



RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER ★ OCTOBER 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
Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday, 28 th September	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Parish Council
Marketing New Plants	Tuesday, 12 th October	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Hort. Soc.
Quiz Night	Friday, 15 th October	7 for 7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Hall Management
Garage Sale	Saturday, 16 th October	10am - 2pm	East Hanningfield Road residents	
All Souls Memorial Service	Sunday, 31 st October	3pm	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 (+ Book/Jigsaw Room)	Mondays / Thursdays	7 - 10pm / 2 - 4pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	
Crafty Chatter (+ Book Room)	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
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY				
Country and Western	Saturday, 6 th November	8pm - 10pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Col's Country Club
Remembrance Service	Sunday, 14 th November	10:45am	All Saints, Rettendon	
AGM and Christmas Social	Tuesday, 23 rd November	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Hort. Soc.
Christmas Bazaar	Saturday, 27 th November	10:30am - 3:30pm	All Saints, Rettendon	
MOBILE LIBRARY - 3 week intervals between visits				
South Hanningfield Village Hall / Salforal Close	Tuesday	12:25pm to 12:55pm / 1:45pm to 2:15pm	19 th October, 9 th & 30 th Nov	
Goose Cottages	Friday	9:40am to 10:10am	15 th October, 5 th & 26 th Nov	

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

Rettendon Horticultural Society

Talk: Marketing New Plant Varieties
Nigel Judd - Genesis Plant Marketing

(website: <https://www.genesis-plantmarketing.co.uk/>)

Tuesday, 12th October 7:30pm

Genesis is a marketing and intellectual property advisory business specialising in horticultural and agricultural plants.

Raffle, teas/coffees and home-made cakes

All Welcome - Free entry

Barbara (01245 321554) RetHSsec@gmail.com

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

A new type of event -

A Garage Sale along....

East Hanningfield Road

Saturday, 16th October - 10am till 2pm

Sale of various goods,

please come to view and wander.

Please park sensibly if you come by car.

Phone **Lyn Benson (01245 400468)** for details, or to add your goods.

(Lyn will be selling in aid of the Church)

QUIZ NIGHT

Friday, 15th October - 7 for 7:30pm
Rettendon Village Hall presents this event planned originally for the day following 2020 lockdown, but now resurrected for your entertainment.

So Welcome Back:-

Rules: £5 per person, Max. 6 per table.

Bring your own slurp and fodder.

Raffle (contributions welcome)

Book a table to ensure a place -

Phone Hazel on 01245 401538

HURRY! HURRY! HURRY...

Don't miss this opportunity of renting an allotment on the Lower Bell Field (opposite the Bell Pub, Rettendon Common). There are only a few potential plots remaining. We aim to have the ground cleared and marked out very soon, ready for plot-holders to prepare their ground so that it is ready for Spring sowing.

Please contact: **Glenys on 07739 530611**

glenyskjones@hotmail.co.uk

Holy Land Pilgrimage – 3-11 May 2022



It's been a long time since we were able to travel together, but now that we are seeing some light at the end of the tunnel, I am sharing details of a proposed Holy Land trip in May 2022.

You will find all details via the link below, as well as a one-page print-friendly summary –

<http://www.maranatha.co.uk/HolyLand2022-RevBrendaWallace/>

The trip includes all the central visits in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, and the Galilee. We have also included some places you may not have visited before, even if you have been to the Holy Land more than once. This will, I think, give us a varied and stimulating visit.

In order to gauge interest in the trip, all we are asking at this point is an expression of interest via the on-line registration form in the link above. We are not asking for deposits at present, so this does not commit you until nearer the time.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to talk through the plans.

Brenda Wallace 07853 088907

Brenda.wallace93@outlook.com

The Rettendon Walking Group has enjoyed a summer of evening and weekday walks. Now that the darker nights are drawing in we will be arranging occasional walks at the weekend and hope this is helpful to those who cannot attend our regular Thursday walks.

