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Wot! About Ratby



APRIL 1992

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP

ISSUE 33

Belgrave & District Working Men's Club 21 CHECKETT'S ROAD. Phone: 610541.

General Secretary ... S. A. ANSTEE,

THE PREMIERLAND OF LEICESTER Affiliated British Boxing Board of Control.

Great Boxing Tournament Friday, Next May 15th. at 8-0.

A Great 10 Round Middle-weight Contest.

PAT O'CONNOR

(LEICESTER)
Record includes, George Jevoes K.O. 7 Rds. Fred Jukes, Den Martin and recently Drew with Joe Rostron (Heywood) over 15.3 min. Rds. etc. etc. V.

Johnnie Seamarks

Has Deleated Sonny Doke (Battersea) twice, Billy Adair (Bethnal Green), Bill Dixon, Bill Barry (London), etc. etc.

Extra 6 Round Contest.

Slasher Hirons v Joe Gutteridge (RATBY) (LEICESTER)

Special 6 Round Contest.

Kid Allen v Fred Ingham

Grand 8 Round Contest.

TEDDY BEDDER (AYLESTONE)

IIM KNIGHT (LEICESTER)

RECORDS OF THESE BOYS ARE WELL-KNOWN.

Referee : Mr. Arthur Morten B.B.B. of C. M.C. Mr. Jack Tensey Boxing Committee: H. Longland A. North, W. Woodford, F. Warren W. North.

Secretary Boxing Sale Committee: A. North. Seconds, Harold Farther and Clina Whitworth, Timekeepon Mr. Fred Curtis Members and Afrilated members coly Admission: 6d. and 1,2 (Ringolde scats).

Free List Estively Surredad. E. Hilds, Proter V. Natharsto Sur- t, Indirection

BOXING IN RATBY

Apparently, boxing matches used to be held in the old dance hall in Ratby.

'Slasher Hirons' whose name appears in this handbill was a well known local hero. Anyone remember him? Write in and tell us if you have any boxing stories, or phone our hotline on 395179 or 394873.

RATBY PARISH COUNCIL SPRING GARDEN COMPETITION

First Prize - Mr and Mrs Green 76 Markfield Road

2nd Prize - Mr Sharman 49 Church Lane

3rd Prize - Mrs Lilian Clarke 8 Gillbank Drive

The Judge, Noreen Jardine, has also commended

13 South Walk 4 East Walk 12 Ingle Drive

16 gardens were nominated.

We hope to bring you photographs of the prize presentation in the next issue.

Watch out for details of the Summer Garden competition in the June issue - and get busy in your garden now.

> SAVE WESTERN PARK CAMPAIGN

The views expressed are the views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher

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ICE GLAZE ON PRAWNS

Leicestershire County Council Trading Department have Standards attention to the amount of ice glaze used in preserving cooked and peeled

Over 4 years ago the Government promised action which would enable consumers to make easier comparisons between products by requiring the actual weight of prawns prior to ice glazing to be declared. This has not happened and recently the Department sampled, cooked and peeled prawns labelled "11b including ice Questions being asked was "How glaze". So far varying much ice glaze?". amounts from 29 to 44 per cent have been found, in cash terms that means 47p -£1.12p worth of ice glaze. It is considered that 15% of ice glaze is sufficient to protect the prawns.

Some manufacturers, but not all, do declare the amount of ice glaze but on packets examined the statement is not very prominent.

GET RICH QUICK



In the Christmas issue of WOT we "Get Rich Quick reported upon Schemes," it is good to hear that a national organiser of such schemes was recently convicted in the Leicester Crown Court.

The operator, was fined £5000 and ordered to pay £1500 costs, for knowingly making false statements about the nature and potential earnings to be made from an envelope addressing scheme.

Anybody that has had a bad experience of a homeworking scheme

A Year in the Life of a First Ratby Brownie

In August 1991, 15 Brownies and 4 leaders went off for 4 days Pack holiday at Oaks in Charnwood. This year our theme was Beatrix Potter stories. We had lovely weather, and a fantastic 4 days - making teasle hedgehogs, pom-pom hedgehogs, fondant bunnies and mice, and quilling cards to send home. We went into Nottingham one day to visit the Lace Hall and then went ice skating, before having tea at McDonalds. Special thanks must go to Mrs Lorraine McBean who was our cook, helped by Mrs Diane Porter, and Mrs Carol Wilcox who helped Brown Owl with the activities.

