



The Abingtons and Hildersham News



www.theabingtons.org.uk

March 2022



Photo by Andy Merryweather

**Snowdrops seen growing in abundance in Great Abington
February 2022**

Village information (continued inside back cover)

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Don't forget: Police Numbers 999 for emergencies; otherwise 101

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Letter from the Editor

The days are very noticeably lengthening and snowdrops, aconites and daffodils in flower hold out the promise that spring is not far off. Given recent strange winter weather rounded off by hugely damaging storms, and the prospect of continuing high prices for energy, food and much else, we need to find support and reasons to be cheerful wherever we can.

So, it is good that the Community Pantry at Great Abington church is providing practical help and that there are official initiatives like the Household Support Grant and Food Vouchers offering financial support (pages 5, 8).

Granta Medical has sent a useful reminder of various types of vaccinations that are still available to us (page 6).

It seems incredible that Lent is almost here, on 2 March, with Easter not far behind. The café will provide pancakes on 1 March, Mothering Sunday will be celebrated at Hildersham church, and posies will be available at all three churches (pages 5,16).

The diary shows a very full list of activities on offer and includes the new Craft Group and details of Granta Vale Harmony which will welcome new singers to join the weekly sessions (pages 10-13).

Concerns have been expressed about the poor state of the road leading from the High Street to Great Abington church. This issue should be taken up with the Parish Council. It is good news that work will shortly begin on creating a Pump Track on the Recreation Ground. Traffic carrying materials and workers involved will add to the wear and tear on the road to the church (page 5).

The parish councils address important planning, infrastructure and other issues on behalf of residents and deserve our support and thanks. The Little Abington Parish Council has a new Parish Clerk but is still seeking a replacement councillor. Who will rise to the challenge? (Pages 14, 15).

On page 7 there are proposals for the route of the Linton Greenway through the Abingtons. The plans could result in Bourn Bridge Road no longer being a through road for vehicles and could also change the priority for traffic at some junctions. It is urgent that we study the proposals and send comments to the two Abington parish councils.

Ebikes are now available and instructions for getting access to them is on page 13.

British Summer Time starts on Sunday 27 March when clocks go forward one hour.

Valerie Silvey

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Articles for the April 2022 edition of *The Abingtons and Hildersham News* should be sent to the editor no later than Tuesday 15 March 2022 at news@theabingtons.org.uk. Photos welcome.

The Abingtons and Hildersham News on the website To see the News before a printed copy is available and to see the photographs in colour, go to www.theabingtons.org.uk/news and follow the link to the pdf for the month you want.

From the Seven Churches

When the going gets tough ... well I guess there's always chocolate.

Perhaps that's what's inspired the supermarkets to stock their shelves with Easter Eggs from before the end of January. But I doubt it. Regardless, like the increasingly early arrival of spring bulbs, the effect was curiously disconcerting as much as it might have been welcome. Was Easter really going to be that early this year? No.

Because the date of Easter is a calculation based on the lunar cycle, confusingly (and something the commercial world doesn't like) it's different every year. So, just in case you're still disorientated by early Easter Eggs, Easter Sunday is not until 17th April this year. Phew!

However, **Lent** has just started, some six weeks or so before Easter, on 2nd March: Ash Wednesday.

In ages past, encouraging Christians to embrace the traditional disciplines of Lent – penance, prayer and self-denial – was probably never an easy 'sell'. Certainly, over the past two years of lockdown, and Covid fears and deaths, it seemed rather out of place to look for the value of placing more burdens on oneself. And this year, too, but with a different set of unprecedented stresses piling on – soaring energy bills and inflation, and tax increases – yet again, many may feel that any whole-hearted embrace of whatever is the point of Lent is compromised. After all, why add extra self-imposed austerity?

Yet, is there a way to recast the extra disciplines of Lent as something genuinely helpful for us at this juncture of personal, and indeed global, worrying uncertainties?

For Christians, I think there is. That is, when we recognise that the real effort of Lent is about daring to focus the mind, and heart, on the scandal*, the absurdity of our nonsensical claim about God. For as Lent proceeds, we are heading towards the events of the trial and crucifixion of this particular innocent man whose death most reveals God, in His glory.

It's this impossible paradox that Christians especially revisit in Lent, year after year, after year. And slowly, very slowly, we learn to see how Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead reassures, and releases new life and steadfast love ... and confidence in whatever the future holds.

And then we tuck into our stockpile of Easter Eggs!

Alistair Collen – Granta Vale Ministry Team

* 1 Corinthians 18-21

We have returned to a regular pattern of services inside our churches, but we are continuing to run a weekly online service each Sunday at 10.30am. These services can either take the form of live streaming from the home of the person leading the service, or a pre-recorded service that is then played on the day, or even the live streaming of a service from one of our churches. More information about these online services can be found on the website www.grantavale.org.uk under the calendar section, or by signing up to our weekly newsletter, details of which can also be found on the website.

