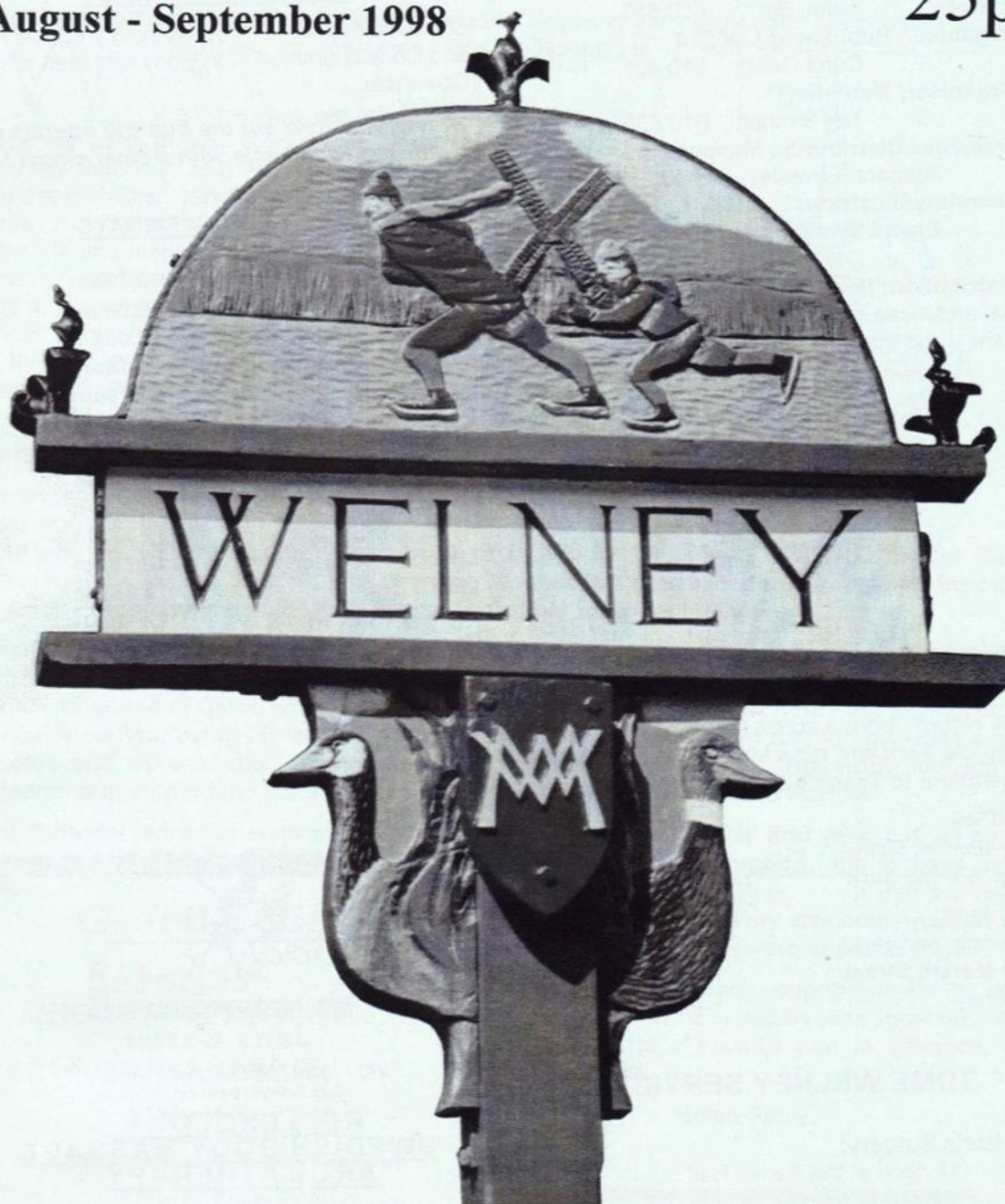


Issue N° 6

August - September 1998

25p



NEWS

Editorial Team

Editor Helen Barry 610 585

Organiser, Publishing Lay Out

Carol Green 610 401

Organiser, Marketing

Tim Bennett 610 523

Treasurer/Distribution Manager

Margaret Levesley 610 272

Secretary/Illustrator

Elaine Sweetman 638 287

Distribution: Peter & Charlotte Cox, Pat Rix, Marlen Moss-Eccardt, Michael Dickinson, Tom Fisher, and the Editorial team.



ELY

Cavalier Coaches (01406 362518) run a service to Ely every Thursday (Market Day)

The return service starts from the Lamb and Flag car park and runs via Pymoor and Little Downham to Tesco's car park

Welney	0910am
Ely Market Street	09.50am
Tesco's car park	09.55am

Departs:

Tesco's car park	12.35pm
Ely Market Street	12.40pm
Welney	1.28pm

SOME WELNEY SERVICES

Doctor's Surgery:

12 noon at the Parish Hall
Monday, Wednesday & Friday

Prescriptions

Can be collected from the Post Office (inform the doctor at the time). Repeat prescriptions can be left and collected at the Post Office.

NB See page 6 for local minor injuries units at Ely and Wisbech.

Wet Fishmonger calls at:

3.00pm Chestnut Avenue and
3.15pm at the Post Office every Friday

DOWNHAM MARKET

Starts from Wisbech, comes through Upwell and Christchurch on to Welney and then to Downham.

Timetable below but the bus will operate on a Hail and Ride basis with a clear signal to the driver

WELNEY TO DOWNHAM: FRIDAYS

Welney Post Office	10.00am
Lakes End	10.06am
Lots Bridge	10.08am
Nordelph Bridge	10.14am
Salters Lode	10.19am
Downham Market	10.26am

Downham Market	12.15pm
Salters Lode	12.22pm
Nordelph Bridge	12.27pm
Lots Bridge	12.33pm
Lakes End	12.35pm
Welney Post Office	12.40pm

(fare £1.70 single £2.20 return)



Jane Carter
SRN, RSCN, IHHHT, IHBC
City & Guilds (Aromatherapy)

**REFLEXOLOGY
SWEDISH BODY MASSAGE
AROMATHERAPY**

Treatment Room:-
Horseshoe
New Road
Welney
Wisbech
Cams
PE14 9RA

International
Council of
Holistic
Therapists

ALL APPOINTMENTS
01354 610500

EDITORIAL

When we started, a year ago, some voices in the village said there wasn't enough happening in Welney to keep a Newsletter going.

Well, here we are into our second year and I hope we have proved them wrong because this month our talented illustrator, Elaine Sweetman, tells how she, her husband and children care for and drive a pony and trap; that's on page 10: Marlen Moss-Eccardt reflects on music made at concerts and made at home at home on page 14, and I recall how my black cat led me to a little known local minor injuries unit at Ely on page 6. There are two new competitions with prizes, photos of the 150th anniversary and details of a fungi day at the Wildfowl Trust, as well as all the regular information on village activities.

Our advertisers are staying with us into our second year, and we hope all our subscribers will come in again too.

