



# The Abingtons and Hildersham News



[www.theabingtons.org.uk](http://www.theabingtons.org.uk)

July 2020



*Photo by Andrew Merryweather*

**Pyramidal Orchid, Great Abington, June 2020**

## Letter from the Editor

Things are looking up! After record high temperatures and drought conditions here in May, June brought us some rain! Not enough, but most welcome. A continuing fall in the numbers of people infected by Covid-19, and fewer deaths, has led to a reduction in the Covid-19 alert status from 4 to 3. This is the signal for further government easing of the lockdown, although the virus is still with us and we must take every care to prevent its spread. Failure to reopen the schools and many businesses remains damaging. The traffic is beginning to build up again but we still have quieter days and greater opportunities for observing and rejoicing in the plants and birds and beautiful countryside that surround us. The photos on the cover and page 7 come from Andrew Merryweather and the Naturewatch blog, a rich source of pictures of local natural gems.

The churches are open again but only for private prayer (pages 4, 5). Love Abington offers constant support and practical services to the community as is amply illustrated by the report on page 12. The maintenance of current levels of neighbourly caring for each other will be a Covid-19 legacy to cherish.

In contrast, be aware that George Woodley awoke one morning to find a huge heap of fly-tipped rubbish dumped at the back of his house. Disgraceful.

The reports of council activities inform us of planning developments especially on housing and transport (pages 6-10). Note the further work to be done on the A1307 including the installation of average speed cameras. The Greater Cambridge Partnership has chosen Transport Hub site B for new park and ride facilities and connection to Cambridge, and that should please residents of our villages. The recycling centre at Thriplow is now open but users need to book a slot (page 10). The green bins have been emptied fortnightly, which is a blessing.

Hildersham seamstresses are continuing to keep Papworth Hospital staff supplied with a stylish and colourful array of hospital scrubs (see photo on page 11). Well done, and no wonder the medical staff prefer them to the regular issue.

Zoom is playing its part in keeping councils, church services and the Reading Group operating. Love Abington has successfully introduced more residents to the opportunities offered by the internet. Video calls are, however, no satisfying real replacement for the face-to-face reunions we all crave – not least with hairdressers.

Keep safe and well.

Valerie Silvey

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Articles for the August 2020 edition of *the Abingtons and Hildersham News* should be sent to the editor no later than Wednesday 15 July 2020 at [news@theabingtons.org.uk](mailto:news@theabingtons.org.uk). Photos welcome.

**Village News on the website** To see the *News* before a printed copy is available and to see the photographs in colour, go to [www.theabingtons.org.uk/news](http://www.theabingtons.org.uk/news) and follow the link to the pdf for the month you want. For up-to-date news on the local impact of Covid-19 go to [www.theabingtons.org.uk/news/2020/03/coronavirus-in-abington](http://www.theabingtons.org.uk/news/2020/03/coronavirus-in-abington)

## From the Seven Churches

What a change the world has undergone in a matter of months. Restrictions imposed on us by the government to only go for a walk each day, and stay at home the rest of the time, and with all unnecessary travel prohibited; it is the small things we take for granted that suddenly are important. Simple things like a haircut or meeting friends at the pub.

Many have faced big challenges with their jobs, illness and loneliness. Many have sacrificed their time to help others especially supporting the NHS. Thank you to all those who have helped, in any way at all, at a very vulnerable time for those living in our villages. Friendships have been forged and old friendships renewed with more time on our hands.

It has not all been negative because what we have received is, in the words of Gerard Manley Hopkins, "*the world charged with the grandeur of God*". We enjoyed good weather, which has been so warm and dry, and with the lack of traffic on the roads and aeroplane traffic in the sky, nature emerged in full swing for us to hear varied birdsong. Flowers and butterflies drew our attention to what we have missed in years gone by, such a great joy. Best of all are moments to appreciate the bigger picture of life - time to take stock of who we are and what we are. Do we want to go back to how we were or do we want to take with us the blessings of living in the moment and not rushing on to the next task? We all will benefit from this.

