



The Abingtons and Hildersham News



www.theabingtons.org.uk

October 2022



Photo by Andy Merryweather

Common Blue Butterfly, Abington, September
(With cell spot identifier)

Letter from the Editor

On 8 September we were saddened and shocked to hear that after 70 years of dedicated service our revered Queen Elizabeth II had died and, with her, the gift of continuity and stability in our national life, and a rare example of honesty, fairness, and selfless duty in a Head of State. A grieving King Charles III was plunged into new royal duties and a state funeral. The huge crowds who wanted to pay their respects, the moving church services and the splendid pageantry of the funeral are now over and we are all faced with the energy, cost-of-living, Ukrainian war, and NHS crises.

Many Ukrainians have been offered homes in our area and are making commendable efforts to help themselves (page 9). A concert on 22 October will raise money for the Disasters Emergency Committee's work for Ukraine. Our churches have decided to replace the traditional offerings of food at their Harvest Festival with cash donations with which to buy slow cookers for the people needing support from foodbanks (page 17).

The following pages report many charitable ventures including the annual Poppy Appeal and the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal (pages 4, 9). Some provide opportunities for us to dispose of goods that we no longer need – household wares, clothes, books, etc. (pages 5, 17). See also page 6 of the September News for the Bag2School collection on 13 October. If you have small electrical items to dispose of you will welcome the installation of eight new collection points in the county (pages 8, 15).

The GAPS Outdoor Learning project is set up but would welcome volunteers who could spare some time to help the youngsters learn about gardening (page 14). Another worthwhile initiative aims to get more people cycling (page 7). Take note of the proposal for a congestion charge for motorised vehicles going into Cambridge (page 8).

Page 6 gives us advice about getting prescriptions and making appointments for the annual flu injections.

British Summer Time ends on Sunday 30 October when the clocks go BACK one hour. To cheer us in the winter the Film Nights are back, and Granta Park invites us to a Christmas coach trip to London, while the programme of classes and club events offers wide-ranging options (pages 10-13, 18). Finally, perhaps you could take on the task of editing the Abingtons and Hildersham News (see page 3 of the September News)?

Valerie Silvey

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

N.B. On 2 October the Abington 10k, 5k and Fun Runs start in Granta Park.

From the Seven Churches

It was with deep sadness we received the news Queen Elizabeth had died in early September. It brought with it a sense of loss on many levels and may take some time to sink in. Queen Elizabeth was the only monarch many of us had known all our lives, a constant presence in the political and cultural landscape of this country for so long, in times of both peace and adversity. There has been a tangible sense that an era has come to an end; that this country will never be quite the same again.

Yet also something new has begun. When I first heard reference to 'the King' it felt strange! Yet I was very moved listening to the often deeply personal King's address given on the day after the Queen's death, when he reflected on his mother's reign but also pledged himself to follow her example of service and duty. Let us pray for him in his new role, as he takes on a huge privilege and burden, and will need inward strength and guidance to fulfil this role.

In mourning for Queen Elizabeth, we also give thanks. She was an inspiring Christian witness around the world through her Christmas broadcasts and her public conduct. She also connected with our communities in Cambridgeshire at key moments of celebration. Many may remember her visit, already in her nineties, to the plant research centre (NIAB) outside Cambridge when she was determined to plant the tree herself. She went on to open the Royal Papworth Hospital, revealing her commitment to serve and her resilience to meet the demands of her office at an age when most people had retired.

Latterly, as she relied on a shepherd's stick to remain mobile, we continued to see her public service guided by the opening words of Psalm 23: "The Lord is my shepherd". Service carried out with a strong sense of vocation and often with wisdom, humour, and joy. As we reflect on some momentous changes in our national landscape and perhaps contemplate more personal changes in our own lives, we may also recognise that Jesus Christ calls each one of us into a life of faith and service, and that this is a vocation we may respond to with thanksgiving and joy.

Revd Iain McColl

Granta Vale Harmony Present Sing For Ukraine Charity Concert

Featuring

Granta Vale Harmony, The Glams Ladies Choir
Folk Duo Kelly and Wooley and Ouse Valley Chorus

Sat 22nd Oct 7.30 -10.00pm

St Mary the Virgin Church Gt Abington

Tickets £10.00 available from

Peter Lester

07884 932 215

peterlester12@gmail.com

**all proceeds to
DEC Ukraine Appeal**

Poppy Appeal As our weather becomes more autumnal, so it is time to think about this year's Poppy Collection. The Appeal runs from 27 October until Remembrance Sunday on 13 November. During this time house-to-house collections will take place. I would like to thank you in advance for all donations, which have always been generous, and also a big thank you to the team of collectors who selflessly give their time to this Appeal. Without your continued support the work of the Royal British Legion, which is often life-changing, could not continue.

Joan Nevin

News from the Pews

Members of the PCC met recently to discuss forthcoming fundraising events, raising money, not only for church expenses but for charities we support too.

