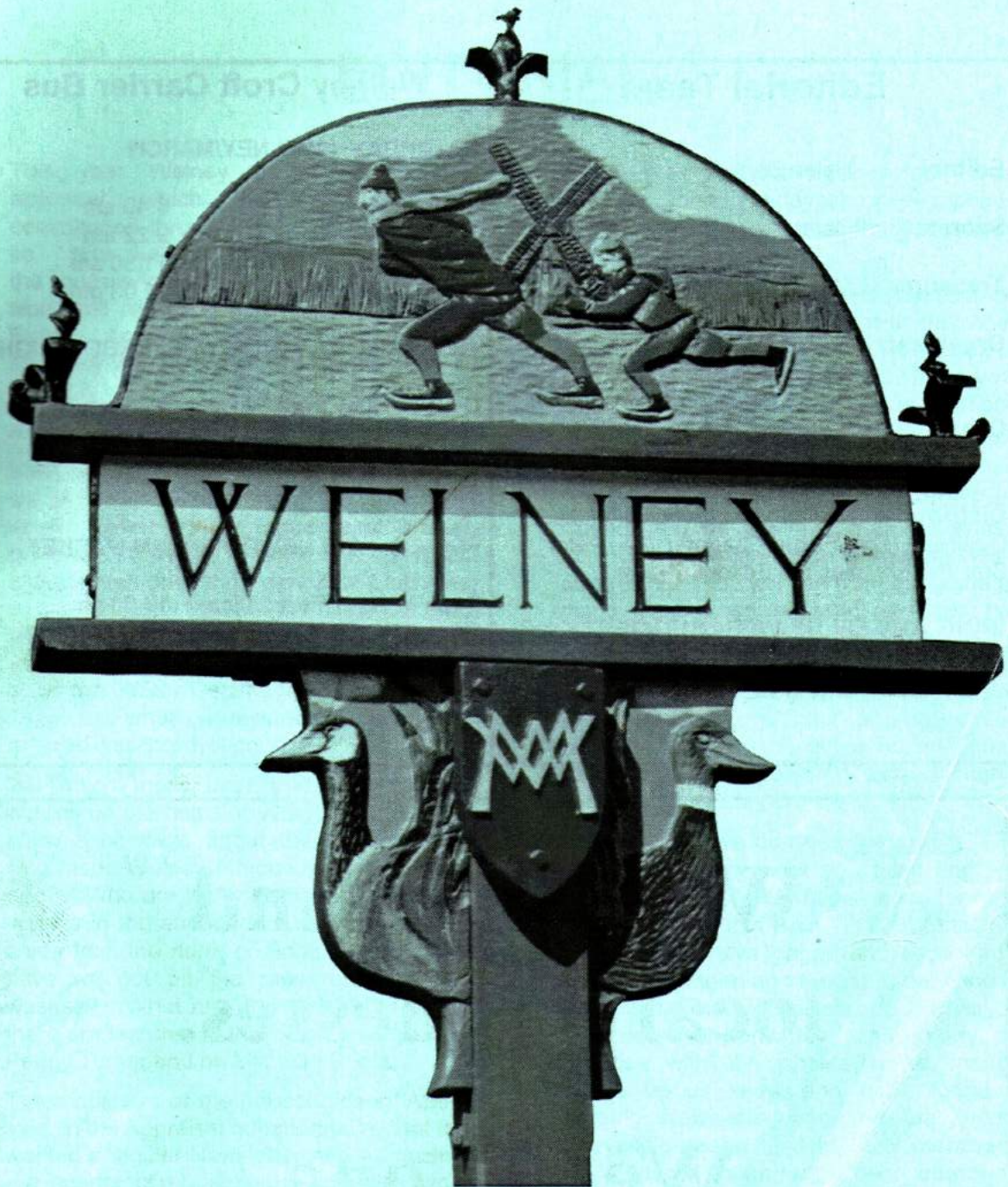




NEWS

August/September 1997 Pilot

Editorial Team

Editor Helen Barry 610 585

Secretary Carol Green 610 401

Treasurer Margaret Levesley 610 272

Organiser: News & Events
Karen Fleming 610 523

Organiser: Marketing
Tim Bennett 610 433

Distribution: Marlen Moss-Eccardt, Michael Dickinson, Tom Fisher, Charlotte Cox, Peter Cox, Pat Rix, plus the Editorial Team

**RING ANY OF US WITH SUGGESTIONS,
OFFERS OF HELP OR CRITICISM**

Welney Croft Carrier Bus

SATURDAY: WELNEY/MARCH

Dep: Welney Post Office: 8.40 am
Arr: March 9.22 am
Dep: March 11.30 am
Arr: Welney Post Office 12.03 pm

WEDNESDAY: WELNEY/PETERBOROUGH

Dep: Welney Post Office 9.10 am
Arr: Peterborough 10.30 am
Dep: Peterborough 2.40 pm
Arr: Welney Post Office 4.00 pm

FRIDAY: WELNEY/DOWNHAM MARKET

Dep: Welney Post Office 10.00 am
Arr: Downham 10.25 am
Dep: Downham 12.15 pm
Arr: Welney Post Office 12.40 pm

We understand local businesses.

We are one.

We may be a large international bank, but we run our branch just like any other local business. Indeed you'll find we're just as competitive and ambitious as you are. Why not come and see what we mean. Telephone Nick Pasek on 01353 605113 or call in at your local branch of Barclays.

BARCLAYS BANK PLC, 11 MAIN STREET, LITTLEPORT, CAMBS CB6 1PH



BARCLAYS

EDITORIAL

This year Welney produced a village appraisal which was admired and commended throughout Norfolk, and rightly so. Nine out of ten villagers responded to the questionnaire and contributed to the work and research which was led by Tom Fisher. And three quarters of those people said they wanted a Welney Newsletter. So here it is.

And what is it going to be?

Well, first of all - information. That's what we all want. What's going on, where and when. What night is Bingo, what time are the Church Services, when is the next Mobile library, when does the Friendship Club meet, how did the new Mini Market make out in the Parish Hall and will it continue, what are the Parish Council up to, what's happening about the Water Gala? What's new in the village and what's always around that I never realised was there 'til now?

