Issue 53

# WELNEY NEWS

October - November 2006





30p

Picture from the WASH Committee archive

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Hello everyone

Nothing much to witter on about this time.

The usual plea for you to get involved, I spend a lot of my time scrabbling around trying to find interesting things to put in each edition and would love to hear from anyone who has something to share, a life story, a poem, an interesting hobby? If you don't want to put pen to paper just call one of the WN team and we'll gladly write your thoughts down for you.

I would however like to draw your attention to the ad below...without this man my computer would have been a goner and this edition would have been a handwritten photocopy! Despite having various 'protection' programmes installed, my poor little pc was suffering and behaving strangely...I called the number below and the very next day a lovely man came to see if he could fix it. Sadly my pc had been 'taken over' by numerous bad guys. Luckily Mr PC Life Support took all this in his stride and sorted it out. My little old PC is now super fast and super safe.

Rachel



#### PAPER BOY RETIRES

For the past nine years since the Welney News was launched Tom Fisher has been reqularly delivering the magazine and collecting subscriptions along the Hundred Foot Bank. Now he has decided to



hang up his paper bag and we hope that someone else will come forward to keep up the good work started by

Tom has also been a contributor to the magazine by supplying us with several historical articles, showing us what the village was like in the recent past and we welcome any more scribblings he has up his sleeve.

So a very big THANK YOU to Tom Fisher from all the Welney News team.

#### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

A special lady is celebrating a special birthday very soon, having lived in the village all her life and a popular member of the W.I. and Friendship Club: Cissie Bedford will be 90 years old on Sunday 8th October.



Welney must have been a very different place when Cissie was a girl and most of us can only imagine the changes she has seen. She is one of those people with a mine of historical information, whom you could listen to for hours.

Have a lovely day Cissie, a VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY.



#### SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Many congratulations to PAUL & DOT at the Lamb & Flag From everyone at the Welney News



#### Paper Boy / Girl Required

As you will have read above, one of our stalwart distributors of the Welney News has handed in his notice, so we are looking for an enthusiastic person to deliver the magazine along the Hundred Foot Bank. The job is voluntary and involves delivering approx. 30 magazines every two months and collecting subscriptions once a year.

> If you could be that person please call Tim Bennett on 01354 610433 or Margaret Levesley on 01354 610609



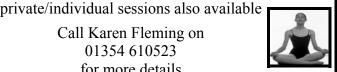


Pavilion, Welney Playing Field

open to all age groups, beginners welcome £4 per session



Call Karen Fleming on 01354 610523 for more details



#### **Upwell Health Centre Patient Participation Group**

Upwell Health Centre's website is now up and running and can be accessed on www.upwellhealthcentre.org.uk By clicking on the Prescriptions' tag. and following the link, patients can now request their repeat prescriptions on line if they wish to do so. You will need to speak to the Dispensary Manager at the Health Centre and register first.

It is also be possible to make an appointment to see your Doctor via the website by following the links from the 'Opening Hours' tag. Again, you need to register to do this by speaking to the Receptionist who will issue you with user instructions and a pin number.

#### IT'S A SMALL WORLD

#### **OBITUARY FOR RITA SWEET**

(who died in August in Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, King's Lynn, aged 90).

It's a small world they say, and for a small village like "Welney-in-the Sticks" to be a meeting place, it has to be.

In the 1940's, in a well-bombed London, Rita and Lionel lived in Greenwich, by the river, where now the ship "Cutty Sark" is berthed after the houses where they lived were pulled down.

At that time, as a small boy, I and my cousins used to visit our grandparents on the Isle of Dogs, the opposite side of the river to Greenwich, and there is a tunnel under the river linking the two. In fact, the Greenwich side comes to the surface right by the "Cutty Sark". It was quite an adventure for us to run along this white-tiled, dripping tunnel to Greenwich where the Naval Maritime Museum, with its marvellous models of ships, is and the great Park which Rita and Lionel loved, where we would muck about for hours - quite a change from the bombed sites, and then go for a ride on the old red London trams. All this time Rita and Lionel lived right by and we never knew them.

It wasn't until I came to Welney 16 years ago and met Rita and Lionel, who were a very friendly, entertaining warm couple, full of stories, that, talking about earlier days and the Blitz, this coincidence came to light. I think living through those days is what gave Rita, and so many others, her community spirit (and the old bull-dog spirit, too) in times of adversity. We would see her after a serious accident or illness (which would fell a cart-horse) and stand completely surprised at her ability to climb above it - in fact, the tougher it got, the better she fought.

In adversity you saw her true spirit - pure Greenwich Blitz. She had a flair for organising, no doubt from the hairdressers' she and Lionel ran; so the "Over 60's" club (Friendship Club) outings were great fun and well run.

Now and then, doing the odd job for her, and having a cup of tea, I noticed there were always friends calling; so it was a very pleasant way to meet some of our village.

There are many of us who are going to miss you, Rita, but you have left us with very pleasant memories.

God bless you, Roger.

By Roger Irons.

## Mayor's Civic Awards for Voluntary Service 2006

Nominations are invited for the Mayor's Civic Awards for Voluntary Service. If you are aware of suitable candidates please ask the Civics Office for a nomination form. The awards are a form of recognition, for people from the Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk who give of their time and efforts without reward for the good of others or to enable money to be raised for charity. Nominations can be made at any time between now and mid January 2007. The awards are presented at a ceremony in March. There are many people who do enormous amounts of voluntary work and this is an ideal opportunity to acknowledge them and say "thank you".

Penny Harrison Civics Officer Town Hall, Kings Lynn PE30 5EU

Tel: 01553 762124

email: civics.officer@west-norfolk.gov.uk

## ADAMS TRADITIONAL IRONMONGERS

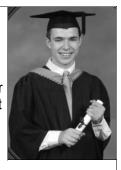
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#### The Pride of Welney

On Wednesday 19th July 2006 the Copeman Family spent a memorable and very proud day in Lincoln for Christopher's Graduation. Terry, Pat and Matthew attended the Graduation Ceremony which was held in Lincoln Cathedral when Chris was presented with his B.A. (Hons.) De-



gree in History and Education Studies. This was followed by a champagne reception held in the grounds of Bishop Grosseteste College.

21 year old Christopher attended Welney William Marshall Primary School from age 5 to 11, and then moved to Downham Market High School. After obtaining his GCSEs at the end of year 11. Chris moved onto the Sixth Form Centre at Ryston End for two years and obtained his A-levels. In September 2003 he was accepted at Bishop Grosseteste College in Lincoln. where he studied History and Education Studies culminating in his obtaining his Degree.

