

Jubilee  
Summer Fair  
5pm on Friday  
25<sup>th</sup> May  
Infants School

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# THE LINTON NEWS

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

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## Blooming marvellous!

A GROUP of children from Year 5 at Linton Heights junior school took us all on an amazing journey through the Victorian age recently.

They set up a wonderful Victorian Museum to complement their studies after researching every aspect of the period, working in small groups with their own particular subject and very individual name.

The Bloomers researched chimney sweeps and child labour in the mines; the Fashion Folk made a crinoline and a corset out of chicken wire and researched clothing; the Bell Team displayed children's toys; the Victorian Searchers gave facts about animals and poaching and the Rockets researched transportation. These were only a few of the wonderful groups and their enthusiastic research.

In the spring term, they discussed how they would like to study the period and made a presentation of the project to headmistress Miss Malone.

They were each given £5 and told they could increase their funds by writing to



Queen-sized: from the left, Olivia, Beth and Felice

Picture by Roger Lapwood

potential donors. They could also ask for help and borrow exhibits, such as the wooden rocking horse.

Many of the exhibits

required a donation and for a fee you could watch the Punch and Judy show, put your head in a cut-out hole to be photographed in a

Victorian costume or as Prince Albert or Queen Victoria or sit in an antler chair, reputedly like the one owned by Prince Albert.

There were also some very inventive games and word searches. The gift shop sold home-made postcards, bookmarks and Victoria sponge cake.

Unfortunately I missed the Year 3 Victorian fashion show, which even had a red carpet for the models to walk down, and the arrival of Queen Victoria (I wonder what she thought of her bloomers on display).

I also missed the sketch about Jack the Ripper and the occasional appearance of a skeleton in a cupboard; a power-point presentation about medicine and a competition to see who could amputate a leg the fastest, complete with, I am told, a lot of tomato sauce.

I am sorry not to be able to mention all the groups and the facts, figures and drawings the children so enthusiastically produced. It was a great project and it was a pity it was only open for one day.

Georgina Page



Wildlife tales: from left, Jan Sheppard, Cynthia Norris, Peter Carter, Linda Read and Enid Bald

Picture by Ron Pitkin

## Fenland eel man keeps his trade in the family

THE ACES welcomed a living part of local history on 27<sup>th</sup> March - Peter Carter, the last Fenland eel man.

Peter follows generations of his family in making his living catching eels and making eel traps. He told us the history of his trade, the mysterious life-cycle of the eel (still not fully known), tales of the Fens, the wildlife and his life.

Having had reading problems as a child, Peter more than made up for it by gaining practical knowledge and experience. He now passes on his expertise and understanding of nature to all ages.

One example was his conversation with the Queen - Peter's natural style was an obvious winner with her, too. He is now often on TV - the story of the celebrity and the punt gun was a cracker.

We had a full house, so our hardworking volunteers missed their fish and chips, as all were needed for our guests - I hope the sacrifice was appreciated.

We gratefully received a donation of £150 from our local Conservative Association. This was part of the funds raised at their last garden party - many thanks.

Our next event is a coach trip on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> May to Spalding, noted for its Georgian architecture, Memorial Gardens, shopping mall and water taxi, to easily access the town. The decorated floats will be there, from their famed flower festival, so we will see them without waiting for the parade.

All older people welcome: book with Linda 892923, Cynthia 891728 or me. Enid Bald 891069

## A disaster waiting to happen

MRS Annamarie Haining and her two young children were unhurt when the driver of a large articulated lorry lost control and it jackknifed across the A1307 in Linton before careering into their front garden recently.

The lorry, which completely destroyed a substantial hedge and fence, came to rest only a few yards from where Mrs Haining had been sitting moments before.

She was badly shaken and explained that her children often played in the front garden of their historic cottage.

The sound and sight of the huge lorry smashing into their garden had been terrifying and affected her sleep.



Aftermath: the lorry in the wrecked garden

Picture supplied by Paul Poulter

Mrs Haining, whose home is not far from the entrance to Linton Village College and nearly opposite Joiners Road, said that this

was an accident waiting to happen, as in the two years since they had lived in Linton, traffic and traffic speed had increased considerably,

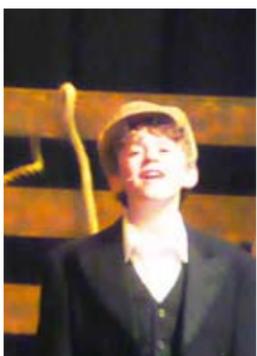
especially that of HGVs.

She called for more road safety measures on the A1307 and expressed the concern, shared by many, that the proposed development of 130 new houses in Linton off Horseheath Road and the new business park near Sainsbury's in Haverhill will make the road even more congested and dangerous.

Mrs Haining was thankful that her own family was unhurt but also grateful that the incident had not happened during the rush hours or the Village College dropping-off times and that there had not been a major tragedy.

"It was sheer luck that it was not far worse," she said. Paul Poulter

## College on top form with a sensational Oliver



Oliver Kellar as Oliver

LAST month the Village College put on a musical show after several years of absence. They chose *Oliver!*, Lionel Bart's musical version of Charles Dicken's *Oliver Twist*.

As a senior citizen I was fortunate enough to be invited to the dress rehearsal. Along with around 50 Granta school pupils and some LVC students, I sat back to watch and enjoy the performance.

The orchestra, under the direction of Chris Charlesworth,

was extremely competent and supportive of the cast. The set, which was quite simple, was very effective. From the first song in the workhouse, *Food Glorious Food*, to the finale, the show was excellent.

The whole cast was superb, even Betty who played Bullseye the dog. The finale came all too soon. Many thanks to the college for inviting us and for the refreshments and the hospitality.



Gina Smith as Nancy

Pictures by Wendy Foster

## Too good for jumble ...

THIS month's items on offer are a brass coloured fireguard 24in high x 22in wide x 7.5in deep, a Hitachi Video Plus VHS M112E (Black) with instructions - both in excellent condition. The toner A30 cartridges for a Canon photocopier FC-1/2/3/5/22 or 6/7/11 are also available.

The lawnmowers raised £45 for Linton Granta Playgroup, the potter's wheel and the slide made £30 for East Anglia Children's Hospice and a dog cage made £20 for the NSPCC.

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 plea for brevity ...

BY now you will have noticed that this month's Linton News is eight pages instead of the usual six. This is because we had so many articles sent in and very few of them could be delayed until the June issue. We are delighted by this but I would like to let all potential contributors know that we cannot accept articles which are more than 250 words long.

We do allow our regular writers longer articles but we do not have space for longer unplanned articles, except in very special circumstances.

If you send pictures, please can you ensure that you have the permission of any parent or guardian if the picture is of a minor and the name of the photographer. To reproduce satisfactorily, all pictures need to be a minimum of 1meg in jpeg format.

There appears to be some confusion with the email address to the Linton News which is shown in the box at the top of page three, particularly the first two letters. It is actually LNEEDITOR@LINTON.INFO shown here in upper case (the LN stands for Linton News). Email addresses are usually in lower case, although I believe that either will work and get your emails to me.

Please keep the articles coming; we love to read them too.  
Editor

LNT

## Park wars

*Don't believe all you read in the press. Following some inaccurate and misleading reports in local newspapers particularly about children being knocked down, here we offer our perspective.*

A WELL attended meeting to discuss parking issues on the recreation ground was the forum for a lively debate on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April. Ably chaired by Roger Hickford, Linton Parish Council chairman, user groups and residents were invited to put forward their points of view.

This consultation largely fell into two camps, with some residents making representations opposed to any increased vehicular access and in particular to a suggested parish council scheme for a car park facility sited on the recreation ground. On the other side, user groups of the recreation ground spoke on behalf of the football club, cricket, bingo and the bowls club, who need access to drop off deliveries and event equipment.

It was stated that the cricket and football clubs, all of which are run by volunteers, have a great many under 18s registered to play and it was generally agreed that these clubs were an asset to the village and should be supported, particularly as they cater for all ages.

There was agreement that the current provision was inadequate and that the safety of all users of the footpath was paramount. It was also noted that there had been no reported accidents on the meadow.

It was agreed to make key holders responsible for locking the gate when accessing the meadow for authorized vehicles, subject to further discussion and monitoring of any lapses in the closing of the gates.

With the cricket season fast approaching, Roger Hickford would hold urgent talks with Linton Village College to formalize what had been a gentleman's agreement that users could park on college grounds and that arrangements were in place to vacate after the gates were closed on weekends.

