



# The Abingtons and Hildersham News



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

**June 2023**



*Photo by Tasha Whittaker*

**7 May 2023: the Royal March starts out from Magna Close**

## From the Editor

The weather for Coronation Day could have been better but happily for everyone who had put so much time and effort into preparing for the Grand Coronation Picnic it was a different story on the following day (see cover and pages 8 and 18). Your editor was in France for the actual event but French television audiences were gripped and greatly entertained, particularly by details like the cost of His Majesty's shoes (£3,500).

This month, an increase in early summer activities should help to distract us from any sense of anti-climax. The PTFA is busy with preparations for the Summer Fayre (page 6); the Bowls Club is hoping to maintain its position at the top of the table in League 3 (page 12); the Walking Group will be taking its annual Midsummer evening walk and picnic (see page 13); and Naturewatch will be river sampling at the Bridge later in the month (see page 12). There is encouraging news and important information about support for the Ukrainian community in Abington (pages 5, 6), including an appeal for more hosts in our area.

Please note that **next month's *The Abingtons and Hildersham News* will be a double July/August issue.** This is due to the unavoidable absence of your editor at the critical period in July when the August issue should be prepared. Because of this, **all items for both July and August will need to be submitted by Thursday 15 June.**

Sally Simmons

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All items for the July/August 2023 edition of *The Abingtons and Hildersham News* should be sent to the editor no later than Thursday 15 June 2023 at [news@theabingtons.org.uk](mailto:news@theabingtons.org.uk).

## From the Seven Churches

Summer is here! For many, despite the variable British climate, that means more time outside, enjoying hopefully warmer weather and the beauty of the countryside that surrounds us. I especially enjoy walks between our villages and bike rides with my family at this time of year, when we often try to bring some snacks with us or stop at a local pub for refreshment. If you find yourself on a walk or ride through our villages, do remember that our church buildings are always open during the day for any passers-by.

There is something about being outdoors and appreciating the wonder of creation that can lead naturally to praise and thanksgiving. This is echoed in the Bible in Psalm 19: 'The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands' and in these words of the prophet Isaiah: 'The whole earth is full of his glory'. These inspiring words remind us that, as the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins put it, 'the world is charged with the grandeur of God'. They may also give us a deeper sense of the sublime and help us to cherish the world around us.

With this in mind, this summer we plan to have an outdoor service once a month within our group of churches. Indeed, there are now an increasing number of churches around the country that do something similar. In some places it's called Forest Church or Walking Church; we have settled on calling it Outdoor Church. There will be the opportunity to walk, talk, listen to a reading and be attentive to the beauty of the world around us, as well as giving thanks for the gift of creation. All are welcome to come along. Please feel free to contact me if you'd like to find out more.

So, as we look forward to the beauty of summer and the great outdoors, let's also find times to be attentive, to recognise the wonder and mystery of places, people and things. This in turn may help us to feel more fully human, to be grateful for simply being alive and to share this joy with others.

Revd Iain McColl

## News from the Pews

At the end of April the church held its Annual Parochial Church meeting. Revd Iain McColl thanked members of the PCC for their dedicated work throughout the year. Annual reports were presented of the various work carried out throughout the church year. Copies of these can be viewed in both churches; they are an interesting insight into church life. We have a healthy community electoral roll of members who attend church and support it in various ways. Joining the electoral roll confirms commitment to promoting fellowship, trust, faith and hope, especially so in these difficult times. If you wish to join, please contact our church secretary, Mary Miles. As you read this piece you will hopefully be enjoying the Scarecrow Festival. The PCC wishes to thank most sincerely all who made a scarecrow and took part in the event. It's really NOT an easy project. We also wish to thank Mak at the Village Stores for selling programmes, which was a huge help, and of course everyone who bought one.

The next event will be the concert in Great Abington Church on 9 September, with Eric Morecambe's daughter Gail giving a hilarious account of life with her father and our very own Glams Choir performing. An event not to be missed...

Love Abington is very much an ongoing project. Along with the foodbanks and libraries active in both church porches, for which we appreciate your continued support, please be aware that Love Abington also has a caring team that deals with any manner of life's difficulties in our community.

Anne Hall

### **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](http://www.theabingtons.org.uk/news) and follow the link to the pdf for the month you want.



## Magnificent response to Rotary's latest appeal for Ukraine

The collection held in late April at Abington School, for food, hygiene and medical items, so desperately needed in Ukraine, prompted another marvellous response and demonstrated the enduring support for the plight of those adversely affected in Ukraine.

Over the last 12 months, members from Saffron Walden Rotary have played their part in responding to the humanitarian crisis by holding eight public collections on Saffron Walden Common

and at Great Abington, as well as receiving donations from local schools and other organisations. With its partner, PhysioNet, it has also sent nine tons of mobility aids, wheelchairs, beds, paediatric physio equipment and other medical equipment.

These activities have been part of Rotary's efforts across Great Britain and Ireland, which have seen Rotarians give in excess of 100,000 volunteer hours and raise more than £6 million of donations in cash and kind.

Following on from the successful collection of winter items in January, residents of the Abingtons and surrounding communities continued to



express their sympathy and concern for the refugees in Ukraine and Moldova magnificently. People from many villages came to donate the food, hygiene and medical items so desperately needed. We thank everyone.

