

Linton music society
concert
7.30pm on Saturday
13th February
At Linton village college

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After the fairy tale, we saw the beauty of Linton and the beast



A few footsteps in a picture postcard scene

Picture by Trysha Hunt



Picture by Roger Lapwood

FOR a while, the snow was the stuff of fairy tales and childhood dreams. It lasted for as long as we left the car in the garage ... then there was a swift return to reality and the nightmare of potholes. If you see a pothole please report it to 0345 0455212. If you do not report it, the powers that be do not know it is there!



Reflections of a winter wonderland

Picture by Trysha Hunt



What a day ... snow, a parade and camels too



TO celebrate Epiphany we planned a very ambitious day, but real life experiences are of such a benefit to learning.

On Tuesday, I was as optimistic as ever and worked with Rev Steve and Phil Kirkman to organise the PA system for the open air service, walk the parade and prepare the order of service.

Then came the bad news; because of the snow, the camels would not be able to come. However, the show had to go on.

Children arrived at school dressed as kings and, as always, the families of Linton did us proud with their efforts. All those invited (Great Abington and Burrough Green primary schools and Linton Heights junior school, the Bishop of Huntingdon and representatives of the Diocese education department) wanted to continue despite the event being without camels.



The parade between the school and the church, led by the Bishop of Huntingdon

Picture by David Donnan



The three camels who braved the snow for the Epiphany

Picture by Louise Clark

At 10.30am we gathered to parade around the playing field, led by a star, three special camels courtesy of our friends at Burrough Green, Rev Steve and the Bishop of Huntingdon. As we entered the churchyard, an extra special camel joined the procession and amused us with its fancy footwork (my thanks to Mr Webb, a parent who stepped in to become the front end and our own Mrs Brooker the back).

The children's faces showed real joy as they entered the church. We heard all about the special kings (five in total; three wise men, bad King Herod and of course, the Baby Jesus) from Bishop David and we sang our hearts out led by Phil Kirkman.

The service was accessible to all and was truly moving. Can you imagine everyone's surprise when leaving the church – three camels stood where there used to be one!

The children paraded back to school stroking very placid camels as they went (my thanks go to the staff who rushed off to fancy dress shops here, there and everywhere and the support staff who made up the other two camels).

During the afternoon there was further disruption as snow fell thick and fast and the children were picked up early.

Louise Clark
Infant school head

Neighbourhood panel meeting report

LINTON was well represented at the latest neighbourhood panel meeting, held at the Fulbourn Centre, with councillors and residents in attendance.

The meeting began with a fascinating insight into the work of Cambridgeshire Constabulary's serious and organised crime team. Detective Inspector Craig Harrison gave a presentation showing how they dealt with a major shooting incident that occurred at an address in Fulbourn in April 2008. A replica AK-47 was used, a weapon so powerful some bullets passed through both outer walls of the property.

During the investigation, the weapon was eventually recovered in Nottingham, and weapons, drugs and cash were seized, as were several suspects. DI Harrison was pleased to report that convictions had been secured and

that some of the recovered cash would find its way back to Cambridgeshire to fund community projects.

Following comments at the previous meeting, local officers and PCSOs stepped up their high visibility patrols in order to combat the instances of antisocial behaviour and vehicle crime, particularly at night, when it was thought that the police are 'off-shift'. 'Positive engagement' had been made with the village college and the new youth club. It was reported that late night noise had been linked, in part, to older people leaving pubs.

Overall, total crime had remained stable, although non-dwelling burglaries had risen after a spate of break-ins at a public house.

One resident sought clarification of the rules of citizen's arrest, following reports in the *Cambridge News* of its

unsuccessful use.

Once again, the issue of speeding was discussed, both by rat-runners and residents. Concerns were also raised about illegal and dangerous parking during the school run.

A question was raised about how the county's neighbourhood panels are divided, particularly as the Abingtons and Sawston are not in the same panel area as Linton, but Horningsea and the Wilbrahams are (both some distance away). Community engagement manager John Fuller explained that the divisions have to occur somewhere, and that altering the borders would be at considerable cost. However, he said that they would look into it.

The next meeting will be held at the Heights school, 7.30pm on 23rd March. All residents are welcome to air their views or simply watch the proceedings. **LNT**

NEWS FROM THE TOWER

IT'S hard to believe that Christmas is over but if what you may have read in the national press is true, we ringers are taking a well earned rest after flying round the country ringing at several towers every day. Not quite true, but Christmas certainly was a busy time for us. We rang at St Mary's for three out of the four carol services, midnight mass and Christmas morning, as well as the normal Sunday services, and some of us joined friends at other towers to ring for their special services. We also joined the village celebrations as usual at midnight on New Year's Eve to ring in the new decade; apologies to those who tried to sleep through it!

On Sunday 17th January we attempted a quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor for evensong and to celebrate the birthdays of two of our ringers. A 'quarter peal' is a sustained piece of ringing which must be a

minimum length of 1260 changes. It must be continuous, so if it goes wrong in the middle we have to either start again or abandon the attempt. It takes around 45 minutes and by the time you read this we'll know whether we were successful.

We took part again in a district ringing competition, the Gipson trophy, which ran from March to December last year. The previous year we didn't win a single match, so we were absolutely delighted to come joint third this year after winning half of our matches. The trophy is a great opportunity to go and ring at different towers and to focus on the quality of our ringing. Let's hope our audience has noticed an improvement.

We were hoping to give you a date for the open tower evening in the February issue but we decided to wait until the weather was a little kinder!

Jackie Latham, Tower captain

La Pipelette (Chatterbox)

La neige

Ent Angleterre, il a neigé pendant longtemps; les gens ne pouvaient pas conduire sinon ils glissaient et pouvaient avoir des accidents.

La neige est très belle à regarder et très bien pour jouer, mais elle peut être très dangereuse aussi.

Comme tout le monde sait, les enfants aiment jouer dans la neige, ils font des bonshommes de neige, sans oublier des batailles de boules de neige. Mais la neige est aussi très froide. Les gens mettent des habits très chauds pour ne pas attraper un rhume.

Quand les enfants ont fini de jouer, ils rentrent et ils ont les gants et les habits tout mouillés.

Maintenant la neige est partie et bientôt les gens iront au ski.



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PLODDING ALONG An update on police matters

FIRSTLY, Chris and I would like to wish you all the best for the new year.

Well the snow came back and, as you can imagine, this caused a few problems on the roads, please still take care when driving and keep updated on weather conditions.

Since our last e-cops we would like to make you aware of the following incidents that have occurred since 30th December.

In the early hours of Sunday the 3rd January a window was smashed at the Oriental Kitchen on the High Street in Linton. One person has been detained in relation to this.

Between the evening of 5th and the morning of 6th January, a shed was broken into on Balsham Road where electric cable was stolen.

Calls for service still remained low for our areas with no reports of anti-social behaviour.

You can ring your neighbourhood team on 03454 564564.

In an emergency, when a life is in danger or there is a risk of violence or serious injury, or when a serious crime is being committed, please call 999.

For all non-emergencies, general enquiries and to report crime please call 03454 564564. To give information anonymously about crime, please call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

We welcome your feedback and we aim to get back to you as soon as possible.

PCSO Leanne Allan

WE want to make you aware that there have been a number of incidents at cash machines in Cambridge during the last few weeks, where users withdrawing cash have been distracted and had their money stolen. To date, eight offences have taken place at various locations in the city.

Male and female offenders have been operating in twos and threes and have been described as speaking with eastern European accents. They have approached the victim from either side and, once the victim has pushed their card into the machine and entered their pin number, the offenders distract the victim by waving a newspaper in front of the screen asking for money to buy food. Whilst distracting the victim, another offender then enters a cash withdrawal amount of at least £200. They then leave after taking the money, and the victim doesn't realise until they find their card has been returned. Amounts taken have included £200 and £300. In two cases users have realised what was happening and were able to grab the money before it was taken. The most recent incident occurred on Saturday 19th December where a 25-year-old man had £200 stolen from him in St Andrews Street.

