

Blood donor session
Tuesday
24th November,
9.30am
Village hall

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Students step out for Africa



Dressed and ready to go: walking on a fine day for a very good cause

Pictures supplied by Tony Kelly



ABOUT 200 students from Linton village college and the Granta school donned fancy dress in September as they took part in our annual 'walk together' to raise funds for our partner schools in South Africa and Mozambique.

The funds raised will be used to buy equipment for Boepathutse junior secondary school in a township in South Africa, and Angoche secondary school in Mozambique.

Two teachers from Angoche visited Linton recently as part of a school sports' partnership set up to promote sport in developing countries in the run-up to the London Olympics.

LVC has recently gained the British Council's International School Award because of our strong links with schools in other countries. (see also page 2)

Tony Kelly, LVC press officer
891233



Enjoy the 20th Linton fireworks...

THIS year's fireworks display on Saturday 7th November, is the twentieth and we are planning a spectacular show to rival last year's stunning success. It will take place on the Camping Close behind the infant school.

As in previous years, the gates open at 6pm so come along and enjoy the pre-show hospitality with food and drink stalls serving hot dogs, beef burgers and mulled wine.

At 6.30pm we will be judging the guy competition—bring your entries to Camping Close

any time during the day up to 6pm. The bonfire will be lit shortly afterwards.

The main fireworks display will start after 7pm when everyone is inside. Parking is limited in nearby streets, so it would really be appreciated if local residents could leave their cars at home.

For safety reasons we cannot allow sparklers or any other fireworks through the gates. Glo-toys will be available from the Linton Heights PSA stall.

Please come along and support this very worthwhile event.

During the 20 years in which we have put on this event we have raised well over £80,000 for local schools. We are very grateful to Camgrain and the Cambridge Building Society for generously sponsoring this year's event.

Advance tickets are priced at £8 for a family of five (two adults and three children) and £3 for an individual – so save money and beat the queues! They can be bought at Linton infant and junior schools and the village college, Sweet Talk News, Hale and Jacobs and

the post offices in Linton and Balsham.

Tickets on the night will be available at the gate for £10 and £4 respectively.

If you want any more information about this year's event – or can spare a couple of hours on the day to help set up – please call Andrew Clark on 892676 or Alasdair Forbes on 01799 584699

Email: info@lintonfireworks.co.uk

Website: www.lintonfireworks.co.uk

Andrew Clark



Beautiful reminders of previous spectaculars

Pictures by Tracey Wilson and Mike Crofts

...and please don't forget the firefighters

EVERY year thousands of firefighters are injured whilst protecting the public. Every 30 seconds in the UK, they are called to an incident, putting their lives on the line and often sustaining physical injuries whilst carrying out their duties. The Firefighters Charity is there for firefighters during their times of need, and assists over 13,500 individuals every year, by providing pioneering treatment and support services.

The charity provides modern, dynamic and award-winning centres located in Cumbria, Devon and West Sussex, which offer varying combinations of therapy and recuperation services. The pioneering new Beneficiary Support Services also offer local and remote assistance to people in need nationwide providing solutions to real life problems.

It costs over £9 million every year to keep the charity running, and with no government funding it is completely reliant upon donations from the general public and fire community.

On Saturday 19th September Linton firefighters swapped their helmets and hoses for buckets and sponges in a bid to

raise money for the Firefighters Charity. During the day they washed and cleaned the community's cars in exchange for a personal donation. In total the crew from Linton raised £117 which will be gratefully received by the charity. The crew at Linton would like to thank everyone who helped support this worthy cause and hope to see them, plus more next year.

Special thanks go to Mick, Lee, Gary, Mark, James and Annie who gave up their spare time to organise and support this event.

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is seeking volunteers for Linton fire station. If you are interested please contact 01480 444500 or ask for Crew Manager, Mark Collins at the fire station (B09 Linton)

James Thorne
Operations and Community Safety Directorate
Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service
07717 858170, 01480 444500
james.thorne@cambsfire.gov.uk

Editor needed

SADLY our editor has decided to relinquish his post with the Linton News. We are very sorry to see him go.

This means that we are now in need of someone to take over from him as soon as possible. You will need to be a team player, have time to spare for concentrated work in the week or two before the paper goes to the printers and a reasonable knowledge of using computers. You do not need to know the programme we use to produce this paper as we can train you, but you do need to be proficient in e-mailing and *microsoft word* and have a good command of the English language (although we do have some very efficient proofreaders).

We also need a sub editor to help us.

If you think you can help in either of these rewarding, voluntary positions please contact us, by e-mail: lneditor@linton.info

LNT



A difficult choice for visitors trying to pick their favourite

Picture by Roger Lapwood

Here come the girls

ONCE again we were blessed with a dry day for the fifth Linton Camera Club exhibition and we were inundated with visitors. We were fortunate that our event coincided with a flu inoculation session at the health centre, so villagers had two good reasons to leave their houses. We had a record attendance this year of 153 who were able to enjoy 279 photographs by 15 members of the club. We also offered three image shows in the upstairs room, which were well attended.

As in previous years, entry to the exhibition was free and each visitor was invited to select their favourite photograph and have a chance to win it in an A4 frame. This year's winners were Robert-Louis Abrahamson who chose Reflections in the Cam by Sarah Hurcum, second was Yasmin Marsh who selected Starlings by Jim Cracknell and then Jane Scheuter who had chosen End of a Sunny Day by first time exhibitor Hilary Schneider

The entry draw also allows us to monitor the overall favourite from the show and this year I was lucky enough to have first and second with Under the Rainbow and Dragonfly, with Maureen Williams' More?? coming a very close third. We also established that the ladies swept the board this year with Sarah Hurcum having the most favourites followed closely by Maureen and myself; perhaps we should give the guys a chance next year? That said, there was such a varied selection, as always, that almost every photographer had at least one admirer.

The raffle was once again in aid of the Alzheimer's Society and we surpassed the magic figure of £122 (the same for the last three years running) by raising a spectacular £176 – many thanks to all who donated prizes. Commiserations to those who did not win a prize – try again next year.

At the time of writing I had not heard if we had managed to cover our expenses with the refreshments and sale table (the greetings cards – a new feature this year – were particularly popular). Hopefully we have inspired a few new members to join the club who will be able to exhibit their own photographs next year.

Our next meeting will be the club night held, at the Cathodeon Centre from 7.15-9.15pm on Monday 2nd November. There will be a competition entitled Monochrome and a talk by Haverhill Echo photographer John Matthews.

For information on the club, please go to our website, www.lintoncameraclub.org.uk or phone Roger on 891004 or me.

Tracey Wilson 891988

The Bard of Linton

THREE wise men came to Linton
I saw them passing by
Their golden clothing gleaming
They surely caught my eye
Are they Magi from the east, and are they free from sin?
"They're from the council" said my wife
"And they're emptying our bin".

Linton village college forges links with Mozambique

FOUR teachers from Mozambique visited Linton recently as part of an inspirational school sports partnership in the build-up to the London Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012.

The project, operated by UK Sport together with the British Council and Youth Sport Trust, aims to bring 300 British schools together with partners in the developing world to transform the lives of young people through sport.

The visitors included the head teacher and PE teacher from Angoche secondary school (Angoche is in an isolated region of northern Mozambique) which is partnered with Linton village college, as well as two teachers from the Olympic School in Maputo, which is developing links with the Granta School in Linton.

During their time in Linton, the teachers spent two days at the village college and took part in a junior sports festival at Impington as well as visiting London and the olympic site.

"We hope the teachers from Mozambique learned something from their visit and we are also enjoyed learning about their experience of education in a developing country," said Vivien Corrie, deputy principal of LVC, who visited Angoche in March. "We hope this partnership will also provide the opportunity for our pupils to experience a different culture."

Linton village college has recently gained the British Council's International School Award for its work in developing global citizenship.

For further information please contact me.

Tony Kelly, LVC press officer, 891233 or e-mail tony.kelly@lvc.org

75 Years of being prepared



THE 1st Linton Beavers, Cubs and Scouts celebrate their 75th anniversary this year and to help mark the occasion, the group will be holding a family fun afternoon from 1-4.30pm on 21st November at the Fire Station.

During the afternoon there will be a Great Egg Race, elastic

band car race with prizes for the fastest and best custom car, side stalls, games, anniversary cake, BBQ and refreshments.

We welcome families to come and join us for the event as well as any "old boys". All children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more details and rules for taking part in the Great Egg Race or any other information about 1st Linton Scout Group please visit our website at www.lintonscouts.co.uk

Sarah Stratton



Chairman Sue steps down

AFTER fifteen years as a Governor of Linton C E Infant School (nine of those as chair of governors), Mrs Sue Mudge has decided to retire and devote more time to her family and her many other interests in the community.

All who volunteer to be a school governor take on a valuable role within the school and the community. New government regulations and curriculum changes make this an ever challenging responsibility. During the time Sue has been a governor, email has become a vital tool, and I think we forget the extra time and pressures this brings, especially into the home. Not only will Sue be glad to offload her not inconsiderable paperwork from her house, I am sure she will be relieved of the myriad of governor-related messages in her in-box!

