



Financed directly by residents and businesses in the area. Printed by Solopress, 9 Stock Rd, SS2 5QF
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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 benefitting.



EVENT	DATE / DAY	TIME	VENUE	ORGANISATION
Country & Western	Saturday, 2 nd November	8 – 10pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Col's Country Club
Remembrance Coffee Morning	Saturday, 9 th November	10am–12pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Royal British Legion/Hall Manage
Battlesbridge Quiz Night	Saturday, 9 th November	7 for 7:30pm		Battlesbridge Free Church
Remembrance Service	Sunday, 10 th November	10:45am		All Saints Church, Rettendon
Mental Health Awareness	Saturday, 16 th November	9am – 1:15pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Parish Council
Annual General Meeting	Tuesday, 19 th November	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Horticultural Society
Beetle Drive	Friday, 22 nd November	7 for 7:30pm		Rettendon Memorial Hall
Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday, 26 th November	7 for 7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Parish Council
All Saints' Christmas Bazaar	Saturday, 30 th November	10:30 – 3:00pm		All Saints Church, Rettendon
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
Children's Dance Lessons	Monday - Thursday	Afternoons	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Kate Ward School of Dance
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 at Hayes	Tuesdays / Thursdays	10:30am – 2pm	Hayes Country Park Club House	Hayes Club
Knit & Natter (+ Book Borrow)	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	
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 st Saturday in month	8pm – 10pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Col's Country Club
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY				
Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday, 17 th December	7 for 7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Parish Council
Midnight Mass	Tuesday, 24 th December	11:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church & All Saints Church, Rettendon	
MOBILE LIBRARY – 3 week intervals between visits				
South Hanningfield Village Hall / Salford Close	Tuesday	12:25pm to 12:55pm / 1:45pm to 2:15pm	12 th November, 3 rd & 24 th December	
Goose Cottages	Friday	9:40am to 10:10am	8 th & 29 th November, 20 th December	

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH
Remembrance day service is on
10th November and starts at 10-45am.

RETTENDON MEMORIAL HALL
REMEMBRANCE COFFEE MORNING,
Saturday, 9th November
10am till 12pm (noon)

The Hall was built as a remembrance to those from Rettendon who fought and lost their lives in World War I. It was updated for those who fought in the second World War as a hall for the whole community to meet and socialise.

We will commemorate their sacrifice, and those of all conflicts, with a coffee morning in aid of the Royal British Legion. So come and have a coffee, home-made cake and a chat.

Please come along, we hope to have some memorabilia as we did last year.

Perhaps bring your own memories and memorabilia to show and talk about.

Hall Management Committee

QUIZ NIGHT!
SATURDAY NOV 9th.
7. for 7. 30pm.
at Battlesbridge Free Church.
£5 at the door.
Teams of up to 8
Nibbles on tables but feel
free to bring your own.
Tea/coffee, biscuits & time.
RAFFLE!

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

BEETLE DRIVE

Friday, 22nd November - 7 for 7:30pm

Rettendon Memorial Hall (CM3 8DP)

Looking forward to having another go at this. It was quite a hoot last time, once we had worked out what to do, which way to turn and who played who in each round. Lots of dice flying around the room, and some very funny looking beetles.

If you don't know what we are talking about why not join us and find out. £5 per person, and a chance to have a laugh or two.

We will have tea/coffee half-time - to confuse you, and, of course, the inevitable raffle.

Mistress of ceremonies will be.....

Hazel Dale-Evans (01245 401538)

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday, 30th November,

10:30am till 3:00pm

There will be many of our usual activities as well as some games and many seasonal items also.

The Christmas raffle has a £50 first prize, a Christmas hamper, vouchers etc.

I hope to see you there.

Jane Fallows 01245 400394

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, RETTENDON

The Remembrance day service is on 10th November and starts at 10-45. We like to include as many people as possible so that they can remember father, uncle, brother and even mother, sister, or aunty. The service is not just for the soldiers of the first and second worlds but also those who served in other conflicts such as Korea, Bosnia and in the Middle East. I remember years ago Mrs Vi Benson being outraged at the role of service women and civilians being ignored and am glad to say this has in some part been remedied. Vi in fact undertook a civilian role and drove an ambulance in the London Blitz during the Second World War.

