



Histon and
Impington | Parish
Council

The Newsletter of Histon & Impington
Parish Council
Issue 34 - December 2021

HISIMP
NEWS



More HI Trees

Saturday 27 November saw a crowd of over sixty volunteers brave the tail end of Storm Arwen to plant trees in the field between the Holiday Inn and the B1049. About 400 trees including oaks, beech, birch, crab apple, hornbeam, and wild cherry, along with smaller shrubs such as hawthorn, dogwood and hazel were planted.



This was the culmination of almost four years of talking to landowners, raising money and planning and it was fantastic to be able to finally hold our community planting event. The 400 trees are part of a total of about 1200 trees that have been planted in the field, extending the green gateway to our village and creating new woodland that will benefit wildlife and help to screen us from the A14.

Able led by Jan Watt, with lots of help from the HI Trees committee, the volunteers learned the art of planting, staking, and mulching to give the trees the best possible start. And the scouts were on hand to provide much needed hot drinks. We planted one-year old 'whips'. Whilst these trees are small, they will be much less disturbed by the planting process and should do well.

Now that all the trees are planted, we'll be able to fence them off, and this will allow the rest of the field to be used for livestock. I understand sheep will be moving in, in the Spring.

We're hugely grateful to Chivers Farms for allowing us to plant this new woodland, and all those who've donated and supported us.

These include the South Cambridgeshire District Council Zero Carbon Communities Fund, National Highways, Histon and Impington Parish Council, the Cambridge Water Pebble Fund, Lily Lazell and many other individuals, the Red Lion Beer Festival, Oven Gleamers, Cooke Curtis and Co, Brookfield Groundcare, and of course the Woodland Trust for their help, advice, and discounted tree supplies.



And of course a huge thank you to all who braved the cold and the rain, planted the trees, and helped create a new woodland that will benefit our village for decades to come.

Dan Mace

Abbey Fields The Fundraising Begins!

Find out more and have your say at our stall on Sunday 12th December at Histon Smokehouse on the Green - 9.30am to 4.30pm
Help to secure and protect 15 Acres of wonderful Woodland and Meadow on the doorstep of the villages - for public access and biodiversity
Your donation can be recognised with a 'Croft' certificate! - a great Xmas gift
Friends of Histon & Impington Green Spaces



**H & I
Christmas
Weekend**

One special Sunday afternoon
Sunday 12 December
1.30 to 4.30pm

Mini Xmas show
Christmas Tree Festival
The Green
Carol Singing
Storytelling & Sherlock Holmes

Refreshments
Fire Eating Show
Christmas Santa Runs
Christmas Tree Festival
Family story telling
Choir 2000 & Histon Salvation Army Band
Sherlock Homes in Cambridge talk
Impingtones Singing Group
Christmas Mini Show with Bramley Singers
Community jingle bell ringing
Moses Carter Band Christmas song collection
Stilt walking & childrens entertainment

Thank you Trevor Smith, Histon & Impington Parish Council Head Parish Ranger and Martin Cornell, Assistant Parish Ranger and Shane Whyatt of Wyatt's Amusements for coordinating the installation of this year's Christmas light display!

Thank you!

You will notice a change in the Christmas lights on the Village Green this year, namely the big tree near the Play Area no longer has a multitude of little lights. Instead, we are trying out some uplighters.

Unfortunately, the existing lights failed their safety check. We think the squirrels have nibbled the wiring over time. We are looking to source like for like replacements for next year!



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Councillors:
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Aga Cahn - Hereward Close 232186
Marian Cleaver - High Street 232897
Neil Davies - Dwyer Joyce Close 232514
Walter Davey - Park Avenue 234210
Cedric Foster - Clay Street 234156
Brian Ing - Woodcock Close 234291
David Jenkins - Pease Way 07739 758859
Simon Jocelyn - Villa Place 232241
Chris Jones - Station Road 07799 644545
David Legge - Villa Road 233565
Geoff Moore - Mill Lane 235758
Pene Nudds - Clay Close Lane 237155
Kim Powell - Woodcock Close c/o 235906
Edd Stonham - Normanton Way 564534
Jean Venables - Clay Close Lane c/o 235906

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Election Time Looms Again

May 2022 brings an Election for Histon & Impington Councillors for the next 4 years. There are 19 seats on the Council. Each year, we elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman - this year one of our longest serving members, Denis Payne is Chair supported by Yvonne Murray as Vice Chair.

