

The Linton News team wishes a Happy Easter to all our readers

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THE LINTON NEWS

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Established 1987

Book Festival brings history alive for young and old



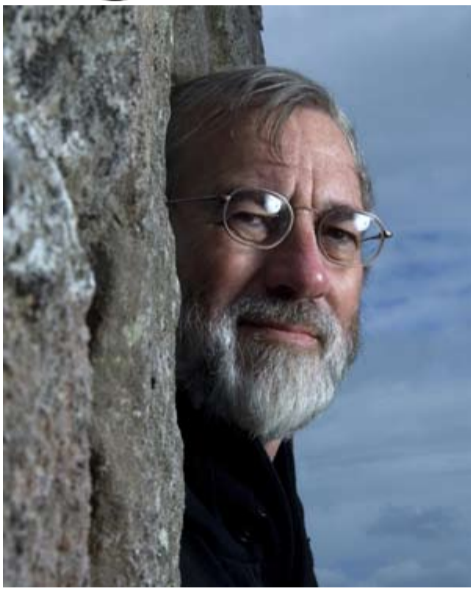
WINDOWS on the Past is the theme of this May's Linton Children's Book Festival, in its fifth biennial event and now in partnership with Heffers bookshop. Our Festival, a true community event, was awarded the South Cambridgeshire Arts Award for Outstanding Festival in 2010 and attracted over 2,000 people in 2012. Thanks to funding from the parish council, grant-awarding bodies, sponsors and donations, the main Festival will remain free.

We begin at 7.30pm on the evening of Saturday 3rd May, with talks by Adrian Tinniswood and Jonathan Foyle on *Pirates, Puritans and a Tudor Bed*. This is a fundraising event for adults, hosted by History Needs You.

From 11am till 4pm on Sunday 4th May, the history books spring into life on Camping Close with *History's Alive*. Step back in time and visit our World War I trench, find out about life on the frontline and discover how Linton was involved. There will be many other stalls, events, food and music.

Over the course of the week, authors will visit all the Linton schools: Paul Jackson will be telling stories at the Granta school; Andrew Weale will be engaging pupils in a creative workshop at the infant school; Josh Lacey will work with years 3 and 4 and Gareth P Jones with years 5 and 6 at the Heights; and Celia Rees will be visiting the village college.

The main Festival will be held at the village college on 10th and 11th May. Saturday is packed with authors, illustrators and workshops bookable in advance but also includes drop-in activities, food, music and fun for all ages. Saturday sessions include: Caroline Lawrence, author of the *Roman Mysteries*; Hilary Robinson's *Mixed-up Fairy Tales*; Julia Golding and the *Young Knights of the Round Table*; and headlining is Helen Moss, whose bestselling *Adventure Island* series keeps thousands of youngsters enthralled. Paul Jackson will be telling world folk tales from the past in his



Joseph Delaney who will present the grand finale

Picture supplied by Ron Ragsdale

colourful garden yurt. Watch out for Dave the Minion strolling around the Festival all weekend.

Sunday's programme includes sessions ranging from Pippa Goodhart (*You Choose*) and Maudie Smith (*Opal Moonbaby*) to Lucy Hawking (co-author with her father, Stephen Hawking, of the *George's Marvellous Universe* books) and John McCambridge (back by popular demand for his dragon-drawing workshops), with the grand finale of Joseph Delaney bringing to life his *Wardstone Chronicles*, soon to be a major motion picture under the title, *The Spook's Apprentice*.

Programmes will be circulated in children's book bags in all the schools, shops and facilities in the village and the surrounding area. Booking will open on 5th of April and for the first week will be exclusive to Linton residents.

Visit our website at www.lintonbookfest.org for the latest information.

Ron Ragsdale

Eleventh Bartlow three-counties walk on Sunday fourth May

THE Bartlow Walk first started in 2004 and in its ten years has raised £96,000 for local causes. In 2014, our eleventh year, we hope and expect to cross the big target of £100,000.

As ever, we have tweaked the route to freshen it, reinforced the en-route hospitality, and back in Bartlow we will have the usual après-walk activities including food, drinks, great music and plenty of activities for the kids, including a bouncy castle. All Walks are dog-friendly.

In 2014 we will offer four walks through beautiful local countryside by special agreement with the landowners:

- The 'Classic' 13½-mile Three Counties Walk, to the point where Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Essex meet, and back.
- Six and nine-mile 'Family Routes' for those who see 13½ miles as too challenging.
- The popular 1½-mile Junior Nature Trail for under 10s, which incorporates a Nature Quiz and woodland games and adventures.

As always we will support three charitable causes:

This year our Addenbrooke's Cause is for a non-invasive ventilator for the Coronary Care Unit to ventilate really sick patients with breathing difficulties and a cardiac simulator of cardiac rhythms for teaching purposes.

Linton Health Centre say they will spend their funds on upgrading some of their examination couches to be fully adjustable to make life easier for children, frail patients or those with arthritis or neurological problems.

Finally, Bartlow St Mary's Church restoration project. At the end of a decade of restoration work and, thanks to the funds raised through the walk, work should start in May on the interior refurbishing, including conservation/restoration of the three mediaeval wall paintings.

We hope to see our regulars returning to join us and of course we welcome first-timers to an event that we confirm every year to be a top family day out in a good cause. We start between 10am and 11.30am from Bartlow (CB21 4PW).

For more details visit: bartlow.org.uk - ask at Linton Health Centre - or call me on 01223-891732.

Graham Howat, Walk Organiser

Matthew is the Raspberry Pi guy

TALKING to 14 year old Matthew Timmons-Brown today you would never believe that until 2011 he had no interest in computer science.

In 2011 he first heard of the Raspberry Pi, a small credit-card sized computer board that plugs into a TV or monitor and can be used for wordprocessing, spreadsheets and games.

A small article in a consumer electronics magazine caught his eye. The name, and the fact that it only cost £30, attracted his interest but only 10,000 were available and they sold out within seconds. It wasn't until 2012 that Matthew finally managed to get one and the rest, as they say, is history.

Matthew researched the internet to find out how to use it but soon decided that he could make it easier for others and in September 2012 he launched his first tutorial on youtube. It had 50 views and a few emails followed. Matthew has now had over 1,040,000 views and 22,000 subscribers.

He has hosted eight hours of sell-out workshops for the Centre of Computing in Cambridge and in February of this year he gave a talk in front of 600 people at the Worldwide Raspberry Jamboree in Manchester: "I was so very nervous" said Matthew "as I had never spoken in public before but the reception was so enthusiastic that it has given me confidence". His next talk will be in Cambridge in May for Raspberry Jams, the name given to enthusiasts

Matthew offers free support for users of the Raspberry Pi and receives about 50 emails a day. He replies to them all. This is in addition to his schoolwork - he is taking 11 GCSEs, one of which is computing. This charming, articulate and enterprising young man deserves to achieve his long term plan to study computer sciences at Cambridge University but until then he continues to be known as the Raspberry Pi Guy. You can find out more about Matthew on his website www.theraspberripi.com or on www.youtube.com/theraspberripi



Matthew, host of Raspberry Pi sellout workshops

Picture by Sarah Hurcum

Sarah Hurcum

The Cutting Room celebrates

IN 1994 Pippa Moore opened her Linton hairdressing salon, The Cutting Room, at 37 Bartlow Road. Although Pippa now lives in Sawston, she was brought up in Linton, attending the village schools, so when she was just 24 years-old, she was happy to open her salon in the village she knew so well.

She says although it was hard work, she has hugely enjoyed it, particularly working with so many different people, helping them make decisions on cuts and maybe new styles and colours.

From working as the only stylist, over the past twenty



Pippa with her staff. From left, Mandy Clarke, Sue Merritt, Amanda Beresford and owner Pippa Moore

Picture by Roger Lapwood

years the business has expanded and Pippa is joined by stylists Sue Merritt and Amanda Beresford with shampooist/receptionist Mandy Clarke. They offer all aspects of hairdressing, modern and traditional, and

also welcome students who can claim a discount with their student cards.