An area of turf has been removed in the shape of a cross about 15 yards inside the churchyard for you to place a small cross. I have a quantity of these crosses as has Mrs Barbara Wright. The Royal British Legion has suggested a 50p donation would be appropriate.

On a completely different note the Bazaar will be held in church on 30th November from 10-30am to 3-00pm.

Could you perhaps spare a few items for this? Small stocking fillers, a raffle prize, or perhaps an offer of help? Please note we will be finishing at 3-00pm as it gets dark early therefore allowing people to get home in the daylight.

Jane Fallows Churchwarden on 01245 400394

Garden Notes

Suddenly the plants suffering drought have caught up. All looks more alive and colours have returned.

Most spring bulbs can go in now but we are advised to delay tulips until late November/December to avoid soil virus attack. Pots using new compost should be less prone to this. Generally most wildlife dislike daffodils as unpalatable but crocus and tulips can get chomped so beware.

Love your garden.

Mrs. McGregor

Rettendon Horticultural Society

Our **AGM** will be held on **Tuesday, November 19th at 7:30pm** in Rettendon Village Memorial Hall. **Free entry and open to all.**

All those wishing to join the Society (for £5 per annum) can do so or come and renew your membership.

There will be a Christmas themed raffle and a selection of seasonal fare after the necessary business - so welcome to all.

Hazel Dale-Evans, Chairman, 01245 401538

Kate Ward School of Dance

....is more than just a dance school, we nurture, we praise and we encourage every student. This is achieved by having amazing teachers who are passionate about performing arts and watching our students grow. We are a friendly school whose ethos is to help every child shine and believe in themselves.

We are very excited to move our school into Rettendon Village Hall and would love to offer a free taster to everyone local.. We offer classes in musical theatre, ballet, commercial street, contemporary and lyrical for ages 3-18 years.

To book a free taster please contact **Kate on 07376114435** or email kate@katewardsschoolofdance.com

Rettendon Horticultural Society

Our diary for 2020 was considered and after many suggestions settled to a workable format. Then we left our trusty secretary to make it presentable and were allowed to go on a coach trip to Audley End on September 29th at the "Taste of History" day. There was much live history in the kitchens with real cooks and kitchen maids discussing their lives of 1850 or so. A grand house to look round and additional items in the grounds. I played a washboard with the Victorian Kitchen Band and recalled my skiffle efforts on that instrument in 1962. Ouch!

Our chrysanthemum talk went well, with some beautiful pictures of the flowers, and of a much younger John Bruty. We thank him very much for his wonderful, informative talk. Now all we have to do is to follow the instructions (luckily he has provided a sheet for reference) and to grow large blooms to overshadow his at the autumn show next year.

These flowers are regal when given a chance. They last a long time in a vase (or in the garden) and are very rewarding to produce, so if you want to join us in the 2020 Autumn Show competition do phone for a free plant and advice now. Just get in touch with Barbara, our secretary as below (Plants were donated by one of the Friends of Rettendon School, for which we thank them very much).

Hazel Dale-Evans, Chairman, 01245 401538

Barbara Wright, secretary, can be contacted on 01245 321554 or email: RetHSsec@gmail.com

Or have a look at our Website:

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



Battlesbridge Free Church

On Saturday, 9th November we shall hold our Quiz Night, details on the front page.

On Sunday, 10th November we shall share the Remembrance service at All Saints' Church, Rettendon, or St. Nicholas, Rawreth.

On Saturday, 16th November the Yard Arm Folk Orchestra will give us a concert, as per the advert.

The Community Choir are practising and hoping to give a Christmas Concert.

We thank the Youth Group for lovely decorations for the Church at the Harvest Festival service.

The Art Group welcomes anyone who would enjoy trying some art or craft, or just come along for the company, and tea and coffee and a biscuit on Wednesdays, 2pm.

