



RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2021

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

Contributions for next Newsletter (Dec & Jan edition) 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
Memorial Service for Loved ones	Sunday 31 st October	3pm	All Saints Church, Rettendon	
Country and Western	Saturday, 6 th November	8pm – 10pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Col's Country Club
Remembrance Day Service	Sunday, 14 th November	10:50am	All Saints Church, Rettendon	
A.G.M. 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 church, Rettendon	
Christmas Fayre	Tuesday, 30 th November	3:30pm -	Rettendon Primary School	
Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday, 30 th November	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Parish Council
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	
Knit & Natter (Crafty Chatter)	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				
School Christingle	Wed/Th, 15 th /16 th Dec tbc	10am	All Saints Church, Rettendon	
Carol service	Sunday, 19 th December	11:15am	All Saints Church, Rettendon	
Midnight Mass	Friday, 24 th December	11:30pm	All Saints Church, 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	9 th & 30 th Nov, 21 st Dec, 11 th Jan	
Goose Cottages	Friday	9:40am to 10:10am	5 th , 26 th Nov, 17 th Dec, 7 th , 28 th Jan	

*Check website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/rettendonparishcouncil/> / Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rettendonparishcouncil/>



Country and Western

Saturday, 6th November 2021
8pm Rettendon Memorial Hall
With top artist **KEVIN BARRY**
Refreshments available
All COVID prevention methods
in place. Therefore tickets are
restricted.



To book tickets call **Colin 07850 383546**

ALL SAINTS'S CHURCH, RETTENDON

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday, 27th November,
10:30am - 3:30pm.

Gifts, raffle, books, tombola, home-made
cakes and lunches, and hopefully a few
games.

All help very gratefully accepted.

Jane Fallows 01245 400394

A plea - having not had a sale for so long
we are in need of:- Home-made cakes and
Christmas fayre, gifts, raffle and tombola
prizes, cosmetics and jewellery, and anything
else which would fit the bill. Thank you.

All Saints' Church, Rettendon

Remembrance Day Service

Sunday, 14th November 10:50am

We invite you to the Remembrance service
to say thank you to our armed forces and
to those that have given their lives or limbs
for our freedom and safety.

Rettendon Horticultural Society CHRISTMAS SOCIAL EVENT and AGM

Tuesday, 23rd November, 7:30pm

Rettendon Memorial Village Hall, CM3 8DP

Starting with the AGM, but limiting to as little time as
possible, to have more time to mingle, socialise, chat
and eat and drink.

If you would like to find out what we do, how friendly
we are, and how knowledgeable some of our members
can be, why not come along to the AGM.

All Welcome

Barbara Wright, secretary, RetHSsec@gmail.com

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

Royal British Legion

100 years, and still supporting....

This year marks the centenary of the Royal British
Legion, founded to support veterans from WWI. Today
continuing support and still vital for veterans of all ages -
as young as 18 and as older than 100.

Please support them, not just this year but every year.

Remembrance

We are in a season of Remembrance. On All Saints Sunday (31st October) we remember again those whom we love and who have died. On Remembrance Sunday (14th November) we will remember those who have suffered and died as a result of war. On 5th November some of us will even be remembering someone who tried to destroy parliament!

Remembering is vitally important, it shapes who we are. It can leave us embittered or loving, resentful or thankful. As Christians we are called to gratitude and forgiveness.

We remember with gratitude those who have loved us and those who gave of themselves for justice and freedom. We commit ourselves to thankful remembering, all too aware of how easy it is to slip into forgetfulness.

Forgiveness too is vital. Forgiveness is a decision to live rather than allowing the past to drag us down into bitterness and resentment. As Christians we remember Jesus who gave all so that we could know God's forgiveness. As we remember God's forgiveness, so we too are inspired to be forgiving.

All Saints Sunday is 31st October, the Memorial Service to remember our loved ones will be at 3pm.