Pippa says she is particularly grateful to all the clients for their continued support and is always happy to welcome new people. She is looking forward to continuing to serve the varied range of customers of both sexes from Linton and

the surrounding area. The 20th Anniversary celebration is planned to take place in the newly refurbished salon, with customers old and new, on 11th April.

LNT

Back to a cleaner Linton again

AFTER a lengthy period without a street cleaner in Linton we are now lucky to have Chris Filby who took up the job in December of last year.

Chris had previously worked in the double-glazing business but had been out of work for three years. A chance meeting with a Parish councillor in the Co-op led to him applying for and obtaining the job.

He has lived in Linton since 1997 and will be a familiar face to many in the village. He enjoys the outdoor work and meeting and chatting to everyone he encounters on his rounds. He takes great satisfaction in seeing the village clean and tidy but his pet hates are dog mess which has not been picked up, and litter thrown down when there are bins nearby.

Chris works three hours a day and he likes to start about 6.30am, so he then has the rest of the day to himself. Look out for him in the village.

Sarah Hurcum



Chris makes a clean sweep

Picture by Sarah Hurcum

Too good for jumble...

ANOTHER first for this column is a black leather swivel office chair in good condition. There is also a Lexmark printer (all in one) but not for use with Windows 7. Further items still available are the gents bike Incisor Virus, 26 x 1.95 wheel, good condition; a child's table tennis table + balls + net; a small snooker table on a frame; 12 stacking metal chairs with black padded back & seats; a pair of ladies new green Matlan linen blend trousers size 16; a pair of unworn ladies Tu navy trousers size 16R, the Hewlett Packard Deskjet 930C printer with set up disk and a black plastic dustbin.

The futon sold for £25 for Macmillan Nurses, the high chair made £10 for Medical Aid for Palestine and four of the stacking chairs raised £20 for the Friends of Linton Library.

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

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



Highlights from Linton Heights



IN September 2008, I started my job as a Year 5 teacher at Linton Heights junior school. Now, almost six years later, it is time to move on and to take up a new position as an assistant head teacher in the Fens.

While I was writing my CV, I realised that I have never stayed in the same workplace for a period longer than four years. That must mean something. And it does. I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching the children at the Heights and I have many fond memories of good times and funny situations - the Peanut Song, paper making in the mobile classroom, the Victorian Museum, visits to Audley End House, the Year 5 maths challenges and the end of year performances are just a few examples of activities that come to mind.

In my capacity as literacy leader I have been heavily involved in the library project. The refurbished library facilities at the Heights will be ready for use soon and I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of you who have contributed to the realisation of this project.

An absolute highlight was the outcome of the Ofsted report in 2013. Being part of the process that led to the accolade *good* and working towards this goal with a group of highly skilled and very motivated colleagues has taught me a lot and has provided me with the skills needed to move on in my career.

Marian Smelik

Outstanding



Celebrations at Julie and Jo's Childcare

Picture supplied by Tony Dixon CHILDREN and staff at Julie & Jo's Childcare, in Linton, are celebrating after Ofsted awarded them the highest ranking of Outstanding, in every area. Only a minority of childminders have achieved this ranking in all areas

The report noted that the achievements of the children, their well-being, safety as well as the leadership and management of the childcare provision, were all outstanding and the staff provided a warm and welcoming environment.

Julie Dixon and her sister Jo have provided childcare in Linton for over 10 years. Their day runs from 7.30am until 6pm and Julie's husband Tony (a fully qualified PE teacher) runs multi-skills sessions during the day for pre-school children and afterschool sports clubs for primary school children.

For the full Ofsted report go to <http://is.gd/janedixon>.

For more information call 891051 or email juliedixon-schildcare@yahoo.co.uk.

Top class education

LINTON entrepreneurs Colin Saunders, Tom McKenzie and Kate Wright have launched a recruitment company providing teaching staff to schools and educational establishments in the region. Top Class Education was created by Kate who is operations manager at Cambridge-based Crem Recruitment and has 12 years experience in the business.

As well as Cambridge, Top Class Education covers East Anglia, Peterborough and beyond. It will give an honest and transparent service to schools and provide staff who are vetted to the highest possible standard.

Kate has already formed great relationships with many local schools and is looking forward to helping them in their emergency supply cover, as well as longer term positions.

Top Class will be headed up by Kate and is part of the Crem Recruitment Group. With a manned phone 24 hours a day, seven days a week and with the drive and determination to make a real difference, Top Class Education is certainly a name to look out for in 2014.

For more information, visit www.topclass-education.org or contact Top Class on 652700 or via email to teach@topclass-education.org

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News from Linton infant school

SPRING has sprung and Easter is on its way. The children have all been very busy; you may have seen some trolls around the village at the beginning of March when we had our troll dress-up day. Our parents are so supportive of these dress-up days which really help the children to bring their imagination to life. (Although it was very strange showing visitors around the school dressed as I was!)

Our PTFA (Parent, Teacher and Friends Association) has been very busy this term, helping to raise funds for our outdoor learning environment. The recent quiz and chips night was a great success and we are very pleased to announce that this year, the Linton Co-op has chosen to raise funds for us. So next time you are asked to buy a raffle ticket in the Co-op, you will be providing funds to help improve Linton CE infant school.

We have had great excitement in Foundation Stage. First we had a visit from Eva, a hearing dog in training. Eva

is a regular visitor to school but on this special day the children found out what Eva's job will be. The excitement reached its climax when the school took delivery of a batch of eggs. The children took such good care of these that within just a few days they had hatched into ducklings.

This half term has seen our sharing assemblies start where the children have the opportunity to present their learning to their families. The children demonstrate such confidence, speaking in front of a large audience and we are always so proud of how well all the children perform. This certainly shows how much they learn within a term and you can also see their delight in learning too.

The spring term finishes on Friday 4th April and we start back refreshed and ready to enjoy the summer term on Tuesday 22nd April.

Wishing you a very happy Easter from all of us at Linton CE Infant school.

Louise Clarke

Be alert to scams

CAMBRIDGESHIRE county council's Trading Standards team is warning people to be extra vigilant after a resident was asked to hand over thousands of pounds to doorstep scammers claiming to be Trading Standards officers.

On this occasion no money was handed over. The bogus Trading Standards officer told the individual, who cannot be named but lives in the Cambridge area, that the money was needed so that they could release compensation awarded by the courts following the prosecution of offenders from an earlier scam which occurred at their home. Genuine Trading Standards officers would never act like this and would never ask residents to pay money for the services they provide. All officers carry official identification which you can check.

If you think you have been a victim of a rogue trader, please report this by contacting Cambs Police on 101 or Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0845 404 0506.

Fraudsters are posing as police officers in a phone scam in Cambridgeshire. They use various methods to trick residents. One fraudster claimed that the resident's bank account had been infiltrated by thieves and he needed her to withdraw £5,000 in cash so that it could be subject to forensic examination. He later called and took the money away.

Others claim a criminal has been arrested with a substantial sum of money and a list of names and addresses including the victim's. The fraudster advises the victim to call their bank using a number on the back of their card, or the police on 101. The victim hangs up but the fraudster doesn't and the call is not terminated. When the victim calls the bank or police number he or she is still connected to the fraudster. The offender claims he will need to examine the victim's bank card and will also need their PIN. Later the fraudster calls at the victim's house and takes the card. Note a bank will never ask for the entire PIN over the phone.

Catherine Pawson, Community and Business Officer

Linton's Little Shop of Horrors impresses



Little Shop's dress rehearsal

Picture by Roger Lapwood

THIS macabre comedy musical was presented by Linton Village College on Friday 14th and Saturday 15th March. Set in downtown New York, a plant purchased from a Chinaman leads to fame and fortune for the local flower shop staff. However the plant, which looks like a relative of a pitcher plant, has certain unattractive attributes such as a liking for feeding on blood.

