



The Abingtons and Hildersham News



www.theabingtons.org.uk

May 2021



Photo by David Farrant

Lambs at Hildersham, 11 April 2021

Letter from the Editor

We have enjoyed many sunny, warm days but there is little sign of the rain needed by gardeners and farmers. Trees and hedges are coming into green leaf and there is more colourful blossom to cheer us up. Even better, perhaps, the hairdressers were able to open from 12 April, shops reopened, and it was permissible to meet others for food and drink served outside.

From 17 May step 3 of the government's roadmap to easing lockdown will mean that most restrictions on meeting others outdoors will be lifted and the rule of six, or two households, will apply to indoor meetings (page 13). The programme of vaccinations has proceeded apace and is a major weapon in controlling the virus. Steadily getting back to a more normal existence depends on following government guidance and there is plenty of advice about that. See pages 7–10.

Love Abington has opened its library, the Reading group will replace Zoom meetings with an outdoor face-to-face meeting in May and the WI invites donations of cakes and plants for its outdoor sale on 8 May. Social Cycling is in progress and an exciting Scarecrow Festival starts on 29 May. See pages 5, 8, 15–17.

Abington Cricket Club has a super cricket ground, successful teams, and plenty of local support. The home fixtures are, for the first time, listed on page 16.

Christian Aid week collections will be in aid of providing water to families and farmers worldwide. The churches and school could not organise their usual fundraising during lockdown and ask for donations please (pages 5, 17).

Sunny days make us appreciate our environment and the need to help with litter-picking, report fly tipping and take the positive steps in conservation supported by the Bishop of Ely and the Hildersham children. Why not try out the e-bike currently available. See pages 11–15.

Conservation of the environment, application of best science and innovation, inspirational leadership of young people, the discipline and values of the armed forces, and the Christian faith were important to the Duke of Edinburgh and are relevant for us today. His death on 9 April, aged 99, brought new understanding of his wide-ranging beneficial impact on life in the UK, the Commonwealth and around the world.

Valerie Silvey

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Articles for the June 2021 edition of *The Abingtons and Hildersham News* should be sent to the editor no later than Saturday 15 May 2021 at news@theabingtons.org.uk. Photos welcome.

Oil orders – urgent to place orders now. See page 6.

From the Seven Churches

As we enter May, I am looking forward, like many I imagine, to the further easing of lockdown restrictions which will allow us to enjoy seeing more people face-to-face. For those with good internet access or reliable smart phones, seeing family, friends and colleagues online has been possible over the lockdowns. Yet we should also acknowledge the loss of human contact 'in the flesh' and reflect on how important the joy of life together is for our sense of humanity.

Church gatherings over the last year have also been a mix of both the online and in person. Our services via Zoom have helped us to worship together during each lockdown and inspired a growth in creative resources for reflection! Before Easter, for example, we produced three short reflective films entitled 'Life in the Spirit', 'Love in a Time of Covid' and 'After the Flood', all of which can still be viewed via our website.

Gatherings in person during the pandemic have happened, where possible, both outside and inside church buildings. Services have been held in churchyards often dappled in sunlight, or inside our ancient buildings, perhaps allowing us to experience in a fresh way the joy of gathering face-to-face, a reminder of the incarnational nature of our Christian faith.

In May our services will continue to be a mix of online services and services inside and outside our churches, and please do feel welcome to attend whichever you prefer. During May we will also celebrate Pentecost and remember the gift of the Holy Spirit to the disciples gathered in Jerusalem after the resurrection of Jesus. This astonishing gift of the Spirit, as described in the Book of Acts, bound together the early church in worship and shared life, and empowered them to reach out to others in the name of Christ.

I hope, as we move along our roadmap out of lockdown, we may continue to rediscover the joy of shared life together and allow ourselves to be shaped by the life of the Spirit. For the Spirit draws us into a deeper relationship with God, empowers us to forgive, and creates bonds of mutual love and service, which will help us support and rebuild our communities this side of lockdown and beyond.

