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Parish News



September 2020

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Copy should be submitted to the Editor in electronic form, with any photos, graphics or logos submitted as separate attachments, not embedded in the file. Questions about submission should be addressed to the Editor.

The editorial team reserves the right to edit, accept or reject any material submitted for publication. The views expressed within the magazine are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial team.

A copy of the magazine is available on the Girton website at www.girton-cambs.org.uk, where you may also find expanded versions of selected items.

Advertisements

Prices for placing advertisements in the *Girton Parish News*, in black-and-white or colour, can be had on application to the Advertising Manager.

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The *Girton Parish News* is produced and distributed entirely by volunteers from the village, including the following:

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Puzzle Corner Sian Franklin

Webmaster Andrew Haylett

and many others. If you are interested in becoming involved in any capacity, please contact the Editor.

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Don't let it be **Goodbye GPN!**

I am stepping down from the Editor's role at the end of this year. Alas, so far no one has come forward to take over. Don't let the magazine disappear!

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Contact Angela Blackburn
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Copy date for October issue: Wed. 16 September. Issue date: Sat. 3 October. Covers 3–30 October.

GIRTON PARISH COUNCIL

As reported in previous editions of *Girton Parish News* we have been progressing a grant application to Cambridgeshire County Council Communities Capital Fund in respect of a project to remodel and extend the Pavilion building to provide disability access, improved and extended changing and storage facilities, a function room and an extended hall for both sports and social activities. In early August we were delighted to learn that our application has been successful and we have been awarded the requested £275,000, which is 50% of the total project cost.

At our August meeting, therefore, we discussed and approved proposals for the next steps in the project, the most pressing of which is submission of the Planning Application. Details of the development plans will be published on the Village website as soon as possible. Councillors thanked the Task and Finish group and in particular the Chairman, for their continued efforts. It was also noted that over recent years the Council has upgraded our tennis courts, car park, and MUGA surface and lighting and is in the process of paying much-needed attention to the village play areas and Trim Trail. Work on these has been hampered by inevitable lockdown delays but it is hoped will be completed sooner rather than later.

Delays in provision of complete documentation from our accountants meant that approval for submission of the 2019–20 AGAR (Annual Return) to the auditors was postponed and will now be made at an extraordinary meeting later in August.

It is the Council's aim to allow partial re-use of the Pavilion building by 7th September. The hall and limited toilet facilities will be re-opened for use, dependent on the submission of satisfactory risk assessments and protocols from hirers, with use of the kitchen and changing rooms under consideration for later in the year. Arrangements may of course alter at short notice if the infection situation changes. We look forward to welcoming users back to the Pavilion, and are pleased that many outdoor sports clubs and residents have enjoyed Girton's Recreation Ground, play areas and sports facilities over the summer months.

By the publication date of this edition, the proposed resurfacing works on Girton Road, Cambridge Road, Oakington Road and High Street will be drawing to a close, being scheduled for 25th August – 4th September, weather permitting. It is hoped that disruption for villagers from noise, night-time road closures and diversions will be kept to a minimum. Reapplication of the temporary cycle lane white lining is under review in the light of recently published government aspirations on cycle lane provision, and may be replaced by suitably spaced cycle roundels as being more appropriate for the proposed 20mph zone. Further discussions with Highways have agreed the

detail of this zone which will stretch from the A14 to Manor Farm Road. Our request to extend the provision to Girton Corner to include all subsidiary roads, cannot be accommodated at this stage but depending on the success of the first restriction, extension will be possible later.

Bonfires have been raised as an issue on two occasions this month. We were alarmed to receive a report of a bonfire being lit under the trees on the edge of the 10 Acre Field as an accompaniment to a 'gathering' one Sunday evening. While we understand the need for some sort of recreational activity this is both dangerous and antisocial and cannot be tolerated.

We also received a number of complaints about garden bonfires being lit during the day during warm weather. This is inconsiderate of neighbours who have put washing out to dry and have windows open for ventilation. If you must burn rubbish please do it in the evening and check with neighbours first.

As a result of coronavirus restrictions, Girton Parish Council meetings are being held by video-conference until further notice. Residents are encouraged to contact Parish Councillors directly if there are concerns they wish to raise (please see the listing of Parish Councillors elsewhere in this edition). Any member of the public who wishes to attend any meeting may do so by prior arrangement with the Clerk. The next meetings will be on Tuesday 15th September and Tuesday 20th October. As the Parish Office remains closed the Clerk can be contacted on 01223 526013 or clerk@girton-cambs.org.uk.

A full list of councillors can be found on page 30

From Our Councillors

County Councillor Lynda Harford

I am delighted to have some really good news to share in this month's report: Girton Parish Council's chairman recently led a small group of us in making a successful application to the heavily over-subscribed County Council Community Capital Fund. Even more work is now underway to use this £275,000 grant towards funding a proposed extension and modernisation of the pavilion, about which you will hear more from the Parish Council. This is great news for Girton as it will allow for much more flexible and accessible space that can provide for a combination of sport, arts and social activities as well as providing much better access to the Parish Council office. There is a lot of hard work still to do, but the greatest obstacle to any major project, securing the funding, is a major step forward on the journey, so my sincere congratulations on this success for the village.

We are now finalising details of the work on Cambridge Road / High Street. I shall be meeting with the Parish

Council chairman and the highways project engineer to determine the final details of the overall scheme before work is scheduled to start on 25 August and continue until 4 September (excluding weekend and Bank Holiday). The resurfacing will be done under road closures, 19.00–06.00, with some minor works completed during the day under traffic lights at later dates. The contractors have particularly been asked to avoid working near the school/nursery during weekdays to avoid any potential issues with drop offs / access and staggered start times. I am very grateful to everyone who is contributing to the effort to make Girton a safer village through schemes like this: residents, the Parish Council and highways officers. I have tried to get some of the things that you have written to me about in the past included in this project. Thank you all for your feedback and support and I sincerely hope that this experience will drive us all on to work together for even more improvements.

As you may be aware, from Monday 29 June all residents visiting the Milton Household Recycling Centre have needed to pre-book a time slot. Until now the operatives at the site have been taking a ‘light touch’ approach to enforcement and have still been allowing some people who turn up without an appointment, to dispose of the waste they have brought, if possible. Despite an increase in the number of slots available, the numbers of people not pre-booking is now sufficiently high for this to be difficult to manage; hence this reminder that bookings can be made on line at: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/waste-and-recycling/booking-system-for-household-recycling-centres. For those without internet access the phone number is: 0345 045 5207. It is simple and quick to make a booking and avoid the possibility of being turned away.

Some say that we have been lucky in Cambridgeshire to have had the relatively low number of cases of Covid-19 that we have had in the county, but I firmly believe that this is in no small part due to the level of compliance with the rules that the local population has committed to. Worryingly, though, the virus is still very much with us and we should all continue to do the basic things that we have been doing for so long. One of the most important is:



Please do continue to contact me with your comments and questions.

Lynda

lyndaharford@icloud.com;

Tel: 01954 251775 / 07889 131022;

follow me on Twitter: @2whit2whoo

District Councillor Tom Bygott

Girton Interchange

As I mentioned last month, I have been working with our MP, Anthony Browne, on bringing forward a project to add additional slip roads at the Girton Interchange in order to reduce traffic through the village. I am pleased to say that Girton Parish Council has given its support to the project, as have the other parish councils in the ward.

