



# The Abingtons and Hildersham News



[www.theabingtons.org.uk](http://www.theabingtons.org.uk)

**December 2016**



*Photo by Robin Harman*

**Abington Walking Group near Littlebury Green  
19 November 2016**

## Letter from the Editor

Sunny days and vibrant autumn colours in the trees and hedgerows have done something to counteract the effect of colder days and darker evenings. There's nothing for it now but to sweep up the leaves and look forward to carol singing and special companionable meals as we approach Christmas. How did this year go so fast?

Thanks to the Abington parish councils the well-planned Green Energy event on 29 October attracted a lot of interest and scope for follow-up action by some people (page 13). The annual Poppy Appeal produced over £2,500, thanks to the local organiser, Kay Harman, and a team of door-to-door collectors, while Abington Woods hosted an event which raised useful funds for the Messy Church (page 6). Following a successful first Messy Church in October, Great Abington church will repeat this in December, combined with the Christingle service (page 5).

Granta Park invites village residents to two Christmas Markets and, for those feeling energetic, a Santa Run in aid of EACH (page 12). While shopping for gifts perhaps we could remember the 60 child refugees currently in the care of South Cambs. District Council (page 5).

For those who enjoy Christmas music the GLAMS choir invites you to go along to Abington Woods to sing carols (page 6). Church carol services will be on 18 December (pages 5, 8, 20). Don't forget the Advent Concert on 3 December, a chance to admire the new facilities at St Mary's, Great Abington.

Hildersham is organising Tea time and a village lunch, the WI will have a Christmas meal and Jeremiah's café offers us all a Big Breakfast on 17 December (pages 8, 12, 16). Irresistible!

Green bin collections are cut to one per month for the winter months, starting in December and there are changes to the days of black and blue bin collection (page 11).

From January to December 2016 the *News* has recorded major developments in our villages as well as listing many and varied activities on offer to us at the Institute, the village hall and churches. As the Abington Directory showed we are all indebted to the many people who volunteer to serve on the parish councils and to organise clubs, societies and special events such as the celebrations for the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. We can rejoice in the excellent community services we have – the school, a shop, a post office, a pub, garage services, hairdressers, sports fields, and much more. The community spirit shown by volunteers plays a great part in this. I am constantly grateful to all those who contribute material for this publication and to all who proof read, print and distribute copies door-to-door. Thank you to all of them and warmest good wishes to everyone for a very happy Christmas. N.B. Next copy deadline is earlier, 12 December, for pre-Christmas printing.

Valerie Silvey

## Contents

<b>From the Vicarage, URC Services, News from the Pews, GLAMs carols, Poppy Appeal, Abington Woods, Partridge Group 2017</b>	<b>4 5 6</b>	<b>Big Breakfast, Granta Park events, Abington Stores, Focus School invitation Abington green energy, INR Clinics, Fire Service</b>	<b>12  13</b>
<b>Little Abington Parish Council</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Great Abington Parish Council, Committee for Abington Housing</b>	<b>14 15</b>
<b>Hildersham Focus, Hildersham Parish Council, Linton Village College</b>	<b>8 9</b>	<b>Abington Lunch, WI, Gardening Club Scrabble, Reading Group, FGMN, Walking Group</b>	<b>16 17</b>
<b>Diary Dates, Wheelie bins, Café, contacts, Mobile Library, Film Night</b>	<b>10 11</b>	<b>Naturewatch meeting, CambridgePPF events</b>	<b>18</b>

Articles for the January edition of *The Abingtons and Hildersham News* should be sent to the Editor by MONDAY 12 December 2016 at [news@theabingtons.org.uk](mailto:news@theabingtons.org.uk) Photos welcome.

## **From the Vicarage**

By the time you read this, preparations for Christmas will be well under way. Many of you will have made Christmas puddings, the Christmas cake and prepared numerous mince pies. I have every intention of doing all of this but haven't done it yet! The lead up to Christmas can be hard, but let me share an experience with you that might incorporate a sense of expectation. We had a power cut in Linton on Sunday that lasted three and a half hours. The roast potatoes weren't cooked and so, it was a case of waiting. There was nothing to be done because the phone did not work and so stillness. After a while the candles were lit and the sense of expectancy grew as to when the power would return. By the time I was nice and relaxed the lights appeared and life began again.

How many times can we say that we are forced to slow down, in order to prepare for Christmas? Try it; it is an opportunity to think about what Christmas really means.

Parish news - Our parish nurse Teresa Letimier has sadly left, but the good news is that Claire Gillett is settling in as a temporary replacement. We are working together as a team and good things are happening.

The meeting on 5 September at West Wickham regarding the role of a parish nurse operating in the village was a very positive one with a contribution from a villager who had experienced this type of care for his elderly parents in South Africa. It was noted that several people wanted to contribute financially to the fund in order that people in this village would be able to have access if and when they needed it. This is great news for the Parish Nurse.

The schools are preparing to come into Balsham Church for their Christmas concerts. Helen Jukes (from LVC), Keith Johnson and I met the other evening to organise the arrangements for the Carol concert for Linton Village College on 12 December, with the Meadow School having their concert on Wednesday 14 December. It is a delight to welcome them all.

May I and the rest of the Ministry team wish you a blessed and happy Christmas. We hope to see many of you at one of the numerous Christmas services that are taking place across the seven churches.

Revd Kathy Bishop

## **Little Abington United Reformed Church**

We would like to wish you all 'A very happy Christmas'. We are aware that for some this may not be possible; then we would assure you of our prayers for God's peace for you whatever your circumstances.

