

# WOT!



## About Ratby

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP

### RATBY CUBS GO DIPPY FOR THEIR CONSERVATION BADGES

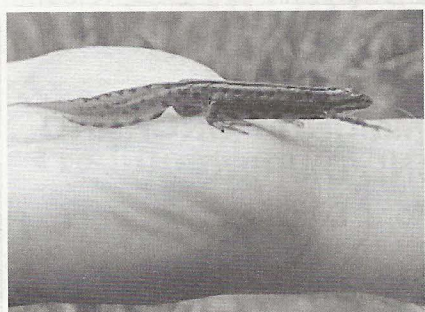
On a Monday evening in June, when the rain held off for a while, Ratby Cubs gathered at the Village Pond at Taverner Drive for a pond dipping experience. Tim Adkin was on hand to provide identification expertise. It was interesting to compare their discoveries with those of the Community Orchard Pond dipping events which are held annually in August. There were many more tadpoles, some already developing legs for their transition to frogs, and two fresh water mussels were found.

A number of newts were discovered; something we don't usually see in August. But the highlight of the evening was a smooth newt!

Pictured are the cubs getting stuck in and attempting to identify their finds.



It was great to see their enthusiasm. We need such interest if our wildlife is to survive the many current pressures on habitats. Pictured below is the smooth newt.





## THE COMFORTS OF QUILTING

If you have ever thought about having a go at making a quilt but didn't know how to get started you now have the ideal opportunity here in Ratby.

Owner of **Quilteez**, Jeannie MacGregor had a long held dream to set up a quilting shop, but it took two events to make it happen. She says that the death of Cilla Black, aged only 72 made her realise that she should just get on and do it! Government changes to the Women's Pension age was also a factor. She says that she couldn't imagine having to work another six years in her demanding role as a fund raiser, with all the travelling that it entailed.

So Quilteez was born. The small shop in Ratby was available at just the right time in a perfect location with nearby parking not too far from her home. Jeannie says she's received a warm welcome to the village, with people popping in to see what's happening and a lot of interest.

A recent quilting exhibition in Market Bosworth which Jeannie was involved in raised £2000 for charity.

Jeannie began quilting around fifteen years ago, having been introduced to it by her sister Linda. And she and this same sister are now running courses in Ratby using several village halls at different times. Heather Jacks who won the 2014 Great British Sewing Bee will be running a class on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July from 10 until 4pm in the Chapel Rooms.

If you are interested in coming along to a course just pop into the shop and put your name on a mailing list, or check out the website or Facebook page;

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

<https://www.facebook.com/Quilteez>



**Pictured is Jeannie with a 'Scrappy' Quilt, 'Bricks and Windows' made with a variety of fabrics in shades of red which was made by sister Linda.**

The Quilteez shop is an Aladdin's cave of beautiful inspiring fabrics. Jeannie stocks a wonderful range, including some of the most good quality fabrics that are not commonly available; Kaffe Fassett, Tula Pink, a very contemporary range, Riley Blake, Jinny Beyer and Michael Miller. The Oakshott range is difficult to find in most shops, and features shot fabric which has a lovely shimmering effect.

It's great to touch and see the fabrics, but you can also order on the internet by visiting the website.

Jeannie is also a Bernina agent, and if you are interested you can pop in for a demonstration using a specialist machine with stitch regulators as standard.

Why not call in and enjoy a relaxing browse in this lovely shop? Jeannie is very welcoming, and always willing to advise. She has a good eye for colour and can help you to choose just the right fabrics for your quilt. Men are welcome too!

## RATBY COMMUNITY ORCHARD POND DIPPING

Don't forget the Pond Dipping at Taverner Drive.