Now change is happening again as we emerge out of lockdown with our churches opening for private prayer, giving us the chance to visit as we walk in the villages. A sanctuary and a chance to be still. Although we can pray anywhere at home or in the garden, our church buildings have been the physical space where we can connect to God. The Eucharist was presided and the word of God proclaimed and remembering the saints offers a depth to prayer. Added to this, our memories of special events make our spirit soar to a new level with hope restored. We come back to life ready for the next challenge; coming back to life to "go and experience the grandeur of God".

So whilst we might want to have our hair cut, or have a pint today, hopefully, in the near future, that will happen.

Blessings

Revd Kathy Bishop

## Churches open for the public

It's very welcome news that our churches are now open for individual visits: for prayer, reflection and moments of peace. Whilst we do need to apply all the necessary precautions and rules including social distancing and the use of hand sanitisers on entering and leaving, I hope they may once more become places of welcome for all, places where we acknowledge that, in the words of T S Eliot, 'prayer has been valid'.

Sunday services at 10am - usually around 30 to 40 minutes - will continue via Zoom, and information about how to join these services is available from Cazy Walshe at [7churches.seven@gmail.com](mailto:7churches.seven@gmail.com) and in the *News from the Pews* (page 5).

Revd Iain McColl and the Ministry Team

## Granta Vale Ministry Team

Rector **Revd Iain McColl** 890 693: [mccoll.iain@gmail.com](mailto:mccoll.iain@gmail.com)

**Revd Kathy Bishop** 892 288: [revkathy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:revkathy@hotmail.co.uk)

Pioneer Minister **Jeanine Kennedy** 893 838: [jeaninekennedygv@gmail.com](mailto:jeaninekennedygv@gmail.com)

Licensed Lay Ministers **Steven Wheeler** 290 396: **Alistair Collen** 894 230

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

**Revd Dr Carrie Pemberton Ford** 891 765 [Carrieford@cantab.net](mailto:Carrieford@cantab.net)

Parish Nurse **Claire Gillett** 07498 994 205: [7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com](mailto:7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com)

Parish Administrator **Caroline Walshe** 891 443: [7churches.seven@gmail.com](mailto:7churches.seven@gmail.com)

## **News from the Pews**

Our Church Wardens, Tony Collett and Graham Ross, are pleased to announce that in line with government direction both the Abington churches are now open for private prayer and peaceful reflection. We are aware that many members of our community have anxiously waited for this access and we hope this opportunity offers the comfort you seek. Both churches have directions for visitors to follow as a precaution against the coronavirus.

At the time of writing this article, a date to start Sunday services in church has not been given. In the meantime, you can join the Sunday Service on Zoom at 10am. Contact the church administrator on 891 443 for further details. Although not in church, we can all be together in spirit at this time.

### **Funeral**

The funeral of John Popper of High Street Little Abington took place in June. The ceremony, which included both Buddhist and Christian elements, was held at the graveside and was limited by lockdown rules to ten mourners.

Our thoughts and prayers are with John's wife Joan and family.

Anne Hall

### **Geoffrey Tiplady**

It was with great sadness that I learnt that Geoffrey Tiplady died peacefully in Addenbrooke's Hospital on 26 May from acute renal failure. He would have been 93 years old on 7 July, becoming increasingly frail in recent years, although he never lost his sparkle. Geoff joined his wife Mavis in a Cambridge care home in the autumn of 2017 where Mavis died in November that year. The couple were my closest neighbours in Little Abington for many years, and the best neighbours I could have had - always kind, thoughtful and helpful. We became firm friends. I spent many happy times chatting with Mavis in her beautiful garden and, latterly, with Geoff and his family. Geoff acquired a mobility scooter years ago which he drove around the village with great panache, on one occasion ending up in my garden when the machine 'ran away' with him. He could often be found on a summer afternoon watching his beloved cricket, or enjoying a meal at The Three Tuns. He also enjoyed meeting old friends at the monthly Abington Lunches and always kept up to date with the *News*. He leaves two sons, Richard and Steve, his daughter-in-law Sally, his two beloved grandsons Jacob and Alfie and his brother Dennis.