Tony Collett

## Ukrainian Community in Abington

There are 13 Ukrainian residents in seven households in Abington. They have all integrated into the English way of life and are managing their daily activities independently. As part of the Coronation celebrations, members of the Ukrainian Community in Abington received a commemorative Coronation coin as a memento of their time in England.

There is still a great need for both first and second hosts. Second hosts are required to accommodate Ukrainians who are having to leave their initial hosts after six months. In South Cambs about 20 households (single people and families) per month will need second hosts. There is also a need for sponsors to allow new arrivals from Ukraine to seek safety in the UK and for household items for those moving into local rental properties.

Anyone in the Abingtons and Hildersham who is interested in hosting or would like further information can contact the following local hosts for an informal conversation:

Nick and Julia Rumble, 07732-647752 and [njcams@gmail.com](mailto:njcams@gmail.com)

Marilyn Broadhurst, 07855-182726 and [broadhurstmarilyn@gmail.com](mailto:broadhurstmarilyn@gmail.com)

Jane Furlow, 07745-046921 and [jane.furlow@gmail.com](mailto:jane.furlow@gmail.com)

Please see Jane Furlow's account below of her experience of hosting in Abington.

For general information about hosting, contact South Cambs Homes for Ukraine: Text ROOM to 88802. Information is also available from [HFULiasion@cambs.gov.uk](mailto:HFULiasion@cambs.gov.uk), tel. 01954 713411 and South Cambs District Council ([scams.gov.uk](http://scams.gov.uk) – search\_Spare Rooms for People from Ukraine).

Anton King

## Deciding to host

Mike and I made the decision to offer our home under the Homes for Ukraine scheme back in June 2022. We registered with two organisations that were seeking hosts for Ukrainian refugees. It did involve some form filling, not to mention some apprehension. We had two or three possible guests in the following weeks but none seemed the right fit with what we could offer. Then in September we were asked to consider a young woman of 23 and her sister of 17 (classed as a minor). It just

felt right, although it was only Viktoriia who arrived at Stansted on 5 November. We found her a delight and she had a very good grasp of the English language, which was a huge help.

We had sorted out her bedroom by moving things around to give her a comfortable place to call her own. Viktoriia seemed to settle quickly but inevitably felt homesick. She has a large, close family but with a mobile phone it was easy for her to keep in touch. She was also naturally concerned about the ongoing war. It took just four weeks before she found a full-time job and so we settled into a routine.

The next plan was to get her sister Olha to come over, which she did in February, a few days before her 18th birthday. It is lovely to hear the two girls chatting and laughing together, keeping close communication ties with the rest of the family via social media. Olha had to continue her studies online but was also offered a part-time job in the village fairly quickly.

Has it been plain sailing? Not completely, as we all had to adjust and learn to live in harmony. Has it been worthwhile? Certainly.

Perhaps this reflection will encourage others to come forward and experience being able to do something to help. It has been and continues to be a fulfilling opportunity. Jane Furlow

## **PTFA Update**

### **Non-Uniform Day: Friday 9 June**

This event is held to drum up support for the upcoming Summer Fayre. Instead of a voluntary cash donation for charity, we ask that donations be made in the form of bottles of wine and/or wine bottle bags to help provide prizes for the ever-popular water and wine stall held at the Fayre.

### **Summer Fayre: Friday 16 June**

Preparations for the Summer Fayre are well under way and we look forward to inviting you to the event. Due to the development of the amazing outdoor area of the school, this year's layout will be a little different and we are grateful to the Recreation Ground Committee for allowing us to use the hardcourt area for some stalls and activities. We are still collecting donations for raffle prizes and are looking for volunteers to help with running stalls, along with setting and clearing up after the event. If you could spare half an hour of your time to run a stall or help out it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact one of the PTFA members during school drop off or collection, or email one of our joint chairs (Emma Webb or Katie Manion) at [ptfa@greatabington.school](mailto:ptfa@greatabington.school).

### **Class 1 Bake Sale: Monday 26 June**

This is the last class bake sale of the year and an opportunity for our youngest school bakers to show off their culinary skills. Cakes will be on sale in the school playground from 3.10 till 4.15pm and are sold at 50p per item. These bake sales have been extremely popular and have generated some amazing funds to help support the children with their school resources, so thank you so much to everyone who takes the time to support them by either baking or purchasing goodies.

Joanna Chapman

## **BioMed Sports Day**



BioMed Realty was delighted to host 32 children from Great Abington Primary School and Linton Heights Junior School for a fun-packed afternoon of tennis activities and challenges on Friday 28 April, at our Granta Park campus. Our warmest thanks to LTA Cambridgeshire Tennis and South Cambs School Sports Partnership for delivering a memorable experience for the children. We look forward to hosting similar sports events here at Granta Park in the near future.

# District and County Councillors' Report April 2023

## A1307 works

Work continues on the upgrades to the road and the next scheme to be implemented is the roundabout at the Bartlow Road/Linton crossing, which is scheduled to start early May and go on for about 40 weeks. For more up-to-date information go to the Greater Cambridge Partnership website: [www.greatercambridge.org.uk](http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk) and look for the Cambridge South-East project.

