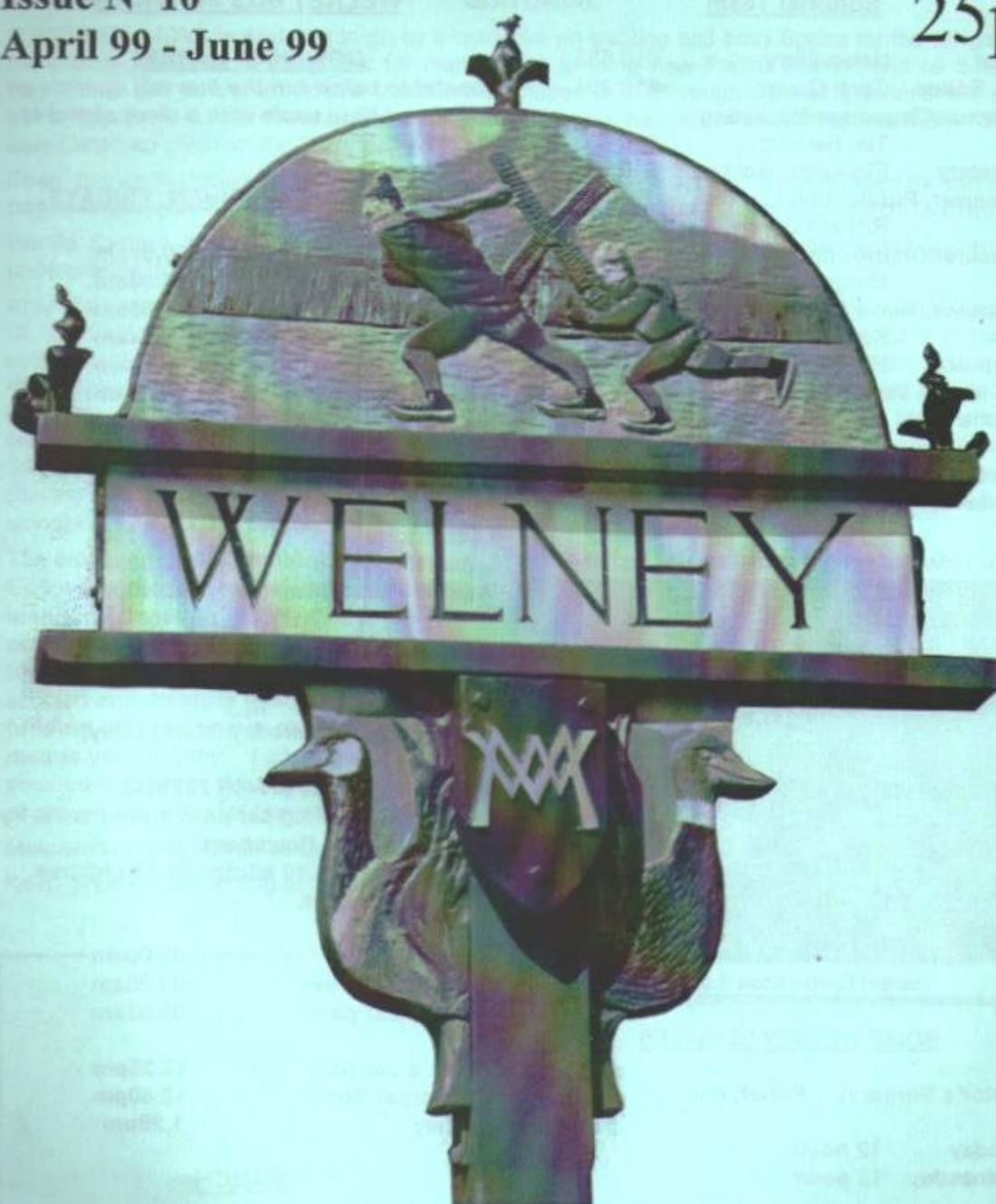


Issue N° 10
April 99 - June 99

25p



NEWS

Editorial Team

Editor	Helen Barry	610 585
Dep. Editor	Carol Green	610 401
Chairman/Organiser Marketing	Tim Bennett	610 433
Secretary	Elisabeth Deckker	610 498
Organiser, Publication Lay Out	Richard Green	610 401
Treasurer/Distribution Manager	Margaret Levesley	610 272
Organiser, News & Events	Karen Fleming	610 523
Illustrator	Elaine Sweetman	638 287
	Marlen Moss-Eccardt	610 344
	Sheona Snell	

Distribution: Peter & Charlotte Cox, Pat Rix, Michael Dickinson, Tom Fisher and the Editorial Team.



Harold Carter does it again!

SOME WELNEY SERVICES

Doctor's Surgery: Parish Hall

Monday 12 noon
Wednesday 12 noon

Prescriptions

Can be collected from the Post Office (inform the doctor at the time) Repeat prescriptions can be left and collected at the Post Office.

Wet Fishmonger calls at:

3.00pm Chestnut Avenue and
3.15pm at the Post Office every Friday

WELNEY BUS SERVICES

DOWNHAM MARKET

Timetable below but the bus will operate on a Hail and Ride basis with a clear signal to the driver.

WELNEY TO DOWNHAM: FRIDAYS

Welney Post Office	10.00am.
Lakes End	10.06am.
Lots Bridge	10.08am
Nordelph Bridge	10.14am
Salter's Lode	10.19am.
Downham Market	10.26am.

Downham Market	12.15pm
Salter's Lode	12.22pm.
Nordelph Bridge	12.27pm.
Lots Bridge	12.33pm.
Lakes End	12.35pm.
Welney Post Office	12.40pm.

(Fare: £1.70 single, £2.20 return)

ELY

Every Thursday (Market Day)

Cavalier Coaches (01406 362518)

Starts Lamb & Flag car park and runs via Py-moor and Little Downham.

Fare: Return £4.10 adults, £2.35 children, £3.20 pensioners.

Welney	09.00am
Ely Market Street	09.50am
Tesco's car park	09.53am

Tesco's car park	12.35pm
Ely Market Street	12.40pm
Welney	1.28pm

MARCH

FACT (Fenland Association for Community Transport) operate a "dial a ride" service from door to door to March every Wednesday. The service leaves Welney 9.00-9.30am and returns 12.30-12.45pm. In addition, once a month 'specials' run to places like Peterborough and King's Lynn.

To use the service you must become a member of the Association, which costs £1 per year. The return fare to March is £3.00 For further details phone: 661 234

EDITORIAL

If WELNEY NEWS is anything to go by it looks like an exciting and busy Spring for the village. We have three elections. The first for many years is for a new Parish Council and all details of candidates and polling times and dates are on pages 6-7. Borough Council Elections are on the same day: there is a list of candidates on page 7. and on June 10th an election for our MEP. Polling dates are also given on the Diary page (5).

Then, thanks to Upwell Cricket Club, we have another 24 page edition. They've taken the two centre pages to advertise their Festival and paid for printing the extra four pages. Our thanks to them.

Harold Carter's flowers brought light and colour to the village wayside verges and we've some photographs to remind you, if they've faded a little by the time you read this.