Disabled villagers who have difficulty parking at LVC should be allowed with PC permission to park outside the pavilion.

All users should park at the college wherever possible; the meeting was closed by the chairman who thanked everyone for attending and participating in the debate.

LNT

## Friends of Granta summer fête

THIS year's Friends of Granta school summer fête will take place from 1pm to 4pm on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June. Make a note in your diary now to avoid disappointment. Granta School is a special needs school located in the grounds of Linton Village College. There are 116 pupils aged from four to nineteen. All money raised at the fête will be used to provide Granta students with activities and equipment which would otherwise be unavailable to them.

Recently FOGS have made a number of important gifts to the school including five I-Pads, equipment for the school's Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, funding for an integrated arts project with Castle and St Faith's schools in Cambridge, sports kit for the school's highly successful Boccia team which recently reached the national finals, funding for a visit by an American Wild West group, a new front garden for the school and play equipment. In June FOGs will be providing a whole school activity day when the Ark Farm, a storyteller, the Stardome Planetarium and Jezo's circus skills will all visit the school.

The fête promises to be a memorable occasion. There will be all the usual stalls and attractions including a high quality raffle, barbecue and refreshments. Music will be provided by the Linton Village Jazz Band with vocalist Karen Sanderson.

The Friends of Granta are looking forward to seeing many Linton residents at the Fête on 30<sup>th</sup> June. It will be a great afternoon. Come along, have a great time and all in a great cause.

Paul Ilott

## The Anderson Trust

AT their meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March, trustees of the Anderson Trust approved distribution of the £6,850 interest, received from investments, to the following applicants:

£5,000 to St Mary's PCC – youth worker employment;  
£850 to David Walker for the young children's play-ground upgrade project;  
£500 to support Linton Bookfest 2012;

£300 Linton Infant School – a bench for the peace garden;

£90 Linton ACE – Rental and speaker fees;

£60 A Book of My Own for children in care and

£50 to 1<sup>st</sup> Linton Brownies for pack holiday training and weekly activities.

The trustees agreed the annual distribution of funds as directed by the terms of the trust established as a result of

the sale of Church Cottage, the former home of Professor Charles and Mrs Mary Anderson.

Specifically the money is to promote the Christian religion in and from the Parish of St Mary's, Linton, to sustain the church of St Mary's and worship therein; to promote education for the benefit of those living in or resorting to Linton, particularly for the benefit of the church school and of religious teaching in Linton and for any other charitable purpose for the benefit of those living in or resorting to Linton.

The nine trustees thanked David Parry-Smith for all his work during the past 13 years as trustee then chairman. Mrs Gill Powell accepted the appointment of chairman for the coming year.

Kate France

## A fragrant garden at any time of year



MARGARET Waddy took us back in time to 55 million years ago when plants started to produce scent in response to the evolution of pollinators. Beetles were the first pollinators and were made welcome by the large open flowers of the magnolia, one of the primitive plants still seen today.

Amazingly, scent can attract a moth to a lily from up to one kilometre away. The powerful attraction of scent explains why winter flowering plants such as the winter flowering honeysuckle do not have particularly stunning flowers, they simply do not need them. They have put their energy into producing complex scents that will attract any pollinators that are awake.

Margaret brought along many samples of scented plants from her garden which caused lively debate when passed around. Not all fragrance is to everyone's taste and flowering currant was generally agreed to smell pretty awful. Some pairings of plants enhance the scent of each other. For example, dianthus and roses work well together. We were reminded that many plant families, such as roses, have members that can sequentially provide fragrance in the garden throughout most of the year.

The final meeting for this season will be a timely and much requested presentation entitled *What show judges are looking for* by Robin Crouchman. All are welcome at 7.30pm on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May in the Village Hall for tips in readiness for this year's show.

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

## WE ARE THE GRANTA BOYS

THE President, Chairman and the committee of Linton Granta Football Club wish to congratulate the first team for winning the Kershaw Premier league title on the 28<sup>th</sup> April with two games to spare.

Well done to all involved, special thanks to the manager Adam Norton and all of the team.

Congratulations also go to the Reserves for winning their league. We could not be so successful without our fantastic sponsors and our supporters. Thank you all.

David Rouse, President LGFC

## Diocese admits dash for cash in sale of agricultural land

LINTONIANS, already angered by a shambolic public consultation event organised by the Ely Diocese Board of Finance (EDBF) and their agents, Carter Jonas, in February were further shocked by the response of the EDBF to their concerns. The many residents who wrote to EDBF objecting to the proposal received a standard reply from EDBF, which candidly stated that the main reason for selling the land was the expectation of raising a substantial sum to pay for church salaries. This despite the fact that EDBF has various assets of at least £83 million and is one of the best endowed Dioceses in the country.

Disingenuously the letter also claimed that EDBF was merely responding to a call for new development sites by South Cambs District Council (SCDC) when it is widely known that SCDC was forced into this action by Whitehall.

It is good to see that one local candidate in the May elections has already committed to upholding the original SCDC policy of opposing large scale residential developments outside of village boundaries while still allowing smaller scale developments of affordable housing for local residents. However, EDBF and Carter Jonas are as indifferent to this need as they are to the impact of their proposal on the environment, village life, local services and traffic – with an estimated additional 500 residents, and 220 new vehicles causing an additional 1,100 traffic movements a day in Linton and on the A1307.

EDBF may take a decision as early as this month to apply formally for planning permission, so contact scardlinton@btinternet.com to receive a copy of the EDBF letter and help fight this proposal.

SCARD LINTON

## PLODDING ALONG

### An update on police matters

BETWEEN 7.20pm on 5<sup>th</sup> April and 9.30am on 6<sup>th</sup> April there was a fire on the footpath which runs between Rivey Way and Chalklands. This caused damage to property in one of the gardens in Chalklands. If anyone has any information about this could they contact us as a matter of urgency.

Between the 26<sup>th</sup> March and 13<sup>th</sup> April a male visited and stayed at three different public houses in Linton, Balsham and Bartlow. He ate and stayed at each establishment and made off without payment. All three offences have been committed by the same male who is purporting to be a jockey and visiting the Newmarket area. He is white, slim build, approximately 5ft 6ins tall, with light ginger/blonde hair, balding and has ferret-like pointy features, freckles and bad teeth. He has a large eight inch scar just above his belly button which he says he received whilst falling off a horse. He uses a Barclays debit card and then he will run up a huge bill and disappear (the card is unuseable). A female visits him periodically but we have no description of her. He has no car that we are aware of at this time.

Please pass this information on to anyone who runs a public house or B&B. Also if you know who this male may be, would you please contact us as a matter of urgency.

Chris and I will be looking at parking issues around the school areas and attention will be paid to the areas of Church Lane, Horn Lane and Meadow Lane to move on youths congregating and acting in an antisocial manner.

Leanne and Chris

Part of the Linton Safer Neighbourhood Team

In an emergency please call 999. For all non-emergencies, general enquiries and to report crime, please call 101. To give information anonymously about crime, please call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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## Readers write...

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters are below. 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

### Feedback from last month's letters

Dear Editor  
The Linton News, that is the title of our village monthly paper and very enjoyable and informative it is. However, I am saddened to see yet again another correspondence printed by you regarding Camgrain. By now we are all aware of the handful of people who have very vocal issues with this local company and on previous occasions you have allowed them to further respond, when anyone tries to put another point of view across. The last response to another letter made uncomfortable reading and I would question why you thought this quite personal response was acceptable to print? The same can be said about their opinions of Nichols Court, of which they are entitled to have but when it becomes so negative in words about the failings of SCDC,

should this have been printed without giving the council a chance to respond?

I suspect that said people will always have a cause to fight, which is their prerogative but it is not news and maybe shouldn't continually be an item or letter every month, resulting in people like me feeling the need to correspond.

I have great faith and confidence that the matters are being properly investigated but I am also aware that the outcome may not suit all, regardless, it is old news and not for monthly rehash.

Whilst in essence this email is for the editor/team of the Linton News, however I am more than happy for you to include my letter in the next edition of the paper.

Karen Coote (Mrs),  
Kingfisher Walk

As a general rule we publish all the letters we receive whether they will be controversial or not and we do publish the letters in response where there is an issue but we do not allow that to continue when there are ongoing discussions with the people concerned. When there is a direct accusation we also allow them to respond before publication. If they choose not to it is up to them. Editor

### OUR THANKS

Dear Editor  
I WAS absolutely delighted to read the letter in last month's Linton News about a missing Mizpah brooch.

