

WOT!

About Ratby

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP

SPONSORED RATBY RIDERS RAISE CASH FOR CHURCHES



Pictured above are four cyclists from Ratby (from left to right Marie Richards, Julie Taylor, Kim Pye and Jenny Worsfold). They joined hundreds of people from all over Leicestershire in a sponsored bike ride and walk in aid of the county's historic church buildings on 14th September. Fourteen local churches between Kirby and Swithland were visited by the intrepid foursome in an afternoon and over £250 was raised for the Leicestershire churches preservation charity. In 1999 Ratby Parish Church received a grant of £2,000 towards its dry rot repairs from the charity.

Speaking from a tea room in Newtown Linford on the way home, one of the cyclists confirmed to this reporter that she would be happy to do it again next year!

Richard
Worsfold

YOUNG FAMILIES IN RATBY

Young families meets monthly, usually the last Monday afternoon in each month at the Vicarage in Ratby from 1.30-3.00pm.

There is time to hear or act a Bible story, sing songs, play instruments, maybe dance, then make something to take home. There is time to chat over a drink and time to play with toys.

Anyone aged 0-5 years old is welcome to come along and bring their parent/carer with them! On the last day of the summer holidays we had a picnic in the vicarage garden. It was a very warm day, but lots of fun to meet up with friends to relax and play.

This term's dates are:

28th October at the Vicarage

25th November at the Vicarage

16th December meeting in the Parish Church for a Christmas Special.

For information, contact Jenny Worsfold, 239 3009.

EURONICS CENTRES

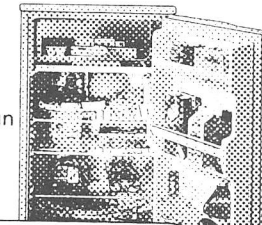
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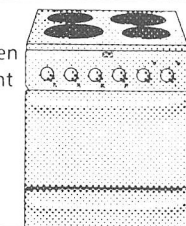
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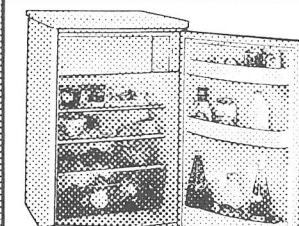
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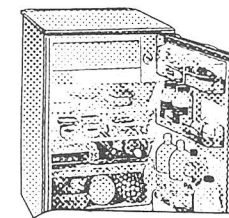


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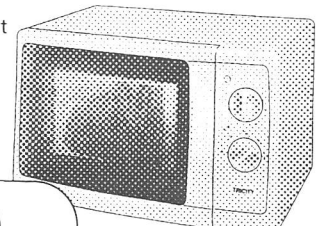


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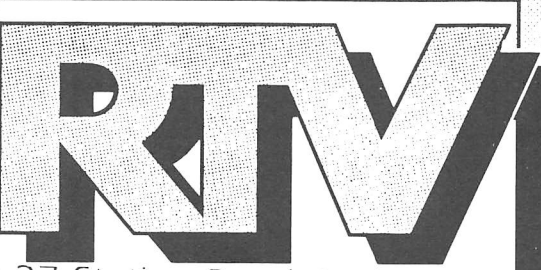


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**RATBY PRE-SCHOOL
CHURCH ROOMS, CHURCH LANE, RATBY
TELEPHONE – MRS JANET SIMMONDS – 07816 592263**

Ratby Pre-School is an Ofsted registered Pre-School which runs in the Church Rooms in the village. It is managed by a Committee of enthusiastic mums who oversee the management of the Pre-School and arrange various events throughout the year. These include fundraising (you may have seen our tea towels for sale throughout the village to raise funds for the Church Room car park to be resurfaced) and fun, social events for the children. Without the committee then the Pre-School would close.

The staff are excellent and encourage the children to learn through play which gives them a good basis for going up to Ratby Primary School with which the Pre-School has strong links. If you have a child you would like to register with Pre-School (the earlier the better!) then please contact Mrs Simmonds on the above number.

On Thursday 7th November the Pre-School have their AGM which this year is at Ratby Primary School and also includes a fashion show and sale of clothes. The clothes are all from the Top 10 Major High Street Stores and are ½ price or less – please look out for the posters. If you would like to volunteer to be on the committee or have any questions then please contact Kathryn Lupton on 2390661.