Revd Iain McColl

Granta Vale Ministry Team

Rector **Revd Iain McColl** 890 693: mccoll.iain@gmail.com

Revd Kathy Bishop 892 288: revkathy@hotmail.co.uk

Pioneer Minister in training **Jeanine Kennedy**

893 838: jeaninekenedygv@gmail.com

Licensed Lay Ministers **Steven Wheeler** 290 396: **Alistair Collen** 891 561

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

Youth worker **Sam Graham** 07552 658 811 sgraham@cambridgeyfc.uk

Revd Dr Carrie Pemberton Ford 891 765 Carrieford@cantab.net

Parish Nurse **Kim Cox** (see page 20)

Parish Administrator **Caroline Walshe** 891 443: 7churches.seven@gmail.com

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 and follow the link to the pdf for the month you want.

News from the Pews

We hope that many of you were able to see the lilies in remembrance of our loved ones in St Mary's Churches at Easter. Thank you very much to everyone who contributed towards the beautiful pedestal displays arranged by our talented florists, Carole McCrae and Freda Orgee.

Photo by Jeanine Kennedy. Lilies – and churchwarden - at Little Abington Church

A special (rearranged) poignant service taken by Alistair Collen was held in beautiful morning sunshine in Great Abington Churchyard following the passing of His Royal Highness Prince Philip. The service was written by Bishop Stephen and conducted throughout the diocese of Ely.



A successful Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held via Zoom, our next PCC meeting will be held on Monday 10 May at 7pm.

At present it is still difficult to plan services or indeed annual church events. Naturally this all leads to lack of funding. We therefore encourage regular church goers and friends of the church to continue to support us.

Understandably the church prayer board in Great Abington is overflowing with prayers. We want to assure you that your prayers are read. Revd Kathy Bishop has concerns about the quantity accumulated over the past few months and will be making notes from them for continued prayers. Although your prayer notes may no longer be on the prayer board they are not destroyed. Please do continue to use it, it helps us all to share our sadness and indeed to share joy too.

Arrangements for the Scarecrow Festival (Saturday 29 May to Saturday 5 June) are well under way. Do join in the fun by making your own scarecrow depicting a nursery rhyme, musical, film, work, or maybe a politician. To book and for further details e-mail anneandglynhall@gmail.com

Anne Hall

Christian Aid Week 10 – 16 May: Every Last Drop

St Mary's Churches are organising fundraising in the Abingtons to support the work of Christian Aid in providing reliable, accessible water supplies to families and farmers around the world. From drought to flooding, climate change robs people of control over their lives. Your gift could help a community build an earth dam, so when the rains do come, they will have the water they need to live.

We aim to deliver a gift envelope to every house. Please could you help by becoming a volunteer deliverer in your road/street on the Friday or Saturday at the beginning of Christian Aid week? No house-to-house collection required.

Every envelope, every gift can change lives. For further information please contact Mary Miles tel. 891 083 or email: marymiles2003@hotmail.com

Marilyn Broadhurst

Memorial stone erected at Great Abington Church



Most villagers will know that during 2014-15 Great Abington church had major additions made to it; a kitchenette, vestry and two toilets were installed. During the excavation work some late Saxon to Medieval human remains were disturbed and these were respectfully reinterred in 2016 accompanied by a short service held by the then vicar the Revd Dr Julie Norris.

Owing to the Covid limitations the memorial stone to mark the burial place could only be installed during March 2021 - see picture.

A short service to bless the stone and burial place will be held after a service at the church - this will be publicised on the church noticeboards when known.

Tony Collett

Duke of Edinburgh Awards – local youngsters

In our remembrances of the Duke, it seemed an appropriate time to remember village youngsters in the past who participated in the scheme by volunteering for village projects.

Martin Dawson helped with the restoration of the ford 25 year ago.

Alice Merryweather helped in Jeremiah's Café on Saturday mornings.

If you know of any other village youngsters who participated in the scheme by volunteering for Abington village projects, please let me know.

Jennifer Hirsh (893 352)

Do you have breathing difficulties?

Did you know that singing can help?

Cambridge Singing for Breathing is now meeting online.

Singing for Breathing is a friendly and fun way to get the best from your lung capacity, using breath and voice exercises, guided relaxation and singing.

Thursdays 2.30–4.00 pm.

