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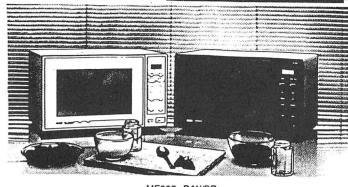
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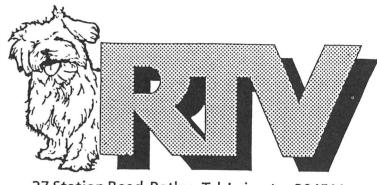
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Scout Group Published by Ratby About,

crossing Council Councillor the Parish pavement irectly negative ntrance arish chis any Road peak

home is currently discussed most. Parking on the road near the school now brings the threat of a 'ticket'. The resultant clear road brings higher traffic speeds and merely swops one danger for another possibly greater one. Parents standing on the pavement totally obscure the view of drivers term time bun fight The twice daily, term time bun as children go to school and home is currently discussed Jo

preferable

pe

lines

or leave motorists

ausing

guilty

APRIL 1989

YOUR VIEWS of traffic For a very long time problems on the roads of Ratby have been the cause to particularly Sacheveral because increased

as a by-pass to the continuing problems the A50 and provides a faster route Hinckley roads of Ratby have been of many a heated debate. the situation has seemed dramatically. The volume Road or than New Parks Way. Scudamore

continued from front page

against abusers of the weight restrictions, the double parking on a bend by delivery vans at the Co-op and other delivery vans parking in such a way as to block Station Road and Chapel Lane.

Dangerous and illegal parking in the entrance to Desford Lane causes many near miss and surely must What price your newspaper of fags?

County Travel have applied for permission to run a larger number of coaches from the village and may face some opposition. If so how will this affect Casepak when their licence comes up The size of their lorries seems to increase every year and four five parked on the road is not unknown. How often have you seen the Railway Inn car park or the drives peoples houses blocked by Has anyone bought one of houses yet? At least the coaches would not be causing obstruction the main road. They would probably the nature of their business leave village and return but once a You may feel that they are still not a good idea. Your ideas are exactly what we are looking for on this whole All of the problems have identified in this article would be totally resolved by its few suggestions but hopefully found sufficient food for thought! Don't forget your letters can be left at the Library.

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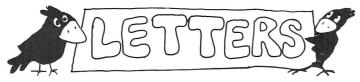
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Dear Editor

'Ratby Evergreen Club' meets in the Welfare Hall on Thursday afternoons. We welcome anyone who cares to join us for 1½ hours of social activity 2.30 pm to 4.00 pm.

> Mrs L. Woolman Mr. G. Taylor

MR LEE, "THE JEWELLER" ON HIS RETIREMENT

I'm sure along with all his other customers we wish both Mr & Mrs Lee all our good wishes for a happy retirement.

We will miss him very much for his good work and friendliness.

Enjoy your garden and holidays you deserve it!

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shoppers will have

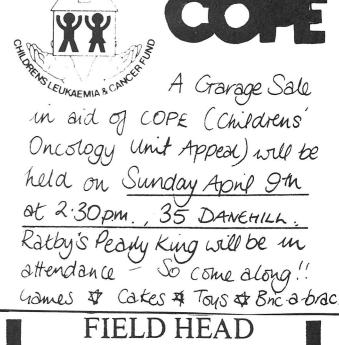
Ernie White outside Julies' hairdressing salon on March 25th, selling raffle tickets for COPE.

Since 1961, when his father Mr. White has been Leicester's Pearly King, continuing a family tradition that began in 1912.

his wife Betty moved to Ratby months ago, and although they find it a 'bit rural' for a couple of "Townies", they have found Ratby to be just about the friendliest place they have lived in.

The couple are kept busy attending charitable functions throughout the County. They are the only local Pearly King and Queen.

Between them they have more than 20,000 sewn onto their costumes. You can distinguish the Leicestershire symbols of a running fox, and cinque well as horse-shoes, down in Rutland fashion so that there is nowhere for the devil to hide!



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SELL BY DATE UNKNOWN

The recent cuffufal over what we should eat and how we should store it safely, brought to mind a thought from memory lane of a time when only the aristocracy had a fridge and deep freezers were something that happened in January.

We have spoken before of the perk of half a pig allowed to the farm labourer, which of course included "the side", to be cured for bacon and otherwise known as "the picture on the wall".

