



**NAFD Success for Angela Bembridge, Dan Barnes, Caroline Morgan, Joanna Widdowson, Karen Horton, Megan Rosier and Beth Hand**



**Staff Newsletter**

**Congratulations**

# Hello from Rainworth

from **Wendy Walker**

As many of you will be aware, J. W. Hutchinson was purchased by A. W. Lynn The Family Funeral Service on the 4th October 2018.

To give you a bit of a background into the company, J. W. Hutchinson Ltd was established in 1904 and for the last seven years has been owned by its fourth generation, Alison and her husband Anthony. The day to day operations have been managed by David and myself, more about us later on!

Although originally based in Bilsthorpe, the company moved some 30 years ago to Rainworth and now regularly serve the mining communities of Rainworth, Blidworth and Bilsthorpe but does venture out further to Farnsfield, surrounding villages and Ravenshead.

Our out of hours calls were answered by David or myself and then passed on to a team of driver bearers from what was our sister company B N Gibson Ambulance Services. This team also worked on any funerals that we conducted. David and I manage all operational duties in Rainworth. David's main responsibilities are conducting funerals, looking after our fleet (currently a black Mercedes hearse

and three matching six-seater limousines) and preparation of coffins, whilst my main responsibilities are initial enquiries, funeral arranging, all administration, through to final payment and archive of files and also Ecclesiastical funeral plans. David and I both have complete responsibility for caring for our deceased and at any one time, either roles will overlap.

We have both had a warm welcome from the people we have already met and look forward to moving over to become A. W. Lynn in the next few months.



**In this issue**



**David and Wendy**

Welcome to the newest (but very experienced) members of the team. Pictured here after taking part in the Run for All Nottingham 10k run in 2017

*Page 2*



**Donations in memory of George**

Jenny, Nigel, Jackie and Sheila presented donations to Professor Sergio Rutella at The John van Geest Cancer Research Centre.

*Page 4*

## Congratulations

### to Keira and Sam

Congratulations to Keira from our admin office and her new husband Sam.

The couple married on Monday 1st October at Colwick Hall and then enjoyed a two week break in Orlando.



## Welcome

### to Wendy and David from Rainworth



Wendy has worked for J. W. Hutchinson for the last 5 years, gaining her Dip FAA in 2015. She may be familiar to some of the Mansfield team, having spent 10 years as a Mortuary Technician at Kings Mill. She was unfortunately made redundant when they stopped performing post mortem examinations at the hospital.

She has spent much of her career in customer service environments, having attained NVQ level 3 in Customer Service and NVQ level 4 in Management and a NEBOSH certificate in Occupational Safety & Health. She worked as Contracts Manager for the Nottinghamshire Training and Enterprise Council for 12 years, managing contracts with training providers, to quality assure the level of training provision for Modern Apprentices across Nottinghamshire (no pressure JRC). She also managed a Halifax property services and building society agency, but her first few roles were as an accounts clerk for a couple of local family run businesses.

Outside of work, Wendy, who lives in Forest Town, is very active. She dived for 4 years, spent 17 years water skiing and was the first female barefoot skier at High Marnham Boat Club, many moons ago. A keen runner, Wendy has completed six half marathons and numerous 10k runs, including Race for Life events, but has changed her focus to cycling, after breaking her leg whilst training for a full marathon, last year. Never to do things by half, she completed the London Prudential Ride 100 (which is a 100 miles long) in July 2018! If she is not busy enough, Wendy also follows her son in his motorsport career, supports her daughter with her passion for horses and even looks after her family's two birds of prey and dogs.



David has worked as a Funeral Director for over 8 years now, having been with J.W Hutchinson since April 2017, when the previous Funeral Director retired. David, originally from Chesterfield, moved to live above the premises in Rainworth, to enable him to be within the community.

Prior to this, he worked as Deputy Manager for Chesterfield Department Store for over 9 years. During this time, he gained his ILM3 in Management. The role was a big responsibility, looking after over 188 members of staff. Unfortunately the store closed and David was made redundant. He said he always had an interest in the funeral sector and decided to apply. Since then he has never looked back and gained his Dip FAA in 2016. David says he loves his role and enjoys helping families in their hour of need and feels he has achieved something at the end of his working day.

In his personal life, David enjoys keeping fit and has been an active gym member for over 9 years. He also enjoys cycling and running. He has taken part in 2 half marathons last year, for the company charity. He has also walked coast to coast over 200 miles on his own and has thrown himself out of a plane for a 1500ft skydive, raising money for charity. David says he enjoys a challenge and is already planning his next big adventure!

