

ON PARADE **CENTENARY CROW PIE CARNIVAL**

This year's CROW PIE CARNIVAL on Saturday August 12th celebrated the Ratby Co-operative Band's Centenary. As we go to press the Band are performing their Centenary Concert at De Montfort Hall. There will surely be a report in the next issue of Wot!

Pictured here is the parade heading down Main Street past the Primary School, en route for the Ferndale Park Carnival site. The floats resounded to the music of Ratby Co-op Youth Band and St Simon and St Jude Brigade Band. Desford Lane Pedlars added their own spectacular touch with vintage cycles and riders in historic costume.

More photographs on page 2.



20 Years of Wot! About Ratby magazine!



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CROW PIE CARNIVAL PARADE

We'd love to hear your memories and print photos. of past Carnival celebrations.





RATBY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Our meeting season is upon us once again, with the first meeting on September 29th. Helen Trubshaw was scheduled to present a talk about the Land Army during the Second World War.

Our second meeting, on December 1st at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall features a talk on 'Little Known Places in Leicestershire' by Brian Trubshaw.

The Group's second volume in the series of books on The History of Ratby is now on sale, available from the Post Office or by telephoning 239 4168. Featured in the book are;

- Geary's Bakeries 1906 to 2006,
- The toils of a Ratby Schoolmaster
- Annie Astill 1863-1922 sub postmistress.
- Dennis Greens walk around Ratby in the 30s and 40s.
- Ratby's Enclosure Act of 1770.



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RATBY PARISH COUNCIL

Sometimes the things we mere mortals plan actually happen. In our last report we said "By the time you read this we should be test driving our new Clerk!" and as we write that is just what we are doing. The new Parish Clerk is Mrs. Linda Fogg.

We also told you that we "had a young volunteer come forward to fill one of the vacancies" on the council. Mick Earl has now joined us and he and Chris Boothby are working on the next stage of the Ferndale Park project. Mick has also agreed to join the planning committee which looks at and comments on individual planning applications submitted to HBBC.

APPLE TROUBLE

Thank you to the public spirited Ratby resident who discouraged some local young children from continuing to throw orchard apples around. It is a community orchard, but the apples are there for picking and eating when they are ripe. Orchard Group.





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ONF Z

APPROVED CONTRACTOR

Welcome aboard Mick and Linda, we hope you enjoy and succeed in your new responsibilities.

We also have applications from other residents to fill the remaining vacancy on Council, so by the time you read this we may be up to strength. And we would like to assure you that every member of the present Parish Council lives in the village.

Too much good news? Well, here's some more! The new Multi Games Arena at Ferndale Park is due to be installed on Monday, 18th September and will take approximately 10 days to complete. We have also decided to use the play equipment which had been taken out and the Basket Ball posts have been re-sited so that if the Multi Games Arena area is in use you will still have somewhere to play. Continuing on the Ferndale theme, the decision on a grant towards the supply of new play equipment for the next phase is imminent.

The Environment Agency has identified parts of Ratby which are liable to flooding and they are looking for volunteers to be trained as flood wardens. Is there anyone out there who would be interested?

Let our new Clerk know if you are interested in volunteering to play King Canute!

CONTACT THE COUNCIL

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RATBY VILLAGE SOCIETY ANTI-LITTER CAMPAIGN

Congratulations and a big thank you to everyone who produces and delivers WOT!
Twenty years is a considerable achievement.

We had our first Bric-a —Brac stall at the Crow Pie Carnival this year, and enjoyed it so much we'd like to make it an annual event. It enabled our campaign to be seen by more Ratby residents and helped us to spread the anti-litter message more clearly too. Also it gave people the chance to see many of the posters school children had designed for us, and receive their Anti-Litter sticker from Chris.

Please save your unwanted items for us, and look out for our stall next time.

Jane Rayne



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Aren't you glad that journey's over?
But brace yourself, there's more to come!
Wish I had a pair of wings
......I'd up and fly.

Hoz

ALL CHANGE ON THE BUSES

The 254 Coalville to Leicester bus has now become **X1 Limited Stop**, running several minutes later than before and going directly to the bus station, no longer dropping off on High Street. The **27** is every 15 minutes now. What do you think of the recent timetable changes to our bus services? Let us know your views.

ASTILL AND JORDAN

All this talk about buses brings the one-time Ratby Bus Company, Astill and Jordan to mind. Newcomers to the village will find it hard to believe that the bus garage once existed where the Wimpey estate at Brook Drive now thrives. Do you have memories of the trips to town via Glenfield on the blue and cream buses, with a friendly conductor?

Maybe you went on some of the excursions, a trip to Cromer, or the Vale of Evesham perhaps?

We'd love to hear about your recollections. Does anyone have a photo of the garage?



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Groby Secondary Schools Record Best Ever Results Language College Successes Buck The National Trend.

This year's test and examination results for youngsters aged 14, 16 and 18 in Groby and its surrounding villages were the best ever in the history of its two secondary schools who have specialist Language College status: Brookvale High School and Groby Community College.

