

Articles [New Town](#), [Fireworks](#), [Parish Council Report](#), [Concert](#), [Charity Dancing](#), [Sports Centre](#), [Mobile Warden](#), [Lifelong Learning](#), [WI Harvest](#), [High Street Traffic](#), [Computer Club](#), [Talking Book](#), [Rector Departs](#), [Church Contacts](#), [Camera Club](#), [History Society](#), [New Gallery](#), [African Splash](#), [Combine Harvester- Bowlers](#), [Bush Telegraph](#), [Shape up at the College](#), [Community Charges](#), [K-Club](#), [Country Diary](#), [Friends](#)

Readers Write:, [Generous Offer](#), [Bingo](#), [Health Appeal](#), [Comment or Political](#), [Memories of Horn Lane](#), [Flaxfields Outing](#), [Glorious Day Out](#)

NEW TOWN: Now is the time to act [Top](#)



THE Stop Abington New Town Action Group has been busy promoting its opposition to the possible development of a 6,000-house town on Linton's western boundary as the Government demand for a new town turns into a two-horse race between Abington and Oakington – and South Cambs District Council prepares to make its choice on 4th October.

At a public meeting at Linton Village College on 17th September Peter Studdert, Director of Planning, spoke on Cambridge City Council's proposals for an eastern expansion of the city.

The plan would be to extend along the Newmarket Road, developing Marshalls airport site and swallowing-up Teversham and Fulbourn.

Eighteen thousand houses could be accommodated, 10,000 on the airport site and the remaining 8,000 spread between the existing villages.

In effect this would bring the built-up edge of the city out to Marshalls and create two very large villages separated from the city by "green fingers" and open countryside.

Mr Studdert argued that if this project were allowed to go ahead it would bring into question the need for

a new town that would be relatively remote from the city.

There are problems with this proposal, just as there are with all the others, not least the fact that the vast majority of the area proposed for development is not in the city at all but is part of South Cambs district. The district council does not support the Teversham/Fulbourn proposal as it considers its priority is to protect the integrity of its 101 villages.

It does support the expansion of the city and has indicated that the preferred option should be development of carefully selected sections of the green belt where it would do the least damage to the important setting of the city.

In this way it would be possible to expand by some 12,000 houses, allowing a 25% increase in the population of Cambridge.

None of this helps Abington. The Government directive requires a new town and, realistically, a site will have to be identified from those that have already been shortlisted. The shortlist was Oakington, Abington, Waterbeach and Childerley Gate.

Childerley Gate has been withdrawn from consideration by the landowner and it seems as though the drainage problems associated with Waterbeach will bring into question the financial viability of that site. This leaves just two sites.

The favourite is certainly Oakington but you never know the outcome until the race is run.

When the district council has made its choice on 4th October at a special meeting of the full council, the decision will be with Cambridge County Council. We expect to hear the county council's view in December.

Now is the time to influence things. Keep up the good work and keep lobbying the County.

John Batchelor

District Councillor

MORE than 300 villagers from Linton, Hildersham, the Abingtons and the surrounding area last month enjoyed the first major event (picture above) to raise funds to fight the Abington new town proposals, which could see as many as 10,000 homes built between Linton and Fourwentways.

A hog roast organised by SANT (Stop Abington New Town) was held on Sunday 16th September at Chilford Hall Vineyard.

The rain promised by the forecasters held off, and everybody had a great afternoon. Speaking for SANT, Geoff Harvey thanked Sam Alper of Chilford Hall for providing the venue, and everyone who had helped to make the event a success.

For more information, visit the SANT website at www.sant-cambs.org.uk or contact one of the SANT team (after 8pm please!):

Dave Taylor

HOW YOU CAN HELP FIREWORK DISPLAY [Top](#)

THE 2001 Linton Fireworks will take place on Saturday 3rd November, and to make it a success we will need your help.

This will be our 12th Linton firework display. Over the past 11 years we have raised a staggering £49,000, which has been split between the Infants' School, Linton Heights Junior School and Linton Village College, benefiting all the children.

An amazing £6,000 was raised last year alone, and in the last four years we have had 4,000 people attending each year. This year we are very kindly supported again by Camgrain who since 1996 have donated £4,000.

