

# The

No.45 Winter 2018

# Raven



The quarterly magazine for the whole of Rainow



The Parish Council would like to wish everyone a very....

## Happy and Peaceful Christmas and New Year All the Best for 2019

### Community Pride Competition 2018 - Thursday 1st November 2018



Councillor John Cantrell attended the 2018 Community Pride Competition, which was held in Frodsham Community Centre,

organised by Cheshire Community Action. There was a large gathering of Civic Leaders including Parish Councillors, Competition Judges and enthusiasts who had travelled from all parts of the County.

Rainow did extremely well and were presented with a "Little Gem" award by Kathy Benn, Chairman of Cheshire Community Action, for the Trinity Gardens.

### Rainow Parish Civic Service 2018

The Service was held at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday 30th September 2018. The Vicar, Steve Rathbone led the Service with Over Alderley Brass Band accompanying the hymn singing.



Left to right: Mayoress Mrs Helen Weston, Bollington Town Mayor Cllr Jon Weston, Mayor's Youth Consort Mr Tom Evans and Rainow Parish Council Chairman Mr Alan Brett.

Mayor of Rainow, Mrs Sue Grimes, and Mr Derrick Margerson

Among the guests were the Mayor of Cheshire East (Cllr Lesley Smetham and Mr David Smetham), the Deputy Mayor of Poynton (Cllr Jo Sewart and her Consort Michael Sewart), Ward Cllr Hilda Gaddum, Mr David Rutley MP and Bollington Town Mayor, Mayoress and the Mayor's Youth Consort (Cllr Jon Weston, Mayoress Mrs Helen Weston and the Mayor's Youth Consort Mr Tom Evans). Representatives also attended from Disley Parish Council and Higher Hurdsfield Parish Council.

Attendees proceeded in a procession to Rainow Primary School where Cllr Alan Brett, Chairman of the Parish Council, gave the welcoming speech.

In recognition of outstanding contribution to the Community of Rainow, The Mayor of Rainow, Mrs Sue Grimes, was pleased to present Mr Derrick Margerson with his Civic Award.

The food was all provided by Councillors and the Community including the Women's Institute and Mothers' Union.

The boys and girls from beavers, cubs and brownies attended along with Rose Queen Sophie Evans and her attendants (Jessica Gittins, Harry Beresford and Nicholas Bradley).

Once again, we would like to say a big thank you to all residents who joined in to help make the Civic Service such a successful event – we could not make this possible without your help. Thank you to all members of the Women's Institute, Mothers' Union and Church members who provided cakes and crockery and to Parish Councillors who supplied the sandwiches and refreshments.

### IMPORTANT

If snow is forecast please can car owners not park near the two entrance/exits to the estate this will make it easier for the snowplough to do its job. Thank you for your co-operation.

### Winter Gritting

Highways will be filling the grit bins please note that the salt from the bins are for use on the road and pathways only not for personal use.

In an emergency please phone 0300 123 5020 (8:30am–5:00pm) or 0300 1235 025 (after 5pm and before 8:30am, including weekends).

### Parking

The Council would ask that all residents show consideration when parking and ensure that they do not obstruct the footpath or driveways. Please leave sufficient access for wheelchairs, prams and parents with small children and give some thought for sufficient space for vehicles to pass, including delivery and emergency vehicles, without the need to mount grass verges or damage walls.

The Council would also ask residents to be careful of their driving speed on Round Meadow and Millers Meadow. Thank you for your continued help in this matter.

### Rainow Maps and Walks Booklet

The Rainow walks booklet is now available for the £1! If you would like a copy of the booklet or a map, also for £1! then please contact Councillor Richard Balment.

### Advertisers, request for....

The Council are seeking advertisers to ensure the continuation of the Raven. If you are interested in advertising, then please contact the Clerk for more details.

### Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Service

The tree lighting and Christmas Carol ceremony was held on Sunday 2nd December with tea and cake provided in the Church Centre. Thank you to everyone who helped with the decoration of the tree.

### Advice from Cheshire Constabulary

#### Home Security

When should I call **101**?

To report less urgent crime or disorder, to contact the police with general inquiries or to speak to a local officer.

For example:

- if your car has been stolen.
- if your property has been damaged.
- reporting a minor traffic incident.
- where you suspect drug use or dealing.
- giving police information about crime in your area.

Always call 999 in an EMERGENCY, where there is a threat to life or a crime in progress.

Police non-emergency contact number Tel: 101  
(24 hrs a day 7 days a week)

#### Vehicle Safety

Most vehicle crime is opportunistic and therefore preventable. By following some straight forward advice, we can ensure that this type of crime keeps falling.

#### Protecting yourself from car thieves:

- Don't leave valuables on show.
- Don't leave coats on show.
- Make sure your car is locked.
- Activate security devices.
- Always park your car in a safe, well lit, place.
- Never leave your keys in any place within your home that could be reached through the letterbox on your front door.

#### Extra Care on Cold & Frosty Mornings:

- Never leave keys in the ignition and doors unlocked when your car is unattended.
- Allow an extra few minutes to defrost and stay with the vehicle while it warms up.
- Ensure your view is completely clear before moving off.

In a situation where a driver has left a vehicle unattended, insurers may argue that reasonable care has not been taken. This invalidates an insurance claim.

For more crime prevention advice [www.cheshire.police.uk](http://www.cheshire.police.uk)

### Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 19th March 2019

Every year the Parish Council holds an Annual Parish Meeting where all Rainow Residents are welcome to come and raise any points concerning them and bring up any suggestions they may have which could enhance the village.

It is important that we know **YOUR VIEWS** so that we can act on **YOUR BEHALF** so please do come along.

#### Future Meetings and Dates for your diary

**15th January 2019**                      **19th February 2019**  
**19th March 2019 (7 pm)** - followed by the Annual  
**Parish Meeting**  
**16th April 2019**  
**21st May 2019 - Annual General Meeting**

All Meetings commence at 8.00 p.m. unless otherwise stated and are advertised on the notice boards and website.



This year has seen two anniversaries of events which have had a major and lasting impact on our society and the world in which we live. These were Women's Suffrage and the end of World War I. It is difficult to imagine what Rainow would be like had these ended differently, our way of life would most likely be very different. It is worthwhile reflecting on the benefits we enjoy because of these brave men and women.

Jane Brett  
Editor

### Your Parish Councillors

<b>Alan Brett (Chairman)</b> alan.brett@rainow.com	576108
<b>Alan Taylor (Vice Chairman)</b> alan.taylor@rainow.com	575544
<b>Richard Balment</b> richard.balment@rainow.com	573625
<b>Ken Butler</b> ken.butler@rainow.com	433168
<b>John Cantrell</b> john.cantrell@rainow.com	422107
<b>Geoff Cooper</b> geoff.cooper@rainow.com	574878
<b>Sue Frith</b> sue.frith@rainow.com	573802
<b>Nathan Gabbott</b> Nathan.gabbott@rainow.com	573335
<b>Carole Harvey</b> carole.harvey@rainow.com	573576
<b>Mary Marsh</b> mary.marsh@rainow.com	573508
<b>A. Louise Moskowitz</b> Louise.Moskowitz@rainow.com	574929
<b>Louise Pickford</b> Louise.pickford@rainow.com	575144
<b>Sarah Giller (Clerk)</b> parishclerk@rainow.com	850532
<b>Cheshire East Councillor:</b> <b>Hilda Gaddum</b>	01260 252456

#### Editorial Team for this issue:

Jane Brett                      Bob Langstaff                      Jim Kennelly  
Louise Leigh                      Pat Mellish                      Raph Murray  
Design by Mel Wilcox (01625 576182)



Rainow  
Dog Walking,  
Sitting &  
Home Boarding

Over 15 years' experience in Dog care

**Licensed Home Boarder**

Your dogs will be looked after at my home as part of the family

**Fully Insured Dog Walker**

References available

Covering Rainow, Macclesfield & Bollington

Home : 01625 573408

Mobile : 07415 461227

Email: adrianmcguinness@yahoo.co.uk

Website: www.adrianmcguinness.wix.com/rainow-dog-walking  
6 Round Meadow, Rainow, SK10 5UB

**SILVERTOWN TAXIS** Call-a-Car

01625  
611333 • 614617 • 24 HOURS  
616666 • 426666 • 24 HOURS

**YOUR LOCAL SERVICE**

Save money - or get  
"Double the Difference"

**THE UTILITY WAREHOUSE**

Authorised Distributor **DISCOUNT CLUB**

Graham Mellish TEL 0800 074 8558

- The UK's cheapest HOME PHONE Guaranteed SAVINGS
- The UK's cheapest BROADBAND from £2.99/m
- The UK's cheapest MOBILE TARIFFS FREE PHONES available
- The UK's cheapest standard GAS & ELECTRICITY FIT's payments in 30 days
- Single bill for all of your utilities. Easy to switch SME's can apply as well as homeowners

**Call 0800 074 8558 it's FREE**



The NSPCC is here to fight for every childhood. That's why we help children who've been abused to rebuild their lives; we protect those at risk and find the best ways of preventing abuse from happening. But we would simply not be able to do this without our supporters like you, helping us to change young lives. In 2017/18 our volunteers and staff delivered Speak out. Stay safe assemblies and workshops in 162 schools and spoke to 35,335 children in Cheshire about their right to be happy and safe.

