



RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER ★ MAY 2019

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Contributions for next Newsletter to be with RetBatNews@gmail.com, by 18th of the month



Battlesbridge and Rettendon Events



To publicise your event in this diary, please send a note to the compiler giving: event, date, time, venue, organisation and/or charity benefitting.

EVENT	DATE / DAY	TIME	VENUE	ORGANISATION
Parish Council Hustings	Friday, 26 th April	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Parish
Rettendon 2 nd vs Rayleigh 2 nd	Saturday, 27 th April	1pm	Church Meadow CM3 8DP	Rettendon Cricket Club
ELECTIONS	THURSDAY, 2ND MAY	7am – 10pm	POLLING STATION RETTTENDON MEMORIAL HALL	
Spring Fayre	Monday, 6 th May	10am – 12pm	Battlesbridge Free Church Hall	Battlesbridge Free Church
Church visits – Study Day	Wednesday 8 th May	10:00am – 4pm	All Saints & other churches	Friends of Essex Churches
Plant Sale and Coffee Morning	Saturday, 11 th May	10:30am – 12:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Horticultural Society
Rettendon CC vs Rayleigh CC	Sunday, 12 th May	1pm	Church Meadow CM3 8DP	Rettendon Cricket Club
20/20 BBQ & Band Party	Sunday, 26 th May	12:00	Church Meadow CM3 8DP	Rettendon Cricket Club
PMRGA Group Meeting	Thursday, 30 th May	2pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Polymyalgia/Giant Cell Arteritis

REGULAR EVENTS

Sunday Services	Sundays	11am / 11:15am	Battlesbridge Free Church / All Saints Church, Rettendon
Pre-school	Monday - Thursday	Mornings	Rettendon Memorial Hall / Pre-school
Bowls	Mondays / Thursdays	7 - 10pm / 2 – 4pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall
Knit and Natter	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays	1:30 – 3:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall
Art group / Youth Group	Wednesdays	2pm / 6:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church
Coffee Morning	Fridays	10am – 11am	All Saints Church, Rettendon
Exercise, Move and Dance	Fridays	12 – 1pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall / Michelle's Exercise Class
Community Choir	Fridays	7pm	Battlesbridge Free Church / Community Choir
Country and Western	1 st Saturday in month	8pm – 10pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall / Col's Country Club

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

All Stars Cricket	Friday, 7 th June	6pm – 7pm	Church Meadow CM3 8DP / Rettendon Cricket Club
Village Show Open Meeting	Tuesday, 18 th June	7:30pm	Hyde Hall Thatched Barn / Rettendon Horticultural Society
Kew Gardens Coach Trip	Saturday, 22 nd June	9am pick-up	Village Bus Stop / Bell Pub / Rettendon Horticultural Society
Village show Garden Judging	Sunday, 7 th July	2pm onwards	Rettendon Horticultural Society
Rettendon Village Show	Saturday, 13 th July	1 – 5 pm	Rettendon Cricket Field and Rettendon Memorial Hall

MOBILE LIBRARY – 3 week intervals between visits

South Hanningfield Village Hall / Salford Close	Tuesday	12:25pm to 12:55pm / 1:45pm to 2:15pm	7 th and 28 th May, 18 th June
Goose Cottages	Friday	9:40am to 10:10am	3 rd and 24 th May, 14 th June

Meet & Greet your Rettendon Parish Councillor Candidates Rettendon Memorial Hall, CM3 8DP Friday, 26th April at 7:30pm

Invitation to ALL residents and to ALL candidates standing for Parish Council elections in the Parish of Rettendon. A chance for everyone to come along to talk to each other about the upcoming elections. We express the hope this will be informative and friendly.

This will be an informal occasion, no talking from the platform, just a walk about and chat with whomever you wish who is standing for election.

Tables will be provided for the candidates to put out their literature, and anything else they wish to show.

EVERYONE IS INVITED

Rettendon, Battlesbridge, and Hayes Country Park Matters

You may all feel, as I do, utterly let down by politicians, parliament, Brexit, broken promises etc., and in no mood to vote at Parish Elections. But it is really important that you vote on Thursday May 2nd at Rettendon Memorial Hall. Read and listen to all 19 candidates - which must be a record for a Parish Council! – and vote as you see fit.

Yours Sincerely Roy Hart

Rettendon Horticultural Society PLANT SALE and COFFEE MORNING Saturday, 11th May - 10:30am - 12:30pm Rettendon Memorial Hall



There will be a wide range of plants for sale, both home-grown and from local commercial growers. Make the most of your local services and pick up some goodies.

