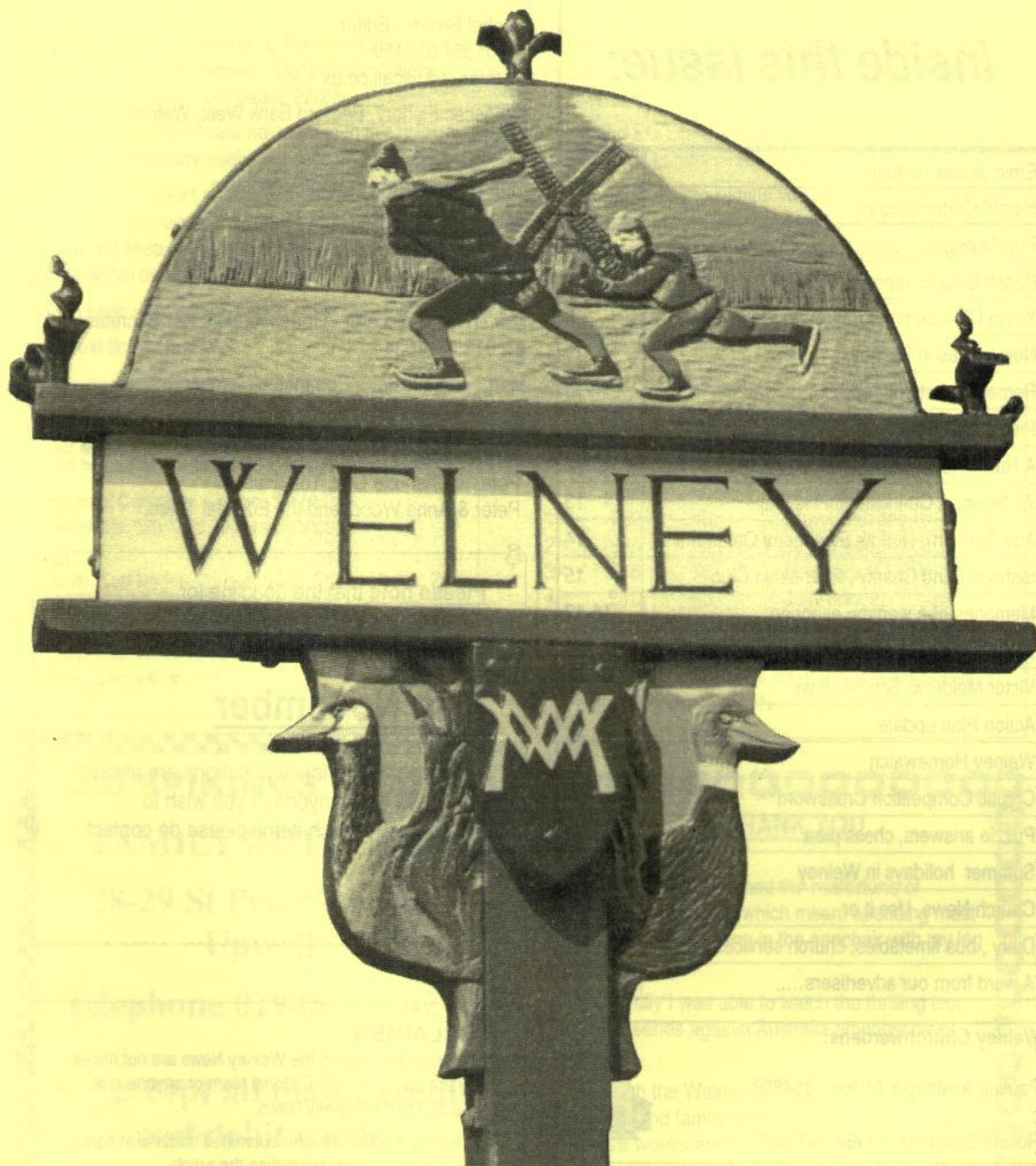


Issue N° 47

October—November 05

30p



WELNEY NEWS

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Welney Churchwardens:

Pauline Aisthorpe 01366 - 384658

Rosina Beckford 01354 - 610385



CORRECTIONS & IMPERFECTIONS

Whilst I struggle with the complexities of Microsoft Publisher to learn my craft as editor I sometimes make seemingly stupid errors...please forgive me and I promise I'll endeavour to improve issue by issue...

Last issue's errors:

Teddy Church - one paragraph appeared twice

Crossword—23 across did not exist should have been 22 across

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

17th November

Letters and editorial contributions are always welcomed from anyone. If you wish to contribute any such items please do contact the editor.

DISCLAIMER

All items and articles in the Welney News are not necessarily the opinion of the Editorial team or anyone else connected to the Welney News.

We reserve the right to alter submitted material in consultation with the person submitting the article.

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EDITORIAL

Hello everybody... welcome to the new edition of your Welney News. Its another packed issue full of what has been happening in Sunny Welney . Our popular Cryptic crossword is now a competition crossword with a bottle of wine up for grabs each time (see pages 22/23)

There are a couple of new advertisers in this edition...Kim's Flowers and PC Life Support...I am sure you'll agree they are both offering very useful services and it is always good to support local businesses.

Whilst on the subject of supporting local endeavours may I take this opportunity to remind you that subscriptions are now due for the next 6 editions of your Welney News...please be forthcoming with your subscriptions as without them we couldn't keep going and I hope you'll all agree that a local newsletter is a useful tool, a place for discussion and debate within our community.

Please keep your letters, phone calls and emails coming.

Until next time...Rachel

Contact details for our MP

Our Member of Parliament is Christopher Fraser and he can be contacted in the following ways:

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.
Telephone: 020 7219 3000 (switchboard)

OR

South West Norfolk Conservatives, Shirley House, 23
London Street, Swaffham,
Norfolk PE37 7DD

Telephone: 01760 721 241
Email: swnca@tory.org

100 Club

Winners of the July draw were as follows:

	prize	number	lucky winner
1 st :	£50	45	Darryl Stevens
2 nd :	£25	29	John Cage
3 rd :	£15	76	Mr Jackson
4 th :	£10	43	Julie Jones

The August & September draws are taking place at the end of Septembera full list of winners will appear in the December issue of WN.

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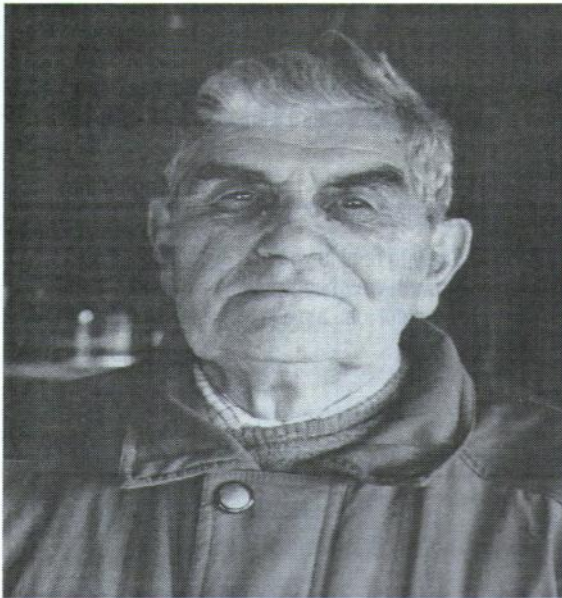
On 2nd of July last I had the misfortune of breaking my ankle, which meant spending most of the summer sitting in the armchair with my leg elevated.

Thankfully I was able to watch the thrilling test match series against Australia amongst other things.

Through the Welney News I would like to thank friends and family who visited me over the last twelve weeks and for the many phone calls and cards I received.

I really have appreciated everyone's help and kindness. I am now getting around unaided and have just started to drive the car again, my progress is slow but sure!

Thanks again
Jennifer James



ERNIE JAMES

1906—2005

Welney legend, Ernie James, formerly of Plover Cottage, Bedford Bank West, and for the last five years a resident at Marifa Lodge, passed away peacefully in hospital on July 5th.

