



RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER MARCH 2025

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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

Ray and Dave's Country Music Club Ridgeway Country



Saturday, March 1st, 2025
Rettendon Village Hall,
(opposite school), CM3
8DP

Traditional 4-piece country
band of 2 guitars, pedal steel
drums and bass

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

(from <https://www.facebook.com/ridgewaycountry/photos>)

Rettendon Memorial Hall

are pleased to announce one performance of

Lennox Productions'

VARIETY SHOW

Saturday 8th March

7 for 7:30pm

Tickets: Adults £10, children over 5 £5,
children under 5 free

(contact Hall Booking Clerk on 01245 400297)

In aid of the Lennox Children's Cancer
Charity (1011325) and Rettendon
Memorial Village Hall (301383)

Websites: <https://www.lennoxccf.org.uk/>

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



Rettendon Memorial Hall

BINGO NIGHT

Friday, 28th March

(on-going every Last Friday of the Month)

7 for 7:30pm

Rettendon Memorial Hall CM3 8DP

All welcome.

Monthly sessions which we would like to
continue. Please come along: the young, the
old, novices, families even the sceptical!
Be surprised who enjoys it and who wins!

Raffle, teas & coffees available,
or BYOD and nibbles.

Organised for the community by Rettendon
Memorial Hall Management Committee
(Raffle prizes gratefully received)



BELVEDERE JAZZ & MUSIC SUPPER CLUB

Top International & UK Jazz Artists



5th March
Derek Nash Jools Holland's
saxophonist brings his top quintet



19th March
Pete Neighbour
Julian Stringle
Jonathan Vinten

Superb quintet with two of the UK's
top clarinetists perform tunes from
the 1920's 30's, 40's & 50's

Rettendon Lodge Events, Burnham Rd, Battlesbridge SS11 7QT

Admission from £18.50 - Newcomers most welcome!

A twice monthly all dining club opening at 6:15pm
with meals from £14.50 ~ Show 7:45pm - 10:45pm

Reservations: Email : belvederejazz@gmail.com ~ Tel: 07850 607075

The Bell & Chimes, Main Road, Rettendon CM3 8DY 01245 523426

JOIN US FOR

ULTIMATE
80'S
PARTY BAND



8PM

SATURDAY
8TH
MARCH

LIVE
MUSIC

Friday 21st March 8pm

TRIBUTE NIGHT
ELVIS



Guest Star
DANIEL VIS

Friday 21st March
8pm
The Bell & Chimes
Main Road
Rettendon
CM3 8DY
01245 523426

All Saints' Church, Rettendon



"In Memory" Easter flower
arrangement for loved
ones. Sponsored flowers
with name on printed list
at the altar. Please
contact Lyn Benson for details.

Easter - April Services

- ✠ **Palm Sunday 11.15am (13th)**
- ✠ **Good Friday reflections 2pm**
(18th)
- ✠ **Easter Sunday 11.15pm (20th)**

Easter Monday, 21st April:
Eva Romanakova in Concert.
Details to be announced.

26th May Spring Bank Holiday
Monday Open day Church Open
Day, emphasis on heritage.

Rettendon Horticultural Society

By the time the newsletter reaches you the weather should have warmed up. February has been a very cold and miserable month but at last there are signs that Spring is on its way. Bulbs are now showing through and the first daffodils are in bloom.

Our new Spring show will take place on **Saturday the 12th April at the village hall**. Entries from 8.00am until 10.30am with the show opening at 2.00pm. The schedule is very full with lots of classes to enter. There will also be an exhibition of crafts so if you have been busy over the Winter why not bring something along. It's not to be judged! The show schedule is available on our website. Please support our new venture.

John Bruty, Chairperson

Membership now due - same price as last year £5.

There will be letters going out now for membership. You should get a card with the diary on it for all the events when you pay. Please get in touch with the membership secretary, Louise Johnson, on her email RHSMemSec@gmail.com if you would like to join at any time.

Talk 12th March. Postponed.

For a while now attendance at the evening talks has been very low so we thought that we would try an afternoon talk. Unfortunately the speaker who was due is not available. We are still looking at an afternoon talk, but later in the year with warmer weather.

SPRING SHOW - Saturday, 12th April, 2 - 4:30pm

There are classes for children included with an Easter Hat/Bonnet for them to make/decorate. We would love to see some. We are willing to pick up from the school to enter any children's exhibit into the show. Just let us know.

LULLINGSTONE CASTLE Trip - Sunday, 21st June

Please indicate your interest by contacting the secretary, Barbara Wright, on 01245 321554 or email

RetHSsec@gmail.com.

