



# The Abingtons and Hildersham News



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

**May 2018**



*Photo by Genevieve Dalton*

**Abington Walking Group  
Rejoicing in the sun at Thriplow 5 April 2018**

## Letter from the Editor

Easter lilies graced all our churches and preceded the long-awaited arrival of our new vicar, Revd Iain McColl, whose licensing service at Balsham church was an uplifting and joyful occasion (see page 4). We wish Iain and his family well as they settle in and get to know the Granta Vale Group of seven churches. *(Photo by Emma Jones)*



The next Messy Church service is on 13 May and has the theme 'Building on strong foundations' (pages, 5, 6).

Pages 7, 8, 14 report that our parish councils have no need for elections, but two of them still have unfilled vacancies and would welcome enquiries from anyone interested in becoming a councillor. The parish council reports show their involvement with important housing provision and planning, road and transport problems including the increasingly dangerous potholes, dealing with litter and flyposting. Local elections will be held on 3 May and the café will be open at the Institute on this day (page 11).

Hildersham is holding a barn dance and has interesting lectures during May. There are intriguing signs that the Pear Tree pub may be reopening and there is an invitation to go to the Pear Tree on 18, 19 and 20 May to find out more (see page 9).

There will be an Abingtons Villages Yard Sale on 20 May in aid of the Abington pre-school and GAPS out of hours club. Let us hope for good weather (page 12).

The Recreation Committee and Great Abington Primary School are asking for feedback on a proposal for a Pump Track on the recreation ground (see page 13).

The WI is holding its always popular plant and cake stall, and the Gardening Club has a special outing in May. The last film night of this season is in May but there is a Balsham Singers' Concert to offer additional entertainment. (Pages 4, 12, 17).

June will bring the Abington Amble around gardens, and a Midsummer Walk, and in July residents of the Abingtons and Hildersham are invited to compete in a golf tournament (page 5, 18).

Please note that the Bank Holidays on Mondays 7 and 28 May mean that bins will be emptied on Tuesdays in those weeks.

Valerie Silvey

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Articles for the June 2018 edition of *The Abingtons and Hildersham News* should be sent to the Editor by Tuesday 15 May 2018 at [news@theabingtons.org.uk](mailto:news@theabingtons.org.uk). Photos welcome.

## From the Seven Churches

Arriving in a new place lends itself to discovery. Having just moved with my family into our new home in Balsham, we are discovering so much about the village, from its history, which is so well presented in the book: '*Balsham: a village story*', to its pathways, local businesses and social life.

We are discovering as well the vibrant nature of community life in our neighbouring villages. There are so many things going on: film nights, lectures, plays, quiz nights, and the many clubs and societies which are flourishing. We feel blessed to be part of such a thriving place and look forward to being part of community life.

It is people, however, who are the heartbeat of any village or community and it's been inspiring to meet so many people over the last week from the surrounding area. There were around three hundred people at Balsham church last Thursday, when the Bishop of Ely led the licensing service, and great warmth and welcome which made it such an enjoyable and moving occasion.

*Bishop Stephen and Revd Iain McColl after the licensing service on 12 April.*

*(Photo by Valerie Silvey)*



As we continue to journey through the Easter season we are also reminded of the discoveries the followers of Jesus made after encountering the risen Christ. They gradually moved from feeling dejected, demoralised and fearful, to discovering a confidence that God was with them. They discovered that the resurrection says: 'God can be trusted'. God can turn our crucifixions into life.

For all of us, life involves a continual process of discovery, but we know this happens best as part of a community, with our friends, neighbours and those whose lives are intertwined with ours. We can also have confidence in an Easter message which resonates across the centuries: that God's love for us can help us discover more about life in all its fullness and help us be a blessing to those we share our lives with.

Revd Iain McColl

### **Haverhill Foodbank (Reach Community Projects)**

There is a general need at the moment for the following items – small jars of coffee, teabags, sugar, longlife juice and milk, biscuits, instant mash, custard and tinned items (tomatoes, fruit, vegetable, meat/fish, sponge pudding).

Please use collection points in the churches and the Institute for your donated items. Thank you.

### **Balsham Singers' Spring Concert, 7.30pm Saturday 19 May, Balsham church**

This concert is a celebration of Hubert Parry, one of Britain's most famous choral composers. Also included are songs by Franz Schubert, a selection of ABBA favourites from Mamma Mia, and more. Tickets can be bought from the Post Offices in Abington and Balsham and cost £10 in advance or £12 if bought at the door.

