



WOT!

About Ratby

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP

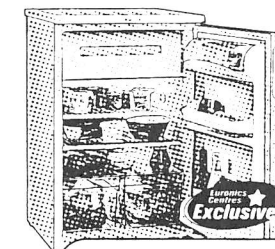


SUN SHINES for RATBY CROW PIE

Ratby Junior Band led the procession, followed by a Marching Band from Earl Shilton. The music drew the crowds down to Ferndale Park where over 25 stalls and attractions were set up for our enjoyment. The tea tent did a roaring trade as dancers entertained in the central display area. There were bargains to be had on the bric-a-brac stall, and you could have a go at choosing 'water or wine' in aid of Church funds. Village organisations had set up various stalls and displays. Ratby Parish Council was seeking views on the proposed improvements to play areas in the village. The History Society hosted a fascinating display of artefacts discovered in the parish, and the first volume of the series looking at Ratby's history. Something for everyone.



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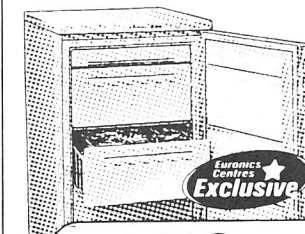
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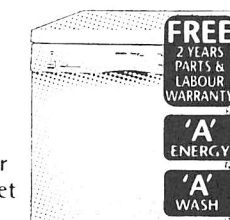
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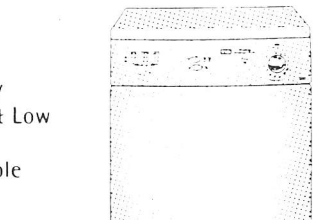
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RATBY VILLAGE SOCIETY

In March Mr. Ian Hiercock treated us to an amusing and instructive talk on the 'History of Henry Walkers' from when he joined the company of just 20 employees making pork pies by hand, to the present day when millions of pies are turned out annually by automation, with over 100 employees. The samples were excellent too!

Member David Hulme impressed the April meeting with his story of endurance in completing a 100 km trek, along with 48 companions over hostile, mountainous terrain in Peru. David raised £6500 for Cancer Research, a magnificent achievement in all senses.

An exhibition of member's hobbies at the May meeting showed a varied range of interests, including tapestry, needlework, decoupage, watercolours, photography and literature, all executed with noteworthy skill and patience.

For the June meeting Mr Derek Smeathurst of Northampton gave the second part of his trilogy on the history of Postal Services, mainly featuring the role of the railways from 1840, when the first mail coaches were conveyed on flat wagons at 40mph, to the travelling post offices which sorted mail en route.



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APPLE DAY 2004

Ratby Community Orchard Group is celebrating **Apple Day on Saturday 23rd October** by holding an event at the orchard site **between 2.00pm to 4.00pm**. Would your group or business like to join in?

What could you do?

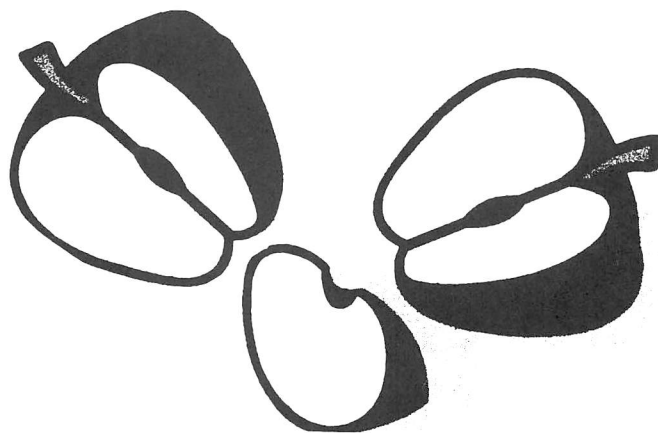
- Hold an apple related stall at the event
- Hold an apple related event at your own venue during the week. For example, apple cake and pies at a coffee morning.
- Pubs could put on special apple items on their menus or have special guest ciders.
- Groups could include something related to apples and orchards in their programmes, talks, teas, tastings.