I know Sue will be sadly missed, not only for her wealth of knowledge of the role of a governor, but also as a good friend to the staff. Her contact with the school was not only on a formal basis – the many meetings and official duties a chair of governors must attend – but also by way of casual visits to keep in touch on a more informal basis.

On behalf of fellow governors, the staff and pupils (past and present), please accept our appreciation of all your hard work Sue – you will be greatly missed.

Liz Brooker
Linton CE Infant School

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PLODDING ALONG An update on police matters

Can you help to catch these offenders?

BETWEEN the evening of Friday 2nd October and the morning of Saturday 3rd October, criminal damage occurred to three vehicles parked in The Grip and to the pedestrian crossing on Cambridge Road. In light of the fact that all the vehicles were in the same road and the crossing is relatively near to The Grip, it is highly likely that the same person(s) committed this damage.

If anybody has any information that may help us find out who is responsible for the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

ON 5th October around 5pm, a male knocked on a door in the Chalklands area asking to look at the stopcock and check the water supply at the house. The male did not have any ID and

was not given entry to the property. Unfortunately we have no description of the male. We are treating this as suspicious and reiterate that if you are approached by any person(s) offering to carry out repairs to your property, turn them away and ring the police.

Please call us if you see anybody on foot or in a vehicle acting suspiciously in your area; we value your calls.

ON 8th October at approximately 2.45pm, there was an attempted distraction burglary at Crabtree Croft. The elderly female occupier heard a knock at the back door. Two young males were there asking about a washing machine. Neither of them had ID. She closed and locked the door. Both were described as in their 20s, wearing

jeans and smart shirts.

The lady's actions prevented any possible offences being committed and I would encourage you all to take such action if this happens to you.

Please pass this information on to anyone you may feel to be in a vulnerable position.

We encourage everyone to have chains fitted to all doors in their properties, and we ask that you adopt the stop, chain, check approach.

STOP before opening the door CHAIN the door, so the door only opens ajar

CHECK identification.

If you have any information on the above incident, or need to report any suspicious activity in the future, then please call either 0345 456 4564 (in non-emergencies) or 999 in an emergency.

Night and rain, safety recommendations

I AM pleased to say that problems in Linton and Balsham neighbourhoods remain quite low in number and it has been another good week.

Leanne and I have been carrying out patrols visiting all of our villages and have been speaking to a lot of local people.

Speeding motorists still seem to be a concern and we are proactively trying to tackle this by carrying out speed checks where we can and visiting the addresses of those who are caught breaking speed limits in our area. Please keep an eye on your speed, the nights are drawing in and the road

can become slippery with the rain and fallen leaves on the ground.

Whilst on the subject of safety, I have noticed that during night time patrols there seem to be a number of people riding bicycles with no lights and wearing dark clothing. Can I please ask that if you or your children are going to be riding bikes in the evening and at night to have lights fitted and ensure they are in good working order. Can I also encourage the use of reflective strips and cycle helmets.

PCSOs Chris Pulley and Leanne Allan.

Crackdown on bad behaviour

THE Heights school hosted the most recent meeting of the Linton neighbourhood police panel. Most of the villages in the area were represented by councillors and residents, and the police were represented by Inspector Chris Savage and Sergeant Rebecca Williams who had recently taken over from Mark Kathro.

One of the priorities set from the previous meeting had been to investigate the occurrences of antisocial behaviour. Inspector Savage explained that high visibility patrols had been stepped up and that there had been a number of stop and search actions in relation to cannabis and alcohol. After lengthy discussions, it was decided to continue with this action, as there had been a significant number of

problems in this area in at least two parts of the village.

Underage drinking was also discussed, the concern being that the alcohol was being bought by people old enough to purchase it who were then allowing it to be consumed by those under age.

Queries were raised about the response times of the police, as the PCSOs are now based in Sawston and they cannot always respond quickly during the day, particularly during the morning and afternoon rush hours.

Concerns were also raised about night cover by officers unfamiliar with the village, and that more cohesion was needed between officers responding to calls and the police call centre. It appears that important

information was not always getting through.

Regarding the sale of the police station, Inspector Savage was asked when a replacement site could be found. He responded by saying that he hoped a shared arrangement at the fire station premises would soon be possible.

The issue of speeding was again raised, and Sergeant Williams explained that checks will continue to be made on this, as well as the problems associated with illegal parking.

Overall, crime had doubled, compared with the previous quarter, but this was seen as a normal seasonal increase.

The next meeting will be at 7pm for 7.30pm on 22nd December at the Fulbourn Centre. All residents are welcome.

Too good for jumble ...

THIS month's offers are a mahogany colour revolving bookcase with two shelves each 11in high in excellent condition and a heated ailer, 2 years old, in perfect condition..

Still available are the decorator's pasting table; the boy's yellow/black mountain style bike, 20in wheel with 5 gears suitable for 7-12 year old; a 5/6 year-old silver Philips TV with 27in screen and the wicker trolley 33in x 13in x 14 in with metal frame and drawers.

The Topaz starter bike raised £15 for the Beacon Community Trust, a further bike raised £20 for Linton Guides and the Annabell doll with accessories made £20 for the Watoto Children's Choir.

To buy any of the above or to offer an item to profit a charity, please phone:

Kate France 891602 or email katefrance@linton48.freeserve.co.uk



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Readers write...Readers write...Readers...

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters are below. 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.

Searching for the Perkins family

Dear Editor,
Sorry to bother you but I just came across your web page and was wondering if you could answer a quick question for me. By any chance does Linton have a genealogy organisation active in the vicinity? The reason I ask is that I have recently found out that an ancestor of mine by the name of Edward Perkins was born in Linton in 1805 and I was curious to find out if the Perkins surname had any roots in the village. At some point Edward

moved to London and it was only in the past few months that I was able to trace his birth and was surprised to find he was not originally from London.

I live in Canada so I am afraid I am not familiar with Linton or the surrounding area and was not sure where to look for clues to the Perkins family in your village.

Any suggestions would be appreciated.

Thank you for your time.
Peter Stevenson
contact lneditor@linton.info

Feel good coffee morning raises £595

Dear Editor,
I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who took part in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September, raising a fantastic £595.99 for Macmillan Cancer Support. Thanks to you we exceeded our £500 target.

It was an enjoyable morning; the village hall was full, creating a great atmosphere. It's amazing that simply enjoying a cup of coffee and sampling delicious cakes while catching up with friends can make a difference to people affected by cancer. Events like ours in Linton took place across the UK, and the money raised goes towards providing practical, medical, emotional and financial support to people living with cancer.

Like any such event, it does not just happen. I would like to say a big thank you to Liz and Lorraine at Rhythm and Rhyme who raised £95 at their music sessions and to everyone who helped on the day, supplied the coffee, provided raffle donations and bought raffle tickets, ran stalls, made such lovely cakes and the local Co-op for their on-going support.

Next year's event is on Friday 24th September when I hope that together we can continue to support such a worthwhile cause.
Kerri Harmer,
address supplied

Have a Heart with Tracey

Dear Editor
My name is Tracey Wright and I am doing the Trek for China which will involve me in walking for up to eight hours a day for 10 days along the Great Wall. Heart radio set a challenge to walk along the wall to raise money for their charity.

The Have a Heart's vision is of a better future for all our communities. We intend to focus on raising funds to help children who might be experiencing abuse, poverty, disability, homelessness or illness. Have a Heart will specialise in funding grass roots projects in your area, local to your radio station - helping to improve the lives of these children.

I was born in Linton and have grown up here. I went to school in the village. I am also hoping for support from the local football team as my father (Wink Wright) used to play for them. Also my Nana (Mary Wright) will be organising a jumble sale in Linton at the Social Centre at 2pm on Saturday 21st November; everyone is welcome.

More details on the sale will be provided at a later date or for more information call Mary Wright, 891128. I will be grateful for any support as every penny counts for this charity.
Tracey Wright,
address supplied

Cambridge central library opens with new film resources

ON Tuesday 13th October I and several other colleagues from Cambridgeshire Association for Local History (CALH) attended the official launch of the new exciting British Film Institute (BFI) Mediatheque centre at the recently reopened Cambridge central library.

This is going to be a fantastic new resource for Cambridgeshire and is only the second such centre outside London, but the first in a public library. Basically, the new Mediatheque centre is described as a digital jukebox of film and TV featuring many of the best, rarest, and most extraordinary titles from the BFI National Archive and through a project with the East Anglian Film archive a collection called Eastward Ho!

The new centre contains a number of booths where you sit and watch a large screen and listen via headphones to a wide range of digitised film. There is a extremely easy to use selection process via a conventional computer keyboard and on screen selection. I watched a very interesting old film, Life in the Fens and there was a huge selection of film and old TV programmes available.

I do recommend that you go along and try this new Cambridgeshire facility and while you are there why not call in at the Cambridgeshire Collection.