## Four-day week trial

The results of the four-day week trial for office-based SCDC staff, which began in January, are now available and have been enormously encouraging. Performance (which has been independently assessed) has been maintained and in some instances improved and staff who were thinking of leaving are now likely to stay. Officer feedback was 88% positive and satisfaction feedback from residents was not impacted. The recommendation is to extend the trial for a further year. From this summer, councillors will be asked to include the refuse collection services in the four-day week trial. Many councils already do not collect bins on a Monday because of the disruption caused by bank holidays. This is being considered as a way of extending the benefits to more colleagues.

## Winter gritting/maintenance

From a Highways Gritting perspective it has generally been a mild winter but this hasn't meant the gritters stayed parked up. The team carried out 51 full runs and six part runs across the county, a total distance of 111,286 km or 69,000 miles or two and a half times round the world! We used nearly 9,000 tonnes of salt. Which brings us to....

## Potholes

This winter has seen a rise in the number of potholes and surface defects across the road network. The County Council has been recording and fixing potholes as fast as it can. It has put in additional repair gangs and currently has eight patching gangs and two dragon patchers working full time. The aim is to fix most potholes permanently on the first intervention. However, the teams are having to do temporary repairs where a road is very poor condition and when they are fixing in rain and wet weather. These temporary fixes are recorded and the teams will be going back at a later date to do permanent repairs. It is hoped there will be a fall in pothole numbers over the coming months as the roads dry out and the Council repairs all those it knows about. additional dragon patchers to work proactively on a find, record and fix regime.

## No Mow May

Cambridgeshire County Council is promoting biodiversity this spring as part of No Mow May as our Highways maintenance team pauses grass cutting on road verges to allow habitats for wildlife, plant species and pollinators to thrive. No Mow May is promoted by Plantlife, which says more than 700 species of wildflowers grow on road verges in the UK – this is almost 45% of the total wildflower species found across the country. The County Council committed to a greener Cambridgeshire but of course road safety remains a priority so it will still cut grass where needed to ensure visibility at junctions and bends.

## Contact details

District Council – John Batchelor – [johnbatchelor23@gmail.com](mailto:johnbatchelor23@gmail.com)

District and County Council – Henry Batchelor – [henrybatchelor89@gmail.com](mailto:henrybatchelor89@gmail.com)



# Grand Coronation Picnic

## A sparkling success in grand spring weather

Sunday 7 May saw Great and Little Abington at their best, as residents came together on the Recreation Ground for a mass picnic to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla.

For the organisers, the day began before 8.00am, when members of the Coronation Working Group and other helpers started to erect tents and set out the Rec. Ever since detailed planning of the event began in February, the big question and cause of much stress had always been the weather. Would capricious fate be kind? The weather apps gave little reassurance, with fluctuating forecasts in the days before. But as we all found, some heavy morning cloud gradually melted away and those unfathomable deities of rain and sun bestowed a glorious afternoon on a grateful village.

Proceedings began in earnest a little before midday when we gathered in Magna Close for the Royal March to the Rec. At noon a royally bedecked Tuk-Tuk driven by Jimmy Lawrence led off, followed by King Charles and Queen Camilla, enigmatically masked for this fleeting visitation, then the Cub Group bearing their banners and after them a mass of commoners of all ages. Bringing up the rear on magnificently caparisoned white chargers (poetic licence? Ed.) were two members of the Household Cavalry in their plumed helmets. The March circled the Close, gaining more marchers, then proceeded down the High Street (many thanks to passing drivers who waited until all were safely clear) and finally circled the Rec itself, a little extra exercise to sharpen appetites for the picnic fare to come.

The March dispersed and serious picnic consumption began, with needs for liquid refreshment catered for by a Pimms tent and the Abington Social Club bar. To allow parents to give proper attention to eating and drinking, a face painter and later a balloon modeller arrived to distract importunate children. Such was the demand on her services and the length of the queue, the face painter had to be asked to extend her attendance.

Afternoon entertainment was provided first by our charming Abington Glams Choir



with a nicely varied selection of songs and opportunities for all to join in. To follow, playing from the main tent, the Abington-based band Hoarse with no Name continued to entertain us with a great set of numbers well chosen to appeal to the village demographic – in other words, many of those present were familiar with the tunes. The band generously gifted their performance to the village.

As the day progressed the sun shone more strongly, creating perfect conditions for tea

on the lawn, served by a team from the Church. The cakes had been provided by many bakers from the village who had generously answered the call to give something from their

kitchens. That there was plenty for all is a great testimonial to the community spirit that makes the Abingtons such a special place in which to live.

With internal batteries recharged for more physical exertion, 48 pairs took up the challenge of the egg-throwing competition. Marshalled by Chris Adomeit, numbers were soon whittled down by a combination of dropped catches or brittle eggs but a few eggs were revealed as extraordinarily resilient, in spite of missed catches. Had some hard-boiled eggs been smuggled in? No – finally all but one egg yielded a revealing splat of yolk and the surviving winning duo of Jenny Searle and Sam Jackson received their hard-won medals.

Next we went on to that ever-popular feature of Abington outdoor get-togethers, the tug-of-war, entered into with gusto by all ages, enthusiastic children first, then ladies, channelling their inner Valkyrie, and finally the stalwart male representatives of Great and Little, best of three pulls, resulting in a 2–0 victory for Great.