Remembrance Sunday is 14th November and our Act of Remembrance will start at 10:50am.

Each Sunday we remember God's love for us and for his whole world at 11:15am (except 14th November).

... but sorry, we won't be having a bonfire to remember Guy Fawkes!

Richard Jordan, Parish Priest of St Thomas of Canterbury, Hullbridge, St Nicholas, Rawreth, and All Saints, Rettendon

T: 01268 766 565 E: rev.richard.jordan@gmail.com

W: www.hrr-churches.org.uk

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We are pleased to announce the Coffee Morning at Church Chase raised £550 for **Macmillan Cancer support**. Thank you to all who attended and gave generously.

Gardeners beware!

N.B. The Walking Group have noted footprints of muntjac and fallow deer locally. We hear that there is also a red deer about. Guard your gardens or your roses and cabbages will be no more!



The Hayes Community Club....

was visited by "Elvis" on Sunday 17 October 2021 and a great time was had by all. The 2 hour 30 mins performance was simply overwhelming and our fabulous entertainer has already been booked again for next year.

Thanks must go to the Club Committee members for organising the event and to all the volunteer bar staff and their helpers. Roll on the "Jersey Boys" in November!



Jim Knight

Rettendon Horticultural Society

The recent good weather has prolonged summer and kept winter at bay for a bit longer. The garden still looks good but the grass won't stop growing!

We had our first evening talk for 2 years which was well attended. Bill Godsafe, a Ranger at Hanningfield Reservoir entertained us with a really informative insight into the history of the reservoir, its wildlife and the work of Essex Wildlife Trust.

Our next event is the AGM on Tuesday the 23rd November at Rettendon Village Hall. It sounds a bit bland but not so because when the meeting is over there is the opportunity to sample some pre Christmas fare and the odd glass of wine. I hope to see you there.

Our membership drive attracted a few new members but we are still looking for more new members going forward into next year. Hopefully we will be able to present a full program of shows, trips and talks.

John Bruty, Chairperson

Would you like to know more? Contact Barbara Wright, secretary, on 01245 321554, or email RetHSsec@gmail.com

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

Memorial Village Hall

Open fully with events not only going ahead but planned for the future. The usual suspects are in operation with:-

Pre-school up and running from Monday to

Thursday and looking forward to preparing for Christmas after the half-term break.

Check out our Website: <https://www.rettendonpreschool.co.uk/>. If you want any information call **Pat** on **01245 401328** or **07762 909351**

Bowls: Monday and Thursdays, with matches against local clubs, and a friendly crew to welcome you to join in the exercise.

Knit and Natter (also Crafty Chatter)

We are delighted to be let out again. Not a lot of knitting but other activities are seen in this group. Crochet, embroidery of all sorts, material printing, paper making - you name it - we have tried it. Any

craft is acceptable here. We thrive on rich diversity.

So 1:30 - 3:30pm, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at our Village Hall.

Want a special session, different time - do tell us...

Hazel - 01245 401538 or **Sandie - 01268 733259**

Plans afoot:-

Beetle Drive - after Christmas

Fitness Class - finding a leader

Drama Group - finding crew

Interested? Let us know, in conjunction with the newsletter - email: RetBatNews@gmail.com or phone 01245 321554 and leave interest, name and number and someone will get back to you.

Bowling Match: Hayes Park V Rettendon



Hayes Park Short Mat Bowls team visited Rettendon Village Hall on Monday 4th October 2021 for a very friendly game of indoor bowls. Although we lost to Rettendon 19 - 13 we still had a most enjoyable night out in the Village Hall.

Our hosts laid on a fantastic spread and were very welcoming. We learnt a lot from the Rettendon Team members and hope to do better in our return match at Hayes on a date yet to be arranged.

We would like to express our thanks to our Rettendon hosts and to the Team Hayes players, our Umpire Chris Brown and all our travelling supporters. A good time was certainly had by all and we very much look forward to the re-match.

