



# RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER ★ OCTOBER 2019

Financed directly by residents and businesses in the area. Printed by Solopress, 9 Stock Rd, SS2 5QF  
 Prepared & distributed by over 30 volunteers within the parish. Issue number 379  
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 Contributions for next Newsletter to be with [RetBatNews@gmail.com](mailto:RetBatNews@gmail.com), by 18<sup>th</sup> 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
Harvest Festival Open Day	Saturday, 28 <sup>th</sup> September	10am – 3:30pm	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Harvest Festival Service	Sunday, 29 <sup>th</sup> September	11:15am	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Steve Cherelle at C & W	Saturday, 5 <sup>th</sup> October	8 – 10pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Col's Country Club
Chrysanthemum Talk	Tuesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> October	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Horticultural Society
Shoebox Weekend	Sat/Sun, 26 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup> October	All day	Battlesbridge Free Church	
Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> October	7 for 7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Parish Council
PMR GCA Meeting	Thursday, 31 <sup>st</sup> October	2pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Polymyalgia & GC Arteritis
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 (+ Book Borrow)	Mondays / Thursdays	7 - 10pm / 2 – 4pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	
Knit and Natter at Hayes	Tuesdays	10:30am – 12:00	Hayes Country Park Club House	Hayes Club
Art Club	Tuesdays / Thursdays	10:30am – 2pm	Hayes Country Park Club House	Hayes Club
Knit & Natter (+ Book Borrow)	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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	
Line Dancing	Fridays	11am – 1pm	Hayes Country Park Club House	Hayes Club
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 <sup>st</sup> Saturday in month	8pm – 10pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Col's Country Club
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY				
Remembrance Coffee Morning	Saturday, 9 <sup>th</sup> November	10am–12pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Royal British Legion & Hall Management
Remembrance Service	Sunday, 10 <sup>th</sup> November	11/11:15am	Battlesbridge Free Church & All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Mental Health Awareness	Saturday, 16 <sup>th</sup> November	9am – 1:15pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Parish Council
Battlesbridge Quiz Night	TBD November	7 for 7:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	
Christmas Bazaar	Saturday, 30 <sup>th</sup> November	10:30am – 3:30pm	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Beetle Drive	TBD Friday, November	TBD	Rettendon Memorial Hall	
MOBILE LIBRARY – 3 week intervals between visits				
South Hanningfield Village Hall / Salford Close	Tuesday	12:25pm to 12:55pm / 1:45pm to 2:15pm	1 <sup>st</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> October, 12 <sup>th</sup> November	
Goose Cottages	Friday	9:40am to 10:10am	18 <sup>th</sup> October, 8 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> November	

### Harvest Festival Open Day Saturday 28th September - 10am - 3:30pm All Saints' Church, Rettendon **"A HARVEST FOR HARP":**

Supporting this Southend based charity.

With your help we would like to take them at least a car load of tinned and dried food and toiletries to distribute to the homeless - more would be wonderful.

The village school and nursery always visit us and leave their donations, so please help us boost the amount we can give to the homeless.

In addition the church will be open for all the usual good food, cakes, books and gifts.

Contact Linda Benson 01245 400468

And you can also give your goods for Harp at the  
**Harvest Festival Service**  
**Sunday, 29th September, 11:15am**



### RETTENDON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AUTUMN TALK

#### Growing and Showing Chrysanthemums Tuesday, 15th October 7:30pm

Rettendon Memorial Hall,  
 CM3 8DP



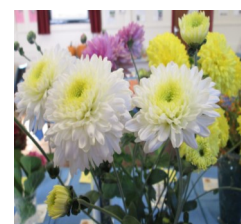
The talk will be given by our very own John Bruty, winner of our Chrysanthemum cup for the last 3 years.

We will also have some chrysanths in pots for people to take home to grow on, following John's instructions of course!

There will be teas, coffees and home-made cakes, and a raffle.

The talk is free to members of the society, and only £3 for others.

**Hazel Dale-Evans, chairman**





## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, RETTENDON

It is Harvest Festival time again, Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> our Open Day and Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September our Service day. This year as always we will be sending tinned foods, dried food e.g. pasta, rice and long life food e.g. tea and coffee to HARP at Southend. This organisation does a lot for the homeless and those people who are marginalised by society. Please be generous and donate any unwanted & in date foodstuffs, from your food store cupboard.

