



RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER ★ SEPTEMBER 2021

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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 please contact the compiler)

EVENT	DATE / DAY	TIME	VENUE	ORGANISATION
Songs of Praise and Licensing	Sunday, 5 th September	4pm	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Flower Festival & Church Fete	Saturday 4 th , Sunday 5 th Sept	12 – 5pm	St. Peter's Church, South Hanningfield	
Festival Service	Sunday 5 th September	5pm	St. Peter's Church, South Hanningfield	
Flower Festival	Monday, 6 th September	11am – 2pm	St. Peter's Church, South Hanningfield	
Autumn Show	Saturday, 11 th September	2 – 4:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Hort. Soc.
Cookery and Craft Show	Sunday 12 th September	2 – 4:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Hort. Soc.
Bric-a-Brac Sale	Saturday, 18 th September	10:30am–2:30pm	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Charity Concert, Allegro Choir	Saturday, 18 th September	6:30pm for 7pm	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	

REGULAR EVENTS

Sunday Services	Sundays	11am / 11:15am	Battlesbridge Free / All Saints, Rettendon	
Parish Council Meeting	Last Tuesday in Month	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall*	Rettendon PC
Pre-school (in school term)	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	
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

Garage Sale in aid of Church	Saturday, 9 th October	TBC	East Hanningfield Road residents	
Marketing New Plants	Tuesday, 12 th October	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Hort. Soc.
Village Quiz	Friday, 15 th October	7pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Hall Management

MOBILE LIBRARY – 3 week intervals between visits

South Hanningfield Village Hall / Salforal Close	Tuesday	12:25pm to 12:55pm / 1:45pm to 2:15pm	7 th & 28 th Sept, 19 th October	
Goose Cottages	Friday	9:40am to 10:10am	3 rd & 24 th Sept, 15 th October	

*Check website: <https://www.essexinfo.net/rettendonparishcouncil/>, or Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/rettendonparishcouncil/?ref=page_internal

Hullbridge, Rawreth and Rettendon Churches (HRR) Songs of Praise and Licensing of Associate Minister All Saints' Church, Rettendon, Sunday, 5th September, 4pm

The Bishop of Chelmsford is visiting Rettendon for our Songs of praise service, which will include the licensing of Elizabeth Jordan as Associate Minister to the three parishes of All Saints', St. Thomas, and St. Nicholas. Please do come and join in! It will be a celebration of the life of our three parishes and a very good opportunity to see friends again.

And there will be food, plenty of it, afterwards. And if you would like to help out, the Churchwardens of each church will be organizing this and can tell you what is needed.

We look forward to seeing you then.

Rev Canon Dr. Elizabeth Jordan

Rettendon Horticultural Society - Cookery and Craft Show Sunday, 12th September, 2pm - 4:30pm (entries 8am - 10:30am)

A chance to show off all your efforts and new skills from the lockdowns. Schedule includes cookery, preserves, drinks, e.g. sloe gin, as well as needlework and handicrafts.

(website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/rethortsoc/schedules/>)

There will be teas, coffees and biscuits available.

Need more information? Phone Barbara on 01245 321554

Bric-a-Brac Sale at All Saints' Church, Rettendon.
Saturday, 18th September, 2021 10:30am - 2:30pm
Starting small for funds to maintain the church. Teas, coffees, home-made cakes and maybe a few lunches. A chance to look round the church, and help us keep it in the community. Jane Fallows

Rettendon Horticultural Society - Autumn Show Saturday, 11th September, 2pm - 4:30pm (entries 8am - 10:30am)

Looking forward to seeing all the gardening efforts of the last few months come to fruition. There will be teas and home-made cakes, a Treasure Hunt, a round-the-wall Quiz, bulbs in a box, and other distractions, but mainly come to see the Flowers, Fruit, Vegetables and Flower Arranging exhibits.

Schedules on website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/rethortsoc/schedules/>, or contact Barbara on 01245 321554 or Hazel on 01245 401538 for a paper copy.