To qualify, you must be at least 18, be a British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of any member state of the European Union, and meet at least one of the following four qualifications:

- You are, and will continue to be, registered as a local government elector for the parish/ community in which you wish to stand from the day of your nomination onwards.
- You have occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the parish/community area during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination and the day of election.
- Your main or only place of work during the 12 months prior to the day of your nomination and the day of election has been in the parish/ community area.
- You have lived in the parish/community area or within three miles of it during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination and the day of election. (See <https://goo.gl/WwXnb2>) for more details.)

Whether or not any intend to stand down, it would be great to see some new candidates coming through to take on the challenges that will be faced up to 2026, and beyond.

The Council is spending YOUR money, which comes largely from the parish part of the Council Tax, currently £??p.a. for a Band D house.

Exciting and sometimes daunting decisions lie ahead, including the growing need to take on and increasing number of higher authority responsibilities.

If you would like to explore the opportunity to put yourself forward for election, the Clerk or any of our Councillors would be happy to talk with you.



www.hisimp.net

New Councillor

The September Full Council meeting welcomed Kim Powell to the Parish Council. Councillor Powell was co-opted during the meeting leaving just one vacancy to be filled.



If you are interesting in joining the Parish Council please email clerk@hisimp.net for more information or attend one of our monthly Full Council meetings held on the third Monday of the month in the Community Room at the Recreation Ground.

Church Services & Events

St Andrews Church Histon and St Andrews Church Impington

Sunday 12 December - Meet the Nativity - 10.30am and 11.15am on Histon Village Green

Sunday 19 December - Carols by Candlelight - 4pm and 7pm St Andrew's Church, Histon

Christmas Eve - Christingle service - 3pm and 5pm St Andrew's Church, Histon

Crib and Christingle service - 3pm St Andrew's Church, Impington

As places are limited at these services, please book in advance by visiting www.standrewshiston.org/christmas or contacting the church office, 320420

Midnight Communion - 11pm St Andrew's Church, Histon

Midnight Communion - 11pm St Andrew's Church, Impington

Christmas Day - 9.30am All Age Holy Communion, St Andrew's Church, Impington
10.30am A Christmas Cracker! St Andrew's Church, Histon

Sunday 26 December - 9.30am Holy Communion St Andrew's Church, Impington
10.30am Holy Communion St Andrew's Church, Histon

Histon Methodist Church

Saturday 11 December - 10am - 4pm Christmas Tree Festival

Sunday 12 December - 12.30pm - 4pm Christmas Tree Festival

Sunday 19 December - 4.30pm Carols by Candlelight Sunday

No Christmas Day Service - all are welcome on Sunday 26 December 10.45am



H & I Christmas Community Weekend

Christmas Film Show

~White Christmas~

Friday 10th December

Saint Andrew's Centre, 2pm
Refreshments provided!
Free entry: donations welcome

To book a seat, contact Paul Seekings:
07772 437789, paul@hifriends.org.uk



Transport available



Histon Holly Workshops

To support HI Friends



11th December (Saturday)

10am-midday
Supporting HI Friends



At Saint Andrew's Centre, Histon
£42 per person
All resources and refreshments included!

£4 discount if re-using your willow wreath base from last year.
£5 discount for 5 individuals who supply a large bin-bag of greenery (from your own garden, not hedgerows please): holly, yew, ivy, bay, box or berries/seed heads such as rose hips, nigella or poppy heads.

Full payment reserves your place, non-refundable. Wreath-making kit with full instructions provided or wreath made for you in case of cancellation.

Places are popular, and numbers limited to allow for social distancing.
Message Jane @histonholly on Facebook and Instagram
or email histonholly@gmail.com to reserve your place.

