

The Raven

No.38 Spring 2017



The quarterly magazine for the whole of Rainow



● Village News ● Social Events ● Parish Council News ● Clubs & Societies ● School & Church

Your Update on Council Activities

Vacancy for Co-opted Councillor

We are pleased to announce that **Ms Louise Perry** has been co-opted onto the Council. She will commence as Councillor on 21st March 2017 and we wish her all the very best wishes in her new role.

We are also sorry to announce that **Mrs Katherine Beswick** has decided to stand down as Councillor for Rainow. The Council would like to thank her for her contribution to the community.

Considerate Parking



Please be considerate when parking and ensure that you do not obstruct footpaths or driveways and leave sufficient access for wheelchairs, prams and parents with small children. Any cars causing an obstruction should be reported as soon as possible by phoning **101**.

Speed Indicator Device (SID) deployment

The Parish Council (PC), Pott Shrigley PC and Adlington PC have been asked, by the police, to take over the control and operation of the two SIDs in their possession. The two SIDs will be shared equally between the three Parish Councils. As you can imagine the deployment of the SIDs would be a hazardous job due to the positioning of the posts on the main road. At least two people will be needed with a car to put up/take down the SID. At present, members are reviewing their options.



Putting out your Bins

Please can we ask that residents ensure that bins are not left out too long before or after collections and are returned to your property as soon as possible. During the recent high winds, they caused a hazard, with contents were spilled all over the road, so please refer to the guidance shown below.



Cheshire East Advice

- put your bin at the edge of your property, adjacent to the public highway, for collection.
- ensure the lid is closed and your bin is out for 7am on your collection day.
- return your bin to your property as soon as reasonably possible after collections have been made.
- additional household waste, garden waste or recycling, left next to the bin, will not be collected.
- if you are elderly or disabled and will have difficulty moving the bins, please contact us on 0300 123 5011 to be considered for an assisted collection service.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Responsible Dog Ownership

The Parish Council frequently receives complaints about dog mess. We are concerned for the health of children who are being put at risk by owners not taking their responsibilities seriously.

Please deposit your dog's waste in any bin not just dog waste bins. If you see overflowing bins, please report it as soon as you can to Cheshire East Council or email the Parish Council rainowparish@aol.com.



Neighbourhood Plan

Further to our article, in the Winter edition of the Raven, seeking your views on whether we should go forward with this matter.

Unfortunately, the uptake of interest has made it difficult to move this matter forward. A Neighbourhood Plan must be a community led plan and without that support it is difficult to move this forward. Have a look at the information on our website www.rainowvillage.co.uk/ and we will continue to monitor expressions of interest.

Thank you to all those who have expressed an interest.

For your information

After much lobbying, we are pleased to see that the chevrons at the bottom of Plungebrook have at long last been replaced.

Likewise, we are pleased to see that the small wall at the top of Round Meadow has also been repaired at long last.

The "Jubilee Playground" had to be closed just before Christmas while the barrier at the top of the slide was replaced. It is now open.

Please note that agendas, minutes and any notices are available on the parish website.

Thefts of quad bikes are still happening. The Police have asked that residents call in any suspicious activity at the time of sightings. Please also make sure you secure your quad bike as best you can. The police are actively working with neighbouring forces to increase patrols in the rural areas.

It's Lambing Time

We all enjoy seeing the new lambs as they arrive, a definite sign of spring.

Please help them (and the farmers) by remembering to shut gates and to keep dogs under control (on the lead please, when in a field of sheep and / or lambs).

This is particularly important at this time of year, but applies all year round. So please get into the habit!

Thank you!

Editorial Team for this issue:

Jane Brett Jim Kennelly

Bob Langstaff Louise Leigh

Pat Mellish Raph Murray

Design by Mel Wilcox (01625 576182)

Future Meetings and Dates for your diary

21st March 2017 (7.00 pm) - followed by the Annual Parish Meeting

18th April 2017

16th May 2017 - Annual General Meeting

20th June 2017

18th July 2017

19th September 2017

All Meetings commence at 8.00 pm and are advertised on the notice boards and website.



Like many of my fellow villagers, I was highly entertained by the recent production of "The Lamp and Candle". I felt that I had really "arrived" by receiving a special mention! Many congratulations from everyone on the editorial team to all involved.

Sorry landlord, still no money!

Jane Brett
Editor

Your Parish Councillors

John Cantrell (Chairman) 422107
john.cantrell@rainow.com

Alan Brett (Vice Chairman) 576108
alan.brett@rainow.com

Richard Balment 573625
richard.balment@rainow.com

Ken Butler 433168
ken.butler@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

Louise Perry 575144

Alan Taylor 575544
alan.taylor@rainow.com

Sarah Giller (Clerk) 850532
parishclerk@rainow.com

Cheshire East Councillor:
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Bollington Well Dressing Festival 2017

This year the theme is

'Bollington goes to the Cinema'



The Festival Opening Ceremony will take place at the Greg Fountain, Flash Lane, (opposite the Cock and Pheasant) at 11.30 am on **Saturday 1st July**. The Well Dressings will remain on display until **Sunday 9th 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 **Wednesday 28th June** and **Thursday 29th June** 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 5 2017 - Wed 3rd May

This year's **Rainow 5 Race** will start at 7.30 pm on Wed 3rd from Smithy Lane near the Robin Hood Pub. To enter the race (£5 entry fee) simply register at the Institute before the start of the race (from around 6.30 pm onwards). The course goes along Smithy Lane and Oakenbank Lane and then goes across the fields to Ingersley Vale. After the steep climb to White Nancy there is a great run along the ridge before returning along Kerridge side and retracing your outward route along Oakenbank Lane to the finish on Smithy Lane.

After the race you'll be able to enjoy some great post-race refreshments with some delicious cakes baked by the Rainow Guides. All proceeds from the race go to local charities.

The first Rainow runner in 2016 was 17 year old **Allen Bunyan** in a time of 37 min 12 sec so it would be great to see some more young Rainow runners compete in this year's Race.



Favourite Rainow Walks

We feature a **Rainbow walk** in each issue of "The Raven" and would be delighted to hear from anyone with a favourite walk which they think others would enjoy.

If you are willing to share your gems please send full directions with, if possible, a map and photos to theraven@rainow.com

Look forward to discovering new places!

Rainow WI joins in the Show the Love Campaign



On Valentine's Day, members of **Rainow WI** and pupils from **Rainow Primary School** mounted an installation of green hearts, fluttering from the trees in Trinity Garden and on the approaches to the school. This was in support of the Climate Coalition's campaign, '**Show the Love**'. Each heart carried a message showing the love of the natural environment which is under threat from global warming.