Charity Concert

All Saints' Church, Rettendon

Saturday 18th Sept, 6:30pm for 7pm

with a short interval, finishing around 9.30 pm...

It will be a wonderful Charity Concert in aid of NHS nurses at Southend and Basildon (with small donation to the Church for venue).

The Allegro singers are a great performing choir with wide repertoire who regularly perform at the Cliffs Pavilion every year.

It will be an extremely enjoyable evening, especially after the lengthy period of Lock down. Bringing some sunshine back into Rettendon.

Ticket are £10 per head, under 15s go free.

Please do try and support this charity event.

Contact Roy Hart for tickets tel. 01268 768282

Charity Event for Make a Wish Foundation

This event, organised by the residents of Chestnut Grove at Hayes Country Park, was well attended. Lots of stalls including raffles, tombolas of various types and barbecue.

The amount raised was a wonderful £3,310.83 and should make at least one seriously ill child very happy.

Thank you to everyone who came, and thank you to all the helpers who made the event possible.

Residents of Chestnut Grove.

Beat the rush and save the cost, enjoy a 'Staycation' Holy Day!

Holidays have been in the news lately: where can we go? Do we need to isolate when we get back? HOW much do UK holidays cost this year!? Not to mention the weather. Have you managed to get away, or are you planning to? We are lucky enough to have an old sailing boat, and that provides most of our holidays these days – but strictly UK waters this year. We all seem to need a break one way or another at the moment. But what if we can't get away?

In historical terms, it's not that long ago that 'holidays' were literally the 'Holy Days', Christmas, Easter and the Saints' Days. Lady Day (25th March) used to be one of the most important. It's the day we remember that the Angel Gabriel came to Mary and told her that she would be the mother of Jesus in spite of being a virgin, hence exactly 9 months before Christmas Day. Until the middle of the 18th Century the New Year began on Lady Day, the day that annual rents were due, so not always the most popular of the holidays!

Perhaps the most important thing about holidays, or Holy Days, is the chance that they give us to stand back and see our lives in a bigger context. Our saints and heroes are often called role models these days. Whatever we call them, they can give us a prompt to think about what really matters and break the cycle of busyness or boredom that our lives can get locked into.

Whether or not we get the chance of a 'proper holiday' this year, most of us can get away at least for a short time (it could be an hour or so), perhaps to visit the beautiful churchyard at All Saints or follow some of the footpaths around Battlesbridge and Rettendon (pick your weather though – some of the paths can get very muddy!)

The apostle Paul quoted a prayer by the Greek poet called Epimenides when he said, "In you we live and move and have our being." (Quite radical for someone like Paul, brought up as a conservative Jew, to quote a prayer to the Greek god Zeus!) But the point he makes is that we can open ourselves and meet with God. It doesn't need to be in a religious building, though that can help (you are very welcome to join us for our Sunday Service at 11:15 or more informally for our coffee morning on Fridays from about 10:00).

So, why not take yourself off for a Holy Day, whether for an hour or so or a couple of weeks?

A calendar of the Festivals and Saints Days to help or prompt you is on All Saints website, www.hrr-churches.org.uk/all-saints/whats-on-at-all-saints/, and in our church calendar. Clicking on one of the saints or festivals, will show you bible readings to help reflect. If you don't have a bible to hand you could copy the reading and put it after <https://bible.oremus.org/?passage=>, for example, the passage in which Paul quotes Epimenides is [https://bible.oremus.org/?passage=Acts 17:22-31](https://bible.oremus.org/?passage=Acts%2017:22-31).

It would be great to hear how you get on ...

Richard, Vicar at All Saints, phone number: 01268 766565

Email: rev.richard.jordan@gmail.com

Rettendon Memorial Hall

Our groups and societies have started returning to their normal days and events.

Bowls already in progress, and still taking advantage of any good weather with petanque on the cricket field, but back to the hall too when the weather is inclement.

Mondays 7pm on, Thursdays 2-4pm.

Pre-school will be starting soon. Please ring Pat Prebble on 07762 909351 for details.