As we go into year two, thanks to everyone in the village who confidently paid a year in advance, we hope you'll stay with us. Thanks to all those who gave us support: Welney Parish Council, the Rural Community Council, King's Lynn Borough Council, including Philip High at the Borough Council Printers who has given us enthusiastic help for every edition.

Thanks, too, to all the distributors who bring the newsletter to your letterbox, and to the Editorial team - their names are on the page opposite. And a special thanks to Richard Green, husband of Carol, who is not on any list, but has spent not just hours but days of work on each edition, using his experience in desktop publishing to help fashion our words and photos and adverts and illustrations into a professional whole. His work contributed towards our winning the prize for the best Parish magazine from Radio Norfolk.

The Editorial team has worked hard to share the work load in this first year, but we could now do with more support, and to have more people on the Committee. If you are interested, you would be very welcome - just phone any of us - numbers on the opposite page.

But please, in any case, support us for the next year. You will be asked by your local distributor to pay for a second year in advance, we hope you will.

Helen Barry

GRAHAME SEATON

AMLAS

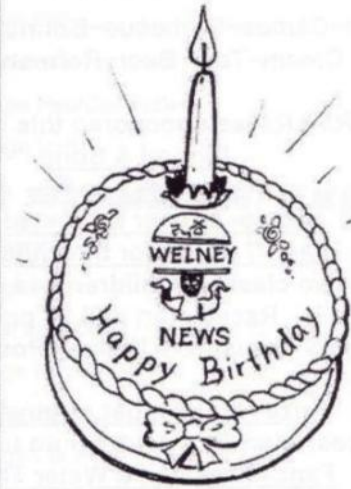
DESIGN AND PLANNING CONSULTANT

Well Creek Lodge, St Peter's Road, Upwell.

Telephone 01945 772632

Drawings prepared for houses, bungalows, alterations and extensions.

Planning and building control approval obtained from Local Authorities.



ROLAND SINGLETERRY FUNERAL DIRECTOR

EFFICIENT, SYMPATHETIC
SERVICE, DAY OR NIGHT

"WINDY RIDGE"
PADGETS ROAD
CHRISTCHURCH
WISBECH, CAMBS
PE14 9PL
TEL: 01354 638321

WELNEY WATER GALA

Sunday 30th August

Starts 2.00.pm

Stalls~Games~Barbecue~Bouncy Castle~Ice
Cream~Tea~ Beer~Refreshments

Raft Races sponsored this year by

Elgood & Sons

who will provide

a crate of beer for the adults

and T shirts for the children

Two classes: Children and Adults

Races start at 2.30.pm

Entry forms from Welney Post Office

Prize for the most original raft

This year there is a prize for an under-10's

Fancy Dress on a Water Theme

Come as a pirate, a sailor, a mermaid or a
Sea Monster, or anything else you fancy.

ENJOY AN AFTERNOON BESIDE THE BED-
FORD RIVER AND GIVE TOWARDS THE UP-
KEEP OF THE PARISH HALL AND THE
PLAYING FIELD.

And while we're on the subject of the Parish
Hall, Pauline Pullum has a few words to
say.

A few weeks ago we held the second garden
stroll. Our thanks to those who opened their
gardens and put in so much hard work to make
them look so glorious.

Our thanks also to those who turned out to take
the stroll in the sunshine and helped us raise the
£40 or so we took that busy day.

Have you ever wondered what we do with the
money. Probably not - but I shall tell you
anyway!

The Parish Hall costs £1,800 a year just to
maintain the building, insure and clean it,
cover insurance, keep it within health and
safety regulations, repair and keep it in good
running order for any or every function that
might need it from the doctors' surgery to
the Friendship Club to a wedding party.

And it doesn't end there.

This year we had to pay out £340 to change
the electric meters when the Government
decided to change the size of the 50p coin,
and then another £500 when the EC changed
its ruling on illuminated notices above emer-

gency exits. That was on top of the £1,800 a
year.

The parish hall receives no regular outside fund-
ing for general upkeep - although there has
been the occasional and generous donation
from the Marshall's Charity when we needed
new trestle tables and the Parish Council when
there were plumbing problems.

But the bulk of the money is raised by fundrais-
ing events co-ordinated by the small gaggle of
us that meet under the heading of the 'Parish
Hall Committee'.

We are the one's who call when you are watch-
ing East Enders begging for bottles or selling
raffle tickets.

You think we have nothing better to do - the
truth is we do, but if we don't do it there won't be
a parish hall.

We don't want praise (we each do it for our own
reasons - I was a born busy body! I can't speak
for the others) but what we do want is your
money and bums on seats when we organise an
event.

Or if you could come along and join the
Parish Hall Committee and share the load,
that would be great.



Brewer Electrical Appliances

Top quality reconditioned electric cookers,
fridges, fridge-freezers, washing
machines and tumble dryers. Wide selection
always available, including Halogen "slot-in"
hobs.

All items supplied with a written guarantee
and a safety test certificate.

Unbeatable value and quality at
Brewers Electrical Appliances
Trafalgar Industrial Estate
Downham Market.

Phone now for further details on:
**01366 386838 (mobile 0589
400896)**

DIARY DATES

AUGUST AUGUST AUGUST AUGUST AUGUST AUGUST AUGUST AUGUST AUG

Wed	26th	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Fri	28th	7.30 pm	Bingo	Village Hall
Sun	30th	2-5 pm	Water Gala	Village Hall/Car Park
		7.00 pm	Gala Dance	Village Hall

SEPTEMBER SEPTEMBER SEPTEMBER SEPTEMBER SEPTEMBER SEPTEMBER SEPTEMBER S

Wed	2nd	7.00 pm	Women's Institute	Village Hall
Thur	3rd	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Fri	4th	9.30 am onward	Mobile Library	Usual locations
		7.30 - 9.30 pm	Line Dancing	Village Hall
Sat	5th	10.00 - 12 noon	Mini Mart	Village Hall
Mon	7th	10.00 - 12 noon	Playbus (new term)	Village Car Park
Tues	8th	2.00 pm	Friendship Club	Village Hall
		7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Wed	9th	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Fri	11th	7.30 pm	Line Dancing	Village Hall
Mon	14th	10.00 - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
Wed	16th	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Thur	17th		Harvest Supper	
Sun	20th		Friendship Club Trip to Lowestoft	
Mon	21st	10.00 - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
Wed	23rd	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Fri	25th	7.30 pm	Bingo	Village Hall
Mon	28th	10.00 - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
Wed	30th	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall

OCTOBER OCTOBER OCTOBER OCTOBER OCTOBER OCTOBER OCTOBER OCTOBE

Fri	2nd	9.30 am onward	Mobile Library	Usual Location
		7.30 pm	Line Dancing	Village Hall
Sat	3rd	10.00 - 12 noon	Mini Mart	Village Hall
Mon	5th	10.00 - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
Tues	6th	2.00 pm	Friendship Club	Village Hall
Wed	7th	7.00 pm	Women's Institute	Village Hall
Thurs	8th	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Mon	12th	10.00 - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
Wed	14th	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall
Fri	16th	7.30 pm	Line Dancing	Village Hall
Mon	19th	10.00 - 12 noon	Playbus	Village Car Park
Tues	20th	2.00 pm	Friendship Club	Village Hall
Wed	21st	7.30 pm	Whist	Village Hall

A TALE OF A CAT TWO STITCHES & THE PRINCESS OF WALES

The story begins with the cat and ends in the Minor Injuries Hospital at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Ely. Don't be put off: both have very happy endings.

