THE LINTON NEWS IS IN ITS 40th YEAR
SPECIAL FEATURES LOOKING FORWARD & BACK THROUGHOUT 2026

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THE LINTON NEWS

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Bartlow 3 Counties Walk success

A HUGE thank you to everyone involved in organising and running this year's Bartlow 3 Counties Charity Walk, and to everyone who attended. A record-breaking £26,180 was raised for three local charities. A total of 1,221 walkers, along with lots of dogs, took part — an amazing turnout considering rain had been forecast.

The money will be split equally between the Arthur Rank Hospice, Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust and St Mary's, Bartlow. We spoke with representatives from each organisation.

Sarah Clayton from Arthur Rank Hospice said "... The money raised will help us to continue supporting people in Cambridgeshire living with an advanced serious illness or other life-limiting condition and those who need essential end-of-life care. This care is provided free of charge and is only possible with the ongoing support of our community".

Emily Wilding from Addenbrooke's Charitable trust sent us the following message:

"...For more than 20 years, the Bartlow Walk has supported Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust (ACT), supporting services across Addenbrooke's and the Rosie hospitals that have transformed the lives of patients and their loved ones..."



Emily Wilding and Dr Rob Heushkel from ACT and Duncan Ogilvy

The third local charity is the beautiful St Mary's Church in Bartlow. Reverend Paul Seaton-Burn explained how the money will be spent: "Having undertaken significant work over the past few years, most recently restoring the front porch and repairing stonework elsewhere, our attention now turns to the ancient windows. As with any old building its maintenance is an ongoing challenge..."

Please mark your dates for Sunday May 2nd 2027, and join us again for the Bartlow 3 Counties Walk, when we will be once again be supporting these charities.

Hetty Findlay, Duncan Ogilvy



Sarah Clayton of ARH with volunteers Mike McCall and Jen Norton and Duncan Ogilvy



Revd Paul Seaton-Burn and Duncan Ogilvy

East Anglian Air Ambulance continues fundraising push for new Cambridge Air Base

EAST Anglian Air Ambulance has raised £2.6 million towards its £8.2 million Cambridge Air Base Appeal, thanks to supporters across the region, but still has a long way to go to reach its target.

The charity is urgently seeking funds to relocate and build a new air base near Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire, to replace its current base at Cambridge Airport, which is due to close before the end of the decade.

The new facility is essential to ensure East Anglian Air Ambulance can continue delivering its 24/7 lifesaving critical care service for decades to come.

The charity's distinctive yellow helicopters are a familiar sight across the region. Whether responding to serious road collisions, cardiac arrests, or medical emergencies at home or in the workplace, the specialist doctors and critical care paramedics from East Anglian Air Ambulance bring hospital-level treatment directly to patients when every second matters.

Dr Nicola Ebbs, Deputy Medical Director at East Anglian Air Ambulance, said: "We'd like to thank everyone who has donated so far ... but this is only the beginning. There's still a significant amount of money to raise. Every donation will help ensure our crews can continue reaching critically ill and injured patients as quickly as possible, when every second counts."

East Anglian Air Ambulance relies entirely on charitable donations to deliver its lifesaving service and aftercare support for patients and their families. To support the Cambridge Air Base Appeal, visit: https://www.eaaa.org.uk/cambridge-air-base-appeal.

Rachel Hogg



Air ambulances in flight - photo L.Horgan

Impressive results for college

THERE were smiles, celebrations and a great sense of pride at Linton Village College as Year 11 students collected their GCSE results and reflected on their achievements.

Students gathered with friends, families and staff to celebrate the culmination of years of hard work and dedication, with many now looking forward to exciting next steps in education, training and employment.



This year's results day was especially meaningful for Mrs Marsh, LVC's Principal, whose daughter, Phoebe (right), was among the cohort receiving her GCSE results. Celebrating her own excellent academic achievements alongside her peers, she was part of a year group whose hard work, resilience and ambition have been evident throughout their time at Linton Village College.

Helena Marsh said "I'm incredibly proud of the many success stories from the Class of 2026. The young people have demonstrated our Linton Learner qualities and have secured impressive results across the arts, sciences, humanities and languages. I wish them all the best for the next stages of their educational journeys".

Helena Marsh

Grange Farm: Have your say

A NEW town of around 4,500 homes, alongside warehousing, employment space and new infrastructure, is proposed at Fourwentways, Abington. The development would have a major impact on our countryside, villages, roads and environment, including the rare and irreplaceable chalk stream system fed by the underlying chalk aquifer.

The final public consultation (Regulation 19) is now open until 5pm on 25th September 2026. It is the final opportunity for you to formally object. Even if you commented in January, you need to comment again before it goes to government. For guidance on what to say and how to submit your response, visit www.s-a-v-e.co.uk/updates/how-to-submit-regulation-19 .

SAVE is also fundraising for the legal and expert evidence needed to challenge the proposal — please support the campaign at www.s-a-v-e.co.uk/donate

Rosalind Barker

The Crown - a place to stay

THERE'S even more reason to visit The Crown, Linton, with our new rooms, successful tapas menu and growing reputation for great pub food.

Situated in the heart of Linton, the rooms are now available to book — perfect for a countryside break, visiting friends and family, attending a wedding, the Duxford Air Show, or staying locally for work or training. Each room has its own local story. The Rivey is a welcoming double room with en-suite facilities, named after Rivey Hill. The Water Tower celebrates one of Linton's landmarks, while The Granta takes its name from our beautiful chalk stream. The Graham Greene, meanwhile, is named after the famous writer whose family owned Queen's House. Each stay includes a continental breakfast, making The Crown a comfortable and friendly home away from home.

Downstairs, our new tapas menu has already proved hugely popular, with garlic prawns, pork belly bites, chorizo and Rioja, garlic mushrooms and chicken tenders. Perfect for sharing or enjoying with a drink. We're also serving our much-loved favourites, including Seb's homemade lasagne, Tuesday Steak Night, and our fast-growing flagship dish, salmon in Pinot Grigio sauce.

