

ESSEX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER JULY 2024

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



Fish & Chip Lunch on the 5th June...



The recent RMA Fish and Chip Luncheon was a resounding success. It was held at the Leigh on Sea Sailing Club. The meal supplied locally was superb, and it was a really good day with great friends. Plenty of banter and lead swinging. Even able to have a pop at the ex-training department over visual aids which was a plus. A very interesting presentation was given by Chris Burls, (the leader of the Endeavour Trust) on the “Endeavour”, the Leigh cockle boat that was also a Dunkirk Little Ship.

Thanks to Dave and Jean Birks and Alan Stone for organising the event. A special thank you to Alan's daughter for running the bar.

Ray Parfitt.

Gone to the Dogs 14th June...



A most enjoyable evening at Romford Dogs!

Good company and lots of laughs. The service and food were of a very high standard and a good evening was had by all who attended. Most people won money – some more than others!

Our thanks to Tony Pizzala for organising this event although it was a shame that he was unable to attend.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

Garden Visit – Come and join us on a visit to Brian & Wendy Wickenden’s lovely garden at St Osyth on the **17th July 2024** from 1.30pm. They are wonderful hosts, and their refreshments are superb. See attached flyer.

Chatham Dockyard with “Call the Midwife” Tour and Cream Tea – 5th October 2024

We are arranging a trip with Kirby’s Coaches to Chatham Dockyard with a “Call the Midwife” Tour and a cream tea. As we will be sharing the coach with others, it is important to have numbers **As Soon As Possible**. Please see attached flyer for details

NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome Diana Cahill and Austen Watts as new members of the RMA.

MESSAGE BOARD



NATIONAL FIRE SERVICE MEMORIAL – RETTENDON

ESSEX

The national Red Plaque Fire Service Memorial was officially inaugurated on May 4th 2024 and honours the sacrifice and bravery of fallen fire service personnel, not only those who died on duty, but also those who died after their period of service (briefly reported in our June newsletter) You can find the National Red Plaque Fire Service Memorial at the Living Memorial Complex, White House Farm, Main Road, Rettendon, Essex, CM3 8DL.



The Memorial comprises a garden of remembrance, a memorial wall with names of fallen Fire Service Personnel inscribed on it and a building housing historical fire service memorabilia (see picture). The centrepiece is a superb statue of a firefighter.

The memorial is very moving and tasteful which many relatives, colleagues and friends of Fire Service Personnel will want to visit. Within the grounds there are also memorials to various military and civilian services.

It is open 24/7 but to gain access to the museum it would be advisable to make arrangements in advance by contacting Mark Moughton on 07361 470408.

OLD LEIGH REGATTA 7th & 8th SEPTEMBER 2024

Time 10.30 to 17.30

Ticket Price: Free

One of our favourite events in the Old Town is returning on the 7th & 8th September, the Leigh Regatta, where people of all ages gather to enjoy the last blast of the summer. It is set to deliver a selection of handpicked local talent and musical acts from around the area. Alongside side shows, craft stalls, sailing races and novelty water events, this traditional event is nearing its half centenary, and is a sure-fire date for your diary! The Old town high street is closed for the whole day, so travel by train is recommended.



The following article has been taken from the ECFRS Website



His Majesty the King accepts Patronage

We are delighted to announce that His Majesty the King has accepted the Patronage of Fire Fighters Charity.

The news, falling on the anniversary of Their Majesties' Coronation, sees a continuation of our Royal Patronage, which began when the late Queen Elizabeth II first became Patron of the then Fire Services National Benevolent Fund in 1953. Retaining the Patronage for 69 years, until her death in September 2022, the Queen held our organisation in great affection, referring to us as an "outstanding charity" in a letter she wrote to mark our Diamond Jubilee year

To find out more go to www.firefighterscharity.org.uk

Garden Visit with Refreshments

17th July 2024 from 1.30pm



Visit the wonderful garden of Brian & Wendy Wickenden and catch up with RMA members and friends. Wander around their stunning garden and enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of one of Wendy's homemade cakes!

- *Date:- 17th July 2024*
- *Time:- 1.30pm onwards*
- *Address:- 164 Point Clear Road, St Osyth, CO16 8JB*

To cover the cost of refreshments including a donation to charity a charge of £5 per person is payable.

*To assist with catering arrangements, it is important that Brian and Wendy know how many visitors to expect. Therefore, if you would like to visit their garden, **please reserve your place by email to johnhrogers1946@gmail.com***

and send your payment by one of the options below.

There are two methods of payment:

by online banking as follows:

Account: ECFRS Retired Members Association,
sort code: 30-91-85, account number: 49411768,

Please use reference: "Garden [surname]" so that we know how to attribute the payment.

or alternatively:

forward a cheque made payable to ECFRS Retired Members Association to
Gillian Day
267 Perry Street, Billericay, CM12 0QP

A visit to Chatham Historic Dockyard including a "Call the Midwife" Tour and a Cream Tea

The price for this trip is £55 per person

Saturday 5th October 2024



We have had a positive response for this Kirbys Coach trip on the 5th October 2024.

*As we are sharing a coach with Kirbys own clients we need to know **as soon as possible** if you would like to join us as spaces are limited. This has to be on a "First Come First Served" basis.*

Details of the day:

On arrival at the Dockyard enjoy free time at your leisure to purchase lunch in the Wagon Stop Canteen and visit the fantastic range of attractions, iconic buildings and historic ships. In the afternoon be greeted by your very own costumed midwife as you're taken on a 60-minute tour of the various locations used for the popular TV series. It will feature material from the latest series, as well as props, costumes and set. The tour finishes in the Mess Deck where a cream tea is served.

We must be aware of any dietary requirements at the time of booking.

Please Note: This is a walking tour with some uneven surfaces, please ensure you are wearing comfortable footwear.

AT A GLANCE

- Coach travel with Kirbys
- Entry to the Dockyard
- Guided walking tour
- Cream tea

Kirbys have various pickup points from 8am – 9am: *Their Depot at Rayleigh, Websters Way Rayleigh, Rayleigh Station, Halls Corner Wickford, Grange Parade Billericay, Sun Corner Billericay, Bus Stop just past the Chequers Pub Hutton, Shenfield Station, Outside the Dairyman Brentwood. Returning to Brentwood at 16.30 and their Depot at 17.30.*

If you are interested in this trip could you please contact John Rogers **ASAP** on 07944473960 or by email johnhrogers1946@gmail.com **with your preferred pick-up point and your full payment.**

There are two methods of payment:

by online banking as follows:

Account: ECFRS Retired Members Association,
sort code: 30-91-85, account number: 49411768,

Please use reference: "Docks [surname]" so that we know how to attribute the payment.

or alternatively:

Forward a cheque made payable to ECFRS Retired Members Association to
Gillian Day, 267 Perry Street, Billericay, CM12 0QP