

Gardening club
Plant Sale
9th May
10am-12noon
3 Mill Lane

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It's a double celebration for music society



THE Linton Music Society is celebrating its 50th year this year ... and one of its founder members is also celebrating her 90th birthday.

The first music festival took place in 1957 organised by Norman Hearn, his wife Margaret Plummer and their Linton friends.

Norman Hearn was the first music director of Cambridge College of Arts and Technology, now Anglia Ruskin University. Margaret taught there, and was also a professor of piano at the Royal College of Music.

Many well known colleagues and friends came to take part in Linton concerts and recitals – violinist Hugh Bean, harpsichordist George Malcolm, actress Peggy Ashcroft, tenor Wilfred Brown, to name but a few.

Antony Hopkins often gave his acclaimed Talks about Music for these Linton occasions, and visiting opera companies and puppet shows gave the variety that has continued to this day.

The current chairman of the LMS is Juliet Abrahamson, daughter of Margaret and Norman Hearn. She said: "We are still going strong and over the years we have welcomed many wonderful new artists to



LMS founder member Margaret Hearn with her dog Pippin

add to the old friends such as John Lill, the Rasoumovsky Quartet, Dennis Lee, and Yonty Solomon, who sadly died recently."

Of the younger performers, Bobby Chen, Sasha Gryniuk, and the Doric and Navarra string quartets have made their mark, and many others in the six-concert season that makes up the LMS's programme.

At our last concert of the present season, at 7.30pm on Saturday, 23rd May village college, the Haydn Orchestra will be conducted by Margaret's grandson, the conductor Nicholas Collon.

There will be an exhibition of past programmes, and the whole audience is invited to celebrate the 50th anniversary and meet the orchestra and members of LMS at a post-concert reception.

For details, see Page 4.
Juliet Abrahamson



Stamp of approval: Anne Willers, pictured with husband Chris, is looking forward to taking things easy

Picture by Roger Lapwood

Restful time ahead for Anne

AFTER 14 years as postmistress, Anne Willers is retiring and leaving Linton's post office in the summer.

She says she is looking forward to taking life a bit easier, doing some gardening, maybe joining an aquacise group, and perhaps helping her husband Chris with his export consultancy business, although she says she is not very computer literate.

Another bonus will be that she will now be able to take a holiday without the need to organise post office cover.

Anne has worked for the post office since October 1987. When her two children were old enough she took a part-time job as a post office assistant, working in the old building at 45 High Street.

She says she was no stranger to accounts having started work at 18 in the Bank of England and then working in the accounts department at Addenbrooke's Hospital.

When the second postmaster Anne had worked with left in 1995 she was accepted as the new post-mistress. At that time both Hilary Angetter and Roy Petter were part-time assistants and Anne was pleased that they both agreed to stay on.

Moving the business to 5 Balsham Road was more convenient for Anne who lives in Lonsdale with husband Chris. He agreed to work part-time, in addition to Hilary, Anne's sister Susan Curtis, and Dee Lyons.

"The introduction of

computerised records made everything a lot easier," says Anne, who used to spend hours manually entering all transactions onto schedules.

Although there are no longer the queues for pension payments, the business has changed to supplying foreign currency, travel insurance, passport checking, car insurance and a range of banking and financial service products.

Although Anne is supervisor for the seven postmen who cover the six delivery rounds for Linton, Bartlow and Hadstock, she says she is grateful that she doesn't have to get up early each day to let them in for work. She says in many ways they look after themselves and are in touch with head office in

Cambridge if a relief postman is required.

The post office was put up for sale two months before the UK-wide closures were announced in 2006, so there was little interest in the business for about two years while closure was a possibility. Happily that threat has been averted and Mark Arnold from Caldecote visited Linton earlier this year and agreed to take over the post office, planning to commute to Linton each day.

Hilary, Sue and Dee are all expecting to continue as assistants so there will still be some familiar faces when the new postmaster takes over. A provisional date has been set for 1st July but this is yet to be confirmed.

Kate France

Mountain bikes, team building ... and a weekend of fun!



Challenging times: youngsters from the Beacon Community trust enjoy their weekend

THE Beacon Community Trust, a local Christian charity, provided an amazing residential weekend from 13th-15th March when 21 older members of its youth group, Impact, went to Barnabas Adventure Centres in Northants. The focus was to build stronger relationships through being challenged by the range of activities and by encouraging each other.

They achieved this by joining in with teambuilding games, a night walk, high ropes, fencing, mountain biking, trading trainers (an activity with a social justice theme), a campfire and having fun! We were very grateful to Linton parish council for the grant that enabled this weekend to be subsidised.

The youngsters' comments on the weekend included:

What was the best bit?

'Doing the the trapeze [a jump on the high ropes] ... I never thought I would be able to do it.'

'Teamwork and encouraging each other, and the days being so packed.'

'It's not as hard to be accepted by others as you think it will be. It's easier – working together and mixing around at meals helps, and then you encourage each other.'

'I really liked the last night when we were round the campfire. It felt like a group; it's a nice thing to do, you're all together.'

What was your greatest achievement?

'The first time I went up the trapeze jump, I just couldn't stand up because it was so wobbly. The second time I stood up and I managed to jump and it was really cool.'

How do you feel now?

'Really proud of myself and a sense of achievement.'

If you want to find out more about Impact or the Beacon Community Trust, please call me.

Sue Filby 07880 735623

email contact@beacontrust.org or www.beacontrust.org

THOUGHTS FROM THE GRANTA RANTA

WELCOME to the beautiful village of Litter, set in the heart of Littershire. What a sight to wander round the village and view the plastic bottles, beer cans, cigarette packets and so on that are discarded by some uncaring villagers. Take a walk up the path by the cemetery towards the water tower, there's usually a good sprinkling of litter and occasionally dumped rubbish.

Enjoy the view at the bridge and count the bits of rubbish in the river, walk along the High Street and wander through the recreation ground. Our great village friend, Colin, will already have been along and picked up most of it but not long after his best efforts, you will find a crisp packet or a paper bag from the nearby shops.

Don't walk over to the skateboard ramp, you could trip over all sorts of things – lumps of foam, or even a broken up sofa. Colin cannot be everywhere and does a magnificent job. Fortunately he has various supporters around the village – the lady who also walks all the way around the recreation ground and picks up rubbish, the lady who always picks up a bag of rubbish as she walks her dog around the Horseheath Road area, and others too who help to try to keep the pride in the village going. Strangely, they are all of a similar age group, over 60!

Go a little further afield along the A1307 in either direction, and enjoy the wonderful array of rubbish along the grass verges. If you wish to drop on to the All towards Newmarket, the verges all the way are covered in a vast array of paper, plastic and general rubbish; how beautiful!

We have recently seen a lot of signs and activity against the proposed wind farm here at Linton and those of us who oppose it are understandably passionate in the fight to keep it away. Renewable energy is trendy and whether you want the wind farm or not, the supporters of both sides put a lot of time and energy into their cause. It took barely any time at all before someone was knocking at our doors to drum up our support against it.

Litter is not a trendy subject so how sad that the same effort is not put into the daily love and care of the village we all live in and surrounding areas. Our general environment is just as important and thus the state of the village is important. If only they would put the same passion and energy into joining those of us in the village who also pick up litter.

A great many people, young and old, do not throw litter, do use the bins and do have pride in their surroundings, but those who do not care display a lack of environmental awareness and lack of pride in themselves and their village. Shame on you if you are one of them.

There are those of us who remember the Keep Britain Tidy campaign; not a bad idea and worthy of a repeat in 2009. Looking after our environment is not just coming out in force when you find a cause to support or not to support, it's looking after where you live every day to help preserve it and making life for all of us a little better. Pride in our village and countryside? Well, where do you fit into this picture?

Lock, chain and check: make it your safety motto at home

RECENTLY, on 17th April, there was a distraction burglary in Linton involving two men pretending to be from the water board.