4 December	10.15am	Mrs Wendy Roe
11 December	10.15am	Dr Janet Bottoms
18 December	2.30pm	Revd Bruce Waldron with Holy Communion and carols
25 December	No service; we worship this day in other churches	

For more information please contact Lynne on 893 295.

## News from the Pews

It's Christmastime once more, the busiest time of the year for churchwardens and our ministry team. All of the church services are listed on the back page and in the Christmas card. We look forward to welcoming members and friends of our community to the many church events throughout December.

**The Advent Concert featuring local talent** is on Saturday 3 December, an opportunity to listen to the talents of our community. A few tickets are still available. Please remember – pew seats are very hard – you might like to bring a cushion.

**Presents for unaccompanied Syrian refugee children.** It is impossible to watch or listen to the news and not be moved by the continuing plight of the refugees, particularly the children. As Christmas approaches our churches here in the Abingtons will be collecting presents for the unaccompanied refugee children who are in foster care or in the care of social services in South Cambridgeshire. Sadly there are now over 60 refugee children living without parents in our area. If you would like to donate a gift, please would you wrap your present and write a label saying whether it is for a girl or a boy and an approximate age. You may bring your present to the Christingle Messy Church on Sunday 4 December or alternatively leave it at Rosemary's.

**The Christingle Messy Church** will be held on **Sunday 4 December at St. Mary's Church Great Abington.** All are welcome to join in the fun at 3.30pm. We will be celebrating the season of Advent by making Christingles, enjoying Christmas stories and Christmas Craft activities.

All Activities will stop for the traditional Christingle Service which will be held at 4.30pm for 30 minutes. Following the Service Messy Church will continue with a special Christingle tea. We look forward to welcoming you all whether it is to the Messy Church or just the Christingle Service.

**Advent Space to Be on Wednesday 7 December at 7.30pm.** Please do

come and join us for an hour of reflection, peace, music and silence accompanied by some seasonal refreshments. A perfect way to prepare oneself for Christmas. For further details contact Rosemary on 891 716

**The Crib Service on Christmas Eve is at 10.30am in St Mary's Church, Little Abington** Come early if you wish to rummage through the dressing-up box. There are outfits for Angels, Kings and Shepherds. We welcome all ages to this simple service, which enhances simply the true meaning of Christmas.

**Charity for December – The Children's Society** - a leading children's charity in the UK where donations help to raise funds for, and awareness of, children's poverty and danger.



Anne Hall

## **GLAMS Carol Singing**

Wednesday 14 December 2016 at 7pm

Change of venue - Abington Woods

Come and join the GLAMS around the bonfire for traditional carol singing,

Mulled wine and mince pies

Please bring a torch.

Contact Ruth Beach email at [ruth.beach543@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.beach543@gmail.com) or 07547 472 325

## **Poppy Appeal 2016**

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously to the Poppy Appeal this year. You raised the magnificent sum of over £2,500 with a little bit more to come in. My thanks go to all the collectors for their hard work and to the local businesses for their support. Especial thanks go to Marilyn Broadhurst and Derek Turnidge for counting all the cash.

Kay Harman

Poppy Appeal Organiser, Babraham, Hildersham & Abingtons

## **From Abington Woods**

Thank you to every one who came and supported the 'Pumpkin in the Woods' event. A special thank you to Ruth who helped to supervise the bonfire in the evening. Best suggestion of the day was to invite everyone next year to bring a pumpkin-inspired dish to share. It was a lovely day and a fair amount was raised for Messy Church.

Wednesday Volunteers continue to meet in Abington Woods. If you know anyone who would enjoy spending some time working in the woods please pass on this invitation to join us.

Deborah James

## **Balsham Christmas Concert**

The Balsham Singers Christmas Concert is on Saturday 17 December at Holy Trinity Church, Balsham. The concert begins at 7.30pm and features a rich mixture of Bach, Mozart plus seasonal music and carols. Tickets can be purchased from Post Offices in Abington and Balsham and cost £8 in advance or £10 on the door.

## **The Partridge Group 2017**

A full and wide ranging series of six talks have been arranged for the 2017 'Season' by the group.

The inaugural meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 11 January 2017 in The Village Institute. (7.30pm for 8p.m.) Please see details of the programme and speakers on the Abington website [www.theabingtons.org.uk/clubs/partridge-group/](http://www.theabingtons.org.uk/clubs/partridge-group/)

(To receive a 'pre-talk' email reminder please contact [pjmiles1@excite.com](mailto:pjmiles1@excite.com) )

## **Mum and daughter going for the 'cut'**

Local teenager, Frayr Bridgeman from Balsham, is cutting over 16 inches off her hair for Maggie's Wallace Centre in Cambridge. Maggie's Wallace Centre, in the grounds of Addenbrooke's, supports people with cancer, their families and friends. Her mum Angela is having 7 inches cut too, together with Frayr, on Tuesday 20 December at her school, Linton Village College. You can sponsor Frayr on her justgiving page [www.Justgiving.com/fundraising/Frayr-Bridgeman](http://www.Justgiving.com/fundraising/Frayr-Bridgeman) More information from [www.maggiescentres.org](http://www.maggiescentres.org) or call us on 01223 249 220.

# Little Abington Parish Council

A Quality Parish Council



## Village news:

**Noise from Granta Park** A building fan has been identified as the culprit of excessive and persistent noise. A solution is being sought.