Weekly donation £0–£3.50

Contact Kay Barrett for more information and Zoom link:

Mobile - 07845 726 975 Email - singingforbreathingcambridge@gmail.com

Website: www.singingforbreathing.wordpress.com

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

Abington Community Oil Club – Rod will take orders for heating oil from 23 to 30 April with expected delivery in the second week of May. Please provide Rod with the quantity of oil you require, your name, address, post code and telephone number. Please contact rodwillcox@hotmail.co.uk or phone 07767 686 351.

Granta Medical Practices Update, May 2021

COVID-19 Vaccinations

We continue to deliver second vaccinations, working in date order, vaccinating patients 11-12 weeks following their first dose.

Current guidelines state that patients must return to the venue where they had their first vaccination, as the second dose will be allocated and sent to that venue. Should these guidelines change, we will, of course, let everyone know.

We appreciate that everyone wants to know when their appointment will be, and we are working as fast as possible to get through our patient lists. Please bear with us as our team continues to work incredibly hard to deliver the vaccine into our community.

COVID-19 Vaccine Safety

The UK vaccination programme has been very successful. At the time of writing, more than 30 million people have been vaccinated and it is estimated that 6,000 lives have already been saved.

There have been reports of a very rare condition involving blood clots and unusual bleeding after vaccination. This is being carefully monitored and reviewed. Information is changing rapidly, and we will keep our website as up to date as possible. If you do not have internet access, please feel free to ring us with any questions you may have.

Sandra East, Head of Patient Services
Email: sandra.east@nhs.net. Direct number: 01223 627 743.

Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Covid-19 test if you have no symptoms?

All adults across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough can now get free, rapid COVID-19 tests/kits for home-testing. One in three people with Covid-19 don't have symptoms, so adults are being encouraged to take lateral flow tests twice a week to stop outbreaks and keep the virus in check.

Use NHS111 to book into A&E

Many people know they can contact NHS111 online or by phone if they need urgent health care or advice. But the service can now book time slots for you at A&E or at a minor injury unit, GP or pharmacy.

This new system is called NHS 111 First. To use it phone 111 or visit NHS111 online.

If in doubt about the help you need, go to <http://111.nhs.uk>

Love Abington Update

It is a joy to feel the hope in the air that accompanies the arrival of spring. We are moving cautiously towards an easing of restrictions and lockdown, but Love Abington was established as a long-term project and we would like to reassure you that we will be here for you long after the coronavirus pandemic.

Library

The library reopened on Saturday 17 April. As a reminder and for new neighbours, the Abington Library is held in the Social Club on Pampisford Road. It is open on:

Tuesdays 2pm to 4pm

Saturdays 10am to 12 noon

We have an amazing selection of books for adults and children, both fiction and non-fiction, all donated by our local community. We also have many puzzles, which are extremely popular and a few DVDs. Please come along and have a browse. We also look forward to welcoming back our regular visitors.

Prescriptions

Granta Medical Practice offers free medicine delivery to your home. For more information and to register, please call 01223 727 530 or email:

capccg.grantadispensing@nhs.net

Prescriptions are available to collect at the shop. Thank you to Mak, Bea and team for this valuable service. Please collect your prescriptions as promptly as possible, as space is limited, and a great many prescriptions are delivered each week. If you are unable to collect, your Street Coordinator would be happy to do so for you. Please note that after four weeks, the dispensaries ask us to return any uncollected prescriptions to them.

Telephone listening service

Our listening service offers a weekly phone call, for a chat and to share concerns. Finding someone who will listen can relieve the weight of anxiety even if there is no immediate answer.

Please consider ringing 07761 440102. All calls are treated in the strictest confidence. Rosemary Mead will organise a member of the telephone listening team to ring you and arrange a suitable time to contact you on a weekly basis.

Food Bank

We continue to welcome food or cash donations at the shop. Thank you for your generosity so far, it is really making a difference. We are currently discussing how to move forward with the Food Bank and will report back to you next month.

If you are short of food, please get in touch and we can arrange delivery. Please contact: David 01223 892 364, Bernie 01223 892 647, Julie 07761 440 102, or email: loveabington@gmail.com

Street Coordinators

Although we are gradually moving towards an easing of lockdown, we wish to reassure you that your Street Coordinators are still active and willing to help. Please contact your coordinator direct or call Julie 07761 440 102.