Andrew Westwood-Bate
Honorary Secretary

Cambridgeshire Association for Local History
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NEWS ITEMS Friday 20th November

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LINTON DIARY

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

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

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

WEEKLY	
Junior badminton, 10am-12noon Sundays	SC
Adult tennis coaching, Sundays (call 07791 150141)	SC
Jazzercise, 6.45pm Mondays and Wednesdays	Granta School
Pilates, 10 and 11.15am Mondays	VH
Yoga, 7-8.30pm Mondays term time	Hadstock VH
Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays	VH
Men's all-age keep fit club, 8pm Mondays	SC
Ladies' netball, 7.15-8.30pm Mondays	SC
Cempa wu-shu karate, 7-8pm Mondays (age 5 upwards)	LVC
Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701)	
Aquacise Mon, Tues and Wed tel 890248	Granta school
WEA, 10am Tuesdays	VH
Scrabble club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays	Church pavilion
Linton Granta playgroup, 10am Tuesdays and Thursdays term time	LVC
Hadstock toddler group, 2-3.30pm Tuesdays term time	Hadstock VH
Ladies' football, 7-8pm Tuesdays	LVC
Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays	CC
Granta duplicate bridge club, 2-4pm Tuesdays	VH
Tae Kwon Do, 6-8pm Tuesdays and Thursdays	SC
Ladies' badminton, 8-10pm Tuesdays	SC
Senior mobility, 11.30am-12.30pm Tuesdays	VH
IT club, 7pm Tuesdays	CC
Yoga, 7.30pm Tuesdays term time	Hildersham VH
Bowls roll-ups from 2pm Wednesdays	Bowls pavilion
Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays	VH
Men's keep fit club, 8pm Wednesdays	SC
Tots-in-tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays term time	VH
Music Matters, 10.30am & 1.50pm Thursdays	VH
LVC badminton club, 8-10pm Thursdays	SC
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays	VH
Yoga, 8-9pm Thursdays	SC
Mums and Tots Mocha house, 2-4pm Fridays	Church pavilion
Tots music group, 10.30 & 1.30 term time Fridays	URC
Buffy bus, 11am-12.15pm Fridays	Hadstock village green
Junior basketball, 6-7pm Fridays	SC
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays	CC
Adult tap dancing, 7.15-8pm Fridays term time	VH
Granta badminton club, 8-10pm Fridays	SC
Mini kickers, 10-11am Saturdays term time	LVC

For sports centre courses please call Mark Wilson 890248

NOVEMBER	
1 Farmers' market, 9.30am	LVC
1 All souls' service, 6pm	St Mary's
2 Camera club, 7.15pm	CC
3 WI, 7.30pm	VH
4 Linton reading group, 8pm	D&D
4 Linton Out of School Club AGM, 6pm	CC
5 Luncheon club, 12.15pm	The Crown
5 Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC
6 Evening with Keith Fletcher, 7.30pm	Lothbury Centre
7 Fireworks display, from 6pm	Camping Close
7 Mother's Union nearly new sale, 11.30am	VH
10 VIP meeting, 2pm	Chalklands CC
10 Gardening club, 7.30pm	VH
12 ACEs lunch and speaker, 12noon	Church pavilion
12 Linton Trefoil guild, 7.45pm	1 the Furrells
13 Linton Infants' Quiz and chips, 7.30pm	Infant school
14 Dads and Tots, 9.30am	VH
17 Cameo theatre group	St Mary's
18 CAMTAD, 9.30am	HC
19 Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC
19 West Highland railway group, 8pm	Black Bull, Balsham
21 Art and craft fair, 11am	Lothbury Centre
21 Scout fun day, 1pm	Fire station
21 Have a Heart jumble sale, 2pm	VH
21 Hadstock silver band concert, 7pm	St Botolph's, Hadstock
22 Stir Up Sunday, 11am after service	St Mary's
22 Concert, 7.30pm	Lothbury Centre
24 Blood donor session, 9.30am	VH
28 Linton Granta playgroup Christmas fair, 2pm	VH
29 Advent carol service, 6pm	St Mary's

DECEMBER

3 Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC
5 Farmers' market, 9.30am	LVC
5 Winter dance party, 8pm	VH
6 Christingle service, 3pm	St Mary's

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

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

Refuse collection: 9th, 23rd November, 7th December
Recycling collection: 2nd, 16th, 30th November

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THOUGHTS FROM THE GRANTA RANTA

The opinions expressed in this article are not necessarily those of the LN team. We have replaced some words in case they caused offence

JUST been listening to the news – apparently some bright spark has suggested that it's really not worth jailing anybody for less than 12 months for low level crime – it's putting a strain on the prison service.

Well – this must be good news to the hundreds of miscreants out there who, as we speak, will be merrily dry-cleaning their swag bags and balaclavas in readiness for a consequence-free raid on other people's property.

I mean – what would you prefer – life without someone else's large screen plasma TV or a jaunt out on community service? Gosh – I know what I'd like – getting up late – popping down to some community project then home for some proper viewing!

Do these people who come up with these ideas live in the same world as the rest of us? Have they ever been burgled and had their property pinched – had the inconvenience of cancelling and replacing cards, changing bank accounts and living in fear that it could all happen again at any time and being apprehensive each time you put the key in the lock when you get back from work. You never feel quite the same when you've had your home invaded by amoral strangers who don't have to get up day in, day out to go to work to pay the bills. They are probably unemployable anyway. Have these bright sparks never seen the photos of pensioners beaten up when their homes have been ransacked?

The reason we have jails is so that these people are removed from circulation for a while so the rest of us don't have to put up with them.

Do you really think that someone who would mug somebody or invade someone's home would benefit from some fence painting as punishment? No – I don't think so either.

A large dose of ritual humiliation for these contemptible people is in order and if we introduced a version of the chain-gang over here – how satisfying for victims – being able to take the day off work to see justice in action. But – wait – oh no – I'm sure the EU will have something to say about that – some nonsense about the miscreants' human rights – no problem – we'll just need a good lawyer to argue the case that we're not dealing with humans – sorted!

Or, they could all be brought to Linton when the wind farm is built – which will happen because it has been decreed by government – and they could line up and spend all day blowing at the turbines so that they'll actually move and generate some 'green' energy in an area with the lowest wind speeds in the country.

La Pipelette
(Chatterbox)

Nos amis les animaux

JE voudrais un animal parce qu'ils sont les meilleures choses au monde. Ils sont mignons avec leur manière d'agir et leur façon de regarder. J'adore les animaux! On devrait protéger le monde dans lequel on vit; si le monde était pollué, ils disparaîtraient. On n'aurait pas envie de cela, n'est-ce pas?

Imaginez un monde sans animaux.

Les animaux font des choses pour nous aider. Les chiens par exemple nous protègent des méchants, vous comprenez? Alors les animaux grands et petits sont importants.

Ps: well done those who spotted the mistake last month: "une amie qui est nait" should read: "une amie qui est née". Irregular as in english!"

Captivating music to banish the winter blues



CONTINUING their 50th anniversary season, and in an addition to the programme, the Linton Music Society is delighted to welcome The Solstice Quartet. As part of the Cambridge Music Festival, this talented young string quartet will perform *Haydn's String Quartet in E flat major Op 33 no 2 The Joke*, *Mendelssohn's String Quartet in C minor Op 13* and *Dvorak's String Quartet no 12 in F major The American*.

The Solstice Quartet, comprising Jamie Campbell (violin), Nicholas Shardlow (violin), Meghan Cassidy (viola) and Gregor Riddell (cello), met whilst at university in Cambridge.

First prizewinners in the 2009 Royal Overseas League Competition, they are quickly gaining a reputation as one of the most talented young quartets in the country.

Their reviews read: "The Solstice String Quartet ... performed with great intensity and passion, captivating the



The Solstice String Quartet, a winning combng combination

Picture supplied by The Solstice String Quartet

audience."

"The Solstice String Quartet is in a different class."

"This group, which has only existed for a few years, is very promising indeed."

The concert takes place at 7.30pm on Saturday 28th November at Linton village

college. Tickets costing £11 (£9 concessions), £2 under 16s, are available at the door, or in advance either by telephoning 893480 or from Sweet Talk News, 77 High Street, Linton.

We would welcome new members to the society; why not consider joining? There are

many benefits.

For information about membership, please contact Dr Bruce Conochie 894460

Further information about all concerts and the Linton Music Society is available by visiting www.lintonmusic.org.uk

Gill Lee, 893485

New chapter for Linton toddlers

SEPTEMBER 2009 marked a new chapter in the history of Linton Granta playgroup and toddlers (LGPT) with the purpose built playgroup building at Linton village college – new leader, new committee and the ability to take children from the age of two.

The new facility allows the children to play outside in all weathers in a secure covered area as well as in a garden. Indoors the main room provides a flexible space for the nursery to operate alongside the long awaited Linton Granta toddlers' group which is due to start on 3rd November in room 2 of the Activity Room at the college.

We are pleased to announce some significant staff changes with Michelle Miller as playgroup leader assisted by Sam Tossi as acting deputy supported by Sarah Meeks, Anna Ferreira, T Gillingham, Jackie Prior and Janine Polley.

If you would like to know more about the setting or make a visit please contact the team on 07806 744864.

Portrait photos with My little portrait will be on 14th November at the church pavilion – bookings via the sign up sheet outside LGPT at the college.

LGPT Christmas Fayre is on 28th November in the village hall.