Harvest Supper: The first of several events is the Harvest Supper and money raised will go to our two churches along with a donation to support Disaster Emergency Funds. This event takes place on **Friday 30 September**. Tickets are available from Churchwardens.

Sale of S/H Household Goods: This event will take place outside the Institute on **Saturday 1 October from 9am**. The money raised will be for the Parish Nurse Fund.

Many people have benefited from the service of the Parish Nurse in our community and across the Seven Churches within our Benefice. However, we are aware that many do not recognise that it is a church initiative which needs funding from various sources including the churches. We must therefore seek funding from our community to enable this valued service to continue. If you wish to make a personal donation, please contact Tony Orgee on 891 464.

Christmas Fayre: Our ever-popular Christmas Fayre will take place in the Village Institute on **Saturday 26 November** – Put the date in your diary.

Christmas Tree Festival: This is a completely new venture for us, and we sincerely hope you will be able to support it. We will be approaching all Abington Village Organisations to purchase and decorate their own tree. There will also be refreshments, stalls, raffle and carols sung by the Glam Choir. A wonderful start to the festive season. The main event will be on Saturday **10 December** with the possibility to view the trees on the following day too.

Carol Service: The annual Carol Service will take place at Great Abington Church at 6pm on **Sunday 18 December**.

With such a busy time within our churches in the coming months we look for extra help from the community – if you are willing to join the team at any event to give help and foster the community spirit, please contact a churchwarden (contact details on page 20).

Funerals:

The funeral of **Jennifer Hirsh** took place at Cam Valley Crematorium on Friday 16 September. Humanists UK conducted the morning service giving a comprehensive talk on Jennifer's life, along with beautiful music, a Lewis Carroll poem, Jabberwocky, read by her granddaughter. The reading 'Live A Life That Matters' completed the service. The afternoon celebration of Jennifer's life was attended by many members of the community. Four speakers covered Jennifer's work and commitment to the Abingtons. A full report on Jennifer's amazing community work was included in the September News. We record sincere thanks for Jennifer's dedication. Our thoughts and prayers are with her two sons Jonathan and Simon. Also see page 13.

The funeral of **Brian Tredget** took place at Cam Valley Crematorium on Monday 19 September. Brian came to the LSA in Great Abington with his wife Evelyn in 1960 where he worked his holding until the LSA closed in 1982. Brian and his wife purchased their home and holding, boldly planting a magnificent woodland. Finally, the workload became too intense and the remoteness unhelpful, so they bought a beautiful bungalow in Larkfield, sadly too late to be fully appreciated.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Evelyn and sons Chris and Paul.

The funeral of **Margaret Farrington** will take place on Tuesday 4 October at 11am at Cam Valley Crematorium. In 1970 Margaret, with her young son Stephen, moved to a new house built by her husband Ray in Great Abington High Street. Margaret was a people person and loved mixing in the community and being with her many friends. She worked in Sainsbury's, staying there for 25 years until she retired. Becoming bored, she started voluntary work at the Rosie Maternity Hospital doing facials and manicures on mums who had to stay long term. Then she volunteered at the Mary Wallace Cancer Centre at Addenbrooke's Hospital. Margaret left work when her husband Ray became ill and she cared for him (and his pigeons). Margaret volunteered again, this time at the Baby and Toddler Group and Pre School in Abington which she thoroughly enjoyed. Then Covid struck and she had to give up this work. She was involved with the Abington and Linton Brownies in the early years, later becoming an active committee member of the Abington Tuesday Club. Widowed in 2011, her chief companion was her little dog Treacle, a constant comfort to her during her final days. An active and fun-loving lady, she will be sorely missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with her son Stephen, daughter-in-law Julie and granddaughter Jade.

Anne Hall

Granta Medical Practices Update, October 2022

24/7 Prescription Collection Points

Here at Granta, we recognise that modern life is pretty busy, which often makes remembering to order and collect your medication challenging.

With our 24/7 prescription collection points, you can pick up your repeat prescriptions on a day and at a time that suits you – even when our dispensaries are closed. You can collect day or night, weekends and bank holidays.

Where can I find the collection points?

We have 24/7 collection points at Granta Sawston and Granta Linton, and have just installed a new one at Granta Shelford.

How do they work?

- Order your prescriptions from your surgery in the usual way.
- When your medicines are ready to collect you will receive a text on your mobile phone with a unique collection pin.
- Simply type the pin number into the machine and pay any charges via card (if you pay for prescriptions) and the machine will dispense your medication.

Are there items that cannot be collected from a 24/7 collection point?

There are some items the collection points cannot be used for, for clinical or regulatory reasons. These include:-

- Controlled drugs like morphine and oxycodone
- Drugs that need to be stored in a fridge
- Very large bulky items

More ways to manage your repeat prescriptions

The 24/7 collection points add to the range of ways you can now access your medications – direct at the dispensary counter, in the comfort of your own home with our free home delivery service, and now at a date/time of your choice.

