

# Eerie beauty of the abbey in winter

**T**HE first Camera club awayday of the year is usually a little risky and we try not to travel too far as the weather can be bad, but the forecasters got it wrong and despite overnight wind and rain, the sky was clear and blue.

Nine club members travelled to Anglesey Abbey, near Lode, to see if the snowdrops had emerged ... and just a few had reared their pretty heads.

But the winter garden was immaculate and attractively planted with the eerie beauty of the Himalayan silver birches, although we discovered later that the bark is cleaned with a pressure washer at the beginning of November to keep the trees' pristine brilliance.

The abbey gardens were created by Lord Fairhaven between 1930 and 1966 and are now run by the National Trust, of which several colleagues are members.

The 98 acres of grounds are open all year round and there is a working water mill which grinds corn on the first and third Saturday of each month, which is then on sale to the public.

The next club event is from 7.15-9.15pm on



A beautiful winter scene at Anglesey Abbey

Picture by Tracey Wilson

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at the Cathodeon centre, when we will be attempting Light Writing and trying our hands at still life.

The next awayday will be on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February when there are plans to view

the Shuttleworth Collection and Swiss Gardens at Old Warden, near Biggleswade.

For more details and information regarding events, please call Roger Lapwood on 891104.

Tracey Wilson

## Desperately seeking Boris ...

ALTHOUGH recipients are unfailingly delighted to receive a prize from the St Mary's draw, the heap of prizes to be dispatched can dampen the enthusiasm of the happiest of distributors.

Three days after the Christmas draw, I was getting a bit weary of trying to make contact with the phone numbers on the winning stubs. After trying

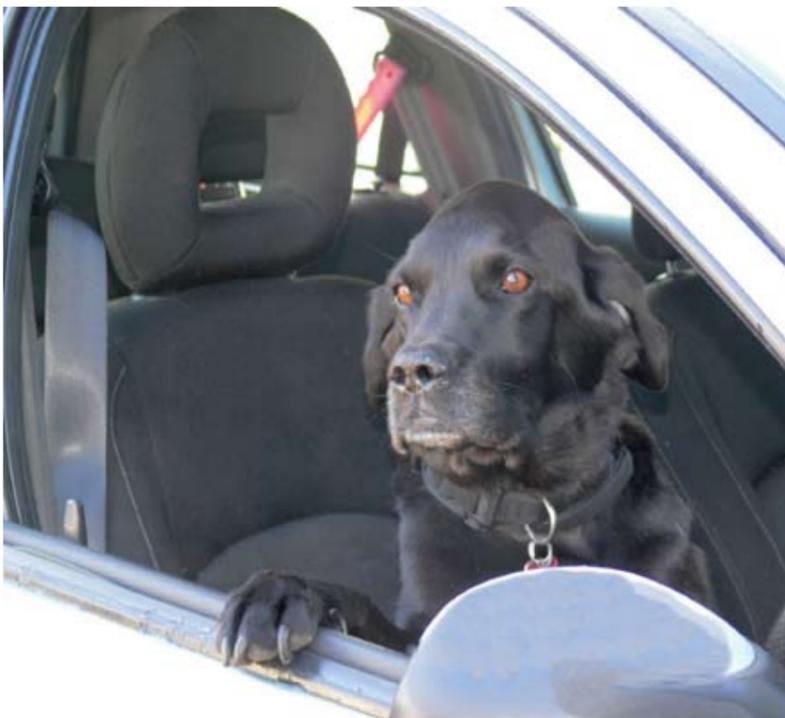
one number for the third time, a similarly weary female answered the phone, but seemed unwilling to let me talk to the winner, although he had won the free car wash of his choice at Granta Garage filling station. "Boris lives with the vet," said the wary voice.

"Boris is not a dog, is he?" I asked. "Yes," replied Val Urwin, hastily adding "and

he would love to drive out in a clean car." She explained she had just handed the draw tickets to David to write names on the stubs, so he had filled in the shortest name in the household.

When you next see the car registration K9... around the village, look out for a smiling Boris in his clean car.

Kate France 891602



Lucky dog: they say every dog has his day and Boris certainly had his when he won a free car wash in the St Mary's Christmas draw

Picture by Ron Pitkin

## Scouts celebrate 75 years

FIRST Linton Scouts celebrates its 75th anniversary this year. Beavers, Cubs and Scouts will enjoy a host of special activities during the year, including a family camp at Abington and a special event for the community in November.

To help us celebrate we need your help. Records of a scout group in Linton date back to 1934 and we are trying to gather as much information as we can about the group over the past 75 years.

We are looking for old photographs, memorabilia (an old uniform in the attic?) or perhaps you can tell us of any significant memories.

Any information will help build a better picture of our past. Please contact group Scout leader Barry Holman on [contact@lintonscouts.co.uk](mailto:contact@lintonscouts.co.uk) or call 891961. We look forward to hearing from you.

You can also visit our website at [www.1stlintonscouts.co.uk](http://www.1stlintonscouts.co.uk)

Barry Holman

## Police station on the move

LATE last year, the Cambridgeshire police authority signed an agreement with a housing association to sell off most of their police housing. The Linton police houses were included in this package and will be handed over by the end of the year. For us, the consequence was that not only were the houses sold, but also the police station. This came as a complete surprise as there had been no consultation with any of your local representatives or, for that matter, our local MP.

I have met the chairman of the police authority, Cllr Keith Walters, to raise my concerns. He has offered his apologies for the lack of consultation and accepts that the process was not as it should be.

More importantly, he has given a clear undertaking that maintaining a police "presence" in Linton is a priority that is in their plans and budget for the coming year. That sounds fine except for the careful use of the word "presence". It would seem that there is no undertaking to provide a police station but rather a base for the local PCSOs. The form this would take is an open question. It could be a shared facility; it could just be a room hired somewhere.

It has been left to our local police commander, Inspector Chris Savage, to get things sorted out. Options could be a shared facility at the fire station, using a shop in the village, being based on the village college site and many other possibilities. At Melbourn, who are in a similar situation, the police are negotiating to be on the village college site.

How this will be resolved has yet to be decided. The important thing is for us to have an arrangement that allows our police officers to act in the most efficient and timely manner. That will mean a base in Linton from which they can react quickly to any incident and which, when necessary, is accessible to the public. I will be working with the police and the parish council to make sure that is what will happen.

John Batchelor 892111  
County and district councillor

## Spreading a little happiness



Party time: Brownies and their leaders and helpers entertain with carols

ON Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December as part of the general run-up to Christmas, Wednesday Brownies prepared and served tea to some of the Chalklands residents in their day room.

They had made cakes earlier in the term and with guidance and help, iced and decorated them. A benefit of this was that they were thus able to gain their hostess badges by making the cakes.

During the afternoon, the girls sang carols to the residents with Sally and Karina playing their recorders.

The residents were delighted to sing along and it gave some of the Brownies the opportunity to gain their entertainer badge.



Singalong: many of the Chalklands' residents join in

Pictures by Stephane Toussenet

It was a thoroughly good afternoon enjoyed by all, gathering together different generations at Christmas time. (An initiative that we hope to see again ... Editor)

The Brownies meet Monday and Wednesday at 5.45pm at Linton infant school

Carol Thexton  
891731 evenings

# PLODDING ALONG

An update on police matters

## A HAPPY New Year from your local neighbourhood policing team.

The dates of our forthcoming police surgeries running in the Linton neighbourhood are:

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February**, 3-5pm in Balsham church hall, Church Lane, Balsham;

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March**, 5-7pm in Horseheath village hall, Horseheath;

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April**, 5-7pm in Linton village hall, Coles Lane, Linton

These surgeries are attended by your local policing team and are an opportunity for you to ask us questions or raise any issues which are important to you.

They are not exclusive to people living in those particular villages, but an invitation to everyone within the Linton neighbourhood. This includes Balsham, Horseheath, Linton, West Wrattling, West Wickham, Horseheath, Carlton, Weston Colville, Bartlow, Shudy and Castle Camps.

We will be trying to run a surgery every month, covering every village. Please keep your eye out for future dates.

PC 1881 Rebecca Parkin and PCSO 7081 Chris Pulley  
Linton neighbourhood team, 0845 456 4564 ext 7615

## Speed Watch: how it will affect you

THE emotive problem of speeding vehicles in rural villages and the effects it has on local communities has been a major topic at recent neighbourhood panel meetings.

A new approach is needed and Speed Watch, a Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Partnership initiative, provides that opportunity.

Speed Watch gives people a chance to influence and contribute to the education of drivers and to help police identify locations which deserve enforcement activity. It relies on people volunteering to monitor the speed of vehicles in local neighbourhoods using free-standing portable detection and display equipment.

