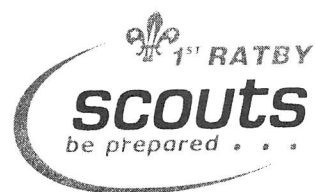


OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2004

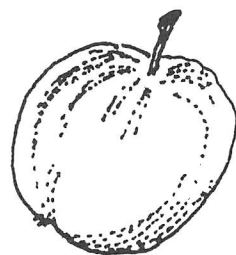
ISSUE 108



WOT!

About Ratby

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP



RATBY COMMUNITY ORCHARD

APPLE DAY

Apple Day is growing in Ratby, just like the trees at the orchard! This year other village organisations have joined Ratby Community Orchard Group for an even more exciting event. Things are happening throughout the week, finishing with the APPLE DAY COMMUNITY ORCHARD EVENT on Saturday October 23rd.

Sing-along

The week begins with a 'sing-along evening' at the **Railway Inn on Monday October 18th**. Come and join us, and enjoy a taste of scrumpy. And there'll be pork and apple baguettes at the Inn on Saturday 23rd.

Treat yourself to an Apple Feast

The Bulls Head will be serving special Apple themed meals all week, with a different delicious apple pudding every day. Not to be missed!

Exhibition

All week there is a display at **Ratby Library**, with books on an 'apple theme.' Ratby Women's Institute will be enjoying apple pies at their AGM on Wednesday 13th October, 7.45.

Apple Varieties

Did you know that Community Orchard Volunteers planted 21 dessert apples, 5 cooking apples and 6 other fruit or nut trees at the Orchard?



A display of apples for tasting, and apple pressing activity in the background at the first Apple Day.

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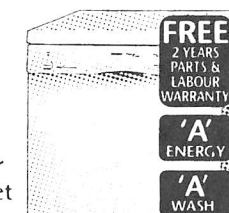
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x D 600mm

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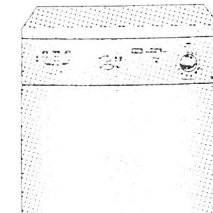
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


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APPLE DAY

At RATBY COMMUNITY ORCHARD
On Taverner Drive
2 pm until 4 pm.....FREE!

Join us in celebrating this years bumper crop of apples at the Orchard.

-  Taste the Orchard Apples
-  Try our apple pies
-  Peel, core and toast your own apple rings
-  Press your own delicious fresh apple juice.
-  Have a go at our APPLE QUIZ
-  Have a go at THE LONGEST PEEL competition... a National event run by COMMON GROUND!

-  Have fun creating an apple themed picture!
-  Explore the Orchard and pond site with a guided tour.
-  Play the WILLIAM TELL archery game.
-  Try your luck in our raffle.
-  Find out about the Community Orchard.

WHAT IS APPLE DAY?

Apple Day was started by an organisation called Common Ground, with the aim of creating understanding and appreciation of English apples and orchards, and their place in our lives and landscape. The campaign sparked enthusiasm for regenerating old orchards, and planting new ones. Inspired by the success of the movement, a group of volunteers got together and established Ratby Community Orchard.

APPLE DAY SATURDAY OCTOBER 23rd.

The first apple to ripen in the orchard is 'George Cave' in early to mid August...it should be eaten immediately! Apples for late harvest in mid October include 'Adam's Pearmain,' D'Arcy Spice,' and 'Rosemary Russet.'

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FANCY A NEW HOBBY?

We are looking for new members to join the bell-ringing band at Ratby Parish Church. Come along to our open practice on **Friday 12th November at 7pm**, and have a go! Learn about ringing, and meet the band!

Bell ringing is a long-standing tradition, at least four centuries in Ratby! We are part of the community, ringing for church services, weddings, and other local and national events.

We are a wide 'social family,' meeting for practice on Friday evenings, often followed by a trip to the pub, and enjoying events such as barbeques and a Christmas dinner.

