

BARRY

**Grand Quiz Evening** What a great evening. I was very impressed with how many people turned out to support our church. We had 14 tables and the Hall was packed. An enormous raffle that just went on and on.

I do hope everybody enjoyed the evening, as the event was such a success we might have to have another Quiz next year! We made £323.50p to donate to the Church funds. Thank you.

I would like to thank Hazel and Kath who helped me to organise the quiz and Beryl, Brenda and Dianne who worked on the raffle and door. An event cannot take place without a lot of help.

But most of all I would like to thank you all who supported us on that Friday evening.

**Jacky Copsey 01268 765357**

**Rettendon Village Society** The results for the Friday 28th October, 2011 200 Club Draw As follows,

1<sup>st</sup> £65 Mr Stewart Jones, Sonters Down

2<sup>nd</sup> £30 Mrs Val Stevens, Woodham Road

3<sup>rd</sup> £20 Mrs Brenda Harris, 46 Meadow Road

4th £15 Mrs Alison Pinnock, Runwell Road.

What a great night!! The Hall was packed. It was the best night we have had for many months, and with lots of people, comes the big Bingo prizes, lots of old faces and some very new ones as well. It was really nice to see you all there.

Our next Bingo session and 200 Club draw will take place on Friday 25th November, 2011 and then it is our Christmas Bingo to be held on Friday 16th December, 2011, then if you have all survived Christmas, it will be held on Friday 27th January, 2012. We have 10 prizes of £25 instead of our usual prizes and a Grand Raffle; Miss it at your Peril!!! (The 10 prizes are at the Xmas Bingo Only).

The 28<sup>th</sup> October was also our Annual general Meeting. All the committee were there and have volunteered to stand again and include Treasurer David Francombe, Chairman Barry Warren and myself again as Secretary, We could not function without the help of Una Davis and Beryl Wilkinson, also Brenda Harris who steps in when needed and Tetty Noble who calls for me when I am on holiday. Very many thanks to you all. Our Bingo Club has been running for 31 years!!! and still going strong, so we must be doing something right. We have managed this year to give the Rettendon Memorial Hall £1,000 which goes towards the upkeep of the Village Hall to buy new

new chairs to replace the plastic grey ones we have at the moment, watch this space.

Dont forget Bingo starts eyes down at 7.45PM at the Village Hall. See you there **Jacky Copsey 01268 765357**

## Rettendon Memorial Hall Pre School

Our Christmas show this year is 'A Christmas Dream' and all villagers are welcome to come along and join in the fun. We will be serving coffee and mince pies after the show which starts at 11-30 am on 13<sup>th</sup> December.

Our music session takes place on Wednesdays at 12 noon and if your child likes music and singing we have lots of fun so come along and join us.

Our Pre School sessions are from 9am to 1 o'clock and cost £7 per session. If your child is approaching two years of age why not call in and have a look at what we offer or call us on 01245 401328 or try the mobile on 07762 909351.

From all the children and helpers at Pre School have a Happy Christmas.

**Pat Prebble**

## Mobile Customer Information

**Service** Chelmsford Borough Council's mobile customer information service will visit Rettendon on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December from 10 to 11-30 am and will be located in the Committee room at Rettendon village hall. Further visit dates and times are not available at the time of the preparation of the R&B newsletter. More details about the council's services are available on their website at [www.chelmsford.gov.uk](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk)

**Interested in Yoga?** I am told it exercises the mind, as well as other parts that exercise usually can't reach! The classes are for small groups and are held at Battlesbridge Free Church Hall on Tuesday evenings for an hour starting at 7-30. For more information please contact Kay Morgan on 07990 517261

**Rettendon Horticultural Society** Our AGM ended our year of activities and was held in November after this newsletter was prepared, so more details about who has been elected to do what will be given later. Anyone wanting to renew

their membership should contact Beryl on 01268 766221. To plan your activities around the society calendar saves missing out ! The Summer show this year is on Saturday July 14th so other organisations please note. We wish you all a joyful winter season and a festive new year.  
**Hazel Dale Evans, Secretary 01245 401538**

**Garden Notes** Frustrated with indoors so went out for a yank and a hack. Feel much better now – halo polished – phone calls made - letters written – toasting toes by the fire. Heaven is a tidy garden! Big sighs all round. **Mrs McGregor**

**Rettendon Parish Council Is there a case for the removal of the public telephone box at the junction of Meadow Road and South View Road. ?** With the increase in the ownership of both home and mobile phones, the need for a public one is becoming less necessary. The public telephone at the Meadow Road, South View junction seems of little value to the community as it is invariably the target of local vandals and consequently is out of action most of the time. Therefore of little use even if it were required!