We would advise everyone and especially the elderly to make sure you follow these simple rules:

- 1) Lock your door when nobody is expected
- 2) Put your chain on before opening the door
- 3) Ask for IDs and check it by phone before opening your door to people.

Remember, if you see anything suspicious or in an emergency, call 999. For all non-emergencies, call 0845 456 456 4.

Thank you for your continued support.

Linton Neighbourhood Policing Team (LNPT)

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PLODDING ALONG

An update on police matters

With a new PCSO coming to Linton, it's a good time to get good advice and an update on initiatives to tackle local issues.

LEANNE Allan is the new PCSO working with Chris Pulley on the Linton beat. For the past two years, she has worked on the Fulbourn beat and is looking forward to a new challenge here with Chris. She wants to keep close to people in the area and asks that you email Leanne.Allan@cambs.pnn.police.uk with any concerns or issues you may have. Alternatively you can subscribe to their newsletter: <http://www.cambs-police.co.uk/myneighbourhood/ecops/> and you can meet the team each month during the police surgery meeting; the next one at Castle Camps. **LNT**



New PCSO Leanne Allen (left) with PC Rebecca Parkin
Picture by Roger Lapwood

Speedwatch, an initiative to put a brake on speeding

SPEEDING is one of the main issues in Linton on the A1307 and surrounding roads. Your Neighbourhood Policing Team, the Road Policing Team and the Fire Service often join together to tackle road safety issues and traffic offences.

"We continue to do speed checks through the villages, but would like to hear from you which areas you feel are hot spot areas. As you are aware speeding in and around your villages continues to be an issue. Chris and myself will continue to carry out regular speed checks once a week in local villages with the aim of educating drivers."

In addition to this, there is a new scheme called Speedwatch. Those who attended the Neighbourhood Panel meeting on 24th March have been given an introduction to Speedwatch.

Motorists who speed through urban neighbourhoods are very often unaware of the impact their actions have on local residents, or the danger they pose to other road users.

Public perceptions of speeding hot spots do not necessarily correlate with the analysis of casualty reduction sites identified by the County Council. Therefore a new local approach is needed.

Speedwatch, a Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Partnership initiative, provides an opportunity for the public to influence and contribute to the education of drivers and to assist the police in identifying locations that deserve enforcement activity. It will also help inform decisions about other speed reduction measures. It relies heavily on local people volunteering to monitor speed of vehicles in their own or adjoining neighbourhood, using free standing portable detection and display equipment.

Speedwatch is therefore not an enforcement activity. The aim is to provide advice to speeding motorists to improve driver behaviour and to prevent collisions by encouraging drivers in Speedwatch areas to slow down. If you are interested in Speedwatch, call on 0845 456 456 4 and ask to speak to Jan Dean.

LNPT and LNT

Infants' jokes find their way to Germany



THANK you for the warm welcome on the front page of the last edition of the Linton News. Linton is a very friendly place; it is a privilege to be part of such a community and I am committed to the school being at the heart of it, so here's to working together.

Many of you may have heard of Every Child Matters, an initiative introduced in 2004. Schools have been working towards five main outcomes for children and young people: be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and achieve economic well-being.

At the infant school, we consider these outcomes when planning what next for the children. Over the past month the opportunities to make a positive contribution and achieve economic well-being have been paramount in our thinking. Like many organisations we all wore red to support Comic Relief and in order to raise money we said something funny by writing jokes and performing in a comedy show.

For a small donation, the jokes were attached to red heart balloons (biodegradable, of course) and released. We were delighted when they were found as far away as Germany and one lady donated an extra £10 because we had made her laugh so much! The children were proud of the fund-raising total of £336.75 and chose for this money to support children who



Set for take-off: children ready to release their balloons

Picture submitted by Louise Clark

were carers themselves, a very orthy cause. Our thanks go to the Nicoll Family for donating the helium and to Mrs Nicoll whose fingers were definitely red after tying 170 balloons!

The following week was National Science Week and this year we focused on environmental issues. The time was a great success with the children helping to develop our own environment, planting topiary animals to match the school's house groups, discussing how to save water, making posters to raise awareness of recycling opportunities and seeing our new willow domes planted.

The school already holds the bronze Eco schools award and we hope to get silver shortly. Our thanks go to the British Wildlife Trust, Cambridge Water, Mr Gibbs from Wandlebury and Dr Hinton from the Babraham Institute, who all came to give very informative presentations to the children.

The PSA continues to support the school in so many ways and recently has organised a cake sale, fun run and Easter egg hunt. My thanks go to all the committed volunteers who make these events possible. If you would like to know more about what's happening at the school, then have a look at our website www.lintoninfants.com

Louise Clark, Headteacher

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Readers write...

Dear Editor
I submit the following ode as a request to dog owners to clear up after their dogs when out walking them.

Messing Meadow Blues

*Some dogs are messing the meadow,
And it's giving me the Blues,
I'm concerned about my kids' health,
Never mind getting it on my shoes.*

*Sometimes there are loads together ...
Piles of excrement,
And the owner's desire to clean it up
Seriously lacks commitment.*

*I'm no law enforcer
Ain't gonna give anyone a tag,
Please just clear up tidily
And put it in a bag.*

*Because the children just want to play,
Joyously run around with bat and ball,
But it's too risky to let them
As in the **** they could fall.*

Name and address supplied

OUR THANKS

Dear Editor
The response to the very well organised Lent Lunches in aid of the Teenage Cancer Trust encourages me to ask your readers to enter a date in their diaries well in advance. On 14th June, a whole day of exciting events will be held at the Old Rectory, Carlton in aid of the trust. Full details nearer the time.
Anna Newton, 10 Horn Lane

Dear Editor
The coffee morning in aid of the NSPCC held on 26th March raised the magnificent sum of £540. Very many thanks to everyone who supported it, and especial thanks to Mr and Mrs Powell who lent their lovely house so generously for this charity; it is much appreciated.
Susan Anderson, Mill Lane

Dear Editor
Over £600 has been raised from the latest charity disco held at the pavilion in aid of pancreatic cancer. Huge thanks should be extended to the group of Crown Inn regulars for organising yet another fantastic event. The amount raised by this group for charities is in excess of £2200 to date – all worthy causes and gratefully received by the supported charities. It must also be mentioned that without the full support of Tony Dellow, Alan Odell and Graham Potter (from the football club), this achievement would not be possible. A big thanks to you all; Linton proves that community spirit is evident even in these difficult times.
Karen Coote, Kingfisher Walk

and congratulations

Dear Editor
Both families would like to wish local girl Anna Wright and DJ Ferreira of South Africa congratulations on their recent wedding. Anna, along with her three sons, Charlie, Connor and Sammy, flew out for their special day on 21st March in DJ's home town of Pretoria. After spending time in South Africa they have returned home and will honeymoon later in Cyprus.
Mr and Mrs Stanford, Bakers Lane

Too good for jumble ...

THE sum of £15 is going to Camsight for the Morse videos. The wooden rocking chair made £30 for Contact for the Elderly and the 24in Panasonic TV with digibox raised £30 for Marie Curie Cancer Care. A 20in Sony TV with DVD player, recorder and freeview as well as a teak telephone table are the new items on offer this month. The chocolate fountain, Performance 1800W chipper & shredder, 3-tier electric steamer, glass shower screen with fittings, one-year-old Photosmart 7800 HP printer, 15in Dell computer, almost new Fisher Price baby bath and Casiotone CT 450 stereo keyboard with instructions (battery or mains operated) are all still available. To buy any of the above or to offer an item to profit a charity, please phone:
Kate France on 891602 or email katefrance@linton48.freereserve.co.uk

WI is on the carpet for a game of bowls

WE welcomed Linton carpet bowls club to our annual meeting this year to show us their skills. The previous AGM minutes were read and approved. Members were given reminders about the following events: Curtain Up on 6th-8th May, group meeting at Balsham on 20th May and Southwold Theatre on 15th August. Coffee mornings start again in May. A vote was taken, and agreed, to increase the Denman Bursary to £150 this year.

