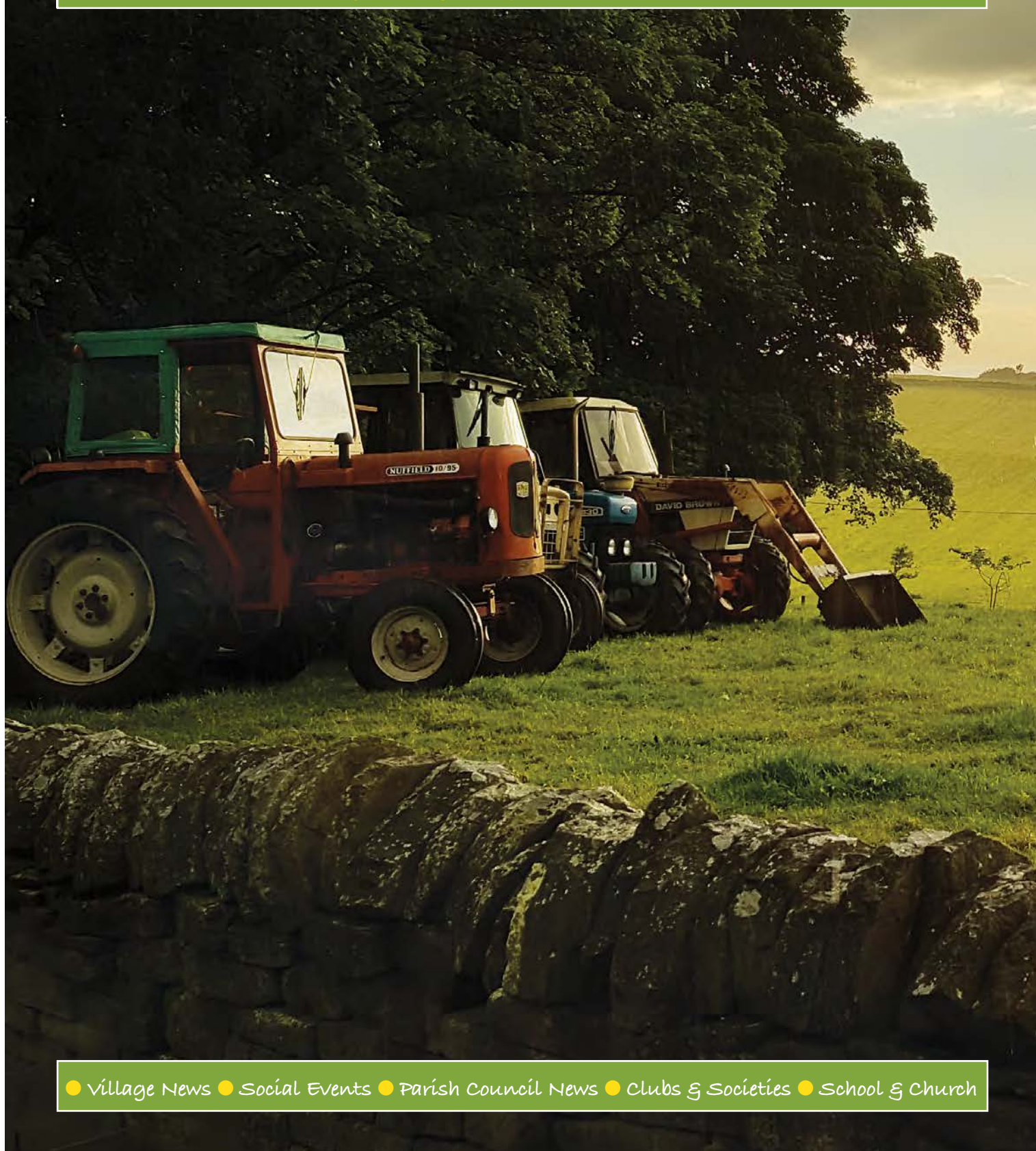


The Raven

No.39 Summer 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

New Co-opted Councillor

We are pleased to announce that **Louise Moskowitz** has been co-opted onto the Council. She commenced as Councillor in April and we wish her all the very best in her new role.

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM was held on Tuesday 16th May this year for the election of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Working Groups and Representatives. Councillors Brett and Taylor were elected as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively.

The following Working Groups were agreed by the meeting:

GROUP	CONTACTS
Planning Groups	All Council Members
Transport Group	All Council Members
Projects Group	All Council Members
Macclesfield Area Highways Group	Cllr Ken Butler
Tidy Village – including telephone kiosk and Best Kept Village Competition (BKVC)	Cllrs John Cantrell, Sue Frith, Carole Harvey and Louise Moskowitz
Rural Broadband Group	Cllrs Geoff Cooper, Nathan Gabbott and Ken Butler
Cheshire Association (ChALC) Area Meeting Representative	Cllr Ken Butler
Defibrillator	Cllrs Richard Balment and Sue Frith
Footpath Group	Cllrs Alan Taylor (Chairman), Alan Brett, Nathan Gabbott, John Cantrell and Louise Moskowitz
Jubilee Playground Inspection Group	Cllrs Mary Marsh, Louise Perry and Alan Taylor
Maps And Walks Booklets (distribution)	Cllr Richard Balment
Parish Plan Working Group	Cllrs Alan Brett (Chairman), Geoff Cooper, Richard Balment and John Cantrell
Raven Management Group Editorial Group	Cllr Ken Butler, Mrs Jane Brett, Mrs Louise Leigh, Ms Mel Wilcox, Mrs Pat Mellish, Mr Bob Langstaff, Mr Raph Murray, Mr Jim Kennelly and Carol Harvey (Advertising)
Raven – Advertising and Invoicing	Cllrs Ken Butler, Carole Harvey, Mrs Pat Mellish and the Clerk
Speed Indicator Device	Cllr Ken Butler
Website Editors	Cllrs Ken Butler, Louise Perry and Jim Crowther

Parking

The Council would ask that all residents show consideration when parking and ensure that they do not obstruct the footpath or driveways. Please also leave sufficient access for wheelchairs, prams and parents with small children. The Council would also ask residents to be careful of their driving speed on Round Meadow and Millers Meadow. Thank you for your continued help in this matter.

Keep Rainow Tidy – Community Litter Pick

Thank you to everyone who helped with the never-ending task of litter picking. This is an on-going issue and we appreciate as much help as possible.

Help us “**Keep Rainow Tidy**” by picking up litter in front of your property.

Watch out for the next community litter pick on the website and notice boards
www.rainowvillage.co.uk

Can we please ask, that where possible, overhanging hedges are cut back from the footpath allowing pedestrian access. We really appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

Civic Service

The Parish Council invites you to their Civic Service to be held at Holy Trinity Church, Rainow on Sunday 24th September with the service commencing at 10.00 am. You are also welcome to join the Parish Councillors afterwards in a procession to the school hall and join them for light refreshments.

We would also like to recognise the special contributions of a resident to the community at this year's Civic Service, so if you have any suggestions please contact the Clerk or one of our Councillors.

Parish Maps and Walks Booklets

The map is an excellent guide to all the footpaths and public rights of way in the area. The walks booklet includes 9 excellent walks for the area. The maps and walks booklet cost £1 each. If you would like to make a purchase, then please contact Cllr Richard Balment.

Advertisers, request for...

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

Jubilee Playground Volunteer Group

We are looking for volunteers to help the Parish Council in keeping the playground clean and tidy.

If you can help, please contact the Clerk at **rainowparish@aol.com**

Rainow 2016/7 Precept

Every year the Parish Council gets its funds from Cheshire East Council who, in turn, get their funds from your Council tax and Government grants. This year the precept has been increased slightly and we have asked for **£11,000** which reflects the budgeted expenditure for the coming year. This is the first increase in 7 years.

