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Contributions for next Newsletter to be with RetBatNews@gmail.com, by 18th of the month

Ray and Dave's C. M. C. ROOT'S AND WINGS

Rettendon Memorial Village Hall, CM3 8DP
Saturday, 2nd March, 2024
Doors Open 7:00pm - 11pm
No bar but BYOD.



Tea/Coffee and FOOD available
Live music to dance to, or just to enjoy

Tickets £8

Contact: Ray 01245 472386 / 07791434118 (text or phone)

Or phone Dave 01245 225963

(Picture from Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/rootsandwingsduo/>)

THE BIG QUIZ

HAZEL'S QUIZ NITE

ON FRIDAY, 8TH MARCH

7:00pm for prompt 7:30pm start

At Rettendon Village Memorial Hall, CM3 8DP

£5 per person, Teams of 6, BYO grub & slosh

Entrance charge for Essex and Herts

Air Ambulance



A Premium Raffle will be presented in <https://ehaat.org/>

support of the Living Memorial

Book a table? Phone 01245 410538

Hazel Dale-Evans



Rettendon Horticultural Society

Miss Willmott's Garden

by Sarah Lawrence, author

On Tuesday, 12th March, at 7:30pm

At Rettendon Memorial Hall, CM3 8DP.

Tea, coffee and home-made cake with a raffle. Members free, non-members £3



Miss Willmott has been mentioned lately on "Gardener's World", in the Royal Horticultural Society publication "The Garden" and in the National Trust publication.

Learn all about an extraordinary lady

(Picture from Waterstones <https://www.waterstones.com/book/miss-willmotts-ghosts/sandra-lawrence/9781786581556>)



Rettendon Horticultural Society

Visit Miss Willmott's garden,

Warley Place Nature Reserve

Thursday, 14th March

Gather at the Hall car park at 9:30am.

(Car-sharing outing).

Contact Barbara Wright, Secretary, on 01245 321554, if you need a lift.

Rettendon Horticultural Society

SPRING SHOW

Tuesday, 19th March

6:45pm for entries, 7:30pm judging.

Rettendon Memorial Hall, CM3 8DP

Come and see the wonderful daffodils, spring flowers and vegetables, or add your own entries to fill the tables. 12 different classes, too many to list, but plenty of scope for everyone. Vases provided, so no need to bring your own, Stewards or members to guide you for exhibiting.

Cup for the winner and Rosette for the best in show.

Tea, coffee and cake with a short quiz while judging takes place.

Schedule is on the website, <https://e-voice.org.uk/rethortsoc/assets/documents/springschedule24-pdf>

All welcome, no entry fee.

Barbara Wright, Secretary, tel: 01245 321554

email: RetHSsec@gmail.com

All Saints' Spring Open Day

Easter Monday 1st April

10-30am to 3-00pm



Join us for coffee, come for lunch, and finish with afternoon tea - all with home-made cakes.

Or take a cake, plant or gift home from one of the stalls. The usual stalls are all there too...

raffle, books, tombola, bric-a-brac, ...

EASTER MEMORIAL FLOWERS

There will be a flower arrangement at the

altar with a Memorial Plaque

listing names of loved ones

(donation of £5 per name)

To add a name to the plaque

please contact by 25th March

Lyn Benson on 01245 400468

or email traceybenson31@aol.com



Ray and Dave's C. M. C. Special Country and Irish Night

Shaun Loughrey and Brian Mann

Saturday, 6th April, 2024

at Rettendon Village Hall, CM3 8DP

Doors Open 6:30pm

Tea/Coffee & FOOD available
Get your tickets early sure to be a sell out

Tickets £10

Contact Ray 07791434118 /01245 472386 Text or phone





**WARM HUB on Wednesdays
through till end of March**
Rettendon Memorial Hall,
from 12 until 2pm

Our village hall welcomes those living in the area to meet regularly for invigorating chatty inspiration. Drop in for fresh vegetable soup with bread, tea and coffee and some home-made cake.



All provided free of charge courtesy of the Hall Committee. All residents, friends and family welcomed.

Need more information? Need transport? Please contact Hazel Dale-Evans 01245 401538 or the secretary, Barbara Wright on 01245 321554.

Email: RettendonMemorialHall@gmail.com



Thank you

Knit and Natter would like to thank the resident of Mayphil Park homes who has given us lots of craft supplies which are no longer of use to her. They are of use to us, and are being used! We apologise for the delay in thanking you, but even if delayed it is heartfelt.