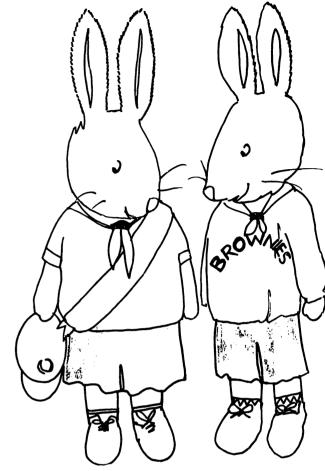
In October we held a 'Pack Holiday Evening' when we watched the video that had been made - enrolled Tawny (Mrs Lyn Evans) and made £15 towards next year's pack holiday. Mrs Barbour (Division Commissioner) came along, and was pleased to present Brown Owl (Mrs Marylyn Smith) with her pack holiday licence so now she can take us again!!

Between September and Christmas, we went swimming, made various crafts, had a fun day at Brownie Revels, and wrote to a Brownie pack in Canada, as we have a Canadian Brownie with our pack for a year. We also took part in the Annual Division Christmas concert and had a party/disco with the Swifts cub pack.

Since Christmas we've had an origami night, iced biscuits, made Valentine cards, dancing brownie dolls, sewed drawstring bags, made Mother's Day gifts, cooked pancakes and had a super evening country dancing with Mrs Lynne Mellor.

After the Easter holidays we are going to start preparing for this year's pack holiday which will be from August 8th -12th.

Since September we have enrolled 5 new Brownies into our pack and sent 3 up to Guides. Sadly, Mrs Carole Wilcox left us after helping out for 4 years - thank



TO THE PARENTS AND BROWNIES OF THE 2ND RATBY BROWNIE PACK

Dear All

Tawny and myself have been Brownie leaders now for the past four years and must say that we have both enjoyed it very much. But due to other commitments we both feel that the time has come for us to move over and give someone else a chance to run the 2nd Ratby Brownie Pack.

So it is with regret that we inform both parents and Brownies that we shall finish as leaders on the 30th June 1992.

To enable the 2nd Ratby Brownie Pack to continue after the 1992 school summer holidays we are looking for volunteers to step into our shoes. If you feel that you would like to take on the role, please contact either Tawny or myself.

You are of course welcome to come along to the Chapel rooms for any Tuesday meeting if you wish to find out what being a Brownie Leader entails.

Rathy Village Society

APRIL MAY JUNE EVENTS

PRIL 14th "Canal Boats" An illustrated talk by Mr G.S.Howse. MAY 12th "Journies Through North & West Africa" An illustrated talk by Mr Paul Griffen.

JNE 21st Sunday A visit to the Carillon at Loughborough. Using own transport. Meet at Carillon, Queens Park by 2.0 pm. Entrance fee 50p.

April and May meetings in the Welfare Hall, Main St, Ratby at 8.0 pm. All welcome to attend.

SUPPORT FOR TIMESHARE BILL

The Timeshare Bill received its second reading on 7th February, 1992 and has the support of both the government and the opposition. The Bill would place a duty of enforcement on local authority trading standards departments and would allow the buyer of time share a minimum of 14 days cooling off period.

During the past twelve months over 140 complaints have been made to the Leicestershire County Council Trading Standards Department about spurious gift offers and high pressure salesmanship.

CARRY ON RAY

WOT would like to congratulate Ray Lander of the Scouts on receiving the Scout Long Service Ribbon. Ray is not revealing the time span involved.

Ratby Scouts have an excellent and energetic assistant leader in Ray whose cheerful enthusiasm and leadership is a revelation to us all.

He is perhaps most widely known in public for his production performance in the Gang Show.

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DRAMA IN RATBY

Spotlight Drama Club

Michelle Shipley of Cufflin Close in Ratby has set up this exciting venture in the Church Rooms. Michelle has lots of personal experience and skills to share in a whole range of theatrical techniques - Mime, 2. Girls vocal solo under 15 years improvisation, sonnet and verse speaking and rôle play. She is planning to put on full scale productions, with opportunities for making props and scenery, and there will be visits to professional theatres and involvement in local Drama Festivals. There is something for everyone, whatever your age!

The Club meets on Wednesday evenings:-

6 - 10 years 5.30 - 7.00 p.m. 11 - 17 years 7.30 - 9.00 p.m.

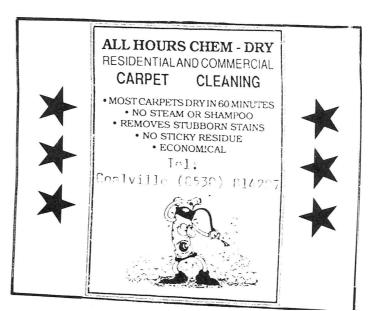
Adult classes are also available

There is a £5.00 annual subscription to cover costs of materials, reduced to £2.50 family, and £1.75 for each session.

Versatile Michelle can also give private lessons in singing, elocution and voice production!

If you are interested, come along on the Wednesday evening to the Church Rooms on Church Lane, or phone Michelle on 386301.

Michelle also runs a School of Singing, whose pupils recently entered five of the vocal sections in the Hinckley Competitive Festival of Music and gamed places in four of them.





