



Prepared & distributed by over 30 volunteers within the parish. Printed by Solopress, 9 Stock Rd, SS2 5QF
Financed directly by residents, businesses and grant from Parish Council in the area. Issue number 432
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

**WE WISH EVERYONE A HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND A VERY MERRY NEW YEAR.**

We would like to thank all our distributors for their invaluable help during the year.
And thanks to all our supporters and contributors.
Without you all this newsletter would not continue.

**CHRISTMAS
MARKET**

Battlesbridge Antique & Craft
Centre
Cromwell House Car Park

Essex Christmas Market

**Saturday, 7th and Sunday, 8th
December 2024 10am - 5pm**

COME JOIN
THE FUN

**RAISING MONEY FOR
HAVENS HOSPICES**



**Looking to get an early start into the
Christmas spirit?**



**Battlesbridge Raise Your
Voice Community Choir**

**Annual Christmas Concert
Saturday 7 December 2024
in Battlesbridge Free Church.**

Doors open at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start.
Refreshments during the interval. Donations to
the Church for maintenance.

**All Saints' Church
Christmas Carol Service**

**Sunday, 22nd December,
2024 11:15am
All Welcome.**



**All Saints' Church
Christmas Church Services**

**22nd December Carol service 11.15am
24th December Midnight Communion
11.30pm**



Christmas day service at Rawreth only 10.00am

**Ray and Dave's Country Music Club
New Year's Eve Dance**

Dancing to the **Country Mile**
Rettendon Village Hall, CM3 8DP
Tuesday, 31st December, 2024

Doors Open 7:00pm - 12:15am
No bar - Bring Your Own Drinks

Tea/Coffee and FOOD available

Celebrate the New Year with great music: just listen or dance

Tickets on sale now at £10 contact:

Ray 01245 472386 / 07791434118

Or Dave 01245 225963

(picture from <https://countrymileduo.com/>)



**Ray and Dave's Country Music Club
KEVIN BARRY**

**Rettendon Village Hall, CM3 8DP
Saturday, 11th January 2024**

Doors Open 7:00pm - 12:15am
No bar - Bring Your Own Drinks
Tea/Coffee and FOOD available
Come along for a night of great music to
listen or dance

**Tickets contact: Ray 01245
472386 / 07791434118**

Or Dave 01245 225963



**Ray and Dave's Country Music Club
BRIAN MANN**

**Saturday, 7th December,
2024**

Rettendon Village Hall,
(opposite school), CM3 8DP
Doors Open 7:00pm - 11pm
No bar - BYOD

Tea/Coffee & FOOD available
Join in a great night of live music
- get up and dance or sit and listen.

Contact: Ray 01245 472386 / 07791434118

Or Dave 01245 225963

(picture from Brian Mann Promotion & Events)



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

**A Wonderful Carol Concert
for all ages**

with
Allegro Choir
at

All Saints Church, Rettendon

December 7th 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)



COMMUNITY WARM HUB

Colder weather

Less inclined to go out, but missing friends and neighbours?

Come and join us on a

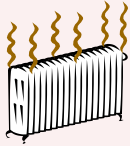
Wednesday from 12 until 2pm

In the cosy, warm **Rettendon Memorial Hall committee room, CM3 8DP**

Transport available from local people just call Barbara on 01245 321554, or Hazel on 01245 401538, or email RettendonMemorialHall@gmail.com

All residents, friends and family welcomed.

On offer is:- Warming home-made soup with bread
Home-made cakes Tea, Coffee
or even Hot Chocolate
All provided free of charge by the Hall Management Committee.



Jany and John would like to thank those who came to the Quiz night.

The profit of £300 was split between Little Havens Hospice and the Living Memorial Rettendon.

Thank you so much.

Here's to next year's fundraisers



Garden Notes

Great spotted woodpecker heaved out the sunflower seeds from the feeder to get to the peanuts.

A visitor (leaving us) nearly stood on a hedgehog on the doorstep.

Hope it had a good feast on the caches of snails which hide behind my ornamental pots.

No chemicals on my patch. **Mrs. McGregor**



RETTENDON PARISH COUNCIL (RPC)

Contact details:- Emma Terris, Parish Council Clerk,

Tel: 07852 138878 **Email:** rettendonparishcouncil@outlook.com

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

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

Minutes of the last meetings are on the website, either in draft if not agreed, or final versions:

<https://www.rettendonpc.org.uk/parish-council/meetings-minutes/parish-council-minutes/>

Items ongoing.....