H&I Friends of Histon & Impington Community Christmas Community Weekend 2021

HI Friends Christmas Quiz

Friday 10th December
7:30pm

Saint Andrew's Centre

Tickets £5 each
Teams of up to 6 welcome!
Please bring your own drink

To register a team, contact:
info@hifriends.org.uk
07502 372852

HI Christmas Tree Festival

A display of decorated Christmas Trees
by village groups

Saturday 11th December 10am-4pm
& Sunday 12.30 to 4pm

Histon Methodist Church

Free entry
(donations welcome)

Light Refreshments

All day Saturday
2pm to 4pm Sunday

Event organised by HI Friends
in partnership with
Histon Methodist Church



HI Friends Santa Fun Runs

1.5km Family Run/Walk & All Age 5k

Sunday 12th December 2pm

Start & finish at The Green with surprises en route!

Register in advance or on the day from 1.15pm
Email info@hifriends.org.uk

Entry fee £3 & family £6

Festive fancy dressed encouraged!
Run memento for all under 18s.



Bringing people
together to
improve wellbeing

Christmas Family Hub



Saturday 11th December, 11am
Saint Andrew's Centre

*Bringing families together
to improve wellbeing through creativity.*

FREE!
Donations welcome

Come along for an hour of craft activities: Christmas card making and the opportunity to create jingle bells for the community jingle bell ringing on the Green, 12th December.

For more information, email Sophie: sophie@hifriends.org.uk
Led by Sophie Howell, play therapist working with Brook and Park Primary schools.
With Ren Stedman, Parental Wellbeing Worker, supporting.

Christmas Recycling

Christmas Crackers - unembellished cardboard cracker parts can be put in your blue bin. Metallic card, glitter, ribbons or wire decorations must go in your black bin.

Christmas Decorations - natural decorations such a holly, mistletoe and poinsettia (without the pot) can be put in your green bin. Remember to remove any ribbons and check for florist wire. Paper chains can be composted in your green bin if they are not glittery or metallic.

Tinsel, baubles and other plastic decorations should go in your black bin.

Christmas Trees - fake plastic trees can be dismantled and go in your black bin as long as the lid closes properly. Real Christmas Trees must be cut up and put in pieces in your green bin or see the item below regarding local tree recycling.

Wrapping Paper - do the scrunch test, if your wrapping paper springs back rather than staying scrunched, it is probably made of metallic plastic and cannot be recycled and must go in your black bin. Heavily glittered paper should also go in your black bin. If the paper stays scrunched it can go in your blue bin.

Milton Waste Recycling Centre Opening Times

October to March:
Monday to Sunday - 9am to 4pm
(Site may close at dusk if earlier)

Entrance gates shut 10 minutes before closing time

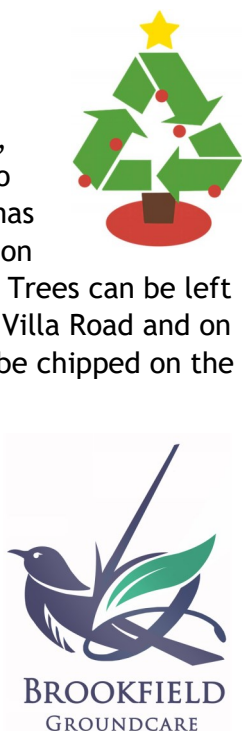
Christmas Eve - closes at 1pm
Christmas Day - closed
Boxing Day - closed
New Year's Day - closed

Recycle your Christmas Tree

Brookfield Contracting have, once again, kindly offered to help chip our village Christmas Trees this year, in conjunction with the enviro.volunteers. Trees can be left on the triangle of land near Villa Road and on the Green as usual and will be chipped on the following date:

Saturday 8th January 2022 9am to 11am.

Trees for chipping **MUST** be left at either site by 11am. at the latest or they will not be chipped.



Zero Carbon Community

This month (November) has seen the launch of a new online series of green community networking events hosted by South Cambridgeshire District Council. 'Green Connect' is part of the Council's Zero Carbon Communities programme, which supports their [Zero Carbon Strategy](#) in moving to net zero carbon emissions in South Cambs.

These events aim to bring South Cambridgeshire's communities together through a shared focus on climate change. Each monthly event will focus on a different theme surrounding climate change and feature a short talk by a guest speaker followed by a Q+A, after which participants are split into breakout rooms to share inspiration, challenges and ideas.

