

RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER

Financed by Rettendon Parish Council, Printed by IMAGES, Runwell Rd, Wickford,
01268 761900 & distributed by 26 volunteers on behalf of All Saints' Church, July 2011 issue number 295
The views expressed in this newsletter are entirely those of the contributors and are not necessarily those of Rettendon Parish Council

Rettendon Horticultural Society Grand Summer Show & Fete, Saturday 9th July on the Cricket field behind Village Hall

All entries should be brought between 8-30 & 10-15am. Judging will then take place. The afternoon activities then start at the following times.

- 1-30 pm Pet Show
- 2-00 pm Brian Williamson Big Band
- 2-45 pm Children's Fancy Dress
- 3-15 pm Brian Williamson Big Band
- 4-00 pm Billericay Dog Training Display Team
- 4-30 pm Prize giving, Auction and Raffle

There will be Pony rides & Barbeque all afternoon.

This year we will have all the usual activities and also a display by a local Classic Car Club who would like you to tell them which of their prized vehicles you think is the best, so plenty to keep you amused. I hope you have a good day.

Parham House & Gardens, West Sussex is our destination on **Sunday 14th August** & costs £20 per person including coach travel and entrance to the House and Gardens. No concessions. A £10 non returnable deposit is required at the time of booking. Call Jean on 01268 763183 to book. **Hazel Dale Evans 01245 401538**

Bring and Buy - 'POSH FROCKS SALE'

Bring along those posh dresses you'll never wear again and recycle or swap for something new and at a fraction of the original cost.

Rettendon Memorial Hall, Friday 5th August at 6-30pm. Entrance £5 which includes light refreshments. Come along and have a bit of fun. Why not bring along your friends. ALL PROCEEDS TO ALL SAINTS CHURCH.

Information from Lyn Benson 01245 400468

Rettendon Pre School

Professional people is our theme this term. We had a visit from the Police, which the children really enjoyed.

We all know how beneficial it is for our children to be outside in the fresh air and to be able to run around. In addition to the obvious health studies have shown that free play helps children to be less restless and more attentive and being outside enables them to learn more about the outside world.

Recently each child took a container to collect bugs and we had lots of fun and went in to the back field to find feathers and buttercups. We also took some balls and did some throwing, catching and kicking practice. Lets hope the sun keeps shining so we can continue.

We are making our things for the Horticultural show on Saturday July 9th so don't forget the fancy dress outfits and enter the completion which starts at 2-45pm, everyone is a winner.

If you would like to visit us to have a look around come along anytime and enjoy a cup of coffee and let your child have a play. Our music session for toddlers is on Wednesdays at 12 noon. If you want to join us please do. Everyone is welcome.

Pat Prebble 01245 401328 or 07762 909351

Rettendon & Battlesbridge Village Party 9th July 2011 from 7-30pm till late.

After the Show in the marquee on the Cricket Field. A Barbie & drinks. Dancing to a top London D J's music. A grand raffle and karaoke too.

Advance bookings £5-50 a ticket aged 11 and upwards; £3-50 OAP's, £2 children aged 5 - 11, under 5's free.

On the night £7-50 a ticket aged 11 and upwards;

OAP's £5-00, Children age 5 - 11 £3, and under 5's still free. The ticket price include a burger or a hot dog in the price of the ticket. Remember - No Ticket, NO Entrance so Book early for a fun evening. For more information please call Kathryn Evans, Rawlings, Main Road, 01245 400244.

Rettendon Village Society

Here are the results for the 200 Club draw which took place on Friday 25th March, 2011.

1st £65 Alan Harris c/o a Meadow Road address

2nd £30 Janice Jefferies, Sonters Down

3rd £20 Sheila Svirca, Sonters Down

4th £15 Dianne Francombe, East Hanningfield Road

The next Bingo session and 200 Club draw will be held on Friday 29th July and then 26th August, 2011. Hope to see you all there and enjoy a really good evening, Great money prizes and a good raffle. Bring your own snacks and drinks. Look forward to seeing you on Friday 24th June and then on the above dates. Don't forget eyes down 7.45pm SHARP!!

All profits go towards helping to maintain YOUR village hall.

