



The Abingtons and Hildersham News



www.theabingtons.org.uk

September 2021



Photo by Andy Merryweather

Painted Lady butterfly, Old Railway Cutting, Great Abington, August

Village information (continued inside back cover)

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Don't forget: Police Numbers 999 for emergencies; otherwise 101

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Letter from the Editor

The lifting of Covid restrictions gave us freedom to socialise again, take holidays, attend small or large gatherings if we chose to do so. We can attend services inside church and sing again – a joy that will be particularly valued at the annual Harvest services in September (page 5, 20). An outdoor teatime event was celebrated in Hildersham, and the WI members relished meeting again at a garden party. Congratulations Hildersham churchyard on the Bronze award. (See pages 16, 17).

Covid infections are still occurring at significant levels and that gives many people cause to use the freedom carefully and still retain face masks and social distancing. The last thing we want is for infection levels to soar and lead to more lockdowns. The programme of annual flu jabs starts this month and there may be booster Covid jabs too before long (page 7).

Jeremiah's Café has resumed opening on Thursday and Saturday mornings, and it is good to see many people making use of this meeting place – and the bacon rolls and home baking. This month there will be yoga classes and meetings of the art group, gardening, and scrabble clubs in addition to social cycling, walking and reading groups so the longer Diary list has been moved back to its pre-pandemic centre fold (pages 10, 11). The Cricket Club holds its last home match for this season on 4 September (page 15).

The Abington Parish Councils are arranging further opportunities for residents to try out an e-bike. There are new plans to make affordable houses at Emerson Park available, with priority being given to those with close connections to Abington. What do you think of the proposal for men's sheds? (See pages 13, 14).

The Councils work hard on our behalf on wide-ranging topics and, while Great Abington has recently filled a vacancy, Hildersham PC is now looking for another person to join them. Could that be you?

The annual 'Ride and Stride for Churches' fundraising event will be on 11 September (page 5). Please note that the PTFA will be organising the 10K and 2K Fun Runs on Sunday 3 October, a most important fundraiser for the school (page 15). It is not too soon to start planning support for Operation Christmas Child (page 6).

Covid restrictions and unpredictable weather have messed up many plans in recent months. Throughout it all we are so fortunate to be surrounded by lovely countryside and some people will have been recording butterflies as part of a national survey. Their beauty is a source of good cheer and I include a small selection of those photographed in August by Andy Merryweather (cover and pages 5, 7, 12).

Best wishes for a safe, happy and uncomplicated return to school.

Valerie Silvey

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

From the Seven Churches

The summer is racing past and once again we are aware of our rural communities as farmers work late into the night, often driving their tractors up the High Street when it is dark, with the nights starting to draw in as we prepare for autumn.

I have been struck by the resulting freedom families are experiencing now they are able to meet more freely as a result of the pandemic easing. Here are a few thoughts about the importance of the families supporting each other.

The summer has been full of sport: football, Olympics and cricket to name but a few. I was struck by how each player has had to be dedicated to practise their skills to achieve the goals they strive for, that could be a medal or a trophy that their team have won. In order to excel each player has had the support of a member of the family prepared to ferry their child here, there and everywhere, building up confidence as well as skill. It takes time, and that sacrifice has its rewards, but this is long term commitment. Good foundations are important at this early stage, and in this pandemic all competitors have been tested to keep their eye on the prize of success to do the best that they can with the help and support of family and friends.

As I write this article the exam results are being published, and many have had success in their studies. Students recognise the role of support they have received from their parents, with one student acknowledging that she was more resilient as a result of the pandemic. She had had to struggle but in the end was successful. This quality of resilience will stand students in good stead for the challenges ahead in life.

Continuing the theme of families, I have been privileged to conduct several baptisms since the lockdown has eased. To watch family and friends meet up after a long period of time has been a great joy and in church as well! We have had a chance to appreciate those whose support we have relied on in a new way.

The family of the church grows when a new member is baptised into it. The church family exists in each parish church so that we start off as individuals in a small family unit, supported and loved. This grows when we join the church family as a baptised person and we then realise that we are part of the world-wide family of the church throughout the world. Baptism is not solely for babies, anyone can be baptised if they feel this is right for them and having been baptised it means that wherever we go on our travels the church is part of our family. As a child I felt very safe in church and knew that the atmosphere was one of peace and tranquillity. This has not changed, for me it is still a sacred space. Our churches are open so do go along if you have a few minutes to spend in quiet.

As the new academic year begins parents, teachers and children will all be working together to support each ready for the success at the end of the academic year in 2022.

We give thanks with a grateful heart for those we rely on and those we support in the months and years ahead.