BT has over the years continually repaired it which is obviously a waste of money. Its main use at the moment appears to be that of a club house for the local youngsters. This telephone box is also next to the only post box on the estate and it does not take much imagination to think of the problems caused to local residents if a cigarette were to be dropped in with the mail! There may be valid reasons why this facility should be retained even with the constant need for repair. However I do feel that its removal is worthy of discussion by the Parish Council and if decided upon, an approach be made to BT with the request that it be removed. It might be however that BT has reasons why they wish to continue with the expensive repairs rather than remove it. If so then further discussions may be necessary on our part.  
**Barry Summerfield, Parish Clerk 01702 549308**

## **RHS Hyde Hall Events**

**Christmas Craft Weekend Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday 4th December 2011 from 10am to 3pm**  
Organised by the Guild of Essex Craftsmen this weekend is an ideal opportunity to obtain those special and individually handmade presents for

family and friends at reasonable prices. Normal garden admission applies. Booking not required.

**Children's Magic of Christmas**, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December from 10am to 3pm Enjoy story telling sessions with Santa and then write a letter telling him your wish list for Christmas. Afterwards you can decorate your very own cookies to take home. Normal garden admission applies. Booking not required.

**Farmers' Market** Saturday 17 December 2011 from 10am to 1pm so treat yourself to delicious fruit and vegetables with food produced by a range of specially selected Essex producers. FREE early bird admission until 11am, then normal garden admission applies. Pre booking is not required.

**Christmas Flower Arranging Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December from 10am to 3pm.**

Join Diana Barnes for a session on Christmas Table Arrangements. All materials supplied. RHS Members £43, Non-members £49. Early Booking essential on 0845 612 1253

**Children's Christmas Decoration Workshop Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2011. Pre-bookable sessions at: 10.15am, 12.15pm & 2.00pm**

Children love the run-up to the festive season and they'll have great fun making handmade decorations to decorate the house and welcome your guests this Christmas. RHS Member Children £6. Non-Member Children £8. Normal garden admission applies for adults. Booking essential on 0845 612 1253.

**New Year Meal Deal (Buy 1 Get 1 Free), Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Tuesday 31 January 2012 from mid-day to 2.00pm.** Buy one get one free on all hot 2-course meals priced at £12.50 in the Barn Restaurant (jacket potatoes not included). Offer excludes weekends. Normal garden admission applies. Booking not required.

**Roses, Clematis & Wisteria Pruning Workshop Thursday 19 January 2012 11am to 12.30pm**  
Join the Hyde Hall gardeners for a master class session on late winter pruning techniques for roses, clematis and wisteria. Booking essential on 0845 612 1253. Members £9.50, Non-members £15.00.

**New Year Meal Deal (Buy 1 Get 1 Free) Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> to Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012 From mid-day & 2.00pm.** Buy one get one free on all hot 2-course meals priced at £12.50 in the Barn Restaurant (jacket potatoes not

included). Offer excludes weekends and February school half term week. Normal garden admission applies. Booking not required. For more information on each of these activities contact the RHS garden at Hyde Hall on 01245 400256

**Village Agents** are there to help people to get advice and information from the various organisations who can make living in rural areas easier. You can be guided through the maze of information to get help on services, welfare benefits, support for carers, fire and home safety, health and fitness, local social groups, leisure and learning, travel, the digital switchover and much more. YOUR Village Agent, John Peart, is locally based and if you need to contact him call free on 0800 977 5858 or mobile 07540 720616 or by email at [johnpeart@vaessex.org.uk](mailto:johnpeart@vaessex.org.uk). Village Agents are employed by the Rural Community Council of Essex which is a registered Charity No 1097009 and is a Company limited by Guarantee

**Battlesbridge Matters** Recently we have had thick fog on the River and in the village but on driving up and out of Battlesbridge, it was clearing fast on the higher ground, it is though we live in a very sleepy hollow!! I am sorry there were no fireworks this year, but we may put on a display next November. There is just a chance that we may be having a gent's barbers shop, where Brian Arnolds spectacles shop used to be. I am still working on getting a 30 mph zone through the village and have made several enquiries to find out where the traffic observation mirror has gone from by the entrance to Farm Crescent.

Our village hall in Battlesbridge is now a great success with brass band practice, yoga classes, afternoon teas and small weddings and of course the Harbour Club for aging people with disabilities e.g. Alzheimer's. Christmas is always a busy time with Christmas 2011 going to be even busier! PS. I'm not looking forward to Christmas. Parish Councillor **Roy Hart 01268 768282**

**Christmas at All Saints Church - Why not bring along a decorated Christmas Tree** to display on the window sills? We have had some really ingenious Christmas trees in past years, some made from newspaper and another made from pull rings from beer cans. So bring along your decorated tree to All Saints which must be

between 2 & 5 ft. high overall before 16<sup>th</sup> December. All are welcome to bring along a decorated tree. **Any queries please ring Jane Fallows on 01245 400394.**

**Our Christmas Services will be on;** - 18<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Carols at 11-15am, 24<sup>th</sup> Midnight Service at 11-30 pm; Christmas Day 11-15am Family Eucharist; 1<sup>st</sup> January NO SERVICE AT RETTENDON; The Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November service is at 11-15am & is the first of four Sundays in Advent.

**The Christmas Bazaar** was a lovely day with a wide range of things see, do, buy and eat and raised around £1,550. Grateful thanks to everyone for their tremendous support. Especially for the donations of prizes, cakes and food as well as buying & doing things before, during and afterwards.

