



RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2025

Prepared & distributed by over 30 volunteers within the parish. Printed by Solopress, 9 Stock Rd, SS2 5QF
Financed directly by residents and businesses in the area and with fund-raising events. **Issue number 440**
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



DON'T BE CAUGHT OUT - BE AWARE! **COME TO THIS FREE TALK ABOUT FRAUD AND SCAMS!**

In response to the huge increase of fraud and scams, and the threat this poses to all of us personally, a talk has been arranged by Ben Adlem, Manager from NatWest Chelmsford at

Rettendon Memorial Hall, CM3 8DP
on Tues 30 Sep 2025 at 6pm to 7pm



This is an increasing problem that affects every one of us. So please do come along and learn how to be more aware and not caught out. The Parish Council are kindly funding hire of the village hall for this talk and the PC meeting will follow at 7.30pm.

BELVEDERE JAZZ & MUSIC SUPPER CLUB

Top International & UK Jazz Artists



Chris Dean's Savvy Collection
1st October
Syd Lawrence Orchestra
7-Piece Band - £22.50



Ronnie Scott's
22nd October
Superb quintet performing
Jazz, Blues + Country &
Western hits - £19.50

TJ Johnson

Rettendon Lodge Events, Burnham Rd, Battlesbridge SS11 7QT
Admission from £19.50 - Newcomers most welcome!
A twice monthly all dining club opening at 6:20pm
with meals from £15.50 ~ Show 7:45pm - 10:45pm
Reservations: Email :belvederejazz@gmail.com ~ Tel: 07850 607075

Battlesbridge Free Church - Quiz Night **Saturday 4 October 2025.**

Doors open at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start.

Teams of up to 8. £5 per person on the door.

Please bring your own nibbles and drink.

Tea and coffee available at half-time. Raffle.

This is always a fun occasion; our question setter usually finds an eclectic mix of subjects and our quiz master is always firm but fair.

Proceeds raised will go towards the upkeep and maintenance of the Church.

Ray and Dave's Country Music Club **COWBOYS LIKE US (DUO)**

Saturday, 4th October, 2025

Rettendon Village Hall,
CM3 8DP

Doors Open 7:00pm - 11pm

No bar - BYOD ☿ Tea/Coffee & FOOD available

Tap your feet or reel around to live music at your own local venue.

Contact: Ray 01245 472386 / 07791434118

Rayleigh Brass Band Concert at **Battlesbridge Free Church** **on Saturday 18 October at 7.30 pm.**



Entry is £5 per person on the door with the money raised going towards Church maintenance.

Tea and coffee

available during the interval, and a raffle.

The band always come up with a fine mix of music from classics to modern and everything in-between, laced with their inimitable humour. You are welcome to come along and enjoy a toe-tapping experience.

(Picture: <https://www.rayleighbrass.com/>)

Rettendon Horticultural Society **A MARK OF QUALITY**

Mark Lewis

Rettendon Memorial Hall, CM3 8DP

Tuesday, 21st October - 7:30pm

Want to know more about hallmarks on your valuable items? Perhaps you have a family heirloom that needs dating?



Tea, coffee, home-made cakes, and a raffle
Free to members, £3 to non-members

Barbara Wright 01245 321554,

or email: RetHSsec@gmail.com

(picture from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hallmark>)

Lennox Drama group presents:

Old Tyme Music Hall

At Rettendon Memorial Hall, CM3 8DP

On Saturday, 25th October 7 for 7:30pm

Tickets £10 from Lennox Drama Group or

Dianne Francombe 01245 400297

In aid of the Lennox Children's Cancer Charity
and Rettendon Memorial Hall

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/lennoxproductions>

Rettendon Memorial Hall - BINGO NIGHT -

Friday, 31st October - 7:30pm

Rettendon Memorial Hall CM3 8DP

Raffle, Teas & coffees available or BYOD and nibbles.

Organised for the community by
the Hall Management Committee

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



Big Love plant sale & Coffee morning.

Many thanks to everyone who supported this event.
Together we raised a whopping
£1,305 for this amazing charity.
We are so grateful to everyone
Dave & Gayner Lodge



Thanks to everyone who came to the open day in August, despite what seemed to be a low turnout because of the fantastic weather that day, the final total including a few later donations, was over £900. A big thank you also goes to everyone who donated and/or helped on the day, we couldn't have done it without you.

The next fundraising event will be a rescheduled concert in November with the Czech soprano Eva Romanakova, which was unfortunately cancelled at Easter due to illness. The date is still to be confirmed, please keep an eye on the All Saints Facebook page.

