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THE LINTON NEWS

Oct
2012
Vol. 26 N°7
Publication date
Monday 1st October

E & E PLUMRIDGE
Design & Print
41 High Street
Linton
01223 891407

Established 1987

www.linton.info e-mail lneditor@linton.info

A Paralympic torch-bearer



Rachel Furley proudly carrying the Olympic torch in London.

Picture supplied by Rachel Furley

Amazingly for a village as small as Linton, we not only had an Olympic torchbearer in Issy Gower, as reported in our August edition, but also a Paralympic torchbearer when Rachel Furley carried the torch. Here, in her own words, is Rachel's story. Editor

"I WAS incredibly honoured to be nominated by several people to carry the Paralympic torch, not only on the basis of my paid work in paediatrics but mainly because of my voluntary work in Belarus with my charity, *Bridges to Belarus*. The *Bridges to Belarus* charity was set up in January 2005 to help children and families affected by the 1986

Chernobyl disaster) and in the UK with the Upside Down Club (a sports club for children in wheelchairs) and with the Milton Children's Hospice.

I carried the torch in the Lee Valley in London on 29th August shortly before the opening ceremony of the Paralympics. It was a magical experience, shared with Sam, my assistance dog and numerous friends and

family who had kindly made the effort to be there.

Thanks to Sainsbury's, I now have my Paralympic torch and I am enjoying taking it around to local schools and groups for others to enjoy and to feel part of the phenomenal Paralympic movement."

Rachel Furley
Founder and Chair of
Bridges to Belarus

Young children's play area opens

"WHEN David Walker asked if the young children's play area could be brightened up with some equipment a year ago, with tongue in cheek I suggested the clerk should ask if David would be prepared to come up with some ideas for funding. Not only did he come up with some ideas but he took on the challenge and a year later we have all this marvellous new equipment," said chair of Linton parish council, Roger Hickford.

At the opening ceremony on 16th September, young children were able to enjoy five new and interesting pieces of equipment including a carousel, a truck for themed play, a balancing beam, stepping pods and a tick-tock, purchased with a total of almost £15,000 of donations and grants Mr Walker received from Amey Cespa Community Fund, managed by Cambridge Community Foundation, Linton parish council, the Charles and Mary Anderson trust and Linton's Dangerous Dads cycling group.



David and his two children cut the tape to start the fun on the new equipment

Picture taken by Roger Lapwood

David thanked them all as well as the Funding Doctors for their support and cut the ribbon to open the new equipment with help from his two children Beth and Ewan.

Parish councillors were so delighted with his efforts that they made a collection and presented him with some wine and chocolates.

LNT

...and Jamie's support for Belarus



Some of the children in the orphanage in Belarus



LINTON postman Jamie (who I am sure you will remember for his walking in shorts in all weathers last winter) will be walking five marathons (26 miles each) over five days starting on Monday 8th October, in support of Rachel's charity *Bridges to Belarus*. He will be walking them all in and around Linton, the surrounding villages and Cambridge.

If you would like to sponsor Jamie and support *Bridges to Belarus*, please either pop in to Linton Post Office or deliver donations to: Rachel Furley at 4a, Joiners Road.

For more information about *Bridges to Belarus*, please visit www.bridgestobelarus.org.uk



Jamie, the fundraising postman.

Pictures supplied by Rachel Furley

The Foodbank: you can help

A NOTE in St Mary's church weekly pew-sheet, listing Haverhill Foodbank shortages, prompted me to add a couple of items to my weekly shopping for the box at the back of the church awaiting collection by a lady in Balsham Road who takes it to Haverhill.

I soon discovered that the Foodbank is a well organised and effective charity. Ann Merigan of 69 Balsham Road manages the Haverhill Foodbank, a registered charity working from the River of Life Community Church, part of a network of foodbanks run by the Trussell Trust, www.trusselltrust.org

Last year the Haverhill Foodbank distributed almost 10 tonnes of food to families and individuals in Haverhill and the surrounding area, including Linton. The three Linton churches, as well as the churches in Hildersham and Balsham, all collect for the scheme. Donations are collected by the foodbank van. Volunteers also make regular collections outside the

Haverhill supermarkets.

To be eligible for a food box, clients must obtain a food voucher from a support worker, partner agency or be assessed by a team of advisers. They can access the foodbank from the REACH resource centre on the Clements Estate in Haverhill.

Only non-perishable food is acceptable as there are no facilities to store fresh items. Each client food box will contain enough food to last for three days, with tea/coffee, sugar, cereals, longlife milk and juice, pasta, pasta sauce, baked beans, tinned vegetables, meat/fish as well as tinned fruit, sponge puddings, custard, biscuits and treats. Toiletries, baby milk and nappies can be supplied if required.

Donations for this worthwhile scheme are always welcome. Gifts can be left with any church member or taken to Ann Merigan in Balsham Road.

LNT

A new Rainbow unit in Linton

WITH long waiting lists of girls wanting to join Linton Rainbows, the youngest group for girls in the guide movement, we are pleased to announce that we have opened a second unit in the village. 2nd Linton Rainbows commenced this term and has places available. Any girls aged between five and seven years are welcome to come.

As with all the guiding community, the Rainbows rely heavily on volunteers to support the girls, either on a regular or semi-regular basis. Volunteers are needed, not only at meetings, but also with fundraising, book-keeping and helping with activities for the girls.

Any volunteers interested in furthering their roles are offered a training opportunity which can enable you to lead units or support leaders already in post. The leadership qualification is open to all and is fully funded by guiding.

As part of their fundraising, 1st and 2nd Linton Rainbows are putting on two fancy dress

discos in October, one for seven years and under and one for ages eight to 10 years. The money raised will be split between the two units to help them grow and provide the girls with a more varied programme of events.

If you would like more information about your daughter joining 1st or 2nd Linton Rainbows, about guiding in general

or would like your child to attend the disco in October please contact us on the details below.

1st Linton Rainbows,
Michelle, 07527 457506,
Email mbradley10@hotmail.co.uk

2nd Linton Rainbows
Paula, 07870 601084

Email sjcplc@aol.com
Michelle Sutton

Too good for jumble ...

IS anyone looking for a bed settee - double bed size - apricot coloured, or a wooden chest 42in long x 17in wide x 20in high on offer this month? Also available are the BT answerphone Quartet 1500 with instructions, two brand new ladies beige travel waterproof holdalls 14½in long x 12in high plus cosmetic bags, the table model Hi-spot minitec patio heater (19in high) with refillable propane gas cylinder and the toner A30 cartridges for a Canon photocopier FC-1/2/3/5/22 or 6/7/11.

Offered for free: Small quantities of polystyrene chips. The trailer raised £40 for the Tall Ships Youth Trust and the aquarium sold for £25 to benefit Linton Rainbows

To buy any of the above or to offer an item to profit a charity, please phone Kate France 891602 or email kfrance@profsoundconsult.com.

NB: The donor chooses the charity to receive the money.

