



The Abingtons and Hildersham News



www.theabingtons.org.uk

April 2019

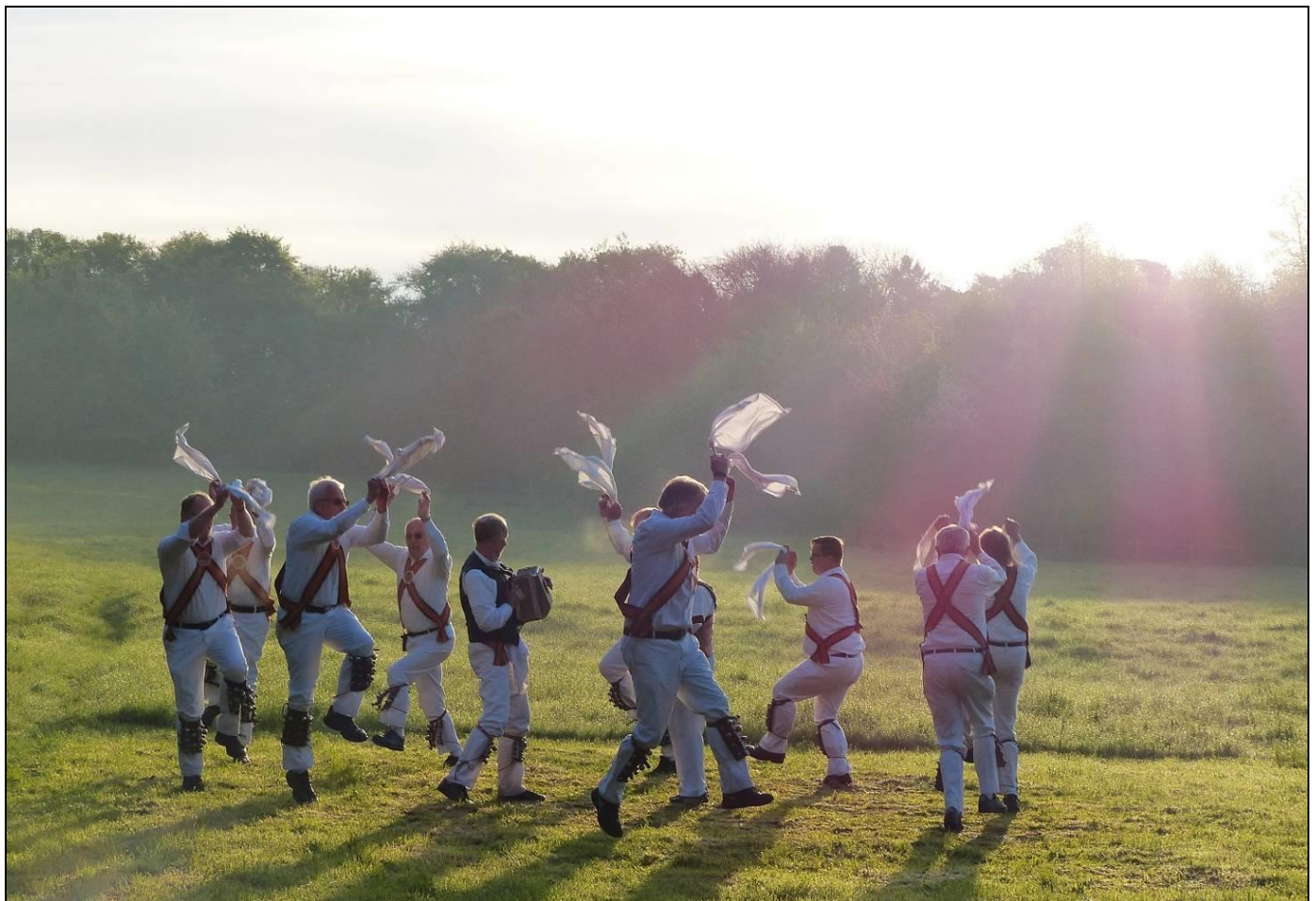


Photo by Cambridge PPF

**Morris dancing to be seen at Wandlebury on 1 May
A treat for early risers (5 to 6am)**

Letter from the Editor

This April issue reminds us of the Christian messages of Lent and Easter which promote hope and the undertaking of greater acts of kindness (pages 4, 6). There is exciting news of a new Abington church project aimed at fostering greater understanding between science and faith (page 4). On 27 April Great Abington church will resound once more with an excellent concert from the Tapestry Singers. Don't miss it (page 12).

Changes have been made at the Abington Shop and Post Office, including extension of the opening hours of the Post Office. On page 6 we have a welcome message from the new owners.

Please remember the Abingtons litter pick on Saturday 30 March; this always results in much cleaner village roads and verges. The Parish Councils are still working hard on planning issues and on access to pathways and concern about positioning of speed signs (pages 7, 8). Many responses were received to requests for ideas about Abingtons' future; these appear on page 13.

At this time of year when some of us may be thinking about spring cleaning, it is very helpful that Hildersham arranges a visit from Emmaus to collect our discarded household goods, books, clothes etc. (page 9).