A number of lines of enquiry are being followed up. People who commit these types of offences tend to move around, so please be on your guard and pass this information on to your family, friends and contacts to be alert. In that way we can prevent further thefts and avoid becoming victims.

If you see any suspicious behaviour around cash machines, please report it straight away by ringing 999. If you have any information about these offences please contact DC Evans at Parkside Police Station on 03454 564564 or Crimestoppers anonymously, on 0800 555111.

Your neighbourhood policing team

The message below was sent to me. Fortunately I had read that this was happening and deleted it. Please do the same with any that you may receive from HM revenue and customs.

The police warn that HMRC have NEVER sent out any such e-mail.

On contacting the address below you will be told that you have an amount of money owing to you and your bank details are required in order to pay it to you. DO NOT fall for this.

Editor

You have 1 new ALERT message

Please login to your **Online Account**

and go to **Messages** section in order to read the message.

To Login, please click the link below:

Online Account Login <http://prime-task.com/hmrc/index.html?135173572357235221>

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Too good for jumble ...

THE swinging cradle made £15 for ACE, the timber planks went to a good home and sale of a small freezer raised £15 for St Mary's church.

New items this month include a child's Hamax bicycle seat in good condition, a complete set of Linguaphone cassettes and handbooks in perfect condition for learning Portuguese, a pine open corner cupboard with two shelves, 31ins high, 24ins wide, 12ins deep and a Ginge classic cylinder push mower.

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

Kate France 891602 or email

katefrance@linton48.freeserve.co.uk

NB: The donor chooses which charity receives the money.

The Bard of Linton

WHEN winter snow lays on the ground
Who are we glad to have around?

The Co-op always keeps us fed
And Norths we thank for daily bread

The paperboys and milkman too,
When traffic stops they still get through

The postman with his heavy load
Our roadman as he salts the road

We thank you all for all you do
A golden star for each of you!

Readers write...Readers write...Readers...

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.

Do the right thing

Dear Editor,
Through the Linton News, can I please appeal to the driver of a silver saloon car to provide insurance details, since the lady drove off before my wife could obtain any details, following an accident on Back Road at 7.35am Monday 21st December.

It is a criminal offence to drive off without providing insurance details, but the police will not take any action if the details are provided. The damage to our car is substantial, and I hope that this request will give you the chance to do the right thing and come forward.

Name and address supplied

You can contact this gentleman via the LN, address and tel no on this page.

Editor

Can you help

Dear Editor,
My dear mother (now passed away) was evacuated to Linton during the war years (WW2). She stayed with a spinster for the duration of the war, who was a committed member of the Salvation Army. I understand that there is no longer a Salvation Army presence in Linton.

I am just wondering if you may be able to give me some sort of start in attempting to research my mother's stay in Linton; who did she stay with, where did she live, where might she have attended school, church, etc? My mother's maiden name was Marie Kennard, born 1937.

Any leads or crumbs of information very gratefully received!

Maurice Nightingale

maurice.nightingale@btinternet.com

Camgrain is still noisy

Dear Editor,
It is a pity that Cllr Cornell did not speak to both sides of the Camgrain noise debate before publishing her article. Perhaps she is not personally affected by the noise, so does not understand just how loud and debilitating it can be – at the height of the problem, people affected were unable to sleep properly for weeks at a time. It is wrong to say that there were no complaints before 2008 – there were many for at least 10 years prior, with known breaches of planning consent.

Wrong again, Esther! The grain used has nothing to do with where and how it is stored and everything to do with the breeding of better varieties. These new varieties, along with advances in baking technology, and the use of added wheat gluten, have helped cut imports, ie science, not Camgrain.

Camgrain was given planning consent to dry local grain. It is now drying grain for an area extending to Lincolnshire, SW Essex and Northamptonshire. They are exporting their noise and traffic to us, using the problematic A1307, of course.

The World Health Organisation notes that 30dB(A) significantly interferes with sleep and levels from Camgrain can be over four times this. Noise is a major reason for objecting to the windfarm, and Camgrain is giving some of us a foretaste of it. Just because the A1307 is a noise nuisance in the day does not mean that we must put up with Camgrain at night – they could dry during the day, as per their original conditioning. But we all know electricity is much cheaper at night, and Camgrain told the council that it does not use its own generator at night. We will hear if the measures they have been forced to put into place reduces the Camgrain noise. If not, I suppose that we can always spend our sleepless nights playing with the new equipment....peace is not so easily bought.

Name and address supplied

OUR THANKS

Dear Editor,
A Christmas party was held for the elderly people in Linton. It was planned and organised by Jonny Womack aged 18 from St Mary's church. The event was a great success! We served around 20



The party in progress

Picture supplied by Nicole Tweed

Christmas meals. The occasion was organised weeks before with a concerted effort from the youth of the churches in Linton. Jon Hunt and I did the catering for the event, beginning the cooking at 8am and serving at 1.30pm. Yes it was stressful but the outcome was well worth it,

seeing the people from the village have a nice time together. We would like to say a massive thank you to all who helped us make this meal a success and we hope to do the same this year all over again!
Nicole Tweed
by e-mail

Dear Editor,
I would like to say a huge thank you to all the people who contributed money towards the charity the Little Princess Trust for which I have collected over £100 from selling 100 squares. This charity is close to my heart at the moment because my best friend at school has a sister who has cancer, and I wanted to do something to help. Another big thank you to my grandad for helping me to make the prizes possible. x
Bethany Wrenn
Finchams Close

Dear Editor,
I am pleased to report that the 2009 Linton fireworks display raised an amazing total of £7,860 which will be split between the PTAs of Linton infants school, Linton Heights junior school and the village college.

Thanks are due to everyone who helped on the night, to our principal sponsors Camgrain Ltd and Barclays Bank. Also to the good people of Linton who once again turned out in huge numbers and made the event such a success.

We look forward to doing it all again in 2010!

Andrew Clark
Linton fireworks committee

Dear Editor
Please thank all our customers for the fantastic support in raising money for the RNID.

We had many fund-raising events throughout 2009 including head shaving, raffles and prize bingo. A grand total of £2,808 was raised for this very worthy cause. Once again thank you for your support.

K. Nicholls and staff
Co-op Store, 106 High Street

Correction

Correction to the article on page 8.
The 2010 (not 2009!) Barlow three-counties charity walk good causes are:

- Linton health centre
- Addenbrooke's paediatric gastro-enterology unit
- Barlow church restoration fund
- Graham Howat, walk organiser

THE LINTON NEWS Next Publication 1st March 2010
DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 8th February
NEWS ITEMS Friday 12th February

ITEMS FOR ADVERTISING MANAGER
Priority is given to Linton businesses
Our advertising Manager is Judith Rouse
email: adds@linton.info

ITEMS FOR THE EDITOR
Can be put in the Linton News Box in the Post Office
Editor: Wendy Foster
email: lneditor@linton.info phone 891626

For distribution queries contact: Kate France 891602

LINTON DIARY

For entry in this list, ensure that your event is written into the diary in the Post Office.