Born in Welney 99 years ago, he spent all his life here, working for his father on their small-holding when he left school, until his twenties when he became one of an elite breed of men known as the fen tigers, - men who scratched a seasonal living on the East Anglian fens.

His life was ruled by the seasons. Wintertime was for punt gunning and he was a great shot, a fact recently

recognised by the Shooting Times, which listed him as one of the twelve great shooting eccentrics. He was in good company because the list included two kings, Edward VII and George V. Another highlight of old fenland winters was when the rivers and washes became huge ice rinks, and he and his friends would skate for miles on wooden "fen runners".

For many years between October and February he also worked as a mole catcher along the banks of the Delph and Old Bedford rivers; employed by the local drainage authority he supplemented his wages by selling the moleskins privately. He only gave it up during the war because there was more money to be made by catching plovers, sometimes making £100 a week from selling the birds to dealers - good money in those days.

Springtime saw him busy in his osier beds cutting willows to make baskets, eel traps and grigs, a sort of elongated, waisted basket into which eels swim and get trapped because they cannot turn round and swim out. He was a prolific eel catcher during his lifetime and continued to catch them until his early nineties. Summer was spent ditching in the washes and harvest work, and Autumn saw the start of plover catching up until the first frosts.

He knew all the seasons and what each had to offer and his great pleasure in life was to walk along the riverbanks observing the movement of his beloved wildfowl and the changes in the scenery of the washes as the seasons passed.

His media career began in the 50's and lasted for almost 40 years. In 1975 Anglia Television made a 50-minute documentary about his life in the fens called 'A Man Between Three Rivers'. He also worked with many famous personalities including Dave Allen, David Bellamy and Harry Secombe. In 1986 his daughter-in-law wrote his now famous biography 'Memoirs of a Fen Tiger'.

Although he never travelled far from Welney, he gained a reputation as a master of country lore and people came to visit him from all corners of the world to listen to his stories, look at his large collection of photographs, learn how to call the birds, trap eels or catch a mole.

The passing of Ernie marks the end of an era. There is no-one to follow him. He was an anachronism living the life of a fen man more attuned to the 19th century than the present day.

He leaves a son, two daughters, a granddaughter, a grandson and five great grandchildren. His wife Doris died in 2000. They had been married for 72 years.



HAROLD CARTER

Harold was born at Neatmoor in the parish of Upwell on May 12th 1923. He was the youngest of three, his two brothers being Alfred and Stanley. His family were farmers and by the time Harold was ten they had moved to Welney. They lived and worked at Mill Farm and after leaving school Harold worked for the family business.

The Carter brothers became well known locally and nationally through their herd of pedigree pigs, which they bred and showed. Members of the family recall a sideboard full of trophies.

Farming took up most of Harold's time, so much so he never took a days' holiday in his life. On the rare occasions that Harold spent a night away from home it was usually because he was showing the pedigree pigs.

During the war Harold remained on the farm, contributing in that way to the war effort; he was also part of the local Home Guard. Harold remained single all his life and his home was always on the farm, until the last few weeks of his life.

Although Harold's world was a small one, it was one in which much love and friendship was shared. This can be seen first of all by the way in which he cared for his Great Uncle Albert, who was left bedridden after the first World War; Harold cared for him for almost twenty years. This caring attitude never left him and although he was reserved in nature he became fonder of company as he grew older and was a member of the Friendship Club.

He was a well-known figure in the village often seen out and about on his bicycle, always ready for a chat. He will be remembered as a cheerful, even-tempered and good-humoured man.

One way in which Harold affected people's lives for the better was by transforming the countryside around him in his own special way. All of us who pass through Welney in the spring are aware of it, for it is to Harold that we owe thanks for the daffodil packed verges.

During the last few weeks of his life Harold moved into Marifa Lodge, from where he passed away at the end of July.

Just For Fun

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

See how many you can find in the wordsearch grid above...they are all there...somewhere!

BADGER, BAT, BLACKBIRD, BLUETIT
DOVE, DUCK, FOX, FROG, GOLDFINCH
PIGEON, ROBIN, SPARROW, SWAN
WEASEL, WOODPECKER

*** Solution on page 23



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SUDOKU

	4		7	6				5
8	7	9						3
			2	8				4
		8				9	6	1
		1	4	9	2	5		
	9	3				2		
6				7	1			
2						8	7	9
9				2	5		1	

Sudoku is played over a 9x9 grid, in each row there are 9 slots, some of them are empty and need to be filled.

Each row, column and "area" (3x3) should contain the numbers 1 to 9 however:

- Number can appear only once on each row
- Number can appear only once on each column
- Number can appear only once on each area (3x3 slots)

The bottom line : the number should appear only once on row, column or area.

However – above all the ultimate challenge behind it is doing it fast!

Apparently there are 6,670,903,752,021,072,936,960 possible games, so this first one is just a beginning

***SOLUTION ON PAGE 23

Did you know

The term "Fen Tiger" was originally coined by the Dutch engineers who came to England in the early 17th century to work on the drainage and reclamation of the fens. A Fen Tiger was a local who fought to protect their traditional livelihood, gained from fishing, wildfowling and reed and turf-cutting, by vandalising the drainage works, and by occasional attacks on the "strangers" in their midst.



Welney Parish Council

The Regular meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 13th September, 2005.

The meeting was advised that the Foolhardy Folk **Circus** had confirmed they would be attending the village arriving on 5th September and leaving on the 8th. They had advertised the event throughout the Village and surrounding area, and they did arrive on the appointed day, but unfortunately they had to leave early and were not able to give the promised performance. Apologies were offered to any residents who were concerned by their arrival on the Playing Field, and should a similar event arise in the future, everything possible would be done to let residents know.

We are still waiting to hear when our **Community Policeman** will be able to pay us a visit and introduce himself to the village. As soon as there is any further information regarding this we will advertise in the normal way.

It was agreed to purchase a further **Dog Waste Bin** for installing on the Playing Field. This will be emptied along with our other three bins, under the agreement with the Borough Council.

The usual **accounts** were received and agreed for payment, and it was confirmed that since the last meeting two new **water heaters** have been installed in the Parish Hall.

The Clerk confirmed that Mr. Shirley had completed the **internal audit** of the **Parish Council accounts** and that everything was in order. The audit has now been advertised so that members of the public can inspect the books and accounts prior to the audit by the Audit Office on 4th October. Once they have completed their audit and the form has been returned, copies of the accounts will be made available, and hopefully posted on the website.

The new **Public Entertainment Licence** for the **Parish Hall** has been approved and will be issued on 23rd November. An extension to our existing licence which expires on 30th September has been approved until 23rd November. It was reported that a new **Caretaker/Cleaner** has been appointed for the Parish Hall, as the previous Cleaner handed her notice in with effect from 31st August. With regard to the **100 Club**, we are still in the process of trying to sell the remaining few numbers, and should it turn out that we are a little short of the total, the monthly draws will continue.

A certificate was received from Norfolk **Playing Fields** association confirming membership for 2005/6

Cllr. Jones gave a report on the activities of the **Youth Club** which meets at the Playing Field on Thursday evenings. They raised approximately £500 at their Fete, and congratulations were extended to them for their excellent work. Concern was expressed regarding **storage facilities** for their equipment and it was agreed to look into the possibility of obtaining another container or similar, for storage purposes.

Various items of correspondence were received, Cllr. Jones proposed in a letter that the **Parish Council** should meet on a monthly basis rather than two -monthly and this was unanimously agreed with the next **meeting** taking place on 11th October subject to the Hall being available.

Cllr. Tim Bennett has been formerly signed up by the Environment Agency as **Flood Warden** for the village. He is now included in the contacts procedure once a flood alert goes out.

Elgoods Proposed Development - A letter was received from Mr. Shelton of the Environment Agency confirming that he had now had a meeting with the District Valuer regarding the site of the Parish Hall. He has promised to let us know immediately he hears from the District Valuer, and it was agreed to make regular contact with Mr. Shelton so that we can call a meeting immediately to get matters moving as quickly as possible.