It is very good to know that the recent appeal for more volunteer cake bakers has met with success so delicious treats in the café seem to be assured (page 12).

Abington Jeremiahs report wide-ranging activities, and the PTFA has sent notice of their events (page 14). The diary pages (10-11) again provide plenty of opportunities for mental and physical exertion, and all in a friendly sociable atmosphere.

Healthwatch (Cambridge and Peterborough) want our suggestions on how to improve the NHS services and contact details are on page 9. Shockingly, Granta Medical has supplied details of the large number of appointments made with GPs for which the person does not attend. What a waste of valuable NHS resource, and something to make every effort to reduce (page 17).

Cold weather could still be on the way so it is good to have another date for the community oil order as shown below.

Despite the many uncertainties of our time, I wish you all a Happy Easter.

Valerie Silvey

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

Community Oil Order

Rod Willcox will be taking orders for oil between 19 and 25 April with deliveries starting in the week commencing 6 May. Please let Rod know the quantity of oil you want, and supply your name, address, post code and phone number by 25 April.

Contact rodwillcox@hotmail.co.uk or phone 07767 686 351.

From the Seven Churches

Lent has traditionally been a time when people try to give things up. Recently, however, there has been a trend towards a commitment to do something during Lent. A UK Christian charity called Stewardship, for example, has created a movement called *40acts*, which challenges people to see Lent in a different light and commit to acts of kindness during this time. For eight years, *40acts* has asked a question: what if Lent could be about more than just giving stuff up? What if it could be a time of radical generosity as well as spiritual discipline?

This question, which could be addressed to any one of us, echoes what lies at the heart of Christian worship at Easter time. Here we discern the radical generosity and grace of God, reflected in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The Greek word used by St Paul to describe the love of God for us in Christ is *agape* – which means the unconditional loving kindness of God towards humans. This is the love, as St Paul says in one of his letters, which ‘never ends’; the love which opens the door into a new creation.

At Easter, we are also invited to trust in the power of Christ to re-create our lives today, to see the whole landscape of our lives enlightened by Jesus. In this light we see who we are, how we so often fail but also how we are valued and loved by God. We see each other as people valued by God, and our perspectives are changed. We see the world around us charged with God’s glory, inviting our care and reverence.

When we start to see other people and the world around us in this light, we recognise that discerning God’s presence and seeking to do acts of loving-kindness are not just marks of Lent, but a way of being and doing which can help us walk through an open door into a world transfigured by grace.

Revd Iain McColl

Abington Church is one of only fourteen in UK

An Abington PCC project is one of only fourteen nationally that has received funding from the **Scientists in Congregations** programme aimed at fostering greater understanding about science and faith. It is a Durham University ecumenical project run in partnership with the Church of England and other churches and funded by the Templeton World Charity Foundation.

The Abington project will entail quarterly lunchtime talks by eminent scientists, being held at the Granta Conference Centre and will be especially appealing to those who work on Granta Park. It is hoped the first talk will be in May/June; details will be widely publicised beforehand.

Revd Dr Kathryn Pritchard, Scientists in Congregations project leader, said: ‘This is an exciting opportunity for parishes both big and small to respond to questions and concerns that are relevant both to church goers and to the local community about science and faith. There is a huge public appetite for discussion about the science-faith relationship and previous projects have attracted high levels of interest, not only from regular church members but also from the wider community’.

Abington is in good company as Ely and Lichfield cathedrals are amongst the 14 church projects receiving grants from the Scientists in Congregations scheme. For further information contact Tony Collett 893 447

News from the Pews

Members of our churches in the Granta Vale have recognised the need for private prayer within their communities. So Revd Iain has instructed all seven churches to install a 'prayer corner', a place where we can go alone at any time in privacy, to spend quality, focused, prayer time. This is something you may find beneficial in a distracted life, to be able to pray more like you want to. Little Abington has recently installed a beautiful prayer corner behind the glass screen – a perfect place of solitude. Great Abington will have their 'prayer corner' in place for Easter. We welcome you to use these areas in our churches.

Pioneer Minister Jeanine Kennedy – Having moved in to the vicarage at Little Abington Jeanine held open house on 16 March, welcoming parishioners with tea and cake and prompting a sharing of ideas about developing the faith community. *Photo by Emma Jones*



Easter Lilies – As usual we will be placing lilies in remembrance of our loved ones in St Mary's churches at Easter time. If you would like to have a lily dedicated to someone you love but no longer see, please put a donation into an envelope with the name of the person written on it and give it to Patsy Randall, Anne Hall or leave it in the post box at 34 West Field by Sunday 14 April.

All of our Easter services are noted on the back page of this magazine. Do join us to take part in our Easter services.

Have you returned your Church Electoral Roll Form to Mary Miles?

Deanery Spring Fair – Saturday 30 March (not 16 as previously recorded) 10am – 12noon at Shelford Memorial Hall. Gifts of produce will be gratefully received by Marilyn Broadhurst or Mary Miles.

