

Issue 50

WELNEY NEWS

April—May 2006

30p





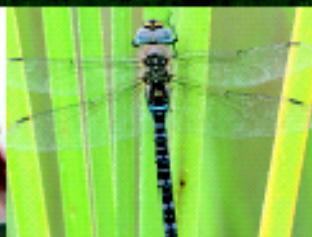
WWT Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust

JOIN TODAY and visit our
national network of
Wetland Centres FREE

Welney Wetland Centre



every season is a new experience



New visitor centre open from May 2006

Eco-friendly, innovative building design, some of the best views of the Fens. Fun Fenland Worlds area, trails & purpose-built education area. Large restaurant and gift shop. Family-friendly events and activities.

Internationally important reserve. Winter haven for thousands of wild swans. Summer sanctuary for dragonflies, butterflies, moths, watervoles and wildflowers.

WWT Welney Wetland Centre
Hundred Foot Bank, Welney, Wisbech
T 01353 860711
E info.welney@wwt.org.uk
For more information please visit our
website: www.wwt.org.uk



Celebrating 60 years of conservation 1946 – 2006

Registered charity No. 1030884

50 TODAY!

Well here we are at the ripe old age of 50 and still going strong. I hope you like the front cover, a special treat for our birthday!

With all things Welney at the moment, there seems to be a huge amount of enthusiasm in the village, not only within the WN team. The WASH Club also had a very successful open day recently - see page 10 for a full report. Not forgetting the recent Parish Action Plan questionnaires, there was a staggering 94% return rate, read more on page 11. Last but not least I should mention the Parish Council which seems full of vigour and fresh ideas. If you haven't yet been to one of the monthly meetings, please do go along and have your say.

Now to the Bird Flu situation. To put your minds at rest please read the Q & A on page 8 and then also the advice from the WWT on page 14 and be assured that the risk is so miniscule there really is **no good reason why you shouldn't continue to visit the WWT.**

Back to the WN, you'll have noticed that we are currently revamping the magazine in an attempt to make it a more relevant and useful community tool. We need your financial support to ensure we keep going for another 50 editions. Printing is our biggest expense and as the cover price does not cover this expense we rely on advertisers / sponsorships.

Our long term plan includes leasing our own printer to enable us to reduce costs, offering free copies to the over 65's and maybe eventually becoming a monthly magazine ! As you can see we have big plans and consequently need your help to realise these dreams.

There are several new advertisers in this edition and we would like to thank them for their support and urge you all to consider using their services as and when you need them.

Our advertising rates are on the back page so if you want to get your company / organisation noticed please contact any member of the team and ask for more details. One-off adverts are welcome, for example you might like to embarrass someone on their birthday with a baby photo in the WN. The opportunities are endless.....just ask!

Rachel

Due to recent events please can I draw your attention to the article about distraction burglaries on page 7, we all need to be careful & vigilant and perhaps remind our elderly neighbours of the risks.

PS: The next WASH club open day is **May 13th** at the Village Hall, 10am—2pm...Please come along to help us identify our collection of old pics....why not bring your own and get them copied for future generations to enjoy.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Post Office Anniversary, Molly dancing & birthday greetings	4
Just for fun	5
Wind Power—the latest news, Easter fun for kids	6
Beat the burglar	7
Bird Flu—Q&A	8
WI, Heartbeat group, Friendship Club	9
W.A.S.H Club	10
Exercise is good for all, Action Plan update	11
Youth Club, Welney Cygnets	12
Meldrew's Moan	13
Whats happening at WWT	14
Whats on at KL Corn Exchange	15
Diary pages	16 & 17
Whats on at Ely Cinema, Days out in Ely	18
Days out in Ely part 2, Other Coincidences	19
Welney in the 70's,	20
School update & Teddy Church	21
Water levels and why	22
Parish Council—meeting reports	23 & 24
Letters page	25
More Coincidences	26
Cryptic crossword competition	28
Puzzle solutions, Recipe	29
Bits and bobs	30

1st Class service

Please give a big cheer for Wendy Redman who has just celebrated **30 years** of running our wonderful Village shop / Post Office. No mean feat when you think about the number of village shops that have fallen by the wayside in recent years.

Wendy provides an excellent service to us and we are all extremely grateful for all the support and hard work she has given our community.

Last month several villagers clubbed together and organised a celebratory bouquet as a mark of our respect.

Many thanks are due to Helen Scott who first brought the 30th anniversary to our attention.

Below is the long service certificate Wendy received from the Post Office in recognition of her achievement.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

The 'NEWS' has discovered that Her Majesty the Queen is not the only one to celebrate a significant birthday this year.

Linda Chew (nee Wilson) from Northampton informs us that her father, Ray Wilson of Hern Drove, will also be 80 years old on the 21st April.

Linda and Ray have kindly supplied interesting photographic copies of past Welney football teams for the WASH group archive, which prompted several memorable snippets from visitors to the recent exhibition in the village hall.

So congratulations and best wishes to Ray on his forthcoming 80th birthday.



Molly Dancers do their thing in the Lamb & Flag car park.

Picture by Marlen Moss-Eccardt

Please email your pictures of local events to the editor at: mrandt@tiscali.co.uk



Do you want: **Help with your computer?**

Advice about computer or Internet problems?

Someone to sort out your computer problems?

Help with using your computer effectively?

Then call in "PC Life Support"

Introductory Offer - Normally £120

£90 for a FULL YEAR'S SUPPORT

visit www.pclifesupport.co.uk

Call 01354 638683

to find out more



20 years experience
supporting
computer users

PC Life Support

Just For Fun

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

How many can you find?... They are all there.

Chatteris	Kings Lynn	Outwell
Christchurch	Lakesend	Tipps End
Downham Market	Littleport	Upwell
Ely	Manea	Welney
Emneth	March	Wisbech

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

Basic rules of Sudoku

Each row, column and "area" 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

The Einstein Puzzle

There are 5 houses in 5 different colours. In each house lives a person of a different nationality.

The 5 owners drink a certain type of beverage, smoke a certain brand of cigar, and keep a certain pet.

Using the clues below can you determine who owns the fish?

The Brit lives in a red house.

The Swede keeps dogs as pets.

The Dane drinks tea.

The green house is on the immediate left of the white house.

The green house owner drinks coffee.

The person who smokes Pall Mall rears birds.

The owner of the yellow house smokes Dunhill.

The man living in the house right in the middle drinks milk.

The Norwegian lives in the first house.

The man who smokes Blend lives next door to the one who keeps cats.

The man who keeps horses lives next door to the man who smokes Dunhill.

The owner who smokes Blue Master drinks beer.

The German smokes Prince.

The Norwegian lives next to the blue house.

The man who smokes Blend has a neighbour who drinks water.

Answer on page 29

Parrot joke

Jerry received a parrot for his birthday.

The parrot was fully-grown with a bad attitude and worse vocabulary. Every other word was an expletive. Those that weren't expletives were, to say the least very rude.

Jerry tried hard to change the bird's attitude and was constantly saying polite words, playing soft music, anything he could think of to try and set a good example.

Nothing worked.

He yelled at the bird and the bird yelled back. He shook the bird and the bird just got angrier and became even more rude. Finally in a moment of desperation. Jerry put the parrot in the freezer.

For a few moments he heard the bird squawk and kick and scream. Then suddenly, it all went quiet. . . .

Not a sound for half a minute. Jerry was frightened that he might have hurt the bird and quickly opened the freezer door.

The Parrot calmly stepped out onto Jerry's extended arm and said: "I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I will endeavour at once to correct my behaviour. I really am truly sorry and beg your forgiveness."

Jerry was astonished at the bird's change in attitude and was about to ask what had made the difference and caused such a dramatic change when the parrot continued: "May I ask what the chicken did???"

Wind power for Welney?

The Welney News has discovered that further to the success of the wind turbine near the prison at March and those at Coldham, a French consortium (Mistrals Arus) has proposed harnessing the wind 'corridor' that is associated with the Ouse washes. This natural phenomenon could have turbines spinning very close to us, too close some may say.

The anti wind turbine camp often put forward the cost and implication to the environment of extensive infrastructure work to establish, service and erect turbines as against the expected benefits once up and running. Our French *amis* have come up with a breeze of an idea – they propose to use existing structures which have ready-made access so that with only small modifications a fan can be up and twirling with little cost.

The government is keen to back such air-brained schemes and as such the Frogs can reap the whirlwind of large grants from the EU and us. Now here is the blast for Welney – the water authority has given permission for Welney's defunct tower to be used for the first eggbeater to be built. The draught is the beefing-up of the present support structure, which the tower offers and placing a 3 bladed fan on top via a titanium vertical column, which will give strength and lightness. Opinion is mixed in the village; positives quote increased tourism, local jobs especially for the window cleaners, scaring away those damn swans that cause the electric to go off (how's that for irony? enough to hang a magnet on), a bit of background noise to overcome the noise of people trying to sing in the Lamb and Flag and the noise that emanates from those wild WI meetings etc.

Negatives are from the people who are anti progress and cannot appreciate art and architecture (i.e. Prince Charles). A spokesperson for the local pressure group, Save Our Wastelines, said that there wasn't going to be any more erected locally, but it seems all up in the air again.

As a concession to the villagers of Welney the Consortium intend to erect posts around the perimeter of the site complete with 15 amp sockets, powered by Le Turbine, for us to plug into as required, free of charge, so to speak! Although on the one windless day in the year that Welney experiences you won't get much.

The Welney News will continue to press for further information from the Garlics via their contact *femme*, Mme. Avril Le Premier.

If you need to contact them direct, then quote reference Welney/U/BINAD

Major Percy Rosbif (ret'd).



EASTER FUN

Are you aged between 1-11?

