



The Abingtons and Hildersham News



www.theabingtons.org.uk

March 2019



Photo by David Farrant

Abington snowdrops in early February – harbingers of spring

Letter from the Editor

February has brought remarkably mild weather, with record high temperatures of 16°C and some superb sunsets. This makes it credible that Sunday 31 March will bring the start of British Summer Time when the clocks go forward one hour. Given the vagaries of the British climate there could, however, still be wintry weather to come.

Little Abington is welcoming an extra minister to join the seven churches team and there is a new Granta Vale Community Hub offering opportunities to strengthen community links (pages 4, 6).

The Abingtons have a village clean up on Saturday 30 March and hope for a lot of residents to turn up at the Institute ready to don gloves and fill bags with rubbish. It is encouraging that several people have offered help to the new footpath champion. Could you join in? Great Abington Parish Council has a very active programme and is now in need of a new councillor. See page 7.

There is still time for people to provide views on the future of the Abingtons. Strong support already for the petition to improve Four Went Ways has strengthened the hand of those pressing for change in this area. Work has been done to improve parts of the A1307 and comments are sought on routes for the Cambridge to Oxford rail link (pages 14, 15).

TWI has provided an interesting update on developments (page 13).

Installation of water main works in Great Abington High Street is causing full or, at times, partial closure of the road. It may be that the greatest inconvenience is for people using the buses, which now have to be rerouted.

We all enjoy the home cooking on offer in Jeremiah's Café, and especially the cakes. But demand is outstripping supply and page 13 presents an impassioned plea for those with cake-making skills to volunteer some help. Lent begins on 7 March but there will be pancakes to enjoy the day before (page 16).

Volunteers are also needed to help with the local Scout and Guide groups, surely a most rewarding endeavour (pages 6, 9).

In addition to the usual varied array of activities on offer please note a regular monthly opportunity to play bingo and cribbage at Abington Social Club, and there are four classes of differing levels of Physio Pilates on Mondays. (Pages 10, 11, 12)

The Shop and Post Office have had a makeover and it is very welcome to find that the shop and post office now share the same opening hours, that is Monday to Friday 7am to 8pm, Saturday 7am to 7pm, Sunday 8am to 4pm.

Valerie Silvey

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Articles for the April 2019 edition of *The Abingtons and Hildersham News* should be sent to the Editor by Friday 15 March 2019 at news@theabingtons.org.uk. Photos welcome.

From the Seven Churches

Springtime is often associated with a renewal of energy and fresh vision. This month there will be a new minister joining our team, Jeanine Kennedy, who will be living in Little Abington and working throughout our parishes (see page 6). One of the many advantages of someone new joining a team is that they bring with them a fresh perspective. This can lead to a renewal of vision and energy, a different way of seeing the world.

As we approach Lent this month, the period of around 40 days prior to Easter, we may also experience this as a time of renewal. Lent has traditionally been a time of stepping back from regular patterns to reflect on life. Some aim to give something up; others to take something on. In either case it may encourage us to see the world differently and perhaps appreciate things we have been taking for granted. It may also help us, as St Paul said in his letter to the Romans, 'to be transformed by the renewing of your minds'.

In the Christian faith during Lent we often reflect on the story of Jesus being led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness for 40 days. Just prior to this, Jesus had been baptised in the River Jordan and experienced a revelation affirming his identity as the Son of God. He was then led into the wilderness to discover more about what it meant to be the Son of God and maybe see the world anew.

Lent can also be a time when we renew our vision. Do we need to take a step back from our regular pattern of doing things to see with a different perspective? Do we need to review our priorities and be transformed by the renewing of our minds? Perhaps in doing so, we may become more aware of the sheer wonder of being human and of the pearl of great price, which is the presence of God in our lives.

Revd Iain McColl

Granta Vale Community Hub

All are welcome at the Community Hub for our monthly gathering with tea, coffee and refreshments.

**We also offer help and advice from
The Parish Nurse project**

**Community workers – working alongside the Parish Nurse Members of the
seven churches ministry team
Reach Community Projects
and other local organisations**

**Granta Vale Community Hub, Church Institute,
Church Lane, Balsham CB21 4DS**

**Thursdays on the following dates
7th March, 4th April, 2nd May, 6th June
4th July, 1st August, 5th September,
3rd October, 7th November, 5th December
1.30pm – 3.30pm**

Sunday 31 March British Summer Time begins. Clocks go forward one hour.

News from the Pews

Once again as Easter rapidly approaches it involves another busy period for Church Wardens and members of the PCC. The **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** will be held at 6pm in Great Abington Church on 29 April. We invite members of the community who are on the church electoral roll to join us to gain an insight into church work. The electoral roll will also be renewed this year. Our Electoral Roll Officer is Mary Miles. If you wish to be put onto it, please contact Mary.

