



GIRTON

Parish News



November 2021



*“A lovely, kind gentleman”
George Thorpe remembered
by his wife Viv – see page 9*

*Brea joins Arsenal
Girls Academy –
see page 24*



*Have your say on widening
of shared use path on
Oakington Road Bridge –
see page 5*

Whispers Restaurant

Abbeyfield Girton Green
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Sunday 14th November
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Tony Bennett - Chairman, Girton Social Club.

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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.

The advertising policy of the *Girton Parish News* aims to promote enterprises and activities from within Girton. The space available for advertisements is limited, and preference is given to businesses founded, situated, controlled and operated within Girton. The *Girton Parish News* reserves the right to decline to publish any advertisement which the Advertising Manager considers not to meet the objectives of this policy. Inclusion of an advertisement does not imply endorsement by the *Girton Parish News* of the product or service advertised.

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Ewan Wilson

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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Carol Singing in Girton 2021!

This year we are planning to sing carols around the streets of Girton on Tuesday 21st, Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th December. Our chosen charity this year is the Arthur Rank Hospice. Full details of the routes for each night can be found on our website: girtoncarolsingers.org.uk, or you can find us on Facebook.

We start at 6.30pm and sing for around 2½ hours, but there is no need to come for the whole time - you can leave early or join us part way along the route. We always need plenty of singers and collectors! Children are very welcome but should be accompanied by an adult. The starting points for each evening are as follows:

Tuesday 21st: Meet by St Andrew's Church bus shelter: singing in the North end of the village

Thursday 23rd: Meet at the Girton Road end of Thornton Road: singing in the Thorntons

Friday 24th: Meet at the sensory garden on Girton Road: singing in Wellbrook Way and Weavers Field.

Dress for the weather, and bring a torch!

For more details contact Helen on 01223 276940 or email info@girtoncarolsingers.org.uk.

New post office for Girton?

The Post Office hopes to open a mobile post office in Girton for two hours a week every Friday lunchtime.

The mobile post office will stop in the car park in Orchard Close behind the old Scallywags Nursery. Posters will be put round the village nearer the time and more information will be available shortly.

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Cover photo by Stuart Wills

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Girton Parish Council

At the end of September we said goodbye to our clerk of some 10 years, Susie Cumming, and welcomed our new clerk, Yvonne Murray. Yvonne is very rapidly getting to grips with the role and the move of the Parish Office to temporary accommodation in the Cotton Hall. The recruitment process for an assistant to the clerk continues.

Our October meeting began with observation of a minute's silence in memory of George Thorpe who passed away very recently. George has been a very faithful servant to the village having served as warden of the Town End Close Nature Reserve, and leader of the 'Green Team' carrying out conservation work on the open spaces of the village. He is greatly missed and we send our deepest condolences to his wife Viv. You can read Viv's eulogy to George on page 9.

Matters discussed at October's meeting included: co-option of a new Parish Councillor and approval for urgently needed repairs to the recreation ground play area. Instigating repairs to the play area has been very badly delayed by Covid and the matter is being given top priority. We are delighted to report that our application to the SCDC Zero Carbon Communities Fund for a grant towards heating of the refurbished Pavilion was successful and an award of the maximum amount of £15,000 was made. An application to the County Council Local Highways Improvement grant fund was also made this month. This covers parking restrictions at each end of Thornton Road and the main road junctions of St Margaret's Road and of Weavers Field.

As the dark winter afternoons approach we have been particularly concerned at the slow progress of installation of lighting along Oakington Road. As it seems unlikely that this will be carried out very soon we are pressing Highways to reinstate all the solar stud lighting along the length not currently covered. County Councillor Edna Murphy is fighting our corner to get this very important road safety issue resolved.

Remembrance Sunday's Ceremony of Remembrance will be held at the War Memorial by St Andrew's Church at 10.45am on Sunday 14th November, followed by the church remembrance service. All residents are invited to join us.

Finally, we inexplicably failed to meet the copy deadline for the October issue of the *GPN* but the report for that month may be found on the village website.

Next meetings

Residents are encouraged to contact Parish Councillors directly if there are concerns they wish to raise (please see

the listing of Parish Councillors on page 34). The next in-person meetings will be on Tuesday 16th November and Tuesday 21st December at St Vincent's Close Community Centre.

Parish Office Contact details

Yvonne Murray, email: clerk@girton-cambs.org.uk, Tel: 01223 237173, postal address: Girton Parish Office, The Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Cambridge Road, Girton, CB3 0FH.

Widening of shared use cycle/footway at Oakington Road Bridge

Girton Parish Council is conducting a public consultation to consider the implications of widening the path to improve user safety by restricting vehicle passage to a single lane.

The key changes to be implemented are:

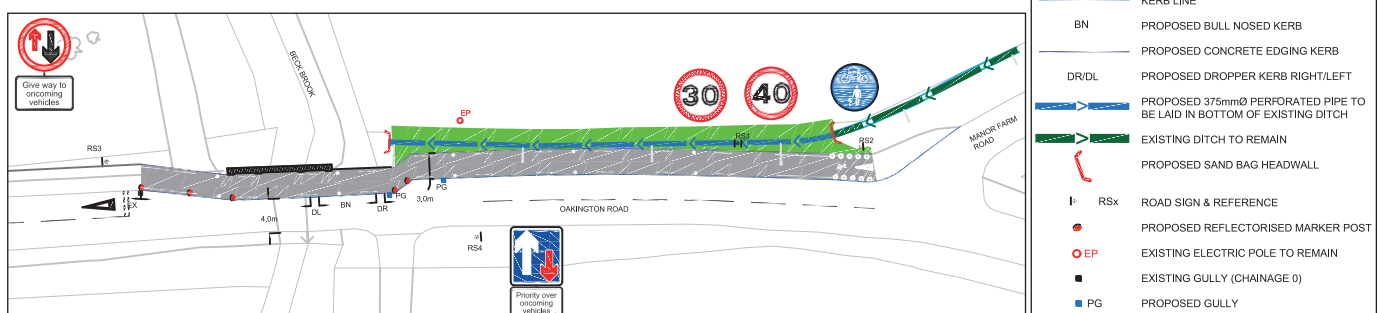
- Widening the current shared-use path to 3m as it crosses the bridge.
- Reducing the carriageway on the bridge to a single lane to accommodate the wider path.
- Giving priority to traffic leaving the village, similar to the pinch points on the roads into Oakington.
- Installation of additional signage on the bend of the outbound approach to the Bridge to indicate the possible need to give way to oncoming vehicles already on the bridge.

The perceived benefits of the scheme are:

- Improving the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, including those using buggies and pushchairs.
- Restricted vehicle passage over the bridge will enforce speed reduction of incoming traffic.
- The perception of 'restricted' access may discourage rat running to access the Huntingdon Road and M11.
- The additional signage will serve to introduce some caution on the outbound approach to the bend where visibility is not good.
- It provides an efficient opportunity to get the bridge parapet repairs completed in a timely fashion.

Residents who wish to comment should do so in writing to the Parish Clerk, clerk@girton-cambs.org.uk or by post to the Parish Office. Consultation will close on 30th November.

Whether in favour of or against the project please make your views known.



From Our Councillors

County Councillor Edna Murphy

Covid update

Schools and young people's health continue to be a priority for the County Council. Covid infections have risen rapidly in Cambridgeshire schools and there is onward infection affecting families too. The situation is very worrying, and against the backdrop is a large and growing number of people with long Covid and pressure on the NHS. We have not yet hit the peak of winter, when flu and other respiratory diseases are likely to put even more pressure on people and services.

The County has recommended some restrictions for schools in order to help reduce transmission. The advice is being reviewed on a daily basis. Advice given to schools includes secondary schools reintroducing face coverings in communal areas, social distancing and non-essential events becoming virtual. Pupils should be encouraged to take twice-weekly lateral flow tests.

The pandemic continues to put pressure on people and families. There will be food vouchers at half term and in the Christmas holidays, implemented as it was in the summer. Also the County has given support to a national mental health awareness campaign 'Every Mind Matters' (www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters). Please remember there is support for people of all ages – anyone with mental health difficulties can call the First Response Service by calling NHS 111 (option 2).

For young people, YOUNited offers help to children and young people with their emotional wellbeing and mental health. It is available to those up to the age of 25 and offers a range of support including therapies, counselling and guided self-help. Referrals can be made to YOUNited by a GP or any professional working with children or young people. More information can be found at: <https://www.cpft.nhs.uk/search/service/younited-195/>.

Road safety and carbon reduction

The County has committed to ambitious targets both for road safety improvement and carbon reduction. Reducing speed is a key aspect of both, and as a result a more holistic approach to speed reduction is being considered, including specifically looking at the way in which 20mph speed limits are introduced. The aim is to make it easier, and with less burden on the applicant, to apply for 20mph limits, and indeed other speed limits that currently apply.

Many people have noticed that there are many trees failing to thrive near the A14. New saplings were planted by Highways England as part of the A14 programme of work but many are failing to grow. Having raised this with County officers they report that they have discussed the die-back with Highways

England, that Highways England is aware of the problem, and are attempting to correct the situation, albeit without making a huge amount of progress. Highways England's landscaping officer is currently assessing the backlog of dead saplings requiring attention. I will continue to pursue this to make sure Highways England puts this right.

Oakington Bridge consultation

Finally please do take part in the consultation for work proposed for the path across Oakington Road Bridge which is explained in more detail on the previous page.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me if you have a query or concern.

