

WORLD ENTERTAINMENT AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Satellite Television has opened up a whole new frontier of viewing pleasure. With the ever expanding satellite service it is now possible to receive at least 17 additional channels from around the world in your home for 24 hours a day – round the clock news, current affairs, international sport music, films, drama and childrens programmes. Below are just a few of the many channels available now:

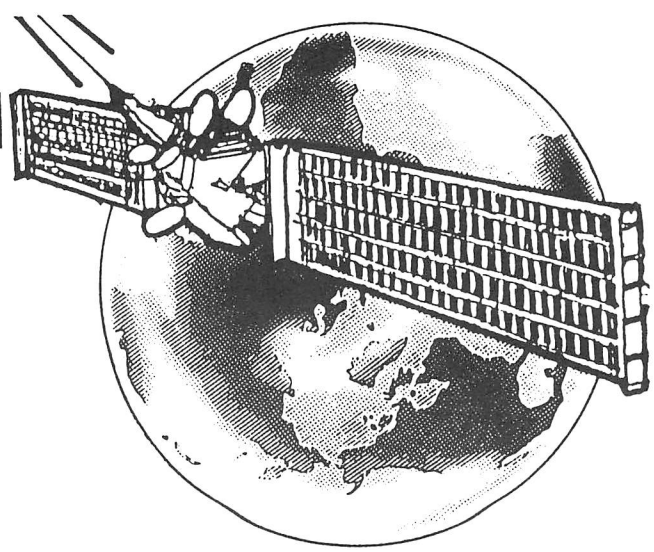
SKY MOVIES – Quality movies 12 hours a day, seven days a week.

SUPERCANAL – Mix and repeats of popular British programmes, quiz shows and pop, including Music Box.

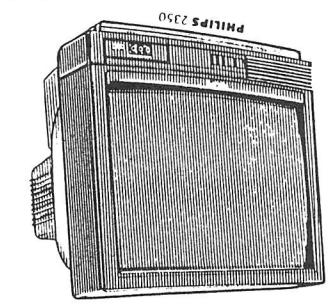
MTV EUROPE – European version of the famous American non-stop music channel.

CHILDRENS CHANNEL – Programmes to suit children of all ages.

SCREEN SPORT – Coverage of National and International sporting events.



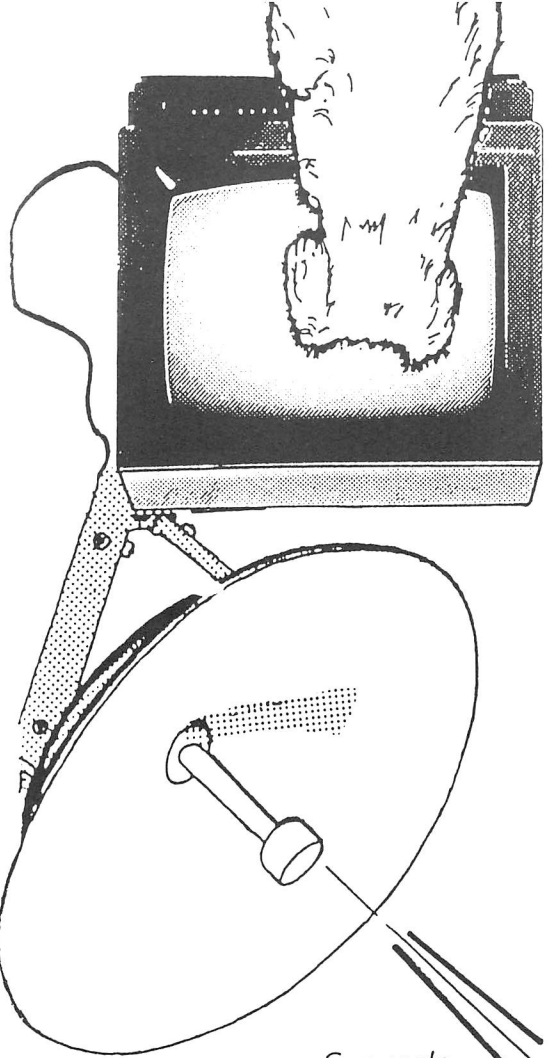
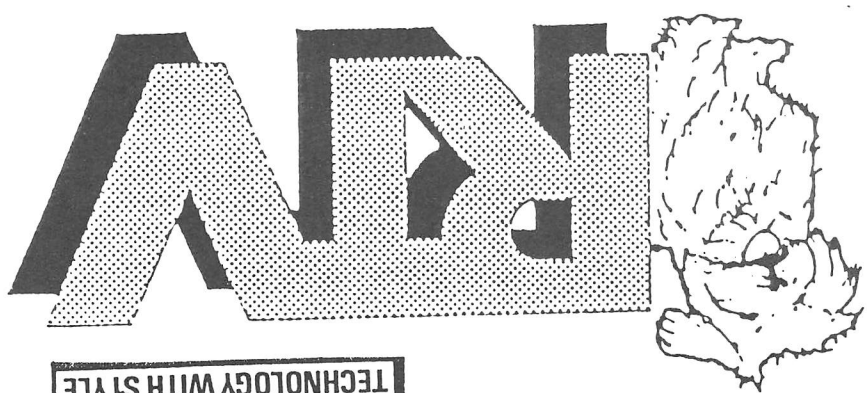
SPRING BARGAINS



PHILIPS FST TELEVISIONS			
MODEL	SCREEN	PRICE	
2350	51cm	£349.99	
2550	51cm	£399.99	
6570	59cm	£449.99	
TECHNOLOGY WITH STYLE			

10% DEPOSIT
9 MONTHLY PAYMENTS

0% INTEREST FREE CREDIT



Not!

About Ratby

Published by Ratby Scout Group

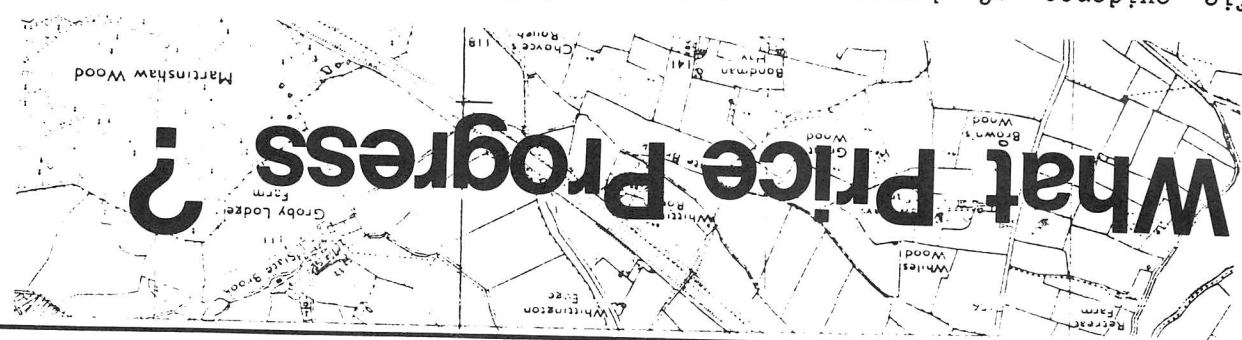
APRIL 1990

ISSUE 21

turn to page 19

Hobby Horse

Easter Pictures Page 8

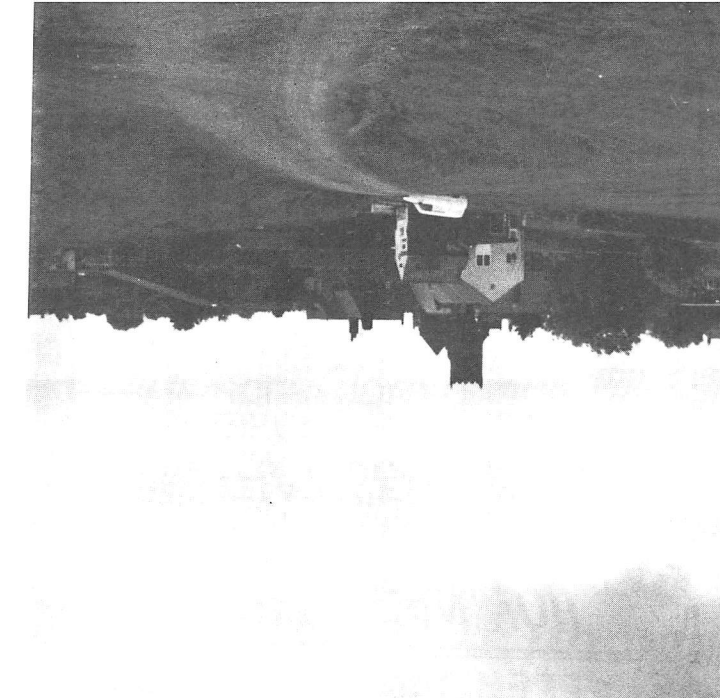


Scientific evidence of damage caused to the earth's atmosphere by the destruction of the Brazilian Rain Forest, brought condemnation by the world, regardless of the needs of the natives of that land whose way of life depended on the wood for homes, the sale of wood and by products to provide their other needs. In their eyes, they had committed no crime in trying to give their families a better way of life.