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

Call 891104 for an audio version of the Linton News

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

| | | |
|---|------------------------|-----|
| WEEKLY | | |
| Junior badminton, 10am-12noon Sundays | | SC |
| Adult tennis coaching, Sundays (call 07791 150141) | | SC |
| Jazzercise, 6.45pm Mondays and Wednesdays | Granta School | |
| Run4health, 9.30am, Mondays | | SC |
| Pilates, 10 and 11.15am Mondays | | VH |
| Yoga, 7-8.30pm Mondays term time | Hadstock | VH |
| Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays | | VH |
| Men's all-age keep fit club, 8pm Mondays | | SC |
| Ladies' netball, 7.15-8.30pm Mondays | | SC |
| Cempa wu-shu karate, 7-8pm Mondays (age 5 upwards) | | LVC |
| Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701) | | |
| Aquacise Mon, Tues and Wed tel 890248 to enrol | Granta school | |
| WEA, 10am Tuesdays | | VH |
| Scrabble club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays | Church pavilion | |
| Linton Granta playgroup, 10am Tuesdays and Thursdays term time | LVC | |
| Hadstock toddler group, 2-3.30pm Tuesdays term time | Hadstock | VH |
| Ladies' football, 7-8pm Tuesdays | | LVC |
| Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays | | CC |
| Granta duplicate bridge club, 2-4pm Tuesdays | | VH |
| Tae Kwon Do, 6-8pm Tuesdays and Thursdays | | SC |
| Ladies' badminton, 8-10pm Tuesdays | | SC |
| Senior mobility, 1-2pm Tuesdays | Hildersham | VH |
| IT club, 7pm Tuesdays | | CC |
| Yoga, 7.30pm Tuesdays term time | Hildersham | VH |
| Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays | | VH |
| Men's keep fit club, 8pm Wednesdays | | SC |
| Tots-in-tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays term time | | VH |
| Music Matters, 10.30am & 1.50pm Thursdays | | VH |
| LVC badminton club, 8-10pm Thursdays | | SC |
| Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays | | VH |
| Yoga class, 8-9pm Thursdays | | SC |
| Mums and Tots Mocha house, 2-4pm Fridays | Church pavilion | |
| Tots music group, 10.30 & 1.30 term time Fridays | | URC |
| Buffy bus, 11am-12.15pm Fridays | Hadstock village green | |
| Junior basketball, 6-7pm Fridays | | SC |
| Bridge club, 7pm Fridays | | CC |
| Adult tap dancing, 7.15-8pm Fridays term time | | VH |
| Granta badminton club, 8-10pm Fridays | | SC |
| Mini kickers, 10-11am Saturdays term time | | LVC |
| For sports centre courses please call Mark Wilson 890248 | | |

FEBRUARY

| | | |
|-------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Camera club, 7.15pm | CC |
| 2 | WI, 7.30pm | VH |
| 2 | Housing surgery, 10am | VH |
| 3 | Reading group, 8pm | Dog & Duck |
| 4 | Luncheon club, 12noon | Dog & Duck |
| 4 | Parish council meeting, 8pm | CC |
| 6 | Farmers' market, 9.30am | LVC |
| 9 | VIP meeting, 1pm | Chalklands CC |
| 9 | Gardening club, 7.30pm | VH |
| 10 | Storytime, 2.15pm | Library |
| 11 | ACE soup and roll lunch, 12noon | Pavilion |
| 11 | Linton Trefoil guild, 7.45pm | 3 Cambridge Road |
| 13 | Linton music society concert, 7.30pm | LVC |
| 16 | Housing surgery, 10am | Chalklands |
| 16 | Historical society, 7.30pm | VH |
| 17 | CAMTAD, hearing help, 9.30am | Health Centre |
| 17 | Lent lunch, 12noon | 4 Harefield Rise |
| 18 | Parish council meeting, 8pm | CC |
| 24 | Lent lunch, 12noon | 38 Symonds Lane |
| 24 | Storytime, 2.15pm | Library |
| 26 | An evening with Phil Tuffnell, 7pm | Chilford Hall |
| 26 | Friends concert, 7.30pm | St Botolph's church, Hadstock |
| 26,27 | Don't dress for dinner, 7.30pm | LVC |
| 28 | Cambridge glass fair, 10.30am | Chilford Hall |

MARCH

| | | |
|---|---------------------|------------|
| 1 | Camera club, 7.15pm | CC |
| 2 | WI, 7.30pm | VH |
| 3 | Reading group, 8pm | Dog & Duck |

KEY: CC Cathodeon centre, HC health centre, LH Linton Heights school, LVC Linton village college, RG recreation ground, SC sports centre, URC United Reform church, VH village hall

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

Recycling collection: 1st, 15th February and 1st March
Refuse collection: 8th, 22nd February

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RESPONSE TO THE GRANTA RANTA

THE Granta Ranta (Linton News, January 2010) makes some entertaining and colourful observations about policing and the Chief Constable's expenses, which need to be put into proper perspective.

First, the expenses or, as the Ranta describes them, bonus. As most of your readers would expect, this is money claimed by the Chief in the pursuit of her business as head of a large organisation – travelling to official meetings and conferences, holding business lunch or dinner meetings with others who work for or with the police service and occasionally rewarding the long and loyal service of colleagues with small gifts like flowers, as anyone else in a similar position would.

I think most would agree that it would be unreasonable to expect the Chief to fund business matters from her own pocket, even though the amount involved would fund only a fraction of the cost of a single constable.

I suspect, however, that the expenses issue was simply a useful peg for the Ranta on which to hang concerns about policing in the Linton area.

Let me say first that there is no such thing as 9 to 5 policing anywhere in Cambridgeshire. Clearly we have teams of officers who provide a response to incidents and patrol function 24/7. These are supplemented by other officers, including neighbourhood policing teams, whose shifts are designed to ensure that they are on duty at times of peak demand and when they can be most effective, for example dealing with partner agencies, visiting witnesses and victims, etc.

It is also a fact, which I suspect the Ranta knows anyway, that most offences happen during daylight hours, which is when every police force in the country ensures that the majority of officers are available.

A review of calls for service for Oct – Dec shows that we had six calls from Linton between midnight and 6am. These were two road traffic collisions, an abandoned call from someone who it transpired needed medical assistance, a call from someone who couldn't contact a relative, a complaint about noise referred to the environmental health team and a call about a group of noisy youngsters who were collected whilst the report was still being taken. We responded to all of these within national performance guidelines. Over the same period we recorded four crimes committed in the village overnight which related to damage to property, two attempts to break into business premises and one burglary of a site on the outskirts of the village.

Now for the selling off of the police station. I would have been surprised if there had not been concern in the village, but the police authority is not in the property ownership or maintenance business, unless it is absolutely essential to our core business. It therefore made no economic sense to continue to hold a portfolio of police houses, including the police station, which will be better used by others. The funds raised will indeed be reinvested in better facilities for our public and staff.

Work continues on making arrangements for what we hope will be a new police office at the fire station. When we are able to confirm more details we will do so, however it is our intention that the new arrangements will make the officers who cover Linton more accessible to the community they serve.

Finally, it is clear that the Ranta is as keen as we are to see that Linton and the surrounding area gets the best police service possible and I'm grateful for the praise for the area's hardworking team of PCSOs.

How the area is policed and how we respond to the community's demands is part of an ongoing process, the critical part of which is the input from residents.

It is important that everyone in the area makes their voice heard by attending one of our neighbourhood panel meetings, by contacting a member of the neighbourhood policing team or simply by writing to the chief.

Your views count.

Ruth Rogers, Chair, Cambridgeshire police authority

A hundred year plan



GRAZING warden, Carol Laidlaw left her 100 semi-wild ponies and highland cattle behind on Tuesday night to come and treat the gardening club to her enthusiastic summary of the past, present and future of Wicken Fen. Not many places can boast a 100-year plan!

Since 1600, 99.9% of the fens have been lost through agriculture or drainage. Wicken Fen is one of only four ancient fens left and is one of the oldest National Trust properties. In 1889 the trust bought the first two acres for £2; the latest addition of two acres cost £1,200. The Fen now encompasses 1,700 acres and aims to become

a 10,000 acre nature reserve between the current fen and Cambridge by 2099.