Susan Hodges

Geoff really loved cricket, mostly local cricket and Abington CC most of all. When I first came to the village in 1997 he was the team scorer, always welcoming, always struggling to focus on the middle, the 'book' and everybody around him. He first played for the club in the 1930s as a schoolboy when friendlies were played on the cricket meadow and behind Abington Lodge, depending which had livestock on at the time!

His excellent piece in the village Millennium handbook 'ABINGTON 2000 AD' charts the history of the club and is well worth reading. He was not a star player himself, remembering the time he caught himself out for a duck in a village men v ladies match!

His professions in accountancy and the pub trade helped his off-field roles, principally of club treasurer and secretary on and off from 1954. He was very proud to be one of the four original Trustees of the club, helping to buy the ground in the early 1950s, then many years as a Vice-President and Honorary life member and two as club President. He was also a stalwart of our county body, the CCA - the treasurer from 1993-2007, a council member, Vice-President (from 1973), Honorary Life Member (from 1992) and the Association's representative on the National Cricket Association from 1988-1995. Even well into his 90s, Geoff always wanted to know what was happening in the village and how the cricket club was doing. He was always a joy to be with, given his love of the game and all its characters, himself being one of them.

David Pimblett

## **County and District Council report**

Note from Councillors Henry Batchelor (CCC) and John Batchelor (SCDC)

### **Planning Update**

The new town at Northstowe is about to enter its second phase and is on schedule to deliver around 10,000 homes eventually. Outline planning permission has been given for the next big project, a further 11,000 houses at Waterbeach. Other projects in the pipeline include a further expansion of Cambourne and development of a new town at Bourn, on the old airfield.

This seems a lot of houses, so it might be a surprise to learn that South Cambs. is having difficulty meeting the government minimum house building requirements. This is known as a 'five-year land supply' and is an analysis of how many houses will be built over the period. One issue is that large projects take a long time to get under way. Northstowe, for example, took eight years before building commenced. Builders will only build what they can sell.

Another issue is that major development companies are mounting legal challenges to the District Council's five-year land supply figures. If there is a downturn in the market, inevitable given the Coronavirus issue, or a large project is late starting, then we could fall below the land supply requirement. We are not alone in facing this problem; 112 other local planning authorities are under threat. As a group we are lobbying government to be more flexible in their approach and are awaiting a response.

After a break of a couple of months we have now re-started meetings of the Planning Committee working remotely. There is a backlog of applications that need processing so the committee will be meeting every two weeks from now on. The 'Delegation Meeting', dealing with requests for applications to go to committee, has also started up again.

### **Initial Feedback from the Greater Cambridge Local Plan Consultation**

A report has been published detailing initial findings from the 'First Conversation' consultation on the evolving Greater Cambridge Local Plan. Summarising some of the main findings: in terms of where new development should go, densification of existing urban areas and building along existing transport corridors, were the favoured options. The theme that drew most comments by far was infrastructure, including transport, health and education and more – but transport was the topic most commented upon. The next most popular theme for comment was Homes followed by Climate Change. Next milestones are the publication of evidence from external experts in Oct 2020 and then a call for public input (the Preferred Options stage) which should happen in summer 2021. The full report is at:-

<https://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s116475/Appendix%201%20Consultation%20Feedback.pdf>

### **Zero Carbon Strategy**

The first ever Zero Carbon Strategy for South Cambridgeshire has been agreed by SCDC and pledges to lead a green local economic recovery out of lockdown and reduce carbon emissions. The Council will support the district to halve its carbon emissions in the next 10 years and reduce them completely by 2050. Alongside this, the Council aims to deliver a reduction of at least 45% of its own carbon emissions by 2025 and at least 75% by 2030.