To book a room, contact The Crown directly or visit our booking page for availability and reservations.

Adam Wilson

Light up the sky: Linton Fireworks on 7th November

LINTON'S fireworks display returns on Saturday 7th November 2026. As always, proceeds go to our local schools, so a fun night out for the whole family also means giving back to the village.

This year's theme is 100 Years of Sir David Attenborough, marking his centenary and celebrating a lifetime spent bringing the natural world into our homes. Sir David himself narrated London's New Year fireworks display in 2021, telling viewers: "Our planet is unique. A living world of diversity and wonder. It's also fragile." Fitting words for the night; by supporting our schools we are investing in a brighter future for the next generation.

There's more to look forward to this year. We're introducing a raffle celebrating local businesses, with prizes donated by the shops, pubs and services that make Linton special. It's a fun new addition to the evening, with more details to follow.



This event relies on our wonderful volunteers. If you can spare some time before or on the night, we'd love your help. Get in touch at info@lintonfireworks.co.uk.

We look forward to seeing you on the 7th November!

The Linton Fireworks Committee

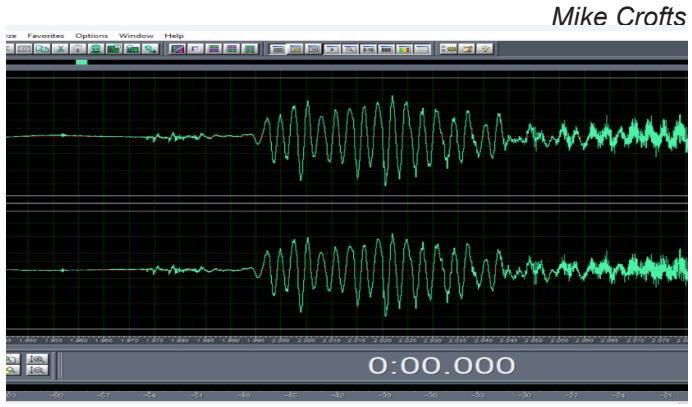
Listen to the Linton News

GRANTA Grapevine is a talking newspaper, providing a spoken version of the *Linton News* every month. It has been running, without a break, for 36 years. We provide recordings on a USB memory stick for those who are visually impaired, or have difficulty reading the text for any reason. Low cost players are available to play the recordings.

This year's AGM, at Chalklands Community Centre, will be on Thursday 22nd October at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome to attend, particularly our listeners. Let us know if you can come, or if you need help with transport.

We need more volunteers to help, particularly with computer and audio recording skills (where we can provide training), but there are also other, non-technical, areas where we need assistance. If you think you can help us, or you know someone who might like to receive recordings email grantagrapevine@gmail.com, or call 01223 893619, see our website grantagrapevine.org.uk for further information and a copy of our latest output.

Mike Crofts



The sound of the Linton News

Linton and District Historical Society

WE warmly invite you to our next meeting on Tuesday 15th September, at 7.30pm, at Linton Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton CB21 4JS. Our speaker is Bill Franklin, who will give an illustrated talk entitled *A Brief History of the Enclosure of Linton*. All are welcome.

As some long term officers are stepping down from the day to day running of the society, we would welcome your support with essential tasks in order to keep the society running. Membership has steadily increased after the COVID-19 crisis. We have welcomed some excellent speakers on a wide range of topics, which undoubtedly led to this rise in membership and visitors. So, if you can help out with various tasks such as meeting and greeting speakers, creating posters, advertising our meetings in local village magazines, writing up reports, and most importantly, refreshments. Quite a big ask, but sharing responsibilities will guarantee the smooth running of the society. Please contact us via email ldhscambs@gmail.com if you are able to help. Many thanks.

Margaret Creek

Haverhill u3a restarts

RETIRED or semi-retired? A date for your diary – Tuesday 29th September 10am–12pm
Haverhill Arts Centre. A chance to chat to some of the leaders of the 50+ groups we have at present, renew your membership or JOIN US! For more info: vicechair@haverhillu3a.com or on our website Haverhillu3a.com.

Susanne Dickinson

Headscratcher

Number 23
My watch stopped. Waking up at 3.15am, I reset my analogue watch to the digital clock. What would the angle (in degrees) be between the hour and minute hands?

Answer to 22
It was 18 years before Linton University achieved 50% of its allocation.

Aspasia

Corelli comes to Hildersham

CORELLI and Company, featuring members of the Chaos String Quartet (ex-BBC New Generation Artists) and archlute player Sam Brown, presents the opening concert of the third Hildersham Music Series on Wednesday 30th September at 7.30pm in Holy Trinity, Hildersham.

Tickets are £20 including refreshments, available from Eventbrite (http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/corelli-and-company-tickets-1997558208374?aff=oddtdtcreator) or at the door.

The programme features music by Corelli, Vivaldi, Albinoni, Scarlatti, and Tartini's *The Devil's Trill*. Arcangelo Corelli (1653–1713) shaped Italian baroque music, inspiring the next generation of violinists and composers whom he taught both in Italy and across Europe.

Athene Hunt
huntcam2015@gmail.com

Linton Festival of Angels

OUR ancient parish church will be filled with more angels than usual this Autumn. Starting everyday from 10am–4pm on Tuesday 29th September, the Feast of St Michael and All Angels, to Sunday 4th October. All sorts of artwork, poems and crafts by friends across Linton will be on display. The event is free. There's still time to contribute your own angel, or for your group or business to do so, just contact rector@stmaryslinton.org.uk.

Friday 2nd October at 7pm we will host an evening of music and readings for all ages performed by local musicians, including the Linton Belles and pupils from Linton Heights Junior School. There will be a bar available. Tickets on the door or from admin@stmaryslinton.org.uk, under 16s free.

