

The Raver The quarterly magazine for the whole of Rainow





YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS

Can you Help?

Community Pride Competition

The Parish Council will be entering the Community Pride Competition this year (Best Kept Village). We will need lots of HELP!

Preliminary judging should be taking place from Mid-April.

Can you **HELP** with: co-ordinating, keeping public areas tidy, weeding, planting and litter picking etc? **TIME** Limited? Don't worry we will work around whatever you can offer or just help out with the "**Community Litter Pick**" on Sunday 5th May from 10 am – 12 noon (Robin Hood car park)

For details contact the Clerk on Tel 01625 850532 or email: parishclerk@rainow.com.

Rural Policing - PC Walker 4522

At the end of February 2019, we have had a rise in theft/attempt thefts of quads from remote farms in Macclesfield. Thankfully only one quad has been stolen and the rest have either been recovered by Police or offenders were disturbed abandoning the quads. Although one quad is still one too many.

It was good to see some farms were securing their quads the best way they can: shed door braces, blockading doors with plant, handmade steel lock boxes to protect locks etc. Unfortunately, a chain doesn't just do it anymore, offenders do come prepared with bolt croppers. The best way is securing the shed/ building to which you have your quad housed in to the best of your ability. If they can't get in, they can't get to your quad. The internet has a vast amount of advice on this subject, but you will know the best way to protect your land and buildings.



Above pictured is an example of the steel box.

Offenders have been pushing quads across fields, for some distance before attempting to load into an awaiting van. So, should you see vans in unusual locations it is always wise to note the registration and advise police.

Footpath Report

We have been informed that the following improvements are expected by the end of July:

- ♦ Cheshire East Council was successful in getting a grant to improve the Gritstone Trail. This involves improvements to the path by the donkey bridge (Rainow FP28). Section from the bridge to the kissing gate and another section closer to Hedgerow will be surfaced.
- ♦ A 128m stretch of path through the woodland on Rainow FP45 will also be surfaced, parallel to the bridleway further up the slope. The bridleway surface has been levelled off and widened to see if the drainage will improve.
- ♦ All the fingerposts will be replaced with oak finger posts and some of the stiles in boundary fences will be replaced with kissing gates.

Advertisers, request for....

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

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.

Hedge Cutting

The Council frequently receive complaints during the Summer months that footpaths are obstructed by overhanging hedges. Please keep your hedges cut back so that they give full width to the footpaths. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Responsible Dog Ownership

The Parish Council frequently receives complaints about dog mess so we would ask that you make sure you deposit it in any bin not just dog waste bins. Please do not leave waste bags lying around. If you see an overflowing bin, please report it as soon as you can to Cheshire East Council or email the Parish Council rainowparish@aol.com.

With the traditional lambing season approaching we would urge dog owners to take extra care.

Every year sheep are killed, maimed or miscarry because of being chased and attacked by dogs. This is a serious animal welfare concern and also caused a great deal of emotional stress and financial cost to sheep farmers around the country.

No dog owner sets out on a walk to hurt sheep but, sadly that is what can happen if the dog is allowed to run loose around livestock. Many dogs, if given the opportunity, will chase or show interest in livestock so even if your pet is normally calm, gentle, obedient and docile, please do not be complacent; they can be still be a danger.



Tips for dog owners:

- ♦ Watch for signs warning of livestock and keep your dog on a lead around farm animals and in areas you suspect animals may be grazing, or avoid them completely.
- ♦ If your dog chases sheep, report it to the farmer, even if there is no apparent injury, as the stress of worrying by dogs can cause sheep to die and pregnant ewes to miscarry their lambs
- ◆ Make sure your dog is wormed regularly and pick up its mess to stop diseases spreading to livestock

Considerate Parking

Please be considerate when parking and ensure that you do not obstruct footpaths.

Any vehicles causing an obstruction should be reported as soon as possible by phoning 101.

Rainow Parish Council "Community Litter Pick" Sunday 5th May at 10 am (Robin Hood car park)

Everyone is welcome to join in.

All equipment is provided although if you have your own equipment or Hi-Viz jacket please bring them along.

You will need to dress for the weather, wear stout footwear and bring gloves

and bring gloves.
Please get in touch via:
rainowparish@aol.com or call 01625 850532.
We hope that you will join us for the big clean up
Please come and join us...

Future Meetings and Dates for your diary 2019

19th March (7 pm) - followed by the Annual Parish Meeting
16th April

21st May - Annual General Meeting 18th June 16th July

All Meetings commence at 7.30 p.m. unless otherwise stated and are advertised on the notice boards and website.



e have been fortunate to enjoy some early Spring weather, and to take the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful area in which we live. Many of you are photographers and we see your great photos in various publications and exhibitions. The Raven team are always looking for photos to illustrate articles and for the front cover. So – if you out "snapping away" on any subject connected with Rainow, please send them to us via the website raven@rainow.net

Jane Brett Editor

Your Parish Councillors

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

Editorial Team for this issue:

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



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Bollington Well Dressing Festival 2019

This year the theme is Nursery Rhymes



he Festival Opening Ceremony will take place at the **Greg Fountain**, **Flash Lane**, (opposite the Cock and Pheasant) at 11.30 am on Saturday 6th July. The Well Dressings will remain on display until Sunday 14th July and a trail leaflet will be available to guide visitors to all the sites.

The Well Dressers, together with volunteers, will be decorating the display panels on Tuesday 2nd, Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th July between 10.30 am and 7.00 pm at the Cricket Pavilion on Adlington Road, Bollington. Visitors are very welcome to come along and watch or take part in the petalling of the panels.

There will also be an opportunity to view the completed panels on Friday morning before they are positioned at the sites.

Further details are available from Chris 01625 574208

RAINOW BRING & BUY

Thank you

The Rainow Fete Committee, would like to thank all who donated, helped and came along to the Bring and Buy in February, we raised a grand total of £402, which will be put to Fete funds.

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 in the early Spring!



Holy Trinity Church, Rainow - A Season of Change



The Parochial Church Council are delighted to be able to announce a start date for the re-ordering of our church.

After five years of planning, consulting and fundraising, sufficient funding is now available for this exciting and ambitious village project to go ahead. The Diocesan Architect, Mark Pearce, and the contractors, Heritage Conservation Restoration Ltd. are preparing to commence work on Monday 17th June 2019.