A once in a lifetime opportunity



IN the summer term of school I was in a raffle to win three Olympic tickets. I entered the hall, everyone sat on the benches and waited for the results "And the winner is... Charlie Cox!" I couldn't believe it - I had three Olympic tickets.

It was a game of women's basketball - France v Russia at the O2 Arena. The game was at 9pm on Thursday 16th August.

My mum and I drove to Whittlesford to get the train to Liverpool Street. From there we walked to meet my dad at his work.

On the way I saw the Shard, the Gherkin and the Tower of London. We caught the Docklands Light Railway and went to the arena.

When we got there, there were people everywhere. A game had just finished between America and Australia. Some of the Australian players were wandering around. Everyone had big blow up kangaroos.

The people who were working there were very happy and friendly. They had megaphones and big foam hands.

The semi-final was very exciting. It was played over four quarters of ten minutes but took about two hours because of all the time-outs and stoppages.



A very happy Charlie, pictured with his dad in the Olympic park.

Picture taken by Mandy Cox, Charlie's mum

In the breaks there were very funny, interactive games and entertainment.

The game was a close one but France managed to take the victory and move on to the final against America which they lost.

On the way home we had a ratty old train and didn't get home till 2am. It was a great experience and one I shall never forget.

By Charlie Cox, Year 6, Linton Heights Junior School

A time to remember our loved ones

LOSS affects us differently. It may depend on our own particular make up, or whether a loved one dies suddenly in the prime of life, or after a long and difficult old age, or it may just reflect how we are at the time. But whatever its effect, we find it helpful to share our grief with others, and their grief with us.

The All Souls service offers us all an opportunity to do that. This year it will be held at 6pm on Sunday 28th October at St Mary's church.

You may wish to remember someone close to you who died recently where the pain of bereavement is still harsh and raw, or someone who died many years ago.

We will all be able to take part in the service itself, to hold our loved ones in the presence of God with prayers and

hymns, meditate while the choir sings Fauré's Requiem, light a candle and talk afterwards over refreshments.

If you would like to join the choir to sing Fauré's Requiem please contact the director of music, David Parry-Smith, on 894715.

If you would like the names of your departed family and friends read out by the clergy during the service please let the team rector, Rev Dr Steve Griffiths, know by e-mail (revdrsteve@hotmail.com) or by a note in the pigeonholes at the back of the church.

St Mary's is open for all, from morning prayer at 9am until evening prayer at 5.45pm and between 8am and 7.30 pm on Sundays. It offers a welcome to every member of the local community and beyond.

St Mary's Linton

Remember, remember the tenth of November



A wonderful picture from last year's display

Picture taken by Graeme Beck

THE Linton fireworks display will take place on the 10th November on Camping Close. Gates will open at 6pm, the bonfire will be lit at 6.30pm and the display will start shortly after 7pm. We look forward to greeting another large crowd and have planned a spectacular evening of fireworks in celebration of Great Britain's golden summer of sport.

We will be providing hot drinks and barbecue food as usual and there is plenty of entertainment planned in the build-up to the display.

Don't forget to bring your guys along to the field in the afternoon. As the theme this year is sport, why not dress them up as one of our Olympic heroes? Prizes will be awarded to the best entries.

Tickets for the event cost £4 per person or £10 for a family ticket (two adults and up to three children) when bought in advance. Tickets are available from Linton school offices, newsagents and online from our website www.lintonfirework.co.uk. Please note that prices rise to £5/£12 on the night.

We would gratefully accept any offers of help on the day - please call Andrew Clark on 892676 for more information. We regret that we cannot accept any material for the bonfire.

Andrew Clark

Stars of Strictly open new studio



Darren, Nicky, Lilia and Graeme

Picture taken by Heather Kendle

ON a warm and sunny Bank Holiday Sunday, about 200 Linton residents turned out to support the opening of its new dance studio by *Strictly Come Dancing* stars Lilia Kopylova and Darren Bennett. The occasion was well supported by dancers and non dancers alike, keen to see the new facility and have the opportunity to see how the professionals do it - and didn't they make it look easy.

A fortunate few also got the opportunity to take part in workshops with the Darren and Lilia, who concentrated on technique. Everyone who attended came away inspired to continue and happy in the knowledge that they had learnt something new.

When the ribbon was cut to formally open the dance studio, Darren encouraged everyone to make good use of the fantastic new facility. Thinking back to his own early days in draughty, simple village halls, Darren wished that he had had the opportunity to use such an impressive studio for his many hours of practice sessions.

With a mirrored wall and a sprung wooden dance floor, as well as the prerequisite glitter ball, the ballroom dancers of Linton should soon be improving their technique and making use of the opportunity to participate in tea dances and dance evenings.

LNT

Lizzie to walk the Carrot Night walk

ON the evening of Friday 21st September, local girl Lizzie Cornell-Jones and her mum and sister will have taken part in The Carrots Nightwalk through central London. The Carrots Nightwalk is an organised walk of six or 13 miles, raising awareness and money for the charity Fight for Sight. Because Lizzie is only 11 years old she was only allowed to walk six miles.



Lizzie

Picture supplied by Rachel Cornell-Jones

The reason that Lizzie took on this challenge is because she suffers from the eye disease Keratoconus.

Keratoconus is a degenerative disease of the cornea. It causes the cornea to gradually thin and change in shape so that it protrudes

from the eye in a cone-like shape. This impacts on the ability of the cornea to help focus light on the back of the eye and vision can become blurred and distorted. It usually affects both eyes. It can be inherited and eventually corneal transplant is very often the only viable alternative if progression continues, especially when the disease first presents at a young age.

Lizzie would like to thank all the people who donated to Fight for Sight on her behalf. If anybody would like to make a donation on Lizzie's page to Fight for Sight they can still do so by visiting www.justgiving.com/Rachel-Cornell Rachel Cornell-Jones

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Readers write...

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters on this page. All letters for publication must have a full name, address or phone number to enable us to check authenticity. Letters may be edited. Opinions are not necessarily those of the Linton News.

Anonymous letters will NOT be published but names and addresses may be withheld if requested.

No letters this month, if you would like a letter published please email us or put your letter into the box in the post office.

A reel good evening

theWI INSPIRING WOMEN OUR speaker this month, Mrs Brenda C Harley, told how she became a *Reel old sew and sew*, her family originating in the impoverished East End of London and by hard work becoming successful in the rag trade.

Although artistic, her parents insisted she pursue academic studies. She spent a few years in an office which she hated. Occupational therapy changed her life when she was treated in Hospital for TB. Afterwards, deciding to make dressmaking her career, she spent a year practicing tailoring and then set up in business which quickly flourished.

Among her many clients were drag artists (so named because only men could take women's parts and their long skirts dragged across the stage); cross dressers, who commissioned outfits which were real eye-openers; men who liked dressing as babies (imagine dressing someone who weighs 18 stone and is 6ft 4ins tall, in baby clothes) and an extremely rich Arab who met Brenda outside Harvey Nicholls and asked her to sketch their fabulous gowns. She was puzzled why until she met all the ladies in his family who were rather large, to put it mildly.