## **News from the Pews**

Around ten years ago the PCC sent out a questionnaire to every household enabling them to survey the views and needs of the community from their Churches. It was interesting to see how almost all non-churchgoers saw their churches in the Abingtons as the most important landmarks in the community and a place to contemplate. They are the oldest buildings for sure and we all want to preserve them. However, preserving the Churches to enable parishioners to continue worshipping each Sunday along with the occasional Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals, is phenomenally costly. These costs can be viewed in both churches, along with reports of church activity from the recent APCM. If you care for your churches and would like to make a donation annually or monthly, please do contact one of the Church Wardens.

**Space to Be – Wednesday 9 May 7.30pm** – Meeting at Rosemary's house 55 Church Lane.

**Messy Church – Sunday 13 May in Great Abington Church 3.30pm** – Watch for details on posters and Facebook. 'Building on Strong Foundations'. See page 6.

### **Notes for your diary**

**Abington Amble – Saturday 16 June.** An opportunity to visit gardens and ending the afternoon with a Cream Tea at Great Abington Church. To end the day, we have received a kind invitation to a garden Film Night at GreenAway, 54 High Street, by the Sams Family. Admission to Gardens and Film Night will be by programme. A fun day for all ages.

**Saturday 21 July** – A 'Summer Evening' of light music with buffet provided. Watch for posters and Facebook for further details.

**Charity for the Month – Christian Aid** – Christian Aid have more than 70 years of experience working in partnership to support communities to thrive. They tackle root causes of poverty so that women, men and children the world over are strengthened against future knocks. And if a disaster happens they get people the help they want straight away.

**There will be door to door collections for this charity during May along with charity boxes in both churches.**

### **Funerals and Burials**

On Monday 26 March the funeral of Catherine (Kay) Camps of Grange Farm took place in Little Abington Church followed by burial in the churchyard. Sincere condolences to Tricia and Sidney.

On Wednesday 4 April the graveside committal service took place of Pamela Howley née Lefevre. Pamela was born in Little Abington, moving away in her 20's. She chose Little Abington as her final resting place 70 years later. Our condolences to her family.

On Wednesday 11 April there was an interment of ashes into an existing grave of Herbert and Joan Wilson

### **Wedding**

On Friday 13 April the marriage of David James Warren and Alexandra Jenny Buxton took place in Little Abington Church. We wish them a happy marriage.

Anne Hall

**Sunday 13 May**  
**St Mary's Church, Great Abington**  
**from 3.30pm to 5 pm**



**Come and join us at our SPRING MESSY CHURCH**  
**Fun and worship for families and children OF ALL AGES**

- **Creative activities**
  - **Play**
  - **Songs**
- **Stacking and painting rocks**
  - **Sandcastles**
- **Building houses and gardens**

**Followed by 'tea' for all 5-5.30pm**

**Our theme is: 'Building on Strong Foundations'**

**Please note that children must be  
accompanied by an adult.**

Next time...  
Mossy Church

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August  
at Abington Woods

### **Little Abington United Reformed Church**

Following the inspiring licensing service for the Revd Iain McColl, we are looking forward to more united services and greater interaction with St Mary's churches, Great and Little Abington, with whom we have so much in common.

#### **Preachers for May**

|        |         |                                     |
|--------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 6 May  | 10.15am | Mr Chris Salter                     |
| 13 May | 10.15am | Mrs Maureen Kendall                 |
| 20 May | 2.30pm  | Revd Bruce Waldron (Holy Communion) |
| 27 May | 10.15am | Mr George Tadrous                   |

For more information please contact Lynne on 893 295.

### **Public participation**

Residents of Little Abington attended the early part of the meeting to raise concerns about the parking of HGVs at the Fourwentways roundabout and the difficulty and danger of turning out of Bourn Bridge Road into fast-moving traffic coming from the A1307 (50 mph zone).

### **Planning**

- **S/0881/18/FL Petrol filling station, Shell Fourwentways.**  
Supported with conditions: area to be regularly tidied up; making good area where trees are felled; provision of 24-hour sanitary facilities for HGV drivers.
- **Great Abington Neighbourhood Plan.** LAPC supports the ethos of the plan and would welcome the opportunity for some consistency of planning.

### **2018-19 Local Highways Improvement application**

The joint Abington application was not successful. However, LAPC will fund “children at play” signs at Ivan Clark's Corner and explore options for village entrance signs on Bourn Bridge Road.

### **A1307 /LLF South East Cambridge Transport Study-consultation**

There is a strong local preference for Strategy/Concept 1. LAPC will support Concept 1 with specific comments on suggested features.

### **Litter and conditions at Fourwentways.**

Representatives from the County Council met members of LAPC and local residents at the Fourwentways roundabout on 20 April to demonstrate the damage to the roundabout and verges, littering and difficulties arising from the parking of HGVs on the site. The Enforcement Officer from the District Council has visited to see litter problems for himself.