The total budget is £240,000 of which almost £227,000 has now been secured. Details of the various sources of funding can be seen as part of the Project Details displayed in church. We could never have reached this point without the wonderful volunteers who have organised many events to help raise this phenomenal amount. These include:

Rainow Art Exhibition; Rainow Bring and Buy Sale; Christmas Fair; Harvest Supper; Rainow Garden Safari; The Rainow Low Walk; and Rainow Fete.

Thank you to all the organisers, helpers and supporters! Without your efforts, commitment and involvement this project would not be happening.

A mention must be made of the significant grant of £80,000 from the Garfield Weston 60th Anniversary Fund. An extensive application form and rigorous Facetime interview with a Trustee of the Fund happily resulted in a successful outcome. However, that generous and essential grant is matched by the many contributions, great and small, from other organisations and individuals. This has truly been a joint effort by many people and many funding bodies. The P.C.C. and the wider community of Rainow are very grateful to them all. There is still a shortfall of £13,000, so the fundraising will go on!

Holy Trinity Rainow will become a warm, welcoming and flexible building to be used and enjoyed by the whole community and visitors to our beautiful village. With this in mind Rainow P.C.C. will be asking the people of the village and elsewhere for their opinions and ideas of what the newly-ordered church building might be used for in addition to the events that take place there now. These new ideas might take the form of social, educational and recreational groups and events. The new Church will have space and facilities for a whole range of community activities and we would welcome any ideas as to what these might be. We'd like to start this consultation process right away so that each idea can be looked at whilst the reordering work is under way. If you can help, please contact **Bob Langstaff** (01625 573761) or langstaff65@btinternet.com.

Church services during the reordering will be held in the Church Centre. It is anticipated that the work will take approximately 20 weeks.

Many thanks!

Third poem in the series by one of Rainow's poets

The Highway in between

The highway in between life and death meanders, segregates rural from industrial where sheep pose, factories pillage. The highway in between swoops like a swallow, swiftly dissects urban and urbane.

The highway in between
life and death holds
me in magnetic embrace.
Draws me to ashes scattered
under crab-apple tree.
The highway in between
Is my accomplice, lifeline
In a shrinking, shrouded sphere.

Sue Copeland

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Out of School by Jonathan Norris, Headteacher



t the end of the winter term, the children dazzled us with their fantastic, festive performances of the infant play, Baubles and the junior play Aladdin in Trouble. There is a lot of established research about the positive influences of drama, theatre and the performing arts, especially on young people. Benefits include improved confidence, cooperation, communication and physical fitness, not to mention a whole lot of fun! am confident when I say that there is no other school that puts on a show quite like Rainow!

2019 has started where 2018 left off... brilliantly busy!

Healthy Mind, Healthy Me Update...Feel Good February! Our Healthy Mind, Healthy Me initiative has continued in fine style. Following on from our Woodland Well-Being Week and whole-school ramble to White Nancy in the autumn, we decided to banish those winter blues by launching Feel-Good February. The children and adults were invited into school extra early every morning to join us with our Feel-Good activities which included circuit training, rugby coaching and dancing! The project was so good that we have even decided to continue with a regular Feel-Good Friday from now on! The week also coincided with Children's Mental Health Awareness week and allowed us to raise money for the NSPCC. We can only apologise to our neighbours in advance for our poor choice of Friday morning songs.

Lots of fun, whatever the weather

There's nothing quite as unpredictable as the weather, and so far, 2019 seems to have thrown a little bit of everything at us. Not quite the Beast from the East, but when the snow arrived, we managed to open where other schools failed, and we adapted our curriculum accordingly!

And only two weeks later we were basking in the February sunshine, making the most of our wonderful woodland park.

PCSO Sarah Support our Junior Safety Officers

PCSO Sarah continues to visit school regularly to work with our Junior Safety Officers (JSOs), Archie and Louisa. Here is their latest message:

Hi, we are the Junior Safety Officers for 2018-19 (Archie and Louisa). At the moment we are focussing on Road Safety and Staying Safe Online.

Road Safety

We would like to introduce a one-way system around school, and we need your help to make it happen. The two of us want you to use this system because the traffic is bad when people turn right out of the church car park, this is why we think it will be better for you to carry on around Round Meadow and exit at the other end.

We will also be introducing parking tickets soon if you park dangerously or inconsiderately. This will help other cars to get through. Please remember that it is not OK to park on the yellow zig-zags or to block pavements or people's driveways.

Internet Safety

We are organising a KS1-KS2 Quiz on Internet safety. It will help the children know how to behave responsibly and safely online.

Thank you for your cooperation, Louisa and Archie

A Look Ahead...

Be sure to keep up to date with school events via our fortnightly newsletter, **The Rainow Round-Up** – which you can find on our school website at

http://www.rainowpri.cheshire.sch.uk/page/latest-letters /1120 and/or via our Twitter feed, @Rainowprimary









Friends of Rainow School

by Alexandra McKay

We've had a busy few months, with lots of fundraising and community activities as always.

The Christmas Fair was a great way to kick off the festive season, with pony rides, tombolas and a photo competition. We raised a fantastic £2,150, with another £377 coming from the bars and raffles at excellent Christmas play performances.

We've had two **movie nights**. The first, in December was a free event to thank everyone for an amazing year of fundraising in 2017/18. The theme was popcorn and pyjamas, and it was lots of fun for the children, who watched Nativity. The parents enjoyed a couple of hours of peace (or a quick trip to the Robin).

Our second movie night showed Incredibles 2. The children love these events as they get to watch a DVD with friends and have tea together, too. This event, along with the cake sale held earlier that day raised £538.

On 28th April, we will hold a very special community wide **Spring Walk** followed by a hog roast. The walk will be in support of FRS, Rainow Preschool and NSPCC.

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 keep costs down for the trip to see Wind in the Willows at the New Vic Theatre.

Having raised money for the fantastic new community woodland play area, current fundraising will help support other improvements to the play areas and surfaces, to make it more useful year round, for the children and parents.

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.