My cat came from the Riverside Shelter that Serena Allen writes about on the next page. Although **Moggie** is the most beautiful black cat in the world, she does not appear to be of aristocratic origins, preferring tinned cat food to fresh fish or chicken.

So tins it has been for two years and, because **Moggie** and I share non-aristocratic and lazy genes, the tins have been of the quick, pull off the ring on the lid variety.

Well, all conveniences in this life have their disadvantages, and you will all know how sharp the tin lid is as you pull it back. Sure enough nemesis struck, the cat mewed for food, I ripped open the can and my right hand little finger showed a very deep and bloody cut across the joint.



I bandaged it up but it still looked nasty and bled the next day so I called the surgery for the nurse to put a stitch or two in and was told my best bet was to go to the **Minor Injuries Unit at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Ely.**

I said: 'Hang on a minute, you mean the old RAF Hospital, I thought that was all closed up and there's a housing estate there now' And I was told, 'No there are still hospital units and the **Minor Injuries Unit** is just the place to deal with your finger.' **And it was.**

I arrived there, waited a few minutes, and Sister Gulliver anaesthetised the finger, put in two stitches and told me when to come back and

have them out. There was no formality. Name, date of birth and name of GP. When I went back, Sister Gulliver came out to Reception, greeted me by name and, in her surgery, snipped out her very neat stitches.

I didn't know this local service existed but I have checked both with **Mandy Risino** on the Management at Ely and with **Dr. Millard** at Upwell Health Centre as to whether everyone in Welney can use the **Minor Injuries Unit.** And we can.

SO HERE ARE THE DETAILS

**Minor Injuries Treatment Centre
Princess of Wales Hospital
Lynn Road ELY
Tel: 01353 652000
No appointment necessary**

**Monday - Friday: 9.00-7.00pm
Saturday/Sunday: 10.00-7.00pm**

X-Ray Facilities: Monday - Friday

Minor Injuries are: minor cuts and burns, minor muscle or joint sprains, superficial splinters, foreign bodies in the eyes or ears, minor head injuries (assessment only) insect bites and stings, stitching minor wounds.

If the professional staff can deal with you as a minor injury, you will be treated and your GP informed.

If the professional staff assess that you need further treatment, you will be referred to your GP or the local Accident and Emergency Service, which will be given the relevant details of your injury.

You can choose to be referred to King's Lynn, Cambridge or Huntingdon.

This clinic is in addition to the minor injuries service at the North Cambs Hospital in Wisbech which is open:

**Monday - Friday: 9.00-5.00pm
With X-ray facilities**

Again no appointment or referral from your GP necessary.

So, as I promised, a happy ending for **Moggie**, and for my finger (healing nicely)
thanks to Sister Gulliver

Helen Barry

PS Wendy at the Post Office has leaflets with full details for both clinics.

WANT A GOOD MOUSER?

Serena Allen who lives at Labs Lodge, New Road, Tel: 610 347, helps part time at the **Riverside Shelter for Cats**. She writes:

Mice in your barns and out buildings? Tried everything but the little blighters. Just breed too fast?



Riverside Shelter has the answer to your problem. At present they have around 30 feral cats hungry for vermin. Many have come from farms where they were not wanted, every cat is now blood tested for feline aids and feline leukaemia, all are neutered, fully vaccinated, wormed and de-flea'd, micro chipped and ready to go. Any potential owner will require a home visit before the cats leave the **Shelter**. So don't hang around, the **Shelter** is open 11.00-3.00 except Mondays and you can phone 01366 382311



~WATERWAYS~

Family Foodmarket

Newsagent

Off Licence

- o o o -

Main Road, Three Holes

Wisbech PE14 9JR

Telephone 01945 773449



Vehicle Testing
Station

Petrol & Diesel

Repairs & Servicing that

doesn't cost the earth

Agents for Littlewoods Pools

PADGETS GARAGE

Established 1895

Quality and reliable car
repairs and servicing and
MOT

Free Collection & Return if
needed

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

Estimates Free

Dave Padget
Suspension Bridge
Call 01354 610225



WELNEY YOUTH GROUP

The youth group had been meeting on Monday evenings at the pavilion but at the time of 'going to press' has suffered a setback with the closure of the pavilion on health and safety grounds. For the present the group will be meeting at Alison and Adie's for work on rafts, going to the playing field for outdoor games on fine evenings. Alison and Adrian are organising the Dance in the evening of the Water Gala and some of the group members will be helping to run stalls during the day.

The dance will be in the Village Hall; doors open at 7-11.00pm and tickets are £2-50. There will be a bar, and live music from T.J. Country to make sure everyone is in dancing mood. Proceeds from the dance will be divided between the Parish Hall and the Playing Field Pavilion.

J N LOVEDAY - ENGINEERING

The Mill, March Road

Welney, Wisbech

Cambs

Tel: 01354 610353

Robotic Welding - Steel Fabrication and Welding.
Welders to BS 4872 with weld procedures

CAPTION COMPETITION

This is Gillian Shephard (with Marilyn Padgett behind her) just before unveiling the new William Marshall School sign at the 150th Anniversary week.

WHAT WAS OUR MP SAYING?

Prize for the best caption, judged by the Editor will be a framed original drawing by Elaine Sweetman. This can be a subject of your choice or any of her drawings which have appeared in Welney News, look at her work on the centre pages.

Phone 610 585 with your caption



WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meets bi-monthly on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall. The Council comprises: Chairman, Mrs. Pat Rix, Vice Chairman, Mrs. Charlotte Cox and Councillors Tim Bennett, David Bonner, Dennis Booth, Mrs. Alison Burrows, Tom Fisher and Mrs. Pauline Pulham. The Parish Clerk is Mrs. Pat Copeman (Tel: 610 226)

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 14th 1998

Local District Councillor, Harry Humphries, attended the Meeting and offered to give his support in any negotiations the Parish Council were currently having with the County Council's Planning and Transportation Department and the Environment Agency over the long term solution to the problem of the annual flooding of the Wash Road. The County Council had re-

quested details of land in the parish which could be targeted for the Norfolk 5b Landscape Project leading to the creation of new wild life habitats and restoration of historic features. To qualify the land must be visible to the public from a footpath or road. The key elements of the scheme are advice on land management, tree and hedge planting, restoration and/or creation of ponds. 50% grants from the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Funds are available to private and public sector managers of land. Please contact the Parish Clerk for more information.

It was agreed to participate in the Diocese of Ely's Church Trails Project. Information about St. Mary's Church, the village shop, places of refreshment and other tourist attractions in the surroundings area will be included in a guide of the area.

