

Ramsey
Open for Discovery

Meet Rammy the Ram in this special
Ramsey Activity Pack
of puzzles & games
for Children



For information about exploring Ramsey visit www.discoverramsey.co.uk

Help Rammy find the right path!

Rammy visits a different place in Ramsey, each day of the week.

What day is it today?

.....

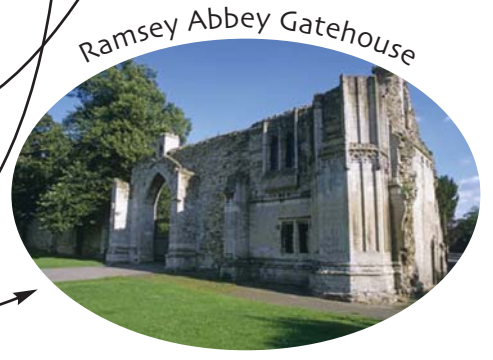
Which path should Rammy take?

Rammys favourite 'Things to do'

Monday	Abbey Gatehouse, then feeding the ducks on Church Green
Tuesday	1940s Camp & Ramsey's Mortuary Chapels
Wednesday	Walled Kitchen Garden to sketch
Thursday	Rural Museum with a picnic
Friday	Old Docks
Saturday	Elevensies in town and shopping
Sunday	Fenland light railway



Please check our website for opening times and more details



Where's Rammy?

Can you spot whereabouts Rammy was, when these photos were taken?
Write the photo number in the little circles on the map.
See back page for answers



Precious cargo

Ramsey was once an island surrounded by water for many miles. In this old drawing you can see the boats along Bury Brook which was known as 'The Great Whyte' which flowed through the town centre. In 1852 the brook was channelled into long pipes and covered over to form a very wide road - Great Whyte! Bury Brook still runs under the road, from the Old Dock to the Golf course.



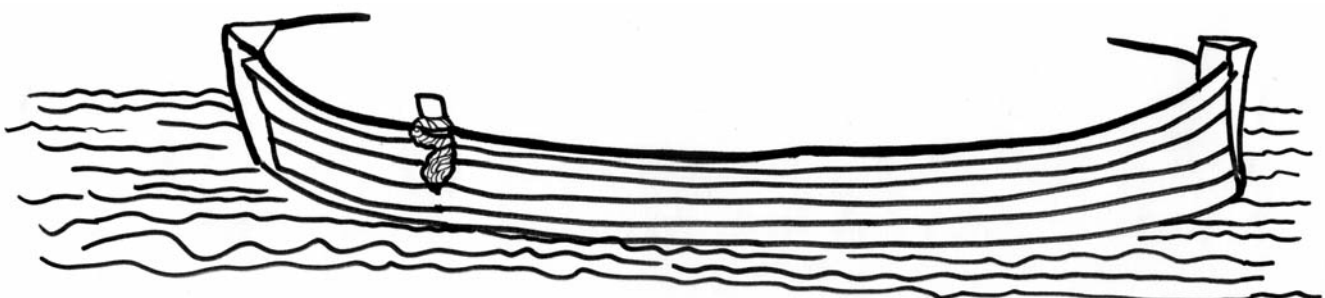
RAMSEY: THE GREAT WHYTE in 1822



Can you find this image on one of the stained glass windows in the Church of St. Thomas à Becket?

The scene depicts monks from Ramsey Abbey returning by boat from Soham, across the fens one foggy night. In the boat they have their precious cargo: the relic of St Felix. Notice the beautiful cloth covering the box.

Imagine you have to travel by boat, from Ramsey back to your home - what would you take in the boat with you? Draw your own 'precious cargo' in the boat below.



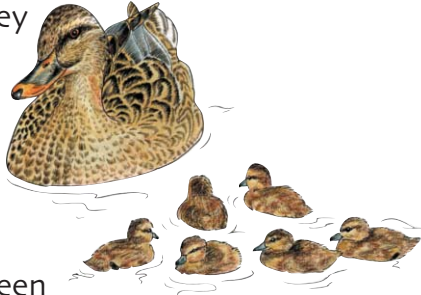
Church Green - What???

