

RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER

Financed by Parish Residents via the Parish Precept, Printed by IMAGES, Runwell Road, Wickford 01268 761900

Prepared & distributed by over 25 volunteers within the parish. **May** issue number 365.

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, by 20th May 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
Sunday XI vs Mistley CC 1 st XI	Sunday, 29 th April	1pm	Rettendon Cricket Field	Rettendon Cricket Club
Sunday XI vs Wickford CC "A" XI	Sunday, 6 th May	1pm	Rettendon Cricket Field	Rettendon Cricket Club
Coffee Morning & Plant Sale	Monday, 7 th May	10am - 12pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	
Annual Parish Meeting	Tuesday, 8 th May	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Parish Council
Plant Sale & Coffee Morning	Saturday, 12 th May	10 - 12:30	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Horticultural Soc.
RCC 2nd XI vs Navestock CC 1st	Saturday, 19 th May	1pm	Rettendon Cricket Field	Rettendon Cricket Club
Polymyalgia Rheumatica Group	Friday, 25 th May	1:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Chelmsford/Southend Group
20-20 Cricket RCC vs Rayleigh	Sunday, 27 th May	1pm	Rettendon Cricket Field	Rettendon Cricket Club
Family Fun Day	Monday, 28 th May	10 - 4pm	All Saints Church, Rettendon	
Parish Council Annual Meeting (AGM)	Tuesday, 29 th May	7 for 7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Parish Council
ALL STARS CRICKET	Fraturdays, 18th May - 20th July	6 - 7pm	Rettendon Cricket Field	Rettendon Cricket Club
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	
Knit and Natter	1 st & 3 rd 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 st Saturday in month	8pm - 10pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Country & Western Society
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY				
Table Top Sale	Saturday, 9 th June	1 - 3pm	Rettendon Memorial Village Hall	
Village Show Open Meeting	Tuesday, 19 th June	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Horticultural Soc.
Bressingham Steam & Gardens Coach Trip	Sunday, 24 th June	9am	Pick-up points: The Bell, Village Bus Stop	Rettendon Horticultural Society
Rettendon Village Show	Saturday, 14 th July	1 - 5 pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall & Cricket Field	Rettendon Village Groups
MOBILE LIBRARY - EVERY 3 WEEKS				
South Hanningfield Village Hall	Tuesday	12:25pm to 12:55pm	1 st May, 22 nd May, 12 th June, 3 rd July, 24 th July	
Salforal Close	Tuesday	1:45pm to 2:15pm	1 st May, 22 nd May, 12 th June, 3 rd July, 24 th July	
Goose Cottages	Friday	9:40am to 10:10am	27 th April, 18 th May, 8 th June, 29 th June, 20 th July	

Battlesbridge Free Church Spring Fayre
Monday, 7th May - 10 - 12
 Come and join us for a friendly tea or coffee with cake. There will be an extensive plant sale including shrubs and trees. Why not try the Tombola, have a ticket for the Raffle, and buy a cake to take away with you for later. Help us to support our church.
June Edwards

RETTENDON CRICKET CLUB

Pavilion Repair Fund-Raising Day - **Sunday 27th May**
 20-20 cricket match vs Rayleigh - starting at 1pm
 With Bar Open &
 Live Band Evening Entertainment after the game.
 Funds raised will help to repair the vandalised pavilion and ensure cricket is continued to be played and enjoyed.
Cary Nelson, Chairman

Rettendon Horticultural Society
Plant Sale and Coffee Morning
Saturday, 12th May
from 10am - 12:30

Not found the right plant at the Spring Fayre? - worry not - we will have a selection of plants from local nurseries to tempt you: bedding, shrubs, basket plants, annuals.....

There will also be vegetables available ready to plant and grow to show at Rettendon Village Show.

Come and find out how to look after the plants you have bought while supping tea or coffee.

We will even have a raffle. Admission FREE.

The event raises the funds to enable us to hire the marquee for our main event of the year - the horticultural summer show at the

Rettendon Village Show- Saturday 14th July.
Barbara Wright, secretary

Rettendon All Saints Church
Family Fun Day Monday 28th May.

Come and join us for a day of fun

Children's Entertainers / Cake Stall
 Face Painting / Apple Bobbing
 Raffle / Biscuit Decorating
 Stained Glass Window Making
 Teddy Tombola / Brass Rubbing
 Bouncy Castle / Birds of Prey

Lots to do, so come and join us
from 10-4pm

Jan and Debbie are in charge so come along and support them and help to make sure our church is there when YOU need it.

