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PINNA HANGS UP HER PINNIES



Pinna at her presentation for 50 years of making tea for the blood donors of the village.

Picture by Roger Lapwood

IT'S been calculated that Pinna Dockerill has made six and a half thousand cups of tea during her 50 years' service at blood donor sessions. On 30th July this magnificent effort was recognised by the Blood Donor Service when Sisters Carol and Liz presented Pinna with a memorial plaque, a bunch of flowers and a goody bag containing a 'Billy Blood Drop' mascot and other souvenirs.

Susan Anderson, organiser

of the tea ladies' rota gave a short address outlining Pinna's record of service, and added that many people had missed her at recent sessions. Pinna has at last decided to retire and was greeted fondly by old friend Maurice Whiffen, about to give his 74th "armful", with the words: "Can't you make a cup of tea now?" This time someone else did the honours for Pinna, and she was spoilt with chocolate biscuits which are not normally on the menu

for blood donors.

A Linton resident all her life, born in Maltings Cottages during World War 1, Pinna reminisced about the start of blood collections in the Red Cross hut, which was roughly on the site of the Social Centre. She joined the Red Cross aged 17, mainly as an excuse to get out when social outings were restricted by her parents, and later became the first aider at the Cathodeon Crystals factory. She helped to organise Linton carnivals and whist drives which were money-raisers for the building of the Social Centre, the current home of the donor unit.

Alongside all this effort for the village, Pinna worked for 25 years in the WRVS canteen at Addenbrooke's. She was prompted to do this when her husband George was in hospital, thus filling the time between visits to the ward.

Although Pinna found that giving blood was not for her after her one and only donation in 1967, she has served and encouraged those who can, taking the occasional "fainter" in her stride with hands-on assistance. As she is less mobile nowadays she certainly deserves a rest, but somehow one just can't imagine her being idle!

LNT

YOU CAN NOW RECYCLE YOUR COMPOSTABLE KITCHEN WASTE

ROTTEN fruit and old tea bags have never felt so loved and wanted. South Cambridgeshire residents can now recycle these and other compostable kitchen waste by putting it into their green wheeled bins with immediate effect.

The changes have been made thanks to a local contractor who processes the green waste on our behalf. They have been granted a licence allowing them to compost kitchen food waste, believed to be the first site in the country to receive this licence.

Residents can now recycle:

- Cooked food
- Fruit and vegetable peelings
- Old fruit and vegetables
- Eggshells, stale bread
- Tea bags and coffee filters
- Meat, fish, bones and food carcasses

This is as well as the usual grass cuttings, leaves, prunings and clippings, untreated wood and bark, cardboard, catalogues, shredded paper and yellow pages, brown paper, rabbit and guinea pig waste and windfall fruit.

The kitchen food waste can be placed in the green bin one week and the black bin the following week thus effectively having a weekly collection of this matter. This may be helpful to residents who already have home compost because, as well as cardboard and woodier items of garden waste, cooked food and chicken carcasses that are not home compostable can be placed in the green bin.

Frequently asked questions:
I don't want my bin to be smelly, can I wrap the food waste in plastic?

No, as this does not degrade in the time it takes for the

material to decompose into compost (two weeks). If you wish to wrap the food waste please wrap in newspaper or cardboard e.g. a cereal box.

Why is this all so important?

Landfill is a major source of methane, one of the greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. Methane is produced when biodegradable materials such as food waste, paper and green waste decompose in landfill. For this reason the Government and our partners in Europe agreed the EU Landfill Directive. It sets ambitious targets for the reduction of biodegradable waste sent to landfill.

For the full version of this article please see the Linton News website on www.linton.info or contact: South Cambs District Council

COFFEE FOR CANCER

MAKE your cup of coffee count at Macmillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning.

It's amazing what a cup of coffee can do to help people living with cancer. Money raised by large and small coffee mornings all over the country helps to fund vital information and counselling centres, specialist Macmillan doctors and nurses, buildings for cancer treatment and care, as well as providing grants for people with cancer who are in financial difficulty. Last year's event raised over £4 million in one morning!

My coffee morning is taking place from 10am to 2pm on Friday 24th September at Kajjansi, 3 Cambridge Road, Linton and all the money donated will help Macmillan support people with cancer in this community. There will also be a 'Bring & Buy' stall.

For more information please contact:

Daphne Abbott 892418

A SUCCESS STORY

THE Linton News is delighted to report that owing to its great popularity, advertisers are falling over themselves to be part of it. While this is great for the Linton News and its readers, this means restricted space for the advertisers.

We have had to close the waiting list and will review the advertising situation in the New Year. However, even then, we will still only be able to publish the small advertisements.

LNT

....AND YOUR PLASTIC BOTTLES

RESIDENTS can now slim their bins and help the environment - sounds too good an offer to turn down! Plastic bottles can be recycled by putting them in any of 20 banks located around the district.

There are many different types of plastic used in packaging and some are not yet recyclable. But at present South Cambs residents can recycle three types of plastic bottle - 1, 2 and 3.

These include water, squash, fizzy drinks, cleaning products and toiletry bottles.

1 PET: Polyethylene terephthalate - fizzy drink bottles.

2 HDPE: High-density polyethylene - bottles for milk

and washing-up liquids.
3 PVC: Polyvinyl chloride - bottles for squash, mineral water and shampoo.

These codes can be found on the bottom of most bottles. Plastics bottles with codes 4, 5, 6, and 7 cannot be recycled using the banks. These should be put into the black wheeled bin.

Labels do not need to be removed, but residents are requested to squash the bottles and remove the lids.

The plastic bottle bank in Linton is in the public car park, Coles Lane.

The bottles are taken to Thetford where they are crushed and baled. They are then shipped to various processors to be made into a wide range of products ranging from bin lin-

ers and carrier bags to garden furniture and fleeces.

What else can residents do to restrict the use of plastic?

* buy products with minimum packaging, and which have been packaged in materials that can be recycled.

* take reusable bags when shopping or re-use the bags you were given last time.

* don't accept a bag if you don't need one.

* buy products that are refillable.

* and many more.
Only 7% of plastics waste is currently recycled.

For the full version of this article please see the Linton News website on www.linton.info or contact: South Cambs District Council

N.C. Bowden

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We welcome children from the age of two and a half in our lovely premises in the school grounds.

We are open Monday to Friday and can offer flexible sessions between 9.00am and 2.45pm.

If you would like to know more, Please contact the Playgroup Leader, Kate McDowell 01440 786285
Playgroup 07974 051871

Alternatively do come and join us for a free visit.

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FROM WHERE I'M SITTING

by TONY SMITH

Of course, I can't always be right. That would make me omnipotent, and I don't even think I want to be. I like the uncertainty that life has in store.