Natalie Morris

Celebrate the works of Sir John Betjeman

AN exploration and celebration of the faith, fears and foibles of Sir John Betjeman (1906 - 1984) will take place at 7.45 pm on Tuesday 17th November at St Mary's Linton.

Sir John Betjeman (who died twenty-five years ago this year) is one of the few poets to be known and loved beyond the confines of the literati. He was poet laureate for 12 years and his Collected Poems have sold over three million copies – an unprecedented figure for a book of poetry.

In later years he became a familiar figure on the TV screens of the nation, and also led many campaigns to save Victorian buildings from being demolished – his rescue of St Pancras station being a notable success. A statue of him, in characteristic pose, standing by one of the St Pancras station platforms, is now admired and photographed by many on a daily basis.

Throughout his life he was a loyal churchgoer and a lover of churches. Though often beset by doubts and fears in his religion, he spoke of being sustained by intermittent hope. A new production from Cameo Theatre this autumn showcases and dramatises his prose and poetry related to religious subjects, in both profound and light-hearted vein.

A hint of the unknown God is directed by Rex Walford. The team of eight top actors from the region includes Gordon Cummings from Linton. For further information and tickets call Glynis Younger on 892164

Gordon Cummings

Tots and mums get their cafe



ASpartofStMary's outreach to the local community, the Mocha House cafe for mothers and toddlers is open on Friday afternoon.

We are hoping to open during the autumn too, however we do need some help! If you can be available from 1.30pm until 4.30pm on occasional Fridays to make drinks for tired mums and/or entertain Imogen while I serve drinks please give me a call. Thank you.

Catherine Nancekievill
290038

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Fruity tarts at the WI



SLOE gin, blackberry wine, fruity pies and tarts, crimson juices oozing and flowing and all this abundance for free. Well, the fruits are! Autumn is a wonderful time and the strolling group harvested a giant crop of blackberries and sloes from the hedgerows in the fields near the old windmill, and then wandered down onto the old grassy railway track where the ancient hedges were alive with colour and berries. Once again our countryside offered beautiful open views.

Then there was the magnificent harvest supper. It seemed as if the buffet table was groaning beneath the weight of all the delicious dishes provided by the members. Thank you to all of you. It was certainly an evening of plenty. Entertainment was provided by some members reciting amusing poems and ditties to the very

replete and happy gathering. Also during autumn a successful Lunch Club was started. The first lunch was enjoyed in The Dog and Duck where everyone was warmly greeted by the new owners Belma and Zak. Good, delicious Italian food was served, then scoffed by the 16 lunchers. For details of the lunch club in November please Contact Pat Bouch on 890538.

At the next monthly meeting, on Tuesday 3rd November, we will be entertained by Bev Briggs with her talk entitled My Life as a Personal Shopper.

On Tuesday 1st December, it's the Christmas party, with, yes, you've guessed, more yummy food and some surprise entertainment.

All monthly meetings are in The village hall at 7.30pm. We would love to see you.

Trysha Hunt 894533

Heritage project – digging, film and art

YOUNG people from Linton village college will find out more about the history of their school site thanks to a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The award of £25,000 will allow young people to take part in a two-phase project, Transforming Places, involving archaeology, an artwork and a film.

Working with a team from Oxford Archaeology East, young people will initially learn about the findings from the excavations which took place before work began on the recently completed newest school building. They will then dig their own test pits and learn more about an artefact's journey from excavation to museum with a visit to the Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. An artist will then be recruited to work with the young people to help them translate their discoveries into an artwork which will mark the completion of the new building on the school site.

The second phase of this year long project will involve making a film, and the college hopes that members of the



Stylish new building on the college site

Picture provided by Lesley Morgan

local community will become involved in this. The film will document older people's memories of attending the original school building when it opened in 1937 and feature young people's reactions to the new school building. The project is scheduled to finish in July 2010 when there will be a celebratory unveiling of the artwork and the premiere screening of the film.

Lesley Morgan, local Arts

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Ophelia and Darryl at the gallery

OVER the next two months our autumn exhibition features a mixed display of work by mostly local artists, including some new work by Ophelia Redpath and Darryl Nantais.

We also have works by Sir Peter Blake, Sandra Blow RA, Abigail Boisot, Sylke Claridge, Donald Hamilton Fraser RA, Sue Howells, Barbara Rae RA, Janet Rogers and Julie Ann Scott. The gallery is open Tuesday to Friday 10am to 3pm and Saturdays 12 to 4pm.

Karl Backhurst 891289

An evening with Keith Fletcher

AN Evening with the former Essex and England cricketer will take place from 7.30-10.30pm on Friday 6th November at West Wrating football club.

To reserve your ticket please call Anne on 290550 or email contact@westoncolvillecc.co.uk

The evening will be an informal question and answer session calling upon Keith's experiences as England player, captain and coach as well as his long association with Essex CCC.

We are hoping that some of the current Essex 1st XI may be able to join us for the evening.

Anne Bragg

Hits from stage and screen

SATURDAY 21st November sees Hadstock silver band yet again giving to the village with a fund raising concert for the Friends of St Botolph, a registered charity, raising money for the care and upkeep of the fabric of the church.

The concert begins at 7pm for 7.30pm at St Botolph's church, Hadstock.

Tickets £5.00 available from Saffron Walden Tourist Office and the King's Head in Hadstock.

Changes to stage-coach services

STAGECOACH services are changing from Sunday 29th November. Find below which services are changing and the impact of that change.

Timetables and information for all the services in the table can be obtained directly from Stagecoach or Whippet Coaches:

Service number 13: Cambridge > Linton > Haverhill
 What is happening? Every bus from 7.10pm leaving Cambridge will go via the railway station.

Service number Citi 7 Cottenham > Cambridge > Sawston > Duxford / Whittlesford / Pampisford / Saffron Walden.

What is happening? Southern section from Cambridge – Sawston will be every 15 minutes. Saffron Walden and Pampisford will be served hourly. Duxford and Whittlesford will be served hourly but journey time will be shorter.

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POT POURRI (58)

The length of the path

MY garden has a large square lawn and I wish to have a square pond of exactly half the lawn area in the centre.

At each corner there is a 1 metre wide diagonal pathway across the lawn, from the pond.

What is the area taken up by the 4 diagonal pathways as a proportion of the original lawn area?

Hint: Much calculation may be avoided by visualizing the layout.

Solution to No. 57 - Hypathia and a number?

AT the end of the exercise all the students should have had the number 18. (For information, the number they started with was therefore 6).

In considering this problem the reader needs to understand the classes of numbers.

In the beginning when our ancestors managed to count, there were the **whole** or counting numbers; 1,2,3,4,5 ...10 etc. (Note no 0)! You can add these numbers and always get another whole number. But what happens when you try to subtract 18-18? 0 was for a long time not recognized and things became worse when numbers such as 6-10 occurred. Because of this inconsistency a new class of numbers, known as **integers**, were created. This group of integers also included the whole numbers.

Now we can multiply with negative numbers and 0 and still stay in the realm of integers. However this is still not sufficient to classify all numbers. Division has been left out causing fractions to generate another class of numbers (eg 5/7) known as **quotient** numbers.

All numbers that can be expressed as integers or quotients are labelled as rational numbers.

Pythagoras believed in the harmony of numbers and had one of his contemporaries exiled for discovering the next class of numbers the **irrational** numbers. These are the numbers that cannot be expressed by integers or quotients. An example is the square root of 2, the value pi (π), and any number that goes on forever in a non repeating fashion.

Lastly, there is the class of numbers that cannot be defined by any of the foregoing, such as the square root of negative numbers. These are known as **imaginary** numbers, belonging to the complex numbers. (In case it is assumed that they do not matter, they are often encountered in quadratic equations and without them, much of physics and engineering would hardly function).

The question specified that the answer had to be a **whole** number, thus ruling out other classes of numbers. This implies that the number the students were first asked to think of was also a whole number, and the answer can be achieved by inspection of the problem.

Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF

INSPIRE wellbeing through arts

TELEPHONE Bill and the Smooth Operators will perform at 7.30pm on Sunday 22nd November. Fronted by the BBC Radio presenter Nick Barraclough, Telephone Bill and the Smooth Operators defy genres with a mix of jazz, country, swing, blues, doo-wop and silly versions of classic pop songs.

The gift of winter art and craft fair takes place from 11am-4pm on Saturday 21st November, admission free. This is an opportunity to come and look at the work of local artists and craftspeople – a chance to buy Christmas presents and handmade Christmas cards as well as order commissions from the artists.

The venue for these functions is The Lothbury Centre, Church End, Weston Colville. Cambridge CB21 5PE
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Alpine twist to AGM



THE Gardening club's new season kicked off with the AGM. The chairman, Gloria Fidler, paid tribute to the host of skills offered by all those who had helped in running the club's activities in the past year and thanked them for their efforts. The main business of the meeting included members voting unanimously to adopt an amended constitution bringing the club up to date and the current committee being returned to office.

