

ESSEX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2019



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Brigade Website – www.essex-fire.gov.uk

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE from RMA Chairman John Smith



Once again a very successful year for the Association draws to a close. The first prime outing was to the Royal Albert Hall to enjoy the Classical Spectacular with the programme including all the popular classics, culminating in the 1812 Overture. Lunch time meetings continue to be enjoyed by members attending. The Leigh Yacht Club was unavailable this year for the fish and chip luncheon, so it was held at the Old Fire Station, Hadleigh and once again thanks to Brian Hickey for assisting in the arrangements to make this event so enjoyable in its new venue.

A very commendable three course lunch was enjoyed at Romford Dog Stadium. Seated at tables with a good view over the race track, the meal was served and bets placed by very pleasant and helpful staff. All members came away with their shirts intact, and many with a pleasant jingle in their pockets. It is anticipated to return again one afternoon in the coming year.

A very pleasant afternoon tea was enjoyed at Reids Restaurant, Billericay and another relaxed afternoon, preceded by lunch, was spent cruising along the canal in Hertfordshire. A particular highlight of the year was spent at The Royal Hospital Chelsea with a very interesting tour by one of the Chelsea pensioners as a guide.

Later in the year a visit was made to the Amazon distribution centre at Tilbury providing those who attended with an insight into how the “Click and Buy “system works, with many expressing surprise at just how much is done by robots and members are still wondering ‘how on earth did they do that’ after seeing the recent RMA theatre trip to see Mary Poppins!

Mindful of the fact many of our members are working during the day, arrangements were made to hold an evening meal to provide those members a chance to meet up with former colleagues. Unfortunately insufficient numbers expressed an interest to attend this event, and as a result this was cancelled. The last gathering for members for 2019 will be the Christmas Lunch at the New Times Inn, Tiptree, where the 100th birthday of RMA member Bill Coyston will also be celebrated.

To all new members I extend a very warm welcome and look forward to welcoming you at a future event, but sadly some members are no longer with us and my thoughts are with their families as they approach this festive season without their loved ones.

May I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

SUPERCALIFRAGELISTIC!

Members at last get to see Mary Poppins



'Magical, how did they do that'

'Such a feel good show'

'Blown away, superb cast'

'Thank you Mick & Jayne, what a smashing trip'

Glad that you all enjoyed it, thank you for your comments.



FUTURE EVENTS

Christmas Carvery Thursday 19th December 2019

Fully Booked

Our Christmas event this year will be held at one of the RMA's favourite venues, The New Times, Tiptree. Unfortunately this event is now fully booked, but a waiting list is in operation in case of any cancellations.

To go on the waiting list please contact Jayne Ricketts at jayne.ricketts@tiscali.co.uk or telephone 01277 623413.

Christmas Carol Service 18th December 2019

All Welcome

An invitation has been extended to our Association to attend the Christmas Carol Service which will take place at All Saints C of E Church, Springfield Green on Wednesday 18th December at 7pm.

See the attached flyer for full details.

Izumi Lunch Wednesday 26th February 2020

New Event Now Booking

We return to the Izumi Restaurant on Wednesday 26th February for the first event of 2020 for an 'eat as much as you like' buffet. This venue is very popular with members and will get the year's events off to a good start.

To assist the restaurant, please advise Tony if you will be attending, full details on the attached flyer.

Brick Lane Musical Thursday 26th March 2020

Limited Availability

Your committee are delighted to have secured a booking at the ever popular Brick Lane Musical and a few places are still available.

Enjoy a three course lunch before the fun begins with the humour and spectacle of a good old fashioned music hall.

Full details can be found on the attached flyer.

ECFRS RMA AGM Saturday 25th April 2020

Reserve the date

The Retired Members Association Annual General Meeting will take place on Saturday 25th April 2020. Full details will be published in the New Year.

YOUR ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOU!!

You will be aware of the excellent trips that the RMA has offered its members throughout the last ten years or so, and these have been made possible by the exceptional organisational skills of Jayne Ricketts and Mick Vanner. Unfortunately Mick has now decided to stand down from the committee at the next AGM and therefore the RMA is looking for volunteers to help Jayne manage future events. You will see from above that the events for 2020, up until the AGM in April, are already in place, but the calendar is empty from May onwards, and we need to plan future events, which are usually held every month. If you would like to be part of the RMA Team by putting yourself forward to help organise the remainder of the 2020 schedule of outings, please contact the Chairman, John Smith on 01245 283184 or email: smudger39@live.co.uk or the Secretary, Barry Cable on 01277 624152, mobile 07850 984593 or email: janbarrycable@gmail.com

YOUR ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOU !



Leigh Christmas Fayre 7th December

Why not go along, get into the Christmas spirit and enjoy the Fire Station's annual Christmas Fayre?

