

Garden Party
at Symonds House
on 17th June
from 2pm - 4pm
see page 5

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THE LINTON NEWS

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June
2016
Vol. 30 N° 03
Publication date
Monday 6th June

E & E PLUMRIDGE
Design & Print
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Oh what a night they had



The leavers and their teachers

Pictures by Lorenzo Zambrana Roberts

ON Saturday 23rd April, the Leavers of 1980 from Linton Village College held their reunion at the school. Over 70 people attended, including ex-students and teachers. A red carpet led the guests into the old school entrance, under the welcome banner supporting the old school logo, before being greeted by the committee girls dressed in gingham school dresses to get their name badge and welcome drink. There were tears and laughter as old friends were reunited after 36 years.

The special guests were, of course, the 'old' teachers: Miss Mackay, Mr Robins, Mrs Southwick, Mrs Smith, Mr Barrell, Mrs Leggo, Mr Christopher Martin, Mrs Martin, and Mr John Heywood, who had been the Warden in the 70s and early 80s. A photo studio was set up by LVC student Lorenzo Zambrana.

A slideshow of photos and anecdotes from school trips to France and Germany ran while background music from the 70s was provided by DJ Martin, from *Geared Entertainment*.

During the evening, there was an entertaining speech by Mr Heywood, followed by a light-hearted award ceremony for both students and teachers and a toast to absent friends. Martin's disco then sprang into action for those who wanted to take to the floor.

The committee would like to thank everyone for their help in tracing classmates, and hunting out photos from lofts and cupboards, Sue Mackay for helping trace the teachers, the College's



The committee: Tracey Roberts, Gillian Blackmore, Diane Webb, Karen Greenham and Emma Jones

Jane Carpenter, Richard (caretaker) for organising the facilities, DJ Martin, Bar ladies - Keighley and Rachel, photographer Lorenzo, slideshow organiser Nicola Ellis, Mr Heywood for his speech, and finally for everyone coming along to the event and making it such a memorable occasion. Here's to the next one!

Tracey Roberts, 891790

HM the Queen's birthday celebrations



Queen Elizabeth roses and the cake

All photos taken by Sarah Hurcum

ON Wednesday 20th April a coffee morning was held in the United Reformed Church in Horn Lane to celebrate the 90th birthday of our queen, Elizabeth II.

It was a lovely sunny morning and the turnout surpassed all expectations. Extra chairs and tables quickly had to be brought out as several dozen people sat down to enjoy coffee and cakes all provided by the church.

A beautiful iced birthday cake flanked by a bouquet of Queen Elizabeth roses and a portrait of the monarch were all set on a cloth which actually came from Buckingham Palace.

The lighted candles were blown out by the two oldest ladies in the room, 94 year old Pat Hughes and 93 year old Bonnie Spriggs and then everyone sang Happy Birthday. The refreshments were complimentary but donations were accepted in support of Barnardos, one of the Queen's favourite charities.

A stall of goods, all handmade, donated by Beryl Richardson raised money for the Barnabas Trust.

Everyone who attended was given a commemorative booklet as a tribute to Her Majesty's 90 years and her devoted service to us, her people.

Thanks go to the URC for organising this very special occasion.

Sarah Hurcum



Pat Hughes 94 on the left and Bonnie Spriggs 93 on the right.

Horseheath Road decision

THE planning application S/1969/15/OL on the land off Horseheath Road, for up to 50 houses and 28 allotments, was heard by SCDC Planning Committee on May 11th and was rejected.

The planning reasons were on grounds of archaeology and because the application numbers were not deliverable. It was apparent that other villages, with similar applications, had heartfelt reasons for wishing to have their unwanted developments refused. However, as there is a presumption for approval, the Planning Committee had no option but to allow them.

What was the difference? Linton sites outside of the village envelope, put forward for development under the SHLAA scheme and later reviewed for the Local Plan (LP), had been rejected. Those in the other villages had been accepted as part of 5 year land supply. This is a very powerful argument against the development of sites surrounding the village, which we worked on with SCDC officers, until the LP and our own Neighbourhood Plan (which has legal status) are accepted.

Note: allotments were not part of the legal agreement, nor was affordable housing. We now wait to see what will happen next, whether a fresh application will follow and how we might proceed on acquiring our own allotments for Linton.

Thank you to all councillors and residents who worked so hard to have this application rejected.

Councillor Enid Bald

All change

AT the annual parish council meeting on 19th May Enid Bald stood down as Chair after serving for three years. Paul Poulter became Chair after being Vice Chair for three years and Brian Manley became Vice Chair.

LNT

A note to all deliverers

Vernon Boyd and Kate France have handed packing and delivery of the Linton News to Caroline Mulley-Richards and family. To contact ring 07767 317709 or email carolinemulley@yahoo.co.uk

LNT

Journeys theme for July Flower Festival

THIS year's Flower Festival will take place on the weekend of the 8th to the 10th of July; the title is very fitting as we are celebrating our 50th year of flower festivals at St Mary's Church. You can expect stories from the Bible, or an individual's journey through illness or a happy holiday. Whatever is chosen by our arrangers will truly be an enjoyable experience.

The church will open from 10am to 6pm on Friday 8th and Saturday 9th and from 11.30am to 6pm on Sunday 10th.

There will be stalls selling books, plants, cakes, jewellery and bric a brac, along with the Friends of St Mary's, and you can try your luck on the bottle stall.

Food will be served throughout the weekend in the church pavilion. There will be musical entertainment on both Saturday and Sunday afternoons along with some children's activities and the ever popular Sunday Teddy Bear Jumps and Duck Race on the river Granta. The event will close with the Grand Raffle Draw and a quarter peal rung by our team ringers.

New flower arrangers are very welcome. If you would like to do an arrangement in the church and would like more information you can contact me on 891111 or by email: nanette1@hotmail.co.uk,

Nanette Blackmore, Flower Festival Co-ordinator.

Free meals a day

ON 12th April Mr Mallard and Ms Duck flew into Mr and Mrs John Tournant's garden behind the electrical shop at 47 High Street, where Mrs Duck promptly nestled into the pond plants and laid 14 eggs.

As Mrs Tournant is busy caring for her husband and the shop, young Mr. Tournant (André) accepted responsibility for the new family. When the 14 ducklings had safely hatched, Mr. Mallard nodded his approval and left the family in peace.

Within 24 hours Mrs Duck had her children on the Tournant pond for their first swim. Each new arrival successfully completed all challenges - particularly entrance, exit and obedience tests and happily entered the pond for the daily swim with Mrs Duck and sometimes with Mr Mallard.

Young Mr Tournant anxiously watched over the young family and cooked them three special meals a day with brown rice, whole grain, lots of seeds, peas and muesli which were taken, with pond weed and bugs from the uncut grass, for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

One morning André was devastated to discover three ducklings had been killed, probably by bigger birds hunting for food for their own nestlings. The 11 survivors soon learned how to defend themselves and continued to thrive. Their appetites increased voraciously and they were soon calling noisily at André's office door three times a day, hungry for the next meal.

Within a month they were much bigger and stronger, wanting to venture out of the nursery, trying to strengthen their wings by hopping up and down on the trellis in an effort to reach the top of the wall, ready to take off.

The question is, having successfully raised one brood in the Tournant's garden, will the pair return next year?

Kate France, 891602



The entire duck family

Picture by André

Too good for jumble...

ON offer this month is a brand new Swan teasmade, a Brother AX-430 electric typewriter (hardly used), a black TV table with two shelves 17½in wide x 79in deep x 22in high and a wrought iron gate with hinges 32in x 68in.

The brand new Epson Expression Home XP235 is still available as well as the barbecue set on wheels with all tools and charcoal.

To buy any of the above or if you have an item to profit a charity, please contact Kate France on 891602 or email kfrance@profsoundconsult.com.

NB: The donor chooses the charity to receive the money.



Playing teaches important life skills



AS I write this, we have all just enjoyed a taste of summer – long may it last. The new play equipment is certainly being put to good use. My thanks to the PTFA and The Anderson Trust for their generous donations.

