



The Abingtons and Hildersham News



www.theabingtons.org.uk

September 2023



Photo by David Farrant

Some village residents enjoyed our wet holiday weather

From the Editor

For most of us, back to school feels more like the turning of a new year than 1 January. The school's Junior Travel Ambassadors have made an excellent sign encouraging us all to think before we park by the school (page 6). The new term brings new arrivals, visitors and renewed activities. We welcome a new Community Minister (page 4) and a guest speaker, Gail Morecambe, for an evening of music and talk on Saturday 9 (page 7). Events planned for late summer days and evenings include a community initiative with the GLAMS choir (page 7), a showing at the Outdoor Cinema in Granta Park (page 7) and the AALGA barbecue (page 9). However, the shorter days remind us that we are slipping into autumn. The new season is marked by the popular Harvest Festival Café Church in Hildersham (page 17) and the first of a series of seasonal hubs run by Love Abington (page 16). More soberly, flu clinics are opening at our local surgeries later in the month and Granta Medical Practices are inviting all those eligible to register for their jabs (page 18). Later this month, Ian Richardson will be making a Community Oil Order (see page 15 for details).

My thanks to David Farrant for the photo of our cover star. A large toad crossed my path on Bourn Bridge Road in late August. Hardly a black cat, but I like to think it means good luck for this new school year as well as being a welcome sign that local wildlife is thriving.

Sally Simmons

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All items for the October 2023 edition of *The Abingtons and Hildersham News* should be sent to the editor no later than Friday 15 September 2023 at news@theabingtons.org.uk.

From the Community Minister



Well, what a super first couple of months I've been able to have within these parishes! I really do feel blessed to be given this opportunity as a community minister with the chance to walk alongside all.

My time has been spent getting out and about, attending many coffee mornings (need to watch my cake intake!) and community groups, and meeting with those who work so hard to ensure the community is supported and cared for. I always feel so honoured as I leave a meeting, feeling refreshed that so much kindness, care and love is being given within our communities. God's work indeed.

It has been wonderful to discover so many groups, organisations and activities that are happening within our parishes and it is here that I hope to help build links.

One of the most humbling elements of my work is home visits; these are indeed very special moments. To be invited into someone's home, to listen to people's worries, concerns, fears and joys! To be able to sit beside someone, connect with them and to offer prayer is a wonderful gift and something indeed that we can all do. The strength it can provide can be immense and powerful. If there is a group, organisation or someone you feel would appreciate a visit, please do let me know. And do say hello if you see me out and about! With blessings, Hannah Threlfall tel. 07867 515914, email Hthrelfall82@gmail.com.

Note: Hannah will be commissioned as our Community Minister on Sunday 3 September as part of the United Service at Balsham. The service starts at 11.00am and all are warmly welcome to attend. There will be refreshments after the service.

News from the Pews

Planning outdoor events is always difficult in our country. The forecast for the Vicarage Garden Party was typically English – wind and rain. However, the strong and faithful team battled through the elements with a great rewarding result. Well done to the team and sincere thanks to all who gallantly supported the event. Grateful thanks to Revd Ben, too, for inviting everyone to his garden. This (unfortunately) was Ben's first experience of hosting a Vicarage Garden Party. We hope he will enjoy some sunny ones too.

As Autumn approaches, plans are already taking place for the Harvest Festival and Harvest Supper. Also, on 9 September we have invited Gail, Eric Morecambe's daughter, to entertain us with stories of life with her comedian father, along with entertainment by the Glams Choir. The event will be held in Great Abington Church. Tickets are available from the churchwardens and at the Post Office (see page 7).

Remembering village residents

The funeral of Dennis George Tiplady took place at Cam Valley Crematorium on Tuesday 4 July following his death on 20 June. Den was a true Abingtonian and although he moved from the village some years back his heart remained in Abington. The attendance at the crematorium was testimony to his popularity. Our thoughts and prayers are with his children Mark, Kevin, Sara and David and his eight grandchildren.

Anne Hall

Dennis Tiplady. Mark and Sue Tiplady write: Dennis moved to Little Abington in 1930 aged six weeks with his parents, Lillian and George Tiplady, who initially managed the Crown pub. The family then went on to own the village shop in Little Abington and later the newsagent's shop in Great Abington. Dennis continued to live in Great Abington until 1978. In later years he moved with his own family to Linton and when his wife died in 2000 he moved to a bungalow in Balsham. A lot of people remember Dennis as the lawnmower repair man in and around the village.

Despite the moves, Dennis remained connected to the village through his love of cricket and football. He was a life member of Abington Cricket Club and the chairman of the football club up until the night before he died. He loved his village connections and was a member of the Recreation Ground committee.

The family of Dennis would like to say a huge thank you for all of the messages and cards of condolence received. They were a great source of comfort. A donation of £369 has been made to Macmillan Cancer Care in his memory.