Hinckley Competitive Festival of Music

- 1. Girls vocal solo under 12 years - Samantha Rowlatt - 2nd place
- Katherine Manley 1st place
- winning the Barbara MacEwan Cup
- 3. Vocal solo open oratorio
 - Russell Smith 3rd place
- 4. Songs from the shows open all voices - 1st place Russell Smith (winning the Stan Faulks Memorial
 - 2nd place joint Maria Moreton Katherine Manley
 - 3rd place Samantha Rowlatt

The songs from the shows was the largest for second and subsequent members of the section in the whole festival with 23 competitors. This section was open to $\underline{\text{all}}$ ages and included both male and females.

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STYLING BLOW DRYING COLOURING SETTING

Sadly, in the mid 80's Premier Drum was called into receivership, managers bought the company and traded under the name of Presider Percussion. Five years ago this company stopped production of school instruments. Mr. Johnson and five other workers were approached by E.J. Arnold of Leeds, the Educational Suppliers, encouraged the to set up their own company PERCUSSION PLUS, which could continue to produce the school instruments. Arnolds was, incidentally, a subsidiary of Robert Maxwells' company.

Within six months, PERCUSSION PLUS were in production, designing and manufacturing school instruments and 2 years later they moved to larger premises at Mill Lane, Market Harborough.

Then came another change. Maxwell put E.J. Arnolds up for sale. Luckily, Mr. Johnson and fellow employees withdrew their pensions from the company fund, and transferred them elsewhere!

E.J. Arnold merged with another supplier, The Nottingham Group. PERCUSSION PLUS was valued at 2 1/2 million pounds at that time. It had cost 48,000 Maxwell pounds to get started! The firm is still involved in research and development and hopes to expand.

One of the original six workers who set up PERCUSSION PLUS was Charles Johnson's son Karl who hopes to continue where his father leaves off on retirement!

And what will Mr. Johnson himself do after he retires? Grow vegetables, he says, to sell in the shop. We can guess what sort of things he'll be growing

(drumhead variety) and

0000

beatroot

DRUMMING UP CUSTOM

Whenever you get talking to someone in Ratby, you discover that they have a story to tell. You may recall in a previous issue of WOT a report that Stamford Street Stores was under new management. We have been back for an exclusive interview to discover the 'other life' of two members of the family !!! Mr. Charles Johnson, and his son Karl, are both working for a company that makes percussion instruments.

Charles began working originally for the world famous Premier Drum Company based in Wigston (founded in 1921). There were no appropriate college courses, so he was self-taught and trained on the job. He was involved in making a wide range of instruments, xylophone, manimba, Chime bells and Vibrophones, as Master Tuner.

His son says "I would class him as one of the best percussion people in Europe". Indeed, well known companies such as Selmer of Paris and Degain of America have tried to persuade him to work for them.

In 1959 he was foreman at Premier, in charge of production of all percussion and involved in manufacture of Timpani for orchestras. The company won the Queens' Award for Exports in 1966.

In 1972 the company began to produce percussion instruments for schools, and were successful with their wide-range. Mr. Johnson was particularly enthusiastic about this project, believing that children need to start young.

During his time at Premier he came into contact with many top percussionists ... among them Eric Delaney, the Three Degrees, and Jimmy 'Professor' Blades, a leading authority on percussion. Keith Moon, who was the drummer with "The Who" always sought him out when he visited Premier Drum

In 1977 Charles and Mrs. Johnson travelled by Rolls Royce to Quorn House for a garden party as representatives of the company, and were presented to H.R.H. The Duke of Endinburgh.



BROOKVALE HIGH SCHOOL

A series of Spring events have been planned by Brookvale High School.

Hiawatha

Drama club students will be performing 'Hiawatha' in the Drama studio at Groby Community College on Friday April 3rd at 7.30 p.m, and Saturday April 4th, 3 p.m.

Concert

Recorder players will be taking part in a concert at 7.30 p.m. on April 7th in Groby Community College.

COMPUTERS

Do you shop at Tesco? The store has launched a voucher scheme to help schools provide computer systems. Between 6th April and 17th May 1992, Tesco will give out vouchers for every £25 you spend at the store! Brookvale School is hoping to collect 3500 vouchers which would provide a free BBC A3000 mb Colour system. So, if you shop at Tescos, please give your vouchers to the school, either directly or through a student and help this worthwhile cause.



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A small selection of special Cub activities in 1991. Cubs is fun. There are two packs in Ratby. Both on Thursday nights 6.30 - 8.00 p.m.

Swifts - Trevor Sleath. Church Rooms 395606 Swallows - Brian Cross. Chapel Rooms 386506 For more information, please contact one of the above.