On Saturday 7th December the children are having their Christmas disco (Pre-School children only) complete with Christmas Hat competition and Santa Claus, which they really enjoy. We will soon be putting together our calendar for 2003 so any ideas would be greatly appreciated. We hope to keep you up to date with the activities of the Pre-School so please look out for us in future editions of the WOT.

RATBY PRE-SCHOOL COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY ORCHARD GROUP

Following the damage to orchard trees caused by contractor's strimming, The Parish Council have agreed to replace any trees that may be lost. They have also given a compensation payment to the group in recognition of all the work put in by volunteers to establish the orchard.

To celebrate the annual APPLE DAY on October 12th, members of the group are heading down to Herefordshire to join in with a variety of events. We hope to get some new ideas for future apple day celebrations in Ratby.

The group's AGM will be held this autumn, date to be arranged.
New members are always welcome, ring us on 239 4873.



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BEAUTY SPOT OR GROT SPOT?

Most of the folk who go 'up the Burroughs' are there to enjoy the lovely countryside and woods. However, as our photo. shows, there are a few who have other ideas in mind.

This picture, taken earlier this year in the Woodland Trust car park depicts the awful problem caused by fly tippers. If you come across anyone tipping, please make a note of the registration number of any vehicle involved and report it.

Our lovely countryside should be used, not abused

LITTER PICKING

Wot commends two local residents who are regularly

Seen picking up and bagging litter whilst out and about on walks around the village.

WELL DONE AND THANK YOU

Perhaps others may like to follow suit. Better still, you litter droppers take rubbish home with you or use the bins provided!

AN APOLOGY

To Mrs Janet Gutteridge, who sent in the Jubilee photograph of Church Lane for the last issue....which we wrongly attributed.

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- ✓ provides credit when needed to allow orders to be fulfilled and pays premiums to be used to provide further benefits to producer communities;
- ✓ encourages the fair treatment of all workers, ensuring good conditions in the workplace and throughout the supply chain;
- ✓ aims to build up long-term relationships, rather than looking for short-term commercial advantage.

What does that mean for me?

This Christmastime, be encouraged to spend your money in ways that help rather than exploit the poor. A selection of fairtrade goods is on sale at the back of the Parish Church each Sunday, and can be purchased on Saturday when the church is open. Alternatively, visit the JUST Fairtrade shop in town, 10 Bishop Street, just along from the Post Office on Town Hall Square for a wide range of fairtrade goods.

For more details, contact Jenny Worsfold 239 3009.

FRIENDS OF RATBY CAMPAIGN

The Friends of Ratby Campaign Group would like to thank everyone who attended their meeting at Ratby Sports Club on Tuesday 17th September.

A special thank you to;

Rt. Hon S Dorrell (MP)

A Robinson A Withers

R Palmer D Smith

D Lepper D Harwood

K Letten M Joyce

The Date for the Next Meeting will be announced in the WOT Magazine

Don't forget should your Wot not be delivered copies can usually be obtained from the Library, His & Hers and the Evergreens Club held in the Village Hall.

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WOT

We welcome letters, but you must include your name and address, even if you do not want your name published

Every village non-profit making group may have a quarter page free in each issue. This is approximately 150 words. Why not promote your group? Or send in items for the Diary. We reserve the right to edit if necessary.

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RATBY SENIOR CITIZENS WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Our Thriving Group

We are now in our 44th year and still going strong. Our Association, which was originally known as The Ratby Old Peoples Welfare Hall Group, continues to help towards keeping many of our village's older residents active in as many ways as possible.

One such activity is 'The Drop In', which is run by members and helpers every Thursday morning from 10.00am until 12.00 noon in the Village Hall. There is always a friendly welcome to be had together with 'a cuppa and a biccyy' and a good old natter with new and old friends of all ages. We always have a nearly new rail of clothes, bric-a-brac and lots of books for sale.

So if you are on your own or at a loose end why not give us a try!

There is also Indoor Bowls every Wednesday afternoon during the autumn and winter months. One of our members also runs this activity, why not come along and give it a go.