In September some of us went on a 10 mile walk from Fambridge to Burnham on Crouch, ending our day with fish and chips and a well deserved drink at The Ferryboat.

New members are always welcome to join us. If you would like more details please call **Sandie 01268 733259**



I'm scared of cattle. I'm a coward!
I'm scared of Christmas and cattle. I'm a Noel Coward!
Have you seen that great cricketing cook? Chef Boycott.
And the great cricketing chef? Alistair Cook.
I've got a Christian mobile. It is pray as you go.
(with some thanks to Tim Vine)



Rettendon Horticultural Society

After a Summer of mixed weather September has been good so far and watering has become necessary again. This has resulted in gardens staying colourful with flowers now out that should have been in full bloom weeks ago.

We held our Autumn Show and Craft and Cookery Show over the weekend of the 11th and 12th September. Both shows were well attended and a success in their own right. I was particularly impressed with the quality of the entries in the Craft and Cookery Show. There are certainly some very talented people out there.

It was good to see some new names on the entry cards and in particular new names on some of the trophies. Entries from Hayes Park residents were exceptional. Let's have more next year!

I would hate to think that the Society is thought of as exclusive to a handful of people. This is most certainly not the case as I hope our new exhibitors would agree.

Putting your first entries in a show can be daunting. I have been there but there really is nothing to worry about. There are always people on hand to help on the day of the show. Why not make it your aim to put some entries in next years shows.

Next year we hope to run a talk from some of our show judges outlining how to make entries, their presentation and tips to get the best from your entries. Details of the event to follow.

My personal thanks goes out to everybody that contributed to the preparing and running of the shows this past year and to the exhibitors for their brilliant entries.

If you would like to get involved with the Society why not come along to the AGM on the 23rd November at the village hall.

We have one more event this year and that is a talk on the 12th. October to be given by Genesis Plants. An insight into the creating and marketing of new plant varieties. 7.30 in Rettendon Village Hall.

John Bruty, Chairperson

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

Country Diary

When our editor reminded me that it was newsletter contribution time, my mind went blank. What on earth could I write about?

I usually look out at this time of the year for the swallows and martins lining up on the wire outside our home. Sometimes there were twenty plus but now not one! However there is one new, but seasonal happening - the robin is singing lustily his Autumn song. I say 'his' as I think it is the cock that is singing. Robins can be seen all the year round in the garden. However, they are very territorial with the males holding the same territory for next breeding season whilst females often move to a different territory from where they have bred.

Rowan trees typically have lots of berries at this time of the year which attract a mixture of birds but winter thrushes and waxwings are particularly fond of them. I have never seen a waxwing but this year I might!

Barbara and I are back in school with the school gardening club, however this is only a short gardening term. We shall be busy planting bulbs and wallflowers and perhaps winter pansies - we shall see.

Jane Fallows

Country and Western

Saturday, 6th November 2021 8pm
With top artist **KEVIN BARRY**
Refreshments available
All COVID prevention methods in place. Therefore tickets are restricted.
To book tickets call **Colin 07850 383546**



Allegro Concert

Dear residents,



I wish to report

on the concert I organised with many helpers on the evening of 18th September in All Saints' Church, Rettendon.

I love many assets of Christmas, the traditions, past memories, and the joyfulness of Christmas Carols. I was attending one particular service in Southend 2 years ago and listening to the "Allegro" singers. They were very good. I had this idea to have them perform in our wonderful 900 year old Church, which needs a bit of friendship from the community.

The performance in the Church last Saturday was a great success. My only grave concern: we had to serve 86 people with tea, coffee and soft drinks with biscuits all in a 20 minute time frame of the interval. Thankfully the team of Lyn Benson, Barbara Wright, Hazel Dale Evans, Peter Maloney and, of course, Monika Jones, who was multi-tasking, came up trumps. We even ran a raffle and a small auction.

The whole evening was not just to give All Saints' Church some needed support, but to support the NHS nurses at Basildon and Southend Hospitals, especially those on the COVID 19 wards. We raised £1,016. There were some expenses which we willingly paid out of our own pockets.