The festival is being called "Harvest for the Homeless" This means that donated food will be sent to HARP but all money raised will go towards the upkeep of the Church as our grade 1 listed church needs regular maintenance.

The lighting needs to be replaced but the cost is beyond our budget. It is hoped that the cleaning of the Humphrey Memorial will be partly funded by a grant which as yet remains to be confirmed. We are lucky in the village to have such a remarkable monument for which we are custodians of this bit of history.

As usual Refreshments, cakes, plants, second hand books and jewellery will be available.

**Jane Fallows Churchwarden on 01245 400394**

### Rettendon Memorial Hall

Busy here with all sorts of activities :-

Little Kiddies are kept occupied at **Pre-School** Monday till Thursday mornings.

**Short mat bowls** are bowling Monday evenings from 7pm and often do a session on Thursday afternoon also, from 2pm.

**Knit and Natter** meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday from 1:30pm to 3:30pm and interact on subjects various. In fact we all went for lunch at Ingatestone Hall in August - wonderful. So don't dismiss us, we are crafty and enjoy ourselves.

Our **Keep Fit** group have had a bit of a holiday but are now back in harness to keep us in tip top condition using muscles we only recently discovered. Why not join us on Fridays at 12 noon for an hours try out for £3 (normal price £5 per session) or phone Michelle on 07845 494644.

Our resident **COUNTRY AND WESTERN** evening (1st Saturday in the month) will host Steve Cherelle on October 5th (as heard on the radio & seen on TV). Join in for fun, dance, and entertainment.

Our posh floor had a maintenance topping in August and still looks good. The general maintenance crew are doing their caring - mostly light bulbs, weed killing and picking up rubbish!

We have a new screen for presentations in the hall. No more delving under the stage for the collapsible screen, it is there ready and only needs to be pulled down. Then just pull it a little when finished and it goes up again. Magic!

Our fundraising crew continues with the **September QUIZ** and a **pre-Christmas BEETLE DRIVE**.

So let us entertain you, or you can entertain yourselves with a booking at the hall. Residents get special discounts - just ask.

**Hall Management Committee**

**To book - phone Dianne Francombe on 01245 400297.**



### Battlesbridge Free Church

We thank god for the beautiful weather we have been enjoying, but on a visit to the reservoir, it was a shock to see how low the water level had fallen. The local farmers will be joining in praying for a good rain! In spite of the very dry growing season, the Rettendon Autumn Show exhibited a very high standard of vegetables as well as beautiful flowers.

Both at All Saints' and at Battlesbridge we have celebrated God's bounty to us in the harvest.

With the country's chaotic political scene, as well as our harvest thanksgiving, we remember a hymn which encouraged our thoughts - "O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come". We do pray for divine guidance for those endeavouring to bring about a reasoned outcome to the turmoil.

Next month we shall be holding our Shoe Box weekend, 26/27<sup>th</sup> Oct. Shoe boxes are filled with small items to delight a child in an area of the world where this will probably be the only Christmas gift the child has ever received. The news tries to pull us down in depressive doom and gloom, but Christ's message of hope and love is reflected overwhelmingly in the many wonderful acts of kindness and effort of the runs and events for charity, the emergency organisations, and medical care. We thank our God for goodness and compassion.

The choir will be working towards a Christmas concert. They meet on Fridays at 7pm. All are welcome .

The Youth Group meets on Wednesdays at 6pm.

The Art Group meets on Wednesdays at 2pm, and if you would just enjoy some companionship and a cup of tea or coffee, you do not have to take up any art or craft work, just come along!

**June Edwards, secretary, 01245 426122**

### Rettendon Horticultural Society

Our AUTUMN SHOW was lovely. There were some beautiful flowers, wonderful vegetables and when we were full of tea and cake much discussion about the competitions.

Many trophies changed hands and items admired. This year we have exhibits of Chrysanthemums to die for, so we are looking forward to our next TALK which will tell us how to produce these.....see the front page advert for details.

After this we will be finalising out diary for 2020 for presentation at our AGM on November 19th, with, of course, some Christmas food and drink and the chance to become a member of the society for the 2020 season.