Highways England designed some improvements to the interchange in 2015, showing three additional slip roads in pink on the map on page 22 of this document: tinyurl.com/girtint22. One slip road turns left from the northbound M11 onto the westbound A428. Another turns left from the eastbound A428 to the new roundabout on the A1307 local road, connecting to Madingley, Dry Drayton and the northbound A14. The third starts at another roundabout on the A1307 providing an on-ramp to the southbound M11.

As part of the A14 upgrade, the junction between Oakington and Dry Drayton was closed, with the plan that users of that junction would instead drive north to Bar Hill in order to turn south onto the M11. However, driving through Girton and Eddington to Junction 13 on the M11 is a much shorter route, and this has increased the traffic through the village. This is likely to get worse when Northstowe's Southern Access Road (East) opens, connecting to Dry Drayton Road in Oakington. The benefit to Girton is a route for this traffic onto the southbound M11 at the Girton Interchange, without driving through the village.

One potential concern is traffic noise from any raised flyovers. I don't believe that this will be a problem, as all the slip roads would be at ground level, except for a bridge over the A428 at the same level as the M11.

Reform of the planning system

The Government has published a document called Planning for the Future, which can be found at: www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future. They are carrying out a consultation on it until 29th October. Their aspiration is for this to be the most significant change to the planning system since it was created in 1947.

The discussion is still in its early stages, and much will depend on the details that will be added later to the current high-level document. Some of the broad principles seem reasonable, such as faster development of Local Plans (30 months compared to the average seven years today) and clearer rules-based policies, such as maximum heights and minimum distances from boundaries, rather than the vague concepts such as ‘overbearing’ or ‘out of scale’ that are used today. They also want to see a greater emphasis placed on quality and beauty, compared to the extremely low standards that characterise most modern development.

Planning in the UK is very different to other developed countries, which use a concept called 'zoning'. Here, an application can be made to build anything anywhere. It is then up to the local authority or local councillors to provide vague arguments about why that would be harmful. The proposals hint at a move towards zoning, with areas given a Growth, Renewal or Protected designation, with the possibility of 'sub-areas within each category', although it isn't made clear what these would be. I can see every village in South Cambridgeshire scrambling to become Protected, with the Growth or Renewal designations a hot potato that no one wants to catch.

Typical zones in a zoning system overseas include: Rural (farms), Low Density Residential (houses with gardens), High Density Residential (apartment buildings), Mixed Commercial/Retail, etc. Areas are protected when the zoning accurately reflects what's on the ground, e.g. a block of flats can't be built in a Low Density Residential area, and land can't be subdivided into lots smaller than a certain size. Renewal happens at a disused factory when its zoning changes from Industrial to High Density Residential, and growth happens when a farm is rezoned from Rural to Low Density Residential, or an area next to a railway station is rezoned from Medium Density Residential to Mixed High Density.

One of my core jobs as a councillor is to protect the village from harmful development. If the planning system could incorporate rules for the village on minimum garden sizes, how close houses can be built from the side boundary or from the street, and if it could prevent houses from being demolished and replaced by blocks of flats, we would be better able to protect our quality of life and preserve the village as a suitable place to raise a family.

Whether any of these things will be made possible by the current proposals remains to be seen.

Cllr Tom Bygott

cllr@bygott.net Tel:07765 475 513

A View From the District

First, an apology: last month I referred to 'Cambridge Water's treatment plant in Milton'; it is of course Anglian Water's.

As always this is a quiet time of year. Apart from formally thanking our officers for all they have done in lockdown, and putting out a piece about VJ Day, I have had no significant Chairman's duties. I have been involved with the Local Government Association over a new model Code of Conduct. The LGA wants to change 'treat all persons with respect' to 'treat all persons with civility'. I find that odd; to me respect is more significant than civility: I would be interested in your views.

But the big news of the month is the Government's announcement of major changes to planning law. As I understand them, the proposals are that the development of the Local Plan (LP) should become 'democratic' (as though it is not already!) but from then on there is no further local involvement. The LP should designate 3 categories of land: Growth Areas, Renewal Areas, and Protected Areas. In the first, outline approval would be automatic for development specified in the LP. In the second, there could be some 'gentle' development; and in the third 'restricted' development (whatever those mean). But all without any further local input. The theory is that this will free up development of much-needed housing; this flies in the face of the fact that the real hold-up is not the granting of planning permission but the practice of land-banking where developers simply hang on to their land and watch it appreciate in value. Permission was granted years ago for Darwin Green, yet development has only just started; nothing in these proposals will change this. The proposals will however have a detrimental effect on issues like affordable housing and the quality of the homes built. And we shall be powerless to act. A secondary problem is shortages of labour and supplies; no changes in planning law will overcome those. Details of the White Paper and the consultation can be found at

www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future (or tinyurl.com/y5d4jw8v).

It is more difficult now to dispose of waste which cannot go in our bins, but be warned that we are cracking down on illegal fly-tipping: one such near the Milton tip has received a fine of £400. I have also been asked to remind you that you should dispose of single-use PPE responsibly: in a bag inside your black bin.

Following a number of responses to last month's column I have written to County officers asking again that the cycle lanes should not be reinstated when the resurfacing work is done. So has the Cycling Campaign which recommends a minimum of 2m for any cycle lanes.

We are updating the Electoral Roll: please take a few minutes to complete the form which should arrive very soon.

Finally please be aware that there are criminals targeting people's fears over test and trace. Should you need it, be aware that the testing is free; anyone who offers you a test for a price is acting illegally. Contact me if you have any concerns.

If you would like a fuller monthly report emailed to you please contact me at scdc@de-lacey.org and I shall add you to the list of recipients. If you have any District Council issues you would like to discuss please don't hesitate to ask me.

Douglas de Lacey

The Girton Cotton Hall News

The Trustees are delighted to announce that the phased re-opening of the Cotton Hall and Gardens will begin in September 2020.

If you might be interested in a booking do contact our clerk to find details of what is available at **07759 983 420** or email cottonhallclerk@yahoo.co.uk

As a result of this work we are delighted to support the new Cottontails Preschool to re-open this month.

During the Summer months, during the Covid down time, the Trustees have been busy refurbishing the building and outdoor space. We have extended the grassy area, removed the decking, and divided the outdoor space. This now enables separate access to the Back Room, and increases the safety of the play area for young children.

Only one exceptional booking was allowed during the Hall's enforced closure. We were delighted to sponsor the PPE Group who used it for their excellent project. They needed plenty of space to spread out and the hall was very successful in helping them in completing their important work.

From January 2021 there will be a vacancy for a Trustee and Secretary – so if you might be interested in joining the voluntary Cotton Hall Management, and would like to serve the village in this important role, please contact the current Secretary, Sian Franklin, to find out more.

Sian42f@gmail.com
01223 276986

The Cotton Hall Foundation, Girton

Garden Tip of the Month

September

How is your lawn? We've had a funny summer and mine has quite a bit of dead in it, from those fiercely hot days. September is usually a good month for a bit of reviving work. Scarifying and over-seeding are easier to do if the grass is cut about as short as you dare, and hand scarifying with a rake is the sort of vigorous work that should be made as easy as possible. If no rain falls in the days following scarifying it's worth watering the grass generously (and again if it's still dry a week later). You may have noticed that I'm a bit prescriptive, but the grass will get growing again better if it has a good drink. When grass seed emerges the tiny plants don't have deep enough roots for their first few weeks to reach soil water, so if the weather is dry water them every 3 days. It's probably not worth tackling scarifying if the weather is too damp; the dead grass softens and won't knock out of the sward so well, and the flicked up soil can get messy.