The event takes place on the Infants' School playing field, with admission from 6.30pm and the bonfire lit at 7.15pm. The fireworks start soon after, when everyone has gained entry.

As well as the spectacular fireworks, there will be a giant bonfire, mega BBQ, and side stalls. A feature lacking enthusiasm in the past is the Guy Competition — let's see if we can have a few more entries this year!

Safety is a prime consideration, so please could Linton residents leave their cars at home to minimise traffic congestion. No fireworks can be brought into the display for safety reasons — and this includes

sparklers.

Advance tickets can be purchased at a slight reduction from the three schools, Sweet Talk News and Hale and Jacobs in Linton, Balsham Post Office, Linton Post Office and the farm shop at Hill Farm, Castle Camps. Full priced tickets will be available at the gate.

We can use volunteers to help especially between midday and 4pm on the 3rd . Let us know if you are able to lend a hand.

With the ever-increasing popularity of the event and the constant need to regard safety as our number one priority we may need to restrict the amount of material accepted for the bonfire. Any material can be accepted, at the organiser's discretion, up till 12 noon on the day (paper and card only until 10am).

For information please contact: Alan King, 9 Fairfield Way, Linton, or visit www.linton-fireworks.org.
Alan King

The PARISH COUNCIL Reported by GRAHAM POTTER [Top](#)

THE refurbishment of Horn Lane continues; the brick work is about to start. A large branch has fallen off one of the trees on the recreation ground. This will be referred to the tree warden. Due to the large amount of media attention we have found another local craftsman who is willing to mend the clapper stile. Landscaping has started on the recreation ground but the earth is being moved and piled up by youths. This will increase costs and could jeopardise the installation of any new equipment (for example, skateboard facilities).

The Council agreed that Linton Parish Council is opposed to the proposal to build 10,000 houses at Abington, and against any large-scale development between Haverhill and Fourwentways. The Sub Regional Study can be consulted at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk. Option 3a of this document is relevant to Linton.

Council agreed to assist funding for a new 10-week scheme of activities for senior citizens.

It was reported that youths are again congregating at the Copperfields estate and causing problems. There is also considerable speeding in the High Street at nights, which will be reported to the police. The force has recruited more officers so the village may now see more of a police presence. Only seven crimes were reported in August.

The District Councillor reported on a number of road safety projects including consideration of a right turn into the Granta filling station and traffic lights at the top of the High Street. He also reported on the future of bus services and a possible relocation of Cambridge Bus station, as it is becoming increasingly difficult to drop off and pick up passengers at Drummer Street.

A CONCERT TO REMEMBER [Top](#)

THE London Community Gospel Choir will be at Balsham Parish Church at 8pm on Saturday 20th October. The dynamic sounds and rich harmonies of this choir have enthralled and uplifted audiences all over the world. They have played with top artists like Elton John and Sting, they've performed for Nelson Mandela, were on the soundtrack of Walt Disney's The Lion King and in 1998 were top of the bill at the BBC Proms. Expect a mesmerising mixture of up-tempo gospel, swing-beat and soulful arrangements of traditional songs.

Trish Bear

DANCING FOR CHARITY [Top](#)

A DANCE will be held at Linton Village College on Saturday 13th October 2001 in aid of the Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Dancing will be to the Harmony Sound Dance Band from 7.30pm until 11.30pm and tickets are available from Madeline and Mervyn Mallyon

Madeline Mallyon

SPORTS CENTRE AIMS TO ACTIVATE ALL INTERESTS

[Top](#)

AT Linton Community Sports Centre there are many new activities on a Monday morning for this term, partly funded by Linton Parish Council. From 9.30 to 10.30am there are badminton, tennis and short tennis sessions, with one hour costing just £1 per person. From 10.30-11.30am there is line dancing with carpet bowls available at the same time if you're feeling a little less energetic. All of these activities are only £10 for 10 sessions or £1.50 each week. All activities began in the week commencing 24th September for an initial period of ten weeks.

The Sports Centre is also the venue for aerobics, 10.15 - 11.15am on Wednesdays (this session is open to mums with babies), 8-9pm on Tuesdays and two sessions 6.30-7.30pm and 8-9pm on Thursdays. A new club is starting for junior badminton players aged 10 and 11. This has been subsidised by a grant through South Cambs District Council. This means that the cost to the juniors every Friday is only £8 for 10 weeks. All the equipment is new and a coach is ready and waiting! Sessions run from 4-5pm: do come along.