St Patrick's Ceilidh

Saturday, 16th March, from 7pm

South Hanningfield Village Hall

Featuring The Yardarm Ceilidh Band

We are planning a ceilidh with ceilidh dancing and a Raffle.

Tickets cost £8 per person.

For further information,

email vallisc@aol.com or phone 07891 653238.

Rettendon Village Memorial Hall

From the wonderful reception we have had for the warm hub the Hall Management Committee have decided to extend the idea and create a "COMMUNITY HUB" every Wednesday.



Continuing in the committee room. Teas, coffees and home-made cake. Bring your lunch, or a constituent part to share with others. There will be what is termed "an American Buffet". All Welcome.

Bookings as always are taken by Dianne Francombe on 01245 400297. Please telephone for availability.

More children's parties booked in the hall, with a few other events added. Bookings for regular events for 2024 are in, leaving space for other events.

Booking forms and terms and conditions are on the web, but sent by post as well.

The website has a calendar of events and we try and keep it up-to-date, so check there first. All the Horticultural events have been added so a chance to see what they have to offer too.

Hall Management Committee

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

Battlesbridge Quiz Night
Saturday, 27th April 7pm for 7:30pm

Teams of 8, £5 per person

Bring your own drinks. Tea/Coffee at interval.

Raffle

Rettendon Horticultural Society

The recent mild weather has brought everything forward by a couple of weeks and it's starting to feel like Spring. I just wish it would stop raining! However, it's too soon to be doing much outside because, remember the "Beast from the East" arrived in the first week of March.

It's a good time to be getting top off the weeds before they seed. They seem to survive whatever the weather!

March is a busy time for the Horticultural Society with our first talk of the year on Tuesday the 12th March by Sandra Lawrence, the author of the book Miss Wilmott's Ghost. Helen Wilmott was the first woman to be admitted to the Royal Horticultural Society. Her property Warley Place has the most amazing display of acres of daffodils and is the venue for our first trip on the 14th March. The talk will be at Rettendon Village Hall at 7.30. Members go free. Non members £3.



Our Spring Show is on Tuesday the 19th March at the village hall. Entries from 6.45 and judging at 7.30. Tea, homemade cake, a raffle and a quiz. Open to all not just members.

RHS Hyde Hall is holding a daffodil show on the 20th and 21st March and is well worth a visit.

Our Society can only survive if we maintain a good number of members. I fear that the future of Horticultural Societies in general is threatened, largely due to an ageing membership. Maybe the use of the word "horticultural" puts people off from joining.

Perhaps we should best describe ourselves as a gardening club. We are, after all, just a group of people who share an interest in growing things and keeping our gardens looking good. We welcome new members.

Give us a try. Membership is only £5 a year.

John Bruty, Chairperson

School Gardening Monday Lunch-Time Club.

The raised beds for the club were replaced in the half-term. It just needs us to add a bit more compost and to seed and plant it out with the children.



As we mentioned last month this is now a **FREE** club at Monday lunchtimes for any child who wishes to join us. We know the children like their playtime too, so they can plant a seed perhaps, do some watering, plant bulbs, then go to play whenever they like.

Class potato growing competition. Now an annual event. We will be planting up the bags with the children when we can and will ask each class to look after their own. Then just before the summer show we can empty them with the children and they will weigh them. An all-round educational exercise - science (growing), weighing, and maths to see who wins.

Barbara Wright, Secretary, email:

RetHSsec@gmail.com

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

Winter Weather Advice from Essex & Suffolk Water who offer advice to Rettendon and Battlesbridge residents following the onset of the dangerous mix of freeze/thaw weather which cause the ground to swell and move around leading to a higher risk of underground pipes to move, crack and burst. Essex & Suffolk Water have their specialist teams often working around the clock to keep the water flowing through sound pipework and not just allow it to drain away and be wasted.

Of course you can help yourself by lagging un-protected pipework in unheated parts of your home say up in your loft, in your garage and don't forget outside taps. Make sure you know where the stopcock is and so if you need to you can easily get at it so you can turn the water off.

Everyone needs a little help from time to time and helpful information is available on Essex & Suffolk Water's web site on-line leakage portal or on social media. You can even sign up on behalf of someone else, so please think of your neighbours, friends & family who may need that important extra support.



**St George's Day on Tuesday,
23rd April from 7.30pm
South Hanningfield Village Hall CM3 8HL** have

returning the wonderful "Cockney Pride" for an evening of sing along and flag waving with the Pearly King and Queen.

Tickets cost £15 each.

