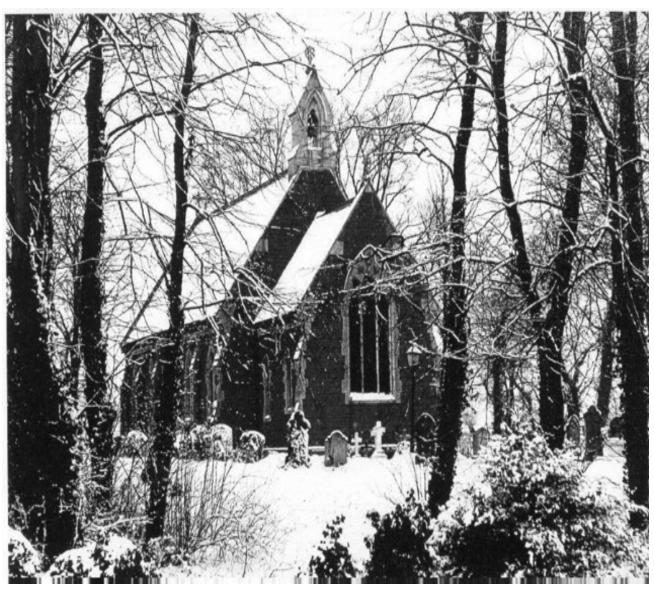
Issue 54

WELNEY NEWS

December 2006 - January 2007

30p





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Hello Everyone

Welcome to the new edition of the WN.

This time we have three new contributors, so **Thank you** to Stephen for helping us say goodbye to a Welneyite, to Sue for an informative and useful article about mans best friend and lastly to Kevin who has written about his love of our part of the world. Three diverse and interesting pieces, which I hope you'll all read and appreciate.

We also have a page of photographic treats from the WASH group archives and a write up of their first social evening...a very interesting evening it was too.

This edition marks the end of a WN era as it is the last outing for Victor, quite what has brought him to this decision we'll never know but I'll miss his sometimes ridiculous rantings.

Good news is that our crossword competition is back and bigger than before...Have a go and see if you can win It is not as hard as it looks, if I can do it so can you! Good Luck.

Best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Rachel

J.D SPIKINGS & SON

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Christmas comes to Welney - Important dates for your diary

Wednesday 13th December: The village Christmas Tree will be installed at the Church.

Saturday 16th December: Christmas Fair at the Parish Hall

Wednesday 20th December : Carol Service.

It is also hoped that Father Christmas will be touring the village again (as last year) but the date for this is still to be confirmed....as soon as it's confirmed full details will be in the Post Office.





Welcome to our village

We moved into Axholme, Main Street, Welney after a long and protracted purchase, none of the problems were related to our sale or purchase but further down the chain. We lived at Witchford for 28 years, living in the last house for 20 years. Our two children Christopher and

Vicki, both having grown up in Witchford, have since left home and we decided that if we didn't move now we probably wouldn't ever move. One of the main reasons for leaving Witchford was that both the village and Ely have trebled in size since moving to the area in 1978.

We have recently both taken early retirement and spend much of our time holidaying, we visit America once a year, touring the many different States and then relaxing for a week at Clearwater in Florida.

We are both now looking forward to living the rural life and hoping that Welney remains as it is today, watching the swans fly over, along with all the other wild life around the area, and enjoying the wide open spaces of the fens.

Ray and Kathy Bone



Welcome to our village part two!

Bill and Debbie Byrne (B y r n e) bought Willow Cottage in Welney because they like wide open spaces, peace and quiet, being near water, trees, and nature.

They've been married 21 years this coming 24 December and have no children as they spent the first ten years working several jobs so they can travel.

Debbie is a RN and works on the neuro-critical-care unit at Addenbrooke's Hospital. She was born in Seattle and is part native American. Her interests are psychology, sociology, geology, writing, and cats.

Bill is self-employed as a boat fitter. He builds narrow boats and wide-beam boats which are one- and two-bedroom and are home-like. His market is people who want an alternative life-style, are retired and want to live on a boat, and want to explore England's waterways, and those who can't get into the housing market yet. He was born in Bedfordshire.

They both enjoy watching movies, going to the Arts Cinema, all types of music, travelling, and walking.

MME





It was announced, at a United Service of Morning Prayer on the 29th October, that the United Benefice of Christchurch, Welney and Manea have, after nearly four years, been appointed a new incumbent.

The new priest is Reverend Kevin Fitzgibbon. Kevin is 57 and is currently Vicar of St.Mary's, Eaton Socon, in the Diocese of St. Albans. He is married to Ann and they have two adult children – Stephen and Richard, and one grandson. They will live in Manea.

The service of licensing of Revd. Fitzgibbon as Priest-in-Charge of the United Benefice will be held at St. Mary's Welney on the 5th February 2007. He will be licensed by The Rt. Revd. Dr. A.J. Russell Bishop of Ely.

St.Mary's P.C.C.



Q: What do you get is you cross an apple with a Christmas tree?

A: A pineapple!

TONY PALMER RIP

When Tony Palmer died on the 3rd of October, Welney lost one of its long-time occupants, even though in the last few years he was living in nearby March.

Born in 1933, Tony was always, or almost always a farmer, and when asked what his hobbies were he answered they were cars and vehicles of all sorts – but farming above all else. He started his working life as a driver, but in 1974 he got a chance to rent Lady Fen Farm, the house on 100 foot Bank, where he lived for twenty years, with the land all around him as well as the farm buildings for his pigs and poultry.

He married June Cornwell in Little Thetford in 1955; they had two children – Jill, who now lives with her two children in nearby Southery, and Garry, his wife and two children, in Pymore.

On retirement, they acquired a house in March, where his widow June still lives. However, his ashes are to be scattered on the Fens from 100 foot Bank, later this year.

Outside the family, not many people knew Tony intimately – he was a shy, though friendly man, who could unwind better with his grandchildren than with adults. But he was always there when anyone needed help, and he was well respected in the little village of Welney, which suited him well for its isolation and privacy.

Stephen Danos

Mains Sewer for Welney

The Parish Council have been approached by Agents for Anglian Water with a view to finding suitable plots of land for the installation of a pumping station for the proposed Mains Sewer.

The proposal is to carry out a joint scheme with Welney and Christchurch with a Vacuum Pumping Station at Welney, one at Christchurch and one half way between. All negotiations are in the early stages, but the Parish Council have been informed that it is hoped that the scheme will be started within the next two years.

As soon as the Parish Council receive more information, we will advise the village.

Welney PC

Good Neighbours

An appeal by the British Red Cross

Do you remember when we all used to have friends and neighbours to pop in for a cuppa, bring a loaf of bread back from the shop etc?.... Sadly it happens much less these days while unfortunately the elderly population increases. The Red Cross Home from Hospital service is increasingly being called upon to support patients at home during the early days following their discharge from hospital. Could you spare an hour or two during their first 3 or 4 weeks home to visit and check how they are, maybe get shopping etc? We are looking for reliable adults of all ages to support our work in the community, all expenses are paid and you don't even need to be able to drive!

If you think you may be able to help then please ring Sandy or Alison at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for more information on 01553 613613 extn 2721.



Q: Why was Santa's little helper depressed?

A: He had low elf esteem

GRAHAME SEATON

AMIAS

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Drawings prepared for houses, bungalows, alterations and extensions.