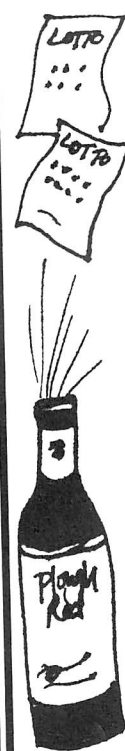
Our refurbished Village Hall has recently been given the finishing touches of further internal decoration work and is looking very smart indeed. We would remind everybody that it is available for hire at reasonable rates. Telephone 0116-2387052 for availability details.

THE PLOUGH INN, RATBY

STOP WHAT YOU ARE DOING-YOU MIGHT MISS SOMETHING!

1. **MONDAY TO THURSDAY EVENING**-Buy a bar meal and claim a **FREE starter**. A warm, hearty bowl of soup or a light and refreshing chilled melon.
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4. **WEDNESDAY NIGHT-A RAFFLE TICKET** with EVERY Drink bought. You could win a **SATURDAY LOTTERY TICKET** for 6 Months!

OFFERS START **OCTOBER 1st** and FINISH on **NOVEMBER 28th 02**



The People's Network comes to Ratby

The People's Network- a scheme designed to link all public libraries to the information superhighway - has arrived in Ratby.

Ratby Library now has two computers providing free access to the internet and e-mail. Users of the computers can also carry out word-processing, produce spreadsheets, and access Leicestershire Libraries Catalogue and Infolinx, a database of local organisations. There is also a scanner and printing facilities. Use of the computers is free but a charge of 20p per sheet is made for printouts and a booking system is in operation. The library is open on:

Monday	2.00 - 7.00
Tuesday	closed
Wednesday	2.00 - 7.00,
Thursday	9.39 - 12.30
Friday	2.00 - 6.00
Saturday	9.30 - 12.30



Contact the library on **0116 239 4530** for further information.

Ratby Parish Council

TRAFFIC AND PARKING



There are some longstanding issues with regard to traffic and parking problems in the village. As mentioned in the last issue of WOT the September parish council meeting considered all these matters in some detail with Paul Gardner, representing Leicestershire County Council. The highlights are as follows:

Main Street - The widening of the pavements, improved crossing arrangements and new railings are all part of a programme to make it safer for children walking to school. In turn, it is hoped that once it has been made safer, it will encourage more parents to walk their children to school, rather than drive, as this will help parking problems at school opening and closing times.

Groby Road and Main Street approach to school - Continuing the safety theme, the request for some form of traffic calming has been accepted and it is now in the "reserve scheme" which means that it will happen this financial year if there is sufficient funding. If not, it will be carried forward to next year. There will be full consultation as to the actual form of traffic calming.

Chapel Lane, Church Lane, Berrys Lane - Detailed draft plans are being drawn up to alleviate the parking problems in these narrow streets. Again, full consultation will take place, in particular with the emergency services and, of course, the residents.

Weight restrictions - Many residents feel that the weight restriction in the village is often abused (not counting the local business vehicles). We have been advised that we need to record details of lorries breaking the rules - registration number, time and date, company name if possible - and report them to the Trading Standards office. If you want fewer lorries going through the village, please help by letting the parish office have details of lorries that you see.

Taverner Drive roundabout - It is acknowledged that this is more of a menace than a help at present and the county council are going to review this to see how it can be improved.

For a full list of the matters we discussed, why not look at the minutes of the meeting, which are at the Library for the public to see?

CLEAR YOUR WINDOWS!



Anyone who has replaced a window, installed a central heating boiler or had a conservatory built since April could be breaking the law! This rather alarming statement is due to new rules that require building regulation approval from the Borough Council. Failure to get approval could lead to a fine of up to £5,000 plus the cost of altering the "improvements" to comply.

The new rules are intended to cut emissions and help meet environmental targets (set at the Kyoto summit). All new windows, predominantly glass doors and roof lights, will have more rigorous standards but replacing panes or parts of rotten frames is excluded. There are also new standards for conservatories, new central heating boilers and hot water tanks. Historic buildings and

conservation areas are exempt (but it may be worth checking with the borough council). There are two routes you can follow - the first is to use an approved firm who will also provide a certificate stating that the work is compliant. For windows, doors, etc, it is recommended that you use a firm that is a member of Fensa (the Fenestration Self-Assessment Scheme) and for heating use a member of Oftec (oil-fired), HETAS (solid fuel) or Corgi (gas). If you carry out the work yourself you need to get building regulations approval from the borough council. It is estimated that the new rules will add about £120 to the cost of windows but between £600 to £1,400 for a new house. Don't be tempted to cut costs by not gaining approval as when the property is sold the buyer's solicitor will ask to see the certificate!