Mrs Ann Attwood. Ann's son Barry Wright writes: With sadness, I write to say that Mrs Ann Attwood (formerly Rosemary Linsdell but she preferred to be known as Ann) passed away on 6 January 2023 after suffering from dementia for several years while in a care home. Mum has been laid to rest in Little Abington churchyard as per her wishes. A big thank you to churchwarden Graham Ross for his help and kind words. Ann was born at 82 High Street in 1936 to Tom and Maud. She had a sister, Dorothy, and four brothers, Eric, Tony, Maurice and Michael. Ann had five children from two marriages, and was once crowned Miss Abington, back in 1952.

A Tribute to David Percival



David Percival (always Dave), who died on 15 May 2023, aged 75, was a well-known presence in the Abingtons. He loved to walk his dog from his wheelchair around the village and his cheerful presence and remarkable sense of humour brightened the lives of all whom he met. He was also an enthusiastic member of the Allotment Association for many years.

Dave exuded a positive approach to life but this was a daily act of will. At the age of 17, his hopes of joining the RAF were dashed following a serious motorbike accident. He spent a year at Stoke Mandeville Hospital where he gradually realised he would never walk again. He retrained in electronics and worked full time until he was 46. Although he suffered daily from pain, he deliberately took the attitude that life was for living and he would use his disability to enrich the lives of others. He chose to fight the physical limitations and through numerous sponsored wheelchair 'pushes', raised hundreds of thousands of pounds for disadvantaged individuals and charities for the disabled. He loved a challenge and the list of his exploits is too long for this short article. As well as completing three London Marathons, he also pushed his wheelchair from Sawston to Amsterdam and completed a 240-mile sponsored push around the county border of Norfolk. He pushed his wheelchair across the Yorkshire Moors in a bid to raise money to help make the beautiful moors scenery accessible to those in wheelchairs. Today there are eight accessible routes across the moors, thanks to his endeavours.

During his last ten years, Dave embraced two terminal diagnoses with the same fighting, positive spirit. Life was for living and with his characteristic sense of humour and honesty, he used his experience to instil hope into the lives of others who had recently received a terminal diagnosis. He gave talks and supported people in small groups at the Arthur Rank Hospice. None of this charitable work would have been possible without the support of his loving family and particularly his devoted wife, Bronwen.

His funeral at the Cam Valley crematorium on 30 May was one of thanksgiving, for Dave and the way he enriched so many people's lives, his sense of humour in the choice of music and his insistence that he wanted to thank everyone who had helped and supported him in his life and enabled him to do far more than was ever anticipated.

He will be greatly missed by so many people who have been touched by his generosity of spirit and his inspirational, positive attitude to life.

Rosemary Mead

2 signs 2 keep U safe

The front entrance to the school is a high-risk zone. At peak times around 200 pupils and parents can be crossing the front gate. Visibility is key to keeping everyone safe, so please do not stop in this



area. There are no excuses. Our thanks go to last year's Junior Travel Ambassadors for creating this sign (and also to Cambridgeshire County Council for its official sign).

Alan Cooke, Health and Safety Governor, Great Abington Primary School

Ukrainian Community in Abington

Ukrainians in Abington are now very comfortable with living in England and need less support from the community. However, there is still a great need for local rental properties and household items for Ukrainians moving into them. There is a particular need for a family that requires a car with an automatic gearbox (budget £2000) because their new independent location does not have sufficient public transport to enable them to work.

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 njcambs@gmail.com

Marilyn Broadhurst, 07855-182726 and broadhurstmarilyn@gmail.com

Jane Furlow, 07745-046921 and jane.furlow@gmail.com

For general information about hosting, contact South Cambs Homes for Ukraine: text ROOM to 88802. Information is also available from HFULiasion@cambs.gov.uk, tel. 01954 713411 and South Cambs District Council (scambs.gov.uk – search Spare Rooms for People from Ukraine).

Anton King

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 Next date: Tuesday 12 September	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 Next date: Tuesday 26 September
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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.

Eric Morecambe – A Talk by Gail Morecambe



In 1984 the world lost Eric Morecambe, one of our best-loved comedians and one half of the legendary double act, Morecambe and Wise. Now, almost 40 years later, Eric's daughter Gail Morecambe will be appearing in Abington to share what it was like growing up with a father like Eric. Gail will offer a unique insight into both the private and public lives of the comedian, who was not only liked by the British public but loved. The evening will begin with a concert by the ever-popular Glam Choir. **Saturday 9 September at Great Abington Church, 7.30pm.** Tickets £10, available now from the Post Office or any of the Churchwardens (see back page for contact details).

GLAMS Choir

The choir is holding a seasonal sing-song! Come and join us for four weeks to learn the song 'Shallow' from *A Star Is Born*. Female voices only, no experience or ability to read music needed and free for new members. The dates for this special experience are on Wednesday 13, 20, 27 September and 4 October, 7.30–9pm, at Great Abington Preschool. For more information, or to sign up, please contact: glamschoir23@gmail.com.