To the rather surprising number of people (even in Cherry Hinton, of all places), who have stopped and asked where last month's weather forecast was, may I just say 'Sorry' I went over my allotted number of words the editor allows me to write every month, but I can reassure you all that I did not forecast the very hot weather that accompanied my trip to the Thurlow steam rally. We parked my scooter behind where we were sitting, and put a brolly up which kept us in the shade most of the time. Being a steam rally regular, I am always struck by the friendliness of the organisers, marshals and participants involved in the Thurlow rally, and I overheard a lovely conversation between a traction engine driver giving a display of 'Public Steering', where members of the public can 'Have a go', and a beautifully attired lady dressed in white with matching sandals. After her family had taken turns to drive around the show ring, the lady stepped up to the traction engine.

"Is it dirty up there?" she enquired of the driver, who was black from head to toe.

"Indeed it is", he replied.

"I'm not going to go up there, then!"

"Hold on madam, and I'll try to clean it up a little for you", the engine driver smiled, producing an oily rag and rubbing vigorously over the engine. This impressed the lady not one bit, and she went away muttering about her dress now being all smutty from the dirty vehicle. I laughed and turned to Sue, who had gone to buy some fudge. The only way she tolerates my passion is to stuff herself with as much fudge as she can hold in my basket, which is quite a lot! I love the people, the smell of oil and smoke, and my scooter enables me to get around to see everything again, which means so much to me. I had the most wonderful day.

I have heard from a source close to the committee, as they say in the papers, that this year's event will not be the last and it is a great relief as it is one of the best, coming only just second to the Haddenham rally. The only trouble is that Haddenham is in September, and as we all know, the weather can be unpredictable. I remember that I wrote earlier in the year that this summer would just be 'OK'. Well sadly it hasn't let me down.

However, things are a little difficult for the coming month where the weather is concerned. Bob in the village has told me that I get these forecasts from the internet, but not only must I predict the coming month for you all, I must also write this before the publishing deadline, roughly a fortnight before your Linton News is delivered! Only a stupid weather forecaster would stick his or her neck out that far! He says, hurting his neck where he has stuck it out. While we're on the subject of Bob and his weather predictions I'll say nothing except if Bob says it is going to be fine take your brolly!

Anyway, getting back to September's weather. This month, I am going against the met. office, and Global Forecast System (GFS) satellite pictures, and trust my 'ACME' superb weather station and monitoring equipment so don't expect too much and please don't rely on this month's forecast, as I found a bit of the weather station the wrong way up, so the weather may well be backwards!

The first two weeks are looking very unsettled indeed, with the Atlantic fronts sweeping in. Most of the heavy rain will be in the west sweeping northwards, so we may well be on the fringes of some, but not all of these. It looks as if my trip to Haddenham on the 11th of this month, health permitting, may well be a wet one, but the week after may bring signs of a brief Indian summer, a welcome pause before the onset of really bad weather, but more of that next month. Or, indeed, the other way around!

I'll leave you with the thought that the certain proof that intelligent life exists elsewhere in the universe is that no one has bothered to make contact with us. They're not daft!

Please keep dry, warm, and safe, and I'll see you all next month.

GRANTA GRAPEVINE MOVES INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

Linton's Talking Newspaper Granta Grapevine has been recording the text of the Linton News for the last 14 years using conventional tape cassettes. Tape is still the preferred medium for listeners, but modern methods of production are slowly being introduced, which can help the group with the difficult task of editing and recording the master tape.

The second side of the tape is the magazine side and most of the material here is not from the Linton News. The magazine team have taken their recording equipment with them to record interviews and sound effects from village events such as the flower festival and Hadstock fete, to sites around the country such as the Derbyshire hills, the Severn Valley Railway and the Norfolk coast, and occasionally abroad. A minidisk recorder is one of the machines used. Its small size makes location recording easier.

Back in the studio, some recordings are digitally edited by computer - no razor blades and sticky tape here! The Granta Grapevine jingle - yes we have one too! - written and recorded locally for the group, is now on CD - replacing a 45 minute tape that ran out before we needed to use it.

To illustrate the technology used by the group, we shall be exhibiting some of our equipment and making live recordings for the magazine side at the next AGM in October. We would welcome any contributions of help with material to record, making recordings, or tape production and duplication. Come along to our AGM at 2.30pm on 13th October at Chalklands or contact Clare Neville on 893251.

Mike Crofts
893619

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL OUR TODDLERS



Children from both Toddler Group and Playgroup enjoy themselves at the Leavers' Party held at the end of the summer term.



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K-CLUB APPROACHES ITS 7TH YEAR

Linton's own lottery will soon be entering its seventh year and now is the time to think about join us and help local youngsters if you are not already a member. The K-Club was launched in 1998 to raise funds for Linton Action for Youth, or LA4Y as it is better known. It began with 329 members but last year numbers fell slightly to 326. It has raised over £10,500 so far, and this year we would like to expand the club to around the 400 mark to increase its fund-raising potential.

It costs £12 for a year's membership, which runs from 1st October to 30th September, with over a half of the total 'take' going towards prize money. Indeed, this year's star prizes will amount to no less than £1,125, to be drawn in September - look out for local publicity announcing where this will be held. You should have received a K-Club application form in last month's copy of the Linton News, but

they can also be obtained from either of the village newsagents or the Post Office. Failing that, ring me on the number below or email me, and I'll ensure you get as many as you need.

Please help us to build on the success of this fund-raising initiative. The cause, if you didn't already know, is the maintenance of local facilities for youth activities, particularly the Drop-In on Linton recreation ground. The K-Club will make an important contribution towards its running costs and the professional help that is required to maximise its effectiveness.

So don't delay, fill in your application form now and send it to me at 7 The Grove in Linton and I'll make out your personal membership card for the new K-Club year to 30th September 2005 - all for just £12.

Peter Dixon
K-Club Promoter.
Tel. (01223) 890220

Email
Peter@peterdixon.freemove.co.uk

Linton Granta Toddler Group extends a warm welcome to all children returning after the summer break and would love to see new members joining our three morning sessions. The sessions, which are held in the youth centre at the Linton Village College, are an excellent way of making new friends and are a good stepping-stone for those wanting to join the Linton Granta Playgroup, which is held in the same building.

The Monday and Tuesday groups are for children 0-3 years - with plenty of age suitable toys and activities such as painting and play-doh. The Monday group now runs a toy library where any toy can be borrowed for a small fee for up

to a week. The Thursday group is for children 18 months + and is a little more structured. As well as the usual toys there is an activity session, singing and storytime - the toddlers also have the use of the playgroup garden. A member of staff from the Playgroup helps at the Thursday group, providing a close link between toddler group and playgroup.

There is a small charge per family, which includes refreshments for toddler and carer. Sessions are from 10 to 11.30am during term time. The autumn term begins on 13th September; we look forward to seeing you there. For further information visit our website: www.lintongrantaplaygroup.co.uk
Liz Crump 892471

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READERS WRITE

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters on page 6
Please note: All letters for publication must be supplied with a full name and address to enable us to check their authenticity. Any letters without these details will not be printed.

PEACE IN THE CHURCHYARD

PUBLICITY NEEDED

Dear Editor
 The churchyard gates, bearing notices saying "No cycling" and "Keep your dog on a lead" have been temporarily removed. Hopefully they will soon be replaced, when the flint wall has been repaired and suitable access organised for wheelchairs and double buggies where the kissing gate was located. Unfortunately there are an increasing number of people riding bicycles, which is a hazard to pedestrians, especially to the many small children who walk through the churchyard. Some youngsters have even been seen cycling across the areas where there are graves.

