

Group Meetings and Venues Summer 2024

This letter is being circulated for us by HQ and has news for both existing and potential members of our Group. If you have friends you would like to invite to our activities, please do.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Monday 3 June: Visit to Rochford Old House and lunch2. Thursday 25 July: Coach outing to Southwold & Aldeburgh3. Monday 12 August: Summer Lunch at Brewers Fare Restaurant.Monday 16 September: Outing: Heritage Trail of Old Leigh and lunch5. Renewing Group Membership or becoming a new member. |
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1. Monday 3 June 2024: Visit to Rochford Old House and lunch

The tour of the Old House takes about an hour and costs £2 per person, payable on the day. We will follow this with lunch in Rochford.

Meeting point with our guide at Rochford: 10.30am at the Old House, 17 South Street, SS4 1BW

Meeting point for those going to Rochford by bus from central Southend: Bus stop K for no. 8 bus (at the back of Marks & Spencer). **Bus time: 9.40am arriving at Rochford Square 10.08 am** where we will lead you round to the Old House.

If coming by car: we suggest that you park in Back Lane Car Park SS4 1AY and walk to the House.

How to book a place on this tour: Please complete the booking form at the end of this letter, and either post it, or email the details, to Betty Anderson as soon as possible and definitely by 24 May. She is at 15 Cromer Road, Southend on Sea, Essex SS1 2DU. For later bookings e-mail iandbanderson@btinternet.com or phone 01702 466335.

2. Thursday 25 July 2024: Coach outing to Southwold and Aldeburgh

Southwold is an elegant Suffolk seaside town built on cliffs overlooking the North Sea. Fishermen's cottages, pleasant old streets, and green open spaces give it much character. Aldeburgh is a little further down the coast and has some interesting buildings including the Moot Hall in the Tudor centre of the town.

The cost of the coach is £26. For Cooks Coaches pick up points and times for this trip see page 4.

To book a seat(s): Complete the detachable booking form on page 3 (by booking as a group we get seats near each other, which we could not be certain of if we booked individually). Payment in cash can be made on the 3 June outing to the Old House at Rochford and lunch, or by a cheque made out to Cooks Coaches and sent with the booking form, to Mary King at **Miss M King, 130 Essex Way, Benfleet, Essex SS7 1LP, to arrive as soon as possible, and definitely by 4 July.**

3. Monday 12 August 2024: Summer Lunch at Brewer's Fayre

Venue: Brewer's Fayre, Esplanade House, 60 Eastern Esplanade, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 2YT. It is on the No. 9 bus route which runs approximately every 12 minutes.) Examples from menu: Mains: Higher end include – Steak (£13.19-14.69), mixed grill (£15.69), these mainly come with chips and tomato or peas. Beer-battered haddock and a range of other mains are £10.89 to 12.59. Starters and desserts are from £4.49 to £5.79 each. May also be selection of mains in an offer "2 mains for £11.49" (with add starter and/or dessert each for £2.99. Menu as at time of this letter.

Meeting point: Outside the restaurant entrance – or if need to wait inside, ask for Mrs Anderson's tables.

Time: We will meet between 12 noon and 12.15 pm.

How to book a seat: Complete the booking form at the end of this letter, and **post, or email, to Betty Anderson as soon as possible and definitely by Friday 19 July. She is at 15 Cromer Road, Southend on Sea, Essex SS1 2DU. For later bookings e-mail iandbanderson@btinternet.com or phone 01702 466335.**

4. Monday 16 September: Outing: Heritage Trail of Old Leigh and lunch

Old Leigh, situated along the Thames Estuary, was nationally important as a seafaring and trading town from the 14th through to the 18th century. It still has inns, and sailors' cottages, dating from that era, and local fishing boats still land their cargo at its wharfs. Armed with a little booklet, entitled "Leigh Heritage Trail" and a map showing key points of interest, we shall explore Old Leigh and have our lunch there. The Trail is primarily a walking route, but mobility scooters and other walking aids can be used too. We expect to do part of the Trail before lunch, and part after. The choice of venue for lunch could vary with the size of our party. For a party of 10 or more, the Peter Boat Pub restaurant, on the Estuary, might be the best choice. But we can discuss which venue to aim for when we hear how many people are expecting to come.

Meeting point for starting the Trail: In the forecourt and/or entrance hall of Leigh-on-Sea Railway Station, SS9 2ET which is at the bottom of Belton Way (NB: Not at the bottom of Station Road – the railway station was moved away from there many years ago!). If you arrive early, there is a small café in the entrance hall.

Time: We aim to start the trail at 10.30 am (but we will wait if the No. 21A bus from Southend is delayed).

How to get there: For those who prefer a bus: From central Southend, we recommend First Bus's No. 21A from Southend Travel Centre. The 9.45 am arrives at its Leigh-on-Sea Rail Station at 10.18 am. (The previous one is the No. 21 at 9.15 am from Southend arriving at Leigh-on-Sea Rail Station at 9.43 am.) For those who need a bus from the opposite direction, e.g. Hadleigh Bus Station, a No. 21 bus leaves Hadleigh at 9.44 am and arrives at its Leigh-on-Sea Rail Station stop at 9.57 am. (We can supply fuller Bus timetables for your morning arrival and afternoon departure nearer the time of our outing or you can look them up on-line.)