The Borough Council's Environmental Health Department are offering to supply new fridges for £25 to families on a qualifying Benefit or State Pension (as your only pension). The criteria for replacement are that the applicant must have a standard sized fridge with an integral ice box, and the fridge must show signs of wear and tear. Further details from the Council Offices at Downham Market or King's Lynn.

Once again the future of the Playing Field was discussed. Due to the lack of interest from parishioners (especially parents) it was felt that making a grant from Parish funds towards the rewiring and decoration of the pavilion is hard to justify. At present the only organised event is the Monday evening Youth Group run by Adrian Rust. There is still not committee so the Parish Council continue to be responsible for the upkeep of this village amenity. The grass will continue to be cut by contractors for the next two years. In order to justify the expenditure it is essential that the field is used regularly. Inspection of the children's' play equipment has been carried out. However, there is still need for a responsible adult to be in attendance when it is in use (parents please note). Should anyone be interested in helping, please contact the Clerk. Regular reports on the Ouse Wash Levels issued by the Environment Agency will now be displayed on the Parish Notice Board on Main Street as well as the Village Shop

Charlotte Cox

NB Once again would anyone like to take on compiling this report for future editions. All that is required is to attend the bi-monthly Parish Council Meetings. Contact me on 638 510

CHURCH NEWS

A few short weeks ago we were all glued to the television as we watched the World Cup, the motor racing, the Test Matches (and we won) or the Wimbledon Championships. Some of these set me to thinking about life in general and some parts in particular.

The tennis season and the timing of weddings usually coincide - the wedding 'season' thankfully lasts longer than the tennis. As I watched some of the matches, I thought of the couples for whom I was about to conduct one of the most important and serious ceremonies of their lives. Is marriage somewhat like tennis? The singles matches with one player at each end of the court, trying to score points off one another in order to prove who is the better player. Then again there are the doubles matches - preferable mixed doubles for this illustration! The couples have usually worked out a strategy for their game - a game plan. They watch the moves all around the court and watch each other. Their timing fits in with that of their partner. Sometimes there is the odd bump or misplaced shot when the timing goes slightly wrong, but for most of the time co-operation is the order of the day as each partner seeks only the ultimate good of the team, and not some sensational glory for themselves. They each know that in this way the game will be played for the best and the fullest potential of both players will be realised.

It surely is much the same with all the teams and the team sports that are played - each member seeking only the best for the team as a whole.

In our relationships with one another there has to be what would be termed as 'team spirit'. There has to be give and take; perseverance - no giving up through the tough patches; discipline and most certainly a great deal of co-operation if any relationship is going to serve its best purpose for all parties concerned.

How long has it been since you last took stock of where you are going in life. An evaluation of the children, your marriage, your relationships. Just as sports people need time to get things into perspective as they train, evaluate and regroup their strategy, so do we in our relationships.

Am I spending sufficient quality time with the children, my partner, my parents, my friends so that they know that I care for them and value them as part of my life? Am I making informed decisions about my life or am I drifting aimlessly

driven by every wind of change that blows my way? Have I really given any consideration at all to where and how God fits into my life or have I let those around me make that decision for me? And if so have they given the matter due consideration?

Take the challenge - think about your life, your relationships, your creator. Think and write down your dreams, your hopes, thoughts, your reasons. Don't let the telly or some other insignificant activity call you away - your life and your relationships are too important. If you put it off until tomorrow, make sure that you do it then or it will soon be next week, next month, next year and! By thinking things through, by making your changes if and where necessary, you will accomplish your plans and strengthen your relationships and play the game well to the best of your ability.

Sheila Tooke (Rector)

CHURCH SERVICES

August

23rd 9.30am
30th 11.00am

**Morning Prayer
at Christchurch
United Service**

September

6th 9.30am
13th 11.00am
20th 9.30am

**Morning Prayer
All Age Worship
Harvest
Thanksgiving
Holy Communion**

27th 9.30am

October

4th 9.30am
11th 11.00am
18th 9.30am

**Morning Prayer
All Age Worship
Morning Prayer**

HARVEST FESTIVAL



Thursday 17 September



**Supper and Entertainment
at the Village Hall from 6.30pm**

Tickets from:

Jennifer James	610 305
Queenie Johnson	610 409
Mary Dockerty	638 475
Peggy Smart	610 244
Marlen Moss-Eccardt	610 344



HORSE

DRAWN



By
ELAINE SWEETMAN
(Pony and trap 'whip' and
illustrator for Welney News)

When we first came to the Fens, I felt somewhat guilty erecting fences and installing our horses. I thought local farmers would hold me in scorn, wasting time and fertile land on a mere hobby. Then as I wandered around I saw ponies in back yards and side acres. It seems to be an integral part of the Fens 'facia' to have a horse at every corner. o now I don't feel so bad.

But I still want to emphasise that our ponies are not a hobby or some kind of status symbol: like farming they are a commitment 365 days a year and, come rain or shine, Andrew and I, and our daughter and son are there looking after them.

Since I was a child, I always had a passion for anything equine, but growing up on an estate in North London meant having a pony was out of the question. I left school at 17 determined to be a jockey but, disillusioned by the bad pay and hours, I went back to Art College for four years.

After College I went, very happily, straight into marriage with Andrew and a full time job as a graphic designer/illustrator in advertising. But the 'horse bug' was biting harder than ever. Then my first free lance commission made my dream come true. I was asked to design four horsey greetings cards at £100 each: I got the cheque one Thursday and we bought our bay mare, Mollie, the following Thursday.

We were living then in Bassingbourn, near Royston, and had arranged a paddock for Mollie, but on the day we actually brought her home, the deal fell through and Andrew wandered up and down the high street asking would anyone take Mollie in. A very kind lady said she would and in the course of getting Mollie settled, she said she was trying to find someone to

mend her washing machine and Andrew, who is an electrical engineer fixed it. We are still firm friends.

Andrew and I commuted from Bassingbourn to London each day by car, and one day saw a trap for sale. Well, temptation got the better of us and we bought it - and that is why you see us with pony and trap driving through the village.

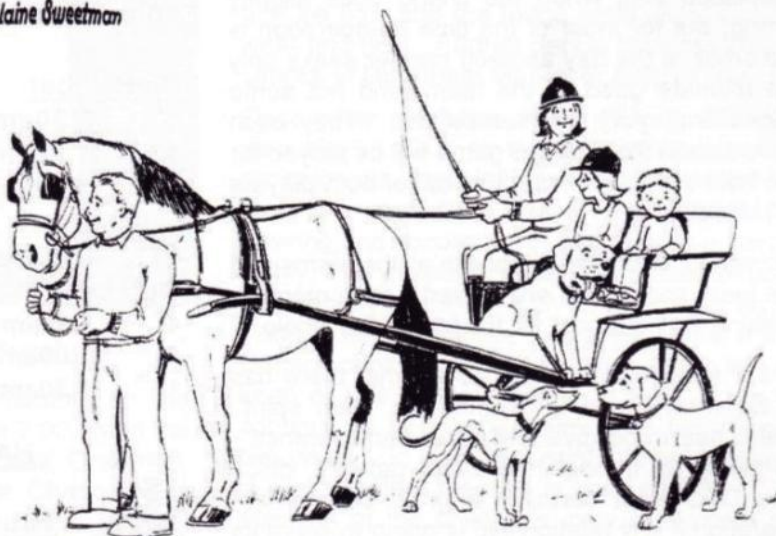
But you don't just have a pony and have a trap and put the two together and clip clop away.