7pm until 8pm on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August

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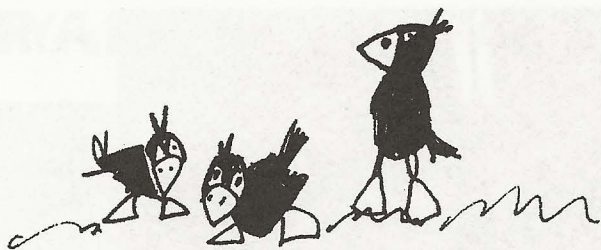
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## SPECIAL CEREMONY

We were very pleased at the well-attended very busy 1<sup>st</sup> Ratby Scouts AGM, when a plaque to Colin Payne was unveiled by Deputy District Commissioner Brian Walters. He spoke about the dedicated service to Scouting from Colin Payne, both locally and in the wider area – “if you cut him in half, you would see the word ‘scouting’” – and said how glad he was to be here for the unveiling of the memorial plaque.

Colin was the force behind the forming of the Ratby Scout Group some 32 years ago. His involvement with the Group and the District continued until his death.

A number of former Scouts and Leaders attended to mark the unveiling.

The Marjorie Parry Bowl (donated by Ros Gould) is a new award which has recently been created for people who work tirelessly for Scouting.

Carol Payne has provided lots of support to Colin Payne and the group, so it was felt that there was no one more fitting to be the first recipient of this award.

The bowl and flowers were presented to Carol by two of the Cubs.

**1st Ratby Scouts.**



## RATBY OPEN MIC at THE PLOUGH

The July Open Mic was another great night. A variety of great music was provided by eight acts, with some original songs alongside favourites. We'd like to see more women coming along to share their music though, including those great singers who joined us in the earlier sessions!

Open Night is now held on the **second Monday of the month**, from 8.30pm. Next dates are August 8<sup>th</sup> and September 12<sup>th</sup>. **Steve Boud**

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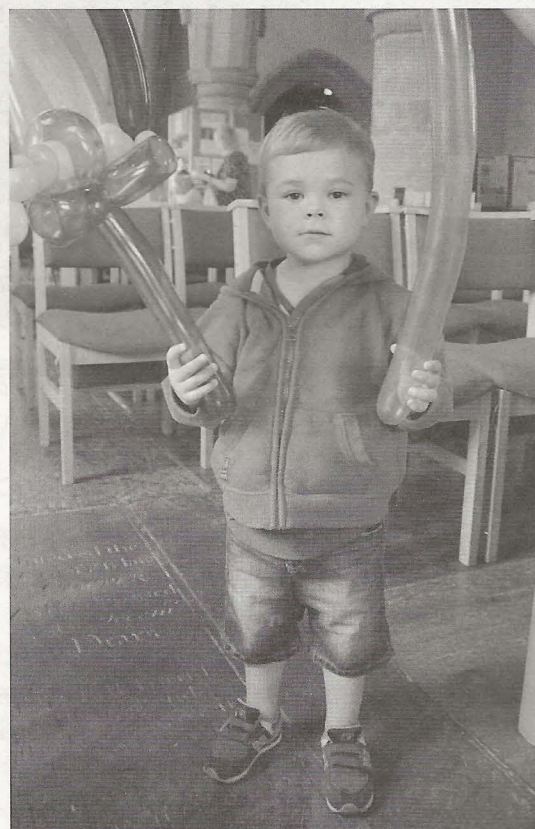
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## A RIGH



Flags were flying at the Parish Church an



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Band's  
There  
games  
paintin  
Visitor  
Pimms  
cream

There v  
have a  
Francis  
Lewis E  
Francis

alongside his father at St Ives in Huntingdons  
eight bells. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> bells were cast in  
1360, and was recast in 1896 after 500 years  
increased from four to six, and in 1931 the full  
Lianne has been ringing for nearly five years,  
pull!

Lewis was brought along by his grandma, and  
interviewed for Radio 4 recently during their s



# T ROYAL GARDEN PARTY



Church Rooms to celebrate this year's with a royal theme.

ions included Mr Twister with a Magic and Balloon Modelling, 'Gladiators,' and a Castle out in the garden. Dark clouds over in time for the Ratby Co-operative's second outdoor performance. There were stalls aplenty, a raffle and other, crafts with a royal theme and face painting.