Jacky Copsey 01268 765357

Rettendon Bowls

If you want to polish up your bowling skills then why not come along to our Bowls evenings? it's a real good night out and takes place in the Village Hall every Monday evening from 7.00 to 10.00pm. There is also a Thursday afternoon session from 2.00 to 4.00 pm. You will be made very welcome. All equipment provided. **Jacky Copsey 01268 765357**

Wheatsheaf Update

Hoorah, hoorah! The final, final plans are in for the Wheatsheaf!!!

With the help of Parish and local Councillors, and in particular with the help of Ray Ride, plans have been submitted for a restaurant in the old Wheatsheaf with two small shops adjoining, together with a horse riding arena to the rear. So, if you want local shops or want to exercise your horse, please let the Planning Committee know or come and support the application when it goes before the Planning Committee.

Thank you all for your help and support to date in our effort to try and remove the eyesore and provide services for the village.

If you have any questions then please feel free to contact me on 07808 926802.

David J Bishop

I went to sleep with one eye open. - I didn't sleep a wink.

Pricilla "Mary" Theobald

It is with sadness we must announce the death of our mother, Pricilla "Mary" Theobald formerly of White House Farm, Rettendon on May 27th 2011 at Parklands Care Home, Thundersley.

She is sadly missed by Bill, Peter, Pam, Jean and their families.

Rettendon Village Show & Fete

Please come along & participate in our village show. Exhibits to admire, barbeque to taste, pet show to enter, dog training display to learn from, pony rides for those interested, farm animals to get close to, a steam traction engine to look at, classic cars to appreciate and a big band to listen to. When ? 9th July from 1-30pm. Where ? Cricket field behind the village hall.

What more could you want on a fine sunny afternoon. (We hope.)

Garden Notes Didn't cut the grass for weeks then remembered my neighbours hay fever. Inspired a vast tidy up so I'm polishing the halo now.

Have pears but no plums - such is life. Have faith.

Mrs McGregor

Mobile Library in Rettendon & Battlesbridge

The dates and times of the routine visits are as follows.

Battlesbridge Goose Cottages, Alternate Fridays 9th & 23rd July & 6th August from 14-40 to 14-55 hrs.

Chalk Street, Alternate Thursdays on 8th & 22nd July & 5th August from 13-15 to 13-30 hrs.

Meadow Road visits will also be on alternate Thursdays on 1st 15th & 29th July from 13-45 to 14-00.

Rettendon Salford Close, Alternate Thursdays on 1st 15th & 29th July from 14-10 to 14-25.

Any changes to future dates and times of visits will be given in future copies of this newsletter.

Trevor Legg, Group Manager Basildon Libraries Service Tel. 01268 288533 or via email trevor.legg@essex.gov.uk

Mobile Customer Information Service

The Council's Mobile Customer Information Service will next visit Rettendon on **Wednesday 13th July (please note no visit in August) and then on 14th September** between 10.00am and 11.30am in the Committee Room to the rear of the Village Hall. Further visits to Rettendon will be on the second Wednesday in each month.

You can find more information about this service on Chelmsford Borough Council's website at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/mobileinfo or alternatively please contact **Cheryl Blake 01245 606891** for more details.

Some Thoughts on Battlesbridge

An item from an early 1960's edition of the Rettendon Review by Mr Frank Matthews & continued from the June 2011 Newsletter.

"The bridge has always been a meeting place. Two parishes join at that point only. So here was built some 120 years ago the Chapel, of "Free and independent dissenters". Two Inns provide meeting places for local people and for travellers passing through, convenient

stopping places on the way to Southend, Chelmsford, or Cambridge. Within living memory two bakeries and two grocers catered for a wide area. Delivery carts and later vans spread out over the country on either bank of the Crouch. Now there is one shop only, combining the post office with the bakery and selling as wide range of food and other household needs. The business is run by a family who have baked bread in Battlesbridge for generations. On Saturdays cars come from miles to buy a loaf that is different that the steam baked articles of the towns.