Two members of Rainow WI, Judy Wilkinson and Ann Lewis, visited the children in school and told a story of the Lunar Tics who caused the moon to turn from a green and pleasant land to become stony and barren because of the effects of industrialisation..... well it was just a story! They also told true stories about the effects of climate change on Puffins, the Great Grey Owl and our lovely Blue Planet generally. They also showed the short video, "**I wish for you**" by the children's author, **Michael Morpurgo**, which brought a tear to everyone's eye, and urged us all to take care of our planet. The whole school community was keen to get behind the '**Show the Love**' campaign and the children eagerly created 180 green hearts with touching messages on them. These were displayed on strings outside the school. It is hoped that the green hearts will stimulate conversations and raise awareness of the threat that climate change poses to the natural world.

At the February WI meeting the effects of climate change were discussed and local Rainow resident, David Brockington, spoke of how, as individuals, we can make an effort to help curb global warming. Green fabric hearts crafted by WI members are decorating branches in Rainow Institute to remind others of the campaign. Even the refreshments were themed to turn Valentine's Day green and '**Show the Love**'.



Brief update on

The Robin Hood



Following on from the public meeting on 3rd February, we delivered a flier to all Rainow residents with a request for contributions towards the cost of keeping the pub going. Unfortunately this has not realised sufficient funds to achieve this immediate goal and it is likely that Robert and Suzanne will be handing in their notice to Punch and leaving the pub.

We wish them every success in the future and thank them for what they have achieved in revitalising it. It reflects an unfortunate economic climate in which many pubs presently find themselves. Many people donated and an amount of £1,693 was collected. We will be transferring this to the Community bank account once we receive the necessary confirmation back from the bank. How we deal with this will depend on what people want. We will be seeking views once we are clear on the next moves.

We will continue to plan for the future and intend to hold discussions with Punch and, depending on the outcome of their takeover bid for Punch, with Heineken and their partners Patron Capital as soon as possible. Once we understand their plans we can consider how we as a community should react to these. One possibility is the establishment of the necessary formal structure to enable a Community bid to buy the pub.

Some time ago the Robin Hood was registered by the Parish Council as an Asset of Community Value with Cheshire East. This means that should the pub come up for sale, the Community has 6 months in which to make a bid to buy the pub. There are many Communities who have done just this and we are involved in a continuing dialogue with a number of these.

In the meanwhile we will have to seek your patience and give you the assurance that we will do all we can as a community to retain our last remaining pub.

Robin Hood Community Group 12th March 2017:
Ken Butler (Chairman), Karen Vernon (Secretary),
Louise Perry (Treasurer), Phil Moss, David Hasler,
David Law, David Challis, Graham Mellish,
Mike Tyldesley.

We have set up a website and the address is www.robinhoodrainow.co.uk

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Owl Babies – an exhibition by Rainow Pre-school

The children at Rainow pre-school have been working hard over the last few weeks on their exhibition based on the book **Owl Babies** by Martin Wadell. They have chosen to take the book as inspiration and the artwork they created was on display at **Tegg's Nose Country Park** during February.

All the children used a number of skills including cutting, painting and writing as well as experimenting with different materials and textures to make the art-work that was displayed. They had the chance to be budding actors when acting out the book to their friends and even made edible owls using bread and fruit. The children looked at different shapes and how they could be used to create their owls. They obviously had to get messy, making handprints and footprints to use as the leaves on display.

The children had great fun creating. We hope you got to see how Sarah, Percy, Bill and Mummy Owl were brought to life.



Friends of Rainow School

As always, Rainow Primary School's crack team of volunteers and parents have had a busy period ensuring that the Friends of Rainow School runs well. Our last fundraiser took the form of our Class Cake Sale where Class 3 parents donated and hosted a Friday cake sale raising a fabulous £205. Always well attended by the children and collecting parents, there is always room for passing visitors, so if you fancy a cup cake, slice of chocolate cake or a waffle dripping with strawberry sauce, please drop into our next sale due on **Friday 7th April from 3.15 pm**.

One of our next fundraisers will be our **Bags to School** collection on Friday 19th May. This is always a fantastic fundraiser and prime opportunity to get rid of any unwanted items of clothes. Please join our fundraising efforts by sorting out anything you want to donate. Our resident collector, Michelle Gidion, will be dropping collection bags to Rainow residents prior to the event and driving around the village scooping up your donations by 9.00 am on the day.

If you would like any more information on Rainow Primary School FRS future fundraising events, please contact Emma Nadin on emmajnadin@gmail.com

Out of School

by Jonathon Norris,
Headteacher



The spring term has already presented a variety of exciting learning opportunities for our children.

RSPB visit Year 3

Members from the RSPB Wildlife Explorers visited school at the beginning of January to carry out their annual Bird Watch in our school grounds, with the help of our 7 and 8 year old budding ornithologists. The children were fascinated to learn more about our local wildlife from Clair Arnold and her expert team.

Rainow School Show the Love on Valentine's Day

We welcomed Judy Wilkinson and Ann Lewis from The Women's Institute into school recently to tell us all about the 'Show the Love' campaign, and to teach the children about climate change. The children were asked to think of a message about what they love about our natural world, and what they would miss most. They were tasked to decorate a green heart to share their thoughts alongside hearts created by the local community. The ladies from the WI then hung our finished designs around Trinity Gardens near to the church, and from the trees around the entrance to the school driveway. It made a stunning display with some heartfelt and thoughtful messages. Learn more about the 'Show the Love' campaign at fortheloveof.org.uk/

World Book Day

The beginning of March is when schools across the world celebrate a love of literature with their children. This year we asked the children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character and bring a book they had finished to swap with a classmate. We started our day with a fantastic fashion show where the children had the chance to parade their costumes and

tell each other about their chosen character.

Sporting Achievements

There has always been a strong sporting tradition at Rainow, and I can remember years when we have had a triumphant team in a certain discipline, but I have never known such success in so many sports as this academic year.



The Rainow Athletics Team

Our athletics team were victorious in a recent Indoor Athletics meeting and our football teams remain unbeaten so far this season. Our netball and tag-rugby teams have been equally as impressive, not to mention our lung-busting cross-country runners! For a school our size, where we only have a handful of eligible competitors, compared to much bigger schools in Macclesfield, it is a truly fantastic achievement.

Upcoming Events

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

PLEASE HELP AT RAINOW SCHOOL Plea for mid day assistants!

Rainow School have immediate vacancies for two Mid-Day Assistants to work from 12 noon to 1.15 pm, term time only, in our lovely school. Ideally we are looking for one assistant to work every day except Tuesdays and one assistant to work Mondays and Fridays, but even if you are only able to work one day each week, or one or more days on a casual basis, we would be interested to hear from you. The school is a Cheshire East Living Wage employer and the rate of pay is £7.11 plus a supplement of 74p per hour. If you wish to apply for either position, please either download an application form from our website www.rainowpri.cheshire.sch.uk/page/vacancies/1132 or contact the school either by email admin@rainowpri.cheshire.sch.uk or phone **01625 572021** for further details.



