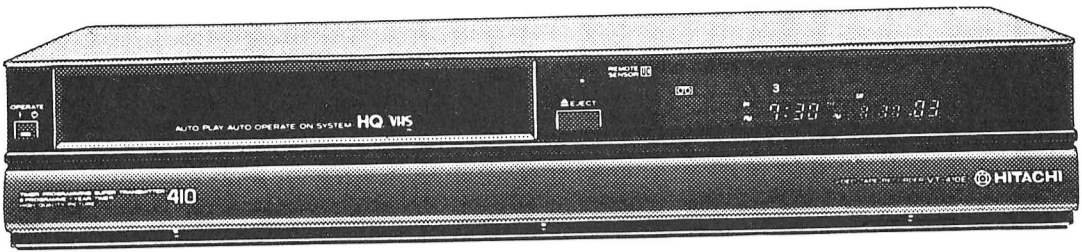


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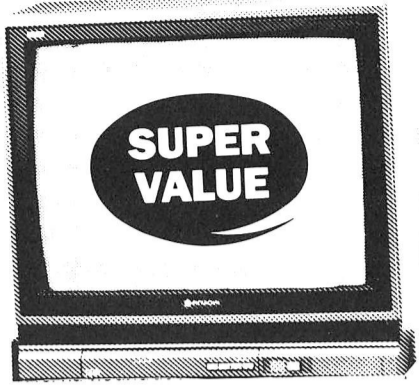
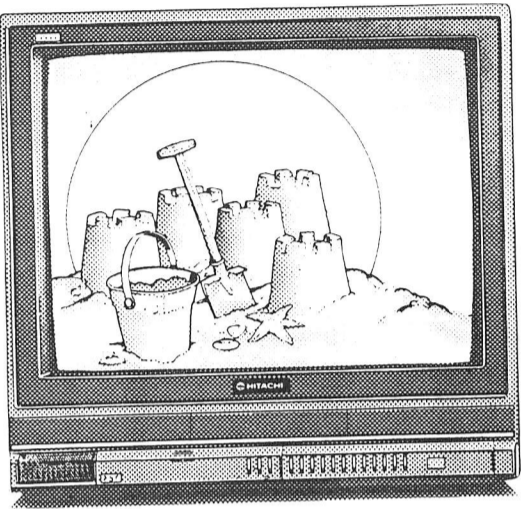
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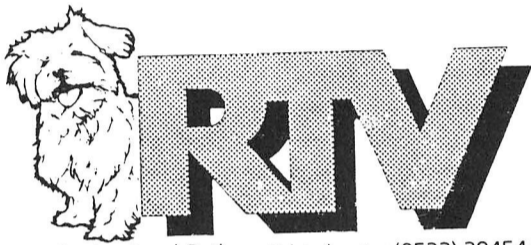


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RATBY SCHOOL SPORTS

This year the School Sports day was a day with a difference!!

The children were all in mixed-age teams and participating in a variety of events. Nobody had time to get bored!!

There was something for everyone - individual sprints, relay races and co-operative games where everyone joined in!!

The day was voted a success by all children and spectators.



PHOTO - S GANT



didn't they do well?



Playgroup organisers pictured at the start of the walk.

Wishing Well Appeal

Back in May, Ratby Playgroup organised a sponsored walk in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital's Wishing Well Appeal. The organisers were astonished by the response, and the money is still flowing in!! To date the total raised is over £600!!

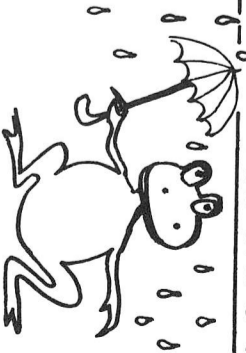


PHOTO .. L. EVANS



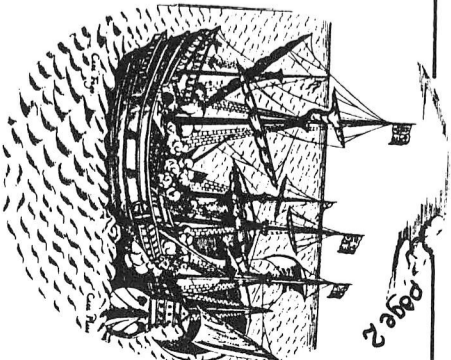
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About Ratby

Published by Ratby Scout Group

ISSUE 11

AUGUST 1988



page 12

2066

MASTERS AND APPRENTICES

FROM THE LATE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY IT WAS CUSTOMARY FOR MANY OF THE FRAMEWORK KNITTERS TO BE APPRENTICED TO THEIR TRADE. HOWEVER, WHEN THE LONDON FRAMEWORK KNITTERS FORMED THEIR COMPANY UNDER ROYAL CHARTER (1663) THERE WAS GREAT RESISTANCE BY THE EAST MIDLAND FRAMEWORK KNITTERS TO CONFORM TO THE RULES OF THE COMPANY. ONE AREA OF DISPUTE WAS THAT A RESTRICTED NUMBER OF APPRENTICES WERE ALLOWED TO THE MASTER FRAMEWORK KNITTERS.

