



# The Abingtons and Hildersham News



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

**April 2017**



*Photo by Brian Moore*

**Newly born lambs at Hildersham March 2017**

## Letter from the Editor

What a pleasure to have longer days and the brightness of hundreds of daffodils in all directions. Easter brings special church services (pages 4, 20) and a reminder that this month is not just about holidays, Easter bunnies and chocolate eggs.

At Great Abington church a festive evensong service was the splendid occasion for the dedication of new community facilities by Bishop Stephen of Ely. The new kitchen enabled participants to enjoy tea and cakes as they admired the new build (page 5). Don't miss the Messy Church service on 2 April which will include a range of fun activities and certainly call on the kitchen for catering (pages 5, 6).

Hildersham Village Hall has been undergoing a facelift which you can admire if you attend the final Teatime there on 6 April. Emmaus will be coming to collect good but unwanted items. So on 18 April please deliver to the Village Hall the books, games, ornaments, furniture and household goods that you no longer need. Hildersham Church offers a lecture on the life of a Royal Navy submariner on 28 April and has secured a prestigious concert by Vox Cantab at 3pm on 1 April (pages 8, 12).

The tragic plight of peoples in war-torn or drought-ridden countries has prompted a fundraising Famine Lunch at the Institute on 4 April (page 4). Do support this if you can.

Impressive perimeter fences now mark the site on the Pampisford Road/High Street where 20 homes are to be built. The Little Abington Parish Council reports that Granta Park/TWI reminds village residents that they should keep to the permissive paths on the site. It is private property and there is a health and safety hazard in plant/working areas (page 7).

The next community oil order will be at the end of April. See page 7 for details.

Page 13 carries a very interesting report about the way the Abington Allotments are organised and used. My thanks to Richard Smith for that.

The Walking Group, Naturewatch and the Bowls Club, along with the allotments, provide plenty of opportunities to share outdoor activities and make new friends (pages 17, 15). The diary (pages 10-11) and pages 12, 15-17 give many alternative options for those seeking indoor classes and meetings. Our villagers are very fortunate in having many willing volunteers able to take responsibility for organising community events.

Congratulations to Anne Hall who has received the SCDC Annual Community Award for Wellbeing; well deserved recognition for a tireless worker for the community (page 14).

Valerie Silvey

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Articles for the May edition of *The Abingtons and Hildersham News* should be sent to the Editor by Saturday 15 April 2017 at [news@theabingtons.org.uk](mailto:news@theabingtons.org.uk). Photos welcome.

**Abington Institute AGM**  
**The AGM will be held at the Institute at 7.30pm on 24 April.**  
**Everyone welcome.**

## From the Seven Churches

Good news! The advertisement for a new priest for our six parishes will be released to the Church Times newspaper after Easter, so we are very pleased with the progress.

More good news is that the Women's World Day of Prayer went well at Hildersham. The music was jolly and the hymns were sung with gusto. Next year the service will be written by the women of Suriname, and will take place on Friday 2 March, hopefully at Hildersham Church again. All are welcome, no matter what denomination or faith.

Compline is night prayer, and is designed to be said last thing at night before going to sleep. Its Latin name 'completorium' means something that fills up or completes something, and indeed Compline completes the Liturgy of the Hours and the day. In days gone by in monasteries they had Compline as the last service of the day. As we are in the season of Lent we are encouraged to begin by examining our conscience and it is a chance to see how the day has gone and appreciate the good things in it or even the things that were difficult. Perhaps you might like to come to one of our Compline services this year and see what it has to offer. There are services being held on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week (see below).

The word Maundy is derived from the Latin word for 'command.' The 'Maundy' in Maundy Thursday refers to the command Jesus gave to the disciples at the Last Supper, that they should love and serve one another. Jesus shows his example of humility which we are all encouraged to follow. Come and join us at Great Abington church at 7.30pm. If you have never been before I'm sure you will find it very moving.

May I wish you all a Happy Easter. I and the rest of the Ministry Team look forward to seeing you at the services.

Kathy Bishop

### Services in Holy Week.

#### Compline services at 7.30pm

*Mon 10th April – West Wickham*

*Tues 11th April – Weston Colville*

*Weds 12th April – West Wrating*

#### Maundy Thursday Eucharist - Great Abington 7.30pm

#### Good Friday Services

*Devotional Service – 9.30am – Hildersham*

*Stations of the Cross – 11.30am – Balsham*

*Last Hour – 2.00pm – Lt Abington*

Keith Johnson

### Famine Lunch 12noon – 2.00pm, on 4 April

The Abington Churches, responding to the current famine crisis in Yemen, South Sudan, Nigeria and Somalia, are holding a Famine Lunch (soup, bread & cheese, tea/coffee) in the Village Institute on Tuesday 4 April 12noon – 2.00pm.