Amy Markham recalls 45 years of feeding the William Marshall children, her work for the WI and the St. John's Ambulance: Martin Kyne-Lilley and Philippa Mitchell have a great idea for the village to celebrate the Millennium: Ken Sorensen sets out the efforts that have been made in the past to solve the problem of the flooded Wash Road, Giles Landscapes have won a coveted big contract and celebrate local man, Richard Harmer, who is running it: Ken Goodger tells how the Fens have become a new centre for growing of 'essential oils' in England; Akiko Motoyoshi tells us of Spring in Japan: there's news of a Parent & Toddler Group: the new Committees for the Parish Hall and the Playing Field are given together with their future plans and Jane Frusher has details of a nearby woodland which is a great day out for parents and children.

The Norfolk Rural Community Council ask if there is an interest in bringing together all the Editors of Parish magazines in Norfolk to share ideas and experience. I went to the inaugural meeting at Wymondham on 9th March which was well attended. Suggested activities were an annual competition for the best newsletter, a directory of village newsletters, quarterly meetings for editors, training programmes, start up guides, exchange of articles and creating internet sites. Although the Rural Community Council will give start up funding, the running costs would have to be borne by the magazines themselves - and that means your money. I shall go to the next meeting, planned for June, but would like to hear your comments in the meantime. So if you could write or phone or let us know if you see me or any of the editorial team in the village, I would be grateful.

Meanwhile in this edition all the regular features with a bumper load of events on the Diary Page. Keep 'phoning and writing with ideas and we'll keep printing them.

Helen Barry



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DIARY DATES

APRIL APRIL APRIL APRIL APRIL APRIL APRIL APRIL APRIL APRIL APRIL

Fri	23th	10.00 - 12.00 Noon	Parents and Toddlers	Village Hall
		7.30 pm	Line Dancing	Village Hall
Mon	26th	10.00 - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
Wed	28th	7.00 pm	Carpet Bowls	Playing Field
		7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Fri	30th	7.30 pm	Bingo (French Night)	Village Hall

MAY MAY MAY MAY MAY MAY MAY MAY MAY MAY MAY MAY

Sat	1st	10.00	Minimart	Village Hall
Tues	4th		Friendship Club	Outing (see back page)
Wed	3rd	10.30 am	Teddy Bear Service	Village Church
		7.00 - 8.00 pm	WI	Village Hall
Thurs	6th	8.00 am - 9.00 pm	Parish/Borough Elections	Village Hall
Fri	7th	10.00 - 12.00 Noon	Parents and Toddlers	Village Hall
Mon	10th	10.00 - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
Tues	11th	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Wed	12th	7.00 pm	Carpet Bowls	Playing Field
		7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Fri	14th	9.30 am onward	Mobile Library	Usual Location
		10.00 - 12.00 Noon	Parents and Toddlers	Village Hall
		7.30 pm	Line Dancing	Village Hall
Mon	17th	10.00 - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
Tues	18th	2.00 pm	Friendship Club	Village Hall
Wed	19th	7.00 pm	Carpet Bowls	Playing Field
		7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Fri	21st	10.00 - 12.00 Noon	Parents and Toddlers	Village Hall
		7.30 pm	Line Dancing	Village Hall
Mon	24th	10.00 - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
Wed	26th	7.00 pm	Carpet Bowls	Playing Field
		7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Fri	28th	7.30 pm	Bingo	Village Hall

JUNE JUNE JUNE JUNE JUNE JUNE JUNE JUNE JUNE JUNE JUNE

Tues	1st	2.00 pm	Friendship Club	Village Hall
Wed	2nd	10.30 am	Teddy Bear Service	Village Church
		7.00 pm	Carpet Bowls	Playing Field
		7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Fri	4th	10.00 - 12.00 Noon	Parents and Toddlers	Village Hall
Sat	5th	10.00	Minimart	Village Hall
Mon	7th	10.00 - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
Wed	9th	7.00 pm	Carpet Bowls	Playing Field
		7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Thurs	10th	7.00 am - 10.00 pm	MEP European Elections	Village Hall
Fri	11th	9.30 am onward	Mobile Library	Usual Location
		10.00 - 12.00 Noon	Parents and Toddlers	Village Hall
		7.30 pm	Line Dancing	Village Hall
Mon	14th	10.00 - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
Tues	15th	2.00 pm	Friendship Club	Village Hall
Wed	16th	7.00 pm	Carpet Bowls	Playing Field
		7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Fri	25th	7.00 - 11.00 pm	Midsummer Dance	Playing Field Pavilion
Sat	26th	2.00 pm	Summer Fete	Playing Field

Satanta Boarding Kennels

Siberian Husky Specialists - but ALL dogs welcome!

OSBOURNE PLACE, MARCH ROAD, TIPPS END WELNEY,
CAMBS PE14 9SN Tel: 01354 638595 - Proprietor: Doreen Carter

WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

NINE COUNCILLORS TO BE ELECTED

SEE OPPOSITE PAGE FOR CANDIDATES

Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 9th March 1999

The Parish Council Chairman: Mrs. Pat Rix The Parish Clerk: Mrs. Pat Copeman (610 226)

Councillors were very pleased to note that 8 members of the Public (including the press) attended the Parish Council meeting.

Council agreed to give their full support to Mrs. Philippa Mitchell and Mr. Martin Kyne-Lilley in connection with a scheme for the millennium for Welney entitled 'Portrait of a Village'. The idea was to create a village map, and then a photographic portrait of everyone in the village, household by household. It was anticipated that the map would show buildings and features in the surrounding landscape and be set out on a large frieze made from a variety of textiles approximately 12x8ft, and that it could be made by as many people as possible and of all ages. It is hoped that an exhibition could also be staged and copies of the map would be made available for purchase.

The proposed new footpath along March Road was again discussed, and Council formulated some questions and points which they can put to Mr. Allfrey of the NCC Planning and Transportation when he visits the site for an inspection

on 16th March. It was resolved that whatever the outcome of his visit, we should keep pressing for a footpath along this stretch of road.

Wash Road and Flooding

Following the meeting with Mr. Young of the Norfolk

Country Council Planning and Transportation and representatives of the Environment Agency, Councillors discussed the **Four Options** which he informed us had come out of the Report which was commissioned in 1996. As he explained to Council the biggest stumbling block to any work being done is the finance, which is just not available. Council unanimously agreed to write to Mr. Young stating that we request him to look into **Option 2** raising the level of the low spots on the Wash Road to a height of 3" above the datum level, and to instigate an up to date study of this option in today's climate. This would by no means solve the problem of the road flooding, but if the level of the road was even slightly higher then it would certainly help. If something along these lines could be looked in to now, then we could keep pressing for a much more major structure across the Wash when the financial situation allows. It was also agreed to write to all the political leaders on the Norfolk County Council stating that following our meeting with Mr. Young, we as a Parish Council are in favour of **Option 2** but we think that it is high time that the County Council did something about the Wash Road because the Parishioners of Welney are very much up in arms. It was finally agreed that we must keep pressure on the Country Council so that they are not allowed to let the matter slide.