Cross Country

In late September of 2018, Fin Pettie and Will Roberts both former pupils of Rainow School, were selected to run for Cheshire **Schools** for the forthcoming cross country season. Their debut was early December 2018 and they both performed strongly braving the mud and freezing rain. Fin and Will, both now in year 7 at Tytherington School, regularly represented Rainow Primary School at the Macclesfield and District Cross Country competitions and have gone on to be a part of the Tytherington School Cross Country Team. They are both active members of the U13 boys Macclesfield Harriers team and have competed in both the Manchester and North Staffordshire Cross Country Leagues. The U13 boy's team are proud winners of the North Staffs league this season.



Rainow Pre-school

by Elizabeth Martin

s always, we had a busy run up to Christmas. We held our Handmade Christmas event at the end of November which was a very festive



occasion. Thanks to everyone who came out to support us. We had some wonderful stalls and the prosecco flowed nicely! We also had our annual cake stall at the Rainow Christmas Fair which, along with our Handmade Christmas, raised necessary funds for our village Pre-school. The children, and staff, enjoyed Christmas jumper day and we also got involved in Children in Need and had a spotty morning. This was all topped off with the children's Christmas party. We all had a wonderful time. We made party crowns and had great fun with the glitter and glue. Everyone enjoyed the party food and we played musical chairs, musical statues, musical bumps, pin the nose on the snowman and festive four corners. There was dancing and bubbles and fun and laughter throughout the morning!

We have welcomed 4 new starters in January who have settled in really well. Our theme is Winter Fires & Cosy Blankets and we've focused on the book The Biggest Bed in the World with the children. We have a wonderful display that the children put together based on the book. We have had a visit from the RSPB and the children enjoyed bird watching and identifying different types of birds. Rhythm Time visited us again and we celebrated Chinese New Year, making dragons and pigs and lanterns and learning about Chinese culture.

All our staff have undertaken Prevent training and we were very pleased to donate the £50 we received from the Rainow Fete to East Cheshire Hospice in memory of Eric Moss, who did our accounts for many years and was a huge support to us.

Looking forward, we are going to be involved in the Spring Walk on 28th April in collaboration with school. Look out for further details. We are very much looking forward to Spring and getting outside with the children.













We started 2019 with deer stalking/walk in a dark dark forest - no I wasn't really trying to frighten some of the large number of new Cubs away - it didn't work anyway!! Unfortunately the deer all hid well but being out in complete darkness was a new experience for many of the Cubs.

The next few weeks we spent planning and rehearsing for our Pantomime and Entertainment night. Originally this was going to be the last meeting before half term but because of the snow ended up starting the second half. Actually this was very little time to prepare so the Cubs had to do a lot by themselves. We split into two groups, one half doing Cinderella and one half Dick Whittington. They also sorted themselves into groups and performed short Skits, sketches that are normally carried out at Camp at campfire evenings. The Cubs also just told me anything else they wished to do, play musical



instruments, magic, sing and so on, I just put it in the Programme and trusted them to perform on the night. To be honest I was rather apprehensive but on the night they were brilliant. Parents paid to watch and many said they hadn't laughed so much in ages! All comments were positive and the whole evening was a great success, and also with a raffle made £171. The District's (Macclesfield and Congleton) new Commisioner also came to watch and meet us, he was also very impressed and thoroughly enjoyed the whole Show, they certainly all deserved their Entertainer Badge. The boys seemed to particularly enjoy dressing up as the various female characters, the Ugly Sisters, Cinderella, Fairy Godmother and so on, see the photos to judge how good they looked.

Apart from this we entered a team in the District Handicraft Competition and won the model making section, bringing home a large Cup.



Rainow Beavers

Inter is always a noisy season for us at Rainow Beavers. We tend to stay inside the Institute most evenings, travelling around by using our imagination. We've taken the Beavers around the World, visiting China, Italy and Turkey, and have also celebrated our own Festival of Light, traumatising a few parents with our use of glitter along the way. We explored Science by letting the Beavers do their own super experiments and discovered lots of local myths and legends.

Our annual Christmas Party was great fun, and Sue Grimes, our Mayor of Rainow came along to help us celebrate the children's success by handing out badges and awards. We said goodbye to several of the older Beavers who moved up to Cubs and played a lot of very noisy games.

2019 began with lots of new Beavers who have thrown themselves into all the activities so far. We have completed our Space Badge and played games in the dark using torches. The Beavers have achieved their Cooking badge by making (and eating) a two course dinner in the Institute. We haven't forgotten the birds in Winter either by making fatballs for them to enjoy.

We have also explored some Global Issues, by learning all about Fair Trade and enjoying a fair traded foods (chocolate, bananas and honey!). The children built straw towers together and made some very successful and workable water filters. Our theme for the Summer Term is 'Exploration' and we'll be out and about in the village and beyond, thinking about navigation, modes of transport and adventure.

Six of our older Beavers took part in a District Team Challenge Competition and did very well, top scoring in one round.

Finally, a further five Beavers have achieved their Bronze Chief Scout awards - Congratulations to Vinny Kirkham, Lucy Williams, Sebastian Stockwell, Nicholas Bradley and Jacob Unwin who should be very proud of themselves. We say goodbye to lots of the older children after Easter and welcome several new starters.

Thanks to all our fabulous parents for all your help and support.







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Rainow Institute 100 Club

Have you heard about the Rainow Institute '100' Club?

If you have and you have been or are a member of it, then a big **THANK YOU** to you for your quiet support to the Institute over the years, your help has been essential to the upkeep of the Institute.

To those of you who haven't heard of or joined the '100' Club', then read on to find out more about it. For a £12.00 full year's subscription you are given a membership number which is entered into a monthly draw for a £20.00 prize and two £10.00 prizes. At Christmas there are three extra draws, one for £50.00 and two for £25.00. You don't have to attend any meetings. The winning numbers are drawn at the bi-monthly meetings of the Rainow Institute Management Committee and if you are lucky then your prize money is delivered to your door.

See, it's a simple way of helping maintain the Institute for all users and keeping the hire charges at an economic level especially for our local organisations — Rainow PreSchool, Beavers, Cubs, Brownies, WI. If someone in your family uses the Institute how about joining now before you forget! Even if you only visit the Institute on rare occasions or not at all, the Institute is for the whole community, your help is greatly valued.

