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One man and his two dogs

THE hardest thing about being a shepherd for Andrew Rouse was learning to use a shepherd's whistle – a tiny instrument no bigger than a 50 pence piece – used with voice commands to direct his two English border collies Floss and Jess.

Andrew, a shepherd at Hildersham in charge of 200 breeding ewes, has represented England at international sheepdog trials. Although he has won many cups, Andrew's most prized achievements are his two England Team caps, awarded for competing in trials against the top 15 shepherds from each country in the British Isles when he won 5th and 8th place.

Andrew started work at Sawston as a cowman and was clearly good with livestock. Twenty seven years ago he began working at Hildersham Hall for Mr and Mrs Moore and was sent on a course for shepherding in South Molton, Devon. For five years he worked without a dog. He admits with a grin: "There was a lot of running about."

When he was on a shearing job in Norfolk he was offered his first dog, Jill. From there Andrew never looked back. Jill's first litter was born on Boxing Day 1992. With only two bitches in the litter of six pups, and one being white, Andrew said there was no choice and kept the tri-coloured pup he called Mist, which won a big trial



Andrew with Floss (left) and Jess (right). He is wearing one of his England Team caps and the shepherd's whistle hangs around his neck

in 1995.

A pup's training starts at five weeks old when they are first put in with five or six sheep in a paddock. By seven weeks the pup will lie down on command. Andrew's present bitches Floss and Jess are both related to Mist.

Andrew works all week with the Hildersham flock and spends long hours

lambling in the early winter months.

In the spring he is careful to see the flock is safe before travelling to sheep dog trials, which may be held anywhere in the country.

When approaching a site Andrew says he always knows when he is getting near as Floss acts like a built-in navigation system and starts

whining. Andrew says he's not sure whether she can smell the sheep or hear the whistles but she is always right.

Amy, Andrew's 15-year-old daughter, also competes in the trials and is proving to be stiff competition for her father, but that's another story.

Kate France 891602

Picture by Roger Lapwood

Out of school club reaps rich rewards

SUMMER took time to settle around Cambridge but the conditions were perfect for the first edition of Chilford 10K on a Sunday in June.

It didn't take long for the nearly 120 runners to warm up on the lovely route designed around Chilford Hall.

The undulations of the 5K loop offered a tough challenge to those willing to start Father's day with some activity, and whatever choice runners made between 5K and 10K, it was rewarding for them to complete the race.

Linton's running spirit was highlighted by the numbers of local entries, with families and friends supporting them.

A special mention to the McNicholas family of five, who completed the run before sharing a Father's day meal. Not forgetting Fiona Tideswell, who clinched first lady position and received a bottle of sparkling Chilford 100 wine to celebrate.

Even though bodies were pushed to their limits, the beautiful scenery of Chilford Hall vineyard eased the pain, and smiles and laughter fizzed after the finish line.

The success of the event is really rewarding for the Linton out of school club, and staff and children will now be



Winner Fiona Tideswell (right) with Leah Mejias, Bistro Chef manager at Chilford Hall

able to decide how to allocate the funds raised.

Chilford Hall has agreed to work on the 2011 event which is planned to take place on Sunday 12th June. Glen Mejias, General Manager and Director at Chilford Hall, who offered the chance to set

up the race said: "This event is an opportunity for local people to raise much needed funds for a very important local charity".

Congratulations to our runners, sponsors (Advance Performance, Iceni, Jazzercise, LCSC, Next-

north, and Saffron Striders), and please rendez-vous at Chilford Hall on Sunday, 12th June 2011.

If you would like to have the full results and maybe a picture, please email me.

Stephane Toussenet
Chilford10k@gmail.com

Picture by Stephane Toussenet

Unique colleges are captured on film



The elegance of St John's College captured by a new member of the club

Picture by Sheila Rantle

WE are so lucky to have Cambridge on our doorstep and the Linton camera club decided to revisit this month, to capture a few of the lesser known colleges.

Our first stop was Lucy Carden, a small college of approximately 220 students, which caters specifically for women students over 21. This college was established in 1965 and is set in mature gardens, dotted with occasional seating for the students to relax in solitude.

Next we walked to St John's, which was founded in 1511 and is the second largest of the colleges in Cambridge University. This is the home of the Bridge of Sighs which links two courts across the river but the only similarity to its namesake in Venice is that they are both covered bridges. I particularly liked the beautiful vaulted cloisters in the New Court.

The third college we visited, after passing an abundance of punting traffic on the River Cam, was Clare, the second oldest of the Cambridge colleges, dating back to 1356. Despite the recent dry spell, the lawns and gardens were immaculate. After pausing by the lily pond to watch the electric blue dragonflies darting around

the lily pads, we were able to stand quietly next to the open door of the chapel to hear the college choir during the Sunday service.

As Clare was the second oldest, we then walked along Trumpington Street (pausing only to purchase Chelsea buns from Fitzbillies) to the oldest and smallest of the colleges, Peterhouse, founded in 1284. Previous eminent students have included Charles Babbage (who originated the concept of the first programmable computer), James Mason (film star), Richard Baker (broadcaster) and Michael Portillo (politician).

In the beds surrounding the Old Court we found hostas (magically uneaten by slugs), a very tall palm and a huge clump of bamboo, all of which blended perfectly into the rest of the plant life and old buildings around us.

The next club night is a photographic treasure hunt around Linton on Monday 2nd August. Please meet at the Dog & Duck at 7.15pm.

Information about the club can be found on our website: www.lintoncameraclub.org.uk where you can also find details of the next Sunday awayday.

Tracey Wilson 891988

Too good for jumble ...

EQUIPMENT for children is high on the list this month with two good washable high chairs made of metal and plastic and a double twin Mothercare buggy, red and black with foot muffs.

Technology wins through with a Dell Inspiron laptop computer with 12in screen, 30gb hard drive, a Laser Samsung printer ML 6060 with USB or parallel connector, an Epson picturemate photolab and a Panasonic KX-FP205E fax machine, telephone and answer phone with instructions.

The bike rack for a car roof, political 1996 wall map of Europe (100cm x 112cm), child's snooker table and accessories (for up to 14 years old) and the Logitech keyboard are still available.

To buy any of the above or to offer an item to profit a charity, please phone me. NB: The donor chooses the charity to receive the money.

Kate France on 891602 or email on the new address kfrance@prosoundconsult.com (Offers may be negotiable. A second cot was sold for a pound of butter – and a donation to St Mary's church funds.)

THOUGHTS FROM THE GRANTA RANTA

The opinions expressed in this article are not necessarily those of the LN team.

Despite popular opinion, the ranta is NOT written by the same person each month. If you would like to rant in this paper please contact me at the address on page 3.

STRUGGLING to sleep during last month's mini heatwave, it struck me how noisy Linton can be during the evening. Having a head cold certainly doesn't help, but the din from the surrounding streets made my efforts to snooze frustratingly difficult.

After a particularly sticky day, I was dismayed to hear that the night time temperature wouldn't fall below 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Needing to rise early the following day, I went to bed just as the weekly bell ringing stopped reverberating through the streets, leaving me wondering if any other pursuit would be allowed to produce such loud noise pollution without any question of approval.

The next annoyance was the nightly procession of cars revving wildly as their drivers seemed to struggle to control their vehicles in a proper manner along the apparently tricky terrain of the High Street. Why do so many Lintonians find gear changes so taxing?

Shortly after that, the motorcycle with the worst case of flatulence made its regular passage through the village – the rider making a conscious effort to accelerate with a good hearty raspberry at every turn.

At approximately 10.20pm a car alarm sounds with monotonous regularity, letting everyone know on a nightly basis that the owner still has a primitive security system that needs an upgrade.

Approaching the calls for last orders, the raucous laughter from the gentlemen in the beer gardens gets louder, as does the screeching of their better halves. Is it really necessary for us all to share in the joke?

What sounds like the irritating drone of a swarm of wasps threads its path through the village, as mopeds wend their merry way to nowhere in particular. How can such tiny machines produce such a loud noise? It's something of a relief that passenger vehicles don't increase in volume the bigger they are.