Planning and building control approval obtained from Local Authorities.









Q: Who delivers cats Christmas presents?

A: Santa Paws!

THANK YOU

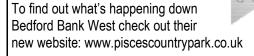
Cissie Bedford would like to say a very big THANK YOU to Amy and Blanche Markham and Hazel and Howard Kent for making her 90th birthday so special, and for the delicious birthday cake made by Amy.

Also many thanks to everyone who sent cards flowers and gifts, at the last count there were more than 100 cards.

In Cissie's words 'It was a lovely day'.

Congratulations

Pisces Country Park received another David Bellamy Gold Award this year... that's three in a row for Julie & Mike.....recognition of their determination and dedication to preserving and encouraging the natural beauty of their park.



FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The final outing of the year was a shopping expedition to Meadowhall during the first week in November. No doubt a few Christmas presents made the return journey.

By the time this magazine has gone to press there may be a few changes as the A.G.M. will have taken place. After more than twenty years as Chairman, Cissie Bedford is standing down so there will be some new faces on the committee.

Everyone is looking forward to the Christmas dinner, which as usual will be at the Lamb and Flag.

The Club are always on the lookout for new members so why not make it your New Year resolution to amble up to the village hall one Tuesday afternoon and join in the fun and games.

Margaret Levesley



Q What do snowmen eat for breakfast?

A: Frosted Flakes

Tragedy in Corfu

It is sad that I have to write this follow up to my article in the last Welney News.

I am sure you are all aware of the tragic events that unfolded for the British family on the Greek island of Corfu, reported in the national press and on TV.

It has been reported that the tragedy was caused by a faulty gas boiler giving off high levels of Carbon Monoxide fumes, which entered their chalet while they slept.

The tragic death of two young children and the severe poisoning of the two adults was avoidable. This can been seen by the quick action of the Greek authorities reported in the media, by pressing charges against those who they think are responsible.

This incident acts as a reminder to us all to make sure that our gas/oil burning appliances are operating properly and are well maintained.

The slang term for Carbon Monoxide (the silent killer) is well founded; **REMEMBER** it's colourless, odourless and deadly.

I urge everyone to consider having an emissions test done on their appliances. **Trevor Bray**

PS: For under £20 you can buy a CO alarm from Tesco, or any DIY shop.



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Dogs Fouling the Playing Field.

It has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council that some dogs are still being allowed to foul the Playing Field.

PLEASE NOTE THAT DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE FIELD.

Notices to this effect will be placed around the area, and the Parish Council have provided a new dog bin at the entrance to Hurn Drove, in addition to the other bins around the village. Your co-operation and consideration of the users of the Playing Field will be much appreciated.



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The Quick Guide to Cooking a Turkey

As a general cooking guide for turkey, Cook at 180° C/350° F or Gas Mark 4 in a pre-heated oven.

If your bird is:-

Under 4.5kg - 45 mins per kg + 20 mins 4.5 kg - 6.5kg - 40 mins per kg + 20 mins 6.5kg plus - 35 mins per kg +20 mins

Check that your meat is thoroughly cooked—preferably by using a Probe thermometer to check the core temperature (at the thickest part) is at least 70°C for two minutes, or by ensuring the juices run clear when probed at the thickest part.

Avoid food poisoning by always keeping raw meat and poultry at the bottom of your fridge, covered on a plate, to stop them dripping onto or touching other foods.

Trevor Bray

W.I.

Speaker for the October meeting was Lynda Plumtree, a consultant for Virgin Vie, a cosmetic company founded by Richard Branson in 1997. Lynda had brought along several skincare products, various types of make up and perfumes which everyone was eager to try out. There is also a range of jewellery which was introduced in 2005.

Jean Newell volunteered for a 'make over' and was very pleased with her natural look.

Lynda kindly judged the competition which had reached the letter Q. Items brought along included a quill, quavers, question mark, and quotation. Amy Markham and Jean Newell gained 5 points, Sheila Dore and Jennifer James 4 points, Bettine Watson and Dawn Stephenson 3 points with Queenie Johnson, Cissie Bedford, Blanche Markham and Carol Halls 2 points.

Raffle winners were Amy Markham, Cissie Bedford, Bettine Watson and Jennifer James.

November is a very special time for the W.I. and this year is an extra special celebration because it is 80 years since the Welney W.I. was formed.

Mrs. Denise Hall, Federation Chairman, was invited to join members in a celebration dinner at the Lamb and Flag which as usual was an excellent meal.

West Walton W.I. has invited Welney members to their New Year Party on 18th January.

A teaspoon was presented to Queenie Johnson and a handkerchief to Bettine Watson for gaining maximum points in recent competitions.

Lucky winners in the draw were Amy and Blanche Markham and Dawn Stephenson.

To complete an enjoyable and happy evening together Amy Markham had made a lovely birthday cake which Denise was given the honour of cutting wishing everyone a Happy Birthday and hoping there would be many more to follow.

Speaker for the December meeting will be Mrs. Skidmore, discussing her books, and the competition has reached the letter R.

In the New Year, the January meeting is a social evening-Bring and Share.

Enquiries to Amy Markham 01354 610 340

Margaret Levesley

Victor's last word

Cunning plan.

So, will we get our Christmas present from the Borough Council in time?

Will it come wrapped?

No, just a sticker on the top displaying threats if you put the 'wrong' sort of stuff inside.

Well, not a 'present' as such as you have paid for it...yes it's the Big Green Bin!

Now as you know, I'm not one to stick my oar in (no, I don't mean into the aforementioned bin) BUT I say don't do it. Well not with paper, 'cos I've got a cunning plan Baldrick.

As you know, there can be money to be made from the paper and the bottle bank – depending on the commercial market at the time of emptying. So my suggestion to all local fund raisers is to write to the Parish Council and ask if you can have the proceeds of the bank(s) for one year, instead of the revenue disappearing into council coffers. Then the successful bidders can publicise what they are doing and chivvy us all to make maximum use of the banks or even arrange door to door collections and bung the proceeds in the banks themselves. So come on local groups get in contact; tell the council VM sent you.

Threatening letter.

It's that time of year again, so as not to be acting illegally I must contribute to Terry Wogan's whacking pay. Yes, I've received a threatening letter demanding £131.50 to cover 0.0002% of old TOG Terry's wage.

Don't you find it galling that the Post Office has been dismissed from issuing TV licences?

Sorry, sorry, sorry I have broken my pledge of no more references to Aunty Beeb, but I now feel better for it.

Never a cross word.

Now look here Mark Brown – you've upset Mrs. M! We now have to talk seeing as there is no crossword puzzle for her to mull over. So if I have upset you and wrongly conveyed a cross word about your crossword, then apologies – just get it back!

Prickly issue.

Is it me or was something missing from the Hedgehogs! article in the last issue of the WN? - Gordon Ramsey's method of spine removal, by baking in clay. No only joking Karen, we're having cheval for Christmas.

Goodbye, **Goodbye** now is the time to say Goodbye. Now, on a personal note this will be my last VM in the WN

Wails of anguish reverberate through Welney on hearing this. I think not.

I need time off to complete such projects as night school lessons in "How to win friends and keep 'em" and "Your local council – you know it makes sense"

Thanks for sparing the time to read my drivel.

Merry Christmas.