If you would like to do something, let us know and the Orchard Group will include it in our publicity.

**Together we can make Ratby
the apple of everyone's eye!**



If you'd like to find out more, contact Steve Boud on 0116 239 4873 or stephen.boud@btinternet.com.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The next meeting will be held on

Wednesday 1st September

7.30pm in Ratby Church Rooms

This is an OPEN MEETING.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Please come along and find out all about
Neighbourhood watch in your village

NEW LIBRARY for RATBY

Plans are underway to replace our library with a modern, attractive building where there will be a strong community focus. Staff will be working closely with village organisations to create a welcoming space for residents of Ratby. As architects' plans are developed they will be displayed in the existing library, and you will be invited to comment and put forward ideas.

Computers

Four, flat screen public PCs will provide free access to a range of programmes. Taster sessions will encourage exploration of the Internet. There will be story sessions for the under fives, and staff will be on hand to help older children with homework.

BOOKS!

There will be new books appealing to everyone from 0-99 years! Newspapers and magazines will be available in a comfortable seating area.

Opening June/July 2005

During the building work a service will operate from a mobile library. If you can suggest a location for this service, from January 2005, please leave your ideas in the library, or visit the website:

[www:leics.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.leics.gov.uk/libraries)

All comments welcomed!

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ST IVES SKETCHES

Ratby poet Sarah Nichols has just published her first collection of poems, 'Poetical Sketches of St Ives.'

She says the poems were written 'to remember the good times, experiences, sights, smells, noises and feelings we have shared in St Ives.'

You don't have to know the village, or even have visited Cornwall to enjoy the evocative images she has drawn in words for us. The descriptions will take you back to the beaches of your own childhood or more recent seashore strolls. And if you've never been to Cornwall you'll be inspired to go mermaid spotting!

Sarah has given permission for us to include a poem for our mid summer issue! To buy a copy of the book, at just £7.95, ring 238 6830.

Surf's Up

Like sleek black seals
the surfers amass
under a threatening sky.

Stark silhouettes
they start to stir,
shifting with the swell.

Black dots bobbing
in a slate-grey sea,
awaiting the perfect wave.

Like an army of ants
the surfers swarm,
determined, towards the beach.





RATBY VILLAGE DIARY 2004

The following details about planned events taking place in Ratby during September and October have been made known to the WOT team. There may well be other activities during this period that we have not been advised of. Don't forget to let us know in good time of events, (Christmas is coming!) for the October/November issue.



SEPTEMBER

Wed 8 th	7.45pm	Pink Elephants over the Rainbow	Women's Institute	Village Hall	2392176
Tues 21 st	8.00pm	Talk – Springtime in Paris	Village Society	Village Hall	2387240
Fri 24 th		Please note change of date as below	Local History Group		2394168

OCTOBER

Fri 1 st	7.30pm	Talk – The Victorian Music Hall	Local History Group	Village Hall	2394168
Sat 2 nd	7.30pm	Harvest Supper & Family Quiz	Parish Church	Church Rooms	2393009
Sun 3 rd	10.00am & 6.00pm	Harvest Thanksgiving Services	Parish Church	Parish Church	2393009
Wed 13 th	7.45pm	AGM & In House Entertainment	Women's Institute	Village Hall	2392176
Tues 19 th	8.00pm	Village Quiz	Village Society	Village Hall	2387240

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FORTNIGHTLY REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Ratby's domestic refuse collection is shortly to change to a fortnightly pattern and it is understood that many village residents are unhappy about this arrangement. Health hazards are clearly one of the prime concerns. Other points relate to the size of bins used in relation to household size, together with problems associated with folks missing a collection for one reason or another and then having to wait a further two weeks.

This change as implemented by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council as part of their new waste handling and recycling scheme will eventually apply to the whole of the Council's area. We understand that residents in many other residential areas are also very concerned about the new arrangements.