### **Noise from Granta Park**

Residents are continuing to log noise coming from Granta Park and notifying TWI of all incidents. LAPC is contacting Environmental Health for general advice.

### **Highways and traffic**

- The Speedwatch team is operating in several areas of the village.
- The Highways Department has been notified of a potentially dangerous tree on Newmarket Road opposite the entrance to the Perse playing fields.
- Poor road surfaces have also been noted in Church Lane, Church Close and West Field.

### **Parish Council election.**

Little Abington Parish Council will be uncontested with one vacancy. Please contact the Clerk if you are interested in joining the Parish Council.

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

Abington Institute, High Street

Next meeting: **Monday 21 May 2018 at 7.15pm**

**Public participation: Come and have your say from 8pm**

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)

[www.theabingtons.org.uk/parish-councils/little-abington-parish-council/](http://www.theabingtons.org.uk/parish-councils/little-abington-parish-council/)

## **Hildersham Focus**

### **Hildersham Barn Dance Saturday 12 May 7-10pm**

The bunting is being prepared, so dust off your dancing shoes. Dancing to the Ceilidh band Arm in Arm will certainly bring a smile to faces both young and old. There will be a bar and a raffle and a delicious Hog Roast supper.

If you would like to join us tickets may be purchased from Kate Huntsman on 894 316. Cost is £15 per adult and £5 for children.

### **Demystifying the Teenager - understanding youth culture.**

This is a free seminar for parents, youth leaders, teachers and anyone working with young people aged 9-18. The seminar is led by Rachel Heffer who is a youth advisor for Ely Diocese.

Hildersham Village Hall from 7.30 to 9.30pm on Tuesday 22 May.

### **Hildersham Lecture at 7.30pm on Friday 25 May in Hildersham Church**

What if Shackleton had landed? Would he have got across the Antarctic? An illustrated talk by Robert Burton, naturalist, traveller and lecturer on many tours to the Antarctic. Entry £5 including refreshments.

**The Hildersham Children's Church Council** will be meeting very soon to finalise the arrangements and race plan for the exciting new event of the Scootathlon. Do pencil the date, 17 June, on your calendar and keep your eyes peeled for further information.

## **Latest news from the Pear Tree**

### **Mix and Mingle spring preview and fund raising event**

Chef Gael Lecolley says 'We would like to invite Hildersham villagers to a private preview of the Pear Tree, Pear and Olive Scratch Kitchen to review our plans in anticipation of the reopening. See how Hildersham and neighbouring villagers can help give support to the final countdown of the opening of this Village Community Asset. All Hildersham and neighbouring villagers welcome! We look forward to meeting each and every one of our neighbours at this fun fundraising event.'

Fund Raising Mix & Mingle at the Pear Tree **18, 19, 20** May 2018, 5pm to 10pm. Light canapés and wine served, with a sneak peek at plans to reopen the Pear Tree with your support. Come and see how the villagers can be involved.

## **Hildersham Parish Council**

### **A Quality Parish Council**

### **Report on the Hildersham Parish Council meeting held on 9 April 2018.**

The councillors for Hildersham, after an uncontested election, are: Mark Logan, Darren Long, John Myers and Rob Clay. There is one vacancy which the council will seek to fill after 3<sup>rd</sup> May. If you are interested in becoming a councillor and would like to learn more about it, please speak to an existing parish councillor or the Clerk.



The street light opposite the village hall is finally working, but the council has recently been advised that to get power to the light on Beech Row may require closing the road briefly. Obtaining permission to allow the road closure may take a few weeks.

Councillors provisionally selected a contractor to re-fence the allotment boundary, but want to discuss the specifications in more detail. The council hopes to get the work done as soon as possible to minimise disruption. The pest control company should have treated the rats on the allotments by the time this report is printed.

The council has been advised that work will be carried out to repair the worst holes on the path along Beech Row (towards the A1307 end) and that the disintegrating path at the Back Road end of the High Street will be rebuilt. The Clerk is seeking a further meeting with the Highway Officer to discuss what work can be done to improve the road surface outside the village hall, as well as requesting a quote to repair the surface beyond the road towards the hall and the recreation ground.

**The next meeting of Hildersham Parish Council will be the AGM and Parish Meeting which will be held on Tuesday 8 May 2018 from 7.00pm at Hildersham Village Hall, High Street, Hildersham Everyone welcome.**

**Would you like to return to nursing?** It is easier than you think.

Perceptions of GP nurses are often very outdated. Nurses now do a lot more than dressings and injections as a much wider range of healthcare is now being delivered out of hospital. There are many more opportunities to progress your career and still remain patient focussed. Nurses are able to become experts in disease management such as Asthma, Hypertension, Diabetes, Travel health or Wound care. GP Nurses also play a major role in health prevention by carrying out immunisations, cervical and health screening. They also promote healthier lifestyles by offering advice on smoking, alcohol and weight. Nurses can also train to become prescribing nurses or Advanced Nurse Practitioners.