Hayes Park SMBC



Rettendon Primary School

I have to say that this half term has flown by. Since getting our school fully open with more normal guidelines the children have been so busy. It's been an absolute joy to have whole school assemblies again and allow children in different year groups to share lunchtimes with each other.

We have been able to hold some small local trips, hold parents workshops on site and toward the end of September held a wonderful after school "Inflatables Event" in glorious autumn evening weather. A crowded field and the smell of hot dogs and burgers was a real thrill and raised some much needed funds for the Friends of Rettendon School group.

A date for your diary would be our Christmas Fayre which we are hoping to hold on site with a variety of stall holders and refreshments. This will be on Tuesday 30th November at 3.30pm – If you want to know more, or fancy having a stall of your own, do get in touch with our office.

This term we have welcomed several new staff into the school community as well as all our lovely new Reception children and their families. It's been brilliant to watch them settle into a more normal school community, after the last couple of academic years.

Thanks for all the kind thoughts and comments over the past months.

**Phil Andrews, Deputy Headteacher,
Rettendon Primary School.**

How do frogs die? *They Kermit suicide*
What did the cracked teapot say? *I've been mugged*
How is the sea held in place? *Its tide.* (© Harry Hill)

A Bonfire Hedgehog Poem

Please check before lighting your fire tonight,
As I may be curled up, sleeping tight
Use a torch to check right down deep
In the middle is where I tend to sleep
Light the fire from just one side
To give me a chance to run and hide
It is better to move the entire pile
To save my life, it could be worth your while.

(©: East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & ambulance Service)



Quiz Report - 15th October 2021

What a happy shindig that was!

We found that the questions planned for March 2020 seemed rather hard after our holiday so next year we will be fielding FAQs on Magic Roundabout and 2022 pop songs.

All operational glitches were dealt with by the versatile crew and the event raised £425 for our village hall.

Thanks to our crew: Dianne, Beryl, Louise, Sandie, Barbara, Paul and Monika.

Thanks also to the set-up crew and those who helped clear up afterwards.

Hazel, Quiz mistress and question setter.



Country Diary

I was thinking, what comes to mind when you say Autumn? I think the answer may well be the changing colour of the leaves on the trees. As I write this in mid October there has not been much evidence locally of this change, however at the entrance to the village there are trees that are a good example of changing leaf colour, not the fiery red of some of the Acers but a dark maroon – still very spectacular.

The other day I was in the Meadows car park in Chelmsford and the leaves on the trees there are really lovely, bright red which have not fallen as yet.

Ron and I attended the horticultural society's talk on 12th October by the warden of the Essex Wildlife Trust's Hanningfield Reserve. As well as the many facts he told us he mentioned that the Oak tree hosts over 2000 different species of mammals and invertebrates. The Oak is a long lived tree where the leaves initially turn a pale yellow and then brown before they fall.

Last week we had a sparrow hawk visit us watching over the bird feeder. He was very close to our kitchen window and was not put off by our movement. Although he stayed for around ten minutes, he did not catch anything.

We are reminded every year to look out for hedgehogs especially if you are building a bonfire or turning the compost heap. We had a hedgehog in our front garden for a short period but two people known to us, who live on the Meadow Road estate, have fed the hedgehogs which visit their gardens. They naturally feed on slugs, snails and caterpillars at this time of the year when they are trying to put on weight so they can successfully hibernate. Don't forget that log piles and the compost heap are their favourite places to nest.

Jane Fallows

Community Governance Review Rettendon Parish Council

Although Chelmsford City Council propose no changes to the Parish Council area of Rettendon, each household has been sent a survey leaflet asking residents for their comments. There are 3 options, detailed in the leaflet.

The consultation closes: Tuesday 30th November

There is an online version of the survey which can be found at:
<https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/voting-and-elections/community-governance-review/cgr-proposed-changes-by-parish/?entryid1386=6219373>

Garden Notes

Muscles building - the enormous pile of muck was spread. Neighbours very happy. Now for a planting scheme.

