RETTENDON & BATTLESBRIDGE NEWSLETTER

DEC 2025 & JAN 2026

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 442 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 all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We would like to thank all those who deliver the newsletter throughout the year, your help is invaluable.

ib **Ray and Dave's Country Music Club GEORGE PAYLING Jr.** Saturday, 6th December, 2025



Doors Open 7:00pm - 11pm Come to **Rettendon Village Hall**, CM3 8DP

Live Music: Listen, Dance, Enjoy! No bar - BYOD ₩ Tea/Coffee & FOOD available

Contact: Ray 01245 472386 / 07791434118

(Photo: https://www.facebook.com/groups/302895307801676/ posts/1503892584368603/)



We invite you to the Raise your Voice Community **Choir Christmas concert** who will be performing on Saturday 6 December 2025 at Battlesbridge Free Church.

Doors open at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start. Refreshments will be served during the interval. Entry is free but donations will be welcome, with the monies going towards the upkeep of the church. Why not get your Christmas celebrations off to an early start? As well as traditional carols there will be other songs to keep you entertained.

We look forward to seeing you.

SANDS Service on Sunday, 7th December, 3pm (SANDS - Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Charity)

All Saints' Church, Rettendon, CM3 8DR

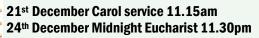
A service for bereaved families of babies to find comfort together in the church. This will not be a religious service. Organised by volunteers for the



4th year, and with a professional singer to sing solos.

Email: support.essex@sandsvolunteer.org.uk Website: https://www.sands.org.uk/

All Saints' Church **Christmas Church Services**





Christmas day service at St. Nicholas, Rawreth, only, at 10.00am

28th December - Joint Service at St. Thomas, Hullbridge at 10am



All Saints' Church Christmas Carol Service Sunday, 21st December, **2025** 11:15am All Welcome.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

on Sunday, 21st December - 4:00pm ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, RAWRETH, **SS118SH**

BELVEDERE JAZZ & Music Supper Club

Top International & UK Jazz Artists



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Browning's The Jazz Cats Swinging

Dixieland jazz



Rettendon Lodge Events, Burnham Rd, Battlesbridge SS11 7QT Admission from £19.50 - Newcomers most welcome! A twice monthly all dining club opening at 6:15pm with meals from £15.50 ~ Show 7:45pm - 10:45pm
Reservations: Email :belvederejazz@gmail.com ~ Tel: 07850 607075

Ray and Dave's Country Music Club **KEVIN BARRY** Saturday, 10th January



Rettendon Village Hall, CM3 8DP Doors Open 7:00 - 11pm

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

Battlesbridge Free Church Services

14 Dec 11am Carol Service. Big tree, candles and members of Rayleigh Brass accompanying the carols!

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21st Dec 11am Young People's Group running the show! Featuring their Christmas play.

24th Dec 11.30pm Midnight service to welcome Christmas. Candlelight, warm and special atmosphere.

WARM HUB



Every Wednesday, though not on Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve, from 12 until 2pm In the cosy, warm

Rettendon Memorial Hall committee room, CM3 8DP

The lunchtime offer is warming home-made soup with bread and butter if wanted.

Still with home-made cakes on offer and tea, coffee or even hot chocolate available.

Bring your own food, share around, whatever you like. Provided free of charge by Hall Management Committee. All residents, friends and family welcomed.

Need transport? Please contact Hazel Dale-Evans 01245 401538 or the secretary, Barbara Wright 01245 321554, or email

RettendonMemorialHall@gmail.com



Rettendon Bell Events



(Booking Required)

Christmas Eve party with live music 8pm

RETTENDON BELL contact details:

Main Road, Rettendon, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 8DY Email: bell.chimes24@gmail.com Tel: 01245 523 426

thank<u>s</u>

Pat and Chas would like to thank all the kind people in the village who have helped them during the year. Its much appreciated, and we know we are lucky to live in this village. Thanks a lot!!!

Merry Christmas to you all.

