



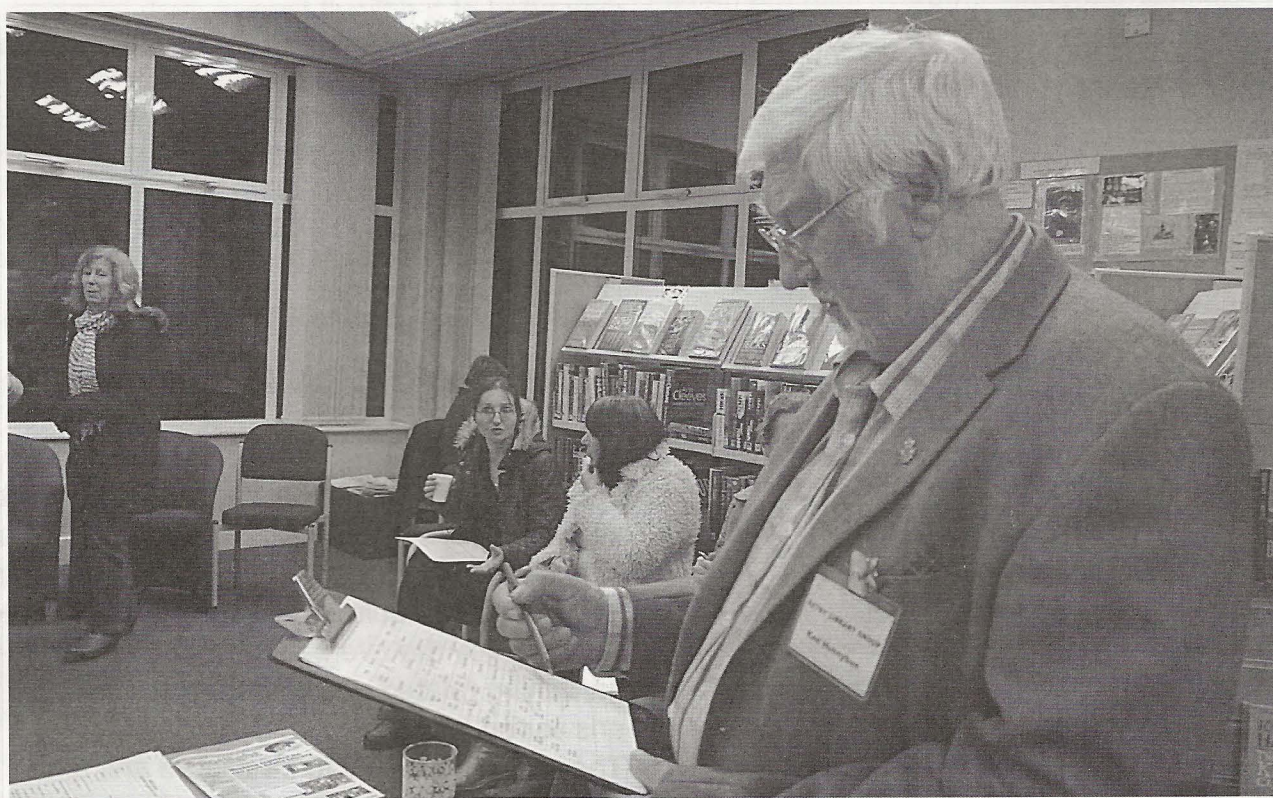
# WOT!

## About Ratby

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP



# A FUTURE for RATBY LIBRARY



**Ken Hunnybun, Co-ordinator for Volunteers, prepares to meet and greet attendees for the information meeting held in the library on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March.**

Graham Stanley, Chairman of the Library Group welcomed potential volunteers and outlined progress and plans for the soon- to-be Community Managed Library. He emphasised that library services would continue as now, with books provided through the County Council Service, and services such as reservations and home deliveries continuing. Only the loan of DVDs will be discontinued.

The Library Group is planning to make the Library more of a community venue, with improved Wi-Fi and computer access, a café serving drinks and biscuits, and improved facilities such as toilets and baby changing. And it's hoped that hours will be extended, with the library opening for six days a week and some evenings. The contract to be signed stipulates that the fifteen hours minimum currently provided must continue.