Monday 29 April – Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in Great Abington Church at 6pm.

Charity for April – Continuation of the Bishop's Lent Appeal 'Christian Aid'

Funerals:

Susan Toates sadly passed away on Sunday 10 March. There will be a committal at Cam Valley Crematorium at 11am followed by a service of thanksgiving at Great Abington church at 12 noon on Monday 1 April.

Sue has been a huge asset to our community with her amazing catering skills; she will be sorely missed by all who knew her. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her husband Robin.

Douglas Taylor passed away on Tuesday 12 March. On Wednesday 3 April at 1pm there will be a committal at Cam Valley Crematorium followed by a gathering for refreshments at the Village Institute. The service will be taken by a Naval Chaplain in remembrance of Lieutenant Commander Douglas Taylor RN and his achievements. Douglas invented the 'Ski Jump' ramp for short take-off and conventional planes, described in his book "A Runway in the Sky". This interesting and modest gentleman made many friends in his short time here in Abington.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Douglas's wife Iris, his daughter Sally, son David and the extended family.

Anne Hall

Little Abington United Reformed Church

I love Easter, not for the chocolates, not for the days off, but for the hope that it speaks of. In the face of everything horrible that his world could throw at him, Jesus never entered into it. The soldiers beat him and crucified him; he prayed for them "Father forgive them, they don't know what they do!" The scoundrels crucified with him mocked him; he held out to them the hope of God's power to take them to paradise. Peter three times denied he knew him; Jesus met him after the resurrection and gave him space to affirm his love for Jesus three times, then trusted him with His mission.

Sure, the resurrection is a promise of life beyond life, but even more than that, it is a promise that Jesus' way is stronger than anything the world could hurl against it.

Revd Bruce Waldron

Services in April 2019

7 April 10.15am Mr John Luke
14 April 10.15am Mrs Sarah Devereux
21 April 2.30pm Revd Bruce Waldron (and Holy Communion)
28 April 10.15am Mr Richard Lewney

For more information please contact Lynne on 893 295.

From the Abington Shop and Post Office

Firstly we would like to thank the lovely people of Abington and its surrounding villages for their warm welcome and making our family feel at home. Our two boys have settled in wonderfully at the school.

As you can imagine, taking over a challenging thriving business and at the same time maintaining a quality service is never going to be easy! - but we hope we have made a positive impact.

A few things you may have noticed:

- The opening hours of the shop are:
7am to 8pm Monday to Saturday
8am to 4pm Sundays
- The post office is now open 7 days a week, the same hours as the shop.
- No lunchtime, half day Saturday and Sunday closures, so all your regular post office services and banking needs, and much more, are now available between these hours.
- That we also stock both Nisa and CO OP lines (Nisa is part of the CO OP).

Our regular customers will have noticed the changed layout and we appreciate your patience and continued support during the refurbishment. Hopefully this will be an improvement 'however if you can't find anything you are looking for, then please do ask, we are here to help'.

Once again we thank you all for making us part of this lovely village and hope that with your valued custom, support and input we can carry on providing a quality, yet affordable, service to the Abingtons and surrounding area.

Mukesh (Mak), Bhadrিকা (B), Rishi & Rohan

Great Abington Parish Council

An Active Council

Village clean-up day

Come and join us on 30 March when the annual village clean up takes place. Meet outside the Village Institute at 10am.

Council Tax

Both the County and District Councils have the ability to raise council tax each year to pay for the services they provide, they (almost) always take this option up and have both done so this year with the District raising their rates by 3.56% and the County by 4.98%.

Councillor vacancy

Reminder that Great Abington Parish Council has a Casual Vacancy. Anyone interested in joining the Parish Council should contact the Clerk. Those who put their name forward 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.

PLANNING

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

Parish Council recommendations:

S/0560/19 – 45 North Road – conversion of part of cow shed to dwelling

Parish Council recommended refusal

S/0423/19/FL – 23 South Road – new dwelling

Parish Council recommended refusal

S/433/19/LB /S/432/19/LB – Three Tuns – convert/extend outbuilding to staff accommodation

Parish Council recommended refusal

S/0545/19/OL – 34 South Road – outline permission for dwelling & all matters reserved

Parish Council recommended refusal

District Council outcomes:

S/4050/18/FL – 22 South Road – retention of temporary dwelling as annex

Parish Council recommended refusal and District Council refused

S/4264/18/FL – 32A South Road – 34 ground-mounted solar panels

Parish Council recommends approval and District Council approved

S/4599/18/PA – 44A North Road – change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling.

Parish Council recommended refusal and District Council refused

S/4713/18/FL – land at 16 Chalky Road – demolition of piggery and erection of bungalow

Parish Council recommended approval. Application withdrawn

S/4623/18/FL – 8 Chalky Road- land adjacent to house, new dwelling

Parish Council recommended approval and District Council approved

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 20 May 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)

Around the village

Speedwatch After a few months off due to faulty equipment, we are now back on the roadside. We have just gained permission from the police to monitor Pampisford Road in Great Abington. We already have a few volunteers from that end of the village but if anyone else is interested please contact Suzanne on suzpattinson@freebie.net.