The **2019 Great Abington Church Flower Rota** is now complete and we are delighted to report that six new members have joined the team. We thank them and indeed all our flower arrangers in both Great and Little Abington churches – you are all important members of the church team.

The First Sunday in Lent, 10 March, follows the Ash Wednesday service in Hildersham Church on 6 March. Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before Easter in the Christian calendar. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, Lent is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. Some choose to give up certain luxuries during this period.

Tony Collett writes: Granta Park Initiative: the church has recently received approval and funding for an initiative that will lead to quarterly lunch time talks at Granta Park from eminent scientists on topics that relate specifically to science and faith. A steering group has been formed and further details will be announced in the next month or so. In the meantime, for further details contact Tony Collett on 893 447

Rosemary writes Are you a new mum? Have you recently moved to the village and are looking to meet other young parents? You may like to come to 55 Church Lane, Little Abington on 4 March at 12.30pm.

For a time of peace and relaxation, join us for **Space to Be** at 7.30pm on Wednesday 6 March at the above address.

Come and celebrate our mothers and others who have cared for us at our **Mothering Sunday** service at St Mary's Church Little Abington at 10.45am on 31 March. Glenis Todd will be leading the Abington School Choir at the service. There will be creative activity for the children followed by refreshments after the service.

For further details on all the above activities please ring Rosemary on 891 718.

Deanery Spring Fair – Saturday 16 March 10am–12noon at Shelford Memorial Hall Donations of jam, preserves, groceries, plants and raffle prizes would be very much appreciated. Please contact Marilyn for further details – 893 214.

Easter lilies – We will again be displaying lilies in our churches in memory of loved ones no longer with us. Further details will be in the April edition.

Charity for March – The Bishop's Lent Appeal. In 2019 the Diocese of Ely and Christian Aid are delighted to be working together on a joint Lent Appeal. The appeal is in support of the project Breaking the Barriers; Business Opportunities through Sustainable Energy Projects for Women in Rural Malawi, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso and Honduras.

The Diocesan Lent Appeal will run throughout March and April.

There are charity boxes in both churches. Thank you.

Welcome to Jeanine Kennedy We extend a very warm welcome to Jeanine Kennedy who has recently moved into the vicarage in Little Abington and will serve as a part-time Pioneer and Licensed Lay Minister to the six parishes. As she and her children settle into our village life we look forward to her experience being immensely helpful in the development of the future life of our churches. **Tony Collett and the PCC**

Anne Hall

From the new Pioneer Minister

I am hugely excited about moving to the Abingtons and joining the Granta Vale Benefice as Pioneer Minister. The countryside is where my roots are and I am delighted that my children Wilber (aged 12) and Millie (aged 9) will be able to experience all that rural life has to offer. We will be having an open house at the vicarage in Little Abington on Saturday 16 March between 2 and 4pm, all are welcome to pop in for tea and cake.



We would love to see you. I am really looking forward to building connections with everyone in the community and in particular with people who are interested in faith, but perhaps don't feel that church is for them.

Jeanine Kennedy

Little Abington United Reformed Church

We thank God for the freshness of a new Spring and the gifts that surround us. A warm welcome awaits you at our friendly church. The preachers in March are as follows.

Services in March 2019

3 March	10.15am	Mr Ben Palmer
10 March	10.15am	Mrs Lynn Taylor
17 March	2.30pm	Revd Bruce Waldron (and Holy Communion)
24 March	10.15am	Mr Mark Hayes
31 March	10.15am	Mr Jacob Bali

For more information please contact Lynne on 893 295.

Operation Christmas Child – Shoebox Appeal

The boxes collected from the village or those made up from donated items went to Liberia on the west coast of Africa. Worldwide, 10.6 million boxes were sent in 2018. Thank you for your generosity – it is never too early to start collecting items for this year's boxes.

Jane Furlow

Abington Jeremiahs



Our local Scout group, based in Little Abington, needs your help. Are you willing to help out as a leader, helper or committee member on a regular basis, even if it's just for an hour or two every few weeks?

We have sessions for Scouts (11–14 boys and girls), Cubs (8–10 boys and girls) and Beavers (6–8 boys and girls) each week during term time and a committee that oversees the running and organisation of the group.

Training will be provided for whatever role you want to consider and, subject to necessary checks, you could soon be playing an active part in this exciting and energetic local community group.

Please contact the group at scouts@abingtonjeremiahs.org.uk or phone 01223 894 461.

Councillor vacancy

Gaynor Farrant has given notice that she plans to retire from the Parish Council after the March meeting. We owe Gaynor thanks for her valuable service to the Parish Council over several years. Her departure brings about a Casual Vacancy. Anyone interested in joining the Parish Council should contact the Clerk. Those interested will be asked to come along to meet the Parish Council and make a brief presentation on themselves and what they feel they have to offer in this role.

