

NATIONAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

Established 1863



PATRON: HIS MAJESTY THE KING

The NAA Visit to Shoeburyness - 9th October 2024

This first formal visit of the NAA to Shoeburyness represents a very important step forward for the NAA as we re-discover the remarkable history of (and the synergy between):

- The Artillery Volunteers formed in 1859;
- The NAA formed in 1863; and
- The first NAA competitions in 1865 held at the Royal Artillery School of Gunnery, Shoeburyness (itself created in 1859) when *there were already 32,000* enrolled Artillery Volunteers across England Scotland and Wales.

The NAA competitions continued at Shoeburyness until the First World War and this visit will highlight the above histories and synergies during that period.

The Shoebury Coastal Community Interest Company (Shoebury CIC) was formed in 2016 to promote Shoeburyness as a visitor destination providing heritage interpretation, archives, community space and a café within the Cart & Wagon Shed (an old Royal Artillery building from the 1860s). This visit is a joint promotion between the NAA and the Shoebury CIC. The website for the Shoebury CIC is <https://www.cartandwagonshed.org/about/>

Oversight Programme

Timing	
1000 – 1030	Coffee and meet up at the Cart and Wagon Shed – <i>Shoeburyness Heritage and Community Centre (1)</i>
1030 – 1040	Introductions and oversight of the day – <i>Conference Room</i>
1040 – 1145	Introductory review of the NAA and its history concentrating upon the ‘Forgotten Story of the Artillery Volunteers, the NAA and Shoeburyness 1859 to 1913’ – <i>Conference Room</i>
1145 – 1155	Coffee and Preparation
1155 – 1315	Viewing the competition firing points and targets and envisaging being at the NAA competition week at Shoeburyness – <i>A guided walk to the original competition firing points (2)</i>
1315 – 1415	Lunch
1415 – 1535	The Shoebury Coastal CIO – what it has accomplished and what is planned – <i>A guided walk to view key heritage landmarks within the Shoeburyness Barracks (built from 1859 onwards) (3)</i>
1535 – 1550	Reflections, Questions and ‘Thanks’
1550 – 1615	Tea and Cakes (1)

Notes to Oversight Programme:

- (1) Transport can be arranged from the Shoeburyness Railway station to the Cart and Wagon Shed. Car parking is also available close to the Car and Wagon Shed.
- (2) Transport will be available to take people to the furthest extent of this viewing (the firing points) – a distance of about 1.2 km from the Wagon & Cart Shed
- (3) The whole distance on this walk will be less than on the first walk but transport will again be available to take people to the main area of key landmarks.

Transport to and from Shoeburyness: The practical options are:

- By car via the Southend Ring Road – the postcode of the Cart and Wagon Shed is **SS3 9PZ**. Traffic can be difficult around the Southend Ring Road.
- By train from Fenchurch Street to Shoeburyness and the Cart and Wagon Shed is about 600 metres away although transport will also be available (as above). There is a train from Fenchurch Street at 0847 hrs arriving at 0950hrs with multiple return choices from 1600hrs onwards (at a return cost of about £22).

Cost: There will be no charge for attendance. Lunch, cakes coffee, tea etc., will be provided by the Cart and Wagon Caterers and will be paid for out of NAA funds. Those wanting extra food or drinks will be expected to pay for them.

Guests and Attendance: We would like to maximise attendance and guests will be welcomed. Please confirm your attendance as set out below.

Vegetarian, Vegan and Dietary Requirements: Please contact **Andrew Dines** to discuss this further by either email or phone – andrewdines@pegasuspd.co.uk or 07770-844833

The Wider Regiment: We have invited attendance from all serving Reserve Regiments as well as representatives from RHQRA, The RAHS, the RA Museum and the Palmerston Forts Charity.

Needing More Information? Please contact the Secretary or Andrew Dines if you would like any further information. We hope to see as many of you and your guests on October 9th.

Confirmatory Bookings: Please email David Harris (email below) to confirm whether you will be able to attend the day by Monday 30th September and if you have a guest, with their name. For those who have already replied, you will receive a confirmatory reply from David Harris following this further information sheet.

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