It was reported to the Meeting that the current Parish Council Notice Board is in a very bad state of repair and needs replacing. Councillors felt that it should be re-positioned and it was agreed to contact the Parish Hall Committee to see if a new Board, for the use of all the Village and not just the Parish Council, could be positioned on the side of the Parish Hall facing the car park.

Pat Copeman

NEW PARISH COUNCIL MEETS AT THE

AGM: TUESDAY 11TH MAY: 7.30

VILLAGE HALL

ALL PARISHIONERS ARE

WELCOME TO ATTEND



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

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

ELECTION DAY: THURSDAY 6TH MAY

POLLING STATION: PARISH HALL

8.00am - 9.00pm.

For the first time in many years you can act to elect a new Parish Council. This is not because a set number of people in the past have been holding on to power, it is because not enough people have come forward to warrant an election.

There are nine Parish Councillors and you can select those nine from the following eleven who have agreed to come forward to serve the community

The Candidates are:

TIM BENNETT	Wisbech Road
DENNIS BOOTH	Bedford Bank West
ALISON BURROWS	Taymor Place
CHARLOTTE COX	Tipps End
RICHARD GREEN	Suspension Bridge
STEVEN HARVEY	Wisbech Road
MARTIN KYNE-	
LILLEY	Main Street
PAULINE PULLUM	Main Street
PAT RIX	New Road
SANDIE SHORT	Hundred Foot Bank
IAN WARRINGTON	Main Street

Remember to vote on Thursday 6th May
between 8.00am and 9.00pm at the
Parish Hall



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SERVICE, DAY OR NIGHT

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PADGETS ROAD
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BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTION

An election for the two candidates to represent our Ward will be held on the same day and at the same times as the Parish Council Election. The candidates are:

DAVID BARNARD	(Rural Independent)
FRANK EMMET	(Liberal Democrat)
ALBERT FEARY	(Ind. Conservative)
LINDA KEAR	(Labour)
ROGER PARNELL	(Labour)
VIVIEN SPIKINGS	(Conservative)

You can vote for two candidates on
Thursday 6th May: Parish Hall



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

UPWELL NOSTALGIA DAY

Sunday 10th May: 10.00am-5.00pm

Entrance £1 Refreshments all day.

Upwell Hall

This is a photographic exhibition of life in the past in Upwell and all surrounding villages. A very successful Nostalgia Evening was held recently and more people wanted to see it than could be accommodated in the Hall, so this is a re-run with a larger display.

If you have any photographs from past days in Welney, please contact **Charles Martin** on 01945 772239 who will arrange to collect, take care of and return your photos.

GILES LANDSCAPES PROVE THAT QUALITY AND STAFF TRAINING WIN OUT IN THE END.

Roger Giles, Managing Director of Giles Landscapes here in Welney, has always aimed for quality in his work and given his staff encouragement and time during working hours to attend local colleges and to gain professional diplomas.

Recently he has taken advantage of ADAPT, the European Training Initiative to take on trainees who will be offered practical instruction and the chance for college recognition.

Now Roger's policy has paid off as the Highways Agency introduce a double envelope system for their contracts. The first envelope opened outlines the standards of quality in the company ranging from health and safety pre-



cautions, through staff training and qualifications to such practicalities as liaison with the police when heavy machinery needs access to the site.

The Highways Agency judges the bidders on quality and then opens the second envelope to look at price. In this way they hope to eliminate the 'cowboys' who quote low but botch the work. Roger says that 25% of his work in the past has been rescuing these other company's failures. But there should be less of this in the future.

And now under this new scheme, Giles Landscapes is just finishing a £250,000 contract. It is for ornamental planting along the M11/A12 in London.

Roger's particular pride is that local Welney man, Richard Harmer, was site manager for this contract. Richard is the son of Basil and Angie Kent (he changed his name on marriage). He started with Giles Landscapes even before he left school, earning money in his holidays and spare time. He then joined full time and as he says, 'at first it was a job like any other, but then as I was taught more and progressed, I really learned to love it and I can't really imagine doing anything else. I mean, I always took a pride in my work, I was keen to learn and then when you get more responsibility you keep trying more.'



And the college training, that gives you more confidence.

On the Leyton contract I worked on the site a week before we started, I was given the plans and marked out the planting, I was in charge of the men and machinery and the materials but I was also doing the job with the blokes as well as supervising them. There could be articulated lorries arriving with 5,000 plants a day, all of them had to be in place that night or they would be stolen. It meant leaving home in Outwell at 5.15am and getting back to wife and daughter around 7 in the evening, but it was really satisfying work.'

Now Richard is looking forward to studying for NVQ 4 on a higher education level where he has been accepted as showing high potential for a management qualification.

Roger says: 'Giles Landscapes have every faith in this young man, in fact I would go as far as to say that he is a credit to his family.'

Helen Barry

LET'S PUT WELNEY ON THE MAP!



Would you like to do something in the village to mark the millennium? We have an idea for a joint project which we hope will involve everyone...to create an exhibition:

PORTRAIT OF A VILLAGE

for all to come and see in the year 2000

The Parish Council have given their support, and so we would like to share our ideas with you.

There are two parts to the plan; firstly, to create a village map, not on paper, but out of fabric, patchwork, appliqué, knit, tapestry, stained glass, ceramic...anything you like. This is going to be **BIG - with every house on it and the surrounding landscape.**

We also aim to hold evening courses for those interested to come and learn a new skill, have some fun and create a piece of the map (your own house?).

The second part: Wouldn't it be fascinating to make a photographic portrait of all the villagers too? To show everyone with their families and an object as a symbol of their trade or interests. Also, to take a group portrait of everyone in the village. To freeze life in Welney as it is now, on film. Imagine, in years to come, looking back on who you were, what you did, and where you lived - it would be a unique record of the village in the year 2000

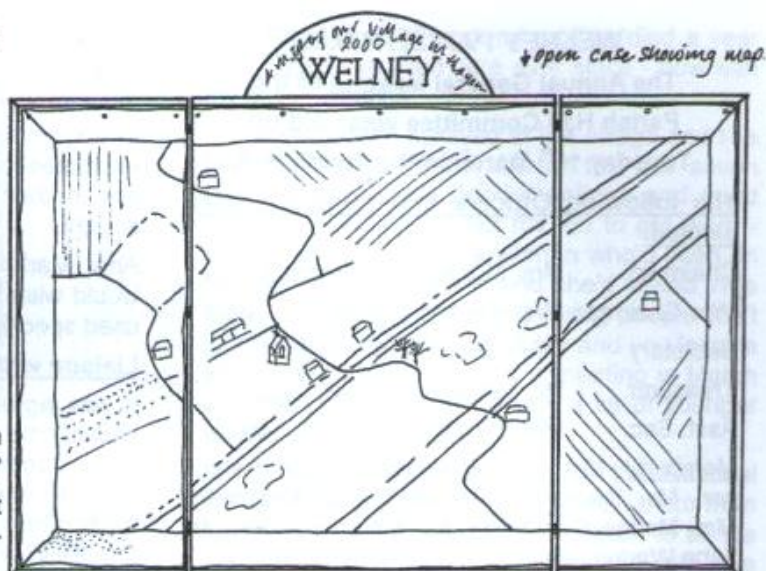
We will be needing all sorts of help to make this work.

