



NEWSLETTER

3rd Dec - 10.00am
 St Nicholas Toy Service and
Christingle at 4pm
9th Dec - 7.30pm
 Christmas Carol Concert with
 Rayleigh Salvation Army Brass Band

17th Dec - Carols by Candlelight
24th Dec - 4.00pm Crib Service
24th Dec 11.30pm - Midnight Mass
 see inside for further details



Dec/Jan 2018

*Wishing you all a Happy
 Christmas and New Year*



The Parish Church of St. Nicholas, Rawreth

Priest-in-Charge	The Revd Richard Jordan, The Rectory, Church Road, Rawreth, Essex SS11 8SH. Telephone: 01268 766565
e-mail:	richard@st-nicholas-rawreth.org.uk
web address	http://st-nicholas-rawreth.org.uk
Church Wardens	Mrs Heather Love. Telephone: 01268 734970 Mr Chris Powney. Telephone: 01702 527085
Hon. Treasurer	Mr Chris Powney. For enquiries please phone: 01702 527085
Lay Assistants at Holy Communion:	Christine Holmes, Patricia Clarke, Phil Blythe, Eileen Pinkerton and Amanda Pinkerton
Magazine Editor	Mrs Christine Holmes. Tel: 01268 781662

Our regular service of **Holy Communion** is at 10am each Sunday. All are welcome. More details may be posted onto our website www.st-nicholas-rawreth.org.uk

Christmas Celebrations at St Nicholas Church

Sunday 3rd December

10.00am St Nicholas Day Toy Service (With Holy Communion)

Today we remember St Nicholas who was known for his generosity: Please bring new toys for distribution (unwrapped) to the needy in the community, all are welcome.

Sunday 3rd December

4.00pm Christingle Service

A wonderful service for children and adults as we start our preparations for Christmas, all welcome.

Saturday 9th December

7.30pm Christmas Carol Concert

with Rayleigh Salvation Army Brass Band (Tickets £8)

Sunday 17th December

4.00pm Carols by Candlelight

A service of popular carols and readings for Christmas, all are welcome.

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve

4.00pm Crib Service

A service in which the children assemble our Christmas Nativity Scene and light up our Christmas Tree, all are welcome.

11.30pm Midnight Mass of Christmas

A service of Carols and Holy Communion to welcome the birth of Jesus and mark the beginning of Christmas itself, all are welcome.

Monday 25th December - Christmas day

10.00am Holy Communion of Christmas

Sunday 31st December - New Year's Eve

No Morning Service at St Nicholas

10.30am at Gt Wakering. We will be joining with churches across Rochford District for a Service of Holy Communion . Anyone who would like a lift please see Richard.

6.30pm a quiet service of Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer in traditional Language will be held at St Nicholas.



“We have done so much for so long with so little that we can now do practically anything with nothing.”

I have been trying to find the origin of that quote – perhaps not surprisingly it’s hard to pin down, it seems to come up everywhere. Business, schools and even in the church now, we are making cuts. In every walk of life people are being asked to do more with less, to make economy savings, to cut out waste. Sounds good on paper but more and more people are becoming frazzled, exhausted and depressed.

Over Christmas the merely ‘frazzled’ can become deep-fried. Not only do we have pressure from work but we are expected to buy presents, send cards, and do all the preparations for a great party time. Not only do we have even less time but we get deeper into debt.

So where is the Good News? Is there any? What has faith to offer?

I find a couple of things really helpful.

The first thing is the idea of taking time out. This is something that both Christians and Muslims have inherited from Jews. The Jewish bible (the Christian Old Testament) starts with a myth about creation, God worked for 6 days then takes a day off. This is taken as a pattern for the working week for people who, according to the myth, are made ‘in the image of God’. (By the way, this story was never intended to be taken literally – no faith anywhere ever taught that God takes a day off each week! This was always intended as a parable, a teaching aid.) Some religious people turned this taking a day off into a chore (rather like getting ready for Christmas) but Jesus told them to lighten up, this is supposed to be a gift and if it becomes just another job it’s lost the point.

So I take time out to rest, think, and get things in perspective. How will things seem in January? Will the debt be worth the great time we had? Will we be starting the New Year even more tired and pressured than we were before Christmas? What really matters? What will give us a great time that we won’t live to regret?