More information from Jan at jan_turner@btinternet.com and Debbie at deborah.schofield@spirehealthcare.com

Draw the church competition



KNIT & NATTER.....

Back at full strength in the Village Hall Committee room on Wednesdays, 2nd and 16th May. Minimal cost, and maximum fun. Come and find out what everyone is doing.

Sandie Cottee via Facebook,
or Hazel Dale-Evans 01245 401538



THANKS

I would like to thank Pam, Jane, Janet, Pauline, Christine and Kathy for their kind donations of yarn which I have used to make 343 twiddle muffs for Alzheimer and dementia sufferers.

Thanks and kind regards

Cynthia Blowers



I have learnt that Cynthia made ALL the muffs herself - so I think she should also have a big thank you.

ALL STARS CRICKET Rettendon Cricket Club, Church Meadow, CM3 8DP



Fridays 6 - 7pm
(May 18th - July 20th)
Contact: cabrehart@neweraed.co.uk

Village Hall News.

Doesn't the newly refurbished floor look magnificent. The finish brings out the colour of the blocks, and, hopefully, will be easier to clean and keep looking good, though we will ask users to help us keep it looking that good.

Maintenance continues and our thanks to those who give their time and effort to this. Although there are litter bins at the hall, we would ask everyone to please take their litter home with them from the car park to keep everything looking nice and neat.

Table Top Sale - 9th June - 1pm - 3pm

Please get in touch if you would like a table for this event, which will cost £10. Open to all, even if not a parish resident.

Contact Joan Sankey 01268 765329.

Pilates\Body Balance\ Over 50's Keep Fit Classes

We are currently trying to gauge interest in the above classes for all levels of fitness and ages bar the over 50's class, which is a fun low-impact exercise class to gently raise your heartrate. Everybody, male or female, welcome.

Pilates is a series of non-impact stretches and exercises improving co-ordination, balance and core strength.

Body Balance is a fusion of Yoga, Pilates and Tai Chi improving balance and flexibility whilst strengthening core and back muscles and toning your whole body.

Google it! You Tube it!

Then ring Hazel on 01245 401538

Booking the hall

Dianne Francombe, the booking clerk, can be contacted on 01268 400297. She has all the details.

Sad News

Unfortunately the last month has seen the death of three of the stalwarts of our village community, who contributed much to our social whirl. All of them had lived in the Parish for over 30 years.

Sue Cheater's latest involvement was as a member of the Village Memorial Hall management committee, where she brought much enthusiasm and new ideas.

Ray Prebble, such a lovely man as so many have told me, was always busy helping out with the hall, ensuring things were tip top. His help at the Village Show was invaluable and he will be greatly missed.

Tony Coyston was a Horticultural member, having won many cups in the past. He judged at South Hanningfield Show for many years.

We would like to express our condolences to all the families. Our memories of them will remain.

Barbara Wright, Compiler

Update on land behind the Church

The fields and woods behind Rettendon church, including Curry Hill and Rettendon Shaw, have been acquired by Redrow Homes Ltd.

No building is to be done there, the land is intended to be an ecological area, full (they hope) of wildlife, compensating for rural land that Redrow have developed commercially in Thurrock. This means that we will have a protected local wildlife area right on our doorstep.

I've had good friendly contacts with Redrow and with the Specialist environmental company who will be managing the land for them and it seems that they may welcome some local interest in the project and its protection and development.

I live on the Meadow Road estate, and this piece of land has always been a favourite walk for me and my dog as well as being the best place in the area for tobogganing in winter etc. etc

I'd like it to remain so.

If anyone is interested, please reply to me at

Rettendshaw@thespiderfarm.com

John Meyn

Update on Compiler's Comments

I am happy to inform residents that the Parish Council has requested the Parish Clerk to be the independent reviewer for the newsletter and will not be reviewing the newsletter themselves.

This decision is in everyone's interests. The newsletter is funded by, but remains independent of, the Parish Council.

Barbara Wright, compiler

English is a funny language

In a Bangkok Temple: *It is forbidden to enter a woman, even a foreigner, if dressed as a man.*

In a City restaurant: *Open seven days a weeks and weekends.*

In a Cemetery: *Persons are prohibited from picking flowers, from any but their own graves.*

On the menu of a Swiss Restaurant: *Our wines leave you nothing to hope for.*



Rettendon Horticultural Society.

ANNUAL PLANT SALE - see advert on front Saturday 12th May - 10:30am - 12:30pm

In the Village Hall. Coffee, tea and nibbles while you shop. All information is free (about the plants). Raffle for fun. Admission FREE.