The first event saw a talk by Cllr Pippa Heylings, Chair of the Council's Climate and Environment Advisory Committee and Planning Committee and District Councillor for Histon, Impington and Orchard Park. Cllr Heylings spoke direct from Glasgow at COP26 on the topic of what the conference meant for South Cambridgeshire. After an engaging Q+A, participants discussed what their communities had been doing to reduce their carbon emissions and what pledges they could make to tackle the future challenges of climate change. Cllr Heylings said: *"I have long spoken about the important role that local government plays in helping communities tackle climate change on a very local level, and our Green Connect series of talks is another example of this. We saw at COP26 in Glasgow the need for all countries to increase their ambitions when it comes to tackling climate change, and this is helped by all of us doing what we can on an individual and collective level too in our local areas. Through schemes such as the restoration of the green gateway to Histon and Impington, with the planting of 1000 trees part funded by our Zero Carbon Communities grant scheme, we are already working with you to make a difference."*

The next session, titled "Forest Gardening, Tree Planting and Biodiversity in South Cambridgeshire" will take place on **Monday 13 December from 7.30pm to 9pm**. This will feature a talk by Hannah Thomas, who will be speaking about Babraham's exciting Forest Garden project. Tickets are [available here](#), and we are excited to welcome you to this event.

Eleanor Haines, Climate & Environment Project Officer - Climate, Environment and Waste Service



News from the Histon Post Office

In view of Barclays Bank in the village reducing their opening hours, we would like to remind everyone that Histon Post Office provides banking facilities for most of the major banks including Barclays. You can deposit or withdraw cash without any extra charge and deposit cheques with your sort code and bank account details or with paying in slips. All these facilities are available Monday to Saturday during Post Office opening times.



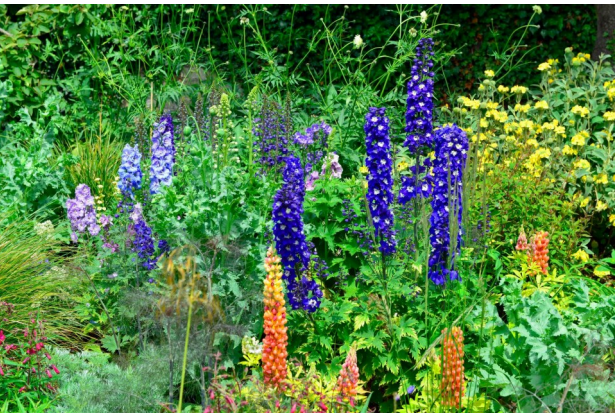
Get Growing for Open Gardens

We are excited to announce that H&I Open Gardens will be back on 12th June 2022! This is a wonderful community event, in which the owners of beautiful and inspiring village gardens open them up for the day. Last time, we raised an amazing £10,000 for local charities.

Nearer the time, we will be asking for your donations for our plant stall, a great fundraiser, and a great place to find new treasures for your garden. As we prepare for the gardening year ahead, could you pop an extra packet of seeds in, to grow on and donate? Do you have perennials that need dividing or could you take cuttings from your favourite plants? Or pot up those self-seeders that have appeared in the wrong place? Flowers, vegetable or shrubs, we would love your help.

Happy gardening!
www.opengardens.org
www.facebook.com/HistonAndImpingtonOpenGardens/

Denise Walker



Inside the Factory - at Histon

You may have seen “Inside the factory” on TV - looking at businesses producing food for the UK and beyond - but did you know that we’ve got our own local factory doing the same?

Starting in 1873 (look out for the 150th year anniversary, and a book being published by the Village Society) by the Chivers family, the site is now run by Hain Daniels Group.

The Histon factory is Hain Daniels’ largest manufacturing site, and manufactures a number of the UK’s favourite jams, marmalades, jellies, honey & syrup, mincemeat, fruit fillings & fruit ingredients. That includes Hartley’s jam, Gales Honey, Clarks Maple Syrup and the Robertson’s and Frank Cooper marmalades to name but a few. Production also takes place of retailers own brand versions, and components for biscuits, cakes etc.



So, for example, if you enjoy a Jaffa cake (and who doesn’t) or a Jammie dodger - you’re most likely enjoying the work of Hain Daniels!

The factory, of course, is very different from 1873. About 400 people work on site (a tenth of the peak for the early factory) and there’s more and more mechanisation. From mechanical unloading of pallets of glass jars, automated filling (and quality checks, of course) through to automatic stacking of pallets of finished products.

