

# 2020 Fun Walk

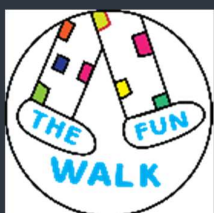
# Press Pack

PUBLISHED JANUARY 2021

Our thanks go to our generous sponsors who helped make 2020 such an amazing year!

## 2020 SPONSORS:

- Anisha Grange Care Home
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## Event Announcement

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020 GAZETTE 3



### Barleylands Annual Fun Walk Goes Virtual for 2020



## News

### Fun walk set to be held... but virtually

THE organisers of the Billericay Fun Walk have announced the event will be run virtually throughout September due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Originally the event was scheduled to be held on September 13 at Barleylands Farm, but event coordinators have changed the 19th edition of the annual event organised by Billericay MP John Baron to adhere with government and public health guidelines.

The 2020 fun walk virtual event will give supporters the opportunity to walk the equivalent distance in a setting of their own choosing to raise sponsorship money for their local charity or good cause.

John Baron and his team started The Fun Walk to commemorate the Queen's Golden Jubilee, and since 2002 the event has gone on to raise more than £1.1 million for charity with the help of local businesses donating into a bonus pot, and the fundraising efforts of its participants.

Mr Baron said: "We know that charities need funding this year more than ever, and so we hope by holding a virtual event we can continue to support them.

"We are delighted that local businesses have so far donated over £20,000 to the bonus pot."

In just over a week, The Fun Walk has had 30 organisations register for the virtual event with an estimated 500 participants.

Organisations can register at [thefunwalktrust.co.uk](http://thefunwalktrust.co.uk)



On Air COVID-19 INFO Programmes Presenters Blogs

### The Barleylands Annual Fun Walk Goes Virtual for 2020

Written by Paul Golder in Local news  
Saturday 4 July 2020, 6.36am



# Pre-Event Coverage

6 GAZETTE WEDNESDAY AUGUST 13, 2020

## News

### Fundraisers and charities signed up for fun walk

A TOTAL of 70 charities and good causes with an estimated 900 participants have signed up to take part in the Billericay Virtual Fun Walk.

Organisers of the event, which is usually a well-attended community event at Barleylands Farm, made the decision to go ahead with a virtual event in June.

A number of local businesses that have supported the fun walk over a number of years have again sponsored its bonus pot, which has now reached over £20,000.

This will be added on a pro rata basis to money raised by the good causes in sponsorship.

Last year the bonus pot added \$20 to every £1 raised in sponsorship.

John Baron MP, Chair of The Fun Walk Trust Trustees, said: "We are delighted so many organisations have signed up to this year's virtual event, and are very grateful for the continuing support of local businesses.

"This year's sponsors are Swan Housing Association, Tunnelcraft, IFE Global Logistics, Anisha Grange Care Home, Butyl Products Group, Leonardo MW, McDonald's Restaurants Basildon and others. Once again, these are businesses supporting our local communities."



MP John Baron and others at last year's event

85 Organisations registered with an estimated 1,400 participants.

Many were previous participants but we also reached several new organisations this year.



The Fun Walk was also featured on Phoenix FM's Eat My Brunch Show with an interview with John Baron, the Chair of The Fun Walk Trustees:

<https://www.phoenixfm.com/2020/07/08/virtual-fun-walk/>

BillericayEssex.co.uk Visit our NEW Amazon shop Search ...

## Barleylands Annual fun walk makes great strides and goes virtual for 2020!



Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the organisers have announced that the 19th annual Fun Walk will now be a virtual event which will run through September.

Originally, the event was scheduled to be held on 13 September at Barleylands Farm, Billericay but as the public remains in lockdown, the Event Coordinators have changed the event to adhere with government and public health guidelines.

The 2020 Fun Walk virtual event will give supporters the opportunity to walk the equivalent distance in a setting of their own choosing to raise sponsorship money for their local charity or good cause.