When we see the children on the equipment we think about how they are having a great time, just playing. In a world where health and safety are such high profile issues, it has been interesting to generate the risk/benefit assessment of the new equipment. I am pleased to say the benefits far outweigh the potential risks: communication, problem solving, risk taking, self regulation, creative licence and physical development to name a few. All of these skills are needed in our lives as adults. We think it is just playing but it is far more. If play is what it takes to create individuals who can communicate, negotiate, collaborate, solve difficulties and self regulate maybe we should invite some of our MPs over to play.

The governors and I were delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs Kelly Harries as new Headteacher at Linton CE Infant School from September 2016. Mrs Harries is well prepared to lead the school in the next stage of its journey and I am sure with your support the school will continue to be happy and successful.

Twenty five years, a quarter of a century, is a long time to dedicate yourself to a role. This is just what Lynne Dando can claim, so it is with great sadness that I have to announce she is leaving the school at the end of the summer term. This will be a huge loss to the school, both for the children she supports as well as her colleagues. However I am sure she will continue to be a friend and we look forward to her popping in to see us.

This year, along with our class photos, we had a whole school photo taken. The photographer spent quite some time getting 168 children and 25 adults into position, looking at the camera and smiling all at the same time. We are waiting for the proof and this will be sent home with the children after the May half term.

On 17th May we held our open evening for the parents of children due to join us in September. It was great to see some familiar faces but equally nice to meet parents who are new to our school. Later in the term we will welcome the children into school to spend time in their new classroom with the staff and their peer group.

Sainsbury's have now stopped issuing the Active Kids vouchers and it is nearly time for us to send these away. Please check your bag, car, down the side of the sofa and drop any into the school. These vouchers really do make a difference to the equipment we are able to offer to the children. You should see the new dances happening on the outdoor stage and the ingenious games created from a few hoops and skipping ropes.

Louise Clark, Headteacher

Local artists exhibit at Cambridge Open Studios

TWO local artists, Lydia Collings, a ceramicist, from Linton and Sonia Villiers, a painter, from Hadstock, are exhibiting together as part of Cambridge Open Studios. They will show their work during the second and third weeks in July at 33 Parkside, Cambridge, CB1 1JE. For further details please see www.lydiacollings.co.uk and www.soniavilliers.net.

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Year 6 relaxing by the sea in May

AFTER the SATS* examinations in May, there was no better way for pupils (and staff) to relax and unwind than at Aylmerton Field Study Centre.

The small village of Aylmerton is situated on the North Norfolk coast and is set in the middle of the countryside with lots of fields, woods, lakes, rivers and (best of all) the beach very nearby. Although it is reportedly often sunny there, this week the weather was decidedly mixed.

All of our pupils got to share a dormitory with their friends and eat yummy food in a dining room which was exclusive to Linton Heights.

Best of all was the fabulous team of instructors who led all of the children's activities.

The instructors included Miah Man, Eagle Eye, Sweaty Betty, Shrek and Skippy all of whom were simply great and made sure that we had a really good time. Some of them were a bit mad, some were particularly noisy but they were all very kind.

Our instructors knew really cool things like how to spot oyster catcher nests in the shingle, when it is safe to cross the mud flats and how to walk through the forest in the pitch dark without falling over. But most of them don't know how to dance.

The highpoints for our pupils were splodging through the mud on their way to Blakeney Point to see the seals and crossing the low ropes to see whether they would make good pirates and indeed searching for crabs in rock pools at the beach.

The week was sensational and thank you so much to Caren Davies and Clare Cassidy who organised the trip and to all of the staff members who accompanied it.

Roll on next year when Linton Heights Junior School is scheduled to visit again.

*Standard Assessment Tests

James Puxley, Headmaster

These letters tell a story

WHEN Hilary Custance Green's father, Barry, died in 2009, she knew he had been a Prisoner of War working on the Thailand-Burma Railway. In his memoirs he had written about building the Wampo Viaduct, about the men who carried him when he could no longer walk and about dancing as a chorus girl in the prison camp theatre.

Then, in 2010, Hilary read the letters between Barry and her mother Phyllis from 1941 and 1945. These told the story of a young couple in love and with a small baby, separated by 6000 miles for four years. For three of those years Phyllis waited in total silence for news.

Later in 2010 Hilary tracked down a box file in the Royal Signals Museum and another side of the story came to light. The file contained 250 letters written to Phyllis during the war by the grandparents, mothers, wives, brothers, sisters and fiancées of the 68 men under Barry's command who had disappeared with him in February 1942. Many are heartbreaking, others show the fierce determination to find their men. There are also heartening letters in 1945 from some of the men who survived and wanted to know what had happened to their mates.

The story of these men and women, edited by Hilary, is being published on June 30th by Pen & Sword and Hilary is having a launch here in Linton. Please email Hilary at threadgoldpress@waitrose.com, if you want to know more.

Hilary Custance Green

Parish visiting

If you or anyone known to you would like to see someone from St Mary's Church, Linton, please contact Rev. Maggie Guite (890273) or Rev. Lesley Gore (891970) and a visit will be arranged.

Editors Note: If any other churches would like to have a similar advert please contact me.

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MP visits LVC

LUCY Frazer, MP for South East Cambridgeshire and a member of the House of Commons Education Select Committee, visited LVC in May. She met with Principal Helena Marsh to discuss current educational developments including assessment, school funding and teacher workload. She also met with a group of Year 9 prefects and asked them their views on issues ranging from SATs to the voting age and the European Union.



Lucy Frazer MP with LVC students

Pictures supplied by Tony Kelly



lintongrantaplaygroup

Pre-school and toddler group
Linton, Cambridgeshire

THE children of Linton Granta playgroup have had another busy month. We have been out and about in Linton with a visit to Symonds House and the Linton Library.

On a sunny afternoon the children and adults walked to Symonds House for an enjoyable afternoon spent with some of the day-centre residents, playing games and working on jigsaws together. It was a delight to see the children interacting with the residents. We hope to continue our visits and many thanks to Shani, the day-centre manager, for having us.

The children also visited Linton Library to listen to a story and go on an exciting treasure hunt around the library.

We also had a visit from a postman who came in to talk to the children about how letters are sent and what happens to them en route to our homes. Many thanks to Alan Potter (Jackson's Daddy).

We are now taking bookings for September 2016. We are open mornings: 9am-12noon M-F, lunch: 12noon-12.30pm M-F and afternoons: 12.30-2.30pm M, W, Th, F.

Please contact us on 07806 744864 to enquire about availability, or email office@lintongrantaplaygroup.

Karen Thompson, Leader and Michelle Miller, Deputy Leader



Look out for the sponsored bounce event coming later in the term which is set to challenge the children to see how far they can bounce and tire themselves out. Recently, we have been very lucky to secure two donations: one from the Anderson Trust and one from the Parish Council. These have been used to fund a sensory black out tent, lights and octopus tank, and a set of building bricks and building equipment. These are fantastic additions to our playgroup.

IT has been a busy half term at Chestnut playgroup with the children taking full advantage of the lovely weather and our fantastic garden. We have had chocolate rivers made with mud and water, lots of hunts for Gaston the ladybird among the plants, fun with our new builder sets with children mixing 'cement' and building walls. We celebrated the Queen's 90th birthday with balloons, games, music and biscuits, although some of the children were disappointed that the birthday girl didn't attend her own party.

As a community playgroup, fundraising is essential to ensure that we can continue.

If you want to find out more about what we do on a daily basis follow us on facebook. We'll be having our annual Open Day on Wednesday 6th July for anyone interested in starting their children at a Playgroup in September. Come along and meet the team.

Chestnut Playgroup
Chestnut.pg@gmail.com

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Readers write...

