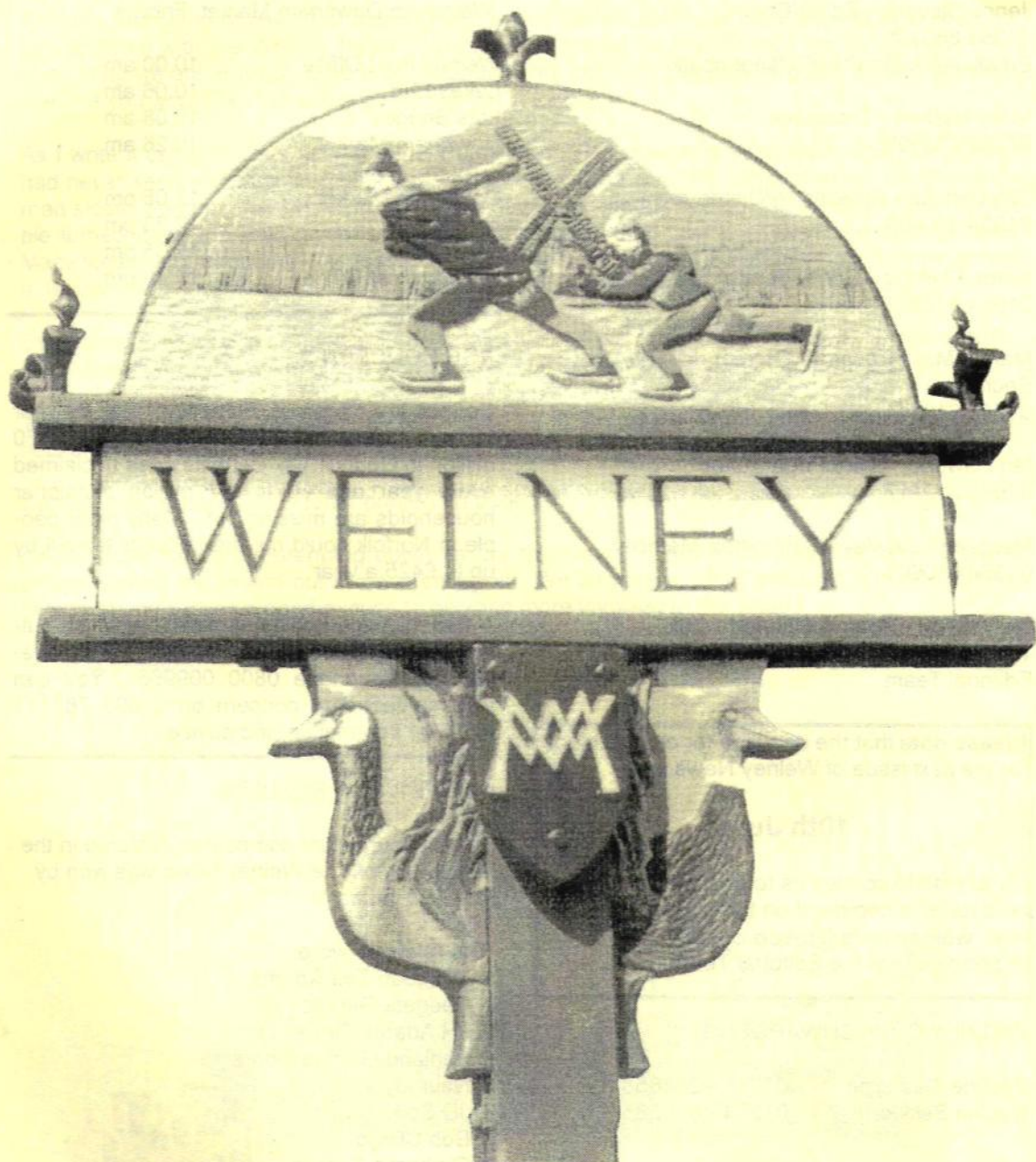


Issue N° 39
June 04 — July 04

25p



WELNEY NEWS

EDITORIAL TEAM

Jenny Stevens - Editor/Chair
01353 860121
Email; jenny@darrell60.fsnet.co.uk

Vicky Herbert - Treasurer
07789 733909

Tim Bennett - Advertising/Distribution
01354 610433

Karen Fleming - Correspondent/Secretary
01354 610523

Marlen Moss-Eccardt - Correspondent/Ass.
Secretary
01354 610344

Ian Haworth - Diary Page Editor
07960 012117

Margaret Levesley - Committee Member
01354 610609

Distribution - Peter & Charlotte Cox,
Tom Fisher, Peter & Anne Wood, and the
Editorial Team.

Please note that the deadline for contributions
for the next issue of Welney News is;

10th July

If you wish to contact us to give articles for the
next issue or comment on the current issue; E-
mail welneynews@tesco.co.uk
or phone any of the Editorial Team.

WELNEY CHURCHWARDENS

Pauline Aisthorpe 01366 - 384658
Rosina Beckford 01354 - 610385



Welney Bus Services

Welney to Downham Market: Fridays

Welney Post Office	10.00 am
Lakes End	10.06 am
Lots Bridge	10.08 am
Downham Market	10.26 am

Downham Market	12.05 pm
Lots Bridge	12.33 pm
Lakes End	12.35 pm
Welney Post Office	12.40 pm

AGE CONCERN

Council tax rates are increasing year by year but new Government figures show up to £770 million in Council Tax Benefits goes unclaimed every year and up to 1.7 million pensioner households are missing out. Many older people in Norfolk could cut their council tax bill by up to £425 a year.

A free 12 page booklet is available which outline how to claim key money benefits by telephoning freephone 0800 009966. You can also contact Age concern on 01603 787111 for more information and advice.

COMPETITION RESULTS

The treasure Hunt competition featured in the last edition of The Welney News was won by Mrs. P. Markham.

The answers were:

1. Widgeon Tea Rooms
2. Padgets Garage
3. JH Adams Store
4. Fenland Garage Doors
5. Navrady's
6. JD Spikings
7. Bob Clingo
8. Grahame Seaton
9. Harry Humphrey Financial Services
10. Beauty Treatments by Jane
11. East Cambs Garden and Building Supplies
12. Osborne Place Kennels
13. West Norfolk Asbestos Removal
14. Jane Carter Body and Sole

The final answer being the defunct water tower.

EDITORIAL

Well the first piece of news I should tell you is that Darrell and I are now staying in Welney so I can continue with the Welney News. No one volunteered for the Editor's job so perhaps it is a good thing we are staying. One suggestion to come out, was the idea of guest editing certain issues. If you would like to have a go please get in touch.

As I write it certainly feels very summery outside and fly season is very much upon us again. I had never seen so many flies until I came to Welney and saw the 'clouds' which hang over the road sides. Planning for the August bank holiday Gala is in full swing. On the 28th April, 18 people turned up to the Pavilion for the first organising meeting. Who says village spirit is dead? Many ideas were aired and discussed, the advertisement on page 20 should hopefully be enough to let everyone know it will be a successful and fun packed weekend.