Rettendon Parish Council

The next Council meeting will be slightly earlier on Tuesday, 16th December due to the Christmas break. Minutes and agendas for meetings can be found on the website - direct link:-

https://www.rettendon-pc.gov.uk/parish-council/ meetings-minutes/

Contact details for the RPC Clerk: Mrs. Emma Terris,

Email: clerk@rettendon-pc.gov.uk,

Phone: 07852 138878

RPC Website: https://www.rettendon-pc.gov.uk/

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 tel: 01245 606606

Planning search: https://publicaccess.chelmsford.gov.uk/online-

applications/search.do

Rettendon Horticultural Society

Its been a great year for fruit and it's ongoing with the hedgerows full of berries and sloes. The incoming winter birds should have plenty to keep them well fed through the winter months ahead. It is often said that lots of berries mean a hard winter to come. I'm not sure that follows because winters seem to be becoming milder. However it's been a while since we had more than a sprinkling of snow so maybe this winter will be a cold one.

By now all tender plants should be protected or taken in under cover. That said many summer plants are still in bloom including dahlias and they will continue until we get a sharp frost.

The biggest job at the moment is keeping on top of the fallen leaves. Most trees have shed their leaves but the oaks are always the last to go. Be sure to remove fallen leaves from ponds otherwise they will sit on the bottom of the pond and decay. They take a long while to break down but leaf mould 🕻 is a great substitute for peat.

By the next time I write we should be seeing the first signs of spring with snowdrops blooming and spring bulbs pushing through. Something to hold on to throughout the next few months.

I hope to see you at our events and shows next year. Best wishes from Rettendon Horticultural Society for a peaceful New Year and a successful growing season ahead.

John Bruty Chairperson

Christmas lunch will be at the Bell and Chimes on Thursday 11st December at 12 for 12:30pm. Please let Barbara have menu choices by Thursday 4th December, and the remainder of the money either then or at the meal. 2 Courses cost £26.95, and 3 courses £29.95. Obviously the deposits are deducted from the cost.

Membership cards will have the diary on them. Unfortunately there is a mistake and the outing to Ulting Wick is on Tuesday, May 12th at 10:30am, not as marked in the diary. We are also looking at having a few "pop up" events, e.g. car sharing trips, talks in the afternoon in the hall, perhaps a quiz, in the future.

Website: https://e-voice.org.uk/rethortsoc/ Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ret.hort.soc/

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. If the dog bin is full report it to the council to have it emptied.

<u>.</u>

PLEASE do pick it up in children's play areas, and not hang it in hedges, trees or bushes, especially outside peoples' homes. They do not want it! More importantly it can cause *Toxocarias*, a condition leading to blindness, breathing difficulties, possibly meningitis or epileptic seizures, which can affect children and adults.

We will ALL thank you for it.

Fouling is considered an antisocial behaviour and has a maximum penalty of £1,000 - don't think you are immune!

Rettendon Memorial Village Hall (CM3 8DP)

We do hope everyone enjoyed the Old Tyme Music Hall in aid of the Hall Charity and the Lennox Children's Cancer charity. It was full enough! I thoroughly enjoyed myself, though I missed a few bits • while getting out the cakes and drinks, never mind - could still hear • it. We are hopeful of another event with them next year - watch this

The Hall Management are continuing to keep up with maintenance and have several projects which we are pursuing.

The projector and screen have now been used and were well received for the Horticultural talk and the AGM. Therefore we are wondering if you would like a film club to use this facility. If so could you please let the secretary know as we would like to judge interest. The secretary, Barbara Wright can be contacted on 01245 321554 or email: rettendonmemorialhall@gmail.com.

As usual the Regular events are:

MONDAYS: 7 - 9pm Short mat/carpet bowls



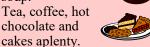
TUESDAYS: 7:30pm Various - Rettendon Horticultural Society meetings, talks, etc.

Last TUESDAY in the month: 7:30pm Rettendon Parish Council



WEDNESDAYS: 12-2pm 1st & 3rd WEDNESDAYS:

Warm Hub With home-made soup.







TUESDAY,

rehearsals.

"Joseph & the

THURSDAYS & some

SATURDAYS &

SUNDAYS: Various

Lennox Productions

WEDNESDAYS: 6 - 8:30pm

Stained Glass Workshop With Caroline on



glassstudiosupplies.co.uk

Last FRIDAY in the month: 7:30pm BINGO!

Raffle, Tea/coffee, BYO nibbles/drinks And fun for all!



Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat".

times

Various FRIDAYS & **SATURDAYS:** Quizzes, games,

entertainment - see adverts on front page or visit the website:



FIRST SATURDAY in the month: 7 - 11pm Country and

Western - see adverts on front page.