Every Blessing
Rev. Kathy Bishop

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: jeaninekennedyqv@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

News from the Pews

Members of our churches are presently working hard bringing the works of Love Abington into Great Abington Church. Both the Community Pantry and the Library will be in the south aisle of the church along with tables and chairs where, on occasion, we will welcome members of the community for coffee or afternoon tea and cake. This will of course involve a lot of work, mainly the building of new bookshelves which will be in keeping with the church style. So we apologise now if our usually tidy church looks a little untidy due to work being carried out.

Once again our churches will welcome visitors for the annual Ride and Stride for Churches on Saturday 11 September between 10am and 6pm. Like so many charities churches have been affected by the pandemic, mostly through the loss of local fundraising. By taking part you will be supporting this unique heritage. Bike, walk or ride around the beautiful Cambridgeshire countryside, stopping off at the many churches and chapels along the way. Sponsorship forms and maps are available by e-mail r-s-treasurer@camhct.uk or visit www.camhct.uk

Our annual Harvest Service will take place in Little Abington Church on Sunday 26 September, (a weekend when there will also be two baptisms) watch the church notice boards for further details. We hope and pray that members of our community and visitors will once again be able to enjoy coming to church services to sing and worship together as Covid restrictions are lifted.

Thanks are extended to all who helped and supported the church stall at the recent 'Yard Sale'.

Baptism - On Sunday 1 August Theodore Dennis Kitchener was baptised in Great Abington Church. Theodore's parents are Anthony and Karen who were married in this church and are now both living and working as paramedics in Peterborough. A full congregation celebrated this joyous occasion. We welcome Theodore into the family of the church.

Funeral – The community were saddened to hear that Neville Charles Hall had died in Addenbrookes Hospital on 31 July aged 88 years. Neville came to North Road on the Land Settlement on Christmas Eve 1959 with his wife Mary. They took tenancy the following January and remained working the holding until the LSA disbanded; this enabled them to purchase their house and 10 acres. They continued to cultivate the land until retirement. Neville will be remembered as a quiet, friendly gentleman. The cremation took place at Cam Valley Crematorium on Friday 20 August. Our thoughts and prayers are with Mary, their sons Graham and Neil and their families.

Anne Hall



**Small Blue, Great Abington,
August**

Photo by Andy Merryweather

Love Abington Update

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 440 102. 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 Foodbank 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 or email: loveabington@gmail.com

Street Coordinators

If you would like to be in touch with your street coordinator to offer help or if you are in need don't hesitate to get in touch with them directly or email loveabington@gmail.com

Every blessing and warmest wishes,
The Love Abington Team

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD is going ahead again this year 2021

The villages have supported this venture so well over the years, hopefully this will be repeated this year. In 2020 nearly 9 million boxes were sent out to many parts of the world. This was amazing considering the restrictions both here and in other countries. Thank you very much.

Boxes are given to any underprivileged child regardless of faith or no faith through churches or other Christian organisations. It is a way of showing God's love in a tangible way.

Collection week is 15th to 22nd November. You can get your own shoebox and cover it, or I have a limited number of flat pack ones, also leaflets. There are three age groups 2-4yrs, 5-9yrs, 10-14yrs, boys or girls



If you would like to take part in this fantastic project you could do one of four things:

1. Fill a shoebox with exciting items that children will love to receive.
2. Donate items for a shoebox, - stationery, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, soap, flannels, comb, small toys, soft toys (can be homemade) skipping rope, puzzle, balls, colouring book, jewellery.
3. Donate some money to use for transport/training costs or to buy items (each box costs £5 to send so this is the suggested amount).
4. Fill an on-line shoebox - you can choose your items (see link below)

Please contact me on 893 232/077 5046921 or jane.furlow@gmail.com

The web link <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Granta Medical Practices Update September 2021

Flu Clinics

Are you eligible for a free NHS flu vaccine? If yes, but haven't yet booked one don't delay - ring 0300 234 5555 to arrange your appointment.

We are holding clinics on the following dates:

Saturday 11th September – Granta Sawston, Granta Linton, Granta Shelford

Sunday 12th September – Granta Market Hill

Saturday 9th October – Granta Sawston, Granta Linton, Granta Barley

Saturday 23rd October – Granta Shelford

As a Granta patient, you have a choice of which venue you attend, on a day most convenient for you.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact us on 0300 234 5555 or email me on sandra.east@nhs.net

Charity Event

Granta Medical Practices are proud to support EastFest21, a charity music festival being held on Saturday 18 September, raising awareness of mental health and suicide. Set in the grounds of The Coach House Hotel at Flint Cross (CB22 7PN), there will be live music, a beer festival, food and side stalls, with B&B rooms and camping available. All proceeds are going to the Zero Suicide Alliance, a charity dedicated to raising awareness of suicide by offering free online training for everyone and bringing NHS trusts and organisations together with the joint aim of reducing suicide nationwide.