Edna Murphy

01223 577005

edna.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

District Councillor Corinne Garvie

£1.8m funding for skills bootcamps

The combined authority has secured £1.8 million in new funding to help more than 800 people gain sought-after digital skills to accelerate their careers.

Skills Bootcamps are flexible courses of up to 16 weeks, giving people the opportunity to build up sector-specific skills and fast-track to an interview with a local employer. They offer skills at Level 3 or above (Level 3 is equivalent to A-Levels) and aim to meet the needs of employers and the wider economy. They are for people who are aged 19 or over and who are employed, self-employed, career changers/returners/redeployed or unemployed people.

One of the two providers is the Cambridge Regional College.

Delivery of the Skills Bootcamps will be completed by March 2022. For further information and to make enquiries, visit: growthworkswithskills.com.

Business Growth Fund

Because of SCDC's success in getting all the government's Covid grants out quickly and efficiently to our businesses they now have an additional sum of Growth Fund money to spend. This is not for businesses to survive Covid, but for businesses that have survived to be able to grow and in so doing increase the number of people they employ, their turnover and their profits.

Grants range in size from £2,500 to £50,000. If you have a business with potential to grow, contact the council's business support team for advice and support to apply for your share of the remaining £378,610. More details here: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/business/grants-and-funding>.

Additional support for vulnerable families and individuals

In addition to the direct food vouchers, a Countywide

hub is available to link you in with local support in your area. Support might include access to information and advice, more food and fuel support or access to other essential supplies. To find out further details and to access support you can go to: https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Covid19_Reaching_Out.

Electric bin lorries

SCDC is moving forward with its commitment to be Zero Carbon with the purchase of two more electric bin lorries. These vehicles are expensive but the savings that are made on fuel together with the environmental benefits means that they pay for themselves in a relatively short time.

Local police and fire services

There are high levels of demand on the police but they are coping. They have maintained Covid-secure standards and this means staff are available. Meanwhile, for the fire service, availability of services is good and they have maintained a Covid-secure work environment.

Christmas

I know it is early to be thinking about Christmas but I just wanted to give you advance notice that SCDC will be running a Christmas Market in Cambourne High Street on Sunday 5th December from 3pm to 8pm.

Corinne Garvie

Cllr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk

07780 932267

Councillor Tom Bygott

Hotel Felix update

The planning application to demolish the Hotel Felix tinyurl.com/vshotelfelix, one of Girton's most historic and best loved heritage buildings was submitted in February and validated on March 1st. I wrote to request that the application be called in to the Planning Committee and submitted my planning reasons for preserving the building on May 2nd. Since then I have had no reply to any of my correspondence. It appears that the matter has been put into the "too hard basket" and just left.

Meanwhile the applicant, owned by a venture capital firm, has paid an application fee of £25,067 and been left with a luxury hotel with a one-time £8.5 million valuation left empty and gathering cobwebs. So far they have been very patient, but it is obvious that this situation can't go on forever. An applicant left waiting for more than eight weeks can appeal to the Secretary of State for non-determination.

Over the last few months there has been a steady increase in the number of people contacting me to say that they have lodged a planning application but have heard nothing in the following weeks and months and have been unable to get any kind of update on what is happening.

Under Section 62B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, the Secretary of State has the power to decide that South Cambridgeshire District Council is not adequately performing its function of determining planning applications and take over its planning powers, with most decisions made by planning inspectors in other parts of the country.

Hot Tub Superstore

Observant motorists will have noticed that signs marked "Hot Tub Superstore" have appeared on the access roads to the A14 at the Swavesey, Bar Hill and Dry Drayton junctions. These have been left unchallenged for several months; I first noticed them in early June. The signs are coloured brown in the same format as signs for national parks and tourist attractions, with a pictogram of a couple relaxing in their hot tub, and are of a similar quality and design to official signs.

The Hot Tub Superstore in question is located next to Herbie's Diner on the A1307 near the Swavesey junction. There is some local sympathy for these businesses, as they have suffered a loss of passing trade during the A14 works and then during coronavirus. However, a distinction has to be made between business advertisements and road signs, which are essential for highway safety. If every business that has struggled during coronavirus put up unauthorised advertising signs, our roads would be so festooned with signs that we couldn't see where we were going.

To date Cambridgeshire County Council, which is responsible for maintaining road signs and owns the poles to which these signs are attached, has ignored my correspondence on the subject.

District Council unable to provide audited accounts

Councillors were called in for an Extraordinary Meeting on Monday 18th October to discuss problems with preparing South Cambridgeshire District Council's audited accounts. The council has been unable to provide audited accounts for the 2018/19 year within the required time. It is unable to start the audit on the 2019/20 or 2020/21 accounts and is building up a long backlog of unaudited accounts.

The auditor, Ernst and Young, has issued a report saying that they are considering "issuing recommendations to council under Section 24, Schedule 7 of the Local Accountability and Audit Act 2014". This would put the council into something analogous to "special measures".

Local Plan consultation to start in November

Another consultation will start for the new Local Plan for Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire covering the period up to 2041. Comments can be made by visiting www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/localplan.

Cllr Tom Bygott

cllr@bygott.net

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Remembering George



Before writing this I thought about how well known and thought of George was in Girton and I thought I would like anyone who felt moved to, to write a little something, whether a story, a memory, an encounter or anything about George and either pop it through the door or into the box on the day of his funeral.

George was born in Uganda in 1955 where he lived until he was seven. Occasionally the smell of an exotic fruit transported him right back. One thing he did not enjoy was the cold when he first arrived in this country. He came to Cambridge in 1974 following his father and great uncle to Jesus College where he made some very good friends.

He read Geography, gaining a 2.1. From very early on and until the end he was involved with societies, charities and groups that worked to make this world a better place. After university he went to work in Arjuna Wholefood Workers Cooperative, a forward thinking chaotic place to be, which was where we met. From the time he left Arjuna he worked in and for the environment.

He eventually became Head Gardener at Trinity College, working as organically as possible, managing about 30 acres of various types of areas and a staff of twelve. Towards the end of his time there he wanted to be more hands on and so after retiring from Trinity he became self-employed and called his business Bush Doctor; he liked the differentiation from Tree Surgeon. He enjoyed punning, pruning and playing with words!

We moved to Girton in 1989, and being a particularly sociable man, he became involved with Girton Players moving on to Girton Operatic Society. He loved singing, the banter, getting involved, and the social occasions. He used to say no matter how hard he tried to look smart backstage, by the time he got on stage something was out of place. He had a lovely voice.

George had an allotment and he enjoyed the friendliness, chatting and sharing with the other allotment holders. For him it was a form of relaxation, the only imposed timetable being that of nature. He liked to look after the open spaces and was so pleased that people volunteered to help make Girton a greener space.

And then, of course, generally at the last minute, he wrote his monthly tip for the *Girton Parish News*. He even found time to go round with the Christian Aid envelopes. He taught Tai Chi in Girton, Cambridge and on Zoom. He looked after the Nature Reserve. The more I write this the more I wonder how he fitted everything in but then we used to joke that he could turn round on a sixpence.

He was also the Secretary and then the Treasurer for the Professional Gardeners Guild, I am not so sure he enjoyed being the Treasurer as much as the visits and weekends away with all his gardening chums.

He died in the Arthur Rank Hospice where the care was exemplary. He was a lovely, kind gentleman. He loved life, to chat with people about anything and everything, he cared passionately about the environment, and I feel sad that we will not be able to see or read him again. We shall miss him and I shall mourn him, but he would rather that we “cracked on” and did our bit for the environment to make this a better world for now and future generations. He liked the phrase “think globally, act locally”.

In (very) brief that was George and I know that he was cherished here, so if you would like to write something about him, please do. I would love to read your contribution and he would be chuffed as nuts.

Viv Thorpe




The Mitten Tree project - an update

Knitters and shoppers have been busy showing their support for The Mitten Tree Project, sponsored by St Andrew's Church.

New mittens, gloves, scarves and hats (knitted or purchased and in adult sizes) are now displayed on a special Mitten Tree in the church. This is a wonderful beginning to the project and thank you to everyone who has contributed so generously. And, like Oliver Twist, we would like some more, please, to help the many homeless people in Cambridge over the winter.

Donations will be gratefully received and accepted until 5th December, when The Mitten Tree is taken down. Items collected will be given to Jimmy's Cambridge for distribution at Christmas.

Again, many thanks!



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Girton Cottontails Preschool

This half term at preschool, we have been doing lots of activities and learning based around Autumn. At Forest School we picked apples and blackberries and really enjoyed eating them for a

snack. Back at preschool we then made crumble, yum! We've been exploring the leaves and seeing how many different colours we can find and matching them with similar colours.

To celebrate harvest, we had a very exciting visit to St Andrews Church where we admired the harvest displays and found out what the harvest festival means. We were also very lucky to be able to explore the church, going up the secret staircase, playing the organ and ringing the church bells. Sorry to anyone who heard the bells and wondered what was going on that morning!

At preschool we've been exploring and drawing different vegetables and fruits. We also had pumpkins and gourds. Some of the gourds were very unusual looking and we thought of words to describe how they looked and felt.

The children continue to be very interested and busy in the home corner, cooking and creating wonderful play foods and meals. We also had a vet's role play area and the children looked after all the animals.