At this time of year I like to extend Seasonal Good Wishes to various bodies and people. So to Ken and the Councillors best wishes as you take Welney into 2007 and a new hall. Karen, Merry Christmas to you and here's to a cure for hay fever.

The Editor and Committee of the WN – thanks for making the effort, no one else will, I'm sure Welney appreciates your efforts, we just don't tell you.

But, most of all, a peaceful, healthy and happy new year to you, dear reader.

V.M.

A.R CLINGO

Incorporating Roland Singleterry

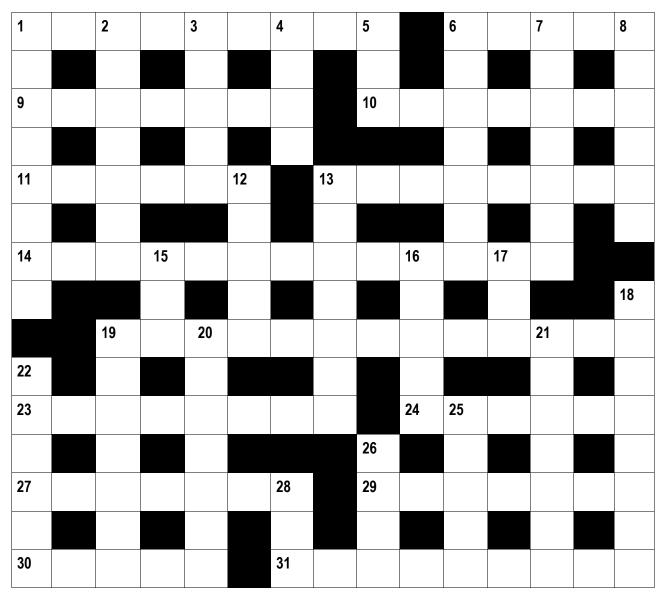
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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD COMPETITION BY MARK BROWN



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

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. (Closing date: January 6th) GOOD LUCK!

Name:

Telephone number:



Across

- 1&1d Crazy way to ensure the festive feast starts with a bang (9,8)
- 6 Concentrate hard and all will become clear (5)
- 9 Draw a crowd by piece of land (7)
- 10 Auntie P reveals her favourite flower (7)
- 11 Whereby chops can provide a useful form of self-defence (6)
- 13 Engaged in a quest to find objects from an earlier period (8)
- 14 Meteorological indicator of stockman's happiness (3,3,2,5)
- 19 Grumpy columnist threatening to quit ? I don't believe it! (6,7)
- 23 Drunk hit the nail on the head (8)
- 24 The most recent is the last to arrive (6)
- 27 Body construction expert ? (7)
- 29 A full breakfast ? Now you're talking my language (7)
- 30 Free from obscurity. Have you got that ? (5)
- 31 Driver's companion often accused of not pulling his weight for the team (9)

Down

- 1 See 1a
- 2 Injured batsman won't work again (7)
- 3 So clever it hurts (5)
- 4 In time you'll find wee nipper (4)
- 5 Gullible fool left weeping by cut flowers (3)
- 6 Appropriate that one should try on clothes in case adjustments are needed (7)
- 7 Lead the orchestra in an electrifying manner (7)
- 8 Why are things so scattered and infrequent? Er, pass (6)
- 12 GP yet to find NE African republic (5)
- 13 Mix-up alerted one to the fact that things had changed (7)
- Take the lift, then jump or run for peak activity (3)
- 16 It's best to let me distribute the cards (5)
- 17 I have, in the past, been taken advantage of (3)
- 18 Bird-watcher suffering repeated muscular spasms (8)
- 19 Nocturnal count is a pain in the neck (7)
- 20 George found in Somerset after 'e got lost. That's just hard cheese (7)
- 21 Retrieval left angler shocked and dizzy (7)
- Public houses, outside broadcasts and integrated circuits. Initially I fear them all (6)
- 25 From my point of view there is a degree of separation between the lines (5)
- 26 Squaddies' canteen in a right state (4)
- 28 Suffer the consequences of delivering a monologue to music (3)



And a good night was had by all

Welney's first village social evening for many a month was held in the Village Hall on the 10th of November. People braved the weather to attend this special **W**elney **A**rchive and **S**ocial **H**istory Group event. And what a corker it was! The evening commenced with a terrific display of ice skates which must have amounted to hundreds. Big ones, small ones, hi-tech ones and good old fashioned village ones were on display. It was necessary to question Mr. John Smith from Tydd St. Mary about their history, as each pair had their own tale to tell; the oldest skate going back to the late 1800's. At the other end of the hall the latest photos of W.A.S.H. were being continually projected onto the large screen that was situated on the stage.

Next on the agenda was a home made DVD show (using the W.A.S.H. computer and projector), this gave video glimpses of Welney in 1994, flooding in the winter of 1995, fallen trees across Main Street, 1996 and 1997 Galas. Possibly the best bit being the charge of cattle down Main Street from the Old Bedford/Delph banks, definitely Dodge City!

Following on were more video footage of farming in and around Welney in the 1960's, including apple and pear picking. We had the opportunity to see life on the farm before Health and Safety stepped in. What wonderful contraptions were in use. We also had a chance to see local people in their younger working environment and at play at the galas.

An excellent end came to the evening when a terrific selection of refreshments was offered to all.

Missed this free evening? Well, keep an eye open for the next one.

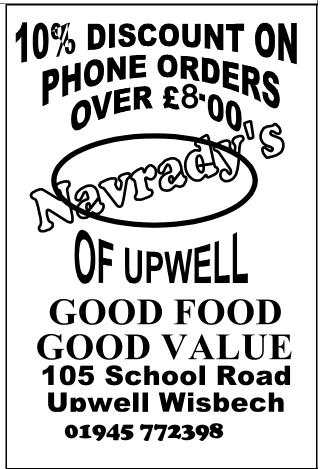
Derek Levesley



Mr John Smith with a selection of his skates



An excellent evening was had by all



Whats on at Kings Lynn Corn Exchange: Box Office 01553764864

DECEMBER

Fri 1st: 8pm - The Drifters

Hear them perform hits including Up On The Roof, Under The Boardwalk, Kissin' In The Back Row and many more.

Tickets: £17

Sat 2nd: 7.30pm

City Of London Sinfonia Christmas Concert

Tickets: £11 - £17.50

Sun 3rd: 7pm - Christmas Country Show

starring Raymond Froggatt, West Virginia & Ollie Austen

and Radio Norfolk's Roy Waller.

Tickets: £12.50 - £18.00

Mon 4th:7.30pm - Jim Davidson.

Tickets £19.50, Adults Only

Fri 8th: 7.30pm - The Syd Lawrence Orchestra

Featuring some of today's finest young jazz musicians.

Tickets: £16.50

Sat 9th: 8pm - The Vagina Monologues

Returning to King's Lynn fresh from its sell-out spring tour and West End run. Suitable for ages 15 and over.

Tickets: £16.50

Sun 10th & Mon 11th: 7.30pm - That'll Be The Day

Featuring Christmas hits from the 1950's, 60's and 70's with loads of new comedy thrown in too. Tickets: £18

Thurs 14th:

Doors 7.45pm. Comedy 8.45pm - Comedy Club

Tickets: £9 Adults Only

Sun 17th:

7.30pm - Yamaha Music School Festival 2006

West Norfolk's finest young musicians.