Granta Park Outdoor Cinema

Back by popular demand, the Granta Park Outdoor Cinema is back for another year. This year's film will be *Top Gun: Maverick* (rated 12) and the event will be held on the cricket pitch on Thursday 21 September from 6pm.

A selection of food and drink will be available to purchase from 6pm and the film will begin around 7pm, just after sunset. We recommend you wrap up warm and bring along a picnic blanket or camping chair.

We would love Great and Little Abington residents to join us for the evening. Free tickets can be reserved by going to www.grantapark.co.uk/events/outdoor-cinema. We look forward to seeing you.



The Abington Lunch
Thursday 28 September 2023
Fruit juice
Cottage pie
Seasonal vegetables
Apple dessert
Tea or coffee



Please book your meal on 07554 433317. Leave your name and telephone number with your message before noon on **Tuesday 26 September**. 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 26 October 2023.

District and County Councillors' Reports July–August 2023

Four-day week

The trial of a four-day working week at the District Council was recently extended by another year for office staff. You may have seen in the news that a junior minister has asked the Council to end the trial. He asked this without giving any real reason for doing so, or with any kind of legal backing. SCDC has responded with a request to meet with him to understand what his concerns actually are. Meanwhile, the trial is to be extended to waste collection crews. **From September, bins will only be collected between Tuesday and Friday each week. This will mean a change in bin collection day for our area.** This will be communicated directly to all those affected. The frequency of collection will remain the same – blue and green one week, black the next – only the collection day will change.

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 junction, which started in early May and is due to go on for about 40 weeks. As residents will know, the A1307 was closed between Hildersham and Linton over the weekend of 15–16 July. The GCP is asking for any feedback about the closure – anything we experienced locally that we think could have been handled differently, for example, signage, amount of warning, etc. If you have any comments, please let Henry and John know. For more up to date information, go to the Greater Cambridge Partnership website: <https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/sustainable-transport-programme/public-transport-schemes/cambridge-south-east-transport/cambridge-south-east-transport-phase-1-background/cambridge-south-east-transport-phase-1-current-schemes>

Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund

The County Council has updated and rebranded the Communities Capital Fund that it ran a few years ago. The fund is designed to support local communities in projects that enable them to upgrade community buildings and assets. There is up to £40,000 available in each bid. The Council is currently asking for an 'expression of interest' from those community groups/parish councils that are thinking of applying. Full information, plus an application form, can be found on the website:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities/cambridgeshire-priorities-capital-fund>

Parliamentary boundary changes

The Boundary Commission has announced final proposals for the new parliamentary boundary, which will come into effect before the next general election, which is currently scheduled for next year. Our villages are proposed to move from South East Cambridgeshire into South Cambridgeshire, with the exception of Abington, which is already in South Cambridgeshire. This will put them broadly into line with the District Council's boundary and in our view is generally a good move.

Government announcement

You may have seen a recent announcement from Michael Gove, the Minister for Levelling Up and house building. He announced plans for major development in three cities around the county, the first being Cambridge. The plan is to build in the region of 250,000 houses to encourage life sciences and R&D companies to move to the area, turning Cambridge into the UK's Silicon Valley. To put the numbers into context, Cambridge City currently has around 50,000 houses, which means that these proposals would quintuple the size of the city. We think this is a non-starter, but do keep tabs on this, as we're sure it will be attracting many column inches over the next year.

Community gritting scheme

Each year the County Council offers communities the chance to volunteer to assist with gritting the roads in our area, which enables people to identify specific roads/paths in their

parishes that are not currently gritted but would benefit from gritting. Full details of the scheme can be found at <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/gritting-roads-cycleways-and-paths/help-with-gritting-and-clearing-snow>.

Contact details

District Council – John Batchelor – johndbatchelor23@gmail.com

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

Duxford Saturday Workshop Taster Morning



If you enjoy music... and would like to learn to play an instrument, to play alongside others or to sing in a choir, you'll be hugely welcome to come and join in the delights of **the Duxford Workshop**, which is held at Duxford village school on Saturday mornings during term time. **Registration for the new 2023–24 Workshop year is on Saturday 9 September, 10–11.30am** at Duxford School, St John's Street, Duxford. Term begins two weeks later, at 9.30am on Saturday, 23 September. So, if you love music, do come along to see what

Workshop can offer you.

Workshop holds group tuition sessions, where adults and children from Year 5 onwards can learn to play an instrument. There is also a junior music and drama group for children from Year 1 upwards, as well as classes for adult beginners and ensembles for improvers and competent players.

Our members include adults who have always wanted to learn an instrument but haven't had the opportunity, alongside those of us who 'haven't played for years...' but would like to get back into playing music again.

In addition to the tuition classes, Workshop also has ensembles ranging from recorders, strings, jazz and wind bands, to folk fiddlers, ukulele players, guitarists, an adults' community choir **and** a full orchestra – so there are loads of opportunities for everyone!