The second thing is the story of Christmas itself. The birth of a baby to a refugee family; this was the start of a story that would change the whole world. A little thing that hardly anybody noticed, but the one thing that really mattered.

So, I wonder what is the one thing that really matters now? The one thing that if I am too busy I will miss? My guess is that will have something to do with relationships, perhaps with family, friends or neighbours. Jesus passed on the two great commandments; love God and love those around us.

Loving God at Christmas may be about thinking about that baby, a refugee with no real home. Perhaps that moves us to the second, love those around us, who might we see notice (if we take the time) needs our kindness?

I wish you a wonderful Christmas. Have a great time. But start now, not by rushing into planning, but by stopping and thinking about what really matters – don’t let others dictate to you. Take a bit of time out, and then plan for what is really matters most.

Happy Christmas!

Richard

Richard Jordan

Priest in Charge of Hullbridge, Rawreth and Rettendon



St. Nicholas C of E Primary School

Priory Chase, Rayleigh

Essex SS6 9NE

Founded 1873
Headteacher:- Mrs L. Pigram

Tel: 01268 786874 Fax: 01268 786415

E-mail admin@rawreth.essex.sch.uk

Dear Friends

1st November 2017

This letter will be one of the final ones that you are sent from the school for 2017. November is upon us and we are busy with all kinds of learning and teaching activities. From British Values week which is taking place this week to Anti Bullying Week and Christmas Week. This is all in addition to the very exciting learning opportunities that pupils are already offered on a daily basis.

It won't be long until we close the school for the year and prepare to embrace 2018. We have had a year of successes and we have experienced some sadder times. However, yet again, the school has continued to strive for excellence. This term alone the school has achieved the prestigious Green Flag Eco Schools Award and, last week, we were awarded the Silver Arts Mark Award. Achieving either is no mean feat! I am really proud of all of the school community and thankful for the effort that they have put in to achieving what they have for the school.

Congratulations must also be given to all of the pupils who continue to work so hard to extend themselves and to reach their potential. Having introduced our new Accelerated Reader system, the pupils are embracing the challenges offered by this system. Our 100% Reader's Club membership is growing considerably!

In addition to our reading schemes and systems we have been learning about the Fundamental British Values this week. All of our pupils have explored what the Values are and what they mean. They have considered what it means to be British and they have been learning about the British voting systems and Parliament as well as how this links to the Monarchy. It has been a very interesting week and there have been some really high quality outcomes. We even have at least one class setting up "Political Parties" and an election for our President for the Day. Harry Potter has even made an appearance! The pupils and the staff have really embraced the learning and the opportunities that have been given to them this week. It was really rewarding to have a parent come up to me and tell me that their child has really engaged in the week and had been speaking to her and teaching her about various traditions and values associated with the Fundamental British Values. We are hoping that the pupils will be just as motivated and engaged in our Safety and Anti-Bullying Week.

As we have done in previous years, we will be holding our annual Christmas learning week at the end of this term. This year we are going to focus on the way the Christmas message is portrayed in high quality texts. The pupils will have opportunities to study the work of famous authors and link the stories that they tell to the messages in the Bible. We have done similar things in the past and the pupils really enjoyed being able to explore a variety of texts and art. I am looking forward to telling you all about it next year.

We continue to focus on the traditional subjects and outcomes for all of our pupils. Our vision is to be in the top 10% of schools in all subject areas and in all outcomes by 2020. As you can see from the above, we are working hard to ensure that our pupils receive a balanced and broad curriculum that focusses on outcomes and success for all whilst embracing our Christian ethos and caring culture. Our Core Values of Respect, Integrity and Responsibility continue to be the driving force behind our work.

The staff have also continued their journey as learners and have had a variety of training over the past few weeks, this includes an update of the very successful Talk For Writing initiative. Since introducing this a few years ago, the standard of the pupil's writing has improved significantly.

Time is running out for people to apply for a place in our wonderful school in September 2018. If you do want your child to attend our school or you know anybody that is interested, please do encourage them to contact the school office so that we can meet with them and show them our fantastic school.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the very best and I look forward to updating you again soon.

