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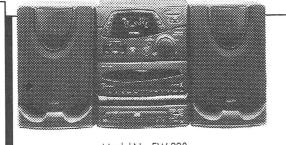
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#### LEICESTERSHIRE'S PAST TO GO ON SHOW

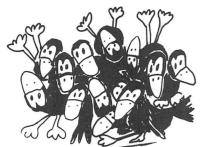


The photograph was taken by G.M. Henton on 18th June 1917 at 4.48pm.

As the millennium approaches, a fascinating new exhibition showing scenes of Leicestershire around the turn of the century is soon to open in Leicester.

Turn to page 2 for more information;







#### Our Cub Camp (Swifts)

It was a warm Friday evening mid June when ALL the Swifts cubs, without exception, gathered at the Ferndale Park for their annual summer weekend cub camp.

At the site in The Oaks in Charnwood, the boys camped in four tents over the weekend. The camp theme this year was 'Escaping Prisoners of War'.

Over the two days we had many games and activities all designed to teach the boys something, though at times we were not sure what.

Hidden money had to be found to finance the escape. They had to learn how to ski on grass, not only on their own but also taught the boys how to work as teams.

The water games on Saturday and Sunday involved carrying and catching water and really had one aim in mind. To get the boys wet.

Games in the dark (blindfold) showed the lads how to communicate clearly to their blind friends to stop them being blown up. And talking of being blown up, I, that is Akela even got murdered at one time, much to the surprise of the warden.





This year's camp had very good weather, and excellent food beautifully prepared by Paul and Colin who completely undeservedly took a lot of stick from me in good heart. Sorry. The camp had a tremendous group of leaders, every one of whom deserves a medal and my warmest thanks. But, above all else, we had a cub pack that was a credit to itself. The boys were happy and well behaved. We had no fights or tears. All the boys were a delight to be with and parents should be proud of them.

The accompanying photo taken during the best dressed cub competition is shown to show parents that we kept their sons clean and neat at all times.

We are in need of regular leaders, and if anyone reading this (over 18) would like to be involved with helping to run this cub pack, then please contact me on 2395606.

Trevor Sleath Akela

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#### LEICESTERSHIRE'S PAST ON SHOW

Watercolours by George Moore Henton (1861-1924) are to be seen at Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery, on New Walk. The exhibition by the Leicestershire artist contains over thirty paintings depicting scenes from the city and county alongside photographs of the same scenes today taken by local historian and photographer, CE. John Aston. The range of subjects includes many countryside views and tree-lined city streets.

Julia Collieu, Assistant Keeper of Fine Art for Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service: "This exhibition provides a valuable insight for visitors to the county, as well as its residents, on how life used to be in the area. His works also leave for us an interesting architectural record of the buildings of Leicestershire in the late nineteenth and the early twentieth century".

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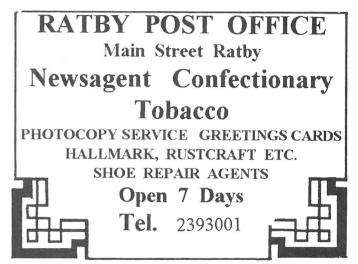
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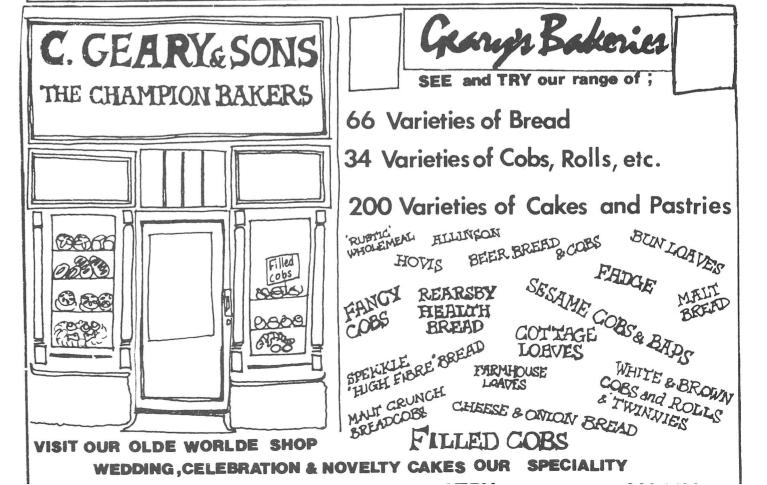
#### **CELEBRATION OF TALENTS**

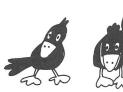
#### The weekend of 17th & 18th August in the Parish Church

Doors will be open from 10.00 am until 5.00 pm on Saturday 17th and from 2.00 pm until 5.00pm on Sunday 18th, concluding with a Festival Evensong at 6.00 pm, during which tapestry kneelers worked for the church will be dedicated.

It is hoped that those in Ratby with creative gifts, e.g. paintings, photography, embroidery, arts and crafts of every sort, will put their work and hobbies on display.







## Rathy Village Society





June, by the calendar, promises fine weather, an encouragement to the Committee in planning outdoor events for this time of the year. The first of the two was a Sunday afternoon trip to the 17th Century Thrumpton Hall, just over the border in Nottinghamshire, almost under the shadow of Ratcliffe-on-Soar power station. By stately-home standards Thrumpton is not very large but what it lacks in size it makes up in quality. The elaborately carved staircase is said to be one of the finest in England. There is furniture by Hepplewhite and the paintings of family portraits were the work of a variety of famous artists. The Hall belongs to the Seymour family among whose ancestors was Jane Seymour (one of Henry VIII's wives). Bess of Hardwicke was a forebear of the present lady of the house who gave us a conducted tour of an hour duration, outlining the family lineage together Everybody welcome. with a detailed history of the building, a small part of H.A.G. which dates from an earlier Century. Before and after the tour members were allowed to roam in the beautiful park which contains a lake and a most amazing, enormous, yew hedge 'sculpture'.

The second, by now an annual feature, was the evening ramble by a small group of members accompanied by the inevitable dog (never more than one - yet!). The route this year took us along Burroughs Road to the first of the two new sites acquired by the Woodland Trust in the Spring of 1995. The whole area has been fenced, with several access styles, and waymarker signs. During the winter the Trust planted 16,000 tree whips (we did not count them!) many of which are already in leaf. A new National Forest plaque announces that it is an Award Scheme Winner. On reaching the second style which led us into the planted area we were met by three lady members who had opted for the easy way - by travelling in a car and were enjoying a glass of wine on our arrival. Luxury indeed!

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On leaving the Woodland Trust property at the top of the hill opposite Old Hays Farm we turned right and eventually took the delightful path between trees and hedgerows alongside 'Rough Meadow', so called because it has been impossible to convince the gorse that it was not welcome there. Returning through cow pasture we rejoined Burroughs Road and reached the Plough Inn into which some of the party rapidly disappeared either for drinks or for more solid sustenance.

The August meeting - fully booked - is a visit to Leicester Town Hall and on September 17th at our usual venue, the Welfare Hall, Mr Tim Taylor will be speaking on, and exhibiting, Ceramics.



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recently travelled to the Legion's convalescent home, cheque for £1200 which had been raised during the year to help refurbish the dining room.

Members of Ratby and District Royal British Legion Pictured at Byng House are, left to right, Mr Peter Randall, Treasurer, Mr Peter Mensley, Service Secretary, 'Byng House' in Southport. They were then to present a Miss Sue Coyle, Manager of Byng House, and Branch Secretary Joan Mensley.

Photo by Sylvia Gant



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## Y CO-OPERATIVE BAND

The month of June ended on a very very special high note! - Here's why. Back in July 1993 the Ratby Band was approached by officials of the World Music Concours and invited to take our music to Southern Europe to demonstrate our North European culture.

This was some invitation and it required careful consideration. Three journeys to Spain and umpteen letters and phone calls later the Band set off for the totally traditional Spanish town of Sagunto in the province of Valencia. No-one spoke any Spanish and only one young Spanish girl spoke any English. The trip was costing over 4 million Pesetas, well over £20,000. No funding was available from anywhere so it was decided if we went everyone must pay, there could be no question of any input from Band Funds - it's always needed for instruments and music etc.