The lead members of the cast, Tamzin Kerslake as Audrey, Tom Murray as Seymour, Tom D'Costa as Mr Mushnik and Tom Howard as Orin the dentist gave a very professional and enjoyable (or sometimes scary) rendering of their songs. They were ably supported by the rest of the ensemble, the orchestra conducted by Christopher Charlesworth and the production team under the director Laura Cassidy and producer Tracey Johnson.

Arts fundraiser Gerry O'Keefe is still looking to raise funds for LVC theatre productions. If you would like to support them contact him on Gerry.OKeefe@lvc.org.

The next production will be a Shakespeare play later this year. LNT

February police panel report

INSPECTOR Sutherland explained that the police panel now meets every four months. Parish councils and neighbourhood watches are asked for agenda items in time.

South Cambridgeshire is a low crime area and the force works at crime prevention and solving crimes. *Operation Oaklands* informed owners when their houses or cars were unsecured. Break-ins to sheds/non-dwelling places also occur and owners are advised to get high security locks.

Road safety measures are agreed with parish councils. Speed checks have been undertaken in Linton and some fixed penalty notices given. Parking offences are also dealt with.

Mike Hill from Environmental Dept described types of anti-social behaviour such as fly tipping, dog fouling. If you see anything like this report it to 0345 045 0063.

Community Fire Safety officer, Jim Meikle, said that dumping can lead to arson. There had been several fire related anti-social behaviour incidents near Camping Close recently, which are being

actively investigated.

In spring, the Safer Neighbourhood Team will work with Linton village college to deliver the *Choices* prevention advice scheme to ensure that before the summer holidays, pupils are aware of the dangers of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour generally and specifically fire setting.

PCSO Fisher asked anyone who sees deliberate fire setting in the park to contact the Safer Neighbourhood Team by dialling 101. Should the fire be larger than a very small bonfire or at risk of spreading please dial 999 for the fire service and police.

Alison Walker asked if there was a contingency plan to stop traffic entering Linton from the A1307 during an emergency such as flooding. Inspector Sutherland said there was no specific plan for Linton but multi-agency plans existed with Highways and the Environment Agency.

The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 12th June at Linton Heights Junior school.

LNT

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Readers write...

Post and email addresses and deadline for articles are 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.

Phantom poster pincher

Dear Editor,
There is someone in the village who is so keen to know about the Gardening club's events that they keep taking our posters from the notice boards shortly after they are put up. Unfortunately this means that other eager would-be gardeners don't learn of the exciting talks we organise.
We are happy to arrange for this enthusiastic soul to have an exclusive poster if they contact us.
Garden club secretary, lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

OUR THANKS

Dear Editor
I recently had a car accident coming out of the Woodlands into Back Road.

My sister and I would like to say a special thank you to Jamie Norton who lives along Back Road and who is a paramedic. He immediately came out and checked our necks and backs for any serious injury.

We were very shaken so he took us into his house and phoned for the ambulance. When it arrived he spoke to the paramedics and explained what had happened. To have someone like Jamie to keep you calm was very reassuring, so a big thank you to Jamie and his wife.

Mrs Jackie Hughes,
address supplied

Dear Editor
A huge thank you to everyone who helped by supplying, buying or helping at the Guides' jumble sale on 8th March. It was our best ever sale and raised £560 clear profit to be split between the two Linton Guide units. We really do appreciate the wonderful support from Linton and local folk.

In May there will be more information about our jumble sale for Linton District Guides on 17th May. This group supports fourteen units throughout the district, including Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Sections in Linton, Balsham, Brinkley, Burough Green and Horseheath.

Kate France
Emsons Close

ACEs on the move

ACEs took a coach trip to Norwich – a fine city but not so fine weather, with squally showers amidst the sunshine which reminded us of recent floods.

The first stop for some was the Sainsbury Arts centre. We enjoyed the eclectic permanent collection, the new *Sense and Sensuality/Art Nouveau* and parts of the *Masterpieces* exhibition that were still on view.

We then followed the others in to the city centre. Norwich has much to offer, with its market, historic lanes, the Castle, Museums, Cathedral and shopping opportunities and good food. So there was something to please everyone.

A full coach let us keep the costs low, and still show appreciation to our excellent driver. The next trip will be in the autumn, so where would you like to go?

The next event is at 12.30pm on April 24th, lunch with speaker Gordon Bentley, on *The Story of Pub Signs*. We will meet at the refurbished sports pavilion on the rec – yes, ACEs are really on the move. For transport, call me on 891069.

Enid Bald

Life with my father

A GOOD turnout of members and visitors were eager to hear our speaker for March, Mrs Gail Stuart, on *Life with my father* – Eric Morecambe.

Eric had his mother to thank for his career. She was not the pushy, ambitious person often wrongly portrayed. When his dance teacher told her he had a talent for performing and funny bones, she took him to auditions where, at age 12, he met Ernie. They clicked and formed a double act, only interrupted by the war when Ernie was a chef in the navy and Eric was a Bevin boy down the mines.

Joking was second nature to Eric and he couldn't resist teasing her boyfriends. On one occasion telling a boy wearing brown leather trousers and a brown leather jacket that he looked like a very large wallet.

Gail was at a show starring her idol, Gene Pitney, when Eric pointed her out. Gene commented she was lovely, to which her dad retorted: "yes, we call her sparrow legs". At 14 Gail wanted to curl up and die.

Many thanks to those members and visitors who helped clear away after the meeting. Our next meeting is on 1st April when our speaker will be Dr Louise Sime on *Antarctic: Ice and Climate*.
Sally Proberts



Gail sharing her memories and a cuppa with us
Picture by Wendy Foster

A 27,000 toothed monster

DAVID Coop opened his talk on compost by asking how many teeth a slug has. The horrifying answer was 27,000! No wonder they cause so much damage in the garden. Their tongue extends down the entire underside of their body making light work of precious plants.

Having caught our attention, David went on to explain the ways in which compost ingredients are sourced before mixing them into a balanced formula, how peat is being replaced in this mix and the issues that this causes.

He explained that the mysterious Mr John Innes' name will be forever linked to compost after a failed primula experiment triggered compost research.

A particularly useful rhyme mentioned by David was *Roots, Shoots, Flowers and Fruits*. The N:P:K ratio on all fertilisers sold gives the ratio of the three core ingredients (nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium) promotes the healthy growth of roots, shoots or flowers and fruit. Therefore choose your fertiliser depending on which part of the plant you need to support the most.

Brian Thurlow will bring *The perennial Mr Potter to life with tales from a Suffolk gardener at 7.30pm on Tuesday 8th April. The meeting will be in the village hall.*

Please remember to pot up any spare plants for the plant sale as you enjoy the sunshine. Also a reminder that this year's show photography classes are: *celebration, autumn colour, an A4 black and white photo of machinery, a vase of flowers.*

Kirsten Newble, lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

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NEWS ITEMS Wednesday 16th April**
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ITEMS FOR THE EDITOR
Can be put in the Linton News Box in the Post Office
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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 in this edition.