Revd Paul

Come and sing with Balsham Singers

BALSHAM Singers meet every Thursday, and our new season starts on 10th September in the Sports Pavilion, Balsham at 7.30pm until 9.30pm. We will be beginning rehearsals for our Christmas Concert which is on December 12th at 4pm in Holy Trinity Church, Balsham. We welcome new members. We will not ask you to audition. If you would like further information, please contact our MD john.clenaghan@sky.com

Jo Stinton

New Cambridge Singers return

ON 31st October at 7.30pm, New Cambridge Singers will be starting their 40th anniversary season at St Mary's Church in Linton, with a programme of music from seventeenth century Rome. Do save the date!

Barry Roberts

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September bin collection dates

Black: Wednesdays 9th, 23rd

Blue: Wednesdays 2nd, 16th, 30th

Green: Wednesday 2nd, 16th, 30th

Village Diary

A round up of dates from this edition
For entries, email: diary.linton.news@gmail.com.

Please check with organisers before attending weekly events.
See https://www.lintonvillagedirectory.com/events calendar or https://www.villio.co.uk for more details of village events.

SEPTEMBER		
Tue 1	W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm	Village Hall
Wed 2	Summer Hub, 1–4pm	Pavilion, Linton Rec.
Thu 3	Grange Farm Proposal Consultation, 4–7.30pm	Gt. Abington Primary School
Thu 3	Linton Roots AGM, 6pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Sat 5	Farmers Market, 9–1.30am	Village Hall
Sat 5	Afternoon Tea with speaker (booking only), 3pm	St. Mary's Church
Wed 9	Coffee Morning, 10–12pm	Free Church Hall
Sat 12	W.Wickham Gardening Fair, 10.30–1pm	W. Wickham Village Hall
Sat 12	September Fair, 11–3pm	All Saints Church, Ashdon
Mon 14	Alpha Course, 7pm	Linton Free Church
Mon 14	W. Wickham History Club, 7.30pm	W. Wickham Village Hall
Tue 15	Scrabble Club, 10–12pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Tue 15	Historical Society, 7.30pm	Village Hall
Wed 16	Summer Hub, 1–4pm	Pavilion, Linton Rec.
Thu 17	ACE Coach Trip	
Fri 18	Mary's Community Kitchen, 12–2pm	Village Hall
Fri 18	Daylight Readers, 10.30am & 2.30pm	Library
Sat 19	W.I. Coffee Morning, 10–12pm	St Mary's Church
Mon 21	W. Wickham Gardening Club, 7.30pm	W. Wickham Village Hall
Fri 25	MacMillan Coffee Morning, 10–12pm	St Mary's Church
Sat 26	FROG Litter Pick, 10–12pm	Village Hall
Sat 26	Reading Challenge Presentation Ceremony, 11am	Library
Sat 26	Bat Walk, 6.30pm	Pocket Park
Tue 29	Scrabble Club, 10–12pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Tue 29	Opening of Festival of Angels, 10–4pm	St Mary's Church
Tue 29	u3a Open Day, 10–12pm	Haverhill Arts Centre
Wed 30	Summer Hub, 1–4pm	Pavilion, Linton Rec.
Wed 30	Corelli & Co. Concert, 7.30pm	Holy Trinity Church, Hildersham
OCTOBER		
Thu 1	Linton Roots Meeting, 6pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Fri 2	Festival of Angels Concert, 7pm	St Mary's Church
Tue 6	W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm	Village Hall
WEEKLY		
Mon	Mini Movers, 10–11.30am	Cathodeon Centre
Mon	Junior Netball Club, U12s 5–6pm, U14&16s 6–7pm	LVC
Mon	Netball Club, Adults 7–8.30pm	LVC
Mon	Men's Keep Fit, 7.15pm	Comm. Sports Centre, LVC
Tue	Rhythm and Rhyme, 10.30–11am	Library
Tue	Granta Bridge Club, 2–4pm	Village Hall
Tue	Knit and Natter, 2–4pm	Library
Tue	Linton Lionesses Kickabout, 7–8pm	LVC
Wed	Tots in Tow, 9.30–11am	Village Hall
Wed	IT Drop In, 5–7pm	Library
Wed	Let's Run Girls, 7pm	LVC
Thu	Stay and Play, 10–11.30am	Cathodeon Centre
Thu	Baby Group, 1–2.30pm	Cathodeon Centre
Thu	Games Afternoon, 2–4pm	Library
Thu	Balsham Singers, 7.30–9.30pm	Sports Pavilion, Balsham
Fri	Lego/Duplo, 10–11am (1st 2nd & 4th Fri)	Library
Fri	Badminton Club, 7–9pm	Comm. Sports Centre, LVC
Sun	Church Service 10.30am	Linton Free Church
Sun	Church Service 8am and 10am	St Mary's Church

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Year 4 get creative with Cambridge Art Makers



OUR exciting partnership with Cambridge Art Makers continues to open up inspiring new creative opportunities for pupils at Linton Heights Junior School.

As part of this growing collaboration, Year 4 pupils travelled in small groups, by minibus, to the Cambridge Art Makers professional workshop on the penultimate day of term. There, they had the fantastic opportunity to work alongside talented local artists Jill Fordham and Charlotte Aldis, exploring two very different creative disciplines: stained glass mosaic and printmaking.

The children were able to learn new techniques, experiment with materials and develop their creativity in a professional studio environment. Experiences such as these give our pupils the chance to work directly with practising artists and discover creative possibilities beyond the classroom. Cambridge Art Makers provides courses and facilities across a wide range of artistic disciplines, supported by professionals.

We are hugely grateful to Rosemary and Susannah Bangham for their continued support and for creating such valuable opportunities for our children. Their enthusiasm, expertise and commitment to encouraging creativity have made a real impact on our pupils.

The beautiful stained-glass mosaic created by the children is now proudly displayed in our school foyer, providing a lasting reminder of this wonderful experience. We are excited to continue developing this partnership during the next academic year and beyond.

Caroline Webb

Linton Reads

WELCOME to Linton Reads, a new reading corner for young readers to share book reviews, discover new books and encourage a love of reading in our community. Following the Linton Children's Book Festival 2026, and as part of the National Year of Reading, we're hoping to keep the reading energy going all year round.