## **Emergency support for Milton Country Park**

Milton Country Park is being provided with up to £50,000 by the District Council, to ensure residents can keep enjoying the green spaces and paths. The grant will include a £25,000 payment now and the option of the second half from September. It is being made available to the Cambridge Sport Lakes Trust charity, which runs the 95-acre Park on South Cambridgeshire District Council's behalf. The Park's main sources of income are normally the café and water sports activities, both of which have been out of action during lock-down.

## **Funding for provision of hot meals**

SCDC has successfully applied for funding provided by Countryside to provide a limited number of hot meals to homes as part of the Covid-19 response. It is hoped that this can be organised in conjunction with community groups. SCDC would like to hear from any furloughed chefs who might be able to help.

## **A1307**

There was a meeting of the A1307 Local Liaison Forum on 1<sup>st</sup> June. The next scheduled works are due to start this month: the east-bound busway between Babraham and the A11 roundabout and a signalised crossing at the Babraham research park roundabout. Average speed cameras for the Linton to Haverhill section are due to be installed on September.

## **Cambridgeshire County Council Communities Capital Fund**

A new £5m fund aimed at creating opportunities and improving lives and skills across Cambridgeshire was launched by Cambridgeshire County Council (7 April). The Communities Capital Fund will support projects that will make positive changes in the community, bringing people together and meeting the priorities that matter most to local people. Grants of up to £500,000 are available to support community-led projects which improve the health, wellbeing, social and economic opportunities and outcomes in communities.

## **Park & Ride**

Most of the Park & Ride sites reopened on 31 May. Milton P&R remains closed.

Henry and John Batchelor



Free as a bird – Joyous Red Kite hasn't heard of lockdown.  
*Photo by Andrew Merryweather*

### Parish Council Activities during Lockdown

Parish Council life is continuing to operate remotely via Zoom meetings which will be advertised three days in advance on the Parish Council noticeboard and via the village website. Anyone wishing to put questions to the Parish Council should pass them to the Clerk at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting. Anyone wishing to observe the meeting should contact the Clerk at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting and they will be provided with a link to observe via the internet.

### Recreation Ground

Please note the Multi Use Games Area is now open again. **However, at the time of writing, it is still not permitted under Covid-19 restrictions to** use an outdoor gym or playground. Please follow the social distancing guidance.

### A1307

Next scheduled works are due to start in June: the east-bound busway between Babraham and the A11 roundabout and a signalised crossing at the Babraham research park roundabout. Average speed cameras for the Linton to Haverhill section are due to be installed in September. The Hildersham Cross development at the top of Hildersham High Street is tabled for the current financial year but there is no firm commencement date yet.

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### And a continued Three Cheers for Lockdown heroes

Thanks everyone for helping to keep the community safe by observing social distancing. In particular three cheers from the whole village to our wonderful local shop – don't forget to keep supporting our local businesses as other shops start reopening. Thanks too to those continuing to provide help via the Love Abington group (see pages 12, 14).

### Planning

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

### District Council decisions

S/1213/19/RM, Land Rear of Strawberry Farm, Pampisford Road - Application for approval of reserved matters for appearance, landscaping layout & scale following outline planning permission S/1433/16/OL for the erection of 8 dwellings. Parish Council recommended refusal. District Council refused 3.6.2020.

## Great Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Village Institute or via Zoom during lockdown

**Bernie Talbot (Chairman) tel: 892 647**

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

**Next Parish Council meeting: Monday 20 July 2020 at 7.15pm**

There will be opportunities at the start and close of the meeting for members of the public to speak to the council about matters of concern. Notices, agendas and minutes are posted on the Parish Council notice board located at the entrance to Magna Close or available from the parish clerk.

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

## **GRANTA** Medical Practices

**We remain open and continue to work hard to keep our patients as safe as possible, along with our staff and our community by managing medical care remotely.** This way of working has proved very successful and is reflected in the very low number of Covid-related illnesses in our area.

Patient access to any Granta site continues to be by invitation only, following a prior telephone assessment and only when the clinician assesses that the balance of risk and need justifies a face-to-face interaction.