The Knit and Natter group has been looking forward to coming back and the first session will be Wednesday, 1st September, 1:30pm till 3:30pm. Then every 1st and 3rd Wednesday in the month.

We are hoping to open the book swap in September. There are lots of jigsaws available too. This will be on Knit and Natter days and Bowling times, and we will try to allow more access when possible.

To book the hall please call the bookings secretary, Dianne, on 01245 400297.

Hall Management Committee

Rettendon Horticultural Society

For all sorts of reasons we nearly did not have a Summer Show. Most other horticultural societies cancelled their shows but such was the resolve of the committee and a few determined members we went ahead. Although the number of entries was down the show was a great success. Not only for the quality of the entries but for the opportunity for lots of people to come out and have a pleasant social afternoon.

Our thoughts now turn to preparations for the Autumn Show and part 2 of the Summer Show comprising cookery, drinks, preserves, needle craft and handicrafts.

The usual **Autumn Show** will take place on **Saturday the 11th September** in the village hall. Viewing is between 2pm and 4.30. The show schedule is on our website <https://e-voice.org.uk/rethortsoc/schedules/> or a hard copy can be obtained from Barbara Wright email RetHSsec@gmail.com, Hazel Dale Evans 01245 401538 or myself on 01268 562371.

The rescheduled part of the **Summer Show** will be in the village hall the following day **Sunday the 12th September** with viewing between **2pm and 4.30**. A two day event is something completely new for us and will no doubt create extra work for the usual stalwarts of the Society. For that reason I would appeal to members to come forward and lend a hand, particularly on Sunday afternoon, with teas and clearing up after the show.

The schedule for day 2 comprises of sections G - K as set out in the Summer Show schedule delivered with the July newsletter. Further copies can be obtained as above. Trophies and prizes will be awarded as in the schedule. This is a perfect opportunity to display and enter items that you have made in the last 2 years (apart from cookery of course!)

We are sorry that the trip to Hatfield House planned for the 19th September has been cancelled due to uncertainty of numbers likely to attend and high cost of a trip with limited numbers. **John Bruty Chairperson**

Talk: "Marketing New Plant Varieties"

Genesis Plants are visiting us for our first talk on **Tuesday, 12th October, at 7:30pm in the Hall**. Free to members. Tea, coffee, home-made cakes available.

Barbara Wright, Secretary, tel: 01245 321554

email: RetHSsec@gmail.com

Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/rethortsoc/>

Garage / Forecourt Sale - East Hanningfield Rd area

Lyn Benson is organising a sale for Saturday, 9th October, (times to be decided) and hopes others along the road can take part as well.

Please get in touch with her on **01245 400468** if interested. She would like proceeds to go to All Saints' Church.

NHS Community First Responders

Would you like to serve the community? If so why not become a Community First Responder. These are local volunteers, trained by the NHS, who help by arriving quickly to a first aid emergency. Their aim is to stabilise a patient and provide care until the ambulance, or a paramedic, arrives.

Although there are First Responders around, this area could do with a few more, to provide a wider team enabling quicker response times and reducing the times of involvement by any one responder.

Want to know more? Look on the website: <https://www.eastamb.nhs.uk/join-the-team/community-first-responders> or Email CFR@eastamb.nhs.uk

The criteria and forms for joining are on the web.

The Rettendon Walking Group continue to meet weekly and it has been lovely to welcome some new members.

Recently we have included evening walks on alternative weeks and this will continue while day light lasts.

We are also planning a weekend walk of 10 miles, from Fambridge to Burnham on Crouch.

As the footpaths are overgrown with nettles and brambles we have been enjoying walks along the sea wall at South Woodham Ferrers. We are lucky to have such varied and enjoyable local walks.

If you would like to join us, or have more details about the walks or the group, please contact **Sandie 01268 733259**



Taking a back pew.....

I am no longer a church warden but just an ordinary member of our meagre congregation. (We would love you to come and join with us and help swell our numbers.)

However, apart from that, I am quite willing to come to your house if you would like someone to visit you at home for a friendly chat.