Village signs You may have noticed our Little Abington/speed signs on Bourn Bridge Road and the children's signs at Ivan Clark's corner. Let us know if you think we need any more.

Meeting in February

Path along field edge in Bourn Bridge Road 'Private' signs were erected in late February by the landowner along this popular dog-walking footpath. We had been contacted by the landowner about its status but were as surprised as anyone at this recent action. We will now contact the appropriate CCC officer for advice and have assured the landowner that we are giving this matter our consideration.

New Local Development Plan Landowners have been invited to identify land for possible future housing development by submitting applications to the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) process.

Granta Park gym The Apiary is now happy to offer a limited number of gym memberships (at £70 per month) to the villagers of Great and Little Abington. They are currently inviting people who are on the waiting list. To join it, please email: grantapark@nuffieldhealth.com

Planning

S/4644/18/FL Burger King, Fourwentways *Retrospective. Various external alterations to restaurant.* Approved by SCDC without referral to their planning committee despite our objections. Conditions require the external appearance of the building to be improved and litter-picking to be enforced.

Next meeting Monday 29 April: Parish Council meeting at 7pm followed by Annual Parish Meeting at 8pm. Join us to learn more about the parish nurse project, outcomes from the Abington Future event and the local development plan. It's also an opportunity to raise your own issues and enjoy some refreshments!

Little Abington Parish Council Meetings

Abington Institute, High Street

**Next Meetings: Monday 29 April 2019 Parish Council at 7.00pm
followed by Annual Parish Meeting at 8.00pm**

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

Hildersham Focus

Having spent a very interesting evening earlier this month hearing all about the shepherding life you may want to learn more. So please join us for Lamb Sunday.

Lamb Sunday 14 April

Spring has sprung and you may already have seen some lambs gambolling in the meadows; would you like to get a little closer? Andrew and Amy Rouse, the Hildersham shepherds, will be at work delivering and feeding the newborn lambs. Join them at the Hildersham Hall lambing sheds, entrance via Hall Farm on Hildersham High St on Sunday 14 April from 1.30 to 3pm, entrance £2.50 adults, £1 children; teas served from the trailer. (Pregnant women should not attend.)

Emmaus Collection Tuesday 9 April

Is there anything left in your loft? It may not be of use to you anymore but could be just what someone else is looking for. Emmaus will refurbish and sell items of homeware. Please bring them to Hildersham Village Hall on Tuesday 9 April, 6.30-8pm.

Electrical items accepted, and also furniture, clothes, books and kitchen ware.

Hildersham Village Tea Time

Thursday 4 April at 3pm Come and enjoy some hot cross buns at our Easter tea time.

Hildersham Annual Parochial Church Meeting at 6.45pm on 23 April

Everyone is welcome to hear about the church year of 2018 and the plans for the year ahead, 2019.

Nominations will be put forward for new churchwardens

Village lunch advance notice

We will be holding a Hildersham Village Lunch in May. Full details in next month's magazine.

Hildersham Parish Council

A Quality Parish Council

The next meeting of Hildersham Parish Council will be on Tuesday 14 May 2019 at Hildersham Village Hall from 7.30pm and everyone is welcome to attend.



What would you do to improve health services in Cambridgeshire?

The NHS is developing a local plan and needs your help.

How would you make it easier for people to look after their own health and wellbeing? Healthwatch wants to hear your ideas about

- Making it easier for people to get support closer to home and via technology.
- Doing more to help people stay well.
- Providing better support for people with cancer, mental health conditions, heart and lung diseases, and other long-term conditions.
- Providing better support for people as they get older and experience conditions such as dementia.

Feedback online at <https://www.healthwatch.co.uk/what-would-you-do>

Call your local Healthwatch on 0330 355 1285, text 0752 0635 176

Or visit www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk or www.healthwatchpeterborough.co.uk