Every blessing and warmest wishes,
Rosemary, Julie, Jeanine and the Love Abington team

County and District Council

District and County Councillors' Report – April 2021

A1307 Update

The process of upgrading the road continues. The next physical upgrade will be the installation of average speed cameras between the Suffolk border and Linton; this was scheduled for April.

Next will come the pedestrian crossing at the Hildersham junction, which will finally mean a safe crossing for those non-motorised users travelling between Abington and Linton and vice versa.

The local liaison forum meetings are still occurring. These are public meetings so please do register to attend the forthcoming ones.

Election Period

From 29 March, the local councils are into the 'Election period' owing to the three local elections being held in early May. This means that the local authorities in our area won't be able to make any significant decisions during this time. The day-to-day running of local councils will continue regardless.

Five-year Land Supply

The District Council has proudly announced that their land supply, which is a projection of the number of houses planned to be built over the next 5 years, is now 6.1 years. This means that South Cambridgeshire doesn't currently have a housing deficit so doesn't have to accept large, unacceptable planning applications to make up a shortfall. This is very good news for our area.

Local Authority Covid Support

The government is beginning to ease Covid restrictions and will continue to do this over the coming months as more and more people receive their vaccinations. Caution should still be applied to everyday life, however, and support, financial as well as physical, is still available from the local authorities in our area.

Available from SCDC:- a 'Covid Co-Ordinator' who can assist with most things Covid related, including advice and directing to various grants. Her name is Vicky Hoover – Vicky.hoover@scambs.gov.uk

Available from the County Council: a Covid 'Hub' which can be contacted through their website - <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/coronavirus/covid-19-coordination-hub-your-community-needs-you>

Highways Officers

Our area finally has a replacement Local Highways Officer to fill the gap made by Nicola Burdon's departure from the role. His name is Maciej Adamczyk and his details should have been sent to all local parish clerks.

Bus Changes

As the park and ride service at the Babraham Road site is restarting, the 13 bus will no longer stop at that P&R site. The bus frequencies will remain as they were.

Right of Way Map

The County Council has launched a new interactive map, in conjunction with Google, that shows all Cambridgeshire's public rights of way. Enjoy! <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/arts-green-spaces-activities/rights-of-way>

Henry and John Batchelor

COVID-19 precautions – update from SCDC

As the government's cautious roadmap out of lockdown continues, people's health, safety and wellbeing remain of paramount importance. While infection and death rates are decreasing, transmission of Coronavirus is still an extremely serious threat and we all have a role to play in doing our utmost to stop its spread. This can best be done by continuing to take precautions against catching or transmitting the virus and closely following the government's rules for each step of its COVID-19 Response Spring 2021 roadmap out of the current lockdown for England.

This means continuing to abide by the guidelines for social distancing by:

- Washing your hands regularly and for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering your face in enclosed spaces (especially where social distancing may be difficult and where you come into contact with people you do not normally meet);
- Staying two metres apart where possible, or one metre with extra precautions in place.
- It is also essential to stick to the rules around travel and holidaying.

Our Council team continues to provide essential services and support to the residents most in need in our district. They are working in conjunction with many dedicated volunteers who have played a crucial role in helping this work and we are immensely grateful to them.

Residents who need to carry on self-isolating during this time can rest assured that all the support previously available will continue, including financial help.

Our Reopening the High Street team is supporting local small to medium businesses as they reopen and work towards recovery. This includes helping them to carry out comprehensive COVID-19 risk assessments to keep customers and their workers safe; providing signage and aiding the implementation of the two-metre rule in the workplace; and advising on cleaning, handwashing and hygiene procedures in line with current guidance.

As more government financial packages are announced for the business sector, our Business Support Team is also there to support the recovery and help struggling firms to access much-needed government grants to address some of the financial impact of the lockdown and to fund recovery activities. We are also offering support and grant aid to local communities to get voluntary projects and services back on track after months of lockdown.