Cynthia Norris gave a report on her Denman course on Three Composers; she won last year's bursary and thoroughly enjoyed her course. Bel announced a visit to Beth Chatto's garden on 25th June and to Hatfield House on 9th May; Trysha Hunt is arranging a visit to New Hall College art collection and tea at the Orchard on 29th April.

Trysha gave a report on Women Against Violence. The WI is a member of this coalition, which launched a report in July 2008. Anna Newton and Trysha joined a large group from women's organisations to march through London on 7th March. Trysha also attended a workshop to contribute to a cross government consultation on violence against women. An article has appeared in the Cambridge Journal which featured Rita Boniface and her exploits as a pilot, and a report about Linton WI featuring Trisha Lewis.

The draw took place for the Denman bursary and was won by Marjorie Blackman. The annual meeting followed with reports by Ann Simpkin, our retiring president, and Anne Harmer treasurer, which were both adopted. The committee was adopted en-bloc and June Bunn appointed president. Brenda Smith presented Ann Simpkin with a gift token in appreciation of her three years as president. Anne Harmer presented a gift to Judith Appleyard for her husband, who kindly audits our accounts each year.

The carpet bowls club members explained the game to us, gave a demonstration and then allowed us to take part – a very enjoyable evening. Refreshments were taken and the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on 5th May when our speaker will be Dr Silverman. We are an active and forward looking group, so do come and join us. You will be most welcome.
Trisha Lewis 893609

Keeping hope alive

LINTON Churches Together is again organising this year's Christian Aid Week (CAW) door-to-door collection. Look out for volunteer collectors between 10th-16th May. The week will begin with an ecumenical service at 9.45am on 10th May at St Mary the Virgin. There will be a speaker from Christian Aid and everyone is very welcome to come and hear more about their work.

CAW, launched in 1957, is Britain's longest running fund-raising week. More importantly, it is keeping hope alive for many of the world's poorest communities. "They've given me education for life," says 18-year-old Nadia Kabula. When her father died Nadia's family struggled to make ends meet, but a tailoring course run by Christian Aid partner Humanite Nouvelle in the Democratic Republic of Congo has allowed Nadia to imagine a brighter future, and she hopes one day to open her own business. Meanwhile, she is giving others the chance of a fuller life by passing on her skills to young girls in her community.

Christian Aid is an international development agency working in around 50 countries, wherever the need is greatest, regardless of race or religion. We often feel there's nothing we can do to help the world's poorest people. This collection offers everyone the chance to play a part; it is a really practical way of helping the world's poor.
Pam Richardson 890921

THE LINTON NEWS Next Publication Date 1st June 2009
DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 11th May
NEWS ITEMS Friday 15th May

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

ITEMS FOR THE EDITOR
Can be put in the Linton News Box in the Post Office
Editor: Stephane Toussenal
email: ineditor@linton.info phone 890941

For distribution queries contact: Kate France 891602

LINTON DIARY

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

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

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

WEEKLY

Junior badminton, 10am-12noon Sundays	SC
Adult tennis coaching, Sundays (call 07791 150141)	SC
Pilates, 10 and 11.15am Mondays	VH
Yoga, 7-8.30pm Mondays term time	Hadstock VH
Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays	VH
Men's all-age keep fit club, 8pm Mondays	SC
Ladies' netball, 7.15-8.30pm Mondays	SC
Cempa wu-shu karate, 7-8pm Mondays (age 5 upwards)	LVC
Aquacise Mon, Tues and Wed tel 890248 to enro	Granta School
Scrabble club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays	Dog & Duck
Linton Granta toddlers, 10am Tuesdays and Thursdays term time	LVC
Hadstock toddler group, 2-3.30pm Tuesdays term time	Hadstock VH
Ladies' football, 7-8pm Tuesdays	LVC
Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays	CC
Tae Kwon Do, 6-8pm Tuesdays and Thursdays	SC
Ladies' badminton, 8-10pm Tuesdays	SC
IT club, 7pm Tuesdays	CC
Yoga, 7.30pm Tuesdays term time	Hildersham VH
Bowls roll-ups from 2pm Weds	Bowls pavilion
Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays	VH
Men's keep fit club, 8pm Wednesdays	SC
Linton theatre workshop, Wednesdays(call 892076)	
Tots-in-tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays term time	VH
Music Matters, 9.50am & 10.50am Thursdays	VH
LVC badminton club, 8-10pm Thursdays	SC
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays	VH
Tots music group, Fridays 10.30 & 1.30 term time	URC
Buffy bus, Fridays 11am-12.15pm	Hadstock village green
Junior basketball, 6-7pm Fridays	SC
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays	CC
Adult tap dancing, 7.15-8pm Fridays term time	VH
Granta badminton club, 8-10pm Fridays	SC
Mini kickers, 10-11am Saturdays term time	LVC

For Sports Centre courses please call Mark Wilson 890248

MAY

4 Camera club, 7.15pm	CC
5 WI, 7.30pm	VH
6 Linton reading group, 8pm	The Crown
7 Luncheon club, 12.15pm	The Crown
7 Parish council, 8pm	CC
8 Junior cricket club race night, 7.30pm	Infant school
9 Gardening club plant sale, 10am	3 Mill Lane
9 Granta playgroup tabletop sale, 2pm	VH
10 Camera club awayday, 9.30am	Coles Lane car park
10-16 Christian Aid week door-to-door collection	
12 House & Garden fair, 10am	Chilford hall
12 VIP meeting, 2pm	Chalklands
12 Gardening club, 7.30pm	VH
14 Trefoil guild, 7.45pm	3 Cambridge Road
15 Granta playgroup disco, 8pm	LVC
15, 29 SCDC housing surgery, 10-11.30am	VH
16 Dads & tots, 9.30am	VH
16 Friends of guiding jumble sale, 2pm	Infant school
19 Historical society, 7.30pm	VH
20 ACE outing to Stamford, 9.30am	Dog & Duck
20 CAMTAD hearing help, 9-12noon	HC
21 Parish council, 8pm	CC
23 Music society concert, 7.30pm	LVC
26 Police surgery meeting, 5-7pm	Castle Camps VH

JUNE

1 Camera club, 7.15pm	CC
2 WI, 7.30pm	VH
4 Luncheon club, 12.15pm	The Crown
4 Parish council, 8pm	CC
5 Flower festival and fete, 10am	St Mary's
5 Barbecue & barn dance, 7pm	Infant school
6,7 Flower festival and fete, 10am,	Infant school

KEY: CC Cathodeon Centre, HC Health Centre, LVC Linton Village College, RG Recreation Ground, SC Sports Centre, URC United Reform Church, VH Village Hall

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

Refuse collection: 11th, 26th May
Recycling collection: 5th, 18th May, 1st June



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House and Garden fair in aid of AsthmaUK

TUESDAY 12th May from 10am-4pm is the date for this year's House and Garden fair in aid of Asthma UK, which will once again be held at Chilford Hall. Entry is only £3.50.

Organised by a committee of 10 local women, this very popular event is now in its eleventh year.

As always the fair will provide an excellent opportunity for those wishing to revitalise their home and garden and those keen to buy items not available on the High Street.

Once again you will find a wide variety of inspiring stalls encompassing both the modern and the traditional. Particular highlights include contemporary British glassware, atmospheric lighting for inside and out, a range of stunning ballet pumps and decorative rusted iron plant supports from Hampshire.

There will be about 60 stalls selling everything from swimwear, clothes, jewellery, shoes, chocolate and food to rugs, tableware and plants.

We have, as always, received invaluable support from nearby businesses; the fabulous raffle prizes this year include a £500 voucher from Light Blue Travel, a silver necklace made by Sarah Palmer and vouchers from Petrus Menswear, Chica Shoes, Dish Restaurant and Lizzie's Health and Beauty Salon.