THE EAST MIDLAND KNITTERS REFUSED TO ABIDE BY THIS REGULATION AND WERE FROM TIME TO TIME IN DISPUTE WITH THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF FRAMEWORK KNITTERS. THIS WAS FURTHER WORSENERD BY THE GREAT INFUX OF UNREGISTERED PAUPER APPRENTICES WHO WERE YEAR BY YEAR LEAVING CHARITY SCHOOLS AND WORKHOUSES, WHICH WERE UNDER THE GUARDIANSHIP OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF THE VARIOUS OVERSEERS FOR LEICESTERSHIRE REVEAL MANY PAUPER CHILDREN WHO WERE REGISTERED AS APPRENTICE FRAMEWORK KNITTERS.

IN 1828, THOMAS THE SON OF MARY PRESTON WAS APPRENTICED TO MASTER FRAMEWORK KNITTER WILLIAM ASTON OF RATBY. THE BOY HAD BEEN EDUCATED AT THE GABRIEL NEWTON CHARITY SCHOOL UNTIL THE AGE OF 12, WHERE HE RECEIVED SUFFICIENT EDUCATION TO ENABLE HIM TO READ AND WRITE.

AT THE TIME OF THE 1851 CENSUS THOMAS PRESTON HAD LEFT THE EMPLOYMENT OF WILLIAM ASTON AND WAS MARRIED TO ANN THE DAUGHTER OF A RATBY STOCKINGER WILLIAM HARRISON AND WAS DESCRIBED AS A FRAMEWORK KNITTER.

BY 1861 THOMAS THE POOR BOY APPRENTICE HAD DONE WELL FOR HIMSELF, HE DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS A BAG HOSIER AND SHORTLY BEFORE THIS DATE WE KNOW FROM FAMILY RECORDS THAT HE HAD PURCHASED LAND AND BUILDINGS, BEHIND THE PRESENT CHEMISTS SHOP FROM WILLIAM SILLS.

BY 1871, THOMAS DESCRIBED AS A HOSIER OF FANCY GOODS IN THE DIRECTORIES OF THE PERIOD WAS WELL ESTABLISHED IN SILLS YARD, AND WAS WORKING UP TO 25 FRAMES MAKING RIBBED AND FANCY GOODS, EMPLOYING SOME 20 MEN AND SEVERAL OUTWORKERS.

SILLS YARD from the site of the present Welfare Hall.

THE YARD AND ITS BUILDINGS COMPRISED OF A DWELLING HOUSE AND THREE WORKSHOPS ONE OF WHICH ADJOINED THE HOUSE. BUILDINGS ASSOCIATED WITH PRESTONS BUSINESS WERE STANDING UNTIL A FEW YEARS AGO THOUGH IN A MUCH RUINED STATE.

IN THE EARLY 1860'S RICHARDSON ESTABLISHED A WORKSHOP ON THE CORNER OF STAMFORD STREET EMPLOYING UP TO TWENTY MEN PRODUCING A WHOLE RANGE OF KNITTED GOODS. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A LARGER FACTORY UNIT IN 1878, BOTH THESE BUILDINGS SURVIVED AND ARE THE LAST REMNANTS OF THE LARGER FRAMEWORK KNITTERS SHOPS IN THE VILLAGE.

THE FINAL STAGE IN THE GROWTH OF THE HOSIERY TRADE CAME WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FACTORY IN UPPER-STAMFORD STREET, BY TYLERS OF LEICESTER. THE COMPANY ONCE ESTABLISHED IN THE VILLAGE, BECAME EMPLOYERS OF A VERY LARGE PROPORTION OF THE FEMALE POPULATION.

THIS FACTORY WHICH LATER BECAME THE RATBY WOLSEY IS NO LONGER WITH US, ITS DEMOLITION EARLIER THIS YEAR, IS A SAD REFLECTION ON THE DECLINING FORTUNES OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE HOSIERY TRADE.



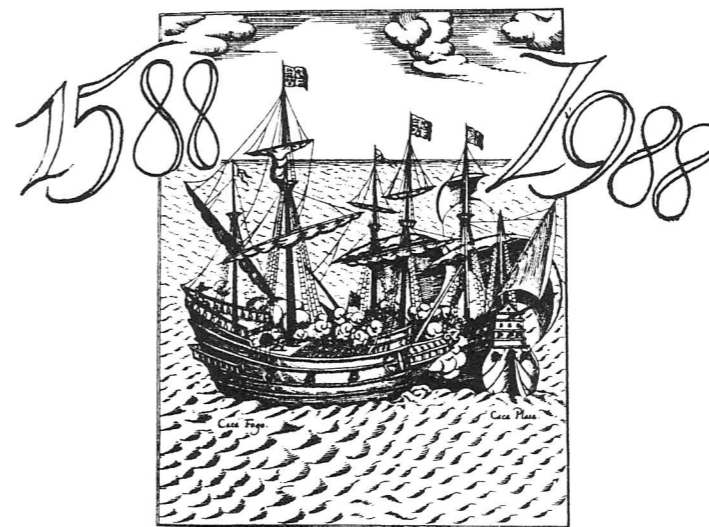
THE ARMADA

FOLLOWING THE NEWS THAT THE GREAT SPANISH ARMADA HAD BEEN SIGHTED OFF THE LIZARD, VILLAGE CONSTABLES ALL ALONG THE SOUTH COAST WERE INSTRUCTED TO HOLD MUSTERS OF ABLE-BODIED FIGHTING MEN TO DEFEND THE LONG COAST OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND.

