

## RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER

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Please also note the views contained within are offered by individuals/organisations privately and not in conjunction with the Rettendon Parish Council

**All contributions for next Newsletter to be with [RetBatNews@gmail.com](mailto:RetBatNews@gmail.com), by 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

### 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
Easter Day Service	Sunday, 1 <sup>st</sup> April	11:15am	All Saints Church, Rettendon	
Easter Monday Open Day	Monday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	10:00am – 3pm	All Saints Church, Rettendon	
Talk: Vegetable Crop Growing	Tuesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> April	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Horticultural Society
Battlesbridge Quiz	Friday, 13 <sup>th</sup> April	7 for 7:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	
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 Village Hall	
Parish Council Meeting	Last Tuesday in Month	7 for 7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Parish Council
Knit and Natter	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays	1:30 – 3:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Village Hall	
Art group / Youth Group	Wednesdays	2pm / 6:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	
Jive	Wednesdays	8pm – 10pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Jive Group
Community Choir	Fridays	7pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	Community Choir
Country and Western	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday in month	8pm – 10pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Country & Western Society

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Cake and Plant Sale	Monday, 7 <sup>th</sup> May	10am – 12pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	
Plant Sale and Coffee Morning	Saturday, 12 <sup>th</sup> May	10:30am -12pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Horticultural Society
20-20 Cricket Match with Rayleigh	Sunday, 27 <sup>th</sup> May	2pm & evening	Rettendon Cricket Field	Rettendon Cricket Club
Fun Day	Monday, 28 <sup>th</sup> May	10:30am – 3pm	All Saints Church, Rettendon	
Rettendon Village Show	Saturday, 14 <sup>th</sup> July	1 – 5 pm	Rettendon Cricket Field and Memorial Village Hall	

★★★★ NOTE REDUCED STOPS ★★ ★★ MOBILE LIBRARY ★★ ★★ NOTE TIMES AND DATES ★★★★★

Salforal Close	Tuesdays – every 3 weeks	1:45 – 2:15pm	New Timetables: 10 April, 1 May, 22 May	
Goose Cottages	Friday - every 3 weeks	9:40 – 10:10am	New Timetables: 6 April, 27 April, 18 May	
South Hann. Village Hall	Tuesday - every 3 weeks	12:45 – 12:55	New Timetables: 10 April, 1 May, 22 May	

#### Rettendon Parish Church

**Easter Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 10am to 3pm**

Floral displays, Refreshments (Soup, Chicken Curry, Sandwiches & desserts).

Buy some home-made cakes, new & nearly new clothing, plants, second hand books, play games & buy some small gifts.

**Jane Fallows, Church Warden**

#### Battlesbridge Free Church - Quiz Night

Come and join us for a fun evening on

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April**

7pm for 7:30pm start

Tables up to 8 persons, £5 per team member.

Tea, coffee and biscuits included. Raffle.

To raise funds for the Church.

**Future Event:** On Bank Holiday Monday, 7 May we will be holding a cake and plant sale from 10 - 12, again in aid of Church funds.

**BFC Fundraising Team.**

#### Rettendon Horticultural Society.

Having shown at the Spring show our serious growers will be keen to note that our talk is on

#### Vegetable Crop Growing

by Mike Abel

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 7:30pm**

A chance to find out what to grow and how to grow it, including soil types, fertilisers, pest and disease control, transplanting, seeds and storage. Just right to find out what to grow for our summer show on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> July.

Mike Abel lectured for 21 years on horticulture at Writtle College, worked for 6 years for a PYO fruit and veg. farm in Essex and now works for Agralan who supply horticultural sundries, including biological controls, to commercial growers and amateur gardeners.

Find out how your food is produced and how to supplement your food store yourself.

Members free, non-members £3

**Hazel Dale-Evans, Chairperson, 01245 401538**

I woke this morning to find a plane on my front lawn. I had left the landing light on! (BBS Essex Radio)

#### KNIT & NATTER.....

Our first date (4<sup>th</sup> April ) will not be in the Village Hall as there is maintenance ongoing. Our second date (18<sup>th</sup> April) will be there.

Those wishing to come and join us on April 4<sup>th</sup> please contact **Sandie Cottee via Facebook, or Hazel Dale-Evans 01245 401538**



## Rettendon Horticultural Society.

The Spring Flower show went ahead despite a hiccup with the weather. Opportunities for early flowering daffs and those who cosset their prize blooms in a sheltered place. Always lovely to have garden chat after the winter rest. We also got some tips from the judge for showing daffs in next year's show.