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters are on this page. All letters for publication must have a full name, address or phone number to enable us to check authenticity. Letters may be edited. Opinions are not necessarily those of the Linton News. *Anonymous letters will NOT be published but names and addresses may be withheld if requested.*

Parking Hazards

Dear Editor
The poor parking on the High Street continues down at the Symonds Lane Junction with the High Street, next to the Swan Cottages. Even car dealerships are now parking on the pavement, as Cambridge Mini decided to park on the pavement crossing point causing school children to walk in the road. "Mummy why are we walking in the road" asked a child on a scooter on her way to school. The mother replied: "Because someone has parked on the pavement" This is a busy junction for school children, toddlers, mothers with prams and elderly people using the pavement to walk along the High Street. The corner is plagued with poor parking and lorries reversing up the pavement on a daily basis. We have requested bollards on the corner to make it safe for pedestrians before someone gets hurt.

Steven Christmas, High Street

OUR THANKS

95th birthday

Dear Editor
I would like to thank all the people of this wonderful village of Linton who sent me a card on my 95th birthday. It was much appreciated.
Bruce Conochie, by email

Marathon money for spinal research

Dear Editor
I would like to thank the lovely people of Linton for their well wishes and sponsorship. I successfully completed the London Marathon and have raised over £4300 for Spinal Research, so thank you all.
Hannah Curtis, 07976628965

We will remember them Corporal George Harold Day 10th June 2016

GEORGE Harold Day was born in 1891, the son of Charles and Laura Day who lived in Vine Cottage. George was a member of the 17th Battalion Royal Fusiliers who landed in France on the 17th November 1915.

George was shot just days before the Battle of the Somme, in June 1916, while wiring a sap head in No Man's Land. He was taken to a field station close to the lines, but died of his wounds soon after.

George is buried at the Quatre-Vents Military Cemetery, Estree-Cauchy, France.

esther@lintonatwar.org

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Growing for show



NIGEL Start gave a wonderfully clear view on what judges are looking for in the fruit and vegetable classes at annual shows across the country each summer, and how to achieve this in his *Guide to producing prize-winning fruit and veg*. His advice is the result of his having been both a competitor for many years and a judge too, and the talk was packed full of tips to help grow wonderful produce for the show. He emphasised choosing a suitable variety that ripens at the right time, sowing seeds in batches in case of weather wobbles and targeting planting dates to ripen around the show date. It is crucial too to keep the plants stress free, both by watering when needed and by keeping pests and diseases at bay. Once show day arrives pick produce carefully focussing on conformity to type, uniformity of size, freshness and colourfulness, and present them well.

The 74th Annual Show is at 2.30pm on Saturday 23rd July in the village hall. Schedules giving full details on how to enter are now available from 9 Balsham Road (near the post office) and 3 Mill Lane. There is a wonderful range of classes to enter, so do come and join in the fun. Entry is open to everyone. Thank you to everyone who generously gave their time, plants and produce to make this year's plant sale a success despite the weather turning rather cooler. This fundraising effort makes the Annual Show possible.

Kirsten Newble lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

Lead Alert – Red Alert

FIVE churches in Cambridgeshire, including Saint Andrew's West Wrattling, had their roofs stripped of lead during April and May. Most thefts take place in daylight and from churches with neighbouring properties. The thieves rely on people thinking they are legitimate builders carrying out roof repairs.

Whilst the roof of Saint Mary the Virgin in Linton is protected by an alarm system, these thefts cause significant damage to the churches affected. The theft at West Wrattling was only discovered when it rained heavily and water poured into the church.

If you see anyone on the roof of Saint Mary's or acting suspiciously, by day or by night, they are trying to steal the lead. No work or inspection of the roof is due to take place at the moment, and if anyone is going on to the roof for a legitimate reason official notices are put up in the church porch and on the noticeboard beforehand.

So, if you see anyone on the roof or acting suspiciously please ring 999 and ask the police to come to the church immediately.

Andrew Gore, 891970

Sign Up To Save Lives in Linton

WITH thousands of patients receiving blood transfusions every year, NHS Blood and Transplant is challenging the people of Linton to make a date to donate and sign up to save lives. Donated blood is vital for a wide variety of life-saving procedures in local hospitals. Patients undergoing major surgery and emergency treatment often require blood transfusions, but perhaps less well-known is the fact that blood is essential for the treatment for many different types of cancer and blood disorders.

Regular blood donors in Linton have helped to save thousands of lives and we cannot thank them enough. Unfortunately, a number of these donors may no longer be able to donate in the future due to health or other reasons so we need people like you to come forward and help ensure patients always get the blood they need.

In general, as long as you are fit and healthy, weigh over 7 stone 12 lbs (50kg) and are aged between 17 and 66 (up to 70 if you have given blood before) you should be able to give blood. If you are over 70, you need to have given blood in the last two years to continue donating.

Sessions in Linton take place at the Community Sports Centre on Cambridge Road. Appointments are recommended for these sessions. To find out more about donating blood or to book an appointment, call 0300 123 23 23 or visit www.blood.co.uk.

Natalie Shaw

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THE LINTON NEWS Next Publication 4th July 2016

DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 13th June

NEWS ITEMS Wednesday 15th June

ITEMS FOR ADVERTISING MANAGER
Limited space on waiting list for Linton businesses

Changes to ads can be sent to: Judith Rouse
email: adds@linton.info

ITEMS FOR THE EDITOR

Can be put in the Linton News Box in the Post Office

Editor: Fran Armes email: lneditor@linton.info
phone 891517

For distribution queries contact: Caroline Mulley
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LINTON DIARY

For entry in this list, ensure that your event is written into the diary in the Post Office; failure to do so could mean non-entry to the diary here. You may also email your event details to diary@linton.info. Call 971797 for an audio version of the Linton News.

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

WEEKLY

Seedlings, alternate Mondays 1.15-2.45pm CC
Netball, Monday evenings, 6.30pm junior, 7.30pm adult LVC
Chestnutbaby/toddlergroup, 9.30-11.30am Monday term time CC
Linton Granta football bingo, 7pm Mondays Pavilion
Men's keep fit, 8-9.30pm Mondays LVC sports centre
Chestnut playgroup sessions Tues-Fri term time CC
Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701)
WEA, Tuesdays, 10am term-time VH
Linton Air Cadets Mon and Thurs 7-9.30pm (07717801056) LVC
Scrabble Club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays CP
Linton Granta playgrp, 9am-12noon Monday-Friday LVC
Linton Granta Toddler grp, 9.30-11.30 Tuesdays term time LVC
Linton Granta playgrp, 12.30-2.30pm Mon-Fri, NOT Tues LVC
Storytime, 2-2.30pm Tuesdays, term-time Library
Granta Bridge club, 2pm Tuesdays VH
Granta duplicate bridge club, 2-4pm Tuesdays VH
IT club-computer help, 7pm Tuesdays CC
Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays (893509) CC
Tots in tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays term time only VH
Jelly Beans playgroup, 9-11.30am Thursdays URC
New Beginnings (with Baby Sensory), 1.15-2.45pm, Thursdays CC
Computer buddies, 2-4pm, Thursdays Library
Dance Fit, 6.45pm, Thursdays from May LVC Dance Studio
Cricknet club, 6-8pm Thursdays RG, LVC
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays VH
Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, 9.15-10am Fridays CP
Stay and Play, Fridays 10am – 11.30am CC
St Mary's church choir, 7-8.30pm Fridays St Mary's
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays CC
For sports centre courses please call LVC sports centre on 890248

JUNE 2016

4 Fire station car wash and bake off, 10am-4pm FS
6 Camera Club, 7.15pm CC
7 **WI, 7.30pm** VH
8 Community navigator, 10-12noon HC
9 ACE trip to Wroxham, 9.30am D&D
9 AGM village hall trustees, 7.30pm VH upstairs
10 **Conquest reconciliation talk, 7pm** Hadstock Church
11 Barn dance and ceilidh band, 6pm St Mary's
12 Lighthouse, 10.15am URC
13 Whist drive, 7.30pm VH
14 VIP group, 2pm Chalklands
15 Cambridge Hearing Help, 9.30am – 12noon HC
15 Coffee morning, 10.30am URC
16 Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm CC
17 Daylight readers, 10.30am Library
17 **Garden Party, 2-4pm** Symonds House
17 Infant school summer fair, 5-7pm LIS
17 **Darryl Nantais anniversary exhibition opens** Gallery
18 **Hadstock Fête day, 1.30- 5.30pm** Hadstock
19 Walking group, 11am Church Lane
19 Messy Church, 2.30pm St Mary's
25 **Fun evening, hog roast with Accelerants, 7.30pm** LVC

