

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 lead 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.

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.

