



GIRTON

Parish News

May 2022

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raises more than
£2,000 for
Ukraine – see page 19*

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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.

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.

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

Typesetters Sam Clift, Andrew Hawkes, Claire Lightley, Bill Rothwell, Yan Gao

Distribution Manager Rosemary Jones, tel. 276491

Editors and Proofreaders Chris Bowler, Wendy de Horsey, Mike Fay, Marion Fisher, John Gibson, Alison Giles, Carol Huxley, Jenny Knights, Patsy Smith, Matthew Vernon
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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Parish Council Public Meeting (Rescheduled)

‘What can we do to enhance biodiversity and wildlife in Girton?’

Come along to help generate ideas to develop a Local Nature Recovery Plan for the Parish.

All welcome! Wednesday 18 May 7.30

Gordon Hall

William Collyn Community Centre

Wellbrook Way

Girton, Cambridge CB3 0GP

Donations drop-off for refugees

Cambridge Refugee Action Group (CamCRAG) are holding a donations drop-off afternoon on May 28 from 2-5pm in the North Room, behind St Andrew's Church.

CamCRAG work closely with the NGOs who support refugees in northern France, who have travelled across Europe from war-torn countries such as Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan and elsewhere. These people are just a fraction of the 80 million people who are displaced worldwide.

We are collecting the items listed below. Please only donate these items. They need to be clean (preferably recently washed) and in very good condition (no holes, all zips/buttons/fasteners working).

We need 1 or 2 person tents, sleeping bags, blankets, roll mats, as well as, in packaging, brand new men's underwear, size S & M (not L), brand new men's socks, S & M only, trainers and sturdy shoes/boots – men's only, no larger than size 6-9 (Eur 40-43), fleeces and jogging bottoms – men's only, size S and M, and waterproof coats – men's only, size S and M.

Any enquiries, please email donations@camcrag.org.uk

Contents

Pages 5–7	Council and Councillor's Reports
Page 9	Cottontails
Pages 11–13	Gardening & Natural Girton
Page 13	Women's Institute
Page 17	Listening Lantern (Mental Health)
Pages 18–19	Girton Scoreboard
Page 21	Girton Feast Update
Pages 23–25	Girton Town Charity
Page 26	Puzzle Corner
Page 27	News for Older Residents, Club 55
Pages 28–29	Our Churches
Page 30	Bin Collection & Mobile Library

Copy date for June issue: Wed. 18 May. Issue date: Sat. 4 June. Covers 4 June- 2 July.



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Girton Parish Council

Local parish elections 2022 – a new parish council for Girton

It is pleasing to report that we received 14 submissions for nomination as candidates for election to the council. Taking account of the five current councillors who are not standing, this means we shall be welcoming seven new councillors in May.

The seven new councillors are Angela Blackburn, John Blom, Andrew Clare, Alison Giles, Nas Hayat, Stuart Marshall and Carolyn Wright. Further details can be found on the Girton Community Website.

This must in part be due to the considerable effort put into advertising the election on our website, in GPN and on social media. These channels have been invaluable in getting out information to the Girton Village Community. Thanks to our Vice Chair, Gill, and our Clerk, Yvonne, for this.

A massive thank you also to the five councillors who are standing down and have given great service to the council. The councillors stepping down are Julie Dashwood, Val Godby, Anne Kettle, Mary Rodger and John Thorrold.

Oakington Road street lighting

The installation of the street lighting along Oakington Road has at last been completed and apart from improving the safety of pedestrians and cyclists, it really does reinforce the point that the area is an integral part of our village. Girton Parish Council is to adopt these street lights from 4th April.

Girton recreation ground news

The climbing frame platforms have now been received after a delay from the suppliers due to COVID. These will be fitted over the next two weeks, making a significant improvement to this well-used recreation equipment.

Girton recreation ground pavilion refurbishment update

Detailed costings for the pavilion refurbishment works were at last received from our contractors. Regrettably, they are significantly over budget and a meeting has explored how cost reductions can be achieved without substantial changes to the current design. Our task and finish group has met to consider whether redesign can achieve further significant savings without loss of benefit to users. We will table our ideas for discussion once we have a best price for the current design.

Pavement resurfacing

We have received a number of complaints and comments concerning the quality and location of recent

pavement resurfacing in the village. We are exploring this with County Councillor Edna Murphy who has taken it up with highways officers. It appears the cosmetic 'top coating' of less worn pavements has taken priority over substantial repairs to those in extremely poor condition.

Bowls Club accessibility to toilet facilities

Prior to the paragraph in May's Girton Parish News going to print we are working with Girton Town Charity and the Bowls Club to find a solution for the Bowls club to access toilet facilities. All three stakeholders will meet to explore all viable options and aim to identify a considered proposal on how to proceed.

Well done and thank you!

To **Girton Green Team** volunteers for completing the laying of the Town End Close hedge along footpath 4 in March. Thanks to all who helped and special thanks to Impington resident Chris Jones whose enthusiasm and expertise helped make it possible.



To **Girton Cricket Team** and **Chris Wilson, Girton Parish Council Groundsman**, for winning the Best Wicket 2019 from Cambridgeshire Cricket Association.

To **Girton United** for winning their league.