WEEKLY

Conkers childrens' centre, 9.30am-12.30pm, Wed-Fri CC
Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays. VH
Chestnut baby/toddler group, 9.30-11.30am Mondays term time CC
Linton Granta football bingo, 7pm Mondays Pavilion
Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701)
WEA, Tuesdays, 10am term-time VH
Scrabble club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays CP
Linton Granta toddlers, 9.30-11.30am Tuesdays LVC
Storytime, 2-2.30pm Library
Granta bridge club, 2pm Tuesdays VH
Table tennis club, 8pm Thursdays term time only URC
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
Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays VH
Computer buddies, 2-4pm, Thursdays Library
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays VH
Bumps to babies, 1.15-2.45pm Thursdays CC
Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, 9.15-10am Fridays CP
St Mary's church choir, 7-8.30pm Fridays St Mary's
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays CC
For sports centre courses please call LVC sports centre on 890248

APRIL 2014

5 Farmers' Market, 9am LVC
5 Police Surgery, 10am-12noon Police office, Fire Station
7 Camera club, 7.15pm CC
8 VIP group, 2pm Chalklands
8 Gardening club, 7.30pm VH
9 Community Navigator drop in, 10am-12noon HC
13 Lighthouse, 10.15am-12noon URC
15 Scrabble club, 10-12noon CP
15 Historical Society, 7.30pm VH
16 Cambridge Hearing Help, 9.30-12noon, HC
18 Walking group, 11am Good Friday Church lane
22 Annual Parish Meeting, 7.30pm VH
23 Chocolate tea party, 11.30am-1.30pm CP
24 ACEs Lunch, 12.30pm Sports Pavilion
26 LMS Jubilee String Quartet, 7.30pm LVC
27 Messy Church, 2.30pm St Mary's
28 Chalklands & Paynes Meadow AGM, 7pm Chalklands
30 Linton Library, donate session, 5.30-7.30pm Library
MAY 2014
1 Lunch club, 12.15pm Red Lion
1 Scrabble club, 10-12noon CP
1 Parish council meeting, 8pm CC
2 Reading Group, 8pm VH upstairs
3 Farmers' Market, 9am LVC
3 Linton Children's Book Festival In the village
3 Through Faith mission begins, In the village
4 Book Festival History Day, 11am Camping Close
4 Bartlow three Counties Walk, 10am, rear of Bartlow pub
5 Camera club, 7.15pm CC
6 Linton WI, 7.30pm VH
10 Gardening club plant sale, 10am 3 Mill Lane
10 Children's Book Festival LVC

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, LI Linton Infant school, LVC Linton village college, RG recreation ground, URC United Reform church, VH village hall.
Library times: Mon closed; Tue 10am-5pm; Wed 4pm-7pm; Thurs 2pm-5pm; Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-1pm.
Linton refuse collection: 7th and 22nd April
Linton recycling collection: 14th and 28th April

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WEA is off to Tate Britain

THE Linton WEA has had an excellent season which now draws to a close for the summer.

However, we do have a course visit to go with our spring course, where we have looked at 19th Century British society through art and the leading writers and social commentators of the day.

As the vast majority of the paintings we have looked at are located at the Tate Britain Gallery, on Tuesday 29th April we are going to visit there to look at some of them, most of which will be very familiar to

you all.

We will have our tutor Fiona Lucraft with us as a guide, plus there will be an opportunity to go on a specialist tour of the gallery's Pre-Raphaelite painting collection.

The coach will pick up in Balsham, Linton, Hildersham and Abington, if you would like to join us we have a few places left. If you would like to join us please contact Andrew by email at info@lintonwea.org.uk or phone 892430. Please note this will be on a first come first served basis

Andrew Westwood Bate

It's time for village cricket

U10 league winners with their coach Dean Chippis

Picture supplied by Lindsay Levine



GOOD weather is on its way (hopefully) and Linton village cricket club is looking forward to a good season. We have teams for everyone with three weekend sides, a midweek side and junior teams from U9s to U15s, including a girls team. New players are always welcome, so if you're interested come down to our nets sessions at the village college on Thursday evenings from 6-8 pm. You'll receive a warm welcome whether you're new to the game or a seasoned player. These start on the 3rd April and run throughout the summer.

We're looking forward to enjoying the newly extended pavilion with the latest facilities, including a new bar. Do come down on a Saturday afternoon to enjoy a match; the first or seconds will be playing and we'd appreciate your support.

In addition to the league fixtures, we will be running various events throughout the season, including a family fun day, a charity match and the presidents day, all based around the pavilion.

Lindsay Levine

Linton two rivers mission

LOCAL Christians working alongside an evangelical group called Through Faith Mission (throughfaithmissions.org) are organising a fun packed week of activities in an around the village from the 3rd to Sat 10th May.

The highlights will be women's breakfast, healing service, quiz night, treasure hunt, coffee mornings, games afternoon and more.

See lintonfreechurch.org.uk for more information.

Julia Burdett

Sawston Fun Run

THE 2014 Sawston Fun Run and walk on 11th May is in aid of the new Arthur Rank Hospice and other local charities; details are on the website with registrations now being accepted.

The organisers, the Rotary Club of Sawston District, aims to raise significant funds to add to the £382,150 that has been donated to local organisations and charities since the event started.

See www.sawstonfunrun.co.uk for details.

Tony Collett
t.collett@virgin.net

Fire Safety for businesses

BUSINESS owners can take advantage of free workshops to help their company get to grips with fire safety and legislation.

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue service's fire protection team is running free sessions in Cambridge and Peterborough.

The workshops take place on the second Tuesday of every month at Parkside Place Community Fire and Rescue station in Cambridge, and on the third Tuesday of the month at Dogsthorpe Fire station in Peterborough.

The general workshop aims to give a brief explanation of the fire safety order and the requirements of a fire risk assessment. It lasts about four hours and is free of charge.

To attend a workshop, or for more information, call the CFRS Fire Protection team on 01733 353206 to reserve a place.

Make sure fire safety stays at the forefront of your mind in April, and don't forget to test your fire alarm.

Find us on Facebook or Twitter.

JJ Penney CFRS

PLODDING ALONG An update on police matters

BETWEEN 5.30pm on the 14th March and 8.15am on the 15th March the passenger and rear windows of a vehicle parked on a private driveway in Maple Close, were smashed and the spare wheel was stolen from inside.

Between midnight on the 15th and 10.30am on the 17th March a sundial was stolen from the front garden of a property in Primrose Way.

Between 12 noon on the 12th and 11.35am on the 17th March criminal damage occurred to the rear fence of a premises in Chalklands, Linton.

Between 8.15pm and 9.30pm on the 22nd March an i-phone was stolen from a School Premises in Cambridge Road, Linton. A further theft from a motor vehicle happened on the same evening between 7pm and 10pm on the same school premises in the car park. The passenger side window was smashed and a bag was stolen from under a coat on the front seat.

Thefts from vehicles are happening on a regular basis in South Cambs villages. Please keep your vehicle as secure as possible and remove any valuables from inside.

Please note that the next Police Surgery will be held on Saturday 5th April between 10am and 12 noon at the Police Office situated at Linton Fire Station, High Street, Linton.

PCSO Leanne Fisher

Jubilee String Quartet.



THE Spring concert of the Linton Music Society features the Jubilee String Quartet. Recent prize-winners at the Trondheim International Chamber Music competition, they have made a big impact on the music scene, an exciting young ensemble to watch. Their programme includes Haydn's *String Quartet Op 77 No 1*, Schumann's *String Quartet No 2* and Mendelssohn's *String Quartet in F minor Op 80*.

Come and enjoy an evening of exciting music at 7.30pm on Saturday 26th April at Linton village college.

Tickets are available on the door or from Sweet Talk News, 71 High Street Linton, 893480 and Linton Post Office. They are also available from Saffron Walden Tourist Information Office (Tel 01799 524002 or www.saffrontickets.com)

For more information contact me on lindabird@waitrose.com or info@cambridgesummertime.com or phone 893600.

Linda Bird

Team of the month success



Granta team success

Picture by Roger Lapwood

LINTON Granta Football team was presented with two footballs in recognition of their team of the month success in the Kershaw League.

This took place at Linton sports ground before their first team match with Foxton in February and was a league respect award. The award was made to Dale Archer, the team captain, by Roger Pawley, vice chairman of Cambridgeshire Football association together with Sid Henry who is council member of the association.

Brian Manley

District and County Council Matters



Roger Hickford, District and County Councillor for Linton, www.RogerHickford.com, Roger@RogerHickford.com, Tel: 890770

New junction at Balsham Road and High Street

THERE have been some comments about the new junction layout. It is important that the reasons for the changes are mentioned, as I feel these have not necessarily been properly conveyed.