For those who prefer to come by car: Put your satnav on SS9 2ET. When you reach Leigh-on-Sea Station forecourt, take the side road to the left of the Station building to the Public Car Park behind the Station. Off Peak parking starts at 10 am and lasts until 4 pm, cost £4.50. The machine accepts card payments. Any who would prefer a shorter walk, could try their luck by driving past the cockle sheds to the Belton Gardens South Car Park (under the road bridge) where the charge is £1 per hour, except blue badge parking which is free. (As not at the rail Station itself, it shuts at 6pm, and has no reduction for railway off peak hours.) You would need to wait for us, keeping an eye open to see if we were walking on the road or by the Estuary wall.

For those who prefer to come by train: As you know, unlike buses, Essex seniors do not get free travel on trains but, if you live near a rail station, it may be quicker than a bus. Check locally.

How to let us know you expect to come, which method of transport you are coming by, and whether you would like us to book you a seat for lunch: Please complete the booking form at the end of this letter, and post, or email, to Betty Anderson as soon as possible and definitely by Friday 30 August. She is at 15 Cromer Road, Southend on Sea, Essex SS1 2DU. For later bookings e-mail iandbanderson@btinternet.com or phone 01702 466335.

5. Renewing Group Membership or becoming a new member: The annual Group membership subscription for 2024 is £6.00. This Group subscription is for those expenses not met from the subscription to HQ, e.g. the occasional rent of a local conference room. It can be paid at a Group meeting or send a cheque - payable to

CSPA (Southend & District) – to our Membership Secretary: Betty Anderson (15 Cromer Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2DU). Please include your address, phone number and email address (if you have one). By providing these, you confirm your wish to be a Group member, and agree to the Group officers contacting you, when appropriate, about Group activities or other CSPA matters. Please note any preference between post, phone, or email contact where possible. (Note: when we meet at the SAVS Centre, there is a separate entrance fee of £2 each meeting to help with the rent. Tea, coffee, etc, are always optional extras!)

Contact details:

If we may be able to help with further information, or you would just like to chat, our contact details are:

Chair and Secretary: Mary King Tel: (01268) 794790
Membership Secretary: Betty Anderson Tel: (01702) 466335 Email: iandbanderson@btinternet.com
Committee Member: Richard Rubin Tel: (01702) 529712

Yours sincerely
Mary King (Group Chair and Secretary)

Detachable booking form for Monday 16 Sept. 2024: Heritage Trail of Old Leigh and Lunch

Please complete and return as soon as possible, and definitely by Friday 30 August, to Betty Anderson
(See item 4 on page 2 for contact details.)

Names _____ Phone(s) Home _____ Mobile _____
Coming by which transport? _____ Which car park ? _____
Lunch? _____

Detachable booking form for Monday 12 August 2024: Summer Lunch at Brewer’s Fayre

Please complete and return as soon as possible, and definitely by Friday 19 July, to Betty Anderson
(See item 3 on page 2 for contact details.)

Names _____ Phone(s) Home _____ Mobile _____

Detachable booking form for: Coach Outing to Southwold & Aldeburgh on Thursday 25 July 2024

See page 1 for details, and page 4 for coach pick-up points and times. Payment may be made in cash at our 3 June outing. Otherwise, payment by cheque please, made out to Cooks Coaches, and sent with the booking form, to Mary King **by 4 July 2024**. (See item 2 for her contact address.)

Names (s): _____ Pickup Point: _____
Number of seats _____ Pickup Time: _____
Amount paid: £ _____ Date Paid: _____

Detachable booking form for Monday 3 June 2024: Visit to Rochford Old House and lunch

Please complete and return as soon as possible, and definitely by 24 May, to Betty Anderson

(See item 1 on page 1 for contact details.)

Names _____ Phone(s) Home _____ Mobile _____

COOKS COACHES Pick Up Points & TIMES for	25 July
SOUTHEND AIRPORT, BUS STOP, EASTWOODBURY CRESCENT	8.20
SHOEBURYNES, ST.MARY'S, NORTH SHOEBURY RD	8.30
SHOEBURYNES, KATHRYN CT (THE CAMBRIDGE), NESS RD	8.35
THORPE BAY STATION, ACACIA DRIVE	8.40
SOUTHCHURCH, WHITE HORSE BUS STOP	8.45
SOUTHCHURCH, TYRREL DRIVE	8.47
SOUTHEND, QUEENSWAY, BUS STOPS BEHIND SAINSBURYS	8.50
SOUTHEND, CRICKETERS PH, LONDON RD	8.55
WESTCLIFF, LONDON RD, HALFORDS	9.00
CHALKWELL, CHALKWELL PARK BUS STOP	9.05
LEIGH ON SEA, ELM HOTEL	9.10
LEIGH ON SEA, WEST LEIGH SCHOOLS	9.12
LEIGH ON SEA, THAMES DRIVE	9.15
HADLEIGH, HADLEIGH CHURCH BUS LAYBY	9.20
HADLEIGH,VIC HOUSE CORNER, KILN RD	9.24
THUNDERSLEY, KILN RD/KENNETH RD	9.27
SOUTH BENFLEET, KENTS HILL LIGHTS (LONDON ROAD)	9.30
SOUTH BENFLEET, TARPOTS COACH STOP (OPP CLARE RD)	9.33
PITSEA, BROADWAY, BINGO HALL	9.37
VANGE, BARGE PH	9.40
BASILDON, SOUTHENHAY LAYBY, OPPOSITE BUS STATION	9.45
GRAYS, OAK PH, SOCKETTS HEATH	10.05
LAKESIDE BUS STATION (BUS STOP E)	10.10