The cure could take place at any time providing there was an "R" in the month.

The side of pork was then treated to a complete fingertips massage of salt and salt-petre in every nook and crany, then religiously turned over every second day for 6 weeks, or until it was cured and ready for hanging.

Nestled down in its white cotton pillowcase, "the picture" was hung from a 6" nail in the kitchen wall and there it would stay for the next 6 or 8 months.

The only attention it ever received was a clean pillow case when the family were expecting company!

After all this a rasher was made up of an inch and a half of solid fat with a thin edge of lean. Far too rich for the faint hearted in this form, it was normally frizzled down with bread dipped in the resulting fat.

While it certainly put hairs on your chest, and elsewhere for that matter, we had never heard of Salmonella or the like, although, fair to say, we did have our share of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Tuberculosis, Whooping Cough, Measles and Fat Annie.

PS Does anyone remember taking 6 month old "fresh" eggs out of the water glass bucket?

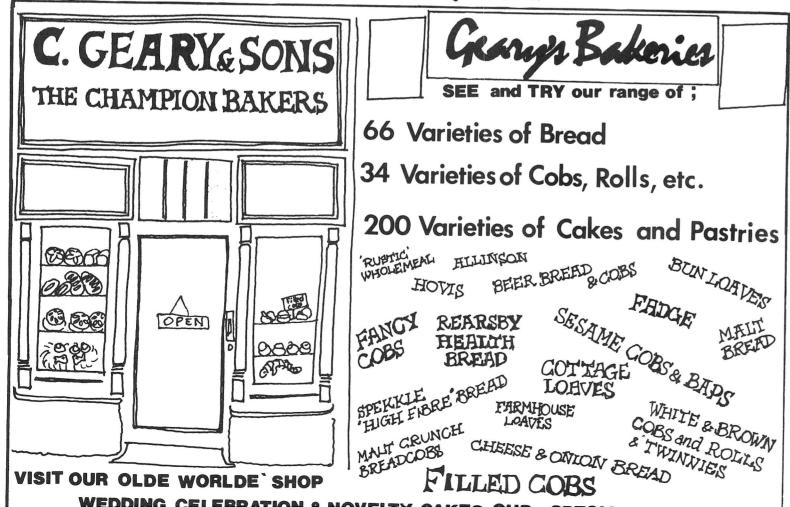
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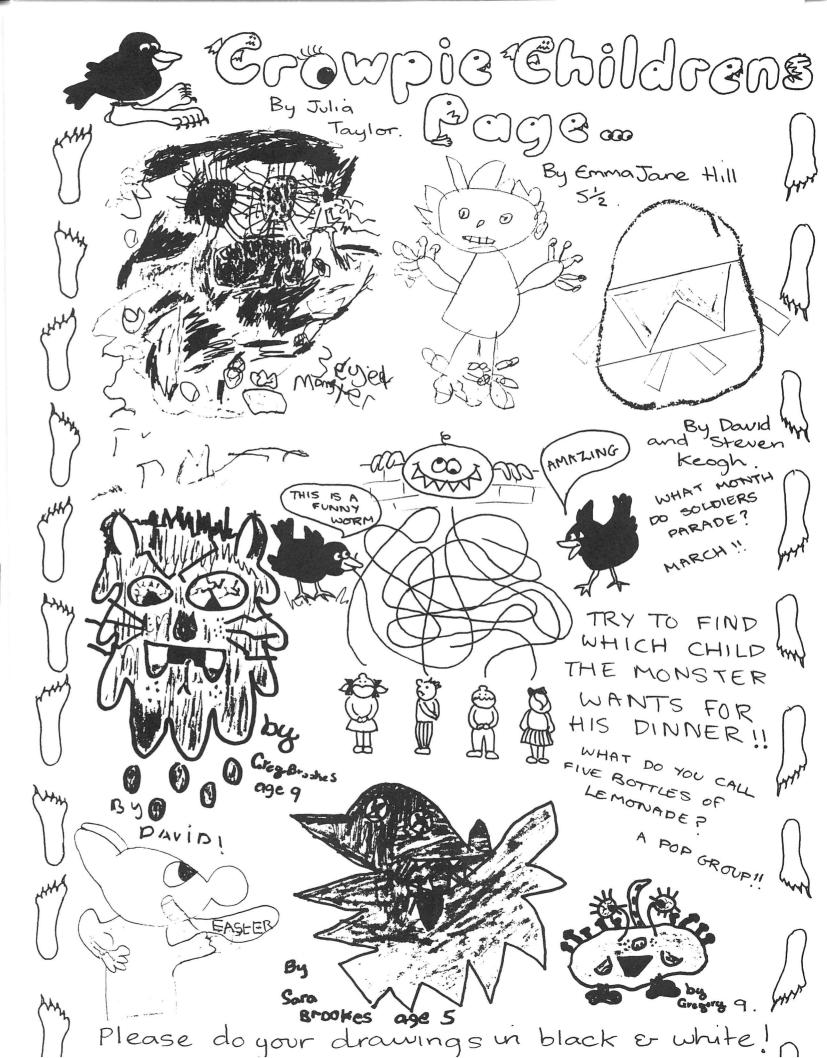
Markfield on the hill

