



RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER ★ JUNE 2019

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 Please note the views contained within are offered by individuals/organisations privately and not in conjunction with the compiler or the Rettendon and Battlesbridge Newsletter organisation.
 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 benefiting.

EVENT	DATE / DAY	TIME	VENUE	ORGANISATION
Rettendon & RF CC 20/20 BBQ	Sunday, 26 th May	12:00 midday	Church Meadow, CM3 8DP	Rettendon & Rayleigh F CC
All Saints Church Fun Day	Monday, 27 th May	10:00am - 4pm	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Annual Parish Meeting	Tuesday, 28 th May	7pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Parish Council
All Stars Cricket	Friday, 7 th June	6pm - 7pm	Church Meadow CM3 8DP	Rettendon & Rayleigh F CC
Village Show Open Meeting	Tuesday, 18 th June	7:30pm	Hyde Hall Thatched Barn	Rettendon Horticultural Soc.
Kew Gardens Coach Trip	Saturday, 22 nd June	9am pick-up	Village Bus Stop / Bell Pub	Rettendon Horticultural Soc.
Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday, 25 th June	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Parish Council
RETTENDON & RAYLEIGH FAIRVIEW HOME CRICKET FIXTURES - 1ST & 3RD TEAMS				
Rettendon 3 rd vs Tillingham 2 nd	Saturday, 1 st June	1pm	Church Meadow CM3 8DP	Rettendon & Rayleigh F CC
Rettendon 1 st vs Wickford	Sunday, 2 nd June	1pm	Church Meadow CM3 8DP	Rettendon & Rayleigh F CC
Rettendon 3 rd vs Writtle 2 nd	Saturday, 8 th June	1pm	Church Meadow CM3 8DP	Rettendon & Rayleigh F CC
Rettendon 1 st vs Little Watham 1 st	Saturday, 15 th June	1pm	Church Meadow CM3 8DP	Rettendon & Rayleigh F CC
Rettendon 1 st vs Woodham Mort.	Sunday, 16 th June	1pm	Church Meadow CM3 8DP	Rettendon & Rayleigh F CC
Rettendon 3 rd vs St. Js, Billericay	Saturday, 22 nd June	1pm	Church Meadow CM3 8DP	Rettendon & Rayleigh F CC
Rettendon 1 st vs Springfield 2 nd	Saturday, 29 th June	1pm	Church Meadow CM3 8DP	Rettendon & Rayleigh F CC
Rettendon 1 st vs Leyton Orient Su	Sunday, 30 th June	1pm	Church Meadow CM3 8DP	Rettendon & Rayleigh F CC
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				
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 / Salforal Close	Tuesday	12:25pm to 12:55pm / 1:45pm to 2:15pm	18 th June, 9 th and 30 th July,	
Goose Cottages	Friday	9:40am to 10:10am	14 th June, 5 th and 26 th July	

Family Fun Day
All Saints Church, Rettendon
Monday, 27th May 10am - 4pm
 Children's entertainment, BBQ, Cream teas, raffle, teddy tombola and more....
 This is a FAMILY FUN DAY, with emphasis on FUN.
 We hope you come and ENJOY yourselves.
in aid of the Church, - to keep this historic Grade 1 listed building in good repair.
 Jan Turner

RETTENDON CRICKET CLUB
BANK HOLIDAY 20/20, BBQ & BAND PARTY
SUNDAY 26TH MAY
 Bar open from midday, live bands, BBQ
 Free entry

Annual Parish Meeting - Tuesday, 28th May
Rettendon Memorial Hall - 7:30pm
 A chance to ask whatever you wish about the Parish.
 This is for all parishioners, wherever you are in the Parish.

Apologies if you do not receive this in time for any of the events. We aim to print in time for distribution, but, as we are all volunteers, occasionally delays happen.