Yours faithfully,

L. Pigram
Executive Headteacher.

Are you in this photograph or recognise anyone?



My brother Darrell and I lived with our parents (and Grandfather and older brother Gary) at 4 Bedloes Corner from birth till 1974. We are both interested in family history, so have set up a Facebook page called "Real Rawreth". It was designed for interested people to share photos and information. Via Facebook, we discovered 2 of our old neighbours, sisters Moira and Eileen (White). We have posted several photos on Real Rawreth.

If you are interested in the group, please send me a request via Facebook.

Moira found an old photo of her dads, Frank White, former garage manager of Kia Ora Garage at The Carpenters Arms. This photo shows a large group of people standing and sitting together. We are guessing the year is about late 40s- mid 50s. We are guessing that the photo was taken in Rawreth near the old village hall. We recognise several people who all lived in Rawreth.... Frank White, Douglas Binding, Bill Townsend, Dorothy

Mann and Joyce Everett. Who are the others? Why was the photo taken? When and where? Can anyone shed any light? Contact me on kelvin@muchbinding.co.uk

Trains and Boats and Planes with Allegro

The 'Trains and Boats and Planes' concert performed by 'Allegro', held on Saturday 9th September was a really brilliant evening, people said as they left the concert and afterwards it was the best concert yet!!

In the first half we were entertained with songs such as 'Come Fly With Me', 'Blow the Wind Southerly', 'Surrey with a Fringe on Top' (from Oklahoma), 'Ride the Gospel Train', 'Only in Sleep', 'The Owl and the Pussycat' and numerous others all sung by the whole choir or a brilliant soloist, the first half was brought to a close with them all singing 'Sit Down you're Rockin' the Boat'. Tea, coffee and biscuits were then served for a well deserved break.

The second half began with two soloists singing 'Ascot Gavotte' (from My Fair Lady), the ladies chorus continued with 'Chatanooga Choo Choo', followed by another soloist singing 'Funiculi Funicula' the whole choir then sang 'I'm a Train' which was absolutely brilliant, 'On Wings of Song' was performed by another soloist. During the evening they sung over 30 songs, far too many to list here, bringing the evening to a close with the whole choir singing 'Fly Me to the Moon'. They all had such beautiful voices many of them being professional soloists.

It was a really brilliant evening and one we're going to repeat. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported us.

Christine

Animal Blessing Service

The animal service held on 1st October went very well, all animals and humans were well behaved!

Once again the service was held outside where the grass is nice and lush for the horses to munch on.

We had three horses, 7 dogs and 1 pussycat attend the service.

During the service two hymns were sung and prayers said for our animals who give us such unconditional love. We also remembered those animals who are not so fortunate.

Christine



Rawreth Ladies Club Meetings

Chairperson Sue Merton 01268 561703



September Meeting

There was a change to the meeting as we were going to have a craft show but so many people decided to go on holiday and were poorly Jean Strangleman managed to get a speaker for us remaining ones who could attend.

Keith (Badger) Price came to our rescue and as he had been to us before we knew we were in for a treat. He has lived all his life in Great Wakering and it has changed greatly during his life time. He has had his nickname since he started school. He has now given up the huge allotment he had but still grows lots of things in his garden. There were also some lovely photos of his dog which is enormous.

The talk was Year of Flowers and I had to smile because if he could not remember the flower he was showing us on screen he'd say that's pretty. He is very entertaining and he also did a free raffle and the prizes were produce he had grown.

If we had put them all together we'd have had a nice stew. The sales table took £36.56 and the raffle £38.60.

We did not have a quiz or competition this month and after giving out birthday cards and deciding who was doing the refreshments for the next month we decided to go home earlier than usual as the weather was beautiful and we won't get to many hot days to enjoy before winter sets in.

Sue Murton

October Meeting

A lovely day for our meeting lets hope these warm days continue. The sad news of the day was that one of our members Trisha Lewington had past away and no doubt her twin sister Pam will miss her a lot and the funeral is 16th November.

The speaker was Keith Lovell who had been to us before and this talk was History Through Essex Foods. He does lots and lots of different

talks so we were spoilt for choice. He has been a member of the church so is well versed in holding our attention but said if you doze off don't snore and we could ask questions but if we did he told us not to interrupt much to our amusement.