To their eternal credit the Band members with just 4 exceptions voted to go and so on Saturday 29th June at 0300 hrs Ratby Band set off on what was to be a truly memorable tour. With a knowledgeable enthusiastic audience the Band got off to a brilliant start and we didn't stop until 0230 in the morning with champagne corks popping and everybody really, really happy.

Next day the whole party were invited to the beautiful "El Pins", a superb out of town hostelry where we were received by the Minister of Culture, his deputy, the Member (deputy) for the Province of Valencia, Officials from the Council of Sagunto and from the "Sociedad Musical Lira Sagunto" our hosts. A really sumptuous lunch was presented and we were invited to watch the huge paellas being prepared, it was delicious. Beer and wine flowed copiously and champagne was used for toasts such that it was a very happy and voluble Ratby Banda that boarded the bus for our return to "La Pinada" our base. Two more highly successful concerts and receptions were to follow, the first of which was televised and the Spanish Culture Minister paid glowing tributes to the "technically brilliant musicians of Ratby" and the great variety of music presented.

At a Civic Reception in the Town Hall (a beautiful old building) the Mayor spoke at length of the importance of such visits and said we were welcome any time. He presented the Band with civic addresses beautifully framed, a porcelain plate and a Civic Book. We presented him with a message from Ratby Parish

A look around the big local market, another great concert and a final champagne party given by the Proprietor of La Pinada and we were ready to move to Albir Gardens near Benidorm for a wind down and a lovely few days holiday.

We arrived back in Ratby precisely on time and could truthfully say "Everything has gone according to plan".

Footnote, Lira Saguntina (the host Band) have just been given 200,000,000 Pesetas (one million pounds) to refurbish their Band Headquarters. Their Minister of Culture explained to us they found it much cheaper than paying for vandalism.

#### For August:

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July 1996.

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## POLICE

#### WEST AREA POLICE/COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

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# THE RATB

Since the last report in WOT the Band has been as busy as ever with many highly interesting engagements and projects.

February saw the Band holding a special Training session with World famous conductor Derek Broadbent and our Juniors performed in Leicester. In March came the National Area Contest where the Band was 4th in the first division from an entry of 29. The first of 2 band weddings took place, music supplied by the Juniors. In April a very interesting evening on Instrument care was well attended and a bus load visited Boosey & Hawkes Instrument Factory in London. Excellent results were attained in the Leicestershire Solo Contests also at Amber Valley in Derbyshire. Concerts at Ashby de la Zouch, Whitwick, a further contest at Chesterfield and a church service at Markfield took us into an equally active May.

The month began with the visit of the "Koorschool Roosendaal" with joint concerts at the Wheatsheaf Theatre Leicester, Alton Towers and Groby College Theatre. Saturday and Sunday, 10th and 11th May the 10th Annual "Ratby Musik Fest" was outstandingly successful with more than 250 musicians and dancers taking part in a wonderful display of talent and enthusiasm (and it was a good pint as well!!).

The next weekend Ratby Band took the top prize in the North West Leicestershire Music Festival and our Trombone section won the best section Trophy for the second year running. Well Done! A hectic May ended with the Band playing at the "Whit Friday Marches" on the Yorkshire/Lancashire borders with over 90 bands from all over Britain and abroad performing to packed crowds in 14 different villages - an estimated audience of 250,000 according to the local press. What a fantastic night.

A brief night's sleep at "La Pergola" on the Yorkshire Moors and then June began with a dash from the moors to Coalville, some fish and chips and off to the second Band Wedding. Held in the magnificent Hugglescote Church the Band played superbly for Flugel player Sally Stirland and Jonathan and a good time was had by all at Bardon Hall. The next Saturday saw our Juniors at Whitwick Holy Cross and the next at Ratby Vicarage. Sunday off to Wolverhampton to win the first prize in the first section after changing a burst tyre on the M6. Friday evening 21st June completed our normal



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#### LEICESTERSHIRE'S NATIONAL FOREST SUMMER EVENT

24th June 1996 Martinshaw Wood, Ratby

This was a day of environmental arts and activities organised by the Leicester Urban Fringe Countryside Management Project for a number of schools in the Leicester area, including Martinshaw County Primary.

The day was a celebration of Forests and Martinshaw Wood was the venue which is such an asset to communities in and around Leicester. The Woodland Trust had given permission for us to use the site and along with the 1st Ratby Scouts kindly mowed the grass in the clearing beforehand.