Parish Action Plan - It was confirmed to the meeting that funding for the project has now been approved and it is hoped that the questionnaire will be ready for circulation during mid October. A separate sheet will be included with questions relating to the Parish Hall and it was agreed that this additional sheet should be prepared but if a valuation is received from the Environment Agency and negotiations are commenced with **Elgoods** before these sheets are handed out, then we should forget the sheets and call a Village meeting immediately. Watch out for further developments!

Finally it was agreed to look into the possibility of preparing a **Welcome Pack** for handing out to people moving into the Village. It was felt that this would be a good introduction and could contain information that would be useful for newcomers. We hope to have something ready for consideration at the October meeting.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12th OCTOBER, AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE PARISH HALL. HOWEVER PLEASE WATCH THE USUAL NOTICE BOARDS FOR AN UPDATE ON ANY ITEMS MENTIONED AND ALSO FOR ANY ADDITIONAL MEETINGS THAT MAY BE NECESSARY.

Pat Copeman, Parish Clerk.

Youth Club

Our fledgling Youth Club held its first Summer Fayre on August 20th on the playing fields. It was a lovely sunny day and turn-out was good. There were many things to spend your money on...a fantastic array of cakes, a tombola, a raffle to win a large bouquet, bric-a-brac, guess the name of the teddy...etc etc...not forgetting the very popular BBQ.

A staggering £500 was raised and all involved would like to say a **big Thank-you** to everyone who came along and supported them. Watch this space for details of future fundraising events.....

The Youth Club Fayre



In late September, as a reward for all their hard work at the Fayre, the entire Youth Club enjoyed an evening of Ten Pin Bowling and burgers in Ely.

Many thanks to Julie Jones for all her hard work in firstly setting up our Youth Club and then organising their Summer Fayre at short notice. I'm sure you'll agree when I say all of Welney should make a special effort to support and encourage our Youth Club, as it is an invaluable resource for our teenagers..

The Youth Club meets every Thursday and if any of our readers are interested in helping out on a regular basis please contact Julie.

Rachel Brown

The night out in Ely



Its a rare thing...new affordable homes for rent in
Welney.....



Peddars Way Housing Association, part of Flagship Housing Group, have developed six houses for affordable rent at Old Bedford Row, to the side of the Lamb and Flag Public House in Welney. The size of houses and the type of tenure was agreed with the council based on information from their housing needs survey.

The houses are built to a high standard and have reached an eco homes rating of 'good', this means for example, that they will use less fuel to heat, they are well insulated and the timber used comes from sustainable resources.

The houses each have three bedrooms, family bathroom, downstairs cloakroom, fitted kitchen dining room and separate lounge. The scheme includes a large number of trees to be planted that will soften the edges of the development at the rear, and give some privacy to the houses from the car park off the main road.

There is also a play area suitable for small children to be provided as part of the planning permission. This is a facility that will be available for the village and will be situated at the front of the houses.

The nominations for the houses come from the local authority and because the site is a rural exception site, people who have a local connection will be nominated first. Anyone interested in being nominated should ensure that they have registered with Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council.

Flagship Housing Group is currently developing many other properties, for rent and for shared ownership, in the area, including Ely and Littleport.

For further info please contact Peddars Way Housing Association on 01362 694858

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Remember when....

Remember when Welney used to have a General Stores, on Main Street next to the Lamb & Flag?

Let me introduce you to Gerald and Ethel Cox, the former owners of said store, whom I had the pleasure to meet in early August.

Gerald's family hails from March, Ethel's from Wisbech, and they originally moved to Welney in 1947 as a young married couple to run the General Stores.

They ran the shop up until around 1989 when for health reasons they retired and moved up to Skegness. After eleven years away they felt the draw of the Fens and set about looking for somewhere closer to family and friends; a fortuitous meeting five years ago with the late Dennis Booth, led them to the very quaint Church Cottages where they have now settled.

With Lucky the cat to keep them company and a love of photography, along with the odd little flutter on the horses their days are full. This year they are celebrating their 58th Wedding anniversary.

Many Congratulations from all of us at the Welney News.

Rachel Brown



Above: Ethel & Gerald.

Below: Welney General Stores



Teddy Church

Hello Teds!



We've had a bumper turnout at Teddy Church again, as our elders were able to join us during the Summer holiday, at both the August and September sessions, (on the first Monday of the month, at St. Mary's Church, Welney ... sorry regular readers, but a newcomer to the village might want to know when and where we get together!).

As planned, we talked about war and peace in August, and also the difference one person can make and, in contrast, how working together can bring about success. Our focus stories were both from the Old Testament of the Bible - first David and Goliath - the little guy fighting the big problem; then the walls of Jericho being broken down - a group of determined people working together to make themselves heard by the opposition and succeeding in breaking down barriers. Both stories also involved faith and trust in the guidance and support of God. We then thought of the more recent conflicts around the world, starting with the American Civil War, and the dreadful injuries and loss of life that they cause. Finally, we celebrated peace and prayed that it may come to every land and people, to stop the suffering of conflict. Our Teddy children, ranging from three to ten years old, contributed their memories, thoughts and enthusiasm throughout every stage of the session (particularly the biscuit consumption bit) and we all enjoyed our morning, especially the noisy musical marching around the shoebox walls of Jericho ... you probably heard that part!!

September was more peaceful as we enjoyed sharing a loaves and fishes picnic between us. All the children contributed to recalling the story for us before Annabelle Hogg read the story for us, beautifully, from a children's

Bible. Then pens, pencils and crayons were used to bring life to paper fish and loaves that had been cut to expand from one item to several, linked together. In this way we could imagine how a meagre two loaves and five fish could be stretched to feed a mammoth five thousand hungry people.

Once we'd extinguished the candles that lit our session, we had a real picnic of fish-shaped lemon cakes, fish biscuits (shape, not taste!), bread rolls and a fine selection of our usual gourmet biscuits. The feast was soon devoured by our Teds and we all had fun sharing the tasty fare.

Our dear Harriet couldn't be with us for the September session because she was off to her first Littleport Playgroup session (living on the other side of the Wash Road, she has to have a passport to allow her to cross the Cambs./Norfolk border to come to Welney for Playgroup and Teddy Church!). To allow for this awkward educational demand we decided that, in future, Teddy Church will start at **9.30am** instead of 10.30am. So, if you'd like to join our happy crew, please come along at **9.30am** on the first Monday of the month - we'd love to see you if you are pre-school age (or school age, during school holidays). Don't forget to bring your teddy, dinosaur, koala, tiger or cat, etc. (toys only please, the real things tend to eat too many biscuits!), plus a Dad, Mum, Granny, Grandad, Uncle, Auntie or Childminder.

Our next Teddy Church will have Harvest as its theme - more food - are you seeing a pattern developing here?!!

Until then, fare thee well from **Holly**
(Honorary Ted and gourmande, tel: 01945-773932).



PISCES IN AUTUMN

Here at Pisces the holiday season is finally drawing to a close and as the last of our guests enjoy the final few days of a surprisingly pleasant September we can reflect on a successful year and the promise of a busy and productive winter.

Work on the development of the new lodges to be sited on the large field beyond Mill Row will be starting imminently, and by next Spring it is hoped that the transformation of the site which Mike and Julie have worked so hard to achieve since taking over in the winter of 2003 will be largely complete.

At the time of their arrival Pisces was in a tired and somewhat shabby state where everything from the sewage system to the electrics had suffered from several years of neglect. Added to these problems was the fact that many of the caravans on site needed replacing, while the lakes had become overgrown and choked by reeds.

All in all, the place was in desperate need of a major overhaul, but after two years of hard work and some serious investment the feeling is that it has all been well worth the effort. The comments in our visitors' book certainly seem to bear this out, as do the number of repeat bookings from holidaymakers already looking forward to visiting us again next year. The addition of the new lodges will, of course, allow a few more lucky people to enjoy the rural peace on offer while hopefully still retaining the friendly and intimate feel of the place.

This season has also seen Rachel and I devote more time to our gardening and though the flowerbeds are looking good, it is the edible stuff that really interests me. Supermarkets seem to exert such a stranglehold on the produce available for us to buy these days that I take real pleasure in being able to walk through the garden picking a selection of homegrown fruit and vegetables. So what if my carrots are a funny shape or my apples have the odd mark on their skins, the big difference is in the taste. I know we've all been led to believe that we can all eat what we like when we like but I think a lot of the problems of flavourless food lie in the fact that the big retailers seem to have no awareness of the seasons.