Creative dance is an exciting new addition to Saturday mornings for 4-7 year-olds (9-10am) and 7-11 year olds (10-11am). £25 for 10 weeks.

Junior multisports mornings have begun again on Saturdays for all those 6-10 year olds wanting to try some new sports. The sessions run from 10.30am-noon, and the fee of £2.50 includes drink and a snack. Of course there are many other things to do at the Sports Centre as we are open every weekday evening until 10.30pm and at weekends 9am-5pm. Lucy Howe

COULD YOU BE OUR MOBILE WARDEN?

[Top](#)

THE search is on for Linton's own Mobile Village Warden.

Age Concern, the organisation managing the service, has now advertised the post in local newspapers and they would like to hear from you. Or perhaps you know of someone who would be ideal for the post but who may not have seen the advert. Advertising over the holiday period can have its drawbacks...

The interviews will be held on October 4th and we hope to appoint soon after that. If you would like more information on the post or would like to apply to be our Warden, please contact Lynne Byrne at Age Concern on % 01354 696650. Enid Bald

LIFELONG LEARNING: NEW WORKSHOPS

[Top](#)

A NUMBER of weekend and one day workshops are to be held at Village Colleges in the region.

Saturday 6th October: Basic Food Hygiene; Clay Workshop; Essential Spanish; Introduction to Computing; Life Drawing; Neurolinguistic Programming—an introduction; RYA Yachtmaster Ocean Day 1.

Saturday/Sunday 6th/7th October: Computers for Beginners; Promoting Adult Learning through Group Work.

Wednesday 10th October: Appointed Persons First Aid Course.

Saturday 13th October: Chair Caning and Upholstery; Chinese Brush Painting; Family Learning Day; Health Through Nutrition; Portrait Painting; Photoshop Workshop; Sign Language—an introduction.

Sunday 14th October: Advanced Art Therapy; Life Drawing; Orchestral Play-In.

Saturday/Sunday 13th/14th October: First Aid for Childcarers.

Wednesday 17th October (19.00-21.30): Reiki—an introduction.

Further information about courses, venues and fees is available from the village colleges at Bottisham % 811372, Burwell % (01638) 741901, and Linton 892400.

Angela Humphreys

HARVEST HOME AT WI

[Top](#)

A HARVEST Supper was enjoyed by around 40 members and five visitors at the September meeting of the Linton WI. All were welcomed by Miriam Rixon, Vice-President.

Information was given on forthcoming events arranged by Cambridge Federation of Women's Institutes including a Pastels Day School at Haslingfield on 8th November and Storytelling at Coton on 9th November.

Volunteers were requested to form a team at the Quiz Night at Cottenham Village College on 12th October. Members were invited to subscribe to the Federation Newsletter which includes information on these events.

Then members shared a Harvest Supper. Contributions for the main course had been provided by members and desserts were produced by the Committee. There was a great variety of food attractively set out on two long tables. After the meal, there was a quiz (devised by Wendy Foster) on local village names with anagrams and cryptic clues. The evening ended with a raffle.

The next meeting takes place at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 2nd October at the Social Centre, Coles Lane, Linton. Sue Roberts will give a talk entitled "Walking the China Wall for Charity." All are welcome.
Anne Parry-Smith

ACCEPT A GENEROUS OFFER WITH GRACE

Dear Editor

I read with interest the stories of the deteriorating clapper stile in Linton. It certainly seems that a workman who was expected in February is simply not going to appear. This is a rare opportunity to preserve a historic artefact and it sounds as if a volunteer from America is just waiting your (or someone's) OK. Why not give it? I'd even donate to the material costs which certainly can't be that great. Please pass this on to persons that might be appropriate to inform how I feel. Mr Elsey is indeed a gentleman. My belief is that you would be doing him and yourselves a favour... that's a win-win situation. How can you go wrong?

John Altenburger by email

SUCCESSFUL HEALTH APPEAL [Top](#)

Dear Editor

You kindly published an article in the Linton News this summer about the Health for Life project expanding into the Linton and Sawston areas. In the article you publicised the need for a project worker and volunteers. I thought you would like to know that as a result of the article we have appointed a lady from Linton to be the project worker and another lady has offered to be a volunteer. As we will need plenty more volunteers we shall no doubt be contacting you again.