Lots of perennials are looking good in September so remember to treat them to a bit of TLC to prolong the show. Some plants can be really brightened up if you snip off the dead bits: faded flowers and dying leaves. Keep your eyes open on your way round the village and see if there are some gems out there you would value chez vous. Chances are if it flourishes there it should do well for you, though do remember aspect; how much sun does it get, or is it shaded from the midday sun? Is it in a favoured location next to a warm wall, or in a potentially cold draughty spot?

George Thorpe



Friends of the Rosie

We hope that all our customers have managed to avoid the coronavirus and that their families are all in good health. We might not have had any stalls since the outbreak, but the lockdown has provided us with a captive online audience. We have just doubled last year's takings on eBay in just 6 months. We recently listed jewellery items and craft kits on

eBay. Our profits through Rosie in Stitches are over £3,000. Last time our figures were this high was in 2012, and that was in 12 months. We have received £2,540 in the past six months from PayPal shoppers rounding up for charity at the checkout. We have registered The Friends of the Rosie charity with

Amazon Smile so that customers can donate to our charity at the checkout.

We are unable to say when our tea bar will be able to open again as most of our volunteers are of retirement age or older. We will provide you with regular updates when we know more. We would be able to open sooner if our volunteers were younger. We also need more volunteers. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please contact Ann Laskey (annlaskey@icloud.com) for more details of what would be involved.

New members are always welcome, whether to contribute financially, to join our team of knitters, provide transport for our volunteers, display a small selection of our wares or to help on the Rosie tea bar. Contact Mary Sanders on 01223 356615. Further details are given on our website www.rosieinstitches.org.uk.



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Date of writing: Tuesday 18th August. Last night was one of disturbed sleep as I worried about what I would write as the deadline for

September submissions approaches. As we have continued to exist under the restrictions and precautions caused by the pandemic, things have continued much the same out on the allotment site: excellent levels of activity made possible by extra available time; lots of sociable conversation at safe distancing; care over hygiene with sanitising of items handled by the community, also wearing of gloves. And I'm sure that all members have continued to feel fortunate in having the allotments to visit and work on while many other of our favourite activities have been curtailed.

Recent deterioration of the weather to overcast, murky and wet conditions has brought home how fortunate we've been in that for the most part the last five months have been warm and sunny.

The weather must provide the main themes for this month's allotment report. It has been a real rollercoaster of conditions. Since I last wrote, periods of searing heat have scorched the grass of paths and tracks to a uniform straw appearance; soil became utterly parched, dry as dust to a considerable depth. Early morning and evenings saw heavy traffic to and from the pumps as cans and cans of water kept our precious crops going. Then how quickly things changed: skies became overcast, temperature dropped. At first the rain promised relief, but each shower seemed to stop almost as soon as it started. The usual complaint of "the rain always misses Girton" was heard. But finally thunderstorms and serious rain set in. Empty water butts filled to overflowing; the soil steadily soaked in the rain; thirsty plants drew up the moisture and revived; the trekking to the pumps eased off for the time being. How quickly the straw-coloured grass becomes green again.



Today it seems we are entering a period of more temperate conditions. A little while to let the soil dry out a bit so that we can walk and work on it but only a small window of opportunity.

Today's lunchtime weather forecast speaks of more stormy wet weather to come.

And how has the rollercoaster weather placed us? I'm always hesitant to report on the results of members' efforts because of the variations between our successes and failures. One man's boast over his harvest of (say) beans is another man's lament over his crop! Potato yields are generally small, due to tuber size and quantities. Extreme heat has caused lettuces to bolt (I have regretfully consigned several to composting). Beans (runner, dwarf, French) have done well. Hot sun has suited sweetcorn (I repeat myself every year ... one of the biggest allotment pleasures ... long golden cobs from plant to kitchen to table). Perhaps the most enjoyable difference between supermarkets and home-grown is the taste of tomatoes. Sun-ripened home-grown fruits are something special. I never learn: having grown from seed about forty plants, I am left with thirty after providing family with plants; I cannot resist planting them all out; now I'm in despair over how to use and distribute all the ripening fruit. The picture is of the tiniest fraction of the crop. There are so many varieties of vegetables and fruits that I cannot report on everything. My apologies to members who have had success with their various produce unmentioned above.



The hot dry weather fairly early in the season has resulted in a premature dying back and shrivelling of foliage. Clearing has begun early with some crops. Green manure is sown. Is this advancement of the seasons going to become permanent with climate change?

I finish on a pessimistic note: a website 'Blight Watch' has indicated that the air-borne fungus is stalking the land! Recent moist, humid, warm conditions are what blight needs. I think I have detected signs and am picking all ripening tomatoes and lifting final potatoes in the hope of minimal loss. I'll let you know next time whether the blight strikes, or, like the rain often does, it skirts around Girton.

Graham Jones, Girton Allotment Society



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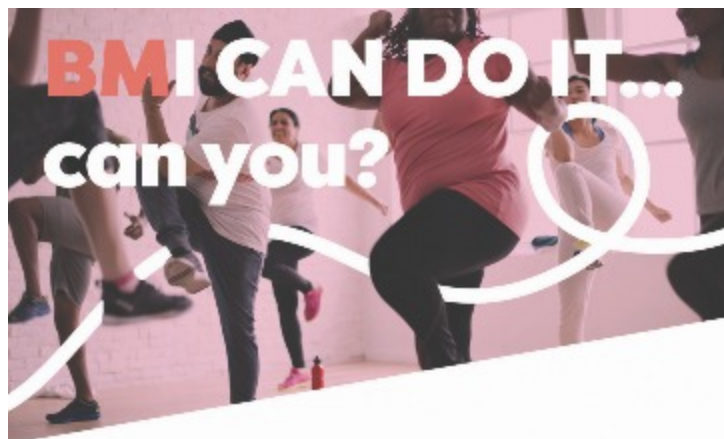
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We all know that eating well, sleeping well and moving more is good for us, but it's sometimes difficult to know where to start.

The local NHS started BMI Can Do It, a movement to encourage you to eat well, sleep well, and move more. Getting involved is easy, and you can join in no matter what your BMI or fitness level is.

62% of people in Cambridgeshire are overweight.

Visit bmicandoit.co.uk to find out more and sign up or contact us at capcg.bmicandoit@nhs.net

How to get involved...

Taking those first steps towards a healthier lifestyle will have a positive impact on your life.



Eat well

Eating well is about more than just eating your five a day. We can help support your healthy eating journey and prove that eating well can be delicious, affordable, and nutritious.



Sleep well

Sleep, rest, and relaxation are all incredibly important, but often under-estimated, factors for our overall mental and physical wellbeing. By joining the movement, you're taking a big first step to better sleep.



Move more

Moving our bodies more is good for the mind and body. Whether you're walking, dancing, swimming, cycling or running – it doesn't matter what you do so long as you're getting active.

BMI CAN DO IT



RSPB Fen Drayton

The 2020 breeding season is starting to

come to a close with many of our summer migrants either getting ready to depart or already gone to spend the winter months in Southern Europe and Africa. Whilst we were unable to carry out formal surveys this year, regular visits by staff and reports from visitors over the past months indicate that it has been a good year for our breeding birds.

At least one bittern was once again present on site and could be heard booming from Holywell in March and April. This species of heron is a reedbed specialist and was almost extinct in the UK in the 1990s. Due to concerted efforts across the country they are now steadily increasing in number with almost 200 territorial males recorded in the UK in 2019.