The theme of our rising 5s sessions has been 'all about me.' We have been thinking about our similarities and differences and what makes all of us our wonderful



unique selves! We talked about our families, looked at photos and made a wonderful display with drawings of all of our families on.

We welcome children from the age of 2 upwards. We accept 2 year funded and 3 & 4 year 15 and 30 hour funded children. Please contact us if you would like to apply for a place.

Laura Norman and Emma Pell
Girton Cottontails Preschool Managing Directors
Email: info@girtoncottontailspreschool.com
Phone: 07368 180771
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Girton WI

We were very pleased to welcome 31 ladies to our first proper WI meeting in 20 months to join together and listen to our speaker for the evening Kate Kirk.

Kate's talk titled 'The Cambridge Phenomenon' was both interesting and amusing, giving us an insight into all the technology and scientific discoveries that have come out of Cambridge. Our ladies were nodding their heads at the mention of some of the technology and scientists named by Kate and were amazed at the lesser-known ones. Many of you will have heard of Sir Clive Sinclair and some of his inventions especially the C5. Kate amused us at each section of her talk by naming some of the pubs which were frequent haunts of some of the famous companies and scientists she had mentioned. For instance, did you know that there are three plaques in 'The Eagle' pub because it was the place where Francis Crick and James Watson interrupted the patrons on the 28th February 1953 to announce they had "discovered the secret of life" after they had come up with their proposal for the structure of DNA. Something to look out for when you're next in Cambridge. A very entertaining talk giving us food for thought about our wonderful city of Cambridge and surrounding area also known as Silicon Fen.

By the time you read this we will have held our next meeting where we will be having a demonstration by a florist on making Autumn/Christmas wreaths and some of us will be making our own.

Our Christmas Party is going to be on Wednesday 1st December with buffet style food and entertainment by 'The Footlights Quartet'.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 5th January - James Irons from Emmaus Charity will be our speaker

Wednesday 2nd February - David Short will be giving us a talk titled 'A Life Behind Bars' (I will leave that one to your imagination).

We have a lot to look forward to! If you are looking to join us for future meetings, please just come along, or if you would like more details of what WI is all about, email girtonwi@gmail.com or girtonwisecretary@gmail.com.

Girton WI is held on the first Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm in the William Collyn Community Centre. (Please note the Christmas Party will start at 7pm.)

Wendy Hall
Girton WI Secretary

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Music at Girton College

Admission Free; retiring collection

Sunday 14 November at 2.30 pm (until 3.30 pm)

Stanley Library, Girton College, Cambridge

Charlotte Howdle (violin)

Emma Scott (violin)

Sam O'Neal (piano)

The main work on the programme will be César Franck's Violin Sonata in A major, one of the masterpieces of nineteenth-century chamber music. This will be preceded with a short selection of works by Bach, Brahms and Shostakovich to mark Remembrance Sunday.

Monday 15 November at 8.00 pm (until 9.00 pm)

Chapel, Girton College, Cambridge

Robert Jones (viola)

Kevin Loh (lute)

Evening reflection.

A programme of reflective music for the day after Remembrance Sunday. Repertoire to include Bach's Violin Partita No. 2 in D minor (arranged for viola), William Flackton's Sonata in C and a new work by Robert Jones.

Sunday 21 November at 2.30 pm (until 3.30 pm)

Stanley Library, Girton College, Cambridge

Matthew Schellhorn (piano)

Celebrated pianist Matthew Schellhorn, an Old Girtonian, presents a recital of piano works by Herbert Howells. The programme will be recorded in December for a Naxos CD, a companion-piece to a highly acclaimed first disc of previously unpublished piano works by Howells.

Friday 26 November at 6.00 pm (until 7.00 pm)

Venue TBA, Girton College, Cambridge

Tim Boniface Jazz Quartet

Tim Boniface, College Chaplain and jazz performer and composer, leads his quartet in a performance of their 2019 release

The Infant, an energetic and soulful jazz suite based on the characters in the Christmas story; featuring Tim Boniface (saxophones), Phil Merriman (piano), Ed Babar (bass) and Jon Ormston (drums). Further details at: www.timboniface.co.uk/recorded-works.

Sunday 28 November at 6.00 pm (until 7.15 pm)

Chapel, Girton College, Cambridge

Advent Carol Service

Please note that this is a service rather than a concert. All members of the public are welcome, subject to COVID regulations and with possible restrictions on numbers. For further details, please check the College website closer to the time.

Sunday 12 December at 6.00 pm (until 7.15 pm)

Venue TBA, Girton College, Cambridge

A Victorian Christmas

A programme of festive music played on Victorian instruments by Queen Victoria's Consort, directed by Andy Kershaw and featuring trumpeter and period-instrument specialist David Blackadder.

Remembrance Sunday

As in previous years, as well as the service on Remembrance Sunday there will be a short ceremony on Remembrance Day itself. We shall meet shortly before 11am on 11 November at the war memorial. If any service personnel, former or current, would care to take part in the ceremony I would be delighted to hear from you!

Douglas de Lacey, del2@cam.ac.uk



Girton Garden Society

**Wednesday
10th November
at 7.30pm**

at William Collyn Community Centre.

Herbaceous perennials by Joe Sharman of Monksilver Nursery, Cottenham. This talk will cover all aspects of growing herbaceous perennials from sowing and planting to dividing and taking cuttings throughout the seasons. Choosing the right plant for the right place will be discussed.

Competitions: A vase of dried seed heads;
An indoor foliage plant.

Non-members are welcome but must pre-book at girtongardensociety@outlook.com.

For more details visit
www.girtongardensociety.co.uk.



Girton Walking Group

Saturday 6th November

A walk of about 6 miles at Wicken Fen. Meet at the National Trust car park (free for NT members: non-members £3) at 10 am. Address: 34 Lode Lane, Wicken, Ely CB7 5XP. We will walk a circular walk over the fens skirting the National Trust reserve and along to Upware. Then walk back along Wicken Lode. This might be a muddy walk as it is November so wear appropriate footwear. Bring a drink. For further details please email elisabethkron@yahoo.co.uk.

Saturday 4th December

A shorter walk of about 3½ miles through the Coton Countryside Reserve. This will be followed by a "bring and share" lunch at our house to celebrate Christmas and being together after the pandemic. Meet at Coton Church, 74 High Street, Coton, Cambridge CB23 7PL at 10 am. This walk could be muddy, although we have worked out an alternative route in case the weather has been very wet. For full details, and to offer a dish to bring to the meal, please contact Gina at ginaklane@aol.com.

There will also be a walk on New Year's Day – more details to follow!


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Girton Poppy Appeal 2021

The dates for the

Annual Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2021

are held between
30th October and 13th November.

There are no plans to conduct house to house collections this year, however traditional paper Poppies are available during this time from a number of locations throughout Girton including:

BP Garage, Girton Co-op,
Peter Graves Nursery,
GP Surgery, The George, The Old Crown,
Girton Golf Club and Girton Social Club.

There is a stand in Sainsbury's, Eddington, where additional items are available including 2021 Poppy lapel pins, Wooden Crosses, Poppy reflectors, Snap rulers, Bracelets and more.

Limited edition lapel pins to mark 100 years of the Royal British Legion are still available.

A white enamel background with the iconic poppy shape and text that reads

'ROYAL BRITISH LEGION' and '100 YEARS'.



Suggested donation £4

All profits benefit the considerable work of the Royal British Legion in supporting the Armed Forces community.

Items are also available from your local
Poppy Appeal Organiser: Wendy Ripley
Mobile: 07885 190597 or
Email: girtonpa@yahoo.com

Thank you for your support.



Lest We Forget



Making his Mark

In his youth during the 1950's Mark Handley, who moved to Girton with his wife Etsuko in 2016, was enthralled by the drawings by Ronald Searle in Geoffrey Willans' hilarious book *Down With Skool*, not that he modelled himself on Nigel Molesworth!

Punch, a magazine that consoled him in dentists' waiting rooms from an early age, was one of his favourite periodicals, not that he was not equally fond of the *Beano*. Mark dreamt of becoming a cartoonist but in the end had to try to do something useful instead and turned to architecture.

In 1969 Mark managed to get a cartoon published in *Punch* as a result of being a runner-up in a competition for amateurs. The drawing caught the eye of Christopher South of the *Cambridge Evening News* who commissioned him to provide amusing drawings for his column in the 1970's.

In the 1980's Mark began making linocuts inspired by Edward Bawden's large-scale works in that medium, and he produced several such works including Aldeburgh Beach (1981) (pictured below), the Wren Library at Trinity College (1983), and Hobson's Fountain (1986). In 2004 he was commissioned to make linocuts of various literary figures for a new quarterly *Slightly Foxed* whose deadlines were much less arduous than *Punch's* would have been.

In 2018 Mark finally got round to producing a book of his own entitled *Poets Cornered* containing many of his literary linocuts as well as a number of his own parodies of some of his favourite bits of poetry. To his great surprise the book received a not unfriendly review in the *Times Literary Supplement* finally justifying his degree in English Literature of many years ago.

Poets Cornered appears to be described on the internet as unavailable but is actually still alive and well and should be available at various book shops including Heffers and G. David in Cambridge, the Fry Art Gallery in Saffron Walden and at the Lettering Arts Trust Gallery at Snape Maltings for £15.



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Have a Green Christmas!



With the festive season approaching, many of us are turning our minds to shopping and celebrations. But with increased awareness of our environmental footprint, it is important to find ways to gift and celebrate more sustainably. Here are some ideas that you can try.

