

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2016

ISSUE 176

WOT!

About Ratby

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP



FIRST RATBY SCOUTS START 2016 WITH A BANG!



On Sunday 10th January, a very welcome sunny day, ten of the fourteen to eighteen year old members took part in the leicestershire County Paintball Tournament which was held in Ratby.

The Explorers worked together as a great team, had lots of fun and came joint 4th out of ten units from around the County.

A big thank you to all those at County who organised the event, and special thanks to the staff at Rebel Paintball for a fantastic day.

Ratby Explorer Unit.





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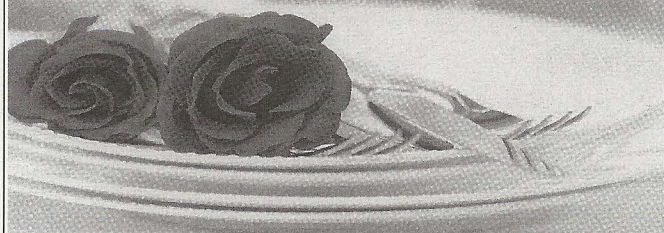
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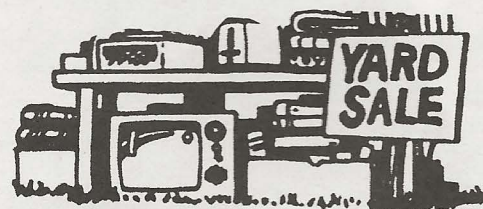
EVERYBODY WELCOME!

Saturday 13 February
Valentine Coffee Morning
10.00 am to 12.00 noon

Friday 18 March
"Coffee & Cakes"
for Ovarian Cancer Appeal
10.00 am to 12.00 noon

Saturday 26 March
Easter Coffee Morning with Easter Egg Hunt
10.00 am to 12.00 noon

Saturday 23 April
St George Fayre
10.00 am to 1.00 pm
Variety of Stalls & Games
and a Children's Dragon Hunt
Refreshments & snacks available
throughout
(Bacon Butties a speciality!)



Prepare early for Ratby's Second Yard Sales

Organised by the Eco-Team at St Philip and St James Parish Church, Ratby will be holding its second Yard Sales on:

Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May 2016
from 10am until 3pm.

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 4917. To ensure your address is included on the printed maps you will need to register by 11pm on Friday 29th April 2016.

A TWIN TRIUMPH!

Identical twins Amber and Holly Porter have both passed their driving test on November 30th 2015.

Mum Elaina Porter, who works with husband Lee at Porter's Carpets in the village told us that it was their instructor, Mel Shipley's idea for them to take a test on the same day.

'Mel made it really enjoyable for them. He really connected with them both and knew how to get the best out of them,' she said. Holly and Amber are currently studying at Groby College, and aiming to go on to University.

'I wanted to put something about this in 'Wot, as a tribute to Mel,' Elaina added.

Mel Shipley, who operates as 'Melsway' Driving School in Ratby and surrounding villages told us,

'Although I've taught a few sets of twins this is the first time I've had the twins pass their test on the same day. As for Amber and Holly they were a true delight and pleasure to work with. I enjoyed every lesson I spent with them.'

'But,' he added, 'I still truly struggle to work out which one is Amber and which one is Holly!'

Congratulations to Holly and Amber, pictured below. And to Mel too for a first in his career as an instructor.



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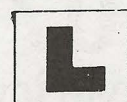
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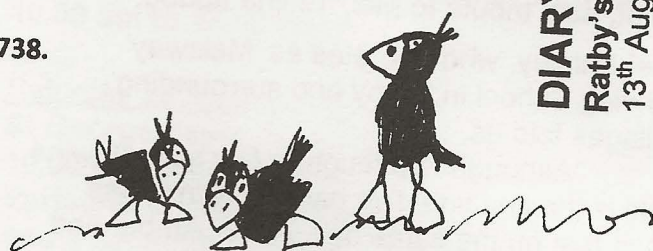
RATBY WI PROGRAMME 2016		SPEAKERS
January 13th	Fused Glass	Ali Groschi
February 10th	Body Shop	Lindsey Parsons
March 9th	Costumes from Concordia Theatre	Janet Wroe
April 13th	Being a Policewoman in the 1960's	Sue Pulsford
May 11th	Resolutions	
June 8th	Store Detective Tales of the Unexpected	Mary Dale
July 13th	To be announced	
August 10th	Samaritans	Sue Marriot
September 14th	Trading Standards Officer	
October 12th	A.G.M.	
November 9th	Decorating the House for Christmas	Tina Bax
December 14th	Christmas Party	

Ratby WI meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month
at the Village Hall, Main Street at 7.30 p.m.

For further details contact the President Viv on 0116 2393738.

DIARY DATE

Ratby's Annual Show will be held on Saturday
13th August 2016 at Ratby Sports Club,
Desford Lane, Ratby.