During the small hours, the occasional thudding of rapid footsteps starts you wondering why anybody would be running at that time of night. Perhaps they're on their way back from breaking into the pavilion on the recreation ground, or maybe they've simply made some minor adjustments to the parked cars on their route home?

A lot has been made in recent years of the increased noise from Camgrain, as the driers work overtime during the summer months especially. While they are providing an invaluable service to the region's farmers, they are still required by law to adhere to strict noise pollution guidelines, facing penalties if they fail to do so.

The parish council has been involved with the noise issue regarding Camgrain, so I'd like to know if they could look into some of the other, perhaps more annoying, noise issues. If they've stopped squabbling, that is.

Linton ladies' race for life

ON a very hot Sunday in July, 8000 pink ladies ran the streets of Cambridge to raise money for Cancer Research. The 5k route took us through the centre of Cambridge (passing lots of bemused shoppers and tourists), through Kings College finishing on Jesus Green.

There was a fantastic atmosphere, and for anyone wanting to get fit it's a gentle starter run for a great cause. If you'd like to donate, please visit www.raceforlifespansome.org/kerri-lindsay. If you've never done it before, why not get some friends together and sign up for next year?

Lindsay Levin

PLODDING ALONG

An update on police matters

ROGUE traders target the elderly and vulnerable, and deliberately overcharge for unsatisfactory, unnecessary or even no work at all. Work is often left unfinished, property damaged and sometimes intimidation is used to obtain money. We are working with Trading Standards and other agencies to stop and arrest these unscrupulous traders but we need your help.

Have you had cold callers knock at your door touting for business? Have you had flyers advertising services put through your letter box and still have them? Are there any traders that you are unsure about in your area? Do you suspect your neighbour is being targeted by a trader? If you have answered yes to any of these questions we want to know details of the traders and their vehicles.

Contact police on 0345 456 4564 or Trading Standards Consumer Direct on 08454 040506. In an emergency always dial 999. Send any flyers to Adrian Love at Cambridgeshire Trading Standards, Cambridgeshire County Council, PO Box 450, Cambridge, CB23 6ZR. Alternatively contact your neighbourhood policing team.

Two cars were damaged in Mill Lane at 8.20pm on 4th July. A man was seen to smash a window on both vehicles and then make off down Mill Lane towards the A1307. He was described as white, around 6ft, slim, wearing a dark hooded style top and dark bottoms. If anyone has any information about this incident please contact us.

Lead was taken from a conservatory roof at a house situated at the construction site in Horseheath Road, between 4.30pm on 5th July and 8.30am on 6th July.

Please continue to report any antisocial behaviour or suspicious activity in your area.

During the early hours of Thursday 8th July the pavilion on the recreation ground was broken into and a flat screen television was taken from the premises. CCTV has been obtained from the pavilion which shows three male offenders; the footage is being further investigated by local officers.

If you witnessed any suspicious behaviour in this area on

Success for many aspiring thespians

DRAMAWISE has had a wonderful year so far with some outstanding successes. In the Haverhill Speech and Drama Festival our students won over 20 trophies for various drama classes, Shakespeare, poetry, mime etc.

One of our younger students, Tom Howard aged 11, is at present playing on stage in the West End with David Suchet and Zoe Wannamaker in *All My Sons* by Arthur Miller. Another of our old students Richard Woodford, has been playing the lead Galileo in the wonderful Musical *We will Rock You*.

Yet another, Steven Mackintosh, who is to be seen on television in *Luther* has just become our patron.

In June of this year we presented a summer pantomime, *Cinderella* at the Junction with over 70 young people in the cast giving the audiences an enjoyable two hours of fun and laughter.

Many of our students were

in the summer musical at the Cambridge Corn Exchange in July. Our *Cinderella* is playing Cathy, one of the big leads in *Whistle Down The Wind*.

We try at Dramawise sessions to give the students as varied a programme as possible. Next term we will be bringing in specialists for some sessions; one on Physical Theatre one on Stage Fighting and also someone on making films.

If you are interested in your child becoming more confident and having fun enquire at frances.wyse@btinternet.com for more information and to book a place. We do not have auditions as we feel that every child has potential to be great at drama. There will be some places available in September, especially in our youngest section (6yrs-10yrs) from 4.30-6.30pm. All our tutors are CRB checked and either actors or teachers of drama.

Frances Brownlie LGSMLRAM ADB. Principal

the night in question or have any information relating to this crime I would be grateful if you could get in contact with the Neighbourhood Team on 0345 456 4564.

Call 0345 456 4564 for non-emergency incidents.

PCSO 7239 Leanne Fisher, PCSO 7081 Chris Pulley
Linton Neighbourhood Policing Team

THE monthly update for June is about how we are tackling serious acquisitive crime (robbery, burglary and vehicle crime) in your area. It is showing a 5% reduction (56 offences) against the same period last year. There were only two fewer offences compared with June last year.

Reductions in crime are achieved by consistent and focussed work by all departments. Please remember, it's a minority of people committing a majority of crime. We have seen a dramatic increase in the number of people being brought to justice for these offences. Burglary remains a focus for the division. When it comes to vehicle crime we are experiencing a 7.9% reduction, which equates to 50 fewer offences.

Robbery – The figures for robbery show that we have seen an increase of 23.9%; that's an extra 16 offences. In June we recorded one more offence than we did last year. If you have anything to report to police please call 0345 456 4564 or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

DI Andy Gipp, CID, Parkside Police Station

Are our streets getting safer?

A report from the latest neighbourhood police meeting

THE latest police panel meeting was attended by several new faces from across the neighbourhood. After a welcome from police community engagement manager John Fuller, an interesting presentation about Trading Standards was given by Malcolm Taylor, operations manager at Cambridgeshire county council. Mr Taylor explained that Trading Standards has a vast remit, perhaps far greater than people may realise, and are linked to the police with the joint rogue trader and distraction burglary task force.

To help them understand how the general public view them, questionnaires were distributed to the attendees. Sergeant Rebecca Williams and Inspector Chris Savage explained to the meeting how instances of antisocial behaviour were being reduced, following high visibility patrols and meetings with younger people at clubs and schools.

At a previous meeting, it was pointed out that road closures on the A1307 meant increased traffic through our villages, so a question had been raised about possible alternative routes. The

county's traffic management officer discussed the problem with the highways department. Normally, a blocked A-road would require an A-road to be used as a diversion, but that would entail a detour of up to 50 miles, so the matter is still being considered.

Patrols to combat illegal and dangerous parking near the schools have been carried out, with several motorists asked to adopt different practices. It was suggested that similar patrols be made along the High Street as many motorists disregard the yellow lines, particularly when 'just popping into' the shops. Residents were asked to remain vigilant when answering the door to unexpected visitors, and also to take care to ensure no valuable items are left in locked cars. It was announced to the meeting that Julie Spence's replacement as Chief Constable is Simon Parr, who has transferred from the Hertfordshire force.

Residents are welcome to attend the next meeting at Linton Heights school at 7.30pm on Tuesday 21st September.

Owen Barnicoat

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Readers write...

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

Out of control dogs

Dear Editor,
Please can I point out that if dog owners know that their dog is not friendly, or have any doubts about their behaviour then they must be kept on a lead in public open spaces.

I was walking my Labrador in the pocket park this morning and it was attacked by a black/grey dog that we met. The owner (a lady in her 60s) didn't even try to get her dog away from mine and when I split them up, her dog attacked my dog again. I didn't receive any apology, only the pathetic excuse that the dog had been attacked by a dog of a similar colour before – so that makes it all ok does it?

What would have happened if my children had been walking with my dog? Or if the dog didn't like a child's hair colour?

Most dog owners are very responsible, but the ones that aren't give us responsible dog owners a bad name.
Tracy Coston and Oscar, (Fox Red Labrador)
Rivey Way

OUR THANKS

Dear Editor
I would publicly like to thank Camgrain for renovating our WI seat that is a welcome rest for walkers, sited on Rivey Hill.

A local resident brought the distressed state of it to our attention and on a recent WI walk, when Jim Foster took photographs of the damage, caused mainly by the weather, we realised something should be done. At the next meeting I took the photos to show members; it was pure coincidence that the speaker for the evening was Philip Darke from Camgrain.