After just a handful of sporadic sightings last year, turtle doves returned to the reserve with a probable three individuals regularly heard making their signature purring noise from different locations in June and July. As one of the UK's fastest declining

bird species this is good news and although no young have been seen, we hope that they successfully bred on site.

Although tern rafts were not deployed, common tern nested in some numbers on two of the Moore Lake islands with around 35 apparently incubating adults seen with the 200-plus black-headed gulls.

Other species of note included at least 35 garden warbler territories across the reserve, lapwing nesting on Ferry Mere, and sand martins once again in Webbs Hole Sluice just off the northernmost end of Middle Fen.

Volunteering

Whatever your interests are, there is likely to be a volunteering role to suit. For information about volunteering opportunities at Fen Drayton Lakes, please get in touch.

Email: fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk

Phone: 01954 233260

rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes

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Neil is extremely reliable and efficient. He sorted my laptop out very quickly and efficiently and talked to me in language I understood, which is very helpful as being a silver surfer it can be confusing. I have no hesitation in recommending him to all."

- Jill - Histon

UK Reseller    

Update from Girton Community Choir



Normally when I am writing in the September edition of the GPN, I am touting for new members to join our Community Choir. Not this time I'm afraid. But during this time of enforced resting from one of my very favourite activities – singing – I've come to realise just how much I have missed The Choir. I miss the routine of Wednesday evenings, and the practising I need to do beforehand, and I miss the friendly faces and genuine friendship offered by fellow members. And I miss finding myself singing and humming snippets of songs from past and present repertoires; sometimes known as earworms, but they are usually pleasant ones!

So, while I can't invite you all to join us in The North Room on a Wednesday evening at 7.30 just yet, I am suggesting that you make a mental note that, all being well, when this horrible virus and all its repercussions have gone away and are beginning to fade from our memories, we WILL sing together again. We'll welcome new members, who won't need to read music, although that ability helps, obviously. We will continue to sing a variety of styles of music and hopefully bring our newly learned pieces to the ears of the local community.

When you buy your 2021 diary, find the second Wednesday in January, which happens to be the 13th, and pencil in Community Choir with a ? Who knows? I may be able to give you more definite details later on this year, especially if a way of singing and keeping social distancing is discovered/approved.

In the meantime, keep safe and socially distanced.

Jane Williams



Juicing in Girton

This year many of us have had more time to gaze upon the mossy stems of our fruit trees than ever before. I am reminded of William Bryant's *The Planting of the*

Apple Tree – here he depicts the ripening fruit:

*Fruits that shall swell in sunny June,
And redden in the August noon,
And drop, when gentle airs come by,
That fan the blue September sky.*


What a shame then if that fruit were to go to waste! One good way to preserve surplus fruit is to juice it – pasteurised juice or cider/perry will last a good while, if you are not too tempted to drink it first.

Girton residents are able to make use of the village crusher, press and pasteuriser, kindly provided by the SCDC community chest, for a mere £7.50 per year. It's incredibly easy to make juice and we provide full instructions.

Whilst the press is designed for apples, it works equally well for pears, grapes and berries. Whether you have tens of pears, fifty apples or hundreds of elderberries, or are simply keen and have friends or neighbours with spare fruit, juicing them and, maybe, even making cider, perry or wine, is a great way of preserving the fruit rather than simply adding them to your compost heap. It makes a great social occasion (being careful to follow the current rules on distancing, hygiene and numbers of visitors, of course) and the taste of freshly pressed juice is incomparable to anything you can buy in the shops.

For further information, to join or to renew your membership please get in touch by email at: apple-juice-club@googlegroups.com

Jon Bonsor-Matthews

<p>Girton</p>  <p>Musical Theatre</p>	<p>In normal years we would be starting rehearsals for our annual performance in September. This is not possible at the moment, but we will publicise any future activities in the GPN. Look out for a feature about the history of Girton Operatic/Girton Musical Theatre in a future edition!</p>
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Dear Girton Parish News,

The bottom of our garden has been a 'wild meadow' – my rather grand name for it – for many years. Every year we have just cut it down and put the grass and wild flowers in the compost and green bin.

This year, however, George and Roger came and carefully cut it down so they can spread the cuttings – hay – on the Hibbert Garden. I like to think my ox eye daisies and red campion and other flowers and grasses will be seen by others!

To thank him we have made a donation to the Parish Council specifically to George Thorpe for the Nature Reserve, where he and Roger work hard to look after this valuable space for the village.

Thank you George and Roger.

Sue Myring

GIRTON

POPPY APPEAL 2020

Due to the COVID 19 Pandemic there will be no House to House collections or static collection boxes in venues throughout the village.

Poppies will only be available on the tills at Sainsbury's in Eddington during the campaign.

The only merchandise available from me this year will be wreaths, wreath badges, ribbons and wooden remembrance products.

If anyone requires any of these please contact Wendy Ripley on 07885 190597 or email girtonpa@yahoo.com

(Wreaths from last year are held in the Parish Office and should be available from The Parish Clerk in exchange for a donation as in previous years)

Cambridge Carbon Footprint



Open Eco Homes – Autumn Season

Has spending more time at home got you thinking about home improvement?

The upcoming government Green Homes Grant offers homeowners and landlords grants up to £5,000 covering two-thirds of the cost of many home energy improvements.



Victorian Home with 20th Century Insulation

Local charity Cambridge Carbon Footprint is offering free advice on how to renovate your home to make it more comfortable and energy efficient with their Open Eco Homes Autumn Season. After 10 years running live events, this year they're offering their home tours and talks online. There are 8 tours and 3 talks to choose from, running between 14 September and 20 October. Details and registration at openecohomes.org/autumnseason.



Country in the City

GIRTON scoreboard



Girton Bowls Club

Over the last month our in-house handicap singles matches have been continuing successfully in spite of some incredibly hot weather. The handicaps have been revised after each round, which has led to some very interesting results and has kept the games challenging.

We have also played two external friendly games, one against Cottenham Bowls Club and one against Willingham, which gave some of our newer members a chance to experience another level of competitive bowls.



Friendlies

We also had a most enjoyable game against the Vice President's team, which as tradition dictates, resulted in a draw. We managed to squeeze the game into a window of dry weather, in an otherwise very wet day.



A window of dry weather

Once again a big thank you to our volunteer maintenance team. Many of the visiting players said how impressed they were with the standard of our green.

The indoor/outdoor league is due to start in the second week of September at Chesterton Bowls Club where the number of rinks will be reduced to allow social distancing. They will be testing temperatures on entry and have chairs labelled for each player in each team. The mats and jacks will be sanitized between sessions and face masks must be worn whilst playing, so lots of safety measures will be in place as required in the current climate.

If you are interested in finding out more about joining Girton Bowls Club, please contact our Secretary Margaret McCall on margaret.mccall@ntlworld.com or visit our website at www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com.

Lynne McGill



Girton Tennis Club

Friday evening club nights restarted at the end of July and several members have enjoyed playing for an hour or so before retiring to the pub for a socially distanced pint. Initially the MUGA area wasn't in use so we were limited to two hard courts and playing doubles. On some evenings (which seemed to be when we had better weather!) this meant that some players had to wait outside the courts before they could play. It was therefore really good to be able to try out the new MUGA surface later in August and to bring this into use for busy club nights.

The Summer leagues were all cancelled but our local Lawn Tennis Association have put together a 'Celebration League'. Our club has entered a men's team and the fixtures are due to start from the 11th September so you may see some of the men practising on court on Wednesday evenings. We wish them every success in these competitive matches.