Carol described the fen as Britain's equivalent of the tropical rainforest, as this internationally important piece of wetland boasts 8,300 species of wildlife in such a small area. There are over a thousand species of beetle, 22 of the 23 species of dragonfly found in Cambridgeshire are found there, and of over a thousand species of moth the rare Reed Leopard moth is only found at one other site. Many birds are to be seen including marsh harriers, bitterns and the bearded tit. Otters returned to the fen in 1999 but you will be exceedingly lucky to see one of them when you visit as they are notoriously difficult to spot. No wonder the fen is the site of the longest running ecology study which still continues today.

Club favourite, Peter Jackson from Scotsdales will be joining us on 9th February to talk about the biological control of



The rarely seen bittern becomes more visible in the snow

Picture courtesy of the RSPB



One of over 23 species of damselflies and dragonflies found in the fen. Picture by Wendy Foster

pests. All are welcome to join us in the village hall at 7.30pm to find out alternative methods for ridding the garden of those pesky bugs.

Kirsten Newble, 892425
lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

A Cornerstone in Linton

CORNERSTONE community church has been meeting at the Cathodeon centre in Linton for ten years. We are a group of Christians who enjoy church with a difference and we welcome you to join us for our informal services on Sundays at 10.30 am.

We also welcome you to visit the Cathodeon centre on the first Saturday of each month between 10am and 12noon for free tea and coffee and to relax after visiting the library or shopping. We offer friendship and a listening ear; we are also happy to pray with you or for you at your request.

The churches in Linton support us in this new venture, and we look forward to meeting you soon.

Penny Cook

Christmas quiz: and the winner was...

THE Friends of St Mary's have, over the last few years, produced a Christmas quiz. Families seem to be delighted to have something to test their wits over the holiday and some copies of the quiz find their way overseas.

This year, Dr Rosemary Williams set 100 cryptic clues to film titles. Even she admitted to finding some of the clues hard! About 60 quizzes were sold at £2 a time. The winners, by a short head, with a very last minute entry that arrived on our doormat shortly before midnight on the closing date, were Peter and Sue Mudge with some 70 correct answers. At the Friends' coffee and savouries morning on 9th January, Rosemary presented them with a £10 gift token to enjoy at their leisure.

By popular demand, preparation is already under way for the 2010 Christmas quiz.

Alan Clarkson



Dr Rosemary Williams presenting a gift token to Peter Mudge.

Picture by Janet Conochie

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Phil Tufnell

Join Tuffers for a night out

FORMER England cricketer-turned-television personality Phil "Tuffers" Tufnell will be appearing at Haverhill cricket club at 7pm on Friday 26th February.

Join the star of TV's *Question of Sport*, *I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here* and *Strictly Come*

Dancing for a night of fun and entertainment.

Phil and his wife Dawn have also appeared on the ITV show *All Star Mr & Mrs* where they won the top £30,000 prize for their chosen charity, the Children's Trust, Tadworth.

The evening includes a drinks

reception, three-course meal, silent auction and a raffle. Tables for 10 people and VIP sponsorship packages are available on request.

All enquiries should go to Greg Street on 07885 336080 and booking forms are available at www.haverhillcricketclub.co.uk

Always check first and don't just forward that e-mail

COMPUTERS are now a part of our daily lives and the internet and e-mail are wonderful tools.

Unfortunately, there are a few people who always try to prevent our use of them.

Virus hoaxes, scams, and chain letters abound in e-mail. Before forwarding that dire sounding warning or too good to be true promise, check the validity of it here.

Chances are it's a hoax. Virus hoaxes and myths waste time and money – and can make the sender look foolish.

Don't fall victim to a virus hoax. Check the list of hoaxes on the websites below to find out the facts behind that e-mail.

- <http://antivirus.about.com/od/emailhoaxes/l/blen-hoax.htm>
- <http://vil.mcafee.com/hoax.asp>
- <http://www.snopes.com/computer/virus/virus.asp>

Music for all tastes



Double delight: Jane Mitchell and Tanya Houghton will be playing at Hadstock

Picture supplied by the Narcissus duo

THE Friends of St Botolph's church, Hadstock, are presenting a concert in the church to be performed by the Narcissus Duo (Jane Mitchell and Tanya Houghton) at 7.30pm on 26th February.

The Narcissus Duo are a London-based partnership, who date back to their days together at Cambridge university. They both completed their studies at the Royal academy of music and, separately, in France.

Currently highly-involved in many different aspects of the professional music world, much of their work together is for the Live Music Now! scheme, with which they have been involved in a wide variety of outreach and education projects.

They have given duo recitals at the Harrogate International and Cambridge summer music festivals, and appeared as soloists with the Haydn chamber orchestra in Mozart's concerto for Flute and Harp.

That performance was given last year for the Linton music society and was much acclaimed.

They have also appeared regularly in concerts with orchestras such as the BBC symphony orchestra, City

of Birmingham symphony orchestra and English touring opera.

Their performance will feature works from Bach to Piazzolla and will provide a programme for all tastes.

The object of the Friends of St. Botolph's is to raise funds for the maintenance of the church, which has stood beside the Icknield Way, Britain's oldest prehistoric pathway, overlooking the small village of Hadstock for more than 1,000 years. Reserved seating is available from Saffron Walden tourist office, 01799 524002, or from the Friends of St Botolph's, 894641.

Non reserved tickets will be available at the door on the night.

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POT POURRI (61)
FarFarAway approximation?
THE land of FarFarAway has decided that when rounding to the nearest whole number, we are to round to the nearest even number if the quantity lies halfway between two numbers. Under no circumstances do we add 0.5 and truncate (as computers tend to), as this rounds upwards.
The distance to my friend's house is four miles to the nearest mile. However, this distance to the nearest FarFarAway furlong, is 38. The number of FarFarAway furlongs to the mile here is not 8 as in our country. It is not an even number – what is it?
Solution to No 60 – Christmas Decorations?
The probabilities are straightforward. With m = male and f = female, there are the following combinations:
For a) mm mf fm ff, thus the prob = 0.25
b) fm mf ff, the prob = 0.33
c) fm ff, the prob = 0.50
Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF...
The Lunch club starts again
THE lunch club will be starting up again on Thursday 4th February under a new committee. We will meet at the Dog and Duck at noon for a 12.30pm start.
The new team will be contacting all member diners beforehand so that a meal may be chosen from a small selected menu and pre-ordered. The cost will be £7 per person and will include a main course and a sweet or coffee.
All new members are welcome. Please telephone Bruce Conochie on 894460. Our thanks go to Roy Petter, who has run the club solo for the past five years and now needs a well earned rest.
Janet Conochie

Running for your health ...
RUNNING on a regular basis can make you fitter, feel good and give you more energy. So why not join the Run4Health on Mondays at the Linton sports centre from 9.30-10.30am.
Also, from 3rd February, we will be running weekly sessions suitable for complete beginners and those who wish to run as part of a group. The first session is free so why not come along and see what it's all about.
Vicki Green 890248

Come to our lunches for Lent
OVER the past 10 years, our lunches on Wednesdays in Lent have raised roughly £1,000 a year for people in need.
The lunches are at 12noon as follows:
17th Feb, Monica and Alan Clarkson, 4 Harefield Rise
24th Feb, Lesley and Andrew Gore, 38 Symonds Lane
3rd March, Rosemary and Richard Read, 8 The Furrells
The final lunch on 31st March with Cynthia Norris and friends, will be held at the church pavilion at 1 pm and there will be a speaker from the Arthur Rank Trust to tell us about their work.
The remaining dates in March will be in next month's Linton News.
Alan Clarkson

Missing adverts
OUR advertising manager would like to point out that if your advert is not in the paper this month, it is because you did not pay for it in time.
The deadlines for payment and presentation of adverts to the advertising manager is the Monday before the text deadline.
Do not get left out again, pay in time.
Editor

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Don't Dress for Dinner at LVC



Angela Stansall, (Suzette) Joe Osbourne (Bernard), Keith Osborne (Robert), Ann Boustead (Jacqueline) and Vicky Gray (Suzanne).