We settled down to learn about driving. We learned from lectures, books, videos, talking to professionals who'd had years of driving experience and then by doing it ourselves.

We learned that each pony is different but you basically start quietly, gaining its trust, taking it slowly step by step until each command is understood gently and firmly.

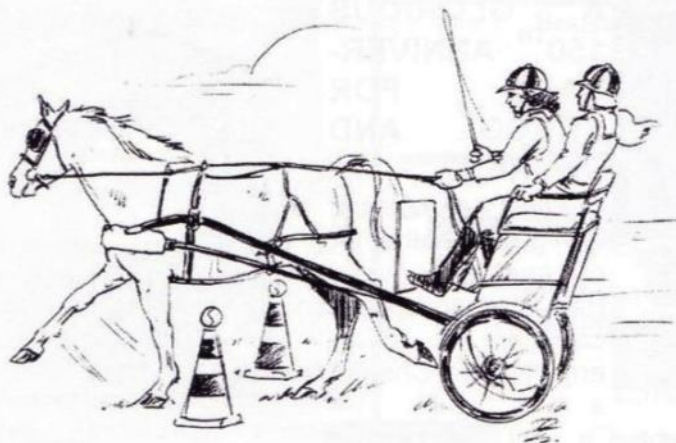
The animal needs to adjust to the new feel of the harness. Then you teach direction by long reining - walking behind the pony, simulating your driving position. Eventually we ask the pony to pull a weight such as a crate or a tyre.

Elaine Sweetman



Accepting the cart is the next step and then, with care, the driver or 'whip' as they are called, can take their place on board. The pony must be able to circle left, right, stand and walk back to command, and pivot. We practise driving around cones with helpers making a noise, until the pony is used to the unusual is not distracted and is simply listening well to his driver.

When we started we were still commuting between Bassingbourne and London: later we moved to London and joined the Beds. and Herts. BDS Group which included cross country, driven dressage, training days and show driving



SCARY DRIVING

Elaine Sweetman

and we achieved some success

I then took and passed my first stage carriage driving exam. After fourteen years and having acquired two children, more ponies and three rescue dogs, we decided it was time to find somewhere to keep our animals and children together and so we came to the Fens.

Having driven in London, I find the change dramatic. Gone are the roundabouts, traffic lights, jam packed roads and shouts of 'Any old iron' from some comedian whizzing past at an alarming 70 miles per hour. Now just the lazy drone of tractors working the landscape with the constantly tumbling clouds racing from horizon to distant horizon: the scene broken only by the odd farm dotted here and there on a patchwork quilt of fields. How idealic.

Well, not always. More often than not it is a force nine gale raging against your face and some cars - though infrequent - would do Damion Hill proud. Still I am truly appreciative of our fortune in living here. We have made contact with the local driving and riding community and enjoy ambling along on a Sunday in good company, not to mention a visit to the local watering hole. The beauty of the Fens becomes apparent when passing by on a horse and trap. You get to see and feel the nuances of the countryside at a pace that becomes nostalgic. The clip clop of the horses and the hazy vista bordered by verges billowing with cow parsley take you back to an England forgotten and overlooked by the speed and hustle of the nineties.

We exercise the ponies as often as possible. Insurance is a necessity and it is advisable to wear hard hats and gloves when driving a horse as well as having a knowledge of the Highway

code and ensuring you are highly visible to other traffic. Safety of the passengers, horse and other road users is of most priority.

We try to be courteous to other drivers at all times and are grateful to those who display patience and caution in driving slowly and carefully past any horse or horse drawn vehicle. I say this particularly in regard to large lorries and farm machinery which can frighten some animals due to the sheer speed, bulk and noise they make. We inevitably have to drive and ride on the roads to get from A to B, but it would ideally be much safer if there were more tracks and by-ways open to horses and

horse drawn vehicles. Generally the ponies adapt to most situations and with care and sensitivity on the part of all road users, horse-men included, accidents should be averted.

It is amazing to think that man domesticated this large herbivore, used and abused it from war to fashion and still it becomes our ally and friend.

We tend to treat our ponies as family and have been appalled when we have seen over the years the neglect and sad conditions in which some horses are kept.

All animals, like people, need clean water, adequate shelter and good food daily, with as interesting and stimulating a life as it is possible to give them. We are hoping our children will enjoy growing up with these beautiful animals and learn to treat them as they would other people, with respect and kindness.

Should anyone be interested in learning more about driving a horse in harness, I would be happy to pass on any relevant addresses or book titles.

Elaine Sweetman (638 287)



**ANGLO-EASTERN
COMMERCIAL**

offer for sale at

**Graham Childs Motors
Howdale Road Downham
Market**

A wide range of dog food, bird seed, straights,
grass seed, hemp, peanuts etc. etc.

Present this Advert for a £1 per item discount!

Tel: 01366 387978



A GLORIOUS 150TH ANNIVER- SARY FOR SCHOOL AND CHURCH

Welney was blessed with good weather for our anniversary year. Past staff and pupils came to the school enjoying a Cheese and

Wine Party. Present staff presented a right royal welcome in Victorian dress to Gillian Shephard when she unveiled the new school name board, and the pupils, also in costume, gave a rousing concert of Victorian music hall songs, together with a play on William Marshall in the Church later in the week.



Ken Sorenson - who put together such an evocative display of photographic history

There was a beautiful flower festival in the Church - many voted it the best ever - with the seasons and sacraments of the Church celebrated in lovely summer blooms. On the closing day, Bishop Stephen of Ely conducted a Songs of Praise to a packed Church, and cut the second anniversary cake.



The school rooms were crowded out (above) with people enjoying the occasion

© Did they really dress like that? Well the old photos show they did!



HOW MANY COUNTIES ARE THERE IN WELNEY?

Many houses in Welney and Tipps End have names rather than numbers, if not both. Although there are an infinite number of names, the reasons for calling a house this or that name are actually relatively few. For example, it may describe some feature of the place, as with *Tall Pines*. Alternatively, it could derive from some past phase in the building's history, as with *Old Post House*.

A particularly common derivation of names in this area appears to relate to favourite or memorable places, where the occupants were born, lived or have been on holiday. Wandering around and observing such names, I was struck by the geographical spread of these places and contrived - as one does - to turn this curious fact into a competition.

Using a particular house name only once, how many **ENGLISH** counties can you identify as a direct result of house names in Welney and Tipps End?

I am currently aware of 12

but I am on the look out for more.