Tickets: £9

Tues 19th & Wed 20th: 7.30pm, Wed Matinee 2.30pm Konstantin Tatchkin's St Petersburg Ballet Theatre

present The Sleeping Beauty

Tickets: £29.50, £25.50. Wednesday Matinee £18.50.

Senior Citizens and Groups of 10 + £15.50

Fri 22nd: 7.30pm - Beyond The Barricade At Christmas

Featuring music from all the great shows and movies of

the festive season.

Tickets: £17

Sat 23rd: 3.30pm - Carols By Candlelight

Seasonal carols and yuletide favourites. All performed by

musicians of the highest international calibre.

Tickets: £15.50, Under 16s £9.50

JANUARY

Wed 10th & Thurs 11th: 7.30pm

Roy 'Chubby' Brown

Tickets £18.50 – Adults Only!

Tues 16th & Wed 17th: 5pm & 8pm

Chinese State Circus

Tickets: £10 - £21.50. Family Tickets from £60

Sun 28th: 8pm -Paul Carrack Tickets £22.50

Wed 31st: 7:30pm

The Yeomen Of The Guard Tickets £11 - 14



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

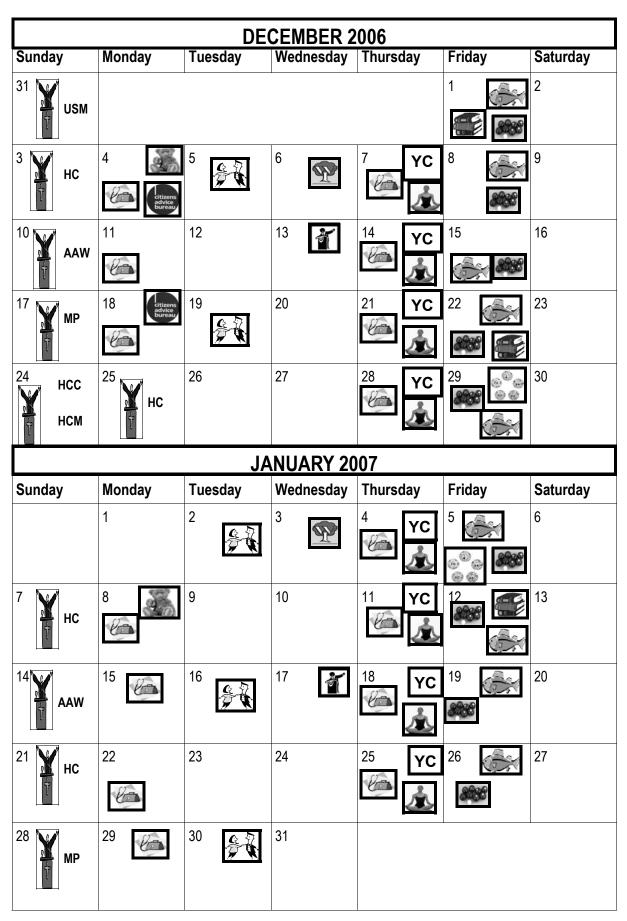


?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!

Study this paragraph and all things in it. What is vitally wrong with it? Actually, nothing in it is wrong, but you must admit that it is most unusual. Don't just zip through it quickly, but study it scrupulously. With luck you should spot what is so particular about it and all words found in it. Can you say what it is? Tax your brains and try again. Don't miss a word or a symbol. It isn't all that difficult?

?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!

The paragraph does not contain an E, it does contain all of the other letters of the alphabet though



Diary index



Mobile Library:

Check details at the PostOffice



Teddy Church: 10.00am St Mary's

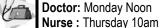


Pauls Fresh Fish Van

1 -1.15 pm outside the Post Office



Carpet Bowls: 7.15pm Pavillion



Village Hall



Citizens Advice 10 -11.30 am Village Hall

2007 dates yet to be confirmed...check the poster in





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



HC Holy Communion

December 3rd 9.30am Revd.R.Worsley December 25th 10.00am Ven.D.Fleming January 7th 9.30am Ven.D.Fleming January 21st 9.30am Ven.D.Fleming



AAW All Age Worship

December 10th 11.00am David Fletcher January 14th 11.00am David FLetcher



MP Morning Prayer

December 17th 9.30am David Fletcher January 28th 9.30am David Fletcher



HCC Holy Communion at Christchurch Dec.24th 11.00am Ven.D.Fleming

HCM Holy Communion at Manea Dec.24th 11.30pm David Fletcher



USM United Service at Manea December 31st Ven.D.FLeming

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Whats on at **Ely Cinema**

24-hour information line: 01353 666388 Credit card bookings: 01353 616991 www.adec.org.uk

December

Sun 3rd: 3pm & 7.30pm History Boys (15) Mon 4th: 7.30pm History Boys (15) Mon 11th: 7.30pm Sixty Six (12A) Sun 17th: 3pm Sixty Six (12A)

Sun 17th & Mon 18th: 7.30pm The Queen (12A)

Tues 19th: 7.30pm History Boys (15)

Thurs 28th: 3pm Open Season (PG) & 7.30pm How to

survive the 1940s (PG)

Fri 29th: 3pm Open Season (PG) & 7.30pm The De-

parted (18)

January films to be confirmed at time of going to press. See their website for details.

Ely Samba Band—new members welcome

The samba sessions take place on every Monday (excl bank & public holidays) at St Mary's School from 6pm until 7.30pm and each session is just £1. Anyone over the age of 10 can join and they need not have any musical experience. The band has already been asked to perform at other local events, so not only do they get the chance to learn drumming and percussion techniques with a professional musician but also perform the music created.

For more information please call ADeC on 01353 669022

Other events around and about

Tues 23 Jan 2007 7pm The Firebird

Oxfordshire Touring Theatre Company at Wicken Village Hall. Enter a magical world of fantasy and mystery – inhabited by incredible creatures and fabulous forests. An exciting, enchanting new play for family audiences based on a classic Russian folk tale. Tel: **01353 721611**. (Performances also in Brington and Whittlesev)

Thurs 25 Jan 2007 7pm The Iron Man

New Perspectives Theatre at Witchford Village College. The compelling tale of an extraordinary friendship brought thrillingly to life in an enthralling blend of storytelling, film and junk-yard puppetry. A fast moving adventure that will not leave a dry eye in the house. Suitable for family audiences (7yrs +). Tel: **01353 662053**. (performances also in March, Huntingdon and Meldreth.)

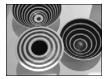
For further details please either call the given telephone numbers or check out www.adec.org.uk

Whats on at the Babylon Gallery

Tel: 01353 616993 www.babylongallery.co.uk

Until Sun 24 Dec

Tue-Sat 10am-4pm Sun 11am-4pm. Closed Mon FREE ENTRY



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ADeC is keen to support youth bands across East Cambridgeshire, by organising skills workshops and gigs where young people can perform. Gigs have been taking place in 3 locations; Ely -Electric Eel, Soham - BIG GIG and Littleport - Littleport Live. They would like to hear from any newly formed bands where the players are aged 12-18, so please send in a demo or email your band details to nathan.jones@babylongallery.co.uk. Tel: 01353 616991.