Because there is a shortage of nurses Cambridge & Peterborough Training Hub is offering to help nurses return to the nursing register through placements in General Practice in the area. The length of your placement will depend on how long you have been out of practice and it is possible to work as a Healthcare Assistant while gaining some additional skills alongside the Return to Nursing course. Have a look at the short "Come back to Nursing" films with some examples of people who have returned to nursing. <https://comeback.hee.nhs.uk/Real-Stories>

You would have to attend 7 study days at university over 6 months and carry out some online modules and write two essays. You would have support from a university tutor and work placement mentor. There is a small bursary to cover your expenses during training. The next course starts in June.

For more information contact Jenny Aston [Jennifer.aston@nhs.net](mailto:Jennifer.aston@nhs.net)



## Dates for your Diary

| Date |    | Venue Abington Institute unless stated  | Time                                  | Page                 |
|------|----|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Tue  | 1  | <b>Art Group</b><br><b>FGMN Club</b><br><b>Table Tennis</b>   | 9.30am<br>2.00pm<br>8.00pm            | 17<br>11             |
| Wed  | 2  | <b>Yoga – course and drop in</b><br><b>Dynamic Dance Class</b>  | 9.30am<br>3.15pm                      | 11<br>11             |
| Thu  | 3  | <b>Local Elections – Café open 9am to 7pm</b><br><b>Abington Walking Group</b>  | 10.00am                               | 11<br>16             |
| Fri  | 4  | <b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group – Pre-school building</b><br><b>Low Impact Aerobics</b><br><b>Pilates</b><br><b>Abington Walking Group social evening</b> | 9.30am<br>9.30am<br>10.45am<br>7.00pm | 11<br>12<br>12<br>16 |
| Sat  | 5  | <b>WI Cake and Plant Stall</b><br><b>Scrapbooking Group</b>   | 9.30am<br>10.00am                     | 12<br>11             |
| Tue  | 8  | <b>Art Group</b><br><b>Hildersham Parish Council – Village Hall</b><br><b>Reading Group –51 Church Lane, Little Abington</b><br><b>Table Tennis</b>   | 9.30am<br>7.00pm<br>8.00pm<br>8.00pm  | 9<br>16<br>11        |
| Wed  | 9  | <b>Yoga – course and drop in</b><br><b>FGMN visit to Morrison’s supermarket</b><br><b>Dynamic Dance Class</b>   | 9.30am<br>am<br>3.15pm                | 11<br>17<br>11       |
| Fri  | 11 | <b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group – Pre-school building</b><br><b>Low Impact Aerobics</b><br><b>Pilates</b><br><b>Film Night –doors open</b>                | 9.30am<br>9.30am<br>10.45am<br>6.45pm | 11<br>12<br>12<br>12 |
| Sat  | 12 | <b>Hildersham Barn Dance</b>  | 7.00pm                                | 8                    |
| Sun  | 13 | <b>Messy Church – Great Abington church</b>   | 3.30pm                                | 6                    |
| Mon  | 14 | <b>French Conversation</b><br><b>Yoga – course and drop in</b><br><b>Abingtons &amp; Hildersham WI</b>  | 1.00pm<br>7.00pm<br>7.30pm            | 11<br>17             |
| Tue  | 15 | <b>Art Group</b><br><b>FGMN Club</b><br><b>Table Tennis</b>   | 9.30am<br>2.00pm<br>8.00pm            | 17<br>11             |
| Wed  | 16 | <b>Yoga – course and drop in</b><br><b>Dynamic Dance Class</b>  | 9.30am<br>3.15pm                      | 11<br>11             |
| Fri  | 18 | <b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group – Pre-school building</b><br><b>Low Impact Aerobics</b><br><b>Pilates</b><br><b>Pear Tree event at Hildersham</b>         | 9.30am<br>9.30am<br>10.45am<br>5.00pm | 11<br>12<br>12<br>8  |
| Sat  | 19 | <b>Abington Walking Group</b><br><b>Pear Tree Event at Hildersham</b>   | 10.00am<br>5.00pm                     | 16<br>8              |
| Sun  | 20 | <b>Abington Village Yard Sale</b><br><b>Pear Tree Event Hildersham</b>  | 10.00am<br>5.00pm                     | 12<br>8              |
| Mon  | 21 | <b>French Conversation</b><br><b>Yoga – course and drop in</b><br><b>Little Abington Parish Council</b><br><b>Great Abington Parish Council</b>       | 1.00pm<br>7.00pm<br>7.15pm<br>7.15pm  | 11<br>7<br>15        |
| Tue  | 22 | <b>Art Group</b>  | 9.30am                                |                      |

