

The Abington Chronicle 2020
Chronicling the history of the Abingtons in a very different year

Abington History Group



January 2020	<i>Granta Medical Practices Rated Outstanding by Care Quality Commission</i>	Granta Medical CQC
	<i>A1307 Bus lane to Linton completed</i>	Bus Lane
	<i>GAPC/LAPC – plant trees to help carbon capture & biodiversity</i>	Tree planting
	<i>Linton History Society - Jennifer Hirsh & the Abington Pottery story</i>	Abington Pottery
	<i>Full set of events or meetings for clubs and groups - all listed dates</i>	Clubs and Group Mtgs
	<i>The UK's first two patients test positive for Coronavirus</i>	Wuhan Coronavirus in UK
February 2020	<i>New Year message from Pioneer Lay Minister, Jeanine Kennedy</i>	Pioneer Lay Minister
	<i>Audrey Bugg retires from PCC following 60 years of faithful service</i>	Audrey Bugg
	<i>Over 360 people at the Carol, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services 2019</i>	Church attendance
	<i>Old carvings in Little Abington Church Tower</i>	Church Tower
	<i>Abington Bowls Club - founded 1927 - AGM 11th February</i>	Bowls Club AGM
	<i>'Covid-19', an acronym that stands for coronavirus disease 2019 – deaths in UK</i>	Covid-19 deaths in UK
March 2020	<i>Spring flowers appearing in abundance – especially snowdrops</i>	Spring Flowers
	<i>300 years graffiti in Lt Abington Church tower & Alfred Cutter 1884</i>	Church tower old graffiti
	<i>Zero Carbon Community Grant scheme -£2000 to Great Abington</i>	Zero Carbon Grant
	<i>Ten years since the allotments (AALGA) on Linton Rd were established</i>	10 years of AALGA
AND THEN.....	March 2020 – World & national events>>>> LOCKDOWN	
	<i>11th March - cases of COVID-19 increased and 4,291 people have now died</i>	Covid-19 spreading
	<i>WHO have assessed that COVID-19 can be characterized as a 'pandemic'</i>	WHO declares Pandemic
UK LOCKDOWN	<i>23rd March – UK Gov announce 'lockdown' - you must stay at home.</i> <i>All non-food shops and other premises including libraries, playgrounds and outdoor gyms, and places of worship will close - no gatherings of more than two people in public - stop all social events, including weddings</i>	UK Lockdown rules
	<i>People encouraged to 'work from home' & 'furlough' scheme launched</i>	WFH Working from home
	Local impact of lockdown	<i>Less traffic on Cambridge Road (A1307) mainly delivery vans & lorries - village roads very quiet -more birdsong- fewer aeroplanes in the skies</i>
	<i>More walkers & joggers - more socially distanced street conversations</i>	Exercise & meeting others
	<i>Churches, Pub, Shop, recreation ground, school and Village Institute all closed –</i>	Village closures
	<i>Shop reopens with 'social distancing rules', masks and delivery service</i>	Village shop reopens
April 2020	<i>LOVE ABINGTON - community volunteers give support to the villages of Gt and Lt Abington - helped by the Church, Parish Councils, Village Shop and the Pub</i>	Love Abington
	<i>A team of 'Street Co-ordinators' has been set up providing a point of contact</i>	Street coordinators
	<i>The Village Shop ordering and delivery service is proving invaluable</i>	Village shopping
	<i>Thursday evening 'clap for our carers'</i>	Clap for carers
	<i>Church started streaming two services a week online via Zoom;</i>	Zoom Church
	<i>DIARY for APRIL – The Abington Institute is closed for April</i>	All events cancelled
May 2020	<i>Thanks to all volunteers in Love Abington working to support our residents</i>	Love Abington
	<i>The Village Shop and services proving invaluable</i>	Village Shop
	<i>Zoom is enabling the Parish Councils and Reading Group to keep going</i>	Parish Council Zoom
	<i>The churches are closed but there is a newsletter & Zoom services</i>	Churches closed
	<i>VE Day Celebration 8th May - a 'Social Distance Act of Remembrance' with Union Jack flags, a two-minute silence and community toasts to the heroes in the sun</i>	VE Day 'Celebration' – 75 th anniversary end of WW2
	<i>Support for the NHS – rainbows and Thursday at 8pm 'Clap for Carers'</i>	Clap for Carers
	<i>DIARY for May – The Institute is closed - all scheduled activities cancelled</i>	Institute closed
June 2020	<i>1 June: Lockdown measures are eased, with some school children returning</i>	Lockdown 'eased'
	<i>15 June: England's retail parks, high streets and shopping centres open</i>	
	<i>Little Abington Church - The Tower and the bell - by Graham Ross</i>	Bell Tower
	<i>Planning - Bancroft Farm (S/3921/19/FL): - LAPC recommended refusal</i>	Bancroft Farm
	<i>Larkfield development by Hills completed – with 45 new houses</i>	Larkfield
	<i>A1307 - east-bound busway between Babraham and the A11 roundabout</i>	A1307 Babraham
	<i>Remote Working and Voting at County and District Councils resumed</i>	County & DC Decisions
	<i>DIARY for June – The Abington Institute is closed all activities cancelled</i>	All events still cancelled
July 2020	<i>England moves to ease restrictions on places of social gathering</i>	Restrictions eased