Having recently lost my brooch I was resigned to the fact that I would probably never see it again. It is of very little monetary worth but of great sentimental value to me as it was bought for my grandmother by her then gentleman friend when they were courting around 1909.

He was an apprentice blacksmith in Twycross, Leicestershire and she was in service as a cook in Burton-on-Trent. Every other Sunday afternoon, her only free time, he would cycle the 14 miles from Twycross to visit her.

The word Mizpah comes from the Bible, from Genesis chapter 31 verse 49: "May the Lord watch between you and me when we are absent one from another." My grandparents were married in 1912 and he died in 1918 in the Great Flu Epidemic. Thus you can see why I treasure this particular brooch and am truly grateful for the honesty of Eunice Goodyear who found it and returned it to me.

Muriel Tracey (Mrs), Dovehouse Close

Dear Editor  
I would like to thank the Parish Council, including Colin Tofts, Anna Meeks and Sue Parry, for the flowers and gift which I was presented with on the occasion of my retirement.

I had been employed as a litter picker for almost 17 years and decided to retire at the end of February.

Ivy Whiting

## Health Centre news

THE practice is changing its clinical computer system. This is a major piece of work for the practice team but it will improve our efficiency, both for clinicians and support staff and will in time allow us to work more closely as a team with the out-of-hours service, hospice and community services.

Our current system will stop recording new data on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May but it will be a full week before our go-live date for the new system on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May. During this period we will continue to see all urgent cases as normal but we need to reduce the number of routine appointments and prescriptions to prevent a huge backlog developing and to allow time for staff training.

How you can help us:-

**Bookings:** Our appointments diary will not transfer automatically, so all the booked appointments will have to be manually entered before we can make any more forward appointments. For this reason on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> May, we will not be able to book forward appointments.

**Order prescriptions early:** We must also minimise dispensing during the week of 14<sup>th</sup> May. If your prescription is due during the week of 14<sup>th</sup> May, please submit the request early by midday on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May.

Please be patient with us over this busy period. We have prepared a leaflet with a little more information which is available from reception or on our website [www.linton.gp-surgery.net](http://www.linton.gp-surgery.net)

## Linton listeners

We are a confidential, supportive and available service to Linton and the surrounding communities.

OUR objective is to provide a safe space and a listening ear to anyone in the community who needs to talk to someone without interruption, in confidence, about issues or problems which may be troubling them. The kind of reflective listening offered enables people to express and clarify thoughts and feelings. This helps people to identify the heart of a problem, discover their own strengths in order to address the issue and to work out if other expert help is needed.

We believe that good listening empowers us all through

the ups and downs of everyday life. Good listening promotes life and health and makes a difference to ourselves and to others.

After the initial contact, our aim is to match people to a trained team member and to provide a safe location in which to meet.

Please call us on 07554 712974 for more information or [www.lintonfreechurch.org.uk](http://www.lintonfreechurch.org.uk) to make an appointment any weekday between 9am and 6pm.

Jane Whitmore

## Linton information point for the Alzheimer's Society

THE Alzheimer's Society works with anyone who is confused and forgetful, not just people with Alzheimers Disease. We are here to provide information, help people to understand confusion, help people to find strategies to cope and to provide someone to talk to who understands. There are opportunities to meet other people in similar situations.

On the second Tuesday of each month we will be at the Linton Health Centre. We are pleased to invite you to our information point between 10am - 1pm. Staff will be on hand to help you. We can help with financial issues, carers assessments, as well as provide you with information and support. We will have a confidential area where we can chat privately if needed. Carers and people with dementia can also meet up at this event and chat over coffee.

If we can help in any way or you would like to find out more about the event, please call our office on 863854 or e-mail: [cambridgeandelyoffice@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:cambridgeandelyoffice@alzheimers.org.uk)

We look forward to meeting you.  
Sheila Burgess, Dementia Support Worker

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**THE LINTON NEWS** Next Publication 4<sup>th</sup> June 2012  
**DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May  
NEWS ITEMS Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

**ITEMS FOR ADVERTISING MANAGER**  
**We currently have no advertising space**  
Changes to ads can be sent to: Judith Rouse  
email: [adds@linton.info](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:diary@linton.info), or use the form on [www.linton.info](http://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 children's centre, 9am-12noon, Mon-Thurs call 07768 008919	CC
Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays	VH
Chestnutbaby/toddlergroup, 9.30-11.30am Monday	sterrtime 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
Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays (349 314)	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
Storytime, 2.15-2.45pm Wednesdays (term time only)	Library
Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays	VH
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays	VH
The karate club, 5.15-6.15pm, 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	

**MAY**

5 Farmers' market, 9.30am	LVC
5 Book Festival begins, see articles for dates	Various
6 Bartlow Walk, 9am	Bartlow
7 ACE outing to Spalding, contact Enid Bald 891069	
7 Camera Club meeting, 7.15pm	CC
8 VIP group, 2pm	Chalklands
8 Alzheimer's information point, 10am	Health centre
8 Gardening Club, 7.30pm	VH
11 Race night, 8pm	Infants school
13-19 Christian Aid week	
13 Kid's Sunday club, 10.30am	URC
15 Asthma Fair, 10am	Chilford Hall
15 History Society, 7.30pm	VH
16 CAMTAD, hearing help, 9.30-12noon	Health centre
17 Symonds House open day, 10am	Symonds House
17 Parish council AGM, 8pm	CC
19 Car boot sale, 7am	LVC
19 Sponsored bike ride, 10am	D&D
20 Mick Goodman memorial cricket match 2pm	RG
20 Cafe church, 10.30am	URC
20 Oxfam walk	Chilford Hall
22 Allotments talk, 7.30pm	VH
22 Jubilee summer fair, 5pm	Infants school
26 Linton Granta playgroup table top sale, 2pm	VH
26 Linton Music Society concert, 7.30pm	LVC

**JUNE**

2 Farmers' market, 9am	LVC
3 It's a knockout, 2.30pm	RG
4 Village picnic for Jubilee	RG
5 WI, 7.30pm	VH
7 Lunch club, 12noon,	White Horse, Withersfield
7 Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC

For Cathodeon Centre bookings contact Sue Mudge, 07765 369266

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

Refuse collection: 8<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> May & 6<sup>th</sup> June  
Recycling collection: 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> May

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

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# WindmillArt

## Inkus presents *Out of the Blocks...*

DAILY from 12noon to 6pm on 12<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> May, WindmillArt welcomes a large exhibition of artist prints and monoprints by a talented group of eight Curwen Studio trained and qualified printmakers. Sue Jones [www.printsuejones.com](http://www.printsuejones.com) and Tony White [www.tonewhite.com](http://www.tonewhite.com) are part of the Inkus group [www.inkus.org](http://www.inkus.org) and both have had acclaimed exhibitions here at WindmillArt in previous years. In addition the unique handmade jewellery of Tereza Votre will also be available to view and purchase [www.terezavotre.co.uk](http://www.terezavotre.co.uk).

Conrad Webb: 07931 372110  
WindmillArt Long Lane, Linton, CB21 4NS.  
[windmillartexhibitions.blogspot.co.uk/](http://windmillartexhibitions.blogspot.co.uk/)

## ...and Linton children's Book Festival

ON 5<sup>th</sup> May from 12noon to 4pm WindmillArt is pleased to be holding the inaugural event of this busy biennial nine day Festival with a display of all the entries for the *What Invention would you like to create?* competition. Alongside that we will also be showing the Linton Infant School entries for the Ridgeons sponsored *Bucketful of Stories* competition. We are looking forward to an interesting day reviewing the boundless creativity of the children.

Conrad Webb

# It's festival time with the Bookfest



Sir William Pennyman's Regiment, portrayed by the English Civil War society

Picture supplied by Gill Lee

IT'S still not too late to see the competition entries displayed at Windmill House from Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> until the 13<sup>th</sup> May. Also, remember, all this week there will be storytimes for pre-schoolers in back gardens at the Spotted Giraffe and at the library. Check out the book illustrators' show at the gallery, and join the Potion Trail treasure hunt.

Don't forget that between 11am and 4pm on 6<sup>th</sup> May a very special event is happening at Camping Close. The Linton Rebellion from 1648 is being recreated by the English Civil War Society so come and join the congregation of St Mary's church at 10am for

an authentic 1648 service. A warm welcome awaits you.

We've already had a fantastic response with several workshops (illustration, writing and drumming) already fully booked, on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May but there are more sessions to choose from.