Granta Vale Ministry Team

Rector **Revd Iain McColl** 890 693: mccoll.iain@gmail.com

Revd Kathy Bishop 892 288: revkathy@hotmail.co.uk

Steven Wheeler 290 396: **Alistair Collen** 891 561

Keith Day 891 527: **Rosemary Mead** 891 718

Kristi Stewart Elliott kristimse@gmail.com

Amanda Goodman amandapaulagoodman@gmail.com

Parish Nurse **Kim Cox** (see page 20)

Parish Administrator **Caroline Walshe** 891 443: 7churches.seven@gmail.com
<https://grantavale.org.uk>

News from the Pews

Concerns are growing over the condition of the road from the High Street to the Farm Gate leading to Great Abington Church. Seemingly most people assume it is the responsibility of the church, therefore apportioning inappropriate blame since we can confirm that it is not the church's responsibility. We advise that you contact Great Abington Parish Council with your concerns and ask for an explanation of the position. The landowner kindly allows the church to use the grassed area in front of the church as a car park during church services. This agreement goes back many years.

Following this statement, we have to inform members of the church that work is soon to be carried out on the Pump Track on the recreation ground. Access will be through the lane leading to the church and onto the recreation ground. We understand material will be stored in a small area on the church car park. There will of course be tracks from vehicles but we are assured all will be made good.

The Mothering Sunday service will be held in Hildersham church this year. Details on the back page. We will however be leaving posies in both the Abington churches for children to take for their mothers or to someone who is lonely, poorly, bereaved or needing an extra bit of love at this time.

We are delighted that the Community Food Pantry is operating so extensively. Various items of food and cleaning essentials come and go almost daily, so well done everyone.

Members of our churches were saddened to hear that Daphne Mager had died. Daphne was a solid Christian who, with her husband Fred, worked tirelessly for our churches for many years. A service of remembrance was held on 23 February in Little Abington Church. (See below)

Anne Hall

Daphne Mager (8.8.1928 to 2.2.2022)

Daphne was born the only child of Lizzie (Betty?) and John Hare in Henlow, Bedfordshire. During the war her parents took in two refugee children whom she loved. Daphne grew up in a close family and was very fond of her cousins, family and friends; always staying in touch with them.

Daphne was a member of Bedfordshire Young Ringers and spent many happy hours cycling around the countryside ringing church bells, combined with youth hostelling. She trained as a secretary and adored her time at the nearby Three Counties Hospital in Arlesey, working for the London Chest Hospital.

Daphne was Akela of the Henlow Cub Scouts. Fred ran the Scouts and they married in 1956, living with Daphne's parents until their house in Hitchin had been built. Their three children Christopher, Catherine and David were born in Hitchin but in 1967 they moved to Little Abington so Fred could be closer to his workplace in Cambridge.

Daphne and Fred enjoyed village life. Both were involved with the church; Fred in the choir and a churchwarden, Daphne in various roles including the P.C.C, deputising as churchwarden and organising Santa's Grotto at the Christmas Bazaar.

Daphne was a valued long-time member of the WI, being a member, secretary and president. She held many fond memories of her fellow members and their activities. Some people will remember Daphne from her time at the village primary school where she started as a dinner lady and became a classroom assistant and secretary until retirement in 1988. Like many, Daphne's family roles extended to carer, firstly for her father and then husband Fred who died in 1993. Daphne continued to participate in village life and gained great solace from her garden, granddaughters, and many friends.

Throughout most of her adult life Daphne had a back condition which she endured with typical stoicism. Eventually she had to give up her trusty bicycle and, after 46 years in Bourn Bridge Road, she decided to move to the safer environment of Nichols Court, Linton. In 2020 Daphne moved to her daughter's home on the Isle of Bute and it was here she passed away peacefully in her sleep. Her ashes will be interred alongside those of her husband at St Mary's church Henlow on 22 February, followed by a peel of her beloved bells.

Granta Medical Practices Update, March 2022

Are you up to date with all your vaccinations? There are a number of vaccines available on the NHS, the more common of which are listed below. If you are unsure whether you are eligible or would like further information, please do not hesitate to call us on 0300 234 5555 or visit www.NHS.UK

Shingles vaccine – who is eligible?

- Adults 70 to 79 years old

You only need to have the shingles vaccine once and you can have it at any time of year. Whilst it is a very effective vaccine, some people can develop shingles at a later stage, but the illness will be milder. It is also fine to have the shingles vaccine if you have already had shingles. It works well in people who have had shingles before, and it will boost your immunity against further shingles attacks.

There is a new vaccine available for people who are immunosuppressed called Shingrix and this is available at all of our surgeries as a 2-dose course.

Pneumonia vaccine – who is eligible?

- Babies, as part of the national immunisation programme
- Adults aged 65 and over
- Children and adults with certain long-term health conditions, such as a serious heart or kidney condition.

The pneumonia vaccine protects against serious pneumococcal infections and encourages your body to produce antibodies against pneumococcal bacteria.

If you have a long-term health condition you may only need a single one-off vaccination or a vaccination every 5 years, depending on your underlying problem.

Flu vaccine – who is eligible?

- Adults 50 years and over
- Have certain health conditions
- Are pregnant
- Are in a long-stay residential care
- Receive a carer's allowance, or are the main carer for an older or disabled person who may be at risk if you get sick
- Live with someone who is more likely to get infections (such as someone who has HIV, has had a transplant or is having certain treatments for cancer, lupus or rheumatoid arthritis).
- Frontline health or social care workers

If you are not eligible for a free NHS vaccine you can buy one from your local pharmacist. Granta Pharmacy in Sawston have stocks of flu vaccine – to book an appointment call 01223 727 530.

