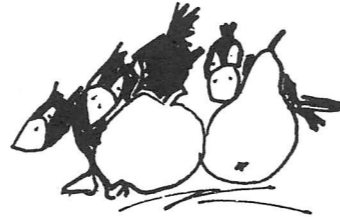


OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2012

ISSUE 156



# WOT!



## About Ratby

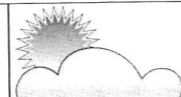
PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP

## RATBY'S ANNUAL SHOW

Once again Ratby Village Society organised an amazing village event. This year's show was held at Ratby Sports Club, and there was an added bonus of a cricket match taking place on the day! Visitors to the show stayed to enjoy a drink and watch the match, making it a truly rural village occasion. Pictured below are some of the winners of Trophies. A full list of winners can be found on page two.



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## ANNUAL SHOW TROPHY WINNERS

**Phil Dews** - Arthur Cawrey Memorial Shield for best exhibit in vegetable section.  
**Phil Dews** - Ratby Allotment Association Trophy for most exhibits in vegetable section.  
**Phil Dews** - Lloyd Sutton Memorial Cup for best exhibit in Fruit section.  
**Rosemary Chapman** - MEB Jordan Memorial Salver for best exhibit in floral section.  
**Rosemary Chapman** - Ratby Chemist Ltd Award for best exhibit in container plants.  
**Kate Fitches** - The Jack Haywood Cup for best in flower arranging.  
**Chris Talbot** - Presented by Ratby Parish Council, for best in preserves.  
**Chris Fitches** - Dalby Bathrooms Award for best in wine.  
**Rebecca Banner** - Ratby Village Cup for best in bread.  
**Rebecca Banner** The Service Garage Cup for best in cookery.  
**Julie Messenger** - Pab's Cup for most exhibits in cookery.  
**Mrs B Derbyshire** - Cawrey Homes Cup for best in adult handicrafts.  
**A E McCafferty** - Ratby Village Society Cup for best in poetry (adults)

**H A Gamble** - Michael Porter Cup for best in Photography (adults)  
**Morgan Bland** - The 'Local Yokel' Sunflower-Den Green Lovingly Remembered for best vegetable monster. (under 16)  
**Daniel Banner**- The Haywood Children's Trophy for best in photography (under 16)  
**Rosie Bland** - Moores of Ratby Trophy for best decorated card or cake. (under 16)  
**Morgan Bland** - The Sarah Mirza Sunflower for best overall exhibit (under 16)  
**Rebecca Banner** - The Harding Shield for best exhibit in show.  
**Laura James** - Ratby Sports Club Diamond Jubilee Cup for most unusual exhibit in show.  
**Ratby Sports Club** - Wot! About Ratby Shield for the best overall contributor to the show  
 Ratby Village Society extend grateful thanks to the team at Ratby Sports Club for their generous help and support given for this year's show. Thanks also go to the officers of the Village Hall and Chapel, and to Hoz, Robert and the three 'wise men' from Groby (RHS Judges) and to all the lads and lasses behind the scenes who gave their time so freely. Thank you to Ozzy O'Shea for his uplifting speech and for presenting the trophies. To everyone who entered into the spirit of the occasion and exhibited produce or handiwork, we thank you. Without you we would not have a show.

Next year the show will be held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August at Ratby Sports Club.



**RATBY ART EXHIBITION**  
 Don't forget the annual show in Ratby Church Rooms.

Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup> 10.00 - 3.00pm  
 Sunday November 4<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 2.00pm

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## RATBY COMMUNITY ORCHARD POND DIPPING

This year's event was later than usual on August 15<sup>th</sup>. There was plenty of water for once and our largest turn out of villagers. Families and children arrived with nets and tubs to explore the pond.

Neil Talbot from Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust joined us again to help identify the finds. This year there were two new discoveries; a Hog Louse, and Caddis Fly larva.



Pictured are some of the participants at this year's coffee morning.

## COFFEE MORNING for the OVER 90s

A group of villagers who have attained the distinction of reaching at least their ninetieth birthday were once again treated to a special celebration alongside the regular Saturday coffee morning in Ratby Church Rooms. Ratby Village Society are delighted that this has become a regular item on the calendar.

This year's participants were;

Hoz Gamble  
 Albert Hargrave  
 Lucilla Hill  
 Kathleen Hodson  
 Clarice Hutchinson  
 Joan Meakin  
 Marjorie Parry  
 Ray Parry  
 Hetty Smart.

There are at least seven more 90plus year olds in the village, but unfortunately they were not able to attend this time.

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## HIS and HERS

LADIES AND GENTS

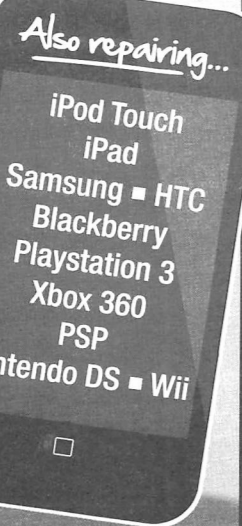
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## GUIDING SUCCESS!

Ratby young women Lizzie Pye and Faye Henderson (1st and 4th from right ) were awarded their Baden Powell Awards at a ceremony held at the New Walk Museum in Leicester. Both girls gained their award with Markfield Guides.



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## RATBY VILLAGE SOCIETY

Our meetings are held in the Village Hall, Main Street at 8pm on the third Tuesday each month. Admission; Members £1.60, Casual Guests £2.60, inclusive of refreshments. All Welcome!!

16<sup>th</sup> October – Anne Halsey describes a rail trip from Toronto to Vancouver and into the Rockies via the Rocky Mountaineer.

20<sup>th</sup> November – Musical recordings and a talk entitled 'The lives and music of George and Ira Gershwin.'

