

PIGEONPOST

March 1991

Number 1

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While the Editors do not necessarily agree with the opinions expressed by contributors, they believe the magazine should be used by local people to air their views. Items will normally be signed, and under no circumstances will the Editors print anything whose authorship is unknown to them.

Items for inclusion in the magazine should reach Margaret Morley or Jane Taylor by THE LAST WEEK OF THE MONTH. There will normally be 12 issues per year

Advertising Charges

Small box (65mm x 65mm)	1 issue	£5.00
	6 issues	£27.50
Large box (130 x 65)	1 issue	£10.00
	6 issues	£55.00
Half page		£15.00
Full Page		£30.00
Small Ads	per entry	£1.00
Local events, charities, etc.		FREE

Please include payment with advertisements.

ALL ADS MUST BE PREPAID and will be discontinued when the money runs out, unless renewed. Cheques should be made payable to "PIGEON POST, STARSTON NEWSLETTER".

ADVERTISE IN OUR SMALL ADS SECTION: FOR SALE — WANTED — APPOINTMENTS ETC

HELP

CAN ANYONE HELP US SELL ADVERTISING SPACE? CONTACT ANN BARTH ON 854246 IF YOU FEEL YOU CAN

Arrival of the "Pigeon Post"

THE TRADITIONAL IMAGE of the English village is of a green surrounded by a pub, a shop, a school, a church and a village hall. Such a structure allows contact between

villagers and can often help to maintain a sense of community.

Although Starston still has its church and village hall, everything else has gone, and this has led to frequent complaints that no-one ever knows what is happening in the village. Not only that, we are no longer supplied with the free community paper, so often we don't know what is happening in the surrounding area.

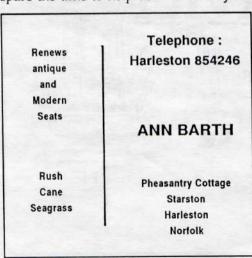
As a result of hearing so many people voice such opinions, we decided to attend a meeting — held in October by the Rural Community Council — about setting up and running a village newsletter Such a publication can provide a means of communication which is especially difficult in such a scattered community as ours. Filled with enthusiasm, we approached the Parish Council for a grant and, thanks to them, we were able to put out leaflets to every household in the village asking for help in setting up the venture.

Many thanks to those of you who could spare the time to help us. Thanks to your efforts, the first edition of "Pigeon Post" is now out and hopefully will become part of village life. Thanks also to the businesses which have supported this first issue. We rely entirely on advertising to fund the newsletter.

Everyone's contributions are welcome, and should be sent to the editors no later than the last week of the month to meet the publication deadline. Details of who to send material to is printed on the inside front cover.

We hope you all enjoy the first issue.











SUPPLIER OF ALL BUILDING MATERIALS TO THE BUILDER AND DO-IT-YOURSELF CUSTOMER DO YOU KNOW WE SELL:-

Timber * Bricks * Blocks * Cement * Sand * Paint * Glazed Tiles * Wallpaper Tools * Slabs * Plumbing * Electrics * Glass * Guttering * Roof sheets Fencing * Gas * Coal * Peat * Compost * Drains * Plywood * Doors * Windows Felt * Nails * Screws * Power Tools * Polycarbonate * etc * etc