The day's festivities drew to a close with a gallant attempt to form all present into a C III pattern for a drone photograph by Jimmy Lawrence.

There seemed general agreement that this had been a pretty good afternoon.

Space just permits a short mention of another successful event on Saturday 6 May, namely showing the Coronation live at the Village Institute on the big screen for those preferring not to watch at home. All the tables set out in the main hall were filled and complimentary refreshments were served by members of the Jeremiah's Café team to make this an enjoyable and convivial occasion.

Finally, it's appropriate to thank the many people who helped make the event a success and in particular to acknowledge the efforts of the Coronation Working Group – Tasha Whittaker, Emma Ellis-Jackson, Gaynor Farrant, Sheila Bolden, Tony Orgee, Gill Smith and Richard Smith. Thanks are also due to our Parish Councils who made essential funding available.

Richard Smith



## The Abington Lunch Thursday 22 June 2023



Fruit juice  
Chicken Véronique  
Seasonal vegetables  
Eton mess  
Tea or coffee

Please book your meal on 07941 016 543. Leave your name and telephone number with your message before noon on Tuesday 20 June. Don't forget to tell us if you need a special diet. Doors open at **12.45pm**. Note that the lunch is open to **ALL** Abington and Hildersham residents. Guests only by special arrangement. **Only £5.**

**Next lunch: Thursday 20 July 2023.**

### Mobile Library

The mobile library comes to Hildersham on the second Tuesday and to the Abingtons on the fourth Tuesday of every month and stops at the following places:

Hildersham, High Street 9.40–10.20 <b>Next date: Tuesday 13 June</b>	West Field, Little Abington 9.40–10.20 The Shop, Great Abington 10.30–11.00 Magna Close, Great Abington 11.05–11.30 Granta Park, Great Abington 12.00–1.15 <b>Next date: Tuesday 27 June</b>
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## Diary for June 2023

Date		Venue: Abington Institute unless stated	Time	Page
Thu	1	<b>Abington Walking Group</b> <b>Granta Vale Harmony</b>	9.50am	13
			7.30pm	11
Fri	2	<b>Low-impact Aerobics</b> <b>Pilates</b>	9.30am	11
			10.30am	11
Sat	3	<b>Cricket Club</b>		19
Sun	4	<b>Cricket Club</b>		19
Mon	5	<b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> – Pre-school building <b>Physio Pilates</b>	9.30am	12
			2.20pm	11
Tue	6	<b>Art Group</b> <b>Tuesday Club</b> <b>Table Tennis</b>	10.00am	19
			2.00pm	12
			7.30pm	19
Wed	7	<b>Yoga – course and drop-in</b> <b>Line Dancing</b> <b>Cricket Club</b>	9.30am	11
			1.00pm	11
				19
Thu	8	<b>Granta Vale Harmony</b>	7.30pm	12
Fri	9	<b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> – Pre-school building <b>Low-impact Aerobics</b> <b>Pilates</b>	9.30am	12
			9.30am	11
			10.30am	11
Mon	12	<b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> – Pre-school building <b>Physio Pilates</b> <b>Abington and Hildersham WI</b>	9.30am	12
			2.20pm	13
			7.30pm	11
Tue	13	<b>Art Group</b> <b>Mobile Library, Hildersham</b> <b>Table Tennis</b> <b>Reading Group</b> – see page 12 for venue	10.00am	19
			7.30pm	9
			7.30pm	19
Wed	14	<b>Yoga – course and drop-in</b> <b>Line Dancing</b> <b>Abington Group</b>	9.30am	11
			1.00pm	11
			7.30pm	19
Thu	15	<b>Craft Group</b> <b>Granta Vale Harmony</b>	1.30pm	12
			7.30pm	11
Fri	16	<b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> – Pre-school building <b>Low-impact Aerobics</b> <b>PTFA Summer Fayre</b> – school playground <b>Pilates</b>	9.30am	11
			9.30am	11
			10.30am	6
Sat	17	<b>Abington Walking Group</b> <b>Cricket Club</b>	9.50am	13
				19
Mon	19	<b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> – Pre-school building <b>Social Cycling</b> – meet at 1 Bourn Bridge Road <b>Physio Pilates</b>	9.30am	12
			10.30am	13
			2.20pm	11
Tue	20	<b>Rivercare and litter pick-up</b> – meet at bridge/ford <b>Art Group</b> <b>Tuesday Club</b> <b>Table Tennis</b>	9.30am	
			10.00am	19
			2.00pm	12
Wed	21	<b>Yoga course and drop-in</b> <b>Line Dancing</b>	7.30pm	19
			10.00am	11
Thu	22	<b>Abington Lunch (doors open)</b> <b>Granta Vale Harmony</b>	1.00pm	11
			12.45pm	9
Fri	23	<b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> – Pre-school building <b>Low-impact Aerobics</b> <b>Pilates</b>	7.30pm	11
			9.30am	11
			9.30am	11
Sat	24	<b>Cricket Club</b>	10.30am	11
				19

		<b>Walking Group Midsummer walk and picnic – meet at Little Abington church</b>	6.00pm	13
Mon	26	<b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group – Pre-school building</b> <b>Physio Pilates</b>	9.30am 2.20pm	12 11
Tue	27	<b>Art Group</b> <b>Mobile Library, the Abingtons</b> <b>Naturewatch river sampling</b> <b>Scrabble Club</b> <b>Table Tennis</b>	10.00am  5.30pm 7.00pm 7.30pm	19 9 12 11 19
Wed	28	<b>Yoga – course and drop-in</b> <b>Line Dancing</b>	10.00am 1.00pm	11 11
Fri	30	<b>Low-impact Aerobics</b> <b>Pilates</b>	9.30am 10.30am	11 11

For details of contacts for all the clubs and events listed in the Diary, please see the inside back cover of the *News*, or the pages on which the relevant articles appear.