JULY 2016

2 **Farmers' market / LVC entrepreneurs, 9-12noon** LVC
3 **Reconciliation service, 9.30am** Hadstock Church
4 Camera club, 7.15pm CC
5 **WI, 7.30pm** VH
6 **Open Day Chestnut playgroup** CC

KEY: CC Cathodeon centre, CP church pavilion, D&D Dog and Duck, HC health centre, LH Linton Heights school, LIS Linton Infant school, LVC Linton village college, RG recreation ground, URC United Reformed church, VH village hall.
Library times: Mon closed; Tue 10am-5pm; Wed 4pm-7pm; Thurs 2pm-5pm; Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-1pm.
Linton refuse collection: Monday 6th and Monday 20th June
Linton recycling collection: Monday 13th Monday 27th June

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Cricketing big bash a Bank Holiday success



The winning team

Picture supplied by Daren Leech

ON Sunday 1st May, Linton Village Cricket Club hosted its second MR Barber charity match. Despite a cold snap and gloomy forecasts throughout the preceding week, warm sunshine provided a great backdrop for the event. There were plenty of supporting attractions around the pavilion for both cricket lovers and village socialites - with cool drinks, fine food and a sell-out concert by Linton rockers, *The Accelerants*.

On the cricket field, the MR Barbers Select XI reclaimed their trophy from Linton. Captain Sam Prior led the charge, hitting a 'super six' to retire on 30 runs along with his Linton based team mate Oly North. Their contribution led to a challenging run total for Linton to chase after tea. LVCC's Stuart Tinsley entertained spectators with a spirited attack, targeting narrow outfield gaps and notching up a number of quick

boundaries. Gavin Bowie and George Crooks scored too, but some fine fielding from the MR Barber team limited the Linton strike rate.

The aim of the event was to provide a fun day out for all and to raise money for both Linton Village Cricket Club (Junior Section) and the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

Away from the field of play, Janine Polley managed to sell over £800 worth of raffle tickets - a fantastic effort that added to a healthy charitable total for two good causes. After presenting the trophy, cricket club chairman Steve Foulds expressed his gratitude to everyone who had supported the event, including many local businesses that donated to the prize draw. Mr Foulds couldn't help pointing out however, "that with the score now at 1-1, next year's game between the two teams should be an even bigger event".

Darren Leech

Local award winners

AMONG the seven FA Community Awards presented by the Cambridgeshire FA a local club and a local individual have been honoured.

The outstanding contribution to community football went to Alan O'Dell of Linton Granta FC who has been the outstanding volunteer at the pavilion on the Meadow for a number of seasons. Among his many voluntary duties are groundsman, pitch preparation on match days, barman, player, social events organiser, and an astute Treasurer.

Linton Aztecs were awarded Charter Standard Club of the Year in recognition of the number of teams they manage providing football for all age groups in the village.

The winners were decided by a panel of judges following a nomination process held over the spring and are now in with a chance of winning a regional award. "It was pleasing to receive so many nominations from local people who appreciate the commitment and enthusiasm put in by so many volunteers to make local football happen" said Cambs FA Chief Executive Chris Pringle.

The winners will be invited to a presentation event and receive tickets to the FA Community Shield. Good Luck to both our winners in the Regional Finals.

Brian Manley Cambs FA

Historical Society

IN April we welcomed Tony Kirby talking about the history of English seaside resorts.

Until the mid 1700s, coastal towns and villages were sheltered away from the sea. Beaches and jetties were for fishing or trading. Only the wealthy could afford holidays such as the Grand Tour or visiting one of the mostly inland English spas.

Scarborough had a popular spa, but in 1660 a local doctor recommended bathing and drinking sea water. Visitors flocked there, and the introduction of bathing machines, hauled into the sea by donkeys, ensured the privacy of bathers.

By the end of the 18th century, the Napoleonic Wars meant that the continent was not safe. Dramatic coastal scenery became more appreciated and Royal patronage gave the new UK resorts a certain cachet.

Gradually the middle classes aspired to seaside holidays and even retirement. However, it was the advent of the railways that allowed day excursions for the masses. Local councils and land owners rose to the challenge, providing a wide range of accommodation, promenades, piers with theatres, and transport facilities. Entertainments appeared and, of course, shops.

The famous railway posters provided great publicity and the invention of the 'Cornish Riviera' opened up an unexplored part of the country.

The post war popularity of holiday camps suffered greatly from the introduction of cheap overseas holidays in the 1960s and also the dismantling of the rail network.

More recently, several resorts have attempted a revival, with family friendly attractions and cultural opportunities.

Pat Faircloth, 893928

History of Saffron Walden

SAFFRON Walden began as a Saxon settlement called Weala-denu which was carved out of a forest near a river.

This information came from our speaker Linda Ketteridge, a voluntary guide at Audley End House. After the Norman Conquest, Geoffrey de Mandeville was given the land. He started building the castle and founded a monastery, which later became Audley End House. His land was later stripped from him when he took the wrong side in a civil war between claimants for the throne. With the coming of the market, the town was renamed Chipping Walden, chipping meaning market. After Geoffrey, the trade guilds ruled the town, whose wealth came from the wool trade and it was decided to build the biggest church in Essex.

The area was ideally suited to growing saffron, used for dyeing and medicinally. It was said to be twice the price of gold. One theory is that pilgrims visiting the monastery brought the saffron corms from the Middle East inside their staffs. The crocus features in the church, on the town crest, and in pargetting on the buildings. Nobody is sure when the town's name was changed to Saffron Walden.

The Gibsons, a Quaker family, grew to prominence in the 1700s, opening a maltings and a family bank (later incorporated into Barclays). They were also instrumental in the building of Bridge End Gardens. Their wealth was the backbone of the town. One of the Gibson girls married into the Fry family, also Quakers, who own Bridge End Gardens and let it out to the council.

The politician, Rab Butler, MP for the area for 36 years, had to have special permission to be buried in St Mary's churchyard, as burials now have to be in Littlebury.

Our next meeting is on 7th June and the talk will be *England our England* by Rex Freeman. Visitors and new members always welcome.

Sally Proberts, 891021

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I am the owner and opened the wine shop in November 2015, after having relocated from Manchester to Horseheath the previous year.

I have worked in the wine trade for over 20 years. I also managed Oddbins' stores during their '90s heyday, then worked with independent wine importers including several years specialising in organic wines. I have a wealth of experience advising countless customers - be it someone wanting an easy drinking bottle for Friday evening or a Michelin starred restaurant matching a wine to a signature dish. I even selected the wines for my own wedding and am still happily married.

I set up Case Solved Wines



Always ready to help

Picture supplied by Adrian

in Manchester in 2012, supplying wines via home delivery and events, with the emphasis on small, independent producers, including organic, and a personal service. All wines are available by the bottle, purchased from the shop, or delivery within Linton free of charge for six bottles. Orders can be discussed with me personally at the store, or placed on the website.

Opening hours are Wednesday 2-6pm, Friday 2-6pm and Saturday 11am-2pm.
www.casesolvedwines.co.uk

Adrian Watts

LVC students develop their entrepreneurial skills

YEAR 8 students at Linton Village College have been developing their entrepreneurial skills by forming small 'businesses' in their Food and Nutrition and Design Technology lessons this term.

The students have been designing, making and marketing their own products, which will now be on sale to the public at two events in July.

The Food and Nutrition groups have been baking a range of tasty goods including sausage rolls, pizza, flapjacks, cookies and cakes, while Design Technology students have been using the college workshops to create products such as bird feeders and plant growing kits. By taking part in the Enterprise Project, students aged 12 and 13 are learning business skills, enterprise and teamwork as well as practical skills for the future.

