

ESSEX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

## RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION

### NEWSLETTER MARCH 2023



Secretary: Barry Cable, "Briarlea" Southend Road, Billericay CM11 2PR

Email: [barryccable@gmail.com](mailto:barryccable@gmail.com) Telephone: 01277 624152 or mobile: 07850 984593

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

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## WELCOME TO THE MARCH NEWSLETTER

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### OUR FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN 2023 ARE...

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#### APRIL

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 2pm at The Essex Fire Museum, Grays Fire Station, Hogg Lane, Grays, RM17 5QS.**

The RMA will be holding its Annual General Meeting at The Essex Fire Museum and would love to see as many members as possible get together for this event.

Members are respectfully reminded that the Association's subscription of £2 for the current year becomes due at the AGM. So, why not come along, meet up with old friends and colleagues and enjoy light refreshments following the official part of the meeting. Raffle prizes welcome.

**Please Note:** To assist with the catering arrangements it is important to advise the Secretary, Barry Cable, if you will be attending the AGM so that appropriate provision can be made. Please advise Barry at [janbarrycable@gmail.com](mailto:janbarrycable@gmail.com) or telephone 07850 984593 / 01277 624152.

**AFTERNOON TEA – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023 12 noon – 3.30pm Cressing Temple Barns**

By popular demand we are returning to The Barns at Cressing Temple for an Afternoon Tea. See the flyer attached for details.

#### MAY

**"CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG"**

The musical "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" will be at the Chelmsford Theatre, Fairfield Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1JG at the end of May. This promises to be a brilliant show, anyone wanting more details should contact Janet Baker ASAP by email - [jan4bob@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jan4bob@yahoo.co.uk). See flyer attached for dates and price.

#### JUNE

**RAF MUSEUM AT HENDON – 14<sup>TH</sup> June 2023**

A visit to the RAF Museum at Hendon on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023. See attached flyer for details.

#### JULY

**SUMMER LUNCH** – date and venue to be advised.

## **AUGUST**

### **GARDEN VISIT – 2<sup>ND</sup> August 2023**

A visit to Brian & Wendy Wickenden's garden at St Osyth with afternoon tea & cake. Back by popular demand is another visit to the beautiful garden of Brian and Wendy Wickenden. The hospitality that we receive from Brian and Wendy is outstanding as many of you will testify. Details to be included in a future newsletter.

## **SEPTEMBER**

### **4-NIGHT STAY AT STUDLEY CASTLE, WARWICKSHIRE - 11<sup>TH</sup> September 2023**

Places are still available for the Warners Getaway to Studley Castle, Warwickshire, see flyer attached for details.

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**Members may be interested in the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations of the ECFRS**



**Special Open Day to Celebrate  
Essex County Fire and Rescue Service's  
75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023  
(10.30am to 4.00pm)**





**Visits must be pre-booked via:**  
**[museum@essex-fire.gov.uk](mailto:museum@essex-fire.gov.uk)**

**Address: Essex Fire Museum, Grays Fire station,  
Hogg Lane, Grays, RM17 5QS**



## **TRADITIONAL AFTERNOON TEA**

Tiptree Tea Room at The  
Barns, Cressing Temple  
Witham Road, Cressing, Essex  
CM77 8PD

*Suitable for wheelchair users or visitors  
with limited mobility*

*“Experience a unique piece of history at the 13th century, Knights Templar Barns, complete with restored Tudor walled garden and Tiptree tea rooms. Visitors can make their way around the fascinating and outstanding 13<sup>th</sup> century barns and admire the Tudor herb garden. Just a short drive from Cressing Temple visitors can also find the Braintree Freeport Designer Shopping Village.”*

**The RMA visited the Cressing Temple Barns in 2022  
and by popular demand  
we are returning to this amazing venue, so come and join your  
friends and colleagues for afternoon tea at The Barns.**

**12 noon until 3.30 p.m.  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023  
Cost: £16.00 per person**

If you would like to attend this event, reserve your places by email to  
[barryccable@gmail.com](mailto:barryccable@gmail.com)

*With two methods of payment:*

by online banking as follows:

Account: ECFRS RMA, sort code: 30-91-85, account number: 49411768,  
Please use reference: “Barns Tea [your surname]”  
so that we know how to attribute the payment.