We’ve recently seen, of course, the planning application submitted by McCarthy & Stone for development on part of the site. That’s been withdrawn by McCarthy and Stone, and Hain Daniels have no current plans for the land.

From other planning applications we’ve seen more investment - a combined heat and power unit - a more efficient means of getting electricity and the steam they need to cook everything! And an upgraded, more efficient, anaerobic digester to replace the one already on site generating biogas from the site’s waste, which is used to generate electricity.

Of course, with any factory comes noise and immediate residents bear the brunt of those issues. The site works actively with those impacted in any way and has been continually investing in new equipment and other ways of reducing their local impact.

The Hain Daniels Factory in Histon is a success story that we should be proud of - it’s a major supplier of jams, jellies & marmalades - the treats we all like and provides good employment with great career paths for local people.

Denis Payne

Giving Personal Gifts that don’t Cost The Earth

If our home were about to flood, one of the things I’d scramble to rescue would be a homemade Christmas gift made for me many years ago by my husband. Each page in his simple A5 notebook titled ‘50 reasons I love you’ mentioned a thing he liked about me and was illustrated with a simple drawing, or cut out image. Other memorable presents from the family include a pledge to serve breakfast in bed every weekend for a month and jam jars filled with slips of paper promising little daily acts of kindness. If I’m honest, the pledges and promises didn’t always materialise, but gifts that involve making and planning show that we’ve spent time thinking about the person, so fulfilling a need we all have to feel appreciated. Being thoughtful can compensate for extravagance - I once met a woman who’d challenged herself to buy nothing new (apart from food and toiletries/medicines) for a whole year and one of the things that had worried her most was sourcing presents for friends and family. She muddled through by baking, making and growing things but what people had absolutely loved was not the gift, but what it came wrapped in! The wrapping was made from cuttings, articles and images she’d carefully collected over the year as she came across things she knew particular people would like.

Many of us have teenagers and children to buy for and ‘wish lists’ make it a little harder to do something different for them. But if you have friends, family and partners that really don’t want or need more stuff, below are some personal and more planet friendly gifts ideas:

Support charities that mean something to the recipient by making a donation or taking out a membership on their behalf. The organisation can send a certificate on your behalf.

Pay for classes/learn new skills - we all know people that have said for years they want to learn the tango, to cook Indian food, learn about wine, photography or speak French! Cheaper options include subscriptions to e-learning platforms like Duolingo for languages or Udemy for thousands of online training courses.

Gift a subscription to an audio-book platform like Audible or Spotify music streaming service.

Days out/trips/experiences - tickets for a big match, to be a zoo keeper for a day or take a llama for a walk, a trip to an amusement park, a ski dome or Go Ape, a massage or treatment, theatre or concert ticket, a cream-tea at Granchester or paddle-boarding along the Cam?

Promises - make up your own based on what they’d love. Write them down and present in a nice little box/jar.

Memberships/subscriptions to the University of the Third Age for interesting talks and lectures, the Arts Picturehouse and all the other cinemas in town, sporting and health clubs.

Personalise something - get something engraved, embroider a message or name on a t-shirt, pair of PJ’s or pillowcase.

Get a precious item/ heirloom repaired or restored or send off video tapes and DVD’s for digital transfer.



Get baking and seeping - flavouring gins and vodkas is easy, make festive confectionary and cakes, preserves, flavour oils with herbs, berries and spices.

Give plants/a fruit tree/flowers from a local florist.

Make a scrapbook/photobook/collage/frame a favourite piece of a child/grandchild’s artwork/story

Write a poem, make a playlist.

Nicole Barton, Histon & Impington Sustainability Group



Need a little extra support?

love every drop
anglianwater

Our Priority Services Register can help lots of people with different needs. By signing up we can:

Let you know about upcoming work

We can call or text you to let you know planned work in advance.

Help you nominate someone to manage your account

This means they will be able to speak directly to us.

Send bills in different formats

We can send bills in braille, large print and audio.

Help if your water goes off

We may be able to deliver bottled water if you need it.

Help protect you against bogus callers

You can add a password to your account.

Communicate in different languages

We can communicate in your preferred language, including BSL.