Our club membership year runs from 1st April to 31st March so, as of the 1st September, we will be half-way through the membership year. If you are still considering joining our friendly club, we can offer a 50% reduction in fees for the remainder of this year. Details about membership and our activities can be found on our website www.girtontennisclub.uk or by contacting our Membership Secretary Kevin Keeves by email info@girtontennisclub.uk.

Alan Franklin



Girton Golf Club

The Golf Club has run a number of the Major Championships during the month of August and we have had first time major winners on every occasion.

They have been The Johnson Trophy won by Jason Gordon, the Presidents' Cup where the winner was Alex Day and the Tony Camden Salver where Nigel Routley came out on top. We held our Club Championship over a very hot weekend and Neil Cowie became Club Champion for the first time. The Handicap competition was won by Dave Walker.



A number of our members have acquired new buggies to get around the course so we now appear to have a Girton Chapter of Aged Hell's Angels. They all seem to be very happy with their purchases and still create interest when buzzing around the course.

We have our clubhouse open from 11 to 6 daily with a scaled down food menu but a full drinks list, so come down during the day for some great coffee and a lovely view of the course from the patio.

Membership is still open despite over 75 new members joining since lock down was eased. There are different membership styles to fit different needs and pockets – call the office to talk about joining us.

Alan Henderson-Smith

Tel: 01223 276169

www.girtongolf.co.uk



Girton Colts Football Club

The league officially starts from Sat 19th September and all of our teams are busy learning the new COVID rules as well as attempting to get some much valued training in.

The government granted the FA with exemptions to play football competitively again and we are working with the Parish Council to do as much as we can to

keep everyone safe, as well as attempt to be competitive on the field. We appreciate everyone's patience with us getting to grips with these new rules and look forward to getting back to some normality soon.

This September is the start to our 40th anniversary year. The club was established in 1980 and we all look forward to celebrating this somehow this year.

Most of our teams are currently full, but please contact teamsec@girtoncolts.co.uk to be added to the waiting list.

Current opportunities are:

- U12 girls team players (Year 6 and 7 in September)
- U5 girls and boys players (Year 1/early years in September)
- U5 potential parent managers
- Referees – training available; paid per match once trained
- Please contact teamsec@girtoncolts.co.uk if any of these are of interest.

Andrew Hawkes



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Food For Our Future Campaign & Challenge

**Have you ever wanted to cut your kitchen food waste
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South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge Sustainable Food are teaming up to challenge communities in South Cambridgeshire to reduce their carbon footprint.

Launching in October with a Food Waste Challenge we will be bringing you on-line cookery workshops, recipes, talks, storytelling and other exciting activities to support you in reducing your food waste. We will be introducing you to some top local chefs, their favourite recipes and tips for reducing food waste.

Food waste is a major contributor to some of the environmental issues we face today, including climate change and world hunger. Did you know that UK households waste 4.5m tonnes of food a year that could have been eaten? This amounts to £700 for an average family with children!

We would love to hear from schools and other local groups that would like to join in the challenge! Why not team up with others in your neighbourhood? Challenge your work mates? Who can lower their carbon footprint the most?

We will be back with more about this challenge launch soon!

For any more information or to get involved, please get in touch.

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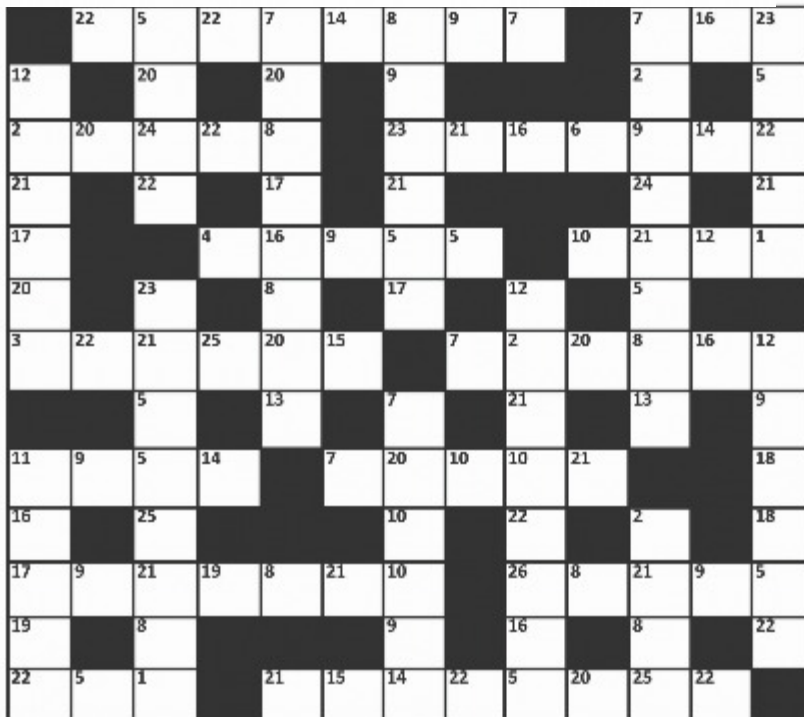
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A	1
B	2
C	3
D	4
E	5
F	6
G	7
H	8
I	9
J	10
K	11
L	12
M	13
N	14
O	15
P	16
Q	17
R	18
S	19
T	20
U	21
V	22
W	23
X	24
Y	25
Z	26

CODEWORDS

Each number 1–26 represents a different letter of the alphabet. Can you work out which is which? Use your word skills and the clues included.

Note that Codewords can include names or well-known phrases.

Answers are elsewhere in this magazine.

(Solution see page 25)

WORDSEARCH

Theme – Sun, Sand & Sea Staycations!

Can you find all these words in the grid? They can read Left to Right, Right to Left, Up or Down or Diagonally. Tick them off as you go.

T	L	N	M	S	L	E	W	O	T	S	U	W
R	P	O	E	H	X	A	M	A	E	R	C	A
U	A	O	L	E	G	L	D	V	V	E	Y	T
N	R	B	O	L	R	I	A	N	L	E	K	E
K	A	L	N	L	Y	C	H	T	A	Y	S	R
S	S	U	N	G	L	A	S	S	E	S	G	W
I	O	E	D	I	T	A	E	H	K	C	N	I
N	L	E	F	E	C	H	A	I	A	M	I	N
I	C	F	K	D	S	L	S	R	L	I	L	G
K	S	C	N	P	U	C	I	T	F	W	D	S
I	U	A	I	M	I	E	D	A	P	S	D	H
B	S	H	O	R	T	S	E	N	F	L	A	G
H	C	A	E	B	G	C	I	N	C	I	P	W

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BLUE	LOLLY	SPADE
BUCKET	MELON	SUIT
CAVES	PADDLING	SUNGLASSES
CHIPS	PARASOL	SWIM
CLIFFS	PICNIC	TAN
CREAM	POOL	TIDE
DECK	SANDAL	TOWELS
FLAG	SANDCASTLE	TRUNKS
FLAKE	SCREEN	TSHIRT
HAT	SEASIDE	WATERWINGS
HEAT	SHELL	WAVES



News for Older Residents

Get-togethers on Wednesday mornings in September

I am planning to facilitate people meeting up at the Pavilion on the Recreation Ground on Wednesdays at 10.30 am during September. This could be an opportunity to see someone you may not have seen for quite some time. Adults of any age will be welcome, but not children. There will be access to the disabled toilet in the Pavilion but I will not be able to provide any refreshments.

Social distancing rules will apply and numbers limited according to the government guidelines. Consequently, it is **essential** to tell me if you are planning to come. Just turning up is not an option at the moment.