Pedestrians crossing the Balsham Road did not have clear sight of approaching vehicles and had to step out into the road to see if the road was clear – that is the reason for the pavement being built out. This gives much clearer sight for pedestrians who can now see both Balsham Road and the High Street. The width of the road at that point was also very wide for crossing safely.

There was also an issue with cyclists who (legally) mounted their bikes outside of the one way system and travelled east across the junction. There were incidents of near accidents and one very major accident with a cyclist seriously injured. This was due to vehicles approaching the junction on Balsham Road, stopping or slowing down almost to a stop, to let

vehicles overtake the parked cars on the High St, and then moving off without looking right. With the change of priority it means the cyclists now own the responsibility for joining the carriageway.

I personally still have some concern with vehicles travelling down Balsham Road negotiating the left hand bend onto the High Street and coming across vehicles on their side of the road overtaking parked cars. But I also witnessed cars doing exactly the same with the old T-junction, where cars sped round that corner without looking right, because they did not feel the need to.

As with any change, it needs to be assessed with a safety audit both before and after.

I welcome any comments from residents on this matter to take back to the Highways team. Contact me on 890770, www.RogerHickford.com or email: Roger@RogerHickford.com

Roger Hickford, District and County Councillor

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LINTON COUNTRY MATTERS By the Linton News team

Fleam Dyke and the Roman Road

THIS is a wonderful time to walk these two sites of special scientific interest now that the spring flowers are in bloom. Amongst the first to flower are the violets and, according to the leaflet prepared by the Friends of the Roman Road and Fleam Dyke (FRRFD or Friends), there are seven species ranging from purple to white with some pink ones too.



Viola hirta, The Hairy violet encourages the Dark Green Fritillary butterflies

Of course, the Roman Road runs between Haverhill in the south east and Wandlebury, near Fulbourn in the north. Its closest approach to Linton is near Chilford Hall and it crosses the road to Balsham nearby. Fleam Dyke runs between Balsham and Fulbourn.

As a relative newcomer to Linton, I have walked on these two sites several times but knew little of their history or of the flora and fauna therein. So I was fascinated to learn about the work of the Friends and some of the ecology of the site when I attended their meeting in March in Fulbourn.

Iain Webb, Green Belt

Photo by David Barden of FRRFD Officer, gave the results of the Friends annual bird survey and also reported how the Friends clear scrub from patches of the two sites to encourage the chalk grassland and its flowers to return to the area. But it's not just clearing the scrub that is necessary for the plant life to return.

The Friend's patron Peter Grubb, Emeritus Professor of Botany at Cambridge University, showed how the soil's nutritional value has to be reduced to discourage large weeds and encourage the true chalk grassland flowers to grow. In

addition the grass has to be mown or grazed in the right manner. Some scrub is left to support birds and other wildlife.

A review of the Butterfly monitoring by Roger Lemon showed that in 2013 there was a satisfyingly large increase in most but not all butterflies over the previous three years.

Butterflies which can be seen include the chalkhill blue, the common blue, the hairstreak and the dark green fritillary. The first to be seen are the brimstone, orange tip and green veined white.

The FRRFD have working parties on some Sunday mornings to help clear the scrub and would be glad of volunteers and new members and of course donations for their work. Note that Linton parish council is a corporate member of The Friends.

For more information visit the website frrfd.org.uk or contact Julia Napier on 213152 or by emailing frrfdjin@freebie.net

Hildersham news in brief

IT'S Teatime from 3pm on 3rd April in Hildersham village hall. Come and enjoy an Easter tea with hot cross buns. Advance notice – May Teatime will be on 1st May when we will support the Multiple Sclerosis Society with a May Day tea.

THE Hildersham Lecture will be held at 7.30pm on 25th April 25th in Holy Trinity Church, entry £5 including refreshments. Professor Adrian Dixon, Master of Peterhouse College Cambridge, will give a talk with the intriguing title: *Lord, make me to know mine end* Roughly translated into *Modern imaging and patient care*

EMMAUS will be at Hildersham village hall from 6-8pm on 29th April. Have a spring clean and support Emmaus; bring your unwanted items to the hall. Emmaus will collect them, restore, recycle or sell them. Nothing is wasted.

THE Hildersham village hall trust quiz night, postponed from March, will now be held on Friday 9th May. Tickets are £8 to include supper at half-time. Please bring your own drinks and we'll provide the glasses. There will also be a raffle with some great prizes. All welcome – come along and join a team or bring your own team of up to eight people. Doors open at 7pm, quiz starts at 7.30pm prompt. For tickets, contact Jill on 893596 or edheale@btinternet.com.

The Hildersham Festival on June 7th and 8th is a festival of arts, crafts and music and will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Hildersham. If you would be interested in contributing in any way please contact me on 892848 or email catherinemyer43@btinternet.com Details of the programme will be in the next issue of the News. Cathy Myer

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Community Peace Garden at St Mary's

PLANS are underway at St Mary's church to develop the area to the side and rear of the church pavilion to create a Peace Garden and Pavilion Garden.

The Pavilion Garden will extend the use of the building by providing a multifunctional space for church groups and for those wishing to hire the pavilion for events.

The Peace Garden will be a separate, secluded space in which to seek peace and tranquillity and to renew the soul and mind; a spiritual space, accessible for all, regardless of faith. The garden will provide

year round interest with the choice of shrubs, perennial plants and bulbs, and the use of carefully chosen sculpture to reflect nature.

Although this will not be a commemorative garden, it is also hoped to link the timing of planting and subsequent completion, and opening of the Peace Garden with the 100 year anniversary of the First World War.

To help us to create these gardens, we are approaching our village community for support; to raise funds through donations and pledges and for local people willing to offer

skills in hard landscaping. We are grateful to have received some donations already and others have pledged to buy one of the many plants selected for the garden, or one of the three benches. The design, and other information about the garden, is on display inside the church.

If you would like to make a donation, please contact the church treasurer, Sue Ellis on 892257. Further updates will follow in the coming months.

Rebecca Rix

Hadrians Wall walk
MY name is Oliver and I'm in Year 10 at Linton village college. I've signed up to Camps International to go and help in Cambodia in 2015. I have to raise £3,500 to finance my trip whose focus will be to help the local community through charitable work.

I hope to raise money by doing a sponsored walk the full length of Hadrian's Wall, a total of 84 miles in three days, on the 9th to 11th April.

If you would like to sponsor me please visit my website at campcambodia2015.moonfruit.com

Oliver Kellar

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POT POURRI 109

Non magic square

IT is a truth universally known that the numbers 1 to 9 may be arranged in a 3 x 3 square grid such that each row, column and diagonal add to the same number.

Using the numbers 1 to 4, can one make a 2 x 2 square such that no row, column and diagonal add to the same sum?

So, using the numbers 1 to 9 in a 3 x 3 square grid, place the numbers such that no row, column, diagonal add to the same. ie all have different sums.

Solution to 108 – What are the values of x and n?

An equation that requires careful thought due to the square roots and signs.

When $x = 0$, $n = \text{square root of } 2$ With $n = 2$, $x = 1.5$.

n must be equal or greater than square root of 2 for any value of x less than or equal to 1.

Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF

Chalklands and Paynes Meadow resident's association

THE Annual General Meeting has been re-scheduled for 7pm on Monday 28th April at Chalklands Community Room.

The present committee needs much support and everyone is welcome to attend. New committee members are necessary for the association to survive. Anyone interested, please contact the Secretary, Kate Eagin, on 890283 before the meeting if possible.

Apologies to everyone for the last minute cancellation of the previously planned AGM in January. This was due to illness.

We look forward to seeing you all on the 28th April.

Kate Eagin

April Linton walk

THE April Linton Walk will be at 11am on Friday 18th April (Good Friday) meeting at the top of Church Lane.

Contact me on 897858 or 0777 5761 252

Pamela Phipps

Easter activities at Wandlebury.