Shop local

Shopping local has a lower carbon footprint for delivery and supports small and independent businesses, many of which make big efforts to be sustainable. Gifts from businesses with a local story, local art or crafts, a food hamper, or vouchers for a local café or restaurant all make lovely presents. Visit a local Christmas market to pick up some goodies.

Shop second-hand

It's amazing what you can find in second-hand shops and online local groups, including great bargains on clothes, books, toys and jewellery. We found some fantastic second-hand Lego for our children's birthdays this year. Or visit a local vintage shop for a truly unique gift.

Shop eco-friendly

If you prefer to buy new, why not consider an eco swap-box or focus on gifts that people need and will use, from unwrapped organic soaps to kitchen essentials. Alternatively, many charities offer eco-friendly gifts such as planting trees or sponsoring wildlife conservation.

Gift your time

Bake a cake, treat someone to a special day out, or if you are brave, give your children a "kids in charge day"!

And all the trimmings...

A lot of Christmas paper and cards cannot be recycled and end up in landfill. Look for the recyclable label, and paper which is FSC certified or recycled. Or switch from paper to e-cards and reusable fabric wrapping or gift bags. You can do the same for other Christmas items - choose reusable or recyclable crackers, decorations and tableware to help reduce your Christmas footprint. Finally, don't forget that food waste has a huge environmental footprint, so plan ahead and only buy what you need.

Sarah and Sarah run Green Blue You, a local business that sells eco-friendly essentials and gifts.
www.greenblueyou.co.uk



Dear Girton Parish News

I would like to thank all those who sent their condolences for Kevin Keeves. I was grateful for the many kind messages, phone calls and flowers from people in the village and those who knew Kev. Your thoughts and warm words of support were comforting and meant a great deal.

*Kitty and Mike Keeves
Thornton Close*

Dear Girton Parish News

This glorious Autumn we have been enjoying has brought so many residents out to enjoy their gardens. Lawns have needed a cut well into October, flowers have gone on growing longer. Who ever heard of Nasturtiums flowering so late? Autumn Half Term used to be chilly with fireworks and roast potatoes round the seasonal festivities culminating in Bonfire Night.

We have to realise that this warm temperature is part of the climate crisis being considered at COP 26. How can we each use less fossil fuels to keep our houses warm? Can we afford to install better insulation in our houses or get our landlord to bring the dwelling up to a better level of energy efficiency? Can we afford to change our central heating from a gas boiler to air source heat pumps?

SCDC has done a great deal to improve their housing so we need to follow their lead. It is worth doing your own survey of your house with a camera that measures where the cold patches are with a thermal imaging camera. Then you can find out where the cold patches are and the source of draughts. The results will help decisions on what to do about our own contribution to cutting carbon emissions and bills for energy.

*Christine Bromwich
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GIRTON GREEN FINGERS

In the two months since my last article, we have gone through extremes of conditions. Late summer heat gave us parched brown grass and iron-hard soil, nigh-on impossible to drive a spade or fork into; grey overcast chilly days, uninviting to venture out; then, almost alternately, the pleasant shirtsleeve weather of an autumn 'Indian Summer'. Most dramatic was the day which saw more than a month's rain in one day. All those inches of rain were quickly absorbed by the soil, leaving it ideal to work ever since. Two months with the sites being populated at times by no-one; other times by the hardy few; and on those Indian Summer days, lots of individuals, couples and families busying themselves with their chosen tasks.

Our contractor with his tractor-mower cut the paths and public areas in mid-October. Members have continued to cut their own paths where the contractor's machine cannot manoeuvre. Years ago, one would have said grass cutting ends for the season about now but now mowing seems to



A site resident

continue right through the year. Warmer winters? Improved equipment? Greater dedication of gardeners? Comparing notes with other members, I think it's correct to say that the closing season has been mixed in its successes and failures. A largely cold spring got things off to a difficult start, germination of seeds being slow or not happening. Pandemic restrictions on activities afforded more time and many of us were tempted to fill our time with seed sowing too early. Seedlings were ready to go out into the soil either too early, or at the right time but over-grown.

However, in spite of weather and timings, we carried on with our productive hobby. Some types of crops produced as well or better than previous years. Other crops performed less abundantly than usual. I can't be specific because it is noteworthy that where one member succeeded with a crop, another failed; and vice versa with another vegetable. But on the whole there were plenty of fresh naturally grown vegetables and fruit for our kitchens.

I will mention tomatoes, having wondered two months ago whether blight would ruin our tomato plants and fruit. The outcome was mixed. Being an airborne fungus, there may be sheltered and exposed areas. Some growers had their tomatoes ruined by blight, harvesting



Nobody wants us ...

few or no fruits. Others (and I'm lucky to be included) had a blight-free summer and heavy crops. I think mine was my heaviest and tastiest tomato harvest ever.

Wandering around the site, the main activities are now clearing up; enriching and turning over the soil; renovation of buildings; general tidying ... in short, putting our plots to bed for the winter. Not the whole picture: there are over-wintering crops such as leeks, Brussels sprouts and other brassicas. And now is that time of anticipation as we study seed catalogues and seed packets, letting our minds wander to next season.



Finished!

At the end of September, the Society's AGM took place. (Last year's was not held, for obvious reasons.) Thirty-two members attended. Reports from chairman, secretary, treasurer and lettings officer were presented and accepted. Our chairman and site manager, Malcolm Frew, came to the end of his tenure after 5 years. Malcolm worked unstintingly for the Society and no doubt will continue to do so. We thank him profusely. And we offer good wishes to his successor as site manager, Alison Giles.

The Society has become increasingly aware of and involved in environmental concerns over recent years. In October, members of a local scientific group spent a few days on site. Placing collecting receptacles around the site, they were gathering information on the flora and fauna present. In due course we shall be presented with their findings. I hope to include some facts in a future article. Members are pleased that the Society is involved in the fast-growing national and international concern over nature and the environment.



Still going strong

GPN readers will be familiar with the clear and helpful gardening tips, written each month by George Thorpe. George was a plot holder and Society member; also Girton's tree expert and adviser. We were deeply saddened to learn of George's death in late October. A lovely friendly man. As I wrote of another member once, if you were feeling low, you couldn't help but be cheered up by meeting George.

Finally, the other day I took a shortcut across the allotment and was involved in four enjoyable conversations in those few hundred yards. It delayed my day, but in the most pleasant way. It reminded me of one of the benefits of being a member of the Allotment Society: the friendships and acquaintances one makes, and the wide range of subjects we chat about.

*Graham Jones
Girton Allotment Society*



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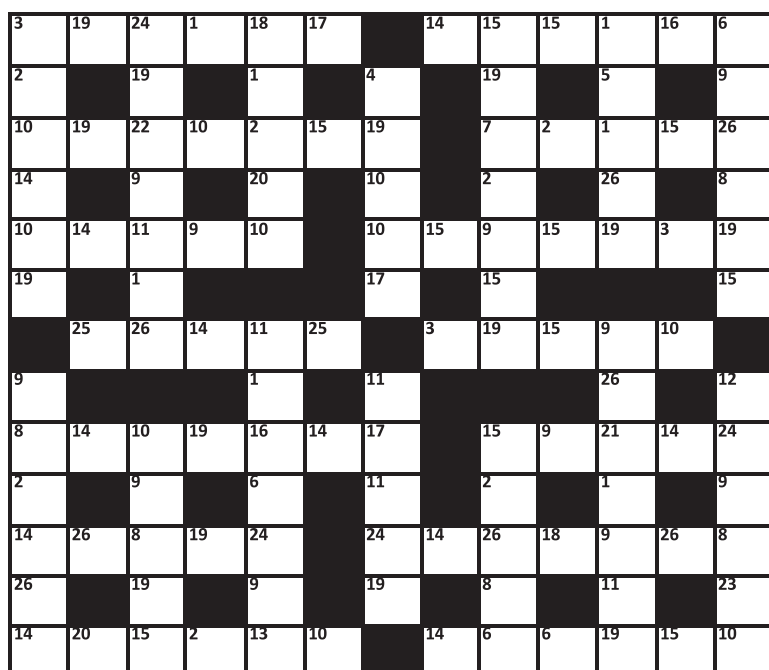
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A	1
B	2
C	3
D	4
E	5
F	6
G	7
H	8
I	9
J	10
K	11
L	12
M	13
N	14
O	15
P	16
Q	17
R	18
S	19
T	20
U	21
V	22
W	23
X	24
Y	25
Z	26

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.

The solution is on page 31.

WORDSEARCH – Theme – Lights!

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

AURORA	HOUSE	SKY
BACK	INCANDESCENT	STAGE
BOAT	INDICATOR	STAR
CANDLE	LANDING	SPOT
DAY	LANTERN	SUN
DESK	LAMP	TEA
DOWN	LIGHT	TORCH
ELECTRIC	MOON	UP
FAIRY	NORTHERN	WALL
FIRE	OFFICE	WARNING
FOG	OIL	XMAS
GAS	READING	
HEAD	SIDE	

GIRTON scoreboard



Girton Bowls Club

The Presentation Dinner was held at the Old Crown on 6th October and was attended by 39 Club members and partners. This event always proves to be a popular social occasion when we can all get together and

have a great time. This year was no exception and our thanks go to all the staff at The Crown for a lovely meal enjoyed in a great atmosphere.



