

WOT!

About Ratby

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP



RATBY CUBS GOING GREEN



Pictured is the group posing at the end of the enterprise.

Photos by Tad Zapasnik

1st Ratby Cub troop have been working towards their Conservation Badge. Cub Leader, Akela Abbey Murby contacted John Cawrey to ask whether there was anything they could be involved in.

So on a chilly evening in March around twenty cubs gathered along the newest village road, Bancroft Way, to plant native trees and hedgerow alongside the fence. There were some standard trees to plant for impact, Field Maple and Holly, and plenty of hedgerow whips. This will be a mixed hedgerow of native plants; Common Hawthorn, Crab Apple, Dogwood and Purging Buckthorn. John Cawrey and the firm's Landscape Contractor Greg Thurlow were there to assist the cub leaders. Getting the holes dug in the hard, clay soil was tough work, but the children set to with enthusiasm.

Turn to page 2 for more information



Missing some back issues of WOT? Check out our Web Site "WOTABOUTRATBY", hosted and maintained by itech repair.

RATBY CUBS

Continued from page one.

'I think it's all about the environment,' said Emily. Someone else added, 'I think its tiring.' But they all seemed to enjoy joining in and being outdoors.

Residents of the new houses along the Way will certainly enjoy this wildlife corridor as it grows and develops.

The Cubs have also learnt how to separate waste that is recyclable and non-recyclable, how long some things take to decompose, and how to save energy and water in the home. They have researched at home about renewable energy. They have made bird feeders out of plastic bottles and spoons, and a fat ball bird feeder.



A Cub challenge for you;

Can you guess how long the following items take to decompose?

Glass Bottle
Plastic Bottle
Aluminium Can
Foam cup
Tin can
Plastic bag
Cigarette end
Apple core
Newspaper
Paper towel

Answers on page 11.

(Bancroft Way was so named after a suggestion by Jill Hurd. It commemorates Jack Bancroft who was a founder member of Ratby Band.)



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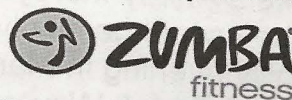
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RATBY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Celebrating 70 years!

The Women's Institute is celebrating its 100th Anniversary this year. The movement started in Britain in 1915 with the formation of the Llanfairpwll WI, Anglesey, North Wales on 16th September 1915. Ratby WI celebrates its 70th Anniversary this year and to mark both occasions will be holding a Cream Tea Event on Sunday 27th September between 3pm and 5pm at the Village Hall, Main Street. Minute Books and photographs will be available to view, plus examples of some of our members craft, flower, food, and writing skills. Why not come along and find out more about us and enjoy a cream tea with our compliments.

RATBY ART SHOW

Once again Ratby is to have an Open Art Exhibition in the Village Hall. The show will be held on Saturday July 18th and Sunday 19th from 10 am. until 3 pm. There will be pictures for sale, refreshments and a plant stall. All proceeds for Alzheimer Research UK. Contact Chris Talbot on **0116 239 0475** for more information.

NEW CO-OP STORE

The new store is due to open at the end of June. Write in and let us know what you think of it!



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OVER THE RAINBOW

Ratby Methodist Church is the venue for a special performance on **Saturday 4th July** at 7pm.

The Chantry Choir and Brigade singers will entertain us in support of Rainbow's Hospice.

Adult tickets are just £7, children £3.

Phone **0116 287 4042** for details.

POND DIPPING



Ratby Community Orchard group will be organising the annual Pond Dipping at the pond site on Tavener Drive at 7pm on Wednesday August 5th. Subject to good weather, and the condition of the pond!

Children are welcome of course, but must be accompanied by an adult. We provide some nets and viewing trays, but you are welcome to bring your own. Wear your wellies!



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GOOD TIMES FOR RATBY PRE-SCHOOL

At the recent AGM and Parents Evening held in April, Ratby Pre-school announced its first small profit for the first time in a number of years.

The economic situation in combination with several bad debtors had taken their toll, but the registered charity can now re-invest these profits into new resources and equipment for the children to enjoy and learn from.

This great news comes at a time when the Pre-school is starting to meet with the new intake to discuss their needs, whilst preparing to say goodbye to those children who will be starting at primary school in the autumn.

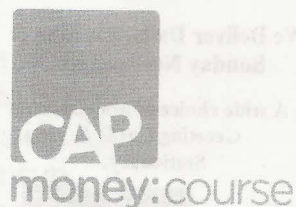
Mrs Anstey, Foundation Stage teacher at Ratby Primary School gave a brilliant talk at the AGM and also showed parents around the Foundation facilities. She said "Ratby Pre-school has a truly unique link with our school; this really helps the children have as smooth a transition as possible". The accompanied group visits to school are particularly beneficial. She went on to say that it also helps the teachers, as they have great opportunities to get to know the children before they start school in the autumn.