All sessions are free. Sessions with places still available include: Tommy Donbavand, Andy Cope, Nick Coffer, Pauline Francis and Tom Palmer will be at the AZTECS Junior Football Club the following Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> May, but places for this also should be booked in advance to avoid disappointment.

If you haven't booked yet, or can't find the time this week, there's still a chance you'll find space to squeeze in somewhere and also plenty of other things to do, so please come along for the fun. There are great drop-in sessions: storytelling, bookbinding, science experiments, book signings, needlecraft, all sorts of things for children (and parents) of all ages.

If you haven't got a programme yet, visit the website at [www.lintonbookfest.org](http://www.lintonbookfest.org)

For more information, contact:

Josephine Paterson  
893582  
[info@lintonbookfest.org](mailto:info@lintonbookfest.org)

# Belly dancing comes to Linton

EACH Friday evening from 7pm until 8pm Linton Community Sports Centre has a taste of Egyptian culture with its weekly belly dance class. This is where mainly Egyptian style belly dancing moves are taught using Arabic music. Belly dance is a traditional dance form which has been practised for thousands of years. Its hypnotic isolation of body movements proved to be quite a hit at last year's Saffron Walden carnival and also at last year's fundraiser held in July in aid of the Bone Cancer Trust. Many women (and men) who have learned to belly dance have felt the physical benefits of improved posture, core strength, stamina and stress reduction. It is also a low impact form of exercise. It's a lot of fun and you do not need to get your belly out to do it, unless you want to.

If you would like to give belly dancing a try or want further information on classes, feel free to contact Sue of Elisa Gameela Belly Dance on [susiebee@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:susiebee@hotmail.co.uk) or phone/text 07943 743300. Details can also be found on [www.buckletonbellydancers.webs.com](http://www.buckletonbellydancers.webs.com)

Sue Baker



## Army Cadet Force detachment planned for Linton



The Cadet Force pictured at a recent parade

Picture supplied by John Kell

CAMBRIDGESHIRE Army Cadet Force (ACF) is looking for your views and to raise awareness of its plans to establish a new detachment in Linton based at Linton Village College.

The ACF provides a wide diversity of fun, exciting and adventurous opportunities for young people and it is a gateway to recognised vocational qualifications from the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme to BTEC First Diplomas which can help in working and school life. Cadets are able to join in year 8 and can remain until their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The ACF is a national, voluntary, uniformed youth organisation. It is sponsored by the Army but not part of it and neither our cadets nor our adult volunteer leaders are subject to military call-up. We offer a broad range of challenging adventurous and educational activities, some of them on a military theme. Our aim is to inspire young people to achieve success in life and develop in them the qualities of a good citizen. Nationally the ACF runs 1,700 detachments and provides activities

for around 40,000 cadets. Send your views to [lintonacfdetachment@gmail.com](mailto:lintonacfdetachment@gmail.com)

To find out more about the Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force, check out our web site at <http://armycadets.com/county/cambridgeshire-acf/>

For our video pages on YouTube go to [www.youtube.com/user/CambsACF](http://www.youtube.com/user/CambsACF)

38 Cadets from the Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force Corps of Drums took part in the 8<sup>th</sup> Malta International Tattoo, held at the National Fairs and Convention Centre, Malta in October 2011.

Sgt John Kell

### Barn Owl Bed & Breakfast

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Michelle Rhodes,  
4 Market Lane, Linton,  
Cambridge CB21 4HU

I FIRST saw Dr Rachel Furley hurtling down the High Street in her wheelchair with her dog Sam running beside her. I have now had the opportunity to meet her to talk about her job as a paediatrician and her many interests.

Rachel studied medicine at Downing College, Cambridge and trained at Addenbrooke's Hospital. She now works as a paediatrician at Colchester General Hospital but still finds time for her many child-centred interests.

When she was still at school she volunteered with an organisation bringing children from Belarus, who were affected by the Chernobyl disaster, over to the UK for a break and learned Russian in order to talk to them. She was unhappy that there was no follow up once the children returned home, so she and her friends began raising money to enable her to go to Belarus to help these children.

Eventually the task and the



Rachel, Sam and Widget the chinchilla

Picture by Georgina Page

funds raised became more than Rachel could handle on her own, so she founded and is now chair of the charity Bridges to Belarus which helps children affected by the Chernobyl disaster.

There are no overheads and all funds raised go to the children and their families as the 10 core committee members work from home. There are many

dedicated fundraisers including our own local postman Jamie. The charity is helped locally by a Belarussian charity known as Sails of Childhood, which is loosely a translation from the Russian name meaning Dreams Taking Flight. They all help families, foster families, schools, hospitals, orphanages and also old people's homes.

Rachel also helps with a

charity for children in wheelchairs called the Upside Down Club, which is based at St Ives. Among other things she coaches basketball and skiing, both of which she used to play competitively but has had to give up as there is no time for the essential training. She also volunteers at Milton Children's Hospice working for the family support team along with her dog Sam, who has helped many children overcome their fear of dogs. Children regularly come to stay with Rachel and Sam for respite care and love playing with the guinea pigs, mice and the beautiful rescued chinchilla Widget, who is about to be joined by three more chinchillas from the Chinchilla Rescue Agency.

It was a delight to meet Rachel, who is so full of enthusiasm and boundless energy for her job and her many child-centred interests and Sam and Widget were great too.

Georgina Page

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# Linton Country Diary by Darryl Nantais

Illustrated by Maureen Williams



## Is our wildlife so very different from us?

SOMERSET Maugham wrote: "When you choose your friends, don't be short-changed by personality over character." He wasn't referring to our wild creatures – or was he?

I vouch not for moral fibre of local beasts, yet certainly variations of reactions reflect a variety of personalities and struggle.

Think of those cheeky, gregarious starlings out-witting each other or another species for that tasty morsel. Yet, they stick together and I for one find enormous joy in a murmuration or comical noisy antics.

Keen twitchers will have already noted an increasing number of goldfinches and the alarming decline of starlings. Why and what wonderful concoction of reasons will

emerge this time?

However, adding to the list of evermore successful species (at least in terms of population and longevity in East Anglia) are rooks, crows, buzzards, kestrels, sparrowhawks and blue tits.

Surprisingly, the latter being prey to all the former.

Apparently, despite myxomatosis, rabbit numbers have dramatically increased too, yet dear hares, with whom we share the same number of chromosomes (23), are rapidly diminishing with little sign of recovery.

You see, there are these fields of yellow crops I rarely

saw as a boy, which for some cause sneezing, although this may be in part due to photic-sneeze-reflex. Here, certain insects thrive and consequently so do those up and down the food chain.



However, for others such as George the slightly odd and bizarre blackbird. George frequents the old silver-plated water dish and tray for meal-worms.

He is the very picture of ornithological health yet, as a youngster, no matter the quality of care and nutrition, he always looked a little rough. Just like we humans, our wildlife thrives in the most suitable environment, not always colourful but with plenty of fresh air and wholesome food.

## Hearing Dogs celebrates a milestone with an appeal

IT is now 30 years since Hearing Dogs was launched as a charity and it is 29 years since the first hearing dog was placed with a deaf recipient.

It now supports more than 750 working partnerships around the UK. I would love to have 30 volunteers to match our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. So if you can spare a couple of hours a month, or would be happy to attend some events and help sell merchandise or run raffles, I would love to hear from you.

If you would like to know more about the work of Hearing Dogs for Deaf People or would like to offer to help please give me a call or drop me an email – all offers of help will be warmly welcomed.

I would also dearly like to have a database of people who could help out occasionally but who do not want to commit to regular meetings. To mark our anniversary year, one of my ambitions for the local Cambridge and district branch is to try to increase the

number of local volunteers.

New committee members would of course be very welcome but I do appreciate that committee work does not appeal to everyone. Perhaps you would like to train as a speaker and go out into the community letting people know about our work?

Would you have time to socialise a puppy before it goes on to specialist sound work training?

There are so many ways in which volunteers help the charity and all of their work is vital to us. We could not function without our helpers.

On 16<sup>th</sup> September, there will be a 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary Strictly Come Walkies sponsored walk in the grounds of Wimpole Hall.

In conjunction with Milton country park, we will also be having a fun dog show and many other dog activities and games – more details later.