Rettendon Horticultural Society
Village Show planning meeting
Tuesday 18th June 7:30am
at Hyde Hall Thatched Barn
 Hyde Hall will be welcoming us for our open planning meeting for the Summer Show. Anyone involved, or willing to be involved, in the show is welcome to come along. You do not have to be a member of the Horticultural Society.
 This is the first time Hyde Hall have offered us their barn and we are looking forward to welcoming you all and slotting you into your role for the show. Plenty of vacancies, if not with us then with the Friends of Rettendon School (FRS).
 This show exhibits the best of our cooperation - all working together - and benefiting the FRS, Rettendon Horticultural Society and Rettendon and Rayleigh Fairview Cricket Club, as well as other groups around the Parish and lots of charities. Why not join us.....
Hazel Dale-Evans, Chairperson

STOP PRESS....
 BBC Essex presenter Ray Clark will be opening the Rettendon Village show on Saturday, 13th July at 1pm.
 Not heard Ray Clark before? Hear him on Saturdays from 9 - 11 am on BBC Essex, 95.3 FM, 103.5 FM or Digital



RETTENDON CRICKET CLUB

All Stars Cricket - 2019

Starting Friday 7th June at 18:00.

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

Everybody is welcome, family, friends, pets etc as the bar is open. **Chris Abrehart, President**

Rettendon Horticultural Society Coach Trip to Kew Gardens

**Open to all - do come and join us.
Saturday, 22nd June.**

A visit to see the reopened Temperate House, the world's largest Victorian glasshouse. See the Chihuly at Kew: Reflections on nature, a glass artist's work in the gardens, or Exotica, a diverse collection of tropical plant paintings and the gardens themselves.

£15 deposit secures a place on the coach. Cost for the trip is £28 including entrance ticket. Be quick - coach is filling up fast!

The coach will pick-up from Rettendon Village bus stop or from outside the Bell pub at 9am on the day of the trip.

Tickets from **Jean Pietsch, 01268 763183.**
Hazel Dale-Evans, Chairperson

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. For more information please contact **Barbara Wright, Secretary, on 01245 321554, or email RetHSsec@gmail.com**

Plant Sale Report

The cool damp weather may not have encouraged as many buyers as usual to come to our sale, but our more stalwart supporters came and enjoyed refreshments and cakes, and bought enough plants for us to make a healthy profit, even if not quite up to last year's record.

This helps toward our considerable expenses for staging the summer village show.

Thank you to our suppliers who provided a wonderful array of plants, and to everyone who came and supported us. **Paul Wright, Treasurer**

RETTENDON VILLAGE SHOW

Saturday, 13th July, 1 - 5pm

Schedules can be found on the website

<http://www.essexinfo.net/rettendon-horticultural-society/files/view/2SummerSchedule.pdf>

Tips for showing:-

- 1) Cups are won by having the most points in a section. Try to put in an entry into each class.
- 2) With flowers in vases - make sure they are well-presented and watered for the whole of the day.

Barbara Wright, secretary tel: 01245 321554

Hayes Park Easter Event Success

A fantastic day was enjoyed by adults and children alike. Great crowd, 60 plus children catered for, excellent food and drink and fine entertainment. The entertainer, Graeme Mathews, kept everyone amused and he went on to appear on Britain's Got Talent and progressed to the next round.

The event was well attended, places on the Easter Egg hunt were full, and by the end of the day we managed to raise £3,065.14 in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital.

We would like to thank everyone who came, Marilyn Hill who organised the event, her daughter Sandra and all the residents who helped make the event such a success, and all our families and their guests who helped make it such a special day.

James Knight, Hayes Park

Rettendon Memorial Village Hall

We can report that there have been quite a few enquiries about access to real books at the Village Hall, so this project will now be highlighted as a "live" item and details as to book accommodation and access thereof can be discussed with confidence.

Your Village Hall operates for your benefit so we are mindful of your ideas. Although the hall is, obviously, in the village of Rettendon itself, it is not exclusive to Rettendon villagers. The hall is able to be booked by any group/family/charity, etc., with special rates for Rettendon Parishioners. There are two rooms, with different prices: the committee room, including a large committee table and chairs, and the main hall, which has many facilities including a kitchen. Children's parties can be booked at a set price.

Please contact **Dianne Francombe** for bookings and enquiries on **01245 400297.**

Activities

The little people at **Pre-school** have been planting flowers provided by the Horticultural Society. We are sure they will enjoy watering these and watching them grow.