By designing, making, advertising and selling their own products, they learn to understand how business works and take their products

all the way through from the initial idea to the final production", said Rebecca Landshoff, Programme Leader for Food and Nutrition.

The products will be on sale at the Farmers' Market at the school on Saturday 2nd July, and at a special Trade Exhibition to be held in the common rooms at the college from 3-5pm on Thursday 7th July.

Please contact me if you need any further information on 891233 Ext 344 or tony.kelly@lvc.org

Tony Kelly

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LINTON COUNTRY MATTERS

Illustrated by Maureen Williams



Chack, chack - it must be a jackdaw

THIS month, following a cacophony on our chimney, I wanted to take a look at jackdaws, the smallest member of the crow family, and officially known as *Corvus Monedula*. What a racket they make, and how entertaining they are to watch. Chack chack – chack chack – chack chack for hours on end. I think the phrase *strutting your stuff* must have been invented for them.

Jackdaws are a lot smaller than crows and rooks, jet black, 33 cm long, with pale eyes, having a distinctive silvery sheen to the back of their heads, and are as common as muck throughout the UK with the exception of the Scottish Highlands.

Extremely sociable, they join with rooks and crows in roosting communally, living in fields, parks, gardens and woods and seem especially partial to towers and chimneys in cathedral ruins and old abbeys. They feed on insects, seeds and fruit, and very occasionally, I was disappointed to learn, on other birds' eggs. But, as a redeeming feature, they pair bond and are devoted to each other for years, even when unsuccessful in breeding.

Which brings me back to nesting. Last month we had four of them on our chimneys – they brought well over 100 twigs and

quite large sticks day after day, most of which fell down the chimney or down the roof, blocking the gutters and even impaling themselves in the thatch. After all that effort and noise, they cleared off to our neighbour across the road. Clearly we are not good enough for them. However having them here brought forth a few jackdaw stories from visitors.

They are well known to be intelligent (except perhaps in nest building) and up the road in Madingley they did a research project proving that jackdaws could recognise human faces and distinguish between them.

I have a relative who had a pet jackdaw at school in the fifties, fed on bread and milk. Every day the jackdaw used to wait for him between classes and sit on his shoulder for a few minutes. But one day disaster struck. If you are sensitive, look away now. The cook was making milk pudding, and the window was wide open. In flew the jackdaw, straight into a vat of boiling milk. The cook grabbed him and threw him out, but over the course of the next few days all his feathers fell out. But all ended happily as the boys nursed him till his feathers grew again. They had a ceremonial test of his flying, all went well and he was never seen again.

Oriel O'Loughlin



POT POURRI 135

Area of the Coin Space

WHEN three 50p coins are brought together by their vertex, there is a curved triangular space. The coin diameter is 27.3mm.

What is the area of the triangular space (to two decimal places)?

Solution to 134 - How many Internet users?
There were 1060 internet users that were neither iPhone nor landline users.

Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bus timetable changes

THE County Council has received registrations to alter the Stagecoach bus services timetables for 13, 13A, 13B, 13C and X13 buses.

For Monday to Friday peak departure times, especially when schools are open, there will be increased journey times to improve reliability. There will be no change to Monday to Friday off-peak, Saturday or Sunday journeys. The changes took place on May 1st 2016.

LNT

Symonds House garden party

ON Friday 17th June from 2-4pm we at Symonds House are holding a garden party (weather permitting) to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday, together with National Care Homes Open Day. Everyone is welcome to this event – the more the merrier.

Julie Cleland, Care home manager, 891237

Hildersham News

It's Teatime

TEATIME will be back to its familiar day, the first Thursday of the month, 2nd June with tea served from 3.00-4.30pm in the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome to come for the whole afternoon or just to pop in. Tea and home-made cakes £1, children 50p.

Village Lunch

THE next Hildersham village lunch will be at 1pm on Thursday 16th June, in the Village Hall. Doors open at 12.30pm and tickets cost £4. To book, please contact Jill on 893596, edheale@btinternet.com.

Hildersham lecture

THE next lecture will take place at 7.30pm on 24th June in Hildersham Church when Andrew Westwood-Bate will mark the centenary of the Battle of the Somme with an illustrated talk. Tickets £5, U18s free. Refreshments are served before the talk and are included in the price of the ticket.

Shakespeare in the Wood 30th July

SUMMER wouldn't be summer in Hildersham without Shakespeare in the Wood. David Hart, Director of the Outspoken Theatre Company writes: 'You may know it is Shakespeare 400 this year, the 400th anniversary of his death, so a big year for Shakespeare fans. Therefore, this summer we will be taking on the biggest and most famous challenge of all - Hamlet.'

This will be performed as usual in The Old School Wood adjacent to the church car park. Picnics and popping corks by the audience mark the start of the production.

Seats are provided but many people prefer to bring their own comfortable garden chairs – and a rug. 'Curtain up' at 6.30pm.

Tickets remain at £10, U18's £5 and are available on the gate or by contacting Cathy Myer. For further information please contact me on 892848 or catherinemeyer43@btinternet.com
Cathy Myer

Happy Birthday Ma'am

THE under-fives celebrated the Queen's birthday at Linton Library on Tuesday 19th April. Our volunteers Barbara and Linda read stories of queens and princesses. They also helped each child to make their own crown to take home.

Liz Cox, Community Library Assistant



Making crowns to mark the Queen's birthday

Picture by Charlotte Westdijk

June events at Wandlebury

CAMBRIDGE Past Present and Future offers:

Moth Trapping, Saturday 11th June, 7-9am. Meet up and head down to the moth traps, to discover the different kinds of delicate moths that have accumulated during the night. Meet at Wandlebury stable rooms. Advance booking essential.

Conservation Volunteer Day: Ragwort Removal, Sunday 26th June, 10am-4pm. Help the Cambridge Past Present and Future team to pull up this weed so the grasslands can be safely grazed or used for hay. Drop in any time, follow signs from the car park. Gloves must be worn and will be provided.

Lorna Gough

PLODDING ALONG An update on police matters

SOMETIME between 5pm on the 16th May and 4pm on the 17th May unknown offender(s) entered a garage on Back Road, and three bikes were reported stolen. The crime number for this is CF0204430516.

Sometime on the weekend of 11th May an unknown offender caused damage to the green post box mounted on railings around Linton village hall in Coles Lane.

Petrol was syphoned from a vehicle parked in Cambridge Road whilst the owner was away between 24th April and 7th May. The vehicle was parked in a designated open parking area.

Between 7pm on Tuesday 26th April and 7am on the 27th April a business premises in Balsham Road was broken into. A side door was forced open. Once inside the suspect(s) broke into a cash till and went through cupboards. Cash and alcohol were stolen.

PCSOs Alice Tasker and Chris Wiseman, Sawston police station

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Is planning a party or club on your 'To Do' List?
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The Marsh mail



HENRY Morris, Secretary of Education for Cambridge from 1922 to 1954, was the pioneer for village colleges. His ideals were based on schools being at the heart of their local communities to support lifelong learning. An extract from his 1925 paper proposes:

"There would be no 'leaving school' - the child would enter at three and leave the college only in extreme old age... The village college could lie athwart the daily lives of the community it served; and in it the conditions would be realised under which education would not be an escape from reality, but an enrichment and transformation of it."

I have been fortunate to work at four village colleges in Cambridgeshire. I am proud that the *cradle to grave* learning philosophy of schooling still rings true at LVC 79 years after its opening, with two year olds on site at the Granta Playgroup and older local residents benefiting from the school's facilities at evenings and weekends.

However, while there has been a historical reputation for a thriving and varied programme of adult education at Linton Village College, its profile and participation numbers have dwindled in recent years.

With a wealth of other learning opportunities locally and online, it is perhaps unsurprising that we have seen the volume of adult learners decline.

We are keen to rejuvenate LVC's adult learning provision to make it sustainable and to ensure that it meets the needs and interests of the local community. Central to this is having the support and commitment of local residents and someone with expertise to drive it.