Some new industries have sprung up in recent years. The ironworks employs many people and sells conveyors to all parts of the country and abroad. Alongside is the plastics factory developed by the ingenuity of a local family as an extension of their bedding plant production. The most recent development is the Antique salesroom which have made Battlesbridge a centre for this kind of trade. Nothing is more modern than antiques. If we did not live in this age of mass produced standardisation, the things so ordinary, in our houses in our grandfather's time would not be sought after as they are any weekend in summer at Battlesbridge.

The present bridge was erected about 1870. The old bridge collapsed under the iron weight of a steam traction engine belonging to the Maldon timber firm of John Sadd. There is talk of a new bridge and a new road which will bypass the houses and provide a fast car route in place of the present twists and turns. Then the hamlet may become a backwater and lose some of the trade that has come its way over the centuries because "it was on the way" - as now it is "in the way". **F Matthews**

Village Show Saturday July 9th from 1-30pm

Have you entered the village show ? An event for you and our community. Have you lost your schedule or classes list and entry form ? Please contact me, I can let you have another copy. **Jane Fallows 01245 400394**

RHS Hyde Hall Events, July 2011

Thursday 7 July 2011. Late Night Opening until 9pm (Thursdays during July)

Take time out to enjoy the peace and tranquillity that descends upon the garden as the sun begins to set. Great for walkers, photographers, wildlife enthusiasts or family picnics. Normal garden admission applies. Booking not required. *Supper available in the Barn Restaurant (table reservations on 01245 402 103).*

Thursday 7 July until Sunday 31 July, Britain in Bloom Photography Exhibition, from 10am to 5pm

A stunning collection of photographs from RHS Britain in Bloom - Europe's largest community horticultural campaign that sees local residents improving their neighbourhoods.

Normal garden admission applies. Booking not required.

Picnic Evening - Jazz, Saturday 9 July, 7pm - 10pm

Enjoy the distinctive sound of traditional jazz music in the inspirational setting of the garden. Please bring your own picnic, blankets and maybe an umbrella - just in case! Adults £12. Children under 12 FREE. Booking essential on 0845 612 1253.

Supper available in the Barn Restaurant (table reservations on 01245 402 103).

Thursday 21st July, Late Night Opening until 9pm

Take time out to enjoy the peace and tranquillity that descends upon the garden as the sun begins to set. Great for walkers, photographers, wildlife enthusiasts or family picnics. Normal garden admission applies. Booking not required.

Supper available in the Barn Restaurant (table reservations on 01245 402 103).

Wednesday 27 to Thursday 28 July from 10am to 3 pm, 'Children's Garden Journeys'

Join us for an exciting orienteering adventure around the garden. This treasure hunt style activity will take you through grass mazes, across fields and winding paths. You can then make a postcard and tell a friend what you've been up to.

Normal garden admission applies. Booking not required.

Thursday 28 July Late Night Opening until 9 pm on Thursday's during July

Take time out to enjoy the peace and tranquillity that descends upon the garden as the sun begins to set. Great for walkers, photographers, wildlife enthusiasts or family picnics. Normal garden admission applies. Booking not required.

Saturday 30 July, Picnic Evening - The Canterbury Tales from 6pm to 9pm.

Critically acclaimed open-air theatre company, The Pantaloons bring Chaucer's pilgrims to life in this new adaptation of the medieval classic with a contemporary twist. Expect music, laughter and tears as a cast of larger-than-life characters tell their tales of deception and redemption, magic and majesty, life and death. Oh, and talking chickens.

Please bring your own picnic, blankets and maybe an umbrella - just in case! Adults £10. Children under 16 £2. Booking essential on 0845 612 1253.

Children's Garden Fiends, Wednesday 3rd to Thursday 4th August from 10 am to 3 pm

A chance for children to find out about the bugs and beasties. Enjoy bug hunts and falconry displays and then make ugly bug masks to take home.

Kids go FREE, normal garden admission applies for adults. Booking not required.

The Essex Art & Design Show, Saturday 6th to Sunday 7th August, from 10am to 4pm

Join artists and designers showcasing and selling a wide range of work including fine art, photography, jewellery and other contemporary crafts. More than just a craft show, all work is designed and made by the exhibitors. A great opportunity to buy unique and individual pieces either for yourself or as a gift.