FAST DELIVERY

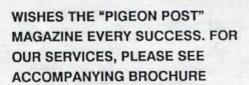
PULHAM MARKET 0379 678166

Mill Lane, Pulham Market, Diss, Norfolk, IP21 4TN





MASSIVE RANGE OF QUALITY EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE







Around and About

Tue	19 March 2.30	Pulham Market Mothers' Union Meeting Pulham Market Rectory
Fri	22 March 10am to 12	Fashion Wagon Ladies & Children's Clothes Sale Pulham Market Village Hall
	8.00pm	in aid of Pulham Market Playgroup Bingo Starston Jubilee Hall in aid of Starston Amenities Committee
Sat	23 March 2.30pm	Jumble Sale WI Hall, Harleston in aid of Harleston Ladies Lifeboat Guild
Mon	8 April 7.30pm	Annual Parish Meeting followed by 'Crime Prevention' Talk Starston Jubilee Hall
Tue	16 April 10 - 11am	Coffee Morning WI Hall, Harleston in aid of Harleston Forget-Me-Not Club
Sat	20 April 2.00pm	Starston Church Jumble Sale WI Hall, Harleston
Fri	26 April 7.30pm	Social Evening — Coffee & Drinks and 'Identify the Photo' Competition Starston Jubilee Hall run by Hall Management Committee Further details next month
Mor	7.30pm	Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting Starston Church

Tel: Framingham Earl (05086) 2023

John A.V. Crisp

Dip.F.D. M.B.I.F.D.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Memorials supplied 11a Hadden Close Poringland, NR14 7RN

Citizen's Advice Bureau

The following are your local Citizen's Advice Bureau Offices:

Bungay: 24 Upper Olland Street, Bungay. Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10am — 2pm Tel Bungay 895827

Diss: Shelfanger Road Car Park Monday to Friday from 10am to 3pm Tel: Diss 651333

BIN DAYS

Good Friday as normal.Easter Week a day early: ie Saturday

Gardening Notes

AS IWRITE this article, eight inches of snow lies on the ground. I am grateful for this because precious plants are now safer from the searing frosts under a protective blanket of snow.

By coincidence, our first village newsletter is to be launched in March, the first month of the Gardener's Year the days are noticeably longer and the sun's rays warmer But don't be too complacent, as there is a strong risk of night frosts and cold North-Easterlies can still bring more snow!



By now, the winter digging will have been completed and preparation of spring seed beds well under way. Always read the directions on the seed packets carefully and wait for a dry, warm spell before sowing. If you have cloches to protect your young plants and seedlings, so much the better. Well chitted Early potatoes can now be planted into 9" or 10" deep trenches, lined with well-rotted manure or garden compost.

After months of cold unpleasant weather, spring flowering bulbs and shrubs are a welcome sight: snowdrops, aconites, crocus, iris reticulata, ribes, chanomeles, forsythias, polyanthus to name but a few

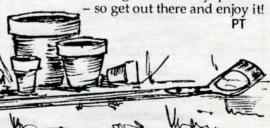
Take note of what other people have in their gardens

and write down the names of the plants that attract you in a Garden Note Book. It is all too easy to forget what they are. It is also helpful to jot down the height, colour and time of flowering so that you can work them into your garden plan for the following year

Rose pruning should be a priority in March: Hybrid Teas, Floribundas and climbers. Be sure to use sharp secateurs for this important job. Roses thrive if they are well and truly pruned. It is said that you should get your worst enemy to prune them for you, for they will prune them the most!

Have you cleaned and sharpened your mower ready for the first cut? Wait until it is warmer and dry and the grass not less than 2" to 3" high. Set the blades high so that only the top half inch or so is cut. You will get a much healthier turf, however, if you have previously aerated and raked the lawn to remove dead, matted grass and moss, so that air and water can penetrate. An even application of spring fertilizer can be applied at the end of the month.

March is positively the last month in which to plant bare-rooted trees, shrubs and roses. As you have no doubt realized, March is a very busy time for gardeners and I have only touched on a few of this month's activities. Gardening is a fascinating, rewarding and healthy pastime



Starston Parish Council

Your Starston Parish Council meets four times a year in the Jubilee Hall, you are all welcome to attend and observe, but cannot take part unless invited by the Chairman.

The Annual General Meeting takes place at the end of April and the Annual Parish Meeting is usually held in May, when everyone has a voice. This year the meeting is in April (see below)

Parish Council Meeting

THE PARISH COUNCIL meeting was held on 4th February, attended by Stephen Revell (our representative on the Norfolk County Council), and Jocelyn Rawlance (our representative on the South Norfolk District Council) There were also two members of the public and your reporter. It was good to see and hear such devoted work by our unpaid and often unthanked fellow Parishioners and elected representatives.

