

JUNE/JULY 2012

ISSUE 154



# WOT!

## About Ratby

PUBLISHED BY RATBY SCOUT GROUP



# RATBY CELEBRATES THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

Ratby celebrated the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in style. There were street parties, Church Bell's pealing and a Beacon was lit on the Parish Church Tower. Ratby Parish Council convened a series of meetings for local groups who worked together to plan and organise a special Diamond Jubilee Day at Ratby Sports' Club on Monday June 4<sup>th</sup>. Crowds of villagers turned out to enjoy the events despite the cool weather.



Lewis Benfield proudly wears his winning Jubilee hat! A deserved first place. The hat features a Jubilee party with table laden with sandwiches, cakes and a chocolate fountain.



Jessica Smith takes up the apple challenge!

**More Jubilee Pictures and stories  
Inside this special issue!**



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## LOCAL HISTORIAN WINS AWARD

Doug Harwood is to receive an award from The British Association for Local History for 'Personal Achievement.' It is in recognition of the contribution he has made to Ratby through the Ratby Local History Group.

It was his initiative that saw the Group set up in 2001, since when it has continued to flourish. He has edited and contributed heavily to the 4 Volumes of 'The History of Ratby.' He has been responsible for the plaques which identify the Lost Yards of Ratby, and for the signs marking historic routes; The Stattie and Church Farm Walk. He has led annual walks to the Bury Camp and Old Hays.

The History Group Committee had no hesitation in nominating him for the award, which is to be presented in Manchester in June.

**Bryan Lewis**  
Secretary.

Congratulations to Doug! Editor.



## RATBY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

On Friday, 28 September 2012, Ratby Local History Group will be presenting an evening devoted to the "History of Ratby's Bus Services".

When bus travel was first introduced in the village, there quickly developed competition between four different bus proprietors. If you have any information, ideas, memories or photographs relevant to this topic, would you please contact Doug Harwood (L.2394168).

## RATBY COMMUNITY ORCHARD

Our annual **Pond Dipping** at the village pond, Taverner Drive will take place at 7 pm. on Wednesday August 15<sup>th</sup>.

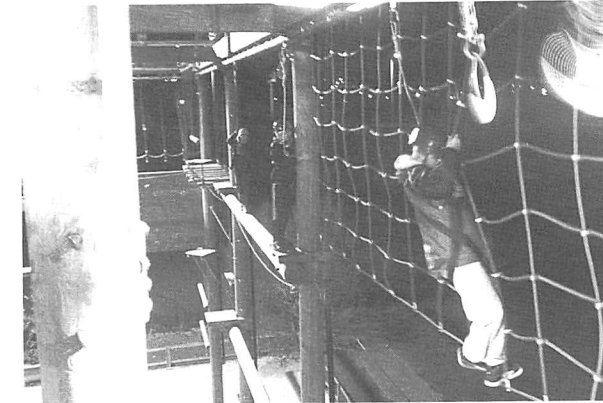
Don't forget to wear your wellies and bring along a net if you have one, and a white plastic tub for collecting and observing.

We reserve the right to cancel if there are adverse weather conditions or a lack of water in the pond.

**Children must be accompanied by an adult.**

## 1st RATBY SCOUTS

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March, we met at the Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre for an evening of fun, excitement and adventure as a reward for delivering the WOT for the past year which also went toward our community badge.



Once kitted out in our harness and safety helmets we had to climb to the top of the 10m high tower (which was a lot of stairs).



Once at the top we had to be clipped to the safety line. We then took it in turns to make our way around, this tested our nerve as we jumped, swung, crawled and climbed our way around the Aerial Trekk.

Then we tried the Power Fan where we had to step off a 10m high platform with nothing but fresh air below us as we experienced a free fall with just our safety rope to save us.

*"It was heart pounding, scary & very high. It was awesome"*

Luke

*"It got your adrenalin going"*

Ashley

*"I would love to go again, amazing"*

Rebekah

*"The Power Fan was scary at first but couldn't wait to do it again"*

Dan

**Can't wait for the next adventure**  
1<sup>st</sup> Ratby Scouts.




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# Ratby Diamond Jubilee Day

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2012 the sun shone after a previous day of non-stop rain and upwards of 450 people visited the Ratby Diamond Jubilee Day at the Ratby Sports Club ground.