In passing I mentioned the condition of the bench and showed him the pictures of the damage. He immediately offered to repair it for us. Several locals were concerned when the bench disappeared, but it wasn't gone for very long and Janos, who restored the seat, has done a magnificent job.

Thank you so much Camgrain, Philip Darke, Managing Director and Charles Fairey, Vice-Chairman for arranging the restoration. We are most grateful – the champagne was nice too.
June Bunn,
President Linton Women's Institute

Dear Editor
Carol and Alex Todd would like to thank everyone who supported the coffee morning in aid of Alzheimer's Research Trust held on 10th June. The final total made was the grand sum of £663.
Carol Todd
Hollybush Way

From the oldest to the newest sights in London

theWI INSPIRING WOMEN
PETER Lawrence gave an extremely interesting

illustrated talk at our July meeting on the history of the River Lea. The Lea, originating in Luton, is the oldest navigable river flowing into the Thames at Leamouth.

Over the years it played a very important role in the transportation of goods from East Anglia and Cambridge. Farmers and their waggons from our region would struggle through the tidal river across the flooded marshes of Leyton and Stratford and onto the hay markets that ran along what is now the Bow and Mile End. The original Roman road crossed the Lea at Old Ford, one of the most ancient gateways to the capital. The crossing was so treacherous that eventually Bow Bridge was built, the first in Britain with a stone arch. It was the principal connection between the city and farms and became a notorious traffic black spot with horses and carts taking hours to cross the Lea. Oh so little changes!

We were taken on a pictorial historical tour showing the open marshland, beautiful schooners of the East India Dock Company, the first iron warship *The Warrior* being built, to the present day Olympic site development. Some say the Olympic village will become our own mini

Venice with many new waterways and islands but will there be singing gondoliers?

Seven ladies from Long Melford WI were our special guests that day and enjoyed a guided walk around the historical areas of Linton, a sumptuous late afternoon tea and then met up with everyone for Peter's excellent Lea talk.

As a follow up to the talk there will be an interesting guided tour of the Olympic site. There are still some places available on the coach from Linton on Monday 20th September. If you would like to join us please phone Bel Griffiths, 894149 for details.

A theatrical make-up artist is giving a demonstration at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3rd August in the village hall. This will definitely be great fun.

If you like a gentle walk, come and join us on Thursday 26th August for a visit to Streetley End. Meet at the Dog and Duck at 10am; you do not have to be a WI member.

Never been to a WI event? Not sure about it? Then come as a visitor and see what we are all about. You will be made very welcome.

Trysha Hunt 894533
Linton WI wishes to apologise to Charles Fairey (vice-chair Camgrain) for getting his christian name wrong in the article re the WI bench last month. It was correct in the WI monthly report!



Rita, proudly wearing her award received for services to aviation

Picture by Margaret Clark

Linton pilot receives an award for service

PICTURED in her lovely Linton garden, Rita Boniface is wearing the Jean Lennox Bird Pendant recently presented to her by HRH Duke of York on behalf of the British Women Pilots' Association. The award is given annually to British women pilots who have served aviation over a period of time.

Rita took up flying in 1970 and eventually qualified as an instructor as well as specialising in aerial photography. For many years she has been

Chair of the Association's Awards and Scholarships Subcommittee promoting aviation to all and encouraging young people in particular.

Rita says: "I absolutely loved flying – there's a great sense of freedom, but I've retired completely now. However, during the weekend of the Duxford air show I could not resist walking to the top of Rivey Hill and watching the fly-past – it brought back many pleasant memories!"

Margaret Clark 892093

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NEWS ITEMS Friday 16th August

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

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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.

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.

Please note that we are trying to cut down on the number of weekly activities that are mentioned in the diary, as we felt the list was becoming too large. Therefore we have decided to cut any profit making activities. For sports centre activities please see www.linton-sport-fitness.co.uk or call 890248

WEEKLY

Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays	VH
Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701)	VH
WEA, 10am Tuesdays	VH
Scrabble club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays	Church pavilion
Linton Granta Toddlers, 9.30 - 11.30am Tuesdays	LVC
Ladies' football, 7-8pm Tuesdays	LVC
Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays	CC
Granta duplicate bridge club, 2-4pm Tuesdays	VH
Junior choir, 6pm-6.45pm Tuesdays	St Mary's
IT club, 7pm Tuesdays	CC
Linton children's centre, call 07768 008919	CC
Bowls roll-ups, 2pm Wednesdays Apr-Oct	Bowls pavilion
Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays	VH
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays	VH
Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, 9.15-10am Fridays	Church pavilion
Buffy bus, 11am-12.15pm Fridays	Hadstock village green
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays	CC

For sports centre courses please call Mark Wilson 890248

AUGUST

2 Camera club, 7.15pm	D&D
2-6 Musical theatre workshop, 9.30am - 5pm	LVC
3 WI, 7.30pm	VH
3 LA4Y internet cafe launch, 2pm-7pm	RG
5 ACE's fish and chips lunch, 12 noon	Church pavilion
5 Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC
5 Linton lunch club, 12.15pm	D&D
7 Farmers' market, 9.30am	LVC
8 Camera club to Saffron Walden, 9.30am	Coles Lane car park
8 Wacky cricket, 10.30am onwards	RG
10 VIP meeting, 2pm	Chalklands
12 Barbecue, 7.45pm	3 Cambridge Road
15 Summer music, 2pm-5.30pm	King's Head, Hadstock
18 CAMTAD, 9.30am - 12 noon	HC
19 Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC
11 Friends of St. Mary's tea party, 3pm	4 Harefield Rise
21 Summer fete, 1pm-5pm	Symonds house
26 WI walk, 10am	D&D
30 Friends of St Mary's barbecue, 4.30pm	Richmonds, High St

SEPTEMBER

2 Linton Lunch club, 12 noon	D&D
2 Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC
4 Farmers' market, 9.30am	LVC
6 Camera club, 7.15pm	CC
7 WI, 7.30pm	VH
12 Camera club boat trip, 10am	Coles Lane car park

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

Library times: 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.

Refuse collection: 2nd, 16th, 31st August
Recycling collection: 9th, 23rd August, 6th September.

La Pipelette (Chatterbox)

Un an déjà

LES grandes vacances sont là et je pense à cette année qui est passée. A l'école j'ai apprécié chaque seconde de chaque minute de chaque heure de chaque jour de chaque semaine de chaque mois de l'année. J'ai aimé chaque chose que nous avons faite, la journée égyptienne, le jour du sport, tout. J'ai appris beaucoup de choses.

Pendant les vacances, c'est pareil, je vais profiter pour m'amuser et apprécier chaque seconde de chaque minute de chaque...

Il faut bien profiter de tous les moments, c'est important, en attendant de retourner à l'école pour recommencer.

Bonnes vacances.

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Linton is a blooming lovely village

THE theme of the Flower Festival was What a Wonderful World and how true that turned out to be for this year's event, beautiful sunny weather, fantastic flower displays, fun and enjoyment for all.

On one of the warmest weekends of the summer so far, the people of Linton soaked up the atmosphere on Camping Close as they listened to the sounds of Linton Jazz, sang along with the Linton buskers, tested their fitness on the army assault course and enjoyed the tastes of the best barbecue in town. The dog show was, as ever, a great success, attracting competitors great and small, the Saffron Walden Lions' train transported its delighted passengers, whilst squeals of excitement came from the two bouncy castles.

Over in the school, the restaurant and numerous stalls were popular with those seeking sustenance and shade whilst from the playground balloons rose brightly into the sky. Later, intrepid teddies parachuted from the church tower, to be rewarded with a delicious



The Teddy Bears' Picnic in the glade area of the churchyard

Below, Mickey Mouse jumps from the tower
Pictures by Roger Lapwood

picnic in the glade and a surge of ducks raced down the Granta to bring the day to a close.

In the evening a large audience was entertained in the flower-filled church by some of the many talented young people of Linton with A Little Light Music.

The organisers of the weekend offer their grateful thanks to all who sponsored or supported

us in any way. The festival would not happen without you. Thanks are also due to all who helped with the various activities from the highly enjoyable barn dance on Friday evening to the delicious barbecue at Sunday lunchtime. The weekend was a true community event with so many people entering into the fun. We are sure the dogs, ducks and teddies had a



good time too. We hope to see everyone again next year.
Tricia Lewis, Gill Powell

A winning team

STUDENTS from Linton village college (LVC) achieved an excellent second place at the Swavesey Science Challenge which took place at Swavesey village college in July.