**Village Energy day** 29 October saw the annual energy day held, and aside from the two electric-powered cycles there were various schemes on display and a lot of positive 'energy' created in discussion.

**Village environment:** At this time of year we are reminded to take care of trees and hedgerows and the piles of leaves that build up which can become slippery and treacherous for people of all ages and agility, as well as vehicles. Please continue to report dangerous trees, action is on-going.

A new litter bin has been requested for Ivan Clark's corner. Once again dog walkers are kindly asked to use the dog litter bins provided rather than the public bins. Equally, bags left beside bins or in the hedge should be taken home instead.

**Highways and traffic:** Residents are reminded to park sensibly and to not cross non-dropped kerbs or park on verges. The new 50mph limit along Newmarket Road between the A1307 and Granta Park roundabout will be extended along Bourn Bridge Road and Pampisford Road to the 30mph zones.

The cycleway through Babraham Institute should be open in January 2017. Highways gritting maps are continually reviewed but please do take care driving in the colder conditions.

## Planning applications

Tree removal 47 High Street. SCDC authorised removal of a dangerous tree.

**S/2050/16/FL.** Extension of existing hard standing, Perse School playing fields, Newmarket Road. Approved

**S/2225/16/FL** Demolition and replacement of existing dwelling and garage. The Croft, Church Lane. Approved

Following the appointment of a new Director of Planning at South Cambs. District Council, it has been acknowledged that there are weaknesses in the existing process and notably that on-line forums and paperless approval is likely to increase.

### Little Abington Parish Council Meetings

Abington Institute, High Street

**Next Meeting: Monday 23 January 2017 at 7.15pm**

***Public participation: Come and have your say – 15 minutes, early in meeting***

Peter Brunning (Chairman) tel: 891 960

Email: [pc@brunning.org.uk](mailto:pc@brunning.org.uk)

Genevieve Dalton (Clerk) tel: 893 332

Email: [clerk@littleabington.clara.co.uk](mailto:clerk@littleabington.clara.co.uk)

## **Hildersham Focus**

### **It's Teatime**

The next Village Tea will take place on Thursday 1 December in the Village Hall from 3pm until 4.30pm. This is a bit early for a Christmas Tea but it will certainly have an Advent theme.

### **Hildersham Lecture**

Remember Genevieve? This great film was a Christmas favourite for years. As a pre-Christmas treat Brian Moore will be the speaker at the next lecture, taking us on a journey through time from the earliest motor cars to his experience of more than 50 years of the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run – alongside the real Genevieve. There is not a lot that Brian does not know about these marvellous vehicles and he has some wonderful stories to tell. He even knew Larry Adler... (who was he?)

The lecture will take place on Friday 2 December at 7.30pm in Hildersham Church. Tickets, including refreshments, £5 or £10 for a family ticket.

### **Village Lunch**

The next village lunch will be on Thursday 8 December at 1pm. Doors open at 12.30pm and tickets cost £4. The Christmas Lunch is always popular so make sure to book early by contacting Jill on 893 596 or [edheale@btinternet.com](mailto:edheale@btinternet.com).

### **Carols by Candlelight**

The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols held in the candlelit church is an annual treat. This year the service will take place on Sunday 18 December at 3pm. There is something for everyone – familiar carols, a presentation by children organised by the Children's Church Council and some beautiful choral music followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Come early to get a seat!

### **Christmas Day**

Christmas morning service in Hildersham will be at 9.15pm – late enough to allow for stockings to be opened and early enough to get the dinner in the oven. This is a candlelit service of Holy Eucharist with Christmas activities for children; the perfect way to begin Christmas.

### **Mobile Library – change of venue**

Apologies to anyone in the Blench Lane area who has been unable to find the mobile library. The librarian thought a more central location would be better and has been parking outside the village hall. If you'd like to give it a try, the next visit will be on Tuesday 20 December.

## **Hildersham Parish Council**

### **A Quality Parish Council**



### **Report on the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 8 November 2016**

**Bus shelter lighting** The Parish Council selected a contractor to supply and install solar-powered lights onto both bus shelters on the A1307, as both these areas are poorly lit.

**Parking outside the village hall** The Council was awaiting a price from the Highway Dept. to create parking bays for up to eleven cars, but was concerned that the price may be beyond its budget.

**Flooding** Two light-weight flood signs are to be purchased to alert motorists when the ford area is flooded. They are fold-away signs so will be easier to manoeuvre.

**Benches and village sign repairs** A handyman has been engaged to repair the village sign column and give the benches and picnic table a coat of preservative.

**Allotment rent review** Councillors agreed to leave the allotment charge unchanged for this year. The bills will be sent to allotment holders at the end of the month, along with a request to limit the use of cars on the allotment land to reduce damage to the footpath.

**Defibrillator** The council is looking into the costs of purchasing a defibrillator.

HPC note the sad passing of Brian Beavis who for many years cleaned and maintained the village hall as well as doing odd jobs around the village.

**The next meeting of Hildersham Parish Council will be on Tuesday 10 January 2017 from 7.30pm at Hildersham Village Hall, High Street, Hildersham.**

## **Linton Village College**

Schools are a microcosm for society as a whole; they encapsulate and reflect, in miniature form, the elements of wider society.

While schooling is often viewed as an individualistic pursuit to obtain knowledge, skills and qualifications, it has a broader purpose: to socialise children into citizens of their communities and of the world. In addition to the formal academic curriculum, education influences and shapes students' beliefs, moral codes and attitudes.