A selection of the amazing costumes

Brownies Spring 2017

by Brown Owl, Susan Norman



With only a couple of weeks left before breaking up for Christmas and only two Brownies, we spent our time celebrating American Thanksgiving with modelling balloons and using our sewing skills to make Christmas decorations. Christmas gifts and cards were passed on and good wishes and we left with hopes that more Brownies would join us in The New Year.

In January, our prayers were answered and enquiries to join Brownies started to come in thick and fast, thanks to our secret elf, Suzanne Tobin (Beaver leader), who had inside access at school to girls of the right age to join Brownies. I would like to say a big "Thank you" to Suzanne for helping 1st Rainow Brownies on the road to recovery. We now have eight Brownies regularly attending and enjoying every minute, with a further two to join in a few months' time. However, our numbers need to be up to a minimum of twelve by September so we still have spaces to fill.

As Brownies gradually joined week by week from January we covered a number of different activities until we had enough to start working towards their Becoming a Brownie books. We started with a snow activity themed evening and even the weather joined in but thankfully not enough to prevent us from meeting. We played games related to bird migration and the difficulties they face on their journey as well as getting messy making bird seed cakes. This was followed by baking Chinese Fortune Cookies for Chinese New Year. As there seemed to be an outbreak of various illnesses going about this time of the year we got messy again doing lots of scientific activities and games about "germs" and how easily they spread. We held another themed meeting involving detectives and taking finger prints. As Thinking Day fell during half term we celebrated a little early. The Brownies made their own Passports and boarded their plane to fly around the world in an hour and fifteen minutes to London, Switzerland, India and Mexico visiting the World Guiding Houses and completing various crafts and activities at each destination.

Over the last few weeks we have also included activities to explain more about Brownies, formed two new Sixes and appointed Sixers and Seconds as well as held a Pow Wow for ideas from the Brownies for future activities. We have a lot of other fun activities planned and are looking forward to planning the Promise Ceremony for these seven new Brownies.

We still need more Brownies to secure the future of the Brownie Unit so if parents would like their daughters to join Brownies or to know more about it please access the website www.girlguiding.org.uk and click on the parent tab. Why not pop along and give us a lots of games and adventures out there!



Rainow Cubs Spring 2017

Our first meeting was spent making posters which you may have seen round the village for new assistant Leaders. Because Helena has gone to help at Beavers we were left with just Stacey and myself with 33 Cubs!! I am very pleased to say that they were successful and we have welcomed Simon Flint and Steve Moss to our team. Parents have also been very supportive and organised a help rota which has made meetings much easier and more enjoyable. The Cubs were also able to gain their Artist Badge.

We celebrated Burns Night and while sampling haggis and neapies, tossing the caber, sword dancing, decorating shortbread and so on, a Highland Piper came in playing Scotland the Brave!!, their faces were a picture. He was very good, showed us how the bagpipes worked, told us why he started playing and played us more requests.

Pete Parker from Buxton Mountain Rescue Team came and told us a bit about their work then recapped what we had covered last term and tested everyone for their Emergency Aid 3 Badge.

Because of the uncertainty of the Leader situation, we didn't do a Pantomime this year, instead had a campfire entertainment evening with stunts, skits, magic, music and singing. They were brilliant, especially considering we only practised for one night beforehand, the audience of parents and friends seemed to really enjoy it.

Of course we celebrated pancake night, as well as straight-

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Rainow Cubs report by Akela Sue Grimes

forward pancakes we tried 'pancake art' with different coloured batters, they looked very artistic and a vast quantity was eaten.

For the last few years we have been supporting a boy, Benjamin, in Kampala Childrens' Home, Uganda, sending him letters and receiving them.

As he is older we are now writing to Davies, who is 8 years old. We learnt about his life, and his hopes for the future, like many of the Cubs he wants to be a footballer (and a pilot and an engineer!). The Cubs drew themselves, wrote a little bit and made him and his friends combat bracelets, hopefully hearing about his life made the Cubs think and be grateful for theirs.

One dark cold night we went Deer stalking in Macclesfield Forest, they were very good and quiet and some of them saw some deer.

A team of six entered the District Handicraft Competition and won the model making section and were overall Runner ups. Next is the District Quiz, hopefully we will do well as we have donated a Cup for the winning team in memory of Robert Hart.

The rest of the term will be taken up with Mothers Day gifts, a trip to Chill Factor and venturing outside now the nights are getting lighter.



Guides Spring 2017

by Jill Hasler

As shown in the last Raven, we have five new Guides and are introducing them to various local Guide traditions – the visit to the Christmas Markets in Manchester (which had 8 attending), the soup making, followed by the selling of said soup at the Christmas markets (we raised enough to give two homeless people a meal and day's support at Christmas), but now it is into the really gloomy days of Winter and we are giving the Guides the chance to plan their own challenges in their chosen 'Go For Its' – Ggreen, Globalisitic and Glamorama for starters!

We enjoyed a visit from a representative of the RNLI, who came to talk about Water Safety. Of special relevance was his stressing that the 'lifeguards' we see on the beach are just there to save lives, but to help with all sorts of problems- first aid, lost children and advice. We also learnt more about the service itself, with films of rescues and lifeboat launches, try ons of some of the outfits and lots of information – the busiest RNLI posts, for example.... are on the Thames! One Guide made her promise on a short walk – after which they learned how to light a gas stove – and made welcome hot chocolate. We now need to learn some basic First Aid and fire safety to complete our badge – if anyone out there has a specialist knowledge in either of the above and would be happy to give up an hour on a Wednesday night to help, that would be great!

In among the above, we have also celebrated Chinese New Year, made pancakes and celebrated St Patrick's Day.

Last of all, and most difficult to write, is our future news.

Helen has decided that, with her new job taking her away a great deal in the week, and with her various other activities, she would like to take a break from Girlguiding for the foreseeable future. She came to help at a time when I was trying to run Guides on my own, as well as full time teaching, and was about to give up myself. She has kept me, and all of us, going with her energy, ideas, willingness to share the planning and activities and, most of all, we have shared some real fun over the last ten or so years. So, after over 20 years of running Guides in Rainow myself, and Rainow Brownies before that (and for a while the two together – I was mad!), I have decided it is time for me too to leave the Guides. It has been a very hard decision for both of us. I was a Brownie, Guide and Cadet myself and then became a Guider when someone at David's work (in Walton on Thames) said a pack was going to close unless anyone knew anyone who might be interested...Robert (36 last week!) went to the Brownie meetings in his pram – and they all danced round him! I cannot imagine starting again with someone else, which would need even more commitment at a time when I was already thinking of retiring from Guides myself. Until comparatively recently, I would have had to leave four years ago myself. Helen and I will therefore be leaving Guides together in July this year.

I really hope this does not mean Guides in Rainow will close – it began in 1972 (and I took over from Jean Beswick I think in about 1990/1) but should now be able to move forward, with new ideas and enthusiasm. Please ask around, and try to find new people prepared to continue. Previous guiding experience is not necessary, Girlguiding qualifications can be a plus in the world of work- but most of all you do get back far more than you give. We wouldn't have done it for as long as we have otherwise!