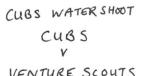
DISCO DANCING AT PONTINS MORECOMBE 25-27/10/91



TRIP TO GRANADA STUDIOS -THE ROVERS SNUG 14/9/91







PONTINS

MORECOMBE 25-27/10/91

VENTURE SCOUTS JOHNS LEE WOODS 11/8/91



Janet's Jottings for March / April CELANDINE

Did anyone find a Coltsfoot in flower before I did - 1st March?

Whilst walking my dog, on some lovely spring days, I have noticed lots of Lesser

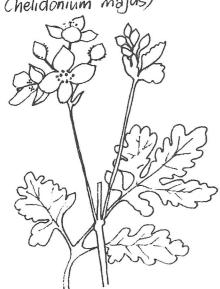
Celandine. These deep yellow shiney star like flowers, which revel in the sunshine, grow in many different habitats. Under hedges, in open fields, on rough ground and of course in the most manicured lawn. It is not really surprising then that this plant has more than one method of re-

producing. The short perennial root-stock has numerous finger-like tubers that easily detach themselves when the plant is either kicked by grazing animals, or being "weeded out" of the lawn by gardeners. Each tiny tuber is a potential new plant.

As a secondary method of reproduction small bulbils form in the axils of the leaves - this happens more often with plants that grow in very shady and safe places (under the hedgerows).

The very shiney petals are another adaptation for survival, they attract insects so that pollination can take place.

> Greater Celandine (Chelidonium majus)



Lesser Celandine (Ranunculus Ficaria)



The Lesser Celandine is very determined to survive whatever conditions it grows under.

All through the last paragraphs I have used this flower's full name of Lesser Celandine. There is also a greater Celandine which flowers much later in the year.

The greater celandine belongs to the Poppy family (papaveraceae). The Lesser Celandine belongs to the Buttercup family (Ranunculaceae).

Both these plants are mentioned in old Herbals. Another name for Lesser Celandine is Pile Wort. The juice from the stems of the Greater Celandine was used to cure warts. I personally have dabbed a wart with the juice and the wart went, but then warts tend to be like that anyway.

Next time I write to you I will talk about the Buttercup family. Lots can be said about one of the largest families of plants.

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attracted by our programme and we are eager that more and more youngsters have the opportunity to benefit from it. That is why we have launched the Promise Appeal, to make Scouting even more widely available. One in four men in this country has been a Scout, virtually every family in the country has had experience of the Movement. As we extend our Appeal to the general public, we are confident of winning their support and help in reaching our target."

The Promise Appeal aims to help in the fight against delinquency, violence and crime, by offering young people a fun and challenging alternative - in short, live up to the Promise Appeal motto - "Be a Scout, not a Lout!"

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Bus to Beaumont Leys

Did you know that there is a bus from Ratby to Beaumont Leys every Thursday morning? The service is run by Pam's Coaches of Enderby, and is subsidised by The County Council as part of their "Social Bus Scheme"

It is a friendly service, with lots of space for all your shopping.

The coach, no. 635 stops by the Bulls Head at 9.46 every Thursday to pick you up, and the return trip leaves Beaumont Leys shopping centre at 12.10, arriving in Ratby at 12.24. All for just 90p return!



Ratby Primary School

The Annual Meeting of the Governing Body and parents will be held on Tuesday May 19th at 7.30 p.m. in The School Hall.

There will be a display of children's work showing how it relates to the Key Stages of the National Curriculum.

Mr Peter Smith, Headmaster will give a talk on Teaching Styles and the National Curriculum, and The Organisation of Classes.

Parents of children will all receive an individual report and invitation to attend.

Don't miss it - it will be an interesting and informative evening.

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MINISTERS AND SCOUTS LAUNCH PROMISE YEAR

One of the largest UK fund-raising drives of 1992 began on 27th February at Baden-Powell House, London, with the theme "Be a Scout, not a Lout". Government Ministers John Patten and Robert Atkins helped launch Promise Year, the focus of The Scout Association's appeal is to raise £10m to safequard and develop Scouting in the UK.

This is the first time since the 1930s that The Scout Association has devoted the efforts of its 700,000 Members to raising money for the Movement itself. Funds raised will be used to promote Scouting and its benefits to young people.

With these benefits including a broad social education, it was appropriate that John Patten (Minister of State, Home Office) and Robert Atkins (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Education) were on hand to lend their support to the launch.

Ten and a half thousand Scout Groups are gearing up for an unprecedented range of fund-raising activities, which include the world's biggest tea party endurance events such cyclathons, swimathons, washathons and marathons. A specially written Scout Rap Anthem will be virtually quaranteed ten weeks at No.1 in the charts should every member of the Scout Association buy it.

While funds will be used to safequard and expand Scouting in general, particular attention will be given to developing activities in inner cities and among ethnic and rural communities. intention is to offer an alternative to hanging around street corners and getting into trouble. "We want to play our part in persuading young people to report abandoned cars - rather than steal them, " explained Chief Scout Garth Morrison.