In 2017/18 our Childline volunteers delivered almost 280,000 counselling sessions to children and young people across the UK on the phone and online. Based on the population of Cheshire we can estimate that our volunteers delivered around 4,200 counselling sessions to children living in Cheshire last year. Any child or young person in need of advice and support can contact Childline on 0800 1111. In 2017/18 the NSPCC helpline responded to 141 calls and emails from Cheshire about advice on keeping children safe and 982 referrals were made from the helpline to local agencies such as the police and children's services. If you have concerns about a child, our Helpline is open 24/7 on 0808 8005000.

**Rainow NSPCC Coach Trip**

Day Trip to Cheshire Oaks (All proceeds to Rainow NSPCC)  
Saturday 2nd March 2019 - Bucks Fizz en route  
Tickets available from McCarthy Coaches  
Telephone : 01625 425060, Price £16

Thank you to everyone who attended the Rainow NSPCC Fashion Show and Luncheon - £1,700 raised.



**PLEASE HELP THE RAVEN!**

We are able to deliver **The Raven** only because of the commitment of our team of volunteer distributors who ensure that every house in the parish receives a copy of the magazine.

We are as always very grateful to them. However, we have only just sufficient numbers so if anyone is unavailable or indisposed that places an additional burden on the team.

So, we are seeking your help to find additional distributors who could take on a "round" regularly or on an ad hoc basis. There are only four issues per year, so this is a relatively light commitment.

**PLEASE** do get in touch via [theraven@rainow.com](mailto:theraven@rainow.com)

We need your help to keep the magazine reaching all the far-flung corners of Rainow.

*Thank you in anticipation.*

**The Robin Hood**

Your local pub "The Robin" offers excellent beer, tasty food and a warm welcome. So why not pop up there for a treat before Christmas!



## The Raven Welcomes 'The Ravens'



"The Raven" is pleased to welcome its namesake-on-wheels "**The Rainow Ravens Motorcycle Club**" as Rainow's newest social group!

The club was started in June by Dave Barton and Pete Scragg. The founding pair were soon joined by Stuart Charlesworth and John Poyser to form a committee. Dave told the 'print version' of The Raven:

"We live in a superb motorcycle riding area and we are looking for other enthusiasts to join our local bikers club. We meet at the Robin Hood every Tuesday night where we chat about all sorts of things – but mainly bikes! We tend to have a ride-out at least every other week. Our ride-outs are genteel affairs and we search out the finest cafés and attractions to visit. We have been to Ironbridge, the National Arboretum, and a Stunt Show in Chesterfield. We recently visited the Oil Can Café in Holmfirth (via Glossop and Holme Moss TV Station). The ride there was great – stunning scenery! The Oil Can Café is a popular retro 1950s style venue populated by many car and bike enthusiasts. In addition to the numerous vehicles on display you can even buy period clothing!

Other trips included on 6th October joining an event called "Ride to the Wall" – a journey with thousands of other bikers to the Memorial Wall at the National Arboretum to honour fallen servicemen and servicewomen who died serving our country. It was a truly awesome sight to see so many people paying their personal tribute.

Anybody wishing to come along to our club will be most welcome. It's all about having fun, making friends and just riding bikes".

A further poem written by Sue Copeland, who loved Rainow. Sue's poem "Kerridge" was featured in the previous "Raven" (R44).



### Lamaload Road

Lamaload Road dips, sweeps  
Through velvet fields studded  
With polka dot sheep.  
Frost lingers under stone  
wall shadows  
As weak winter sun spreads  
Its warming rays.  
Confused birds sing,  
is it spring  
They ask, as wings dip over  
A gurgling rush of water  
in the brook.  
vapour trails make  
air kisses  
In an empty, azure sky.

Sue Copeland



## Rainow WI 2018

It has been a busy year for Rainow WI with monthly meetings, outings, lunches and campaigning. The various speakers who have come to the meetings have both informed and entertained us. Members were put through their paces by the dancers from Mykita, advised on how to stay safe with our banking, taken on a whistle stop tour of the UK in terms of accents and dialects, found out about the work of the exotic pet rescue people, been shown how to make various bath products and been entranced by the hypnotist!

In the meetings there has also been time to discuss the problems of loneliness, plastic soup, food wastage and caring for people with Alzheimer's. Letters have been written to local supermarkets and our MP to express our feelings on some of these issues.

Members have had the opportunity to go on several outings including two presentations by the History Wardrobe, the Alpaca farm in Mobberley, the Random Apple Company, the Staffordshire Hoard and The Lowry in Salford to see the musical 'Calendar Girls'.

The monthly luncheon group has visited a variety of eateries in the area including The Robin Hood, The Lambing Shed, Sutton Hall, Peak View Tea rooms and The Bells of Peover.

The quilting group and book club continue to be a place where members can get together and have a chat as have the gardening sessions in Trinity Garden.

Rainow WI meetings are held on the second Monday in the month starting at 7.30 pm in the Rainow Institute. Everyone is welcome to come along to a couple of meetings for free to see if they would like to join us.

## WILCOX LANDSCAPES

- Hard & Soft Landscaping
- Hedge Cutting
- Dry Stone Walling
- Tree Felling/Pruning
- Gutter Clearing & Replacement
- Flag Laying, Patios & Pointing
- Fencing
- Turfing & Lawn Care
- Land Drainage

**01625 474432**  
Mob : **07758 249587**  
Email: zachwilcoxgs@gmail.com

It has been an incredibly interesting autumn term at school.

## Woodland Play Park

There has been a major and exciting building development since the last issue of The Raven. I did mention the prospect of our new Woodland Play Park and I am thrilled to report that it is now finished and being thoroughly enjoyed by our children. The park is a fantastic enhancement to the school grounds, and it has vastly improved playtimes for the children. It provides a real challenge for the full primary age-range, and its design is pleasingly sympathetic to our rural setting.

It is the result of a year of extraordinary fundraising by the Friends of Rainow School (our PTA) and a successful National Lottery bid, masterminded by Mrs. Daley, our Deputy Head, and supported by the Parish Council. The park will serve the community of Rainow for many years to come, and is open in the evenings and at weekends as long as you follow our park rules, which the children have helped me create to keep everybody safe.

## Healthy Mind, Healthy Me

'Healthy Mind, Healthy Me' is the unofficial slogan that we have adopted this academic year for our increased focus on health and wellbeing. We began the term with our popular 'Woodland Wellbeing Week,' which was a brilliant way to launch our campaign. The children took part in a variety of outdoor activities, ranging from tree decoration to building sets for our cuddly badger! There was plenty of positive feedback from the children and adults about Woodland Week, but one in particular sticks with me. On our return from a whole-school ramble to White Nancy, Woody in Year



I asked me: 'Can we do this trip every week, Mr Norris, because I really loved it?' This proves that a simple country walk can be equally, if not more, enjoyable and rewarding as some of the more elaborate opportunities we give our children. In this day and age of 'busy-itis,' it was splendid to spend a couple of hours enjoying

exercise, nature, a good chat and even some sunshine!

## Remembrance

The children designed some beautiful poppies to add to our stunning school display to commemorate 100 years since the end of the First World War. Some of our School Council (pictured) joined me at the Remembrance Service at Rainow Church on the 11th and laid a wreath on behalf of Rainow School at the local war memorial. The children also learned some songs from the era, which they sang on their way back from the memorial. Overall, it was an incredibly poignant and fitting tribute.

## A Look Ahead...

I say it every year because it is true. There is simply no better place to be than in a primary school on the run up to Christmas. The children's decorations are up, the play rehearsals are in full swing and we are all looking forward to our Christmas lunch, parties and carol service in church. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Be sure to follow our Twitter account @Rainowprimary for lots more information about school activities. The Round Up, our fortnightly school newsletter, is also a great way to keep up-to-date with school goings-on and can be downloaded from our school website or picked up from Rainow Church.





## Friends of Rainow School

by Alexandra McKay

**F**irst few months of term have been fun-filled, especially with the children enjoying the woodland play area – a great outcome of last year's fundraising. We have also kicked off the year with lots of fundraising activities.

The first movie night of the academic year decided to challenge us! Technical issues lead to a very last minute change of film, and we had to stream Free Birds rather than watch Sing as planned. Thanks to Mrs Daley for saving the day! Regardless it was a success with the children, who love spending a couple of hours with their friends eating hot dogs and watching a film. It's also a great chance for the parents to get together and support the local pub. Plus we raised over **£500**.

Collecting **Bags4Schools** helped many of us clear a bit of space before Christmas. It raised nearly **£300** too so thank you to everyone who donated.

There will be a lot of well-dressed doors around Rainow this Christmas following a fundraising **Wreath Making Workshop** run by **The Flower House**.

Always a favourite, our first cake sale of the academic year was run by the Year 1 parents. It was successful despite the terrible weather thrown at us that afternoon. We decided to trial a minimum donation style of selling, which worked extremely well and thanks to the huge generosity of our parents, families and friends we raised over **£230**.

By the time you read this, the **Christmas Fair** will have happened. Father Christmas will have visited, and there will have been pony rides, photo competition, treat and cake stalls, a range of tombolas and crafts. It was be a great chance to get into the festive spirit.

As much as we love organising and putting on events, we only do it to raise funds for our school. All the money goes into buying equipment, subsidising trips and upgrading classrooms. For example, recent funds helped buy Rainow teddy bears for the reception class, welcoming them to the school.

