

March 2025

Group Meetings and Venues

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.

1. Monday 14 April: At SAVS: Local AGM;
After the AGM: discussing plans for rest of year
2. Monday 12 May: Shoebury Garrison for lunch at the cafe
3. Renewing Group Membership or becoming a new member.

1. Monday 14 April: Our Local Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the AGM of our sixty-fourth year to be held in the Conference Room, 1st floor, of the SAVS Centre, 29-31, Alexandra Street (not far from bus station), Southend-on-Sea, SS1 1BW at 2pm for 2:15. All CSPA members in the SS postal area are welcome to come and be Group members. They can also bring friends who may be interested in joining, either as full members of CSPA, or as Associate Group members.

See pages 2 and 3 for the AGM Agenda, a detachable slip for your nominations to the Group Committee, and a short summary of the accounts for recent years. A copy of the minutes of the 2024 AGM, and a full Statement of Accounts for 2024 and 2023 (including a reconciliation with the Group bank account) will be circulated at the AGM.

After the AGM your Committee expect to have a list of coach trips, other potential outings, and lunches from which we hope you will help us make selections for the rest of the year.

2. Monday 12 May: Shoebury Garrison Estate for Lunch at the Café

Venue: The Garrison Estate, previously known as MOD Shoeburyness, is described by Historic England as “constituting a complete mid - 19th century barracks”. After the closure of artillery ranges in 1998, the old garrison land and buildings were sold and converted to housing. During our walk, we will spy out listed 19th century buildings and distinguish them from additional modern housing! Lunch will be in the Serendipity Café and Museum at around the mid - point of our walking tour. The café offers plenty of choice including, eg omelettes, sandwiches or toasties, jacket potatoes, shepherd’s pie, lasagne, and a choice of desserts. As an example, soup and bread, shepherd’s pie with mash and veg, and a drink, cost about £17.

Time to meet, and Meeting point, for those coming from central Southend: at **10.50 am** at Bus stop at back of Marks and Spencers for No. 9 bus going to Shoeburyness East Beach at 10.58. Our walk itself will start when we reach the No.9 terminus at about 11.30 am, and finish when we return to the terminus, about 4.00 pm (including the leisurely lunch on our way).

How to book so we do not miss you: Please complete the booking form at the end of this letter, and post to Betty Anderson so that it arrives by 30th April . She is at **15 Cromer Road, Southend on Sea, Essex, SS2 2DU**. Alternatively you can Email: her at iandbanderson@btinternet.com, or phone 01702 466335.

How to book a place on tour and on the lunch afterwards: Please complete the booking form at the end of this letter, and post to Betty Anderson as soon as possible and definitely by Friday 2 May. She is at **15 Cromer Road, Southend on Sea, Essex, SS2 2DU**. For later bookings Email: iandbanderson@btinternet.com, or phone 01702 466335.

3. Renewing Group Membership or becoming a new member: The annual Group membership subscription for 2025 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)

ANNEX 1: Agenda for the Local AGM on 14 April 2025 at SAVS at 2 pm

LOCAL AGM AGENDA

1. Chair to read the notice of the Meeting and report any apologies.
2. Minutes of the AGM of 8 April 2024 and matters arising.
3. Chair's Report (Annex 2 below).
4. Financial Statement by the Acting Treasurer (Short summary of transactions Annex 3).
5. Our Group's Geographic Area.
6. Thanking the Accounts Examiners – Mr. M Jardine and Mrs M Tuite,
7. Election of Accounts Examiners for next year.
8. Election of Officers and Committee Members: Nominations to be with Mary King*
By Thursday 3 April 2025. (See Annex 5)
9. Any other business of which notice has been given to Mary* by 3 April 2025.

* Address: Miss M King, 130 Essex Way, Benfleet, Essex SS7 1LP

Annex 2: Southend-on-Sea and District Group - Chair's Report on 2024

Your Group Committee met about 9 times during the year. Dr David Owen, our Greater London Regional Representative on the National Executive Council (NEC) held several Zoom meetings at which Betty Anderson, usually represented us. Betty and I also attended the London Regional Meeting in July. These are opportunities to be briefed by HQ, and discuss Group experiences. In October, Betty Anderson represented us at National AGM and I went in support.

The Group's social activities included an illustrated talk on the RNLI's 200th Anniversary from the Charity's staff. We had two coach outings on sunny summer days using block bookings on Cooks regular coach trips. One was to the interesting old quarter of Hastings and to Rye in May. The other was to Southwold & Aldeburgh in July. We also visited Rochford Old House, enjoyed a heritage tour of old Leigh, and had the traditional Spring and Christmas lunches at Tomassi's in Southend and a Summer lunch at another venue.

Thank you for your support throughout the year. Mary King (Chair)

ANNEX 3: Short Summary of Accounts' Transactions

	2021	2022	2023	2024
General Fund: Subscriptions	170.00	100.00	144.00	128.00
Other income	34.73	79.12	133.70	188.33
Rent and teas to SAVS	60.00	180.00	180.00	123.00
Other expenses	51.21	101.15	35.52	99.90
Net	- 93.52	- 102.03	+62.18	+93.43
Social Fund Net	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Overall net Surplus/deficit	+ 93.52	-102.03	+62.18	+93.43

ANNEX 4: Nominations for new Group Committee

Existing Committee members: Mary King (Chair and Secretary), Betty Anderson (Membership Secretary), and Richard Rubin (Other Committee Member) are willing to stand again for re-election. Another member or two would be helpful.

Detachable slip for Nominations for the new Committee for Election at the Local AGM

Please complete and return by 3 April 2025, to Miss M King, 130 Essex Way, Benfleet, Essex, SS7 1LP

Chair: _____ Vice-Chair: _____ Secretary: _____

Membership Secretary: _____ Treasurer: _____

Other Committee Members, up to 3 names: _____

Signed by: ----- Name (in capital letters, please): -----

Detachable booking form for Monday 12 May 2025: Shoebury Garrison Estate and Lunch

Please complete and return so that it arrives by 30th April. or email Betty Anderson (See contact details under item 2 of the letter above.)

Names _____ Phone(s) Home _____ Mobile-----