Congratulations to Giles Landscapes and all involved with the Chelsea Flower Show garden. Read page 4 and you will realise Welney has a rival to Diamund Gavin in this years show.

There are a few job advertisements to look out for in this issue; Marifa Lodge, The Welney Cygnets and the Welney Angling Club.

Can anyone respond to the letter printed on page 10? Does anyone else agree or disagree?

Finally Vicky Herbert is stepping down as our treasurer. If anyone would like to get involved please contact me to find out more information. We only have small amounts of money to take charge of and it gives a good excuse to become more involved in the village.

Jenny Stevens



High Street Welney, Lamb & Flag on the right and it's sign on the left

LOCAL ENTRANT IN THIS YEARS RHS CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

Giles Landscapes of Welney are building and exhibiting a garden at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. Steve has already won a silver and bronze Chelsea, as of yet gold has eluded him; may be this year! The garden is very much a practical environmental garden; the kind of garden somebody living in the town or city could aspire to.

Garden Title: The Wildlife Trusts' Gateway Garden

Designer: Steve Hall of Giles Landscapes, Welney

Category: Courtyard

Sponsor: The Wildlife Trusts/Cory Environmental Trust, Thurrock

Contractor: Giles Landscapes, Welney

Build date: 15th - 23rd May

Show date: 24th - 28th May

The garden demonstrates ideas that developers or homeowners could employ when creat-

ing gardens for new houses and incorporating biodiversity into them. The garden addresses the problems of poor soils, emergent weeds and the importance of composting in newly established gardens. Various features provide sanctuary for wildlife: a hibernaculum built of stone slabs and rotting moss-covered logs; an upturned tree stump acting as a bird table; bird boxes and feeders; a compost heap; a pond; buried clay pots for a bumble bee colony and many others.

Naturalised plants are chosen partly for their value in supporting wildlife - providing nectar, fruit, seeds and protection - and partly for their ability to stand poor soil conditions. A lychgate, planted with a green roof of mixed grasses, at the back of the garden provides a backdrop but is also symbolic of the Wildlife Trusts work with the Thames Gateway Green Grid project, providing a forum for valuable ideas on the topic of biodiversity.

For further information contact Giles Landscapes, telephone 01354 610453



CHURCH NEWS

It has come to the churchwardens' attention that some of the villagers are unhappy with the condition of the churchyard; or more precisely, the grass cutting and maintenance thereof. We do have a man who cuts the grass as regularly as he can, using his own machinery. The mower once owned by the church was stolen and a few months later its replacement was also stolen. The last council quote to cut the grass in the churchyard was £3500 and this was in 2001. Goodness only knows what it would be now.

Your church at Welney costs around £125 per week to keep it open and this is just for the essentials. There are also approximately £83,000 worth of repairs to be done; the roof repairs, repairs to the inside of the church, wall repairs etc.

Welney has a population of approximately 600. Out of this total we have an average congregation of 10, yes 10!! This figure includes the priest and the organist, so it isn't quite the number it may first appear. As a consequence the weekly giving at our services is not great, but when our running costs and overheads are taken into account, well it doesn't take an Einstein to work out our financial problems. I hope that I have shown from the forgoing that we are juggling with limited resources to keep your church and churchyard in the condition you would wish to see it.

The point is this; we require assistance to help with the upkeep of the churchyard; We already have one person from the village who helps a great deal and this is carried out quietly and without any fuss or payment. Anyone else willing to give us any time at all would be welcomed with open arms,

We do try with our limited resources, to keep your church and churchyard in the best possible condition. With a little help from our friends this could be made much easier.

Pauline Aisthorpe
Churchwarden St.Mary's Welney

**Over Twenty Years Of Excellence
From A Family Business**

THE AREA'S MOST COMPREHENSIVE
RANGE OF GARAGE DOORS &
AUTOMATIC SYSTEMS. REPAIR SERVICE
& SPARE PARTS

FENLAND GARAGE DOORS

**Kings Lynn 771733
Wisbech 580975**

**Visit Our Showroom at
SOUTHERY**

01366 378481

WWW.FENLANDDOORS.CO.UK

AN INTERESTING THOUGHT ABOUT ELY HOSPITAL

One keen eyed Welneyite, who wished to remain anonymous, recently spotted, in a local paper, an obituary where the deceased person had received some excellent care at the Welney Ward, Princess of Wales Hospital, Ely.

Following further pondering on the subject a few queries came to mind;

1. Did a Welney benefactor give the cost of a new ward to the hospital or was it a gift to the people of Welney?
2. Which Princess of Wales was it? The last one only became Princess of Wales in the Eighties and the previous one ceased to be when in 1910 she became Queen Mary. Is it a recent renaming when Princess Diana died?

Does anyone remember? Please get in touch if you have any information.

W.I.

The April meeting was an opportunity for the committee to have a night off. Jean Newell was president for the evening and introduced guest Louise Smart. Louise demonstrated a variety of ways to create greetings card, which was very different from the previous months guest.

During the evening Blanche Markham was presented with a handkerchief for gaining maximum points in recent competitions.

The competition to create a floral arrangement in a teacup and saucer attracted eight entries and Louise Smart kindly donned the judge's hat. Vera Singleterry gained 5 points, Queenie Johnson and Jennifer James 4 points, Jean Newell and Blanche Markham 3 points with Cissie Bedford, Amy Markham and Bettine Watson gaining 2 points each.

Lucky winners in the draw, which included several Easter eggs, were Queenie Johnson, Carol Halls, Amy Markham, Bettine Watson, Jennifer James, Blanche Markham, Betty Smith and Jean Newell.

Afterwards everyone enjoyed a special buffet supper.

Mr. and Mrs. John Day from Peterborough were welcomed to the May meeting. Mr. Day gave a talk on Romany crafts and showed members how to make old-fashioned clothes pegs, and spoke about the Romany way of life, their culture and different beliefs. Also on display was a beautifully decorated miniature caravan, built and painted by Mr. Day.

Mrs. Day created pretty paper flowers and presented one with greenery to each member, a very enjoyable evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Day judged the competition, where members had to dress a wooden spoon, awarding Blanche Markham 5 points and Queenie Johnson 4 points.

Raffle winners were Amy Markham, Jean Newell and Jennifer James.

The A.G.M. will be held in London on 9th June when three resolutions will be discussed.

1. To combat the trafficking of women and children for exploitation and forced labour.

2. To prohibit the growing of G.M. crops in the U.K.

To make funding available annually for the Air Ambulance Service.

Members were all in favour of the three resolutions and voted accordingly.

At the time of going to press the activities for June and July aren't finalised.