Outlining his support for the Appeal, John Patten, said: "The wealth of fund-raising activities planned for Promise Year clearly highlights what Scouting is all about - having some fun, but at the same time fostering a sense of responsibility. As the Minister of State responsible for law and order, I welcome every effort to encourage our young people to become active members of society. I wholeheartedly support Movement in its fund-raising efforts and in its development plans as we head towards the next century." These sentiments and those of the Chief Scout were wholeheartedly endorsed by Robert Atkins.

As the Chief Scout, Garth Morrison, explained at the reception afterwards: "The Scout Movement's place in the life of this country has never been more important. Young people continue to be

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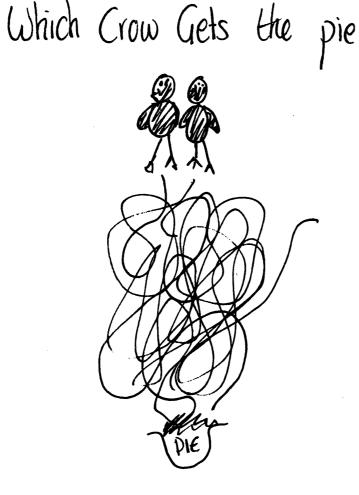
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POOR PRESSURE COMPLAINT INGLE DRIVE, RATBY

Following complaints from residents of Ingle Drive, the following letter was received from Severn Trent Water Ltd.

"I am now in a better position to comment on your letter of 2nd February, having carried out some monitoring and tests on the distribution system in your area.

 $_{ ext{ iny 0}}$ to high demands especially in the morning. Until recently the supply was routed from trunk mains in Kirby Muxloe. Recent housing on the edge of Ratby has strained the capacity of certain mains. However, your area can be supplied from Groby thereby improving your pressure, and this has been * Free Builders Quotations obtained & carried out successfully within the past few days. In the meantime please accept my apologies for any inconvenience caused by low pressure at times. I trust the situ-

B Fitzpatrick

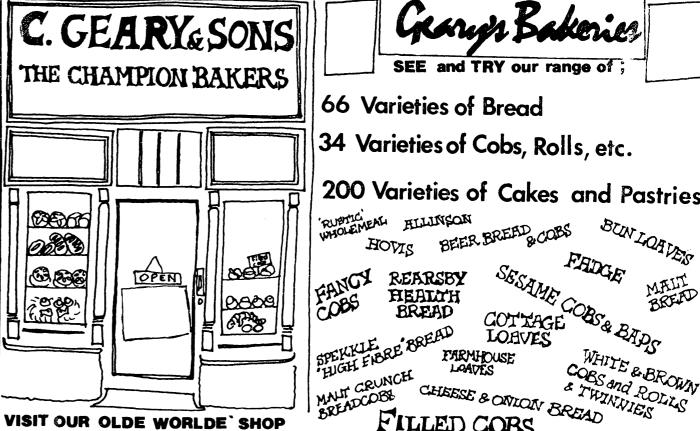
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WEDDING, CELEBRATION & NOVELTY CAKES OUR



Leicestershire County Council has been selected by the Countryside Commission to be among the first group of Highway Authorities to take part in a new local paths initiative.

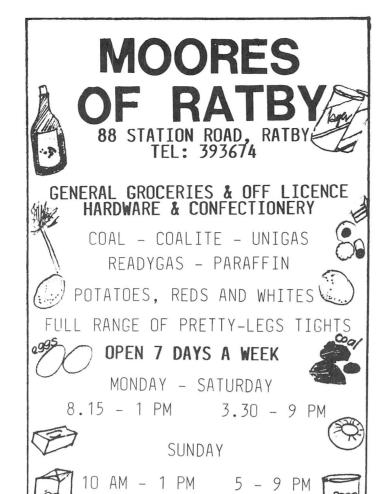
The Parish Paths Partnership is aimed at giving local people, mainly through their Parish or Town Council, the resources and skills to keep their footpaths, bridleways and byways open and available.

Under the new scheme a Parish grant will be available from the County Council. This is to help local councils carry out surveys, routine maintenance waymarking on public rights of way. This work could be carried out by a local community group, volunteers, farmers or contractors.

On a national scale Leicestershire County Council has been at the forefront of opening up, improving and waymarking rights of way with its Waymark 2000 project. As Highway Authority for the County's 3500 miles of rights of way, the County Council has already been running a substantial waymarking programme in conjunction with Parish Councils.

The Leicestershire Waymark 2000 project works directly with local councils and a colourful booklet has recently been produced entitled "A Guide to Waymarking and Improving Rights of Way". A step by step approach is used to show how you can help to survey the paths in your area and assess the works needed to put them in good order. Maps, stile kits, waymarkers and other equipment can be supplied free of charge to those involved in the project. Grant aid will be available to supplement this.