There will be a Bring and Buy Stall should you wish to give or purchase cakes, gifts or garden produce.

Do please come.

Any queries, please contact Patsy Randall, Anne Hall 892 275, Mary Miles 891 083 or Lynne Rieicansky 893 295.

## News from the Pews

**Martin Luther wrote:** *Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime.*

At the recent Deanery Fair the Abington and Hildersham Plant and Produce Stall raised £145 towards the Fair total of £1376. Thank you to all who donated items.

Marilyn Broadhurst



*Photos by Tony Collett. Left Bishop Stephen with Julie Norris, Hilary Russell (nee Chaplin), Audrey Bugg; right Bishop with Keith Johnson, Julie Norris, Kathy Bishop, Simon Talbott*

Sincere thanks to all who helped prepare, gave delicious cakes and helped at the Service of Dedication in Great Abington Church in the presence of Bishop Stephen. It was a wonderful occasion, made possible by the generosity of members of our community, many of whom joined us.

Tony Collett

It is not too late to dedicate a lily in memory of a loved one. Displays of the lilies will be in both churches on Easter Sunday. Please put your donation in an envelope with the name of the person(s) written inside the envelope and give to one of the Churchwardens. Thank you.

Churchwardens (names on page 20)

**Spring Messy Church** Everyone is warmly invited to the Spring Messy Church on Sunday 2 April at 3.30pm at St Mary's Church Great Abington followed by tea at 5pm. The theme is 'New Life through Friendship'. There will be storytelling with the team from Open the Book, music making, and four craft activities from a spring flower decoration to edible nests. There will also be a Treasure Hunt (weather permitting) and some quiet activities including building a new design in Lego in the quiet corner.

The **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** will be held in Great Abington Church on Thursday 6 April at 7pm. All welcome to attend.

Mary Miles (Secretary)

The **'Annual Clear-Up Day'** in Little Abington Churchyard will be on Saturday 8 April. We encourage those who have loved ones resting in our churchyard to come along and lend a hand to keep this sacred area tidy. Thank you.

Graham Ross

On Sunday 23 April there will be a **Service of Reflection** at St Mary's Church Little Abington at 4pm followed by refreshments. Everyone welcome.

Rosemary Mead

Do join us for our services in Holy Week. Our Easter Day Service will be held in Great Abington Church followed by an Easter Egg Hunt and Refreshments.

**Charity for the Month:** Following the Famine Lunch our charity will continue to raise money for the famine crisis in Yemen, South Sudan, Nigeria and Somalia. We have all seen the sad coverage on news bulletins. We hope you feel able to give to this charity; there are charity-giving boxes in both our churches.

Anne Hall

## **Little Abington United Reformed Church**

There will be a warm welcome for you at any of our services.

2 April	10.15am	Mrs Liz Wade
9 April	10.15am	Mr Lynn Taylor
16 April	2.30pm	Revd. Bruce Waldron (Holy Communion)
23 April	10.15am	Mrs Sarah Deveraux
30 April	10.15am	TBA

We are also helping with the famine lunch and bring and buy stall to raise money for refugees (see page 4).

For more information please contact Lynne on 893 295.

## **Thanks to a Good Samaritan**

I would very much like to thank the gentleman (and his extremely well-behaved spaniel), who came to Holme Court School to alert us to the fallen tree that Storm Doris had taken down, completely obstructing the driveway.

Our thanks also go to the gentlemen who so kindly came and chain sawed through the tree in order for both staff and children to leave safely at the end of the day.

Your kindness was very much appreciated by Gill and all the staff and children at Holme Court School, Abington Woods.

Very many thanks.

Gill Ingram, School Business Manager  
Holme Court School Cambridge

## **Spring Messy Church**

**Sunday 2 April 3.30-5pm**

**St Marys Church, Great Abington**



Fun and worship for families and children of all ages. Please do come and join us to celebrate Spring with a treasure hunt, activities, crafts, songs and story. Our afternoon will conclude with tea at 5pm (also see page 5).

## **The Abingtons Litter Pick on Saturday 1 April 2017**

All welcome to join the litter pick 10am to 12 noon. The more the merrier.

Meet at the Institute at 10am.

Grabbers and gloves will be available.

Refreshments provided after the work is done.

Wellingtons recommended.