In recent years there has been a much greater emphasis on schools' responsibility for teaching and promoting what the government has termed as 'British Values'. While there has been much conjecture about the title and its potential for misinterpretation or misappropriation, at LVC the essence of the fundamental British Values, as listed below, is valued and taught and promoted throughout the curriculum, explicitly and implicitly.

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith

Recent global events and topical issues provide us with opportunities to explore how these values affect lives and behaviours, at school and in wider society.

One of our core values at Linton Village College is to be caring. The month of December is a time when students have plentiful opportunities to engage in community activities that demonstrate care, empathy and respect for others. Students are involved in fundraising for national charities, such as Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day, and support other chosen beneficiaries through our annual Charities Morning Fayre. Other causes closer to home include Jimmy's Night Shelter and our Coffee and Carols morning for elderly local residents.

Regardless of religious beliefs, the seasonal sentiment of 'peace on Earth and goodwill to all men' resonates in the acts of kindness that our students demonstrate towards others at this time of year. While we are awash with commercial pressures and schmaltzy marketing, the genuine generosity and compassion of our children gives hope for the kind of people they will grow into and the positive impact that they will have on their communities.

Helena Marsh, Principal

## Dates for your Diary

Date		Venue Abington Institute unless stated	Time	Page
Thu	1	<b>Abington Walking Group</b> <b>Hildersham Teatime</b> – Village Hall	10.00am 3.00pm	17 8
Fri	2	<b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> – Pre-school building <b>Low Impact Aerobics</b> <b>Pilates</b> <b>Naturewatch</b> <b>Hildersham lecture</b> – Hildersham Church	9.30am 9.30am 10.45am 7.30pm 7.30pm	11 11 11 18 8
Sat	3	<b>Scrapbooking Group</b> <b>Advent Concert</b> – Great Abington Church	10.00am 7.00pm	11 5
Mon	5	<b>French Conversation</b> <b>Abington Gardening Club</b>	1.00pm 7.30pm	16
Tue	6	<b>Art Group</b>	9.30am	
Wed	7	<b>Yoga</b> – course and drop in <b>Senior Keep Fit</b> <b>Dynamic Dance Class</b> <b>Yoga</b> – course and drop in	9.30am 12 noon 3.15pm 7.00pm	11  11 11
Thu	8	<b>Forget-Me-Not Club</b> – Linton Village College <b>Hildersham Lunch</b> – Village Hall- doors open	am 12.30pm	17 8
Fri	9	<b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> – Pre-school building <b>Film Night</b> – doors open	9.30am 6.45pm	11 11
Mon	12	<b>French Conversation</b> <b>Abington &amp; Hildersham WI</b> – Old Red Lion, Horseheath	1.00pm 7.00pm	16
Tue	13	<b>Art Group</b> <b>Forget-Me-Not Club</b> <b>Reading Group</b> – 74 High Street	9.30am 1.00pm 7.00pm	17 17 17
Wed	14	<b>Yoga</b> – course and drop in <b>FGMN Club visit to Morrison's</b> <b>Senior Keep Fit</b> <b>Yoga</b> – course and drop in <b>GLAMS Carol Singing</b> – Abington Woods	9.30am am 12 noon 7.00pm 7.00pm	11 17 11 11 6
Fri	16	<b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> – Pre-school building	9.30am	11
Sat	17	<b>Christmas Big Breakfast</b> – Jeremiah's café <b>Abington Walking Group</b>	10.00am 10.00am	12 17
Sun	18	<b>Carols by Candlelight</b> - Holy Trinity, Hildersham <b>Carol Service</b> – Great Abington Church	3.00pm 6.30pm	8 20
Tue	20	<b>Christmas Flower Workshop</b> <b>Mobile Library</b>	10.00am am	11
Wed	21	<b>Senior Keep Fit</b>	12 noon	
Sat	24	<b>Rivercare litter pick-up</b> – meet at road bridge/ford	9.30am	
Mon	26	<b>Walking Group on Boxing Day</b>	10.00am	17

For details of contacts please see inside back cover or articles where indicated.

Institute bookings: phone 01223 790 711 or email: [institute@theabingtons.org.uk](mailto:institute@theabingtons.org.uk)

## Wheelie bin dates for December 2016

<b>Mon 5</b> Green/Blue	<b>Mon 12</b> Black	<b>Mon 19</b> Blue	<b>THU 22</b> Black	<b>TUE 3 Jan</b> Green/Blue
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Green bins will be collected only once this month. The twice-monthly collection of black bins and blue bins with paper caddies is as shown above with changes around Christmas.

### Jeremiah's Café in Abington Village Institute

#### Opening times in December 2016

Thursday lunchtimes	11.30am to 1.30pm (1, 8, 15)
Friday mornings	8.45am to 11.00am (2, 9, 16)
Saturday mornings	10am to 12 noon (3, 10, 17)

See page 12 for details of the Big Breakfast on 17 December.

**Contacts for Café** – Gaynor Farrant 07817 517 871 or [gaynorfarrant198@btinternet.com](mailto:gaynorfarrant198@btinternet.com) and Gill Smith 892 759 or [richardandgill.smith@live.co.uk](mailto:richardandgill.smith@live.co.uk)

**Scrapbooking Group** – We meet one Saturday of every month and welcome you to take a look any time and ask questions.

**Yoga – Wednesdays 9.30am and 7pm at Abington Institute**

Contact Joan 890 629 or email [joangraham72@gmail.com](mailto:joangraham72@gmail.com)

**Dynamic Dance Theatre School – Wednesdays from 3.15pm**

Ballet and modern dance lessons for children from 4 years old at Abington Institute. Contact Esme on 07719 816 548 or [esmewatts@hotmail.com](mailto:esmewatts@hotmail.com)

**Low Impact Aerobics – Fridays 9.30–10.30am at Abington Institute**

Suitable for 50+ or those returning to exercise. Aerobics, toning and stretching. Exercises to raise your heart rate and tone your body; fun and friendly.