Please 'phone for more information:

Philippa Mitchell (Map) on 01353 862481

Martin Kyne-Lilley (Photography) 610 502

WATCH THIS SPACE!



GRAHAME SEATON

AMIAS

DESIGN AND PLANNING CONSULTANT

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

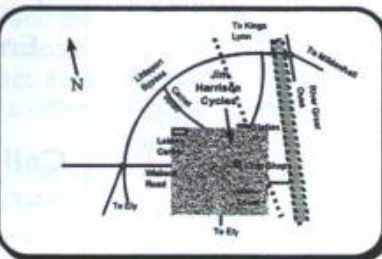
Telephone 01945 772632

Drawings prepared for houses, bungalows, alterations and extensions.

Planning and building control approval obtained from Local Authorities.



Jim Harrison (Cycles)



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

Next to Ex-Servicemens
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WELNEY PARISH HALL

**The Annual General Meeting of the
Parish Hall Committee was held on**

Tuesday 16th March in the Parish Hall

The following Officers and Members were elected.

Chairman: Mrs. Marlen Moss-Eccardt

Vice Chairman Mrs. Pauline Pullum

Secretary Mrs. Helen Barry

Treasurer Mr. Martin Kyne-Lilley

Asst. Sec. Mrs. Sylvia Kent.

Members: Mrs. Rosi Beckford, Mr. David Bonner, Ms. Diane Ingram, Miss Amy Markham, Mrs. Madge Singletary, Mr. Simon Scarffe, Mr. John Waring (Jnr).

The main issues discussed by the first meeting of the new Committee were:

New Fund Raising Club

This will be registered by the Treasurer, Martin Kyne-Lilley and run by him and John Waring Jnr. It will take the form of a pre-paid lottery in which at least 50% of the takings will go to prize money. A monthly draw will take place on Bingo nights. A number of prizes will be awarded, depending on how many people take part **but only the winning numbers will be publicised, not the names of the winners.**

Every household in the village will be visited and asked if they want to take part, and collectors will wear an identifying badge and give a receipt which will include the numbers allocated. It is hoped that as many people as possible will take part because the Hall now faces a very large expense - a new floor - and this was then discussed by the Committee.

New Hall Floor

It has been known for some time that the Hall floor is in need of repair. Martin Kyne-Lilley had been down to the foundations to examine them and produced a gross piece of rotting timber from the floor supports. (He suggested that it be mounted and become a village trophy!) His appraisal from the limited view he had, was that there are 12 walls which in turn support joists on which the floor boards rest.

His report was:

The walls are cracking and broken at the end in places.

The building has sunk in places.

There is no damp course installed.

Timber joists are rotting.

This is obviously a serious matter which must be dealt with if the Hall is to remain a safe venue. The Committee decided firstly to obtain three estimates for the repair work. Once the quotes are in then fund-raising and grants must be sought.

Amy Markham immediately said that the WI would wish the proceeds for their Knit-in to be used specifically for the floor.

Liaison with the Playing Field Committee

It was agreed that the Parish Hall Committee should hold an informal meeting with the Playing Field Committee (which will be elected on 8th April) to ensure that both organisations helped each other in their efforts for fund raising and that their events did not clash on dates. Each would publicise each other's work.

The next Meeting of the Parish Hall Committee took place on 20th April.

Full details in the next issue.

Marlen Moss-Eccardt (Chairman)



The Wigeon Tea-room

Open 10am - 4.30pm



**Visit our charming tea-room
at one of the most important
nature reserves in the area**
(all profits go towards our conservation work)

**Enjoy a variety of hot & cold
light lunches/snacks**
(served from 12-3pm)

**Call in for afternoon tea and try
our delicious home-made cakes !**
(Booked groups catered for)

Visitor Centre & Reserve 10am - 5pm
Gift & Book Shop
Disabled access / Baby changing Facility

MY LIFE IN A DAY



AMY MARKHAM

I'm up about seven and then leave about twenty past eight for William Marshall school. I'm not really due there 'til nine, but I like to get on - there's a lot to do preparing the dinners for the children with one pair of hands but I've been doing it since 1954 so I should think I know what I'm about now! In fact the youngsters I cooked for then, forty- five years ago, well, their own children have gone through the school since.

In those early days there were no fridges or freezers, the meat and veg all came in fresh and there was a lot more work in the preparation, and forty sat down to dinner.

Now, the County Council set the menus for the term but I have to work out what I need and order everything I want to use from the suppliers. The meat comes frozen and so do the veg, although I still get fresh cabbage and carrots. I don't serve frozen prepared meals. If I do a shepherd's pie I work out the meat and veg. and make the pies and I still get my potatoes from Wendy. I do a roast every Thursday - turkey, lamb or pork, and I roast potatoes with them. Then spaghetti bolognese - the children love that. There's 25 of them now to feed - the others bring sandwiches - and the older ones help to serve and clear away, but I still do all the washing up myself without a dishwasher. I usually leave about two in the afternoon.

I'm retiring at the end of next term and I'll miss it, but I'll have more time for the garden and the greenhouse, and I have great plans to completely re-do the front garden. I'm not sure quite how I'll change it, but you'll notice a difference.

I was born in Manea Runs but we moved to Council Farm - where Charlotte and Peter Cox live now - and there were 14 of us there with Mum and Dad. I'm the eldest and all but Andrew the youngest (he's in Germany) live hereabouts in the Fens. We moved here in

New Road in 1977 and my mother died a year later. And I've lived here ever since - now with my sister Blanche.

I've always been involved in the village and I've been President of the WI for the last seven years. We have good meetings and good speakers - though it's not my job to get them - but last month we had a woman who'd been on her own to New Zealand and she'd visited WI's there. It's a pity more of the young people don't join because there's a lot of fun and you learn a lot. Last month I went to a meeting in March and there were 300 there and a lot of younger women.

I'm going to the Albert Hall for the National Annual Meeting in June. I'll go with them from March in a coach and there we listen to all the resolutions for the whole organisation. We do a lot of work in the village, we made over £50 for the teas at the Water Gala and we've just had a sponsored knit-in for the village hall which raised £274.50.



Cutting the cake: 70th Anniversary Party 1996

I've also been a lifelong member of the St. John's Ambulance although I can't shift the bodies around the way I used to. I go every week to the meetings at Hilgay and keep up my training but I wish some of the younger people would take up this voluntary work. I used to go to

Sandringham for the flower shows and the horse trials. I remember once we got called to the House where a woman had collapsed, she was OK when we got there, but we were taken back in a chauffeur driven car.

I do the flowers and help with the Church but I attend the Chapel at Lakes End. And there again it's flowers and baking - I seem to be making cakes or scones or cream horns for something somewhere most of the time.

But it's a good life and I don't think I'll have time to spare even when I stop cooking the children's dinners at the school come July.