Heads down for the table top quiz

The presentation of the trophies was made by our Chairman, Dave Fryer, to all the winners and runners up. This year's trophy for most improved player of the season went to Debbie Foster – our congratulations to her.



The Presentation Dinner

The bowls green has now been shut down for the winter and all the jobs associated with this carried out by our volunteers. The green will now undergo a winter maintenance programme under the guidance of our professional advisor to ensure it will be in top condition for next season. Thank you to all those volunteers who were able to help.

With regard to our requirement for our own toilet facility, we are currently awaiting a response from the Parish Council.

Our autumn rambles have begun again, starting with a circular walk from Little Walden and back to the Pub for lunch. It was a glorious day and a great start to the new season. Thanks go to Paul Tippet for leading these walks.

Indoor Bowls is now well under way and Girton have two teams playing. Team 1 have played three games –

one loss, one draw and a convincing win of 6–0 against Coleridge. Team 2 have played only one game so far but also had a very good win of 6–0 against A team from Coleridge.

A suggestion of entering a second team into one of the leagues in which we play, in order to give our players more games, will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

If you are interested in finding out more about joining Girton Bowls Club next season, and for all photos and events, please see our website at www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com or contact our Secretary, Lynne McGill, at lynnemcgill63@hotmail.com. We are always pleased to welcome new members.

Lynne McGill



Girton Golf Club

It is getting colder and wetter, but we are still playing golf on a superb course. However, the club competitions and matches against other clubs are slowly coming to an end as our season drifts towards winter. We still have some internal

competitions to play including the annual blood bath of the Ladies vs. Gents match in November and a mixed match at Brampton Park.

The clubhouse has been incredibly busy with everything from wedding receptions to wakes and birthday parties to golf society dinners, all well catered for. Numbers have ranged from large (over 100) to small groups, and the feedback we have received has been really positive and very encouraging. We have been taking a large number of bookings from groups for Christmas meals and are open to taking more, so if your group, family, society or bunch of friends would like to get together in November or December and enjoy a great atmosphere and wonderful food at a sensible and realistic price, call the catering department and have a chat, or just call in and talk to Nick Cooke, our Bar and Catering Manager.

Membership is still open for Juniors, Intermediates and 7-day members, and remember Junior membership makes a great Christmas present for anyone from 6 to 18 and is only £65 for a full 12 months. Call our office or Pro shop for more information. We also have social membership available where you can access all the clubhouse facilities, with discounts on food and drink, for only £15 a single or £20 a couple. Come and talk to a member of the bar staff to join and enjoy a great coffee while you sort it out.

Remember, Girton Golf Club is a 'not for profit' members club with all excess income ploughed right back into our course and facilities. It is great to belong to a local independent club where you can take visiting family and friends and be treated well. If you are not already a

member, come down to the end of Dodford Lane and have a look around and a chat – you don't even have to like golf!

Alan Henderson-Smith
Tel: 01223 276169
www.girtongolf.co.uk



Girton Tennis Club

Our men's team has been playing in the Winter League and has made a good start with one loss and one draw. By the time this is published, they will have played Shelford where our

captain was reasonably sure of a first win.

The junior supervised sessions on Friday evenings have been very popular and our volunteers (James, Ben, Nghia, Mark, Victor and Alan R) deserve special thanks for their dedication and hard work in keeping these sessions running. We have now finished these sessions for 2021 but plan to run them again when the better weather of 2022 arrives!



Junior supervised sessions

Members of Girton Tennis Club assembled at the George on the evening of 13th October and raised a glass to former Membership Secretary Kevin Keeves (known to members as 'Rocket' due to a rocket-



A toast to Kevin

powered serve), who sadly passed away on 7th September. He has been a stalwart of the tennis club over the last decade and will be badly missed by all.

The tennis club has use of the recreation ground courts and members who purchase a key and have a confirmed booking have court access during most daylight hours. Club members meet and play from around 7.30pm to 9pm on Friday evenings. Potential new members are very welcome to come along to our Friday club nights for one or two free sessions to check it all out.

Details about our activities can be found on our website www.girtontenniscub.uk or by contacting our Membership Secretary by email at info@girtontenniscub.uk.

Alan Franklin



Girton Netball Club

Competitive netball is back with the return of the Cambridge Adult Friendly League (CAFL). The CAFL, which meets in Milton on Thursday nights, brings together village teams like ours to play proper match fixtures against players of a similar standard. It's always a lively atmosphere and great to find out how we rate against other squads. Our first match was against Kings, but sadly due to the game being organised at late notice, we were a player short of a full team. The match ended 21-15 to Kings despite best efforts from the plucky Girton six. We are hoping to field a full squad for our next match and really do ourselves justice against Trumpington Tigers 2.

We're delighted to have Claire back at training after her maternity leave and to welcome a couple of new players too. We're looking forward to our annual Christmas dinner and drinks, plans for which will be revealed.

Training with Helen continues – Mondays 6.30-7.45pm Girton Rec. All welcome.

Email: girton.village.netball@gmail.com or facebook: Girton Netball Club.

Emma-Louise Longden



Girton Colts Football Club

The club pushes itself forward again this month with our first goalie specific training session. All teams sent their dedicated goalkeepers to the session and it went really well. Lots of fun had but loads of useful techniques learnt too. Thank you to the Girton Town Charity who made this possible as part of the funding they give to the club. We plan to run another 4-5 sessions this season, which I know will be beneficial to our teams.

... continued on page 24

GIRTON scoreboard

... continued from page 23



Our Under 9 team has had a change of management. Angie has decided to step back from the role after 4 years as manager. She started the team when the players were 5 years old and I know she will miss the role and we will miss

her too. The club really appreciates everything that she has given the club and the team. Thank you, Angie. Which brings us to welcoming Marco to the team, who is now the new manager. He has big boots to fill, but we have every confidence he can move the team forward.

We have been chosen for the 3rd year in a row to receive part of the Co-op local membership funding. If you use your Co-op membership card we get a percentage of the Co-ops profits ... so please join the Co-op to get your membership card and make sure you use your card when you buy anything at our local Co-op.

Kickabout sessions start

We're excited to announce the Kickabout session, which will start in November and run 9–10am Saturday mornings. It's a chance for local non-team members to play football and improve, as well as being a fun hour of sport on a Saturday. Spaces are limited so please register to attend. This session is aimed at Years 1–6, girls and boys. Please contact teamsec@girtoncolts.co.uk.

Team News

Under 10s. Girton Colts are delighted and proud to announce Brea has signed for Arsenal Girls Academy. This is brilliant news for Brea, thoroughly deserved and a great reflection on coaching at Girton Colts. The club is also very pleased Brea can continue to train and play with the Girton Colts Under 10s. *SD*



Brea

Under 11s. The U11s have had good start to the season, winning both our league games, including showing great spirit coming from behind to beat Royston Town away thanks to a hat-trick from Lucas and goals from Denford and Tia. However, we were knocked out of the

cup in the first round by Sutton Rangers, though the team showed resilience through to the end. *KS*

Under 12s. The boys have enjoyed a solid start to the new season. The first game was a thrilling 4–4 draw away at Bar Hill and that was followed by another draw, this time 0–0 at Witchford. Our first home game of the season ended with our first win, a dramatic 2–1 win over West Wrattling. Unfortunately the last two matches have ended in defeat: 1–3 at home to Cottenham and 2–4 away at Swavesey. This is the first season where a league table is published and we are currently sitting in a very credible 8th position (out of 12) in a very competitive league. *RN*

Under 13s. At the start of the season, we welcomed three new players, Alice, Harriet and Sunny to the team. They have already proved themselves to be versatile additions to the team, able to play both in defence and in the forward positions. The team achieved a major milestone in the first game of the season by scoring our first competitive goal, with Ellie taking the honours for getting the ball over the line – apparently our cheers of joy could be heard on the next field! The girls enjoyed their match on Saturday and played with great determination against the joint league leaders, Netherton United. Freya received player of the match for her fantastic goalkeeping and it was a credit to the whole team that the referee remarked that all the girls played with great spirit. We are looking forward to our next match and goal! *CL*

Andrew Hawkes
Chairman

Brownies

Can you help save the Brownie Toadstool!



For decades Girton Brownies have been making their Brownie Promise around the same toadstool. Perhaps you remember making your promise around it? The exact age of the toadstool

is a mystery but a few weeks ago a very similar homemade toadstool made an appearance on the BBC1 show *The Repair Shop*.

Sadly the Girton Brownies toadstool is now in a very sorry state and in need of its own trip to a repair shop. We are therefore asking do you, or anyone you know, have the skills that could help save our toadstool for the future? It appears to be made of paper mache, wood and hand painted.

If you would be able to help with this project please contact 2girtonbrownies@gmail.com.



News from Girton Glebe Primary School

It has been such a busy half-term at Girton Glebe and our pupils have worked so hard over the last 8 weeks,

producing some amazing learning. They have now completed their first topic since returning to school and, along with class teachers, thoroughly deserved their half-term rest!

Autumn Curriculum Events

We are so proud of the work that our pupils have completed this half-term having engaged with a range of amazing topics right across the school. We are equally proud of the curriculum that we offer at Girton Glebe and further details about its design and ethos can be found at <https://girtonglebe.com/curriculum-introduction>.

This half-term, our Year 5 and 6 children have been studying the conflicts of the First and Second World Wars and have studied texts such as 'Goodnight, Mr Tom' and 'War Horse' to base their own writing on. The Year 5 children even had a horse visit the school site as a stimulus for their writing and Year 6 children built some incredible Anderson shelters as part of their homework.

