


OCTOBER 2026

Rayne

in Focus



Magazine of All Saints Church
& News from your Parish Council



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ALL SAINTS RAYNE:

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	4.00pm	Time to Be
Sunday 11th October	9.30am	All Age Service
Sunday 18th October	9.30am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Godly Play
Sunday 25th October	9.30am	Morning Prayer

St Peter & St Paul, Black Notley

Sunday 4th October	9.30am	All Age
Sunday 11th October	11.00am	Eucharist
Sunday 18th October	11.00am	Eucharist
Sunday 25th October	11.00am	Eucharist
	11.00am	Sunday Club in
		Florence Slater Room

The Church in Black Notley

Sunday 4th October	11.00am	All Age
Sunday 11th October	11.00am	URC Service
Sunday 18th October	11.00am	Baptist
Sunday 25th October	11.00am	Methodist

For further details contact;

Reverend Rachel Prior or Reverend Roman Kukiewicz
details on the back page.

For baptism, wedding and funeral arrangements
contact admin@thethreechurches.co.uk
01376 330988



Dean Friends,

It is wonderful to be back. The last edition of the Rayne in Focus was an uncertain one - it was the last unless a new editor would step forward. We are delighted that Jan Rickwood has volunteered to take the helm, and to continue this treasured magazine. Thank you to Jan, and to all who submit content, organise the adverts, distribute the magazine, and read it too!

Since the last issue, we are also pleased to announce some more good news. The Church has received substantial funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund so that we can do the necessary repairs to the roof and clergy vestry. These are vital and urgent to keep the building in good condition to last long into the future. We are very grateful to all those who have donated to this project, which will be jointly funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Rayne Church Building Trust, Rayne PCC Fabric Fund, Friends of Essex Churches and Tom Amos Charity, and all those who have contributed personally by donating or supporting fundraising events. Thank you.

It can be hard to be in a liminal place - waiting to hear about funding, waiting to hear about the future of the magazine, and waiting for different things in our lives, perhaps news from family members , or about a health issue. We like certainty! But of course life is fragile, and things are often unclear.

To be a person of Christian faith means trusting God in those grey and a liminal places - between the now and the not yet. The Bible is full of stories of God asking people to set out, to take a step of faith, not knowing where they will end up, but just by taking one next step. We can have confidence, because the one who leads us is good

As we step forward into this month, may we have the grace and courage to trust the one who is like a good shepherd, faithfully leading us step by step, in dark valleys, green pastures, and everything in between.

*With love
Rachel*

YOUR STREET WILL BE IN OUR PRAYERS

All Saints Rayne, will be praying for the people and situations in our village at our All Age Service.

In October we will be praying for those living in **GILDA TERRACE**

If you live here and have something you would like us to pray for, however large or small, then please get in touch with us at rayneprayers@outlook.com or telephone Reverend Rachel or Reverend Roman

Your requests will remain anonymous should you wish.

Your prayers can also be said in private if you would prefer

Best wishes and blessing to you

Lunch Club

All Saints Church hold a weekly lunch club in Rayne in the Old Schoolroom on Thursdays from 12noon to 2pm. We offer a light lunch such as jacket potato with fillings and salad or homemade soup and a sandwich made to order tea and coffee and a piece of cake or dessert. Expect a warm welcome and a chance to chat and meet friends. Make it a regular fixture. No need to book just turn up.

One Thursday every month, 12 for 12.30 pm. We offer a two course lunch which is home cooked, with fresh seasonal veg and includes juice to start and tea and coffee.