Thank you again for helping to get Health for Life 'off the ground' in Linton.

Samara Philpott

Health for Life

KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR EYES DOWN [Top](#)

Dear Editor

Please can you thank all the people who attended my first Bingo. It was a most enjoyable evening.

Our next two Bingo sessions will be on Tuesday 30th October and Tuesday 27th November (look out for posters for details).

Doors open 7pm – eyes down 7.30pm.

Rosie Newman

MEMORIES OF HORN LANE, LINTON [Top](#)

Dear Editor

Mr Mills, a Granta Grapevine listener from Peterborough, has asked me to write to you and to say he was

very interested to hear a number of homes are being opened for Bed & Breakfast.

"It was started by the owners of Springfield House in Horn Lane, Linton. The owner in those days was Mrs Cox. When I bought my first car she kindly let me put it in her garage which would be approximately the year of 1934. I married a young lady who lived at No 2 Horn Lane and we were married for 62 happy years. Sadly my wife died a few years ago. As Linton is such a beautiful village I wish them every success in their new project."

Clare Neville

pp. Gilbert Mills

FLAXFIELDS BOOK AHEAD [Top](#)

Dear Editor

Flaxfields are going to Thursford on 23rd November to see their spectacular Christmas Show. If any readers wish to join them please contact me for more details

Jacquie Wilson

Warden, Flaxfields

VALID COMMENT OR POLITICAL PADDING? [Top](#)

Dear Editor

I don't feel entirely comfortable with the fact that Clive Bush has used his regular spot in the Linton News to express political concerns, and more so that you have published it.

With education debated at a national level, his column struck me as a litany of whinges serving no purpose other than to say look at me aren't I marvellous because I struggle through this terrible ordeal daily, which by publishing would suggest you support and you give credence to. I don't know a single person whose job is without some problems, and I feel certain he is compensated accordingly and should not exploit his column for political purposes.

By all accounts the man is very good at his job, and I am not insensitive to the fact that house values, mine included, have benefited from the excellence of the school.

I appreciate you must tread a fine line, but to my mind that line has been crossed. In my opinion if the man had nothing constructive to say, then he shouldn't be allowed to pad the paper with a political agenda - that is the remit of manifestoes, much better for his column to be skipped that month.

Other than that I thoroughly enjoy the Linton News.

But rather than be villified like the poor women who complained about the fair, I would rather you take this as a comment about the paper, and if you wish to publish it I would wish my name and address to be withheld.

A GLORIOUS DAY OUT [Top](#)

Dear Editor

I organized a coach trip to Yarmouth on 16th August. We left here at 8.30am and returned home at 8.30pm. It was a glorious day, the coach company and the driver were brilliant, nothing was too much trouble.

I would like to thank everyone for supporting me, and I will definitely do it again next year.

Mrs R Newman

PLEASE note that letters sent by email for publication must contain the name and full postal address of the writer, even if these are to be withheld.

HIGH STREET TRAFFIC: STILL AN ISSUE [Top](#)

AS it approaches one year since my little girl's pram was hit by a bus in the High Street, I thought it time

to update you on the progress our High Street safety campaign has made so far.

I petitioned the South Cambridgeshire Environment and Transport Area Joint Committee on the 5th December 2000. They acknowledged the High Street was a problem and the County Highways and Engineering Department was to look into ways of improving safety for pedestrians.

The next meeting was in February this year -alas no report from the Highways Department.

The agenda for the June meeting included a background on Linton's traffic problems, all the reasons why little could be done due to nature of the High Street, etc., and concluded with the usual "lack of funds" plea. It did go on to say that there were a number of measures that could be developed to address some of the concerns expressed by Linton residents. These included:

p extension of parking restrictions at the Infants School;

p a review of traffic signing, particularly for heavy vehicles;

p better timing of deliveries to the Co-op;

p creation of a focal and safe crossing point near Green Lane.

