

Linton Parish Council Contacts

Parish Clerk

Sherrie Babbington 01634 867173 clerk@lintonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Chairman

Bernard Cresswell bernardjcresswell@gmail.com

Vice-Chairman

Patrick V Gerrish 01622 535050 Patrick.gerrish@linton.live
Allotment Manager, Speedwatch co-ordinator, Tree officer, playground Manager, Newsletter Editor

Peter Paterson ppaterson@trustfirmin.com
Linton Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, Footpath Officer

Caroline Richer caroline_richer@yahoo.co.uk
Linton Litter Pick co-ordinator

Patricia Burden thenewhouseme17@btinternet.com
Linton Village Hall representative

Tony DiMarco tonydimarc@gmail.com

Local Business Directory

If you run a local business here in Linton and would like to be included in our Directory, please email your business and contact details to Patrick Gerrish newsletter@linton.live

The Linton Litter Pickers

Saturday 7 June at 10am
Meet at the Musket Brewery Car Park, Loddington Lane. Refreshments at 12 noon at the Brewery.
A big thank you to all the volunteers who turned out during the winter months to keep our lanes clear.
Info from: Caroline Richer caroline_richer@yahoo.co.uk

Linton Neighbourhood Watch

Your local Neighbourhood watch co-ordinator is Peter Paterson. To join our neighbourhood watch WhatsApp group, scan our QR code

Linton Neighbourhood Watch Scheme
www.linton.gov.uk



Keep up-to-date!

Join our local WhatsApp group

Linton
WhatsApp group



Linton Parish News Spring 2025

W

ell readers it's been a while since the Linton Soirée last



year.... Save the date for this year's event 2025, Wednesday 14th May, 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Sadly, our long serving church warden Roger Bettle passed away 4th January 2025. As well as Peter Goodhew who did a lot of volunteering, raising funds for charities for Linton. Both will be missed. The Soiree (aka Parish Annual meeting) gave us much pleasure and I was honoured to present on behalf of the Chairs of Kent County Council and Kent Association of Local councils and the High Sheriff of Kent an award to our very own David Sendles for his many years of volunteering services to Linton. A big thank you to Duncan Mills for his presentation on Berry Gardens (Driscoll's) and the "exhibits" were yummy; with some donated to the Cherubs too!

Julie Urquhart, who has been immensely supporting as a Linton Parish Councillor and allotment manager, rewarded with a

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From the Editor

Here is your latest version of our Parish News. Since last Spring, we have had a few changes and I would like to personally apologise for the lack of recent issues of the newsletter. My thanks go to Kath Cooper who has edited the newsletter since 2017!. Please bear with us as we work on a new format and try to include as much information about the village as possible. We have a new diary section to include as many events happening in Linton as possible and I will be including a directory of all local businesses. I will also include a list of all local contacts, so you know who to call should you want to know anything. We will also be featuring reports from our local MP and Borough and County councillors. My sincere thanks goes to our small army of newsletter distributors, who without their efforts, this newsletter would not be possible.

If you would like to see any particular information or news featured in this newsletter, please let me know. Either call 01622 535050 or email newsletter@linton.live Many thanks, Patrick Gerrish

Linton Parish Council website—www.lintonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Are you new to the village? WELCOME to this lovely part of Kent.

More inside: News from the Parish Council, St Nicholas Church, Linton Walkers, Village Hall news, Litter picks, Community coffee mornings, What's on in Linton, Your local contacts and more!

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Linton Parish Appreciation certificate for services rendered as she steps away. Since the last newsletter we've witnessed our two new (to Linton!) ward councillors Simon Wales and Brian Clark who have made themselves busy on our behalf. We've seen planning permission granted for the Greensand Place. The polytunnels at Rankins Farm increasing to partial year-round coverage with an increase in screening and the granting of a similar planning application at Linton Growers, along Redwall Lane. The continuing debacle of Linton Crossroads and surrounding roads. Certainly, the crossroads need updating and may even happen, but it'll never handle the current traffic load let alone what's intended or reduce the number of accidents. Maidstone Borough Council years ago stated in their Infrastructure plan it was deemed critical to any local development, but then so was many other parts to that plan.... A native American expression springs to mind. From my position I do not see evidence of planning but that of denial of all that residents witness and so chaos reigns, which is dangerous. And now we have another development, in the local plan, being brought to planning... have a look (Beacon Park - 24/504496/FULL). Like Greensand Place it'll impact us. Also, the Chicken farm application (20/505751/EIFUL) isclucking no more! It's just been refused planning permission, will there be an appeal? Drop the dead donkey was to me highly amusing sit com and we have a new