Bring your own drinks and party food.

For tickets, please call Emma on 07961 963914.

Battlesbridge Free Church

How sad it is to hear on the radio the other day that quite a few people now are nervous or fearful of using public transport, in case they might be caught up in threatening or anti-social behaviour. So a new group of guardians is contemplated to ride on buses to be ready to combat aggressive or bad behaviour. Jesus Christ came into our world to show us a better way to live our lives so that we could live peaceably with our neighbours and not need to live in fear. It seems only a short time ago that this way of life was the basic ethos in our schools and so generations grew to adulthood with Christian guidance as their base for moral behaviour.



A few years back there were those who felt that young children and adolescents should be given more authority over their lives. Parents, teachers and those in authority were made uncertain of their natural role over the young and disciplined behaviour in young people became a bit of a lottery. We are so fortunate in our country that ordinary life is fairly stable and self-discipline is seen in most young adults. Our heritage of following Christ's teaching of helping those less fortunate still prompts food banks and generous giving to charities. There are those who feel that this outlook in life is of themselves, but it is not so. Our inheritance is of God's rule, in and through his Christ.

The very foundations of education for all and setting-up schools and colleges was prompted by those with a form of Christian faith. Hospitals and health care were likewise prompted by persons of faith and belief in Christ's way. Following His way and example of caring, honesty, treating others as you would treat yourself acknowledging the beauty and wonder of the natural world, is not old-fashioned nonsense but the very breath of life. **June Edwards**

Newsletter Contributions - email: RetBatNews@gmail.com

We encourage contributions from local individuals, societies or groups. Please send them ASAP via e-mail, as above, or phone 01245 321554. Funding contributions, cash or cheques (made out to RetBatNews), phone 01245 321554 for details, or post in 55, East Hanningfield Rd.

Little Darwin's Nursery

Another busy month in nursery, the children have enjoyed exploring rain and had a lot of fun splashing in the biggest puddles they could find! They also used powder paint in the rain to create various different patterns on our wall. They also made rain makers with coloured rice and took these home.

The children really enjoyed taking part in the Big Bird Watch and spent lots of time outside counting the birds that they could see, they also made bird feeders which were taken home to put out in their own gardens.

We celebrated Chinese New Year and the children took part in dragon dancing and enjoyed a delicious traditional Chinese meal. We also had a visitor to nursery when Dimitri the Dragon came to see us and gave all the children fortune



cookies.

Pancakes were enjoyed on Shrove Tuesday for afternoon snack, the children also had lots of fun flipping cardboard pancakes too.

We are now all looking forward to seeing signs of spring and some warmer weather and the fun that Easter brings.



Jeanette Freeman-Smith, Administrator

Flooding in South Hanningfield Road

This has been an ongoing problem for some time. Back in November Councillor Keith Marshall got in touch with Lee Bellinger of Essex Highways, the Flood Enforcement Caseworker.



They met up in South Hanningfield Road on Friday 17th November to discuss what could be done. Information between all parties was exchanged to agree to a plan to solve the flooding, rather than just alleviate the problem for a short time.

Subsequently to that meeting the jetting team was dispatched to clear the gullies and pits as they appeared to be partially blocked.

A problem with the ditch was also mentioned and the landowner has been contacted to ask if he could clear the section of ditch to expose the inlet pipe. There appear to be willow roots in the ditch stopping the flow of water down the pipes.

More work is to be done with need for a road closure to access some of the pipes to improve the drainage. However, as each road closure takes at least 8 weeks to be authorised this is a slow business.

We will try and keep people informed - but something not only is being done, but has been ongoing since last year.

**Councillor Keith Marshall,
Rettendon Parish Council.**

Garden Notes

Warmer climes have brought all the flowers out with a rush. Lots of surprises surviving. Not a lot of exotic items in my patch!

Several varieties of snowdrop have arrived from other sources. Wow.

A bit early for Spring?