It is completely free and always popular with the local community.

The event will run from 10am to 4pm.

Rescue dog calendar on sale

If you're looking for the perfect gift for a dog lover this Christmas, then look no further. The Fire and Rescue Dogs 2020 calendar, starring ECFRS's very own Jarvis, is now available to buy.

Proceeds will benefit the Fire Fighters Charity. If you are interested please email Sheila at calendar@fspgeastmids.co.uk



NEW MEMBERS

The RMA are pleased to welcome David Parratt who has joined the Association since the publication of the last newsletter.

OBITUARY

It is with regret to inform you of the death of non RMA members John Cook and Craig Stovell.

John served at Wennington and Romford during his time with London Fire Brigade before moving to Essex. He was stationed at Clacton and finally Dovercourt, where he remained for 26 years. John's funeral service has taken place.

Craig served at Weeley, Brentwood and Clacton, before retiring in 2017. Craig's funeral service will be held at Weeley Crematorium on Thursday December 12th at 2.45pm. All welcome to attend.

Our thoughts are with their respective family and friends.

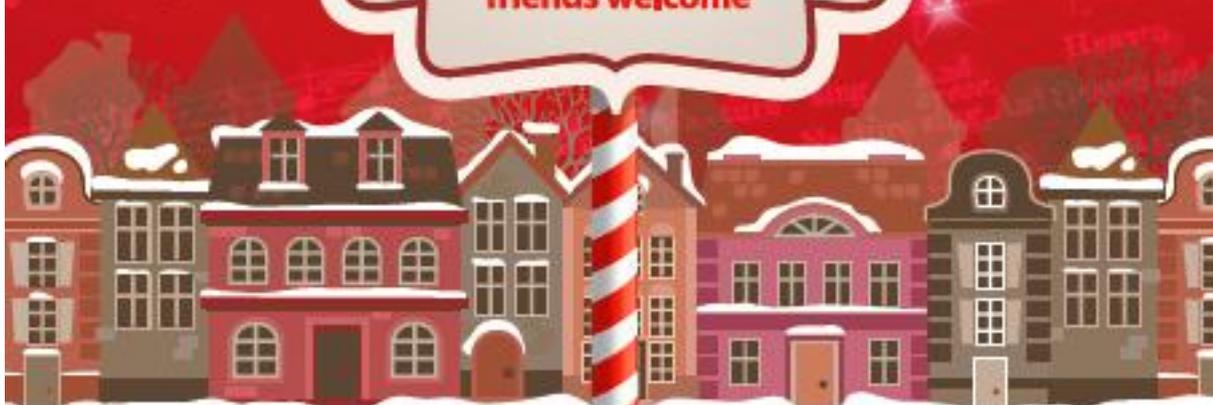
Essex Emergency Services
Christmas Carol Service

7pm WEDNESDAY
18th DECEMBER 2019

All Saint's Church
Springfield Green
Chelmsford CM1 7HU

Refreshments after the service

**All staff, family and
friends welcome**



ESSEX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION

Luncheon Wednesday 26th February 2020

Jzumi Oriental Buffet & Grill



***Be there at 12 noon to meet up with old friends and colleagues
Enjoy an "Eat as much as you like buffet"
£8.95 per person (payable on the day)***

**THE RESTAURANT IS LOCATED AT
BRENTWOOD LEISURE PARK,
WARLEY GAP, BRENTWOOD, CM13 3DP**

***If you would like to attend please inform Tony Pizzala on
07925 042667 or email tonypizzala1950@gmail.com***

ESSEX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION

**Brick Lane Musical with Lunch
Thursday 26th March 2020**



Join RMA members for a matinee show and lunch in this totally unique theatre and dining venue. Brick Lane Music Hall, named after its original home in Brick Lane, receives worldwide acclaim and attracts audiences from all over the country to its home in a former church in London's Docklands.

Our coach will drop off at the pedestrian gate located in front of the main doors and there is a short, level walk into the theatre. Once seated at our table we will be served a three course lunch, freshly prepared on the premises, before the matinee performance. To accompany your meal a licenced bar will be available for you to purchase drinks.



As they say, laughter is the best medicine in the world, so do away with the winter blues, come and enjoy this good old fashioned music hall event. The trip will depart from Hawkwell Fire Station, before proceeding to Billericay Fire Station with parking available at both sites. Seats for the music hall show and the three course meal are £45.00 per person, and are on hold for the Association for a limited time. To secure your place on this event send a cheque made payable to B. Ricketts to 2 Everest Rise, Billericay, Essex CM12 9JB. Please advise of any dietary requirements at the time of booking.

The cost of the coach and the drivers gratuity will become payable on 1st February 2020. It is anticipated that if all places are filled on this event the cost will be in the region of £12/13.00 per person.