Our first review comes from Robyn, aged 6, who has reviewed *The Worst Witch* by Jill Murphy:

"I REALLY love *The Worst Witch* because Mildred Hubble (the worst witch at Miss Cackle's Academy for Witches) is ALWAYS in trouble. But, whatever that trouble is, she always gets out of it. Plus, she is ALWAYS the best friend you could ever have. By the way, if you like the first book, then there are seven more!"



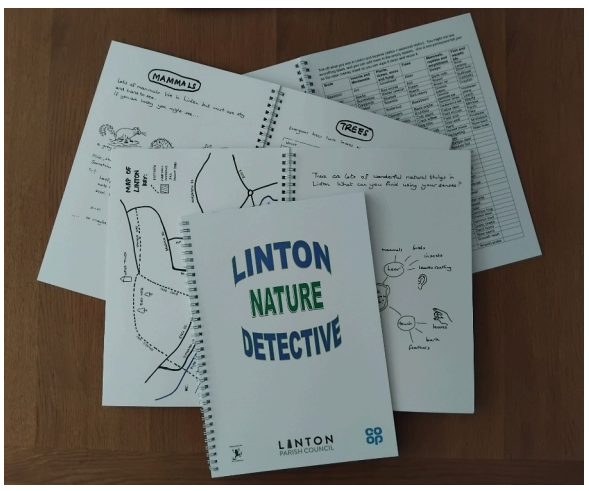
If you would like to read *The Worst Witch*, you can borrow a copy from the library. Books are free to borrow, and if a title isn't already in stock, you can order it to your local library from libraries across Cambridgeshire. Don't have a library card? You can register for one for free at the library or through the Cambridgeshire Libraries website.

And now it's over to you... Is there a book you've enjoyed recently? We'd love to read your recommendations! Please send your review (of no more than 100 words) to lintonreads@gmail.com. Happy reading!

Tara Wheeler

Calling all nature detectives

SHORTLY before the end of the summer school term, free copies of a new nature detective notebook were distributed to children attending Linton Infant, Linton Heights and Granta schools. Aimed primarily at the Year 2 and 3 students, the notebook is a collaboration between Linton Parish Council and Linton FROG. Funded by the Parish Council and Co-op Community Funding, it aims to help children explore and enjoy nature in and around the village.



It is so important that an interest in and love of nature is instilled and encouraged in our children to ensure it is valued and protected in the future. The notebook includes sketches produced by a FROG volunteer and provides tips on identifying common wildlife species, with a reusable tick list to keep track of sightings and space for field sketches. If a child in your family came home with one of these notebooks, please do encourage them to use it in the garden, at the park or by the river and make a note of the wildlife they observe, hear, or even smell!

We would love to see their drawings or sketches of their favourite local species and have set a competition to win one of three prizes of a £20 RSPB gift card. The deadline for entries (sent c/o Linton Parish Council at the Village Hall) is Monday 14th September. Please direct any queries to lintonfrog@gmail.com

Jonathan Silverman, Co-Chair, FROG

World Challenge Expedition in Evje, Norway





THIS August, 15 of this year's Year 11 leavers embarked on an unforgettable 10-day World Challenge Expedition in Evje, Norway, where they embraced adventure, developed new skills and created memories that will last a lifetime. Our sincere thanks go to Mrs Scally and Mr Barton for making this incredible opportunity possible and for giving up time during their summer holidays.

The expedition saw students take responsibility for every aspect of camp life, from planning meals and shopping for supplies to leadership, navigation and campsite management. Their teamwork was evident from the outset, with students rotating roles throughout the trip and successfully providing food for the entire group, even donating surplus supplies to site staff at the end of the expedition.

Activities included white-water rafting, wild camping, mountain trekking and a two-day canoe journey covering 25km. Although a nationwide fire ban meant some trekking plans had to be adapted, students still completed challenging wilderness hikes to remote lakes and mountain summits, enjoying spectacular views across the Setesdal Valley.

Navigation proved particularly demanding, with Norwegian maps offering fewer details than those students were used to in the UK. However, they rose to the challenge, demonstrating resilience and determination throughout. Staff praised the group for their positivity, teamwork and willingness to step outside their comfort zones, noting it was a privilege to watch them return home with lasting memories.

Helena Marsh

Linton library news

CONGRATULATIONS to all those who have completed the Summer Reading Challenge. Our Presentation Ceremony is on Saturday 26th September at 11am. If you cannot attend, please call in afterwards to collect your certificate and medal.

Blood pressure monitors: We are offering blood pressure monitors to borrow. Any library member aged 18+ can borrow a monitor for three weeks, for free. Ask at the library for more information.

We offer a wide range of services for all ages, like Knit and Knatter, Daylight Reading Clubs, Rhythm and Rhyme, Lego/Duplo, Games Afternoon, and IT Drop In. Please see days and times in the village diary on page 2.

All are welcome, we look forward to meeting new members! Come and check it out!

The full list of services are available at Cambridgeshire County Council - Linton Library: https://bit.ly/4hLIDl9

Vicky Anandraj and Ann King
Community Library Assistants, Linton Library
Opening hours: Tuesday 10am–5pm; Wednesday 4–7pm; Thursday 2–5pm; Friday 10am–5pm; Saturday 10am–1pm

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The Hundred Parishes Society

WE always encourage people to visit parish churches; they are usually the oldest building in any community. Here, I discuss the screen which forms a partition, both physically and symbolically, between the congregation in the nave, the main part of the church, and the clergy in the chancel.



Finchingfield's 15th-century chancel screen

The screen, sometimes called a chancel screen, often has a lattice design to allow people worshipping in the nave to see into the chancel.

Finely-carved 15th century wooden screens are found in Albury, Finchingfield, Henham, Manuden and Wendens Ambo. Some are rood screens. Above these screens is a rood, a representation of Christ's crucifixion, usually flanked by two saints, often Mary and St John. Rood is a Saxon word meaning cross. The Hundred Parishes has some fine examples of rood screens, usually carved in wood, but in Stebbing and Great Bardfield, the 14th century screens are carved in stone, a really rare feature.