Further information on the scheme is available from the project officer, Eddie McWilliam, who can be contacted on Alternatively you Leicester 657086. write to the Countryside & Recreation section, Department of For more information ring





ALL ORDERS WELCOME ~~~

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The motto of the ROYAL BRITISH LEGION.

The original purpose of the British Legion is today as it was when it was formed by Field Marshal Earl Haigh just after the first World War.

That is to give practical help to all men and women who have served in the Forces and to their widows and dependants.

This help takes many forms and to ensure that this work is continued, Officers are appointed to look after the welfare of the persons within the villages which Ratby and District Royal British Legion cover. Originally called the Ratby Branch we have now grown to encompass villages where there are, insufficient ex-service persons to continue to form a branch. These Kirby Muxloe, being Groby, Thornton, Bagworth, Stanton under Bardon and Markfield.

Our Branch meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Plough Inn, Ratby. Members from all these villages attend, usually about 25 persons. Apart from the organisation of social events, which can include dances, bus trips (occasionally to a brewers!) harvest festivals, etc. reports are heard from the Welfare Office for the different villages, as to the numbers of persons who are sick or in hospital who have been visited and who need assistance.

All of this is completed anonymously, no persons actual names are mentioned, only the circumstances of the case, so that members can be aware as to where our funds are being used.

The concern of members regarding the welfare of those persons needing assistance is such, in the Ratby Branch, that usually a directive is issued to spend more money in particular cases to ensure that a quick recovery is made.

Although +b-

"characters" of the villages, majority of those attending are working persons like myself, is never of war time experiences, those who did take part in war do not want to discuss it, only to ensure that those who suffered are looked after. I myself, one of the last National Servicemen to be called up completed all the training, but never actually left these shores or fired my qun in

However, the short time I spent with my Unit, who were all from different parts of the Country, gave me an insight into people and their needs.

lots of charity There are organisations but none dedicated to all the Services as is the ROYAL BRITISH LEGION. We have contact with experts who can help with advice on pensions, claims for payments from Social Services, Local Government, Gas, Water, Electricity, etc. anywhere where there is a problem. To ensure that we can continue our work younger members are sought in all of the villages covered especially Ratby. If you would like a night out once a month with friends (Note we have an area for non-smokers) and would be interested in our work please along. Although the organisation is an old one, we who are in it are not and look forward to seeing new people ...

Anyone can join, if you have been in the Services as a full member, if not as an Associate or Junior Member. Associate Members can hold office and are encouraged to do so.

Our next major event is the annual St. George's Day Dinner Dance to be held in April. A bus is run around the villages so there is no problem with transport. If you are interested then come along to our next meeting at the Plough Inn, Ratby, on 8th April (then 13th May).

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

L.C.C. has published its Annual Report for the year ended March 1991. The publication sets out in some detail the services provided by the County Council and reflects on how much they cost and what achievements were made during the year.

Among the special features is a page devoted to the leading role that the County Council played in the bid to bring a major part of the New National Forest in the Midlands to Leicestershire. A further page feature reflects the challenges of the Single European Market and the preparations being made for this by the County Council.

Copies of the report will be available for inspection in all county libraries. Highlights from the report are also being made available in libraries as a free newspaper under the title, "Serving the Community".





LETTERS



How I agree with Stephen Boud for his letter regarding the destruction of greenfield space to provide yet more and more roads, which only create more traffic and more air pollution.

previous Prime Minister announced that the Government was going to support green policies by reducing (eventually!) atmospheric pollution then in the next breath announced that the M1 is to have two more lanes, that the Al is to through driven Will they never be Lincolnshire. satisfied until the whole of England's Green and Pleasant Land is covered from one end to the other in concrete?

Much of the recent chaos on the A50 could have been alleviated had the Government stumped up the paltry four million pounds required as a grant towards re-introduction of passenger trains on the Leicester to Coalville and Burton-on-Trent railway line. Had they done so when the Leicestershire County Council - which had planned and passed the proposals - requested it then trains would have been running 1990/91. Now that the Government has, at last, agreed to provide £5 million (albeit for a larger scheme) it will be another four years before the passenger trains are running. In the meantime a few thousand more cars and trucks will be clogging the roads and there will be clamour for more by-passes and motorways.

If readers are concerned by the erosion of the countryside by road building, and the consequent increase in pollution, then please write to your MP or the Department of Transport, or both.

Yours faithfully, H.A. Gamble

RATBY OLD BOYS

Ratby Old Boys football team played for the Methodist Chapel. This photo was probably taken around 1924/25. Does anyone know the exact date?. Or have you got any more information about the team or its members?

Back row 2nd from left is Tommy Wigglesworth, 3rd left Bradley Moore, 2nd from right in the trilby is Tommy Hunt.