We are working hard behind the scenes to see how we can start to safely reintroduce various services and we will keep you updated via our website and social media.

**We are very pleased to announce the appointment of Tim Harrison as our new Chief Executive Officer.**

Having previously worked in the John Lewis Partnership for over 23 years, Tim is committed to taking Granta forward, shaping the “new normal” of primary care, and embracing the concept of a Primary Care Network.

Tim’s vision is clear, *“Granta Medical Practices are trail blazers in primary care services and I have been really impressed with their mix of professionalism and patient-centred care. Their response to the recent coronavirus pandemic has been exceptional and their commitment to the safety of their patients, their staff and their community is of paramount importance.*

GP Managing Partner, Dr James Morrow, said *“We are very pleased to welcome Tim to our team. More so than ever, primary care faces challenging times, and with Tim’s expertise I know we will continue to adapt and develop, whilst taking full responsibility for working with our patients to promote health when they are well and to deliver the care needed when they fall ill.”*

Sandra East, Granta Communications  
T. 0300 234 5555. [sandra.east@nhs](mailto:sandra.east@nhs)

## **Test your smoke alarm!**

Did you know that you should test your smoke alarms at least once a month? Or that you should have smoke alarms on every floor of your home? Or that Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service do free home visits to make sure your home is fire safe?

Visit this website for helpful tips and advice: <https://firekills.campaign.gov.uk/>

**It only takes one accident to start a fire. Fire kills. Let’s prevent it.**

# Little Abington Parish Council

## Around the village

**Cambridge International School (CIS):** The school will be closing at the end of this summer term and we wait to see what will happen to the site.

**Village maintenance:** We have a new contractor responsible for keeping our verges tidy so please let us know if you feel they have missed something by contacting the clerk (email below). This service doesn't include hedges growing over pavements so please keep these trimmed to allow pedestrians to pass easily.

**Speedwatch:** During the pandemic there have been no Speedwatch sessions. The police inform us that they are aware of speeding while the roads are quiet and are carrying out speed monitoring when staffing levels permit.

**Thriplow Household Recycling Centre:** A booking system has been introduced to help reduce traffic queues and waiting times.

To book go to <https://cambridgeshire.bookinglive.com/>

## Meeting on Tuesday 26 May (via Zoom)

New government standards require us to review the village website ([www.theabingtons.org.uk](http://www.theabingtons.org.uk)), including its content. If you have ideas for new content please contact the clerk (email below) and if you have website management expertise we'd also like to hear from you.

The Greater Cambridge Partnership has published the results of the public consultation on the park and ride site. Travel Hub site B and the Brown route are being recommended as the preferred option as they are closest to the A11 and A1307 junction, and avoid the need to bridge over the A11. (Site B is just off the A1307 on the other side of the A11 and was our preferred choice.) See <https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/CSET-consultation-2019> for the consultation report.

## Planning

**20/1304/TTPO Tree works, 39 Cambridge Rd:** No comments

### Little Abington Parish Council Meetings

Abington Institute or via Zoom during lockdown

**Next Meeting: Monday 27 July 2020, Parish Council at 7.30pm**

Sheila Bolden (Chairman)      tel: 07754      Email: [shelen@btinternet.com](mailto:shelen@btinternet.com)  
659929

Genevieve Dalton (Clerk)      tel: 07703      Email: [clerk@littleabington.clara.co.uk](mailto:clerk@littleabington.clara.co.uk)  
486562

Details to be confirmed regarding start times and venue on the Abingtons website and the parish council noticeboard.

The meeting agendas and papers are published on the Abingtons website: [www.theabingtons.org.uk](http://www.theabingtons.org.uk)

### Next meetings at Abington Institute

Monday 27 July

No meeting in August

Monday 28 September

## Hildersham Focus

The fields and meadows around Hildersham continue to host walkers and cyclists who, like the residents, are enjoying the beauty of the changing seasons with the glorious colours in the uncut verges and the 'goldening' of the crops in the fields. Chats and 'Hellos' have become the norm.

