

WHO KILLED JOHN JACK RAINFORD?

a 'whodunnit' trail

TRAIL GUIDE



SAFETY INFO

The Whodunnit Trail takes you through our Christmas Tree field. Please be mindful of our baby Christmas trees growing along the route.

Watch out for tree stumps, any natural hazards, uneven ground, puddles on rainy days and rabbit holes!



THE BOOKWORM PLAYERS



WHO KILLED JOHN JACK RAINFORD?

ECCLESTON HERALD

MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER, 1958

1p.

WHO KILLED JOHN JACK RAINFORD? TRAGEDY STRIKES AT CATCHDALE MOSS FARM ON HALLOWEEN - DEATH REMAINS A MYSTERY



The gates out onto the Christmas Tree field remain closed. Detectives struggle to solve the case of Who Killed John Jack Rainford.

harvesting his prized pumpkins. It was on the fateful morning of Halloween that John Jack Rainford was out gathering the last of his pumpkins for Jack O'Lanterns, that he met his demise. Detectives are asking for witnesses to help study the clues and help crack the case and work out - whodunnit.

On Friday 31st October 1958, local beloved farmer John Jack Rainford died on his farm on Catchdale Moss Lane. Nobody knows what happened although locals say there were 8 people about that day. Could it have been one of them?

Although known for his homegrown Christmas trees, Autumn is when John Jack was out

LOCAL BUTCHERS WINS BEST BACON AWARD

Cooks of Rainfords declared the 4th year

PERFECT PRIZED PUMPKINS

...ly death

START HERE



Are you ready to help us solve a mystery?

Detective Shambles needs your help! Between you and I, as far as his detective skills go, he's useless! But he should be able to point you in the right direction.

TRAIL INFO



When you're out amongst the trees, the 'lines' we call avenues, and the main path is the Fraser Path.

You will always be able to see the Rainfords Barn in the distance.

DIRECTIONS



You are now officially on the trail. Follow the bends, stick to the woodchip and you will meet all 8 suspects!

DIRECTIONS



Detective Shambles will point you down past our scarecrow, Old Mr Grimshaw and his bunnies. Turn left into the first avenue and head straight.

On your right hand side, count the trees along the edge. 22 trees up and you will find an orange flag and the woodchip path. Head in!

SUSPECT #1

Mindy Moonshine

Mindy is a pumpkin painting artist who sleeps by day and paints by night, as the stars inspire her work. With a stall booked at the Opening Weekend to sell her pumpkins, Mindy missed the whole thing!

John Jack told her it started at 10 o'clock and she foolishly turned up at 10pm! Oh no!!



CLUE



John Jack died at noon.

DIRECTIONS



Round the back, stick straight on the path. You will find yourself facing the blue coloured spruces!

Keep straight and you will emerge at a Christmas Tree Farm.



DIRECTIONS



Follow the trail path through the Serbian Spruces. Look out for pink and orange tags to know you are on the right track. (Hint: You will need to go all the way around the back.)



SUSPECT #2

Bruce Sprucesteen

Bruce and his big blue spruce! Bruce is a Christmas Tree salesman who thinks his blue spruces are superior! They have been around since the days of dinosaurs and survived the meteor that wiped them out.

Bruce thinks the world should be covered in only blue spruces and is jealous of all of the space John Jack has for his Fraser Firs. He's convinced if he planted more, it would bring the dinos back!

Bruce knows John Jack is highly allergic to the blue spruce. Would he use that to his advantage?

CLUE



John Jack was found with a rash up his arms and on his leg. Could it be a blue spruce allergy?

DIRECTIONS



Turn right onto the avenue, if you can see the K9 Barn in the distance you're on the right track. Turn left back into the trees.

DIRECTIONS



You're heading straight up and this time on your right hand side, you're counting 20 trees.

SUSPECT #3

Patch the Cat

Patch is always on the prowl and likes an adventure. She doesn't like being a farmhouse cat, stuck in the kitchen - and is fed up of having to listen to Rose, the farmer's wife and her constant chit chat.

Patch is happiest climbing the christmas trees and playing with her yarn. But she does scratch the trees and breaks the branches.

John Jack is constantly spraying her down with a hose. She's already down to 7 lives because of him!



CLUE



Or could John Jack's allergy be to cats?

DIRECTIONS



Follow the path its time to make a choice.



DIRECTIONS



Are you on the right path or did you hit a dead end - like John Jack!!

SUSPECT #4

Billy and the Boneses

Billy is always getting told off by John Jack for his practical jokes and causing mischief on the farm with his gang.

He likes to find a spot amongst the trees to make a den with Rusty Buckets, his faithful dog and Skully and Bones.