Hedges

Please take the time to inspect your hedges and trees. Your hedge should not encroach beyond the edge of your property and not block any part of a road or footpath. Do check before cutting back to ensure that there are no birds nesting. The RSPB recommend the following "... cutting hedges and trees is avoided between March and August as this is the main breeding season for nesting birds. It is an offence under Section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981 to intentionally take, damage, or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built."

Footpaths

Following the announcement last month that Monica Krylander is taking on the role of footpaths champion, she has been contacted by several people offering to get involved. It's not too late to put your name forward if you would like to help. Please contact Monica on monica@krylander.com. We aim to increase the number of footpaths where possible and improve the ones we already have.

Village clean-up day

Don't forget the **annual litter pick event on Saturday 30 March at 10am**. Please come along and help to make Abington a cleaner place.

Planning

For more information on the following applications use the reference given below at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/planning/view-or-comment-on-a-planning-application/>

S/4808/18/FL—Land adjacent to No. 16 Chalky Road. New dwelling. Parish Council recommended refusal.

S/4713/18/FL—Land at 16 Chalky Road – New dwelling. Parish Council recommended approval. Application withdrawn.

Great Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Village Institute

Bernie Talbot (Chairman) tel: 892 647

Planning Committees: Arranged as required (usually Mondays at 6.30pm). See notice board for dates or contact the parish clerk.

Next Parish Council meeting: Monday 25 March at 7.15pm.

There will be an opportunity early in the meeting for members of the public to speak to the council about matters of concern. Agendas and minutes are posted on the Parish Council notice board located at the entrance to Magna Close or available from the parish clerk.

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

Hildersham Focus

Hildersham Lecture – A Shepherd’s Year

Hildersham lecture on Friday 1 March, 7.30pm. Hildersham Church
Hildersham Shepherd Andrew Rouse (with livestock), will talk about his life with the sheep from lambing to lambing.

Tickets £5.00 including refreshments. Under-18s free.

Quiz Night – Friday 29 March

Hildersham Village Hall Trust is hosting one of its popular quiz nights on Friday 29 March. Doors open at 7pm for a prompt 7.30pm start. Everyone is welcome – bring your team of up to 8 people or come along and join with others. Tickets cost £8, which includes a chilli supper; please let us know beforehand if the vegetarian option is required. Bring your own drinks and we’ll provide glasses. There will also be a raffle with the usual array of wonderful prizes.

To book, or for further information, contact Jill on 893 596, edheale@btinternet.com

Emmaus at Hildersham

If you have started your spring-cleaning you may have discovered things that you no longer need or want but they may be useful to Emmaus.

Our biannual collection is from 6-8pm on Tuesday 9 April in the village Hall.

Hildersham Annual Parochial Church Meeting at 6.45pm on 23 April

A chance to hear what the church has been up to in the past year.

Remember to pencil in 14 April for Lamb Sunday, 1.30-3.00pm

Andrew and Amy Rouse the shepherds will be bringing their lambs.

Further details in the April magazine.

Hildersham Parish Council

A Quality Parish Council



Report on the Hildersham Parish Council meeting held on 29 January 2019.

Peter Cousin has volunteered to join the Parish Council and will be co-opted as a councillor at the March meeting; he will bring the numbers up to full strength with five councillors.

Councillors agreed to increase the precept by £1,000 for the year, bringing the total precept to £13,000 to cover the council’s costs for the year; the precept has been at £12,000 for over 10 years.

The Clerk has been corresponding with the land agent who works for Pampisford Estate about the landowner getting the allotment boundary hedge reduced in height before the end of February. It is hoped that this will enable the neighbouring allotment plots to have a full growing season with their plots in sunlight.

The council solicitors will be writing to the Charity Commission to seek advice on how the council should proceed in its aim to use part of the South Holding to build a few houses, including some for local people, as well as erecting a new

village hall on the land. It is very likely that a new Trust for the land will need to be created.

Councillors decided to enter an agreement with Mrs Tunnicliffe over the leasing of the Recreation Ground for grazing sheep. This arrangement benefits the council as the grazing helps maintain the land and saves the cost of getting the field cut.

The next meeting of Hildersham Parish Council will be on Tuesday 12 March 2019 at Hildersham Village Hall from 7.30pm and everyone is welcome to attend.

Linton Village College

There are a number of international and national days, some of which we observe and celebrate at Linton Village College. Wednesday 20 March will mark French Language Day and International Day of Happiness. Fortuitously, a large group of our Year 10 GCSE students will spend this day in France enjoying a week of immersive language speaking

The Châteaux trip has become an important experience for our students, allowing them to sample the culture and language of a foreign country to give a real life context to their academic studies. It also provides a rich programme of activities that promote team work and encourage students to venture out of their comfort zones.