Guests were spoilt for choice with refreshments; strawberries and Strawberries, Hot dogs and ice cream, as well as tea and cakes in the Church.

\*\*\*\*\*

There was also a chance to take a tower tour and go at ringing a bell with Tower Captain John Fisher, and bell ringers Lianne Brooks and Benfield, aged 11, the youngest ringer. John has been ringing for 50 years, having learned to ring in his youth. Visitors learned that Ratby has a ring of 607. The Tenor, 9<sup>th</sup> bell, dates from around 1607. The service! In that year the number of bells was increased to a complement of eight bells was achieved. John and says she was hooked from the very first time.

John has quickly learned to ring. He was part of a special music week.

## RATBY PARISH COUNCIL

### HM THE QUEEN'S 90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY EVENT

The Parish Council and other village groups held an event on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2016 in honour of HM The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The Methodist Church hosted stall holders and provided tea and cakes, whilst the Village Hall had an Art Exhibition and provided afternoon teas. St Philip & St James Church held a coffee morning and cake stall and Ratby Co-operative Band provided musical entertainment in the afternoon. Ratby Library Group provided refreshments at its Cafe and hosted a display covering HM the Queen's reign, put on by Ratby Local History Group. The Sports Club provided refreshments and entertainment in the evening. The Derbyshire, Leicestershire & Rutland Air Ambulance was the chosen charity. A total of £423.40 was raised.

### COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS

The Parish Council purchased Commemorative Medals which were given to the children at Ratby Primary School and Ratby Pre-School. Medals were also given to all those residents who were 90 years of age and to those who were attaining their 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday in 2016.

### BIRD BOXES

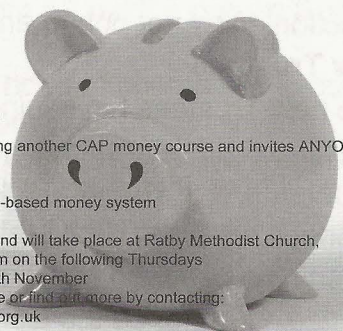
The Council has also purchased Bird, Bat & Owl boxes, some of which have been assembled by Primary School children, with help from parents and staff. These boxes will be erected at suitable sites throughout the village.



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## THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGING

### At RATBY LIBRARY

Our Community run Library will be changing opening hours on weekdays from July 18<sup>th</sup>, but will still open for the usual number of hours. The nine o'clock start was introduced to allow parents to call in after dropping children off at school or Playgroup but has not proved popular. An increase in walkers and rambling groups at the end of the day has prompted the revised hours of 10 until 5 pm to cater for their needs.

#### Exhibition

A display of photographs by Groby's Mike Pratt of Worlds Apart images is to be on show in the Library from late July into August. The works will be available for sale, and bespoke images centred on a location of your choice can be created. This event will bring in funds for the Library.

#### Children's Reading

A new group of Groby Community College students has volunteered to be involved with this initiative, and sessions will start again on Tuesdays in September.

#### New Computers

At the end of August the County Council computers will be replaced with new Laptops for community use. A new, faster Broadband Internet Service will be in place.

#### Book Exchange

Villagers are responding to this initiative by bringing in books. For a suggested donation of 50p books may be exchanged and it all helps with funds for the library. There's a good selection. Why not pop in and see for yourself!

#### New Trustees

Two new Trustees have joined the group; Christine Reid, representing the Library Volunteers, and Nathan Dickman who brings Business acumen. He will also liaise with Dan Green who came on board as a College Trustee, to enhance the Library's Social Media profile.



## ISSUE 180

Our next issue will celebrate 30 years of **Wot! About Ratby**. Ratby Scout Group launched the magazine in October 1986. Over the years it has been very successful in covering a whole range of village events and activities, as well as raising funds for the Scout group.

#### ISSUE 180 will be the very last Wot!

In recent years it has grown harder to produce the magazine as the societies/groups in the village use more modern methods of communication to reach their members. The magazine has become smaller following our heyday of 24 page editions, however there are bound copies of most of the magazines in the library and all the magazines will be on line for posterity.