|     |    |  |         |    |
|-----|----|--|---------|----|
|     |    | <b>Mobile Library</b>  | a.m.    | 12 |
|     |    | <b>Abington Garden Club outing</b>                               | 1.30pm  | 17 |
|     |    | <b>Scrabble Club</b>   | 7.00pm  | 16 |
|     |    | <b>Demystifying the Teenager – Hildersham Village Hall</b>       | 7.30pm  | 8  |
|     |    | <b>Table Tennis</b>  | 8.00pm  | 11 |
| Wed | 23 | <b>Yoga – course and drop in</b>                                 | 9.30am  | 11 |
|     |    | <b>Dynamic Dance Class</b>                                       | 3.15pm  | 11 |
| Thu | 24 | <b>Abington Lunch</b>  | 12.45pm | 16 |
| Fri | 25 | <b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group – Pre-school building</b>            | 9.30am  | 11 |
|     |    | <b>Hildersham Lecture –Hildersham Church</b>                     | 7.30pm  | 8  |
| Sat | 26 | <b>Family/baby Yoga</b>  | 11.00am | 11 |
| Tue | 29 | <b>Rivercare &amp; litter pick-up – meet at road bridge/ford</b> | 9.30am  |    |
|     |    | <b>Art Group</b>   | 9.30am  |    |
|     |    | <b>FGMN Club</b>   | 2.00pm  | 17 |
|     |    | <b>Table Tennis</b>  | 8.00pm  | 11 |
| Wed | 30 | <b>Yoga – course and drop in</b>                                 | 9.30am  | 11 |

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 May 2018

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Thursday lunchtimes | 11.30am – 1.30pm (10, 17 and 21) Lunch 24 <sup>th</sup> |
| Friday mornings     | 8.45am – 11.00am  |
| Saturday mornings   | 10.00am – 12 noon                                       |

**LOCAL ELECTIONS Thursday 3 May – Café open from 9am to 7pm serving snacks, light lunches, tea etc.**

**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 May 2018 (Abingtons and Hildersham)

| Tue 8      | Mon 14 | Mon 21     | Tue 29 |
|------------|--------|------------|--------|
| 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 Mondays 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)

**Table Tennis – Tuesdays 8pm at Abington Institute**

Contact Raj Sangha on 07803 786 905.

**Family/baby yoga at the Institute – 11am on Saturday 26 May**

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. Refreshments provided for children and adults. Contact Abington Pre-school on 01223 894 246

### **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 five weeks for Low Impact Aerobics and Pilates. Contact Disa Bennett on 07798 754 029 or [www.zumbaandpilatescambridge.co.uk](http://www.zumbaandpilatescambridge.co.uk)

### **Film Nights at Abington Institute**

The final **Film Night** for this season is on **Friday 11 May**. 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. two 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)

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

#### **Saturday 5 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 jam or chutney.

### **Abingtons Village Yard Sale for Pre-School and GAPS out of school club**

#### **Sunday 20 May 10am-2pm**

Book your yard for £5 each and sell your unwanted goods

Proceeds towards Abington Pre-School and GAPS out of school club.

Tea and cakes in the Institute

Contact Ruth Beach email: [preschoolabington@gmail.com](mailto:preschoolabington@gmail.com) daytime phone 01223 894 246 or mobile 07547 472325

### **Mobile Library**

The next date will be Tuesday 22 May 2018, 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      | End of Beech Lane | 12.45–1.00pm    |
|                 | near phone box    |                 |

### **Bookfest bonanza!**

Linton Children's Book Festival will soon be here! Come and enjoy a big weekend of free, fun activities for families on 19-20 May at Linton Village College. Do you know a kid who loves the arts, science or magical stories? Adventures, animals or gameshows? Or just a good belly laugh? Whatever they are into they'll have a wonderful time at Linton Bookfest.

And there's more. Starting with a community Love Your Library celebration on Saturday 12 May, there'll be lots to do around the village in the lead-up to the main festival. Take yourselves on a round-the-village safari trail (you might win a family ticket to Linton Zoo), join a garden story time, or visit an exhibition of artwork by festival illustrators at the Daryl Nantais Gallery. We hope everyone feels welcome to engage with our event. For full details, pick up a programme at Linton library or visit our website: [www.lintonbookfest.org](http://www.lintonbookfest.org)

Anna McMahon [info@lintonbookfest.org](mailto:info@lintonbookfest.org)

## Pump track proposal for the recreation ground

The Recreation Committee and Great Abington Primary School would like to receive feedback from the young people of the village, as well as those who are still young at heart! Our intention is to make better use of the strip of land on the recreation ground, the section from the outdoor gym to St. Mary's Church. We will provide a pump track for cyclists, skateboarders and scooter riders to enjoy.