newsletter editor in Patrick Gerrish, who's looking to change things up a bit. More significantly a big thank you to Kath Cooper who carried out the task for many years and not once dropping.... The ball! The Linton Playground by Cornwallis Avenue has had its refurbishment completed. I now have a new sign (soon to be installed) acknowledging the donors who made it possible: Alan Firmin Ltd, Berry Gardens, ISS and Camellia PLC (Linton Park). Christmas again saw the wonderful Christmas tree illuminated outside the church and joined by the electric light tree at Vicarage Field, thanks to its residents. Wonderful work continues with our volunteers, including our Litterpickers who are out and about clearing up others' mess and vehicle accident debris! Also noted is the amount of KCC highways paraphernalia abandoned after works have finished. I wonder how much of their budget is left on the side of the road?! 100 years ago in 1924 the Cherry Patch (attached to the Old school house) ceased to be the boys school (7year-olds and above) with all ages attended Linton C of E School (currently known as School House).... I often find myself giving a history lesson to the confused delivery agents..... School Cottage, Old School House! 50 years ago (1974) Alfred Cheesman retired as the clerk to Linton Parish Council after 28 years of service. And now, 2024 for the first time in decades (if not longer!) we have the

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What's on in Linton

APRIL

-WED 2ND Quiz Night at The Bull 7pm Start, Max 8ppl per team, £3pp.

Monday 14 April. 7.30pm—Linton Parish Council meeting. Village Hall

Wednesday 16th April, 7:30pm. Friends of Linton Church AGM. St Nicholas Church

-FRI 18TH Live Music at the Bull 8-10:30pm Clint Travis.

-SAT 19TH Easter egg hunt at The Bull 12noon £1per child, all proceeds to KSS air ambulance.

-SAT 19TH Children's Easter Garden Party at The Bull, with entertainer 1-4pm. Free entry.

-SAT 19TH Live Music at the Bull 4-7pm Gez Gold.

-FRI 18TH Live Music at The Bull 8-10:30pm Germaine Murray.

Tuesday 29th 10am-12 Community coffee morning. St Nicholas Church

29TH APRIL 2025 LINTON VILLAGE HALL AGM @ 7.30
The Trustees will undertake our annual meeting of the Village Hall and invite anyone from the Village to join us.

MAY

-WED 7TH Quiz Night at The Bull 7pm Start, Max 8ppl per team, £3pp.

Monday 12th 7.30—Linton Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 14th May, Linton Annual Parish Meeting. AKA *The Linton Soiree*. 7:30pm Village Hall

17th May—Tasting day with Mikos from Greece at Loddington Farm Shop

FRI 18TH Live Music at The Bull 7-9:30pm Musica Band.

-SUN 25TH Live Music at The Bull 6:30-9pm Alisa & Keys.

June

Saturday 7th—Linton Litter Pick. 10am at the Musket Brewery

Monday 9th 7.30pm—Linton Parish Council Meeting.

Saturday 14th A return of the very popular Teddy Zip Wire event at St Nicholas Church

Saturday 14th —Tasting day with Eridge dairy Ice-Cream at Loddington Farm Shop

July

Monday 14th 7.30pm—Linton Parish Council Meeting
Sat/Sun 25th 26th Blue Reef Festival, Loddington Farm

August

Monday 11th 7.30pm—Linton Parish Council Meeting

September

Saturday 6th September —Linton Litter pick. 10am at the Musket Brewery

Sunday 7th September 3pm Concert by the Kent Police Male Voice Choir. St Nicholas Church

Monday 8th 7.30pm—Linton Parish Council Meeting

October

Monday 13th 7.30pm—Linton Parish Council Meeting

Linton Allotments

Linton Parish Council has 30 plots on a sheltered sunny site on Wheelers Lane, with water laid on. Our keen group of allotment holders grow a wide range of vegetables, flowers, enormous sunflowers, herbs and fruit including currants, apricots, strawberries, raspberries and rhubarb. Friendly plot holders enjoy the sociable side as well as the satisfaction of producing their crops. We have a seed and plant swap every spring, which is a chance to chat, relax and stock up the plots for the coming season. We have regular clean-up days, a chance to clear the boundaries and have a good bonfire.