Try them out for yourself

For further information and to register, pick up one of our collection point forms or contact us via granta.dispensing@nhs.net, stating which collection point you would like your medicines dispensed from. Our friendly team are here to help. Please note that you do need to have a smartphone to use this service.

Flu Clinics 2022 - Reminder

Have you booked your flu jab appointment yet? If not, but you are eligible, ring 0300 234 5555 now to book your appointment. The flu clinic dates are as follows:

- Saturday 24th September – Sawston Medical Practice, CB22 3HU
- Saturday 1st October – Linton Health Centre, CB21 4JS
- Sunday 2nd October – Market Hill Surgery, SG8 9JN
- Saturday 8th October – Shelford Health Centre, CB22 5FY
- Sunday 16th October – Linton Health Centre, CB21 4JS
- Sunday 16th October – Barley Surgery, SG8 8HY
- Friday 21st October – Sawston Medical Practice, CB22 3HU
- Saturday 22nd October – Shelford Health Centre, CB22 5FY

Sandra East
sandra.east@nhs.net T. 0300 234 5555

British Summer time ends 30 October – clocks go back one hour

Abington Cycling Development Plan

British cycling made a substantial donation to the build cost for the pump track and asked that we develop a plan to encourage cycling in the village. As part of the plan, I have asked some local cyclists to recommend a route that they enjoyed. We will post the first ride in the November News but in the meantime Strava users can check routes by local riders like James (Sam) Jackson or myself. alancooke_uk@yahoo.co.uk

If you have any suggestions, please drop me an email. The social cycling group hold regular excursions and there are many cycling commuters and a surprising number of lone cyclists, who can sometimes clock up 250 miles per week.

The Pump Track

The track has been well used even in the height of the summer. It has a solid group of 10-20 regular users and many occasional visitors, some traveling from neighbouring villages. I was surprised by the high number of scooter riders who I see speeding around it, as well as the occasional skateboarder.

Now that the summer weather has broken and we are getting more rainfall, we will be re-seeding the banks to get a good grass covering. We will also be planting more trees and adding extra hedging and bushes. The area near the track entrance will be landscaped and we will add additional picnic tables to the area.

CYCLE SAFELY

1. Always wear HiViz whatever the weather.
2. Cycle helmets are advisable.
3. Check your bike before setting out making sure the lights are working as these will be needed in dull weather.
4. In groups ride two abreast but drop to single file when cars are approaching from behind.
5. Keep up to date with the new Highway Code rules.
6. Give clear signals as to your intentions and look behind or have a reflecting mirror.
7. Let pedestrians and, more importantly, horses know you are approaching from behind by using your bell or calling out clearly.
8. Use designated cycle lanes wherever possible.
9. Don't undertake lorries, vans or buses. You may not be visible to the driver. If you can't see him/her he/she can't see you.
10. Your hearing can alert you to many dangers. Be careful of using earphones.

Please note this is not a race and all cyclists should be careful of pedestrians and traffic. You are responsible for your own safety so please wear the appropriate clothing and safety equipment.

Ukrainian Guests in Abington

The guest who arrived in July and the two guests who arrived in August all have jobs, two in Abington and one in Cambridge.

Of the remaining eight guests, three are not of working age, two work on-line, two have jobs in Abington and one has a job in Cambridge. Additionally, two of these guests also study on-line Ukrainian University courses, starting at 0600h in the morning!

Other activities include attending English classes and some guests have recently visited different countries in Europe to meet displaced family members.

In Sawston there is a Ukrainian clothing hub that is managed by Ukrainian guests. There has also been a Ukrainian concert in Pampisford that raised £1000 for support in Ukraine. There have been two group outings from the local area to the seaside to visit Southwold and Wells next the Sea. The UK Homes for Ukraine scheme has now been running for more than six months and some changes are becoming apparent. The Ukrainians who arrived as guests are now part of the Abington village community and some guests in neighbouring villages are considering leaving their hosts and becoming independent.

Anton King

County and District Council

District and County Councillors' Report September 2022

Cost of Living Many people are now feeling the pinch of the cost-of-living crisis. In the South Cambs. magazine this month there is a two-page spread of information that may be of use, as well as content on the website that points people towards support available – including with energy bills or ensuring that people know what they are entitled to (Universal Credit, childcare costs, Disability and Carers benefit etc.) and then encourages them to claim these entitlements – specifically aimed at Local Council Tax support and Discretionary Householding payment.
<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support/>

City Access Consultation A 'Sustainable Travel Zone' road user charge has been put forward by the Greater Cambridge Partnership (the body currently implementing the upgrades to the A1307) for private vehicles between 7am and 7pm on weekdays. The plans are part of a package to improve public transport, reduce congestion in the city and help the environment through lower emissions.

A £5 congestion charge to drive into and around Cambridge is being considered as part of a 'once in a generation' plan to shake up how people travel during the working week.