**Holy Trinity Church** is now open for private prayer with a little reminder as you enter of how to keep yourself and others safe when using the church. As the churchyard has been open throughout lockdown a number of people have taken the opportunity to 'sit and stare' across the meadows, finding time to absorb the peace and quiet.

**Allotments** have been buzzing with people as well as bees. The extra time that some of us have had has enabled lots of planting and the weeds (except the pretty ones) have had little time to glimpse daylight before being hastily thrust onto compost heaps.

**The Children's Church Council (CCC)** members have been tasked with creating and decorating A4 triangles that will be added together to form bunting to decorate Balsham Church when we are able to celebrate together again.

CCC are back together via Zoom and in next month's magazine some of our young people will be giving us an insight into their experiences of the last few months.

**Hildersham Scrub Hub** continued to make scrubs for Papworth and a second BBC item reinforced the fact that the doctors and nurses were enjoying wearing flowers, fairies and fire engines.



*Photo by Jenny Logan*

## Hildersham Parish Council

The next meeting of Hildersham Parish Council will be on **Tuesday 14 July**. If it is an electronic meeting, parishioners are very welcome to join us. We use 'zoom.uk' and the meeting ID and password are on the agenda. If you have a matter you would like to raise without 'attending' the meeting, please email or contact the Clerk with details of your query. Please check the noticeboard or website for details nearer the time.

## **Love Abington Update**

This month we are very appreciative of all the people who have given so joyfully of their time and energy to support their neighbours and share love. I am excited at the creative new developments including our new Love Abington Shawl Group and the growth of our Very Hungry Caterpillar. We are thrilled at the success of the Library which opened last month. Huge thanks to the Library team who set this up and special thanks to the Abington Social Club for hosting the Library

### **Love Abington Shawl Group**

The Love Abington Shawl Group brings together people who love to crochet and knit shawls for people who in these challenging times are journeying through grief. We are giving these shawls to people who we know are in need of a comforting hug. The prayer shawl is a way to provide a virtual hug during these times of social distancing. If you would like to join our group of creatives please do get in touch. We are planning a zoom 'knit and natter' session or 'crochet and chat' in July for both the experienced and novices. For more info get in touch.

### **Telephone Listening Service**

Our Listening Service continues to support people as they navigate our changing circumstances. This is a service available for everyone and we have noticed how important it has been for people in all sections of our community. If you would like to receive a confidential, friendly weekly call to help you as we journey together through the pandemic, please do give me a call and I can put you in touch with Rosemary Mead and our team. Call Jeanine 893 838.

### **Helping to stay Connected Online**

We are delighted that this service has already been taken up and some Abington Residents new to the internet are being introduced to the new mysterious world of Information Technology! Huge thanks to Pat for his vision and work in this area. If you would like more information about options (including costs) to help an elderly relative to join in video calls, contact Love Abington. [Loveabington@gmail.com](mailto:Loveabington@gmail.com) Tel Jeanine 893 838

### **Abington Library**

The library is based in the Social Club on Pampisford Road. Social distancing is observed, and hand gel is available on entering the building. All books, Jigsaws, CD's etc will be quarantined for a week before being reissued.

### **Opening times - Tuesdays 2pm to 4pm, Saturdays 10am to 12pm**

This library runs in addition to the book sharing scheme in the Institute for those picking up prescriptions. You can help yourselves to books at our 'Book Hutch' outside Little Abington Church which is proving very popular. The stock of books is changed regularly and returns collected daily. If you are currently shielding, we will be able to deliver to you. Please contact your street coordinator in the first instance.

### **Prescription orders and collection**

If your medicines are usually delivered to the shop they will now be available from the Abington Institute (in the High Street, next to the school) on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons between 3.30 and 4.30pm.