A village petition against this change has been organised and this will be available for signing at most of the shops in Ratby until August 28th. This completed petition will then be duly presented to the Borough Council Mayor.

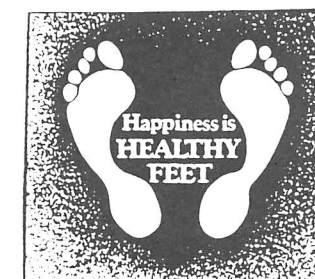
PLEASE CALL IN TO A SHOP AND SIGN THE PETITION
IF YOU ARE UNHAPPY WITH THIS NEW ARRANGEMENT

CREAM TEAS AND SONGS of PRAISE

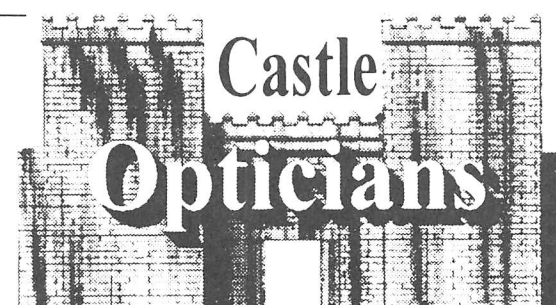
This ever-popular event will take place at the Church Rooms on Sunday 22nd August in the Church Rooms.
Ring 239 3009 for more information.



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JOLLY HOLIDAY FUN!

Dismal weather, and rain showers could not dampen the enthusiasm of the many visitors to Ratby's Edwardian Church Fete on 26th June.

The 'Mary Poppin's' theme was evident throughout, with 'Uncle Albert's Tea Tent' serving scrumptious home made cakes, the Lost Teddies stall, and Penguins' Ice Cream to name just a few of the many attractions.

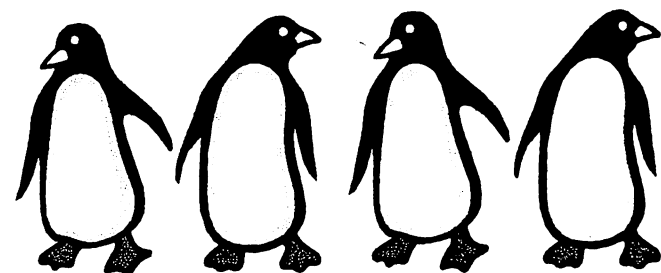
The scouts and 2Bee dancers gave children and young people the chance to display their enthusiasm and talents. Ratby Band played, and we were entertained by the appropriately dressed Desford Lane Pedalers.

It is wonderful to spend a pleasant afternoon in a beautiful garden, enjoying traditional 'village fete' activities. There were no 'burger bars' or loud pop music, no commercialism or promotional, sponsored events.

People met old acquaintances, sitting chatting over tea, or lingering in the rain to enjoy ice creams under an umbrella.

Long may it continue!

SB



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What happens when you contact the Police?

By Inspector Jay Ball, New Parks Local Policing Unit

When an incident or crime is reported to Leicestershire Constabulary, there is a process in place that determines the urgency of the police response in relation to each particular crime. The following information outlines how incidents are categorised in terms of importance and of response applicable to each respective incident or crime reported and this is as follows:

Grade 1 (999) Emergency response

A grade 1 response is usually appropriate when an incident is happening at the time that the call is made. This would constitute, for example, the 'use of' or 'threat of' immediate violence (perhaps a large fight taking place) or, a crime in progress such as a person being observed breaking into property. Calling 999 will not automatically guarantee an immediate response if the operator does not consider your particular call to be an emergency. There have been instances when members of the public have called 999 with reports of loud music from neighbours or to say that an officer is late for an appointment. Non urgent incidents such as this should be reported on 0116 222 2222.

Grade 2

A grade 2 response is determined when an officer is required to attend the scene but the situation is not an emergency. This could be such as discovering that you have been burgled when returning home, but there is no immediate threat or danger to you. This could also apply if you were unfortunate to suffer an assault, but were now safely in your home and in no further danger.

