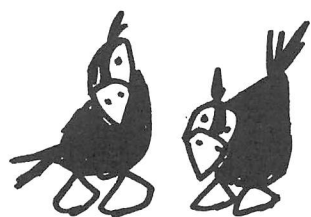


APRIL/MAY 2009

ISSUE 135



WOT!

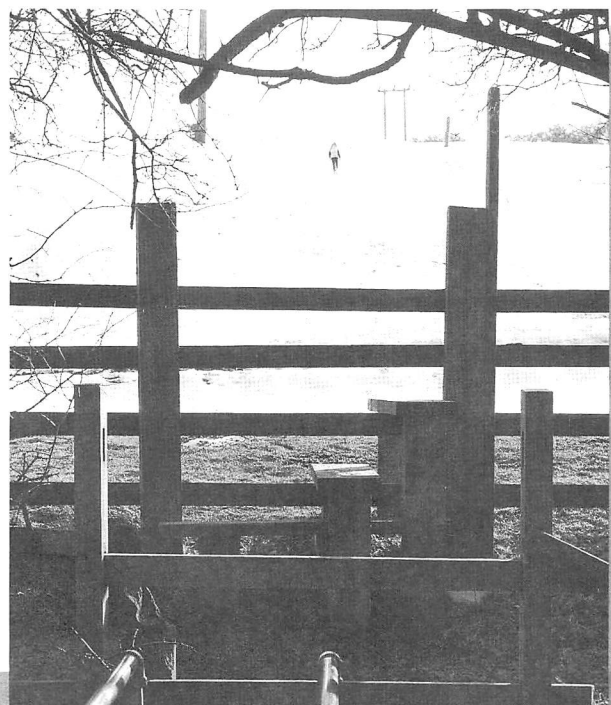
About Ratby

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP



WINTER WONDERLAND

Here are some snow 'people' to remind us of winter...just in case we don't see any more snow!



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VILLAGE SOCIETY NOTES.

We started the new year with a film show given by Arthur Bassett on January 20th. He has been collecting old cine material for several years and he showed us a variety of 'shorts'. As the reel rolled we were treated, amongst others, to Acker Bilk and his clarinet, John Betjeman on a Norfolk train journey and Bernard Braden on a Clyde steamer (not to mention Bugs Bunny!). It was easy to slip into nostalgia and experience again the gentler pace of life, as well as remembering former cinema visits.

Next time we'll have an usherette with ice-cream and popcorn as well! A most successful evening, enjoyed by all.

The Village Society A.G.M. was held, as usual, in February. The Committee stands as before, with the exception of Andy Cereseto, who resigned this year. The Chairman, Jack Haywood, thanked Andy for his valuable contributions in past years. After the business was concluded members, including some newcomers, enjoyed a buffet supper.

Don't miss the next event which starts at 8pm in the Village Hall on Tuesday 21st April 2009. *The Chief Executive of the National Forest Company, Sophie Churchill, will talk on the National Forest and its relationship to Ratby.*

DEADLINE for issue 136

JUNE/JULY2009

FRIDAY 15th MAY

EDITOR 239 3367

ADVERTS 239 3279

ARTICLES 239 4873

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NEWS FROM ST PHILIP and ST JAMES.

An announcement was made on Sunday 1st February that Revd Richard Worsfold, our team Rector, has been appointed as vicar to the Church of the Martyrs in Leicester. The date for the family to move will not take place until June. When Richard takes up his new position, there will be a period of interregnum in the Bradgate Team Ministry until a new Team Rector and member of the clergy team is appointed. The congregation will be sorry to see Richard and the family leave, but hope they enjoy this new chapter in their lives. Services and other events at St Philip and St James will continue as normal with some help from other clergy in the area. The congregation will continue to try and make the church an important part of the Ratby community.

RED ENVELOPES!

10th May sees the start of Christian Aid week this year and in the past the people of Ratby have been wonderful at responding to doing something to relieve the suffering of their fellow men worldwide.

This year we have major problems in our own land but we are not starving. Those that benefit from Christian Aid are the ones who really have to grub for their food and the cost of one loaf could be life or death. Remember Christian Aid deals with local organisations on the ground - not governments.

Could you give the cost of one loaf to save a life - then please don't ignore the red envelope when it comes through your door. If you could help with the collection please call Margaret 2392352. Thank you

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SPRING TO LIFE

Shy snowdrops, bright harbinger of Spring,
retire with grace, their glory on the wane.
Migrant cuckoo takes to the wing,
brazen daffs shine forth again -
when they aspire to match the sun
promise that Spring has now begun.

The annual show will soon unfold,
the greatest show there is around,
when nature, unfettered from the cold
begins to spring from latent ground
clothing field and woodland floor
in vibrant green, alive once more.

Springing up in mass profusion
bluebells stretch like bluest ocean
through copse and meadow in sweet collusion,
shimmering as a sea in motion
thro' Burroughs Wood for all to see
Spring's lavish show-what's more it's free!

HG March 2009



RAISED BEDS at Ratby Allotments.

The photograph shows a gazebo and water butts which have been installed next to the raised beds which have been built for less able gardeners.

These have been built with a grant from Voluntary Action Leicester Grass roots project.
Roy Holloway Ratby Allotments Society



POST
OFFICE

RATBY BAND NEWS

This year's Concert programme includes:

May 9th Senior Band compete for Senior Cup at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool.

June 6th Senior Band play at Leicester Cathedral 7.30 pm.

June 14th Senior Band play at **CURVE**, Leicester's new theatre.

June 19th/20th All Bands play at the Annual **MUSIK FEST** at Groby College.

July 11/12th Senior Band at Contest, Kerkrade, Holland.

For more information/tickets, please contact Malcolm Pounder on 238 6749.