**Turn to page 2 for more information...**

### **RATBY PARISH COUNCIL \* ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Will take place on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2015 at 8pm**, in Ratby Methodist Church, Chapel Lane, Ratby. All residents are welcome.



## RATBY LIBRARY PLANS

Response to the questionnaires sent out revealed that the most popular services, in order, were; Computer Classes for 'Silver Surfers,' the Café, Children's activities, visits by agencies such as Age UK, Talks by local authors and sessions bringing young parents together.

All of this would depend on attracting sufficient voluntary help.

Ken Hunnybun outlined how the proposed system would work, with potential volunteers receiving training and support from team leaders whilst working in pairs to administer the library service and run the café. A rota would be drawn up in advance.

If you haven't yet thought about volunteering, why not give it a try? Volunteers gain skills and experience which are useful when job hunting, as well as a social life, and the opportunity to do something for the community!

Contact Ken on; **238 8354**



## OAKLANDS RIDING SCHOOL

**WE CATER FOR EVERYONE FROM  
THE NOVICE TO EXPERIENCED RIDER**

**All weather riding area  
Ring Julie on 238 7570**



## Pabari's Ratby News. (Est. 25 years)

5 Station Road, Ratby, Leicester. LE6 0JQ.

Tel: 0116 239 3287.



Sweets, Confectionary,  
Tobacco, Soft Drinks & Milk.



Top Up Your Mobile Phone, Electric & Gas.

**A Vast Selection of Beers, Wines & Spirits**

**We Deliver Daily, Evening &  
Sunday Newspapers.**

A wide choice of Magazines,  
Greeting Cards &  
Stationery,



**Play The National Lottery Here**

**Now!**



Opening Times:-

Mon-Fri :- 5.00am to 1.00pm, then 2.30pm till 10.00pm

Sat:- 5.00am through until 10.00pm

Sun:- 7.00am to 2.00pm, then 7.00pm till 9.00pm



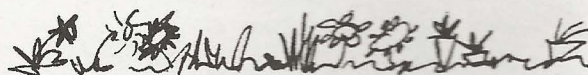
## TWILIGHT WALK

On Saturday 25th April 2015 a team of local ladies will be taking part in the LOROS Twilight Walk in memory of Mick Porter of Porters Carpets who lost his battle with Motor Neurone Disease in November 2013. LOROS provided Mick and his family with so much care and support during a very difficult time that his family would like to give something back. Mick's widow Di, daughter Melissa, daughter in law Elaina, granddaughters Holly and Amber along with a group of friends will be completing the 10k walk around Leicester to try and raise as much money as possible for LOROS to give other families the support and services that they may need at a difficult time.

A page in memory of Mick Porter has been set up to receive donations at

[www.justgiving.com/Melissa-Hayes1](http://www.justgiving.com/Melissa-Hayes1)

Thank you for your support.



## CALLING ALL GARDEN ENTHUSIASTS!

BBC Leicester's DOWN TO EARTH is coming. On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April BBC Leicester will be recording their 'Down to Earth' programme live in St Philip and St James Parish Church Ratby. We would love you to come along and be part of this special evening. No specialist gardening knowledge is required, you can come along to simply enjoy the event or bring along your gardening related question for the team to answer on the night.

The audience needs to be seated and all questions (written) submitted by 7pm ready for recording to start at 7.30pm.

Entry is free and refreshments will be available beforehand. All welcome.



FEEL  
GOOD  
FEET

## HOME VISITS FOR:

JACQUI  
COOPER

DipCFHP MPSPact  
07804029231

- NAIL CUTTING
- VERRUCAE
- CORNS
- CALLUS
- CRACKED HEELS
- INGROWN NAILS
- FUNGAL NAILS
- DIABETES CARE





## PORTER'S CARPETS

### A RATBY FAMILY BUSINESS

Longstanding readers of 'Wot' will know that there has been an advert for Porter's carpets in every issue of the magazine, revealing the family's support for the community.

Brothers Lee and Ben Porter are now working together to maintain the carpet and flooring business which was established by their grandfather here in 1982, and continued by their father, Mick. When Mick fell ill in 2012, Lee came back from Australia with his family to help in the business. Ben had already begun to work with him. And it truly is a family firm, as Lee's wife Elaina can be found in the shop on Station Road several days a week.