Date		Venue Abington Institute unless stated	Time	Page
Mon	1	Physio Pilates – four classes, first starts at Abington Gardening Club	10.30am 7.30pm	11 16
Tue	2	Art Group Forget-Me-Not Club Table Tennis	10.00am 2.00pm 7.30pm	15 12
Wed	3	Yoga – course and drop in Dynamic Dance Class	9.30am 3.15pm	11 11
Thu	4	Abington Walking Group Hildersham Tea time - Village Hall	10.00am 3.00pm	16 9
Fri	5	Low Impact Aerobics Pilates Naturewatch Members meeting	9.30am 10.45am 7.30pm	11 11 17
Sat	6	Scrapbooking Group Bingo – Abington Social Club	10.00am 6.00pm	11 12
Mon	8	Physio Pilates – four classes, first starts at French Conversation Abington & Hildersham WI	10.30am 1.00pm 7.30pm	11 16
Tue	9	Art Group Emmaus Collection – Hildersham Village Hall Table Tennis Reading group – 4 Lewis Cres. Great Abington	10.00am 6.30pm 7.30pm 8.00pm	9 12 16
Wed	10	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	11
Thu	11	Social Cycling	9.30am	12
Fri	12	Film Night – doors open	6.45pm	11
Mon	15	Physio Pilates – four classes, first starts at French Conversation	10.30am 1.00pm	11
Tue	16	Art Group Forget-Me-Not Club – 64 th Birthday Party Table Tennis	10.00am 2.00pm 7.30pm	15 12
Wed	17	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	11
Sat	20	Abington Walking Group	10.00am	16
Mon	22	Easter Monday		
Tue	23	Art Group Scrabble Group Table Tennis	10.00am 7.00pm 7.30pm	17 12
Thu	25	Abington Lunch	12.45pm	15
Fri	26	Low Impact Aerobics Pilates Cribbage – Abington Social Club Walking Group Social	9.30am 10.45am 6.30pm 7.00pm	11 11 12 16
Sat	27	Tapestry Singers Concert – Great Abington Church	7.00pm	12
Mon	29	Rivercare & litter pick-up – meet at bridge/ford Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building French Conversation Little Abington Parish Council	9.30am 9.30am 1.00pm 7.00pm	11 11 8
Tue	30	Art Group Mobile Library	10.00am a.m.	12

	Forget-Me-Not Club – AGM and Quiz	2.00pm	15
	Table Tennis	7.30pm	12

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 April 2019	
Thursday lunchtimes	11.30am – 1.30pm (4, 11, 18) Lunch 25 th
Friday mornings	8.45am – 11.00am
Saturday mornings	10.00am – 12 noon

Wheelie bin dates for April 2019 (Abingtons and Hildersham)

Mon 1	Mon 8	Mon 15	Wed 24	Tue 30
Black	Green/Blue	Black	Green/Blue	Black

Scrapbooking Group – We meet one Saturday of every month and welcome you to take a look any time and ask questions.

Yoga – Wednesdays 9.30am at Abington Institute

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

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 (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

Film Nights at Abington Institute This month **Film Night is on Friday 12 April**. Doors open **6.45pm** for **7pm** film. Everyone welcome. Raffle and refreshments. See the poster in the Institute for full details. Contact <http://www.theabingtons.org.uk> or email an enquiry to films@theabingtons.org.uk

Dianne Dawson (893 101)

Cake Bakers –response to appeal for more

We are delighted to say that at last we have an amazing response. We have had one meeting with volunteer bakers with another to follow soon. Gill, Bronwen and I were so pleased to see younger people coming forward as well as those of us with a little more time. It is also brilliant to have some new ladies in the village interested in helping. Thank you so much.

Gaynor Farrant 07817 517 871

Abington Social Cycling

Bad weather led to cancellation of the ride on 14 March but it was rescheduled for 21 March. Weather permitting we shall be back to the usual second Thursday in the month with a ride on 11 April. These rides are aimed for ALL with emphasis on SOCIAL so please try to make exercise a priority. If you are interested but Thursday morning does not suit please get in touch and we will see what we can do.

Gaynor Farrant 07817 517 871

Table Tennis in April

Dates	Schedule
Tue 2 Apr	Practice 7.30-9.30pm
Tue 9 Apr	Practice 7.30-9.30pm
Tue 16 Apr	Practice 7.30-9.30pm
Tue 23 Apr	Practice 7.30-9.30pm
Tue 30 Apr	Practice 7.30-9.30pm

Mobile Library

The next date will be Tuesday 23 April 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:

CRIB NIGHTS - These will be held on the last Friday of each month at 6.30pm. Suitable for both beginners and experts.

Welcome Spring with the Tapestry Singers Concert 27 April



‘Sing Joyfully’ is the theme of the concert at 7pm on Saturday 27 April in Great Abington Church when the Tapestry Singers and their solo saxophonist make a welcome return following their much-admired performance in 2017.

Tickets at £10 (under 18s free of charge) are available from the village shop and Mary Miles, Marilyn Broadhurst, Anne Hall, Patsy Randall and Tony Collett. All are welcome to what will be a most enjoyable evening.

Tony Collett

Abington Future – residents have their say

At a drop-in public consultation on 12 January, residents of Great and Little Abington had an opportunity to meet their Parish Councillors informally and to give their views then or subsequently on the future of the villages. The Parish Councils will of course be considering how best to respond to the suggestions and comments received so far, and they are summarised below:

Housing and Planning

- there should be more affordable housing
- there should be no further housing development, we have enough and there is a risk of changing the character of the village
- rather than build more houses we need some sheltered accommodation
- there was concern over possible plans for the former Comfort Café site

The Recreation Ground

- the Pump track looks OK but try to avoid felling trees when it's installed
- more activities needed for youngsters, and there should be an effort to encourage more use of the Recreation Ground in general

Paths and Rights of Way

- the quality of some existing paths needs improving
- more paths are needed now Granta Park access is restricted
- keep pressing for general Granta Park access to be restored, there has only been a token response to access issues with the offer of gym memberships