The Parish Council spearheaded and sponsored the event but it would not have taken place without the tremendous support from village organisations, all worthy of mention:

- Sports Club for hosting the event, providing marquees, gazebos and display space in the hall
- History Group displayed archive photography, a film and text from the Coronation
- Village Society had memorabilia & Roll a Penny
- Women's Institute provided tea and cakes
- Methodist Church held a 'Name the Teddy' (it was Victoria) and ping-pong ball game and also provided tables, staging, chairs
- Ratby Parish Church - gazebos
- Village Hall provided tables, chairs
- Community Orchard had a variety of games involving apples (including a bow and arrow in one)
- The Allotment Group ran a stall.
- Parish Plan Map provided a treasure hunt
- Ratby Community group did face painting
- Individuals from many of the groups provided sandwiches for the free children's tea
- Others ran games including penalty shoot out & football
- Long alley skittles
- Pop Dance Group demonstration
- Various races for children including egg and spoon, running, obstacle & sack races.
- Hat or Crown competition (in red, white & blue)
- 12 Stalls from the Village Society Art and Craft Fayre displayed an amazing range of items which you could smell, taste, wear, look at or play with
- Raffle with the main prize a hamper of food and drinks. This and other prizes were donated by local businesses and individuals
- First Ratby Scouts who provided contact for First Aid cover.
- Apologies if you or your group have not been mentioned. Your support was also valuable and appreciated.

At 10.15pm a Jubilee beacon was lit on top of the Parish Church Tower. This was heralded by a Fanfare played by members of Ratby Co-operative Band, followed by the National Anthem. Approximately 200+ people attended this. The time of 10.15 was set by the Pageant Master and the crowd counted down from 10. After a slight flickering pause, the flame rose into the night sky. Thanks must be given to Rev. Peter Hooper and the Church who allowed the beacon to be sited on the tower.

On this day and night Ratby residents, plus some visitors joined in the celebration of the 60year Diamond Jubilee reign of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

Thank you to all of those who helped to organise the event and to all who attended. After such a success, with all village groups working together, perhaps we should consider holding this sort of event again!

**With heartfelt thanks from Ratby Parish Council**



# JUBILEE TEA PARTIES



We were made aware of three street parties during the Jubilee weekend, and here they are! If you held a similar event why not let us know, and we'll report it in the next issue of Wot?



**Some of the over 150 participants at the Markfield Road 'Sunshine Houses' Party.**



**Residents of Bell Close.**



**Residents of Ash Close.**

Photos by Alan Sims

## YOUR JUBILEE !

Write in and tell us what you thought of the Jubilee, your own events family activity, or a Village Event!

We would also love to hear memories of the Coronation in 1953. Does anyone out there

**DEADLINE for issue 155  
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2012**

**FRIDAY 13th July**

**EDITOR 239 3367**

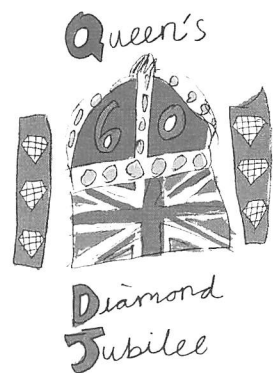
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# AN ALBUM OF PHOTOGRAPHS RATBY DIAMOND JUBILEE DAY



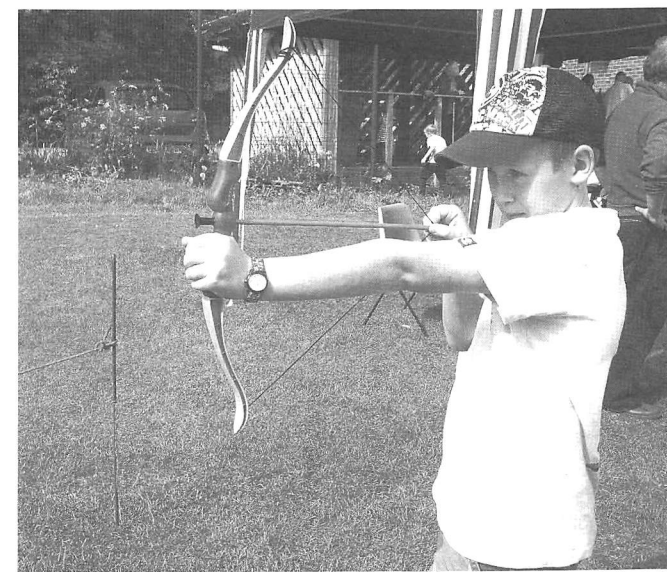
A range of craft stalls proved very popular.



Ratby WI provided teas and scrumptious cakes in their usual inimitable style!



Megan Fowler and her mum Clare enjoy the day.



Daniel Payne aims for success.



Holly Lovell enjoys having her face painted.