We also provide tea/coffee and yummy home-made cakes, while you're wondering what you want, and a raffle to get excited about!



Members who have pre-ordered will be able to collect at the event.

ALL WELCOME So SEE YOU THERE.
Hazel Dale-Evans, Chairperson

Battlesbridge Free Church Spring Fayre on May 6th (bank holiday Monday) 10am – 12:30pm.

Plant stall, Raffle, Tombola,
Tea/Coffee, & cakes.

Please do come. June Edwards

Are you affected by Polymyalgia and/or Giant Cell Arteritis?

Come along to Chelmsford/Southend Group Meeting on **Thursday 30th May 2019, 2pm**, at **Rettendon Memorial Hall (CM3 8DP)**.

Groups are a really good opportunity to meet, share with others and make friends who understand how you feel.

Tea and coffee will be available during the afternoon.

£4 will be collected on entry to contribute to the cost of the hall hire and refreshments.

Contact **Pat Fedi 07733362373**
email southend@pmrgca.org.uk

RETTENDON MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL

The Hall Management Fundraising Group is pleased to report that the village quiz on March 22nd returned nearly £500 for the Village Hall. This was a fun event and thanks go to all who braved their brains for the occasion and the crew who organised it.

We would like to know of any people who would like a book exchange service at the hall – now that the mobile library no longer comes to the estate. Please do drop any thoughts in to the hall letterbox, or talk to a committee member.

Activities

The **Rettendon Keep Fit Class** (exercise with a flair) has had an Easter break, and returns on **Friday 26th April** for the first summer session. Careful of dates here as there are breaks, e.g. May 10th. Details will be posted on the Village Hall notice board.

Also organising a **2 hour mat/yoga/massage session for £15 on May 21st at 1:15 – 3:15pm**. Book at the Friday session on 26th April and 3rd May. Those searching for Pilates may enjoy this!

Col's Country & Western returns on **4th May** with their lively Saturday stuff – the booked item is the **"Porridge Band"**.

Knit & Natterers are plotting another craft fair – this will be too good to miss so keep your eyes open.

Bowls continues on Monday evenings for a gentle knees bend and roll it carefully. Tea/Coffee available and even a raffle on occasion. Some people just drop in for a chat.

Then there is the annual Plant Sale – big event for the Horticultural Society – see the front page for details.

AND we shouldn't forget the **Pre-school Mon-Thurs 9am – 1pm**, our little ones are well catered for, as you can see.....

The children enjoyed our last week of term. We made Easter cakes, had an Easter egg hunt and a party with a bouncy castle.

In our next term we are covering numbers and name writing to get children ready for school. We are also hoping to get out in the back field to do a treasure hunt and looking for feathers and wild flowers.

If you have a 2 year old, we can help you apply for funding. Call Pat on 07762 909351 or 01245 401328 or come along and have a look round anytime: no appointment needed.

Book the Hall from Dianne Francombe on 01245 400297.

Hall Management Committee

RETTENDON CRICKET CLUB

BANK HOLIDAY 20/20, BBQ

& BAND PARTY

SUNDAY 26TH MAY

Bar open from midday, live bands, BBQ

Free entry



Rettendon Horticultural Society

We are now recruiting helpers for the Annual Village Summer Show on July 13th, or on the previous day for setting up. This is a big event in co-operation with the Friends of Rettendon School and Rettendon Cricket Club, and many hands make light work. Do phone **Hazel on 01245 401538** or **Barbara on 01245 321554** to lend a hand.

Kew Garden Coach Trip

We are filling up the coach for the first visit.....

Kew Gardens - Saturday, 22nd June. A visit to see the reopened Temperate House, the world's largest Victorian glasshouse. There are, of course, lots of other things to see including Chihuly at Kew: Reflections on nature, a glass artist's work in the gardens; Exotica, a diverse collection of tropical plant paintings; and the gardens themselves.

The cost for the trip is £28 per person and a deposit of £15 secures a ticket from **Jean Pietsch, 01268 763183**. The coach will pick-up from Rettendon Village bus stop or from outside the Bell pub at 9am on the day of the trip.

Kings Seeds

We have an outing on Thursday, 13th June at 5pm at Kings Seeds, Kelvedon. This is a "take yourself" trip, but we encourage car-sharing. If you would like to know more please contact **Barbara Wright, Secretary, on 01245 321554**

Hazel Dale-Evans, Chairperson.

Secretary email: RetHSsec@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.essexinfo.net/rettendon-horticultural-society/>

Battlesbridge Free Church



On Easter Sunday, Jean-Louis Cassis from the London City Mission led our service and we sent him back with clothing, groceries etc. for his Webber Street Centre for the Homeless.