A registered charity, Workshop is all about having fun by learning and performing together in an enjoyable and supportive environment. Indeed, some of our members find it so enjoyable that they have been coming along since the last century. Honestly, it's true!

Finally, don't worry if you don't have an instrument of your own – we have instruments for rental on very reasonable terms so will be happy to help you out if we can. So, do come and find out why our members enjoy Workshop so much – and see what **you** can achieve! For more information, please see the Workshop website at: <https://duxfordsaturdayworkshop.org.uk/>

Peter Howarth, Duxford Workshop Management Team

AALGA Summer BBQ

Don't miss the Allotment Association's annual barbecue, which will be held on Sunday 3 September, 12 noon until 1.30pm, near the Linton Road entrance to the allotments. Burgers and hotdogs (with veggie alternative) and drinks will be available for sale on the day. Village residents are welcome to attend along with allotment holders and friends. Come and enjoy some great food and take the opportunity to walk around the site to see what's growing.

Bernie Talbot, Chair, AALGA

Diary for September 2023

Date.		Venue: Abington Institute unless stated	Time	Page
Sat	2	Cricket Club		19
Sun	3	AALGA barbecue – Allotments, Linton Road entrance	12 noon	12
Mon	4	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	12
		Physio Pilates	2.20pm	11
Tues	5	Art Group	9.30am	19
		The Tuesday Club	2.00pm	12
Wed	6	Yoga – course and drop-in	9.30am	11
		Line Dancing	1.00pm	11
Thu	7	Walking Group	9.50am	13
		Granta Vale Harmony	7.30pm	12
Fri	8	Low-impact Aerobics	9.30am	11
		Pilates	10.30am	11
Sat	9	Music Workshop – registration at Duxford School	10.00am	9
		Talk by Gail Morecambe, with GLAMS concert – Little Abington Church	7.30pm	7
Mon	11	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	12
		Abington and Hildersham WI	7.30pm	13
Tue	12	Art Group	9.30am	19
		Mobile Library, Hildersham	9.40am	6
		Reading Group – see page 12 for venue	7.30pm	13
Wed	13	Yoga – course and drop-in	9.30am	11
		Line Dancing	1.00pm	11
		GLAMS choir sing-song – Pre-school building	7.30pm	7
		Abington Group		19
Thu	14	Granta Vale Harmony	7.30pm	12
Fri	15	Low-impact Aerobics	9.30am	11
		Pilates	10.30am	11
Mon	18	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	12
		Social Cycling – meet at 1 Bourn Bridge Road	10.00	12
		Great Abington Parish Council	7.15pm	14
Tue	19	Art Group	9.30am	19
		Tuesday Club	2.00pm	12
		Love Abington Autumn Hub – Village Institute terrace	2.00pm	16
Wed	20	Yoga course and drop-in	9.30am	11
		Line Dancing	1.00pm	11
		GLAMS choir sing-song – Pre-school building	7.30pm	7
Thu	21	Craft Group	1.30pm	12
		Outdoor Cinema – Granta Park cricket pitch	6.00pm	7
		Granta Vale Harmony	7.30pm	12
Fri	22	Low-impact Aerobics	9.30am	11
		Pilates	10.30am	11
		Film Nights	7.00pm	13
Sat	23	Walking Group	9.50am	13
Sun	24	Hildersham Harvest Festival Church	11.00am	17
Mon	25	Baby & Toddler Group – Pre-school building	9.30am	12
		Physio Pilates	2.20pm	11
		Little Abington Parish Council	7.30pm	15

Tue	26	Art Group Mobile Library, the Abingtons Scrabble Club Gardening Club Social Evening and AGM	9.30am 9.40am 7.00pm 7.30pm	19 6 13 11
Wed	27	Yoga – course and drop-in Line Dancing GLAMS choir sing-song – Pre-school building	9.30am 1.00pm 7.30pm	11 11 7
Thu	28	Abington Lunch (doors open) Granta Vale Harmony	12.45pm 7.30pm	7 12
Fri	29	Low-impact Aerobics Pilates	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 or phone 07591 064 310.

Jeremiah's Café: Opening times in September 2023

Thursday lunchtime	11.30am–1.30pm (7, 14, 21, Lunch 28)
Friday morning	8.45am–11.00am (1, 8, 15, 22, 29)
Saturday mornings	10.00am–12 noon (2, 9, 16, 23, 30)

Contacts for Café: helenstchowe@btinternet.com and helen.rogers.uk@gmail.com

Note: see page 7 for the Abington Lunch menu for 28 September.

Wheelie bin dates for September 2023 (Abingtons and Hildersham)

Mon 4	Mon 11	Wed 20	Wed 27
Green/Blue	Black	Green/Blue	Black

Note: From 18 September **our bin collection dates will change** (see page 8). As well as the change in collection day, bins will be emptied earlier than usual and should be put out by **6.00am**.

Yoga – Wednesdays, 9.30am

Contact Joan 890 629 or email 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

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.