Every country of the world is equally guilty of the erosion of the earth's surface and that includes Great Britain. Every tree felled or hedge removed to favour building development, every new car adding further pollution to the earth's atmosphere is another nail in the coffin of the world.

We are told that more new roads are needed (every haulage company will support that), but have we ever considered that to create new roads somewhere in the land a quarry is being opened or extended to supply the minerals needed to build the new roads. Buddon Wood is one example, Groby Granite sited in the Midlands, some still being worked, others extinct. From the air these sites must have a moonscape appearance, vast areas of dead land with no vegetation within, and do the surveyors and local authorities really know what damage is done to the earth's surface and the water table during excavation work.

continued on Page 7



LETTERS

Dear Editor,

I would like to ask Mr Smith if it is necessary to have so much noise and banging in the movement of the vehicles to the rear of the factory.

I am led to understand that you use hydraulics on your containers, so surely this means that they could be placed in position and quietly (as possible) lowered to the ground. But Casepak it seems, insist on dropping the load hard and then dragging it along the concrete on what sounds like iron wheels not to well oiled.

The noise is appalling and the ground shakes. I live on the far side of Park Road but even so this procedure rattles my windows and even shakes my dividing doors.

I can only think that technology hasn't yet reached Casepak, or perhaps the men don't care to use it. It may be they simply lack proper supervision, or can it be that you just don't care about the people who have to live with this factory.

I won't mention the tanoy that blares out or the state of the frontage and road problems as I am sure you are aware of them all so, as your responsibility Mr Smith, let us not only have results but see them too.

E Priestnall
2 Park Road

WHERE CAN YOU FIND A SHOP THAT SELLS...

- ☆ GIFTS
- ☆ HOUSEHOLD GOODS
- ☆ UNDIES
- ☆ JEWELLERY
- ☆ TOYS

and lots more?

Ratby Main St. of course!
PAM'S BITS & BOBS
32a Main Street, Ratby

OPENING TIMES
Monday Friday 9.00am-5.00pm
Saturday 9.00am-4.00pm
Half day Wednesdays

Dear Editor,

I would like to ask Mr Smith when he is going to impress on his workers that there are people living on the other side of his fence, and cut down on the noise made by dropping metal vehicles.

Noise and vibration are listed as nuisance on the Planning conditions given to us by Hinckley & Bosworth Planning Committee.

Mrs L Woolman
7 Park Road Ratby

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE 1990-91

Elderly people living in Leicester should apply without delay for the new County Council half-fare travel pass.

The City Council 12p passes will not be valid after 6th May, but pensioners can apply instead for the County Council pass giving them half-fare travel throughout the City and County.

Application forms can be picked up at all City post offices and the closing date for the issue of passes at these post offices is 19th May 1990.

Anyone who already has a blue County Council pass need not fill in another form, but should take the blue pass to the post office they specified on last years application, where it will automatically be replaced by a new pass.

*****For advice ring BUSLINE Leicester 313391*****

Elderly Persons' Travel Scheme,
Department of Planning & Transportation,
County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester LE3 8RJ.



ALL CHEM-DRY CARPET CLEANING - PRESENTS -



- ★ Dries in 40-60 minutes
- ★ Leaves no sticky residue (Carpet stays cleaner longer)
- ★ Removes most stains
- ★ Guaranteed not to damage your carpet
- ★ 24 Hour Service
- ★ All work done by trained professionals

- ★ Dries in Hours or Days!
- ★ Leaves a residue that resists
- ★ May "set" some stains
- ★ Guarantee???
- ★ Requires expensive chemicals

The "Rug Monster" is clearly out-matched by Chem-Dry® Charlies unique, patented cleaning process - and the only work you have to do is dial one of our convenient phone numbers for an appointment.

FREE ESTIMATES
AS SEEN IN YELLOW PAGES

AFTER 6 p.m. 0530 37032
OFFICE 0533 387316

Lest We Forget

In our last two issues we have presented articles entitled "LEST WE FORGET". These have aroused quite an interest. A lot of the information was taken from a publication entitled Soldiers died in the Great War 1914 - 1919 Part 22 The Leicestershire Regiment published by J.B.Hayward & Son, Polstead, Suffolk. We thank them for allowing "Old Bill" to use their material.

JULIE'S HAIRDRESSING

MAIN STREET, RATBY

**Traditional & Modern
Styling**

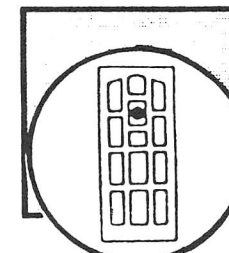
Telephone: 392406

BAND HALL OPENING

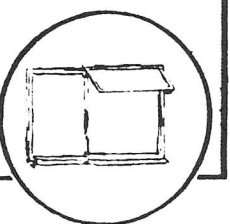
On Saturday 21st April the Ratby Co-operative Band is celebrating the opening of its newly built band headquarters which is situated off Station Road, Ratby. We would like to invite all friends and former members of the Band to join us in this celebration from 12.30 pm as the 'official opening' will be at 1.00 pm.

If anyone has any old photographs of the band that we could put on display for the opening celebrations would they please contact Phil Plant of 28 Bradgate Drive, Ratby or telephone him on 386510.

If you would like any further details about the bandroom opening then please contact Mrs Lynne Plant on Desford 3883, Mrs Sheralyn Newman on Leicester 313145 or Phil Plant.



COUNTRY STYLE WINDOWS



**SUPPLIERS & INSTALLERS
OF "UPVC" DOOR & WINDOW SYSTEMS**

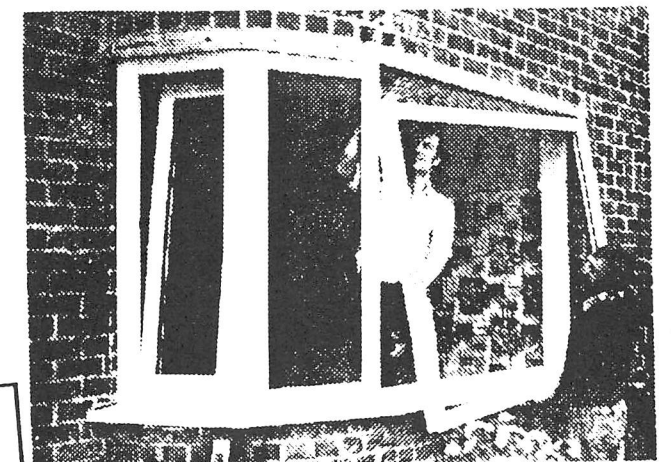
ALSO

SUPPLIERS TO BUILDING TRADE.
SUPPLIERS FOR NEW EXTENSIONS,
ALTERATIONS. SUPPLIERS OF PORCHES,
BAYS PATIOS. 10 YEARS EXPERIENCE
IN UPVC INDUSTRY.
FREE ESTIMATES + ADVICE
+ SURVEYS.

SMALL FAMILY BUSINESS
"BY LOCAL PEOPLE THAT CARE"
132 STAMFORD STREET,
RATBY, LEICESTER.

**CAVITY WALL & LOFT
INSULATION INSTALLERS**

EARL SHILTON
93 45826



LEICESTER
386339

Garden Notes for April

Traditional April showers should make this a good month for planting. Evergreens are particularly difficult to establish; because they have no leafless period they are always liable to excessive water loss. Bare-rooted plants should be planted in April or May and kept well watered if necessary, do remember that winds are especially drying. You can spray the plants with an anti-dessicant such as that used to prevent Christmas tree needles from dropping. Plants from containers also establish best at this time of the year.

Now is the time to sow hardy annuals such as Love-in-a-mist (Nigella), Marigolds (Calendula), Mignonette and other old favourites. Sow thinly and then thin out the seedlings, or you can sow two or three seeds in each insert in a seed tray and then plant out the little seedlings.

After such a mild winter many pests will have built up: where Whitefly is a problem it can be controlled by spraying with Picket or if you prefer you can grow plenty of French Marigolds (Tagetis) between susceptible plants such as tomatoes. Keep a look out for mildew on roses and spray with a suitable fungicide or cut out affected shoots and try to keep the plants growing well; rose mildew is particularly bad in dry weather.