One man wanted her to make hares for Harlow dog track which led to commissions for other dog tracks.

Now retired, still passionate about dressmaking, Brenda forages for bargain fabrics in local markets and showed some of the gorgeous garments she made with them, each one a work of art.

At our meeting on 6th November the speaker will be Mrs Alison Bourne, the talk entitled Camsight.

Sally Proberts

Windmill Art

MANY of you will have visited WindmillArt in Long Lane over the past seven years and now in addition to art exhibitions it is now available (along with the garden) for family or business events. Birthday parties, anniversaries, weddings, micro conferencing, club meetings, dance lessons, yoga, etc. could all be catered for and the space may be rented on a daily or even hourly basis.

The garage adjoining the Windmill is set up as a nightclub/disco, equipped with a 1,000w sound system, LED lighting system complete with Lasers, haze machine and a 42 inch screen for a three mike Karaoke bar. It may be used as a plug and play iPod, iPhone, iPad, MP3 system by the hire, or a professional DJ can plug their own turntables/computer DJ systems into it directly.

Details of an exciting contemporary November art exhibition are available on our website at www.windmillart.co.uk

Conrad Webb, 07931 372110
or email conrad@windmillart.co.uk

Making every moment count

THE work of the Arthur Rank Hospice goes on day after day, night after night, seven days a week and fifty-two weeks a year. It is a service provided absolutely free to all and any adult suffering from a life limiting condition and needing support and care. Our staff and volunteers work tirelessly to give full expression to the phrase *making every moment count*. We enrich the lives of patients and families alike with our devoted care and attention be it for an in-patient in the hospice itself, in the patient's home, or on a day care basis, including therapies, counselling, treatments and physiotherapy etc. In addition we offer extra services to support the family with relief companionship through to bereavement counselling. Our volunteer drivers cover thousands of miles a year transporting patients to and from treatment centres and our chaplain co-ordinates the work of other spiritual counsellors from twenty other denominations. Our volunteers also provide essential in house services such as the tea bar.

The hospice is well known to many in the area maybe because of their own experience or that of a friend or neighbour. It is a privilege to work with so many people from communities and villages. I welcome this opportunity, on behalf of our staff and volunteers, to thank our many other supporters who, by making donations or raising funds, help us to continue our work and maintain the high standard of excellence we seek to provide.

There are many ways in which to support the hospice and our website sets out the various options for your support. We have also found that leaving a gift in your will to help the work of the charity can be immensely important and valuable. Your gift, of any size, can truly help us *make every moment count*. Visit arhc.org.uk to find out more about our work and how you might be able to help support the charity. Look for advice on how to leave a legacy.

For further information and more about our work, how you can support your local hospice, and advice on how to leave a lasting gift in your will, please contact:

Arthur Rank Hospice Charity, 351 Mill Road, Cambridge CB1 3DF, Tel 723115, www.arhc.org.uk
peter.tingley@arhc.org.uk

As nearly everyone locally may have reason to be grateful to the Arthur Rank Hospice and the Cambridge Breast Cancer Research Unit I have decided to put both articles in, even though they are not directly village related. Editor

Profuse apologies to Anne Bradley for getting her telephone number wrong in last month's Linton News

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THE LINTON NEWS Next Publication 5th November 2012

DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 15th October

NEWS ITEMS Wednesday 17th October

ITEMS FOR ADVERTISING MANAGER
limited space on waiting list for Linton businesses

Changes to ads can be sent to: Judith Rouse

email: adds@linton.info

ITEMS FOR THE EDITOR

Can be put in the Linton News Box in the Post Office

Editor: Wendy Foster email: lneditor@linton.info

phone 891626

For distribution queries contact: Kate France 891602

LINTON DIARY

For entry in this list, ensure that your event is written into the diary in the Post Office, failure to do so could mean non-entry to the diary here.

You may also send an email with your event details to diary@linton.info, or use the form on www.linton.info.

Call 971797 for an audio version of the Linton News

Details of items in bold type may be found elsewhere in this edition.

WEEKLY

- Conkers childrens centre, 9am-12noon, Mon-Thurs call 07768 008919 CC
- Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays VH
- Chestnutbaby/toddlergroup, 9.30-11.30am Monday termtime CC
- Linton Granta football bingo, 7pm Mondays Pavilion
- Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701)
- Scrabble club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays CP
- Linton Granta toddlers, 9.30-11.30am Tuesdays LVC
- Storytime, 2.15-2.45pm alternate Tuesdays (term time only) Library
- Granta bridge club, 2pm Tuesdays VH
- Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays (893509) CC
- Granta duplicate bridge club, 2-4pm Tuesdays VH
- IT club, 7pm Tuesdays CC
- Tots in tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays, term time only VH
- Bowls roll-ups, 2pm, Wednesdays until October Pavilion
- Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays VH
- Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays VH
- Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, 9.15-10am Fridays CP
- Buffy bus, 11am-12.15pm Fridays Ashdon Baptist church
- St Mary's church choir trebles, 6.30-7.15pm Fridays St Mary's
- Full choir, 7-8.30pm Fridays St Mary's
- Bridge club, 7pm Fridays CC

For sports centre courses please call LVC sports centre on 890248

OCTOBER

- 1 Linton camera club, 7.15pm CC
- 2 **WI, 7.30pm** VH
- 3 Reading group, 8pm D&D
- 4 Luncheon club, 12noon D&D
- 4 Parish council meeting, 8pm CC
- 6 **Farmers' market, 9am** LVC
- 6 **Linton Brownies jumble sale, 2pm** VH
- 9 VIP group, 2pm Chalklands
- 9 **Gardening club AGM, 7.30pm** VH
- 16 **History society, 7.30pm** VH
- 17 CAMTAD hearing help, 9.30am-12noon HC
- 18 Parish council meeting, 8pm CC
- 19 **Bus services review, 7pm** Balsham church institute
- 20 **Friend's of St Mary's coffee morning, 10.30am** Church pavilion
- 20 Linton camera club annual exhibition, 10am VH
- 20 **Linton music society concert, 7.30pm** St Mary's
- 20 Tenant open day, 12noon Sawston VC
- 23 Emergency planning in the community, 7.30pm VH
- 24 Police surgery, 6pm Police Office at Fire Station
- 25 **ACEs soup and rolls, 12.30pm.** CP
- 26-28 Art exhibition, 10am Saffron Walden town hall
- 28 **All Souls service, 6pm** St Mary's

NOVEMBER

- 1 Parish council meeting, 8pm CC
- 3 **Farmers' market, 9am** LVC
- 5 Linton camera club, 7.15pm CC
- 6 **WI, 7.30pm** VH
- 10 **Fireworks display, from 6pm** Camping Close

For Cathodeon Centre bookings contact Sue Mudge, 07765 369266

KEY: CC Cathodeon centre, CP church pavilion, D&D Dog and Duck, HC health centre, LH Linton Heights school, LVC Linton village college, RG recreation ground, URC United Reform church, VH village hall

Library times: Mon closed; Tues 10am-5pm; Wed 4pm-7pm; Thurs 2pm-5pm; Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-1pm.

