



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 Rettendon Parish Council.

All contributions for next Newsletter to be with RetBatNews@gmail.com, by 20th November 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
Garden of Remembrance open	Thursday, 1 st November	Every day till 18th	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Charity Night (Air Ambulance)	Wednesday, 7 th Nov.	6:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	Youth Group
Memorial Coffee Morning	Saturday, 10 th November	10:30am to 12	Rettendon Memorial Village Hall	Hall Management
Remembrance Day Service	Sunday, 11 th November	10:45am	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Rettendon HS, A.G.M.	Tuesday, 20 th November	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Horticultural Society
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	7 - 10pm	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	
Coffee Morning	Fridays	10 - 11am	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Keep Fit	Fridays	12 noon - 1pm	Rettendon Memorial Village Hall	
Raise Your Voice Choir	Fridays	7pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	Raise Your Voice Choir
Country and Western	1 st Saturday in month	8pm - 10pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Country & Western Society
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY				
Christmas Bazaar	Saturday, 1 st December	10:30am - 3:30pm	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Choir Concert	Sunday, 9 th December (TBC)	TBC	Battlesbridge Free church	Raise Your Voice Choir
Beetle Drive	Friday, 18 th January	7 for 7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Village Hall	
Bell Fields Fundraising	Friday, 25 th January	TBC	Royal Tiger Restaurant	Bell Fields Management Trustees
MOBILE LIBRARY				
South Hanningfield Village Hall	Tuesday	12:25pm to 12:55pm	6 th and 27 November.	
Salforal Close	Tuesday	1:45pm to 2:15pm	6 th and 27 November.	
Goose Cottages	Friday	9:40am to 10:10am	2 nd and 23 rd November.	
Please Note: Next edition will be a combined December & January edition				

Remembering 100 years since the 1918 Armistice.

All Saints' Church, Rettendon Garden of Remembrance

To commemorate 100 years after the end of World War I and those who did not come back, the church is opening a Garden of Remembrance on 1st November. Servicemen who did not come back from other conflicts since then will also be remembered.

Do come along and remember family and friends who were there and did not return. The garden will be there from the 1st until mid November for crosses or wreaths of remembrance

Joan Sankey 01268 765329
for All Saints church, Rettendon.

Rettendon Memorial Village Hall Remembrance Coffee Morning Saturday, 10th November, from 10:30am till 12 noon.

The Village Hall is commemorating the 100 years since the end of WWI, and other conflicts by having a morning of remembering with tea/coffee, cakes and general chit chat. If you have memories please bring them along. It is not just for village residents, all are welcome. The event is free.

There will be a chance to donate to the Royal British Legion for the annual Poppy Appeal.

The hall was built as a memorial to those who took part in the World Wars.

Joan Sankey 01268 765329

As part of the tribute to Remembrance there will be a knitted or crocheted poppy for each one of the villagers who were sent to the front in WW1, including those who did not come back - from both the 1st and the 2nd World Wars.

The remembrance plaques for the fallen can be seen inside All Saints' Church as well as the plaque to all the villagers who were sent to the front in WW1.
Knitters and Natters

All Saints' Churchyard has 3 graves commemorated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission:

Private Thomas Wolfe Braithwaite, died April 11, 1916

Lance corporal H.S. Whiteman, died June 18, 1918

Private William Charles Yeo, died March 1, 1946

Rettendon Memorial Village Hall News.....

Regular features:

- 1) **Pre-School** - Monday - Thursday mornings in term-time. 9am - 1pm (finish earlier Thursdays). For information call **Pat on 07762 909351 or 01245 401328**
- 2) **Bowls** - Monday evenings from 7pm. ALL welcome, come along and enjoy some gentle exercise and good company.
- 3) **Parish Council** - usually last Tuesday in the month at 7:30pm. (Look on the notice board outside the hall for agendas, and any changes to meeting times and place).
- 4) **Knit and Natter** - 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month 1:30 - 3:30pm in Committee Room.
- 5) **Keep Fit** - Friday 12, noon, till 1pm in term-time, so taking a break on 26th October and recommencing 2nd November.
- 6) **Country and Western Club** - 1st Saturday in the month, featuring good bands, good food.