Dear Editor,
 What a pity that the three gatherings of street entertainers last month played to such small audiences due, it would seem to lack of publicity.

Despite this, the excellent musicians still managed to engage the handful of people who watched and listened, and were very happy to talk about their craft.

Who is this group "Linton and Sawston Arts Development"? They certainly need to get their act together. I tried phoning the telephone number entered in the village diary but there was no reply. Later I discovered that this contact had gone away.

Maybe there should be a re-think of the time of day for such events, so if a similar festival is arranged again Linton will be able to give the performers the support they deserve.
 Name and address supplied.

JUMBLE FOR MAGPAS

A JUMBLE sale will be held from 2-4pm on 11th September at The Manor House, 42 High Street Balsham.

Please support your Magpas scheme which has responded to over 100 emergency calls in Linton and Balsham since we started 18 months ago.

We need to raise money to help pay for our update training every three months and recertification every year.

We also need new respondents. To find out more contact: Hilary Potter 891211

MORE NEWS ON THE 18,000 HOMES

IN response to my letter I received this reply from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

Dear M^{rs} Smith,
 Thank you for your letter and petition about reports of plans to build a new town of 18,000 homes at Great Abington in Cambridgeshire. These reports were inaccurate and no such proposals have been made. It may, however, be helpful if I set out the background to overall plans for housing growth in the East of England and in particular to the study which prompted these press reports.

The London/Stansted/Cambridge/Peterborough area was identified as a housing growth area in the Sustainable Communities Plan (SCP) in February 2003. The SCP aims to deliver a step change in housing supply in order to support economic growth and ensure that people living in the south east are able to afford decent homes.

In this context, Government has recently asked the East of England Regional Assembly (EERA) to consider how an additional 18,000 homes could be accommodated in the area stretching from Broxbourne and Epping Forest in the south to Peterborough in the north, in the period to 2021. It is for EERA - comprised of local representatives - to develop proposals for a Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS 14) for the East of England, including the distribution of homes to local authority areas. Government expects these proposals to be sustainable, offering high quality homes in real communities with the services people need, whilst making minimal environmental impact.

The basis for the recent press reports appears to have been a study which was commissioned by this department to support EERA in developing a housing strategy for RSS14. Local planning authorities in the growth area, including SCDC, have been fully involved in assisting the consultants with compiling the base data and both officers and members have been invited to discuss and comment on the study.

We want the study to be comprehensive so have asked the consultants to look at a full range of options for delivering housing growth. These include focusing development in and around existing towns, developing smaller new settlements or a larger new town. In total the consultants are considering 11 different options. One of these is for a large new settlement between Cambridge and Stansted but, as the study is at a strategic level, no detailed location is identified.

The consultants will assess the different implications of each option in terms of environment, transport and employment. Once complete the findings will be passed to EERA who will use them to prepare RSS 14. We hope that the study will provide a useful analytical basis for EERA's work, but decisions rest with EERA.

Once EERA have produced their draft RSS14 - probably in October - it will be subject to a statutory consultation period and tested at an Examination in Public chaired by an independent planning inspector. The inspector will then recommend to the Deputy Prime Minister whether and how RSS14 should be amended.

I hope this helps to explain

the current position. If you are interested in following the progress of RSS14 in more detail you will find regular updates, including full records of EERA's meetings, on EERA's website www.eera.gov.uk - under the "regional planning" heading.

Yours sincerely
 Roland Hancock.

Comments on ODPM Reply

I dispute that the reports were "inaccurate." They were derived from a consultation document put out by the ODPM. The District Council and most parish councils in S. Cambs protested, so an awful lot of people including our planning officers were mistaken!

We always knew that Abington was only one alternative. The others were for two 9,000 house developments in other villages or a scattering of houses in towns between Stansted and Peterborough.

Plans for New Town on Hold
 The completed consultant's report to the Regional Assembly is now on the ODPM website (270+ pages). I am informed that they have concluded that a new town of 18,000 houses is not practicable in the short term (up to 2021) because of the long planning lead-in time and the lack of a clear timescale for the development of Stansted.

Their preferred option is to spread the houses among towns other than Cambridge in the Stansted/Peterborough corridor, with a small new settlement (9,000 houses!) either between Ely and Cambridge or on the railway line to Baldock. Their suggested option is Waterbeach.

However in the even longer term the Cambridge-Stansted corridor has been identified as having the most potential for

development of a major new settlement. Apparently Abington remains an option for further study. I hate to be cynical but cannot help wondering if the fierceness and speed of local opposition hasn't contributed to the removal of Abington from the more immediate listing....!

The consultants have highlighted persistent traffic problems arising from the overloading of approaches to Cambridge from the south east. They state: "Improving the A1307 outside the park-and-ride site appears to be the best and most practical way of meeting the additional traffic." I sincerely hope the County Council will act on this advice as soon as possible.

No one has yet had time to study the document in detail so this is a very simplified version. Upon fuller perusal any protests and comments should now be directed to the Regional Assembly.

On this point I also dispute the statement in the letter that the Regional Assembly is "comprised of local representatives". The majority of members are appointees.

Cllr. Joan Smith 892904

LINTON W.E.A.

THE venue of the autumn series of ten Linton classes has changed. They will now be in Hildersham village hall.

Transport will be arranged where necessary, if early advice is received.

The course title is Imagery and Symbolism in Medieval Churches, and commences at 10-11.30am on Tuesday 21st September. The tutor is D^r Lynne Broughton.

For further information please contact:

Leslie Allison 891154

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MAD HATTERS UP TO STANDARD

OUR president Tricia Lewis was back in harness with a new knee and walking with only one stick. We were all delighted that she and our secretary had both had such successful operations.

With five visitors amongst us and only two people having birthday posies we were able to give a posy to each of these new friends. We hope they will soon join us as members.

The fund-raising Mad Hatter's Tea party was a great success; wonderful hats appeared on a perfect hot afternoon. A grateful vote of thanks was given to M^{rs} Impey and to other members who have worked hard this year to boost our

funds.

Next month is the latest that the WI Home and Country magazine can be ordered and an excellent sales plea was given by Cynthia Whalley which will hopefully bring more takers.

Jason Williams, a Trading Standards Officer, was soon setting out a fascinating array of articles to illustrate his very entertaining talk. M^r Williams managed to combine the seriousness of his work with laughter-raising comments. With approximately fifty officers in the eastern area they cover a vast range of duties from animal movement and welfare, advice and inspections for business and general consumers to

visits to teachers so they can help pupils understand their legal rights when of age. Doorstep callers are a real headache for them with scams and distraction burglaries abundant. Fakes of an amazing variety, safety in sports grounds, unsafe toys, the list went on and on.

Not only did he make us more aware of the need to be on our guard but also to realise how grateful we need to be to the people who do this work.