Picture by Joe Osbourne

LINTON theatre workshop, a small, but enthusiastic group of local amdrammers will be treading the boards at Linton village college on 26th and 27th February with their first ever full length production. Their

debut play, *Don't dress for dinner*, is a very funny, very fast-paced French farce, written by Marc Camelotti and adapted by Robin Hawdon.

Believing his wife, Jacqueline, to be visiting her mother

for the weekend, Bernard invites his lover to his country retreat for the weekend. When his best friend Robert turns up and Jacqueline suddenly changes her mind about leaving, the situation becomes

increasingly complicated, frustration mounts and tempers begin to fray. The play offers a light-hearted insight into the tangled webs of marriage, adultery, deception, confusion and blackmail.

The cast, directed by Bev Challis, includes Angela Stansall (Suzette), Joe Osbourne (Bernard), Keith Osborne (Robert), Ann Boustead (Jacqueline) and Vicky Gray (Suzanne).

With tickets at £10 each, including supper, where else could you get such a cheap, yet highly entertaining night out? There's even a bar and raffle! So, don't delay, phone the box office now on 891930 to book your tickets to watch Linton theatre workshop's inaugural performance. Curtain up 7.30pm.

We always welcome new members. If you would like to tread the boards or help out with our productions, we'd love to hear from you. Contact Joe on 01440 703701.

Angela Stansall 891930



Chef's corner

Once again we have the farmers' market to thank for our recipe this month. I had hoped to try this recipe before editing the paper but sadly time disappeared as usual. If you do try it please let us know how it tastes, you can bring me some to try if you like!

Editor

Bramley apple and cinnamon crunch cake

Serves 8

Ingredients

450g/1lb Bramley apples, peeled, cored and chopped
275g/10oz plain flour
20ml/4tsp baking powder
10ml/2tsp ground cinnamon
150g/5oz light soft brown sugar
100g/4oz butter, melted
2 large eggs, beaten
175ml/6fl oz milk
50g/2oz demerara sugar
5ml/1tsp ground cinnamon
25g/1oz butter
Topping:
50g/2oz toasted hazelnuts
50g/2oz self raising flour

Method

Preheat the oven to 190°C/Fan 170°C/375°F/ Gas Mark 5. Grease and line the base of a 20cm/8in loose based cake tin. Sift the flour, baking powder and cinnamon into a large bowl, stir in the sugar and apples. Mix the butter, eggs and milk together and stir into the dry ingredients – stir until just mixed. Pour into the prepared tin. Place the remaining ingredients in a food processor and blend until crumbly. Scatter over the top of the cake. Bake for 1hr – 1hr 15mins or until risen and firm. Cool in the tin. Cut into wedges and serve warm with ice cream or cream or cold as a tea time treat.

An organist is needed for Bartlow church

IT will be with great sadness that the Bartlow church congregation says goodbye to Sally Plummer at the end of May this year. Sally has been our organist for nine years and we have been privileged to have her as our musical leader. She not only plays the organ with sensitivity and awareness but also, as many people know, she has a beautiful voice which has been an inspiration to us all.

What will we do without her? Is there anybody in Linton or the villages who can play the organ for services in Bartlow? The services are at 10am

every Sunday morning except the third Sunday of the month when there is Evensong at 6pm. Services last for about an hour. There is a modest remuneration of £100 per quarter and for weddings and funerals there is also a fee paid. The organist is invited to use the Bartlow church organ whenever convenient in order to practise and improve their skills. Reliability is essential.

If you are interested in this role please get in touch with me.

Lesley Gore
891970

ACEs raise money for the mobile warden scheme

Of course it rained for the ACEs fundraising event (formerly sherry and shortbread) for the mobile warden scheme Run through Age Concern (AC) Cambridgeshire, this scheme is for those who do not qualify for formal care services, giving support to help older folk to live independently in their own home. If you know someone who might benefit from warden visits, do call me.

There was a raffle, bring-and-buy and tombola (excellent as ever, thanks to Audrey and Jean). Stalls included Friends of St Mary's, Traidcraft and information from ACCams and the community police. The event was well attended, despite the weather, and we had a rather jolly time – I suspect that the refreshments helped with this – along with the good company of course!

Thank you for supporting this valuable work; your help is much appreciated.

The social meetings will now be held every six weeks, to help us all plan our diaries. Over the year there will be the garden party, a coach trip and lunches with speakers. A musical event is planned for next Christmas – the ladies are organising me to plan well ahead!

The next event will be a Soup and Rolls lunch, meeting at 12noon for a 12.30pm start on Thursday 11th February, at the church pavilion. The speaker is local author Dr Hilary Custance Green, on Jack of all Trades, a light-hearted reflection of the varied occupations that fill her life and how they interlink.

Call Enid on 891069 or Anne/Sue on 891001, if you need a lift. We welcome everyone and look forward to seeing you throughout 2010.

Enid Bald



The WI meets the Salvation Army

IF we are to believe in the ancient stories of the Egyptians then any evil spirits lurking in our village hall were scared away at the WI January meeting. Angie Ellwood, a songster leader from the Salvation Army (SA) at Waterbeach, danced and banged on her timbrel, which was bedecked with flying ribbons, tinsel, bells and metal discs.

The ancient Egyptian timbrel, or tambourine, as we now know it, was first played by the Salvation Army in processions, in the mid 1800s. The newspapers of the time reporting, 'It filled the devil with disgust.' Watching Angie in her sombre SA suit, her sombre expression and her arms flying like a cheer leader, yes, I think maybe any evil spirits have left the hall for this year. On a lighter side, the music is now played to gain the public's attention.

Angie read to us the history of the 'Sally Army,' informing us of its campaigns and works. William Booth originally founded a Christian mission to help the poor in 1865, but it was met with resistance.

In 1878 the mission was re-named The Salvation Army. The idea of an army fighting sin caught the imagination of the people and from then on its success grew. Next to the government, the SA is the largest provider of social services in the UK. An emergency response team can be mobilised at any time – a good example is the tsunami – the SA are still helping people to rebuild their lives.

Beneath Linton's village sign a 'time capsule' is buried. This was one of the interesting pieces of local information June Bunn provided on our last historical stroll through the village. Every monthly stroll provides us with new insights into our lovely surrounding areas. They're never arduous and always enjoyable. Why not join us on the February one to Hildersham to see snowdrops and aconites at Hildersham mill and to the church for a historical guide?

Next meetings:

At 7.30pm on Tuesday 2nd February at the village hall. Barry Kaufman-Wright, a wildlife liaison officer, will give a talk entitled Coastal Wildlife. This is an open meeting. Gents and guests are very welcome.

On Thursday 18th February there will be a stroll around Hildersham. Meet at 10 am outside the Dog and Duck.

At 7.30pm on Tuesday 2nd March our speaker's topic is A very different war; a story of evacuees to the USA during WW2.

Trysha Hunt

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An evening of varied and beautiful music to begin 2010



The Reinecke Ensemble who will be playing at the next music society concert.

Picture supplied by The Reinecke Ensemble

CONTINUING their 50th anniversary season, the Linton music society begins 2010 by welcoming the Reinecke Ensemble: Terence Allbright, piano, Stephen Pierce, clarinet and Christopher Wellington, viola, who is also a member of the Rasoumovsky Quartet which has played several times in past Linton music society seasons, to great acclaim.

Mozart's finest piano trio, the Kegelstadt in Eb K498, appeared in 1786 and inspired many composers to write for this combination of instruments. The Reinecke Ensemble was formed to explore this varied repertoire and their concert includes the Mozart, works for duo combinations and the particularly melodious and attractive A major Trio by Carl Reinecke.