Although all of the above seemed to be a start (most parents would agree that staggering deliveries to the Co-op improved safety drastically, although since the summer this seems to have fallen by the wayside - or should I say kerbside, as these are yet again breaking up in the High Street) none of them actually stopped traffic from driving on the pavements. Further parking restrictions would not be popular, and the proposed crossing would have been outside the Waggon and Horses. There was nothing to prevent pedestrians walking from Green Lane to Mill Lane on the narrow side which is why they were proposing a safe crossing in the first place.

Members of our Parish and District Council attended to voice our dissatisfaction and received support from other members of the Committee. The Highways Department has been sent off again to come up with something better. The last meeting was on 17th September, but once again the High Street was not on the agenda.

Working on the basis that petitions usually take two years to come to fruition we should be about halfway by now. Till then, keep your eyes and ears open. If it looks as if it's going to hit you, it probably will, so be prepared to flatten yourself against the wall, jump on steps and press into doorways. If you're a regular user of the High Street you should be quite expert at this by now!

If you experience any situation where you feel your safety is threatened, fill out a traffic incident report available from the Post Office, Sweet Talk News, Hale & Jacobs, The Village Pharmacy or The Parish Council Office in the Social Centre. Tracey Russell

IF YOU WANT TO LEARN ABOUT COMPUTING JOIN OUR CLUB [Top](#)

THIS month Linton's help centre for computer fans is entering its third year since it was launched as Linton Seniors IT Club. Since then, it has opened every Tuesday evening to help residents with everything from very basic computer knowledge to the use of the internet.

Well over 50 people were registered members by the end of the second year and many more had already had help in the previous year. This has included technical problems with their own computer and advice on purchasing.

The club was set up, originally helped by a Millennium grant, to coincide with the opening of the Cathodeon Centre and the move of the Linton branch of the County Library Service to the new site. The club has a very close relationship with the new library and members of the club are expected to be members of the library also.

The club night is Tuesday. This is because it uses the library's computers in addition to its own and Tuesday is the only evening when the library itself is closed. The club hours of opening are from 7pm to 9pm but problems and tuition are mainly on a one-to-one basis. There are no lectures and no fixed times within the opened hours. Neither is it necessary to turn up every week.

People, some quite elderly, have been eagerly chasing up their interests on the internet after amazingly short periods of learning. Moreover, this interest can be followed at any time during library hours, even using the internet. Thus people who do not own a computer can have the use of one, entirely without charge.

To clarify the expression IT Club, it means Information Technology, which as far as the club is concerned means computing! The volunteer experts who run the club hope that there will be continued interest by Linton people in at least dropping in on us one Tuesday and without obligation seeing what goes on. Derek Birch

DEDICATED TALKER WINS AWARD [Top](#)



JANET Annett, of Kingfisher Walk in Linton, has been awarded a Long Service Award from the Talking Newspaper Association of the United Kingdom.

Mrs Annett told the Linton News: "I started working with the Thames Valley Talking Newspaper in Weybridge, Surrey, in July 1976 after a blind friend introduced me to his talking tape. I fell in love with the medium."

In late 1989, the Linton News published requests for people to start a talking newspaper for Linton based on the Linton News. Janet volunteered and was one of the pioneering team who produced the Granta Grapevine. The first issue appeared in March 1990.

Janet now works as the magazine's editor, part of a small and dedicated team of volunteers who run the Granta Grapevine today. In January 2000, she became President of the organisation, taking over from the late Robert Ventress. This month sees the publication of the talking newspaper's 140th issue.

Recently the whole Granta Grapevine team attended the Eastern Region Conference of Talking Newspapers at Coltishall where they discussed up-to-date information, equipment trends and the problems within their region.

RECTOR DEPARTS "ON A CLOUD OF JOY" [Top](#)

AFTER ten no doubt exhausting years as rector of five parishes, the Rev Julian Thomson and his wife have left Linton. After holidaying in Spain, they will return to a cottage in the village of Great Massingham in Norfolk. On their last Sunday, 9th September, St Mary's Church was filled with people from Bartlow, Shudy Camps, Castle Camps and Horseheath, as well as Linton. In an account of their leaving published in a recent service sheet, Brenda and Julian Thomson wrote that they were swept through the day "on a cloud of thanksgiving and joy... During long winter evenings we shall be inwardly heated by the memories of September 9th.

