



# Rainford Heritage

Issue 18, December 2018

## News



Dear Members

What an excellent year it has been with regard to fund raising towards the conversion of the barn at Bridge Farm - read the latest situation later.

Our events this year have been outstanding with Open Heritage Day attracting over 2.000 visitors and the 'Rainford in the 50s' Film Evening being so successful it had to be repeated. There is now a waiting list for 2019!! We are indebted to Tony Foster for all his hard work for this event.

There will be a slight wind-down at the beginning of 2019 as I will be spending some time with my family in Australia and it will be the first time we have all been together for 9yrs so you will appreciate how much it means to me.

In our absence Jill Woods, Secretary, and David Pye, Deputy Chair will run the Society, organising the first indoor meetings and the first fundraiser of the year, although we will be back to participate in this one. They will also be taking renewal of memberships and I hope you will once again give us your support (see joining form on page 6).

Please remember if you feel you would like to contact me I am only an email away but as I will be on the move at times it may take some time to answer.

2019 will be a year when we will need even more help in running the Society, so if you feel you could add something to the committee or would like to be contacted when we need help with events please get in touch with myself, Jill or David.

Wishing you all a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

**Ray Waring**  
Chairman 01744 885547 rayw91141@gmail.com

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# Business News

**Wendy's Flowers**, backed by several of the Society's business members and lots of friends have once again had a very successful Paint Rainford Pink Week. They raised a magnificent £3,327 for breast cancer.

**BJC Photography** (Barbara Hurst) and **TW Wilson** (Carol Wilson) put on a great day of stalls and food for every taste including breakfasts, lunches and teas. It raised £910 for Rainford in Bloom and Crossroads.

**Scissors** (Sheila Weston) is selling NRLI Christmas cards and is planning a special fundraiser for 2019.

We are fortunate to have such caring businesses in Rainford.

Don't forget when picking up your Christmas trees and gifts from **Bridge Farm** call in at the new cafe, the food is great!!

The **Junction Shop and Post Office** is now offering extra items and services. It has good parking facilities so why not call in and see what they are offering.

**Junction Pub** has a new menu and some great offers during the week. Their new chefs have created some excellent dishes, so always look at the specials board!

Our members in Sandwash Close have again given excellent support this year. Lindsay at **Hoyles Electrical**, which is on the left as you go down Sandwash Close, has been a member from the beginning and has always donated generously to the Society. The business has been expanding this year which is a great sign for the future.

John Mitchell and his sons, trading as **Mitchell Industrial Services**, are on the bottom right hand corner. They are a great family team who specialise in industrial and domestic drainage. They kindly helped with raffles this year.

We would appreciate help with raffle prizes during the coming year, perhaps a business voucher or simply a bottle of spirits would be great. Don't forget we have free advertising for business members at the Heritage Centre.

We welcome **Best Security Ltd** as business members; they offer services including Intruder Alarms, Fire Alarms, Access Control, CCTV, PAT Testing and Nurse Call. Contact Paul Barns or David Hitchmough on 01744 607080. They are based in Dairy Farm Road so handy for all the village.

# The Lure of Collecting

If you have never visited an antiques & collectors fair, why not consider spending an hour or two browsing around one. You may be surprised at what's on offer and you never know what you might find!

Fairs range enormously in size and are held mainly on Saturdays & Sundays. Many also have refreshments and home-made cakes available if you get peckish. Small fairs held in village halls such as Rufford are a good place for the newcomer to start, as these generally have more modestly priced stock and the entrance fees are low.

Fairs held in bigger venues such as Leigh or Southport Dunes leisure centres will have more stalls to choose from with a wider range of goods on offer, but not so many that you will be overwhelmed.

The largest fairs are held in exhibition centres and at county showgrounds, such as the NEC & Newark. These impressive fairs are aimed at the serious collector and therefore have the most expensive entrance fees. However, they have the advantage of many specialist dealers from all over the country displaying their best and most prestigious stock.



Southport Dunes Leisure Centre

Before buying you should ask to handle anything you would like a closer look at. A good dealer will price stock clearly and also label the item with a description, age etc. In any case, don't be afraid to ask for further information and also remember to check the item's condition, as all this should help you decide whether or not to purchase it. In general, most dealers will give you a small reduction in price (usually around 10%) if you ask them politely.

I'm sure most people have caught an episode or two of Bargain Hunt, where contestants have obtained much larger discounts than this, but in my experience this isn't the norm and after all, the dealer is trying to make a living!