Kate Hart impressed the judge with her displaying of her daffs, winning the rosette for best in show and the silver salver for most points. She obviously has good knowledge of gardening as she also won the quiz.

Hazel Dale-Evans came 2nd with the same number of points, with Paul Coulter and Gabrielle Church on the same number of points, but taking the lower places in the classes.

We would like to thank those who made cakes and provided raffle prizes and to our kind volunteers who made the tea and poured it out.

**PLANT SALE AND COFFEE MORNING** - Make a note this will be on Saturday morning, 12th May in the Village Hall. Members will get a list to pre-order plants (at preferential rates) shortly. Others will have to take pot luck.

### TRIPS

Bressingham Gardens and Steam on Sunday 24th June (£25 including train ride).

Royal Horticultural Society garden at Wisley, on Sunday 16th September (£15 - including entry)

To book a place on either trip please contact Jean Pietsch on 01268 763183

**Hazel Dale-Evans, Chairperson, 01245 401538**  
**For further information see our website:**

[www.essexinfo.net/rettendon-horticultural-society](http://www.essexinfo.net/rettendon-horticultural-society)

### Footpaths

Residents should be aware that although there is a (locked) blue footbridge over the A130 behind Curry Hill there is no access to it from the Church. The footpath that goes through the churchyard has a broken stile (already reported) which then turns immediately left and keeping the new farmhouse on your right and the hedge line on your left travels southwards to the Runwell Road.

Please do not damage boundary fences in fruitless efforts to access the bridge via the church. Footpath maps can be down-loaded from the Essex Highways Public Rights of Way website:

<http://www.essexhighways.org/getting-around/public-rights-of-way/prow-interactive-map.aspx>

and information can be searched for from <http://www.essexhighways.org/getting-around/public-rights-of-way.aspx>.

### **Entry by resident landowner.**

There is no excuse...

... not to clear up after your dog, especially since I have just received another big box of 'poo bags' which are free to every dog owner. Please contact me on 07739530611 to arrange delivery or collection. **Glenys Jones**

## Rettendon Parish Church - All Saints' Church

The Church hosted a concert in aid of the Friends of Essex Churches on 17<sup>th</sup> March. A trio of musicians entertained the audience with a mixture of music by Mozart, Bach, Handel and Shostakovich. It was a very fine concert and much appreciated by all who attended. The evening concluded with canapés and wine.

### All Saints' at Easter

Easter is an important time in the Church calendar. The Good Friday service is at 2pm and the Easter Sunday service at 11-15am as usual. The flower arrangers will be decorating the church after the Good Friday service therefore gifts of flowers and foliage would be welcome **on FRIDAY**. On Saturday there is a wedding and on Sunday after the service we will be setting up for our Easter Monday Open Day.

### Coffee morning

The Church is open on Good Friday morning for coffee or tea from 10 to 11-am. Anyone is welcome at any time for private prayer please call me.

**Church Open Day, On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May** the Church will be having another open day. The emphasis will be on the family with a barbeque, bouncy castle and a treasure hunt. If you want any further information about these activities then please call me.

**Jane Fallows Church Warden 01245 400394.**

### From issue 1 of the Rettendon Review of March 1968.

"We in Rettendon are fortunate in living in a village with a wide variety of social activities. It is with the object of maintaining this spirit and informing all parishioners of these activities, that the Parish Council has prepared this magazine.

We would address a special word to the many newcomers to the village, to those who live in, but do not feel they belong to Rettendon. We welcome you to the village; it used to be said that a village was a place where everyone knew everybody else. That is no longer fully true nor always desired: yet we assure you that if you care to join the local societies, you will receive a warm and personal welcome."

Sentiments expressed in 1968 by Mr W D Smith, the then Chairman of Rettendon Parish Council.

Has Rettendon moved on in the last 50 years? Given that I have only lived in Rettendon for 43 years I will leave it to others who have been residents for fifty years or so to offer their views.

**Parish Resident**

### Pre-School

We are now having a bit of fun outside as the weather warms up.

If you need any more information contact **Pat on 07762 909351 or 01245 401328**

## Village Hall News

Ongoing maintenance projects under consideration include some new windows, the main floor resurfacing and general overhaul of the building.

**Anyone wishing to consider booking contact Dianne on 01245 400297, which has an answerphone facility.**

Consideration of new classes at the hall are Pilates, Over 50 Keep Fit and Combination Keep Fit (Pilates/Yoga/TaiChi/other keep fit?). If you wish to register interest could you please contact Hazel Dale -Evans on 01245 401538.