He spoke about Mersea Oysters, Maldon Salt, Tiptree Jams, Saffron Spice and how different places got their names.

He also judged our competition which was an unusual shell and told us the reason why he had chosen them. The winners were 1. Jean Bell 2. Maureen Benson 3. Sue Murton.

After the refreshments it was the A.G.M. Jean Taylor had done an excellent job on the club accounts and it was agreed they were correct. It was decided the Officers and Committee Members would stay the same.

I'd like to thank everyone for all they do in the running of the club I am very grateful.

The quiz winners were Pearl Searle and Diane Connolly and they got all the questions right so well done. The sales table took £38.30 and the raffle £35.

I can't believe there are only two more meetings and then it's a new year but in between it's Halloween, Guy Fawkes and Christmas to look forward to lets hope the weather will be kind.

Sue Murton

Organ Concert

come and hear St. Nicholas'
historic organ played by
invited organists on
17th March 2018

free admission
Time to be announced



Parish Council Business

Chairman: Alistir Matthews

Vice-Chairman:

Clerk: Hayley Bloomfield

Tel and Fax: 01268 784233

Tel and Fax:

Tel: 07773 952455

Parish Council Vacancy

The Parish Council still has a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. If you feel this is something that would interest you please contact either the Clerk or one of the Parish Council Members who will be happy to talk to you.

Cllr Paul Beckers (Vice Chairman)

Telephone 01268 767614

Cllr Mrs Mary Beckers

Telephone 01268 767614

End of Year Accounts

The Clerk can report that the end of year accounts have now been inspected by the Audit Commission for a final audit and have passed accordingly, with no recommendations made. Should anyone wish to inspect the accounts they can do so by prior arrangement with the Clerk.

Cllr Stephen Coombs

Telephone via the Clerk

Cllr Mrs Susanne Wiltshire

Telephone 01268 781922

Cllr Chris Stanley

Telephone 01268 785732

Highway defects and local problems.

The Parish Clerk is always more than happy to report problems around the Parish to the various authorities, however, we would also like to encourage residents to report the problem directly and the best way to do this is via the Fix My Street website or mobile app, or via the Essex County Council website, links for both are show below.

www.fixmystreet.com

www.essex.gov.uk on the right hand side of the home page is a blue tab titled report it, click on this and a report form is generated

Parish Contact Number

07773 952455

District Councillors

Ron@oatham.waitrose.com

Cllr Chris Stanley 01268 785732

Clerk Hayley Bloomfield

Telephone 07773 952455 or email at clerk.rawrethparishcouncil@btinternet.com

Number for Non Urgent Police Matters

There is a new number for local non urgent police matters, this replaces the old Rayleigh number, the new number is 101 it goes without saying, if it is an emergency always use 999.

Contacts

If any residents have any concerns or questions and they would like to speak to one of our Parish Councillors regarding any matters their contact details are as follows.

Cllr Alistir Matthews (Chairman)

Telephone 01268 732069

Wyvern Community Transport registered Charity 113449

Wyvern Community Transport operates four minibuses in the Rayleigh and Rochford District to transport its members to day centres, medical appointments and recreational activities. Their buses are available for hire on a brokerage scheme by other users during their out of hours time and weekends.



Contact 01702 542099 Andrew Woodley, email
manager@wyvernct.co.uk
www.rravs.org.uk

Parish Council Website

The website has details of forthcoming meetings, minutes of the meetings held and other interesting news. You can visit the site on www.rawrethparishcouncil.co.uk the website also has a facility to report faults directly to either Rochford District Council or Essex County Council, if you enter the Useful Links page of the website you have the facility just to click on one entry and it will take you directly into the online reporting process for the relevant Council, things such as street lighting, pot holes and fly tipping can all be reported quickly and directly.

The Parish Council website also has a page to display photographs of the Parish. If anyone has any photographs that they would like to see on the website please email them to the Clerk. Photo's can be of events, scenic, etc, but unfortunately we cannot display any pictures of individuals unless their prior written consent has been given

In addition, if anyone would like to advertise an event on the website please feel free to contact the Clerk.