During the second half of the evening members were treated to the knowledge and enthusiasm of John Ludgate as he enriched our understanding of alpine. His wonderful slides taken on summer trips to the Alps near the Eiger showed dizzying views from the trains up the mountains as well as some familiar plant families. For example, wild aquilegia, geraniums, scabious and champions can be seen locally but have also specialised to suit the alpine meadow's shorter summer growing season. This reduced window of opportunity means that plants higher up above the tree line on the Schynige Platte are perennial as there is simply not enough time to grow, flower and set seed before the weather deteriorates again. Oh how lucky we are with Linton weather after all!

We next meet on 10th November to hear Hilary Thomas' thoughts on how to create a low maintenance garden. Hilary comes highly recommended and I am sure we all yearn for that elusive reduction in our labours, so this is one not to miss. We will start at 7.30pm in the village hall and look forward to welcoming you all.

Kirsten Newble, 892425
lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

Fresh air and a hot diet to boost your immunity

WITH the passing of October the true autumn season comes and the lovely weather we have been having turns colder and damper. Chinese medicine holds that the change of season also brings new challenges to our immune system. The autumn season traditionally corresponds in us to the respiratory system and emotionally to sadness. These aspects are challenged most, so now is a good time to check how we feel and if necessary bolster the immune system.

Diet, exercise and therapies like acupuncture and Shiatsu (meridian massage) are effective methods to harmonise and boost our bodies' health.

Pungent tasting foods are recommended as these help to remove the accumulated mucus which make us more susceptible to colds and other infections. These include chilli, the onion family, turnip, ginger, cabbage, carrot, winter squash, pumpkin, broccoli, parsley and kale.

We need to breathe fresh air, inhaling deeply through the nose and then exhaling completely, feeling ourselves completely let go of stress and toxins.

The design of the nose gives us a first line of defence since all its little internal hairs trap dust and germs before they can reach the mucus membranes. In order to prevent germs coming into contact with the mucus membranes of our mouth and eyes, we should also wash our hands regularly, especially before eating.

Light aerobic exercise, preferably outside, is ideal for the autumn season.

Acupuncture and Shiatsu (Acupressure) can harmonise our energy and boost the respiratory system by working on our energy meridians and the acupuncture points along them.

Various techniques are employed, moxa (a slow burning herb) is used to warm and energise us. Pressure and stretching are employed to nourish or disperse and relax where needed. Cupping may also be used at the beginning of a cold, to draw out the pathogen.

Receiving regular acupuncture or Shiatsu massage during the autumn season can enable us to make the transition to winter with fewer health problems.

Cyndy Faulkner

After school care and fun



IT seems like no time at all since Linton Out of School Club (LOSC) started a new term at the beginning of September. LOSC has welcomed a number of new children from both Linton Infant school and Linton Heights, all of whom have settled in very well. We also said goodbye to someone who had been attending the club for many years.

LOSC runs an exciting programme every week-day from 3.15pm-4.30pm or 6.30pm and every school holiday except Christmas week. The club has a regular group of children who attend but there are still a few places available. When reviewing our procedures we recognised the need for being flexible about bookings and so are now operating an *ad hoc* booking system as well as a more formal system. This should help parents who find themselves needing a care provider at short notice. All that is required is a call to the club on the day to check availability.

Parents and carers can rest assured in the knowledge that LOSC has recently received a good OFSTED report with four Outstanding most importantly in child protection and safety of children.

LOSC also would like to invite any parents whose children attend the Infant or Heights schools to their AGM which is being held at 6pm on 4th November at the Cathodeon Centre. This is a great opportunity to hear more about the club and to meet the staff and parent led committee as well as enjoying a drink.

LOSC is only able to function if parents are involved in the running of the club. Please do come if you can as LOSC is an important part of the Linton community.

If you have any queries or would like to book a place for your child, please do call me.

Sarah Baxter, 07814 724468

Nostalgia and poetry followed by lunch

IT can be a problem to think of something different and new to do for the ACEs, but on 22nd October, Geoff Hales' Travelling Theatre gave us exactly that. This is theatre in the round, with Geoff taking all parts – although it felt more like watching a whole theatre company, so varied were the scenes.

We had monologues, favourite nostalgic and comic poems, and much else to keep us entertained – perhaps next time we will hear more of his exploits in Tonga, where he lived before settling in Cambridge. I loved the monologues and envied his memory and skill at conveying the connotations. Geoff's quick changes helped to change the pace of the show, and were done with great aplomb – almost as smoothly as the serving of the lunch, in fact.

Geoff is in great demand at venues ranging from Cambridge University to Prague, and we were lucky

to get this booking. I suspect that after this, he will be a regular and popular visitor to the ACEs. He is a man of many talents and great accomplishments, with shows ranging from Pepsy to Pooter, via Trollope, Kipling, and Dickens. What would you like next time?

Our next event will be a fish and chips lunch at 12 for 12.30pm start, on Thursday 12th November in the church pavilion. The speaker will be the ever popular Roy Petter, with tales of life during National Service. Private Petter on Parade should be good fun, as Roy's gentle humour is always greatly appreciated. The tales of army life will be relevant to the preceding Remembrance Day too. Don't forget your poppy...

Call Enid on 891069 or Anne/Sue on 891001, if you need a lift. All of our village seniors are invited to our events, and new faces are most welcome.

Enid Bald

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Chef's corner

COINCIDENCE of the calendar, Joel sent me a great Last of the summer lamb recipe while Jan Lupton offered Navarin of lamb. As both dishes are really mouth-watering it was difficult to choose but the Navarin won the day.

And for next month we will try to gain Joel's favour and bring you one of his Christmas recipes.

LNT

Navarin d'agneau (french stew or ragout)

As you might have guessed the main ingredient for the recipe is lamb; the farmer this month is James Coe from Layer Marney and Gareth, his shepherd, sells the lamb at the farmers' market in Linton.

Ingredients (to serve four):

- 1.2kg/2½ lb neck fillet of lamb, cut into 7.5cm/3in cubes
- 1½ tbsp flour
- 4 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 onion, peeled, chopped
- 1 whole garlic head, cut in half horizontally
- 350ml/12fl oz white wine
- 300g/10½oz canned chopped tomatoes
- 4 sprigs fresh rosemary, leaves only
- 3-4 sprigs fresh thyme, leaves only
- 500ml/17fl oz cold lamb or chicken stock

For the vegetables

- 450g/1lb mixed seasonal vegetables, peeled and chopped into equal-sized pieces
- 50g/2oz butter
- 200-250g/7-9oz mashed potatoes, to serve

Coat the lamb pieces in seasoned flour. Brown quickly in batches so as not to overcrowd the pan using 3 tsp of the vegetable oil. Remove the meat with a slotted spoon and add the remaining oil, add the onion and garlic and cook until they are soft and slightly brown.

Add the wine and bring the mixture to a simmer. Continue to simmer for 6-8 minutes, or until the volume of liquid has reduced by half. Add the chopped tomatoes and herbs and stir well. Return the mixture to a simmer, then continue for a further 4-5 minutes, or until the volume of liquid has reduced by half again.

Add the cold stock and the reserved browned lamb pieces (add a little more water if the stock does not cover the lamb).

Heat the pan contents until simmering, cover the pot and simmer gently for 1½ hours, stirring occasionally, or until the sauce has thickened and the lamb is tender.

Meanwhile, cook the vegetables for 2-3 minutes in a pan of boiling, salted water. Drain well.

Heat the butter in a pan over a high heat. Add the blanched vegetables and fry for 1-2 minutes, or until the butter has coated the vegetables and they are tender.

To serve, divide the mashed potatoes equally among four serving plates. Spoon over the navarin of lamb and top with the vegetables.

Bon Appetit.

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

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New at the sports centre

ZUMBA is now taking place on Thursdays from 6-7pm in the new dance studio. Zumba® Fitness was created in the mid-90s by Colombian native Alberto "Beto" Perez. Inspired by the traditional cumbia, salsa, samba and merengue music he grew up with, Beto paired his favourite pulsating Latin rhythms with the red-hot international dance steps and Zumba® Fitness (Spanish slang for "to move fast and have fun") was born!

All for One fencing club starts early November for juniors; we still need more adults in order for the sessions to start. Regular fencing training provides an interesting aid to improved co-ordination and general fitness suitable for students of all ages. Fencing is a fast and athletic sport, very different from the films you see at the cinema or on television. Rather than swinging from chandeliers or jumping off balconies modern fencing takes place on a 14m by 2m strip. The action is so fast that it is judged electronically rather than by eye. Fencing is one of the safest of sports and, provided the correct equipment is used, even minor injuries are uncommon. Contact Sarah Paveley on 7837 933603.

Cangaroos trampoline club will be starting on 18th November 6.15-7.15pm for juniors, 7.15-8.15pm for adults. Trampolining is a spectacular sport which can require a top trampolinist to reach heights of 10 metres whilst performing multiple somersaults and twists. As well as being a sport in its own right, it is widely recognised as a training tool for many other gymnastic disciplines and sports such as diving and freestyle skiing.

Further information call Neil Pike, Cambridge Cangaroos on 07710 168869 or the sports centre on 890248 or go to www.linton-sport-fitness.co.uk

Mark Wilson



LINTON COUNTRY DIARY by Darryl Nantais

Illustrated by Maureen Williams



The inspiration behind all those Country Diaries

THIS is my final Country Diary for the Linton News. By way of thanks to all my readers over to many years I would like to offer a little extract from a book I've been writing since I was fifteen years old entitled Rooms. I began it secretly to give to my children, if I were ever to have any! It was never intended to be published, doubting my writing skills and it's a rather raw account of a boy growing up in a world still mourning losses in the aftermath of war.