I've no doubt the supermarkets would say that they operate on a 'customer-demand' basis, but who wants to eat salad in winter? One of the joys of fresh food is the knowledge that any given crop will naturally ripen at a certain time of the year and will (naturally) be at its best at this time. Call me old-fashioned but I like the fact my runner beans are coming to an end now; that freshly picked blackberries and bramley apples currently combine perfectly in a mouth-watering crumble; or that

pumpkin soup is just around the corner. The seasons should be an important feature in our lives as they offer a connection to nature that we should cherish and celebrate, not least through the food that we eat.

The time has now come for me to ask you, if I may, to cast your minds back to the previous edition of the Welney news and in particular paragraph two of my Pisces column. The words 'Australians fly home after Ashes defeat as glorious English summer continues' are what I am referring to, and though 'glorious English summer' may be stretching the truth somewhat readers will no doubt be well aware that, amazingly, our cricketers finally turned our hopes and expectations by bringing home the Ashes. Congratulations lads, we're proud of you. Let's just hope the England football team were taking note. With two important World Cup qualifying games coming up it will be interesting to see if Swede is off the menu this winter...

Mark Brown



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A Rural View

The view from our windows – car if not house – really has changed in the last month, as the new wind farm takes shape. I hadn't really appreciated how much closer these turbines would appear, when compared with the lone one next to Whitemoor Prison. They are actually a little nearer, but I think a large part of it is an optical illusion, because they stand in a far more open situation. It'll be interesting to see how the second batch at near by Stap's Holt look when they go up.

As a piece of functional engineering with a functional role, I think wind turbines are rather elegant, but can so easily look out of place. Mind you there must have been those who hundreds of years ago complained at the way new church towers and spires changed the scenery. Nowadays we just accept them without question, so perhaps one day when wind turbines become more commonplace, we'll hardly notice them at all.

They clearly look better standing out in the fens and other low lying land than they do on top of a picturesque hill in the uplands. There are obviously good and bad places to install them purely from a visual impact point of view let alone any other criteria that may have to be taken into account.

I do however fear that there could so easily end up being far too many of them around and then my generally relaxed opinion of them could harden.

I've actually been quite impressed by the way these new turbines have the ability to disappear in the early morning mists, but therein lies a potential problem. Hopefully they're still visible to any passing birds, especially if these happen to be large, white and not very manoeuvrable...like swans!

Fortunately, I think both wind farms should be far enough away so as not to interfere with the routine movements of the swans, but could present more of a hazard to new arrivals unfamiliar with such objects. They may also stand directly in line of those commuting to and from the Nene Washes.

Doubtless I will not be the only one monitoring their impact in the coming months.

My only real concern about producing power by means of wind turbines is the way they are marketed. No-one can deny that they tap into a renewable resource of

which Britain is particularly well endowed. I can therefore accept that they produce 'renewable' energy, however I do not accept that they are 'green'.

One of the most energy demanding / CO2 producing processes is the manufacture of concrete of which rather a lot is needed to support a wind turbine. As a rule of thumb it takes the expected productive lifetime of a turbine to replace the energy used in its construction and then there's the accompanying infrastructure of access roads etc. to take into account.

They can of course be dismantled and presumably recycled, when they reach the end of their working life, but what happens to the block of buried concrete. I can't see that being removed, so they can't be said to be truly sustainable either.

I have no objection in principle to utilising wind turbines for producing some of our power, but no-one should see them as the answer to all our problems.

Money needs to go into researching other technologies that may prove to be more efficient. What about using 'Suspension Bridge' to support a number of reversible tidal flow hydroelectric turbines to power the village? Perhaps we should apply for a grant to undertake a feasibility study???

Tim Bennett

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W.I. NEWS

The August meeting was a lively one when speaker for the night Mr. Williams arrived and brought along a few friends. Mr. Williams who works in and around the Sandringham Estate is a mole catcher and with various pieces of equipment demonstrated how to go about catching your mole. Just in case anyone was in any doubt as to what a mole

looks like he also brought one or two with him, which caused a shudder or two amongst some members.

Members had to bring something beginning with E to enter the competition with Ada Thorpe, Jean Newell and Blanche Markham gaining 5 points, Cissie Bedford and Bettine Watson 4 points and Queenie Johnson and Amy Markham 3 points.

Forest preservation was the subject of discussion at the September meeting. Mr. Dent from the Woodland Trust used slides to demonstrate how important it is not to lose our precious woodlands.

Objects beginning with F brought several interesting items to the competition with Queenie Johnson gaining 5 points, Amy and Blanche Markham 4 points, Ada Thorpe and Bettine Watson 3 points, Cissie Bedford 2 points and a point each for Vera Singletary and Jean Newell.

Several visiting W.I. groups are expected at the October meeting, which will have a Harvest theme with a supper and bring and buy stall. Mr. Chapman from Denver will be guest speaker and will no doubt prove very interesting, as he was a gardener at Watlington Hall.

November is celebration time with members looking forward to a visit to the Lamb and Flag.

Anyone interested in joining the W.I. should contact Amy Markham on 01354 610340

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A CO-INCIDENTAL HOLIDAY

We've all experienced amazing co-incidences that have connected people and past events to new places.

Over the past few years I've had several such memorable examples, details of which I've often thought of putting on paper. A recent 'double', which occurred whilst on holiday in Switzerland, has inspired me to do so.

Firstly, a couple staying in our hotel happened to mention that they lived in Halesworth, Suffolk. Well, as it happens I know only two people that live there, but as you do in such circumstances, I offered the 'I don't suppose you know Jill and Alistair?'. Imagine my surprise when they were able to complete the temporarily forgotten name, Macfarlane, and announce that they'd been friends with Alistair for about 30 years,

The Macfarlanes happened to have stayed with us for B&B several times, both in Wicken – where we used to live – and secondly here in Welney.

The very next day we were quietly enjoying iced coffees at a street side café in Adelboden, when a man turned up, checked the menu and sat down at the next table. I had thought he looked very much like someone we used to know, but as soon as Cindy saw him she exclaimed "Alan". He was of course even more amazed to hear his name called out by two apparent strangers.

Needless to say he joined us at our table and a long conversation ensued about what had happened over the ten years since we'd last seen one another.

What makes this second incident particularly amazing is that he too was a regular B&B guest, when we lived at Wicken.

If you have any similar tales you'd like to share please pass them on to our editor.

Tim Bennett

AGE CONCERN

In the last issue it was mentioned that there is a growing movement towards promoting certain kinds of exercise to help protect older people against the danger of falls in their own home. I contacted Upwell Health Centre to find out more, but they informed me that they do not at this time offer any exercise classes specifically directed towards falls prevention, nor do they know of any locally. However they did put me in touch with the Falls Prevention department, which is based at Doddington Hospital. At present training in Falls Prevention is about to be offered to staff of residential homes, but as yet there is nothing available on the scheme for people living in their own homes.

I did make more progress when I approached local T'ai Chi instructors. One class is held at Neal Wade College, March, on Friday nights during term-time, from 6-30pm to 8pm. Each session costs £3 and the class is run on a 'drop-in' basis – if you can't make all the sessions in a term, you don't have to pay for the ones you miss. Instructors Mark and Sandy are always friendly and approachable, and were happy to reassure me that they would accept individuals of any age or ability into their class. The ages of the students in their existing group already range from 10 to 70! Currently there is plenty of room for more in this class. Sessions include a good, long warm-up consisting of gentle, fluid stretches and movements and work on breathing, followed by work on the traditional 'form' or series of movements designed to work on posture, balance, strength, and flexibility. Individual attention is always given within the group. Mark and Sandy can be contacted at home on 01733 315757 for more information.



I also spoke to Kim, one of the T'ai Chi instructors at the Shining Tree Health and Leisure centre, Salters Lode. Kim has extensive experience working with senior citizens, and has links with the Falls Prevention initiative and with the Osteoporosis Society. She says that of the classes she teaches at the Shining Tree, her two Wednesday classes (10-30am to 12 noon and 7pm to 8-30pm) are the best for beginners. She would like to teach a beginners' class on a Friday morning if she can get enough interest; there would need to be a minimum of 5-6 people. Classes are £55 for a ten-week course, with a 50% discount for anyone taking out a Shining Tree membership – this also entitles you to use the swimming pool. The Shining Tree centre can be contacted on 01366 386711 for information on classes, membership, etc. Kim herself also plans to teach an Adult Education T'ai Chi class in Ely – another possible option.

Karen Fleming

NORFOLK SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Concerts are held on Sunday afternoons at 3-30pm at the Corn Exchange, King's Lynn. Tickets can be booked at the Corn Exchange, 01553 764864. The Music Director is James Stobart. The NSO has a website maintained by a member of the orchestra with information on forthcoming concerts and soloists; www.nso-uk.co.uk

The next concert is:

Sunday 13th November: Serenade to Music – Vaughan Williams
Piano Concerto no 4 – Beethoven (Soloist Juliet Allen)
Symphony no 2 – Rachmaninov

Subsequent concerts will be in March and May.

In addition, ELY SINFONIA will be presenting 'An Evening of Schubert by Candlelight' at Ely Cathedral on the 15th October. Information and tickets are available from the Cathedral Box Office: 01353 660349, or Adec: 01353 669022.



BISHOPS LAND CHARITY ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION

WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY 3rd DECEMBER, 2005

in ST. MARY'S CHURCH, WELNEY BETWEEN 10.30 AND 11.30 a.m.

The Charity was founded in 1896 when a parcel of land on the Manea Runs was leased. The current annual income of the land is £800.00

The money is distributed on the first Saturday in December to all females over the age of 60 years and to all males over the age of 65 years. Personal attendance at the Church is required. If you are not able to attend in person, the Trustees may be prepared to accept a signed note handed to one of them or brought along to the Church by a friend.

However, residents of any private nursing home in the Parish of Welney are not eligible for payment unless they have lived in the Parish of Welney, prior to going into a Home.

Last year the amount given to each of 81 Parishioners was £10.00. The payment will remain the same for this year.

Pat Copeman

Clerk to the Bishops Land Charity Trustees.



FRIENDSHIP CLUB

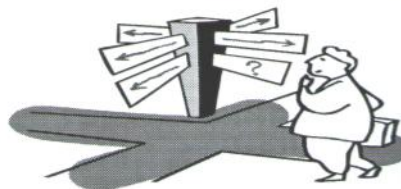
The Friendship Club has enjoyed two more successful outings recently. In August they stayed locally starting off in Cromer before heading into Sheringham for lunch and finishing up at Sunny Hunny to round off a lovely day with beautiful weather.

The September outing required a little more travelling because the destination was London. Again the weather was outstanding and those who went on the London Eye must have had an excellent view when their pod reached the top.

In October the Club will be in celebration mood when they hold their anniversary party, and November is Christmas Shopping time in Ipswich.

Everyone has been saddened in recent weeks on hearing of the death of fellow members Mr. Pink and Mr. Carter and as a mark of respect members stood in silence at each appropriate meeting.

The Friendship Club meets every other Tuesday in the village hall and spends an enjoyable afternoon playing whist, bingo and other games and quizzes. If you would like to join in see the diary page or contact Cissie Bedford on 01354 610206



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Henry's story

My sister Rosie & I arrived in Welney as evacuees in September 1939. I was almost five years old.

We arrived at William Marshall School on a Sunday, Rosie was initially billeted with Mr & Mrs Ray the School Master & Mistress, later they sadly lost their son Bobbie on active duty in the Royal Navy and so Rosie moved to stay with Amy Atkins, whom I understand still lives in Welney.

Mr Billie Carley, as I am told, approached my mother in the school hall and asked if I could sing, of all the things to ask at a time like that! However it was a very important thing to (Uncle) Billie who was always a very happy and jovial character, as my subsequent relationship and future years were to prove and as has been illustrated by the nature of some my photos. He was a full of life person, always there for a bit of fun, and from a child's perspective a complete delight to be around.

The Lamb & Flag was the Carleys' local. I can recall many times being with them and sitting very tight and very quiet, in the corner of the front room by the fireplace, since I was not supposed to be in a drinking establishment. My glass of lemonade was invariably accompanied by a bag of Smiths crisps and the most important thing to do would be to find the small blue pouch of salt at the bottom of the bag! I recall the Lamb & Flag owners as being Mr & Mrs Blowes.

When a little older, I occasionally was allowed a treat to get up in the early hours of the morning to travel with Uncle Billie, by lorry, to the London food market in Lower Thames Street where he would take a truck load of potatoes to the market wholesalers by the name of A. Eames, bundled in sacks, which had previously been collected from various farms in and around the Welney area.

On other occasions, these loads would be taken to Manea railway station and off-loaded into one of many wagons stationary in the sidings. With hindsight, I recall how physically hard people worked in those times. For instance, Billie would firstly stack his truck with potatoes after the sacks were lifted, by hand, from the field onto the truck by farm workers, and then he alone would unload them into the railway wagon, or wherever. My memory also recalls making such collections from farms near Downham Market, adjacent to Marham Air-force base and seeing those giant planes standing on the runways. Certainly I never appreciated the significance of what I was observing.

I can remember Cecil Swan and Don (surname not recalled), being drivers for Uncle Billie, and particularly recall the hot summers with double summer time, which was introduced to help farmers during those wartime years.

Saturday was shopping day for Florrie & Billie, my playmates were Joe Goodyer and Michael Clayton. Another playmate was Florries' great nephew Ken Ward who lived in Emneth. I believe that when he married he lived at Parsons Drove and that his wife's cousin was the late singer Dickie Valentine.

About the last two years of my evacuation were spent with Florries sister and brother-in-law, Grace and Jack Andrews, at St Johns Fen End. I also went to school at Terrington St Johns.

During this time my mother bought me a piano accordion, which was almost as big as me! Uncle Jack kindly made a kart to attach to my bicycle so I could tow said accordion all the way to Tilney St Lawrence for weekly lessons. Guess by that time I was about 8 years old. Can't imagine letting an eight year old do that today. Being a sentimentalist, I still have my Piano accordion.

Grace & Jack had a son Alwynne, who was captured at the fall of Singapore and spent the war working in a salt mine in northern Japan at Hakodate. Unlike many he survived. During my time with them I slept in Alwynne's bedroom, and constantly looked up at his two racing bicycle frames hung on the bedroom wall, always wondering what it would be like to ride them. Years later after the loss of her husband Jack, Grace moved to Lakes End from where she passed away.

When Florrie and Billie Carley retired they sold their house to my old friend Joe Goodyer and bought a bungalow in Taymor Place. It was from there that Billie passed away, Florrie subsequently lived in an Elderly Peoples home in Elm from where she also passed away.

I was eleven by the time I was able to return home, then to Southend on Sea, I took with me many happy memories of both my 'surrogate' families and the village of Welney.



Henry feeding the chickens in 1940



Working the fields..1940



Henry and Mr Carley

What Henry did next:

When I left school, I was apprenticed as a Radio & TV engineer. Later I invented the first car burglar alarm, when my patent was granted in 1957. I set up my own company called Hartwood Alarms and we initially operated from Islington.

Eventually I sold Hartwood Alarms to the AFA Group and I became their director of vehicle security internationally. I designed the first security systems for UK Security Express.

Later on I invented a device called the Hooklock, which secured a car's footbrake to the steering wheel. The Hooklock was an improvement on the well known Krooklock device (not one of my mine!) The Hooklock was quickly successful on an international level selling in almost every country in the world. In 1969 despite an earlier patent infringement action in the High Court I was awarded a Bronze Medal for Invention & Design at the International Inventors Exhibition in Brussels.

Some of my other 'big' inventions to date have been the Barri Nut Wheel Lock, (device for securing wheels to vehicles) and the Marinus Barri Lock, (a device for securing outboard engines on boats) for the first I was fortunate enough to receive another invention award in 1970 and am proud to say that due to the product's international success went on to open my own production company in Melbourne, Australia.

On a more personal note...I married my wife Jackie in 1962, we have two children Bradly & Samantha and three grandsons.

To sum up, Welney and the people are for me a way of life which, I am sure, not everyone understands. As a small child isolated from my family and probably confused by everything my memories of Welney, Florrie & Billie Carley are of kindness itself. And for that I am eternally grateful.

Henry Hart



Henry & Gerald James



Outside the Carley's garage 1939



Henry and his wife Jackie—2005

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WELNEY CYGNETS



What ho! Cygnets fans!

Before I start, what a fantastic result in the Ashes cricket series - Eng-er-land! Eng-er-land! Eng-er-land!! I should be torn between the two sides, being half-Australian myself (which half? ... the left half!), but I'm sorry, when it comes to the crunch it's Eng-er-land! Eng-er-land! Eng-er-land!! Right, enough of that for now, I think.

Now, how are the Welney Cygnets Team fairing? Well, our wonderful Deputy Playgroup Leader, Jean, has moved camp for the Autumn Term to Christchurch, where the tremendous Playgroup folk have made her and our Cygnets families very welcome. Thank you so much Christchurch Playgroup.

Have we banked the money from our two sponsors yet? No, not yet. The Norfolk Rural fund people have needed a bit of paperwork (what a surprise, bureaucracy always needs to devour a few trees before it is satisfied, I find!) before releasing their kind donation. We hope to have the money by the time this issue of the Welney News goes to print. The William Marshall Trust requested a meeting with our Committee to discuss the past, present and future of the Playgroup before they could plan their financial input. We had a very good get-together, with lots of positive ideas, and the Marshalls folk are going to take the gameplan that the two groups came up with to their next meeting, in October, and we will have a financial conclusion soon afterwards. Our thanks go to both of our potential benefactors, for their time, effort and planned donations.

Have we got a new Playgroup Leader yet? No, not yet. We have had a handful of returned application forms and will be interviewing throughout September. We want to select the right person for the job, so we're not rushing the process. We have the Autumn Term at our disposal, because Christchurch are playing hostess for that time, so we have the luxury of time to search, decide and settle a new Leader in before the Cygnets return to the School House in Welney.

To finish, I'd like to thank our Jean for her sterling work as lynch pin during our time of flux. She has given up her time for an induction play session at Christchurch, to familiarise our children with that setting; and for a hard morning of cleaning and clearing at the School House, to make the place more accessible for the School's use during the Autumn Term. She is also being our envoy at

Christchurch, caring for and educating our Welney Cygnets in our setting, so allowing the Christchurch staff to concentrate on their own children, and giving our Cygnets the continuity and security that is so vital for children. Jean - you're a gem and I don't know how we'd manage without you - **THANK YOU!**

That's it for now, dear readers.

Until next time, all the best from **Holly**

(Vice-Chair of the Welney Cygnets,

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The Victor Meldrew Column

As I bike up-dale and down-dale through our glorious countryside on my suitably named 'mountain' bike I happened to call in at **The WWT**. Where to park the bike? I couldn't spot any racks, hopefully a few quid may be spared for a row of racks from the thousands being spent on this environmental project that is bound to attract more petrol burners than sweat burners.

How I hate that word 'gotcha', well not a word really, more The Sun speak. I see that it is still used in the local papers, especially in the personal ads. It is used to highlight people who may have reached a certain age or to be seen in certain environments - such as having your photo taken whilst beer tasting at a pub in the next village!

Fishy goings on at **Tips End/Tipps End/ Tipsend** (I think that covers all the variations). We may be having an aquatic establishment on our doorstep. Nice to see a bit of local business being set up, possibly not so nice if it proves so successful that we may see cars parked on the narrow March Road (will they have bike racks?).

It's a laugh isn't it when a leaflet comes through your door inviting you to join Scottish **Gas** as your fuel supplier. Possibly 'laugh' is the wrong word now seeing how the cost of fuel is going up - whether it be petrol, gas or oil (did you get your order in before the latest price hike?) - better get a solid fuel burner and throw on those British Gas leaflets and all the others that the Postie seems to bring nowadays. **Get your bikes out!**

Harold Carter was a nice man. Someone said he was the sort of person that we should all aspire to be. In spring as you wind your way along the Wash Road you will see Harold's daffodils standing proud, saluting as you pass. Please spare a thought for him.

Whilst we are on the Wash Road, what are your thoughts on the **memorial plaque** at the New Bedford end? Are you of the school of thought where it is a personal reminder to the bereaved of what happened and where, a place to return to and grieve, an indicator to passing traffic that this is a dangerous place. Or possibly you may be of the opinion that a person's life should be celebrated and that geographical places are an irrelevance. Write in to The News with your views.

I glanced across the breakfast table to view Mrs. Meldrew with a frown across her forehead, as we were engrossed in the morning papers. Must be The Times crossword that she is struggling with I thought. Further investigation revealed that it was The Welney News **crossword**. What's going on here? - a cryptic crossword in the WN? Doesn't the editor know that we are simple village fen folk who struggle with fen life such as converting to Scottish Gas and finding bike racks

once we have regained the art of balancing and pedalling the bike at the same time. Who knows it may become a **PRIZE** crossword where the clever cryptic converter can win a month's supply of Scottish Gas or the like. My 10-minute Sun crossword is enough (best time so far is three days). The WN is in serious danger of becoming interesting and a good read from front to back.

Here's one for our clever compiler:

A joint effort to improve matters - a source of life, for all to know (6,4)

On second thoughts, I think I will stick to the day job.

VM

WILLIAM MARSHALL SCHOOL

The way subjects are taught at the school has changed a little for the junior class this academic year; instead of following all subjects throughout the year, there will be a focus on different subjects each half-term. For the first half-term of autumn, the main subject will be science. Year 3 and 4 children will be studying habitats, skeletons and movement, and rocks and soils. Brush up on your bones, Mums and Dads!

How does it go... your foot bone's connected to your ankle bone, your ankle bone's connected to your leg bone, your leg bone's connected to your.. well, that's enough of that.

Years 5 and 6 will look at how animals and plants adapt to their environment, and will also be learning about microbes, and - at the opposite end of the size scale - about the Sun, Earth, and Moon. Other subjects taught during the half-term will link in with the science work wherever possible. Art will include looking at viewpoints and perspective, and in music the themes are singing and performance - hopefully we will get a look at some of the results nearer to Christmas!

The juniors are able to go swimming again this term - they will be enjoying their regular visits to Downham Market swimming pool on a Thursday morning. The children will also be practising netball skills.

On the social calendar are a Halloween Party at the end of October, organized by the Friends of the School; and the Friends' Christmas Fayre which will be open to the public - so please put this date in your diary! It will be held on Friday 2nd December at 3pm in the school. Please come along to the Fayre if you can to support our school.

Finally, if you shop or buy fuel at Tesco, please collect the green 'Sports for Schools' vouchers which can be redeemed by the school for sports equipment.

Karen Fleming

ACTION PLAN UPDATE

'It's' imminent!

As a reminder, this is what 'it's' all about.

A village appraisal was undertaken in 1996, which not only provided a detailed record of how things were at that time, but also gave some indication of how people preferred things to change in the future.

One of the best outcomes of that exercise was the birth of the Welney News, which now keeps everyone more regularly informed about village affairs.

The Parish council now wish to move into the next stage by producing a comprehensive Action Plan, which will help determine the future of our community. The actions **you** wish to see will drive the Parish Council's new proactive approach for the next few years; just as current Government thinking wants to see.

We really do have an opportunity to control our own destiny, but if we don't take this opportunity our Borough & County Councils will assume we don't care what happens and take decisions for us.

In order to give everyone a chance to have their say, a folder containing one or more questionnaires will shortly be delivered to every household within the Parish plus adjacent properties in both Tipps End and Bells Drove.

You will then have two weeks to complete the questionnaires, before they are collected again.

Ideally each and every parishioner will take the time & effort to work their way through the 88 questions that the Action Plan Steering Group have carefully compiled over the past few months.

To ensure that the Parish Council gain a better understanding of the needs & aspirations of future generations, separate questionnaires have been developed for the 5-11 and 12-17 age groups.

As an added incentive there will be two prizes awarded by means of a draw for each of the three questionnaires when returned completed. If necessary, help will be available from the person who delivers and collects your folder.

There will be no identification numbers on the questionnaire and you will not have to enter any names or addresses, because it is the collective view that is needed and not that of a particular individual. Hopefully this guaranteed anonymity will encourage you to answer more freely and honestly. There will be plenty of space for you to make any additional comments or suggestions.

Following analysis, all the questionnaires will be shredded under the watchful eye of several independent witnesses.

Eventually, every household will receive its own copy of a report, detailing the results of the consultation exercise, so you can see exactly what has been said.

The Parish Council will then draw up a timetable-led Action Plan, which will drive its activities for the next five years. Undertaking this exercise will significantly increase the likelihood of our being able to access funding, in order to move forward with the plans you wish to see implemented.

It really will be a case of the higher the response rate the louder our voice will be and the more likely we'll get what we want for our community.

So **PLEASE** help us to help you by filling in your questionnaire(s).

To launch the project an event will be held in the Parish Hall in early October, so that you can learn more about the whole process before you pick up your pens.

Finally the Steering Group would welcome any additional help with this project. If you are interested in becoming involved and doing something really worthwhile please contact the Parish Clerk, Pat Copeman on 01354 610 226.

Tim Bennett

(on behalf of the Steering Group)

PS : You will be aware that some time ago the Parish Council had preliminary discussions with Elgoods about the future of the Lamb & Flag, Three Tuns and the Parish Hall. It's now your turn to say what you think. Included in your Action Plan folder will be a separate piece of paper containing some background information and a few questions for you to answer.

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WELNEY HOMEWATCH

During the summer, a Homewatch member living in West Walton reported being approached by a man offering cut-priced silicon roof sealant which he said was surplus from a 'job round the corner'. The Homewatch member refused the offer and the man left. He was driving a white Ford Transit, reg NL02 DGE. If you are approached by anyone offering cut-price goods which are claimed to be 'leftovers', or offering to carry out work for you using such goods, please remember that they are very likely to be of poor quality and the person making the offer is possibly a bogus trader. Any incidents involving suspected bogus traders should be reported to the police on **0845 4564567**.



In the months of July and August there were a total of 46 burglaries in the West Norfolk area. What was of most concern to the police was that of the 46, in 22 cases the burglar was able to enter the house through an unlocked or open door or window. Please remember that even in a small village where we feel relatively secure, we cannot always know who is passing by – think of how many cars driving through the village belong to people we do not know! It may seem unnecessary to take the time to close or lock doors and windows if you are just going to a neighbour for two minutes; in fact it may even 'go against the grain'; but those two minutes are more than enough for a practised burglar. For any advice on home security, contact Community Safety on **01553 665037**.



Karen Fleming

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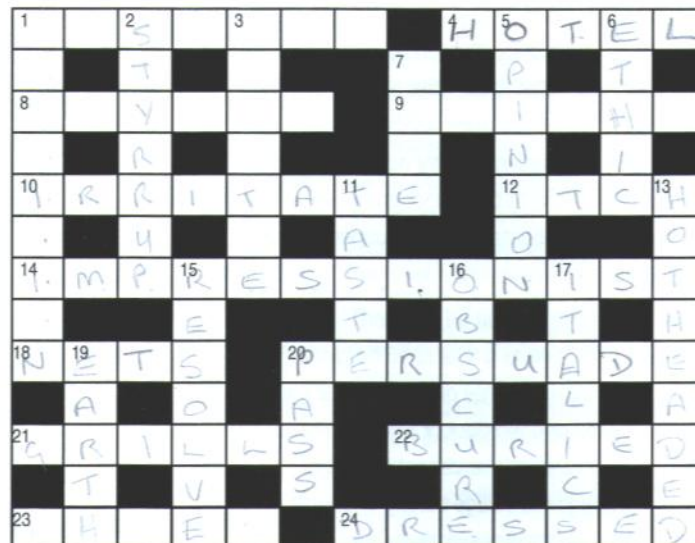
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Cryptic Competition Crossword

by Mark Brown



Clues

Across

- 1: How many letters ? A sackful ! (7)
- 4: See 23 across
- 8: Complained vehemently about making another redial (6)
- 9: Land on fire (6)
- 10: 12 across could annoy or anger if ignored (8)
- 12: Headless sorceress reveals a restless desire to scratch (4)
- 14: One who makes a living impersonating late 19th century French painter (13)
- 18: Ensnares gun in reverse (4)
- 20: Convince rude apes to change their ways (8)
- 21: Subjects to prolonged questioning under direct heat (6)
- 22: Hostilities ended after hatchet is covered from sight (6)
- 23 & 4a: Discover hostel here in local village (5,5)
- 24: Salad best eaten fully clothed (7)

Down

- 1: Confusion led one from pride into spiritual ruin (9)
- 2: In trying to get up, rider puts his foot in it (7)
- 3: The bare essential for life (7)
- 5: Prevailing view may be public, though in private we all have our own (7)
- 6: Moral value of work ? (5)
- 7: Five hundred and one fish (4)
- 11: Good or bad, it may help one to get a flavour of things (5)
- 13: Impetuous type regretted forgetting sun-hat (3,6)
- 15: Determine to find the answer - then find it again (7)
- 16: Unclear why Bruce so mixed up (7)
- 17: Family of ancient languages written with a slant to the right (7)
- 19: Soil the planet (5)
- 20: Decline permit to gain authorised access (4)

Please send your completed crossword to the editor at the address on page 2 .

All correct entries will be entered into our prize draw .

The winner, drawn at random, will win a bottle of wine. If you do not wish to cut up your copy of the Welney News please write your answers, along with your name and telephone number, on a sheet of paper for inclusion in the draw.

(Draw will be held on November 1st.)

Name.....
Telephone.....



Answers to last edition's crossword

I	N	V	E	R	T	E	B	R	A	T	E
N		I		A			O		S		S
T	O	P	I	C		P	A	S	S	E	S
H		E		K	O	I			E		A
E	E	R	I	E		A	P	A	T	H	Y
	P		S	T	U	N		I		O	
	I		L		T	O	A	D		L	
A	C	C	E	N	T		U	S	H	E	R
D		A			E	O	N		O		E
H	U	N	T	E	R		T	I	T	A	N
O		O		R			I		E		E
C	A	N	A	R	Y	Y	E	L	L	O	W

Wordsearch solution

```

+ + + + W + + + + + + + G +
+ + + + + O + + F + + + O + +
+ + + + + + O R + + + L S + +
+ + + + + + O D + + D + W + +
+ + + + + G T + P F + + A + +
W O R R A P S I I E + + N X +
R + + + + + N T + C N + O B
E + + + + R C + + E O K T F L
G E V O D H O + + E U A E + A
D W E A S E L B G K B L + R C
A + + + + + + I I + C + B + K
B + + + + + P + + N + U + + B
+ + + + + + + + + + + D + I
+ + + + + + + + + + + + R
+ + + + + + + + + + + + D

```

Sudoku Solution

3	4	2	7	6	9	1	8	5
8	7	9	1	5	4	6	2	3
1	5	6	2	8	3	7	9	4
4	2	8	5	3	7	9	6	1
7	6	1	4	9	2	5	3	8
5	9	3	6	1	8	2	4	7
6	8	4	9	7	1	3	5	2
2	1	5	3	4	6	8	7	9
9	3	7	8	2	5	4	1	6



Don't let your brain hibernate this winter!!

Is anyone around the village interested in keeping their brain alert over the forthcoming winter with its long dark nights?

If you fancy having the odd game of chess, Go or any other so-called 'mind game' please make contact.

It doesn't matter whether you've never even played before, are a relative beginner, or are experienced, because we're just interested in **having some fun and being sociable.**

Tim Bennett : 01354 610433
Nigel Fleming: 01354 610523

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Summer holidays in Welney

Hello Welney.