Email Distribution

If any residents would like to receive information from the Parish Council such as agendas for forthcoming meetings, minutes of meetings held, events, Core Strategy News etc via email then please forward your details to the Clerk at clerk.rawrethparishcouncil@btinternet.com. If you do not have access to a computer but would like a family member to receive the emails on your behalf please ask them to contact the Clerk as above advising on whose behalf they will be receiving the information.

Next Meetings

Wednesday the 6th of December 2017 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Wednesday the 3rd January 2018 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Wednesday the 7th of February 2018 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Wednesday the 7th March 2018 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Wednesday the 4th April 2018 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

From the Clerk, Hayley Bloomfield

As always if you have any concerns or matters to report please do not hesitate to contact me on either 07773 952455 or by email at clerk.rawrethparishcouncil@btinternet.com

Christmas Crackers

Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?
Samson because he brought the house down.

Beat the Christmas rush, come to church this Sunday!

The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.

Tonight's sermon: 'What is hell?' Come early and listen to our carol practice.

Where is the first tennis match mentioned in the Bible?

When Joseph served in Pharaoh's court.

It was just before Christmas and the magistrate was in a happy mood. He asked the prisoner who was in the dock, 'What are you charged with?'

The prisoner replied, 'Doing my Christmas shopping too early.'

'That's no crime', said the magistrate. 'Just how early were you doing this shopping?'

'Before the shop opened', answered the prisoner.

Bert, aged 25. 'My wife's an angel'.
Don, aged 57. 'Your lucky, mine is still alive'.

Romeo: What would it take to make you kiss me under the mistletoe?

Juliette: An anaesthetic.

What did the reindeer say before launching into his comedy routine?

This will sleigh you.



Become alert to protect your money

FRAUD costs people in the UK around £10.9 billion a year and comes in all shapes and sizes so you should be aware of how criminals operate so you can protect your money.

These are some of the scams residents should watch out for

Requests to transfer funds - posing as your bank or another organisation they ask you to transfer your money to a 'safe' account as your account has been hacked

Requests to draw cash - posing as a police officer they ask you visit your branch and withdraw funds to help with their investigation.

Remote access scam - never allow anyone remote access or connection to your computer following a cold call or an email with a link

Buying off the net - make sure you are on a legitimate site by using security software Selling scams - you get a 'bad' cheque or the cheque is for more than the agreed amount and then you are asked to send them a cheque to make up the difference. Their cheque then bounces

Smishing - this involves you getting a text from your 'bank' needing you to update your details - banks do not do this so just delete and advise your bank for information

Payment redirection scam - this is when fraudsters intercept an email between you and a legitimate contact who is asking for payment for goods or services like solicitors or builders. They then advise you their bank details have changed for any future payment. Always check with the company direct if details have changed.

Friendship and romance scams - meeting on line has become more and more popular but be on your guard when your 'new friend' suddenly asks for money for some emotive reason. Never send money to someone you do not know and trust.

Thank You

To all the magazine distributors for delivering the magazine over the past year.

Christine

PLEASE NOTE

Copy for Feb/March 2018 Magazine

by

5th January

Church News to Christine Holmes

Tel: 781662

Village News to Dave Collins

Tel: 734933

Please let us have your news in good time

Thank you

Carol Singing

Monday 11th December

We will be meeting at Forge Nurseries at 6.45pm for a 7pm start for our Village Carol Singing and afterwards back at Heathers for light refreshments. Anyone who has a voice like Katherine Jenkins is welcome to join us.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT ST NICHOLAS CHURCH

9th December

Salvation Army

Christmas Carol Concert

7.30pm tickets £8

For Christmas Services
see inside front cover

VILLAGE NOTICE BOARD

VILLAGE RECYCLING COLLECTION DAY

week commencing Dec 13th and 27th, Jan 10th, 24th all other weeks are **Recyclables**.
Check web site for more details

TRAIDCRAFT Contact on (01268) 733616 for more information.

KEEP FIT Classes are held in the Village Hall on Monday evenings between 8 and 9 p.m. All are welcome.