We always need new members as well as present members. All you have to do is send or give £12.00 in cash or by cheque made payable to **Rainow Institute** with your name and address to Mrs Noreen Wood, 6 Millers Meadow, Rainow, SK10 5UE, preferably before the end of May. Numbers are allocated on payment and you will receive notice of your number or numbers.

Thank you again to all our previous members. We hope you will join again. Your support over the years has been invaluable.



ello! I just wanted to let you all know about an amazing community event that we are arranging to raise funds for our wonderful **primary school**, our excellent **preschool** and the amazing **NSPCC**! What a fabulous collaboration I'm sure you'll agree. Amidst all of the fundraising, we as a committee are also very keen this year to bring the whole village together for events and really impress upon the children the importance of 'community'

So, what is it and how can we get involved?

The event will start at Rainow school and progress on up to White Nancy before descending back to school for a **Heathcote's hog roast**, and well deserved **Redwillow beer!** (Or **random apple company juice** if that tickles your fancy more). We will have puzzles on the walk, prizes and raffle back at school. This event is open to **EVERYONE** please come along (dogs welcome just sadly not in the school grounds). For those who don't want to walk as far or for little ones we will have a forest school station not too far along the route. Let's make this a community event to remember.

Tickets are available from at Rainow Preschool, through school, from Sue Frith or via: rainowspringwalk@gmail.com
Chloe Wallace 07817611457

£6 for adults (including hog roast) £4 for children (including sausage bap) FREE for preschoolers and under 5's

Ingredients

- 2 Shallots, diced finely
- 25g Butter
- 1 Rounded teaspoon curry powder
- 40g Raisins
- 75g Long grain rice
- 150 ml Stock (using 1 tsp Marigold bouillon powder)
- 2 Trout or salmon fillets
- Zest and juice of 1 lemon

Method

 Fry the shallots in butter in a saucepan for 5 mins. until softened. Add curry powder and raisins and then the rice, stirring to coat the grains. Pour in the

Serves 2 generously

- stock and carefully place the fish on top, skin side up.
- 2) Cover with a lid and bring to simmering point
- 3) Put the pan in a preheated oven (180 C) for 15 minutes
- 4) Take the pan out (watch the hot pan handle!) and leave for 5 mins.
- 5) uncover and remove skin from the fish. Add the lemon zest and juice and fork in gently, mixing the fish into the rice mixture. Check seasoning and add a hard-boiled egg if liked and a little chopped parsley.



o raise funds for an upgrade to Trinity Garden, **Bina Townley** has kindly offered to open her garden to visitors on **14th July**. All proceeds will go towards replacing plants and bushes in Trinity Garden.



nother sell out performance by the Rainow Quay players and this year we were treated to three nights instead of the usual two.

Poor old Linda McKenna is drowning her sorrows in a cup of tea with best friend Annie. The latest Rainow Amateur Dramatic Association play — which she is directing — is proving a bit too way out for the cast members and they are deserting her days before the sold-out performance. Singing and farce are more their normal offering than a Zombie Apocalypse written by the 15 year old son of one of Linda's friends. To make matters worse, her rival, Lesley, from Kerridge Amateur Dramatic Society arrives and starts to taunt her about it. Friends Clive, Tim, Jim, Jane and Annie all try to help but can't come up with an alternative in the time available. The evening's 'open mic night' proved inspiration for a comedy-song and dance performance and Linda's problems were solved.

Earlier, two boys had left a faulty Alexa speaker under the bar and all conversations are punctuated by "raspberries" and random exclamations. It was great to see the usual line-up enhanced by two new young faces, Charlie and Leo.

A hilarious scene had Annie and Jane both on the phone using ear buds. Lesley walks in to hear two one-sided conversations.

Annie's walk of pain in her sexy new knickers brought tears to the eyes.

The final scene was from the new production. Who can forget the final line-up: trim, polish, arabesque, bust, up & down, prick, breast-stroke, sausage and flash. I for one have had recurring nightmares about Jim Kennelly in that tutu! Note to self — sit further back until Peter Nixon's tennis skills improve!!

So, let's hear it for Linda McKenna, Bob Langstaff, Val Moss and the Rainow Quay Playmakers, can't wait for their next offering.



Let's hear it for







LINDA MCKENNA













ocal author Andrew Wild published his 7th book in November. The Raven caught up with him recently to find out more.



How did you get started as a writer?

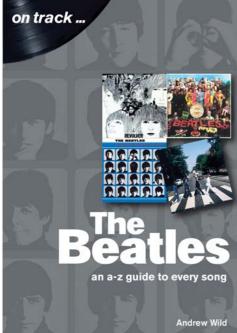
It was when we first moved to Macclesfield in 1991. I remember walking around the town centre and enjoying the old mills and pubs, the churches, the town hall and wanted to find out more. My reading lead to thinking about a walking trail around the town centre. I found a publisher in Wilmslow and 108 Steps Around Macclesfield came out in 1994. We did a follow-up about Chester a couple of years later. Both sold pretty well and last time I looked there were several old and well-used copies of my Macclesfield book in the library. I recently republished my first two books as eBooks on Amazon.

Local Author Andrew Wild



What is the subject of your new book?

The music of Queen. After my Pink Floyd book did well, my commissioning editor set up his own publishing company and signed me up for the Queen book. That it's published simultaneously with the new Queen film is a happy coincidence! I didn't know their music in depth, so it has been fun listening to their back catalogue and revisiting their familiar stuff as well. Go and listen to the song Don't Try So Hard to hear Freddie's true genius as a singer.



So you're now a well-known person in the progressive rock world?

Not really. But there was an interesting spin-off. Through contacts in the music world I was invited to host a monthly radio show called The Progzilla Files. That's been running for nearly four years. And it was through the radio station that I was commissioned to write a book about the music of Pink Floyd. It's called Pink Floyd Song by Song and was published in July 2017.



More recently?

We need to skip forward to 2007. I followed a band in my mid-80s student days called Twelfth Night and they re-formed for some concerts in 2007-2008. I felt that their story was worth telling, so I approached them to write their official biography. Amazingly, they decided that it was good idea, so Play On was published in 2009, and reprinted in 2010. I still work with them: I wrote the sleevenotes for their new album, Sequences, released November 2018. The Twelfth Night book led to an invitation by the Dorset band Galahad to write their story. That was a fun project as I didn't know them or their music when we started. Their book is called One for the Record and the 2nd edition was published earlier this year. Again, I've become a mate of the band as well as a big fan of their music. In fact, I appear as a newsreader on their most recent album!.