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

Battlesbridge Free Church

In a moment I'll mention some of the events which are happening regularly or coming up at our church. All the activities come under the general description of "life affirming", music, art, worship, prayer, etc.. This is no fluke because life and love are pretty much what we are about. I'm not trying to push or promote anything but I want to offer you something which is, I admit, based on our belief that God is the source of all life and love. We meet every Sunday and one of the things we do is pray, talk things over with God, our joys, problems, those of people we know and of the world beyond. I/we would be happy to pray with you or for you if you'd find that helpful. Please get in touch.

The weekly happenings in our church and church hall are:

The Trolley Boys rock group rehearsals, Rayleigh Brass band rehearsals (Thurs evening), Raise Your Voice community choir rehearsals (Fri evening), Art Group (Wed afternoon), Children's Club (Wed evening)... not forgetting our church services (11am Sunday).

Once a month we have a special prayer and communion service, the next two are March 2nd and April 6th.

Advance notice! Quiz Night 12th April. Be there or be square!

If you'd like to give us a try we'd love to see you or hear from you.

David Edwards



Rettendon Memorial Village Hall (CM3 8DP)

Upcoming event at the Hall:

**VE 80th End of World War II in Europe
Anniversary Afternoon Tea
Saturday, 10th May, 2pm - 5pm**

New stage lighting and a projector are now fitted in the hall, with 2 lights off stage for greater flexibility. All run by a desk deck.

Broadband and WiFi for the hall.

This is taking rather a long time to get in place, but it is ongoing and will not be forgotten. We will inform all hall users when it is up and running.

Regular events:

Short Mat/Carpet Bowls is on Mondays, from 7 till 9pm.

Tuesdays have various bookings:-

Rettendon Horticultural Society

The Parish Council meets generally on the last Tuesday of the month.

Wednesdays, Community Hub - 12 - 2pm,

Knit & Natter is from 2 - 4pm, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays in the month.

Wednesday evening, 6 - 8:30pm, Stained Glass Class

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

Last Friday in the month - BINGO! Looking forward to keeping this as a regular event. Come along from 7pm. Good fun for all with a Raffle (prizes welcome).

Country and Western is on first Saturday of the month.

Lennox Productions - In aid of Lennox Children's Cancer Fund rehearsals most Tuesdays and Thursdays and some Saturdays and Sundays, gearing up for their pantomime: "**The Wizard of Oz**",

from Wednesday 30th April to Saturday 3rd May, in the Towngate Theatre, Basildon.

Lennox Productions' VARIETY SHOW
Saturday 8th March, 7pm
Tickets from the booking clerk, Dianne Francombe on 01245 400297

To find out more about the events in the Hall visit the 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.**

For information contact the hall secretary, Barbara Wright, email: rettendonmemorialhall@gmail.com, 01245 321554.

Hall Management Committee

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

Newsletter Deliveries

Hayes Country Park has all areas covered. Thank you. Unfortunately no deliveries to either **South Hanningfield Road** and **Cole Hill** in Rettendon Common. Marshall's butchers has copies, or go online to the website <https://e-voice.org.uk/retbatnews/newsletters/> for the latest one.

Can help with deliveries? phone **Barbara Wright on 01245 321554**, or email RetBatNews@gmail.com

Battlesbridge Free Church

is holding its popular

Quiz Night on Saturday 12 April 2025.

Doors open at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start.

Tables of up to eight people and the cost is £5 per person on the door.

Tea and coffee will be available at half-time; there will also be a raffle.

Please come and have a great time, with plenty of laughs thrown in! We look forward to seeing you.

Great British Spring Clean

Do you like living in a rubbish heap?

Thanks go to all the individuals and businesses who clear their patches and road frontages to present a tidy outlook.



To deal with the neglected sites Chelmsford sponsor an annual campaign and suggest a parish action plan, provide kit and advice for volunteers. The corridor for this event is March 21st to 6th April, 2025.

Willing to help clear a patch? Join the Great British Spring Clean - by getting on our list of volunteers.

Phone Hazel Dale-Evans on 01245 401538.

Resident's item on the Bell Fields Issue.

NOTE: A Newsletter item has been received from a resident. Although we are happy to put in residents comments, if the item is controversial the newsletter constitution allows a 48 hour right-to-reply from those affected by the comment. Since the substance of the item is about the Parish Council minutes and agenda items included, it was deemed not necessary for the item to be sent to those affected, nor to be included in the newsletter. If this is unacceptable please get in touch with us.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Good news and bad news! The heating is fixed for now, but really needs replacing. We are in consultation with the diocese about how this proceeds, but it will almost certainly require significant fundraising over the next few months.