**Institute bookings:** contact preferably by email: [institute@theabingtons.org.uk](mailto:institute@theabingtons.org.uk) or phone 07591 064 310.

#### Jeremiah's Café Opening times in June 2023

Thursday lunchtime	11.30am–1.30pm (1, 8, 15, 22, 29)
Friday morning	8.45am–11.00am (2, 9, 16, 23, 30)
Saturday mornings	10.00am–12 noon (3, 10, 17, 24)

**Contacts for Café:** [helenstchowe@btinternet.com](mailto:helenstchowe@btinternet.com) and [helen.rogers.uk@gmail.com](mailto:helen.rogers.uk@gmail.com)

**Note:** see page 8 for the Abington Lunch menu on 22 June.

#### Wheelie bin dates for June 2023 (Abingtons and Hildersham)

Mon 5	Mon 12	Mon 19	Mon 26
Black	Green / Blue	Black	Green / Blue

#### Yoga – Wednesdays, 9.30am

Contact Joan 890 629 or email [joangraham72@gmail.com](mailto:joangraham72@gmail.com) if you would like to drop in.

#### Low Impact Aerobics and Pilates – Fridays, 9.30am and 10.30am

Aerobics, toning and stretching, exercises to raise your heart rate and tone your body, fun and friendly. Pilates will help to alleviate back pain, improve core strength, posture and flexibility. Please book for five weeks for Low Impact Aerobics and Pilates. Contact Disa Bennett on 07798 754 029 or [www.zumbaandpilatescambridge.co.uk](http://www.zumbaandpilatescambridge.co.uk)

#### Physio-led Face to Face Pilates – Mondays, 2.20–3.20pm

For Beginners/Intermediate. Max. six participants. Classes £12 per session. Book three sessions (£36 non-refundable). Contact Christina Heinz on [cambridgepilates@outlook.com](mailto:cambridgepilates@outlook.com).

#### Line Dancing – Wednesdays, 1pm–2.30pm (term time)

Qualified line dance instructor, Lisa Mason, now runs drop-in classes suitable for all ages and welcomes beginners to intermediate level. Bring a drink and suitable shoes. Contact [lisa.lmsd@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.lmsd@gmail.com) or tel. 07958 788 292.

#### Granta Vale Harmony

Granta Vale Harmony is a mixed *a capella* singing group. We meet on Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30pm at the Abington Institute, and anyone is welcome to join in.

Contact details – Peter Lester, tel. 07884 932 215 or email [haverhi11@talktalk.net](mailto:haverhi11@talktalk.net).

#### Abington Pre-School Baby and Toddler Group

This Group is open **every Monday and Friday** morning (term time only) 9.30–11.30am, in the Abington Annexe building at the bottom of the Primary School playground. No need to book in advance. Contact 01223 894 246 (Abington Annexe Office) or email [abingtonannexeooffice@gmail.com](mailto:abingtonannexeooffice@gmail.com)

### **Abington Gardening Club**

Members are reminded that club meetings have ended for the summer break. Our second garden visit is on Thursday 8 June when we will go to Westley Waterless to see two NGS gardens – members £7, non-members £9 including both gardens and refreshments. Please contact me to be included and if you need more information or a copy of the summer programme.

Kay Harman, Secretary, tel. 891 730, email: [robandkayharman@gmail.com](mailto:robandkayharman@gmail.com).

### **The Tuesday Club (formerly the Forget-Me-Not Club)**

Our first meeting this month will be on 6 June when we will have our Strawberry Tea and a visit from the owners of a llama farm. On 20 June, Joan will be presenting her chair exercises to keep us all fit. We look forward to seeing you. New and old members will be welcome as always. Please contact me for further details.

Jenny Milns (tel. 890 252)

### **Reading Group**

13 June	<i>Sorrow and Bliss</i> Meg Mason	Sue Batty
11 July	<i>Still Life</i> Sarah Winman	Annette Williams
8 August	<i>The Uncommon Reader</i> Alan Bennett	Dinah Brooks

We will meet at 7.30pm at Sue's to discuss *Sorrow and Bliss*. Please confirm attendance to Sue and copy me in.

Valerie Hefford

### **Abington Craft Group**

Thursday 15 June, usual time, usual place. Everyone welcome.

It's never too early to think of Christmas and making felt decorations – birds, baubles and more. Or work on your own project. For more information, contact [Glynis.brookman@btinternet.com](mailto:Glynis.brookman@btinternet.com), tel. 07970 614 194.

### **Scrabble Club**

The next meeting of the Scrabble group will be on Tuesday 27 June at 7pm in the Institute. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month and new members are very welcome.