The 100 A level students at Groby College achieved a 100% pass rate with 67% of all grades awarded at levels A-C. 63% of the college's 16 year olds attained 5 or more A*-C passes at GCSE and virtually all the 327 students achieved at least one GCSE pass or equivalent.

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At Brookvale High school 92% of 14 year olds reached or exceeded the Government's benchmark of level 5 in English, 93% in Maths and 91% in Science. In Maths 79% achieved level 6 or above, with a record number of students going up 3 National Curriculum levels while at Brookvale

Students at the Language College did exceptionally well in Languages at a time when nationally there has been a marked decline in the number of students studying a language beyond the age of 14.

The Community College already has International Schools status and Brookvale is working towards this award. This means that the mission statement of the two schools, "To open minds and doors through Language Learning" is represented across all areas of the curriculum with a huge focus on helping youngsters to gain a real understanding of people from other cultures, races and beliefs. In this way Groby secondary schools hope to develop young people who are truly global citizens and who can take their place in the world of the future where values such as tolerance and respect for others play a part in addressing some of the many problems facing societies today.

Many ex-students of Groby schools are already working in exciting careers using their language skills. It should be remembered that language graduates are among the most successful at obtaining employment after leaving University waiting on average half the time to find permanent opportunities than that taken by graduates in many other more popular degree courses.

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NEWS FROM LOCAL SCHOOLS

The Language College is currently in the process of submitting its application to continue with language specialism for 4 more years. If successful there should be many more students in the future experiencing the success and fulfilment that comes with learning languages.

But whatever the outcome the two schools will continue to work in partnership to offer the very highest standard of education to youngsters of Groby and its surroundings.

Caroline Wilkins, Principal, Groby Community College

Katie Rush, Head teacher, Brookvale High School

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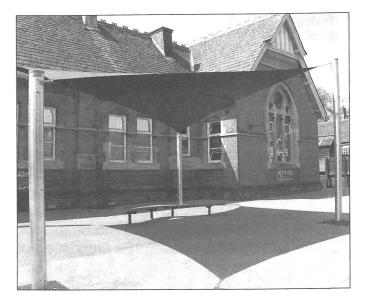
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RATBY SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE COOL!

Summer may now seem like a distant memory, but in June this year the children of Ratby Primary School received a welcome addition to their playground. Funds raised by the Parent Staff Association were used to purchase a playground shade sail from Keep it Kool Shade Sails Ltd.

The supporting poles were concreted in to place and, for a while, curious passers by must have wondered what this strange structure was going to be. Shortly afterwards the sail was fitted and it looks fantastic - providing a much-needed area for the children to cool off and protect them from the sun during playtime.

If you would like to get involved with the P.S.A. and their other fundraising projects, please contact the school who can put you in touch with Committee members. They're a friendly bunch and you would be made very welcome

HIS and HERS

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News from St Philip and St James

As a new school term begins, at St PJ's we start a new set of All Age Worship services on the first Sunday of each month. We've started by thinking about choices and the different situations we come across, whatever our age, where we have to make a choice. We looked at the story of two men who wanted to build a house. One took the easy route, wanting everything quickly and so built his house on sand which was easy to work. The other took his time and built his house on a foundation of rock which was hard work. When the bad weather came along, cheap and cheerful took its toll whereas hard work paid off. During October we'll be celebrating Harvest at 10am on Sunday 1st and on Sunday 29th at 6.30pm our young and (not so) older people will be giving a performance in song of the story of David and Goliath. There's a seat here for you to use - we'd be glad to see you.



ELVERSTONE FAMILY

Mr John Perkins, currently living in Australia, is researching his family tree. He would love to hear from anyone regarding the Elverstone family of Ratby and surrounding villages. Contact him via e mail;

mrjohnperkins@yahoo.com

RATBY BADMINTON CLUB

Following the construction of the new Hall at Ratby Primary School in 1974, the then Headmaster, Mr Ballard suggested that the new facility could be used by the staff in the evenings, and Badminton was one of the ideas for its use.

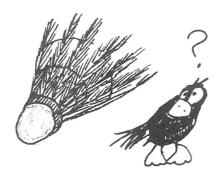
Several of the teachers, including Mrs Jan Kirkham and Mrs Brenda Derbyshire, together with spouses and some parents formed a Club, and contributed towards the hire charges and costs of shuttles etc. Badminton was not played competitively as the hall was too short for a full sized court. In due course the Club moved to larger two-court facilities at Bosworth College, Desford, in 1991.

Brenda Derbyshire became the treasurer, with husband Roy as secretary, positions held for 15 years, until their recent retirement.

The Club has a friendly atmosphere, plays social badminton, but does not play in any league competitions. It meets on Monday evenings from September to Easter, except on odd occasions when the hall is required for College purposes.

The Club has vacancies for new members. Experience is not essential, and beginners are welcome. It is envisaged that if the Club gets a good response a Junior Section will be started with coaching for those interested. If there are young people interested in joining existing members will help with transport if required. For information ring:

Mr Ian Vernon, Secretary 239 5387 Mrs Lorraine Turner, Treasurer 238 7479.



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RATBY COMMUNITY ORCHARD

This year we'll have celebrated Apple Day with a harvest event on Sunday October 1st. Hope you found time to join us!