In 2024, we had six plots become vacant and they were all snapped up very quickly. We do have a waiting list currently, but we should be able to accommodate another keen allotmenteer soon. So if you're interested in joining us and would like to go on the waiting list, please get in touch with the Allotments Manager, Patrick Gerrish. **01622 535050 or allotments@linton.live**

Speedwatch

Linton is a member of the Community Speedwatch Scheme. CSW is a road safety initiative that is coordinated by Kent Police and run by local communities. Trained volunteers monitor the speeds of vehicles using approved 'speed indication devices'. The aim of the initiative is to:

- Reduce death and injury on the roads
- Improve the quality of life for local communities
- Reduce the speed of vehicles to the speed limit
- Increase public awareness of inappropriate speed

The aim of the scheme is not to catch as many speeding drivers as possible, but to encourage them to drive within the speed limit. Feedback from our group members suggests that motorists visibly slow down when they see the volunteers by the roadside carrying out speed monitoring. In many local areas where Community Speedwatch is already in place, residents have seen a positive change in driver behaviour and compliance with the speed limit and we look forward to replicating those results across more areas in the future.

Linton Speedwatch Scheme needs YOUR help. We have an approved group, but we desperately need more volunteers. You need to be over 18 years of age and willing to give a couple of hours' time minimum per month. Full training will be provided as well as insurance and hi viz clothing. If you are concerned about the speed of vehicles in our village, please contact Patrick Gerrish. **speedwatch@linton.live 01622 535050**

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striking of the hour from our wonderful own Linton (St Nicholas) church Tenor Bell, only made possible by the late Ian Firmin.

The charity, *Friends of Linton Church* has its Annual meeting in the Church Wednesday 16th April, 7:30pm. Join us and learn what we get up to in maintain our village landmark, no doubt it'll adjourn to the Bull Inn afterwards! Hope to see you soon, perhaps even at the church coffee morning on the last Tuesday of each month.

Bernie Cresswell. Chairman, Linton PC

Pastoral Letter from Rev David Jones

Dear fellow hibernators

Easter Sunday falls this year on April 20th Easter being the great festival and celebration of the Christian Church. When I first came to Coxheath in 1967 it fell on Sunday March 26th. It is a movable feast and can fall on any Sunday between March 22nd and April 25th and the date is calculated according to the moon. In the service on Easter Sunday the opening words are usually the greeting. 'Christ is Risen, Alleluia' to which the congregation reply 'He is risen indeed, alleluia' reminding us that, after the events of Good Friday when Jesus was crucified, the 'enemy', death was defeated and Christ rising conveys the understanding that life goes on and there is hope.

As a youngster living in the suburbs of

London, Easter was the first real school holiday of the year and we would go off to stay near Grannie in the countryside. One year we went to Glastonbury to see her, and the banks of grass leading up to the Tor were covered in primroses, lambs grazed in the fields, catkins hanging from the trees and leaves just showing life. It was wonderful. The long cold days and dark nights were almost behind us. I got the same feeling when I first came to Coxheath, walking the footpaths along the Greensand Way. The difference was that in Coxheath the wind still blows cold until the end of May. But still, the sun shining, some warmth in the sheltered places gave us hope and still does.

I hope that Easter offers you 'hope', the warmer weather brightens your lives and we see people coming out for walks on the footpaths as the blossom breaks through and the longer days together remind us of God's power and authority in a world that at times seems to have lost order and purpose. Have a great Easter and look forward with hope.

David

Community Coffee Mornings St Nicholas Church

Last Tuesday of each month
Tuesdays

29th April: 27th May: 24th June

If you've not been before come and claim a free drink with your copy of Linton Parish News. A member of Linton Parish Council will be present to talk about local community matters and listen to your views.