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Earl Courtown - Rainow's Lord on the Government Front Bench

by Raph Murray

In February this year implementing the result of the EU membership referendum meant that the Government had to get a Bill passed in the House of Commons and the House of Lords. As a result of some tactical concessions and by making full use of the Conservative Government's majority, the Bill enabling the Government to trigger Article 50 of the EU treaty was passed in the House of Commons. However, there remained one last hurdle: successful passage of the Bill through the House of Lords. As the Government does not have a majority in the Lords successful passage of the Bill required careful management. And one of the people charged with ensuring this was the Deputy Chief Whip, Earl

Courtown. As he himself says: '**this is not always easy when we do not have a majority**'. However, on this occasion the Bill was successfully passed.

Although known as the Earl of Courtown, as this is an Irish Peerage it is another of Earl Courtown's titles, ie, Lord Saltersford (in the Parish of Rainow) in the County of Cheshire that entitles the Earl of Courtown to a seat in the House of Lords. So – who is the Earl of Courtown? Known as Patrick Courtown, his full name is James Patrick Montagu Burgoyne Winthrop Stopford Earl of Courtown (Lord Saltersford). He was born on 19th March 1954 and is married with a son and 2 daughters. Educated at Eton College, the Berkshire College of Agriculture and at the Royal Agricultural College, his early business career was as a land agent in Gloucester and Shrewsbury.

However, in view of his family history, it was not surprising when he took his seat in the House of Lords and commenced his career in politics. From 1995 to 1997 Earl Courtown was a government whip and Lord in Waiting to HM The Queen. Following the election of Tony Blair's Labour Government, he then served on the Opposition Front Bench. Following the House of Lords reforms of 1999, Earl Courtown was elected as an excepted hereditary Peer. He was then asked to re-join government in 2015 and was appointed Deputy Chief Whip in the House of Lords. As a Government minister in the House of Lords the Deputy Chief Whip has a ministerial entitlement of £73,617. Another of Earl Courtown's roles is that of Captain of the Queen's Bodyguard of the Yeomen of the Guard. Yeomen of the Guard have a purely ceremonial role including duties such as 'searching' the cellars of the Palace of Westminster prior to the State Opening of Parliament. While members of the guard are all ex-servicemen, the role of Captain is always the Government Deputy Chief Whip in the House of Lords. Appointment to this role was of particular significance for the 9th Earl of Courtown as one of his predecessors, the 3rd Earl, was also Captain of the Queen's Body Guard of the Yeoman of the Guard in 1834.

The ancestral home of the Stopford /Courtown family in



Rainow is Saltersford Hall and some of the history of Saltersford Hall has been described by Jane Laughton in Raven No 24 (Autumn 2013). The ownership and inheritance of Saltersford is complex. However, based on JP Earwaker's account in 1882, it appears that the original Saltersford Hall was built by Henry Ffarington around 1593 and it is almost certainly his initials (HF), or those of his son, above the doorway. Henry's wife at the time was Margaret (nee Broster) and when Henry Ffarington died in 1596 she then married Henry Worrall of Wysall, Co Nottingham. Henry Worrall is believed to have purchased Saltersford and other lands in Macclesfield, including possibly the Bate Hall, from William

Earl of Derby in 1598. As there were no male heirs from either of these marriages Margaret Worrall inherited Saltersford and, following her death in February 1647-8, administration of her estate was granted to her daughter Mary (from her marriage to Henry Ffarington) in 1649. By this time Mary was a widow, however she had two sons, James and William, from her marriage to William Stopford of Ulneswalton, Co Lancaster. Therefore when Mary Stopford died in 1665 the Saltersford estate was inherited by James Stopford. Meanwhile, however, James Stopford had already joined Oliver Cromwell's Parliamentary Army in Ireland. As a result of this service and as a consequence of the Acts of Settlement (1660-65), James Stopford acquired large estates in several counties in Ireland and took up residence in Co Meath.

His great grandson was created Earl of Courtown in 1762 (Peerage of Ireland) and in 1796 he was created Baron Saltersford of Saltersford, Co Chester (Peerage of Great Britain). For many years the Earls of Courtown maintained their ownership of estates in Ireland and Saltersford and as the landlord for many farmers in Saltersford and the Todd Brook valley they had an important role in the development of this part of Rainow over the past few hundred years. In particular, the unspoilt nature of the Todd Brook valley, its remoteness and solitude, is largely due to the stewardship of the tenant farmers and Earls of Courtown during this period. Although the Stopford/Courtown family no longer own land in Rainow or Macclesfield, the crest of the Stopford/Courtown family still adorns the Bate Hall pub in Macclesfield. This includes the motto:

Patriae infelici fidelis: faithful to my unhappy country

This motto was certainly applicable to the Earls of Courtowns' approach to life at certain times in Ireland's history, however it could be argued that it remains applicable today.

Although, since the departure of George Osborne, we no longer have a Cabinet Minister resident in Rainow, we still have a **Rainow Lord on the Government Front Bench in the House of Lords**.

With the departure of Carl Bewley from the am dram scene last year I thought we were witness to the end of an era. An era of quality ham – er, amateur dramatics – at the Rainow Institute.

Especially as this seemed also to be the end of The Quay Players. Carl, author and director of "The calling Card", "Keep Smiling Through", and "Desperadoes", courageously performed by The Players, promised to be a hard act to follow.

However, a connoisseur of ham, the landlord of the Lamp & Candle, AKA Bob Langstaff, has bravely stepped into the breach, with some degree of success. Bob was ably assisted by the newly formed Rainow Playmakers, an amalgam of a rump of old stagers from the Quay Players and some new locals, directed by Rachel Spearing, who brought an understanding of how to make a nourishing pie from whatever meat comes to hand.

"Dark Days at the Lamp and Candle", subtitled "A Cautionary Tale", is a warning to us all about the consequences of failing to value what we have. A pub for example, several flourishing local clubs and societies, and, according the landlord, at least four "women only book clubs".

The plot is a simple one but timeless. Local community takes its eye off the ball allowing unscrupulous property developer to swoop on defenceless local amenity (the Lamp). In the nick of time, the community comes together to fend off the attack and win out despite the odds. Warm glow all round. In the process there was plenty of opportunity for crass jokes at the expense of some local 'indignitaries'.

The Rainow Players did sterling service both on stage and off, and represent a cross section of village folk who gave their time and talent selflessly for our enjoyment. Or maybe it was the glory, - 'the roar of the greasepaint, the smell of the crowd'. They all gave of their best and deserve praise, but I particularly enjoyed Judy Wilkinson's Landlady and ladies shin-kicking champion, the oleaginous villain Phil Tankards, played by Jim Kennelly, and Val Moss's dead pan Mrs Kenyon, 'er as does at the Lamp.