### **Help with Food**

In these uncertain times circumstances in many households will be changing and we are keen to support you. So if you are in receipt of vouchers or are worried about how to put enough food on your table, we want to help. Pop into the Village Institute between 3.30 and 4.30pm on Monday, Wednesday or Friday and we can supply extra food items. Or contact one of us at other times and we can arrange a delivery - Bernie (892 647), Jeanine (893 838) or David (892 364).

### **The Very Hungry Caterpillar needs a name:**

We are excited to report that our Very Hungry Caterpillar made from rocks is having a remarkable growth spurt! He has already grown from just three rocks to over thirty! Please do come to Little Abington Churchyard and add your painted rock or pebble and see how he grows each day. We have loved seeing your photos posted on the Love Abington Facebook page; please do keep them coming. Can you suggest a name for our Very Hungry Caterpillar?

Please contact Love Abington or Jeanine if you or a loved one needs help or would benefit from any of the Love Abington schemes. We also value your suggestions of how we can maintain this service and develop in the months ahead.

Stay Safe.

Every Blessing, Jeanine and the Love Abington Team

## **Abington & Hildersham Women's Institute**

I hope all our members are keeping safe and well and are able to take advantage of permissible easing of lockdown which allows us to meet family and friends, albeit at a "social" distance, with just a few of us allowed hugs and sleepovers in "bubbles".

The National Federation of Women's Institutes AGM in June was cancelled, so the debate on this year's resolutions could not take place, but over 70% of members voted at the selection stage for "Stem cell donor registration" and "End modern slavery", so these two resolutions have been adopted as WI campaigns for this year.

*A call to increase potential stem cell donor registration: There is an urgent need to increase the number of people registered on the aligned UK stem cell registry in order to provide potentially life-saving treatment to people of all ages with certain blood cancers. All WI members are called to promote registration to the database to avoid people dying whilst waiting for a match.*

*End Modern Slavery: There are tens of thousands of victims of modern slavery hiding in plain sight in the UK. Modern slavery has severe consequences for the health and mental wellbeing of survivors. The NFWI calls on the Government to protect victims of modern slavery in the first instance and deliver longer term support to help them rebuild their lives. WI members are called to raise awareness of the prevalence of modern slavery throughout society and to campaign to defeat it.*

The lockdown rules are changing slowly yet regularly and who knows where we will be by the time you read this? However, we do know that our members will prefer to stay safe rather than sorry, and public gatherings and meetings in the Village Institute will be limited for some time to come. Regretfully, therefore, we have cancelled our July meeting and our annual coach outing in August and will plan to offer something exciting for summer 2021 instead. It seems quite likely that we will have to cancel September's meeting also, but please watch this space for further information.

We are aware that members have not been getting value for money from their subscriptions but - good news! NFWI has just announced a 3 month membership extension, so 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 is the next subscription renewal date, not 1<sup>st</sup> January. In the meantime, look after yourself, enjoy your garden and daily walk and we look forward to sharing lockdown stories and photos before too long.

**Date of next meeting to be confirmed later!**

Marilyn Broadhurst

## **Great Abington PTFA Update**

What a crazy school year it has been! Until we receive further guidance from the government regarding larger social gatherings, we're afraid we have no fundraising events to announce at this moment. Please be advised that the Abington 10K has been cancelled for this year.

Thank you very much to all community members and parents who have supported us throughout 2019/2020. We couldn't fundraise or purchase necessary resources for the school without your help. Please continue to support us through our local school lottery at [www.myschoollottery.co.uk](http://www.myschoollottery.co.uk). It is £1 a ticket per week. There is a local community winner every week and you could possibly win the £25,000 national prize.

Until we meet again, please stay safe and take care. Have a fantastic summer and enjoy the weather.

Great Abington PTFA

**DIARY for July** – The Abington Institute is closed until further notice. All scheduled classes and activities in the Institute are cancelled.

