



WOT!

About Ratby

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP

A REAL PICTURE!

We can look forward to a picturesque village scene when a group of new trees grow and mature.

Thanks to the demand for their Ratby 2000 CD ROM, the Ratby Millennium Photographic Project was able to purchase and plant eight Sorbus Aucuparia Fastigiata Trees. These are specie of native rowan, or mountain ash. With the blessing of the Parish Council they were planted on 18th November 2003 at Jubilee Green, Taverner Drive.

The trees will grow up flame-shaped, and bear orange-red berries in the autumn, forming a pleasant visual entrance to the village from Kirby Muxloe.

Given the nature of the ground the job could not have been done successfully without the aid of Messrs. Cawrey driver Kevin and his mechanical digger.

Core members of the group were assisted by David Gowdrige and Jack Haywood.

Hoz Gamble



The group get started, with Kevin and his mechanical digger.

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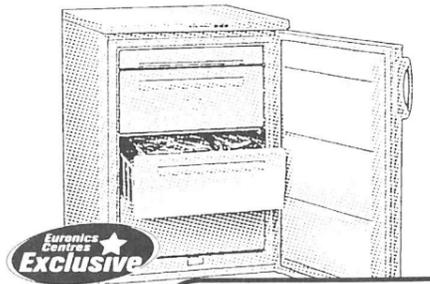
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A REAL PICTURE

Continued from page 1.

Adjusting Ties on a tree.
Mary Gowdrige and Hoz Gamble.




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ALL HAIL THE WASSAIL

Stark, dark, night enfolds Jubilee Green,
lantern-lit trees make magical scene.
Snug-clad bodies orchard bound
amid joyful cacophony of sound-
clarinet, sax, hooter, horn
accompany singing, tuneless, forlorn!
Wassailers circle in happy band,
flowing bowl passed from hand to hand.
Wassail, wassail to the trees-
come the season be fruitful, please.
Chestnuts, potatoes, roast on the fire.
Mulled wine imbibed, spirits grow higher.
Wassail to you, wassail to me,
but the harvest, dear God, is up to thee.

Hoz
Jan. 2004

Special visitors, Helen and Jason play the music
for the first Wassail song in the Railway Inn.



COMMUNITY ORCHARD GROUP WASSAIL

The Railway Inn was once again the meeting
point for the 'new tradition' of Wassailing the
apple trees.

A large group of members gathered here for the
first Wassail song and warming drink before
processing in traditional style, playing music,
and banging drums or saucepan lids, to the
orchard.

Here the time-honoured rituals were again
performed. Cider was poured on the ground
around the selected trees, and the 'toast' to the
trees was performed. The women hung toast in
the branches, to bring luck and attract beneficial
birds. The men let off party poppers to represent
the original shotgun firing which was used to
scare evil spirits.

Then the wassail bowl with mulled cider was
passed around, everyone taking a sip. The
wassail ended with chestnuts and baked potatoes
around the 'fire in a wheelbarrow.'

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THE LOROS LOTTERY

This years annual Bumper Prize Draw raised £52,290 for the Hospice.

Winner of the £5000 prize, Kim Mason was doubly lucky, she only remembered to send in her ticket stubs at the eleventh hour!

Tiger's players Dorian West and Julian White presented her with the cheque during a visit to the Hospice with the Webb Ellis World Cup. You too could be a winner! It costs just £1 a week. Phone the helpline on 231 8430.



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RATBY CO-OPERATIVE BANDS

Autumn was busy with concerts galore, 5 different Armistice Parades, and all three bands competing at the Leicestershire Brass Band Association competition in Wigston.

There was also a change of Musical Director-after 10 years Kevin (Sid) Steward decided to move on, and the whole Band Organisation is sorry to see him go. We achieved a lot under his management, and all the bands will miss him.

We enjoyed a busy Christmas period, with more than 20 engagements, which included the annual Christmas Concert, with a different format this year, but retaining the traditional ending with over 120 members on stage playing 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas.' You may have heard us carolling around the village. Although busy it was the most successful and enjoyable yet, and funds raised will go towards a joint project to benefit all members of the various bands.

The bands have plenty to look forward to in 2004.

The Senior and Mid Bands are taking part in the 'Area' Contest in March, the most important competition of the year. The Youth Band's first competition is in April, when the Band travels to Salford to compete against Bands from all over Britain.