Gale Fogg

News from Rettendon Parish

Just a quick note from the Parish Council to let you all know that the newly appointed Trustees of the Bell Fields are working hard to sort things out. The fly-tipped rubbish has finally been cleared after a long, and arduous 16 months of unnecessary delays while the previous trustees took their failed insurance claim to the Ombudsman, successfully. Trustee, David Upton, with neighbourhood support from Cllr Keith Marshall spent the best part of a day loading the rubbish onto 'RoRo' vehicles and disposed of 70 tonnes of fly-tipped waste.

It's been just 8 weeks after their appointment as trustees that the area is on its way to being fully accessible to all.

Many thanks and a "well done" to them, also many thanks to Cllr Keith Marshall, and his son Tom for their contacts and persistence in getting the contractor to be on site so quickly to clear the waste after we received the go-ahead. We could not have done things as quickly without their help.

As the Chair of the Parish Council, I would like to congratulate all involved and on the hard work and dedication on this. It has been a pleasure working with all of the newly appointed trustees and I'm confident that it's a sign of things to come, which bodes well for the Parish.

Together, Everyone Achieves More, the very meaning of the word "Team"

As Chair of the PC, I'm sure you will all join me in congratulating all involved.

Cllr Joe Parsad (Chair) 07711 873788

Rettendon & Battlesbridge Parish Council

We are pleased that there has been repair work on the footpath in Woodham Road, though not all of it. The Parish Council will continue to work towards what the residents want, but roads and pavements are down to Essex Highways and we fight long and hard to get them fixed. Meadow Road, as we know has been a hard slog, until finally something was done. The traffic lights which seemed interminable have now gone. The water leak was very bad and needed quite a bit done, but now fixed for several years to come.

Of course, the Parish council are here for the residents of Rettendon Parish, which includes Hayes Country Park, Battlesbridge, Rettendon village and Rettendon Common, as well as Woodham Road and that area.

Any queries please get in touch with the clerk, Emma Terris, 07852 138878, or email: clerk@rettendon-pc.gov.uk.

Please note email addresses for all Parish Councillors have changed and are now under the rettendon-pc.gov.uk banner. Chairman's email cllrjfparsad@rettendon-pc.gov.uk.

Ciss Brett

We send our condolences to the family of this lovely lady who lived in Rettendon Parish for quite a number of her 95 years before moving to a care home due to her failing eyesight.

As a regular church goer at Battlesbridge Free Church her funeral will be held there on 8th October at 1pm.

It will be family flowers only, but any donations can be made to Wickford Talking Newsletters so that others may receive the same service she so enjoyed.

Rettendon Horticultural Society

After a hot and dry Summer we are now in a period of wet dreary weather. Colour in the garden has given way to lots of greenery and the grass has started to grow again. It will soon be time to have the Autumn tidy up and prepare for Spring by planting bulbs. We will be having our Spring show in April so why not plant some bulbs in pots and enter the show. There will be classes for daffodils, tulips other Spring flowers etc.

Our Autumn show was a great success with 216 entries covering most classes. It was very good to see some first time exhibitors getting "firsts" for their entries and we also signed up some new members. The show was very well attended by members of the public.

Our next event is an evening talk on the history of hallmarking. It's a departure from our normal horticultural subjects and I hope it will attract a wider and larger audience than some of our recent talks. Why not come along and bring a piece of silver. The talk will be at Rettendon Village Hall at 7.30 on Tuesday 21st October. Entrance is free to members and £3 for non members. Everybody welcome.

John Bruty Chairperson

Autumn Show - thank you.

We would like to say thank you to all our helpers at the Autumn Show. We could not do these shows without help to set up, man the show and dismantle. The tables were set out in record time due to help from neighbours and members. It was a pleasure to be able to have time to get our own entries together at a more leisurely pace than usual. Our thanks to those that helped put away too, and, of course, to the stalwarts who make teas, coffees and man stalls. We were pleased to see so many enjoying themselves and praising the entries. It does mean so much to those who enter to know their work is appreciated.

A.G.M. Tuesday, 18th November at 7:30pm

Our Annual General Meeting is held in the Memorial Hall and we try and whizz through the formal part to vote in the officers and committee before the Christmas Party.

We welcome anyone, so if you don't know what we are about please drop in and chat.

Chance to start, or re-new, membership.

For information please contact Barbara Wright, secretary, 01245 321554 or RetHSsec@gmail.com.

History of Rettendon Horticultural Society

By John Bruty, chairman

Membership now includes the above booklet. Each member will receive a copy. Please collect at the show, or let the secretary know you do not have one so we can get one to you.