Our International Schools Award recognises our commitment to international learning activities. It is important that young people have a window into different cultures and countries, helping them to develop as responsible global citizens.

We are also proud of our achievements in the arts. We have been hugely successful in both ABRSM exams and Arts Awards at bronze, silver and gold levels. These are an important recognition of the College's success in delivering a broad and balanced curriculum experience. This year's school production, *Annie* will showcase the great talents and hard work of a large number of our students and the skills and hard work of our arts team at LVC. It is brilliant to see so many young people taking pride in creative ventures and performances.

The development of arts leaders among College staff and students has helped to extend this experience to younger students at local schools. Pupils at our Trust primary schools have benefited from enriching arts opportunities including African clay mask-making at the Meadow Primary School, delivering singing tuition at Howard Community Primary School, resulting in a performance in the Young Voices concert at the O2, and growing arts partnership provision at Linton Heights Junior School.

Our team of cultural arts leaders in schools and academies (CALSAs) and Arts Cluster is currently preparing an arts festival to take place in the summer term involving a range of students from CHET schools and across the locality.

Helena Marsh, Principal



Become a role model
And inspire the next generation of girls
To find out more go to

www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-your-interest/

Girlguiding in Balsham needs new leaders
Local Contact for Linton District is Louisa on 01223 833776
louisapowell@hotmail.co.uk

Date		Venue Abington Institute unless stated	Time	Page
Fri	1	Low Impact Aerobics	9.30am	12
		Pilates	10.45am	12
		Hildersham Lecture – Hildersham church	7.30pm	8
		AALGA Quiz – doors open	7.00pm	
Sat	2	Abington Social Club Bingo	6.00pm	12
Mon	4	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	12
		Physio Pilates – four classes, first starts at	10.30am	11
		Abington Gardening Club	7.30pm	16
Tue	5	Art Group	10.00am	
		Forget-Me-Not Club – pancake day	2.00pm	16
		Table Tennis Match	7.30pm	12
Wed	6	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	11
		Dynamic Dance Class	3.15pm	11
		Space to Be – 55 Church Lane, Little Abington	7.30pm	5
Thu	7	Abington Walking Group	10.00am	17
Fri	8	Low Impact Aerobics	9.30am	12
		Pilates	10.45am	12
		Table Tennis practice	7.30pm	12
Sat	9	Scrapbooking Group	10.00am	11
Mon	11	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	12
		Physio Pilates – four classes, first starts	10.30am	11
		Abingtons & Hildersham WI	7.30pm	17
Tue	12	Art Group	10.00am	
		Reading group – 34 High Street, Little Abington	7.30pm	18
		Hildersham Parish Council – Village Hall	7.30pm	9
Wed	13	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	11
		Dynamic Dance Class	3.15pm	11
Thu	14	Social cycling	9.30am	12
Fri	15	Low Impact Aerobics	9.30am	12
		Pilates	10.45am	12
		Film Night – doors open	6.15pm	12
Mon	18	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	12
		Physio Pilates – four classes, first starts	10.30am	11
Tue	19	Art Group	10.00am	
		Forget-Me-Not Club	2.00pm	16
		Table Tennis Match	7.30pm	12
Wed	20	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	11
		Dynamic Dance Class	3.15pm	11
Fri	22	Low Impact Aerobics	9.30am	12
		Pilates	10.45am	12
		Table Tennis practice	7.30pm	12
Sat	23	Abington Walking Group	10.00am	17
Mon	25	Rivercare & litter pick-up – meet at bridge/ford	9.30am	
		Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	12

		Physio Pilates – four classes, first starts at Little Abington Parish Council Great Abington Parish Council	10.30am 7.15pm 7.15pm	11 15 7
Tue	26	Art Group Mobile Library Scrabble Club	10.00am a.m. 7.00pm	12 17
Wed	27	Yoga – course and drop in Dynamic Dance Class	9.30am 3.15pm	11 11
Thu	28	Abington Lunch	12.45pm	16
Fri	29	Low Impact Aerobics Pilates Film Night – doors open Abington Social Club Cribbage Hildersham Quiz Night –Village Hall, doors open	9.30am 10.45am 6.30pm 6.45pm 7.00pm	12 12 12 12 8
Sat	30	Abingtons Village Clean up	10.00am	7
Sun	31	British Summer Time, clocks forward 1 hour		

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 01223 790 711

Contacts for Café

Gaynor Farrant 07817 517 871 or gaynorfarrant198@btinternet.com
and Gill Smith 892 759 or richardandgill.smith@live.co.uk

Jeremiah's Café in Abington Village Institute	
Opening times in March 2019	
Thursday lunchtimes	11.30am – 1.30pm (7, 14, 21) Lunch 28 th
Friday mornings	8.45am – 11.00am
Saturday mornings	10.00am – 12 noon

Wheelie bin dates for March 2019 (Abingtons and Hildersham)

Mon 4 Black	Mon 11 Green/Blue	Mon 18 Black	Mon 25 Green/Blue
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Scrapbooking Group – We meet one Saturday of every month and welcome you to take a look any time and ask questions.