**Hazel Dale-Evans, Chairman.**

**Secretary email: [RetHSsec@gmail.com](mailto:RetHSsec@gmail.com)**

**Website:**

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

### Garden Notes

Time for a season change and prepare for winter pruning and spring growth. A bit of planning goes a long way so decide what you want to do now and when the weather is clement get on and do it. The results will reward. Meanwhile do any necessary shopping.

Good Luck.

**Mrs. McGregor**



**Thank You**

A big thank you to the two young Friends of the Bell Fields who so kindly made beautifully decorated cakes and sold them in aid of these charities. Not only did they make them themselves, but they took them round house to house.

Their hard work, enthusiasm and entrepreneurial spirit made £71.32 for the charities. Well done.



**Adult Mental Health First Aid Training FREE to Parishioners !!**  
**RETTENDON MEMORIAL HALL SATURDAY 16th NOVEMBER**  
 9am to 1.15pm - Refreshments provided  
 Contact Cllr Sandie Cottee for more information or to book:  
 mobile: 079415 39994 email: sandiecotteerpc@outlook.com

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

Come along to Chelmsford/Southend Group Meeting on **Thursday, 31st October 2019, 2pm,** at **Rettendon Memorial Hall (CM3 8DP).**

Groups are a really good 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.

**Contact Pat Fedi 07733362373**  
 email [southend@pmrgca.org.uk](mailto:southend@pmrgca.org.uk)

**All Saints' Church, Rettendon - eight hundred years of history in our village**

Our lovely Church in Rettendon is valued by our local community as part of the history and life of our village.

One of its most significant features is the wonderful early eighteenth century marble memorial to Edmund Humphrey and his family. They were great benefactors of the church and the village in their time. The memorial is described as one of the most important monuments from that period in England and it is very rare to have a monument of this quality in a small village church.



The monument is now in need of restoration and cleaning.

A conservation programme is planned which will remove centuries of dirt and then waxing to prevent further damage from dirt and from the bats which roost in our church.

The cost of this work, which will be undertaken by an expert firm of conservationists, is £33,500. This will restore this beautiful and valuable memorial and ensure that it continues to bring pleasure to future generations.

Can you help us restore our Memorial?

We will be applying to specialist conservation Trusts for grants towards this work, but we also need to raise a proportion of this sum ourselves from the church and community. Any donation you are able to make will help towards this important conservation project in our village.

**Contact for information: Revd. Brenda Wallace at [allsaints.rettendon.pcc@gmail.com](mailto:allsaints.rettendon.pcc@gmail.com) 0785388907**

**All Saints' Church - helping to save your local heritage**

I would like to help preserve the Humphrey Memorial and enclose a donation of £.....

Your name: ..... email .....

Address: .....

*Please send to: All Saints' Restoration Fund c/o:*

Revd. Brenda Wallace, Rawreth Rectory, Church Road, Rawreth SS11 8SH  
 OR Jane Fallows, 36 East Hanningfield Road, Rettendon CM3 8EQ  
 Cheques should be payable to *All Saints' Rettendon PCC.*

*Bank details for direct payment: Barclays Bank Sort Code 20-04-96 Account number 10007455 reference Memorial appeal*

Please tick this box if you would like your donation to be regarded as a Gift Aid donation, thus increasing the value of your gift by 25p for every pound you give. Please remember that to make this Gift Aid donation, you must pay an amount of UK income or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax we reclaim on your donation.

GDPR information: the contact information you provide will only be used to acknowledge your donation, and send you updates about the success of the appeal and any related special events. If you would prefer us not to contact you, please tick this box.

**Parish Council jottings -  
Extracts from the Rettendon Review 1968**

Are you good at remembering dates? I don't mean your birthday or your mothers. In school I always remembered 1066 and all that, and more recently 1939 and coronation day are easily recalled. One date we don't remember is one which had such an influence on this country, 1894 is the Local Government Act which amongst other things enabled the creation of PC's.

The (PC) differs in many ways from the larger units of local government and one very important difference is that councillors should know the electors as people, be seen in the community and to spend the precept wisely all for the benefit of the communities they serve. It is said it is for this reason that political parties have not managed to dominate parish councils, as they seem to the rest of government. Another important difference between parish and larger councils is the services they provide and the amount of money they raise. Every penny a council spends must be authorised by some act of parliament. They can provide swimming pools, bus shelters, tennis courts, and football pitches. They can also provide and maintain parish halls, public seats, public clocks and if needed allotments and burial grounds, plant trees and make grants for the upkeep of churchyards and war memorials. Not a greatly exciting list but one of the most important functions of PC's is to be a watchdog for the parish on the activity of the larger authorities and to see that the opinions of the PC are made known.