You need to be fit enough to stand unaided and raise your arms above your head. You do not need musical ability. You can be any age from 11 to 111. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

You will need to be available for practice on Fridays and services on Sundays.

Contact Francis Fisher on 231 2475 or Mark Banner on 239 0481. (mark@standard8.demon.co.uk)

For more about bell ringing look on the internet at <http://www.standard8.demon.co.uk/bells/>

SPONSORED BIKE RIDE

Over 30 cyclists from the parish set out to ride on 12th September. The aim was to raise funds for urgent repairs to louvre windows in the bell tower at Ratby Church. Thanks to all the riders and their sponsors!

PABARI'S RATBY NEWS

5 STATION ROAD RATBY
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Saturday 6.15-10pm
Sunday 7.30-2pm. 7pm-9pm

BIKERIDE TO 'BRUM'

Maryam Mirza successfully completed her sponsored bike ride to Birmingham on Sunday September. Accompanied by her friend Amy Boud, she cycled a total of 56 miles. Maryam had planned a rural route, through Peckleton and Fenny Drayton, and down to Hampton in Arden, where they finished the journey along the tow paths of the Grand Union Canal.

Arriving in the centre of Birmingham, they were able to visit the 'Earth from the Air' exhibition, and see what Indonesia, where Maryam will be undertaking her volunteering, looks like from the air!

Maryam's Mum provided the back-up vehicle, and drove the pair home with their bikes. Thanks to all her sponsors Maryam has raised £650.

AUTUMN BAZAAR

This will be held on Saturday 27th November in the Church Rooms. Donations for prizes welcomed, as well as ideas for stalls and attractions. If you have any spare time please come along and help! Contact either Pamela Pollard or Win Baillie.



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RATBY VILLAGE SOCIETY

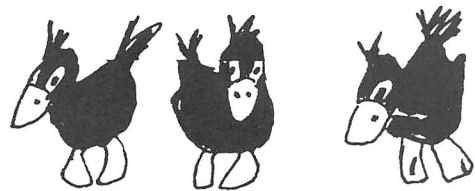
The annual Sunday afternoon outing took place on 18th July, with a visit to Holdenby House, gardens and Falconry Centre in Northamptonshire. The house, built in 1583, is not normally open to the public, but the gardens, picnic and flying display of birds of prey were enjoyed by members.

Society member and local historian Derek Seaton fascinated the audience at the August meeting with a detailed account of the history and architecture of that 'Victorian Jewel' @ Leicester's Town Hall, commencing with its predecessor, the 14th Century Guild Hall. When built in the early 1870s, the Town Hall housed both the Police Station and Fire Station. The Fire Station owned no horses, and so when need arose one had to be commandeered from a passing cart!

The Square, with its replica of an Oporto fountain, was designed by the same architect Mr F.J.Hames.

The October meeting, on the 19th, will be the Village Quiz, from which proceeds are donated to the Rainbows Hospice Charity.

H.A. Gamble
Hon. Secretary



- **STILL NOT MADE A WILL?**
- **HOW MUCH LONGER CAN YOU PUT IT OFF ?**
- **DON'T ASSUME THAT WITHOUT A WILL ALL IS TAKEN CARE OF – IT'S NOT !!!**
- **Without a Will the courts may decide how your assets are divided..... a concerning thought as this may not be as you wished**
- **Without a Will your loved ones can suffer further distress and costs!!**

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Call FREEPHONE 0800 035 2456 to make an appointment or for more information.

WHERE ARE YOU VILLAGE GROUPS?

Is there still a Playgroup in the village? Do the parent and toddler group still exist? What about the Evergreens?

Tell us what you've been doing....or what you are planning. Invite new members. Celebrate your successes.

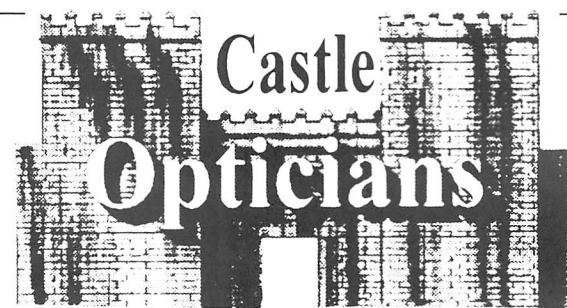
Don't forget you can have a FREE ¼ page article in the magazine if you are a non-profit making group. It's a great way to promote your organisation.