Yoga – Wednesdays 9.30am at Abington Institute

Contact Joan 890 629 or email joangraham72@gmail.com

Dynamic Dance Theatre School – Wednesdays from 3.15pm

Ballet and modern dance lessons for children from 4 years old at Abington Institute. Contact Esme on 07719 816 548 or esmewatts@hotmail.com

Table Tennis – Tuesdays 7.30pm at Abington Institute (see page 12)

Contact Raj Sangha on 07803 786 905.

Physio Pilates – Mondays, Abington Institute

The next 8-week course will start on Monday 25 February (04/03, 11/03, 18/03, 25/03, 01/04, 08/04) until 15 April.

Intermediate 10.30 – 11.30am

Advanced 11.45 – 12.45

Beginners 1.00 – 2.00pm

Advanced 2.15 – 3.15pm

Contact Christina Heinz cambridgepilates@outlook.com

Abington Pre-school Baby and Toddler Group This group runs during term time from the Annexe building at the bottom of the school playground; **open on Mondays from 9.30am to 11.30am**, for all children aged 0–3 years old. Refreshments provided for children and adults. Contact Abington Pre-school on 01223 894 246

Low Impact Aerobics – Fridays 9.30–10.30am at Abington Institute

Suitable for 50+ or those returning to exercise. Aerobics, toning and stretching. Exercises to raise your heart rate and tone your body; fun and friendly.

Pilates – Fridays 10.45–11.45am at Abington Institute

Pilates exercises will help to alleviate back pain, increase core strength, improve posture and flexibility. Please book for five weeks for Low Impact Aerobics and Pilates. You can contact Disa Bennett on 07798 754 029 or www.zumbaandpilatescambridge.co.uk

Abington Social Cycling

Three stalwarts pedalled across to Linton and home via Back Road on a glorious spring morning. The birds were singing away and the countryside was beginning to wake up after the long winter weeks. Come and enjoy all this for free and good company. The next ride will be on Thursday 14 March, meeting at the Abington Institute at 9.30am.

Gaynor Farrant 07817 517 871

Film Nights at Abington Institute

Two films again this month, **Friday 15 March** is **Family Film Night**. Doors open **6.15pm**, for 6.30pm. The regular **Film Night** is on **Friday 29 March** at 7pm, doors open **6.45pm**. Everyone welcome. Raffle and refreshments. See the poster in the Institute for full details. Subscribe at

<http://www.theabingtons.org.uk> or email an enquiry to films@theabingtons.org.uk

Dianne Dawson (893 101)

Table Tennis in March

Dates

Schedule

Tue 5 Mar	Match night
Fri 8 Mar	Practice 7.30-9.30pm
Tue 19 Mar	Match night
Fri 22 Mar	Practice 7.30-9.30pm

On match nights people are welcome to come and watch from 7.30pm.

Mobile Library

The next date will be Tuesday 26 March 2019, times as follows:

Little Abington	West Field	10.00–10.30am
Great Abington	North Road	10.40–11.10am
	Magna Close	11.20am–12.10pm
	The Shop	12.15–12.35pm
Hildersham	End of Beech Lane	12.45–1.00pm (near phone box)

Abington Social Club (Pampisford Road)

Open Fridays 8pm to 11pm £2 to join and then £1 yearly renewal.

Email: abingtonsocialclub@outlook.com

BINGO – First Saturday of every month at 6pm:

2 February/ 2 March/ 6 April/ 4 May/ 1 June/ 6 July

CRIB NIGHTS - 29 March/ 26 April/ 31 May/ 28 June

These will be held on the last Friday of each month at 6.30pm. Suitable for both beginners and experts. There will be a training table if you want to learn this great game.

Spring update from TWI

The appointment in February of new Chief Executive Aamir Khalid marks a new era at TWI. Aamir has worked at Abington for 20 years, with several years in industry before joining as a section manager specialising in applying robotics to non-destructive testing. He progressed to lead TWI's non-destructive testing group in 2004 and became Technology Director in 2010. Christoph Wiesner, whose contribution is acknowledged on our website, stepped down after 9 years' service and will retire in the summer.

We are pleased to work with the churches, GA Primary and many local organisations across the year with ongoing support for events and activities. Many TWI staff live close by and we are keen to reinforce these community links.