Linton refuse collection: 8th & 22nd October, 5th November

Linton recycling collection: 1st & 15th & 29th October

DON'T forget to put all your events into the village diary, which is held in the Post Office. Remember to put the event, date, time and venue.

Editor

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In your own time

ONE cannot help but admire the beautiful white-themed conservatory when passing Springfield House at the bottom of Horn Lane. It was created by Judy Rossiter when she and her husband Fred came to Linton in 1980. She has also replanted much of the garden of her lovely home, mainly with white flowers which are a very effective contrast to the abundance of greenery and echo Vita Sackville-West's white garden at Sissinghurst.



Picture of Judy Rossiter taken by Sarah Hurcum

Judy had been a student of horticulture at London University, the faculty of which was based at Wye College in Kent. Here she developed an interest in the *right to roam* as, for the first time in her life, she was able to walk freely in vast areas of the countryside.

She probably inherited her love of horticulture from her grandfather, who in 1912 worked alongside Gertrude Jekyll at Townhill Park near Southampton.

Judy took a PhD in Land Economy at Cambridge and went on to do post-doctoral research in field drainage and enlargement. It was while she was at Cambridge that she met her American husband Fred, who had trained to row in the

Tokyo Olympics of 1964 and was therefore a highly desirable addition to Cambridge University!

When they first married they lived in New York for two years but returned and settled at Audley End before coming to Linton.

Since coming to live here Judy has been on the parish council and on school PTAs as her two younger children were born in Linton but her interests now lie in historic landscapes of the 18th century and she enjoys attending courses and seminars in connection with this.

She is still keeping her green fingers on the pulse of horticulture.

Sarah Hurcum

Adult learning at Sawston village college

WE were making good headway with our enrolments for the September start of our evening classes. Disaster then struck on 6th September with the fire and destruction of the public library along with the school Walnut Gallery and staff room. Our taster sessions and enrolment day were planned for the 8th September, and this year, quite a few had enrolled on our taster sessions, for which we are grateful. Sadly, this all had to be cancelled because of the fire.

We would like to apologise to those of you who had enrolled and turned up for the class. Unfortunately, all our details were held on computer, and as there was no electricity, we were not able to access this information to inform everyone. We had hoped that the announcement on Radio Cambridgeshire would have reached some of you.

However, moving on, we are pleased to remind everyone that two new evening classes will be commencing in November: ie 5th November, Word Improvers and 7th November, Reiki level 1. Also, please make a diary note that the following Saturday schools/workshops will be taking place on 24th November - Alexander Technique (Intro), clothes alterations, creative writing, digital photography, drawing, Italian book club, jewellery making and maps and surveys for local family history.

Don't forget, Spring classes commence 8th January and you can enrol as soon as you wish.

You can contact Sue or Wendy by email at community@sawstonvc.org, telephone 712424. There is a 24 hour answerphone. Alternatively visit www.sawstonadulted.org for more information.

Treading the boards

AS part of our new Adult Community Learning programme we are introducing a new course entitled *Treading the Boards* - Making theatre.

The course is for everyone and you need not have any experience of theatre to attend.

The course will explore various aspects of theatre through practical means and learners will explore how text can be developed into physical theatre, and much more. These techniques will be put into practice as students experiment, devise and rehearse their own theatre performance under the guidance of Rachel Yates.

After gaining her degree in performing arts Rachel went on to become head of dance programming at the Islington Arts Factory, head of dance at Barnet College and then became a lecturer at Middlesex University, teaching contemporary dance technique.

Rachel joined Chickenshed, the world renowned pioneering theatre company, in 1998 as associate director where she currently teaches, choreographs, performs and directs main-house performances.

Rachel has also choreographed music videos with award winning director Dougal Wilson. She is currently preparing to travel out to Romania where she will be once again working with Dougal Wilson, for the new Ikea advert.

Rachel's strong belief that everyone can access the performing arts makes her sessions lively, creative and vibrant and often focuses on the strength of the ensemble.

Her creative style of blending the physical with the narrative makes strong, bold theatre full of imagery and depth.

The course will start on 9th October and run for 10 weeks including half term until 11th December at a cost of £85.

For more information or to book a place, email adult.education@lvc.org or call us on 891233 and select adult education from the menu.

Steve Austin

Sacred, soul and swing

LINTON Music Society welcomes the international, multi-award winning professional capella ensemble, The Songmen, who sing a wonderful variety of part-song from polyphony, to beautiful folksong and spiritual arrangements, both old and new, finally arriving in 1960s America for a series of cool soul and laid-back swing arrangements.



The Songmen

The programme includes William Byrd's *Sing Joyfully*; John Rutter's *It was a Lover and his Lass*; Stanford's *Beati Quorum Via*; *Plaisir d'Amour*; *Bobby Shaftoe and Londonderry Air*; *Swing Low, Down in the River*; *Blackbird, Stand by Me*; *Mr. Bojangles*; *Cheek to Cheek* and *Crazy 'Bout My Baby*.

Come and enjoy them at

Picture supplied by the songmen Linton parish church at 7.30pm on Saturday, 20th October.

Tickets are available at the door or in advance or by telephone from Sweet Talk News, 77 High Street, phone 893480.

For more information please contact me: Linda Bird, 893600

The 2012 Pink Rose Appeal



AHEAD of Breast Cancer Awareness month in October, ACT (the charity for Addenbrooke's and the Rosie hospitals) is launching the 2012 Pink Rose Appeal and inviting everyone to host a Pink Rose Party to help fund life-saving research and treatment for the

UK's most common cancer.

In the last 25 years, incidences of breast cancer have increased by 50%. The disease is diagnosed in around 48,000 UK women a year. An estimated 550,000 people living in the UK today have been diagnosed with breast cancer of which around 11,500 women will die each year as a result.

Money raised through this year's Pink Rose Appeal will enable Addenbrooke's to invest in more leading-edge research, specialist equipment and improved patient care to help save the lives of women treated in Cambridge for the disease that now affects one in eight women.

The 2011 Pink Rose campaign raised enough money for the surgical team at the Cambridge Breast Unit to purchase a specimen x-ray machine. The device enables surgeons at the hospital to analyse tissue samples removed from patients during an operation. With the ability to check specimens on the spot, surgeons can more accurately remove cancerous tissue. They can also spot any unexpected abnormalities and assess how best to address them during the procedure - reducing the need for follow up surgery.

In April the Cambridge Breast Cancer Research Unit - which is part-funded by the Pink Rose Appeal - played a key role in a major global research breakthrough that could revolutionise breast cancer diagnosis and treatment.

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Contact Sheila Bennett
Tel: 01223 890171

This year, as well as collecting donations from their guests, Pink Rose fundraisers will also sell Pink Rose pin badges. This delicate accessory makes it easy for anyone to proudly show their support for a wonderful cause.