Mrs. McGregor

Have you tried the new 007 glue? Bonds in seconds
The other day I got an invoice for a yak - Buffalo Bill



Thanks to
Tim Vine



Battlesbridge and Rettendon Events (To publicise your event please contact the compiler)



EVENT	DATE / DAY	TIME	VENUE	ORGANISATION
Root's And Wings	Saturday 2 nd March	7pm - 11pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Ray & Dave's C.M.C.
THE BIG QUIZ	Friday, 8 th March	7 for 7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Hazel's Quiz Nite
Miss Wilmott's Garden	Tuesday, 12 th March	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hal	Rettendon Hort. Soc.
Warley Place Nature Res.	Thursday, 14 th March	9:30am	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Hort. Soc.
St. Patrick's Ceilidh	Saturday, 16 th March	7pm	South Hanningfield Village Hall	
Spring Show	Tuesday, 19 th March	6:45pm +	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Hort. Soc.
Easter Fair	Sunday, 31 st March	10am – 5pm	Battlesbridge Antiques Centre ☼	
Easter Church Open Day	Monday, 1 st April	10:30am – 3pm	All Saints' Church Rettendon	
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 Parish Council*
Bowls	Mondays	7pm - 9pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	
Warm Hub	Wednesdays	12 – 2pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	
Knit and Natter	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays	2pm – 4pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	
Art Group	Wednesdays	2pm - 4pm	Battlesbridge Free Church Hall	
Youth Group	Wednesdays	6:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	
Walking Group	Thursdays	10am / 7pm	Various	Sandie 01268 733259
Zumba Class	Thursdays	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Teacher 07879 683731
Coffee Morning	Fridays	10am – 11am	All Saints Church, Rettendon	
Raise Your Voice Choir	Fridays	7pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	Raise Your Voice Choir
Country and Western	1 st Saturday in month	7pm – 11pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Ray & Dave's C.M.C.
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY				
Irish Night with Shaun Loughrey & Brian Mann	Saturday, 6 th April	7pm - 11pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Ray & Dave's C.M.C.
Classic Vehicle Breakfast	Sunday, 21 st April	9am	Battlesbridge Antiques Centre ☼	
St. George's Day	Tuesday, 23 rd April	7:30pm	South Hanningfield Village Hall	
Battlesbridge Quiz Night	Saturday, 27 th April	7 for 7:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	
Bulldog Bonanza	Sunday, 28 th April	11am – 4pm	Battlesbridge Antiques Centre ☼	
MOBILE LIBRARY – (every 3 weeks) https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/digital-content/our-mobile-and-home-library-services/mobile-libraries				
South Hanningfield Village Hall / Salforal Close	Tuesday	12:25pm to 12:55pm / 1:45pm to 2:15pm		19 th March, 9 th & 30 th April
Goose Cottages	Friday	9:40am to 10:10am		15 th March, 5 th & 26 th April

*Check website: <https://www.rettendonpc.org.uk/> or Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rettendonparishcouncil/>

☼ <https://www.battlesbridge.com/events>

Country Diary

The big bird watch has highlighted the plight of some of our birds, which are on the decline, and successes of others now brought back from near extinction. Red Kites have been seen in this area, with buzzards and, on occasion owls on their night run for food.

Farmers have been in the forefront of the effort, using less chemicals and more natural substances, and leaving a swathe of land fallow to allow nature back into its own environment.

The “no to mow” policy seems to be going well too, with wildflowers allowed to seed along pathways, providing food for the insects to keep the birds happy.

However, we are getting a bit fed up of flies in the bell tower, which seem to come down/up from everywhere and die before our very eyes. A distraction for bell ringers trying to ring methods. Oh well, should keep the bats and spiders fed!

From our nature (& bellringer) correspondent.



We would like to thank the Battlesbridge Station Adopters who have added a Newsletter holder to their board at the station. We will ensure that there are copies in place every month.

What game do horses play in their stalls? Stable -tennis
Why did the chicken cross the playground? To get to the other slide.

Rettendon Parish Council contact details:-
Katherine Kane, Parish Council Clerk

rettendonparishcouncil@outlook.com 07811 254163

The Parish council website is: <https://www.rettendonpc.org.uk/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rettendonparishcouncil/>

Planning received by Chelmsford City Council for Rettendon area (from December 2023) and decisions:-

With Rettendon Parish Council December 2023 meeting		
23/01864/FUL	SS11 7QW	Application refused
23/01978/FUL	SS11 7QW	Application refused
23/02016/AG	CM3 8EW	Withholding approval
23/02042/FUL	SS117HH	Pending consideration
With Rettendon Parish Council January 2024 meeting		
24/00128/FUL	CM3 8HE	Pending consideration
24/00080/FUL	SS11 7QU	Pending consideration
23/02013/FUL	SS117QU	Application permitted
23/01885/FUL	CM3 8EW	Application permitted

Rettendon Horticultural Society would like to thank Rettendon Parish Council for the grant of £500 to enable the Village Summer Show to go ahead.

If you wish to receive this newsletter by email please contact RetBatNews@gmail.com or website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/retbatnews/>
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