Middle row on the far right is Wilf Taylor, with Chris Tomlinson to his left. Front row Cyril Lissaman on left, Wilf Marvin in the centre.



Cliff Lissaman, who lent us the photo, tells us that the team used to play in what we've known as the 'hangman tree' fields. This was just off the Groby Road, where the motorway is now.

We'd love to hear more about this team - ring and tell us if you know.

These photographs have great historical value - so please tell us any facts, and we'll print them!

A NEW GUIDE FOR IMPROVING LEICESTERSHIRE RIGHTS OF WAY

of the Leicestershire part Waymark 2000 Project, the County Council has produced a new colourful "Guide to Improving and Waymarking Rights of Way". booklet shows how parish councils, farmers and local people can become directly involved in surveying and improving the footpaths, bridleways and byways of Leicestershire.

A step by step approach is used to show how you can help survey the paths in your area and assess the works needed to put them in good Maps, stile kits, waymarkers and other equipment can be supplied free of charge to those involved in the Project.

The Guide also explains how, with the help of local people, a series of walking and riding leaflets is being produced by the County Council in areas that have been waymarked.

Copies of the new booklet available from the Project Officer for the scheme, Eddie McWilliam, who can be contacted on Leicester Alternatively you can write to the Countryside and Recreation section, Department of Planning & Transportation, County Hall, Leicester LE3 8RJ.

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The Railway Inn Ladies Darts Team have come 3rd in the second division of the Everards league, 91/92 season.

SAFETY WARNING **GAS FIRED WATER-HEATERS IN CARAVANS**

The County Council's Trading Standards Department is warning owners and users of caravans to check gas-fired water heaters.

Gas-fired water heaters which serve more than just a sink can be dangerous - even lethal - if they are not fitted with the right The right flue is one that runs through the ceiling. Without adequate ventilation, dangerous toxic fumes like carbon monoxide can build up - a situation which has led to tragedy more than once during last year.





WITH RECOMMENDED FLUE

A leaflet giving detailed information and advice is available free from the Trading Standards Department - Telephone Leicester 514415.

Rathy Parish Council

Land at rear of 5 Groby Road

19 members of the public attended the meeting on 4th February to hear the Chairman Councillor Rogers report on his meeting with the owner of this land. The full report can be read in the minutes kept at Ratby Library.

The Parish Council wrote to Hinckley and Bosworth Council expressing concern about the work taking place at the site. Any development on this land would be contrary to the policies of the North Eastern Parishes Local Plan and the Leicestershire Structure Plan.

At the March meeting of the Parish Council, Borough Councillor Robert Fraser informed councillors that Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council were taking out an enforcement order to have removed the excess hardcore, tarmac and caravan which have been installed at the site without planning permission. Bosworth M.P. David Tredinnick has presented a White Paper on illegal squatting, either in houses or fields etc. which should take care of current legal loop-holes.

Village Improvements

Landscaping

Shrubs have now been planted to the rear of the new wall at Markfield Road/Main Street junction.

Waste ground to the rear of the Service Garage on Berry's Lane will be landscaped by the County Council in the near future. Responsibility for maintenance of the site will then fall to the Parish Council.

Gardener

Interviews for a part time gardener have Planning taken place.

Tree Preservation Order

Trees along the Ratby side of Rothley Brook, and along the little brook have been granted a Tree Preservation Order by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council. The Parish Council is still waiting to hear from Blaby Council concerning trees on the Kirby Muxloe bank.

Recreation Areas

A five-a-side football pitch has been marked out on former tennis courts at Ferndale Drive. Estimates for 'goal' walls have been obtained.

Additional safety features are to be installed on some play equipment. A safety 'cage' will be provided on the slide at Burroughs Road, and improved safety devices fitted to the 'sputnik' roundabout at Ferndale Drive.

Considerable effort and money have been spent on repairs to the fencing at Ferndale Drive. Unfortunately, the fence is consistently being damaged. The Parish Council would welcome any information leading to identification of the perpetrators.

Police

Councillor Rogers reported on a Police Liaison meeting, in which crime figures were discussed. Crime is at a record level in Beaumont Division, with an increase of 16%. However there have been fewer house burglaries and less auto-crime in 1991.

40,000 car owners are now in the vehiclewatch scheme, and only 8 cars with vehicle watch stickers have been stolen. It is not too late to join - all you need to do is fill in a form at Beaumont Leys or Braunstone Police Station, and get your stickers.

Borough Councillors Report

Councillor Fraser reported that Hinckley and Bosworth's Community Charge will be 1% lower than last year.

Vic Berry Ltd's appeal against planning refusal for the proposed scrapyard at Newtown Unthank has been turned down by the Secretary of State.

The proposed 18 hole golf course and golf apartment complex at Old Hayes Farm has been granted planning permission.