ON THE 28th AUGUST 1588 MERCHANT SHIPS WERE BEING COMMISSIONED BY THE EARL OF LEICESTER IN THE PORTS OF BOSTON AND KINGS LYNN. IN THE INLAND COUNTY SHIRES BEACONS WERE PREPARED TO WARN THE POPULUS OF THE INVASION AND IN TOWN AND VILLAGE ALL OVER ENGLAND MUSTERS OF ARCHERS, SWORDSMEN AND BILLMEN WERE COLLECTED TOGETHER BY THE NOBILITY OF THE COUNTY.

ON THE 30th AUGUST VARIOUS MUSTERS WERE HELD UNDER SIR HENRY HASTINGS AND JOHN VILLIERS AMONGST THE MEN THAT GATHERED WERE SOME MEN FROM RATBY. THEIR NAMES ARE VERY FAMILIAR TO MANY OF US:- John Jordan, Will Jordan, Peter Jempson, Richard Hunt, Peter Bunney and Will Fletcher.

THESE WERE THE STOUT MEN OF OUR VILLAGE WHO WOULD DEFEND THE ENGLISH HINTERLAND IF DRAKE AND THE ARMIES OF THE EARL OF LEICESTER FAILED TO DESTROY THE SPANISH FLEET AT SEA!

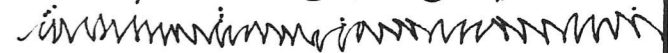


IT'S A KNOCKOUT



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POLICE INFORMATION

SAFETY TIPS FOR TEENAGERS

Teenage girls in particular, but boys as well find themselves at risk, whether working at a part-time job or out in the evening. So you should try to follow these basic guidelines.

Be sure your parents always know where you are and how to contact you.

If possible, go out accompanied by friends and return home with them.

If you do go out alone, arrange transport to and from where you are going - with a relative, friend or taxi - and confirm arrangements for your return journey before you set off.

If your arranged transport from a concert or other event fails to arrive and you can see that you will be left on your own, speak to the organisers and ask to use their telephone to make arrangements. Ask to stay until transport arrives.

Don't accept the offer of a lift from someone you've only just met.

Try to find casual jobs, such as babysitting, through family or friends, and be careful about answering advertisements. Try to go with a parent or friend on the first day.

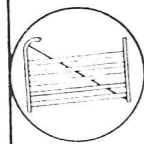
When working a paper round, if strangers invite you into their homes, or offer you a lift, politely refuse and move on quickly.

Wherever you are, be aware of how to make an emergency telephone call and the quickest way out.

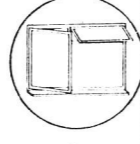
Message to Parents

If your teenage son or daughter wants to go out for the evening, check what arrangements have been made for transport, and if necessary take them and bring them back. It may be inconvenient. But it is worth it for your peace of mind and their safety.

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SCHOOL HOLIDAYS - SOME LINES OF COMFORT

Let me try and be at my most helpful and positive. They really will not last forever and, anyway, you know you are enjoying having your children at home even if you don't realise it at the time (it is a human quirk that enjoyable experiences are only recognised as such when they become memories).

Admit it! an extra dimension has been added so that those mundane, habitual tasks have now become exciting and full of challenge. Your once 'Homes and Gardens' type house and garden have taken on the aura of a combination of the Somme, last year's it's a knockout and a Chelsea supporters club railway carriage. However, you are still young enough to be thrilled at the prospect of negotiating the myriad obstacles, dens and wheeled objects in order to hang out the washing or to rescue the dog from being demolecularised by space invaders. After all, you did buy those toys with the intention of them being used simultaneously, or in the way they are being deployed or that they would be objects of such ferocious struggles (moving the furniture and placating the Noise Abatement Society weren't all that much trouble, were they?). Isn't it convenient that all of the tools have been taken out of their neat little storage places and conveniently and strategically placed around house and garden, all ready for those many toys which will, no doubt, require servicing or adapting to the needs of the current game?