Details from Amy Markham 01354 610340



EAST CAMBS GARDEN & BUILDING SUPPLIES

Tel/Fax 01353 699645: Mob 07769581794

ALL OUR PRODUCTS CAN BE SUPPLIED IN BULK BAGS, SMALL BAGS OR LOOSE

FREE DELIVERY and 15% discount on these items if you present Welney News when you visit us:-

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| •Decorative Stone | •Topsoil |
| •Gravel (all sizes) | •Mushroom Compost |
| •Mulch | •Rockery Stone |
| •Play Area Chips | •Hardcore |
| •Sand Sharp, Soft, Ballast | •Railway Sleepers |
| | •Membrane |

WE ALSO OFFER

- Garden Clearance
- Turf supplied and laid
- Trees felled and pruned
- Hedges Trimmed
- Weeding
- Grass cutting (Special Rates for OAP's)
- Driveways gravelled
- Fencing
- 1 tonne waste bags delivered and collected
- Groundwork (eg, Ponds, Paths, Horse Arenas etc)



CARRIER BAGS

Some countries have used drastic means to deal with these! In South Africa, in the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan, and in the small town of Coles Bay in Tasmania, the use of plastic carrier bags is banned. This has actually proved very popular with residents, who have become used to alternatives such as light cotton bags. These are cheap to manufacture and to buy. They are also easy to recycle when worn out!

One day, we may have such measures here – let's hope. Meanwhile, perhaps try building up a stock of the Tesco or Waitrose 'bags for life', which can go back in your car for the next shopping trip, or simply re-use any undamaged carrier bags. It all makes a difference...

BIG MUD PUDDLES AND SUNNY YELLOW DANDELIONS

When I look at a patch of dandelions,
I see a bunch of weeds that are going to take
over my yard.
My kids see flowers for Mom and blowing
white fluff you can wish on.

When I look at an old drunk and he smiles at
me,
I see a smelly, dirty person who probably
wants money and I look away.
My kids see someone smiling at them and
they smile back.

When I hear music I love,
I know I can't carry a tune and don't have
much rhythm so I sit self-consciously and lis-
ten.
My kids feel the beat and move to it.
They sing out the words. If they don't know
them, they make up their own.

When I feel wind on my face,
I brace myself against it. I feel it messing up
my hair and pulling me back when I walk.
My kids close their eyes, spread their arms
and fly with it, until they fall to the ground
laughing.

When I pray,
I say thee and thou and grant me this, give
me that.
My kids say, "Hi God! Thanks for my toys and
my friends. Please keep the bad dreams away
tonight. Sorry, I don't want to go to Heaven yet.
I would miss my Mommy and Daddy."

When I see a mud puddle
I step around it. I see muddy shoes and dirty
carpets.
My kids sit in it. They see rivers to build dams
across, and worms to play with.

I wonder if we are given kids to teach or to
learn from? No wonder God loves the little
children! Enjoy the little things in life; for one
day you may look back and realise they were
the big things.
I wish you Big Mud Puddles and Sunny Yellow
Dandelions!

Author unknown

GRAHAME SEATON

AMLAS

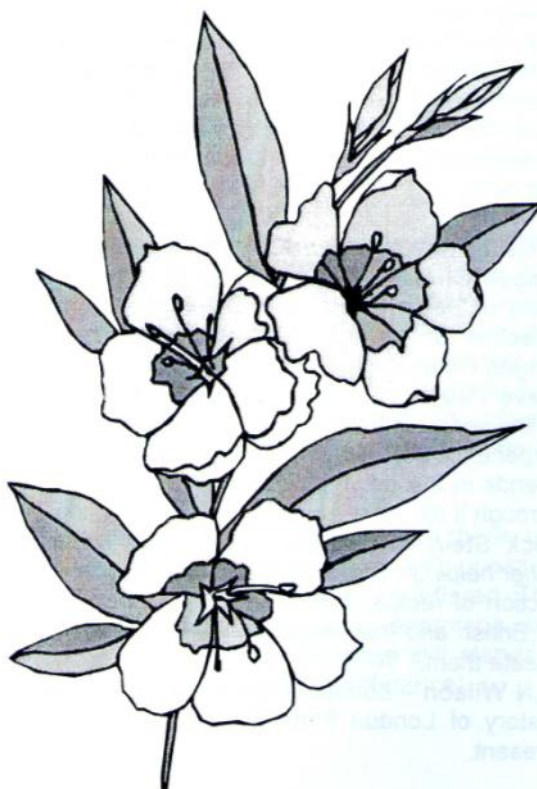
DESIGN AND PLANNING CONSULTANT

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.



BOOKLINE

Featuring new titles available from Mobile and Branch Libraries in Norfolk

This month's new fiction titles are:

Josephine Cox – *Lovers and Liars* – A brutal father denies Emmie the man she loves. Years later she decides to go in search of him.

Nicci French – *Secret Smile* – When Miranda Cotton gets home from work to find her new boyfriend, Brendan, reading her diary, she breaks off the relationship and throws him out. Getting Brendan out of her life, however, is not so easy.

Jill Mansell – *Falling for You* – Maddy Harvey was a bit of an ugly duckling as a teenager, but thankfully she's blossomed since then. When she meets Kerr McKinnon one summer's night everything seems perfect, but then she discovers who he actually is and the trouble starts.

Deborah Moggach – *These Foolish Things* – "Dunroamin" is a converted guesthouse in Bangladore, where Sonny establishes a home for old people. Travel and set-up are inexpensive, staff willing and plentiful - and the British pensioners can enjoy the hot weather and mango juice with their gin.

Danielle Steel – *Ransom* – A violent crime brings together four lives in Danielle Steel's 60th novel, the story of a mother's courage, a family's terror, and a triumph of human strength and dignity in the face of overwhelming odds.

This month's new non-fiction titles are:

Rageh Omaar – *Revolution Day* - The human story of the battle of Iraq in 2003 from the perspective of the BBC news correspondent, Rageh Omaar.

Dave Pelzer – *Privilege of Youth* - The fourth in the series of Dave Pelzer's books tells of his experience of bullying at school and the friends in the neighbourhood who helped him through it all.

Rick Stein – *Rick Stein's Food Heroes, another helping* - This is both an inspirational collection of recipes and a delightful celebration of British and Irish ingredients and those who create them.

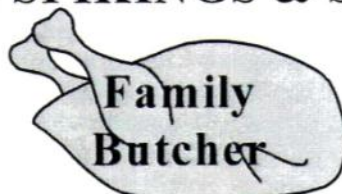
A.N Wilson – *London, a short history* - A short history of London from Roman times to the present.

Here's one of the latest books for children:

Jacqueline Wilson – *Best Friends* - Gemma

and Alice, born on the same day, have been devoted friends ever since. Despite Gemma's larger-than-life personality and Alice's quieter character, the two are inseparable - until that is Alice has to move house, all the way to Scotland.