SNIPPETS



It will soon be Christmas! We are holding a competition for the Best Window display. There will be two categories - home and business. Judging will take place in the week commencing December 16th.



There are still a few Golden Jubilee commemorative medals left - price £4.50.

Ratby Parish Council

In the last issue of WOT we explained what the council does. Now meet...

THE COUNCILLORS



ELAINE MOORE (Chairman and Publicity Officer): Elaine has lived in the village since 1986 but for many years business interests kept her away except at weekends. She gave up work in 1997 due to her health but prior to that her career in the financial services sector took her all over the world. She joined the council in 1999. She is also a classical singer and is married to John.

MERLE JOYCE (Vice Chairman and Planning Officer): Merle was born in Coalville and has lived in the village for 47 years. She married a local lad, Colin, and they have two sons and two grandchildren. Merle worked mainly in payroll during her working life and was finally persuaded to join the council in 1996. Well known in the village, she is also a Governor for Ratby Primary School.



KEN HUNNYBUN (Leisure & Recreation Officer): Ken moved to Ratby from Groby in 1996 and his two sons and their families live in nearby villages. Keen to get involved in the village, he was elected to the council in 2002. Most of his working life has been as a Youth Justice Manager for the county council. In his spare time he is a keen sailor and singer of sea songs and chanties (yes, this is spelt correctly).

LAURANCE "OZZY" O'SHEA (Member of planning sub-committee): Ozzy moved to the village in 1988 and is married with four children between 15 and 25. He has been in the police force for 27 years and has been on the council since 1996. He has also been a school governor at Alderman Richard Hallam Primary School for 16 years. In contrast to all this, his interests include camping and caravanning.



ALAN WITHERS (Member of planning sub-committee): Alan is well known in the village, either from his walks or because he is taking photographs. A "postie" for many years, he has lived in the village since 1986 and joined the council five years ago. Apart from his role in planning Alan leads separate projects for the village, including the Swannington Railway Commemorative feature and the soon to be published Ratby Millennium Photographic record.

TONY DALY: Tony has been on the council for seven years and recently retired as chairman after a six-year period. He and his wife, Maria, have a smallholding and stables just outside the village, where they have lived for 18 years. He recently also retired from his own telecommunications business and has a family that includes six sons, four daughters and 13 grandchildren (the more the merrier!).



MICHAEL BALL: Michael is well known for his historical knowledge of the area and is proud of the fact he can trace his family associations with Ratby back to the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. He is employed at the De Montfort University at the Faculty of Science and is the longest serving councillor, outlasting (to date) 45 councillors and 10 clerks!

KEN PICKARD: Ken has lived in the village for over 27 years and joined the council in 1999. He is a sales executive with a design company and spends much of his time commuting to London. He is married to Margaret and they have two sons. He is a keen tennis player and is a Leicester City supporter.



ATUL JOBANPUTRA: As many readers will know, Atul and his wife Bhavna run the village Post Office and Alliance & Leicester Bank and have been doing so for the last 13 years. They have a son and daughter aged 12 and 10 respectively and currently live in Oadby, although Atul feels it is only a matter of time before they succumb to the pull of Ratby!

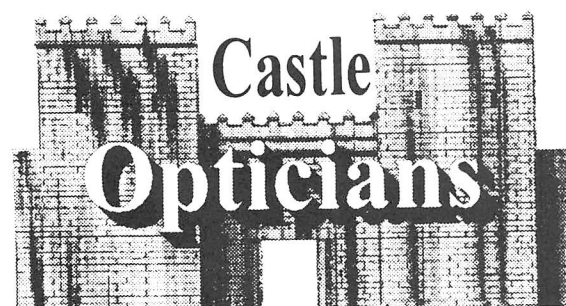
RATBY VILLAGE SOCIETY

A return visit of Ken Day, that most imaginative of photographers, to the August meeting gave a detailed look at the beautiful city of Florence, with its marble clad Romanesque churches, and romantic, if somewhat austere looking stone castellated Moorish style Palaces.