This is a narrow looped path that consists of a series of undulations and banked curves. The surface can be tarmac or packed gravel and cycling on it will teach a number of critical skills that can benefit riders. It improves handling skills, balance and confidence, particularly cornering and maintaining speed and momentum. Young cyclists will learn how to look several steps ahead and which line and angle to use to complete the course. It provides an intense full-body workout in a very short amount of time and it's tons of fun!

Cycling provides an ideal exercise for children and adults. It improves fitness and helps to reduce obesity and furthermore provides a means of transport as well as reducing our reliance on fossil fuels.



We would like feedback from young cyclists and skateboarders about what you would like out of the track. If you have any ideas about the course design or would like to be part of the working party overseeing the project, please use the following contact email address: [PumpTrack.Feedback@greatabington.school](mailto:PumpTrack.Feedback@greatabington.school)

Alan Cooke

### May Day Morris Dance Tuesday 1 May: 5am to 6am

The Devil's Dyke Morris Men perform a traditional English folk dance in the same beautiful spot in Cambridge on May Day each year. If you have never been before, we highly recommend it. Greet the summer sun rising over the Wandlebury woodlands. Free event, no need to book. Refreshments to buy on the day. Meet on the picnic field at Wandlebury Park, dancing starts at 5.29am. Donations welcome.

**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, members free.

**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)

## **Elections**

Nominations for the Parish Council Election have now closed. There were seven nominations for the seven seats. A list of uncontested elections can be found at [https://www.scambs.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sopn\\_-\\_parish\\_uncontested\\_1.pdf](https://www.scambs.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sopn_-_parish_uncontested_1.pdf)

There will still be an election on 3 May at the Institute and you will be able to vote for two members of South Cambs. District Council to represent the Linton Ward.

## **Affordable housing: Moorefield.**

The two fixed equity bungalows have now been advertised and the first phase of the affordable rented properties is available via the Home Link system. Information has been put on the Abingtons website. Registered households looking for affordable rented homes should keep an eye on the situation. <http://www.home-link.org.uk/>

## **Policing**

We understand that the Police and Crime commissioner is decommissioning all the rural police stations. Officers will now only be based in the four major stations at Parkside, Huntingdon, Peterborough and Ely. There will be three PCSO's based in the station in Cambourne, who will have some 60 villages to cover between them. Our local PCSO is Leanne Fisher.

## **Travel App**

Connecting Cambridgeshire is asking for feedback on the new Smart Cambridge travel app. This can be downloaded for both Android and iOS devices, just search MotionMap in the app store. You can use the app to see the location of the 13 bus and when it is going to arrive. Feedback can be made via the app

## **Posters on Telegraph poles**

Can anyone who places posters on telegraph poles please remember to take them down when they have expired. These posters, put up temporarily, are often helpful but leaving them in place just makes the place look untidy.

## **Coach Trip to Seaside**

The trip this year will be to Felixstowe once again by popular request. Date TBC.

## **Park and Ride parking**

The charge for parking at the City 'Park and Ride' sites has been discontinued.

## **Planning**

### **South Cambs. Planning Committee**

A planning application ref S/4099/17/OL Agritech Technology Park to the east of Hinxton village went to the March 7 meeting of the SCDC Planning Committee for determination. The Parish Council had sent in an objection. The Planning Committee members unanimously agreed to refuse.

### **Parish Council Recommendations**

**S/1194/18/VC** – 33 Magna Close - removal of appeal conditions for a new dwelling. Parish Council recommended refusal.

**S/1195/18/FL** – 45 North Road – convert former dwelling to domestic garage. Parish Council recommended refusal.

### **District Council Decisions**

**S/4335/17/LB.** Three Tuns, 75 High Street. Replace existing extraction fan from the kitchen. Parish Council recommended approval and District Council approved

**S/3894/17/FL** – 57 North Road. Demolish conservatory and replace with single storey extension. Create a Cart Lodge and store. Parish Council recommended refusal and District Council approved.

**S/1982/17/FL** – Meadowbrook Farm – retrospective, erection of workshop/storage building. Parish Council recommended approval and District Council approved.

**S/3564/17/OL** – Land North of Linton Road. Proposed 13 dwellings. Parish Council recommended approval and District Council approved.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

The consultation organised by South Cambs. District Council on the Neighbourhood Plan for the former Land Settlement Association Estate has ended. The parish Council now awaits the response from the external examiner appointed by SCDC.