What was the duck pond used for?

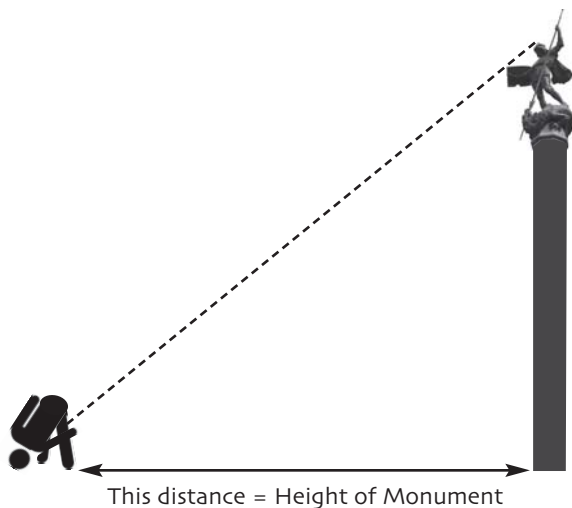
What is the height of the War memorial?

What type of tree grows on the Green?

The **duck pond** on Church Green, is now home to a variety of ducks, but years ago it was used as a watering hole for horses and the area was known as Horse Pond Green. Nearby, through the gates on the opposite side of the road, the former Abbey Stables and Coach house dating from 1837 are still visible. The local pub is called The Three Horse Shoes - another hint to the former use of the green.



The pleasant, peaceful Abbey Green (in front of the Abbey Gate House) is where people used to gather on their way to the Abbey precincts and apparently, also where the annual three-day Fair was held.



This is a fun way to make a quick, rough estimate of the height of an object. Walk away from the monument, stopping occasionally to bend down, looking back at the monument through your legs. When you can just see the top of the monument in this way, stop.

Now measure the distance on the ground, in a straight line, from where you are standing back to the monument. You can use this A4 sheet of paper as a ruler. Count how many times you place the sheet of paper down, end to end, leaving a small gap (3 or 4 finger widths) each time you move the sheet.

3 sheets with gaps =
approx 1 metre!



Lime



Horse-chestnut



Sycamore

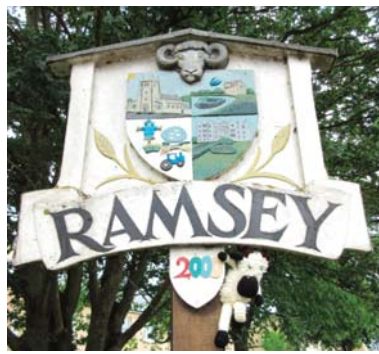


Hawthorn



Oak

Gather some fallen leaves, flowers or seeds from the trees on the Green and see if you can identify them using these pictures.



Why a Ram?

Rammy is looking over the railings at one of the houses on Hollow Lane, opposite the Abbey Gate House. It used to be the Church School - the boys on one side and the girls on the other, with the School bell tower in the middle. **Can you see what Rammy is**

looking at? As you look around Ramsey you will notice quite a lot of images of Rams. They can be seen on the village sign, the Ramsey Abbey Incense boat (which was recovered from the mud when Whittlesey Mere was drained) and also the Ramsey Abbey Coat of Arms. Why a Ram? Is it because Ramsey Abbey held very big textile/wool Fairs?, or is it because Ramsey was known in ancient times as *Hramesege* 'the island where wild garlic grows' from the old English word for garlic *Hramsas*? We just don't know!