He has now returned to the College for a further year, to study for his Post Graduate Certificate in Education. which will allow him to fulfil his ambition to become a Primary School Teacher. Chris is living in Lincoln during term time sharing a house with three other student friends.

#### Norfolk Safe & Secure Scheme

This scheme is a partnership between Norfolk Partners Against Crime Taskforce, British Gas, Norwich Union, the local councils, RG Carters, AC Leigh, Age Concern Norfolk and the Norfolk Police.

The scheme provides assistance to burglary victims and to people who are worried about the threat of crime by installing British Standard security hardware free of

Those people who are eligible are anyone who is an owner-occupier or private tenant provide they are: -

- aged 60 years or over
- or in receipt of means tested benefit
- or disabled

The range of work carried out includes a number of security measures such as the installation of window locks, door chains, door locks, eye viewers, security bolts and kick panels.

For further information please contact Norfolk PACT on 01603 276306 / 01953 424727

#### An open letter to Victor Meldrew

Dear Vic.

In brief reply to your comment 2 or 3 months ago about parking in Lakesend.

I have tried to solve this problem, with some small success but the parking on the pathway still remains and I shall try to take this to a successful conclusion.

The other side of the coin however is the only accident to happen in Lakesend in the last few years was that a young boy was hit by a car speeding through the village. I am told that a resident of Welney drove the car.

If you would like to offer any suggestions or just talk to me ring 610349

My name is Frank and I am a member of Upwell Parish Council and I live in Lakesend.

Your truly F K Humm

#### **100 CLUB**

The new year for the 100 Club began on 1st August and there are still a few numbers left.

If you would like to join please contact Pat Copeman, Parish Clerk on 01354 610226 as soon as possible

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#### Local group wins cash award

The Welney Archive and Social History Committee of the Welney Parish Council are delighted to announce their success in obtaining a grant of £3,090 from 'Awards For All', which is part of The Big Lottery Fund.

The application was made in order to purchase a Laptop Computer, Scanner, Colour Printer, IT Visual Projector and Screen, Digital Camera, Dictaphone, DVD Player, Portable External Hardrive, Software, and CDs, DVD's, Paper and Ink Cartridges etc. These will then help with the gathering, recording and archiving of information. The Committee was delighted when the total sum they applied for was granted.

The Committee was set up at the beginning of 2006 in order to collect as much material as possible: including photographs, stories and information, so that an archive could be formed which would be informative and useful to future generations, It was feared that as the elder residents passed away the history and stories relating to the village would be lost.

A great deal of material has already been donated to the Committee and another Open Day will be held on Saturday 21st October 2006 from 1.00 to 4.00 p.m. in The Parish Hall. Feedback has indicated that this slight alteration to the usual open times would be more helpful. It is intended to have a display of more, new, material, together with a chance to see and use the equipment which has been purchased. If anyone has any news cuttings or photographs that they would be prepared for the Committee to copy, these would be most appreciated.

The Committee are also arranging an evening meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> November, when they hope to have a speaker who will talk about the local history of the area. This will again be held in the Parish Hall, and doors will open at 7.30 p.m. with the speaker at 8.00 p.m.

The W.A.S.H. Committee are indebted to 'Awards For All' for making this grant and allowing them to proceed with what will hopefully be an interesting and rewarding enterprise.

What better time than now to come along and join in with the present members where you will be assured of a warm welcome - please contact Pat Copeman on 01354 610 226.

### **A.R CLINGO**

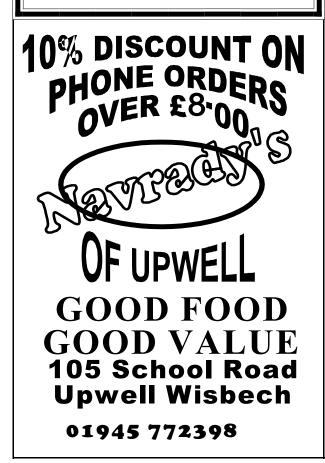
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#### The Victor Meldrew Column.

It's strange. It is very strange.

Having been away at publishing time, fishing with my friend Elmer Fudd, I was keen to see how the Welney News had managed without me, but I can't find a copy anywhere. Back of the settee is a good starting point – but no. When questioned, Mrs. M. murmurs something about a strike at the printers as she whooshes past duster in hand. Odd!

'Existentially speaking' Mrs. M. sings out at the breakfast table. What? I say and it comes again 'existentially speaking'. I can only think there is something in her cornflakes, but no, it's the WN crossword again. Come on Mark Brown, it's Welney you know – we don't all live in Main Street! Still the dictionary is getting well thumbed.

Talking about Mr. Brown, I thought that he had been out delivering his solution to the 'Matrix', when I saw what had caused a thud as a mighty tome hit the doormat. But no, it was the Village Plan Questionnaire results. Congratulations to all as it must have taken some doing. Try to persevere as all Welney life is there in its pages.

You are naughty though, very naughty. In your hundreds, nay, thousands you want loads of improvements and services (40% for more notice boards, 50% for more street lighting, 42% see a need for indoor sports etc), loads of you are willing to take part in activities from Amateur Dramatics to Woodwork classes but very few are willing to help organise events and only 1% agreed to a higher council tax to pay for the goodies; very naughty indeed.

23% of adults wanted the results of The Village Plan on the Community Web Site, 62% of the youth section results use the Internet and 21% of the younger ones also, 44% of the 12 to 17 year olds want to see local events on the Community Web Site; so the Parish Council withdraws from the web site, not the best of actions to achieve its goal of 'Quality Status'.

A major driver for all the facilities to be together and hence abandon the Village Hall (20% still want it according to the questionnaire) was the expense of running two facilities – I find it hard to believe that the running costs of a new Community Centre will come in less than the current costs.

Fame at last for Welney (who needs the odd crumbs from the WWT?) - in that wonderful Borough Council magazine that comes through your letter box now and again Welney has a mention! Who says that they don't know we exist? Yes, Welney has come near bottom for recycling efforts. Don't they know that we like to save them the effort of collecting so we burn it all?

What a wonderful community spirit those people of 'Events R Us' have. They volunteer to organise your proposed activities, with profits being handed out to village organisations. What an even more wonderful gesture it was for the Parish Council to give them the proposed Welney Gala for 2007 – I hope they said thank you.

Now this isn't a complaint, more of a pleasant observation - have you noticed that when you're in town and there are some young gals in front of you with their low slung garments, that every half a dozen steps or so they have to tug them up before they get into a "builder's butt" situation? But girls, if the midriff is, let's say, in an overhung situation, then

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then please don't go there. I've head this referred to as the 'muffin-top'. Take it from those that know – you don't see the gals from New Road dressed like that.