J D SPIKINGS & SON



**28-29 St Peter's
Road, Upwell**

Telephone 01945 773424

**Order your Poultry,
Beef, Pork, Lamb,
Sausages, Sausage
Meat, Chipolatas,
Gammon, Home-
cooked Ham, Pork Pies
etc.**

Refrigerated Deliveries

WEST NORFOLK ASBESTOS REMOVALS



Phones 01354 610539
Fax 01354 610581
Mobiles 07885 467282 & 07885 182220
Asbestosremoval@gbr.cc

Tofino Lodge, March Road, Welney,
Wisbech, CAMBS, PE14 9SA

V.A.T. No. 599 5871 54 Asbestos Licence No 496003890

HSE APPROVED 24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE

TREATMENT AND REMOVAL OF ALL TYPES
OF THERMAL INSULATION & ASBESTOS

RECYCLING IN WELNEY

The previous article by Carol Inskipp has given an overview of what can be recycled and where, as well as some very good reasons for making the effort to do it!

But has anyone ever wondered what happens to the masses of re-usable waste we save in our green boxes? Watching the whole lot being tipped higgledy-piggledy into the collection vehicle, it may be wondered how it can possibly be made good use of.

Well, it certainly is made use of, and the green boxes have made a difference - as I was assured by a spokesman from Serviceteam; the contractors responsible for collecting our recyclable waste. The fortnightly collections have made a significant difference to the tonnage that goes into landfill sites. In fact King's Lynn Borough Council are in ninth position out of a total of 408 local authorities countrywide for percentage collection of recyclable waste, with 23% of domestic waste now being re-used; that means 23% less going into landfill sites.

So where does it all go after our green boxes are emptied? The Serviceteam vehicles take the waste to a transfer station at Hardwick Narrows Industrial Estate. The transfer station is a holding facility operated by 'NEWS', or Norfolk Environmental Waste Services, another contractor. Here the waste is transferred to much larger container vehicles and then has been taken, until recently, to a recycling facility near Ipswich for sorting and further processing.

A large new recycling facility, built by NEWS at a cost of between £5-£6 million, has just come into production at Costessey, in Norwich, and our re-usable waste is now taken there. This facility, highly efficient and much more mechanized than the one near Ipswich, has also made a difference, bringing down the cost of recycling to less than the cost of disposing of non-recycled waste. At these plants, the waste is sorted into the categories of paper, cardboard, plastics and cans. Metal waste in particular is sold on for re-processing and is a good source of revenue for NEWS. Aluminium and Tin are returned to the canning industry, steel goes to the Sheffield steel mills. All newspaper and magazines are reprocessed at a mill in North Wales and return as the recycled

component of our daily papers. Heavier cardboard is turned into... recycled cardboard, at a mill in Kent. Cereal boxes and junk mail are in a category called 'mixed paper', which is turned into cardboard by a different process - at a plant in Belgium. Plastic bottles go to a collection centre in Peterborough and are then transported to processing plants in the UK, Europe and the Far East. The plastic is flaked and transformed into such diverse products as fleece for clothing, insulating materials for motor vehicles, and heavier plastic for guttering, road signs etc.

But what of the future for recycling? We can feel glad about that figure of 23%, and there has been a lot of investment to achieve it, but the other 77% of non-re-used waste still needs addressing. We can help easily - basically, the more we use those green boxes, the better it gets! Under discussion at the moment is the possibility of the Borough Council initiating a 'green wheelie bin' scheme where a green bin would be available on request to households wanting to deal with higher volumes of recyclable waste. A further project being looked into is the provision of a collection for compostible waste; not everyone wants to make their own compost, but many would still be prepared to collect compostible material. Grass cuttings and raw vegetable peelings could be placed in separate bins and taken to a large-scale composting centre; a number of these already exist in Norfolk.

The Borough Council are also keen to extend the waste recycling service to schools and businesses in the area, and are looking in detail at a package for schools. It is harder to get businesses to invest time in the sorting of waste, but the Borough Council hopes to find ways of encouraging at least some recycling - perhaps by focussing on a single material such as cardboard.

So this is the future - the ideas are there, but need to be met halfway by our willingness to use the measures when they are offered. The task of dealing with waste is enormous, but the old environmental message still stands - each one of us can make a difference!

Karen Fleming

MARIFA LODGE NEWS

We held an Easter Draw and Tombola on Saturday 10th April and we raised a total of £78 to go towards our residents funds.

Jill has been in with her lovely dog Polly to see our residents and she will be coming in on a regular basis as the residents really enjoyed "Polly's" visit.

Are there any volunteers out there that would like to come and entertain our residents perhaps once or twice weekly for a couple of hours. Residents would really benefit from someone who could arrange card games, dominoes, etc. also some may like to have letters written for them to their families. They could also help us to write a regular newsletter and organise outings and events such as Bingo, Quiz Games etc.

Are you looking for day care for an elderly friend or relation. we can provide this on a regular or one off basis.

We are looking for a cook to cook traditional meals for our residents. Alternate weekends, alternate Mondays and every Friday. Immediate start 8-2pm

Please call Liz for info 01354 610300

Yesterday I went to take my one year old son to the play area and was appalled by the state of the equipment there. It is filthy and unsafe, which is a real shame as it is otherwise a nice area and has much potential.

I hope you do and any ideas would be appreciated. There is very little for the children round here and I feel they deserve their playground back.

June to September

September 26th Morning Prayer 9.30am

FRIENDS OF WELNEY SCHOOL

The Friends met in late April to discuss recent events and activities and to plan ahead for the summer. It was reported that the Garden Gang, run as an after school club each Wednesday, has got off to a successful start. (please see Mr Mangan's detailed report elsewhere in the newsletter). The Garden Gang is still in need of donations of tools, plant pots and other equipment – please contact any of the Friends or Mr Mangan at the school if you can help here.

The Easter Fayre was discussed. The Fayre attracted a large number of people, but the school hall was at saturation point and people could not move around easily to get to stalls. Some village residents who had not been inside the school for some years were unaware of the layout of the schoolhouse and decking, so did not get to see the tearoom or the display of decorated eggs. Mrs Rickard, the Head Teacher, has agreed that in future years the Junior classroom could be used for stalls to improve space and access.

Members of the Friends are selling ice creams to the children, at the end of school on Fridays during the summer term. Plans are underway for a fundraising Gala and Car Boot Sale on the 19th June. There will be a School Leavers' Disco just before the end of the summer term. The Friends will provide refreshments at the school Sports Day – the date is to be publicized soon. At the time of writing, there is to be a Sponsored Walk at the end of May with the schoolchildren doing circuits of the school field and garden.

CARPET BOWLS

The carpet bowls team got off to a flying start in the Summer League, beating their first opponents, Wormgay, 4-3, which gives them a 2-point start in the table.

There are twelve matches altogether between May and August (inc), six at home and six away.

Please note that July 15th is a match day and therefore will not be at the pavilion.

All are welcome to join, if you are interested and want to find out more call Pat Rix on 01354610292.

Body & Sole



International
Council of
Holistic
Therapists

Jane Carter

SRN, RSCN, IIHHT, IHBC
City & Guilds (Aromatherapy)

REFLEXOLOGY AROMATHERAPY

SWEDISH BODY MASSAGE INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE

Please telephone for
an appointment
01354 610500

A VOICE FROM THE RIVER BANK

At their recent AGM, Welney Angling Club came to the conclusion that the effect of the fish mortalities of 1996, 2001 and 2002 is impacting the quality of fishing on the Old Bedford from the Welney sluice downstream to Double Lift Mill (a stretch of three miles). This effect is likely to continue for quite a number of years.

