



RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2022

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 Please note the views contained within are offered by individuals/organisations privately and not in conjunction with the compiler or the Rettendon and Battlesbridge Newsletter organisation.
 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
Make a Joyful Noise	Saturday, 5 th November	10am – 1pm + option till 3:30pm	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Remembrance Service	Sunday, 13 th November	10:45am	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Battlesbridge Quiz Night	Friday, 18 th November	7 for 7:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	
Parish Council Meeting *	Tuesday, 22 nd November	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon PC
Christmas Bazaar	Saturday, 26 th November	10:30am – 3pm	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Rettendon Hort. Soc. AGM	Tuesday, 29 th November	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Hort. Soc.
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
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	
Walking Group	Thursdays / Weekends	10am	Various	Sandie 01268 733259
Zumba Class	Thursdays	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Teacher 07879 683731
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 (from 2023)	7pm – 10pm+	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Dave's Country Club
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - December 2022 and January 2023				
Country and Western	Saturday, 3 rd December	7pm – 10pm+	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Col's Country Club
Xmas Do at St. Nicks	Saturday, 3 rd December	2:30 – 4:30pm	St. Nicholas Church, Rawreth	
Allegro Carol Concert	Sunday, 4 th December	7 for 7:30pm	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Country and Western	Saturday, 7 th January	7pm – 10pm+	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Dave's Country Club
MOBILE LIBRARY – 3 week intervals between visits				
South Hanningfield Village Hall / Salforal Close	Tuesday	12:25pm to 12:55pm / 1:45pm to 2:15pm	1 st & 22 nd Nov, 13 th Dec	
Goose Cottages	Friday	9:40am to 10:10am	18 th Nov, 9 th & 30 th Dec	

* Check website: <https://www.rettendonpc.org.uk/> or Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/rettendonparishccouncil/?ref=page_internal

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE - SUNDAY, 13TH NOVEMBER, 10:45am ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, RETTENDON

Make a Joyful Noise

Sing Day with Laurie and Brigid Main
 All Saints' Church, Rettendon, CM3 8DP
 November 5th, 10am - 1pm
 Optional afternoon event 1:45 - 3:30pm

- Do you love music but cannot sing?
Then this is for you!
- Do you sing and want to explore new songs and music?
Then this is for you!
- Do you read the Bible or lead prayers in Church?
Then this is for you!

Please bring your own lunch. Drinks provided.

Please let Elizabeth Jordan (ejordan@chelmsford.anglian.org) know whether you are coming for the morning or the whole day.

Remember, remember the 5th of November,
 Gunpowder, treason and plot.....

So - please remember to turn over your bonfire before you light it, so that this little fellow does not get burnt!

And be careful how you do it, please, so he doesn't get skewered on your fork, either!



BATTLESBRIDGE QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 18 November
 Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start.
 at Battlesbridge Free Church (in aid of Church)
 The price is £5 per person
 and tables up to 8 people.
 Bring your own food and drink.
 Tea, coffee and biscuits provided at half-time.
 No booking, turn up and pay at the door. Come along even if on your own, there will be someone friendly to quiz with.

All Saints' Church, Rettendon

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday, 26th November at 10:30am - 3pm
 Refreshments: teas, coffees, home-made cakes, light lunches
 Although the usual stalls will prevail, there will be new and Bazaar things available, including new, freshly made jam!

(Any help and/or raffle prizes, gifts, and Xmas items would be welcome.
 Contact Barbara Wright 01245 321554)



Please join us for **call 01268 768282**
 Mulled Wine & Mince Pies

A Wonderful Carol Concert
 for all ages
 with
Allegro Choir
 at
All Saints Church, Rettendon
December 4th at 7.30pm
 Tickets £10, children under 15yrs free

All monies raised go to HARP, Southend's Homeless Charity at Christmas (for some, the most lonely time of the year)




Col's Country
Rettendon
Village Hall
Essex
CM3 8DP
Saturday
3rd December
2022
Doors open
7.00pm

Vic Oakley

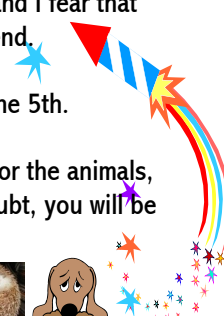




A Country Music Night
David and Gabbi & Vic Oakley
 BYO Drinks
 Tea/Coffee and Rolls
 available from Debbie's kitchen
 Lots of local parking


£7 Limited Seating £7
Call Colin 07850 383546 to book

PMRGCA Support Group
 (Polymyalgia rheumatica (PMR) & giant cell arteritis (GCA))
6th December at 2 pm
at Rettendon Memorial hall, CM3 8DP
 Our speaker is Glenn Morriss, Senior Physiotherapist at Southend University Hospital. Entry £4, refreshments will be available.
Contact Pat on 07733362373 to book a seat.