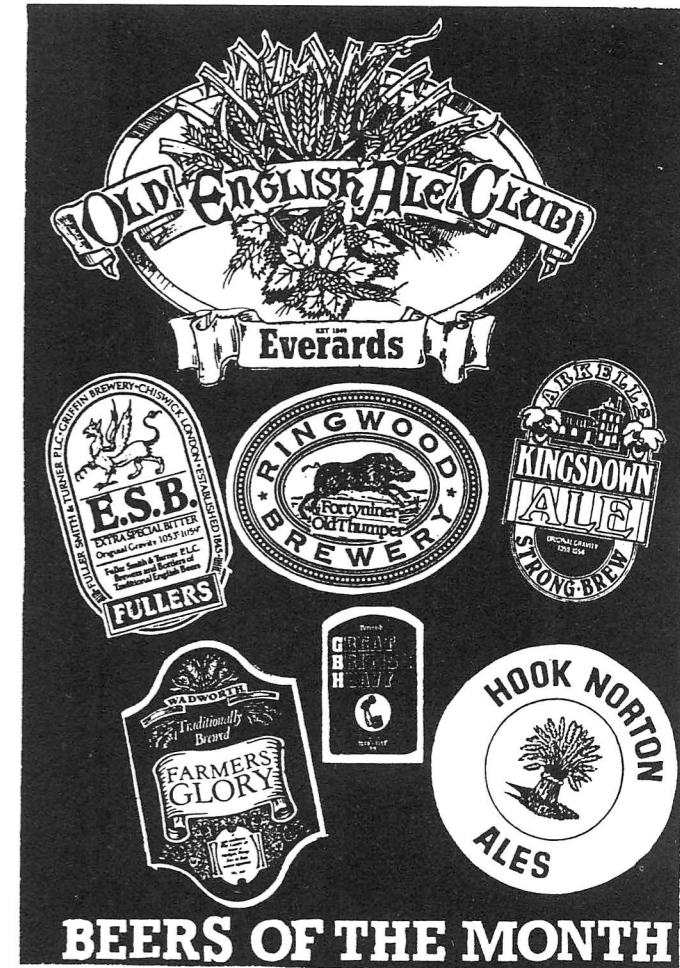
If you are unable to accept my suggestion of enjoyment, perhaps you may appreciate the intensive learning process you have experienced. You have received on-the-job first aid training to be envied by a Guy's Hospital graduate; riot control practice superior to that offered at Hendon Police College; and a knowledge of the strengths of all known adhesives (and the inadequacy of the Trades Description Act) which would impress Mr Evostick.

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Though the weeks are already racing (?) by you will, with this article committed to memory, be able to fully appreciate how much you are enjoying the few remaining weeks.

Meanwhile, back in the Yorkshire dales, sitting by a remote stream with only the curlews to remind me that there is other life on earth, I just contemplate my envy of your knowledge of adhesives.

LEICESTERSHIRE RURAL INITIATIVES FUND

This fund was set up in April 1987 by a number of commercial Funds and Charitable Trusts who donated money to stimulate self-help projects. Applications will be received up until March 1989.

Grants are available to assist groups setting up worthwhile community schemes. (No funds available for running costs).

Projects must be for the benefit of the whole area. There must be evidence of commitment by local people. The community must be prepared to raise money locally. Typical examples are environmental schemes, starting a village newspaper, creating a local heritage project, etc.

Come on Ratby organisations, get your thinking caps on!!

Contact Leicestershire Rural Community Council on 662905 for details and applications forms.

The Director,
Leicestershire Rural Community Council,
Community House,
133 Loughborough Road,
Leicester,
LE4 5LQ



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Recipé

EXXY CHEESECAKE

I call this Cheesecake 'EXXY' because it is extremely extravagant, exceptionally extra-special, and the recipe was given to me by my sister's ex-boyfriend's ex-wife!

INGREDIENTS

1/2lb cream cheese	Pinch of salt
1/2lb cottage cheese	1tsp vanilla essence
2 eggs (beaten)	1/2 pint sour cream
6 oz castor sugar	3 tbsps milk
2 level tbsps cornflour	

Cover the bottom of a greased 8"x3" loose-based cake tin with 4oz crushed digestive biscuits mixed with 1oz melted butter.

Cream together cottage cheese and cream cheese.

Beat in eggs gradually.

Stir in sugar, cornflour, salt.

Stir in vanilla, sour cream, milk. (If liked you can add 1oz sultanas at this stage).

Mix to a smooth batter.

Bake at No 3 for one hour.

Then remove from oven and leave to cool and set in tin.

Decorate with fresh fruit, chopped fresh pineapple, seedless grapes, or how about slices of Kiwi fruit.?

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I'D RATHER BE SOARING!



Tony is here pictured with his scale model of a 1930's glider.

Folks who know me will be aware that I have many hobbies, ranging from making miniature steam engines to driving the full-size at Cadeby Light Railway, playing the music and occasionally dancing with local Morris sides, to aeromodelling, plus a few others squeezed in when time allows! This article, as the title suggests, concerns the particular branch of aeromodelling which interests me most - that of designing, making and flying model (miniature?) sailplanes (gliders).