Little Canfield's wooden rood screen is believed to date from the 14th century. The 15th century wooden screen in Sawbridgeworth's Church of Great St Mary, with a depiction above it of the risen Christ, was installed as recently as 2000 AD. The Church of Holy Trinity at Takeley has a relatively modern rood screen, installed around 1910 and featuring a wooden carving of Christ on the cross with a saint on each side.

Please explore our local churches, perhaps while following one of the walk descriptions that can be downloaded from www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Ken McDonald, Secretary

Macmillan coffee morning

LINTON Infant School and St Mary's Church are pleased to be collaborating once more on a Macmillan Coffee Morning. Last year, we were delighted by the support and donations received to make a positive difference to the lives of people living with cancer.

We invite you to join us at St Mary's, Church Lane, Linton on Friday 25th September from around 10am until midday. We will welcome the children and adults from our school for their regular Friday morning church service at 9am, together with their families and friends. Afterwards, the usual refreshments will be available, followed by further delicious bakes and beverages. All are welcome.

With the latest Cancer Research UK figures stating the shocking statistic that one in two people are at risk of cancer in their lifetime, we hope to raise valuable funds for this worthy cause.

If you can help to support us by making a cake, some biscuits or cookies or would like to help in any way, please contact me.

Sue Filby
sue.filby@stmaryslinton.org.uk

Preparing for autumn

LINTON Free Church, together with our partner Church, OIC Haverhill, will be starting a new Alpha Course running for 11 weeks from Monday 14th September, at 7pm. Alpha is a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. Everyone's welcome. No matter your background or beliefs, you're invited. Plus, there's food!

Each session covers a different topic of faith, either in a short talk or video. The Alpha episodes are designed to engage and inspire conversation. They're about thirty minutes long and explore the big issues around faith, unpacking the basics of Christianity and addressing questions such as *Who is Jesus? How can we have faith?* and *How does God guide us?*

For more information about Alpha, including details of dates, time and venue, please check out our website, lintonfreechurch.org.uk. You can also speak to one of the Course Leaders on 07565 238492.

We also restart our monthly coffee morning on the 2nd Wednesday of every month, beginning Wednesday 9th September, 10am to 12pm. An informal time with refreshments, games and a short thought for the day. Future dates are 14th October, 11th November and 9th December.

Another future date is our Light Party, for children and families, on Saturday 24th October.

Our usual Sunday Services and midweek activities resume this month. Check out our website for details.

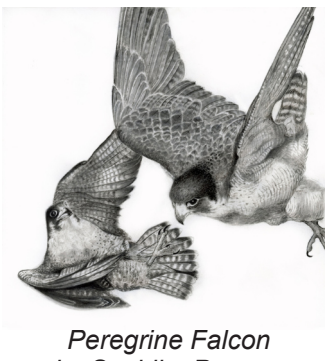
Ian Burns, Church Secretary

Work by local artists on display in Linton

LOCAL wildlife artists, Ali Ginn from Great Gransden, Sachiko Purser from Cambridge, Diana Catchpole from Bartlow, and Darryl Nantais and Maureen Williams from Linton, have joined naturalist and photographer Paul Wyer with his *Nature's Beauty on Your Doorstep* collection of photographs.

The Flora & Fauna of East Anglia exhibition, from now until 26th September, is at the Gallery Above & Beyond at 94 High Street, Linton, and features displays from the Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs and Northants, award-winning Friends of the River Granta, and the Linton Swift Project. Discover wonderful, local nature reserves and find out how to order or make your own swift box.

See the beautiful array of watercolours, acrylics, oil paints, Japanese sumi-ink painting, Japanese woodblock prints and lino prints, and a wonderful choice of wildlife greeting cards.



Peregrine Falcon by Sachiko Purser

After visiting the exhibition, take the opportunity to check out Case Solved Wine Shop downstairs and Etcetera, a collection of vintage items and collectibles housed in the Green Barn behind the gallery. Across the road, see Jigsaw for coffee and freshly made cakes. Sit upstairs or in Rosemary's garden.

Next to Jigsaw, take a moment to look in the window of Linton Art Studio to see stunning mosaics by Jim Anderson.

Maureen Williams

Nichols Court open day

Nichols Court Retirement Community is holding an open day from 10.30am–2.30pm on Saturday 17th October.

Please come along and find out how Sanctuary Housing could support you or your loved ones. We will be hosting some local services, as part of the open day, light refreshments will be provided.

Call Jane or Lucy for more information on 01223 897721. Nichols Court, Flaxfield, Linton, Cambridge, CB21 4AF.

Jane Green

Monday night men's Keep Fit

SUMMER holiday excess? Feeling the need to work off a few extra calories or just fancy getting out of the house on a Monday evening?

Monday Night Men's Keep Fit could be just the ticket.

We meet at 7.15pm at Linton Community Sports Centre for a friendly, informal workout. There's no need to be super-fit, sporty or Lycra-ready — you simply exercise at your own pace and at your own level. There's no pressure to keep up with anyone else (although there may be some friendly encouragement along the way!).

The sessions are varied, sociable and designed to give you a decent workout without taking ourselves too seriously. Come along, have a go and see how you get on.

And, for those who feel they have earned it, there is occasionally the opportunity to undo all that good work with a pint afterwards. After all, balance is important.

It's just £5 per session, with no membership or sign-up required. Just turn up at 7.15pm and join in.

So, if you've been meaning to get a bit fitter, fancy trying something different, or simply want to discover what all the fuss is about, come along.

David Newble

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Country Matters

Text by Oriel O'Loughlin, illustrations by Maureen Williams



The Wildlife Trust

THE Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire is a local nature conservation charity, based in Cambourne. We manage over 100 nature reserves across our three counties, with over 40 of these being in Cambridgeshire. The nearest reserve to Linton is Lower Wood near Weston Colville.