Continued efforts to identify noise disturbance experienced by some Little Abington residents saw a programme of system testing and monitoring, by TWI and the local authority environmental health team. Monitoring could not identify any one source of noise; however, it allowed operational improvements to some systems to optimise output. Sound and vibration monitoring by an independent consultant is ongoing and we are grateful for the help of residents in all these exercises. The next meeting to share progress will be in March.

With completion of the Illumina complex, the Pampisford Road footpath recently reopened to allow staff access to the Park. Village access for the time being remains via the main gates. Granta Park visitors arriving in the village by bus may telephone the number on the gate to request access.

Catherine Condie, External Relations Manager

Cake makers of Abington – your Café needs YOU

This is a plea to the bakers and cake makers of Abington to pick up their whisks and rolling pins.

Many of the activities and events that make our village such a good place to live rely on the efforts of volunteers – none more so than Jeremiah's Café. Customers always enjoy the truly homemade cakes and scones on offer, but last year we tried to find people willing to help in baking for the Café to no avail. We have now got to a point where demand exceeds supply, and unless new volunteers come forward we shall have to buy in cakes, which will mean a drop in standards and an increase in price. None of us wants this to happen, so if you like baking please come forward now. With a few new bakers on board you will only be called on to bake, say, once a month or six weeks, and all expenses are reimbursed.

We have also had to suspend Special Teas until this situation is resolved, which is a great pity as we enjoy doing them and our customers enjoy the excellent food and good company. So please, rise above those Brexit blues and get in touch, and I can explain in more detail what is involved, and how you can be part of the team that makes the Café such a valued village resource.

Gaynor Farrant 07817517871 or gaynorfarrant198@btinternet.com

The Tapestry Singers Concert 27 April

'Sing Joyfully' at the welcome return of the Tapestry Singers. Following their performance in 2017 the Tapestry Singers are returning by popular request to St Mary's Church, Great Abington to bring an eclectic mix of music to welcome the spring. Full details will be in the April News but 7pm on Saturday 27 April is the time and date to be noted.

Tony Collett

Around the village

Comfort Café

The deterioration in the appearance of the former café contributes to the overall shabby appearance of the area around Four Went Ways. LAPC Councillors regularly clear the litter from this area.

Work on A1307

Work has been carried out in this financial year to make a safer entry and exit to Dalehead Foods. The rest of the project will continue to the end of March 2021 and largely relates to Linton, Hildersham and Bartlow, including a bus lane from Dalehead Foods to the traffic lights at LVC. There will also be increased provision for bikes at the Babraham Park and Ride. The latest details can be found at: www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/cambridge_south_east_study/

East–West rail link

Consultation has opened on the route for a rail link between Cambridge and Oxford. One option includes a route through Bassingbourn. More details can be found on www.eastwestrail.org.uk .

Village maintenance

A new contractor has taken over village maintenance (verges, footpaths). Comments during the settling-in period to the clerk would be welcome.

Meeting in January 2019

New parish councillor: We welcomed a new parish councillor, Viia Archer, who lives in West Field.

Planning

S/4644/18/FL. Retrospective application for works linked to new food outlets, including Burger King, at Four Went Ways. Objected to the application and requested that the SCDC planning committee makes a site visit to see the design, materials and appearance, plus the litter, public health concerns and traffic and highway safety. Also requested that conditions on litter clearance should be enforced. We noted the public's concern, as expressed in the petition about Four Went Ways.

S/4329/18/OL. Wellcome Trust, Hinxton. Outline application for phased mixed-use development including 1,500 dwellings, offices, laboratories and associated infrastructure. LAPC objected to the application on land that was not included in the Local Development Plan. The key concerns were the scale of the development, traffic and transport infrastructure and lack of effective solutions, plus visual and environmental impact.

We also noted that SCDC had approved:

S/3816/18/FL. 50 High Street. Retrospective erection of fence and shed.

S/3886/18/FL. 1 West Field. Single-storey side extension.

Little Abington Parish Council Meetings

Abington Institute, High Street

Next Meeting: Monday 25 March at 7.15pm

Public participation: Come and have your say – 15 minutes, early in meeting

Peter Brunning (Chairman)

tel: 891 960

Email: pc@brunning.org.uk

Genevieve Dalton (Clerk)

tel: 893 332

Email: clerk@littleabington.clara.co.uk

The meeting agendas and papers are published on the Abingtons website: www.theabingtons.org.uk

Holme Court School

Holme Court School would like to thank the wonderful team of volunteers who helped them celebrate National Farmhouse Breakfast Week. Students, staff and parents tucked in to a traditional English breakfast cooked and served at the Abington Institute. The rest of the day was spent producing graphs, designing and costing breakfast menus and composing recipes.