(Andrew Burton, 1st Team Captain, receiving trophy)

To **Karen and Trisha** for their wonderful afternoon tea event raising £2,010 to support Ukraine.

Volunteers needed for distributing the GPN

We are currently short of two distributors to sections of Thornton Road (39 copies) and Church Lane (36 copies).

If you would like to help once a month in delivering to these houses, please contact Rosemary Jones, the GPN distribution manager on 01223 276491 or email rosemary.jones987@gmail.com

FROM OUR COUNCILLORS

County Councillor Edna Murphy

Unfortunately we are no further forward in getting changes from Stagecoach, following their 'merger' of routes 5 and 6. They have not answered my questions but have offered to meet local representatives. Improving public transport in South Cambridgeshire is essential and there are a number of routes we have to deliver it, through harnessing funding and coordination from the Greater Cambridge Partnership, and also government funding to the region and sub region, which recently has failed to materialise. And Stagecoach needs to play its part too. So far it is slow progress but we will keep trying.

There have been a number of concerns in the village about poor quality highways maintenance and a woeful lack of information. There have been reports of poor quality footpath and road resurfacing ('porridge' like finishes), resurfacing notices that did not include resurfacing that was in fact scheduled, lack of notice given to residents of works to take place, a lack of logic in that some paths are resurfaced which seemed to be in reasonable condition, while others nearby which are in a worse state are left. Above all the lack of information to both residents and local councillors has left people wondering what is happening and reports of urgent matters requiring repair have not been responded to.

These concerns are serious and I have been working hard to try to get a change in what has been an established culture of opacity in the operations of the highways teams. There are a number of practical difficulties such as staffing shortages and turnover, and operating through a contractor, Milestone, which will have its own Brexit- and pandemic-driven workforce problems, as well as years of underfunding. Nonetheless, there has been some additional funding available at the end of the year, and it has been possible to move an additional £1.49m into Highways to provide more funding for urgent measures such as fixing potholes, as well as accelerating technological advances which should improve the evidence base and efficiency of many highways decisions. This funding should be spent in a relatively short space of time for maximum impact.

It will take time to turn the operation around, but I am confident that the message that the current situation, and perhaps most particularly the lack of information, is unacceptable and has been heard.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me if you have any concerns or questions.

Cllr Edna Murphy
edna.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

District Councillor Tom Bygott

Flying the flag for the Platinum Jubilee

With the Platinum Jubilee celebrations planned for the summer, many people will be thinking about installing a flagpole to fly the Union Flag. You will notice that I referred to the Union Flag rather than Union Jack - a flag is called a jack if it is flown at the bow of a ship, and an ensign if flown at the stern. When flown on land, our flag is always called the Union Flag.

One question that I am occasionally asked is whether planning permission is required to fly a flag. The Government has written a guide for householders and other organisations:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/flying-flags-a-plain-english-guide

The guide is easy to misinterpret on the question of how high flagpoles can be. However, the legislation, the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) Regulations 2007, is clear that size restrictions - flagpole no higher than 4.6m, flag no larger than 2 square metres - do not apply to the Union Flag.

The Flag Institute also maintain an authoritative guide: www.flaginstitute.org/wp/uk-flags/british-flag-protocol which also covers flag protocol and etiquette. For example, it is legal to fly a flag after sunset, but it has long been considered as a mark of disrespect.

Zero Carbon Communities Grants

Parish councils and non-profit groups or organisations that are based in the district can apply for between £1,000 and £15,000 from the Zero Carbon Communities Grant scheme. Other groups, such as social enterprises and community interest companies can apply as part of a partnership led by a parish council or not-for-profit group. There is a total of £120,544 to be allocated under two categories.

The first category is for projects which reduce carbon emissions or lock up carbon in a measurable way such as low carbon, energy saving improvements to community buildings, or tree-planting initiatives. The second category is for community engagement projects which support and encourage lower carbon living. More information can be found at www.scambs.gov.uk/zerocarbongrant.

Cllr Tom Bygott
cllr@bygott.net

District Councillor Corinne Garvie

COVID-19 Additional Relief Fund (CARF): extra financial support for South Cambridgeshire businesses impacted by COVID

Businesses in South Cambridgeshire which have been adversely affected by the pandemic, but unable to access COVID-19 support linked to their business rates, may be eligible for the latest financial support.

The Government funding is to provide additional business rates relief to support rate-paying businesses affected by the pandemic between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021. Full details and eligibility criteria, along with an application form, can be found at www.scambs.gov.uk/CARF. Applications will close on 13 May 2022. Rate relief will be paid on to Business Rates accounts as soon as possible.

COVID-19

COVID is still with us. The infection rate in England, according to ONS, stands at 7.6% or 1 in 13 people, the

highest that it has ever been. 1 in 37 people are thought to be suffering from long COVID. So take care to protect yourselves and others, particularly those who are vulnerable. Vaccination, mask-wearing, social distancing and frequent hand washing are still the best way to avoid COVID.

Bin collections

COVID is still making it very challenging to run bin collections; over 40 of the workforce of 150 are away. Despite this it is the council's intention to continue green bin collection, but if your bin is not collected at the normal time please leave it out and we will pick it up as soon as we can.

Council Tax Rebate Scheme

The government's Council Tax rebate scheme for homes in bands A-D went live on 1st April. FAQs are on the council website.