If so come along to the

village hall on

Saturday 8th April between 2-5pm

There will be the following events :

Easter Bonnet competition

Easter Egg Hunt

Disco & games

Plus the Easter Bunny will be hopping in to meet

everyone

£1 ADMISSION FEE

ADAMS TRADITIONAL

IRONMONGERS

17 Main St. Littleport

01353 860222

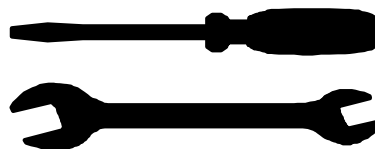
FOR

HARDWARE, DIY, DECORATING

TIMBER, GARDENING

HOUSEHOLD, PETFOODS

AND MUCH MORE



Distraction Burglary

As I write this there has been a so-called distraction burglary right here in Welney, so we all need to be alert to strangers on our doorstep. Below is a guide to beating the burglar, let's all take a few moments to read the simple steps listed below and if we follow them all the time stop this happening to anyone else in our small village. The elderly couple concerned are friends of mine and I am pleased to say the police are being very pro-active and are giving plenty of advice on home security. Remember use that door chain every time you open the front door, and sad as it sounds, let no-one into your home, no-matter how beguiling their story is, **if you don't know them keep them out.**

Most people who call at your home will be genuine. But sadly sometimes people turn up unannounced and they will use a variety of stories to gain access to your home with the intention of stealing your money and valuables. These people are known as bogus callers or distraction burglars. Bogus caller crime can be committed against anyone but the majority of victims are older and vulnerable people.

They may say they are from the water, gas or electric company or the local council. Or, they may ask for a glass of water, to use your phone or to wash their hands or even claim to have lost a pet. In fact, **they'll use any story they can to get in.** They can be young (even children) or old, male or female, and might work alone or in teams.

Should anyone turn up and you feel unsure as to what to do **please just close and lock your front door** then call the police on 999.



Simple steps to beat bogus callers

1: LOCK: Always keep your back and front door locked even when you are at home or just popping out briefly.

2: STOP: If there is someone at your door, stop and think whether you are expecting anyone. Ensure the back door is locked before answering the front door so that nobody can access your house while you are distracted.

3: CHAIN: If you decide to open the door, put the door bar or chain on first. Keep the chain on while you talk to the person on the doorstep. When the door is closed, remove the chain in case you need to get out quickly.

4: CHECK: If a stranger wants to come in and claims that they are from a utility company, the local authority or any other organisation, always ask for their ID, even if you were expecting them - genuine callers will happily show you ID. Close the door and check the ID carefully. Call the head office if you are still unsure, but use the number from the telephone directory or a recent utility bill, not the one on the card.

If in doubt, keep them out: Particularly if you're on your own. Ask them to make an appointment or come back later when someone else is around. Genuine callers won't mind. If you are suspicious, report the incident to the police.

HANDEL

Messiah

Rachel Wheatley (Soprano)
Robert Cross (Countertenor)
Peter North (Tenor)
David Soar (Bass)

ELY CHORAL SOCIETY
ELY FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA

Leader: Helen Medlock
Organ Continuo: Jonathan Lilley

Conducted by
ANDREW PARNELL

ELY CATHEDRAL
Saturday 8th April, 7.30pm

Tickets £15, £12, £10, £5.
Under 18's £2 any seat
From Ely Cathedral Box Office (660349)
Burrows Bookshop, Ely (669759) and at the door.

Welney Churchwardens:

Pauline Aisthorpe 01366 - 384658
Rosina Beckford 01354 - 610385



Bird flu – Questions and Answers

Q: What should I do if I find a number of dead birds?

A: If you find one or more dead swans/wild fowl (ducks and geese), more than 3 dead birds of the same species or more than 5 dead birds of different species, in the same place, you should contact the **Defra Helpline - 08459 33 55 77. Currently the Helpline is available between the following hours Monday - Friday 8am to 8pm and Saturday - Sunday 9am to 6pm.** You will be asked for details of your finding and its location. Outside of these hours, please capture as much detail as you can about the incident, including precise location, and then telephone through on the next working day.

Q: Do I need to report single dead birds?

A: In relation to monitoring for Avian Influenza Defra is looking for incidents of mortality affecting significant numbers of birds at the same time in the same place; however single or multiple deaths of swans are of interest. A wild bird die off is characterised by an unusual number of wild bird deaths in one area. The usual number of deaths depends on several things; for example, more deaths will be expected if the bird population is high, food is scarce or if the weather is bad. An unusually high number of deaths generally involves several birds of one species, or a larger number of birds from several species.

Q: Is it necessary to report deaths in birds kept in outside aviaries or game birds?

A: You should report cases where a number of birds have died within a short time and there could have been contact with migratory water-birds. Do this by contacting your private veterinary surgeon.

Q: Am I at risk from touching dead birds?

A: Wild birds can carry several diseases that are infectious to humans. If dead birds are handled, it is important to wash your hands with soap and water as soon as possible. Avoid touching your face and do not eat until you have washed your hands. Clean any soiling on clothing with soap and water.

Q : What should I do if I find dead wild birds near or among my poultry?

A: Please report these without delay so that DEFRA can discuss this with you and provide advice on the next steps.

Q: Do I have to worry about my pets eating or bringing dead birds in?

A: It is always sensible to prevent pets eating wild bird or other animal carcasses given that there is the possibility that the death could have been caused by poisoning or from a severe bacterial infection.

Q: If Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza is found in wild birds, will there be a cull of them?

A: While there are powers under the Animal Health Act 1981 which allow Defra to kill wild birds, they have no intention to use these powers at present. The control of avian influenza infection in wild bird populations is not feasible - from a logistical, environmental and biodiversity point of view. Indiscriminate culling of wild migratory bird populations would be ineffective in preventing further spread of avian influenza and their hunting would likely cause dispersion of the birds.

Q: If not, then what is going to happen ?

A: The ongoing Defra surveillance programme is collating information about the possible presence of viruses of significance, which may be circulating in the wild bird population. If found in one group, DEFRA will increase their sampling in the wild bird population in that area to give them a better fix on levels of infection. And, in parallel, they'll make a rapid assessment of the risk to captive birds and poultry in the area in order to advise local poultry keepers about preventative measures they should take.

All information here has been received from DEFRA.

Osborne Place Boarding Kennels

**Osborne 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 9.00-12 pm, 2-5.30 pm
Sun 9.00-12 pm, 3-4 pm**

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



President Amy Markham welcomed 14 members to the **February** meeting.

An invitation came from Christchurch W.I. for members to join them for a fashion show on 14th March. As there was no speaker, the secretary Bettine Watson read a couple of interesting stories. Following a welcome cup of tea or coffee and biscuits everyone joined in for a game of cards.

The monthly competition has arrived at the letter I. Cissie Bedford, Ada Thorpe and Sheila Dore gained 5 points, Jean Newell & Amy Markham 4 points, Blanche Markham 3 points, with 2 points for Bettine Watson, Vera Singleterry, Queenie Johnson and Jennifer James. Lucky winners of the draw were Vera Singleterry, Dawn Stevenson and Jennifer James.

The speaker for the **March** meeting was Mr. Butterworth from Ely who gave a very interesting talk on the history of Vietnam, illustrated by some beautiful slides. He explained how people earn a living and what they export.

The Acorn Club sent an invitation for members to visit their club at Three Holes on 26th April.

Amy Markham organised a quiz which was won by Dawn Stephenson & Jean Newell who had gained 35 points in recent competitions was presented with a teaspoon.

The monthly competition attracted 11 entries and as the letter J had been reached the majority of members brought jugs of varying sizes. Mr. Butterworth was judge and awarded 5 points to Cissie Bedford, Amy Markham and Jennifer James, 4 points to Sheila Dore, with Bettine Watson, Carol Halls, Dawn Stephenson, Vera Singleterry, Queenie Johnson, Blanche Markham and Jean Newell gaining 3 points. Raffle winners were Blanche Markham and Bettine Watson.

The **April** meeting will be members night when Jean Newell will be president and the competition will have reached the letter K, so thinking caps on!

Please contact Amy Markham on 01354 610 340 for more details.



Heartbeat : Last springtime, I read an article in the Ely newspaper regarding the 'Heart beat Health Walks'. These walks are part of the national 'Walking the Way to Health' initiative which is sponsored by the British Heart Foundation and the Countryside Agency.

The aim of these walks is to improve health, fitness and general well-being by walking with a group of people. It's fun, it's free, it's local and a social outing. It's an ideal way of meeting other people and forming new friendships.

Last April, I had major surgery and I wanted to get back to a healthy lifestyle following this. I decided to make some enquiries about the 'Heart Beat Health Walks' before my hospital admission, and sent off for some literature.

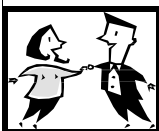
At my six-weeks post-op check the Consultant agreed that these walks would help to build my strength during the convalescence period. Initially, I walked with the group eleven weeks after my surgery and I found that the two-and-a-quarter mile walk was extremely tiring! However, by September of 2005 I was able to walk six miles with relative ease! I attend the Littleport group of which the number of walkers fluctuates weekly. We walk for about an hour and it's an ideal opportunity to get to know other areas around and about.

Sometimes Holly Goodwin comes with me and we usually end the morning with a browse around the shops or stop for a 'cuppa' at the local tea room!

If anyone is interested, more information can be obtained from the 'Healthy Lifestyles Team' on 01353 654237 or from our Walk Leader, David, on 01353 654208. We meet on Tuesday mornings outside Littleport Community Café at 10-30am.

See you there...hopefully!

Jane Carter



Friendship Club: The usual games, quizzes and competitions have been enjoyed at recent Friendship Club meetings, but there have also been a few changes.

Mrs Rita Sweet retired as treasurer having served since 1982. A letter of thanks was sent for all the hard work she has done for the Club and also to Mr. K. Sorensen who has helped out when Rita needed a helping hand.

On March 19th Mrs. Sweet celebrated her 90th birthday and the club were pleased to send her a bouquet of flowers and a card signed by all members, and hope that despite not enjoying the best of health she will soon be able to attend club meetings.

Members also send best wishes to Irene Heale.

Warmly welcomed as the new treasurer was Mrs. Pauline Ware.

The Club have now finalised their outings for the forthcoming year with the first one being to Wicksteed Park on May 16th (non members fare £8 and tickets must be paid for when booking).

Enquiries to Cissie Bedford 01354 610206 or Queenie Johnson 01354 610409

The way we were

Weeks of planning...several meetings of seven members...loads of photo copying...computers, screens, projectors, copiers, enlargers...a dozen volunteers...coffee/tea machine...village hall warmed up...Yes on Saturday 18th February at 10.00 a.m. all was set to give the villagers of Welney a truly visual feast into some aspects of how this village was, going back some 100 years. So where were you on that Saturday?