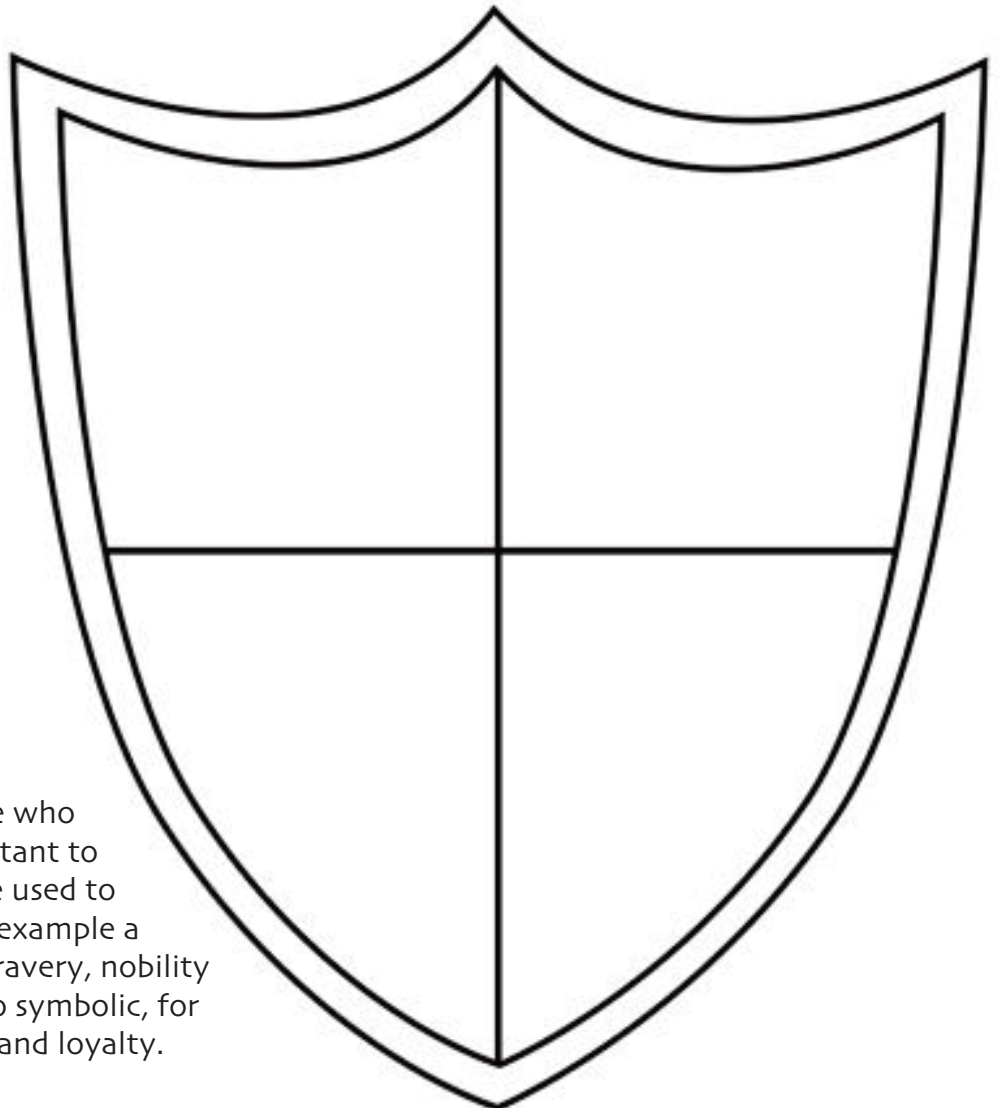


A **Coat of Arms** is a shield showing figures and images that together create a 'special badge' which represents a person, family, group or city.

The special badge was sewn onto a tabbard made of fabric and worn by medieval knights over their armour.