With the advent of reliable radio control it is possible to keep a model sailplane airborne for many hours on end providing the wind blows and the batteries powering the radio have power. Model sailplanes, like their full size counterparts, are controlled by moving surfaces on the wings and tail which provide direction and pitch (up and down) control. These are moved in the model by the radio receiver and control servos, the whole being commanded from the ground by a hand-held transmitter to give complete control of the model. People seeing experienced pilots flying, often ask whether it is easy to fly models like this? The simple answer is that given time and someone to teach you - yes! In practice it is a bit like trying to ride a unicycle or balance a ball bearing on a pane of glass if you try it by yourself! The main problem is that an aircraft, model of full size, cannot be stopped while you think what to do next, it will carry on flying away or crashing until you stop it doing so!

Models are made from a number of different materials these days which range from traditional balsa spruce and plywood through to fibre glass and carbon fibre, and occasionally metals like aluminium for some components. Heat shrinking plastic materials have largely superseded the traditional tissue and doped fabrics for covering airframes, although these still have some uses where lightness is a prime consideration. Models may be built from kits, usually purchased from the local model shop, or plans from one of the model magazine

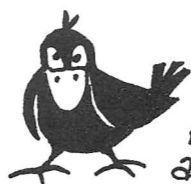
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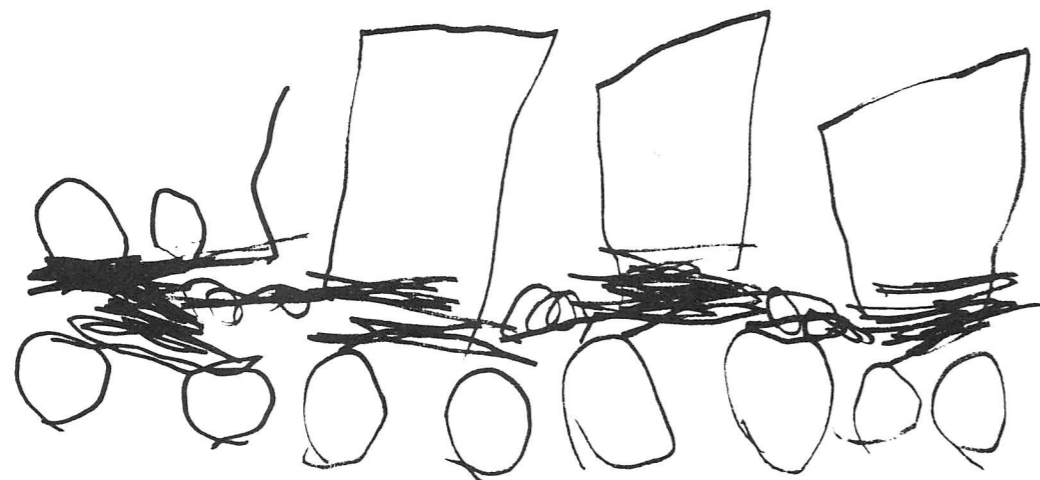
CROW pie

CHILDREN'S
PAGE



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stories !! We
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Nicholas



TRAIN drawn by
Nicholas Pease, aged 5

What's battery-
powered and good
for deaf fish ?

A herring-aid!



What's a Scots
parrot ?

A MacCaw !!



What is green
and prickly ?

A sea-sick
hedgehog !!



Whats a cows
favourite T.V.
show ?

DR. MOO !!!

By David
Smith aged 9

JOKES by
Iain Mellor

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plans services. My preference is to design my own and after drawing up a plan, build the model from the raw materials which can be purchased either from the model shop or by mail order. This, I find one of the most challenging and satisfying parts of my hobby.

Another question often asked is how does it stay up without an engine? Well, air is a remarkably bouyant element. If it is heated by the sun it will rise in bubbles and columns through cooler areas (thermals). Just a few degrees difference in temperature at ground surface (e.g. a black road surface) is sufficient to carry a sailplane to an altitude of several thousand feet on one of these thermals. The pilot must fly circles in the thermal area and try to maintain a position of maximum climb rate while the thermal lasts, usually about 20 minutes from start to finish. Thermals are usually marked at their tops by "cotton wool" cumulus clouds and these give an indication of where lift may be found. Finding and using thermals is an art which needs to be cultivated and an easier way of finding the lift necessary for soaring flight is to fly from a hill. For this you need a steady breeze plus a hill facing into the wind. Because the wind cannot go round the hill, it must rise up and over, this produces an up going current of air which usually extends about hill height in front of the hill and between 2 to 3 times hill height upwards and is strong enough not only to support a model sailplane but also full size gliders and hang gliders if the hill is large enough. The pilot simply hand launches his model into the lift in front of the hill and flies across the face of the hill in a figure of 8 fashion, gaining altitude and can remain airborne virtually as long as he likes. Having gained some height he can then find thermal lift and leave the hill if he wishes or just fly higher than the hill lift allows. Thermal soaring can also be done from a flat field site by launching the model with a towline, kite fashion, a rubber bungee (catapult) or power winch. The height thus gained giving the pilot time to locate thermal lift to sustain his flight.