**Village news:** Granta Park noise continues to be an issue and another complaint has been received. TWI has taken some steps to manage the noise so this will be monitored. Residents are reminded that Granta Park is private property and when walking on site, there are health and safety hazards. A map showing the paths and roads on the site and the surrounding area has been provided; these will be placed on the village noticeboards and the village website:

<http://www.theabingtons.org.uk/parish-councils/little-abington-parish-council/>

A new smart TV for the meeting room at the Abington Institute and picnic benches on the recreation ground/playing fields are soon to be installed using pre-allocated funds.

The annual Abingtons Litter Pick as organised by GAPC will be held on Saturday 1 April. There are LAPC-produced posters outlining the event.

Several trees and branches came down in Storm Doris with some emergency work having to be done in Church Lane. Further safety concerns are being assessed and villagers are urged to report any potential risks.

A Neighbourhood Watch scheme is being reviewed; local interest is being gauged by Mr Dennis Lightning.

**Highways and traffic:** There are certainly parking and traffic problems at busy times outside the school, so residents are reminded to slow down and park with courtesy or, ideally, avoid use of cars as the weather improves. New signage is also under consideration.

Improvements to the footbridge and cycleway over the A11 will be supported by the City Deal.

The damage to the bus shelter on Cambridge road will be repaired very soon; it is not clear how this was caused.

**Planning applications:** <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/services/planning-applications> S/0469/17/FL. Perse School Pavilion, Newmarket Road. Siting of new metal storage container - recommended approval

### **Little Abington Parish Council Meetings**

Abington Institute, High Street

**Next Meeting: Monday 24 April 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)

### **Community Oil Order**

Rod Willcox will be taking orders for domestic heating oil from 24 to 28 April. He will then negotiate a deal and expect oil deliveries in the first week of May 2017. Please let him know the quantity of oil you want and also supply your name, address, post code, and phone number. Contact [rodwillcox@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rodwillcox@hotmail.co.uk) or by phone 07767 686 351.

## Hildersham Focus

### Macmillan Mammoth Quiz

Hildersham took part in this nationwide quiz on 24 February. The questions were interesting and challenging and, for one round, Raymond, our question master was not allowed to repeat any. That certainly made us sit up and pay attention! The whole evening was great fun and raised a magnificent £476 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

### Hildersham Village Hall

Have you noticed that the village hall is looking a little different? The exterior is having a bit of a facelift, with some of the old railings removed and others secured and repainted. Many thanks to Steve Wells for carrying this out. Work to repair and improve the entrance ramp is scheduled for later in the spring.

### 'It's Teatime' 6 April, 3pm at Hildersham Village Hall

**Easter Teatime!** Hot cross buns, Easter biscuits and chocolate cake! Come and celebrate this joyous time of year. Everyone is welcome – all seven stages of man and woman!

This will be the last time we hold this event. We have so much enjoyed the company of those who have walked across the fields from Linton and caught the bus back home, those who braved the unexpected rise in the river surrounding the village hall, those who have called in after school to eat cake and play in the play park. Thank you for coming.

*Cathy and Kate*

### Emmaus Collection 18 April 6pm – 8pm Hildersham Village Hall

Do you have good but unwanted items hanging around the house or garage? Have a spring clean and bring them to Hildersham Village Hall for the biannual collection for Emmaus. This excellent charity will sell or up-cycle them at the centre in Landbeach.

### Vox Cantab sings at Hildersham Church 3pm on Saturday 1 April

See page 12.

### Hildersham Lecture 7.30pm on 28 April at Hildersham Church

'Life **under** the ocean wave' Part 2. Andrew Westwood-Bate will continue his illustrated account of life as a submariner in the Royal Navy. Tickets including refreshments: £5, U18s free

## Hildersham Arts Festival at HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Saturday 3 June and Sunday 4 June 2017

### WHAT DO YOU DO?

PAINT, DRAW, SCULPT, MODEL, SEW, KNIT, PHOTOGRAPH, TURN WOOD,  
ARRANGE FLOWERS...

SING, RECITE, PLAY AN INSTRUMENT, PLAY IN A BAND...

### WHAT DO YOU DO NEXT?

If you would like to take part contact:

May Dry 13 Beech Row Telephone: 01223 893128

Cathy Myer Woodside High St email: [catherinemyer43@btinternet.com](mailto:catherinemyer43@btinternet.com)

Amanda Palmer 14 Beech Row email [amjpalmer@gmail.com](mailto:amjpalmer@gmail.com)

## **The Rolling Supper is back! Saturday 1 July from 7.30 pm**

After a couple of years of happy dancing in the barn, the Rolling Supper is stepping back onto the stage. The evening traditionally begins with a starter at a venue yet to be disclosed (but already decided), where guests will find out who their hosts will be for the main course. Following this, guests will roll on to the final venue for dessert. Wine is included in the price of the ticket. It is always a lovely evening strolling around Hildersham and a privilege to be hosted by village friends. Funds raised will support Hildersham Church Repair Fund.