We are very lucky at Rainow School to have such generous parents, grandparents and friends. Many thanks go to all those who contribute as part of the FRS team, and those who help out, donate items and attend our events.



## Rainow Pre-school

**A**utumn is a lovely time of year for pre-school as we can enjoy lots of walks collecting blackberries, apples, conkers and leaves of all different colours. The children enjoyed creating lots of artwork using all the things we collected.



We have returned following the holidays full of ideas for our theme, 'Celebrations'. We have made glittery pictures for bonfire night, tea light holders for Diwali and poppies for Remembrance Day and of course still to come, Christmas! We've got lots of festive things planned including our Christmas party.

Thank you to everyone who joined us at our Halloween Party. The children, and adults, all had a great time. Our Handmade Christmas event was a great success. Again, thank you to everyone who helped to make it a memorable evening. Professional photographer Joanne Bryant ran a family photograph session at the institute at the beginning of this month. It was lovely to see families from school, whose children used to attend pre-school, coming back to capture more happy memories. We really do appreciate those who continue to support us.

Our next event is the Cake and Craft stall we hold at the Rainow Church Christmas Market. This takes place on Saturday 8th December 11.00 am - 3.00 pm.

We currently have an opportunity to join our pre-school committee on a volunteer basis and want to open this out to the wider community. It's a rewarding way to play a part in our successful pre-school at the heart of our village. Without a team of committee members we can't run as a pre-school and this would leave a huge hole in our community. I'm sure most of the people reading the Raven have either attended our pre-school or have had children/grandchildren who have attended. We know that time is precious so we will work with you to make sure you get the most out of your experience with us. Volunteering at our village pre-school allows you to connect to the community and makes it a better place. Even helping out with the smallest tasks can make a real difference. Volunteering is a great way to meet people and strengthens ties to the community and broadens the support network. We would love to hear from parents/grandparents currently involved in our pre-school or anyone from the wider community who might be interested. Please do get in touch. Our number is 01625 574069 (9.00am - 12.15 pm daily).





## Rainow Cubs Summer 2018

by Akela Sue Grimes

Looking at our terms Programme we seem to have had a hectic time after thinking what a shame we are going to be stuck in the Institute!

We started the term with Body Zorbing on the School Field though the chap did ask if we could make it June next time!!) it was very funny watching them try and play games encased in a large plastic bubble. The following week we went bowling and had a go at Laser Quest.

We concentrated on Astronomy and Air Activities and so visited Jodrell Bank on a special Uniform day and found it fascinating, the displays were very good. We also hiked up Kerridge Ridge in the dark ( and rain) to look at the moon, but we were foiled by the clouds!

Two weeks later we went to Manchester Airport which was brilliant, we went on a DC10 and tried all the different uniforms on, then as an extra went on Concorde which the Leaders really enjoyed! While there an Airbus A380 landed which was impressive. One of the Cubs parents talked to us about what it is like being a pilot and air crew. We then had a paper aeroplane making/flying competition.

Cubs have to do Challenge Badges in order to gain their Silver Award which is the highest before Scouts – this term we concentrated on the Personal and Skills Challenge Badges. So at meetings we tie dyed T shirts, sewed on badges and buttons, made up codes, peeled vegetables and so on. At home they undertook to do things like cleaning teeth twice a day, watching less TV, spending less screen time altogether, doing a good turn every day and so on.

I was very pleased with them on Remembrance Sunday as they looked smart, behaved very well and marched smartly with 100% attendance.

Mainly the younger Cubs as the older ones were late back from a School trip went caving at Alderley Edge Mines, it looked horrific to me ( I did it once but waited in the Wizard this time!) but they and the parents who went down with them really enjoyed it. Our next trip out is to Chill Factor at Trafford Park for some tobogganing and lugging.

Then after an evening of Indian cooking it will be time for Christmas crafts and parties.



**bollington  
printshop**

WHATEVER YOUR PRINTING NEEDS

**BIG** OR SMALL, WEIRD OR Wonderful

YOU CAN COUNT ON US

**TEL: 01625 574828**

[www.print-and-design.com](http://www.print-and-design.com)

PRINT Wedding design Mapping Fine Art

## Christmas Market

Rainow Church Fête Committee would just like to thank everyone who attended the Christmas Market a few weeks ago and to those who also provided the stalls. The event once again proved to be very popular and a huge success. All money raised has been donated to Rainow church funds.



# Rainow Beavers Winter 2018



After the long, hot summer we made the most of the last sunny evenings in Rainow and spent an evening pond dipping. We didn't find much, mostly because the Beavers dipped themselves in the water, but fortunately it was warm enough still in September! The next week Kingfisher laid a trail around Rainow complete with a coded message for the Beavers to follow. They had to use all their tracking and observational skills and find arrows made from sticks, mysterious chalk markings and other signs and signals.

With shorter nights, we retreated to the Institute to learn all about the Silk Route. We have visited China, Turkey and Italy all without leaving Rainow. In China we made our own Dragon masks and tried to use chopsticks. In Turkey we made paper tapestries and peg dolls. We also tried Turkish Delight. In Italy we designed and made our own inventions inspired by Leonardo da Vinci and tried Panettone. We learnt about how important silk was to Macclesfield by visiting the Silk Museum. The children discovered how the raw silk was made into beautiful woven cloths.

After half term we had a Science Experiment week, our own Festival of Light, learnt about local Myths and Legends, calmed down with some Laughter Yoga and finished up with a Christmas Party.

We also had several Beavers achieve the Bronze Chief Scout Awards. This is a great achievement and the following Beavers should be very proud of themselves: Ben Foxon, Claudia Mather, Elliott Poyser, Holly Eardley, Imogen Riley, Jacob Cairns, Jacob Flint, Jeremy Arnold, Martha Griffin, Rueben Lawrance.

After Christmas we see several of our older Beavers move on to their next adventures. We are sorry to see them go but wish them well on whatever they do next. We are excited to have several new Beavers join us in January for lots of fun.

Thanks as always to the Beavers themselves for their enthusiasm and creativity. They throw themselves into whatever crazy idea we've had for activities each week. We think we are slowly getting the right balance between excitement, thoughtfulness, creativity, fun, and adventure and thank those Beavers who've been with us for the full journey for sticking with it! We've enjoyed ourselves and we hope you have too.

Thanks also must go to all the Beaver parents, particularly those who help week in week out. We've taken you on some adventures, but hope you've had some fun. Thanks very much for your support.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.



Have you any unwanted Christmas presents?

Is it time to de-clutter the garage?

Then we are looking for donations of items

Rainow Church Fête Committee presents:

## RAINOW BRING & BUY AND WHITE ELEPHANT

SATURDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2019

2:00 till 4:00pm

AT RAINOW CHURCH CENTRE

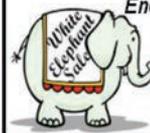
Free Entry

Refreshments Available

Enquiries and Collection please contact

Alan Taylor 01625 575544

Peter Nixon 07539 896231



## THE BED AND MATTRESS SHOP

9 Chester Road, Macclesfield SK11 8DG  
(end of Chestergate)

Special offer on Sealy beds...



Free delivery!

Free collection of your old mattress!  
Free headboard and two free drawers!

10% discount  
on all Sealy beds until the end of January!

01625 422296

WE ARE MAIN AGENTS FOR SEALY BEDS  
The world's No 1 Bed Brand





## SPEARINGS FAMILY BUTCHER & PIE MAKER

- ◆ Your **local** butcher supplying Beef, Pork, Lamb, Poultry and Game from our own **Rainow farm** and others in the area
- ◆ We specialise in delicious homemade **pies**, cooked meats and sausages
- ◆ Order now, whole or 1/2 lambs for the freezer (at the best prices ever!)
- ◆ **FREE** home delivery



Call in to meet our own in-house chef for recipes and tips!



12 Park Green, Macclesfield, Cheshire. SK11 7NA  
Tel: 01625 424395

# Christopher Evans

JEWELLERS & GOLDSMITHS

## JEWELLERY WORKSHOP

- High quality repairs, setting and re-mounting service
- In-house innovative design
- Loose certificated diamonds and gemstones
- Stockists of contemporary, high quality British, Swiss and German Jewellery and watches.



## JEWELLERY & WATCH VALUATIONS

At Christopher Evans Goldsmiths we offer a prompt, professional valuation service. Each of your items will be photographed, valued and documented (in accordance with insurance companies requirements) and presented within our Valuation Report for your records.



Christopher Evans Goldsmiths, 92 Park Lane, Poynton, SK12 1RE Telephone: 01625 850545

[www.christopherevansgoldsmiths.co.uk](http://www.christopherevansgoldsmiths.co.uk)

## Helping Hands

The Home Care Specialists

Est. 1989



## Do you need a Helping Hand?

If you are looking for an **alternative to residential care** or **extra support** for those everyday tasks that are becoming difficult for you or a loved one – then we're here to help - from 30 minutes per week to full time Live-in Care.

Our **Wilmslow care team** has been providing award winning quality homecare since 1989 and can help with: personal care, housekeeping, help getting around or even provide a break to an existing family member or care-giver.