The event, which has been running for 17 years, featured pupils from 19 local schools. Teams of three boys and three girls competed to tackle two practical science tasks and a quiz, each designed to test the students' teamwork and problem solving skills as well as their scientific knowledge.

The LVC team of Heather Charlesworth and Sam Merryweather (year 7), Robert Mitchell and Gemma McGuire (year 8) and Kieran Glassmith and Anya Heath (year 9) scored an impressive 46 points out of 60 to finish in second place, just behind Sawston village college. "The students were a credit to the college and worked really well as a team, despite having only met each other on the morning of the challenge," said science teacher Dr Danielle Redhead.

Tony Kelly 891233 Ext 158, email tony.kelly@lvc.org



Budding scientists; runners-up at a recent challenge

Picture by Tony Kelly

Graduation day for the playgroup and taster sessions for the toddlers



Two very happy graduates enjoy their last day at the playgroup

Picture supplied by Linton Granta playgroup

THURSDAY 15th July marked an important day for Linton Granta Playgroup. The children, who had completed their pre-school year and are due to start at the Infant school in September, graduated from playgroup complete with cap and gowns. The children were presented with pre-school diplomas and a reading book as a memento of their time at playgroup. The children then posed for their graduation photographs.

After a picnic lunch the children were entertained by a magician and a great time was had by all. We hope all the children and parents enjoy the summer and we look forward to seeing some familiar and some new faces in September.

We would also like to remind you that we have our toddler group which is under new management. The toddler group is based in our second playroom with plenty of toys and activities.

The sessions are relaxed and the room is set up to give the little ones more of pre-playgroup experience. We have a weekly theme which ties in with the playgroup and we even have our very own snack café mirrored in the playgroup to introduce early, familiar

sights of the setting.

We have a member of the playgroup staff who visits us with songs and we also provide the opportunity to visit the playgroup for story and play time.

It is a great way for the children to mix with others of similar age and for parents to relax and have a chat, knowing that their children are in a safe environment. It is also a great opportunity for the older children to get used to the surroundings before they start playgroup.

You can come and visit us every Tuesday morning (term-time) between 9.30am and 11.30am.

How to get in touch? You can email us at info@lintongranta-playgroup.org.uk or visit our website which is www.lintongranta-playgroup.org.uk. You can call us during term time on 07806 744864 and for admissions please contact Kirsten Butler on 890861 or email kirstenbutler@gmail.com.

Linette Manns
Linton Granta Playgroup

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A good result in spite of the awful weather



Mary Archer cuts the tape to start the three counties walk.

Pictures supplied by Bartlow village association

A pointer to the three counties



IN seven years of running the three counties walk, this year we had our first wet one. Setting up in sunshine on the Saturday was a pleasure, although perhaps the sky went subtly to grey unnoticed in the evening. However, 2nd May dawned greyer still, gustier too and chilly! No matter, we thought, the ever-improving precision of weather forecasting gives grounds to believe that the rain will have left us by 10am and blue skies would follow.

Not so; the drizzly rain in fact lasted until about lunchtime on the big day, giving way not to sunshine but to an unremitting grey blanket under which the capricious breeze gusted and

edded with an icy malice around the gazebos and smaller tents, pouring water into boxes of maps and certificates, with helpers stationed at windy outposts in fear of hypothermia. Route marshals of 2523 Linton Squadron ATC suffered and many others likewise, stationed at blustery hospitality points around the route.

The hardest of all that day and those deserving of most praise were the 435 girls, boys, adult runners and walkers who turned out in such unpromising conditions and completed the course – whether 13½, nine or one and a half miles, delivering an impressive sponsorship total of £9,000. Short of the fair

weather aspiration of £15,000 perhaps but truly magnificent in the circumstances.

So £3,000 has been presented to each of our three 2010 good causes – Addenbrooke's Paediatric Gastroenterology Department, Linton Health Centre Trust and Bartlow church restoration. This brings the total raised by the three counties walk during its seven years to £58,000. £23,000 each for Addenbrooke's causes, and Bartlow church, and £12,000 for Linton health centre which became part of this event in 2008.

Interestingly, 80 walkers were first-timers, so we must work hard to get them back

again, après le deluge – and also to get our regulars back out in support on 1st May 2011. We have determined that our three causes will be the same. Readers, please note the date and do visit www.bartlow.org.co.uk to see the pictures of this year's event. All are downloadable.

We are grateful for support from so many quarters – the local companies who provided generous sponsorship, the walkers and runners and their myriad individual sponsors, the cadets, the band, formed for the occasion, the many helpers and the farmers and landowners who permitted us to cross the land they care for.

Graham Howat

President's day and wacky races join forces



FOR some years now, Linton Village Cricket Club has held its annual President's Day cricket match at the recreation ground in Linton. Weather permitting, the event has been a fun day out for players and supporters and those just looking to picnic in the sun against a backdrop of a traditional English village cricket scene.

This year, the event will be held on 8th August and it has a new look and feel and should make for a fun day out for all. The cricket club recently combined its junior and senior sections and President's Day will host a junior tournament in the morning from 10.30am and a senior 6-a-side knockout competition in the afternoon starting around 1pm. A chance to see Linton's cricketering talent in action!

To add to the festivities, the Crown Inn's very own Wacky Races will be combined with President's Day. If you haven't seen this madcap group of riders in home-made crazy self-propelled carts racing through Linton, then this is a must see. The contestants line up outside The Crown at 1.30pm, ready

for the start at 2pm sharp. The course is just under a mile long, taking in the High Street, Church lane and Horn Lane before heading down Meadow Lane to the finish line at the pavilion on the recreation ground. En route the competitors endure a soaking at the ford from the local fire brigade and compulsory pit stops for liquid sustenance at the Waggon and Horses and the Dog and Duck. The winning time is expected to be around 15-20 minutes.

The wet, exhausted competitors and their cheering followers can then join in the festivities on the meadow. Refreshments will include a licensed bar, barbecue, teas and ices, and for your entertainment as well as the cricket, there will be side stalls and rides. For those wanting to round off the day with a little musical fun, there's a Karaoke from 6pm until 8pm. Admission to all events is free. Proceeds for the day are in support of Linton village cricket club and Cancer Research UK.

Follow the fortunes of our cricketers and racers and make it a fun family day out.

Barry Bowen, President LVCC

Dont miss the nearly world famous

Wacky Races

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POT POURRI (67)

An ancient expression?

READING a 40 centuries old mathematical text, it was noted that fractional numbers were always expressed as unit fractions. eg. $5/6 = 1/2 + 1/3$ and $3/7 = 1/3 + 1/11 + 1/231$.

Using the square root of 2 to four decimal places, how was this expressed as unit fractions? Remember that this number is irrational, hence the limit to four decimal places.

Solution to No 66 - How can Linton Win?
THE solution is by placing the villages (1 ... 8) equidistant on the circumference of a circle with lines drawn from 1 to 4 and 6 (Abington), likewise for the other villages, then eliminating the path to the unfortunate village. (A geometrical solution that is not as straightforward as it looks).

For Linton to survive, the missiles are launched [1 to 6], [4 to 1], [8 to 3], [7 to 4], [2 to 7], [5 to 2] and finally [8 to 5] this being Linton to Hadstock.

Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF...

Enjoy a local summer fête

SYMONDS House Nursing Home are holding their summer fête from 1pm - 5pm on 21st August.

It promises to be fun for all the family, with many stalls including a bouncy castle, hook a duck, a book stall, tombola, cake stall, jumble and much more.

Shani Bradley, 891237
Day centre/activities co-ordinator

New facilities for Linton's youth

LINTON Action for Youth (LA4Y) is a charitable organisation supported by the County Council, which runs youth provision for young people from Linton.

On 3rd August they are having their Internet café launch at the Drop-in on the recreation ground from 2-7pm.

The café will then be open two afternoons a week for young people and families for refreshments, computer access or toilet facilities.