Jenny Parke 833562, (evenings only)

## LMS presents a concert of favourites

ELY Sinfonia, Ely's high-quality community orchestra, conducted by Stephen Bingham, visits Linton for the first time at 7.30pm on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May, at Linton Village College with Rossini's *Thieving Magpie Overture*, Bruch's *Violin Concerto*, Elgar's *Serenade for Strings* and Mozart's *Symphony No. 40*. Tickets (£10 adults, £2 students, £22 family) are available on the door or in advance, in person or by telephone from Sweet Talk News, 77 High Street, (893480). For more information, contact me.

Linda Bird 893600

## Look out for the dangerous dads

ON 19<sup>th</sup> May a group of dads from Linton will be doing a sponsored bike ride to raise funds for the under-8s playground at Linton recreation ground. They'll be setting off at 10am from the Dog and Duck and doing a 35-mile ride around Cambridgeshire and Essex.

The group have raised over £4,000 over the last three years for Linton charities and are hoping to add a large sum to that total in 2012. So keep a look out for information on how to sponsor them and also for their flashing bike lights as they practise for the big day, every Thursday night from 8pm.

Alex Godwood

## Join in the joy at our summer Jubilee fair

LINTON Infants PSA will be holding our biggest annual fundraiser, the Summer Fair, between 5-7pm on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May.

Join us for a fun filled evening for all the family, with lots to do from bouncy castles and go-karts to face painting, tombola, live music and a fantastic raffle with a £100 top prize. We will take care of tea too, with a BBQ, picnic tea boxes and of course lots of cakes.

We shall look forward to seeing you there – let's hope for the best of British weather.

Linton Infants PSA Committee

## Linton Village College community news

SUMMER is almost here which means it is car boot season again. Our first sale will take place on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May on the school front field and then every fortnight up to and including 25<sup>th</sup> August, with the exception of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June. Everyone is welcome, just turn up on the day. You can arrive from 7am, the sales will finish at 2pm. For further information please contact steven.austin@lvc.org

Summer also signifies summer holidays. To help you get in shape LCSC is putting on additional classes. Due to the popularity of both our Monday evening circuits class and the Thursday Spinfit session we are adding another of each. Another circuits class will take place on Wednesdays from 6.30pm and will be instructed by Dan Penfold. The additional Spinfit class will take place on a Thursday evening from 8.15pm – this class will be for non-members only and follows the member's session.

Both classes are charged to non-members, however the circuits class is for everyone and is included in the Platinum membership.

Finally, good news for all those who prefer an early morning workout – from Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June LCSC will be opening an hour earlier Monday – Friday at 6.30am

For further information on classes and more please visit our website at [www.linton-sport-fitness](http://www.linton-sport-fitness) or give us a call on 890248 where we will be happy to help.

Steven Austin

## POT POURRI 86

### Which number is best?

STARTING with any two-digit odd number, triple it and add 1. Should the result be even, halve it; if the result is odd, carry on by tripling it and adding 1 as before. Each new number generated is either halved or tripled with 1 added, until the sequence stops with what we think is the highest number generated (or not).

For example, starting with 11, using the rule given, we have: 11, 34, 17, 52, 26, 13, 40, 20, 10, 5, 16, 8... thus, the highest number is 52.

What number(s) should be chosen to determine the highest value in the sequence? Also, irrespective of the numbers chosen, what happens to the sequence?

#### Solution to 85: The next number is?

This is a sequence that becomes obvious if we assign different symbols to the odd and even numbers: eg let o = odd and e = even, then the sequence becomes: o ee ooo eeee ooooo and the next number must be 26. The sequence number ratio tends to 2

Urania

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Freshen up your garden

LINTON Garden Club plant sale will be held from 10am-12noon on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 3 Mill Lane. Do come along and enjoy treating yourself to some new additions to the garden or to some of our wonderful produce. Donations of plants, produce or cakes would be most appreciated and may be delivered to 3 Mill Lane on Friday evening.

Kirsten Newble 892425

### Enjoy a day of knockout fun

ON Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, Linton Football Club is hosting a children's It's A Knockout competition to mark the Queen's jubilee. Join in the fun on the recreation ground from 2.30-8pm with lots of side stalls, face painting barbecue and bar. To finish, there will be karaoke in the club house from 5-8pm. For more information, contact Robin Williams 890813 or Neil Claxton 893487.

### Vintage cars on show

GREAT Abington will be the venue on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June for a fun fair with lots of classic and vintage motors, tractors, motorbikes and military and commercial vehicles. There will be catering for all with craft and trade stands, all in aid of Cancer Research. For information, contact Jason on 07597 118021 or Vanda 07990 947510

### Jumble sale at West Wickham

DAISY Chains pre-school is holding a jumble sale from 2-4pm on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May at West Wickham Village Hall.

Clothing, toys, bric-a-brac, books, cakes, BBQ, tombola and refreshments will be available.

If you have any unwanted items you would like to donate, please drop them off at the hall between 10-12am on the day.

Kelly David 291983

## LINTON VILLAGE CRICKET CLUB

Presents on the 11<sup>th</sup> May the Race Night Silent Auction Lots include:- signed Cambridge United football, signed Tottenham pendant, signed Nottingham Cricket Bat, signed and framed England cricket shirt. 4 tickets for Lords for any Middlesex match with full tour of Lords ground Contact Esther Tel: 891499 to bid for above and many others Proceeds to LVCC

Join us on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May for the Annual Mick Goodman Memorial Challenge Cup cricket match between LVCC and LGFC. Play starts at 2pm on the recreation ground. Bar, BBQ and tombola In aid of Addenbrokes Oncology Unit.

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## Trysha shows us how it's done



Over the edge to raise funds for EACH

Picture by Alan Storer of the Peterborough Evening Telegraph

A CHARITY abseil was held at the Park Inn Hotel in Peterborough on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March to raise money for East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH).

One group of abseilers was from the Cambridge U3A (University of the Third Age) with Trysha Hunt of Linton being one of them.

The 25 fundraising abseilers bounced and slipped down the side of the 70 foot building raising a total of more than £5,000 for the charity.

A big thank you to the Linton people who supported this worthwhile cause.

Trysha Hunt

## Allotments - a great community resource

KAREN Kenny of the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardens (NSALG) will be giving a talk on allotments at 7.30pm on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May in the Village Hall. Karen has a wealth of expertise and ideas for creating an allotment site as a valuable community resource. Allotment sites can address all green issues including waste reduction, recycling, lowering your carbon footprint, community integration, biodiversity, local food security, education, keeping fit and healthy, growing fresh organic fruit and vegetables and being able to enjoy fresh air, cheap seeds and garden sundries.

You do not need to have an allotment to reap these benefits just come along and be part of a new and thriving community association.

Sue Parry, 891001, Allotments Working Party

## What you can do with your camera



The dome in the Queen Victoria Hall, Sydney, Australia

Picture by Ron Pitkin

THE members of Linton Camera Club were treated to a very entertaining talk by Suzette Gibbs at the March meeting. Suzette is a fine art photographer and her talk was entitled *Up Close and Personal*. She told us about how she got into photography, which sort of equipment she used, the different experiences and genres of photography she had been involved in, all illustrated with some remarkable images from past and present. It certainly gave us some ideas of different styles to try ourselves and the talk was warmly appreciated.

In April members held a competition, the subject of which was *Architecture*. We held a ballot to see which was the favourite photograph and it was won by one of our most longstanding members, Ron Pitkin with his view of the dome in the Queen Victoria Hall in Sydney, Australia. Whilst the judging was taking place, some members showed photographs they had taken using depth of field, a subject we had covered at an earlier meeting.

At the next meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> May, another longstanding member, John Keeble, will be giving us a talk on *What you can do with your camera*, covering techniques, locations, etc. Theme for the evening is *Red*.

It is with regret that as our premises is getting a little snug on club nights, the membership list will be closed for the time being. Any prospective members should contact the membership secretary k8sargeant@hotmail.com and have their name and details put on the waiting list.

Tracey Wilson, 891988

## The Rheas are laying



Rheas in their field in Castle Camps and one of their eggs in with hens eggs

Pictures supplied by Jan Lupton

WE had a new product at our Linton Farmers' Market in April, when our rare breed pork supplier Julia Bartram arrived with some very unusual Easter eggs.

Julia and her family from Castle Camps have had Rheas for over a year and a half. They are kept in the same field as the free range hens on the smallholding and they mix well. They aren't used for meat, the eggs are just sold for cooking or for hatching out. Rheas are quite safe to go in with until the females start laying eggs which is generally March/April time.

Once the males start to collect the eggs, Julia takes a broom in with her so if they get aggressive they can peck that and not her.