I take it all back, I saw a bloke using a dog bin (perhaps I should re-phrase that?). Well he did have three dogs with him so it is odds on that one would poop somewhere, existentially speaking.

VM

P.S. Happy Birthday Cissie.

#### **Friendship Club**



In August the Friendship Club enjoyed a trip to London and the following month was a visit to Cromer followed by a concert on the pier which was described by some as the best they had ever seen.

Members were saddened recently by the death of Rita Sweet and a minutes' silence was held as a mark of respect. Her funeral coincided with a club meeting day so members left the hall to bid a respectful farewell to their friend, and returned later to reflect and support each other at this sad time.

The next important date in the calendar is October 10<sup>th</sup> when the Club celebrates its 29<sup>th</sup> birthday with a party in the Village Hall, starting at 2 p.m. with entertainment supplied by the Acorn Singers from Wimblington.

Meadowhall, just off the M1 at junction 34 near Sheffield in South Yorkshire is the destination for the November outing so if you fancy a bit of Christmas shopping, circle the 7th in your diary.

If you are interested in any of the outings contact Cissie Bedford on 01354 610206 or Queenie Johnson on 01354 610409

The AGM is also in November and don't forget the fortnightly meetings in the Village Hall (see diary page) are open to anyone who fancies a chat and a cuppa, and a game or two.

Margaret Levesley

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#### **Subscriptions**

Yes it's fast approaching that time again when your friendly Welney News delivery boy/girl will be banging on your door and demanding money. The good news is the price is still the same, £1.80 for the next six issues.

This issue is the final one covered by last years subscription so sometime in the next couple of months we will be coming round with our lists clutched firmly in our hands, so to ensure free delivery of your favourite magazine keep an eye out for us.

See you soon.

#### A nice little earner

Welney Parish Council are looking for a new cleaner for the Parish Hall & the Pavilion, with effect from 1st October. 2006.

The position involves unlocking the Parish Hall for certain bookings and cleaning both the Hall and the Pavilion. Approximately one & a half hours per week at each venue.

If you are interested and would like more information please ring the Parish Clerk - Pat Copeman - on 01354 610226 or e-mail - welneypc@aol.com.

#### **Cryptic Crossword**

Sadly there is no crossword in this edition of the WN....due to Marks' work commitments.

He assures me that there will be a BUMPER crossword in the December issue.

The lucky winners last time were Ken & Debra Goodger

#### **The Welney Website**

The Welney Website, the community website for Welney and adjoining areas, has grown enormously since its launch six years ago, and has recently been upgraded and expanded.

There's information for residents past, present and potential on present day life. The Village Shop, clubs for youngsters, and for the "more mature". Public transport and Public Houses. Sports and recreation. Church and Teddy Church. The Council's plan for a new Community Building and Elgood's plan for a new pub. Which councils provide what services, and how you can contact them. How to hire the Pavilion or Hall. There's even a pictorial guided tour of the new WWT visitor centre. It's all on the Welney Website.

There's an on-line history of the area, making available to everyone at any time the archive of photos and records provided by parishioners over the years. Which part of Welney was once known as Washington? Who was Welney's world skating champion? What's the connection between one of our bridges and a Brighton Bus? Do you know which country the Womens Institute started in? Did you know about the world-famous Utopian society that existed along the river bank? Who was Welney's generous benefactor? What's the connection between the Flat Earth Society and Welney? Are you on the school photographs (1950-1980s)? It's all on the Welney Website.

There are direct links to all the local newspaper on-line news stories, to the weather forecasts, the traffic situation, to the village school's own brilliant site, to mills, pubs, churches, and the draining of the fens. There's even links to the Parish Council's very own new official website.

From Bingo to Business, from Church to Christchurch, from Cricket to the Chelsea Flower Show, from Essential Oils to Essential news, from Farming to Fishing, from Parish Council to Parish Hall, from School to Skating, from the WWT to the WN, from Youth Club to Yoga. Yes, all that and loads more besides, it's all on the Welney Website.

Go on, try it: www.welney.org.uk <u>The</u> Welney Website

Peter Cox

#### Proud to be British

Being British is about driving in a German car to an Irish pub for a Belgian beer, then travelling home, grabbing an Indian curry or a Turkish kebab on the way, to sit on Swedish furniture and watch American shows on a Japanese TV.

And the most British thing of all? Suspicion of all things foreign!

Only in Britain can a pizza get to your house faster than an ambulance.

Only in Britain do supermarkets make sick people walk all the way to the back of the shop to get their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front.

Only in Britain do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries and a DIET coke.

Only in Britain do banks leave both doors open and chain the pens to the counters.

Only in Britain do we leave cars worth thousands of pounds on the drive and lock our junk and cheap lawn mower in the garage.

Only in Britain do we use answering machines to screen calls and then have call waiting so we won't miss a call from someone we didn't want to talk to in the first place. Only in Britain are there disabled parking places in front of a skating rink.

NOT TO MENTION..

3 Brits die each year testing if a 9v battery works on their tongue.

142 Brits were injured in 1999 by not removing all pins from new shirts.

58 Brits are injured each year by using sharp knives instead of screwdrivers.

31 Brits have died since 1996 by watering their Christmas tree while the fairy lights were plugged in.

19 Brits have died in the last 3 years believing that Christmas decorations were chocolate.

British Hospitals reported 4 broken arms last year after Xmas cracker-pulling accidents.

18 Brits had serious burns in 2000 trying on a new jumper with a lit cigarette in their mouth.

A massive 543 Brits were admitted to A&E in the last two years after trying to open bottles of beer with their teeth.

5 Brits were injured last year in accidents involving outof-control Scalextric cars.

and finally...

In 2000 eight Brits were admitted to hospital with fractured skulls incurred whilst throwing up into the toilet. It's good to be British!





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#### Whats on at Kings Lynn Corn Exchange: Box Office 01553 764864

#### October

Sun 1st: Clare Teal 8pm - Talented jazz singer/songwriter. Tickets £17.50, concessions £16.50

Tue 3rd: Jack Jones 7.30pm - Double Grammy-winning, easy listening giant. Tickets: £24.50, concessions £23.50

**Thurs 5th : Jane McDonald 8pm -** Showcasing her hits and some brand new material. Tickets: £22.50

Fri 6th: Charlie Landsborough 7.30pm - Highly respected and much-loved artist. Tickets: £16.50

Sun 8th: Basil Brush The Fox Factor 1pm & 4.30pm - Laughter show. Tickets: £12, under 16s £10

Wed 11th - Sat 14th: King's Lynn Players present: The Full Monty 7.30pm

With a lively and foot-tapping musical score, this musical is not to be missed. Tickets: £14, £12

Sun 15th: The Royal British Legion Norfolk County present: Festival Of Remembrance 2006 7pm

This year is the 85th anniversary of the Royal British Legion. The concert is based on the history of the Legion over the past eighty-five years. The evening will also include a Service of Remembrance. Tickets: £10

Mon 16th: Shakespeare 4 Kidz - A Midsummer Night's Dream 10.30am & 1.30pm

Easy to understand musical adaptation. Tickets: Students £8, Adults £13, One Teacher In Every 10 Students Free.

