

JUNE/JULY 2016

ISSUE 178

# WOT!



## About Ratby

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP

# RATBY CHESS CLUB



Ratby Library is welcoming a new venture for the village. On Saturday mornings the current Chess Champion for Kirby Muxloe and Braunstone, Richard Hanscombe, will be available to play, coach or teach anyone interested in learning to play or improving their game. Sessions start at 10.30 am, and a chess set will remain available every day in the library. Richard learned to play when he was sixteen, continued at University, and then took a break due to business and family commitments, only returning to chess after retirement. Richard was East Glamorgan Champion in 2009. He is currently a member of Kirby Muxloe Chess Club, which has kindly made available three chess sets for use in the library.

**Pictured are Gary Richardson and his son, Zac, at the first session on April 16<sup>th</sup>.**



## RATBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

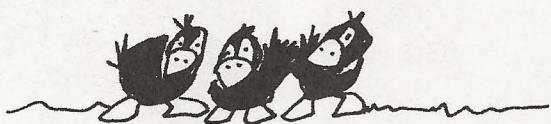
The library is currently open from 9 am until 4 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

On Wednesdays times are from 9 am until 7 pm.

Saturdays 10 am until 2 pm.

The Crow Pie Café is open whenever the Library is. Why not pop in for a sociable tea or coffee after dropping children off at school, or to rest your weary legs on the way home from shopping?

There's a new **Book Exchange**. Bring a book you've read and swap it for another. Donations for this will support your library.



**OAKLANDS  
RIDING SCHOOL**

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

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

## COFFEE MORNING for THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

On Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup> the Church Rooms Coffee morning team organised a special event to celebrate Her Majesty's coming 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

The hall was decorated with red, white and blue bunting, and tables laid in one long row rather like a street party. Fresh flowers adorned the tables, which were covered with white linen clothes, and decorated with festive cards and paper napkins in red, white or blue. And of course there was a wonderful array of cakes to enjoy with a drink.



**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



**Quilteez**

*Patchwork and quilting supplies*

**fabric \* notions \* online**

Gorgeous fabrics at reasonable prices.

Classes available for all levels in patchwork and quilting, dressmaking and textile art.

For more information visit our website, call us on 0116 239 0982 or pop into the shop.

32 Main Street, Ratby, Leicestershire, LE6 0LL

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



## RATBY YARD SALES

On Bank holiday Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> the village was buzzing with people travelling around the various yard sales. This year there were more stalls than ever: a total of eighty! And the rain held off until after the event, when at twelve minutes past three there was a torrential downpour. First to visit the stalls were dealers from outside the village who were interested in vinyl records and toys. They were followed by local families and people from all around Leicestershire, some of whom had been searching the internet for events on the day.

Teas were served in the Church Rooms, where there were also stalls set up by the uniformed groups who meet there.



Pictured are the first shift on the Scout Stall.



The Stall raising money for the Brownies

## BROOKVALE STUDENTS HELP TO CREATE A NEW WOODLAND

Following a period of rain, rain and more rain, Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016 dawned bright and breezy, thank goodness! Wellies and spades at the ready, our Year 7 students prepared to meet a member of staff from The Woodland Trust, to embark on a second year of tree planting around the perimeter of our campus, organised once again by our Science Teacher, Mrs Pattison.

120 Year 7 students, to be precise, planted in excess of 200 young trees and were guided by The Woodland Trust with respect to the depth of planting and the types of soil in which young samplings grow.

Elaine Freeman

## RATBY CO-OPERATIVE BAND

A group of youngsters from the Ratby Brass Band organisation, playing together as 'Inbetweeners' competed in the Leicestershire Brass Band Association under 18 section at Groby Community College in April, and came third with 'Hallelujah Drive,' conducted by Geoff Newman.

The annual MUSIC FEST was yet another fantastic event with sell-out audiences on both nights. Geoff Newman and the Mid Band prepared a superb Tribute to David Bowie.

### Dates for your Diary;

10<sup>th</sup> July Summer Concert at Beaumont Leys School 6pm-9pm. Ring **2386749** for tickets.

14<sup>th</sup> August Melton Park Concert 11am-4pm.