Zero Carbon Award

South Cambridgeshire District Council has been recognised for its work to tackle climate change, with a Silver accolade at the 2022 Public Sector Transformation Awards.

Better Connected Communities

Councils are urging residents and community groups to use a new personalised service which will identify free tools and funding to tackle local problems and create safer communities in South Cambridgeshire. Groups can complete a short online form outlining the initiative they want to set up or the problem they want to solve, and Council staff will offer tailored solutions. More at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/personalised-advice-to-create-safer-and-better-connected-communities/>.

Zero Carbon Communities Grants

South Cambridgeshire's community groups can now bid for a share of £120,000 from the District Council's Zero Carbon Communities Grant scheme. The scheme has so far provided £310,000 to 51 grassroots projects that work to tackle climate change in South Cambridgeshire. The deadline to apply for the latest round of grants is Wednesday 1 June 2022. For more information contact www.scambs.gov.uk/zerocarbongrant.

Ukraine

Congratulations to the organizers of Girton Tea and Cakes. They raised a lot of money for the Ukraine Emergency Relief.

I know of two families in Girton who are planning to host refugee Ukrainians. There may be more. The Council has advice for families in English and Ukrainian and I can pass this on.

Transport

I met the Business Development Director of Stagecoach to discuss the village bus service. I will update further on this in the next edition. Please continue to send me any comments and complaints.

Corinne Garvie
Cllr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk
07780932267

GPN - true or false?

Here at the *GPN* we regularly get asked questions about how we operate, how we are funded and how to get your content included. Hopefully, the following true or false style questions will help answer some of the most common ones.

1. The *GPN* began as a church publication

True. The Girton Church Magazine started in 1941 but from its earliest days included far more than just church news. Over time it became known as the Girton Parish News and was published by St Andrew's PCC "on behalf of the whole village community" under an independent editorial group. It became a completely independent village magazine about 10 years ago.

2. The *GPN* has always been free

False. The January issue was always free but the other issues were subscription only (around £1.50 a year) until the mid-1990s. Gradually the advertising increased enough to allow it to be distributed free to everyone.

3 The *GPN* is linked to Girton Town Charity

False. *GPN* is completely independent of GTC which is a separate, charitable body run by trustees.

4 The *GPN* receives external funding

False. *GPN* has to be self-sustaining. Advertising is critical to the magazine's survival. The past two years have been financially challenging with the pandemic hitting advertising.

5 The size of the *GPN* is crucial

True. Printing costs are rising and if the *GPN* goes over 32 pages there is a significant cost implication. That means a tricky balancing act for the editor deciding what there is space for and what needs to be 'trimmed' as we will always try and be accommodating to new contributors.

6 Everyone who helps produce and distribute the *GPN* is a volunteer

True. The editor, committee members, typesetters, proof-readers, distributors and everyone else involved, all give of their time freely, alongside their regular employment and personal commitments.

7 The *GPN* looks the same as it always has

False. It has changed considerably since 1990. The previous editor, Angela Blackburn, was keen to broaden the content and steered *GPN*'s transformation to today's lively, colour version, winning several magazine awards in recent years.



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Girton Cottontails Preschool

We've had a busy few months at preschool, so much so that I missed the deadline for last month's GPN! We are continuing to develop the preschool room and a recent addition to this has been a new

construction area. The children have been exploring the area, building with the bricks, measuring and using the tools to fix everything at preschool!

We've also had some great covered areas built outside at preschool which have been a welcome addition. It means we can have more activities outside that are protected from the elements.



Our rising 5s have been learning about the body and being healthy this half term. We made life size body outlines by drawing around the children, then labeled one with external body parts and added organs, blood, bones and muscles to others. We also learnt about the importance of teeth cleaning and about sugar in our foods.

At Forest School a bit of a tunnel has naturally formed from undergrowth around the trees in the area we use. This has been a great area for exploration for the children and has provided challenges to get through the tunnel, climbing over and crawling under different branches along the way.

We enjoyed crumpets on the campfire on the last Forest School day before Easter and on the last preschool day, we had a fun Easter Egg hunt finding eggs, bunnies and sheep!

We are a community interest company, so non profit-making and we greatly appreciate any support you can give. Please take a look at our gofundme page and our Amazon wish list: <http://www.gofundme.com/f/emma-amp-laura-are-reopening-cottontails-preschool>
https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/JJP8OJALIV2I?ref_=wl_share

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.

For further information about the preschool and what we have to offer, you can visit our website, follow us on social media and get in touch using the contact details below.

Laura Norman and Emma Pell

Girton Cottontails Preschool Managing Directors

Email: info@girtoncottontailspreschool.com

Phone: 07368 180771

Web: <https://www.girtoncottontailspreschool.com>

Find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

Girton Walking Group

Saturday 7th May

A walk of approximately 6 miles connecting St Ives to Hemingford Grey.

Meet at 10am in the courtyard garden of the Norris Museum, The Broadway, St Ives, PE27 5BX. We will cross the River Great Ouse and amble through the water meadows towards the Hemingfords. Do bring picnic refreshments and stout footwear.

This walk will be led by Helen Gale, email: helengale00@hotmail.com

Saturday 4th June

We are using Bar Hill as a starting point again but this time going West instead of East. The walk is approximately 5 miles taking us through Childerley and Lolworth.

