

The AGM of the Village Hall Trustees is on 6<sup>th</sup> May. See contact details on page 3

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# THE LINTON NEWS

May 2015

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E & E PLUMRIDGE

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## Good news from Linton library

LINDA Pearson comes into the children's library with a large pile of picture books, sits down in an infant-sized chair and picks up the first book. Seconds later, her audience of pre-school children are entranced as she brings the book to life, animating the characters with a voice worthy of a top radio actress, sharing the adventures of ducks and piglets as if she were part of them and putting a smile on every face. If there were a Nobel Prize for reading to children, Linda would be off to Stockholm to collect it.

My visit was to present some simple musical instruments on behalf of the Friends and there was more good news at the library service's annual briefing for Friends groups at Rock Road Library later in the week. Cuts in funding have been managed efficiently, so that no libraries have closed – Linton has actually had a small increase in its hours – and there has even been a recent injection of new books. Visits and loans are up by around 3% on last



Children at Linton Library's storytelling session try out new musical instruments provided by the Library Friends.

Picture taken by John Bald

year and loans to children up by 10%. Automation has allowed librarians to concentrate on the professional side of their work

rather than on stamping books in and out and management has been slimmed down. Electronic resources, including online ref-

erence, e-books and magazines you can download at home, are expanding and a guide to these will be included in a future

John Bald

### How to get involved in community life

THE first ever Cambridgeshire Community Fair will be taking place on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at the Burgess Hall in St Ives. The Community Fair is being organised by Cambridgeshire ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England). It aims to help communities think about how they can fund, build and do more in their own villages and towns.

It is a drop-in style event from 3pm – 9pm. It's free of charge, just turn up on the day.

Attendees will be able to join a wide range of talks and workshops by local experts. Stallholders will set out what they can do to help communities and will be very willing to help people with ideas to explore.

The event is aimed at any anyone who lives or works in Cambridgeshire and wants to get more involved in community life.

For more information, go to [www.cambscommunityfair.wordpress.com](http://www.cambscommunityfair.wordpress.com). Or contact:

Alison Brown, Head of Business Services on 01353 865029 or e-mail: [alison.brown@cambsacre.org.uk](mailto:alison.brown@cambsacre.org.uk)

## Services to education royally rewarded

Ceri models her outfit for her visit to the palace



Picture supplied by Ceri

THE Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire has invited Ceri Thomas of Crossways, to a garden party at Buckingham Palace on 20<sup>th</sup> May for her services to education.

After completing a degree in biochemistry at Liverpool University and an MSc in food science at Liverpool University, Ceri completed a teacher training course at Homerton College. Her first appointment, at age 25, was teaching general science at Linton Village College in 1981, working with Lionel Barrell when John Heywood was warden and Garth Collard deputy.

In her 34 year teaching career Ceri has taught sciences to GCSE level, chemistry and biology at A level and prepared and marked examination board papers. More recently she became involved in liaison work with the university and feeder 11–16 colleges. She has also undertaken work in teacher inset, training new staff and updating the teaching methods of current teachers of science.

As an introduction to retirement in 2014 Ceri is now enjoying life as an assistant/teacher at Spinney Primary School, Cherry Hinton concentrating on Year 6 maths prior to SATS in May.

Ceri was thrilled to receive an invitation to Buckingham Palace, when she will be accompanied by her eldest son, Rhys Thomas Berry. They are also looking forward to a few days stay in London where they expect to visit the Churchill War Rooms, the National History Museum, Hampton Court Palace and maybe Camden Market.

Kate France

## Let's get together for people with Type 2 Diabetes

**DIABETES UK** DIABETES UK has launched a new peer support and education service called *Type 2 Together*. Diabetes UK has joined forces with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group to set up a network of support groups for adults with Type 2 Diabetes.

The new groups will connect people who have diabetes in their local areas. The relaxed and informal group sessions will be led by volunteers who themselves are living with diabetes and are trained to share their advice and experiences. *Type 2 Together* will also include materials following different themes relating to the condition. The service is completely free and those attending group sessions will be given information leaflets to take away, which help people live well with their diabetes.

They aim to set up to 25 peer groups available to anyone living with the condition in these areas, so if you live locally you're bound to find one near you. The groups will give you the chance to meet others with Type 2 diabetes, to support each other and make friends, and share experiences and information.

If you are interested in joining a group you can email [Type2-Together@diabetes.org.uk](mailto:Type2-Together@diabetes.org.uk) or call 0345 123 2399 to speak with your regional Co-ordinator about how to get involved.

If you would like more information on the project visit the Diabetes UK website: [http://www.diabetes.org.uk/How\\_we\\_help/Talk-to-someone/Type-2-Together/](http://www.diabetes.org.uk/How_we_help/Talk-to-someone/Type-2-Together/).

Alex Devereux Service Development Manager – Type 2 Together

## Folk music in Linton



The five members of Tir Eolas who are coming to LVC

Picture supplied by Tir Eolas

ECLECTIC, alternative folk group Tir Eolas, was formed four years ago at The Royal College of Music. The band draw on their Celtic and English folk roots to create their unique combination of traditional folk songs and tunes and original material. Think virtuosic instrumentals, five-part singing, guaranteed foot-stomping and time-honoured folk-ballads telling stories of love, loss and longing.

To hear them, come to Linton Village College at 7.30 pm on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

Tickets are available on the door or in advance from Sweet Talk News, 77 High Street. (Telephone 893480). Bookings can also be made online at [www.saffrontickets.com](http://www.saffrontickets.com)

Linda Bird

## A lament for Jake

THIS is a lament for Jake – not a person, simply a medium-sized black cat. Jake could be relied on. He rarely strayed from home and the progress of the day could be measured by his visits to us, his nearest neighbours.

We never could work out whether it was the tasty treats or our company he valued most but we suspect it was a bit of both. In any case, it didn't matter.

So, an ordinary cat with ordinary appetites. Not quite. Jake was extraordinarily vocal, he was astonishingly affectionate – and he was trusting. Perhaps that was his undoing.

One Saturday towards the end of March he disappeared. Garages and sheds were searched. No Jake. Then, a week later, he returned. He was thin and hungry but he was walking and "speaking". It was only when his shocked owner saw his face that the full horror of his absence was explained. It was smashed – jaw and palate broken and an eye dislodged from its socket. He wanted to eat and drink but couldn't.

The professional view was that he had not been the victim of a car – but one massive blow to the head. He had most likely been hit or kicked in the face.

The kindest solution was to put him to sleep. All of us who knew Jake remain distressed and puzzled about why someone could be so brutal to a small animal – and fearful that they might do it again.

Just what was Jake doing to warrant such violence in a village where everyone is entitled to think that animals, children and adults ought to be safe?

RIP Jake.

Name and address supplied

It is difficult to imagine the sort of person who could do this to a harmless cat and we cannot be absolutely certain that this was not the result of a car accident. However if any other readers know of similar incidents please let us know.

Editor

## Too good for jumble...

FREE to good homes or gardens – chunky rocks – grey with red and brown flecks – approx 1 tonne.

Items still on offer are the Hitachi FM/AM tuner in perfect working condition with 16 presets; the brand new (flat pack) computer work station 600mm x 450mm with a top and lower retractable shelf; a mattress 1.9m long x 0.9m wide x 0.19m thick (only used for a guest bed); and a computer desk/dressing table 97cm long x 48cm wide x 66cm high; the materials and printer cartridges for 88XL for HP Office Jet Pro series; multipack for Epson TO487 Epson stylus photo printers and the child's snooker table.

The Tefal steam cuisine raised £5 for the Guides, the piano sold for £25 for Macmillan Nurses, the shed made £50 for the Friends of Linton library and the Dyson cleaner raised £25 for WaterAid.

To buy any of the above or to offer an item to profit a charity, please contact Kate France on 891602 or email [kfrance@profsoundconsult.com](mailto:kfrance@profsoundconsult.com) NB: The donor chooses the charity to receive the money.

## Linton surgery to be in Dragon Boat Festival

COMPANIES, clubs and organisations from across the region are signing up to take part in this year's 11<sup>th</sup> Cambridge Dragon Boat Festival at Fen Ditton on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September. The festival has become one of the biggest corporate team events in the regional calendar.

Among early entrants is Linton Health Centre GP Surgery. The team will be led by Val Wheeler, one of the senior partners of this busy GP surgery covering Linton and surrounding areas, and will consist of doctors, admin/reception staff and members of the dispensary team. Val comments: "We entered a team into the Dragon Boat Challenge for some team building and to help raise money for Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust. Working within the NHS has been very challenging in recent times and we hope this challenge will

boost morale and staff will benefit from a fun family day out. We are looking forward to the event and the build-up is giving staff a real buzz."

Festival charity, Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust (ACT) is the only charity dedicated to making a difference for patients at Addenbrooke's and the Rosie Hospitals. To take part in the dragon boat racing and help raise money for ACT, no previous experience is required, just plenty of team spirit and enthusiasm! The dragon boats, qualified helms and all racing equipment are provided and each crew is guaranteed a minimum of three races.

For further information and an entry form please visit: [www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk/cambridge](http://www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk/cambridge) or call Gable Events on 01780 470 718. For Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust call 217757 or visit [www.act4addenbrookes.org.uk](http://www.act4addenbrookes.org.uk)



Past racing action on the Cam

Photo supplied by Gable Events

## Charity Cycle Ride for the Lymphoma Association

YOU may not know that lymphoma is the commonest cancer in the under 30s (usually Hodgkin's) and the fifth most common in older adults (usually non-Hodgkin, of which there are many types). Several local families have been affected by lymphoma, including ours. The Lymphoma Association provides a range of information booklets, a telephone helpline, a "buddy" scheme and, most recently, a GP awareness programme. The symptoms of lymphoma can be difficult to identify and the GP programme allows doctors to go online to improve their knowledge.

We are organising a cycle ride on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May to raise funds for the Association. The ride will start from the David Rayner Centre at Scotsdales where the Cambridge Cancer

Help Centre is based and where the Cambridge Lymphoma Support Group meets. There will be distances of 10, 20 and 30 miles, mainly on quiet country roads. You can either pay a flat fee of £20 per adult or opt to raise a minimum of £20 sponsorship. Additional sponsorship or donations would naturally be welcome. There will be an information and awareness day at the Cancer Help Centre throughout the day.

If you'd like to know more and to ask for a registration form please contact me on 894022 or email [suearnold47@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:suearnold47@yahoo.co.uk) or Stephen Horsley on 291191 or email [stephen1211@hotmail.com](mailto:stephen1211@hotmail.com).

If you would like to learn more about lymphoma go to [www.lymphomas.org.uk](http://www.lymphomas.org.uk)  
Sue Arnold



## Trips, to the past and future with the Heights

WITH the arrival of warmer weather at the end of the spring term, a number of highly enjoyable school trips took place for pupils at Linton Heights Junior School.

Priya Judge writes: "On 4<sup>th</sup> March Year 3 went to a re-constructed Anglo-Saxon village at West Stow.

We went in groups around the museum and saw lots of interesting artefacts from long ago.

Most things were in glass boxes and some things were on the wall so that you could touch them. At the end of the tour we looked in the homes that our Anglo-Saxon ancestors would have lived in. We used the remaining ruins of the houses to draw images of what their homes might have looked like. It was a brilliant day out."

Rufus Godsill writes: "On 27<sup>th</sup> March, Year 5 went to the National Space Centre in Leicester.

When we arrived, my group looked at some space-age technology then we had a go on the Big Bang Game. This contraption had two handles on the side which we had to spin quickly and then press release at the same time. Alice and I were the only ones to complete it.

Next we visited the Planetarium. This experience was like being in a magical cinema with fabulous colours around us.

After lunch, we paced through to the Tranquillity Base which had a marvellous simulator in, which allowed us to visit Jupiter's moon Europa. This was my favourite part of a great day."

John Puxley, Headteacher

## Infants choose eco theme

MAY is here and hopefully the beginning of a lovely warm summer with plenty of sunshine. Towards the end of last term, the children shared some of their learning with parents at our sharing assemblies. These are an opportunity for the parents to come into school and watch an assembly organised by the children to show off what they have been learning. These are great fun and it is amazing how quickly the children become confident using the microphone and speaking in front of a large audience. It's just a shame our old audio equipment is so temperamental.

The Easter holidays saw the school corridors and other areas transformed to run with our new theme of *My World, Minions and Me*. This is an eco theme and the children will be considering how we keep our beautiful world looking its best. We will be looking at different habitats and how communities live together in harmony. No doubt you will spot us out and about in the village, searching for wildlife or even helping Chris keep the village clean and tidy.

The summer term is when we start thinking about the children who will be joining us in September and plans are well under way to welcome them into school. A new parents' evening has been arranged for 6.30pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May, so if your child is due to start with us in September, we look forward to seeing you then.

We are currently collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers so please collect them for us. These vouchers really do make a difference to the equipment we are able to offer to the children.  
Louise Clark, Headteacher

## Lots of fun at Summer Fair

LINTON Infants PTFA will be holding their biggest annual fundraiser the Summer Fair from 5pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June.

Our theme is *My world, minions and me*, so be on the lookout for some cheeky minions and country-inspired stalls and decorations. There will be lots on offer - from bouncy castles and wiggle cars to face painting and lucky dip and much more.

We will also be running a raffle, so for a chance to win some fantastic prizes please call into the Infant School office to buy your raffle tickets from 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Dinner is taken care of too with a BBQ, veggie chilli and snacks.

Please join us for a fabulous fun-filled evening for all the family.

Yvonne Walker, Linton Infants PTFA Committee

## Take it to the tip – don't burn it on a bonfire

SPRING is here and lots of households are cleaning out, sprucing up the garden and carrying out DIY.

The majority of Cambridgeshire's residents take extra rubbish, old furniture and garden waste to their local waste and recycling centres. However, our crews are still getting called to households and businesses that are choosing to have a bonfire instead. We are urging you to avoid burning waste and instead dispose of it responsibly. If you do decide to have a bonfire, please make sure you follow these essential tips to avoid a visit from the fire service:

- Check the weather – never light bonfires in windy conditions.
- Don't leave bonfires unattended.
- Build bonfires well clear of buildings, fences and hedges.
- Never use flammable liquids to start the fire and never burn dangerous rubbish such as aerosols, paint, foam furniture, rubber tyres and batteries.
- Before you light the bonfire, check that children and animals are not hiding inside and are a safe distance away.
- Make sure fire safety still stays at the forefront of your mind in May. Don't forget to test your fire alarm and the smoke alarms of the vulnerable and elderly in your neighbourhood.

Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram or log on to [www.cambsfire.gov.uk](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk) for the latest fire safety news and tips.

Leanne Ehren

CFRS Media and Communication Officer



lintongrantaplaygroup

Pre-school and toddler group  
Linton, Cambridgeshire

## Help us grow new gardeners

WELL Easter is behind us and we look forward to the Summer term which will be an active one for our pre-schoolers as we prepare them for the next chapter in their lives.

We are hoping for some sunny days so that we can take the children to the garden and tend to the flowers and plants. If there are any gardeners out there who would be able to lend a hand with the development of our garden, please contact us, (see number below) you would be most welcome and we would be most appreciative.

On our first day of the summer term, we welcomed Sara from Oral Health. Sara gave an interactive and enjoyable talk to the children about how important it is to look after your teeth. The children were very interested in hearing about what they should and shouldn't be eating and drinking to ensure they have lovely healthy teeth.

Granta School looks forward to a visit from us very soon, we have our dance lady coming in, our end of year trip is being planned and much more is planned to ensure the children at Linton Granta Playgroup develop and learn in an enriched environment.

Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers are being collected by us until Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May. Please collect the vouchers for us as the more we collect the better the equipment will be that we can resource for the children.

We are now taking bookings for September 2015. We are open mornings from 9am to 12noon Monday to Friday. Lunch time is 12 noon to 12.30pm Mondays to Fridays. We are open afternoons 12.30 to 2.30pm weekdays except for Tuesday.

Please contact us on 07806 744864 to enquire about spaces and availability, or email [office@lintongrantaplaygroup.com](mailto:office@lintongrantaplaygroup.com).

Karen Thompson Playgroup Leader

## THE CROWN NEEDS YOU!

On 20<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Help raise money for Little Heroes childrens cancer ward (Addenbrooke's) and tick off an adventure from your bucket list, by participating in a Charity Fire Walk.

Call in to The Crown to sign up for this event, and collect your sponsorship forms

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## Readers write...

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

*Anonymous letters will NOT be published but names and addresses may be withheld if requested.*

### Please slow down

Dear Editor  
May I please implore readers who drive down Horn Lane to considerably reduce their speed.

Elderly people and children live in Horn Lane, which is a surprisingly busy road considering it goes nowhere, but the speed limit is all too often exceeded to dangerous levels. I am a little dodderly on my feet and need to negotiate two steps down from my front door onto the pavement, which is not very wide, often only just able to steady myself before a vehicle speeds past me. Should I or anybody else misjudge the kerb the consequences could be dire.

Twenty is plenty.  
Penelope M Courtney (Mrs)  
Horn Lane, Linton, 977215

### OUR THANKS

Dear Editor,  
THE Crown in Linton very kindly supported a raffle of a giant chocolate Easter Egg to raise funds for *Help For Heroes* which is helping those service men and women who were disabled by recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. The raffle was drawn at 2pm on Easter Sunday and was won by Sharon who lives in Wheatshaf Way in Linton and it raised the magnificent sum of £217. This is part of a district wide event organised by the Saffron Walden Lions.  
Dr Derek Lockstone, Rhugarve Gardens

Dear Editor  
AFTER 40 years of giving driving lessons in Linton and surrounding villages, I have decided to retire. I would like to say a few words of appreciation not only to the many families who have supported me with follow-up of siblings and even grandchildren, but also to the people who have kept me on the road.

Thank you to Richard Wiseman who was always on hand for advice when changing the car every three years and to Linton Granta filling station for always keeping me topped up with fuel. But my particular thanks go to Haywoods and McKenzie garage for keeping the car in first class running order, especially David Lawrence who never complained however late the problem kept him or however early he needed to start just to fit me in.

Although I will not be teaching after June, I am sure I will continue to see you all around the village.  
Kelvin  
Kelvin School of Motoring

### Notice of AGM

THE Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Trustees will take place at 7.20pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May downstairs in the village hall.

Any organisation operating in the area may apply to the secretary to appoint a representative to the committee. They do not have to be users of the hall.

Up to six committee members will be elected at the meeting and any person may stand for election.

For further information please contact me.

Sue Parry, Secretary  
infolintonvillagehall@yahoo.com

**Apologies as the email in the April issue had the incorrect email address.**

## Modern old ways



Simon telling us how it can be done

Picture by Roger Lapwood

MODERN application of the old ways used for generations has allowed Simon Saggars to develop his smallholding of 5.5 acres in Bassingbourn into a self sufficient farm he will be proud to hand on to his children. Simon set out 15 years ago to completely transform the smallholding from the battery chicken farm of his youth into the thriving diverse site it is today, selling fruit and vegetable boxes, eggs, wine, handmade furniture and a chance to enjoy some glamping in the wood.

He aimed to remove the use of oil from the site both for running the family home and for farming. This is a huge challenge since oil based products are so core to the farms all around us. It was astounding to hear that he tends over five acres by hand which makes me think I need to work harder in my own little patch. The use of thick layers of organic mulch makes this possible and helps reduce the need for watering in the summer.

This season's final meeting introduces Geoff Hodge, who promises to make pruning simple. All are most welcome to join us at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May in the village hall.

The plant sale will be held from 10am – 12pm on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 3 Mill Lane. Do come and find some new additions for your garden or to sample some of our wonderful produce. Donations of plants, produce, or cakes would be most appreciated and may be delivered to 3 Mill Lane on Friday evening. Thank you.

Kirsten Newble 892425  
lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

### theWI Six into one will go

TUDOR costume was the theme of our talk by Mrs Fran Saltmarsh in April. In 1985 Fran met Betty Wilbraham and, after research and studying portraits of Henry VIII's six wives, came up with one dress that could be changed into the style of each queen by very cleverly adapting it with different sleeves, cuffs, underskirts, necklines and accessories.

Fran made the dress in a typical square neck, split skirt style, and Betty made the headdresses, all with fabrics from charity shops and jumble sales.

The first layer of dress the chemise was most important as it could be laundered, followed by petticoats. The bust was flattened by a pair of bodies, made from whalebone and reeded grass. Clothing was laced on and outer sleeves were pinned on (hence the expression *pin money*). A girdle round the waist was essential for a lady, on which to hang the keys to the spice chest, maybe a prayer book and a sweet-smelling pomander. The gable headdresses were made from stiff buckram. A girl could leave her long hair flowing until marriage, after which it was tucked under her headdress. One accessory for Anne Boleyn was a copy of the famous 'B' necklace. A useful article of clothing, about Catherine Parr's time, was the partlet, a small cape covering the shoulders and chest, fastened with a brooch. Very necessary in draughty palaces.

Fran concluded by reading a moving letter to Henry VIII from Katharine of Aragon on her deathbed. It says much for her and for Henry that she continued to have admiration and love for him. At the next meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> May the talk will be Cambridgeshire Tales by Malcolm Busby.

Sally Proberts 891021

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THE LINTON NEWS Next Publication 1st June 2015  
DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May  
NEWS ITEMS Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May

ITEMS FOR ADVERTISING MANAGER  
Limited space on waiting list for Linton businesses  
Changes to ads can be sent to: Judith Rouse  
email: adds@linton.info

ITEMS FOR THE EDITOR  
Can be put in the Linton News Box in the Post Office  
Editor: Fran Armes email: lneditor@linton.info  
Phone 891517

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, failure to do so could mean non-entry to the diary here. You may also send an email with your event details to diary@linton.info, or use the form on www.linton.info. Call 971797 for an audio version of the Linton News

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

WEEKLY		
Seedlings Alternate Mondays 1.15-2.45pm	CC	
Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays	VH	
Chestnutbaby/toddlergroup, 9.30-11.30am Mondays	term time	CC
Linton Granta football bingo, 7pm Mondays	Pavilion	
Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701)		
Play & Stay, Alternate Tuesdays, 9.30-11am	CC	
WEA, Tuesdays, 10am term-time	VH	
<b>Linton Air Cadets Tue and Fri 7.30-9.30pm (07717801056)</b>	<b>LVC</b>	
Scrabble club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays	CP	
Linton Granta playgrp, 9am-12noon Monday-Friday	LVC	
Linton Granta Toddler grp, 9.30-11.30 Tuesdays	term time	LVC
Linton Granta playgrp, 12.30-2.30pm Mon-Fri, NOT Tues	LVC	
Storytime, 2-2.30pm Tuesdays, term-time	Library	
Granta Bridge club, 2pm Tuesdays	VH	
Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays (893509)	CC	
Granta duplicate bridge club, 2-4pm Tuesdays	VH	
IT club, 7pm Tuesdays	CC	
Tots in tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays term time only	VH	
Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays	VH	
Jelly Beans playgroup, 9-11.30am Thursdays	URC	
Computer buddies, 2-4pm, Thursdays	Library	
Cricket club, 6-8pm Thursdays	RG, LVC	
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays	VH	
Bumps to babies, 1.15-2.45pm Thursdays	CC	
Table tennis club, 8-10pm Thursdays term time only	URC hall	
Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, 9.15-10am Fridays	CP	
St Mary's church choir, 7-8.30pm Fridays	St Mary's	
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays	CC	

For sports centre courses please call LVC sports centre on 890248

MAY 2015		
2 Farmers' Market, 9am	LVC	
3 Bartlow Walk, 10am	Bartlow Paddock	
4 Camera club, 7.15pm	CC	
<b>5 WI, 7.30pm</b>	<b>VH</b>	
<b>6 Village Hall Trustees AGM, 7.30pm</b>	<b>VH</b>	
6 Linton Reading Group, 8pm	VH(upstairs)	
7 Polling day	VH	
7 Linton Lunch club, 12noon	Red Lion	
<b>9 Plant sale, 10am-12noon</b>	<b>3 Mill Lane</b>	
10 Lighthouse, 10.15-12noon	URC	
12 VIP group, 2pm	Chalklands	
<b>12 Infants Summer Fair, 5pm</b>	<b>LIS</b>	
<b>12 Gardening club, 7.30pm</b>	<b>VH</b>	
13 Community Navigator, 10-12noon	HC	
<b>15 Daytime Book Group, 10.30am</b>	<b>Library</b>	
17 Walking group, 11am	Church Lane	
17 Messy Church, 2.30pm	St Mary's Church	
18 Children's book festival meeting, 6pm	LH	
<b>19 New parents' evening, 6.30pm</b>	<b>LIS</b>	
19 Historical society, 7.30pm	VH	
20 Cambridge Hearing Help, 9.30-12noon	HC	
20 Friends of St Mary's AGM, 7.30pm	Church Pavilion	
21 Parish council meeting, 7.30pm	CC	
<b>29 Tir Eolas Folk Group, 7.30pm</b>	<b>LVC</b>	

JUNE 2015		
1 Camera Club, 7.15pm	CC	
2 WI, 7.30pm	VH	
3 Linton Reading Group, 8pm	VH(upstairs)	
4 Linton Lunch club, 12.30pm	Red Lion	

KEY: CC Cathodeon centre, CP church pavilion, D&D Dog and Duck, HC health centre, LH Linton Heights school, LIS Linton Infant school, LVC Linton village college, RG recreation ground, URC United Reform church, VH village hall.

Library times: Mon closed; Tue 10am-5pm; Wed 4pm-7pm; Thurs 2pm-5pm; Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-1pm.

Linton refuse collection (black bin): 11<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> May

Linton recycling collection: 5<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> May

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# Linton Village Cricket

BY the time you are reading this the cricket season will be well under way. Last year the Under 12s team in the junior section of LVCC were delighted to win the Cambridgeshire Youth Cricket Association League title. We are all hoping that the other teams will emulate their success this summer.

LVCC has gone from strength to strength in both the junior and senior sections over the last few years, but is always looking for new players. The adults train in the nets at LVC on a Thursday night between 6pm and 8pm Please do come along if you're interested. There are three teams that play at the weekends and a midweek team too.

In the junior section we have teams from Under 10s through to Under 15s. For further information about training times please contact Esther Cox on 07800 79815 or esther.cox01@gmail.com  
Esther Cox



Young players at Linton Village Cricket Club

Picture by Esther Cox

## Local ATC gets into the camping season

CADETS from 2523 Linton squadron Air Training Corps have had a busy Easter with camps.

Five cadets were selected to attend a week long camp at RAF High Wycombe in Buckinghamshire. During the week Cadet Daisy Heath and Cadet Matthew Cutter were given camp promotions to Corporal to assist in the running of the camp.

Cadets took part in flying and shooting station visits as well as bowling, high ropes and a visit to the RAF Museum Hendon. The following week eleven cadets were selected to attend a week long event

at the Stanford training area in Norfolk. Seven busy days saw cadets learn or improve on their field craft skills. Exercises were carried out during day and night. By all accounts the event was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Places for camps later in the year are being fiercely contested. The squadron parades on Mondays and Fridays between 7.30pm and 9.30pm at Linton Village College. Should you be interested in joining this vibrant squadron as a cadet or as an adult volunteer please contact Flt. Lt. G Tennison at the squadron by e-mail oc.2523@aircadets.org

## Chilford Fun Run time

THE friends of Linton Village College will be holding the Chilford 10K and 3K Fun Run at 10.30am on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June. Funds raised will benefit pupils at the school.

The 10K run will follow a slightly different route starting from the college football pitch. One short lap in the school grounds before going through the village and up to the water tower, through Chilford Hall vineyard and back to the college via Little Linton.

Under 16s will have their own Fun Run, with parents allowed to take part too. This will be on part of the 10K route and will start after the 10K runners have left. We look forward to seeing you there.

Entries on line at [www.entrycentral.com/chilford10k](http://www.entrycentral.com/chilford10k) or contact [chilford10k@gmail.com](mailto:chilford10k@gmail.com)

Sarah Bowie

## Anderson Trust Grants approved for 2015

AT their meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> March, the Trustees of the Charles and Mary Anderson Benefaction, chaired by Gillian Powell, approved the 2015 distribution of £9220 interest, received from investments, to the following applicants:

- £5000 to the Beacon Trust towards the salary and on-costs of the youth worker, subject to stated conditions;
- £1800 to Linton CE Infant School towards the purchase of staging;
- £1000 to Linton Heights Junior School to supplement the new reading scheme;
- £300 to Chestnut Playgroup for a creative centre;
- £300 to Granta Playgroup for a mobile storage unit;
- £400 to the Friends of Granta School for playground equipment;
- £150 to the Granta Grapevine for digital audio players;
- £250 to Linton Helping Hands to recruit and cover costs for a new coordinator.

Specifically the money is to promote the Christian religion in and around the Parish of St Mary's, to sustain the Church of St Mary's and worship therein; to promote education for the benefit of those living in or resorting to Linton, with particular reference to the church school and for any other charitable purpose for the benefit of those living in or resorting to Linton.

Applications for grants in 2016 will be invited in the November Linton News.

Gillian Powell, 893664, Chair of Trustees

## New care information website after Care Act

INFORMATION and advice on care and support issues are to be improved in a joint initiative by Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group and Uniting Care together with the voluntary sector. This is part of our changes in response to the Care Act.

From 1<sup>st</sup> April, we will go live with a new online resource that will work as a promoted way into information on care and support and wellbeing, linking to more specialist sites for details. This site will replace the current Your Life, Your Choice site. People who find their way on to YLYC will be directed to the new care and support home page.

The new site address is: [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/careandsupport](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/careandsupport). The site is expected to be the first port of call for information for everyone - staff, volunteers and the public, based on subjects that the public and staff have requested, with more specific links to other local or national sites for more specialist detail. We think that people also want help in understanding the options available, what they can do themselves and where to get help. The publicly promoted telephone number is 0345 045 5202 and people can go into their local library to get help if they do not have online access.

If you have links from your village website to Your Life, Your Choice, or if you include the web address of the Your Life, Your Choice site in your village publication(s), we would ask that you please replace these with the link to/details of the new site - [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/careandsupport](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/careandsupport).

Amanda Davies  
Communications Officer,  
[Amanda.Davies@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Amanda.Davies@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

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## So much more than family help

THE Linton Children's Centre has put together a great new programme for the spring term for all the parents and carers of children who are nought to five years old who live in the Linton area.

We are particularly keen to remind you that we are not just here to help families with specific needs, but are available to what we call *universal families* - whether you are parenting, grand-parenting, child minding or still pregnant, all families are very welcome through our doors. We are a great place to meet other people with babies and toddlers and many of the new born babies we see go on to make wonderful friendships that last right into their first years at school and beyond.

Our weekly schedule for universal families includes *Stay and Play*, *Bumps to Babies* and

*Wiggle and Jiggle*.

We offer breastfeeding advice, speech and language drop-in clinics and a Job Centre drop-in (great for anyone thinking about returning to work or just job hunting in general). Our Bitesize sessions might just save you from lying on the floor and having a tantrum yourself. We cover sleep routines, potty training and other parenting FAQs.

These groups also run at our sister centre in Sawston if the Linton schedule doesn't work for you. For a full programme which includes times and dates and to be added to our weekly email list, please contact emma.themba@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or call us on 893594 or just pop in to see us during our office hours, which are 9am - 12.30pm Wednesday and Friday.

Emma Themba

## Auditions for the play version of Les Misérables

ST JOHN'S Players, in Fulbourn, will be holding auditions in June for our October production, *Les Misérables - The Play*, a play version of the world-renowned West End musical, directed by Andrew Clark. Although we are not allowed to do the *Les Mis* songs, we plan to make our version every bit as memorable as the musical, with atmospheric music, special effects and an exciting barricade scene.

We are looking for a large cast, aged from teenagers to senior citizens, to fill the numerous parts (circa 38). Singing ability is not required - however, if you are able to sing, we shall try to utilise your talent where possible.

The production will be held during half-term week (from 28<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> October, though you would be required on other nights that week).

Auditions will take place at 7.30pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June, Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June and Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June, at the Townley Memorial Hall, Fulbourn Centre, Home End, Fulbourn, CB21 5BS. You need only come to one of the auditions.

Casting will take place after 10<sup>th</sup> June and rehearsals will start on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June at the hall. Please let us know at the audition of holiday dates booked so that we can allow for these in the rehearsal schedule.

For more information on the production, please visit the Auditions section on our website: [www.stjohnsplayers.co.uk](http://www.stjohnsplayers.co.uk) or contact me on 01354 694782 or 07758 598859 or email carole.ransom7@googlemail.com  
Carole Ransom

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## Linton Country Matters by Frances Armes Illustrated by Maureen Williams



### Thoughts on weeding my lawn

A FORTNIGHT or so ago I went out on my front lawn and thought what a lovely springy turf, how good is this? Well as it happens it was not very good – the springiness was due to a large amount of moss. I went over the lawn with a mechanical scarifier but there was still a lot of moss. So I got out the rake and set to with that. It was very hard work and immediately our resident blackbird came up, almost getting in the way, to get at all the insects which had been in the moss and which were lifted up by the rake. I next aerated the lawn with a fork and spread fine topsoil over it as a dressing.

All this was very tiring. I thought how much easier it would have been if I had used a herbicide and fertiliser, but I am wary of doing this in case it affects the birds and insects.

Over the years, in different parts of the country I have

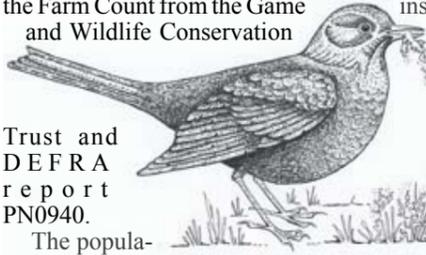
noticed a decline in the number of starlings, thrushes and sparrows that come into my garden. Could this be the result of insecticides and herbicides? I consulted the internet and looked at the results of the RSPB Birdwatch Weekend and the Farm Count from the Game and Wildlife Conservation

Trust and DEFRA report PN0940.

The populations of various species of birds have declined in the last 40 or more years. However the population of both farm and garden populations has to be considered, for if there is a good crop of food in the farmland the birds may not come to the garden table, as apparently happened with

finches in 2014.

Could this be the use of herbicides and insecticides? Well, it might be – but it might not be directly by poisoning. It might be that the birds feed off the seeds of the weeds that are killed by the herbicides, or the insects that feed off the



weeds (i.e. indirect effects). It might be the loss of habitat – more houses built, more land farmed as monocultures, autumn rather than spring

sowing of crops meaning that stubble is ploughed up early and the birds have less to feed on in the winter, a switch from hay to silage production so less seeds, and the removal of non-cropped features such as hedgerows.

Whatever the cause there has been an overall steep decline in

birds such as the grey pigeon and finches, and overall farm birds have declined by 55% between 1970 and 2013 according to DEFRA.

A note of hope is the number of farmers who are joining the Farm Count, 80% of whom were in Environmental Stewardship and 60% were providing food specifically for their birds, and this is one of the conservation measures which is helping birds thrive and stay alive on these farms over winter.

As for me – should I not kill off all the weeds, leave the slugs, snails and insects and look after the worms? Perhaps I should dig up the lawn and let wild flowers grow.

Maybe I should let the moss grow – but no, there are no worries about that as there is an abundance of moss on the roof. Lastly, should I feed the birds?

### Lent lunches raise funds

EVERY year St Mary's organise a series of austerity lunches during the seven weeks of Lent leading to Easter weekend.

These lunches are open and advertised to all denominations and also those people in the village who are not of a religious persuasion.

The lunch of soup and a small portion of bread and cheese is provided free by that day's host and each participant is invited to make a modest donation.

This year we chose the Ebola Project being run by Medecin Sans Frontiere (MSF). This non governmental organisation was not only the first to respond but had to practically drag the World Health Organisation and later various governments into responding to what they realised was a potential international catastrophe.

For the last Lent lunch on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April, we were fortunate to obtain a speaker from MSF, who was an English nurse who had been out to Sierra Leone for three months dealing with Ebola cases and had only been home three weeks.

She was able to give us an up to date and hands on account. Her name is Alison Criado-Perez and she gave a most interesting and inspirationally illustrated talk to a packed pavilion.

We raised a total of £1876 to donate to fighting Ebola. This was a record for Lent lunch donations and we were all full of admiration for her courage and dedication.

Derek Lockstone

### Want to be in a musical ?

WE are presenting the musical *Peter Pan* at the Junction Theatre, Cambridge from 20<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> July. Auditions are on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May in Pampisford Village Hall. Please book a time on 832288 or contact frances.wyse@btinternet.com

The cast is as follows:

Captain Hook...the villain 30-50yrs, Smee....a pirate 20-50yrs  
Cecco..... a pirate 20-50yrs, Bill Jukes.... a pirate 40-60yrs  
Starkey .... a pirate 20-60yrs, Mr Darling... 30-60yrs  
Mrs Darling ...30-50yrs, Peter Pan and Wendy aged 14-17yrs  
Adult chorus and children's chorus

Rehearsals start Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June then Sundays with evenings by arrangement.  
Frances Brownlie

### Freecycle your old items

A NEW Freecycle group has been created for Linton. Previously the closest groups available to join were those in Saffron Walden and Sawston.

For those who have yet to discover Freecycle, it is a free internet listings service that aims to keep items out of landfills and help people give unwanted items to someone else for free. You can also create wanted posts to request items that you are looking for.

The group will be more successful the more members we have. It is easy to sign up. So please visit the website and join our online community. You will be surprised at the great quality of items people give away. It is also an opportunity to spring clean your own cupboards. See <http://groups.freecycle.org/LintonUK>

Sophie Philips, 956434

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## POT POURRI 122

### How many cuts?

A NEGLECTED football pitch had the grass cut in a haphazard manner. The mower had made several straight line cuts from one edge to another, seemingly at random in a criss-cross fashion.

However, there were areas of uncut grass, numbering 29. If this is the maximum number that can result from the number of the mown (straight!) cuts to the pitch, how many cuts were there?

Hint: Start with 1 cut = 2 areas, then 2 cuts etc.

**Solution to 121 - What is the Diameter?**

The circle diameter = 65.

Urania

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### New Youth Section for club

LINTON Netball Club is opening a new youth section. This section is for girls of all abilities in school years nine to 11. This is a great opportunity for this age group to train together locally and play matches in a league.

Training will be led by a qualified Level 2 netball coach and will start on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May and will be each Monday (term time only) 6.30 to 7.30pm on the outside courts at Linton Village College. There will be a small cost per week for the junior sessions.

If your daughter is interested in coming along for a free first session or if you are interested in our adult club also on Mondays 7.30 to 8.30pm then please contact Bridget Savill on 07972598668 or me on 07729879300.

Angela Bridgeman

### Hildersham News

**It's Teatime** – Please note that Teatime will take place on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> May, not on the usual Thursday as the village hall is otherwise occupied as a polling station.

**The Hildersham Lectures :**

On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May, *A Michelangelo Discovery*, Dr Victoria Avery FSA, Keeper of Applied Arts at Fitzwilliam Museum, will speak about her work with the Rothschild bronzes. The talk will take us step by step through the evidence she gathered to make a case for the bronzes being the work of Michelangelo. The story hit the national headlines, and rightly so. This talk was first given to a spellbound audience at the Fitzwilliam the day the news broke.

On 26<sup>th</sup> June, *The King in the Car Park*, Dr Mathew Morris, lead archaeologist at the scene uncovering King Richard III in a car park in Leicester will speak about this extraordinary discovery. This is another story to captivate the public imagination.

All lectures start at 7.30pm and take place in the church. Cost of tickets includes refreshments, is payable on arrival. For further information contact either Jill Heale: [edheale@btinternet.com](mailto:edheale@btinternet.com) or Cathy Myer: [catherinemyer43@btinternet.com](mailto:catherinemyer43@btinternet.com).

**Midsummer Ceilidh**

Welcome in the summer and dance arm in arm to Ceilidh Band *Arm in Arm* on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June at Manor Farm Barn, Hildersham. This event has been especially designed to appeal to all ages so dancing begins at 6.00 pm with a break for a Hog Roast Supper. Licenced Bar. Tickets £15 adults, £5 children (under and including 18s) now available from Kate Huntsman: 894862 or email [katehuntsman@btinternet.com](mailto:katehuntsman@btinternet.com)

### Under fives storytime

BRING your youngster along for half an hour of stories and fun on Tuesdays during term-time – it's free, no need to book but parents/carers must stay with children. The next meetings are from 2 to 2.30pm on 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May. Storytime is organised by volunteers with the support of Cambridgeshire Libraries. For more information contact [your.library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:your.library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or 0345 045 5225

Anne Worthington

### Wanted – Qualified Life Saver

LINTON Guides would like to hear from anyone who is over 18, is a qualified life saver and who would be willing to supervise a one-off swimming session in a private pool one evening (preferably a Monday) in Linton for up to one hour.

If you can help, please could you contact Rosemary Turner on 891925 or [mjandrturner@gmail.com](mailto:mjandrturner@gmail.com).

Kate France

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visitors by appointment

Maureen Williams 53 Chalklands, Linton



## The Derbyshire Post



ANYONE who drives past our college can see how lucky the children are in terms of the sporting facilities that we have available. In the evening and weekends these are heavily used by the local community sports clubs but in the day the students have the run of the well-equipped fitness suite, two sports halls, astro turf, tennis courts, outdoor cricket nets and two large playing fields. I've never known a state-funded school with the array of goodies that we have available.

It is small wonder that so many of our children are keen on their sport and that we do so well in local sporting competitions. In recent months our Year 8 boys have been to the finals of the District Football, our Year 9 girls are District Champions in netball and basketball, four of our students represented the District in the National Cross-country Championships (Lauren Murphy, Thomas Keen, Cameron Ackroyd and Dominic Brophy) and a large number of students are playing at county level in a range of sports, perhaps the most impressive of which is Harry Wendelken who represents Great Britain in his age category in tennis. On site we have a level 5 tennis coach in Paul Harms and an energetic, enthusiastic team of PE teachers who coach the young people through the week.

We have just been told that we are in the top 100 state-funded schools in the country for academic success at GCSE, but the amount of sport that our youngsters do at LVC provides an important and healthy balance in their lives.

Caroline Derbyshire Principal



### PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/0684/15/FL. Mrs L Alberg, 22 Crossways. Erection of dwelling

S/0686/15/FL. Mr D Pechey, 6 Church Lane. To erect a part timber conservatory to the side of the property

S/0687/15/LB. Mr D Pechey, 6 Church Lane. To erect a part timber conservatory to the side of the property

S/0741/15/DC. Paul Sexton, 3 Horseheath Road. Application for approval of details in respect of Condition 3 (External Materials), Condition 4 (Landscaping), Condition 8 (Boundary Treatment), Condition 10 (Foul Water Drainage), Condition 11 (Surface Water Drainage), Condition 12 (Traffic Management Plan), Condition 15 (Covered Parking), Condition 21 (Finished Floor Levels), Condition 23 (Refuse Screening), Condition 24 (Renewable Energy) of planning permission S/2762/13/FL.

S/0750/15/LD. Mr & Mrs Coles, 16 Bawtree Crescent. Lawful development certificate proposed rear dormer

S/0804/15/FL Mr Miller, 19 Hillway. Single storey rear extension

S/0826/15/LB. Mr James Long, 117 High Street. Listed building consent for works to garden storage shed.

S/0835/15/FL. Hasan Kalay, 10 Bartlow Road. Change of use from A1 (shop) to A5 (hot food takeaway)

S/0878/15/FL. Mr and Mrs J Kell, 24 Parsonage Way. Proposed loft conversion with dormers to front

S/0834/15/FL Mr and Mrs J Wilson, Mill House, 32 Mill Lane. Alterations and conversion of barn to dwelling

S/0958/15/LB Mr and Mrs J Wilson, Mill House, 32 Mill Lane. Alterations and conversion of barn to dwelling

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## The Way We Were by Garth Collard

### VE Day 8th May 1945



Celebrations in full swing but still time for a photo

Picture from Garth's Collection moved to Upper Silesia to a POW camp.

The family did not receive any mail from him since the camp was very close to a Russian front. The Russians liberated the camp in early May 1945 and the POWs were obliged to march hundreds of miles to Hamburg.

There, the Americans liberated them and they were flown to England. The family were ecstatic when Jack knocked on their door on 4<sup>th</sup> May the day before Mona's

mother's birthday on the 5<sup>th</sup> May.

The village prepared for 8<sup>th</sup> May but the pubs had run out of beer. Greene King agreed to provide some from their Panton Street brewery if Linton provided the transport. Fortunately for the Greenhill, two of their regulars were Rowley and Hayden Smith, tenants of Chilford Hall farm.

They used a tractor and trailer to collect enough barrels of beer to supply the Linton Greene King pubs - the Greenhill, Dog & Duck and Waggon & Horses.

Adults were able to indulge in drinking after the children's sports ended in the recreation ground. A bonfire was lit at the top of the High Street and another one high up on the hill at Catley Park. Around the bonfire singing and dancing was the order of the day.

People brought radios to tune into the London celebrations and radios were played at full blast.

WHEN Germany surrendered, the government declared a day of festivities. Every town and village in the country made celebration plans. The Abingtons had services at both churches and local groups paraded through the village. The scale of celebration was restrained because the Japanese war was still being fought.

In Linton there were services at the church and the chapel and a parade from the Greenhill led by the Salvation Army band. Every war organisation took part. The Scouts, Guides and Wolf Cubs, the girls Friendly Society, the Church Lads Brigade, the Linton unit of the Cambridge Volunteers, the Home Guard, Air Raid Wardens and the WVS.

For the children of the village there were open-air parties in Green Lane and Long Lane. Tables were decorated with crepe paper in red, white and blue; children were offered pastries, cakes, jelly, meat sandwiches, lemonade

and a variety of fruit. It was an opportunity to indulge although rationing was still in place.

Some years ago I interviewed Mona Challis, daughter of Frederick Challis landlord of the Greenhill pub. She said that for them VE Day came early on 4<sup>th</sup> May when her brother Jack, who had been a prisoner of war, arrived home unexpectedly in the early hours of the morning. He had been captured on D-Day near Caen and had

### We will remember them

AT 5.30am on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1915, a violent German artillery bombardment began on the British lines, as part of the Battle of Frezenberg Ridge, and three men from the village were killed in the onslaught. All three are commemorated on the Menin Gate.

**Private Arthur Beeton - Suffolk Regiment.** Arthur was born in 1884, the son of Thomas and Christiana and was a farm labourer who lived in Horseheath Road.

**Private Jonas Free - King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.** Jonas was the son of David and Mary and worked as a farm labourer in both West Wrating and Balsham before joining the army as a regular. He also had strong links to the Linton Union.

**Private Edward James Hills - Suffolk Regiment.** Edward was born in 1891, the son of Charles and Elizabeth and also a farm labourer who lived in Barham (now Bartlow) Road.

We also remember:

**Private Thomas Norman Dennis - 09.05.15.** Thomas was born in 1888, son of Thomas and Elizabeth. He was a resident of Linton and had previously worked for the Board of Education. He was killed in the Battle of Aubers, Ploegsteert. He is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial.

esther@lintonatwar.org

### Balsham rejoices in song

BALSHAM Singers are holding their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year Concert entitled *Balsham Shall Rejoice* at 7.30pm on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May in Holy Trinity Church, Balsham. The programme includes; Handel's *Four Coronation Anthems*, Rutter's *The sprig of Thyme*, Parry's *I was glad*, and Fauré's *Cantique de Jean Racine*. Tickets are £7 in advance from Balsham Post Office and Great Abington Post Office and £8 on the door, under 18s free.

Lisa Pechey

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# Parish Council Matters Community orchard

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

THE wide verge between the corner of Symond's Lane and Back Road has been rather wasted ground since Crabtree Croft was built. This land belongs to South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) and Linton parish council (LPC) is negotiating to use part of it as a community orchard. The orchard will be of low growing fruit trees set amongst a carpet of wild flowers.

Work has already started to improve the area - weeds and the dense undergrowth has been cut back and wild flowers will be planted by SCDC and volunteers in mid-April.

The rules of a community orchard are clear - the fruit and the environment are for the whole parish to enjoy, so it is for everyone not just the

people involved in the organisation. Tree management will be supervised by the tree warden, with the mowing and cultivation of the space under the trees probably taken on by the parish as their part of the agreement with SCDC. This space will evolve over years and the types of trees, soft fruit or vines that we grow will be determined partly by the use of the space itself as it develops.

This is an opportunity to cultivate some of the ancient local fruits such as Bullace damsons or Worcester Pearmain apples, which thrive on clay and chalk lands of Suffolk which are very similar to those of Linton. The layout of the orchard will of course change with time, and the types of fruit might not



Verge at the rear of Crabtree Croft along Symond's Lane

All pictures by Anne Meeks



suit every taste, but as it will be a community asset we can decide to change them at the appropriate time.

The residents of the area are especially invited to offer their opinions and those in the adjoining bungalows will be consulted by the parish. Parishioners interested in having input into the types and varieties of fruit we grow are welcome to introduce themselves via the parish council office.

The orchard will hopefully enhance the experience of living in the village for the residents of that area, but will also make a more pleasant aspect leading towards the site of special scenic value - Rivey Hill.

As a post script; the conifer on the bend will have its lower



Conifer on Symond's Lane causing sight problems on turning right to The Grove

branches removed to improve the visibility for cars using Symond's Lane/The Grove and users of the footpaths on the sharp corner. Most of the unsightly concrete posts could be removed and pedestrian access to Symond's Lane made safer - but that will need input from SCDC working with the parish council.

Tree team

## Cemetery and Rivey Lane update

THE cemetery is a peaceful green space in our busy village. However, its peace may be briefly disturbed while we make some overdue improvements.

The mature Hawthorn hedges on the southern and eastern edges are showing green - we have specified that they be given 'batten' or 'Suffolk' cut, with the top narrow to allow light to the base. Some were properly done and are thickening well - we are working on the others. Further hedging will be added (a holly hedge behind the Chalklands room), and recent hedging protected to avoid further strimmer damage.

Dead and damaged trees have been removed, and more trees planted - 5 Rowans, Oak, Birches, etc. A Betula Youngii - a weeping form - was planted behind the ashes area to enhance privacy, but we still need to find a design that will make this a more respectful area, easy to maintain and keep tidy. Any ideas, please?

Work has already started to clear and landscape the old pond area (best viewed as you travel up Cole's Lane). Soon there will be planting, and the large logs will be cut into seats or sculptures. What would you like to see them used for? Perhaps regimental badges could be carved, as a memorial to those who fought for us.



Large tree trunk pieces in cemetery - do you have any ideas for carvings or sculptures?

Now for the disruption - the tarmac road/path has been disintegrating for years, and is due for resurfacing. This will include narrowing the road on the west side to path width: it is no longer

needed as a road and could create a further ashes area. There will be root protection, so that tree roots will cause no further damage. We realise that Linton parish council (LPC) might be criticised for having a better road here than in most of the village, but we have no control over public roads and pavements and can only work on the areas we do have responsibility for - and this road needs repair!



Roadway in cemetery, to the left of circle behind the war memorial, which it is intended to narrow to a path

All pictures by Anne Meeks

The area near the smaller gates will be repaved and waste disposal improved. However, soil is being tipped here again, damaging trees and looking ugly. We also notice that garden waste, rubbish and dog mess is being thrown into the cemetery and into Rivey Lane. Please stop doing it - we are working to improve these areas. These are anti-social actions, which the parish ratepayers have to pay to have put right. Perhaps the culprits should pay?

LPC will clear the ditch to east of Rivey Lane path, which should prevent water flooding from the hill encroaching onto the ashes area of the cemetery - we do not think that LPC owns this ditch, but we should act to avoid further damage to the village asset. We have also had guidance on the trees adjacent to Rivey Lane, from South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) tree officers: "Under current regulations, the responsibility to maintain

the surface of the bridleway falls on the county council. However, any trees on the side of the bridleway are the responsibility of the adjacent property owners on each side the public way". I hope that clarifies ownership and responsibility. SCDC tree officers can advise on what should or might be done, so please consult them.

As part of the WW1 commemoration, it has been proposed that LPC should create a memorial area - a possible site in the northwest corner has been identified, and some designs have been drawn up. We will consult with the WW1 group and the village.

There is also an ongoing history project, with boards and information around the cemetery to document burials (due to rural poverty many were buried without a headstone), interesting graves, some history of the site, etc as suggested by Garth Collard. The cemetery should be a respected asset for the living and also a proper tribute and commemoration for the dead.

Cllr Enid Bald

### LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

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# Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the Linton parish council (LPC/PC) meeting held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

**Present:** Cllr Enid Bald (EB)(chairman); Cllr Paul Poulter (PP)(vice-chairman); Cllr Simon Hill (SH); Cllr Brian Manley (BM); Cllr Graham Potter (GP); Cllr Jan Bumstead (JB); Cllr Beatrice Ward (Dr)(BW); Cllr Alison Walker (AW); Cllr Jacque Wilson (JW); Cllr Brian Cox (Dr)(BC). Clerk: Marilyn Strand. District councillor Henry Batchelor, Kate France (press) and one member of the public were also in attendance.

**Apologies for absence:** Cllrs David Champion, Merrie Manassi and Nicola Miller. County and district councillor Roger Hickford.

**Councillors' declarations of interest:** SH declared a personal interest in the allotments item. JW declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Cathodeon Centre correspondence item.

**Councillor vacancy:** The clerk has had confirmation from South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) that the vacancy arising from the resignation of Mr David Lissemore can be filled by co-option. The PC now has two councillor vacancies.

**Chairman's comment:** Flooding amelioration measures around the village are ongoing and thoughts and suggestions on further measures would be welcome.

The PC is aware that developers and surveyors have been seen around the village at various sites. Although SCDC's Local Plan is under review as not meeting housing supply requirements, any planning applications made will be judged against national planning guidelines, as were previous strategic housing land availability assessment sites.

**Open forum for public participation:** Mr A Joseph addressed the PC in regard to his planning application to open a Fish & Chip & Kebab shop on Bartlow Road. The application has been refused by SCDC on two occasions and on both occasions LPC had not supported the application due to concerns over parking, noise and smell. Mr Joseph asked the PC for advice on how to move forward to put the premises to good business use. However, the chairman stated that the PC was unable to give business advice but said that the PC hoped Mr Joseph could find a suitable use for the premises which would meet planning approval.

**District and county councillors' reports and business:** (a) Cllr Henry Batchelor had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted. Cllr Batchelor confirmed that the City Deal Executive is meeting on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March, and not as stated in his report. There had been no further news on the Local Plan since this report had been written, and no decision made concerning SCDC's housing supply.

(b) Cllr Roger Hickford had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted.

**Annual review of Standing Orders:** The Standing Orders have been reviewed and modified for LPC where necessary. GP proposed to adopt the Standing Orders and the proposal was seconded by BM. All agreed.

**Leadwell Meadows:** BW had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted. It was proposed by BW to obtain quotations for reinstating the boundary fence and this was seconded by PP. All agreed.

It was proposed by AW to proceed with excavating and clearing the ditches and this was seconded by BW. Councillors voted nine in favour and one against and the proposal was carried.

It was proposed by BW that Local Handyman Services be employed to clear a path in order to allow access for a digger and this was seconded by BC. All agreed.

**Community orchard:** EB had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted. It was proposed by BW that work to clear the area in preparation for wild flowers to be sown should proceed and this was seconded by BC. All agreed.

It was proposed by BW that funds be made available to remove the old concrete fencing posts (except those on the corners) and this was seconded by JB. Councillors voted nine in favour with one abstention and the proposal was carried.

It was proposed by AW that the PC would consult with residents neighbouring the proposed orchard and this was seconded by BW. All agreed.

It was agreed by all that the PC should work together with SCDC to make this area safer and more pleasant to look at.

**Parish liaison meeting:** EB had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted.

**Update on s106 money:** The amount of s106 monies received since April 2007 currently stands at £71,846 and must be spent on Community Facility, Public Open Space or Public Art Contributions. It was agreed that a working group should be set up to look for ways in which this money may be spent. The PC currently has several projects which could possibly be funded with its s106 money.

**Grounds maintenance contract:** The PC has ended its contract with Valley Groundcare UK following its failure to satisfactorily fulfil the contract. The PC has appointed CGM to undertake its grounds maintenance from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015.

The following is the minute of this decision made in the confidential part of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2015: "Item 267/14/15: BM proposed to terminate the PC's contract with its current supplier, Valley Groundcare UK and to appoint CGM as its new supplier for the coming year (April 2015 to March 2016) to be reviewed at the end of that period. The proposal was seconded by JB, all voted in favour and the proposal was carried."

It has been agreed to meet with a representative of CGM every three months in order to evaluate the service and highlight any issues which may have arisen. To this end councillors should send any comments or observations to the clerk. BW asked that councillors keep a particular look out for potential strimmer damage to trees.

**Cemetery matters:** EB had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted. It was agreed that all items in the report should be progressed.

It was also proposed by BW to place weed-blocking material in the area at the back of the cemetery, and weed killer in the area already strimmed back by the handyman, and to put small post markers in around the hedge. The proposal was seconded by JW. All agreed.

It was reported that the gates, which are in need of repair, are listed. BC agreed to investigate what is needed and to look for companies which may be able to do the repairs.

**Traffic matters:** The minutes of the A1307 meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015 had been circulated by Cllr Hickford before the meeting. BM had reported on the A1307 meeting to the PC at its meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February. PP said that he had attended the meeting as an observer and felt that it had been very much focused on the possibility of building a road bypass, with few alternatives to this being put forward. He added that some of the proposals for funding a bypass seemed speculative but concluded that the meeting had been a good forum for bringing people together to discuss issues around the A1307. LPC's comments will be fed back to Cllr Hickford following this meeting.

**Street lighting matters:** BM reported that Dolphin Close is very dark now that two street lights had been removed there, and that the yellow light situated on Horseheath Road was ineffective in lighting the steps up to Dolphin Close. It was agreed that the PC would write to SCDC to ask them whether the light could be upgraded.

Any problems with street lighting affecting residents should be reported directly to Kirsty Gray at Balfour Beatty.

The clerk will investigate whether the new lights are being dimmed overnight.

**Update on the Neighbourhood Plan (NP):** (a) PP had sent a report on the NP working group meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March and added that further consultation with the public on key policy areas would be moving forward. He also stated that all councillors could play a key part in this consultation by circulating information on the NP to their contacts when they receive it.

(b) Linton and Hildersham parish councils (LHPC) agreement for the development of a NP for the designated area comprising

the parish boundaries of Linton and Hildersham. This would formalise the working relationship between LPC and HPC. BM proposed to adopt the agreement and the proposal was seconded by BW. All agreed.

It was agreed that PP and BW will act as representatives on the LHPC steering group.

It was agreed that AW and JB will meet every two months to review the progress of the NP and report to LHPC.

(c) Service level agreement (SLA) between SCDC and LHPC for the purposes of producing a NP. It was agreed to progress the SLA with SCDC.

**Update on allotments:** SH stated that the Linton Allotment Association (LAA) had met the previous week to formalise its business plan for the allotments. He also confirmed that LAA had still not received a reply from the Diocese following its request to undertake soil testing on the proposed site.

**Parish council matters pages (Linton News):** Articles for the May edition will be as follows: BW & EB on the community orchard, PP on the Neighbourhood Plan, the traffic working group on the A1307 and City Deal and the cemetery working group on plans to improve the cemetery.

**Consideration of correspondence received:** (a) Ms G Whiting request to hold markets on three dates in 2015. It was proposed by BM that permission be granted for all proposed dates and this was seconded by BC. All agreed.

The PC might like to hold a stall of its own at the markets to inform residents on subjects such as the NP.

(b) Mr R Hickford regarding recreation ground gates being left open on Monday evenings. BM has written to the hirers of the Pavilion and has had assurance that the problem will be rectified. It was agreed to obtain quotations for new gates on Meadow Lane. The possibility of electric gates operated by an entry code will also be investigated as these would automatically shut after each entry.

(c) CPRE renewal of membership and contribution amount. It was proposed by PP that a membership contribution of £100 be granted and this was seconded by BC. All agreed.

(d) SCDC regarding payment of s106 monies to be agreed. This was agreed and signed by the chairman.

(e) Mrs J Roland request for residents only parking at The Grip. A full review of parking in the village is to be carried out by the PC's traffic working group, including The Grip and the issues raised by Mrs Roland. This will be carried out in liaison with Linton's PCSO and police liaison officer.

(f) Magpas request for funding. This was deferred to the next meeting of the finance committee.

(g) Mr G Roland request for residents only parking at The Grip. As item (e) above.

(h) Mrs J Cummings regarding parking issues in the High Street. As item (e) above.

(i) SCDC regarding South Cambs Transport Directory 2015/16. This was noted. Copies are available in the PC office for residents who may be interested.

(j) Ms L Foreman, Environment Agency (EA) request for information on historical flooding in Linton. EB and BC will work together to compile the information requested although this would probably not be in time for the deadline on 27<sup>th</sup> March (clerk to notify the EA). The Infant School had recently completed a project on this subject and might be able to provide information.

(k) Mr T Christian request to hold a circus on the recreation ground from 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> June 2015. It was proposed by BM that due to a lack of sufficient space and the effect on other users, permission for the circus should not be granted. This was seconded by BW. All agreed.

(l) Linton Cathodeon Centre trustees regarding external improvements to the Cathodeon Centre. It was confirmed by GP that £6000 had been set aside under community promotion for improvements to the centre. GP proposed to agree this payment and this was seconded by PP. All agreed.

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




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