Covid vaccine – who is eligible?

- People aged 16 and over
- Children aged 12 to 15
- Some children aged 5 to 11

Adults have 2 vaccinations plus a booster dose. People with a severely weakened immune system are offered 3 doses plus a booster. Please note that it is never too late to start your covid vaccine course.

Visit www.nhs.uk to find out where get covid vaccinations.

Sandra East, Head of Patient Services

Tel: 01223 627743 / Email: sandra.east@nhs.net

Granta Medical Practices, London Road, Sawston, CB22 3HU

Routing of the Linton Greenway – cycle, walking and horse-riding route through the Abingtons

The Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) has proposed to route the Linton Greenway through Great and Little Abington. The Linton Greenway is one of twelve active travel routes being developed around Cambridge. It will make it easier for walkers, cyclists, and horse riders to travel from Linton to Cambridge and it includes a signalised crossing at Hildersham over the A1307. The GCP want to build the Abington section in early summer. For more information see <https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/greenways/linton-greenway>

The route in Little Abington starts near the old International School on Newmarket Road and on into Great Abington as far as the shop. The route then continues down the length of Linton Road and turns onto the track along the A1307 which will be upgraded as far as Hildersham.

The GCP have suggested:-

1. Bourn Bridge Road

No footway to be built because of the protected road verges.

Possible speed reduction to 40 mph.

Option for road to remain two- way **or**

Option to block access to traffic at the last house on Bourn Bridge Road via placement of a “modal filter”. Bourn Bridge Road would then become a “No through road”. Vehicular traffic could neither leave nor enter the village via Bourn Bridge Road, but pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders could.

2. Junction of Church Lane and High Street

Change in priorities and location of the road junction. Traffic entering the village on the High Street will now have to stop and give way to traffic on Church Lane

3. A1307 end of Linton Road

Possible reduction in speed limit to 40 mph.

Option to restrict access to through traffic from just beyond Larkfield. This would allow vehicles to only exit the village.

The GCP are keen to hear the views from the village about the proposed route. They have offered to hold a Zoom meeting and/or in-person meeting in the Institute. The parish councils would also like to hear your views on some of the proposed changes. Your input at this stage will help the GCP decide if they need to run a consultation.

However, this project is scheduled to start soon. A meeting with the GCP would give residents the opportunity to understand and comment on the options offered.

Please contact the Chairs of either parish council as soon as possible to confirm whether you wish to be included in a meeting with the GCP.

Please also email us with your views on the proposals.

Chair Little Abington email: sheila.bolden@btinternet.com

Chair Great Abington email: tonyorgee@gmail.com

County and District Council

District and County Councillors' Report February 2022

Covid Booster vaccinations

There are several walk-in clinics around the county where booster jabs can be had, on the day. Warning though, queues have been notoriously long so far, so expect a wait. Details here - <https://www.thevaccinators.co.uk/>

Community Chest Fund

Another existing fund that is opening a new round of bidding, with some good news, the amount groups are able to bid for has doubled from £1,000 to £2,000 per group. Full criteria and applications can be found at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/grants/community-chest-grants/> - the District Council recently extended the criteria of the grant to allow grants for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations.

Household Support Grant

There is a support fund available from the County Council that is aimed at supporting families with a below average income, through the more difficult winter months. There is a fair amount of money in the pot at the moment and the fund will remain open until March 2022. Eligibility criteria and application form can be found here - <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/coronavirus/household-support-fund>

Business Covid Grants

The government have released a new batch of Covid related support grants for businesses, primarily in the hospitality sector, to apply for to assist them 'restarting' after a period of inconsistent trading. Applications are made through the District Council and full detail can be found here - <https://www.scams.gov.uk/business-can-apply-now-for-latest-support-grants/>

Direct Food Vouchers

The County Council is offering some food support to families on low incomes over February half term. Full details are here - <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news/support-available-again-to-vulnerable-families-during-february-half-term>

County Council Farm Holdings

The County Council owns lots of rural estate in Cambridgeshire. They are now looking for applicants for tenancy on these parcels of land. The main thrust of the lease will be to cultivate some sort of business, not necessarily agriculture related. It's a very interesting opportunity for those that are looking to start their own business. Full detail can be found here - <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news/applications-open-for-farm-holdings-on-councils-rural-estate>

Parking Enforcement

The County and District Councils have officially begun the process of taking parking enforcement powers away from the Police and managing this themselves, as happens in Cambridge City. This will be a slower burner but will be welcomed if it can be facilitated.

A1307 Upgrades

The next set of upgrades to be implemented on the A1307 is the safer crossing point at the Hildersham junction. This involves putting in a crossing that all non-motorised users (pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders) can use. This will be starting on February 10th, so please do expect delays. See also page 7.

Highway Code

The highway code has been updated as of January this year. There are new rules about the priority to assign to each type of road user. This is an attempt to aid safety on the roads by clarifying who should get priority in certain situations. The full list of changes can be seen here - <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-highway-code-8-changes-you-need-to-know-from-29-january-2022>

Zero Carbon Events

SCDC is holding its annual online Climate and Environment Fortnight of Events, taking place between **21 February and 7 March**. This is held to celebrate climate action taking place in the district, as well as looking at some of the things that the Council is doing to mitigate and adapt to climate change in the future.