Next meeting is our harvest supper on 7th September. Members are reminded to bring their own cutlery, crockery, glass, drink and a savoury dish to share.

Clare Neville 893251

McKenzie & Haywards

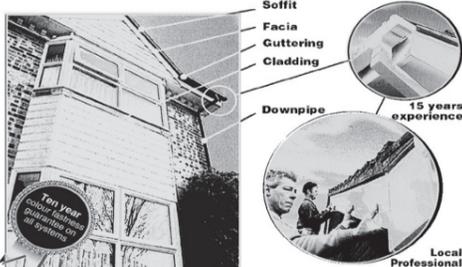
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WELL IT IS PAINTED GREEN



Some members of the camera club admiring one of the exhibits at the Thurlow show.

ON Sunday 8th August, which seemed to be the hottest day this year, members of Linton Camera Club visited the 25th annual Thurlow and Haverhill Steam and Country Show. Over 25 traction engines, steam rollers, and the brightly painted fairground showmen's engines were the main attractions occasionally puffing out black smoke with the distinctive smell of coal being burnt, an indication to us that in those days green issues and pollution were in the distant future.

Also on show were classic cars, agricultural tractors some dating back to the 1920s, numerous stalls to browse or we could have a 10 minute helicopter ride over the Suffolk

Picture by Ron Pitkin countryside. Entertainment was provided in the beer tent by Winston the singing farmer.

The photo opportunities were excellent as there was so much subject material.

We would welcome new members as we would like to expand our membership. We have a growing number of ladies joining us on our outings and would welcome more, so ladies don't be shy. For details of how to contact us visit our website www.CamClub.info

Our next away day will be on Sunday 5th September to Old Warden, the Shuttleworth Collection and Swiss Gardens at Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, departing from Coles Lane car park at 9.30am.

Roger Lapwood

PUT ON YOUR THINKING CAPS FOR GARTH

A MYSTERY coach tour around some of the lovely villages of South Cambridgeshire led to Cambridge where over forty people embarked on the river boat 'Georgina' for a two hour cruise on the Cam, complete with a delicious cream tea. The outing, which took place on 17th August, was organised by ACE and was much enjoyed by everyone.

The Social Centre will be the venue for a fish and chip lunch at 12 for 12.30pm on Friday 22nd October (N.B. this is a change from the original September date). After lunch our speaker will be local historian Garth Collard who will be talking about festivals and occasions of Linton, and bringing along photographs and slides to illustrate his

subject. Garth is hoping that these will stir up some memories in his audience which will enable him to identify some of the faces in his pictures.

Looking forward a month or two we have been fortunate enough to obtain 40 tickets for the South Cambridgeshire District Council Concert 'Celebrating the Classics' with the Regimental Band of the Coldstream Guards, which takes place at the Corn Exchange in Cambridge on Monday 15th November. Tickets are free and a coach subsidised by ACE will be leaving the social centre at 1.30pm for the concert, which starts at 2.30pm. Names for both these events should be notified to Gill or Dawn on 891001.

Janet Crofts 893619

HILDERSHAM HISTORY

AT the July meeting, eleven members of the Hildersham WI met up outside the village hall with Andrew Westwood-Bate who had agreed to talk to us about the history of Hildersham. We started our history lesson standing in the beautiful garden of M^r & M^{rs} Moore's residence - Hildersham Hall. From there we made our way through the hamlet with Andrew pointing out various different buildings of interest, finally finishing off at the church. We all know that

Hildersham is most fortunate in having such a wonderful church and we were happy to listen to Andrew telling us about the history of the windows, the wall paintings, the coat of arms and the brasses.

We all agreed that it had been a most pleasurable evening. M^{rs} Jean Morton gave the vote of thanks and we finished up at the village pub, The Pear Tree, where David and Diana had kindly prepared a delicious finger buffet.

Gillian Anderson

THE SEN SCHOOL AND THE A1307 THE STORY SO FAR

IT was clear to those involved with Special Educational Needs that SEN provision in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire needed complete reorganisation, with the four old schools replaced by just two. However, the part of the plan which involves building one of the schools in Linton has proved controversial, but it will bring £8 million of improvements to the Village College in its wake.

It's the question of access that is clearly still an issue. Back in 2003 I expressed concern about the lack of consultation with the village, and said that the impact of the new school on the A1307 was not being taken seriously enough. Nevertheless, in July the County Council granted itself planning permission for the SEN school. It includes a new

permanent access to the Village College and the SEN school, with traffic lights, opposite the entrance to the industrial estate.

Local people have expressed concern that this could lead to traffic queues blocking the High Street/A1307 junction. The suggestion was put forward to move the schools' access to the Camgrain junction.

County council traffic engineers suggest this is impossible because it is on a dual carriageway. But the same engineers are looking at a scheme to make the entrance to Dalehead Foods safer. Their idea is to take out part of one of the lanes of the dual-carriageway. Why not consider going the whole hog and closing one of the east-bound lanes completely? Potentially this might

allow for the schools' access to be located at the Camgrain junction, a bus lane in the evenings, safer access to the Camgrain site and the end to turning movements by lorries at Dalehead Foods. We should not forget that Camgrain and Dalehead are important to our local economy.

More computerised traffic modelling work is taking place. As the results come in it may be possible to convince the county council cabinet to consider alternative designs for the new school entrance.

As reported by Esther Cornell in last month's Linton News, county and district councillors recently discussed several safety schemes for the A1307. I argued at that meeting that it is not possible to look at any issue on the A1307 in isolation. In Linton alone, it

is essential to consider access to Hadstock Road, the High Street, Joiners Road, the College and the new school, the industrial estate, Camgrain and Dalehead Foods. Ideally we want a scheme which makes all of the junctions safer. It's certainly no good solving the traffic problems at one junction if it makes things worse at all the others.

It is remarkable that the County Council Cabinet decided to put the SEN school in Linton without seriously looking at the traffic issues on the A1307 first. Now that planning permission has been granted, we need to make sure that we get the best possible solution to the traffic problems for Linton and all A1307 users, including people going to the schools and the various businesses. Terry Bear 892656

NEVER ON A SATURDAY OR SUNDAY

THERE has been a great deal written in the press recently about the changes to general practitioners' contracts. One of the major changes is in the provision of 'out-of-hours' services. Historically, GPs have been responsible for their patients' care 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. In recent years, GPs have managed this commitment by joining local co-operatives. This has ensured that patients have had access to a GP at all times, whilst allowing the workload to be shared amongst a much larger group of GPs.

With the new GP contract, the GPs themselves are no longer responsible for organising the out-of-hours care for their patients. With effect from 1st October 2004, the Primary

Care Trust (in our case South Cambs Primary Care Trust) is responsible for commissioning out-of-hours care for all the patients in their area. Out-of-hours care is defined under the new GP contract as the hours between 6.30pm and 8.00am Monday to Friday and all day on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays.

The PCT will be commissioning Suffolk Doctors on Call (SDOC) to provide out-of-hours care for our patients. The doctors in Linton have been members of SDOC for some time now and the service has served our patients well over the years. Many of the doctors will continue to work for SDOC in the evenings and at weekends, as they do at the moment.

