

The Fun Walk Trust helps charities, local schools and churches, grass roots sports teams and other community groups raise funds for their projects and initiatives, and a bonus pot sponsored by local businesses tops up the amount each organisation raises themselves.

John Baron, chair of the Fun Walk trustees, said: "This year's event looks as if it will be even more successful than last year, and we are delighted so many charities and good causes will be able to use the Fun Walk to boost their fundraising efforts."

"The photos we received of the various sponsored walks completed around Essex have been wonderful and we are happy to share some of the highlights. To see more photos and learn about the Fun Walk, please visit our website: www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk.

"We could not hold this event



St John's and St Mary's Churches plus St John's Childcare



Billericay Rotary Club at Little Burstead PETER GREENE



Billericay Community Housing Association

without the generous support of local businesses who sponsor the Bonus Pot. They include Greater Anglia, Sanctuary Housing Association, Brown & Carroll, Butyl Products Group, Tunnelcraft, IFE Global Logistics, Mr Barrie Stone and other individuals. Our thanks go to them all."

John Baron and his team started the Fun Walk in 2002 to commemorate the Queen's Golden Jubilee and raised £6,000 for six charities and projects. The event became an annual one and continues to grow.

To assist with its growth, in 2013 the Fun Walk became a registered charity, and it is now officially known as The Fun Walk Trust (Registered Charity number: 1151626).

In 2019, Hamilton Billericay and Wickford CVS was appointed to administer the event on behalf of the trustees.

John continues his role with the charity as chair of the trustees and by soliciting support and sponsorship from local businesses. The total money raised since the Fun Walk's inception to £1,535,000.

The Fun Walk Trust organises the walk and takes care of the paper work, leaving the projects free to focus on raising sponsorship money and enjoying the event.

and individuals kindly donate and which is then distributed to participating organisations on a pro-rata basis in addition to the monies they themselves raise in sponsorship.

The 2023 event raised more than £85,000 for local charities and community groups, and brought the total money raised since the Fun Walk's inception to £1,535,000.

The Fun Walk Trust organises the walk and takes care of the paper work, leaving the projects free to focus on raising sponsorship money and enjoying the event.

The event is not confined to charities: any good cause or project can join once approved by the trust. For example, many pre-schools and schools, churches and community groups now regularly participate.

In 2020, given the challenges presented by Covid-19 and the recognition that local charities and good causes needed help more than ever, the decision was made to switch to a different format, allowing supporters the flexibility to walk the distance any time during the selected month (and not all having to gather on a specific date).

This proved to be very successful and will be continued for the foreseeable future.



Basildon Olympic at Wat Tyler Park

Hamelin Trust

Friends of Billericay School



The Parish of Langdon Hills ST MARY'S ST JOHN'S

The Fun Walk Trust

WE'RE DOING THE FUN WALK 2024 ON SATURDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER 10.00AM - 12.30PM

5K WALK AROUND THE GREAT BERRY AREA WITH REFRESHMENTS AT ST JOHN'S CHURCH TO FINISH. ALL WELCOME

A huge thank you to everyone who took part in the Fun Walk during September to raise funds for BOSP

Total raised to be announced at the end of November!

BOSP BOSP.CO.UK BOSPESEX BOSPCCHARITY BOSPCCHARITY

SYLVIA KENT'S READING & WRITING FORUM

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 04, 2024

OUR 2024 FUN WALK: ALL SET FOR THE "GRAND REVEAL" ON FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER

A history and lifestyle journal www.svwj.co.uk

ABOUT ME

Name: Sylvia Kent
Location: Billericay, Essex, United Kingdom



This year's Fun Walk saw 90 local charities and community groups registered and an estimated 3,000 supporters take part in sponsored walks across Essex. The participating organisations are currently collecting their sponsorship money, and the Fun Walk team is set for a 'grand reveal' of the amount raised at their Celebration Evening on November 29th.