Please see the details of the sessions below, including information on how to sign up. Alternatively, visit the website at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature/zero-carbon-communities/zero-carbon-communities-events/>

Contact Information

District Council – John Batchelor – johnbatchelor23@gmail.com

County & District Council – Henry Batchelor – henrybatchelor89@gmail.com

Girlguiding Linton District

Our girls have had an incredible couple of months. Before Christmas, 2 Linton Guides had a really interesting evening with a drumming workshop. There were some excellent results and lots of skills learned.

Our Guides were also lucky enough to take a coach and go to the Wembley Spectacular held at Wembley, to see the women's FA cup final. A day they will never forget. It is quite an extraordinary place with an amazing atmosphere. The group of girl guides in their green woolly hats were very easy to see! (about 4 rows up from bottom of photo and central position).



Our Guides in Linton went to see Wind in the Willows at Saffron Walden and it was enjoyed by all. Our units also had Christmas parties complete with disco lights and music and of course no celebration in Guiding is complete without badges...

There might not have been much food last term but there were crafts galore for our Rainbows and Brownies who have been exceptionally busy. As well as lots of celebrations and a party as Anglia our guiding county turned 50.

Our Trefoil Guild made clay votive candle holders and have had their AGM.

If you would like to join in the fun, please look at www.girlguiding.uk.org/interested

We take girls from 5 upwards, as well as celebrating octogenarians in January. What a couple of months we have had

Louisa Powell-Owens

Lintondistrict@gmail.com or phone 07711 614 328

Diary for March 2022

Date		Venue Abington Institute unless stated	Time	Page
Tue	1	Art Group	10.00am	19
		Pancake Day – Jeremiah's Café	2.00pm	11
		Table Tennis	7.30pm	19
Wed	2	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	11
Thu	3	Abington Walking Group	9.50am	11
		Granta Vale Harmony	7.30pm	12
Fri	4	Low impact Aerobics	9.30am	11
		Pilates	10.30am	11
Mon	7	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	11
		Abington Gardening Group	7.30pm	11
Tue	8	Art Group	10.00am	19
		Forget-Me-Not Club	2.00pm	11
		Reading Group	7.30pm	12
		Table Tennis	7.30pm	19
		Hildersham Parish Council- Village Hall	7.30pm	17
Wed	9	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	11
Thu	10	Granta Vale Harmony	7.30pm	12
Fri	11	Low impact Aerobics	9.30am	11
		Pilates	10.30am	11
Mon	14	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	11
		Physio Pilates	2.20pm	11
		Abington and Hildersham WI	7.30pm	12
Tue	15	Art Group	10.00am	19
		Table Tennis	7.30pm	19
Wed	16	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	11
Thu	17	Craft Group	1.30pm	12
Thu	17	Granta Vale Harmony	7.30pm	12
Sat	19	Abington Walking Group	9.50am	11
Mon	21	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	11
		Social cycling - – 1 Bourn Bridge Road	10.30am	11
		Physio Pilates	2.20pm	11
		Great Abington Parish Council	7.15pm	16
Tue	22	Art Group	10.00am	19
		Forget-Me-Not Club	2.00pm	11
		Scrabble Club	7.00pm	12
		Table Tennis	7.30pm	19
Wed	23	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	11
Thu	24	Abington Lunch	1.00pm	
		Granta Vale Harmony	7.30pm	12
Mon	28	Rivercare and litter pickup - meet at bridge/ford	9.30am	
		Physio Pilates	2.20pm	11
		Little Abington Parish Council	7.15pm	15
Tue	29	Art Group	10.00am	19
		Table Tennis	7.30pm	19
Wed	30	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	11

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

Institute bookings: contact preferably by email: institute@theabingtons.org.uk or phone 07591 064 310.

Jeremiah's Café in Abington Village Institute

Opening times in March 2022

Thursday lunchtime 11.30am – 1.30pm (3rd, 10th, 17th) Lunch 24th
Saturday mornings 10.00am – 12 noon (5th, 12th, 19th, 26th)

Contacts for Café – helenstchowe@btinternet.com and helen.rogers.uk@gmail.com

Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Day is on Tuesday 1 March this year. Jeremiah's Café will be open specially, between 2 and 4pm, to offer pancakes. Look out for notices and more detail.

The Jeremiah's team will be offering a **Spring Tea on Tuesday 12 April**. We'd love to see you there. Sandwiches, scones and cake - and tea of course. The cost is £5 a head, from 2.30 to 4.30pm. We'll open up the hall and terrace - but you never know, the sunshine might join us, and we'll get out the tables and chairs to enjoy that too.

Pre-booking is advised so we get our catering correct. So please email helenstchowe@btinternet.com or let one of the team know and they can pass on the numbers.

Wheelie bin dates for March 2022 (Abingtons and Hildersham)

Mon 7	Mon 14	Mon 21	Mon 28
Green/Blue	Black	Green/Blue	Black

Yoga – Wednesdays 9.30am at Abington Institute

Contact Joan 890 629 or email joangraham72@gmail.com if you would like to drop in and try a class.

