

ESSEX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

## RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION

### NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2023



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RMA Website: <https://www.essex-fire.gov.uk/retired-members-association>

## *IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE WE ARE ON THE THRESHOLD OF ANOTHER NEW YEAR...*

*...BUT HERE WE ARE, AND WE WISH ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS THE VERY BEST FOR 2023, MAY IT BRING YOU HEALTH, WEALTH AND GREAT HAPPINESS.*

## *TALKING OF HAPPINESS....*

Forty-six members enjoyed meeting their old colleagues and friends at the Crown at Sandon on 14<sup>th</sup> December for the RMA Christmas Lunch. With a thick covering of ice on the pavements and side roads, it was the worry that some might not want to travel in such bad conditions, but everyone arrived on time. Sincere thanks go to Diane and John Rogers who did an excellent job of organising the event.



## *AND NOW ON TO 2023*

A plan for events in 2023 is currently being compiled. January and February are always left clear in case there is bad weather. The following months will see the return of favourites from 2022, two or three lunches, afternoon tea (possibly Spring and Autumn) and, by popular demand, a return visit to Heythrop Park Hotel for another four-day break. Other new ventures are in the pipeline, including London theatre trips, so please keep your eye on future Newsletters which will carry the full details once ideas are formulated and dates are confirmed.

## **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER**

The RMA is pleased to welcome the following new member:

**Susan James**

## **OBITUARY**

We have to report the sad news that RMA member, Mary Law, passed away on 9<sup>th</sup> December at the age of 91. Mary worked in Fire Prevention at the then ECFRS Headquarters, Hutton. No funeral details are currently available, but any donations in memory of Mary should be sent to The British Heart Foundation.

## **EXTRACT FROM THE DECEMBER EDITION OF ECFRS NEWS**

### **Rayleigh Weir Fire Station Hosts Christmas Lunch for Community.**

More than 80 residents in Castle Point were welcomed to Rayleigh Weir Fire Station on 8<sup>th</sup> December for a Christmas lunch supplied by Sainsbury's at Rayleigh Weir. Working with the Castle Point Association for Voluntary Services (CAVS), Station Manager Al Green and Watch Manager Kevin Colby from Rayleigh Weir Fire Station organised a Christmas lunch in the fire station's bay. Station Manager Al Green said: "This was a really lovely event and we were honoured to be involved. I am so grateful to CAVS and Sainsbury's for helping us to make a reality our dream to host a Christmas lunch for our residents. It was a really heartwarming afternoon and everyone from the residents to our staff were pleased to be involved. It was great for our team to open up our doors to our community to give them somewhere warm to socialise, a hot meal and some safety advice. I'm proud of the whole team for making it happen. We hope to do it again next year."

## **NEW MEMBERS WANTED**

Do you know anyone who would like to become a member of the RMA for only £2 per year? They will receive a birthday card each year and be kept up to date with the Newsletters, plus details of all events etc.

**Please email the RMA Secretary at  
barryccable@gmail.com**

**Let's ensure that all retired ECFRS personnel are able to keep in touch  
with their former colleagues**



## **Warners Hotel Getaway at Studley Castle Warwickshire**

**11<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**5 days, 4 nights with breakfast and dinner**

**Studley Castle, Hardwick Lane, Studley B80 7AJ**

**Grade II listed Gothic Revival House**

*"A beautiful hotel curating more than 180 years of history, but utterly modern in outlook. It's the perfect setting for a short break exploring and relaxing in rural Warwickshire. There's a lot to do... and lots of ways to do nothing."*

Following the success of the Heythrop Park group trip last year, a 5-day,4-night trip is proposed for September 2023. Heythrop Park is fully booked but Studley Castle is able to accommodate our party. This is a superbly renovated castle in beautiful grounds and is very close to Stratford-on-Avon and the British Motor Museum at Gaydon, along with other places of interest which are well worth a visit.

**The cost, with group discount is £454 per person for a standard room accommodation.**

**Three single rooms are available without supplement**

**The booking will need to be taken up ASAP therefore an immediate response is necessary.**

**A small deposit will be payable in a couple of weeks.**

**ACTION NOW PLEASE!**  
**Please e-mail Dave Birks [dave-jean-birks@supanet.com](mailto:dave-jean-birks@supanet.com)**

if you are interested in joining the group.

Further details will be given once the number of interested members is known.

Warner Leisure Hotels website gives additional information.