The approval is subject to a number of conditions. The golf course must be laid out and available for play before hotel bedrooms and apartments are ready for use. Measures must be taken to prevent vehicular 20 access from Main Street, Ratby.





RATBY PLAYGROUP

Church Rooms, Church Lane Ratby. For children aged 3 - 5 years.

Any enquiries to:-Lesley Chevin 386605 Lynne Evans 386347

PLAYGROUP EASTER FAYRE

Sat. 4th April. Welfare Hall 2 - 4 p.m. Please support us.

Church Rooms Playscheme 3 - 7.8.92

Helpers Meeting 6.5.92 8 p.m. 13 Ferndale Drive. All

STOP PRESS

Ratby Playgroup are doing really well with their sponsored 'brick building' event!!

Children are building piles of 20 wooden bricks.

At the time of going to press they have already collected £ 178.00

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SAVE WESTERN PARK

The man shows the extent of the proposed Worldlife Centre, with an area adjacent to New Parks Way, approximately 12 acres, providing parking for cars and coaches. The park trail/shuttle route around the remainder of the park, together with the proposed station, will ensure that the character of Western Park will be destroyed.

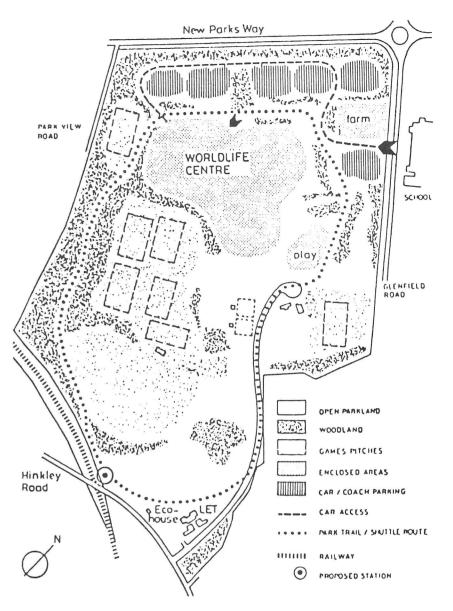
The educational value of Worldlife Centres "zoo without bars" concept encapsulated in their proposed TechnEcoZoo is not in dispute. It is the siting of this ecology "themepark" on Western Park which is not acceptable.

As many as eight other sites, all of which are designated redevelopment areas were offered to but rejected by Worldlife Centres, who have decided on Western Park because of its 'character and feel'. Obviously any parkland is going to be more attractive than an area

requiring redevelopment. Why was Western Park offered in the first place? It is currently designated whiteland having a commercial value less than that of agricultural land. Could this have been an important consideration in Worldlife Centres' decision to go for Western

Leicester City Council would, quite rightly. reject any proposal for industrial development of Western Park claiming that it is not an appropriate site and that it would cause untold environmental damage. Worldlife Centres'

proposal is no different; it will be a profitmaking venture, commercially sponsored and run. It will cause untold environmental damage. but in the name of "ecology, wildlife and conservation".



WORLDLIFE CENTRE AT LEICESTER WESTERN PARK - PROPOSED ZONING

The delicate wildlife ecosystem of Western Park will be severely affected by both the creation of the Wordlife Centre and the many thousands of visitors who pay to come. With such a large influx of visitors there will be increased pollution of the park and surrounding areas. Increased traffic will lead to increased congestion on the roads. Air quality will deteriorate because of increased exhaust emmissions.

The proposed 24 hour-a-day, 350 days-a-year operation will lead to an increase in noise, together with the inevitable rubbish that accompanies such "themepark" style operations.

There will no longer be free and open access to the whole of Western Park. Who is to say that if this scheme proved to be successful that more of the park would not be given over to peripheral income-generating attractions? Access to any part of the park would only then be possible on payment of an entry fee. Is this want conservation is all about?

Children attending local schools would be put at increased risk from both the volume of traffic and the large number

Western Park has a long history, with the Western Park farmhouse pavillion being mentioned in a survey of 1606. The Parish boundaries of 1628 showed that New Parks encompassed Western Park, and talks of "one might oak". This huge tree is still in Western Park, and is a reminder that the area was once dense woodland. Surely we owe it to future generations to preserve this heritage in its natural state and not let it be destroyed in the name of "ecology wildlife and conservation". The area of the park envisaged for development is said to be "under-utilised". Since when has under-utilisation been a dirty word. Such areas should not be developed in the name of progress. After all it is this very feature which gives Western Park its unique and essential character. How ironic that Western Park is the City's designated area for tree planting and wildlife enhancement. How can we help? Consider the above points and then write to any or all of the following stating your objections

Peter Soulsby, Leader Leicester City Council, New Walk Centre Welford Place, Leicester LE1 6ZG

John Dean, City Planning Officer. New Walk Centre. Welford Place Loicostor Ltd. 670