## Congratulations to the class of 2018!

from Jackie Lynn Rose



Angela  
Bembridge  
DipFAA, DipFD

Dan  
Barnes  
DipFAA

Caroline  
Morgan  
DipFAA

Joanna  
Widdowson  
DipFAA

Karen Horton  
Written  
DipFAA pass

Megan Rosier  
Written  
DipFAA pass

Beth Hand  
Written  
DipFAA pass

Congratulations to Angela, Dan, Caroline, Joanna, Karen, Megan and Beth on their recent exam success, and also their tutor Dominic Lister.

## Best Practice of the Month

chosen by Nigel, Jackie and Matthew Lynn Rose

Congratulations to Sarah Derbyshire who has won this months Best Practice award.



Sarah was nominated by Emma Percival for..

her imagination in coming up with new window ideas! Every month there is something a little bit different (please see right) to grab the attention of those passing by! In October she quickly added a thank you note to her 'Rainbow' window to pay tribute to much loved children entertainer Geoffrey Hayes.

Also nominated this month are...

**Emma Percival and Dominic Lister by Pete Clarson**

'I would like to nominate Emma and Dominic for going above and beyond to prepare and attend two successful stands at the Flintham and Southwell ploughing matches'

**Joanna Widdowson by Richard Marshall**

'I'd like to nominate Joanna. She helped me out with some last minute emergency office cover with no fuss or protest. Took it all in her stride and saved the day, well morning anyway!'



## Goodbye to the Flock

from Emma Percival



Jackie, Alan and myself were pleased to be invited to the finale of the Nottingham Hoodwinked Robins at Nottinghamshire Hospice.



George Rose 1926 - 2018

Sheila and all the family thank everyone so very much for the cards, letters, emails, texts and telephone messages received in memory of their beloved George, a gentle man and a true gentleman.

It was humbling that so many friends, colleagues and associates, from all over the country, attended George's funeral and, in the dark days to come, the family will take great comfort from that.

The donations received for John van Geest Cancer Research, Nottingham, exceeded £10,000.00, including Gift Aid.  
Thank you all so much, this is simply amazing and it is heartening to know that every penny received will benefit this great local charity.

**Note from Jackie** - *Following Dad's death in July, we were given the unexpected news that he had elected to become a transplant donor, to which we agreed. I was pleased to receive a letter on the 17th October, detailing that Dad's corneas had been used in 'fully restoring or vastly improving the sight for a 69 year old gentleman and an 85 year old gentleman respectively' the letter went on to say 'I hope the news that he has now helped two people to keep or save their sight, will bring you some comfort.... on behalf of the recipients and their families I would like to say thank you for your kindness and of course to your father, for his most amazing gift'.*

## Nigel Edward Dickinson

We are sad to announce the death of former employee Nigel Edward Dickinson (payroll number 0005).

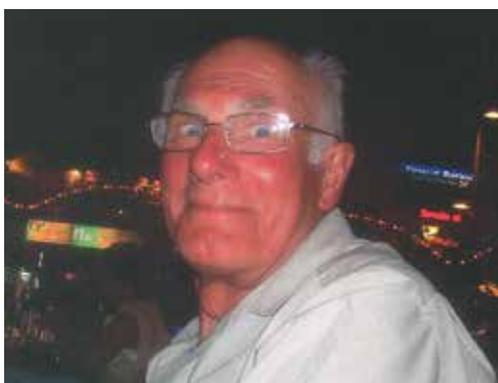
Nigel joined the stone masonry department (then known as Ernest Smith Ltd) on 1st October 1960 aged 24 years. From the outset he was known for his courteous manner, incredible physical strength and happy smiling attitude gaining great respect from his colleagues.

On 28th February 1978 he was promoted to General Manager of the masonry department and was challenged to oversee many projects including constructing and installing the altar at St Barnabas Cathedral which was so large and heavy it had to be craned it to place.

Nigel was very fit and his cycling ability was phenomenal regularly cycling to Skegness and back and even, just a few years ago, participating in the Coast to Coast cycling marathon across northern England.