Many Christians throughout the country are praying for wisdom and mercy of God to guide and support all those caught up in the chaotic ramifications of Brexit at the Palace of Westminster. We also pray that many will turn again to the God of our forefathers to bring an end to the situation which seems to be bringing about a social malaise of mistrust, scams, the senseless and devastating knife crime and a feeling that we have somehow lost our way. But God's goodness does still prevail, the upsurging of events and efforts to support the many charities, which in most cases, are the initiatives of the Christian ethic of love and caring.

All the shops are urging a Christmas bonanza of buying. Behind all this is also the spirit of giving or of families coming together. It all originated by God's amazing gift of his son, Jesus Christ, to enter our earthly world, to live a human life of service and love as an example of the way to human happiness and fulfilment. Don't we all hanker for this?

June Edwards, secretary, 01245 426122

Watch out for the Fireworks!

The massive anti or safer fireworks campaign, a BBC initiative, re-emerged once more in 1969 – there have been a number of further re-births since. Its purpose? To eliminate the horrors so often associated with Guy Fawkes Night. In many communities, a joint, not a one-organisation fireworks event, is the best option with each partner organisation having a particular role to play.

Police, Fire and Ambulance services are a must to be consulted and insurances are overlooked at ones peril. First aiders on site is also a must.

Around 50 years ago, a mining village community used this outline format and splashed out £50 on fireworks, £1-25 on insurances plus odd items including £3 on printing. Over time, I understand a competition has developed with villagers competing to make a Guy the like of a local person - a worthy or one who aspires to be one or a local character.

It is said that the winner is burnt at the stake on the bonfire, though can't find any mention of who is actually burnt at the stake, the real person, or the guy?

So enjoy your fireworks night, keep safe, and remember your pets and keep them safe too.

Ron Fallows

75th Anniversary of D-Day.

D-Day - and weather to go or not to go.....

No - it is not a spelling mistake. The days leading up to the D-Day landings were fraught with decisions. Supreme Commander General Eisenhower had to decide when to send out the ships with the allied troops over to France for the final push in World War II.

The problem was knowing what the weather would do. Bad weather and ships and troops could be lost, and fighting men become too seasick to act. Good weather meant alert fighting men.

Two meteorologists were asked for their opinions: one an American, one a Scotsman. Who to believe? Who best to predict the weather?

While the American, Krick, Eisenhower's own weatherman, forecasts another day of good weather, Stagg, the British chief meteorologist, forecasts rain and high winds.

Luckily for us, and for the troops, Eisenhower chose correctly, following Group Captain James Stagg's recommendation to delay. And the rest, as they say, is history.

There were many men killed on D-Day on both sides, but there could have been even more casualties had not the right decision been made at the right time. **Barbara Wright**

Yard Arm Folk Orchestra Concert

(website: <https://yardarmfolkorchestra.co.uk/>)

Saturday, 16th November -7 for 7:30pm

Battlesbridge Free Church

£5 at the door

June Edwards, secretary, 01245 426122

Rettendon Memorial Hall

Had a wonderful Quiz in September which returned £454 to support our hall. Thanks to all who crewed, supported and otherwise came to sharpen their wits at the event.

The calendar of events here is getting full - please book your space well ahead if you can to avoid disappointment.

We continue to accommodate:- **Pre-School, Bowls, Horticultural Society, Parish Council, Knif & Naffer, Keep Fit** and the **Country and Western Club** regularly, with the **Polymyalgia and/or Giant Cell Arteritis Support Group** about every 2 months, and your parties and various talks and meetings occasionally by arrangement.

We are delighted to welcome the **Kate Ward School of Dance** adding **Children's Dance Lessons** into the mix, Monday to Thursday from 4pm till 6 or 7pm (depending on day).

Contact any of these by talking to our booking clerk, **Dianne Francombe on 01245 400297.**

Our fun(d)raising will continue with a pre-Christmas **BEETLE DRIVE**. See the advert for details.

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.

Defibrillators

At last the defibrillators at Rettendon Memorial Hall and Battlesbridge Free Church Hall are now up and running, having had their batteries and pads replaced, and the boxes have been given their designation and are properly registered with the Ambulance Service.