For more information about the Pink Rose Appeal or a fundraising pack, please contact Michelle Gray, Head of Community Fundraising at ACT on 217757, email michelle.gray@addenbrookes.nhs.uk or go to www.actcharity.org.uk/pinkrose.

A new fitness venture



Joe, pictured in his new gym

Picture supplied by Joe George

LOCAL man, Joe George, is proud to have launched his new fitness venture in the year London hosted the Olympics Games.

After leaving LVC, Joe developed a strong background in sports after studying for a health and fitness management degree at Thames Valley University.

He followed this with an advanced personal training diploma and a personal trainer role in Cambridge. His dream has always been to open his own gym and when the opportunity arose in his local village he jumped at the chance.

Triple J Fitness has been a great success and Joe would like to thank all his clients for their support. The new gym is open seven days a week and a flexible payment structure includes monthly, annual or pay-as-you-go prices with inductions and personal programmes included in membership. As well as a fully equipped modern fitness suite Joe is able to offer basketball, weightlifting, cycling, boxing and gymnastic rings, so if the London games have inspired you to get fit you will receive a warm welcome. Joe can be contacted on 891164 or see advert details below.

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Linton Country Diary by Darryl Nantais

Illustrated by Maureen Williams



A foot with teeth

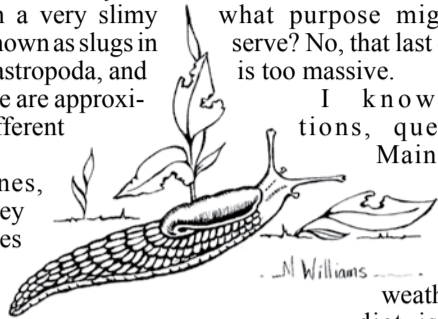
I'VE always thought of my eyes as camera lenses. When I was a boy I would practice staring at a country scene, allowing a sort of long exposure. Then, shutting my lids tightly to view the captured image, sometimes running away, opening and closing my eyes to see how far I could run with the scene still etched on my retinas.

It used to bug me how the human body for all its wonderment had no instant facility to show its pictures to others! Perhaps it's not surprising as our whole history appears more focused on creating and destroying visions.

Something else of late has bugged me. Described by Maureen whilst discussing this month's diary as a kind of foot with teeth. She made me

chuckle, for that is exactly what it is - I mean the thing that bugs me. The studio pathway at night has become a motorway for creatures with a very slimy disposition, known as slugs in the class of Gastropoda, and in the UK there are approximately 30 different species.

Orange ones, red, yellow, grey and black ones all marching up and down the garden path en route to devour my precious sunflowers, courgettes and marrows. I mean, one doesn't normally run in and say to friends and family "Quickly! Come see the slug" like one would a fox, lizard, bird or badger.



So who are these slippery critters, vagrant snails with the audacity to help themselves to the fruits of our labours and what purpose might they serve? No, that last question is too massive.

I know - questions, questions! Mainly nocturnal, or out in wet weather, their diet is varied but includes lichen and carrion along with our veg' and an appetite often exceeding their own body weight. The young succulent cucumber barely stood a chance against the rasping tongue of the slug known as a *radula* or *dentiles*

which are rows of tiny teeth. Listen carefully and they make quite a crunch.

So why all this slime? Well, from what I have observed there are several reasons. One is for mobility, traction and lubrication - producing varying degrees of viscosity especially under attack, another is a mating trail.

Among these rather strange and slimy souls lives one particularly slug called Limax Maximus or Leopard Slug with markings, as the name suggests, in black and brown. It's of minimal concern to crop growers, yet to purveyors of natural worlds, one worth that photograph I'm currently unable to share.

Oh well. Back to the canon.

Do you play Bridge?

DO you play, or are you interested in learning how to play, bridge?

The Granta Bridge club meets on Tuesday afternoons between 2pm and 4pm in Linton village hall. The club is for players with a sound basic knowledge of bridge and is not suitable for beginners or those who play at a higher level.

We provide a friendly relaxed atmosphere and have a break in the middle for tea and biscuits.

This is what some of our members say about us:-
"I like playing because it keeps my brain going."

"I'm proud that I have been taught it. It's a very stimulating game."

"It's friendly and fun and we like the men!"

"I only go to nice groups where I can play friendly bridge."

We can arrange free classes for beginners if you are interested.

If you would like to visit the club with a view to joining or enquire about lessons please contact: Brian Wingfield, 892495 or Peter Stutz, 891438

Peter Stutz

A new season in the garden is upon us

THE Gardening club's new season starts on 9th October with the AGM.

After the main business is completed there will be a challenging, fun quiz, video, wine and nibbles, as well as a chance to catch up after the summer.

We look forward to welcoming everyone for another wonderful season starting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 9th October in the village hall.

Kirsten Newble, 892425, lgsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

We did like to be beside the seaside

WE had a trip to the seaside - lovely Southwold on a splendid day, in the company of the ACEs, what could be better? Our coach driver certainly knew the village (and its drivers...) and the best routes - thank you, Mike.

There was plenty to do in the town, with so many places to eat, good shopping and a market - we were recognised by our favourite fishmonger, previously at Saffron Walden and not seen for several years; such a small world.

After eating, many made

their way towards the coastline and the sea. There were some hardy local bathers but not a Linton toe was dabbled in the chilly North Sea. Most of us gravitated towards the pier with its many touching plaques from lovers of Southwold, the fantastic clock and very fresh air.

The next event is a soup and rolls lunch in the church pavilion, on Thursday 25th, October at 12.30pm. Call me if you need a lift. We will have the ever popular Geoff Hales speaking about life in Tonga.

Enid Bald, 891069

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POT POURRI 91

What speed was the cyclist doing

A CYCLIST is in a long narrow tunnel and hears a bus coming. If the cyclist goes back, he will just miss the bus as it enters the tunnel. However, he carries on and just misses the bus on reaching the exit. If he was five-sixteenths along the tunnel's length when he decides to carry on and is doing 12.5mph; what speed is the bus doing?

Solution to 90 - Distance between overlapping circles.

As the overlapping circles are touching the sides of the rectangle, the circle centres are 9.375 apart with the rectangle dimensions being 15 by x.

Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF

Linton Brownies jumble and cake sale

BETWEEN 2pm and 3 pm on Saturday 6th October, in the village hall, the brownies will be holding a jumble and cake sale. Entrance 50p.

Please bring any donations of jumble or cakes to the hall between 10am and 11am, or call 894862 for collection.

All money raised will go towards valuable resources for the Brownies.

Kate Huntsman

Coffee and new calendar

NEXT year's calendar, containing photographs of Linton, taken by Linton residents, will be launched for sale at The Friends of St Mary's coffee morning which will be held from 10.30am to 12noon on Saturday, 20th October, in the church pavilion. Christmas cards will also be available. Do come.

Margaret Clark

Bus service review public meeting

WE are due to complete our review of bus services in your area in the next few weeks and would like to invite you to a meeting to discuss the outcome of the questionnaires and engagement activities we have been doing in your villages at a public meeting.