For further information about EastFest21 and to order tickets go to www.eastfest.live

For further information about the Zero Suicide Alliance and to access free online training go to www.zerosuicidealliance.com

Remember that whatever you are going through, a Samaritan will face it with you. They are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Call free on 116 123.



Gatekeeper butterfly, Great Abington, August
Photo by Andy Merryweather

County and District Council District and County Councillors' Report – August 2021

A1307 Update

The process of upgrading the road continues. The next schemes to be implemented will be the signalised crossing at Hildersham, the junction work at Dean Road and the roundabout installation at the Bartlow Road junction, Linton.

The local liaison forum meetings are still occurring, they are public so please do register to attend the forthcoming ones to have an input.

An update that might be of interest – the County Council deferred the GCP's planning application to build a new 'Travel Hub' just outside Hauxton – a similar application to the one that is being proposed on the Babraham side of the A11, so it isn't a given that these will get permission at the first time of asking.

New Business Growth Fund

The District Council has launched a new fund that businesses looking to grow and expand can now apply for. It's aptly called the 'Growth Fund' and between £1,000 and £50,000 can be applied for at one time. Full eligibility criteria can be found here - <https://www.scams.gov.uk/business/business-support-and-advice/growth-fund-grant-scheme> or by email openforbusiness@scams.gov.uk

Flooding

The downpour at the end of July caused significant flooding in many of our villages. It was particularly bad in Linton with serious flooding in Lonsdale and Bakers Lane caused by run-off from the building site at the top end of Horseheath Road. As your local councillors we have, along with residents and the parish council, raised your concerns about the site being allowed to start building without full planning permission. This is an ongoing issue. The flooding also highlighted the lack of maintenance of the Highways drainage systems with drains clearly blocked and adding to the issues. After discussions with the County Council and the District Council they have agreed to jet the drains clear over the next few months.

Consultation on Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

As a county, Cambridgeshire has well below average tree cover and relatively little land managed for nature. A new draft SPD is now open for consultation. The new SPD aims to ensure that planning applications of all scales properly consider biodiversity, and how to enhance it, from the start. It sets out how we expect developments to meet the policy requirements for increasing biodiversity, including policies within the 2018 Local plan, as well as national legislation. The aim is to ensure a minimum of 10% biodiversity gain is achieved on all projects, and that this will benefit the specific ecology and wildlife of Greater Cambridge. The public consultation closes on 17th September - <https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/biodiversityspd>

Grass Verges

Councils nationally have been under pressure to cut verges less and have more wild flowers in response to collapsing bee populations and concern for the natural habitat generally. A change in policy was announced in March

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news/wildflowers-bees-and-plant-species-to-thrive-in-cambridgeshire-after-changes-to-roadside-verges>

Verges should have been cut back around junctions and blind corners, but if there are any locations of particular safety concern, please let Henry know.

Cycling Consultation

Another cycling consultation has been open, this time run by the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP). It asked for comment on the 13 cycle corridors that were identified as being well used, that could benefit from some improvement and possibly join up with the active travel network. The consultation closed on 16 August.

Contact Information

District Council – John Batchelor – johnbatchelor23@gmail.com

County & District Council – Henry Batchelor – henrybatchelor89@gmail.com

Duxford Music Workshop Fully Re-opens - Registration 18 September

Duxford Saturday Workshop is delighted to announce that it will reopen at its beloved home in Duxford Primary School in September (subject of course to any last-minute Government rule-changes!) - with some groups continuing at the Duxford Community Centre. 'Workshop' is a registered charity, and an amazing, locally based community asset which is all about learning and performing together in an enjoyable and supportive environment. Some members have been Workshop members since the last century! So do come and find out why – you may be amazed at what **you** can achieve!

Workshop holds group tuition sessions on Saturday mornings in term-time, where adults and children from 'Year Five' onwards can learn to play an instrument. In addition to the tuition classes, there is a series of ensembles, ranging from recorders, strings, jazz and wind bands, to folk fiddlers, an adults' community choir and a full orchestra. There is also a 'junior music group' for children from Year 1 upwards, as well as classes for adult beginners and groups both for 'improvers' and for competent players.

Workshop's members include adults who have always wanted to learn an instrument but haven't had the opportunity, alongside those who "haven't played for donkeys' years." AND, even if you don't have an instrument of your own - *don't panic!* – we have some instruments for rental on very reasonable terms, so will be happy to help you out if we can.

Following our limited timetable last year, we plan to run a full programme in the new academic year, with both ensembles and tuition groups again having the opportunity to meet weekly.

Please see our website: www.duxfordsaturdayworkshop.org.uk for further details and a list of the classes and ensembles for which we currently have tutors, together with the registration form when it becomes available in the very near future.