Audit for the year ended 31st March 2016

Every year the Parish Councils records are inspected by an internal auditor JDH Business Services Ltd. The annual return will then be reviewed by an external auditor appointed by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited (BDO LLP). Any person has the right to inspect the accounting records for the financial year to which the audit relates. These documents are always made available, on reasonable notice, by application. This year this period commenced on **5th June** and will end on **14th July 2017**. A copy of the notice for the Exercise of Public Rights is available on our website www.rainowvillage.co.uk or on notice boards around Rainow.

Below is a statement of the **un-audited** financial accounts for 1st April 2016 - 31st March 2017. *(Please note that these may be subject to change)*

	Year Ending March 2016	Year Ending March 2017
1. Balance Brought forward	£9,196	£10,853
2. Annual Precept	£10,000	£10,000
3. Total Other Income	£ 7,691	£ 5,754
4. Staff Costs	£ 3,906	£ 3,944
5. Loan interest/capital repayments	-	-
6. Total Other Payments	£12,163	£10,459
7. Balances carried forward	£ 10,583	£ 11,934
8. Total Cash	£ 10,583	£ 11,934
9. Total Assets	£13,154	£13,930
10. Total Borrowings	-	-

An explanation of the financial statement can be found on our website www.rainowvillage.co.uk.

Cheshire East - Supported bus service review consultation

Cheshire East Council (CEC) is proposing changes to supported bus services and flexible transport (Little Bus) across Cheshire East. This consultation considers only bus services supported by CEC. The purpose of this consultation is to understand how proposed changes to the local buses currently supported (subsidised) by CEC will affect you.

The consultation starts on **Thursday 18th May 2017** and closes on **Wednesday 26th July 2017**.

You can let CEC know your views on the proposals by: Visiting www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/busreview and completing the questionnaire online.

Email your comments to bus.review@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Editorial Team for this issue:

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



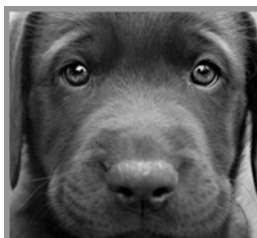
Your Parish Councillors

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

Future Meetings and Dates for your diary

20th June 2017 **18th July 2017**
19th September 2017 **17th October 2017**
21st November 2017 **19th December 2017**
Civic Service - 24th September 2017
Tree Lighting and Carol Service – (usually the first Sunday in December)

All Meetings commence at 8.00 pm unless otherwise stated and are advertised on the notice boards and website. If you have any issues that need raising then you can either contact the Clerk, any member of the Parish Council or just turn up at one of our meetings.



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Mobile : 07415 461227

Email: adrianmcguinness@yahoo.co.uk

Website: www.adrianmcguinness.wix.com/rainow-dog-
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Rainow 5 2017



This year we had **212 starters** at the **Rainow 5 Fell Race** on a lovely sunny evening. A good battle for leaders saw **Simon Pymm** from Horwich RMI 1st back in 33 mins and 4 seconds. The first lady was **Steph Curtis** from Pennine in 40 minutes 32 seconds. The first Rainow resident home was **Allen Bunyan** in a time of 36 minutes 21 seconds. There was a great post-race atmosphere & cakes enjoyed! We raised **£1,000** which has been donated to local Rainow charities (Rainow Village Institute, Rainow Pre-School, KRIV (who help to maintain local paths including those the race uses) & Buxton Mountain Rescue). Thanks to all the marshals/helpers who helped make this race possible. See you next year... we would welcome more local Rainow runners!

Judging Classes

First Prize
Second Prize
Third Prize



Special Classes

First time entrant!
Best Youth Organisation
Best Neighbourhood Group

RAINOW CHURCH SCARECROW FORNIGHT

Saturday 8th July - Sunday 23rd July

This year's theme :

Occupations

It's easy - just follow these 3 simple steps!

Step 1 - Come up with an idea for a scarecrow & buy your scarecrow number! **Only £1**

Step 2 - Collect together old bits & pieces - clothing, recycling, rubbish!

Step 3 - Make your winning scarecrow!

Buy your scarecrow numbers from the Rainow Church Coffee Mornings
at the Church Centre on Saturday 27th May or Saturday 24th June.
10.00am - 2.00pm

If you require any information, please do not hesitate to contact:

01625 572013 or email: **rainowscarecrows@gmail.com**

REMEMBER even if you don't live in Rainow you can always get involved.
Get in touch & we will find you a place to put your scarecrow!

The Robin Hood



Following the decision by the Prices to hand in their notice, due to the regrettable circumstances they found themselves in, the Community Group set up to save the pub has been taking steps to ensure the Community will be in a position to make a bid to buy it should the pub be offered for sale. This is being held up pending the takeover of Punch Taverns by Heineken and their partner, Patron Capital.

If we are to save our last pub from yet another short sighted property development, it is important that we are fully prepared for this.

The pub has been registered as an Asset of Community Value which would give us a 6 month period in which to put together a bid to buy the pub should the opportunity arise.

With help from the Plunkett Foundation and The Pub Is the Hub, we have investigated a number of ways to do this. There are many Community-owned pubs operating very successfully and we have been in contact with several of these, trying to gain as much information as possible to help us in our bid. We have concluded that the best model is to form a Community Benefit Society. This would be registered with the Financial Conduct Authority and allow the Community to buy shares in the Society which, topped up with a loan and grants, would then allow a bid to be made for the pub on behalf of the community. Profits on the operation would be reinvested in the business and the local community.

A bank account has been set up in the name of the Robin Hood Community Group. There is a lot of work to do. Business Plans need to be prepared, the Rules of the Society drawn up, a share offer drafted and other related issues to consider and resolve. However, we strongly believe that this is the only way we are going to ensure that Rainow keeps its last pub which is not just a place to get a drink but most importantly a social hub where people of different ages, lifestyles and interests can meet and new activities develop. We truly value that.

However, the most important thing – crucial in making this whole idea work – is support from you, the people of Rainow. Without such support, we will all be wasting our time and efforts.

So we need to know whether this approach would receive your support. We can explain more about the share offer, minimum value of shares and their distribution etc. as we learn about support from the community.

We will keep you updated on progress and would be happy to answer any questions you may have, and we look forward to the day when the residents of Rainow will be the proud owners of its only pub.

The Robin Hood Community Group

Ken Butler, Karen Vernon, Louise Perry, David Law, David Challis, David Hasler, Mike Tyldesley, Brian Fisher and Phil Moss.

Please let us know your thoughts: e-mail: rhcommunitygroup@hotmail.com, website: www.robinhoodrainow.co.uk Facebook: **Friends of the Robin Hood** & Twitter: **@RainowRobinHood** or speak to any one of the Community Group.

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Rainow Church Fête

Saturday 15th July 2017
at **Hough Hole Farm,**
Sugar Lane

- ◆ **STALLS!**
- ◆ **COMPETITIONS!**
- ◆ **TUG OF WAR!**
- ◆ **DOG SHOW!**
- ◆ **KERRIDGE CLIMB!**

Fête Procession starts from
The Robin Hood
at **1.20 pm**
ALSO....



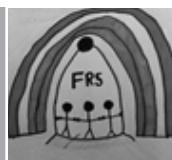
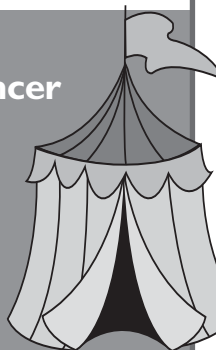
Scarecrow Fortnight
Saturday 8th July -
Sunday 23rd July 2017

Theme:
Occupations

Scarecrow Teas
and Maps
available at
The Church Centre
during the day
until
8.00 pm

In aid of
Macmillan Cancer
Support &
village
organisations

Come and
join in the fun!