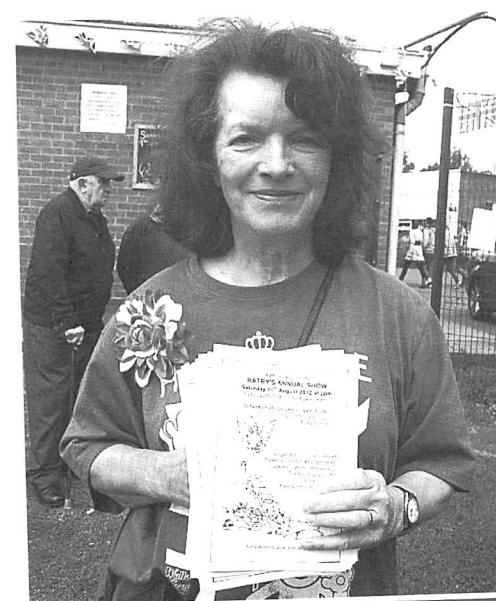
Carol Measures and Merle Joyce at the Raffle stall.



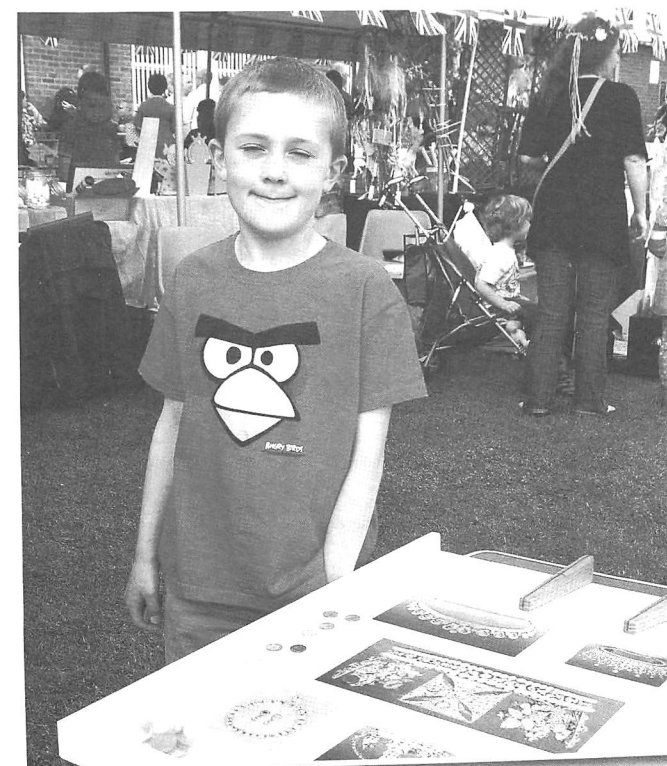
Joyce and Jack Haywood deliberate at the Village Treasure Hunt game.



Amelie and Ellis Gilmore in their Jubilee hats.



Jane Rayne handing out schedules for the Annual Show.



Alexander Long achieved the highest score on the roll a penny game.





## JUBILATE

Diamond Jubilee of our gracious Queen, sixty years since her succession; such lengthy reigns are seldom seen - a right royal cause for celebration.

This is the time for jubilation, from Land's End to Orkney Isles, to celebrate across the nation with Lords and Ladies and farmer Giles.

To each, and all, an inspiration; a lady of courage, and of strength, not immune from tribulation during lifetime's wondrous length.

Stamina for many a visitation, both at home, and abroad. Welcomes sincere with fond acclamation and, by all, universally adored.

Hang the bunting, fly the flag, 'til beacons spark into conflagration - if we weren't Brits we might, almost, brag. "Long Live the Queen" our proclamation!

Hoz  
May 2012

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## A JUBILEE PEAL

On the morning of Tuesday June 5<sup>th</sup> Ratby Church bells rang out joyfully to celebrate the Jubilee.

The peal comprised 5040 changes in 7 methods;

Oxford Treble Bob  
Kent Treble Bob  
Beverley Surprise  
Surfleet Surprise  
Cambridge Surprise  
St Clement's College Bob  
Plain Bob.

The peal was rung for two hours and forty nine minutes. Congratulations and many thanks to the ringers who came from far and wide!

**Pictured in the bell tower after the Peal are;**  
Back row Left to right:

**Colin Aked** from Nottinghamshire. **Barry Brown** from Anstey, **Anthony Haywood**, of Ratby.

Front row, left to right:

**Carol Brown** from Whetstone, **Francis Fisher**, **Tower Captain** from Groby, **John Cook** from Countesthorpe.



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## JUBILEE BEACON

Ratby Parish Council organised and funded the beacon for Ratby Church. Villagers gathered at around 10pm, and a fanfare was played by members of Ratby Co-operative Band. The beacon was lit at 10.15 pm.