Weeds build up quickly in the vegetable garden so keep the hoe going between the rows and hand weed between plants regularly. Between fruit bushes it is possible to remove weeds and then spray with simazine to prevent more weeds from germinating for several months. Couch grass is often a problem amongst perennial and rock plants. It is possible to control it by spraying with Weed-out which only kills grass.

Now is also the time to deal with

weeds in lawns. You can use a suitable lawn weedkiller; identify the weeds first and read the label carefully, all weedkillers are not suitable for the same weeds. Alternatively weeds such as dandelions can be dug out. The grass should be cut more closely as the weather warms up, this helps to control some weeds.

THE SERVICE GARAGE

MAIN STREET, RATBY

M.O.T.'S, SERVICING & REPAIRS

ACCIDENT REPAIRS, BODYWORK

Consult your Local Experts

FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP
AT COMPETITIVE PRICES
FREE ESTIMATES
INSURANCE WORK A SPECIALITY

Tel. 394966

HIS & HERS LADIES & GENTS HAIR DRESSING

OAPs welcome any day at reduced rates

STYLING · BLOW DRYING
COLOURING · SETTING
TRIMMING · PERMING

Ask about the

GOLDWELL

BIOCURL PRO 90 PERM

Tuesday to Saturday

Appointments not always necessary

156 Station Road, Rathby Tel. 394429



THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS

These days everybody has heard about 'Green Issues' such as river pollution, the rain forests, the ozone layer and many more besides. These are all very important issues to both know and care about. Some of you may already be caring by buying environmentally friendly products, or using lead free petrol. No doubt some readers of this article will belong to one or more of the many environmental organisations that now exist. Some of you might want to join such a group but have not made up your mind as to which one. I would like to suggest that you join the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds - RSPB.

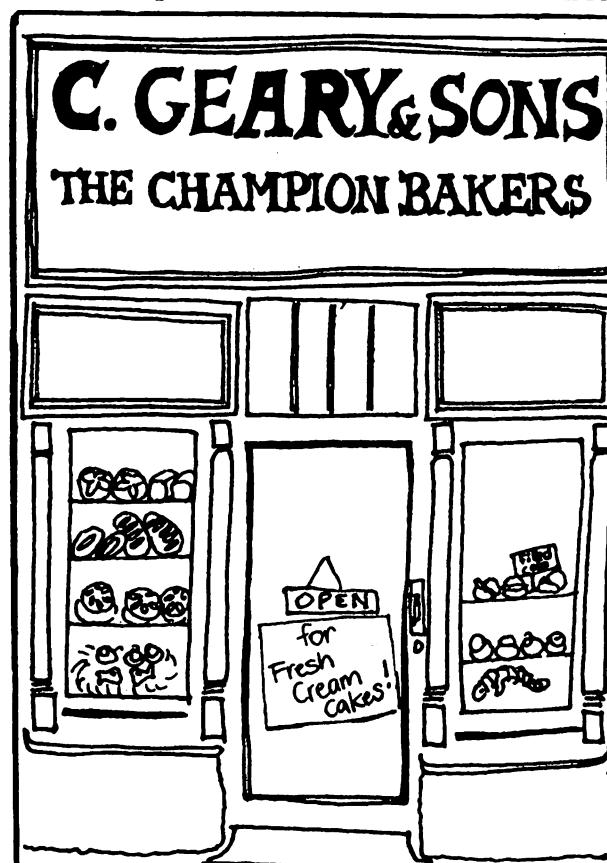
Why the RSPB, surely wild birds can look after themselves? I'm sorry to say that increasingly today, birds cannot look after themselves. The RSPB is the charity that fights threats from river pollution, destruction of

woodlands, estuaries, hedgerows and other habitats, also illegal shooting and trapping. By protecting birds we can help to make sure that we live in a healthy environment.

The RSPB also owns a growing number of reserves where birds and other wildlife enjoy protection. Here, people can see birds in their natural environment with the help of footpaths and hides. Children can learn about and enjoy the wildlife with the help of enthusiastic wardens.

Members of the RSPB are admitted free to most of the reserves. They also received the magazine Birds which is published quarterly. So please, help the birds and our environment by joining the RSPB.

If you would like any further information or a membership form please contact Peter Smith on Leicester 366629, or write enclosing a stamped addressed envelope to 41 Hazelhead Road, Anstey, Leicester, LE7 7DW.



VISIT OUR OLDE WORLDE SHOP

WEDDING, CELEBRATION & NOVELTY CAKES OUR SPECIALITY

C GEARY & SONS STATION ROAD, RATBY LEICESTER 386600

Geary Bakeries

SEE and TRY our range of;

66 Varieties of Bread

34 Varieties of Cobs, Rolls, etc.

200 Varieties of Cakes and Pastries

RUSTIC WHOLEMEAL ALLISON
HOVIS BEER BREAD & COBS BUN LOAVES
FANCY COBS REARSEY HEALTH BREAD FUDGE MALT BREAD
SPEKKLE HIGH FIBRE BREAD SESAME COBS & BAPS
MALT CRUNCH BREAD COBBS COTTAGE LOAVES
FARMHOUSE LOAVES WHITE & BROWN COBS and ROLLS & TWINNIES
CHEESE & ONION BREAD

FILLED COBS

**BRITISH LEGION - RATBY AND DISTRICT
BRANCH
POPPY APPEAL 1989**

The branch's efforts towards the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal for 1989 were given an excellent start with a donation from Kirby Muxloe Golf Club of £643, including £210 from local industry.

Some £200 was raised in the year from the sale of preserves and over £100 from harvest festival produce sales, leading up to the main effort for the year, the sale of poppies on and prior to Remembrance Day. Collecting boxes and trays were distributed throughout the area, raising a total of £2460.

Other receipts, including returns from the sale of wreaths and donations from church collections, raised the total to £3540. This compares with £2853 for 1988 and is a record total for the branch.

Our thanks are due to all those who have contributed so generously to this good cause. In particular, the branch wishes to thank the proprietors of all those shops and pubs whose co-operation contributed so much to our services.

R.N. Thomson
(Branch Poppy Appeal Organiser)

**BLUE BELL
SERVICE STATION**

★ Unleaded petrol on sale now ★
Leicester Road, Groby
Telephone 876850
Unigas Stockist
Fina Petrol and Oil
Sweets, Cigs. and
Accessories
Car Wash Facilities

Ratby of the 60s

I know not of historic fame, or claim or shame
Why a village be of such a name, as "RATBY".
Yet tis the place where I reside,
and with pride I do deride,
The inference of pesticide, with RATBY.

Humble, yet with dignity and self-respect
it doth project, illuminant -
the image of belonging and contentment.

"Now", twixt the triple poplars of the Vicarage
Close

and the twin, gaunt "Hang Men" trees,
"Cleft" by broddingnagian hand,
a cleavage in the fertile land.

Six lanes and two embankments wide.
Splits the rural country side
and motors buzz like bees

For usage as a Motor-Way
was this earthen cleavage rent,
Unhindered motivation, traversing
North, or South, hell-bent
Nor does the traveller e'er repent
his passing by of RATBY.

Yet! if you walk through RATBY's street
and meet, and greet a Ratby-ian
Tis not just for his-self you say
a greeting of the time of day
For he is but the legatee
of the nomen of his ancestry
and, like each one is proud to be a
resident of RATBY

Names like, Geary, Ball and Moore,
Shipman, Lemmon and a "Score"
of others too, ne'er rich or poor
who are; and will be ever-more
Trustees "ALL" of RATBY.

By the late
Sam Betteridge
of Ratby

Footnote for the interested!

Hangman Trees were deemed to be additional to requirements when the motorway bridge was built.

The two mature Ash-trees (or maybe two trunks from a common root) grew in the hedgrow of a much narrower Groby "Lane".

Situated approximately above the "now" central reservation on the south side of the bridge, they had grown parallel to each other and about six feet apart.

Wither they ever supported a gibbet is pure speculation, but one thing is for sure, they won't again.

6 Local Yokel

B.T. KEYMER
18 Parklands Avenue, Groby.
Tel: Leicester 876926
WASHING MACHINE AND
CLEANER REPAIRS
MOST MAKES
PROMPT, PERSONAL SERVICE
**** 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE ! ****

Ratby Fish Bar
Traditional English Fish & Chips
392772
Opening Times
Mon. - 6 - 11.30
Thurs. - 6 - 11.45
Friday - 11.30 - 1.30 a.m.
5.00 - 12 p.m.
Sat. - 12 - 1.30 a.m.
6 - 12 p.m.