The trust not only owns and manages nature reserves, but we also help manage the many County Wildlife Sites locally. We have recently acquired a new reserve—Fleam Dyke: a linear earthwork of rare chalk grassland, dating back to before AD 500, and situated between Balsham and Fulbourn. The trust will be continuing to manage this special site now as custodians.

Some of our projects have included re-introducing beavers in Northamptonshire, progressing the Great Fen restoration project on the Fens near Ramsey, and managing the Strawberry Hill nature reserve in Bedfordshire: a mature scrubland and haven for nightingales.

Find out more about our projects and work on our website, www.wildlifebcn.org.



There are wonderful wildlife spectacles to be found across our three counties throughout the year and changing seasons. Late September through into autumn is a great time to spot fungi; look out for species like the iconic fly agaric, with its classic red and white spots and home to fairies and magical creatures. Holme Fen nature reserve and other silver birch woodlands are a favoured habitat for these and other species. (Being highly toxic, like many fungi species, we ask people not to touch the fungi, and to leave them for others to admire.)

Late September into autumn is also a time when birds such as jays start foraging for acorns. They'll bury many of these in secret caches around a woodland, and this is a natural means of woodland regeneration, as the jays often forget where they left some! Trumpington Meadows or any woodland with oak trees are good places to look. Lastly, look out for migrating bird species arriving on reserves such as the Ouse Washes or Great Fen, be it pink-footed geese from Greenland and Iceland or the swans and many duck species that spend their winters here; it's always a fabulous sight.



We also run many bookable events throughout the year. Our *Monthly Meanders* at Trumpington Meadows are regular themed guided walks. Come every month: with the change of the seasons there is always something exciting to see! Join Becca Badger for a night-time family adventure walk around Cambourne Nature Reserve in the dark. At Paxton Pits education centre, adults can learn how to keep a nature journal through an outdoor workshop, with tips on drawing, writing and recording information from Sharon Williamson. Head to the Ramsey Rural Museum and Walled Garden on Sunday 11th October for a celebration of all things apple and harvest at our annual fair!

If you would like to find out more, the trust currently has a display at the Flora and Fauna Art Exhibition at Gallery Above and Beyond, Linton, until 26th September.

Paul Wyer

Autumn bat walk

BACK by popular demand, this year's bat walk takes place on Saturday, 26th September at 6.30pm, starting at the gate to the Pocket Park, off Mill Lane, Linton.

Last year, this event attracted 100 people of all ages, fascinated by what flies above our heads near the river at night. Bats are amazing; they are the only mammal that can actively fly (rather than glide) using echolocation, which builds up a 3D picture using sonar. They can live an incredibly long time for such a small mammal; the oldest known bat reached 41 years old.

This walk will last about 1.5 hours, and will be led by Guy Belcher from the Cambridgeshire Bat Group, which carries out batty research and conservation, and education through talks and events.

We will provide bat detectors, or you can bring your own if you have one. These handheld instruments pick up ultrasound (sounds at frequencies too high for the human ear to hear) and convert it into an audible sound.



This is a family friendly event; children must be accompanied by a responsible adult, but please leave dogs at home. See you under the stars!

Please visit this link to book: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1997169433538?aff=oddtdtcreator.

Friends of the River Granta (FROG) is a volunteer group that runs litter picks, conservation and citizen science monitoring tasks, and events to promote a love of our natural world. Everyone is welcome. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact us at lintonfrog@gmail.com or visit us at https://www.facebook.com/LintonFROG/?locale=en_GB.

Jonathan Silverman, Co-chair Linton FROG

Celebrating summer

WEST Wickham & District Gardening Club's annual gardening fair on Saturday 12th September is open to everyone, and we'd love to welcome you at 10.30am–1pm in West Wickham Village Hall.

If you have any surplus plants, fruit, vegetables or preserves, or are able to provide a homemade bake, your donations would be extremely welcome. We will be at the hall from 9.30am for drop offs, or you can email us to arrange to deliver beforehand.
We are excited to be hosting:

- A landscape and garden designer
- Malcolm Cameron's live bee hive
- A pond specialist
- Climate change gardening
- The Bumblebee Conservation Trust

Plants, produce, cakes and bakes will be for sale, and we will have a raffle, quizzes, and the photo competition entrants on display. If you would like to renew your membership or join us for the first time, we will tell you all about our exciting year ahead.

And don't miss this month's fascinating talk by David Hinkley: *Soil Science: the hidden world beneath our feet*, on Monday 21st September at 7.30pm in West Wickham Village Hall.

The closing date for the photo competition is 4th September. Titles: *Lovely Leaves, Sky's the Limit, Along the Path*. Please contact Alice and Andy Mitchell for details.

Sally Collins: wwdgc@westwickham.org for information about the club.
Janet Morris: jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com for information about the club's Plant Heritage and RHS membership benefits.
Alice and Andy Mitchell: photo@westwickham.org for information about the photo competition.

Linton Roots busy first year

LAST year, a group of local people started to meet to do what they could to protect our green spaces and take practical action on climate change.

Our first big event, the Repair Cafe, kept 31 items out of landfill by fixing them instead of throwing them away, thanks to the amazing skills of local residents. On the nature front, we planted new wildflower areas, ran ecologist-guided walks, and held nature activities at the Linton Children's Book Festival.

The Wildlife Garden Scheme was launched to highlight how residents' wildlife efforts add up across the village. This has been especially important during the extreme weather this summer and it's not too late to join in – just email us for details.

We also screened *The People's Emergency Briefing* to 100 people. So many more want to see it, so we're making plans to screen it again on the 3rd October. Scan the QR code for tickets. We want to continue the discussion about how we ensure Linton remains a great place to live as our climate changes.

If you have fresh ideas, can help plan events, or are happy to just get stuck in, we need you! Why not meet us at our AGM on Thursday 3rd September, 6pm at St Mary's Pavilion. Everyone is welcome, and refreshments will be on offer. Can't make it? Get in touch via linton-roots@outlook.com.