We start at 10am from Viking Way, Bar Hill, CB23 8EL. If the weather has been dry for several days, walking should be comfortable but if June brings us surprise heavy showers please wear appropriate footwear. We expect to stop for a short break so please bring a drink and a snack if you wish. The walk will be led by Ann and Ian Jerram, email: ann.jerram@gmail.com



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Girton Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Thursday 2 June – 2.30 – 4.30pm

Afternoon tea, with an opportunity to sit and talk to Girton residents who were in the village at the time of the Accession in 1952. North Room of St Andrew's Church. We will ask for donations, to enjoy homemade cakes and scones, with a cup of tea.

Friday 3 June – afternoon, 1.00pm to 3.00pm

Tea and dancing at the William Collyn Centre, organised by Girton Town Charity.

Saturday 4 June

Platinum Pudding Day, Girton Glebe School.

Invent and make a pudding to represent the Platinum Jubilee. Bring it to Girton Glebe School 11 – 11.45am. Remember to give a written list of ingredients.

There will also be a children's painting/writing competition. Children of the village can make a painting or write a short piece to celebrate the Jubilee.

Bring it along to the school on Saturday morning, 11 – 11.45 am.

Judging from 12 – 12.45pm.

You can also come and taste the puddings! Bring your own bowl/plate, mug, fork, spoon, and for a donation, you can enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and taste one of the puddings.

Sunday 5 June – 1pm onwards

Big Village Picnic on the Recreation Ground. Bring your lunch, rug, chair, and enjoy meeting up with your neighbours and friends from the village.

At 3pm there will be a special church service to celebrate the Jubilee at St Andrews Church.

For more details, contact mary.rodger32@gmail.com
or tel: 01223 277316





“Faith, hope and charity”: thus runs a line from 1 Corinthians Chapter 13. I’m going to alter the trio to “Faith, hope and patience” and make it my text for May’s Allotment Society article. Sowing and tending of seeds is my theme.

It’s pretty certain that greenhouses, conservatories, window ledges and other sunlit warm domestic surfaces of Allotment Society members throughout Girton are bursting at the seams with, and covered in, trays and pots of sown and germinating seeds. Also, a certain amount of seed has already been committed to the as-yet inhospitable soil. (I write on April 11th).

Sowing can be considered as requiring two of St Paul’s virtues and the other I have added.

Faith: our vegetable seeds range from fine-as-dust, such as lettuce and carrots; larger but still tiny such as tomatoes; pinhead size such as cabbage and sprouts; gnarled woody ones such as beetroot; easy to handle such as climbing and dwarf beans. All of them are put into pots and trays of compost; we attempt to get right the packets’ instructions on depth from “on the surface” to “one inch deep”. It crosses our minds: can these survive in the damp darkness of the compost? Will anything come of them? We’ve seen germination in the past; seed packets say “seedlings will appear in 7-14 days”. And we proceed in faith.

Hope: the trays and pots are laid out and arranged (sometimes to partners’ protestations). The period of hope begins. Hope which causes us to examine the compost surfaces much too early, longing to see the first tiny green tips appear. We think of our plots, working out where rows of different vegetables will be planted out or where to erect supporting canes. And we hope... hope that there will result from our sowings and tending; that there will be strong, healthy plants, ready to fill our plots in due time, late May, early June.

Patience: to alter St Paul again: the hardest of these is patience. As I have written before (and failed to observe), we must resist sowing too early and finding we have overgrown plants before the dangers of frosts are over (I think I’ve lost my precious sweet peas thus). Did two years of enforced inactivity instil a desire to do things?

Patience must sustain us as anxiously we scan our as-yet blank compost surfaces, almost willing shoots to appear, persuading ourselves that a fleck of something may be a growing tip. And it is essential to maintain patience in diligently tending our potential successes of later in the season. Are the moisture levels right? Are we placing trays in the best place for warmth? Should we afford protection tonight against frost? Patience everyone!

It’s continued a roller coaster of weather.

Unpleasant cold; hard frosts; gusty winds; but some beautiful Spring days of sun and warmth. As Easter draws close (as I write) a prolonged settled spell of the last would be so welcome.

Graham Jones

Girton Allotment Society



Girton Garden Society



Sylvia Newman: Creating a sensory Garden

Wednesday 11th May 2022

7.30pm at William Collyn Community Centre

This illustrated talk will cover the design, building and choice of plants for a sensory garden based on the location and the way in which the garden will be used in the community. The main senses of sight, touch and smell are fundamental to the design.

Visitors and new members are always very welcome (£2 per session or £10 per year)

Competitions: A vase of spring/early summer flowers; Three fresh herbs in a jar

www.girtongardensociety.co.uk

girtongardensociety@outlook.com

Wild Girton

The 'Wild Girton' twitter page (@Wild_Girton) launched on Feb 10th with the aim of generating a conversation about wildlife and biodiversity in the village. In the first two months there have been 89 tweets and replies, and a further 85 retweets sent. Likes and retweets have come from luminaries such as local author Robert McFarlane, and organisations such as the Woodland Trust, The Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland, and Froglife.

