



Rainford Heritage Society

Christmas Newsletter

Dear Members

Unfortunately as we get older our health begins to deteriorate and I know many members have had problems over the last year and like many of you I have spent a great deal of time in our hospitals, indeed my very favourite shop in the village is the Chemist!! So I want to thank everyone in the Society for their support during 2023 sometimes in difficult circumstances.

The Society has once again had a good year fundraising: our three Quizzes always do well and we had a great BBQ at Bridge Farm. Our new book 'Home Front - Rainford during WW1' by members John Davis and Joan Dagnall will give the bank account a large boost to finish off the year. It is already showing a profit after only two weeks' sales.

We are reviving our Joining Evening early in January but with a difference as we will be providing Soup and Sandwich free of charge for existing members and any members who will be paying their subscriptions that night. You will need to make a firm booking so that your name will go on the list. Business and Family Members can be two people of the same household or business. There will be a small raffle to help cover our costs. We hope this will also be a chance for anyone to ask questions of committee members as we are not having an AGM this year. Over the years only one member has ever attended any AGM, leaving the committee talking to themselves!!

Look forward to seeing you at our Joining Evening on Monday, 8th January, 7pm in the Junction Pub's Function Room for your free soup and sandwich.

When you rejoin for 2024 you will receive a card setting out a list of events and indoor meetings for the year. The first event in January is the Beatles Tribute Evening, featuring the group 'Beatles Complete'. Tickets for this were completely sold out in one week and will probably realise the most funds raised in a single night. There will be an Afternoon Tea on 1st March and also a Quiz in March, so look forward to seeing you at these events.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone.

Ray Waring
Chairman

Membership Report

Early in the year I offered to lend Ray and Norma a hand with admin and after almost ten months as Membership Secretary I think I can say that I ALMOST have everyone's email address right. If I haven't, please let me know!

It's good to see that our numbers have increased from 77 in February to 85 in October (with business members accounting for 20). Unfortunately, several schemes introduced over the year to entice new members do not seem to have had much impact. I personally though am aware of four new people waiting to join in the new year. Do you know of any more?

The reluctance of young people to engage with the Society has been a source of frequent discussion, with Ray, in March, wondering if they have no interest in history or our heritage. My personal opinion is that they really do have but not quite enough to join us old fogeys just yet! Perhaps if we are lucky and embark upon a few practical, exciting hands-on investigations in 2024 we may attract some younger volunteers. (Anyone know of any undiscovered sites of archaeological interest near them?)

2024 Membership will be due from 1 Jan

Individual member £15, Family £20 and Business £25

Pay in cash, by cheque to Rainford Heritage Society or directly into the bank:

Barclays Bank Sort code 20 80 33

Account Number 83792382

Best wishes

Sharon Scott

sha.scott@blueyonder.co.uk



New Heritage Centre

We had proposed to build on the garden plot, where the old band hut used to be but after a deluge of objections from residents in Pilkington Street we did not submit any plans.

We are now proposing to put forward drawings for a dual-purpose two-storey building in the area where the skips used to be in the rear yard of the Village Hall. Measurements have been taken and outline drawings, plus photos, were submitted to the Parish Council seeking their support. This was agreed to and we are now waiting for a meeting to see who owns the lease to the land.

Linear Park

The Heritage Boards in the park have been a huge success with lots of positive comments. Our final piece in the jigsaw, ie the memorial stone and accompanying notice board with names of those who lost their lives in industrial accidents, is hitting problems. Planning is taking longer than we thought and other ideas have come to the forefront, eg railings around to protect the monument and a solar light to illuminate it. The plaque is well on the way to being ready and transport from Bridge Farm to the site has been arranged.



Memorial stone donated by Bridge Farm



Business Members

The committee would like to thank the business members who gave us valuable support during 2023.

Alpine Kitchen	Enquiries	07476 928332
Best Security	Enquiries	01744 60780
Junction Shop & Post Office	Enquiries	07795 470526
Bridge Farm Cafe/Plants/Camping	Enquiries	01744 883734
Junction Pub/Function Room	Enquiries	01744 882868
Hoyles Electronics	Enquiries	01744 886600
Barbara Hurst Vintage Cards	Enquiries	07534 494490
Mortgage Guarantee	Enquiries	01744 886884
Keneth MacRae Medical Centre	Enquiries	01744 882606
F W Marsh Funeral Directors	Enquiries	01744 882645
MitcheII Ind Services (Drains)	Enquiries	01744 886601
Rainford Solutions	Enquiries	01744 889886
Red Cat Pub & Restaurant	Enquiries	01744 882422
Stanley Arms Pub & Restaurant	Enquiries	01744 25706
Rigby Insurance	Enquiries	01744 884508
Stapleton & Derby Ltd	Enquiries	01744 889999
Village Deli	Enquiries	01744 884999
Wendy's Flowers	Enquiries	01744 885363

Membership 2024

If you are a already member we only need your name with payment which can be by cash, cheque or direct into our bank account. If you wish to pay into the bank account please inform us when you have transferred the money.

Bank details:
Barclay's Bank, St Helens
Sort code 20 80 33
Account Number 83792382

Your main contact numbers for the Society:
Ray Waring 01744 885547
Sharon Scott 07590 630416
Jill Woods 01744 635508



If you joined in November or December 2023 you will be a member for 2024.

Rainford Heritage Society

Joining Form 2024

Name:

Address:

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Post Code: Tel No.

E-mail:

Gift Aid: Yes / No

Membership Group (please tick)

- ◆ £15 Individual
- ◆ £20 Family
- ◆ £25 Business

Please send to: Ray Waring, 4 Reeds Brow, Rainford, St Helens WA11 8PN

** If we already have your full details you will only need to sign the form & attach your payment*