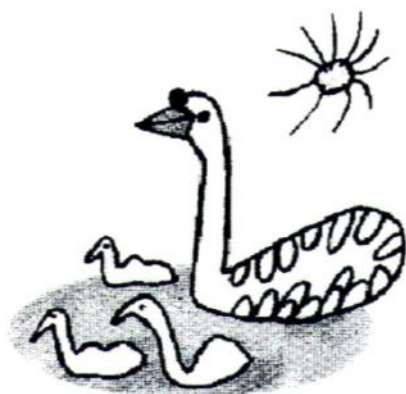
Hopefully the cleaner river bottom, along with a few freshly-planted lily pads, will entice the fish to migrate back into this area if and when the sluice gate is raised to enable access.

The quality and quantity of fish recorded in a recent survey upstream of the sluice seems to be quite encouraging, so all is not gloom.

Welney Angling Club is in need of a full-time Bailiff; any enquiries please to one of the following for details of duties and financial commission;

Dennis Booth 610247 Alan Nelson 610238
Shaun Booth 638638

WELNEY CYGNETS PLAYGROUP



Firstly, thank you to everyone who came to see 'The Nightingale' play at the Village Hall in April, and supported our fundraising efforts so well that we raised **£200.01!** Thanks also go to Fen Border Surestart for paying for the professional theatre company and making it possible to bring such a lovely production to Welney. FBSS also gave the Playgroup a digital camera for use with the children. We christened it by taking photos of the 'Nightingale' event.

We have three other fun fundraising events planned. We will be doing a sponsored bike ride on Sunday 13th June. The route will take us from the 'Lamb and Flag' pub (Welney) to the 'Dun Cow' pub (Christchurch) and back. We are asking local businesses to sponsor us, and have their company advertised on a rider's clothing as acknowledgement of their generosity. For the event to be a big success, we also need as many personal sponsors as possible, so be prepared to be approached by lycra-clad olympian beauties requesting sponsorship (or if they don't turn up, us Mums!).

Some more fun, and much less effort, can be had at our Summer barbeque on Saturday 10th July, from 3.30pm at VWT Welney. We plan to have some varied stalls around the arena, plus a tug-of-war - so start building those muscles everyone! If you or anyone you know would like to have a stall of their own, please contact Alison Cree (tel: 01354-610584) or me (Holly) to book a place. Darrell, our Chairman and also the Manager at VWT, cooks a mean burger and sausage, so

come along and enjoy a nibble from his barbeque! He will have just completed a sponsored slim, so admiring comments would be appreciated, I'm sure!

Also, we have been asked to provide some fun activities and refreshments for children at the Village Gala, on the Pavillion Playing Field, during August's Bank Holiday weekend. Look out for us there!

Our Playgroup's child numbers have increased from 6 to 8 since the last issue of Welney News (it pays to advertise!!) and our new starters are settling well. We still have room for 2 more children at each session if any 2 1/2-4 3/4 year olds are ready and willing to join our happy crew. Just drop in to the School House behind Welney School or phone me for a chat; we would be delighted to welcome you.

One of the things that the children have to play with is our new raised wooden sandpit which, along with our wooden train, was bought with grant money from Norfolk County's Rural Fund. The sandpit is shared by the Playgroup and the School and has been much enjoyed already in the few weeks since it arrived.

I am going to finish with the news that I am retiring from the position of Playgroup Leader at the end of the Summer Term, after nearly six years of helping to organise Welney Cygnets play sessions, at either the Toddlers or Playgroup. I'd like to thank all the adults and, most importantly, children who have made those years times and memories to treasure. As I write, the Group is now looking for a new Playgroup Leader, which I am sure they will have little trouble finding, and I wish them and my successor every success in the future. I hope you will all make the new Leader as welcome as you have me and continue to support them and the Cygnets.

All the best,

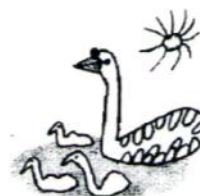
Holly,
Playgroup Leader, Welney Cygnets,
(tel: home, 01945-773932 or via School, 01354-610212).

WELNEY CYGNETS

Playgroup and Parent, Baby and Toddler Group

WANTED

Playgroup Leader



For a small, rural playgroup in Welney.
Approx. 14 hours per week (term-time only)
Job to commence Sept 04
Applicant must have DPP Level 3 or equivalent qualification
Or be working towards this
Previous experience would be an advantage
Closing Date 7th June

Phone Jane Frusher 01366 383572 for an application form

Welney, Wisbech, Cambs
Registered Charity no:1079544

SHREDDED PAPER

If you produce your own shredded paper, here is an alternative means of disposing of it! Some horses are allergic to straw and have to use paper bedding. There is one of these unfortunate creatures living near you! 'Reasonable' quantities of paper can be left with Karen at Bridge House for transportation - thanks!

LOST RELATIVES

I am trying to trace any relatives of a grave in Welney churchyard.

The inscription on the headstone is:-
MARY GAEL BROTHERTON DIED 27 FEBRUARY 1951 AND CHARLES DAVID ALAN DIED 11TH NOVEMBER 1952.

If anyone knows an address or telephone number would they please give me a ring on 01366 - 384658.

Pauline Aisthorpe
Churchwarden St.Mary's Welney

Osbourne Place Boarding Kennel

Osbourne Place
March Road Tipsend
Welney Cambridgeshire
PE14 9SN
Tel: 01354 638595

Welcomes you to the Cambridgeshire
Holiday Home for your canine companion
All covered Kennels
Large exercise areas
Some heated Kennels for older guests
Wash and brush up facilities, year round
Day Kennelling

Opening Hours
Mon—Sat 9.30 - 11.30, 3 - 5 pm
Sun 3 - 5 pm

**NO DOGS WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT A
CURRENT VACCINATION CERTIFICATE**

THE VICTOR MELDREW COLUMN

Could it be said that lorries and the need for them to manoeuvre is now part of planning approval? According to the report in the last issue of The Welney News, planning approval that was initially refused was allowed because lorries needed somewhere to about turn when the wash road was in flood. Having new houses built on the Lamb and Flag car park would have caused the perceived problem. A few queries come to mind with the details in the report- reference was made to the village hall car parking- of which there is none as the hall does not own any car parking area, also aren't the lorry drivers capable of safe reversing? In the first case these lorries should not have gone beyond the signage/ New Road. But more importantly what if Elgoods decides to tidy up and improve the Lamb and Flag car park for patrons only, with some nice new tarmac and say, fencing, so that they would not want/allow lorries to enter or turn?

With the proposed new housing development is the village to benefit from a donation by developers (possibly not with social housing schemes?); Christchurch could be in line for £30,000.00. At one time Elgoods were providing, for no cost, extra land for the rebuilding of a new, larger village hall and official hall parking spaces. But that could now be an opportunity lost.