Find out more

anglianwater.co.uk/priority

0800 232 1951

BSL anglianwater.co.uk/bsl

Scan here

Histon & Impington Village Society Memberships Plans for 2022

With over half of our 470 members giving input via a recent survey, we now have a solid insight into what our members are looking for and are ready to launch the 2022 membership drive. We were delighted that 86% of respondents rated our membership as very good or above.

Feedback suggested expanding our monthly talks to other elements about village life, not just subjects linked to history or planning. We kick started this wider approach in September with a talk from Mark Donachy, previous landlord of The Red Lion, who spoke about local pubs. The talk was hosted at The British Legion and attracted over 120 residents, of whom more than 90 attended in person with others logging in via Zoom. New subjects suggested by respondents were Chivers, businesses in the village past and present, local personalities and their lives, IVC and its architecture. We hope to incorporate many of these ideas in the 2022 talks programme which we will be published in December.

Feedback from members:

'Thank you for another fascinating document, wonderful memories'.

'I loved reading about the origins (and tribulations) leading to the formation of I.V.C'.

'The Littleport Society has much to learn from the H&IVSoc ideas. Keep up the great work'.

'Thank you for all your interesting articles and walks. They are so informative and bring the old villages to life which is particularly interesting when researching family history'.

The Society is now taking payment and subscriptions for renewing membership for 2022 so if you are a present member or wish to become a new member please see our website for details shorturl.at/kEKZ1 or contact handivsoc@gmail.com or 07956 720023. Annual membership fee £12.00

Membership benefits:

- Regular emails (or hand delivered hard copies) on the history of Histon & Impington and its environs
- Free admission to our monthly talks at local venues and/or online
- Three members newsletters per year
- Annual Members Garden Party
- Organised guided tours to local historic houses (additional charges may apply)
- Help for those compiling, or thinking of publishing, books, or items of interest about our community.

Help ensure your favourite village photos are enjoyed by future generations

The Histon and Impington Village Society's "Then and Now" section on its Facebook page has proved extremely popular this year, depicting how our villages have changed over the years. As a result, the Society are now asking for villagers to share their favourite memories of our community. Be they scenes, teams, or events, the only criteria are that they must be part of Histon and Impington's history. The society can work with hard or soft copies and will of course return originals where requested. We only ask that we can copy them and retain the copy in the Society's Archives with permission to use them for historical purposes. Further information can be obtained on our website or email.



Red Lion Raising Funds in 1997 during The Beer Festival



Mike Mason on a trike during a very wet parade 1978

Katherine Mann, Histon & Impington Village Society



Advice from Our Tree Warden

Our Tree Warden has requested that as the nights are getting shorter, all home owners should check for overgrown vegetation obstructing footpaths and lighting columns, so that we have light and space to travel safely around our villages.



www.hisimp.net

Histon & Impington Green Spaces The Long Meadow Sycamore

The western end of Long Meadow is dominated by a magnificent pollarded sycamore, which is believed to be around 200 years old.



Many of you who have enjoyed the meadow in recent years will be aware that it has been showing signs of distress. Just five years ago it supported a full canopy of leaves, casting welcome shade from summer sun. Sadly, this



year the tree was only able to support a thin layer of leaves, and then only on a fraction of its branches.

The tree is clearly dying. Last winter a couple of major boughs came down and more recently it has shed outer branches. For more information see the short report available on <https://abbeyfields.online/>.

The site managers had a professional tree specialist survey the tree. He unfortunately confirmed the tree is very nearly dead, has a history of major branch failure and poses a significant hazard to people visiting. This view has been confirmed by another independent expert.



Storm Arwen was a timely reminder of the importance of proactively monitoring our trees for signs of structural weakness.

HIGS Trustees and Friends Steering Committee have resolved that we should save as much of the tree as possible. The base of the trunk will remain standing as powerful reminder of a "dear friend" and as a valuable home for insects and other wildlife.

The work is likely to be done in early December; should you wish for any further information please contact sitemanagers@abbeyfields.online.

We are looking for suggestions from Friends and the wider community for this part of the meadow after the work on the tree has been done. (The timber will be stacked safely as a temporary measure.) For example, should we plant a new feature tree which will provide pleasure for future generations? Should we leave felled boughs and branches in the meadow to create a haven for wildlife? Or should we simply take enjoyment from the wide views and the tranquillity of the meadow.

Jon Pavey

Village Wide Litter Picking
Group Passes 10 Years

This year sees our 10th Anniversary, since it is started in 2011.