RATBY POST OFFICE
Main Street, Ratby
Newsagent . Confectionery.
Tobacco.

PHOTOCOPY SERVICE GREETINGS CARDS
Hallmark, Rustcraft etc.
SHOE REPAIR AGENTS OPEN 7 DAYS

Tel. 393001.

PABARI'S
RATBY NEWS
FOR THE LARGEST SELECTION OF:
BEERS, WINES, SPIRITS, SOFT DRINKS

A VAST SELECTION OF CONFECTIONERY

NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES
DELIVERED DAILY

ALL THE LATEST VIDEO TITLES NOW IN
PHOTOCOPYING - REDUCING + ENLARGING

COME IN AND SEE FOR YOURSELVES

OPEN TILL 10.00 p.m. MONDAY to SATURDAY
and TILL 2.00 p.m. SUNDAY
7.00 TILL 9.00 P.M. SUNDAY EVENING

WHAT PRICE PROGRESS continued from front page

Somehow the needs of sheep and cattle to seek shelter from weather has been totally ignored when hedges were uprooted and replaced by fencing, and certainly no consideration to wild life and their needs. The Leader article of Issue No. 20, article expressed concern of what Ratby has in store for it, and rightly sympathises with the need for homes and the inevitable so called progress. Can progress really mean open green fields being used for huge factories such as the proposed Vic Berry development. Can progress really mean more development on the perimeter of the village increasing it by two and a half times its present size. Can progress really mean the loss of yet more acres of Martinshaw Wood to create extra lanes on the M1 motorway. What price progress. Someone must be brave enough to say enough is enough. Governments must lay down limits of development and never allow those limits to be breached or our beautiful green land will be no more. Buildings left empty for years must be used for industrial units, derelict land empty after building demolition should be used before developers cast their eyes on green field sites, and housing developments must be economically planned to make the best use of land.

If this is not done, what right have we to criticise the people of Brazil.

OMS

RATBY RAINBOW GUIDES

2 ladies needed to help (any age) with the Rainbows. We have an enjoyable and fun packed evening for girls aged 5 - 7 on Mondays, 5.30 - 6.45 p.m. We play games, sing songs and do little projects. This is prior to going to Brownies.

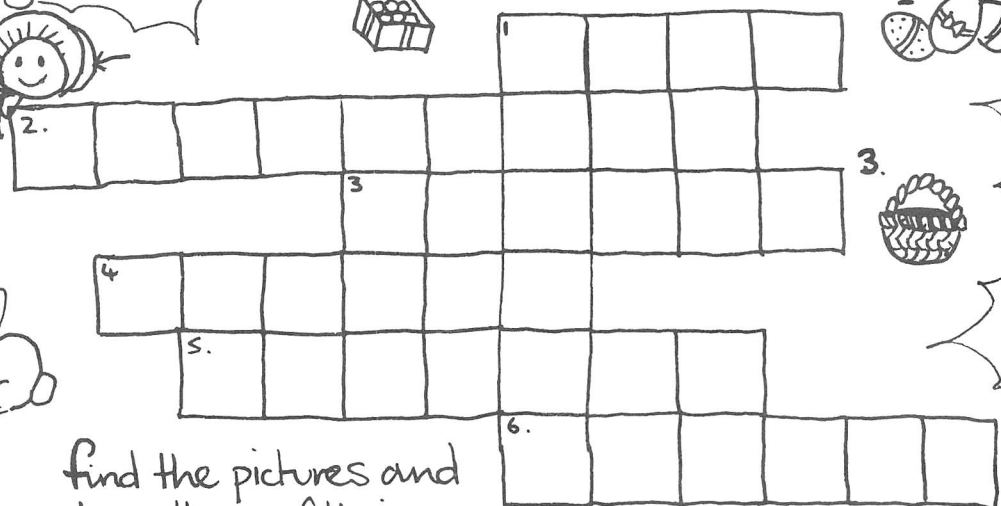
If interested please ring Mrs Coulson on 386334.

Babyfits Childrenswear
Now in - new summer garments!
We are now doing Babyfit Parties
Commission plus vouchers
for one Hostess
Invite your friends to a Babyfits party!
Interested - ring Annita
Something new -
Something Different!
32 Main Street, Ratby Tel: (0533) 395244

Crowie

Childrens page!

ITS EASTER
& A
WORD PUZZLE



Find the pictures and colour them, fill in the words and find the hidden word!

Send us lots of Jokes and pictures and leave them in the library!

CAROLINE
BINLEY AGE 10



The Theme :

for the next issue will be to design a new and strange tropical flower! or plant!

And give it a name!

hee hee (eat crows!)

I hope the Easter Bunny comes to see you



by Alison Fowler age 9

Easter Bunny

by Siobhan Woodward Age 9



by Amy Boud age 10

SPONSORED by KIRBYCO ~ flat roof specialists, Earl Shilton 48769.



COPPERS CORNER



CRIME fighters in Ratby have a new service to help them keep up to date with the latest news in their area.

Your local Police have launched 'Crime Call' a taped message to relay information to the area's Neighbourhood Watch schemes.

Crime Prevention Officer, Constable Jim Bott said it would help them stay in touch with the ever expanding network. He said: "It was becoming increasingly difficult to maintain regular contact with the number of schemes".

A taped message will relay crime information appeals and crime prevention advice to callers ringing the line between 6 pm and 8 am weekdays, and all weekend on the "Crime Call" number, Leicester 483273. It will be updated weekly.

At the end of each message callers will be able to pass on any information they have, or leave details of general enquiries.

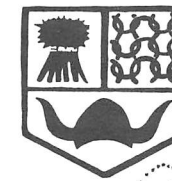
Urgent messages will be treated in the normal way.

BE AWARE OF THE CRIME OUT THERE! PHONE LEICESTER 483273!



WOT READERS

Readers may be interested to know that a recently published book entitled Railways Around Leicester - Scenes of Times Past was written and illustrated by local resident Horace Gamble. The book contains sixty of his photographs to accompany an informal narrative outlining the story of Leicester railways from 1832 - when the Leicester and Swannington Railway opened - to the end of the steam era. Anyone interested in purchasing a copy should ring 387240.



Ratby Primary School Association

SUMMER
FÊTE

Swing
boats

Tin-can shy
Cakes

Raffle

White
elephant

★ SATURDAY
JUNE 2nd ★

at

2 p.m.

at the School

★ BUNNY CASTLE ★

MORE Attractions
than ever before !!

We will be selling Fête
programmes door to door!
Make sure you get one.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Don't forget the next Rummage Sale
on 12th May in the Welfare Hall.

RATBY PRIMARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
HALF PAGE SPONSORED BY
C&R PRINTING SERVICES

I wonder how many people in Ratby know about the Record Office in New Walk, Leicester or how many have visited it (I personally know of two!). Yet in its collections of documents can be found a lot of information about Ratby in the past, along with every other village in Leicestershire and Rutland.

All organisations need to keep records to run their affairs which when they are no longer required can be used for historical research. The organisations whose records we hold on loan range from large concerns like the County Council and the National Health Service to small societies or individuals. The people who use the records come from all walks of life and are aged from nine to ninety: many of them are family historians but others include schoolchildren doing projects and adults interested in the history of their village.

Documents are unique and have to be treated with great care; they can only be consulted in the Record Office but most items can be copied fairly cheaply. Unfortunately there are unscrupulous people who steal documents so security is tight. The first source for information on a place or subject is the library but many people doing research then need access to original documents and find their way to the Record Office.

Joke corner

What do you call a Skoda at the top of a hill?

A miracle!

Why do Skodas have fluffy dice hanging in the windscreen?
Because you have to throw a six to start them.

How do you double the value of a Skoda?
Fill it up with petrol!!

Q) What is the difference between Tottenham Hotspur and a tea bag?