Groby in the vale

Anstey for the silly bats and
Ratby for the ale.

Local Yokel





MARK SETS THE PACE

You may remember a letter from Judith Harrison in our October 1988 issue.

Judith's son Mark had suffered a serious head injury after falling from his bicycle. As you can see he is fully recovered, back on his bike, and looking really cool in his Italian-designed safety helmet.

"I think wearing a helmet is a good idea," says Mark, "because it helps you if you fall off your bike. It feels safe. The helmet might break but you won't hurt your head."

Falling from a bike and hitting your head at 10.5 miles an hour could result in the same damage as that caused by a ton of concrete hitting your skull.

In today's traffic conditions it makes sense for adults and children to wear cycling safety helmets.

75% of all cycle casualties involve a head injury and 69% of all cyclist deaths are caused by head injuries.

Nearly 200 lives could be saved each year if every cyclist wore a helmet.

A new British Standard has been launched, so you should look for a helmet that conforms, (BS 6863-87) or the American

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equivalent. This should protect you from a force of 300 g.

Try the helmets on before you buy. Most can be adjusted. Get a friend to try pulling it off your head when it is firmly strapped - if it won't stay on your head, in an accident it is no use. Helmets are ventilated, but can get a little sweaty. (Very cosy in Winter!) Some have removable washable sweatpads.

You don't have to go far for friendly, helpful advice. The Bicycle shop in Kirby Muxloe is a pleasant cycle ride away, and the owner will be only too glad to help. He has various makes available, including the new or Italian "Centurion", British-made Prices are between £20 "Brancale". - £34.

Well done Mark for setting the pace in Ratby! It takes real courage to be different in this fashion-conscious age.

Come on Ratby kids follow Mark's lead and persuade your parents to get you one of these up-to-the-minute helmets!!

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SPECIAL WEEKEND FOR THE PEOPLE OF RATBY VILLAGE

THE WELSH WANDERER

Departure: Friday, 14th April 1989 - From: County Travel Garage - Ratby at 0710 hours FRIDAY - DAY 1

We travel westwards, passing over the border into Wales and through the Llanberis Pass to Caernarvon. There will be free time here to enjoy sightseeing which may also include a visit to the famous Castle, the setting for the Investiture of the Prince of Wales, which stands guard over the Menai Straits. From here your coach will transfer you to the Royal Hotel, a 3 Star Hotel no more than 5 minutes from the centre where you check-in for dinner and overnight.

SATURDAY - DAY 2

Today offers a full day touring around this magnificent area of North Wales with visits to Bangor, Anglesey and the village with the longest name in Europe, some 52 letters, where James Pringle has also recently opened a woollen mill. Then it's off into the centre of Snowdonia for a drive through some of the most breathtaking scenery of Wales. You return to the Royal Hotel in Caernarvon for dinner.

SUNDAY - DAY 3

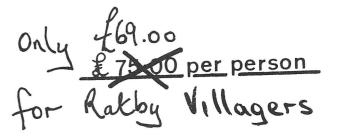
Leaving Caernarvon this morning after breakfast, your drive will return you through the Llanberis Pass, making a stop at the famous Swallow Falls. A late stop for lunch will be taken in the ancient pretty town of Shrewsbury renowned for it's timber houses and narrow cobbled streets. Your coach will return you home around 2000 hours.

Our Price Includes:

- * 2 nights accommodation at the Royal Hotel in Caernarvon with dinner, bed and breakfast.
- * All rooms with private facilities.
- * Tour of Snowdonia and Anglesey.
- * Luxury coach transportation throughout with reclining seats.
- * Experienced Tour Driver.