Rheas are usually found in Bolivia, Peru, Brazil and Argentina. There are thought to be fewer than 1,000 in the UK, most of which are farmed for their eggs. Fully grown, the birds can weigh up to 80lb and exceed 6ft in height.

There is a story on the internet telling how someone made seven different dishes from just one egg.

Our next market at Linton is from 9am to 12noon 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Jan Lupton, Farmers' Fayres

## Olympic theme for this year's Flower Festival

CATCHING the enthusiasm and excitement surrounding the London Olympics, St Mary's flower festival and fête will, this year, have an Olympic theme. Flower arrangers are already planning displays around Olympic events and, with such a wide scope, we can expect a wealth of colour and creativity. New flower arrangers are very welcome, no particular talent is required, just a willingness to have a go. Help is always on hand. If you would like to help with an arrangement please contact Gill Powell on 893664 or Penny Brown on 897200.

The festival will take place over the weekend of 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> June and promises to be a real family event. Following the huge success of the grand family barn dance, the Bungalow Boogaloo Band will be playing again from 7.30pm on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June in the large marquee on Camping Close. This promises to become a great annual village event and tickets are available from Sweet Talk News or Gill Powell. As numbers are limited and anticipation is high, it will be advisable to get them early.

Plans are already well under way for the fête on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June and events already confirmed are the ever-popular dog show, an assault course and combat display, a variety of musical entertainment, stalls, games, refreshments and, of course, the great teddy bear parachute jumps, teddy bears' picnic, the great Granta duck race and a grand raffle. The day will end with a free concert of Linton talent in the evening.

Further details will be given next month but, in the meantime, put this date in your diaries now and come along to share in the fun of this village weekend.

Gill Powell 893664

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# An unusual mid-life crisis

JOHN O'Groats to Lands End, 10 days, five bikes, four good friends and plenty of Vaseline!

This is Mark Logan's mid-life crisis commencing in May. Mark, who lives with his family in Hildersham and is a governor at Great Abington Primary School and coach of Aztecs football team in Linton, says he hit upon the idea when he met up with old friends last summer.

In a fit of madness, the five overweight and less than athletic chaps decided to do something memorable. The plan to cycle from John O' Groats to Lands End was hatched over a few beers last July. Since then the guys have been putting in the miles on their bikes and planning the route and logistics.

Mark says: "This has been no easy feat as we are spread over the UK and each has family commitments. However, our wives and kids are our biggest supporters and have been very tolerant of our rather long weekend practice rides."

The route Mark and his friends will cover stretches 956 miles through the Highlands of Scotland, out onto the Isle of Arran, down along the English-Welsh border into Devon, finishing in Cornwall.

The accumulated climb on the journey will be nearly 31,000 feet making it higher than Mount Everest! Mark



Mark prepares for the long ride

Picture supplied by Mark Logan (Kiddies Support Scheme) and Health Information Exchange.

sets off from John O' Groats on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May and arrives at Lands End on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, where he will be met by family and friends.

Given all the sweat, inner tubes and cuts and grazes that have so far gone into this expedition, the chaps have decided to make it worthwhile for three chosen charities close to their hearts – Breast Cancer, KISS

If you would like to support Mark and the team, sponsorship and donations would be very gratefully received through the following website [www.justgiving.com/wheresyourbike](http://www.justgiving.com/wheresyourbike) or by contacting Mark on 891897.

Thank you to everyone who has supported Mark so far.

# Last fund-raising event for Linton NSPCC



Sue and Dawn relax after their final coffee morning

Picture by Roger Lapwood

**SADLY, the coffee morning held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March was the last fund-raising effort for the Linton and District branch of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.**

Very many thanks to everyone who came – you raised £612 including kind donations, which is excellent. Dawn and I took over running the branch in 1994, having been on the committee under Sigrid Austin for many years before that and we are now retiring.

Since 1994 we have had an annual coffee morning and bring and buy, very often held at the Old Manor House by kind invitation of Pauline and Andrew Powell. We ran stalls at the NSPCC Christmas fair at Duxford four times; three of these were cake stalls and our

supporters provided us with mountains of beautiful home-made cakes, enabling us to raise over £1,000 on our stall each time. We have held an opera evening at the Windmill, a wine tasting at Linton House; 1<sup>st</sup> Linton Brownies have held sponsored events and have made biscuits for our cake stalls. Collecting boxes in pubs and shops have also contributed to funds.

Since 1994 the generous people of Linton, Balsham, Bartlow, Hadstock, Hildersham and beyond have raised £15,400 for the NSPCC in the eastern region for protecting vulnerable children. Thank you to everyone who has supported us over the years and especially our excellent committee. Susan Anderson and Dawn Walters

# Farewell to Paul and Sonia

MARCH saw the sad departure of Paul and Sonia Fisher from their tenure as owners of the Pear Tree pub in Hildersham. The couple, who met whilst working for the same company ten years ago, made the pub a popular fixture in the village, taking over the lease in 2009 and later buying the freehold from owners Greene King.

As they are both trained hypnotherapists they plan to continue working in the area, and have bought a house in Hildersham.

After a brief closure, new owners Sholto and Helen Moroney held a re-opening celebration on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April. Despite the inauspicious date, the fizz and nibbles went down a storm and the evening was a

roaring success.

The Linton News welcomes them to the area and wishes them the best of luck.

They are looking forward to meeting new customers and encourage everyone to call in and try them out.

Jack Glossop



# Cambridge Oxfam Walk 2012

THIS year's Oxfam Walk will be on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May, starting and finishing at Chilford Hall, with a wide choice of route lengths ranging from four to 26 miles.

The organisers hope to raise £30,000, which will go to the Oxfam Emergencies Fund, helping people to survive and rebuild their lives after natural disasters or conflict.

Oxfam works in more than

30 countries to provide clean water and sanitation, health and hygiene care and security for some of the 30 million people affected by emergencies every year.

Walkers can enter as individuals, families or teams and there will be prizes for the individual and the team raising the most in sponsorship.

The individual prize is a walking holiday for two in the Lake District, donated by

Ramblers Countrywide Holidays, while the top team will receive outdoor clothing donated by Cotswold Outdoor.

There is also a 15% off Cotswold Outdoor voucher for every walker who registers.

To register to take part in the walk, or to find out more information, go to [www.oxfam.org.uk/walk](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/walk)

Philippine Charaud, Marketing Coordinator

# Nominations open for South Cambridgeshire's Youth Council

NOMINATIONS have opened for young people interested in becoming councillors and sitting on South Cambridgeshire's all new Youth Council. There are 20 places available for young people aged 13 to 18 years old who want to have a say about the things that matter to them in their local area and across the district as a whole.

The role of a youth councillor is to represent the views and opinions of all young people in South Cambridgeshire and

to become involved in, and contribute to, the well-being of local young people and the wider community.

There are many things that they can work on including new housing developments, sports and arts activities, jobs and businesses, climate change, energy and communication with residents.

They will develop leadership skills, gain confidence, get involved in decision-making and help organise youth and

community events.

Officers from SCDC will be visiting the district's nine village colleges and the Connections Youth Bus that tours the area, throughout April to talk to young people, answer any questions and help them sign up and stand for election. If you live in South Cambridgeshire and believe you should have a say in the decisions that are made on your behalf, then please volunteer to become a youth councillor and really

help us to help you make a difference. Young people can nominate themselves until the closing date on 1<sup>st</sup> August.

If there are enough candidates an election will be held in September.

For further information, or if you or someone you know would like to become a youth councillor, please contact Tracy Mann on 01954 713342 or email [tracy.mann@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:tracy.mann@scambs.gov.uk)

Tracy Mann

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# The Derbyshire Post



A VERY large number of the members of our community saw the college's recent production of *Oliver*. and I believe it was very much enjoyed.

What I think was especially impressive about the production was the ambition involved in it. Laura Cassidy and Chris Charlesworth (Head of Drama and Director of Music) did not cut any corners but presented virtually every song in the score with an excellent orchestral band. They did not supplement the drama with adults playing any of the more demanding roles and the cast was very inclusive – children of all abilities took part.

When you remember that Alex Chamberlain's Fagin, at 16, was the oldest student in the cast, it makes you realise how well the students did. It was also heart-warming to see how many of my staff were playing in the band or supporting at the front or back of house.

*Oliver* was performed in front of two full audiences and also to children from Granta School and local senior citizens. The event epitomised everything that is special about a Village College in its community and it made us all very proud.