Wed 18th: Comedy Club Doors 7.45pm. Comedy 8.45pm Tickets: £8.50 Adults Only

Fri 20th: Viscount Oliver's Legendary Four Tops 8pm - R & B vocal group. Tickets: £15.50, £9.50

Sat 21st: Go West 8pm One of the greatest musical duos to emerge from the 1980's. Tickets: £19.50

Sun 22nd: A Night At The Musicals 7.30pm - Tickets: £16, £15, £9.50

Tue 24th: City Of London Sinfonia 7.30pm Tickets: £17.50, £14.50, £11

Wed 25th: Dara O Briain Tour 2006 8pm Stand up comedian. Tickets £17. Adults Only

**Thurs 26th : Simply Ballroom 8pm** hosted by Lionel Blair with a cast of champion dancers. Tickets: £22.50, £20.50 **Fri 27th : Vampires Rock 8pm** Steve Steinman, with his unique tongue-in-cheek humour. Tickets: £18.50, £9.50

Cat 20th : Purchini Medica Butterfly Berfammed By The Chicken Watterfly Boyle 7 200m

Sat 28th: Puccini Madam Butterfly Performed By The Chisinau National Opera 7.30pm Performed with a live orchestra. Sung in Italian with English subtitles. Tickets: £32.50, £28.50

Sun 29th: The Dubliners 7.30pm Ireland's legendary folk group ensure a great night out Tickets: £16.50

#### November

Wed 1st & Thurs 2nd: Kevin Bloody Wilson 8pm - Aussie comedian. Tickets: £16.50. Adults Only

Fri 3rd: The Return Of The Love Monkey - Joe Pasquale 8pm A brand new show. Tickets: £16.50

Sun 5th: Flashback 7.30pm - Classic sing-along hits. Tickets: £15, Under 16s Go Free (One per paying adult).

Mon 6th: John Mayall & The Bluesbreakers & Chicken Shack With Stan Webb 7.30pm

British Blues Legends join forces on a musical bill that promises blues at its very finest. Tickets: £25.50

Wed 8th & Thurs 9th: Derek Acorah 7.30pm The star of Living TV's Most Haunted. Tickets: £17.50

Fri 10th: The Illegal Eagles 8pm - Popular tribute band . Tickets: £16, £9.50

Sat 11th: Allyz Streetz Ahead 4pm & 7.30pm - East Anglia's first ever community street dance show. Tickets: £8.50

Sun 12th: Norfolk Symphony Orchestra 3.30pm - NSO concerts sell fast – book early! Tickets £12, £8

Mon 13th: Moscow Ballet - La Classique presents Nutcracker 7.30pm - Tickets: £18, £15.50

Tue 14th: A Magical Evening With The Magician's Daughter & Friends 7.30pm - Valerie Gordon, seer, mystic and story-teller, will relate her awesome 'other-worldly' experiences. Tickets: £12.50

Thurs 16th: Comedy Club Doors 7.45pm. Comedy 8.45pm Tickets: £8.50 Adults Only

Fri 17th: An Evening Of Ballroom Dancing Hosted by Peggy Spencer 7.30pm

The perfect opportunity to show off your fancy footwork. Tickets: £10.50, non-participants £5.50

Sat 18th: The Original King's Lynn Fleamarket 9am-4pm Tickets: 80p, under 16s Free

Wed 22nd to Sat 25th: The Norfolk Youth Music Theatre presents OLIVER! 7.30pm, Sat Matinee 2.30pm Packed with humour, pathos and drama. Tickets £13.50

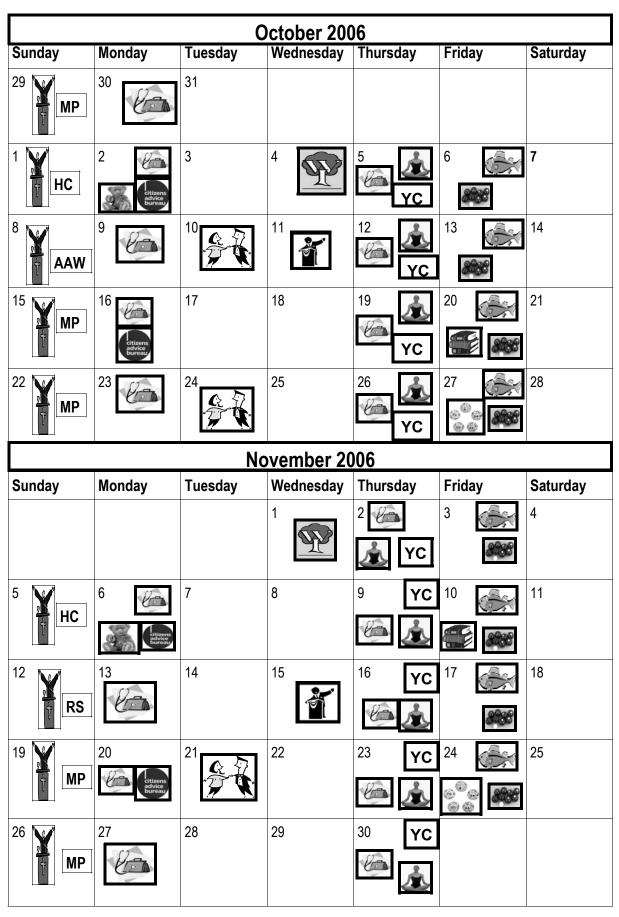
Sun 26th: Lee Mack 8pm Comedian. Tickets: £16 Adults Only

Mon 27th: Jethro Laughter In The Rafters Tour 2006 7.30pm Tickets: £17.50 Adults Only Tue 28th: Bill Wyman's Rhythm Kings 8pm Classic rhythm and blues. Tickets: £24.50

Wed 29th: Bjorn Again - Taking The Piste Tour 7.30pm If you enjoy the classic hits of Abba then you had better

get yourself along to enjoy this fantastic celebration of their greatest hits. Tickets: £16.50, under 16's £12.50.