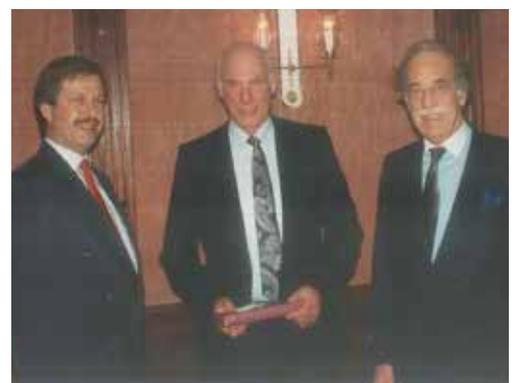
Nigel retired on 23rd March 2002, after 41 years service, his knowledge and wisdom were sorely missed. In retirement he was gainfully employed as a "scene shifter" at Nottingham Playhouse.

Nigel died on 2nd October 2018 and our thoughts are with his wife Freda and family at this sad time.



*Left - Nigel in recent times*

*Right - Nigel with Nigel and George at the 1991 staff party receiving a watch to celebrate his 30 years of service for Ernest Smith Memorial Masons*



## Congratulations

to **Laura and Tom**

Laura from Aspley is coming back from Zante with more than a sun tan! On Sunday 21st October Tom asked her to marry him. We are looking forward to hearing more details when they return!



## Hospice Week

from **Fiona Hall**



Treetops Hospice asked if we could raise awareness of Hospice Week and so I added posters and balloons to the Spondon window.



Well done to the four and a half offices (it was the Friday before Rainworth was purchased) that took part in Macmillan Coffee Mornings. Over £300 was raised between Carlton, Clifton, Hucknall and West Bridgford. David and Wendy in Rainworth raised £268.



Top row; Lesley Ball and Jane Turner at Carlton, Jenny Lymn Percival and Sheila Lymn Rose pop into West Bridgford, the Clifton Window.

Middle row; Cakes at Clifton, Hucknall and West Bridgford.

Left; Wendy with cakes in Rainworth Right: the West Bridgford money box



## They shall grow not old.....

from **Lesley Ball**



Following the refurbishment at Clifton office a few years ago, I met Steve Strickland who was then the County Co-ordinator for Help For Heroes when the viewing room was renamed the Kieron Hill Room. We spoke about an uncle of mine and Jane's, Corporal Leslie John Turner MM, who is buried in Duisans British Cemetery in France. A couple of years ago, Steve and some friends did a "Big Battlefields Bike Ride" around France and visited the grave, leaving a poppy wreath and a photo.

Uncle Leslie died from wounds, aged just 22, on the 1st October 1918 and, as the centenary of his death was imminent, we set about making plans for me to be at his graveside on that day. Fast forward to Saturday 29th September 2018 and 3am that morning saw Steve and his wife Jill collecting me from home to drive to Dover. We chose the Dover – Dunkirk crossing to try and replicate the route Leslie might have taken. Arriving in the Dover area at 8am we took a small detour to Capel le Ferne to see the Battle of Britain memorial and then set off for the 10am ferry crossing. Steve had spoken to the ferry company about the reason for our visit and they gave us complimentary tickets to the Hospitality Lounge on the outward journey (free glass of Prosecco and nibbles, and comfy seats!).

On arrival we then drove to Ypres in Belgium for our first night's stay. Three countries in one day- not bad going. That evening Steve had made arrangements for me to lay a wreath at the Menin Gate ceremony. This is held each evening at 8pm when 4 buglers drawn from the ranks of the local fire service play The Last Post, the Act of

Remembrance is read out and selected representatives lay wreaths at the foot of the memorial. It was a very impressive and formal ceremony although it only lasted for 20 minutes or so but there must have been 200-300 people present. The following morning we went back to take some photos when there were no crowds around. Later on the Sunday morning we visited the "In Flanders Fields" Museum in Ypres- a huge place which really deserved more time than we had to spare but interesting just the same. From there we went to the Tyne Cot Cemetery and Memorial where there are 12,000 graves, and some 35,000 names inscribed on the pillars. Many of the headstones have the inscription "A Soldier of the Great War – Known Unto God" as they were unable to be identified. The cemetery also cares for several German graves.

After leaving Tyne Cot we had hoped to visit Vimy Ridge where there is a large memorial to Canadian forces and also Armistice Clearing where the Armistice was actually signed but time overtook us and we had to leave those out.

The next port of call was the Theipval Memorial near Arras – a tribute to all those English and French servicemen whose remains were never found – over 73,000 names appear on the memorial tablets. On some of the engraved tablets there are blank spaces – the guide told us that if remains are found and identified, they are given their own grave and the name is erased from the list of those missing. The cemetery includes 300 English graves and 300 French graves. As you travel around the countryside, you come across numerous smaller cemeteries, equally well cared for, usually in the middle of farmland but it brings home the fact that the extent of the loss of life was truly overwhelming – that each of those names on the memorials and each grave belongs to someone who had a family to grieve for them, not always knowing what had happened to them or where they were.