Supplements:

- * Single room £8.00 per person per night.
- * Insurance £4.95 per person.



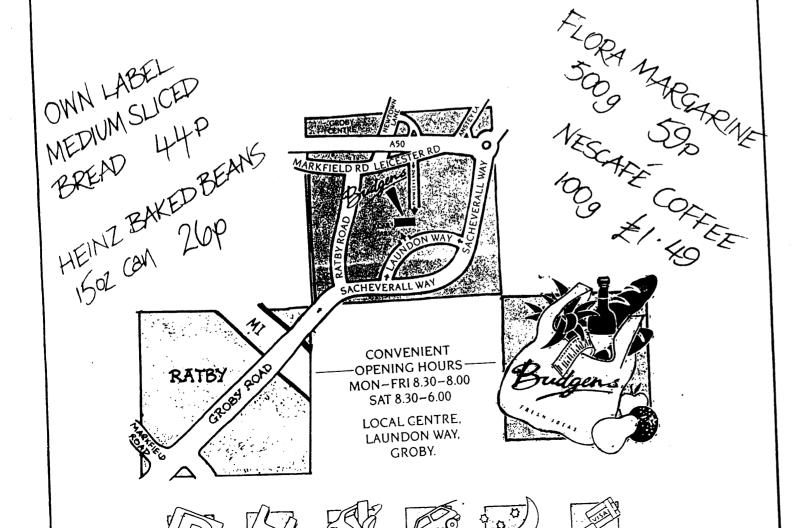
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GARDEN NOTES FOR APRIL

The month of April showers is the great growing month, especially for weeds. A careful tidying round the garden now will pay dividends later, annual weeds seed very quickly and the old saying "one year's seeding seven years weeding" is only too true.

Most vegetables can be sown now except French and Runner beans. Beetroot sown early will bolt to seed if there is a frost on it unless it is a variety such as Boltardy.

The early flowering shrubs such as Forsythia and Winter Jasmine can be pruned if necessary by cutting out some of the flowering shoots, next year's flowers will be produced on the new growth from this year so don't leave this too late. Winter flowering Heathers can be trimmed back with shears to keep them compact.

Evergreen shrubs are best planted now even from containers. They lose a great deal of moisture through their leaves so they need to be kept damp while they establish their roots. Always spread out the roots of container grown plants otherwise they will go on growing round in circles and never make a good root system in the soil.

Don't be tempted to plant out half-hardy bedding plants until at least the end of May. One sharp frost will kill them and last year we had the coldest night of the Winter in mid-April.

This is the time of the year to decide where to plant bulbs next Autumn. I am particularly fond of clumps of tulips amongst shrubs and herbaceous plants, especially dark purple and white varieties. It is worthwhile making a note of where these will look best.

Perennial plants that produce tender new growth early in the year, such as the tree paeonies can often be protected from damage from late frosts by siting so that the sun does not shine on them for the first few hours of daylight. The frozen buds survive if they are thawed slowly.

After this very mild winter pests and diseases are building up very early. Keep an eye open for slugs and snails and aphides and take appropriate action as soon as they appear. Black spot on roses has continued to grow all Winter in some areas so an early spray on new growth will probably be needed.

CRECHE CHILDREN SCALE THE HEIGHTS FOR CASH

Many pre-school children from Ratby recently took part in a 'sponsored obstacle course' at Groby Community College creche. They were crawling through barrels, scrambling over climbing frames and balancing in aid of Leicester Royal Infirmaries' "COPE" appeal.

Two Ratby youngsters, Loren Glover, and Matthew Rains hold the record for raising over £40 each!

At the time of going to press the grand total stands at £275.

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RAILWAY INN STATION ROAD, RATBY



Watch schemes are helping, with advice on making homes secure, but keep those cars locked to deter theft!!

Compared to many places, Ratby has relatively low crime levels, with your support we are determined to keep it that way.

Parish Council Election

The election for the casual vacancy on the Parish Council was held on Thursday 9th in the Church Rooms.

Mr. Ray Smith was duly elected having received 347 votes.

Mr. David Brookes received 111 votes.

A46 Leicester Western Bypass

County Councillor Mrs. Pat Butler reported that there is unlikely to be any announcement of the decision before June.

Burroughs Wood

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council have declared a Tree Preservation Order on the Northern Section of this Wood.

