

# WOT!

## About Ratby

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP

### DANCING IN THE STREET!



Leicester Morrismen were joined by the Ladybay Revellers from Nottingham to dance Cotswold Morris at The Bull's Head on Wednesday July 9<sup>th</sup>. Here they are dancing 'Vandells of Hammerwich,' a Litchfield Dance.

You would never have guessed that this tireless, energetic side were fresh from a weekend of dancing at Sheringham in Norfolk.

Leicester Morris are out dancing every week raising money for charity, with their programme for the year being decided in January.

Check out their website for more information: [www.leicestermorris.co.uk](http://www.leicestermorris.co.uk) or take a look at their Facebook Page.



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## MORRIS COMES TO RATBY

Ladybay Revellers



## CHURCHYARD WILDLIFE

Ratby's Church Eco enthusiasts met with David Nicholls on Monday June 30<sup>th</sup> for a follow up investigation of the wildlife to be found in the newly developed 'meadow' areas in the churchyard.

The group found that a range of grasses were dominating, as the soil is so rich. Some flowers were discovered, speedwells, ragwort and clovers, to mention just a few. The areas have been closely mown since, and all clippings removed to help reduce fertility so that wild flowers can thrive.

A grant from the Stepping Stones Project will enable the group to plant a variety of wild flowers in the autumn.

Around the churchyard a number of invertebrates were found in the trees, including birch shield bugs, red legged shield bugs, marmalade hover fly, mayfly and crane fly. A moth larva wrapped in a leaf was seen, as well as three types of ladybird or their larvae, harlequin, 2 spot and 10 spot.

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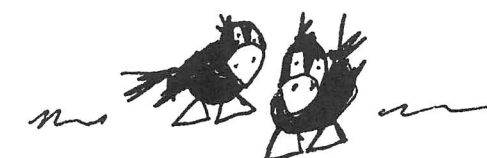
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[Rsjfc.secretary@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Rsjfc.secretary@hotmail.co.uk)

# Respect



## ART in RATBY

A free Art Show was held in the village Hall on the weekend of Sat/Sunday July 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

Chris Talbot, local artist and member of the Ratby Art Group held in the village, came up with the idea. Other Art Group members and their tutor Julia Kent displayed their work, along with an array of paintings and drawings by other local people ranging in age from 14 to 80+. Many works were on sale, and there was an opportunity to choose your favourite!

Ratby WI was on hand to serve teas and scrumptious cakes.

A Tombola and sale of plants raised funds for Alzheimer Research.

Altogether a great way to while away a hot afternoon! Let's hope it becomes an annual event.

### Some of the work on display



Peter Griffin was present all day on Saturday to demonstrate his painting techniques



## SUNDAY LUNCHES in RATBY

Almost 2 years ago Ratby Parish Church held its first lunch club. We had no idea what sort of response we would have to this venture. All we knew was that we wanted to reach out to people living in our village who are housebound, elderly, disabled or living alone. We were very aware that Sunday's can be a particularly lonely time as its generally when families get together and so we decided to give people the opportunity to meet together and to provide them with a 3 course traditional Sunday Lunch.

I am so pleased to report that this venture has been very successful. It is the highlight of the month for many people and gives all who participate so much pleasure and lots of fun.

Below is a testimony from one of our members;

"Approx. 2 years ago I read an article in the "Wot" Magazine. This was inviting people who were living alone, to come along once a month to the Church Rooms for a Sunday Lunch. It also said that Transport would be provided if needed.....I thought about it for a day or two, then with a little trepidation I rang the number provided and spoke to a very nice lady, who put me at my ease and arrangements were made for me to be picked up and taken. I am so very pleased that I did so. Everyone was so welcoming and it was and still is a pleasure to meet people and have company to enjoy a super lunch with. It gives me something to look forward to each month. It is so well organised, I just don't know how they do it. Many many thanks to all those concerned who make it happen."

If you would like to come and join us to enjoy a nice meal and great company please contact Joan Hawkins tel 3670653 or Jo Mangham 2395218. If you need transport please let us know.

We do not make a charge for this, although we are grateful to accept a small donation to help with the cost of the meal

### IT MUST BE THE WATER!

Ratby has at least 13 residents that have reached the age of 90 or over, and on Saturday 6th September they will be joining the regular coffee morning held in the Parish Church rooms (from 10am to 12 noon), for their annual fellowship morning. Come along to meet them and ask for their tips on how to stay younger longer!

## APPLE DAY


Don't forget APPLE DAY at the Ratby Community Orchard, Tavener Drive on October 12<sup>th</sup> this year. All the usual games and activities will be there, and some new attractions.

Put the date in your diary now! Check out our FACEBOOK Page and village posters for details nearer the day.

If you would like to help with the event please contact us by e mail,  
[Ratbycommunityorchard@gmail.com](mailto:Ratbycommunityorchard@gmail.com)

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## YOUNG PEOPLE in RATBY

You may recall an article in 'Wot' some issues ago about an enterprising local young man, Jamie Trusler.

We asked him for an update on his activities, and he has been in touch!

"Recently I have been elected into Youth Parliament as a Deputy Member (As well as now being part of the British Youth Council) I have also been selected to be a part of a Youth Commissioning Team, which is currently commissioning the largest amount of money of any Youth Commission in the world. Unfortunately I'm unable to tell you how much this is!

I have been nominated for Young Volunteer of the year for the Lord-Lieutenant's Young People's Awards by Jennifer, Lady Gretton, JP.

Here in the village I have attended a Ratby Parish Council meeting, and I am now working alongside them to start a new youth group in Ratby, which will follow a structured program, such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award. We are also looking into starting a Ratby Parish Youth Council, similar to the Leicestershire Youth Council of which I am a part. Once set up this means that the young people of Ratby will get a say on what happens around Ratby, although all thoughts and decisions will be made final by Ratby Parish Council. Of course we are still in the early foundations of this, and are working to get these started!

Separate to this I am hoping to start some local Social Action Projects which help individuals to make their mark in local communities. They can range from: clearing pounds or rivers out, raising money and awareness of National, Regional, and Local charities, painting in local community buildings and schools, that kind of thing. So if you have any ideas, please get in touch with the editor of the WOT and they can give you my email. Also following my most recent letter from Sir Jeremy Heywood, Cabinet Secretary, I have decided to write a letter to RT Hon David Cameron MP. In this letter I would like to address the issues that are affecting young people today, and also express the importance of teaching Basic First Aid in schools,

as part of St John Ambulance's current campaign, 'The Difference'.

*We look forward to hearing how these projects progress. Thank you Jamie. Editor.*



**LEICESTER MORRIS at THE BULLS HEAD**

### JILL GREY

Jill Grey, founder of Ratby Ramblers walking group, passed away in June at home in her armchair. Jill started the walking group in March 2005. She was an active member until increasingly frail health meant taking a back seat to concentrate on her other great passions in life, dogs, her garden, needlework and painting.

Many new and lasting friendships have been forged through membership of Ratby Ramblers, and for this we have Jill to thank.

### LETTERS and ARTICLES

We welcome letters and articles, but reserve the right to edit them or deny publication. Your name and address must be supplied, but you may ask for them to be withheld. Views expressed in articles and letters do not necessarily represent the views of the Publishers. We cannot be held responsible for information in advertisements, which we accept in good faith.

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