



RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER

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All contributions for next Newsletter to be with RetBatNews@gmail.com, by 20th October 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 benefiting.

EVENT	DATE / DAY	TIME	VENUE	ORGANISATION
Harvest Open Day	Saturday, 29 th September	10:30am – 3:30pm	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Harvest Festival Service	Sunday, 30 th September	11:15am	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Organ Concert	Saturday, 6 th October	7pm	St. Nicholas Church, Rawreth, SS11 8SH	
Cheese and Wine Event	Friday, 12 th October	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	All Saints' Church, Rettendon
Hot and Cold Experiences Talk	Tuesday, 16 th October	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Horticultural Society
Battlesbridge Quiz	Friday, 26 th October	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 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

Youth Group Event	Wednesday, 7 th November	6:30pm	Battlesbridge Church Hall	Battlesbridge Youth Group
Coffee Morning	Saturday, 10 th November	10:30am – 12:00	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Poppy Appeal, Royal British Legion

MOBILE LIBRARY

South Hanningfield Village Hall / Salforal Close	Tuesday	12:25 to 12:55pm / 1:45 to 2:15pm	16 th October, 6 th & 27 th November	
Goose Cottages	Friday	9:40am to 10:10am	12 th October, 2 nd & 23 rd November	

Just a reminder.....
All Saints Church, Rettendon
 will be having their
Harvest Festival Open Day
Saturday, 29th September
10:30am - 3:30pm
 (more details on page 2)

The Harvest Service
 will take place on **Sunday 30th September**
 and is geared towards families with children
 and grandchildren taking part.
 The service starts at 11-15am



All Saints' Church
 A date pencilled in on the
 calendar for a
Wine and Cheese Party
 to be held in

Rettendon Memorial Village Hall
12th October, 7:30pm
£6 per person.

A time for a chat with friends, and to put the world to rights (any uttering of the word 'Brexit' is forbidden!).

The vital ingredients have yet to emerge - those who want to come along, also volunteers to help set up and clear away on the night.

Anyone interested?

Unless I get support the event will be cancelled.
 Contact **Jane Fallows, 01245 400394**



Rettendon Horticultural Society
Autumn talks



Hot and Cold Extremes -
 Personal Experiences from local people

Tuesday, 16th October, 7:30pm

We have two short talks from local people on their experiences in hot and cold climates.

Coming out of the cold, our very own Roy Hart has agreed to talk about his expedition to the Pole in his younger days.

Some like it hot - with Colin Harper, who has run the Marathon de Sables (the MDS) twice! This is an annual event of 5 marathons over 6 days across the Sahara Desert. Colin has talked to Dave Monk on BBC Essex, and now he shows us pictures from the desert.

Members free, non-members £3.
 Tea, Coffee and home-made cakes.
 Raffle

At **Rettendon Memorial Village Hall,**
CM3 8DP

Barbara Wright, secretary.

Battlesbridge Free Church
Quiz Night

Friday, 26th October.
7pm for a 7:30pm start.

Local quizmaster.
 Teams of up to 6,
 £5 per person

Nibbles on the tables, refreshments half time,
 Raffle. Do come and enjoy the fun!



All Saints' Church, Rettendon

Harvest at All Saints' On Saturday 29th

September we are holding a Harvest Open Day. This is an opportunity to thank God for all the goodness the people of Rettendon and Battlesbridge are able to enjoy. We are lucky to have a fertile soil here and are able to grow a wide range of crops. This year our farmers and gardeners have had a hard time with overmuch snow and rain and then too much heat and sunshine and for a long period, a lack of rain in the summer.

We however can hopefully offer a gift to those less fortunate than ourselves. Tinned and long life food is usually taken to HARP, the charity in Southend, which supports the homeless.