8th October	Cottage pie with seasonal vegetables	Apple and blackberry pie and custard
12th November	Chicken casserole with potatoes and vegetables	Sticky Toffee pudding with toffee sauce and ice cream
17th December	Christmas Lunch Turkey with all the trimmings	A choice of homemade desserts including Christmas pudding

This is open to anyone who would like to meet other people over a lunch, there are no age limits. If you are housebound and unable to attend we would be happy to deliver a lunch to you. Also we will gladly accommodate any special dietary requirements The weekly Lunch Club is £5 and the 2 course hot lunch is £7. (£10 for the Christmas meal) Both paid in cash on the day.To book a place please message Kate Kukiewicz on 07522443622 or email revromankuk@gmail.com

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR – ANN HOOKS



I hope everyone had a lovely summer and managed to enjoy some of the exceptionally long, hot and sunny weather we experienced this year. As we now head into autumn, it certainly feels like summer has quickly become a distant memory!

It has been a few months since the last edition of *Rayne in Focus*, so it is lovely to see our village magazine back and continuing to be published. I know it is something many residents enjoy receiving and a great way of keeping up with what is happening around our village.

I would also like to warmly welcome Jan as the new editor. Taking on a village publication is no small task, and I am sure residents will join me in wishing her well as she takes *Rayne in Focus* forward.

I have continued to be busy during the break, following up resident's concerns and working on local issues, representing Rayne at both District and Parish level.> Here are some of the things I have been working on.

Highways

I was pleased to see repairs completed on both Bardfield Rd and Pods Lane during August. These were roads I had nominated to our County Councillor Carl Johnson, as being in need of attention.

I have also been out looking at the worsening cracks around Century Bridge and School Road and have sent photographs to Cllr Johnson to push for repairs.

In addition, I compiled a report highlighting a number of highway issues on the north side of Rayne, including Brunwin Rd. Smiths Field and Capel Rd. This included longstanding and newer road defects, together with faded road markings. More recently, I have asked Essex Highways why only a small section of Shalford Road, was repainted when other markings, including the school zigzags, zebra crossing and junction markings, also needed attention. I will continue reporting and chasing the other defects around the village.

School Buses

The start of the new school year brought a few issues with our school bus services, and I have been working with Central Connect to raise concerns on behalf of parents. Before the new term, I contacted them about communication around school routes, changes to ticket purchasing and difficulties some parents experienced using the app. Unfortunately, there were also problems with the 332 Helena Romanes School service at the start of term, including a driver not being properly briefed about the route. I raised this directly with Central Connect, who have been working with their depot to address the issues.

I will continue to keep in contact with Central Connect and raise any concerns that come to me. Reliable school transport is important for our village, and I will keep working to make sure the concerns of local families are heard.

Local Plan

By the time this edition of *Rayne in Focus* is published, the final draft of Braintree District Council's Local Plan should have been produced and the Regulation 19 consultation under way.

This is an important stage in the Local Plan process. I will continue to keep a very close eye on the proposals and ensure that the interests of Rayne and our surrounding area remain protected, following all the work that has gone into resisting inappropriate development locally.

Please keep an eye on my social media for the latest updates and information on the Regulation 19 consultation. I will continue to keep residents informed as the Local Plan moves through these important final stages.

Waste and Recycling

The new waste and recycling service has now been running for several months, and I have continued to follow how the changes are working for residents in Rayne and across the district. Overall, residents have adapted well to what was a significant change to our collections. I have, however, continued to receive individual enquiries and concerns and have been working with Braintree District Council to get answers and resolve problems where I can.

One of the main concerns raised has been bin capacity, particularly for some larger households. I appreciate that simply providing an additional bin may not necessarily be the answer residents want, and I have continued to feed back concerns about whether the current arrangements provide sufficient capacity for everyone.

At a recent councillor briefing we were also able to look at how the service has been performing following the first few collection cycles. Councillors raised a number of issues, including whether the service is prepared for the additional waste and recycling generated over the Christmas period. Christmas collection arrangements are already being planned, and I will share further information with residents nearer the time.

Another issue raised was the continuing difficulty residents are experiencing when trying to book a slot at Braintree Recycling Centre. The centre is operated by Essex County Council rather than Braintree District Council, but the difficulty in accessing it inevitably has an impact on residents using our waste services. This concern was shared by a number of councillors and has been raised with Essex County Council.