A Treasure-House of Local History

An Inventory of the Goods and Chattels of John Biggs late of the Parish of Ratby in the County of Leicester His Executors Decided taken the 19th Day of December 1768

<i>Pers and Apparell</i>	<i>£ 12-0-0</i>
<i>House Furniture, The Clock and Pewter</i>	<i>1-15-0</i>
<i>The Fire Irons</i>	<i>0-10-0</i>
<i>All the other Furniture in the House</i>	<i>0-10-0</i>
<i>Goods in the Parlour, Two Beds and Hangings</i>	<i>2-5-0</i>
<i>All the other things in the Parlour</i>	<i>0-5-0</i>
<i>Room over the House, one Bed</i>	<i>1-10-0</i>
<i>All the other things in that Room</i>	<i>0-3-0</i>
<i>Room over the Parlour</i>	<i>0-2-0</i>
<i>One Cart 15, one Plow 5, Cows 10,</i>	<i>1-10-0</i>
<i>Hay and Corn - Hay in the Wood Close</i>	<i>2-10-0</i>
<i>Corn growing in the Wood Close</i>	<i>0-18-0</i>
<i>Hay in the Wood</i>	<i>0-5-0</i>
<i>Hay at Home</i>	<i>0-10-0</i>
<i>Peas and Barley</i>	<i>0-12-0</i>
<i>Quick Stock, In the Burrow, one Old Mare</i>	<i>0-10-0</i>
<i>Five Sheep and two Lambs</i>	<i>2-2-0</i>
<i>At Home Three Cows and one Calf</i>	<i>10-0-0</i>
<i>One Pig</i>	<i>1-10-0</i>
	<i>Ant. £ 28-8-0</i>

Seen and Appraised the Day and Year above Written

by us John Ratby

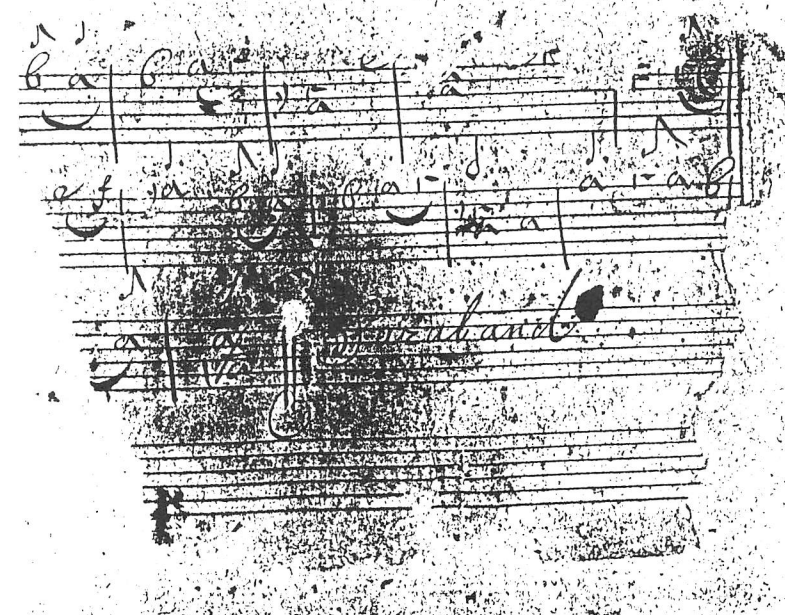
Probate Inventory of John Biggs, 1768

What do we have on Ratby? There are certain collections which contain information on practically everywhere in the county, of which the most important is the Court of Quarter Sessions (QS). This was a legal body which took on additional duties and received a lot of official documents, such as railway plans, lists of printing presses, friendly societies and freemasons, crop returns, lists of pauper lunatics, etc. You can find details of pubs, animal diseases, canal boats, taxation and gamekeepers, to name just a few; did you know for example that the first application for a meeting house for protestant dissenters in Ratby was in 1794?

Local estate records are very important and Ratby of course was owned for many years by the Grey family. Unfortunately their records are disappointing but there are some interesting items such as 18th century maps. Somewhat unusually there is both an enclosure award (1771) and a tithe award (1849).

The records of the parish church are disappointing; the registers of baptisms, marriages and burials only begin in 1778 (although one for the years 1695-1710 survives elsewhere) and the early ones are thought to have been destroyed by fire. Even more disappointing is that there are no civil parish records, especially the very important documents relating to poor relief which are so important in any study of a village. There are a few school records, for the years 1871-1904.

The parish council has recently deposited its records on loan but (like other collections) they are not all open to public access as confidentiality must be observed.



Piece of manuscript music
undated (c.1680)
Found in house in Ratby

The records will undergo the same process as every other archive: they will be accessioned and listed, stored in purpose-built strongrooms where they will be protected against their natural 'enemies' (fire, water, vermin and humans!) and repaired if necessary by highly skilled craftsmen.

Not all records are very old: the Women's Institute has undertaken a number of projects in the past and the results of their work are in the Record Office- the 1967 field name survey, the 1975 European Architectural Heritage Year questionnaire and the 1981 graveyard survey. To indicate the wide variety of documents I should mention the milk roundsman's account book of c.1930 and the 1905 inventory of an off-licence. To quote from a slogan once used by a Sunday newspaper: 'All human life is here'.

The record office is situated at 57 New Walk and is open 9.15 - 5.00 Mondays to Thursdays, 9.15 - 4.45 Fridays and 9.15 - 12.15 Saturdays (except before a bank holiday). Access to documents requires a reader's ticket issued on production of some sort of official document such as a driving licence, benefit book or passport.

Kate Thompson
County Archivist (and a Ratby inhabitant)

EDITORIAL

Two issues are currently being discussed around the village at the moment - the Community Charge and the proposed Vic Berry development in Newtown Unthank. (It is still not too late to write to Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council about that plan!)

In this issue of WOT we have printed an update on recent planning applications and the front page carries an article concerned with the effects of progress.

We would like to hear your views
on the future of Ratby?

Sponsored by Gas Ap

pliance

6 Saxons Rise, Ratby, Leicester LE6 0NF

HOME-MADE WINE SIPPINGS



The production of home-made wine is a fascinating hobby with considerable recompense at the end of the exercise!

This article does not set out to describe how to make wine, but may give some extra thoughts to those who enjoy the activity.

We all strive to improve, and when finally ready, finished wine should not be stored in temperatures below 5°C (40°F) nor above 17°C (83°F) but ideally at around 11°C (52°F), and shielded from light.

It is assumed that care has been taken to use only suitable materials for the equipment, e.g. stainless steel, glass, nylon or good-quality plastic. Meticulous attention to sterilisation is essential with proprietary sulphating agents and these should be rinsed away from the items after use so as not to impart unpleasant flavours to the wine.

Moving to the ingredients, only firm ripe and undamaged fruit should be used, washed as thoroughly as possible without sacrificing valuable juice. Fruit wines are the writer's preference. After treating the ingredients in accordance with the recipe being followed, use only a good wine yeast, e.g. Bordeaux or Burgundy for red wines and Tokay or Sherry for white. Consideration may also be given to the use of one of the low temperature (down to 5°C) yeasts now available and mixing this with yeasts of one of the above types gives good results, the latter aiding the former to give a consistent fermentation. The special named yeasts mentioned tend to tolerate higher levels of alcohol.

Although wine of high, say up to 18% by volume alcohol, suit dessert types, good table wines for short storage, say six months to one year can be made by restricting the added sugar to about 1¹/₄ to 1³/₄ lbs depending on the sugar content of the fruit base, and fermenting out to dryness.

Some wine-makers advocate the use only of boiled water to prepare the must (fermentable mixture) but tap water contains dissolved air which aids the fermenting process. However, if boiled water is to be used it is advisable to let it stand for some hours in a sterilised vessel covered with a lint-free cloth so that it may re-absorb air.

The tolerance of the yeast may be increased by topping up in gradual doses after first active fermentation has slowed down, with a strong sugar solution. This is prepared by dissolving sugar at the rate of 1lb to 1 pint of water, just brought to the boil, then allowed to cool before storing in a sterilised bottle with an air-tight stopper.

The balance of a wine depends partly on the right proportions of tannin and acid; the former playing a large role in the keeping properties of the wine, and the latter providing its piquancy and influencing the flavour.

FIELD HEAD TRAVEL



H. FREEMAN & SON

Family Butcher
88 MAIN STREET RATBY
MOBILE SHOP
DELIVERS
TWICE WEEKLY
Telephone: Leicester 393124

Three types of acid are advantageous in a well balanced wine, viz: Tartaric, Malic and Citric. The following proportions are suggested: 50% Tartaric, 30% Malic and 20% Citric.

The first mentioned gives the wine greater resistance to infection. Malic is the acid found in apples and of course Citric derives from Citrus fruits. To give the wine the required "body" and its vinous nature it is advisable to use grape concentrate, up to say ½ pint per gallon.

For most accurate addition of grape tannin it is best to use the liquid form.

Reference to the use of Pectolase, Bentonite and other recipe additives will not be discussed here.

Careful blending of finished wines can be fun and often serves to bring out the best features of the components. Respectable types of wine can be achieved in this way.

Happy Wine Making!