Fireworks and animals
 A plea on behalf of all pet and animal owners as we approach November 5th.
 Fireworks distress animals especially the very loud detonations that now seem to be commonplace. Unless you have sat with an animal that is salivating with a racing heart, uncontrollably shaking and pawing the floor you will not understand the effect fireworks have. It's worrying and very distressing for the owner. This year November 5th falls on a Saturday and I fear that fireworks will be let off over the whole weekend.
 My plea is :-
 Please confine your fireworks to November the 5th.
 Avoid fireworks with loud detonations.
 As you light your fireworks spare a thought for the animals, both domestic and wild, that, without any doubt, you will be causing considerable distress to.
 Thank you. **A concerned pet owner**
 (name and address supplied)

Hayes Park - A Plea, or Two



Unfortunately I have heard that some dog owners are allowing their dogs to foul not only others 'gardens' but the memorial garden built by the residents, for the residents.
 Please would you clear up your dog's mess, wherever it is. Not only is it unpleasant, but it can injure, especially children who can catch toxocariasis which can result in blindness. You could harm your own grandchildren!
 I have also heard some dogs have been attacked by others. Please keep your dog on a lead, or even muzzle it, if you think it may attack.
 (of course this happens in the rest of the parish too! And we would ask the same thing of all residents.)
 Luckily these incidents are rare - but please help where you can. We all live in the same community, are neighbours and, hopefully, friends. Look after each other by doing the right thing.
 Thank you.
Barbara Wright, newsletter compiler

Little Darwin's Nursery
 We have had another busy month in the nursery, the children enjoyed a visit to the church and met Reverend Richard for Harvest Festival. We also delivered the food that had been kindly donated by our parents.



Our garden project is completed and we are really happy with the result. The children have enjoyed exploring the new outdoor space and we have invited parents and carers in to see this.
Jeanette Freeman-Smith, Administrator

Country Diary
 It is a grand sight, a huge skein of geese flying overhead, honking as they go. These large 'V' formations skimming the roof tops - some 20 geese or more in total. They leave their quarters to visit the river estuaries to feed on the marram grass growing in the mud of the river. A local farmer's wife tells me they have had over 300 geese feeding or resting in one of their fields here in Rettendon.
 Last week (first week in October) we had five skeins pass overhead within ten minutes of each other flying north, perhaps to the reservoir.
 The autumn colours displayed on the trees have been magnificent this year. As you enter Rettendon Common just before the 'Bell' Pub there are two trees either side of the road. Both the same species - one the leaves are scarlet, the other the leaves are burgundy. The field maple and the sycamore are particularly good with a mixed autumnal colour range.
 It is a bit early for the fieldfare, a visitor from Scandinavia. However if and when they come they will Hoover up the Hawthorn berries - sometimes known as haws or bread and cheese, an autumn delicacy.
Jane Fallows 01245 400394

Local News

It has been reported that the Bell at Rettendon Common has a new telephone number - 01245 631439 and Angela is now settling in well! Le Benaix is also changing - re-named TAZ, different menus and organisers. We now have a wide choice of eateries across the parish.

ALL SAINTS'S CHURCH, RETTENDON

Thanksgiving and Generosity



Last month I mentioned that we were in a season of remembering and we still have the Act of Remembrance on Sunday (10:45 on Sunday 13th November) as the final part of that season.

In the last month however we have also celebrated Harvest, a different sort of remembering. We have remembered all the good things that the earth has to offer and the blessings that we receive. This remembering has led us to action (as all good remembering does) and there have been two important actions that come with Harvest celebrations: Thanksgiving and caring.

In giving thanks we acknowledge that the good things we receive are not all our own work but, in some degree or another, are gifts. As Christians we believe that God is the ultimate giver. But even if we don't believe in God, we recognise that while we may work at planting a seed and nurturing the seedling, that is only part of the story, we are dependent on the wonderful biology of seed and soil that in its mindboggling intricacy weaves the life of a new plant. The reality is that no matter how hard we work, none of us can ever hope to deserve all the blessings that we receive, our hard work alone can never supply all we need, much less all we receive.

The reality we face is that the rewards of work are anything but proportionate to the work we put in or even the value of the work to others. Most of those who receive state benefits are in work. Care workers and medical staff are paid a fraction of what many of us earn and celebrities earn many times what most of us could dream of earning. However most of us, if forced to choose, would have care workers and medics rather than celebrities!