We heard that our letters to the Road Department are promptly answered, but it was distressing to find out that action is another matter The 'hole in the road' (outside the Old School) took over six months to fill, by which time it had become pretty dangerous and certainly more costly to put right. We all saw the elaborate works to drain the road outside the Rectory, which took a considerable time to complete. Whenever I drove past, the only thing which was working was the traffic light. It seems extraordinary that after the next heavy rain the Chairman could take a photograph of the flooded road that the Roads Department had taken so long to cure! After they have seen the photograph, perhaps they will return some time in the next year or two to finish the job. No wonder our taxes are so high.

Council Members

Your present Council consists of: Mr R G Taylor (Chairman) Mrs J Akast (Vice Chairman)

Mrs I Morris (Councillor)

Mr P Blake (Councillor)

Mr R Moore (Councillor)

Mr F Self (Councillor) Mr R Noble (Councillor)

Elections

Parish Council elections are due to take place on Thursday, 2nd May 1991. Are you interested in what goes on in your community? Can you contribute? Would you make a good Parish Councillor?

The latest day for putting in Nomination Papers is Noon, Friday 5th April 1991.

do

For your Nomination Papers, please contact: Clerk to the Council, Mrs A E Barth, Pheasantry Cottage, Church Hill, Starston.

Annual Parish Meeting

The next Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Monday, 8th April 1991 at 7.30pm in Starston Jubilee Hall.

The meeting will be followed by a talk and video on "Crime Prevention", given by

PC Logan.

Coffee will be served after the meeting
ALL ARE WELCOME

We have a few public paths in use in the Parish, so it is a pity that horse and motorcycle riders use them illegally and churn them up so as to make them unpleasant to use by pedestrians. It would be nice if people using the layby in the Street would refrain from using it as a rubbish dump.

BM

Crime Prevention Week

Crime Prevention Week will start on 5th April 1991 and each day will have a specific theme:.

Monday Car crime Tuesday Youth Action

Wednesday Business and Crime Thursday Violence and Fear of

Crime

Friday Burglary

Saturday Neighbourhood Watch

The Home Office hopes the week will strenghten partnerships in communities to tackle crime and will focus on the opportunist nature of crime which makes a great deal of it preventable by normal care and attention.

Please make a note in your diaries that during this week, Starston Parish Council has invited PC Logan to talk at the Annual Parish Meeting (see page 7 for details)

Jubilee Hall Pumpkins

LAST YEAR we held a competition to find out who could grow the largest pumpkin and the results were judges at a Halloween Party at the Jubilee Hall. We intend to hold the same competition this year and those who wish to take part should give their names to Mr Jack Starling (last year's winner), Oakdene Cottage, Railway Hill, Starston who will reserve the necessary seeds for them for 50 pence.

Anyone who wishes to grow from seed which they have obtained from elsewhere will also be welcome to enter an Open Class, although they will not be eligible to win the very valuable trophy. This way, we might be able to produce a really huge pumpkin.

We believe that Hardwick Village Hall is probably going to run a similar competition, so beware Starstonians: the honour of our village might well be at stake!

DM





Pulham Market Playgroup

Have you a child of approximately 2yrs 9 months? If so, please come and visit us at one of our sessions. Tuesdays and Fridays from 9.45 to 12.15, or you can contact Sheila on Harleston 852199.

Note: If you have a child of 2 years 6 months, they can stay as long as a parent is with them.

A Caring, Long-standing Playgroup

Starston 100 Club

The Starston Jubilee Hall Management Committee are pleased to confirm that the 100 Club will be continuing from 1st April when Bob Waugh will be taking over from Irene Morris who is leaving the village this year. We would like to thank Irene for all her hard work over the years and extend a warm welcome to Bob, who is not a member of the Management Committee, but has offered his services.