Jane Fallows on 01245 400394



A BAD HABIT

Why is it that certain individuals consider it in order to dispose of their used nitrous oxide (laughing gas) cylinders (those small metal cylinders that now appear all over the place) by simply opening their car windows and dropping them out or depositing them in large quantities by the side of the road for someone else to clear up. Not only are they unsightly but a clear danger to pedestrians and cyclists. Woodham Road appears to be a favourite dumping ground to dispose of their waste. Someone has a very bad habit in more ways than one!

This article will probably fall on deaf ears as I doubt the selfish and inconsiderate individuals responsible will read the newsletter in any event!

A Woodham Road resident.

And before others say it happens in their area - we know - the walkers have seen these dumped all around too, as well as in the Hall car park.



Hanningfield Sailability Project for Disabled People had their Annual Wine & Cheese Party last Wednesday evening. Around 70 helpers, friends and carers enjoyed a wonderful evening outside at our Clubhouse right on the shores of Hanningfield Reservoir. The lucky dip and auction raised £800.00. Thank you everyone.

We are all so proud of what we have achieved over the last twelve years, one of the best rewards is the look of happiness on the faces of the less fortunate, as they take to the water, being given tuition on how to sail.

If you know anyone who might like to come along, if only to have a cup of tea and see what is going on, just give me a call. We have electric wheel chair lifts and a fleet of specialist sailing boats, rescue launches etc

Yours Sincerely Roy Hart tel. 01268 768282

Upholstery Classes - Friday mornings at South Hanningfield Village Hall starting in September. Contact Fiona for more details on 07887 507208

Country Diary

I haven't much to report this month as I have not been out and about much, however I have heard buzzards and have had a sparrow hawk sitting on the hedge near the back door. I read a newspaper report that butterflies and moths are not as prevalent as they were. I haven't a great deal of knowledge upon butterflies and moths but a couple of weeks ago I was disturbed by a moth as I was trying to sleep. It was a glorious golden colour, two toned, darker nearer the body and lighter near the wing tips and was about the size of a tortoiseshell butterfly. I had to resort to my books to research the name of the species and came to the conclusion it was the oak eggar whose food plants comprise bramble, dogwood, hawthorn and even ivy. My front garden has all these species with the exception of the dogwood.

I then read there was a survey of butterflies going on for over a fortnight so I noted down those that visited my garden in this specific time band. First the large white, sometimes known as the cabbage white which can decimate anyone's brassica plants in double quick time. Then there has been the small white which can also damage your cabbages with their voracious munching of the caterpillars. The tortoiseshell, a pretty colourful species which sometimes overwinters in old places such as the church. The red admiral has a dramatic colouring of orange (red), black and white and are migrants from southern Europe. The Peacock is the most dramatic in colouring and markings and the common nettle is a food plant for the larvae. The common blue was also on the wing but the butterfly that is really plentiful is the gatekeeper (hedge brown) and the meadow brown which has densely populated areas down Old Bell Lane especially near the plentiful brambles. The evidence came from my friend and neighbour Helen, who is a keen walker, who often notes such things. Further research tells us that many of the butterflies mentioned here need nettles or brambles during their life cycles so please put aside a patch in your garden to host our summer residents.

Jane Fallows 01245 400394

NOTIFICATION OF CONSULTATION TO INFORM CHELMSFORD HOUSING STRATEGY for the period 2022-2027. (Consultation PID Number: 966295)

The consultation has been launched to establish a shared vision for housing in Chelmsford and identify priorities and actions for consultation with partners, stakeholders and residents.

Have your say – for 8 weeks from Wednesday 14 July 2021 until 4.00pm on Wednesday 15 September 2021.

Where to view the documents and how to make representations:

* On the Consultation Portal for Planning Policy at <https://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/kse/>

* Alternatively visit our dedicated Housing Strategy consultation page at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/housing-strategy

If you do not have access to a computer, you can request paper copies. A charge will be made to cover printing and postage costs. If you have difficulties making representations by e-mail or post, please call us on 01245 606330.

All representations will be considered, published on the City Council's Consultation Portal in accordance with the Data Protection Act and General Data Protection Regulations, and used to inform the final document.