But much more than that: features and articles on the heart of village life. Can we know a bit more about the speed skaters who made Welney famous a hundred years ago? Who are the fishermen who come to visit us in the summer? Why do so many come from the north of England? How far have we got on the new road over the washes? What are Welney people up to - there are features in this issue on Bryan and Peggy Turner and on Michelle Priest.

Three quarters of the households in Welney said, in the Appraisal questionnaire, that they wanted a regular Newsletter and - amazingly - a quarter of households said they would help in producing and distributing it.

The present editorial team are those who have been lured by publicised meetings and their own enthusiasm to come forward and make a Newsletter happen. BUT they are the beginning.

All of us have worked hard to get this first Newsletter to you. Our names and phone numbers are listed in this edition. We need more volunteers, more ideas, more understanding of what you want to read about. This first edition is a pilot and it is free - and that has been made possible by

the generosity of local businessmen Howard Kent and John Loveday who have topped up our advertising revenue so that we can meet the cost of printing.

Our aim is to get a Newsletter to your door every two months. As I said, this one is free, but if we are to continue we need £1.50 from every household to cover a year's subscription - that's 6 copies at 25p each. 159 households said they wanted us - do you and will you help?

We have a start-off grant from the Parish Council and we are hoping to raise money from County organisation grants as well as advertising. You will see from this issue that many local, even national, services have been willing to pay to advertise in Welney. We calculate that if most households support us we can, with the grants, advertising and yearly subscriptions plus a great deal of voluntary enthusiasm, get a regular, quality Newsletter delivered every two months to your door. WILL YOU TAKE IT?

For the future we do need **feedback**. We do need to know what you think and what ideas you have. We have had to leave out some things in this issue. We started with thoughts of twelve pages and soon had to expand to sixteen and then to twenty and still some things had to be left out. Everyone has personal priorities and many will disagree with the choice we've made - please let us know and don't forget an ongoing Newsletter can eventually cover everyone's needs. **Ring any member of the Editorial team with your comments and criticisms - or write and we can have a Letters Page.**

Helen Barry

WELNEY PARISH HALL

Earlier this year the Parish Hall Committee were very concerned about the finances for the running of the Hall. It costs up to £1800 a year to keep the Hall open, insured, cleaned, licensed, lit and heated. Last year we paid for a badly needed internal painting job and the William Marshall Charity kindly funded ten new tables to replace the worn out large trestle tables. Fund-raising was not keeping up with regular outgoings but we did not want to increase charges for use of the Hall by village groups. When urgent plumbing repairs were needed we were helped by a generous grant from the Parish Council. We were determined to organise attractive fund raising events and have done so. We have been greatly helped by the generous enthusiasm and work of Alison and Adrian at The Cherry Tree, who organised two charity auctions which raised a staggering £480. We are very grateful to them and to all who came and bid and bought. We organised a Garden Stroll on 6th July, which was much enjoyed and realised £42 profit - thanks to everyone who generously opened their gardens. And we now run a regular Mini-Market on the first Saturday of every month. This is not run for profit but as a venue for villagers to sell produce, cakes, vegetables and fruit or indeed anything they have to sell - David Fisher's home-made Italian bread went down very well last time! Stalls are free but if successful stallholders want to make a contribution to the Hall, it will not be refused! Our big fund raising event will be the Water Gala on 24th August. Details below and again Alison and Adrian are helping out by running a Gala Dance in the evening (over 50 tickets have been sold for this already). All the events in the Hall are listed in the Diary. Do come and support us whenever you can.

Rosi Beckford (610 385)

Chairman, Parish Hall Committee



Jane Carter
SRN, RSCN, IIHHT, IHBC
City & Guilds (Aromatherapy)
REFLEXOLOGY
SWEDISH BODY MASSAGE
AROMATHERAPY
Treatment Room:-


Horseshoe
New Road
Welney
Wisbech
Cambs
PE14 9RA

International
Council of
Holistic
Therapists

ALL APPOINTMENTS
01354 610500

WELNEY WATER GALA

SUNDAY 24TH AUGUST
2.00.p.m.

RAFT RACES

1st Race: 2.30.p.m.

Entry forms from:
Welney Post Office
Three Tunns
The Cherry Tree

STALLS - GAMES - BAR - REFRESHMENTS
ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL THE FAMILY

GALA DANCE

PARISH HALL

7pm - 11 0pm

DANCE TO SAM'S SOUNDS

TICKETS £2: From The Cherry Tree or
at the door

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>
August				
Su	24 th	2 pm - 5 pm	Water Gala	Village Hall
		7 pm - 11 pm	Gala Dance	Village Hall
M	25 th	6 pm - 8 pm	Youth Group	Village Hall
T	26 th	9 am	Friendship Club Outing	Village Car Park
W	27 th	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
F	29 th	7.30 pm	Bingo	Village Hall
Su	31 st	2 pm	Cricket - opp. Chatteris	Playing Field
September				
M	1 st	6 pm - 8 pm	Youth Group	Village Hall
W	3 rd	7 pm	Women's Institute	Village Hall
Th	4 th	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
F	5 th	See Article	Mobile Library	See Article
Sa	6 th	10 am - 12 noon	Mini Market	Village Hall
Su	7 th	1 pm	Cricket - opp Central	Playing Field
M	8 th	6 pm - 8 pm	Youth Group	Village Hall
Tu	9 th	2 pm	Friendship Club	Village Hall
		7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
W	10 th	7.00 pm	Mother's Union	Church
		7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Sa	13 th	1 pm	Cricket - opp Somersham	Playing Field
Su	14 th	1 pm	Cricket - opp Chatteris	Away Match
M	15 th	10 am - 12 noon	Playbus - New Term begins	Village Car Park
		6 pm - 8 pm	Youth Group	Village Hall
W	17 th	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Th	18 th	6.30 pm	Harvest Supper	Village Hall
Su	21 st	1 pm	Cricket - opp Manea	Away Match
M	22 nd	10 am - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
		6 pm - 8 pm	Youth Group	Village Hall
Tu	23 rd		Friendship Club Outing	To be arranged
W	24 th	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
		7.30 pm	Bingo	Village Hall
Su	28 th	1 pm	Cricket -opp Doddington	Playing Field
M	29 th	10 am - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
		6 pm - 8 pm	Youth Group	Village Hall
October				
W	1 st	7 pm	Women's Institute	Village Hall
Th	2 nd	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
F	3 rd	See Article	Mobile Library	See Article
Sa	4 th	10 am - 12 noon	Mini-Market	Village Hall
M	6 th	10 am - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
		6 pm - 8pm	Youth Group	Village Hall
Tu	7 th	2 pm	Friendship Club	Village Hall
W	8 th	7 pm	Mother's Union	Church
		7.30	Whist	Village Hall
M	13 th	6 pm - 8 pm	Youth Group	Village Hall
W	15 th	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall

WELNEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

This is a Club for Senior Citizens which has been meeting for eighteen years.