Tickets at £25 per person are available for sale now from Amanda (894316 email: [amjpalmer@gmail.com](mailto:amjpalmer@gmail.com)), Cathy (892848 email: [catherinemyer43@btinternet.com](mailto:catherinemyer43@btinternet.com)), or Kate (894862 email: [katehuntsman@btinternet.com](mailto:katehuntsman@btinternet.com)). Numbers are limited so please book early.

## **Hildersham Parish Council A Quality Parish Council**



### **Report on the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 21 March**

#### **Pear Tree pub**

Under section 95c of Localism Act 2011 the owners of the Pear Tree informed the District Council of their wish to dispose of the business premise which is an Asset of Community Value. The Parish Council requested a full moratorium which will last until midnight on 16 April 2017. During this time the owner can only sell the business to a relevant community interest group. After the moratorium period has ended the owners are free to dispose of the listed asset to whomever they wish.

At a public meeting held on 8 February a community interest company was set up and is now in the process of raising funds.

#### **Planning application for 95 houses along Back Road, Linton**

The council will be writing to the District Council to express its concern about the likely increase in traffic on Back Road, which is barely wide enough for two cars to pass, and the anticipated increase in traffic at congested local junctions.

#### **Defibrillator**

With the permission of Hildersham Village Hall Trust the defibrillator will be attached to the front of the village hall so that it is accessible and clearly visible to all.

#### **New play equipment**

The council is keen to get suggestions for new play equipment from children that use Hildersham recreation ground play area. Please send your ideas to Darren Long @ [djil@yahoo.com](mailto:djil@yahoo.com).

#### **Next meeting**

Please note that the next council meeting will start at the **earlier time of 7pm** to allow time for the Parish Meeting and the AGM.

**The next meeting of Hildersham Parish Council will be on Tuesday 9 May starting at 7pm at Hildersham Village Hall, High Street, Hildersham.**

## Dates for your Diary

Date		Venue Abington Institute unless stated	Time	Page
Sat	1	Abingtons Litter Pick	10.00am	6
		Scrapbooking Group	10.00am	11
		Vox Cantab concert – Hildersham Church	3.00pm	12
Sun	2	Messy Church Great Abington Church	3.30pm	5, 6
Mon	3	French Conversation	1.00pm	
		Abington Gardening Club	7.30pm	17
Tue	4	Art Group	9.30am	
		Famine Lunch	12noon	4
		Keep Fit	7.00pm	
Wed	5	Senior Keep Fit	12 noon	
Thu	6	Abington Walking Group	10.00am	15
		Easter Teatime – Hildersham Village Hall	3.00pm	8
Fri	7	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	11
		Family Film Night – doors open	6.15pm	12
Sat	8	Little Abington Churchyard Clean up		5
Mon	10	French conversation	1.00pm	
		Abington & Hildersham WI	7.30pm	16
Tue	11	Forget-Ne-Not Club	2.00pm	16
		Keep Fit	7.00pm	15
		Reading Group – 23 Cambridge Road, Little Ab.	8.00pm	
Wed	12	FGMN Club visit to Morrison's supermarket		16
		Senior Keep Fit	12 noon	
Thu	13	Flower Workshop	10.00am	12
Tue	18	Emmaus collection at Hildersham Village Hall	6.00pm	8
		Keep Fit	7.00pm	
Wed	19	Senior Keep Fit	12 noon	
		Dynamic Dance Class	3.15pm	11
Thu	20	LSA Working Group Neighbourhood Plan	2.00pm	
Fri	21	Low Impact Aerobics	9.30am	11
		Pilates	10.45am	11
		Film Night – doors open	6.45pm	12
Sat	22	Abington Walking Group	10.00am	15
		Family Yoga	10.00am	11
Mon	24	Little Abington Parish Council	7.15pm	7
		Abington Institute AGM	7.30pm	3
Tue	25	Art Group	9.30am	
		Mobile Library	am	12
		Forget-Me-Not Club	2.00pm	16
		Bowls – Abington Bowling green	2.00pm	17
		Keep Fit	7.00pm	
		Scrabble Club	7.00pm	15
Wed	26	Senior Keep Fit	12 noon	
		Dynamic Dance Class	3.15pm	11
Thu	27	Abington Lunch	12.45pm	15