The meeting will take place from 7-9pm on Friday 19th October at Balsham Church Institute, Church Lane, Balsham.

Ashley Whittaker, Community Engagement Officer,
Cambridgeshire Future Transport,
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The Derbyshire Post



AS predicted in the last Derbyshire Post, we returned to college in the kind of glorious sunshine we would have killed for in July or August. However, we were not bitter because we also returned to the best results in the history of the college. A staggering 92% of the class of 2012 achieved five A*- C grades or better and 71% of them achieved those five grades with Cs or above in both English and Maths. Nearly half of the students had three or more A / A* grades. All of this, of course, bucked the trend nationally and has left us wondering how stellar those results could have been if grade boundaries in English had not been moved upwards at a national level.

We know that students who would have achieved the all-important C grade in January 2012, with the same work, did not do so in August and our teachers, parents and students feel that this is ridiculous and unfair.

So what do we now have to look forward to? Well, we are applying to become a Teaching School this year, so we are keeping our fingers crossed about that. We are going to renovate our main hall and we are excited about the prospect of a grand production of *Guys And Dolls* in the spring term. It is going to be another great year.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal

No more parking problems at the farmers' market

RECENTLY we leafleted houses in Linton about the regular market at the village college that takes place on the first Saturday of every month.

It was amazing how many people have been to the market regularly over the years but have stopped recently due to the problems caused by the building work and the fact that the Aztec football team trained on the same morning and parents watching the youngsters were parking in the areas our customers had used.

Thankfully the building work is at an end and the Aztecs no longer train on the same morning that the market is on. We still have a great selection of local produce from vegetables, beef and bread to handmade pork pies, cakes, eggs and chickens. Plus we have the ever popular fresh and smoked fish direct from Lowestoft.

We would love to see old customers return and new ones try our products so, as a one-off event, on 6th October we will be offering a 10% discount on purchases.

Jan Lupton

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/1551/12/LB Mr & Mrs Duckett, 70 High Street, Internal alterations – including opening up original window opening and incorporating extended worktop, removing modern door and frame and replacing modern partitions.

S/1660/12/FL Mr Simon Page, 3B The Grip, alterations and conversion of garage to form additional living accommodation.

S/1761/12/FL Mr Kotschy, 26 Mill Lane, Discharge of condition 3b of planning application S/1341/12/FL.

S/1779/12/NM Mr Thomas Mullan, Riveyhill Barn, Balsham Road, Non material amendment to planning permission S/1591/04/F for extensions to reduce the size of kitchen/sunroom extension, remove door/window in the north elevation and add a rooflight to the east roof slope.

Nina, Carl, Laura-Jayne, Nicola and Sue welcome you to

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The Way We Were by Garth Collard

The story of Greenhill Farm

IN the late 18th century Greenhill Farm was purchased by the Keene family, the manorial lords of Great Linton estate, and let to tenants. The land stretched from the clock house in the High Street, across the A1307 to The Grip and from Stantons Lane including the complete site of the village college to Camgrain, with additional land scattered around the village.

The farm buildings included a pair of 17th century cottages with dormer windows which were the original farmhouse. The cottages fell into disrepair and were demolished in 1922/23.

Being so close to The Grip and the High Street, the farm was an easy target for local thieves. In July 1902 Charles Eley, a Linton labourer stole four hens – in total valued at ten shillings – from William Day, tenant farmer at Greenhill. (A labourer's weekly



Greenhill Farm around 1907, the pair of C17th cottages with dormer windows which were the original farmhouse can be seen on the left.

Picture from Garth's collection

wage was then eight shillings (40p) a week.) Someone informed on Eley and the local policeman arrested him with two of the hens hidden in his shoulder bag as he had already sold the other two. Eley persistently claimed the hens belonged to his father so Police constable Brooks and

William Day released the two hens onto the road between Eley's cottage in The Grip and the Greenhill farm. The two hens promptly fled into the farmyard back to the hen house.

In court Eley pleaded guilty and the case was adjourned for two weeks to

allow him to join the army, which he hoped would avoid a fine. On November 2nd 1917, he was killed on the Western front.

Greenhill farm was sold to William Day in 1902 and he subsequently sold part of the land to the late George Seaman Turner, a pig farmer, for £500. Soon after the sale residents of The Grip complained about the smell and George was told to clear away several dung heaps and move the pig styes well away from the houses.

In 1945 Linton residents celebrated VJ Day with a large bonfire on the small green near Greenhill farm. The fire got out of hand and flames spread to the thatched barn adjacent to the present clock house. The barn was gutted but the fire was contained thanks to the efforts of the Whittlesford fire brigade and the Americans stationed at Hadstock airfield.

Change of day for storytime



STORYTIME at Linton library is now on alternate Tuesdays from 2-2.30pm.

The next sessions will be held on 9th and 23rd October.

Bring your youngster along for half an hour of stories and fun.

It's free and there is no need to book.

Parents/carers to stay with children. Storytime is organised by volunteers with the support of Cambridgeshire Libraries.

For more information please go to www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

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The historical society, another taster

THE local paper dated 6th September 1912 described "During the past few days a large Canvas Town has sprung up on the outskirts of Linton. The 16th Lancers, 18th Hussars, 4th Dragoon Guards, a Veterinary Hospital, two batteries of the Royal Horse Artillery, 5th field troop of Royal Engineers, and the Signal troop of the Army Service Corps all took up their quarters in the camp". These huge tented cities sprang up in the fields in many villages.

The scenario was the forces of an imaginary country (Red) had crossed the frontier dividing Red from Britain (Blue) between Wells-next-the-Sea and Hunstanton. The Red army was commanded by Lt General Sir Douglas Haig with Major-General Edmund Allenby in charge of the cavalry divisions and the 1st Infantry Division with Major-General Lomax and 2nd

Infantry Division: Major-General Lawson, so big players from the actual Great War. The Red forces were supposed to push south as quickly as possible.

While, put simply the Blue army commanded by Sir James Grierson, with the Cavalry under Colonel Charles Briggs, the 3rd Infantry Division under Major-General Henry Rawlinson and the 4th Infantry Division under Major-General Snow, Sir James Grierson ordered a general mobilisation and its prime goal was to stop Red forces entering London. Time was of the essence for both sides.

The mock conflict took place between 16th to 18th September. To find out more you will need to come to our opening meeting on 16th October.

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Support for local business

AS in most villages businesses fall into three groups; those on the industrial areas like The Grip, retail along the High Street and the invisible ones run from people's homes.

It is obvious how local shops are important; for older people who can no longer drive and for people on restricted incomes who need to shop without incurring travel expenses. They are also informal information exchanges and a forum of social interaction. It is not a good sign when there are empty shops. At one point there were five. It is good to see however that we now have two new enterprises taking up shop space. Unfortunately at least one of the empty shops is now converting to residential. It would be sad to see Linton turn into a dormer village, with no life on the street.