Everyone is welcome to the launch; please come in and look at the newly refurbished venue on which the young people have worked very hard. From 4-7pm on that day there will also be a climbing wall for the more adventurous of you.

Stephanie Basham

Language courses starting

HAVE you ever thought about learning a new language, whether it be to get you by on holiday, build on your existing knowledge or just for fun? Why not attend the Languages Open Day at the Abington Institute from 10am until noon on Saturday 14th August. The courses running are French, Italian, Spanish and Biblical Greek. Why not pop along to find out more?

Susan Hodges

Summer Sundays at the King's Head

THE legendary British bluegrass band Monroe's Revenge returns to the King's Head, Hadstock, on Sunday 15th August to play in the pub's garden (or inside if it's raining). Landlord Russell Tomlinson will be providing a barbecue from 12.30pm.

The band, who play an exciting brand of driving traditional bluegrass, with lonesome vocals supported by virtuoso banjo, fiddle, mandolin and upright bass, should be on red hot form as they will be arriving fresh from playing a couple of shows at Broadstairs Folk Week, one of the UK's major festivals. Admission is free and the band is scheduled to play from 2-5.30pm.

On 22nd August The Mounthoolies will be playing. The legendary Americana specialists are returning to Hadstock to raise the roof.

Richard Partridge 01440 731936

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A new baby has arrived at Linton zoo

THE Brazilian Tapir is a large heavily built mammal of a strange prehistoric appearance. It is in fact so well adapted to its environment that it has remained unchanged for about 30 million years.

It lives deep in the Brazilian rainforest where, because of the destruction of its habitat and illegal hunting, it has become extinct in part of its range. The tapir is a shy creature taking to water when threatened, where it is able to stay submerged for hours using its long nose to snorkel until such time as it feels safe to surface. They feed on roots and vegetation but never strip a bush bare of its leaves, zigzagging their way through the undergrowth conserving the habitat.

You may be forgiven for thinking that the tapir is some kind of cross between a pig and an elephant but in fact its closest



Aah, isn't she cute

Picture by Colin Edwards

relatives are horses, zebras and rhinos. The colouring is a dark reddish brown but the offspring are covered in white spots and stripes which it will retain until about six months of age; this

would provide a very efficient camouflage in the dappled shade of the forest.

Our adult pair, Shannon and Tanya, arrived here as babies in 1990. Shannon was born at Edinburgh zoo and Tanya at Southport zoo. Both are part of a European breeding programme aimed at saving them from extinction.

On 2nd June Tanya gave birth to a healthy female calf, yet to be named, after a normal 13-month gestation. Shannon and Tanya have previously had 10 calves together which have gone to other zoos as part of that breeding programme and now they are grandparents too. With the birth of calf number 11, we think that Shannon and Tanya may be the most successful pair.

Next time you visit take time to look at these strange creatures because, although shy,

they become curious of quiet observers and will often come up to the fence to investigate their visitors. Tapir are one of the keepers' favourites too; docile and affectionate they love to be scratched and tickled. They hardly need to be touched before they roll over or collapse into a trance.

Although tapir have survived for millions of years, living in harmony with nature, their future in the wild is by no means secure. This species of tapir has recently been declared extinct in part of its original range along the coastal regions of Ecuador, as it hasn't been seen since the mid 1800s. The European breeding programme will provide a safeguard against extinction for these wonderful creatures and the arrival of Linton's latest female ensures another generation.

Kim Simmons



Chef's corner

This month we have Jan Lupton from the farmers' market to thank for our recipe.

Raspberry Eton mess

To serve six, you'll need:

- 1 pint double cream
- 1 lb raspberries
- 8 meringue nests (Waitrose and Marks and Spencer sell meringue nests which are ideal for this – crunchy on the outside with a soft centre)

Crumble the meringues into bite-sized chunks with your hands. Whip the cream into soft peaks and fold in the raspberries and crumbled meringue. Spoon into serving bowls and decorate with a few spare raspberries (sometimes you'll find mint leaves dressing an Eton Mess. Serve immediately.

Jan Lupton

From little chestnuts large acorns will grow



These little cherubs certainly know how to enjoy themselves

Picture by Wendy Hine

THE end of the summer term is always a busy time for the children at the playgroup with preparations for school to fit in around lots of play in the garden. This year we are saying goodbye and good luck to 24 children as they start their new adventures at school.

Our close links with Linton Infant school have hopefully smoothed the process for the children and most seemed very keen to go in for their taster morning on 14th July.

As well as saying goodbye to a large group of children, we are also saying a fond farewell to Anya Brooks.

Anya has been associated with Chestnut playgroup for 13 years; first as a parent, then committee member, general staff member and working her way up to man-

ager. Over this time Anya has put in many hours, both paid and unpaid, into making the playgroup a wonderful place to be. We are sorry to see her go but wish her well with the new direction her life is taking.

Anya leaves behind a very strong staff team that will now be jointly headed by Fiona Cains and Claire Morgan. Places are available for September and beyond. Please contact our admissions officer Karen Graves on 891416 for more details.

Wendy Hine 894788

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Communication is all important

WHEN Angela Stansall approached her 60th birthday, she decided to put off retirement from primary school teaching as she had just returned from Uganda where she had spent the summer holidays working for Link Community Development. There had been wonderful support from Linton Infant school and the Linton community, who helped to raise just over £3000 for Naya-kibete School. On her return she felt energised to continue working until three years ago when she bit the bullet and retired.

Angela now works with

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groups extending communication between people in a variety of ways. She has been lucky to play a minor role in the success of Linton Childrens' Bookfest, where this year she read *Wind in the Willows* to children who were sitting on a beautiful lawn close to a tranquil river. It was the perfect place to share that story – ask any primary school teacher.

As a member of Linton Theatre Workshop she also helped perform Roald Dahl's *Revoltin' Rhymes*, which she enjoyed as she got to dress up as Red Riding Hood and to meet some of the children she used to teach. Linton Theatre Workshop also presented a French farce at the village college in the spring in which Angela played the part of the maid. She said learning the lines of a full length play was hard but well worth the effort. The group is preparing for a new production and would welcome new members.

Most people in the area read the Linton News, but for some this is not possible. Granta Grapevine is a small group of very dedicated people



A lady of many parts

Picture by Georgina Page

who meet monthly to record local news. Angela said that joining the team of the talking newspaper has been inspiring, but reading while being recorded is tricky and as a novice has caused much laughter and retakes. Angela is also a reader volunteer on Wednesday afternoons at

Linton library, which gives her a chance to share in reading and singing with very young children. Sometimes she gets to teach slightly older children again when she is called early in the morning to do supply teaching at the Infant school.

If all of this wasn't enough to keep Angela occupied she also finds time to play mah-jong, attend film courses at Cambridge Arts Cinema and try her hand at Zumba (dancing to Latin American music while keeping fit). In the evenings she likes to walk her two ancient Cavalier spaniels by the Granta and feels very privileged to be living in Linton. She says: "It is wonderful to be part of this community and to be able to share in the life of the village since I retired, spending my time with so many great people. I'm keeping a return to Uganda on the back burner though, so watch this space".

Georgina Page

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This month it's the turn of the woodpecker

FOLLOWING appreciative comments from last month's article I will continue with the great spotted woodpecker, as a family has been feeding in my garden recently and the antics of the youngsters have been lovely to watch. Once again the text is exactly as printed in the book.

The Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*.

Crown and upper plumage black; a crimson patch on the back of the head, a white spot on each side of the neck; scapulars, lesser wing-coverts, and under plumage white; abdomen and under tail-coverts crimson; iris red. Female – without the crimson on the head. Length nine inches and a half; breadth fourteen inches. Eggs glossy white.

In habits this bird closely resembles the Green Woodpecker. It is of less common occurrence, but by no means rare, especially in the wooded

districts of the southern and midland counties. A writer in the Zoologist is of the opinion that it shows a decided partiality to fallen timber. "In 1849" he says, "a considerable number of trees were cut down in an open part of the country, which were eventually drawn together and piled in lots. These lay for some time, and were visited almost daily by Great Spotted Woodpeckers.

Their habits and manners were very amusing, especially whilst searching for food. They alighted on the timber, placed the body in a particular position, generally with the head downward" (differing in this respect from the Green Woodpecker), "and commenced pecking away at the bark. Piece by piece it fell under their bills, as chips from the axe of a woodman.