An ineligible **Scottish** example is *Culdrose* next to the Post Office.

If you'd like to take up the challenge, just list the counties along with the appropriate house name on a piece of paper and ensure that it reaches me by the end of September.

There will be a prize for whoever identifies the most counties and the solution will appear in the next edition.

Tim Bennett 610 433

Wisbech Border Collie Rescue



Are always needing homes for unwanted Border Collies.

- Have you done your homework on the breed, so you know what to expect?
- Is someone at home most or all of the day?
- Do you have time to give the dog the exercise it requires, rain or shine?
- Does all the family want this breed of dog?
- Are you willing to train the dog to be a well behaved member of society?

Many of the dogs make good working dogs. A dog is for life and Border Collies live an average of 16 years.

Telephone: Wisbech 01945 773942

Housewares - Hardware - Gardening
(TRADITIONAL IRONMONGERS)

J H ADAMS & SONS LTD



17 MAIN STREET,
LITTLEPORT

TELEPHONE:
01353 860222

Paint
Wallpaper

FREE



Pet
Food

**Local Deliveries
Customer Parking**



Cycle Spares



**We're a fair and square store - a member of a
large chain of independent hardware retailers**
**Take our advice - we're hard to beat
for service & price and we're local**

VILLAGE TREE WARDEN

If you have been reading about my competition (above on this page), can I catch your attention a little longer, put my other hat on and remind you that I am the official **Tree Warden** for Welney. I am very happy to provide **free advice** about anything relating to **trees and hedges**.

If you have any queries about such things as the siting, planting, management or health of trees and bushes, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Tim Bennett 610 433

CALLING ALL DOG LOVERS

If you have some free time, would you like to help exercise dogs at the Border Collie Rescue Kennels at Upwell? There are always lovely dogs there, some of whom have had sad lives, who would love to have 'walkies' with a friendly person.

Some experience with dogs helpful, but not necessarily essential.

**Please contact
Cindy Bennett on
610 433, with a view
to sharing transport
costs.**



THE RED HART INN Three Holes

**NOW TAKING BOOKINGS FOR
CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH!**

Traditional Home cooked food

Noon - 2:30 pm, 7 - 10 pm Mon to Sat

Noon - 9 pm Sunday

**Warm, Friendly
Atmosphere**

**Dave and Judy Flather
look forward to meeting you
Tel: 01945-773328**

WELCOME TO WELNEY

The connection between two of the three newcomers that we welcome into our midst on this occasion is somewhat ecclesiastical as by an amazing coincidence two of the old chapels now have new owners. I use this term, since Martin Kyne-Lilly and Elisabeth Dekker have yet to move into the Old Chapel opposite the Parish Hall, but much work is underway to allow this to happen. They have also bought the derelict Meadow Cottage behind, which will shortly be physically joined to its larger neighbour in order to satisfy the planning authorities.

Martin, whose profession is making furniture, intends to do much of the work himself.

As a complete contrast, his alternative job involves putting together business and marketing plans to support lottery funding applications for Theatres, Museums and the like. Elizabeth is a Development Adviser with the Training and

Enterprise Council. They are currently living in Cambridge.

However, across the Wash road at the Methodist Chapel, Suspension Bridge, Alan and Vanessa Wharf have already moved into their previously altered new home from North London.

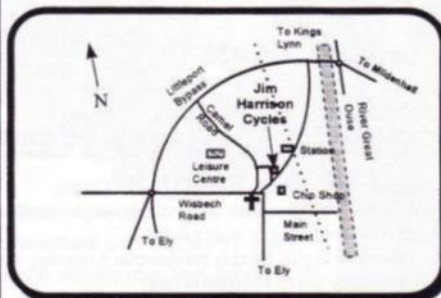
Along with their daughters Jemma (7) and Jessica (3), Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Jodie, Basset Hound, Polly, two cats and fish, they are relishing the fresh air, space and less pressured way of life that country living brings.

Alan, who is a plasterer, still works up in London, while Vanessa, who has previously worked with children and animals, stays behind to run the household. The whole family are enthusiastic about their move and are finding that things are living up to expectations.

Someone else keen to vacate London and adopt a rural lifestyle were David and Rosemary McGrath, who moved into Rose Cottage, Tipps End, at the end of June. They had been looking to come to this area for several years, having taken to the Fens whilst on holiday. Being keen on fishing and boating it's easy to understand why. They and their Rottweiler, Conan, have been made to feel very welcome since they came here, as indeed I was when I called in to see them. David, who is an upholsterer and curtain hanger by trade, is semi-retired, but still works up in London a couple of days each week.

Tim Bennett

Jim Harrison (Cycles)



**2 Ponts Hill,
Littleport CB6 1PZ**

Next to Ex-Servicemens
Club Tel: 01353 862000

**New Cycles, Repairs, Spares,
Wheelbuilding and Accessories
for all types of cycles
Lightweight Road and Mountain**



**10% DISCOUNT ON
PHONE ORDERS
OVER £7.00's**

Navrady's

OF UPWELL

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

(01945) 772398

**VOTED
ONE OF THE TOP
FISH & CHIP
SHOPS IN BRITAIN
FOR THE LAST 3 YEARS**



**Fungi 98 at the
Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust**

**Sunday 27th September
10.00am-5.00pm**

"Admission Free"

Once again Welney will be host to a unique exhibition exploring the strange and sinister world of Fungi. Centre-piece of the display is a large collection of mushrooms and toadstools; last year there were over 100 species represented including our most deadly fungus the

Death Cap (I collected enough to kill the whole village!!), the disgusting Stinkhorn, rare Earthstars, the Chicken of the Woods and Giant Puffballs. The latter were collected from a secret site in the village and kindly donated to the exhibition.

There will be a slide lecture in the afternoon, colour displays covering all aspects of toxic and edible fungi and yours truly will be on hand all day to answer and questions and identify any fungi that are brought in.

For further information contact:

Jonathan Revett 610 274

Need accommodation for visiting friends or relations?

Stockyard Farm



Bed and Breakfast - Wisbech Road, Welney Telephone 610 433

Mrs C Bennett

**TV Lounge, Conservatory, Breakfast
room, Pets Welcome. Free Range
Produce No Smoking**

LINE DANCING AT THE PARISH HALL

A very popular and successful series of line dancing classes and entertainment started at the Parish Hall on 7th August. Caroline, a national dancer and teacher guides you through the steps and the dance. Dates will be publised through the winter on the board outside the Hall, but the immediate ones to keep in mind are:

**Friday 7.30pm 4th Sept,
Friday 7.30pm 2nd Oct,**

EVERYONE WELCOME

**Friday 7.30pm 11th Sept
Friday 7.30pm 16th Oct**

PLAYBUS

The playbus term ended with some relaxing outdoor sessions on the final few Mondays, the mums and children enjoying water games and trampolining in the open air as well as the usual playbus facilities. Immediately after the end of term, there was a teddy bears' picnic for playbus users from all the villages on the circuit. The picnic was held on the playing field at Stowbridge and was organised by the playbus staff. There were games, music, and a sponsored toddle but the occasion was definitely informal – the only strict rule being that each child must be accompanied by a teddy bear, and preferably also by a mum or dad!