Hundreds of loyal shoppers return each year intent on helping us raise as much money as possible for the very worthwhile charity Asthma UK (www.asthma.org.uk). Last year we raised nearly £18,000. Please come and support us this year.

Jo Fairey
07811 339279

BED & BREAKFAST
SPRINGFIELDHOUSE
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New manager takes over at Linton's out of school club



Some of the childrens' work at the out of school club

Picture by Sarah Baxter

THREE months ago I started work at the very well established Linton Out of School Club (LOSC) as the manager/co-ordinator. The club has been running for a number of years with a very loyal staff team who have seen children come and go as they move up to secondary school.

LOSC is a club based in the rooms adjacent to the Linton library and it runs from the end of school until 6pm every day in term time and all day during all school holidays (9am-6pm, 9am-1pm, 9am-4.30pm or 10am-6pm). The club is very closely linked with Linton Infant school and The Heights but children do attend from other areas. The age range of the children is from reception class until the end of Year 6 (five-11s) and we can accommodate up to 26 young people. The ethos of the club is that it is very 'child friendly and focused'. The children are very much involved in the decision making and this will be even more so after Easter when a children's committee will be set up.

Each child is given as much encouragement as they need to participate fully in the activities on offer, but at all times it is their decision as to what they do. Parental involvement is also a key to the success of the club and a number of parents are on the management committee of the club. This is also an area that I wish to see grow and develop as parental participation is vital to the smooth running of the club.

My background is one of youth work and management. I worked for four years in Cambridge running an early intervention project working with young people (five-13) who were at risk of offending or getting involved with antisocial behaviour. The work was very rewarding, extremely hard and very stressful at times but I realised I missed working directly with young people.

During the three months I have been at LOSC I have had the opportunity to meet some great young people, really supportive and interesting parents and carers as well as others working in this profession. My desire for the club is that at some stage soon we can achieve an outstanding Ofsted inspection, that the club will always be a happy and friendly place and that the young people in our care will learn skills that they can take with them in their lives.

If you are interested in LOSC, I would be delighted to talk to or meet you. Please contact me on 07814 724468 and I will try to help.

Sarah Baxter

From Mozart to Beethoven



The Narcissus Duo, ready to delight with flute and harp at the music society concert

Picture submitted by the Narcissus Duo

by the Narcissus Duo (Jane Mitchell on flute and Tanya Houghton on harp) for

AT 7.30pm on Saturday 23rd May at Linton village college, the Linton music society is presenting the Haydn Chamber Orchestra conducted by Nicholas Colton.

The acclaimed orchestra returns to Linton for a programme of orchestral favourites and will be joined

by the Narcissus Duo (Jane Mitchell on flute and Tanya Houghton on harp) for Mozart's lovely concerto for flute and harp. Schubert's lively Italian Overture in C and Beethoven's Symphony No 7 round off an enjoyable concert. Tickets are available at the door or can be obtained in advance or in person from

Sweet Talk News, 77 High Street, Linton, telephone 893480.

Prices for individual concerts are adults (no concessions) £9, students (to age 21) £2, family ticket (two adults and two children) £16. For a brochure or further details, please contact 894460 or 897983.

Hayley Donnan

New ideas for the flower festival

FLOWERS, fun and festivities; therefore it must be time for Linton's flower festival. Make a note of the dates: 5th, 6th and 7th June and join us to make it the best flower festival so far.

There are many new attractions especially for the children; Sumo Suit and Gladiators, plus bouncy castle, army obstacle course, fancy dress parade, Punch and Judy, dog show, quiz and treasure hunt. Teddy bear jumps are back again by popular demand, plus many more attractions.

The theme for the fancy dress is 'all things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small'. There are three age groups: under fives, five to seven and eight to 11. The start time is at 2pm on Sunday 7th June.

Music will be provided by Linton Jazz from 12-1pm and 2-3pm on Saturday and by Linton village college wind band at 3pm on Sunday. The church will be open for viewing the beautiful floral displays from 10am until 5.30pm on Friday 5th June, from 10am until 5pm on Saturday 6th and from 11am until 5pm on Sunday 7th. The theme this year is 'Teaching and work of Jesus'.

The restaurant will be open



Some of the many arrangements during last year's flower festival. The theme this year is 'Teaching and the work of Jesus'

Picture submitted by Andrew King

on Saturday and Sunday for lunches and teas and a hot dog stall will be available on Saturday - something for everyone.

At 6pm on Saturday there will be music for a summer evening in the church. We are looking forward to seeing you at the festival and are hoping for lovely weather and a very enjoyable weekend.

Tricia Lewis 893609

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Quiz and chips as Aces change their format

FOR the meeting of Linton ACEs on 26th March we had a change of format – instead of a talk we had a quiz. It was not too serious and we had plenty of conferring; Paxman and Humphrys would not have been impressed

The topics were based on Mothering Sunday and the recent Saints' days – David, Patrick and George. The prize (well done Ann Palmer!) reflected this, so I hope you enjoyed the leek, daffodils, Guinness and Roses chocolates. There was also a novelty round of identifying the smells. We all identified the chocolate and flowers, but some were rather obscure, except to those with a mite of hippy in their past – OK, how *do* you pronounce patchouli?

Of course we all guessed the aroma of fish and chips, but that was lunch rather than a quiz question. Thank you to the 'Nippy Chippy' who cooked these freshly on site, and to our volunteers who whisked them into the pavilion. I wonder if our forthcoming Austerity Olympiad will include the 30-yard chip sprint? The Linton Ladies would surely win – greased lightning....

During the meeting we collected information on the use of Camping Close. This provided supporting data for the parish council application to have it registered as our village green and protect it from encroachment.

We now know that it has been freely available for village use for at least 73 years. I am not revealing who admitted this, but she looks pretty good for her age. We also signed a card for Garth Collard – a great support to ACEs – 'Get well soon'.

On Wednesday 20th May, ACEs are taking a coach to Stamford, a historic market town with good shopping and many places to eat. There is the option of visiting the beautiful Burleigh House and/or gardens.

If you let us know when you book, we might be able to get tickets at a discount. We will leave from the Dog and Duck at 09.30, then pick up at Chalklands/Back Road corner and the fire station. Contact Sue/Ann, 891001 or Enid 891069 to book.

Enid Bald

Friends of St Mary's are 21 years old

THE Friends celebrate 21 years since their inauguration by Canon John Cotgrove in 1988 to assist the Church Council with repairs to the church roof.

Since 2001, when the Friends were reformed as a separate charity, they have raised £100,000 towards the repair and improvement of St Mary's. Their most recent gift to the Church Council was an offer of £45,000 for the repair of flint and stonework on the south clerestory. This gift has almost exhausted the Friend's fund.

In the near future, a further £25,000 will be needed for repairs to the north clerestory and a further £50,000 for drains and soak-aways. To be able to help with this essential work the Friends urgently need new members and new funds.

There are 132 members at present. Half are from St Mary's congregation and half are those from the wider community who wish to ensure that St Mary's, the oldest building in Linton, is kept in good order for future generations. The number of members has fallen recently, largely through death and moving. Younger members, especially, are needed who will carry on the work largely borne now by an older generation.

Membership costs £10 a year but many give more. All members are invited to the Annual Meeting on 20th May when the Archdeacon of Cambridge, the Venerable John Beer, will be our speaker.

The Friends of St Mary's continue to need as much support as possible to meet repair bills of around £20,000 a year. Can you help us? Membership forms (blue) are available at the back of the church or from me.

Margaret Clark
892093



St Mary's church today

Picture by Roger Lapwood

POT POURRI (52)

The $\sqrt{-1}$ (The square root of -1)

MY 14-year-old niece Hypatia is completing her first year at university and has bought a basic scientific calculator which she is allowed to take into her mathematical examination.

