



Rainford Heritage News

Issue 15, December 2017

Dear Members

The Heritage Society has once again had a very successful year; fundraising events and books sales have raised several thousand pounds, the exhibitions at the library and Heritage Centre attracted a good number of visitors and we once again managed to do talks for organisations and schools.

On behalf of the committee I would like to say a special thank you to Joan Dagnall and her daughter Alison for the wonderful Past and Present book they produced. We sold out the first 200 very quickly and ordered another 30 which have now all gone. The book, which raised £850 will make a substantial difference to our funds for which we are very grateful. Wow, that's equivalent to 2 large fundraising events!

Our business members and sponsors have once again made an outstanding contribution by making donations, giving raffle prizes, helping to sell books and promoting us in their shops and offices. A personal thank you to you all. I am sure you know how much I appreciate your support.

January is now the time we renew our subscriptions and a joining form is attached at the end of this Newsletter. Jill Woods, our Treasurer, has asked me to remind you that Gift Aid helps to add extra money to our funds. This, however, does not include business members who are not allowed to participate in schemes of this nature. If you do not wish to send your membership through the post or pop it through our door, the indoor meeting on Monday 15th January would be a good opportunity to pay. If we already have your details we only need your name and any change of address or email.

2018 will be the year we find out if we can convert the barn at Bridge Farm into a Heritage Centre; we need to get plans drawn and the costings carried out as soon as it is empty, only then will we be able to apply for a Heritage Lottery Grant. I can assure everyone that the committee and John and Janette at Bridge Farm are fully committed to the project.

We would just like to say many thanks to Peter Lewis for his years of service on the committee. He has now stepped down but both Peter and Sue will continue to help as and when time allows.

I am not sure how much people enjoy reading our newsletter or wish it to continue as I get very little feedback or contributions towards it, and have for the second time had to write everything myself. So if you have any ideas or thoughts on it please let me know.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Ray Waring
Chairman



Wirral Transport Museum

Over the last three years the Society has enjoyed 3 talks by Ron Martin about Liverpool transport, all of them including old films. Firstly we had the Overhead Railway, then Liverpool Ferries and this year we had a great talk about Liverpool Trams. Ron's talks were always well received and at each one he called on the extra knowledge of colleague Keith Carmichael who was able to contribute his own expertise.



A few weeks after this talk, on a lovely Autumn day, Peter and Sue Lewis very kindly picked up Norma and I to go and see the Wirral Transport Museum. On arrival we were able to take a ride to the U-Boat Museum on a lovely old tram which cost a mere £1 each return fare and was worth every penny. As we had visited this Museum before by boat from Liverpool (another worthwhile trip), we had a quick walk around, took some great photos of Liverpool waterfront from across the river before boarding the same tram back. The staff volunteers were very warm and welcoming and chatted to everyone as we returned.

Having enjoyed the Heritage Tramway, we entered the Transport Museum which is free of charge. We began to absorb the atmosphere that old transport seems to create and while walking around we met Keith Carmichael who gave us a very warm welcome and told everyone on duty that we were visiting from Rainford Heritage Society.

Keith then gave us a personal tour of the museum taking us on trams that were off limits, explaining the state of them when they came into their possession and the vast amounts of money they cost to put into working order. They had been used for all kinds of purposes such as chicken sheds and bowling huts and Keith told us how they now had been restored to perfection with every little detail back to working order. We had never imagined that trams could have been so beautiful and full of character.



After a coffee break in their own canteen with the chairman and volunteers we looked around the many other exhibits they have on display. You will be pleasantly surprised and pleased with the way they have presented other forms of transport. Keith enthusiastically chatted away once more and answered our many questions before we needed to start home.

What a great afternoon out and thanks to everyone at the Museum for being so welcoming. We would highly recommend a visit!

For details of opening times
please phone 07906 060427





Christmas Fayres & Markets

The Village Christmas Fayre was once again a huge success for the organisers and we had a promotional stall to advertise the Heritage Society. We made a lot of contacts and sold several of our local history books. I got through the day by having bacon butties at the Church Hall and Reds kept me going with coffee. Thanks to Tony, Dennis and David for braving the cold and helping man the stall.



The Christmas Market at Inglenook was packed out both days, Tony and David did shifts looking after the heritage visitors. Norma and I did 6 hours each day in freezing conditions manning our second hand stall which raised nearly £300. What a great result; downside was it took a further 2 days to thaw out!!

The new marquee at the Junction Pub proved to be a great venue for a Christmas Fayre. There were 25 various stalls lit by festive lights creating a lovely atmosphere and there were far more visitors than the outdoor one last year; we have had many excellent comments from members of the public. Everyone very much enjoyed the live entertainment which commenced with 40 members of the fabulous Junction Ukulele Band playing some great tunes for people to sing along. Jake of Kids Voice fame wowed everyone with some big song numbers bringing cheers and applause at the end of his performance, then the renowned Rainford Band gave a wonderful arrangement of Christmas songs and carols. No wonder people thought you had to pay to come in! Where else would you get all that free entertainment? Santa's Grotto and the bar at the far end definitely added to the atmosphere, the bar keeping us well supplied with mulled wine and a superb mulled cider. Didn't think I liked cider!!

Thanks to all members who helped and especially Tony & Sue Hiron doing the raffle at the open door, We have promised them that if we do an event in Iceland their names will be first on the list!