Andy's books are available from Amazon. You can find podcasts of his radio shows at http://andrewwild.progzilla.com





I have a book called The Beatles, An A-Z Guide of Every Song, scheduled for early in 2019. It's taken 25 years to write that one-every song, every release, every take, every live recording. It's for dedicated fans and collectors, really. I'm very proud of it. That's finished and ready to go. Then we have a follow-up on the Beatles book scheduled for late 2019, and a critical analysis of the James Bond films in 2020. I wonder how I get time to do my day job, in truth.

Myths in the Making: A Cruise with Columbus might have been no Holiday

By Jim Kennelly

ou're History! A euphemism for irrelevance - history is deemed surplus to modern living. Historians, however, defend their research as essential, what we do today is informed by what we believe happened before. When we don't know what actually happened we fill in the gaps with myth, wishful thinking or what we see in films, TV and now the internet. We never let facts spoil a good story. e retrofit current ideas into a preferred (if false) narrative of the past. So Fake News has a history too.

Christopher Columbus bravely made the perilous 1492 voyage to the New World, but contrary to popular stories, he was neither the first European traveller to, nor discoverer of, mainland North America. The continent had been visited by Europeans centuries before, possibly the Irish monk St Brendan, Vikings via Greenland, Basque, Breton and English West country fishermen. The "official" voyage which landed on mainland North America was in 1497 by John Cabot, a Genoese in English service. One of Cabot's backers may have been the merchant Richard Ameryk, suggested as the source of the name "America".

Most United States citizens after the American War of Independence were of British descent, but perceived a need to distance the USA from its former colonial rulers. The 18th Century revival of the neglected history of Columbus arose in part because it "provided a past that bypassed England." In 1777, the American poet Philip Freneau described his country as "Columbia, America as sometimes so called, from Columbus, the first discoverer." The name America prevailed over Columbia to the disappointment of many. Whatever Columbus's faults, being English was not one of them.

As the newly minted Father of the USA, Columbus was invested by popular culture with virtues for which there was little historical evidence. Wise Columbus, said to be one of few who knew the Earth was spherical, radically proposed reaching Asia and its spice trade by sailing west from Europe. A film drama showed Columbus tracing his proposed voyage path around a hardboiled egg. He then challenged his onlookers to stand the egg upright; they failed until Columbus flattened the base of the egg by crushing it into the table. "We could have done that" said the audience - "yes, once I'd shown you how" smugly replied Columbus. In fact the Earth was known to be a sphere since antiquity; the Romans portrayed emperors on statues and coins with a globe, signalling their mastery of the world. If they believed the world was flat, a platter would have been a better symbol. Seafarers by Columbus's time were fully aware of the curvature of the Earth.

Columbus needed money and petitioned the Kings of England and Portugal. The story is that they foolishly rebuffed him, squandering their chance of early access to the bounty of North America. The English were unimpressed, preferring John Cabot as their transatlantic explorer. In Lisbon, Columbus went before the council of scholars (an unusual advisory group selected solely on ability; including both low born and Jewish members).

Columbus stated that the Japanese islands lay 1500 nautical miles west of the Azores and that the coast of China was at 180 degrees of Longitude from Lisbon. The Portuguese, however, accurately calculated a location of 2290 – 3000 miles difference! The Portuguese already knew that 1500 miles west of the Azores there is nothing but ocean (landfall in Haiti is 2600 miles west of the Azores). The council's conclusion was, that given Columbus's flawed navigational skills, most likely they would never see him alive again. The Portuguese might have already sailed secretly across the Atlantic to Brazil, so knew there was a

major westward landmass between Europe and Asia. At the same time they were completing their trade connection to Asia via the eastern route. So Columbus's was unlikely to benefit Portugal.

With Spanish money, however, Columbus rode his luck and sailed to the Caribbean (although he thought he was in the China Sea), named the inhabitants "Indians" and discovered islands that he insisted were outliers of China or Japan. He returned to Lisbon, hoping to shame King John for his refusal which lost him these discoveries. On the contrary, said John, those islands

are Portugal's by treaty, so tell the King of Spain that we shall take possession unless they have an offer? Columbus fled to Spain in a panic. The Pope eventually drew a line of demarcation down the Atlantic, granting the West to Spain, East to Portugal. Then with a conjurer's flourish, Portugal revealed that they had "just" discovered South America, with the huge area of Brazil east of the Papal line and so ceded to Portugal.

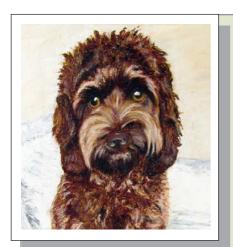
With Columbus's governorship of the Caribbean there was virtual extinction of the native population due to violence and imported European diseases. The consequential labour shortage was addressed by initiating the transatlantic trade in African slaves. Accused of tyranny, Columbus was briefly imprisoned and stripped of the Governorship in 1500. So Christopher was no poster boy for civic virtue and it is unclear whether he ever knew that his discoveries were part of a new continent rather than Asia.

Ironically, 19th Century USA was more relaxed about its British origins and began to celebrate their English ancestors. The four Anglo-American centuries began with the 1587 failed Roanoke colony, then the successful 1607 Jamestown settlement. Inconveniently, these locations are in southern states which later joined the Confederacy. After the American Civil War, it was impolitic to emphasise the South's claim to be the cradle of American civilisation. So the Northern branch of colonists, the Pilgrim Fathers, who landed in Massachusetts in 1620, became overwhelmingly culturally important and the subject of the USA national Thanksgiving holiday. The Pilgrim Fathers are feted and have monuments at 5 sites in England. The earlier Jamestown setters in contrast are almost unmarked – a single monument in East London marks their point of departure in 1606.

So the received stories about a country or people may be filtered or selective – but correcting misconceptions will keep historians in work forever.



Columbus 1492:
Are you sure that is Yokohama over there?- By the way, the telescope will not be invented for another 100 years!