"We both hope and pray that you find a team rector who will help you move forward and fulfil both your visions and needs, as well as their own. In the vacancy time we wish you every blessing, and thank you for ten very happy years." LNT

CHURCH CONTACTS [Top](#)

WHO to contact while there is no priest at St Mary's:

Team Vicar: the Rev Barbara McNamara:

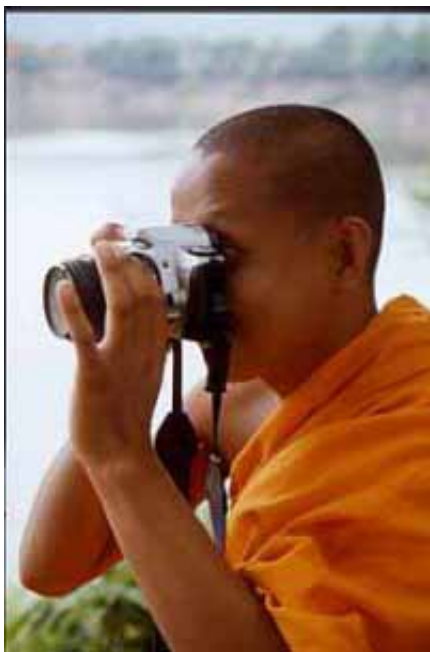
Pastoral Matters, e.g. sick visiting or other needs: Team Vicar or Lesley Gore

Baptisms: Team Vicar or Judy Nightingale

Marriages: Team Vicar or the Ven. Alan Clarkson

Any other matters: Team Vicar or churchwardens David Parry-Smith and Glynis Younger

CAMERA CLUB CLICKS [Top](#)



PROPOSAL in last month's Linton news for a camera club drew a response from half a dozen amateur photographers interested in a wide variety of aspects, from digital to black and white. If you are interested, please contact John Keeble or email jkeeb@clara.net John Keeble

HISTORY SOCIETY TURNS HITLER'S SPIES [Top](#)

THE Annual General Meeting of Linton Historical Society was held on 17th September. A packed hall was welcomed by Garth Collard, the Chairman, who proceeded with the business of the AGM as swiftly as possible.

The existing officers were unanimously re-elected – Garth Collard as Chairman, Pat Genochio as Secretary and Frank Appleyard as treasurer.

The publication of Ruth Newbury's second edition of her book of references to Linton from local newspapers during the 19th century has been completed.

An edition of this will now be available in the local library together with her first edition covering earlier years.

Ruth was presented with a bound copy of the book, with the Society's thanks.

After the business, Garth produced a slide quiz of pictures of Linton taken by Alex Todd, some of which were easily recognisable, others produced much discussion as to their whereabouts.

The evening ended with a social get-together over wine and nibbles.

The next meeting takes place on 16th October when Alan Stripp will speak on 'How Hitler's Spies helped Britain, not Germany'. All are welcome. Joan Pearman

NEW GALLERY BOOSTS LOCAL BUSINESS [Top](#)



SINCE the success of the opening exhibition in July, the Darryl Nantais Gallery has moved on to show work mainly by local artists. Works by Katherine Fairey, Susan Jones, Philip Blakely, Sue Walker, Neil Gardner, Maureen Williams, Sam Suckling, Gary Theobold, Katherine Childs, Chris Pink, Nuala O'Connor, Joanna Bingham, Desmond Clover, Anne Laybourn-Popham and Catriona Ogilvy are on display.

A number of celebrated artists from further afield, such as Jackie Jones, renowned for her equine studies and Petra Hughes, well-known for her aquatint and woodblock paintings, are also showing at the gallery.

We are already making preparations for a grand Christmas exhibition and some discussions have taken place regarding a Linton Arts Festival. Anyone wishing to become involved would be welcome to contact the gallery in readiness for a meeting to take the idea closer to fruition.

We are thrilled by the local patronage and we feel that the creation of the gallery has sent out an exciting and positive note for business in Linton. Our workshop is already busy designing and making picture and mirror frames as well as restoring antique frames and paintings for our clients.

Vistors are welcome to relax and browse at the display of pottery, sculpture and paintings on show. Its a great place for Linton people to bring their visiting family and friends, especially at the weekend. Darryl Nantais

AFRICAN SPLASH [Top](#)

LINTON and District Branch of Save the Children and Cambridge African Association are holding an African Sunsplash, an evening of African dancing, drumming and food, from 7.30pm onwards at the Social Centre, Coles Lane, Linton on Saturday 13th October. Craft items will be on display and various articles from Africa will be auctioned.