WEDNESDAY 9th April – Tree and flower fairies. Fairy rhyme themed activities.

Tuesday 15th April – Holiday orienteering. Learn how to use our new maps to navigate routes around the park.

Wednesday 16th April – Robin Hood morning for age eight and above. Try your hand at archery and make your own simple bow and arrow.

All activities 10.00am until 12.30pm. Age over five unless otherwise specified.

Booking essential, email Lorna on bookings @ cambridgeppf.org or tel 243830 ext 201. For more details look on the website cambridgeppf.org/wandlebury-country-park.shtml

The big chocolate tea party

IN April the Sick Children's Trust runs a big chocolate tea party campaign, asking people to hold chocolate tea parties to raise money for their charity, similar to the Macmillan coffee mornings.

I am holding a chocolate tea party from 11am to 1.30pm on Wednesday 23rd April in the church pavilion and everyone is welcome to come along and have a cup of tea, coffee or, of course, hot chocolate and a cake or just homemade chocolates for a donation to the charity. There will also be chocolate treats available to buy and take away.

My mum and I will be baking some of the cakes and chocolate treats but also many kind volunteers from the village have offered to bake cakes for the event too.

For more information on the charity go to www.sickchildrenstrust.org/bigchoctea/?rand=946595595

Abby Davey

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The Derbyshire Post



BY THE time this goes to press, Linton Village College and the Meadow School, Balsham will be part of the same Multi-Academy Trust: the Chilford Hundred Education Trust. The Trust will have a Board of Directors and the standards of both schools and their use of resources will be scrutinised by this board, rather than by the Local Authority. The Meadow School becomes an Academy, sponsored by LVC and will continue its journey of rapid improvement to become, once more, one of the best primary schools in the country. The signs are already very encouraging. Most teaching is now good or better, leadership has been praised by two subsequent Ofsted HMI visits and the children are on track to achieve great progress. From 1st April the school is lifted out of special measures and is on its journey back to outstanding.

Once Chilford Hundred Education Trust is underway, my own role changes to become Executive Principal across both schools but I will retain the hands-on role of Principal at LVC. We aim to appoint a permanent Headteacher at the Meadow School by the end of April.

LVC's own Senior Leadership Team will grow slightly to accommodate my change in role. Tim Darby will be Deputy Principal and will share this role with new Deputy Principal, Helena Marsh, who currently works at Sawston Village College. Doug Brechin is Assistant Principal and will be joined in this role by Angela Cassidy, who has been on maternity leave this year and a new appointment to Assistant Principal, Shahla Matarazzo, who comes to us from Saffron Walden County High School. In addition to school Bursar, Stuart Tinsley will become Director of Finance across both schools. I will have a very strong, capable team behind me.

The only sad piece of news is that, after 31 years at the College, our much loved Denise Hall is retiring. Denise has now taught generations of children in the Linton area, their parents and some of their grandparents too. She is something of an LVC legend and will be greatly missed, but in her last term at LVC we are determined to make a huge fuss of her and give her a really enjoyable send off. If you have any special memories of Mrs Hall, please do contact us at elaine.clayton@lvc.org.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal

Get the most from your online library

FOR a guided tour, join community librarian Ms Leo Stubbs from 5.30pm to 7pm on Wednesday 30th April, at Linton library

Need reliable and up-to-date information on a technical point for an exam or for work? Have trouble explaining to a child why words like friend and answer have such a curious spelling? Enjoy reading on iPad or Kindle, or need a free audio book service? Your library ticket can help.

Cambridgeshire online library services have everything from the full Oxford English Dictionary to *Woman's Own* and *Amateur Photographer*, all free at the point of use, as well as a range of online services that include renewing books online or via mobile phones, and researching your family history.

We'll also have a bring and tell for books you might like to donate to the library (preferably new novels and non-fiction up to four years old)

John Bald, Chair, Friends of Linton Library.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- S/0528/14/FL Mr & Mrs Richard Robinson, 89 High Street, Single storey extension.
- S/0529/14/LB Mr & Mrs Richard Robinson, 89 High Street, Listed building addition or extension.
- S/0361/14/FL Mr & Mrs Robert Ashcroft, River Cottage, 18 Horn Lane, Change of use of garage to cold store and external chiller unit (retrospective)
- S/0361/14/LB Mr & Mrs Robert Ashcroft, River Cottage, 18 Horn Lane, Listed Building Addition or Extension (retrospective)
- S/0232/14/FL Mr Hasan Rumbles, 10, Bartlow Road, Change of Use from A1 (Shop) to A5 (Hot Food Takeaway)

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The Way We Were

By Garth Collard

The Congregational Chapel, now the United Reformed Church

THE chapel was built in 1819 to replace an earlier structure which faced the river rather than Horn Lane. The first chapel was a converted barn with a façade in the classical style.

Non-conformity grew rapidly in the 17th and 18th centuries even though those who refused to go to the Anglican church were fined £20 per month and sometimes imprisoned. Many met in illegal gatherings in remote woodland areas and the authorities arrested those who attended. Persecution, especially of Quakers, intensified after the 1660 restoration of Charles II.

Local JPs tried offenders and the leading Anglican JP in the Linton area was Sir Thomas Sclater, the Linton manorial Lord who lived at Catley Park. Court records have been preserved and many Linton people named – Jo Linsdell, Edmund Smith, Maria Odell. The Toleration Act of 1689 allowed non-conformists to register places of worship and they were no longer persecuted.

The 1698 chapel was described in the early 19th century by Thomas Hopkins, a minister from 1798 until his death in 1839, as follows 'The chapel faced the meadows and was rough in appearance. It had three bays with outward opening doors to the Horn Lane tannery, (now the Springfield House site). The pulpit was opposite the main doors with a long table pew in front which could seat 30 people'.

The richest non-conformist family in Linton, the Taylors, had their own private pew lined with silk bays and surrounded by silk curtains. This chapel was for the Congregationalists who numbered over 250 including worshippers from the surrounding villages. Galleries were built on both sides of the barn with a circular gallery in front of the pulpit.



The Congregational chapel in Horn Lane

Picture from Garth's collection

The old graveyard was enclosed by a wooden fence and worshippers had to cross the river to reach the chapel. After 1819 the entrance was from Horn Lane. A new graveyard was placed facing Horn Lane. Many of the tombs are very elaborate.

In the mid 18th century there were 27 congregational families in Linton out of a parish total of 240 families. As the number of worshippers expanded there were numerous splits and divisions in the congregation – especially over the choice of minister. Many of the quarrels were caused by the wives of ministers and leading village members. Numbers of worshippers declined as a result and by the 1780s the chapel almost became extinct. The crisis was resolved by the arrival in 1793 of a dynamic minister called Thomas Hopkins who preached throughout the district and won over converts from the Anglican church. He also established outreach groups in the villages and campaigned for a new chapel to house a fast expanding congregation.

In 1819 the present chapel was completed thanks to donations from rich family members. The chapel cost £1,000 to build and half the cost was met by the Taylor and Kidman families who were rich tanners, millers and farmers.

Hopkins founded a successful Sunday school which rapidly expanded and easily overtook the Anglican Sunday school. He attempted to found an elementary school based in the old Quaker chapel in Market Lane, hence 19th century Lintonians called that buildinThe British School. It was pulled down in 1922 to build Shepherds' Hall.

Kim climbed Kili for cats and zoo poo

ZOO Director Kim Simmons recently climbed Mount Kilimanjaro to raise money for The Lion Guardians.

To show your support please visit <http://www.lintonzoo.com/Kilimanjaro.html>

And did you know that zoo poo repels cats, rabbits, badgers, foxes and deer? It can be picked up at the front gate for a minimum donation of £1 but ring 891308 to check availability.

Kim Simmons

Linton's country doctor

THE Linton and District Historical Society talk for April will be Linton's Country Doctor & Cambridgeshire Antiquarian.