**Pilates – Fridays 10.45–11.45am at Abington Institute**

Pilates exercises will help to alleviate back pain, increase core strength, improve posture and flexibility. Please book for 5 weeks for Low Impact Aerobics and Pilates. Contact Disa Bennett on 07798 754 029 or [www.zumbaandpilatescambridge.co.uk](http://www.zumbaandpilatescambridge.co.uk)

**Abington Pre-school Baby and Toddler Group** This group runs during term time from the Annexe building at the bottom of the school playground; **open on Fridays from 9.30am to 11.30am**, for all children aged 0–3 years old. Come along and play. Refreshments provided for children and adults. Contact Natasha 07725 175 917 or email [petrovnatasha@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:petrovnatasha@yahoo.co.uk)

## Mobile Library

Tuesday 20 December 2016, times as follows:

Little Abington	West Field	10.00–10.30am
Great Abington	North Road	10.40–11.10am
	Magna Close	11.20am–12.10pm
	The Shop	12.15–12.35pm
Hildersham	Church Green (near Village Hall)	12.45–1.00pm

## Film Nights at Abington Institute

This month's **Film Night** is on **Friday 9 December**. Doors open 6.45pm for 7pm film. Everyone welcome. Raffle and refreshments. See the poster in the Institute for full details. If you would like to receive details of the film by email approx. 2 weeks before a screening then subscribe for free to our mailing list using the link at

<http://www.theabingtons.org.uk> or email [films@theabingtons.org.uk](mailto:films@theabingtons.org.uk)

Dianne Dawson (893 101)

# The Big Breakfast

Jeremiah's Café

Saturday 17 December, 10am to 12 noon

Egg and bacon, tomatoes  
Sausage, fried bread, hash brownies  
Baked beans and mushroom  
**+ mug of tea or coffee**

**It's a bargain!**

**£5 for any five items; £3 for child's portion**

**COME EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.**



## Flower Workshop at the Institute Thursday 20 December

For information phone 891 464 or email Freda Orgee at [fredasflowers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:fredasflowers@hotmail.co.uk)

## Welcome to Festive Events at Granta Park

**1 and 15 December, 11am-2pm** - Christmas Farmers' Market at the McClintock Building, Granta Park. Stalls will be inside and outside the McClintock Building providing a range of goods suitable as special gifts or as stocking - fillers. Stalls will include Radwinter Wild Game, Borakis Greek Food, Northend Farm, Old Granary Organics, Spoonstruck, Orchard Flowers, Sasha Garrett Jewellery, CRUK Charity Stall, Wildlife Trust, Mr Smith's Sweets, Cambridge Artisan, Blossom Felts and much more.

**8 December, 12 noon-1pm** - 2.5km Santa Run & Rudolph Chase in aid of East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) - the event includes a 'Santa Bake Off' and a Christmas gift collection (for children from the hospice). If you would like to take part, bake a cake or donate a gift please get in contact with the Estates Office - email [tracy.thomas@grantapark.co.uk](mailto:tracy.thomas@grantapark.co.uk) or call 01223 893 710.

**Tracy Thomas** Operations Manager  
direct dial: 895 033 Web: [www.grantapark.co.uk](http://www.grantapark.co.uk)

### Abington Stores - apologies to Bob & Ravinder

The Christmas Fayre Programme gave wrong opening times.

Please note the shop is open

**Weekdays 6.30am to 9pm and Sundays 8am to 6pm**

Great offers on confectionery, chocolates & biscuits

Good value Christmas cards

Xmas Hampers to order

Turkey, meat & all the trimmings from Davey's Butchers

Fresh local veg. and salad

Christmas editions of your favourite magazines

Local delivery possible

Not just for Christmas, but for every day of the year!

### An Invitation to Abington Residents

Isobelle o'Mara – Head Teacher of Focus School – Cambridge Campus invites Abington

Residents to an end-of-term concert on Thursday 15 December.

For further details and to book please contact; Anne Hall 892 275

or Viki Brunning 891 960

## **‘Abington Green’ – Abington Institute – 29 October**

The Abington parish councils held a home energy efficiency event on the morning of 29 October. Local experts and suppliers were there to give advice, and to deliver a series of talks, including a keynote address ‘Sustainable Energy and Lower Energy Bills’ from Nicola Terry of Transition Cambridge.

Exhibitors included Cambridge Woodburning Stoves, Green Heat (efficient heating), Cambridge Solar (PV panels and battery backup), Anglian Energy Solutions (heat pumps), Kershaw Insulation, Cambridge Cycling Campaign, and SPEP (South Cambs district council) with their Eco-house, Energy Monitors (for loan), Recycling.

We had electric bikes supplied by TETS Cambridge in the school playground and Great Abington parish council outlined a Neighbourhood plan for the former LSA.

If you are interested in any of these topics, we should be able to put you in touch with the right person to help. We have energy monitors to lend out. We showed how a Thermal Imaging camera can highlight heat loss from a house and could demonstrate on yours by arrangement.

The café was operating as usual and did a roaring trade. It seemed that everyone who came found the morning interesting and useful.