Friends of Rainow School

by Rachel Millington

May has been a busy and successful month for the Friends of Rainow School. With the second of our biannual 'Bags to School' charity collection, coordinated by Michelle Gidion and Juliet Slater, we were thrilled to receive over 1 tonne of donated clothing, raising an incredible **£400** for the school. Many thanks to all who kindly filled a bag and donated towards this effective charity collection.

Following Bags to School, the FRS team turned their attention to organising a particular school favourite – our Quiz and Chilli night which boasted a spectacular turn out with some healthy competition all round. Final results saw a collection of year 2 mums pipped to the post during the all-important tie-breaker round by the smartest team of the night – The Rainow School Teachers! A huge thanks to Anna Arnold for organising the event along with other members of the FRS team and to our excellent quiz masters, John Chrimes and Matt Slater, who came up with some unusual and interesting questions. Thanks to all the parents, grandparents and friends that supported and donated some delicious chillis. A brilliant **£450** was raised.

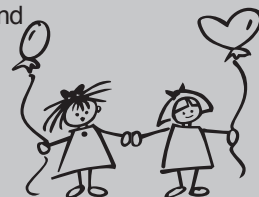
As much as the FRS love raising money for the school – we also love watching how it can be spent to improve the educational future for our children. Following an arduous term of revision and intense SATS examinations, we were able to purchase a set of Leavers Hoodies for our wonderful Year 6 students and proudly present them during a special end of SATS assembly. Our fabulous Head Teacher, Mr. Norris, then granted special permission for the Year 6 students to wear the hoodies as part of their school uniform which has definitely given them something to remember their time at Rainow. We couldn't have achieved this without everyone's continued support for the events that we hold, so a great big thank you from us.

Our annual summer BBQ is to be held on **Saturday 8th July** and we welcome attendance from all. There will be a bouncy castle and assault course for the children, a duck race in the stream, our very own 'Worm Charming' competition and a whole host of stalls to keep the children happy – all topped off with a performance from our Award Winning Rainow School Choir. Please come along and join in the fun - everyone is most definitely welcome!

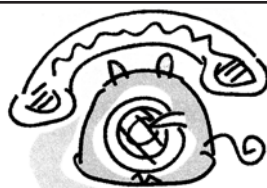
Happy 40th Birthday Jolly Tots

On 8th June 1977 Rainow Mother & Toddler Group (now known as Jolly Tots) met for the first time in the Rainow Institute. It began as an extra of the Rainow Playgroup to provide a meeting point for Mums, Dads and Carers with children under the age of 5. The room was set up with activities and refreshments were provided. Using the Institute meant that the rising 3 year olds became used to the building in which they would hopefully attend the playgroup.

It is lovely to see Rainow Pre-School and Jolly Tots continuing and providing such a good service to this community.



Carole Harvey Telemarketing



New Business Development

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



Out of School

by Jonathon Norris, Headteacher

Since my last article, there have been many highlights at school. I have picked out a few of my favourites.

STEM Week

Just before the Easter holidays we planned another enrichment week for our children, this time focussed on Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics. 'Be Curious and Inquisitive' is one of our core learning values at Rainow School, and our STEM week certainly ignited the children's curiosity and encouraged them to ask lots of brilliant questions. It was a hugely successful week, filled with a wide range of interesting activities, from programming robots and using 'drop rigs', inside the school, to raft building and rocket launching outdoors!

Year 3/4 Trip to Anglesey

Our 7-9 year olds recently enjoyed a trip to Anglesey as part of their class topic, 'Water Worlds'. The trip was a mix of adventure and exploration, including trips to Beaumaris Castle and Anglesey Sea Zoo, canoeing on the Menai Strait, and ice-creams on the pier. It was a pleasure to accompany the children; their behaviour and attitude throughout the trip was impeccable.

Outdoor Classroom Day

You might recall our intention to make even better use of our stunning outdoor surroundings to improve teaching and learning experiences for our children. This term we joined in with the global initiative: 'Outdoor Classroom Day'. We began with a whole-school assembly and story in the woods.

Surprisingly, it is the first time all the children have assembled in the woods together, and it was a fitting way to set the tone for the rest of the day.

After the shared story, each class embarked on a fun outdoor activity with their class. This ranged from conducting traffic surveys, to making and testing water wheels – a fantastic day.

Sporting Success

I mentioned the wide variety of sporting success stories in the spring term, and I am now thrilled to report that, not only did both our football teams win their respective leagues, the senior team also managed to win the Macclesfield Cup! The league and cup 'double' is an unbelievable accomplishment and I would like to congratulate the teams for their excellent teamwork, silky skills, grit and sheer determination. I would also like to mention Rebecca in year 6 who beat all-comers to become the fastest 10/11 year old female cross-country runner in Macclesfield.

A look ahead

The rest of this term will be busy with sports' day, a residential trip to Lakeside, the year 5 and 6 plays and the school barbecue, as well as the final leavers' assembly. Be sure to follow our Twitter account @RainowPrimary for lots more information about school activities. The Round Up, our fortnightly school newsletter, is also a great way to keep up to date with school goings-on and can be downloaded from our school website or picked up from Rainow Church.

Finally...

I cannot quite believe how quickly this year has gone. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year as Headteacher of Rainow Primary School. As I mentioned in the autumn term, I understand what a special place Rainow is and I will continue to work hard to provide the best education for our children and endeavour to maintain and strengthen community links. Have a lovely summer.





With having 36 Cubs the Summer is very welcome as we endeavor to be outside every week, unfortunately our first meeting didn't go to plan as it poured with rain and was very cold so we had a last minute move to Lyme Green bowling alley and laser quest which was much enjoyed. The following week, due to a School night away we only had the twelve oldest Cubs and they voted to go to Awesome Walls Climbing Centre in Stockport, we all went together on the Rainow Bus, they did very well, the instructors were excellent and the Cubs soon gained confidence and went quite high.

Fortunately the weather improved and we had a beautiful evening for orienteering at Teggs Nose Country Park – Simon, one of the new Leaders took this meeting towards his training modules and it was a great success with lots of parents and dogs joining in!

We again all went by coach (too many for the bus this time) to Stoke Ski Centre where most of the Cubs tried skiing for the first time – I was impressed by the fact they could walk and turn with their ski's on almost straight away let alone that some were coming down backwards and quite fast by the end of the hour. Again I was impressed with the young lads instructing them, enthusiastic and patient, can recommend a visit.

Our last meeting before half term was an annual favourite, cooking tea by the stream. Again we were lucky with the weather and soon had six fires going with a variety of

food being cooked and eaten.

Twenty Two Cubs went to District Camp at Barnswood Scout Campsite, near Leek. They had a great time, although rather cold at night it was dry and they did a wide range of activities including climbing, backwoods cooking, crafts, low ropes and gained quite a few badges. Senior Camp is coming up in July, again at Barnswood.

Next half term we will be sailing at Erwood, canoeing and abseiling and visiting Bollington.

Rainow Cubs report by Akela Sue Grimes



1st Rainow Beavers

Rainow Beavers have had a very busy half term. After Easter we said Goodbye and Thanks for Everything to Eagle and Kestrel, and Kingfisher and Sunshine took over the leadership of the Beaver Colony. The majority of this half term has been taken up with Navigation Badge. Beavers learnt the points of the compass, all about contour lines and how to read a map. We finished the half term by going on a scavenger hunt in the beautiful countryside around Rainow.

We currently have a full Colony. Anyone on the waiting list who would like an update on waiting times, please get in touch with Kingfisher (Helena Binder) at rainow.beavers@yandex.com



The End of Guiding in Rainow?

Sadly, it looks as if the report on our varied Guide activities in this edition of the Raven will be the last. Unless some volunteers are found, there will be **no more Guides in Rainow after July**. This will leave ten girls with the choice of going out of Rainow, to Bollington, Macclesfield or Hurdsfield, or leaving Guiding altogether. Guides in Rainow began in 1972, there have been fluctuations in numbers since then, but there are now 10 girls ranging from 10-13 years old.