If you are a member, come and collect your pre-ordered plants. If you have not received a pre-order form by now please get in touch with either Hazel or Barbara. Pre-orders have to be in by the Tuesday before the sale (i.e. 8th May).



RETTENDON VILLAGE SHOW - SATURDAY 14TH JULY

This is fast approaching so included with this newsletter is the brightly coloured Horticultural Summer Show schedule. You should be able to find something to enter, or maybe get your child interested. We include a wide variety of classes from horticulture to cookery, wine to knitting, handicrafts to photography. This year we have added children's cooking recipes - one in the under 12's and one in the under 16's. We hope this will encourage the master chefs of the future.

NOTE: Our OPEN MEETING in the Village Hall committee room will be on Tuesday, 19th June, where the final arrangements will be sorted out for the Village Show (Saturday 14th July).

Anyone willing to help in any way at our Village Show please register either with Barbara (☎ 01245 321554 email: RetHSsec@gmail.com), or with the school FRS (Friends of Rettendon School) on website <http://www.rettendon.essex.sch.uk/parents/frs> or contact them via Facebook page Friends of Rettendon School or @Rettendonpta.



TRIPS

Bressingham Steam and Gardens on Sunday 24th June (£25 including train ride). This has been a popular visit in the past as there is so much to do and see. The website (<https://www.bressingham.co.uk/home.aspx>) "Events" shows a "Kids Science Day", so bring the children to enjoy a lecture by a Mad Scientist.

Royal Horticultural Society garden at Wisley, on Sunday 16th September (£15 - including entry). A different time of the year than previous visits, so different flowers and shrubs will be out. There is a special event on during our visit with a sculpture trail from the Surrey Sculpture Society.

Website: <https://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/wisley>

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

Tips for the show

- Don't forget the plates/boxes for showing vegetables or fruit.
- Flower arranging exhibits can have extras, e.g. cloths, pictures, etc., but arrangements do not.
- Clear glass jars for preserves, clear bottles for wine, etc.
- All projects must have been **finished** since the last show.

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

Come along to Chelmsford/Southend Group meeting on **Friday 25th May** at the **Rettendon Memorial Hall at 1.30 pm.**

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

Guest speaker is Professor Bhaskar Dasgupta, Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

Tea and coffee will be available during the afternoon. £3 will be collected on entry to contribute to the cost of the hall hire and refreshments.

RSVP Pat Fedi. Email: southend@pmrgca.org.uk.

[Tel:07733362373](tel:07733362373)



Battlesbridge Free Church

Thanks to all who came and shared our very lively quiz night on April 13th. A record 56 people came and we raised £419 towards church maintenance.

Our next fund-raising event will be our Spring Fayre which will be held on the first May Bank Holiday, May 7th, from 10 until 12 noon as advert.

How wonderful to experience this beautiful Spring and sunshine! The dull gloom and hard, prolonged winter seemed to depress everything but suddenly, it was as if a switch had been thrown and we awoke to blossom and greenness. We do thank God for all this amazing bounty of new, exuberant regrowth. It would seem a foolishness to assume that nature had worked it all out for itself.

In the same way, it seems easy for us to feel that clever, sophisticated, millennium man is totally in charge and in control. Elbowing Almighty God onto the back seat and expecting him to keep out of our lives would seem foolishness, especially since he has only our very best interest at heart. In ceasing to teach our Christian faith to our young in our schools, have we denied them the solid moral foundation which we of the older generation were given? Our God is not just for the few "Holy Joes" who continue to go to church but for every single man, woman and child of whatever race or creed, good, bad or indifferent. His overriding love is not partial.

June Edwards

Garden Notes

Do seem to remember some packets of bulbs. Must have planted them (probably Christmas Eve) and here they all are in splendid array. Surprise, surprise. Love your garden - Mrs. McGregor

How sad that some Christians believe that they are the only people to lead good and ethical lives and that they were the only people who died fighting for their country. I am sure that people of other or no religion and those of the LGBT community live good and ethical lives and died fighting for their country.

Good is still Good.

John Gallie

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the last Parish Council meeting, apart from the usual business, a Working Party was set up to look at the Council's policies. It is important that these are reviewed regularly and amended where necessary, for example to reflect changes in the law. The Council will be looking at all policies across the next few months, and reviewing the two most important ones - Standing Orders and Financial Regulations - at the end of May.

The Council also looked at earmarking the reserves held in the bank. It is necessary for the Council to be aware of the amount that's available and whether it is sufficient to pay for any planned work.