Cambridge Water

Simon Pearce, their community Engagement Officer, has asked me to tell you about the

1. Priority Services Register

Anyone with a disability, mobility issue, chronic illness or medical condition can register. The purpose is to identify people who may need extra help in the event of any issue with water supply.

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Email: simonpearce@south-staffs-water.co.uk

Economic Abuse

I have a very short booklet about this, which I can either email, or print it out for you.

An unused **Sherwood Perching Seat** is looking for a good home. It can be used anywhere in the house, including the shower.

Also available is a little used Morphy Richards lightweight compact vacuum cleaner.

Patricia Johnston, Older Residents' Co-ordinator
Tel: 07469 660 866

Email: patricia.johnston@ageukcap.org.uk



With the sudden lockdown, we had to cancel our annual concert, which we had been working

so hard towards, and our weekly meetings had to stop as well. As we usually meet in term time only, the first part seemed just like an extended Easter holiday, but then as time went on we wanted to make sure everyone was doing okay and try and give them some time together, even if it was virtually.

So, from early June we started to have weekly Zoom meetings, just an hour or so to catch up. We learnt a lot of new games we could play over the calls and laughed a lot at some of the now common difficulties – 'You're on mute' or 'You're Frozen!' We even learnt to draw left-handed on one session, and practised our signing song, which was interesting to co-ordinate because you could not tell who was going in the right direction! It was great to feel some sort of normality, and we ended in July with a virtual party, including goodie bags for each person being delivered to their doorstep, ready for the evening.

We are hoping to restart on Thursday 10th September, at Histon Baptist Church at 7pm, all being well. We are not sure what format the sessions can take, or what we will be able to achieve this year, but getting back to the 'new normal' will be good. We welcome anyone aged between 11 and 18 to come, so if you know someone who would like to join us please contact Mrs Terry King, the Administrator, email jking47@aol.com. We hope to see you in September!

Jennifer Evans

Girton Social Club

48 Cambridge Road, Girton. Tel: 01223 276890

We are a small friendly social club situated in the centre of Girton.

Children welcome

We hold various events throughout each month including:

- Quiz Nights, Play Your Cards Right, Family Games Night
- Discos & Karaoke, Live Music
- Fortnightly Bingo on Fridays which includes a jackpot for members
- Summer Barbeques

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William Collyn Centre re-opens for the community

After months of closure as a result of COVID-19, Girton Town Charity is delighted to announce that the William Collyn Centre is re-opening to the public from 1st September, in accordance with official Government guidelines.



Over the last few weeks, a comprehensive risk assessment has been undertaken and mitigating measures have been implemented by the Centre to ensure the safety of both hirers and staff.

New practices

The team, led by Centre Manager Helen Johnson and her two Duty Supervisors, are now back on site and looking forward to welcoming hirers and supporting them with the new practices now in place.

Helen says: "Hirers can expect to see some changes to the way the Centre operates to keep everyone safe. These include more in-depth cleaning, hand sanitisation stations, the requirement to wear face coverings, a limit to the number of people on site at any one time and some restrictions on the types of activity that can take place.

"All hirers will be contacted ahead of their bookings so they know what to expect and staff will be on hand to guide them through any new protocols they will need to follow.

Warm welcome

"We are delighted that all our regular hirers have indicated their wish to return to using the Centre and we are looking forward to welcoming them all back in time. We are also pleased that several new hirers

have chosen the William Collyn Centre as the venue for some of their activities, including Girton Baptist Church which will be holding services at the Centre once a month from September onwards."

The Centre's normal opening hours will be resumed, with facilities available to book seven days a week from 9.00am–10.30pm (midnight on Fridays and Saturdays).

If you have any enquiries regarding booking the Centre, please get in touch on 01223 279587 or send an email: info@williamcollyn.co.uk

Positive news

Ann Bonnett, Chair of GTC added: "The re-opening of the William Collyn Centre is a positive move for our community and for those groups using its facilities. I'd like to thank the Centre team for their work in advance of the opening date and for seeing through the changes required to operate safely.

"Another piece of good news is that the Sculpture Railings, damaged a few months ago, have been removed by Matthew Lane Sanderson and taken back to his studio for repair. We are hoping they will be reinstated before the end of September, after which the footpath can then be repaired. This will restore this attractive area at the very heart of our Village."

Educational Grants 2020

Applications for an Educational Grant are invited from young people over 18 leaving secondary education and moving on to higher education and some training schemes or NVQ qualifications Level 4 and above.

The Grant covers books, equipment, tools or other direct costs relevant to the course and is a maximum of £300* per year for up to four years.

Next payment date for grant applications received will be December 2020.

Applicants must have lived in Girton for a minimum of two years immediately before leaving secondary education.

Contact the GTC office for an application form.

* Terms and conditions apply

Girton Town Charity exists for purposes which include the relief of need in Girton, either individually or collectively, or the support of any charitable purpose for the benefit of the inhabitants of Girton.

Enquiries on behalf of individuals or village organisations may be made in confidence and addressed to any of the Trustees below:

Ann Bonnett (Chair)	t: 276354
Michael Aston	t: 07878 319743
Marc Bermann	t: 277319
Colin Carr	t: 276312
Dr Robin Hiley	t: 277296
Debbie Macklin	t: 07804 764878
Patsy Smith	t: 575288

GTC office:
22 High Street, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0PU.
Open 10.00am–2.00pm Monday–Friday.

01223 276008
email: gtc@girtontowncharity.co.uk
www.girtontowncharity.co.uk

Lockdown release?

Residents of Redgate Road, Girton held a socially distanced Covid release party that doubled as a birthday bash for one its inhabitants. Sandra Cousins and Maxine Fay organised the event that also allowed Yan and Can, newcomers to the street, a chance to enjoy the company of their neighbours for the first time.



The sausage rolls were delicious – so could this become an annual event I wonder?

Sam Clift

GIRTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE? JOIN US



Girton Neighbourhood Watch (GNHW) has members throughout the village who form a network of people helping to keep our community informed about matters that impact all of us. These include internet scams, anti-social behaviour and doorstep crimes. During this time of Coronavirus lockdown, it is ever more vital that we all keep a look out for each other.

If you are enthusiastic about keeping our village safe and you have some time to spare, do please get in touch and have a chat about how you might be able to contribute.

The village group is currently organised by Geoff Varley and Sandy Couch and our contact details are below. We look forward to hearing from you.

Geoff Varley: geoff.varley3522@btinternet.com
(01223 276772)
Sandy Couch: sandy_couch@hotmail.com



Girton Cottontails Preschool

Well it has certainly been a challenge for us to be planning the re-opening of the preschool during the pandemic, but Emma and I are delighted that everything is ready and we will be welcoming children

from Tuesday 8th September.

Our Forest School sessions will begin the following week on Monday 14th September and we are very excited to be offering 1 full day a week as a Forest School day. Forest school is an exciting way for all children to experience outdoor education in a woodland setting. Having a full day in the woodland means the children can spend longer, uninterrupted time involved in all the exploring, challenging and risk-taking activities that we do.

For the other 4 days of the week, our sessions will be held

at Cotton Hall as previously, where we have a secure, large bright room and a garden for the children to explore freely. We have been working hard with the Cotton Hall Trustees to ensure that the hall is ready and safe for us to open. We would like to thank the Trustees, and we are very thankful for their support and help with this. We have



been working in the garden and are looking forward to the children being able to play in the newly painted playhouse.