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"The photos we received of the various sponsored walks completed around Essex have been wonderful and we are happy to share some of the highlights. To see more photos and learn about the Fun Walk, please visit our website: www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk"

"We could not hold this event without the generous support of local businesses who sponsor the Bonus Pot. They include Greater Anglia, Sanctuary Housing Association, Brown & Carroll, Butyl Products Group, Tunnelcraft, IFE Global Logistics, Mr Barrie Stone and other individuals. Our thanks go to them all."

posted by Sylvia Kent @ 6:42 PM

Post Event Coverage



2024 Fun Walk raises over £100,000 for Essex good causes

6th December 2024 | Posted by Aston Avery

At a Celebration Evening last week attended by many local charities and community groups, John Baron, Chair of the Fun Walk Trustees, announced that the 2024 Fun Walk had raised nearly £101,000 with an estimated 2,000 supporters taking part in sponsored walks across Essex.

John welcomed Professor Michael Almond, Deputy Lieutenant of Essex, representing His Majesty the King, Commanding Officer Simon Taylor and the 2393 (Billericay) Air Training Cadets, as well as Jim Shrubbs the Billericay Town Cryer, and thanked them for their support of the Celebration evening.

John Baron said:

"I confirmed last year that I wished to continue my involvement with The Fun Walk Trust charity that we established in 2002, and which has since raised over £1,635,000 for local charities and good causes."

"To be part of the Fun Walk over 22 years is a great honour. It represents the best of our communities in working together and marries a very strong charitable and entrepreneurial ethos by encouraging businesses to donate into the bonus pot which in turn encourages charities to do even more."

John thanked the organisations present for all the work they do in the local community during the year, and said:

"Tonight we can celebrate that as well".

In terms of Fundraising, John was happy to announce that this year's event raised over £100,000 including the bonus, which this year was set at 30%. This total is better than recent years' efforts and the bonus amount along with Gift Aid allows charities to add more than 50% to the money raised directly from their sponsored walks.

John said:

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank our generous Bonus Pot sponsors including Brown & Carroll (London), Sanctuary Housing, Greater Anglia, Tunnelcraft, Butyl Products Group, IFE Global Logistics, Mr Barrie Stone and a number of other individuals."

There was also a special mention of Ram Goyal of Hallmark Care Homes, who was present at the event, given he has been a major supporter of the Fun Walk over the past decade.

John thanked the 'Home team' for making things run smoothly including the Fun Walk Trustees, Sandra, Christine, and Sylvia as well as Simon Licence from Hunt Smee Accountants, and the BBW CVS team led by Chief Officer Simon Johnson, who help provide the administration for the Fun Walk Trust.

He concluded by saying:

"If you know of any other good causes or charities, please ask them to get in touch with us for next year's event."



2024 Fun Walk Raises over £100,000 for Essex Good Causes

Written by Paul Golder in Local news
Sunday 8 December 2024, 10.57am

869



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He concluded by saying "If you know of any other good causes or charities, please ask them to get in touch with us for next year's event."

IN YOUR AREA COMMUNITY

In pictures: 2024 Fun Walk raises more than £100,000 for Essex good causes

An estimated 2,000 supporters took part in sponsored walks across Essex

By **NOTICEBOARD** - 9 December 2024



CHARITY SUPPORTERS: Basildon Borough Heritage Society (Images: Anna Lukala)

At a celebration evening attended by many local charities and community groups, John Baron, chair of the Fun Walk Trustees, announced that the 2024 Fun Walk had raised nearly £101,000, with an estimated 2,000 supporters taking part in sponsored walks across Essex.

John welcomed Professor Michael Almond, Deputy Lieutenant of Essex, representing His Majesty the King, Commanding Officer Simon Taylor, and the 2393 (Billericay) Air Training Cadets, as well as Jim Shrubbs, the Billericay Town Crier, and thanked them for their support of the celebration evening.

John Baron said: "I confirmed last year that I wished to continue my involvement with The Fun Walk Trust charity that we established in 2002, and which has since raised more than £1,635,000 for local charities and good causes.



"To be part of the Fun Walk for 22 years is a great honour. It represents the best of our communities in working together, and marries a very strong **charitable** and entrepreneurial ethos by encouraging businesses to donate into the bonus pot, which in turn encourages charities to do even more."

John thanked the organisations present for all the work they do in the local community during the year, and said: "Tonight we can celebrate that as well."