Peter Brunning – [peter.brunning@cantab.net](mailto:peter.brunning@cantab.net) – 891 960

## **INR Clinics at Granta Medical Practices: Linton Health Centre**

As from the week beginning 9 January 2017 it will no longer be necessary to pre-book your appointment for an INR/Warfarin blood test. We will be holding a walk-in clinic every Tuesday morning from 8.15am and 12 noon with a phlebotomist. You will need to book in with reception when you arrive.

We hope our new system will make this easier for everyone.

Carol Thexton (Office Manager)

## **Bulletin from Cambridgeshire Fire Service**

IT is the time of year when we’re enjoying a tipples with friends, cooking heaps of delicious food and decking the halls.

The fire service has these messages to make sure your festive cheer doesn’t go up in smoke:

Kitchens are a fire hotspot, so take care while cooking festive fancies. Never leave cooking unattended and turn off appliances when not in use.

Switch off fairy lights and unplug them before you go to bed or leave the house. Make sure they conform to the British Standard and never overload plug sockets.

Be careful when drinking alcohol while smoking or cooking.

Finally, make sure you have a working smoke alarm which is correctly fitted and works. And NEVER take the batteries out to power presents!

For the latest news, incidents and safety advice, or to contact us, log on to [www.cambsfire.gov.uk](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk).

## **Village News on the website**

To see the News before the printed copy reaches you, and to see the pictures in colour, go to [www.theabingtons.org.uk/news](http://www.theabingtons.org.uk/news) and follow the link to the pdf file for the month you want.

## **Great Abington Parish Council    An Active Council**

At the Parish Council meeting on Monday 21 November the Development Director from Granta Park gave a presentation about developments at Granta Park and answered questions.

He explained the buildings under construction on the Granta Park site. The new Illumina building earthworks and piling had been completed. The next phase will be to build the main structure which will take until November 2017. This phase will involve the large crane being with us for the next twelve months. Once the exterior is completed in November 2017 it will take until November 2018 for the internal fit out of the building. Parishioners living near the site had raised concerns about noise, vibrations and light pollution.

Work had also started on the new Amenity building located next to the Illumina site and is due for completion in November 2017.

A planning application had been submitted for the redevelopment of the Flowers building. The building is being vacated by Gilead when their new building is finished and it is proposed to refurbish it for a new occupant. The roof line will be increased but it will still be lower than other buildings nearby on Granta Park.

The Parish Council was concerned that Granta Park had applied to utilise a temporary entrance onto Pampisford Road for construction vehicles at peak periods during the building of the Illumina building. Road modelling had been carried out and Granta Park were discussing this with the County Council Highways Department. It was pointed out to the Development Director that this road is narrow and has a weight limit. Concern was expressed that turning lorries would need to swing out into the path of oncoming traffic.

The Parish Council agreed that the Pampisford Road should be the focus of a special meeting to be organised involving the Highways Department and parishioners.

### **Planning**

s/2738/16/FL – Site 5, Granta Park, refurbishment of existing building with second floor plant enclosure, external stair etc. PC Recommended approval

s/0977/16/FL – Mr Sturdy, 6 Meadow Walk. First floor extension over existing dwelling and part single, part to storey extension. PC Recommended approval, District Council refused and PC agreed not to comment on the appeal.

s/1433/16/FL – Rollover Development Ltd. Land to the rear of Strawberry Farm, outline planning application for 8 dwellings – PC Recommended refusal

s/2589/16/FL – Telefonica Ltd. Near Granta Park roundabout, installation of 17.5 pole with antennae and microwave dishes. PC Recommended approval.

s/1337/16/FL – Mr Ooi, 4 Mortlock Gardens. Insertion of first floor window in side elevation. – PC Recommended refusal. District Council refused

s/3181/15/FL – Hill Residential and Mr and Mrs Moore. Land to the north of Pampisford Road, erection of 20 dwellings. PC Recommended approval, District Council approved

s/1926/16/VC – Phase 2 land (Zone 1). Granta Park variation of condition to application. PC made no recommendation. District Council approved

s/2199/16/FL – Site 6 Granta Park – erection of amended servicing enclosure encompassing bike storage and plant area (as approved under s/2254/15/FL) PC Recommended approval. District Council approved  
s/0681/16/FL – Mr and Mrs Randall. 77 High Street, Replace existing garage with annexe and store. PC Recommended refusal. District Council approved

### **Appeal decisions**

s/0569/16/FL – Mr Tilley, 45 North Road, demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of barn. District Council approved on appeal.

### **Great Abington Parish Council Meetings**

Held in Abington Village Institute

**Bernie Talbot (Chairman) tel: 892 647**

**Planning Committees:** Usually Mondays, as required, 6.30pm. See notice board for dates or contact the parish clerk.

#### **Next Parish Council meeting Monday 16 January 2017, 7.15pm.**

There will be an opportunity early in the meeting for members of the public to speak to the council about matters of concern. Agenda and minutes posted on Parish Council notice board located at the entrance to Magna Close or available from the parish clerk.

Jane Bowen (891 137), Paula Harper (Clerk): [harper802@btinternet.com](mailto:harper802@btinternet.com) (892 000)

### **Committee for Abington Housing**

We now have a little more information on the programme for the Pampisford Road/High Street site. Planning consent has now been confirmed and ownership of the land should pass to Hill Development by early January. Hill will have people on site clearing and levelling soon after and building work is likely to start in May 2017. The build programme is approximately 18 months with the first people likely to be able to move in around spring 2018. Hill Development is part of the Considerate Contractors Scheme and as such will attempt to minimise any disruption during the construction. If you have any concerns during this period please raise them with the Parish Council to allow them to be reported to the team on site.

