

ESSEX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER MARCH 2025



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



***Our first event of 2025 is our
Afternoon Tea at The Tiptree Tea
Room at Cressing Temple Barns
on the 27th March. See the flyer and
book your place ASAP***

OTHER FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

April: Our AGM 26th April at The Essex Fire Museum, Grays Fire Station. (see below)

May: Thursday 15th May - Tower of London – Ceremony of the Keys (see below)

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

July: Thursday 31st July a Visit to The Gardens of Easton Lodge, Dunmow (see below)

August: 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)

A New Date for Your Diaries: Thursday 31st July 2025...

***A Visit to The Gardens of Easton Lodge
Dunmow***

The RMA has arranged a visit to the beautiful and historic Gardens of Easton Lodge, at Dunmow, the former home of Daisy, Countess of Warwick and favourite of King Edward VII.

Cost: £12.00 per head which includes a guided tour and coffee/tea with cake.

For further information please contact janetcaldwell123@btinternet.com.

Booking details will be published nearer the time.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Saturday 26th April 2025 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 £3 for the current year becomes due on 1st April and payable 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.

If you would like to donate a prize for the Raffle, it would be welcomed.

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 or telephone 07850 984593.

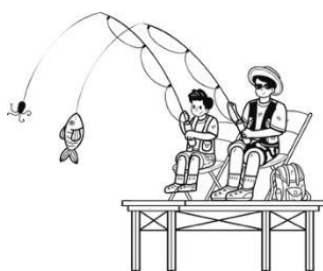


MEMBERS' MESSAGE BOARD

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

HOBBIES AND PASTIMES

We all have the Fire Service as a common background but most of us also have hobbies, interests, pastimes or even passions in our daily life.



Would you like to share any of these with possibly like-minded members? Fishing is popular and probably the most talked about, but even something as everyday as dog walking can be shared if there is a will. The list of hobbies and pastimes is enormous but if anyone would like to share them, I would be more than happy to try to connect members and co-ordinate efforts. This could, in time,

generate sub-groups in the RMA, such as motorcycle section, photography section, fishing section. etc. Contact me if you would like to be part of or have some ideas for an interest group.

Ted Collins

Email: ted53collins@gmail.com

Tel: 07875 640521



LAST CHANCE TO BOOK

*Come, let us have some tea and continue
to talk about happy things*

TRADITIONAL AFTERNOON TEA



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

Suitable for wheelchair users or visitors with limited mobility

We are returning to the tea rooms at The Barns by popular demand. The plans for the RMA 2025 events calendar are progressing and promising to be very exciting; this is the first event of 2025. Come join your fellow members for a relaxing afternoon at the tea rooms situated by the 13th century Knights Templar Barns.

12:30 until 3.30 p.m. Thursday 27th March 2025 Cost: £20.00 per head

If you would like to attend this event, please reserve your places by email to barryccable@gmail.com

Please pay by online banking as follows:
Account: ECFRS RMA, sort code: 30-91-85, account number: 49411768,
reference: Afternoon Tea *[and your surname]*
If you are not able to pay by this method,
contact the RMA Treasurer, Gillian Day,
267 Perry Street, Billericay CM12 0Q
Email: Geday267@gmail.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.

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)

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



GLASS OF SPARKLING WINE, 3-COURSE MEAL, HALF BOTTLE WINE AT

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

£ 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