You can also ring Malcolm if you would like to join the Band's 200 Club, and have a chance to win a cash prize every month.



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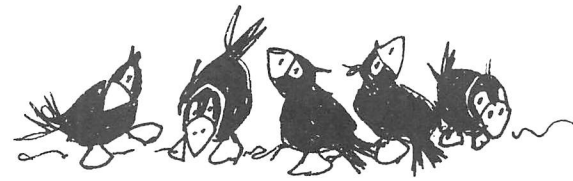
RATBY COMMUNITY ORCHARD

Orchard group members are hoping to enjoy the apple blossom again this year when they gather for an informal picnic. Everyone will bring along their own picnic tea and relax under the trees on a (hopefully) sunny afternoon.

If you'd like to come and join us you will be welcome. The picnic is scheduled for 3 pm on Sunday May 17th. Dressing up in May Day style is optional.

The annual **POND DIPPING** is planned for Wednesday evening at 7.30 on the 12th August. All villagers are invited to join in at their own risk, as we discover what has come to live in the pond at Taverner Drive!

Currently members are busy pruning at the Orchard.



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LETTERS

Dear Editor,

Perhaps the people who happily took time off work when we had snow should think about all the milk and post delivery people who didn't miss a day.

In Ratby, the Root family, Linda and other post people cheerfully, (at least on the surface!) carried on working and I would like to applaud and thank them all.

Jean Harrison

Dear Editor,

I cannot be alone in finding the overt and vociferous hate campaign against people with a different life-style shaming. We have all seen the banners in Groby and, regrettably, now also in Ratby. They bellow their message as if the slogan represents the whole of the village, when it does not.

Rather, the message conveyed is actually how prejudiced, ignorant and bigoted some of the people of the generally pleasant community of Ratby are. It reminds me of the Ku Klux Klan of the American South in the sixties. Shame! Let us live and let live.

Name and address supplied.

LETTERS and ARTICLES

We welcome letters and articles, but reserve the right to edit them.
Your name and address must be supplied, but you may ask for them to be withheld.

HIS and HERS

LADIES AND GENTS HAIR DRESSING

OAPs REDUCED RATES
Appointments not always necessary.

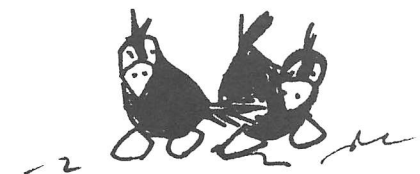
156 STATION ROAD, RATBY
239 4429

DON'T MISS IT

It is a little known fact that every English Parish must have an annual parish meeting between 1 March and 1 June. No, this isn't a meeting of the parish council – nothing so dull. It's a meeting of the local government electors for the whole parish – or those who can be fitted into the named venue. The meeting may discuss and pass resolutions on the public activities and policies of any local authority, public body, government department or public service provided that they affect the parish specifically.

The annual Ratby parish meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd April 2009 in the Methodist Church building. Notice of the agenda will be posted on Wednesday 25th March 2009.

As Ratby has a parish council then the Clerk to the council will assemble the agenda. So, if you have items to raise please drop them into the Parish office before the publication date for the agenda. Thank you.



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EXIT THE RATBY REVELLERS

The Ratby Revellers as we were once known
A name that now we have all outgrown.
First there's Win, when once no-one was
fitter
suddenly finds she has a dicky ticker.

Then Elaine thinks she's perfect in health
you see,
Then she finds she has a dodgy knee.

Pat W has problems great and small,
but a week away with her daughter and she
copes with them all.

Pat B is so full of zip and go,
but hang on a minute, she has a poorly toe.

Little Brenda is still nimble and quick
but with her bad back she relies on her
stick.

And Kath if faced with flights of stairs
would be astounded, cause with her bad back
she's fully grounded.

Now Molly, recovering and looking quite fit
has to carry a big bag for all of her kit.

Then there's me, aching muscles, back and
neck
Not forgetting to keep the irritable bowel in
check.

So with pills and potions and creams and
lotions
The Revellers we may not now be
But we still enjoy our lives and have some
laughs!!!!

As I'm sure you all can see.

(An explanation as to why the Ratby Revellers
have retired....while we were all fit and well! As
the song goes 'It's not where you start, it's
where you finish.' And we finished on top!)

RECIPE Cottage/Shepherds Pie

Ingredients

450g lean minced beef/lamb
1 onion, chopped.
2 carrots, peeled and diced.
2 tbsp porage oats
1 tbsp tomato sauce.
1 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
450ml stock
675g potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks.
2 parsnips, peeled and cut into chunks
Knob of butter
Salt and pepper

Method

1. In a large pan, bring potatoes and parsnips to the boil, lower heat and cook for 20 minutes until soft. Once cooked, drain and mash with butter and seasoning.
2. In a non-stick pan, dry fry the meat with the onions and carrots until the mince is brown and well cooked.
3. Stir in the porage oats, tomato sauce and Worcestershire sauce, and cook for one minute, stirring all the time.
4. add the stock, bring to the boil and cook for 10 minutes until the carrots are just soft.
5. Transfer the mixture to an ovenproof dish, and spoon the mash over the top.
6. Cook in a pre-heated oven for 30 minutes at 200C/400F/Gas mark 6.

Serve with peas or baked beans.

Graville

RATBY METHODIST CHURCH

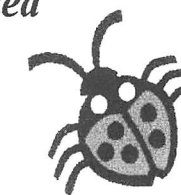
Events at Ratby Methodist Church
for our 2008/2009 charity, the *Smile Train*, have been well supported by the village and we look forward to two more in the coming months.

Join us for a
Beetle Drive
At Ratby Methodist Church
on **Wednesday 27th May**
at **3.00 pm.**

Refreshments provided

Bring & Buy

Entrance fee £3



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