Grade 3

A grade 3 response would apply when the situation is non-urgent. This may include problems encountered with neighbours or threatening phone calls. Incidents such as these would be placed in a queue and an officer would deal with them appropriately and as soon as possible.

Grade 4

Calls classed as grade 4 apply to those that concern information only. This may be for example; that you have called to pass on some information to your beat officer or you have some additional information regarding a crime. These messages would be forwarded to a printer within the relevant police station and left in the respective officer's in-tray for when they return to duty. If you do need to make a call in order to pass on information to your local officer, I would request that you use their voicemail. At present the two officers responsible for Ratby are PC 483 Bishop and PC 4257 Mahal, so you can pass on information to your local officer's collar number, prefixing zero where a three-digit number applies.

I hope you have found this information useful and I hope it will help to alleviate some of your concerns as to what action is taken when you make a call to Leicestershire Constabulary.

Reporting any incidents to us. Do not assume that someone else will have reported the problem. This is particularly important in cases such as those that concern anti-social behaviour; all calls are taken into consideration for crime pattern analysis and these help us to identify 'Hot Spot' areas so that an 'action plan' can be devised in order to effect early resolution.

Please also remember that the more information you can give us, in terms of descriptions, names and/or addresses of perpetrators the better. This can be done anonymously if you prefer by calling Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111.

Inspector Jay Ball
New Parks Local Policing Unit



RATBY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Our First publication - No1 in a Series of Books on the History of Ratby is now available initially through contacting Doug Harwood - Tel No 2394168. Other points of sale are yet to be announced.

The variety of contents of this 110 page vividly illustrated book deal with:- Ratby's Railways, Samuel Deacon clockmaker and son of Ratby, Memories of Desford Lane Corner and The Village in 1770 on the eve of the Enclosure Act.

Our May Meeting - This took place on Friday May 21st 2004 in the Village Hall and the first part was in the form of our AGM. After this, Michael Ball gave a talk entitled 'The Tax Man Cometh', in which he began with a description of Ratby in the Plaque Year of 1349. We soon discovered that in the year of the first Poll Tax (1377), Ratby's population was 113 of whom 85 paid 4d per year tax. Everybody over 14 years old were eligible to pay. This was increased in 1381 to 12d for everyone over 15 years, a move that led to the Peasants Revolt. We also heard about the Hearth Taxes (1660/66), after which there was only time for a brief word on Window and Brick Taxes, plus a look at data and documents relating to other facts about the 17th century. Michael promised to continue the story next year.

Guided Walk - Sunday June 20th saw a small group of members on a guided walk in the Highfields area of Leicester. The guide was Richard Gill and he was superb. We looked at a vast array of properties with the emphasis on the whole variety of architectural features. Most of the route was within a conservation area and it was quite amazing that in all of the hustle and bustle we should come across hidden sanctuaries in the form of cobbled streets and properties that have change little since the Victorian times in which they were built.

Dates For Your Diary -

Sunday August 8th at 2.00pm - is when Doug Harwood will be leading a guided walk around The Bury Camp and Old Hays. Please telephone 2394168 for more information about this walk.

Friday October 1st (change of date) - this is when our next meeting is now to be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. There will be an illustrated talk about The Victorian Music Hall, this to be given by Mr Alan Reed. After a refreshment interval, there will be further updates on Ratby's history. This is also the date when memberships are renewed and new members welcomed,



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

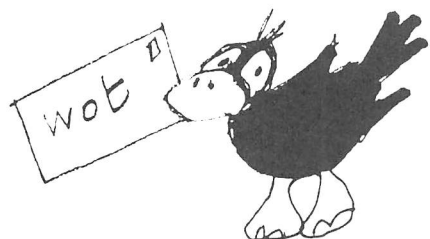
At a recent Parish Council meeting it was reported that the Acting Chief Executive of the Borough Council had discovered a surplus of £883,000 in their accounts, and that this money needed to be spent this year. During the ensuing discussion our Parish Council indicated that they would request that Ratby should benefit from part of this 'windfall.'