The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting of the Council at which the Chairman is elected for the year, and Councillors are appointed to various committees.

Katherine Kane, Parish Council Clerk
rettendonparishcouncil@outlook.com 07811 254163

Country Diary

The weather (at the time of writing) is glorious, quite the opposite to the first two weeks of April. The grey, cool, wet weather did nothing to encourage outdoor activities. The countryside is glorious now, the grass is luscious, and the hedgerows are clothed in a film of white with the flowers of the Blackthorn. The leaves of the trees that are emerging are of that sharp citrus green and gardens are alive with Camellias, Plum and Damson blossom.

I went off for a walk yesterday and noted what spring flowers were visible. First, the Dandelions are everywhere; there is a tradition of picking them on St George's day to make Dandelion wine. I can pass this delicacy by. It was at one time called 'piss a bed,' as the old boys used to say. (I will leave the rest to your imagination). I continued on my walk and saw the white stitchwort (shirt buttons), Cowslips, Primroses and white and purple violets were all visible. The woods are carpeted in Bluebell leaves and the delicate Wood Anemones.

Since the sun came out, I have seen quite a lot of butterflies and bumblebees. Both the bumblebee and many butterflies are now endangered. I cannot suggest how you can encourage them to prosper except to grow plants that they enjoy. For example, the Tortoiseshell butterfly thrives on stinging nettles so if you have a small corner in your garden where you can let some stinging nettles grow please do so. I do love the spring.

Jane Fallows 01245 400394

The directors of **Little Darwins Nursery** are delighted to announce that Ofsted has just graded the setting as **Outstanding** in all areas.

Little Darwins opened in 2011 to serve the local community and beyond and provides an exceptional environment for learning.

For more information contact the nursery on 01268 769599 or email office@littledarwins.co.uk

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 Parish Council or the compiler, though spelling and grammar may be corrected.



All Saints' Church

I thank all of you who supported our Easter Monday open day. I hope you met old friends and took time to relax and reflect on the day.

We do not stop in trying to keep open our beautiful old medieval church. On Monday 28th of May from 10 am to 4 pm we hope we can give some of our younger members of our community an Outdoor Fun Day. This is not to say our older ones cannot enjoy ourselves as well, inside the church if necessary.

I understand a birds of prey group will visit during the afternoon.

There will be so many stalls and things to do and to make. See the advert on the front page. Jan Turner (jan_turner@btinternet.com) and Debbie Schofield (deborah.schofield@spirehealthcare.com) are in charge so come along and support them and help to make sure our church is there when YOU need it.

Jane Fallows 01245 400394

Battlesbridge Matters

What a good morning, if you go back to the last issue I feel rather pleased with my forecast with the weather!

I visited the Little Baddow film night in their Village Hall and have moderated my view on having a film night every month. The cost of all their equipment came to well over £10,000, the figures did not seem to stack up, but the sound and quality of the picture was very good. I may still explore putting on a film night with less hi-tech equipment as a trial in conjunction with the village Hall Committee.

Our vegetable garden is half sown, my grandson Jonathon has started discussing tactics for the village show on Sunday 14th July, let us hope the weather is good.

The Parish Council AGM is on the 29th May at 7.30pm, please do come along. There are many issues in Rettendon, it is a good moment for residents to voice their concerns and feelings.

We now have a security gentleman making night patrols at the river end of Battlesbridge, as there have been a few burglaries, it seems to be working. Thanks to Jim Gallie for organising this.

I have three main issues in Rettendon, one has been successful, one hopefully will be finalised soon but the main issue, at the moment, is Gosses Farm and the demolition of a wonderful, faithful construction / re-creation of a 150-year-old Essex Marsh Barn. I have filed a 50-page appeal on behalf of Mrs Kelly and her family. Solicitors and planners predict I have no hopes what so ever of saving the barn, but I am very angry over this. Well at least we are having a go, whilst all else has failed.

Yours very sincerely Roy Hart

Please note the Annual Parish Meeting is on Tuesday 8th May and may be a better time to air your views than the AGM, which is a Parish Council Meeting. Parish Clerk

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPA)

There is new data protection legislation coming into force on the 25th May. To comply with this I will be sending out a simple request with emailed or posted versions of the newsletter. The request is simple - if you would still like the newsletter please reply.

Names and addresses, including email addresses, are kept either in an electronic or hardcopy form and are not given or sold to anyone else. They are for the sole use of Rettendon Parish newsletter distribution.

Please send contributions, to me, Barbara Wright, as soon as you can via e-mail (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.