I happened to be privy to a comment from an incomer to the village (only been here about 10 years) re local beer. This person was under the impression that it was the norm for beer to appear dead in the glass, the person's best experience being at The Three Tuns quaffing Sylvia's bitter. However by chance he came across an "excellent Elgoods pint pulled with vigour, lively to the bottom of the glass". So I'm off to the Red Hart at Three Holes to see if it's true.

VM

The views expressed by VM are not necessarily those of the News Team – Ed.

Harry Humphrey Financial Services

INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISER

Life Assurance – Health Assurance

Pensions – Investments

Inheritance Tax Planning

Mortgages & Remortgage

Business Protection – Keyman Assurance

FREE initial consultation without obligation

01945 430539

Email: hhfs@globalnet.co.uk

www.harryhumphrey.co.uk

Station Road, Emneth, Wisbech PE14 8DJ

A member of The Kestrel Network, which is regulated by the Financial Services Authority. The FSA does not regulate all forms of the products or services we provide. Your Home is at risk if you do not keep up payments on your mortgage or any loan secured on it.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Friendship Club recently welcomed Denise Chapman from Bay Tree Nurseries to one of their regular meetings. Originally due in March, Denise had to postpone until April but it was well worth the wait.

Along with baskets and tubs and a huge supply of plants, she set too and created some stunning displays. Some of her handiwork was donated as raffle prizes with Ken Sorenson, Rita Sweet and Cissie Bedford being among the lucky winners. Everyone had a thoroughly brilliant afternoon and the village hall looked a treat with so many colourful plants.

As well as the usual games, quizzes and occasional guest the Friendship Club enjoy several outings throughout the year and by the time you read this article they will have visited Stoneham Barns. The next outing is a trip to Blenheim Palace on 29th June with Strumpshaw Museum and Great Yarmouth on 22nd July (non members fare £7.)

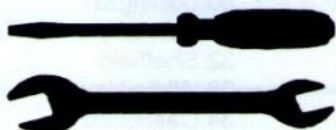
Details from Cissie Bedford on 01354 610206



High Street, Welney

Housewares - Hardware - Gardening
(TRADITIONAL IRONMONGERS)

JH ADAMS & SONS LTD



17 MAIN STREET,
LITTLEPORT



TELEPHONE:
01353 860222

Paint
Wallpaper

Pet
Food

FREE
Local Deliveries
Customer Parking



Cycle Spares



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're local

TEDDY CHURCH



Hello Teds!

In May we welcomed two new Teds - Freya and her Mum, Kate, newcomers to the village. We hope that they will become regulars at our 10.30am services at St. Mary's Church in Welney on the first Wednesday of each month.

In the Teddy service we acted out the story of two good guys, Paul and Silas, who escaped from prison with the help from a friend of theirs - God - who created an earthquake which broke the prison open for them (talk about Friends in High places!). The Bible tells us that the guys sang songs to raise their spirits while they sat, wounded, in their cell. We are not told which songs they sang, but we chose the old favourite 'If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands'. The moral that was drawn out of the story was that friends should help each other if they can, and we should also help people even if they are not our friends (as Paul and Silas helped their prison guard).

From June onwards Welney Church will ring with children's voices twice a month - on the first Wednesday for Teddy Church, and also on the third Sunday for GOD'S GANG - the group we are starting for Infant and Junior School-age children. God's Gang will meet at 10.45am and finish at 12 noon. Come along and give God's Gang a try if you are in that age group. (Parents do not need to stay during the session, but are welcome to stay if they wish to.)

After this issue of the Welney News, God's Gang will have its own report column, so Teddy Church will no longer need to share its space with its big brother group.

June and August's Teddy Church services will be in School holiday times again, so we would love to have older Ted's join us if they would like to. We hope to see many of you soon.

All the best from Holly (Honorary Ted and co-founder of God's Gang).

FOOD PACKAGING

Did you know that in an average UK household, one sixth of the food budget actually goes to pay for packaging materials? Choose foods sold loose and ask your local supermarket to provide more fruit and vegetables loose. In some supermarkets it is virtually impossible to buy unpackaged citrus fruits, for instance. Food packaging is largely responsible for the continued annual increase in the volume of domestic waste.

ST.MARYS COFFEE MORNING HELD ON THE 22ND MAY

Firstly a thank you for all who helped and supported us at the Coffee Morning. We raised a total of £432.

Thanks to everyone who bought a copy of the quiz that was set. There were eight people who got 48 of the answers correct and the winner was pulled out of the hat.

I'm sure many of you would like to know the answers so here they are.

Towns & Cities Quiz Answers

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1.Windsor | 26.Nantwich |
| 2.Potters Bar | 27.Bury |
| 3.Ayr | 28.Motherwell |
| 4.Worcester | 29.Derby. Nottingham |
| 5.Blackburn | 30.Darlington |
| 6.Peel | 31.Barnstaple |
| 7.Ilford | 32.Sheffield |
| 8.Basildon | 33.White Haven |
| 9.Edinburgh | 34.Castleford |
| 10.Cowes | 35.Looe |
| 11.Hatfield | 36.Fulham. Cookham |
| 12.Sittingborne | 37.Kingstanding |
| 13.Chatham | 38.Hull |
| 14.Reading | 39.Bangor |
| 15.Hailsham | 40.Sandwich |
| 16.Ripon | 41.Mountain Ash |
| 17.Sterling | 42.Havant |
| 18.Seven Oaks | 43.Blackpool |
| 19.Bridge North | 44.Nuneaton |
| 20.Alloa | 45.Scarborough |
| 21.Newmarket | 46.Minehead |
| 22.Witcham. Hexham. | Damerham. |
| | 47.Beverley |
| 23.Winchester | 48.Eton |
| 24.Litfield | 49.Canterbury. Banbury |
| 25.Stoke | 50.Bishop Auckland |

Beauty Treatments by Jane



N.V.Q. - i.b.d. - Babtac

Have a relaxing, lifting facial and get a Lip Spa treatment FREE!

Introducing a new non-surgical Face Lift treatment by

QUANTIS

Eye brow shape & Cheekbone muscles will lift

Jaw & neck firmer - wrinkles & fine lines will soften

Book a course of 10 treatments and get one FREE!

Rose Cottage, Christchurch.
Telephone 01354 638378

II JESSICA Manicures & Pedicures

part in a netball tournament at the end of May. We are sure they will do their best and enjoy themselves.

The Cool Club has been very busy after school creating new gardens in the school grounds. We have been very busy clearing the sand pit, digging the soil and pulling up grass. The Friends kindly bought us some gardening equipment that has been very useful. We are also very grateful to Mr Mangan, Mrs Goodwin and Mrs Revett who help us. We are hoping that our garden be one of the best gardens in Welney.

Another new development at the school is the school council. One child from each year will be elected by the other children to sit on the council. The school councillors will discuss suggestions made by other children and the staff. The councillors need to be very responsible and must try to attend every meeting.