Low Impact Aerobics and Pilates – Fridays, 9.30am and 10.30am

Aerobics, toning and stretching, exercises to raise your heart rate and tone your body, fun and friendly. Pilates will help to alleviate back pain, improve core strength, 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

Physio-led Face to Face Pilates on Mondays at Abington Institute

Mondays 2.20 to 3.20pm for Beginners/Intermediate. Max 6 participants. Classes £12 per session. Book 3 sessions (£36 non-refundable).

Contact Christina Heinz on cambridgepilates@outlook.com

Abington Pre-School Baby and Toddler Group

This Group is open every Monday morning (term time only) from 9.30–11.30am, in the Abington Annexe building at the bottom of the primary school playground. No need to book in advance. Contact 01223 894 246 (Abington Annexe Office) or email abingtonannexeoffice@gmail.com

Abington Gardening Club

The next meeting is on Monday 7 March at 7.30pm in the Institute when Peter Johnson will give a talk entitled 'Orchids in Ecuador'.

New members are very welcome.

Kay Harman, Secretary, Tel 891 730 email: robandkayharman@gmail.com

Social Cycling

The next cycle ride will be on Monday 21 March 2022, weather permitting. We shall meet at 10.30am at 1 Bourn Bridge Road.

Gaynor Farrant 07817 517 871 or gaynorfarrant198@btinternet.com

Forget-Me-Not Club

Activities planned for March meetings are as follows:

Tuesday, 8th March at 2pm.

Entertainment from the Chestnuts Choir which should be good fun.

Tuesday, 22nd March at 2pm.

Jenny and David Milns will present memories of their 2020 South African Safari.

Please contact me for any further details. Jenny Milns (tel. 890 ,252).

Abington Walking Group

Our last two walks were to Hadstock and Horseheath/West Wickham.

Your March strolls will be on Thursday 3rd and Saturday 19th.

As usual we depart from the Institute at 10am by shared transport to the walk venue.

If you would like details of all our walk dates for 2022 please let us know or see notices in the Institute or outside on the Institute noticeboard.

For further information please contact:

Robin Harman on 891 730 or robandkayharman@gmail.com

George Woodley on 891 169 or georgewoodley@ge29gew@gmail.com



Reading Group

8 March	<i>The Holiday</i> TM Logan	Sue Batty
12 April	<i>The Midnight Library</i> Matt Haig	Liz Obstfeld
10 May	<i>Hamnet</i> Maggie O'Farrell	Rachel Haining

We will meet at 7.30pm at Sue's to discuss *The Holiday*. Please confirm attendance to Sue and copy me in. Please also do a LFT before attending out of respect and courtesy to all.

We would welcome new members. If interested, please email me at vhefford@yahoo.co.uk

Scrabble Club.

The next meeting of the Scrabble group will be on Tuesday 22 March at 7pm in the Institute. We will use the meeting room and can overflow into the café area to maintain a safe distance. New members very welcome.

Sheena Fraser

NEW Abington Craft Group

Let's Get Crafting- starts Thursday 17 March 1.30 to 4.30pm 2022, at Abington Institute. Bring your own projects, share old skills, learn new ones, meet like- minded people and keep those crafts moving. Light refreshments provided. Small fee of £2 per session to cover costs.

Hope to welcome you there.

Email- Glynis.brookman@btinternet.com or telephone 07970614194

NEW Granta Vale Harmony

We are Granta Vale Harmony, a mixed *acapella* singing group.

We meet on Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30pm at the Abington Institute, and anyone is welcome to come along and join in.

Contact details

Peter Lester Telephone 07884 932 215 or email haverhi11@talktalk.net

Abington & Hildersham Women's Institute

Attending a WI meeting would not be most people's choice for Valentine's Day, but there was plenty of love and friendship at our February session with an imaginative collection of heart-shaped treats to share. Our speaker, Fran Saltmarsh, gave a presentation on Georgian fashions and society. The Georgian era began in 1714 with King George I and lasted until the 1830s. Known as the Age of Enlightenment, it was a period of great change, as cities grew, trade and industry expanded and consumerism and popular culture blossomed. The Georgians witnessed extreme luxury alongside extreme poverty. The rich displayed their wealth in extravagant homes and clothes: both men and women dressed in silk and satin embellished with metallic thread, paste bead work and lace trimmings. Ladies wore stays and wide cane hoops (up to 6 feet!) under their dresses – but no knickers! Later, this impractical style was replaced by "country" fashion, with exaggerated bosoms, a false rump, and bonnets shaped according to the hairstyle. Fabrics were made of wool, linen and cotton. At the turn of the century, the empire line, based on the drapery of classical statues became fashionable (and ladies abandoned their corsets with great glee), and printed muslin was imported from India – think Jane Austen! Vain men used tie on calf and buttock pads to enhance their figure under their tight-fitting pantaloons. Fran showed us a Georgian cotton garment – such fine needlework, the stitches were barely visible – and all done by hand in candlelight.

Next meeting: Monday 14 March 7.30pm: Artistry in Cocoa – a chocolate demonstration by Cheryl Brighty followed by our **Annual General Meeting. New members and visitors welcome.**

Marilyn Broadhurst

PTFA Update

Thank you so much for your patience regarding the PTFA. COVID and the cold weather prevented activities but now we have two events in April that might interest you. Please contact ptfa@greatabington.school if you would like to participate in either of them.