Thanks to all who supported our great Quiz Night. £100 from the takings went to Christian Aid, to help in its work rehabilitating Syrian refugees trying to rebuild their homes and lives.

June Edwards

Free First Aid Training

Saturday 1 June 2019 10am – 1pm

At Springfield Hospital, Lawn Lane, CM1 7GU

CPR for adults, children & babies. Choking.

Recognition & treatment of common medical emergencies.

Training by:

Essex Community First Aid Events Volunteers

A Registered Charity - Sponsored by Springfield Hospital

- Optional Donations to the charity

To book contact: Ian 07989 272899

iandaveyecfaev@gmail.com

website: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/ECFAEV/posts/>

Garden Notes Suddenly the flowers have really taken over. Had a couple of sessions of weeding – not the classical way, but any plant in the wrong place and over a foot high gets pulled. No grass allowed in the flower beds! Love your plants, **Mrs. McGregor**

Malcolm Lee

Aileen Lee and family would like to say "Thank You" to everyone for their kind thoughts, cards and donations in memory of Malcolm.

In Memorandum - Malcolm Lee was born, lived and worked his whole life in Rettendon.

All his friends, old Rettendon schoolmates, work colleagues and neighbours would like to express their condolences to his wife and family. (Names too numerous to put in here).

HAYES PARK

I have been visiting the Park to take newsletters to the residents for some time. Occasionally I have a coffee at the Club House and talk to the people there.

For example, we have just found out they have a Knit and Natter group too, meeting on Wednesdays - coincidence? No, just people getting to know one-another and enjoying the same hobbies - everywhere.

Having chatted face-to-face I am wondering if residents there might like to contribute a bit about themselves in the newsletter as a regular item - after all we have the Churches, the Horticultural Society, the Hall, etc, why not Hayes Park? Please let me know. It is good to talk!

Barbara Wright, compiler



ALL SAINTS'S CHURCH, RETTENDON

Hopefully the Easter Monday event will have gone according to plan: good weather, lots of people and tired out helpers after the clearing up.

As a bell ringer and supporter of the church I would like to thank Jane Fallows for the wonderful events she has organised to keep this fine, ancient and historic church and building upstanding. Jane will still be the Churchwarden, but is retiring from the fray of organising the events. We wish her a more settled and less stressful future.

However, we now have to discover if we have another budding entrepreneur nearby to organise the events. I am happy to help out, but cannot take on this task as well as everything else. Perhaps organising just one event at a time, and any ideas on the event would be welcome. Is there any youngster who is perhaps doing a Duke of Edinburgh award where such an event would fit in? Please contact **Jane Fallows Churchwarden on 01245 400394** if you are willing - we would all like these events to continue.

Luckily the next event is one organised by the Friends of Essex Churches Trust (FOECT) and involves several different churches, including All Saints.

The **Spring Study Day on Wednesday 8th May**. An event where everyone is welcome to join Essex historian, Dr. Christopher Starr, for interesting talks in four favourite medieval churches in south-east Essex.

Timetable and churches as below:-

- 10:00 All Saints, Rettendon (CM3 8DP) with light refreshments available.
- 11:30 St. Mary, Runwell (SS11 7HS)
- 13:00 Lunch, using your own arrangements
- 14:30 St Mary and St Edward, West Hanningfield (CM2 8UL)
- 15:30 St. Mary, Woodham Ferrers (CM3 8RF)
- 16:00 Refreshments will be available.

Cost to Members is £7, non-members £10 each.

Please contact Mrs. Susan Clark-Starr, email:

susanclarkstarr@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.foect.org.uk charity no. 36033

Barbara Wright, Bell Ringer and church helper.

RETTENDON CRICKET CLUB
All Stars Cricket - 2019
still time to sign up



See attached link for more information.
<https://ecb.clubspark.uk/AllStars/At/rettendon>
Cost is £40 per child, aged 5 - 8, and for this they get:

- ◆ 8 coaching sessions of 1 hour each led by our Essex CC Accredited Coach Peter Phillips
- ◆ A kit bag, complete with kit, equipment and bag (worth the £40 on its own)

The sessions are held on Friday Nights starting Friday 7th June at 18:00. Everybody is welcome, family, friends, pets, etc., as the bar is open.
Chris Abrehart, President

Notice from the Newsletter Compiler

I have been asked (or berated?) about the fact that several contributions are not signed. I am happy to receive contributions from local residents, local societies and charities. In fact I encourage it.