How can we support our local shops? One way is if for every shopper to divert just £5 of their weekly on-line or national supermarket spend to their local shops. This could make a big difference. It does not have to be even an extra fiver. Just one you already spend, spent in a slightly different way. Instead of buying your next birthday card from a chain retailer in a big town, buy it from the local newsagent, post office, gift shop or supermarket. Instead of buying your bread on-line, buy it from one of the five outlets that provide just about anything you could desire, from gluten-free to spelt.

On The Grip, over the past year, we have seen four businesses arrive and unfortunately at least two fail and leave. Who would have thought we would have a new gym and a dance studio in the village. At last the pot-holes have gone with the re-surfacing work in August. These businesses also provide local jobs and are to be encouraged.

For those of you that work from home I am constantly amazed at the diversity. There are people who provide services from medical research to financial services, dress-making to building design, language tuition to dog-walking as well as those who provide the classic bed and breakfast. If you need a service the first places to look are the Linton Village Directory, local noticeboards and cards in Sweet Talk News window. You may be able to help a neighbour earn a living.

On the parish council we have initiated a discussion as to what we can practically do. The first step is to find out from the owners and drivers of businesses what they think would help and to this end we would like to hold a meeting sometime this autumn to find out their suggestions. I hope many of you will come along and tell us what you need.

They are all a vital part of our community. We all need to support and keep our local businesses.

Cllr Merrie Mannassi

Allotments statement

FOLLOWING the statement issued in October 2011 regarding the search for allotment land we can now advise you that at the parish council meeting on 6th September 2012 it was agreed that all previously confidential correspondence would be placed in the public domain.

Site one: The land in Back Road accessed via the bridleway adjacent to the telephone exchange was offered by Mr and Miss Lamb. It is currently leased to the Fairey family. It comprises 21 acres (8.13 hectares), 7 acres was earmarked for allotment land and the remainder 14 acres for recreational use. It was originally offered on a 25 year lease at a cost of £350 per annum per acre for the allotment land and £105 per acre per annum for the remainder. The rent would be reviewed annually and indexation added. The council would have purchasing options after 2013: to purchase seven acres at £20,000 per acre, the total cost being £140,000; or to purchase at least one acre per year over seven years. The cost per acre for the first two years would be £20,000, rising to £21,000 for the next two years and £22,000 per acre in the remaining years.

Site two: In February 2012 the Fairey Estates offered land comprising 6.24 acres (2.53 hectares) in Back Road approximately half a mile outside the village towards Hildersham, adjacent to the residential property known as Whitehill. This was offered for purchase for £21,000 per acre.

The parish council resolved to purchase the land rather than leasing, due to the high cost of the offered lease and the unknown future rises in rent due to indexation, and also because it wanted a village resource that would be owned by the village and still be there for future generations.

In April 2012 the independent district valuer was instructed to value both sites and he reported back as follows.

Site one: "I am of the opinion that the market value of the freehold interest of the land which has an access from Back Road

would lie within the range of £25,500 to £30,000 per hectare." (£10,000 - £12,000 per acre).

Site two: "I am of the opinion that the market value of the freehold interest of the land which fronts Back Road would lie within the range of £18,500 to £25,000 per hectare." (£8,000 - £10,000 per acre).

Legal advice was sought from South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC).

In June 2012 an offer of £10,000 per acre was made for both sites subject to suitability and contract.

Mr and Miss Lamb responded that they were never attracted to the idea of selling the land and preferred the regular income of a lease. They would not consider selling at less than their price quoted. Fairey Estates also rejected this offer and stated they had received another offer for the land. Neither landowner gave any sign that they would enter negotiations unless their offer price was met in full.

Further legal advice was sought from SCDC and the council was advised that acquiring land by compulsory purchase would involve the market value of the land, compensation for the landowners and legal costs. The parish council was advised that, in the opinion of the SCDC legal department, the parish council would be able to offer £16,000 per acre, being able to justify that amount if legally challenged due to the costs of compulsory purchase, and the fact that it would save time and provide allotments quicker. Consequently in July 2012 an offer of £16,000 per acre was made for the second site. On 1st September we were advised by the Fairey family that this offer was not acceptable to them.

At the parish council meeting on 6th September it was resolved that all confidential information would be placed in the public domain and council would progress the compulsory purchase of land - yet to be identified.

Parish council

Wild creatures that also share our village

I PARTICULARLY want to bring attention to hedgehogs, having a fondness for the prickly creatures. (I won't say little because a good healthy hedgehog can weigh up to 2kg, especially if you keep it in a bedroom all winter, feeding it cat food). If they can avoid being squashed by cars, getting stuck in netting, drowning in ponds, eating slugs poisoned by slug-pellets, being burnt in bonfires and other man-made hazards, they can live up to five years.

They are Britain's only spiny mammal. The spines are without doubt the hedgehog's most intriguing feature and are really modified hairs. An average sized hedgehog has 5000-7000



Hoglet the size of a tennis ball, so probably about 300g. Photo taken in Meadow Lane on 20th August 2012 so has plenty of time to put on weight before winter hibernation.

Picture by Merrie Mannassi

spines. And don't worry about the fleas - hedgehog fleas prefer the taste of hedgehog (unlike cat and dog fleas). Actually you need to be more aware of ticks when handling hedgehogs. The hedgehog's legs are about 4 inches (10cm) long. You often cannot see how long those legs really are, because hedgehogs rarely extend them fully, and they are covered by fur on the

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Council minutes council minutes council minutes council minutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 2nd August 2012.

Present: Mrs E Bald (vice chairman), D Champion, Ms E Cornell, Mrs S Dew, D Penfold, G Potter, K Wakley, Mrs A Walker, Mrs J Wilson and Mrs S Parry (clerk). Mrs K France (press) was also in attendance with one member of the public.

Apologies were received from councillors Cox, Hickford, Hunt, Manley, Mannassi and Poulter.

Declarations of interest and dispensations: Under the allotments item, Cllrs Cornell and Walker declared non pecuniary disclosable interests.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 19th July: Under the district councillor reports item Cllr Wilson asked for more information and clarification of the South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) decision to change the support and care systems for its sheltered housing. It was agreed to investigate urgently, including whether the residents were still paying for warden services. For Linton residents it needed to be ascertained whether they could now be included in the Linton community warden scheme (run through Age UK).

Reports from co-ordinators: Open spaces and environment: The SCDC graffiti team had suggested that the badly damaged perspex windows in the bus shelter at the junction of Parsonage Way be painted dark green as they were badly damaged and it was not possible to remove the graffiti. It was agreed that for health and safety reasons the windows should not be painted. The possibility and costs of replacement windows, or a replacement bus shelter, would be investigated.

Recreation ground: The SCDC graffiti team was willing to treat specific wooden benches and the wooden play equipment in the venture playground. The parish council would pay for the materials (costs unknown). Cllr Wakley proposed that this work be undertaken free of charge with the parish council paying for the materials. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Walker and agreed by the meeting.