We are always delighted to welcome expressions of interest from potential new volunteer tutors – you need to be keen and interested in helping others to learn (and of course to have relevant experience if you wish to teach an instrument) - but you don't need to have formal academic teaching qualifications (and others have found it great for the c.v.!), so please, do contact Arwen as indicated below if you may be interested.

Registration for the 2021/22 Workshop year is on Saturday September 18th , from 10–11.30am at Duxford Community Centre, Hunts Road, Duxford CB22 4RE. Term begins the following week at 9.30am on Saturday, 25 September. Should you have any questions not answered here or on the website, our Director, Arwen Gilbert can be contacted on 07918 165450 or email: director@duxfordsaturdayworkshop.org.uk

Please check out the website now while it's on your mind! Don't put it off and regret it later! We look forward to meeting you in September – believe me, you'll never regret it! Peter Howarth, DSW Management Team



Registered Charity No. 1157262

Diary for September

Date		Venue Abington Institute unless stated	Time	Page
Wed	1	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	10
Thu	2	Abington Walking Group	9.50am	11
Tue	7	Art Group	10.00am	19
Wed	8	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	10
Sat	11	e-bike taster sessions	10.30am	14
Sun	12	e-bike taster sessions	10.30am	14
Mon	13	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	11
		Little Abington Parish Council	7:15pm	13
		Abington & Hildersham WI	7.30pm	17
Tue	14	Art Group	10.00am	19
		Hildersham Parish Council – Village Hall	7.30pm	17
		Reading group – 74 High St. Great Abington	7.30pm	11
Wed	15	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	10
Sat	18	Abington Walking Group	9.50am	11
Mon	20	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	11
		Social cycling – from 1 Bourn Bridge Road	9.30am	11
		Abington Gardening Club	7.30pm	11
		Great Abington Parish Council	7.30pm	15
Tue	21	Art Group	10.00am	19
Wed	22	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	10
Mon	27	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	11
Tue	28	Art Group	10.00am	19
		Scrabble Club	7.00pm	11
Wed	29	Yoga – course and drop in	9.30am	10

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

Jeremiah's Café in Abington Village Institute

Opening times in September 2021

Thursday lunchtime 11.30am – 1.30pm (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th)

Saturday mornings 10.00am – 12 noon (4th, 11th, 18th, 25th)

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

Wheelie bin dates for September 2021 (Abingtons and Hildersham)

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

Yoga – Wednesdays 9.30am at Abington Institute

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

Social Cycling

The next ride will be on Monday 20 September starting from 1 Bourn Bridge Rd at 9.30am
Gaynor Farrant
07817517871 or gaynorfarrant198@btinternet.com

Abington Gardening Club

The committee welcome you back on Monday 20 September at 7.30pm at the Institute in the terrace for a social evening and quiz preceded by the AGM.

Refreshments will be provided courtesy of the committee.

New members are very welcome.

Kay Harman, Secretary

Tel 891 730 email: robandkayharman@gmail.com

Abington Walking Group

On 21 August the Group enjoyed the beautiful countryside of the Three Churches Walk joining Moulton, Gazeley and Dalham.

Your **September** walks are on **Thursday 2nd** and **Saturday 18th**.

Look forward to seeing you all.

As usual we depart from the Institute by shared transport to the walk venue.

For further information and dates for the rest of the year please contact:

Robin Harman on 891730 or robandkayharman@gmail.com

George Woodley on 891169 or georgewoodley@ge29gew@gmail.com



Scrabble Club

The Scrabble Club will meet on Tuesday 28 September at 7pm in the Institute.

We will use the meeting room and can overflow into the café area to maintain a safe distance. Hand sanitiser will be provided, and masks are optional. New members very welcome.

Sheena Fraser

Abington Pre-School Baby and Toddler Group

The Abington Pre-School Baby and Toddler Group is open on Monday mornings (term time only) from 9.30-11.30am, from the Pre-School building at the bottom of the primary school playground.

0-3 year olds, £2 per family.

Limited spaces (due to Covid 19) - **booking essential**.

If you would like more information / join the WhatsApp group for bookings, please call the annexe office 01223 894246 or email abingtonannexeoffice@gmail.com

Reading Group

14 September	<i>Alias Grace</i> Margaret Atwood	Livia Galbraith
12 October	<i>As the Women Lay Dreaming</i> Donald S Murray	Sylvia Gilmour
9 November	<i>Three Hours</i> Rosamund Lupton	Diana Wingfield

We plan to meet at 7.30pm but both time and venue are subject to change. So please check emails for the latest information and confirm attendance to the host and me.