In the last edition of the Raven, I explained that Helen and I would not be continuing as Guiders after July. I have been a Guider in Rainow since about 1988, first with Brownies and then taking over the Guides, for more than 20 years now. Helen joined me more than 10 years ago, just as I was about to give up as I felt I could no longer run Guides alone. Due to a job change, Helen can no longer give the time to Guides she has previously, and I feel strongly that now is the right time for me to step down too and have a new, fresh team lead the Guides forward.

Guiding has changed - the girls plan many of their own challenges, but are still up for adventures and challenges. The girls who choose Guiding tend to be independent, energetic, imaginative - and can be opinionated! They are fun to work with - and very rewarding. They deserve a new team, with new ideas and challenges. Guiding itself is also changing, in the next two years there will be a new programme - and it would be great to have a new team to take this on.

The only requirement is that the leaders should be female - Girlguiding aims to give girls a voice, and a chance to talk among themselves about what matters to them, which is why it has remained female only. You do not even have to have been a Guide, or even a Brownie. You can learn as you go. The minimum age is 18 - there is no maximum. The girls themselves have strong ideas about what they want - the main requirement for them, rightly, seems to be fun!

Please ask around, talk to friends and consider volunteering. Come and talk to me, or Helen, or anyone else you know who is a Guider, about how rewarding it is.

Please don't let our village lose yet another group

Jill

Rainow Scouts Reborn!

We are delighted to note that Rainow Scouts has re-started with a new leader.

The group runs on a Monday evening from 19.30 – 21.00 pm and is for young people aged 10-14. The new leader is Andrew Stark.

All sections are looking for adult volunteers so if you are interested or for more information please contact Andrew on andrew.stark79@gmail.com or 01625 502203/07760 190813.

Welcome Andrew!

Guides Fire Alarm!

by Jill and Helen

As a further part of our Active Response badge, in March we visited Macclesfield Fire Station. The firemen explained that the station is unmanned in the evenings, with firemen on call - they have to be able to reach the station in five minutes. Calls are put through to a central centre, which then decides if it is a one or two engine call out, based on the information received. The call is then transferred to the appropriate station, and firemen called in. We discovered that in Rainow we are likely to get engines from both Macclesfield AND Bollington, as we are between the two! The firemen told us about fire prevention, the importance of smoke alarms and an escape plan and described what to do in various fire emergencies.



We were also shown the firemen's outfit, and how fast they can put it all on - with then a challenge for two girls to race to see who could be the first to put all the outfit and equipment on! We were also promised a look round a fire engine and a squirt of the hose - but just as we were about to move on to that - an emergency call came in! It was a 2 vehicle emergency, so we watched (safely out of the way) as firemen arrived (rapidly) and then the two engines raced out, blue lights and sirens going! We obviously didn't want the fire to be serious - but it was exciting to watch. While they were away, the (young!) fireman left showed us where the uniforms were hung - now full of discarded shoes and coats. The engines returned just as the parents came to pick up - it was a false alarm (but not deliberate) - someone had smelled smoke in a block of flats, so better safe than sorry. The fire crew were really apologetic that we hadn't had what was promised - but we all agreed that what we had seen was even better!

We again provided the tea and cakes for the Rainow 5 Run, with a record number of runners. Everyone was very complimentary - and we were rushed off our feet! The runners really seem to need a cake (or two) after their efforts.

Our last meeting this term was a walk, during which our 5 youngest Guides made their Guide promise, on a hill overlooking Bollington and Rainow on a beautiful evening. It was meant to be a quiet, private ceremony - but the aforesaid beautiful evening had tempted out many walkers to bear witness!

Before this edition of the magazine comes out, 6 of us will have spent the day at Tatton at a Splash day, trying various boating challenges. And then it will be our usual Summer adventures and games... our favourite time of year.

Finally, we are really sad that this will be our last Summer with the Guides, but we both need a break. Sadly, no one has yet been found to take over, and time is running out. We really don't want Guiding in Rainow to end - we have just saved the Brownie pack - where will the girls go next?



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The Trials of Life

by Jim Kennelly

Less certain than death or taxes, but highly probable, is a summons for jury service. This important civic duty fell to me decades ago at a very young age. There was much waiting about and tea-drinking during my fortnight stint, but I did serve on two trials.

A bustling Saturday in Halfords on London's Borough High Street – Sgt Harrison of the Met stands in the doorway and announces: "Any car outside still on the yellow lines 5 minutes from now will be nicked for illegal parking". The building evacuated instantly, engines spluttered and the street was empty save for a rusty Mini. The car was towed to the Police Pound. Soon after, a man arrived to claim the car; he had been at the back of the shop, so missed Sgt Harrison's warning. Police released the vehicle, but the man had no keys to unlock the car. He said he was a mechanic working for an acquaintance. The Met's Finest obliged with skeleton keys and he drove away. Just after, the steam driven computers of the day reported that the Mini was stolen. So far, so sitcom; we had to decide whether the accused was involved in car theft. Once we realised that accusation was no proof of guilt, we were left with three options; he was grotesquely stupid, or the biggest chancer in Old London Town or his actions confirmed that he was unaware the car was stolen. His demeanour in the Dock dispelled the first two possibilities, so applying Occam's razor, we took the simplest explanation and acquitted. An amusing episode, but surely prior to trial someone in authority should have asked, "will this stand up in court?" and saved considerable time, effort and money.

The next case was different – trouble. Our first intimation was when two dozen jurors were ushered into court. Jurors rose to take the oath, there were frequent calls of "Objection!" with jurors led away. Three young black men were on trial; each with three objections to jurors. In those less enlightened times, the defence strategy, apparently, was to maximise the proportion of black or young white jurors as a hedge against prejudice, so there was wholesale attrition. We heard of one juror playing the process to his advantage; dressed in a cravat and blazer, when called, he buttoned his jacket, displaying its regimental badge... instantaneous objection. He never served on any cases, spending the entire fortnight in the waiting area reading the Daily Express.

Defendants A and B had younger lawyers, but Mr C's Brief was superannuated, apparently plucked from the pages of a Dickens novel. He even had a Dickensque name, something like "Peregrine Scratchquill". A yellowed 19th Century wig was perched atop a head of similar vintage (to my just post-teenage eyes), with a prominent nose and sallow wrinkled skin, the same hue as his wig. He didn't just wear the tattered legal gown; he appeared to be fledged with it. The effect was of an ancient carrion bird bobbing about the benches. His pedantic address to the court, delivered in a rasping croak, had an electric effect on the jury – we took an instant dislike to him.

My concern was that his client might be sent down just to spite him.

There had been a fracas in an East End nightclub, men had smashed up the foyer and assaulted the club owner, pelting him with bottles and beer glasses, leaving him with serious injuries. The case hinged on who was where and when – this was difficult to follow from the first verbal testimonies, so we sent a note to the judge asking for a diagram of the club's layout. The judge squinted quizzically at the paper, as if it was written in hieroglyphs. "What does this mean?" and went into a long whispering huddle with prosecution and defence lawyers, before agreeing to provide the diagram. We were disconcerted. The Usher took pity on us "Don't worry, it's nothing personal;

juries are allowed to ask questions, but the professionals don't like it. They always make a fuss so you won't ask a second question"

Mr A was a volatile character; the prosecutor deftly badgered and needled him about his part in the event. Angered, he blurted out that he did indeed pelt the club owner with bottles. "This put the man at risk of injury – if he was injured, this would suit your purpose?" "Yes!" said the irate Mr A. He had admitted to being guilty as charged in open court.

The nightclub bouncer knew all the accused well and testified that A and B were among those hurling bottles at the owner, but that C had left the club before the trouble started. Hearing this, Mr Scratchquill rose to his feet.