We are still awaiting the replacement defibrillator for the box outside the Bell Public House. If this is not delivered soon we will have to chase - it has been ordered and will be put into operation the moment it becomes available.

The defibrillator at Hayes Park is, and always has been, working. It is now on the maintenance list as well.

The maintenance will include a monthly check of the devices to ensure they are operational, although most have their own internal check daily. The check will be recorded and held by the Ambulance Service, and hopefully by the Parish Council Clerk as well.

If you notice any of these boxes are beeping, please let me know as it indicates the battery is low, and we can deal with it.

We would like to point out that all defibrillators, like fire extinguishers, do need to be maintained. The connecting pads and batteries have a shelf/operational life. **Barbara Wright 01245 321554**

Country Diary

Recently we have seen large skeins of Geese flying over Rettendon and people have been asking me what species they are etc. I have very little knowledge of them so off I went to Hanningfield Nature Reserve at the reservoir to find out more. To my astonishment, they told that they were mainly Greylag mixed with Pink footed and perhaps Brent geese.

I had never heard of the Greylag and had to research the information. Apparently, they have an amber conservation status and are protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981. It is the largest of the wild geese native to the UK and has been re-established by release into the wild. They can be seen all the year round in the south and east and they feed on grass roots, cereal leaves and grasses on the inter tidal marshes which is probably why we are seeing them now as the tides suit their feeding habits.

Oh, and yes they are noisy birds honking as they fly overhead in their distinctive V formation.

Jane Fallows 01245 400394

Rettendon, Battlesbridge, and Other Matters

Friday morning 18th October, just after dawn, and a horrendous night of torrential rain and some lightning too. On looking over the river, high up in the sky, two long skeins of geese at least 100 in each. Not in V's but a continuous long black line, obviously heading for warmer climes. Perhaps I should do the same and come back in April every year, perhaps a few souls in Rettendon feel it would be better if I did not come back! But, unfortunately, I am here to stay.

I am sorry I got the Best Kept Village entry in too late, but have now entered Battlesbridge for next year. I will write to everyone. We have a river, a bridge, two wonderful pubs in the Barge and the Hawk and a lovely riverside church. We can only do our best. If only I could get the main road from the Raweth side over the bridge to, say, the railway bridge, re-surfaced with that gold-coloured coarse grit, the traffic calming finished, similar to East Hanningfield or Stock.

Battlesbridge especially with "Beware of the Duck" signs in Maltings Road, we could be the Finchingfield of Chelmsford - Well "Dreams are the start of Reality".

On Remembrance Sunday, unfortunately, Julie and I are in Amsterdam, visiting a fishing shop customer, but the Village Sign, opposite Meadow Road area will be tidied up and the silhouette will be in the place of honour.

Councillor Phillips is taking over the mantle of South View Road and Meadow Road which I have been trying to improve for years, with no luck. I felt like repairing it myself, but was told I cannot. It must be repaired very soon as, especially South View Road, has many senior residents there and the likelihood of a fall, etc., due to the appalling lack of maintenance, is very great. I wish the Councillor well, but I am rather preoccupied with other matters at the moment.

Yours Very Sincerely Roy Hart

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 Newsletter Organisation, though spelling and grammar may be corrected.

Remembrance Day Knitted & Crocheted Poppies

We would like to thank all those who contributed so many knitted and crocheted poppies for Remembrance Day.

This has been a community effort with the Knit and Natter group at Hayes Park and the Knit & Natter group at Rettendon all enthusiastically making poppies. This is a national scheme to try and ensure each soldier who died in World War II has their own poppy for remembrance.

THANK YOU ALL.

Barbara Wright

PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk contact details: - Katherine Kane, Parish Council Clerk

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/>

Senior Moments

Recently while experiencing a bout of back and shoulder pain, I muttered what I thought was to myself, "God, I must be getting old." There came a swift response from daughter close by, "Dad you are old." Matter brought into perspective ??

So perhaps if I knew I would live this long I would have taken better care of myself.

And from Bill Cosby "Don't worry about senility - when it hits you, you won't know it."

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.