Our Year 4 children have been studying the geography of the USA, learning about key landmarks and cities and based their literature around The Indian in the Cupboard. Year 3 studied Rocks, Relics and Rumbles, built their own volcanoes and had a visit from a geologist who shared her expertise with an enthralled class of pupils!

In Key Stage 1, our Year 2 pupils studied a topic entitled 'Land Ahoy!' which covered map skills, the location of continents and oceans, knowledge about lifeguards and they also learnt about pirates! Year 1 based their topic on 'Supertato', a story by Paul Linnet and Sue Hendra. They learnt about real-life superheroes such as Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr and explored themes of equality and human rights.

Class teachers have similarly engaging topics prepared for next half-term and I look forward to seeing the work that our pupils produce in the lead up to Christmas.

Pupil Provision: Counselling and Family Support Work

We are delighted that we are able to continue with our offer of providing play therapy counselling and family support work to the Girton school community following the appointment of two new members of our team. Counselling via Relate is generously funded by Girton Town Charity and allows us to provide therapy to pupils by referral from teachers and parents.

Our family support worker is on site each week to support parents and carers and operates drop-in sessions to those families in need. These services are an invaluable part of our offer in supporting the school community.

Early Years 2022

During November we will be running open sessions for prospective parents to visit Girton Glebe ahead of admissions for the September 2022 intake. We have three sessions available which will be held on 12, 19 and 26 November. The sessions will provide an opportunity to meet the Headteacher, take tours of the school and see the Early Years environment in action. In order to book a space on one of these opening events, please see the school website <https://girtonglebe.com/eyfs-september-2022-open-day-booking-form>.

Cleaning Staff Required

We are currently seeking to appoint new members of staff to work alongside our school cleaning team and can offer these positions at the earliest opportunity. The role is term time only, with flexible working hours available. Please email office@girtonglebe.cambs.sch.uk for more information.

Mr Andrew Spencer
Headteacher
@GirtonGlebePS

Flukes Ukulele Band in Girton raises funds for Macmillan

Flukes Ukulele Band provided musical support at the recent Macmillan Coffee Morning organised by a group of Abbeyfield Residents to raise money for the Macmillan Cancer Support Charity.

Spectators enjoyed and sang along to a wide range of songs. A variety of mouth-watering delicious cakes were baked by some residents at Abbeyfield and sold for a generous donation. Artist Anthony Price, residing at Abbeyfield, raised funds by selling his watercolour paintings.

Together more than £850 was raised. Sue Fifer, who organises Flukes and is herself an Abbeyfield resident, said "This is the fourth time we have supported this event and, as always, we were delighted by how successful it was. We really enjoyed playing among friends and family and having the audience join in so enthusiastically. We're already practising some new songs to include in our programme next year."



GTC strengthens expertise with appointment of new Trustee

Girton Town Charity has recently welcomed a new trustee, Andrew Muston, who is looking forward to contributing to the Charity's work across a range of areas, particularly the provision of new almshouses.

Andrew has long established connections with the Village, living in Thornton Road for more than 30 years, with his wife Ann and two daughters who have both benefitted from GTC Educational Grants in the past.

In addition to his career as a consulting forensic engineer, away from work Andrew enjoys a range of other activities including competing in and coaching rowing, climbing mountains including being a Duke of Edinburgh

Expedition Assessor with the Cambridgeshire Open Award Centre and going to the theatre. He also manages the City of Cambridge Rowing Club's boathouse on the Cam which has recently been replaced with a modern upgrade and improved facilities.

Worthwhile

Andrew says: "As I am reaching the end of my 'normal' career, the idea of being a GTC Trustee appealed as something worthwhile to which I can bring experience, knowledge and time.

"Girton must be quite unusual in terms of facilities – Cotton Hall, William Collyn Centre, St Vincent's Close Centre, Pavilion, Social Club, two churches, Girton Glebe pool, almshouses and allotments – as well as many clubs and groups for sports and other activities. GTC adds something probably almost unique in being able to support Village life across the spectrum within its charitable remit.

Experience

"In terms of my own contribution, I hope I can bring my own engineering expertise to the building projects, as well as my corporate



governance and Board level experience to enhance my fellow Trustees' considerable skills.

"I am looking forward to interacting with the other Trustees and Girton residents, particularly supporting those in need in our Village. Having lived to date a very lucky life, my eyes are being opened to the needs in our own community more, underlining the value of GTC's initiatives in areas

which may not be visible to everyone."

Ann Bonnett, GTC Chair added : "We are pleased to welcome Andrew to our team of Trustees and are looking forward to his contribution to the many different ways in which we support our Village community. His professional experience and skills will be a valuable asset to our team as we progress our current and future projects.

GTC needs to ensure it has a strong, informed and active body of Trustees with a balance of skills and expertise who act in the best interests of the Charity on behalf of its beneficiaries.

Trustees set the Charity's strategic plan – which needs a long-term vision with the ability to see the way ahead and how to get there. They must ensure effective policies and protocols are in place and are responsible for managing the Charity's assets and resources to gain the best outcome. And of course, decisions made and actions taken by the Trustees must be reasonable and transparent. I would be pleased to hear from anyone who is interested in becoming a Trustee."

Educational Grants 2021/22

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 2021.

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
Marc Bermann	t: 277319
Dan Buck	t: 07775 839703
Colin Carr	t: 276312
Dr Robin Hiley	t: 277296
Andrew Muston	t: 07831 591809
Patsy Smith	t: 07503 282199

**GTC postal address and post box remains at:
22 High Street, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0PU.**

01223 276008

email: gtc@girtontowncharity.org.uk

www.girtontowncharity.org.uk

Girton Town Charity Registered Charity No: 1130272

Early milestones at Dovehouse Court



With October offering seasonally good weather, the Barnes team working on Dovehouse Court were able to make good progress.

Following the installation of piling mats, the piling activity itself went smoothly and was completed in just six days, which was a much shorter time than originally envisaged.

Other developments have included the installation of site welfare portakabins for the staff and the creation of a car park area on-site, providing space for some vehicles to park off-road. Construction of the ground beams has also started.

In terms of health and safety, comprehensive risk assessments have been completed and regular 'Toolbox Talks' have taken place, briefing the team on-site on specific health and safety matters.

Ann Bonnett GTC Chair said: "Significant milestones have been achieved over the last month and it is good to see activities are being completed on – or even ahead of – schedule. The next few weeks will provide more visible developments, particularly with the installation of the timber frames, a key stage in the construction programme."

Dovehouse Court will provide 15 almshouses for Village residents over 55, living in or with a close connection to Girton, as well as a new office for GTC. All will be built to meet rigorous energy-efficient Passivhaus standards.



Please see website for up to date details of Clubs and Classes www.williamcollyn.co.uk

Monday

9.30 - 1.00pm	Tumble Tots
2.00 - 3.00pm	Kurling for over 55's
6.30 - 7.30pm	Clubbercise
8.00 - 9.30pm	Whole Notes Gospel Choir

Tuesday

8.30 - 9.30pm	Yoga with Julia Dale
10.00 - 11.00pm	Yoga with Julia Dale
6.00 - 7.00pm	Bounce
7.30 - 10.30pm	Eastern Swing

Wednesday

9.30am - 12.00pm	Tiny Toes Ballet
5.00 - 6.30pm	Winners Chapel International
7.00 - 10.00pm	The W.I. (monthly - first Weds)
7.00 - 10.00pm	Girton Garden Society (monthly - second Weds)

Thursday

9.30 - 11.30am	Pilates
5.45 - 6.45pm	Pilates
7.15pm & 8.15pm	Ballroom Dance Classes

Friday

10.00 - 10.45am	Shake Rattle & Roll for pre-schoolers
9.30am - 12.30pm	Little City Toddler Play (monthly - second Friday)
7.00 - 9.30pm	New Life Church Tribe

Saturday

9.00 - 10.00am	Bounce
10.30 - 11.45am	Vedanta Wellness Yoga
10.30 - 11.30am	Pilates
1.00 - 3.00pm	Cambridge Jazz Co-op
7.00 - 11.00pm	Eastern Swing

Sunday

11.00am - 2.00pm	Winners Chapel International
2.30 - 3.30pm	Cambridge Tamil Mandram

Wellbrook Way, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0GP
01223 279587
info@williamcollyn.co.uk
www.williamcollyn.co.uk

Duty Supervisor

Flexible part-time (mostly evening and weekend work, but some daytime cover required) £7,644 per annum for a 15 hour week. Fewer hours are available.

The William Collyn Community Centre has a vacancy for a Duty Supervisor. The Duty Supervisor will assist the Centre Manager with the efficient and effective day-to-day running of the Centre.

The William Collyn Community Centre is a purpose-built community facility for the residents of Girton, owned and managed by Girton Town Charity.

The main elements of the role include: setting up for events and activities, reception, caretaking and cleaning duties. You will need to be flexible in terms of your working hours and have a friendly, customer-focused approach to your work. Previous experience of working in a community facility or entertainment venue, with experience of the set-up, delivery and clearing up of events would be desirable.

You will contribute to facility management, be safety aware and able to work irregular hours including split shifts, evenings, weekends and Bank Holidays.

The post is for flexible hours with an immediate (or soon as possible) start.

For full job details and to apply please email a copy of your CV together with a covering letter to: wccmanager@williamcollyn.co.uk.