St Nicholas, Linton April 2025

Sunday 6th April - Lent 5

9.30am Holy Communion at Hunton
9.30am Morning Prayer at East Farleigh
11am Holy Communion at Coxheath

Sunday 13th April - Palm Sunday

9.30am Morning Worship at Linton
9.30am Holy Communion at West Farleigh
11am Morning Worship at Coxheath

Holy Week

There will be a service of Compline at 7pm on

Monday 14th April at West Farleigh

Tuesday 15th April at East Farleigh

Wednesday 16th April at Hunton

Thursday 17th April Maundy Thursday

7pm Holy Communion at Linton

Friday 18th April Good Friday

2pm A Hour at the Cross at Coxheath

EASTER DAY

Sunday 20th April 9.30am Holy

Communion at Linton & West Farleigh
11am Holy Communion at Coxheath & Hunton

Sunday 27th April

9.30am Holy Communion at Linton

9.30am Morning Worship & APCM at West Farleigh

11am All age worship at Coxheath

Tuesdays 25th March & 29th April

10am -12 noon **Community coffee mornings** in St Nicholas Linton.

Every Thursday

10am Midweek Holy Communion, Coxheath Church

Lent 2025

Informal Lent gatherings continue at Forge Cottage in Linton on Wednesdays 26th March, 2nd and 9th April at 11am. The last session on 9th April will be followed by Holy Communion and a light lunch

Friends of Linton Church AGM

Wednesday 16th April at 7.30pm in church

Messy Easter

Wednesday 16th April from 3 – 5pm. Easter themed craft for all the family to enjoy together. Hear the Easter Story and share some food.

St Nicholas Church Electoral Roll

Every six years a completely new church electoral roll is prepared. This will take place between the 2nd and 30th April. If you are on the current electoral roll you will need to apply again so forms are now available in church. New applicants are welcome and this entitles you to vote and take part at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

The Annual Parochial Church meeting of St Nicholas Church will take place on

Thursday 15th May at 3pm in Church.

BENEFICE CONTACTS

Rev. Lorna Faulkner, Rector 01622 747570

Rev. David Jones, 01622 741474

For up to date details about benefice group meetings please contact the following people:

Children's Work Becky Parnham 07949 646865

Men's Prayer Group Mike Marsh 07595 428639

Ladies Prayer Group Dawn Burnell

Beacon Men 01622 297144

Mothers' Union 01622 297144 Margaret Poole

07814 817204 Lesley Marsh

Safeguarding 01622 297144 Margaret Poole

<https://www.facebook.com/Coxheath-Benefice-Kids-112089254485427/>

Our Benefice and five Benefice Churches website is www.unitedbenefice.church

Linton Walkers

Linton has had an active walking group for over thirty years, and has raised nearly £20,000 for the Friends of Linton Church and other local charities including the church itself, Linton Village Hall, Loose Valley Conservation Society and Buttercups Goats sanctuary, amongst others.

The 2025 Walks Schedule is available now, and is already under way. See: <https://tinyurl.com/linton-walkers> where you can view or download it. Or send an email to Jerry Whitmarsh at: lintonwalkers1@gmail.com.

Walking is good for you! And so is an active social life.. so kill two birds with one stone, and join the Linton Walkers! Just turn up to any walk, we will be delighted to see you.

£2 donation per walk, all given to local charitable causes.

Friends of Linton Church, a Registered Charity, raises funds to assist toward the preservation and maintenance of the fabric and contents of St Nicholas' Church, Linton. Residents and visitors, who may for whatever reason not wish to contribute directly to Church funds, nevertheless admire this lovely building and understand the importance of its historic central role in the Linton community. You are warmly invited to join us. Please see link below for more information including a form for joining the Friends. Alternatively, please feel free to contact the Chairman, Bernard Cresswell email: bernardjresswell@gmail.com

Linton Village Hall

Please email the Lettings Secretary: lintonvillagelettings@gmail.com or call 07903 419055. or contact Ray Dixon on 07947 308224 raydixon1@btinternet.com