She was showing me 1.023 cubed, the square root of π . Could she show me the square root of -1? She said that it is given a symbol i which did not exist as a normally known number. However, it obeyed the normal rules of maths, i.e. addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

E.g. $i \times i = -1$, $i/i = 1$, $i+i=2i$ and $i-i=0$. Thus i squared or i raised to the power 2 is -1. I asked her what is the number obtained by raising the square root of -1 to itself? E.g. i raised to the power i .

She used a little algebra, then using the calculator showed me a positive number to four decimal points (dp). Which I rounded to two dp. What number did she find?

Solution to No 51: Mathematical circles?

The ratio of the nonagons's circumscribed circle's radius to that of the triangle's side is 1.4899 times (say 1.49 to two dp).

Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Anderson Trust

THE trustees of the Charles and Mary Anderson Benefaction are pleased to award 12 grants allocated from income to the trust up to 31st December 2008: Beacon Community Trust £1,000; Linton Aquamobility £112.70; Linton Junior Cricket Club £200; Linton Heights Junior School £300; Linton Granta Playgroup & Toddlers £100; St Mary's Linton Youth Worker £5,000; St Mary's PCC £373.96; Chestnut Playgroup £100; Linton Music Society £250; Symonds House Residents £200; Linton Heritage Trail £300; Linton CE Infant School £600.

We encourage applicants for the 2009 distribution (awarded in February-March 2010) to look out for publicity in November and December.

David Parry-Smith, chairman of the trustees

Like to learn to play croquet?

WHY not join us at Newport Croquet Club. As the season starts, we are looking to welcome new members, both experienced players and complete beginners. Newport is the nearest croquet club to Linton and already has several members from the village.

We are a small friendly club playing both Golf Croquet and Association Croquet. We have three full size lawns and a well equipped clubhouse. Come along and give it a try. If you would like more information please contact Tony and Pat Marks 01799 512316 or Adrian Seabrook 01223 893407 or visit our website www.newportcroquet.org.uk

Maureen Goodchild

Fancy a family film night?

HILDERSHAM Village Hall Trust is presenting another family film night on Friday 15th May, beginning with the children's film *Madagascar – Escape 2 Africa* at 5.30pm. Then at 8pm we will be showing *Slumdog Millionaire* described as the feel good film of the decade (certificate 15). You can enjoy popcorn and light refreshments and even a glass of wine or beer as you watch the film in comfort with your friends and neighbours. To book please email info@hildersham.org.uk or phone Andrew on 892430 or Jenny on 891897.

Andrew Westwood-Bate

Biggest ever profit from Lent lunches

THIS year the seven soup, bread and cheese lunches during Lent have raised money for the Teenage Cancer Trust. The trust is helping to provide facilities in Addenbrooke's for teenagers in East Anglia with cancer.

Our speaker from the trust, Susie Rice, told us at our last meeting in a lively and compassionate way about the needs of teenagers with cancer who don't fit into either the adult or children's wards. Nationally, there are about 2,500 teenagers with cancer and six young people are diagnosed every day with the disease.

Teenage wards not only provide the support young people need at a crucial stage in their lives but enable them to support one another.

It is this, probably more than anything else, which makes the provision of a special space for them so important.

The Teenage Cancer Trust



Alan Clarkson gives the cheque to Susie Rice from TCT

Picture by Roger Lapwood

is the only charity at work in this field.

The lunchers from St Mary's, together with several generous

donations and the help of gift aid, have raised more than £1,850 for this important work. This is the highest figure raised

by Lent lunches over the eight years they have been running in Linton.

Alan Clarkson

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Camera club enjoys the colour at the Botanic gardens

OUR group of six was blessed with lovely spring weather, just perfect for a visit to the botanic garden. This tranquil 40-acre (16 hectare) garden offers year-round interest to visitors. The garden has a collection of more than 10,000 labelled plant species in beautifully landscaped settings, including a rock garden, lake, glasshouses, winter garden, woodland walk, and nine national collections. So with all this to view the camera club members were happy to wander round the intriguing pathways which gave a feeling of being miles from anywhere. Naturally, the daffodil was the most common flower at this time of year but because of the warm weather there was lots of blossom on the trees, a treat for the bees.

The trees were not yet in leaf but from a photographer's point of view, seeing the skeleton of a tree somehow makes it more photogenic. A walk through the arboretum is a wonderful experience. There is new water feature near the entrance on Bateman Street which when fully planted will be a lovely feature to start a tour.

Many of us enjoyed the bluebells under the trees by the lake. One of the most interesting sections is the time line showing when plants were introduced into England.

The winter garden is still very attractive; the red and yellow barks of the cornus looked dramatic against the plantings of various heathers. It shows that with a bit of effort we needn't do without colour during the dark winter months. In the greenhouses we saw orchids, cacti and exotic vines and ferns. The vine from the Philippines is a peculiar jade green and unfortunately is now quite rare.

We looked at an interesting collection of photos from Africa and Barbados at our club evening on Monday 6th April



A magnificent cherry tree at the gardens

Picture by Jo Leggo

and tried our hand at table-top photography; Lynn and Dave showed some interesting effects using reflections of candles. Others used various props to make a collage or still life. Some of us were helped by a mini tutorial on how to upload photos onto our web site using Flickr.

A visit to Newmarket races is the next awayday on Sunday 10th May. For more information call Roger on 891104 or Tracey on 891988.

Jo Leggo

Variable variegation

JOE Sharman from MonksilverNursery in Cottenham enthralled us with his extensive knowledge and obvious enthusiasm for variegated plants last month. The breadth of reasons that plants form, or indeed lose, their variegation was wider than many of us had realised. It is often thought that a virus is the primary cause of variegation, however Joe explained how temperature, light intensity, herbicides, stable or muddled chimeras, pattern and jumping genes can all be spotted as alternative causes.

By the end of the evening we were all looking at the slides in a new light, being able to identify the types of variegation and discuss whether these would remain in the plant and its offspring, or revert to the original green. Many beautiful slides showed variegated versions of familiar plants such as aquilegia, lily of the valley and acers.

It was a shame to note how some wonderful looking plants, such as a variegated laurel, were in fact suffering the effects of herbicides or other environmental factors that did not suit them and would soon return to their normal colour.



Joe Sharman with members of the garden club

Picture by Kirsten Newble

Our last meeting of the season is on Tuesday 12th May when we will welcome Julia Napier to speak about wild flowers. Do come and join us in the village hall at 7.30pm.

Please, don't forget, the annual plant sale on Saturday 9th May. If you can donate any spare plants, produce or cakes for the sale it would be greatly appreciated. Plant contributions can be delivered to 3 Mill Lane on the afternoon of Friday 8th May. Thank you. Do come and find a new specimen or two for your garden from 10am on Saturday morning, also at 3 Mill Lane.

Kirsten Newble, 892425
lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

Flaxfield's 65m giant

Overwhelming: The crane can be seen from most points in the village

Picture by Ron Pitkin



NEWLY co-opted Linton councillor Janet Williams jokingly suggested the crane towering over the Flaxfields site should be fitted with coloured lights to avoid frightening her horses grazing nearby.

Clearly visible from all points of the village, the 65 metre crane is the most residents can see of the Sanctuary Hereward Housing development of 42 sheltered accommodation units in progress where three bungalows were demolished.

The link path between Symonds Lane and Flaxfields has been resurfaced and now joins a new public footpath along the rear of Symonds Lane properties.

Hildersham residents are concerned about damage to the surface of Back Road by heavy construction traffic servicing Flaxfields. It was suggested that a temporary weight limit be imposed, but Linton councillors were against the plan, fearing these vehicles would instead drive through Linton. The contractors have agreed to encourage the drivers to reduce their speed.

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Chef's corner

I DIDN'T have my glasses on for large parts of April but I think I may have seen the sun for more than two days on the trot. This made me think of the new season's offerings.