We hope the existing members will continue to support the 100 Club and ask any prospective new member to contact Bob Waugh, The Fennell Barn, Skinners Lane, Starston, Tel: Harleston 852834.



For the uninitiated, the 100 Club helps to pay for the upkeep of the Jubilee Hall. Each member of the Club pays £1 per month and is given an exclusive "number". Each month, numbers are drawn and there are substantial cash prizes to be won.



A Flipping Success

ON SUNDAY 10TH FEBRUARY, Elteb and Derek Griffin held one of their famous Pancake Races, despite the snow. They raised £343, half of which was donated to Starston Church and half to the Make Mandy Mobile appeal, Sixtyfour people attended the event and Elteb and Derek would like to thank everyone for their support and for the donations of refreshments and prizes.

Mandy Bloss was born in Needham and has spina bifida. She was educated at a

Sue Simmonds of Needham is in charge of the appeal, which is already halfway towards its target. She can be contacted on 853304.

special school in Ely and, until recently, lived at the Bishop Herbert House in Norwich (which is a residential home for people with impairment.) She has now moved to a specially modified bungalow in Norwich. At 26, this is her first chance to lead an independent life and an electric wheel-

chair would be a great help to her.

STOP PRESS

As we go to press, Dove First School have just held a Charity Event in aid of Mandy. The children bought their Mum a cup of coffee and a bunch of flowers at school on Saturday 9th March. A raffle and Bring 'n' Buy stall helped to swell the proceeds to £170, all of which goes to the Appeal.

Starston Amenities Committee

The Committee met on Monday, 25th February. It was decided to offer to buy new curtains and lampshades for the Jubilee-Hall. The matter has been referred to the Hall Management Committee for their approval.

Following a letter received from Mr Noble, it was agreed to donate the sum of £30 to the Citizen's Advice Bureau.

There was discussion about the Over Sixties' Xmas Party and several suggestions are being considered to make this event more comfortable and enjoyable for the old people.

Bingo continues to be well-supported and popular This is run every other Friday night at the Jubilee Hall, with the next session on Friday, 22nd March at 8pm. All are

welcome.

"It's quite alright, my dear fellow. You see, everything has to give way to a sailing vessel."

Church News

FIRST OF ALL a warm welcome to "Pigeon Post" Parish magazines and newsletters, whether they come from the church or from the community as a whole, are much more significant than most people realise. If you add together all the readers of parish magazines throughout the country, they far exceed the numbers of readers of even the most popular newspapers. I would like to congratulate the individuals who have managed to get this particular Pigeon airborne, and I hope that with the permission of the Editors, I shall regularly be able to contribute one or two paragraphs of news about St Margaret's Church.



There is no more pleasant way of giving money to charity than by doing so at a good party, and Derek and Elteb Griffin put on very good parties indeed. Their Pancake Race on 10th February was up to their highest standard, with many of the guests dressed up in fancy dress, covered with flour, and made to run a circular course through the snow, tossing pancakes as they went. The whole event raised £343, of which half was donated to the Church and half towards the cost of buying a wheel-chair for a local girl, Mandy Bloss, who comes from Needham and is disabled.

Our services for Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter will be as in past years. There will be no Sunday School on Palm Sunday (24th March) but any children who

come to the 11am Matins will receive a Palm Cross There will be a one-hour service of hymns and talks on Good Friday, 29th March at 10am. Holy Communion on Easter Day, 31st March, will be at 11am, when the Church will be a mass of spring flowers We have some highly-skilled flower arrangers who decorate the Church quite beautifully, particularly on special occasions, and their work is well worth seeing, as anybody who came to the Flower Festival last June will know

April promises well, we have two weddings booked, with another one in May After a spate of weddings in 1989, we had a rather thin time for marriages last year, but 1991 seems as though getting married is back in fashion locally. Let us hope the weather is friendly

Malcolm France

Starston Sunday School

The Sunday School meets in the Rectory Room at the Old Rectory every Sunday during term-time from 11am to 12 noon, except the first Sunday of the month, when we join in the Family Service at the Church at 11am. If you would like to become a Sunday School member, or helper please pop in and see us.