Please come along and enjoy the flowers and decorations in the church, enjoy the refreshments followed by a rummage through our enviable collection of previously read books and once worn designer label clothing – maybe something to suit you? We look forward to seeing you there.
Jane Fallows, Churchwarden 01245 400394

Organ Concert

Join us as we celebrate the refurbishment of our historic organ with guest organists playing a selection of organ music for this special occasion

On Saturday 6th October 7.00pm

At St Nicholas Church, Rawreth SS11 8SH

Refreshments will be available

Free Admission

There will be a retiring collection in aid of Church funds.

Please contact Sue on 01702 527085 or Christine on 01268 781662 to book a place.



All Saints' Church, Rettendon

On the August bank holiday, we held a Heritage Day in the church. We had this idea to help people realise that Rettendon is a very old village. In fact, it is situated on the pathway used by the Roman soldiers marching from Bradwell to Billericay where they had an encampment. I have been told that in the Essex Records Office for the period before 1066 that Rettendon was more important than Chelmsford!

People had great fun looking through the photo albums for the period before World War 1 up to present day.

In addition, the registers of weddings, baptisms, and deaths excited many finding long lost forgotten members of families recorded in them.

Rettendon Players old pantomime photographs and programmes provided a source of amusement. My grateful thanks to Barbara, Paul and Hazel who helped to stage the event and all who lent material to make it all possible.

Jane Fallows 01245 400394

Rettendon Memorial Village Hall News.....

Our **KEEP FIT** sessions have started under Michelle's expert guidance and are already proving beneficial to those who felt in need!

If you wish to join in with this happy group come on Friday for the 12 noon till 1pm slot to register (£5 a time, or discount for signing up to a number off) or phone **Michelle on 07845 494644** for more information.

The **bowls group** are quite busy on Monday evenings (7pm onwards) and enjoy playing each other and sometimes other teams by arrangement.

Always in need of new players, if only to keep them on their toes, so, if you don't fancy the Keep Fit sessions, why not have a more leisurely type of fitness regime and join the bowls people, on Monday evenings.

All welcome.

KNIT & NATTER.....

Wednesdays 3rd October and 17th October.

We have another project in hand. It has been 100 years since the end of the 1st World War, so we are attempting to knit or crochet at least one poppy for each of the people on the memorial plaques on the walls of All Saints' Church.

We will display them at the Village Hall, built as a memorial to these people, on Saturday 10th November at the coffee morning being planned - in aid of , the Poppy Appeal, of course.

Sandie Cottee via Facebook

or Hazel Dale-Evans 01245 401538

The Big Quiz on September 21st - several keen teams have pre-booked for this fun night which on this occasion if run for the benefit of the Village Hall. Much fun ensues, and our wits are sharpened.....

Coffee Morning at the Memorial Hall
Saturday, 10th November, 10:30am - 12 noon
In aid of the Poppy Appeal.
Hopefully, more details in next month's newsletter.

Anyone wishing to book the Village Hall for an event or meeting please phone Dianne on 01245 400297 - there is an answerphone.

Thank you for the Heritage Day at All Saints' Church, Rettendon

My sister and I came to visit for a short while and ended up being there for 4 hours.

Fascinating looking back over the registers to find all the family: births, marriages and deaths.

So much else to see as well. We had a lovely time and would like to express our thanks to all who made it such a wonderful event.

Beryl Wilkinson.

Battlesbridge Events - in the Free Church Hall

The Community Choir under the direction of Nova Hughes, meets on a Friday at 7pm in the church hall.

On Wednesdays the Youth Group meet at 6:30pm and the Art Group at 2pm.

The Youth Group are planning an entertaining evening with refreshments on Wednesday, 7th November, in aid of the Air Ambulance. Posters will go up with more details nearer the time. Do come and give encouraging support for their efforts.

June Edwards

Garden Notes

Seem to have quite a few plants in watering trays that looked at the desert-like garden and cried bitterly when threatened with being planted out. Think I'll leave them in a while longer when they won't suffer too much shock.....