Roads, Traffic and Parking

- there should be spaces reserved for blue badge parking in the village centre
- action is needed on pavement parking and dangerous parking
- some parking problems can be resolved with yellow lines
- traffic speed is still an issue, including Granta Park and traffic on Newmarket Road
- action is needed regarding thoughtless drivers who block the Granta Park roundabout during the morning peak period
- lorry parking, litter and the state of the verges at Four Went Ways need action, disappointing that neither elected representatives, local authorities or police seem to care, but if parking is allowed to continue some facilities should be provided

Trees and the Environment

- some trees are obstructing street lighting and need cutting back
- we should plant more trees
- there are places where trees and bushes encroach on the pavement and should be cut back (generally the responsibility of the landowner)

The Parish Nurse Project

- this is a valuable service (to which the Parish Councils contribute funding)
- provides good support for the elderly in the community

New Initiatives

- there should be a green recycling day once a month
- there should be an update of the Abingtons Directory, a Welcome Pack for new residents, and a paths/footpaths map

In addition to the points noted above some 150 people signed a petition demanding action to improve Four Went Ways.

Thanks are due to all who contributed their views. A more extensive review of responses will be available on the Abingtons website. More specific suggestions in relation to the above, and of course all constructive input, are welcomed by the Councils at any time, including during the public participation sessions at Council meetings.

News from Abington Jeremiahs

This half term Jeremiahs have been up to lots of fun at Abington Woods. Beavers have been learning about endangered animals and recycling by making elephants from old plastic milk bottles, whilst working towards their Global Issues Badge. We held our annual Valentine's Day Café where the Beavers made and decorated cookies and served tea and coffee for their grownups. We have also had a visit from Linton Beavers which allowed both groups to have a camp fire, games, songs and smores!

Cubs have celebrated Pancake Day at the scout hut and are also working towards their Scientist Badge this term with activities including a visit to a robotics workshop at the Department of Engineering, making crystals and also joining in the RSPB Bird Watch and learning about our garden birds and wildlife.

Scouts have recently merged with 1st Balsham Scouts and have been working on Local Knowledge and Navigation Badges, which have included short hikes around Balsham and a 3 hour night hike from Abington Woods to Balsham Scout HQ with a sleepover in the hut.

Cubs have their annual cub camp in May, which is always an amazing weekend away near Bury St Edmunds. The Beavers join in the camp for a Funday on the Saturday and enjoy a fun packed day of activities.

As this half term draws to an end we are looking forward to lighter evenings after the Easter Holidays and to using more of the outdoors area at Abington Woods for all things scouting and nature!

If you would like to find out more please contact Ruth Beach scouts@abingtonjeremiahs.org.uk or phone 01223 894 461.



Jeremiahs

PTFA

On 25 February 2019, Great Abington PTFA held an EGM and elected new officers and trustees. Updates are as follows:

Chair - Cory Rivers

Treasurer - Jordan Lane

Secretary - Mike Baker

Trustees - Jenny Searle, Rachel Clay, Emma Lane, Katie Minnion, Wyn Forrest-Owen, Tasha Whittaker and Charlotte Alda

Please contact Mrs Rivers with any queries or ideas (tel. 07964 191 698).

Upcoming PTFA Events:

Thursday 9 May – Class 2 Cake Sale

Friday 17 May – Inflatables Event

Friday 14 June – Great Abington School Summer Fair

Also see Golf Competition (page 17)

Great Abington PTFA – Charity number 1136090



May Day Morris Dance at Wandlebury

Wednesday 1 May: 5am to 6am

This traditional English dancing event takes place in the same beautiful spot in the Country Park on May Day each year. If you have never been before, we highly recommend it. See cover photo. **NB:** Free event but donations are always welcome. **Dancing starts at 5.29am.** Refreshments will be available for purchase on the day, Wandlebury Country Park, CB22 3AE

For more information: email bookings@cambridgeppf.org , call 01223 243 830 extension 207 or visit www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on



Abington Lunch Thursday 25 April 2019



Fruit Juice

**Chicken Tagine with Couscous, Green Beans and
Roasted Vegetables**

Rhubarb & Ginger Syllabub with Moroccan Almond Cookies

Tea or Coffee

Please book your meal on 07789 585 399. Leave your name and telephone number with your message before noon on Tuesday 23 April. 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 23 May 2019

Forget-Me-Not Club

Members who attended our AGM in April 2018 will remember that I reported that it was to be my penultimate year, so this is my final FGMN Club report. I am however delighted to say that we potentially have a new Chair who will be proposed for election at the AGM. I know that this person is perfect for this role and will carry it out admirably if elected. On a personal note I would like to say a huge thank you to all the different committee members with whom I have worked in the last 13 years and to all the members for their support and appreciation. Working within your community is the most rewarding pastime; I encourage everyone to do it.

We have a full programme for April beginning with a talk by Helen McMenemy who overcame a tragic accident following a rather turbulent young life. Following her accident Helen works tirelessly raising money for Air Ambulance which she claims saved her life. This is followed by our 64th Birthday Party and finally the AGM.