Thurs 30th: Roy Wood 8pm Legendary singer is back on the road. Tickets: £17.50, £9.50



#### **Diary index**



Mobile Library:

details available at the Post Office



Teddy Church: 10.00am 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 Please check dates at the Post Office



Yoga at the Pavillion Thurs: 10am-11.30am



Parish Council meeting: Village Hall 7.30pm



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

#### **Church Services Dates and Times**



AAW All Age Worship 11am

October 8th S.E. Tooke



HC Holy Communion 9.30am

October 1st Revd. C. Worsley November 5th Ven.D. Fleming

**MP Morning Prayer** 

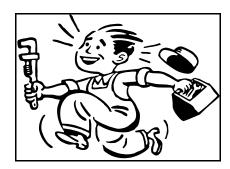


October 15th 9.30 am D. Fletcher October 22nd 9.30 am S.E. Tooke October 29th 10.00 am D. Fletcher November 19th 9.30 am S.E. Tooke November 26th 9.30 am D. Fletcher



RS Remembrance Service 11.00 am

November 12th D. Fletcher



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#### Whats on at **Ely Cinema**

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Hidden (15)

Sun 1 Oct: 7.30 pm

The Wind That Shakes The Barley (15)

Sun 8 Oct: 7.30 pm

Snow Cake (15)

Thur 12 Oct: 7.30 pm

Over The Hedge (U)

Sun 15 Oct: 3 pm

**Driving Lessons (15** 

Sun 15 Oct: 7.30 pm & Thur 19 Oct: 3 pm & 7.30 pm

The Queen (12A)

Sun 22, Wed 25 & Thur 26 Oct: 7.30 pm

Monster House (PG)

Wed 25 & Thur 26 Oct: 3 pm

Tim Burton's Corpse Bride (PG)

Sun 29 Oct: 3pm – all seats £3.50

Volver (15)

Sun 29 Oct & Thur 2 Nov: 7.30 pm



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#### Whats on at WWT Welney

#### Wildfowl ID Workshop

#### Sunday 15 October, 11am - 4pm

A warden will take you around the reserve. Sturdy shoes/Wellingtons, waterproofs and notebook essential. Bring binoculars if available. £20.00 (£17.50 members).

#### Mellow Yellow, Self-guided Family Trail. Sat 21 Oct to Sun 29 Oct, Daily 10am – 5pm.

Find out how the creatures at Welney are preparing for the winter. Members Free, Included in Admission

#### Winter Swan Feeds 2006/2007

Thousands of Whooper and Bewick's swans gather on the Ouse Washes to over-winter. Come and watch them being fed.

3.30pm, daily from Sat 21st Oct to mid March 2007 6.30pm (floodlit), Wed to Sun only, Nov 8th – Feb 25th.

#### Tues 24th October

#### Mellow Yellow, Family Workshop.

10am – Noon, Under 8s + parents

2pm - 4pm, Age 8 - 11 + parents

Morning and afternoon workshops for parents and children. £4 (£2 M)

## Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November Birdwatching Winter Weekend Break

Come and explore the Norfolk Coast in winter. An action-packed itinerary. Price includes hotel accommodation, breakfast and evening meals for two days and minibus transport around the area.

#### WWT 60th Birthday

#### Friday 10 November

Free entry. Join us for birthday cake and celebrate WWT's 60th year.

#### The Swans' Return

#### Saturday 11 & Sunday 12 November

Discover more over this family-friendly weekend about these fascinating birds and what brings them back to Welney year after year.

#### Quiz Night, A Friends of Welney event

Tuesday 14th November 7.30pm

Everyone is welcome to come along and join in the fun . £2.50, (£1.50 FM)

## Christmas Festival & Shopping Weekend Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 November

Get the Christmas spirit away from the crowds, buy some unusual gifts, help raise funds for local charities. Members Free. Included in Admission

#### W.I.

After all the glorious weather in July it just had to rain when members gathered for the August meeting which was a barbeque at the home of Amy and Blanche Markham, so when the business was completed it was time for an indoor feast with lots to eat with two lovely desserts, all very more-ish.

Rosie Beckford kindly judged the letter 'O' competition which included several owls, an orchid, ostrich, oil and an Oxo cube. Sheila Dore, Cissie Bedford, Amy Markham and Bettine Watson were awarded 5 points, Jennifer James 4 points, Blanche Markham 3 points and Queenie Johnson, Jean Newell and Vera Singleterry 2 points each.

Winner of the guiz was Sheila Dore.

Amy and Blanche Markham each received a pretty handkerchief for gaining maximum points in recent competition and lucky raffle winners were Jean Newell, Blanche Markham and Vera Singleterry.

Emneth W.I. has invited Welney members to join them for their Harvest meeting on 5th October.

Visitors from Christchurch, March, Ely and Littleport were welcomed by Amy Markham to the September meeting which was a celebration of Harvest.

A minutes' silence was observed in memory of Rita Sweet a former member who sadly died recently. The meeting commenced with harvest hymns, prayers and readings by Hazel Hancock and her friend Pearl. A familiar face made a welcome return visit with Adam Giles giving a talk entitled 'Tales on Two Wheels'. It described a motorcycling trip starting in Alaska and travelling through North America, Central America and finally to Argentina in South America. The journey took approximately 5 months and the distance travelled was 23,000 miles. Adam recalled the beautiful scenery through the Americas and the amazing people they met. There were also some very scary moments such as the river crossing using a rather hazardous looking bridge. Thankfully Adam is here to tell the tale.

It was a very well organised trip with 15 ordinary people on an extraordinary journey.

After such an interesting and entertaining talk everyone was ready for a cuppa and all tucked in to the Harvest Supper.

The competition has reached the letter P and 5 points were awarded to Jean Newell, Sheila Dore, and Queenie Johnson, 4 points to Blanche Markham and Jennifer James, 3 points to Vera Singleterry and Amy Markham and 2 points to Carol Halls, Cissie Bedford and Bettine Watson. Cissie Bedford received a teaspoon for gaining

maximum points in recent competitions, and raffle winners included Peggy Warby, Jean Newell, Amy Markham, Olive Newman, Meg Murray, Blanche Markham, Chris Dickens and Amy Whyte.

Linda Plumtree will be talking about cosmetics for the October meeting and November is a special birthday for the W.I. when they celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of the club with a dinner at the Lamb and Flag.

See the diary for meeting dates.

Enquiries to Amy Markham on 01354 610340.