Artist in Residence John Hawthorne

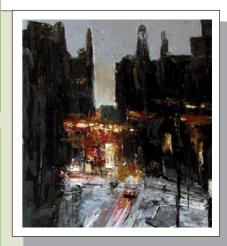
rom a very early age I have been interested in drawing and painting. My parents encouraged me to enter painting competitions in the Womens Weekly magazine and I remember my excitement at winning a Dinky Toy Tank Transporter when I was 7 years old.

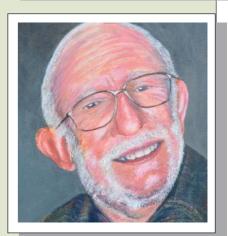
My father was a Commercial Artist by Profession so maybe some genes past on to me.

At school, art was one of my favourite subjects though I did not understand abstract art but prefered to draw still life, animals, landscapes and people.

I started by using watercolours in my early teens but my interest wained somewhat when I went to college.

After moving back to Rainow three years ago and becoming involved with the village community, driving the village bus, KRIV and Bollington Art Group where I began to use different previously untried mediums. With the help from the various tutors I am now able to paint in a wide variety of subjects in acrylic and pastel. Something I have never attempted before. Examples are illustrated here. I have requests from friends and family for paintings of landscapes, pets and portraits. Retirement is very busy for me.











News from the Lamp and Candle

Hello again,

As I write this article the sun is shining and the temperature is 18 degrees (or 64 degrees in real money), a treat for those who've been walking around wrapped up like the Michelin man for weeks, but a it's all a bit strange for February – mark my words there's something amiss with the seasons! When we're up to our necks in melted icebergs and a quarter of the known world has disappeared beneath the waves, remember you read it first in my article! I used to think that climate was what you did with a ladder, but now I'm taking global warming seriously. I was talking about this with my ten year old grand-daughter, Madison. She claimed it's all happened before with Noah and the Ark, so I had to tell her, sensitively, that Noah was probably not a real person, but the threat of global warming was a real threat. But she wasn't having any of this and says that when she gets to heaven she's going to ask Noah herself. When I said "what if Noah didn't go to heaven?" she said "well, you can ask him then". I shall have a word with her mother, though that probably won't get me far just like the last conversation I had with her when I asked her what kind of a name Madison was.

By the time you read the next edition of the Raven we'll be out of Europe — or will we? I've been trying to keep up with all the news, which is not easy if you haven't got a telly. All the lads in the snug have long since given up trying and just concentrate on playing dominoes and whist and drinking ale. It seem to me that all MPs, whatever the party, seem to be making a mess of it. Honestly, I've seen better cabinets in IKEA.

Anyway, I've not told you the big news yet. Kevin and Jade have finally tied the knot, not before time if you ask me, the way they were playing Scrabble all the time (if you know what I mean and this being a family magazine). Unfortunately the new venture I described in the last Raven (passing on my writing skills) didn't take off as well as it might have so I couldn't afford to get them much of a present. I thought I'd use my sharp sense of wit to get round the problem so I wrapped up a little parcel and gave it to the best man with strict instructions that he was to open it after he'd given his best-man speech.

pocket and read the message I'd written on it – "SOMETHING TO STOP THE PATTER OF TINY FEET". He

was just about to open it when the Landlady, Jade's mother and the Bride and Groom jumped on him, grabbed the package and threw it out of the window. As you might imagine NOBODY has spoken to me since. How could anybody be so touchy about giving somebody a mousetrap?

Public House

I don't know how the happy couple are doing as I've kept mostly out of the way, along with Bickerdike who's also in a spot of bother. He's had a shock recently but at least it's cured him of his rubbish attempts at getting computer-savvy. He was telling me his son went off to work one day when the ice was on the ground and he decided to us his new skills by texting him at work "Windows frozen, won't open". He sent a text back "pour lots of hot water over then use a scraper". Five minutes later Bickerdike sent the last text he will ever send – "Computer really messed up now".

The Landlady and I were looking through her old pictures last week. She tried to hide one under the

cushion before
I could see it
but I saw
what she was
doing and
demanded an
explanation.
She had
kept the
photograph
as a lesson
to herself to
always be
polite, which
I must say she



has kept up over the years – at least to everyone except me. The photograph was one that her father took just seconds after she called the park-keeper a miserable old fart. So let that be a lesson to you all.

Bye for now Landlord

When the time came he took the packet out of his

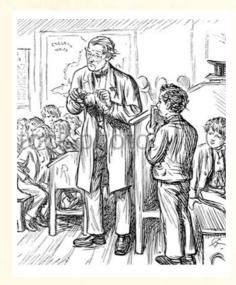
The John Richards Story (Part 2)

by Raph Murray

he John Richards story, Part 1 (Raven 45) described John's involvement in the 1820's campaign for an MP for Macclesfield, universal suffrage, no taxation without representation and annual parliaments. As a result of this campaign, John was tried and convicted for sedition and was sentenced to two years imprisonment. Undeterred by his incarceration in Chester Gaol John continued to campaign for parliamentary reform and workers rights. This included John's role in the formation of a Macclesfield Branch of the Association for the Protection of Labour whose main objective was to secure fixed rates of pay in every trade. His long campaign for Parliamentary reform was also rewarded when the Representation of the People Act was eventually passed in 1832 and Macclesfield's 718 £10 householders were able to elect two MPs!

In this, Part 2 of the John Richards story, the next main record of Richards support for social justice was perhaps his role in the 1836 petition of clemency for Thomas Pownall who at the age of 17 had been sentenced to transportation for life following his conviction for the theft of an old pair of boots. However, as reported in Raven 42, despite gaining the support of a number of prominent Rainow inhabitants of the day, the petition was denied and Thomas was transported to Australia for life (Raven 43) in 1836. Although transportation to New South Wales ceased in 1840 it is unlikely that Thomas Pownall ever saw his family and friends again.

Not surprisingly, in view of the limited scope of the 1832 Reform Act, Richards and others continued to campaign for more comprehensive reform as part of the Chartist Movement. The main points of the charter were: universal male suffrage, voting by ballot, no property qualification for MPs, payment for MPs, equal constituencies and annual parliaments. The national leader of the Movement was Fergus O'Connor who arrived at Park Green in Macclesfield on 1st Oct 1838 where he addressed a crowd of about 4,000 and where one of the local speakers was John Richards.