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

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Ratby Library & Community Group

REGISTERED WITH THE CHARITY COMMISSION AS A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION No 1164252

A great deal has happened since last time.

Our Legal Status

On November 4th the group was awarded charitable status with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), number 1164252. Until we had this business status Leicestershire County Council would not begin the process of creating the grant and lease documents. We have now signed the 3 legal documents and instructed a solicitor to act on our behalf.

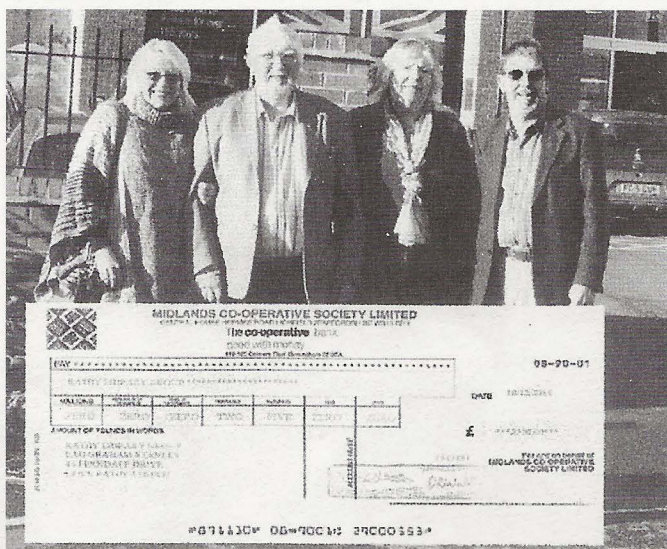
Our Volunteers

It is essential that we take full advantage of the free training offered by the County Council or be forced to pay for training outside of the 'free' window.

Training runs from the 25th January until 5th February with Saturday 6th February for practical sessions prior to our **taking over on Monday 8th**. It is essential for all volunteers to have arranged their training schedule with Ken Hunnybun so we can fill the free places available. There are multiple choices for each scope of the training. Unfortunately there will be some, but minimal, disruption to opening times. To give us flexibility we'd like more volunteers to come forward, so please contact Ken Hunnybun on 07720 542 295 or by email at ajmskh@aol.com.

Funding

We bid for a My Coop Community Grant and were awarded £2,500. The trustees are seen with the cheque outside our local COOP store.



We have also applied to Biffa for £45,000 but won't hear until early February. This sum will enable us to undertake a considerable amount of internal restructuring needed to allow us to deliver our business plan.

We are looking at other funders to find a home for the other money, taking us to our total of £115,000.

Crow Pie Cafeteria

Initially we shan't be using the CO-OP money to provide cafeteria seating but will wait until we have a major refurbishment, planned assuming we achieve success through Biffa. Until that time we shall utilise the furniture available, which should give us 17 seating places.

Our menu will cater for morning coffees, light lunches and afternoon teas. Pop along and get us off to a flying start; 2 volunteers will be running the cafeteria with another 2 looking after the library.

Extra Reading Support for Children

Attracting up to 22 children, Sixth Formers from Groby Community College together with other volunteers read to and with the children on Tuesday afternoons from 3:20pm.

A couple of mums have visited the library on other days to tell the library assistant that their children are showing improvements in their reading following the additional support we provide; this is most encouraging and we have passed this information on to the volunteers. Michelle Tobin, Deputy Head Teacher at the Primary pops in to view progress and is encouraged with what she's seen.

Though the students are doing this as part of their own enrichment commitment to the community they know that they are helping to enrich the lives of our children too.

Web Site

Our web site is under development to ensure it is a good source of information about what events and activities we're hosting. We are also planning a comprehensive village diary with information about all other local voluntary organisations. We shall also promote local businesses, which subscribe to advertising on our site.

Graham Stanley, Chair of Trustees
ratbylibraryandcommunitygroup@outlook.com
07758 081 914

The trustees are Graham Stanley, Gaynor Reynolds, Avril Hunnybun, Kenneth Hunnybun & Dan Green.

Please feel free to contact us with your thoughts and views, which are always welcome.

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RATBY WASSAIL

Ratby Community Orchard's year began as usual with the annual Wassail at the Orchard. The weather was kind, with the rain stopping at 8pm just in time for the procession from The Railway down to the Orchard, and holding off until the ceremony was complete.

The trees were toasted and wassail songs sung with the accompaniment of members of Ratby Co-operative Band.

And once again the wassail bowl was passed around with mulled cider for the traditional wassail activity.

Our next event should be a Blossom picnic in the orchard. Let's hope that the sun might shine this year! The current cold spell, together with the wassail should help the apple trees produce a healthy crop.

DEADLINE for issue 177

APRIL / MAY 2016

FRIDAY 11th MARCH

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CRY Great Cake Bake 2015

On Saturday 28 October 2015 we held our annual cake and coffee morning at Ratby Sports Club. Thanks to the support of our friends and neighbours we raised £420.