To find out how we can help you, call: **01625 242 655** or visit: [www.helpinghands.co.uk](http://www.helpinghands.co.uk)

Recruiting Carers Now



# The Rainow Farming Year

## Part Four: Autumn to Winter



**J**ohn Cantrell is a well-known figure in Rainow from his involvement with both the church and the Parish Council and he is the third generation of his family to farm at Clough House Farm, situated near Walker Barn. His grandfather ran a dairy farm from 1934 with grandma keeping a large flock of hens - remnants of their coops are occasionally unearthed around the farmland. His father then ran it as a mixed farm with dairy and beef cattle and introduced some sheep, as is usual in our hill farms. John continued with this mix until the Milk Marketing Board ceased operating in 1994 and the price of milk crashed. He then sold off his milk cows and focussed mainly on sheep with some beef cattle.

The ever present threat of TB has led John to reduce the number of cattle but his herd can still be traced back to those kept by his grandfather and are now the last beef cattle in Macclesfield Forest. John and his wife Hazel have three daughters, Hannah, who is a Countryside Ranger based in Sheffield, Beth who is a diagnostic radiographer in Nottingham and Millie, currently studying for her GCSEs.

The dry weather this summer made life very difficult at Clough Farm, as it did for all the other farmers in Rainow. The grass on the hills burnt up and John had to buy in feed

for both the cows and sheep, something he has never had to do before. With the last hard winter and long cold spring the national stocks of feed were at an all-time low so prices rose. With Chelford market closed, local farmers have to travel to Bakewell to sell any animals, increasing costs yet again.

Water was another problem as the farm relies on a spring and a small river which were days away from drying up by the time the rain came. Thankfully the grass has grown back allowing some silage to be made but only about 70% of what will be needed so, like all the local farmers John is hoping for a mild winter – fingers crossed.

### Ingredients

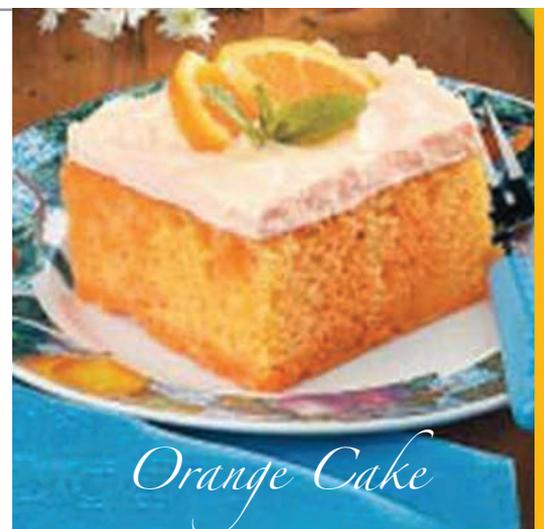
- 1 Orange
- 3 Eggs
- 9 oz Caster sugar
- 2 oz Plain flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 7 oz Ground almonds

### Orange cream to accompany the cake

Mix 2 oz warmed marmalade with 4 oz Mascarpone and 2 tablespoons of Greek yoghurt. Add icing sugar to taste. Serve this alongside a slice of cake. Delicious served with raspberries or other fresh fruit!

### Method

- 1) Simmer the whole orange for an hour, then cut in half, removing the pips. Puree the fruit in a processor
- 2) Grease an 8 inch spring-form tin and line with greaseproof paper
- 3) Whisk the eggs with the caster sugar then fold in sifted flour, baking powder and ground almonds and finally the orange puree
- 4) Bake at 180C/Gas mark 4 for about an hour



*Orange Cake*

# Rainow Remembers...



As we all know, this year was a particularly special Remembrance Day marking, as it did, the end of the conflict of World War I. Rainow residents and friends were proud

to attend the Church service and the subsequent procession to the war memorial. All ages were represented from babes in arms, through children from both the uniformed groups and the village school, to families and our older residents. We were able to remember our fallen by the photos shown during the service and as the names from both World Wars were read out before the two minutes silence. Following this and as the Reveille was played, the sun appeared and as we returned the children sang some of the songs which cheered the soldiers on far away battlefields.

As was recently written in a poem by a Cheshire school girl, we should remember these brave men every day and not just once a year.





**Lest We Forget...**

## Budding Ballerina

English Youth Ballet is an established production company of classical ballets across regional theatres in the UK. The company chooses around 60 young dancers through auditions from within the local area of the theatres used for performances.

These young talented and aspiring ballet dancers then have the opportunity to perform with Royal Ballet professional dancers, experience the full creative process from rehearsals to three final production performances.

English Youth Ballet this year put on a charming production at the delightful Buxton Opera House of Sleeping Beauty and Ballet Etudes on 19th and 20th October.

Our local Rainow budding ballerina Fleur Foster aged 10, attended the auditions back in June and was so successful not only did she obtain a place for the production company but

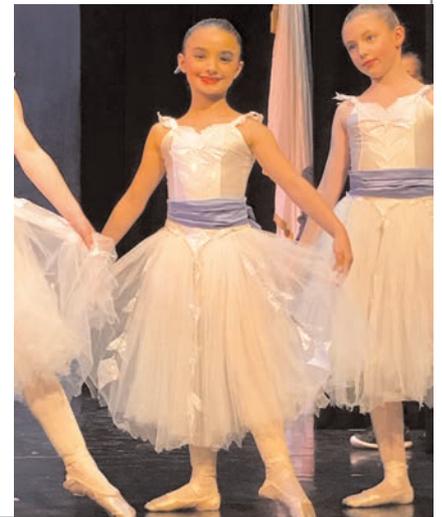
also was awarded one of just two scholarships.

Six weeks of hard weekend rehearsal training from the beginning of September - Fleur is so dedicated to the thing she loves most that missing weekend activities with friends, birthday parties etc pale into insignificance to her love of dancing.

In a local interview in the Macclesfield Express Fleur said, "I was two years old when I started dancing and I remember always dancing around my house even from a young age. I'm excited about being on the lovely Buxton Opera House stage in front of a proper audience, and the experience of dancing with professional ballet dancers. In the future, I would like a career in performing arts, hopefully with ballet as the main subject as I just love it!"

The whole production was superb and if any of you went to the performances I'm sure you will agree.

Well done Fleur – a talent for the future.



## S.W.Peak Community Grants Scheme

The community grants scheme offers grants of up to £10,000 to help fund community projects and activities in the South West Peak area. This is an area stretching from Lyme Park near Disley in the north to Waterhouses in the south, and from the outskirts of Bollington in the west to the edge of Hartington in the east.

Community organisations including constituted community groups, registered charities, social enterprises, parish councils and schools are all eligible to apply for funding to help with projects and activities which develop, enhance and promote the built, natural and cultural heritage of the South West Peak area.

"We want to encourage groups to talk to us about their ideas for community projects, as many may not realise that their projects

meet our objectives" says South West Peak Community Engagement Officer, Ruth Wilson. "Heritage is about much more than old buildings, it includes wildlife, people, communities and traditions too."

The community grants scheme, administered by Support Staffordshire, is part of the South West Peak Landscape Partnership Scheme, which consists of a suite of projects funded through the Heritage Lottery Fund until the end of 2021.

Support Staffordshire provides a wide range of support for voluntary and community groups in Staffordshire, including a volunteer brokerage service.

Kathryn Bentham, Volunteering Officer with Support Staffordshire, invites everyone to come and try some volunteering. "If you

have some free time and would like to do something that helps others or the environment and you are interested in volunteering please don't hesitate to contact us. There is a wide range of opportunities to suit your interests and availability right on your doorstep."

For more information about the South West Peak Landscape Partnership take a look at the website [www.southwestpeak.co.uk](http://www.southwestpeak.co.uk) or to find out more about the community grant scheme please contact Ruth Wilson, on 01538 381356 or email [ruth.wilson@supportstaffordshire.org.uk](mailto:ruth.wilson@supportstaffordshire.org.uk)

To find out more about volunteering please contact Kathryn Bentham on 01538 381356 email [Kathryn.bentham@supportstaffordshire.org.uk](mailto:Kathryn.bentham@supportstaffordshire.org.uk) or visit the national volunteering website [www.do-it.org](http://www.do-it.org)

# Loose Translations: No problem with the English Language, Just the English People

By Jim Kennelly

In the Biblical story of the Tower of Babel, arrogant mankind was cursed to “babble” many different languages, thwarting the building of a stairway to Heaven. Henceforth international communication needed some accessible standard language.

Today we still encounter miscommunication, even with the global medium of the English language. Maybe because English has only been available for a relatively short period, but also, is not communication more than just the words used?

The Romans annexed territory in Europe and used Latin as the language of administration and commerce. By the first century BC, they had absorbed Greece and Alexander the Great's conquests in the East. The Romans pragmatically continued with the well-established Greek language government of the eastern Empire.

Latin in the West and Greek in the East remained Church languages long after the demise of the Imperial capitals, Rome in the 5th Century and Constantinople in the 15th. Academic works were in Latin; Englishmen Bede in the 8th Century, Roger Bacon in the 13th and Isaac Newton in the 17th all wrote in Latin. Latin is often dismissed as a Dead Language, a pejorative not applied to (Ancient) Greek or (Old) English; probably because those two have modern successor languages sharing the same name. Latin has numerous descendants but known to us as Spanish, Portuguese, French, Italian, Romanian and the rest: if Latin is dead, then the corpse is still twitching.....