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 or tel. 07958 788 292.

Abington Gardening Club

Please note change of day and date. There will be a social evening on Tuesday 26 September in the Institute, 7.30–9.30pm with drinks and nibbles courtesy of the committee. This will also include a short AGM. All are welcome and please call me if would like more information. Kay Harman, Secretary, tel. 891 730, email: robandkayharman@gmail.com

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 Peter Lester, tel. 07884 932 215 or email haverhi11@talktalk.net.

Abington Pre-School Baby and Toddler Group

This Group is open **every Monday** 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. £2 per family, light snack and drinks provided. Please bring a water bottle for your child, a cup with a lid for parent beverages and a child between 0–4 years old. Tel. 894 246 (Abington Annexe Office) or email abingtonannexeooffice@gmail.com for more information.

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

Our first meeting after the summer break will be on 5 September when we welcome old and new members with sherry, cheese and wine and a games afternoon. We will have board games and dominoes with us but please feel free to bring any favourites with you.

On 19 September we will be joining with Love Abington to present an information afternoon for the village (see page 16). 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)

Social Cycling

On 21 August, eight of us enjoyed a 15-mile cycle via Sawston, Whittlesford and on to Duxford for our pit stop at the Community Centre, which is excellent. Both my granddaughters borrowed bikes and came along too. The next trip will be on Monday 18 September starting from 1 Bourn Bridge Road at 10.00am. New riders very welcome.

Gaynor Farrant

Reading Group

12 September	<i>The Fell</i> Sarah Moss	Liz Obstfeld
10 October	<i>Cloud Cuckoo Land</i> Anthony Doerr	Kate Auckland

We will meet at 7.30pm at Liz's on 12 September to discuss *The Fell*. Please confirm attendance to Liz and copy me in.

Valerie Hefford

Abington Bowls Club – a successful season

Our last match is not until 31 August, so our final C&D League Division 3 position is not yet known. However, comfortably mid-table is where we will be, not bad for a newly promoted team. Although (to date) we have won 36 out of 64 games (losing 28) we have actually lost nine out of 16 matches (winning seven). We aim to remedy this in our final four matches. In the Business House Pairs Leagues, the Men's team finished in second place in their league, winning 19 out of 22 games played, just pipped by Milton who won 20 games. The Open Team also finished in second place in its tightly contested division. Individual knock-out competitions are played throughout the season. Roy Mallows and Graham Gentle have made it through to the 3 September final of the Men's 242 Pairs competition. Vicky Alda and Jane Fleet were narrowly beaten in the semi-final of the Ladies Pairs. Graham Ross reached the semi-final of the 2 Wood singles competition. So no open-topped bus ride through Abington but nonetheless a very good season. Graham Ross (tel. 891 564)

Abington Craft Group

Our next meeting is on Thursday 21 September at 1.30pm. There are no fixed activities. Please bring your own project. All welcome, light refreshments, £2 per session. For information, contact Glynis.brookman@btinternet.com, tel. 07970 614 194

Scrabble Club

The next meeting of the Scrabble Club will be on Tuesday 26 September at 7pm in the Institute. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month and new members are very welcome.

Sheena Fraser

Film Nights

Film Nights will restart on Friday 22 September at 7.30pm (doors open 7pm). You can subscribe to Film Night updates on the village website (see page 6). Alternatively, email johnrivers@gmail.com and we will add you to our mailing list.

Abington Walking Group



So far over the summer we have had some lovely walks in our nearby countryside including Ashdon, Steventon End, Debden and Heydon.

Your September strolls are on Thursday 7 and Saturday 23.

The walks start from the Institute at 10am by shared transport to the walk venue. Look forward to seeing you. For further information please contact:

Robin Harman robandkayharman@gmail.com, Genevieve Dalton gdalton365@gmail.com.

Abington & Hildersham Women's Institute

We were blessed with a fine day for our July outing to the Cambridge Botanic Garden and enjoyed our lunch outside the café in the sunshine, before wandering around at leisure. The Garden provides a series of wonderful landscapes through which to discover the drama of plant diversity. This no NGS show garden but holds a collection of over 8,000 plant species from all over the world within its beds, borders and glasshouses to facilitate teaching, learning and research not only at the University but for visitors of all ages. We particularly appreciated the Bee Borders, where the colour scheme is mainly blues, mauves and violets with complementary yellows, as bees can see this part of the colour spectrum best.

Our Bring and Share Garden Party in August, by kind invitation of Carole McCrae, was a relaxed gathering in a lovely garden with only a few spots of rain followed by sunshine. A trail encouraged members to explore hidden areas of the surprisingly large garden, which has a wide variety of habitats for both plants and wildlife.

Our next meeting is on Monday 11 September at 7.30pm in the Abington Village Institute with local vet Jackie Brierley. New members and visitors always welcome.