	<i>Record high temperatures and drought conditions in May, June</i>	Weather temperatures
	<i>The churches open for private prayer – social distancing & hand sanitisers</i>	Private Worship
	<i>Recreation Ground - The play area & outdoor gym reopened on 4 July</i>	Playground open
	<i>Greater Cambridge Partnership chosen Transport Hub site B for new P&R site</i>	New Park & Ride site
	<i>Limit of 10 mourners at outdoor funeral in Lt Abington</i>	Outdoor Buddhist funeral
	<i>Cambridge International School (CIS) closing at the end of summer term</i>	CIS Closing – Site ?
	<i>DIARY for July – The Abington Institute is closed until further notice</i>	Institute closed
	<i>24 July: Face coverings become mandatory in shops across England</i>	Face Masks
August 2020	<i>Several days of heatwave with temperatures over 30°C and high humidity</i>	Hot August
	<i>3 August: The government's 'Eat Out to Help Out' scheme launches</i>	Eat out to help out
	<i>Churches - out-of-doors services with congregations up to 30 'socially distanced'</i>	Outdoor services (30)
	<i>The Three Tuns now open and a resumption of cricket matches</i>	Three Tuns
	<i>Major U-turn as A-level & GCSE results to be based on teachers' assessments</i>	Teacher Assessments
	<i>An E bike was delivered to Great Abington – trial scheme set up</i>	Try an E-Bike
	<i>DIARY for August – The Abington Institute is closed - all activities are cancelled</i>	Institute still closed
Sept 2020	<i>A1307 closed overnight for 12 nights between the Babraham & Fourwentways</i>	A1307 night closure
	<i>2020 Flu Clinics - Duxford IWM has agreed to help with "drive-through" flu clinics</i>	Drive-through flu jabs
	<i>Emerson Park - New development of 13 bespoke homes just north of Linton Road</i>	Emerson Park Houses
	<i>Discussions on Linton 'Greenway' - from Bourn Bridge Road to Linton</i>	Linton Greenway
	<i>Warning of a second peak following rise in the number of Covid-19 cases.</i>	Fears of second Covid-19 peak – rule of 6 people
	<i>Social gatherings of more than six people will be illegal from September 14</i>	
	<i>Outdoor funerals– Lt Abington limited to 30 people</i>	Funerals 30 people only
	<i>DIARY for September– The Abington Institute is closed until further notice</i>	Institute closed
October 2020	<i>Book your free week with the GAPC-owned e-bike</i>	Try the E-Bike
	<i>Impressive drive through system of flu jabs treated 1500 people at Duxford</i>	1500 Flu Jabs
	<i>Church services held with a limit of 30 people, social distancing, & masks</i>	Church services
	<i>Fourwentways: - complaints about lorry parking & the mess</i>	Fourwentways
	<i>October 12: Boris Johnson launches a three-tier system of local alert levels</i>	New alert levels
	<i>As the number of walkers taking exercise round the village is increasing, please avoid trampling on the wildflowers along Bourn Bridge Road PRV</i>	Protected Roadside Verge (PRV)
	<i>Healthwatch Cambridgeshire published a three-month Covid survey</i>	Covid survey
	<i>31st October - the UK exceeds one million lab-confirmed cases of coronavirus</i>	1,000,000 cases
	<i>The Institute opens for a few socially distance events - other meet on zoom</i>	Partial opening
November 2020	<i>It is hard for those who live alone, to cope with restrictions & not seeing family</i>	Isolated residents
	<i>Socially distanced outdoor Remembrance Day service at Lt Abington</i>	Remembrance Day
	<i>More dogs in the villages – both rescue dogs and new puppies</i>	More dogs
	<i>Openreach approached to improve internet speeds for the LSA properties -</i>	Internet speeds
	<i>100 years of Hildersham Village Hall - purchased in November 1920</i>	100 Years old
December 2020	<i>Nearing 2021 we have a hope that an effective vaccine will be available (Pfizer)</i>	End of 2020 > 2021 ?
	<i>Covid & lockdown prompted a remarkable community response</i>	Community response
	<i>The Village Shop, Three Tuns, churches & Parish Councils continue to operate</i>	Resilient services
	<i>2nd December - lockdown comes to an end but we move from tier 3 to 4</i>	Tier 4
	<i>Snow & floods on the recreation ground - river up to the Millennium bridge</i>	Snow and floods
	<i>14th December 14 - a new strain of coronavirus has been identified</i>	New Strain
	<i>Claire Gillett – Parish Nurse is retiring</i>	Parish Nurse
	<i>19th Dec - Christmas easing of the restrictions cancelled for 18M people in SE</i>	Christmas restrictions
	<i>30th December - 44 million people now in Tier 4, the tightest restrictions</i>	Tier 4 for New Year

Into 2021 Boris Johnson announces **a third national lockdown from the 5th January for England** which will see schools shut and people urged to stay at home **to prevent the NHS being overwhelmed** by surging coronavirus infections.

The UK government says that 1.3 million people in the UK have so far received their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Between 15th and 26th January 2021, the total UK number Covid-19 related deaths passes **One Hundred Thousand....**

Abington History Group previously published *Abington Chronicles 2000 -2010* and it is perhaps appropriate to start these again in this year of 'unprecedented' events