**Spatial Planning Services, Chelmsford City Council
Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1JE, Telephone: 01245 606330**

Garden Notes

Visited Writtle College for a knitting course. The weeds were prolific in every garden due to COVID restrictions. Wildlife happy with all the extra food. Permanent plantings glorious, and not smothered, just with extra colour.

Had to keep my weeding hands to myself. **Mrs. McGregor**



Battlesbridge Free Church

How fortunate we are that we need not be in terror of our lives because of the NHS vaccination programme. Sadly many seem

to have forgotten or be unaware that the sense of justice, our culture and way of life for centuries as a nation, has been based on our Christian faith. There have been many times when great wrong has been done by those claiming to be Christian but who have fallen very far short of Christ's way, where honour of the God of Love, of treating every other human being is of the same worth as oneself, has not been followed. But the same God of Love has guided out United Kingdom to the point we are at now. Our head of State, the Queen, has held a strong Christian faith throughout her life, as did Prince Philip. What is happening in Afghanistan has shocked our world which is still reeling over the Corona Virus pandemic. Our faith teaches us to follow Christ's way which is the truth and life, the life which Almighty God intended for mankind. He did not plan for a world of knives, guns and bombs! God, and so we humans, God's creation, have a powerful enemy in the spirit of Evil, Satan. Jesus Christ was sent into the world to help us fight against this destructive force, to save us from succumbing to the deceptive enticement of evil or wrong doing. Jesus is not a figment of the imagination. His is and was a living, breathing person in historical time with many witnesses, ordinary earth-bound people as well as highly intelligent and eminent individuals of his earthly time. All the facts surrounding the Jesus who, having been raised to life, can be alongside anyone who asks, these can be found in the new testament of the Bible. Try a new translation in modern day language. E Peterson's "The Message", for instance.

June Edwards

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council has now returned to face-to-face meetings following the expiry of the regulations allowing Councils to meet remotely. The first meeting was held at the end of June at the Memorial Hall and was a quiet affair with only five councillors and two members of the public present.

The Governance Statement and the Accounting Statement of the Annual Return were agreed, with the figures and procedures having been checked by the Council's internal auditor. The Annual Return and supporting documentation has now been sent to PKF Littlejohn, the external auditor – this is the final step of the 2020/21 audit cycle.

At the same meeting an updated Code of Conduct was adopted by the Council. This document sets out the way Councillors should conduct themselves and the legal responsibility for declaring interests. There are no material changes from the previous document but the obligations of councillors are laid out more fully, and the Nolan Principles, to which elected representatives should adhere, are included as an appendix.

In July, trustees for the Bell Fields charities were appointed, the tenure of the existing trustees having expired. Matters regarding the Bell Fields are now in the hands of the trustees.

Grants for churchyards in Rettendon and Battlesbridge were agreed as budgeted. The grant to Rettendon Primary which is customarily given each year to support pupils' swimming lessons will be investigated further.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on the last Tuesday in September. If any resident has any query about any Council matters please do not hesitate to contact me. It is not necessary to wait for a Council meeting. I can be contacted on:

rettendonparishcouncil@outlook.com or on 07811 254163. I cannot always answer the phone but if you leave a message I will come back to you.

Katherine Kane, Parish Council Clerk

The Parish council website is:

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

ESSEX HIGHWAYS - Report a problem

Website: <https://www.essexhighways.org/transport-and-roads/tell-us/report-all-issues.aspx> Any risk to public safety, please call us immediately on **0345 603 7631** or if you have hearing problems use our text phone service on **0345 758 5592**

CHELMSFORD CITY COUNCIL

Website: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/> or tel: 01245 606606

To view copy please visit the website:

<https://e-voice.org.uk/retbatnews/>

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.

Newsletter Contributions - Welcomed

From local individuals, societies or groups. Please send them 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. Funding contributions, cash or cheques (made out to RetBatNews). For collection or for bank details contact the compiler, or post at 55 East Hanningfield Rd marked for newsletter.