During the picnic celebrations the playbus was presented with an end - of - term gift; a portable generator donated by the Downham Market branch of National Westminster Bank. This will be used to power the playbus heating system in the coming winter – very good news to all users of the playbus!

The playbus returns to Welney on the 7th September, but the mums and children have not been short of activities in the meanwhile; in addition to informal gatherings at each others' houses there have been regular outings to the toddler sessions in the swimming pool at the Hudson Leisure Centre, a coffee morning at the home of one of the mums in Barroway Drove, and most recently a trip to the gymnasium at Neale Wade Community College in March.

This was specially arranged for the playbus mums and toddlers by Liz Clayton and Karen Parker, who are both on the staff at Neale Wade; the two hour session included use of trampoline, soft ball, hoops, basketball equipment, mats, and more. The session was great fun for all – thanks again to Liz and Karen for arranging it for us!

NB outside of term time the sports hall at Neale Wade can be booked for birthday parties. The hire includes use of the 'small' equipment, and an adjacent kitchen and seating area for refreshments. Anyone interested can contact Karen Parker on 01354 651329 for details and bookings.

HOMEWATCH

There have not been many reported crimes since the last edition of the newsletter; the two most recent incidents have been the theft of a transit van and tools from Chestnut Avenue at the end of June and a house burglary in Wisbech Road in late July when a number of electrical goods were stolen. The burglary took place during the daytime; once again a reminder of the vulnerability of properties whose owners are out at work.

I have been asked to draw readers' attention to the new standards of security performance of windows. If purchasing new windows you can now look for a kitemark indicating security performance; the number is BS 7950:1997. In order to gain the kitemark, windows must pass a stringent battery of manual and mechanical tests including some which simulate the forces applied by a would-be intruder. For further information on this subject, you can ring BSI Testing on 01442 230442; ask for Kevin Frewin or Roger Avery.

Finally, a quick reminder of the importance of checking the security of your home if you are planning a holiday. Do NOT leave curtains closed – the big giveaway – but do if at all possible have one or more friends or neighbours watching the house, checking it at irregular times, putting lights on or closing curtains at night etc. And postcode those valuables!

Karen Flemming



J D Spikings & Son
Family Butcher
28-29 St Peter's Road, Upwell
TELEPHONE 01945 773424

Bar-B-Que Time

Home Made:-
Sausages, Kebabs, Minty Lamb, Chicken
Tikka, Chinese Style Ribs and Chicken

Refrigerated Deliveries - Twice Weekly -
Tuesday & Friday

Jumbo Sized Beef-Burgers, Pork & Apple Burgers, Lamb & Mint Burgers
Sausages - Pork, Pork & Apple, Pork & Garlic, Pork, Stilton & Celery, Pork,
Ginger & Leek

View of a tractor

This article isn't quite the usual farming note, it is all about the view that the "other folk" (that's me), have of farmers and tractors on the roads. We live in one of the biggest farming areas in Britain and the farms here are some of the biggest too. Field sizes run to 20, 30 or even more acres and that tends to mean big pieces of agricultural equipment.



These giant tractors and combined harvesters need to travel from field to field and from farm to farm. To do so they need to get onto the roads and move along with all the other traffic.

Of course we all understand that tractors and the like can't travel at the same speed as cars and trucks, but I bet every one of us has been behind a tractor that is so wide that you can't get by it, even when there is nothing coming the other way.

There are traffic regulations that affect such things and it is always nice to know where you stand. The Cambridgeshire Constabulary have given a general dispensation to all farmers to allow them to travel on the roads with vehicles up to 4.3m wide (for the old folk like me that's a fraction over 14 feet wide). BUT there are restrictions applying to the dispensation.

- ◆ No travel during rush hours.
- ◆ No travel at night.
- ◆ Vehicles must be accompanied by an escort vehicle with flashing amber light.

Richard Green

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Cissie Bedford is definitely back at the helm in the Friendship Club after her determined march back to health and fitness! Unfortunately Pam Sorensen is still unwell and has not returned to her work as secretary – the thoughts of many are with her as she rests at home. Two club members, Margaret and Ray Wilson, are celebrating their Golden Wedding on the 21st of August.

The last Friendship Club outing was the Mystery Tour; it turned out to be a coach ride to Holt, Sheringham and Yarmouth and was a very pleasant day out. Coming events include a trip to Lowestoft on the 20th September and the Club's 21st birthday party in October. The birthday celebrations will include a special buffet tea, a big raffle, and entertainment by the Denver Singers (to be confirmed). For any information about outings etc. please ring Cissie Bedford on Welney 610206.



GENERAL BUILDERS

CARPENTRY &
JOINERY SPECIALIST

EXTENSIONS
RENOVATIONS
MAINTENANCE

Wren Cottage - Main Street,
Welney, Wisbech, Cambs
PE14 9RB

**FOR FREE
QUOTATION
PHONE OR FAX:
MR APULLUM-
01354 610538**



YOUTH CLUB

As discussed in the previous Newsletter there have been major changes in the organisation of the Youth Club. The staff from Downham Market are now based in Kings Lynn, having completed the move across earlier this month. In spite of the upheaval, there are still some regular club events at Downham Market during evenings in August; on Tuesdays there is basketball tuition which is free to under 16's; on Wednesdays the football teams play (there are now well-established girls' and boys' teams but any new members are still welcome); and there are normal club nights on a number of dates during August – these tend to focus on outdoor activities such as football, rounders and basketball on fine evenings; in poorer weather there are indoor activities, discussion sessions etc. For more details on any of these events, ring the Youth Service on 01553 773565.

Due to the changes there are as yet no details for Youth Club events in September; as soon as any information is available it will

be publicised, probably in poster form in the village. There are some major trips going ahead during the autumn however; in October there will be a coach trip to the Big Bash at the NEC, and in November a trip to Pontins. (For the uninitiated, the Big Bash is a major exhibition aimed at young people, with a vast range of exhibition stands and things to take part in including various sports. Many celebrities from childrens' television will be there, and the day includes a show; reliable witnesses describe this as a superlatively good day out). And it's short notice, but there is a day trip to the American Theme Park in Derbyshire on the 25th August, at an all-inclusive price of £10. This is organised by Kings Lynn Splash (members of the police force who arrange activities and events for young people and also for the disabled) and places are made available to Youth Club members. It could be worth contacting Keith Beckett at Kings Lynn police station (tel 01553 769084) for details as there could still be a few places left.

Pauline Brownhill is the Senior Youth Worker for Youth Services in Downham Market and the surrounding area. When speaking about the recent changes in the Youth Service, Pauline felt it important to stress that once all the staff have recovered from the upheaval the service should in many ways be more effective than before; the message from Pauline and the other staff is "we are still here"! Pauline also wished to point out that if young people in Welney and other outlying areas are interested in taking part in any of the Youth Club's trips and activities, then every effort would be made to ensure that transport would be available; no-one should feel that lack of transport etc. is a barrier to taking part in things that interest them. So, if you feel like giving one of these activities a try, just pick up a phone and let someone know!