"Please confirm that your testimony exculpates my client? (What?). Again the court was united – in bewilderment. With an audible sigh, the Judge wearily

intervened "Mr Scratchquill, there is no need to employ obscure legal language with the witness, when words of one syllable will do". "Regrettably, M'lud, I don't know how to phrase it in single syllables". "DID YOU FREE HIM FROM BLAME?" offered the Judge. "Thank you M'lud". We chortled at Mr Scratchquill's apparent discomfiture, but his point had been indelibly underlined. Mr Scratchquill had got Mr C off. We handed down guilty verdicts for defendants A and B.

We felt a crushing weight of responsibility – our decisions would send people to prison, but were we right? As we left, Mr A's previous was being read out: assault, ABH, GBH, malicious wounding... Mr A had added to his extensive CV of violence. Fully justified, we went for a celebratory cup of tea.

In spite of all the pantomime dressing up, lawyers' games and in-jokes, this had been a reassuring experience. Defendants' past sins were not paraded at the trial; they were judged solely against current evidence and given the benefit of reasonable doubt. That this was sufficiently robust to survive the choice of an eccentric (yet competent) advocate was a bonus.

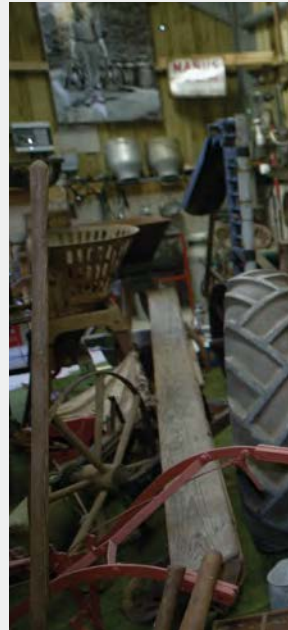


Were you aware that this Mini was, in fact, stolen?



Rural Life

“Organisers and helpers pose amid the thousands of artefacts, memorabilia and photographs on display at the Rural Life Exhibition held in the lovely setting of the One House. Barns, outbuildings, attics, private collections and albums were raided by several contributors to make the event a great success.”





Exhibition



How Many **Toilets** are there in Rainow?



Rainow NSPCC Lunch

Rainow NSPCC Invite you to a
Salmon & Strawberry Sparkle Lunch
Tuesday 4th July 2017

at The Rowans,
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Tytherington, Macclesfield, SK10 2HA
Tickets **£15**

(Including Glass of Pimms)

For tickets or more information,
contact Carolyn Gittins 420135
carolyn.gittins@btinternet.com

Lyn McCarthy 427896

lynmccarthy@live.co.uk,

Sue Frith 573802 **suefrithxxaol.com**

Many thanks to everyone who supported our shopping trip to Cheshire Oaks and Marks & Spencer, with your support we raised a total of **£917**. Also thanks to Roy McCarthy Coaches, the office team and to Max for driving the coach.

Rainow NSPCC invite you to an **Open Garden Day on Sunday 6th August**, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm at the Gardens of Vic & Delma Barlow, GreenHedges, 217 Blakelow Road, Macclesfield, SK11 5EF, Tickets £5 to include cup of Tea/Coffee and Homemade Scone,

Contact Lyn McCarthy 427896

lynmccarthy@live.co.uk,

Sue Frith 573802 **suefrithxxaol.com**,
for tickets or more information.

I would take a bet on the fact that there is at least one toilet in every home in Rainow – probably 2 in many houses, or even 3. There may be some residents who can remember the days of the outdoor privy, and I am indeed one of these, although my memories are of student houses in Durham in the 1970s rather than of homes in this village.

At Hordern Farm we have a double-seater Victorian loo in our outhouse, but I am glad to say that this is no longer in use!

I am sure that it is safe to say that all of us privileged to live in this lovely village have the benefit of proper sanitation and adequate supplies of clean water, and we probably rarely experience what it is like to live without these facilities. My eyes were opened, however, to what this might be like when the one toilet in the building in which I worked was broken for a few days. As a result of this experience, I and my colleagues decided to sponsor a community in Africa to build their own toilet through an organisation called Toilet Twinning.

It is a shocking fact that 2.4 billion people in the world do not have access to a toilet. This basic human need has to be met in conditions that are often unhygienic and dangerous, causing disease and death. Not only this, but women and girls particularly are at risk of abuse when they have no privacy, and everyone suffers from

a loss of dignity without an enclosed toilet.

Toilet Twinning is an organisation based in Britain that works tirelessly to improve this situation throughout the world, by encouraging individuals, workplaces, churches and communities to 'twin' their toilet(s) with a newly built one in a village that has formerly been without one. This has already improved the lives of many thousands of people but there is still a long way to go. You can find out more about their work from **www.toilettwinning.org**

A toilet twinning sponsorship costs £60 and I have decided to celebrate my 60th birthday this year by launching an appeal to sponsor 60 toilets. I have been blessed with so much to enjoy throughout my 60 years – not least through the fact of living in or on the edge of the Parish of Rainow for over half of them – and I wanted to do something to mark the occasion that would have a small but lasting impact on others who have had it harder in life.

If you would like to donate to this appeal you can do so through visiting the Virgin Money Giving website and following their instructions or by using the link below:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiserweb/fundraiser/showFundraiserProfilePage.action?userUrl=VirginiaFox60x60>

News from the Lamp and Candle



Hello there,

No news yet on the future of the Robin Hood except the bad news that the Price's have decided to call it a day. They've done a good job, but it's not easy being a landlord these days I can tell you. I sent them a message saying that perhaps they should wait until we're out of the Common Market and we can go back to running pubs sensibly (which I hasten to add I still do) and using spittoons, sawdust on the floor, and sauce in a bottle instead of those little squishy plastic bags that you can't open without splitting your nails or covering yourself with the stuff. Anyway, there's a good team been put together to try to keep the place alive and I'm sure they'll be taking this Brexit stuff into their considerations. If they want any advice from me they know where I am (well, one or two of them do). Things may turn out OK for the old place but these are worrying times for the village. We don't want the situation again where the Lamp & Candle is the only pub in the village!

Altogether a miserable time, brightened up a bit by a letter from my old school friend Walter Quinton. We both went to the Rainow Wesleyan School and played in the same football team – happy days – his reminiscences brought tears to my eyes. Here is part of his letter.

"Those were the days, when we were young.

We had some good times and we had some bad times. Do you remember when we got blind drunk and that taxi driver threw us out of his cab in the middle of the Peak District. It was three o'clock in the morning and starting to snow. We had no coats and only half a bottle of brown ale between us.

There were bad times as well, like when we had no brown ale at all!"

I've invited Walter to come and see us all at the Lamp and I'm specially looking forward to him doing the trick he was telling me about with a stick of celery and a cricket bat.

Another thing that's lightened the gloom a little is my decision to put out a book about the Lamp & Candle. I asked my friend the ex-Mayor of Rainow (him with the glasses) if he would put some of my stuff together for me and he agreed. It'll be on sale soon and every penny will go to the brilliant and unsung Rainow NSPCC team. The book will have all the stuff I've written for the Raven and much more besides as well as pictures! It's about time the reading public of Rainow knew the truth about why the Lamp came out of the shadows and this is your chance to find out! And anyway, it's high time a decent book came on the market. I was looking at what was on offer in the Macclesfield book shops. What a load of rubbish! Most of the books on sale were either about people who pack up their jobs in the City and try their hand at being

shepherds or growing pomegranates on a remote Scottish island. The rest seemed to be about scabby dogs who saved their owners from a miserable life on the streets, or soppy tales about stray cats.