All sorts of wonderful spring vegetables can now be bought with asparagus, sprouting broccoli and fresh peas to name but a few.

Now is the time that the new season lamb will be at its peak and would have had the benefit of the early spring grazing. It should also be at its keenest price.

This dish can be cooked on the barbecue or in the oven; it's the simplicity that makes such a mouth-watering meal for one or as many as you like. This one is for four diners.

Baked lamb cutlets with rosemary and minted peas

You will need a 50centimetre square of tin foil or a medium roasting tin with a cover

Ingredients:

- 8 French-trimmed lamb cutlets
- Stem fresh rosemary
- Stem chopped rosemary
- Tbsp grain mustard
- 2 cloves garlic
- 2 tbs olive oil
- ½ tsp of rock salt
- Tsp of cracked pepper
- 10oz (275ml) dry white wine
- 10oz (300g) fresh or frozen peas
- Knob of butter
- Sprig of chopped mint

Turn on the barbecue or simply turn the oven on to 200C/400F/gas 4.

Gently massage the cutlets with the mustard, salt, pepper and chopped rosemary and place them on to the centre of the foil (or roasting tray).

Pour on the wine folding the sides of the foil to avoid spillage. Completely cover them by making a parcel or just putting the lid on.

Place the lamb on the barbecue or into the oven for about 20-25 minutes, during which time add the peas to a pan of boiling water and cook until tender.

Drain and add the knob of butter. Shake the peas until they are slightly mushy then season.

The cutlets can now come out and can be cooked as little or as much as you prefer (I like them pink in the middle).

Serve on to a large plate in the centre of the table for a more social way of dining and pour the residual wine on top of the cutlets. Decorate the meal with some fresh rosemary and mint.

Be sure of a glass of Chianti or be decadent and splash out on an Italian Pinot Noir. Bon appetit!

Joel

Don't forget you can access all Joel's recipes at www.chefscorner.co.uk

Still seeking some help ...

LINTON Historical Society is still looking for someone to write regular reports on its meetings and activities. This month's meeting is at 7.30pm on 19th May in the village hall.

Toddlers with Bob the Builder

LINTON Granta Playgroup and Toddlers (LGPT) would like to thank ISG Construction for its donation of safety vests to the playgroup.

The building work at Linton village college is an essential project for the current and future students at LVC and LGPT.

ISG Construction has given the safety vests to the playgroup to ensure the youngsters are visible and safe while work is going on as a large part of it is around the existing playgroup building.

This project has provided valuable input into the learning programme at the playgroup and has kept many a toddler transfixed while watching the diggers and dumper trucks busy at work.

Incorporated into this phase of the building work are the new permanent LGPT rooms with their own covered decked play area and garden, which we plan to use for this September's intake.

For more information, contact LGPT on info@linton-grantaplaygroup.org.uk
Natalie Morris



Paul Downer, health, safety, quality and environment manager, and Tony Pennock, site manager of ISG Jackson with some of the children

Picture by Natalie Morris with permission of ISG

... and don't forget our table top sale

WHETHER you used the Easter holidays to declutter your home or you fancy having a mooch around bric-a-brac stalls, please come along from 2pm on 9th May to the village hall.

Refreshments and cakes will be available to purchase on the day. For more information about a stall, please contact:

Natalie Morris 894888 or Jane Kendrick-Jones 897974

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Sammy's report

Comic Relief fun

THE spring term highlight was definitely the school's celebration of Comic Relief. Each faculty was given a theme for dressing up - from pirates and princesses, to superheroes and rappers, students and teachers alike dressed up to be part of the fun.

As well as stalls of food, drinks and face painting, what really topped the day off was the lunchtime Staff Idol.

Teachers such as Mr Barton and the language teachers transformed into MC Hammer and Girls Aloud, singing to win the students' votes.

Some students and teachers bid for a 'slave' to carry their books around and help out for the first two lessons, and there was an auction of promises. Students pledged to give a guitar lesson, or some other talent they wanted to share for money - all coming together to raise a brilliant £1,621.83 for Comic Relief.

LINTON COUNTRY DIARY by Darryl Nantais

Illustrated by Maureen Williams

Mayflower and le joli mois de Mai

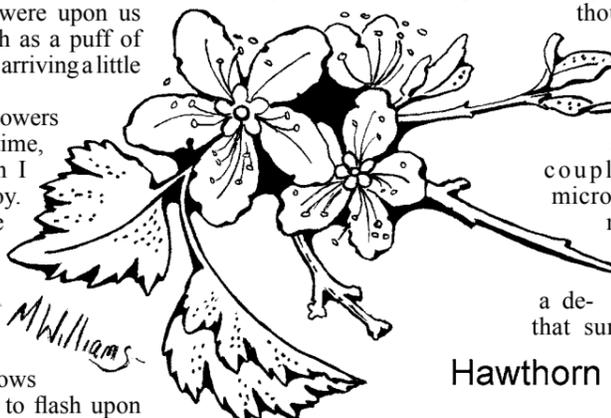
SO here we are in May, with all the promise of splendid summer days ahead. However, while spring has prospered with early gains, many a gardener and purveyor of nature's beauty has expressed concern that all the joy of abundant growth has been overshadowed by nagging thoughts that global warming is having a negative effect. Could you help but notice the hawthorn out in full bloom earlier than in recent years, or that the Ides of March were upon us without so much as a puff of wind, eventually arriving a little late and lazy?

Still, the April showers were bang on time, exactly as when I was a small boy. Then, as now, the stormy skies were exciting and dramatic, full of interesting clouds and the fleeting shadows caused sunlight to flash upon the white wooden window frames.

You know, like after that long hard winter with three feet of snow in 1963. What did we think about global warming then? Well, I can tell you that the old man warned me about the effects of reflected heat and light from tarmac roads and runways, and that nothing ought to be built higher than the tallest trees. However, I wasn't

to worry because by the time I grew up we'd all be living in a domed rural paradise powered by nuclear fusion and travel about on hover-cars. So what happened to 1984 or those morbid millennium predictions?

For now we'll get back to the hawthorn or *Crataegus monogyna*, often referred to as the mayflower. Think of England and wild dog roses, hawthorn, hay and willow. Cutting knots of the May blossom has long



considers that the life expectancy of a Druid in olden times was just 30-40 years!

The Chinese make sweets called Haw-flakes from the fruit of one species called *C. pinatifida* with apparently proven medicinal benefits.

If when taking that ramble you have noticed many hawthorn variations and wondered why identification is a little more difficult, ponder no more. Some experts claim there are

thousands of subspecies although

with varying taxonomy others indicate just a

couple of hundred microspecies. However many there may be,

in bloom they all add up to

a delightful sign that summer approaches.

The blossom provides a valuable

food source for nectar dependant insects and therefore food for the birds.

Jackdaws and crows have been especially vocal of late, and you may remember George the rook, who arrived knocking on my front door last spring with a broken wing, vanished this Easter Monday. He responds to 'Come on George', peanut butter sandwiches or a sprig of pretty May blossom as a gift! Beautiful May...

Hawthorn

symbolised renewed life, vigour and harmony prior to the growing season.

The ancient Druids had a particular penchant for hawthorn berries called 'haws' and petals were infused as a tonic tea and taken as a remedy for just about anything, but its properties were supposed to combat the effects of ageing. This seems ironic when one

Note the date of Hadstock's annual fête

HADSTOCK's annual fete will be held on Saturday 20th June on the village green, starting at 2pm.

The fete has its origins in medieval times when the right to hold a horse fair on St Botolph's day was granted by Henry II and this continued until 1872. Since 1949, a village fete has been held every year on the nearest Saturday to the saint's day.

Hadstock's beautiful village green, with its many old white-washed houses and the ancient parish church of St Botolph, provides a fitting setting for this traditional village fete with its colourful stalls, sideshows

and games.