A cheer rose from the crowd, and the Band played us through the National Anthem.

Photo by Steve Boud



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## SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB RATBY CHURCH ROOMS

In October we launched our lunch club in the Church rooms. Sunday lunch has traditionally been a family occasion but it can be a very lonely time for some people so we thought it would be an opportunity for us as a church to offer a hand of friendship to elderly or disabled people and also to those people who live alone, by inviting them to join us for a three course meal.

We do not charge anything for the meal as this is not a fund raising initiative however we do appreciate a small donation to help towards the costs of providing the food, currently we have 29 people on our list but we would like to increase the numbers of people attending. The lunch club meets on the last Sunday of each month.

Thanks to our fabulous volunteer drivers we can provide transport for those people who are unable to get to the Church Hall themselves.

If you would like further details or would like to book a place please contact **Joan Hawkins** (Pastoral Assistant at Ratby Parish Church)  
Telephone 2393130

Email- [jvajhawkins@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jvajhawkins@hotmail.co.uk)

or Jo Mangham Telephone 2395218

Email - [joke16@talktalk.net](mailto:joke16@talktalk.net)

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## RATBY SPORTS JFC ANNUAL SOCCER SCHOOL COMING SOON!



Our Soccer School is open to boys and girls of all abilities from reception class up to Year 4 Primary School age. Focus is on fun and enjoyment with all participants receiving a certificate and a medal.

This year our soccer school will be held over 3 Saturday's in June (9th, 16th & 23rd) from 10.00am to 12.30pm. During the three weeks there will be a variety of events including – Penalty Shoot out, Crossbar Challenge, Skill's and Agility, Speed-Gun, plus our special World Cup Games! With trophies awarded for each year group for all of these events.

We hope to see as many children there as possible and encourage new players to come along. We are an FA Charter Standard Club and all of our coaches are a minimum of level 1 qualified with current CRB checks in place.

Please look out for the flyers / registration forms or if you would like some more information please e-mail [rsjfc.secretary@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rsjfc.secretary@hotmail.co.uk) or telephone Steve Munn on 07534 261777 (Ratby Sports Juniors Club Secretary).

## RATBY VILLAGE SOCIETY

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June-** Diamond Jubilee Table Quiz. Wear your glitz and glamour.

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> August-** 'Against the Odds' - a talk by David Scott touching on the lives of some remarkable blind people.

Meetings are held in the Village Hall, Main Street at 8pm. Members £1.60, casual guests £2.60. Refreshments inc.

**RATBY'S ANNUAL SHOW-SATURDAY 11<sup>th</sup> AUGUST at RATBY SPORTS' CLUB. Open to the public at 2pm.**

More classes this year! There will be a young people's section for exhibitors under 16. Please take part! We need your entries to ensure the show continues as a successful village event. Schedules available from local businesses and the library, or by phoning; **238 6836 or 239 5350.**

**You don't have to live in Ratby...open to all!**

**Pictured is Jane Rayne giving out schedules at the Diamond Jubilee Day.**

## RATBY VILLAGE FETE & FUN RUN

The Annual Village Fete organised by Ratby Parish Church is scheduled for 23<sup>rd</sup> June It will be held in and around the Church Hall and gardens. There will as usual be lots of stalls, family games, live music from Ratby Junior Band and 2 B dancers as well as the tea room where you will be able to get a lovely cup of tea and some delicious home made cakes. In celebration of the Olympics the fete will have a very definite Olympics theme with mini Olympics for the children.



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## RECIPE

### RATBY DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION FRUIT CAKE

#### Ingredients

225g (8oz) soft margarine  
225g (8oz) soft brown sugar  
4 medium eggs, beaten  
3 tablespoons milk  
225g (8oz) mixed dried fruit  
25g (1oz) walnuts, coarsely chopped  
350g (12oz) self raising flour  
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon  
½ teaspoon mixed spice

#### Method

1. Grease a deep 20cm (8") cake tin and line with greased greaseproof paper.
2. Place all ingredients in a mixing bowl and beat well together for 5 minutes.
3. Turn into the prepared tin and bake at 180C, 350F, Gas Mark 4 for 1 ¼ hours.
4. Leave in tin for 5 minutes then turn onto a wire rack to cool. Remove greaseproof paper.
5. Enjoy!

Graville

The June celebrations may be over, but we have a whole year of Jubilee baking to go until the celebrations commemorating the Coronation next year!



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