Many folk kindly brought along photos and newspaper cuttings which were scanned onto computer to add to the archive material gathered previously for the Parish Appraisal in 1996-7; the 150th anniversary in 1998 of the building of our Church, School and Almshouses; and the Millennium Arts Project in 2000. Those that did come to view were highly impressed at the effort made and the gems on display – one older resident commenting that they could have stayed all afternoon!

Farming videos of days gone by were on screen and photos on display (which were only available due to a few villagers' generosity in allowing their treasured memories to be copied and displayed for public viewing) spanned all aspects – family photos featuring some, but not all, of the old names from Welney such as Markhams, Singletery, Bedford, Scarff, Scott, Kent –

village events where it seemed that all the village turned out to mark such occasions as the Queen's Coronation, galas (they were true GALAS in those days, processions, floats, fancy dress; nothing seemed too much trouble), Hospital Day where all the men wore a button hole and people paraded and proudly marched to raise funds for Addenbrookes hospital / celebrations in the brick barn on Main Street – details of buildings that were

in Welney but now gone or altered such as the petrol pumps near the old post office in Main Street, the house and shop by The Lamb and Flag, the row of houses running from the Chapel on Main Street, how Taymor Place was before today's houses were built (here stood Church Terrace – flooding – cricket/football teams - I could go on but you needed to be there to appreciate the nitty-gritty of what Welney was – we are now but a

shadow of the village life that Welney was. Someone remarked that we are too busy and easily entertained without the need to join in together to make and mark special events. Which is most likely true, but sad all the same.

The people trying to make our history available for all to marvel at have named themselves WASH (Welney Archives and Social History). They would dearly love to hear from you if you can contribute your memories in one way or another, they could visit you to hear your story (or to correct them if things are wrong) and carefully copy your old photos/newspaper clippings. This also applies to any now defunct village groups (Village Appraisal, Church/School anniversaries, MAP) where they may have similar material in their archives. I would think that we have only scratched the surface and that there is plenty yet to be discovered and written down.

New to the village? Please join us and see what your street looked like before your house was built and get to know your neighbour.

It would be impossible to try and mention all

who have contributed to this effort in some way, but rest assured, WASH do appreciate the trouble that YOU have gone to and are very grateful.

Now for some good news for all of you now regretting not being there – it is expected that WASH will again be presenting you with more of your local history in the near future, watch for details in the Welney News.

Derek Levesley



Use it or Lose It!

No, that doesn't mean the Parish Hall or the Mobile Library – at least not this time!

It has been suggested as a good motto for anyone with arthritis or other chronic conditions affecting mobility.

Arthritis Care is the biggest UK voluntary organisation working for people with conditions like these, and has produced a very comprehensive booklet **“Fit for Life”** about exercise for people with arthritis.

The basic message of the booklet is that exercise is good for everyone, including and especially those who suffer from arthritis. There are mental barriers to overcome when contemplating exercise: Pain, stiffness, and the fear of harming arthritic joints for instance; yet in fact, when joints lose muscle strength, they become more stiff, painful and unstable.

Exercise does not make arthritis worse. Most doctors and physiotherapists can advise which are the right kinds. The most useful exercise activities include the following elements;

- *Range of Movement – exercises which help maintain the flexibility of joints. Joints are taken through their full range of movement and then eased into going just a little further.*
- *Strengthening – exercises to strengthen the muscles around joints. This can include using weights or resistant bands to increase the effect.*
- *Aerobic exercise – raises the heart rate. This type of exercise burns off calories, helps maintain a healthy heart, and helps muscles to work more effectively. Sleep is improved and bones are kept strong.*

So which are the best forms of exercise? Really the answer to this question depends on the individual. Bearing in mind that in order for a physical activity to be effective, it needs to be done regularly and over a long period of time, your exercise needs to be one which you enjoy, and can fit into your life readily. If you prefer to work on your own at home, the Fit for Life booklet and other publications dealing with arthritis (see your local library) can provide lists of suitable exercises which you can use to devise your own fitness routine.

If you need the stimulation of a group or the motivation of doing something regularly, you could attend classes in dance, Pilates, yoga or T'ai Chi. Swimming or walking can be done as individual activities or as part of a group. Many swimming pools have sessions suitable for arthritis sufferers. Finally, Gym Instructors are becoming increasingly aware of these problems and can advise on which exercises are appropriate and also devise fitness plans geared to your needs.

I hope to include further details (Where? When? How much? Etc) in future Welney News Issues.

Karen Fleming

Action Plan Update

At the time of writing the majority of questionnaires have been analysed and by the end of March the rest should have been processed too. This means that the whole project is on target.

By the time you receive the next edition of the Welney News at the end of May the results will have been circulated to every household in the parish and the other neighbouring households that were given the opportunity to be involved.

The basic results still need to be interpreted and written up into a separate report, which will also be circulated. This in turn will be used to compile the actual Action Plan which will guide local policies towards ensuring that Welney becomes an even better place to live.

There will also be at least one further public meeting held in order to present the findings and conclusions, which will hopefully lead to some lively discussion.

Tim Bennett.

LW Vehicle Services

**Mobile Car & Commercial Repairs
& Maintenance**

MOT's & Pre MOT checks

Free Estimates and Advice

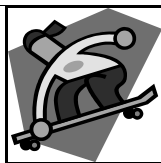
Contact Lee on 07717 738796

Wisbech Rd, Welney



Youth Club:

Firstly the we want to say **THANKYOU** to Cllr Eddie Allen who very kindly donated £40 to our funds. Very much appreciated and it helps secure the long term survival of our fledgling club



Secondly, our recent bingo night, (although attendance was lower than we'd hoped for) raised a fantastic £69.38. £50 of this will go towards prizes at the next bingo night, one of which will be an Easter hamper (**REMEMBER IT'S THE LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT THE VILLAGE HALL**) and the remaining £19.38 goes towards other youth club activities.



Please come along and support our small club; Bingo night is open to all ages with prizes suitable for children & adults alike. Last time was so much fun not to mention that almost everyone won a prize!

Julie Perkins-Jones

Golding Feeds & Nursery Ltd

For all of your Pet, Animal & Garden Requirements

**Hall Road, Outwell
Wisbech, Cambs. PE14 8PE**



**Tel: 01945 772802
Mobile: 07768 397626
Fax: 01945 773159
email taglodge@aol.com**



'Race for Life'

Ladies Only sponsored walk in aid of Cancer Research.

Three mile sponsored walk, Cambridge, July 2nd 11am or 1pm start.. If you are in a local Heart Beat group you can walk with your group! £10 entry fee.

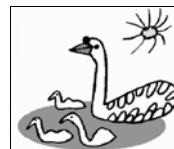
Call Cancer Research on 08705 134314 with credit card details to enter, or enter online; www.raceforlife.org. Alternatively, send cheque by post, payable to Cancer Research UK, to; Race for Life, PO Box 442, Northampton NN3 6UU

Watching the wildlife

Do you enjoy watching out for wildlife when out walking? Would you be interested in recording what you see? Then the **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Biological Records Centre** would like to hear from you.

Information on this project, and recording sheets, can be obtained from Claire Mead, Central Hall, Ely, tel 01353 654237.

Welney Cygnets : Hello everyone, It's good to be back with you again, after the wind turbine turbulence in the last issue of the WN blew us out of the magazine! We've had a bit of turbulence ourselves at the Cygnets Playgroup, with the swooping of wings as our OFSTED inspector (a delightful mother hen figure) landed early in March. After two days with our children and Staff she gave us a favourable report, and our thanks go to our Playgroup Leader, Sally, for making all the pre-OFSTED paperwork preparations which helped to make the inspection go so smoothly.



The children of the group have been able to enjoy many culinary delights over the last few months, with chinese titbits for the New Year celebrations, porridge for St. Andrew's Day and pancakes for Shrove Tuesday. Growth and animals have been covered in various ways since Christmas, with beans grown in bottles, tissue paper blossom covered twigs, a jungle and a wormery being only some of the things that the children have enjoyed.

Sally tries to get the children outside for some play activities most days, weather permitting, and these should become more diverse, with use of the School's playing field included too, as the days and ground become warmer and drier. I have the pleasure of joining the Cygnets for half an hour each Thursday afternoon, and this gives me the opportunity of seeing the progress that the children are making within the group. Storytime, snacktime and freeplay are all benefitting from the socialising experience that the children get as they play and learn together.

Just when finances & child numbers have become strong enough for us to breathe sighs of relief again, at the end of July we will be losing four from the **Committee**, including our Treasurer - a difficult position to fill in any organisation. We **need new members** that are pro-active and keen to keep our Playgroup alive and healthy. We are in our familiar position of teetering on the brink of disaster as, without enough committee members, the Welney Cygnets must close down. Please think about whether YOU would be willing to become a key member of our Cygnets team (CRB Police checks are compulsory for all committee members).

STOP PRESS!!!! Since typing my first draft of this article I have had to accept Sally's resignation, on behalf of the Cygnets Committee. This sad loss to the Playgroup brings our future instability into sharper focus.

Jean, our Deputy Leader, has very kindly agreed to lead the Playgroup for the Summer Term, supported by me.

All the best to you from Holly G. (Vice-Chair of Welney Cygnets Playgroup).

The Victor Meldrew Column.

The other day I found myself in Wisbech. Mrs. M. had left me whilst she raided the British Heart Foundation shop – she's got a nerve that woman, banned from the Cancer shop due to her 'unacceptable shopping technique' – I blame that holiday to Turkey when she haggled like a Scotsman asked to contribute more to the Scottish Parliament Building. So there I was huddled in a shop doorway trying to escape the elements and the locals when the shop door flung open and in I fell. There seemed to be a good buy on a pack of batteries but no price sticker, which on asking I was told £1. Further into the shop at the photographic bit another bargain with no price sticker again I had to ask and the article was a pound. At the motorist section yet again no indication of price, what a hole I thought! It wasn't until I had paid and left the shop that on glancing back I had been in the Pound Shop. I guess the clue to my dilemma was in the name!

Having successfully left Wisbech with no threat of an ASBO for Mrs. M. I couldn't help but think that as you drive through Welney that there must now be more road signs than villagers, what's that saying – you can lead a horse to water but you can't stop it speeding and ending up in the Croft or Tim Bennett's hedge.

I plead guilty to asking for more correspondence to be thrown at the WN but that John Stoneman doesn't use one word where half a page will do.