The event draws in people from far and wide. Last year we raised £6,663.62, a remarkable achievement for a village of its size. It was shared between the church and the adjacent Victorian village hall. Given the village's small population, the church and hall rely on the fete as a major contributor to the rising costs of maintenance.

This year the main event is the biennial car and bike display. To enter a vehicle, contact agoding@solidworks.com. Stalls and games will also include a jousting pole, bottle stall, plants, cakes,

toys, darts, shooting gallery, bouncy castle, archery, raffles, face painting, metal detecting, tombolas, chuck the welly, golf and rugby games, bric-a-brac, crazy kitchen, ice creams, burgers and much more. The Hadstock silver band will be playing throughout the afternoon.

Later in the afternoon there will be an auction on the green, which is always a major attraction. Ed Patient said: "Hadstock fete is a great event in the life of the village with almost everyone getting involved in one way or another."

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The Derbyshire Post

THE view across Linton village college changes almost on a daily basis at the moment and as our new building becomes more defined we are beginning to get a little excited about the prospect of taking possession of it. We always knew that the building was going to be large; after all it is designed to house seven science labs, a tall gymnasium, a dance studio, a catering/hospitality room and an expanse that we have christened the 'Red Zone'.

The Red Zone is so named because of the red colour of its flooring and cupboard features, making it distinct in design from the neutral colours used in most of the school. It needs to be distinctive because of its function during the day, which is to be the home of Granta playgroup, and in the evening to be a space for the Red Zone after school club, Linton youth club and the Air Training Corps. It will be excellent to have this wider community function built into our village college in a planned and integral way.

Since 1937, the Henry Morris vision of education for the village community has been a powerful ethos for us. For years the playgroup, youth club and ATC shared the limited facility that was the old HORSAs building. Two years ago, the HORSAs was demolished and Granta moved to a mobile classroom while the youth club shifted its base to Balsham and the Linton Action for Youth drop-in centre on the recreation ground. I think it would be fair to say that it has worked reasonably well as an interim measure, but we are very much looking forward to having the provision all under the one roof in September.

In the longer term, we are also keen to return some of the features of the 1937 building to their former use. The Chilford Room has become a temporary classroom as a consequence of the building works, but once the building has been completed, it will revert to being an adult education facility. It is a commonly held misconception in Linton that Sawston village college now runs the adult programme. This has never been the case, but the mistake is made because our joint employees man the booking office over there. In fact, adult education for the BE partnership is managed by Mrs Val Tookey who is employed by Linton, Melbourne and Sawston. Although adult education is no longer heavily subsidised and the reality is that it produces no revenue for the colleges, it is such a fundamental part of the ethos of village colleges that we are all committed to maintaining the provision. Last year, Linton was one of the only centres across Cambridgeshire to meet its learner targets and we will continue to look for courses that meet your needs and interests. Our hope is that even in these times of recession, Linton people will value and use this local service.

Caroline Derbyshire, principal

Local lads triumphant at Twickers!

TWO local boys, Joe Parker from Hadstock and Sam Herbert from Linton, are part of the exceptional Under 15 rugby squad at the Leys School in Cambridge.

The team made it through to the final in their debut year of the Daily Mail RBS Rugby Vase competition. The final was played at Twickenham (the home of English Rugby) on 1st April against Kings School from Macclesfield.

On the way to the final they managed defeats of Icknield High School (50-0) Bishops Stortford School (44-7) Samuel Whitbread College (22-0) Hockerill Anglo European College (31-19) Solihull School (20-10) Kirkham Grammar School (32-7) and in the semi-final, which was played in Coventry against Kings College school Wimbledon (29-8).

Joe plays as a hard-hitting and fearless flanker who is usually at the heart of the action. One of his team mates said of him "you really don't want to be tackled by JP - not if you want to keep your breakfast down!"

Sam, who plays at full back, puts his excellent marshalling of the defence down to his time as a soccer player with Aztecs in Linton where he played as a central defender.

"It really helped me to read the game and to anticipate what the opposition is going to do - the ability to kick the ball accurately also helps no end."

Several of the squad are attached to the Northampton Saints Academy and many have played together at the Cambridge City rugby club for a number of years.

"We entered the competition for the first time because we had an unusually strong year group who were unbeaten as Under 14s," said The Leys' coach Alex Welby, who guided Wellington College to a Daily Mail Cup final in 1994.

"We were happy with our defence too. The drills drift down from the professional ranks and Liam Copley, our director of sport, who recently came back to us from Welbeck College, has brought a lot of expertise in that area."

The final score was Leys School 25-King's School, Macclesfield 3.

A delighted coach Welby said: "Unfortunately, we were knocked out of the U15 Cup in the early rounds by Oundle and the Vase was just the right competition for us. We are absolutely thrilled."

Paul Herbert



The Way We Were by Garth Collard

AS many of you already know, Garth has been in hospital since he suffered a stroke a few weeks ago. I visited him with my husband during the week before Easter, and the two men had a wonderful time putting the world to rights.

Elaine, his wife, has let me know that he is making slow progress and is having regular physiotherapy but it will be a lengthy journey before he is back doing what he loves best, talking and writing about local history. If you wish to visit Garth, please liaise with Elaine on 892395.

Wendy Foster

Puzzle of a picture

ANDREW Westwood-Bate kindly sent us a picture of the Dog and Duck which he discovered on the lid of a jigsaw puzzle box, which is called 'Topping up the cellar'. Elaine Collard also has a copy of the picture which she has had framed.

The Dog and Duck reopened on 23rd April, for drinks only, with temporary bar manager James Henderson. It is hoped there will be a new landlord by the end of May or the beginning of June.

LNT

(Sorry, we could not publish the original picture due to copyright regulations)



Picture by Graham Potter



Victory celebrations: the all-conquering team from the Leys School

Picture submitted by Paul Herbert

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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.

A1307 police action

IN the past many of us have moaned about the lack of police presence on the A1307 however over recent months there has been considerably more activity with concentrated days of action on the road. This has certainly been noticed by residents and I have received phone calls and emails on these action days from residents who are very pleased to see police activity and speed checks.

The last action day was on the 26th March, when over 50 motoring offences were identified.

These included:

- * Twelve FPNs (Fixed Penalty Notices) for use of a hand-held mobile phone
- * Five vehicle defect rectification notices were issued
- * Ten motorists were given verbal warnings
- * Eighteen FPNs were issued for failure to wear a seatbelt

- * Two FPNs were issued for no MOT
- * Two FPNs were issued for no insurance
- * Four FPNs were issued for excess speed
- * One vehicle was seized for no insurance

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue service opened Linton Fire Station to show driver education videos to those caught committing offences. Sergeant Martin Monger said: "We have visited this road a number of times in the past few months and there are still some motorists who think they can break the law. These people are risking their lives and the lives of others."

These action days are proving an excellent way of targeting those drivers who continue to flout the law and whose actions could contribute to fatal accidents. I would like to thank both the Police service and the Fire and Rescue service for their action in helping with accident reduction on the A1307.

Cllr Esther Cornell

Standing tall in Linton



View from Back Road of the crane on the Flaxfields development

picture by Esther Cornell

AT a time when the skyline of Linton was being discussed in detail, all of a sudden a large crane suddenly appeared. It was a shock to many residents including parish councillors! The height of the crane is approximately 60 metres and is being used by developers in Flaxfields who have advised that such a large crane is necessary because of the radius of operation and the weights to be lifted. The pre cast concrete floor and stair units especially have dictated the size.

The crane is expected to be required on site until approximately mid September 2009.

The demolition and construction works at Flaxfields have been ongoing for some six months and there have been some serious issues with traffic that access the development.

This problem was raised by the parish council during the planning application stage but was not dealt with hence there have been problems with heavy vehicles using the Back Road to Hildersham and also using the High Street.

The majority of the excavation works have been completed so the intensity of vehicle movements should now reduce (the removal of spoil has been the main vehicle activity to date) although there will be ongoing traffic movements. The majority of the foundations have been constructed and the brickwork from the lower ground to ground floor section of the project is well under way. At this present time overall completion of the project is scheduled for February 2010.