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Visitors to Bradgate Park at the week-ends will have seen models flying there from the hills as this is a very popular site in this area for slope or hill soaring. The models vary greatly in their appearance - some will be scale models of full size aircraft, some will be aerobatic short winged types, others have very light structures and long wing spans to enable them to make the best use of thermal lift - indeed, an almost infinite variety.

Flying a model sailplane you have designed and built yourself, to a great height, often in the company of birds, is a very satisfying and absorbing pastime and always has the challenge of trying to stay airborne jst a little bit longer, or trying to fly to even greater heights. It also has the spur of trying to make your next model even more efficient than the last or if a scale model, as accurate to the full size as possible. And so carries on a hobby that has kept me interested for some 35 years, a little of the fascination of which I hope to have described herein - yes, I'd rather be soaring!

1st. Ratby Scout Group



FRIDAY JUNE 24TH, SAW ANOTHER MILESTONE IN THE HISTORY OF THE 1ST RATBY SCOUTS AND A PROUD DAY FOR DAVID PAYNE AND HIS FAMILY.

DAVID PICTURED ABOVE CAN BE SEEN RECEIVING HIS CHIEF SCOUTS BADGE FROM MRS GILL TYLER, WEST DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, I SAY BADGE BECAUSE DAVID HAS TO ATTEND A FURTHER MORE FORMAL CEREMONY WHEN HE WILL RECEIVE HIS CERTIFICATE, FROM A COUNTY DIGNITARY.

DAVID'S WELL EARNED ACHIEVEMENT, IS THE CULMINATION OF FIVE YEARS HARD WORK, IN WHICH HE HAS PROGRESSED THROUGH THE VARIOUS SCOUT, PATHFINDER AND EXPLORER AWARDS, AND, FINALLY ONTO THE CHIEF SCOUTS AWARD, WHICH HE HAD TO GAIN BEFORE HE WAS 15 1/2 YEARS OLD.

IN ORDER TO GAIN THIS COVETED AWARD, HE HAD TO COMPLETE A NUMBER OF PERSONAL CHALLENGES AT THE SAME TIME HOLDING A POSITION OF RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE SCOUT TROUP. IN DAVID'S CASE, HE WAS THE PATROL LEADER OF THE FALCON'S PATROL AND TROUP 'QUARTERMASTER'. HE HAD TO INSTRUCT THE MEMBERS OF HIS OWN PATROL IN ALL ASPECTS OF SCOUTING. ROCK CLIMBING, WALKING AND THE RESCUE OF AN INJURED PERSON FROM ROUGH TERRAIN, SURVIVAL AND SLEEPING ROUGH FOR THREE NIGHTS UNDER MAKESHIFT SHELTERS, NOT FORGETTING HIS INVALUABLE HELP TO THE CUB PACK. A FEW OF THE THINGS HE TOOK IN HIS STRIDE WHILST AIMING FOR HIS AWARD.

I NOW LOOK FORWARD TO THE LIKES OF DANIEL SIMS, NATHAN DICKMAN AND YOUNGER BROTHER ROBERT PAYNE GAINING THEIR CHIEF SCOUT AWARDS.

ONCE AGAIN, WELL DONE DAVID

YOURS IN SCOUTING

CHRIS WOODWARD (SCOUT LEADER)

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WHO SAID WHAT TO WHO AND WHY?

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|-----------|----------|
| 1. ANDREW | 2 TREVOR |
| 3. GWEN | 4 IAN |

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO WOT c/o THE LIBRARY

★ ★ ★ VENTURE SCOUTS ★ ★ ★

Venture Scouting Works - that's the message from National Headquarters in this, Venture Scoutings 21st year.

As many people are probably aware Scouting has a progressive training programme starting with BEAVERS for boys in the age range 6 - 8 and ending with VENTURE SCOUTS age range 15 1/2 - 20. Until now the idea of a Ratby Venture Unit has only been a target for the future, but that future is fast approaching. So much so, that a "Ratby Venture Unit" is now very much on the horizon.

Venture Scouting aims to follow on from the Scout & Guide training schemes (yes girls can also join) with a pair of awards to work for, the Venture Scout Award and the Queens Scout Award, teaching hopefully a young person the basic skills needed for modern living as well as some traditional ones.

Mark Hardy Aspiring V.S. Leader

THE SCOUTS NOW HAVE A DISCO AND ARE WILLING TO PRACTICE BEING D.J's AT YOUR PARTY OR ANY SPECIAL OCCASION!

CONTACT:- COLIN PAYNE 395187

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42 Station Road, Kirby Muxloe

Telephone: Leicester 393403/386606

Ratby Parish Council

Police and Neighbourhood Watch

Two more Neighbourhood Watch Schemes have been set up in the village. The Parish Council re-affirmed a previous commitment to pay for the signs announcing neighbourhood watch areas.

Unfortunately Ratby faces another change of Policeman in the near future. It is expected that Ratby will continue to share its Policing with Groby. The Council expresses it's disappointment that the situation continues to be unsettled.

Several members of the public have complained about lack of police response to their calls. The Parish Council agreed to look into the matter, and the Chairman will seek urgent talks with the Officer in Charge at Beaumont Leys.