It Ain't What You Use

it's the way that you use it ...

RECYCLING IS A FASHIONABLE ACTIVITY at the moment. Environmentally concerned people, schools, clubs and societies are all, to a greater or lesser extent, saving bottles, paper, cans and other items for recycling and in many cases trying to raise funds for charity or some other good cause at the same time.

Unfortunately, however, many of these well-meaning efforts are doomed to failure and, instead of saving resources let alone making money, they are actually contributing to waste. The idealist who drives to a recycling centre with a few bundles of old paper, or a couple of dozen bottles and a week's supply of petfood tins, is actually wasting more energy than could possibly be saved by the act of recycling their cargo. But the fact is, that surprising numbers of people are continuing to make special trips to recycling centres or individual facilities.

Despite its fashionability, and therefore the attention it is attracting at the moment, recycling has been around since the dawn of civilisation. If we take as one definition of recycling: the act of re-using something, or achieving a secondary use, then the caveman who first made tools from the bones left at the end of the meal was practicing a kind of recycling. In recent times, metals, paper, textiles and foodwaste have all been recycled as part of government-led strategy This was during the Second World War, a period when a powerful propaganda campaign succeeded in making the nation waste-conscious to a degree which would amaze the younger generation if it was repeated. I believe the propaganda was too successful as the instructions to save old newspapers is still heeded by many householders. How else can one explain the carefully bundled newspapers put out next to the bin bag at so many front gates?

Clearly, the people doing this have never actually watched the council binmen at work — if they had, they would see that the paper is thrown into the vehicle and crushed along with the rest of the rubbish — and it all ends up in the same land-fill site.

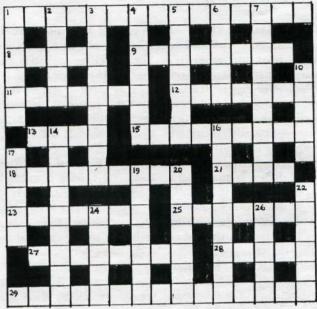
This type of well-meaning, but useless, activity may possibly be the fault of the trade organizations who represent paper producers. They are not famous for spending money explaining the economics of the industry to the general public, but if they did, fewer people would waste time trying to save the stuff

The fact is that if something is really worth recycling, then the industry is already taking very good care that it is being done. When was the last time you heard of anyone having trouble getting rid of wornout jewellery, or a dented silver teapot? A silly question really, but one that serves to make the point. Even old cars, despite the mountains of them alongside most railway lines, are continually being recycled. In fact, the iron and steel industry has an excellent record in these activities.

Recycling isn't all gloom and doom. It is simply the case that there is no market for a lot of what we consume and dispose of: paper and plastics packaging being the most obvious examples. The individual can cut the amount of waste generated: of the 30,000 tonnes of waste collected in South Norfolk each year, between a quarter and a half could be taken out of the waste stream. The what and the how will be discussed in a future article.

RB

CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 Operation required at Starston Church (5,10)
- 2 "Stiffen the ____s, summon up the blood," (Henry V)

9 Like the Marie Celeste 11 Reappeared after eclipse

- 12 Sounds like lack of harmony in local town
- 13 Second Greek character
- 15 Ten-footed, like a lobster
- 18 Total success for Steffi or Boris? (5,4)
- 21 Instructions to Britannia
- 23 Self-centred characters
- 25 An orderly soldier?
- 27 A subterranean cemetry
- 28 Repetition makes a profit
- 29 Main street (3,12)

(answers next month)

Down

1 Bivalve mollusc producing a gem

2 An Arabian goblin

- 3 Where to get your EDP (4,5)
- 4 Curved and brought to earth without the 'g'