Amy Markham

BANK HOLIDAY

FESTIVAL

MAY 26 - 31

UPWELL CRICKET CLUB - LODGE HALL - THREE HOLES

BOUNCY CASTLE ON SUNDAY & MONDAY

WEDNESDAY 26th

**CRIB
DRIVE**

£50 1st Prize

7:30pm

THURSDAY 27th

**QUIZ
NIGHT**

£50 1st Prize

7:30pm



For more details of events & ticket bookings please contact:
Richard Johnson - 01354 638476 > Bob Frusher - 01354 610480
John Rowland - 01945 772695 > Keith Jakings - 01945 772130

FRIDAY 28th	SATURDAY 29th	SUNDAY 30th
CEILIDH DANCE BBQ 8:00pm	COMEDIAN & HORSE RACING BBQ 8:00pm	KIDS DISCO BBQ 7:30pm
WEDNESDAY 26th	7:30pm > Pairs Crib Drive > £50 1st Prize Refreshments provided > Licensed Bar from 7pm	Crib Drive Entry £5 per pair
THURSDAY 27th	7:30pm > Quiz Night > £50 1st Prize Teams of four > Refreshments provided > Licensed Bar from 7pm	Quiz Night Entry £4 per team
FRIDAY 28th	12:15pm > Corporate Hospitality 2:00pm > Upwell XI v Fenland XI 8:00pm > Ceilidh Dance > BBQ & Licensed Bar from 2pm	Ceilidh Entry £3 per person
SATURDAY 29th	2:00pm > Upwell C.C. v Narborough C.C. 8:00pm > Comedian > Horse Racing > BBQ & Licensed Bar from 1pm	Comedian / Racing Entry £1 per person
SUNDAY 30th	11:00am > Youth Cricket Competition 7:30pm > Kids Disco > BBQ & Licensed Bar from 11am	Kids Disco Adults £2 - Kids £1
MONDAY 31st	10:00am > Youth Football Competition 12:15pm - 3pm > Car Boot Sale > BBQ & Licensed Bar from 11am	Car Boot £4 per Car

Festival Pass £5 per adult

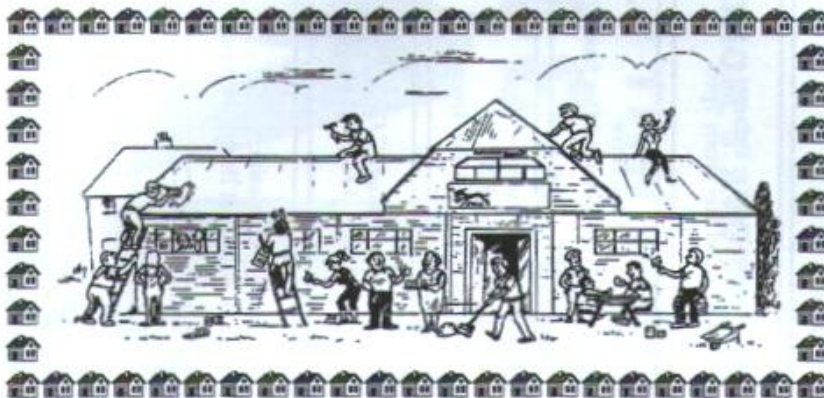
Provides entry to Friday, Saturday & Sunday evening events and allows kids in free on Sunday

PLAYING FIELD AGM

New Committee:

Chairman Adrian Rust
Vice Chairman: Dennis Booth
Secretary/Treasurer Pat Rix
 plus two co-opted members of the Welney Football Team.

The Secretary's Report opened with thanks to Alison Ingram and Adrian Rust for all the work they had done in the previous year fundraising. They had organised and helped out at the three dances which had been held in the village (2 of them shared profits with the hall), and helped out at the Water Gala to ensure that the Playing Field received a half share of those profits.



We now have a small balance in the account, and can look at providing facilities on the field.

Our first priority is to renovate and repaint the pavilion. Marshall's Charity have generously agreed to fund half of the actual cost of repainting, for which we are extremely grateful.

As the professional quote was so expensive, we are looking to raise enough volunteers to do the work under the supervision of Dennis Booth. We have 3 volunteers, but would like a few more so that we can get the job completed as quickly as possible, once we've started.

If you would be willing to give some of your time to helping out, please ring Pat Rix 610 292, she will compile a list for Dennis to work from. We would supply the equipment and refreshments

The football team have been very co-operative this season, and it is hoped to encourage closer links next season.

The carpet bowls team are still enjoying themselves, and have joined the West Norfolk Summer League to improve their game and to get extra experience.

We have arranged a Summer Fete for 26th June with a dance on the previous evening, 25th. Details will be released nearer the date, but it is hoped that displays and sporting activities will be organised as well as stalls and a possible Car Boot sale.

We are trying to cost the provision of a hard court area for basketball, tennis etc. It will be expensive, but will enable the Playing Field to be more widely used. It has been done by a small village in Norfolk, so size is not a disadvantage. As it is the teenagers who use the field most often it is felt that they should be considered most closely.

It is hoped to fence off the field adjacent to Hurn Drove so that the field is enclosed and can be kept clean. Some of the trees are going to be trimmed to prevent children being hurt by running into low branches. All the debris will be burnt with the residue of rubbish in the car corner. It is hoped to clear all of it before the Summer Fete.

We are looking at play equipment brochures with a view to providing something that will be used.

**Pat Rix
610 292**



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THE COST OF FLOODING

In the last issue of Welney News I looked at the effects of flooding on the Wash Road and I make no apology in returning to the subject. Half dozen or so businesses based here all gave evidence of extra costs when the flood waters cover the road. Additional travelling expense, time wasted by longer journey times and potential customers being kept away from the village all have their effect on the economy of Welney.

We now know that Gary and Chris, from the Lamb & Flag pub, are leaving. They are acknowledged as having considerably improved the pub and increased business. But not enough. Unfortunately, the erratic nature of the flooding and the considerable restriction of trade that it brings make the pub difficult to develop further. They feel they have no other option but to pursue a business elsewhere.

But it isn't just locally based firms which are affected - when the road is flooded almost everyone in the village is inconvenienced and out of pocket. Our pattern of living and where we work has changed. In past years local people worked locally, farms might employ 25 to 30 people - now all that has gone.

Today, 72% of people work outside Welney and, of these 67% have to travel further when "the road is closed." In other words most people when travelling to work by car would normally use the Wash Road. A guestimate for the average increased journey overall would be about 20 to 25 miles per day. Average fuel consumption for a car is, say, 30 miles per gallon. So, the extra petrol consumed is around 4 gallons a week - about £12. For the 13 months to the end of January this year the road was flooded for 15 weeks - or an extra £180 in petrol costs, on average. Some less, others much more.

There is also a perception that house prices here are adversely affected. Or, at the least, that selling in Welney is difficult.

Remember too, that it isn't just the village which is cut off. There are some 40 houses in the parish on the Suspension Bridge side - about 20% of our community. It's a fifty mile round trip for them to visit friends, visit Wendy's, attend village clubs, bring their children to school or the Playbus, or simply have a drink with their friends in the village pubs. That's another gallon and a half of petrol each time!

The recent Parish Appraisal published just over 2 years ago discovered that nearly three quarters of all households were inconvenienced by the flooding. 199 households returned their forms and 89% of the village replied. So a very reliable survey which accurately reflects the views of people living here. Of those who were inconvenienced 70% mentioned increased costs.