Admission will be by ticket only, available from Anna Newton or Judith White

Save the Children Fund is active throughout Africa. About 300,000 people have been displaced since renewed flooding in Mozambique began earlier this year. SCF has provided the basic needs of shelter, blankets, cooking utensils and chlorination kits. They are looking at ways of providing education to evacuated children and distributing seeds and tools to farmers whose crops have been destroyed.

In Uganda about 1.7 million children have lost one or both parents to AIDS. SCF has set up Sunday groups where children can go to enjoy themselves, but also to learn about HIV/AIDS and how they can protect themselves.

In Angola many children have been separated from their families by civil war. SCF is working to trace family members and re-unite them.

The CAA provides resources for a school in Africa and organises conferences and workshops on environmental and development issues looking at appropriate strategies for systemic changes which bring about a sustainable development. Judith White

ALL IS SAFELY GATHERED IN [Top](#)



Wide Anglian skies over the autumn stubble
Local farmer Charles Fairey harvesting wheat Photo: Suki Klair

OUR BOWLERS: WINNING AND APPEALING [Top](#)

SUSPENSE over. We finally came fourth in the Steeple Bumpstead League, Division 2: not bad out of a league of ten teams. In friendly matches we beat Haverhill Town at home, lost to Balsham away, and won against Little Shelford at home. In total we had notched up eight wins out of 17 matches with one last match on 18th September.

Club finals were played on 16th September. Derek Dimmock (President) beat Eric Garden (winner for the last four years) 21–18. It was "ding dong" throughout: on the last end Eric was holding 3 shots, which would have given him game, when Derek with his last bowl replaced one of Eric's with his own to give him the match. Winners of the mixed pairs were Roberta Adolph and Vic Harris. Their opponents Betty Meeks and Bryan Beavis were so unlucky. On the 17th end they were holding 4 when Vic Harris with his last bowl took the jack and turned the tables by scoring 4, so they went from +4 to –4, a difference to them of 8 shots and that was the end.

Cups were presented with runners up receiving mementoes.

Please watch the notice board for a number of forthcoming events, including Christmas and New Year functions.

And now an appeal. The ladies do a wonderful job on refreshments. The men look after the green. Recently Frank Bunn, greenkeeper, turned up one Wednesday morning to find himself alone. It is impossible for one man to operate the cleaner. Will all those able-bodied men available in the daytime please offer themselves for this duty once a fortnight? If we got enough volunteers, it could be even less.

If you can offer help, please give Frank a ring on
Arthur Gore

THE BUSH TELEGRAPH [Top](#)

THE dreadful events of 11th September are still etched in our memories as we move into a world which has changed. The memory of that day is somehow fixed by what we all saw time after time on our television screens or heard on the radio. We gave it almost continuous coverage regardless of who might be watching. In the US, a different approach was taken. The most horrific images were only shown later in the evening when most children would not be watching. Schools and parents were told to give time to discuss the events so that children would be informed but not traumatised. These were very sensible approaches and necessary for those so close to the event. America does tend to wear its heart on its sleeve of course and here we are not so good at talking about such things. I have spent time discussing the events with pupils, though, and what emerges is I think, very heartening. There was a kind of bewilderment that scenes normally reserved for disaster movies were happening in real life and the usual confused stories

about the reasons. Conspicuously absent though was a gung-ho, aggressive 'let's get them' response. The concern from both boys and girls was for those who died and those who grieved. On the day of mourning we spent those quiet minutes reflecting on what had taken place and there was an understanding that the gesture was somehow very important. This was summed up for me by one girl's description of the silence as 'taking the pain.'

The overwhelming message coming from our young people was utter condemnation of the attack and those who perpetrated it. This was matched by a desire that they should be found and punished. But what was said to me time and time again was that this punishment should not involve the loss of more innocent lives; for our children, a common humanity means more than the rhetoric of war. In this I believe, lies hope for us all.