Some highlights from the first two months include:

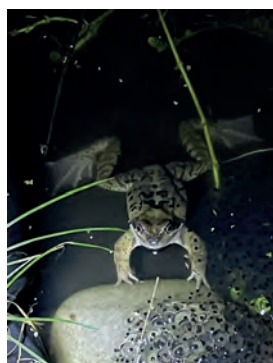


April 1st

This is Ground Ivy. Not a true 'ivy' at all it is more closely related to mint. It was used in beer brewing before Hops became utilised. Still used for medicinal purposes and as a foraged herb in cooking (warning, it can be bitter!)

March 5'h

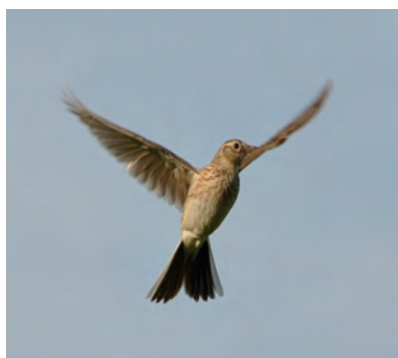
After dark a host of animals are active in our gardens and open spaces. Now is a good time to look for frogs, toads, and newts, particularly if you have a pond nearby. Other animals active after dark include Tawny Owls, mammals



(deer, foxes, mice and bats) and invertebrates. The BTO has an article on what to look for <https://bit.ly/3IIHZk1>. So get out there – we have nothing to lose but our fear of the dark!

March 10th

Lichens are strange, wonderful organisms. They are a mix of fungi and algae. They are found on trees, rocks, stone (churchyards are great for them) and soil, and their presence is a good indicator of air quality. Find out more at <https://bit.ly/3CqfSue>



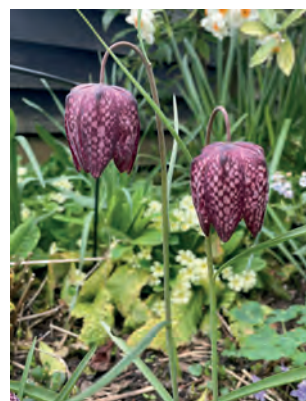
March 13th

'He rises and begins to round, He drops the silver chain of sound' It was too windy to record the Skylarks at Manor Farm yesterday. But rest assured they're there – singing their hearts out.

(photo: Quartl, CC BY-SA 3.0 <https://bit.ly/37qyVCA>)

April 10th

'Dulled by the hanging cups of fritillaries' our snakeshead fritillaries are proving a hit with bumblebees. Once so common they were harvested by children for sale in markets, they declined following our post-war draining of water meadows.



So, follow us at @Wild_Girton. Share your sightings, photos, and queries. Use the hashtag #WildGirton. And come along to a public meeting to continue the conversation.

Keith Honnor

Girton Open Gardens 2022

Sunday 12 June 2-5 pm

Open Gardens will be early this year, in mid-June, so that we can enjoy the roses which are always at their best then.

We'd love some more gardens, so why not consider opening yours. It doesn't have to be 'Chelsea' standard, this is a friendly village event. Or if you just want to enjoy wandering round the gardens, and meeting your neighbours, put the date in your diary. Gardens which are open for visitors will have a yellow notice outside.

Teas may be available in some gardens.

If you would like to take part, please contact:

mary.rodger32@gmail.com

01223 277316,

07905 584224



Girton WI

Girton WI's meeting on the 6th April was really well attended by our members and visitors. Sadly, half of our committee members were absent due to

Covid, work commitments or holidays and missed a really interesting and informative talk by Maria Garner, who spoke about how to take care of our antiques.

Maria was full of simple ideas and ways to look after our loved items, whether they were made of China, wood, glass or precious stones or metals. Who would have thought that baby wipes, cottonwool earbuds and even limescale removing toilet cleaner could all be so useful?! After her talk Maria spent some time telling us about the items we had brought in to show her and she answered our many questions. Then it was time for tea and cake, plus a good natter, followed by our raffle.

We are hoping to expand on our two daytime groups - jigsaw club and Knit and Natter - during the coming year, and we also have an exciting line up of speakers including:

My Journey with Textiles so Far! by Melanie Missen-King (July)

Cambridge Landscapes in Words and Photographs by Ms J S Watts (Sept)

Pearl: A Famous Gemstone by Jason Middleton (Oct)

Please feel free to join us at the William Collyn Hall on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm if you would like to see what Girton WI has to offer, or contact girtonwi@gmail.com or girtonwisecretary@gmail.com. We would love to see you!



Earlybirds WI

Why Earlybirds? - because this Women's Institute group meets in the mornings.

In March we followed Helen E Field's trips around Spain then

India. This month we had a fun-filled craft session, laughing our way through the creation of some Easter bunnies.

We meet on the second Friday of the month, at the CFWI office on Oakington Road at 10.30am. We are a small and very friendly group who love to chat and laugh over a cup of coffee. We also engage speakers who are sometimes entertaining, inspiring, and often thought provoking. The topics are as varied as our members, and there is always something new to learn. We welcome new members. Do come and join us. Our next meeting on 13th May will be our AGM, postponed from March and in June we have invited Dr Neil Dickinson to speak on Lord Rutherford, 'the father of Nuclear Physics'.

You can also contact us via our secretary k.m.richardson.1157@gmail.com.