We are looking to appoint someone on a part-time basis to lead adult education at LVC and to provide the necessary energy, enthusiasm and skills to make it a vibrant aspect of village life once again.

If you are interested in finding out more about the role of Community Education Manager, please contact Ian Simmons, the school's Head of Business and Enterprise Faculty, at ian.simmons@lvc.org.

Helena Marsh, Principal

Assandun Millennium Ashdon, Hadstock and Saffron Walden Museum celebrate the battle of Assandun



IN 1016 the Saxons fought the Danes at a place called Assandun. The Danes - led by Cnut [Canute] - won. Soon afterwards Cnut became King of all England. This was a turning point in our national story - just as much as the more famous battle of Hastings in 1066.

Four years later, in 1020, Cnut returned to Assandun and founded a church there for those who had been killed - not just for his own side.

Where was Assandun? Was it around what we now call Ashdon and Hadstock? Was the church Cnut founded Hadstock church - with its 11th century door?

Come and explore the evidence with us. Our programme of events from May to October has something for everyone to enjoy, to learn and to reflect.

Wherever it was, the battle raises major themes - war and peace, conflict and reconciliation, Christianity and kingship, heroism and treachery - all as relevant now as in 1016.

Events for June and early July

Friday 10th June at 7pm in St Botolph's Church: Professor Simon Keynes, FBA and Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, in a talk on *Conquest and Reconciliation, 1016-23* will show how King Cnut embarked on program of reconciliation. Entry is free, refreshments available (donations to Friends of St Botolph's).

Saturday 18th June: The Annual Hadstock Fête Day takes place between 1.30pm and 5pm. This year, it combines with special extra events for the Millennium.

The re-enactors Regia Anglorum mingle with the crowds: watch an Anglo-Saxon marriage, listen to early music, and see local finds from the Saffron Walden Museum.

Try our new quiz about St Botolph's church and you may even be able to add a stitch (or two) to our Millennium Tapestry.

Sunday 19th June, 6.30pm: Choral Evensong at St Botolph's. Sung by the choir of St Mary's Saffron Walden, with the Bishop of Colchester preaching.

Sunday 3rd July, 9.30am: Service at St Botolph's - Reconciliation: 1016, 1916, and 2016. A service commemorating the centenary of another conflict which touched lives in Hadstock - the Battle of the Somme.

Sunday 17th July at 12.30pm: at Hadstock village hall: A village picnic and hog roast. More details and tickets from Facebook.com/HadstockVillageHall.

For further information and contacts:
General Programme: the Reverend Paula Griffiths, 01799 599141: paula.greatford@btinternet.com
Hadstock Fête: general - Brendan Burchell 07760 178200: bb101@cam.ac.uk or Tim Boyden (see below)
Hadstock Fête: re-enactments - Tim Boyden, 892746: t.k.boyden@btinternet.com site: <http://battleofassandun.org/>

Another bumper year for charity football match

ON Sunday 24th April, the eighth annual charity football match in memory of Alf Hughes from the Village took place on Linton recreation ground. A good crowd turned out to watch Aztecs vets play Linton Granta vets. A fortuitous long range punt from Ashley Dellow gave Aztecs a first half lead but Linton finally got the goal their pressure deserved with a James Ryan scrambled effort in the dying minutes. The penalty shoot-out saw the usually imperious Peter Richardson miss the deciding spot kick so handing the cup to Aztecs for the second year running.

Alf was heavily involved with boys' football in the village, and after the veterans match there was a mini-tournament consisting of boys from the two Aztecs under 12 teams. Alf passed away in 2008 and the last years of his life were afflicted with Parkinson's, a progressive neurological condition that affects 1 in 500 people in the UK.

A post match barbecue and raffle, along with player match fees and an extremely generous contribution of £250 from the Granta Football Club helped raise £1,005. The event has now raised a total of £4,707 which has gone to help *Parkinson's UK* (parkinsons.org.uk) find a cure for the disease.

The Hughes Family would like to say a big thank you to all players for their efforts and match fee contributions, Linton Granta football club and those who worked in the pavilion on the day, Dusty Saunders, Peter Hounsom, Emily Saunders and to various local businesses for generous contributions to the raffle.

Stuart Hughes 0779 661 3366

The Darryl Nantais Gallery

NOT many villages can boast an art gallery in the middle of the High Street but Linton is an exception.

It is now 15 years since The Darryl Nantais Gallery opened its doors in a renovated property which had once been a butchers' shop in Chapel Terrace.

The Gallery opened with a successful solo exhibition of Darryl Nantais' work. Karl Backhurst, the owner, then began a core of support and interest for local artists as well as artists with an international following. The Gallery is also very proud of their framing and restoration service, with an eye for detail and strong quality of work ethic.

Karl had worked in finance in the City but had always been interested in art and especially that of Darryl Nantais, so taking on the gallery was a natural progression for him.

Karl's philosophy is to make the gallery approachable and non-intimidating, to give visitors a warm welcome and to encourage those who may be put off by the word 'art'.



Karl at the gallery

Picture by Sarah Hurcum

Several years ago, inspired by the work around him, Karl started to paint and has had his own exhibition with Darryl at which he was thrilled to sell several paintings. He is now taking the gallery to a wider audience by taking part in events such as the Art Fairs in Cambridge and Chester. He uses the gallery's own website as well as social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter and Youtube. Karl says that it's not compulsory to make a purchase in the gallery, just come in, look around and enjoy it.

An exhibition to celebrate the 15 year anniversary is planned for the middle of June, opening with a private viewing on Friday 17th June featuring a selection of work by the gallery's local artists.

Sarah Hurcum

The Great Gigsby

Saturday 25th June 7.30-11.30pm

THE Friends of Linton Village College are going to be holding this summer event of live music, dancing and eating. We will be making use of the main hall at the college which will have been decorated for the Year 11 Leavers' Ball with a Great Gatsby theme. We will be providing a hog roast and music by local band, The Accelerants. Tickets will be £10 each and will include the hog roast. There will be a licensed bar and the event is for over 18s only. Tickets are available from LVC reception 891233 or Steve Kiddy 07879 832282. You can email friends@lvc.org

All money raised will go back into the school enhancing the environment for the pupils.

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/0532/16/DC. Estia Developments Ltd, **Land between 12 and 14 Joiners Road**. Discharge of conditions 3 (Materials) and 7 (Traffic Management) of planning permission S/3055/15/FL.

S/0848/16/LD. Mr & Mrs Lee Whiteley, **1 Hollybush Way**. Certificate of lawful development for a loft conversion with dormer windows and velux windows.

S/0921/16/FL and S/0924/16/LB Sally Nickalls, **Little Linton House, Cambridge Road**. Erection of a brick earth-retaining flood defence wall and steps. Re-shaping and resurfacing of a gravel turning circle. Re-shaping of an existing ditch feeding the River Granta.

S/1005/16/FL. Mr & Mrs Powell, **Land adjacent 8 Green Lane**. Erection of one dwelling, garage, revised garage for No 8 Green Lane, alterations to access/front boundary wall, alterations to garden wall and driveway/parking area.

S/1006/16/FL. Mr & Mrs Powell, **Land adjacent 8 Green Lane**. Alterations to front boundary and garden walls.

S/1023/16/FL. Mr James O'Malley, **7 Bakers Lane**. Proposed garage block with flat above (future annex).

S/1156/16/FL. Mr & Mrs S & J MacArthur, **17 Rivey Way**. Two storey side extension.



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Parish Council Matters Chairman's annual report

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

LIFE at the parish council has not been easy over the last few years, with more responsibilities coming our way from local councils and the potential of the Localism Bill filtering down. It is an interesting time, a time of change. To handle these responsibilities, and to get the most from our money, we need to operate more like a business, and have the structures and procedures in place that allow this. We have used the wide experience of councillors in professional and business life to begin to put into place proper documentation and clear working procedures. We sometimes use external consultants and groups to help us, so that we are sure we are legally compliant. Yes, more bureaucracy, but essential if our case is to be properly made.