Volunteers work in groups (ideally of three) to monitor the speed of vehicles and record the details of those exceeding the limit. Details are then passed to the police, who write to the registered keepers of the vehicle, advising them of the circumstances and requesting their co-operation to reduce speed.

Speed Watch has been piloted extensively in East Cambridgeshire and the feedback has been positive: volunteers feel they are actually doing something to cut speeding, residents feel more satisfied that something is being done and speeding drivers could face a summons if they do not mend their ways.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact John Fuller 823243, e-mail john.fuller@cams.pnn.police.uk or come along to the special Speedwatch meeting at 6pm on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March at Linton Heights junior school. The Neighbourhood Panel will follow at 7.30pm.

All volunteers will be fully trained and supported by named police staff.

John Fuller

Community Engagement Manager, Southern Division,  
Parkside Police Station, Cambridge  
823243 Mobile - 07736 084675 (Mobex 7110990)  
Email - john.fuller@cams.pnn.police.uk



## A brilliant end of term

A FANTASTIC finish to the school term at Linton village college came in the shape of Charities Morning.

Students were put into groups of about six with a mix of people from all the years and asked to come up with an idea for a fundraising stall.

Ideas came thick and fast, from 'hot dog' to 'video gaming' stalls and even a 'throw the sponge at the teacher' stall. There are always a large variety of ways for the students and staff to spend their money.

Each school house (Mandela, Austen, Nightingale, Redgrave and Newton) chose a charity to which the money they raise would be donated, with some put aside for our link

school in Africa.

Linton village college has held an annual charities morning for more than 10 years, and for the last five years it has been organised by Mr Richard Hall. There were in excess of 110 stalls, and a stunning total of £1,600 was raised in one morning.

The end of term assembly which followed was a fun-filled event hosted by two students from year 11. It involved a performance from the variety show comedy group and two musical acts among others. It was a great note to end the school term on, and made a brilliant change from the usual end of term assemblies!

Sammy

## Braving the cold ...

THE latest police panel meeting took place on the bitterly cold evening of 23<sup>rd</sup> December in Fulbourn. Although there was an absence of district and county councillors representing Linton, the meeting was surprisingly well-attended, given its proximity to Christmas.

On the agenda was Speed Watch, a partnership between Cambridgeshire county council, the police and participating parish councils. The aim is to help residents reduce speeding on the roads in their local area.

The project is voluntary with residents operating speed monitoring equipment in areas where motorists persistently exceed the limit. Registration numbers of offenders are passed to the police.

A special presentation will be made before the next panel meeting at the Heights school at 6pm on 24<sup>th</sup> March.

Speed Watch has been hailed a success in Soham and surrounding villages. Parish councils are being asked to finance the scheme, but it is thought that councils interested in taking part can share the cost and use one set of equipment. (A

fuller report can be read in column 3 on this page.)

Roger Hickford of Linton parish council said Chalklands and Payne's Meadow become a priority for extra patrols, following a rise in complaints regarding antisocial behaviour. This was agreed.

Relating to the issue of distraction burglary, residents were reminded to keep up their vigilance in reporting suspicious vehicles and people.

PCSO Zally Huseyin's replacement should be starting in early February, but it was announced that PC Leanne Allen is leaving our sector to join a unit targeting specific criminal individuals.

Notice has been given of forthcoming police surgeries (see above). It is hoped that a surgery can be held once a month, in a different village within the Linton neighbourhood.

To discuss any policing matter, the team can be reached on the non-emergency number 0845 4564564.

To be kept fully up to date with everything the team is doing, subscribe to 'ecops' at [www.cambspolice.co.uk/myneighbourhood/ecops/](http://www.cambspolice.co.uk/myneighbourhood/ecops/)

LNT

## Listening with awe ... the WI takes flight



ON one of the coldest nights imaginable, members at a very well attended meeting listened in awe to the exploits of one of our members on learning to become a pilot. Ann Simpkin welcomed members and five visitors; many apologies were received due to illness.

The Christmas party and the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary was a great success due to the hard work of the catering team. Trysha Hunt agreed to be the delegate for the group at the AGM in the Albert Hall. The Christmas tree festival at St Mary's was enjoyed by the team doing the decorating, and much appreciated by those who attended the event which was a huge success. An excellent turnout of members enjoyed the various entertainments at the Christmas celebration at Balsham; four of our members took part in a short pantomime plus other readings.

**Outings:** Pancake race 24<sup>th</sup> February, details at the February meeting. A reminder about the visit to the Victoria and Albert Museum and the spring lunch at Haslingfield.

**Bus shelter report:** Ann has met with councillors and the contractor to discuss proposals, and a decision is awaited.

The next coffee morning will be on 5<sup>th</sup> February at Lynette Olway's, 16 Market Lane.

Eileen Impey had made a beautiful iced 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary cake for all to enjoy with their tea and coffee. Unfortunately, Eileen could not be with us due to illness, but our thanks will be sent to her for this generous gift.

One of our members Rita Boniface was introduced and spoke on 'My hobby as a pilot'. She gave a fascinating and interesting account of how she came to take up flying. Her interest in archaeology with her young son made her aware that you can identify ancient remains by seeing the raised greener areas that show up from the sky.

Her son persuaded her to take him on a flight; she did this and was hooked on flying from then on. She became so enthusiastic that she decided to take lessons, qualified as a pilot and flying took over her life.

She decided to become an instructor, which she found hugely rewarding, passing on all the knowledge she had gained. She was a part-time instructor for eight years.

Rita was very inspiring and I'm sure most of us wish we had had a go ourselves. She encouraged everyone to try ballooning or gliding as it is a magical experience. She has now given up her licence but is still a member of the BWPA, the British Women Pilots Association, and can still fly.

The meeting closed with a raffle, delicious cake and coffee.

Our next meeting will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> February when the speaker on 'Light among the trees part III' will be Peter Beale. It will be an open meeting - do come and join us.

Tricia Lewis 893609

## Too good for jumble...

NEW this month are a three-tier electric steamer, hardly used, and a glass shower screen with fittings. The following are still on offer: the Primer Home Bakery breadmaker, the Evolution X fitness vibration plate, the one-year-old Photosmart 7800 HP printer, the 15in Dell computer, the almost new Fisher Price baby bath, the Casiotone CT 450 stereo keyboard with instructions - battery or mains-operated, the set of Morse videos with book about the stories and the Silver Cross pram.

The Carl Lewis cross trainer raised £10 for Help for Heroes and the Mitsubishi Diamond computer monitor raised £10 for ACE.

To buy any of the above or to offer an item to profit a charity, please contact me.

Kate France 891602 or email [katefrance@linton48.freerve.co.uk](mailto:katefrance@linton48.freerve.co.uk)

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Haverhill	Market Square Saturday	9.00-4.00

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## Readers write...

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters are on Page 8. Please note: all letters for publication must be supplied with a full name and address to enable us to check authenticity. Letters may be edited.

### Sympathy with the animals

Dear Editor  
I want to say how much I appreciated Darryl Nantais' remarks in the December issue of the Linton News regarding fireworks, and their detrimental effect on wildlife.

I probably won't be in time for New Year but even so we must speak up for those that don't have a voice, or at least are not always listened to.

I don't consider myself to have anywhere near the knowledge Darryl has of the natural world, but for a good few years, firework displays have left a bitter taste for me.

(One lady told me that the bangs scare birds out of their nests and they die). But, as Darryl has suggested, why can't manufacturers concentrate on the colours rather than the bangs?

There is so much that we don't understand and I wish that as youngsters are growing up, they would have within them a sense of responsibility, that the object of our lives is not just to use up resources but to make a contribution.

Jane Searle  
Address supplied

## A goat for Africa ...



The goat, bought from Oxfam, will go to help a poor family in Africa

Picture supplied by Jan Lupton

**THERE will be a farmers' market from 9.30am-12.30pm on 7th February. At Christmas, we did not run the usual raffle but purchased instead a goat from Oxfam for a family in Africa.**

They will be able to use its milk, breed from it, and eventually trade the excess produce for other items they need.

We felt it was a way of helping the poor directly, and if anyone else is interested in this type of donation, information is available on the Oxfam website.

Jan Lupton

## Act quickly to take up this £250,000 offer

**LOCAL businesses developing exciting new technologies are eligible for up to £250,000 of specialist consultancy grants available through an East of England Development Agency (EEDA) pilot project.**

The so-called 'innovation vouchers' will provide small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with £3,000 worth of one-to-one collaboration with the region's top universities, free of charge.

The voucher is worth up to one week's dedicated support and advice, and businesses have until 5pm on Monday 2nd February to apply.

Richard Ellis, chairman

of the East of England Development Agency, said: "The East of England is already home to a rich array of innovative businesses developing products and services of international significance – companies such as BT, GlaxoSmith-Kline and Unilever.