Sheena Fraser

### **Naturewatch**

Naturewatch has two planned activities this month. On Saturday 10 June we have a visit to RSPB Lakenheath Fen and on Tuesday 27 June we will be river sampling at the Bridge at 5.30 pm. Contact me for further details.

For details of local observations and our monthly summary check out the Naturewatch blog at <http://abington-naturewatch.blogspot.com/>

David Farrant

### **Abington Bowls Club**

A sparkling opening to the season for ABC. Following last year's promotion, we have started League 3 at a gallop, winning the first two matches with maximum points. This sees us sitting proudly, if unexpectedly and a little dazedly, at the top of the table. However, we shall not imagine it will be easy.

Most matches are tight. Each consists of four games of triples (three players from each team). In two of the games against Great Shelford we snatched victory from defeat with the



very last bowl (out of 54 bowled). It could so easily have gone the other way – as indeed happened in our third match, against Cottenham, where the rub of the green went against us, bringing us our first defeat. Still, we are encouraged by our start and hope to bring fresh laurels to the Abington green. You can follow our progress by looking at the Barra board hung on the wall at the green (which is on the High Street in Little Abington).

### **Social Cycling**

Due to lack of numbers for a variety of reasons we did not cycle in May. The next ride will be on Monday 19 June at 10.30 am leaving from 1 Bourn Bridge Road, Little Abington.

Gaynor Farrant

### **Abington Walking Group**



Our most recent walks were to Sawston and Six Mile Bottom. Your June strolls are on Thursday 1 and Saturday 17 June. On Saturday 24 June, we have our annual and very popular midsummer evening walk and picnic, of about five miles, to the Roman Road and back. Meeting at 6pm outside Little Abington Church. All the 2023 walk dates are on the Institute notice board.

The walks start from the Institute at 10am by shared transport to the walk venue.

We hope to have a pub lunch in the next few weeks so do join our Whatsapp group for the latest news. We look forward to seeing you. For further information please contact Robin Harman tel. 891 730 or [robandkayharman@gmail.com](mailto:robandkayharman@gmail.com).

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

It was a cold, grey morning for our annual Cake and Plant stall last month, but thanks to the members who had been busy planting and baking and all the people who came to buy, it was a great success.

At the meeting in May we welcomed David Caulfield, a musician, who has written a book titled *The Semi-Pro Sixties*. He entertained us with music and stories, and memories of our (much) younger days came flooding back when we were part of the Swinging Sixties.

We now have a full programme of activities and talks for the coming year and would be delighted to see new members and visitors joining us.

Next meeting: Monday 12 June at 7.30pm in Abington Institute. Guest speaker: Marion Leeper with a talk entitled 'The First Woman Taxi Driver in Cambridge'.

### **Sawston Coronation Fun Run**

The 37th Sawston Fun Run took place on 7 May and was the most successful to date. Many runners ran in fancy dress to add to the fun of the occasion and were cheered on by a huge number of supporters of the event who lined the streets as the runners passed them in their amazing costumes. A big thank you to all our sponsors, participants and volunteers for taking part. This year we attracted 1,335 runners, largest entry figure ever, and hope to raise over £15,000 for our chosen beneficiaries, the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity and the Cambridge Cancer Help Centre. This will take our cumulative fundraising total since the first event in 1986 to close to £530,000.

It's not all about competition, though. Our main focus is to bring families together for an amazing community event. However, credit where credit's due: our 2023 Sawston Fun Run champion is Sullivan Smith from Great Shelford, who completed the run in 23 minutes 26 seconds. The first woman home was Catlin Wade from Trumpington, in a finishing time of 30 minutes 6 seconds. Congratulations to both.

# Great Abington Parish Council – An Active Council

## The Annual Parish Meeting and the Parish Council AGM

At the Annual Parish Meeting on 15 May reports were received from the Chairman, County and District Councillors and representatives of the Recreation Ground and Institute Management committees. Reports are available on the GAPC website: [greatabingtonparishcouncil.org](http://greatabingtonparishcouncil.org). The meeting was followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting at which Tony Orgee was re-elected as chairman. Risa Nagasaki was co-opted as a Parish Councillor.

## Thank you!

A big thank you to the Coronation Working Group who organised the coronation event and to everyone involved in helping. Both Parish Councils set aside a budget for the event, which we believe was well spent. The sun finally shone and it was lovely to see so many happy villagers, friends and families enjoying time together.

## Did you know?

Great Abington Parish Council uses part of its precept (a tax that Parish Councils charge their local residents to cover spending on service delivery within the community) to fund cutting the hedges and verges around the village.

## Planning

23/01336/FUL Land Adjacent to 19 South Road. Erection of one 2-storey dwellinghouse. Parish Council recommended approval.

23/00941/HFUL131 High Street. Front porch extension & single-storey extension. PC recommended refusal.

23/00941/62 North Road. Demolition of dwelling & erection of a detached dwelling and garage. Parish Council recommended approval.

22/05549/out TWI, Granta Park. Outline application (amendment). Parish Council recommended refusal.

## District Council decisions

23/00099/FUL 16 Chalky Road. Construction of a 4-bed detached bungalow. Approved.

**Application for Trading Licence** Application for a kebab van located at the Abington Social Club, trading hours Tuesday to Saturday 4.30pm – 11.00pm.