The arrival of our new parish clerk has also brought a fresh view to aspects of running the council. Sue Parry has retired, although she is still part of the village hall staff, to be replaced by Marilyn Strand. This staff change has started well and, with the continued support of Anne Meeks, the work of the council will be carried out efficiently and effectively. Chris Filby is keeping the village looking tidy. Thank you to all parish council staff for your good work through difficult times.

The style of meetings has changed, with working parties looking at issues and presenting solutions or proposals for council decisions. This helps the council to be more effective and efficient.

The clerk enables the decisions of the council to be carried out, but the decisions, projects and ideas come from the councillors. Project groups now develop these and bring them to fruition; some of the councillor-led projects completed this year include:

- Re-configuring the banks, creating flood defences and planting at the recreation ground.
- Floodplain restorations work at Leadwell Meadows, including re-digging and clearing ditches and the pond, replacing bridges, widening paths, clearing dead trees and generally making the area a village asset for residents and wildlife. A fence along the A1307 edge has now defined the area and made it safer for all.
- The paths and roads in the cemetery have been revised and re-surfaced, making the area more dignified and safe for visitors, with more space for ashes interments.
- The old pond area has been cleared and terraced - another space to be used more effectively.
- Rivey Lane ditch has been redug and cleared of scrub, what a difference that made to the area, and has stopped the cemetery ashes area from flooding.
- The Market Square parking has been clarified and oak posts added to protect listed buildings and soon details will be added to define parking rights. Meanwhile markets have again been held here - a popular addition to village activities. Next one on Mayday!
- The area of the village sign/Swan Bridge is slowly being revised,

resident involvement is needed.

- We have a Community Orchard! The turnout to help planting was so heart warming - so many good hearted people - thank you all. Help is still needed to keep the new trees watered.

- The bridge and rails at Horn Lane are being repaired, and the banks have been cleared ready for renovation and replanting. Soon the road leading to the Ford will be restored to its normal level, the gravel having been washed away by river flooding. That will make it a safer area for people and for cars using the Ford and Horn Lane.

- We obtained funding for halfgates at village entrances, designed to highlight the slower speeds within Linton, thanks to the Minor Highways Improvements Initiative. The remaining items in the disability access and safety scheme, we will complete ourselves.

- We now have a Facebook page, and have updated the parish website - the ongoing involvement of Nicola Miller is much appreciated. We continue working to improve communications.

A major project is the Neighbourhood Plan, with Linton and Hildersham working together on this resident based project, ably led by Cllr Poulter with support from our consultant, Corrie Newell, and much help from South Cambridgeshire district council. We should soon be putting this to residents for consultation, and thank all who are working on this legally binding plan that will protect and direct the future of our villages.

Our finances are in good shape, thanks to good management by Cllr Potter and the finance committee. We have funds to complete many long overdue repairs, renovations and to initiate more improvements. These will include major projects on the recreation ground and working with other village groups on projects of community benefit - residents' ideas and input are most welcome.

There have been some contentious planning applications, especially those on the Horseheath and Bartlow Roads. We are a large village, a minor rural centre, and what happens here can affect other villages - for example, if there are more places needed at our local schools, places would no longer be available for pupils from other villages; a knock-on effect of any large scale developments. We continue to fight these inappropriate and unsustainable speculative applications; they do not meet village needs and exacerbate the problems we already have, such as traffic, parking, drainage, lack of affordable housing and bungalows, protection of archaeology, increase in flooding, etc.

The South Cambridgeshire Local Plan remains under review, leaving Linton vulnerable to planning applications beyond the village envelope. This does not mean that we are not helping with the requirement for housing - in the last three years around 50

new houses have been built in the village, as well as extensions and improvements to existing homes. We have identified space for around the same number within the village envelope - we do not need more estates.

Despite years of work, allotments have still not been secured, and negotiations for compulsory purchase must await the decision on the Diocese planning application at Horseheath Road.

It would not be my speech without mentioning trees! Tree and hedge planting, care and watering is now in the safe hands of our new tree warden, Cllr Beatrice Ward, ably helped by Sophia. Susan Anderson continues to advise and continue her creative and excellent work. So our tree works and planting schemes continue to grow (as it were).

The expansion of Haverhill and Saffron Walden continues to send more traffic onto the A1307, badly affecting us and other villages. Improving the A1307 would leave us open to substantial unsustainable development. Any new roads would have to be funded by extensive development in our area. We continue to oppose the plans that threaten this. However, we are practical; we are promoting a road from Haverhill to the M11 to take traffic from both of these areas. Recent meetings on transport in the region have brought new ideas on bus, light rail and rail links around Cambridge. One 'hub' would be just where the village proposed link road to Haverhill would meet the M11. The City Deal will give some improvements in public transport, but we await news on exactly what is proposed. The parish council will work with anyone else who is willing to help in order to protect our village.

We have welcomed a new councillor, Amy Smith, already doing sterling work, and said farewell to Jacque Wilson, Jan Bumstead, Nicola Miller and Paul Richardson. Jan is now working with the Children's Centre, and her knowledge was vital in helping with staff welfare issues. We thank Nicola for her continued input on our Facebook page and website.

Parish councillors have their own working, professional and family lives, and freely give their time to the parish council. We now have vacancies for four councillors, and would appreciate new representation and skills from all areas of the village and all personal and professional interests. We are currently forging links to other villages, with village schools, landowners and other groups, so that we can work together on issues of mutual concern. Your input might be just what we need.

Thank you to those councillors who have contributed so much to the parish and the village, and to everyone else who has worked over the past year with the interests of the village at heart.

Please join us in working for the village - it is our home and we want the best for it. Thank you.

Cllr Enid Bald



The Hundred Parishes Society

OUR area offers no end of opportunities for those who enjoy lovely countryside, attractive villages and places of interest. It is exceptionally rich in heritage and footpaths and well served by welcoming pubs and tea rooms.

We encourage you to explore somewhere local that you have not visited for a while, perhaps never even heard of. There is a

list of all the hundred parishes on our website:

www.hundredparishes.org.uk
They appear on a diagrammatic map and each has a short introduction.

Most parishes have at least one ancient church. Although a third are usually locked, the majority are open to view and have leaflets explaining key features. If you enjoy looking

round, please record your visit in their visitor book and drop some coins in the donation box. Most of the area's attractions are now open for the summer - a wonderful and varied choice of museums, gardens, galleries, windmills, stately home, zoo, etc. Most are listed on our website's Attractions pages with a link to their own website for opening times, etc.

There are also a number of nature reserves, most of which can be visited at any time.

Our website What's On page lists specific events and opportunities. It is regularly updated and currently includes more than a hundred activities that are consistent with our aims to increase knowledge, enjoyment and conservation.

We rely on funding from

membership subscriptions to keep our website live and to be able to expand the services we provide. Membership costs only £10 a year for a household, a council or any other organisation. If you are not already a member, please consider joining - the easiest way is to go to our website and select the Membership option.
Ken McDonald, secretary

Thank you

A BIG thank you to all residents who attended the annual meeting of the parish held at the village hall on Tuesday 26th April.

The views expressed at the meeting were very helpful to the parish council and a good number of attendees is always appreciated.

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Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the Linton parish council (LPC/PC) meeting held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 21st April 2016.

Present: Cllr Enid Bald (chairman); Cllr Paul Poulter (vice-chair); Cllr David Champion; Cllr Dr Brian Cox; Cllr Simon Hill; Cllr Brian Manley; Cllr Graham Potter; Cllr Amy Smith; Cllr Dr Beatrice Ward. Clerk: Marilyn Strand. District and county Cllr Roger Hickford.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs Alison Walker and Merrie Mannassi. District Cllr Henry Batchelor.

Councillor vacancies: LPC has four councillor vacancies.

Councillors' declaration of interest: Cllr Poulter declared a personal interest in the planning update on S/1963/15/OL and S/1969/15/OL item. Cllr Champion declared a personal interest in the correspondence PCSO request to hire Cathodeon Centre free of charge item. Cllr Hill declared a personal interest in the update on allotments item.

Chairman's comment: A forum on regional transport issues had taken place and a report from this is eagerly awaited. (This was a drop-in session and was attended by the chairman.)

