



March 2023 Newsletter

SPRING HAS NEARLY SPRUNG*

** week commencing 6th March: snow, ice and sleet this week. First day of Spring is 20th March '23.*

I'm opening this with a short introduction and update on what is happening with AbiBinit! The group was founded by Helen Flynn in 2018 as an initiative to bring together like-minded people to help keep Abingdon a litter-free town and foster civic pride in Abingdon and its community.

My name is Lynne Ford and I joined Helen supporting AbiBinit! in 2019, attending regularly on organised picks and providing another pair of hands when needed. After the long hiatus of the pandemic, at the start of this year, Helen took the decision to stand back from the activity planning of the group and asked me to take up the reins. As time permits, she hopes to still be able to join future events.

Keeping in touch: email, website and social media

A few changes have had to be made to assist with Helen stepping back: the most visible of which is a change of contact mail addresses. Mail forwarding is set up on the AbiBinit2018 email address to our new addresses: lynne@abibinit.org and events@abibinit.org.



I hope to be able to start and maintain a monthly email update for those that don't follow us on Facebook. If you would like to be added to the mail list for regular (once a month) updates or are registering interest in attending one of the future dates below please drop a line to the events@abibinit.org address.

AbiBinit! are proud to be affiliated with the Friends of Abingdon Civic Society and I strongly encourage you to visit their site and consider joining. <https://abingdoncivicsociety.org.uk/>

The Friends of Abingdon support our group in a number of ways – not least providing us with space and administration of the following page on their website to promote our events and provide signposts for supporting contacts and sites. *Huge thanks to Ray Hand for the website support!*



<https://abingdoncivicsociety.org.uk/activities/abibinit-litter-picking-initiative/>



For those that do use social media, we will continue to use the [Facebook group](#) for day-to-day news and event updates. It is a great way to reach out to the other members if you're planning to head out litter picking and want some company.

Latest pick report, events and future dates

Our last litter pick was on the 25th Feb, meeting at the MG Heritage Park and focussed on the Marcham Road/Drayton Road area, taking in the Ock walk and the path alongside the Tithe Farm estate down to towards Tesco.

Ten volunteers attended and the weather kindly held for us as we gathered up 14 bags of litter, 4 of which were full of recyclables, during the two hour session.



Thank you to all who came out to support !

Abingdon Town Council have organised a Clubs and Societies Day to be held at Abingdon Guildhall on **Saturday 18th March from 10am** until mid-afternoon. AbiBini! will be represented there at the Friends of Abingdon table – **please come down and say hello.**



The [Keep Britain Tidy](#) campaign is running this year between **17th March and 2nd April**. Whilst I haven't planned an event in that window if you need support or guidance in setting up a local event please get in touch either by email or on the Facebook group.

And finally, the following dates are currently planned and I'm more than happy for [feedback](#) with suggestions for locations for later this year. If you'd like more dates let me know!

If you'd like to put your name down for one or more of these dates below please drop an email to events@abibinit.org – this simply helps with planning to ensure we have sufficient equipment.

- [Sat 29th April @ Abingdon Lock, River and Riverbank with other community groups](#)
- **Sun 2nd July** @ Southern Town Park / Lambrick Way
- **Sat 12th August** TBC
- **Sat 14th October** TBC

*Do you have a suggested location for the TBCs?
Areas of grot that need to be tidied? Email me...*

The April date is an annual feature on our diary and brings together several community groups. The link on the date above will open the poster: prizes for most unusual find always prove popular. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Any suggestions/feedback or items you'd like included in the next Newsletter, added to the website or advice needed please email me lynne@abibinit.org

Look forward to seeing you all in the near future; stay safe and be well, Lynne Ford