### Great Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Village Institute

**Tony Orgee (Chairman)** [tonyorgee@gmail.com](mailto: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 Meeting: Monday 17 July 2023 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)

# Little Abington Parish Council

## Coronation celebrations

A wonderful day in the sunshine! Our thanks go to the many people involved in organising such a lovely village event, and to our own parish councillors Richard Smith, Sheila and Viia.

## Annual Parish Meeting in April

This was a valuable opportunity to hear from a number of village organisations. Gail Williams from the Papworth Trust outlined the opportunities the Abington site offered its users, including gardening, cooking and football, and called for residents to come forward as volunteers (email her at [gail.williams@papworthtrust.org.uk](mailto:gail.williams@papworthtrust.org.uk)). Deborah James from Abington Woods told us how the site hosts Granta Hive, the Landscape School, the Scouts and the primary school and aims to hold one large event each season. She is currently planning a special needs music festival. David Milns from the History Society reported on the digitisation of photographs of Abington Hall and a successful grant application to the Community Chest for an archive. He also urged residents to lend him photographs relating to the village for a future website (email at [abingtonhistorygroup@gmail.com](mailto:abingtonhistorygroup@gmail.com)).

Otherwise, Richard Smith shared the Recreation Ground Management Committee's longer-term plans to enlarge the MUGA (the tarmacked football/public tennis area) and to continue tree planting. He also noted the installation of picnic benches adjacent to the pump track and some success in grassing the pump track surround. In reporting on the Institute's activities, Richard noted that hiring has pretty well recovered to pre-Covid levels, hire charges are currently being held and further expenditure is necessary for rebuilding the substructure of the terrace.

## Newmarket Road

The double yellow lines have now been finished, which should stop the parking of large lorries along this stretch of road. Our local police officer is keen to enforce this but it will also need residents to report any illegal parking to the police.

## Verges on Bourn Bridge Road

Now that temperatures are finally a little higher, the protected roadside verges along Bourn Bridge Road should flourish but only if the wild grasses and flowers are not trampled on. So please continue to walk on the road to conserve this valuable village asset.

## Planning updates and decisions

**23/01166/HFUL Abington Pottery, 26 High Street.** Single-storey rear extension, air source heat pump, fencing plus other minor alterations and refurbishments. No comment.

### Little Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Institute at 7.30pm

Next Meeting: Monday 24 July

If you would like to participate in a meeting please contact the clerk. The meeting agendas and papers are on the noticeboard on Church Lane and published on the website: [www.littleabingtonparishcouncil.org.uk/](http://www.littleabingtonparishcouncil.org.uk/).

Sheila Bolden (Chair)

07754659929 /

[Cllr.sbolden@littleabingtonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:Cllr.sbolden@littleabingtonparishcouncil.org.uk)

Jessica Ashbridge  
(Clerk)

[Clerk@littleabingtonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:Clerk@littleabingtonparishcouncil.org.uk)



## **Hildersham Parish Council**

### **Report on the Hildersham Parish Council AGM held on 9 May**

A public meeting will be held to consult Hildersham residents about the Neighbourhood Plan for the village. This plan has been created over several months by hard-working volunteers in collaboration with Linton Parish Council. The public consultation will be held in Hildersham Village Hall on Saturday 3 June from 2–5pm. Please do come along to learn more and to make your views heard.

There has been no news on the council's application for Local Highway Improvement funds for safety improvements at the Back Road/High Street/Balsham Road crossroads but there should be some response soon.

Councillors were considering the best locations to install a couple of new streetlights between Mabbutts and the church, as this section of the village has no lighting. Once possible locations have been identified, we will report them, so that residents can let us know their views.

The Recreation Ground Trust and Field Garden Trust meeting is held after each Parish Council meeting. The land previously administered by the Parish Council, including the allotments, the Recreation Ground, North and South Holding, is being managed by the Trusts. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

If you notice a fault with the highways, such as potholes, you can report it 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 July 2023 in Hildersham Village Hall. Information is on the Parish Council's website: [hildershamparishcouncil.org.uk](http://hildershamparishcouncil.org.uk).

## **Hildersham News**

### **Children's Church Council**

In our beginning of the year discussions the children decided that Father's Day should have as much priority as Mothering Sunday, so during our May meeting we set the wheels in motion for treats for Father's Day.

So if you are walking past Holy Trinity Church in Hildersham on 18 June and you need a Father's Day treat then you should find one on the bench outside the church gate.

We also had a wander around the churchyard to check on the residents of our bird boxes, bug hotels and our hedgehog house and were very pleased to see that there are definitely hedgehogs in residence and the hotels have had a very busy season.

The bird boxes require some very patient sitting and watching so we are not entirely sure how many have been full of little tweetings.

We continue to notice the new wildflowers that are flourishing as a result of allowing some of the churchyard areas to 'do their own thing'.

Lots more to plan and lots of exciting ideas for the months ahead.

## Granta Medical Practices Update

Royston Health Centre is now part of Granta Medical Practices. We are very excited to work with the Royston team and extend a warm welcome to our new patients.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone about where our surgeries are and the telephone options:

- Granta Sawston, 0300 234 5555 – option 2
- Granta Linton, 0300 234 5555 – option 3
- Granta Barley, 0300 234 5555 – option 4
- Granta Royston Market Hill, 0300 234 5555 – option 5
- Granta Shelford, 0300 234 5555 – option 6
- Granta Royston Health Centre, 0300 234 5555 – option 7

You can continue to go to your usual surgery and ask to see your usual clinician but you are also very welcome to go to any other Granta surgery if you wish.