Planning matters: A report from Cllr Bald on South Cambridgeshire district council's (SCDC) planning forum meeting held on 22nd March was available in meeting folders and this was noted. Information from this meeting resulted in Cllrs Poulter and Bald, along with the PC's planning consultant, meeting the planning officer to discuss the Horseheath Road application.

Update on S/1963/15/OL Bartlow Road and S/1969/15/OL Horseheath Road: It was reported that responses to the Horseheath Road application from statutory consultees are puzzling as some conclusions had changed from their previous responses. The PC is looking into this with the help of its planning consultant. Officers at SCDC are being as helpful as possible although they are under a lot of pressure with speculative planning applications at present.

District and county councillors' reports & business: Cllr Batchelor had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted.

Cllr Hickford said that there seemed to be growing support for devolution between Cambridgeshire and Peterborough as opposed to three-county devolution between Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

The caretaker's house on Dolphin Close has fallen into a worse state of repair. Cllr Hickford said that this is being dealt with as a matter of urgency and there should be some positive news on this within the next few months.

This is Cllr Hickford's last meeting with LPC as district councillor, although he will continue as its county councillor for another year. The chairman thanked Cllr Hickford for his service to the PC as a district councillor. Cllr Hickford left the meeting at 7:54pm.

Beacon Trust s137 grant - to agree the first staged payment: This decision was deferred. Cllr Poulter will contact the Beacon Trust to find out when their full programme of youth work will start so that the PC can decide how to stage the payments. It was stated that there had been a noticeable increase in anti-social behaviour of young people in the village since this work had stopped.

National living wage: It was noted that in compliance with legislation which came into force on 1st April 2016, all PC staff are being paid the new national living wage, or above.

Office photocopier: To consider quotations for a new photocopier/scanner for the PC office: The finance committee had considered this at its meeting earlier today and recommended leasing rather than buying a new photocopier. It was proposed by Cllr Smith to accept quotation from CBS Office Solutions on a five-year lease (to be paid quarterly), and the proposal was seconded by Cllr Cox. All agreed.

Procedures review working group: Cllr Bald had sent a final report from the meeting held on 3rd March and this was noted. Cllr Champion said that staff contracts should be reviewed as soon as possible and this was noted.

Grounds maintenance contract: A full refund had been

received from CGM Landscapes concerning work not carried out in Leadwell Meadows last season and Cllr Poulter thanked the clerk for obtaining this. Cllrs Bald, Manley, Mannassi and Ward will meet to finalise the specifications for tendering for the grounds maintenance contracts.

Recreation ground play equipment: To consider quotations to repair area around the carousel: Following discussion, councillors agreed that it would be better to replace the grass surface with wet pour tarmac which would be more hard-wearing and last longer. It was proposed by Cllr Potter to accept the quotation for this work from RTC Safety Surfaces for £3,078+VAT and the proposal was seconded by Cllr Manley. All agreed.

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) street lighting: Several residents had written with queries about the switching off of lights overnight. Councillors agreed that, whilst they sympathise with residents' issues with street lighting, all queries of this nature should be referred to CCC.

Local handyman services: Work to Horn Lane bridge area and the access to the river ford is being progressed with Ian Blackman.

Update on Swan Bridge: Following a response from Mr Jackson, it was agreed that councillors should meet him at the bridge to discuss this further. Cllr Potter said that the bridge engineer from CCC had been involved because the bridge belongs to CCC; the PC had needed permission from CCC before carrying out any work to the bridge.

Update on the Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Poulter had sent an update to councillors earlier that day via email. He reported that slight changes to the rules around Neighbourhood Plans would mean that two of the working groups would have to rethink some of their policies. For example, the current policy regarding the rules around housing on the south of the A1307 had been breached and are therefore currently under review.

Update on allotments: It appears that for the Horseheath Road application, the legally binding agreement to provide village-owned allotments has been withdrawn, and they are no longer part of the s106 document. It was agreed that the PC should publicise this widely through various medias including Facebook, Cambridge newspapers and local television news. Cllr Poulter will draft an article for publication. The PC had not been informed of this by the Diocese but had been made aware of it during a meeting at SCDC, and through its planning consultant.

Update on Leadwell Meadows: The work is progressing well. The fence is being erected and looks very pleasing. The chairman thanked Mr Charles Fairey who had helped to unload materials and has been storing them on his land for safekeeping. His help is very much appreciated.

A record of rainfall and water levels has been kept for many years by Mr Ashley Edgar, who lives adjacent to Leadwell Meadows. Using this resource the PC could gauge the effect of the floodplain restoration work. The chairman thanked Mr Edgar and said that his input was very much appreciated.

River restoration work: Cllr Bald explained that following a meeting with AJ Prentice, and in consultation with Rob Mungovan (ecology consultancy officer at SCDC), further work was necessary to restore and reshape the banks and clear unwanted growth and debris. It was proposed by Cllr Ward that the work recommended by Mr Mungovan should be undertaken in order to finish the project. Cllr Poulter said that the floodplain restoration had become a flagship project for the PC and agreed that the extra work should be carried out. It was proposed by Cllr Manley to spend up to £2,500, being 5 days' work by AJ Prentice, and the proposal was seconded by Cllr Ward. All agreed.

Cattle grazing on the meadows: It was agreed that it is too soon to consider grazing animals on the meadow as the work there has not yet been completed. However, councillors would like to reconsider this matter later in the year.

Flood amelioration work – linking with other villages: Cllr Bald will be attending a meeting on 25th May at 9am at Hildersham village hall to discuss flood amelioration measures along the River Granta affecting Linton, Hildersham, Abington, Ashdon

and other villages. A representative from the Environment Agency and landowners will be attending. Cllr Bald said that linking with other village PCs to look at flooding issues had been something LPC had wanted to do for some time.

Tree matters: Fallen tree on recreation ground: As it is not causing a nuisance and isn't a danger to anyone, it was agreed to leave the tree where it has fallen.

Traffic matters: High Street bus service: Stagecoach has asked the PC to give timescales for work to be carried out to improve access down the High Street for buses. Possible solutions to this problem are in the hands of CCC and highways, although the PC is continuing with parking review and enforcement measures through the PCSO to try to alleviate problems caused by illegal parking.

PCSO parking enforcement: It isn't yet clear how effective this is. Cllr Manley and the clerk will contact Nicola Burdon at highways to discuss getting worn out and faded lines repainted, and a meeting with the PCSO will be arranged to discuss the times and places of their patrols.

Horn Lane road repair: Materials for the repair to Horn Lane had been sourced from Cambridgeshire Sand & Gravel. The cost is £130+VAT per two tonne load inclusive of delivery and the PC would need eight loads. It was proposed by Cllr Poulter to accept the quotation, with a total cost of £1,040+VAT, and the proposal was seconded by Cllr Ward. All agreed. Cllr Ward will liaise with Ian Blackman on how the clay-bound batts might be laid.

Planter outside 32 High Street: This will be progressed by the traffic working group; the clerk will contact highways regarding permission.

Consideration of correspondence received: Magpas request for funding donation: This decision was deferred pending further information from the clerk.

Ms G Whiting, Linton Kitchen, request to hold market on 1st May 2016: It was agreed to grant permission to hold the market.

PCSO Chris Wiseman request to hire the Cathodeon Centre free of charge: It was agreed to ask the Trustees if this would be possible. (Cllr Champion abstained.)

Resident's request for lighting on Stanton's Lane: It was agreed to refer the resident to CCC as the PC is unable to provide streetlights.

EACH request for funding donation: This decision was deferred pending further information from the clerk.

Ms K Wood request to hold exercise classes on PC owned land: It was agreed to allow this; Ms Wood will be advised to ensure that public liability insurance is put in place.

Zurich Local Council Advisory Service regarding membership renewal: It was proposed by Cllr Potter to renew this membership at a cost of £95+VAT and the proposal was seconded by Cllr Poulter. Councillors voted eight in favour and one against and the proposal was carried.

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

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL
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