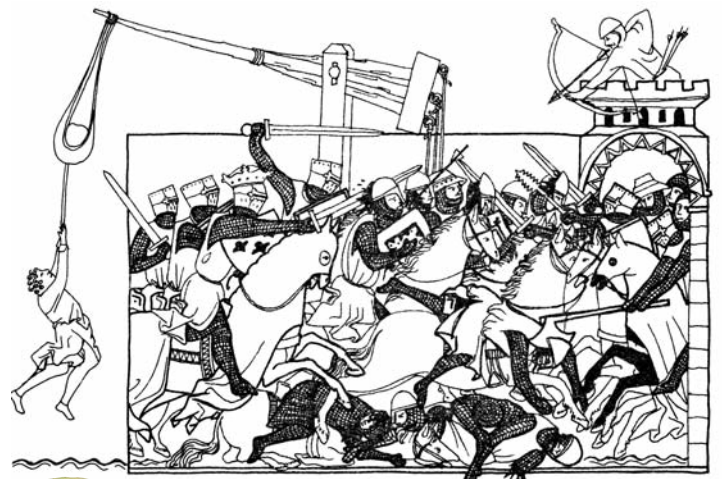
It was a way of showing people who they were and what was important to them. Sometimes animals were used to represent certain qualities, for example a Lion traditionally symbolises bravery, nobility and strength. Colours were also symbolic, for example Blue represents truth and loyalty.

What would you drawn on your 'Coat of Arms' to tell people about yourself. Use this shield to create your own special badge!



Amazing facts

A motte and bailey castle, built and used by Geoffrey de Mandeville, after he occupied Ramsey Abbey, as a base for raiding nearby villages, was then used as an Ice House by the De Ramsey family, and is now home to a colony of bats! Discover more at the Booth's Hill Interpretation board along Hollow Lane.

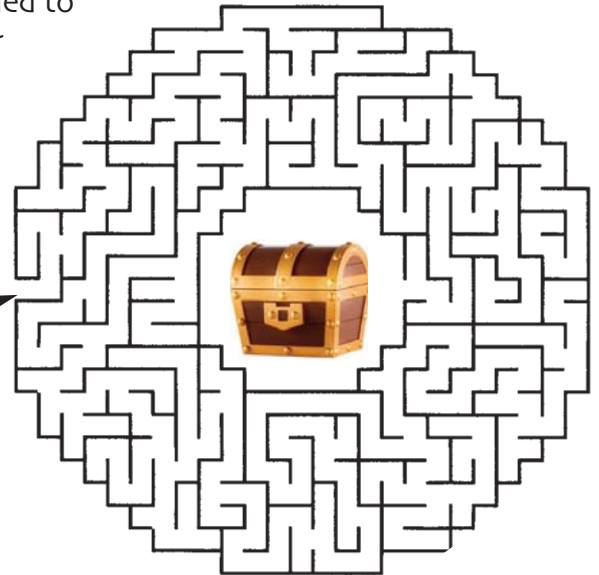


The Barnack stone used to build Ramsey Abbey was paid for using eels as currency - The monks at Peterborough Cathedral charged the monks at Ramsey Abbey Three thousand eels a year!



Hundreds of years ago, summer boat races called regattas were held on Whittlesey Mere, a large lake just outside of Ramsey. Winter Ice Fairs were held on the frozen lake with stalls, roast chestnuts, music bands and ice skating. But for most of the year the fenland was very wet and boggy, eventually it was decided to drain the area. Amongst other treasures a fabulous silver-gilt

incense boat, belonging to Ramsey Abbey, was found in the mud when Whittlesey Mere was drained. Help Rammy find his way through 'Whittlesey Mere Maze', to his treasure!



Ramsey Walled Kitchen Garden was forgotten about for years and years. Time went by and all the plants and shrubs grew into a great big tangle, much like the

woodland around Sleeping beauty and Rupenzel's castle.

Then one day a lady came by and rediscovered the garden - lots of friends and helpers worked

hard and brought the garden back to life - and now you can visit it, in all its beauty!