As well as serving tea or coffee with a homemade scone or cake there was a raffle and a tombola. Everyone enjoyed the morning. It gave them a chance to catch up with others in the village that they may not have seen for some time, as well as raising money for a good cause.

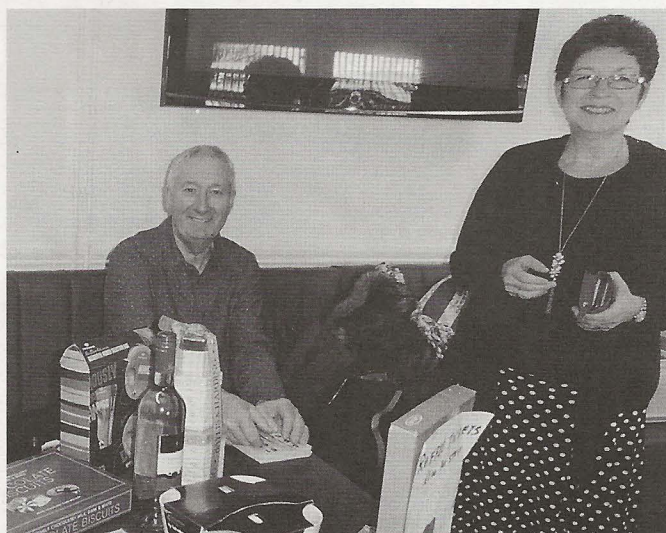
The following week an envelope was dropped through our door containing a cheque for £500. This was sent from the Edith Murphy Foundation. One of the trustees attended our event with his wife and reported back to the others what a worthy charity CRY is and they decided to make a donation.

A further £80 was received from our daughter, Sara. She teaches at a school in Sutton Coldfield and this year instead of sending cards the staff decided to donate to a charity. CRY was drawn as the charity making the grand total £1,000 which is absolutely amazing!

CRY – Cardiac Risk in the Young is a charity that we have supported since losing our son Greg suddenly in October 2009. Each week in the UK at least 12 apparently fit and healthy young people die of undiagnosed heart conditions. CRY offer support to affected families as well as supporting research into this condition. They aim to make cardiac screening accessible to all young people aged between 14 and 35.

Thanks to everyone who helped us and Ratby Sports Club for allowing us to hold the event there.

Judy and Dennis Brookes



LETTERS to the EDITOR

Dear Residents,

Having just read the latest copy of the WOT Magazine detailing the November 2015 Parade in the articles by David Payne and Jack Haywood, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved and who took part in our parade last November. I am continually astonished at the amount of local residents who turn up and support our parade and I am honoured to be your Parade Marshall. We are looked upon with envious eyes by other rural villages because of what Ratby does on Remembrance Day to honour those who gave their all. Thank you.

Cllr Chris Boothby
Parade Marshall.

Dear Editor,

Can I just start by saying 'A Big Thank You Mr. Cawrey' for planting all these trees here in our village, over the last 30 years, you say! That is fantastic!

I will try to think of this when I attempt to drive through Ratby, battling through the traffic on a daily basis. I am not prone to swearing, but this journey regularly causes expletives. So I will not swear as usual, instead, I will remind myself that as a result of all Mr. Cawrey's house building, we are extremely lucky to have all these wonderful trees here in our village, as compensation!

I will continue to think this if the latest appeal to build on the Burroughs, is finally approved, (might I say, against the villager's wishes, HBBC's wishes and good grief, even the Chief Planning Inspector's wishes) - and we again have a further 350 odd vehicles on our roads. I won't be cursing on my daily grind through the village, I will be thinking, "thank you for planting all these fantastic trees, for covering our glorious open countryside with woodland...so that we no longer have open countryside!"

And yes, I will continue to think of this, when my children are forced to attend schools outside of the area, when there are more accidents on the Markfield Road and when I can no longer even drive, sorry, crawl through Ratby

Don't get me wrong, I'm all for woodland creation. But I think we'd rather keep our countryside as it is right now, thank you very much. We've got enough trees.

Ratby's finest asset, arguably only remaining asset, recognised by even the Representative of the Secretary of State, is its glorious **open** countryside because it is **Just That!** That's right, Open Countryside! Not because it is covered with trees!

Yours,

Fred Ratby

Full Name and Address supplied

This letter has been edited slightly to save space.

However:-

There are differing views out there on these issues. We've heard that many folk are grateful for Mr Cawrey's slower development and the added consideration for the environment, in comparison to what is happening to our neighbours in Glenfield and LFE. Is it inevitable that this open countryside will eventually be lost as alleged housing need grows?

Editor

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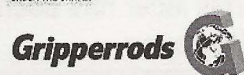
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Thursday Two dine & wine £20.00 Two main meals & a bottle of wine.

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