A special mention should go to the Sugar Laners who gave us "The Lamp & Candle Song", which was written by Nigel Campbell. Apart from Nigel, the identities of the Sugar Laners is shrouded in mystery. All we know, thanks to Nigel, is that "... their musical careers were tragically cut short after they recorded this tune, when they split up to pursue careers in sheep farming, particle physics and juggling".

Amongst the "guest appearances", there was even one from our own Vicar 'Steve' who played himself with a remarkable mastery of characterisation for a man of his height.



"A C"



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The Cast



Tony Wilkinson

"Cautionary Tale"



Jill Hawthorne



val Moss, Peter Nixon, Jean Spearing
& Adele Langstaff



Rachel Spearing



Bob Langstaff & Phil Moss



Mariae Tucker & Jim Kennelly



Pat & Roy Downie



no 74 delicatessen in bollington

H ave you visited the new delicatessen in Bollington? It is owned by Jackie Robinson & Natalie Frith and is the new 'go to place', affectionately known as 'The Hub' by many local customers.

Jackie and Natalie spotted a gap in the market and felt that a delicatessen would complement the other Bollington amenities. Located on Palmerston Street, No. 74 Delicatessen opened last July and was beautifully restored by another Rainow resident, Anthony Reynolds and his team from Antarctic Construction, using reclaimed flags, stone and wood for the floor and walls, resulting in a cosy atmosphere with custom-made fittings.

Many of the goodies for sale are from local producers including jams and chutneys from Fruits of the Forage, Galore, Mrs P's and The Kitchen Swanscoe and honey from Happy Valley Honey. They stock a fantastic range of cheeses, free range charcuterie and

antipasti, with a clear emphasis on best of British, amongst a fine continental selection. Their home-made salads, coleslaw & pates, to name a few, have become firm favourites with customers. Local butcher Jeremy Heathcote supplies the delicatessen with all their meat and bread is from artisan bakers, Flour Water Salt in Macclesfield. In addition they stock home smoked goods from Cheshire Smoke House. They have recently received their premises licence, so you can buy a lovely bottle of wine or fizz to savour with your purchases, or if you prefer, they are lucky enough to stock Forest Gin and have a comprehensive selection of craft beers selected by Five Clouds Brewery in Macclesfield.

Not only does No.74 offer delightful deli goods, they also have excellent lunch options, presenting an assortment of sandwiches weekly, alongside the ever popular Happy Belly scotch eggs and Carter's butchers' pork pies. Bacon sandwiches & granola pots have proven most popular for those looking for breakfast, amongst plenty of cake and healthy treats throughout the day. All washed down with the most delightful coffee, again, locally sourced from an artisan roasters, Heart & Graft in Manchester and a superb tea selection from Born Wild Tea – give the apple crumble a go!

If you are looking for a business lunch, canapés or food for a special occasion No.74 has a sublime offering including quiches, salads and lovely cakes.

So, why not pop in to No.74, you never know what interesting delights you might find there – they would love to see you!

You can contact the delicatessen for more information or enquiries:

hello@no74deli.co.uk, 01625 573648
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News from the Lamp and Candle

Hello there,

Well, I'll be glad to see the back of that Storm Doris. This wind caused some damage here at The Sedge as well as down in the village, where the Vicar was telling me that one of his church hens laid the same egg three times. Riley-Across-The-Field was in the Snug last night swearing that when he was staggering up Churchwallgate in Macclesfield at forty-five degrees to the wind and rain, he saw what he thought was a rubber glove blowing along the pavement. It turned out to be a small dog blown inside-out!

And why have they started giving these storms names? It's just copying the Americans. At least the Yanks have proper meaty names for their bad weather, like Hurricane Charlie or Typhoon Rocky. What do we get? Storm Bertie or some such rubbish. It's like trying to beat the American's at song-titles; let's face it, their towns sound good for lyrics and ours don't. 'Do You Know the Way to Whaley Bridge' doesn't have the same ring as "I Left My Heart in San Francisco"

Who wants to copy the Americans anyway with you-know-who running the country? I hear on the grapevine that these K.R.I.V. volunteers who are always mooching around the village wrote to President Trump offering to build the wall between the United States and Mexico at a knockdown price of \$300 per metre. To their surprise they got a reply from the President's Office at the White House. He thanked them for being the first Brits to congratulate him on his win - even before Theresa May! Mind you it didn't do K.R.I.V. much good. The Homeland Secretary was put off by the length of time it might take to build the wall - about 140 years. The Americans, it seems, don't appreciate dry stone walls. I do feel for the K.R.I.V. team though. Their van has had to go to the great MOT station in the sky and they are reduced to carrying their tools around the place like those friends of Snow White. If you listen carefully you can hear them singing "Hi-Ho" on their way to clear the ditches around Ingersley Vale. Anyway, we have to support these local groups, so if anyone has a spare van....

Sadly, I have to report that Bickerdike is no less miserable despite my efforts to cheer him up as part of my new "Positive Thinking" outlook on life. I'm still reading that book I bought in Macclesfield and I'm on a Chapter entitled "Humour - The Ultimate Bridge" So when Bickerdike came in last Wednesday I thought I'd start the evening on a humorous note by pretending I'd been offered a part-time job polishing mirrors at Arighi Bianchi's department store. "Why would you want to do that?" he said in his miserable way. "It's a job I could see myself doing" I said, but instead of laughing his socks off at such a good tale he starts going on about how I'd given him rubbish advice about his Old-English sheep dog, Humphrey. The dog had had the squitters for nearly a week and I'd tried to help by telling Bickerdike that cheese is good for dogs with the squirts. He claimed he'd tried cheese but the problem had got worse and it was my fault. How was I to know he'd get it

completely wrong? I had to point out to him that the cheese was for the dog to eat! Needless to say that little incident ruined the chances of cheering him up. Rubbish name for a dog anyway, Humphrey.

My grapevine turned out to be right - there was a play done about the Lamp & Candle! I couldn't get there myself as there are people who know who I am, but I sent Ginger Dave to give me a report. He said the Landlord in the play was a cantankerous old git without a good word for anyone, so at least they couldn't have been portraying me. I'm still not sure I like a bunch of people making up daft plots and stupid songs at the expense of my pub and my regulars. I thought about putting in a complaint to the "Raven", then I heard that the play was directed by one of the Spearing lasses and I was faced with the choice of missing out on Spearing's pies or swallowing a bit of pride, and anyway I didn't want to get the press snooping around when the row hit the headlines. They'd have a field day and call it "Piegate" or something.

Mind you, I did have a word with the Director about handing over the film rights. There's serious money to be made there. I read in a magazine somewhere that film rights for a popular book can be worth millions. That J. K. Rambling made a fortune writing those Potty Harry books, then made another fortune selling the film rights! If they can do that for a book they can do it for a play. So words were exchanged and I am now the owner of the film rights. I thought all my birthdays had arrived at once when someone said Warner Brothers were interested in buying up the rights, but it turned out to be Sid and Charlie Warner who run the woodyard in Adlington.