The annual Musik Fest will be held on Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th April in Groby Community College. There will be around 12 different musical groups, including the ever popular Seaforth Highlanders Bagpipe Band and the Leicester Barber Shop Choir.

For tickets for this, or St Peter's Church Concert, Thornton, on Saturday 20th March, contact Malcolm on 238 6749.

Come the summer there are 8 concerts, 2 Band weddings, and a competition to look forward to. The Youth Band is going on tour to Germany in August, 5 days in the Dusseldorf area.

The Youth Band is going on tour to Germany in August, 5 days in the Dusseldorf area.

If you would like to book any of the Bands, or need more information, please contact Sheralyn Newman on 0116 238 6954. or check out the website: www.ratbyband.co.uk

2004 VILLAGE EVENTS DIARY

The following details about planned events taking place in Ratby during the first few months of 2004 have now been made known to the WOT team. Further listings will be given in future editions. Turn to the centre pages.

Other regular Village events include: -

Bingo with the Evergreen Club on Monday evenings in the Village Hall.

Parish Council Meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.15pm in the Chapel.

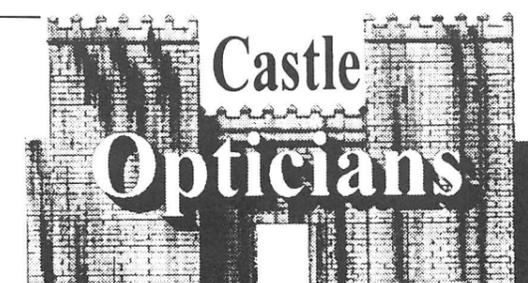
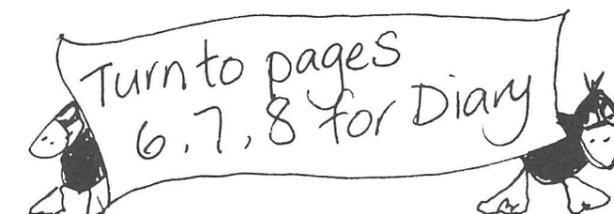
Indoor Carpet Bowls on Wednesday afternoons from September to April in the Village Hall.

Afternoon Tea Dances on alternate Wednesdays in the Church Rooms.

The British Legion (Ratby & District Branch) meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 8.00pm at the Groby Ex-Serviceman's Club.

'Drop In' Coffee Mornings every Thursday morning in the Village Hall.

Evergreen Club Meetings on Thursday afternoons in the Village Hall



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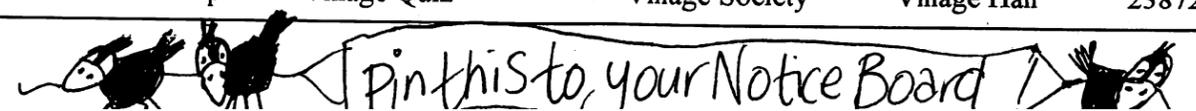
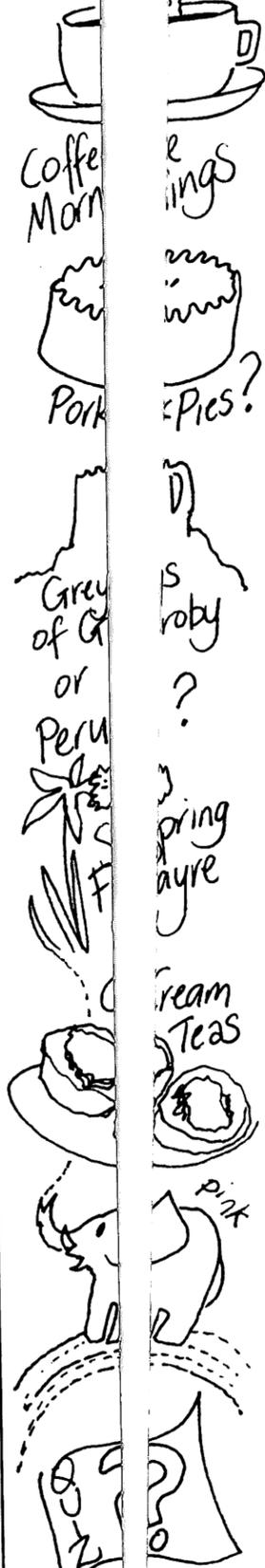
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VILLAGE EVENTS DIARY 2004