Abington Festival of Running – save the date

Abington Festival of Running 2023
10k, 5k and 2k fun run
Sunday 1 October at 10.30am
A fast, flat course through the picturesque South Cambridgeshire villages of Great & Little Abington starting and finishing at Granta Park



Entries close Sunday 24th Sept
For more info:
www.Abington10k.com
Follow us on twitter:
[@Abington10k](https://twitter.com/Abington10k)



SCAN ME



A fundraising event with all proceeds to Great Abington Primary School (registered charity No. 1136090)

The Abington Festival of Running is back for another year and will take place at Granta Park on Sunday 1 October at 10.00am. There will be a 10km and 5km road race and a 2km fun run.

Once again the 10km and 5km courses will be designated official UKA Road Races. The courses remain largely the same as in previous years – flat and fast – but with minor improvements. So whether you are looking for a new PB or a flat course with a great community atmosphere to challenge yourself to a run, this event is for you. There will be prizes on the day and a medal for every finisher.

As ever, this is also a community event and there will be a large crowd, refreshment stalls and the famous Abington welcome. Bookings are now open at www.abington10k.com.

Great Abington Festival of Running Team

Great Abington Parish Council – An Active Council

Community Warden Scheme

The Parish Council would like to know if any residents of Great/Little Abington and Hildersham would be interested in being involved with a Community Warden Scheme. This scheme supports older people, primarily but not exclusively aged 60 and over, within their own homes. Older people are assisted to live independently by providing daily contact and support through a mixture of personal visits and telephone calls, to ensure a sense of security and well-being, as well as practical support. The scheme is operated in partnership with Age UK, has a positive impact on the lives of older people and relieves pressure on carers, particularly family carers. It also supports those who have no relatives close by. The model supports, or maintains self-resilience, enabling people to stay at home longer, by offering regular contact, reducing the need for other interventions, and giving older people the confidence to know that support is always available. For more information about how the scheme works in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, go to: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/cambridgeshireandpeterborough/our-services/community-warden-service-9fac1191-2b4a-ed11-97b2-00155d588368/>

If there is enough interest, the Parish Council will work with Age UK to bring this successful scheme to the Abingtons and Hildersham. The scheme already operates in Linton and Sawston. There is a weekly cost for the user of £10 for a single person, £12 for a couple. If you would like to register your interest in the scheme for yourself or for a member of your family (this is not a commitment) then please email janebowen533@gmail.com.

Planning

Please attend a planning meeting if you would like to make a comment that we can consider 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 views into consideration in their decision-making. For more information on the applications, use the reference below: <https://www.scams.gov.uk/planning/view-or-comment-on-a-planning-application/>.

23/02245/OUT– 55 North Road – Outline planning permission with all matters reserved for a new dwelling on land adjacent to 55 North Road. New vehicular and pedestrian access to 55 North Road

District Council decisions

Application for a Street Trading Licence – Abington Social Club, trading hours Monday–Sunday, 12 noon to midnight.

Note: There appears to be some misunderstanding about the role of the Parish Council in relation to Street Trading Licence applications. The District Council has made it clear that the role of a Parish Council 'is to make representations to an application'. Decisions are made by the District Council.

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 18 September 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 and on the Parish Council's website.

<http://greatabingtonparishcouncil.org> or available from the Parish Clerk.

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

Little Abington Parish Council

Cycling on the Millennium Path

A reminder that the path from Church Lane to the bridge and on to the recreation ground is a footpath, not a bridleway, and so cannot be used by cyclists or horse riders. The path is costly in terms of maintenance and we are currently looking at resurfacing it.

Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund

Cambridgeshire-based voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations are invited to apply for this new fund, which focuses on the upgrading of community buildings and assets (including the purchase of new equipment to attract members). To submit an 'Expression of interest' go to:

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities/cambridgeshire-priorities-capital-fund.

The deadline has been set as Sunday 24 September.

Mobile food hub in Linton

The mobile food hub is a new initiative, funded by South Cambridgeshire District Council and operated by Hope CIC, providing free and below-cost food to anyone who requires it. The nearest hub is based at Linton Village Hall on Coles Lane, CB21 4JS, and is open every Tuesday, 1–2pm.

Overhanging branches

This is a subject we mention frequently! Shrubs and trees that overhang pavements and footpaths or obscure streetlights must be cut back. Remember that the Highways team can charge households for their removal.

Meeting on 24 July

The new double yellow lines on Newmarket Road seem to be having the desired effect but do report any illegal parking to the Police. We are expecting some mobile vehicle activated signs (MVAS) to be installed round the village in the New Year, following an application made by Great Abington Parish Council.

New planning application

23/02818/HFUL – 15 Church Lane. Single-storey front extension. No comments.