If you need information on the Pre-school please call **Pat on 07762 909351 or 01245 401328** or come along and have a look round Monday to Thursday mornings, no appointment needed.

Rettendon Keep Fitters have nearly got into enough shape for a demo at the Village show, but alas lack confidence. However our very experienced tutor (of all things flexible) may be persuaded to invite the general public to disport themselves for a fun few minutes. The class continue with their efforts.

Unfortunately there were too few people interested in the yoga session projected for May 21st for this to be viable. Perhaps we can try at a later date.

Bowls - this short mat activity continues Monday evenings from 7pm and some sessions on Thursday 2 till 4pm.

Col's country and Western struts its stuff on the 1st Saturday of the month. Usually has an advert of this month's band in the hall - perhaps we ought to check to tell you!

Hall Management Committee

Garden Notes

Getting overrun with forget-me-nots so their time has almost come. Beautiful to weed out and in with the dahlias into the gaps. Bit of a dig and feed and water then only a tidy till September. Pots help - got a gap - stuff a pot in it - it works!

Happy planting.

Mrs. McGregor

(who is heard muttering the song of the 7 dwarfs as she delves)



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, RETTENDON

May Bank Holiday Fun Day

On Bank holiday Monday 27th May All Saints is holding a Family Fun day. There will be a bar-be-que, activities for children including an entertainer, cream teas and cakes. We will also have a small selection of plants to sell. I am not sure whether this promotion will be in early enough or not – but I believe it will be on Facebook and on the children's site.

Friends of Essex Churches Trust - Spring Study Day.

On the 8th May (a very wet and windy day) the church hosted a visit by the Friends of Essex Churches who were having a tour around medieval churches in the area and we were first on the list to be visited. The speaker gave an extremely interesting talk on the history of All Saints, which was very informative, including finding out that the word "Rettondon" means rat-infested hill - hopefully not now. Part of the building is nearly 1,000 years old and it is fascinating that the church has been at the centre of activity in Rettondon all those years. Of course, the Humphrey memorial and the pew ends to the choir stalls are unique features. We are fortunate to have them.

Sunday services

We hold a Eucharist service at 11:15 am each week – except on the second Sunday of the month when a non-Eucharist service (without Communion) is held.

Jane Fallows, Churchwarden 01245 400394

Bell Ringers

We have appealed for bell ringers before, but not for some time. Perhaps you have heard the bells lately when they have been rung for a wedding? It would be wonderful if we could have a few more bell ringers regularly to help us keep ringing. No experience required, we have teachers who are willing to guide you. Our practice night is Wednesday, 8 - 9pm, with ringing on Sunday at 10:45 - 11:10am for service. Please get in touch with **Jane Fallows, 01245 400394** to find out more details.

Country Diary

My starting point for this month's contribution is a question which is, "Why is the Ash tree at least a month behind the Oak in opening its leaves?" Surely the weather although a bit variable has been the same both for the Ash and for the Oak. And is the saying "Oak before Ash, we are in for a splash, Ash before Oak, we are in for a soak." True? Does that mean we won't have much rain this year?

The old saying, "Never cast a clout till May be out" was originally thought to be the month of May, however there is an alternative view that May in the old saying was May blossom. It could be that you have hung on to your clouts until the end of May or cast them off already a month or so earlier when the May blossom was out. I don't know which part of the saying is most likely to be true, what do you think?

We have a pair of Robins nesting in our garage and the chicks should soon be out of the nest. Of course, the youngsters do not look like robins as they have spotted breasts and speckled backs. Ron and I will miss the company of the parents as soon as they have stopped feeding their young because they have been our constant companions whilst we have been gardening especially during the last week.

Young Robins are not the only birds that differ from their parents, as young Starlings are brown and not glossy black like their parents.

Jane Fallows 01245 400394

Battlesbridge Matters

Well, who would have predicted the results of the local elections, and Rettondon, with 19 prospective councillors standing, for 9 seats on the Parish Council. This must be a record for an Essex Parish. On a much larger scale the whole political structure of the UK is on the move, and when the dust settles, and in the light of a new day, a new beginning with a more balanced, peaceful Rettondon and a UK with purposeful sense of direction.