Which, of course, leaves spaces for other users, whether from the village or not. The Hall can be used on a regular basis or a one-off, for a party perhaps.

For booking please get in touch with Dianne Francombe, 01245 400297 for details of rooms and costs.

***** Get Fit - Keep Fit

This session at 12 noon on Fridays (term time) has been wonderful. After six sessions we are all moving more easily.

The next group of classes will run from Friday November 2nd until Christmas and is open to anyone who feels they would benefit - so you don't have to be over 50 to take advantage of Michelle's training (in fact not all of us are!) - just want to get stuck in and be free to work at your own pace,

The basic cost is £5 per session with a discount for booking ahead - so see you at the Village Hall at 11:45am, water bottle in hand and raring to go.

Further info - - - Michelle on 07845 494644 or Village Hall Notice Board.

Fridays and that time not convenient? Let us know what day you prefer and what type of time and we can see if there is availability. Phone Hazel Dale-Evans 01245 401538



Bell ringing at All Saints' Church, Rettendon

Our tower captain, Mike Hallett, has been out of action of late while getting treatment for a long term hearing problem. But the bells have not been silent. Lyn Benson has used her classical training to keep the team up to the mark and we soldier on trying to get the dings and dongs in the right places.

A Remembrance Day special performance is our next test.

We wish Mike a good recovery and look forward to his return.
Bellringers Inc.

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

Come along to Chelmsford/Southend Group meeting on **Tuesday 27th November 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.

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.

RSVP Pat Fedi. Tel: 07733362373 or

Email: southend@pmrgca.org.uk.

Rettendon Horticultural Society

Report on the October talks: "Out in the Desert" and the "Ice Man Go-eth".

We have only two "talks" a year on our calendar, so we endeavour to make these really special. Our talk night on October 16th proved to be an absolute stunner.

First Colin Harper related the long process of how to prepare and then run 5 marathons in 6 days through the Sahara sands in Morocco, and having to carry all his food and bedding throughout.

This was completely amazing and we needed the tea and cake break only to be astounded by Roy Hart relating the tale of his expedition to the North Pole in 1994. Even finding it was a problem - being not exactly on the bus route and with the magnetic pole revolving round a 13 mile wide disc of the geographic point!

Many thanks to Roy and his team-mate, Keith, for their lively presentation - complete with real pieces of polar bear being passed around the audience.

Thank you to both these intrepid characters for their thoroughly special presentations.

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The Horticultural AGM is booked for Tuesday November 20th in the Village Hall at 7:30pm. All residents are welcome to attend.

There will be a formal Annual General Meeting with brief reports and election of officers. Anyone with an issue they feel should be discussed at this meeting should let our secretary, Barbara Wright, know so this can be put on the agenda.

Then we have festive fare and there is a chance to renew membership (£5) for 2019 with our membership secretary, Beryl Wilkinson.

Hazel Dale-Evans (chair)

Barbara Wright, secretary, 01245 321554,

or email: RetHSsec@gmail.com

Beryl Wilkinson, membership secretary, 01268 766221

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

There is no police like Holmes (James Joyce)
You know you're old if they have discontinued your blood type.
(Phyllis Diller)
You'll never catch a nudist with his pants down. (David Letterman)



All Saints' Church, Rettendon

Harvest at All Saints' All Saints' Church has had our harvest open day and our harvest service. Thank you to all of you who helped or contributed to the occasion. The church looked lovely thanks to Lyn. We did not make as much money as usual at the open day and raised about £700. As usual, we are still looking for inspiration, ideas welcome!

On Friday October 12th we had a Wine & Cheese event purposely planned as a social event where people could chat to friends and neighbours without hassle or pressure. Very many thanks to all those who helped and donated to the occasion.

We are now looking forward to the Bazaar on December 1st and hope to introduce a bit of diversity from our usual stalls. E.g. a chocolate tombola, stocking fillers, handmade Christmas and greeting cards, and perhaps a cosmetic stall, though fear not the usual cake raffle and a guess the weight of the cake challenge will still be there. BUT here is the sticking point, we need you to contribute to the occasion – donations to Lyn Benson, Jane & Ron Fallows, the Turner family or Joan Sankey. (Anyone like to donate £50 1st prize for the raffle) I am looking forward to hearing from you.