The Council report in the WN where the council's outgoings (in fact YOUR outgoings) were listed and underlined should have been of interest to all. Surely a more balanced presentation would have included incomings as well. An example was expense on heating for the Doctor's Surgery; let's not forget that the Doctor pays to use the Hall. A rise of 15% in what you pay to keep the village administration going is partly **your fault**. You don't attend council meetings so you get what you deserve; this thinking seems to emanate from some in the hall. For instance, the minutes of 11th January stated that an email had been received from the Environmental Agency but with no great detail of what it contained. In fact the email said that the EA would only sell the hall site to us for £60,000 if there is another village hall type venue up and running at the time of the sale. So could something like £20,000 be spent on the pavilion so that it can be classed as an alternative 'Village Hall'? You need to know such detail as this new village hall thing is getting complicated. Did you know that the landlord of the Lamb and Flag sees great operating problems if there is an annexed village hall tagged onto the new build at The Three Tunns? Also there is an implied preference that Elgoods themselves don't like the idea either (nor me). Which, in my opinion, means that your vote

for an annexed hall to the new pub was all in vain, as it won't happen.

Also **your fault** for the rise in precept is the fact that there are no volunteers to man projects that benefit the whole village such as a Village Hall Committee. This means that the Parish Council is taking over such management, which means more work for the Clerk, which obviously is a cost because she is paid by the hour. At one council meeting it was said that her 'extra' work over and above normal council duties would be itemised, this has not been in the minutes. We should be grateful that the Clerk could step into the breach. It has been reported that the Littleport Show has been cancelled due to diminished administration support – "more people in the village but less coming forward" – so not just a Welney thing.

The new notice board at the hall is neat; trouble is it's like the dog bins – empty, perhaps some minutes pinned-up may be useful.

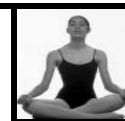
I get really fed up when I see all those newspaper headlines blaring out 22% increase in gas price and similar with electric – with no mention of the likes of us with 30% increase in heating oil and hikes in petrol prices. Relief is at hand though, 60+ years old folk will have free bus travel in the district in April (this comes in on April 1st which seems rather apt). At least we have plenty of (free) water around us so no restrictions in our area then?

I know that I've possibly tossed out the odd remark about Main Street, but there really is no need for half a dozen of you to up sticks and leave! (Pub next). Talking about houses, you would think that for £420,000 the 'mansion' at Tipps End would get their perimeter fence the right way round?

VM



YOGA CLASSES



Thursdays 10-00 till 11-30

Pavilion, Welney Playing Field

open to all age groups, beginners welcome

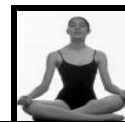
£4 per session

private/individual sessions also available

Call Karen Fleming on

01354 610523

for more details



A time of change

March 27th marked the closure of the well-worn portacabins that provided a welcome for Welney visitors for so many decades. The doors were shut for the last time and the reserve closed for four weeks to allow staff to make the move to the new eco-friendly visitor centre.

The development has made use of environmentally responsible building techniques, renewable materials and the latest energy saving technology and will also offer vastly improved visitor facilities. These include a more spacious restaurant and shop; a multi-purpose area for meetings, business and community use along with a display space for local arts and crafts and a free internet access point. Installation of some special features within the interactive interpretation displays and equipment situated in the Fenland Worlds and Education areas will continue for a period of time after the opening date in readiness for the official launch event – date to be confirmed. The first day of opening for visitors will be on **Monday 24 April at 10am.**

Until then, life on the reserve will be going on as usual. The wading birds will start to be heard singing as, once again, the breeding season begins and Avocets, Little Ringed Plovers and Lapwing prepare their nests. The last of the Whooper Swans will have headed back to Iceland to breed and spend the summer months. During the closure period the Friends of Welney event on Tuesday 11th April will be held at Welney Village Hall at 7.30pm. A talk entitled, Ospreys Flying Home to Rutland Water, will be presented by Andy Brown, Anglian Water's Biodiversity and Heritage Manager. The osprey is back and breeding in England after an absence of 150 years. This is the story of a 10-year partnership between Anglian Water, the Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust, & the Highland Foundation. Admission is £2.50 and everyone is welcome. To celebrate the opening of the new centre and also this, the 60th anniversary year of the Trust, many new activities and events will be staged over the coming months. From the 29 April guided walks will be running every Saturday and Sunday at 11am and 2pm but spaces are limited so do book early.

Other events set to take place in May are...

Dawn Chorus Walk Sun 14 May 5.30am to 9am

Listen to the calling and singing of the birds as they wake. Our warden will be on hand to identify the song owners. Binoculars helpful, sturdy shoes/Wellingtons and waterproofs advisable. Meet in car park. £7.00 (£5.50 Members) Booking Essential
Join us for breakfast (meat or vegetarian) optional £4.00 Booking Essential



Friends of Welney AGM Tues 16 May 7.30pm
& Talk by Richard Munns 'Madagascar not the Film' £2.50, (£1.50 Friends of Welney)

Warbler ID Workshop Sat 20th May 7am – Noon

Come and join our expert warden and explore the fascinating lifestyles of this little-known group of birds. Presentation with handouts followed by a practical session on the reserve. Binoculars helpful, sturdy shoes/Wellingtons and waterproofs advisable. £20 (£17.50 Members) Booking Essential
Join us for breakfast (meat or vegetarian) – optional £4.00 Booking Essential

Junior Bird Club (age 10-16) Sun 21st May

The first meeting of this new club for junior wildlife enthusiasts. £15 per annum. Get to go behind the scenes with the Welney Wardens and improve your birding skills. Annual fee includes 4 sessions at WWT Welney (Sundays 10am-noon) and 2 off site visits to other nature reserves. Meeting dates are Sunday 18th June, Sunday 16th July, Sunday 15th October, Sunday 17th December, Sunday 25th February

Summer Half Term Holiday

Planet Earth, self-guided trail. Sat 27th May to Sun 4th June, 10am – 5pm daily.

Bring the family and follow the trail to find out how you can make a difference to the future of the planet. Discover whether your lifestyle is sustainable. Included in admission price, Members free.

Summer Half Term Holiday

Planet Earth, Family Workshop. Tues 30th May **10am – Noon, Under 8s + parents** **2pm – 4pm, Age 8 – 11 + parents**

Morning and afternoon workshops for parents and children. Led by the Learning Manager. Make your own recycled paper, harness the power of the wind, build your own compost heap and discover how you can help the planet at home.

£4 (£2 Members) Booking Essential

For information about these or other WWT Welney activities please call the main centre number on 01353 860711. Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, Welney Wetland Centre, Hundred Foot Bank, Welney, PE14 9HE

Susan Lowe

Avian influenza (bird flu) WWT's position

The current consensus is that the risk of migratory birds bringing bird flu into the UK is **still low**.

There has been **no reported case** of a human contracting the virus from a wild bird, therefore the risk from visiting places where there are wild birds, including WWT centres, is negligible.

Whats on at Kings Lynn Corn Exchange: Box Office 01553764864



APRIL

Rumours Of Fleetwood Mac

Sat 1st : 8 pm Tickets: £16.50, £8.50
Tribute band work their way through the hits.

Summer Holiday

Wed 5th-Sat 8th: 7.30pm, Sat Matinee 2.30pm
Tickets: £14, £13, concessions £13, £12
King's Lynn Operatic & Dramatic Society presentation.

The Chuckle Brothers Tour 2006: Dr What & The Return Of The Garlics

Wed 12th: 2pm & 5.30pm
Tickets: £12 Adults, £10 Children
Fun, chaos and possibly some gunge! Suitable for all the family from 3 to 103!

An Evening With Curtis Stigers

Thurs 13th : 7.30pm Tickets: £16.50
The singer, saxophonist and songwriter pushes the boundaries of conventional jazz performers.

A Night At The Opera

Fri 14th : 8pm Tickets: £18.50
The OperaBabes present a concert featuring operatic highlights from La Boheme, Marriage of Figaro, Carmen, The Pearl Fishers and many more.

Thank You For The Music

Sat 15th : 8pm Tickets: £17.00
ABBA Magic & Bee Gees Magic tribute bands sing their way through the hits

Jim Davidson

Thurs 20th : 7.30pm Tickets: £19 Adults Only
Controversial stand up act

An All-Star Night Of Supreme Temptation

Sat 22nd : 8pm Tickets: £16.50, concessions £15.50
A non-stop celebration of the Motown sound.

That'll Be The Day

Sun 23rd : 7.30pm Tickets: £18.00
Special 20th Anniversary Edition of the show, with over a 100 of your favourite hits from the 50's, 60's and 70's.

Comedy Club

Fri 28th : 8.45pm Tickets: £8.50 Adults Only
Four comedians from the touring circuit.

The Original King's Lynn Fleamarket

Sat 29th : 9am — 4pm Tickets: 80p, Under 16s Free

Ella Fitzgerald Songbook

Sun 30th : 7.30pm Tickets: £15.50, £11.60, £8.50
Tribute to the greatest jazz vocalist in the world.

MAY

Don Williams – The Farewell Tour

Mon 1st : 5pm & 8pm Tickets: £26.50
American country star on his farewell tour

Jim Davidson

Tues 2nd : 7.30pm Tickets: £19 Adults Only
Controversial stand up act

Tony Hadley

Wed 3rd : 8pm Tickets: £19.50
80's singer from Spandau Ballet pop group , croons through their hits.

Pam Ayres - In Her Words

Fri 5th : 7.30pm Tickets: £14.50, £8.50
Celebrated writer and poet. Join her for a collection of stories, poems and anecdotes.

Jo Brand

Wed 10th : 8pm Tickets: £15.50, Adults only
One of Britain's best loved comediennes

Norfolk Symphony Orchestra

Sun 14th : 3.30pm Tickets: £12, £8
(Book through Marlen Moss-Eccardt and save £1.50 per ticket)

Joan Collins With 4 Poofs And A Piano

Mon 15th : 8pm Tickets: £28.50
Joan will be sharing her life story with the audience, and is joined by special guests 4 Poofs & A Piano, who are best known for their TV work.

Grumpy Old Women Live

Tues 16th: 8pm Tickets: £19.00
Inspired by the BBC Two series, this is a celebration of the pre, peri and post menopausal female condition.