The closing date for applications is Friday 12 November 2021

For an informal discussion about the role, please contact Max Ruddock, William Collyn Centre Manager, on tel: 01223 279587

The William Collyn Centre is provided and run for the benefit of Girton residents by Girton Town Charity.



Wow – Thanks Abbeyfield

It was a great day at Abbeyfield when we ate lunch in their restaurant on Thursday 14th October. Members were asked to turn up in hats, with prizes on offer for the biggest brim, best

decorated and biggest smile under a hat.



*Prize winners from the left:
David Bacon, Christine Gray and Barry Dickens*

The chef produced an excellent meal for everyone and the restaurant staff were most helpful. Wine and soft drinks were supplied by Club 55 – Girton, and coffee supplied by Abbeyfield. All in all, an excellent meal and a most enjoyable lunchtime. Andrew, the Operational Manager of Abbeyfield, chose the winners of each 'hat' class and I think it's pretty clear from the picture above who won each class.



Operations manager Andrew and Assistant Operations manager Annelize meet their guests

Computer Help

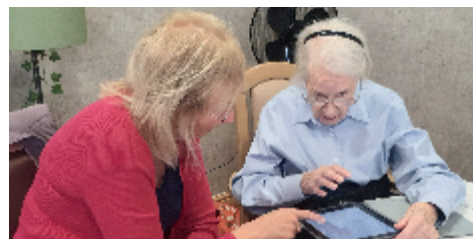
Club 55 – Girton continues to run their computer group from the restaurant at Abbeyfield. It is a drop-in centre for help with laptops, iPads and iPhones and of course you may also drop in for just a chat and coffee. We are operating from 10am to 12pm every Monday (except bank holidays). We have both male and female champions (helpers) and operate on a one to one basis only helping when required.

There is no fee but if you purchase coffee or biscuits from the bar then there will, of course, be a charge.



Left: Andrew helps an interested caller with his mobile phone

Right: Ann is intent on discussing an issue on an iPad with another caller



Just drop in and see us.

What are we doing next?

At 12 midday on Wednesday 17th November 2021 it's fish and chips – but not as previously advertised. Circumstances beyond our control have caused us to change 'fish and chips out of the paper' to 'posh fish and chips'. Abbeyfield have come to our rescue and will serve fish and chips followed by a choice of two desserts and coffee. If you are interested in something a little different let us know that you would like to come along. Contact us on the telephone number or email address below for an order form.

A bus trip to lunch

On Wednesday 8th December we are off to The Three Tuns public house at Fen Drayton for lunch. It is a quaint old village pub serving excellent meals but don't worry about the quaintness because we will be out in the shed. Yes, it's near Christmas, it's wintertime, it's likely to be cold weather, the food will have a Christmas theme and it might rain but we will be out in the shed! Fear not though, it will be warm and dry and not to be missed. A thirty-three seat coach is already ordered to leave Girton around 11.15am, arriving home about 3.15pm so don't miss out on what promises to be a great lunch out – order a place now – cost will be around £30 for a two course meal or £35 for three courses and includes the bus fare. This will be good value. Book now.

Hopefully there will be more lunches and bus trips after Christmas and into 2022.

For more information and booking forms contact us using the details below and please book early for the bus trips to avoid disappointment.

Contact me:

*Sam Clift on 07850740721 or
email samclift@ntlworld.com*

Warmth

Frost covers the garden foliage in the mornings. Birds attend feeding stations more regularly as the ground hardens and natural foraging becomes more challenging. Hats and gloves are donned whilst on wintry walks. The nights are well and truly drawing in.

And in this season we seek warmth. Warmth from the flick of the heating switch or an open fire, warmth from a creamy hot-chocolate or a delicious roast meal.

But we can also seek warmth from our relationships and connections with others – those close to us or even strangers who we pass on the street. A smile or a friendly hello can radiate warmth. A postcard or a text sending the message of ‘I’ve been thinking about you’ can communicate warmth. Making time to meet with a friend or family member and listen to what’s on their mind can spread warmth.

These unusual and tasty squash were the centerpiece of a Sunday Roast Dinner with family: warmth from the meal itself but, more importantly, warmth from the family connection.

Signposting

Sunday 10th October saw World Mental Health Day focus on the theme of tackling inequalities. Mind, the Mental Health Charity, has some wonderful resources which can be found at www.mind.org.uk/get-involved/world-mental-health-day/ with an overarching message of “If we all do one thing, we can change everything.”

It's work – but it's work that I love

Delivering Mental Health First Aid and Suicide First Aid courses is work – hard work in fact – but work that I love. Of paramount importance to me is the safety of my learners and this is secured by the trauma-informed approach by which I stand firm. Checking in with learners (virtually or face-to-face) regularly, offering 1:1 support, setting group ground-rules and allowing for opt-out options are some of the strategies that make up a trauma-informed approach.

On my October Adult MHFA course, I asked learners at the end how they'd describe the course to others, would they add more detail to the course overviews? I had a great response from one learner who simply said that her advice to others would be to “Just do it!” So maybe you are now interested in Mental Health or Suicide First Aid? Visit my Facebook page (www.facebook.com/listening_lantern.julietadlouner) or email me (mhfa.julietadlouner@gmail.com) for details.

Juliet Adlouner



News for Older Residents

A reminder that New Age Kurling is on Mondays from 2-3pm in the William Collynn Hall.

If you left me a phone message around 15th to 17th October to which I haven't responded, please contact me again, either by phone or email.

Do you know someone with significant eyesight problems e.g. Macular Degeneration? Would a joint radio, CD and cassette player, a memory stick player to listen to talking books, a signature guide and a pair of over sunglasses be of help to them? Is so, please get in touch.

I have five other items for anyone who can use them. They are a two wheeled shopping trolley, a shopping trolley with an adjustable handle, a zimmer frame, a pedal exerciser and a freehand tray which can be carried with one hand.

Talking Together

The Autumn telephone discussion series has just begun. The topics this time are: Play Reading of Chekhov's Cherry Orchard, Making Sense of the Natural World, Discovering DNA, Cambridge University Botanic Gardens, Mill Road Monologues and Fenland Memories. To enquire if there are still places available phone COPE on 01223 364303 or email cambridgecope@hotmail.co.uk.

Walking Netball

Thank you to those who have expressed an interest in this. Until there is a class in Girton why not try the new Walking Netball class for beginners which is held on Thursday mornings from 10-11am at Histon and Impington Recreation Ground. Let me know if you would like more details.

Jigsaws

I have a good selection of 500 piece and some 1,000 piece jigsaws to lend or give away.

Patricia Johnston, Older Residents' Co-ordinator
Email: patricia.johnston@ageukcap.org.uk
Tel: 07649 660866

supported by
Girton
TownCharity

Funerals and Burials

7th August – Robert Moor
21st August – Joshua Dolling
2nd September – Richard Brookes
7th September – Trevor Darby
10th September – Elizabeth Ovington



Gemma's Trust

*"Before they call, I will answer,
while they are still speaking, I will hear."
Isaiah 65v24.*

In this month of special remembrance of our national heroes, both living and departed, perhaps we can add our thankfulness also for those whose benevolence towards us has enriched our lives. It is always deeply moving to see our young service people gathered together to sing, "I vow to thee my country." The second verse takes us on to that other country that we may also serve here and now, wherever we reside.

Out in the bushlands, two nurses were battling to save the life of a young mother after childbirth. Sadly she could not survive, but her baby, tiny and vulnerable, had been safely delivered. Now the mission station had two more orphans under its care, a newborn infant and her three year old sister. Although the days were hot, the temperature dipped at night, so keeping the baby warm became a matter of concern. Reviewing the day at prayer-time, they added a hot water bottle to the urgently needed list. But who, in these parts could provide such an item?

Ten year old Gemma made another request. "Please Lord God, can we have a little doll to comfort the baby's sister?" A few days later, a jeep arrived to deliver a large postal package, from friends far away. Such gifts were received with great thankfulness and relief as they provided medical supplies, clothing, books, pencils and crayons for the children along with sweets.

All gathered round in happy anticipation as the box revealed its treasured contents. A cheer went up as a hot water bottle was lifted from the top, an unlikely gift in such a sun-soaked place. Gemma was expecting something else. Rummaging around, she finally emerged, eyes shining and with a triumphant smile, as she held aloft a beautifully dressed, baby doll. "I knew God would hear us," she laughed and skipped off to present the orphaned sister with her own special gift.

How could two such unlikely items come to be supplied with precision and perfect timing, even though the package had been in transit for some time? The answer lies in the relationship between our compassionate God and those who listen for his voice.

This is not, for most of us, an audible voice sounding in our ears, but rather it is that 'still small voice' communicating in the mind and persistently nudging our thoughts in a direction of good consequences. There may be no sense of peace until the obedient disciple has acted upon the call, bringing the divinely planned blessing to both giver and receiver.

We are, after all, the body of Christ, still on earth, the hands and feet that facilitate God's intended purposes. When we discover that a plea or supplication has been answered through the generous provision of God and through our agency, then the joy is multiplied and faith strengthened. Trust and confidence are renewed by obedient service.

There is a crucial element in the process of following guidance. We need to know and recognise the Shepherd's voice. Jesus explained:

*"When he (the shepherd) has brought out
all his own (from the sheepfold) he goes on
ahead of them, and the sheep follow him,
because they know his voice."
John 10v4.*

A tourist once paid a shepherd to test this verse by exchanging clothes and calling to the sheep. Immediately, the sheep recognised the familiar tones of their carer and ran to him only. Listen to the still small voice, trust and obey.