We would welcome new members. If interested, please email me:

vhefford@yahoo.co.uk

Valerie Hefford

Abington History Group - 17th September 2021 is the 25th Anniversary of the reopening of the Ford across the river by the bridge marking the boundary between Great and Little Abington

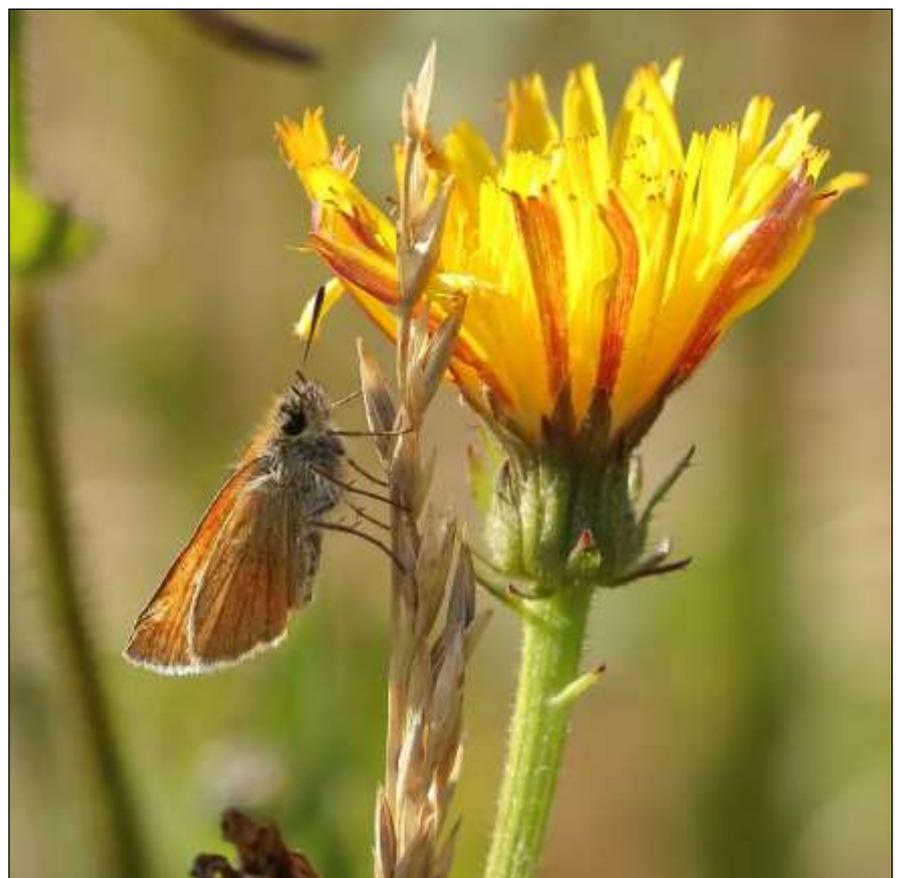


In the early 1990's Little Abington Parish Council were inspired by a drawing done in 1882 by one of the Mortlock family, living at Abington Lodge, to restore the ford at the side of the river bridge. People remember water carts being taken down to the ford where there was a pump in the river (base of this can still be seen in the riverbed); this was before mains water was laid in the village. Water carts came down from as far as Abington Park and from Grange Farm. The restored ford was opened by Kenneth Joshua Taylor exactly 50 years after the first Parish Council meeting was held in 1946. Ken Taylor was the first Chairman.

Photo by Derek Turnidge

**Opening of newly restored ford,
17 September 1996**

Ken Taylor and Kay Allison (representing Great Abington) meeting in the ford, Jennifer Hirsh (Parish Council Chairman) on Little Abington bank.



Essex Skipper with dandelion, Great Abington, August

Photo by Andy Merryweather

Little Abington Parish Council

Hedges, overhanging trees, etc

During our annual parish council walkaround we brushed up against several hedges, shrubs and trees along narrow pavements and footpaths. Please cut them back regularly through the growing season. Trees that obstruct streetlights also need to be cut before the nights draw in.

Community shed

The idea for a community shed (men's shed) in the village has received a lot of support, including the offer of some expertise from a group in Saffron Walden. We have ideas for a venue so if you'd like to join us at this early stage, please contact the clerk. For more information on the scope of 'Men's sheds' go to <https://menssheds.org.uk/>

Granta Park development

Biomed Realty is planning a new scheme in Granta Park. The following website gives some detail and asks for feedback: <https://projectghiberti.co.uk/>

Meeting held in Abington Institute, Monday 26 July

Planning decisions and updates

21/02418/HFUL 6 Bourn Bridge Rd Two storey side extension, a single storey rear extension, and updating of the facade of the host dwelling. Application withdrawn.

21/01751/FUL 44 High Street, Little Abington. Change of use from office space to residential use, minor alterations and changes to internal layout. Application withdrawn.