The Parish Clerk

The Parish Council announces with great regret that Mrs Irene McLeod is resigning from her post as Parish Clerk. The Council are indebted to her for her conscientious work over many years, and wish her every success for her future 'career'.

The new Clerk will be Mrs. J. Coulson of 1 Woodley Road, Ratby, Leicester LE6 ONZ. Tel. No. 386334.

Mrs. Coulson takes up the position as from 1st April 1989.

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY APRIL 13TH AT 7.30 IN THE WELFARE HALL. ALL ARE WELCOME.

The next meeting of Ratby Parish Council will be held on Tuesday May 2nd, 7.15 p.m.



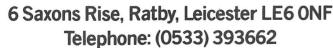
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Village Improvements

Ratby will again be entering the "Best Kept Village Competition". So come on everyone, enter into the spirit and help improve the village. The Parish Council is launching a scheme to provide attractive hanging baskets on retail properties in the village, to brighten up Ratby!

Police

police are investigating complaints by some residents of air-gun pellets being fired through windows. Concern has been expressed that drivers are consistently speeding through the village. The Police have agreed to



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set up speed traps. Crime figures for Ratby showing total offences in 1988 have been released:-

	Recorded	Detected
Assault Sexual offences	6 Nil	5 Nil
Burglary (Dwelling	17	5
Burglary	12	6
Robbery	Nil	Nil
Taking a car witho	out 9	3
Theft from unatter Motor vehicle	nded 24 !!	10
Theft of Cycles	Nil	Nil
Theft - Others	8	2
Criminal Damage	9	2
Damage - Other	1	1
	86	34
By the time	vou read	this magaz

By the time you read this magazine it is hoped that Ratby's new village policeman will be here, helping to get these figures lower. Neighbourhood

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RATBY PRIMARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

at the school.

Our most recent event was a Valentine Disco on Friday 10th February. Thanks to all who came - we know you had a good time! It is hoped to stage a similar event next year so watch out for details.

For those of you who have been springcleaning - our next Rummage Sale is on Saturday 6th May at 2.30 p.m. at the Welfare Hall. Contact Steve (386347) or Judith (393871) or any committee member if you would like rummage collected. There are always plenty of bargains to be had at our Rummage Sales so make a note of the date.

Every year the School Association organises a Summer Fete which is always well-supported by the people of Ratby. This year the Fete is on Saturday 3rd June.

The Ratby Primary School Association Back by popular demand is our "It's is a committee of parents and teachers a Knockout" competition which will which organises fund-raising events take place on Sunday 24th September. for the benefit of all the children We will be contacting teams in the near future.

> Anyone who would like to help in any way with these events will be very welcome. Please contact Steve, Judith (numbers above) or Mr. Smith at the school for further details.

Finally, the School Association realises that none of these events would be a success without the support of many of you. Thankyou very much for your support throughout the year.



DIARY DATES:

Rummage Sale Sat. 6th May Summer Fete Sat. 3rd June It's a Knockout Sun. 24th Sept.





RATBY PLAYGROUP HAVE DONE IT AGAIN!!

Not content with raising a fortune for the Wishing Well appeal, Ratby Playgroups' leaders and committee have excelled themselves again.

On March 10th they dressed up for Comic Relief and held a Coffee Morning. Anyone in fancy dress or sporting a red nose won a free go on the raffle!! The revelling continued into the evening at a Skittles party. A whip-round in the Bulls Head bought the total raised to £85!!

The next day they were out again organising an Easter Fair in the Church Rooms with stalls, games and the most magnificent selection of scrumptious cakes ever seen. The £98.00 profit is to be spent on much needed new tables and chairs for the playgroup children.

So congratulations to Ratby Playgroup, and many thanks to all who support them!

At the end of May they are planning a 'sponsored pram-push'. So if you've got a pram or a buggy, a dolls pram or a wheelbarrow why not get out and

It'll start ioin in the fun!! Ferndale Play area over a course of about a mile - Fancy dress optional! And there'll be stalls and games to make a good day out for all - so don't miss it.

HELP

A special plea for help from the playgroup - can anyone please help level and turf the ground behind the Church to make an outdoor area for the children to play in?