And so thanksgiving, acknowledging how much we have been blessed, leads to caring. Caring for those for whom hard work is no guarantee of being able to keep up with bills. It has been wonderful to see all the Harvest Gifts that have been given and passed on to HARP Southend (a charity supporting homeless people) and the Wickford Foodbank.

So many thanks to all who have made donations – including the generous donations from the children at Rettendon Primary School and Little Darwin's Nursery. My prayer is that this generosity of spirit will grow and spread as we as a nation and in our communities face the financial challenges that we are warned still lie ahead.

The Richard Cannon Charity is an example of such generosity from our history, and from which Rettendon people can benefit. The charity receives requests for help of all sorts, and this includes help with heating and heating bills in the current crisis. The charity is restricted in the help it can offer to one-off payments; it cannot commit to regular support. Trustees however interpret the trust deed as generously as they can, so if you are in urgent need please get in touch. Your details will be treated with confidentiality and respect. Please get in touch with one of the trustees, write to 36 East Hanningfield Road, Rettendon, Chelmsford, CM3 8EQ, phone: 01245 400394 or email: richard.cannon@hrr-churches.org.uk. For more information about the charity go to www.hrr-churches.org.uk/all-saints/richardcannon/.

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

Rettendon Horticultural Society

The good weather has continued through October and there is still plenty of colour in our gardens. One sharp frost will change that. Until then the grass will grow and the flowers bloom so let's enjoy the last taste of Summer. Our Autumn talk was a very interesting presentation by Jane Ponton of South East Essex Organic Gardeners on the subject of compost and composting. I was surprised by what you can put into a compost heap! The evening was well attended and it was good to see some new faces. Our next event is our AGM on the 29th November. This year we need to fill the role of Membership Secretary. Please contact our Secretary Barbara Wright if you wish to put your name forward for this role. We tend to deal with the AGM business fairly quickly so that we can get on with enjoying the social side of the evening with seasonal treats.

It has been a good year for the Society. We ran a profitable plant sale, held three talks and three successful shows. I am grateful to all exhibitors and those who helped throughout the year. As always we hope to recruit new members.

I look forward to seeing you at our Spring Show in March.

John Bruty, chairman

AGM - Tuesday, 29th November - 7:30pm

At the Rettendon Memorial Hall

All Welcome.

AGM meeting first, so come and vote for the officers and committee. We start off our membership year so the new diaries will be there ready. Come and join. We have new outings on offer, new talks, and a chance to put in your ideas about the society and the shows.

Barbara Wright, Secretary, tel: 01245 321554
email: RetHSsec@gmail.com

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

A Night to Remember - The Great Storm

No one who was awake in the early hours of Friday October 17th 1987 will ever forget the experience. It was the night that changed the face of the landscape in this area, and the sights that greeted residents as they got out of their beds the next morning were almost beyond belief.

Some people called it a hurricane, others a great storm but whatever it was christened the devastation it left behind it was a tempest of incredible fury.

The great storm meant five terrifying hours of chaos and destruction which started around 11pm which were all the more frightening because of the darkness. When dawn finally arrived shocked residents awoke to an alien landscape. Cars were crushed by fallen trees and masonry was a commonplace sight. Missing tiles were hardly mentioned when the next door neighbours had lost an entire roof.

Fences and walls, caravans and mobile homes, traffic lights and lamp posts, entire shop fronts, telephone and power lines were all seemingly demolished with ease. I saw a large van with high sides get caught by a strong blast which firstly rocked the van with the following seemingly, stronger blast depositing the van and some contents on its side on Cranes Farm Road, Basildon.

Above all else it was the thousands of mature trees we lost that evoked the greatest and most enduring sense of sadness. Garden trees, street trees and even Norsey Wood nature reserve, Billericay had swathes of trees flattened. In fact thirty five years later the scars of the hurricane (yes I called it a hurricane) can still be seen.

Rettendon Resident

Rettendon Memorial Hall

Report from the Chairman of the Hall Management Committee.

"I would like to thank all the members of the committee for their work and dedication over the last couple of years. It has not always been easy due to the Pandemic.

As we all know, we lost one of our most beloved members this year, Beryl. Not only a member of the Hall committee, she was involved in the whole of the village all her life. She will be sorely missed but never forgotten.

Since the hall opened it had never been closed until the covid 19 Pandemic. This is hopefully something that will never be repeated.