Little Abington Parish Council Meetings

Held in Abington Institute at 7.30pm

Next Meeting: Monday 25 September

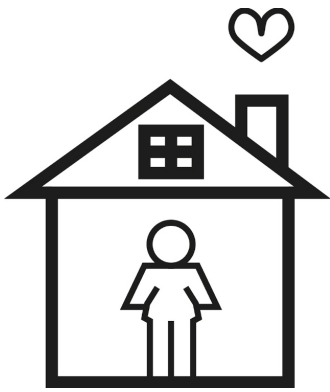
If you would like to participate in a meeting please contact the clerk. The meeting agendas and papers are on the noticeboard on Church Lane and published on the website: www.littleabingtonparishcouncil.org.uk/.

Sheila Bolden (Chair)	07754659929/Cllr.sbolden@littleabingtonparishcouncil.org.uk
Jessica Ashbridge (Clerk)	Clerk@littleabingtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Community Oil Order

Ian Richardson will take orders for domestic heating oil from 23 to 28 September with expected delivery by 13 October. Please provide Ian with the quantity of oil you require, your name, address, postcode and telephone number. Please contact abingtonoil@icloud.com or phone 07592 731 591.

Love Abington News



Love Abington is an organisation committed to bringing practical and emotional support as well as friendship to everyone in our villages. As summer fades and we spend more time in our homes, we are delighted to provide an opportunity for everyone in our community, young and old, to get together at our first seasonal Abington Hub.

The Autumn Abington Hub will be held on Tuesday 19 September, 2–4.30pm, at the Village Institute. Whether you are a young parent or someone of more mature years, you are warmly invited to join us for an afternoon of fun, informative talks

and homemade afternoon tea, provided by members of Love Abington. Life will always have its challenges, especially as we are still living with a cost of living crisis, so there will be short talks from representatives of Granta Social Navigators, Reach, the Citizens Advice Bureau, our new Community Minister and our new care agency in the village. These will take place in the main hall of the Village Institute during the afternoon and the speakers will remain with us for informal conversations during the afternoon.

Meanwhile, on the terrace, there will be games, crafts and storytelling for children. We will be providing a tea for children as they come out of school. We are most grateful to Jennifer Milns and the Tuesday Club for allowing us to join them for the afternoon. A huge thank you to Carol Thexton for organising our speakers. Our next Abington Hub will be in January (date to be announced) where there will be a toy exchange.

Welcome Packs

We are delighted with the response to the new Welcome Packs. If you are new to the Abingtons and have not yet received a welcome letter and Abington Directory, please contact your local coordinator and we will arrange to have one delivered to you.

Little Abington – **Anton King 01223 891514**

Great Abington – **Carol Thexton 01223 891731** – carol.thexton@gmail.com

Community foodbanks

Our community foodbanks can be found in the porches of Great and Little Abington churches. We always welcome donations. A huge thank you to our village allotment holders who are providing fresh vegetables and fruit from their plots. Most of the fresh produce from the allotments will be left in a box outside the Village Institute.

The Foodbank scheme

Autumn heralds the need for heating our homes again. We want to ensure that nobody has to choose between eating and heating. Our foodbank has therefore partnered with the Cambridge City Foodbank, run by the Trussell Trust, to provide support for those facing a genuine food emergency. If you need help, we can – subject to certain criteria – issue vouchers to provide some of the basics. For more details and in full confidence contact us on 07928 589982.

Rosemary Mead

Hildersham News

Church News

Rolling Supper

The return of this village event proved to be an extremely happy one, despite the weather's best attempts to dampen our moods! Forty guests were welcomed for Pimms and extremely delicious canapés hosted by Beryl and David Mercer at Manor Farm and then, armed with brollies, everyone proceeded to various hosts around the village for the main course. Lots of smiling faces and happy chatter concluded the evening with abundant desserts and coffee in the very beautiful Old Rectory, with thanks to Rosalinde and Paul Gray for their warmest of welcomes. We were also most grateful for the donation of extremely delicious wine from Dr Tim Hunt.

Our evening raised almost £1,000 for church funds, which will be a terrific boost after the enforced lull in fundraising over the last three years. We were all pleased to have this event back on the village calendar and hope to see even more villagers joining us next year.

Childrens Church Council

Our pre-summer holiday picnic had to be an indoor affair but tasted just as good. We made some beautiful small information boards for the churchyard, highlighting the areas of flower meadows and our animal habitats. Please look out for these on your next visit. Back from holidays and ready for a new school year the children are full of wonderful new ideas. We have lots of planning ahead for Harvest Café Church, a creative church day – and what shall we do for the Christmas Service? (A long way ahead but we need to plan.)

Lots to look out for

We will be having our usual Emmaus collection in November and plans are afoot for a Quiz Night. We will also repeat our appeal for gifts for refugee children and those in care at Christmas.