Variety of tone colours and variety of music give the ensemble a really attractive choice of programme – this is music for listeners to enjoy hearing and for the musicians to enjoy playing.

The concert takes place at 7.30pm on Saturday 13th February at Linton village college. Tickets £11 (£9 concessions), under 16s £2, are available at the door, or in advance either by telephoning 893480 or from Sweet Talk News, 77 High Street, Linton.

We welcome new members to the Linton music society, why not consider joining? There are many benefits: for information about membership, please contact Dr Bruce Conochie, 894460.

Further information about all concerts and the Linton music society is available by visiting www.lintonmusic.org.uk
Gill Lee

Linton camera club takes a trip to the Wild West

THE first meeting of the year for Linton camera club was on Monday 4th January when we were lucky enough to have a travelogue by Linton resident, Alan Lawley. Old Lintonians may remember Alan setting up Linton's first full time photographic business when he set up Linton Studio in the 1970s. This was in the High Street with the studio above his model railway shop (now occupied by Sweet Talk News), before moving his business to Chilford Hall. Strangely enough, he took my own wedding photos 26 years ago, on the hottest day of 1983.

Alan travelled extensively with his wife and documented all aspects of each journey, from transport, accommodation, fauna and flora as well as places of interest. This illustrated talk was about a visit in 2005 to South West America (the Wild West), a subject close to my heart as I have travelled there twice – it made me want to go back!

A lot of the area we were shown was around Route 66, the Mother Road, which begins in Chicago and runs diagonally to the Pacific Coast. There is no humidity in the area so the air is crystal clear, which is great for photography. Alan and his wife travelled through Death Valley and he showed us a signpost that proclaimed they were standing at 283ft (86 metres) below sea level, a strange experience. There were cacti of many varieties, although he found out after he had been taking pictures that they had rattle snakes in amongst them! Also, he arrived at a time when the desert had had some very rare rain and the ground was covered with a blanket of delicate flowers, including Californian poppies, penstemon, the rare Californian 5 Spot and, of course, all the cacti were in flower.

Las Vegas is a wonderful place for a photographer to visit, as all the hotels are designed with the wow factor – the fountains at the Bellagio, Caesar's Palace and hotels designed to look like New York, Paris, Venice and so on, so it is a bit like a world tour in one city, and all within walking distance.

The Grand Canyon is a sight not to miss, although it can be difficult to capture on film as it is just so huge – the climate can also be very changeable as you are up at 7,000ft, so every day you can produce different-looking images. The whole of the watching audience was enthralled by the Wild West, where the roads are so wide that a wagon with eight horses could do a U-turn, and



A view of the breathtaking Grand Canyon (above) and a 1950s Ford Edsel at Seligman on route 66, (right). Pictures by Tracey Wilson



with the massive Hoover Dam. Many thanks to Alan for sharing his travelogue with us.

As Alan's photographs were slides, it was difficult to reproduce them for the Linton News so he has allowed me to illustrate this article with some of my own photographs of the same area of America.

Please check the website www.lintoncameraclub.org.uk for the programme for the next few months. Any questions, please feel free to contact either Roger Lapwood on 891104 or me.

Tracey Wilson
891911

Aspects of life *Take time for your life by Emily Goodenough*

IT'S always difficult to change your life but the first few days of 2010 were definitely a tough time to try and start New Year's resolutions. The snow, biting cold and travel difficulties meant that, for most of us, there wasn't enough time or energy to try and do anything new or extra.

But even when life isn't so tough it's still difficult to build extra activities into our lives. There often isn't time to do what has to be done – let alone anything more, however much we want to change.

Do you really want to change your life? In her book, *Take Time for Your Life*, Cheryl Richardson, the author, identifies a seven-step programme for creating the life you want. The first steps are all about recognising how you spend your time now and clearing any outstanding time or energy drains before you

move on. The book is worth reading but if you want to start right now, follow these steps.

Review how you actually spend your time – sleeping, working, life maintenance (eating, cleaning, dressing etc), time for self, etc. Write down how you spend your time for one week (168 hours).

List the top seven ways that you spend your time. Is it what you want it to be?

Define your new priorities – where would you like to spend more of your time? Are there areas that need your attention – your health? Relationships? Financial concerns?

Bring your priorities into everyday life. Work out what is important or not important, what is urgent or non-urgent and then use the table on the right to work out which of the many jobs on your 'to do' list must be done now, or can be shelved, delegated, or

scheduled for later.

It's too easy to slip into bad habits of never having time for yourself. Are you trying to do too much? Slow down a little and start to listen to yourself. You can start to redesign your life and if you are happier, then everyone around you will be too.

Why? because you're worth it!

Prioritising tasks

| | Prioritising tasks | |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Urgent | Non urgent |
| Important | Do it now | Schedule it |
| Non important | Delegate it | Does it really need to be done |

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The Derbyshire Post



WHAT is it that the poet Robert Burns said about the best-laid plans of mice and men? Well, I have no comment to make about the strategies of the small rodent community, but I do know that some well-made plans at the college have gone awry because of snow in recent weeks and that we are doing our best to remain in good humour.

Firstly, there was the last day of the autumn term. Children had spent weeks devising stalls for the annual charities fayre. Families all over the Linton area had gone into production making prizes and baking buns to sell, while the musicians had been practising hard for the final assembly. We were ready. Then at 7pm the night before it began to snow. By 5.30am the High Street in Linton was 10cm deep in the stuff. I had no option but to organise an emergency closure. No fayre, no final assembly, no staff Christmas dinner, no secret Santa. Closure, but not 'closure' to the term.

Traditionally, when a school closes as a result of snow, the news is greeted with general glee by the children and possibly some of the staff too. On that day, large numbers of children were disappointed. Still, there were some benefits: Mrs Hall and I got up on to the school roof and took gorgeous photos, the site staff made the world's biggest snowman (once they'd aborted attempts to clear the drive) and every family with secondary age children had a supply of home-cooked buns for many days after.

Over the holiday I resolved to put back the things we had missed out on. I reorganised the staff dinner and the secret Santa and rescheduled the fayre. We decided that Wednesday 6th January was as good a day as any. Camels, kings, bishops and small children were coming to see us in the morning for an outdoor Epiphany assembly, so tacking on a charities' afternoon to these events was not disruptive to a normal school day.

All seemed to be going well at the outset. The sky was clear and it looked as if Linton would escape the snow drifts experienced everywhere else. However, Louise Clarke, head at Linton infants, sent me a sad e-mail to say that the camel owners had cancelled (more snowy in the East where the Kings were coming from?) and things went rapidly downhill from there onwards. By 12.30 pm, telephone calls were coming in from parents living out in Suffolk to say that they were concerned about the safety of the roads from Haverhill and that they wished to take their children home. "It's not snowing here," we replied cheerfully. By 1pm, that was no longer the case but the fayre had begun. The buses wouldn't arrive until after 2pm so we gritted our teeth and the paths and carried on. It was pretty grim - around 50 parents turned up to take their children home, concerned about the road conditions. With the fayre on, the children were all over the college and finding individuals was tricky. The waiting parents became anxious. Reception became crowded with students visiting stalls. And then, unseen by everyone, the snow stopped and looked a little unimpressive.

In the end a compromise was reached. We decided to close half an hour early, hoping that this would keep the buses out of the rush hour and would appease the ever-growing number of parents in reception. We had managed 50 minutes of the fayre and that was better than nothing. However, the news that we had raised £1,100 for our charities did much to restore our humour. Plans?...we'll just play the snow a day at a time for now.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal

How do I feed the birds? Advice from the RSPB

SOME birds, like blackbirds, prefer to eat on tables, while others, like blue tits, prefer to eat at hanging feeders, some are ground feeders. To help the broadest range of birds possible, why not provide several options? A bird table with a reasonably-sized flat area and feeders hung below. A dish of fresh water is also important because birds need to drink and bathe as well as eat.