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

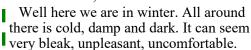
South Hanningfield Charity Ball

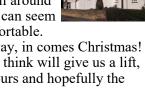
will take place on Saturday, 24th January 2026 which includes pre-dinner drinks, 4-course luxury menu, after dinner entertainment and a Raffle at Stock Brook Manor, Billericay in aid of South Hanningfield Village Hall and St Peter's Church charities.

For further information, contact Emma on 07961 963914.

Battlesbridge Free Church

Hello Readers,





But then to chase dreariness away, in comes Christmas! We throw at it all the things we think will give us a lift, the lights, the colours, the flavours and hopefully the agreeable company. I have a deep admiration for the Salvation Army, who work to bring an effective lift to those whose lives are very dark, cold and bleak: the homeless, the lonely and the poor.

Recently, I have had conversations with people who have just lost loved-ones. Their winter is not one of daylight hours and air temperature, it is felt in the spirit and the soul. Their comfort will not fully be achieved with tree lights and wrapping paper. The gifts that they need, as indeed we all do, are love, kindness and gentle encouragement. These are the best Christmas presents we can all give each other this festive season. I enter into those conversations in the name of he whom I believe to be the source of all love, kindness and encouragement, Jesus Christ, and I believe his power directs my words. Some very uplifting events coming up at our church are listed on the front page, including the Raise Your Voice community choir concert and the special services for Christmas.

I wish you all a very splendid Christmas!

David Edwards

CHELMSFORD CITY COUNCIL Preparing for new Local Plan consultation on additional housing sites

A focused consultation on the addition of several new and expanded housing sites to the Local Plan began on Thursday 20th November and runs until 4pm on 8th January 2026.

The council is considering changes to Chelmsford's Local Plan in light of factors outside of its control that have affected future house building. The proposals could provide 1,592 additional homes over the lifetime of the Local Plan until 2041 and would ensure the council has a pipeline of development sites that can provide five years' worth of housing as required by the Government.

You can sign up to the council's Planning Policy Consultation Portal. (https://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/ kse/).

The portal allows you to read and save the consultation documents, submit your comments and sign up for alerts to future consultations. You will be able to submit comments via email and in writing too.

Find out more about the proposals, visit the Chelmsford City Council website. (https:// www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/ planning-policy-and-local-plan/local-plan-review/)

Garden Notes

Hasty moves - very tender things into house and tender things into greenhouse.

The Dahlias have caught cold, so will get dealt with! Window sill is full of babies - love it!.... Mrs. McGregor

How do rabbits travel? By hare plane! Where do baby apes sleep? In an apricot.