Whilst driving in the city could be more expensive, the GCP has revealed plans to make buses cheaper. Flat fares have been proposed to be introduced. In Cambridge a bus ticket could cost £1 to travel in the city, with a ticket in the wider 'travel to work' area (where we are) to cost £2. This is still very much a proposal at this stage and there will be a public consultation when/if the plan is adopted on 8 September. What this could mean for us is cheaper, more frequent, bus travel. We would like to hear your thoughts on this, as we represent the views of the electorate here, so please do let us know.

4-Day Week Trial The District Council has announced that they are going to trial a 4-day working week, initially for 470 office workers. The trial will run for three months from January 2023. Detailed planning is under way to improve working practices and to support staff to work more efficiently. It is expected that productivity will be maintained or bettered, detailed performance measures will be put in place to judge the success of the trial. If the trial is successful, it will be extended for a further year, then reviewed again. If it is not successful, they will revert to the 5-day week.

South Cambs. will be the first public sector authority to run a trial. Evidence from the private sector shows that productivity tends to increase, job satisfaction, job retention and recruitment all improve. That is what is expected, but we must wait to see the outcome of the trial.

The Council has already dramatically changed the way it works due to Covid and continues with most people working from home. This is the next step, but it will only be fully adopted if it can be shown that it works. The project is being managed by their own senior staff so there will not be a big bill for consultants. The expectation is that around £1 million can be saved if staff retention and recruitment improve, leading to a reduction in reliance on expensive agency staff.

Recycling of Electrical Items South Cambs has installed eight new pink recycling banks for small electrical items such as hairdryers, toasters and phones. These are all over the District and Cambridge, at the following locations:

- Gwydir Street car park, Cambridge
- Lammas Land car park, Cambridge
- Abbey Pool car park, Cambridge
- Chesterton Road public toilets, Cambridge
- Morrisons car park, Cambourne
- Tesco car park, Bar Hill
- Village car park, High Street, Melbourn
- Tesco car park, Fulbourn

Free access for Community Groups to Wimpole Hall

Wimpole Estates is offering local community groups free admission to the estate and its facilities, recognising that National Trust membership can be expensive and exclusionary. Each pass issued under this initiative will be for up to 16 people. If you know of any groups that may want to take them up on this offer, please write to wimpoleforeveryone@nationaltrust.org.uk

20mph Schemes

A County Council working group is finalising criteria for assessment of 20mph applications. It has decided to remove the requirement that existing speeds in an application area should already be 24mph or lower. Fourteen 20mph application from this year's Local Highways Improvement (LHI) bid have been removed from the LHI process to be the first schemes to be developed under this new budget.

Contact Information

District Council – John Batchelor – johndbatchelor23@gmail.com

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

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD- Shoe Box Appeal



It is this time of the year again. Thank you for all the support over the last few years especially with the difficulties due to Covid. Last year 10.5 million boxes were sent around the world. This year two thirds of the boxes packed in the UK are going to UKRAINE and the countries around who are supporting those who have fled the war.

This message is to encourage you to get involved again (or as a first timer) and fill a shoebox. It is a way of showing God's love. Each box may be the only gift a child will receive. So often items are treasured for years after and even into adulthood. Adding a photo or short message in the box means so much (no address)

There are various ways to get involved

1. Fill a whole shoebox with the suggested items (see link below) OR
2. Donate one or more items OR
3. Make a donation which can be used to buy items or for transport costs
4. Pack an "on line box"- £20 you can chose the gifts via the website.

<https://shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk>

Suggested items are stationery, toiletries (not toothpaste or liquids), toys, jewellery, hats, gloves, scarves, paper, balls, socks, (there is a long list on the web site, along with items to avoid) .

AGE GROUPS- 2-4 yrs, 5-8 yrs, 9-14 yrs Boys or Girls

Covered shoeboxes can be used or you can **pick up a pre-printed flat pack box from me along with an information leaflet.**

Collection week is November 14th to 21st when you can drop off filled boxes or items (bring along items if you have them).

There will be a SHOEBOX FILLING PARTY on SATURDAY 19 November at Shelford Free church along with a CAKE SALE.

I am a year-round volunteer for OCC and a member of Great Shelford Free Church.

Please get in touch if you need further information; tel 01223 893 232/07745 046 921/842181

or Email. jane.furlow@gmail.com

Below is a link for the charity with all the information you will need.

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Thank you in anticipation of your support. Jane

Kidney Cancer UK needs your Bears!

We are looking for pre-loved Teddies to help us with fundraising on our Charity Stalls.

Our promise to you

We will ensure that each Bear has a brand new home and is loved all over again!