Too busy to write? Just phone us, tell us your news and we can write it up for you!

Ring Sue 239 4873
or e-mail; sueboud@hotmail.com

SECOND-HAND BOOKS

Come in for a coffee and enjoy browsing for a good read! The Methodist Chapel are holding a second-hand book sale alongside the regular coffee morning on Saturday October 23rd, 10-12 pm.



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WASTE AND RECYCLING

Following a feature from a local resident in the last issue, Councillor Boothby has submitted a detailed response. Lack of space prevents us printing this in full, but here follows an edited version;

- Every household now has a Government-led duty to recycle as much as possible. By the end of October every household will have a brown bin for garden waste, blue box for glass/tin/bottles and bags for paper and clothing. By the end of November a cardboard and plastic monthly collection will be on trial. This will reduce the amount of rubbish in your wheelie bin.
- Families with 5 or more members are entitled to a 360 litre bin.
- Going back to a weekly collection with no recycling will cost £7million over 7 years... a 36% rise in Council Tax!
- The Government charges £200 for every tonne of unsorted waste dumped in landfill.
- We are running out of landfill sites.
- The wheelie bins will protect rubbish from scavenging by wildlife.
- You can purchase an additional 240 litre bin for £50 a year, 70p a week, or upgrade to a 360 litre bin for £30 a year.

Anyone having difficulties should contact Environmental Services at H.B.B.C. or myself at 34 Markfield Road, Ratby.

Chris Boothby, Borough Councillor.

Editorial note;

According to campaign group Friends of the Earth (FOE), the UK only recycles around 14.5% of household waste. We are unlikely to meet the Government target of recycling or composting ¼ of waste by 2005, and we are near the bottom of the EU League table. Countries such as Germany and Austria already recycle over ½ of household waste. FOE says, 'The Government must provide more support and funding for councils, to ensure that every household has a comprehensive recycling scheme.'

Did you know:

- The average household creates around a tonne of waste each year, and it's rising.
- Each of us throws away 7 times our own body weight each year.

So, Ratby folk, we should all make an effort to recycle. After all, who wants to live on top of or next to a landfill site? If we carry on as we are, that

RATBY PARISH COUNCIL

Ferndale Community Park Development Group

The draft plans had a good airing at the Crow Pie Carnival assisted by the architects Sarah Ashmead and Tom Price. Many residents (old and young) commented on the plans and gave a very positive response. Finance is the next and of course vital stage. The development group are to consider ways of raising funding within the village, to demonstrate to grant providers that we are serious about the development. The Parish Council has budgeted for a contribution that will be used as match funding for grants. In addition recent housing developments have also been obliged to make funds available within their contract to provide leisure facilities for the village.

The plans are still available for viewing at the Parish Council Office. The members of the development group are very keen that the residents of the village support this project so please feel free to comment and become involved in making the plans a reality.

Ken Hunnybun
Chair

CHRISTMAS DECORATION COMPETITION

The Parish Council will be running the Christmas Decoration competition again this year. There will be no need to enter; members of the committee will tour the village on the evening of the 20th December to select the best in two categories.

Category 1 - Window only

Category 2 - House front

Vouchers will be awarded to the first, second and third in each category.

Further information can be obtained from the Parish Council Office.

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RATBY BROWNIES

Denise Deakin stepped in as Brown Owl to lead the Brownies in 1992. This is a well-established and active group, meeting at Ratby Methodist Chapel rooms.

Denise feels that it is time for her to take a break now, and the girls are looking for a new leader. If you enjoy working with young people why not give it a go?