Latin stayed a major international language until 17th century France emerged as the foremost continental power. French then became the language of diplomacy and remained so into the 20th century. However there was a new kid on the block; competition, initially from the British Empire and latterly from the political and commercial power of post-World War USA resulted in today's widespread use of English.

This development is a boon to us on this island. We may pursue careers in international business, science and entertainment whilst remaining indolently monolingual. It is those foreign Johnnies who need language skills on their CV. International colleagues speak English so well that we sometimes forget they are working in a second language. In Copenhagen a colleague offered refreshments: “Try these little cakes, they go very well with tea and coffee – we call them Wienerbrod, I am not sure what they are in English.” “Danish Pastries? Really? You named them after this country? How amusing!” I suppose it is no different to being offered cr me anglaise in France and replying “No thanks, but a spot of custard would be perfect”.

The problem for foreign speakers of English is that they may deal with the actual English (and other British). A course on cross-cultural awareness had the take-home message that

the rest of the world was reasonable but the British were decidedly odd. Before we open our mouths, there are issues. British people are comfortable standing at arm's length from another person. In most cultures, people stand closer. Consequently a British person involuntarily recoils as their wide personal space is unwittingly breached by a friendly other national. Similarly, British avoid touching more than others. The British shake hands when introduced, but that single contact will do for months – a nod of acknowledgement sufficient in the meantime. More hot-blooded, touchy-feely

nations, such as Germans, expect you to shake hands every time you meet them – even if you shook hands yesterday! It feeds the rumour that the British are aloof and unfriendly. A colleague remarked, “you English are a very cold people”. My heart sank – she was Norwegian!.

In conversation the British are so oblique that we confuse ourselves, let alone other nations. Outside the military, we are loath to give direct orders. A message to an Italian office: “You might like to consider doing X?”. Nothing

happened. Where is X?” “You asked us to think about it, we did and decided no”. In France I was asked “what did you think of that meeting?” “It could have gone better”. “But what did you think?” “We needed more preparation”. “But what do you really think?” “That was thoroughly embarrassing – the worst meeting I have ever attended – I never want to endure another like it in my life!” “Why didn't you just say so?” I was not sure; hypocrisy is so ingrained in our culture it might well be in our DNA. Things are different in France; a colleague got into a flaming row during a meeting and stormed out down the corridor in tears. I went to her afterwards, expecting at least to find her writing a formal complaint or her resignation. “How are you?” “Ça va, we had a dispute, some words, but that is all over now”. I was amazed by her sang froid. My own list of appropriate responses would have encompassed violence and murder..

I gave my colleagues some advice on interactions with the citizens of Perfidious Albion: British people never say what they mean or mean what they say. To get any sense out of them, frame questions that require a factual answer or a yes/no response. Beware confrontation – the British avoid it because they are the nastiest people on Earth – they bear grudges. Get into a serious confrontation with a British person, they might not make any immediate or cathartic fuss, but they will get you – maybe not tomorrow, next week or in 10 years' time – but they will get you eventually. Hopefully a few continental friends now found their work lives a little less frustrating...

Has the English language contributed as much to World Culture as Latin? We may need a few centuries more to judge. By then, however, we might all be practising conversational Chinese.



900 AD England: In 1,000 years' time, my language will be used for computer programming courses in Kuala Lumpur?

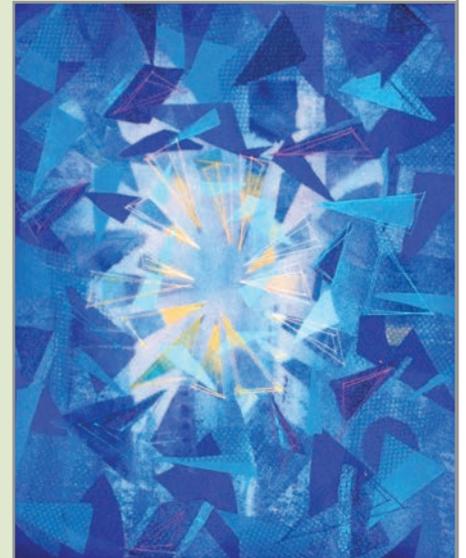
# Artist in Residence

## Hilary Nicol

A love of painting and sewing came down to me from my mother. She had been trained as a fashion designer at St. Martins School of Art in the 1930's and it was she who encouraged me to draw and taught me to use a sewing machine at a very early age. I loved it all. Sadly, I did not follow her down the art school route but over the years I have always kept my interest in art and craft. Dipping into various disciplines over the years, I have

exhibition determined to try out some new idea or technique. Just this weekend I went to see the Anni Albers exhibition at the Tate and immediately wanted to try out weaving, the colours and the patterns were so amazing. A few years ago I went to an exhibition of images made out of cut paper. They were incredible. I came home and made fabric window blinds using the same technique. They proved to be one of my more successful experiments.

Often the most difficult thing is to



enjoyed painting, drawing and pastels, embroidery, pottery, dressmaking, pattern cutting, quilt making, to name but a few. It's been a very uneven journey, sometimes I only painted once a year on our summer holiday. But that is the thing with art and craft, you can always pick up where you left off.

Making things has always given me a great deal of pleasure. I find the feeling of being immersed in something, something that demands real concentration, is satisfying. Unfortunately, it is rare for the

end result to match one's expectations and there is certainly a lot of frustration along with the enjoyment but I think it is partly this that keeps one trying again.. and again!

Like most painters, I started with watercolour and it is the medium I am most at home with, but recently I have discovered acrylics. One of the best things about using acrylics is that you can overpaint when things go wrong. I have found it has made me much more confident to try new approaches.

Looking at different artists' work is also really inspirational. I have lost count of the times I have come back from an

actually make a start. To put pen to paper, brush to canvas, scissors to fabric. Sometimes it is so difficult. Procrastination sets in. ..Then you take the plunge, things begin to flow and you're and you're off.

I have recently rejoined Bollington Art Group. Groups like this are great for people who are beginners or returners. You do not need any previous experience and even if you were told at school that art was not for you, you can have a go. With a good teacher and fellow artists at your elbow offering advice, encouragement and helpful criticism, you'll gradually find your own voice.



# News from the Lamp and Candle



Hello again,  
Well, now that the fine summer has finally left us the "Lamp & Candle" returns to darkness, which is just how we like it. This inspires much story-telling around the fire in the snug. I thought of treating "Raven" readers to a Halloween story I had written as a change from sitting around the fire dressed up in fifty-pence paper costumes from Tesco (mind you when you look at some of the faces round the fire at the "Lamp & Candle" there's not much need for scary masks).

Unfortunately, the Landlady saw my draft which I'd left on the dining table and informed me in no uncertain terms that I wasn't to send it to the "Raven" editor who would recognise it for what it was – a 'cheap piece of gender prejudice'.

This is not language that the Landlady uses (or understands), so it's clear to me that she's been talking to ladies from the Rainow WI again, or taken it from the left-wing literature she has tucked away about the place, such as "The Lady" magazine and "Simply Knitting".

Miserable Bickerdike says I'm still paraphrased about people trying to ruin the "Lamp" but he doesn't understand.

Linda McKenna, who knows about these things, was telling me about Guerrilla Knitting which is breaking out all over the country. It involves wrapping public statues in scarves, knitting multi-coloured covers for railings and having knitted dogs peeing up lamp posts. Those who don't believe me can Google it – it's sometimes called "yarn bombing" and it's all led by a woman calling herself "Deadly Knitshade". This year – statues and streets. Next year – out of the way places like mine. The tip of the ice cube if you ask me!

Back to my Halloween tale. There was actually nothing wrong with it. It was about a man who was walking past a cemetery and noticed another man kneeling over a grave, wringing his hands and sobbing. Moving a bit closer, he hears the man repeating over and over again "Why did you have to die?" Feeling he should say something to help the poor distraught fellow he said, in a kindly manner, "Was it someone you loved very much?" The man looked up at him with tears rolling down his face and said "No, I never met him. He was my wife's first husband."

A good story I thought, but the Landlady has forbidden it. However, being the modern man that I am I respected her views and promised I would not send it to the editor for publication. Alas, another blow has been struck for women's lib at the "Lamp & Candle". I'm afraid all this political correctness and social media philosophy has finally found its way to The Sedge. Heaven knows where it will end.

I notice that the Parish Council is putting together a directory of agencies that can provide the village with information or help in emergencies such as tree incidents, power cuts and problems on the roads'. I am always impressed by Rainow Parish Council, who do so much to help

the circulation of important information. Rural crime is on the up and up and the Council has reported on sheep-worrying, livestock and equipment theft and fly tipping. So "Well Done" to Rainow Parish Council, and if you would like to invite me to one of your meetings (perhaps the one where you have a Christmas lunch afterwards) I could perhaps help you with certain investigation techniques I have devised to combat local crime. For instance, you mentioned the increase in the theft of stone, particularly copers. Have you considered checking local hospitals and doctors surgeries for men who have recently reported a severe hernia or a bad back? That would narrow your searches down a bit. I have other ideas even better than this!

Kevin and Jade are still at it. I daren't say at what but I'm sure it's not just playing Scrabble. Rumour reaches me that they'll be fixing the wedding date soon so I've been thinking how I might raise some money – fast! I thought of being a Father Christmas at one of the big stores but I don't fancy wearing an itchy false beard and a sweaty red suit and having snotty-nosed kids demanding games and toys with unpronounceable names (the toys and the kids). My obvious talent lies in written communication, given that I am a contributor to the "Raven" but passing on this talent (even at a very modest cost) is not easy, given that keeping Rainow's oldest inn from prying eyes involves me not being seen much about the village and not having anybody visit the "Lamp". The answer may be a correspondence course. It would work like this: people on the course would leave their work in a plastic bag in the Church porch. I could pick it up from there and leave the marked papers for them to pick up when they are passing by.