People were also asked their views on raising the road. Where people expressed their point of view, two thirds wanted the existing road raised. The other third preferred a new straight road. 91% wanted a footpath to be included. 76% wanted a cycleway too.

The Washes have always flooded - that's why they were built - to act as a temporary flood plain for the river system built over 300 years ago.

However, our lives have changed. Most of us earn our living outside of the community we live in. The Washes, when they flood, are dramatic and beautiful. They give an identity to our village. They provide a habitat for thousands of birds and other animals. They draw people from miles around who come and leave amazed. A number of us also enjoy the peace and quiet when the road is flooded.



But, does the Wash Road need to be under water for so long at our cost? Isn't it possible to have a contemporary solution for our lives today? One which reflects what our community wants?

Martin Kyne-Lilly

A NEW FRAGRANCE IN THE FENS

*We've all become accustomed to the gold of oil seed rape and the blue of linseed oil growing around the Fens, but now a group of farmers in and around Welney are slowly covering acres with camomile, yarrow and angelica. **Ken Goodger** tells the story of how Norfolk Essential Oils started*

Back in 1996 I started - with David Rowlett - an experiment to grow and harvest camomile. The European Commission had dubbed the Fenlands as a 5b group which meant we were in rural decline and needed ideas and funds. A market study was done and a number of ideas put forward, but it was the essential oils which won out. They had been grown in England up to the last war I think, and then everything went over to food crops.



Ken Goodger with a bouquet of camomile

David and I started with an acre or so each in 1997, mostly camomile.

We got another half dozen or so farmers interested for the following year which was going to total around 40 acres. At this point ADAS told us that we would need to spend £200,000 on an 'all singing all dancing' distillery to extract that much oil but even with their 33% grant that was not on. We decided that we had got to develop and invest as the business grew, so we built our own distillation plant with second hand parts - including two 10x6 ft. stainless steel vats from a chocolate factory. That cost us around £30,000 without a boiler, which we hired at £250 a week.

So in February 1998 Norfolk Essential Oils was registered. We were still learning and we lost out a bit on that crop because we'd been told to bale in round bales which would flow into the vats. But of course all the fresh camomile humped down to the bottom and wouldn't fit into our ex-chocolate factory vats. We used smaller bales for the rest of the crop and now we've had the idea of just tipping it in fresh and that seems to work.

We fill up the vat and then all jump in to pack it down. Then we lid it and pass steam through for 2 hours.

The steam passes through with the oil floating on top and that is siphoned off - a lovely deep blue colour from camomile.

While one vat is distilling, we're emptying out the other and cleaning it out ready for the next batch.



Siphoning off the camomile oil



Cleaning out the used vat

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We then had litre cans of oil, and many sample phials, but no customers, so we decided to invite potential clients to see us, our still and our oils. The distillery is not a gleaming factory but an old Dutch Barn off the beaten track and appropriately named 'World's End', our equipment was lashed together from second hand stuff and we were working farmers in our usual clothes. But we knew we had a good product, it was fresh, grown in England and we could show its provenance from the seed we had used to the land sown on and the still. Some of these customers had been buying from Chile where the product is white because it was old, ours was a brilliant blue. The visit was a great success - one client rang back the next day to say he would buy all his oil from us, and it was very encouraging to hear how pleased everyone was to know that these oils were being produced in England again.

1998 was a success for our small, new venture and I'll tell how we hope to expand, produce new by-products and create new jobs in the area in the June edition of WELNEY NEWS.

Ken Goodger

(from an interview with Helen Barry)



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PLAYBUS

Playbus activities have had a strong Easter theme recently; in the final session before the Easter break the children made Easter Bonnets. The children were then invited to take part in the William Marshall School's Easter Bonnet parade, with their own pre-school section. The pre-school winner was Holly Revett. The school children had all designed and made their own Easter Bonnets during art sessions and there was a wide range of attractive designs. The infant section was won by Leanne Chapman, and the junior section by Louisa Morgan.

On Easter Saturday there was an Easter Egg Hunt at Shouldham Warren organised and run by the Playbus committee. Shouldham Warren is a forestry plantation with pleasant shaded paths and bridleways and two waymarked trails of 1 and 2½ miles respectively. Entry was £1-50 per child, and there was a Tombola stall too.

The Hunt followed the 1 mile trail with 'clues' ranging in difficulty so that younger and older children could easily take part. The children all enjoyed the Hunt very much, and it was a very sociable occasion with some families staying on to have picnics and enjoy the lovely warm spring day.

Karen Fleming



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CHURCH NEWS
ST. MARY'S CHURCH WELNEY
REVIEW FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 1998

Incumbent: Revd. S. Tooke,
 The Rectory, Church Road,
 Christchurch, PE14 9PQ

Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

The following served on the PCC.

Incumbent Revd. Sheila Tooke

Representative on the Deanery Synod and Church Warden Mrs. Marjorie Frost

Elected Members

Mrs. Pauline Aisthorpe (From APCM 98)
 Mrs. Jane Carter (Co-opted November 98)
 Mrs. Jennifer James (Treasurer)
 Mrs. Sally Kerr (Co-opted November 98)
 Mrs. Florrie Dolton Miss Cissie Bedford
 Mrs. Madge Singleterry, Mrs. Mary Dockerty
 Mrs. Queenie Johnson, Mrs. Marlen Moss-Eccardt,
 Mrs. Peggy Smart (Resigned Nov 98)

At the APCM on 23rd March it was with great sadness that the resignation of Mrs. Jennifer James (Treasurer) was accepted. She had served loyally and unstintingly for 22 years.

Elected as Church Warden: Mrs. Rosi Beckford.

Church Electoral Roll

There were 20 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll at the beginning of 1998, 2 of whom are not resident within the parish. 2 names were removed during the year, 1 through death and 1 moved away from the parish.

Review of the year

The full PCC met five times during the year with an average attendance of 92%

Due to transport difficulties the Welney/Christchurch Mothers Union has sadly had to close. The last meeting was held with Christchurch in St. Mary's on 11th March 1998. A Christmas meeting was held at 'Hilboro', Christchurch in December.

Work was carried out on the chancel during 1998 which involved the removal of choir stalls, (these have been given to parishioners) resurfacing the floor and the laying of new carpet. Remedial work was also carried out on the bell rope and the boundary wall.

Teddy Bear Services were started during 1998. These services are for pre-school children and take the form of about 30 minutes of songs, prayers and stories with drinks and biscuits to follow. The attendance has been encouraging.

The church celebrated its 150th anniversary during 1998 with a week of special services which were very well attended and appreciated.

An anonymous donation of £1,000 was used to purchase bibles for the pews and new has-socks. We also received a bequest from the estate of Mrs. L Sorensen (Pam) and this, after much careful thought, will be used to purchase items that are both befitting of the church and also Pam's memory.

Mrs. P. Moeller has requested that St. Mary's accept a silver communion paten on behalf of the Wilford family. (Former Rector)

The church and its facilities were used by the St. Edmundsbury Pilgrims on the evening of 27th August. The church facilities were also offered for use in September for the annual Historic Churches Trust cycle ride.