Kirsten Newble

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District and County councillors' report – August 2026

SOUTH Cambridgeshire District Council has entered the final round of public consultation on its Local Plan, the document setting out where homes and employment space will be built across the district over the next 20 years. This stage gives residents their last opportunity to comment before the plan is submitted to government for examination by a planning inspector, who will determine whether it is sound.

The most significant proposal locally is Grange Farm, a new settlement proposed north of Abington. The original plan for 6,000 homes drew more than 1,000 responses during January's public consultation. In response, the council has reduced the number of homes to 4,500, at a density of approximately 45–60 houses per hectare, and widened the landscape buffer between the development and the Roman Road, a scheduled historic monument.

In July, the council's cabinet voted to put the amended Local Plan out for public consultation. This vote authorised consultation only; it was not an approval of the Grange Farm proposal itself.

Residents wishing to comment, whether in support or opposition, can do so via the council's website: https://consultations.greatercambridgeplanning.org/proposed-submission-greater-cambridge-local-plan.

A public event is scheduled for Thursday 3rd September, 4pm to 7.30pm, at Great Abington Primary School. Council officers will be available to answer questions and assist with submitting comments. The full schedule of events is available at: https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/local-and-neighbourhood-planning/emerging-plans-and-guidance/greater-cambridge-local-plan-the-20-year-plan-for-the-greater-cambridge-area.

The Kingsway Solar application, submitted to the government's Planning Inspectorate in June, has been withdrawn after the Inspectorate requested further changes before it could proceed to examination. The developer is expected to resubmit once the required amendments are made.

Local Government Reorganisation planning to merge Cambridgeshire's district and county councils into a single unitary authority remain on hold. An announcement expected in July has been delayed until October.

District Council – John Batchelor – johndbatchelor23@gmail.com
District and County Council – Henry Batchelor – henrybatchelor89@gmail.com

Flu clinics 2026

IF you are a patient registered with Granta Medical Practices an SMS message with a link to book your flu appointment will be sent out shortly. If you do not receive SMS messages or are concerned that you have not received one, then please contact our reception team on 0300 234 5555.

Flu clinics dates at Linton Health Centre are on **Sunday 4th** and **Saturday 17th October**, from 8:30am–5pm, for those aged 18–64 and those over 65 years.

Please note that the 18–64 age group is for those in clinical risk groups only and you will be notified if you fit the criteria. If you believe you are eligible but do not receive an SMS message please contact us.If you ring in to book your appointment, please state your age so that you can be booked into the appropriate clinic.

Having your flu jab at your GP surgery is the quickest and most convenient way, as there are no forms to complete and the doctors and nurses have access to your medical history.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us on 0300 234 5555.

Granta Medical Practices

Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire

THE Linton and Hildersham Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire for 2026 can be found on pages 7 and 8 of this month's paper. Please complete the questionnaire and return it to the box in Hildersham Phone Box or Linton Parish Council office (black post box at the front of the village hall). If you need additional copies please contact the Parish Council office on 01223 891001.

Linton Parish Council

Planning applications

From 15th July to 19th August

26/0789/TTCA Pollard Sycamore tree to reduce in size 4 metres all round. 3B The Grip, Linton, Cambridgeshire, CB21 4NR. Validated: Wednesday 12th August. Status: Awaiting decision.

26/0811/TTCA Beech (T1) - Cut 2 lateral branches on bottom section of crown by approx. 3.5m to allow crown to thicken / reduce weight at the end of the branches and over outbuilding. 34 Symonds Lane, Linton, Cambridgeshire, CB21 4HY. Validated: Monday 3rd August. Status: Awaiting decision.

26/02548/HFUL Extension on the front of the house, with a full garage conversion. 1A Granta Vale, Linton, Cambridgeshire, CB21 4LB. Validated: Monday 3rd August. Status: Awaiting decision.

26/0772/TTCA Robinia - reduce height by 2–2.5m, reduce spread on 3 sides by up to 2m back to more dense parts of canopy, remove remaining deadwood throughout canopy. 3 Mill Lane, Linton, Cambridgeshire, CB21 4JY Validated: Friday 24th July. Status: Awaiting decision.

22/04033/OUT & 22/04033/CONDC Submission of details required by condition 7 (contamination) of outline planning permission. Land Off Station Road Linton Cambridgeshire. Validated: Friday 24th July. Status: Awaiting decision.

26/02799/LBC Installation of a fibre home broadband set-up to include replacing the current wire to the house with a fibre-optic cable, replacing the current external connection box, and adding an additional internal box. 14 High Street, Linton, Cambridgeshire, CB21 4HS. Validated: Thursday 23rd July. Status: Awaiting decision.

26/0734/TTCA T1 - Sorbus (over shading garden) - Crown Reduce by up to 2m to leave tree approximately 10m high. T2 - Birch - (over shading garden) - Crown Reduce by up to 3m to leave tree approximately 12m high. T3 - Pear - (In decline. 75% of canopy dead) - Pollard at 2.5m in height. 24 Mill Lane, Linton, Cambridgeshire, CB21 4JY. Validated: Thursday 16th July. Status: Awaiting decision

Summer teas



Keith and Judy Nightingale, Barry and Rosie Roberts enjoying a shady corner of the garden at Queen's House.

THE Friends of St Mary's would like to thank everyone who came, hosted and helped with the Summer Teas in July. Everybody appeared to enjoy themselves, despite the heat, and just over £620 was raised. This will be put towards the repair work currently being carried out at St Mary's, costing around £17,000, and funded by the Friends.

The Friends' next event is a Coffee Morning at the Church on 17th October from 10am - 12pm. All are welcome.

Judith Tonry
Secretary
The Friends of St. Mary's, Linton

Thank you from Rotary for support for Ukraine

SAFFRON Walden Rotary would like to thank all those who so kindly and generously made donations at the collection for Ukraine held in late July. Donors came from the Abingtons and many surrounding villages. In addition to filling a van with tinned and dried food, toiletries, sanitary products, shoes, bedding, mobility aids, toys and educational items, over £1,500 was donated for the purchase of generators and pallets of food.