Nature is full of varied emotions, every year we have a pair of Canadian geese arriving early. Then Tufted ducks and Shelducks and a pair of swans. You could almost set your clock by these arrivals. I know it's rather sad, but we look on this wildlife as part of our family! They have formed part of our lives. The first pair of Canada geese who nest behind the house produced 3 beautiful golden fluffy goslings. On Sunday a large dog fox ran towards their nest. For two days the geese remained, but the young had all disappeared, obviously killed and eaten by the fox.

But some four days later what did we see on the river, but the proud parents swimming mid-stream with their 3 youngsters. Our sadness disappeared, we were so happy. The geese do all look the same: the geese we saw by the old nest were a 2nd pair arriving! But what the hungry fox cub? Missing out on being brought three dead goslings. Is that a very different point of view?

Sunday morning 6am - day of the River Crouch Conservation Trust's Spring Work party.

Load the firm's van up with chainsaws, ropes, chest waders, gloves, large first aid kit, refreshments for 30-40 volunteers, high vis tunics, grappling irons, etc. and hook the large trailer on back of van.

We always meet at the Memorial park's main gate in Wickford at 9am - finish around 2pm or earlier. At 9am we had well over 50 helpers including the Wickford Wombles, Wickford Cub Pack and their "Akela", plus our own group, which has now been running for 20 years. The volunteers were formed into 2 groups: one going to the 'New Kingdom Hall' section and the larger party headed down stream. We stop for refreshments at 12:30pm: tea, coffee, cola and chocolate biscuits, etc. At 1:30pm we did a large circuit of the Park collecting all the rubbish; consisting of a few tyres, bikes, shopping trolleys.... We left one 'Iceland' trolley as it had a Moor hen's nest in it. We will return the trollies to their rightful owners later, and we tip this rubbish into Basildon's waste area, for which we thank them. After a second run up to Kingdom Hall, picking up all the river rubbish, we unload at the waste area.

Went home shattered, we all did, at 3:30pm. Fell asleep on the sofa tired but happy.

I thank all the residents who kindly voted for myself and the new candidates on the Parish Council and will put forward some of my new ideas, and some suggestions and concerns from the residents in the next edition.

Yours very sincerely and thank you. Roy Hart

Laugh with Harry Hill

Why did Robin Hood steal from the rich?

Because the poor didn't have anything worth stealing.

My dog saw a seat in the park with a sign on it saying WET PAINT. So he did.

What do you call a deer with no eyes? No-eye deer.

I would like to thank everyone who voted for me, or just voted. With a turnout of over 42%, it shows that residents care about their community. The Parish Council now has a balanced set of areas covered: Battlesbridge, Hayes Park, Hyde Hall & Woodham Road area (myself), Rettondon village, Rettondon Common and out towards Runwell.

Barbara Wright, compiler

RESULTS OF PARISH AND CITY COUNCILLOR ELECTIONS 2019 (taken from council website)

City Councillors, 2 in bold elected:-

- **Clark, Paul (Independent): 908 votes (elected)**
- **Millane, Lance (Conservative): 800 votes (elected)**
- Pennicard, Richard (Liberal Democrat): 323 votes
- Ride, Raymond (Conservative): 791 votes

and the **9 elected Parish Councillors in bold,**

- Claydon, Paul: 207 votes
- **Cottee, Sandie: 248 votes (elected)**
- **Dale-Evans, Hazel: 244 votes (elected)**
- **Fleming, Denise Margaret: 275 votes (elected)**
- **Fleming, Mark Andrew: 249 votes (elected)**
- Francombe, Dianne: 189 votes
- Goodey, Alison Claire: 216 votes
- **Hart, Roy: 275 votes (elected)**
- Jones, Glenys Kathleen: 127 votes
- **Knight, James William: 297 votes (elected)**
- Marshall, Keith John: 224 votes
- **Phillips, Dave: 274 votes (elected)**
- **Ride, Raymond Anthony: 247 votes (elected)**
- Mills, Vicky: 224 votes
- Rogers, Steve: 201 votes
- Stoddard, Phil: 227 votes
- Williams, John Corley: 143 votes
- Wilson, Scott: 194 votes
- **Wright, Barbara: 244 votes (elected)**

Mr. Mark Fleming was voted chairman at the first Parish Council meeting on May 14th.