To start this off, our first "event" of the year will be a concert at Easter. At the moment we are not sure whether this will be on Easter Sunday or Easter Monday, but this will be confirmed as soon as possible, so keep an eye out on Facebook and the good old fashioned noticeboards in the village.

Lyn is planning one of her wonderful flower arrangements as a memorial for loved ones for the Easter Weekend. Details of how to have someone's name displayed on the list will follow nearer the time.

Following that, on Monday 26th May (Spring Bank Holiday Monday) there will be an open day at the church, with the emphasis on heritage, and we hope to have some old record books from the Essex Record Office on view, as well as the usual refreshments and things for sale. The Humfrey memorial will be 300 years old in 2027, so we are looking forward to more heritage events in the lead up to celebrating that.

Looking further ahead, there will also be an open day on August Bank Holiday Monday. **Gale, Fogg, Churchwarden**

Garden Notes

Much activity - mostly below the surface but squirrel has been excavating for nuts and leaving pits everywhere. Saves me digging! Some sticks to clear yet but lots of spring stuff about to pop and surprise us. **Mrs. McGregor**

RETTENDON PARISH COUNCIL (RPC)

Contact:- Emma Terris, Parish Council Clerk,

Tel: 07852 138878

Email: rettendonparishcouncil@outlook.com

Parish Council website:

<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/minutes-minutes/parish-council-minutes/>

Previous meeting minutes and February Agenda items:-

Bell Field - Fly-Tipping, etc.

In the September meeting, following residents asking for the Parish council support for the removal of the fly-tipping on the Upper Bell Field, a detailed discussion took place. The Parish Council requested a breakdown of the proceeds from the Trustees of the Bell Field Charities of the funding events which had occurred. One quote for the removal was put forward by the trustees. Councillors requested that the trustees produce a grant application with three quotes, since the funding would be over £1,000, to the Council for consideration.

At the December meeting a resident queried about the fly-tipped material on the Bell Fields and installation of a gate offered by the Trustees of the Bell Fields. The Parish Council have not taken this any further as the remit is under the trustees. The resident was assured the gate restrictions would be put in place by the chairman of the Trustees, Mr. Ride.

Mr. Ride, in his capacity as chairman of the Management Trustees of the Bell Field charities, gave assurances that the Trustees would contribute £2,000 towards the cost of the removal of the fly-tipped material. There was also an application to the Parish council for it to fund the removal of the material, even though only one quote had been obtained. Mr. Ride said it had not been possible to obtain any other quotations.

The January meeting item on the Bell fields indicated the Parish Council chairman had received a letter from the Chairman of the trustees in respect of the offer of the £2,000 from the trustees, which reduced the amount by £900 due to expenses on the fly-tipping already paid out.

The agenda for the February meeting has been put on the notice boards and it is noted:-

Item 156-24/25

- To discuss and agree to the offer from the Chairman of the Trustees of the Bell Fields which reinstates the offer of £2000 towards the fly-tipping, subject to confirmation from the Parish Council that, should it engage Dunmow Group to dispose of the waste and benefit from the £900 credit previously discussed, it will reimburse the charity with the sum credited by Dunmow Group.
- To discuss and agree the next steps in regard to the removal of the fly-tipped material at The Bell Fields
- To confirm arrangements for the weekly and bi-weekly inspections of the play equipment located on The Bell Fields to allow the equipment to be returned to use.

Item 157-24/25 Appointment of Trustees to the Bell Fields Charities

To agree to appoint for a maximum tenure of 4 years commencing February 2025 three additional trustees for registered charity 271479 ("Allotment for the Labouring Poor") and registered charity 271480 ("Allotment for Exercise and Recreation"). Proposed by Cllr Parsad.



Battlesbridge and Rettendon Events - March 2025



EVENT	DATE / DAY	TIME	VENUE	ORGANISATION
Ridgeway Country (4 piece)	Saturday, 1 st March	7 – 11pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Ray & Dave's CMC
Derek Nash	Wednesday, 5 th March	6:15 – 10:15pm	Rettendon Lodge	Belvedere Jazz & Music Supper★
Variety Show	Saturday, 8 th March	7 for 7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Lennox Productions
Ultimate 80's Party Band	Saturday, 8 th March	8pm	The Bell & Chimes, Rettendon, CM3 8DY	
St. Patrick's Ceilidh	Saturday, 15 th March	7pm	South Hanningfield Village Hall	vallisg@aol.com 07891 653238.
Neighbour, Stringle & Vinten	Wednesday, 19 th March	6:15 – 10:15pm	Rettendon Lodge	Belvedere Jazz & Music Supper★
Coffee Morning	Friday, 21 st March	10:30–11:30am	St. Nicholas' Church, Rawreth, SS11 8SH	
Tribute Night: ELVIS	Friday, 21 st March	8pm	The Bell & Chimes, Rettendon, CM3 8DY	01245 523426