As it turns out, I do have children and I'm now 54, and since writing I changed languages from English to French and back again.

The piece below was taken from jottings on tiny scraps of paper written in 1970 when I was just 15. I hope it sheds further light and insight into the diaries past. Nothing has been changed, other than a few spellings!

UP to my knobbly knees in wet, shiny and freshly turned clods. Some, as I stepped like a giant over mountains just about took my weight and then slowly keeled over with me on top, taking me to my next step by momentum. Sometimes, I would stride as wide as I could, leaping across valleys to vales, then suddenly changing step with gathered impetus I'd whizz down the gully ridges.

There in the lowest points lay the fruits of the farmer's unseen toils. Sir Walter Raleigh's greatest gift; massive potatoes! The farmer's wife Mrs Sewell was presented with the largest found, she smiled, then when I pointed out that one end was shaped like a human bottom and the other like an ample bosom, her and all the men and woman giggled and sniggered with amusement. Even Uncle Sewell as I knew him, with his stern face and rough red neck suppressed his laughter turning brighter and hid his face behind the trailer.

"Come along now" shouted big Mr Sewell, "let's get the job done!" He was a giant of a man with a gentle nature, but when he spoke we all listened, for he laid down the law in a monotone voice that only ever rose in pitch preceding a chuckle. It sounded at times as if he was squeezing the words out of his gut. Close up, his outward breath made a puffing sound which was rather hypnotic and sobering.

The earthy odour became stronger than ever as I wiped my running



cold nose with the back of my muddy numb hands. I was led to a spud row and given a buckled wire basket and a couple of hessian sacks. Looking down the trench brimming with potatoes I noted it led into the early morning mist and vanished. For all I knew, this was the end of the world. There were only a few pickers around near my allocated row but as I filled my basket, running back and forth filling the sacks I slowly moved toward the wall of white haze.

The sun began to break through revealing many more workers. A few minutes later, casting my eyes around and gaining my bearings upon the land the field appeared to be almost crowded. Where had they all come from? However, by nine o'clock many of the men and woman had left or were weighing up their bags and leaving. I only realised years later that these people had risen early to earn a few

extra bob picking, before they started their normal jobs. Little did I know that one of the most memorable days of my life was just around the corner. The traction engine show!

Next Summer

Hanging around outside the farmhouse by the red painted steps, the farmer's son John was going in for lunch. I looked up at Mrs Sewell through the window. She beckoned, "come on in". I hooked off my muddy wellingtons, drew back on my holey grey school socks, embarrassed but the lure of

the roast was overwhelming to this nine-year-old boy, and so I entered the house. "Would you like a jam tart?" "Oh no thank you Mrs Sewell", I replied out of politeness with a genuine grateful inflection to her offer. My tummy had been rumbling for hours and had stopped, leaving me with a light-headed feeling that any moment I could sway and fall to the ground. The smell of all the home cooking and seeing the large tray of roasted potatoes must have reflected a plea in my eyes. "Come on" she went on, "I think you need a good meal".

"Okay" I said, "that would be lovely" To that point I had never seen such large dinner plates. When mine arrived I could not believe my eyes. There must have been at least five roast potatoes, a small mountain of cabbage, carrots and peas glistening in butter and slices of beef like steaks. Most definitely the biggest

meal that had ever been set before me. Even the knives and forks were large and felt heavy on my arms. Some people whilst eating, occasionally put their elbows on the table edge, something strictly forbidden back home. I was watching and waiting for someone to say something, but nobody mentioned the bad manners, instead they all chatted and laughed merrily, gulping and bolting their food like I'd never seen before. I almost felt guilty for being here with such abundance, as if betraying my own family. Mr Uncle Sewell even took a spoon and tipped his plate to scoop and finish up his gravy! For that, my parents would have dismissed him from the house within seconds.

When the table had been cleared I was offered jam tart and custard. I could not believe my luck. Tart and pup pup they called it, on account that this is what baby Sewell, still learning to speak called it. Another big bowl arrived with the tart looking like a semi submerged red battleship in a raging sea of rich yellow custard. Compared to this, my home life seemed small and grey. Here was space, food to fill one's belly and most of all, laughter.

How they all cared for each other, the hugs, and thank yous and general attention to everyone's well-being was beautiful. So beautiful that even at that tender age the tears of sadness or joy, I'm not sure which took precedence, welled up in me. I didn't want to return home. Instead I offered to help with the dishes but was told to sit down and rest. The whole concept was alien. I insisted and found a cloth to help for the guilt of seeing Mrs Sewell continuing to work after already creating such a fantastic meal was all too much!

John, the farmer's son and my best friend had already slipped his wellies back on, and I could see him heading off down the field towards the little tin pig styes. I soon finished up helping and was thanked by Mrs Sewell and Eileen. Eileen was a young-

er lady who seemed rather mysterious. I did not know how she fitted in to the scheme of things but John told me she liked his dad, a lot.

Catching up with John we decided not to help with the harvest any more today because, his uncle said so! If you see what I mean? Instead we played warriors from the Roman legion. Well, that's what John called it. "What do we have to do?" I asked. John's reply was rather vague so I said we should sit down and write a film. He was excited by this as we huddled in a sty that wasn't packed with rolls of netting and timber.

"Okay," I said, lacking a little energy and feeling sleepy with such a large lunch inside me. "You start!"

"Well, the first thing to happen is a battle. I'll be the Roman soldiers and you be the English ones" He grabbed a long stick announcing that this would be his weapon as it was to be superior to mine. "You can have this one," throwing a twisted and gnarled piece of green mould-covered timber before me.

"After the battle and all the English armies are defeated you will be arrested and brought to trial".

I was amazed at his story. I was taken in by his imagination and explained to him that, well it was his farm and it was only a film and even if I was defeated that we would still be friends wouldn't we? John teased with saying: "We will have to see about that".

Farewell, Darryl Nantais I would very much like to continue receiving your emails: countrydiary@hotmail.co.uk

We would like to thank Darryl for his interesting and sometimes thought provoking Country Diaries over the past few years and also Maureen for her beautiful illustrations.

We hope that this will not be the very end of this column and ask that if anyone would like to write on this or another similar topic to please contact us by e-mail at lneditor@linton.info LNT

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The Derbyshire Post



IT is now close to half-term and we can't believe how much we've packed into the first few weeks of the academic year here at LVC.

In September we hosted two teachers from a new partnership which we are developing with Angoche secondary school in Mozambique. Sr Dabo Abudo, the headteacher and Sr Filipe Siscupi, the head of PE spent time with us visiting lessons and answering our questions about attitudes to education in their community. Our own deputy principal, Vivien Corrie and PE teacher Lewis Baillie visited Angoche at Easter and we hope to return next summer. The visits are part of a project operated by UK Sport together with the British Council and Youth Sport Trust which aims to bring 300 British schools together with partners in the developing world to transform the lives of young people through sport. Our aim is to coach the Mozambicans in the Young Sports Leaders model that we use at Linton.

In October we held an open day for the first time. This is a real departure from our usual open evening event and it gave members of the community and prospective parents a chance to take a tour around the college during a normal school day, in order to see for themselves what we do. Feedback from the day has been full of praise for the activity. Parents and children raved about the new facilities and were reassured to see such purposeful learning going on in classrooms. They also enjoyed hearing the views of the year 11 prefects who showed them around. It was such a success that I would now take some persuading to go back to our open evening format.

I am delighted to report that last weekend Bianca, who saved the life of a young man in a car accident, won the Cambridge News Community Award for her action. You can read the details in the report below. Her reward was very well deserved, I feel.

Finally, we said *au revoir* or rather *à bientôt* to Rosanna Raimato our deputy principal who is due to have a baby in November. We all wish her a happy and restful maternity leave and can't wait to hear news of the baby's arrival.

Caroline Derbyshire
Principal

Former LVC student recognised for lifesaving intervention

A FORMER Linton village college student has won a Cambridge News community award for her action in coming to the aid of a seriously injured driver.

Bianca Ho, 16, from Weston Colville, was travelling home in May when she saw a car leave the road near Fulbourn and hit a tree. She immediately called an ambulance and then climbed into the car to administer first aid and reassure the driver while waiting for help to arrive.

The driver, 22-year-old Nathan Richards, suffered broken legs and a broken hip in the accident. At one stage, it was feared that he may lose both of his legs but after several weeks in hospital he is expected to make a full recovery. When Bianca found him, he was bleeding heavily and paramedics told her that without her prompt action, he

may have bled to death.

Bianca, a trained lifeguard and first aider, is now studying biology, chemistry, maths and philosophy at Hills Road sixth form college and has ambitions to become a doctor.

The Young Achiever award was presented by Nathan Richards at a ceremony at Homerton college on 1st October. In addition to a glass trophy, sponsored by Anglia Ruskin University, Bianca was presented with an iPod and a bicycle.