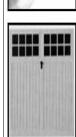
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Downham Mkt 378481



Recycling Update - Carrier Bags

We are getting more and more used to the re-cycling concept these days. The gradual improvement over recent years of recycling facilities in local communities, and the appearance of recycle/re-use initiatives in schools, businesses and places of work, mean that the care of resources is much more a part of our daily lives. Some materials such as plastics are tougher to deal with; the sheer quantities involved can be daunting and the environmental impact of ordinary disposal is high. Carrier bags are a prime example here. In the early years of recycling, the technology for dealing with plastics was not readily accessible; however that is now changing rapidly. There are some frightening statistics relating to carrier bags, such as the fact that they can take up to 1000 years to disintegrate in landfill, and that up to 250 million carrier bags are used, worldwide, every day.

There are, as we know, actions that we can take on an individual level. If you have carrier bags from a shopping trip the undamaged ones can be used again the next time. Using more durable fabric bags each trip is even better, as less plastic bags are used in the first place. Many shops and supermarkets are now accustomed to people using their own bags again, as we all did anyway only a generation ago.

Thankfully some supermarkets are beginning to make the job easier for us too. On a recent trip to the Tesco store in Downham Market, I saw a poster in the store window stating how many carrier bags had been re-used to date. On enquiring about it, I found that all cashiers

Do you want:

now record the numbers of non-plastic bags used and of carrier bags being re-used; this results in more loyalty points being awarded in the form of 'green points'. Any brand of carrier bag can be used, so you don't have to be embarrassed when you pull out a handful of Somerfield bags at a Tesco checkout! And if you forget to take your own or re-used bags shopping with you, you will still get points for taking your trolley of shopping to your car and unloading it straight into the car without using bags. Tesco's 'Bags for Life', and the strong woven shopper bags and bottle carriers which can be bought from most stores, also help reduce the number of carrier bags needed in the first place. Damaged, unusable carrier bags (again any brand) can be taken to collection points at each store; these are taken to central recycling facilities such as the one in Peterborough. Our fishing platforms here in Welney are made from recycled plastic; and on a recent visit to Wicken Fen nature reserve, we found that the extensive boardwalks allowing access to different parts of the reserve were made of the same

I was encouraged by what I had learned from the staff at Tesco because, with the best will in the world, it is easy to become disillusioned when you are trying to do your bit for the environment. You take your cans to the bottle bank, then wonder how it can really help when you know that things need to happen on a much larger scale. But all those big businesses out there who depend on one thing above all - their customers - have a duty to help us make a difference.

I found one that is trying; do any of our readers know of other businesses, shops etc in the local area who have

> recycling initiatives? If so. perhaps you could write in to Welney News and let us know so that we can go along and be their customers too! I habitually use Tesco anyway. but if you tend to shop at Somerfield, Waitrose, Asda, or other supermarket chains, would you consider asking them if they have recycling projects? If people ask, they have to listen! Use your voice it costs nothing, and it CAN make a difference.

Thank you.

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Karen Fleming

Old Welney

At the Welney Archive and Social History Group we are busy copying your old local photographs (condition doesn't matter – Derek will attempt to improve any torn or marked copy that is submitted and give you back a free of charge improved photo to keep with your original). We are also recording the description of the photo – where it was taken, when and who or what is in the photo. Obviously we can only build up a record of old Welney if you keep us supplied with photos! (Also any super 8 footage aswell – Derek will attempt to put this onto a DVD free-of-charge for you to keep, you will need to have a projector). Our aim is to publish full details in the future. A contact number is 01354 610226

In this and future editions we will show you some of our favourites to date. To start the ball rolling we have five pictures which are based around the Lamb and Flag area of Welney: (Photo's courtesy of Welney M.A.P.)

W.A.S.H. Group



This view of Daltons shows just how ornate the adjoining small building was, with the metal railings and gates and pillars adding to the grandness of it all.



Same view but what a depressing site it is now, the small building has gone. All the structure will succumb to subsidence problems, which has progressed to the Lamb and Flag.



This must be one of our favourites, just imagine coming over the Old Bedford Bridge and passing the Chapel (just in view on the left), with the Lamb and Flag car park as a paddock on the right. Lamb and Flag sign is ahead on the left.



The above photo of The Lamb and Flag shows a glimpse of Dalton's premises with fence and parked car, UE 3077, which has an AA badge.

In the foreground is a way through to the rear, Welney's butcher was here.



Here we have another view of Daltons, with the same car again. Top left is part of the Lamb and Flag sign, with the word 'ales' visible.

NORFOLK RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Looking for funding for a community project or group? Then Norfolk Rural Community Council may be able to help from one of the grant schemes it administers. Two of these are:

The Local Network Fund

The LNF is aimed at enabling the community to provide projects and activities for children and young people with limited opportunities or access to services that many young people take for granted. Grants are for voluntary and community groups working with children and young people up to 19 years old (or 25 for young people with learning disabilities). A wide range of groups and projects such as parents and toddlers, pre-school, youth clubs, sports groups, drama clubs have had grants. The minimum grant is £250 an the maximum £7,000. Any project that can demonstrate it will make a difference to the lives of children and young people can be considered for funding. Perhaps there's an existing group in your village that could benefit or an idea for a new group that needs support to help get it off the ground.

For advice and further information contact the NRCC and ask for the LNF Team.

Email: LNFchildren@norfolkrcc.org.uk For an application pack call: 0845 1130161

The Rural Projects Fund

Grants for small community projects in rural Norfolk. The priority for 2006 / 07 is applications for projects / activities arising from Parish Plans . Appraisals. All other applications need to show local consultation has been carried out. Applications are also encouraged from older peoples groups. The fund can offer grants up to £1,000. Grants must be matched pound for pound from other agencies.

Voluntary and community groups and Parish Councils can apply. Application forms and further details are obtainable from the NRCC. Contact Pauline High at the NRCC. Email pauline@norfolkrcc.org.uk

A chance to fix it—Without Jim!

The NRCC has teamed up with Travis Perkins, one of the UK's leading building merchants to encourage rural community groups to be forward thinking.

The competition 'Turning Challenges into Opportunities' is open to any rural community group and all that is required is for the group to create a project that they believe will overcome a need / challenge in their community.

The groups that come up with the ideas that the judges feel are the most original, sustainable and providing community benefit will be shortlisted to the finals which take place on January 15th 2007 in Dereham.

The three winning teams will have a trade account opened with their local Travis Perkins, which can be used for any of materials they stock and without timelimit in the way the winners deem to be of the greatest community benefit. You may want to redecorate your facilities, maybe you need new fencing, build storage facilities, repair the roof or you can even share your prize with other local groups. It is totally flexible, as long as your community can enjoy the benefit.

It can be used for, but is not restricted to the project you create. The value of the prizes is:

1st: £1,000 2nd: £350, 3rd: £150

In addition, Norfolk RCC will meet with all entrants and seek ways to help them make their projects reality.

This competition is designed to be easily accessible to all of Norfolk's rural community groups. No complicated forms to fill in. Just have an idea that you think will benefit your community and tell us about it.

If you would like further information simply call the advice team on 01362 698216 or email jonathan@norfolkrcc.org.uk or visit their website: www.norfolkrcc.org.uk.

The closing date for entries is January 5th 2007, but don't wait until then, contactthe NRCC now to give youur group the best chance of winning.