Sonters Down play equipment. Chelmsford City Council (CCC) do not have enough money left in the budget to replace, or extend, the equipment there. RPC are liaising with CCC for new equipment providing CCC look after it for the duration of its life.

Bell fields play equipment requires inspection which is in process.

The insurance is being checked for the frequency of inspection.

Budget and Precept for 2025/2026

Budget: the amount of money required by RPC for the expenditure for the next financial year. It is the law to agree a budget before a Parish Council can set its precept.

Precept: the amount of money the Council ask for from CCC for the expenditure in the budget. Calculated from the Council Tax from the number of properties in the parish. The precept must be agreed by the end of the calendar year for CCC to calculate how much to charge each household next year.

Please note the next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday 17th December at 7:30pm.

Planning

Ref: 24/01256/REM - Whitegates, Woodham Rd.

Application permitted by Chelmsford City council (CCC)

Ref: 24/01193/FUL - Meadowcroft, Woodham Rd.

Application permitted by CCC

Ref: 24/01122/FUL - Oak Tree Farm, Burnham Road, Battlesbridge. Application refused, though an appeal has been lodged.

Ref: 24/00529/FUL - Rettendon Bell, Main Road, Rettendon Common. Application refused by CCC. Further to this the Parish Council are looking into an application for the Bell Pub to become an 'Asset of Community Value'.



If athletes get athletes foot, what do rocket scientists get? Missile-toe.

What's green, covered in tinsel and goes 'ribbet, ribbet'? Mistle-toad.



Rettendon Horticultural Society

At last we have had some cold weather which hopefully will stop the grass growing! Garden chores should now be completed and all that remains is to reflect on the success and failures of the past year and to look through seed catalogues making next years choices.

Our AGM took place and it was a good time to catch up with members and think about the year ahead. The Society has had a good year apart from concerns over low numbers attending our evening talks. Clearly something we need to address next year.

As a Winter project I am hoping to research the history of our Society and compile a booklet to be distributed to members and anyone else who might be interested in our history. I have established that Rettendon and District Horticultural Society, as it was originally called, was founded in 1892. In order to help with my project I need to gather as much information as possible and I would be pleased to receive details of any documents, memories or photographs that might be in existence. With that in mind if anybody has any of those things please could they contact me by email

john.bruty212@outlook.com.

Our Spring Show in its new format will take place on Saturday 12th April 2025 at the village hall. The show schedule will be available on our website early next year.

All that remains is, on behalf of Rettendon Horticultural Society, to wish you a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year and to thank everybody who has helped over the past year.

I look forward to welcoming lots of people to our events next year.

John Bruty, Chairperson

Christmas Lunch at the Lodge. -Thursday, 12th December.

If you wish to join us for the Christmas lunch can you please contact me so I can ascertain numbers. I will also need your deposit (£15) to book. Thank you.

AGM

Our AGM confirmed our membership at £5 per year.

We continue to support the local school with a lunchtime gardening "club", and sessions will resume at the end of the Spring half-term break, avoiding the bad weather and since little is growing at the moment.

Barbara Wright Secretary 01245 321554 email:

RetHSsec@gmail.com

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

The Richard Cannon Charity

A Charitable Trust to help people in need in Rettendon

Do you need some short - term financial help?

We are here to help you.

From time to time the Trustees of the Charity have advised people living in the parish of its existence which in certain circumstances, has limited funds available to help needy local people.

If you are aware of any parish resident young or old who may need specific help then please contact me to see what may be done to assist. The Charity may contribute towards the cost of 'one off' special items but not rents, Council tax etc. Trustees will deal with all issues discreetly and in complete confidence.

Some ways in which we might be able to help:

- Grant towards repairing or replacing a broken boiler or cooker, or other essential household items
- Help after a break-in or theft
- Urgent repairs to your home to keep it secure and watertight
- Help towards a school educational visit or a training course
- Help with expenses for a job interview
- Help with school uniforms
- Help towards funeral expenses
- Equipment for a new baby
- ... if you have any other needs please get in touch. We may be able to help.

The Trust income arises from agricultural land which was left to the benefit of residents in the Rettendon and South Hanningfield parishes.