## Battlesbridge Matters

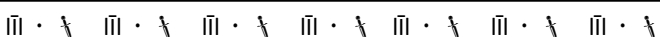
First of all, I would like to sincerely thank for all the support I and Julie had in the last four weeks! Julie has been rather ill in Basildon Hospital. It was a long haul with low points, but hopefully she is now on the mend. At one stage I asked a loyal resident, who is on the board at Basildon on one of the committees, and another friend, who is a surgeon, whether it was worth having private medical treatment. Both replies were the same: once you are in the N.H.S. system - Southend, Basildon or Broomfield - "It's as good as it gets." On reflection they were both right. To all the staff at Basildon Hospital, and to the very supportive who have called, sent flowers and get-well cards I sincerely Thank You.

I am trying to slightly alter the No. 3 bus service with a very small de-tour calling at the vineyards in Great Baddow and a stop near to the Doctors' surgery and dental practice. Reports coming back are the new bus service is working very well. Please use it as much as possible. The more viable it becomes, the more permanent it will be.

Apologies for reporting the street light on the corner of Maltings Road had been switched on. After much correspondence from myself - the Parish Clerk - the lighting contractor, after "months", we managed to get the lamppost straightened up. I assumed it had been done. Sorry. Will now ask Katherine again to push them.

Very soon now the wind will blow from the North West, possibly early April. Spring will burst into bloom and deck chairs brought out. This usually lasts for about 10 days.

**Yours very Sincerely Roy Hart**



## Rettendon Cricket Club

As many of you are aware the Cricket club pavilion was vandalised in February. They are trying to raise funds for repairs and more security measures. A Rettendon cricket club just giving page has been set up if you would like to help them on-line.

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/rettendon-cricketclub>

## May Bank Holiday Sunday

If you prefer to help face-to-face we are having a 20-20 match against Rayleigh Cricket Club on Bank Holiday Sunday 27th May, starting at 2pm. We are also hoping to have a band in the evening - more details will be in the next newsletter.

**Cary Nelson, Chairman Rettendon Cricket Club**

## DOG OWNERS RESPONSIBILITIES

I write as a concerned resident and as a dog owner having recently encountered a very distressing situation whilst walking with my dog.

My concerns are about owners allowing their dogs to run off lead in the area between Rettendon Village and Rectory Lane. In particular, I have frequently encountered two Staffordshire Bull Terriers running loose. My own dog has been intimidated by both these dogs.

A brown and white dog was recently involved in a sustained attack on another dog, it having run out of control across a large field. I was shocked to hear the ferocity of the attack, which lasted several minutes, and the sobs of the victim's female owner. I do not know the outcome, but I cannot imagine that serious injury was not sustained. This incident happened on the 20th March 2018.

We are fortunate to have open land to walk on, whether we are dog owners or just out for a pleasant walk in the country. It is not acceptable to feel intimidated by dogs running loose and barking at you or your own dog.

A reminder of the law regarding dogs is clearly required.

There are two Acts of Parliament that deal with dogs:

1. The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991
2. The Dangerous Dogs Act 2014

The 1991 Act was introduced following a number of attacks on children. It identified four breeds of dog that were of particular concern. Staffordshire Bull Terriers are not one of those breeds listed in the Act.

The amended 2014 Act came into effect on the 13th May 2014. The law applies to all dog owners regardless of size or breed. Of particular relevance to the matter above, Section 3 of the Act creates a criminal offence for the person in charge of the dog to allow it to be 'dangerously out of control' in a public place.

A dog does not have to bite to be deemed dangerous in the eyes of the law. A dog is considered to be 'dangerously out of control' if it:

- Injures someone;
- Makes someone worried that it might injure them.

A court could also decide that a dog is 'dangerously out of control' if the following apply:

- It attacks someone's animal;
- The owner of an animal thinks they could be injured if they tried to stop a dog attacking their animal.

If a dog is attacked by another dog, the matter should be reported to the police.

I am sure that nobody would want to ban dogs from public places but, speaking personally, I want to feel safe when walking with or without my dog.

The remedies are simple:

- Keep your dog on a lead. Extending leads give dogs plenty of scope for enjoying their walks and, of course, they are capable of being under full control at all times.
- If you have any doubt about your dog's behaviour make sure that it wears a muzzle when in a public place.
- Take your dog to appropriate training classes.

To summarize, be a responsible dog owner. Observe these simple rules and everybody can feel safe and enjoy our beautiful surrounding countryside.

**Concerned Parish Resident**

## Garden Notes

Two days of sun meant much clearance of bramble seedlings and a lot of plants into bigger pots giving them more root room and food. Suddenly lots of flowers appeared above ground - What joy!