Club Secretary Pam Sorensen writes:

Regular meetings are held in the Parish Hall fortnightly on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month between 2 and 4pm. (See Diary for dates) Usually there is a Quiz, card Bingo or a Beatle Drive. When possible we have a guest speaker. Meetings include tea and biscuits and the cost of 25p includes a free raffle ticket, we end with an auction of produce and goods brought by members.

Membership is £2 per annum and if you are a senior citizen and would like to join, you would receive a very warm welcome from all of us.

During the summer, the Club organises coach outings once a month. Usually these are round trips with lunch and tea en route. So far this summer the Club has been to Norwich with time for shopping, sightseeing and lunch, going on to Fairhaven Gardens, near Walsingham. In June members visited Colchester and then on to Clacton for a blow of sea air. The July trip was to Fleggburgh village of By-Gones and then on to Yarmouth to take a turn along the sea front.

NEXT COACH TRIP: 26th August: Coffee stop at East Dereham, lunch at the New Inn at Beatley and then on to Wroxham for a boat trip and tea.

Club Members: £2 Visitors: £3

Details of this and all Club meetings: Miss Cissie Bedford, Chairperson on 610 206



The Lamb & Flag Public House

Situated in Main Street, Welney. Accommodation comprises 3 double bedrooms, 1 twin and 1 family bedroom. Prices from £19.50 for single room and includes full English breakfast. The extensive menu offers a variety of homemade dishes, fresh fish, locally produced steaks and meat. Food is served in the attractive oak-beamed lounge or in the separate dining room. Parties are catered for, along with outside bar facilities. The garden includes children's swings etc. and from Spring 1998 bar-be-cue facilities will be available so you can enjoy dining alfresco in the floodlit garden. We strongly recommend that you make table reservations for Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays - Telephone 01354 610242.



Back in September 1992, Michelle Priest's youngest child started primary school and on the very same day she began life as an undergraduate at Anglia Polytechnic University in Cambridge. The coincidence was quite intentional; Michelle had won a university place two years previously but had made the decision to delay full time study until Lee was school age.

This September Michelle Priest (who lives on the Wisbech Rd in Welney) fulfils a dream. She starts work as a fully qualified teacher of English at Cromwell Community College in Chatteris. Her dream has taken nine years of study whilst caring for her three children, Gemma now 12, Laura 11 and Lee aged 9. She couldn't have done it, she says, without the unfailing help and support of her husband, Mark.

Michelle gained 11 'O' levels at sixteen. But as well as taking exams Michelle had fallen in love with Mark, so it was marriage not further education that she chose and, by the time she was 20, two small children. Michelle discovered she adored children and enjoyed enormously the teaching role inherent in motherhood. Her ambition was to become a primary school teacher and she set about working for the qualifications with the enthusiastic support of Mark. Unknowingly already carrying her third child, she persuaded the evening class teacher for A level English to let her join the course in the second year, promising to catch up all the first year work. By the following summer she had a baby boy and an A grade in Advanced Level English - the only one in her class. She needed a second A Level for university entrance and did the year's course in Sociology in six months, again at evening classes. In 1990 she was accepted as a mature undergraduate at Anglia. This was where the whirl took a temporary halt.

University meant four days a week full time in Cambridge, with 15 lectures, essays, and masses of reading. She had given Gemma and Laura her time when they were toddlers, studying mainly in the evening, and she felt that she could never recapture those two pre-school years with Lee, whereas she could do the study any time. She declined her place, saying she would re-apply when Lee went to school. She took an evening class course for a GCE in Computer Studies at Downham

Then the degree course which ended in a 2.1 BA Honours Degree and Michelle thought she was coming down the home straight. Then the disappointment. She needed a Post Graduate Certificate in Education before she could teach, and she applied to Homerton College, Cambridge to study primary school teaching. She was turned down.

Although told this was purely on numbers with students applying from all over the country for a few places, Michelle was bitterly disappointed. Seven years of study seemed to have the door slammed upon it. The following year she was advised to apply for secondary school training, where there were more - although only 25 - places. And this time her tenacity was rewarded and she was accepted. Then Michelle discovered that she enjoyed secondary teaching. She had first plumped for primary teaching but she discovered that it was teaching itself to children of any age which was her talent and her joy.

Now luck, in the guise of being in the right place at the right time, came into play. Michelle spent a term of her practical experience work at Cromwell Community College and her obvious talents as a teacher were recognised. Her mentor at the school was retiring as the English teacher and she suggested Michelle apply for her post. She did, and against three other applicants won the job.

This September Michelle's hard won dream comes true. She is grateful for the help and support of friends in Welney but most of all she gives her thanks to husband Mark, without whom, she says, she could never have achieved it. He says he is bursting with pride at what she has achieved and her children sent her a card which said: 'SuperMum is now SuperTeacher'.

WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meets bi-monthly on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Presently the Council comprises the Chairman: John Frost of Pates Farm, Tipps End, the Clerk: Mrs Pat Copeman of 1 Chestnut Avenue (tel 610 226), and Councillors Alison Burrows of Taymor Place, David Bonner of Main Street, Dennis Booth of Bedford Bank West, Douglas Carter of New Road, Charlotte Cox of Tipps End, Tom Fisher of Hundred Foot Band and Pat Rix of New Road. There is currently a vacancy for one more Councillor. Any parishioner may attend and monitor Meetings and comment towards the end of matters which have been raised by the Council.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

TUESDAY 8TH JULY

Among the matters discussed was the problem of parishioners exercising dogs on the Bedford Banks and being confronted and falsely accused by stockmen and shepherds of allowing their dogs to worry the grazing sheep. Three parishioners, who regularly exercise their dogs along the Banks had written to the Council pointing out that there is no record of irresponsible behaviour by dogs which are walked under supervision; incidents appear to have only arisen when genuine strays have roamed along the Banks. The Council agreed to forward these comments to the DOE. In response to a letter from Welney Homewatch the Council agreed to write to Norfolk Constabulary requesting information on the procedure involved should they decide to proceed with the appointment of a Special Constable to patrol the village on a regular basis. Homewatch also requested the Council to support them by writing to the Accident Prevention Officer at King's Lynn requesting that an Archer Counter be installed to monitor vehicle speeds. Cambridgeshire County Council would be carrying out a trial accident safety scheme on the bend at Toll Corner to prevent vehicles approaching the corner from the Welney side overshooting the junction. It was agreed to support a draft programme of events drawn up by the Trustees of the William Marshall Charity to

commemorate it's 150th Anniversary in June 1998. At the request of the Parish Council the County Council Planning and Transportation Department have agreed to extend the 30 mile speed limit zones along March Road and Wisbech Road and erect 30 mile signs in Taymor Place and Chestnut Avenue. An estimate for remedial works and repair to the village sign was approved. The application by the licencees of The Cherry Tree public house for planning permission of change of use from a pub to a swelling was approved. A grant was made the newly set up Welney Newsletter Committee.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 9th Sept. 7.30pm

**10% DISCOUNT ON
PHONE ORDERS**

Navrady's

OF UPWELL

**GOOD FOOD
GOOD VALUE**

**105 School Road
Upwell Wisbech**

(01945) 772398

VOTED

**ONE OF THE TOP
FISH & CHIP
SHOPS IN BRITAIN**

FOR THE LAST 3 YEARS

CHURCH NEWS

Union of the Benefice of Christchurch, Manea and Welney

On the last day of June a very special celebration service was held at St. Mary's Church: the Union of the Benefice of Christchurch, Manea and Welney was inaugurated and the Reverend Sheila Tooke was presented as the incumbent of the Benefice.

The Church was filled with parishioners from all three parishes together with members of the Methodist congregation of Lakes End, who joined them in this solemn celebration. The Bishop of Huntingdon, the Very Rev. John Flack processed to the altar preceded by Archdeacon Jim Rone of Wisbech, the Rural Dean, the Reverend Peter Baxandall, the Reverend Roger Davies and the Lay Readers, Charles Goakes and Stephen Tooke.

At the end of the liturgical service, at which the Bishop preached, the Archdeacon of Wisbech presented the Pastoral Scheme which is the Union of the Benefice. This has been in practical terms in operation since 1995 with the Reverend Tooke as Priest-in-Charge. Now she was being inaugurated as the official incumbent of the Benefice. As such she was presented to the Bishop who asked her for her commitment and then appealed to the congregation to acknowledge and support her as incumbent. He then gave her his blessing. The Archdeacon then performed the Commissioning of Churchwardens and Parochial Church Councillors and this solemn, but joyful Service ended with prayers and hymns and The Blessing of all.

Marlen Moss-Eccardt

MOTHERS' UNION

The Mothers' Union meets on the second Wednesday of the month. The group has about 12 members, some from Christchurch. There is an annual membership fee of £6.50. Each meeting begins with a short service in the Church, followed by a talk from a visiting speakers. After refreshments comes the formal meeting and then the social part which usually includes a quiz. Membership open to both Church and Chapel persuasions.

CHURCH SERVICES

August

24th: 9.30 Morning Prayers
31st 11.00. United Service
(at Christchurch)

September

7th 9.30. Morning Prayers
14th 11.00. All Age Worship
21st 9.30. Holy Communion
(Harvest Festival)
28th 9.30. Morning Prayers

October

5th 9.30 Holy Communion
12th 11.00 All Age Worship

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SUMMER FETE

The Rev. Sheila Tooke opened this year's fete on 9th August in glorious, not to say very hot, sunshine. The stalls were full and the games popular among the very good crowd of villagers who came to swell the Church funds. It would be invidious to pick out any one of the hardworking stallholders and helpers but it was a treat to see Madge Singletery looking fit and selling choc ices. The fete raised £650 and everyone had a good, if hot, afternoon.

ROLAND SINGLETERRY

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

EFFICIENT, SYMPATHETIC
SERVICE, DAY OR NIGHT

"WINDY RIDGE"

PADGETS ROAD

CHRISTCHURCH

WISBECH, CAMBS PE14

9PL TEL: 01354

638321

WELNEY PLAYBUS

The Playbus comes to Welney every Monday morning during school termtime. It is staffed by two qualified play supervisors, and children over three may be left with playbus staff - those under three must be accompanied by a parent or carer. Sessions last from 10am to 12 noon, and are informal and relaxed. There are refreshments for both parents and children during the session. Admission is £1.50 per child per session. Toys and activities cater for children of all ages up to 4. The Playbus returns to Welney on 15th September.

Need accommodation for visiting friends or relations?



Stockyard Farm

Bed and Breakfast

Wisbech Road, Welney

Telephone 610433

Mrs C Bennett

**TV Lounge, Conservatory
breakfast room, Pets are welcome
(by arrangement), No smoking.**

YOUTH GROUP

Did you know there is a young peoples' games night in Welney? Every Monday evening between 6 and 8 o'clock at the **Parish Hall**, young people between the ages of eight and fourteen come together to play music, table tennis and pool and lots else. One or two parents join in. Ring **Adrian** on 610 525 if you want to know more or just turn up.

A POEM

As the children at William Marshal School broke up for the holidays this year **Emily Cheek** reflected on a past holiday and put her thoughts into verse for her teacher.