In his autobiography: My Life as Farmer's Boy, Factory Lad, Teacher and Preacher, Adam Rushton provides a description of John Richards and his inspirational speech.

'There was a man on the platform whom I was surprised and pleased to see there. To most dwellers in Hurdsfield the form of Mr John Richards, Schoolmaster of Rainow, was a familiar one. Every Saturday he might be seen walking with steady and measured steps from Rainow, through Hurdsfield to the Town and in a few hours returning thence in the direction of home. Usually he had a parcel of books as he went and another parcel of books when he returned. He was rather over middle height and rather stout of build. He bent forward somewhat in his walk and moved his legs rather heavily as if they were touched with rheumatism or neuralgia. His face was of a ruddy colour, his head was large, and round his neck was a white tie which gave him the appearance of a parson. His clothes were neat and clean but somewhat seedy. The same dress was evidently worn a long time, being old fashioned and preserved with scrupulous care. But few persons knew he was a Chartist or that he meddled with politics at all. Yet there on that platform, surrounded by a surging and noisy crowd, stood that modest, quiet and retiring man, self-possessed and serene. His speech was historical, interesting and instructive. It showed that he had read and studied the descriptions of the Utopias of the past. The prophecies and dreams of sages, patriots and martyrs were now, he said,

to be fulfilled. A new and real universal Utopian realm was now to arise, in which men of all classes and races should dwell in prosperity, harmony and peace. The state of things he pictured was as impossible as it was beautiful. And yet such visions had cheered the man's mind through a long life of severe privation. So charmed were several youths at the meeting, including myself, with the elderly Schoolmaster that we decided to attend his evening school two nights a week. We found him living in a small house, the largest room being used as a day and evening school. The forms and desks were old and rather rickety. The white washed walls were nearly bare, only a few plain, unframed prints of sages and reformers hanging on them. We got glimpses of a much smaller room as bare and plain as the school-room itself, in which he got his food. If any other people lived in the house, we never saw them. Here the venerable sage spent his obscure but useful life. Only on a very few occasions did he figure in public life but then with a self-possessed and dignified mien. Some of us were at the time learning for an entertainment at Hurdsfield School, and we wished for him to train us. With upright figure and book in hand, and with a clear and distinct voice he went through the several pieces in a very impressive and instructive manner. We got so weather-beaten as the dark and stormy nights of winter came on, that we were compelled to cease attending the school. For many years he managed somehow to make a living from the income of his poor school. Then the worthy man passed into the eternal silence, noted only by a few who had known him and loved him. But beyond the bourne we are sure he would hear the welcome words, 'Good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of the Lord.'

We don't know the subject of John Richards' teaching however in view of his many year's campaigning for social justice it is likely that the fictional form of the Utopias allowed him to discuss his views on the social injustices of his day and how these might be addressed without laying him open to the charge of undermining the established order.

The 1841 census records John

Richards name appears as a teacher in a day school, age 55, living at Kerridge End. In the 1851 census John Richards is recorded as a widower and retired schoolmaster, age 67, living as a lodger in Penny Lane. He is believed to have died in Macclesfield in the mid 1850's. Perhaps as Adam Rushton has described 'noted only by a few who had known him and loved him'.

At various times John Richards was recorded as silk weaver, journeyman cotton spinner, journeyman silk spinner and schoolteacher. It is likely that he performed each of these jobs at one time or another. However it is perhaps as a campaigner for radical reform and social justice that he had the most impact on the well-being of his fellow man.

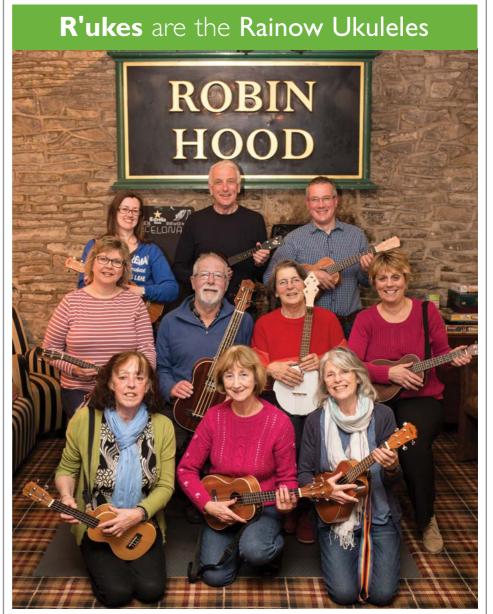
During his life John Richards was convicted of sedition and libel for advocating that all people, not just the privileged few, should have a vote in deciding who should represent their views when deciding on the laws of the land. Today we now take for granted the opportunity to vote on who should represent us in Parliament. We also have the right to express our views and protest in support of those views without fear of arrest and prosecution and free of the threat of officially sanctioned violence.

Looking back on his own life, he could certainly sleep easy at night with that 'consciousness of rectitude' that he spoke of at his trial nearly 200 years ago. He must surely have taken some satisfaction from the reforms that he had helped to achieve but disappointed about the lack of progress in other areas. Certainly it is thanks to the courage, sacrifice and persistence of people like John Richards that we are able to benefit from many of the freedoms and rights that we now take for granted.

References:

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

My life: As farmer's boy, factory lad, teacher and preacher, Adam Rushton 1909



e have met regularly over the past year at 'The Robin Hood' Rainow at 7.30 pm every Thursday.

The group has grown steadily and we now number 12. We welcome new members - it's a great way to unwind, singing and playing a variety of songs in friendly company in our lovely village pub.

The ukulele is a fun instrument, totally inclusive and social - it has become very popular in recent years. You don't have to read music and it's one of the

easiest to learn. Try a ukulele out one Thursday and, if you have not played an instrument before, you will be surprised how quickly you will be joining in with us.

Some of us have played at Rainow's church service and Mothers Union Christmas Party, and we aspire to play at the Rainow Village Fete - weather permitting.

If you play a ukulele or would like to learn please contact :- Roy and Pat Downie downie.rainow@gmail.com

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Rainow Village Bus



Rainow Village Bus update

ot a lot new to report this month, The Friday and Saturday service runs are still under-used but Group bookings continue to flourish.