The NHS continues to be under huge pressure across the whole country. Here at Granta, we continue to try to provide the best possible service we can in the face of GP shortages and increased demand. We know that some of you struggle to get through on the 'phone to us and/or get an appointment. As we all know, there is no easy fix. However, there are small ways you can help, which in turn helps us.

**Self-care** You can treat many minor illnesses, such as colds and coughs, sore throats and upset stomachs at home. Make sure you are stocked up with healthcare essentials such as pain relief (e.g. paracetamol), cough and sore throat remedies, upset stomach treatment, rehydration treatment, heartburn/indigestion treatments and a first aid kit.

**Use the NHS UK Symptom Checker** [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) This helpful tool can guide you through your symptoms and direct you to the most appropriate health service for your needs.

**Use your local pharmacy** As qualified health professionals, pharmacists can offer you advice and guidance on your symptoms and on the best treatment for you – no appointment required. Pharmacists are available on every high street and in supermarkets, with many being open in the evenings and at weekends. If your symptoms suggest something serious, pharmacists have the right training to make sure you get the help you need.

**Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS)** This service enables patients to have a same-day appointment with their community pharmacist for minor illnesses or an urgent supply of a regular medicine. Should you need to be escalated or referred to an alternative service, the pharmacist can arrange this. Please speak to a member of our reception team to be referred into this service.

**Ring NHS 111, option 2** If you are experiencing a mental health crisis this First Response Service puts your mental health first. There is a team of specialist mental health clinicians on hand 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, to offer advice and support and signpost you as appropriate.

**Non-urgent appointments** Before ringing us, check availability of appointments online. You can do this if you have online access via SystmOnline, the Airmid app or the NHS app.

**Medication** If you need to order your repeat medication, please do this online via SystmOnline, the NHS app or the Airmid app. Details of how to do this can be found on our website, [www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk](http://www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk). If you do not have internet or mobile telephone access, you can send in your repeat medication slip or write in with your repeat request.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to speak to one of our reception team or email us on [cpicb.grantapatientsservices@nhs.net](mailto:cpicb.grantapatientsservices@nhs.net). Sandra East, Head of Patient Services

## New phone app to help Addenbrooke's and Rosie patients

A new app is available to make it easier to find your way around Addenbrooke's and the Rosie hospitals. The app maps out your route from your start to end point in a series of images and words, showing you the shortest route through the hospitals. Find out more at [www.cuh.nhs.uk/news/new-cuh-directions-phone-app-helps-patients-find-the-way/](http://www.cuh.nhs.uk/news/new-cuh-directions-phone-app-helps-patients-find-the-way/)

## June Services at Granta Vale churches

(not Abingtons and Hildersham: 10.30am Online Fellowship available for all)

DATE	9.30 am	11.00 am	6.00 pm
4 June		Communion <i>Balsham</i>	
11 June	Communion <i>Weston Colville</i> Morning Worship <i>West Wickham</i>	Communion <i>Balsham</i>	Evensong <i>West Wrating</i>
18 June	Communion <i>West Wickham</i> <i>West Wrating</i>	Morning Worship <i>Balsham</i>	
25 June	Communion <i>West Wickham</i> Morning Worship <i>Weston Colville</i>	Outdoor Church <i>Balsham</i>	

## The Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla, 6 May 2023






The Royal March from Magna Close reaches the Recreation Ground, led by Jimmy and Emily Lawrence in their tuk tuk and followed by the royal couple, a wide range of courtiers and Horse Guards bringing up the rear.

Images used in The Abingtons and Hildersham News can be seen in full colour on the village website (see page 4). Please send your photos of village scenes and events to [news@theabingtons.org.uk](mailto:news@theabingtons.org.uk)



## *Church Services for June 2023*

<i>DATE</i>	<i>Gt. Abington</i> 	<i>Lt. Abington</i> 	<i>Hildersham</i> 	<i>Readings</i>
4 June	<b>11.00am United Service at Balsham</b>			Isaiah 40.12-17,27-end Matthew 28.16-end
11 June		11.00am Morning Worship	11.00am Communion	Acts 11.19-end John 15.12-17
18 June	11.00am Communion		6.00pm Evensong	Romans 5.1-8 Matthew 9.35-10.8
25 June		6.00pm Evensong	11.00am Morning Worship	Ps 86.1-10,16-end Matthew 10.24-39

### ***Church Flower Rota***

	<i>Gt. Abington</i>	<i>Lt. Abington</i>	<i>Hildersham</i>
4 June	Helen Pimblett	Marilyn Broadhurst and Kate Franklin	Gwen Cutter
11 June	Sarah Barron	Freda Orgee	Gwen Cutter
18 June	Sarah Barron	Freda Orgee	Amanda Palmer
25 June	Gillian Treanor	Kay Harman and June Waring	Amanda Palmer

### ***Churchwardens***

<i>Great and Little Abington</i>	Graham Ross	41 Church Lane, Little Abington	891564
<i>Hildersham</i>	Keith Day	Fourwinds, Linton Road, Hildersham	891527

### ***Assistant Churchwardens***

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