Large Print Books

The large print books donated to Ratby Library by the Parish Council were presented officially to Leicestershire County Council Libraries on June 16th.

Footpaths

A report indicating locations where footpaths in the Parish have been obstructed or ploughed over, has been sent to Leicestershire County Council in order that some action can be taken.

Knighton Park Trust - Appeal Dismissed

The Knighton Park Trusts' Appeal, concerning their planned meeting hall in Ratby, has been dismissed by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

This is an important precedent for the village, since the decision is a strong affirmation of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council's planning decision, and a recognition of the green buffer between Ratby and Kirby Muxloe proposed in the North Eastern Parishes Structure Plan.

The Inspector's report states that the proposed building would be "an unacceptable urban intrusion into the countryside" and would be contrary to Government Policy.

The report also takes note of the numerous strong local objections to the plan which were based on planning considerations.

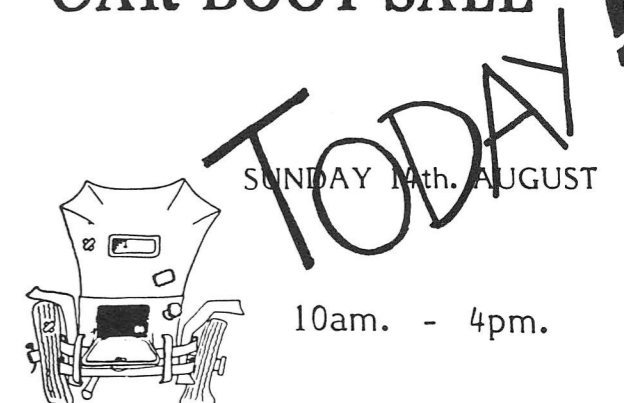
PLAYING FIELDS' CARETAKER

A PERSON IS REQUIRED TO REGULARLY TIDY AND UNDERTAKE SMALL MAINTENANCE JOBS AT THE FERNDAL DRIVE AND BURROUGHS ROAD PLAY AREAS.

FURTHER INFORMATION FROM THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL, 24 GROBY ROAD, TEL. 394803.

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MEMORIES OF THE WOLSEY

As an ex employee of RATBY WOLSEY it was a sad moment to stand on Stamford Street and see such an empty space, after working there for fifteen years. Although we worked hard, there are quite a few memories I can recall. One being an amusing story, I thought your readers would enjoy, which prompted me to write to you.

What I'm about to tell you is true, but I will not name those concerned as they are still living locally.

As factory girls we used to have some fun and play pranks on each other. One night some of the girls in the back room of the Wolsey (this was the room round near Whittington Drive) decided to have some fun, before they went home they dressed up a sweeping brush with a hat and coat and propped it up by the wall, with the intentions of it scaring the girls who went in first next morning.

Unfortunately someone that night, going home passed the Wolsey saw the shape of this so-called figure near the window and called the police.

The police arrived to find this figure still put. They then woke up the keyholder who lived in Stamford Street, they also fetched the manager who also lived in Ratby. Some guarded the back doors while the others quietly entered the front, they went through to the back room, switched on all the lights, only to be confronted by the dressed up brush still standing there.

I can't tell you what the manager said, the next morning to the girls concerned, if I did you wouldn't print it!

Needless to say the rest of us found it highly amusing.

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Sat. - 12 - 1.30 a.m.

Play Areas

Fencing at Ferndale Drive play area has been broken yet again.

The Parish Council agreed to write expressing concern at the chemical spraying of the field adjacent to the play area. A notice had been erected warning people to keep dogs out of the field, but children had been observed playing there. This particular field should eventually be available as an additional recreation area for the village.

The Parish Council has agreed to purchase and erect two seats on the Ferndale Play Area, to be sited alongside play equipment.

The Council is constantly reviewing the situation regarding the play areas. A representative from the Council recently attended a one-day seminar organised by the National Playing Fields Association. In line with national policies it is the Parish Council's policy to gradually replace existing out-dated equipment with more modern, safer items, as funds allow. The new slide reflects this intention.

However, many accidents are caused by child behaviour, and children should be taught to use the play area wisely.

Teach your child to -

- 1) AVOID PUSHING AND CROWDING AT THE TOP OF THE SLIDE.
- 2) WAIT UNTIL SLIDE CHUTES ARE CLEAR BEFORE GOING DOWN.
- 3) BEWARE OF MOVING EQUIPMENT, PARTICULARLY SWINGS.
- 4) USE SWINGS ONE AT A TIME AND HOLD ON WITH BOTH HANDS.
- 5) STOP SWINGS BEFORE GETTING OFF.

The Council is always interested to hear positive suggestions, and would also like to hear reports of any accidents on the play areas, or sightings of damage or vandalism. PLEASE PHONE 394873.

Two representatives regularly inspect the sites, but it is essential that we appoint a maintenance person - there must be someone out there!



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EDITORIAL

The Knighton Park Trust have lost their appeal and it looks as though there will be no Meeting Hall in Ratby.