The club were saddened to hear that one of its members, Sue Toates, had passed away. Sue joined the club in 2009 and quickly became involved in the catering and then a valuable member of the team. We will all miss her cooking talents and her caring friendliness immensely. Sue's funeral will take place on Monday 1st April (page 5).

Sadly two days later we lost another member, Douglas Taylor. Douglas had not been a member very long but certainly left his mark when he gave a talk on his life as Lieutenant Commander Douglas Taylor RN and his invention of the 'Ski Jump' that facilitated short take-off from ships, and featured in a most interesting book, "A Runway in the Sky". Douglas's funeral is on Wednesday 3 April (page 5).

Dates for April 2019

Tuesday 2 April – 2pm – Speaker Helen McMenemy "Overcoming Adversity" Charity Air Ambulance.

Tuesday 16 April – 2pm – 64th Birthday Party with entertainment by Barry Peters.

Tuesday 30 April – 2pm – FGMN Club AGM followed by a quiz.

Anne Hall (tel. 892 275)

Abington & Hildersham Women's Institute

Our Annual General Meeting in March was a more formal affair than usual, marking 100 years since the founding of Abington WI. We welcomed Sue Smales, trainee advisor and member of Linton WI as an observer. There were reports of the year's activities and full accounts of our income and expenditure, which reflected another successful year for our WI. Thanks were given to the committee for their organisation and to the members for their continued support. We were pleased to elect two new committee members and President Janyce Garrod was re-appointed. We were saddened to hear of the sudden death of our dear friend, Sue Toates, who had contributed so much to our WI over many years. Membership now stands at 36. During social time we enjoyed Dessert Island Discs - puddings made by the committee and music chosen by members with special memories.

Next meeting: Monday 8 April 7.30pm "Aromatherapy" by Jacqui Calvin.

New members and visitors (£4) always welcome.

NB. Monday 29 April 7.30pm Centenary CFWI Council Meeting at Impington Village College - Guest speaker: Baroness Floella Benjamin. Please contact Gill Smith to order a ticket (£10) asap. (Transport available)

Marilyn Broadhurst (893 214)

Abington Gardening Club

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 Walking Group

Our March walks did not start very well as a proposed route had a footpath closed so we ended up on a mystery tour of Moyns Park. The Saturday walk was more straightforward on a delightful morning at Littlebury Green where we saw a herd of at least 100 deer.



The April walks start on Thursday 4th which includes an optional pub lunch. The Saturday walk is on 20th. The next event is our annual social evening on Friday 26th at 7pm in the Institute.

For further information, please contact:

Robin Harman on 891 730 robandkayharman@gmail.com
George Woodley on 891 169 georgewoodley@talktalk.net

Reading Group

9 April	<i>The Alice Network</i> Kate Quinn	Diana Wingfield
14 May	<i>Excellent Women</i> Barbara Pym	Rachel Haining
11 June	<i>The Other Side of Como</i> Mara G. Fox	Valerie Hefford

Please confirm your attendance in April to Diana.

Lisa Pechey

Scrabble Club

The next meeting of the Scrabble Club is on Tuesday 23 April at 7pm in the Institute. New members very welcome.

Sheena Fraser

Naturewatch Spring Meeting

On Friday 5 April at 7.30pm in the Institute we have our Spring Naturewatch Meeting. There will be a talk by Michael Holdsworth on his work with ringing and tracking Spotted Flycatchers – some of which was done locally. We will also be reviewing what has been happening over the winter, look forward to the Spring/Summer visits we have planned and talk about the Naturewatch Internet Blog. There will also be copies of the 2018 Naturewatch Record available for £1 summarising all the reports and visits over 2018.



Everyone is very welcome at what will be a very interesting meeting.

David Farrant

GRANTA Medical Practices

Did you know

In January Granta Medical Practice's clinicians saw or spoke to 20,256 patients. This number includes urgent appointments, routine appointments and telephone appointments. Unfortunately, there were an extra 1,026 appointments that patients did not attend (DNA).

February's appointments totalled 17,876, but again there were 1,043 DNA's!

Sometimes it can be difficult keeping to an appointment date and time. However, if you ring and cancel even half an hour beforehand we would be able to reuse your slot for another patient.

You can also cancel your appointments on line. Using SystemOnline allows you to book, cancel and rearrange appointments as well as requesting repeat medication and viewing your summary care record. Call in to your local surgery or see our website for more information.

Sandra East, Granta Communications. T. 0300 234 5555

Cambridge Gliding Centre Open Day Saturday 5 May, 10am to 4pm

Come and visit Gransden Lodge Airfield to find out about the sport of gliding. All welcome. Discounted trial gliding lessons will be available with our qualified instructors using a choice of winch launch, aero tow or motor glider. Call the office on 01767 677 077 to book your flight, or just turn up on the day. Refreshments. Free admission. Free talks about gliding and static displays.

Airfield entrance on the B1046 between Little Gransden and Longstowe, opposite Lodge Farm, enter SG19 3EB on SatNav.