We are looking forward to our sponsored walk around the school grounds on Friday 28th May. The Friends are hoping to put the money we raise towards a multimedia projector and an interactive white board.

By Emily Griffiths, Philip Hare, Megan Morgan and Jordan Craag

WILLIAM MARSHAL SCHOOL UPDATE BY THE PUPILS

Lately, a lot of things have happened in the school. At Easter our Key Stage 2 teacher, Mrs Freeman left. She worked at the school for sometime and we miss her very much. Miss Radford joined us at the beginning of this term as the new Key Stage 2 teacher. She says that she is enjoying being here and that everyone has been very welcoming. Mrs Pollard also joined the school, working in the office and the Key Stage 2 class.

Last term we took part in a football tournament at Hillcrest School. We played very well and enjoyed ourselves, although we didn't win any of our matches. A team will also be taking

'THE WRONG KIND OF PLASTIC'

Many of us are still unsure what types of plastic should go into our green boxes. Any *plastic bottles* are fine – soft drinks, shampoo, washing up liquid, cooking oil, milk etc – but **please** remove the lids as these are a different, much harder plastic which can't be recycled. *Margarine and yoghurt tubs cannot be recycled*, as they contain other substances such as polystyrene. The *plastic trays from fruit and vegetables* come into this category. *Cling film* cannot be recycled, nor can any kind of *polystyrene*. Please do not put any recycled waste in *carrier bags* as these have to be emptied and removed **by hand** – they can't be recycled either – and they cause havoc in the sorting machinery if they get through the hand-sorting process. In fact all of the unsuitable materials listed here have to be manually removed, which makes the sorting process far more difficult.

ST.MARY'S

GARDEN FETE

7TH AUGUST

2pm

TO BE HELD IN THE CHURCH GROUNDS

If you would like to help in anyway, by running a stall or game please ring 01366 - 384658 or talk to any member of the church.

We had a lovely time last year and raised £800 it would be great if we could beat this figure in 2004.



The Wigeon Tea Room

Open 10 am - 4:30 pm

Feel free to visit our charming tea room and gift shop at one of the most important nature reserves in the area

Entry to the tea room is free but a small charge is made for entry to the reserve

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

Call in for afternoon tea and try our delicious home-made cakes!

(Booked groups catered for)

Visitor Centre & Reserve 10 am - 5 pm
Disabled Access/Baby changing facility
(all profits go towards our conservation work)

BOB CLINGO

WINDOW CLEANING
CARPET CLEANING
HARD FLOOR SCRUB & SEAL
BUILDERS CLEANS

6 TOINTONS ROAD
UPWELL, WISBECH
CAMBS, PE14 9HL
TEL: 01945 772967



**4 WEEKLY
& 2 WEEKLY
FREE QUOTE
FASCIA
& SOFFIT
CLEANING**

THE TRUTH BEHIND THE MEANING OF YULE AND EASTER

In response to the article "What Does Yule Mean" in the February/March 2004 issue I can tell you that the word Yule originates from the old Norse word "Yul" which is thought to mean "Wheel", as in wheel of the year.

Yule was celebrated before the 4th Century CE around the 21st to 22nd December and from the alignment of prehistoric pagan monuments we can tell that our ancestors considered this a very important time of year, possibly what we celebrate today as new year!

Records from this time state that in the 4th century the Christian Church officially named December 25th as Jesus Christ's Birthday in order to encourage Christians to take part in the pagan celebrations, but for different reasons (the pagans believed this to be the time of the "coming of light" as day started growing longer and the night shorter).

The tradition of the Yule Log dates back across Northern Europe (starting in Scandinavia) before the coming of Christianity. Pagans believed that to sprinkle the ash of your Yule Log (which would have preferably been oak) would bless your house with plenty for the coming year. As different countries invaded Britain the tradition was taken over and altered by variations of paganism and Christianity.

I think you will be surprised to learn that a lot of now celebrated Christian traditions started out as pagan ones. For example Easter originates from the name of the pagan goddess of light Eostre, who brought the Spring. The Easter bunny and Easter eggs derive from the pagan representation of the Spring equinox (20th to 21st March), being represented by a maid carrying a basket of eggs escorted by a hare. The maid and eggs were symbolic for the rebirth associated with Spring and the hare for the abundant fertility of this time of year.

Miss A Stewart-Whyte

*Information sources:
The Spells Bible by Ann-Marie Gallagher
Mind, Body and Spirit Magazine*

LINE DANCING

Line Dancing continues regularly at the pavilion with one new member and two more waiting in the wings, numbers vary during the summer holidays so switch off the tele and get those toes tapping down at the pavilion. Don't be shy, if you want to know more give Pat Rix a call on 01354 610292

**10% DISCOUNT ON
PHONE ORDERS
OVER £8.00's**

Navrad's

OF UPWELL

**GOOD FOOD
GOOD VALUE
105 School Road
Upwell Wisbech
01945 772398**

RIP OFF TIP OFF ROGUE TRADERS

Are you concerned about a dodgy dealer, postal scam or cowboy builder? A website www.ripofftipoff.net has been developed jointly by Trading Standards and the Department of Trade and Industry for reporting rogue traders.

It allows you to check out typical scams or cons, or notify them, anonymously if you prefer, of anything you think will help to stop others being ripped off.



WELNEY GALA

At the Playing Fields

Friday 27th August

Bingo at 7.30 p.m.

&

Saturday 28th August

Gala at 2.00 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION

5 A Side Football Tournament

Archery Display and Instruction

Licensed Bar and Refreshments

Best Dressed Bicycle/ Bottle Stall/ Coconut Shy

Many More

Children's Disco 5p.m. to 7p.m.

Dance in a Marquee with live music plus
disco and Hog Roast at 8.00 p.m.

£5.00 Admission to Dance

All profits to new Children's Play Equipment

PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual General Meeting of the Welney Parish Council was held in the Parish Hall, on Tuesday 11th May, 2004. Cllr. K.Goodger was re-elected as Chairman, and Cllr.S.Kerr was re-elected Vice-Chairman.

It was agreed to obtain a quotation for a new Notice Board for the Parish. The current board situated on the Parish Hall is in a poor state of repair. It was also agreed to write a letter to the Police asking if our Community Police Officer could attend a Parish Council Meeting in the near future.

Annual Reports were received from Welney Cygnets, Welney Playing Field Committee, Bishopsland Charity and Marshall's Charity. No report was available from William Marshall School, but a request was made that this be received before the next meeting.

The Village Sign is now in need of some maintenance and it was proposed to look into various ways of prolonging the life of the sign. Further information should be available for the next meeting.

A letter had been received enquiring if the Parish Council would consider meeting monthly rather than every other month. There was considerable discussion regarding this request, and it was agreed to hold an extra meeting in October to see if this would be a viable proposition. A further decision would be made after that.

An enquiry was received regarding the possibility of the Parish Hall Committee and the Playing Field Committee getting together to form one single committee. It was agreed that a request should be sent to both committees to see if they could get together to discuss the matter further.

