

# THE TIMES

of  
KELSALE  
- cum -  
CARLTON

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## Happy Autumn!

To all the residents of Kelsale-cum-Carlton

Autumn Edition:

October 2004

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## Chairman's Report

**W**hy do we always talk about the weather? Because it's very important to so many people. Climate and weather conditions have always directly affected farming, that much is obvious to everyone, but it reaches out way beyond that. The success of our sport and leisure industry is seriously influenced by weather. Just think of caravan sales, golf and yacht club subscriptions, restaurants, ice-creams, and summer clothing, - etc the list is huge. All these activities take a downturn in the sort of summer that we have just had.



**W**hich brings me to our cover photo this month. Many thanks to Nobby Mann and Hallsworth Farmland Trust who allowed me to ride on their tractor for this. But what a machine!! Caterpillar tracked, with a 30ft cutter table, and as we drove alongside it the harvester deposited ten tons of wheat in our trailer in about 45 seconds. But the best bit - it was guided by the very latest GPS system with a magic eye that tracked the edge of the previous cut. You can just make it out in the photo - a small black device supported above the right-hand end of the cutter. So, apart from turning at the end of the field, it was a completely hands-off operation for the driver. How about that! But this harvest was all several weeks later into the autumn than normal, which delays ploughing, drilling and treating the land and seriously affects next year's crop.

**S**adly our parish made headline news last month for all the wrong reasons. Our former postmistress was sentenced to a custodial term for acts of dishonesty in running the post office over an extended period. It is all too easy to point fingers in these situations, but I cannot help wondering why systems were not in place, either to prevent this or to cause it to be detected earlier. I believe everyone is inherently law-abiding, but some circumstances arise which cause a few people to give in to temptation, and the systems don't just protect us, they might just protect the would-be guilty from themselves.

**W**e have received a report that the Village Hall roof is now receiving some welcome attention. The flat roof over the new rear extension had been leaking badly and is now being renewed. Hopefully this will buy some time for the building whilst we try to get a major restoration scheme in place.