Everyone across the district is working extremely hard to put plans into place for when affected services can gradually and safely welcome everyone back. Until then, please continue to follow the guidelines to help protect the NHS and our families, friends and colleagues. By keeping infection rates low, we will all be able to get back to doing the things we love sooner.

Useful links:

Government Coronavirus restrictions: www.gov.uk/coronavirus

South Cambridgeshire District Council Coronavirus information:

www.scambs.gov.uk/coronavirus

Information on financial support to self-isolate: www.scambs.gov.uk/isolation

South Cambridgeshire District Council's Reopening High Streets Safely Team:

www.scambs.gov.uk/business/coronavirus-information-for-businesses/reopening-the-high-street

Support for local businesses: www.scambs.gov.uk/business/coronavirus-information-for-businesses

Tom Horn

Little Abington Parish Council

e-bikes

With the weather slowly improving (possibly), a reminder that the e-bike is available until the summer for weekly hire. It's easy to use and a lot of fun so why not give it a go? Email the team on ebike@theabingtons.org.uk to book a date.

Speedwatch

We are able to restart Speedwatch from May, with our new coordinator Paddy Keane who lives in Great Abington. We will be concentrating our efforts on Cambridge Road and Pampisford Road with occasional sessions on the High Street. To join the team, get in touch with Paddy on paddy.keane@btinternet.com.

Fly-tipping and litter-picking

You can report issues you see around the village direct to the relevant local authority. Details of whom to contact are given on our website: www.theabingtons.org.uk/parish-councils/report-fault-roads-lights-fly-tip/.

To join the growing number of litter-pickers around the village you can borrow equipment from the clerk – litter picker and bag opener, gloves and black bags. We can arrange for SCDC to pick up the filled bags from a location close to your litter-picking patch.

Meeting via Zoom, Monday 22 March

We discussed arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Monday 26 April. In line with guidance, the meeting will be held via Zoom.

Planning decisions

21/00718/HFUL. 27 West Field (Reconfigure entrance screen glazing/brickwork, renew entrance canopy with oak framework and replace garage door) Recommended approval.

20/04343/HFUL. 30a Church Lane (Single storey front extension) Approved with a non-material amendment.

Little Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Institute or via Zoom during lockdown

Next Meeting: Monday 24 May 2021, Parish Council at 7.30pm

Sheila Bolden (Chairman)	07754 659 929	Email: shelen@btinternet.com
Genevieve Dalton (Clerk)	07703 486562	Email: clerk@littleabington.clara.co.uk

Next meetings (via Zoom)

Monday 24 May

Monday 28 June

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

Moving forward

Unless there is any change, 17 May heralds step 3 of the government's roadmap out of lockdown. This means that most legal restrictions on meeting others outdoors will be lifted. Indoors, the rule of six or two households will apply. As we move towards greater freedom, please consider family, friends and neighbours who might welcome some practical support in meeting others again. Love Abington continues to offer support (see page 8).

Keeping our village tidy

Warmer weather heralds more time outside, tidying up our homes and gardens ready for summer days. Please remember to dispose of your rubbish responsibly so that we can all enjoy our beautiful village.

The recycling centre at Thriplow currently operates a booking-only service <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/directory/listings/thriplow-recycling-centre>. South Cambs. also offer a collection service for many bulky household items: <https://www.scams.gov.uk/bins/bulky-item-collection-service/>

Linton Greenway

The Linton Greenway will be an active travel route to make it easier for walkers, cyclists and horse riders to travel from Linton into Cambridge. The Parish Council is actively trying to get it routed via Pampisford Road instead of through the centre of the village. The new signalised crossing at Hildersham crossroads is being carried out as part of this project. For more information: <https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/greenways/linton-greenway>

E-bikes in the Abingtons

The scheme is due to end in August so book your free week with the GAPC-owned e-bike before it is too late. Loans run from Saturday morning to Saturday morning and the e-bike is sanitised between loans. For more info and to book your week with the bike please email ebike@theabingtons.org.uk.