You will receive full training and support, and you'll gain a lot of personal skills and sense of achievement. You will be giving just over an hour a week to run the session, plus some time for planning, in school term time only. You need to be aged over 18. Your CRB Check will be paid for. Who knows, it could lead to a career with children?

Ring Denise on **239 2042** for more information.

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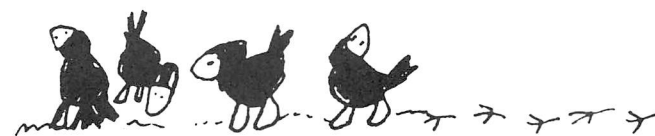
L.F.E. RATBY GROBY GLENFIELD SURGERIES

RATBY METHODIST CHURCH

It is six years since we opened our newly refurbished building. It's the sort of day when one looks back and wonders where the time has gone. Anniversaries are like that. Traditionally October and November have a lot of remembering in them. We have our church anniversary service on October 31st. November 1st is All Saints Day when we remember those who have gone to glory, and the 11th is Armistice Day.

On November 21st at 6 pm we shall hold a service of Remembering. This is an opportunity to celebrate and mourn our loved ones who have died. If you are bereaved and would like to share your loss with God and others in a similar situation then you will be most welcome. Jesus too wept when he lost his friend Lazarus, and saw the grief of his friend's sisters. Before we move into the frenzy of Christmas it may be good to remember.

God bless. Jane Hamblin.



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WARTIME MEMORIES IN LEICESTERSHIRE LIBRARIES

Leicestershire County Council's Library Services are supporting the BBC WW2 People's War project by promoting it through a range of events and providing free internet access in all libraries for anyone who wishes to contribute their own memories. The People's War project is a website dedicated to capturing people's personal stories in a lasting archive to help future generations understand the sacrifices made by a nation during world war two.

You can contribute your own memories or a story that has been passed down through the family. If you know how to use a computer and have your own e-mail address you can set up your own personal page on the website where you can write your stories. If you are not very confident with computers you can still contribute to the WW2 People's War project at your local library.

Stories can be about any aspect of World War Two. You might remember life as an evacuee, or taking part in the D-Day landings. You (or a member of your family) may have been in the armed forces, worked in a munitions factory or have memories of your childhood in wartime. There are plenty of stories already on the site - you could read some of them for inspiration. The web address of the People's War site is www.bbc.co.uk/ww2. *

The first event at Glenfield Library will be on September 15th. Ben Beazley, author of 'Leicester at War', will join our regular visitors to Browsers corner. The session will run from 10am to 11.30am. Everyone is welcome. Please come and share your stories and memorabilia with others.

Other events in libraries during the autumn will include story gathering sessions, with wartime memorabilia provided by museums; talks on 1940s costume, life in the land army, wartime local history; wartime recipe tasting; quizzes; family activity days; displays and People's War website internet sessions. Look out for details of events locally.

For further information on how you can contribute your wartime memories to the BBC WW2 People's War website ask at your local library.

* To date 41 entries for Leicestershire! Includes an evacuee in Groby!!

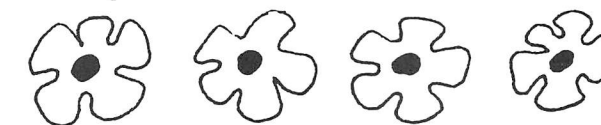


Ratby War Memorial.
Photo : Horace Gamble

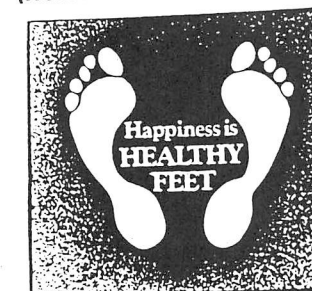
THE RATBY WAR MEMORIAL

Mounted on a marble stand,
White as snow and looking grand
With her right arm held up high
Reaching out towards the sky.
Each time I pass I wonder why
These brave young men were sent to die.
The names are there for all to see
Engraved into eternity.
We all should live life good and true.
We owe it to this gallant few
For they won't see what this life brings
Just names beneath
The angel's wings.