"But it's not all about the 'big-hitters'. Ambitious smaller companies are the lifeblood of our region's economy.

"EEDA's innovation voucher scheme aims to help these businesses turn new ideas into real commercial success."

For further information, visit the EEDA website at [www.eeda.org.uk](http://www.eeda.org.uk)

## Come and pray with us

THE Women's World Day of Prayer will be celebrated this year on Friday 6th March.

The service has been prepared by Christian women in Papua New Guinea, with the theme 'In Christ there are many members yet one body'.

The service will be held in Linton at 10.30am in St Mary's church and refreshments will be served afterwards. Everyone, children and men as well as women, are invited to attend this international, interdenominational service.

Papua New Guinea is a land of many ethnic groups, and more than 800 distinct languages, of which more than half are unrelated. Hence there is great cultural diversity. In spite of gender inequality, women are beginning to take their place in professions previously closed to them.

Come and learn more about Papua New Guinea, and enjoy a different sort of service with people from a variety of congregations. Further information can be found on the Women's World Day of Prayer website at [www.wwdp-natcomm.org](http://www.wwdp-natcomm.org).

Ann King  
897832

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## LINTON DIARY

To guarantee entry into this diary please ensure that your event is written into the diary in the Post Office. Details of items in bold type may be found elsewhere in this edition.

**Many clubs/societies' dates are not in our diary because no one enters the details in the book kept in the post office. If you want your event to be in the diary, it MUST be entered.**

You may also send an email with your event details to [diary@linton.info](mailto:diary@linton.info), or use the form on [www.linton.info](http://www.linton.info)

### WEEKLY

Junior badminton, 10am-12noon Sundays	SC
Adult tennis coaching, Sundays (call 07791 150141)	SC
Pilates, 10 and 11.15am Mondays	VH
Yoga, 7-8.30pm Mondays term time	Hadstock VH
Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays	VH
Men's all-age keep fit club, 8pm Mondays	SC
Ladies' netball, 7.15-8.30pm Mondays	SC
Cempa wu-shu karate, 7-8pm Mondays (age 5 upwards)	LVC
Scrabble club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays from 9/9 Dog & Duck	LVC
Linton Granta toddlers, 10am Tuesdays and Thursdays term time	LVC
Hadstock toddler group, 2-3.30pm Tuesdays term time	Hadstock VH
Ladies' football, 7-8pm Tuesdays	LVC
Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays	CC
Tae Kwon Do, 6-8pm Tuesdays and Thursdays	SC
Ladies' badminton, 8-10pm Tuesdays	SC
IT club, 7pm Tuesdays	CC
WEA, 10am Tuesdays from 20th Jan	VH
Yoga, 7.30pm Tuesdays term time	Hildersham VH
Yoga, 1-2.45pm Wednesdays term time	VH
Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays	VH
Men's keep fit club, 8pm Wednesdays	SC
Linton theatre workshop, Wednesdays(call 892076)	
Tots-in-tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays term time	VH
Music Matters, 9.45am & 11am Thursdays	VH
LVC badminton club, 8-10pm Thursdays	SC
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays	VH
Tots music group, Fridays 10.30 & 1.30 term time	URC
Buffy bus, 11am-12.15pm	Hadstock village green
Junior basketball, 6-7pm Fridays	SC
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays	CC
Adult tap dancing, 7.15-8pm Fridays term time	VH
Granta badminton club, 8-10pm Fridays	SC

For Sports Centre courses please call Mark Wilson 890248

### FEBRUARY

2 Camera club, 7.15	CC
3 Scrabble club, 7.30pm	Dog and Duck
3 WI, 7.30pm	VH
4 Reading group, 8pm,	Dog and Duck
5 Luncheon club, 12.15	The Crown
5 Parish council, 8pm	CC
7 Farmers' market, 9.30am	LVC
7 Dads and Tots, 9.30am	VH
7 Linton Guides' jumble sale, 2pm	Infant school
10 VIP meeting, 2pm	Chalklands
10 Gardening club, 7.30pm	VH
11 ACE lunch, 12noon	Church pavilion
12 Linton Trefoil guild, 7.45pm	3 Cambridge Road
15 Friends of St Mary's talk, 2.30pm	Church pavilion
17 Historical society, 7.30pm	VH
18 CAMTAD hearing help, 9am-12noon	HC
18-20 Academy workshop, 10am	LVC
19 Ashdon gardening club, 7.45pm	Ashdon VH
19 Parish council, 8pm	CC
20 Police surgery, 3-5pm	Balsham church hall
21 Horseheath races, 1pm	Horseheath racecourse
21 Linton music society concert, 7.30pm	LVC
22 Cambridge glass fair, 10.30am	Chilford Hall
22 WWW group spring clean, 10.30am	Pocket Park
25 Lent lunch, 12noon	25a Back Road
26 Ballroom & Latin dancing, 7pm	Junior school
27 Linton Churches Together talk, 7.30pm	St Mary's

### MARCH

2 Camera club, 7.15	CC
3 WI, 7.30pm	VH
5 Luncheon club, 12.15	The Crown
5 Parish council, 8pm	CC
6 Women's World Day of Prayer, 10.30am	St Mary's

Refuse collection: 2nd, 16th February, 2nd March  
Recycling collection: 9th, 23rd January

KEY: CC Cathodeon Centre, HC Health Centre, LVC Linton Village College, RG Recreation Ground, SC Sports Centre, URC United Reform Church, VH Village Hall.

Library times: Monday Closed; Tuesday 10.30am-1pm, 2pm-5pm; Wednesday 2pm-5pm, 6pm-8pm; Thursday Closed; Friday 10.30am-1pm, 2pm-5pm, 6pm-8pm; Saturday 10am-12noon.

## Photographers win gold medal

Dear Editor

I wonder if the Linton News would be interested in an item of news regarding my recent photographic achievement. I and my wife Diane, who works at the out-of-school club, operate Aspect Photography, a local wedding photography service. We are members of The Society of Wedding and Portrait Photographers and recently won a Gold Award in their monthly competition in the landscape category. The photograph was taken near Glen Coe in Scotland and can be viewed on our blog page at [www.aspectweddingphoto.co.uk](http://www.aspectweddingphoto.co.uk) Two of our wedding photographs, taken at local weddings in the summer, have also recently been given Gold Awards and will be entered into the final judging for overall winner at the SWPP annual convention in London.

For more information regarding our photography, visit [www.aspectphoto.co.uk](http://www.aspectphoto.co.uk)

Richard Martin, Rhugarve Gardens

I am afraid we cannot print the winning photo as the paper is very full this month. Editor

PLEASE could the person who wrote the letter placed in the PO box, let us have their name and address. We MUST have this information for legal reasons; we will not publish it if requested not to.

Editor

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## Shelter needs your help

Dear Editor

Jaybeth Animal Sanctuary, on the A143 at Barnardiston near Haverhill, is in desperate need of strong dog walkers.

So if you have an hour or so to spare on weekdays or at weekends, it would be greatly appreciated. Call Carol for further details.

Donations of unwanted bedding, pet food, towels and clothing are also needed.

Many thanks.  
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# Warm glow as ACEs discover Linton ablaze

LINTON ACEs saw out the old year in style – thanks to Garth Collard and the festive fare served by our splendid volunteers, assisted by cherry liqueur chocolates!

Garth spoke on 'Linton Ablaze!' a whirl through major fires and firefighting over the years. Linton's many wooden buildings and thatched cottages made fire a constant threat, particularly from stray sparks in the age of steam; the historic areas were saved several times, thanks to human intervention, brick dividing walls and fortuitous weather. The Scouts figured highly for their bravery and quick thinking.

One fire was famously put out by the women of Linton – a formidable group, brandishing their buckets – but somehow it was the men who were credited, although their equipment seemed to consist only of a small pail and an empty beer flask. As Garth said, some things never change ...

Not all fires were accidental, and we heard of one case of rick burning – the arsonists turned up to help fight the fire but were informed upon and hanged ... tough justice in those days. The sad tale of a Miss Stallybrass at 74 High Street, who died in 1904 when her skirt caught fire at an open hearth, was most poignant, especially as a fire-damaged wall was recently found in the house.

The fire brigade was given due praise, although the parish councils of the time were criticised for their parsimony and tardiness in providing equipment. This gave Garth fair scope to tease some of his audience – as usual, he did not hold back. Garth generously donated his fee to A Book Of My Own, a charity he helped found, which provides children in care with their own books.

When you read this, we will have had our fundraising event for the work of the mobile warden – the other part of the ACEs' charity. Thank you for supporting this valuable work, which helps many folk with essential support in their own homes. A small Christmas gift showed the clients we were thinking of them all.