BALLROOM AND LATIN DANCE CLASSES classes are held on Monday evenings in the Village Hall between 9 and 10 p.m. All enquiries for Keep Fit and Dance classes to Linda King, 01375 375810.

MOBILE LIBRARY. Please support the Mobile Library which stops at Goose Cottages 14.00 till 14.30, Bedloes Corner at 14.45 till 15.05 and Lubbards Close 15.35 till 16.00 on Friday, Dec 1st, 15th and 29th and Jan 12th and 26th. Books can be ordered and there is no charge for overdue items. Video Cassettes and large print books are carried.

RAWRETH LADIES CLUB contact Sue Murton (Chairperson) on 01268 561703 for details.

1st RAWRETH (ST NICHOLAS) BROWNIES. Thursdays, 4.45-6.15pm, in the Village Hall (term time only). Contact: Suzanne Wood (Brown Owl) on 01268 642859. To register for a place: www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/



From the Parish Register Baptism Anniversaries

December

Jessica & Max Hardy

January

Grace Rose Gabbitas
Jaxon Jay Payne

Our prayers remain with you as you journey on in life and grow in Gods love.

Rettendon Forthcoming events

Carol Service

Sunday, 17th December 11:15am

Rettendon Primary School Christmas Service

Tuesday, 19th December

Key Stage 1 at 10am and Key Stage 2 at 11am.

Midnight Mass

Sunday 24th December 11:30PM

Christmas Service Monday

25th December 11:15am

Whist Drive

1st Dec	Whist	15th Dec	Whist
5th Jan	Whist	19th Jan	Whist

First and Third Friday in the month
7.30pm-10pm.

New players always welcome, for further information please phone

**Eric Chasmer
01268 773115**

Rettendon

Grand Village Quiz Night

Friday, 17th November

7 for 7.30pm Memorial Hall CM3 8DP

Usual teams of max. 6 people, £5 per person.

Prizes for top and bottom teams.

Plus there will be a raffle (donations of prizes always welcome)

Bring your own Slurp, Provender and Brains. Proceeds in aid of the Hall, which is not funded by the Parish Council, and the Church, who were unable to hold their usual Harvest Supper and need support.

Look forward to seeing you there.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Dr Jayawera, Rawreth Lane	01268 780408
Shotgate Surgery	01268 561888
Chemist, Shotgate Pharmacy	01268 768547
NHS Fast medical help other than 999,	You call 111
Rayleigh Police (<i>non urgent matters</i>)	101
PC Steve Joynes, Neighbourhood Constable for Rayleigh/Rawreth	Tel: 101 ext 490535 <i>Mobile</i> 07710 046161
Neighbourhood Watch Desk nhwrayleigh@gmail.com 10-12 weekdays	01268 770519
Electricity	0800 7838838
Gas	0800 111999
RSPCA 24 hour animal cruelty & emergency	03001234999
Rochford District Council	01702 546366
Copy for Magazine to Dave Collins	01268 734933
Village Hall Booking Secretary (<i>no teenage parties permitted</i>) Email: daveicollins40@gmail.com	01268 734933
Street Lighting faults, Essex Highways South	01268 297500
CountyRoute Helpline – A130 related concerns call	0845 3511130

Rawreth Parish Councillors

Chairman: Alistir Matthews	Tel and Fax: 01268 732069
Cllr Paul Beckers (Vice-Chairman)	01268 767614
Cllr Stephen Coombes	Contact via Clerk
Clerk: Hayley Bloomfield	07773 952455
Cllr Mrs Mary Beckers	01268 767614
Cllr Mrs Susanne Wiltshire	01268 781922
Cllr Chris Stanley	01268 785732 <i>Mobile</i> 07720426359

County and District Councillors

Malcolm Maddocks – County Councillor for Rayleigh North	01702 206683
email: cllr.malcolm.maddocks@essex.gov.uk	
Cllr Chris Black 01268 778973	Cllr Ron Oatham 01268 785295

Member of Parliament

Mark Francois MP for Rayleigh	Tel at House of Commons 0207 2193000
Tel at Constituency Office 01268 742044	email: mark.francois.mp@parliament.uk

Neighbour Watch Co-Ordinators, Rawreth

Brian Adams: Laburnam Way area.	01268 786178
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