Iris Niven

puzzle
corner

Solution to this month's Codeword on page 21:

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

CASUAL STAFF CATERING DEPARTMENT



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The College holds a list of registered casual staff for the Catering Department. Casuals are called upon when extra Front of House staff are needed at large functions e.g., Formal Halls, weddings, conferences etc. They may also be required for bar work occasionally although must be aged 18 or over for this area. It is mostly evening and occasional weekend work.

Experience is not necessary – training is provided.

If you are aged 16 and over and would like to register, please request an application form from recruitment@girton.cam.ac.uk and return via e-mail or post to the HR Department, Girton College, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0JG.

- Please note the College has a responsibility to ensure that all employees are eligible to live and work in the UK
- The College is an Equal Opportunities employer encouraging diversity and inclusion



The Cotton Hall Foundation

(Charity No. 311356)



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- Hours are negotiable, currently approximately 3 hrs a week.
- Remuneration could be Tax Free depending on income / employment status.
- Knowledge of COSHH and H&S requirements an advantage, however training and support would be given.
- The Foundation may wish to apply for a DBS check.

The Cotton Hall is situated in Cambridge Road, Girton, adjacent to St Andrew's Church. Built in 1847, it was the village school until 1959 and fully refurbished in 2007.

The primary aim of the charity is to promote the wellbeing and education of young persons within the village by renting the hall out to child orientated groups, although it is available to hire for private parties and village functions.

For further details please contact the Chairman:

Bruce Hunter

Mobile: 07946388897

Email: b.hunter3@ntlworld.com

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ST ANDREW'S GIRTON

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 and Mrs Wendy Hunter Tel: 503958

Sunday Services: November

7th	10:00am	Holy Communion
	7:30pm	Taizé Service (Online)
14th	8:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10:45am	Remembrance Service
	6:00pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)
21st	10:00am	Holy Communion
	6:00pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)
28th	8:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10:00am	Morning Prayer

Weekday Services: November

Tues: 9:00am	Morning Prayer (said) (in person)
Weds: 9:00am	Morning Prayer (said) (Online)
Thurs: 9:00am	Morning Prayer (said) (Online)
9:00pm	Compline (said) (Online)

Other Services

Wed 10 Nov 2:00pm Abbeyfield Holy Communion

Mon 29 Nov 11:00am Gretton Court Holy Communion (BCP)

You are welcome to join us for worship in person or remotely at <http://bit.ly/GirtonParishLive>. Please check the church website for up to date information (www.girton.church).

The Remembrance Day service on 14th November will start at the war memorial by the bus stop. After the time of remembrance, the service continues in church.

The Taizé service continues to be held remotely using Zoom. All are welcome. Please email Kay Barrett at singing.kay@gmail.com for details.

Almighty God, May the memory of two world wars strengthen our efforts for peace. May the memory of those who died inspire our service to the living. May the memory of past destruction move us to build for the future. O God of peace, O Father of souls, O Builder of the Kingdom of Love, Amen.

ADVANCE NOTICE: The gate at the back of the churchyard will be closed to walkers from Wednesday 1st December until the spring to protect the grass.

Girton Baptist Church



Minister: Revd Nick Lowe

Tel: 01223 279289

Secretary: Mrs Virginia Rootham-Smith

Tel: 01223 520442

Website: www.girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk

Sunday Services: November (all starting at 10.30am at Girton Baptist Church and on Zoom)

7th Communion, led by Nick Lowe

14th Remembrance service, led by Nick Lowe

21st Communion, led by Nick Lowe

28th Led by Nick Lowe

Masks are optional and we have space for those who wish to socially distance.

Thursday 11th November

Messy Church at Girton Baptist Church, from 3.30pm. Messy Church is for parents and children with craft activities based on a Biblical theme, a story and a meal together. All are welcome. To find out more please contact us. For the link for Zoom or more information about Messy Church please ring 07751 748757 or email pastor@girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk.

The words of the contemporary song below by Philippa Hanna remind us that in times of difficulty.

*God can still be our refuge and strength:
When all foundations have been shaken
When I'm left standing in the dark
And all I feel is my heart breaking
You still reign and You're still God*

*And when it feels all hope has faded
The heavy questions hit so hard
And though my soul may feel forsaken
You still reign and You're still God*

*I will declare that You are with me
Though voices whisper that You're not
You'll never leave me nor forsake me
'Cause You still reign and You're still God*

*And when my enemies surround me
I'll trust the victory of Your cross
And fix my eyes upon You Jesus
For You are God and I am not*

*You are good and You are faithful
As You have been from the start
You're working all things for Your glory
'Cause You still reign and You're still God.*

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
 Daniel Carney, 28 Cambridge Road, Tel: 07986 592507
 Julie Dashwood, 36 High Street, Tel: 276590
 Douglas de Lacey, 9 Woodlands Park, Tel: 565219
 Marcelo de Lima, 45 Thornton Close, Tel: 276859
 Val Godby, 38 Woodlands Park, Tel: 276372
 Andy Griffin, 298 Wellbrook Way, Tel: 07956 447674
 Anne Kettle, 11 Redgate Road, Tel: 277505
 Ann Muston, 59 Thornton Road, Tel: 07796 430345
 Mary Rodger, 11 Fairway, Tel: 277316
 John Thorrold, 53 Cambridge Road, Tel: 276760

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

District Councillors

Tom Bygott, Tel: 07765 475513
cldr@bygott@net
 Corinne Garvie, Tel: 276184
cldr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk

County Councillor

Edna Murphy, Tel: 577005
edna.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Parish Clerk and Acting Finance Officer

Yvonne Murray, Tel: 237173
clerk@girton-cambs.org.uk

Assistant to the Parish Clerk

VACANCY
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

Contact numbers for bookings

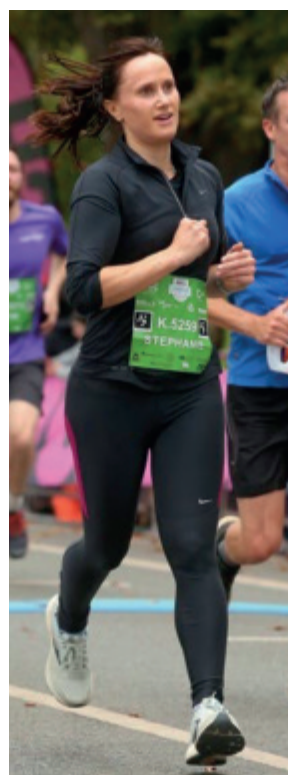
Cotton Hall	07759 983420
Orchard Close	277164
Pavilion	472182
St Vincent's Close	276447
William Collyn Community Centre	279587

A marathon effort from Girton residents!

A big round of applause to Girton runners Kevin Clarke, David Adamson and Stephanie Lord.

Kevin set the example by completing the London Marathon in an amazing 3 hours 35 mins.

Stephanie and David then recently completed the Cambridge half-marathon. Charities that are benefiting from their efforts include



Whizz Kidz, who work hard to transform the lives of young wheelchair users, and Tom's Trust, who support and provide research funds for young people suffering with brain cancer.



Mobile Library

Thursday 25 November 2021

Thornton Court	09.40 – 10.00
Abbeyfield	10.05 – 10.50
Cotton Hall/Church	11.00 – 11.30
Orchard Close	11.35 – 12.00
St Vincent's Close	12.05 – 12.30
Gretton Court	12.35 – 13.00
Churchfield Court	13.05 – 13.30

Bin Collections November

Thursday 4 November	Blue and Green bins
Thursday 11 November	Black bin
Thursday 18 November	Blue and Green bins
Thursday 25 November	Black bin
Thursday 2 December	Blue and Green bins

The Girton Chiropodist

(Mobile Service)

ERICA NICHOLS

M.S.S.Ch. M.B.Ch.A HCPC Ch20454

Glebe House
39 Cambridge Road,
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Throughout November, show your green fee receipt to catering staff and your discount will be applied

Looking for Christmas present ideas? Our vouchers can be used toward membership, at our Pro-Shop or in the Clubhouse

Contact the Office for further details at info@girtongolf.co.uk or 01223 276169

GIRTON GOLF CLUB, DODFORD LANE, GIRTON CAMBRIDGE, CB3 0QE
WWW.GIRTONGOLF.CO.UK



Girton Community Warden Scheme

Are you aged 60 or over?
Would you like help to continue to live independently in your own home?

The Community Warden is able to offer assistance by providing a daily phone call (Mon-Fri) and support such as:

- Making drinks and a light meal
- A home visit
- Collecting prescriptions
- Small items of shopping
- A listening ear
- Help with paperwork and making appointments
- Signposting to other services where appropriate

If you are interested in this service and would like more information, please call **07979333963** or email wardens@ageukcap.org.uk

There is a **FREE** 2 week trial and then a small weekly fee afterwards if you wish to remain on the scheme.



ST ANDREW'S GIRTON

Christmas Dinner and Carols at the Old Crown

Join us for an evening of delicious food and festive carol-singing at the Old Crown. A three-course Christmas meal, interspersed with singing, that promises to be a fun and sociable night for all!

Tuesday 14th December from 7pm - £27pp

To book in, please call the Old Crown on 01223 277217.

Menu and further info is at <http://bit.ly/GirtonChristmas>

Organised by St Andrew's Church