Do something Different to tell your friends about

Explore the largest Wetland in Northern Europe and its diverse plant and Spend a day on Safari - As seen on Anglia TV's "Countrywide"

BIG SKY WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

Explore the largest Wetland in Northern Europe and its diverse plant and animal life. Go back in time and take home your own piece of history when unearthing 3000 year old bog oaks. Discover the Wildlife and Countryside of the Fens by Landrover. See otters and seals, sea birds and wild woods, with dragonflies and deer. Experience friendly guides - a day to remember

Barry Weekes and Verity Steel - Duffins Farm, Lotts Bridge

Three Holes, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire PE14 9JG

To book your Safari please phone

01354 638315 or 0410 788779



Email = billthompson@asbestos.source.co.uk

Phones 01354 610539 01553 811844

Fax 01354 610581 01553 810799

Mobiles 0585 467282 0402 182220

WEST NORFOLK ASBESTOS REMOVALS

The Old Maltings, Setchey, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE33 0AY

V.A.T. No. 599 5871 54

Asbestos Licence No 4969803890

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT APPROVED LIST OF WORKS CONTRACTOR

GOOD NEWS

WILLIAM MARSHAL SCHOOL

WON
7TH PRIZE IN THE E.D.P
COMPETITION

THEY COLLECTED 77,386
TOKENS,
WHICH WAS 2,149 PER CHILD IN
THE SCHOOL

They won £750 worth of computer
equipment including a digital
camera.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
SCHOOL AND ALL WHO
COLLECTED THE
TOKENS FOR THEM.



Business Partners
Computer Consultancy Ltd

7 The Crescent, Wisbech, Cambs

Tel: 01945 466343 - Fax 01945 466344

Novell Networks

Fileservers

ISDN Solutions

Pentium PC's with MMX

Apple Macintosh

Laser Printers

Scanners

Digital Cameras

CD Recording facility

Database Authoring

Training

Repairs & Maintenance

ANNE WEEDS

of Lady Fen Farm, One Hundred Foot Bank
**GRADUATED WITH A DEGREE IN ANTHROPOLOGY
FROM DURHAM UNIVERSITY**

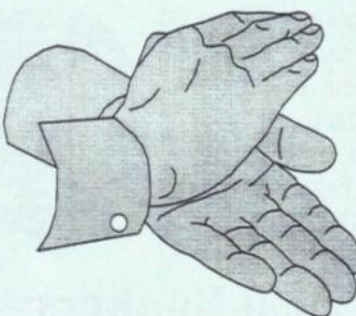
Anne deserves special congratulations because it wasn't discovered until her third year at University that she has severe dyslexia. To pass exams, she trained her memory to learn complete books so that she could recall the words and information on any page at will. She even taught fellow students how to do it. It is an extraordinary achievement of guts and determination.



BARBARA SEATON

raised £650 for Imperial Cancer Research

Barbara works at Spikins, the butchers in Upwell, and twice a week the people of Welney see her as she comes to deliver our orders. In **The Race for Life** held at Peterborough Barbara promised to complete the five kilometre course and, on her delivery rounds asked for sponsorship. And the with help of, among others, customers in Welney, she raised £650.



Satanta Boarding Kennels

Siberian Husky Specialists - but ALL dogs welcome!

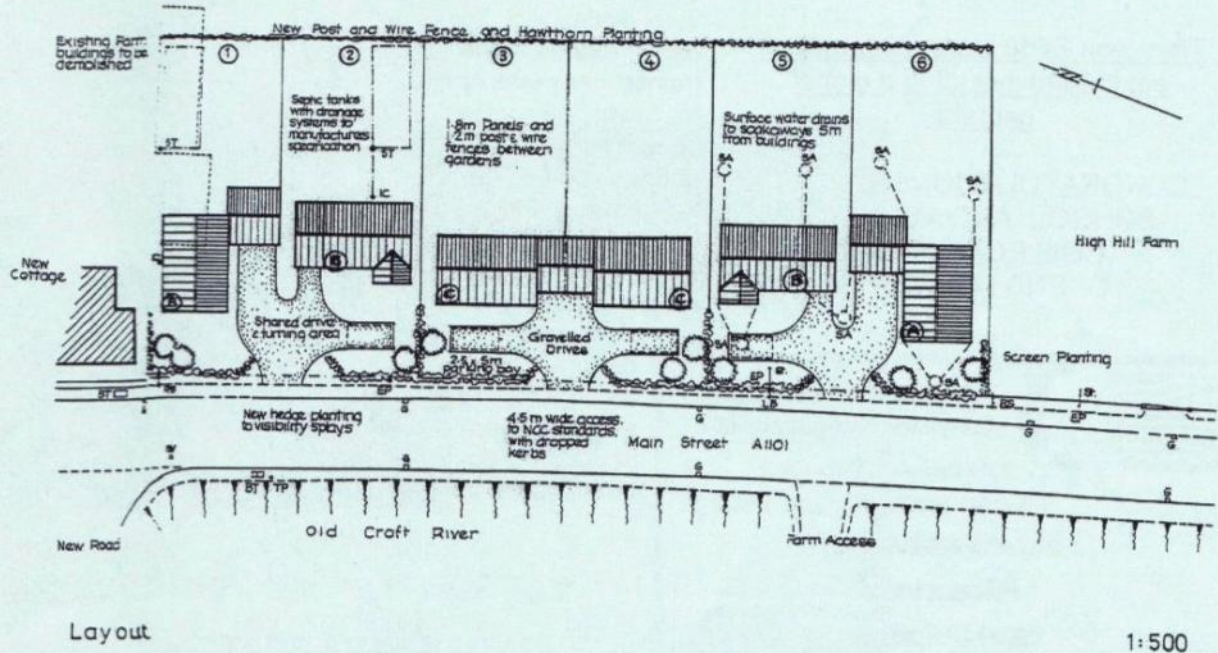
OSBOURNE PLACE, MARCH ROAD, TIPPS END WELNEY,
CAMBS PE14 9SN Tel: 01354 638595 - Proprietor: Dorreen Carter

NEW HOUSES IN MAIN STREET

No one in the village can have failed to notice that diggers are in and things are happening behind the stretch of hedge on the eastern side of Main Street between Wren Cottage and Blows House - so **Welney News** has investigated.

First of all the hedge will not disappear, apart from giving three entrances to the new houses. There will be six four-bedroomed houses in the development. There are three separate designs and the outer two ones mirror each other across the development.

In order to envisage how this will look, we are grateful to Law Brothers (Builders) Ltd., of Littleport for allowing us to publish an overall part of their plans, which gives everyone an early idea of the new look to Main Street.



Local Bankers - Global Bank

Barclays Bank plc

11 Main Street, Littleport

Ely, Cambs CB6 1PH

Tel: 01353 605202 Fax: 01353 605200