The next event will be a soup and rolls lunch at 12.30pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February, to be held at the church pavilion. The talk will be given by Ron Pitkin on 'Cartoons – it's not always what you see' ... sounds intriguing. There will be transport, if needed, so let us know. As we are in troubled economic times, we decided there should be a modest charge to cover the cost of food and expenses. This seems more equitable than relying on donations, although these are still most welcome! Contact Sue/ Anne 891001 or Enid 891069 for transport.

Enid Bald

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Water, water everywhere: engineers repair the burst main

Picture by Roger Lapwood

## Quick fix saves the day

**WHEN water started pouring down the A1307 from a burst water main at the junction with Bartlow Road on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January, someone quickly reported it to Cambridge Water.**

**Despite the sudden increase in bursts and leaks in the water mains caused by the very cold weather, the water company's engineers were able to make a prompt investigation and repair the damage that same morning.**

**If you spot a leak, please report it by calling Cambridge Water's free helpline – 0800 316766.**

Kate France 891602

## It's that time again ... time for a good walk

IT'S that time of year again ... when we contemplate exercise as an antidote to the excesses of the festive season, when we think of spring heralding the green and magical part of nature's cycle and when mild guilt over our manifest blessings encourages us to do something for others, although in the credit crunch, perhaps a contribution of effort rather than hard cash.

A perfect time of year then, to remind everyone of the 2009 Bartlow Three Counties Charity Walk, which ticks all of these boxes and additionally provides a fun family day out for all its participants.

This year the walk will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, the usual May bank holiday Sunday and the first local event of the season.

The Bartlow Walk raises funds for local causes through the sterling efforts of participants and through the generosity of local businesses.

There are in fact three walks, all through beautiful local countryside, and by special agreement with local landowners:

- The 13-mile Three Counties Walk, which takes walkers from Bartlow to the point near Castle Camps where Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Essex meet, and back via Ashdon Windmill.

- The eight-and-a-half mile 'Family Route', very popular with those who are not regular walkers and for families with younger children who see 13 miles as too much of a challenge.

- The two-mile junior nature trail for the very young incorporates a nature quiz (aligned to Cub/Brownie/Beaver badges) and other games. A pushchair-tolerant route!

The 2009 'Good Causes' are the Linton health centre, Addenbrooke's department of neurology and the Bartlow church restoration fund.

In 2008, a record 600 local walkers raised almost £5,000 for each of the three causes and, of course, we hope to improve on this in 2009. More details on posters and in future issues – or call 891732.

Graham Howat,  
walk organiser

## Keep those gardens gorgeous all winter long



AS I stepped into the village hall for the gardening club's January gathering, I was thrilled to see tables full of beautiful plants. There were fabulous flowers and berries, grasses, fiery stems of dogwoods, bulbs, rich red-bronze heuchera and variegated foliage plants.

Wafts of heady scent proved how plants can still tempt us outside, even in this weather, if your garden has a few well chosen specimens.

The display was brought to us by speaker Peter Jackson, from Scotsdales garden centre, to show how our gardens could be interesting in the winter too. He accompanied his display with an enthusiastic talk and slides giving us many ideas of what to plant, including thoughts for the toughest shady spot.

Peter also gave us some great tips on how to manage gardens to make life simpler and more stunning. At home, he

uses plastic inserts for his heavy terracotta pots and switches them over six times a year to ensure patio displays look their best year round.

Inbetween the insert and the outer pot a layer of bubble wrap can stop the first two or three degrees of frost reaching your plants, while also keeping them cooler in summer and reducing the need to water. Fleece jackets are best to keep upper parts of plants frost-free as they breathe, unlike the bubble wrap.

In February, we welcome Iwan Hughes from Anglesey Abbey, who is coming to tell us about the Hoe Fen wildlife project there and some of the hidden gems we may have missed when visiting the gardens. The meeting will be at 7.30pm on the 10<sup>th</sup> February in the village hall. Do brave the weather to join us for what promises to be an interesting evening.

Kirsten Newble 892425  
lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

## £500 voucher to help firms beat the credit crunch

BUSINESS Link has today announced a £500 voucher scheme to support East of England businesses through the credit crunch.

The £500 vouchers, redeemable in exchange for consultancy services, complement the existing package of help available from Business Link, which includes free confidential business health checks, one to one specialist advice and skills' workshops.

Business Link is an organisation in the East of England providing information, practical advice and support to help people to start, run or expand their business.

Chief executive Pat Smith said: "Our experience of the past few months has told us that, having undergone a business health check with one of our advisers, what clients want is help from experts in areas such as insolvency, marketing, tax and liquidation. So that's exactly what these vouchers do; enable clients to buy the services they need from suppliers on our supplier brokerage database.

"With the current downturn in the economy, thought has been given to how we can flex our resources to assist businesses through the recession. These vouchers are just one response to this and part of a larger package of support available to help businesses survive the challenging year ahead.

"Businesses that have been trading for more than 12 months are eligible for the voucher. Following an online or face to face health check with a Business Link adviser, an action plan will be discussed and agreed with the business detailing areas where additional support is required.

"Using Business Link's supplier brokerage database, the adviser will suggest up to three suppliers who may be able to meet the client's needs in the areas identified. It is with these suppliers, who have been accepted to be part of the scheme, that the voucher can be redeemed, up to a maximum of £500."

Contact Business Link on 08457 171615 or email healthcheck@businesslinkeast.org.uk for further information.

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Trained in the Ukraine, Sascha Gryniuk is now based in London

## Schumann and Chopin top the bill

LINTON music society will be holding their next concert at 7.30pm on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February at Linton village college, when the soloist will be pianist Sascha Gryniuk.

In 2007 Sascha won the Haverhill sinfonia soloist competition and his appearance here is one of the concert prizes he was awarded.

Trained at the Academy of Ukraine, he made an early concert debut and is now based in London and has played in many venues there, including the Wigmore Hall. He will be performing a varied and virtuoso programme, which includes Chopin's Sonata in B minor and Schumann's Faschingschwank aus Wien.

Tickets are available at the door or can be obtained in advance or in person from Sweet Talk News, 77 High Street, Linton (893480). Ticket prices (individual concerts) are adults (no concessions) £9; students (to age 21) £2; family ticket (2 adults and 2 children) £16. There is a brochure available for the whole season.

For a brochure or concert tickets, please contact 894460 or 897983.

## LIFE needs some help so we can help others

LIFE (Linton Initiative for the Elderly) is a group of volunteers with the aim of befriending and encouraging less mobile, mainly over 60s, in Linton.

We are recognised by Cambridgeshire Care Network and our volunteers have undergone CRB checks.

We also arrange fund raising events to support the scheme.

As well as the benefits of befriending, the need to enable

clients to access other services and facilities is becoming more apparent.

In the two years since we started, there has been a gradual increase in the number of people being visited.

To develop the scheme further, we need more clients and more volunteers to match the demand. For details, call us.

Miriam & Geoff Reynolds  
892645

## Lunches in Lent raise cash for trust

THIS year, the 2009 series of Lent lunches are raising money for the Teenage Cancer Trust.

The trust is a national organisation, which helps to provide special wards for teenagers with cancer. The need is great. At present, teenagers in many hospitals have to cope with being, sometimes for long periods, in adult or children's wards, neither of which is appropriate to their needs.

Young people who have experienced these special wards are in no doubt that they have been a lifeline and transformed their lives. Currently a teenage ward is being built at Addenbrooke's hospital.

Lent lunches are held on Wednesdays in Lent from 12noon to 2pm. The lunches are open to all and offer soup, bread and cheese and tea or coffee.

They are being held on these dates at the following homes:

25<sup>th</sup> Feb, Anne and David Parry-Smith, 25a Back Road

11<sup>th</sup> Mar, Gill and Lawrence Powell, 7 Harefield Rise

18<sup>th</sup> Mar, Joan and Maurice Smith, 10 Symonds Lane

25<sup>th</sup> Mar, Rosemary and Richard Read, 8 The Furrells

1<sup>st</sup> Apr, Janet and Bruce Conochie, 87 Bartlow Road

8<sup>th</sup> Apr, Monica Clarkson and Friends in the Pavilion

At the last gathering in April, we shall be joined by Susie Rice, from the Trust, who will tell us more about their work. Please join us whenever you can as we would like to raise £1,000 for this important trust.

If anyone needs transport please contact Derek Lockstone on 891931.

Our lunches are open to everyone and even if you can only come to one you will be most welcome. In previous years we have given money to work overseas. This year it's local.