Harvest Café Church, Sunday 24 September, 11am

All are welcome to this all-ages service, which encourages active engagement with the Gospel readings while enjoying tea and homemade cake. Last year our Harvest offerings were of a different nature from the marrows and apples of the past. As the cost of living crisis dominated our headlines, we invited parishioners to donate to purchasing slow cookers for Reach in Haverhill, hoping that this would enable families to cook nutritious meals in an economical way. The Reach foodbank found these to be a valuable resource for their clients and therefore we are thinking that we would like to repeat this request and add another cost-saving piece of equipment – a stick blender. These blenders enable people to make nutritious soups with low-cost ingredients in a time-saving fashion. If you would like to donate financially or give one of the items yourself then please bring your donation to our Harvest service or leave a donation in an envelope labelled **Harvest Giving** in the slow cooker next to the pulpit or through the door of 14, Beech Row, Hildersham. Reach would also be happy to accept donations online. If you are a taxpayer it benefits by an extra 25%.

Hildersham Village Hall Trust – a Tribute

HVHT wishes to pay tribute to two trustees who passed away this year: Robin Meikle on 17 March, aged 86, and Brian Cunningham on 4 July, aged 73. Both were members of the original Village Hall working party, the forerunner of HVHT. The Trust was established and received charitable status in January 2007, with the aim to maintain the existing building while raising funds for a new Village Hall. Robin and Brian gave time, energy and commitment to the cause. Robin prepared a lot of the required documentation, much of which is still in use to this day. Brian was Trust Chairman for several years and was also immensely practical, carrying out many of the Hall's DIY jobs.

Robin retired from HVHT in 2012 when he and his wife, Rosemary, moved to Sawston. He maintained an active interest in the Trust and took part in many village activities. Brian chose to step back somewhat over the past year but agreed to stay on as a trustee at the AGM in June. He was particularly keen to have a sign on the Village Hall and researched suppliers and designs. We're pleased to have achieved this for him and the Hall now has a smart new sign. We're fortunate to have had two such committed Trustees and acknowledge the valuable contribution they made over many years. Thank you, Robin, thank you Brian. Jill Heale, Helen Humphrys, Jenny Logan (HVHT)

Granta Medical Practices Flu Clinics 2023

The best time to have your flu vaccine is early autumn before flu starts spreading. **We are holding our flu clinics on the following dates:**

Saturday 23 September	Linton Health Centre, CB21 4JS Sawston Medical Practice, CB22 3
Sunday 24 September	Royston Health Centre, SG8 7BS
Saturday 30 September	Shelford Health Centre, CB22 5FY
Saturday 7 October	Sawston Medical Practice, CB22 3HU
Sunday 8 October	Royston Health Centre, SG8 7BS
Saturday 14 October	Barley Surgery, SG8 8HY Linton Health Centre, CB21 4JS
Saturday 21 October	Shelford Health Centre, CB22 5FY
Saturday 28 October	Linton Health Centre, CB21 4JS Barley Surgery, SG8 8HY
All clinics start at 8:30am and finish at 4:15pm	

Groups eligible for a free NHS flu vaccine from 1 September 2023 are:

- Those aged 65 years and over
- Those aged 6 months to under 65 years in clinical risk groups
- Carers in receipt of a carer's allowance, or those who are the main carer of an elderly or disabled person
- Care home residents
- Pregnant women
- Children aged 2 or 3, specifically at 31 August 2023.

Please note that the over 50s with no underlying conditions are no longer eligible for a free NHS flu vaccine. Eligible patients will shortly receive a text with a link to book a flu jab, or you can call us on 0300 234 5555. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sandra East, Head of Patient Services, cpicb.grantapatientsservices@nhs.net

September Church Services

(other than the Abingtons and Hildersham)

DATE	9.30am	11.00am	3.00pm
3 September		United Communion <i>Balsham</i>	
10 September	Communion <i>Weston Colville</i> <i>West Wickham</i> <i>West Wratting</i>	Communion <i>Balsham</i>	
17 September	Communion <i>West Wickham</i>	Communion <i>Balsham</i>	Harvest Songs of Praise <i>West Wratting</i>
24 September	Communion <i>West Wickham</i>	Communion <i>Balsham</i> Harvest Songs of Praise <i>Weston Colville</i>	

Church Services for September 2023

DATE	Gt. Abington 	Lt. Abington 	Hildersham 	Readings
3 September	11.00am United Service at Balsham			Romans 12.9-end Matthew 16.21-end
10 September		11.00am Communion	11.00am Communion	Exodus 12.1-14 Matthew 18.15-20
17 September	11.00am Morning Worship		6.00pm Evensong	Romans 14.1-12 Matthew 18.21-35
24 September		6.00pm Evensong	11.00am Café Church	2 Corinthians 9.6-end Matthew 15.29-39

Church Flower Rota

	Gt. Abington	Lt. Abington	Hildersham
3 September	Anne Hall and Patsy Randall	Sue Fordham and Mary Miles	Kate Huntsman
10 September	Anne Hall and Patsy Randall	Sue Fordham and Mary Miles	Lizzy Griggs
17 September	Nadia Brown	Kay Harman and June Waring	Lizzy Griggs
24 September	Nadia Brown (Harvest)	Kay Harman and June Waring (Harvest)	Harvest

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