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

Rettendon Memorial Village Hall (CM3 8DP)

The Lennox Children's Cancer Drama group are back at the hall and will be producing an Old Tyme Music Hall for your delectation in aid of their charity and the hall. Date is now confirmed as Saturday October 25th at 7pm,. Tickets will cost £10 and be available through the Drama group and from Dianne Francombe, Booking Clerk, 01245 400297. The last event was very successful, and well attended, so book early to avoid disappointment.

We are waiting for better weather to reduce the Rettendon oak, but there are masses of acorns. We are going to try and grow some with the help of the Gardening Club at the primary school. Perhaps they can grow a Rettendon Oak of their own. Or perhaps you can - pick up a few to grow.

The Tree Preservation Order (TPO) has not come through yet, but also we need the money to pay for the work. We are looking at grants to help us out, but suggestions of events we could try are welcomed.

Regular events:



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



Tuesdays have various bookings:-

Rettendon Horticultural Society at 7:30pm

The Parish Council meets generally on

the last Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm



Wednesdays,

Community WARM Hub - 12 - 2pm with home-made soup and bread. Any spare vegetables we can use, please?



Knit & Natter is from 2 - 4pm, 1st & 3rd



Wednesdays in the month though not all knitters!

Wednesday 6pm - 8:30pm, Stained Glass

Workshop Caroline on 07792 475085

glasstudiosupplies.co.uk

Fridays and Saturdays are quiz nights and other events.



See adverts here or on the hall website.

Last Friday in the month - BINGO! Come along from 7pm. Good fun for all with a Raffle. BYO nibbles/drinks



Country and Western is on first Saturday of the month 7pm - 11pm



Lennox Productions - In aid of Lennox Children's Cancer Fund have rehearsals most Tuesdays and Thursdays. Auditions for "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat" have begun.

To find out more about the events on at 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**. Booking forms can be found on the website.

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

Hall Management Committee

Garden Notes

My goodness - the rampant growth in the spring and my reluctance to getting cooked in the sun has left me with a jungle!

Armed with a saw and an 8 foot pruning tool followed by copious weeding has generated enormous heaps sorted into ① firewood ② compost and ③ rubbish.

Next is mulch laying to protect roots in winter - nature's blanket.

Retirement is wonderful - isn't it? **Mrs. McGregor**



Battlesbridge Free Church

Hello Readers,

By the time this hits your letter box our harvest festival will have probably already happened (28th Sept). If you weren't there, man alive you will have missed a treat. The display at the front of the church is magnificent with, amongst other things, all the different shapes, sizes, colours and textures of the fresh vegetables. In this case appearances are not deceiving. I'm sure the produce would all be bursting with flavour and will definitely be life and health enhancing. At the end of the harvest festival the produce is taken to our friends at the charity Hopeworx, who will ensure that it reaches the meal tables of needy people locally. (<https://hopeworx.org.uk/>) Since my stroke I've had a bit of a root vegetable experience myself(!) The Lord Jesus has pulled me up out of a dark place and given me a fresh burst of His life enhancing and flavour enriching Spirit. In the middle of a tournament bowls match I played in recently, for a few moments I even found myself dancing with a lady from the opposition team! I share all this, not to push religion or anything else at you but merely to perhaps open your eyes to what works for me big time, what works for us as a church and could also work for you.

A couple of full flavour and life enhancing experiences coming soon to our church:

4th Oct QUIZ NIGHT. Great atmosphere, dodgy quizmaster (me). Bring your own booze and nibbles if you like but tea, coffee, biscuits at half time.

18th Oct RAYLEIGH BRASS brass band concert. Live music - always good. Magnificent, thrilling sound. More tea, coffee, biscuits!

Best wishes, **David Edwards**



Becoming a Member of the Local Governing Body (LGB) within the Chelmsford Learning Partnership (CLP)

We are writing to invite expressions of interest in joining the LGB of Rettendon Primary School, part of the CLP. As a member you will play a vital role in supporting and challenging the school's leadership to ensure the highest standards of education and wellbeing for our pupils.

Rettendon Primary School is a vibrant and inclusive school located in Rettendon, Essex. The school is committed to securing the success of its pupils by offering a stimulating and challenging curriculum. Its educational approach is built on a solid foundation of core values: honesty, tolerance, fairness, and responsibility. These values are interwoven throughout daily school life, fostering a nurturing and respectful learning environment.