We are keen to enhance our provision for an improved environment and more learning opportunities for the children. As well as currently carrying out work in the Cotton Hall garden to make the space safer and more practical, we also have start-up and running costs as we



establish and build up the company. We hope to make the preschool sustainable and viable for many years to come. We will be running as a community interest company as our aim is to serve the community and not to make a profit. If we do make any profit, it would be invested back into the company. So, we would be very grateful for any donations and support that you can offer. For this purpose, we have created a GoFundMe page. The link can be found on our website and our Facebook page and is: www.gofundme.com/f/emma-and-laura-are-reopening-cottontails-preschool

We would like to thank everyone for all of the wonderful messages and support that we have received since announcing our opening. It has been lovely to know

Girton Cottontails Preschool is open to children from age 2 years until primary school age. We currently have children's spaces available and we accept fee paying and government funded children (15 hours for 2 year olds and both 15 and 30 hours for 3 & 4 year olds where eligible).

Enquiries are welcome, please contact us for further information.

Laura Norman and Emma Pell

Girton Cottontails Preschool Managing Directors

Email: girtoncottontailspreschool@gmail.com

Phone: 07368 180771

Web: www.girtoncottontailspreschool.com

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter – search: girton cottontails preschool



Experience

There's not much to report from Club 55 this month as the virus is still holding us back from our usual recreational group pursuits. A number of people contacted me with regard to last month's suggested trips out to lunch but the numbers were not high

enough to make it financially viable for the club. It is a bit of a shame that we were unable to take advantage of the government's half price meal scheme but I am sure we will be able to eventually pickup where we left off. We will keep an eye on the situation.

Our Monday morning Zoom sessions are still open at 10am every Monday so if you would like to join in please contact me for details of how to join.

I would remind our members that Patricia Johnston our Older Residents Co-ordinator is inviting people to the Recreation Ground on Wednesday mornings at 10.30am in September – you might like to meet her there for some fresh air and to meet friends.

Sam Clift Tel:07850740721

Welcome to St Andrew's New Rector!

Michael Bigg, who arrived in Girton with his wife and family in August, is no stranger to this area. He grew up in Cambridge, and seemed to be destined for a career in IT. After maths and science A-levels he took a gap year working in the IT department of a construction company, and finding that he rather preferred being in paid employment to life as an indebted student, he stayed for three years. But his interest in religion led him to Durham University to read for a degree in Theology. He went on to gain an MPhil in Cambridge, then taught RE and Maths at Comberton Village College, where he met his future wife Kathryn. Feeling a call to the priesthood, he underwent further training at Ridley Hall in Cambridge, and until taking up the Rectorship at Girton was working in the Parish of East Leightonston which comprises the villages of Brampton, Grafton and Ellington just outside Huntingdon.

Michael and Kathryn have three young boys – Matthew (6), Thomas (4) and Joseph (2). Matthew and Thomas will be enrolling at Girton Glebe School from September and Thomas will join the revived Cottontails Pre-school. Kathryn, a Maths teacher herself, is going to be taking up a position teaching part-time at Cambridge Academy of Science and Technology, and is also working on a Maths teaching website which aims to give students intelligent feedback. All very relevant in these days when distance learning is becoming part of the 'new normal'.

Michael talked to me about the impact the Covid-19 pandemic has had on the work of the Church in the past few months. At the start, he says, it was very much a question of making things up as they went along, but YouTube and Zoom have been brought into play, and for those without internet access, contact by telephone has filled the gap. With congregations generally comprised of older people, there have been many challenges to face, but by and large the response has been good. A discovery has been that more people have been 'turning up' to Zoom services than would



normally be expected in the actual Church building – perhaps 100 connections are made for most services, which equates to perhaps 150–200 individuals. So perhaps the pandemic has revealed a cohort of people the Church has been failing to reach through traditional channels, and with whom it can now be in touch. And perhaps many elderly or disabled people who found physically attending Church difficult, now find they can do so electronically. The prevailing anxiety and distress of the past six months may also have made many feel more needful of a means of exploring a spiritual dimension to life.

Other Church activities can carry on with some restrictions in place. For a while, weddings were banned under lockdown rules, but now although Cambridge Register Office is apparently booked up for months dealing with the backlog, couples are welcome to get married in Church! Christenings and funerals too may take place in Church with limited numbers in attendance. So gradually the Church is settling down to a slightly different way of doing things, learning and adapting all the time.

The St Andrew's Makeover Appeal will be revived, although time will tell whether it may have to be cut back or carried out in phases. Michael is determined that St Andrew's shall continue to be in the centre of Girton, socially (as far as possible) as well as geographically, as it has been for centuries.

Michael will be instituted into the parish by the Bishop of Ely at 3pm on Sunday 13th September. Covid-19 restrictions mean that the service isn't open to the general public, but the church is hoping to broadcast the event live on YouTube. Please check the church website a few days beforehand for more information.

Angela Blackburn



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THE RUSTLING OF LEAVES

As the seasons turn and the harvest moon is rising, the trees come centre stage with their annual extravaganza of beauty in fruit, berries and multi-coloured leaves. Poet J. Kilmer declared,

*'I think that I shall never see
A poem as lovely as a tree.'*

At the far end of the garden, the apple trees are shedding a donation of fruit for the wildlife creatures, and nearby, the silver birch, home to a family of squirrels hisses in the quickening breeze with an invitation to come to the feast. It is not a lament at the end of summer, but a susurrant message to indulge in the generous supply ahead of the fallow season. Stationary and grounded they may be, but the treescapes around us are in constant motion, responding to the seasons, the shifting weather patterns and environmental changes. As living, developing entities, they constantly bestow huge benefits on the well-being of the planet that we share with myriads of species. The calming effect of resting in the serene presence of a massive, ancient Oak has been well documented, and a woodland amble can provide great de-stressing therapy.

Imagine dancing through a leafy wood to the lilting music of the chorus, based on Isaiah 55v12:

*'You shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace,
and the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you. There'll be shouts of joy
and the trees of the field shall clap,
shall clap their hands.'*

The sound of clapping may not be as fanciful as it seems. Firstly, it confers a paean of praise on the Creator who does all things well, but also, in arboreal terms, it may be symbolic of the unique sounds that emanate from different types of trees as the wind passes between the leaves. Sensitive sound recordings now reveal how varied and distinctive are these songs of nature. The Pine trees whisper as the northern air flows crisply over the needles, as if sending secret messages from Pine to Pine. The Aspen quivers at the slightest sigh of passing breath, trembling, so they say, since the pot of gold was stolen from the end of the rainbow and hidden in some nameless tree. Or legend will suggest that the Aspen with its upwardly stretched branches was the only tree not to bow its head in sorrow as the Son of God passed beneath it, bearing his cross.

These are folk tales of course, composed to celebrate

the wonder of our great sentinels, standing for hundreds of years as generations of humanity come and go. There is, however, a remarkable account of how God used the voice of Balsam trees to win a battle. King David was charged with defeating the marauding Philistines who constantly devastated the security and resources of his nation. In 2 Samuel ch.5, David enquires of the Lord for favour and for advice on battle tactics. The Lord answered David, 'Do not go straight up, but circle round behind them and attack them in front of the Balsam trees. As soon as you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the Balsam trees, move quickly because that will mean the Lord has gone out in front of you to strike the Philistine army.'

David obeyed and the enemy was routed. He did not question the instructions. Probably David had stood beneath the cover of Balsam trees many times, listening to the sound of marching feet as the wind swept over the branches, discerning whether the trees were simply practising their strange battle songs, or indeed warning him of real and impending danger.

