



DAWNAY ESTATES NEWSLETTER

First Edition
Winter/Spring 2003

Welcome to 'Dawnay Estates' First Newsletter

I am very pleased to introduce this the first Dawnay Estates newsletter. The newsletter will provide a regular update of the Estate's activities and a link between employees and customers.

Many people have been puzzled by the separate titles, – Wykeham Estate and Danby Estate, and in an effort to bring the Estates and all their associated businesses, activities and employees together, I felt that one name, 'Dawnay Estates' would be of enormous benefit. As my family's name is 'Dawnay' it is an obvious choice!

Viscount Downe



Changes abound

The well-known Wykeham character, Bill Jackson, a prominent farmer and tenant of the Wykeham Estate, has retired.

Bill, in his day, represented a modern and successful outlook on farming which enabled him to succeed at a very early age from his father following a move from Swan Hill Farm to Manor and subsequently merging with Ancat Farm, Hutton Buscel. Bill's farming methods and in particular the quality of his livestock were renowned. He was a man who looked forward and enthusiastically built on each year's success.

Bill's retirement and the future of Wykeham Farms set against a background of a confused and difficult farming industry have led to the commissioning of a "Review of Agriculture at Wykeham". A firm of consultants, 'Bidwells of Cambridge', are assisting in the process of setting a ten year strategy for farming at Wykeham. This review is designed to be part of a forward thinking process and an opportunity to consider how best to structure land holdings, tenancies and businesses to ensure the prospect of a positive future for Wykeham Farming, and those involved in agriculture on the Estate.

Bill Jackson's retirement is a stage in the life of the Estate. A time to reflect on past achievements, but also an opportunity to face the challenges of changing economic conditions. The changes that will be introduced by the Estate will become apparent over the next two or three years, and hopefully will be developed in conjunction with those either already participating or wishing to participate in the Estate's future.



Bill Jackson

Forthcoming Events

29 March

Lucky for You cabaret with songs from Chicago etc. at the Downe Arms. In aid of the Village Hall fund, £19.50 to include a buffet.

5 May

Treasure Hunt in aid of the Village Hall fund, with BBQ supper. Fun for all the family.

5 & 6 July

Carriage Driving Trial held by the North of England Horse Driving Trials at Charm Park. Dressage and Through Cones event on Saturday whilst Sunday will be a 19km cross-country drive around the southern part of the Estate with hazards at Charm Park.

19 & 20 July

The Wykeham Country Fair.

23 August

Wykeham Whizz this popular event takes place on the village field in Wykeham and helps to raise funds for many local organisations.

15 November

Mardi Gras Ball at the Downe Arms. This is a very popular event. Buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment, numbers are limited.

Every Friday

Wykeham Farmers Market at the Downe Arms car park.

Activities on the Estate

Maintenance Department

Steve Dees and his team have recently completed work on Phoenix Farm Cottage and the new tenants have moved in.

The large house at Phoenix has yet to be started, but could be an ideal project for any D.I.Y. enthusiasts out there!!

Modernisation work has also been taking place at No. 7 Liverton Village, this property is the last remaining property owned by the estate in Liverton Village, which is about one mile from Loftus.

Steve's top tip for winter - if you are going away and leaving your property empty during the winter months, please drain your water pipes or if possible leave some form of heating running.

I think most of us remember that last year we had a few days of extremely icy weather -5°C or more and many pipes froze and caused extra work for the maintenance department not to mention the damage to people's belongings.



Phoenix Farm House
- awaiting refurbishment

Danby Moors

Having suffered from a very wet April in 2002, the weather improved somewhat in May providing a good hatching time for all the upland nesting birds. Not only grouse but pewits, curlews and golden plovers all produced a good show of young. Despite the summer months being quite wet, the young grouse fared better than expected resulting in some excellent days' shooting. A record number of birds were shot during the season making it the best season since 1938!



Danby Moors

Many other factors contributed to this successful season, amongst them an extensive moorland burning programme, the dosing of grouse for worm and the vaccination of sheep against louping ill. It is hoped that with continued efforts, results will continue to improve making the coming season one which we can all look forward to.

Wykeham Trees

Many of you will know, that we temporarily lost a key member of our staff, Sally Shepherdson. Having badly broken her leg, we didn't expect to see her back at work until well into the year, however, due to her perseverance and physiotherapy she is now back with us. We wish her all the best and are glad to see her organising everyone around the yard again.

The winter months are a busy time of year, with trees being delivered all over the country. A large number of orders are now coming from private individuals who have been watching programmes like Groundforce and are looking for an instant look to their gardens. For those of you who don't know about us, we supply large trees and shrubs. When we say large, we mean large; most of our plant material can only be moved by mechanical lifting equipment. It can sometimes be difficult to explain the size of our plants to customers and becomes quite amusing when they turn up to collect a 20ft tall tree in a Renault Clio!



Wykeham Mature Plants

If you are looking for an instant look for your garden, why not give us a call, and see if we can help. We are continually adding to our range of plant material to try and offer something a little bit different from that found in garden centres. David Crossley 01723 862406

Village Hall

The second year of the Village Hall Development Fund has been very busy and a further £3,500 has been raised during the year bringing the total funds up to £6,500. This will enable architects to complete designs, a specification and quotations.

The monies have been raised from the now popular "Mardi Gras Ball", a Christmas Bazaar and Raffle, and a grant from the Central Area Committee of Scarborough Borough Council. Events planned for the coming year include a Racing Night and Treasure Hunt.

Did you know?

Congratulations...

Congratulations to the following people who tied the knot during 2002

Sarah Dawnay & Matthew Provis

Cecelia Morris & Antony Tubbs

Rachel Nichols & Simon Hall

Laura Bartle & Gary Corney

Charlotte & Chris Barker

'Picking Up'

The author Kate Fenton has recently written a novel entitled *Picking Up* based loosely on her experiences as a beater on Danby Moor, to whom the book is dedicated. Kate regularly beats at Danby with her Spaniel Fizz and has also written an article for a national newspaper detailing her experiences on the Moor. Kate is married to the actor Ian Carmichael, who is now appearing in the Heartbeat spin off series, 'The Royal'.

Painted Pottery

Carol Wilson, whose husband David is a gamekeeper at Danby Moor, has recently set up her own business producing hand painted pottery. These beautiful pieces of pottery show a variety of country scenes. Carol exhibits and sells them at local country fairs and shows. People who attended the Village Hall Christmas Bazaar and the Downe Arms would have seen this work on her stall.

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Please contact me with news for the next issue by 31/03/03

Photographs courtesy of
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