Love your garden - **Mrs. McGregor**



## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Newsletter did not receive the Parish Council news in time to print in the newsletter this month. However, Parish Council Meeting minutes can be found on the website

<https://www.essexinfo.net/rettendonparishcouncil/minutes/>

If you would like a paper copy of the minutes of the Parish Council meetings please give your name and address to the Parish Clerk:

**Katherine Kane, Parish Council Clerk**  
[rettendonparishcouncil@outlook.com](mailto:rettendonparishcouncil@outlook.com) 07811 254163

### **Danbury & Little Baddow - OPEN GARDENS** **Sunday 10th June 10.30am to 5pm**

Homemade lunches, tea, coffee & cakes

Pimms tent, ukulele group, miniature railway

Free transport between gardens

Tickets in advance £5.00 from

[www.danburyopengardens.co.uk](http://www.danburyopengardens.co.uk) or from  
White Elm Garden Centre, Blossom Hill Florist &  
Meacock & Jones.

Or pay on the day £6.00,  
call Margaret on 01245 222674

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### **Newsletter Comments**

This is your newsletter. It is printed for the residents of the Parish of Rettendon, paid for by your rates, and, hopefully, read by you.

The items in the newsletter are written by residents and others concerned about the Parish of Rettendon.

The newsletter contains the events going on in and around this parish. Events are not just shows, open days or quizzes and such like, but relevant items which are the concern of residents.

Everyone should be able to have their say. It is important to talk about what is happening in the area, whether it be controversial or not. If we bury our heads in the sand and ignore it all, we should not complain when things are not as we would like them to be. I have said before I welcome opposing views, because it means people are thinking about their environment.

I prepare this newsletter voluntarily. I do not charge for my time or my petrol, and I am willing to distribute the newsletters if there are no distributors available for any particular part of the round at any time.

I have also stated I am prepared to step down from compiling the newsletter - as long as someone else is prepared to take it on. I do not want it to languish by the wayside. It is an important part of the village. So far I have had no offers from anyone, but it seems the Parish Council are now proposing to pay for someone to edit the newsletter.

Please let them know if you think this is a good idea.

**Newsletter Compiler**

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



### **Battlesbridge Free Church**

Our little church was called a Free Church because Christianity no longer had to conform the straight jacket of just one rigidly imposed form of worship from that time of 1852. A group of local business men and farmers were joint tenants of a piece of land in Battlesbridge and in 1843 a chapel was built to be used for public worship of Almighty God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as usually conducted by Protestant Congregational or Independent Dissenters, holding both Infant and Adult Baptism under the supervision of the Church, meeting in the Chapel. There was provision for Deacons to be appointed to manage the conduct of church affairs with the proviso that all important decisions must be approved by the whole membership at a church meeting to be held once a month.

So there was democracy and freedom, where individual thoughts and opinions could be shared and where worships reflected the freedom Jesus gave for each individual to come to direct contact with him in Spirit.

Our country's culture and laws were built on Christian ethics. Our schools used to reflect this in teaching the faith handed down through the centuries. How sad that we seem to have allowed secularism, humanism, transgenderism and heavy-handed Political Correctness to blind the freedoms of thought and speech which were fought so hard for, not only through the centuries but for which many thousands died within the World Wars. But God is still God. He won't go away. He can't be disbelieved out of existence and in spite of our largely turning our backs on him, He still loves every one of us.

**June Edwards**

### **Country Diary**

I was hoping to write about the beautiful spring flowers but as it happens I am looking out on a blanket of snow and the said flowers are hidden. However, I was recently in Wiltshire where I noticed some clumps of coltsfoot. It is not an elegant flower but the clumps here have disappeared. The daffodils were not blooming there either, so I think I will have to wait now until April.

Last week I think it was a sparrow hawk sitting on top of my back gate but he never turned around so I was not so sure. Also I was walking the old A130 and a field fare was standing on the grass about five yards from me. It was very finely marked and did not appear to be all that frightened of me.

Helen tells me there were plovers on the field adjacent to Old Bell Lane. I later saw plovers on the Bell field. I have looked them up in my reference book and I think they are lapwings which I saw because of they had spiked plumage on their heads. Years ago I used to see them on the sloping pastures of Hyde Hall.

Helen also tells me a prettily marked fox was prowling around the houses in Old Bell lane. I will finish with a quote: "A peck of March dust is worth a King's ransom."

**Jane Fallows 01245 400394**

Please send contributions, to me, Barbara Wright, as soon as you can via e-mail ([RetBatNews@gmail.com](mailto:RetBatNews@gmail.com)), or tel: 01245 321554 Hazel Dale-Evans has kindly offered that copy can be dropped off at her address: 55 East Hanningfield Road.