The shine has been taken off all this exciting news by the plight of the Robin Hood. Of course all of the lads in the snug went to the meeting at the Institute and we decided to help the Prices by forming a committee to decide how to help. Little Arthur is all for setting up road-blocks at either end of Rainow and forcing people to go to the Robin but the rest of the committee thought that was not a good idea because you need special permission to set up a road-block and the barriers are very expensive. The committee is still trying - very. Perhaps they'll come up with something better in time for the next issue. For my part I am offering a starring role in the Lamp & Candle film to the person who raises the most money, so be sure and think up some ways of supporting the place yourself!

In the meantime I'm keeping away from the Landlady for a bit. I'm in a spot of bother for accidentally saying out loud that we would soon be having a millstone anniversary instead of a milestone anniversary. The damage that one letter can do (as my friend Ronald Trump keeps reminding me!) All for now, Landlord.

PUBLIC HOUSE





by Lynn Milns



by Jennie Gaywood



by John Hawthorne



by Dianna Crowther



by Adele Langstaff



by Mary Cussen



by Vivian Vernon

RAINOW ART GROUP

The Rainbow Art Group has been in existence for about 5 years. There are ten of us on the books and we meet on the first Monday of each month at the Church Centre from 10.00 am to 12 noon. The group is very ad hoc and with many other calls on our time, we do not have a full contingency each month, but that is of no matter. We all have different ways of painting and indeed use a variety of media. We tend to discuss our ideas and give encouragement and assistance to each other, where needed, and of course break for coffee and biscuits, which is most important on a Monday morning!

It always amazes me how many local people paint, but when you look at the wonderful scenery we live in, then it is not surprising. My two interests from being a child and later at Teacher Training College, were Geography and Art and landscape and painting are still my two great passions in addition to teaching Art to children. It is a great comfort to be able to paint the landscape at those times when walking is difficult and of course the landscape is constantly changing throughout the seasons so it never becomes boring.

Obviously not all artists are particularly interested in the landscape and this led me to wonder why our other members paint, what interests them in particular, and what their background is?

One of our members worked for Brocklehurst's, starting as a colour separation artist and later for the Barracks Fabric Printing Company. She later became studio manager at Meshtex in charge of a studio, checking work from inside and outside artists but eventually was made redundant with the onset of CAD.

One member wanted to go to Art College but her dad insisted she got a 'proper job' so she trained to teach studying Art as one of her main subjects.

Another member who previously never felt she showed any artistic promise, was introduced in the 1980s by Doreen Crawley, (who lived on Millers Meadow) to the Bollington Art group where she was introduced to using Marvin glue medium tinted with poster paint! Not an easy beginning and she reckoned she painted an absolute 'rubbish' cup and saucer but nevertheless became hooked and gained confidence by being encouraged by other members and teachers.

One of our members was an architect and produces some beautiful watercolour paintings with fantastic insight and attention to detail.

Another member was saying she has always been interested in drawing but after leaving school, work and studying took over and so she didn't take up any form of

Art again until she retired. This often seems to be the case as we have all led busy lives and brought up families and so now is the 'me' time!

I believe everyone has the ability to draw but many become disillusioned with their artistic attempts, often because someone has made them feel self conscious about their work and this can even be a teacher! I know, I suffered in this way. It is very easy to feel disillusioned as what is inside our heads, does not always find itself working along our arm and out via a paintbrush. Obviously the more we do it, then the easier it becomes or at least the less self conscious we become! It is a bit like the surfer always feeling that the next wave will be the big one.

It concerns me that we hear in the press that many schools are having to cut back on the Arts in general as it is deemed to be not essential, whereas I feel it is of paramount importance to many people as an expression of their feelings.

This year we will have our 8th Rainow Art Exhibition. Everyone who exhibits has some connection with Rainow either by living or working here or belonging to the Art Group. We show about 100 new paintings in the main room and have a second area for prints and paintings which have been shown in previous exhibitions in Rainow and not sold and of course these are at vastly reduced prices.

Please help to keep “The Raven” flying!

We are indebted to all our volunteer distributors for ensuring delivery of “The Raven” to all the households in our far flung community.

However, people do have other commitments and some of the “rounds” are quite large so would benefit from being split. Therefore we are looking for new volunteers to help either on a regular (four issues a year) or occasional basis (for example to cover holidays).

If you are interested please contact us on

theraven@rainow.com

Many thanks! Jane Brett



Once again Jane Warren has kindly agreed to hold a plant sale with all proceeds to go to Rainow Church. Any who could make donations of bedding, house, herb or vegetable plants please contact Jane on 574918 or jnewarren3@gmail.com. Please see below for details. As refreshments will be available, any donations of cakes would also be very welcome.

RAINOW Grand Plant Sale

Saturday 6th MAY
Rainow Church Centre
10 until 2pm

Vegetable plants, Bedding plants, House plants
Perennials, Herbs,
Basket arrangements
Raffle
*Refreshments
Home made Cakes *

PROCEEDS IN AID OF RAINOW CHURCH

Contact

JANE WARREN

01625 574918

jnewarren3@gmail.com

Raven Book Reviews

More choices from some of Rainow's book club members

Louise Doughty

Whatever You Love



By the author of “Apple Tree Yard”, this earlier novel depicts a similar tale of domestic woe, exploring infidelity, bereavement, stalking, mental breakdowns, immigrant workers and general, heart wrenching angst. Within the first ten pages of the book, the narrator, Laura, finds herself in the hospital morgue identifying the body of her 9-year old daughter, Betty, who was hit by a car whilst walking back from an after school club. The taut and inexorable suspense continues, relentless and compelling, with the grief experienced by Laura given a visceral and all-consuming power that pervades every aspect of the ensuing plot.

Consummately and magnificently structured around Betty’s death, which represents the pivot that turns Laura’s life from a linear progression into a spiral of despair and chaos, the novel is equally concerned with Laura’s failed marriage. Although the book begins with the brutal death of Laura’s child, the story underlying her marriage takes somewhat longer to unfold. Flitting between past and present,

the development of her relationship is narrated with lyrical precision. Her initial feverish and obsessive relationship with David, the man who becomes her husband, is described in vivid and strangely foreboding terms, which are explained with the acrimonious dissolution of their marriage when David leaves Laura for his younger, pregnant mistress. The descent into grief, both for her daughter and for her marriage, is detailed in the most explicit and harrowing way and the reader witnesses the fracturing of Laura’s mind as her paranoid and obsessive thoughts turn increasingly to ideas of revenge.

As if these darkly intense and emotive themes were not disquieting enough, there is also an intertwined mystery narrative, comprising details Laura is too dazed by grief to notice. Casually thrown into the recounting of escalating, suspenseful melodrama, these details serve to heighten the tension and the growing sense of unease that begins to accumulate in the reader. This unease is sharply focused onto Laura’s behaviour and some extraordinary events which conspire to force us to confront the darkness which can exist within. Although initially eliciting sympathy, Laura’s motivation takes on a more morally dubious timbre in her journey from loss to retribution. The brutal and pitiless tracking of this journey by Doughty’s potent emotional prose continues to unnerve and unsettle long after finishing the book.