In August we, Heike and Olaf, spent our holiday with Julie and Mike at the caravan park. A few of you got to know us or will have seen us. Julie and Mike asked us to write something for you about ourselves. I, Heike, am 25 years old and come from Kiel in Germany. This is in the north of Germany at the Baltic Sea. Olaf is 39 years old and comes from Stendal, which lies 300 km to the south of Kiel, between Berlin and Hanover. We both share the same hobby, namely fishing.



Last year we also spent our holiday in England and have got to know Pisces and Welney through Bob Nudd. We decided to spend our holiday with Julie and Mike this year again. You must surely wonder what has brought us to this rural area, since tourists usually prefer action and animation!

Well, what brought us to Welney was the warmth of the people we met, the everyday peacefulness and naturally the fishing. In Welney you can forget time, there is no need to race from one appointment to the next. You can let your soul dangle and enjoy the nature.

You can enjoy the perfect ending of a beautiful day of fishing, when in the peace and quiet of nature the sun takes its leave of absence and the moon slowly rises and reflects in the water. You look up at the moon and imagine seeing his smiling face and the warm evening breeze accompanies you home to the caravan. It isn't easy to realise these things in this day and age but if you can acknowledge these feelings you should embrace them deeply.

After 17 hours of travelling we arrived back in Kiel. The trip home lasted 3 hours longer than our outbound journey. The ferry could not reach its full speed against the wind and this caused a one hour delay. On top of this our route planner was faulty and we lost our way at Antwerp. Nevertheless, we arrived safely in Kiel at 2am and Olaf returned to Stendal the next day.

For today we bid you farewell from Germany. We're sending warm greetings to Welney.

Until next summer

Heike and Olaf

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News from your Church

As you may already be aware the roof work on the church has at last been completed. Hopefully this will keep the church water-tight for a good few years. We have, however, just had our Quinquennial Inspection and there is more work to be done on the interior. The church may now be in good condition regarding the actual building but it still needs the support of the people of the village if it is to serve them into the future. The church is used frequently for weddings, baptisms and funerals and the school use the building for their Harvest and Christmas services. We are still without an Incumbent and, due to the small congregation, we are now classed as a Light Load Benefice and will only be getting a half-time priest to serve the whole Benefice. (Christchurch, Manea and Welney)!!!!

The annual Garden Fete was held, as usual, on the first Saturday of August. It was a rather gusty day, as Kim can vouch for as she tried to keep her flowers from blowing around the churchyard, but it stayed fine and the fete was once again voted a success. Thanks from the P.C.C. are extended to everyone who helped in any way, by running stalls, donating prizes or the giving of time.

The P.C.C. have decided that the Christmas Coffee Morning, usually held in the church building will not take place this year but we will still have the usual Christmas Draw and another quiz will be compiled and sold around the village.

Please give thought to the fact that the church is there for the village as a whole and not just for the small but faithful few that are keeping it running.

The P.C.C. Welney St.Mary

USE IT OR.....!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Some Welney residents are concerned that if the present bus routes are not used enough they may well be lost forever. Ron and Mick Rayburn of New Road have found the local transport very useful and describe it as a lifesaver, as they have no transport of their own. Mick has been making regular journeys to March to attend a computer course and has found the bus service invaluable. Other villagers have commented that the time allowed in various location isn't enough, but Mick suggests that perhaps if they used the service on a regular basis the company would be willing to look at extending the timetable. On the other hand if the take-up rate is poor, the company may reduce or omit some routes once the initial contract period ends. The future of the present system may be in the hands of Welney residents!!!!!!!!!!



Upwell Health Centre Patient Participation Group

HEALTH FAIR

on
Saturday October 15th 2005

10am – 2pm

at

Upwell Village Hall

FLU VACCINATIONS



Doctors & Nurses will be on hand.

Raffle & Refreshments

FREE ADVICE AND INFORMATION

Age Concern – Alzheimer's Society – Asthma Relief
Citizens' Advice Bureau – CAMTAD – Drinksense
East Cambs & Fenland PCT – Energy Conservation
Motor Neurone Assoc. – Osteoporosis Society
Macmillan – Nipper the Pat dog – Care and Repair
Talking Newspaper – Norfolk Fire Service
West Norfolk Community Voluntary Service – Windis



Welney Visitor Centre

The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust

The Wigeon Tearoom

Open 10am-4.30pm, free admission

Filled rolls & sandwiches, light meals,
delicious home-made cakes.

Hot food available noon-3pm

Group bookings catered for.

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Observatory & Reserve

Open 10am-5pm, small admission fee

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Hundred Foot Bank, Welney.

BUSES FROM WELNEY



Monday-Saturday

March (Broad St)	9.00	13.08	15.20
Welney (Post Office)	9.22	13.30	15.57
Wisbech (Bus Stn bay 5)	10.01	14.06	16.33

Wisbech (Bus Stn bay 5)	10.05	12.05	
Welney (Post Office)	8.24	10.41	12.41
March (Broad St)	8.50	11.03	13.03

March (Broad St)	9.00	13.08	15.20
Welney (Post Office)	9.22	13.30	15.47
Downham Mkt (Bus Stn)	9.57	14.03	16.22

Downham Mkt (Bus Stn)	7.50	10.08	12.05
Welney (Post Office)	8.24	10.41	12.41
March (Broad St)	8.50	11.03	13.03

*****Some changes at Three Holes may be necessary

Church services



MP Morning Prayer 9.30am

16th October: Ven. H. McCurdy
23rd October: SE Tooke
20th November: A Henderson
27th November: Revd S Tooke



HC Holy Communion 9.30am

2nd October: Revd R Worsley
6th November: Revd R Worsley



AAW All Age Worship 11am

9th October: Revd S Tooke
13th November: Revd S / S.E Tooke



USM United Service Manoeuvres

30th October: S.E Tooke

Diary index



Parish Council meeting: Village Hall
7.30pm



Cricket net practice—Thurs evenings,
Pavillion



Carpet Bowls: 7.15pm Pavillion



Teddy Church: 10.30am St Mary's



Mobile Library:
9.40am: Hale Road
10.00am: Chestnut Avenue
10.20am: Lamb & Flag car park
11.15am: Post Office
11.35am: Herneside



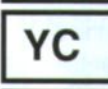
Toy Library :10am Village Hall



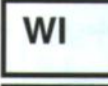
Yoga at Lode Hall
aka the Herb Garden
Thurs: 10am-11.30am



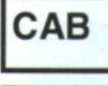
Friendship Club: 2pm Village Hall



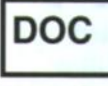
Youth Club: 6.30pm—9pm
at the Pavillion



Womens Institute: 7pm Village Hall



Citizens Advice Bureau
10 -11.45 am Village Hall



Village Hall: Doctor: Monday Noon
Nurse : Thursday 10am

Are there any events or meetings you would like to add to this page???
without your input this diary page is somewhat meaningless! So please take the time to contact one of the editorial team & let us know whats going on...!

October 1st—November 30th 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
 2 HC	 3 CAB DOC	4	 5 WI	 6 YC DOC	 7	8
 9 AAW	10 DOC	 11	 12	 13 YC DOC	 14	15
 16 MP	17 CAB DOC	18	 19	 20 YC DOC	 21	22
 23 MP	24 DOC	 25	26	 27 YC DOC	 28	29
 30 USM—MP	31 CAB DOC	1	 2 	 3 YC DOC	 4	5
 6 HC	 7 DOC	 8 	9	 10 YC DOC	 11	12
 13 AAW	14 CAB DOC	15	 16	 17 YC DOC	 18	19
 20 MP	21 DOC	 22	23	 24 YC DOC	 25	26
 27 MP	28	29	 30			

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Here's an old American recipe for Pumpkin Pie...perfect for this
time of year....

Take

1½ cups cooked and mashed pumpkin
1½ cups evaporated milk
2 tablespoons of brandy or rum

Add the following previously blended:

8 tablespoons of brown sugar
pinch of salt
½ teaspoon ground ginger
½ cup Golden Syrup or Black treacle
3 eggs
½ cup sultanas

Prepare a high-sided pastry case, pour in the mixture, and bake in a
medium hot oven for about 30 minutes

Serve with whipped cream.