For further information on the above and other grant schemes administered by the NRCC or advice on other funding sources available please contact them at:

Norfolk Rural Community Council Ambassador Way, Greens Road Dereham, Norfolk NR20 3TL

Tel: 01362 698216 Email: nrcc@norfolkrcc.org.uk Websits: www.norfolkrcc.org.uk

Safety at Christmas.

The festive season can be a time of great joy and fun but it can also be a time, which can put you and your family at risk. This year when you make your shopping list, make a **Safety List** too.

It's easy to ridicule or even scorn people who suggest that Christmas can be dangerous. For those of us who haven't experienced an accident, the idea of being aware of safety issues seems almost a sad joke, ridiculous, absurd, at best over-cautious. For some this Christmas as every Christmas that joke could sadly be a reality.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) estimated last year: -

- 80,000 people went to hospital over the festive period because of an accident in the home. Of those 26,000 will need medical treatment for a burns or scalding
- 35,000 children go to hospital after an accident involving a toy.
- ❖ 1,000 were hurt after accidents with Christmas trees
- ❖ 1,000 when decorating their homes.
- 350 by Christmas tree lights.

It is reported that on average, the kitchen is one of the most dangerous places to be, remember that even 15 minutes after water has boiled and been taken off the heat, it can scald a child.

So what can we do to minimise accidents?

- Try to keep other people out of the kitchen when cooking the Christmas meal, stay off the alcohol until you have finished cooking and wipe up spills so that no one will slip on them.
- Make sure that toys are not left on the kitchen floor because slips and falls are still the most common accidents. Empty any alcohol out of glasses at the end of the evening.
- Look out for small parts that may have fallen off decorations or presents - these can choke children.

Accidents can happen at any time and, with so much going on, it only takes a moment to turn a happy occasion into a family catastrophe.

Chances are we will all be fine. But if something does go wrong, some basic first aid information may help to prevent a drama from becoming a crisis.

What follows is just a few memory joggers to keep you safe this Christmas.

C - Candles & Flames

- Use candles wisely, do not leave them unattended.
- Extinguish before leaving the house or going to bed.
- Control smoking and smoking materials.
- Ensure you have a fire extinguisher and that smoke alarms are working.
- ❖ NEVER place lit candles on your tree!

H - Hanging Decorations

- Make sure that fragile glass or small ornaments are placed high on the tree.
- Small parts on Christmas decorations can be a choking hazard
- Use a proper pair of steps to hang decorations, not a chair.

R - Recycle

Try a bit of recycling after Christmas excess, some things that can be recycled are: -

- Trees
- Wrapping Paper & Cards
- Packaging, Bottles and Cans
- Old toys, clothes and batteries

I - Ice and Snow

- Beware of Icy Paths and Roads.
- . Check the weather forecast before setting out.
- Always prepare adequately for journeys in bad weather. Take blankets and a hot drink in a flask.
- Remember in icy weather, breaking distances can be up to 10 times the normal distance.
- Take a torch with you with good batteries.
- Make sure your mobile phone is fully charged.

S - Sockets & Lights

- Limit the number of lights on the same extension cord/socket.
- Inspect all electrical equipment and cords prior to use.
- Keep cords tidy to prevent tripping accidents.
- Make sure that Christmas lights have a factory label, and have been safety tested - CE Marked.

T – Tree

- Use a sturdy holder with wide spread legs to stop the tree from falling over.
- Keep the tree away from all heat sources.
- If you are considering an artificial tree, make sure it is flame retardant and CE marked.
- Do not water your tree if it has electric decorations.

M - Mince Pies & Food

- Defrost the turkey correctly NEVER at room temperature!
- Use a meat thermometer to ensure the meat is completely cooked.
- Refrigerate leftovers as soon as possible after the meal.

Do not eat mistletoe berries, they are poisonous and toxic. They can cause the heart to slow and may cause hallucinations.

A - Alcohol

- If you're holding a party think of the drivers and provide non-alcoholic drinks.
- Drink alcohol in moderation and feel free to refuse alcohol regardless of pressure or encouragement to drink. It only takes one puff into a little machine to lose your licence until next Christmas. If you want to drink book a taxi.
- Think of children who may drink from discarded glasses and bottles! or may polish off the remains of drinks if they get up early to play with their toys.
- Never Drink and Drive and never encourage/allow anyone else to do so!

S - Security

Christmas is a wonderful time to give presents to loved ones. Make sure you presents don't end up with strangers.

- Ensure your wallet/purse is secure. Pick pockets just love to target busy shoppers.
- Be extra vigilant when using AMT machines. Christmas is prime time for card skimming. If you're suspicious of the ATM or someone is hovering around you, don't use it. Go to another machine in the town.
- Check your change and till receipt when paying cash, not everyone is as honest as you.
- Lax home security is a thief's dream. Make sure you lock your house when you go out—that includes all windows. Tell a neighbour, I'm sure they would be happy to keep an eye on things for you.
- Don't be a soft target by being alone and /or drunk in public.

Have a wonderful festive season!

Trevor Bray

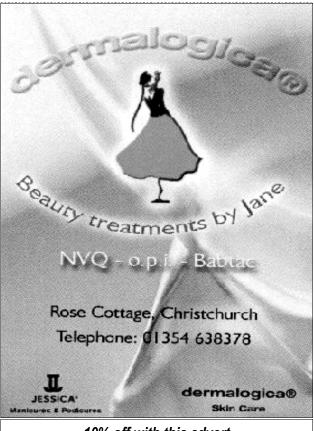
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The October Meeting of the Parish Council took place in the Parish Hall on Wednesday 11th October, 2006 at 7.30 p.m.

Siltation Problems Great Ouse - Following the last meeting Councillors were requested to provide questions that could be put to Mr. Gillett of the Environment Agency. Cllr.Bennett then agreed to meet with Mr. Gillett to obtain the answers to the questions, and in due course an article would be included in the Welney News.

Meeting with adjoining Councils - The first meeting took place on 3rd October with representatives from Christ-church, Manea and Denver attending. The meeting was a great success with several matters that are of concern to all councils being discussed. A brief report of the meeting would be circulated to all interested councils together with a Press Release and it was hoped to hold similar meetings on a six monthly basis.

Cllr.Bennett had attended the meeting of the **Downham Market Road Safety Committee**.

Parish Hall 100 Club- The draw for October took place at the meeting and results are shown in the Welney News.

The meeting was advised that Mrs. Shirley McCabe had handed in her notice as **Cleaner of the Parish Hall and Pavilion** to take effect from 30th September, and Miss Amanda Stewart-Whyte had been appointed with effect from 1st October.

Elgoods' Proposed Development and the Parish Hall -Nothing further had been heard from the Carter Family. Mrs.Sutton of Elgoods had rung to confirm that they had submitted an outline application for planning on the site of the Hall and Three Tuns during August but the application had been returned to them at the end of September because it required more detail. They had instructed their Architect to prepare a more detailed application and this would be submitted as soon as possible. Elgoods promised to keep us fully informed of developments.

Playing Field - The Chairman confirmed that the removal of the derelict play equipment had taken place on Friday 15th September. The little wooden train which was on the field had also been removed and it was confirmed that an enquiry had been received from a party interested in purchasing the train.

After discussion it was agreed to put up notices around the village advertising the train for sale by sealed bids to be received by the Parish Clerk before 28th October. The highest bidder would be successful and the money received could be added to the Play Equipment Fund.