When a summer storm felled a towering Pine tree, it was dislodged from its precarious but long-term stance over rocks beside a river, much to the sorrow of its admirers. Yet, prone as it lay, the tree did not die. Year after year, fresh greening along its horizontal structure would be followed, amazingly, by the production of cones in the later season. How was this possible? Then it was discovered that prior to the storm, two long healthy roots had snaked downwards through a cleft in the rock to convey fresh supplies of nourishment.

When the storms of life topple the substance of our plans and dreams, or even our health and well-being, where are our roots? Where are the resources? Jesus is our Rock of Ages, cleft for us. So, are we still drawing constantly on the river of life that flows from the foot of the cross of Christ, in whom is life eternal?

Iris Niven

JEM BELCHAM

April 1946–May 2020

Yvonne and family would like to thank neighbours, village and WI friends for their generous donations in memory of Jem, which raised an amazing £785 for the Alzheimers Society. Thank you all so much.

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St Andrew's Church

Rector: Revd Michael Bigg

Tel: 01223 202145

Email: rector@girton.church

Website: www.girton.church

Associate Priest: The Revd Christine Barrow

Tel: 575089 Email: mcbarrow@me.com

Licensed Lay Ministers:

Mr Dugald Wilson Tel: 276940

Mrs Christina Deacon Tel: 525337

Churchwardens:

Mr Bruce & Mrs Wendy Hunter

Tel: 503958

St Andrew's Services

On Sunday 13th September, the church of St Andrew's celebrates the long awaited arrival of our new Rector, Revd Michael Bigg. Normally, this would have been a great event for the whole village to which many people would have been invited. However, in these times of Covid-19 and social distancing, the Institution and Induction of Michael by the Bishop of Ely will take place with a much reduced attendance by invitation only. When we are able to meet more freely, we will celebrate in good Girton fashion and the whole village will be able to meet Michael.

On Sunday 6th September, we will be holding a quiet said Morning Prayer service, much along the lines of the mid-week services being held in August. This will be a significant event as we draw our interregnum to a close and look forward to the following week with Michael's Induction. Immediately following that service, there will be the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). The reports for approval will be accessible on the church website beforehand to download and study (www.girton.church).

The podcasts which have been broadcast weekly during the Covid lock-down have finished. We hope that the dial-up number (01223 755091) will soon be used for Michael's sermons. Keep an eye on the church website.

'God, give us the grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed, courage to change the things that should be changed, and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other. Amen.'

Girton Baptist Church



Minister: Revd Nick Lowe

219 Wellbrook Way, Girton CB3 0GL

Tel: 01223 279289

Secretary: Mrs Virginia Rootham-Smith

Tel: 01223 520442

Website: www.girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk

Sunday Services

Services continue online each Sunday at 10.30am using Zoom for the time being. If you would like to join us, and all are welcome, please ring 07751 748757, or email pastor@girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk so we can send you a link for the service.

We will also be meeting in the William Collyn Centre on 13th September from 10.15–11.15am for a service on the theme of hope. Bookings for services may be made on the website at www.girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk

A Bible verse:

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.' (Romans 15:13)

Verse 1 of the Hymn 'Lord of all hopefulness':

*Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares can destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break
of the day.*

Prayers:

'Dear Heavenly Father, before we even ask You know our every need. Teach us, O Lord, to run our anchors deep into Your Holy Word and trust You and watch You work. And may we learn to endure and develop the strength and patience to the difficult issues in our lives. It's in Jesus' precious name we pray. Amen.' (From Our Daily Bread)

'Dear Father, A new week ahead. Thank you for the blessings of the week just gone and for the prospects of your guarantee of what is to come. For the new things we'll experience which will focus our minds on you, and for the new things you will teach us in your all sufficient word. May we be alert to your voice and mindful of the needs of others. For Jesus' sake, Amen.'

If you would like to discuss any Parish Council issues, please contact the following:

Chairman

Haydn Williams, 40 Church Lane, Tel: 474667
chairman@girton-cambs.org.uk

Vice-Chairman

Gill Cockley, 73 Cambridge Road, Tel: 276703

Councillors

Jane Buckler, 28 Girton Road, Tel: 277636
Julie Dashwood, 36 High Street, Tel: 276590
Douglas de Lacey, 9 Woodlands Park, Tel: 565219
Val Godby, 38 Woodlands Park, Tel: 276372
Andy Griffin, 1 Churchfield Court, Tel: 07956 447674
Roger Hickford, Manor Farm, Manor Farm Road, Tel: 07985 770082
Anne Kettle, 11 Redgate Road, Tel: 277505
Shahila Mitchell, 18 Northfield, Tel: 07519 265755
John Thorrold, 53 Cambridge Road, Tel: 276760
Mary Rodger, 11 Fairway, Tel: 277316

Formal correspondence to the Council should be addressed to the Clerk.

District Councillors

Tom Bygott, Tel: 232966
cllr@bygott.net
Douglas de Lacey, Tel: 565219
scdc@de-lacey.org

County Councillor

Lynda Harford, Tel: 01954 251775/07889 131022
lyndaharford@icloud.com

Parish Clerk and Acting Finance Officer

Susie Cumming, Tel: 472181
clerk@girton-cambs.org.uk

Assistant to the Parish Clerk

Laura Lawrence, Tel: 472182
admin@girton-cambs.org.uk

Website: www.girton-cambs.org.uk/council.html

Postal address: Girton Parish Council
The Pavilion, Girton Recreation Ground
Cambridge Road, Girton, Cambridge, CB3 0FH



Re-opening libraries

All libraries are now open (although some have limited hours), except Histon library which is closed for refurbishment until 2021. The Mobile Library service will not resume due to the challenge of creating a safe environment in a confined space. All due dates for borrowed items have been extended to 30 September, but books can be returned to any open library. For more information, see the website at the foot of this notice.

Services

Online reservations are available online or via Customer Services 0345 045 5225. Customers will be able to call or contact us online via the website below to request a selection of titles based on genre or author, which we'll make available for collection.

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- No CD/DVD lending
- Public Access IT facilities by appointment only. One 45 minute appointment per day per customer. Book a library computer online or call us on 0345 045 5225 .
- Printing – exact cash only, card payments at Cambridge Central, Huntingdon and Wisbech libraries
- We cannot accept book donations
- There are currently no plans to re-open the Cambridgeshire Collection. This is because there is no access the third floor of Cambridge Central Library. We are currently operating an email (Cambridgeshire.collection@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) and telephone (0345 045 5225) enquiry system.

For updates and more information, go to
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/library-news

RUBBISH COLLECTION

People in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire are being asked to make sure disposable face coverings and masks are put in their black wheelie bins at home, to help control the spread of Coronavirus.

The Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service has already seen disposable PPE such as face coverings, masks and gloves in the blue recycling bins, despite none of these items being recyclable. With a rise in use expected over the coming weeks, waste bosses are urging people to keep caring by disposing of the items correctly, which will help ensure recycling is not contaminated, and control the spread of the virus.

Disposable PPE can be put in litter bins outside of shops, but if there isn't one they need to be taken home and put in the black bin.

Bin collections August–September

Friday	4 September	Black bin
Thursday	10 September	Blue and Green bins
Thursday	17 September	Black bin
Thursday	24 September	Blue and Green bins
Thursday	1 October	Black bin
Thursday	8 October	Blue and Green bins
Thursday	15 October	Black bin

Green bin collections have returned to normal. Please put your green bin out with your blue bin every fortnight.

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