The eight affordable housing units on the Pampisford Road/High Street site will be managed by a registered Housing Association which will, in this case, be South Cambridgeshire District Council.

The draft scheme for the Linton Road site was presented to and discussed by the Committee. Suggestions were made that would improve the development but concerns over possible problems with noise from West Lodge Kennels and measures to reduce these continue to be a subject of discussion.

Plans for the Church Lane site were less well advanced. Feedback from the SCDC planning officers was that they were concerned about the density and size of the proposed dwellings. This echoed what Little Abington PC had recommended when the draft scheme was discussed by them.

The proposed site on the south of Pampisford Road (Strawberry Farm) has been submitted and then amended by the applicants. Both the initial scheme and the amended version were considered by Great Abington PC and were recommended for refusal as the application conflicts with the work going on to establish a new planning policy for the former LSA estate. This site is located outside the designated village framework and is within the area of the former LSA.

The Committee for Abington Housing meetings are always open to all villagers.

Bernie Talbot, Chairman



## Abington Lunch



wishes everybody a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you for your support throughout the year.

Our next lunch will be on  
**Thursday 26 January 2017**  
More details will be in the January News.

### Abington & Hildersham Women's Institute

The speaker at our November meeting was Alison Giles, formerly of the Education Dept. of the Imperial War Museum at Duxford. She brought with her many artefacts from World War 1 and gave a very lively presentation of their uses and deficiencies in combat.

Three of our members modelled headgear from 1914 - the British khaki trench cap, well-camouflaged in the mud, whereas the blue and red French kepi and the German Pickelhaube (shiny leather with a spike on top) were easy for the enemy to spot. By 1918 metal helmets gave greater protection and helped 88% survive.

*(Photo by Annette Shortell)*

Alison passed around bayonets, trench clubs and knives, grenades and small but incredibly heavy artillery shells. Warm pilot's gloves took away the dexterity needed to operate the planes used in the first aerial warfare of WW1. It was easy to understand the fear experienced by the young soldiers facing artillery fire and gas attacks with so little defence and medical care. A tiny kettle and TSM tablets (tea, milk & sugar) helped with trench life. Although women worked in UK armaments factories and hospitals, conditions overseas were too awful for most.



**Monday 12 December** - WI Christmas meal at The Old Red Lion, Horseheath at 7pm for 7.15pm.

**Next meeting Monday 9 January 7.30pm** - Famous Cambridge Students by Honor Ridout. Please bring annual membership fee £39.

Visitors (£4) and new members always welcome!

Marilyn Broadhurst (893 214)

### Abington Gardening Club

There is a meeting on Monday 5 December in the Institute at 7.30pm when Veronica Bennett will give a talk on Peckover House and Gardens. Please bring a wrapped raffle prize for the Christmas charity draw in aid of Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust Fund. All welcome.

Kay Harman, Secretary tel: 891 730  
email: [robandkayharman@gmail.com](mailto:robandkayharman@gmail.com)

## Scrabble Club

There is no meeting of the Scrabble Club in December. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 24 January at 7pm in the Institute. New members very welcome. Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and healthy New Year

Sheena Fraser

## Reading Group

13 December	Christmas meeting	Rachel Haining
10 January	<i>The Fatal Englishman</i> Sebastian Faulks	Beverley Dennis

The December meeting will start early, at 7pm. Please contact Rachel about the Christmas meeting.

Diana Wingfield

## Forget-Me-Not Club

It's time again for our club to celebrate Christmas in our traditional way. As the darkness draws in early in December we have decided to begin our Christmas Party at 1pm with a delicious buffet followed by entertainment by Nick 'Asparagus' Rumble that we always enjoy. Finally, members will be given a gift from the Club to take home, a truly enjoyable afternoon to look forward to.

The Christmas Party is open to members only. If you are a member who doesn't often come to the club you are of course very welcome to join us on this occasion, although we would appreciate notification of your intention for catering purpose.

Linton Village College have again kindly invited us to 'coffee and carols' on Thursday 8 of December.

The committee – Judy, Margaret, Pat, Brian, Viki and Anne would like to wish all the Forget-Me-Not Club Members a Very Happy, Healthy and Peaceful Christmas and New Year and look forward to seeing you all again in 2017.

### Dates for December

**Thursday 8 December** – Coffee and Carols at Linton Village College

**Tuesday 13 December – 1pm Start** – The Christmas Party

**Wednesday 14 December** – Shopping Trip to Morrison's Supermarket

Anne Hall (Chair) Tel. 892 275

## Abington Walking Group

In November our Thursday walk was around West Wrattling.

The Saturday walk was at Littlebury Green where we enjoyed a shorter stroll of four miles on a crisp morning with extra enjoyment of seeing three deer.



The December walks will be on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>, Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> and the usual Boxing Day walk from the village.

Our numbers of late have been very encouraging.

The 2017 walk dates are now available.

For further information, please contact:

Robin Harman on 891 730 [robandkayharman@gmail.com](mailto:robandkayharman@gmail.com) or

George Woodley on 891 169 [georgewoodley@talktalk.net](mailto:georgewoodley@talktalk.net)

## Naturewatch – Fascinating Fungi

Peter Walker will introduce us to the varied world of mushrooms and toadstools at our Naturewatch winter speaker's meeting at the Institute on Friday 2 December at 7.30pm. Anyone interested is very welcome and refreshments will be available after the meeting.