Both Elaina and Ben's partner Alex are involved with the business, tackling all the paperwork needed. Lee and Ben also like to support other local tradespeople with work such as installing laminate flooring.

They have inherited a loyal customer base in Ratby and surrounding villages, and have continued to maintain the range of good quality flooring at low prices. They say they don't put their prices up so that they can then offer so-called discounts in sales like so many businesses do. Instead they prefer the family tradition of offering great service and value all year round. This is why the company has a well-deserved good reputation.

They have made some changes to the shop layout, and introduced some of the more popular modern bleach-cleanable carpets, but the renowned, reliable service remains the same.

Ben, left, and Lee outside the carpet shop.



They are planning further refurbishment, including the shop window and frontage. And of course there is a new, more modern shop sign on the premises.

Some villagers may remember a time when the premises were run as a greengrocery!

Lee and Ben both agree that they are proud to be continuing the family business, even though it can sometimes seem as though it is taking over their lives. They make time to socialise together too.

Perhaps Ratby may see a future generation of Porters inherit the business, as there are two young daughters and a son to maintain the tradition!

If you are new to Ratby, and been tempted to look further afield for your carpets or flooring, why not visit this shop? A reputation gained over three generations is testament to the quality of workmanship and products available.

## MELSWAY DRIVING SCHOOL *Est. 1991*

**Mel Shipley D.S.A. A.D.I. M.I.A.M.**

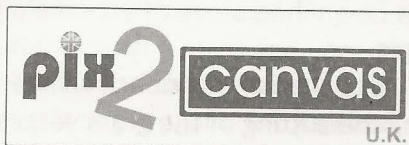
**Pass Plus Registered**

**\*Complete Beginners\* Part trained\***

**Motorway Tuition and Refresher lessons.**

**Telephone 238 6149**

**3 Barton Close, Ratby.**



**Great Photo Gift Ideas  
Great Prices  
for Great Days !**

Photos On Canvas, Phone Cases, Puzzles,  
Mugs, Panels, Acrylics, Frames, Cushions,  
Vision Blocks, Key Fobs and more ...   
Collages and Photo Restoration

**[www.pix2canvas.co.uk](http://www.pix2canvas.co.uk)**

**58 Main Street ~ Ratby ~ Leicester ~ LE6 0LL  
Tel: 0116 239 6565 ~ [info@pix2canvas.co.uk](mailto:info@pix2canvas.co.uk)**



## RATBY SCOUTS GAIN TOP AWARD

3 members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Ratby Scout Group have gained their **Chief Scout Gold Award**. Ashley, Daniel & Robbie have been working towards their gold award for the past 4 years and have taken part in a whole range of exciting and challenging activities with their troop. They camped, cooked, swam, climbed, canoed & hiked. They took part in creative & physical challenges, delivered the WOT, explored the woods, started geocaching and ate lots of food! But more importantly they developed new friendships and contributed to an amazing troop.

I am so proud of all their hard work and I hope that many more scouts will again this top award.

**Lara Foster, Scout Leader 1<sup>st</sup> Ratby Scout Group**

(Pictured - Assistant leaders Stephen Pemberton & Tom Hickey with Scouts Daniel Payne, Ashley Askham, Robbie Peacock)



## Grass Verges

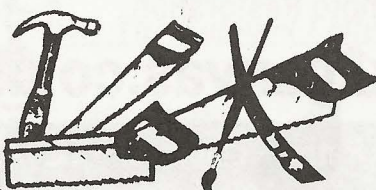
From April 2015 the Parish Council will be undertaking the cutting of the grass verges previously done by the County Council. The work will be carried out by the Parish Council's existing contractor and will be done to the same standard as the other areas in the village.

## A. GOODWIN

CARPENTRY, JOINERY  
PROPERTY REPAIRS

0116 2387316

MOBILE: 0777 9872211



## Explorer Scouts Return To Ratby

**The 1st Ratby Scout Group is extremely excited to announce the return after a four year absence of our Explorer Scout Unit.**

Since January Explorer numbers have steadily grown with members from Ratby and neighbouring villages. Last term's programme included various challenge nights and team building exercises.

We had an evening at the local Scout wood to practise fire lighting and cooking, at the end of which four of the Explorers were invested into the Unit.