Fundraising for the past year is on target with the Christmas Fair, a Jumble Sale and a spot at the recent Yard Sales all doing really well. Their Summer Fair & Sponsored Tots Toddle will feature fairground rides, bouncy castle, cakes, teas & coffees and a fancy dress competition amongst many other attractions. They'd really welcome your support on **Saturday 13th June - 1.30 to 4.00pm at the Church Rooms, Ratby.**



Can't remember which issue that article was in, search for it on our new Website **WOTABOUTRATBY**, hosted and maintained by Nathan.

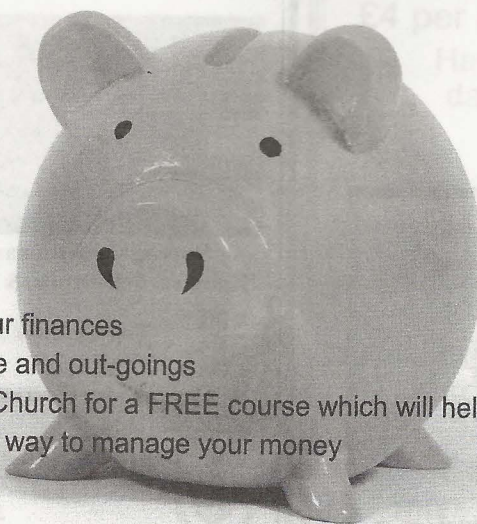


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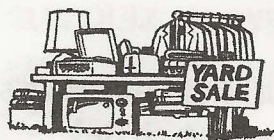
LETTERS and ARTICLES

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.

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What a fabulous day was had by people participating in the first Ratby Yard Sales. We were blessed with glorious weather and people came from far and wide: Derby; Ilkeston; Hinckley, in and around Leicester and of course from Ratby itself. We had in excess of 45 stall holders across the village many of whom were delighted with their day's work, getting rid of their unwanted possessions. The Church had a lovely flow of people arriving throughout the day in search of a much needed cuppa and of course some lovely homemade cake. Given the feedback we have already received the event will doubtless be repeated again next year. A great result for the environment!

Sue Hooper



RATBY CHURCH FETE

Saturday 27th June 1-30pm to 4-30pm

Summer is almost upon us and so it's fete time again. Come and join us for a fun packed afternoon at the Parish Church the Church rooms and gardens. We have something for everyone, Lots of stalls to browse around, games to play, bouncy castle and face painting. For the "big kids" we have the gladiator game, or you can try to "Bend it Like Beckham" on the penalty shoot-out.

As a special treat for the children this year come and meet Mr Twister at his magic show. As usual we have lots of refreshments to satisfy everyone's taste. Hot Dogs Ice cream, Pimms and Strawberries and our lovely tea room with delicious home-made cakes and tea. We look forward to seeing you there.

Jean Hawkins

RATBY CO-OPERATIVE BAND Impressive Showing for Ratby Band at Blackpool Contest

The Ratby Co-operative Brass Band recently claimed an impressive result during the Spring Festival Contest at Blackpool on 9th May.

The band finished 5th out of 21 competing bands in the Senior Cup section of the contest after being drawn to play last. They performed Eric Ball's masterpiece "Festival Music" to a large audience in Blackpool's Winter Gardens, delivering a performance almost good enough to qualify for the Grand Shield contest next year, as four bands are invited from the Senior Cup contest.

Michael Fowles, the Ratby Co-operative Brass Band's Musical Director, said: "The band gave a very musical performance of an incredibly difficult set work. We received very positive feedback from various people who heard us play. Narrowly missing out on qualification for the prestigious Grand Shield contest again shows great consistency. This is the 2nd time in recent years the band has come 5th so we are knocking on that door very strongly."

The result from the Spring Festival is the latest in a string of strong performances from the Ratby Co-operative Brass Band, as they also claimed 5th place at the Midlands Regional Brass Band Championships in March, being tipped by many in the audience and the banding Press for a higher finish.

Interested in taking up an instrument? The Ratby Co-operative Brass Band Organisation has 5 bands to suit all ages and abilities. Whether you are seasoned veteran or just want to come and give it a blow, Ratby offer a warm, friendly welcome to all. For more information visit the band's website at www.ratbyband.co.uk.

Summer Concert

You can hear all of Ratby's Bands at their annual Summer Concert to be held on Sunday 5th July from 6 til 9pm at Beaumont Leys School.

Phone Sheralyn on 0116 2386749 for tickets.

LETTERS

Dear Editor,

Ratby is an ideal village to live in, with countryside all round and some lovely walks. What a pity then that one of our best country lanes is being spoilt by fly tipping - and not just the usual eyesore of unwanted and illegally tipped household rubbish, but very much unwanted remains of drug production.