We would like to thank the art group who kindly shared their work and talked to the children.



Anita Laws, Head

Abington Future – thank you for your input

A big thank you to all who completed one of the feedback forms issued at the public consultation event on 12 January, and to all who voiced their concerns to councillors on the day. It proved a good opportunity for residents to give their views on Parish Council activities and to indicate their own priorities for the future. A summary of the views expressed is planned for the next issue of the *News*, and the Parish Councils will of course be considering how best to respond to the suggestions and comments.

Thanks also to all those who signed the petition requesting action to improve the state of Four Went Ways. In pressing for action from the relevant authorities it is extremely powerful to be able to demonstrate the weight of public feeling behind the request.

Any last-minute comments, in any format, by early March can be added into the Abington Future feedback. And of course constructive input is welcomed by the Parish Councils at any time, including by attendance at Council meetings, where time is generally set aside for public participation.



Abington Lunch

Thursday 28 March 2019



Fruit Juice

**Fish Pie with a Creamy Mash Topping
Carrots, Peas and a Baked Tomato.**

Pineapple Upside Down Pudding and Custard

Tea or Coffee

Please book your meal on 07789 585 399. Leave your name and telephone number with your message before noon on Tuesday 26 March. Don't forget to tell us if you need a special diet. Doors open at **12.45pm**. Note that the lunch is open to **ALL** Abington and Hildersham residents. **Only £5.**

Next lunch Thursday 25 April 2019

Forget-Me-Not Club

This year Pancake Day falls on a meeting day. When this happens, we always endeavour to cook pancakes for members. This year however, they are being cooked for us by the Institute Café. Each member will have 2 pancakes along with tea or coffee to drink. Following this, the café area will be open for the community to enjoy a pancake or two. Members with special dietary needs will also be catered for. This is a grand initiative and a fine example of the community working together. We owe our grateful thanks to Gaynor and Gill for this project.

At the second meeting in March we welcome back Charlie Haylock. Charlie is an amazing character whose historical knowledge of the English language is phenomenal. This time he will tell us about the origin of various member's surnames which were sent to him earlier in the year. We are confident this will be an informative and fun afternoon.

Members of the Abington/Hildersham Community are welcome to join us at any meeting; you do not have to be a member.

Dates for March 2019

Tuesday 5th March – 2pm – Pancake Day with a quiz. £2 entry.

Tuesday 19th March – 2pm – Speaker – Charlie Haylock – 'The History of English Surnames'.

Anne Hall (tel. 892 275)

Abington Gardening Club

On Monday 4 March Peter Walker will give a talk entitled 'My Search for Orchids'. On Monday 1 April the speaker will be Robin Bletsoe talking about the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew.

All welcome, annual membership £8, visitors £3

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

Abington & Hildersham Women's Institute

Our speaker for February was unable to attend, so meteorologist Professor John Turner kindly stepped in and took us on a trip to Antarctica, which contains 90% of the world's ice. In 1943 the British established a base at Port Lockroy for Operation Tabarin, a secret expedition to gather meteorological data for Allied shipping in the South Atlantic. After the war more bases were set up for scientific study and it became the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey. After the Antarctic Treaty to regulate research and development in the area, it became the British Antarctic Survey. Port Lockroy is now a tourist attraction for thousands of visitors every year. The newest Halley bases are on skis on the floating ice shelf so that they can be dragged back onto thicker ice as the edges melt. Only four bases remain occupied all year round: the winter is bitterly cold, dark and very long – not everyone can survive this isolation. During the summer some of the sea-ice melts but only 1% of the land is ice-free. There are no trees or shrubs, only moss and areas of delicate plant life. Satellites are now used to photograph and track penguin rookeries. During field studies to take ice samples scientists live in two-man (or woman) tents and in bad weather they may be unable to leave the tent for up to a week! The deepest core ever drilled was 3270m. It contains compressed air bubbles and ash which help to assess its age. Some ice is 800,000 years old. The hole in the ozone layer that developed in the 1980s due to CFCs is not expected to recover until 2060. Meanwhile sea-level is rising by 3cm every decade. John was a very interesting speaker and gave many examples of the impact that human behaviour and natural disasters have on Antarctica - much food for thought about the WI Campaign for Climate Change. We need to take action now!

Five members visited Babraham Institute for a fascinating introduction to Stem Cell Research.

Next meeting Monday 11 March 7.30pm: A.G.M. followed by 'Dessert Island Discs'—musical accompaniment to a selection of puddings. New members welcome.

Marilyn Broadhurst (893 214)

Scrabble Club

The next meeting of the Scrabble Club is on Tuesday 26 March at 7pm in the Institute. New members very welcome.