Over the last few years we have seen the herb garden grow out the front. The library/book swap with games room introduced. There have been Quiz nights, Jubilee celebrations just to name a few.

After 40 Years the pre school has finished. There have been countless numbers of children of the village and further afield that have truly enjoyed their time there. This is an end of an era.

The hall is there for the village, opening up when people need it as in early this year when the area had power cuts.

The hall will continue to evolve to what the people of the village and surrounding areas would like it to be.

This hall is for all to use and enjoy and long may it continue, we are just the guardians of this wonderful amenity and long may it prosper.

Edward Cheater, Chair"

Meanwhile the hall has been continuing with its normal operation, including children's parties.

Bowls - on Mondays from 7pm. If you can only make Thursday afternoons but are fit enough to get the mats out they would be grateful - so please let us know.

Knit & Natter - 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of month, 1:30pm onwards. Lots going on. Many hats and blankets made for the hospital baby units, many twiddle muffs for care homes and ambulances, etc. Now into making Christmas decorations for the Church Bazaar on 26th November.

Zumba - Thursdays, 7:30pm, exercise class; dancing and enthusiasm.

Rettendon Horticultural Society events: talks, meetings, shows.

PMRCGA (Polymyalgia rheumatica (PMR) & giant cell arteritis (GCA)) support group meetings (generally 2pm) for information contact Pat on 07733362373.

Book Swap and Jigsaw room: take a book or jigsaw to read or use. At times when hall is open for other events.

Bookings can be made by phoning **Dianne Francombe** on **01245 400297**. Leave a message and she will get back to you.

If you have any suggestions about activities for the hall please contact the secretary RettendonMemorialHall@gmail.com

Hall Management Committee

Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/rettendon-memorial-hall/>

Newsletter Contributions

We **ENCOURAGE** items from local individuals, societies or groups. Please send to Barbara Wright via e-mail RetBatNews@gmail.com, tel: 01245 321554, or by hand to 55 East Hanningfield Road, asap. Funding contributions, cash or cheques (made out to RetBatNews), phone 01245 321554 for details, or post at 55 East Hanningfield Rd.

Farleigh Hospice - Santa Fun Run 2022 Sunday 4th December

Central Park, Chelmsford CM2 0RW

Don your Santa suits and join us in Central Park for our Santa Fun Run! The course is suitable for all ages and accessible for

pushchairs and wheelchairs. Dogs are welcome on leads.

Book your place here: <https://www.farleighhospice.org/events/santa-fun-run-2022>

Farleigh Hospice provides care to local families affected by life-limiting illnesses and bereavement across mid Essex.

Selina Joslin, Fundraising Lead, Tel: 01245 933726



Garden Notes

Plants are trying to catch up after the static summer and all flowering in a hurry. Some are confused and doing it twice. Much fruit can be a sign of plant stress. Many acorns and conkers about underfoot!

Hope we get a wetter winter this year.

Found my umbrella - **Mrs. McGregor**



Battlesbridge Free Church

How beautiful the autumn leaves are this year. In spite of all the dire news of mayhem around our poor world and our daily news of economic chaos

within our own country, all is not dark and grim. Our God is still in charge, there is still beauty and fruitfulness.

Through the earthly life of Jesus Christ, humans (and we are all humans) were shown very plainly how to live as humans were meant to live. Not only would following his blueprint, as can be found in the New Testament of the Bible, for true life result in success and fulfilment in this earthly span of years, but putting trust and faith in him would open up a renewed and wonderful existence beyond our mortal end.

We have the choice to believe and really live, or we can reject his God-given saving plans for us, believing instead, that all is just within the power and imagination of each one of us humans. There are billions of us on this planet at this moment in earth's history and we don't seem to be making a very good job of it 'going it alone'.

In the Bible, the Jewish or Israelite nation prospered when they turned in obedience to God, endeavouring to follow his few wise and sensible rules but fell apart at the seams when they turned their backs on him in disbelief, contempt and ridicule. It is no different for us here in the UK. There was a great upsurge of turning to God two hundred years or so ago. Notice the dates on many well-loved hymns. Christian education for all, hospitals, organisations such as Barnardos homes for children, were founded and largely, God's sensible and wise rules were followed as a nation.

After two world wars we seem to have begun to slip away and imagine we have 'got it made'. We don't really need that old fashioned 'God thing' any longer. Maybe OK for old ladies but 'come on' we are into the digital age now, wonderful webs, twitter, Facebook, online, etc. Surely we don't still need to worry about God now; Do we?

June Edwards

A reminder link to this newsletter can be sent by email please contact RetBatNews@gmail.com.

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

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