Kids go FREE, normal garden admission applies for adults. Booking not required.

For more information on each of these activities please contact the RHS Garden at Hyde Hall on 01245 400256

The other day I sent my girlfriend a huge pile of snow and then I rang her up. I said, did you get my drift?

I went down my local beach and there was a young boy swimming on his own so I threw him a pair of binoculars. He said what are these for? I said, you need supervision.

So I went down the local shop. I said I'm looking for a sailor with one arm. He said it's not me. I'm a wholesaler.

Battlesbridge Free Church News

In spite of gloomy and rather cool days surrounding the date of our Fellowship outing on Tuesday 14th June, that day we were blessed with lovely warm sunshine throughout our trip. The surroundings of Paper Mill Lock, the wonderful ploughman's lunch aboard the "Victoria", then the tranquil cruise along the glassy-smooth canal, the bright Damsel flies, myriads of fish, two elegant swans with their brood of five cygnets, all combined to make for a thoroughly enjoyable day out. The mystery tour on the way home through the beautiful countryside towards Althorne followed by lovely views across the Crouch valley, was like the icing on the cake.

The next Fellowship meeting will be a "members afternoon" on July 5th.

On July 19th we shall hear of life in the Tower of London as experienced by a Beefeater's Daughter. We meet for lunch at 1 pm and the meeting is between 2 & 3pm

Our Garden party takes place in August.

Sunday Club Youngsters spend the first 20 minutes sharing in the service then leave to share their own programme with their leaders in the Church Hall.

Youth Club The meetings are held on Wednesday's at 6-30pm with interesting & varied activities and programmes.

Operatic Favourites at Rural Theatre on July 1st. We sincerely thank Roy Hart for generously including our church in the success of this most enjoyable event.

Celebration Events, Saturday 3rd July This will be to celebrate two 90th birthdays, Revd Peter Brewer, our much valued Pastor Emeritus and Enid Rundle, who with her sister Avis, cooked our Fellowship lunches for many years. She has also taken turns in providing piano accompaniment to Sunday's hymn singing.

The Harbour Club Membership is growing and the club is proving very beneficial.

Yoga & Drumming sessions continue to be popular.

Sunday Lunch 2nd Sunday in the month. Next one to be held on July 10th. Please let the church secretary Mary Jefferies know if you would like to join us. Please call on 01268 793241.

Sunday services are at 11am & finish by 12 noon. All are very welcome. The morning service includes a celebration of Communion on the 1st Sunday of each month. We follow the themes raised in the IBRA Bible study notes "Words for Today" during our services. For further information please contact our Pastor David Cotton on 01702 559853

June Edwards 01245 426122

Battlesbridge Matters

By the time you receive the news letter our 'Night at the Opera' will have been and gone. The ticket sales are going very well. Let's hope the weather holds. Its quite time consuming clearing out the barn and making it into a theatre. We have moved the old fishing cabin for a large one with an entrance on to the stage. This will work in reverse to allow you to go into the cabin without disturbing nature.

Last night I sat silently on the jetty as the sun was going down and a barn owl landed 10 feet away. I sat quite still, it hunted round the lake and river until it got dark, silly little moment in time, but never forgotten.

The V.D.S (Village Design Statement) is nearly complete

and ready for passing by Chelmsford Council, nearly five years! Much praise for the team especially Martin Hendra. We did have our down moment's to say the least. It has been suggested that as many residents as possible in the Parish make available their email address, not for sending out the news letter by email, but to alert residents very quickly in response to any problems or beneficial news such as the felling of the conifers near the Bell. Not everyone has access to email but probable 50% or more have. This would form a very important network (say for instance when the travellers are looking for new sites etc). This is the best year we have had for cygnets (5) and loads of baby ducks, one duck had 19 ducklings. The drakes must have been very busy, I wish I had their energy.

Cllr Roy Hart 01268 768282

Summer Holiday Club at Little Darwins

Nursery I am sure you have been watching the building grow over the past months and we are pleased to inform you that we will be opening Little Darwins for the summer holiday. With this approaching fast we would like to share with you the exciting activities planned. We have divided the weeks into themes to keep the children excited and having fun whilst occupying their time constructively. We will be working collaboratively with the school and have full use of the playing field and swimming pool.