For some 300 years, from Medieval times, Florence was home to many of the most accomplished artists and architects of their day, whose infinite skills had gone into the creation of stunning decorative features, both in, and on, the buildings.

Ten years ago Florence suffered a devastating flood, which ruined many priceless art treasures, some of which are still in the process of restoration, while others were lost to the world.

A far cry from Florence is Peru, where, at the September meeting, Nikki Little entertained an attentive audience with a story of her 100 km trek for charity high up in the Andes during May 2001. The logistics for catering for 80 walkers during five days and nights expedition were bewildering, but the breath-taking views were adequate compensation for all the hard slogging. Nikki is to be congratulated for raising £8000 for SCOPE, a most worthy cause. Her narrative, told with a delightful sense of humour, made the trip come alive for the enthralled audience.



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NOTES FROM ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES.

With the All Age Services on the first Sunday of the month being a little quieter due to holidays during July and August, we certainly knew things were back to 'normal' in September. Our theme was to think about God being the creator of everything. However, with such busy lives, we don't always get the time to 'stand and stare' and enjoy what is around us. So we made time during the service. We had tables set up with herbs and incense to represent smell and prayer, pebbles and sand representing the greatness of oceans and time, a fan and soap bubbles for wind, candles for light and – of course – our very own water feature! With a video showing rural scenes with music, it gave us an opportunity to actually see and feel what we were thinking about which was appreciated and enjoyed by many. We continue with this theme in October when we celebrate Harvest, and November with the rededication of the church after its restoration. See you then?



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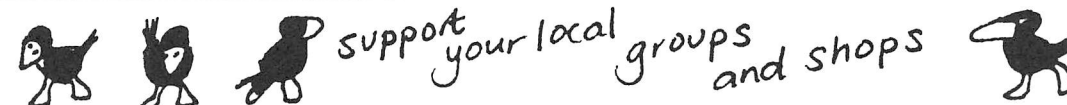
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RATBY VILLAGE EVENTS DIARY

The following listings of events through to the end of December 2002 include some updated details which have now been made known to the WOT team. Please watch the various local notices and posters for more details.

DATE & TIME	EVENT	ORGANISERS	VENUE	TEL No
OCTOBER				
Sat 5 th 7.30pm	Barn Dance	Parish Church	Church Rooms	2393009
Sun 6 th 10.00am	Harvest Festival Service	Parish Church	Church	2393009
Wed 9 th 7.45pm	AGM	Women's Institute	Village Hall	2387193
Sat 12 th 7.30pm	Family Quiz Night	Methodist Church	Chapel Hall	2874042
Sun 13 th 2.30pm	Walk - History of Kirby cum Ratby	History Group	Tba	2391468
Tues 15 th 8.00pm	Talk -Police Helicopter Unit	Village Society	Village Hall	2387240
Sat 26 th 7.00pm	Anniversary Meal & Entertainment	Methodist Church	Chapel Hall	2874042
NOVEMBER				
Sun 3 rd 10.30am	Church Rededication & Lunch etc.	Parish Church	Church Church Rooms	2393009
Thurs 7 th 7.30pm	AGM & Fashion Show plus Clothes Sale	Pre- School Group	Ratby School	2390661
Sun 10 th 10.40am	Remembrance Day Service and Parade	Parish Church and British Legion	Church and War Memorial	2393009
Wed 13 th 7.45pm	Christmas Cookery	Women's Institute	Village Hall	2387139
Tues 19 th 8.00pm	Village Quiz	Village Society	Village Hall	2387240
Sat 23 rd 11.00am	Autumn Bazaar	Parish Church	Church Rooms	2388271
Sat 23 rd 10.00am	Christmas Bazaar	Methodist Church	Chapel Hall	2874042
Fri 27 th 7.30pm	Christmas Legends & Samuel Deacon talks	History Group	Village Hall	2394168
DECEMBER				
Sat 7 th 11.00am	Christmas Disco (Pre School Children Only)	Pre School Group	Church Rooms	2390661
Wed 11 th 7.45pm	Christmas Party	Women's Institute	Village Hall	2387139
Mon 16 th 1 Week	Xmas Windows Competition	Parish Council	Whole Village	2390167
Wed 18 th 7.30pm	Carols Around the Tree	Parish Council	School Entrance	2390167
Sun 22 nd 6.00pm	Carols by Candlelight	Parish Church	Church	2393009



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RATBY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Our Last Meeting – We were treated to two speakers at our September meeting, both relating to Ghost Stories.