I.M. BIBER



ELECTRAPOWER

Industrial, Domestic & Commercial
Electrical Installations

M.L. Mutton

55 GYNSILL LANE ANSTEY LEICESTER LE7 7AJ
TELEPHONE: (0533) 871128

RATBY PRIVATE HIRE

ANY DISTANCE
PARCELS ... AIRPORTS
PENSIONERS TOKEN SCHEME

tel. 386905 OR 0860/538355

Ratby Playgroup



Summer is approaching. Hooray we all shout! Just think the sun, warmth, the gardens, the sea, the long school holiday, bored children.

Ratby Playgroup is hoping to organise it's second summer Playscheme following the success of last year's. It will again be held in the Church Rooms and there will be activities for the children ranging from sewing to cooking, painting to clay modelling, face painting to room to burn off energy plus much more and trips out. Children between the ages of 3 and 8 years of age are welcome to come along on week commencing Monday 6th August until Friday 10th August.

However, we will need as much adult help as possible to make it happen. If you would like to help us help the children, even if its only for one morning, please contact Lesley Chevin, 386605, or Lyn Evans, 386347. Teenagers who would like to help us are also very welcome. Notices will go out shortly with more details, please look out for those. Booking forms will be available in due course.

Please help us if you can.

Starting Playgroup

Would parents of children aged 3 years between the dates of 23/4/90 and 31/8/90 who would like their child to start Playgroup in August this year, please contact Lesley Chevin or Lyn Evans as soon as possible to ensure a place at Playgroup. Playgroup Annual General Meeting

Will be held at the School Hall on Wednesday 2nd May at 7.30 pm. Anyone interested is welcome to come along. Infant teachers will be present to talk to parents. Refreshments will be available.

Sponsored by GLENFIELD WASTE



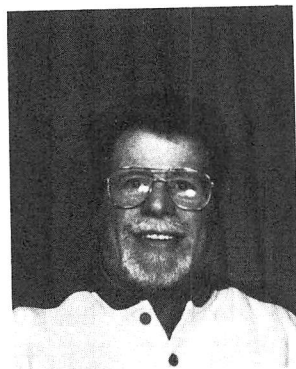
"We cover all areas"
(Leics.) 750252

SMALL AND LARGE SKIPS
SPECIALISTS IN DOMESTIC &
COMMERCIAL D.I.Y. &
GARDEN WASTE DISPOSAL
MILLHILL - ENDERBY - LEICESTER

Vic Berry Proposal

The Parish Council has expressed concern about the possible dangers of pollution to neighbouring villages, and to the Rothley Brook, as well as the dangers of increased traffic. The Council believes that such a development is totally inappropriate in a rural green field site.

Maintenance Person



Play Areas

Damaged swing seats at Burroughs Road Recreation Ground are to be replaced with shockabsorbing seats.

Village Improvements

Borough Council
North Eastern Parishes Local Plan

The majority of the objections relate to the parish of Ratby. Ratby Parish Council has reiterated its support for the original proposals and limits of future development.

Community Charge

Councillor Mr John Smalley reported that the Community Charge for Ratby is to be £339.84. He also reported that as with the former Rates, the bulk of the new Charge will go to the County Council with most of the money being spent on education.

County Council

Councillor Mrs Pat Butler reported that the results of the traffic census in Ratby had not yet been received. Although Wolsey Drive has been resurfaced, Stamford Street, Whittington Drive, and parts of Markfield Road and Station Road are still in a mess. Mrs Butler is following up these and other reported problems.

Annual Parish Meeting

The date of the Annual Parish Meeting will
be Thursday April 19th.

Dates of Next Parish Council Meetings

April 3rd 1990 and May 2nd 1990.



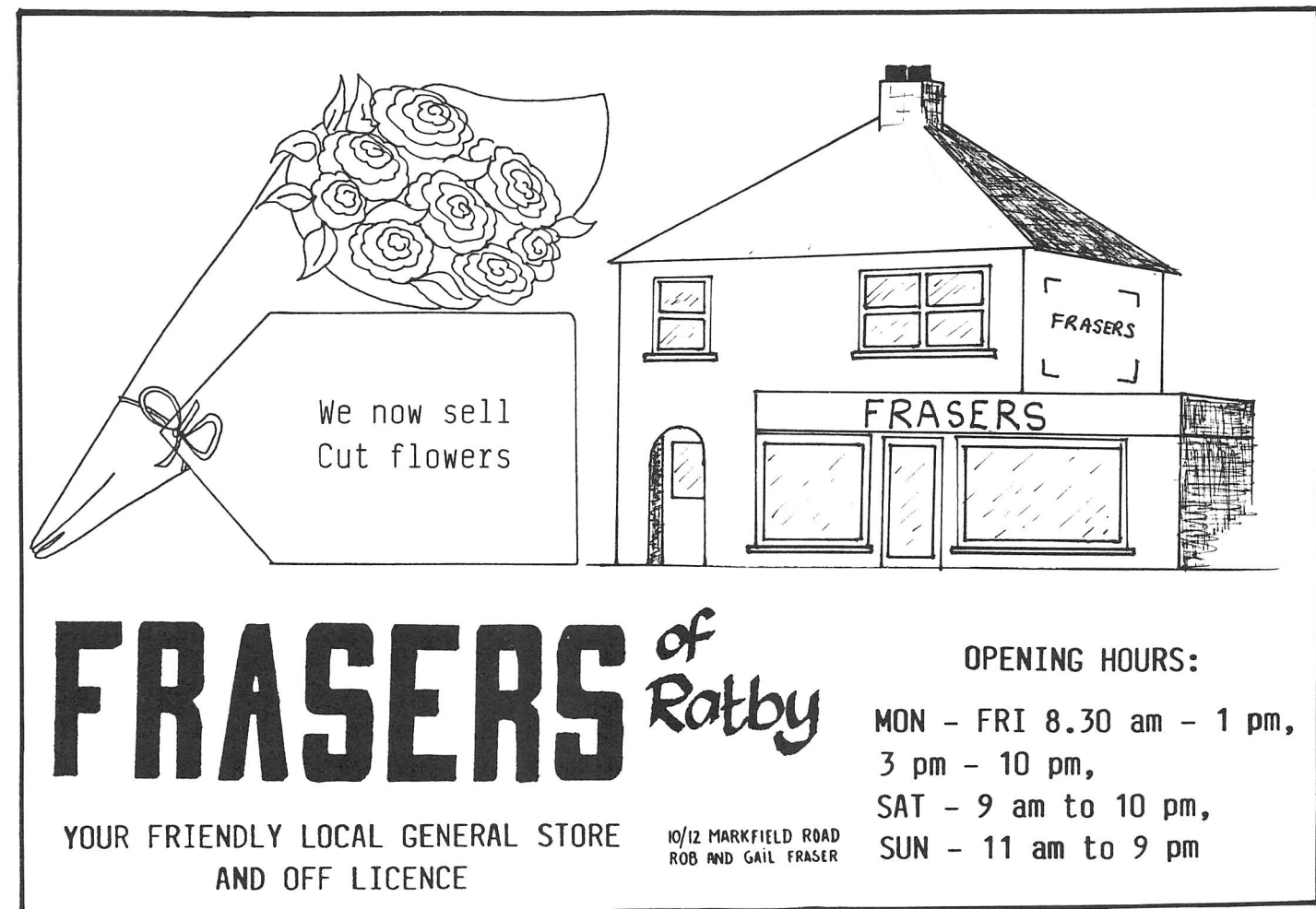
th *Bradgate Business Services*

Typing, Wordprocessing, Mailshots, CV's

* Top Quality * Confidential Service *

SHORTHAND, TYPING & WORDPROCESSING TRAINING

Telephone: Leicester 386334
For Details



~~FREE FITTING FREE FITTING FREE FITTING FREE FITTING FREE FITTING FREE FITTING FREE FITTING~~

**PORTER'S DISCOUNT
CARPETS**

**121/3 STATION ROAD
RATBY, LEICESTERSHIRE
Tel: 393238 / 395202**

SHOP AT HOME SERVICE

BERBERS	AXMINSTERS	SCULPTURED
HUEGA TILES	TWISTPILE	FLOTEX
CUSHIONFLOOR	SAXONY	SCOTCHGARD

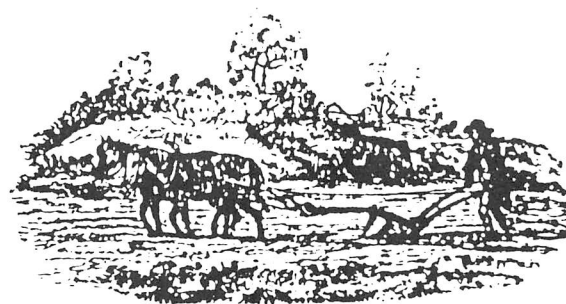


S NEW!
Scotchgard
STAIN RELEASE

ANTRON®
STAINMASTER®
CARPET CERTIFIED BY DU PONT



FREE FITTING FREE FITTING FREE FITTING FREE FITTING FREE FITTING FREE FITTING FREE FITTING



The Plough Inn

Burroughs Road, Ratby, Leicester. Tel: 0533 392103

EVENING MENU SERVED IN THE GRILL ROOM

TO BEGIN

- Chef's Soup of the Day** 95p
Served with crusty bread and butter
- Home Made Paté** £1.40
Served with hot toast, butter and salad garnish
- Prawn Cocktail** £1.95
Selected prawns, topped with Marie Rose and served with brown bread and butter
- Stuffed Mushrooms** £1.50
Fresh button mushrooms prepared to our Chef's high quality cuisine.
- Avocado with Blue Cheese Dressing** £1.50
- Hot Smoke Peppered Mackerel** £1.50