"Words can't describe how I felt when I heard I had won the award," she said. "I was thrilled that Nathan was there to present it. Of course I am pleased that my action has been recognised in this way but I still wish the accident had never happened."

Tony Kelly
LVC Press Officer
891233



The Way We Were by Garth Collard

When the game of cricket reigned supreme in Linton

NATIONAL records show that the first cricket matches in England were played in the 18th century. The first mention of cricket in Linton was in 1796 when a former student of Linton Academy wrote to the Cambridge Chronicle recalling his schooldays and wrote about hitting the cricket ball rather hard. This school was based at No 3 Church Lane and I assume the cricket was played on Camping Close.

The first Linton cricket club was formed in 1852 and matches were played on the recreation ground, later known as the cricket meadow. The quality of the wicket was variable and Linton's fast bowlers often routed rival teams. The wicket only improved after 1920 when the parish council purchased the ground and herbage rights from the lord of the manor, a member of the Keene family living in Oxfordshire.

The fixture list included games against Horseheath, Abington, Haverhill, Weston Colville, Balsham, Saffron

Walden, Willingham and Babraham. These village sides were usually composed of church members. The Linton players paid an annual subscription of three shillings (15p) and the team was largely composed of farmers, doctors and shopkeepers. Labourers could not afford the subscription.

Games in Cambridge were played on Parker's Piece against Eaden Lilley and the Cambridge Hope Club. Games against college sides were played on the college grounds, for example St John's, Corpus Christi, Trinity and Trinity-



Linton cricket team 1882-1884

Picture courtesy of Garth Collard

He encouraged choir-boys to take play and their matches were recorded in the parish magazine. In one match against the Abington boys, he complained that the Linton players seemed to be afraid of the ball!

I would like to thank John Richardson for letting me look at the score books covering the period 1853 to 1863 and Jane Taylor for the photograph of the 1882 to 1884 team. This photograph came from the collection of her father, the late Peter Taylor. In the 1920s and 1930s the Linton cricket

team was overshadowed by the Linton Granta football club and cricket declined in importance in the village.

Since the war the cricket club has grown in strength and become very successful. Now that Marianne Larcombe has completed her period of office as president it will be interesting to see who takes up the challenge in the 21st century.

I would be very grateful if any reader could supply me with photographs or data on the cricket club.

Please contact me by telephone 892395.

Hall, members obviously had contacts in high places!

Following home matches, refreshments were served in a marquee erected on the meadow by the landlords of the Crown Inn or the Swan Hotel, both of whom played for the Linton team. The club AGM was held at the Swan and members were served with dinner. The meals were always described as being sumptuous.

There were large gaps in 19th century records and the club seems to have been re-formed in the 1890s when the vicar, the Rev Longe, became president.

All you need to know about Christmas puddings

A GOOD Christmas pudding needs time to mature. The Friends of St Mary's will be giving their pudding a stir on Stir Up Sunday.

Not sure which Sunday? Always the last one before Advent. Still not sure? Come to the church pavilion at 11am on Sunday, 22nd November and find out more.

Did you know that a Christmas pudding traditionally has 13 ingredients – one for Jesus and one for each of the twelve apostles? A good pudding always used to have a small coin in the mix – a silver threepenny bit. Now it has to be a coin carefully wrapped in foil or greaseproof paper, for health and safety reasons.

For the best results, and time to pour over plenty of brandy, Christmas puddings are traditionally made several weeks before Christmas, on Stir Up Sunday. The special prayer for that day begins, "Stir up we beseech the wills of thy faithful people ..."

As part of their fund raising for the next stage of repairs, the Friends will have 2010 calendars, Christmas cards, a quiz, a new cook book and to top it all Christmas puddings, all for sale on "Stir Up Sunday". Why not give it a stir?

Alan Clarkson

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S/1419/09/F Mr & Mrs Mark Slater 15 Tower View Linton
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Parish Council Matters

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

Traffic - moving or otherwise

HOW Linton has changed! Developed around a mainly mediaeval centre, we were once a rural community. Traffic was horse-powered - riders, traps, farm carts, carriages - although most journeys were on foot. The roads suited the traffic of the times, mostly bridleways. Between the wars roads were surfaced, widened and straightened, at the expense of the hedges and trees that had lined them.

The village enlarged and the population expanded; despite building the by-pass, the traffic of today is rather too much for our ancient village. The density of traffic is most keenly felt during term times, particularly in the High Street, as parents drop off children at school, although walking and cycling are encouraged, to help form healthy bones and keep children fit. The "Safer Routes to School" scheme identified paths that can take all pedestrians away from the most dangerous and congested routes - the well-used route across Camping Close helps avoid a risky part of the High Street. We obtained the replacement bridge in Stanton's Lane through this scheme.



Symond's Lane - no place to pass

Picture: Enid Bald

With more cars than the housing developers envisaged, we have parking problems. Most houses have garages and/or drives, but these are often unused as cars are more easily left on roads. This adds to congestion, and inconsiderate parking adds danger, as Mike Gee noted last month (we take it in turns to grumble, as you might have noticed!). Parking on Back Road, Symond's Lane, Bartlow Road and along other busy routes means that there are often no spaces to pull in to get out of the way of oncoming traffic; it might be your right of way, but it helps everyone to just wait for a moment to allow the oncoming car to complete its passage safely. It saves stress and is a friendly action. The contractors at Flaxfields are now parking on-site which has reduced the problems associated with Back Road; thank you for this. Also, parking opposite junctions and driveways makes it difficult for people to get out - please don't glare - letting people out is kinder, and usually gets a friendly acknowledgement.

Parking near corners or blind bends has caused many near-misses and minor shunts - a major incident can't be too far away. The parish council is considering double yellow lines in these dangerous areas, but they would not be needed if people gave due consideration to their community.

Parking on pavements is particularly inconsiderate. Where then do pedestrians walk? In the road? Whose pavement is it anyway? How are wheelchairs and pushchairs to negotiate these barriers, and what is gained by this parking? The roads are wide enough - though sometimes only just. We have too many broken wing mirrors and even collisions with fences and walls - my, the speed they were going! As the village is not going to change, walls are not going to move, and roads are not going to widen, drivers must be more careful and considerate - after all, we are neighbours....

Cllr Enid Bald

Where the wind blows...or not

YOU will have heard that the planning application for the wind-farm was rejected by South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC). The presentations by objectors and councillors were very powerful (well done Esther, Trisha and John!). By contrast, Enertrag yet again did not bother to show up, continuing their practice of refusing to engage in any way with the community. Gareth Jones of SCDC made the point that they were not against alternative energy production, but it had to be appropriate and in the right place; this application was neither.



How the proposed wind turbines would look

As SCDC did not reach a decision in the allotted time - caused in part by Enertrag's failure to respond to concerns raised by the community - there has been an appeal, which is due to be heard locally in February 2010. If there are further concerns that you would like to be raised, please write to SCDC with a copy to us.

I have seen the havoc caused by turbines on flocks of migrating birds. Piles of avian corpses do not feature heavily on "green" energy adverts - and nor does the noise. A High Court action for nuisance from a couple forced out of their home by turbine noise will be heard next year.

Cllr Enid Bald

Trees please!

THE A1307 is known for its many accidents, but it also brings less obvious dangers. Its noise is a constant backdrop for life in most of Linton.

Noise has the same effect on the body as stress, affecting health, sleep, quality of life, concentration and learning. Three schools in Linton are particularly exposed to road noise - a real danger, and barriers against this would be sensible. Noise maps showing "calculated" noise levels are available at the following link: www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/noise/mapping/index.htm

The A1307 is on map 6. On the First Priority Locations, map 162 is Linton, but the priority action area does not address the real problem - the persistent obtrusive noise throughout the village. Please send comments to the county council.

Similar highways which are well lined with trees and hedges give the illusion of being narrower, reducing traffic speed and ameliorating noise.

Our excellent advisors, tree warden Susan Anderson, and the tree officer at South Cambridgeshire district council, are keen to have planting along the A1307 and access roads. We have been granted 10 trees along Bartlow Road with 10 more next year, and I am looking into ways to have more trees and hedges.

The real problem is getting them planted - it is quite hard work! Could any local groups help us? There are grants for planting trees on farmland too, and I can think of places where a copse would help... biodiversity could bring more benefits than expected!

Cllr Enid Bald

Bobby Scheme - beat that

THE Bobby Scheme is a charity that installs security devices and advises on safety. Those who are clients of the Mobile Warden Scheme will already have benefited from their work. Linton is part of Operation Promenade, an initiative to provide advice and additional security to older people.

Roger Hickford proposed that the parish council support this initiative by funding the £20 visit charge. The trustees of the Bobby Scheme have now advised that this service will be free to those over 60, so our financial contribution will no longer be required. We are going ahead with the scheme, so please expect a call from a parish councillor soon - your safety is our priority.

Cllr Enid Bald

Calling time on slime

THERE was once a tree overhanging Stanton's Lane Bridge. This had to be felled, but its presence is still felt - in the form of green slime on the bridge! We are going to have this power-washed to restore its pristine glory. However, for 'elf and safety reasons the bridge will have to close during cleaning. Apologies, but there will be a diversion in place for a short while during the February half-term. Notices will inform you closer to the time.