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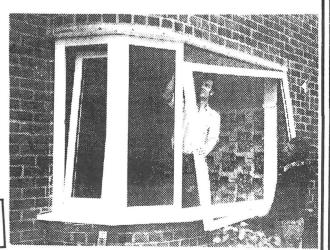
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A PIG IN THE PARLOUR continued

copyholders and had lost their lands at the time of the Parliamentary Enclosures many had sufficient land to keep a The lot of the villager was further improved when the Earl of Stamford granted an area of land adjacent to what would later become Stamford Street as village allotments. the villager could grow garden produce, they wished keep the occasional pig or a few hens to supplement the family larder. Later when houses were built on Stamford Street purpose built stys accompanied the dwellings built on the south side of the street. Some of the atmosphere of the days when bacon was home cured in the country cottage is captured in this extract from the diary of Ann Hughes, the wife of a Herefordshire farmer who kept a written account of her life for a two year period between February 1796 and August 1797.

On Monday 18th of February she writes betimes this morn to put the pots filled with watern to boil hot toe clean the pigges when they Carters wife do come to help and to clean the pigs inerds, a messie job I do mislike. But they be very good when cooked. We do boil them in a big pot for three days aftre be well soaked in brine water. The pigges be hung up in the pot kitchen to cool till the morrow, when they will be cut up and the meat cut from out them inside. The flytches then put in saltern leds and rubbed with a mess made with 3 punds of salt, 3 punds of black sugar and some saltpetter This bee well rubbed on the fleshy sides which is left cum three days then we do turn them over, putting on more salt and leave for three weekes when we do drain of the brine, and hang them in the chimblie corner to dry.

Michael T. Ball





Action Research for the Crippled Child needs more members to join it's local fund raising

You can help save a child from a life in a wheelchair - or worse. You can help make sure that good research projects actually get carried out - and save lives. If you - the parents and grandparents of our nation - don't do it, nobody else can.

The Charity was founded in 1952 in response to the dreadful polio epidemic then raging. Since then over 2,000 research projects have been supported and more than 50 laboratories built. Today Action Researchers are working on more than 150 projects.

Action research works by a voluntary council under the patronage of the Duke of Edinburgh, approving grants and administering the affairs of the charity. Expert medical panels make grant recommendations and monitor the results. That way not a penny is wasted.

Recent research grants include help for Premature Babies - £53,098 and Arthritis - £84,488.

so do come and join us, we only hold two or three events a year from stalls at local fetes and fairs to rummage sales, cookery and make up demos!. Perhaps you can help us to think of even more exciting "do's".

You can contact us through any of the present members who are:-

Mrs J. Woodward (Chairperson)

Mrs H. Taylor (Secretary) Tel. 386027

Mrs. B. Winfield (Treasurer) Tel. 386276

Mrs. L. Chevin Tel. 386605

Mrs. J. Brookes Tel. 386235

Mrs. K. Jacobs

We've certainly no objection to 'fellas!!'

Looking forward to hearing from you.

we need your help

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Thursday 18th May

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A PIG IN THE PARLOUR

Prior to post war legislation restricting the slaughter of farm livestock to registered premises "a pig in the parlour" provided a cheap supply of meat for many village families. of my earliest recollections of my grandparent's house in Stamford Street was a visit to see the pigs in the sty at the bottom of the garden. On entering the house I vividly remember the flitches of bacon hanging from the several hooks in the parlour ceiling. tradition of storing meat dates back to earliest times when after slaughter pigs were jointed, salted and hung high in the house so that smoke from the open hearth gently In many inventories cured the meat. relating to the goods and chattels of villagers there are often references made of "flitches of bacon" or the flitches in the ceiling. For instance in the inventory of John North late Whittington in Ratby Parish there is mention of "two flitches of bacon valued at ten shillings". occasions evidence that meat curing was taking place within the home can be presumed where references to "salting troughs" is made.

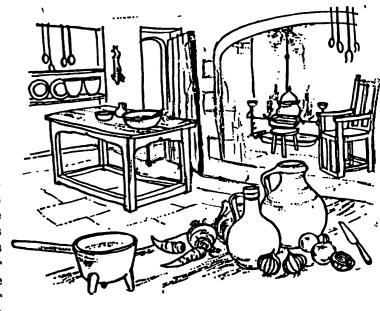
Prior to the enclosure of the village open fields in 1773 pigs allowed to feed on the village commons and also within the surrounding woodland. Here in the autumn months the extensive oak woodland that once existed would have provided ample yields of acorns which had for centuries formed important part of the pigs staple diet.