Alan Clarkson

## Chance to find out about TV show The Royal

ARE you a fan of the TV series The Royal? If you are, a talk being organised by the Friends of St Mary's will be for you. Dr Derek Lockstone, medical adviser to the show, will be talking about his role in the series in the church pavilion at 2.30pm on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

Admission will cost £4 to include tea and cakes after the talk. This event is being organised by the Friends of St Mary's to raise funds for the repair of flintwork and windows on the upper half of the north and south walls. Please come along to enjoy an interesting talk and to contribute towards this essential work. We look forward to seeing you.

Margaret Clark 892093

## Help with Mole's cleaning ...

NOBODY can have failed to notice the molehills this year, all due to the cold weather. The worms burrow deeper to avoid the frozen ground and the moles have to dig deeper in pursuit – and who can look at a molehill without thinking of Mole and his spring cleaning? For the past few years, the Linton Woodland Water and Wildlife Group has met in Leadwell Meadows (Pocket Park) for a little light spring cleaning before the frogs start laying their spawn. It's not heavy work and 10 or so volunteers for a couple of hours can make short work of an otherwise tedious job. We are always keen to welcome more helpers, so please meet at the entrance to the park at 10.30am on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February with warm clothes, boots, gloves and secateurs – the more the merrier!

Judith Rossiter

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## POT POURRI (49)

### What size television?

I WANT a television set for the bedside table which should have the same field of view from a distance of 15in as the main television.

The main television is viewed from 80in and is 42in. The aspect ratio of both televisions is 1.5. (Ratio of width to height of the screen). What size television should I get?

**Solution to No 48 – gas or electricity?**

It is cheaper to use gas! To work out how much energy is used, the number of calories is calculated to get to 98°C. This temperature is used to simplify matters by avoiding the inherent problem with latent heat of water.

The other problem to realise is that gas is charged in kilo-Watts (kW), whereas electricity is charged by kiloWatt-hours (kWh). Measuring the costs by reading the gas and electricity meters and ensuring that 98°C is the cut-off, gas = 1.35p and electricity = 3.23p, both for 1.35 litres.

Urania

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Come along and join the fun on the Buffy Bus ...

HAVE you heard of the Buffy Bus? It is a bright and cheerful double decker bus, which is transformed into a mobile playgroup travelling around north-west Essex. Every Friday between 11am and 12.15pm, it visits Hadstock village green. It is an Aladdin's cave for the under fives – paint, playdough, dressing up, train sets, books, ball pit, sand – there is something for everyone. Waitrose provides fruit snacks for the children and qualified playleaders are there to help and advise.

The Buffy Bus is a charity and relies on donations but no one is turned away. So why not come along and try out something new. Parking is available at Hadstock village hall. For more information, take a look at Buffy's website [www.buffibus.com](http://www.buffibus.com)

Rosie Juhl 01799 522130

### Guides' jumble sale

LINTON Guides' annual jumble sale will be at the infant school at 2pm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February. All donations for jumble will be gladly accepted at the school hall from 10am. Alternatively, you can telephone 891602 or 891925 to arrange collection of any items you have.

Kate France

### Is there life after death?

LINTON Churches Together are excited to welcome Australian born Ian McCormack as the speaker for their February healing service.

Ian McCormack was pronounced clinically dead after being stung by five deadly box jellyfish. He came back to life seconds before the surgeon was about to perform the autopsy.

Come and hear the powerful story of his life after death experience, a story that has been challenging and amazing audiences the world over. What did he see? What did he hear? Come and hear for yourself on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February at St Mary's, Linton.

All are welcome and admission is free; doors open at 7.30pm, with service starting at 8pm. For more details, call me.

Adrian Rose 894859

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# Calling all Superheroes ... we need you!

LINTON Granta Playgroup and Toddlers is focusing its learning around two key areas this term – 'letters and sound-through synthetic phonics' and 'Superheroes'.

Games and activities have been incorporated into the everyday play activities using a mixture of approaches based around synthetic phonics six-phase learning programme from the Foundation Year through to Key Stage 1.

Alongside this, the focus will be on Superheroes – people who help us in our everyday life, such as doctors, nurses, teachers, police officers, firefighters, vets and, of course, those

unsung heroes, parents.

The learning will use the role of superheroes to help the children with their creative development through role play and expand their knowledge and understanding of the world around them.

So all you Superheroes, get your capes ready and contact Linton Granta playgroup and toddlers if you can spare some time to talk to the children about how you help in everyday life. Please contact [info@lintongrantaplaygroup.org.uk](mailto:info@lintongrantaplaygroup.org.uk)  
Natalie Morris 894888

## A Marathon task for Alistair

ALISTAIR Cooke of The Woodlands will be braving the cold and dark winter months ahead as he attempts to complete the Flora London Marathon (26 miles 385 yards) on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April for the Wellchild Trust charity caring for sick children.

This is Alistair's second marathon. His previous attempt in 2007 was made even harder by a record temperature of 24°C for mid-April. Alistair is hoping to beat his time that day by more than an hour and come in close to four hours.

Alistair is also a member of the Saffron Walden Striders and can often be seen hitting the streets and footpaths as his training regime includes more than 200 miles of training runs and races throughout Cambridgeshire (often on cold Sunday mornings).

You can track Alistair's progress on his training blog <http://allycooke73.spaces.live.com/>

To support Alistair's target of raising £1,500 please take a moment to visit his fund rais-



Picture by Keith Savill

ing page: [www.justgiving.com/allycooke/](http://www.justgiving.com/allycooke/)

WellChild supports sick children and their families across the UK. WellChild children's nurses give care and support to chronically sick children living at home. Their research nurses and doctors work in hospitals across the UK to develop better treatments and cures for childhood illness and disease. (Charity Registration No 289600)

Links: [www.wellchild.org.uk](http://www.wellchild.org.uk)

Alistair Cooke 892719

## ... and Bridget is aiming high too

MOTHER of three Bridget Savill has lived in Linton for 13 years and took up running as a hobby more than two years ago.

She enjoyed it so much and managed to fulfil a number of personal goals, like her first half marathon last October, that she has now decided it is time for the ultimate goal – the London Marathon.

So on 26<sup>th</sup> April, she will be taking on her biggest challenge yet running the Marathon in aid of the charity, the Mid-Essex Doctors Immediate Care Scheme (MEDICS).

MEDICS is a voluntary organisation of doctors who are called out by ambulance control centres to traffic accidents, agricultural/industrial accidents, fires, leisure injuries and medical emergencies. They treat the seriously ill and injured before they can be transported to an accident and emergency department. MEDICS is financed by voluntary contributions alone, and the doctors' time is given voluntarily.

Bridget says: "This is a



Picture by Keith Savill

huge challenge for me and I know that the months ahead of training are going to be hard work. However, knowing every penny I raise will be going to such a vital service makes it all the more worthwhile."

If you would like to support Bridget in her goal of raising £800 for MEDICS, you can do so on [www.justgiving.com/bridgetsavill/](http://www.justgiving.com/bridgetsavill/) by calling 892299, or by emailing [bridget\\_savill@hotmail.com](mailto:bridget_savill@hotmail.com)

Thank you for your support.

Bridget Savill



## Chef's corner

FREE range chicken supreme wrapped with bacon, with a confit of carrot, parsnip and fondant potato on a red wine glaze. You should make the effort to source a chicken you know will have that almost yellowy colour giving away its free-range and corn-fed provenance. The vegetables will always be better when organic but if the budget won't allow, any will do.

### Chicken supreme

Ingredients (to feed one):

- 1 chicken supreme
- 3-4 rashers of streaky bacon
- 1 medium sized King Edward potato
- 1 medium sized carrot
- 1 medium sized parsnip
- 1 good sized glass of wine
- Half a block of butter
- 1 pint of good stock (beef or chicken)
- 1 teaspoon of sugar

The Filling (all blended in a mixer):

Egg yolk, chicken from the wing, fresh sage, two button mushrooms, salt and pepper, a handful of baby spinach leaves and a tablespoon of white breadcrumbs.

Trim the meat from the wing bone of the supreme and chop finely. Add to the filling. Peel the skin from the point to the bone. Massage the filling on to the meat and replace the skin over the filling. Wrap the chicken with the bacon. Shape the chicken to a perfect supreme shape and refrigerate.

Peel a medium-size King Edward potato and trim the ends. Place in an oven tray and half cover with chicken stock. Put a large knob of butter on the top. Cover with foil. Cook at 200C (gas 4) for two hours.

Meanwhile, peel and chop the carrots and parsnips into rustic fingers. Gently shallow fry in a little butter and oil until soft to touch. Add a shake of sugar, season and place in the oven beside the potatoes. These should cook for about 30 minutes. At this point the chicken can go into the same oven for 30 minutes with a little oil rubbed into the skin.