Planning Matters - The following planning approvals were received from the Borough Council

Ref No.06/01597/F - Mr.J.Green, 2 Hurn Drove, Welney, First floor extension to the Garage;

Ref No.06/01613/F - Mr. & Mrs. Jones, Pisces Caravan Park - Construction of conservatory extension.

Ref No. 06/01672 - Mr. P. Wilkinson, Swan Cottage, Hundred Foot Bank - Construction of Hay Store/barn,

The following applications were received for consideration, and both were recommended for approval

Ref No. 06/01967/F - Mr.D.Moseley, Kendrick Cottage, Suspension Bridge. Alterations to pitch and materials to roof and installation of first floor WC window.

Ref No. 06/01705/0 - Mrs.C.Thompson, Tofino Lodge, March Road, Welney Application for two plots on land south of Tofino Lodge.

Highway Matters - The hedge at Tips End (Rutland Corner) has now been trimmed by the Highways Agency (HA) and the top of Hale Drove has been curbed.

Contact would be made with HA to see if they could advise whom to contact to discuss speed limits and traffic calming through and around the village, especially over the Wash Road and the A1101 south of the village.

W.A.S.H. Committee - All the equipment detailed in the Awards for All Grant Application had now been purchased and received, and work has commenced in loading some of the pictures received in order to create the archive. The W.A.S.H. Open Day will take place on Saturday 21st October from 1 - 4 p.m. in the Hall when the equipment would be on display, and the date of the next WASH Group meeting was arranged for 17th October.

Pat Copeman Parish Clerk.



The November Meeting of the Parish Council took place in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 7th November, 2006 at 7.30 pm.

Siltation Problems Great Ouse -

Following the last meeting a list of questions had been collated and Cllr.Bennett was arranging a meeting with Mr.Gillett to discuss these.

Mains Sewage for Welney - See separate report in Welney News.

An **Aluminium Can Bank** had been installed on the Lamb and Flag Car Park, and it was hoped that this would prove useful to the Village. Residents are reminded that this Bank is for Aluminium Cans only Please.

Parish Hall 100 Club- The draw for November took place at the meeting and results are shown in the Welney News.

Elgood's Proposed Development and the Parish Hall -Mrs. Sutton of Elgoods had telephoned to advise that they had had a preliminary meeting with the Borough Council regarding their proposed planning application. She confirmed that they would like to erect a two storey building similar in design to the plan provided at the Open Meeting earlier this year. So far it appears that comments from the planning department are encouraging but they are awaiting confirmation in writing. Mrs. Sutton has confirmed that as soon as they receive the planning departments' comments in writing they are happy to go ahead with the purchase of the hall Site, but have promised to keep the Parish Council fully informed of all developments.

A telephone call was also received from the Carter Family confirming that they are awaiting a meeting with the Planning Department and they have also promised to let us know the outcome as soon as possible.

The Parish Council have arranged a meeting with the Planning Department on Friday 17th November to discuss the possibility of a new Community Centre on the land to the rear of Sandgate Terrace. Contact has also been made with the Norfolk County Council Highways Department with regard to access from Wisbech Road to the proposed site. They cannot see any problems with our proposals provided that we meet certain requirements, and similarly the Drainage Board have confirmed verbally that they cannot see any problems with access over the Croft River, and they are looking into the question of what type of culvert would need to constructed.

Playing Field - Following the last meeting it was confirmed that no bids were received for the purchase of the wooden train and for the time being this will be kept in storage. There was also a discussion regarding dog fouling - see separate notice in Welney News.

Planning Matters - The following planning application was received from the Borough Council and was recommended for approval Ref No.06/02175/F - Mr. & Mrs. Cheese, - Single storey and two storey extensions to dwelling at Tall Pines, Suspension Bridge.

The following grant of permission was received from the Borough Council;

Ref No. 05/01958/CU Pisces Caravan Park - Change of use to permit six additional static holiday homes.

Highway Matters - Several Highway matters had been dealt with by Highways and they had confirmed that SLOW markings on the roads in various places around the village would be attended to within the next 12 weeks. Also various dips in the road between Lakes End and Tips End will be dealt with as soon as possible and the broken sign on the Wash Road would be attended to. Mr.Edmunds had also agreed to talk to the Council regarding speeding traffic and road calming measures. A report was received from a resident that a hand held speed camera had unofficially been used on the A.1101 in the village, and it was agreed to contact Highways, and the Police to see if there is any scheme available in Norfolk where residents could be trained to use such a camera.

W.A.S.H. Committee - An Open Day was held on 21st October and it proved to be very worthwhile with lots more photographs and information being received for the archive. A committee meeting was held on 2nd November when arrangements were made for the Social Evening on 10th November - See separate report in Welney News.

Village Events - Cllr. Jones reported that the following events had been arranged for the benefit of the village: 13th December - Christmas tree installed at the Church 16th December - Christmas Fair at the Parish Hall 20th December - Carol Service.

He also confirmed that it is hoped that Father Christmas will be touring the village again (as last year) but the date for this is still to be confirmed.

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 13th December, 2006 at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Pat Copeman Parish Clerk.

Dog days and long winter nights.



As the days get shorter and colder, it's the time of year when, often by necessity, the dog in the family gets shorter and perhaps fewer walks than normal. Taking out your dog in the dark is no fun and even with all the latest flashing collars strapped

around your dog, letting the dog off the lead can be a nerve-racking experience. Unless the dog has exceedingly short hair the flashing lights are all but invisible especially when the dog is moving directly away from you! As a result, at the end of a very cold and possibly quite stressful walk, the dog is still up for more with boundless energy and instead of settling into its bed, it gets under your feet and plays havoc in the house and the garden. So...what can you do?

Dogs need both physical and mental stimulation, and so if the physical stimulation is reduced, why not increase the mental kind. Now unfortunately plonking them in front of the television doesn't work – even if it's a program about dogs! Mental stimula-



tion can be provided by playing games with your dog either in the house or the garden and this will tire them out as well. Next time you feed your dog, don't put it in it's usual bowl, instead scatter it over the floor or over the lawn. The dog will then have to find the pieces of food using its nose. For those of us with dogs that usually gulp down their food in seconds, this slows down the



eating rate significantly and the dog is having to work for its food which will tire them out more than if the food was presented in a bowl. Better still, try scattering the food in a darkened room or garden this makes them use their nose even more.

Unfortunately if you feed your dog "wet" food this can be rather messy, so why not try it with any mixer biscuits that you might normally use.

Another idea is to try hiding a few small food treats around the house. To start, place them in fairly obvious places where they can be easily seen by the dog and encourage the dog to find and eat them with exciting"

find the treat" commands. Help the dog by pointing to the treats until the dog gets used to what the command means. After a while you can start hiding them a little more so that they cannot be easily seen.



Again encourage the dog to search for the treat. Eventually you'll be able to put the dog out of the room, hide the treats, let the dog back in and with the "find the treat" command the dog will happily and enthusiastically search for the hidden tasty morsels!!

If you can stand a bit of noise then an activity ball is another useful idea. This is a hard plastic ball or cube (available from most pet shops) into which you can put a handful of dried dog food pellets. The dog has to push



the ball or cube around for the food to fall out through the small holes. Some dogs love these and push them around at amazing speed, smashing them into skirting boards and furniture so make sure there are no antiques

or delicate items around that could be damaged and that you don't mind the continual thumping noises!