Sheena Fraser

Abington Walking Group

This month the Thursday walk was around the Bartlow area, taking in a walk round the three hills. The weather was dry but very windy. Saturday's walk was around Radwinter. Both were well attended and enjoyed by all.



The March walks are on Thursday 7th and Saturday 23rd. Anyone can join us; just arrive at the Institute for a 10am start.

Details of all the 2019 walk dates are now available.

For further information, please contact:

Robin Harman on 891 730 robandkayharman@gmail.com

George Woodley on 891 169 georgewoodley@talktalk.net

Sunday 31 March British Summer Time begins. Clocks go forward one hour.

Reading Group

12 March 7.30 pm	<i>The Essex Serpent</i> Sarah Perry	Jennifer Hirsh
9 April	<i>The Alice Network</i> Kate Quinn	Diana Wingfield
14 May	<i>Excellent Women</i> Barbara Pym	Rachel Haining

Please confirm your attendance in March to Jennifer. Note earlier time.

Lisa Pechey

Naturewatch Spring Meeting

On Friday 5 April at 7.30pm in the Institute, Naturewatch will be reviewing what has been happening over the winter and look forward to the Spring/Summer visits we have planned. We will have copies of the 2018 Record available for £1, summarising all the reports and visits over a difficult year.



Everyone is welcome and hot drinks will be available afterwards.

David Farrant

Granta Group Consultations

Granta Medical Practices have pleasure in announcing they will shortly be holding Group Consultations, also known as Shared Medical Appointments. These are organised meetings comprising of 10–15 patients with the same condition or set of clinical problems, coming together in a supportive group setting. This is a more personalised way of supporting patients with long-term medical conditions, and allows patients to learn from each other as well as from clinicians. The sessions will last from 1 to 2 hours, including a one-to-one with a health care professional for each group member.

Group consultations can be used for a wide variety of long-term health conditions such as diabetes, respiratory conditions, skin conditions, weight issues and many more. The first long-term medical condition to be focussed on is diabetes. If you would like to register your interest please contact Kelly Austin, Granta Social Navigator. For more information about Group Consultations go to www.groupconsultations.com

Jennifer Aston, Advanced Nurse Practitioner

Linton Village College Adult Community Learning – Workshops Saturday 9 March, 10am–4pm (£40 per day)

Wedding Flowers – Gain experience of working with flowers with particular focus on preparing for a wedding. You will make a hand-tied bouquet, table centrepiece and small posy in decorative jam jar.

Upholstery – Bring along a small project like a stool or chair that needs recovering and learn all the correct ways to upholster.

Felt Pictures Make a beautiful picture using wet felt techniques, bring an image of what you would like to create. By layering fleece, cuttings into the layers and embellishing with a needle, students will be able to recreate a small picture.

Artist's Sketchbook – Spring Growth takes you through the process of collecting visual information, researching, drawing and experimenting looking at buds & blooms.

Learn to Play Blues Harmonica – you will learn the techniques required to enable you to play the harmonica as a stand-alone instrument or as an accompaniment to others.

To book a place, please call Adult Learning at LVC on 01223 891233 Ext 303 / 317 or email www.lintonvillagecollegeadultlearning.co.uk

Church Services for March 2019

<i>DATE</i>	<i>Gt. Abington</i> 	<i>Lt. Abington</i> 	<i>Hildersham</i> 	<i>Readings</i>
3 March	10.30am	United Eucharist 4.00pm Evensong	At Balsham	
6 March Ash Wednesday			7.30pm Communion	Joel 2.1-2,12-17 John 8.1-11
7 March		10.00am Communion		Genesis 2.7-end Hebrews 2.5-end
10 March	10.45am Communion		6.00pm Evensong	Deuteronomy 26.1-11 Luke 4.1-13
17 March		10.45am Communion	4.00pm Café Church	Genesis 15.1-12,17-18 Luke 13.31-end
24 March	10.45am Communion		9.15am Communion – Prayer Book	Isaiah 55.1-9 Luke 13.1-9
31 March Mothering Sun.		10.45am Mothering Service		TBA

Church Flower Rota

	<i>Great Abington</i>	<i>Little Abington</i>	<i>Hildersham</i>
3 March	Patsy Randall & Anne Hall	Marilyn Broadhurst	Jenny Logan
10 & 17 March	Lent	Marilyn Broadhurst (clean)	Lent
24 & 31 March	Lent	Amanda Marns (clean)	Lent

Churchwardens

<i>Hildersham</i>	Cathy Myer	'Woodside', Hildersham	892848
	Andrew Westwood-Bate	5 Sleaford Close, Balsham	892430
<i>Great Abington</i>	Tony Collett	23 Meadow Walk, Great Abington	893447
<i>Little Abington</i>	Graham Ross	41 Church Lane, Little Abington	891564

Assistant 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

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