The major change for our patients will be on Saturday

mornings. The PCT has commissioned SDOC to provide the service for Saturday mornings as part of the overall out-of-hours service. Therefore, from the 1st October the practice will no longer open on a Saturday morning. We very much regret the inconvenience that this will inevitably cause to some of our patients. In particular, those patients who call in on a Saturday morning to pick up their prescriptions. Our weekday surgery hours remain unchanged at 8.30am - 6.30pm Monday to Friday.

Patients who need the advice of a doctor outside these hours should telephone the surgery on 01223 891456 for details of the emergency out-of-hours service. Between 8.00 and 8.30am calls will be answered by the out-of-hours

service and any emergency calls will be passed to the duty doctor at Linton.

'Flu Clinics

The 'flu season is just a couple of months away and we are once again organising our 'flu clinics. We have around 2000 patients eligible for vaccination. This includes all patients over the age of 65 as well as those in the 'at risk' groups. All those aged over 75 are also eligible for vaccination against pneumonia. This is a one-off vaccination which can be given at the same time as the annual 'flu vaccination. In order to vaccinate 2000 patients, we are once again holding three Saturday morning clinics. Please book early for these clinics which start at the beginning of October. Sheila Griffiths

Linton Health Centre

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LATEST NEWS FROM THE ZOO



Deja and one of her summer cubs

Picture by Julian Edwards

WE work closely with the team at Customs helping them out with the provision of a home for illegally imported animals and some plants. A couple of years ago we received many giant tree ferns, which we planted throughout the gardens. These have all settled in and are looking very beautiful now.

Some animals recently received include a group of Indian Starred tortoises. These tortoises are endangered and were illegally imported into Hong Kong. The tortoises have been placed in the care of several zoos in Europe and America. Three British zoos

including Linton have been selected to care for some of these animals and a few weeks ago we received eight.

We have had some exciting births at the zoo this year; the tapir calf born in January has grown well and has now nearly lost her spots and stripes. Many owls, parrots and macaws have been hatched and reared, and in May a mongoose lemur was born. Mongoose lemurs are endangered in their native Madagascar. Linton Zoo carefully coordinates the small population, which is cared for within European zoological parks.

More recently we are

pleased to announce the birth of a litter of three Amur (Siberian) tiger cubs on 20th July. The three cubs, two males and a female are all doing well and are expected to start venturing out from their off show bedroom area into the big outside paddock in the next few weeks.

Julian Edwards has been recording their progress with photographs so we are pleased to supply the Linton News with the first pictures of these rare and gorgeous babies!

As part of our commitment to environmental education we will continue with our programme of keeper talks and activities at the weekends.

12.00 Tapir feed and keeper talk.

12.30pm Meet Becky the barn owl and Taric the turkmenian eagle owl.

2pm Tiger conservation talk.

2.30pm Snakes bugs and little beasties.

Linton zoo is open daily including the Bank Holiday weekends from 10am to 5pm-last admission 4pm.

For more information please visit our website:

www.lintonzoo.com
Kim Simmons 891308

WHAT A SCORCHER

A VERY warm summer's day greeted the exhibitors at the Gardening Club's annual Show in July and we were delighted that curiosity tempted many people to view the entries in the afternoon.

Our stalwart Derek Dimmock and his wonderful displays on elegant black velvet were sorely missed. Sadly Derek has since died - a great loss to our, and other gardening clubs.

We were lucky enough to see the return of Les Moulton whose vegetables and flowers, particularly some enormous white gladioli, were a source of wonder winning him six trophies and the Banksian Medal (for most prize money). It is always nice to have new names engraved on trophies and two members, Mary Robinson and Karen Johnson were first time winners of the Jubilee Challenge cup and the Endeavour cup.

As usual the flower arranging was hotly contested with only two points between the winner Jan Sheppard and runner-up Ros Pink. The 'green flowers' and 'depiction of a carpenter's shop' categories were most popular, with Susan Anderson winning the best overall exhibit with materials harvested entirely from her garden. There was some family rivalry in the Baking section, which was won by Peaky Carver, although her non-member



Some of the many luscious vegetable exhibits.

Picture by Ron Pitkin

daughter, Jane Devlin, actually beat her by one point!

The judges were very impressed in every section, particularly in the photographic, where David Champion's winning entries were described as up to professional standard. The enlarged art section contained 21 diverse entries for new judge Darryl Nantais to consider, finally choosing Ron Pitkin's beautiful landscape, but the overall triumph in the handicraft section once again went to Peaky Carver.

Twenty children contested their section and two producers of decorated biscuits were under two years old. Hugo Seacombe was the runaway winner in the seven and under group with five prizes for an alien, miniature garden, craftwork, a biscuit and artwork. In the seven to 14 year group Kate Symes-Thompson beat Sam Seacombe by just one

point for her art and craftwork, a photo and a biscuit.

So another successful show has passed and we would like to thank all who entered, particularly the non-members who gave members a good run for their money. Judy Rossiter was one of these, close on the heels of Les Moulton in two sections. Much hard work goes into the staging of this event, particularly by the Show committee, aided by club members and others who are roped in if they stand still long enough. We couldn't do it without you!

Next season starts with the AGM at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12th October in the Social Centre, with what we hope will be an interesting programme to follow between November and April. We look forward to meeting up with current members and would be pleased to welcome any newcomers.

Gloria Fidler 891800

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DANCE FOR CANCER

A DANCE is being held in Aid of Cancer Research UK Charity with live music and a disco, bar and buffet from 8pm-1am on Friday 24th September at Linton Village College. Entrance by ticket only.

Come along and dance, eat and drink or just watch. All welcome.

Tickets available from: Dorothy Darling 893568 or Helen Darling 892520.

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CHESTNUT JUMBLE

CHESTNUT playgroup jumble sale/fête will be held at Linton fire station at 2pm on Saturday 15th September.

Any jumble can be left at the fire station from 10am on the morning at the side door please. Bouncy castle, face painting, raffle, tombola, cakes, bric-a-brac, teas and coffees and much more.

Angela Reilly 893125

K-CLUB WINNERS

THE winners of the August K-Club monthly draw:
1st prize (£50) **Carol Ketteridge** (No. 174)
2nd prize (£25) **Maria Sell** (No 125)
3rd prize (£10) **Saffron Clackson** (No. 158)

TRADITIONAL FISH AND CHIPS BACK IN LINTON



Chippy's new state-of-the-art van
YES, after 30 years absence (Chippy's née Brimsdens) traditional fish and chips are coming back to Linton.

In the 60's and early 70's our grandfather, father and uncle came to Linton every week and were greeted with regular customers for a number of years.

We, at Chippy's in Haverhill have invested in a new state-of-the-art mobile fish and chip shop which will be able to serve the people of Linton and surrounding areas with a range of hot meals.

Look out for our leaflets posted through your door soon.

Lastly a big thank you to all our regular customers from Linton and surrounding areas who visit our fish and chip shop on the Chalkstone estate in Haverhill every week.