Cemetery: A detailed report from the cemetery working group had been received. Two large waste bins and a watering can would be purchased.

Venture playground: An inspection report had been received from Wicksteed Leisure. Cllr Walker proposed that the rope ladder section on the multi-play unit be repaired. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Penfold and agreed by the meeting.

A1307, traffic and recreation ground parking: Cllr Potter reported that there was no 'Give Way' marking at the junction of Back Road and Balsham Road. The clerk would alert the county council to this. The wooden post at the pinch-point near Coles Lane had been damaged by a Co-op lorry, who would be informed.

Linton Action for Youth (LA4Y): Cllrs Poulter and Champion had issued a written report, its contents were noted. It was agreed that the draft agreement drawn up by Cllr Poulter should be circulated, and that the group needed to bring an agreement to the next parish council meeting.

A letter had been received from SCDC advising that a grant of

£1000 for LA4Y was being held until the lease had been agreed, which ought to be possible by the end of September. SCDC had been advised of the situation regarding the lease by district councillor Hickford. It was now urgent to pursue the matter of the lease with LA4Y and council's solicitors in order to reach a satisfactory outcome.

Correspondence received for consideration: SCDC had written regarding the Gambling Act consultation. It was agreed to forward a copy to the football club for comment regarding their bingo sessions.

It was noted that the Moore Stephens audited annual return year ending 31st March 2012 had been signed off.

SCDC had issued an adopted code of conduct, dispensation procedure guide and request form, and complaints procedure guides. It was noted that under the Localism Act parish councils would be responsible for granting their own dispensations. It was felt that urgent training was required before any decision could be made. The clerk would investigate any available training.

Matters for future consideration: Cllr Walker reported on the untidy state of the premises and grounds in The Grip Industrial Estate. This had previously been reported by other councillors when they proposed that the parish council look into ways that commerce and industry could be encouraged. It was agreed to investigate who owned the access road and units.

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 6th September 2012.

Present: R Hickford (chairman and district councillor), D Champion, Ms E Cornell, Mrs S Dew, Ms T Hunt, B Manley, Ms M Mannassi, G Potter, P Poulter, K Wakley, Mrs A Walker, Mrs J Wilson and Mrs A Meeks (assistant to the clerk). Mrs K France (press) was also in attendance with eight members of the public.

Apologies for absence were received from councillors Bald, Cox and Penfold and Mrs S Parry (clerk).

Public participation: Mr J Smith detailed an accident he had been involved in on the A1307 at the Dene crossroads. He asked whether the county council road safety team, set up to review safety measures, had met. Cllrs Cornell and Hickford advised that two meetings had been held earlier in the year which had got no further than setting the teams terms of reference. Parish council would continue to pressure to progress this frustrating ongoing issue.

Mr J Scott and Mr & Mrs Donnelly requested an update on allotments. This item was due to be discussed under confidential cover at the end of the meeting therefore no update could be given.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd August: The report from the clerk was noted. An answer to the sheltered warden issues would be progressed.

Paynes Meadow and Chalklands planting update: The report from Cllr Bald was noted. The letter from a resident was noted, since which four youths had been cautioned by the police.

Consideration of the draft updated lease for Linton Action

Continued from previous page
underbelly. If you see a hedgehog run it is almost as though they lift their skirts and go. In the UK hedgehogs are in decline. This is also reflected in our village as you see fewer squashed on the road in recent years. I certainly would have welcomed some in my garden this year because I have been inundated with slugs and snails and they do like these as a tasty treat, although they prefer beetles, caterpillars and worms. They are known as the gardeners' friend. Look out for the signs of them visiting

your garden (droppings that look like little black slugs or piles of leaves under a bush) so you can leave out some water. Listen out on warm evenings for them moving through your plants and bushes – they make quite a racket, like troops on manoeuvres.

As we are now into autumn, please can everyone watch out for them, especially if you are having a bonfire; check the pile before you light it in case they think they have found their winter nest. Most important of all watch out for the 'autumn orphans'. These are late born

babies that will not survive the winter if they weigh less than 600g or 1lb 6oz (about the size of two tennis balls) when they go into hibernation, as they will have insufficient fat stores to wake up again.

If you find a baby hedgehog (called a hoglet) or a hedgehog awake and moving about during the day please do your best to catch it. I wear garden gloves but even paper kitchen towel will make it easier to hold the spiny creature. Keep it in a box in a warm dry place, offer some water (but never milk or bread) and call the British Hedgehog

Preservation Society on 01584 890801. They will tell you where the nearest place is that will be able to care for them. If transport is needed please let me know and I will be more than happy to take them.

By the way, I wouldn't recommend keeping one in a bedroom over winter, however cute they are. Basically they like to turn their shredded paper bed into a midden and the smell is unbelievable. Plus they have a tendency to escape and leave mucky footprints all over the place.

Cllr Merrie Mannassi

for Youth (LA4Y): Cllr Wakley proposed that a five year term with break options be accepted subject to: 1) the removal of 'Error! Reference source not found' at 3(o)iii, 6.2 and 7.1(c); 2) the inclusion of posters/ notices advertising sessions being allowed to be displayed on the property. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Champion and resolved by the meeting.

The lease would go back to council's solicitors for these final amendments and would then be sent to LA4Y. Following the signing an agenda item would be diarised for 16 months time to review the lease.

Correspondence received for consideration: A resident had requested a bench at the Back Road bus stop. Cllr Cornell proposed that a bench be provided at the Back Road bus stop, with an upper limit of £850 for purchase and fitting (not concrete base). Siting to be at clerk's discretion making allowance for a possible future shelter. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hunt and resolved by the meeting.

It was requested that the clerk complete the feedback form on the South Cambridgeshire district council grants and partnership funding arrangements.

The response from Cambridgeshire county council accident investigation following council's letter of concern re HCV accidents on the A1307 had not answered the questions regarding the risk issues. It was agreed that Cllr Cornell would respond.

Mr David Walker detailed his plans for the official opening of the new play equipment, taking place on Sunday 16th September. Cllr Manley proposed that £250 be paid for the children's entertainer, JezO's Magic, and up to £150 be paid to Mr Walker for refreshments, balloons etc. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Mannassi and resolved by the meeting.

Cllr Hickford thanked Mr Walker for the fantastic job he had done.

Cllr Potter requested a breakdown of the money in/out to show what council held on Mr Walker's behalf, which would fund the amounts agreed above.

Previously confidential part of the meeting follows.

Councillors Cornell and Walker declared non pecuniary disclosable interests.

Allotments update: The letter received from Mr Fairey, advising that council's offer was not acceptable, was circulated. Cllr Cox's costing information was noted.

Cllr Mannassi proposed that all previously confidential information be made non-confidential and available to the public, and for council to progress with the compulsory purchase of land. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Wilson and resolved by the meeting. Item to go on next agenda.

Cllr Hickford would liaise with the clerk to produce an information statement for issue.

The request by Ms Fiona Tideswell to use the parish council address for an allotment association bank account was refused. Clerk to respond.

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

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

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