#### Official opening of WWT Welney



At the end of September I was lucky enough to be invited to the official opening of the magnificent new WWT centre. Chris Packham, the renowned TV presenter and conservationist was on hand to do the ribbon cutting and after speeches from the various bigwigs involved he amused the audience with a tale of visiting Welney in the 1980's.



After the speeches and a walk over the bridge for the unveiling of a plaque everyone made their way back to the centre for a celebratory glass of champagne.

All in all a lovely way to spend a sunny afternoon!

Rachel Brown

#### The Silent Killer (Carbon Monoxide)

Like many other gases, **CO** is colourless and odourless. This very simply means that there

is no way for your body to detect when CO is present, you can't smell or see it.

Very low concentrations of CO can be fatal and a recent report concludes that carbon monoxide exposure can lead to significant loss of lifespan, brain damage as well as damage to the heart.

How do we come in contact with Carbon Monoxide during our daily lives? Carbon monoxide is generated when there is not enough air to burn fuel efficiently.

Common sources of Carbon monoxide (CO) are:

- Car Exhausts
- Portable Gas Heaters.
- Central heating systems (Gas or Oil Burning)
- Gas cookers,
- Anything else that burns a fuel

**CO Prevention:** Firstly always have new appliances fitted by CORGI registered installers. Don't be tempted to 'save' a few pounds by hiring a cowboy.

Get existing appliances **serviced annually** especially any central heating boilers or other items that remain on when you are asleep.

When your appliance is alight, check the flame. If it is orange or yellow, or if it is smoky, then it's a fairly good indication that CO is being generated. Good quality combustion results in a clean blue flame.

Never block up any vents, flues, or air bricks in your house

Don't sleep in the same room as any appliance burning continuously overnight.

<u>Detecting CO:</u> You can buy a number of different types of CO detectors. The simplest and cheapest type is a coloured sticker that changes colour if CO is present. These provide a useful indication of very low levels of CO being emitted over a long period. However there is no audible alarm and the device relies on you noticing the colour change.

The other two types of detector both rely on electronic sensors. The only real difference between them is they can be either battery or mains powered units.

Generally battery units are cheaper (between £20 and £40) and can be mounted anywhere you want them whereas the mains powered units are a bit more costly and awkward to mount.

In both cases you need to periodically have the units serviced to make sure that they are working correctly.

Whichever type you choose don't make the mistake of assuming that a detector is any kind of substitute for avoiding the problem in the first place.

**Response to CO exposure:** If you are think that you or someone else have been exposed to CO then you need seek immediate Emergency medical help.

CO kills you because haemoglobin (red blood cells) has an affinity many times stronger for CO than it does for oxygen; the oxygen is displaced from your blood by the CO.

For this reason it is not enough to simply remove an affected person from the CO source and into normal air as once you have CO in your system it won't get displaced by oxygen in 'normal' breathing

So how do you know if someone is affected? Bizarrely the one obvious sign is often confused with good health! Exposure to CO leads to reddening of the lips. Other symptoms are headache, fatigue, weakness, flushing, nausea, vomiting, irritability, dizziness, drowsiness, disorientation, un-coordination, visual disturbances, tachycardia and hyperventilation.

So if you are affected you might start to get a headache or suffer from dizziness but basically you may not realise that there's a problem until it's too late because of the disorientation that often accompanies the other symptoms.

Rented Accommodation: Any gas appliances must have a test certificate that is re-validated annually from:-

- British Gas/TRANSCO
- Other CORGI gas installers

The person letting the property to you has a duty to obtain a gas certificate - and must be able to show it to you. And they must be issued/revalidated every twelve months. Reporting any concerns to the HSE, your actions could save someone's life.

<u>So who is out there to help you?</u>: Well, the emergency services are there to help in the event of a CO incident. Simply dial 999.

You can also get proactive information from the HSE - Gas Safety Advice Line - 0800 300363

If you have any concerns about the status of an installer consider calling CORGI who can advise you as to whether a person is genuinely a member or not: 01256 372300

Remember: CO is a killer. About 30 people in the UK die each year and many more suffer long term effects of CO poisoning. Take the time to think about the risks in your own home or other places that you might stay and make sure that you know how to get help if you need it.

Trevor Bray

#### Building relationships within our community

Events R Us held their inaugural Summer Fayre on possibly the wettest Saturday this summer....not guite what was planned!

Obviously the planned wheelbarrow races were postponed until next year but what remained was a friendly event with stall holders all squashed together in the Pavilion. There was a good variety of items to spend your cash on and at the end of the day we raised over £200...not bad for a soggy Saturday! Many Thanks to all of you who came along.

#### If anyone would like to join our group please call Julie on 01354 610257.

Our aim is to HAVE FUN together, raise abit of money for local groups and hopefully make Welney a thriving, happy and productive village to live in.











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#### **Hedgehogs!**

Many of us feed the birds in our gardens in wintertime, but there is another local resident, perhaps less visible, who could do with our assistance too.

The hedgehog, often seen alive only by chance, and more often just heard as it snuffles and chomps its way through the slug population after nightfall, may actually be more in need of a nutritious handout than we might think.

Adult hedgehogs need to maintain a good body weight as they prepare for hibernation and will always appreciate a good meal. This is even more critical for juveniles, who are highly unlikely to survive hibernation if they weigh less than 1lb or 450g. A good-sized adult hedgehog weighs about 3lb/1.4 kg; hoglets will leave their mother's care at

around six weeks old, weighing only about 8oz or 250g, so those born late in the season are at great risk.



To protect your hedgehog picnic from other animals such as cats, place the food in a feeding station; this can be made from a concrete slab on bricks, or an old plastic toy box placed upside down with bricks on top to weight it, and an entrance hole cut in one side. The entrance should be a square of side 5.5 inches

(14cm) to allow hedgehog - only access! Good food

hygiene is essential, so please remove any old food each day, and once you start providing food, be consistent in putting some out every night - your local hedgehogs may well rely on you until as late as the end of November, depending on weather conditions. Hibernation will end anytime from mid-March onwards, depending again on weather conditions, and providing food

around this time is a great help to newly-emerging hedgehogs.

## But all of this is hedgehog 'natural selection'; so why do we need to help?

Hedgehogs were once common and widespread, but there is increasing evidence that they are suffering a drastic decline. Attempts are now under way to survey

the hedgehog population, with the help of the general public, in the same way that the RSPB has initiated the Big Garden Birdwatch to keep an eye on familiar but now

threatened bird species. The decline in the hedgehog population seems mostly to be due to loss of habitat - loss of hedgerows, rough grazing land, rapid re-planting etc - and pesticide use which kills off the hedgehog's food supply and introduces toxins to the hedgehog food chain.