Perhaps a wine and mince pie concert could be held over the Christmas period.

Thank you to everyone who supported the evening.

Yours very sincerely Roy Hart

P.S. The Church looked magnificent

Stolen house sign

I can't quite believe that anybody could stoop so low as to steal our SEASONS house sign.

Well done a truly great achievement!

John Bruty

Hayes Country Park

We have been extremely grateful to the lovely people who have tried to cover the whole park and deliver a paper copy to each address. Thank you so much. Unfortunately for the newsletter some are now off to pastures new and, while we wish them a successful move, we need some more volunteers for a few homes.

We find we are missing the "main road" Maple Mews, also Howards Way, and may need someone for the Waterfront too soon. If you can help in any way, even for only a few homes, could you please contact Barbara Wright on 01245 321554, or email retbatnews@gmail.com.

We would like to keep all the residents of Hayes Park in touch with the rest of the Parish. In fact we would like to know what you are up to too. So if there is a charity event coming up please let us know.



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, RETTENDON

The Bric-a-Brac sale went ahead, and although not quite the success we had hoped, it did supply us with the courage to start planning another event.

At least we have had a chance to sort a few items, help the homeless, and a few charity shops, and have tea and cake with a few friends.

We thank all our helpers - especially as some offered at the last moment to fill in for us.

Hopefully now we have one event under our belts again we will plan a bit better for the next - our

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The planned date is Saturday, 27th November, from 10:30am until 3:30pm. All help gratefully accepted.

We will be trying to fit in with our other churches, St. Nicholas, Rawreth, and St. Thomas, Hullbridge (HRR - <https://hrr-churches.org.uk/>) to make sure the Vicar does not have to have 3 lunches at different events on the same day!

There will be the usual gifts for sale, raffle, books, and hopefully a few games, as well as teas, home-made cakes and lunches. The church, and its members, may be getting older, but we can still have fun while we are raising fun-ds.

Jane Fallows 01245 400394



Preschool are back after the summer break, and all the new children have settled in well.

We are still keeping safe with COVID to prevent any outbreaks and also to keep the staff safe.

If you have a 2 year old child we have funding, if you qualify for it. Check out our Website: <https://www.rettendonpreschool.co.uk/>. Our hours are 9am to 1pm at £14 per session. If you want any information call **Pat** on **01245 401328** or **07762 909351**

It's a dog's life

I recently read a very interesting article in "The Times" about the contributor's Patterdale terrier and its reaction to a visit to the vets.

Our Patterdale terrier (sadly no longer with us) seemed to know in advance that he was to be taken to the Vets later that day and duly vanished somewhere in the depths of the garden about ten minutes before we were due to set off but after a while we began to find his usual hiding place so on with the lead and off we went.

Into the vets and all settled and then a defiant tug on the lead in the direction of the exit when his name was called but was gently coaxed in the vets direction where all necessary bits were examined and results entered in his personal record book. However just as we were about to leave the Vet said, "Oh I had better let you have some tablets for...!"

Next morning the first tablet was due. The good old finger down the throat routine was a non starter — terriers have sharp teeth. Should I put it in his food? no, the last time all the meat was eaten and the tablet left in splendid isolation in the middle of the feed bowl Perhaps can hide it in a piece of cheddar cheese?. Tablet and cheddar did not mix and the tablet was soon deposited intact into the dog bowl. Other hard cheeses were tried with the same outcome." I know what I shall do I will wrap some of my best stilton around the tablet. Well we managed to get the cheese and tablet into his mouth and lo and behold the tablet was quickly consumed and he was even looking for more cheese (complete with the well disguised tablet).

There was no cheese and tablet in the middle of the feed bowl the following morning. Success we cried.

Such are the memories of our constant companion of fifteen years.

Ron Fallows

Courage to change what we can.

It was my privilege to lead a remembrance service at the Living Memorial at Whitehouse Farm for Veterans of the Aden conflict in the 1960s. Some wonderful people came. This year the speaker was a Guardsman who had served in Afghanistan. He spoke powerfully about his tours of duty, about bravery and comradeship, Lights in the darkness of war.