Like the finding the treat game, you can also do this with toys. Select a toy that your dog loves and is always picking up. This should now become your toy which you keep and is brought out when you want to play this game. Don't leave it lying around so that the dog has continual access to it otherwise it becomes "just another

toy that I can play with anytime I like". As with the food treats, hide the toy and then encourage your dog to find it. Give enthusiastic "find the toy" commands. As soon the dog finds it, give it lots of enthusiastic praise and have a game with your dog and the toy. Dogs are pretty smart and with time, they can learn to identify differ-



ent toys. If you start with say a ball and the "find the ball" command they can distinguish this from "find the rope toy" given time and practice.

It has been reported that dogs can pick out a named toy from an array of 20 -30 toys presented to them and that they are capable of learning the names for all the toys! Why not give it a go and see how clever your dog is.

Well these are just a few ideas for things to do with your dogs – the whole family can join in and it's great fun, so why not give it a try. Anything's better than your dog digging up the garden or chewing your prized possessions and you can at least do them from the comfort of a warm house!!!

Before I go, I feel I should say a couple of things about dogs and Christmas. Firstly, Christmas is a special time for everyone including the dog, but it is a time when most routines are interrupted. It's a time when families get together, there are lots of coming



and goings from the house and the dogs' routine goes out the window. Suddenly, the dog has lots of company, is probably given lots of special treats and new toys and then when Christmas is over, suddenly everything changes. Nobody likes going back to work/school after



Christmas, but we have to, but it's very hard to explain this to a dog. This is often the time when owners experience problems – a normally placid and well behaved dog becomes a delinquent – howling when left,

being destructive and messing in the house for example. Try therefore to keep the dogs normal routines as it will make the after Christmas period easier for everyone. Secondly, over Christmas we tend to eat far more than is good for us and fill ourselves with special treats like

chocolate. <u>DO NOT</u> be tempted to give the dog your chocolate. Human chocolate contains Theobromine which is toxic to dogs – "death by chocolate" is a reality for dogs. If you want to give your dog a chocolate treat



make sure they are specifically manufactured for dogs and make sure that the lovely box of chocolates is well out of Royer's reach!!!

Sue Dobson

EASY SUDOKU

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FROM WINDERMERE TO WELNEY

My interest, some would say infatuation, with Welney and the Fens began around 25 years ago. This was through an interest that used to occupy a lot of my time - Church Bell Ringing.

I learned to ring Church Bells at Windermere, my home town, and home to the largest lake in England. This was in the mid-1960's and I gradually became adept at the ancient art of Change Ringing, a peculiarly English custom, travelling further afield to sample other bells as my skills improved. By 1977, I was visiting Lincolnshire and my love of the Fen country gradually developed from then on. In 1982 a group of friends started what became an Annual Peal Tour, where we spend over a week ringing bells at various churches - some call it a holiday! This spring tour had as its first base a house near Holbeach, the following year moving to Walsingham in North Norfolk. In 1984, we were fortunate enough to come across the Greenend Lodge, in the grounds of Primrose Hall Farm at Three Holes, the home of Mr and Mrs Carter, and that became our base for 12 happy years.

From Three Holes, we visited churches in Littleport, Ely, Hilgay, Downham Market, March, Upwell to name but a few, and sometimes went as far afield as Ipswich, Cambridge, or King Lynn, on one occasion even venturing to the Scunthorpe area.

Not content with the annual tour, some of us made frequent visits during the year, and on some of these we stayed at the Post Office at Lakesend, which in 1986 used to offer accommodation and a cafe. On a cold December morning that year, I was accompanied by an artist friend, who painted me a water-colour of the Hundred Foot River from Welney Bridge, which now has pride of place in my sitting room. It is surrounded by other prints of the area, too!

My interest in the Fens was even mentioned in a local Lakeland newspaper, which attracted some attention from those who couldn't understand how someone brought up amongst mountains ad lakes could enjoy the flat Fenland landscape! I suppose for me it is a mixture of peace and quiet (the Lakes are very heavily congested with tourism) not to mention the vast skies and views which are a constant inspiration to me. A joy to behold, indeed.

In 1989, I became Minister of the Baptist Chapel in Kendal, and out bellringing trips included, for me at any rate, visits to worship and even preach at different places. Over the years I got to know the Butcher family,



Above: Kevin with his prized pictures of our village

of Poplar Farm, Little Downham Fen, quite well, and often they would welcome me to worship with them in their tiny chapel on their land, in what must be the most remote chapel of the Strict and Particular Baptist denomination in Britain. It took me some time to discover its location one Sunday morning, but the search was worthwhile, and I usually visit them several times each year. Sadly, Mr Neville Butcher, the leader, died last year, but the work is being carried on by one of his brothers.

I preach at our Lakenheath Chapel about three times a year and also visit Barrow, near Barrow St Edmunds at the same time.

In 1996, the Three Holes centre became unavailable for letting, and we had a frantic search for accommodation to enable us to continue the tradition. The Annual Peal Tour took up residence in Elmswell, near Stowmarket, and has continued there ever since. We still make trips back up to the Welney area to ring our peals and to keep in touch with the many friends we have made. The 26th tour is planned for April 2007.

Shall I retire to Welney in due course? I don't know at this stage, but I am very impressed with the 'Welney News', which I receive by post, the lovely walks by the river, and the Widgeon Tea Room (presently awaiting my first visit to the new premises). (There was another tea room in the village, opposite the Public House, but that disappeared some years ago). The Parish website is most helpful and it is nice to see the village shop still operating.

Thank you, Welney, for your welcome!

Kevin M Price.





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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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Word search: How many can you find? They are all there ... somewhere!

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Advent calendar	Cranberry Jelly	Mince pies	Santa Claus
₹ Alcohol ₹	Elves	🗜 Mistletoe 🚡	Satsumas
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Brandy butter	Fairy lights	🛨 Mrs Claus 🖠	Sleigh
Cards ‡	Gifts	Mulled wine 🔹	Snow
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NHS Direct: 0845 4647

Bus Services



<u>Monda</u>	<u>y-Saturday</u>
March	(Droad Ct)

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) Welney (Post Office) March (Broad St)	8.24 8.50	10.05 10.41 11.03	12.05 12.41 13.03
March (Broad St)	9.00	13.08	15.20
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 Downham Mkt (Bus Stn)
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 Welney (Post Office)
 8.24
 10.41
 12.41

 March (Broad St)
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 11.03
 13.03

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

Welney Churchwardens:

Pauline Aisthorpe 01366 - 384658 Rosina Beckford 01354 - 610385

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

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.

Welney Parish Hall/Community Centre 100 Club Draw

Winners of the October draw were as follows:

	numb	<u>er lucky winner</u>
£50.00	65	Helen Scott
£25.00	94	Frank Harner
£15.00	34	John Cunnington
£10.00	36	The Copeman Family
	£25.00 £15.00	£50.00 65 £25.00 94 £15.00 34

Winners of the November draw were as follows:

	<u>number</u>	lucky winner
£50.00	61	Wendy Redman
£25.00	94	Frank Harmer
£15.00	70	Tim Bennett
£10.00	93	Roy Dunn
	£25.00 £15.00	£50.00 61 £25.00 94 £15.00 70



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