In a small thick-bottomed saucepan, reduce half a glass of red wine with a splash of Worcester sauce until sticky (nearly gone). Add 125ml of good beef stock and reduce by half. It should resemble a thin but rich sauce. Finish with a knob of butter by whisking. By now the veg will be done, the chicken should be cooked through and still moist. Remove them, then finish the potatoes by removing the foil for a further 10 minutes. (Baste with the chicken stock every couple of minutes.) The dish can now be built however you see fit; the serving suggestion above is just the way we do it here. *Bon appétit* and enjoy.

Joel

You can access all Joel's recipes at [www.chefs-corner.co.uk](http://www.chefs-corner.co.uk)

## Explore dance and drama with Joseph

JOIN the three day academy workshop at Linton village college this February half-term (for 8-16-year-olds, from 10am to 4pm Wed 18<sup>th</sup>-Fri 20<sup>th</sup> February), on the theme of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

Take three days to explore your skills in a dance, drama and music workshop at Linton village college. No experience is necessary. Just be ready to work hard and have fun!

On the Friday afternoon there will be an opportunity to give a live performance to family and friends.

Contact Lesley Morgan on 712825, or email [lmorgan@sawstonvc.org](mailto:lmorgan@sawstonvc.org) to reserve your place or for more information.

Lesley Morgan

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# Anderson Trust answers questions

EACH year, applications are invited for grants from the benefaction of the Anderson Trust.

Many people will have questions about how this all works, so the trust has answered the following questions:

### Who are the trustees?

The current trustees are: David Parry-Smith (chairman and co-opted by the trustees), Joanna Sanders (secretary and Bishop of Ely's appointee) Robert Simmonds (treasurer) Judy Nightingale, Pamela Kenyon, Susan Anderson, Pamela Richardson and Michael Younger.

Normally, the team rector would also be a trustee but that position is vacant until a new incumbent has been appointed. The appointment of trustees is dealt with in some detail in the trust document. There cannot be fewer than two and no more than 10 at any one time. The operation of charities in England is regulated by the Charity Commission.

You can look up the Charles and Mary Anderson Benefaction on the Charity Commission website ([www.charitycommission.gov.uk](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk)). Our registration number is 1069709. Statutory documents, such as lists of trustees, accounts etc have to be filed with them by the trust annually and they are a matter of public record. The latest accounts and annual report are available from me (call to request a copy on 894715 or email [anderson@parry-smith.co.uk](mailto:anderson@parry-smith.co.uk))

Note that the information presented here relates to 2008.

### How much money is available?

When the request for applications is publicised, we do not know how much dividend income the trust will have to distribute in grants.

Over the past few years, the amounts have been between a low of £6,600 in 2002 up to a high of £8,114 in 2007. Bob Simmonds, our treasurer will update the figures for 2008 before we meet to consider applications in March 2009.

### Who can apply - individuals or groups?

Groups or individuals may apply. Most applications are from groups. There is no application form as such. Please write a letter, include a financial statement (see later) and provide as much relevant detail as you can.

The trustees have fairly wide ranging but well defined powers when it comes to allocating funds and we do try to be as fair as we can, given the information available to us. The more relevant information applicants can supply the better. This is why we request a financial statement from groups.

Many applications cause us more work (and we are only volunteers) because we have to chase up financial information. All groups should have some record of income and expenditure on a yearly basis and this is what we need to see. If it is more than three months out of date, it would be appropriate to provide a guide to what the current financial position is. Put yourself in the position of the trustees; what would you need to know if someone were asking you for a grant?

It is also important for us to know that you have spent any money awarded in a previous application round and that it was spent on the purpose for which it was granted. You should mention this in your application letter. If it has not yet been spent, you should state what the position is and what steps are being taken to expedite the application of the funds.

You could state that you will acknowledge the Anderson Trust (of the Charles and Mary Anderson Benefaction) in reports and publicity material. This lets more people know of the existence of the trust. On occasion it has been the case that other funders are acknowledged and not the Anderson Trust. It is polite to acknowledge the trust.

### Which applications are likely to be successful?

There is a list of three priorities for the allocation of grants. This list is provided in the Trust Deed; the document that guides the trustees in dealing with the affairs of the trust. These aims ('charitable purposes') are briefly summarised in the notice requesting applications. I will state them more fully here.

Firstly, for the promotion of the Christian religion in and from the parish of St Mary's Linton, and in particular to sustain the church of St Mary's and worship therein.

Secondly, for the promotion of education for the benefit of those living in or resorting to Linton, in particular for the benefit of the church school

and of religious teaching in the parish.

Thirdly, for any other charitable purpose for the benefit of those living in or resorting to Linton.

Applications allied to these aims are likely to be successful, especially if they benefit a number of people. If the application is from an individual, the trustees are likely to approve if it is of educational benefit or if there is a strong Christian ethos (see priorities noted above).

Sometimes applicants are unsure about what is meant by "resort to Linton". Normally, the trustees interpret this to mean that although you may not live in Linton, you may work here, or otherwise habitually spend a significant amount of time in Linton (now, rather than in the past). We assess each case on its merits; if you are uncertain the best thing is to apply.

Again, the information supplied by the applicants is critical when it comes to prioritising grants.

### Who benefited last year and how much did they receive?

The list of recipients of grants from the trust in 2008 is:

- St Mary's (St Mary's youth worker £4,000; choir £500 orchestral costs St John Passion service; Mocha House £355 set-up costs; junior church £85 materials for worship)
- Chestnut Playgroup (£300 small world toys)
- Linton infant school (£200 after-school activity fees for children)
- Linton junior cricket club (£100 under-15s kit, coaching, league reg. fees)
- Linton Granta playgroup and toddlers (£300 new toys and books)
- LCT youth worker project (£1000 youth worker support and HOPE 08)
- Helping Hands (£175 insurance premium)
- Linton children's book festival (£300 performance poets)
- Linton ACE (£240 rental of Chalklands room for events)
- Linton Scouts (£350 marquee repairs)
- Linton Heights junior school (£150 violin tuition)

There were 17 applications in total. I try to summarise the grants made each year in the Linton News but it didn't happen earlier in 2008 owing to other pressures on my time.

David Parry-Smith and Kate France

## LINTON COUNTRY DIARY by Darryl Nantais Illustrated by Maureen Williams

# The cat, the cow ... and molehills

THE silvery moon shone above earth like the little dot over the letter *i*. Now some wouldn't give an iota to know you have tittled by dotting the *i*, or that *iota* is the Greek name for this nominative letter. However, these were my very thoughts as I trundled into 2009 upon crunchy frozen grass by the church in minus 5C.

Molehills here looked like rich Christmas puddings topped with icing sugar, and the trees laden with brilliant white frost set the scene to gaze in awe at all things under the lavish lunar light.

Every twig eerily coated in ice; times twice if one stole a peaceful moment to stop and listen to the sounds of expanding creaking crystals.

Then, the quiet and unobtrusive nostalgia of summer quacked and pervaded the night. I've noticed before our resident ducks rise and fall in groups like a barometer, up and down stream according to the



the poetic connections until we look back and discover, farmers would once heed all these constellations gracing our skies as the time to sow.

Don't waste time viewing the Plough, for the two extreme stars in this constellation, Dubhe and Alkaid, are moving away in

opposite directions. In 50,000 years, we'll need to call it something else.

The final ingredient for life appears to be our sun, but have you ever wondered why it looks to us about the same size as the moon?

Side by side to the great flaming ball, our planet is a mere jot or speck, but the amazing size of the sun becomes evident when we learn it is 400 times the diameter of the moon and an astonishing 400 times the distance away. Phew! What a revelation!

temperature.

Now, the traditional nursery rhyme *Hey diddle diddle* appears to hold a cryptic connection to astronomy; the cat and the fiddle refer to Leo and Lyra, the cow and the little dog Taurus and Canis Minor, and there is of course the moon.

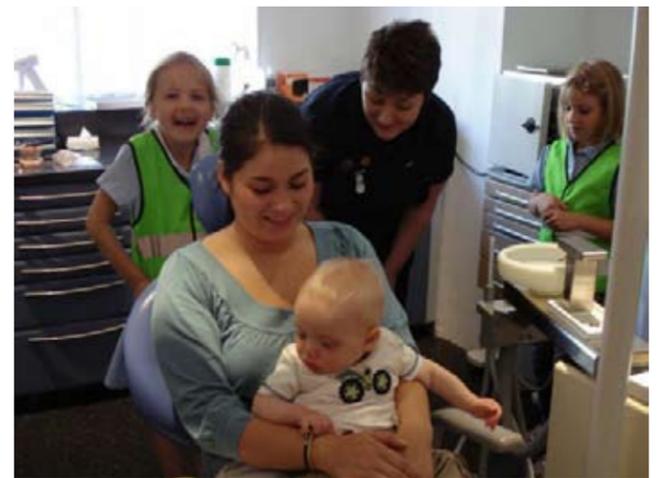
However, this leaves the dish and the spoon conceivably translated as Crater and Ursa Major or the Big Dipper, also known as The Plough, or, in French, the Casserole! One might doubt

## Little Explorers say thank you

LINTON'S Little Explorers have been extremely busy gaining knowledge of their surrounding community. We would like to say a big thank you to some important members of our community - the fire brigade for arranging a visit to their HQ during their fire drill practice.