Some good reasons to buy from a fair:

- Certain items are excellent value compared to buying them new - *such as a good quality set of drinking glasses or a decanter*
- You will also find items that make great gifts or even a treat for yourself – *such as antique or vintage jewellery*
- Some items available are unique – *therefore your friend or neighbour won't have one*
- You could discover an item you thought unobtainable – *like an 'out of print' book or replacement for a broken cherished ornament*
- Plenty of items on offer evoke childhood memories or reminiscences – *such as an old toy or game you once had*
- You can build up a rapport with dealers who are happy to advise you in collecting within your chosen field.

Whatever you may decide to collect (be it a humble postcard or a piece of silver), once you have made a few purchases for your collection, you will find yourself hooked! My own rule is to buy what you like and can afford, and if it turns out to be a good future investment, then all the better, so happy hunting!

Further details of Antique Fair listings can be found at: [www.antiques-atlas.com](http://www.antiques-atlas.com)

**Tony Hirons**



# Bridge Farm Update

Can I first of all say that the footfall this year at the temporary Heritage Centre has been almost 22,000 without December and the Christmas Market numbers being available at the time of writing.

This indicates that we could achieve even more at Bridge Farm when the barn is converted. By the end of 2019 we should, with your help, have enough money to apply for a £300,000 heritage lottery grant to carry out the work.

We do of course need to obtain some costings, for which we will need drawings. Stage one of this process has been to get the barn empty so we could assess it; this has finally been achieved, and having had pilot holes dug in order to look at the foundations it was discovered that the barn is sat on silt which is the reason there are cracks in the brickwork. John Cockayne is now planning to drill some deep holes so the engineer can assess what needs to be done to the foundations, depending on the level of the clay bed underneath the barn.

With Winter coming in and me being out of the country, it will now be Spring before we acquire the costings and summer before we can put in an initial request for funding, therefore kick-starting a grant request.

Hope you will continue to support us as we are now making steady, if slow, progress.



*The barn is in three sections at ground level and also has an upper floor over two of them*

# Programme 2019

**All Indoor Meetings are 7.30pm at Junction Pub  
Inglenook Market Days — 2nd Sunday each month**

Monday, 21st January	Indoor Meeting, Roger Blaxall 'How Ormskirk Treated WW2 Evacuees'	
Monday, 18th February	Indoor Meeting, Sid Calderbank 'Love & Romance in Victorian Lancashire'	
Monday, 18th March	Indoor Meeting, Victor Davies 'Old St Helens'	
Friday, 22nd March	Spring Quiz X Sports & Social Club	<b>F</b>
Saturday, 27th April	Entertainment Evening Junction Pub	<b>F</b>
Monday, 20th May	AGM Junction Pub	
Saturday, 1st June	Barn Dance, 7.30pm Junction Pub Marquee	<b>F</b>
7th/8th/9th June	Rainford Photo Display Village Hall (Subject to Parish Council approval)	
Friday, 9th August	Summer Quiz X Sports & Social Club	<b>F</b>
Monday, 16th September	Indoor Meeting, Ken Pye 'Curious & Amazing Tales of Liverpool'	
Saturday, 12th October	Alcohol Evening: Special Beer/Gin/Wine Junction Pub	<b>F</b>
Monday, 21st October	Indoor Meeting, Dave Joy 'Liverpool Cowkeepers'	
Friday, 1st November	Lancashire Evening X Sports & Social Club	<b>F</b>
Monday, 18th November	Indoor Meeting, John Davies 'History of Hydes Brow Farm'	
Friday, 22nd November	Autumn Pub Quiz Junction Pub	<b>F</b>
Sunday, 16th December	Christmas Fayre Junction Pub Marquee	<b>F</b>

**F — Fundraiser, please put date in your diary & offer help if possible**

# Committee Members

Chairman	Ray Waring	01744 885547
Treasurer	Jill Woods	01744 635508
Deputy Chairman/ Displays Organiser	David Pye	01695 822112
Newsletter	Norma Waring	01744 885547
Member	Martin Rigby	01744 884153
Member	Tony Hiron	0151 431 0856
Member	Simon Critchley	01744 627843
Member	Gordon Taylor	07873 300289

## Committee Appointments:

Advisor on Rainford History	Joan Dagnall
Grant Applications	John Davies
Metal Detecting Lead	Dennis Brownbill



# Rainford Heritage Society

## Joining Form 2019

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Post Code: ..... Tel No. ....

E-mail: .....

Gift Aid: Yes / No

Membership Group (please tick)

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

Please send to: Jill Woods, 154 Church Road, Rainford WA11 8PX

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