Apple Day is October 21st. Why not enjoy a treat at home, and bake this apple cake? You might still find some orchard apples to cook!

RATBY ORCHARD APPLE CAKE

Ingredients

8 cooking apples 250 g. Butter 250 g. Caster sugar 4 eggs 200 ml, cream 200 g. SR Flour

Method

Pre-heat oven to 400F/210C/GAS 6 Grease a deep 28cm cake tin

Peel the apples and cut into quarters. Remove core and pips Cut each quarter lengthways into 3 or 4 slices

Melt 40 g of butter in a pan, and sauté apples on both sides.

When soft sprinkle with 50g sugar, then brown without caramelising. Arrange in bottom of cake tin.

Gently melt remaining butter

Beat eggs and sugar with electric whisk, until a mousse like consistency.

Beat as you add melted butter and cream.

Mix flour and salt together, add to mixture and continue to beat. When well mixed pour over apples in tin.

Bake in centre of oven for 40 to 45 minutes.

Leave to cool for 10 minutes. Then turn out onto a wire rack. Leave to cool completely. Serve with apples on top....lovely with

custard!

THE METHODIST CHURCH CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY. SUNDAY OCTOBER 29th

SERVICES will be held at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. With guest preacher Rev. Trevor Grewcock.

Our anniversary celebrates the opening of the present chapel in October 1911. The building, together with its granite boundary wall was built on a plot previously used as an allotment. The building was erected between April and October by Ratby Builder B Shipman and Sons, forebears of the present-day Shipman family, at a cost of £1,398-13s-6d. We are delighted, (and a little bit proud) to be welcoming back to his roots an old Ratby lad to

be our quest Preacher. Born in a little cottage in Church Lane, Trevor gained his first insight into Methodism within our own Sunday School.

Many older villagers will remember Trev. In various ways. Some as a village school kid, others as a butcher's lad, working for Mr Freeman, the village butcher of the time and others as a euphonium player in the old 'Ratby Silver Prize Band.'

Eventually Trevor was persuaded towards the Ministry, was ordained, and has since served the Methodist Church in various parts of the country. He has recently retired.

We offer a special invitation to anyone who remembers Trevor to renew that acquaintance at one of our services on the 29th. We know that he and we would be very pleased to see vou. God Bless.

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Legges to the Editor

Dear Wot.

I hope you remember me - you kindly published an article in April WOT about my trek in the foothills of the Himalayas on behalf of Help the Aged.

Help the Aged do really good work in India as I saw for myself. One project is the Mobile Medical Unit Delhi The van is manned by a doctor and pharmacist, once a week in the middle of one of the poorest areas.

Any and all the older people can go to be examined and issued with drugs for the infections and diseases that are prevalent in that area.

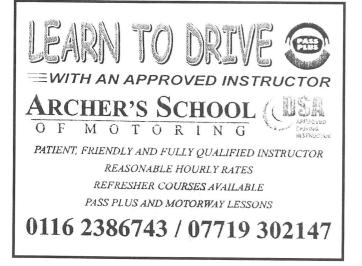
In addition our Help the Aged trek group visited the project 'Adopt a Grandma'. We, as ambassadors of Help the Aged, were greeted by the old ladies and one old man who gave us each a rose and more thank you's than we could manage.

Please pass on a thank you to the regulars of The Railway Pub especially the landlord - they collected £18.65.

I won't be doing any more treks but I can still do the odd bit of collecting. I thought it might be a good idea to have a coffee and cake morning somewhere!

Julie, who was our trek organiser, has sent me details of the next two treks, which I attach. If you have space to print this information please do. The more trekkers the better.

Thanks for you help Regards, **Janet**



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SATURDAYS PROVE TO BE BIG HIT!

As the cold, dark nights draw in, you might not fancy popping to your local library to take that book back or borrow another one from the exciting new range that's recently been delivered across the County. That shouldn't stop you taking advantage of the latest best sellers as fifty libraries in the county are now open ALL day Saturday and it's proving to be very popular.

Many libraries across Leicestershire have been open on Saturday for some time. Since April this year, the majority of the remaining libraries in Leicestershire have extended or altered their hours of opening so that they are open all day Saturday too. The latest research has shown that Saturday's are showing the largest increase in book issues than other days of the week.

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DEADLINE for issue 121 DECEMBER/JANUARY FRIDAY 10th NOVEMBER

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Bradgate Twinning Association Dixieland/New Orleans Jazz Evening.

Bradgate Twinning Association is holding a
Dixieland/New Orleans Jazz Evening on
November 11th at Newtown Linford Village Hall
starting at 7.30pm. The music will be provided
by the very popular local group of talented
musicians The Springfield Jazz Ensemble.
They will be bringing a quartet on this evening
and will play a variety of music in the
Dixieland/New Orleans style from a wide
repertoire.

The ticket price is £8 which includes supper and there will also be a bar.

We are expecting to attract a large audience for this very popular band and it should be a very good evening.

To obtain tickets telephone **0116 287 3119** or any member of the Association.

DIWALI GREETINGS October 21st

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