For more information and how to apply please contact **Sarah Copsey on 07900 520717**

chelmsfordplumbingandheating.co.uk | sales@chelmsfordplumbingandheating.co.uk

Rettendon Memorial Village Hall

There is now a new cooker in the hall ready for those events that need it. Still ongoing maintenance and trying to keep up with sweeping away the leaves and acorns to leave a free pathway. We had a query as to how old the oak is outside the hall. We believe it is nearly 500 years old. The Hall Committee is now looking after it to ensure it remains for another few centuries.

Bowls is on a Monday, from 7 till 9pm.

New members very welcome, come along to meet people and have a bit of exercise. Good for mental well-being too.



Tuesdays have various bookings.

Rettendon Horticultural Society have just had their AGM and the cost of membership is still only £5. Please contact our membership Secretary, Louise Johnson, email rhsmemsec@gmail.com for details of how to join.

The Parish Council meets generally on the last Tuesday of the month. Residents can bring up council problems at the start in the Public Forum, e.g. lighting or road issues, but if urgent please get in touch with the clerk, Emma Terris. Her contact details are in the newsletter.

Wednesday is now Warm Hub day, 12 till 2pm, in the committee room, with home-made soup and hot drinks provided by the Hall Committee.



Wednesday evening, 6 - 8:30pm, there is a Stained Glass Workshop run by Caroline.

Contact her on 07792 475085 to find out more.



Fridays and Saturdays are quiz nights and other events. See adverts in the Newsletter or on the hall website.

Country and Western is on first Saturday of the month.

Live music to dance or listen to. Different acts during the year. See the adverts. **New Year's Eve special with "Country Mile".**

Lennox Productions - In aid of Lennox Children's Cancer Fund are in the hall most Tuesdays and Thursdays and some Saturdays and Sundays, where they are gearing up for their pantomime in the Towngate Theatre.

Find out more about the events on the Hall Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/rettendon-memorial-hall/>

The availability of the hall for parties and other events can be found by phoning the **booking clerk, Dianne Francombe, on 01245 400297.** She now has her 2025 diary, so all ready for next year.

For information about the hall the secretary, Barbara Wright, can be contacted on 01245 321554, or email: rettendonmemorialhall@gmail.com.

Hall Management Committee

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

ESSEX HIGHWAYS - Report a problem

Website: <https://www.essexhighways.org/transport-and-roads/tell-us/report-all-issues.aspx> Any risk to public safety, please call us immediately on 0345 603 7631 or if you have hearing problems use our text phone service on 0345 758 5592

CHELMSFORD CITY COUNCIL (CCC)

Website: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/>

or telephone: 01245 606606

Planning search: <https://publicaccess.chelmsford.gov.uk/online-applications/search.do>



How do fish stay in touch? They send sea-mails
What do you call a sick crocodile? An illigator
What goes 'Oh, Oh, Oh'? Santa walking backwards
Time for the bird of prey quiz. Fingers on buzzards.....



CHELMSFORD PLUMBING & HEATING



**Boiler Installations
Boiler Servicing
Boiler Repairs**

A trustworthy family run business specialising in Gas, Oil, LPG, Electrical, Plumbing, Air-con and Renewables.



**Plumbing Repairs
and Maintenance**

- ✓ All calls are answered personally
- ✓ Confirmed bookings given
- ✓ No job too small!
- ✓ Work covered by 12-month guarantee



**Electrical services
by NICEIC
certified
electricians**



**Air Conditioning
and Renewables**

Call us or visit our website to find out more!



01245 478588



Why did the baker stop making doughnuts? He was sick of the hole business.

Church singers. They're an a-choired taste.