Oranges with Star Anise

by Deborah Roberts

Ingredients

2 large oranges
2tbsps of sugar
star anise
Blood oranges
(1 per person)
Pomegranate seeds

Method

Put the juice of 2 large oranges in a pan with 2 tablespoons of sugar and a star anise. Boil for about 10 minutes and then simmer until slightly caramelised. Put aside to cool. Slice several oranges (blood oranges if available) – at least 1 per person and trim the rind and pith. Place in a glass bowl and pour over the orange juice with the star anise. Scatter with pomegranate seeds, if liked and serve with shortbread biscuits.

Beavers Spring 2017

Since Christmas, the Beavers have been busy again. This term they have been talking and learning about different types of aeroplanes; they also made their own paper planes and of course we had to test which ones would fly the furthest. We celebrated Chinese New Year with a 'banquet'; each lodge cooked their own chicken stir fry, with all the Beavers having a go at chopping the vegetables and stir frying. As there wasn't any left for me to try, I think we can safely say they enjoyed it. Carrying on the food theme and finishing the Cookery badge, the Beavers also made some fruit kebabs, which were very tasty.

After a request was sent out for cardboard boxes and tubes at the beginning of February, the Beavers dutifully arrived with junk modelling kit by the barrow load. They then set about building a marble run with their teams. The evening ended with demonstrations from each of the teams. Throughout the term, we have been thinking a lot about working as a team, within our activities and this has enabled some of the older Beavers to complete their Teamwork Challenge badge, whilst the younger ones still have a few more activities to complete before this badge can be awarded to them.

We finished the half-term with the Experiment badge. The Beavers were able to have a go at making volcanoes and also using red cabbage indicator with different foodstuff. We also set off some coke fountains outside and showed them how you can extinguish candles.

Since half term, we have celebrated Founders Day, albeit a little late due to the half term break, and have had lots of fun at a Space evening, where the Beavers made their own models of the solar system and looked at the different star constellations with a planetarium. And with just four more weeks to this term, there are more exciting sessions planned.

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South West Peak: Landscape at a Crossroads



In December 2016 the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) confirmed funding of £2.4m towards the £4.1m South West Peak Landscape Partnership Scheme. The partnership, led by the Peak District National Park with 13 other partners, will deliver 18 projects across the area over the next five years.

Some of the projects will take place right across the South West Peak, others have defined locations. Close to Rainow is one of our

three focal areas for the Glorious Grasslands project, looking to identify species-rich grasslands such as hay meadows and so-called 'waxcap grasslands' characterised by their variety of brightly coloured fungi; and work with landowners, farmers and local communities to conserve and manage these for future generations. We will soon be looking for volunteers with a good eye for plants to help us with some surveys. Close to Rainow we think there will be some good grassland sites for fungi so let us know if you spot any brightly coloured mushrooms when you are out and about during the autumn months.

Also nearby is one of our priority areas for upland breeding waders – particularly concentrating on curlew and snipe. The RSPB is organising surveys of these species during the breeding season (April to June) if you are interested contact Mike Shurmer, RSPB conservation officer, 01694 724791 email: mike.shurmer@rspb.org.uk.

We will soon be starting our small grants scheme to help local community groups (such as residents, schools, village clubs and societies and parish councils) with their own plans to protect, understand and promote the natural and cultural heritage of the place. Grants of up to £10,000 will be available and community groups must also find match funding or volunteer/in-kind contributions towards their total project costs.

It's a great opportunity to make a difference and encourage your community to take part in the scheme. Activities funded could include things like producing a heritage themed guided walk, doing up a well, training a team in traditional skills such as drystone walling or hedge-laying, creating a wildlife area, or showcasing what's special about your area. Community engagement and grants officers will be on hand to help you develop your project ideas and support you in forming new community groups where appropriate. Contact Esther Jones, Moorlands Locality team



Waxcap Fungi

leader at Support Staffordshire. Details of the Landscape Partnership Scheme and all its projects and activities can be found on the website www.southwestpeak.co.uk you can also like us on Facebook **swpeak** or follow us on Twitter @SouthWestPeak

Karen Shelley-Jones, Landscape Partnership Scheme Manager, email: Karen.shelley-jones@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Rainow Rural Life Exhibition

**Free
Admission**

To be held at **One House Lodge & One House Walled Garden**.

Saturday 10th June through to Sunday 18th June 2017

To include rural displays, activities & refreshments throughout the event.

Afternoon tea on **Sunday 11th** booking required.

Wednesday evening 14th a visit from **The Vintage Motorcycle Club**.

Entertainments evening, **Ticket Only Saturday 17th**, to include : Music by **Bald Monkey**, Guest speaker **Peter Slack, Ploughman's supper & Bar**, plus lots more...



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Rainow Village Bus

Serving your Community

March 2017



We would encourage all readers of the Raven and their family and friends to make more use of your village bus, it is always so disappointing to see it sitting on the car park on a Friday and Saturday evening when it could be out delivering a group of villagers to a stress-free evening out in Macclesfield or Bollington. Visit the website rainowvillagebus.com for more information.

Now that we have the new bus and the finances are sound, there will be some changes to the Volunteer Group which runs the Village bus.

Alan Brett, Ian Brammer and Jane Brett have all stepped down due to other community, business and personal commitments. The tasks undertaken by them have been redistributed to other members of the team.

Ken Butler will take over as Chairman, remaining as a Trustee and retaining his role as leading the team involved in booking, administration and drivers' rotas. Tony Wilkinson will take over as Treasurer, becomes a Trustee and will include in his role most of the activities previously carried out by Jane. Tim Grimes will take over the Secretary's role and become a Trustee, taking on responsibility for all operational aspects of running the bus.

Alan has agreed to stay on as one of the volunteer Drivers so we have maintained a pool of 10 volunteers.

Nevertheless, we feel that to give greater flexibility, particularly with spring approaching, we need to increase this pool of drivers by at least one and are therefore seeking volunteers for this role. Most people who passed their test prior to 1995, aged between 27 and 70 (with a clean licence) are likely to be able to drive. We will help with familiarisation of the bus which is much easier and pleasant to drive than the old one.

We also see the need for fresh blood with new ideas in the Group and are therefore also seeking volunteers to join the team, in particular those with skills in marketing, IT, social media and web design.

So if anyone feels they could help with any of these roles please get in touch with one of the team shown below.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking Jane, Alan and Ian for their invaluable efforts in getting the Group to the successful position we are in and the wonderful service this has provided and will continue to provide to the Community of Rainow.