The group has gone from strength to strength with some 150 members now, many of whom Adopt their area



or somewhere nearby know as ‘MY PATCH’, where volunteers go out litter picking as and when it suits them throughout the Year. We still hold the quarterly ‘Big Tidy Up’ litter picks, the latest one was earlier this month, as some members like the formality of the occasion and meeting others. It must be



mentioned that the South part of Impington has had a team of litter pickers doing that area for many more years, as are the W I Ladies who have

historically litter picked The High Street and The Green. Both Groups have joined forces with The village wide group.

Normally we arrange for a complimentary refreshments at The Methodist Church on Big Tidy Up days, and hope these will resume once life returns to normal.

Apart from Streets, our band of volunteers have tackled the wooded area in Butt Lane just before the Tip, The Guided Busway paths and verges, The Copse, Highfield Park, The Dole Woods, Mere Way, Gun’s Lane, and cross field paths to Westwick and Girton. Also a lady litter picks the Cottenham Road, on her walk to Cottenham, several times in a week. Volunteers also regularly tidy up the bus shelters in Cottenham Road and School Hill.

Just recently two ladies and their families have taken on the newly acquired Croft Close Set- aside area and Long Meadow that runs parallel with Park Lane, to litter pick when they can. Also a couple in Saffron Road, now include the former Infant School Playing field in their litter picking.

If you feel there are areas in the Village that need more attention or you would like to register your interest in possibly joining the group, please email me and/or you may like to join our Facebook page named HILP (Histon & Impington Litter Pickers), which has 170 members currently.

Cedric Foster
cedric.foster@hisimp.net

Project to increase
biodiversity in our Green
Spaces

Back in May this year the people of Histon and Impington voted to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan, which designated a network of “local green spaces” and identified several additional areas of important natural habitat. Putting them on the map is a start but we need to look after - and where possible increase - their biodiversity and in that we have received a big helping hand from Cambridge Past Present and Future.

CPPF has secured funding from Natural England to enhance biodiversity throughout the county and we have obtained a £10,000 grant from that pot, to be coordinated by the Parish Council. It has to be used in this financial year, i.e. by March 2022, so our project is taking a straightforward approach, with direct habitat management action in several sites, principally Manor Park Field (where the HICOP community orchard is located), the field by Holiday Inn where HI Trees has its tree planting project in collaboration with Chivers Farms, plus Long Meadow and Croft Close Set Aside, which are the two places for which the Friends of Histon and Impington Green Spaces are currently raising funds to complete the purchase.

Lack of roosting and nesting sites limits some species around our villages, so part of the CPPF funding will pay for 20 bat boxes and over 40 bird-nesting boxes of different shapes and sizes, chosen to attract specialist species, such as spotted flycatcher which have disappeared locally in recent years, or our birds of prey such as kestrel and tawny/ barn owls. A few of the boxes will have automatic cameras fitted, so that we can monitor their progress.

Another big activity will be “laying” 300 metres of hedge around Manor Park Field. HICOP’s Dan Mace says, “We planted this hedgerow in 2013. Eight years on it has grown up brilliantly, but that means the lower part is thinning out. An expert hedge-



Manor Park hedge 2013



Manor Park hedge 2021



Example of an expertly laid hedge (courtesy of RSPB)

layer will cut into some of the stems and lay them horizontal, so that the hedge thickens up and provides dense, safe habitat for birds and insects. We’ll be doing this work in early December.

So, we’re pushing on with the resurgence of green spaces and wildlife around Histon and Impington!

Rob Benstead-Smith

Lest We Forget



Histon and Impington's Dementia Friendly Community is Growing

It was a great delight, in the late summer, to learn from the Alzheimer's Society that our application to be recognised as a community working towards becoming dementia friendly had been accepted. Since then several activities have begun and will continue into 2022.



A new lunch club for those living with dementia or some form of memory loss has been started at Saint Andrew's Centre, meeting fortnightly on a Thursday from 12 noon to 1.30pm, led by the villages' dementia worker, Sarah Brown. There is an open invitation for those with any form of memory loss to come, with a carer, and join in an informal social time over a meal. Lunch is supplied by the café at the Centre, currently at a cost of £8.00 per head. If you know someone who would like to join in, please contact sarah@hifriends.org.uk for more information. It is very helpful if people can book ahead but there is no requirement to attend each lunch - just come when you can. Sarah is also available to help those needing a bit more 1:1 support and advice.