Planning

Please attend a planning meeting (virtually) if you would like to make a comment that we can consider in our debate before agreeing on the Parish Council's recommendation to SCDC. If you have views on a planning application, you should also make your comment on the South Cambs. website (link below) as this will ensure that the planners take your view into consideration in their decision-making. For more information on the applications below, use the reference given at:- <https://www.scams.gov.uk/planning/view-or-comment-on-a-planning-application/>

Parish Council recommendations

Ref. 20/04660/FUL: 44c North Road - Erection of new detached dwelling to replace existing barn (has class Q prior approval- S/0843/19/PA) Recommended approval.

Ref: 21/00587/REM Proposal: Land At 34 South Road - Approval of reserved matters for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following outline planning permission S/0545/19/OL for a new dwelling. Recommended approval.

Ref: 21/0355/CL2PD):34 South Road – Certificate of lawfulness for a proposed outbuilding to serve as a detached residential garage, Lawful Use Certificate (S192). Recommended approval.

Ref: 21/00753/FUL: Land at former piggery adjacent to 40 South Road. Demolition of existing piggery and greenhouse, construction of new detached dwelling and cart lodge,

new gravel driveway and repositioning, recladding and changing the roof pitch and finish of the existing barn. Recommended approval.

District Council outcomes

20/03739/HFUL: 32a South Road. Single storey rear extension and alterations to existing dwelling. PC recommended approval. DC approved

Great Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Village Institute or via Zoom during Covid restrictions

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 17 May 2021 at 7.15pm

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

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

Roadmap out of lockdown: step 3 from 17 May

- The rule of six for outdoor socialising becomes rule of 30.
- Socialising indoors is allowed for two households or for up to six people from three or more households.
- Pubs and restaurants open indoor spaces.
- Hotels and B&Bs reopen.
- Indoor attractions and cinemas and theatres reopen.
- Indoor sports classes resume.
- Concerts and live events return with limits on capacity.
- Holidays abroad allowed subject to government review.
- Overnight stays with friends are allowed.
- The number of people allowed at baptisms, weddings & funerals will increase to 30.



Free as a bird! - Red Kite over Old Railway Crossing, Abington
Photo by Andy Merryweather

Hildersham Focus

We have received several messages of thanks for the Easter cards and biscuits delivered to all households in Hildersham. We do hope you all enjoyed them with your Easter Sunday cup of tea.

The church looked particularly festive on Easter Sunday with all the CCC Lenten paper chains and a daffodil cross adorning the porch.

Cambridgeshire Churchyard Conservation Awards

The Bishop of Ely is keen for all the churches in the diocese to take an interest in churchyard conservation and we know that some churches in our benefice have already begun their application for a bronze award. This initiative is supported by the Wildlife Trust.

The Hildersham Parochial Church Council is very aware of its responsibility to biodiversity and wider environmental issues and is therefore addressing the maintenance of the churchyard with this at the forefront of their minds.

There are of course three levels, gold, silver, and bronze, for which one has to acquire a certain number of points. The points are given once certain environmental criteria are reached. For example: 'areas left uncut (cover for small mammals) on a three-year rotation' gains 2 points.

As we journey through the seasons, we are hoping to allow areas of the churchyard to become a haven for all manner of wildlife while retaining a respectful and caring attitude towards the gravestones and memorials.

So, if you are passing in midsummer and the grass looks long and overgrown, it is actually the beginnings of our summer meadow that will hopefully bring birds, flowers, butterflies and bees to glorify what is already a beautiful space.

Services continue according to the parish newsletter and it is still important that we record the details of the congregation for the safety of all present.

Children's Church Council

The CCC has started to have its meetings outdoors and is looking forward to welcoming a few new members.

Having played postmen and artists for the Easter cards CCC members are now turning their attention to helping the church gain the bronze award for conservation. They are bursting with ideas on how to achieve as many points as possible and the suggestion of bird boxes and bug hotels seems to have fired their enthusiasm. They also hope to create a map of the churchyard illustrating where to see these new residences and the new conservation areas.

At their last meeting, they discussed the need for children to start making small environmental differences in their community with Greta Thunberg being an inspiration for saving our beautiful planet.



EACH Herb Garden

We are planning to create a herb garden adjacent to the jam stall. It would be lovely to get it going by summer, the perfect time to attract bees and butterflies, as well as providing scent and colour.

Everyone will be invited to pick some herbs in exchange for a small donation. Perhaps make your own bouquet garni or take a sprig of mint for the new potatoes?