Easter Egg Hunt - 2 April 2022 12 to 2pm. It's everyone's favourite time of the year, the chocolate season is nearly upon us. The PTFA are once again holding an Eggciting Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday 2 April, between 12 and 2pm in school and around the recreational ground. This is a fantastic family event at which you'll have lots of fun and show excellent cooperative skills in working together to find the clues leading to your well-deserved treat.

Spring Village Trail - 16 to 30 April 2022 We are looking for 26 houses that are willing to create spring-related front garden displays around the village. All houses will be assigned a letter of the alphabet that they can then build a display around. For example, 'D' could be a daffodil display. Like our previous safari trail, maps will be on sale in the shop and school office. The trail will run for two weeks: 16 to 30 April. Please contact Cory Rivers at ptfa@greatabington.school or 07964 191 698 if you would like to be a participating house.

Shared e-bikes based at Institute. Two bizbike e-bikes are now available for Abington residents to use. You will find them in the lockers on the front terrace of the Institute. Download the free bizbike app, register, and follow the instructions. Fees for rides are very low thanks to a subsidy from the South Cambridgeshire Zero Carbon Communities Fund: 50p per hour. Once you register you will be emailed detailed instructions and an unlock code for the bike lockers. Use the app to scan the QR code at the back of the bike to unlock it, making sure the lock arm is not rubbing against a wheel spoke. At the end of your ride please return your bike to the locker. Use the bizbike helpline for any assistance required: 07973 499 224 or email info@bizbike.club

Little Abington Parish Council

Litter pick

The annual litter pick will take place again this year on Saturday 2 April from 10am to 12 noon. If you wish to take part just come along to the institute (at any time over the two hours) to pick up the equipment. A big thanks to all the litter pickers who go out regularly throughout the year – including those who don't always make themselves known to us.

Community Chest grants

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee is a special fund open to community groups until Tuesday 12 April to make Jubilee-related applications of up to £700. Applications should be in the spirit of the rest of the Community Chest grant criteria. For further details and how to apply, please visit the council's [Community Chest Grant page](#).

Linton Greenway

This route through the Abingtons will be for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders. Proposals are outlined on page 7 and your comments on them will be welcome.

Parish Councillor vacancy

We are looking for a new parish councillor to replace Peter Brunning. If you would like to get involved in community matters please get in touch with Sheila Bolden (details below).

New clerk

Welcome to our new clerk Jessica Ashbridge who starts on Tuesday 1 March. She does not live in the village but you can contact her on this email address:

clerk.lapc@gmail.com

Meeting on Monday 24 January

The GAPC/LAPC Liaison Group proposed we hold an open day to coincide with the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations on Sunday 5 June. The parish councils are going to set up a working group.

Planning meeting on Wednesday 9 February

22/0087/TTCA: 26 High Street, Little Abington: Various tree works in Conservation area. Recommended approval.

21/05557/HFUL: 23 Bourn Bridge Road: Single and double storey front, side and rear extensions and single storey garden building. Recommended approval

SCDC decisions and updates

21/03039/FUL Bancroft Farm: SCDC planning committee refused

21/05400/HFUL 10 Bourn Bridge Road: SCDC approved

Little Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Institute

Next Meeting: Monday 28 March 2022, Parish Council at 7.15pm

Sheila Bolden (Chairman)

07754 659 929

Email: sheila.bolden@btinternet.com

Jessica Ashbridge(Clerk)

Email: clerk.lapc@gmail.com

Next meetings

Monday 28 March

Monday 25 April (including Annual Parish Meeting)

If you would like to participate in a meeting please contact the clerk to make arrangements. Details to be confirmed regarding start times and venue on the Abingtons website and the parish council noticeboard. The meeting agendas and papers are published on the Abingtons website: www.theabingtons.org.uk

Pampisford Road Development

The new housing development on Pampisford Road will be named Maple Rise.

Village clean-up day

The annual litter pick event is back on Saturday 2 April after two years. The event is run by both parish councils who take it in turn to organise. It starts at 10am from the Institute where you can choose/be allocated an area to clean and collect equipment. Refreshments are available afterwards. Please come along and help to make the Abingtons a cleaner place.

The Linton Greenway

Please see and respond to the article on page 7.

Planning

Please attend a planning meeting if you would like to make a comment that we can consider in our debate before agreeing on the Parish Council's recommendation to SCDC. If you have views on a planning application, you should also make your comment on the South Cambs. website (link below) as this will ensure that the planners take your view into consideration in their decision-making. For more information on the applications below, use the reference given below at:- <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/planning/view-or-comment-on-a-planning-application/>

Parish Council - applications received

21/05693/LBC – 5 Linton Road. Replacement of existing timber single-glazed 1970s casement windows and doors with new timber-framed double-glazed windows and doors to match the existing fenestration

21/05630/FUL – Illumina Centre Granta Park. Installation of new AHU with relevant insulated ducts and condensers at roof level, positioned so that it is set back from the perimeter of the external building envelope and enclosed within a louvered enclosure. Treatment of enclosure materials to match adjacent plant room form and aesthetic to minimize visual impact from ground level.