He always has a box of firecracker bangers that would give anyone a heart attack!



DIRECTIONS



Follow the path.
and you are back out
on another avenue.

DIRECTIONS



Follow the
bends through the
trees.

CLUE



There were
no loud bangs at
the time John Jack
died.

SUSPECT #5

Salem Scarecrow

Salem loves his job but wants to travel the world. He hates that when he was put together, John Jack dressed him in an Abercrombie and Fitch shirt and that's the reason Salem has a different accent to all the other scarecrows.

Apparently in his heart he's an American who's stuck tied up in St Helen's! He



hates John Jack for trapping him!

CLUE



Salem can only be freed by someone else releasing him from his ties. Maybe someone with sharp claws?

In fact, he looks like he's been tied back up with red yarn?

DIRECTIONS



Time to choose again!



DIRECTIONS



If you choose correctly you're still on track - follow the path and it will bring you back out on an avenue.

SUSPECT #6

Marathon Dan

At 6.30am every day you will see Marathon Dan running down Catchdale Moss Lane training with the Turkey Trotters for the Holly Jolly Ultra Marathon. He is working on his Personal Best but he keeps getting stuck behind John Jack and his tractor and he is getting so frustrated!!

He's been wondering if there is something he could add to the tractor to speed it up!



CLUE



His PB's this season have been:

14 : 15 . 20

and

13 : 05 .00

Covert the numbers to letters to spell out a message.

1=A 2=B etc

Did you get a Personal Best on the hurdles?

DIRECTIONS



Turn left and head back into the trees again.

DIRECTIONS



Follow the trail
Around the bend
looking out for the
turn at the tree
with a pink tags,
then into the orange
tag trees.

CLUE



Something is happening to the trees!

DIRECTIONS



Look out at the block ahead – you should be able to see the green tag trees. Still on track.

DIRECTIONS



The path gets bendy again.

Keep with it and don't lose your way. If you want to count, count 14 trees up on your right hand side.

CLUE



I was waiting around to give you a really good clue... but you took too long.

DIRECTIONS



You'll notice the path has widened.

It's the Fraser Path, it's the path you walk down when you come to choose your Christmas tree.

You're heading back up it, can you see the Rainfords Barn in the distance? Don't stick to it for too long though.

SUSPECT #7

Eve Hallow

Eve Hallow considers herself to be a witch and loves all things Halloween - so John Jack and his pumpkin growing has made him the object of her desires. She is in love. Unfortunately he doesn't feel quite the same!

She is perfecting the perfect love potion but so far she has only managed to poison the trees with her discarded attempts.

Will this latest batch do the trick?



CLUE

Not wanting to risk poisoning him with a bad love potion. Eve has given up!



DIRECTIONS

Follow the path and make your choice.



DIRECTIONS

Did you choose wisely? OR did you have to double back?

If you're on the path, count 6 trees on your right and you'll find yourself in a clearing. Head allow the trail following the bend.



SUSPECT #8

Rose the Farmer's Wife

Rose can talk and talk. She loves to be the centre of attraction and recently joined the local am dram group to perform in 'The Wizard of Oz.' She foolishly hoped she would be cast as Dorothy but instead she is playing the Wicked Witch of the West!

She baked a pumpkin pie that morning and left it on the windowsill to cool down!



CLUE



Rose was at a rehearsal from 10am-2pm. But that meant she wasn't home to keep an eye on her pie!

DIRECTIONS



Follow the bend in the trail right through the trees and head back out into the avenue.

You'll be opposite a Picnic in the Trees table now.

DIRECTIONS



Follow the sign and count 3 trees on your right as you go. Head around the bend.

SUSPECT #9

Farmer Bennett

Farmer Benjamin Bennett has travelled from afar. He's driven his tractor with his beloved pet chick, Cluck Norris for 4 hours to get here. He's heard about John Jack's incredible fertilizer mix and is desperate to steal the recipe to us back on his farm for his corn.



CLUE



The farmer had booked a meeting with John Jack for 2pm on 31st October.

DIRECTIONS



Simply follow the trail and look out for flags at our tree turnstile and you will reach the end of the trail.

Just John Jack to meet now...

JOHN JACK - FINAL CLUES



You've met all of the suspects and seen the clues.

There's a few clues left on John Jack Rainford for you to narrow it down to who you think it was!

SUBMIT YOUR ANSWER

CHEATER CHEATER PUMPKIN EATER



If you need one final hint,
click the magnifying glass for
an extra piece of information.



If you think you have solved
the case - click the pumpkin
and let us know 'whodunnit'

You will be entered into a
draw to win Enchanted Picnic
in the Trees tickets.



For more about our upcoming events visit
aprestreecafe.co.uk/book-events