PARISH COUNCIL contact details

Katherine Kane, Parish Council Clerk

rettendonparishcouncil@outlook.com 07811 254163

The Parish council website is:

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

ESSEX HIGHWAYS - Report a problem website address:-

<https://www.essexhighways.org/transport-and-roads/tell-us/report-all-issues.aspx>

CHELMSFORD CITY COUNCIL <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/>

Hayes Park

I have a slight error to correct. The Knit and Natter at Hayes Park is on a Tuesday, not a Wednesday. But still a link to the fact that people everywhere are like-minded.

Despite my error, I am hopeful that we can link the Parish even further by better communications, chatting to each other, visiting each others' parts of the Parish and finding "likes" together.
Barbara Wright, compiler

- Question: What is an artery? Answer: The study of paintings
Q: What is bacteria? A: The back door to a cafeteria.
Q: What is meant by terminal illness? A: Getting sick at an airport.
Q: What is nitrate? A: Much cheaper than day rate.

Uncle Sid visited us recently and proudly advised us that he's on a whisky diet. We understand that last week he lost three days!

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 to 55 East Hanningfield Road. Mark for Newsletter.



Battlesbridge Free Church

We were very pleased with the result of our May Spring Fayre which raised in excess of £660 and we thank all who supported the event. As with many old buildings, our church, in its 176th year, is often in need of fairly costly maintenance work to keep it, in modern terms, "Fit for Purpose". What, in today's terms, is the purpose of our church?

How times have changed. Through the war years, the nation had faith and belief in God and churches were the natural place in which to honour and worship God, offering up our thanks and prayers of reliance on his continuing protection. The nation's children were taught the Christian faith both in day schools as well as in Sunday schools, where attendance was the norm, rather than the exception. Children were given a moral foundation to their lives; the right to the Christian heritage on which the country's laws and culture have been built through the ages. Humanism and political correctness has caused us to ignore God's rule that children should obey their parents, or in other words, the young need to pay heed to the authority of experience.

So we have a situation in schools where natural respect for the teacher's role of authority in the classroom is questioned. The police can encounter abuse and insults and other public service personnel such as fire officers, ambulance crews or hospital staff can face abusive behaviours.

From a young age children have been given the responsibility of choice. Today this responsibility of choice, before the luxury of being able to progress gradually to experienced decisions, is driving many teenagers to depression, self-harm and deep unhappiness. Teenagers do have an affinity to goodness. The churches purpose is, as it has always been, to show that God, in his mercy, is the source of all goodness and through his Christ, we humans have the blue-print for life.

June Edwards

Right to reply - I think you'll find Humanists have the same moral code as Christians, they just don't need a Pan-Galactic Mega-Being, to quote the late lamented Douglas Adams.

An Atheist. (Name and Address supplied)

Rettendon and Battlesbridge Newsletter

Following comments received regarding controversial input to the newsletter, and the status of donors to the newsletter, a committee meeting has been held to decide policy going forward.

It was felt that the newsletter should remain a platform where anyone can express their point of view. However, in the case of controversial topics, the compiler or treasurer will endeavour to obtain a response from appropriate parties to include alongside the original contribution. In order to produce the newsletter in a timely manner, only 48 hours can be allowed for such responses. Deadlines will be adjusted to reflect this change.

Our policy remains the same on donors. We do not give out the names of any donors, though we have had quite a few donations, for which we thank them all.

However we can state categorically we do not accept donations which are dependent on supporting any particular point of view.
Paul Wright, Treasurer

This newsletter can be viewed on the website
<http://www.essexinfo.net/retbatnews/newsletters/2019/>
Alternatively for email reminder of month's edition 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 Newsletter Organisation, though spelling and grammar may be corrected.