The children sang related songs while rehearsing the drill, and with a phone call from Cheryl to the fire station, the fire engine arrived right on cue. The children were shown inside and took turns to sit in the driver's seat, try on the helmets and examine the rest of the equipment. The engine left with a flash of its blue lights and the children enjoyed role play of firefighters then colouring related images.

A big thank you also goes to our new dental practice for allowing a visit, with a talk on care of teeth and a ride on the



Having fun: the little explorers enjoy exploring

Picture by Cheryl O'Callaghan

dental chair. All children were presented with a goody bag to promote healthy teeth.

Anne at the post office also allowed us to visit and discover the many services it provides.. Air mail stickers were given

out with a demonstration of the scales. This aided the children in their role play.

A massive thank you once again to you all and best wishes from the group. Cheryl O'Callaghan 894464



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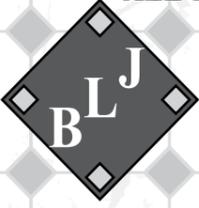
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# The Derbyshire Post

TO many children, teachers are creatures shrouded in mystery. Apparently, we live and sleep in classrooms, so it can come as something of a revelation when it is discovered that we have, like other human beings, first names, families and the occasional need to visit a shop. A particular source of mystery is what it is we do on our training days. After all, without children to teach, our hours must lack purpose and, indeed, substance.

I thought, therefore, I might share with you what it was that we did get up to on our first training day of 2009. We were trained. The training was associated with the use of current and emerging technologies in the classroom. Teachers at the college have had laptops for a number of years now and many of us use interactive whiteboards on a regular basis. The preferred teacher activity is either dipping into the internet for film clips or research or using PowerPoint. On this training day, we wished to challenge ourselves to use technology more innovatively and creatively. In order to do this we had to explore: not new expensive kit, but more of the potential of the kit we have already. As we did so, we tried to understand how much more creatively our students use technology than we do. We tend, for example, to want to keep things simple.

Just before Christmas, I decided to become the proud owner of a Blackberry. I decided that I needed this because I wished to be able to access my emails quickly and easily without carting a laptop around. I didn't want a phone or a Sat Nav with it, I just wanted emails. That's because I am from the single function technology generation. I wear a watch like most of my generation, and the baby boomers who preceded me. It has one function, if you discount the date. Have you noticed how few teenagers wear watches? They don't wear them because they see them as single function technology and hence relatively limited. The cheapest kind of mobile phone tells the time and has 10 times the functionality of a watch. Our students use multiple function technology all the time. Their computer screens often

have around six applications on screen at any one time. I struggle to keep two up there without getting dizzy.

So on the training day, we shared lots of ideas about how to use podcasting, Wikis, games, handheld response units, voice and picture synchronising, animations, brilliant websites and lots more to keep our teaching exciting and contemporary in feel. I hope the students notice the new tricks!

Caroline Derbyshire  
Principal

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## The Way We Were by Garth Collard

### Long history of Linton's French connection

THE appointment of our new French editor made me think about Linton's former links with our European neighbours. I frantically searched for some positive material but prior to the Anglo-French Entente of 1904 there is very little.

The editor of the Cambridge Chronicle in December 1899 summed up the state of international relations with these words – "relations with France are strained and the French have not been helpful over the Transvaal War ... fortunately there are indications of a greater degree of friendliness on the part of Germany."

The story of our French contacts began with the Norman Conquest in 1066 when the victorious Norman kings occupied England and redistributed the Saxon manors among their leading supporters.

All the Linton manors were transferred to new French-born manorial lords. Great Linton was controlled by the de Says, Little Linton by the de Huntingfields and Barham manor by the de Furneaux family. By the 14th century, the manorial lords were thoroughly anglicised.

The first major clash with France came about in 1312 over who should appoint the Linton vicars. The abbey of St Jacut de L'Isle in Brittany had been given the great tithes (10% of the corn crop) of Linton rectory and about 100 acres of land in 1171, and soon established a small priory built on the site of present day Linton House. The bishop of Ely now claimed the



No 21 High Street (left), where the Union and French flags were flown to celebrate the fall of Sebastopol in 1855.

Picture from Garth Collard's collection

right to appoint the Linton vicar, a position previously held by the priors. Ely triumphed after 1337 when the outbreak of the Hundred Years War with France led to the decline of the prior's authority. Henry V finally suppressed all the alien priories in England after his victory at Agincourt in 1415. France was now our No 1 enemy.

A slight easing in relationships came in the early part of the reign of Henry VIII. Cardinal Wolsey attempted to make England the arbiter of Europe by courting Francis I of France. In June 1520, more than 5,000 courtiers accompanied Henry and Catherine of Aragon to the Field of the Cloth of Gold near Calais.

Here the two monarchs met in splendid style and among the English retinue were Philip Parys, the lord of Linton and his wife. Henry lost his wrestling match with Francis but later the

French and knew very little of the language and did not bother to learn it'. The colonial wars in Canada and India soured relations in the 18th century and the final straw came with the French Revolution in 1789. Linton celebrated Nelson's victory over the Franco-Spanish fleets at the battle of the Nile in 1798 with a display of fireworks on the front lawn of Linton House, then the home of Rev Edmund Fisher, a distant relative of Nelson.

To end on a positive note, the French and English hated the Russians more than one another! The fall of Sebastopol in 1855 ended the Crimean War and was celebrated in Linton with the ringing of the church bells and the hoisting of the Union and French flags in the garden of Dr Howard's house at 21 High Street.

Monster tea parties were hosted to commemorate the peace treaty in June 1856 and the new friendship of the two former bitter foes.

Garth Collard

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# Parish Council Matters

Parish Council Matters is written, edited and published by the Parish Council with the support of the Linton News Team.

## Linton youths.....

### Let's actually ask them about their wishes and concerns!

AS many of you will already know, since March last year the parish council has been discussing youth issues with a group of children from Linton village college (LVC).

This year the Youth Working Party wanted to obtain views from as many Linton young people as possible, for ideas and thoughts for projects in the coming year. It was suggested that we should provide a questionnaire relevant to youth issues for Years 6-11. This was an ambitious undertaking, but was made much easier by the enthusiasm received from LVC and Linton Heights junior school who helped with the distribution and collection of the questionnaires just before the end of last term. In total we have received back nearly 500 responses, and I thank the schools for their help and participation. (If anyone else would like to participate, the questionnaire can be found and downloaded on the parish council website). The data collected is both specific to Linton and also to the surrounding villages, and information will be forwarded to the relevant parish councils.

Lastly I would like to say a big "Thank You" to the young people who participated. It is already obvious from the sincerity of the answers how concerned they are about many issues.

I will discuss the findings in another article very soon.

**Cllr Roger Hickford**  
Youth Working Party



The youth shelter on the recreation ground as it currently looks

Picture by Sue Parry

## Environmental help

MANY factors influence the quality of our lives, several of them connected to our homes and local area. Environmental factors that affect our well-being and comfort, might alter over time; some are not recognised as a problem until the damage is done.

For instance, noise can affect our health in a similar way to other forms of stress – and we have increasing levels in Linton. Little has yet been done to reduce the high levels of noise of the A1307. Mechanical noise, such as that produced by Camgrain has so far only been tackled by individual villagers complaining to Environmental Health, although the problem has affected much of Linton. Light pollution, litter, air quality, harm to wildlife and the threat of flooding are other environmental problems that

need to be tackled.

With all of these issues in mind, the parish council is setting up an Environment Working Party – and this is where we need your help.

You may have specialist knowledge, relevant skills, or simply be concerned at the quality of life in the village. You can contribute, either by joining the team, or letting us know of your interests and knowledge, so that we could call upon your expertise on specific issues. This could help when evaluating the impact of proposals, or give us ideas to help improve the existing situation.

If you are interested in being co-opted to the group, or could offer expertise, please contact the parish council, or let me know. Linton needs you!

**Cllr Enid Bald**

## Review of the year

THE previous year was a quiet one for the parish council. Despite holding just five meetings (four ordinary meetings plus the AGM) two councillors made just one meeting, and only one (the Chairman) got to more than three.