Paddy McGuinness Live

Wed 17th : 8pm Tickets: £15, over 16's only
Stand-up comedian and star of Channel 4's Phoenix Nights, Paddy McGuinness.

Elvis In Concert

Thurs 18th: 8pm Tickets: £16.50, concessions £15.50

Comedy Club

Fri 19th: 8.45pm Tickets: £8.50 Adults Only
Four comedians from the touring circuit.

BBC Big Band With Jacqui Dankworth

Sun 21st : 7.30pm Tickets: £16.50, concessions £15.50

Rent A Ghost

Mon 29th: 2pm & 5pm
Tickets: £9, Family of 3 £24, of 4 £32
A spooktacular show for all the family. Based on the children's TV series.

April 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
30  US						1
2  HC	3   	4	5   	6  YC 	7  	8
9  AAW	10 	11 	12	13  YC 	14  	15
16  HC	17 	18	19	20  YC 	21  	22
23  MP	24  	25 	26	27  YC 	28    	29



Mobile Library:

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



Teddy Church: 10.30am St Mary's



Pauls Fresh Fish Van

1 -1.15 pm outside the Post Office



Carpet Bowls: 7.15pm Pavillion



Doctor: Monday Noon

Nurse : Thursday 10am

Village Hall:



Citizens Advice 10 -11.30 am Village Hall



Yoga at the Pavillion Thurs: 10am-11.30am



Parish Council meeting: Village Hall

7.30pm

May 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1  	2	3  	4  YC 	5  	6
7  HC	8 	9  	10	11  YC 	12  	13 WASH Club
14  AAW	15  	16	17	18  YC 	19  	20
21  MP	22 	23 	24	25  YC 	26   	27
28  MP	29 	30	31	Please make all bookings for either the Parish Hall or the Pavilion through Wendy at the Village Post Office. Telephone: 01354 610201		

YC

Youth Club: 6.30pm—9pm at the Pavillion



Womens Institute: 7pm Village Hall



Friendship Club: 1.30pm Village Hall



**Bingo: Doors open 6pm
game stars 7pm Village Hall**



Toy Library :10am Village Hall

DON'T FORGET:

**SATURDAY 13TH MAY IS WASH CLUB OPEN DAY
10 —2PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Church services



AAW All Age Worship 11am

April 9th J.Chrisp

May 14th J.Chrisp



HC Holy Communion 9.30am

April 2nd Revd.S.Tooke

April 16th Revd.S.Tooke **EASTER DAY**

May 7th Revd.R.Worsley



MP Morning Prayer 9.30am

April 23rd

May 21st Ven.H.McCurdy

May 28th S.E.Tooke



US United Service 10.00am

April 30th Christchurch Revd.C.Worsley

Whats on at Ely Cinema

24-hour information line: 01353 666388

Credit card bookings: 01353 616991

The Maltings . Ship Lane . Ely .

Ticket prices: Adults £5, Concession £3.80.
(Concessions available to 60+, U15, unwaged, and full time student discount with valid ID card.)

APRIL

Brokeback Mountain (15)

Sun 2nd: 8pm, Wed 5th & Thurs 6th: 7.30pm

Starring: Heath Ledger, Jake Gyllenhaal, Randy Quaid

Two young men - a ranch-hand and a rodeo cowboy - meet in the summer of 1963.

The Little Polar Bear 2 - The Mysterious Island (U)

Wed 5th & Thurs 6th: 3pm

Animated adventure with young bear Lars & his friends.

Good Night and Good Luck (PG)

Sun 9th, Thurs 13th: 7.30pm

Starring: George Clooney

Based in 1950's America, the story of two men fighting Senator McCarthy's purge against communism.

Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG)

Thurs 13th: 3pm

Starring: Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt, Eugene Levy

The return of the Baker family who, while on vacation, find themselves in competition with a rival family.

Zathura A Space Adventure (PG)

Fri 14th & Sun 16th: 3pm

Starring: Tim Robbins

Two brothers play an old board game named Zathura. After their first move, they find that the game has flung them into outer space!

Capote (15)

Fri 14th, Sun 16th, & Thurs 20th: 7.30pm

Mon 17th: 3pm & 7.30pm

Wed 19th: 3pm (afternoon special)

Starring: Philip Seymour Hoffman

In 1959, Truman Capote, a writer for The New Yorker, learns about the murder of a family of four in Kansas.

Chicken Little (U)

Sun 30th & Mon 1st May: 3pm

Animated fun with a small chicken who is attempting to save the world.

Walk the Line (12A)

Sun 30th & Mon 1st May: 7.30pm

Starring: Joaquin Phoenix, Reese Witherspoon.

The life & loves of Johnny Cash.

For more details :www.adec.org.uk

Events at Ely Museum



The Old Gaol, Market Street, Ely,

Tel: 01353 666655

Tuesday 4th & 11th April

'Meet the Romans' £1.50 per child.

Meet a Roman Soldier, handle objects, make a paper Mosaic to take home, contribute to a big mosaic.

Sat 8th April

'Ask the Archaeologist' FREE

10.30am-12.30pm & 2- 4pm

Bring along your ancient finds for identification.

Sat 29th April:

£2-£3, children free.

'Eel Day'. Take a tour from Jubilee gardens to the museum with our tour guide. Book in advance. Eel day will also see the opening of the new Eel trail around the museum.

Easter Trail

50p per child

Runs throughout the Easter holidays

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.



Things to do and places to go

Saturday 1st April

9.45am–12.30pm £2 per child

Family Art Workshops "Light & Water". A creative art workshop aimed at children 7–12yrs (accompanied by a parent or carer) led by Catherine Watling the regional artist for the Ely Lighting Project.
Booking essential. **Tel: 01353 616993.**

Saturday 1st April

Doors 7.30pm No U14s £4

Electric Eel 8, Live music gig. The best of live local talent, three bands: Numlocq, Diastole, After Effect. At the Paradise Leisure Centre Bar. Advance tickets from the bands, Fenland Music and ADeC, Babylon Gallery, Waterside, Ely and on the door subject to availability.
Tel: 01353 616991.

Sunday 2nd April

1pm

The Cambridge and Oxford Boat Rave - A Boat Race party, Jubilee Gardens, Ely. This is a joint venture by the City of Ely Perspective - Riverside Group and the Isle of Ely Rowing Club with help from the Environment Agency and East Cambridgeshire District Council.

Sun 9th April

2.30pm & 4pm All tickets £4

ADeC Children's Theatre. Hansel and Gretel by Jim Fowler and Bernie C Byrnes at The Maltings, Ely. Kipper Tie bring you their brand new show for children (**ideally suited to age 6+**)! More foot-stomping tunes, more loveable characters and even more musical mayhem. Advance tickets ADeC, Babylon Gallery, Waterside, Ely.
Tel: 01353 616991 and Burrows Bookshop, High Street Passage, Ely. www.adec.org.uk

Sun 23rd April

11am - 4pm Free

St. George's Day Celebrations at Oliver Cromwell's House and St. Mary's Green. A country fair to celebrate our great East Anglian Fens. Maypole dancing, puppet shows, Morris dancers, La Hogue Farm Shop, teas, side stalls, face-painting, games, crafts, village stocks, local beers, competitions and lots more. **Tel: 01353 662062.**

Sat 29th April

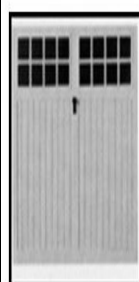
11.30am–3pm FREE

Ely's Eel Day. Follow Ely's Samba Band and our giant carnival eel on a procession around the eel trail. Procession starts from Cross Green (next to the Cathedral) followed by activities in Jubilee Gardens including, children's theatre and pottery making workshops, music & dancing, Viking encampment, historical displays, fun games, hog roast & lots more. **Tel: 01353 616377.**

Coincidences!

My daughter, Kate, went to New Zealand some eleven years ago for a five-month stay following her 'A' levels. Whilst she was there, she became homesick and asked her grandma and granddad, my parents, if they would go out to visit her. At the time, my father wasn't keen to fly that far but he encouraged my mum and I to go. My parents kindly treated me... well, I couldn't refuse, could I? Anyway, we hired a car and I drove the three of us around New Zealand, and had a fabulous time together. During a visit to a tea room in a little town called Katikati on the North Island I had an amazing coincidence! The owner of this 'Old English' style tea room was British. She enquired as to where we came from. I told her she would never, ever have heard of the village in which I lived. When I told her I came from Welney and explained to her where we were on the map, she exclaimed... "Welney, of course I know Welney!! I used to live in Littleport and I travelled through your village on my way to my place of work in March every day!" Well, how about that for a coincidence? It certainly puts the world into perspective... it really is a small place!! Like Tim Bennett, and many other people I am sure, I have had many amazing coincidences during my life.

Jane Carter



Over twenty years of excellence from a family business....

FENLAND GARAGE DOORS

Improved home Security

Large range of designs

Automation

Repairs / Spares

Showroom & service

Downham Mkt 378481

1970's Welney

The Three Tuns' Association with 5 Welney Gala Days and 5 Charity Barn Dances



Somewhere towards the middle of the 1970's, the proprietors and clientele of the 3 Tuns decided to enter a float in the Welney Gala Competition for the best float. The decision was made fairly hurriedly and with little time to spare, local farmer Tom Mott supplied a cart, to be drawn by one of his beautiful white Percheron horses. On the Friday evening, Keith Kent hurriedly rigged a wooden framework on the front and also on the back corners of the cart and I believe Len Markham got busy with his saw and produced some fine willow branches. The idea was fairly simple viz., to identify directly with the villagers and hence the caption "The Fens".

With a few straw bales, some sheaves, some sedge grass and other greenery, we had a small cast of Farmer Mott with bowler hat, Lady Waring and duck shooting husband John up front. On the float itself were 3 locals, Len Markham and Keith Kent dressed in quilted cotton smocks, (courtesy of Cathie Fisher's sewing machine) and wielding old farm implements, whilst milkmaid Hilda sported a wooden shoulder yoke, with milk pails suspended as of yore.

All very simple, but it struck a chord and won First Prize! I put it down to exploiting what the Italians call 'campanilismo', which is that local spirit, pride and culture that exists in small villages and the surrounding area within the sound of the church bell tower, (for Italians – the 'campanile').

The photo shows the float being expertly led by bowler-hatted farmer Jack Johnson, as it enters New Road, with John Blows Cottage behind.