First we heard from Michael Roberts who gave us tales of Hinckley ghosts. This was followed by Dennis Green and Michael Ball, who dealt with the tale of Ratby's Silk Lady.

More details should appear in December's 'Wot'.

Ratby in the 1950's Display – The display has again been on show in the Parish Church. This time it was as part of the Church opening during the H&BBC Heritage Weekend during mid September.

Village Walks – A series of guided walks around old Ratby has now been completed. This series comprised of four sessions of over two hours each and covered the fascinating area bounded by Church Lane, Chapel Lane and Main Street.

A separate and more concise guided walk took place during the Sunday afternoon of the H&BBC Heritage weekend,

Our Next Meetings –

Sunday Oct 13th – Walk covering the History of Ratby cum Kirby Muxloe. This walk starts at the junction of Fox Lane and Desford Lane, Kirby Muxloe at 2.30pm. (Recommended parking is at the Castle)

NB :- Places on this walk is limited to 25 persons please telephone 2394168 to book a place or obtain more details.

Friday 29th November – A talk to be given by Lynn Mellor on Christmas Customs and Legends, followed by Arthur Stevenson who will be talking about Samuel Deacon, the Ratby born clockmaker.

RATBY CO-OPERATIVE BAND AUTUMN 2002

The summer holidays are over and autumn is in the air. The Band, after a short break, is back to rehearsals for forthcoming events and contests. Earlier this year we recorded our first CD which will be on sale in the next few weeks. It contains a number of items which have been popular in recent programmes, and solos by a number of our players.

Our next big concert is our annual Celebration Concert, at Bosworth College on Saturday October 5th at 7.30 pm.

Looking further ahead, on Saturday October 19th the band will give a concert in St. Leonard's Church, Swithland. Tickets will be £5 each, which includes refreshments. Tickets may be ordered from John Roberts on 01509 890 089.

We hope you will come to our concerts and enjoy our music.



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WOTS WANTED

If you have any old copies of Wot in good condition, would you please consider donating them to the Ratby Local History Group. The Group is working on producing two bound sets of all issues of the magazine produced since 1986. These will then be available as a village archive collection.

All offers will be gratefully received and collection can be arranged

PLEASE TELEPHONE (0116) 2394472



DEADLINE

For December / January Issue
Is FRIDAY 15th NOVEMBER
Articles may be sent to 3 Ingle Drive.
EDITOR 239 3367
ADVERTS 239 3279
ARTICLES 239 4873

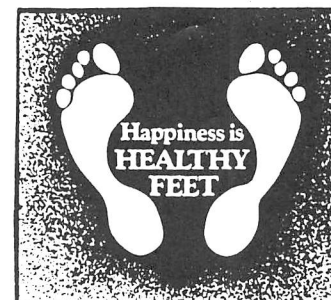
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RECIPE

APPLE and ORANGE CHUTNEY

Ingredients

1.80 kg cooking apples, washed and peeled
2 oranges, washed
450 gr. Raisins
450 gr. Onions
900 gr. Sugar
1 level teaspoon ground cloves
1 level teaspoon ground nutmeg
845 ml malt vinegar

Method

1. Halve the oranges and put juice to one side
 2. Finally chop orange peel, apples, onions and raisins and put into large pan with 550 ml vinegar
 3. Cook gently, covered, until ingredients are soft.
 4. Dissolve sugar in remaining vinegar, then add to apple mixture with orange juice and spices.
 5. Continue cooking over low heat until there is no excess liquid when wooden spoon is drawn across the base of the pan.
 6. Pot while hot into warmed jars, filling each jar to the top.
 7. Chutney improves with keeping, taste after 6-8 weeks.
- Use vinegar proof tops, as metal will corrode.



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