Role of a Governor includes:

- Attending regular LGB meetings and contributing to strategic discussions
- Monitoring school performance and safeguarding standards
- Supporting the school's leadership team and acting as a critical friend
- Upholding the values and ethos of the CLP.

This is a rewarding opportunity to make a meaningful impact in your local community. Governors come from a wide range of backgrounds and prior experience in education is not essential.

If you are interested in joining the LGB, please send a brief expression of interest to Miss Becky Doust at bdoust@clptrust.com. We would be delighted to hear from you to discuss the role further.

Yours sincerely, Miss B Doust

Director of Governance, Compliance and Risk Chelmsford Learning Partnership

Or contact Mrs. Hammond, Headteacher, Rettendon Primary School for more information.





Battlesbridge and Rettendon Events - September 2025



EVENT	DATE / DAY	TIME	VENUE	ORGANISATION
Scam & Fraud Talk	Tuesday, 30 th September	6:00pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon PC⊗
Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday, 30 th September	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon PC⊗
Syd Lawrence Orchestra	Wednesday, 1 st October	7:45pm	Rettendon Lodge	Belvedere Jazz & Music Supper★
Battlesbridge Quiz Night	Saturday, 4 th October	7 for 7:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	
Cowboys Like Us (Duo)	Saturday, 4 th October	7 – 11pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Ray & Dave's CMC
Halloween Craft Market	Sunday, 5 th October	10am – 4:30pm	Battlesbridge Antiques Centre (SS11 7RF) ⌘	
Coffee Morning	Friday, 17 th October	10:30am	St. Nicholas Church, Rawreth – phone 07944174744	
Rayleigh Brass Band Concert	Saturday, 18 th October	7 for 7:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church	
Mark of Quality	Tuesday, 21 st October	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Hort. Soc.
T J Johnson Quintet	Wednesday, 22 nd October	7:45pm	Rettendon Lodge	Belvedere Jazz & Music Supper★
Old Tyme Music Hall	Saturday, 25 th October	7pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall CM3 8DP	Lennox Drama Group
Bonfire Night	Saturday, 1 st November	5pm	Battlesbridge Antiques Centre (SS11 7RF) ⌘	
Brian Mann	Saturday, 1 st November	7 – 11pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Ray & Dave's CMC

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)
Community 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 Hall (SS11 7RE)
Pilots Youth Group	Wednesdays	6:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church Hall (SS11 7RE)
Stained Glass Class	Wednesdays	6 – 8:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall Caroline 07792 475085
Jazz at the Lodge	1 st and 3 rd Wednesdays	6:15 – 10:45pm	Rettendon Lodge Belvedere Jazz & Music Supper★
Bellringing Practice	Wednesdays	8 – 9pm	All Saints Church, Rettendon (CM3 8DR)
Walking Group	Thursdays / Weekend	10am	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)
Raise Your Voice Community Choir	Fridays	7pm	Battlesbridge Free Church Raise Your Voice 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, 5 th November	7:45pm	Rettendon Lodge	Belvedere Jazz & Music Supper★
Remembrance Sunday	Sunday, 9 th November	10:45am	All Saints' Church, Rettendon	
A.G.M. and Christmas Party	Tuesday, 18 th November	7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Rettendon Hort. Soc.
Jazz at the Lodge TBC	Wednesday, 19 th November	7:45pm	Rettendon Lodge	Belvedere Jazz & Music Supper★
Christmas Wreath Making	Wednesday, 26 th November	7 – 10pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall	Essex Flowers
Christmas Craft Market	Friday, 28 th November	10am – 7pm	Battlesbridge Antiques Centre (SS11 7RF) ⌘	
Christmas Bazaar	Saturday, 29 th November	10:30am – 3pm	All Saints Church, Rettendon	

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	7 th & 28 th October, 18 th Nov
Goose Cottages	Thursday	3:10pm – 3:40pm	9 th & 30 th October, 20 th Nov

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

★ <https://belvederejazz.co.uk/gigs/> ☎ www.rettendonbell.com ⌘ <https://www.battlesbridge.com/> Contact the compiler to add events.




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DELIVERIES - please help us.

Unfortunately we still lack someone to take newsletters to a few houses near the Rettendon Lodge and up to, but not including, Meadowcroft, e.g. the Willows, etc. Also missing a person for a few houses in South Hanningfield Road. If you can help it would be appreciated. Please contact the compiler email RetBatNews@gmail.com or phone 01245 321554

The latest edition of the newsletter can be found on the 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. Contributions can be emailed to RetBatNews@gmail.com, or by phone 01245 321554, or post at 55 East Hanningfield Rd.