Chippy's, of Strasbourg Square, Chalkstone Estate, Haverhill was established in 1955.

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THE BUSH TELEGRAPH

SOMETIMES it is worth asking fundamental questions about what you are doing and why, even though this can be a rather uncomfortable experience at times. For example what are schools for? Or more broadly, what is education? With the exam period over, the results coming in and the inevitable debate about the value of league tables underway again, it is tempting to fall back on the security of percentages and grades to answer those two awkward questions. If we are doing as predicted, or above the national average and all the subjects are being taught appropriately at the right time, then we are delivering 'education' and the school is fulfilling its purpose. This is a very narrow view of course and really education is about a great deal more than this.

It was my great privilege to see that broader meaning made real for fifteen young people in July when I accompanied them to LVC's partner school in South Africa. Boepathutse Secondary School is in the middle of a township of two and a half million people just north of Pretoria. No white people live in the township and very few visit or work there. It has no amenities as we know them. An unemployment rate of sixty per cent and extensive and oppressive poverty for the majority of its population are the daily reality. Boepathutse School is a sparse and austere place, with very few resources and very large classes. Our students had signed up to a week living with families in the township and working as teaching assistants in the school - fifteen very brave young people.

We arrived on Sunday and drove to the township in an ancient, noisy bus and delivered our students to their respective homes. If you have never seen an African township, as our students had not, it is difficult to be prepared for the reality and as they were danced and sung from the bus into the tiny, tin roofed houses, the culture shock was palpable. Fifteen hours later, as we gathered in the school, it was still very real and that was the time when will-power and determination were most needed. I watched them carefully, contingency plans at the ready, but they supported one another as they described their new homes and families and the smiles and laughter came and I knew they would be fine. Indeed the next morning they were calm and happy and thoroughly into the task of teaching. I mean this literally because there are no cover lessons or supply teachers in South African schools, so when a teacher is absent for whatever reason, the class is unsupervised. To their immense credit, our students thought this wrong and simply moved in and taught when they found a teacher-less class. Amid all this was the usual African cocktail of music, dancing and warm hearted friendliness into which our young people settled with enthusiasm.

A busy week of work and visits passed quickly and by the second Sunday a different gloom had settled over the group; in spite of the 'reward' of three days in the Kruger national park no one wanted to leave the township or their families. It is hard to quantify what is learned through such an experience, and it takes time for the learning to become embedded or understood, but for the four teachers who accompanied the trip, the signals were very clear. We watched an impressive group of young people grow, learn and begin to understand things that most people do not get a chance to encounter and as we flew home the conversations were about changed attitudes and a determination to do more to bring people together and understand our similarities and differences; commendable aspirations in our troubled world.

Clive Bush, Principal

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- S/1497/04/F Westbury Homes Ltd., Land off Fairfield Way R/O 1 Horseheath Road, Linton. 10 Houses & garages..
- S/1513/04/LDC M^r & M^s T Roke, 22 Kingfisher Walk, Linton. Certificate of lawfulness for proposed front extension.
- S/1574/04/F Greene King Pub Partners, The Dog & Duck, 63 High Street, Linton. Timber decking.
- S/1577/04/LB Greene King Pub Partners, The Dog & Duck, 63 High Street, Linton. Alterations - Installation of kitchen extraction system (retrospective).
- S/1591/04/F T.G. Mullan, Rivey Hill Barn, Balsham Road, Linton. Extensions.
- S/1607/04/F M^s S Revell, 29 Cambridge Road, Linton. Change of use of factory to warehouse and retail use.
- S/1673/04/F Greene King Pub Partners, The Dog & Duck, 63 High Street, Linton. Kitchen extraction system (retrospective application).

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LVC PUPILS RESPOND TO THOSE WORSE OFF

AS volunteers for the Save The Children Fund we find the response of the young to the needs of their very deprived peers, in this country and overseas, most encouraging.

We were very grateful to Year 8 at Linton Village College, who at Easter raised £450 selling tickets for a chocolate raffle in aid of SCF and, again, at the end of the summer term when, with M^r Bush's permission, a 'No Uniform Day' raised another £490.

Recently, Year 8 was a most attentive audience at a talk in assembly on the work of Save the Children. We now look forward to short monthly lunch-hour meetings to give information and discuss issues with which SCF deals. All this will deservedly help towards their Active Citizenship in Schools' certificate.

Again, may thanks to Linton Village College, especially a year 8 Geography Group led by M^r Colin Thomas, for their interest and readiness to help SCF.

Anna Newton
Linton and District Save The Children Committee.

THE NEW LINTON WEBSITE

THE Linton village website, www.linton.info is pleased to announce its re-launch.

New features include: a calendar viewable by month, the complete Linton directory online, and fast loading news pages.

This re-design, promised a year ago, is finally on the web. The priority was to try to make it much easier to navigate and faster to download. At the moment there are very few pictures, particularly on the news pages, but they will return - in time.

The next big project for the site is an interactive village map with historical details about buildings and neighbourhoods.

Thank you to all those who helped; you know who you are. Mandy Honeyman
Linton Info Editor
siteed@linton.info

LINTON COUNTRY DIARY by Darryl Nantais

Illustrated by Maureen Williams

THE False Apocalypse. Beneath the summer fluffy nimbus and cumulonimbus clouds I drove to S' Ives. Setting off along Back Road I noticed several hoverflies! At least two of the some two hundred and seventy known British species were travelling with me. One resembled, looked like, imitated a small honeybee and the other a wasp. Either one was capable of causing a driver nervously to short circuit, pull over and open all the doors if not recognised as harmless 'flowerflies' which simply do not sting. As they clung for dear life to the inside of the windscreen I wondered what their tiny brains were processing of the view as we sped along. A chaotic universe or ordered cosmos?

However, do remember, wasps and honey bees sting by injecting a venomous fluid under the skin. The wasp, like a hornet, uses a lance and can sting repeatedly whilst bees leave behind a barbed spike with the poison sack attached. The sting will normally cause only local pain and redness, anything other requires medical assistance. Do not try to extract a barb with tweezers or thumb and forefinger as this will invariably pump in more venom. If you crush a wasp do be aware the venom releases an alarm pheromone

into the air signalling guard wasps to attend the area and attack anything in their way.

And so it was I rid Linton of at least a couple of the pesky creatures to join the absolute billions on the banks and flood plains of the Great Ouse. Between here and there it became evident we were experiencing a veritable plague. Had these been a venomous insect the weekend would have been very different for so many. Now, we humans have a terrible tendency to take sides, wielding our knowledge to whip nature into our idea of order. Not so long ago I recall the rarity of seeing any of the syrphid family in abundance. Lending our ingenuity to help one species we unwittingly create an imbalance; thus follows a domino event with some species even suffering extinction. Some say making one child a winner in a class of thirty creates twenty nine losers and likewise protecting one species often leaves millions struggling for survival. We speak of balance in nature, yet in the wild raw tangle of intricate and infinite variables can there be such a thing? Every now and then nature provides a sign, and it is humbling to know just who is boss!