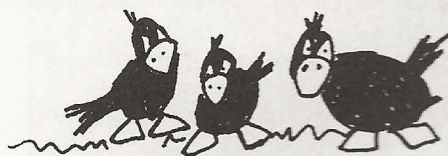
Google it at WOTABOUTRATBY.

If you want your organisation to feature in what will be a **special full colour celebration issue**, please get your copy to us as soon as possible.

**DEADLINE for issue 180**  
**OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2016**  
**FRIDAY 9th SEPTEMBER**

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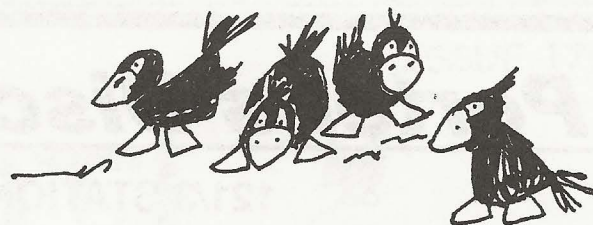
## LETTERS

Thanks to all at the 1<sup>st</sup> Ratby Scout Group for Colin's commemorative plaque in the Church rooms. He would have loved it although he never did like a fuss. I am so proud to have been given the cut glass Marjorie Parry outstanding contribution award which was totally unexpected. I have made some very good friends through Scouts over many years. To all the helpers past and present who are not appreciated enough for your hard work and commitment, you are the best. The 1<sup>st</sup> Ratby Scout Group would not be what it is today without you all. I appreciate all the work that everyone does to keep the Scout Group going that Colin and others started.

My hat off to you all.

Regards,  
Carol Payne

If you think you could help behind the scenes or in any section, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts or Explorers no matter how small you will be in the best hands possible, give it a go. I now have lifelong friends.



### KEEP RATBY TIDY

I'm saddened that our village has some with no respect for keeping Ratby cleaner and thinking "what the heck"

If people put their rubbish in a bin not on the floor it wouldn't be so messy when you walk outside your door.

There's always chip shop trays scattered on the car park floor. Why? When there's a bin not 50 yards or more!

Was the food inside it good? I think the answer's yes. Please think before you drop it who will go and clean your mess.

It doesn't take a second to drop it in a bin. Please think before you drop it It could attract VERMIN!!

Jo Dickman

### CHARITY EVENT

#### In Aid of AIR AMBULANCE

The Air Ambulance is of special importance to riders, and so **OAKLANDS RIDING SCHOOL** are planning a day of fun filled activities for the charity on their premises at Groby Road. It will take place from **12 until 5 pm on Sunday August 21<sup>st</sup>**.

There will be pony rides of course and a host of other attractions from Bouncy castles to Professional Wrestling, a Dog Show with fun categories such as 'prettiest dog' and model Steam engines and tractors on show. Come along and enjoy some old fashioned games, a raffle, and a range of stalls, including cakes. Stall tables for the show are available to book for just £6.00 for the day.

**Phone 07769 603962 or 07944 164276** to book a table or find out more.

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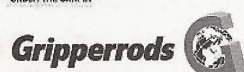
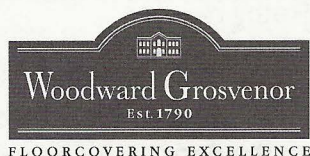





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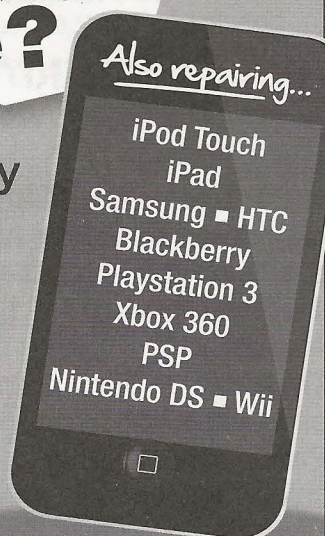
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