It will tell the story of Dr William Mortlock Palmer, Linton GP for nearly 40 years from 1900 to 1939.

Dr Palmer's great friend Catherine Parsons from Horseheath wrote a fascinating biography in 1941.

William was born in Melbourne in 1866. He trained to

be a pharmacist in Cambridge and served as a ship's doctor on P&O ships.

His main desire was to become a full-time antiquarian, but he needed his general practice to raise enough money to make all this happen.

While a serving as a locum in Suffolk he was often paid in antiquities and he was once given a pile of old papers for which he gave an old lady half a crown. Did these papers turn out to be like buying a Lottery

ticket? What did Dr Palmer do for Linton and villages nearby and how did he save the Cambridge Society from disaster?

This is an absolutely captivating story and if you would like to hear more, do come and listen to this enthralling talk with our own historian Andrew Westwood-Bate, at 7.30pm on Tuesday 15th April in Linton village hall.

All are very welcome. Please note revised date.
Andrew Westwood-Bate

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Parish Council Matters

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

Neighbourhood plan - a first for the parishes of Linton and Hildersham

LINTON and Hildersham parishes would like jointly to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. Such a plan would give our parishes the right to determine the use and development of land, homes, shops, offices, infrastructure and their design. Linton and Hildersham have become the first parishes in South Cambridgeshire to have their application to designate a 'Neighbourhood Area' publicised for comments. They are also among only a few parishes nationally to take the innovative step of submitting a joint application to reflect their shared concerns about protecting the environment and our common heritage; securing appropriate development and transport links; increasing community engagement; promoting local businesses and ensuring adequate housing for local people. South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) has publicised our application on its website at <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/neighbourhood-planning> and comments must be given, in writing, before the 23rd April. This initial application is the first step in the process and is one of several consultations that will be needed before a final plan can be developed and approved by residents - no Neighbourhood Plan can be implemented without going to a local referendum.

We would like to get the views of residents, businesses, landowners (and the views of our neighbours) on whether Hildersham and Linton parish councils should work together on a shared Neighbourhood Plan and to comment on the two parishes as one designated 'Neighbourhood Area' (the land encompassed by the

combined parish boundaries). Parishes can only be part of one neighbourhood area and areas cannot overlap. These parishes face common challenges and have shared interests so it would seem to make sense to work together. Once this initial stage has been completed, both parishes will begin to consult residents and draw up a detailed proposal of what should be included in the Neighbourhood Plan itself. Linton is fortunate in that it already has a very comprehensive Parish Plan, drawn up by former councillors and volunteers, which will provide invaluable information. However, the crucial difference is that unlike a Parish Plan a Neighbourhood Plan has the same legal status as the SCDC Local Plan so decisions on planning applications in Linton and Hildersham will have to take account of what it contains.

There is no doubt that the development of a Neighbourhood Plan is one of the most ambitious and long term projects ever undertaken by Hildersham and Linton. It is expected to take two to three years to approval and will require new resources, additional expertise and professional project management skills. This is a big challenge for volunteer parish councils but it is one which must be tackled to secure the future for Linton and Hildersham that residents want.

Please give your views through the SCDC website or contact us in writing with your views on our application. Watch this space to find out how you could help shape your Neighbourhood Plan and play a part as a volunteer to make it happen.

Cllr Paul Poulter

Annual parish meeting

Tuesday 22nd April 2014

THE annual parish meeting is to take place on Tuesday 22nd April at 7.30pm in the village hall. The annual parish meeting is not a council meeting, it is a meeting of the parish electorate.

The purpose of this meeting is for the parish council to communicate and explain its various involvements over the last year. It also enables the electors to have their say on anything which they consider is important to the people of Linton. The council will review its activities from the previous

12 months, and will also present its audited and unaudited accounts for the year.

Local groups who received a charitable grant from the parish council in 2013 will be invited, so that they can report on what they used the money for. Also invited will be the successful applicants who have been awarded grants in 2014, and their cheques will be presented at the meeting.

All are welcome, please come along - your attendance would be appreciated.

Parish council

Parish councillor update - no vacancies

FURTHER to the last update we are very pleased to confirm that the parish council now has its full complement of 15 councillors. As previously reported Dr Beatrice Ward joined in January. This was followed by Mrs Nicola Miller and Mr Dave Lissemore in February. The line up was completed in March with the co-option of Mrs Jan Bumstead.

Parish council elections take place every four years and Linton is scheduled for this year, on Thursday 22nd May along with the district councillor and European elections taking place that day. However there will only be a parish council poll if more than 15 nominations are received.

Parish council

Introduction from a newer councillor

I AM one of the newer members of Linton parish council, but had been attending meetings for about three years, with my late mother, Carol. Our interest was initially because of the way the design of Nichols Court had affected our lives (our house was overlooked by the flats) and how the lighting was causing such problems. We knew how the parish council had fought against that design, and we wanted to know what it was doing about the lighting scheme. The parish council worked very hard to get a practical lighting scheme, but we had still been deprived of our privacy. Following the work of the council made me interested to be part of it, and I was co-opted to join in June 2013.

I have lived in Linton since I was a child, so know the village and the residents very well. I had lived in Back Road for 27



Example of the new social housing built on the site of unused garages in Chalklands last year

years, until my mother died in December 2012. The house is social housing owned by South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) and, as my mother had been the tenant, I had to move (tenancies are not transferable to a dependant or child of the tenant).

Fortunately there was a smaller house available, so I was able to downsize. This freed a three-bedroomed house, so that a family could be given a suitable home. In our modern



Pictures taken by Simon Hill world there are many single people, so there is a need for more smaller housing rather than for large family homes. If there were more smaller houses and bungalows, single and older people could downsize to circulate the family homes.

The house I moved to was built by SCDC on the site of the old garages at Chalklands. These had been unused for some years and were quite an eyesore. Now there are four one-bedroom houses, equipped

to a high standard and very comfortable. There is plenty of parking space and the garden has a shed, water butt, composter and rotary washing line - they thought of everything! There was even a welcome pack with information on the house and village.

My new house was one of the first built by SCDC for over 50 years. If more sites can be found (I have my eye on a few!) there could be more council-owned housing for people who need it - like me.

As I am a keen gardener, and the garden is quite small, I would also like an allotment. So I joined Linton Allotment Association, and know what the parish council is doing to acquire land for these. I am happy to work on this project as so many of us need an allotment.

Cllr Simon Hill

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Clerk to the council - Mrs Sue Parry
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 Website: www.lintoncambridgeshire-pc.gov.uk
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Council minutes council minutes council minutes council minutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of a meeting of Linton parish council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 6th February 2014.

Present: Mrs E Bald (chairman), P Poulter (vice chairman), D Champion, S Hill, D Lissemore, Ms M Mannassi, Mrs N Miller, K Wakley, Mrs A Walker, Dr B Ward and Mrs S Parry (clerk). Mrs K France (press) was also in attendance with 16 members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs Cox, Manley, Potter and Wilson.

Welcome: Mrs Nicola Miller and Mr Dave Lissemore were welcomed to the council and the signing of their declaration of office forms was witnessed.

Chairman's comments: In view of the recent heavy rain it was important that a scheme be produced to protect the village from flooding. This might include re-establishing the flood plain adjacent to Leadwell Meadows. Advice and help to be sought from Rob Mungovan, ecology officer at South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC).

The ATC presentation evening had recently taken place and all were to be congratulated for the work they do; they deserve our support.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd January: Under the written reports item it was confirmed

ABBREVIATED minutes of a meeting of Linton parish council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 20th February 2014.

Present: Mrs E Bald (chairman), P Poulter (vice chairman), D Champion, S Hill, D Lissemore, B Manley, Ms M Mannassi, G Potter, Mrs A Walker, Dr B Ward, Mrs J Wilson and Mrs S Parry (clerk). District councillor Mrs T Bear, county and district councillor Mr R Hickford and Mrs K France (press) were also in attendance with three members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs Cox, Miller and Wakley.

