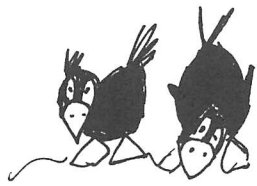


AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2009

ISSUE 137



# WOT!

## About Ratby

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP



## MIDSUMMER MADNESS and MORE!

Jayne Rayne has sent in these photographs to remind us of sunny days

### GARDEN FETE

The Church Garden Fete on 20<sup>th</sup> June was well supported as usual, especially as this was the last to be shared with the Worsfold family in their Rectory Garden. A record total of almost £2300 was raised!!



### And RAMBLES....

Ratby Ramblers spent five days In the Forest of Dean, with visits to Symonds Yat and Gloucester Docks.



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## DON'T MISS OUT!! SUPPORT THESE LOCAL EVENTS

### RAILWAY INN MUSIC FESTIVAL

The **FIRST EVER** Ratby Music Festival will take place at the Railway Inn on the 30th August 2009.

Be there at 1pm to catch True Blue Dance Crew doing their stuff, a Karate Show, and BBQ with outside bar and a whole lot more before the music begins at 4pm.

Don't miss the Meatloaf Tribute Band, Dunshophie, and Down the Road, a Britain's Got Talent entrant!

They are followed by Vertigo, a great local band, and the Headline Act: Leicester's very own award winning STONEPARK to keep everyone dancing until late.

**BE THERE FOR THIS GROUND BREAKING EVENT!!**

Pictured are Stonepark.



### LAST CALL FOR TICKETS

Singer songwriter Michael Card will be at Kirby Muxloe Free Church on Friday 9 October 2009. The show starts at 7:30pm doors open no earlier than 7:00pm. Tickets should be booked in advance as this is likely to be a sell out event. Each ticket costs £12.50 which includes interval refreshments.

All enquiries to [tickets@kirbyfree.org](mailto:tickets@kirbyfree.org)

## DO YOU THINK RATBY HAS TOO MUCH SPEEDING TRAFFIC?

### RATBY PARISH COUNCIL

Do you think Ratby has a problem with speeding traffic? If you do, Ratby Parish Council needs your help.

The council has decided to apply to participate in a **Community Speed Watch**.

This campaign aims to encourage drivers to slow down in areas which do not qualify for a speed camera, but where motorists still speed. Does that sound familiar to you?



The parish council has three key areas in mind: Markfield Road, Dane Hill, and Station Road.

Which one gets chosen doesn't really matter just so long as the message gets out that Ratby doesn't welcome speeding drivers.

**Community Speed Watch depends on local volunteers and if you feel strongly enough about speed we hope you'll step forward for training. We need 16 of you to volunteer to do that and one of you to volunteer to be the scheme co-ordinator.** But don't worry it's only a short term contract of about 6 weeks! Hopefully, the scheme will operate in the autumn of 2009.

Being caught in the act by CSW doesn't just incur a gentle warning – although that is the first step. This scheme is supported by Leicestershire Police and if people do not reduce their speed, enforcement could follow.

**We feel Ratby could benefit from the scheme and we need 200 residents to support our application so please sign up before the end of August 2009, in Ratby Post Office.**

**X1 Coalville to Leicester .....ARRIVA** have now re-routed this service down the A50, despite the local campaign. Has this caused you problems? What are your views? Write in to Wot and let us know.



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## JOIN THE SCOUTS HAVE LOTS OF FUN

At Scouts we go camping and we play games like Football and Hot Rice. We have been to the church to have a go at bell ringing and we went to the top of the church and looked over all of Ratby. We also learn things and go on walks.

When I went on camp the first thing I did was started to put up the tent. Then we unpacked and then went to get some firewood then a stove for cooking on the fire. After that we had free time so we could do anything for 45 minutes and we played on the massive rope swing. After that we started to get the fire going and started preparing the dinner it was delicious, after dinner we played a wide game, and went to bed. The next morning we had breakfast and then we played for a bit and got ready for the big walk, then we had some lunch and played for a bit then we took the tents down and we had some spare time so we played on the rope swing until our parents picked us up.

David

Every Thursday at Ratby village hall the 1<sup>st</sup> Ratby Scouts learn and have fun. Lots of people go to Scouts some of the children go to the same school. We go on camps and go on good treats for delivering the WOTS. We earn lots of badges to reward what we have done it is very fun, so if you want to join you have to be 10 or older and come along on Thursday At 7:00pm.

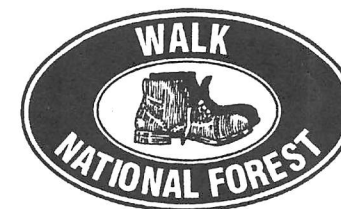
Lucy

I was recently invested into the 1<sup>st</sup> Ratby Scouts at Scouts we play games like Hot Rice, Red Letter, Freeman, Hardy and Willis, The Tyre Game, Strides. You can also earn badges including Administrator, Aeronautics, Air Researcher, Air Spotter, Angler, Artist, Arts Enthusiast, Astronomer, Athlete, Basic Aviation Skills. So if you want to have lots of fun then join the Scouts, come along at 7:00pm on Thursday Evenings at the church rooms in Ratby and see what you think

As a Scout being in Scouting over 10 years and having my first camp as a leader at Willesley i thoroughly enjoyed it like most camps I go on. After sleeping the night before and waking up to the sound of a plane landing next to me (that actually didn't, it was just the sweet repetitive sound of the planes overhead from East Midlands Airport). Once all the Scouts had arrived I got to enjoy them all struggling to put up their tents, and finally giving in and going to help them. This too was a fun task because even though they had guidance we still got it wrong the first time. After this the Scouts went and fetched some wood so that they could eat. While I was helping the Scouts do this the Explorers had set up a wide game in the woods, this included being blind-folded and tied together in patrols, they then had to be guided by their patrol leaders around the course, it was to test how much trust the Scouts had in each other, as well as having some fun in the process. After this the day passed rather quickly with activities happening throughout the day. We had a three-way activity moment with three bases, one was teaching the Scouts how to use an axe and saw safely, and the other was making an entrance sign for camp, and the final one was knots and lashings. To be honest Sunday was just a blur of fun, we went on a hike (to fetch more bread). My favourite moment was when we played manhunt, I naturally got caught quite quickly, but when one of the other Explorers went to hide in a bush, me and about 5 Scouts were less than 5 feet away, it made me laugh how not one of them saw him. Another favourite was Karting, which most of the scouts surely enjoyed the most. I personally did not really enjoy the experience because there was a hill and it was fast and the steering on my Kart was terrible. Overall I can say I very much enjoyed the camp, and it was very different seeing everything from a different perspective.

Abbey

At Scouts we like camping, we have just recently been thanks to the leaders. All of us that went had a great time. We went Karting and it was amazing, the weather was surprisingly good (no rain at all except for spit spotting).



### What is Walk National Forest?

Coming to Ratby September 12<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>

Teams of 8-10 people from all the UK volunteer to serve local churches for between 4-8 days. A team of 8 men will be sleeping on Ratby Church floor and walking and talking around the area. They will be doing some door to door visiting, going to the pubs, home meetings, school assemblies and lessons, church services, meetings and events for all ages.

The programme will include: A Beetle Drive, Barbecues, Skittles Evening, Healing Service, Film Afternoon, Gospel Choir, Quiz Evening, Concorde Singers and much more. They will be dropping in at lots of village events that take place during that week, speaking at some or just chatting over coffee.

Friday lunchtime will give you an opportunity to go to the pub and ask all those really awkward questions you have ever wanted to challenge Christians with – no questions excluded in the Hot Potatoes Session.

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> will be a free fun day for all the family to include in the morning Men's Breakfast, Dads and Lads Football, and in the afternoon craft, drumming, bell ringing, treasure hunt, shooting and much more. Followed by an early evening kids disco and later on an opportunity to hear songs from the shows by Concorde singers.

Look out for a programme coming through your door and book early to make sure you get a place.

Anne Stratton,

Curate Bradgate Team

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## RATBY CO-OPERATIVE BAND

Congratulations to members of our Youth Section who have achieved a 100% pass rate in their recent music exams.

As part of the band's activities, players can receive individual music tuition, partly subsidised by the organisation.

### Concert Programme

4<sup>th</sup> September 7.30 Thornton Church  
6<sup>th</sup> September TBC Coalville Park  
13<sup>th</sup> September 3.00 Braunstone Park

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## RECYCLING IN RATBY

The article about recycling in our last issue prompted a letter from a villager, and some questions from other villagers. These queries are answered below by Charlotte Long, Assistant Waste Minimisation & Education Officer, Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

### 1. *Where does all the material for recycling actually go to?*

During the last year, materials collected at the kerbside by the Borough Council for recycling were sent to the following destinations:

- Paper - recycled by AbitibiBowater/ Bridgewater Paper in Ellesmere Port, Cheshire
- Glass - recycled by Berryman/ Ardagh in Doncaster and Knottingly, Yorkshire
- Steel cans - recycled by Corus, in Port Talbot
- Aluminium cans - recycled by Novelis, in Warrington
- Organic waste (garden waste and cardboard) - composted at Manor Farm, Aston Flamville, Leicestershire

All these are processed and recycled on site. Paper collected at the kerbside should be recycled and back on the shop shelves within 7 days! In addition to this materials were also sent to:

- Textiles - recycled by Salvation Army Trading, in Wellingborough, Northants; Ragtex, in Leicester; and TRAIID, in Wembley
- Plastic & Cardboard – sent to Casepak in Leicestershire

All of these materials are baled up on site and transferred elsewhere for processing dependant on the market values at the time.

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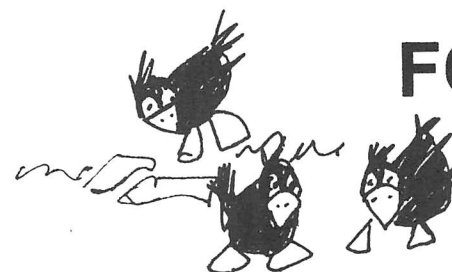
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## FOCUS ON RECYCLING



### 2. *Is it possible to put cardboard in the brown bins as well as in the bags?*

Cardboard can still be put into the brown garden waste bins, but this may soon be phased out. Recycling cardboard in the clear bags is a much more sustainable way of dealing with our waste. When cardboard is sent for recycling it can be recycled over and over again. Composting means the cardboard has only a one time use.

### 3 *Where does the garden waste go, and if it is composted will the process kill diseased plants and weeds such as dandelions?*

Garden waste is taken to a local farm composting sites. The waste is tipped straight from the vehicle onto the site. There is no sorting process, which means it is important that only suitable materials are in the load. Here the waste is shredded and arranged into windrows (large Toblerone shaped heaps about 3m high and 10m long). The heaps are turned regularly to help oxygen to pass through; this speeds up the composting process. The heaps can get up to quite high temperatures (much higher than a domestic compost bin) to kill common garden weeds such as dandelions.

After 12 to 16 weeks the compost is ready. It is then sieved to remove large particles (which are put through the process again) and used for land improvement on the same farm.

We ask that residents do not put Japanese knotweed or Giant hogweed into the brown bins as these are very strong weeds that will not be killed by the composting process. Also please avoid putting diseased plants into the garden waste bins as this could potentially spread disease amongst the farm crops. To help to keep the best quality compost possible please ensure only suitable materials are put in the brown bin. If in doubt, leave it out!

### Catch - 22

The credit crunch is affecting stocks of clothes, books and furniture in Age Concern Shops. Tony Donovan, the charity's executive director, said: "It's a Catch - 22 situation! On the one hand, more people are saving money in these difficult times by buying the high quality goods which we sell, whilst on the other, traditional donors are apparently more inclined to 'make do and mend' rather than donate to our charity's shops.

Items can be delivered to any of the charity's shops – for convenient locations, ring **0116 2992233** – whilst large

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

I read with interest Jane Rayne's letter about our new recycling collection in Ratby. I am a passionate recycler and very interested in all green issues. 9 months ago I took a job in the recycling industry working with local businesses to get them recycling.

It's a tough job as a lot of people are against recycling because they feel the separating is time consuming and will cost their business money. This isn't usually the case as we normally save customers money as it's cheaper to recycle than to throw into landfill.

I meet lots of people who complain that their domestic collections are too complex with too many different containers. Most homes do not have enough storage space. I have to agree that storage is a huge issue, personally I would like a stacking system where we have a couple more blue containers one for card, one for plastic. If the council provides lids then we can stack 2 new containers on top of our existing blue container. The lids will allow us to leave everything outside.

Recycling is very important. Does everybody know landfill in this country is nearing full? The new options will be incinerators and whilst they are very clean no one will want an incinerator close to their home. It's not only about diverting waste from landfill it's also about sustainability, plastics contain oil which is a commodity that will one day run out. So come on everybody get recycling, get behind the new scheme, it's not going to go away we really do need it.

**Ruth Spencer**  
Address supplied



## LAST CHANCE FOR A BARGAIN BIN

The chance to pick up a compost bin for a bargain price will soon be coming to an end. The promotional offer run by WRAP (a government funded body that aims to increase recycling and composting) will end this September.

Bins are currently available from a recession busting £13.50 including delivery!

The offer will finish at the end of September so that Wrap can focus on the guidance it offers to local authorities and householders about home composting on its website and through its guide, which outlines how to compost and how to use compost.

Anyone not home composting already, is encouraged to give it a go this year. With compost bins still available at such low prices, you've got very little to lose.

For more information about subsidised compost bins visit [www.recyclenow.com/compost](http://www.recyclenow.com/compost) or call 0845 076 0223 quoting reference LEFT9. Alternatively visit [www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/compostbin](http://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/compostbin) for information on how to get started.

## NEW LOCAL LOROS SHOP

Come and explore our new shop at 1 Station Road, Glenfield. We are open from 10am-4pm, Monday to Friday. Donations of clothes, bric a brac and books urgently required. Have you got 3 or 4 hours a week to come and help us sort donations? Phone Pippa on **231 3666**

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## VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

LOROS, The Leicestershire and Rutland Hospice, require members of the public to help assist the Fundraising team with various events and administration work. We also require people to sell our grand raffle tickets at local venues.

If you would like to help raise funds to support local terminally-ill patients then please contact the LOROS Fundraising Team on 0116 2318431/2 or email [fundraising@loros.co.uk](mailto:fundraising@loros.co.uk).

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## News from Ratby Neighbourhood Watch.

The neighbourhood watch team will be holding their next meeting on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October in the Church Rooms at 7.30pm.

Part of the group's remit is to ensure that as many residents in Ratby are aware of what crimes have been reported locally, what trends are appearing and how this information can be used to protect property, and make the village a safe place in which to live.

Currently co-ordinators in the group leaflet houses in the streets where they live giving this information. However this means that some of the residents in Ratby are not leafleted! It is essential that the group have feedback from the residents in Ratby regarding the best locations to put this information on a weekly/monthly basis to ensure all within our community have access to it. The police make weekly reports to the group, but there may be other matters that go unreported, such as anti social behaviour, and issues that arise from road use. The group relies on its network of co-ordinators to bring this information to their attention. The more co-ordinators the group has the more information it receives to circulate.

Please attend the meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup>: it is an opportunity to have your say and also an opportunity to find out more about getting involved.

**Kate McLeod**  
Chair – Ratby NW.



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 75g (3 oz ) margarine  
 170g (6 oz) Golden Syrup  
 150g (5 oz ) dried milk powder  
 25g (1 oz ) cocoa powder  
 16 individual paper cake cases.

### Method

1. Set out the cake cases on plate or tray
2. Melt the margarine and syrup together in a saucepan, stirring gently over a low heat.
3. Remove from the heat and add remaining ingredients to the pan, mixing well with a wooden spoon.
4. Divide between the paper cases and leave to cool.

A quick and easy tea time treat!

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## SIX A.M.

A Timely Tribute to the post-bikers of all England

Balancing her post- bike  
 she launches off into the inky blackness  
 her basket, racks and panniers-red hot pokers  
 strangely sublime,  
 almost surreal as she speeds past the dawn  
 sunbeam.

Feet push on pedals, fingers grip and guide her  
 handle-bars,  
 die-hard in all weathers is she-wind and rain,  
 frost and snow.  
 Riding that long red flashing 'engine', her  
 lamps a series of hot coals in the firelight  
 protrude out to front and side.

Empress of the early morning.

A natural blonde highlight blows through the  
 top of her hair,  
 the perfect foil to her signal red tail-light, these  
 among the running gear of this streetwise rural  
 'husky'

Stars shine, birds sing, the fox and a yellow  
 moon rake the sky  
 While she commands her ship.

**Vincent Turner**

(Sadly, with author permission, we had to edit the poem due to lack of space. Editor.)

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 Sun:- 7.00am to 2.00pm, then 7.00pm till 9.00pm

## NEWS FROM ST PHILIP and ST JAMES

Well, it's been a busy few weeks up at the church on the hill. Thank you to everyone who was present at Richard's last service on 21<sup>st</sup> June – the church was packed with people from the village, our friends from the Methodist church and the three churches that make up the Bradgate Team of Ratby, Groby and Newtown Linford. It's fair to say the Worsfold family was overwhelmed at the gifts given to them and the ride in the stretched limo which was waiting to whisk them away to a farewell reception.

Since then things have moved on a pace (for the Church of England!) with the vacant position advertised and a short list of three people were interviewed on 10<sup>th</sup> July. We are now waiting for a decision from the Bishop to know if we have a new Team Rector. In the meantime things continue as near normal as possible with only a slight adjustment to services during the next month or two.

If you want to keep abreast of what's happening do have a look at our website [www.bradgateteam.org.uk](http://www.bradgateteam.org.uk) which is being updated with information as we receive it, or come along to church and hear it for yourself. From all the congregation at St PJ's do have a good summer whatever you plan on doing.

## POND DIPPING

Ratby Community Orchard Group will be holding their annual Pond dipping exploration on Wednesday August 12<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm. Meet us down by the pond on Taverner Drive.



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## THANK YOU

Thank you Ratby for the response to Christian Aid week this year, not including the one envelope of metal washers, obsolete foreign coins and old currency that comes from the same street each year - We managed to raise £1346.80p between us for the worlds poorest, despite the recession.

Yes Ratby still has a heart - and you are it. Once again Thank you

A special thank you to our collector from Conifers (Barbara) who really went the extra mile this year.

God Bless you all.

Margaret Fee

Good news! But where is this street where someone saves old washers? Editor



## BARGAIN WILLS..AGE CONCERN

Around twenty six firms of local Solicitors have agreed to reduce their Will Writing charges to £35+VAT for a single uncomplicated Will – a huge reduction with no strings attached. The offer is available from 1<sup>st</sup> September until 31<sup>st</sup> October. Last year, hundreds of people took advantage of this superb, low cost deal and received invaluable advice and the necessary protection afforded by properly drawn up wills.

In spite of the clear benefits of making a will, it is still a known fact that most people have not done so. Perhaps you have, but it was so long ago that it is time to consider whether it needs revising. Don't miss this opportunity to put matters straight! Ring 0116 2992233.

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## New Online Reference Library

How big is the largest squid in the world? Where does the shortest man live? How do you make rubber? Why is the sky blue? Who were your ancestors?

You can find the answers along with loads of other information via the Online Reference Library service at home on your computer.

This new online service has been set up by Leicestershire County Council Library Services and provides a wide range of information which can be accessed at home on the internet.

The subject topics vary from art to health and from family history to music - even newspapers and magazines - so there is plenty of information to interest all age groups.

Whatever information you seek, just pop into your local library or use our Online Reference Library in the comfort of your own home by visiting [www.leics.gov.uk/reference](http://www.leics.gov.uk/reference).

There is normally a subscription fee upon registering for the Online Reference Library service, however Leicestershire libraries are providing the service absolutely free to members of the library service. All you need is your library card number.

If you are not already a member, you can join by downloading a form and taking it to your nearest library with proof of identification. Or you can register online by completing the form and a library card and a PIN will be sent to your home.

There are additional services available only in libraries themselves which include the Ancestry Library Edition, a great place to research into your family tree. Or if you're looking for value for money, our Which? Consumer Reports will help you to decide and compare prices.

For those musicians around, you can find your favourite artist or album by clicking onto the SearchMuze online resource program.



## SCOUT COMPETITION

The winner of the scouts 'Guess the bag weight' competition at the Ratby Armed Forces Day was Mr M Chevin with a guess of 13.6kg.

The group managed to raise £45.19p thank you to everyone who participated.

Stephen Pemberton

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## LETTERS and ARTICLES

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