RVB Team Members: Rose Tyldesley 01625 574211, Jackie Butler 01625 433168, Richard Balment 01625 573625, Mike Tyldesley 01625 574211, Tony Wilkinson 01625 614650, Tim Grimes 01625 572751, Paul Riordan 01625 425767, Dick Warren 01625 574918, David Hasler 01625 572640, Dave Wilcox 01625 576182, John Hawthorne or Ken Butler 01625 433168



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Springmount, Lidgetts Lane
Rainow

T: 01625 616734
E: jane@polidori.co.uk

What's On in Rainow and Bollington

APRIL 2017

1	8.00 pm	Bollington Brass Band Charity Concert	Bollington Arts Centre
2	2.30 pm	Rainbow to Rainow - Bollington Festival Music Theatre suitable for all ages	Bollington Arts Centre
5	7.30 pm	Pottflix - Jack Reacher - Never go back	Pott Shrigley Village Hall
10	7.30 pm	Rainow WI - Decorating Cup Cakes - Rebecca Hulme from Bec's Bakes with an Easter theme	Rainow Institute
25	7.30 pm	Rainow Mothers Union - Faith, Fun & Fellowship, Father Michael Burgess	Rainow Church Centre
26	11.00 am	Mothers Union Diocesan Festival	Chester Cathedral
28	8.00 pm	Michele Stoddard - Folk/rock singer/songwriter	Bollington Arts Centre

MAY 2017

3	7.30 pm	Rainow 5m (8 km) Race From Rainow to Whaley Bridge*	Rainow Institute
3	7.30 pm	Pottflix - A United Kingdom	Pott Shrigley Village Hall
5	8.00 pm	Bolly Comedy Club	Bollington Arts Centre
6	2.00 pm	Bollington 3 Peaks Race 9k*	Bollington Brewery
6	10.00 am - 2.00 pm	Plant Sale and Refreshments - in aid of Rainow Church	Rainow Church Centre
8	7.30 pm	Rainow WI - 'NFWI Resolutions and Bob's Monologues	Rainow Institute
15	7.30 pm	Mothers Union Deanery Coffee Evening	-
16	-	Mothers Union Outing TBA	-
17	7.15 pm	Shining Tor Race 10k*	Errwood Sailing Club
29	2.45 pm	Shutlingsloe Race 3k*	Crag Hall Wildboarclough

JUNE 2017

3	2.45 pm	Wincle Trout Fell Race 9.5k*	Burnt House Farm, Wincle
7	7.30 pm	Pottflix - Manchester by the Sea	Pott Shrigley Village Hall
11	7.30 pm	Shakespearean Shenanigans - Bollington Festival Choir	Bollington Arts Centre
12	8.00 pm	Rainow WI - 'The work of the ACWW' Zeta Emmett	Rainow Institute
20	7.30 pm	Rainow Mothers Union - Visit from our Prayer Partners	Rainow Church Centre
23		Bollington Beer Festival	Bollington Arts Centre

JULY 2017

4	Rainow NSPCC - Strawberry Sparkle Lunch	Lower House Farm
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ADVANCE NOTICE!

Races - For items marked * please contact Raph Murray raphmurray@hotmail.com for further details.

For other performances at the Bollington Arts Centre, see website bollingtonartscentre.co.uk events page

Pottflix, Flix in the Stix - Bar opens 6.30pm, performances 7.30pm. 150 inch wide screen projection, Dolby 5.2 surround sound, tickets £4 in advance from Anthea Wilkinson 01625 573538 or Sue Ralston 01625 573210 or £5 on the door.

The Robin Hood will be organising several events over the Spring and Summer, details still to be finalised. Follow them on Facebook or Twitter or watch out for details on the posters and blackboards at the Robin.

The New 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. For notification of future outings contact Sue Grimes: 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

Map: OS Explorer OL24 White Peak and OL1 Dark Peak

Distance: about 9 miles

Height climbed: 413m/1355ft couple of steep sections, one going up to the Bowstones

Time: 4-5 hours

Going: straightforward paths, very boggy in places when wet

Start/Finish: Robin Hood, Rainow




The Bowstones



view finder on top of Sponds Hill



Opposite view from Sponds Hill to Shining Tor

The Kissing Gates

by Sam Taylor & Joe Wilcox



Starting from the Robin Hood, walk down the drive and along Stocks Lane. Turn right down Chapel Lane and right onto Sugar Lane. Walk down here past Hough Close, and take the footpath behind the Flagg Cottages. Continue through a wood, up to the first kissing gate.

Go through two fields, through a stile and then take the right footpath to a stile in the wall. Follow this footpath until Savio House comes into view. Go through another kissing gate on the top right hand corner of the field and immediately left over a stone stile. Follow this flagged path with the wall on your left, over a stream up to a stile by a road.

Go straight on along the road until you reach a junction on Blaze Hill. Cross the road by the house or the island and head towards Pott Shrigley along Spuley Lane for about 200m. Turn right up Hedgerow and go through the stile on the left onto the 'Gritstone Trail' after the first set of houses. Follow the footpath to another kissing gate (can be boggy). Go through a field down to a stone bridge crossing the river, which is the boundary of Rainow.

Ascend up through a wood, through a kissing gate and walk between two fences passing ponds on your right. Go through another kissing gate, carrying on uphill until you reach a track. Cross the track up to a corner of the wall on the right. Follow the wall on your right up to a metal gate.

Go straight on the footpath with the wall on your left, which has a lovely view of Cheshire. Continue to two trees and descend down to a stile by a road.

Turn left and walk down the road about 100m to a lay-by on the left with a metal and wooden gate. Take the left bridle path uphill to a historic information 'trig' point which tells you the history of mining.

Follow the fence to a wooden gate. Go through this and descend down obvious

footpath to a wooden gate in fence. Head down to a track and turn right along this. Continue along here for about 500m to a wooden ladder stile with dog gate in the wall where you will be entering Lyme Park.

Follow obvious (boggy) footpath with a wall on your left until you get to a footpath junction with a wooden gate and forest on your left. Ascend the right track up towards Bowstones where you will come across another ladder stile and gate at the top of the hill. Continue along path and over a stile at the road. (You can see the Bowstones if you turn left where there is a stile in the wall in-between the Conifer trees).

Turn right through metal gate along a track through fields until you reach the summit of Sponds hill. (Just off the track to the left is a viewfinder plaque). Continue along until you reach a road. Turn left on the road and over a stile on your right. Descend through fields, following a farm drive to a wooden ladder stile.

Cross the small field, then follow the track to a footpath T-junction. Turn left, and cross a small brook then turn immediately right. Descend to a stone stile by the river with a footbridge. Go across this and go steeply uphill to a stile. Go through the field until you reach a stile/gate, through a farmyard until you reach a four way fingerpost.

Follow the sign to the right for Billinge Hill. Go over the ladder stile and immediately go right towards farm buildings. Go through the way marked animal pen to a stile on your left. Turn right and go across the field to the next stile. Following way markers through fields and over stiles, you'll eventually reach a stone track with an old house. Turn left here and follow the track to reach a gate at the road.

Cross the road onto another track and turn left at Rainow Low carrying on along the track back into the village.