5 Wandering

the hart for cooling stream," (Tate) 6 "As 7 Speaking hindered by enlarged throat tissue

10 Images may be solid

14 Explain in detail, an aero table perhaps

16 Distinct section in text

- 17 Eager, possibly, to consent 19 Handyman with the noose
- 20 Source of feather trimming
- 22 Cross the channel to finds a local figure
- 24 Shatter, sometimes associated with grab
- 26 Apprentice priest seems very woolly

(Compiled by EGS)

SMALL ADS

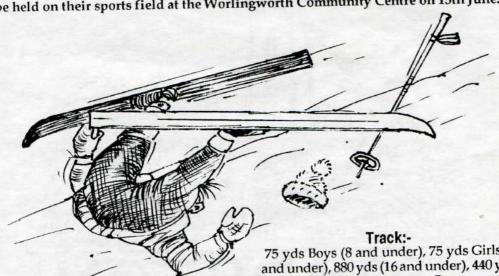
COMPUTERS FOR SALE! Spectrum 48K, Spectrum 128, Commodore 64, Sinclair QL. Harleston 852618

PIANO, BRASS, RECORDER tuition. Nic and Sarah Cope. Harleston 852364

NEED HELP WITH THOSE GCSEs? Home tuition in Maths and IT Alan Harris 852618

Inter-Village Sports

THE INTER VILLAGE SPORTS first started in 1977 in North Suffolk and now, 15 years later, Starston joins Dennington, Fressingfield, Hoxne, Laxfield, Metfield, Occold, Stradbroke, Weybread and Worlingworth in the event. Each year, the games are hosted by a different village and this year Worlingworth are the hosts. The events will be held on their sports field at the Worlingworth Community Centre on 15th June.



Last year, Starston entered a team of men, women and youngsters, competing in 15 different events and earned 91 points. Hoxne were the Sports winners, with 185 points from the 24 events that they entered.

All of our competitors acquitted themselves well and entered the spirit of the day. Space does not permit to give all the names and achievements, but I would especially like to mention Debbie and Steward Griffin who won the Egg Throwing event. Ask them the secret of their success!

This year we will be entering 20 events (all villages may select 20 events from the 28 events on offer).

Team:-

Darts, Football (+15yrs), Bowls, Table Tennis, Badminton, Indoor Cricket

75 yds Boys (8 and under), 75 yds Girls (8 and under), 880 yds (16 and under), 440 yds Ladies Open, 1 mile Open, Cross country (21/2 miles) Open

Field:-

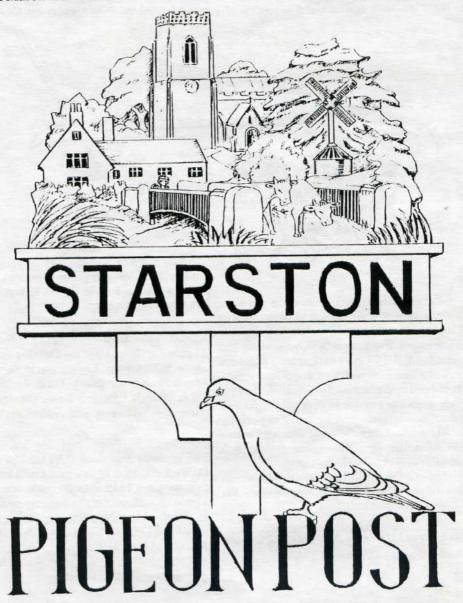
Mixed Two in a Sack (21+), Mixed Egg Throwing (16+), Four on Two Planks Open, Slow Bike Open, Ladies Sack Race (25+), Mens Sack Race (30+), Three-legged Race (21+, Mixed), Obstacle Relay (Male and Female 21+, with Boy and Girl 14 and under)

Please note the date SATURDAY 15TH JUNE 1991. Ron Noble and I will be asking you for your help over the next few weeks. There is a place for the serious competitor as much as for the person entering for fun. SUPPORT STARSTON AS A VILLAGE THAT PARTICIPATES

Ralph White

Children's Colouring Competition

PRIZES TO BE WON! Colour the picture below and send your entry to Dennis Fairweather, Hillside, The Street, Starston, with your name, age and address. Closing date 27th March 1991. Details of the winners in next month's issue.