Now the hoverfly is, according to my eye, a very aesthetically pleasing creature. Like other life forms they rise and fall in numbers and



this year the birds and bees and flowers are having a heyday, which

weather permitting will have a pleasing effect in 2005. Each hoverfly after hatching from a tiny egg will spend about three weeks as a maggot consuming hundreds of aphids. During the last larval stage a casing will form from which the adult will eventually emerge. If the weather turns cold they will remain as pupae through winter. The adults by the way are great pollinators and the larvae also consume large quantities of thrips and caterpillars, making the hoverfly a good gardener's companion. Talking of flies, the horse-fly *Tabanus sudeticus* is definitely one to look out for. It may be mistaken for a 'flowerfly' but don't be taken in by its stunningly beautiful iridescent eyes, for the females are not opposed to an attack on people. The Robber-fly *Asilus crabroniformis* in contrast generally ignores man and can be found during late summer buzzing about like some red baron grabbing other flying insects in mid-air and sucking them dry. It's all there to see. Yes, the insect world with its huge cast is the biggest action packed movie in the cosmos and brings one to wonder who really landed the leading role! Ah, don't you just love the smell of autumn in the morning?

A WARTIME STORY FROM BARBARA WALKER

EVEN in bad times there are always humorous stories to relate. This one happened when I was in the top class at the Linton Junior School in the year 1940.

Over the months we were all given drill in case the unforeseen happened, so in case of emergencies we would have to run home, keeping as close to the wall or building as possible. We had never had to do this until this particular day.

It was late in the morning when M^{iss} Kemp, who taught in a lower class, came dashing in through the classroom door looking pretty shaken, red in the face and calling out at the

top of her voice,

"The Germans are coming, the Germans are coming!"

All knowing our drill, we formed into lines, collecting our coats on the way out. Looking out through the high school windows, we could see the sky was filled with parachutists and we did not stop once we had made our way outside! I ran and ran close to the wall until I reached home, a fish and chip shop. My parents could not make it out at all; there had been no warning by siren....

Later in the afternoon I was back at school, (I think my parents thought I had been playing truant!). Everything came

to light once we arrived back at school. The parachutists were our own boys practising; some landed in the girls' playground, some in the boys' playground and the rest in the churchyard! Poor M^{iss} Kemp! I felt so sorry for her, but what happened could have been the real thing!

We hope you like this story, it is one that the IT club has been given to be entered into the BBC People's War web site and a good example of what they are looking for. Look out for another one next month, space permitting. If you have one to share please contact the IT club:

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Parish Council Matters

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

AT LAST! LINTON SOCIAL CENTRE TO BECOME LINTON VILLAGE HALL

ON SATURDAY 2nd October at 10.30 am the Social Centre will be hosting a 'Renaming Day'. After many years of fund raising, making grant applications and working hard to ensure the continued improvement of this hall, all the refurbishment will be complete. The Committee have taken the opportunity to officially rename the Centre LINTON VILLAGE HALL.

To publicise this the Hall will have representatives of many, if not all, the groups who currently use it regularly showcasing their wares. There will be entertainment for the young ones including a bouncy castle, balloons and other attractions, many photographs of past events to view, a giant raffle and refreshments. Please come and support your Village Hall.

The Hall will be officially re-opened by Joan Smith and John Batchelor, your two District Councillors, and many of the Committee will be on hand to give tours or answer questions.



Linton Acorn Toddlers, staff and parents

Linton Social Centre was originally built through the hard work of a group of local people. It has always remained in residents hands, the Committee being made up of representatives of the groups who use it and village people who

volunteer. The refurbishment have been extensive including, new floor, new windows and doors, new roof, new disabled facilities, fully tiled toilets, new furniture and curtains, new boiler. The money for these refurbish-

ments has come from grants made by South Cambs District Council, Linton Parish Council who rent office space here, and Awards For All (lottery money) plus fundraising events such as jumble sales, a film night and tombolas run by

Pinna Dockerill.

Many, many thanks to all who have contributed – come and see what your efforts have achieved and help us celebrate! – Saturday 2nd October 1030 am – LINTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE.

KNOW YOUR COUNCIL STAFF

Assistant Village Custodian

IVY Whiting has worked for Linton Parish Council for longer than she would care to say. She is responsible for keeping the Recreation Ground spic and span. She is employed for 6 hours weekly, some being worked in the early hours of Saturday or Sunday mornings whilst we are all still tucked up in bed. Ivy also litter picks around such areas as the Mill and the entrance to the Pocket Park.

Ivy says she thoroughly enjoys her work and always has time to stop and talk to residents who are using the Recreation ground for dog walking or relaxation.

When not working, Ivy loves her Bingo and tries to go at least twice each week. She has seen the equipment and facilities provided on the recreation ground grow and says she is amazed and pleased at how well the majority of the users treat the area.



VIEW FROM UNDER THE CHAIR!

HMMPH....just back from my morning walk with "her that feeds me", the one in the chair. The Parish Council is supposed to be on holiday, but the woman seems to be as busy as ever. She takes me walking in odd places using me as an excuse to lurk about, looking at plans and drawings; I don't mind as I get a wider range of lamp posts to sniff. But then she goes off to meetings at all hours, leaving me to guard the house. Well, the work I have to do and no extra for overtime (a bit like Gill, but she gets biscuits...) I don't mind, 'cos Mike, Pam and the rest have dogs, so she brings back nice smells, but Val also brings in medicine smells from the surgery and that can upset a sensitive dog....I like the v..., but the things he does can upset my dignity – I am a pedigree. OK,

I came from the RSPCA, like lots of us in Linton, but even a re-cycled dog has its pride!

And she has been giving away my treats again. We meet lots of people and I hear all sorts of things about potholes in roads, grass cutting, the traffic, wheelie bins, new housing, ACEs, what's happening about Abington, the LVC site, and why we don't have enough police, all of which need 'phone calls or e-mails when we get home. I get bored, but just have to put up with it...poor me. The worst thing is when the other person has a dog, with whom I am supposed to socialise – I am not used to that, being a furry person, not really a dog - then she gives it MY chewies. She can go too far. She will be away soon with The Man; of course I will mope and make sure they feel guilty

all the time they are away. I am good at this, having had lots of practice, for they often work away. I am not really upset as I then get looked after by Chris, my favourite person, but why waste a good dirty look?

My pal Spike and I spotted the mink the other day – they are back and eating my friends

the ducks and their eggs. If they hurt my hedgehog mate I will be really upset. But Spike was more interested in a lady dog (he is another rescue dog but has bits that I don't) and I had a word with the squirrel instead.

It is a busy life, under the chair... Jasper Bald

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Council minutes council minutes council minutes council minutes council minutes

The meeting on 5th August heard the first details of the Interim Flood Study Report

AT THE meeting held on 5th August, 2004 there were 14 Councillors present.

The first item on the Agenda was a presentation of an interim report regarding the Linton Independent Flood Study being carried out by D^r James Brassington and his research student Hilary McMillan. The Chairman introduced them both to the meeting. She then gave a brief history of how and why this Study had been organised. D^r Brassington was then invited to report to the meeting.