### **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 21 May 2018, 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. Agendas and minutes are posted on the Parish Council notice board located at the entrance to Magna Close or available from the parish clerk.

Paula Harper (Clerk): [harper802@btinternet.com](mailto:harper802@btinternet.com) (892 000)

**Step into Summer with Cambridge Past, Present and Future (CambridgePPF) Half-Term Events for Children with Vital Spark – all at Stable Rooms, Wandlebury.**

**‘If You Go Down to the Woods Adventure’– Accompanied Children Tues 29 May: 10.30am to 12noon** Outdoor adventure combines fairy-tale favourites that bring imagination to life through drama, craft and storytelling. Booking essential, ages 2-6 years, accompanied by adult. £10 per child (younger siblings welcome, under 2s are free). Includes a snack, dress for outside.

**Nature Puppets and Puppetry with Vital Spark –Unaccompanied Children Tues 29 May: 12-4pm** Half-day workshop create characters and bring them to life through puppetry. Make and perform in their own puppet theatre. Booking essential. For unaccompanied children aged 6-11 years. £25 (£5 off for accompanying siblings). Includes a snack, dress for outside.

**Wild Bedtime Stories with Vital Spark Friday 1 June: 5pm to 6.30pm**

Come and enjoy some bedtime stories in a beautiful outdoor setting at Wandlebury Country Park. Wear your pjs, dressing gowns, onesies (and probably wellies!), bring your favourite teddy if you wish. Booking essential. Children must be accompanied. £6 per child, includes hot chocolate (please bring a reusable cup to help cut down on waste if you can)..

**For more information and booking:** email [Katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org](mailto:Katherine@vitalsparktheatre.org)

**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, members free.

**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 24 May 2018



Fruit Juice

**Baked Ham with Light Mustard sauce**  
**New Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables**  
**Lemon Meringue Pie and Pouring 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 22 May. 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 21 June 2018**

### Reading Group

|         |   |                 |
|---------|---|-----------------|
| 8 May   | <i>Seeds of Greatness</i><br>Jon Canter         | Dinah Brooks    |
| 12 June | <i>The Betrayal</i><br>Helen Dunmore            | Liz Obstfeld    |
| 10 July | <i>The Remains of the Day</i><br>Kazuo Ishiguro | Valerie Hefford |

Please confirm your attendance in May to Dinah.

Lisa Pechey

### Scrabble Club

The next meeting of the Scrabble Club is on Tuesday 22 May at 7pm in the Institute. New members very welcome.

Sheena Fraser

### Abington Walking Group

Both of the April walks were blessed with sunshine. Our Thursday walk was around the village of Thriplow where the daffodils were in full bloom along the verges and village green, making a wonderful display of greens and yellows (see cover photo). Saturday's walk was around the village of Eversden and on both occasions our boots came home mud-free.



Next month our walks will be on Thursday 3 and Saturday 19 May. On Friday 4 May at 7.00pm there will be our Social Evening for Walking Group members at the Institute. 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 Gardening Club**

There is a visit to Wickets, Langley Upper Green, nr Saffron Walden, CB11 4RY on Tuesday 22 May leaving the Institute at 1.30pm.

Entry costs £9 to include guided tour and refreshments. Please contact me if you would like to come.

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

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

We are all aware that Annual General Meetings are noted as being boring, however, we do encourage members to attend on this day as we do like you to feel it is your club and that you are very much a part of it. We promise to complete the necessities as quick as possible.

One of our members, Douglas Taylor will be the speaker at a meeting in May. The title of his talk will be 'A Runway in the Sky' and will concern his achievements during his working life, about which he has also written a book. Books will be available at the meeting.

At the last meeting in May we are having a visit from Cambridge Hearing Healthcare to advise us on the importance of the ability to communicate with our family and friends.

All the above meetings are open to all in the community.

### **Dates for May**

**Tuesday 1 May 2pm** – AGM and Quiz

**Wednesday 9 May** – Trip to Morrison's

**Tuesday 15 May 2pm** – Talk by Douglas Taylor – 'A Runway in the Sky'

Anne Hall (892 275) or [anneandglynhall@gmail.com](mailto:anneandglynhall@gmail.com)

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

Our new programme began in April with much hilarity, despite the serious title of our talk by Lucy Lewis about A Woman's Life in the Army. Lucy's career began in the security dept. at Stansted airport but she soon realised that those who got promoted were ex-military or police force. She signed up for a 2 week TA course, was hooked and enrolled at Sandhurst. Women make up only 10% of British Armed Forces and need to be strong to survive in a man's world. Lucy was the first woman to lead a bomb disposal unit (despite mistaking a cowpat for a mine in the dark). She travelled far and wide with the WRAC, from glaciers in Iceland to jungle in Ecuador and served in the Gulf War. As Adjutant in the Military Police, she was in N. Ireland for the ceasefire, celebrating the end of 30 years of conflict. An excellent speaker, Lucy entertained us with amusing stories and anecdotes - a sense of humour being an essential requisite for a woman's life in the Army.