Battlesbridge and Rettendon Events - December 2024 / January 2025




EVENT	DATE / DAY	TIME	VENUE	ORGANISATION
All Saints' Christmas Fair	Saturday, 30th November	10:30am – 3pm	All Saints Church, Rettendon (CM3 8DR)	
Christmas Shopping Trip	Saturday, 30th November	Day trip	Ashford Outlet	South Hanningfield Village Hall
Christmas Concert	Saturday, 7th December	7 for 7:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	Raise Your Voice Community Choir
Carol Concert	Saturday, 7th December	7:30pm	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Country Mile	Saturday, 7th December	7 – 11pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Ray & Dave's CMC
Christmas Lunch	Thursday, 12th December	Lunchtime	The Lodge	Rettendon Hort Soc.
9 Lessons & Carols	Sunday, 15th December	11am	Battlesbridge Free Church	
Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday, 17th December	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon PC⊗
Carol Service	Sunday, 22nd December	11:15am	All Saints Church, Rettendon	
Midnight Communion	Tuesday, 24th December	11:30pm	All Saints Church, Rettendon	
Christmas Service	Wednesday, 25th December	10am	St. Nicholas Church, Rawreth (no service at All Saints')	
Country Mile	Tuesday, 31st December	7pm – 12:15am	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Ray & Dave's CMC
Dave Browning's Jazz Cats	Wednesday, 8th January	6:15 – 10:15pm	Rettendon Lodge	Belvedere Jazz & Music Supper★
Kevin Barry	Saturday, 11th January	7 – 11pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Ray & Dave's CMC

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	7 - 9pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	
Warm Hub	Wednesdays	12 – 2pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	
Knit and Natter	1st & 3rd Wednesdays	2 – 4pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	
Art group	Wednesdays	2 – 4pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	
Stained Glass Class	Wednesdays	6 – 8:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Caroline 07792 475085
Youth Group	Wednesdays	6:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church (SS11 7RE)	
Bellringing Practice	Wednesdays	8 – 9pm	All Saints Church, Rettendon (CM3 8DR)	
Walking Group	Thursdays	10am / 7pm	Various	Sandie 01268 733259
Coffee Morning	Fridays	10am – 11am	All Saints Church, Rettendon (CM3 8DR)	
Community Choir	Fridays	7pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	Community Choir
Country and Western	1st Saturday in Month	7pm – 11pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Ray & Dave's CMC

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Best of Friends	Saturday, 1st February	7 – 11pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Ray & Dave's CMC
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	11:25am to 11:55am / 12:50pm to 1:20pm	17th Dec	
Goose Cottages	Friday	9:40am to 10:10am	13th Dec	

⊗ Check website: <https://www.rettendonpc.org.uk/> or Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rettendonparishcouncil/>
 ★ <https://belvederejazz.co.uk/gigs/>  <https://www.battlesbridge.com/events>

To publicise your event please contact the compiler

Battlesbridge Free Church

Shall we have snow? When I was little, we would almost always be guaranteed some snow. My sister and I would risk cold hands and feet, spending a happy, industrious time building the biggest snowman we could manage. It always lasted several days. For the last few years, snow has seemed to be a thing of the past, but with the dramatic climate change, anything could happen.

But we have a loving God who has promised to be with us always. This in spite of our widespread turning our backs on him. Like with the snow, God was a real force during our young lives and throughout the war years, God gave us courage and backbone to the country as bombing, food shortage and fear of invasion was the background of life. That wonderfully supportive God didn't disappear at the end of the war. He didn't stop being God Almighty and his Son, Jesus Christ, did not stop urging that we should follow his way of caring for each other ready to forgive each other rather than "get even".

Sadly, the need to keep ahead of our neighbours, overvalue a more than adequate bank balance, yearn for things to please our senses, seems to be the way to go in our modern world, with its frenetic appetites. School Assemblies used to be small acts of Christian worship with hymns and songs teaching a moral base for life. These have largely been replaced by secular alternatives. Christianity seems now, to be taught as just one of many world beliefs, just take your pick! No wonder some of our youth feel rootless, some feeling the need to arm themselves with knives. I pray that our young may still come across the moral foundation of the Christian way of life, the faith and way of their ancestors.

June Edwards



DOG LOVERS

We know your pets are special to you, and that you walk them for exercise, but please watch your dog and pick up the dog poo when it occurs. Either put in the dog bins, of which there are several around, or take it home with you to put in the dustbin.

PLEASE do not leave it where children play as it can cause *Toxocarias*, a condition leading to blindness, breathing difficulties, possibly meningitis or epileptic seizures. It can affect adults too, so please do not leave it hanging on bushes and trees for the same reason.

We will ALL thank you for it.

(Fouling is considered an antisocial behaviour and has a maximum penalty of £1,000).



Newsletter Contributions - email: RetBatNews@gmail.com

Contributions from local individuals, societies or groups are welcome. 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.

If you wish to receive this newsletter by email please contact RetBatNews@gmail.com or website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/retbatnews/>
Please note this newsletter is compiled from various entries and is not the work of any one person. The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the compiler, or of the Newsletter Organisation, though spelling and grammar may be corrected.