Life at the Lamp & Candle goes on much the same. We had a bit of a scare when we saw someone looking around the place carrying a large red bag that was troubling the bull we keep in the Home Field. We suspected he may have been a rustler but it turned out to be someone who had volunteered to collect Christian Aid envelopes and lost his way. He was a bit at the end of his tether, telling us tales of what house-collectors have to go through to collect a few bob, but was feeling much better by the time he'd had a glass of Harrop Gold and Little Arthur had put him back on the right track.

All the talk in the snug has all been about what's come to be known as "Holegate" – the appearance of a mysterious hole in the road through the village at Kerridge End. Somebody came out at sparrow-fart one morning and placed barriers round the hole and put traffic lights up to annoy passing motorists and nobody has been seen there since! Speculation is rife. One story is that it could be part of the secret mine that I.C.I. were said to be digging when they were down in Hurdsfield and looking for a rare element called Indispensium.

Kevin's been for a look and reckons it could be the legendary Cali Gold Mine that was the centre of the Rainow Gold Rush in the 1850s. This is a load of codswallop but I didn't tell him so as he's going through a rough time at the moment. He's got himself a girlfriend called Jade and to put it mildly she's miles ahead of Kevin in the way-of-the-world stakes. Kevin's a good lad but a bit backward at being forward if you take my meaning. I have some sympathy with him as I was a bit shy that way when I was a youth. I had to stand on a chair to reach puberty.

In those days there were what were called "Lonely Hearts Clubs". I remember I wrote a letter to one of them saying how lonely and socially ill at ease I was, and enclosing a photograph. I remember how I felt when they sent my picture back saying thanks very much but they weren't that lonely. So I feel for Kevin. It appears that this Jade asked him if he knew what an erogenous zone was and he said that he wasn't sure but he knew you couldn't park in one after 6 o'clock without a permit.

Poor lad. I shall speak to his mother.

*All for now
Landlord.*

THURSBITCH

- The mystery of the woman's shoe print in the snow

by Raph Murray



*'Thoon Cave' on Tors
Ridge above Thursbitch*

The print of a woman's shoe was found by his side in the snow where he lay dead". This is the enigmatic inscription on the John Turner memorial stone in Ewrin Lane. The story of John Turner and the woman's shoe print in the snow has perplexed and intrigued many people for years. After 250 years it is unlikely that the true story will ever be known, however Alan Garner's novel, *Thursbitch* (2003), provides a possible explanation.

Garner's novel is complex and the language is sometimes difficult to understand, however some compensation for these challenges is the insight it gives the reader into a possible explanation for the 'woman's shoe print' and the reason why John Turner died in a snowstorm on Ewrin lane. The story focuses on John (Jack) Turner and his wife Nan Sarah in the 1700's and on Sally Malley (Sal) in the 1900's. It gives an account of their lives (and deaths) and describes both the similarities and the differences in their life experiences. Central to the lives of all these characters is the Todd Brook Valley and this story describes how, even though Sal lived many years later than Jack Turner and Nan Sarah, this landscape was to have a significant effect on their lives.

In understanding this novel, and Garner's

account of the story behind the Ewrin Lane memorial stone, Rainow residents have a significant advantage over readers from further afield. They can visualise and follow Jack Turner's packhorse route from Sowcar Cottage (Sooker), past Orme's Smithy, Blaze Hill, Billingside, Four Lane Ends, Blue Boar, Buxter Stoops, Ewrin Lane, Saltersford, Howlers Knowl and Old Gate Nick to the Goyt Valley and beyond. They can walk the tracks linking Jenkin Chapel, Saltersford, Andrews Edge, Thursbitch, Shining Tor, the Thoon Cave, Cats Tor, Pym Chair and Howlers Knowl. They can appreciate at firsthand how the landscape of this hidden valley may have shaped and formed the perceptions of people who have lived and worked here and visitors from near and far.

Jack Turner's main occupation was leading teams of horses transporting salt from Northwich on the salt ways across the Pennines. When he wasn't travelling, his home in the Todd Brook Valley was at Saltersford Hall where his father, Richard, was a tenant farmer. However the death of his pregnant wife Nan Sarah due to the 'great mortality' (believed to be a bubonic plague type infection) was a severe blow. Today we have a much better understanding of disease, ie, we know that infectious diseases are caused by bacteria or other microorganisms.

However, we can also appreciate why people in the 1700's, without this scientific understanding of disease could attribute their misfortunes to demons or sinister powers. Jack certainly appears to have had a belief in strange powers of nature, including a special reverence for the Thoon Cave on the Tors ridge above Thursbitch. The construction of Jenkin Chapel provided a place of Christian worship in the valley, perhaps diminishing and displacing more traditional beliefs and the landowner's proposed enclosure and development of land around Thursbitch were also sources of concern. It is likely that Jack's indulgence in hallucinogenic mushroom preparations both allayed and heightened these concerns.

It has always been difficult to understand why anyone familiar with winter weather in this part of the world would have been caught out in a snowstorm. Local people know that sleet in Bollington is likely to mean snow in Rainow, and that this, combined with a driving wind, is likely to mean deep snow drifts on sunken hollow ways such as Ewrin Lane. Anyone with local knowledge would avoid travelling in these conditions or seek shelter at a farmhouse such as Blue Boar or Buxter Stoops. Jack Turner's decision to challenge the forces of nature and suffer the consequences suggest that his

family's concerns about his mental health were well founded or that the effects of indulgence in hallucinogenic concoctions had affected his judgement. Whatever the thought processes in Jack's mind, there came a point when he could move no further and sat down to await his fate. No doubt his thoughts at this time turned to memories of Nan Sarah and the prospect of being reunited with the love of his life. By this account, the 'woman's foot print in the snow' is that of Nan Sarah.

In the late 1900's, Sal and her partner Ian used to walk the ridges and tracks of the Todd Brook Valley. They were visitors to the valley but appreciated its special qualities, its remoteness, history, geology and solitude. However, Sal was suffering from a progressive neurological disease that had an increasingly debilitating effect on her physical and cognitive health, including her ability to enjoy her walks in the country. Although medical science had some understanding of this disease, Sal was increasingly concerned about the lack of treatment options and the impending onset of its terminal phase. On Sal's final walk she and Ian discussed how she should end her life while she still had the capacity to act independently. During their walk, Ian proffered his view that he would choose to stay at the Thoon Cave on the Tors Ridge above Thursbitch and reassured Sal that death as a result of hypothermia would be less traumatic than as a result of choking or drowning. On taking their final goodbyes, Sal took a final step and, like Nan Sarah more than 250 years before, left her footprint in the land.

We may never know whether the woman's shoe print in the snow is actual or metaphorical, real or imagined and in a sense it doesn't matter. If we live and walk we leave our footprint in the land. Whatever your views about the existence or otherwise of a sentient landscape, the Todd Brook Valley is certainly a special place that has the power to shape our views and how we feel about life. Today you can follow in the footsteps of countless others such as Jack and Sal. You can feel the wind in your face, you can refresh yourself with water from the spring, you can taste the bilberries on the moor, you can smell the wild flower blossom, you can touch the stones marking the ways and lining the fields, you can watch the sunrise and the moon and the stars in the sky, if you stop awhile to listen you can hear the call of the wild and have some appreciation of what Jack and Sal may have been thinking as they made their final fateful decisions.

In the Footsteps of John Turner

by Raph Murray



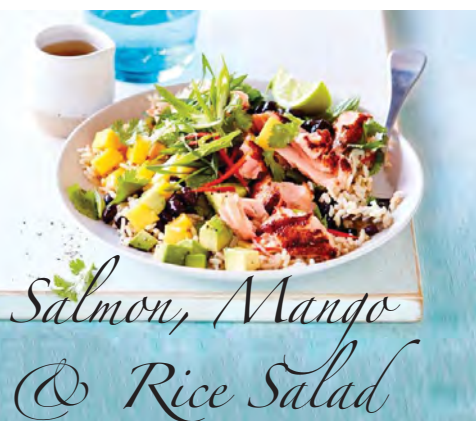
This six mile (10 km) walk starts at Pym Chair and follows roads, tracks and footpaths in and around the Todd Brook Valley that would have been familiar to John Turner more than 250 years ago. The route is mostly on footpaths as shown in the Rainow Parish Paths map, however the OS map provides a more detailed guide. The route includes many of the locations mentioned in the novel Thursbitch however shorter or longer options are possible by omitting sections or including additional loops.