All donations go to UK-Aid, the local charity based at Felsted, who check each item for suitability, cleanliness and quality before packing and weighing for the customs manifest required by authorities along the delivery route.

Local Rotarian Tony Collett says: "We are very appreciative of the continued support we received at our seventh collection in Abington, which makes it the twenty-fifth collection overall that Saffron Walden Rotary has made since Ukraine was invaded. We also thank Abington School and Granta Churches for their support too. Thank you to everyone".

Tony Collett

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Parish Council matters

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Linton and Hildersham Neighbourhood Plan survey - Your views count!

Dear Resident,

Linton and Hildersham Parish Councils are working together to make final alterations to the Regulation 14 draft of our Neighbourhood Plan (NP) following submission to and feedback from South Cambridgeshire District Council.

We welcome input from all residents who are willing to help with this final version. Please contact the village Clerks at enquiries@linton-pc.gov.uk (01223 891001) or harper802@btinternet.com (01223 892000) if you would like to participate in NP meetings.

A Neighbourhood Plan is not the same as a Local Plan. It has more detail and explains clearly what is important to a community and how our needs should be taken into account during possible development. A NP cannot prevent development, but it can set out our strategy for growth and recommend how any sites in our community should be developed.

This current request is to help us determine whether any final changes are needed to the draft version of our NP based on the changing needs of the villages since the Regulation 14 consultation.

Please would you complete the following anonymous questionnaire and return it to the box in Hildersham Phone Box or to Linton Parish Office (black post box at the front of the Village Hall) by the **30th September 2026.**

Housing Need:

1. Is your home currently

Privately owned	
Owned with shared equity	
Socially rented	
Privately rented	

2. Is any member of your household currently on the housing register (i.e. the waiting list for socially-rented housing)?

YES/NO (Delete as applicable) If YES, please state how many years_____

3. Does any member of your household want or need to move out of the property?

Yes, a member of the household currently wants or needs to move out	
No, but a member of the household may want or need to move out in the next five years	
No, it is unlikely that any member of the household may want or need to move out in the next five years	

4. If you answered yes or possibly yes in the future, what type of household member(s) will want or need to move out?

A single adult	
An adult couple	
A family with children	
A single older person	
An older couple	
Other (please specify)	

5. If you answered yes, or possibly yes to question 3, what type of housing will the household members(s) need?

Privately owned	
Owned with shared equity	
Socially rented	
Privately rented	

6. If you answered yes, or possibly yes, to question 3, why is the current property unsuitable for the family member(s) moving? Please select all that apply.

Too big	
Too small	
Too expensive	
Too difficult/costly to maintain	
Unsuitable for health/mobility reasons	
Want/need to live independently	
Want/need to move for work reasons	
Want/need to move to be closer to family	
Other reasons (please specify)	

7. What type of property would be most suitable for the household member(s) planning or needing to move? Please select up to three options, and number in order of preference (i.e. 1-most preferred, 2-second most preferred option etc.) please add number of bedrooms as appropriate.

House	
Bungalow	
Apartment/Flat	
Sheltered/retirement housing	
Extra care housing	
Other (please specify)	

Traffic, Parking and Road Safety

8. Do you think that vehicle traffic and parking in and around the village has improved or worsened over the last two years?

Traffic and parking has improved	
Traffic and parking has worsened	
Traffic and parking has not changed much	
Uncertain/Don't know	

9. If you think traffic and parking has changed, please would you tell us about your experiences of this? (please provide additional pages if required)

10. Do you think road safety for pedestrians and cyclists has changed over the last two years?

Road safety for pedestrians and cyclists has improved	
Road safety for pedestrians and cyclists has worsened	
Road safety for pedestrians and cyclists has not changed much	
Uncertain/Don't know	

11. If you think road safety for pedestrians and cyclists has changed, please would you tell us about your experiences? (please provide additional pages if required)

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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

Linton and Hildersham Neighbourhood Plan Survey - Your views count!

Neighbourhood Amenity:

12. How satisfied are you with the recreation grounds, village greens or other green spaces in the local area where you live?

Very satisfied	
Satisfied	
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	
Dissatisfied	
Very dissatisfied	

13. What could be done to improve your satisfaction (locations, types of space, types of equipment, other) (please provide additional pages if required)

14.How have problems from exhaust fumes or noise from traffic or other sources changed over the last 2 years?

Fumes or noise have increased	
Fumes or noise have decreased	
Fumes and noise have not changed much	
Unsure/don't know	

15. What changes have you noticed in the provision of shops, services or local employment in the last two years?

Provision has increased	
Provision has decreased	
Provision has not changed much	
Unsure/don't know	

16. What changes have you noticed in the provision of healthcare services in the last two years?

Healthcare services have improved	
Healthcare services have worsened	
Healthcare services have not changed much	
Unsure/don't know	

17. Do you have sufficient access to transport for visiting health centres, shops or other facilities? If not, tell us what more is needed. (please provide additional pages if required)

18. Have you had any issues getting your child into a local school of your choice? If yes, please provide the admissions year.

No issues at any school	
Yes, Infant School	
Yes, Junior School	
Yes, College (11-16yrs)	
Yes, Sixth Form	
N/A	

19.Would you be interested in having an allotment in the future? Please note this survey is anonymous. If you would like to join the waiting list for an allotment please contact the Parish Council Office to register your name and interest.

Yes - full size	
Yes - half size or less than full size	
No	

20. Please tell us of any other changes you have noticed over the last two years, or let us know if you have any other comments. (please provide additional pages if required)

Thank you very much for taking the time to answer these questions. If you require further copies of the questionnaire please contact the Parish Council office on 01223 891001

Clerk

Full minutes and written reports are available on the Linton Parish Council website.

Linton Parish Council
The Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton. CB21 4JS.

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Email - enquiries@linton-pc.gov.uk
Website - www.lintoncambridgeshire-pc.gov.uk

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