St. Mary's has been included in the Church Trails Project that was launched in November.

A video was shown at the end of the year as an introduction to the Alpha course which commenced in February 1999.

Revd. Sheila Tooke

CHURCH SERVICES

<u>April</u>		
25 th	9.30am	Morning Prayer
<u>May</u>		
2 nd	9.30am	Morning Prayer
9 th	11.00am	All Age Worship
16 th	9.30am	Morning Prayer
23 rd	9.30am	Holy Communion
30 th	11.00am	United Service
<u>June</u>		
6 th	9.30am	Morning Prayer
13 th	11.00am	All Age Worship
20 th	9.30am	Holy Communion

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DUNHAMS WOOD

A GREAT DAY OUT

Last spring I was surprised and delighted to discover a fascinating local attraction; Dunhams Wood. If you take a right turn off the road to March, just before the level crossing, and look out for the signs to "Dunhams Wood", you will find a bungalow and garden belonging to a couple with a dream that was realised.

Margaret and Arthur Dunham have spent ten years converting their garden - about five acres - into a woodland paradise. There is a wide variety of trees and shrubs, and the area is criss-crossed with a network of footpaths; look out for some woodland sculptures as you go. There is a miniature railway running through the wood. After exploring by rail or on foot you can relax in a picnic area and enjoy afternoon tea. For children, it is a wonderful afternoon out, and I think most adults, too, would appreciate the peace and beauty of the wood. Perhaps some of your readers might like to discover the secret of Dunhams Wood this summer.

Jane Frusher

To find Dunhams Wood, turn right just before the level crossing on the B1099, then after a short distance right again into Rodham Road. Look out for a grassy car park on the right and a tantalising half-hidden entrance through some shrubs on the left.

Entrance is £1 for adults and 50p for children; the train ride costs 40p. The footpaths are level and grassy and suitable for most pushchairs. There are some special events during the spring and summer, including a treasure hunt and a Teddy Bears' Picnic. The wood is open to visitors on Monday, May Day Sunday and Monday, Spring Bank Holiday Sunday and Monday, the last Sunday in July and all Sundays in August, and August Bank Holiday Monday. Group visits and childrens' parties can be arranged. For more information and details of special events, telephone Margaret and Arthur Dunham on 01354 6521



**WELNEY ANGLING CLUB
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**THURSDAY: 29th APRIL 7.30PM
ALL WELCOME
PAVILION: PLAYING FIELD**

BEEN THERE, DONE THAT GOT NOWHERE SO FAR

In view of the experience of the past winter and the comments published recently in **WELNEY NEWS**, a short history of the efforts which have been made over the past years to try to eliminate the flooding of the Wash Road may be of interest.

In the winter of 1992/93 the Wash Road was impassable for over 65 days. There were many complaints to the Parish Council who wrote to the County Highways Department asking for action to be taken to eliminate the flooding. Letters were also sent to elected representatives on the Borough and County Councils and to the local MP asking for their support, to which they all agreed.

A public meeting was held in April 1993 with about 200 people attending - invited were members of the County Council and other organisations responsible for, or having an interest in, the management of the flood water. The invited officials were unable to give satisfactory answers to many of the questions so a further public meeting (attended by about 150 people) was held in July, in the hope that the invited representatives might have looked at the problem more closely and come better prepared. These meetings certainly achieved their first objective in that all authorities were made well aware of the public's dissatisfaction with the flooding of the road. However, the NRA stated that, while they regretted the inconvenience caused by the flooding, they had no legal authority to pay for any remedial action, and the County Council stated that, due to insufficient funds, they could do nothing in the foreseeable future. But the Chairman of the Planning and Transportation Committee agreed to consider a proposal for a preliminary study of solutions.

The Parish Council then formed a Working Party whose remit was, firstly, to lobby for carrying out a study and thereafter the implementation of remedial works; secondly to investigate the legality of allowing an 'A' road to be closed for long periods; and thirdly to investigate possible sources of funding the works.

A document giving cause and effect of the flooding was sent to the Councillor representing Wel-

ney, to the County Chief Executive and the Director of Planning and Transportation, to all members of the Planning and Transportation Committee, to the local MP and all MPs for adjacent constituencies, to the local MEP and to the Secretary of State for Transportation to ensure that everyone in a position to make or influence the making of a favourable decision was fully informed. We didn't stint on making contacts, my file for all the letters sent and replies received is about five inches thick!



Letters were sent to Councillors, the Chief Executive of the Borough Council, all adjacent Town and Parish Councils and all companies involved in transport in the region, soliciting their support. Notices asking the support of the public were distributed and local newspapers asked to publicise the need for support.

The County Planning and Transportation Committee met in December 1993 with the local Councillor making full representation on behalf of the Parish Council. The

Committee's decision was that, due to lack of funds, work to eliminate the flooding could not be included in the 1993/4 budget or in the programme for future highway improvements, but that consideration would be given to include funding a preliminary study of possible solutions in the 1994/5 budget. This study (authorised in Dec 1995) considered three alternatives for which preliminary cost estimates were prepared, namely, constructing a viaduct similar to that at Mepal, estimated at over £4 million; installing culverts and raising the existing road, estimated at £600,000; and building a straighter road with culverts along a new route, estimated at £800,000.

Legal advice on the likely success of a court action to force the County Council and/or the NRA to take steps to eliminate the flooding of the road was taken and legal opinion was that under present law, no action could be taken against the County Council and that action against the NRA would be unlikely to succeed and that, in view of the high cost of such action, it was not recommended.

Lack of funds was obviously the main reason that nothing would be done, so when the European Commission announced in 1994 that

money would be available through the European Social Fund Objective 5(b) Programme to improve conditions in the Fenland area, steps were taken to have some of this money used to eliminate the Wash Road flooding. The Parish Council submitted an application and the Working Party followed this up with Central Government, County and Borough Councils and the local MP and MEP. Again disappointment, we were told "major physical infrastructure improvements are of necessity outside the scope of the 5(b) programme given the total funds available". Since then other sources of funding have been explored including the Lottery Fund, the Millennium Fund and the Rural Development Commission, without success.

This is more-or-less the history of what everyone has tried so far, but history has a habit of repeating itself. About 150 years ago, the Marshall's Charity, which was required to maintain the roads in the Parish so that residents could attend church, was faced with the same problem when the Wash Road flooded. They had a study carried out to determine the cost of building culverts under the road and raising it but found that they could not afford to carry this out.

Ken Sorensen

(one time member of the Working Party on the Wash Road Flooding)

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THIS IS THE FINAL CALL FOR ALL PASSENGERS TO ?!!?

I hadn't appreciated just how **unconcerned** Welney residents are about their inability to get out of the village by anything other than their own steam.

Supposedly the abysmal lack of rural transport is a major issue in the British countryside. But despite this there was **absolutely no feedback whatsoever** to my request in the last edition for ideas about what new local services you'd like to see in Welney.

Perhaps you don't believe that we could ever benefit from the massive injection of funds that has recently been earmarked for use on local initiatives. We certainly won't if we don't ask.