Planning meeting, Tuesday 3 August

21/03187/HFUL 1 Ley Rectory Farm Barns: Conversion of storage barn to habitable rooms. Recommended approval.

21/03070/HFUL 15 Bourn Bridge Road: Single storey side and rear extension and attached double garage to the front. Recommended approval.

21/03039/FUL Bancroft Farm: Demolition of existing dilapidated agricultural buildings and hardstandings. Erection of five dwellings and the conversion of two redundant barns to form a detached dwelling and an office. Recommended refusal on grounds of loss of rural character, dangerous parking associated with office space and increased possibility of flooding on Church Lane.

Little Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Institute or via Zoom during lockdown

Next Meeting: Monday 13 September 2021, Parish Council at 7.15pm

Sheila Bolden (Chairman) 07754 659 929 Email: shelen@btinternet.com

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

Next meetings

Monday 13 September

Monday 25 October

Our meetings are now held face to face with social distancing. If you would like to participate in person or via Zoom please contact the clerk to make arrangements.

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

Parish Council e-bike projects

The year-long Abington Electric Bike loan scheme run by the Parish Councils and supported by a Zero Carbon Communities Grant has now ended. Lots of members of our community have given it a try and had a valuable taste of the capabilities of an e-bike. Huge votes of thanks are due to Emma Pery and Bernie Talbot who initiated and did all the preparatory work for the project and who continue to work together on the new e-bike hire scheme. Thanks also to Peter Brunning and Suzanne Pattinson for the crucial work with the handovers over the last year. The e-bike was offered for sale in the last edition of the *A&H News*, but no bids were received so it will now be sold back to the original supplier.

If you are regretting missing a chance to try the e-bike it's not too late! On the weekend of 11th/12th September there will be a 'Come and Try' event based at the Institute. You will be able to come along and borrow an e-bike for a 15-minute test run. There will be several e-bikes available so that you could go out for a trial ride with another person. The sessions will run from 10.30am until 3pm. To book a slot or slots at the taster weekend please email ebike@theabingtons.org.uk

Additionally, from September, you will be able to hire e-bikes, based at the front of the Institute. Full details of exactly how this will work are to follow and will be available at the 'Come and Try' taster weekend; the cost of hire is to be subsidised by 50% from funding obtained from a SCDC, Zero Carbon Communities Grant. If you require any further information, please contact Bernie Talbot.

Emerson Park – Affordable homes update

As you will probably have noticed the scheme is making good progress, with completion of the affordable homes expected in October/November 2021. The three two-bedroom houses for affordable rent will be handed over to the South Cambs. District Council (SCDC) when completed and will be advertised through their Home-Link choice-based lettings scheme for those on the housing register, with priority to those with a local connection. This is usually done two weeks prior to handover.

You may remember that Emerson Park was also piloting the previous Mayor's flagship scheme for £100k homes and was to provide four one-bedroom homes on this scheme. These homes were discount market homes to be allocated to local people who could not afford to buy on the open market. Unfortunately, it has been decided by the new Mayor that this project will no longer be supported by the Combined Authority, and SCDC have been working with the developers, Laragh Homes, and central government to find an alternative solution. SCDC are looking to pilot a similar product recently launched by the Government known as First Homes. Whilst it is no longer possible to sell these at £100k the properties will still be discounted market homes in perpetuity and SCDC have managed to secure a 40% discount (rather than the 30% discount proposed by government). The homes will be marketed to first time buyers who have an income below £80,000 per annum. Priority will be given to those with a local connection to the village in the first instance. Laragh Homes will be responsible for the marketing, with the local authority approving the allocations to ensure they meet the specified criteria. Laragh have been requested by SCDC to provide the Parish Council with marketing details to signpost any local residents who might be interested.

Planning

Please attend a planning meeting 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 below at:-
<https://www.scambbs.gov.uk/planning/view-or-comment-on-a-planning-application/>

Parish Council recommendations

21/01623/FUL – Land Adjacent to 2 Pampisford Road – Construction of 2 storey dwelling.
PC recommended refusal

S/1433/16/OL – Strawberry Farm - amendment to the design of plot 3 and alteration of the boundary layouts of plots 2, 3 and 4. PC recommended refusal

District Council outcomes

21/02492/PRI16A – Land South of roundabout, Pampisford Road, Installation of a 20.0m Phase 8 Monopole C/W wraparound Cabinet at base and associated ancillary works (communications). DC prior approval given

Great Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Village Institute

Tony Orgee (Chairman) tonyorgee@gmail.com

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

Next Parish Council meeting: Monday 20 September at 7.30pm

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)

Abington 10K and 2K Fun Runs -License No. 2021-41965

Sunday 3 October 2021

Start time 10.30am, Granta Park

The Great Abington Primary School PTFA are pleased to announce that we are able to run the Abington 10K and 2K Fun Run again this year.