Surviving documents such as wills or the inventories previously mentioned suggest that on average each village kept a minimum of four pigs usually Besides three sows to every boar. these springtime litters of piglets are to be expected and indeed are listed periodically in some villages The Manor court rolls inventories. relating to Ratby give us further details regarding the role The Manor pig in the local economy. court rolls for the year 1657 make reference to a common fine (this was a sort of local taxation) known locally The entry for as "Tackle-silver".

that all inhabitants records Ratby who were keeping pigs in Lords woods within the Parish the of Ratby and which belong to the Manor of Groby were liable to pay the tax. This tax which has its origins in Saxon times was in other regions of the country referred to as "Pannage". tax was generally collected in the autumn months when the woods were full of pigs. In the Manor of Groby the tax was collected at the martinmas meeting of the court, held around Each villager the 11th of November. keeping pigs in the Lords woods was fined a penny for every pig and a half penny for every piglet in his However he was allowed ownership. to keep one sow and a boar free from

This clever Manorial taxation encouraged the keeping of pigs for the villagers benefit and also guaranteed that come next Martinmas our villagers would still have a number of pigs grazing in the manorial woods.

By the early 19th century the open fields were gone, the commons were enclosed and the remaining woodland now the preserve of the Earl of Stamford's Despite the shooting interests. fact that many of the villagers were



A TYPICAL VILLAGE KITCHEN SCENE OF THE 17TH CENTURY PERIOD

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of agreed

of writing Agreement Hinckley & Bosworth Borough - 22nd March 1989 the Section 52 not the has

diagram indicating the minor alterations to a house not usually needing planning General Development therefore being re-written but a useful obtained and is freely available indicating booklet into force on Handbook The the framework of Planning. permission is re-produced 1988. new саше ๙ December which order

very helpful 38141).before Hinckley the Bosworth (tel. no. Hinckley at check with Department emphasise proceeding with need permission. Would د Planning

summary of the General Development in follow in future issues. planning (or ¥ order

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COMP - MALLARD - MICHELIN - MITCH - NUTRACK

FRIDAY SATURDAY

THURSDAY LYESDAY

BIRD WATCHING IN LEICESTERSHIRE

like myself,

helpful booklet entitled Planning In discussions with the Planning Department Control at the article and Solicitors. Building Course from public highways, others have Here in Leicestershire we do do just this. The local reservoirs are an excellent place to start, most are easily you may wish to broaden your bird watching in the birds in your back garden, have some excellent spots close at hand Swithland Eyebrook Reservoirs are good places, apart Cropston,

area. Most of these are accessible by footpaths, but some are private, so check excellent places for water birds are disused Gravel Pits around Birstall, Wreake for all Bird Watchers nationally and Cossington Syston, area. Other the

is fast becoming a

Water

Rutland

set

areas

viewed

Watchers.

and Bird Watching. Woods are best visited in the Spring and early Summer, when birds visited in the county we have some excellent Martinshaw, Swithland and the All wonderful woods for walking are plentiful, and in song Woodlands, Outwoods.

further, is to join a local group for Bird Watchers. The Royal Society for Leicestershire and above organise talks and events of Birds (RSPB) has local of the ways to broaden your knowledge Society locally and trips further afield and Rutland Ornithological is also the Leicester groups in Protection There Both

your first "expedition". Get yourself a good "British Birds Fieldguide", there are leave Secondly learn, follow, the country code. A good Two points to note before setting to chose from, nothing only your footprints behind you" frustrating than seeing a bird

D W ARMSTEAD

Exterior Painting/Cladding

PENSIONERS TOKEN SCHEME

... AIRPORTS

PARCELS

ANY DISTANCE

announcement or direct cladding with artificial or

Provided not for adve

Buildings or enclosures greenhouses, garages, aviaries,

Provided that

antenna.

No nearer highway tha dwelling or 20m., wh Not within 5m. of d

over 10m3 (otherwise extension to dwelling

No more than 4m. hig roof) or 3m. high (fla not, toget extensions etc. cover 50% of garden.

Is less than 10m conservation area curtilage of listed by

Extensions/Improvements

Provided that

Original dwelling no by more than 70m3 (5 terraced house or diconservation area). higher than dwelling.

No nearer highway tha dwelling or 20m., wh nearer.

No higher than 4m. of boundary. Does not together

buildings etc. cover 50% of garden. Does not involve antenna.

Is not within cur listed building. Does not affect the r

Note: If extension b building within 5m. of outbuilding then counts dwelling.