Chairman's comments: The chair commended the village on its efforts to prevent serious flooding in the village centre on 7th February. Photographs of the floods had been sent to the ecology officer at South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) for future reference.

An initial meeting to discuss WW1 commemorations had been held and involvement from village groups was now required.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 6th February: Under the correspondence item it was confirmed that Mr Sackin had given, without prejudice, his agreement for an Easter Market to take place on the Market Square. Mr Sackin was thanked for this.

Mr Hickford reported that following his complaint regarding a speeding vehicle on the recreation ground no response had been received. This had been followed up and responses would be forwarded when received.

Under the correspondence item Cllr Manley asked if a response had been received relating to the queries regarding parking bays in the High Street. The clerk confirmed that she had met county council highways that morning and would issue a report for the next meeting.

Written reports from district councillors: The reports were noted and in particular that at the planning policy and localism portfolio holder's meeting on 11th February, after a lively debate, Cllr Corney had recommended that the new South Cambridgeshire Local Plan be considered at a special full council meeting on the 13th March as being ready to submit to the Secretary of State for public examination. This was good news for the village.

Cllr Hickford congratulated the SCDC team for their prompt actions on the floods. During the morning of 7th February 130 sandbags had been delivered to residents in Linton and 30 bags to residents in Hildersham. There was no flooding team but the men who empty the bins had been redeployed to deliver the sand bags.

Cllr Poulter asked that, in future, community assets such as the pavilion be provided with sand bags too.

Written report from county councillor: The report was noted. Cllr Hickford confirmed that a budget had been set and capped at 1.99%.

that Claire Gibbons of SCDC had received the parish council's application for a joint Neighbourhood Plan with Hildersham. It was also confirmed that Linton was the first parish council in South Cambs to apply. Once a specific form had been completed the six weeks consultation period would commence.

Consideration of the comments from the planning committee meeting and further comments in respect of the planning application for Newdigate House, 3 Horseheath Road - erection of 12 dwellings following demolition of dwelling. Several members of the public spoke at this point and their comments were taken into consideration. Council objected to this application.

Correspondence received for consideration: Gemma Whiting of The Linton Kitchen had requested to hold an Easter Market on Saturday 19th April. It was agreed that the council would continue to investigate the history of the Market Square to determine ownership and access rights. It had been recommended by Mr Gore that the title deeds should be obtained from the land registry as it appeared that in the past decisions had been made by a gentleman's agreement. In the meantime the neighbour, Mr Sackin, would be asked for his agreement, without prejudice, that a market could be held on 19th April.

Gemma Whiting, proprietor of The Linton Kitchen, had reported that following a complaint regarding seating, the planning

He confirmed that meetings to discuss the A1307 had resumed and further meetings were scheduled.

Consideration of the comments from the planning committee meeting and further comments in respect of the planning application for the Fuerst Day Lawson site at Little Walden Airfield, Bowers Lane, Hadstock - change of use from office to community building in association with outline application for residential development. The planning committee had agreed to object to Uttlesford district council on the application, with concerns that this development might increase the volume of traffic to the A1307 via the already congested and inadequate Hadstock Road. It would also be referred to the county council highways department.

Flooding: It was noted that very helpful flooding information was available at www.scams.gov.uk/content/flooding and the link would be added to the parish council website. The chairman confirmed that she would be meeting with Rob Mungovan from SCDC in early March to discuss flood plains, the reinstatement of ancient water courses and what could be done to ameliorate flooding in the future. To be reported at a later meeting.

It was hoped that a further meeting of the emergency procedures group could be arranged. The previous meeting had been very poorly attended and should now perhaps target those who might be personally affected. The meetings should be community led with input from the parish council.

Pavilion update: Cllr Manley reported that the pavilion had been very fortunate and had not been badly affected following the flooding. De-humidifiers were currently in use and sandbags had been placed around the doors.

Written reports: Traffic working group - Cllr Manley reported that a meeting had taken place to consider options to improve road safety on Hadstock Road and other improvements. Suggestions would be discussed with the county council highways department. However it was noted that problems raised by residents regarding speeding on the approach to the village were common to most access roads to the village, and any major expenditure in Hadstock Road would need to be replicated on Horseheath Road, Back Road, Balsham Road and Bartlow Road.

Recreation ground - Cllr Manley reported that the area in the north-eastern corner of the recreation ground needed to be flattened and improved. He had noted that during the flooding the river bank had been breached near Stanton's Lane bridge. He suggested that the surplus soil be used to build up the bank as a flood defence in this area. The clerk advised that permission be sought from the environment agency (EA) before any works commenced. Cllr Poulter proposed that the soil mound be removed and relocated subject to permission from the EA and SCDC. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Walker and resolved by the

enforcement officer had visited her premises. The officer was very happy with the situation and had suggested that a change of class to A3 could be considered.

The county council's draft plan for parking bays in the High Street at the junction with Meadow Lane was considered. It was agreed to request clarification from highways department as to whether disabled bays were required. Once this information had been received the parish council would consult with businesses in the area. It was noted that the cost included resurfacing work on the area.

A request from Cambridgeshire fire and rescue for the parish council to provide a BBQ frame on Camping Close to reduce the risk of fires on the grassed area was considered. Council felt that anti-social behaviour was the cause of fires being lit in that area. In their opinion providing a BBQ frame would not solve the problem. Cllr Champion would request police patrols in the area. Cllr Wakley agreed to contact Barry Easton, youth outreach worker, to help investigate.

Consideration was given to the renewal of the long term agreement terms for Zurich Insurance. Cllr Wakley proposed that further quotations be sought. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Ward and resolved by the meeting.

meeting. It was agreed to buy trees for this area following soil relocation, as per the report.

A1307 meeting - Cllr Bald. Another serious accident had occurred at the Dean crossroads earlier in the week. The county council had reported on previously identified problem areas, including this. Efforts to fund infrastructure work were ongoing as part of the City Deal through the retention of business rates and, if successful, the Cambridge bid could lead to upgrading of the A10 and A1307 corridors. This would be mainly by improving public transport, but also road improvements, and a new road from Horseheath to the A11, funded by development of a new settlement (relieving pressure to extend villages) was suggested.

Police panel meeting - Cllr Walker reported that Mr J Meikle, Cambridgeshire fire community officer and PCSO Leanne Fisher were planning to hold another engagement programme with youth groups and youth workers in the village.

There was no contingency plan in place to prevent traffic coming through Linton from the A1307 when there was an emergency situation such as flooding. Multi agency plans were in place with highways and the environment agency.

Correspondence received for consideration: Mrs Jan Bumstead - to consider her application to be co-opted to the parish council. Mrs Bumstead left the room while discussion and voting took place. Cllr Manley proposed that Mrs Bumstead be co-opted to the council. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Champion and resolved by the meeting.

Ms Brookes had requested that the parish council join the sustainable parish energy partnership for the benefit of the community. Ms Brookes explained the scheme. Cllr Mannassi proposed that the council supports this community led scheme. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Ward and resolved by the meeting.

On the request from the Beacon Community Trust to carry out voluntary work during their 'I am Somebody' slum challenge on 4th, 5th and 6th April, it was agreed to support the scheme and to suggest that litter picking be undertaken.

Consideration of the tenders and appointment of the contractor for the grass maintenance contract 2014-2017: Two tenders had been received for both contracts and one tender for the village maintenance (verges) contract. Following discussion Cllr Walker proposed that the tender from Valley Landscape Group for £14,995.00 be accepted. This tender was slightly higher than that of the current contractor however there were still unresolved issues relating to the current contract. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Wilson. A vote took place with eight votes in favour and two abstentions. Proposal carried.

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

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Sessions can be booked flexibly throughout our nursery day 08.30am-4.30pm during term time

We accept nursery funding giving 15 hours per week of free funded nursery for all 3 and 4 year olds and eligible 2 year olds
 Optional Holiday Clubs also available

For further details contact: