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25th Sept from
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& 4.30-7pm at
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Growing better every year

THE show secretary modestly pronounced her verdict: "a very good show", and it certainly was, with the highest number of exhibitors and entries in the Gardening club's recent records.

On a bright and sunny day at the end of a very rainy July, exhibitors managed to bring in and remove their displays without getting wet. Unfortunately, a short shower in the afternoon did catch district councillor Trisha Bear as she arrived to present the prizes.

The children excelled themselves with 73 entries, including a biscuit decorated by a 15-month-old, and there was a new class for school groups which produced three very good entries.

Clare Crosland won the cup for the seven and under age group for, among other things, a flower arrangement in an eggcup, a miniature garden and a decorated biscuit, and Amelia Sexton triumphed in the eight-14 group for entries which included a flower arrangement, a creature made from vegetables and fairy cakes.

In the adult sections, Les Moulton continued his winning run taking seven trophies in the vegetable and flower sections, but rivals Susan Anderson, Rosemary Harrison, Ron Pitkin and Carol Todd were hard on his heels.

Newcomer Sarah Bowie won the Endeavour cup which is awarded to the person with most points for vegetables and fruit who has not previously won in that section, and Joan Smith took the Endeavour cup for flowers under the same circumstances.

Committee members Karen and Dan Johnson, who have done so much to encourage more children's entries, had the *frisson* of familial rivalry in the baking section with Dan pipping Karen to the post to win first prize for his plaited loaf, but Karen won a first for her meringues. She won the section



Amelia Sexton, winner of the eight to 14 group

Picture by Ron Pitkin



Clare Crosland, winner of the seven and under group

Picture by Wendy Foster

overall with newcomer Jean Ludgate a close second.

There was the usual beautiful display of flower arrangements large and small with Jenny Purves, who achieved recognition in every class she entered, winning the Rose-bowl Challenge trophy, and Susan Anderson taking the Connie Wright cup for best overall flower exhibit with her foliage only arrangement.

What a variety of talents local residents have – this was proved in the handicraft section with an array of beautiful objects including a small table and a handbag, along with the knitting, tapestry, painting and patchwork. Jean Champion won the Challenge cup with Peaky Carver and Caroline Connell as joint runners-up.

Last but not least, the open photography section produced stunning pictures, many from camera club members of flowers, Linton, winter, portraits and very interesting interpretations of leisure. One never gets enough time to study these photos on the day, but several which had caught my eye belonged to Mike Crofts who turned out to be the winner, with David Champion as runner-up.

Huge efforts by a variety of people slot together like a jigsaw puzzle to make this show happen. Cards are written, the hall prepared, exhibits carefully

displayed, entries judged, details logged and information collated to establish winners, with prize money enveloped for distribution before the prize giving. Food appears, crockery is washed and at the end everything is dismantled and taken back to its resting place for another year. What a team!

Congratulations to all the entrants and thanks to the visitors who supported the club.

Our next meeting on 9th October will be the AGM followed by refreshments and a produce sale.

Gloria Fidler, 891800

Well done, Alex



A happy Alex wearing the bronze medal he won at the Waterski championships after overcoming the tough weather conditions at Braintree

Picture by Adrienne Pett

LINTON-based Alex Pett, a student at Linton village college, pulled off a surprise third place in the under 14 category of the National Slalom Waterski championships held at Gosfield Lake near Braintree last month.

To enter, the competitors had to be able to complete the six-buoy slalom course with the speed-boat travelling at 30mph, which Alex only achieved in a competition a few weeks ago.

Having reached fourth place in the opening qualifying round on Friday with four buoys at 34 mph, he went on to master the tough weather conditions and take the bronze medal in the final.

Adrienne Pett

Helping Hands need some more help

LINTON and District Helping Hands has been running in the village since 1985 and volunteers give their time free.

If you are based at home, work part time, or are retired and would like to do a little local voluntary work which is flexible and enjoyable, we would like to hear from you. Volunteer drivers are paid a mileage allowance.

Our co-ordinators report an increase in demand for the service of the voluntary drivers, and it is difficult to cope in Linton as the pool of drivers has reduced from 23 to 15. Abington currently has eight drivers and Castle Camps and

Horseheath each have one.

Co-ordinators organise lifts for people who need help to get around, have mobility problems or are very isolated.

Drivers pick up the person needing a lift and drive them to and from their destination. The service covers hospital trips, health and day care centre, dental and optical appointments, shopping etc; the current charge is 40p a mile.

Our Good Neighbour service, which provides other occasional practical assistance, also needs volunteers. If you are willing to help as a volunteer/driver, please contact Alex Todd 892979

World-class musicians at Hadstock festival

A GROUP of highly acclaimed international musicians will fly in for Hadstock's second music festival in aid of the Friends of St Botolph's church.

What would draw a cast of world class musicians to the village of Hadstock, near Saffron Walden, for a music festival in September? The answer is the amazing acoustic quality of the ancient church.

The festival will have performers from China, Singapore, Sweden, Estonia, France, England, Australia and South Africa. This prestigious cast of artists has been assembled by Bernard Lanskey, a Hadstock resident, in association with the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the help of Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, University of Singapore.

The musicians are more used to big audiences in large concert halls but they travel to Hadstock to experience this remarkable sound quality and to enjoy the relaxed and inti-

mate atmosphere.

The organisers are also keen to involve local young talent and the first concert on Sunday 23rd September will be performed by students from Hills Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge.

On Tuesday 25th September the Friends are especially excited to welcome Li-Wei Qin, a cellist who works with orchestras at the highest level and broadcasts regularly on BBC Radio 3. He will be joined by pianist Bernard Lanskey, who performs throughout Australia and in most European countries, and Njabulo Madlala, the South African baritone, making a welcome return to Hadstock where he sang to much acclaim at last year's festival.

The concert on Thursday 27th September features Katherine Brokerick, soprano, the 2007 winner of both the prestigious Kathleen Ferrier Award held at the Wigmore Hall and the highly regarded Gold Medal awarded by the



Yong Siew Toh Quartet

Picture by GuoShu

Guildhall School. Also performing will be Daniel Tong, a pianist who plays frequently at Britain's main concert halls and on BBC Radio 3, Bernard Lanskey and Yong Siew Toh Quartet from Singapore.

On Friday 28th September Anna-Liisa Bezrodny, a violinist and the 2006 winner of the Guildhall School's gold medal, will join Bernard Lanskey, Daniel Tong and the Yong Siew Toh Quartet.

The Kungsbacka Trio will perform in the final concert on Saturday 29th September. This trio of violin, cello and piano has gained an enviable reputation and has a flourishing international career performing throughout Europe, America and Australia and has made many recordings.

The quality of the musicians will rival any other local music event and fans are advised to secure tickets early as the capacity of the church in Hadstock is limited and demand will be high to hear such exceptional players.

Full details of individual concerts and tickets priced £5 to £10 are available from Saffron Walden tourist information office, Market Square, Saffron Walden 01799 510444, or www.hadstockchurch.org.

The festival is sponsored by Uttlesford district council and Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, University of Singapore.

Sue Walker

Too good for jumble ...

A RARE opportunity – this month's star offer is a small aluminium greenhouse (8ft x 4ft) – buyer to collect from Dolphin Close. Also a lady's shopper-style bicycle, good condition. Many items were sold in August. Only the gents' size 10 golf shoes and the Sega Mega Drive II with two games are still available, but there are some new golf balls at £1 each (three in a box).

The dolls raised £10 each for Linton Guides, one frame tent raised £20 for the Brownies and another frame tent made £25 for East Anglian Childrens' Hospice. The mini hi-fi system raised £20 for the Alzheimers' Society and the golf clubs, trolley and two new sets of golf balls raised £89 for the newly formed Linton Trefoil Guild. Thanks to everyone concerned. To buy any of the above items or to offer an item to benefit a charity, please phone: Kate France 891602 or email katefrance@linton48.freeseve.co.uk

Wind farm responses

I MAKE no apologies for devoting a great deal of space to the proposed wind farm – a sensitive issue which has generated many responses. We have included as many as possible.

I expect there will be more letters on the same subject following the second exhibition by Enertrag this month. We

will publish those that we believe are of importance.

We will also publish any official information from SCDC or Enertrag, and it is important that you also inform them of your views. As always with any letters or articles, the Editor's decision is final.

Editor

THOUGHTS FROM THE GRANTA RANTA

AT 9.45pm on Sunday 12th August, a youth was seen buying 40 bottles of Stella Artois and three bottles of spirits in the Co-op. The following may or may not be related ...

Four hours later, noises were heard in Symonds Lane. Upon investigation, it appeared a group of youths were wending their very merry way along a line of parked cars and wheelie bins, knocking into them as they passed.

They were loudly singing their own version of *Breakfast in America* by Supertramp. Rounding the corner onto the High Street, the singing briefly stopped as they recalled pushing over a motorbike a few weeks earlier.

The song changed to *Wonderwall* by Oasis as the group proceeded towards Sweet Talk News. Before reaching it, they kicked two cars and emptied the contents of a bin.

With the singing getting louder, they reached the junction of Coles Lane. There, they noticed the plastic safety cover which had been placed over the wires left protruding after one of Linton's many careful drivers had knocked over the no-entry sign. The cover was removed and tossed to the other side of the road.

Passing the end of Mill Lane, they tipped over a dishwasher, left outside a house for collection. Knocking on doors and windows and still singing, they eventually made it to the Co-op. The police were called as metal storage trolleys and 18 bags of rubbish were strewn across the road.

After nearly 10 minutes by the store, the group passed down Green Lane, kicking nearly every car as they went and leaving several with only one wing mirror.

Their tour continued through the infant school, Church Lane, Horn Lane, Market Lane and onto the recreation ground. The group, including a girl, began moving around the pavilion. Deciding for some reason *not* to cause any more damage, they dispersed in the area of The Grove.

The police were called again by the same person. The line was very busy - by now it was 3.45am. Apparently they were inundated with calls reporting distress flares, but not the infernal din of the village being vandalised (the 'distress flares' were the meteorites the earth was passing through that night).

So, nobody else heard or saw a thing? Can that really be true? The dishwasher hitting the road, the metal trolleys being thrown around and the cars being kicked didn't alert anyone? If one other person had picked up the phone, the police may have turned up sooner than they did and stopped at least some of the damage. As a village with a 10% share in one PC, the onus is on all of us to report everything as it happens.

Just three weeks ago, Gary Newlove, a father of three, was kicked to death by a gang of youths he had asked to stop damaging his car. His neighbourhood was also blighted by the inertia of the local police, council and residents.

Have your say on policing

DO you ever wish you could determine the priorities of the police, whether it be graffiti, criminal damage or speeding traffic?

During September, residents in Linton are invited to attend a meeting where the priorities for the local force will be determined by a vote and then adopted by the Neighbourhood Policing team. The meeting will cover all villages in the Linton sector which includes Fulbourn and Teversham but everyone's vote is equal, regardless of where they are or their position in the community.

Linton parish council would like to encourage residents from Linton to attend the meeting at 7pm for 7.30pm on Tuesday 18th September, at Linton Heights junior school to discuss issues and help determine priorities. The more Linton residents who attend, the more chance we will have of getting village issues addressed.

Esther Cornell

Telling stories could be fun



COULD you take a group of young children on a magical adventure ... without even leaving the library? Yes? Then you could be the person we need to join us at Linton library as a volunteer story-timer.

Whether you have experience, however informal, of sharing the magic of stories and rhymes with under-fives or you wish to learn more about it, please get in touch.

If you are interested or would like more information, contact Anne Worthington, Librarian, Children's Team, Cambridgeshire Libraries on: Anne.Worthington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or call 07786 126506



Give blood and save a life

CURRENTLY only five per cent of people who could give blood actually do so - meaning that 95 per cent of the population rely on a handful to ensure blood is readily available when required.

Hospitals throughout the region are in constant need of blood and the National Blood Service (NBS) is asking for more donors to come forward to ensure blood banks remain full.

Gareth Bell, NBS communications officer, said: "It is very easy for us all to sit back, relax, and expect others to donate blood - but that will not keep hospitals in good supply.

"Every donation collected is a precious lifeline to patients, and you will make a real difference by becoming a donor.

"All you feel is a slight scratch - which is insignificant

when compared with the feeling you get knowing you have just saved a life."

The next sessions are at Linton village hall in Coles Lane from 1pm-3.30pm and 4.30pm-7pm on Tuesday 25th September.

Blood collected is used in a wide-range of treatments, including, for example, for mothers and babies on maternity wards, routine surgery and to stabilise cancer and leukaemia patients after chemotherapy.

In most cases, anyone aged 17-59, who is in general good health, and weighs over 7st 12lb, can start giving blood. Regular donors can continue to give until they are 70.

For further information, and to book an appointment to give blood, please call:

08457 711711, or log-on to www.blood.co.uk

The Grapevine has it taped

SINCE 1990, the Linton News has been available on cassette for those who are visually impaired or have difficulty reading the printed version.

The tape is produced by the Granta Grapevine Talking Newspaper; teams of readers, editors and technical staff. Although we have been using cassette tapes as the recording medium from the beginning, other technologies such as CDs, minidisks and a digital voice recorder for interviews are used to produce the master tape for duplication, so we are keeping up to date.

We are testing CD production for the day when our listeners require this medium, but investment will be required to replace our high-speed tape duplicator. We, and Talking Newspapers across the country, can still obtain blank tapes from our suppliers, so tape will continue as long as our listeners have players.

In October, the annual meeting of the charity is being held and we would like to invite all those with an interest in the group, be they listeners, volunteers or anyone who would like to know more about the service, to join us at 2.30pm on Wednesday 17th at Chalklands community centre. Refreshments will be provided.

If you would like to help us or require further information, please call me on 893619 or see our website www.grantagrapevine.org.uk

Mike Crofts

On the buses ... tell us what you want

EVERYONE has a view of bus services regardless of whether they use them or not. Many though have no idea where to express those views. Passenger transport services at Cambridgeshire county council has taken steps to solve that problem. We have posted a survey on the web, which is quick, simple and easy to complete.

All responses received will be compiled regularly and be one of the contributory factors used to develop our plans for the future. The survey can be completed as many times as people like as we will continually review the results.

This address will connect you directly to the survey: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/consultations/bussurvey

Please let as many people know this address as you can; just help us to get it out there. Finding out what people really think about bus services is vital. The on-line survey gives those who have a view the opportunity to be heard.

With your help, we can make the survey a success.

For more information please contact:

Stephanie Wade, passenger transport customer relations officer (718242)

Cambridgeshire county council ET1015, Castle Court, Castle Hill, Cambridge CB3 0AP

Email: stephanie.wade@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Volunteers needed for a fishy business

SCIENTISTS at the Medical Research Council (MRC) Human Nutrition Research are looking for volunteers who are interested in taking part in research studies. One of our studies is hoping to investigate the effects of fish oils on the body.

Recent evidence shows fish such as salmon, mackerel and sardines are good sources of fish oils, or omega 3 fatty acids, which can help prevent heart disease and diabetes, but it is still not clear exactly how they do this. In our study, we

ask volunteers to take fish oil capsules for one year.

But how do fish oils affect the body? We are hoping to find out. Why not join us? All we ask is that you are 20-80, in reasonably good health and a non-smoker. You would be required to visit us nine times over a one-year period.

If you would like more information, then please get in touch with me.

Joanna Gambell on 437523
e-mail Joanna.Gambell@mrc-hnr.cam.ac.uk

Historical society meets again

AT 7.30pm on Tuesday 18th September, we start another exciting year. As is customary, we kick off the year with our brief, but very much to the point AGM.

This will be followed by an illustrated talk by local expert Janet Morris, who, when she isn't carrying out her own research or helping others with their family history research, spends her spare time as the secretary of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society and the West Wickham & District Local History Club.

Janet's talk has the fascinating title of 'The saint, the sheep breeders and the temperance lecturer: the remarkable men from 19th century West Wickham'. Janet's talks are always entertaining and there is a strong local connection to all the characters involved.

Come and join us for a guaranteed enjoyable evening among friends; there is always news of what is happening locally in the local, family and social history world, and a chance to discuss your own research project. Membership is still £8 per year and only £2 on the night for visitors. For more information, please contact either Garth Collard on Cambridge 892395 or me.

Andrew Westwood-Bate 892430

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Oh, what a fun evening ...

WHAT an enjoyable evening we had for our August meeting – a most interesting speaker, an entertaining quiz and a fill-in chairperson who felt distinctly out of touch but no one seemed to mind. Tricia Lewis welcomed members and our two visitors, and Brenda Smith read the minutes of the last meeting. Reminders of the coffee mornings, tickets for Peter Pan on Ice and the outing to Southwold Theatre and Nosh and Natter were given out.

Margaret Clark was congratulated on her rôle as Miss Marple at the ADC – she gave a wonderful portrayal. Wendy Foster had emailed HQ concerning the television programme about the WI; those who had seen it were also affronted at the image portrayed. Suggestions for our 65th anniversary in December 2008 were requested; members should let the committee know what they would like to do.

Keith Goodwin, who has been a chef for 40 years, the last 10 at Wimpole Hall was introduced. He gave a most interesting talk about the start of his training as a chef in the Shell Mex building in London. He enjoyed it so much he has spent the last 40 years honing his skills. He demonstrated various cooking and household implements from days gone by and asked us to guess how they were used and for what. Some we guessed correctly, others left us pondering. We got a glimpse of what it is like to work at Wimpole Hall and how they source their ingredients locally if possible; of course, they have their own source of meat from the farm. One of their cooks had won first prize nationally for her steak pies – you can have one if you go to Wimpole but you have to be early as they soon sell out! What an interesting and entertaining speaker.

The talk was followed by refreshments and a quiz – the theme being a menu, provided by Brenda Smith; this caused much hilarity. The meeting closed with the raffle. Our next meeting will be at 7.30pm on 4th September when the speaker will be Margaret Clark on A Secret Life. New members always welcome.

Tricia Lewis

... and music too

WHILDERSHAM WI enjoyed a Spanish evening at the Mill – eating alfresco on a warm and thankfully dry July evening with members producing a meal of true Spanish food, we were entertained by Alec Rainey who played his Spanish guitar.

When, as a young man, Alec travelled to Spain for a holiday in the hope of earning his fare home, he stayed in a village unable to speak the language, living and working with the locals who were also unable to speak English. Along with learning the language, he also learned from an excellent teacher to play the Spanish guitar without being able to read music. Nine months later, he had earned enough money to buy a ticket home.

Forty years on, adept at playing the Spanish guitar and fluent in Spanish and three other languages, Alec gave us a delightful evenings entertainment.

Pamela Parris

Readers write ... Readers write ...

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters are on Page 8. Please note: all letters for publication must be supplied with a full name and address to enable us to check authenticity. Letters may be edited.

Dear Editor

I am training as a matwork pilates teacher. I have two case studies to write before my final examination and I am looking for my second case study. I have to give an introduction to pilates to somebody who has never done it before, so I am looking for somebody who will commit to attend 10 private classes in Linton during November (three classes per week). In return, this person will enjoy 10 hours of free pilates under my caring attention! You can contact me on 890499 or email aude.derevier@btopenworld.com
Aude Derevier, Joiners Road

Dear Editor

Last Monday afternoon, my little girl and I were playing in the playground when a van pulled up and a man got out and proceeded to spray a liquid in the playground. Immediately, I took my daughter away. The man said: "It is only Round-up." There is no "only" about it. How can it be that we allow herbicides such as this to be sprayed in an area where children play? Not only that, but to be sprayed at 4.30pm when many children are likely to be using the area?

Whatever one may believe about the safety of such products, surely it is a risk that many parents would choose not to take on behalf of their children. Please could an alternative be found, even if it takes the contractors an extra five minutes?
Name and address supplied

Where has the money gone?

I'M writing on behalf of Linton Area Pool Project. We've had a question from a Linton resident on our website and I think it is a question worth answering for everybody.

The question said: "I have just found this website and I am curious to know if the £5000 raised so far includes funds raised as far back as the '70s. I can remember both my children and their classmates doing a sponsored stone pick-up at the junior school and various other sponsored events. Looking forward to your reply ..."

The answer, in a word, is 'Yes'. Various monies have been raised over the years reaching back to the '60s. We (the new 2007 committee) have inherited all the old paperwork etc.

Over the years, there have been various architect's plans drawn up and planning permission given in order to apply for various grants and lottery funding. This has unfortunately been very hard work, very costly and brought little reward which is why there still isn't a pool. Funds have not been lost or stolen, as I have heard rumoured, but spent over the years by well-meaning, hard-working pool committee members trying every possible way of securing funds to build a pool in Linton.

We have one big advantage that previous committees did not have and that is the new Granta school. Back in the days when build costs were estimated at £2 million, it was considered far too much money to attempt to raise within the community and therefore an impossible proposal without a substantial grant or lottery funding. However half of this money was needed to build a road across the sports field to allow vehicular access to the sports centre and also sufficient car parking for users of the pool. This road has now been built and has therefore cut our target down to £1 million.

Since the new committee was formed earlier this year, we have looked at our options very carefully and have come up with a plan to make one last effort to raise sufficient funds to build the pool.

We have given ourselves five years with a fund-raising target of £100,000 a year. We are planning a wide variety of community events during this time including restarting the Linton carnival.

We will also apply for grant funding and corporate sponsorship to match the money raised as we go along.

Paula Martin, vice chair LAPP

LINTON DIARY

To guarantee entry into this diary please ensure that your event is written into the diary in the Post Office.

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

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

WEEKLY

Junior badminton, 10am-12noon Sundays	SC
Adult tennis coaching, Sundays (call 07791 150141)	SC
Pilates, 10 and 11.15am Mondays	VH
Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays	VH
Men's all-age keep fit club, 8pm Mondays	SC
Ladies' netball, 7-9pm Mondays	SC
WEA, 10am Tuesdays, from 2nd October	VH
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
Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays	VH
Men's keep fit club, 8pm Wednesdays	SC
Linton theatre workshop, Wednesdays (call 892076)	VH
Tots-in-tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays in term time	VH
Bowling roll-ups, 2pm Wednesdays until October	Pavilion
Slimming world, 7pm Wednesdays	Balsham church institute
Music Matters, 10am & 11am Thursdays from 20th Sept	VH
LVC badminton club, 8-10pm Thursdays	SC
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays	VH
Rhyme'n'rythm, totsmusicgroup, Fridays 10.30&1.30tertime,	URC hall
Junior basketball, 6-7pm Fridays	SC
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays	CC
Tap dancing, 7.15-8pm Fridays	VH
Granta badminton club, 8-10pm Fridays	SC
Adult social tennis, 2-3pm Saturdays	SC
Boxercise/TTB/spinning, 7-8pm various days, call 890248	SC

SEPTEMBER

2 Camera club outing, 10am	Coles Lane car park
3 Camera club, 7.15pm	VH
4 WI, 7.30pm	VH
5 Reading group, 8pm	Dog & Duck
6 Wind farm visit, 10am	Contact Enertrag, 01379 643564
6 Luncheon club, 12noon	The Crown
6 Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC
6-9 Heritage open days	See Page 6
10 ACE outing to Felixstowe, 9.30am	Dog & Duck
10 Linton Trefoil guild meeting, 7.30pm	25 The Woodlands
11 VIP group, 2pm	Chalklands
13 LAPP meeting, 7.30pm	CC
16 Art Deco fair, 10am	Chilford Hall
18 Wind farm visit, 2pm	Contact Enertrag, 01379 643564
18 Police meeting, 7 for 7.30pm	Linton Heights school
18 Historical society AGM, 7.30pm	VH
19 CAMTAD hearing help, 9am-12noon	HC
22 Dads and tots, 9.30am	VH
22 LIFE, raptor flying display, 9.30am	CC
23 Camera club outing, 10am	Coles Lane car park
23 Hadstock music festival, 6pm	St Botolph's
25 Blood donor sessions, 1-3.30pm and 4.30-7pm	VH
25 Wind farm exhibition, 2pm	VH
25,27,28 Hadstock music festival, 8pm	St Botolph's
28 Macmillan coffee morning, 9am	VH
28-3 rd November, autumn show	Darryl Nantais Gallery
29 Hadstock music festival, 7.30pm	St Botolph's
30 Glass fair, 10.30am	Chilford Hall

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

Refuse collection: 3rd and 17th September, 1st October.

Recycling collection: 10th and 24th September.

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.

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Linton wind farm: what the people say

Time for the silent majority to make clear its views

Dear Editor
May I ask to your readers to seek the facts concerning wind farms and consider carefully the question of that proposed for Linton (see web sites for: parliament.uk-postnote, stoptintonwindfarm and enertraguk). Most people agree that wind energy is clean but argue over the aesthetics of wind farms; are they really

more offensive than (say) power cables or the water tower? There is disagreement concerning the safety of wind farms, though apparently little serious evidence of damage to human health. Finally, concerns for animal welfare are expressed. These seem insincere coming from people who

continue to use cars for personal transport in spite of the wildlife carnage they cause. More important is the UK's need to secure its energy supplies if future generations are to enjoy the lifestyle we now have. Approximately 70% of the UK's electricity is produced by gas or coal-fired power stations. We are rapidly exhausting

our supplies of natural gas and cannot produce sufficient coal to meet demand. Our electricity supply is therefore becoming increasingly dependent on imports from foreign countries, who may not always be friendly. This world has limited reserves of such fuels and as they are consumed, competition for the

remainder will undoubtedly cause problems. Currently, the UK's only credible alternatives to wind energy are nuclear or wave energy. Wind energy is clean, readily available and infinite; while it is unlikely to meet all of our needs it is a step in the right direction. When SCDC assesses the planning application for the Linton wind farm, it

will undoubtedly consider public opinion. The opinions of vociferous minorities can overshadow those of silent majorities. Therefore if you wish to see this application succeed, it is important that SCDC are aware of your views. This is best accomplished by informing Enertrag UK of them. Jim Foster, address supplied

Give turbines a chance

Dear Editor
While not having the technical expertise to comment on that aspect of the proposed wind farm, I would like to register my support for it in principle. There has to be a replacement for fossil fuels, which are running out, and nuclear fuel with its potential danger and waste disposal problems. Why not give wind turbines a chance? Far from being unattractive, many consider a landscape of these structures to be majestic and beautiful. I visited a wind farm on a fine day and was amazed at the low level of noise. However, I understand that in different weather this may change, but for those who live nearest the proposed site, it seems unlikely that any noise will be worse than the endless drone of the A1307. Enertrag has shown good faith by organising public meetings to disseminate information and provide a platform for concerns. This effort is in contrast to those who talk about the problems, and maybe wring their hands about them while driving their cars too fast, burning lights unnecessarily all night and not making every effort with recycling. Being emotive and resisting change will not bring any solutions, but with goodwill on all sides, we may yet find the answers. Name and address supplied

Dear Editor
First the local villages around Boxworth and Wadlow were targeted by wind developers. Their applications were turned down. Now it's Linton's turn. The Cambridge Evening News reports another seven nearby sites have been 'identified'. So what's going on? We can learn from the planners' rejection ... "the scale of this application was not appropriate for this particular location. The benefits accruing from this proposal are outweighed by the substantial harm it could cause. SCDC would be

Dear Editor
I write in response to the article about the proposed wind farm in the last edition of Linton News. At 130 metres, not 85 metres as stated in the article, these turbines are almost as tall as the London Eye. This scheme will dominate and adversely affect the character of our rural landscape. The article states the UK has the greatest wind harbouring capacity in Europe. It does, but not in South Cambridgeshire where average wind speeds are the lowest in the UK. Wind turbines should only be

disappointed but not surprised if the applicant decided to appeal but is prepared to present a comprehensive submission to the appeals inspector on request." The Boxworth developer appealed and was again turned down. Public inquiries can cost council taxpayers £200,000. And the £1 billion and rising stealth tax wind subsidies? Enertrag forgets to mention that. Boxworth and Wadlow were said by developers to be the best sites. So Linton is not so good. That means even lower efficiency (20% at

placed in areas where the wind is stronger and more consistent. An independent report by the Royal Academy of Engineering disputes the electricity generating costs quoted in the article. They found the cost of onshore wind generation to be 5-6p per unit versus nuclear at 2-3p. Although wind energy industrialists conclude audible and low frequency noise are unlikely to affect health, experts in biomedical research disagree. Increasing evidence suggests noise produced by wind

best?) if these eight monster turbines, each similar in height to the London Eye, come to ruin our precious countryside, Icknield Way, and Hildersham Wood SSSI. They would tower over Linton Community College and its sports fields. Keep your eye on the ball! An important reason the Boxworth developer's appeal failed was the danger of driver distraction on the A14. What about our A1307? Do we really need something to add to the carnage? Property blight is a reality the wind industry won't

admit. Think about it! If turbines honestly combated climate change, we would support them. More than 85% of Boxworth/Conington villagers did their homework and rejected them. Wadlow opposition was also great. Electricity is necessary 100% of the time. Turbines that need power station back-up are expensive and useless. Don't be conned into believing otherwise. For facts, visit the websites www.stoptlwf.org.uk and www.rural.co.uk Linton Forum. Brian Gallagher, Abington

Benefit to the community

Dear Editor,
I was particularly interested to read Owain Bury's report on the proposed Linton wind farm in last month's Linton News and look forward to attending Enertrag's second public exhibition on 25th September. I greatly appreciate these opportunities for discussion of the project and for visits to a working wind farm in September arranged by Enertrag UK. I fully support the promotion of wind energy, and I think the proposed site is most appropriate, being located in a large, open, windy space at a considerable distance from any houses. Grouped in one particular area, the graceful turbines would enhance the landscape, unlike the nearby electricity pylons which stretch for miles across the countryside. Doubtless these were cause for controversy when they first appeared (how many years ago?) but now they are accepted, even ignored. In my opinion, the proposed wind farm could prove to be of great benefit, not only environmentally, but to Linton and the wider community. Joy Button, Chalklands

Don't be conned; get the facts

Site at Linton is inappropriate

how long that will take nor is it specific on what it will do. For many people the loss of TV viewing will constitute considerable loss of amenity. Enertrag has chosen an inappropriate site. The negative consequences will far outweigh any positive effect and planning permission should be refused. I urge local residents to consider this proposal very carefully. For further information see www.stoptlwf.org.uk Sue Harrison, Little Linton sharrison@doctors.org.uk

There are more letters on the issue of the proposed wind farm on Page 5

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Linton wind farm: what the people say

Is this the first of many?

Dear Editor
One of the most worrying aspects of wind farm developments is that once planning permission is granted, there is a very real prospect of additional applications being made. Once the landscape character has been degraded by the first group of turbines, it is then much easier to get permission for subsequent schemes. The Burton Wold wind farm at Kettering has only been operational for a year yet there is already a proposal to increase the number of turbines from 10 to 17. At Swaffham, a town which originally had two turbines, an eight-turbine wind farm has now been built in a village just outside and a

further six turbines are proposed. There is a danger that either an extension of this scheme or other schemes within view may well come forward post approval. There is a considerable area of land adjacent to the scheme that could accommodate further turbines and as such there is a very real risk the developers would not stop at eight turbines. Indeed, Enertrag may offer to reduce the original number knowing that should planning permission be given, an application for an extension will have more chance of being successful. Mrs SJ Heathcote, address supplied

It could be a nightmare

Dear Editor
The Linton forum (at www.rural.co.uk) has first-hand experience of what it's like trying to live with a wind farm. Imagine seeing your house become worthless and having to pay for a place to sleep because the turbines make it impossible for peace at home. A nightmare. To quote a lady who lives just under 1km from a wind farm: "we now rent a house to sleep in five miles away so that we can live an almost normal life - which wasn't possible on three to four hours' sleep. At its worst, our 'swish' is closely akin to four Chinook helicopters circling the house - with all the farm

buildings pulsating as well." She also says: "The Government's preferred measure for wind turbine noise ... is that noises that don't last for more than 10% of 10 minutes are discounted, then the rest is averaged. To put it in simple terms, I could fire a shotgun outside your bedroom window every six seconds for 10 minutes and if the rules for wind turbines were applied - then it wouldn't count as a noise nuisance!" I have joined the www.stoplwf.org.uk action group because I don't want my home and way of life ruined. Name and address supplied

Don't let the minority rule

Dear Editor
I would like to support the proposed wind farm. The wind turbines are not noisy - the traffic on the A1307 will more than mask what noise is produced. There is a wind turbine at Wood Green animal shelter which does not affect their animals, so I am sure Linton zoo will be fine.

In Holland, they rely extensively on wind turbines for their power, and fields are still grazed by animals - they also have some of the best areas for wildfowl in Europe - with wind turbines. Wildlife is regularly killed on our roads - should we stop driving?

Ely Cathedral is visible from Rivey Hill on a good day - perhaps we should demolish it as we can see it?

The comment by the 'No' camp in its propaganda about the French not wanting any turbines within 1.5 kilometres of a house is misleading as the French rely heavily on nuclear and hydro electricity power - they have enough space to request this and there is no strong need for wind power there. In Holland (again), farms and smallholdings have their own turbines in their gardens. (Yes, smaller than our proposed ones).

I do hope Linton will be brave enough to permit this development, rather than being influenced by the noisy but small minority who dislike the idea of these turbines spoiling their view. Judy Taylor, Finchams Close

St Mary's calendars and cards

LAST Christmas, the Friends of St Mary's sold 150 calendars with pictures of Linton. We are now producing one for 2008, which will cost £6, and hope to

have it ready by 6th October when the Friends will be meeting in the village hall for 'Butties, Books and Bric-a-brac' (11am-1.30pm).

We are very grateful for all the help and co-operation given by the camera club in this venture, and may well be able to produce a 'Linton' postcard as well as a calendar.

If you wish to order calendars, please contact: Alan Clarkson 892988

Come to a free day at the Sports Centre



THE Linton Community Sports Centre is having an open day at the centre from 11am-3pm on Sunday 7th October when people can come and try a range of different sports and classes for FREE! From trampolining to tennis, from boxercise to spinning, why not come and have a go.

Mini introductions into the fitness suite will also be available on the day.

Lisa Osborne, our holistic therapist, will be on hand to give mini treatments as well as Joe Kenney, our local personal trainer, who can give some advice about your fitness regime.

Our new fitness class programme starting in September is as follows:

Tuesday 9.30-10.45am, 6-7pm adult trampolining, 7-8pm boxercise.

Wednesday 7-8pm thighs, buns and tums.

Thursday 6.15-7pm spinning, yoga to be confirmed.

Friday 7-9pm salsa.

Saturday 9-10am and 10-11am trampolining.

For all classes, please book at reception 890248 or check our new website for updates info@linton-sport-fitness.co.uk Claire Hoskin

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POT POURRI (32)
MARY and George decide to share their money equally. Mary gives George £7; so now they both have the same amount. However, if George gives Mary £7, then Mary has twice as much as George. How much did they each start with?
Solution to No 31 - The House Numbers
Amanda lives in No 12, Brenda in No 36 and Carol (who always forgives her husband when she is in the wrong) lives in No 24.
Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF

Owls on display in the village
THE Raptor Foundation will be coming to the Cathodeon centre from 9.30am-12.30pm on Saturday, 22nd September to give a display with a few of their owls. The visit is at the invitation of LIFE (Linton Initiative for the Elderly); tea and coffee will be available and handicrafts will be on sale to help raise funds. Admission is free.
G M Reynolds 892645

Macmillan coffee morning
THE Macmillan Cancer Support coffee morning is being held from 9am-11.30am on Friday 28th September at Linton village hall. Tea and coffee and cakes will be served, with drinks, cakes and biscuits for children. All proceeds will go to Macmillan Cancer Support.
Kerri Harmer 894392

Help relaunch Linton Carnival
THE Linton Area Pool Project (LAPP) would like to re-institute Linton carnival from next year and there will be a public meeting at 7.30pm on Thursday 13th September at the Cathodeon centre to discuss this idea.
LAPP would also like to apologise for the postponement of the August bank holiday band competition and live event on the recreation ground. We hope this will become an annual event and will reschedule it away from the holiday period.
Paula Martin 890037

Music Matters! sessions start
MUSIC MATTERS! is bringing music classes to Linton for children aged 18 months to four years. During each session, up to 12 children and their parents/carers will explore the different elements of music, using instruments, rhymes, singing, games and movement. Sessions start on Thursday mornings in Linton village hall from 20th September (booking required). For more information and to request a booking form, please contact Emma on 893140, or email music.matters@virgin.net

First date for Trefoil Guild
THE first regular meeting of the Linton Trefoil Guild will be at 7.30pm on Monday 10th September at 25 The Woodlands. The Trefoil Guild is part of the Guide Association but has a separate constitution and independent finances. Membership is open to anyone over 18 who wishes to retain contact with the Guide movement. For more information, please call 893513.
Jean Wheeler

A trip to Felixstowe
The next ACE outing will be a coach trip to Felixstowe on 10th September, leaving the Dog and Duck at 9:30am, then picking up at Chalklands and Crabtree Croft.
Contact Sue/Tina on 891001, or me on 891069 to book a place.
Enid Bald

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A GRAND DAY OUT

THIS month, Kate France, our distributor/reporter/jill of all trades has enjoyed a day out which she is sharing with us. Don't forget, if you have enjoyed a visit somewhere for a day, please let us know.



An inviting view of the Norman castle

Pictures courtesy of the castle museum

MOST people know Colchester is a barracks' town or they have heard of the zoo, but not the Norman castle or the wonderful variety of architecture – the Dutch quarter, the grand town hall and an amazing collection of buildings above the varied shops in the High Street – in addition to interesting alleyways and squares.

Admission is free to the castle park and gardens stretching down to the river with playgrounds, a bandstand, the park café and a boating lake as well as the museum of natural history, the Hollytrees social

museum, the clock museum in Trinity Street (on the ground floor of a 15th century house owned by the council), the Minorities art gallery, the Roman wall and Roman theatre.

The Norman castle covers Colchester's history from the bronze age, and Camulodunum through the Roman invasion and Boudicca's uprising (which almost succeeded), the medieval and Tudor periods and the civil war. The museum is alive with short films, dressing-up clothes including hats and cloaks, a Roman helmet and sword. It offers the feel of chain



Crossed swords in the dungeon

mail, the smell of herbs in an apothecary's shop and the suggestion of throwing rotten eggs at the villain in the stocks. Watch out for the slops tipped from an upstairs window. Steel yourself for the voice of a prisoner in the dungeons.

An indoor picnic area is provided.

Colchester has plenty of car parks, a bus and town train station within walking distance of the High Street. Maps are freely available from the tourist office and include a bargain offer for a cup of tea at Williams & Griffin's department store in the High Street.

Kate France 891602

Heritage open days

IF you enjoyed reading the article about Colchester castle and are considering a grand day out, you could visit that and many other heritage sites for free between the 6th and 9th of September.

Heritage open days celebrate England's fantastic architecture and culture by offering free access to properties that are usually closed to the public or normally charge for admission.

Every year on four days in September, buildings of every age, style and function throw open their doors.

It is a once-a-year chance to discover hidden architectural treasures and enjoy a wide range of tours, events and activities which bring to life local history and culture.

Free of charge and literally on people's doorsteps, Heritage open days are for everyone, whatever their background, age and ability.

Co-ordinated nationally by the Civic Trust in partnership with English Heritage, the event thrives on the enthusiasm and expertise of local people.

Thousands of volunteers from all walks of life share their knowledge and memories with some 850,000 visitors every year, making Heritage open days England's largest voluntary cultural experience.

For more information on these great days out, go to www.heritagedays.net

the Linton Tandoori where I told the kind folk who work there of my outing.

September events: Sunday 2nd (10am, photographing models the professional way with Julian, Linton's professional photographer. Meet at Coles Lane car park; Monday 3rd (7.15pm); viewing members' photographs at the village hall; Sunday 23rd (10am), punting on the River Cam, meeting at Coles Lane car park.

For details, please contact Roger Lapwood (891104), Tracey Wilson (891988), or visit www.lintoncameraclub.org.uk

Maureen Williams

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Flowers ... and a 'trip to India'



Members focus on the task in hand

Picture by Mike Crofts

A DOZEN members of Linton camera club caught the late light at Manor Nursery, Saffron Walden, on one of the few sunny days in late July.

They continued a club theme of learning and skill sharing with new member Stuart Lyall inviting them to the nursery he owns with his wife Ann to see how he photographs flowers for interest and for magazines.

Many of the members, while

happy with their photographs, also wanted the real thing – and left with a variety of beautiful plants.

There was a large turnout for this month's indoor meeting. Group discussions were held on photography basics, Paintshop Pro and Photoshop Elements.

Members also treated themselves to a trip to the London mela. Melas originate from the Indian subcontinent. The word



Dancing at the mela

Picture by Maureen Williams

mela comes from the Sanskrit "to meet" and is related to "milana", the verb to tune. It is commonly used to describe a gathering of people celebrating artistic, religious or political events – a fair or festival.

We were faced with the challenging problem of how to capture the beauty of ladies in rich coloured fabrics as they danced in low-lit marquees. I returned for a perfect finish to the day for some fine food at

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Chef's corner with Joel

A dish to suit a lazy Sunday afternoon

IT was a recent trip to London's fruit and vegetable market last month that inspired this dish. Because of the time of year, there was so much seasonal colour to meet the eye from the fantastic salad leaves and fresh peas right through to the purple broccoli and the baby carrots; what a spectacle!

I know we have featured all sorts of cooking styles over the past few months, but I thought a braised summery dish would work for those of us who try to make time to eat well and who don't mind a three-hour wait for dinner to be ready. It's just right for one of those lazy Sunday afternoons watching the autumn sun disappear, with a glass or two of your favourite tippale.

This dish would classically use veal shin. However, we will be using either a lamb shoulder (for two) or lamb shank (one per person). If you do chose to use veal, please ask your butcher to source sustainable and ethical meat from Britain.

Braised lamb shank with summer vegetables

This should feed four hungry people.

- 4 lamb shanks
- 8 baby carrots
- 4 sticks of celery (peel the outside)
- 1 red onion
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 150g Swiss chard (or spinach)
- 4 baby leeks (or spring onions)
- 2 small cups of raw fresh peas
- 4 anchovy fillets
- 2 bay leaves, 2 sprigs of thyme, 1 sprig of rosemary
- A half-bottle of drinkable dry white wine
- Half a litre of chicken stock

Using a thick bottomed casserole pan, heat it gently on top of the stove. Dice the carrots, onion, garlic, celery and leeks very finely. Roll the shanks in a little olive oil and brown them all over in the pan. Add the diced vegetables and soften.

Pour in enough wine to cover the vegetables, add the same amount of stock. Add the herbs with some salt and pepper, and also the anchovy fillets. Add the peas. Place the lid on the pan and cook at 175C (Gas mark 3/4) for two-and-a-half hours.

Five minutes before the lamb has finished cooking, wilt the chard or spinach in some salted water. This can go to the plate with a little cracked pepper with one of the shanks.

Then correct the consistency of the broth remaining in the pan. It should resemble a thick soup. Pour the vegetables over the shank and serve to those hungry mouths.

Some of you may think that the anchovy is a strange thing to add to a dish like this but it is an integral part of the seasoning and will dissolve during the cooking process. This adds a very Italian quirk to the dish.

Cheers and bon appetit.

Gallery's autumn show

FROM 28th September to 3rd November, the Darryl Nantais Gallery will be holding a show of paintings by Janet Rogers and Kay Elliott.

For further information, please contact the gallery on 891289 or go to www.nantais-gallery.co.uk

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Cheers to 60 years

CONGRATULATIONS to Joan and Ron Argent who celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on 9th August.

Due to family holidays, the day was spent quietly at home but a special party is planned for later in September when all relatives including their three children and four grandchildren will be able to attend.

Joan and Ron moved to Linton from Clavering in 1986 as Joan was a teacher at the infant school, retiring in 1990.

Ron became advertising



Joan and Ron celebrate

Picture by Margaret Clark

manager for the Linton News at its inception and held the post for about 15 years.

Margaret Clark

Home sellers are told how to avoid the HIP trap

AS I compiled the paper, I heard on the news that as from 10th September, Home Information Packs will be a legal requirement for three-bedroom homes. This issue is very topical and I trust this article will help those people who are going to sell their homes in the near future. Editor.

FOLLOWING the national launch of Home Information Packs (HIP), local estate agent Mullucks Wells is warning people putting their homes on the market about the dangers of falling into the 'HIP trap'.

As from 1st August, a HIP became a legal requirement for anyone selling a property containing four or more bedrooms. And now, from 10th September, this requirement includes three-bedroom properties. Each pack can either be sourced separately, in which case it belongs to the seller, or as part of an estate agency selling agreement when it belongs to the estate agent instead.

Those who buy a HIP as part of an agency selling agreement might find themselves tied in to using the services of a single estate agent, regardless of how good they are, and with a HIP they don't even own. By contrast, if you buy your HIP independently, you own it, and you can take it with you if you decide to change agent.

The packs will contain a collection of facts and figures about each property, including guidelines about energy efficiency, which will provide properties with an A-G rating, rather like the grading system for domestic appliances. The whole pack is expected to cost between £400 and £500.

HIPs bought through any one estate agent may not be transferable to other agencies, sometimes simply because they are marked with a competitor's branding. Buying a HIP is easy, involving a single phone call to a solicitor. For more information, call us:

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August winners of the K-Club

THE winners of the August K-club monthly draw were:

1st prize (£50)

Audrey Hales (No 204)

2nd prize (£25)

Gordon Price (No 166)

3rd prize (£10)

Kathleen Mitchell (No 364)

Learning about local wildlife

THE autumn term of the Linton Workers' Educational Association (WEA) kicks off a little later this year, as our tutor is away in America.

We start back at 10am-11.45am on Tuesday, 2nd October for 10 weeks. As registration always takes a little while on the first day, please could you arrive early.

For the autumn term, we turn to natural history for our inspiration, with the course title of 'Wildlife Habitats of East Anglia' with renowned local expert David Elcombe as our tutor. During the course we will take a close look at some of the typical wildlife habitats and the wild plants and animals which live there.

This course will include a visit to Pensthorpe Nature Reserve later in November and swans feeding at Welney Wetland Centre.

The cost of the course is £34 for all participants. (This is the originally advertised concessionary rate but as age-related questions are not regarded as politically correct today, and may even fall foul of the law, we have been recommended by the WEA nationally to charge everyone the same amount). The cost of the visits is extra, but they will be heavily subsidised.

At Linton WEA, we share the passion, vision and aims of our national body. However, like many other local branches, we are also able at a local level to do that little bit extra by bringing our own unique friendly, caring and sharing attitude to all our many students in Linton and the surrounding villages, and, in some cases, much further afield.

We always welcome newcomers, and there is a good mix of ages and both men and women. So if you feel inspired, why not come and join us?

For more details, contact our secretary, Leslie Allison, on 891154 or email info@lintonwea.org.uk or check out our website www.lintonwea.org.uk
Andrew Westwood-Bate

LINTON COUNTRY DIARY by Darryl Nantais

Illustrated by Maureen Williams

A mystery bug and the Perseid shower

ON a moonless night I watched over Linton. As darkness fell, the contour of hills that form horizons around our village melted into the skies. Hundreds of rooks silhouetted against the pale-hued heavens glided by, chatting on their way to roost. The houses and roads nestling in the valley became lines of little orange and yellow burning lights.

I thought of our citizens settling down in front of their televisions and wondered why I was the only one on the hill embracing this magnificent spectacle.

The woods behind me awoke with the nocturnal screeching of owls. The air seemed warm and still, yet to my left a slight breeze rustled the trees as it travelled up the hill causing a few lanky summer leaves to clap against each other. A few feet from me something squeaked and something else rustled the long dry grass. I switched on my lamp to investigate whereupon a giant cockchafer crashed into the lens and to which a host

of other bugs, moths and flies were drawn.

The occasional aircraft rumbled overhead but as time went by, the machine world of humans fell ever more silent. Looking up, I was greeted by a twin-

kling curtain of stars and every now and then a meteor danced through the atmosphere. I pondered a while, thinking just because we can see all this so often, we rarely see it at all, but here it is over our village for all to enjoy almost every night.

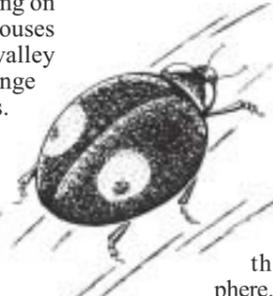
Now there have been some curious reports of ever stranger bugs appearing in our gardens. Once again, the word on the street claims these creatures to have been introduced elsewhere by someone as some kind of modern pest control gone wrong.

One particular bug with a most peculiar set of markings

was brought to my attention. After trawling through an ocean of reference books, memories and the internet, I eventually gave up on a positive identification. The closest match save two tiny inner spots is an insect called the Twice-stabbed ladybug beetle. The slight variation in markings may be accounted for by gender but confusion over 'good bug-bad bug' is rife.

On 12th August at around 2am, two banks of clouds like massive slices of white bread closed in on a rich starry cosmic filling. I was looking for that famous Perseid meteor shower, known also as the 'tears of St Lawrence'.

In my field of vision and despite light pollution, I was treated to 15 shooting stars, although up to 50 an hour is not unusual. For almost 2,000 years, people have been watching this spectacle, making the walk up the hill most definitely worthwhile, if only for the sake of curiosity and exercise. Perhaps a designated Linton amble-way is on the cards with a table of orientation at the top of the hill?



The day that Linton chef Dean met Harry Potter at Claridges

CAN you imagine setting up the bar and buffet for a press conference to launch the Harry Potter film *The Order of the Phoenix*, then being just a few feet away from Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) and author J K Rowling while they answered questions from leading journalists?

The press conference was just one of the recent duties of 20-year-old Dean Jarvis of Linton, who completed three years' training as a chef at the Academy of Culinary Arts in Bournemouth before being appointed a full-time chef at Claridges hotel in Mayfair.

When aged 17, Dean admits his knees were knocking as he gave a presentation on his specialist chef's scholarship to Year 10 and 11 pupils at his former school, Linton village



Dean ready for the launch of the Harry Potter film

Picture submitted by Dean

college to promote the hospitality industry to youngsters, but the strict training regime has now increased his confidence.

In March, he was offered the chance to change his chef's whites for the formal morning or evening dress of an assistant manager in the banqueting department at Claridges.

He is now responsible for the organisation and presentation of menus, table layout, decoration and both formal and informal reception of guests, and of course he meets many celebrities and famous people from widely different spheres.

Dean admits it is hard work. He may start at 4am and finish 12 hours later but says he loves it - in fact he says he is passionate about it - and doesn't think anyone can really succeed in the hospitality industry unless they are prepared to give it their all.

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The Way We Were

by Garth Collard

70th anniversary of the opening of Linton village college

IN November 1934, a petition signed by 800 people in the Linton area was sent to the Education Secretary, Henry Morris, "praying that early consideration be given for the urgent need for a senior school with provision for cookery, housewifery and woodwork classes to serve Linton and district".

Most managers of the local church schools already catering for the five to 14-year-old age range opposed the whole concept of senior schools or village colleges, these would replace the existing village schools and "steal" their older pupils.

Mr Morris bravely faced his critics at public meetings, and parents enthused about the new practical facilities, the adult education classes and the provision of school meals.

Linton was chosen as the site for the third village college in Cambridgeshire and it was built by Kerridge's of Cambridge in 1936-1937 to cater for 240 scholars. The architect was Mr S Unwin. By the time of its opening in September 1937, there were 308 pupils and the buildings were too small. Building new schools with insufficient space is nothing new!

The college operated from September 1937 with Mr



The village college in 1938, shortly after the official opening

Picture by courtesy of the late Mrs Swannell

H Tomlinson as warden (head of the school and the adult classes) in charge of 11 staff. He came from Letchworth grammar school where he had

been second master.

The official opening was on Thursday 14th October when the Earl of Feversham, parliamentary secretary to the

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was guest of honour.

After the ceremony was over, 500 guests sat down to a meal in the hall and this was followed by a dance which ended at midnight.

Pupils studied English, maths, science (new for most), woodwork (boys made potato boxes), weaving, gardening, art and craft (lino and potato cuts and bookbinding), physical training, music, cookery and needlework (girls only). The first task set for the girls in needlework was to make aprons for the boys to wear in woodwork.

Some pupils wore the new

school uniform – grey trousers, blue shirts and segmented grey cap for the boys, navy skirts, white blouses and blue scarves for the girls. The college badge was grey with the letters LVC embroidered in blue.

The niggling disputes over the new college surfaced during the actual opening ceremony when Linton parish councillors claimed they had all been snubbed by Mr Morris. This petty disagreement led the councillors to reject an offer by Mr Tomlinson to use the college for their meetings, and instead they met at the Shepherds Hall in Market Lane at double the cost!

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/1383/07/F Mr A Davies, Units 12C & 12D The Grip Industrial Estate, Linton. Change of use from light industrial/storage use (use classes B1(C)/B 8) to children's soft play centre (use class D2).

S/1506/07/LB Cambridge County Council, Linton Village College, Cambridge Road, Linton. Alterations, replacement of Vic Hallam buildings by new offices, social areas, library and classrooms. Refurbishment of existing reception, offices, drama studio and associated areas.

S/1548/07/F Mr M Brinkley, 15 Symonds Lane, Linton. Replacement dwelling, conversion of telephone exchange to annex, carport, garden store and terraces.

S/1567/07/F Mr R Street, 86 High Street, Linton. Alterations – replacement of internal wall and reinstatement of plaster on hearth in dining room, replace internal window, remove blockwork wall, replace window and door in kitchen/diner, replace window in bathroom. Replace timber finish lean-to porch with render and provide replacement door and windows. Install two new doors to bedrooms 1 and 2. Render rear external elevations. Demolish existing carport and remove satellite dish (regularisation of unauthorised works).

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HENRY Morris was planning a whole range of new institutions which would provide the necessary secondary education and also serve the community.

But he had a problem with the small 'all-age' church schools. The managers of these schools must either vote for their closure or release the older children. He needed the church authorities on his side to help him devise a syllabus of religious instruction.

A committee, chaired by the vice-chancellor of the university, the Rev E C Pearce, was formed. He, together with other divines, a sprinkling of headmasters and the professor of English literature, Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch, reached a conclusion; a syllabus was drawn up and published in 1923, with a preface signed by Morris:

"In order to facilitate the transfer of children from one

type of school to another, or better still to secure a uniform system in the area by transfer of voluntary schools to the authority, they, the education committee, decided to take in hand the problem of providing an adequate and efficient system of religious instruction for their area."

The report was enthusiastically received. The Cambridge Chronicle of January 1924 announced 'Dual Control Doomed' and the article went on to say that 'we believe that the Cambridgeshire education committee has achieved what Parliament from time to time ineffectually attempted'.

It also came to the notice of the national press. Under the headline, 'Concordat at Cambridge', the Times gave more than a column to the news. The Manchester Guardian devoted a leader.

From this moment, Morris became known nationally.

In 1924 he published, at his own expense, his Memorandum: 'The Village College ... on the provision of education and social facilities for the countryside'. It was sent to all councillors and aldermen, the Board of Education, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Carnegie Trust.

He laid out a plan for a system of indigenous centres of education for the countryside: a new institution, the village college. It would benefit the whole community and be a centre for village life.

His love of architecture envisaged exciting new buildings. A school hall (an innovation which was planned. The hall, central to the building, would have many uses; for school assembly, midday dinners and other school functions, but in the evenings it would be free for concerts,

lectures, village dramatic societies, whist drives and public meetings.

Two separate blocks were envisaged, one housing the school, the other for further and adult education in crafts and domestic subjects. The provision of a library was also very dear to his heart. This should be made available to the children and open to the community, with a quiet room for reading and study.

In 1927, his committee wholeheartedly approved the plan, but were unable to meet the whole cost. And so began Morris's search for extra funds. He became the 'expert beggar'.

Without his extraordinary efforts to raise the money needed, the colleges would have been doomed. Instead they are a memorial to his vision.

Lavinia Hinton

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Parish Council Matters

Your Chance to Affect Police Policy

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

The first Linton Neighbourhood Police Panel will be held at the Linton Heights School on Tuesday 18 September starting at 7.30 pm. The meeting is open to all, and everyone can have their say. Roger Hickford and I, as the Parish Council liaison representatives, will be there. We hope you will be there too. There will be votes to decide the local priorities the police should tackle, so you have a real opportunity to influence what happens.



Linton Police Station.

Picture by Wiggles

Sadly, the run up to the meeting has been marked by an increase in crime in the village. There has been a steady stream of incidents over the last few months, including damage to parked cars and an occasion when cardboard was built up and set on fire. Most of the incidents were in the High Street and the lanes. I had a meeting with concerned residents earlier in the summer.

It is important to keep a sense of proportion, and we don't want to get into a situation where we readily criminalise our youngsters. But we must not forget that these are crimes and that they cause loss, inconvenience and a real sense of insecurity for those affected and their neighbours. And we have seen again with the tragic incident in Cheshire how relatively minor crimes can escalate into the most serious of offences.

Co-op

Matters took a real turn for the worse on the second weekend in August when the Co-op cardboard was set on fire, damaging the building and the road surface. Trouble spread down Green Lane, with cars damaged, small fires, trolleys taken away, and a piece of equipment from the Co-op dumped on a car. I met the manager of the Co-op to find out more about their problems.

Apart from taking up opportunities like the Neighbourhood Panels, what can we do? It sometimes seems too big a problem for one village to begin to tackle.

Although now just a dry-as-dust property lawyer, for 25 years

of my practice as a barrister I also dealt with family cases, observing the consequences of family breakdown, and for the first 10 years I prosecuted and defended criminal cases as well, up to the most serious of cases. Sitting in a prison cell, talking to a killer, brings home the reality of crime.

What's the cause

My experience tallied with all the studies which show that the main causes of crime are really fairly simple: drink, drugs, poverty, greed, family breakdown. And the last is perhaps the most serious, because the statistics- and experience- show that it often leads to people being caught up in the other main causes of crime. The difficult bit is dealing with it.

Of course, nothing is inevitable: most children from broken homes are law abiding, and some from happy families commit crime- and we're not just talking about the consequences of separation or divorce. The breakdown of relationships within families is just as important. It's depressing to see some youngsters out in the streets very late in the evening, where their relationship with alcohol seems stronger than their relationship with their family and home.

So, faced with the big picture, we may feel there's a limit on what we can do locally. But that's no reason not to what we can.

We can give our support to PC A-A and the other local police and Community Support Officers. We must report every crime, to make the police aware of the number of crimes that have happened- ring 0845 456 4564 if it's not an emergency. We can sign up to E-Cops on the Cambs police website: www.cambs.police.uk. I hope more will be done to revive Neighbourhood Watch and I am sure Linton Action for Youth is right to devote a large part of its time to behind-the-scenes work with troubled families.

Come to the Meeting

We can try and help the police identify the right priorities for policing in Linton by going to the meeting on 18 September. If you can't get to the meeting or you've a crime issue you want to raise with the Parish Council at any time, please phone or e-mail Sue Parry, our clerk, who will pass your messages on to us.

Andrew Gore, Council Chair



Green Lane at Night, sorry about poor picture quality as it was taken at night after the Coperative was closed

Picture by Wiggles



Latest damage to pavillion done in the early hours of Saturday morning

Picture by Wiggles

Would you like to become a Parish Councillor?

We currently have two vacancies on the Parish Council. If you have expertise that you could bring to the council or if you think that you could do better, why not volunteer. It's not just about attending meetings, Councillors do a great deal behind the scenes and give much of their spare time voluntarily for the community. Parish Meetings are held at the Cathodeon Centre at 8pm on the first and third Thursday of the month (except August and December when there is only one meeting).

To become a Parish Councillor you must fulfil the following criteria:

- * Be over 18 years of age.
- * Be a British, Irish, Commonwealth or EU Citizen.

Additionally you must either be:

- * A registered elector within the Parish.
- * Have occupied as owner or tenant any land or premises during the previous twelve months in the Parish.
- * Have had your principal or only place of work in the Parish for the previous twelve months.
- * Have lived in or within 4.8 kilometres of the Parish for the previous twelve months.

Please consider becoming a Parish Councillor. If you would like further information call into the Parish Office at the Village Hall or telephone 01223 891001. If we can't help we can put you in touch with a Councillor who can!

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Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Linton Parish Council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 5th July 2007.

Present: A Gore - Chair, Ms E Cornell - Vice Chair, Mrs E Bald, M Gee, R Hickford, T Krarup, J Linsdell, G Potter, Dr J Rossiter, Dr V Urwin, Dr D White, Mrs K France - Press and Mrs S Parry - Clerk.

One member of the public arrived after the public forum. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Cox, Hammett and Willingham.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2007 not already listed. Cllr Cornell reported that the planning committee had visited Paynes Meadow and the shingle area in question has, according to the plan, been designated as an area for the Residents Association to erect an item of artwork. It was agreed that the grass should be cut.

Reports from Co-ordinators

Open Spaces - A report regarding grass verges was circulated. It was agreed that Cllrs Gore, Rossiter and the clerk will endeavour to clarify areas of responsibility.

Recreation Ground - After much discussion it was agreed to obtain three quotes along with method statement to jet the drains. The two companies who had previously quoted and the CCC drainage contractors will be contacted. Clerk to liaise with Cllr Potter on this issue. It was also agreed to contact CCC regarding the drainage problem at the entrance to Essex Gardens. Cllr Potter has provided photographs of the flooded area at the entrance to the recreation ground from Meadow Lane. It was agreed that as this is an ongoing problem any suggestions to resolve this issue should be sent to the clerk.



Flood area at entrance to Recreation Ground, Meadow Lane Picture by Graham Potter

Cemetery - A report on the Churchyard training day from Cllr Bald was noted.

Rights of Way - Cllr Rossiter reported that we have received an increase in our grass cutting allowance from £500 to £900.

A1307 - Cllr Cornell had submitted a written report. It was agreed to write to CCC to thank them for the excellent job of resurfacing on the A1307 and ask for an update on the hazard warning markers for the Horseheath Road section as these had previously been under discussion with CCC.

Correspondence list for discussion

June 38 - CCC re changes to mobile library routes. Cllr Bald will ask the ACE group if they have any concerns and feedback.

June 41 - SCDC standards committee newsletter. Cllr Gore reported that he will attend the evening training session on 26th September.

June 42 - SCDC increasing public involvement in decision making. It was agreed that Cllr Cornell will formulate a letter of response.

June 47 - CCC re parking on the cobbled area at the junction of Market Lane. After much discussion it was agreed to refer this matter to the police.

June 49 - SCDC protocol for consultation on housing issues. It was agreed that Cllr Rossiter will formulate a letter of response.

June 56 - Herald Contract Services - various quotations. It was agreed to accept the quotation to cut the riverbank and query the other quotation.

June 64 - LAPP - further request regarding recreation ground. It was agreed to allow Paula Martin to speak as she had arrived too late for the public forum. The recreation ground was unavailable on Saturday 25th August. Permission was given for LAPP to use the recreation ground on either Sunday 26th or Monday 27th August subject to it not being used by either the football or cricket clubs.

Reports from Councillors

Cllr Gore has distributed a crime report. Cllr Hickford agreed to work alongside Cllr Gore as police liaison representative following the resignation of Cllr Willingham.

The tarmacing work at the bridge at the Ford is now complete.

Minutes of the meeting of the Linton Parish Council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 19th July 2007.

Present: Ms E Cornell - Vice Chair, B Hammett, R Hickford, T Krarup, J Linsdell, G Potter, Dr V Urwin, D Willingham and Mrs S Parry - Clerk. CC/DC Batchelor and DC Mrs T Bear also attended

One member of the public. Cllr White and Mrs K France - press, arrived late. In the absence of Cllr Gore, Cllr Cornell took the Chair.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Cox, Gee, Gore and Rossiter.

Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting on 5th July 2007. A site meeting to discuss Paynes Meadow has been arranged with Hundred Houses for 30th July.

The cobbled area in High Street - PCSO Piper reported that according to the resident he is under the impression from his landlord that he is quite within his rights to park there. This has again been forwarded to Highways for comment.

Report on Policing, Safety and Security

Following Cllr Hickford's report it was proposed that the first meeting of the Linton Neighbourhood Panel be held in Linton once a convenient date has been arranged, subject to agreement by the other panel members.

Cllr Rossiter has concerns regarding the storage of cardboard outside the Co-op. Cllr Hickford will investigate as to whether this is hazardous.

Report from the County Councillor Batchelor

Correspondence Item 2 - Chalklands Residents Assoc. 'When are we getting our bus stop?' It was reported that the bus stop is due to be installed when the pavement area is resurfaced. This issue has been caught up in the CCC cuts. Cllr Batchelor gave assurance that the Back Road surface will not be disturbed or damaged when the bus stop is installed. Coles Lane and Back Road are due to be resurfaced during the first week of August.

A speed review is taking place on the A1307. Findings will be discussed by CCC cabinet in September. The interactive signs are due to be repaired shortly.

At this point Cllr White and Mrs K France arrived.

Report from the District Councillors

Cllr Bear reported that various tree works have taken place in Chalklands. A large tree has been removed but will be replaced.

The Co-op will close for refurbishment from 15th to 22nd August. A delivery service will be available for anyone who has genuine difficulties in shopping elsewhere. The products involved in this service will be bread, milk and fruit and vegetables. Customers will need to request delivery by contacting the store. There will be two delivery slots.

Cllr Batchelor reported on Housing Futures. A review of social housing stock is being undertaken. Five tenant representatives will be elected from 15 candidates. Tenants will be voting

within the next two weeks. Recommendations will be made in December and implemented at the end of 2008.

The LA4Y cafe project will open this Saturday at 2pm.

Cllr Rossiter had prepared two questions to be asked of Cllr Batchelor:

Linton Parish Council was told that the Inspectors report on the Development Control Policies part of the LDF was expected in the Spring and that the SCDC would be giving substantial weight to policies contained in that document, as amended by the Inspector, rather than the 2004 Local Plan. Has the Inspectors report been received and what changes to development control are now in place? Cllr Batchelor replied that of the five reports received, two have been approved. All five reports are inter-related and difficult to determine separately. Work on these is progressing nicely.

Mr Moffat said that the district-wide Design Guide would be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document as part of the LDF process but in the meantime, 'whilst adopted as Council Policy it currently has no specific standing as a planning policy document'. Linton Parish Council would like to know when this section of the LDF will acquire the status of a planning policy document as opposed to merely being adopted Council Policy, apparently having no influence on planning issues? Cllr Batchelor will investigate this issue.

Cllr Cornell referred to the letter sent to SCDC over six months ago regarding back-land development. James Paice MP has responded to our letter (see planning minutes of 5th July). Is SCDC looking at back-land development? Cllr Batchelor replied that SCDC is approving back-land development in order to protect village envelopes. They believe there is a need for infill and the policy is piecemeal development.

Update on the grass cutting contract

New grass cutting contractors have taken over the SCDC contract. In previous years there was some overlap between County and District grass cutting services. The new contractors are working exactly to the contract and as a result some areas are being missed. County Council are responsible for these areas but delegate the work to the Parish Council under the village maintenance scheme. Unfortunately no one has advised us of these changes hence the problems. After much discussion Cllr Hickford proposed that £300 be set aside for emergency work for any areas of the contract not previously identified. Clerk will investigate as to when our current grass cutting contract expires and bring this to the next meeting.



Who is responsible? Junction of Balsham Road Picture by Sue Parry

Reports from Councillors

Cllr Krarup reported broken glass on the tarmac area of the recreation ground. The clerk reported that our Village Custodian is currently on annual leave. Cllr Hickford very kindly volunteered to clear it up.

Cllr Willingham then tendered his resignation as he has moved away from the village. Cllr Cornell thanked him for all of his hard work over the past 15 months, especially the Stop Stansted Expansion Campaign, Fairtrade and the A1307 issues. He has been a very active Councillor and his input is very much appreciated.

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