The church is to be a venue for crosses and Remembrance tokens for those who lost their lives because of war. Just inside the church gate there will be a designated area to plant a cross starting November 1st. Joan Sankey will have all the details.

Next month's newsletter will have details of all our Christmas services and activities.

Jane Fallows, Churchwarden 01245 400394

Country Diary

Here in the southeast we have enjoyed some splendid autumn weather. The west and the north have not had it so good. I have previously mentioned the autumn berries and leaf colouring but not the acorns. Apparently we have a plentiful supply of these seeds which the squirrels and other such mammals will store away to make sure they have full tummies this winter. Perhaps we could gather them up and plant a new Rettendon forest!!

This time of the year is the time to see spider's webs. They are fantastic! The dewy mornings with the sun shining on them is like seeing strands of silvery silk. When I was teaching I used to get children to put a piece of black card behind the web and then spray a fine glue on them then the outline and architectural structure was there for all to see.

The orb web is most commonly found but have you spotted the purse or hammock web. The house spider's is not nearly as spectacular, just a mess of fronds in the corner of (some) of our rooms.

Fungi can be seen and gathered. I am not talking about mould on top of jam or cheese but those found in fields or edges of woodland. Curiously, most people believe that all fungi are poisonous, not true but beware of any that are red, yellow – green or spotted. There are about 10,000 species of fungi to be found in Great Britain. As a child, I used to gather mushrooms and sell them – but they get maggoty very quickly.

I have heard that in the time of the crusaders they wrapped mouldy biscuits on septic wounds. Penicillin perhaps?

Jane Fallows 01245 400394



Do you have a bike you don't use enough?



There is a friendly local cycling group that meets just down the road in Wickford every Sunday and new members are always warmly welcomed.

The club prides itself on being fully inclusive with no competition. That means no races, time trials or the like. It's just about getting out into the countryside using the quieter routes and discovering the more lovely corners of Essex... while taking in a good café or pub en route. There is a range of ages, abilities, genders and backgrounds. We make a point to take care of less experienced or fit members and will not abandon you with a puncture in the middle of nowhere!

Cycling is good for your physical health, your mental health, promotes weight loss, builds muscle, and is low impact (non-weight bearing)...as well as being a nice way to simply get outdoors and interact with people. I've been attending for just over a year now and wish I had started years ago.

You can find out more on the website (<http://www.essexcycling.co.uk/southeastessex/>), or contact organiser John Steer (01702 529638, segssec@gmail.com), or feel free to contact me for a chat (paula@prar.co.uk)

An Invitation to.....

a Memorial Service to remember those whom we love but have died, being held at All Saints Rettendon on Sunday 18th November at 3.00pm

This is a time of year when traditionally we remember. On the 1st November, All Saints Day, we remember those who have died and then on the 11th we remember those who died and suffered as a result of war. We might also add 5th November when we remember those who tried to blow up Parliament!

So about this time of year we will hold a service at All Saints Church to remember those whom we love but have died. You are warmly invited, whether the person or people you remember died recently or a long time ago, maybe even in the war.

We will have the opportunity for each person to be remembered by name in the service and to light a candle for them, placing it on the altar. We will give thanks for the joys we shared and celebrate the love which continues and memories that sometimes still cause sadness.

The service will be less than an hour and include prayers, hymns, a reading from the bible and a brief reflection.

Remembering 100 years since Armistice Day

There will be a special memorial at All Saints Church to remember 100 years since the ending of the First World War. A cross will be cut into the grass near the entrance of the churchyard, to the left of the path, to make an area where personal memorials (possibly the small wooden crosses with poppies) for relatives or friends who were lost during the First War or other conflicts.

There will also be a special Act of Remembrance at All Saints Church on the 11th November.

Richard Jordan Parish Priest of St Thomas of Canterbury, Hullbridge, St Nicholas, Rawreth, and All Saints, Rettendon

Battlesbridge and Other Matters

Bell fields - The registered trustees are refurbishing the small changing hut/shed/pavilion, or whatever you would like to call it. However it is water tight and forms a wonderful basis for a grant, from Sport England, etc and the difference by Public Subscription, if need be. The condition of the pitch is very good. The more it is played upon and rolled the better it gets. We have favourable comments from visiting players!