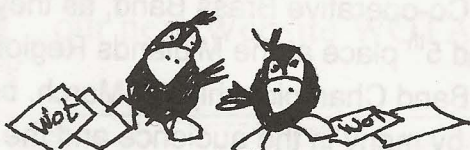
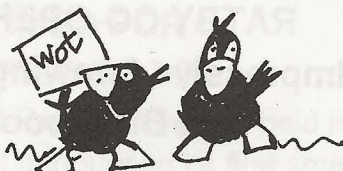
A walk along Burroughs Road towards the ford over the past few months has seen the dumping of large root balls pulled from pots, with the remains of stalks showing, and the odd leaf, easily identified as Marijuana.

Six to eight of these spent plants have been left in gateways along the road on three occasions this year, and a glance over nearby fences reveals others that have clearly been there some time.

The police have been informed on at least three occasions, but there is little they can do without visual sighting of the vehicle being used.

CCTV can be an unwanted intrusion into perfectly respectable lives - but may be the only way to stop what is clearly a thriving business in the production of illegal and dangerous drugs.

Name and address supplied.



**WATCH
BATTERIES
& STRAPS**

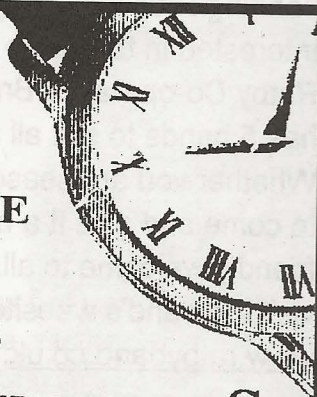
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Dear Editor,

The heart-warming story of Jill and Derry Hurd's Golden Wedding Anniversary in which Rev. Helen Hayes is mentioned needs a little clarification.

Helen served her time as curate in Ratby with the then Rector, Rev. Peter Hooper, and then became a pioneer priest to the homeless in the west end of Leicester, based at the Church of the Martyrs, Westcotes Drive, where former Ratby Rector Richard Worsfold is the incumbent.

In addition to her work with the choir 'Groby Sings' Helen also runs 'Sound Café,' a choir for the homeless. She has also sung with '8tave,' a choir made up of eight Anglican Clergy from Leicester Diocese, who have made two CDs. It is also worth a mention that Jill Hurd sang for many years in the choir of Ratby Church. 'Hoz' Gamble.

Thank you for that additional information!
Editor.

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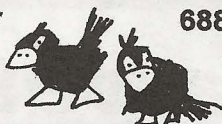
CUB QUIZ ANSWERS

ITEM	DECOMPOSITION TIME
Glass Bottle	1 million years
Plastic Bottle	450 years
Aluminium can	80-200 years
Foam Cup	50 years
Tin Can	50 years
Plastic bag	10-20 years
Cigarette end	1-5 years
Apple core	2 months
Newspaper	6 weeks
Paper towel	2-4 weeks

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

Candidates in alphabetical order:

Christopher Boothby	1216 votes	Elected
Peter Hancox	551 votes	Elected
Avril Hunnybun	695 votes	Elected
Kenneth Hunnybun	738 votes	Elected
Kerrie Johnson	565 votes	Elected
Merle Joyce	557 votes	Elected
Jenny O'Shea	898 votes	Elected
Ozzy O'Shea	1558 votes	Elected
Graham Stanley	443 votes	
Bob Tasker	688 votes	Elected



DEADLINE for issue 173
August / September 2015
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Ratby's Annual Show

Saturday 8th August
Ratby Sports Club

If you haven't already done so, show schedules can be picked up from Ratby Post Office, the library, and most shops and businesses around the village.

The schedule contains details of all the classes to enter including fruits and vegetables, bread and cake making, wines and soft drinks, preserves, chutneys and pickles, plant and floral sections, knitting, crocheting and embroidery, and the ever popular photography and poetry sections. Hints for showing and show rules are given, together with a recipe for a delicious fruit cake to bake. We welcome everyone to take part, and you don't have to live in Ratby to enter. The show committee wish to express their gratitude for the generosity and support of people and businesses in Ratby, who have kindly donated trophies for the show.

A Quick Tip for Flower Arrangers

When cutting fresh flowers for arrangements, use a craft knife or sharp penknife. Using scissors or breaking flowers off with your hand tends to compress the stems, making it harder for them to take up water in a vase.

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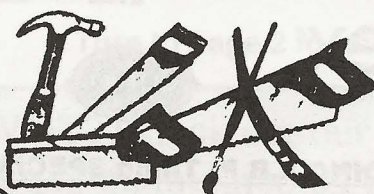


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