We'd be most grateful for any herb plant or cuttings that you can spare to help get this project started. Please leave them at the jam stall or Silverwood.

Proceeds from the herb garden and the jam stall will go to East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH).

Thank you and we look forward to a fragrant summer!

Cathy Myer and Jill Heale

Hildersham Parish Council

If any Hildersham resident needs assistance getting to their appointment for their Covid-19 vaccine please contact Billie Chapman. The volunteer coordinators are: Mark Logan (891 897) or Billie Chapman (07834 210 582) for prescription collection and shopping.

If you notice a fault with the highways, such as pot holes, you can report them using the following link: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults>

The next meeting of Hildersham Parish Council will be on 11 May and is likely to be another remote meeting. Parishioners are very welcome to join us. We use 'zoom.uk' and the meeting ID and password are on the agenda, on the noticeboard and on the Parish Council website : <https://hildershamparishcouncil.org.uk> . You are welcome to raise matters by emailing or by contacting the Clerk with details of your query/concern before the meeting.

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

Abington & Hildersham WI



Women's Institute Cake & Plant Stall Saturday 8 May 9.30 – 11am outside Abington Village Institute

Annuals, perennials & vegetable plants,
delicious homemade cakes & produce for sale.

Abington & Hildersham Women's Institute

It has been good to see several members logging in to Zoom meetings organised by CFWI, Linton and Balsham WIs. Topics have ranged from face yoga and the archaeology of the A14, to the history of Pye and volcanic activity in our solar system.

Now the weather is warmer, the Committee has been organising some outdoor activities in which we hope we can all participate. The first of these is our annual Cake & Plant Stall on Saturday 8 May 9.30–11am. outside the Village Institute. For this we will, of course, need plants, cakes & bakes, jams, jellies & chutneys to sell, so please don your aprons or green fingers and get busy with baking, preserving or planting to provide something for our stall. Please bring your items along from 9am Saturday morning or give them to a committee member the day before. Please don't worry if you are not a baker or gardener, just play your part on the day by coming along with some cash to support the stall!

In July we hope to have an informal Catch up & Chat over tea and cake on the Institute Terrace and on 9 August from 5.30–7.30pm you are invited to a Garden Party at the home of our Treasurer, Gill Smith. Details to follow. Looking forward to seeing you all very soon!

Marilyn Broadhurst

Abington Cricket Club: home fixtures

Midweek First XI (start at 6.30pm)

May 19 Sawston/Babraham 1

Midweek Second XI (start at 6.30pm)

May 12 Wenden 2 (League Cup)

May 26 Hundon

First XI Saturday (start at 1.00pm)

May 1 Cambourne

May 15 Longstanton Grasshoppers

May 29 Chatteris

May 8 Haslingfield

May 22 Elmdon

Third XI Saturday (start 1.30pm)

May 15 Saffron Walden IV at Horseheath

May 29 Elmdon II at Horseheath

Fixture Secretary
Colin Godsmark Tel. 07977 799202

Linton Netball Club

Linton Netball Club always welcomes new members. If you are interested in joining please contact us to arrange your first session. We train every Monday (term time) on the outside courts at Linton Village College. Juniors train 6-7pm and Adults train 7.30-8.30pm. For more information please email lintonnetball@gmail.com or visit www.lintonladiesnetball.weekly.com .

Rebecca Free

Great Abington PTFA Update

Thank you for your continuing support. It has been a very difficult year for fundraising but we are still trying to plan fun events for our pupils.

Upcoming events:

30 April - Pyjama Day (non-uniform)

All pupils will be allowed to attend school in a pair of PJs and donate £1 to Great Abington PTFA. We are hoping this will help us launch our month long read-a-thon through Read for My School. Pupils of Great Abington Primary School will be able to sign up and receive sponsorship from family and friends via their website, www.readformyschool.com and using code 17734. All sponsorship and minutes read can be entered online. The read-a-thon ends 31 May.

PTFA Zoom Meeting: 11 May 2021 at 6.30pm. Please contact Cory Rivers if you would like to attend.