MAIN COURSES

- Prime Gammon Steak** £3.60
Thick and juicy and served with a hot pineapple slice or egg
- Golden Scampi** £3.25
Selected scampi, breadcrumb and deep fried and golden brown. Served with a lemon wedge and tartare sauce
- The Plough's Mixed Grill** £5.45
An array of different meats to satisfy even the heartiest of eaters, served with button mushrooms, and onion rings
- Rump Steak** £5.25
An 8oz prime steak grilled to your liking and garnished. Served with button mushrooms, grilled tomato and onion rings.
- Peppered Fillet Steak** £6.50
An 8oz prime steak grilled to your liking and with a rich sauce of Brandy, White Wine, Cream and green peppercorns.

- 20oz 'T' Bone Steak** £8.25
A "Go for it" meal grilled to your liking, served with mushrooms, grilled tomato and onion rings.
- Large Scallops and Mussels en Vol-au-Vent** £4.75
A delicious fish fortè poached in Vermouth and Cream, garnished with green grapes, all in a large Vol-au-Vent.
- Salmon Trout Banker Style** £4.50
Fillets of fresh trout poached in wine with mushrooms, cucumber with Prawns and Cream.
- Duck Breast a la Johnson** £5.50
A mouth watering breast of Duck in a sauce of Port and Red wine with cranberries and mushrooms.
- Chicken Supreme Tsarina** £4.95
Succulent chicken in a sauce of Cream, with cucumber, celery and lemon.

ALL MAIN COURSES ARE ACCOMPANIED
BY CHEF'S CHOICE OF VEGETABLES OF
THE DAY, OR IF REQUESTED A FRESHLY
PREPARED SALAD.

TO FOLLOW

A superb selection of the Chef's Sweets of the moment to
compliment your meal.

3-COURSE TRADITIONAL SUNDAY LUNCH

GLENFIELD & DISTRICT W.I. MARKET

In 1976, members of Rabty Womens Institute joined with members from Glenfield, Kirby Muxloe and Anstey to form a market and this is still flourishing. We offer a sincere welcome every Friday morning from 10.00 to 11.30 a.m. in the Scout Hall, Stamford Street, Glenfield. The market is open to everyone and there is no need to be a W.I. member to become a customer or producer. Come and see the wide choice of attractive well-made gifts for all occasions, knitted and sewn garments, safe toys, greetings cards, jewellery, pictures, barometers and furniture made to your own requirements.

Fill your pantries and freezers from the appetising selection of homemade cakes, pastries, preserves and pickles - hygienically cooked and carefully packed, all fit for everyday gourmets.

Choose plants, shrubs, flowers, fruit and vegetables in season freshly brought in by dedicated gardeners.

Relax and chat with a good cup of coffee among friends who are working co-operatively together to have fun, to enjoy healthy eating and to encourage the continuance of skills and talents in local arts and crafts.

Come early, for trade is brisk, catch the 9.50 bus - we shall be delighted to see you. (What about equal rights

WOMENS ? Institute ... Editor !)

GERALDINE

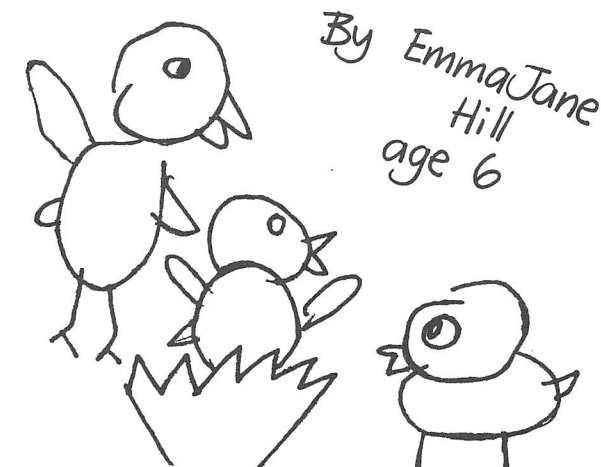
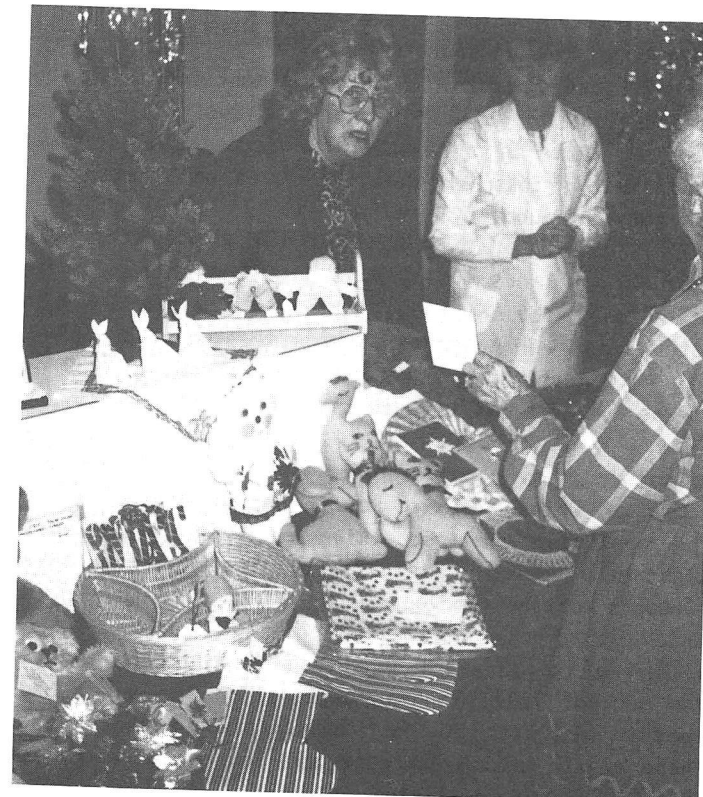
**WALL AND FLOOR
FIRED EARTH SPECIALIST
FREE ESTIMATE**

M.M. & K.A. PLUNKETT BUILDER
8. MARKFIELD RD. RATBY, LEIC. LE6 0LP
TEL. 392464

**DEADLINE FOR LETTERS, ARTICLES & ADVERTS FOR
THE JUNE EDITION IS THURS. 17TH MAY**

ADVERTS PHONE 395179
ARTICLES PHONE 393279
EDITOR 393367

HOTLINE!! Phone us on 394873 or
395179 with interesting news



KEN TOMKINS

General Builder
Alterations and Extensions
PROPERTY REPAIRS

93 Gynsill Lane, Anstey, Leicester
Telephone: 871698



How do you tell the
difference between a
weasel and a stoat?



A weasel is weasily
recognised, but a
stoat is stoatally
different!



PLANNING UPDATE 15TH MARCH 1990

In the last article in WOT, we mentioned that the application for a golf course was awaiting approval of the section 52 agreement; for access via Markfield Road, Ratby; this was never achieved and that scheme was not continued.

Another application for a 120 bedroom hotel, restaurant, leisure club, conference centre and bars with 40 time share units was put forward in July 1989. this application was refused in September 1989 as it was out of scale with an isolated rural locality.

There was then considerable debate, one of the outcomes of which resulted in it being pointed out to the applicant that something on a different scale might be favourably discussed but that the time share elements must be removed.

A further application was then submitted, which is the current full planning application for an 86 bedroom hotel, with 36 golf apartments in two blocks, these being bed, breakfasts and lounge accommodation with no cooking facilities.

The section 52 road agreement for access is to Markfield Lane, Botcheston (as indicated on the plan) has not yet been signed sealed and delivered. This will tie the whole application together so that it is developed as one. The planning permission, though printed with the conditions imposed for the benefit of the area is not passed until the section 52 agreement is completed. (We will publish the permission with conditions when it is available).