Talking afterwards the unanswerable question was 'What was it all for?' I cannot imagine what it must be like to go through all that, no doubt losing friends, and then to see it end the way it has.

The news can be depressing and, especially when things go wrong closer to home at the same time, it really can get you down. Sometimes the Serenity Prayer can help:

God grant me the Serenity to accept
the things I cannot change,
Courage to change the things I can,
and Wisdom to know the difference.

(you can find the full version at

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serenity_Prayer)

That was the message I brought back from the Aden Veterans. Looking at the Yemen now, they too must sometimes wonder what it was all for. But they remember the bravery of their fellows and the camaraderie. The courage and generosity of individuals were points of light in what sometimes would seem totally dark.

So when the news gets too depressing I try to focus on the difference I can make. That includes praying for the situations in the news but also concentrating on the tasks at hand and the people I can help.

14th November is this year's Remembrance Sunday when we not only remember those who died during conflict but also those acts of generosity and courage that were points of light in the darkness of war. Service people and civilians doing what they could. All are welcome come and Remember at All Saints (more details next month).

But, as we gather in Church, we also remember Jesus, himself killed in occupied territory, who showed us light in darkness and called us to do the same. As Jesus said:

"I am the light of the world" (John 8:12)

but he called us to be the same,

"You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14)

---ooo0ooo---

We will also have an All Souls Memorial Service when we remember our loved ones who have died. This will be on Sunday 31st October at 3pm. All welcome.

Richard Jordan, Priest in Charge at All Saints Rettendon

Planning applications:

21/01591/FUL Burleigh, South Hanningfield Rd - responses by 28th September.

21/00394/FUL Solar Power: Land East & West of A130 - responses by 7th October.

21/05225/TPO Little Acorns, Chalk Street - responses by 8th October.

Search: <https://publicaccess.chelmsford.gov.uk/online-applications/search.do>

Newsletter Contributions

Contributions from local individuals, societies or groups are encouraged. 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. Mark for Newsletter. Funding contributions, cash or cheques (made out to RetBatNews), can be collected, phone the compiler, or post in East Hanningfield Rd, or contact for bank details.

Garden Notes

Spotted Mr. Squirrel loping up my path with a mouthful of nuts, so shot up and gathered a big basketful for us. He can have the ones I cannot reach! Sharing is good.

I am told a local arrangement has been made to deliver me a bulk load of muck. No middle men, or plastic bags. Hope the neighbours can be mollified by the odd bucketful.

- Amazon - eat your heart out.

Mrs. McGregor



Battlesbridge Free Church

The Autumn show of the Horticultural Society at Rettendon was a particularly happy event. People were so pleased to see friends and acquaintances they had not seen for nearly two years. The standard of fruit, vegetables and perfectly beautiful flowers was exceptionally high. It did feel that our bountiful God was smiling down on us.

In spite of the dire news that seems to surround many parts of our world, there is also, a wonderful underlying sense of goodness. Food banks are regularly filled and there are many who volunteer to oversee the distribution and to give backing and encouragement to those on the receiving end.

In this land of ours we have the freedom to openly follow our religious faith. Through the ages, there have been those whose lives have been given in sincerely following the teaching of Jesus Christ and in ensuring that the nations children were offered the saving grace of eternal life through belief in Christ. There has been a rapid influx of people from around the world since the end of World War II, coming from different backgrounds, cultures and faith beliefs. They have not needed to believe in secret. Their places of worship are not targeted for desecration and destruction. It is with great sadness that in many countries around the world, our own Christian faith is abused and persecuted. Churches are destroyed and those owning belief in Jesus Christ, often hounded from their homes and in a number of regions they, rightly, fear for their lives. We thank God for our freedom to openly hold to our own belief and we pray that this will gradually be so in the nations which seek to suffocate this freedom at the present time. **June Edwards**

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: <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**

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