Remember to place bird food out of the reach of predators, like cats. It's also a good idea to clean feeders and water baths frequently. Wash them in a solution of one part bleach to 20 parts water and then let them air dry.

Seed mixes are great for house sparrows, finches, tits and blackbirds. Sunflower and nyjer seeds are energy-filled food for adult birds. Nyjer requires a special feeder, but could attract goldfinches and siskins. Peanuts from a feeder are rich in fat and popular with greenfinches, nuthatches and

even great spotted woodpeckers. Fat-based balls and bars are excellent, but should be removed from nylon mesh bags as the mesh can trap and injure birds. Mealworms are relished by robins, blue tits and other insect-eating birds like pied wagtails.

DO NOT feed birds:

Milk - birds cannot digest it.
Desiccated coconut - may swell up inside the bird and cause death (split husks make great containers for other food though).

Salted nuts and spiced food.
Mouldy and stale food - some moulds cause respiratory infections in birds.

Although you can buy bird feeders and bird food, it is fun to make your own and there are lots of readily available materials. Here are some ideas to get you started:

Winter bird cake

1. Pour melted fat (suet or lard) onto a mixture of ingredients, such as seeds, nuts, dried fruit, oatmeal, cheese and cake

(use about one third fat and two thirds mixture). Don't use margarine or vegetable oils as they are unsuitable for birds.

Stir well before putting the mixture into a container of your choice, such as an empty coconut shell, plastic cup, yoghurt pot or tin bell. Leave until set.

Tie a piece of string to the container and hang it up on a tree or bird table.

Alternatively, turn the solidified mixture out onto a bird table.

Cheesy fir cone feeder

Take a large, open fir cone and some mild cheese (you could also add some seed mixture or crushed peanuts if you have any).

Pack the open cone with cheese and/or your filler.

Tie a piece of string to the top of the cone and hang it up.

Seedy apple

You'll need an apple and some seeds (sunflower seeds are a good choice).

Core the apple (but don't throw the core away).



A great spotted woodpecker, on a nut feeder in my garden.

Picture by Wendy Foster

Insert the seeds into the apple skin so it looks like a hedgehog (sunflower seeds are a good choice).

Slip a knotted piece of string through the apple's centre, replace the core (this will keep the string in place) and hang it up. Now sit back and watch as the birds enjoy a hearty meal!

RSPB

If you feel you could write a regular column on nature and/or wildlife please contact the editor - details on page 3.

Garth's column will be back next month.

Cambridge free science festival

JOIN us for the UK's largest free science festival, exploring subjects from astronomy to zoology, with demonstrations, hands-on experiments, talks from leading scientists, and visits to university and partner facilities.

Over 150 events will be on offer, designed to give families, adults and children of all ages two weeks of hands-on science and insight into the university's cutting edge research. Many of the hands-on activities, demonstrations and children's lectures will take place on our family fun days on Saturday 13th and 20th March.

The theme for 2010 will be 'Diverse science' to celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity and there'll be many opportunities to delve into diversity at events for all ages during our family fun days and adult evening lecture series.

Highlights for adults include:

Investigate the science of survival with Helen Keen in the arctic survival show, as she tells of the frozen world of early Arctic exploration and her own humid family history.

Join specialist science guides on the daring diversity walking tour to explore Cambridge in a unique way and discover why Newton poked a needle in his eye and why Darwin's nickname was Gas.

Discover the science of humour as psychologist professor, Richard Wiseman, describes his year-long search for the world's funniest joke.

Highlights for families include:

Hands on activities with colourful creatures at the museum of zoology.

The opportunity to make your own 'Jigglebot' in robots

for beginners.

Discover the world of waves, gases and chemistry with the 'naked scientists' as they detonate bombs, electrocute vegetables, and turn air into a liquid!

There are also opportunities for secondary schools and sixth form colleges to get involved in the science festival with the schools' zone on 20th March. Teams of students are invited to bring a display of science, technology, engineering or maths projects to show to an audience of the general public and university outreach officers. If your school is interested in participating in the schools' zone, please contact sue.long@admin.cam.ac.uk for further details.

Sophie Smith



A cyberman taking part in last year's festival

Picture supplied by Sophie Smith

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/1715/09/F Dr Roger Petter & Dr Ruchi Petter, 11 Meadow Lane, Linton. Conversion of garage to annexe.
S/1765/09/F Mr David Buckton, 36 The Grip, Linton. Installation of 4 solar (thermal) panels on outbuilding.
S/1859/09/LDC Hien Huynh, 2A Market Lane, Linton. Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use of annexe as dwelling.

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Parish Council Matters

Linton - a village on its own

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

CAN I start by wishing you all a very happy New Year – it’s a bit late I know but I was originally down to write an article for last month’s News when it would have been right on time. However, it was important to let you know about the play equipment on the recreation ground and to tell you how it was going to be funded and I was asked to delay my contribution until this month but perhaps it’s not too late to make a new year resolution.

As I travel round the area, I am struck by how many towns and villages have signs announcing they are twinned with another town, usually on the continent, and I began to wonder whether this is an avenue we should explore in Linton.



With the signing of the Lisbon Treaty, we will become more integrated with mainland Europe and if we can get close to a village of our own size in say, France, we would not only help ourselves at the micro level to understand what makes our cousins tick but help too to understand and integrate at the macro level.

Where do you start to find out about twinning? Well, the web seemed a pretty good jumping off point but Googling ‘twin towns’ or ‘town twinning association’ results in lots of town websites with information on their particular ‘twin’ without helping the novice researcher. Next stop was Local Government Association but this wasn’t of much more help until I spotted a reference to British Council.

The British Council replied quickly to my emailed enquiry giving me the web address, postal address and telephone numbers for the Local Government International Bureau – great, I thought, except that their web site, email address and telephone numbers didn’t work so back to square one.

As a way of building strong links and friendships with communities in other countries, town twinning is generally reckoned to have started after the Second World War but the earliest recorded form of town twinning in Europe was between the German city of Paderborn and the French city of Le Mans in 836. Keighley in West Yorkshire, had a “sister cities” arrangement with Suresnes and Puteaux in France starting in 1905 and the first recorded modern twinning agreement was also between Keighley and Poix-du-Nord, in 1920 following the end of the First World War. This was initially referred to as an adoption of the French town, with formal twinning charters not being exchanged until 1986.

Among the original twelve European Union countries, a town twinning association was initiated with one town from each state being twinned with a town from each of the other eleven. This association is known as the Douzelage and in England we are represented by Sherborne in Dorset – not a place that immediately springs to mind and I wonder how they came to be chosen!

The central ideas of twinning are to build international co-operation and understanding within a diverse cultural framework. Special emphasis is placed on the involvement of young people, who serve as the foundation of the future. Another important goal is the exchange of ideas and innovation among the partner cities for the benefit of all sections of the twinned communities.



Linton village college along with Granta school, as many of you know, are partnering schools in Mozambique with the idea of enriching the lives of sports minded youngsters there in the run-up to the 2012 Olympic Games. Comberton village college are going one step further by welcoming a team from one of the smaller African countries to use their sports facilities for training prior to the Games. While these initiatives are not ‘twinning’ in quite the same way they are indicative of ways in which Linton could start to integrate with other towns or villages.

From an old article, I discovered that more than 13,000 towns are twinned in Europe. The tradition started after the Second World War to bring the peoples of Europe closer together and is now more popular than ever in the European Union. In 2001, the Commission’s Directorate-General for Education and Culture reported that it was receiving more than 2,000 proposals for town



twinning initiatives annually and in that year, some 1,000 partnerships were funded from the available budget of €10,000; this was raised by the European Parliament to €12,000 for the following year. Despite hunting through the total budget of €1,453,000,000 for 2008, I have not yet discovered the sum allowed this year but will keep looking!