However, occasionally a local resident will give me something which they are frightened to put in under their own name for fear of reprisals. Unfortunately I can understand their reticence, but feel they need to be heard. Therefore I put in items which have no name, but are marked "Concerned Resident" or something similar. I have a record of who these people are, but respect their anonymity.

I do not put in items which are "anonymous" as such, nor do I encourage people to "guess" the contributor or get me to reveal them. Often I know the guess is actually incorrect, and may say so to stop possible persecution, but I will not reveal the correct name.

I have respect for people - I would hope others can have that same respect. Please do not ask me who contributes to the newsletter if there is no signature. **Concerned Compiler.**

Country Diary

The weather has been very up and down. One minute quite cold with North, northwest winds and then calm, sunny and warm. All of which affects the flora and fauna.

Yesterday I saw two peacock butterflies and a speckled wood. I also saw my first swallow. As a child I kept a nature diary and the swallows came in near St. George's day.

However, it is a wondrous beautiful time of year. The hedgerow vegetation and hues are a lovely green and the oaks are opening their leaves in a gown of acid green. I am always surprised how some oaks come in to leaf earlier than others, even if they are growing side by side. The best sight of all is the bluebells; carpeting the woodland floor in blue. The rippling carpet moving in the breeze and the bees making the most of their opportunity. The best place to see them is Danbury Woods and Norsey Woods, which is on the eastern edge of Billericay.

Talking of wild flowers a local resident phoned me recently, pleading that the grass is not mowed around the turnpike. He pointed out, when the road there was reconfigured, the contractors not only planted the trees, but sowed a selection of wild flowers which are lost when the grass is cut.

We have a persistent robin who is trying hard to nest in our house or garage. He has been found in the bedroom, the kitchen and in the garage. It is partly our fault because we occasionally leave the doors open or, more accurately, I do.

Jane Fallows 01245 400394

Laugh with Tim Vine

If wine is plonk, does that mean wine tasters are plonkers? I went out with an MP from Blackpool. She was a stick of rock. What a lovely candy-date. I ran for Parliament once. I had to, I missed the bus.

Dear Residents, please read below response to last month's article about the Parish Council:

1. Cancellation of land purchase: in June 2014 the 2011-2015 PC decided in secret to buy a plot of land for £20,000 and instructed solicitors to effect the purchase. The "new" PC found no proper valuation of the land, no detailed plans for a social housing project, and no progress with the purchase. Given these facts, the "new" PC did indeed agree (in an open meeting) to cancel the purchase.
2. "Control" of the Memorial Hall: as with many village halls, management of this hall is governed by a trust deed that defines the "committee of management" made up of 4 elected members and up to 12 representatives of groups using the hall, and a "custodian trustee" with the sole responsibility of holding the deeds of the property on behalf of the management committee. Clearly, RPC has never had control of the hall, so cannot have lost it as last month's article makes out.
3. Legal action against a landowner: the 2011-2015 PC instructed the Clerk to register the Memorial Hall and the car park with Land Registry. Solicitors were appointed early 2014 to deal with this: it was still in progress when the new PC was elected. In early 2016, RPC was advised that the owner of land adjacent to the car park had received a letter from Land Registry regarding a right of access from the rear of the car park, across his land, to the rear of the Memorial Hall. Given that this was no longer in use, and to avoid further legal costs, RPC voted to waive the right of access. There was no legal action against the landowner.
4. Football / Bell Fields: the PC did NOT take out enforcement action. The PC Clerk can confirm this.
5. Bell Fields trustee dispute: some corrections:
 - a. Actually, it was the 2011-2015 PC who engaged Birkett Long (BL) on a related but separate matter.
 - b. The response from BL was from a trainee solicitor, then a specialist in Commercial Law and finally from their Head of Commercial and Corporate Finance. None of them appeared familiar with charity law. BL confirmed they had only ever seen extracts from the Bell Fields' governing document.
 - c. RPC has invited the other party to discuss this many times without success, and only reluctantly pursued legal action to try and resolve matters. The PC almost certainly does not have the authority to just waive the interests of the parish in this dispute.
 - d. The previous PC Chairman stated in Dec 2014: "the Charity Commission confirms that the Parish Council is the charity trustee for both sites."
6. Village gateways: the PC delayed its decision on the gateways for several months to provide time for other parties to come forward with detailed project plans. None were received so Essex Highways were finally contracted to do the work.
7. Openness of PC meetings:
 - a. The "5 minute rule" existed long before the current PC was elected and was NOT put in place by the "new" PC.
 - b. All working groups with anything to report have done so in open meeting (with the exception of the HR committee which does not discuss the Clerk's salary etc in open meeting).
 - c. The 2011-2015 PC conducted 39 private & confidential sessions during their term. The total for the current PC is 6.