From Pym Chair take the road west towards Rainow and then, after about half a mile take the first track on the left (FP1) towards Howlers Knoll. This intersects with FP5 leading downhill to Saltersford Hall. This was John Turner's family home and his intended destination on the night he was caught out in a snowstorm. At the intersection with Hooleyhey Lane turn right towards Jenkin Chapel. With six roads or footpaths converging at Jenkin Chapel this was the central point of community life in the Todd Brook valley. The route now descends to the Todd Brook (FP7) before joining (FP6) and climbing up through the woods and across several fields to the road from Rainow. Turn left towards Buxter Stoops and descend Ewrin Lane, passing the John Turner memorial stone on the left hand side.

Perhaps the most definitive account of John Turner's death was provided in a letter to the Manchester City News in 1922. William Mellor reported the story as related to him by his great uncle, James Mellor of Hough Hole, who erected the original memorial stone. Concerning the print of a woman's shoe in the snow, although

there have been some suggestions of foul play, William Mellor reported: *I never heard Mr (James) Mellor attempt to explain in any way* and suggested that the wind might have been accountable for it.

After turning left onto Hooleyhey Lane, the route then takes the first footpath (FP3) on the right towards Redmoor where it joins with FP2 leading to Thursbitch. Today this is not much more than a pile of stones, however as late as the early 20th century this was a farmhouse with a parlour, kitchen, scullery and three bedrooms, a barn and two shippens with the stock on the farm including 8 head of cattle, 7 horses and 120 sheep. One thing that hasn't changed is the condition of the road to the farm: it's still *'very bad and hilly'*. The route now continues south along FP1, where, at the junction with FP82 it climbs to Shining Tor. There are now commanding views in all directions and it's not difficult to envisage how this ridge, might, at one time, have formed part of a significant North/ South highway. Today, however, it certainly provides a highway north along the Tors ridge back to Pym Chair. About three quarters of a mile along the ridge (more or less directly above Thursbitch) but slightly off the line of the footpath and below the rest of the ridge, is the location of the 'Thoon Cave'. This is a hollowed out sandstone rock formation rather than a true cave but, with a bit of imagination, it's certainly not difficult to see how some of the key characters in Alan Garner's novel could have attributed mythical qualities to this rock. The route now continues north passing Cats Tor and Old Gate Nick (directly above Howlersknowl) before returning to Pym Chair.



Salmon, Mango & Rice Salad

Ingredients (Serves 6)

3 oz Wild rice
7 oz Brown rice
1 pint Chicken stock
6 oz Green beans, halved
1 Mango, peeled and diced
14 oz Cooked salmon
2 oz Unsalted Pistachio nuts, chopped
1 Red pepper, chopped finely
2 tbsp Chopped Coriander

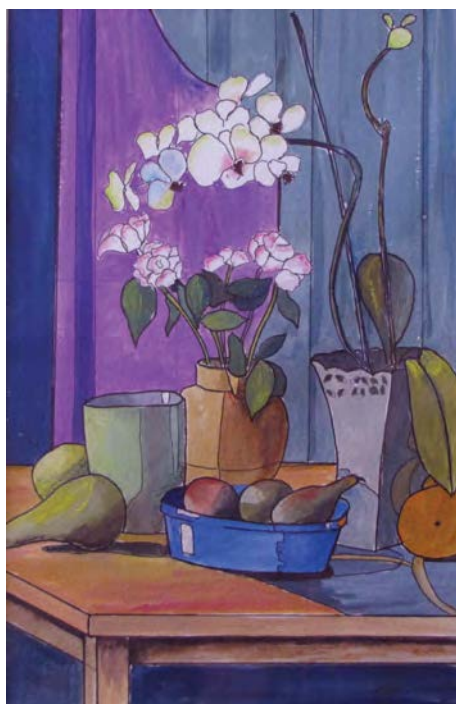
Dressing

2 Tbsp Cider vinegar
1 Teaspoon Dijon mustard
2 Teaspoons Runny honey
Finely chopped piece of ginger (one inch)
1 Tbsp Olive oil
3 Tbsp Walnut oil
1 Small garlic clove, crushed
1 Squeeze of lemon juice
Salt & pepper
(Put it all in a jam-jar and shake up!)

Method

1. Cook the rice in the chicken stock and reserve.
2. Cook the salmon and cool. Cook the beans just before you are ready to serve the dish.
3. Toss all the ingredients together in a serving dish, scattering the salmon in bite-size pieces over the top then adding the beans.
4. Add the dressing and the chopped coriander before serving.

Artist in Residence Dianne Crouther



have lived in Rainow for nearly fifty years. I'm a member of Rainow Art Group, Bollington Art Group and also a small textile art group called Intastitch. I have no recollection of drawing or painting as a child at home and didn't do art after the third year at secondary school. So, how did I start painting?

I remember watching a programme on television way back in the mid 1970s. It was called 'Paint along with Nancy', Nancy being Nancy Kominsky. Nancy died in 2011 at the age of 95. The Telegraph obituary quoted "Nancy ... leaves a legacy of hundreds of aspiring artists who were enthusiastic followers of her television series". I was one of those. I dabbled at home with oil paints. Nancy was an inspiration, but I really struggled to make headway.

However, encouraged by a lovely lady called Doreen Crawley, who lived on Millers Meadow, I joined Bollington Art Group and that's where my adventure really started. I still go to that group, and will always be grateful for the amazing tuition I have had with them over the years.

What inspires me? I love colour and how could you not be inspired by the beautiful scenery which surrounds us here in Rainow. I particularly like painting portraits and landscapes, but I'll have a go at any subject. I'd really like to create loose, more abstract paintings, rather than photographic reproductions, but most amateur artists will tell you that it's not that easy to loosen up. I prefer to use acrylic paints and sometimes pastels and mixed media. More recently I have started using textiles and stitch in some of my work. I struggle with watercolour and I no longer can be bothered with messy, smelly oil paint. I have a painting/sewing table and storage in our utility room – hardly a studio, but it's fine.

I'm not a born artist – few are. Currently I have a painting of my husband which is half finished because I've got something wrong and I don't quite know what it is. However, I do believe that drawing and painting are acquirable skills, like reading and writing. You might never be a Turner or Van Gogh, but you can get satisfying results once you understand the rules (so you can break them) and then keep practising. I do it for my own satisfaction, but it's a great feeling when a piece is successful and even better if someone likes it enough to buy it!



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Stefan's Bench

by Joanna, Fleur and Frank

If you have walked past Cali Brook recently you will have seen Stefan's Bench and you may have wondered who was Stefan, why is the bench there, and who carved such a great piece?

Stefan was Stefan Foster. And he sadly died last March aged just 49 of an unexpected and fatal heart attack, which was linked to the Type 1 Diabetic condition he had endured since the age of 11.

Stefan was my fantastic husband for 13 years, and for all of that time together we had lived in 3 different houses in and around Rainow Parish, mostly for the last 6 years in what I thought would be our forever family home at Higher Hazel Trees Farm. Stefan was also Dad to our two beautiful young children, Fleur (8) and Frank (5). As Stefan's headstone at Rainow Church states, he was quite simply the 'Best Dad in the World', so Fleur and Frank have an unlimited supply of memories of their very special Dad.

Being Swedish and very nature outdoor loving (not to mention a chainsaw lover!), I knew that a rustic chunky carved walkers' bench somewhere in Rainow would be a fitting gesture for Stefan to mark one year since his death. Cali Brook on Billy Moss' land was the perfect location.