Small yellow beauties that come to please...

It is with a mixture of surprise and joy that we have regularly greeted a family of Yellowhammers to our garden on the south of the village recently. I sometimes wonder if there is a rota for the appearance of

less common visitors.

When we first moved in, it was a family of Reed Buntings which after a year or two moved on, to be replaced by the splendidly decked out Bullfinches who have stepped aside for a new special guest.

More common on farmland and bushy heaths, the yellowhammer was historically called the Yellow Bunting, its common name perhaps derived from the German word for a Bunting - 'Ammer'. The old Norfolk name was Guler, itself probably originating in the Anglo-Saxon word for yellow, *geolu*.

Regardless of nomenclature, for the novice without a reference book or the time to load a smartphone app, it looks the kind of small bird you normally see in the garden but a lot more yellow - the male has an unmistakable bright yellow head. Many books render the call as "a-little-bit-of-bread-and-no-cheeeeeeeese" but I think it would be more fun to make up your own way of remembering it, their calls hopefully continuing to fill the air throughout spring.

Jamesng@cambridgescience.co.uk

Letter to the GPN

Dear GPN,

Many thanks to our elected representatives! Thornton Road now has had its many potholes mended with a proper half road width strip of tarmac at the top near Girton Road. Down near Huntingdon Road the strips are narrower but certainly much more likely to last a year than the little hand-filled patches of the last few seasons. Now cyclists are not taking their lives in their hands riding along these two sections and there should be fewer people cycling on the pavements. A great improvement.

Thank you also to householders who have cut back their hedges so the pavement is wider allowing two adults to walk side by side in a companionable and supportive way. Our hedgerows are full of sparrows and other birds as well as looking good, but it is pleasant to be able to walk together along our pavements without getting muddy or wet feet in winter.

Next, we look forward in Thornton Road to those same elected representatives causing yellow lines to be drawn along the sides of both ends of the road to stop visiting cars using these stretches as an informal 'Park and Ride' for a day, indeed sometimes for several days and nights on end.

After these achievements, the final greatest aim is to have a 20mph limit for all the 'Thorntons' area and Girton Road on the City side of the bridge. Then we will be on a par with the rest of Girton. That really would be a great achievement in improving road and pedestrian safety in this pleasant residential area.

Christine Bromwich
Address supplied


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Do you enjoy visiting beautiful gardens?



RHS Wisley, Surrey (Photo - Kay Green)



Markshall Arboretum and Gardens, Essex (Photo - Bryan Shaw)

If so, Girton Garden Society would love you to join their members on our coach trips which are planned for this summer to two well known gardens.

On Wednesday June 8th we are visiting the flagship Royal Horticultural Society gardens at Wisley in Surrey (www.rhs.org.uk). There is a brand new welcome building in the 240 acre garden which leads straight into the amazing variety of planting schemes and one of the largest plant collections in the world. Don't miss the rock garden, Wisteria Walk, the Bowes-Lyon Rose Garden, the Exotic Garden and the magnificent glasshouse. Facilities include four cafes, craft and gift shops and an extensive plant centre. We will leave Girton Church bus stop at 8.35am and return by 5.50pm. The cost, including entry with automatic membership of GGS, for non members is **£25** per person. Booking closes on Wednesday May 11th.

On Wednesday 20th July we are visiting Marks Hall Arboretum and Gardens, Coggleshall, Essex. (www.markshall.org.uk). The arboretum features tree collections from each temperate area of the globe, mass planted in geographic zones and is set in 200 acres of historic landscape with year round interest. There is a good visitor centre and a cafe in a 15th century barn and an unusual 18th century walled garden which has no fourth wall but slopes down to the lake. It combines traditional and contemporary planting through a series of five separate gardens designed for spring and summer interest which will be perfect for our visit. We will leave Girton Church bus stop at 9.40am and hope to return by 5.05pm. The cost including coach and entry fee is **£20** per person. Booking closes on Wednesday 15th June.

For further details and booking forms please contact Wendy Cattell at wrc25@cam.ac.uk or ring Wendy on 01223 277534 or girtongardensociety@outlook.com

FEAST WEEK VILLAGE FETE, SATURDAY JULY 9th 2022 12 – 5pm 'CALLING ALL GARDENERS - COMPETITION TIME'

The Girton Allotment Society and the **Girton Garden Society** will be organising a **mini fruit, flower and vegetable show** in the main marquee

The categories chosen for our part of the show represent the fruit, vegetables and flowers most likely to be ready in early July, weather permitting! Growing your own fruit, flowers and vegetables reduces transport costs and air miles as well as being very satisfying. We would like to encourage all adults and children living in the village to show off their gardening and growing skills by entering any or all of the following competition categories:

Adults

Vegetable/fruit classes

Flower classes

1v. 3 sticks of rhubarb	1f. 3 stems of one type of flower in a tall, colourless glass jar or vase
2v. 5 beans (Runner or French)	2f. A bunch of garden flowers in a clear jam-jar (no labels)
3v. 5 potatoes (any variety)	3f. A bunch of roses (no more than 7 stems) in a clear jam-jar
4v. 3 onions (any variety)	
5v. 3 different vegetables	
6v. A small plate of fruit	

Children Vegetable/fruit/flower classes

7v. 3 different coloured vegetables	9v. The longest bean
8v. The funniest looking carrot	10v/f. An animal modelled from vegetables, fruit and/or flowers

Rules: All entries must be brought to the main marquee between 10.00am and 11.30am with an entry card.