**JULIE'S**  
**HAIRDRESSING**  
MAIN STREET RATBY

Traditional and Modern Styling  
Telephone 239 2406



## BROOKVALE WELCOMES KEY STAGE 2 CHILDREN

Brookvale was delighted, once again, to welcome children from local Primary Schools to two exciting annual events:

The aroma of cooking and baking filled our school corridors on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016, when we were joined by a host of Year 3 children, all eager to participate in our annual 'Bake Off' activity morning!

Aprons at the ready, flour a-flying, under the guidance of Ms Owen, our Food Technology Teacher, the children (and their relevant staff members) got well and truly stuck in to create their very own version of a Pizza Pin Wheel, where they practiced their dough making skills, perfected their knife techniques and learnt how to use an oven safely. Delicious and healthy fillings were loaded on to the pizza base all ready to cook and sample, and washing up and cleaning down was even thoroughly enjoyed!

Well done Year 3. Brookvale looks forward to welcoming you again in the not so distant future, when you begin your Food Technology lessons with us in Year 7.

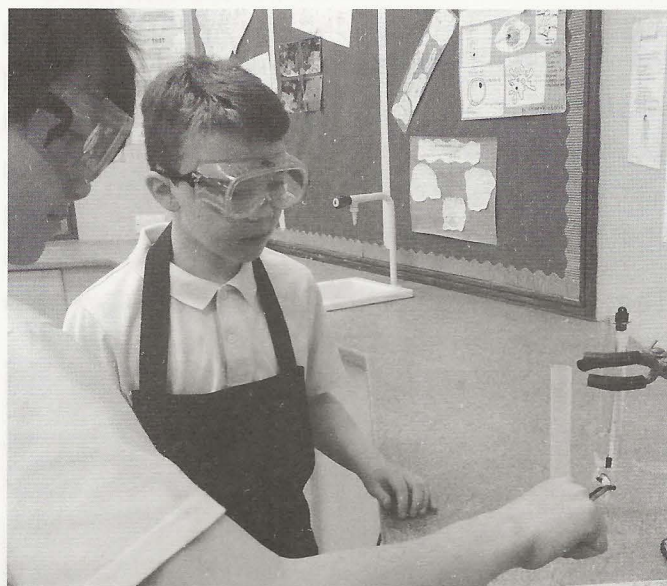
On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016, we were thrilled to host another annual event involving our local Primaries. On this occasion, Mrs Pattison and Mrs Mawbey, two of our Science Teachers, welcomed Year 6 Scientists to our Primary Science Morning.

As this Science morning fell on the day of the Sports Relief charitable event, the activities were centred round that theme. The budding Scientists burnt food to determine which food source gave the most energy, after which exercise was the name of the game, as the children monitored their pulse rate to find out what happened following a period of physical activity. Some of our own Year 8 students assisted the children whilst they used data loggers and recorded their findings.

After such a hectic morning, refreshments for all were enjoyed, and it was a delight to hear the chatter between the children as they reflected on their experiences.

It continues to be a pleasure to meet our future students, and to see them again as they begin the next chapter of their educational lives with us.

**Elaine Freeman**



## ROYAL GARDEN PARTY

### At PARISH CHURCH FETE

The Church Rooms and Gardens will be bustling with a range of attractions on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June.**

There'll be a Bouncy Castle, Penalty Shoot Out, Gladiators and Mr Twister's Magic Show with balloons!

Come along and enjoy Pimms and Strawberries whilst you enjoy listening to Ratby Band.

Children are invited to come in fancy dress, on the theme of their favourite Royal personage.

A day you just can't afford to miss!

Open from **1pm until 4.30.**

## 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."

Call Lisa on 0116 235 6065 or 07711 554609

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

## 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.**





## A SPECIAL LUNCH CLUB

On Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April tables were set out to emulate a street party to celebrate the Queen's birthday for the people who regularly attend our lunch club each month.

A lovely time was had by all with a 3 course meal, cooked and served by the team from Ratby Parish Church. If anyone wants to know more about our lunch club which is open to anyone who is either elderly or lives on their own please contact **Joan Hawkins** (Pastoral Assistant ( tel:3670653 )



## RATBY'S ANNUAL SHOW

The show takes place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2pm at Ratby Sports Club, Desford Lane, Ratby. LE6 0LE. There are 100 classes to enter including vegetables, fruit, floral arrangements, cookery, preserves, poetry, photography and a variety of handicrafts. A section for young people under 16 includes photography, miniature garden, veg or fruit monster, and cupcakes. Schedules can be picked up from the library, post office, and shops and businesses in the village. The show is open to all, and you don't have to live in Ratby to take part.