You can post your Teds using 'FREEPOST Kidney Cancer UK' or pop them over to The Old Granary, Abington Park Farm CB21 6AX; Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Diary for October 2022

Date		Venue Abington Institute unless stated	Time	Page
Sat	1	Household Goods Second Hand sale - outside the Institute	9.30am	5
Sun	2	Abington 10k, 5k and Fun Run – from Granta Park	10.30am	14
Mon	3	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building Physio Pilates	9.30am 2.20pm	11 11
Tue	4	Art Group Table Tennis	10.00am 7.30pm	19 19
Wed	5	Yoga – course and drop in Line Dancing	9.30am 1.00pm	11 11
Thu	6	Abington Walking Group Granta Vale Harmony	9.50am 7.30pm	12 13
Fri	7	Low impact Aerobics Pilates	9.30am 10.30am	11 11
Mon	10	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building Physio Pilates	9.30am 2.20pm	11 11
Tue	11	Art Group Table Tennis Reading Group – see page 12 for venue	10.00am 7.30pm 7.30pm	19 19 12
Wed	12	Yoga – course and drop in Line Dancing	9.30am 1.00pm	11 11
Thu	13	Bag2School collection – Abington Pre-School Granta Vale Harmony	a.m. 7.30pm	15 12
Fri	14	Low impact Aerobics Pilates	9.30am 10.30am	11 11
Mon	17	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building Social Cycling - meet at 1 Bourn Bridge Road	9.30am 10.00am	11 12
Tue	18	Art Group Tuesday Club – fish and chip lunch Table Tennis	10.00am 1.00pm 7.30pm	19 19
Wed	19	Yoga – course and drop in Abington Group Line Dancing	9.30am 7.30pm 1.00pm	11 12 11
Thu	20	Craft Group Granta Vale Harmony	1.30pm 7.30pm	11 12
Fri	21	Low impact Aerobics Pilates Film Nights – doors open	9.30am 10.30am 7.00pm	11 11 13
Sat	22	Abington Walking Group Film Nights Matinée – doors open Sing for Ukraine – Great Abington Church	9.50am 2.00pm 7.30pm	12 13 4
Mon	24	Physio Pilates	2.20pm	11
Tue	25	Art Group Scrabble Club Table Tennis	10.00am 7.00pm 7.30pm	19 12 19
Wed	26	Yoga – course and drop in Line Dancing	9.30am 1.00pm	11 11
Thu	27	Abington Lunch – doors open	12.45pm	16

		Granta Vale Harmony	7.30pm	12
Mon	31	Rivercare and litter pickup - meet at bridge/ford	9.30am	
		Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	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 October 2022

Thursday lunchtime	11.30am – 1.30pm (6 th , 13 th , 20 th)	Lunch 27 th
Friday	8.45am – 11.00am (7 th , 14 th , 21 st , 28 th)	
Saturday mornings	10.00am – 12 noon (8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th)	

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

Call Gaynor Farrant on 07817 517 871 or email gaynorfarrant198@btinternet.com

Wheelie bin dates for October 2022 (Abingtons and Hildersham)

Mon 3	Mon 10	Mon 17	Mon 24	Mon 31
Green/Blue	Black	Green/Blue	Black	Green/Blue

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

Line Dancing - Wednesdays 1pm to 2.30pm, term time at Abington Institute

Qualified line dance instructor, Lisa Mason, now runs drop-in classes suitable for all ages and levels and welcomes beginners to intermediate level. Bring a drink and suitable shoes. Contact email lisa.lmsd@gmail.com or phone 07958 788 292.

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 abingtonannexoffice@gmail.com

Abington Gardening Club

On Monday 3 October there will be a meeting in the Institute at 7.30pm when Peter Jackson will give a talk entitled 'Trees and Shrubs for the Small Garden'. Please arrive early as annual subscriptions are due, £10 members, £3 guests. This will be followed by a short AGM with drinks and nibbles. All welcome.

Kay Harman, Secretary

Tel 891 730 email: robandkayharman@gmail.com

Social Cycling

The next ride will be on Monday 17 October starting at 10.00am from 1 Bourn Bridge Road. Gaynor Farrant 07817 517 871 or gaynorfarrant198@btinternet.com

Abington Walking Group

Our last walks were to Great Chesterford and the Wilbrahams and were enjoyed by good numbers.

Your October strolls are on Thursday 6th and Saturday 22nd.

The walks start from the Institute at 10am by shared transport to the walk venue.

After the recent welcome rainfall the countryside is at last looking green again.

For further information please contact:

Robin Harman on 891730 or robandkayharman@gmail.com

George Woodley on 891169 or georgewoodley@ge29gew@gmail.com



Reading Group

11 October	<i>The Offing</i> Benjamin Myers	Diana Wingfield
8 November	<i>Members' free choice of books for discussion</i>	Valerie Hefford
13 December	<i>Christmas meeting</i>	Mary Conochie

We will meet at 7.30pm at Diana's to discuss *The Offing*. Please confirm attendance to Diana and copy me in.

We were very pleased to have two new members at our last meeting. We have room for more! If interested email me:

vhefford@yahoo.co.uk.

Valerie Hefford

Scrabble Club

The next meeting of the Scrabble Club will be on Tuesday 23 October at 7pm in the Institute. We will use the meeting room and can overflow into the café area and maintain a safe distance. New members very welcome to this friendly group.