*or, alternatively*

forward a cheque made payable to ECFRS RMA to  
The RMA Secretary, “Briarlea” Southend Road, Billericay CM11 2PR

***When you book your places, please remember to indicate  
whether anyone in your party has any food allergies***

TRINITY MUSIC AND DRAMA  
PRESENT



IAN FLEMING'S  
**CHITTY CHITTY  
BANG BANG**

Music and Lyrics by  
Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman

Music by Special Arrangement with Sony/ATV Publishing  
Adapted for the Stage by Jeremy Sams

**Weds 24th - Sat 27th May 2023**  
**7.30pm and 2.00pm Sat Matinee**

**Book Online**

[www.chelmsfordtheatre.co.uk](http://www.chelmsfordtheatre.co.uk)

**Ticket Office**

01245 606505

**noda**  
inspired by amateur theatre

**Chelmsford  
Theatre**

Based on the MGM Motion Picture  
Licensed Script Adapted by Ray Roderick

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International  
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI [www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)

**Suggested dates:**

**Either Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm or Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2pm**

Please indicate your preference and whichever performance receives the most votes will be our chosen date. Votes to Janet Baker ASAP by email [jan4bob@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jan4bob@yahoo.co.uk)

**Ticket Price £23.50 per person**

**ESSEX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION RMA**

**RAF Museum, Hendon Trip Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023**



The RAF Museum Hendon, Grahame Park Way, London, NW9 5LL

The trip will depart from Hawkwell Fire Station, before proceeding to Billericay Fire Station with parking available at both sites. Coach collection times will be published later.

The entry to the museum is free, however the coach booking cost will be dependent on numbers. It is anticipated that if all 49 coach seats are sold the coach fare will be £14.00 pp including the driver's gratuity.

The cost of the coach will become payable on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023, (this includes the central London Ultra Low Emission Zone and coaches will be charged £100 to enter this zone and this is passed on to customers).

To secure your place on this event please send an expression of interest to Martin Pullen by email [pullenmartin34@gmail.com](mailto:pullenmartin34@gmail.com) or by phone/text 07979 707536 by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. Once numbers are known payment details will follow.

The museum is open from 10:00hrs to 17:00hrs.

Further information on the museum can be accessed here on their website <https://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/> There are other extra events that can be purchased individually, as can be seen on their website e.g., Typhoon simulator, 4D experience, Spitfire experience.



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

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

**5 days, 4 nights with breakfast & 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.”*

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.

Travel by car would be the best way to attend, but car sharing could be an advantage.

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

**Three single rooms are available without supplement**

A deposit of £20 per person is required to secure your booking.

Account: ECFRS RMA, Sort Code 30-91-85, Account Number 49411768 Reference:  
Studley Castle

Alternatively, a cheque payable to ECFRS RMA to Graham Farrell  
95 Washington Road, Maldon, Essex, CM9 6JF

If you need further information, please contact Dave Birks: 01702 528355  
[dave-jean-birks@supanet.com](mailto:dave-jean-birks@supanet.com)

**Warners Leisure Hotels website gives additional information.**

## THE FOLLOWING DATES ARE THE ESSEX FIRE MUSEUM FAMILY OPEN DAYS

Anyone interested will need to pre-book via [museum@essex-fire.gov.uk](mailto:museum@essex-fire.gov.uk)

- Saturday 1 April | Special Open Day to celebrate 75th anniversary of our fire service
- Tuesday 11 April | Easter Special Open Day
- Sunday 30 April
- Sunday 28 May
- Tuesday 30 May
- Sunday 25 June
- Sunday 30 July
- Tuesday 15 August
- Sunday 27 August
- Sunday 24 September
- Tuesday 24 October | Halloween Special Open Day
- Sunday 29 October | Halloween Special Open Day
- Sunday 26 November
- Sunday 17 December | Christmas Open Day - Santa's Grotto

## OBITUARY

The RMA has lost another member. We recently heard the following very sad news from Johnny Mo via ECFRS Old Gits Past and Present.

*"It brings me great sadness to report the passing of my old friend Bob Hurley on the 31<sup>st</sup> January on the island of Barbados where he spent his retirement years.  
"Bob was a keen rugby player in his younger years and was Captain of Rayleigh Wyverns Rugby Club for a while, so well left his mark on the club.  
"After retiring and decamping to the Caribbean, he became keen on archery and was instrumental in setting up the Barbados Archery Club, which is still very much active. So, another mark made."*

Judging by the many superb comments on "Old Gits" from friends and former colleagues, it is very apparent that Bob was an extremely well-liked member of the crews with whom he worked.

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We have also heard of the deaths of two non-members:

Rod "Sub Officer McLeod" who served at B42 Shoeburyness. His funeral has already taken place. Our thoughts are with his family.

Ray Baxter who passed away on 13<sup>th</sup> February. The funeral will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> March at Pitsea Crematorium at 3 p.m. Condolences have been sent to Ray's family.