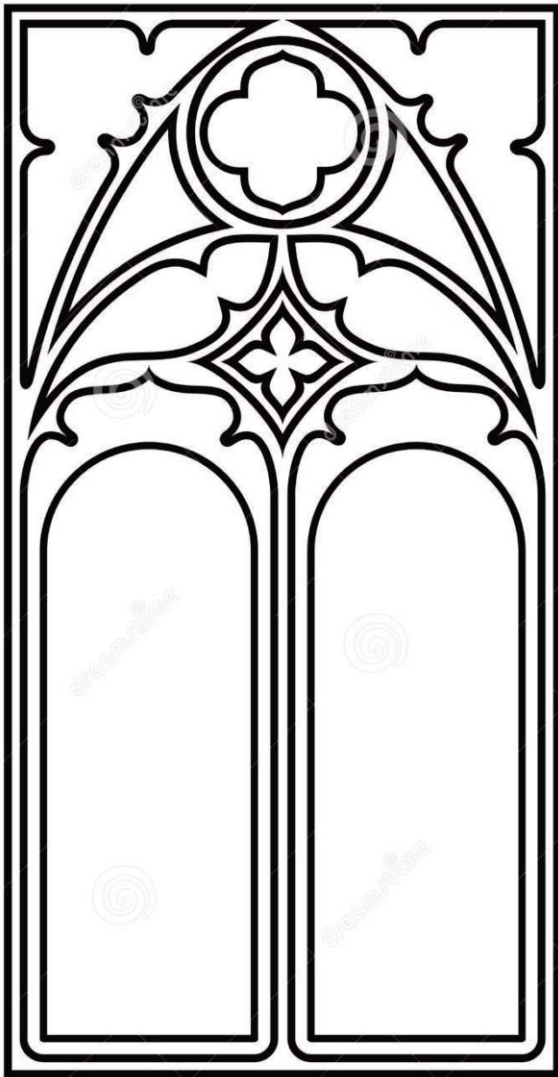


Rammy's Word Search find these 10 words:
Discover Ramsey - Rammy the Ram - Eels
Great Whyte - Coat of Arms - Abbey - Pond
Old Docks - Kitchen Garden - Bury Brook