Sheena Fraser

The Tuesday Club (formerly the Forget-Me-Not Club).

Our first meeting on 4 October has been cancelled.

The second meeting will be held on the 18 October at 1pm when we will enjoy our annual fish and chip lunch. Please ensure we have your name on the list.

Our theme will be the Best and Worst Holiday memories, so bring your stories with you to share.

New and old members will be welcome as always. Please contact me for further details.

Jenny Milns (890 252).

Abington Craft Group

The next meeting is on 20 October, 1.30 to 4.30pm at the Institute. More work on items to sell on the stall at the Christmas Fair. All welcome. Light refreshments provided. Small fee of £2 to cover costs. We would be pleased to receive donations of unused and unwanted fabric. Please contact Glynis if items need collection or drop them in at the Craft Group.

Email- Glynis.brookman@btinternet.com or telephone 07970 614 194.

British Summer time ends 30 October – clocks go back one hour

Granta Vale Harmony

Granta Vale Harmony is a mixed *a capella* singing group. We meet on Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30pm at the Abington Institute, and anyone is welcome to join in. Contact details - Peter Lester Telephone 07884 932 215 or email haverhi11@talktalk.net

The Abington Group

The Abington Group (Ladies) will resume meeting again on 19 October 2022. Details are still to be confirmed, but the meeting will start at 7.30pm with a 40 minute or so talk, followed by questions and then tea/coffee and more informal chat.

Since the pandemic it has been decided that we will meet at the Village Institute, on the Terrace or in the Main Hall.

We welcome new members. Please email Freda Orgee fredaorgee@gmail.com or phone 01223 891464 for more details and for the programme in due course.

Abington & Hildersham Women's Institute

We were pleased to welcome several visitors to our September meeting, which began with a minute's silence in memory of our dear Queen Elizabeth II. The Queen joined the WI in 1943 and became President at Sandringham WI on her mother's death in 2002. Several of our members shared their treasured memories of meeting the Queen. Our speaker, Sophie Ellis, a psychologist and criminologist, had previously worked for Her Majesty's Prison Service and gave an enlightening and very thought-provoking talk about the different types of prisons, the men, women and children who inhabit them and the philosophy of using prison as a form of punishment and deterrent. Funding for the Prison Service was halved during the last austerity period from 2008 which had a huge impact on the delivery of the service and the prisoners because of overcrowding. The Government is now spending billions on building new prisons to improve living conditions, but much more money needs to be spent on staffing and rehabilitation so that prisoners can make a positive contribution to our society on their release. Our meeting ended with us singing God Save the King

Next Meeting: Monday 10 October 7.30pm: Talking of Instruments with Quintus Benziger.

Visitors and new members always welcome.

Marilyn Broadhurst

Film Nights

We're happy to announce the return of Abington Film Nights! An opportunity to come together once a month and watch a new movie with other members of the village. Our next screening will be on Friday 21 October at the Village Institute, with doors opening at 7pm. We will also be running a Children's Matinée the following day, Saturday 22 October, with doors opening at 2pm. For more details please sign-up to our film nights newsletter at <http://www.theabingtons.org.uk/the-institute/film-nights/> or at our email address films@theabingtons.org.uk. See you at the movies!

Jennifer Hirsh

Simon and Jonathan Hirsh wish to thank everyone who attended their mother's funeral and the celebration of her life on 16 September. We would particularly like to thank all those who made the day very special: the speakers at the celebration and those who helped us with the arrangements for the day and the beautiful flowers. We offer our huge appreciation and heartfelt thanks to so many neighbours, friends and colleagues from the villages who have shown so much kindness, support and love throughout Jennifer's life, and especially over the last few years. And lastly, we thank everyone for all the messages, cards and letters.

Great Abington Primary School - Outdoor Learning Area

Over the summer holiday work started on our exciting new development for the school site. The outdoor learning area is designed to support all members of the community to learn about growing, the interactions within nature, sustainability and how nature can impact on our wellbeing. This ambitious project has been made possible by local and business donations, generosity of time by many people, and of course the support of our PTFA organisation.

Our dedicated website page has further information.

www.greatabington.school/outdoor-learning-project-2022/

We need your help now to fully utilise this amazing space. Can you spare a little time regularly to support our children in the growing area? We are looking for a growing group to work alongside us and make the most of the resources we have. If you can spare time over lunchtime 12.00 – 13.00h please do get in touch and we will discuss further. If only once a month that would be great so do talk to us if you can spare any time at all.