We are looking forward to our summer term, where we hope to compete in the regional cardboard box regatta (story to follow!)

Explorer Scouts are the fourth section of the Scouting movement open to all young people aged between **14 and 18**.

If you are interested please contact 0116 2390774 [ratbyscoutgroup@btinternet.com](mailto:ratbyscoutgroup@btinternet.com)

## Musik Fest 2015 Comes to Leicester

The Ratby Co-operative Brass Band is set to host the annual Musik Fest event at Groby Community College on 24-25th April.

The weekend will feature performances from all bands in the Ratby Organisation, as well as Enderby Wind Band, Soar Valley Music Centre Big Band, Groby College Group, Wigston Enterprise Band, Heart of England Chorus, Lutterworth Town Band and N'ukes Ukulele Band. This musical extravaganza promises to showcase a great variety of Leicestershire talent.

Children can attend the festival for free with tickets for either the Friday or Saturday evening costing £8 for adults and £7.00 for concessions. There are also full weekend tickets at £12. Make sure you don't miss this fantastic weekend for all the family by contacting Malcolm Pounder on 0116 2386749 or any Ratby Band members for tickets. For more information about the Ratby Brass Band Organisation, visit [www.ratbyband.com](http://www.ratbyband.com)



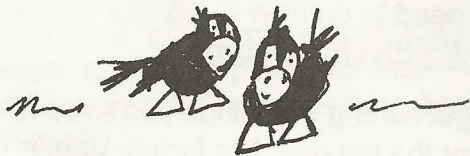
## A 'GOLDEN' GIFT!

When villagers Jill and Derry Hurd were planning the celebration for their Golden Wedding anniversary they decided they didn't need any presents. Instead they asked for donations to local charity 'Open Roof.' This charity is based in Leicester, and its aim is to help homeless people. Many villagers will remember Helen Hayes, now Chair of Open Roof, who worked with Rector Richard Worsfold some years ago, and who still runs a choir in Groby. You can check out this worthwhile organisation at their website;

[www.oneroof.org.uk](http://www.oneroof.org.uk) or phone 07989 698483.

Jill and Derry held a special anniversary party with family and friends, and were amazed to be given over £300 for Open Roof. Helen Hayes visited to collect the money and thank them.

The couple were married in Ratby Parish Church, on March 6<sup>th</sup> 1965, by Rev. Peter Blackman, and recall that there was snow on the ground! The best man was Trevor Grewcock who later became a Methodist Minister. And it was the Chapel which brought the couple together. Jill was born and brought up in Ratby, and like many of the young people she attended the youth club at the Chapel. Derry, a Field Head lad, came over on his motor bike to join the choir and youth club. After service on Sundays the young people would often walk to Groby Pool, or sometimes catch a lift in Robert Brooke's van, which was normally used for transporting sheep, and they'd all head off for coffee at Banner's café near Victoria Park. Like Derry and Jill it seems likely that many romances would have begun this way!



## JULIE'S HAIRDRESSING MAIN STREET RATBY

Traditional and Modern Styling  
**Telephone 239 2406**

The couple have contributed a lot to village life over the years. Jill will be remembered for her work in the primary school, and Derry can still be found playing the organ at Chapel, and sometimes the Parish Church, or mowing grass in the churchyard.

The Ratby Band has also played a part in their lives, but you'll have to wait for a future article to hear about that!

Congratulations to them both on fifty years of happy marriage.

**Pictured below are the couple outside church.**



### Parking on Grass Verges –Damage to surfacing (Ferndale Park)

The Council is aware that parking is difficult in the village but please try to avoid parking on the grass verges. It makes such a mess and very often the grass does not have a chance to recover.

The safety surfacing is again being vandalised and will have to be resurfaced. If anyone witnesses the surfaces being damaged please report it to the Police on 101 or alternatively contact the Parish Council Office (0116 239 0167)

### Need a Helping Hand?

Fed up of trying to fit everything in, and work?  
*Or is it all becoming a burden?*

We provide a friendly and efficient service.



"Not just a cleaning company."

- Homes cleaned  
(All cleaning products included.)
- Properties cleaned between Lettings, or while on holiday.
- Bed Linen Changed
- Ironing (collection & delivery included)
- Fully insured.