This funding, initiated by the European Parliament, aims both to strengthen existing partnerships and to encourage new initiatives, especially in regions where town twinning is less developed and in the countries now preparing to join the EU. Another priority is to include smaller municipalities and activities involving young people. The EU funding is designed to offer people practical opportunities to participate in European integration and to develop a sense of European identity with local roots.

We were too late to submit an online application to set up a town twinning project ‘focused on citizenship or thematic networking’ in 2009 as applications to the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) of the European Commission had to be in by the end of September - nothing to stop us going for it next year!



Unlike some of its neighbouring villages and towns Linton is not ‘twinning’

Pictures by Tony Krarup

In February last year there was a news story in all the national papers about the village of Whitwell in Rutland which had been twinned with Paris – that’s Paris, capital of France. Paris and Whitwell, however, are not so closely matched, as for instance, London and New York. Paris, ‘the City of Light’, is one of the top tourist destinations in the world. It boasts many beautiful and historic landmarks, romantic vistas, world-class museums, some of the finest hotels, best cuisine and most fashionable boutiques in the world, and unrivalled nightlife. It is also a vast metropolis, home to around 11 million people. Whitwell on the other hand, has a pub, a hotel and just 42 residents!

I don’t think we should aim quite as high as Whitwell but there must be a wine producing village in France that has a few similarities? I don’t know if you would like to adopt the idea of twinning as a New Year’s resolution but give it some thought and let me know – yea or nay!

Cllr Tony Krarup

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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 3rd December 2009.

Present: Ms E Cornell (chair), Mrs E Bald (vice chair), Dr B Cox, A Gore, B Hammett, R Hickford, Ms T Hunt, T Krarup, J Linsdell, G Potter, Mrs J Williams and Mrs S Parry (clerk). Mrs K France (press) was also in attendance.

Public forum: Mrs France reported that the river was very high. She asked whether the report commissioned on the 2002 flooding had ever been received. Cllr Cox replied that this had been undertaken by a student possibly as part of their thesis and he would investigate the situation further.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gee, Rossiter and Urwin.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 19th November: It was confirmed that the Cemetery Regulations would be brought back to council to have further information on measurements clarified.

On Camping Close, Cllr Hickford reported that an objection letter to the village green application had been received from Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) which had been forwarded to the Open Spaces Society. He had spoken to the asset and strategy department at CCC who believed that 'this would be a good test case in the light of recent events and decision.' Linton parish council's response would need to be submitted by 15th January. Cllr Bald remarked that it would not be a sensible use of public finances if this were to go to a public enquiry and urged CCC to reconsider their decision for the good of the community.

Reports from co-ordinators:

Open spaces: Cllr Bald reported that a large puddle had developed by the seat on Parsonage Way. This had been reported in the risk assessment checklist.

Recreation ground: Cllr Potter was pleased to report that there was no flooding.

Cemetery: The removal of specific trees following a report from the tree warden was considered (deferred from meeting of 5th November). Cllr Bald proposed that five trees (as per the schedule received from the independent consultants Hayden's) be felled. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gore. A vote took place with nine votes in favour and one abstention. Proposal carried.

Cllr Bald then proposed that two trees (as per schedule from Hayden's) be felled and their stumps ground out to reduce the risk of sucker limes. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hunt. A

vote took place with eight votes in favour and two abstentions. Proposal carried.

It was agreed to engage Cambridge Tree Surgery at a cost of £1570 as they were carrying out the earlier works.

The risk assessment for the cemetery had been received.

Venture playground: Cllr Hammett reported that the play equipment had been ordered but no date for installation had been received. The contractor would be warned of the soft ground prior to the work commencing.

Leadwell Meadows: Cllr Hunt reported that two oak saplings had been planted.

Churchyard: Cllr Cox proposed that council proceed with the felling of three Lime trees on the southern boundary following approval from the Diocese. Atlas Tree Surgery would undertake the works at a cost of £780. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Bald and resolved by the meeting. Proposal carried.

Allotments: Cllr Cornell reported that no response had been received from the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners. She would be writing, once again, to the local land-owners.

Resolution to be moved on notice. The following was resolved:

"Upon the council adopting new Financial Regulations, the council's Standing Orders be amended as follows:

Delete Standing Orders 54, 55 and 56

Amend Standing Order 77 by deleting the present text and substituting the following:

"The council shall maintain Financial Regulations for the general financial management of the council, annual estimates, budgetary control, accounting and audit, banking, payment of accounts, orders for goods and services, assets, insurance, risk management and such other matters as it considers necessary.

The council shall cause a review of its Financial Regulations to be carried out from time to time and in any event at intervals of not more than three years."

Consideration and adoption of updated Financial Regulations: Cllr Linsdell proposed that the Financial Regulations be adopted. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hickford and agreed by the meeting.

Wind farm update: Cllrs Bald and Hickford had attended the pre enquiry meeting at the South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) offices. The council's views were not recorded

as Section 6 as the council will not employ a barrister. Evidence must be submitted by 21st December. It was agreed to submit the parish council's original response under two headings, Community concerns and A1307. The appeals officer will also consider the A1307 although CCC and SCDC would not debate this issue. Cllr Gore remarked that it may be advantageous to investigate engaging our own independent highways officer.

Correspondence received and for discussion:

BT had responded to queries on the adoption of the telephone kiosk in Rivey Way. Cllr Hickford proposed that the parish council purchase but make no decision on the future of the kiosk. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Krarup. 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.

iPod found

AN iPod was found near the Skateboard ramp on Wednesday 6th January.
Any enquiries should be made to the PCSOs, Chris Pulley or Leanne Allan, at Sawston police station on 0345 456 456 4

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

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

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Dates for full council meetings:

February 4th and 18th, March 4th and 18th 2010

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

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Appeal by Enertrag UK Limited

Land at Little Linton Farm south of Cambridge Road, Linton. Application reference: S/0232/09/F Planning Inspectorate appeal reference: APP/W0530/A/09/2108277/NWF

AN inspector has been appointed by the Secretary of State, under paragraph 1(i) of schedule 6 to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to determine this appeal which is to be decided by way of an inquiry. The inquiry is scheduled to sit for 17 days as follows:

This will commence at 10.00am on Tuesday 2nd February 2010 to Friday 5th February 2010 at Abington Hall Conference Centre, Granta Park, Great Abington, Cambridge, CB21 6GP.

Tuesday 9th February 2010 to Friday 12th February 2010 at The Council Office, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA.

Tuesday 16th February 2010 to Friday 19th February 2010 at Linton Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton, Cambridge, CB21 4JS.

Tuesday 23rd February 2010 to Friday 26th February 2010 at Abington Hall Conference Centre, Granta Park, Great Abington, Cambridge, CB21 6GP.

Tuesday 2nd March 2010 at The Council Office, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA.

Copies of the council's and appellant's proof of evidence and any further representations can be inspected at South Cambridgeshire Hall during office hours. You are advised to telephone beforehand to ensure the relevant documents are available when you visit.

Anyone can attend the inquiry at any time, and come and go as



View from Rivey Hill showing proposed wind turbines

Picture by Roger Shaw

they please, but if anyone wishes to speak they should be at the 10am opening on 2nd February and confirm this with the inspector when he asks the question.

Car parking is provided at Abington Hall and Linton Village Hall. Car parking at South Cambridgeshire District Council is on a first come first serve basis. Please do not park in the visitor car parking bays as these are for short-term parking only.

If you require disabled facilities please telephone 08450 450

500 and ask for the main reception desk to confirm suitable arrangements such as parking, access and seating.

If you wish to be notified of the outcome of the appeal and receive a copy of the decision letter you must write to the Planning Inspectorate at Room 4/04, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN. The council does not notify parties of appeal decisions.

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