DATE & TIME	EVENT	ORGANISERS	VENUE	TEL No
FEBRUARY				
Sat 7 th 10.00am	Coffee Morning & Clothes Sale	Parish Church	Church Rooms	2393009
Wed 11 th 7.45pm	Miniature World	Women's Institute	Village Hall	2392176
Sat 14 th 10.00am	Valentine Coffee Morning	Methodist Church	Chapel Rooms	2386276
Tues 17 th 8.00pm	Annual General Meeting	Village Society	Village Hall	2387240
Sat 21 st 10.00am	Coffee Morning & Clothes Sale	Parish Church	Church Rooms	2393009
Wed 25 th 7.30pm	Neighbourhood Watch Meeting	Neighbourhood Watch Group	Church Rooms	2394450
NB:- Coffee Mornings will be held at the Church and Chapel on alternating Saturdays thereafter.				
MARCH				
Sat 6 th 7.30pm	Family Barn Dance	Parish Church	Church Rooms	2393009
Wed 10 th 7.45pm	Shuttlewood Clarke Foundation	Women's Institute	Village Hall	2392176
Sat 13 th 10.00am	Table Top Sale & Coffee Morning	Methodist Church	Chapel Rooms	2386276
Tues 16 th 8.00pm	Talk - History of Walkers - Pork Pies	Village Society	Village Hall	2387240
Thur 18 th 7.30pm	Scouts Spring Draw	1 st Ratby Scouts	Church Rooms	2395187
Sat 20 th 10.30am	Spring Fayre	Parish Church	Church Rooms	2393009
Fri 26 th 7.30pm	Talk - Lord Grey of Groby	Local History Group	Village Hall	2394168
APRIL				
Fri 9 th 9.45am	Good Friday Club for Children	Parish Church	Parish Church	2393009
Sun 11 th Dawn, 8.00am, 10.00am	Easter Day Services	Parish Church	Parish Church	2303009
Wed 14 th 7.45pm	Family Tree	Women's Institute	Village Hall	2392176
Tues 20 th 8.00pm	Talk - Trekking in Peru	Village Society	Village Hall	2387240
Wed 28 th 7.15pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Parish Council	Village Hall	2390167

DATE & TIME	EVENT	ORGANISERS	VENUE	TEL No
MAY				
Wed 12 th 7.45pm	Resolutions plus In House Entertainment	Women's Institute	Village Hall	2392176
Tues 17 th 8.00pm	Members Talents Evening	Village Society	Village Hall	2387240
Fri 21 st 7.30pm	Talk - The Taxman Cometh & AGM	Local History Group	Village Hall	2394168
JUNE				
Wed 9 th 7.45pm	Animals In Pastel	Women's Institute	Village Hall	2392176
Sat 12 th 7.30pm	Charity Concert by Ratcliffe Chorale	Parish Church	Parish Church	2393009
Tues 15 th 8.00pm	Talk - Postal Services By Rail	Village Society	Village Hall	2387240
Sun 20 th Tba	Guided Walk Around Highfields, Leicester	Local History Group	Meeting Point Tba	2394168
Sat 26 th 2.00pm	Garden Fete	Parish Church	Vicarage	2393009
JULY				
Wed 14 th Tba	Outing	Women's Institute	Tba	2392176
AUGUST				
Wed 11 th 7.45pm	Parchment Craft	Women's Institute	Village Hall	2392176
Tues 17 th 8.00pm	Talk - Leicester Town Hall	Village Society	Village Hall	2387240
Sun 22 nd Tba	Cream Teas & Songs of Praise	Parish Church	Church Rooms	2393009
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
OCTOBER				
Sat 2 nd 7.30pm	Harvest Supper & Family Quiz	Parish Church	Church Rooms	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



2004 VILLAGE EVENTS DIARY

DATE & TIME	EVENT	ORGANISERS	VENUE	TEL No
NOVEMBER				
Wed 10 th 7.45pm	Pop to Uncle	Women's Institute	Village Hall	2392176
Sat 13 th 10.30am	Autumn Bazaar	Parish Church	Church Rooms	2393009
Tues 16 th 8.00pm	Talk – Jersey, Sark and the Isle Of Wight	Village Society	Village Hall	2387240
DECEMBER				
Wed 8 th Tba	Christmas Meal	Women's Institute	Tba	2392176

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St. PHILIP and St. JAMES

It seems a long time now since our Christmas celebrations, but the memories are still very clear. It was great to see so many families at the Christmas Eve Christingle Service. It's a time when children are central to our thoughts, from the baby Jesus, our own children, and those a lot less fortunate than our own. On Christmas Day we were thinking about gifts, and all of the children brought a special present with them for us to see.