All say Ahhhh

Mrs. McGregor



Battlesbridge Free Church

We have now embarked on our 176th year of holding Christian worship in our little white church down by the River Crouch crossing. For the past years up until the 1960's, people in general accepted the fact that Almighty God existed. God's ancient Ten Commandments formed the basis of our laws and culture and the way of viewing ones neighbour, or fellow human being, with the same respect, care and consideration as oneself, as taught through past ages as the Way of God's Christ, formed the basic moral code of the majority of our country's population. What of today's generation? Young people today are no longer given this moral foundation from God and his Christ in our schools. At the beginning of the 20th Century, the Baden-Powells founded a Christian Youth Movement with Scouts for boys and Guides for girls. On becoming a guide, she made a promise on her honour to do her duty to God and the Queen. Today, God has been erased from that promise. But God cannot be erased. He always was, is and ever will be not dependent on belief, rejection or apathetic indifference. Wherever there is truth, beauty, kindness, compassion, there is the goodness and presence of God. He deserves our honour and praise.

June Edwards

Tim Vine witticisms.....

I see the moving staircase debate is escalating.

I find the hardest thing about voting with your feet is doing a handstand in the polling booth.

There is too much wildlife in my garden. I can't get a bird in hedgeways.

Battlesbridge Matters

Well what a wonderful summer, I was informed the summer of 1947 was similarly extremely hot and the winter that year was one of the coldest on record. For nearly 3 months the temperature did not rise above freezing! You open your door on a cold night, what happens, the cold air rushes in.

Its been another good year at sailability (sailing for the less fortunate) wheelchair bound to any impediment. All are welcome we have one of the best located club houses, 12 specialized sailing boats, electronic hoists and a small tractor for launch and recover. We could do with a few more helpers from launching the boats to making the tea. If you know of anyone who is suffering for any reason, please give me a ring on 01268 76828. Sailing on Hanningfield reservoir closed over the winter and starts in the spring, full guidance and tuition is given.

The autumn horticultural show in the village hall was once again a great success. Liz Jones' daughter (aged 14) carried the fruit cup for scoring the most points. I did not enter the longest runner bean as Mr Cole surely hangs lead weights on his, while they are growing! Our Veg patch, I share with Jonathon, is a working one, most of our planting grows by luck rather than expertise. But growing your own does taste better than the supermarket, especially greens! But we do win some prizes usually 3rds, but one year....

The back lake is covered in duck weed when this dies it settles on the bed and cuts the oxygen levels right down, with a ditching bucket on a digger and a 14' long plank on ropes we have lifted tons out.

Hopefully the new fence will be in place. Please remember running the bell fields does not cost the parish a single penny. There was unfortunately one professional estimate of approx. 18000 to get the pitch in a condition to play football on it and thousands every year for maintenance. I have copies of the report if any one would like one.

Yours Sincerely Roy Hart

Pre-School

Going apace. Lots of games, but also lots of learning as we go along.

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

The Annual Craft Fair in South Woodham Ferrers will be held on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th November 2018 at Champions Manor Hall.

Any individual or group is invited to have a stall on either or both days, selling home/handmade items. There is no charge for the stall but we ask for a donation of an item for our raffle which will be in aid of our Inner Wheel charities.

Please contact Celia Ebrahimi (secretary Inner Wheel SWF) celiaebrahimi@hotmail.com

- Growing old is compulsory. Growing up is optional!
- A crow perched himself on a telephone wire. He wanted to make a long distance caw.



Rettendon Horticultural Society

Our autumn Show on September 8th was really worth the effort. Against all odds the growers of Rettendon produced some wonderful stuff and the tables were full.

Side Stalls kept us amused, thanks to the crew for those, but the raffle and teas both did well too, leaving our treasurer to gleefully announce a small profit on the day. All in all a lovely event.