In March, it was reported the Local Government Board could give the council no more help with by-laws for the recreation ground. In July, the council considered the County Council's request that it find 7½ acres for people wanting allotments, including a Mr John Linsdell who wanted a whole acre. The request was carried over to the August meeting, which duly

carried it over to the September meeting, when it was decided that unless Mr Smoothy agreed to rent the Malting Field to the parish council, the clerk should advise the County Council that it was unable to provide any extra allotment land. It was also decided to postpone a decision on painting the cemetery railings to next year, but the lighting committee was authorised to erect an extra light in The Grip. The minutes record no activity by the footpaths or burial ground committees.

Sounds rather familiar, but observant readers may have realised the year in question was, in fact, 1908.

Last year we held 22 meetings, plus the AGM, and we have about 20 committees and advisory groups. That's partly because we do a lot more, but some people may think the meetings pendulum has swung too far the other way. And Mr Chalk, the Chairman, having been first elected Chairman of the council in 1902, was still the Chairman at his death in 1935. The prospect of being Chairman for over 30 years seems to me too awful a prospect to contemplate, a view no doubt wholeheartedly shared by my fellow councillors.

**Andrew Gore**  
Council Chairman

## More Haverhill growth

PLANS for the future of St Edmundsbury went out for consultation at the end of November 2008. Haverhill has been considered a good place for development by St Edmundsbury Borough Council and over 40% of the borough's growth is expected to be in the town, 3100 homes before the end of 2031 – this is over and above the 1000 expected to be built by 2016. No reference to any supporting road infrastructure was made.

Linton parish council along with other parish councils, Access 1307, councillors and our MP made official objections to these plans and requested that the current problems with the A1307 and rat running are resolved before any more growth is even considered.

Positively, Access 1307 were notified in December 2008 that Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) had made an official request

for developer contributions (for a development of 700 houses in north west Haverhill) for junction improvements along the A1307 corridor to aid safe access and egress due to the increased traffic flows, engineering measures for the implementation of a 50mph speed limit along the route, a cycle path along the A1307 and possible bus service contributions. This was the first time that the planning department at CCC had recognised the problems with junctions and requested funding before outline planning permission was granted. We were told over seven years ago by the government that this should be happening but it has taken a long time to convince those at Shire Hall, let us hope that changes take place sooner rather than later and that the future for the A1307 is brighter.

**Cllr Esther Cornell**

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# Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes

ABBREVIATED draft minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon centre on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

**Present:** A Gore (chair), Ms E Cornell (vice chair), Mrs E Bald, Dr B Cox, S Daly, R Hickford, T Krarup, G Potter, Dr J Rossiter and Mrs S Parry (clerk to the council). Mrs K France (press) was also in attendance together with one member of the public.

**Public forum:** No member of the public sought to address the council.

The chair opened the meeting at 8 pm.

**Apologies for absence** were received from Councillors Gee, Hammett, Linsdell and Urwin.

**Declaration of interests from members:** Cllr Hickford declared a personal interest under the item for discussion regarding Stanton's Lane hedge.

**Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November:**

It was reported that electrical work on the skate ramp light had been completed but it was not yet working due to major problems with the electricity supply from the village college.

Cllr Gore reported that the meeting of parish council representatives from the area with Inspector Savage, regarding the proposed closure of the police station had been well attended. Alternative sites suggested at the meeting had included the Cathodeon centre, village college, fire station, health centre and village hall; the importance of ease of public access had been raised. It appeared from Inspector Savage's observations that there had been no consultation between the police authority and the local police. It had been agreed that a further meeting should take place early in the new year. It was agreed by the parish council that Cllr Gore draft a letter to Inspector Savage outlining the council's views.

**Reports from co-ordinators:**

**Recreation ground:** Cllr Krarup reported the presence of litter on the bank leading to the stile.

**Cemetery:** A meeting with the district council's tree officer regarding the cemetery trees had been arranged for 15<sup>th</sup> January at 9.30am. It was agreed to invite Mrs Anderson, village tree warden, to the meeting.

**Rights of way:** Cllr Rossiter reported that she had walked FP25 to Mark's grave following the work undertaken by the community service group. Cllr Cox reported that FP9 had not been kept clear by the landowner.

**Leadwell meadows:** Cllr Rossiter asked that the offer of free wood chippings by Acacia Tree Surgery be taken up.

**Glebe land:** Cllr Rossiter asked that the council write to the diocese declaring their interest in the purchase of the Glebe land should it be offered for sale. This was agreed.

**Churchyard:** Cllr Cox reported that due to delays by the diocese, who had eventually advised that no faculty was required for the repair of the gate posts and adjacent walls, he had requested a revised estimate from Mr Cahill.

**Communications:** The new timetable for Parish Matters articles had been distributed.

**A1307:** Cllr Cornell reported that a day of action by the county council and the police had taken place the previous week resulting in 21 fixed penalty notices being issued. The county council has started consultations regarding the S106 monies to be generated by the building of 755 dwellings which include a school and recreational facilities in Haverhill. Their initial request includes junction improvements along the A1307 corridor to aid safe access and egress due to the increased traffic flows this development would have on the A1307 - engineering measures for the implementation of a 50mph speed limit along the route - a cycle path along the A1307 and possible bus service contributions. Cllr Cornell was very pleased that the county council were now recognising the effect that growth is having on village junctions and noted that this was a major step forward.

**Allotments:** A response from the district council was still awaited. It was agreed that the clerk contact the planning department and seek a response.

**Consideration of establishment of working party to discuss noise concerns in the community:** Cllr Bald proposed that a working party be formed to address noise and environmental issues in the community. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hickford. A vote took place with six votes in favour and two abstentions. **Proposal carried.**

**Consideration of wish list:** The wish list was considered and it was agreed that several items should be deleted. It was also agreed that it be divided into a wish list and an actions list, the division to be determined by Cllrs Cornell and Rossiter.

**Consideration of continuing affiliated membership of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough association of local councils for the next financial year:** It was agreed that Cllr Rossiter should raise the council's dissatisfaction with the service currently offered by the association and wish for an improved service at its forthcoming AGM.

**Consideration of quotations to reduce height of hedge in Stanton's Lane** to six feet from recreation ground southwards for approximately 60 yards: Cllr Cox proposed that the quotation from Cambridge Tree Surgery for £390 + VAT be accepted. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Krarup and agreed by the meeting.

**Written reports from council representatives:** Cllr Rossiter had issued a report on the meeting with Cambridgeshire Together. It was agreed that ACRE be asked to help with the review of the parish plan.

**Report from youth working party:** Cllr Hickford proposed that quotations be sought to raise the base of the youth shelter to a comfortable level when seated and to provide concrete bases for the benches on the recreation ground. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Bald and agreed unanimously by the meeting. **Proposal carried.**

Cllr Hickford proposed that a questionnaire be issued to all years six to eleven students to ascertain their opinion on various youth issues in the village. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Bald. In response to Cllr Rossiter's doubts about the usefulness of the questionnaire, Cllr Cornell stated that specific questions would be asked in order to receive specific answers. A vote took place with seven votes in favour and one against. **Proposal carried.**

It was agreed that suggested alterations to the questionnaire should be sent by other councillors to Cllr Cornell by 7<sup>th</sup> December so that it could be circulated before the Christmas break.

## LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

Linton Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton, Cambridge CB21 4JS Tel: 891001

Clerk to the council – Mrs Sue Parry

Email: [lintonpc@btconnect.com](mailto:lintonpc@btconnect.com)

**Office hours : Monday 9am–12noon, and 4–5.30pm, Tuesday–Friday 9am–12noon**  
*Or by appointment*

Dates for full council meetings:

February 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, March 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> 2009

All meetings held at the Cathodeon centre following the public forum commencing at 8pm

**Staff appraisal:** Cllr Cornell proposed that Councillors Daly, Gee and Krarup be appointed to undertake the clerk's appraisal. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Cox and agreed by the meeting. **Proposal carried.**

**Update on Stanton's Lane bridge modifications:** Cllr Bald reported that she would be meeting with Newmech Engineering during the week following the council meeting. Scaled drawings would be produced.

**Correspondence received and for discussion:**

Cambs ACRE membership upgrade. It was agreed to upgrade the council's membership.

Landmark Restoration revised quotation of £9872.34 + VAT for reconstruction of flint wall in churchyard. The quotation was noted.

Anglian Playgrounds quotation for repairs to play equipment (rope bridge) £420 + VAT and £75 + VAT for removal of graffiti by sanding. It was agreed to accept the quotations.

Linton Granta Football Club reimbursement for blocking up of external door for security. It was noted that payment of the sum requested had been already considered and agreed.

**Reports from councillors:** Cllr Potter reported that the police had been conducting speed checks in Balsham Road.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

**Note: Copies of the full minutes, reports and documents referred to above can be inspected at the parish council office.**



One of the benches on the recreation ground to be provided with a concrete base

Picture by Sue Parry

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