Upon examining the bark, I found that the pieces were chipped away in order that the

bird might arrive at a small white grub which lay snugly embedded in the bark; and the adroitness of the bird in finding out those portions of it which contained the greatest number of grubs, was certainly very extraordinary. Where the birds were most at work on a particular tree, I shelled off the bark and found nearly thirty grubs in nine square inches; but on shelling off another portion from the same tree, which remained untouched, no grub was visible. Yet how the bird could ascertain precisely where his food lay was singular, as in both cases the surface of the bark appeared the same and bore no traces of having been perforated by insects.

During the day one bird chipped off a piece thirty inches long and twenty wide – a considerable day's work for so small a workman." Another observer states that this bird rarely descends to the ground,

and affects the upper branches of trees in preference to the lower. Its note is like that of the Green Woodpecker. Both species are charged with resorting to gardens and orchards during the fruit season, not in quest of insect food; but no instance of this has come under my own notice. It is said, too, that they eat nuts. This statement is most probably correct. I myself doubt whether there are many birds of any sort which can resist a walnut; (I can vouch that they eat my peanuts too, WF.) and I would recommend any one who is hospitably disposed towards the birds which frequent his garden, to strew the ground with fragments of these nuts.

To birds who are exclusively vegetarians, if indeed there be any such indigenous to Britain, they are a natural article of diet, and as from their oily nature they approximate to animal matter, they are most accept-

able to insectivorous birds. They have an advantage over almost every other kind of food thus exposed, that they are not liable to be appropriated as scraps of meat and bread are, by prowling cats and dogs. A walnut, suspended from the bough of a tree by a string, will soon attract the notice of some inquisitive Tit, and, when once detected, will not fail to receive the visits of all birds of the same family which frequent the neighbourhood. A more amusing pendulum can scarcely be devised. To ensure the success of the experiment, a small portion of the shell should be removed.

Wendy Foster



The adult female feeding a very young male on the nuts in my garden. Can you see him?

Picture by Wendy Foster

Another of Linton's barns lovingly restored

ORIGINALLY a single story cart shed at the rear of the Griffin Inn, the Old Black Feather Board Barn is now many years later a two storey annexe divided between our house No 4 Market Lane (Hetty's House) and its neighbour No 2. Our section of the barn is the smallest piece, the west gable end closest to No 6 Market Lane. The rest of it stretches from behind No 2 into Holttums Yard. During its life it has been used as a store room for Holttums & Son's – and later International Stores. The existing garage of the barn today was at one time a garage for 35 High Street which was accessed from the other side.

With a little guidance from Garth Collard and some friendly neighbours I found it very interesting to trace some of the history of the barn. Our section was originally a cart shed possibly as far back as 1575 when the Griffin Inn was first recorded. The picture featured (date not known) from the Cambridge Collection shows the majority of the existing barn as a two storey structure from the archway between Holttums Yard and the High Street. The picture also shows a second barn since demolished. This barn is also in the picture of Little Joiners

Farm around 1910 in the Linton in Pictures book.

Two independent sources believe that ships' timbers were used to build the cart shed, which I hope is true. An original brick floor has been retained and relaid over the new damp proof layer and under floor insulation. More of this type of brick floor can be seen at the side of Little Joiners Farm, now No 6 Market Lane and across in the garden of No 12 in an area that could have been a village wash house.

Many of the beams in the barn have had to be covered by insulation and sound proofing to meet the requirements of building regulations. The beams that could be left exposed show the signs and marks of a long and interesting life. Two names can clearly be seen carved into one but unfortunately no dates. I wonder when and what Crisp and Mallyon were doing in the cart shed when they carved their names.

Having bought No 4 Market Lane in 2007 and almost immediately starting the planning application process for the renovation, work at last started in October 2009. We held a party for all our friends and neighbours this May to celebrate finishing the barn.



Friends and neighbours toasting the conversion

Picture supplied by Michelle Rhodes

Originally we moved to Linton to be in the best location for our work. Also the house and barn combination was an opportunity for Michelle to carry out another redesign and renovation project. We thought we would only be staying a few years before work and careers created an opportunity to move house again. However we are so happy in Linton and like our new life here so much we have decided to stay, which now gives Michelle the opportunity

to set up her own business designing and managing renovations and property projects full-time. We would be happy to hear from the original Crisp and Mallyon or their descendants if they would like to re-visit their carvings for old time sake and from anyone who has a story to tell or picture of the barn.

Michelle & John Rhodes



A picture of the barn as it was in 1910 also showing the second barn now demolished.

Picture courtesy the Cambridge Collection

Helping sick teenagers to cope

STUDENTS at LVC raised over £2,370 for the Teenage Cancer Trust by organising a fete and fun run in July. The event, which was planned entirely by members of 9HP tutor group, was inspired by a member of their class who was diagnosed with cancer last year.

"We wanted to raise money for TCT to help young people with cancer to be teenagers again," said Georgina McGovern, 14, one of the organisers.

"This was a fantastic effort by the students who worked incredibly hard to make this event a success and raise money for a cause which is close to their hearts," said 9HP tutor Helena Perry.

Tony Kelly

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The Derbyshire Post



WHEN the Derbyshire Post is published we will be in the midst of the relative down time that is the summer holiday, but things have been really busy. In the first week of July there was very little point in going home at all and the main concern we had was whether we would retain the energy required to look alert and cheerful at all the events we had planned. Having said that, it was the most exhilarating week I've ever had here. This was how the diary read (I've not bothered to include the lessons taught each day or the usual rounds of meetings and assemblies).

Weekend of 25th – 27th June

Duke of Edinburgh expedition to the Peak District. 70 students in Year 10 take part.

Monday

Many tired staff and students begin the 'working' week.

Tuesday

Trip to Walton on the Naze.

Two evening governor meetings. Home 9.30pm.

Wednesday

Summer soirée: music department concert 7.30 - 9.30pm.

Thursday

5.20am arrive in school to go to Ypres in Belgium for pop choir trip.

Friday

Arrive back in Linton 12.20am.

Year 11 Ball 7 – 11 pm.

Saturday

Arrive at school at 8.30am for fete and fun run. Home at 1.30pm. We raised £2,300 for the Teenage Cancer Trust.

Every event went surprisingly well. The Duke of Edinburgh trip was a supreme success and gave many of our young people their first experience of hill walking and setting up camp. The summer concert was delightful, as was the pop choir trip that followed the next day. The Year 11 ball was, once more, splendid; the students had a brilliant time, they looked fabulous and it was lovely to see so many people in our community come down to see the grand arrivals in the ever more witty and enterprising forms of transport that the students had arranged. For me, however, the best event was the last. It wasn't the grandest or the most well attended, but the fun run and fete was the realisation of an idea by 9HP, a Year 9 tutor group. They wished to demonstrate their strength of feeling about teenagers fighting cancer. Students at the college have fought this disease very bravely and the money raised by the event will help other young people to cope too.

Adrenalin must have carried us through, but we are now enjoying a more restful few weeks.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal

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- S/0932/10/A Linton Parish Council, Land to the south east of 33 High Street, Linton. Notice/information board.
- S/1063/10/A Linton Parish Council, Car park, Coles Lane, Linton. Notice/information board.
- S/1063/10/A Linton Parish Council, Land to the east of St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Linton. Notice/information board.

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The Way We Were by Garth Collard

Bull House, No 42 High Street, Linton



A 1913 picture of Bull House

Picture courtesy the Cambs collection

THE house is surrounded by a large close of pasture land, which nowadays includes Dr Bertram's orchard, and originally stretched to the river and to Horn Lane. The house itself was remodelled and re-fronted in the 18th century. At the rear, you can still see the brick gables of the 17th century house. Some windows have been bricked over to avoid the window tax.

The house is shown on both the 1600 manorial maps of Linton. The former Great Linton manor house was built on the higher ground closer to Horn Lane and was in ruins by Tudor times; the close and Bull House remained in the ownership of the manorial lords until 1772. Bull House was known as The Bull Inn or The Black Bull Inn by the 18th century and was a meeting place for the local gentry.