**DEADLINE for issue 179  
AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2016  
FRIDAY 8th JULY**

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)

## ST GEORGE'S DAY FAIR

Ratby Methodist Chapel was filled with laughter and conversation for this special event on Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The refreshment area was busy as usual serving drinks and specialities such as bacon butties. And there were stalls selling everything from bric a brac and cakes to plants and books.

There was a raffle with a hamper full of goodies to win, and a games stall, where for just 50p you could try your skill at spooning marbles through a small hole into a tub, lift maltesers by sucking through a straw, and guess the name of the dragon. All of which were fun and challenging in equal measures.

Pictured are on the left, **Carole Weston**, and right **Sue Lawton** displaying the colourful scarves on their stall.



## 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)**



## A GRAND REUNION

A reunion was held at The Plough Inn on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April for friends from Ratby Methodist Chapel from the late 1950s and 1960s. Some travelling here from Southampton, Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire.

The Plough excelled, by providing us all with a lovely roast dinner. After a few hours of reminiscing, the Reverend Trevor Grewcock entertained us by reading his poem mentioning a few of the old village characters.

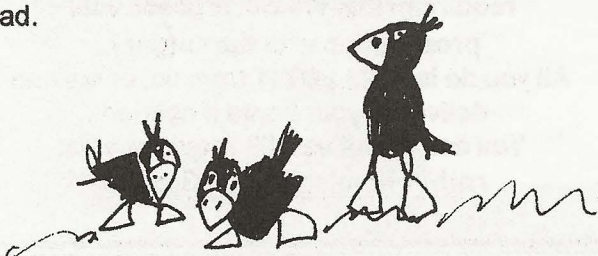
Jill Hurd

### REMEMBERING RATBY

For those who've moved away  
this really is a special day;  
Coming back to where we started,  
Spent our youth, grew up, then parted.  
Left the old familiar faces,  
Found ourselves in distant places,  
Settling down with husbands, wives,  
Raising families, making lives –  
As did you who stayed right here  
In dear old Ratby, or somewhere near.

Now the years have seen us lads and lasses  
Turn into pensioners with pills and bus passes;  
But memories still linger of days long gone,  
When there weren't any speed bumps and the sun  
always shone.  
When with just half-a-crown you'd have more than  
enough  
For the Fish Shop, the Majestic, and five Woodbines  
to puff.  
Days when Geary's sold bread and Freeman's sold  
meat,  
And the Wolsey had a factory in Stamford Street;  
When Wal Ingram cut hair in a cloud of tobacco,  
Short back and sides, and Brylcreem for lacquer;  
When Winston Stevenson sold most of the papers,  
And Stanley and Bernard Harrison were Drapers.

And Freddie Moore's Post Office paid out your  
pension,  
With Charlie Dilks' Sweet Shop next door worth a  
mention.  
Master Howitt, the Chemist, could sort your  
prescription,  
Billy Burton's Christmas Club ran a weekly  
subscription;  
And Astill's ran buses, alongside Midland Red,  
And Steve Preston measured you when you were  
dead.



Joe Lemmon, with a mouthful of tacks, kept us  
shod,  
The Church and Chapel saw we held on to God,  
The Railway, Bull's Head and The Plough filled our  
glasses,  
And the schoolteachers caned kids that disrupted  
classes.

Sid Astill sold petrol, and mended the motors,  
Mainly Austins and Fords, never Kia's or Toyota's.

The village had plenty of farms in those days:  
Bails', Brooks's, Birds', Ratcliffe's, and Neal's at Old  
Hayes.

The Silk Lady lurked round the back of Church  
Lane,

And if folk went on holiday, it was Skeggy, not  
Spain.

What passed for "the night life" wasn't too wild back  
then,  
'Cos the street lights went out round about half past  
ten.

Though the Health Service picked up after the war,  
Still we didn't get posh clinics with matching décor;  
No appointment system or cancelling by text –  
Just turn up and wait till the Doctor said "Next!"  
But, with luck, we'd get med'cine for troubles and  
toils,  
And them with a blockage sent for Edgar Boyles!