Clive Bush, Principal

SHAPE UP AT THE COLLEGE [Top](#)

A SERIES of fitness classes is being run in Linton, at the Village College, suitable for all ages and levels of fitness. Body conditioning and aerobics classes take place every Tuesday, 8-9pm and Step classes are held every Thursday, 8-9pm. Both classes are held in the school gym.

Instruction is given by an RSA qualified instructor. Remember to consult your doctor if new to exercising. Wear comfortable clothing, training shoes and bring a bottle of water. Telephone % 01763 208404 for more information.

Kate Weber

SIGN UP FOR HIGHER COMMUNITY CHARGES [Top](#)

"EXCUSE me, can you tell me the way to Chalklands?" a motorist asked as she stopped me one evening. I thought her a bit daft considering we were standing at the Chalklands entrance until I looked up and realized the sign was missing. Actually fourteen in total have been stolen or defaced in Linton.

Fortunately the emergency services have a good knowledge of the Linton district, unlike visitors, couriers and possibly new postmen.

Rumour has it that there is a competition for the highest number obtained by a person/gang. I was going to suggest that now may be the time to declare a winner and have a street name amnesty; this however is not necessary as the signs are going to be replaced in the very near future at a cost likely to run into thousands of pounds.

So, if your son or daughter has a stack of street signs underneath their bed, you may like to recover from them the additional cost that will be added on to your community charge next year to pay for the replacements.

Tracey Russell

K-CLUB WINNERS [Top](#)

THE result of the September K-Club monthly draw: 1st (£50) J. Harpur (No. 083); 2nd (£25) Mrs R. Petter (No. 224); 3rd (£10) Terry Bear (No. 173).

LINTON COUNTRY DIARY by Sally Simmons [Top](#)



Tuesday 18th September 2001 Illustrated by Maureen Williams

ONE of the main problems about going anywhere at this time of year is deciding what to wear. We should have put a bit more thought into our clothing when we set out for our walk to Catley Park early last month. Once we'd manoeuvred the boys into suitable shoes, we started, my husband sensibly wrapped up to the ears in a fleece, the boys in T shirts and I with the backpack for warmth. The thing I regretted most as we went on were the earrings which whipped painfully against my chin as the wind got up. It never entered my mind to take them off.

When you are walking with children, you have to be prepared for every stone to be a potential fossil and every stick to become a precious treasure that will have to come home with you. You also have to give up hope of seeing anything interesting, as the noise level of boys is an effective early warning system to all forms of wildlife. I frequently glimpse interesting things on these walks but they're either disappearing quickly or form part of the enormous range of things to which I cannot put a name. Luckily, the early part of this walk passes directly behind the zoo, and there was nowhere for the zebras to hide. I did see some fleeing pheasants and partridges and I was able to identify accurately the amazing birds of prey that our younger son drew my attention to as a formation of three fighters flying out of Duxford.

We went to Catley Park for blackberries and collected a kilo or so to bring home, eating almost as much on the spot. It was sheltered and warm around the buildings but there is a certain melancholy about the place, even on the sunniest day. However, there were signs that it is not always so. The boys were fascinated by a small curtained cabin near the pond, that was definitely not there on our last visit and which I identified confidently as the remains of a portable lavatory.

Even from this modest rise, the view over the fields towards the Abingtons in one direction and Hadstock in the other is impressive. A huge amount of open land surrounds Linton and it is sobering to consider how much of it would disappear for good if the current proposals for development along the A1307 were accepted. Bearing this in mind, we walked over to Chilford Hall on Sunday 16th, for the Hog Roast organised by SANT (Stop Abington New Town). The rain held off and the sun came out and Linton, viewed from Rivey Hill, looked almost isolated in the surrounding farmland. We returned through the vineyards and I was struck once again by the peculiarities of our village which we take so much in our stride: African animals at one end, grapes at the other, both managing to thrive in a confusing climate. Olwen Williams is away

THE FRIENDS

[Top](#)

THE Friends of St Mary's are holding two events in October. The first is an anthology of verse and some song on the theme "Tell Me the Truth About Love". This will be in the church at 7.30pm on Saturday 6th October.

There will be a book sale at the Guildhall, 4 Church Lane, on Saturday 20th October from 9.30am to 12 noon. Books may be taken to the Guildhall after 28th September.

Bruce Conochie

[Next](#)

[Top](#)