Special thanks to our three Junction business members - Paul Draper at the pub for all his hard work and sponsorship, Janette Cockayne at Bridge Farm and Paul Bromilow at the General Store/Post Office for sponsoring the advertising. They are putting something back into the community and deserve everyone's support.



Hope you like the photo of the '3 Wise Men'!

CHRISTMAS VILLAGE

Brian Helsby who is a member of the Heritage Society has very kindly offered to set out a Christmas village in the Heritage Centre using all his own model buildings, animals and people. It will be in position before you receive this newsletter so please call in over the holidays and have a look. We hope it will remain until the end of January. Thanks Brian for your idea it is very much appreciated.

Having received a number of interesting new items that were donated recently I have decided to put them on display at the same time as the village to give you an opportunity to see them before we have to put them away because of lack of space. If you have an idea for your own display please let me know.

What a great year for Scissors!

Now I can forgive you for thinking that to be a successful ladies hairdressing business in Rainford you need to be in the hustle and bustle of Church Road or Ormskirk Road, but Shelagh Weston of Scissors fame has just proved the opposite.

Shelagh's business is tucked away at the bottom of Rookery Drive and she has proved that the quality of her work and the rapport she has with her customers is what makes for a successful business.

This year Scissors has celebrated its 40th birthday — what a wonderful achievement! I am sure there have been many changes in fashion during that time but the skill and quality of a trade in your hands only gets better. Speaking to some of Shelagh's many customers I began to realise it is not just about her skill or personality, it's the fact that she always wants to put something back into the community that endears her to them.



Every year the business sets a goal of raising money for good and worthy causes. This year, assisted by colleague Marie Atkinson, Shelagh and her customers have raised over £900 for the Alzheimer's and Dementia Society, plus a further £250 so far selling Christmas cards for the RNLI.

Well done Shelagh, staff and customers, it takes special people to do what you have once again achieved. We are proud to have you as business members.

Happy Birthday Scissors you're a cut above the rest!!



Congratulations to Wendy's Flowers!

Thanks to Wendy Downey and her staff for another excellent and well organised Paint Rainford Pink Week. Many members of the public gave their support and business members Carole Wilson and Barbara Hurst put in a special effort. Over £3,300 was raised for breast cancer - what a great effort.

Bridge Farm News

John and Janette Cockayne now have their grant to turn the old buildings into a Tea Room, so they will soon be serving breakfasts, cakes and scones to our many members.

Junction Pub

Paul Draper has erected a large marquee at the rear of the pub which can be hired for weddings, parties etc. The marquee has a bar and toilet facilities - why not hire it for a special business event.

Special thanks

I would like to say a big thank you on behalf of the committee to Melanie and Richard and all the staff at Rainford News for helping to sell so many of our books over the Christmas period; it has raised a great deal of money for us. Also all the Rainford businesses who have given raffle prizes and donations over the last year, your support is very much appreciated and we look forward to working with you in 2018.

Programme 2018

This is the programme the committee has put together for the coming year. We will add details of events nearer the time but it is important you put the dates in your new diary. Since planning the events we have been informed that on the weekend of Open Heritage Day a wedding has been booked in the Village Hall and, as you will be aware, Heritage Day is a national event and the date cannot be changed. At our committee meeting on 8th January we will need to decide our response and inform the Parish Council of our decision.

Monday 15 th January 7.30pm	'Fred Waldron & the Wayfarer' Dr Tom Preston
Monday, 19 th February 7.30pm	'Medieval Manuscripts' Brian Farrimond
Friday, 16 th March 7.30pm	Spring Quiz X Sports Club
Monday, 19 th March 7.30pm	'How Ormskirk Treated Evacuees from Liverpool' Roger Blaxall
Monday, 16 th April 6.45pm and 7.00pm	AGM followed by Gin & Whisky Evening
May—date to be announced	Cheese & Wine Evening
Saturday, 30 th June 7.30pm	Rainford Village Barn Dance Bridge Farm
Friday, 10 th August 7.30pm	Summer Quiz X Sports Club
Sunday, 16 th September 12pm—4.00pm	Open Heritage Sunday Village Hall?
Monday, 17 th September 7.30pm	'Haydock Lodge' Pauline Hurst
Monday, 15 th October 7.30pm	'Don't Forget Your Ration Book' Michael Murphy
Saturday, 27 th October 7.30pm	Rainford 1950s Film Evening Church Hall
Friday, 9 th November 7.30pm	Autumn Quiz Junction Pub
Monday, 19 th November 7.30pm	'The Williamson Tunnels' Claire Moorhead
Date to be announced	Christmas Fayre Junction Pub

All indoor meetings need to be self-funding if possible, so we will once again be charging £2 per person entrance fee

Committee Members

Chairman	Ray Waring	01744 885547
Treasurer	Jill Woods	01744 635508
Displays Organiser	David Pye	01695 722112
Newsletter	Norma Waring	01744 885547
Member	Martin Rigby	01744 884153
Member	Tony Hirons	0151 431 0856

Committee Appointments:

Adviser on Rainford History	Ron Dagnall
Oral History	Tony Foster
John Davies	Grant Applications
Metal Detecting Lead	Dennis Bronwbill



Rainford Heritage Society

Joining Form 2018

Name:

Address:

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Post Code: Tel No.

E-mail:

Gift Aid: Yes / No

Membership Group (please tick)

- ◆ £10 Individual
- ◆ £15 Family
- ◆ £20 Business

Please send to: Ray Waring, 4 Reeds Brow, Rainford WA11 8PN
or Jill Woods, 154 Church Road, Rainford WA11 8PX