MINOR ALTERATIONS TO A HOUSE, NOT USUALLY NEEDING PLANNING PERMISSION

less

Additions/Alterations to roof

Provided that

No higher than highest part of existing roof. No development in front

slope of roof facing road. No bigger than 50m³ (40m³ for a terraced house). Cubic content of

original dwelling not exceeded by more than 70m3 (50m3 for a terraced Not in a conservation area.

No material change to shape of

enjoyment of dwelling.

Hard Surfaces (including Patios) Provided incidental

Access

Provided that

dwelling.

Not to a trunk road or

classified road. Required in connection with permitted development described here.

Porch Provided that

No more than 3m2 ground area.

No more than 3m. high. At least 2m. from boundary with highway.

Satellite Antenna/TV Aerial Gates/Fences/Walls Permission not usually needed

Provided that

No more than 1m. high adjacent to highway.

surrounding a listed building.

to more than 2m. high in other in Is not

if no other satellite antenna on property no higher than highest part

direction

for conventional TV aerial.

Planning permission not needed for

satellite aerial provided that:-

than

Oil Tank Provided less than 3,500 litre capacity.

No nearer than 3m. high. No nearer highway than original dwelling or 20m., whichever is

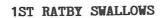
the above diagram is for illustrative purposes only and does not cover every eventuality. All volumes are from external measurements. If in doubt, please check with

1st. Rathy Scout Group



IS IT HARD TIMES FOR THE SCOUTS COMMITTEE OR THEIR FUND RAISING TRAMPS SUPPER?

> IT'S THE SCOUTS WHO HAVE FINALLY BEEN DRIVEN UP THE WALL. ABSEILING AT MOAT COMMUNITY COLLEGE



The time is coming now when our elder boys are leaving us to join the Scouts. We will miss them (you do get 'attached' But now we have a whole new pack, we'll see the next 12 months or so.

Recently we entered a Chess & Draughts Harrison got competition and John a place, well done John!!

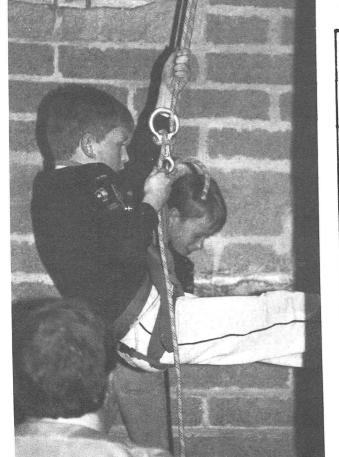
On 15th April we have a 6-a-side football competition, so there will be practice Our annual St. George's for that. Parade will be in town on 23rd April, I think for most of the pack it will the first time.

The annual camp will be early June, more information will be sent.

We will be closing all July.

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METAL DETECTING!

What's that? How often I have heard that puzzled question when out on one of my field or beach trips with my metal detector. When I explain about my hobby they either say oh!, and with a very indifferent look on their faces wander off, probably thinking another eccentric on the loose, OR as in most cases stop and ask a lot of questions and generally show a great deal of interest. Neil Glennister. You see metal detecting can be the modern way to learn the history of your locality using electronics. A metal detector allows you to search and hopefully find coins and artefacts from our distant past. Detectors will find any object, metal object that is, that man has hidden, thrown away, or simply lost, unfortunately this includes the two curses of modern times silver paper and drink can ring pulls. These will turn up in the most isolated fields, LITTER RULES OK!

Having said earlier that detectors will find any metal object, there is one major snag, DEPTH. Contrary to popular belief "hobby machines" as opposed to "specialist industrial machines", have a very limited depth, for example a pre-decimal penny at 9" - 12" and a sixpence at 6" would be good depths, on a top machine. This is in good soil conditions i.e. where mineral content is low, as minerals effect the depth capabilities of the detector.

Now we know what they will find, and assuming we own or can borrow a detector do we just dash out anywhere and start detecting? The answer is NO, before you can detect on any land permission is needed, ALL land is owned by someone be it a private person, M.O.D., Water boards, Government, etc., so if you wish to detect over a farmer's fields

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firstly ask the farmer's permission. If permission is gained mark on a map which fields are his, and with a lot of luck and some skill coins and artefacts will be yours. In another article I hope to enlarge some more on my hobby till then if you have any queries, objects you want identified, or even a site for me to search!

Please ring 386771 and ask for Neil.

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