		<b>Bowls</b> - Abington Bowling green	6.00pm	17
Fri	28	<b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> – Pre-school building	9.30am	11
		<b>Low Impact Aerobics</b>	9.30am	11
		<b>Pilates</b>	10.45am	11
		<b>Hildersham Lecture</b> – Hildersham Church	7.30pm	8
Sat	29	<b>Rivercare litter pick-up</b> – meet at road bridge/ford	9.30am	
		<b>Naturewatch Spring Meeting</b>	10.30am	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)

### Jeremiah's Café in Abington Village Institute

#### Opening times in April 2017

Thursday lunchtimes 11.30am – 1.30pm (6, 13, and 20) Lunch 27<sup>th</sup>

Friday mornings 8.45am – 11.00am

Saturday mornings 10am – 12 noon

**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)

### Wheelie bin dates for April 2017 (Abingtons and Hildersham)

<b>Mon 3</b>	<b>Mon 10</b>	<b>Wed 19</b>	<b>Tue 25</b>	<b>Tue 2 May</b>
Black	Green/Blue	Black	Green/Blue	Black

**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)

#### **Family Yoga Morning Saturday 22 April 10–11am at Abington Institute**

Come and start your day with some stretches, yoga games and fun! Aimed at children of all ages and their parents. Please contact Jeffi for more information on 07931 790 591.

**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)

## Film Nights at Abington Institute

This month **Family Film Night** is on **Friday 7 April**. Doors open 6.15pm, film starts at 6.30pm.

**Film Night** is on **Friday 21 April**. Doors open 6.45pm, film starts 7.00pm. Raffle and refreshments. All welcome. See the poster in the Institute for full details.

For further details of this and all future Film Nights please subscribe to our mailing list using the link at <http://www.theabingtons.org.uk> or email an enquiry to [films@theabingtons.org.uk](mailto:films@theabingtons.org.uk)

Dianne Dawson (893 101)

## Flower workshops 2017 - on the Terrace, Abington Institute

**'An Easter workshop'** - Thursday 13 April 10am - 12.30pm

A workshop using seasonal flowers.

**'Create your own Dutch Master'** - Thursday 29 June 10am - 12.30pm

Inspired by famous Dutch flower paintings (lots of examples in the Fitzwilliam Museum). Create your own fresh flower version.

To register your interest or to find out more please get in touch.

Freda Orgee (891 464) or [fredasflowers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:fredasflowers@hotmail.co.uk)

## Mobile Library

*Recent notification is that we are now on Route C23 on the fourth Tuesday in the month, instead of the third Tuesday each month.*

Tuesday 25 April 2017, 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	12.45–1.00pm
	(near Village Hall)	

## Vox Cantab sings at Hildersham Church 3pm on Saturday 1 April

This nationally acclaimed chamber choir has chosen to sing in Hildersham Church as part of its spring tour. We are delighted to welcome them.

Tickets costing £5 and more information are available from:

Cathy Myer 892 848 or Andrew Westwood-Bate 892 430 or visit our web page:

[www.hildersham.com/vox-cantab.html](http://www.hildersham.com/vox-cantab.html)

## Gardener's Question Time, Thursday 6 April

**The David Rayner Building, Scotsdale Garden Centre, Great Shelford**

**Chaired by Peter Jackson, Horticultural Adviser to Scotsdales**

Tickets cost £11 and include:

10% discount on shopping throughout the day

A finger buffet with free glass of wine and quiz sheets from 6pm to 7pm.

Presentation talk and Question Time 7pm to 8.30pm.

Quiz results and raffle 8.30pm.

Tickets are available from Scotsdale information desk or Rotary Club members Revd Simon Talbott (847 068), Tony Collett (893 447) or Brian Seeley (890 024).

This event is organised by Sawston Rotary Club and proceeds will go to Rotary Charities and Scotsdales Charitable Foundation.

## Spotlight on Allotments

As the 2017 growing season bursts into life it seems a good time to update *News* readers on what goes on at the Abington allotment site on Linton Road. (Photos by Annette Shortell)



First, it's good to be able to say that all plots on the site are let, so this village asset made available by Chris Nutt's generosity is clearly well appreciated by Abington residents. His executors' commitment to the Allotment Association of continued security of tenure has been very welcome. And indeed the location of the allotment site is now embedded in the local development plan.