The vegetables and fruit will be displayed on 22/23cm white paper plates.

Judging and awarding of rosettes will take place at 12 noon.

The winners will be announced during the afternoon and entries can be collected after 4pm.

Contact: Girton Garden Society- Kay Green 01223 276819.

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Every word counts

In April's GPN edition, the editorial team helpfully rectified some common misconceptions about the publication and one of the points made really resonated with me. Our GPN is run by volunteers and is free to residents therefore advertising is crucial and column space for articles is at a premium. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to now have a regular feature in the GPN and endeavour to make every word count.

And sometimes, in any case, less is more! This relates so well to the role of a Mental Health First Aider where the words we use are not as important as the words we listen to. People often worry about what to say to someone who may be unhappy, upset or even distressed. Training in either Mental Health or Suicide First Aid, really emphasises the skills of open-ended questioning, reflective/mirroring phrases and silence. I know from the feedback from people I have supported, that the opportunity to have someone truly present and listening without interrupting, without needing to 'find out more' and without solving the problem, is actually rare and is definitely appreciated.

Signposting

www.moodpanda.com is an app-based platform allowing people to track their moods. This can be helpful in drawing out patterns and in supporting how we communicate our mood/feelings to those around us.

Mental Health First Aid and Suicide First Aid in our Girton Community

My drive to be building connections and sharing ideas within our village in order to support mental health and well-being, continues. An idea which has been hibernating in my mind for some time, may soon start to germinate following further conversations recently. What would YOU like to see happen within our village to support mental health and well-being? Do get in touch!

Juliet Adlouné, a longstanding Girton resident, is a fully qualified and accredited Adult Mental Health First Aid Instructor and Suicide First Aid Associate Tutor experienced in delivering the full suite of MHFA and SFA courses and committed to supporting mental health within her local community. Contact her via: www.facebook.com/listeninglantern.julietadlouné or mhfa.julietadlouné@gmail.com.

Codeword solution - see page 26

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

May wine selections

As we look forward to brighter weather and longer days in this the queen of months, here are my selections for a merry May!

Koshu wine: the perfect accompaniment for Japanese food



Although Japan is best-known for its saké, in recent years, the quality of Japanese wine, particularly white wine, has improved enormously. The most common grape variety used for white wine in Japan is Koshu. The wines are subtle and delicate, with citrus aromas and fresh, fruity flavours.

This **Château Mercian, Koshu, Iwasaki 2019** wine is a smooth, medium-bodied wine with refreshing acidity, a creamy mouthfeel, and a lengthy finish. With floral notes and aromas of lemon, yuzu and vanilla on the nose, and flavours of pear, peach and almonds on the palate, it is an elegant wine that expresses the unique characteristics of the Koshu grape very well. It's a perfect match for sushi and sashimi, and other light Japanese dishes. Available from Frazier's Wine Merchants - £21.99

A local wine from Suffolk



For something from a vineyard a little closer to home, this **St Edmundsbury Pinot Noir 2020** is from Giffords Hall near Long Melford in Suffolk. The vineyard was planted on the site of an ancient glacial riverbed about 30 years ago and several grape varieties, including Madeleine Angevine, Bacchus, Pinot Noir, and Pinot Blanc flourish in the sandy, clay soil here. This Pinot Noir 2020 is a little gem. With aromas of bramble and blackberry on the nose, and flavours of plum, strawberry and rhubarb on the palate, this is a smooth, well-balanced wine with medium tannins and a lengthy finish. An attractive and appealing wine that pairs well with duck or a Sunday roast. Available from Grape Britannia - £15.99

A mountain wine from Savoie

North, south, east or west, wherever you are in France, you are never too far from a wine-producing area. Even in the Alpine region of Savoie (Savoy), where the fresh, light, aromatic white wines made from the Jacquère grape are well-worth seeking out.

Vineyards in the region are often planted on mountain slopes between 250m and 550m, where they benefit from a warm microclimate and the moderating effects of nearby rivers and lakes. Although the Savoie region produces a mere 0.5% of French wines, it certainly punches above its size.



The **Domaine Jean Perrier and Fils 'Altus' 2020, Savoie** has aromas of blossom, apple and pear on the nose, and flavours of pear, apricot and honey on the palate. This is a crisp, refreshing wine with high acidity and a hint of minerality in the finish, and you can feel the freshness of the mountain air as you taste the wine. A perfect match for fondue, goat's cheese or a seafood dish. Available from Majestic - £13.99

Martin Nuttall - www.itmustbewineoclock.com

GIRTON scoreboard



Girton Bowls Club

As we count down to the end of the indoor bowls season our players should be incredibly proud of their achievements.

In the Indoor/Outdoor League, Girton 1 have now completed their matches, finishing strongly with three 6-0 wins.

Their final record is played 16, won 9

drawn 1. They are currently top of the league. The only team who could overtake them is Mitchell Lodge, but they would need to win their last match 6-0 and by a margin of 30 shots.

Girton 2 have one match remaining, a win could move them up to almost halfway in the league.

