

ESSEX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2025

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



*Welcome to our first
Newsletter of 2025...
A happy new year to all
members*

Events we are planning for 2025

March: Afternoon Tea, date & venue to be confirmed

April: Our AGM 26th April at The Essex Fire Museum, Grays Fire Station.

May: Tower of London – Ceremony of the Keys (to be confirmed)

June: Warners 5 day break to the Isle of Wight: 2nd – 6th June. *(Now fully booked)*

July: Galleywood winery tour with afternoon tea (to be confirmed)

August: Fish and chip lunch at Leigh on Sea (to be confirmed)

September 29th: Lunch at the Ironmongers Hall, London (see flyer)

SOME IMPORTANT BANKING INFORMATION

Lloyds bank have informed us that from January 2025 they will be charging organisations such as ours for banking services. (In line with other High Street banks) The most significant charge will be a 50p charge for processing every cheque. In order to minimise this additional cost to the RMA, it would be appreciated if any future payments are made by using bank transfer instead of cheques where possible.

Gillian Day (treasurer)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS /DETAILS

It is important that the RMA maintains an accurate record of members and their contact details. If you change address or email, it would be helpful if you could inform the RMA Secretary as soon as possible to avoid missing out on receipt of Newsletters, information messages or birthday cards.

RMA Secretary, Barry Cable: Email barrycable@gmail.com Post "Briarlea" Southend Road, Billericay CM11 2PR Phone 01277 624152

ECFRS has relaunched its CRMP consultation and we have received the following message asking for your help:

“We're asking residents, businesses and local partners to have their say on the future of fire and rescue services in Essex. We have launched the next step in our consultation on our draft Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP), which outlines key priorities for protecting lives, property, and the environment. The consultation, which runs from 8 January 2025 to 19 February 2025, offers everyone in Essex the chance to shape a plan that will guide our Service's work over the coming years.

“This consultation follows a similar process that took place last year, when Essex residents were asked to comment on proposed priorities. The results from that initial consultation have shaped this draft CRMP and priorities.

“Based on the emerging risks in Essex, the draft CRMP outlines five strategic priorities:

- Preventing fires and other emergencies: Taking proactive steps to reduce risks.
- Reducing the impact of fire in the built environment: Enhancing safety in homes, businesses, and public spaces.
- Responding effectively to emergencies: Ensuring rapid and professional emergency responses.
- Inclusive and high-performing culture: Fostering equality, diversity, and excellence within the Service.
- A resilient and sustainable future: Preparing for long-term challenges like climate change.

“These goals align with national standards and have been developed through extensive engagement with staff, partners and the public. We hope you will help us in shaping our five-year strategic plan by taking part in our consultation. We're asking you to help finalise our Community Risk Management Plan by sharing your thoughts on our draft document. Complete our survey and help protect Essex together.”

The survey link is here: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/TellECFRS/>



MEMBERS' MESSAGE BOARD

If you have a story to tell, or information for members, please let the Secretary know what you would like to say.

THE ESSEX FIRE MUSEUM – GRAYS FIRE STATION

The Essex Fire Museum has an extensive collection of old fire appliances, historic fire-fighting equipment, original fire fighters clothing, photographs and memorabilia. The museum staff have many years of experience and are always delighted to show visitors around and share experiences with anyone who has an interest in fire service history. Those that have previously visited the museum are sure to agree that it houses a remarkable collection and well worth a visit.



If any members would like to visit the museum, have a guided tour and a cup of tea with one of the knowledgeable staff then feel free to contact Dan Bailey to make an appointment. Dan Bailey, The Essex Fire Museum, Grays Fire Station, Hogg Lane Grays, Essex RM17 5QSEmail: museum@essex-fire.gov.uk

TOWER OF LONDON – CEREMONY OF THE KEYS

We are planning an evening visit to watch 'The Ceremony of the Keys' at the Tower of London hopefully in May. This is an historical ceremony which has taken place every evening for over 700 years. The visit will likely take the following form:-



Convene at the Tower entrance at 7:00pm where we will be greeted by our tour guide, and together with any other guests, be escorted within the Tower to meet our Yeoman Warder, who volunteers to give a brief guided tour lasting about 30 minutes before taking us to 'The Keys', their clubroom, to enjoy the bar and company. The ceremony itself takes place at 10pm following which we are free to depart or return to their clubroom. There is no charge for the visit although it is courtesy to buy our Yeoman Warder 'a drink' and purchase raffle tickets which support their chosen charities.

We will need to make our own travel arrangements, probably by train/tube. (Tower Hill tube station is a short walk away from the Tower) However, if there is enough interest in this event, it may be possible to provide coach transport.

If you would be interested in supporting this event, please register your interest by contacting Diane and John Rogers by email: dj.rogers@btinternet.com

know someone who is about to retire ...

If you know of someone who is about to retire from the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, please let them know that it is very easy to join the ECFRS Retired Members' Association. The application form is on the RMA website <https://www.essex-fire.gov.uk/retired-members-association-membership-application> and it can be completed and submitted online – simple! At just £3 per annum, it is not only very good value for money, but an excellent way of keeping in touch with old friends and colleagues.



We have a number of RMA lapel badges available for sale at a cost of £2 each plus £1.55 p&p. Anyone interested should contact the Chairman, John Rogers at johnhrogers1946@gmail.com

ESSEX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION

Ironmongers Hall

Shaftesbury Place, Barbican, London, EC2Y 8AA

Private Luncheon in the Great Hall.

Monday 29th September 2025

Enjoy pre-lunch drinks in the Drawing Room
before making your way to your table

Bar is open from 12.30 and lunch is served from 13.00hrs
Glass of Sparkling Wine, 3-course Meal, half bottle wine

£ 70.00 per person

Dress Code Suits & Smart Casual

Travel: Own transport



To register your interest please contact Ron Murray 07879 493087 or
firefighterrpm@btinternet.com

Payment details will be given in a future newsletter