There were no Mobile Phones or Computers to buy,  
And an I-Pad were a pad to put over your eye.  
Wax candles were for blackouts, and never came  
scented,  
And we didn't wear Jeans 'cos they hadn't been  
invented.  
Persil and Rinso kept our whites sparkling white,  
And we all had a bath every Friday night!

How deprived we all were in those days here at  
Ratby?  
But we're all still alive.....and how lucky can that  
be?!

**Get Fit And Healthy**  
*with Charlotte Tomlinson, MSc*

**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**





## HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II 90<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Village organisations are working together to put on a special event day for this occasion.

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June is the day.** Come and join in. There's something for everyone. Starting at 10 and finishing at 12 noon you can enjoy refreshments in the library and view a display and film presentation by Ratby History Group, or pop into the Church Rooms for a sociable coffee morning.

In the afternoon there is a choice of venues again. The Parish Church will be open from 2 pm until 4 pm to allow visitors to see Church Records and History. From there you can visit the Village Hall for afternoon tea and an Art exhibition. Families are well catered for at The Methodist Chapel, with children's activities, stalls and tea/coffee from 2pm until 5 pm.

**Donations will be given to AIR AMBULANCE**



## GROBY OLD HALL Ratby History Society

Members and visitors heard an interesting talk by local historian, David Ramsay on the history of Groby Old Hall. The talk was held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March, and featured information on the 'Time Team' archaeological dig which had taken place there in 2010. You can find more on this topic on the Groby website:  
[www.groby.org.uk/history/old\\_hall.html](http://www.groby.org.uk/history/old_hall.html)

After a refreshment break, when there was a chance to see archaeological finds from around Ratby, and browse information and maps, Doug Harwood gave a fascinating talk on the impact of the Grey family and the Bradgate Estates on the village of Ratby.

## COMING SOON! RATBY GUIDES!

The leaders of Ratby Brownies will be starting a new Guides group this summer, for girls aged 10 ½ to 14.

The first session will be held on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August from 6.15 to 7.45.

For more information contact Brown Owl, Guide Leader on **07464 705797** or via email;

[wigrida@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wigrida@hotmail.co.uk)

## 90's COFFEE MORNING

The annual 90's coffee morning, which is attached to the regular coffee morning held by the parish church, will take place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August from 10.30 to 11.45am in Ratby Church Rooms, Church Lane. Invitations to our guests will be sent in July. If you are a regular at the church coffee mornings, this one is always a bit special but please feel free to attend as usual. This is your opportunity to meet some of our more senior citizens.

## RATBY PRAYER CHAIN

The prayer chain at Ratby Parish Church offers prayer for people and situations. For the past 3 years this has been accessed by talking to someone from Church, phoning Ellen on 0116 2387959, or leaving your request in the Prayer Box in Church or in the letter box at the office at the Church Rooms.

We now also have a contact on the Church website, this is as follows:

<http://prayerchain.ratbychurch.org.uk>

All contacts will be confidential and there is no need to give your name if that is your wish.



## POND DIPPING

Come and join us at Ratby Community Orchard Pond on Taverner Drive to discover how the pond life is doing this year. Wear your wellies and old clothes! Bring a net if you have one too. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

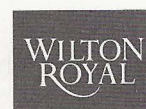
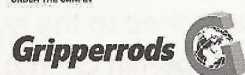
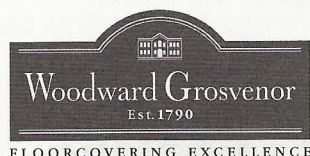
**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August from 6.30 until 8pm.**



# ***Porter's Discount Carpets***

121/3 STATION ROAD, RATBY  
Telephone 239 3238 or Mobile 07872 488271

## **SHOP AT HOME SERVICE**



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

## **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)

## **Ratby Post Office & Village Store**



**Come and see our new look store – You'll be amazed at the choice and prices!**

**30 MAIN STREET - TEL: 0116 2393001**

Shop Hours:  
Mon to Sat  
6:00am – 5:30pm

Post Office Hours:  
Mon to Fri  
9:00am to 5:30pm  
Sat 9:00am to 12:30pm