In terms of fundraising, John was happy to announce that this year's event raised more than £100,000, including the bonus, which this year was set at 30 per cent.

This total is better than recent years' efforts, and the bonus amount, along with Gift Aid, allows charities to add more than 50 per cent to the money raised directly from their sponsored walks.



John added: "I would like to take this opportunity to thank our generous Bonus Pot sponsors, including Brown & Carroll (London), Sanctuary Housing, Greater Anglia, Tunnelcraft, Butyl Products Group, IFE Global Logistics, Mr Barrie Stone, and a number of other individuals."

There was also a special mention of Ram Goyal of Hallmark Care Homes, who was present at the event, given he has been a major supporter of the Fun Walk over the past decade.



John thanked the 'home team' for making things run smoothly, including the Fun Walk Trustees, Sandra, Christine, and Sylvia, as well as Simon Licence from Hunt Smees Accountants, and the BBW CVS team led by Chief Officer Simon Johnson, who help provide the administration for the Fun Walk Trust.

4 GAZETTE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024

News



Attendees at the Fun Walk presentation evening

Fun Walk celebrates raising over £100,000 for charities

£101,000 FOR CHARITIES RAISED OVER £101,000 for charities, it was announced at a celebration evening. The announcement was made by John Baron, chair of the Fun Walk Trustees, at a special event attended by many local charities and community groups.

About 2,000 supporters took part in the sponsored walks across Essex. Mr Baron welcomed Professor Michael Almond, Deputy Lieutenant of Essex, representing the King, Commanding Officer Simon Taylor and the 2393 (Billericay) Air Training Cadets, as well as Jim Shrubbs the Billericay Town Cryer, and thanked them for their support of the celebration evening.

The former MP for Billericay and Basildon said: "I confirmed last year that I wished to continue my involvement with The Fun Walk Trust charity that we established in 2002, and which has since raised over £1,635,000 for local charities and good causes.

"To be part of the Fun Walk over 22 years is a great honour. It represents the best of our communities in working together and marries a very strong charitable and entrepreneurial ethos by encouraging businesses to donate into the Bonus Pot which in turn encourages charities to do even more."

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In terms of fundraising, Mr Baron was happy to announce that this year's event raised more than £100,000 including the bonus, which this year was set at 30 per cent. This total is better than



From left, John Baron; a representative of Billericay & District Parkinson Support Group; Professor Michael Almond, Deputy Lieutenant of Essex; and Billericay Town Cryer Jim Shrubbs

recent years' efforts and the bonus amount along with Gift Aid allows charities to add more than 50 per cent to the money raised directly from their sponsored walks.

Mr Baron said: "I would like to take this opportunity to thank our generous Bonus Pot sponsors, including Brown & Carrall (London), Sanctuary Housing, Greater Anglia, Tunnelcraft, Bay Products Group, IFE Global Logistics, Mr Barrie Stone and a number of other individuals". There was also a special mention of Ram Goyal of Hallmark Care Homes, who was present at the

event, given he has been a major supporter of the Fun Walk over the past decade.

Mr Baron thanked the 'Home team' for making things run smoothly including the Fun Walk Trustees, Sandra, Christine, and Sylvia, as well as Simon Licence from Hunt Stree Accountants, and the BWV CVS team led by chief officer Simon Johnson, who help provide the administration for the Fun Walk Trust.

He added: "If you know of any other good causes or charities, please ask them to get in touch with us for next year's event."

Mr Baron and his team started the Fun Walk in 2002 to commemorate the Queen's Golden Jubilee and raised £6,000 for six charities and projects. The event was very successful and so became an annual

one and continues to grow.

To assist with its growth, in 2013 the Fun Walk became a registered charity, and it is now officially known as The Fun Walk Trust (Registered Charity number: 1151626).

In 2019 Basildon Billericay and Wickford CVS was appointed to administer the event on behalf of the trustees.

Mr Baron continues in his role with the charity as chair of the trustees and by soliciting support and sponsorship from local businesses.

The Bonus Pot is a unique feature of the event, into which local businesses and individuals donate, and which is then distributed to participating organisations on a pro-rata basis in addition to the money they themselves raise in sponsorship.