**The Churchyard** Now that the major grass cutting season has ended I offer our grateful thanks to Lance Lepper, Brian Lambert, Ray Patten, Roy Cole and Danny & Lindsay Watters for the considerable time and effort to maintain **YOUR** churchyard to enviable standards over this and for many previous years. **Jane Fallows, Churchwarden 01245 400394**

### **Rettendon Parish Council jottings**

**The Village Design Statement** having been approved by Chelmsford Borough Council it will be printed and every household in the Rettendon and Battlesbridge Parish will receive a copy. It has been a long 5 years in the making, with several set backs, as well as many of the proposals for inclusion in the VDS having fallen by the wayside, which is rather sad. **A replacement Sports and Village Building** for the Bell Field is still a firm target. (Yes I really should keep to Battlesbridge), but nearly two years ago having inspected the changing room or shed and found them wanting, to say the least, the Parish Council has agreed to build a new one, approx. 52' x 25' with a south facing veranda. The building will be as vandal proof as possible with a small kitchen, changing rooms and disabled toilet facilities. The building will include a large area for social events in the middle. The Bell Field is the only land that the Parish Council owns and by providing a replacement building it gives the opportunity to provide for more than just football teams. Planning

permission has been given for the replacement pavilion, quotations sought and a grant application made which if awarded, will help to reduce the overall cost. The Bell Field and its boundaries have now been registered with Land Registry. It has also had a new fence and entrance gate plus the drainage ditch on the west boundary has been cleared by Keith Marshall and his son. Additionally a secure metal farm gate has been erected to the South Hanningfield Road access. When the replacement sports building has been completed a Bell Field Management Committee will be formed. **Roy Hart, Parish Councillor**

**WANTED** Do you know a **Charlotte McMahon** or an **Andrew Roberts**? They want to get married at **All Saints** on **20<sup>th</sup> July 2012** but in their haste to organise things did not leave an address or a contact telephone number. We need to contact them urgently. If you can help do give me, **Jane Fallows**, a call on **01245 400394**

**Battlesbridge Free Church News** The Autumn Fayre held on November 12<sup>th</sup> raised just over £700. Our thanks go to all who supported the event. Thanks also to all who helped to cover fill and provide the many filler items for the shoeboxes. Over 50 boxes will join with others sent from Essex to fill the container lorry. There will be many happy faces when the children receive these boxes filled with Christmas gifts. This may be the first time they have ever have received a present for Christmas. The Charity, Samaritan Purse, masterminds this appeal and it will probably be to children in deprived areas in Eastern Europe that our boxes will go. On Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> November we shall enjoy a concert given by Rayleigh Brass and we hope there will be no need for a candle light to cope in a power cut as happened last year. There will be a nativity presentation at the morning service on December 18<sup>th</sup> followed by a candle light evening service at 6-30pm. There will be a Watch Night service on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 11-30pm. All are very welcome to share these services with us. The Fellowship, along with friends, will enjoy their Christmas Dinner on December 13<sup>th</sup>. **June Edwards 01245 426122**

**Grateful Thanks** to all our volunteers who distribute this newsletter to the 600 plus homes in the parish. **Malcolm Jones** for delivering the bundles to the 26 volunteer distributors – **Peter Reed, Hazel Dale Evans, Isobel Greenshields, Ray Prebble, Pat Duncan, Jane Fallows, Carol Cole, Margaret Kidman, Sue Mansell, Val Lambert, Pam Matthews, Tricia Smith, Ray Patten, Alan Riley, Mike Bunney, Sue Barnes, Margaret Saward, Lady Telford, Janice Jefferies, Jenny Coyston, Beryl Wilkinson, Steve Morris, Mrs I Dale & Hazel Dale.** Thanks also to **Ron Cheverall** who recently retired from his many years of delivering newsletters. Sincere thanks to you all. The next newsletter will be for February 2012 with all contributions to me please BY 20<sup>th</sup> JANUARY. Contributions can be in writing or sent to me by email. Please give me a call if you want any further information. **Ron Fallows 01245 400394**

**From the Rectory** Linda and I would like to wish everyone in Rettendon an exceedingly joyful and peaceful Christmas and a very happy New Year. May God bless us all in these difficult and uncertain times.

2012, brings retirement for me and a move to Suffolk after almost six years as your Priest. It has been a joy and a privilege to serve you and you have made us very welcome. Thank you for your friendship. This has been a very happy time in ministry for us and we hope we have been helpful to you.

**Yours in Christ, Harvey and Linda Reed**

I said went to the butchers. He said, I bet you 10 pounds you can't reach those two bits of meat. I said I am not betting. He said why not? I said the steaks are too high.

# There was this bloke lying on the ground snogging a shrimp. I said what are you doing? He said I've pulled a muscle.

# I saw this bloke chatting up a Cheater. I thought he's trying to pull a fast one.

# I told my girlfriend to buy some Japanese food. Sushi did.

A very merry Christmas to all our readers from **Ron & Jane Fallows**

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