More information online from <https://www.camgliding.uk/> or

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CambridgeGlidingCentre/>

The Wandlebury Wander

Wonder who are the best female and male golfers in Abington and Hildersham this year? Come and join the 2019 Abington Golf Competition and find out.

First tee 1pm on Friday 12 July at the Gog Magog golf club. Open to all residents of Abington and Hildersham, this year's competition will be held on The Gog Magog Wandlebury Course, courtesy of the club members who are village based.

Prize giving and evening meal will be held at the Three Tuns from 7.30pm onwards. The entry fee is £35. All proceeds are in aid of Great Abington School PTFA. Numbers are limited so secure your place by paying a £10 non-refundable deposit. Please contact me for an entry form or pick one up from The Three Tuns.

Alan Cooke email; alancooke_uk@yahoo.co.uk



Linton Village College

The national press has been dominated by very sad news of teenagers whose lives have been tragically cut short as a result of knife crime. Sometimes it is tempting to believe such issues happen elsewhere; that extreme anti-social behaviours are restricted to other parts of the country and are not relevant to our own communities. While less rural areas may be more prone to criminal behaviours, this does not make villages such as Linton immune to them.

Young people have always been susceptible to risk-taking behaviours. The adolescent brain is in the process of regulating thrill-seeking impulses. Meanwhile, the transition to adulthood creates greater independence and opportunities that may compromise children's safety and wellbeing.

At Linton Village College, our PSHE (personal, social, health and education) curriculum helps students to develop an appreciation of how their bodies and minds work. We encourage our learners to be reflective and self-aware as well as educating them about potential harmful influences in order that they can keep themselves and others safe and healthy.

In recent months we have developed stronger educational links with Cambridgeshire Constabulary. Our students have benefited from police sessions entitled 'What's the Point?' including an appreciation of the facts and consequences of carrying weapons. The police have also contributed to input about County Lines (gangs that target young people to take and sell drugs across county borders). It is important that our children are aware of practices that seek to exploit them and entice them into being involved in criminal behaviours.

Peer pressure has become more sophisticated and significant with the development of technological communication and mobility. Research into the rise in online grooming, facilitated by social media platforms, has coincided with a spike in adolescent mental health issues.

The African proverb 'it takes a village to raise a child' is particularly relevant at the moment. More than ever, our young people need responsible adults in their communities to keep them safe and prevent them from seeking acceptance by more dangerous means. Reporting concerns to the College at thinkpink@lvc.org, the police at www.cambs.police.uk/report/Report-Shared/Report-a-concern and to students' families is integral to this.

Helena Marsh, Principal

Linton Village College - Adult Community Learning

We are running Adult & Family workshops on Saturday 11 May

Adult workshops run from 10am until 4pm cost £40

Topics are Upholstery, Blues Harmonica, Indian Stuffed Breads and Silk Painted Cushions.

Family workshops: Two creative, fun, practical and innovative workshops for the whole family to enjoy. Each of the workshops will look at how to draw and then develop your drawings and observations. Each session is accompanied by a handout which is full of ideas that you and your family can take away with you.

Workshop 1 (9.30—12.30) Reflections: Getting to Grips with Thinking Backwards

This course explores drawing and printing projects related to mirror reflections. (Please note this workshop does not include a ceramics project).

Workshop 2 (1—4pm) Sculpture: Cakes!

Drawing and modelling from life, exploring cakes and afternoon tea

There are also three new evening classes.




Woodwork 10 weeks 7pm -9pm and 5 week beginners sketch book 4pm -6pm both starting Thursday 2 May, and Positive Mind Set Awareness & Meditation course 5 weeks starting on Wednesday 1 May

For more details or an enrolment form please email adult.education@lvc.org or tel 01223 891233 Ext 303 or 317

Village News on the website

To see the News before the printed copy is available and to see the pictures in colour, go to www.theabingtons.org.uk/news and follow the link to the pdf for the month you want.

Church Services for April 2019

DATE	Gt. Abington 	Lt. Abington 	Hildersham 	Readings
4 th April		11.00am Communion		
7 th April	10.45am United Eucharist At Balsham			Isaiah 43.16-21 John 12.1-8
14 th April Palm Sunday	10.45am Communion		6.00pm Choral Evensong	Isaiah 50.4-9a Luke 19.28-40
18 th April Maundy Thurs.	7.30pm Communion			Exodus 12.1-14 John 13.1-7, 31b-35
19 th April Good Friday		2.00pm Last Hour	9.30am Devotional Service	As Service Order
21 st April Easter Day	10.45am Communion		9.15am Communion	Acts 10.34-43 John 20.1-18
28 th April		10.45am Morning Worship	9.15am Communion (BCP)	Acts 5.27-32 John 20.19-end

Church Flower Rota

	Great Abington	Little Abington	Hildersham
7 th April/14 th April	Lent	Judy Davies (Cleaning)	Lent
21 st April	All help please	All help please	All help please
28 th April	Anne Hall & Patsy Randall	June Waring & Marilyn Broadhurst	Elaine Moore

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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