We're now back to normal with our First Sunday All Age Worship services. On 11th January we had a special service of commissioning for our youth leaders. We are very grateful for the time and effort they put into leading young people of all ages, and teaching them about the Christian faith.

We have some really special services coming up, including Mothering Sunday on March 21st. We'd be pleased to see you.



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GLOWWORMS

The GloWorms Youth Group at St. Philip and St. James Church decided to do something different for Christmas cards this year. They made a 3 foot high Christmas card, and invited church members to sign this instead of sending each other cards. Donations were invited from everyone who signed the GloWorm's card, and over £50 was raised for the church's link with projects in Tanzania. It also did something for the environment by cutting down on the number of cards sent.

WOT! ABOUT RATBY.

We welcome articles and photographs from village groups and individuals with stories to tell of local interest. If you are a non-profit making organisation, or individual, you are entitled to a free quarter page article. We reserve the right to edit of course. For more information contact the Editor on 239 3367, or Sue on 239 4873. To advertise in Wot and promote your company in this well-read magazine, telephone 239 3279. Looking forward to hearing from you.

PABARI'S RATBY NEWS

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RATBY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

On Friday 26th March we will be hosting a 'return home' by Jeff Richards, Professor of History at Southampton University. Jeff was born in Ratby, and lived in Park Road, where his mother, Alice Richards still resides. He will talk about 'Lord Grey of Groby: aristocrat and regicide,' which will deal with the life of Thomas Grey and his role in the Civil War. This will be followed by a talk on 'The Enclosure of the Over and Nether Fields of Ratby in 1770 by Doug Harwood.

The meeting will start at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Ratby.

SCOUT DINNERS HOME AND DRY

The frame tent used as a dining shelter by the Scout Group was getting old and coming to the end of its useful life when long-time Scout Leader and supporter Ray Lander came to the rescue. He has generously donated £200 to enable the purchase of a new shelter tent. Many thanks Ray!

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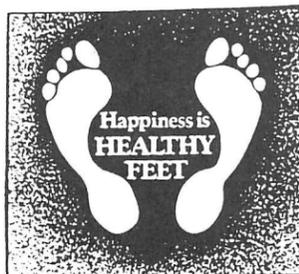
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RATBY VILLAGE SOCIETY

The Last Meeting of the Year

The final meeting of 2003, in November, was what is becoming a regular biennial event, a social evening with a lavish bring and share buffet meal.

Forty-three members enjoyed an evening's entertainment supplied by Jack Haywood (quiz), David and Betty Hulme (competition), Derry Hurd (musical accompaniment) and the Village Society (wine!).

The Society has planned a full programme of events for 2004. Details of membership can be obtained from the secretary on 238 7140.

RATBY SCOUT GROUP NEWS RAFFLE

Young Scout Members are around the village selling tickets for this Spring Raffle Draw. All proceeds will be used to help keep the group's minibus on the road. John Cawrey has donated £250 already, some of which has been put toward the first prize of £100 cash. Other great prizes include cinema tickets, wines and spirits, Geary's cake, and a case of beer from Everards.

Tickets are just 25p each. The draw will take place on 18th March.

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For APRIL/MAY ISSUE 104
Friday 12th MARCH

Editor 239 3367

Adverts 239 3279

Articles 239 4872

RECIPE OPEN APPLE TART

Ingredients

Short crust Pastry:

- 2 oz (55g) butter or margarine
- 8 oz (225g) plain flour
- 2 oz (55g) Lard
- pinch of salt
- Cold water to mix
- 9" Pie plate

Filling

- 1lb (450g) chopped cooking apples
- 2 oz (55g) butter
- 1 egg
- 4 oz (110g) sugar
- 1 lemon

Method

1. Make pastry and line pie plate with it.
2. Melt butter, stir in beaten egg, sugar, apple pieces, grated rind and juice of lemon.
3. Pour the mixed filling into the lined pie plate.
4. Bake in middle of pre-heated oven, temperature 190C/375F/GAS 5 for 35 - 40 minutes.

The ingredients would also make two x 6" /15cm tarts. Foil plates can be used.

Scrivener