As a reward for some healthy exercise an allotment can offer a supply of vegetables, salad crops and soft fruit of a freshness and flavour rarely equalled by commercially grown produce. We may not be able to match the uniformity and consistency of professionally grown veg, but it's the taste that really matters. Allotmenters all have access to a mains water supply via five tanks, and to a discounted seed, seed potatoes and sundries purchase scheme. One allotment is set up as an

accessible raised bed. Manure can be bought by the barrow load, thanks to Richard Joyce, Agricultural Engineer, who assisted with delivery of several trailer loads last autumn.

Readers interested in renting a plot are invited to get in touch with Membership Secretary Brian Hayden-Smith (email: [brianhaydensmith@hotmail.com](mailto:brianhaydensmith@hotmail.com) Tel: 01223 894 046), and get their names on the waiting list. There is always turnover of plots (no pun intended), so you should not have a long wait to secure an allotment.

The site is managed and maintained by a Management Committee elected by members. As well as dealing with the usual financial and administrative matters, the Committee planted and now trims the boundary hedge, looks after the roads and fences, and keeps grassy areas strimmed. The path alongside the allotments is also strimmed for villagers' use. Last year we were fortunate to acquire a store shed no longer required at Great Abington church. Committee members reassembled it and



made some necessary repairs. The shed is a useful addition for storage of equipment and will shortly provide a location for an accessible first aid kit. Also alongside the store is a comfortable wooden bench purchased using the profits of a series of allotment breakfasts, run by AALGA member Dave Percival, matched with Association funds.

We're also pleased to see non-members at what have become regular village events run by the Association – a BBQ in September and a Quiz Night early in the year (most recently on 3 March). Thanks are due to Graham Kennedy for running the quiz with his always teasing sets of questions. There's a well-supported raffle at the quiz, and last year the surplus was donated to Macmillan Nurses.

Abington Allotment and Leisure Gardeners' Association aims to continue to play an active part in the life of our village community for many years to come.

Richard Smith, Chair, AALGA ([richardandgill.smith@live.co.uk](mailto:richardandgill.smith@live.co.uk))

**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 15 May 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)

**South Cambridgeshire Annual Community Awards 2017**

Warmest congratulations to Anne Hall who received the Wellbeing Award from Councillor Roberts. This recognised Anne as an inspirational, hands-on churchwarden who also runs the Forget-Me-Not Club for senior citizens, set up the village women's choir and is on standby to help several elderly and vulnerable residents.

Anne's daughters, Naomi Froment and Tasha Whittaker, say 'Congratulations Mum on winning the Wellbeing Award. Having done so much for the village over the years it is wonderful that this has been recognised. We are proud of you.'



*Photo L to Rt. Sue Ellington Chairman of Council, Anne Hall, Deborah Roberts*

Congratulations also to Deborah James whose sterling work at Abington Woods won her second place in the award for Outstanding Youth Initiative.

**Get cracking this Easter with Cambridge Past, Present & Future**

**Beginners Orienteering –for accompanied children, Tuesday 11 April: 11am to 1pm**

Join an energetic orienteering activity specially designed for beginners at Wandlebury. Navigate your way around the string course, with off-string and cone activities, and progression to short circular routes – a great way to learn to work as a team.

**NB:** Booking is essential for this event. For ages 4 - 8. £8 first child, subsequent children and members £6. Children must remain accompanied by an adult throughout. No previous experience necessary, instruction will be given. Equipment provided. Meet at the Wandlebury Stable Rooms.

**Bushcraft at Wandlebury – Wednesday 12 April: 10am to 4pm**

For a real hint of adventure, set the children loose for a day of independence and fun that teaches all the bushcraft skills they will need: building shelters, various fire-making skills and cooking over them, tracking and whittling. Bring a packed lunch to eat around a camp fire. Dress for being outdoors and according to the weather.

**NB:** For unaccompanied children aged 8-12 years. This is a popular event so early booking is recommended. Booking and payment in advance is essential. £45 per child (members £40). Meet at the Wandlebury Stable Rooms.

**Directions:** Wandlebury Country Park is on the A1307, 2.5km south of the Addenbrooke's roundabout. CB22 3AE. Parking is available on site and costs £3 per vehicle, free to members.