John Baron MP and his team started The Fun Walk to commemorate the Queen's Golden Jubilee, and since 2002 the event has gone on to raise more than £1.1 Million for charity with the help of local businesses donating into a Bonus Pot, and the fundraising efforts of its participants.

John said:

*"We know that charities need funding this year more than ever, and so we hope by holding a virtual event we can continue to support them. We are delighted that local businesses have so far donated over £20,000 to the bonus pot. We thank Swan Housing Association, Anisha Grange Care Home, IFE Global Logistics, Leonardo MW, Butyl Products Group, McDonald's Restaurants Basildon and others."*

In just over a week The Fun Walk has had 30 organisations register for the virtual event with an estimated 500 participants, confirming the importance of this event to local charities and good causes.

Local organisations are encouraged to register at [www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk](http://www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk)

with us on GATEWAY 97.8 fm Listen

Coronavirus Gateway Response Schedule Listen Again Blogs

## September Virtual Fun Walk Makes Great Strides

John Baron MP 13th July 2020 Gateway Response Activities Leave a Comment



The organisers of the September Virtual Fun Walk are thrilled by the response to date that has seen over 50 organisations register since the event was announced three weeks ago, with an estimated 700 participants.

The event will see participants do their walk in a setting of their own choosing during September to raise sponsorship money for their chosen local charity or good cause, with a Bonus Pot topping up the amount raised. The bonus will be distributed on a pro rata basis depending on local circumstances, but the monies raised by the charities themselves.

John Baron MP, Chair of The Fun Walk Trust said:

*"We are pleased to welcome Tunnelcraft Ltd to the list of local businesses contributing to the 2020 Bonus Pot, taking it to nearly £30,000. The others include, Swan Housing Association, IFE Global Logistics, Anisha Grange Care Home, Butyl Products Group, Leonardo MW, McDonald's Restaurants Basildon and others"*

Local organisations are encouraged to register at [www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk](http://www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk)

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Home Essex September Fun Walk Makes Great Strides

## September Fun Walk Makes Great Strides

By Essex Mag July 14, 2020

Share on Facebook Tweet on Twitter



John Baron Funwalk, Barleylands, 08/09/2019.

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Local organisations are encouraged to register at [www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk](http://www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk)

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# Event Coverage



We were delighted by the wonderful photos and posts shared by participating organisations.



IN FOCUS Walkers pile on the miles to support virtual Fun Walk event for 2020 amid Covid-19 pandemic

20000 plus 1000 people took part in a virtual fun walk to raise money for various charities. The event was held on Sunday 13 September, with participants walking the route from their homes across the county.

The event that depicts the event... The virtual fun walk was held on Sunday 13 September, with participants walking the route from their homes across the county.

Members of the Basildon Tanning Association... Members of the Basildon Tanning Association taking part in the virtual fun walk.

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SNAP

**Organisations join together for fun walk separately**

Organisations have joined together to support the virtual fun walk for 2020. The event was held on Sunday 13 September, with participants walking the route from their homes across the county.

**Presenters and staff travel 70km in total as part of virtual fun walk**

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**The Virtual Fun Walk**

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**The Fun Walk - virtual event will raise thousands for charity**

The virtual fun walk will raise thousands for charity. The event was held on Sunday 13 September, with participants walking the route from their homes across the county.

**Virtual Destination Lapland**

Virtual Destination Lapland is a virtual event that will raise thousands for charity. The event was held on Sunday 13 September, with participants walking the route from their homes across the county.



# Post-Event Coverage

Echo Newspaper - December 24th 2020

## WHOPPING £103,000 IS RAISED IN VIRTUAL FUN WALK

A FUN walk has raised more than £100,000 for various charities.

The Fun Walk Trust held the walk virtually this year instead of one big event which usually takes place in the Basildon borough.

With sponsorship money now in, the organisers are delighted to confirm that this year's walk has raised more than £103,000.

Sophie Ede, chief executive officer at Hearing Help Essex which took part, said: "Not only has it provided a much needed fundraising opportunity for us during a difficult year, but it really brought our team together, exchanging our weekly mileage and motivating us to keep it during September."