People like to write these days, and instead of putting unintelligible stuff on their tablets like, "Hi Hun, U lk fab on your selfie btw", they could learn to write properly. I have much to offer them. For instance anyone who reads the newspapers or watches telly these days is bombarded with clichés. This is lazy writing and I can teach them to break the habit. Personally, I wouldn't touch clichés with a barge-pole; in fact they are like a red rag to a bull as far as I'm concerned.

So, if you're looking for an original Christmas present for yourself or you semi-literate loved ones, just leave your contact details on the Chapel Lane notice board and remember lesson number one – avoid clichés like the plague!

Merry Christmas nearly all of you,

Landlord.

# The John Richards Story (Part I)

by Raph Murray

John Richards was undoubtedly one of the most remarkable men in Rainow's history. In the early 1800's he was one of the leading members of Macclesfield's radical reform movement, a pro-democracy and parliamentary reform activist, social justice campaigner and inspirational schoolteacher.

In 1815, despite the huge national debt generated by the Napoleonic Wars the Government of the day abolished income tax and balanced its budget by taxing everyday items such as tea, sugar, tobacco, beer, soap, candles and paper. In addition the Corn Laws had the effect of increasing the price of wheat, a staple of most people's diet. This meant that the main burden of taxation fell on the poor upon whom little Government money was ever spent and who had no vote by which to show their disapproval. One response to this was the development of the radical reform movement that campaigned for universal suffrage, no taxation without representation, local parliamentary representation and annual parliaments.

In Macclesfield, despite warnings by the Mayor and Macclesfield magistrates that a proposed reform meeting might constitute a breach of the peace, the meeting went ahead on 31st July 1819. The meeting was held near Christ Church and was attended by about 1,000 people. One of the main speakers and secretary at this event was John Richards from Rainow. John had been born in 1787, the son of Robert and Mary Richards of Hurdsfield. Although little is known of his early life it appears that he worked as schoolteacher and journeyman silk spinner in Rainow. The main change sought by the reformers was a Parliamentary seat for Macclesfield. They proposed to achieve this by electing a Macclesfield representative, who, if not recognised by the Houses of Parliament, would be a member of a National Convention. Although there did not appear to be any immediate repercussions from this meeting, events in Manchester two weeks later were to have significant local and national impact. (See Raven No 44, Autumn 2018, article on the Peterloo Massacre and Macclesfield).

The main local repercussion was perhaps the arrest, trial, conviction and



*'This day's inquiry, and your verdict, may live long in the annals of the country; and the result may either make posterity glow with patriotic energy or recoil with horror.'*

sentencing of John Richards and other speakers at the reform meeting in Macclesfield on 31st July for seditious and libel. The main charge was that the defendants, by false, inflammatory and seditious speeches, and by other unlawful means, vilified and degraded the Commons' House of Parliament and the Government of this kingdom, and attempted to excite in the minds of the persons assembled hatred and contempt of the Government. The outcome of the trial was perhaps a foregone conclusion, nevertheless John Richards did have an opportunity to address the jury:

*Gentlemen of the Jury, you have heard the evidence, or rather the shadow of the evidence produced against us. (He here entered into a long tirade against the witnesses.) It was never proposed to elect a Member of Parliament, only a Representative; but we could not compel any one to be such Representative. I say we ought to have proper Representatives and good laws, which are the embodied will of man; and is it not strange, indeed, if we are to obey the laws, that we should not have a share in making them? If we have not such a voice, we live in a state of political slavery. Gentlemen, a consciousness of rectitude makes a man sleep easier on a pallet of straw, than a villain in a palace. This day's inquiry, and your verdict, may live long in the annals of the country; and the result may either make posterity glow with patriotic energy or recoil with horror. I call upon you gentlemen for your verdict, as honest men, - as Englishmen; and I charge you to consider on the importance of its issue*

*to the country at large, as you will answer for it at the judgment seat of God.*

As expected, the Chairman having summed up, the Jury immediately found all the defendants guilty. The defendants were given the opportunity to say why the court should not proceed to pass sentence. Richards and co-defendant Burtenshaw were vociferous in their declarations of having acted constitutionally and repeatedly expressed their satisfaction with what they had done in the cause of public virtue! The Chairman however was not dissuaded and proceeded to pronounce the judgement of the court. For the offences of seditious and conspiracy at Macclesfield the sentences were that Richards and three other co-defendants be imprisoned in the Castle of Chester each for the period of two years, that they find securities at the expiration of that period, themselves in £50 and two securities in £25 to keep the peace for one year and be further imprisoned till such sureties be found.

Undeterred by his incarceration in Chester gaol however, Richards continued to campaign for parliamentary reform and justice. Meanwhile other activities included petitioning the House of Commons to repeal the legislation allowing the import of foreign silks. Unfortunately neither this nor other similar petitions were successful.

Another national movement for change in the early 1830's was the Association for the Protection of Labour, whose main objective was to secure fixed rates of pay in every trade. Two delegates from this organisation came to Macclesfield in June 1830 and on 7th June there was a meeting of about 2,000-3,000 cotton and silk trade workers in an empty factory in Brook Street. John Richards was one of the speakers at this meeting and this led to the formation of a Macclesfield branch of the Association.

Meanwhile agitation for the reform of Parliament continued and at a Town Hall meeting in late February 1831 the protagonists for either household or universal suffrage clashed. Proposing a 'fair share of representation' (meaning only household suffrage) was Thomas Grimsditch, the Brunswick Street

lawyer who was an officer in the Macclesfield Yeomanry in Manchester on the day of the Peterloo massacre and who was one of the prosecutors in the trial of Richards and his fellow Radicals in 1920. Several of the many weavers present then presented a counter proposal. Although this was rejected, a more moderately worded resolution favouring universal manhood suffrage and vote by secret ballot was seconded by Richards and supported by the vast majority of all those present. Despite this support, Grimsditch and the chairman wanted to stick to the original proposal and the meeting ended inconclusively.

A subsequent meeting supported a petition to Parliament on the basis of the reforms already proposed in the House of Commons advocating household suffrage for urban rent payers of over £10 per year. Richards and others, however, continued to support and campaign for universal suffrage and in April 1831 a meeting of the National Association agreed to form a Political Union and campaign for universal male suffrage, annual parliaments and vote by ballot.

Despite opposition from the House of Lords the first Reform Act, or more formally the Representation of the People act, was eventually passed in 1832 and the first general election under this act was held in December 1832. As part of this reform Macclesfield itself was to have two MP's but only 718 inhabitants, who as £10 householders, were qualified to vote. Thomas Grimsditch was one of the candidates, however the fact that he was one of the Yeomanry at Peterloo, his role in the prosecution of Richards and his fellow radicals in 1820 and his record of opposition to parliamentary reform perhaps contributed to his failure to be elected.

*(To be continued.)*

**References:**

*Troubled Times: Macclesfield 1790-1870*, Keith Austin, Churnet Valley Books, 2001

# “Let’s Hear it For Linda McKenna”

## Rainow Playmakers are Preparing for 2019

- An Ehcktor Girds his Loins!



Not sure the props & wardrobe budget will run to this?

Bob Langstaff has done it again!

“The Play’s the Thing” (Hamlet) – Bob has produced a Play about a Play within a Play. Anything done by Bill Shakespeare is worth nicking and updating!

Set in Rainow, this Play is about precious, easily bruised egos and squalid back-stabbing in the hothouse atmosphere of Amateur Dramatics. Tickets have been sold, the Rainow Institute has been booked and curtain-up is only a matter of days away – but the play is not ready! When I first saw the synopsis, I thought that this was a fly-on-the-wall documentary not a stage play!

The cast comprises the usual suspects,

plus the innovation of child actors (or sticky-fingered scene-stealing hobgoblins, as old Binky Huckerback warned me). My other concern is that the best lines are being allocated to a Non-human Character!

Mr Langstaff, however, knows his audience. Rainow residents hoping for humour, knockabout farce, dancing and singing will not be disappointed.

Another new feature for the 2019 season is that there will be three evening performances to cope with the demand for tickets.

Invite the entire family and friends to the Rainow Institute: Performance Nights, Thursday 21st, Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd in February 2019.

**Tickets will be on sale from 10th January 2019, a bargain at £8 each. Please contact Bob Langstaff from this date on 01625 573761 to place your order.**

## Carole Harvey Telemarketing



**New Business Development**

**Appointment Setting**

**Telephone Marketing**

**22 Millers Meadow, Rainow, Macclesfield 01625 573576 harveyrainow@yahoo.co.uk**



### Personal Travel service in Rainow

January is one of the best times to book your holiday, many cruise companies, hotels and airlines bring out sales and I have access to all of these for you, so why book with me? I have over 20 years experience in the industry and have my own travel business based in Macclesfield —I also have the back up of Travel Counsellors, truly one of the best companies in the UK. We are the only company to have a customer satisfaction rating of over 96% and you are fully protected under the travel counsellors trust and our ATOL license. If you're looking for a holiday to remember and a unique personal service—I'd be happy to help and will take all of the stress and hassle away. Let me do all the hard work for you and you can relax with the promise that your holiday plans are in the safest hands.