REGULAR EVENTS

Sunday Services	Sundays	11am / 11:15am	Battlesbridge Free SS11 7RE / All Saints, Rettendon CM3 8DR
Parish Council Meeting	Last Tuesday in Month	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall Rettendon PC☒
Bowls	Mondays	7 - 9pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall (CM3 8DP)
Warm Hub	Wednesdays	12 – 2pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall (CM3 8DP)
Knit and Natter	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays	2 – 4pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall (CM3 8DP)
Art group	Wednesdays	2 – 4pm	Battlesbridge Free Church (SS11 7RE)
Stained Glass Class	Wednesdays	6 – 8:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall Caroline 07792 475085
Youth Group	Wednesdays	6:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church (SS11 7RE)
Steak Night (dinner for 2 & wine; £42.50)	Wednesdays	Evenings	The Bell & Chimes, Rettendon, CM3 8DY 01245 523426
Bellringing Practice	Wednesdays	8 – 9pm	All Saints Church, Rettendon (CM3 8DR)
Walking Group	Thursdays / Weekend	10am / 7pm	Various Sandie 01268 733259
Quiz Night (Cash prizes)	Thursdays	8pm	The Bell & Chimes, Rettendon, CM3 8DY 01245 523426
Coffee Morning	Fridays	10am – 11am	All Saints Church, Rettendon (CM3 8DR)
Community Choir	Fridays	7pm	Battlesbridge Free Church Community Choir
Bingo at the Hall	Last Friday in the Month	7 for 7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall (CM3 8DP)
Fish Fridays (2 meals & 2 drinks for £30)	Fridays	Evenings	The Bell & Chimes, Rettendon, CM3 8DY 01245 523426
Country and Western	1 st Saturday in Month	7pm – 11pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall Ray & Dave's CMC
Music Bingo	3 rd Saturday in the Month	Evenings	The Bell & Chimes, Rettendon, CM3 8DY 01245 523426

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Jazz at the Lodge TBC	Wednesday, 2 nd April	6:15 – 10:15pm	Rettendon Lodge Belvedere Jazz & Music Supper★
Billy Bubba King	Saturday, 5 th April	7 – 11pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall Ray & Dave's CMC
Spring Show Entries	Saturday, 12 th April	8 – 10:30am	Rettendon Memorial Hall Rettendon Hort. Soc.
Spring Show	Saturday, 12 th April	2 – 4:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall Rettendon Hort. Soc.
Battlesbridge Quiz Night	Saturday, 12 th April	7 for 7:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church, SS11 7RE
Jazz at the Lodge TBC	Wednesday, 16 th April	6:15 – 10:15pm	Rettendon Lodge Belvedere Jazz & Music Supper★
Good Friday Reflections	Friday, 18 th April	2pm	All Saints Church, Rettendon, CM3 8DR
Easter Services	Sunday, 20 th April	11am / 11:15am	Battlesbridge Free / All Saints, Rettendon
Eva Romanakova Concert	Monday, 21 st April	TBC	All Saints Church, Rettendon, CM3 8DR

Mobile Library Service - 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	11 th March, 1 st & 22 nd Apr
Goose Cottages	Thursday	3:10pm – 3:40pm	13 th March, 3 rd & 24 th Apr

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

★ <https://belvederejazz.co.uk/gigs/> www.rettendonbell.com To publicise your event please contact the compiler



First Aid Course on CPR and Defibrillator use.

We would like mention that this course was very successful with 12 participants and enough first-aiders to ensure everyone had good hands-on tuition.

So successful that some would like to have a further course with information on identifying conditions and help in controlling them.

The charity would like to say thank you to those who came as it has benefitted from £115 in donations.

There were a few people who could not come on the course at the time. Would anybody like another course, possibly a full day, for explaining CPR and defibrillator use and extra first-aid information? Please let me know of any interest and whether there are preferences of days, dates, times. We will try and accommodate as many as we can, but it does depend on availability of the trainer.

Barbara Wright, 01245 321554, or email barbara.wright@ecfaev.org.



Annual Parish Meeting 2025

This opportunity for parishioners to have some input usually happens in May. If you would like to suggest a subject for discussion we may be able to find a party who can give particular advice. There is a dedicated letter box at the village hall (opposite Rettendon Primary School) for paper contact, or speak to any councillor.

Chelmsford City Council Local Plan consultation ends at 4pm on 18th March. For more information go to the website: - <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-local-plan/local-plan-review/>

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