Children's Corner

CALLING ALL CHILDREN ... have you got a favourite joke, poem, story or hobby you could write to us about? Send your contributions to Children's Corner, Dairy Farm, Hardwick Road, Starston, Harleston IP20 9PT

Jokes

Why didn't the millionaire have any bathrooms in his mansion?

Because he was filthy rich!



What do you give a hungry robber? Beefburglars!



Which animals use nut crackers?

Toothless squirrels!



What lives at the bottom of the sea, has eight wheels and carries people around?

An octobus!



We always say prayers before we eat Mum's a terrible cook!

Kate M

Harleston & District Winemakers Guild

THE GUILD MEETS on the third Wednesday of every month at the WI Hall, Chandler's Lane, Harleston at 8pm. The object of the Guild is to promote and improve the making of wine and beer, and guests are welcome at all meetings, hopefully with the view of their becoming members. At each meeting, in addition to the usual formal business (kept to a minimum) of similar bodies, the Guild invites guest speakers on a variety of subjects and holds Open and Close Winemaking Competitions. Exchange visits are made to other Guilds in the area and to venues of interest.

The Guild recently held a very successful and enjoyable Annual Dinner at the Black Swan, Homersfield, when Chairman Gilbert Clarke presented the 'Winemaker of the Year' goblet to Ray Saunders. The members were reminded of the Annual General Meeting to be held on 20th March and asked to give their full support on the occasion which is always the most important of any organisation's year

If any reader would like more information about the Guild, please telephone the Chairman on Harleston 852557, or the acting Secretary on Harleston 854327. Better still, come along to one of our meetings!

The Guild extends to the residents of Starston its good wishes for the success of its new monthly village news magazine.



Tel. (0379) 852387

No, we don't just sell cream! We also sell

apples, bacon, beefburgers, beeswax, biscuits, blackberries, blackcurrants, BUTTER, cakes, CHANNEL ISLAND MILK (untreated and pasteurised), CHEESECAKES, CHEESES, children's aprons, chocolates, chutneys, coke, cones, CREAM CONES, crisps, DAIRY-FED PORK, duck, eggs, flour, free-range chickens, FRESH CREAM GATEAUX, frozen bread rolls, fruit, fruit juices, fruit pies, gammon joints and steaks, herbal tea, honey, jams, jellies, JERSEY CREAM (untreated and pasteurised), key rings, lemonade, LEMON CURD, LIVE YOGURT, loganberries, maps, marmalade, mars bars, matches, meat pies, milk shake syrup, milky ways, Norfolk Punch, notelets, orange juice, pickles, pizza, potatoes, quiche, raspberries, shopping bags, SKIMMED MILK, spring water, STARSTON FAYRE FARM FRESH DAIRY ICE CREAM, Starston-made handicrafts, steak & kidney pies, straw, strawberries, sugar, sweets, tea, tea towels, tourist guides, turkey steaks, vegetables and much more.

DURING MARCH WE HAVE SPECIAL OFFERS ON SOME FROZEN FOODS

We are Open Tuesday to Friday 9am to 6pm, Saturday 9-5 and Sunday 9.30-12.30. We are closed on Mondays during March, but will be open on Easter Monday and following Mondays until October Customers are welcome to look around the farm, but only whilst the shop is open, and we are about to have some lambs. Milking time is 4 to 5pm approx

THIS VOUCHER ENTITLES YOU TO EITHER A 2 PINT BOTTLE OF MILK OR A SMALL POT OF DOUBLE CREAM FREE WHEN YOU SPEND A MINIMUM OF £5 AT CRANE'S WATERING FARM DURING MARCH 1991