We have also started a new mutual support group, again specifically for those living with dementia or memory loss and their carers and this will meet fortnightly on a Wednesday afternoon in the new year. As we gather, there is an opportunity to talk and share information, helpful hints and to learn from each other, as well as explore the wide range of help available. The group has already proved beneficial to those attending and is full of laughter as well more serious discussion. Light refreshments are served and there is no charge. If you know people in Histon or Impington, (or living in neighbouring villages) who would benefit from coming along, please contact myself, jan@hifriends.org.uk

Finally, it is great delight to announce that six organisations have now signed up to formally become members of our new Dementia Friendly Community. Congratulations and thank you to Histon and Impington Parish Council, HI Friends, HI Hub, the Salvation Army Histon, Saint Andrew's Church, Histon and St Andrew's Church, Impington. If your business, organisation, social group or youth group would like to consider joining this new community, recognised and supported by the Alzheimer's Society, please get in touch with me at jan@hifriends.org.uk There is no financial cost involved and I can explain more about it when you are in touch. Joining in could be key to changing lives for some residents in our

villages.

My thanks to everyone who has, in any way, supported this new project in our villages. My hope is that by the end of 2022 we will have a large number of people and organisations active and busy in our Dementia Friendly Community making Histon and Impington a really good and understanding place in which to live if you have any form of memory loss, or are caring for someone else who does.

We wish all readers of HisImp News a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Jan Payne

Project Leader, HI Forget-me-not for a Dementia Friendly Community

Upcoming Tree Work at Long Meadow and Croft Close Set Aside

Storm Arwen was a timely reminder of the importance of proactively monitoring our trees for signs of structural weakness.

Earlier in the year, Histon & Impington Green Spaces engaged a specialist tree surveyor to examine our largest trees. He recommended works to some of these, and this work will shortly be done.

**CAUTION
TREE WORKS
IN PROGRESS**

In the main, the work entails reducing the weight on vulnerable boughs and trunks by removing dead wood. Sadly, the sycamore at the western end of Long Meadow is one of the trees affected.

In other locations, it is possible that many visitors will be unaware of the work after it is done, other than by seeing freshly cut timber on the ground. Other visitors will, of course, note the changes but we hope in most locations natural growth will soon infill any gaps.

Looking to the future, some new planting may be a good idea to improve the age profile of our tree stock in certain locations. (As can be seen at Croft Close, significantly sized trees can soon develop.)

There will be some minor trimming to the lowest branches of some of the horse chestnuts that overhang Park Lane footpath to keep these out of the way of cyclists. Importantly, this work is not expected to change the general appearance of these splendid trees.

The work is likely to be done in early December; should you wish for any further information please contact sitemanagers@abbeyfields.online.

Jon Pavey

If you have any events you need to promote in our quarterly newsletter let the editors know by 7 March 2022

Email:

hi-news.editor@hisimp.net

Dates for
the Diary:

Histon Library News

Cambridgeshire Libraries are excited to announce that the building work for the new Histon library will be completed by the end of November including the installation of the IT services.

There will continue to be a flurry of activity during December whilst the new furniture is installed and staff prepare the library ready to open.

The Histon library staff team are looking forward to welcoming customers into the new library in January 2022. We are planning an official opening to take place in late spring 2022.

The temporary Histon mobile library provision has now closed, during December Histon library customers who would like to use a library will be encouraged to visit other nearby libraries for book borrowing, and make use of the Cambridgeshire Libraries online services which can be found on our website at shorturl.at/ersH4.

All Histon library borrowed books will have an extended loan period and will be due back at the end of January 2022.

Wishing you a safe New Year and we look forward to seeing you in January.

Terri Lewis, Area Library Manager (South Cambs North)

hi Histon and Impington Parish Council



Council & Committee Meetings

Subject to Government Guidelines and possible changes to COVID restrictions

See website for details: www.hisimp.net

Full Council - 7.30pm - Monday 17 January, 21 February, 21 March 2022 in the Recreation Ground Community Room

Committee meeting dates are posted on the website in advance of the meeting.