**Institute bookings:** – contact preferably by email: [institute@theabingtons.org.uk](mailto:institute@theabingtons.org.uk) or phone 01223 790 711

**Contacts for Café** – Gaynor Farrant 07817 517 871 or [gaynorfarrant198@btinternet.com](mailto:gaynorfarrant198@btinternet.com) and Gill Smith 892 759 or [richardandgill.smith@live.co.uk](mailto:richardandgill.smith@live.co.uk)

Date		Meetings to be held in July using Zoom	Time	Page
Tue	14	<b>Hildersham Parish Council Reading Group</b>	7.30pm 8.00pm	11 14
Mon	20	<b>Great Abington Parish Council</b>	7.15pm	9
Mon	27	<b>Little Abington Parish Council</b>	7.30pm	10

### Wheelie bin dates for July 2020 (Abingtons and Hildersham)

Mon 6	Mon 13	Mon 20	Mon 27
Black	Green/Blue	Black	Green/Blue

### Reading Group

14 July	<i>The Sentence is Death</i> Anthony Horowitz	Valerie Hefford
11 August	<i>Everything I Never Told You</i> Celeste Ng	Sylvia Gilmour
8 September	<i>The Narrow Road to the Deep North</i> Richard Flanagan	Mary Conochie

Please email comments on July's book or share by Zoom on Tuesday 14 July.

Lisa Pechey

### Abington Post Office and Stores

#### New Shop Opening Times & Payment via the Telephone Instructions:

The shop will be open as follows:

Monday to Saturday	8am to 7.30pm	Post Office 9am to 5pm
Sunday	8am to 3.30pm	Post Office Closed

Abington Stores now offers an online ordering system with delivery and click & collect services. The shop is now able to take payment for orders via the telephone. Please call the shop on 891 271 and have your payment card handy.

Please use the following Google form to place your order: <https://forms/g/e/7xdJnnfvJleSW9P1A> or email [loveabington@gmail.com](mailto:loveabington@gmail.com) if you would like the Google form emailed to you.

Mak and Bea would like to thank everyone for their continued support for the shop and the delivery teams who continue to assist in ensuring that customer's needs are all met.

**A Food Bank collection point is just outside the shop. A list of items particularly needed for the Food Bank is posted nearby.**

**Details of the Local and on-line food and other supplies Directory can be found on the village website and a list was on pages 8, 9 of the May News.**

## Church Services for July 2020

DATE	Gt. Abington 	Lt. Abington 	Hildersham 	Readings  <i>Which you may care to read at home.</i>
5 July	<b>CHURCH SERVICES SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE</b>			Genesis 24.34-end Romans 7.15-25a Matthew 11.16-end
12 July	<p>As a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic all normal services in our churches are suspended indefinitely although the churches are now open for individual private prayer. We do however invite you to join together with us <b>in your own homes</b> between 10.00 and 10.30 am on Sundays for a "Time of Prayer" and on Thursday at 9.00 pm for Compline when, although not in Church we can all be together in spirit. If desired you can join these services online – see newsletter for details.</p> <p>If you would like more information or a newsletter please contact Caroline Walshe – Church Administrator <a href="mailto:7churches.seven@gmail.com">7churches.seven@gmail.com</a> 01223 891443</p>			Genesis 25.19-end Romans 8.1-11 Matthew 13.1-9,18-23
19 July				Genesis 28.10-19a Romans 8.12-25 Matthew 13.24-43
26 July				Genesis 29.15-28 Romans 8.26-end Matthew 13.31-33,44-52

### Church Flower Rota

	Great Abington	Little Abington	Hildersham
5 July	Mrs Gilmour	Mrs Tinga	Lynne Hartland
12 July	Mrs Gilmour	Mrs Tinga	Lynne Hartland
19 July	Mrs Kilcommons	Mrs Snell	Sarah Hall
26 July	Mrs Kilcommons	Mrs Snell	Sarah Hall

### Churchwardens

Hildersham	Vacancy		
Great Abington	Tony Collett	23 Meadow Walk, Great Abington	893447
Little Abington	Graham Ross	41 Church Lane, Little Abington	891564

### Assistant Church Wardens

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

### Parish Nurse

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