We currently hear a lot about democracy but what better form of democracy could we have than to live in a group large enough to be effective but small enough to be personal and more importantly the certainty of being able to attend a meeting where you can tell your councillor what you think of him or her. All parishioners have the right to attend Parish Council meetings and many years ago the PC adopted the practice of adjourning the council meeting for ten minutes or so to enable any parishioner to speak on any matter if they so wish.

It is said that parish councils are the last stronghold of true democracy, do we here in Rettendon match up to that description?

**Item by Edgar Roberts the then Parish Clerk of 30 years,  
Borough Councillor for many years and lastly as Mayor.**

**PARISH COUNCIL**

The agendas for Parish Council meetings are put on the board at the Memorial Hall at least 3 full days before any meetings - not including Sundays, Bank Holidays, or the day of the meeting.

The public are included in the monthly Parish council meetings and can have their say on any matters which are on the agenda

Please look on the website for the minutes of these meetings.

If you have any item you wish to be included at a Parish Council meeting please get in touch with one of your local Parish Councillors. It may be the item can be answered before the meeting, or some research is needed before the item can be added to the agenda. If you do not receive a reply within a week please get in touch with either the Parish Councillor you raised it with, or the Clerk. Some items may not be Parish Council matters, and you will be told if they are not so they can be taken elsewhere.

Parish Councillors were elected by you to represent you. Please feel free to ask about what concerns you in the Parish.

**contact details: - Katherine Kane, Parish Council Clerk**

[rettendonparishcouncil@outlook.com](mailto:rettendonparishcouncil@outlook.com) 07811 254163

Parish council website: <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/>

**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](mailto:RetBatNews@gmail.com)), or tel: 01245 321554

Or paper copy to 55 East Hanningfield Road. Mark for Newsletter.

**Country Diary**

Summer has faded although we have recently been blessed with some lovely weather. The clear skies and sparkling sunshine shining on the seed heads of the Rosebay Willow herb and the fluffy Old man's beard can be seen.

Autumn is a good time to hear tawny owls calling especially if it is a bright moonlit night. Does light pollution affect the owls - is it to do with the moon cycle?

Since the demise of Curds' Farm barns and the fashion to light up gardens at night, I have not heard any owls in my area. I understand that the type of call means different things; the "twoo" is a territorial call mainly by males. The other types are a "hoot" and a "kee-wick" call.

Perhaps residents of Chalk Street and the Warren Road area have not been affected by light pollution as they have ideal habitats for these birds. **Jane Fallows 01245 400394**

**Rettendon, Battlesbridge, and Other Matters**

Saturday 14th September saw the Rettendon Horticultural society autumn show in the Hall. To my utter amazement I actually won a rosette for a bunch of black grapes. Jonathon also won the best marrow. Unfortunately every year I plant and sow with vigour and enthusiasm. It is good for the soul. Come harvest time I have sort of lost interest. Too busy fishing and playing with boats though. Question is why can't we eat weeds? First rosette in 43 years!

Update on the Parish Bell Fields: there was a request for seating on the upper field. It just so happened I purchased the waiting shelter from Battlesbridge Railway Station some years ago, it was going for scrap. Jonathon and I spent many hours sanding and scraping, fixing new stainless steel fixings, and finally painting with primer and top coat. It can be moved. Please keep an eye on it, I am very proud of it.

The changing room is to have a new toilet and electricity. There are now youngsters from Rettendon playing in the junior team. The football club has offered a couple of coaching sessions for youngsters to try their footballing skills out. Please ring me.

We may be using the old goal posts as a break down framework for a small marquee 24' x 8' 6" x 14'.

**Yours Very Sincerely Roy Hart (01268 768282)**

Mr. Hart also commented on developments in the ongoing Bell Fields dispute, which we are unwilling to publish, at least until we can also obtain a response from the Parish Council.

**Paul Wright, Treasurer and 'acting political editor', Rettendon and Battlesbridge Newsletter.**

If you wish to receive this newsletter by email please contact

[RetBatNews@gmail.com](mailto:RetBatNews@gmail.com)

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