Drop in to the school office or email us via: office@greatabington.school - your support will be beneficial to our pupils and we also hope that you gain something from the experience. The ambition is that by the time all children leave Great Abington they are experts at growing, knowing about soil, seasons, challenges and the joys of successful gardening. The life skills and impact of this ambition could be significant for our school community. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Guy Underwood (Headteacher | Great Abington Primary School)

Mobile: 077151413198

Email: guy.underwood@greatabington.school



PTFA Update

Our annual AGM was held on 12 September 2022. Your PTFA officers and committee of trustees for 2022-2023 are as follows:

Co-chairs: Emma Webb and Katie Mannion

Treasurer: Bert Flipo

Secretary: Laura Norton **Trustees:** Mark Carter, Alan Cooke, Sarah Weston, Cory Rivers, Joanna Chapman, Rachel Clay, Tasha Whittaker, Grace Carnegie-Riviere and Emma Morris

Class 3's Cake Sale will be held after school on 20 October. Have your change ready for some sweet treats!

Great Abington PTFA

Book of Condolence for HM Queen Elizabeth 11

On 8 September 2022, Buckingham Palace announced that Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, had sadly passed away. Releasing an official statement, the Palace shared: "The Queen died peacefully at Balmoral this afternoon." During the national period of mourning, with many people feeling profoundly affected by the loss of their monarch, Great Abington and Little Abington Parish Councils organised a local Book of Condolence for a period, hosted by Abington Village Institute which villagers were invited to sign.

Magna Close maple tree – update

As many of you are aware the magnificent maple tree at the entrance to Magna Close shed a large branch on 16 August 2022. The tree has subsequently been surveyed by a SCDC Tree officer who reported that: 'The fungus identified is *Polyporus Squamous* (Dryads Saddle), an aggressive decay fungus. The tree already has an included bark union at the main fork, and there are signs of a split in the area exposed by the previous failure. In summary, the tree is certain to fail.' Currently the Parish Council is unaware of the timescale, but have been notified that there are plans to remove the tree with subsequent replanting of a new tree.

New small electrical item recycling points

Recycling small electricals like toasters, phones and hairdryers is now easier for residents, after CCC and SCDC councils installed more drop-off points. The nearest to the Abingtons are Tesco car park, Fulbourn or Thriplow Household Recycling Centre. For more information: <https://www.scams.gov.uk/recycling-and-bins/recycling/what-to-do-with-your-old-electricals/>

Planning

The Parish Council has been notified of TWI's intention to submit a request for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) screening opinion on its plans to partially re-develop its campus at Granta Park. TWI's plans are still in an early stage of development and seeking an EIA screening opinion is a procedure that is used to determine whether a proposed project is likely to have significant effects on the environment. For more information there is a website where residents can see further information and keep informed of the plans www.twiprojectreform.uk.

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 November 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)

Abington Bag2School fundraiser Abington Pre-School has organised a textiles collection with **Bag2School on 13 October**. Please donate items in the bag provided – this can include adults' and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, handbags and soft toys, (please refer to <http://uk.bag2school.com/> for full details).

Little Abington Parish Council

Book of Condolences

Together with Great Abington Parish Council we coordinated the signing of a Book of Condolences for Queen Elizabeth II in the Institute from 14 to 20 September. Thanks to all the people who volunteered to be present at the sessions and of course to all those who came along to sign. The first person to sign arrived on his mobility scooter! If you were unable to sign you can still do it by contacting Bernie Talbot on 07849 693 973.

Overhanging branches

Just a reminder that any shrubs and trees overhanging pavements and footpaths or obscuring streetlights need to be cut back. Remember that the Highways team can charge for their removal.

Speedwatch

We have held a few sessions a week over the summer on Pampisford Road and Cambridge Road and have been trying out different times of the day (10–11, 2.30–3.30) with some success. We have also recently recruited some new people to our team of speed watchers, from both Great and Little Abington, but are always looking for more to be able to hold more sessions. If you are interested, please contact Paddy on paddy.keane@btinternet.com.

No meetings over the last month

Little Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Institute

Next Meeting: Monday 28 November 2022, Parish Council at 7.30pm

Sheila Bolden (Chairman)

07754 659 929

Email: sheila.bolden@btinternet.com

Jessica Ashbridge (Clerk)

Email: clerk.lapc@gmail.com

Next meeting

Monday 28 November

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

The Abington Lunch Thursday 27 October 2022

Fruit Juice

**Roast Pork with Seasonal Vegetables
Autumn Fruit Dessert**

Tea or Coffee



Please book your meal on 07554 43 33 17. Leave your name and telephone number with your message before noon on Tuesday 25 October. 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. Guests only by special arrangement. **Only £5.**

Next lunch Thursday 24 November 2022

Hildersham News

Hildersham Harvest Festival

The Harvest service has traditionally been a time when we celebrate bountiful harvest and the churches in the past have been decorated with our fruit and vegetables.

This year with costs rising rapidly we are aware of the need to use fruit and vegetables in the most economical way possible. Hildersham church, keen to continue their support for Reach community projects, especially with the current energy costs crisis, has become aware that using a slow cooker is significantly more efficient, cheaper and more manageable for preparing simple, nutritious meals in one pot.

We therefore asked for donations to be put in a slow cooker at the Harvest church service. With these contributions we are hoping to purchase slow cookers for Reach which we hope will help their customers and their families through the winter period.