*A week's holiday
I am dancing in the sun
All the day having fun.*

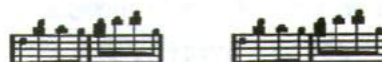
*Seen eels and
Loads of wheels*

*Dogs and plenty
Of croaky frogs.*

*Seen hills and
Loads of windmills.*

*Now my holiday is done.
No more lovely fun.*

We hope you have more loads of lovely fun this year, Emily.



For a Musical Evening or Afternoon

*Listen to or Sing-along
with **BRUCE***

*Bruce will be playing Lead Guitar,
accompanied by a backing band music sequencer*

*All the old favourites - Edelweiss - I just called
to say I love you - and many more!*



For a Friendly Chat -

Call 01945 410234

YOUNG? ACTIVE? BORED?

Emma Burrows of Taymor Place who is a part-time Youth Worker has news for you of events and activities that you can join in NOW if you are between 13- 19 years old

Monday 25th August

A day out in Great Yarmouth. Minibus leaving at 8.30am and returning at 8.30pm. The cost is £3 inclusive of transport and insurance.

Tuesday 26th August

Ride a horse or learn how to. I will be taking part in a trip to Blackborough End Stables to have a go at horse riding. If this sounds interesting then come and join me. I will be leaving Welney at 9am and returning 4.30pm. The cost of £7.50 includes transport, insurance and qualified instruction. No experience necessary! Ring me on 610 312 by 20th August if you want to come.

Tuesday 2nd September

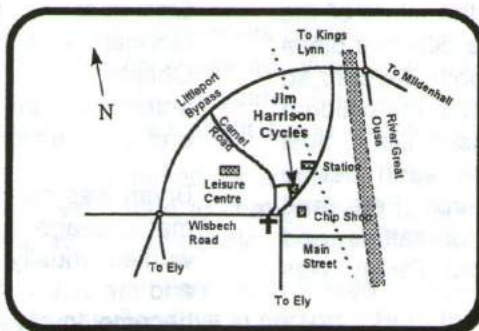
A trip to Funcoast World, Skegness. This trip is open to 10 - 14 year olds only and costs £5. If you are interested call Downham Youth Centre on 01366 382010

Thursday 30th October

A trip to Sega Megazone in London. Cost £18. Contact the Downham Youth Centre on 01366 382010 if you are interested.

Did you know The Norfolk Youth and Community Service provides many activities and services for young people. Welney is part of the Downham Market and Marshland division and they are in Downham and West Walton. They've organised the trips I've listed and the staff there will be more than happy to answer any questions and also to listen to any ideas you may have about providing activities specifically for the young people of Welney.

Jim Harrison (Cycles)



**2 Ponts Hill,
Littleport CB6 1PZ**

Next to Ex-Servicemens
Club Tel: 01353 862000

New Cycles, Repairs, Spares,
Wheelbuilding, and
Accessories; for all types of
cycles. Lightweight Road
and Mountain



The Youth Club at Downham is open every Monday and Thursday in term time and you would be welcome.

Ring Downham Youth Service on
01366 382010

Satanta Boarding Kennels

SIBERIAN HUSKY SPECIALISTS
All breeds welcome

**OSBOURNE PLACE, MARCH ROAD TIPS
END, WELNEY, CAMBS. PE14 9SN**
Telephone: 01354 638595



Proprietor:
Doreen Carter

Or ring me on
610 312 for any
further
information

**Emma
Burrows.**

GOODBYE TO BRYAN AND PEGGY TURNER

In 1956 on the day after Boxing Day, Bryan and Peggy Turner moved into School House and Bryan became Headmaster of William Marshall School. It was pouring with rain, the playground was flooded and as they moved in they learned that the School was without an Infants teacher so would Mrs. Turner oblige. Peggy didn't feel she had much choice but obviously enjoyed the eighteen months she spent teaching infants before producing her own daughter and son.

Now forty one years later on the day after the August Bank Holiday, Bryan and Peggy are moving away from the village to live in Hunstanton. Everyone who knows them will be saddened by their departure. They seem to be so much part of the fabric of the village that it will truly seem a different place without them. They have both devoted so much time and energy not just to the children but to all the activities in village life. Just this week Bryan was to be seen selling beautiful plants at the Church Fete and compering the prizegiving for raffles and competitions at the end, and Peggy was there manning another stall.

However, at least we have the consolation of knowing they are not going because of something we said! In very practical terms they have assessed what their needs will be in their seventies (though Peggy is still only 69!) and those needs added up to a bungalow in Hunstanton. Importantly, Bryan was finding stairs difficult after operations on his knees - a problem partly brought about, he believes, when he fell through the ceiling of the pavilion at the Playing Field searching for games for an Autumn Fair! So firstly a bungalow rather than a house. He loves the sea and wanted somewhere where he could walk and see the bird life and wild flowers. Moving to the vicinity of Peddlars Way must seem ideal. Both looked practically at the needs they would have in medical care and in transport when they either could not or did not want to drive. Hunstanton looked good for access to hospitals and buses to King's Lynn. They were nearer their son, David, and not too far from daughter Jane and of

course, all the grandchildren.. So, reluctantly, they decided on the move.

Bryan and Peggy are both Fenland born: he in Whittlesey and she in Manea. When they first came to Welney village, life was still very much centred on the community. Television sets and family cars were not common and the village made its own entertainment. Bryan remembers a Boys Club, a Christian Men's Society, a table tennis Club with tables in the School, a cricket team, two football teams and every year at least a week preparing Mr. Bedford's field and erecting the marquee for the Village Gala. And what a Gala. Up to 9 or 10 floats including a number from neighbouring villages, sporting events and stalls and a vegetable and flower show in the marquee. In the evening roasting a pig and a dance. One year the marquee housed the group Marmalade with their hit number 'Obladi Obladah'. The Gala took months of anticipation and work but everyone joined in and it was a highlight of the village year.

Bryan was an active Committee member in many village groups activities and Peggy worked equally hard in the Mothers' Union and the W.I. Soon after they came, Bryan became involved in a small concert party group and he turned that into the Welney Follies which he ran for twenty years until 1978.