22/00004/FUL – 34 South Road. Erection of 1.5 storey dwelling with double garage

District Council decisions

21/04530/FUL – 14 Magna Close - Change of use from existing timber outbuilding to hairdressing salon. Refused

21/05296/FUL – Land north of 100 High Street – demolish garage and erect 2 storey dwelling. Recommended approval in principle but referred to Planning Officer regarding parking and planned choice of materials. Withdrawn

Great Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Village Institute

Tony Orgee (Chairman) tonyorgee@gmail.com

Planning Committees: These are arranged as required when applications are received. See Parish Council notice board for dates or contact the Parish Clerk.

Next Parish Council meeting: Monday 21 March at 7.15pm

There will be opportunities at the start and close of the meeting for members of the public to speak to the council about matters of concern. Notices, 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 (892 000)

Hildersham News

Easter tea party - Saturday 2 April 3.00-4.30pm, in Hildersham Church

We like to invite villagers and their friends to get together for tea and cake and so another Tea Party has been arranged with an Easter theme. Please do pencil in Saturday 2 April on your calendar as an opportunity to enjoy delicious homemade cake and the beauty of the church in spring.

There will also be a few plants for sale or swap as spring will be encouraging us outdoors and into our gardens.

We would also like to invite younger people and those young at heart since there will be an Easter egg hunt around the churchyard and the old school wood.

Mothering Sunday

Sunday 27 March is Mothering Sunday and in Hildersham church the tradition has always been to give all the ladies in church a small posy of daffodils to remind them how special they are. However, last year we were not able to be in church so the Children's Church Council made posies which they put in a basket outside church and encouraged ladies to take one home. The children are keen to do the same again this year so there will be posies both inside and outside church.

Children's Church Council

The children met for the first time this year on 25 February and spent some time exploring the churchyard to locate the best positions for their nest boxes .

Each one will be marked on the church yard plan which the children are going to display later in the year.

Also discussed were their plans for Mother's Day and the planning of the Easter Egg hunt for the Tea Party.

There is always so much to plan and discuss that we always run out of time.

The children would also like to add some of their memories of Cathy Myer as the CCC was her initiative and so many children in Hildersham have been touched by her love and care.



Our meetings were always sprinkled with love.

Cathy always overflowed with ideas that engaged and enthralled us.

Cathy never said no to anything we suggested - no matter how farfetched or daft our ideas might have been.

She made all our ideas come to life.

The CCC members have each given a small pot of spring bulbs with a short message to be planted near Cathy. See photo above.

Sunday 27 March British Summer Time begins, clocks go forward one hour

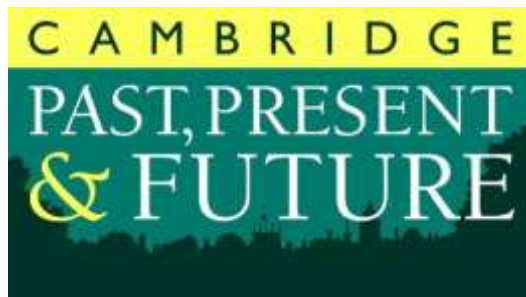
Hildersham Parish Council

If you notice a fault with the highways, such as potholes, you can report them using the following link: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults>

The next meeting of Hildersham Parish Council will be on Tuesday 8 March 2022 in Hildersham Village Hall. Information is on the Parish Council's website: <https://hildershamparishcouncil.org.uk>

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

Cambridge Past, Present and Future Nature Recovery gets under way in Cambridge



- Grant award of £425,000 from Natural England Nature Recovery to the Cambridge Nature Network.
- Funding is for projects that will increase the amount of nature and help to demonstrate how the Nature Recovery Network can be realised.
- 18 Projects being delivered by a wide range of organisations. Projects to be completed in 2022.

The Cambridge Nature Network identifies opportunities to double nature and increase access to natural greenspace in Cambridge and the surrounding countryside. The aim is to halt the decline in biodiversity improve climate resilience and enable nature to recover, while benefiting public health, wellbeing, and the economy. The grant is being managed by local charity Cambridge Past, Present & Future. The grant is supporting a wide range of projects including:

- Creating 20 acres of meadow and planting 2,000 trees as part of an expansion of Wandlebury Country Park to the south of Cambridge (Cambridge Past, Present & Future).
- Planting 2,000 trees to create 4 acres of woodland between Coton and Madingley on the western edge of Cambridge (Cambridge Past, Present & Future).
- Planting 400 trees to create a new area of woodland at Coton Countryside Reserve on the western edge of Cambridge (Cambridge Past, Present & Future).
- Creating 150 acres of new meadows, scrub and woodland at Lower Valley Farm in the Gog Magog Hills to the south of Cambridge (Cambridgeshire County Council).
- Working with five schools in Cambridge to improve their school grounds for nature (Cambridge On the Verge).
- Creating 7 acres of new meadow next to Fulbourn Fen Nature Reserve to the southeast of Cambridge (Wildlife Trust BCN).
- Habitat improvements on the Roman Road and encouraging landowners to help nature at Roman Road, Devils Dyke and Fleam Dyke to the southeast of Cambridge (Cambridgeshire County Council).
- Two community projects in Cambridge parks and open spaces (Natural Cambridgeshire).