#### Where do hedgehogs hibernate?

Hedgehogs usually build a nest or hibernaculum at the bottom of a hedge, in a woodpile, in a compost heap, or under a shed. They use grass, straw, leaves, reeds, bracken etc. and build a dense, wind-and-water-proof nest about 50cm in diameter. We can help

with this too, by leaving piles of dry leaves and twigs in shrubberies and by generally being a bit less tidy in our

gardens! If you are really keen you can build a hedgehog house - for details see later. It goes without saying that your accumulating bonfire heap is a magnet to sleepy hedgehogs, so please start your heap in a place where you have space to turn it over and check for hedgehogs before bonfire night.

#### So what can we feed them on?

Feeding hedgehogs is very easy and inexpensive. The best foods are dry cat biscuits, tinned cat or dog food (white meat flavours are best), dried fruit, cooked potato, pieces of banana, and unsweetened moistened muesli. Cows milk should never be given, as hedgehogs cannot digest it and it can make them fatally ill. It is a good idea to provide a dish of fresh water with any food you leave out.



Hedgehogs are strictly nocturnal so if you find one

wandering during the day, even without visible signs of injury, then it is in trouble. A hedgehog will only forage by day if it is desperately hungry. A hedgehog which appears wobbly may be starving. If you find a hedgehog apparently sleeping in the open in cold weather, it is suffering from hypothermia.

#### There are things you can do to help!

First, line a box with newspaper, straw, or old towels to make a nest. It will need to have high sides! Protecting your hands with gardening gloves if necessary, put the hedgehog in the box in a warm quiet place while you decide what to do next. You can also try offering some of the food items listed above. Help for hedgehogs is readily available! Some but not all local vets will take in wild animals, so always ring first; 'Pet Doctors' (Ely and Soham) are more than happy to accept small wild animals, and will treat hedgehogs themselves, or pass them on to a specialist hedgehog 'hospital', which is also in Soham. The British Hedgehog Preservation Society is a mine of information and guidance for feeding, making nestboxes, creating hedgehog-friendly gardens, first aid, finding local hedgehog experts, and much more.

#### Contact details.

- Pet Doctors Ely; 01353 665925
- Hedgehog Preservation Society; urgent advice number 01584 890801

website www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk e-mail bhps@dhustone.fsbusiness.co.uk

- For information about helping with hedgehog surveys, contact the People's Trust for Endangered Species, tel 020 7498 4533 (website www.ptes.org)
- If you find a hedgehog and think it may be in need of help, but can't get it to a vet or carer, call me on 610523 for emergency housing and transport!

Below: A shop bought hedgehog house



Karen Fleming

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The August Meeting of the Parish Council took place in the Parish Hall on Wed 9th at 7.30 p.m.



4 members of the public were in attendance including District Councillors Mr.D Pope and Mrs. V Spikings. and C.Cllr.H.Humphrey.

Siltation Problems Great Ouse - A meeting was arranged with Mr.Dave Gillett of the Environment Agency and this would take place on 15th August at 9 am. The Borough Council, District Councillors and the Member of Parliament would all be informed in the hope they may be able to attend.

Parish Hall - The draw for August 100 Club took place. (results on the back page) The meeting was informed that there were still numbers available for the current year.

It was reported to the meeting that there had been a break in at the Parish Hall during the evening of 25th July, The Police had been informed and the break in had been logged by them, but they did not attend. The panels on the door leading to the Store room at the back of the Hall had been forced off and the bolts were lifted to gain entry. The only items removed were the electric kettles and the first aid kit. These had been replaced and the door has been made secure.

It was also reported to the meeting that Mrs. Redman had decided that she could no longer continue as the booking clerk for the Parish Hall and the Pavilion with effect from the end of July. It was agreed that for the time being the Clerk would take over this job.

Elgoods Proposed Development and the Parish Hall - Two meetings had taken place, the first with Elgoods on 31st July and the second with the Carter Family on 5th August. Elgoods confirmed that they would be making arrangements to submit a planning application on the site of the old Three Tuns and the Parish Hall, as soon as possible. They promised to keep the Parish Council fully informed. Following the meeting with the Carter Family it was unanimously agreed that Council wished to acquire the land, either by gift to the village if the Family were successful in obtaining planning permission for residential properties, or by purchasing the land from the family if their application was not successful.

It was agreed to contact the Environment Agency again with regard to the value of the site. He had previously advised that because a period of six months had elapsed since the valuation, it may be that the value would need to be adjusted.

The question of submitting a joint application with the Carter Family for their properties and for the proposed new Community Centre was discussed but it was felt that this should be kept separate. It was also agreed that Council ask for a site meeting with the planning office at the earliest opportunity.

It was also confirmed that the Borough Council would be carrying out a planning revision of the village development area later in the year, and it was proposed that the Council should push for the Sandgate Terrace land to be included in the development area.

Playing Field - The Clerk confirmed to the meeting that there had also been a break in at the Pavilion. Entry had been gained through the changing room window and the doors appeared to have been opened from the inside. 2 Kettles a tea urn, a dart board and darts, first aid kit and 2/3 cricket bats had been stolen. The police were informed and they attended and took fingerprints.

Notices will be displayed around the village asking residents to be vigilant and report any suspicious circumstances.

Planning Matters - The following planning application was received from the Borough Council Ref No.06/01631/F Construction of a Conservatory to dwelling house at Pisces Country Park. After consideration it was agreed to recommend this for approval.

**Highway Matters** - A meeting was arranged for 9 a.m. on 22nd August so that a tour of the village could be made and hopefully all problems could be addressed.

W.A.S.H. Committee - The sum of £696.28 had been presented to the WASH committee from the Millennium Arts Fund and this had been paid into the Parish Council accounts. A donation of £10.00 had also been received. The second Open Day had taken place on 15th July and a steady stream of visitors attended. The meeting was advised that confirmation had been received that Awards for All had granted the full amount of £3,090.00 and this should be paid into the bank during the second week in August. The next meeting was to be held on 22nd August.

Parish Council Website - The Clerk confirmed that the new website is up and running and the address is: www.parishcouncilinvolve.net/ welneyparishcouncil.

The home page had been installed and further information would be included as soon as possible.

Emergency Planning - The final copy of the Welney Plan was signed by the Chairman, copies will be sent to the various authorities.

Pat Copeman Parish Clerk.

The September Meeting of the Parish Council took place in the Parish Hall on Wed 13th at 7.30 p.m.



3 members of the public were in attendance including our District Councillors Mr. D Pope and Mrs. V Spikings.