The Inspector's Report shows that consideration was given to local views particularly as objections were based on sound planning grounds.

JULIE'S HAIRDRESSING

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So local opinion does count - and it is worth making the effort!

All the more disappointing then that only 30 people attended the Public Meeting about the North Eastern Parishes Structure Plan.

Those present were concerned about rumours of housing development to the rear of Markfield Road houses. Although Hinckley and Bosworth planning officers assured the meeting that they would resist any plans to develop the designated green wedge, our local voice is important. We need to continue expressing our opinions strongly and let there be no doubt that we will fight to preserve our green wedge against over-development.

Ratby is a thriving village with a strong community spirit - a look at all the village events shows that. As you read this another Crow Pie Carnival will have brightened the Summer!! And there will be other attractions to look forward to! So be out there supporting our local groups, shopping in our village shops and keep Ratby alive.

CHARLEY'S TALE

Have you read it yet? I couldn't put the book down once I'd started. I thought this was just a personal thing because, like Charlie Garrett I'd been born near Derby, and lived in Birmingham before finding my way to Ratby. But no - other people have said the same - It's a really gripping tale!

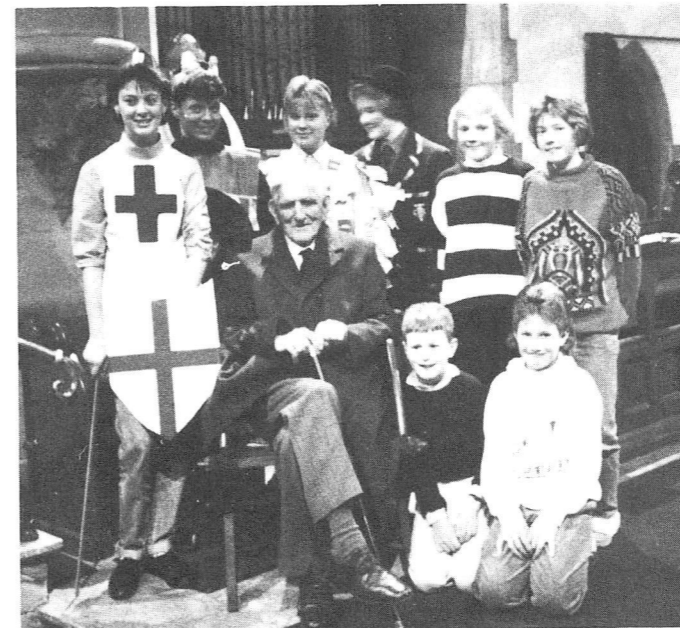
Beginning with childhood days and work on the farm we follow Charlie's life through the first World War, and his work as a railway policeman, to his arrival in Ratby forty years ago.

It left me wondering how anyone could have crammed so much into one life, and it has left me waiting for the sequel! So get out and buy your copy in the village now - at only £2.95 it's a must for everyone interested in life in the early part of the century and some of Ratby's past.

There must be more of you out there with a tale to tell...so lets hear them!

PHONE US AT WOT!

if you'd like some help putting pen to paper.



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Pictured here is Charlie Garrett himself, surrounded by the 'Plough Play' team following their performance in Ratby Church on Plough Sunday 1987.

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OVERFIELD CLOSE.

Overfield Close lies in the area which was once occupied by the third of the three open fields of the village.

To the west of Burroughs Road lay the Great Burrough field and the woods of Charnwood.

The area of the present cricket field and the lands beyond to Woodman Hill formed the second field, or Netherfield.

The lands of the Overfield were probably some of the first to be cleared by the early Saxon settlers who came to Ratby.

The print on the front page shows the Church and extensive woodland around the area which now forms Church Farm Estate.

Woodley Farm gave its name to WOODLEY ROAD. This farm was one of the earliest in the settlement of Ratby. Woodley means "Woodland clearing" hence, the farm in the woodland clearing.

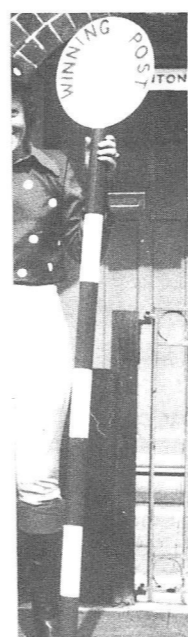
As the farmsteads grew around the Church, the area towards Cottagers Walk was possibly the last of the farms to be settled.

This irregular parcel of land referred to by the Saxons as a "Nook" probably explains the naming of Nook Farm and the subsequent adoption of the road name, Nook Close.

A further feature that once lay in the area adjacent to the entrance to Nook Close and Danehill was a village pond, and there have been suggestions by some local historians that a Roman Road ran close to this spot, and then across the valley to Glenfield.

In fact, during work in preparation for building in this area, the author located a stretch of Roman road on which part of a Roman cooking jar was found.

Michael T. Ball.



Not much of a Summer this year yet!

Perhaps

these photos will remind you of sunnier days in Ratby