

# RAYLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2024



The Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Bull Lane, Rayleigh SS6 8JD

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## Night of fun as Rayleigh lights up for Christmas



Winners of Colour Competition and Chairmans Christmas Card Competition.



Chairman Cllr Marianne Vernon opening the event.

### KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD

The Rayleigh Lions held their annual fireworks display in the King George V Playing Field, and it was a very well supported event.

The Lions are very much in need of new members to help them to continue their good work and, if you would like to become a 'Lion', please contact rayleightownclub@googlemail.com

The King George V Playing Field was awarded the Green Flag award for the twelfth year running.

The Town Council continues to employ Essex Youth Services who attend the playing field all year round, usually on Wednesday afternoons, to chat to and offer advice and information to any young people.

Bar n Bus also visit once a week with their mobile unit and is located adjacent to the skate park.

### RAYLEIGH IN BLOOM AWARDS

The winners of Rayleigh in Bloom competitions for 2024 were

Best School Garden - Grove Wood Primary School

Best Public House Floral Display - The Roebuck

Best Religious Grounds - Holy Trinity Church

Best Shared Garden - Rayleigh Bowls Club

Best Front Garden Paved - Victoria Elliott-Potter

Best Front Garden Lawn - Ann Jolly

Best Back Garden - Pauline Seal

Best Allotment - Colin Andrews

### RAYLEIGH SPEED WATCH

Would like to become a speed watch volunteer?

Those wishing to take part in these sessions are required to attend a training course conducted remotely. Once trained residents and councillors can go out to the approved sites within Rayleigh to help reduce speeding in our town.

Please email the Town Council so training can be arranged.

On Sunday 10th November I had the honour of hosting the Remembrance parade and service. The event was attended by Mrs Julie Fosh, Deputy Lord Lieutenant and Cllr Sarah Jane Page, Chairman Rochford District Council, who took the salute along with me.

I was privileged to lay a wreath on behalf of all the residents of Rayleigh. It was good to see so many people lining the High Street to watch the parade and to remember those who have served our country.

Rayleigh Town Council held the Christmas Lights switch on event on Thursday 28th November.

Those attending were entertained by the school choirs, The Mushroom Theatre and Joe Palmer.

I would like to thank everyone who made this event happen including all of our wonderful sponsors, town councillors and our office staff. I hope you enjoy the new lights for this Christmas.

Also this year it was decided not to purchase a cut Christmas tree for the festive period but to decorate the living tree located near Holy Trinity Church. The Town Council received funding for the installation and lights from the UKSPF to cover this cost.

I had great pleasure in choosing the lovely design by Jack Bayliss of Edward Francis Primary School as the winner of our competition to design the Chairman's Christmas Card. Jack drew a festive scene featuring the town clock next to the blue Dementia friendly bench and some cheerful robins!

BTMK held a Christmas

#### Report by Chairman, Councillor Maeianne Vernon

Colouring Competition and I had the extremely difficult task in choosing the winners, they were

Callie Ward - Grove Wood Primary School - 5 years and under

Maya Kimmens - Grove Wood Primary School - 6 to 8 years

Elsie Williams - Grove Wood Primary School - 9 to 11 years

Well done to everyone

who entered. There were so many colourful snowmen to choose from!

Palmer's Solicitors continue to sponsor the Best Festive Display competition for Best Commercial Display, Charity Display, Public House and new category of Best Eatery. This competition will be judged during December with prizes being presented before Christmas Day.



Switching on the Lights - BTMK Solicitors sponsors of Colouring Competition and winners.



Jack Bayliss receiving his prize Chairmans Christmas Car Winner

### SATURDAY MARKETS LEADING UP TO CHRISTMAS

Rayleigh Town Council will be holding markets in Rayleigh High Street on the 4 Saturdays leading up to Christmas, commencing 30th November up to and including 21st December.

There will be stalls selling a variety of produce ranging from Christmas Trees, decorations, fudge, baked goods and ladies fashion.

Stalls may vary from week to week. The Police and Rochford District Council will be attending on selected dates to give information to residents.

### TRINITY FAIR

The Town Council and Haddon Events will be working together to organise Trinity Fair which will be held on Sunday 8th June 2025.

## Sponsors of Rayleigh Town Council's Christmas Lights