Cllr Enid Bald



Pictures: Roger Shaw

Green update

THE application to have Camping Close registered as our village green took another step forward when I delivered the supporting data to the county council. This included masses of completed questionnaires confirming the free and unfettered use of the area for a great number of years, photos, letters and other confirmation of its place in village life. It is also clear that, should any barriers be erected, events such as the fireworks display could not take place. Thank you all for your support, including that of many parents with children at the infant school. There is a limited quantity of open space for all to enjoy; freedom to use it, once lost, would be gone forever.

Cllr Enid Bald

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Council minutes council minutes council minutes council minutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon centre on Thursday 17th September 2009.

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

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Krarup, Rossiter and Urwin and Mrs K France (press). Cllr Daly was also absent.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September: Cllr Cox reported that work was progressing on the churchyard gate. The kissing gate will be reinstated with a further gate for pushchairs and disability vehicles.

Cllr Hammett reported that he had met with Clever Curves and was satisfied that all the required work to the skateboard ramp had been done and their invoice could be paid.

Report from police and consideration of policing, safety and security issues: Cllr Hickford reported that an infra red camera had been ordered at a reduced price of £435.

There had been trouble and damage to vehicles and property in the High Street, Meadow Lane and the Recreation ground. Unfortunately the local police team had not been on duty at that time and although the traffic police had attended little action had been taken.

Report from the county councillor: County councillor Batchelor reported that the dementia unit at Symonds House would be closed temporarily. This was due to the inadequate training of staff caring for aggressive residents. Cambridgeshire and Essex county councils would be withdrawing their patients until a training assessment had taken place. Specific concerns were being addressed.

Remedial drainage work had taken place in Lonsdale where drains had not been properly constructed. Kerbing in Emsons Close would be raised. The pipe from the village college to the river would be upgraded. The steps from Stanton's Lane to the village college would be upgraded during the Easter break 2010.

Cllr Hammett asked when the second phase of the village college redevelopment would commence. Cllr Batchelor replied that phase one has not yet been signed off due to the unexplained increase in costs. Currently phase two was on hold until a 'do nothing option' had been costed. It is hoped that phase two will continue but could be delayed.

The wind farm planning application had been heard and unanimously recommended for refusal. Feedback from the highways planning department was ongoing.

Reports from the district councillors: Cllr Bear reported that she had contacted the highways department following the recent flooding. The county council had employed a new contractor responsible for clearing drains. It was hoped that the drains in Symond's Lane and by the fire station junction would be jetted soon. A computerised mapping system for drains was being considered by the county council.

Cllr Hickford asked for clarification of the graffiti removal scheme reported at the police panel meeting. A team of offenders had arrived on 15th September but were unable to remove the graffiti on the recreation ground tarmac area as it was too thick and scraping it off could damage the surface. They did however visit Horn Lane bridge.

Cllr Batchelor reported that sheltered housing support is under review due to budget restraints. This may result in a reduced service.

Stanton's Lane bridge: A report had been issued. Cllr Bald proposed that council proceeds with the cleaning of Stanton's Lane bridge. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hunt. The vote was unanimous. It was hoped that this work could be undertaken in the February half term week to minimise disruption.

Correspondence received and for discussion:

Cllr Bald reported that an email had been received from a parent of a child at the infant school. This alleged that many parents were opposed to Camping Close being fenced off but felt they were unable to speak against the proposal.

Chalklands & Paynes Meadow residents association had requested a sign regarding the play area on Paynes Meadow. It was agreed to suggest that a representative attends a parish council meeting to explain their requirements.

Cllr Bald reported that she and Susan Anderson, village tree warden, would be attending the district council meeting regarding the tree warden scheme.

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Clerk to the council – Mrs Sue Parry

Email: lintonpc@btconnect.com

Website: www.lintoncambridgeshire-pc.gov.uk

Office hours : Monday 9am–12noon, and

4–5.30pm, Tuesday–Friday 9am–12noon

Or by appointment

Dates for full council meetings:

November 5th and 19th, December 3rd 2009

All meetings held at the Cathodeon centre following the public forum commencing at 8pm

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon centre on Thursday 1st October 2009.

Present: Ms E Cornell (chair), Mrs E Bald (vice chair), Dr B Cox, A Gore, R Hickford, Ms T Hunt, T Krarup, G Potter, Mrs J Williams and Mrs A Meeks (assistant clerk). Mr C Jackson (chief executive of the Hundred Houses Society), Mr P Merton (regional director of Icen Homes), and Mrs K France (press) were also in attendance together with six members of the public.

Public forum: The members of the public present were there to hear the presentation by Mr Jackson. The chair informed them that if they had any views or concerns following this they should write to the clerk at the parish council office.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Gee, Hammett, Linsdell, Rossiter, Urwin and Mrs S Parry (clerk). Cllr Daly was also absent.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 17th September: Cllr Bald said she had been approached by other parents opposed to Camping Close being fenced off. She had advised them to write with their concerns to the council and the infant school.

Cllr Hickford confirmed that the Bobby Scheme would be free to all eligible residents up to the end of March 2010.

A presentation was given by Mr Chris Jackson, chief executive of Hundred Houses Society and Mr Philip Merton, regional director of Icen Homes.

Mr Jackson outlined the relationship between Hundred Houses Society (a not for profit housing association) and Icen Homes (a private firm facilitating project management and owned by housing associations). Mr Merton gave an update on the Beechdale Homes development in Horseheath Road where Hundred Houses, through Icen Homes, have been negotiating on three properties for affordable housing. Mr Jackson then discussed the police houses and station site which Hundred Houses has purchased from the Police Authority. He emphasised their commitment to providing affordable housing. A pre-application planning meeting with South Cambridgeshire district council and Icen Homes would be held soon.

The chair thanked them both for coming to the meeting and for involving the parish council in discussions at such an early stage.

Reports from co-ordinators:

Open spaces: Cllr Bald had issued a report. Various issues would be passed to the district council and county council. Cllr Gore suggested thinning out the developers planting at Granta Leys. Cllr Bald would discuss this with Susan Anderson, the Tree Warden.

Recreation ground: A quotation for repair work to the concrete

steps into the river was awaited. It was agreed to try and find out the original purpose of the steps.

Cllr Krarup reported that some timber on the clapper stile frame was rotten, the area was overgrown so people were walking round the stile. It was agreed to monitor this and consider precepting an amount for repair. The picnic table repair and removal of graffiti were still to be actioned.

The issue of gates being left open in Meadow Lane was reported again.

Cllr Hickford expressed concerns over the graffiti removal team.

Cemetery: Cllr Cornell said a review of the Cemetery Regulations was to be carried out in November.

Cllr Bald had issued a report. The clerk was asked to obtain a quotation for renovating the benches.

Rights of way: The excellent guide book on the Fleam Dyke & Roman Road walk was noted.

Venture playground: The clerk had issued a report on the skateboard ramp light. A response was awaited from P&C Electrical and it would be made safe.

Glebe Land: Cllr Cox reported that he had cut the grass that afternoon.

Churchyard: Cllr Cox confirmed the kissing gate was in place however the other gate needed to have a spring fitted as it was not self closing. The parochial church council would be consulted on this. It was agreed to obtain a quotation from the contractor who had resurfaced the paths for tarmac be put down to level the rough ground around a tree root.

A1307: Cllr Cornell advised that a 30mph speed limit may be implemented at Linton.

Allotments: The clerk had issued a report. It was agreed to join the National Association of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners.

Written reports from council representatives:

Tree planting: Cllr Bald had issued a report and proposed:

1) The purchase of up to 12 trees for the village, up to a maximum cost of £600.

2) The purchase of two hedging packs for the Cemetery at approximate cost of £50 per pack, and to meet costs of ground preparation.

3) Approval of the planting in Chalklands, to be progressed by the Chalklands committee, stating that the council will not maintain.

4) A meeting with Highways and other parties to discuss tree and hedge planting on the A1307.

The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gore. The vote in favour was unanimous.

Cllr Potter thought the tree planting at the Recreation ground, as detailed in the report, was too close to the river. Cllr Bald will discuss this with the rivers authority.

It was reported that the district council tree officer was organising the planting of 10 trees in Bartlow Road.

Police panel meeting: Cllr Gore had issued a report. It was agreed to send a letter to Inspector Savage, copied to the chief constable requesting more action days on the A1307 before Christmas as well as a greater police presence in the village after midnight. A letter would also be sent to the Co-op manager to highlight concerns raised regarding the sale of alcohol to under-age young people.

Correspondence received and for discussion:

Sanctuary Housing had invited the council to propose a name for the new scheme under construction in Flaxfields. Cllr Cornell had circulated various suggestions. Cllr Gore proposed Nichols Court. This was seconded by Cllr Hickford. A vote took place with six votes in favour, nil votes against and two abstentions. Proposal carried.

CGM Ltd had provided quotations for grass and weed treatments to the Recreation ground. These had been requested by Cllr Potter as weed killing was not in the current contract. It was agreed that Cllr Potter would discuss further with the clerk what was required and obtain more quotations.

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

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