Our family knows this stone bridge as 'Pooh Stick Bridge' and many an hour at the weekend had been spent with our dogs, the children and a flask of tea at this special place at the bottom of White Nancy, collecting and racing sticks on the pretty stream (or often river torrent dependant on how much it had rained!).

Stefan would lean his backside against the dry stone walls and moan that it would be nice to have somewhere to sit down – and so now, with thanks to Billy, Stefan finally has his wish.

My search to find a wood carver to produce such a great piece was almost impossible, but thankfully I found Glen Urquhart. Glen is based at Capesthorne Hall and so uses local and sustainably felled wood. His labour of love of wood carving is worn on his sleeve, added to which his care and attention to me for this piece at such a difficult time was immense. A truly gentle giant – thank you Glen.

Stefan and I had always known that Rainow was a very special place when we moved here from Oxford in 2004, and in the past year or so it has really become clear to me just how special our community is. Due to very difficult financial circumstances following Stefan's death, it became necessary for me and the children to sadly leave our family home and move down into the village, which following a bereavement



was an extremely emotional thing to have to do, but the support from the community has been completely invaluable in helping us.

I have been overwhelmed by the amount of kindness so many special people in the village have provided me with, such as the heroic DIY efforts at number 58 Millers Meadow to bring it back to life as a family home (including the patience of the neighbours with all the noise and dust!), numerous removal trips from the

old house, school community support for the children with the transition, and continued guidance from our amazing Vicar.

Thank you isn't really enough, but the biggest thank you to Rainow Community not just from me and the children but also from Stefan – hopefully the next time you sit on his bench it will fill you with a deep sense of pride for the community spirit that exists in Rainow.



**Penny Lane
Holiday
Cottages**

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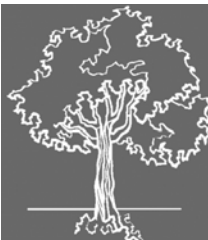
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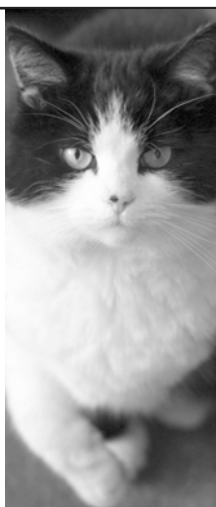
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Rainow Village Bus

Serving your Community



May 2017



Our new bus is continuing to prove very popular – with 8 Groups booking it for trips in May. These covered a whole range of community interests from the Bollington Air cadets, Rainow Cubs Camp trip, the High Peak Luncheon Club, a birthday party trip to Cheshire Oaks and a wedding party from Macc to Rainow Institute.

Why not try the bus for your Group activities instead of using cars – the whole Group can travel together in comfort without the stress and cost of driving your car. For example we have a Walking Group (part of the Bollington Walking Festival) booked in September where we will be collecting them at the end of their walk from Wincle Brewery.

Nevertheless we could still do with greater passenger numbers on the Friday and Saturday night service trips which we are continuing to run on a pre-booked basis. There have been several occasions when the bus has stood empty on its stand in the Church car park on these nights.

With the news that further cuts to rural bus routes are likely, we believe it is even more important that we keep our regular service runs going. To do that it is essential that we get your support.

We have a new volunteer bus driver, Neil Chapman, who has kindly come forward and offered his help, Neil is an experienced driver and is a very welcome addition to the team.

We are still seeking a further volunteer to join the team on the administration side, with skills in social media, publicity and associated areas.

The times for our pre-booked service runs are;

Rainow - Macclesfield
7.00, 8.00, 9.50 & 10.50 pm

Macclesfield - Rainow
7.10, 8.10, 10.00 & 11.00 pm

We can arrange for trips to and from Bollington which we will fit into the times above depending on what bookings

have been made.

The cost of trips are £2 one way, £3 return Rainow/Macc. and £3 one way, £4 return Rainow /Bollington. Booking remains open until 5.00 pm on the day of travel.

Group bookings can be made at a cost of £20 per session plus 50p per mile. A session is morning, afternoon or evening. The bus has seating for 15 people plus the driver and can be hired as self-drive (the driver will need to meet certain conditions which will be explained on application) or, depending on availability, one of our volunteer drivers.

To book please e-mail: rainowvillagebus@gmail.com our preferred method, or contact:

Ken Butler 01625 433168;

e-mail kenbut@btinternet.com

Tony Wilkinson 01625 614650;

e-mail tonywilkinson1234@gmail.com

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What's On in Rainow and Bollington

JULY 2017

1	9.00 pm	Live Music Night Organised by Joe Wilcox	Robin Hood, Rainow
4	12 noon	NSPCC Salmon & Strawberry Sparkle Lunch	The Rowans, 24 Manchester Road Bollington Arts Centre
7	7.30 pm	An Evening of Song with Sarah Doggett and Ben Beer	
8	3.00 pm - 6.00 pm	Friends of Rainow School Summer BBQ	Rainow School
8 - 23	All day	Rainow Scarecrow Fortnight	Rainow Parish
9	10.00am - 2.00 pm	Car Boot/Table Top Sale	Robin Hood, Rainow
9	11.00 am	Bollington Nostalgia race 7 miles – Pre-entry £6, on the day £8	Bridgend Centre
10	7.30 pm	Rainow WI – A Lingerie Designer's Life, Rowena Lovatt	Rainow Institute
15	1.30 pm	Rainow Church Fete	Hough Hole Farm, Rainow
15	9.00 pm	Bingo Night & Find the Lad	Robin Hood, Rainow
15	7.30 pm	Forest 5 (5.5 mile race)	Macc Forest Visitors Centre Trentabank
16	12 noon	Classic Car Club BBQ	Robin Hood, Rainow
18	7.30 am	Mothers Union Service in Church followed by Scarecrow Teas	Rainow Church, then Church Centre
22	10.00 am	Macclesfield Beer Festival with live music, kids' zone and fun fair	Macclesfield Rugby Club

AUGUST 2017

5	2.30 pm	Teggs Nose 8 Mile Run Entry £3 plus £3 entry to field For more info see www.macclesfield-harriers.co.uk	Sheep Dog Trial Field Bullocks Lane, Sutton
6	11.00am - 3.00 pm	Open Garden Day at Delma & Vic Barlow's. Tickets £5 including tea/coffee & a scone Contact Lyn McCarthy 427896 lynmccarthy@live.co.uk or Sue Frith 573802 suefrithxxaol.com for tickets or more information	Green Hedges 217 Blakelow Road Macclesfield, SK11 5EF
14	10.00 am	Rainow WI – 'August Outing to Norton Priory travelling by Rainow bus or own car	Rainow Church Car Park for bus
15	7.30 pm	Mothers Union Deanery Quiet Evening	Rainow Church Centre

SEPTEMBER 2017

6	7.30 pm	*Pottflix – Patriots Day starring Mark Wahlberg	Pott Shrigley Village Hall
11	7.30 pm	Rainow WI – Mountain Rescue, Kerry Clarke	Rainow Institute
22	7.30 pm	Mothers Union – Coffee Evening	Rainow Church Centre
23	7.30 pm	Jennifer Pike (violin) & Jeremy Pike (piano)	Bollington Arts Centre
30	8.00 pm	Walk of Shame Tour – Eleanor Conway stand-up comedy	Bollington Arts Centre

ADVANCE NOTICE!

For other performances at the Bollington Arts centre, see website www.bollingtonartscentre.co.uk/eventspage
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. There are no films scheduled for July or August.
The Robin Hood has Pie Night every Thursday and Quiz Night every Sunday. Follow them on Facebook or Twitter or watch out for details on the posters and blackboards at the Robin for other events.
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. 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

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Saturday 15th July 2017

7:30pm till late

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