The new system was always going to take some time to settle in, and I will continue to listen to residents, raise concerns and follow its performance as the service develops.

Dog Fouling

I was particularly disappointed recently when a resident spoke to me about a large number of filled dog waste bags being dumped along the public right of way behind the school and on the path alongside the school playing field.

I went out to take a look for myself and was shocked by just how many bags had been left. Armed with gloves and a rubbish bag, I collected them all and disposed of them properly in one of the nearby dog waste bins.

There really is no excuse for this, anywhere! Taking the time to pick up after your dog and then leaving the bag on a path or in the undergrowth simply moves the problem. It is unpleasant, unhygienic and particularly disappointing when it is happening alongside an area used by our school children.

On a more positive note, a new dog waste bin has recently been installed at Duck End Green, providing another place for dog walkers to dispose of waste responsibly.

The vast majority of dog owners do the right thing, and I would ask everyone to help us keep

our footpaths and green spaces clean and pleasant for the whole community.

Around Rayne

I requested that the road sweeper visit Rayne following the straw and debris left around The Street and the Swan crossroads. I was pleased to see the sweeper attend and the area looking considerably better afterwards.

It was also lovely to attend the Rayne Parish Council coffee morning over the Bank Holiday weekend. Despite the wet weather, there was a good turnout and plenty of opportunity to chat with residents about a wide range of local matters.

Alongside these larger issues, I continue to deal with individual enquiries and casework from residents on everything from highways and waste collections to planning, transport and other council services. Not everything I work on makes it onto social media, but I am always happy to hear from residents and help where I can.

As always, my focus remains firmly on Rayne and the people I represent. I remain just as committed and passionate about our village, working hard on the issues that matter to residents and making sure Rayne's voice is heard. Whatever the issue, I will continue to speak up, ask questions, chase for answers and work with whoever is needed to get the best possible outcome for our community.

Get in Touch

As usual, if you do require my assistance or would like to reach out to me, my email address is

cllr.ahooks@braintree.gov.uk This is my preferred method of contact however in an emergency I can be contact on my mobile 07852 552247

I also have social media pages Facebook (Ann Hooks – District Councillor) and Instagram page (cllr_ann_hooks), where you can keep up to date with what I am up to!



RAYNE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
meets every first Tuesday of the month
(except December) at 7.15 for 7.30pm start
in Rayne Village Hall



DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC
6 TH October	Giovanni Di Sarno	"The Travelling Baker"
	<i>This is an open meeting for relatives, partners etc.</i>	
3 rd November	Sandra Gold-Wood	"The Canary Girls"
2027		
5 th January	Jan Rickwood	The Role of a Celebrant
2 nd February	Cherry Mullens	"A Welsh Labour of Love"
2 nd March	Tony White	"The Sewing Bee"
6 th April	Amanda Sutherland	Creative Hypnotherapy
4 th May	Annual General Meeting	Presentation from The Giggle Pig Company

Please come along and see what we are up to; we do sing Jerusalem and have talented members who make and bake, but we also do many other things, including trips, walking, craft and book groups.

Visitors are always warmly welcome to join us. The cost for visitors is £5.50 which includes refreshments, often showcasing home-made cakes.

After brief business matters, there is a speaker, refreshments and social time, when ladies can chat and mingle and sometimes enjoy a quiz/game afterwards, followed by a raffle.



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Message from the editor

Dear Readers,
It is my great pleasure to take over as Editor of our wonderful Rayne in Focus.



Linda is a hard act to follow so I hope you will bear with me while I get to grips with my new role.

I am sure Canva (our new publishing tool) will be amazing once I have mastered it. For now it was trial & error, some colourful language and the odd glass of wine that got us to publication.

If you spot any mistakes in phone numbers please let me know. Any other errors or ideas for future content can be discussed over a cup of tea at a Community Coffee morning.

Wishing you a month filled with plenty of reasons to smile.