We are hopefully having a group of special need young people to have a fun game of football with care and instruction. The Bell field is enjoyed by many dog walkers and the red bin is in regular use - Thank You. There is also a large litter bin for rubbish and water bottles. The North fence has not been erected yet as the ground is still rather hard.

Remembrance Sunday 11th November will be 100 years since the end of the 1st World War. The 11th hour of the 11th day 1918. A major landmark in the history of England - the freeing of world tyranny. The church, I feel, will be very well attended in 3 weeks time. Remembrance silhouettes have been bought by the Parish Council and one by Public subscription.

I have repeatedly asked at the Parish Council for urgent road and pavement repairs to Meadow Road and South View Road. Highways have managed to get some extra funding, 3 million I believe, for 50 schemes to be put forward. I have photographs of the two roads and hopefully we will be lucky.

Our River Crouch Conservation Trust is 10 years old and still going strong with 2 major clean ups twice a year. Rettendon has quite long river boundaries: the Crouch and the South - Rettendon Brook South East discharging in to Fenn Creek on the boundary with South Woodham Ferrers. Average attendances are around 30 volunteers. We did have 83 at one clean up - all unpaid, voluntary for which I thank them. We may have some good news for the next newsletter.

Yours Sincerely Roy Hart

Be a responsible dog owner

A recent report in the Essex Chronicle mentions a dog loving Essex resident who was fined £220 and ordered to pay a £30 victim surcharge and £250 court costs for failing to remove dog faeces from a public space (Hylands Park, Chelmsford.)

What is a public space? A footpath, a road including verges, park, play area, churchyard, cemetery, in fact any area of land to which the public has access. Here in Rettendon and Battlesbridge are you one of those dog owners who do not bother to pick up your dogs calling card? Please do so and help to reduce the likelihood of a young child being exposed to dog faeces and possibly contacting Toxocara, which can lead to blindness.

Save yourself a possible £400 fine and pick up after your pooch, use the dog bins or take the used dog bag home with you.

Why not get some free 'dog bags' from Parish Councillor Mrs Glenys Jones on 07739 530611.

Newsletter Contributions

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



Battlesbridge Free Church

Once the Harvest Thanksgiving is over, time seems to put on a spurt for the final dash towards the year's end. But that end, Christmas, marks the beginning of this present world into which God, as Jesus Christ, entered into our life in human form as a tiny baby, in Bethlehem, 2000 years ago. His life is an example, if followed, which brings fulfilment, peace of mind and zest for living and with his sacrificial death, the offer of renewed life beyond our mortal years. Details are freely available in the New Testament of the Bible.

So we look forward in anticipation to the celebrations to come:-

On October 26th we will have enjoyed another fun-filled evening on Quiz Night and on October 20th we will have filled as many shoe-boxes as possible for the Samaritan Purse charity to dispatch to possible Eastern European or African countries with numerous orphaned or very needy children. The boxes are filled with various small items to delight a child at Christmas. For most it will probably be their first ever present.

On Wednesday November 7th from 6:30pm onwards, the Youth Group will be hosting a charity Night in air of Air ambulance. There will be tea and cakes and games. All are welcome. Come and support the Young People.

On November 11th members of our church attend either All Saints', Rettendon, or St. Nicholas, Rawreth to share in the Service of Remembrance, it being even more special this year as it marks the 100th anniversary of the end of World War 1.

The Raise Your Voice Community choir hope to hold two concerts in December, one in the environs of the Antique Centre and one in the church, probably on December 9th. All are very welcome.

June Edwards

PARISH COUNCIL

If you have any street lighting or footpath issues, or would like to put an item on the agenda to bring up a subject at the Parish Council meeting please get in touch with the Parish Clerk, or your local Parish Councillor.

Contact details for the Parish Clerk are as follows:-

Katherine Kane, Parish Council Clerk

rettendonparishcouncil@outlook.com 07811 254163

Rettendon Parish council website:

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

Garden Notes

It finally cooled down and suddenly the bean vines produced handfuls of beans and the dahlias flowered - alas too late for the show. Something about the feel of the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness told me to get busy and make jam and pickles to store for the winter.

Nature can be magical.

Mrs. McGregor

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.