From mid-November 18 through to end of February 19 we have carried 19 groups travelling to a large diversity of venues ranging from School trips to schools around the area for various sports events, family trips to parties, groups of friends to restaurants at Alderley

Edge, Bollington Kettleshulme and Macclesfield, taken groups of friends to Cinemac in Macclesfield and many more.

As you will know the group is run entirely by unpaid volunteers, we have 10 drivers but we are presently short of one driver due to ill health, as a result we are seeking a volunteer driver preferably at the younger end of the spectrum.

To qualify you need to be between 27 and 70 have a clean licence with a D1 permit on it. Most licences issued before 1997 will have this on them as standard.

We will give introductory lessons to anyone who is interested.



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

Ken Butler - kenbut@btinternet.com 01625 433168

Tony Wilkinson - tonywilkinson1234 @gmail.com 01625 614650

John Hawthorne - johnhawthorne58 @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



There will be a Plant Sale again this year in the Church Centre on Saturday 4th May, 10-3pm and briefly at 11am after morning service on Sunday 5th May. A wide range of Vegetable, Bedding and House plants and containers and hanging baskets will be available, along with refreshments including homemade cakes. All proceeds are in aid of Rainow Church. If you have any old plant containers or hanging baskets, seed trees or small pots then they would be very welcomed so that they can be refilled ready for the sale. Any help on the day or possibly plants and cakes that you could contribute will be most welcomed. Contact Richard Balment - 36 Millers Meadow, 01625 573625.



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Jane Davies Springmount, Lidgetts Lane Rainow

T: 01625 616734 E: <u>jane@polidori.co.uk</u>



What's On in Rainow and Bollington

APRIL	2019		
3	7.30 pm	Pottflix – TBC	Pott Shrigley Village Hall
6	10.00 am	Open Day – showcasing local talent	Bollington Arts Centre
8	7.30 pm	Rainow WI - Easter Crafts and Easter Bonnet	Rainow Institute
10	TBC	Rainow Mothers' Union - Outing to Sheffield Cathedral	Rainow Church Car Park
28	1.00 - 4.00 pm	Spring Walk - proceeds to Rainow School, Pre-school and NSPCC	Rainow School
MAY 2	019		
1	8.00 am	Bags2school – leave bags of unwanted clothing on your drive	Rainow School
2	7.30 pm	Friends of Rainow School Meeting – all welcome	Rainow School
3	8.15 pm	Bolly Comedy Club	Bollington Arts Centre
4	10.00 -3.00 pm	Plant Sale in aid of Rainow Church	Rainow Church Centre
4	2.00 pm	3 Peaks Fell Race – 9k, on-line entries £10pp inc. food/drink at Brewery. In aid of Mountain Rescue & Bolly Beer Festival	Bolly Brewery
8	7.30 pm	Pottflix – TBC	Pott Shrigley Village Hall
10-27	Various	Bollington Festival	Various venues
13	7.30 pm	Rainow WI - NFWI Resolutions and Social evening	Rainow Institute
21	7.30 pm	Rainow Mothers Union - The Lost Suffragette	Rainow Church Centre
JUNE 2	2019		
5	7.30 pm	Boars Head Fell Race - 13k, with 400m climb; £4pp	Boar's Head
5	7.30 pm	Pottflix - TBC	Pott Shrigley Village Hall
7	8.00 pm	Bollington folk & boat weekend concert	Bollington Arts Centre
8	7.30 pm	Rainow WI - 'Love Actually', Derek Poulson	Rainow Institute
18	7.30 pm	Rainow Mothers' Union – M. U. outing	Rainow Church Centre
23	2.00 - 4.00 pm	Rainow Bring & Buy Sale	Rainow Church Centre
JULY 2	2019		
13	7.30 pm	Rainow Summer Fair – details in next issue	Rainow School
13-27	All day	Rainow Scarecrows	All village
14	All day	Open Garden – at Bina Townley's - Haylesclough	Hough Close
20	1.00 pm	Rainow Fête – followed at 7pm by 'Bonanza'	Hough Hole Farm

USEFUL INFORMATION

For more information on Fell races etc. please contact Raph Murray raphmurray@hotmail.com

For more info on NSPCC events please contact Sue Frith **suefrithxx@aol.com** or Lyn McCarthy **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 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**









FARM MADE

arm Made Tearooms in Rainow opened in June 2018 when local resident Hannah Barton's dream came true when she was able to open a Tearoom at the family smallholding where she grew up along Oakenbank Lane, just off Blaze Hill, on the Bollington side of the Bridle Path.

Growing up, Hannah had a love of baking and using fresh locally sourced ingredients from a young age when in the kitchen with her mum - Liz Barton and her Grandmother - Margaret Allaby. This is where her dream began, to one day have her own Tearoom where she would be able to share her love of baking and fresh food with friends, family, local residents and visitors to the National Park alike.

Farm Made Tearooms started with a Horse Trailer conversion into a catering kitchen, which Hannah takes around Cheshire to special events, parties and weddings to provide hot homemade food for all to enjoy, which now runs alongside the two Tearooms.

In 2017 Hannah opened her first Tearoom in Audlem, near Nantwich in the local village to her Fiancé Dairy Farm which is open 7 days a week. Then in 2018 when she was granted planning permission, she was able to open her second Tearoom at her family home right here in Rainow which had also been her dream.

Farm Made Tearooms in Rainow is open Thursday to Sunday 10 am to 4 pm and Bank Holidays at present, with potentially longer opening hours in the summer months. Offering fresh homemade cakes, sandwiches, soups, jacket potatoes, breakfast, Afternoon Teas along with award winning loose leaf teas and coffees along with other hot and cold drinks.

There are 24 seats inside and a glorious patio next to the woodland outside, offering a further 30 seats for all to enjoy. The Tearooms is now known locally as the 'hidden gem' with many heading there for a full English breakfast or a lunch snack and cake midway through a lovely countryside walk.

Hannah and her team offer a warm welcome and hello to all and nothing is too much trouble for them to make sure you have a superb visit. They look forward to meeting you all soon.

You can visit Hannah's Farm Made Tearooms at the following address:

Paddockside, Oakenbank Lane Rainow, Macclesfield SK10 5RP 01625 402906