Phone : 01625 439 693 or Email : [katie.collis@travelcounsellors.com](mailto:katie.collis@travelcounsellors.com)

or visit my facebook page [www.facebook.com/katiecTC](http://www.facebook.com/katiecTC)

travel counsellors  With us...it's personal




## ANDREW SMITH FUNERAL SERVICES

*The Local Independent Funeral Director*

- **Celebration and Thanksgiving Services tailored to your needs**
- *Simple, low cost Funeral Services*
- *Golden Charter Pre-paid Funeral Plans*
- *Recommended by the Good Funeral Guide and the Natural Death Centre*

Park Green House, 82 Sunderland Street,  
Macclesfield SK11 6HN



Golden Charter  
Funeral Plans 

[www.andrewsmithfuneralservices.co.uk](http://www.andrewsmithfuneralservices.co.uk)

**01625 433 853**



### Casa Polidori

Castelnuovo di Garfagnana, Tuscany

We've created three spacious holiday apartments, one on each floor of a renovated Tuscan farmhouse. They each have a private terrace, wifi, stunning views and good showers. It's the ideal place to read, write, sleep, walk and taste the delights of life in rural Italy only 1½ hours from Pisa. We think it's a bit like Rainow, with better local wine! If you're interested to know more, please contact:

Jane Davies  
Springmount, Lidgetts Lane  
Rainow

T: 01625 616734  
E: [jane@polidori.co.uk](mailto:jane@polidori.co.uk)



### Kerridge End Holiday Cottages

**Rainow's Only 5 Star Gold Self Catering Holiday Cottages**

Cheshire's Only Green Tourism Gold Award Winning Cottages

◆ The Hayloft sleeps 6 ◆ The Coach House sleeps 4 ◆ The Stables sleeps 2

[www.kerridgeendholidaycottages.co.uk](http://www.kerridgeendholidaycottages.co.uk)

Email : [info@kerridgeendholidaycottages.co.uk](mailto:info@kerridgeendholidaycottages.co.uk) Tel : 01625 424220

**Winners of Marketing Cheshire Self Catering Holiday Provider & Self Catering Property of the Year Award 2017**

- Extensions
- Design & Build
- Renovations
- Alterations
- Hard landscaping



Project managed builds from breaking ground to decoration.

The highest levels of finish come as standard.

Five year warranty of workmanship.

Please contact us for an accurate quotation

[Info@antarcticconstruction.co.uk](mailto:Info@antarcticconstruction.co.uk)

**01625 574779**

Anthony

07875010103

Peter

07738868055



## FAMILY BUTCHERS

Palmerston Street,  
Bollington  
Tel: 01625 572202

114 Wellington Road,  
Bollington  
Tel: 01625 573172

5 Fountain Place, Poynton  
Tel: 01625 872154

If you are interested in advertising in the next issue of **The Raven**, please contact **Carole Harvey** on **573576** or [carole.harvey@rainow.com](mailto:carole.harvey@rainow.com)



### Penny Lane Holiday Cottages

- ◆ Two charming 18th-century stone cottages, recently refurbished to a high standard.
- ◆ Long and shorts breaks available all year round.



For more information call: 01625 410735 [www.pennylaneholidaycottages.co.uk](http://www.pennylaneholidaycottages.co.uk)

## Your *local* doorstep Delivery Service

- ◆ Milk
- ◆ Organic Milk
- ◆ Free Range Eggs
- ◆ Orange Juice
- ◆ Cream



**W B Moss & Son**  
Hough Hole Farm  
Rainow  
Tel: **573320**



Unit 12, Brocklehurst Way  
Tytherington Shopping Centre  
Tytherington SK10 2HB  
(next to the Paint Pot and Threshers)

Tel: 01625 669666

- Professional and caring staff
- Full veterinary services
- Easy, convenient parking
- Free pet care advice
- Range of pet foods available
- Flea control & wormers

Opening times:  
9.15am - 6.00pm Monday - Friday  
9.00am - 12.30pm Saturday

Consultations by appointment



Also at Bollington Veterinary Centre, 1 Ashbrook Road, Bollington, SK10 5LF  
Tel: 01625 572999 [www.bollingtonvets.co.uk](http://www.bollingtonvets.co.uk)

## ROY McCARTHY Coaches for every occasion 35 - 70 Seaters



Please call us for our 2018 brochure with details of our **holiday tours** and **day excursions**

Tel: Macclesfield (01625) 425060  
[www.roymccarthycoaches.co.uk](http://www.roymccarthycoaches.co.uk)  
THE COACH DEPOT ◆ SNAPE ROAD ◆ MACCLESFIELD



## M. J. ROBERTS *Professional Decorator*

INTERIORS & EXTERIORS

Call **Michael** for a free quote on:

Macclesfield (01625) 431839 or 07932 868623

References available 24 Conway Crescent, Hurdsfield, Macclesfield. SK10 2RU

### 2 Pensioners & Van

- Trustworthy & reliable
- No job too small
- House/office removals
- Single items
- Contract delivery work
- Rubbish removal

But still young & able!!!



**01625 576182**

## Rainow Cattery

- Established over **30** years
- 'A home from home for cats'
- Centrally heated accommodation with a **radiator** in every pen
- Climate controlled environment
- We can take cats on medication
- Open **all** year round
- Tel: **01625 575129**
- [Lynn@rainowcattery.co.uk](mailto:Lynn@rainowcattery.co.uk)
- The Old Hall, Sugar Lane, Rainow, SK10 5UJ



## HEATING OIL

BEST SERVICE  
AT COMPETITIVE PRICES

FARM & COMMERCIAL FUELS

LOGS & HEAT LOGS

☎ **WIRRAL FUELS**

**01244 - 851200**

DUNKIRK ESTATE, DUNKIRK, CHESTER,  
CHESHIRE CH1 6LZ

TEL: 01625 572654  
MOB: 07860 106901

## ELBee designs

BLINDS • CURTAINS • INTERIORS

- ROLLERS ● VERTICALS ● VENETIANS ● WOODS ●
- ROMANS ● PLEATED ● SHUTTERS ● PERFECT FIT ●
- CURTAINS & ACCESSORIES

*Lynne Eardley* 12 Charter Road, Bollington. SK10 5NU



## J. KIRK & CO

Approved Diploma Coal Merchant

Established in 1933

Top quality Coal

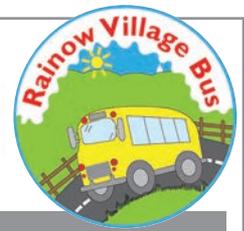
- Smokeless Fuel ● Logs ● Kindling ● Bunkers

Call **Oliver** on **01625 573131**

Hedgerow, Rainow SK10 5DA

# Rainow Village Bus

Serving your Community



## Rainow Village Bus update

Not a lot new to report this issue, the bus has had its MOT and received a full bill of health. We achieved our 4th anniversary on 17th October of running the Community Bus service. The new bus is now 2 years old and has completed over 7,000 miles since it started service on 11th November 2016.

The Friday and Saturday service runs are still under - used but Group bookings continue to flourish.

From August through to mid- November we have carried 20 groups travelling to a large diversity of venues ranging from the Lowry Theatre in Manchester, Water World in Stoke, a concert at Gawsorth Hall, Chester Races, the Lambing Shed at Ollerton, Hollin Hall Kerridge and several other family trips into Bollington, Kettleshulme, Poynton and Macclesfield. We have taken the Cubs to Manchester Airport on an educational adventure, the School pupils to Macclesfield Rugby Club to take part in a competition there and picked up the Ramblers after one of their many hikes.



**Booking the bus** - the bus can be booked for individual or Group trips by contacting:

Ken Butler - [kenbut@btinternet.com](mailto:kenbut@btinternet.com)  
01625 433168

Tony Wilkinson - [tony-wilkinson1234@gmail.com](mailto:tony-wilkinson1234@gmail.com)  
01625 614650

John Hawthorne - [john-hawthorne58@hotmail.com](mailto:john-hawthorne58@hotmail.com)  
01625 575206

**Costs to hire the bus:** £25 per session (a session being morning, afternoon or evening) plus 50p per mile travelled. The cost of fuel is included.

Regular service fares are £3 return to Macclesfield, £2 single and £4 return to Bollington, £3 single.

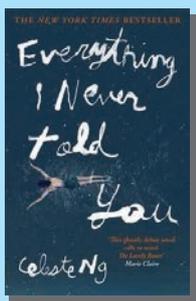
The service is completely non-profit making and there are no paid employees, any money charged is put towards the running of the bus.