The close at the rear was used to stage cock fights by Robert

King in the 1730s. He became a drunkard and gambled away a family fortune of £200,000. The cock fights were competitive and attracted large bets. One contest between the gentlemen of Linton and Newmarket involved 30 fights, with an additional fight if the contest was tied. Robert King later committed suicide by drowning

in the Serpentine lake in Hyde Park, London.

Robert King's Linton estates were sold and Bull House was purchased by Robert Taylor. He was a farmer, tanner and maltster, with large land holdings in Horseheath. His malting stretched all the way from the High Street to Horn Lane. In the late 1770s he let the house to

George Lodge, who established Linton school there. For 18 guineas a year, young men were boarded and educated in the classics and in commercial subjects. The school later moved to No 3 Church Lane. The French master in 1803 was an émigré who had fled the French Revolution and was given shelter at Sawston Hall.

In the mid 19th century, Bull House was purchased by William Day, who was a builder and undertaker residing on the present day Paintin's site. He sold the property for £800 in 1942. The new owner was Augustus Did-Dell, whose daughter married into the Paintin family. In the 20th century, the owners allowed the day schools, Sunday schools and churches to use the grounds for parties and socials. The danger of flooding has stopped new housing from being built on the frontage going down to the river.

LVC girls' cricket team are county champions

TWO teams of girls from Linton village college (LVC) were crowned county champions in July at the historic Fenners cricket ground in Cambridge.

The year 7 girls, captained by Rebecca Free, 12, won the championship with victory against St Bede's School, Cambridge. The year 9 girls, captained by Ellie West, 14, narrowly lost their first two games but still managed to win their league to become county champions after some big hitting by Sophie Allen in the final game.

"These girls have been a pleasure to teach," said John Maddock, head of PE at LVC. "Most of them had not played cricket before this term but they will always remember this special day at Fenners. I hope that some of them go on to play for their local village clubs as they undoubtedly have the skills and talent."

The year 8 girls, captained by Jasmin Mills and coached by year 10 junior sports leader Sam Hawley, came fifth in their competition.



The champions at the famous Fenners cricket ground

Picture supplied by LVC

The year 8 boys' team, captained by Luke Barkes, also played some outstanding cricket and finished as runners-up after losing the final to their local rivals from Sawston village college.

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Parish Council Matters

The parish council 50 years ago

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

LOOKING back to the Linton parish council of 1960, it is interesting to see the differences between then and now. Fifty years ago the powers of parish councils were modest compared to those of today. The council, which then held all its meetings at the village college, met only once every two months. Today the council meets twice monthly, except for August and December, at the Cathodeon centre.

For the benefit of old Lintonians, I list the councillors who served in 1960:- Kenneth Paintin (chairman), Mrs Rosalind Swannell (vice-chairman), Ernest Bullman, John Collier, Gerald Fairey, Harold Fairey, Frank Kitteridge, Michael O'Loughlin, Edgar Morley, Miss Gwen Samuels, Bert Sneezum, 'Peter' Taylor, Sam Taylor, George Wass and Vic Wilson. I am sure the above names will bring back memories to many.

The first meeting of 1960 was of the finance sub-committee to consider the precept (budget) for the financial year April 1960 - March 1961. The meeting was chaired by Ernest Bullman and after a full discussion the precept was fixed at £750 (the figure for 2010 was £135,659).

A meeting of the full council took place on the same evening chaired by Kenneth Paintin.

The inadequate bus service operated by Eastern Counties Bus Company was one of the main items on the agenda. Mrs Swannell reported that public meetings had taken place at Linton and Babraham with bus officials and parish councils on the Cambridge - Haverhill route to achieve improvements in the service, especially in the evenings. She felt that no guarantees for an improved service had been received. The council agreed to meet the room hire cost for Linton of 3s.6d. (17½ pence).

Street lighting was a matter of concern in 1960 and a council sub-committee met six times during the year, including a get-together with Eastern Electricity officials, to review needs and up-dating of existing lights. Additional lighting in Bartlow Road and Balsham Road was considered vital.

The provision of a bus shelter at The Swan (near the river bridge) was discussed and the clerk, Mrs Brenda MacInnes, was asked to obtain estimates.

The next council meeting took place on 28th March when more discussion took place on street lighting - Joiners Road being specially mentioned. It had been agreed to enter the Best Kept Village competition and a special meeting was called to gain support for the idea.

Road safety at the junction of Back Road and Symond's Lane was passed to the county council who said work was budgeted for 1961-1962. Harold Fairey was re-elected as a governor of the village college.

The annual parish meeting took place on 23rd May with Mr Paintin and Mrs Swannell both re-elected to their posts. New committees were formed for the finance and general purposes, street lighting, cemetery and recreation ground - the latter being also responsible for Westrope Meadow (now the area behind the sports pavilion).

The county council urged the parish council to send a protest against the move to create county borough status. This was duly sent and in the meeting of 20th July the clerk reported that 745 signatures had been secured after a house-to-house collection.

The state of Westrope Meadow was discussed and a full grass cut was approved at a maximum cost of £10.

A survey of street lighting was completed by Eastern Electricity. New lights in Bartlow Road and Balsham Road were approved to be paid in full when work completed. A light near



Two pictures of Westrope Meadow as it is today

Pictures by Sue Parry



old peoples bungalows in Chalklands was also approved.

The 28th September meeting approved the closure of a footpath from the recreation ground across the middle of Westrope Meadow to the clapper stile so that the area could be fenced for the grazing of cattle. Permission of the county council and South Cambridgeshire rural district council was being sought.

Development on land on the east side of Green Lane proposed by the town and country planning was opposed by the council. This was followed in the final meeting, on 30th November, by information and maps for a housing development off Bartlow Road. The only comment on the latter was the council did not have grass cutting facilities.

In the Best Kept Village competition Linton received 54 points out of 100.

The council was informed by the War Graves Commission that the remains of three German POWs were to be taken to a new German war cemetery in Staffordshire.

The council complained about the state of roads and paths in the village, naming Balsham Road, Symond's Lane, Meadow Lane, Back Road and Joiners Road - things do not appear to have changed much!

The final item discussed was the possibility of a one way road to Saffron Walden being cut through on the left hand side of the grassed area at the Green Hill to relieve the junction. Old Lintonians may understand such a proposal. A letter to the county council calling for a by-pass for the village seems to have received a more positive outcome.

Cllr John Linsdell

Dog fouling

UNDER the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 it is generally an offence for anyone in charge of a dog to allow it to foul unless they clear it up. If there is a persistent problem with dog fouling in your area there are a number of options:

South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) can investigate, issue warnings, fixed penalty notices or even prosecute persons in charge who fail to clear up after their dog, providing you know who

that person is, have witnessed the incident and are prepared to give a statement and possibly go to court.

SCDC can assess whether there are adequate facilities for the disposal of dog mess in the vicinity.

SCDC can arrange for ad-hoc clearances of heavily fouled areas.

Contact the environmental health department on 03450 450063.

Parish council office

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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Council minutes council minutes council minutes council minutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon centre on Thursday 17th June 2010.

Present: Ms E Cornell (chair), Mrs E Bald (vice chair), M Gee, R Hickford, Ms T Hunt, J Linsdell, G Potter and Mrs S Parry (clerk). County and district councillor J Batchelor, district councillor Mrs T Bear and Mrs K France (press) were also in attendance together with eight members of the public.

Public forum: Mr S Wells queried the offer of tree planting in residents' gardens to screen Nichols Court. The chair replied that this offer had been made by the developer but had been deemed unsatisfactory. Concerns were also raised that the car park area was much higher than the public footpath and therefore users could be choked by car exhaust fumes. No date had been set for residents to visit the building and Sanctuary Hereward would be reminded of this request. South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) would be contacted to determine if building levels were true to the plans. Mrs S Dew asked why EDF Energy had been allowed to move their heavy duty cabling from the agreed route and why did they not realise that this area had been set aside for tree planting.

Apologies for absence were received from councillors Cox, Krarup and Wilson.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd June: Cllr Bald, on behalf of residents, thanked Mr Fauch of the highways department for his swift action in repairing the potholes in Chalklands.