I find it absolutely incredible that when having only this year increased their part of the Council Tax by a massive 11%, the Borough Council should now suddenly find this surplus.

I certainly intend to ask the appropriate questions relating as to why this situation has occurred, and other residents may do the same.

Ratby Resident

(name and address supplied)



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NEWS from ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES

St Philip and St James' congregation has been welcoming a new member to the first Sunday Service in June and July. Gol has been helping in parts of the service for the first time. Who is Gol I hear you ask? Well, Gol is a *small* puppet who's full name is Goliath. He tries to be a good boy but often just misses the target of how a Christian should behave. He's currently on holiday until the end of August and not always sure where he's supposed to be staying. However, he's sending a postcard each week for the children (although the adults seem to have more than a passing interest!) about what he's been up to. We found out last week that he'd 'almost' been a good Samaritan to a little boy being bullied – but then had eaten his ice cream because he was crying so much! We look forward to hear what he's been getting up to in the weeks ahead. Feel free to come and find out yourself as well – we'd love to see you.



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Being a victim of crime is bad enough for anyone, but for the elderly and vulnerable 'bogus callers' or distraction burglaries can be devastating.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

- ♦ Put the chain on your door. Get one fitted if you don't have one.
- ♦ Use a spy hole to see who is calling.
- ♦ LOOK at the person carefully.
- ♦ Ask to see their IDENTITY....examine the card/evidence carefully.
- ♦ If you are not sure ask them to come back, or call a neighbour to help.
- ♦ BEWARE OF MORE THAN ONE PERSON.
- ♦ If the caller says they are from the GAS, WATER or ELECTRICITY, ring the company to check before you let them in.

**AN HONEST TRADER WILL NOT MIND IF
YOU CHECK THEM OUT.**

**These people are cunning, they may be smartly
dressed men or women, or children.**

**NEVER BE AFRAID OR ASHAMED TO TELL
SOMEONE IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT A
CALLER WHO HAS VISITED YOU AT HOME.**

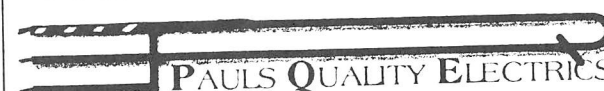
**IF IN DOUBT DON'T LET THEM IN.
CALL THE POLICE.**

Try and write down a description of the caller and vehicle details. Ring the Police as soon as possible.

Ring your local CRIME PREVENTION
OFFICER for more advice on 222 2222.



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BRADGATE TWINNING ASSOCIATION

We recently made our annual visit to our twinning partners in Plateau Est de Rouen, in Normandy. This year it is our 25th anniversary and our French friends made it a big celebration with various receptions, events, exhibitions and displays over the three full days of our visit. Besides the Bradgate Twinning, the anniversary was also shared by visitors from Poland, Germany and Burkina Faso in Africa who they are also twinned with. The receptions were very formal with speeches celebrating the exchanges but as well as the formal there were also some very light-hearted events. We took with us the Leicester Male Voice Choir who gave performances at three events together with a tin whistle group and a violin ensemble from the other partners.

On Sunday in very fine weather there was a parade in Franqueville with some wonderful groups, stilt walkers, the Normandy Highlanders Pipe Band, African drummers and a majorettes band to name a few.

In the evening there was a lantern parade which ended at the sports field and was followed by the most magnificent fireworks display. We came home after a very busy visit reflecting on the various things we seen and taken part in, the formal and the light-hearted all of which made for an excellent visit.

We look forward to receiving our friends from Plateau Est when they visit us in October.

Robert Hill

COFFEE MORNINGS

The Methodist Church will be hosting a coffee morning on Saturday 14th August at 10am. Coffee mornings will usually be held at the Church and Chapel on alternating Saturdays. See local notices



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RATBY CO-OPERATIVE BAND

BUSY BANDS

As ever, all 4 bands have been very busy. As well as the usual summer concerts, the Mid Band travelled to the North West to compete in the Whit Friday Marches in June. The Senior Band's concert in Lichfield Cathedral was very successful. Thank you to our supporters who came along and joined us for the evening.

All 3 bands joined with the Training Band for a memorable Massed Band Summer Spectacular concert on 4th July - 96 players aged 8 to 55.

More concerts are planned over the summer. The Band's will then be preparing for the contest season and dare we mention Christmas!!!!



TO BIRMINGHAM AND BEYOND

Local young woman Maryam Mirza will be working as a volunteer with World Youth, a pioneering initiative set up by VSO and CSV. Maryam will spend 3 months in Birmingham, living and working alongside people from Indonesia on community projects before setting off for Java to volunteer for a further 3 months.

The aim of the exchange is to promote understanding and co-operation between different peoples and cultures through an intense learning and working situation and so further the development of just, harmonious societies.

Maryam will be undertaking a sponsored cycle ride from Ratby to the VSO base in Birmingham in September. She has to show commitment to the scheme by raising funds.

If you would like to sponsor her, or make a donation, please ring her on 238 7672. Thank you. (Cheques should be payable to VSO (World Youth))

DEADLINE OCTOBER/NOVEMBER ISSUE No 108 FRIDAY 17th SEPTEMBER

Editor 239 3367
Adverts 239 3279
Articles may be sent to 3 Ingle Drived LE6 0NN
Phone 239 4873

VOLUME 1 of RATBY'S HISTORY
If you haven't already done so, hurry to get your copy of this Local History Group publication. It is full of fascinating detail and anecdotes. Read the group's article in this issue for details of how to obtain your copy.

PABARI'S RATBY NEWS

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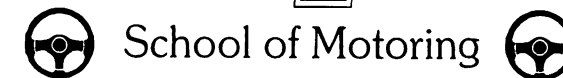
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**156 STATION ROAD, RATBY
239 4429**

RECIPE

HARVEST PASTIES

Shortcrust Pastry

6 oz /170 gr. plain flour
1 ½ oz/42 gr. Lard
1 ½ oz/42 gr. Firm margarine
Cold water to mix
Pinch of salt

Filling

2 tablespoons (2x15 ml.) oil
4 oz/113 gr. Diced carrots
4 oz/113 gr. Diced celery
4 oz/113 gr. Diced leek or onion
4 oz/113 gr. Peeled chopped tomatoes
1 teaspoon Marmite
1 teaspoon Worcester Sauce
Salt and pepper
1 beaten egg

Method

1. Set oven to Gas 6/200C/400F
2. Make pastry and leave to cool
3. Heat oil and gently cook vegetables
4. Remove from heat, stir in Marmite, sauce, salt and pepper.
5. Leave to cool
6. Roll out pastry and cut into 4 rounds
7. Divide vegetable mixture between rounds
8. Brush edge of pastry with little beaten egg, and draw up the sides to centre. Press firmly to seal.
9. Place on baking tray. Glaze with egg.

Bake in centre of oven for 10 minutes, then reduce heat to Gas 5/190C/375F for a further 10-15 minutes until golden brown.



RATBY

Local Bus Information

27

254



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Leicester - Groby - Ratby



Monday to Friday

Route Number	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
Leicester, St. Margaret's Bus Stn	0545	0623	0643	0703	0723	0743	0803	0823	0846	0906	0926	Then at these mins past each hour	46	06	26			
Glenfield Turn	0557	0635	0655	0715	0735	0755	0815	0835	0858	0918	0941		58	18	38			
Groby, Laundon Way	0601	0640	0700	0720	0740	0800	0820	0840	0902	0922	0945		02	22	42			Until
Ratby, Dane Hill	0606	0646	0706	0726	0746	0806	0826	0846	0906	0924	0946		06	26	46			
Ratby, Markfield Road	0615	0655	0715	0735	0755	0815	0835	0855	0915	0935	0955		15	35	55			

Route Number	27	27	27	27	27	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A
Leicester, St. Margaret's Bus Stn	1646	1706	1726	1750	1810	1827	1857	1957	2057	2157	2257							
Glenfield Turn	1701	1721	1741	1805	1825	1837	1907	2007	2107	2207	2307							
Groby, Stamford Arms	---	---	---	---	---	1841	1911	2011	2111	2211	2311							
Groby, Laundon Way	1706	1726	1746	1810	1830	1848	1918	2018	2118	2218	2318							
Ratby, Dane Hill	1710	1730	1750	1814	1834	1852	1922	2022	2122	2222	2322							
Ratby, Markfield Road	1720	1740	1800	1824	1844	---	---	---	---	---	---							

Saturday

Route Number	27	27	27	27	27	27	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A
Leicester, St. Margaret's Bus Stn	0726	0746	Then at these mins past each hour	26	46	06												
Glenfield Turn	0738	0758		38	58	18												
Groby, Stamford Arms	---	---		---	---	---	1841	1911	2011	2111	2211	2311						
Groby, Laundon Way	0742	0802		42	02	22												
Ratby, Dane Hill	0746	0806		46	06	26												
Ratby, Markfield Road	0755	0815		55	15	35												



Coalville - Thornton - Ratby - Leicester



Monday to Saturday

Route Number	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254
Coalville, Marlborough Square	0550	0655	0735	0805	0845													
Ellistown Hotel	0557	0702	0742	0812	0852													
Bagworth, Coaching Inn	0603	0708	0748	0817	0858													
Thornton, Topsy Fisherman	0608	0713	0753	0821	0903													
Botcheston, Greyhound	0613	0718	0758	---	0908													
Ratby, Station Road	0619	0724	0804	---	0914													
Braunstone Crossroads	0625	0730	0810	---	0920													
Leicester, St. Margaret's Bus Stn	0640	0745	0830	---	0935													
	NS	NS	S															

Monday to Saturday

Route Number	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254	254
Leicester, St. Margaret's Bus Stn	0640	---	0750	---	0845													
Braunstone Crossroads	0655	---	0805	---	0900													
Ratby, Station Road	0700	---	0810	---	0905													
Botcheston, Greyhound	0706	---	0816	---	0911													
Thornton, Topsy Fisherman	0711	0711	0821	0821	0916													
Bagworth, Coaching Inn	0716	0716	0826	0826	0921													
Ellistown Hotel	0722	0722	0832	0832	0927													
Coalville, Marlborough Square	0730	0730	0840	0840	0935													
	NS	S	NS	S														

Notes

NS - Not Saturday
S - Saturday only
For Sunday and Bank Holiday buses between Coalville and Ratby refer to 117/118 timetable for 217/218 routes
For additional buses between Groby and Leicester please see timetable 117/118/119



Ratby - Groby - Leicester



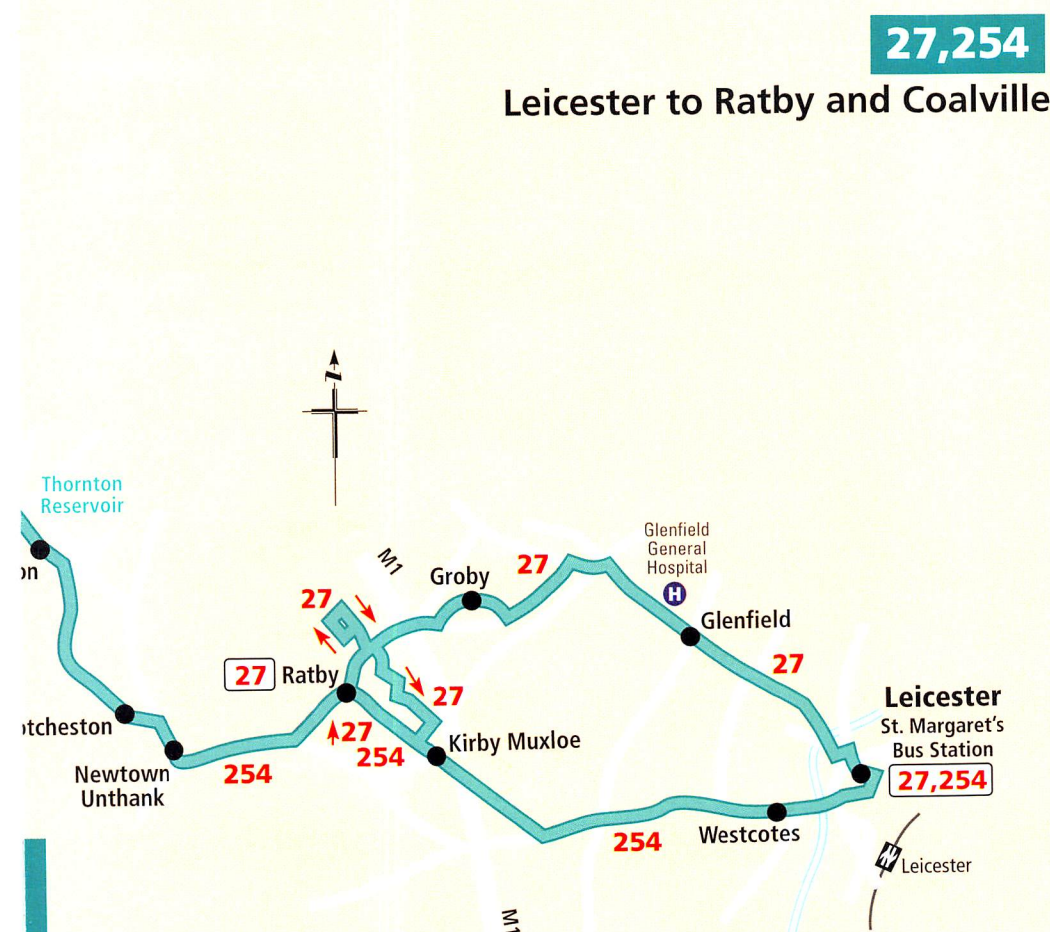
Monday to Friday

Route Number	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
Ratby, Dane Hill	0606	0626	0646	0706	0726	0746	0806	0826	0846	Then at these mins past each hour	06	26	46					
Ratby, Markfield Road	0615	0635	0655	0715	0735	0755	0815	0835	0855		15	35	55					
Groby, Laundon Way	0619	0639	0659	0719	0739	0759	0819	0839	0859		19	39	59					
Glenfield Turn	0625	0645	0705	0725	0745	0805	0825	0845	0905		25	45	05					
Leicester, St. Margaret's Bus Stn	0641	0701	0721	0748	0808	0828	0853	0913	0927		43	03	23					

Route Number	27	27	27	27	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A
Ratby, Dane Hill	1650	1710	1730	1750	1852	1922	2022	2122	2222	2322
Ratby, Markfield Road	1700	1720	1740	1800	---	---	---	---	---	---
Groby, Laundon Way	1704	1724	1744	1804	1900	1930	2030	2130	2230	2330
Groby, opp Post Office	---	---	---	---	1904	1934	2034	2134	2234	2334
Glenfield Turn	1710	1730	1750	1810	1909	1939	2039	2139	2239	2339
Leicester, St. Margaret's Bus Stn	1733	1753	1811	1828	1924	1954	2054	2154	2254	2354

Saturday

Route Number	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A	27A
Ratby, Dane Hill	0746	Then at these mins past each hour	06	26	46													
Ratby, Markfield Road	0755		15	35	55													
Groby, Laundon Way	0759		19	39	59													
Groby, opp Post Office	---		---	---	---													
Glenfield Turn	0805		25	45	05													
Leicester, St. Margaret's Bus Stn	0823		43	03	23													



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