Mick Copson



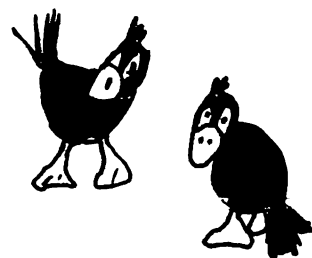
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Sir,

Replying to questions asked in the previous issue, I can confirm that most of the Borough Council's extra revenue has been used to update and improve services. I am determined that Ratby benefits in some way.

I have put forward a proposal to install C.C.T.V. on Burrough's Park on behalf of the village. With the increase in anti-social behaviour and the decrease in police presence this is a much needed security measure, which will safeguard the park for the whole village to use.

In addition to C.C.T.V. the council will secure the services of two community support officers to target vandalism on parks and public areas. These officers will be paid and controlled by the Borough Council and available to monitor areas on request.

Councillor Chris Boothby.



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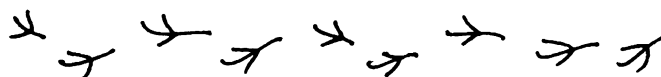
Closed for lunch 1-2

TELEPHONE 239 4966

Sir,

Autumn has seen a marked increase in the number of Red Litter Boxes perching on poles beside footpaths in Ratby. How sad it is that their call goes unheeded by so many.

Name and Address supplied.



TRICK OR TREAT

Dear Sir,

Last year the local paper printed a poster for our windows to discourage visits from Trick or Treat on Halloween. In our case this leaflet served no purpose at all.

No-one knocked at the door, but on going outside we found that the front of the building (windows especially) was smattered with eggs and orange peel.

There was a noxious odour which we could not identify. The car and paving were also smattered.

As a couple of law-abiding residents of Ratby we now understand why people take the law into their own hands.

Disgusted Ratby Resident
(Name and address supplied)

Editor's note;

Perhaps a positive poster, inviting Trick or Treat visits where they are welcome would be more effective, and avoid such revenge attacks.

Why not have a RATBY PROTOCOL? How about the Parish Council producing a local window poster for those who want it. Parents could make sure children only visit houses where this is on view.



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VILLAGE DIARY - 2004

The following details about planned events taking place in Ratby during October, November and December have been made known the WOT team.

There may well be other activities during this period that we have not been advised of.

OCTOBER

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

NOVEMBER

Wed 10 th	7.45pm	Pop to Uncle	Women's Institute	Village Hall	2392176
Sun 14 th	10.40am	Remembrance Sunday Service	British Legion & Parish Church	Parish Church	2393009
Tues 16 th	8.00pm	Talk - Jersey, Sark and the Isle Of Wight	Village Society	Village Hall	2387240
Fri 26	7.30pm	Talks - New Appraisal of Charnwood Forest The History of Geary's Bakery	Local History Group	Village Hall	2394168
Sat 27 th	10.00am	Autumn Bazaar	Parish Church	Church Rooms	2393009

DECEMBER

Wed 8 th	Tba	Christmas Meal	Women's Institute	Tba	2392176
Sun 16 th	6.30pm	Carols by Candlelight	Parish Church	Parish Church	2393009
Fri 24 th	4.30pm	Christingle Service	Parish Church	Parish Church	2393009
Fri 24 th	11.30pm	Midnight Communion Service	Parish Church	Parish Church	2393009
Sat 25 th	10.00am	Christmas Worship for All	Parish Church	Parish Church	2393009
Sun 26 th	Tba	Walk & Celebration	Parish Church	Tba	2393009

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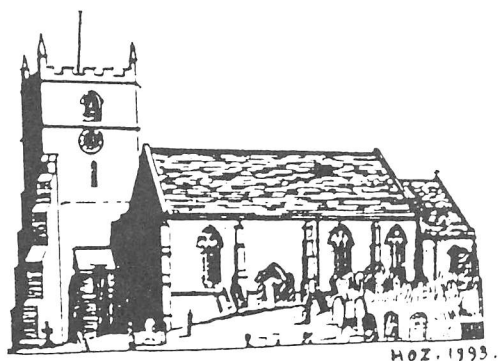
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NEWS from St PHILIP and St JAMES