## Get into the Christmas Spirit this December with Cambridge Past, Present & Future (CambridgePPF)



Our events for all the family are perfect for working off those extra mince pies – healthy walking around Wandlebury, a great full-body workout with the Nordic walking group, or a more relaxed afternoon of discovery for adults, learning the skills of tree identification. There are opportunities for both adults and children to create some beautiful seasonal handcrafts.

### **Healthy Walking: Thursday 1, 8, 15 December: 10am or 10.30am to 11am**

Keep fit by joining our healthy walkers this December for one of our Walking for Health accredited sociable walks around the park. Meet at the Stable Rooms at 10am for a longer walk or 10.30am for a shorter stroll. The walks end at around 11am with tea and coffee in the Stable Rooms. All are welcome, suitable for all different abilities.

**NB:** Free of charge and no need to book, but please arrive 10 minutes early to register if it's your first time. Donations towards the upkeep of the park are always welcome.

### **Winter Tree Identification: Saturday 3 December: 1pm to 4pm**

Join the CambridgePPF team for this fascinating workshop for adults in the beautiful winter scenery of the Country Park. Learn the basic skills of tree identification using bark, buds, shape and form (and leaves and seeds when available!) and then put them to the test on a guided tree trail around Wandlebury – a perfect relaxing afternoon in the outdoors.

**NB:** For adults only. Booking essential. £8 per person (members £6). Dress warmly for being outside and wear sturdy shoes.

### **Christmas Wreath Making for Adults: Saturday 10 December: 11am to 1pm or 2pm to 4pm**

Celebrate Christmas in natural style with your own personalised wreaths, woven willow and wooden tree decorations. Join the team at Wandlebury and discover how to craft stunning seasonal decorations from natural materials.

**NB:** For adults only. Booking essential for this activity – please book early to avoid disappointment! £12 per adult (members £10). Dress warmly. Tea and coffee provided.

### **Nordic Walking: Wednesday 14 December: 1pm, 2pm or 3pm start**

Get into the rhythm and enhance your wellbeing and fitness levels with this very friendly Nordic Walking group at Wandlebury Park, led by Wellbeing Coach/Nordic Walking instructor Oliver Glynn. Nordic Walkers use more of their entire body than regular strollers, so you'll get a great workout without even noticing it. Don't worry if you've never tried it before – instruction will be given. There are three levels of walk: 1pm start for those with restricted mobility, 2pm for a healthy lifestyle speed, 3pm total beginners.

**NB:** Poles can be borrowed free of charge if required. Restricted mobility and healthy lifestyle walks free of charge, £15 per hour for total beginners. Car park free for CambridgePPF members, non members £3.

### **Christmas Crafts for Children: Saturday 17 December: 10am or 2pm start**

Children love to get involved with the decorations too – let the little ones get out of the house and help contribute to your special family event, making attractive rustic decorations using natural materials from the park. Expert guidance will be on hand and you'll take home some wonderful creations to deck the halls that will make it a Christmas to remember.

**NB:** Ages 5+. Children must remain accompanied by an adult. Booking is essential – please book early as this is a popular event. £8 per child (members £6), adults free.

**Directions: Wandlebury Country Park is on the A1307, 2.5km south of the Addenbrooke's roundabout. Parking is available on site and costs £3 per vehicle, members free. For more information: email [bookings@cambridgeppf.org](mailto:bookings@cambridgeppf.org) or call 01223 243 830 extension 207 or visit [www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on](http://www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on)**

## Church Services for December 2016

<i>DATE</i>	<i>Gt. Abington</i> 	<i>Lt. Abington</i> 	<i>Hildersham</i> 	<i>Readings</i>
4 December	3.30pm Messy Church 4.30pm Christingle		6.00pm Evensong	Isaiah 11.1-10 Matthew 3.1-12
11 December		8.00am Communion	9.15am Communion	Isaiah 35.1-10 Matthew 11.2-11
18 December	6.30pm Carol Service		3.00pm Carol Service	
24 December Christmas Eve		10.30am Crib Service 11.30pm Communion		Isaiah 57.7-10 John 1.1-14
25 December Christmas Day	10.45am Communion		9.15am Communion	Isaiah 9.2-7 Luke 2. 1-20
1 January	10.00am	UNITED SERVICE	AT	BALSHAM

### Church Flower Rota

	<i>Great Abington</i>	<i>Little Abington</i>	<i>Hildersham</i>
4 December	Advent	Helen Rogers (Cleaning)	Advent
11 December	Advent	Helen Rogers (Cleaning)	Advent
18 December	All help please	Sally Turnidge (Cleaning)	All help please
25 December	Christmas	All help please	Christmas

### Churchwardens

<i>Hildersham</i>	Cathy Myer	'Woodside', Hildersham	892848
	Andrew Westwood-Bate	5 Sleaford Close, Balsham	892430
<i>Great Abington</i>	Tony Collett	23 Meadow Walk, Great Abington	893447
<i>Little Abington</i>	Graham Ross	41 Church Lane, Little Abington	891564

### Assistant Church Wardens

<i>Great Abington</i>	Anne Hall	12 Magna Close, Great Abington	892275
	Patsy Randall	77 High Street, Great Abington	07765 345 714
<i>Little Abington</i>	Mary Miles	36 Church Lane, Little Abington	891083
	Marilyn Broadhurst	34 West Field, Little Abington	893214

### Parish Nurse

Claire Gillett	Not 24 hrs, please leave a message if no reply - Claire will respond when next on duty.	07498 994205
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