

# Linton Parish News

## Spring 2021

published jointly by Linton Parish Council  
and St Nicholas Church



### From the Chair of Linton Parish Council, Bernie Cresswell

What better way to honour Inspirational people such as Captain Sir Tom Moore and our own Bob Caudwell, if we follow their example with acts of kindness and respecting each other. I half expected the Queen's speech to start with "well, where does one start?!" I'll simply say I hope we have a better year than the last.

News headlines:

- **Road Safety Scheme underway.**
- **Linton removed from further development in "Call for Sites" draft document.** (I'm not holding my breath)
- **Huge resistance to 192,000 "free range" chicken egg production facility nearby.**
- **Parish Council elections.**

The Linton Hill **Road Safety scheme**, measures to reduce speed is under way. When complete this will trigger a Kent Highways speed survey to see if it warrants a speeding sign (sadly not a camera!). This will have to be funded if one is deemed necessary. There's plenty of time to join our Speedwatch group before we are permitted to start operations, so if you're interested let me know. Continued on page 2....

### Are you new to Linton? If so, Welcome!

If you have recently moved to Linton, or know someone who has, please contact Pat Burden (see page 5) for a "Welcome" pack with lots of details about the village.



### ***Litter Picking in Linton During Covid***

We are all adjusting to a new normal of social distancing and mask wearing. But what does that mean for our **Grand Linton Litter Pick**, where we usually set a date and a group of us gets together to clear our rural lanes of litter? We managed to squeeze our last, socially distanced, litter pick in on 31 October 2020 before the November lockdown, and success-fully collected over 40 bags of litter. However, as the lockdown continues, it is not clear when we will be able to re-start our group litter picks, cont...page 2



*Bob Caudwell, organist at St Nicholas Church Linton, sadly died on Wednesday 27th January. Bob, 100 years old last June, had been the organist at Linton for over 20 years,. He will be greatly missed and we hold Margaret and Bob's family in our prayers.*

Linton Parish Council Website <http://lintonkent.org>

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**“Call for Sites”** - Linton Crossroads remains an issue with a significant shortfall in developers’ monies to pay for it. The only way to fill the funding gap will be via new large developments. Failure to have the Crossroads modified in a timely fashion will mean those developers who have been obligated to allocate funds will have their monies returned.....those are the rules.

Fridays Ltd have acquired Reed Court Farm in Hunton for **“free range” chicken egg production** on a huge scale with plans for 192,000 chickens in 3 large houses. This is on our Parish doorstep, just on the other side of the River Buelth opposite Wares Farm Berry Gardens’ site.. You can view the Linton Parish Council letter sent on your behalf to Maidstone Borough Council on our website. (Planning consultation 20/505751/EIFUL Reed Court Farm Hunton Road Marden.)

Maidstone Borough Council have advertised their **Action Plan to enhance Biodiversity** and (significantly) address climate change. The latter deals with the fact that we have warmer and wetter winters, incidence of which will no doubt not have escaped your attention. Details can be found on their website by searching “Biodiversity and climate change emergency”. Any blockages in water courses should be reported to the Environment Agency through a free 24 hour incident hotline 0800 80 70 60. cont..... Column 2

And finally. **Elections:** Last year’s were cancelled and Councillors in post remained but its expected they won’t be again. Keep an eye on our website as it is important we hold elections to make sure we have a democratic council. To qualify you need to live or work in Linton, be able to read, have access to the internet and be inquisitive. For more info contact our clerk or any councillor (details on our website). Bernie

### VILLAGE CONTACTS

Neighbourhood Watch & Welcome Pack

Pat Burden - Mobile: 07979 430148

Email: lintonnhw@gmail.com

Village Hall Lettings Secretary

Jane Brooker Mobile: 07903 419055

Email: lvhbookings15@gmail.com

Allotments Julie Urquart—07714 835471

Email: julieurquhart\_1@hotmail.com

Parish Council Chairman: Bernard Cresswell

Email: bernardjcresswell@gmail.com

See Website for other Councillors:

Pat Burden, Darren Carpenter, James Smith, Julie Urquhart, Peter Lewis, Patrick Gerrish

<http://lintonkent.org>

**Covid Volunteer Update:** The Linton Covid Volunteers are still operating and happy to help. Call Parish Councillor Julie Urquhart on 07714 835471.