On Monday morning – 1st October- we made our way to Duisans British Cemetery near Etrun to pay our respects to Leslie. On the way Steve sprang a surprise on me. I had come prepared with trusty CD player (and new batteries), and a CD of The Last Post but was told to leave it in the car. The firm he works for had sponsored payment for a local bugler to play for us at the graveside. Standing outside the cemetery was a very emotional time- it was hard to believe that I was actually there and on the centenary date! We took a few minutes for me to compose myself before we went in. As with all the other cemeteries we had visited, it was immaculately cared for

and at the entrance there was a cabinet built into the wall which contained a paperback list of all those buried there. We located Leslie's grave within 5 minutes and, when the bugler arrived, made our way to the graveside. A clergy friend had printed some Orders of Service for me and between us Steve and I held a short funeral service while his wife Jill filmed the proceedings. Once Jean-Luc had played The Last Post, I laid a wreath on the grave and



placed a poppy cross nearby. At that point they all stepped back to give me some time alone at the grave. It was a very poignant moment, in the stillness of a bright sunny morning, trying to imagine what the scene might have been like a hundred years earlier. Did the Padre manage to say a few words or were there too many others needing attention? We will never know.

It was interesting to see, a couple of rows behind Leslie's grave, 7 German headstones, a Chinese headstone and an Indian headstone.

After thanking Jean-Luc and his wife we signed the Visitor's Book, took our leave of Leslie and made our way to Calais for the (rather choppy) return trip to Dover. Truly a once in a lifetime experience – very tiring, but very much worth the effort.

Rest in peace, Leslie, I am proud to have been named after you.

*At the going down of the sun,  
we will remember them.*

*The A. W. Lymn Centenary Foundation has made a donation to the Royal British Legion in memory of Corporal Turner.*

## Christmas lights

from **Chloe Lymn Rose**

The St Ann's Christmas Light Switch is due to place on Monday 3rd December – 4pm till 8.00pm and the Sneinton Square Market Event on Wednesday 28th November – 6pm till 7.30pm.

## Carlton window display

from **Joyce Farrell**



Lesley has been challenged by Matthew to change our window display monthly. Our autumn display has proved popular with passers by!

## Cattle farmer's funeral 1 YYV

from **Radcliffe**



A truly personal funeral for a cattle farmer in Cotgrave, complete with a cow print reflections coffin and tractor.

from **Iain Richardson**



1 YYV outside The Royal Chase Hotel in Shaftesbury. It reminded me of an older 'Upstairs, Downstairs' time.

## Carlton Service Chapel

from **Pete Jeffery**



The Carlton Chapel, all ready to be used for a service.

## Ploughing Matches

from **Emma Percival**

As a company we have never had a trade stand at a Ploughing Match, but having been approached by the Flintham Show we decided to have a go! At the same time, we also decided to attend Southwell Show. This was maybe a little ambitious as the shows were within two days of each other. This did mean there was no need to unload and repack the various cars and trailers!

Dominic and I felt that both days were successful, creating some interesting conversations. It was lovely for people to mention staff members by name, and recounting stories about being helped through difficult times.

To further encourage us, we were told that the stand had come in second place for Trade Show of the Year at Flintham - missing out to a sole trader, who had no Marketing Department!

If any staff member would like to be involved next year, have any stand suggestions or would like to suggest another venue - then please let me know!



## Job Vacancy for Driver Bearer at RHH

from **Matthew Lymn Rose**

A vacancy has arisen for a driver bearer based at our Nottingham head office. Applicants must have a full driving licence, be physically active and of smart appearance. Good communication skills are essential as they will be liaising with bereaved families, hospitals, nursing homes, crematoria, church officials and Coroner's officers. general duties include pall bearing and chauffeur duties, collection of the deceased from place of death to our premises or Coroner's mortuary and maintaining and cleaning of company vehicles.

Our service must, at all times, be excellent and the care and consideration of our customers' needs and requirements is of the utmost importance. We therefore require a person with a positive attitude, with plenty of initiative to learn the procedures and quickly become a valuable member of a busy working team. The applicant must be clean, presentable and hold a UK driving licence with no more than 3 points. Please send CV's to Matthew Lymn Rose - closing date Friday 16th November.

## Caption Competition

from **Emma Percival**



Does anyone have a caption to accompany this photograph? The best caption will win a bottle of wine. All entries to Emma - emma@lymn.co.uk by Monday 12th November.