It needn't be our own bus or mini-coach but funding for organisations who have a coach to extend its use, or funding to persuade other coach operators or community sponsored coaches to include Welney on their routes, or dial-a ride, or subsidised taxi services. The money is there for any scheme we can devise.

Are you really not interested in getting to the Health Centre, Hospital, cinema, theatre, sports centre or youth club, visiting friends or going shopping? How about connections to the railway network?

Brian Blackwell and I represent Welney on the local Rural Transport Partnership, but if you don't start shouting about your needs soon, you can hardly complain about the lack of local transport in Welney, nor losing out on this new funding.

Tim Bennett 610 433

KING'S LYNN HOSPITALS LEAGUE OF FRIENDS

Many of you are kind enough to respond when I collect for this organisation so I thought you might like to know how much money is collected overall and how it is spent.

The Christmas collection totalled around £13,000, a separate Christmas Bazaar raised £1,206. Other events over the last few months - car boot sales etc., raised around £1,000. Donations in lieu of flowers "In Memory Of" raised £1,318. And there was a legacy of £1,000. These are sums raised since last November, but collecting and fund-raising goes on all year round.

The League has agreed now to provide a Video Brochoscope at £15,945, a medicine trolley for Markham Ward at £540.80, shower chairs and 12 armchairs for Geltwell, Elm and Gayton Wards at £2,112 and a seating combination for the Central Treatment Unit waiting area at £1,971.

If you would like to enjoy an afternoon and give further help to the League:

Hospital Fete: QE Hospital

Saturday 3rd July at 2.00pm

(Last year we raised £10,000 and are hoping to do better this year. If you can contribute anything to be sold or raffled it would be much appreciated).

Again thank you for your previous donations.

Marlen Moss-Eccardt

TOP DOGS

As we've been following the racing prowess of our village Siberian Huskies, I thought you might like to give send congratulations to **Ann**

Lunn who won a **Best-in-Breed award at Crufts, with Abby**, one of her Siberian Huskies, beating off over 200 other dogs in the process.

The win provided some consolation for the household, since partner **John** only managed second place at the end of this winter's series of dog races.

Congratulations to you both.

Tim Bennett



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be the victims of crime than other age groups. There are some simple measures that can be taken to improve your sense of security at home. The following list of hints comes from a recent Age Concern publication.

- Door chains are strongly recommended by Age Concern though it is important to use them appropriately. The chain should be used every time you answer the door, but should not be left on at other times as it could delay emergency access, e.g. by a doctor.
- Always ask for identification from callers e.g. meter readers and, if you are not reassured by badges or ID cards, then you can check that the visit is genuine by telephoning the electricity company (or whoever). A genuine caller should always be prepared to wait for you to do this

WELNEY HOMEWATCH

The only reported crime for Welney since the burglaries in Main Street and Bedford Bank in early February was the theft of some radiators from a house under construction on Main Street, sometime during the period 24th-27th February. The police would like to remind us that now it is springtime, sheds and garages will become even more of a target than they already are. Remember to put all tools away in a locked shed or garage, and try chaining small items together so they are less portable. Use obscure glass or obscuring film on shed windows to prevent thieves from "window shopping". In many shed break-ins, the doors are opened by unscrewing the hinges; this can be avoided by using security screws, of which there are several types, or by using bolts instead of screws. Remember that wrought iron gates, garden ornaments and tubs are valuables too. Gates need to be hinged securely. Tubs and ornaments can be photographed and post-coded.

Senior citizens are often seen as being more vulnerable to crime and may feel more at risk, though in fact statistics show that the elderly are generally less likely to

- If anyone you do not know comes to your door, even a child, and asks you to come out to find a ball, help catch their dog, or look at something, be on your guard and preferably do not go at all. They may have a hidden accomplice who could quickly get into your house while you are distracted.
- Don't keep a lot of money in your house; use a bank, building society or post office account. Keep your cheque book and credit cards/cheque cards separately - if both are stolen the thief could easily forge your signature on cheques.
- More information on crime prevention and personal safety is available on the Health Information Service free phone line, 0800 66 55 44, on weekdays 9am-5pm. This service also provides information on any health or social issue.

Karen Fleming

Wisbech Border Collie Rescue



Are always needing homes for unwanted Border Collies.

- Have you done your homework on the breed, so you know what to expect?
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Many of the dogs make good working dogs. A dog is for life and Border Collies live an average of 16 years.

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PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

A new Parent and Toddler group which will meet in the Village Hall on Friday mornings from 10-00 to 12 noon, beginning on the 16th April.

This is intended to be a strictly informal group, in which all children must be accompanied by a parent or carer, and each family will be asked to bring along at least two toys which can be shared. Refreshments will be provided. The cost of renting the Hall and buying drinks etc. will be covered by an entry charge of £1 per child, and 50p for each additional child in a family.

The thinking behind this group is that it will be a supplemental facility for those currently using the Playbus, and also will be open to anyone else in the Welney area with children of pre-school age. Those on the Playbus waiting list will at least have an alternative opportunity for play and social contact, as hopefully will others who have not found it convenient to use the Playbus in the past.

The Parent and Toddler group will initially run for a trial period. It is not intended to be a substitute for the official Pre-school Group, but will certainly help to fill the gap until a formal group is up and running. See Diary P 5 for future dates

Karen Fleming



THE RED HART INN Three Holes

**NOW TAKING BOOKINGS FOR
CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH!**

Traditional Home cooked food

Noon - 2:30 pm, 7 - 10 pm Mon to Sat

Noon - 9 pm Sunday

**Warm, Friendly
Atmosphere**

Dave and Judy Flather
look forward to meeting you
Tel: 01945-773328

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

On March 23rd the Friendship Club had a regular meeting with Mr Ken Sorensen and Mrs Connie Pennick recalling their recent holidays in France and Cornwall respectively. One of the guests at the April 6th meeting was less talkative but very interested in the biscuits; this of course was Abbie, the beautiful Siberian Husky who recently won Best of Breed at Crufts. She was accompanied by breeder Ann Lunn, who gave a talk about her life with husky dogs. Ann also brought along some excellent photographs to illustrate her talk. Club members all had a chance to say hello to Abbie, who loved all the attention!

Club meetings are now at the summer time of 2pm-4pm. As part of the flower display at each meeting, there is a new cut-glass rose bowl in memory of Pam Sorensen.

On May 4th the Club has its first outing of the year, to the African Violet Centre at Terrington St Clement. The day will also include a visit to Springfields Exhibition Centre in Spalding, to see the tulip floats from the Tulip Parade on the Bank Holiday Saturday. The June outing will be a trip to Lowestoft. For more details of these two events and to book places, please contact Cissie Bedford on 610206.

BINGO SPECIAL
FOR ONCE ONLY
THIS YEAR WE ARE
HAVING A FRENCH
NIGHT WITH ALL
PRIZES FROM
FRANCE - DON'T
MISS IT ON FRIDAY
30TH APRIL

YOUTH CLUB

Youth Club discos are scheduled for 30th April, 28th May, and 25th June. Club nights are continuing as before on Monday evenings at 7pm. There is nothing else to report at present - hopefully there will be some news of summer events in time for the next issue.

Karen Fleming