Emmaus Collection

The collection will take place in Hildersham Village Hall on Monday 3 October from 6 to 7.30 pm. If there's anything left in your loft or garage that you no longer need, you may as well refurbish and sell these items.

Electrical items are accepted as are furniture, clothing, books, and kitchen ware.

Emmaus offers people who have experienced homelessness a place to call home for as long as they need it, and meaningful work in their social enterprise. Living in a stable environment and with the opportunity to gain new skills helps the companions regain any lost self-esteem and confidence to help them get back on their feet.

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

DATE	9.00 am	10.30 am	pm
2 nd October		Communion <i>Balsham</i>	
9 th October	Communion <i>Weston Colville</i> Morning Worship <i>West Wickham</i> 9.30am		Evening Prayer <i>West Wratting</i> 6.00pm
16 th October	Communion <i>West Wratting</i> Morning Worship <i>West Wickham</i> 9.30am	Morning Worship <i>Balsham</i>	
23 rd October	Communion <i>West Wickham</i> Morning Worship <i>Weston Colville</i>		
30 th October	Morning Worship <i>West Wickham</i> 9.30am	Communion <i>Balsham</i> <u>11.15am</u>	

Hildersham Parish Council

Report on the Hildersham Parish Council AGM meeting held on 13th September 2022.

Hildersham Nature Recovery Plan - Wild plants and animals of all sorts are under threat as never before, and badly need help! Hildersham Parish Council is considering lending its support to a Nature Recovery Plan and is looking for volunteers who would like to help with mapping, developing, and monitoring potential wildlife habitats in the village. For further details, please contact Jean Kelly (01223 891 296, jeshere1@yahoo.com). You can also find more information on the Natural Hildersham page one HPC website in the section headed "Links." Please also complete and return the questionnaires that have been distributed.

The council will bid for funding to make the Back Road/High Street crossroads junction safer. As the highway department officer had seen how hazardous the junction can be, councillors are hopeful that some improvements will be funded by the local highway initiative scheme. This scheme enables local councils to bid for funding for road improvement schemes.

Councillors are trying to find a way of safely getting electricity to the planned location for the tree that Pampisford Estate has generously agreed to donate. It is to be used as a Christmas tree. It will be planted opposite the village hall.

The defibrillator training was held in August and reminded people how easy the equipment is to use. It can be used without training, as the defibrillator issues clear instructions to the user.

The two new bus shelters alongside the A1307 are scheduled to be installed on 18th and 19th October. They will include lighting and have been funded by the Greater Cambridgeshire Partnership. Work on the Greenway from near Dalehead Foods to Linton Road in Great Abington will be started soon.

The Recreation Ground Trust and Field Garden Trust meeting is held after each parish council meeting. The land previously administered by the parish council, including the allotments, the Recreation Ground, North and South Holding will be managed by the Trusts. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

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 8 November 2022 in Hildersham Village Hall. Information is on the Parish Council's website: <https://hildershamparishcouncil.org.uk>

Christmas Coach Trip from Granta Park to Oxford Street, London.




BioMed and the Granta Park Estate Team would like to invite you to join the 2022 Christmas coach trip to London on **Saturday 26 November**.

Spend the day shopping on Oxford Street or book tickets for Winter Wonderland in Hyde Park, the options are endless. Coach tickets are free, but please note this service is intended for Granta Park staff and their families and a small number of people who live in the Abingtons. Reserve your seat early to avoid disappointment.

Pick up is at 08.30 from the McClintock Building on Granta Park (the coach will drop off at the end of Oxford Street) return is at 17.00h (same location as drop off).

Please email eleanor.miller@grantapark.co.uk or call 01223 895032 for booking details.

Church Services for October 2022

DATE	Gt. Abington 	Lt. Abington 	Hildersham 	Readings
2 nd October	10.30 United Service at Balsham			
9 th October		10.30am Communion		Jeremiah 29.1,4-7 Luke 17. 11-19
16 th October			6.00pm Evensong	Jeremiah 31.27-34 Luke 18.1-8
23 rd October			10.30am Communion	Isaiah 45.22-end Luke 4.16-24
30 th October All Saints	Evensong 4.00pm		9.00am Morning Prayer (BCP)	Daniel 7.1-3,15-18 Luke 6.20-31

Church Flower Rota

	Gt. Abington	Lt. Abington	Hildersham
2 nd October	Sally Smith	Gill Smith and Claire Hinga	Jennie Logan
9 th October	Sally Smith	Gill Smith and Claire Hinga	Jennie Logan
16 th October	Anne Hall	Marilyn Broadhurst and Kate Franklin	Jeanette Long
23 rd October	Anne Hall	Marilyn Broadhurst and Kate Franklin	Jeanette Long
30 th October	Gill Talbot	Freda Orgee	Anne-Marie Melloy

Churchwardens

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

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

Parish Nurse

Kim Cox	Not 24 hrs, please leave a message - Kim will respond when next available.	07498 994205
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