A letter was received from Marshall's Charity advising that three nominative trustees were up for re-election. It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Mr.D.Booth should be re-elected, and the other two positions would be considered later in the year.

A reply is still awaited from the Norfolk Association of Parish and Town Councils regarding several queries which have been forwarded to them regarding the Parish Hall.

With regard to Highway Matters, it has been observed that the "Think" signs have now been removed from Main Street. These were only erected initially on a temporary basis for a period of a few months, but it is possible they may be put back again for another period, in the future. It was also agreed to investigate the possibility of funding for the installation of speed bumps or something similar in Main Street. Confirmation was received from Highways, that the hedge around Rutland House corner at Tippsend, will be removed, thereby making visibility much better and the corner much safer.

The Parish Council accounts for the year ended 31st March, 2004 were presented to the meeting and formally adopted. A copy of these accounts will be on display in the Notice Board, the Post Office and on the Village Website. As the amount of precept which the Parish Council receive from the Borough Council affects the Council Tax, it was felt that copies of the accounts would help to explain where the money is spent. For the year ended 31st March 2004 the precept was £5,500 with a further £530 from Recycling credits and concurrent functions grant. From this we had to pay £945 for electricity lighting and maintenance on the 30 street lights which we have in the village, we made grants of £200 each to the Parish Church and the Welney Cygnets, £625 for the cutting of the grass on the Playing Field, £1,763 Insurance Premium (part of which has now been refunded by the Parish Hall Committee), £2,250. Clerks Salary, plus other sundry expenses. At the end of the year we were left with a very small bank balance, and it was agreed that the precept for the coming year would have to be increased in order that some monies would be in hand in the event of unforeseen expenses. I hope this will help to explain our decision this year, but if anyone would like to inspect the full set of accounts they are available for inspection by prior appointment. (Tel 610226 after 4.30 p.m.)

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th July, 2004 in the Parish Hall at 7.30 p.m. and remember that if there is anything that is giving cause for concern or anything you need advice on speak to one of your councillors or come along to the meeting in Person.

Pat Copeman
Clerk to the Welney Parish Council.

GARDEN GANG

The children at William Marshall School have taken on a new challenge this spring. Wednesday's Cool Club has spawned an off-shoot called the Garden Gang which has started to cultivate part of the school field.

Even allowing for the very wet weather that we have had recently, the turnout and response has been high, with the boys and girls donning their wellies and getting stuck in to the initial heavy work needed to create the garden. Their enthusiasm and willingness to share tasks and work as a team has been inspiring.

The site chosen is a strip of land adjacent to an (almost) southerly facing brick wall, so it will benefit from being sheltered in the winter and warm at other times of the year. The wall forms part of the original Victorian boundary and is badly in need of re-pointing. The children have already stripped off the old decaying render work and started to renovate it. Another major task that doesn't come up in the

usual semi-detached garden is the fact that the old school sand pit lies across the site and has had to be emptied. This will be replaced by top soil when available.

We are planning to organically grow a variety of fruit and vegetables, as well as flowers, for sale at school events. A traditional Tudor Knot garden for herbs is also planned. Involving the children in horticulture will benefit them in many ways, from science lessons to economics.

Although the Cool Club has been able to fund the purchase of basic tools we would be happy to receive contributions in the form of anything useful from the community, i.e. plants, compost, horse manure, pots etc. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents who have helped so far, both with supervision and the donation of an old, but very useable, greenhouse which will soon be full of tomatoes!

P Mangan



Here is a poem written in January 2004,
during one of the snowy spells, to remind
us all of the Winter face of Welney as we
bask in the warmth of Summer!

WELNEY WWT IN WINTER

Winter is here at Welney-on-Sea,
Resort for wildfowl wild and free.
Swans and pochards, coots and geese
Revelling in the warmth of our British mock-
freeze.

A fall of snow has made icebergs of islands
That sit within the Washes expanse.
Isolated gates and fragments of fences
Are all that's left of Summer's rich pasture
lands.

Around the lagoon feathered tourists are huddled,
Resting their legs with an afternoon nap.
Other birds chatter as they idly paddle,
Occasionally, perhaps, giving rivals a warning
wing flap!

Pianola roll Pochard ranks bob in the shallows.
These rusty-head, cheeky chaps show irreverent pluck
When, with robust indifference to the savage
hooped bellows
They dive 'tween the swans, feed and then
push back up.

A light shower of rain pocks the silver-grey
lake
And the chatter and movement levels start to
rise.
As if by a signal the sleepers awake
And waddle to water or skale grassy heights.

The crowning glory of Welney is swans,
Who flock in their thousands at this time of
year.
They feed on the beet tops in the dark fields
beyond,
And jostle for grain feeds that make them draw
near.

Amid the contrasting warmth of fire-red willow
Burning above snow-bound grassy tufts.
Wind-chilled sparrows sit and twitter.
Watching the cabaret show of many swans

and ducks.

Bird-loving humans who flock in their hundreds
Watch in awe, whispering reverent words.
Blessed are the viewers of these watery low-
lands
Who come to pay homage to their cousins, the
birds.

Anonymous



PADGETS GARAGE

Established 1895

Quality and reliable car
repairs and servicing and
MOT

Free Collection & Return if
needed

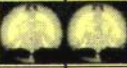
Specialists in vintage and
classic car parts. Expert
knowledge of repairs

Estimates Free

Dave Padget
Suspension Bridge
Call 01354 610225



Dates for your diary

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	June	1	2  WI	3 	4 	5
6 HC 9.30	7	8 	9 	10 	11 	12
13 AAW 11.00	14	15 	16 	17 	18 	19
20 MP 9.30	21	22 	23 	24 	25 Bingo 	26
27 MP 9.30	28	29	30  July 1 	2 		3
4 HC 9.30	5	6 	7  WI	8 	9 	10
11 AAW 11.00	12	13 	14	15 	16 	17
18 MP 9.30	19	20 	21	22 	23 	24
25 MP 9.30	26	27	28	29 	30 Bingo 	31



Carpet Bowls
Ring Pat Rix for details of
available evenings



Line Dancing 7-30 pm
Pavilion

Church Services;
MP = Morning Prayer
HC = Holy Communion
AAW = All Age Worship
US = United Service



Parish Council Meeting
7-30 pm Village Hall
Open to the Public



Teddy Church
10-30 am St Mary's

Welney Cygnets Toddlers
10..00 to 12..00 am
Village Hall



Parish Hall
Meeting



Mobile Library
9-30 Hale Drove End
10-30 The Lamb & Flag Car
Park



Friendship Club
2-00 pm Village Hall



Yoga Sessions
8 pm to 9.30 pm
Village Hall. Wed's
Yoga Session
10.00 am to 11.30 am
Pavilion Thur's

WI

Women's' Institute
7-00 pm, Village Hall

NB Welney Cygnets Playgroup
Mon-Tue-Fri 9-00 to 11-30 am,
Thur 12-30 to 3-00 (School House)