Race details and entry forms can be obtained from our website;

www.abington10k.com

Please be aware that Pampisford Road will be closed to traffic for the event. The closure affects the road from Granta Park roundabout to the junction of High Street, Great Abington. Diversion signs will be in place.

The Abington 10K Race Committee

Great Abington PTFA Update

Dates for your diaries:

17 September - Non-Uniform Day (for hamper raffle prize donations)

24 September - Great Abington Michaelmas Fair

Cory Rivers

Abington Cricket Club: Home fixtures in September

First XI Saturday (start at 1.00pm)

Sept 4 Needingworth

Fixture Secretary Colin Godsmark Tel. 07977 799202

The Abingtons and Hildersham 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.

Hildersham Focus

In mid-August, old friends and new gathered in the Old School Wood on a glorious Sunday afternoon and enjoyed catching up over truly scrumptious cake. We hope this is the beginning of a more familiar, and busy, calendar of church events.



Cambridgeshire Churchyard Conservation Award

'At a time when so much of the natural world is under threat, this award helps us create valuable sanctuaries for wildlife and to set an example within local communities of how to promote biodiversity and care for God's creation'
(Bishop of Ely, The Right Rev'd Stephen Conway).

A judging panel arrived at Holy Trinity church in early August to assess the care and management of the churchyard with the following criteria in mind

- Grassland and wildflower meadows
- Trees, shrubs, hedges and herbs
- Variety of habitats
- Management, education and communication with the public.

We were delighted to receive the Bronze Award which is aimed at churchyards that are starting to be actively managed for wildlife.

The Children's Church Council and wider congregation continue to be very much involved in this on-going project. For example, Autumn will see the siting of ten beautifully decorated bird boxes which we hope will attract avian interest. In due course and, after a good deal of work, we will be applying for the Silver award.

Hildersham Parish Council

Report on the Hildersham Parish Council meeting held on 3rd August 2021.

The July meeting had to be cancelled as the Parish Council had insufficient Councillors available, so the meeting was held on 3rd August. Hildersham Council is still looking for a member of the community to join the Parish Council to take us up to the full complement of five Councillors. If anyone is interested in learning more about the work of the Council and the amount of time Council work takes, please contact the Clerk or existing Councillors for further information.

Trees appear to have been cut down from the triangular piece of land near the A1307. The Clerk was asked to find out if the Council could claim replacement trees to plant in the village. The Council was still awaiting feedback from the Highway Department on what repairs would be carried out on the disintegrated path at the top of the High Street close to Back Road. The Council is asking the Highway Dept to paint the river road bridge metalwork and the railings alongside it.

Information about the proposed copse was to be sent to the neighbours to this piece of land on the Recreation Ground, to give people the opportunity to express their views on the project. Three quotations would be obtained to fence the proposed copse area to protect the young trees from the sheep.

The Council is still trying to find a way to fix and improve the solar-powered lighting at the two bus stops on the A1307. To date local electricians have been unable to repair the broken light.

If you notice a fault with the highways, such as potholes, you can report them using the following link:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults>

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

The next meeting of Hildersham Parish Council will be on Tuesday 14 September in Hildersham Village Hall. Information is on the Parish Council's website: <https://hildershamparishcouncil.org.uk>

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

Abington & Hildersham Women's Institute

Thankfully the weather forecasters were wrong and we had a fine evening for our annual Garden Party in August. A splendid spread was provided by members with summery Pimms to get everyone in the party mood. There was so much chat to catch up on after such a long period of isolation during the pandemic and we were delighted to finally meet the new ladies who had joined the WI during this period.

A trail challenged members to explore all parts of the garden, while a summer resorts quiz encouraged us to reminisce about holidays past and tested our knowledge of coastal geography. Many thanks to Richard and Gill Smith for their kind hospitality. In September we look forward to re-establishing our regular monthly meetings in the Village Institute.

Next meeting: Monday 13 September 7.30pm. Guest speaker Elaine McGregor will be talking about Nordoff Robins Music Therapy. New members and visitors very welcome.