John Baron, Basildon and Billericay MP and chair of The Fun Walk Trust, said: "We can't thank our sponsors enough, as they generously contributed to the bonus pot, allowing us to add 30 per cent to every pound raised."

Walkers - Victoria Calder and Angie Bowden of the Essex Well Multiple Sclerosis Group

BillericayEssex.co.uk

HOME NEWS EVENTS GUIDE LOCAL GROUPS DIRECTORY

### Virtual fun walk event raises over £100,000 for charity

The annual Fun Walk took place as a virtual event through September with 85 organisations registered and an estimated fourteen hundred participants walking to raising money for good causes.

With sponsorship money now in, the organisers are delighted to confirm that this year's walk has raised over £103,000, bringing the total raised since the event began in 2002 to over £1.2 Million.

Many organisations found it was a positive way to connect with their teams and supporters during lockdown. Sophie Ede, Chief Executive Officer at Hearing Help Essex said:

*"Not only has it provided a much needed fundraising opportunity for us during a difficult year, but it really brought our team together, exchanging our weekly mileage and motivating us to keep it during September!"*

Sam Tandy, Community Fundraiser at SNAP said:

*"We missed not being able to attend in person, but our families all enjoyed taking part. We actually added up the distance we collectively travelled and between the SNAP staff and our families we reached Lapland!... Now more than ever every donation really does go a long way in helping us support local families who have a child or young person with any special need or disability."*

John Baron, Chair of The Fun Walk Trust Committee and Trustees said:

*"I am so pleased that we made the decision to go ahead with a virtual event this year, and we can't thank our sponsors enough, as they generously contributed to the Bonus Pot, allowing us to add 30% to every pound raised by participants. Our thanks go to Swan Housing Association, Tunnelcraft, Anisha Grange Care Home, Butyl Products Group, Leonardo MW, IFE Global Logistics, McDonald's Restaurants Basildon and others. I would also like to thank BBW CVS and home team for this tremendous success."*

The 2020 Fun Walk raised over £103,000 for charities and local good causes.

## THE FUN WALK - VIRTUAL EVENT RAISES OVER £100,000 FOR CHARITY

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phoenix98fm

On Air COVID-19 Events Programmes Promoters Blog Sponsors

### Virtual Fun Walk Raises Over £100,000 for Charity

Written by Phil Golder in Local News  
Wednesday 23 December 2020, 1:13pm

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About The Fun Walk:

John Baron MP and his team started The Fun Walk in 2002 to commemorate the Queen's Golden Jubilee and raised 25,000 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), and in 2019 Basildon Billericay and Wickford CVS were 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 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 and in addition to the money they themselves raise in sponsorship.

The Fun Walk Trust organises the walk and saves care of all the paperwork, leaving the projects free to focus on raising sponsorship money and enjoying the event. The event is not restricted to charities, any good cause or project may join us once approved by the Trust. For example, many pre-schools and schools, churches and community groups now regularly participate.

For 2020, in the light of the challenges presented by COVID-19 and the recognition that our local charities and good causes need our help more than ever, the decision was made to hold a virtual event that ran through September.

www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk

Over £1,200,000 has been raised since the Fun Walk started in 2002.

## Many local charities & good causes benefited from the 2020 Fun Walk.

*“Your generosity will ensure that we can continue to offer support to autistic children and their families, throughout this particularly difficult year. Thank you.”*

### Takiwātanga Support Services

*“We would like to pass on our thanks to all the sponsors of the event. Now more than ever every donation really does go a long way in helping us support local families who have a child or young person with any special need or disability.”*

### SNAP

*“Participating in The Fun Walk will enable us to continue with the much-needed Children and Young People’s services within our crisis refuge.”*