The day included performances of 'Singing in the Rainforest' by the Tiebreak Touring Theatre Company which had originally been commissioned by the Natural History Museum in 1990. It is a musical drama packed with stories, comedy and a variety of musical instruments from across the world including a don-don, talking drum, rain stick and carob bean pod!

The Scout Hut was also kindly provided by the Ratby Scout Group, as a changing room for the artists, who genuinely commented on the fact that it was the best they'd had all week! A large Marquee was also set up which provided that all important shade for picnic time, on a day which turned out to be red hot!

Over four hundred children visited Martinshaw Woods on the day and all of them got involved in activities in celebration of the National Forest, such as parachute games, minibeast hunts and wildlife studies in the wood. Woody Tree was around to help keep the children entertained and looked very much at home in the woodland setting.

The day was made possible by a large number of organisations working together in partnership This includes Leicestershire County Council, Hickley and Bosworth Parish Council, the Countryside Commission and the National Forest amongst others.

Kristina Gould Project Manager

Leicester Urban Fringe Project





## 1st RATBY SWALLOWS



#### LEICESTER WEST DISTRICT SPORTS DAY

#### 15th JUNE 1996 HELD AT GLENFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL'S PLAYING FIELD

Sports Day is always a very exciting and competitive event and this years was no exception. Ten Cubs turned out to represent The Swallows and all did extremely well. The team was made up of:

Michael Lyon, Matthew McLavy, Steven Jarvis, Mark Sloan, Christopher Bird, Christopher Fletcher, Rebecca McKelican, Emma Glenister, Sam Laywood and Mark Chevin.

Besides The Swallows, 8 other cub packs took part in the competition. Various events were arranged for the Cubs who competed with other Cubs of the same age group and were as follows:

Standing Long Jump
Sack Race
100 Meters Sprint
3 Legged Race
Shuttle Relay for 4 Cubs over 100 Mtrs
Dressing Up Race
4 x 400 Mtrs Relay

Each event was ran as two heats, followed by a final for the first three to finish in each heat. The first, second and third placed children each received a certificate for their efforts.

The Swallows Cubs received the following awards:

Michael Lyon.... 1st u/9's Shuttle Relay
Matthew Mclavy.... 1st u/9's Shuttle Relay
Steven Jarvis....1st u/9's Shuttle Relay, 1st u/9's Standing Long Jump
Mark Sloan...1st u/9's Shuttle Relay, 1st u/10's Dressing Up Race
Christopher Bird....2nd u/10's Shuttle Relay, 2nd u/11's Shuttle Relay
Christopher Fletcher.... 2nd u/10's Shuttle Relay, 2nd u/11's Shuttle Relay
Rebecca McKellican....2nd u/10's Shuttle Relay
Emma Glenister....2nd u/10's Shuttle Relay
Emma Glenister....2nd u/11's Shuttle Relay
Mark Chevin....2nd u/11's Shuttle Relay

Because the children did so well,
The Swallows Pack finished in third place overall...........

My thanks to Lesley Chevin and James Cross who helped with the team on the day. Also I would like to thank all the Mums and Dads and brothers and sisters who came along and supported us .

Lastly, thankyou also to the organisers for arranging the event.



Brian Cross (AKELA)

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1 teaspoon cinnamon

1 egg (beaten)

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Topping

4 oz cream cheese 1 oz icing sugar

20z sultanas optional

2oz walnuts 7

7" square tin or 2 X 11b loaf tins Oven 180c/350f/gas 4

Cream margarine and sugar. Mix in egg

Mix in fruit and nuts if wanted. Mix in carrot.

Gradually mix in milk. Add flour, soda and cinnamon. Mix well Bake in centre of oven for 40 minutes until golden brown and shrinking from sides of tin.

Cool in tin for 15 -20 minutes. Carefully turn onto tray to finish cooling.

Mix topping until smooth and spread on cold cake.

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#### Playgroup Children Raise Funds



Four year olds James Cull and Lottie Horn were just two of the Playgroup children who helped to raise funds for fencing at a recent sponsored obstacle course event

Photo by Sylvia Gant

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