The Follies became famous not just in Welney but throughout the district. They ran a two year programme beginning in the autumn when individuals would rehearse in the school with Bryan who worked out the choreography in the classrooms. Then the cast of around 25 would gradually get together to rehearse and they presented the Show at Easter: three shows in Welney and then on to villages nearby. In the second year they toured to villages much further abroad and to towns such as March, King's Lynn and Wisbech - in their last year, twenty eight places in all - taking their props and later a portable organ with them.

They played in all sorts of locations. Bryan remembers the year they went to Coates when the stage collapsed: 'I was playing the piano at the side of the stage and I looked

up and I thought where are they going, they were very slowly disappearing, the stage was gradually going down, they had built it on trestles and luckily it didn't collapse as a whole but went slowly down, and we had to stop and perform the rest of it on the floor.'

Bryan and Peggy say they were happy in the village from the beginning. 'It felt right', says Peggy, 'and everyone was very supportive'. Bryan says he was very happy with the style of teaching traditional in the School. Teaching 7 - 11 year olds he was able to adapt to individual ability so that an 8 year old good at maths might be working alongside a 10 year old. He liked living attached to the school (almost unknown for teachers today) and often worked late at his desk in the classroom catching up on secretarial and administrative as well as teaching matters. He remembers Dennis Booth often saying: 'What were you doing in the School at midnight last night?'

And Bryan living in School House was always available to talk to parents, sometimes even on Sunday mornings if that was the only convenient time. But it wasn't just in School that the Turners cared for the children. They regularly took the 7 - 11 year olds for a week to places such as Wells, which had Study Centres where the children went out and about studying natural history and local history - and often Peggy and the staff and parents did the cooking. They both look back with pleasure and affection to those years. The village was like one big family, they say, with many of the children related to each other or living close and looking after each other in a way that the Turners noticed as special as soon as they arrived.

Back in 1956 when they arrived, Bryan remembers Stanley Carter saying: 'Well I expect you'll be here for the rest of your lives.' And he answered: 'Well I think I'll be here until I retire'. So it seemed perfectly natural to stay for forty one years. And have they been happy? Peggy says that they must have been 'if you don't think about it, you are happy.'

And what will they miss most? An immediate answer. 'The people. We've always got on wonderfully with the folk, we haven't tried to change them or anything in the village, just lived alongside the most friendly and supportive people - happy parents, happy children'.

And the village will miss them, miss them very much indeed. They hope to be at the Water Gala on the 24th August if you want to say Goodbye in person. But I think all villagers will support this first newsletter in saying on their behalf: Thank you Bryan and Peggy for all your work for the School, the Church and the Village as a whole. We all send our sincere and very affectionate wishes for happiness and health in your new home. Your new neighbours are fortunate people.

Helen Barry



Business Partners
Computer Consultancy Ltd
7 The Crescent, Wisbech, Cambs
Tel: 01945 466343 - Fax 01945 468344

Novell Networks
Fileservers
ISDN Solutions
Pentium PC's with MMX
Apple Macintosh
Laser Printers
Scanners
Digital Cameras
CD Recording facility
Database Authoring
Training
Repairs & Maintenance

Some Welney Services

Doctor's Surgery:

12 noon at the Parish Hall, Monday,
Wednesday & Friday

Prescriptions:

Can be left and collected at the Post
Office

Wet Fishmonger:

3.00 pm at Chestnut Avenue and 3.15
pm at the Post Office, every Friday.
(Orders taken)

WELNEY MOBILE LIBRARY

A Free Service For All

(So what's the catch?)

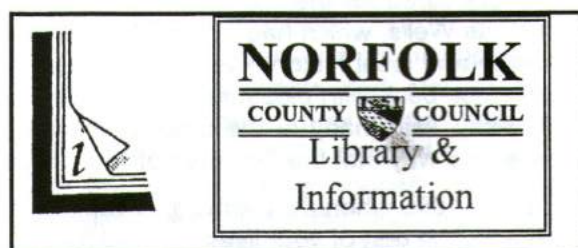
If I say there's no catch, you won't believe me, but I can assure you that the **Mobile Library** is a free service to young and old alike. It visits Welney and Lakes End every 4 weeks on a Friday and is run by myself (**Alan Nelson**) living in Welney and **Brian** living in Wimbotsham. Our aim is to provide all your library service needs and to tailor that service to suit you, even adding extra stops where needs exist, or when possible providing a service to the housebound.

Where do you find us? Well, our four-weekly visits to Welney start at **Hale Road at 9.30 am** and here great use is made of our ability to obtain items from outside our normal stocks, for which there is a modest charge (alright, so not everything is free, but you didn't believe me anyway). We then move to **Chestnut Avenue for 10 am** and to provide services for both older and younger members of the village. We go on to **The**

Lamb and Flag Car Park for 10.15 and on to the village **Post Office at 11.15 am**: both stops are supported by a wide cross-section of our village community. We go on to **Hernside for 11.35 am** (at present unsupported) before moving on to **Laburnum House, Tipps End at 11.50**.

So how about coming along; many regulars will tell you its a great place to socialise and chat with someone you may not have seen since the last Mobile Library visit.

ALAN NELSON



ANGLO-EASTERN COMMERCIAL

offer for sale at

Graham Childs Motors
Howdale Road Downham
Market



A wide range of dog food, bird seed, straights, grass seed, hemp, peanuts etc. etc.

Present this Advert for a £1
per item discount!

Tel: 01366 387978



Do something
Different to tell your
friends about

BIG SKY WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

Explore the largest Wetland in Northerth Europe and its diverse plant and animal life. Go back in time and take home your own piece of history when unearthing 3000 year old bog oaks. Discover the Wildlife and Countryside of the Fens by Landrover. See otters and seals, sea birds and wild woods, with dragonflies and deer. Experienced and friendly guides - a day to remember.

*Barry Weekes and Verity Steel - Duffins Farm,
Lotts Bridge, Three Holes, Wisbech,
Cambridgeshire PE14 9JG*

**To book your Safari please telephone
01354 638315 or 0410 788779**

VIEW FROM A TRACTOR

The village of Welney seems as an island surrounded by a sea of farmland. Whether or not you make your living from agriculture, you cannot help but be affected by it when living in such a rural community as this.