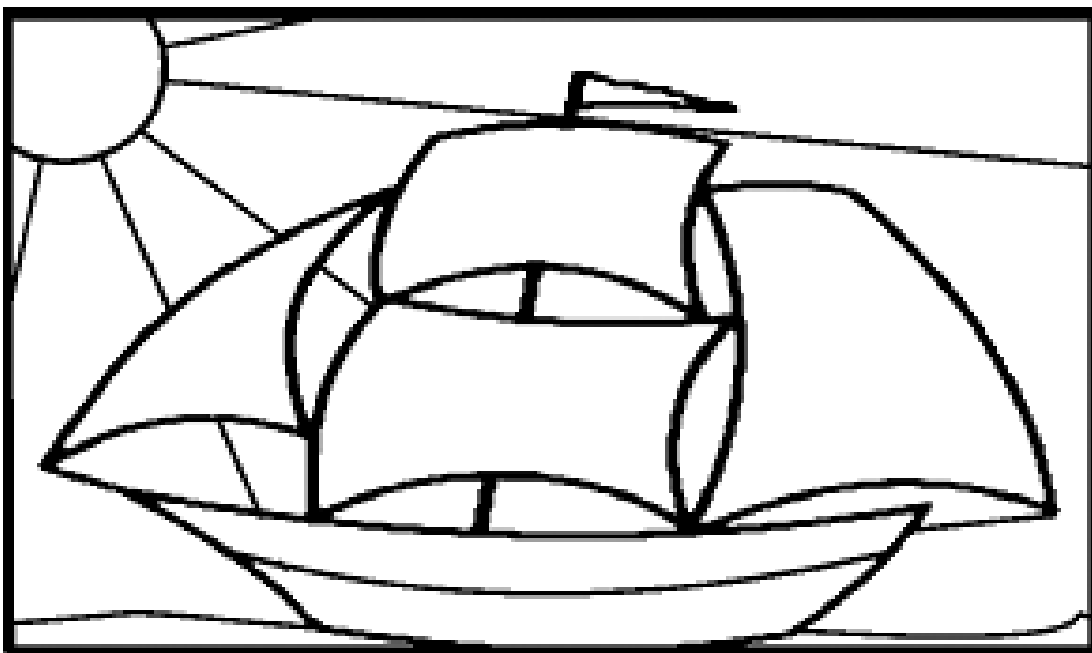
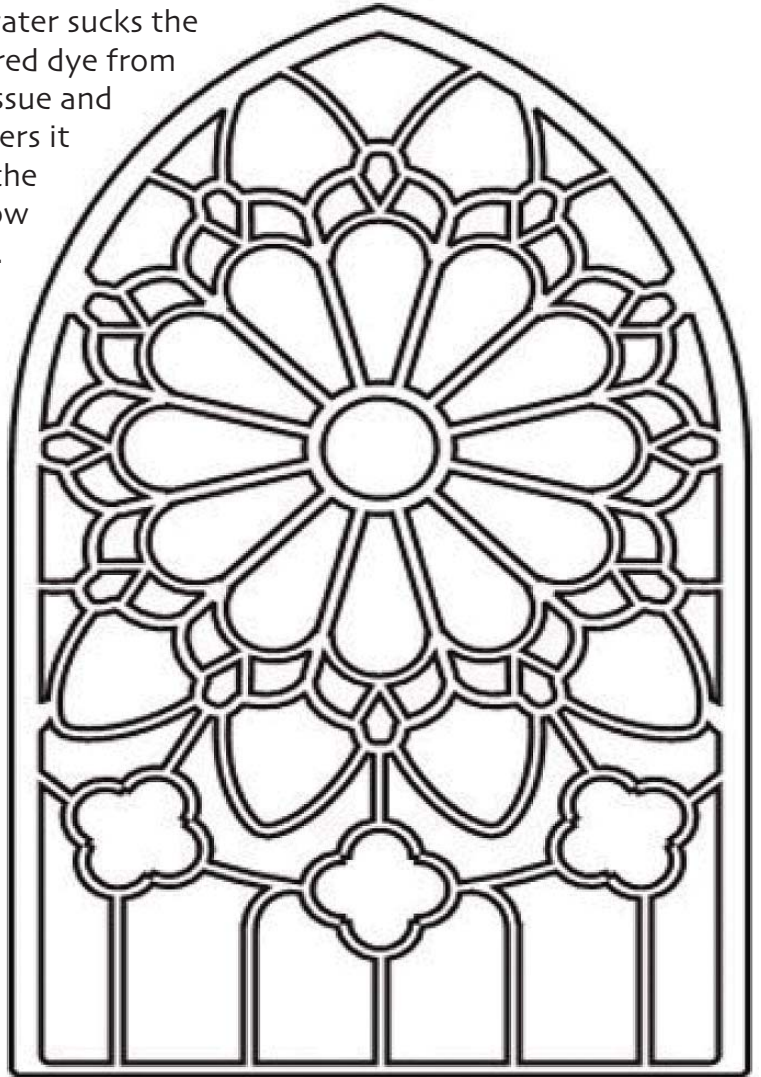
R	S	B	X	Y	S	E	D	L	O	K	Q	B	R	F
D	E	C	R	A	M	M	Y	T	H	E	R	A	M	R
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S	R	S	A	I	I	H	O	I	B	M	K	K	R	F
W	O	L	T	X	O	Y	D	N	B	N	S	S	D	R
S	O	B	Y	D	D	T	Y	O	E	H	I	E	E	R
P	K	R	C	I	S	E	T	Y	Y	M	S	G	Y	F

Decorate a Stained glass window

1. Dampen the window area with some water.
2. Tear off pieces of coloured tissue paper and pat down onto the window.
3. Leave to dry.
4. When completely dry, the tissue paper will blow away, revealing a beautifully coloured window.

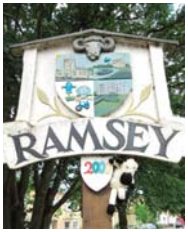


The water sucks the coloured dye from the tissue and transfers it onto the window paper.



The colours will mix together where the tissue paper overlaps, creating new colours.

If, once dry, this sheet of paper has become crinkly, you can ask someone to help you flatten out the paper using a cool iron. (Iron on the reverse side!)



Answers Page

Ramsey Activity Pack of puzzles & games for Children

There are lots of places to explore in and around Ramsey. For more detailed information including opening times, go to:

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