Facebook **rainow village bus** :  
website [www.rainowvillagebus.com](http://www.rainowvillagebus.com)

## Raven Book Reviews More choices from some of Rainow's book club members

**Celeste Ng**

**Everything I Never Told You**



The achingly sad narrative within this book is laid bare right from the outset, with the disappearance of teenager, Lydia Lee. It quickly becomes apparent that Lydia will not be returning, although the reader possesses the knowledge of her death before Lydia's own family and can therefore observe pityingly and sorrowfully the panic-stricken and desperate process of the ensuing search and its inevitable conclusion. The familial resentments and secrets that are steadily and agonisingly exposed become the heart of this mystery, as the narrative flits between the family's theories about Lydia's disappearance and death and her own story. Set in the 1970s, the Midwestern town the Lee family reside in is characterised by fervent racism and bigotry, which Lydia's father, James Lee, child of Chinese immigrants, has been excruciatingly aware of throughout his whole life. As a Harvard undergraduate, James had met Marilyn, an all-American girl, who is attracted by the very difference and exoticism that James himself so desperately wishes to cast aside. After falling pregnant with their first child early in the relationship, Marilyn gives up her own aspirations of becoming a doctor in order to

raise their family and initially devotes herself to this. Although their relationship is depicted with tenderness, authentic affection and mutual respect, the racial identity fault lines that are explicitly evident within the society they inhabit become exposed as also existing within their own marriage. Whilst this is precipitated most fatally by their daughter's death, the subsequent revelation of an earlier event when Marilyn, feeling embittered, cheated and lost, had abandoned her family in order to pursue her own forsaken dreams for a short time, further illuminates the pernicious roots of the toxic secrecy and schisms that pervades family life.

The superb characterisation and tenderly crafted individual narratives is breathtakingly and profoundly moving and Celeste Ng brilliantly depicts the damage that parents can inflict upon their children by attempting to enact their own unfulfilled or thwarted hopes, dreams and disappointed opportunities through the lives of their offspring. Difference – whether to do with race, gender, sexuality, class – and the harm engendered by prejudice and resentment is at the heart of the novel. The space between people, replete with concealment, mystery and ambiguity, creates a lonely echo that resonates throughout the pages of this book in an ultimately tragic and anguished story of human vulnerability and inadequacy.

# What's On in Rainow and Bollington

## DECEMBER 2018

16	3.00 pm	<b>Carols by Candlelight</b>	Jenkin Chapel
18	7.30 am	<b>Messiah for All</b> – Bollington Festival Choir	Bollington Arts Centre
24/25	11.00/10.00 am	<b>Christmas Communion</b>	Rainow Church

## JANUARY 2019

2	7.30 am	<b>Pottflix</b> – TBC	Pott Shrigley Village Hall
4-13	2.00 & 7.00 pm	<b>Sinbad the Sailor</b> – Bollington Festival Players	Bollington Arts Centre
14	7.30 pm	<b>Rainow WI</b> – The History of Gin – speaker from Forest Gin	Rainow Institute
15	1.30 pm	<b>Rainow Mothers' Union</b> – 'Home Sweet Home' note start time	Rainow Church Centre
22	8.00 pm	<b>Rainow Fete Committee meeting</b>	Rainow Church Centre

## FEBRUARY 2019

6	7.30 pm	<b>Pottflix</b> – TBC	Pott Shrigley Village Hall
11	10.00 am	<b>Rainow WI</b> – Indoor Curling	Rainow Institute
19	7.30 pm	<b>Rainow Mothers' Union</b> – AGM and Social Time	Rainow Church Centre
21/22/23	7.00 pm	<b>Rainow Quay Players</b> – Let's Hear it for Linda McKenna	Rainow Institute

## MARCH 2019

2	am	<b>Rainow NSPCC</b> Full day shopping trip to Cheshire Oaks £16 pp - for more info and to book ticket, Roy McCarthy Coaches Tel: 01625 425060	see Roy McCarthy website
6	6.00 pm	<b>Pottflix</b> – TBC	Pott Shrigley Village Hall
11	7.30 pm	<b>Rainow WI</b> – The Clink – Catrin to talk about how the charity was set up	Rainow Institute
19	7.30 pm	<b>Rainow Mothers' Union</b> – Jenny Tendal, 'The Hallelujah Chorus in the Heart of Me'	Rainow Church Centre
23	2.00 - 4.00 pm	<b>Rainow Bring &amp; Buy Sale</b>	Rainow Church Centre

### USEFUL INFORMATION

For more information on Fell races etc. please contact Raph Murray [raphmurray@hotmail.com](mailto:raphmurray@hotmail.com)

For more info on NSPCC events please contact Sue Frith [suefrithxx@aol.com](mailto:suefrithxx@aol.com) or Lyn McCarthy [lynmccarthy@live.co.uk](mailto:lynmccarthy@live.co.uk) or Lulu Holland 572377

**Pottflix, Flix in the Stix**, Bar opens 6.30pm, performances 7.30pm. Tickets are £4 in advance from Anthea Wilkinson 01625 573538 or Sue Ralston 01625 573210 or £5 on the door.

For other performances at the **Bollington Arts Centre**, see website [www.bollingtonartscentre.co.uk/events](http://www.bollingtonartscentre.co.uk/events) page.

**The Rainow Village Bus** is used to visit Cinemac some Monday evenings, dependent upon films screened. Cost is £2 for return bus travel and £3.50 for Cinemac entry. To put your name on the circulation list for future outings contact Sue Grimes [suecgrimes@hotmail.com](mailto:suecgrimes@hotmail.com)

We have made this list as comprehensive as space permits and it is necessarily a selection of the events we know about. If you have anything planned that you would like us to list in the next issue, please call 01625 574523 or email [pat.mellish@uwclub.net](mailto:pat.mellish@uwclub.net)

W  
O  
S  
'  
T  
O  
M  
S  
T  
O  
M



Left: Field Barn near Warslow being surveyed. Basic measurements are taken along with its condition. Should the barn or artefact be of some interest from a historical or archaeological view point, then it could well attract funding through the South West Peak Partnership, in order to help with its preservation.



This is an interesting feature in the side wall of the outhouse. At first you might well think that it is just a boarded window opening. Well almost certainly not. The dimensions of the alcove would quite easily accommodate a bee skep. Furthermore the south facing aspect was favoured by beekeepers. To our knowledge there is at least one other in Rainow according to the International Bee Research Association Database. They are known as Bee Boles.



This is an example of a small heritage asset, a small field gate. When first found there was just the top rail of wooden gate left. In this particular case I've replicated the other parts of the gate and left the original piece by the gate. It's location is here in Rainow on private land associated where I live hence my extra interest.



This an aerial view of the surface remains of Dale Mine near Ecton in the Manifold Valley. From such data archaeologists can see details of the workings over the life of mine and evidence of previous uses of the land. The darker square just left of centre is main shaft cap. The image consists of 12 images which have been stitched together. The camera is lofted by a kite and an intervalometer in the camera takes the sequence of images.

## South West Peak - Landscape at a Crossroads

by Peter Neville

About eighteen months ago while doing some research into local mines (I'm a member of the Peak District Mines Historical Society) I came across what was then a new initiative calling themselves the South West Peak Partnership. On further investigation it turns out that under the leadership of the Peak District National Park with other partners, funding had been secured to start projects that involved the landscape of a defined area to be known as the South West Peak. This area is loosely the western part of the Peak District National Park but not exclusively. It stretches from Disley in the north down to Waterhouses in the south. From Macclesfield in the west to Buxton, Longnor and Warslow in the east.

The projects, some 18 in all, ranged from protecting the cultural resources of the area to supporting the recovery of wading birds. As a symbol of the partnership a silhouette of a curlew against a simplified background of the landscape (moorland, grassland, farmland and water) was used as the logo.

A website was set up to give core information on what it was all about and to allow anyone interested to find out more, notice of the job vacancies that were to be created and as a conduit for people to volunteer to take part in surveys and the like. All backed by a team of highly qualified professionals in the fields of community projects, eco systems, farming, history, archaeology and environmental sciences.

The Small Heritage Adoption (preserving historic sites, monuments and objects) caught my attention and within no time at all the partnership were to hold training sessions for level 1 surveying to anyone interested in participating. So I did the one recently at the Institute here in Rainow. That has now been extended to include the Field Barn Survey. I should point out that this was not the first project to get off the ground, others had been on the go practically since the formation of the partnership.

Under the direction of Dr Catherine Parker Heath, Cultural Heritage Officer, the survey work is well under way and there is a merry

band of volunteers spread throughout the South West Peak carrying out the work.

The survey work is not complicated but nevertheless interesting. Basically the South West Peak has been divided up into 1km squares based on the Ordnance Survey mapping (just over 400 of them!). Each square is then walked by a surveyor team or individual to record any heritage item or field barn. The survey is conducted by observation from public access routes only and if a heritage item is seen that does not have public access then a note is made and depending on its worth may be taken further by the partnership contacting the landowner. If the item is accessible then basic measurements, description and photographs are taken to record it. It may be the case that the item is all ready on record so it is cross checked with the county heritage records. The point being to update and add any new finds to those records. I'm informed that the aim is to find an additional 400 items, a target that may well be achieved with ease.

In addition to this work through my association the the Peak District Mines Historical Society, I also became involved with an associate project that was to be conducted by John Barnatt (recently retired Senior Archaeologist with the PDNP) for the South West Peak Partnership at Dale Mine near Warslow. My involvement, apart from helping with the digital ground survey, was to use my amateur experience in conducting an aerial survey of the site. Currently this is not finished and I shall be returning to take more images. I mainly use my kite equipment to take photos but a drone can be used to supplement imagery.

If you are interested in joining the survey team then there are some more training sessions in the pipeline. You can also see the other initiatives that are ongoing to which you may able to join. The best way to check on all of this is to visit the South West Peak Website.

[www.southwestpeak.co.uk](http://www.southwestpeak.co.uk)