The 2024 event raised £100,953 for local charities and community

groups, and brought the total money raised since the Fun Walk's inception to over £1,635,000.

The Fun Walk Trust organises the walk and takes care of the paperwork, leaving the projects free to focus on raising sponsorship money and enjoying the event.

The event is not confined to charities: any good cause or project may join once approved by the trust. For example, many pre-schools and schools, churches and community groups now regularly participate. In 2020, given the challenges presented by Covid-19, the decision was made to switch to a different format, allowing supporters the flexibility to walk the distance any time during the selected month (and not all having to gather on a specific date). This is being continued for the foreseeable future.



Thanks once again to all the Trustees and Sponsors of the Fun Walk Trust for all your hard work in putting on such a wonderful and all-inclusive event. It really is appreciated.

Fiona Townsend
 Fundraising Assistant

Zero Five Club

Thank you for all you do at the fun walk, it really helps us make a difference to the people we support.

Kate Knight

www.essexmagazine.co.uk

2024 Fun Walk Raises over £100,000 for Essex Good Causes

By Essex Mag · December 6, 2024

Share on Facebook | Tweet on Twitter | G+ | Pinterest

John Baron Fun Walk presentation, Billericay 29/11/2024

At a Celebration Evening last week attended by many local charities and community groups, John Baron, Chair of the Fun Walk Trustees,

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2024 Beneficiaries

1st Buttsbury Rainbows
 4th Billericay Scout Group
 4th Buttsbury Guides
 Accuro (Care Services)
 Assure
 Baddow Hall Schools PSA
 Basildon and Pitsea Carnival
 Basildon Borough Heritage Society
 Basildon Borough Twinning Association
 Basildon Hockey Club
 Basildon Mind
 Basildon Operatic Society
 Basildon Rugby Club
 BASIS
 Billericay and District Parkinson's Support Group
 Billericay Baby Basics
 Billericay Community Housing Association
 Billericay Educational Trust
 Billericay Food Bank
 Billericay Mothers Union
 Billericay Town Twinning
 BOSP (Brighter Opportunities for Special People)
 Bowers Gifford and North Benfleet Parish Council
 Brentwood Catholic Children's Society
 Carers First
 Changing Pathways
 Childhood Eye Cancer Trust
 Christ Church Billericay
 Churches together in Basildon
 Essex Respite and Care Association
 Essex Therapy Dogs
 Fish 4 Life Angling Academy
 Friends of Abacus Primary School
 Friends of South Green Schools
 Gateway Community Media
 Goldenley Care Home
 GOSH
 Hamelin Trust
 Hearing Help Essex
 Manor Mission Church
 Mayflower performing Arts
 Motivated-Minds
 Page Woods Trust
 Parents 1st
 PCC of Langdon hills
 Peter Pan Preschool
 Phoenix FM
 Remus Memorial Horse Sanctuary
 Rotary Club of Billericay
 Schools Ministry Billericay
 SNAP
 Southend Sea Cadets
 St Mary the Virgin Church Little Burstead
 Sunnymede Pre-School
 The Cirdan Sailing Trust
 The Friends of Billericay School
 The Friends of Holy Trinity Rayleigh
 The Sarah Kitchener Perrow Fund
 The Table
 The Zero Five Club
 Trust Links
 Wickford Majorettes
 Zedgeneration CIC for Little Learners

Many local charities & good causes benefitted from the 2024 Fun Walk.



I intend to continue my link with the wonderful constituency of Basildon and Billericay, which it has been my honour to serve, by continuing in my role as Chair of the Fun Walk Trust.

JOHN BARON

CHAIR OF THE FUN WALK TRUSTEES



The Fun Walk Trustees with Deputy Lieutenant of Essex, Professor Michael Almond and Billericay Town Crier, Jim Shrubbs



The Fun Walk Trust

CIO Charity No. 1151626
 Trustee Chairman: John Baron
 c/o BBW CVS, The George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, Essex. SS14 2FL
 Email: funwalk@hotmail.co.uk
 Website: <http://www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk> Tel: 01268 294125