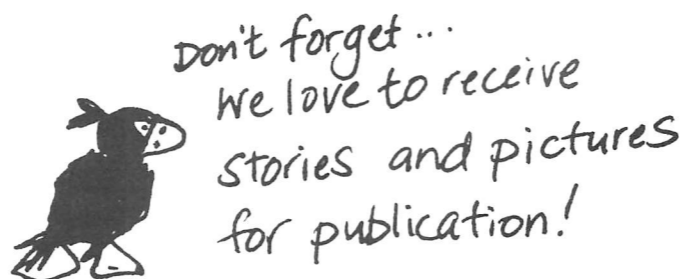
15<sup>th</sup> January – An illustrated talk on the Deacon Family of Leicestershire clockmakers by John Thornton of Groby.

There is no meeting in December.

## RATBY METHODIST CHURCH

Fund raising for the ABF Soldier's Charity ended on 31<sup>st</sup> August, and at the time of going to press the total raised was £1787.07. The chosen charity for next year is Alzheimer's Research U.K.

The Harvest Weekend begins with a coffee morning from 10 until 12 noon on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September. Robert Balfour will lead our Harvest Thanksgiving service at 10 am on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September, and there will be an evening service led by Mrs Marilyn Draycott at 6pm.



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## MORE MEMORIES of ASTILL BUSES

### On the Record

Back in the early 60s, when I worked at the Commercial Union Assurance Co in Leicester I would catch the 5.25 Astill's bus back to Ratby. One day a couple of regular passengers alighted at their usual Groby Road stop just after New Parks (this was before the roundabout). One of the girls tripped and her bags flew out onto the pavement, scattering her shopping. "Oh no," she cried, "my new record!" "What's it called, me duck - ," quipped conductor Reg, who seemed to be on that bus route for ever with his leather bag, "Bits and Pieces?" Laughter all round.


### The Last Bus 1959

Saturday night revellers heading home to Ratby after a night out at the ABC, Odeon or Il Rondo would fill the old dark blue double decker to standing room only. The top deck was the place to be. One night, through the fog of cigarette smoke and genial chatter, a couple of lads at the front (I think Frank Marston was one of them), started singing the current number one hit, Johnny Preston's "Running Bear". The guys at the back, including Frank's brother Ernest and John Hulbert, provided the backing. Pretty soon the whole bus was rocking to the wonderful contrapuntal effect of this great number:

"On the bank - " sang Frank from the front,  
"00-AA-00-AA-" sang everyone else,  
"Of the river - " "00-AA-00-AA-"  
"Stood Running Bear-" "00-AA-00-AA-"  
"Indian Brave-" "00-AA-00-AA-"  
"On the other-" "00-AA-00-AA-"  
"Side of the river-" "00-AA-00-AA-"  
"Stood his lovely-" "00-AA-00-AA-"  
"Indian maid -" "00-AA-00-AA-"

etc.

Chris Garratt



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## Through the floods

I too used to travel to and from work on Astill and Jordan's buses. I have fond memories of the open platform with the pole and when the road into Ratby was flooded, the water used to come into the bus and we all picked up our feet until the bus had driven through and the water swished out and we could put our feet back down.

Sid Jordan was the conductor on the morning and evening bus and knew all the regulars, even telling them the bus was at their stop if anyone wasn't paying attention. Travel was far more interesting then.

Jean Harrison

## INTERESTED IN SCOUTING?

Visit the Scout Bus in the village on Saturday  
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## APPLE DAY

Ratby Community Orchard will be holding an **APPLE DAY** from 2 pm until 4 pm on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October**.

Come and taste apples, try your hand at apple peeling and pressing and enjoy refreshments with apple cakes and pies.

There will be the ever popular bow and arrow game and creative activities and games for children.

The 'Apple Doctor' will be on hand to help you identify your own apples, diagnose problems and give advice.

The event is **FREE** but we will ask for donations towards the upkeep of the Orchard. Why not check out our **FACEBOOK** page?

We are in the process of providing labels for each tree which give information on the fruit and dates for picking. There is also a notice on the board advising of approximate times when apples should be ripe, and the technique for picking.

Villagers are welcome to harvest apples. Please remember that other people want a share too and so we ask that individuals do not take more than is fair.



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## NEW HOME for RATBY PHARMACY

After twenty two successful years in Ratby our local Chemist has moved to larger premises at number 10 Main Street.

Pharmacist Mrs Usha Desai returned to her roots in Leicester and established the business in the village following the retirement of former Chemist Mr Ellis.

It's very much a family business with husband Mr Mahadev Desai as Manager and daughter Ms Priya Desai, also a qualified pharmacist joining the team.

The more extensive premises have enabled them to provide more stock and offer a wide range of services. You can pop in now for free Blood Pressure monitoring, or advice and review of your medication in partnership with your GP. This is helpful for people worried about side effects of new medication too. Also on offer are emergency contraception, (the morning after pill), and a Stop Smoking Clinic which has helped many clients to give up. Monitoring and patches are provided following an initial fifteen minute consultation. Diabetic screening is available for a small charge, and you can also get advice on requirements for travel vaccination.

These services are provided in a private consultation area. Just pop in!

Ratby Pharmacy also offers a **FREE** collection and delivery service for prescriptions from surgeries in Ratby and surrounding villages. Just phone on 0116 239 3139.

The new premises are spacious, light and airy, and there is a ramp which enables people with mobility scooters and parents with buggies and children to easily access the pharmacy.

If you haven't called in yet we recommend a visit! They would love to hear suggestions on other services or Pharmacy products that could be offered.

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Pictured behind the counter are Mr and Mrs Desai with Sales assistant Mrs Catherine Wilson.

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