The biggest crop grown around Welney is almost certainly wheat. As you munch your slice of toast you may be forgiven for thinking that the wheat from which your bread was made possibly came from fields around Welney. This may be the case if you are eating a French stick or nibbling a digestive biscuit, but highly unlikely if you are tucking into the standard white or brown loaf. Wheat is grown to supply a number of markets. By far the biggest market in the UK is for animal feed - pigs and poultry (cattle consume mainly barley). This market totals some 5 million tonnes nationally. In fact 80% of wheat grown in the UK ends up as animal feed with only 18% being grown specifically for bread. Sounds crazy when you realise that 90% of world wheat consumption is in bread products. The UK is one of only two countries that produces so much wheat that it can afford to feed it to livestock.

So why aren't Welney farmers growing the 18%. Well, its mainly due to soil type and a perception that bread producing varieties are lower yielding/more hassle than their 'feed' alternatives....oh ! and Brussels has a lot to do with it and also the weakness of £ sterling over recent years

The outlook for 1997 harvest and beyond is looking decidedly dodgy. The strong £ and a wet spring / early summer has meant that crop values have dropped dramatically and not just wheat - potatoes, sugar beet and oilseed rape are all worth substantially less than they were worth 12 months ago. Why ? Exports are significantly more expensive to sell and competition from other countries, who can produce and export feed wheat at far cheaper prices than we can has meant that with any large export orders out of Europe we ie. UK, barely get a look in.

So, what are the Welney farmers doing about this problem? They most likely will switch a portion of their wheat production into varieties that have an export 'human consumption' market - called 'added value' wheats - export biscuit and export milling qualities but with the same yielding ability as 'feed' types.

Whilst Welney farmers begin harvest and determine the level of damage done by the six inches of rain in June you may spare a thought for their plight. Imagine how helpless you would feel if you saw your income being eroded month by month to a level (today) at 50% of its position a year ago. Each interest rate rise sees a further price drop. Whilst new Mercedes or Discoverys were bought from the proceeds of the 1995 harvest I think we shall see these retained for a few years to come. !!

STUART CREE



Housewares - Hardware - Gardening

J H ADAMS & SONS LTD

(TRADITIONAL IRONMONGERS)

17 MAIN STREET, LITTLEPORT

TELEPHONE: 01353 860222

FREE LOCAL DELIVERIES FREE

CUSTOMER PARKING





PAINT

WALLPAPER

CYCLE SPARES

PET FOODS

We're a fair and square store - A member of a large chain of independent hardware retailers

Take our advice - we're hard to beat for service, price and we are local!



WELNEY CRICKET CLUB

Welney Cricket Club was re-formed by Ray Kent and me (Bob Frusher) and is now in its seventh season. Both Ray and I put up the finance for an artificial wicket to be installed, and the Club's income each year is dependant on subscriptions by players, sponsorship Elgoods, The Three Tuns and Howard Kent and fund raising at games and through the popular winter quiz at The Tuns.

Sadly support from spectators this year has diminished to nearly nothing. In our first years 20 to 30 watched home games and up to 15 came with to away matches.

This season we've entered the Fenland Invitation Trophy, played seven league games to date, won four and lost three. We should have won one more but we were short of players. Still, our present league position is fifth out of twelve and I am extremely pleased with the players and their attitude to the game.

Earlier this season we won our first trophy. At a competition at Upwell we won the Calitheke cup, our first major silverware. And during this season we have finished runner's up in the Blows Brother Cup. This is held at Hurn Drove and the winners were Northwold, even so I think we still should have won this game.

Ray Kent is the President of the Club, I am Chairman and Captain, Matthew Waring is Vice Captain and Jane Frusher is Treasurer.

All the fixtures for the rest of the season are in the Diary on page 5, so now you know the dates please come along and support us.

We are proving a good team this year but we really need enthusiastic support at the boundary.

Bob Frusher

IF YOUR HEALTH IS IMPORTANT TO YOU IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US FEEL THE BENEFITS

- * INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMMING
- * HI-TECH GYMNASIUM
- * 10 MINUTE SUNBED
- * SWIMMING POOL
- * JACUZZI
- * STEAM & SAUNA
- * 10 MINUTE SUNBED



BRING THIS DISPLAY PANEL FOR A
FREE CLASS - NON-MEMBERS ONLY

THE ATRIUM CLUB
39 NEWNHAM ST, ELY CB7 4PQ
CALLNOW ON 01353 668888

PADGETS GARAGE ESTABLISHED 1895

Quality and reliable car repairs and
servicing & MOT

Free Collection & return if needed

We offer a local, friendly and prompt
service at reasonable rates

Specialists in vintage and classic car
parts. Expert knowledge of repairs

Estimates free



Dave Padget
Suspension Bridge
Call 01354 610225

WELNEY HOMEWATCH

The main role of Homewatch groups is to supply information on crime prevention and warnings about local criminal activities to the members of the community. Homewatch groups can also act as liaison between members of a community and the police and can help the police to address particular problems in a community. Welney Homewatch was able to pass the message on during two recent crime spates one a series of caravan thefts and break-ins; and the other in which elderly people were targeted in a number of deception burglaries. In each case measures were taken to ensure that the relevant or vulnerable members of the village were made aware of the possible risks, though fortunately Welney was not affected in the end.

Welney Homewatch consists of a Village Co-ordinator (myself) whose role is to liaise with the police and other relevant groups, a Treasurer (Marten Moss-Eccardt), and a number of Local Co-ordinators each 'responsible' for a particular part of the village. The local co-ordinators help to deliver information to households and hopefully have a good knowledge of their 'patch'; i.e., particularly if they have vulnerable

individuals (elderly persons living alone for example) or vulnerable households, holiday homes, isolated houses, houses empty for a lot of the day

Karen Fleming

Homewatch Local Co-ordinators

Chestnut Avenue Basil Kent: 610 294

Taymor Place Ken Sorensen 610 516

Main Street, Church Cottages

Mark Farrow: 610 324

March Rd. Hurn Rd. Hemside

Clare Tomkins: 610 214

Bedford Banks, Back Drove.

Dennis Booth: 610 247

Wisbech Rd. Marifa Lodge to Claytons Corner.