D^r Brassington gave a brief report on the aims of the study and explained that Hilary McMillan was the research student who was organising and collating the data involved. He then handed over to her to present the findings so far.

Hilary explained that the study, as a whole, was to produce a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) specifically for Linton. It would contain data from 3 different methods: Historical, Pooled and Rainfall Run off data. She further explained each method and showed slides of how each individual method reached a conclusion. It was when all three methods were combined that the most accurate extrapolations could be achieved.

Hilary then explained in more detail the aims of the project overall and noted that the Parish Council's individual funding of equipment to measure the weather locally, based at the Village College, was being particularly useful. The PC funding had also helped to purchase a flow meter which would be connected to a computer at LVC and all this information would soon be available on the web to anyone who wished to view.

Councillors then asked questions regarding the accuracy of predictions which may be obtained by the end of the study, whether the survey in-

formation collected at the time of the last flood, held by the PC would be of any use, and Hilary was very interested in this information as a way of checking the data extrapolations to date, and any information which local historians may have. This was to be passed on to James and his team.

Hilary then noted that there was still a lot of work to be completed in the final year and that the team were intending to 'post' all the information as it was available on the web site at Cambridge University, Geography Department.

The Chairman thanked both D^r Brassington and Hilary McMillan for all their hard work so far and looked forward to seeing them again shortly after the conclusion of the study.

This was wholeheartedly agreed by the meeting.

There were some alterations required to the previous Minutes. These were noted and it was agreed they would be re-issued and signed at the next meeting.

Under Matters Arising both C^{llr} Cox and C^{llr} Gore required some alteration to the Minutes under Item 78, adoption of Linton Churchyard. These were noted and agreed by the meeting. There followed some debate regarding this item. The Clerk reported that this item would be placed on a future agenda when all the relevant information was to hand. It was agreed to leave further debate until this time.

The Planning Minutes were considered with no queries.

There followed the reports from co-ordinators:-

For open spaces, C^{llr} Clay reported that County Council contractors were currently filling pot holes. The quality of the works would be monitored.

C^{llr} Kenyon had issued a written report regarding the Recreation Ground. To this she added that mink had recently



The Golden Jubilee Stone

been seen in the river near the Jubilee stone. C^{llr} Cox reported that traps had set but had only managed to catch a cat! C^{llr} Potter reported that he had managed to complete repairs to the Recreation ground gate with the assistance of members of the Football Club. He further reported that the eastern boundary hedge had recently been cut back by the owner, but unfortunately not far enough to alleviate the problems at the gate itself. He would look at remedial works himself.

C^{llr} Gee reported on behalf of the Cemetery, that there had been complaints received from nearby residents regarding the old 'pit' area. The PC's contractors had been asked to weedkill and cut down the vegetation and this had now been completed. However, the leader of the Family Resource Centre in the village had written in offering a small group of volunteers for a small project during National Parenting Week, mid October, and C^{llr} Gee wished to volunteer this area. Discussion took place and it was noted that small bushes could be planted around the actual 'pit' itself and bulbs could be planted on the surface. As a result of discussion C^{llr} Gee proposed a small grant of £50 to cover purchase of plants for this volunteer group to use to beautify this area. This was seconded by C^{llr} Rossiter and agreed by the meeting.

All items from the correspondence list 04 (July), were noted. Of particular interest:-

C^{llr} Rossiter reported that a meeting of the Rights of Way group was now required. She would pass possible dates to the clerk for circulation to all.

C^{llr} Hammett had nothing to report regarding the Venture Playground at this time except there were mole hills developing. The Clerk was to organise their humane removal.

C^{llr} Cox reported that Hogs Holme Field had still not been cut this year. The Clerk was to take this up with the contractor immediately. It was also reported that fly-tipping had occurred at the entrance to the Pocket Park. This was to be reported to SCDC for clearance.

C^{llr} Rossiter then reported that a new 'pack' had been developed for parishes who had yet to commence a parish plan. This had been issued by the Countryside Agency.

The payments due list was circulated and there were no queries. The cheques were signed by C^{llr}s Clay and Potter.

Council then considered the Annual Staff Review. A written report had been circulated. There were no queries. As a result of the report, which included information regarding the NALC recommendations for annual pay rises, C^{llr} Gore proposed the recommendations be implemented. This was seconded by C^{llr} Hickford and agreed by the meeting.

All items from the correspondence list 04 (July), were noted. Of particular interest:-

Item 30 - Linton Gardening Club - The Chairman reported yet another very successful event, including her own 1st for rhubarb!!

Item 34 - EEDA - Information and posters regarding the East of England having been 'deemed' a Centre of Excellence for Regeneration and Renaissance.

Item 36 - CCC copy of decision notice for the Special Needs School application at the Village College. The Chairman noted that the PC's own letter of complaint to the local Ombudsman was about to be sent.

Item 44 - Copy of Minutes of the meeting with the Police regarding the Section 30 order for Copperfields estate. The Press release was also noted. The Chairman once again thanked C^{llr}s Hickford and Batchelor for their efforts in bringing this to a conclusion.

Item 52 - SCDC - Street naming with regard to the development off Granta Vale. It was noted that this Council had requested the name 'Lamb Fair' and this had been forwarded to SCDC. It would be re-iterated.

Item 53 - Email from T Clayton (Family Resource Centre). This had already been dealt with under the item regarding the cemetery.

Item 54 - CCC - Notification of proposed extension to double yellow lines in the High Street, close to Coles Lane, to facilitate the 'Priority change' signage linking in with the road markings.

Item 58 - Letter regarding the siting of the Linton Infant School bike shed. The Clerk reported that the siting of the shed was 'permitted development' and had not been required to form part of any planning application. Comments would be sought from the LIS Community governor, M^{rs} J Nightingale.

Item 32 - C^{llr} Hickford requested a copy of this correspondence.

Under Any other business C^{llr} Kenyon requested that when C^{llr} Hickford meets with the Chief Constable soon, he should ask why it is always so difficult to obtain an incident number when reporting same. Apparently, Suffolk Police issue the incident number without being asked.

C^{llr} Cox reported that Cambs Police receive the equivalent of £221,000 from the village of Linton. The PCSO currently based here is funded completely by outside sources, both government and SCDC. C^{llr} Cornell added that she had spoken with PCSO diBon recently and there was still no volunteer for the vacant Community Beat Manager position.

C^{llr} Hickford queried what had occurred at the recently held Linton Area Pool Project meeting. The Clerk reported that notes from the meeting should be circulated shortly, from DC Smith. C^{llr} Rossiter reported that the CCC officer present had suggested a 'pre-feasibility' study first. It was also noted that local resident M^r John Creedy had been willing to become involved in this campaign and was now actively investigating possible funding.

C^{llr} Hickford then queried a newspaper article recently which seemed to report that the proposal for 18,000 houses at Abington would not now go ahead. C^{llr} Gore recommended caution. He reported these proposals had a habit of dying away only to come to fore at a later stage. This Council should continue to proceed as planned.

The Chairman then wished all councillors a refreshing summer break and the meeting closed at 21.50.

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