Marilyn Broadhurst

Girlguiding Linton District

As you read this the summer is well and truly here. Those of you who managed to take part, I hope, enjoyed our Linton Mystery Trail held during August. There were some lovely days for a picnic with the family too. Our Guiding County of Cambs. East organises events for our girls to do to enable them to meet up with others from around the county. I am pleased to say our weekend at Grafham Water in September is going ahead this year. It will just be with reduced numbers. We have had units cooking out and one unit even managed to get away for a night cooking on campfires and having some fun doing so. Our incredible team at the Jarman Centre have been busy as the centre is now fully open. Several of our units have had a go at the Archery there already. Some of our girls have also been climbing. We are all looking forward to a new term back to indoor meetings where possible and zoom if not. It has been good to see our older girls able to have the Vaccine before they start college and we wish them all well in their next adventure. INSPIRE our group for 18+ has had a campfire and our Linton Trefoil Guild finished the summer off with a lovely Tea party in Daphne's beautiful garden. Celebrating our Regions Anglia 50th Birthday 1971-2021, we will all be making birthday cards in our units too to be sent around our Region.

Whatever age you are come and Join the fun, it starts here...
www.girlguiding.org.uk



Louisa Powell-Owens, Linton DC
 07711 614328

September services inside the churches indicated (not Abingtons and Hildersham : 10.30am Online Service available for all)

DATE	9.00 am	10.30 am	3.00 pm
5 th September		Communion <i>Balsham</i>	Songs of Praise <i>West Wrattling</i>
12 th September	Communion <i>Weston Colville</i> Morning Worship <i>West Wickham</i> <i>West Wrattling</i>		
19 th September	Communion <i>West Wickham</i> Morning Worship <i>West Wrattling</i>	Communion <i>Balsham</i>	
26 th September Harvest	Communion <i>West Wrattling</i> <i>West Wickham</i> Morning Worship <i>Balsham</i>	Morning Worship <i>Weston Colville</i>	

Village organisations

Name	Contact	Phone Number
Abington Institute – Chairman	Bernie Talbot	892 647
Abington Institute – Bookings	Dianne Dawson	790 711
Abington and Hildersham WI	Marianne Perry	893 956
Abington Allotment Assoc. (AALGA)	Brian Hayden-Smith	894 046
Abington Gardening Club	Kay Harman	891 730
Abington History Group	Jennifer Hirsh	893 352
The Abington Group (Ladies)	Freda Orgee	891 464
Forget-Me-Not Club	Jennifer Milns	890 252
Helping Hands	Helen Pimblett	891 746
Art Group	Lois Bull	893 491
French Conversation	Rachel Haining/ Judy Davies	892 004 890 286
Italian	Rachel Haining	892 004
Naturewatch	David Farrant	892 871
Reading Group	Valerie Hefford	890 544
Scrabble Club	Sheena Fraser	893 336
Abington Walking Group	Robin Harman, George Woodley	891 730 891 169
Sport and Youth activities		
Low Impact Aerobics/Pilates	Disa Bennett	07798 754 029
Physio Pilates	Christina Heinz	
Yoga	Joan Graham	890 629
Table Tennis	Raj Sangha	07803 786 905
Abington Social Cycling	Gaynor Farrant	07817 517 871
Dynamic Dance Theatre School	Esme Watts	07719 816 548
Abington Cricket Club	David Pimblett	891 746
Abington United Football Club	Denis Tiplady	290 646
Abington Aztecs (Football)	Malcolm Peters	07860 863 723
Abington Bowls Club	Graham Ross	891 564
Abington Social Club	Christine Hammond Rick Stock	891 777 07768 707 567
Keep Fit	Gill Dowden	893 533
Abington School PTFA (Chair)	Cory Rivers	07964 191 698
Abington Out-of-School (GAPS)	Georgina Blyth	894 246
Abington Pre-school	Angela Lindsay	894 246
Baby and Toddler Group	Office	894 246
Abington Scouts, Cubs and Beavers	Ruth Beach	894 461
Linton Netball Club	Angela Bridgeman	07729 879 300

Contacts for village organisations on page 19 – If I have not listed the persons currently involved, please let me know so the list can be updated. Ed.

Church Services for September 2021

<i>DATE</i>	<i>Gt. Abington</i> 	<i>Lt. Abington</i> 	<i>Hildersham</i> 	<i>Readings</i>
5 th September	10.30am United	Communion 6.00pm Evensong	at Balsham	James 2.1-17 Mark 7.24-end
12 th September	10.30am United Communion			James 3.1-12 Mark 8.27-end
19 th September		9.00am Communion	6.00pm Evensong	
26 th September Harvest Festival	10.30am Harvest Communion		10.30am Harvest Communion	1 Timothy 2.1-7 Matthew 6.25-33

United services are for participants from all the churches.

Church Flower Rota

	<i>Gt. Abington</i>	<i>Lt. Abington</i>	<i>Hildersham</i>
5 th September	Anne Hall	Sue Fordham & Mary Miles	Kate Huntsman
12 th September	and	Lesley Crisp & Rosemary Mead	Lizzy Griggs
19 th September	Patsy Randall	Lesley Crisp & Rosemary Mead	Lizzy Griggs
26 th September	Harvest	Harvest	Harvest

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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