Caroline Derbyshire

## Staying independent, safe and well

Adult social care roadshow to visit libraries

**LIBRARY** visitors have the chance to find out about local services to help them stay independent safe and well at a series of roadshows taking place throughout 2012. The roadshow has been visiting libraries across the county since the end of January. It will be visiting Cambourne Library from 14<sup>th</sup> May to 9<sup>th</sup> June and Cambridge Central Library from 11<sup>th</sup> June to 7<sup>th</sup> July.

Each event will feature a display of information leaflets, presentations about assistive technology resources to help you remain independent, and details of Trading Standards' approved trader scheme *Buy With Confidence*.

Demonstrations of Your Life, Your Choice, Cambridgeshire's adult social care website and AskSARA, an online guide to equipment to make staying independent easier, will be taking place on the last Saturday of each of the roadshows. Trading Standards staff will also be on hand to tell visitors more about the *Buy With Confidence* scheme. If you are interested in assistive technology resources, please check with the library for the dates of these presentations.

For more information about the roadshows and the full schedule visit [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/social](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/social) telephone 0345 045 5225 or email: [yourlifeyourchoice@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:yourlifeyourchoice@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

If you are unable to visit one of the roadshows but require information about staying independent, safe and well phone Cambridgeshire Direct on 0345 045 5202 or see the Your Life, Your Choice website at [www.yourlifeyourchoice.org.uk](http://www.yourlifeyourchoice.org.uk)

## You can still enter the 10k race at Chilford Hall

THERE is still time to enter the race that is taking place on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June at Chilford Hall.

Further information available on [www.losc.co.uk](http://www.losc.co.uk) or send an email to [chilford10k@gmail.com](mailto:chilford10k@gmail.com).

Great prizes are up for grabs courtesy of Chilford Hall, Brooks running shoes, Advance Performance, Body Design Pilates, Kevin Henry and Nextnorth.

See you there.

Stephane Toussenet

Sorry, last month's picture showed Alistair Cooke and Stephane Toussenet training in March with Kate Holden and Tony Kelly at the Cambridge half-marathon. Editor

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# The Way We Were

by Garth Collard

## Drought conditions from the past

THE present drought conditions reminded me of similar conditions in this area which had always suffered from lack of water before 1936. In 1921, 1928 and 1933 the drought reached crisis proportions.

The district sanitary officer surveyed villages in the Granta area and only Sawston had sufficient water.

In half of the villages the little remaining water in the domestic wells was contaminated by sewage and most were completely dry because they were too shallow to tap the water aquifers deep in the chalk.

In Castle Camps even the deep village well took almost 200 turns of the winding handle to raise two buckets of polluted water. Frustrated villagers filled



One of the two water carts which came daily from Haverhill to Linton

Picture courtesy the Cambridge Collection

buckets from rivers and ponds even though the water was badly polluted.

In Linton all the house wells dried up but there were also

five deep wells fed from the aquifers. Nevertheless, two horse drawn water carts each carrying 500 gallons came daily from Haverhill.

In Hildersham the only public well was found to have a dead mouse floating on the water surface, observed by a curious frog.

One village wit suggested the PC should erect a commemorative plaque thanking the mouse for moving the RDC into action to finance a 20 year old planned scheme for a fresh water supply. Farmers' crops were badly affected as was local employment.

The water scheme in 1936 provided a permanent solution for the water-starved villages at a cost of £46,000. Some villages reluctantly agreed to pay towards implementing the scheme which the Rural District Council had discussed for over 20 years.

## Let's give the tools to help people out of poverty

This year's Christian Aid Week is 13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> May

**CHRISTIAN** Aid Week is Britain's and Ireland's longest-running fundraising week and has been a firm fixture in the calendar each year since 1957. It is famous for the distinctive envelope that drops through the letterboxes of millions of homes each May and for the massive impact that the week has made in the fight to end the scandal of poverty around the world.

Christian Aid is a Christian organisation that insists the world can and must be swiftly changed to one where everyone can live a full life free from poverty. It works globally for profound change that eradicates the causes of poverty, striving to achieve equality, dignity and freedom for all, regardless of faith or nationality. It is part of a wider movement for social justice.

Christian Aid works with local organisations around the world to help poor communities find solutions to their problems and give them the support they need to make changes. With support from Christian Aid partner the Methodist Church of Sierra Leone, members of the community are bringing change and are being given the tools needed to help themselves out of poverty. Hoes and farming knives are simple tools which are being used to bring about long-lasting change and an end to poverty.

This year around 50 Linton volunteer collectors will be putting envelopes through your doors. Please consider making a donation and if you would like any further information please visit: [christianaid.org.uk](http://christianaid.org.uk) or contact 890921.

Pam Richardson

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- S/0382/12/FL Mr James Palmer, **The Crown Inn, 11 High Street**, Single-storey rear extension, enclosed bin store and timber decking.
- S/0561/12/FL Mr N Kotschy, **26 Mill Lane**, Erection of oak framed garden room following demolition of existing outbuildings. New roof to existing bathroom.
- S/0573/12/FL Mr Graeme Hein-Jones, **Unit 12B, The Grip Industrial Estate**, Change of use from light industrial (Class B1c) to Dance and fitness studio (Class D2).
- S/0633/12/FL Mr & Mrs Hounscome, **18 Granta Leys**, Proposed two storey rear extension.
- S/0692/12/FL Mr Peter Stutz, **21 Back Road**, Proposed extensions.
- S/00739/12/LB Mr & Mrs Whiting & Palmer, **Summerfield House, 1 Mill Lane**, Listed building addition or extension. Alterations - remove modern ceiling and cornice, insert mineral wool between joists, replace ceiling.

## Aztecs Junior U13s win their league



The winning team celebrating

Picture by Mick Linsdell

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Linton-based Aztecs Junior U13 squad who won their Cambridgeshire and District Colts league this season. The boys finished top of the league with three matches to spare and Team Manager Mick Linsdell said: "We are very proud of the boys and their achievements this season."

Club chairman Malcolm Peters said "I wish to congratulate the boys for their great effort over the season, they should be very proud of themselves for winning the league and putting in some fantastic performances."

Aztecs Presentation day is on 19<sup>th</sup> May at Linton Village College. Further details are available on the club website [www.aztecsjfc.co.uk](http://www.aztecsjfc.co.uk)

Mick Linsdell

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# Parish Council Matters

## Cemetery update

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

THE safety and improvement scheme is continuing in the cemetery. Benches, railings and gates have been re-painted. Dead, diseased and overcrowded trees have been removed, shrubs and trees pruned, and undergrowth cut back. More hedging has been planted thanks to our tree warden, Susan Anderson, and her diggers. Two more Lime trees might be removed (to improve air-flow to deter insects dropping honeydew, causing mess and damage to headstones) and some Rowans need re-planting following damage.

Soon the roads will need to be re-surfaced, narrowing part into a path (to prevent tree root damage). It has been proposed to have historical and information boards, or a memorial to remember those who, due to rural poverty, do not have any grave marker. Missing names should be added to the War Memorial. The area of the old pond (next to Chalklands bungalows opposite the top of Coles Lane) could be turned into a contemplative space, with seats made from the Lime tree trunks. We are aware of spending constraints so grants will be sought to cover the cost of all the projects, and hope the work will go to local people.



Some of the felled Lime tree trunks have been kept in large sections for carving into seats in the future

Pictures by Sue Parry

More waste containers are needed as piles of rubbish are building up – if you have waste, put it in the green bin, and put soil in the old pond area (see picture on the left), please. It costs you money to have this rubbish removed ... and who is tipping their garden rubbish into the cemetery? Stop it!

The area where ashes are interred must be extended - perhaps with a more formal layout than previously, including paths between rows of plaques? If you have seen a good design, or have ideas how to do this, let us know.

Now, a topic of some sensitivity; there are regulations in place on what is allowed in the cemetery, eg no railings, kerbs or other raised enclosures in the newer and current burial areas. This is to help with safety, mowing and long-term maintenance. Please understand if we ask for the removal of some features – it is with reluctance that the parish council ask this, but it is necessary. When graves are not able to be tended the preferred option is for those responsible for the grave to lay grass which can then be easily mown by the parish council contractor.

Another sensitive issue, and one about which the parish council have had many comments – grave ornaments. There are limits to what is permitted and the parish council reserves the right to remove artificial flowers, soft toys, etc placed on a grave, if they become faded or soiled. Notice would be served to remove items, giving a time limit, after which they would be moved to a safe place for collection. Please be aware of the rules, think of others who might not appreciate what you put on a grave, and keep within your plot. This is a very emotional subject, we understand the intentions, but there is also a need to respect the feelings of others.