### CHANGING PATHWAYS

## 2020 Beneficiaries:

Barrow Farm Riding for the Disabled  
Basildon Borough Heritage Society  
Basildon Borough Twinning Association  
Basildon Girls Rugby  
Basildon Hockey club  
Basildon Hospital Radio (BHR87.7)  
Basildon Mind  
Basildon PHAB club  
Billericay Community Housing Association  
Billericay Educational Trust  
Billericay Mayflower Twinning Association  
Billericay Street Pastors  
Billericay Town Twinning  
Blind and Sight Impaired Society (BASIS)  
BOSP - Brighter Opportunities for Special People  
Brainwave  
Brentwood Catholic Children's Society  
Brentwood Sea Cadet Unit  
Carers First  
Changing Pathways  
Chelmsford and District Diabetes UK Voluntary Group  
Childhood Eye Cancer Trust  
Christ Church Billericay  
Epilepsy Action Essex Forum  
Essex Community Development  
Essex Well Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Group  
FC Redwing Youth U15  
Fish 4 life Angling Academy  
Gateway 978  
GOSH  
Grapevine Essex  
Havens Hospices  
Hearing Help Essex  
Home-Start Essex  
Intersports Youth FC U17  
Laindon and District Community Archive  
Lance Corporal Nicky Mason Memorial Fund  
Langdon Hills Estate Residents Association  
Manor Mission Church  
Mayflower Performing Arts  
Motivated Minds  
NEW CITY GIRLS WI  
Page Woods Trust  
Peter Pan Preschool  
Phoenix FM  
Quilters Schools  
Rainbow Preschool  
REACH (Rehabilitation, Education and Assessment Centre for Hippotherapy) & RDA Group)  
Remus Memorial Horse Sanctuary  
Rotary Club of Billericay  
Royal British Legion Billericay Branch  
Sarah Kitchener Perrow Fund Supporter Group of Brain Tumour Charity  
Schools Ministry Billericay  
SNAP (Special Needs and Parents)  
St John's Car Park Fund  
St Luke's Hospice  
St. Anne Line Catholic Junior School  
St. Martins of Tours Basildon  
Sunnymede Preschool  
Takiwatanga Support Services  
The Friends of St Peters Billericay  
The Royal National Lifeboat Association  
The Ladybirds Song group  
The listening post C.I.C  
Tilbury FC youth  
Langdon United YFC  
Wickford Majorettes  
Wickford Town Carnival

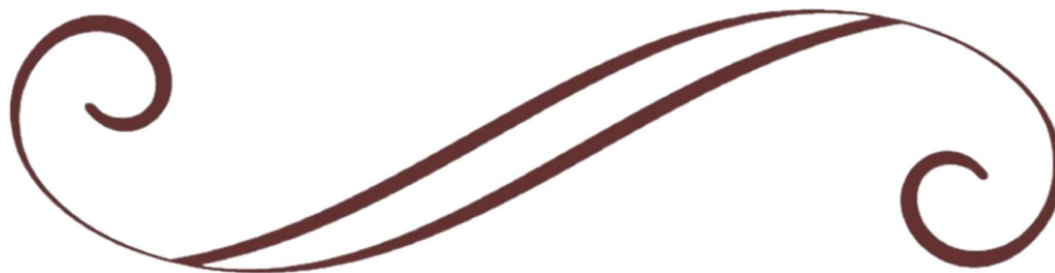


John Baron MP with the BBW CVS Team in 2019

## The Fun Walk Trust

CIO Charity No. 1151626  
Trustee Chairman: John Baron MP  
Managed by Basildon, Billericay & Wickford Council for Voluntary Service (BBWCVS),  
The George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, Essex. SS14 2FL  
Email: [funwalk@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:funwalk@hotmail.co.uk)  
Website: <http://www.thefunwalktrust.co.uk> Tel: 01268294125





## **In Memory of Tony Page**



*Tony Page with John Baron MP*

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Tony Page, one of The Fun Walk Trust's Trustees.

Tony served the charity with great distinction – he was incisive and constructive in his suggestions, shared a good sense of humour, and fundamentally believed in the concept of public service. He was also a good friend, and we shall miss him.

We have conveyed our condolences to the family and are thinking of them.