Note the authenticity of Jack's raincoat, belted with a length of binder twine and the 'bowyangs' or 'nicky-tams' around the knees.

Is there a Norfolk word for these trouser leg ties?

Tom Fisher

10% off with this advert



Not sure where to turn for help,
then give me a call!

IAN CARNEGIE **Carpenter & Joiner**

Property maintenance

Over 30 years experience

No job too small

FREE estimates

Speed Well Farm
Wisbech Road

Tipps End
Welney

01354 638598
07776 174143



SCHOOL REPORT: It has been another couple of busy months for us at the school.

The children in Years 3,4 and 5 spent an afternoon at Upwell school taking part in a workshop on Macbeth. They acted out parts of the play and talked about what the characters were doing and why. One of our Year 4 boys was an excellent Macbeth. The week after this all the children went to the Kings Lynn Corn Exchange and saw a performance by Shakespeare 4 Kidz of a musical based

on the play. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this, especially the gory bits. We have used these sessions to inspire our writing.

Year 6 have also been travelling, visiting Downham Market High School where they did a number of activities. They made bridges and separated iron and salt. The children had to work together and discuss their ideas. They all enjoyed going to a bigger school and seeing their interactive white boards.

The Year 6 are working very hard for their SATs in May. The preparation is going well because they are getting through old papers reasonably quickly and with good marks. Most of the preparation is a reminder of all they have been taught in Key stage 2 in English, Math's and Science. This is helping the children approach the tests with greater confidence. At the moment we have two clubs on at school. The Guitar club is still going strong and Mrs. Kerr gives up her time on Mondays after school. The children have learnt a lot about the guitar and they can now play many songs like Be Bold, Ring-a-ring-a roses and He's got the whole world in his hands. The children really enjoy this club.

On Tuesday lunchtimes there is a sports club run by Mr. Hodder. This half term the children have been learning how to play basketball. Now they can dribble, move the ball with their hands in the correct position, pass the ball and shoot. During PE lessons we are learning how to play hockey and this is also very popular.

Another activity, which is greatly enjoyed by the Key Stage 2 class, is French. So far they have learnt the numbers 1 – 20, days of the week, months of the year, how to say hello and how are you. The children are learning the new words very quickly.

We have linked up with a very small Scottish school with mixed age groups like ours and some of our children have been writing to pen friends from this school. The children in Scotland wrote to us first and we have since replied. We are now waiting for emails from them.



Teddy Church: What ho! Teds, It seems an age since we were last together.

At our January meeting we told the story of John the Baptist and Jesus when they met in the river for a bit of a splash! Harriet, our chief Ted, gave a baby doll a bath and we talked about how and why people are baptised.

In February ,we investigated the idea of Jesus being the light of the world, represented by a lit candle. We used lots of different candles from Sally's house and my own and Harriet helped me to light them, using a taper. What a bright array lit our Teddy's faces when we had finished. Included in the throng of candles was a small birthday one, especially for Harriet, as it was her fourth birthday that day. We admired the beauty and warmth of the shared light. Our attention turned to the taper which had been the means of lighting all the candles. We decided that the taper was like Jesus, who lights our lives and makes us bright and happy together. We thanked God for giving us such a light in our world and for our two new Teddy Church members - little baby Luke and his Mum, Leesa ... we hope that they will be able to join us again soon.

March has had two Teddy services! The first had no children to share our fun, just , Peggy ,Queenie, Sally and myself. We decided to make a cuppa and share some biscuits, by Teddy candle light, while we chatted.

Harriet's Mum realised her oversight and so we decided to reconvene the following week to celebrate the wonder of our world's creation. Harriet and another new recruit - Justin, with his Mum Amanda - helped to place simple props to symbolise the process of the Creation. First we laid down a black jumper for the dark emptiness that began it all, then sparkling star-studded net was put down as light. Sky, sea and land followed (swathes of blue, green and brown material), with a yellow balloon sun and white ball moon for day and night. Finally, silk flowers and toy animals, birds and fish were distributed by the children across the different colours and textures of our 'world', with a man and woman to care for them. We all enjoyed creating the simple model and singing a song that told the story too. We took so long making our world that all the candles had gone out, leaving just a trace of smoke to mark their passing ... not a bad way to leave the company of friends, I feel.

With that gentle thought I will bring this piece to a close, and wish you well until we meet again.

All the best from Holly, Sally and the Teddies of Welney.

Where has all the water come from?

When one considers how dry the winter has been it is somewhat surprising to see so much water on the washes. Earith sluice did open for a few days in November after a spell of heavy rainfall, but I wasn't aware of any further periods of high river levels. Having been asked by several people what was going on I decided to seek an explanation from my contacts within the Environment Agency. Their explanation is actually rather disturbing, as in effect, it's a result of a sea level rise and the situation is likely to get worse. Over the last few years tide levels have been rising to the extent that some spring tides (the highest in the monthly cycle) are high enough to push water back upstream leading to the Earith Sluice opening, and it then enters the Washes via the River Delph. Once on the washes it cannot discharge back into the Hundred Foot until the level at Welmore Lake reaches 1.6m. above ordnance datum (AOD). Even above that level discharge is dependant on the tidal level being low enough to allow it to do so. The problem is now that the tides are not dropping as low, so there is less opportunity for any water lying on the Washes to get out again. It may surprise you to know that despite water being known to find its own level over long distances this takes time, especially when there are obstacles in the way, therefore 1.6 m AOD at Welmore does not equate to 1.6m at Welney. It's only when the gauge board in the Delph at Welney reads 1.8m AOD can you be confident that the water is capable of discharging back into the Hundred Foot, if the tide is low enough. Until the end of February there had been no discharges. With the Welney causeway flood level at 2.4m AOD that only leaves 60cm (approx 2 ft) leeway and explains why a spell of heavy rain in the catchment is likely to result in the road going under far quicker later in the winter. Another manifestation of the water not actually being level then occurs. Despite the fact that the flood level for the Sutton Gault Causeway is 40cm higher than Welneys', it invariably floods first, because the water obviously gets there sooner. Questions have also been asked about the operation of Welney Sluice in the Old Bedford, which in the past only used to be closed when the pumps at Welches Dam started up. Nowadays the sluice is closed whenever Welches Dam (now fully automated, by the way) starts pumping for the first time and stays closed for the rest of the winter. Actually that's no bad thing really, since the Old Bedford cannot discharge into the tidal river at Salters Lode unless it's high enough and the tide is low enough. If the sluice were to remain open far more water would get pumped via Welches Dam onto the Washes and thus the water levels would rise even faster and reduce the carrying capacity quicker.

Desirable as it might be to retain higher levels along the length of the Counter Drain / Old Bedford (it changes its name at Welches Dam) and have the channel scoured out by a natural downstream flow, the state of the retaining banks prevents this. They are prone to leak rather a lot necessitating any losses to be pumped back in again at extra cost and energy consumption. At least the recent dredging operations described in the last issue mean that there will actually be much more water in the Old Bedford even if the level is no higher – the bed level having been taken down.

Finally two important dates for your diaries, November 1st and March 31st. These are the dates set by parliamentary statute when the drawmark at Earith alters. What that means is that during the winter the water level at Earith doesn't need to be so high before the sluice opens and it floods onto the washes. In the Summer levels are kept higher to aid navigation, provide water for agricultural use and sustain the natural environment. In part this helps to explain why despite high rainfall in the summer the Washes rarely flood. The troublesome time is spring, when all those ground nesting birds want to breed and the graziers want to get their cattle onto the pastures. If the winter levels haven't receded enough by April it may be necessary to pump it out. If you're thinking, why pumps are not used during the winter, don't ask!

Tim Bennett

J.D SPIKINGS & SON

FAMILY BUTCHER

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

Telephone 01945 773 424

**We accept all major credit
and debit cards**

**Fresh Beef, Lamb, Poultry
and free-range Pork**

**Home made sausages and
Haslets**



WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The meeting was held on 8th February in the Parish Hall.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Mrs. Belinda Sutton and her colleague from **Elgoods** of Wisbech. He gave the meeting an outline of the various options at present on the table and then gave councillors the opportunity to ask questions. Mrs. Sutton confirmed that Elgoods were still interested in purchasing the site of the **Parish Hall** at the valuation figure of £60,000. She went on to explain that Option 4 – a Function Room on the end of a new Public house for use by the village – would be more difficult to work than at first thought, although not completely ruled out. Problems could arise with licensing the room and with bookings at short notice. Mrs. Sutton also confirmed that Elgoods would be prepared to put some monies forward to assist in getting the pavilion up to standard so that it could be used as a Parish Hall in the interim period, if the Hall and site were sold, and the village decided to built a new community hall. She went on to confirm that Elgoods are not interested in simply making loads of money from Welney but are concerned about putting money back into the village and helping as much as possible. She confirmed that they had to carry out a feasibility study of the riverside area because at present they do not have planning permission for a new Public House and/or function room. She was thanked very much for the information given and it was agreed that both Elgoods and the Parish Council would keep in touch with future developments. Following the information received it was agreed to form a Parish Council Working Group to meet and discuss matters in order that a comprehensive package could be put to the village prior to commencing any negotiations. It was agreed that the first meeting would be held on 13th February and recommendations could then be put to the next Parish Council meeting for formal consideration and approval.

Following the resignation of Mr. Darrel Stevens, two applications had been received for co-option to the vacant position. Mrs. J. Perkins - Jones and Mr. G. Tomkins both expressed an interest, and following a secret ballot, Mr. G. Tomkins was duly elected and co-opted to the Parish Council.

The Chairman (Cllr. Goodger) gave a report on the formation of the **Welney Archive and Social History Club** (WASH). He confirmed that an Open Day would be held on 18th February when it was hoped that lots of pictures

and information would be brought along for copying to form the archive for the Village. Initially the group had been set up as a working party, but it was proposed, seconded and agreed that it should become a Committee of the Parish Council, and as such would be subject to Parish Council Standing Orders.

Comments Boxes – A supply of these had been placed in the village shop, and are also available at Council Meetings for parishioners to make comments, and ask questions of the Parish Council

Cllr. Bennett gave a report of the meeting of the West Norfolk **Road Safety Committee** that he attended on 26th January.

The **100 Club** draw for February was made at the meeting and the winners are listed in the Welney News. As the Christmas Draw did not take place, a **bonus draw** was held at this meeting and the winner of the £100.00 was Ticket No. 34 Mr. John Cunningham.