Happy reading. *Jan*

MENS BREAKFAST CLUB - Ladies Welcome

Served at 8.30am 1st Saturday of the month
Enjoy a cooked breakfast, tea, coffee & Marmalate
Contact Graham with a couple days notice
if you would like to join us.
01376 324719 brine19qbl@beinternet.com



RAYNE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Hazel Godfrey rpc@rayne-essex.gov.uk

Community Information Point, Gore Rd. CM77 6TX

www.rayne-essex.gov.uk **01376 552489**

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - September 2026

At the meeting held on Monday 7th September 2026, seven councillors were present. District Councillor Ann Hooks and County Councillor Carl Johnson were also in attendance

Over the summer, one of our councillors resigned and we would like to thank Jason Nicholls for his contribution during his time as a councillor. We were able to co-opt a new member and so please welcome Paul Taylor to the council team - his details have been added to the website.

6 members of the public were present. We were joined by the resident that looks after the planting in the village and she advised of an accident causing damage to one of our troughs near The Swan railings. this will need to be replace so costings will be reviewed and presented later in the year so that we can budget effectively. Everyone thanked her and the volunteers for the work they continue to do.

Another resident complained about the parking along New Road - please see further comments below on this subject.

The Groundsmen were asked if they could cut back the area on the old B1256 close to Perkins Garage so they will be asked to do this.

The full minutes will be published on the Rayne PC Website.

PLANNING

26/91789/HH & 26/01790/LBC – Tudor Cottage, 27 The Street

Retrospective application for the partial conversion of detached garage and garden store into the ancillary annexe accommodation.

No planning objection to this application

26/01820/FUL – Erins Hair Design, 19 Brunwin Road

Proposed external alterations to front elevation

No planning objection to this application

26/01856/TPO – 12 Vaughan Close

Notice of intent to carry out works to tree protected by Tree Preservation Order 15/01:

T14 – Large Cherry tree to the front of the property. Crown lift by 1m & crown reduction by 2.5m. Reason – to raise branches overhanging the pavement & driveways of No 12 & No 10

The Cherry has grown from more than one trunk and therefore appears as overly wide tree in the street. Without the works proposed, the tree would continue grow in a misshapened manner and be a future nuisance by virtue of overhanging branches.

26/01946/TPOCON – 15 Shalford Road

Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area. Fell 6 conifer trees.

Reason – the trees have overgrown significantly and now present the following concerns: loss of light, safety and ongoing management

The trees in question are Leylandii and do not represent a landscape feature that invites special protection. They have become outgrown to serve as a typical garden border feature. Their removal would not have a material affect for the conservation area.

It was recommended no objection to their removal but for that removal to fall outside the typical nesting period of March to September.

PARKING ISSUES

The Parish Council have received a number of complaints regarding the standard and volume of parking along New Road.

We know that parking continues to be a concern, particularly around the bend where parked cars can affect visibility and make passing more difficult.

The Parish Council has raised these concerns with the Highways dept, NEPP and the County Councillor. Whilst the location does not currently meet the criteria for extra restrictions, we are continuing to ask for measures to improve safety.

We appreciate that parking can be difficult and ask everyone to be considerate of neighbours, pedestrians and other road users. Please also ensure there is sufficient space for emergency vehicles to pass safely

COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING

The next coffee morning will be held on Saturday 26th September. If any local organisations would like to come along and set up an information stall in future, please contact me by email to rpc@rayne-essex.gov.uk

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library will be outside Rayne Primary School, Capel Road on Thursdays between 9:40 – 10:10. The next dates are 1st and 22nd October

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If anyone is interested in helping our community by getting involved, please email:

community.speedwatch@essex-fire.gov.uk

COMMUNITY INFORMATION POINT

The office will continue to be open during Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings, so please keep an eye on social media for CIP opening hours during the month or call 01376 552489 to check opening hours. The Clerk is available to discuss any issues or provide guidance on the most appropriate authority that can assist, please call 01376 552489 or email rpc@rayne-essex.gov.uk.