Interim response from SCDC regarding the Nichols Court complaint: It was agreed that SCDC would be asked the following questions in response. Would they: confirm that the planning application for the lighting would be a public consultation; confirm the name of the case officer so that a meeting could be arranged; consult the parish council when considering an alternative tree planting scheme; confirm why EDF Energy was allowed to place the cabling in a position already set aside for tree planting and screening; confirm the results of the height and level checks; confirm timescales for answers.

Report from police and consideration of policing, safety and security issues: The county council had requested clarification of comments made in respect of the planning application to extend the Cathodeon centre. The council reiterated their concerns regarding safety when accessing the building via the back entrance and resolved to continue to object to the application for this reason. Cllr Potter commented that he also had concerns regarding the bike shelter to be situated on a pathway and hawthorn to be planted in a children's play area. A request had been received from the trustees of the Cathodeon centre to plant trees on the open space at Parsonage Way. In their opinion, the Cathodeon site could not accommodate any further tree planting which was required under planning guidance. Cllr Potter had concerns regarding the line of walnut trees on the open space which could be spoilt if further planting was allowed in that area. It was resolved that the parish council would be happy to accommodate more trees but they would wish to decide where they would be planted.

Cllr Hickford reported that the parish council was helping The Crown Inn to organise the temporary road closure for the 'Wacky Races'. The police no longer dealt with this issue as it had been delegated to a traffic management company which might prove costly.

Report from the county councillor: Cllr Hickford asked Cllr Batchelor why, in light of the findings of AECOM's report, he had not objected to the wind farm application in respect of road safety on the A1307. Cllr Batchelor responded that he had not objected and only lodged a concern about driver distraction. This was after discussing the issue with the county council and deciding to agree with their conclusion that road safety would not be compromised.

Cllr Cornell reported that many residents wished to thank the highways team who had been very considerate and hard working following the recent resurfacing work.

Report from the district councillors: Several residents had complained that their green wheelie bin had not been emptied. Anyone experiencing this problem should contact Cllr Bear as

she was compiling evidence.

Written reports from council representatives: Cllr Hickford explained that a rebuttal statement had been received from Enertrag regarding highway issues. A nine day extension to the timetable had been agreed but SCDC had not advised the parish council of this change. The rebuttal statement had been sent to AECOM by courier but the deadline for comment would be difficult to meet. Consequently the inspector had now agreed to an extension of the Statement of Common Ground until midday on 30th June with the time estimates for speaking at the inquiry to be submitted by midday on 6th July.

Cllr Hickford proposed that the parish council proceeds to call an expert witness to the wind farm public inquiry, if deemed necessary. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gee and resolved by the meeting.

Consideration of co-option of new members to the council: It was agreed that Mr David Champion, Mr Brian Manley and Mrs Sally Dew be co-opted on to the council.

Correspondence received and for discussion: Mr B Hunt had further concerns regarding the proposed pavilion extension. The council reiterated that no plans had been seen or approved. It was unlikely that there would be a drastic increase in the size of the main room however it was hoped that the toilet facilities would be improved and a disabled toilet installed. A storage area would also be included. As statutory consultees the parish council would treat this application the same as any other application. The council is not aware in advance of any Temporary Event Notices.

Comments from the trustees of Linton Action for Youth (LA4Y) were considered. Cllr Potter said that he was unaware of what Cllr Hickford was purported to have done as no substantive evidence had been received. The minutes were first requested in October 2009. Communication channels were opened and LA4Y agreed to work in partnership with the council. LA4Y had now backtracked on their guarantees given prior to receiving their grant.

Reports from councillors (for information only): Cllrs Bald and Hunt wished to promote the idea of a community orchard, a single tree on a development could be considered.

Cllr Hickford reported that a letter of apology had been received from Mr Koch, SCDC, regarding the revised wind farm timetable.

Cllr Bald was trying to ascertain ownership of the cobbled area at the corner of Market Lane and the High Street by the telephone box. Would anyone with information please contact Cllr Bald.

The status of the Chalklands meeting room had been queried and it was not clear whether it was for the sole use of residents in sheltered accommodation. Would anyone with information please contact Cllr Bald.

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon centre on Thursday 1st July 2010.

Present: Ms E Cornell (chair), D Champion, Mrs S Dew, M Gee, R Hickford, Ms T Hunt, J Linsdell, B Manley, G Potter, Mrs J Wilson and Mrs S Parry (clerk). Mrs K France (press) was also in attendance.

Apologies for absence were received from councillors Bald, Cox and Krarup.

Welcome: The new councillors, Mr David Champion, Mr Brian Manley and Mrs Sally Dew were welcomed to the council. Their declaration of acceptance of office forms were signed. Mrs Dew was confirmed as being a member of the planning committee. A full list of committees would be sent out so that the new councillors could decide whether they wished to join any of them.

Declaration of interests from members: Cllr Hickford expressed a personal interest under the agenda item on Linton Action for Youth (LA4Y).

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 17th June: It was noted that the Statement of Common Ground had been sent by AECOM to the planning inspector. It was agreed to request acknowledgement of receipt.

Reports from co-ordinators: Recreation ground: Update on pavilion extension - Cllr Man-

ley reported that a meeting of the users to discuss the proposed pavilion extension would take place shortly. Cllr Potter reported that the Meadow Lane gate needed to be re-hung and help would be required with this. Cllr Hickford offered his help. Cllr Potter reported that trees between the two storage containers were overhanging the path and the situation would be monitored. Cllr Hickford offered to paint the white railings at the bottom of Joiners Road and this was agreed with thanks.

Cemetery: A memorial request was considered. It was agreed that the memorial now complied with the cemetery regulations however no regulation currently existed for the depth of a plinth of a memorial and this would need to be added to the regulations. Cllr Gee proposed that the memorial be permitted subject to confirmation from Hibbitt and Sons Masonry Ltd that permission to use the trademark name 'Guinness' had been received. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hickford and resolved by the meeting.

A request for a memorial seat was considered. Cllr Gee proposed that a backless granite bench be permitted. This could be placed under the tree at the foot of the grave. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hunt and resolved by the meeting. Hibbitt and Sons Masonry Ltd would be advised of the precise positioning of the bench and no fee would be charged by the council.

Venture playground: It was confirmed that a quotation for minor repairs to various pieces of play equipment had been received. Cllr Potter reported that the aerial runway had again become stuck and could not be used. It appeared that no tyre or spring break had been fitted and this was being investigated. The levelling of the ground around the skate ramp area would be reviewed.

A1307, traffic and recreation ground parking: Cllr Champion requested information relating to speeding data at the junction of Bartlow Road and the A1307 since the speed limit had been reduced to 50mph. Cllr Champion requested that a concave mirror be erected to ease access from the health centre into Coles Lane. The clerk will contact the highways department to see if this is feasible. Cllr Hickford reported that the junior school was seeking funding to erect an IN and OUT sign on the access road off Wheatsheaf Way.

Churchyard wall: Three quotations to rebuild the churchyard wall were considered. Cllr Potter proposed that the quotation from Landmark Restoration be accepted. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hunt and resolved by the meeting.

Review of Cathodeon centre extension proposal: Discussion took place and it was felt that there was no substantive reason why the entrance could not be relocated to the front of the building and the trustees had not considered the safety or the needs of the users. However the council did not wish to jeopardise the project. It was agreed to investigate how these concerns could be addressed. No decision could be made at this meeting. A proposal would be placed on the agenda for 15th July and a member of the trustees would be invited to the meeting.

Consideration of co-option of new member to the council: It was agreed that Ms Merrie Mannassi be co-opted on to the council.

Correspondence received and for discussion: Aztecs junior football club (JFC) had returned a donation of £50 due to late cancellation of an event. Cllr Potter proposed that Aztecs JFC be allowed to keep this donation as sponsorship for their next event later in the month. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hickford and resolved by the meeting.

LA4Y consideration of response to request for information. Cllr Cornell reported that she and the clerk had met with the trustees of LA4Y at the Drop-in centre on 29th June. LA4Y had been given information which showed that their allegations were unfounded. Concerns were raised that youth provision would be severely affected due to budget cuts.

Reports from councillors (for information only): The clerk reported that responses from the pavilion users regarding the names of key holders to the Meadow Lane gate had been received although a response from the senior Aztecs team was still outstanding.

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

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