Siltation Problems Great Ouse - The meeting with Mr.Dave Gillett of the Environment Agency took place on 15th August it was both informative and constructive. A letter had also been received from the E.A. confirming that they are awaiting a Consultants Report on the Siltation problems. Mr. Gillett had confirmed that he would attend a Public meeting in the Village and arrangements were being made for this a little later in the year.

Meeting with adjoining Councils - Hilgay, Christchurch and Manea had confirmed an interest in attending a meeting in Welney and it was provisionally agreed to hold this on either 3rd or 4th October at 8 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Parish Hall - The draw for September 100 club took place (Results on the back page)

Elgoods Proposed Development and the Parish Hall - Nothing further had been heard from Elgoods or the Carter Family . The EA confirmed that a new valuation of the Hall Site will be required, and the Agents for the frontage land at Sandgate Terrace have confirmed that their clients are still willing to sell the land to the Parish Council. It was hoped that very shortly a date for a meeting with the Planning Department would be confirmed, and it was also agreed to arrange a meeting with Highways and the Upwell Internal Drainage board.

Playing Field - It was confirmed to the meeting that the current cleaner for the Pavilion and the Parish Hall, had handed in her resignation with effect from the end of October.

It was agreed to place an advert in the Welney News and also in the Shop and on the notice boards, requesting anyone interested to contact the Parish Clerk for more details.

A meeting was arranged for 6 pm on Friday 15th Sept to remove the remainder of the derelict play equipment from the Playing Field.

Sewage in Welney - An approach had been received from Savilles on behalf of Anglian Water, regarding the purchase of land for a Treatment Works for the Village Sewage System. Savilles had already approached two landowners but neither of them were willing to sell any land. Council had been asked to suggest sites, but it was felt that before any such information was given, a meeting should be arranged so that much more information is available regarding area required, any specific locations, time scales etc. This was the first approach Council had received regarding this subject, and we were not even aware that Welney was heading for the top of the list!!!

Planning Matters - The following planning application was received from the Borough Council Ref No. 06/01597/F First Floor extension to dwelling at No.2 Hurn Drove, to build an extension over the existing garage. After consideration it was agreed to recommend this for approval.

Highway Matters - A report was given on the meeting with Highways held on 22nd August. The meeting went extremely well and Highways confirmed the following items will receive attention: A drain on the footway near the detached footway near Chestnut Avenue, SLOW markings at throughout the village, the double bend sign on Wisbech Road to be moved, a patch on the footway opposite the Village Hall, the hedge at the corner in Tipsend will be cut back, and a haunching scheme for March Road.

It was noted that some of the works have already been done.

The question of speed limits to the south of Welney was discussed & a letter was received from Norfolk County Council. Cllr.Tomkins will be attending the next meeting of the Road Safety Committee and will raise this matter.

It was reported that some residents of Welney have taken it upon themselves to install posts, blocks, bricks etc on the edge of the Highway fronting their properties, Highways have advised that this action is illegal, and that all such items should please be removed immediately.

W.A.S.H. Committee - held a meeting on 22nd August and it was confirmed that the funding from Awards for All has now been received. A quotation for all the equipment detailed on the application to Awards for All was received from PC World Business. The total quotation was just short of the grant money, and it was agreed that it should be accepted. A cheque for the sum of £3,078.35 was drawn and signed and would be sent off to PC World.

An Open Day was arranged for 21st October in the Parish Hall from 1 - 4 pm. There will also be an Open Evening on Friday 10th November at 7.30 p.m. when it is hoped to have a guest speaker.

Parish Action Plan - It was confirmed that the Results for the Parish Action Plan are in the process of being circulated around the village

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th October, 2006 at 7.30 pm.

Pat Copeman Parish Clerk.



## Welney Wetland Centre



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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





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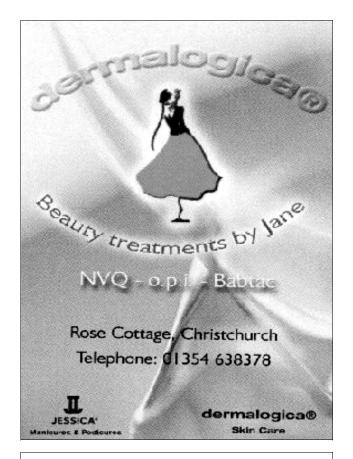
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#### How many can you find?

They are all there ... somewhere!

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MUD	HARVEST	AUTUMN,
<b>GUY FAWKES</b>	TRICK OR TREAT	GHOSTS
HOTDOGS	HALLOWEEN	RAIN
FIREWORKS	DARK NIGHTS	<b>BONFIRES</b>

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#### 100 Club Draw

Winners of the August draw:

	<u>number</u>	lucky winner
1st: £50	65	Helen Scott
$2^{nd}$ : £25	37	David Bonner
3rd: £15	21	Julie Jones
4th: £10	22	David Pope

#### Winners of the September draw:

		number	lucky winner
1st:	£50	7	Mary Falconer
$2^{nd}$ :	£25	9	Sonia Webber
$3^{rd}$ :	£15	57	R Marsh
4th:	£10	2	Ken Sorensen

#### **Useful Numbers:**

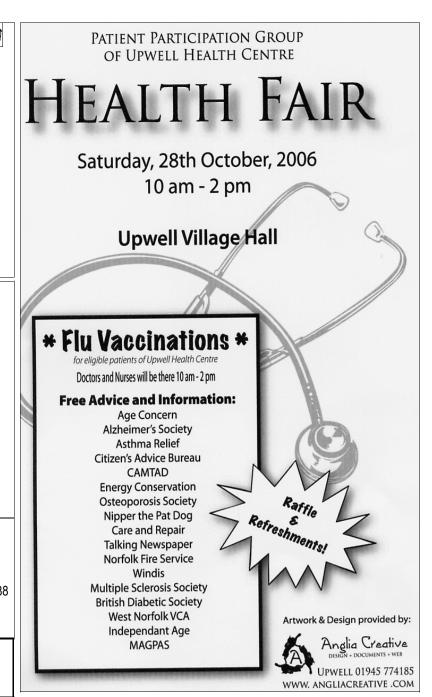
Downham Market Police: 0845 456 4567 March Police: 0845 456 4564 QE Hospital Kings Lynn: 01553 613613 North Cambs Hospital Wisbech: 01945 488088

Upwell Health Centre: 01945 773671

NHS Direct: 0845 4647

#### Welney Churchwardens:

Pauline Aisthorpe 01366 - 384658 Rosina Beckford 01354 - 610385



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 November 17th.

<u>Disclaimer:</u> 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.

#### The Welney News team

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