Tim Bennet: 610 433

Hundred Foot Bank: E of Bank Farm

Charles Bastock & Peter Johansen

01366 377375

Bells Drove: Suspension Bridge up to Chapel

House: Stuart Cree 610 584

Suspension Bridge (Bridge House to Council

House: Carol Green 610 401

GRAHAME SEATON

A.M.I.A.S.

DESIGN AND PLANNING CONSULTANT

Well Creek Lodge, St Peter's Road, Upwell.

Telephone 01945 772632

Drawings prepared for houses, bungalows, alterations and extensions.

Planning and building control approval obtained from Local Authorities.



Brewer Electrical Appliances

Top quality reconditioned electrical cookers, fridges, fridge-freezers and washing machines. Wide selection always available, including Halogen "slot-in" hobs.

All items supplied with a written guarantee and a safety test certificate.

Unbeatable value and quality at
Brewers Electrical Appliances
Trafalgar Industrial Estate
Downham Market.

Phone now for further details on:

01366 386838 (mobile 0589 400896)

WELNEY & DISTRICT SKATING CLUB

There is once again an active Skating Club in Welney - it was inspired by the excellent skating conditions on the Wash for three weeks last Winter. We competed for all the current cups.

As many local people know, Welney was the home of Long Track (outdoor) Skating in this country with our skaters dominating the scene in Victorian Times and the early part of this century with the famous Smart Family, producing the only World Champion - James Smart - that this country has ever had.

The Committee meet in the Lamb & Flag. A collection of photographs of famous skaters going back to the last century is on display. The Committee would like to hear from anyone who is interested in their children learning to skate: Committee Members will take them to reserved Sunday sessions at Peterborough.

The Chairperson is Roger Giles. His connection with skating is his son, Adam, who is a maternal descendant of the famous

Horn brothers who dominated cycle and ice skating in the Twenties and Thirties, representing England at the Olympics. The Secretary is Alvar Smart who still races as competitively as his Great-Grandfather, the World Champion. The Treasurer is Dave Smith, British Boys Champion for Short Track Skating in his teens and still racing, winning several cups this year. He lives in Sutton. Another active member of the Committee, Malc Robinson, won the Turkey Smart Cup this season on the ice at Welney and was a member of the relay team who were Short Track British Champions this year.

ALVAR SMART



HKT

HOWARD KENT (TRANSPORT) LTD

**Fresh produce haulage specialists for
movements ex field or store to packhouse,
factories and wholesalers.**

Belt-bulkers, tippers, curtainsiders and flats.

Storage available - 25,000 sq ft insulated

35,000 sq ft ambient

WISBECH CAMBS

01945 465724

WELNEY NORFOLK

01354 610484

WELNEY PARISH APPRAISAL

Every household received the Welney Parish Appraisal in May and copies also went to county organisations in both Norfolk and Cambridgeshire. It was particularly well received by Central Libraries in Norwich and Cambridge who both regarded it as a lively and well-researched addition to their 'County Collections'

It has also become clear from personal meetings, contacts and conferences which I've recently attended, that Welney is now much more widely known in our immediate area and in the counties of Norfolk and Cambridgeshire as a whole. Messages of thanks and congratulations for all that the team and villagers achieved have been received by letter, card and telephone as well as those personal words in conversations around the shop and pub and roads in Welney and also -believe it or not- much further afield.

Other villages wanting to do the same thing, have asked for a copy of our Appraisal on which to set their sights. So it is really a 'well done' for everyone. So a success, but what did it do for us? Local signs suggest that it has helped to heighten interest in parish affairs and has given fresh impetus to volunteers in our community. It remains to be seen how far-reaching the effect will be. But the signs are good.

Probably the greatest contributing factor to the success of the Appraisal was the overwhelming response by householders to the questionnaire, and also the positive and involved attitude of the majority of villagers to the project. So when we measure success, achievement and congratulations, we are saying a big thank you to the community in general, and congratulations are in order to all who participated. It is Welney's success.

Tom Fisher

J N LOVEDAY - ENGINEERING

JOHN LOVEDAY

**The Mill, March Road, Welney,
Wisbech Cambs PE14 9SE**

Tel: 01354 610353

Fax: 01354 610481



**Robotic Welding - Steel Fabrication and Welding. Welders
to BS4872 with weld procedure**

WELNEY ANGLING CLUB

Reflections from the recently retired Honorary Secretary and Treasurer - **Peter Redman.**

'The present Angling Club was founded in 1985 when the local rivers - the Delph and the Old Bedford became available for lease after thirty years of control by Sheffield & District Angling Association. Formed by myself and Dennis Booth to provide angling for the local people at a reasonable price, the Club has more than met original expectations.

Members consist mainly of Associate Members who travel from as far afield as Liverpool and South to fish for pike in the River Delph. Unfortunately, local, and particularly village members, are in the minority and this leads to major administration problems. Difficulty in maintaining an adequate working Committee has always been found.

Until 1996/7 the club was run by me as the Honorary Secretary/Treasurer. During this time a very sound financial base was established and on retiring from the post, at the last AGM, the Club was left in a position whereby finance was the least of it's concerns. The major problem was in finding a replacement Secretary and to date this has been left with Dennis Booth, as 'Caretaker'. The Club will not sink through finance but by lack of interest in administration.

Obviously administration needs to be kept locally and local members are urged to help to maintain the progress of the Club to avoid another thirty years of excessive book prices and outside control.



Bar-B-Que Time

Home Made:-

Sausages, Kebabs, Minty Lamb, Chicken Tikka, Chinese Style Ribs and Chicken

Refrigerated Deliveries - Twice Weekly -
Tuesday & Friday

Jumbo Sized Beef-Burgers, Pork & Apple Burgers, Lamb & Mint Burgers
Sausages - Pork, Pork & Apple, Pork & Garlic, Pork, Stilton & Celery, Pork, Ginger & Leek



GENERAL BUILDERS

CARPENTRY &
JOINERY SPECIALIST

EXTENSIONS
RENOVATIONS
MAINTENANCE

Wren Cottage - Main Street,
Welney, Wisbech, Cambs
PE14 9RB

FOR FREE
QUOTATION
PHONE OR FAX:
MR A PULLUM -
01354 610534