Cllr Esther Cornell

Wind farm application

AT the time this is going to print the parish council are still considering the application for eight wind turbines at Catley Park. A well attended public meeting was held at Linton village college on the 3rd April where residents told the Council their views. The parish council met on the 23rd April to make their decision and this will be forwarded to

South Cambridgeshire District Council who will consider the parish council's view as well as that of other agencies at a formal planning meeting. Previous planning applications for wind farms have taken nine to twelve months to get to this stage so it may be sometime before a final decision is made but we will keep you informed of progress.

Cllr Esther Cornell

Speed cameras for A1307

ON the 19th March Cambridgeshire County Council put out a press release stating that two safety cameras were now being considered for the road, instead of just the one that had previously been promised.

The first camera will definitely be placed near the Hildersham junction and it is hoped, when engineering practicalities are finalised, to put a second camera at Cardinals Green to slow traffic near the bus stop.

The 'rights and wrongs' of individual safety cameras is a much debated subject especially because they can just temporarily slow traffic. However both of these cameras are being placed in positions where pedestrians are crossing so even if the speed reduction is only temporary it will make things much safer.

Cllr Esther Cornell

Allotments update

FRUSTRATION with delays in the parish council's search for allotment land reached maximum levels in March when it was established that a letter from a local landowner to officers at South Cambridgeshire District Council had not been dealt with for nine months and this is why no progress had been made. We have now requested this is dealt with immediately and hope to be able to call an allotment working group meeting in the near future.

Cllr Esther Cornell

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

Linton Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton, Cambridge CB21 4JS Tel: 891001

Clerk to the council – Mrs Sue Parry
Email: lintonpc@btconnect.com

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Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon centre on Thursday 5th March 2009.

Present: A Gore (chair), Ms E Cornell (vice chair), Dr B Cox, S Daly, B Hammett, R Hickford, J Linsdell, G Potter, Dr J Rossiter, Dr V Urwin and Mrs S Parry (clerk). Mrs K France (press) was in attendance together with one member of the public.

Public Forum: Speaking of the wind farm application, Mr P Harrison of Little Linton asked what procedure the parish council would follow. The chair advised that this matter would be discussed later in the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bald, Gee and Krarup.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 19th February: Cllr Cox reported that he had removed the graffiti from the bus shelter. The clerk advised Cllr Daly that the application for Village Green status for Camping Close had just been received, it was agreed that its completion be delegated to the open spaces working group to complete as a justification statement and evidence of use were required. Cllr Cornell suggested that a statement be sent to the Cambridgeshire Transport Commission consultation saying they should consider the effect of any decisions on outlying villages, this was agreed by the meeting.

Reports from Co-ordinators: Open Spaces: A report from Cllr Bald had been circulated. The work on Stanton's Lane bridge had been completed and met the specification. Cllr Bald requested that a quotation to power wash the bridge be sought, this was agreed by the meeting. A report on new planting at various points in the village would be issued following advice from SCDC's tree officer.

Recreation Ground: Cllr Potter reported that the grass was recovering following the recent snow and floods.

Cemetery: The clerk had issued a report. Following discussion, it was agreed to grant permission for a specific grave space in row J to be purchased.

Rights of Way: A report from Cllr Rossiter had been circulated, advising that CCC Countryside Services Team would soon be considering the rights of way proposals first mooted in 2004. There would however be a cost to the parish in the region of £1000 and confirmation of support was required. It was agreed to confirm the council's support for the proposals.

Venture Playground: Cllr Hammett reported that all was in order, he had adjusted the timer on the light to the skate ramp and would monitor the situation.

Leadwell Meadows: Cllr Rossiter reported that the wildlife group had cleared the path, however there had been insufficient volunteers and time to tackle the remaining work.

Glebe Land: Cllr Rossiter reported that the recent floods had washed the wood pile away.

Churchyard: Cllr Cox reported that the Mr Cahill of Landmark Restoration had reinstated the gate hanging posts. Cllr Cornell had organised the reconstruction of a supporting pin for the Church Lane gate. The gate would need to be hung before the other pier could be constructed.

Allotments: Advice from ACRE had been sought who had made various recommendations. Cllr Cornell said that a further letter had been received from SCDC which was not very helpful and appeared to be stalling matters. She suggested a meeting of the allotments working party with the potential allotment holders be arranged to ascertain their views as to how to proceed. Cllr Gore observed that if the parish council supported an application for housing on Balsham Road, it would be contrary to its current policy. Cllr Urwin suggested that the parish council could apply for outline planning permission for the land on Balsham Road to be used purely for allotments, including the creation of an access from the road. It was agreed that the chair should contact Mr McMurray at SCDC again and confirm their conversation in writing, and that the clerk should advise Mr Balaam that the council were pursuing the matter. Cllr Hickford expressed his wish to join the working party.

Flaxfields site access: Cllr Batchelor had submitted a report following his meeting with the Flaxfields contractors regarding the possible implementation of a one way system as suggested by the

CCC highways department, for contractor's vehicles to enter the site via Back Road from Abington and leave along Back Road to Balsham Road and then to the A11 via Balsham whenever practical. Cllr Potter proposed that the parish council should confirm its previous policy and oppose the implementation of a one way system bringing heavy construction vehicles along Back Road, into Balsham Road, and possibly other parts of the village. This was seconded by Cllr Hickford and agreed by the meeting.

Wind Farm-consultation arrangements. The chair confirmed that receipt of the application for the wind farm was imminent. Mr Ray McMurray, SCDC planning officer, had asked that a formal request for an extension to the consultation period be sent to him. It was agreed that a request for an extension to eight weeks from date of receipt by the parish council be made as a matter of urgency, that the details of the questionnaire be finalised and agreed at the next meeting on 19th March and printed and distributed together with a covering letter prior to the public meeting at Linton village college. It was agreed that a special meeting of the council be arranged for 23rd April, by which time the questionnaires would have been analysed, at which the council would decide whether to support or object to the application.

It was further agreed that the normal council meeting of the 16th April be cancelled and its business postponed to the meeting on 7th May and, at the request of Dr Urwin as chair of the finance committee, the special meeting on 23rd should include an item of business for the consideration of requests for payments received following the debate on the wind farm.

Consideration of the co-option of Ms T Hunt and Mrs J Williams to the parish council: Cllr Cornell proposed that Ms T Hunt and Mrs J Williams be co-opted as members of the parish council. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Cox and agreed by the meeting.

Correspondence received and for discussion: CCC had advised that if the white lining at the top of Coles Lane was renewed the parish council would have to meet the costs. It was agreed to investigate if, following the implementation of the one way system, the white lines should have been renewed.

A request for a dog waste bin in the area of Kingfisher Walk was noted and it was agreed to add this item to the wish list.

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon centre on Thursday 19th March 2009.

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

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

Welcome: Ms Trysha Hunt and Mrs Janet Williams were welcomed after being co-opted to the council. They signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

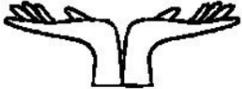
Declaration of interests from members: Cllr Gore declared a personal interest as chairman of the Trustees of the Cathodeon centre.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 5th March: Cllr Cornell reported that since the last meeting it had been established that a letter to Mr McMurray at SCDC from Mr Balaam some nine months earlier had not been responded to and this had caused a long delay in the process of searching for allotment land.

Cllr Hammett reported that he and Cllr Hickford had reset the timer on the skate ramp light. PC Electrical thought that the timer might be faulty. The pole holding the light needed to be made more stable and the light itself was only being held on by one bracket. It was agreed to install a new timer if required and to make the pole more stable.

Report from police and consideration of policing, safety and security issues: Cllr Hickford confirmed that cameras for collecting data regarding speeding had been installed in Horseheath Road.

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