**For more information:** email [bookings@cambridgeppf.org](mailto:bookings@cambridgeppf.org) call 01223 243830 extension 207 or visit [www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on](http://www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on)



# Abington Lunch

## Thursday 27 April 2017



Fruit Juice

### Salmon Fillet with Spring Vegetables

### Rhubarb Fool and Ice Cream

Tea or Coffee

Please book your meal on 07789 585 399. Leave your name and telephone number with your message before noon on Tuesday 25 April. Don't forget to tell us if you need a special diet. Doors open at **12.45pm**. Note that the lunch is open to **ALL** Abington and Hildersham residents. **Only £5.**

**Next lunch Thursday 25 May 2016**

**Scrabble Club** The next meeting will be at 7pm on Tuesday 25 April in the Institute. New members very welcome.

Sheena Fraser

### Reading Group

11 April	<i>Spilling the Beans</i> Clarissa Dickson Wright	Sally Turnidge
9 May	<i>The Inheritance of Loss</i> Kiran Desai	Anna Heron
13 June	<i>Ice</i> Ulla-Lena Lundberg	Diana Wingfield

Please confirm your attendance in April to Sally.

Lisa Pechey

### Abington Walking Group

Our March walks took us to Lode and Dullingham.

The next walks are on Thursday 6 and Saturday 22 April.

For anyone new to the village or new to walking do join us for a very sociable easy walk of around five miles.

We meet at the Village Institute at 10am twice a month.

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)



## **Abington & Hildersham Women's Institute**

March is the month of our Annual General Meeting, a more formal affair than usual, with reports of the year's activities and full accounts of our income and expenditure which reflected another successful year for our WI. Thanks were given to the committee for their organisation and to the members for their continued support. The new committee and officers were elected and plans for future meetings and outings discussed. We were pleased to welcome two new visitors and look forward to them joining our WI. Business over, we relaxed with wine and cheese tasting and a challenge to identify the 10 cheeses and their country of origin.

**Next meeting: Monday 10 April 7.30pm "Alaska" - an illustrated talk by Geoff Evans.**

New members and visitors (£4) always welcome.

Marilyn Broadhurst (893 214)

## **Forget-Me-Not Club**

On 28 February members enjoyed the lunch prepared and delivered by The Three Tuns. Sincere thanks to Chris and Karen and indeed their friendly staff for this service, it is really appreciated by all the members. This was followed by a quiz to name the songs from the 1950's musicals. This really made our memory cells work and inevitably ended in quite a singsong, led by Marion.

On 28 March the Fish and Chip lunch, followed by various cheesecakes, was enjoyed. This made us all rather sleepy. Was it the lunch or the boredom of the AGM?

## **Annual Subs are now due - £5**

All new members are warmly welcomed.

## **Dates for April**

**Tuesday 11 April 2pm start – 62<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Party with entertainment from local comedian and impersonator Mr. Paul Banks**

**Wednesday 12 April – Trip to Morrison's Supermarket at Cambourne**

**Tuesday 25 April 2pm start – Talk by Dr Fatima Santos from Babraham Institute on 'Epigenetics: The Memory of Life' (Fatima promises to simplify this talk for us)**

Anne Hall (Chair) Tel. 892 275

### **WI Plant and Cake Stall**

**Saturday 6 May, 9.30 – 11.00am at Abington Village Institute**

Abington & Hildersham Women's Institute is holding a stall outside the Abington Institute selling locally grown plants and homemade cakes and produce.

Come and buy quality annuals, perennials, bedding and vegetable plants for your garden at bargain prices and treat yourself to a scrumptious cake and a pot of homemade jam or chutney.

## Naturewatch Spring Meeting

On Saturday 29 April at 10.30am at the Institute, we will be holding our Spring Meeting when we will present our spring/summer programme of visits and projects. Refreshments will be available via the café and anyone interested is very welcome.



A limited number of copies of our 2016 Report- The Record - which contains photos and reports of our 2016 visits and the wildlife around Abington are now available for £1 and can be obtained from me, David Farrant, or at our April meeting.



On Saturday 4 March, Naturewatch went on a visit to the Wetland Trust's Welney Reserve. 39 bird species were seen, the highlights being a Great White Egret, a huge flock of Golden Plover as well as Whooper Swans (see photo by David Farrant), Black-tailed Godwits and a wide range of ducks.

Pictures from the trip and other local reports are available on the Naturewatch website –

<http://abington-naturewatch.blogspot.com>  
<http://www.theabingtons.org.uk>

reached through the village website –

## Abington Gardening Club

On Monday 3 April at 7.30pm in the Institute George Thorpe will give a talk entitled 'Climbing Plants in the Garden'. A programme of summer visits will be available at the meeting.

All welcome (visitors £3).

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

## Abington Bowls Club

ROLL UP..... 2017 Pre Season Open

Dates for your Diary

2pm Tuesday 25 April,

6pm Thursday 27 April,

2pm Tuesday 2 May,

6pm Thursday 4 May



Interested? Have a go. New team members welcome.

Essential flat sole footwear (no heels).

Lawn bowls promotes excellent physical, mental and social wellbeing.