Don't forget:

You can still support the school through our online, lockdown-friendly lottery at www.yourschoollottery.co.uk. Your School Lottery tickets cost £1 a week, are safely purchased online and enter you into two raffles; the local school's (roughly £15-£20 depending on the number of tickets purchased in total) and the national school lottery (worth £25,000).

We are also members of Amazon Smile, Amazon's own charity donation platform. Just use smile.amazon.co.uk to make purchases and a small donation will be made to Great Abington PTFA.

If you would like to make a direct donation to the school, please use www.goldengiving.com and search for Great Abington PTFA. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Social Cycling

Our first ride was just four of us venturing out in April.

The next ride will be on 20 May, starting from the Institute at 9.30am. Please contact me if you are interested in joining us. You can phone me on either 07817 517 871 or email me at gaynorfarrant198@btinternet.com. We look forward to seeing you.

Reading Group

18 May	<i>Three Women and a Boat</i> (US version <i>The Narrowboat Summer</i>) Anne Youngson	Bev Dennis
8 June	<i>Audubon's Elephant</i> Duff Hart Davis	Sally Turnidge
13 July	<i>Tender is the Night</i> F. Scott Fitzgerald	Mary Conochie

Please confirm your attendance to Bev and join us in her garden at 3pm on 18 May.

We would welcome new members. If interested, please email me: vhefford@yahoo.co.uk.

Valerie Hefford

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY –May 2021

		Venue	Time	Page
Sat	8	WI Cake & Plant Stall outside Abington Institute	9.30am	15
Tue	11	Hildersham Parish Council via Zoom		15
Mon	17	Great Abington Parish Council via Zoom	7.15pm	13
Tue	18	Reading Group	3.00pm	17
Thu	20	Social Cycling start from Institute	9.30am	17
Mon	24	Little Abington Parish Council via Zoom	7.30pm	14

Contacts for classes on page 19.

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 See page 11

Wheelie bin dates for May 2021 (Abingtons and Hildersham)

Tue 4 Green/Blue	Mon 10 Black	Mon 17 Green/Blue	Mon 24 Black	Tue 1 Jun Green/Blue
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Bank holidays Mondays 3 May, 31 May

May Services inside the churches indicated.

(not Abingtons and Hildersham; 10am Zoom available for all 7 churches)

DATE	9.00 am	10.00 am
2 May		Morning Worship <i>West Wrattling and West Wickham</i>
9 May	Communion <i>Weston Colville and West Wrattling</i> Morning Worship <i>West Wickham</i>	Communion <i>Balsham</i>
16 May	Communion <i>West Colville</i> Morning Worship <i>West Wrattling</i>	Communion <i>West Wickham</i> Morning Worship <i>Balsham</i>
23 May Pentecost	Communion <i>Weston Colville</i> Morning Worship <i>West Wrattling</i>	Morning Worship <i>West Wickham</i>
30 May Trinity Sunday	Morning Worship <i>West Wickham and West Wrattling</i>	Morning Worship <i>Balsham</i>

Church Services for May 2021

DATE	<i>Gt. Abington</i> 	<i>Lt. Abington</i> 	<i>Hildersham</i> 	Readings
Each Sunday 10.00am	Time	of Prayer	Via Zoom	
2 May	Communion	via	'Zoom'	Acts 8.26-end John 15.1-8
9 May	10.00am Morning Worship outside			Acts 10.44-end John 15.9-17
16 May			9.00am Morning Worship outside	Acts 1.15-17,21- end John 17.6-19
23 May Pentecost		6.00pm Evensong	10.00am Morning Worship outside	Acts 2.1-21 John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15
30 May Trinity Sunday		10.00am Communion	9.00am Communion	Isaiah 6.1-8 John 3.1-17

Church Flower Rota

	<i>Gt. Abington</i>	<i>Lt. Abington</i>	<i>Hildersham</i>
2 May	Anne Hall	Carola Wolverson	Elaine Moore
9 May		Carola Wolverson	Rosalinde Gray
16 May	and	Fiona Snell	Rosalinde Gray
23 May		Fiona Snell	Kate Huntsman
30 May	Patsy Randall	Kate Franklin	Kate Huntsman

Churchwardens

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

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

Parish Nurse

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