It was agreed that Cllrs. Brown and Kerr would attend the Norfolk Association of **Village Halls AGM** on 18th March at Yaxham Village Hall.

Mrs. J. Perkins-Jones gave a report on behalf of the **Youth Club**. Cllr. Bennett confirmed that arrangements are in hand for the trimming of the trees fronting the car park area at the **Playing Field**.

Two **planning applications** were received for consideration. Mrs. C. Thompson of Tofino Lodge, March Road, Welney made an outline application for construction of two dwellings on land south of Tofino Lodge. This was recommended for approval. An application from Mr. & Mrs. D. Stock, Old Welney Nursery, Wisbech Road was received requesting full planning permission for the construction of a bungalow and detached garage on land east of the Old Nursery. Whilst council had no objections, it was pointed out that this land is currently outside the village development area.

Items of **highway matters** were discussed and it was pointed out that the Flashing Slow Down sign on Main Street is missing some of its lights. It was agreed to report this to Highways for attention.

Pat Copeman, Parish Clerk.



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Parish Hall at 7 p.m. on Wednesday 8th March.

There was a general discussion regarding various items, and the meeting was closed at 7.15 p.m.

Pat Copeman, Parish Clerk.



WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The meeting was held on 8th March.

The Chairman confirmed that he had received a letter from Mrs. Karen Fleming regarding the **Millennium Arts Project** with details of the bank account. Arrangements are in hand for the Map to be put on permanent display at the Wildfowl Trust Visitors Centre.

At the last meeting a request had been received from **St. Mary's Church** PCC for the annual grant towards the cutting of the Churchyard to be increased from the £200 paid previously. After consideration it was felt that the Church are paying a large sum of money for the grass cutting, & it was agreed to confirm that we will pay £200 this year, but unless they go out to Tender to investigate cheaper ways of getting their grass cut, then the Parish Council will not be giving any grant next year.

The March **100 Club** draw took place.

Consideration was given to the **Hire charges** for the Parish Hall & it was agreed to increase these for the year beginning 1.4.06. Full details are available from the Booking Clerk or the Parish Clerk.

Elgoods Proposed Development and the Parish Hall

Cllr Brown read out a report of the Working Party who had held two meetings on 13th & 27th February. He gave details of what they had been considering and two items were presented for Parish Council consideration and approval.

Firstly: A valuation of the remaining lease should be obtained. It was agreed to contact Cheffins of Ely, who had confirmed that they would be prepared to inspect the site, consider the lease & let us have a valuation within a few days. It was also agreed that a letter should be sent to Elgoods confirming the value of the site together with whatever value is placed on the lease.

Secondly: Undertaking of a feasibility study to explore land in & around the village that may be available for the building of a possible new community hall. Permission was given to contact landowners & to ascertain whether any sites would be economically viable particularly with regard to pedestrian and vehicle access and utilities etc. The Working Party will report their findings to the Parish Council at the next meeting on 12th April.

Playing Field - It was confirmed that Mrs.Rix had resigned as the Caretaker/Cleaner of the Pavilion and a letter of thanks was sent to Mrs. Rix. Mrs.Redman would take over as the bookings clerk, and Mrs.McCabe had been appointed as the Cleaner. Cllr.Bennett confirmed that the trees had now been trimmed.

The problem of dogs fouling the Playing field as also raised and it was agreed that Notices should be displayed stating that No Dogs were allowed on the Field. Letters would be sent to anyone found letting their dogs foul this area.

The following **planning permission** had been received from the Borough Council: Mrs.C.Thompson, Tofino Lodge, March Road – outline permission for construction of two dwellings on land south of Tofino Lodge.

The Borough Council confirmed that they were recommending refusal on the application from Mr. & Mrs. Stock, Old Welney Nursery, and the application and the councils reason for their decision would be considered by the Development Control board at their meeting at the beginning of March.

Application from Mr.M.Jones, Pisces Country Park for the installation of LPG gas Storage Tank at Pisces, was recommended for approval.

Highway Matters – It was agreed to contact NCC Highways to see if any decisions had been made regarding the speed limits through the village. The Parish Council had put forward recommendations for consideration but nothing further had been heard. A letter had been received from a resident at Suspension Bridge regarding speeding traffic and a reply would be sent outlining the action of the Parish Council so far. It was also agreed that this problem would be raised at the next Road Safety Committee Meeting.

Standing orders – The Parish Council Standing Orders were formally adopted following the addition of an extra paragraph under the heading of committees.

WASH - The Chairman gave a report on the open day held on 18th February and thanked everyone for their hard work. He confirmed that as this is now a committee of the Parish Council they are bound by the PC Standing Orders and also need to have Terms of Reference. Copies were handed out and after consideration were formally adopted. The first meeting of the Committee was arranged for 22nd March, and an Agenda would be circulated to the committee members and advertised around the village.

Emergency Planning – Cllr.Bray handed out copies of the proposed Emergency Plan for the village. Councillors were asked to take this away to study it, and make any additions they found necessary. The matter would then be considered again at the next meeting.

Parish Action Plan – Cllr.Bennett confirmed that a meeting of the Action Plan Steering Committee had been arranged for 15th March, and everything was progressing well. 94.2% of the questionnaires had been returned and this was a County record. Work on the Youth questionnaires has now been completed and it was hoped that the full questionnaire results would be collated before the next Parish Council Meeting.

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 12th April, 2006 at the Parish Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Pat Copeman, Parish Clerk.

Letters section

Hello Rachel,

I am asking for help identifying the history of my cottage: Kendrick Cottage, on the Littleport side of Suspension Bridge, turn right and its the ivy covered house first on the left. I am hoping to find some idea of how old it is and what it may have been used for.

My wife and I hope to take up residence soon & it is going to be our retirement house. We are anxious to find more about it which might explain some of the bricked up sections in the walls.

I wonder if it has connections with the river, i.e ferry-mans cottage or toll house for the road or the bridge. One intriguing hole between the kitchen and living room is nine inches square about 4 foot off the floor, too small for a hatch??

Dave & Chris Moseley.

Editors note: *If anyone can help with this please do contact me & I'll pass the information on.*

Dear Editor, Welney News

I hope you will be good enough to print the letter below.

Dear Victor (or should I say VM, these days?)

Eh, you don't know how it feels to be able to exchange words with you again! Being away for so many years, then coming home and finding a way to communicate with you, through these very pages... well, what more could I ask for? Now, I just want to say I will keep my distance. You and Mrs VM have nothing to fear from yours truly, no indeed.

I do think you should be a bit more discreet, mind; I mean, I wouldn't have dreamed of mentioning – well, you know – the hills and dales part. Funny you should have remembered the odd horse! He was such a character with his one eye and how he used to love grabbing people's hats off their heads and eating them... I'll never forget how he looked at you that day out of his one eye, then did that great big sneeze and – well, you were standing a bit close, you'd been trying to get your hat back, and – well, how I did blush when you had to take your shirt off and rinse it in the ditch!

But, Victor, I hope all these memories aren't just dirty washing to you. I mean, to me the best part was the talking – eee, how we did talk! You've not changed either, I can tell from reading your column. Fancy you getting a regular column in a magazine! Does it pay well?

Anyway I'll not keep you, but I will be looking out for a word from you next time. Take care of yourself! Give my best wishes to Mrs VM won't you? She'll remember me from the old sewing bees I'm sure.

Bye, midear!

Yours, Flossie

Dear Welney News

My name is Geoff Brown, in 1934 we moved to the Chestnuts at Tipsend where we lived for 30 years, I spent many happy years at Welney.

In 1945 I came second in a mile race speed skating on the wash I won £7 pounds 10 shillings, when I got home that day they did not believe that I had won it. I played football & cricket for Welney. I once managed to score 7 goals in a match - wish I could do that today!

I enjoy reading the Welney News, my sister Jennifer James sends it to me. To all my friends at Welney thanks for some very happy times.

Sorry but we do not like the new format of Welney News. I don't like the colour or the design and much preferred the old cover.

Yours Sincerely

Geoff Brown.

Dear All

Your website for Welney is terrific. I really enjoy the history that is provided. I have printed it out and added it to my genealogy information. My grandfather, Fred Smart, was born in Welney in 1861. The only thing that I miss is the Guest Book registry, which I found helpful also for my genealogy. Any hope for its return?

When I visited in 2004 with my fourth cousin Tony Smart, I really found the village to be a warm and welcoming place.

Keep up the good work. Audrey Smart

Magdalen Networks

Wireless Networks for the Home and Small Business

- Setting –up, Troubleshooting & Free Site Surveys!
- Share the Broadband connection on all your PC's
- Add mobility to your laptop

ADSL Modem Wireless Router and Adapter - £75

**Call 01553 810131 or
07980266206**

www.magdalennetworks.co.uk

Early coincidences - part two

18 months after leaving University I managed to get a worthwhile job with the British Trust for Ornithology, which was based in Tring in those days. From there I moved to the Wildfowl Trust and became a professional wild goose chaser! This was in the days when the third London Airport looked likely to be built on the north side of the Thames Estuary and there were several teams looking at various environmental issues.

Two of us were studying the potential impact on the large population of Brent Geese which relied on the Essex marshes and in particular Foulness Island. We did this by catching groups of geese and tagging them with engraved plastic rings, which could be read in the field using telescopes. When not trying to catch them we would crouch behind sea walls trying to locate some of 'our' birds among flocks on several coastal estuaries.

One of the other teams employed on the same project, and this time working for the Dept of Trade & Industry were studying flocks of gulls. They were based on Foulness Island, which is an MOD weapons testing ground and therefore closed to the public. One member of this team was Dave Melville, who you'll recall from last time, was at university with me, another was called Carol Robinson.

During the 73 / 74 winter I stayed in digs in Southend, but by the following autumn I had married and managed to get special permission for Cindy & me to live in a caravan on Foulness Island itself. Our caravan was sited in the yard at Burwood Farm, which was owned by Sue Burroughs and her husband.

After the project was finished everyone went their separate ways. When Cindy & I moved to Wicken Fen in 1979 we renewed our friendship with Carol, who by then had become Carol Inskipp. After moving around for a few years Carol and her husband Tim settled here in Welney in 1990. Five years later Cindy & I just happened to move here too.

This in itself might not seem too much of a coincidence, but imagine my surprise when a few years later I met my new near neighbour at the Old Welney Nursery. I had that strange feeling that I had met this person before, yet despite not having seen me for 20 years, Sue Burroughs recognised me first.

What are the chances of three people either living in or working on a remote site like Foulness all independently ending up in this village?!

Tim Bennett

PS: One of our regular helpers, when attempting to catch those geese was the late lamented Don Revett, who in those days lived near Ipswich. More recently of course he was the Manager at the WWT here in Welney and father of Johnny Revett, another near neighbour of mine.

**CLEAN
IT UP!**



**MAX FINE
£1000**

**YOU ARE ALSO REMINDED THAT
NO DOGS ARE ALLOWED ON THE
PLAYING FIELD.**

**THE COUNCIL ARE TAKING THIS
SERIOUSLY AND WILL BE WRITING TO
ANY DOG OWNERS FOUND TO BE
USING THE FIELD**



**Harry Humphrey
Financial Services**

INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISER

Life Assurance

Pensions – Investments

IHT Planning – Health Insurance

MORTGAGE BROKER

01945 430539

Email: hhfs@globalnet.co.uk

www.harryhumphrey.co.uk

**Fendyke Stables Station Road, Emneth,
Wisbech PE14 8DJ**

PISCES COUNTRY PARK



Looking for a relaxing retreat? Well here we are right on your doorstep.

We at Pisces are currently working in conjunction with Tingdene Park Homes to provide a selection of high quality holiday homes in beautiful surroundings.

We are renowned for our fishing facilities and are frequented by former world champion angler Bob Nudd.

The abundance of wildlife and our conservation work has bought us recognition in the form of two gold awards from the David Bellamy scheme.

This is your chance to invest in your very own lakeside lodge, all of which come fully furnished with a 50 year contract. There will be a sub-letting scheme for owners of lodges so not only could your lodge be an investment for the future it could even pay for itself!

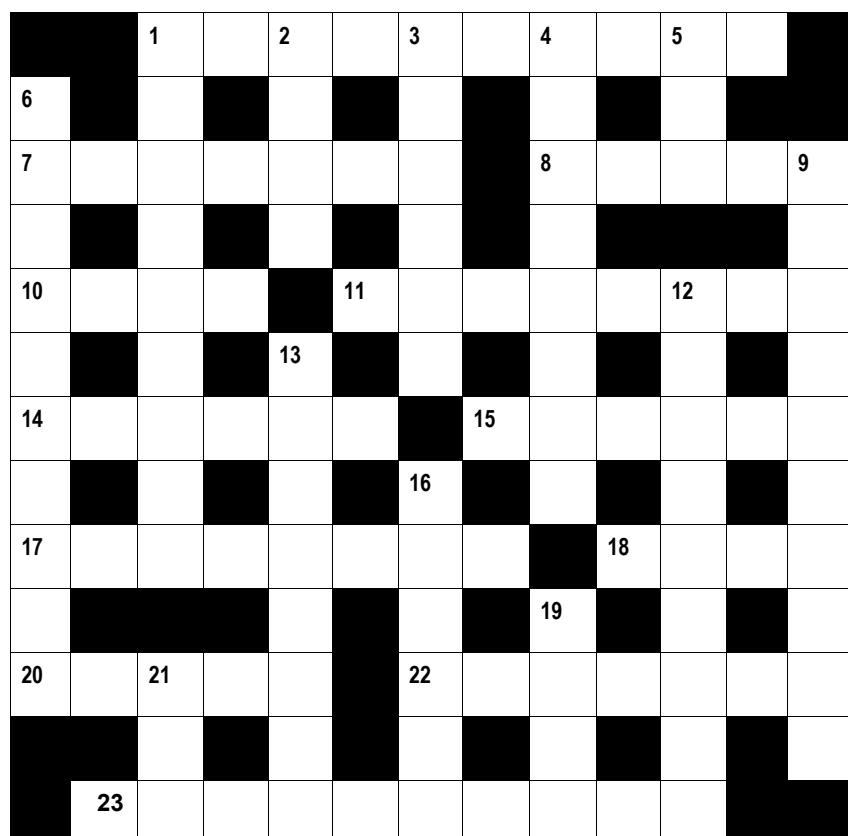
If you are tempted by the thought of a beautiful, bespoke lodge please give us a call, we would be delighted to take you on a guided tour of the show homes here on site.

Prices start from £69,995

Tel. JULIE or MIKE on 01354 610257



Cryptic Competition Crossword *by Mark Brown*



Please send your completed crossword to the editor at the address on page 30

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 May 6th)



Name.....

Telephone.....

Congratulations to P Markham who was the lucky winner last time. Thank-you to everyone who entered the draw. Good Luck with this one!

ACROSS

1. Could change from GMT inspire nature's awakening ? (10)
7. Prisoner satisfied with portable shelter (7)
8. Either way, it provides a good turn for 19 down (5)
10. Secure gate and make a run for it (4)
11. Dice can't be arranged unintentionally (8)
14. Snare confused parent (6)
15. As the one in charge, I barge in on Spanish fellow (6)
17. Woolly jumper shows a lack of clutch control (8)
18. Haircut leaves one in good condition (4)
20. Discover inside derelict, though a part survives (5)
22. A note to pay attention, as jewels in the light (7)
23. Dad heeded a gardening tip to remove withered blooms (10)

DOWN

1. Unmarried, yet the only one in a suit (9)
2. Angler uses dance to retrieve quarry (4)
3. Warning that water temperature remains above zero (6)
4. See 19 down (8)
5. Encountered capital force (3)
6. Vessel keeping channels open and relieving mutual shyness among strangers (10)
9. After earning it on merit, enter period of leisure time (10)
12. Record company scraped both parts together and fled overseas (9)
13. Diet for the mentally and emotionally stable (8)
16. Native language helps joiner get in the groove (6)
- 19&4d. Buds in winter generating little energy, but much local heat (4,8)
21. Keep low and hidden with intent to deceive (3)

Einsteins Puzzle

This puzzle is usually attributed to Einstein, who may or may not have written it. The German owns the fish and the table below details the full answer:

Nationality:	Norway	Dane	Brit	German	Swede
Colour	: Yellow	Blue	Red	Green	White
Beverage	: water	tea	milk	coffee	beer
Smokes	: Dunhill	Blend	Pall Mall	Prince	Blue Master
Pet	: cats	horses	birds	fish	dogs

Answers to last edition's crossword

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

Answers to last edition's Sudoku

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

Fenland Vegetable dumplings

This original recipe was uncovered in the archives of the Isle College in Wisbech. It is believed to originate from the kitchens of Queen Boudicca at the one time Roman camp at Stonea near Wimblington.

Ingredients (serves 4)

8 oz onions (halved along the length)
 4 oz potatoes
 2 oz green pepper
 all three sliced into very thin chips
 1 tablespoon of:
 salt, ground cumin, ground coriander, leaf fenugreek, turmeric, cumin seed, & fresh chopped coriander.
 Half tablespoon of:
 Chilli powder, red & yellow food colouring
 1 large or 2 small eggs
 4 oz of chick pea flour

Mix all the ingredients together adding the flour last. Take a good handful, form into a ball and deep fry slowly for 10 minutes. Serve with minted yoghurt, side salad and lemon slices.

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

Navrad's

**OF UPWELL
 GOOD FOOD
 GOOD VALUE
 105 School Road
 Upwell Wisbech**

01945 772398

100 Club

Winner of the Bonus draw was

	prize	number	lucky winner
1st:	£100	34	Mr. John Cunningham

Winners of the February draw were as follows:

	prize	number	lucky winner
1st:	£50	52	Mrs Christine Thompson
2nd:	£25	97	Mr Hynes
3rd:	£15	57	Mr. R Marsh
4th:	£10	5	Mrs N Read

Winners of the March draw were as follows:

	prize	number	lucky winner
1st:	£50	13	Mrs. Shirley Nicholson
2nd:	£25	26	Mrs. Charlotte Cox
3rd:	£15	39	Mrs. Clare Freyer
4th:	£10	11	Mr. & Mrs. deCaux

WE NEED YOU!

Get your business noticed by over 300 households in this area by taking out an ad or sponsoring us.

Our rates are as follows:

Whole page = £20 per issue or £100 for all six issues
 ½ page = £15 per issue or £75 for all six issues
 ¼ page = £10 per issue or £50 for all six issues
 Business Card ads = £5 per issue.

Sponsorship can be any amount, If you elect to become a sponsor, you will of course be given recognition as such with your company logo and contact details included inside the magazine.

USEFUL NUMBERS:

Downham Market Police Station: 0845 456 4567
 March Police Station: 0845 456 4564
 Queen Elizabeth Hospital Kings Lynn: 01553 613613
 North Cambs Hospital Wisbech: 01945 488088
 Upwell Health Centre: 01945 773671
 NHS Direct: 0845 4647

Corrections & Imperfections

- An anomaly at the printers left the WWT logo out from their article & their advert.
- I got cross-eyed typing in the Wordsearch grid and put an N where an H should have been, making Greenfinch impossible to find...Sorry!

PRINTED BY:

Norfolk Essential Oils, Pates Farm, Tipps End



Bus Services

Monday-Saturday

March (Broad St)	9.00	13.08	15.20
Welney (Post Office)	9.20	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) 9.20 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

The Welney News team

Rachel Brown - tel: 01354 610459

email: mrandt@tiscali.co.uk

Pisces Country Park, Bedford Bank West, Welney
 PE14 9TB

Tim Bennett - tel: 01354 610433

Christine & Trevor Bray - tel: 01354 610322

Karen Fleming - tel: 01354 610523

Margaret Levesley - tel: 01354 610609

Marlen Moss-Eccardt - tel: 01354 610344

**Thanks to Marlen, my chief proof reader.
 I'd be in all sorts of trouble without you.**

Distribution:

Peter Barr, Peter & Charlotte Cox,
 Peter & Anne Wood, and the Editorial Team.

If you have something to say, a story to tell, or a picture to share then please contact one of the team. All contributions need to be received before the deadline below and preferably via email.

The deadline for our next edition is
May 17th.

Disclaimer

Articles that appear in the Welney News are not necessarily the opinion of the editorial team.

Articles submitted for publication may have to be edited for reasons of space.