**Linton Litter Pick** continued from page 1  
In the meantime, we are planning to trial a new approach to litter picking. Details of this will come soon, but in the meantime if anyone wishes to borrow litter picking equipment (picker, high viz vest and litter sacks) to clear a lane or two, please get in touch with Julie Urquhart julieurquhart\_1@hotmail.com

**Pastoral Letter from the Rev Peter Callway**

You don't need me to tell you that we are in the midst of a global pandemic at the moment. It's everywhere you look, all the news, conversations with friends, it pervades everything. Probably rightly so. It really is important that we do all we can to stay safe and keep others safe. Yet, there are those who deny that the pandemic is real, or it is a plot by the communists/right wing politicians/liberal elite/big tech to infect the world with a virus/microchip/fake news in order to suppress/repress/remove the rights of/control the world's population. Getting accurate information is more challenging than ever in a world of instant online social platforms and 24/7 news channels. Who do we believe? Do we trust our governments? The scientists? The newspapers? The BBC?

One thing we can trust is our own experience. I've had COVID-19 and it is most unpleasant. As an overweight, asthmatic, 65-year-old I was at risk of serious illness, but I am grateful that I am over it and working off the after effects. I am still struggling with shortness of breath and my thinking capacity is diminished. (Insert your own

joke here 😊) Seriously, it is not recommended, and my father died from it. He had a weak heart and other underlying conditions, but it was the COVID which finally ended his life. One exchange I had with a chap who described himself as an "Apostolic Pentecostal Christian" had him saying that it was a severe lack of faith to wear a face covering and asked the question WWJD? (What Would Jesus Do?) My response to that was that it was not a particularly helpful question because he was God, and we're not, but that Jesus taught us that the greatest commandments are to love your God with all your heart and soul and mind and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself. Wearing a face covering, washing hands, staying home, keeping distance when out are not showing a lack of faith. They are showing a love of neighbour. Isn't that what Jesus would want us to do? Stay safe and well.

*Peter*



Donations for Homeless Care <http://www.homelesscare.org.uk/>

Becky is collecting food donations which can be left in a plastic box outside her front door. Please give her a call for more information 07949 646865 Thank you to those who have kindly donated as it's making a real difference to those in need.

Do you remember the winter of 1962-3? It started snowing on Boxing day 1962 and lasted to the end of March 1963. A council worker from Coxheath, [who drove a snow plough], left home on Boxing Day and ended up in Margate at the end of March, before coming home. Times were tough—no H&S. Heath Road was blocked for several weeks by drifting snow from Linton. At the entrance to Clock House Farm a Maidstone & District double decker bus was stuck for a week or two. The snow fences did not help.

From Linton Archivist, David Sendles



## The United Benefice of Coxheath, East Farleigh, Hunton, Linton and West Farleigh

### SUNDAY WORSHIP IN THE BENEFICE

**10.30 Every Sunday morning:**

On your Computer, tablet or  
smartphone:

<http://bit.ly/UnitedBenefice>

Or dial into the service from a landline

**Dial 0203 051 2874**

**Enter 185124308# Enter #,  
password 316.** Cost of call standard  
to a geographic number.

Church buildings remain closed for public worship until at least the end of February.

**Ash Wednesday service Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February** will be online. The service will begin at 7.30 on at the usual address of <http://bit.ly/UnitedBenefice> or connect to Zoom Meeting ID 185 124 308 (Passcode is 316). You can also dial in on 0203 481 5237.

**Lent** begins at Ash Wednesday and there will be a number of **Lent Groups** for our own study and worship during the period approaching Easter as we all seek to draw nearer to Jesus Christ in our discipleship. **Please let the Rector know by Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February** if you would like to join a group for the five weeks of Lent. Clearly, these groups can only be online at present.

As we approach a time when we will have been isolating for almost a year, and when it is almost 12 months since some folk have set foot inside a church building, please let us know if there are any needs that you are aware of, for yourself or others, and please keep supporting those in your friendship networks. Stay safe and continue to pray for all affected by the pandemic.



On your daily exercise walks you will find some small boards in Linton Churchyard with thoughts on nature and who made it. Go to our Facebook page to find out more <https://www.facebook.com/LintonMussyChurch/>

### Benefice Contacts

**Rector** Rev Peter Callway

01622 747570 [peter@callways.co.uk](mailto:peter@callways.co.uk)

(not available Fridays)

**Assistant Curate**

Rev Lorna Faulkner 01622 439304

**Hon. Associate Rector**

Rev David Jones 01622 741474

**Children & Families' Worker**

Becky Parnham 07949 646865

**For further details see our websites**

<http://unitedbenefice.church>

[www.achurchnearlyou.com/  
church/9958/](http://www.achurchnearlyou.com/church/9958/)

**or call or email the Rector**

The Benefice has a **pastoral group and a prayer-chain** to pray confidentially for anyone who asks for prayer. Please contact Marian 01622 743977, [david.marian@btinternet.com](mailto:david.marian@btinternet.com) or the Rector.