At the Parish Office there are dog poo bags, supplied by the Dogs Trust, for just a small donation, plus we still have a small stock of energy efficient lightbulbs. Rayne village New Resident Welcome Packs are available if you have a new neighbour moving in.

Outside of the office opening times emails and voicemails will be monitored.

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Full Council Meeting is due to be held on **Monday 5th October 2026** at the Old School Rooms, Shalford Road. Please see agendas for meetings posted on the notice boards and on the website. Members of the public are welcome to attend and speak at the public forum at the beginning of the meeting on subjects on the agenda. Please do not attend if you have any symptoms associated with Covid or any other infectious disease.

DUTY COUNCILLOR

The Duty Councillor scheme continues to be available, if you need help you can speak to a councillor who will be able to organise assistance. Please phone 01376 552489 and choose option 2 to speak to the Duty Councillor. Our Councillors volunteer for this role so if they are not able to answer your call immediately, please be patient. If you need to speak to the Clerk, please choose option 1.

KNEAD

Rayne Church's bread group

We meet monthly usually 2nd Saturday 10am-12noon
in the church. Please note amended dates below

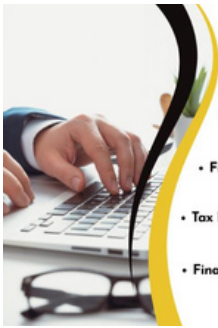
November 7th and December 5th

We are a friendly group that welcomes anyone who wants
to have a go making different types of bread.

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	19.45 -20.45	Stretch Class with Carolyn	07789 811067
Tuesday	09.30-10.30	Zumba with Deanna	07984 638502
	19.00-22.00	Womens Institute 1 st Tuesday of the month	
	18.30-21.30	Line Dancing with Tracey	07852 155907
Wednesday	16.00-20.15	ELS School of Dance	07886 615874
Thursday	09.15-10.15	Pilates with Karen	07515 547683
	18.30-19.30	Jazzercise with Sam	07879 697969
	20.30-21.30	A&M Dancing	01376 325753
Friday	09.30-10.30	Chair exercise class with Same	07879 697969
	14.00-15.30	Ukulele practice with Dan	07800 710855
	17.00-19.00	Karate with Kate	07981 362753
	19.30-21.00	A&M Dancing	01376 325753

Rayne Football use the field at weekends 07740 191583

www.raynevillagehall.org.uk

RAYNE TABLE TENNIS use a dedicated room

www.tabletennis365.com/rayne

RAINBOWS/BROWNIES/GUIDES: office@girlguidingesssexne.org.uk

1st RAYNE SCOUTS - see their facebook page

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE OLD SCHOOL ROOM

1st Monday of the month 19.30 Rayne Parish Council meeting
(details in Parish Report)

1st Saturday of the month 08.30 Men's Breakfast
contact Colin Brine 01376 324719

Wednesdays 10am-12.00 Rayne Bambinos

Term Time only - whatsapp 07702 632021

last Saturday of the month 10am-12.00 Community Coffee Morning

CHURCH BELL RINGING GROUP meet Wednesday 19.00-20.30

and Sunday mornings 09.00-09.30 at All Saints Church

CONTACT rayneringers@yahoo.com 07743 523090

CHURCH CONTACTS

Rector	Rev'd Rachel Prior	01376 325277
Associate Priest	Rev'd Roman Kukiewicz	01376 321479
Administrator	Lisa Gregson	01376 330988
Treasurer	Charlotte Brine	01376 324719
Secretary	Mrs Kate Kukiewicz	01376 321479
Bell Ringing	Bernie Morgan	07946 898577

Old School Room Bookings

Mr G & Mrs C Brine	01376 324719
mobile	07793 553828

Website: www.thethreechurches.co.uk

www.rayne-heritage.info

Facebook: [facebook/AllSaintsRayne](https://facebook.com/AllSaintsRayne)

Instagram [allsaintschurch_rayne](https://instagram.com/allsaintschurch_rayne)

RAYNE IN FOCUS

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