Dahlias still glorious and the Naked Ladies (colchicum) have been and gone. Its all go here. **Mrs. McGregor**

Rettendon + Battlesbridge Matters

Last week a very large lorry hit the railway bridge, there were no trains and traffic was grid-locked. The top of the lorry was peeled back similar to a sardine tin. Three things, I found while inspecting the crash site. The large low bridge sign at the top of the hill had been turned round so no one could see it! My grandson and I managed to push the sign back pointing the correct way. The two low bridge signs were so dirty you can hardly read them, I mentioned this to one of repair gang 'Murphey's'. Still the signs have not been cleaned I have contacted greater Anglia trains offering to pay for two new reflective signs, stating the height in feet and inches and also in metric. (for continental drivers)

With the tens of thousands of new homes being built in the southeast, any form of disruption, a broken down car, lorry, etc., there is an immediate chain reaction and horrendous traffic jams, even with no hold ups the traffic on all our South East Essex routes are nose to tail and its going to get worse especially Mondays to Fridays!

I will report back next month I can already predict the red tape just to clean the two small bridge signs 'road closures health and safety etc.'

There are many other issues in Rettendon and Hayes Park ,who, I personally, feel should have their own council etc. **Yours Very Sincerely, Roy Hart**

Thank You

Residents have expressed their thanks to Essex County Council Highways for cutting back the vegetation down the Old Bell Lane and Salforal Close footpaths. Much easier to walk through now. Also we notice the owner of the flats has had the rubbish cleared away. Much tidier.

Hayes Country Park

We still need some helpers to distribute newsletters. 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**.

If you wish to receive this newsletter by email please contact RetBatNews@gmail.com or 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.

Horse Dung - East Hanningfield Road, and other roads

While good for the garden, and especially for roses we hear, not nice for those who have to walk, or push buggies, around it. There have been some left on the pavements, and we would remind you it is actually illegal to ride on the pavements, and therefore leave deposits there.

On the roads it is a particular hazard for cyclists and motorcyclists, as well as often being impossible to avoid driving through it.

Perhaps we should take a leaf out of other places in Britain, such as Great Yarmouth and Blackpool, where the horses have to wear "nappies".

Please horse riders help us out.

(this item has been compiled from several comments).



Battlesbridge Free Church

The quiz night brought a good crowd of people to fill the village hall. Again, along with the Autumn Shows it seemed that everyone was delighted to meet up again without restrictions. We have been through a strange period in our lives and it is also rather strange to try to take up where we left off in the Spring of 2020. This feeling of life "on hold" during Lock-down was similar to the war years. The difference has been, that in those far off days, there was a much stronger awareness of the power and goodness of our God watching over us. Generally speaking, there was the feeling that "underneath are the everlasting arms". I remember on one occasion, when our little cottage shook from the sound of gunfire and falling bombs, that it seemed perfectly natural for my sister and I, with mother's arms about us, that we prayed to our God to keep us safe. We were comforted and know that all would be well. Today, it seems that for many, faith and trust in our God has dwindled, perhaps, in this fine digital age, belief in the Almighty God of our forefathers, is beyond its sell-by-date. But it is not our God who exists within a timescale. Time was created by him, sun for day and moon for night. It is we humans who are bound up in time. We are all on a one-way ticket. There is no excuse for not knowing what is predicted for our soul, our inner character and being, when our mortal bodies cease to function. God did send his son, Jesus Christ, to give us the low-down. It is all spelled out in the New Testament of the Bible. What use is the world's best selling book if it is no longer read?
June Edwards

PARISH COUNCIL

Contact details: Katherine Kane, Parish Council Clerk
rettendonparishcouncil@outlook.com 07811 254163

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/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**

Newsletter Contributions

Contributions from local individuals, societies or groups are encouraged. Please send them to 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.
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