The cemetery is an area of peace and we are doing our best to keep it tranquil and tidy – a fitting place to remember those we have loved.

Cemetery working group



Above is the area near the Chalklands bungalows at the top of Coles Lane where any surplus soil should be put, it should not be left near the bins and tree by the second set of gates as shown below - this area now has to be cleared again



## Reasons to be cheerful

EVERYONE who reads the Linton News has the good fortune of living and caring about a beautiful, historic village and we all have something in common.

We have all seen that the recreation ground has had the cricket pitch mowed ready for action. Football is played on a Saturday afternoon. The daffodils are appearing and you may have been lucky enough to see some ducklings on the River Granta.

The lighter nights and warmer days give us the residents of Linton an opportunity to see the village we love in a new light.

We also have new shop owners to the village. Welcome Mary the chiropodist and good luck to the florist in her new shop further up the High Street. Businesses in the village should be supported and nurtured.

As a resident of the village a new concern of mine is the speed of the traffic in the High Street and the A1307. The village gets a lot of through traffic and it is often referred to as the 'Haverhill bypass'.

The High Street has a dual use for vehicles and pedestrians. Not forgetting the buses and the brave cyclists. As a

pedestrian you can take your life in your hands walking down the High Street and in particular trying to cross over.

Speed in the High Street is being looked at and could have a 20mph restriction in the future and this should be supported for the safety of all users.

How often have we got stuck either on a bicycle or in a vehicle waiting for the bus to come up or down only to be squashed between other cars parked outside the houses at the top of the High Street by The Crown public house. Double yellow lines at the top would aid this problem greatly and ease the flow of traffic on and off the A1307.

Final thought - we all live in this village and would like it to be a safe village for spring, for vehicles and on foot. Remember we are all trying to get from 'a to b' and all struggle to use the High Street so let's all try to be considerate to each other.

Any issues affecting you as a village resident should be brought to the attention of the parish council. Meetings are posted on the village notice boards and public participation is always encouraged.

Cllr Jacque Wilson



Spring scene in Chalklands

Picture by Jacque Wilson

### Meeting cancellation

Please note that due to the South Cambridgeshire District Council elections the Parish Council meeting on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2012 has been cancelled.

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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 15<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

**Present:** R Hickford (chairman), Mrs E Bald (vice chair), D Champion, Ms E Cornell, Mrs S Dew, Ms T Hunt, Ms M Mannassi, D Penfold, G Potter, P Poulter, Mrs A Walker, Mrs J Wilson and Mrs S Parry (clerk). County and district councillor J Batchelor, district councillor Mrs T Bear and Mrs K France (press) were in attendance together with six members of the public.

**Apologies for absence:** Councillors Manley and Cox.

**Disclosure of interest:** Under the allotments items Cllr Walker declared a personal interest as an employee of Camgrain of which Mr C Fairey is a director. Under the village hall correspondence item Cllrs Champion and Hunt declared a personal interest as trustees.

**Chairman's comment:** The chair reported that positive feedback had been received regarding the planned public consultation meeting to discuss access issues to the recreation ground.

The Rev Steve Griffiths was delighted that a partnership was being set up for youth provision and outreach work.

A distraction burglary had been reported and we should all be vigilant, as well as aware of any vulnerable neighbours.

A resident had confirmed that work on the lighting system at Nichols Court had commenced.

**Public participation:** Mr and Mrs Donnelly would speak under the allotments update item.

**Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March:** Carter Jonas had confirmed that they were still analysing the responses to the questionnaires regarding the proposed Horseheath Road development and would be in touch in due course.

Cllr Champion reported that he had contacted the deputy manager at the Co-op regarding the safe storage of trolleys. He had also contacted the PCSOs regarding illegal parking there.

**Report from police and consideration of policing, safety and security issues:** Cllr Champion confirmed that £200 and jewellery had been stolen during the recent distraction burglary.

A meeting of the CCTV group would be arranged.

**Report from the county councillor:** Cllr Batchelor reported that the county council would be raising council tax by 2.95%. The police element of council tax would rise by 2.92%.

An independent panel had recommended no increase in mem-

bers allowances before 2013.

The county council cabinet had confirmed that all bus subsidies would be removed over the next two years. From this September routes 16/17, 16A and 19 would no longer run resulting in no public transport for neighbouring villages including Balsham. A public consultation had been arranged for 23<sup>rd</sup> April in West Wrating to discuss this issue.

**Report from the district councillors:** Cllr Bear reported that the first phase planning application for Northstowe new town had been submitted. This would ease the government pressure on Cambridgeshire to provide more homes.

Cllr Bear confirmed the timetable for the strategic housing land availability assessment (SHLAA).

**Consideration of application for co-option to parish council vacancy:** Cllr Hunt proposed that Mr Keiran Wakley be co-opted to the council. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Mannassi and resolved by the meeting.

**Consideration of quotations for ground works at Paynes Meadow:** The quotations for ground works at Paynes Meadow were considered. Clarification on the exact specification was required and the item was reluctantly deferred until the next meeting.

**Allotments update:** Mr and Mrs Donnelly had concerns regarding the second proposed allotment site which was adjacent to their property. They asked why it was so far from the village. The chair replied that the council had a duty to provide allotments and had to investigate every offer of land. However negotiations for this site were in the very early stages and if and when it was progressed Mr and Mrs Donnelly would be consulted. If this site were to be progressed this would prevent any future housing development. A very useful meeting had taken place with Karen Kenny from the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners.

**Correspondence received for discussion and decision:** It was agreed to apply for a non charitable deed from Fields in Trust for the recreation ground.

The item from Ashton KCJ Solicitors regarding the non compliance of LA4Y was deferred until the meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> April.

The request for funding from the trustees of the village hall was considered. Cllr Hunt proposed that £788.74 be awarded for

the purchase of tables and a storage trolley. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Champion and resolved by the meeting.

Ashton KCJ Solicitors had written regarding the right of way over the recreation ground. Cllr Cornell proposed that the council applies for the registration of the recreation ground at a maximum cost of £1000+VAT+Land Registry fees. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Potter. A vote took place with 10 votes in favour and one abstention. Proposal carried.

The request for funding from Linton scouts was considered. Cllr Bald proposed that £400 be allocated from this year's S137 funding. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Champion. A vote took place with 10 votes in favour and one abstention. Proposal carried.

Residents had written with concerns regarding access issues to the recreation ground. These were noted and would be discussed at the public meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> April.

**Matters for future consideration:** Regarding the SHLAA timetable, Cllr Cornell asked why the parish council had not been consulted prior to public consultation. Agenda 19/4.

Cllr Bald asked for ideas to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee event. Agenda 19/4.

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held upstairs at the village hall on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012.

**Present:** R Hickford (chairman), Mrs E Bald (vice chair), D Champion, Ms E Cornell, Mrs S Dew, Ms T Hunt, D Penfold, G Potter, P Poulter, Mrs A Walker, Mrs J Wilson. Cllr Mannassi arrived at 7.40pm. and Mrs S Parry (clerk). Three members of the public were in attendance.

**Apologies for absence:** Councillors Cox and Manley.

**Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> March:** Cllr Cornell reported that she would be providing further information which should assist with the registration of the recreation ground.

Cllr Hickford reported that a meeting had taken place to discuss safety issues at the junction of Green Lane and the High Street. A report would follow.

Cllr Hickford confirmed that the CCTV working group had met and a report would follow.

**Consideration of quotations for ground works at Paynes Meadow:** Cllr Bald explained that it was essential that the tree planting took place as soon as possible. It would be sensible to only plant 18 trees at this stage of the year, the remainder to be planted in the autumn. Accepting the quotation from Mr Pinner, who was also supplying the trees, would ensure that any delay was kept to a minimum. Cllr Bald proposed that quotation D from PT Pinner and Son for £649 be accepted. Cllr Cornell proposed that any payment should be made pro rata and confirmation that the rest of the work would be done when requested, and the total should not exceed £649. This amendment to the proposal was seconded by Cllr Dew and resolved by the meeting.

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



The junction of High Street and Green Lane looking remarkably quiet

The parish council is looking into possible ways to make improvements regarding safety issues at this junction following concerns from residents

Picture by Sue Parry

## LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Email: lintonpc@btconnect.com

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*Or by appointment*

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