This is a great opportunity for you to have your children cared for by trained, experienced practitioners while you're at work. Or busy doing other things. Our rates are competitive and you can choose from full weeks, part weeks and sessions.

The nursery will open for full or part time places for children from 3 months old from 1st August. Please contact Little Darwins at admin@littledarwins.co.uk or on 01268 769599 for more information or an informal chat and remember our website www.littledarwins.co.uk is being updated all the time.

This is a very exciting addition to Rettendon and we hope that you will come along and see that it will be a wonderful, safe and nurturing place for your children to be.

Catherine Hendra 01268 769599

Rettendon Parish Council

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on 23rd May and one of our tasks was to co-opt to the three vacancies following the recent unopposed election. We are pleased to welcome Una Davies, Roy Hart and Keith Marshall to the Parish Council.

The following people were elected to the indicated posts for a further year. Chairman Ron Fallows; Vice Chairperson Pat Prebble; Hall management representative Jacky Copsey; Richard Cannon Charity Ron Fallows & Roy Hart; The Bell Field Charities, all Parish Councillors as Trustees.

Parish Council meetings are held in public and take place in the Village hall starting at 7-30pm. Notices of meetings are posted on the parish notice boards at Battlesbridge, the village hall and Old Bell Lane corner with East Hanningfield Road.

If you want any further information on Parish Council matters please contact me, **Barry Summerfield, Parish Clerk 01702 547783**

All Saints Church, Rettendon

On behalf of All Saints Church I would like to thank all of you who supported us at our late May Bank Holiday event. Choosing themes from over the last 27 years of floral arrangements was quite a challenge and I thank those who donated time and effort.

The Remembrance window cill and the Royal Ascot flower arrangement were particularly memorable. We made over £2,000 which will help this year to keep us on course financially but in no way contributes to our £3,500 debt.

If anyone is interested in making a regular contribution to keep a grade one listed medieval church going then please let me know.

Usually our church service is held at 11-15am on Sundays but on Sunday July 3rd there will be no service at All Saints as our Rector the Revd Harvey Reed, celebrates 40 years as an ordained minister at a special service held at Hullbridge, St Thomas church and afterwards at a get together and barbeque in the church hall adjacent.

Returning to All Saints we welcome all enquiries for christenings and weddings and I will offer as much information as I possibly can.

Jane Fallows Churchwarden 01245 400394

Watch out - it comes to us all !

I said to my husband, my boobs have gone, my stomach's gone, say something nice about my legs. He said, "Blue goes with everything." - Joan Rivers

Don't retouch my wrinkles in the photograph. I would not want it to be thought that I had lived for all these years without having anything to show or it. - The Queen Mother

You know you are getting old when a four letter word for something pleasurable two people can do in bed is R-E-A-D.

That phrase they use, 'in living memory' or 'the coldest winter in living memory' - just how far back does it stretch because at my age my 'living memory' goes back to a week last Tuesday'. Alan Coran.

All the failures of memory that can plague you, such as losing your car at the Mall or losing your glasses on your forehead or losing the reason you entered a room, are minor when compared to the most embarrassing trick your mind can play: forgetting what you have been talking about. How come I can remember events of 30 years ago but not what I said in the last 30 seconds. Bill Crosby.

With acknowledgements "Wrinklies' Wit & Wisdom" by Rosemary Jarski published by Carlton Publishing Group.

Please note the following deadline dates for items for the next 5 R&B Newsletters.

The August Newsletter to me by 20th July

The combined Sept/Oct Newsletter to me by 20th Aug

The November Newsletter to me by 20th Oct

The combined Dec/Jan Newsletter to me by 20th Nov

The Feb. 2012 Newsletter to me by 20th Jan

Newsletter items can be in writing of by email. Call me for email contact details. Ron Fallows 01245 400394

Has anyone got any items, articles, remembrances and would be willing to put pen to paper about any aspect of Rettendon's history ? I have included in past R&B newsletters items about Battlesbridge but very few about Rettendon. Can you help ? If YES, then please give me, **Ron Fallows, a call on 01245 400394.**