It has been pointed out that included in the area of woodlands is Ratby Burroughs North which had not been properly maintained but part of the agreement is that it is to be properly maintained.

Also it is understood that concern has been put

forward to the planning department about the continuance of public footpaths and bridleways. These are independent of the planning permission and will continue in accordance with legal principles for diversion or amendment and will be closely monitored.

Other conditions include road construction, drainage and landscaping.

Old Hayes Farm is scheduled as an ancient monument site and it has been agreed that archaeologists will have access during development.

Other planning matters

Knighton Park Trust have held in abeyance at their own request their planning application off Station Road.

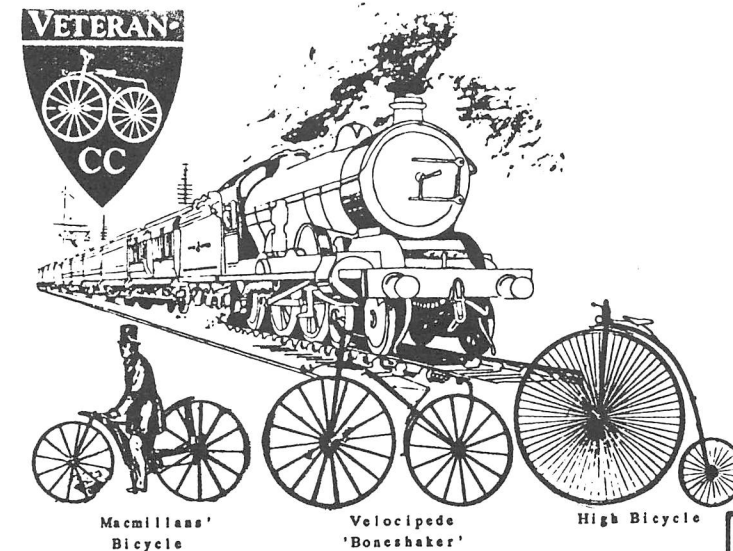
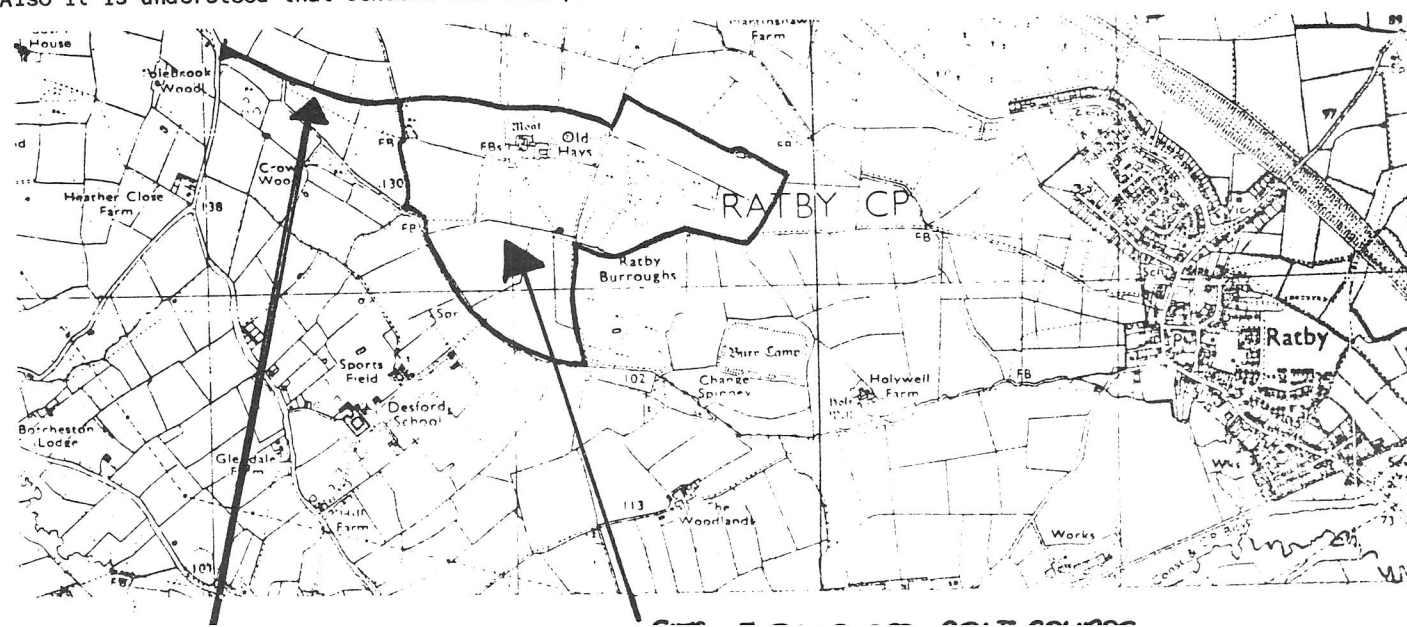
The reason is there is to be a public local inquiry into the North Eastern Parishes local plan (which includes Ratby) when proposals for the area will be considered by the inspector.

It will commence at Hinckley & Bosworth Planning Offices on 30th May 1990 for about one week.

Ratby Sports Club have been approved a change of use for the land across the brook from the present cricket field from agricultural to recreational purposes.

Travellers have been granted permission to permanently place 10 caravans (for 5 families) at Ben's Hut near Alexander Stone on the railway cutting off Desford Lane. Access is from the old diverted road. Landscaping will be required on the exposed side facing Kirby Muxloe.

The planning department at Hinckley & Bosworth objected but it was won on appeal to the Department of the Environment.



COME AND JOIN US

For a special 25th Les Wooding memorial* veteran cycle ride, starting at Kidderminster Severn Valley Steam Railway at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday 22nd April 1990. For those around on Saturday 21st there will be a cycle-jumble at Kidderminster College of Technology, Hoo Road.

This year is special for it also sees the 150th anniversary of the invention of the pedal cycle by Kirkpatrick Macmillan** and 35 years since the formation of the Veteran-Cycle Club. Plus the S.V.S.R. are celebrating their 25th anniversary this year.

The V-CC specializes in the preservation and restoration of veteran-cycles*** (not cyclists) and welcomes enthusiasts of all age groups from toddlers to pensioners.

If you require more information about the Veteran-Cycle Club and its activities please telephone 021-350-0685.

* Les Wooding and his friends organised the first veteran cycle ride from Kidderminster to Stourport and back on Easter Sunday in 1965. Sadly Les died later that year.

** Kirkpatrick Macmillan was the first man to fit pedals to a bicycle. The wood and iron machine made by this Dumfriesshire blacksmith in about 1840 was clumsy and heavy, and it never became popular. But its rear wheel drive - produced by a system of cranks and swinging levers - have since shown the machine to be many years ahead of its time. Indeed, when pedals next appeared

Gas
Appliance
Services

- Appliance Servicing and Installation
- Breakdown and Repair Services
- Plumbing and Heating Installation
- Kitchen & Bathroom Design and Installation
- Quality Guaranteed by Experienced Engineers



**YOUR DOMESTIC GAS
BOILER SERVICED**

6 SAXONS RISE, RATBY, LEICS. LE6 0NF

■ Tel: (0533) 393662

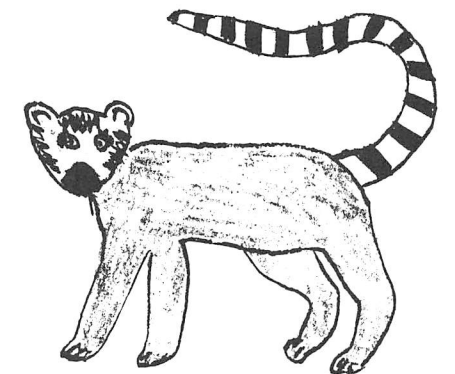


RATBY GIRL A TV STAR!!

Following a long since forgotten letter to the BBC TV "Really Wild Show" 2 years ago, Amy Boud was amazed to receive an invitation to the Bristol studio in March.

The programme was televised on March 29th and Amy was filmed meeting a baby ring tailed Lemur called Basil!!

It was an exciting day and 'Basil' made a great impression by biting her finger for a permanent reminder of the occasion.



ring-tailed Lemur
by Amy Boud

wheel and this method was universal for about 20 years until J.K.Starley made his Rover in 1885.

*** The term "Veteran-Cycle" is somewhat misleading in that you do not have to possess an ancient bicycle to participate. In fact there is a growing number of classic 50s and 60s machines taking part