You've probably heard the saying 'Great minds think alike', well at St PJ's we're proud to see that the BBC is thinking in the same way we are! Recently, you may have seen a series of programmes on the BBC Breakfast programme about what it means to be British. Here at church we've just started a series of talks about what it means to be a Christian. These will be continuing to the end of October, with a break at the beginning of the month when we celebrate our Harvest Festival. It will be interesting to see if any of the qualities we discover are similar and what difference believing in God makes. Now that the school holidays are over, our usual activities are starting up again along with a few new ones. Why not try something new this autumn – we have a seat reserved especially for you.



NOV. 1993

DESIGN A CHRISTMAS CARD

Each year the churches in Ratby send a Christmas card to everyone to celebrate the birth of Jesus and invite villagers to the church services. This year we are asking children and young people to submit a design. Four will be chosen for printing, 2 from under 10s, 2 from over 10s. So here's the deal:

- ♦ Draw a line drawing (no colour please)
- ♦ Use paper size about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Wot page if possible.
- ♦ Put your name, address and age on the back
- ♦ Hand it to a Church leader or Revd. Richard Worsfold, 15 Groby Road.

Closing date is Sunday 17th October

All entries will be displayed in Church.

Looking forward to enjoying your drawings!
Revd. Jane Hamblin.



BARN DANCE

Don't miss this! A live Ceilidh Band will provide the music for the ever-popular Barn Dance.
The date; Saturday 13th November.
Time; 7 pm

Tickets are just £5 from Alliance and Leicester in Ratby, or ring 239 3009.
Hurry....don't miss out!



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RATBY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Our First Publication - If you are thinking about what presents to buy for Christmas?

Why not send a copy of our book about Ratby's history to relatives and friends who no longer live in the village.

THE HISTORY OF RATBY : BOOK 1

Edited by Doug Harwood

It has 110 pages, 80 photos and maps including aerial drawings by Arthur Stevenson and includes articles on:-

Memories of Desford Lane Corner 1920-45.

Samual Deacon: clockmaker and son of Ratby.

The Story of Ratby's Railways.

Memories of Ratby's Railways.

Ratby in 1770 on the eve of the Enclosure Act.

Cost : £8.00 per copy.

Available from either Doug Harwood (0116 2394168)
or Post Office, Ratby.
or Parish Office, Ratby.

Our Last Meeting - at the time of going to press we were looking forward to Friday October 1st which is when Mr Alan Reed is coming along to present an illustrated talk on The Victorian Music Hall. A short account of this will be included in our next Wot article.

Our Next Meeting - is on Friday November 26th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Tony Squires will be presenting "A New Appraisal of Charnwood Forest". This will be followed by "The History of Geary's Bakery" by Charles Geary.

DEADLINE

DECEMBER/JANUARY ISSUE

No 109

FRIDAY 12th NOVEMBER

Editor 239 3367

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Articles may be sent to 3 Ingle Drived LE6 0NN

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GINGER SNAPS

Ingredients

- 2 oz/50 grams margarine
- 3 oz /80 grams sugar
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz /40 grams golden syrup or treacle
- 6 oz /175 grams SR flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$ beaten egg
- 1 heaped teaspoon ground ginger
- 1 level teaspoon bicarbonate of soda

Method

1. Set oven to GAS 4/180C/355F
2. Line baking tray with parchment or grease
3. Cream together margarine, sugar and syrup
4. Add egg and mix well
5. Sieve flour, ginger and soda together and gradually add to a stiff mixture.
6. Divide into even pieces the size of a walnut
7. Place well apart on prepared baking tray and flatten with a wet fork.
8. Bake in oven for 15 mins. until brown.
9. Carefully place on cooling tray until cold.

Store in air-tight tin.