**Don't forget our WI Cake & Plant Stall Saturday 5 May 9.30 to 11am.**

**Next meeting: Monday 14 May at 7.30pm:** Balsham and Linton WI's join us for our Group meeting with singer/storyteller Jancis Harvey.

Marilyn Broadhurst (893 214)



## **ABINGTON MIDSUMMER WALK AND PICNIC**

### **SATURDAY 23 JUNE 2018**

Everyone is invited to join the Walking Group for an easy Five Mile Stroll to the Roman Road with a break half way for a Picnic.

By special arrangement we use some private land with permission of the farmers.

Meeting at Little Abington Church at 6pm and back by 9pm.

To cover insurance there is a charge of £1 per adult with children. Dogs on leads are welcome and free.

For more information contact ROBIN HARMAN on 891 730 or  
GEORGE WOODLEY on 891 169

### **2018 Abington Golf Competition Friday 6 July 2pm**

Open to all residents of Abington and Hildersham this year's competition to find 'Abington's Best Golfer' will be held on The Gog Magog Old Course, courtesy of the club members who are village based.

First tee time is 2pm on Friday 6 July. Afterwards we will be convening at the Three Tuns for a meal and prize giving.

The entry fee is £35. All proceeds are in Aid of Great Abington School PTFA.

Numbers are limited so secure your place by paying a £10 non-refundable deposit.

Please contact me for an entry form or pick one up from The Three Tuns.

Alan Cooke email; [alancooke\\_uk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alancooke_uk@yahoo.co.uk)




### **Granta Chorale – The Pepys Show at 7.30pm, Saturday 12 May at Saffron Hall**

Please join Granta Chorale for an entertainment for all ages in words and music. Writer Nick Warburton as the affable Samuel Pepys leads us into his world of Restoration London. With extracts from his diary and other anecdotes, he introduces a wide range of choral music. This includes pieces from Pepys' own time such as Purcell's *Hear my Prayer* and *Fairest Isle*, as well as music from other eras which links to Pepysian themes, for example Holst's *I Love my Love* and *Swansea Fair* and music by Tallis and Orban. Among more recent works is Bob Chilcott's *Songs and Cries of London Town* a highly melodic cycle of five songs in which guest performers SignuptoSing (the youth choir of Saffron Walden Choral Society) join Granta Chorale, with piano duet accompaniment from Richard Carr and Sarah Cattley.

Tickets £14 (under18s £4) Online at [www.saffronhall.com](http://www.saffronhall.com) and from Saffron Walden Tourist Information Centre.

**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.

## Church Services for May 2018

| <i>DATE</i>              | <i>Gt. Abington</i><br> | <i>Lt. Abington</i><br> | <i>Hildersham</i><br> | <i>Readings</i>                           |
|--------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| 6 May                    | 10.45am<br>Communion   |  | 6.00pm<br>Evensong  | Acts 10.44-end<br>John 15.9-17            |
| 10 May<br>Ascension Day  |  |  | 7.30pm Deanery<br>Eucharist   | Acts 1.1-11<br>Luke 24.44-end             |
| 13 May                   | 3.30pm Messy<br>Church   |  | 9.15am<br>Communion   | Acts 1.15-17,21-<br>end<br>John 17.6-19   |
| 20 May<br>Pentecost      | 9.15am<br>Communion  |  | 4.00pm<br>Café Church   | Acts 2.1-21<br>John 15.26-<br>27,16.4b-15 |
| 27 May<br>Trinity Sunday |  | 10.45am<br>Communion   | 9.15am<br>Communion –<br>Prayer Book  | Romans 8.12-17<br>John 3.1-7              |

### Church Flower Rota

|        | <i>Great Abington</i> | <i>Little Abington</i> | <i>Hildersham</i> |
|--------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 6 May  | Pat Kennedy           | Carola Wolverson       | Rosalinde Gray    |
| 13 May | Gilly Maynard         | Carola Wolverson       | Rosalinde Gray    |
| 20 May | Gilly Maynard         | Lesley Crisp and       | Kate Huntsman     |
| 27 May | Helen Pimblett        | Rosemary Mead          | Kate Huntsman     |

### 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<br>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 -<br>Claire will respond when next on duty. | 07498<br>994205 |
|----------------|--|-----------------|