What is the difference between a fish and a piano? You can't tuna fish

Battlesbr	idge and F	Rettendon	Events	Dia	ry - DEC 2	2025 & 、	JAN 2026	
EVENT	DATE		TIME		VENUE		RGANISATION	
Local Plan consultation Addi		th November to 8			Ends 4pm		nsford City Counc	
Christmas Craft Market Friday, Sat, Sun, 28th, 29th & 30th November 10am - 4:30pm Battlesbridge Antiques Centre (SS11 7RF) #								
Christmas Bazaar	Saturday, 29th N		10:30am – 3				lettendon, (CM3 8	
Karaoke Night	Saturday, 29 th November		8pm	Т	he Bell & Chim	es, Rettendon	i, CM3 8DY 01245	523426
Raise Your Voice Concert	Saturday, 6th December		7pm	Bat	tlesbridge Free	Church	Raise Your Voic	e Choir
George Payling jnr.	Saturday, 6th December		7 – 11pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall Ray & Dave's CMC			s CMC	
SANDS Service	Sunday, 7 th December		3pm	All Saints' Church, Rettendon (CM3 8DR)				
Psychic Night	Saturday, 13 th December		2 – 7pm	The Bell & Chimes, Rettendon, CM3 8DY 01245 523426				523426
Carol Service	Sunday, 14 th December		11am	Battlesbridge Free Church – with Rayleigh Brass Band				s Band
Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday, 16th December		7:30pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall Rettendon PC⊗			PC⊗	
Frog on a Rocket	Friday, 19th December		8pm	The Bell & Chimes, Rettendon (CM3 8DY) 01245 523426			523426	
Young People's Christmas P	lay Sunday, 21st December		11am	Battlesbridge Free Church Young People's Group			Group	
Carol Service	Sunday, 21st December		11:15am	All Saints, Rettendon (CM3 8DR)				
Carols by Candlelight	Sunday, 21st December		4pm	St. Nicholas Church, Rawreth (SS11 8SH)				
Christmas Eve Party with sin		Wednesday,		er			mes, Rettendon (C	
Midnight Eucharist	Wednesday,24th December				All Saints, Rettendon (CM3 8DR)			
Midnight Candlelight Service		11:30pm 11:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church (SS11 7RE)					
Joint service with Rawreth		5 th December	10am	St.				S at All
Joint Service with Hullbridge			10am	St. 7	Thomas Church	, Hullbridge	Saints' Church, Rettendon	
Sunday Service	Sunday, 4th January		11:15am	All Saints, Rettendo				
Dave Browning's The Jazz Cats Wednesday, 7th January 6:15 − 10:45pm Rettendon Lodge Belvedere Jazz & Music Supper ★								
Kevin Barry	Saturday, 10th J		7 – 11pm		Rettendon Mem		Ray & Dave'	
	Saturday, 24th Ja		Stock Brook				age Hall & St Peter	
REGULAR EVENTS								
Sunday Services	lay Services Sundays 11am / 1			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	1st & 3rd Wednesdays		2 – 4pm	Rettendon Memorial Hall (CM3 8DP)				
Art Group	Wednesdays		2 – 4pm	Battlesbridge Free Church Hall (SS11 7RE)			<u> </u>	
Pilots Youth Group	Wednesdays		6:30pm	Battlesbridge Free Church Hall (SS11 7RE)				
Stained Glass Class	Wednesdays		6 – 8:30p				,	
	and 3rd Wednesda	vs 6:15 -	- 10:45pm		endon Lodge	_	ere Jazz & Music S	
Bellringing Practice	Wednesdays		8 – 9pm	All Saints Church, Rettendon (CM3 8DR				
Walking Group	Thursdays / We	ekend	10am		Various		Sandie 01268	
Quiz Night (Cash prizes)			8pm	T	The Bell & Chimes, Rettendon (CM3 8DY)			
Coffee Morning			10am – 11					
Raise Your Voice Community	<u> </u>		7pm				Raise Your Vo	
Bingo at the Hall	Last Friday in t		7 for 7:30					
Fish Fridays (2 meals & 2 drinks for £30) Fridays		Evenings	The Bell & Chimes, Rettendon (CM3 8DY) 01245 523426 €					
Country and Western	1st Saturday in Month		7pm – 11p				Ray & Dave's CMC	
Music Bingo	3 rd Saturday in		Evenings		The Bell & Chimes, Rettendon (CM3 8DY) 01		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY								
Billy Bubba King Saturday, 7th February 7 – 11pm Rettendon Memorial Hall Ray & Dave's CMC								
MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICES 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 9th Dec, 20th Jan, 10th Feb								
South Hanningfield Village Hall / Salforal Close Tuesday Goose Cottages, / Hayes Country Park Thursday				5am to 11:55am / 12:50pm to 1:20pm 9 th Dec, 20 th Jan, 10 th Feb 3:10pm – 3:40pm / 15:50 – 16:20 11 th Dec, 22 nd Jan, 12 th Fe				
Goose Collages, / Hayes Col	3:10	י וווקי	3.40pm / 15:50 ·	- 10.20	TT™ Dec, ZZ™ Ja	II, IZ FED		

⊗ Check website: https://www.facebook.com/rettndonparishccouncil/

 ⇔ www.rettendonbell.com ★https://belvederejazz.co.uk/gigs/

₩ https://www.battlesbridge.com/

Contact the compiler to add events.

First Aid Courses 2026 **Rettendon Memorial Hall CM3 8DP**

Everyone should know how to do CPR and to use a defibrillator. **Why?** There is a need for quick response: immediate CPR can double survival chances and quick defibrillation within 3-5 minutes can increase survival rates dramatically.

We are planning some courses in the New Year, 2026. If you would like to attend please get in touch. At present no fixed dates as we need to know numbers. Either an all day course with extra tuition for signs of strokes, heart attacks, diabetes, and background to it all, or just CPR and Defibrillator use. Professional trainer with experience, personal knowledge and enthusiasm.

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

What game do horses play? Stable tennis! How do you describe a rich elf? Welfy! Who sings "Blue Christmas" and makes toy guitars? Elfis! What do reindeer hang on their Christmas trees? Hornaments!

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.

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