Call Lisa on 0116 235 6065 or 07711 554609



## Ratby's Annual Show

**Saturday 8th August in Ratby Sports Club**

Schedules are now available to pick-up from most shops and businesses around the village including from the Sports Club, Desford Lane. Classes include the traditional ones of vegetables, fruit, plants, flower arranging, preserves, baking etc., while the arts and crafts include photography, poems and handicrafts. There are several classes for young people under the age of 16 too. The show is open to anyone to enter, whether they live in Ratby or not. Come on down!

### RATBY PHARMACY

**10 MAIN STREET LE6 0JG**

**\*FREE PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION**

**SERVICE from all surrounding surgeries.**

**JUST PHONE US ON 239 3139 with your requirements. We will process your prescription with the surgery.**

**All you do is COLLECT IT from us, or we can deliver to your home if needed.**

**You can e mail us with requirements;  
[ratbychemist@aah-n3.co.uk](mailto:ratbychemist@aah-n3.co.uk)**

## Get Fit And Healthy

*with Charlotte Tomlinson, MSc*

### ZUMBA DANCE FITNESS! GROBY VILLAGE HALL

Monday nights 5:30-6:30pm  
£4 per class or 10 classes for £30

Have fun, burn calories and  
dance your way to fitness!



### FITNESS YOGA GROBY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Tuesday nights 6:45-8:00pm  
£5 per class

Get fitter, stronger, leaner,  
more supple and finally relaxed!

[www.fit4dance.com](http://www.fit4dance.com)

Email: [charlotte.tomlinson@hotmail.com](mailto:charlotte.tomlinson@hotmail.com)

**Tel: 07939 588092**

## GET READY FOR RATBY'S FIRST YARD SALES!

Organised by the Eco-Team at St Philip and St James Parish Church, Ratby will be holding its first (and hopefully annual) Yard Sales on **Bank Holiday Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2015** starting at **10am** until 3pm.

Residents of Ratby who wish to hold a Yard Sale on their property are invited to register their address, free of charge, on a live on-line map so that people know where the sales are taking place. In addition to registering the location of your sale it is suggested that you give a brief summary of what you will be selling, that way people can search out more easily what they want to find. On the day you simply set up and sell your belongings, somewhere on your property, on your drive, or in your garage. The live map can be accessed on the day using mobile phones etc. or printed maps detailing the location of the garage sales will be available in the Church. The event will be widely advertised to bring in outsiders and also encourage Ratby residents to make a tour of the village, meet their neighbours and buy someone else's unwanted treasures. You will find a few dos and don'ts and tips for sellers on the website.

On the day the Church will be open serving hot and cold drinks and homemade cakes between the hours of 10am and 3pm.

There is no charge to register your Yard Sale or any commission charge. The aim of the event is to recycle unwanted goods all for the greater good of our lovely planet.

All you need to do now is register your address at <http://ratbychurch.org.uk/>

...and get sorting the things you want to sell ready for the big day. For further details or to register by phone, call 0116 239 4606. To ensure your address is included on the printed maps you will need to register by **11pm on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May.**

## ANNUAL POND DIPPING

Ratby Community Orchard Group has planned this year's Pond Dipping for the earlier time of 6.30 on Wednesday August 5<sup>th</sup>. Watch out for more details in the next issue of Wot.

The working party have been busy carefully pruning some of the trees.



## 'Wot' Website coming soon!

Villagers and friends around the world will soon be able to access every issue of the magazine through a new website.

The idea was the brainchild of local man, Nathan Dickman. Nathan was born and brought up in Ratby, and his late father Dennis was originally involved with putting together the first Scout newsletter. Nathan himself was also a Ratby Scout, helping to deliver 'Wot' around the village.

Nathan says he felt it was an important project, particularly as it preserves village history, with snapshots of village life and photographs of historical importance.

At present previous issues can be read in Ratby Library, where Ratby History Group have placed specially bound and indexed copies of the earliest volumes in the reference section.

Nathan says, 'I wanted to save all issues in a digital format that can be downloaded by anyone. It will be a 'page-turnable,' searchable archive.'

It will be useful to the producers of 'Wot' too, as we will be able to readily access and refer to articles that have featured in early issues.