Mark Fleming

Response: Roy Hart stands firm on all points raised in April's newsletter, the only variation - point 4 was not an enforcement notice to stop the game of football being played on the Bell Field. It was an enforcement investigation to stop football instigated by two members of the public connected to Rettendon Parish Council. This section on investigation was later dropped, but it happened. Investigation of their complaint was lodged March 2017.

The title of this enforcement investigation was - 'use of land as a football pitch and display of associated advertisements'.

The opinions expressed by Mr Fleming and Mr. Hart are entirely their own. Rettendon and Battlesbridge Newsletter takes no responsibility whatsoever for these contributions. Discussion on this subject is now closed.

Newsletter Contributions from local individuals, societies or groups are encouraged. Please send them to me, Barbara Wright, as soon as you can via e-mail (RetBatNews@gmail.com), or tel: 01245 321554 Or paper copy to 55 East Hanningfield Road. Mark for Newsletter.

PARISH AND CITY COUNCILLOR ELECTIONS 2nd May, 2019 - Rettendon Memorial Hall

If you haven't noticed, and hopefully this will be with you beforehand, there are elections for

City Councillors. There are 2 places available for the Runwell and Rettendon Ward. The following people are standing:-

<i>Clark, Paul</i>	<i>Independent</i>
<i>Millane, Lance Anthony</i>	<i>Conservative</i>
<i>Pennicard, Richard Glyn</i>	<i>Liberal Democrat</i>
<i>Ride, Raymond Anthony</i>	<i>Conservative</i>

and **Parish Councillors.** There are 9 places available for the Rettendon Parish Council. The following people are standing:-

Candidate:-	Proposed by:-
<i>Claydon, Paul</i>	<i>Cottee Sandie E</i>
<i>Cottee, Sandie</i>	<i>Fallows Ronald S</i>
<i>Dale-Evans, Hazel</i>	<i>Jefferies Janys M</i>
<i>Fleming, Denise Margaret</i>	<i>Jones Glenys K</i>
<i>Fleming, Mark Andrew</i>	<i>Jones Glenys K</i>
<i>Francombe, Dianne</i>	<i>Marshall Keith J</i>
<i>Goodey, Alison Claire</i>	<i>Fleming Mark A</i>
<i>Hart, Roy</i>	<i>Spearman Raymond</i>
<i>Jones, Glenys Kathleen</i>	<i>Fleming Denise M</i>
<i>Knight, James William</i>	<i>Fleming Mark A</i>
<i>Marshall, Keith John</i>	<i>Francombe Dianne S</i>
<i>Mills, Vicky</i>	<i>Maloney Peter A</i>
<i>Phillips, Dave - Independent</i>	<i>Knight James W</i>
<i>Ride, Raymond Anthony</i>	<i>Bishop Susan A</i>
<i>Rogers, Steve</i>	<i>Fleming Mark A</i>
<i>Stoddard, Phil</i>	<i>Fleming Denise M</i>
<i>Williams, John Corley</i>	<i>Jefferies Janys M</i>
<i>Wilson, Scott</i>	<i>Fleming Mark A</i>
<i>Wright, Barbara</i>	<i>Coyston Jennifer A</i>

This list was taken from the website: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/voting-and-elections/upcoming-elections/candidates-standing-for-election/>

RETTENDON VILLAGE SHOW Saturday, 13th July, 1 - 5pm

We are very pleased to announce the co-operation between the Friends of Rettendon School (FRS), Rettendon Cricket Club and the Rettendon Horticultural Society is still going strong and we are all getting ready for a super show in July. Lots of stalls, lots of fun for all....

The Horticultural Show schedules are ready and a copy should be in this issue. If you do not have a paper copy and need one please let me know **Barbara Wright, secretary**, email RetHSsec@gmail.com or go to the website <http://www.essexinfo.net/rettendon-horticultural-society/files/view/2SummerSchedule.pdf>

We are looking forward to seeing and hearing Carousel perform live again this year. The band were such a success last year the FRS have booked them again.

There is a full arena schedule planned and we hope to have it finalised for the next newsletter. Diverse activities including the Class Potato Growing weigh-in with better scales than last year!

So - what tips can we offer for successful exhibits?

The first is, stating the obvious -

if you do not enter you cannot win.

Newsletter website: <http://www.essexinfo.net/retbatnews/>

Please note this newsletter is compiled from various entries and is not the work of any one person. The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the compiler, or of the Newsletter Organisation, though spelling and grammar may be corrected.