This leaves us to announce the cup winners:-

Chrysanthemums	John Bruty
Dahlias	Paul Coulter
Other flowers	Hazel Dale-Evans
Flower arranging	Gabrielle Church
Vegetables	John Bruty
Fruit	Monika

The Harvest Festival Display boxes both got a first prize - being judged of equal merit, so Roger Poole and Barbara Wright both won there. And the Fun Class was... lots of strange shaped fruit and veg with appropriate captions. The judge liked Monika's entry the best. Well done to everyone.

Our next event is the talk, as advertised on the front page. Date is Tuesday 16th October, at 7:30pm. Come and hear Roy Hart and extreme marathon runner, Colin Harper.

Also and lastly.....

Rettendon Horticultural Society will be considering the possibility of a local apprenticeship opportunity.

This may cover

- 1) Gardening with a mentor Or
- 2) Event Management.

Each to last one year and to suit any young adult.

Anyone keen to find out more should contact

Hazel Dale-Evans, chairperson, 01245 401538

Social Comment

Following on from the Sept contribution on Social Comment I would like to say how proud my wife Susan has been to be known as a 'Housewife'. She has had various jobs such as shop manager, pack house manager, fruit picker and even office cleaner. All this time she has been a housewife as well and is proud to be called this now. All this activity has been with the drawback of coping with Multiple Sclerosis for 40 years. I am sure there are many more proud housewives in the village!

Robin Smith (Happy Husband)

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

The Chelmsford/Southend Group have meetings and are a really great opportunity to meet, share with others and make friends who understand how you feel.

If you wish to know more please contact Pat Fedi.

Email: southend@pmrgca.org.uk. Tel: 07733362373

If you wish to receive this newsletter by email please contact

RetBatNews@gmail.com

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 Parish Council, though spelling and grammar may be corrected.

Country Diary

What a display there is in our hedgerows! I do not think I have seen so many haws for a long time. The road between Hoe Lane and le Benaix is just one mass of berries. As children, we used to call these fruits 'bread and cheese'. The hips are good as well and I remember picking them as a child for the production of rose hip syrup. (I think you will be able to age me now) The wild blackberries are also very productive if a little seedy and small early on.

The fruits of autumn are very plentiful this year - the acorns, the chestnuts and the Sorbus berries. Also the Sloes, those little dark blue polished circles of fruit peeping out from the foliage in the hedge

Have you seen any swallows lining up on the telephone wires? I have not but the barns near to my house have now been replaced by housing, so perhaps the swooping, and diving of these lovely little birds are a thing of the past.

I have put a hedgehog box in my front garden hoping to entice one of these creatures to hibernate in it. Hedgehog numbers are declining rapidly and as my front garden is not fenced, it may become a safe haven for these prickly little creatures. Fences are a barrier to hedgehogs, as they do not allow these animals to forage and roam. My back garden is fenced to keep the dog in - in doing so preventing free movement for the hedgehog.

Jane Fallows 01245 400394

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Council meeting at the end of July had a full agenda although decisions on all items were not made. The bus shelters have been looked at over the summer and the Council is planning to undertake repair, maintenance and cleaning of all these where necessary. The new Grant Policy and training for the Clerk for next year's elections were agreed.

At an extraordinary meeting at the beginning of September the Council's response to the Chelmsford Local Plan Draft Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was discussed and submitted on the following day.

The Bell Fields - the Council has submitted an application to the Charity Commission to commence proceedings to clarify the position with regard to appointment of trustees.

Katherine Kane, Parish Council Clerk

rettendonparishcouncil@outlook.com 07811 254163

Parish council Website:

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

She was only.....

.....the chimney sweep's daughter, but she soots me fine.

.....a printer's daughter, but I like her type.

Newsletter Contributions

Contributions from local individuals, societies or groups are encouraged. Items sent to me will be included unless libellous, or known to be untrue, even if I do not agree with the content.

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 can be dropped off at 55 East Hanningfield Road. Please mark for Newsletter.