Nathan tells us that he talked to Wot's editor about the idea, and was astonished to discover that we do not produce the magazine electronically. Considerable time has been spent scanning every issue to date for the project.

After graduating from university in software engineering Nathan worked on website development and then set up his own business. We'll be featuring this in our next issue. Nathan has supported 'Wot' through his advertisement for the company 'Ipaqrepair' for some years now. Find it on the back page!

He says, 'I have limited spare time, but I wanted to volunteer and use my skills for this worthwhile project, to put something back into the community.'

Thanks to Nathan for this contribution. It will be appreciated by many! Watch out for more information in our June issue.

**DEADLINE for issue 172**

**JUNE / JULY 2015**

**FRIDAY 15th MAY**

EDITOR 239 3367

ADVERTS 239 3279

ARTICLES 239 4873

Articles may be sent to 3 Ingle Drive

Or Email: [sueboud@hotmail.com](mailto:sueboud@hotmail.com)

## NEWS FROM RATBY PARISH COUNCIL

### Bloor's Appeal

The Council is sure you will be pleased to know that the Appeal against development on the green wedge site, East of Markfield Road (opposite Groby College) has been dismissed for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time! Ratby Parish Council, together with Groby Parish Council, the Borough Councillors for each Parish and the very able assistance of Mr Simon Stanion of Shakespeares, triumphed again. The Council is also grateful for the support residents gave to this too!

### Ratby Library

By now you will all know that Ratby Library Group succeeded in registering its interest to run the Library. What you may not know is that the Parish Council had also expressed an interest. Its option was to purchase the building and retain the services of the existing librarian to run the library, the Parish Council undertaking to pay the cost of wages etc. The Parish Council has always been anxious to maintain the library facility and in purchasing the building would have maintained this and created a valuable asset for the village.



## Ratby Post Office & Village Store

- ✓ Fresh & Frozen Groceries
- ✓ Household Items
- ✓ Newspapers & Magazines
- ✓ National Lottery
- ✓ Confectionery, Snacks & Drinks
- ✓ Phone Top-ups, Gas & Electric
- ✓ Greeting Cards & Stationery
- ✓ Beers, Wines & Spirits
- ✓ Dry Cleaning
- ✓ Free 24 Hour ATM
- ✓ *Many, Many Offers & Bargains!*

**30 MAIN STREET, RATBY, LEICS**

**TEL: 0116 2393001**

Shop Hours:

Mon to Sat

6:00am – 5:30pm

Sun 7:00– 12:30pm

Post Office Hours:

Mon to Fri

9:00am to 5:30pm

Sat 9:00am to 12:30pm



# BROKEN iPhone?

- Fast, Friendly Service
- All Repairs Guaranteed
- Price Match Promise



FOR AN  
INSTANT QUOTE CALL  
**0116 286 6447**

Unit 33, King Street Buildings, George Street Entrance,  
Enderby, Leicester LE19 4NT  
[www.iparepair.co.uk](http://www.iparepair.co.uk)



rightmove.co.uk  
**Zoopla.co.uk**  
Smarter property search

**Leicestershire Lettings & Sales**

**0116 2355232**

[www.leicestershirelettings.co.uk](http://www.leicestershirelettings.co.uk)

**We WILL SELL your property for £1000**



**NO VAT NO SALE NO FEE**

[www.leicestershirelettings.co.uk](http://www.leicestershirelettings.co.uk)

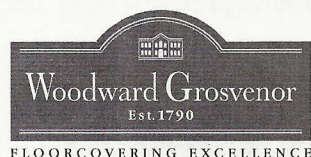
3 Staddon Road, Anstey, Leicester  
Leicestershire, LE7 7AY

## Porter's Discount Carpets

121/3 STATION ROAD, RATBY

Telephone 239 3238 or Mobile 07872 488271

**SHOP AT HOME SERVICE**



**Duralay**

**STIKATAK**  
The No.1 in Flooring Accessories

**ABINGDON**  
FLOORING



**TREDAIRE**



**STAINFREE**



**Gripperrods**

**envirolay**  
Carpet underlay that treads lightly on the planet



**STERLING ROYALE**



**NOW INCLUDING L.B.P. Tiling SPECIALISTS IN CERAMIC AND PORCELAIN TILING**