Annette Shortell

## 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.

## Electronic mail between hospitals and your GP

We thought it might be reassuring to explain how letters and discharge summaries sent from hospitals to your GP are dealt with in what is becoming a paperless society!

We receive the vast majority of clinical letters and discharge summaries from hospitals to your GP via our secure NHS mail account. These letters are then imported directly into our clinical system at least twice daily. Each letter is matched to the appropriate patient and forwarded to either the patient's usual GP or the GP that referred the patient, even if the letter is addressed to another GP.

It can be confusing for a patient to be copied in on a letter which is not addressed to their usual GP. However this is because of the way the "Spine" is set up. The Spine is where all the patient demographics eg. NHS Number, address, usual GP, medication and allergies etc. are stored.

The reason it might have a different GP name to the one you have been seeing is because the hospitals will use the organisation address of where you are registered and send documents to the Senior Partner.

Please be assured your letter or discharge summary will be allocated to the correct GP on receipt. The only occasion it might be sent to a different GP is if your normal GP is away and his/her work being covered by another doctor.

As we use one clinical system across all Granta Medical Practices sites, the processing of the clinical post can and does happen at all sites and all staff are fully trained to deal with all the clinical post in a timely manner.

### Electronic referrals - E-Referral

I am sure many of you will have experienced E-Referral or Choose and Book as it was previously known. For those that haven't, the NHS e-Referral Service is a secure appointment booking service. We will make your first outpatient appointment for you in the first available clinic but you can change or cancel your appointments online, by phone or at your GP surgery. **You should make your GP aware of any holiday or dates you are unavailable.**

Jane Bertram, PA to Granta Medical Practices

## Addenbrooke's Make a Will Week 24 to 28 April

Make a Will while making a difference for local patients. Making or updating your Will can seem like a big challenge. However, it can be a lot more affordable and straightforward than you think.

Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust's Make a Will week takes place this year from 24 to 28 April. A group of local solicitors and Will-writers have kindly agreed to waive their usual fees and write or update a simple Will in return for your making a donation to change patient's lives at Addenbrooke's or the Rosie hospitals. To find out more call Katherine on 217 757 or email [hello@act4addenbrookes.org.uk](mailto:hello@act4addenbrookes.org.uk) or visit [www.act4addenbrookes.org.uk/makeawill](http://www.act4addenbrookes.org.uk/makeawill)



**Sunday 14 May** is the big day when we hope to raise lots of money for the Arthur Rank Hospice and many local youth organisations including **Abington Annexe Preschool**.

**Registration now open** –join this unique community celebration and enter for either the traditional Long Route (7.4k, 4.7 miles) or the Short Route (4k, 2.5 miles). Enter via the website.

**Your running days over?** Share the atmosphere and excitement by entering as a walker!

**Pre-school children** – We have set up a new category this year. Parents can register pre-school children to accompany them free of charge.

Full information on the website [www.sawstonfunrun.co.uk](http://www.sawstonfunrun.co.uk)

Keep up with all the news on our Facebook page.

Contact us via [Enquiries@sawstonfunrun.co.uk](mailto:Enquiries@sawstonfunrun.co.uk)

## Church Services for April 2017

DATE	Gt. Abington 	Lt. Abington 	Hildersham 	Readings
2 April	3.30pm Messy Church		6.00pm Evensong	Ezekiel 37.1-14 John 11.1-45
9 April		8.00am Communion	9.15am Communion	Isaiah 50.4-9a Matthew 21.1-11
13 April Maundy Thurs.	7.30pm Communion			Exodus 12.1-14 John 13.1-17,31b-35
14 April Good Friday		2.00pm Last Hour	9.30am Devotional Service	
16 April Easter Day	10.45am Communion		4.00pm Café Church	Jeremiah 31.1-6 John 20.1-18
23 April		4.00pm Service of Reflection	9.15 Communion (BCP)	Acts 2.14a,36-41
30 April	<b>UNITED SERVICE</b>	<b>AT</b>	<b>WESTON</b>	<b>COLVILLE</b>

### Church Flower Rota

	Great Abington	Little Abington	Hildersham
2 April	Lent	Gill Smith (Cleaning)	Lent
9 April	Lent	Gill Smith (Cleaning)	Lent
16 April	All help please	All help please	All help please
23 April	Easter flowers	Marilyn Broadhurst	Elaine Moore
30 April	Gilly Maynard	Kay Harman/June Waring	Elaine Moore

### 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	<u>Not 24 hrs</u> , please leave a message if no reply - Claire will respond when next on duty.	07498 994205
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