Further information about all the projects can be found at www.cambridgenaturenetwork.org/current-projects/ A partnership of organisations is supporting the Cambridge Nature Network including Wildlife Trust BCN, Cambridge Past, Present & Future, National Trust, RSPB, Cambridge Sport's Lakes Trust, Magog Trust, Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge University Botanic Garden.

2022 Sawston Fun Run is back – Sunday 8 May www.sawstonfunrun.org

New sponsors, new website and registrations open

The Fun Run and Walk, having already raised over half a million pounds over the years, is set to return to its pre-Covid highly successful format on 8 May, with entry registrations available from mid-February exclusively on the new improved event's website www.sawstonfunrun.org

Information and the registration facility are on the new website with fees before 8 May being: £12 for adults and £6 for children in School Year 1 to 11. All proceeds will go to **East Anglia's Children's Hospice [EACH]** at Milton, Cambridge and **Rowan**, a local charity that supports adults with learning disabilities and other local charities and organisations.

The routes will be the traditional 7.4K route around Sawston that appeals to all sections of the running community and the shorter 3.8 K route that appeals to families and young children, many of whom are in fancy dress. There will be attractions at the venue, Sawston Village College so, subject to prevailing Covid regulations, the event will be very similar to those of the past.



Aconites provide cheerful colour in February

Photo by Andy Merryweather

March Services (not Abingtons and Hildersham : 10.30 Online Service available for all)




DATE	9.00 am	10.30 am	pm
2 nd March Ash Wednesday		Communion <i>Balsham</i>	
6 th March		Communion <i>Balsham</i>	
13 th March	Communion <i>Weston Colville</i> Morning Worship <i>West Wickham</i> <i>West Wratting</i>		
20 th March	Communion <i>West Wickham</i>	Communion & Baptism <i>West Wratting</i>	
27 th February	Communion <i>Balsham</i> <i>West Wickham</i> Morning Worship <i>Weston Colville</i>		

Village organisations

Name	Contact	Phone Number
Abington Institute – Chairman	Bernie Talbot	892 647
Abington Institute – Bookings	Dianne Dawson	07591 064 310
Abington and Hildersham WI	Marianne Perry	893 956
Abington Allotment Assoc. (AALGA)	Brian Hayden-Smith	894 046
Abington Gardening Club	Kay Harman	891 730
Abington History Group	Jennifer Hirsh	893 352
The Abington Group (Ladies)	Freda Orgee	891 464
Forget-Me-Not Club	Jennifer Milns	890 252
Helping Hands	Helen Pimblett	891 746
Art Group	Lois Bull	893 491
French Conversation	Rachel Haining/ Judy Davies	892 004 890 286
Italian	Rachel Haining	892 004
Naturewatch	David Farrant	892 871
Reading Group	Valerie Hefford	890 544
Scrabble Club	Sheena Fraser	893 336
Abington Walking Group	Robin Harman, George Woodley	891 730 891 169
Sport and Youth activities		
Low Impact Aerobics/Pilates	Disa Bennett	07798 754 029
Physio Pilates	Christina Heinz	
Yoga	Joan Graham	890 629
Table Tennis	Raj Sangha	07803 786 905
Abington Social Cycling	Gaynor Farrant	07817 517 871
Dynamic Dance Theatre School	Esme Watts	07719 816 548
Abington Cricket Club	David Pimblett	891 746
Abington United Football Club	Denis Tiplady	290 646
Abington Aztecs (Football)	Malcolm Peters	07860 863 723
Abington Bowls Club	Graham Ross	891 564
Abington Social Club	Christine Hammond Rick Stock	891 777 07768 707 567
Keep Fit	Gill Dowden	893 533
Abington School PTFA (Chair)	Cory Rivers	07964 191 698
Abington Out-of-School (GAPS)	Georgina Blyth	894 246
Abington Pre-school	Angela Lindsay	894 246
Baby and Toddler Group	Office	894 246
Abington Scouts, Cubs and Beavers	Ruth Beach	894 461
Linton Netball Club	Angela Bridgeman	07729 879 300

Contacts for village organisations on page 19 – If I have not listed the persons currently involved, please let me know so the list can be updated. Ed.

Church Services for March 2022

DATE	Gt. Abington 	Lt. Abington 	Hildersham 	Readings
2 nd March Ash Wednesday			7.30pm Communion	Joel 2.1-2,12-17 John 8. 1-11
6 th March	10.30am United Service at Balsham			Deuteronomy 26.1-11 Luke 4. 1-13
	4.00pm Evensong			
13 th March		10.30am Communion		Genesis 15.1- 12,17-18 Luke 13. 31-end
20 th March	9.00am Morning Worship		6.00pm Evensong	Isaiah 55.1-9 Luke 13.1-9
27 th March			10.30am Communion	Exodus 2.1-10 Luke 2.33-35

Church Flower Rota

	Gt. Abington	Lt. Abington	Hildersham
6 th March	Lent	Helen Rogers	Lent
13 th March	Lent	and	Lent
20 th March	Lent	Amanda Marns	Lent
27 th March	Lent	(clean only)	Lent

Churchwardens

<i>Little Abington</i>	Graham Ross	41 Church Lane, Little Abington	891564
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Assistant Churchwardens

<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

Kim Cox	Not 24 hours, please leave a message if no reply - Kim will respond when next on duty.	07498 994205
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