The Mini League team, a combination of players from Girton 1 and Girton 2, have now completed their games with 10 wins from 10 matches and are therefore the winners of the league.

In addition to our Indoor/Outdoor teams, several of our players have made it through to various finals to be held at Chesterton over the weekend of 23rd and 24th April. Good luck to everyone!

The Outdoor Bowls Green has had extensive treatment over the winter and is now ready for the start of the season, thanks to our wonderful volunteer maintenance team and all the volunteers who helped put up the marquee and lay down the gully mats.

Regarding the ongoing problems with the lack of toilet facilities, it has been suggested that a three-way meeting between the Bowls Club, the Parish Council and the Town Charity should be scheduled in an effort to find a solution to the problem.

We recently held our pre-season dinner at Abbeyfield, where we enjoyed a delicious meal served by the lovely staff.

The last club ramble of the season was a most enjoyable circular walk in brilliant sunshine starting and finishing in Horseheath with a lovely meal at the Old White Horse. Our thanks to Paul Tippett for leading the ramble.

If you are interested in finding out about joining Girton Bowls Club, please see our website www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com or please contact our Secretary Carey Horton at carey@horton.uk.net. We are always pleased to welcome new members.

Lynne McGill



Girton Golf Club

A great start to the season for Girton Seniors in their first match of the year with a 4-2 win over Cambridge Country Club (Bourn) at home. Winning pairs were Dave Newlands/Chris Stanton 8

and 6, Kevin Ray/Sandy Cuthbert 3 and 2, Robin Guymer/Kevin Bennett 1 up. Paul Jobson/Alan Henderson-Smith and David Page-Croft/Martin Collis halved their games and Lawrence Brett/Keith Thompson lost. The day was memorable for Richard Webb of Cambridge Country Club who shot a hole in one on the 4th, and yes, he did buy drinks

for all. Unfortunately, the second match away at Royston led to a crushing defeat so back to the practice field!



The Seniors also held their Strokeplay Championship and the winner, on countback after a tie, was Kevin Bradbury who was presented the trophy by Tony Johnson who had donated the jug a number of years ago (see photo).

It's a fabulous time to be playing golf with pretty good weather and a course in wonderful condition. For newcomers to the

game Girton Golf Club have launched new membership options.

Introductory membership

A 3-month introductory membership - only available with introduction from Head Professional Sam Beckett. To offer an introduction to golf for those wanting to take up golf as a complete beginner. The 3-month membership will include coaching sessions with Head Professional Sam Beckett over an 8-week period - to include the etiquette of golf and club expectations. This will encourage playing partnerships.

Part way through the coaching sessions, Sam will encourage individuals to make the first steps into golf membership by signing up for the three-month Girton membership. Upon completion of the three-month membership the individual will have the opportunity to upgrade to one of the membership categories on offer that best suit their requirements. However, if upgrading to Full or Lifestyle membership, the £200 paid for the introductory membership will be deducted from the fees and member will receive 12 months membership of the club from that date. See our advert for more details or call in and chat to Sam in the Pro shop or Nicola in the office.

Lifestyle membership

A membership category that gives new and existing members, who are unable to commit to full membership, an opportunity to have full course access and the choice to play in representative and club competitions.

To give existing members an option to step back from Full membership but retain the opportunity to play competitive golf seven days a week. It is a package that will encourage integration into the club. Operated on a credit basis (through the BRS wallet) members will be able to calculate after the first year if they would be better placed being a Full member. Call, or visit, the office or Pro Shop for more information.

Our clubhouse is open every day for members, their guests and visitors so for a good coffee, or lunch and somewhere to chat in a comfortable environment with views over the course, come down and join us.

Alan Henderson-Smith
Girton Golf Club
01223 276169
www.girtongolf.co.uk



Girton Netball Club

We've been celebrating this month after finishing top of the table in the CAFL with a total of 217 goals scored across the season. First place was secured in the final week of the league when we won two matches in quick succession - at home against Kings 29-23 and in Milton against Trumpington Tigers 1 32-25.

Many congratulations to all players who showed true dedication in turning out regularly for matches on cold, dark winter evenings, including super shooters Mel, Claire, and Amy T, defence demons Sally and Cath, mid-court maestros Holly, Jo, Jenny, Paula, Bee and awesome all-rounder Lucy.

To our delight, after being told that the Cambridge and District Netball Summer League was full, a place has been found for us and we'll be continuing our netball throughout the warmer months. Matches will be on Wednesdays in Northstowe against teams from Ely, Stretham, Linton, and Cambourne. We look forward to showing them what we can do!

2022 is the ten-year anniversary of the team, being a legacy from the 2012 Olympics, and we've started planning a party to mark the occasion. Watch this space for updates.

For the next few weeks we'll be without our coach Helen who has travel and holiday plans that mean she cannot be with us. We'll miss her but will do our best to continue her good work.

Training is on Mondays 6.30-7.45pm at Girton Rec. Email girton.village.netball@gmail.com or find us on Facebook: Girton Netball Club.

Emma-Louise Longden



Girton Tennis Club

The club membership year started in April and those that were members last year should have received emails with details of how to renew their memberships. Our fees are very good value and, as a member, you can purchase a court key which enables

you to access the courts whenever there are no prior bookings. Please see our website for details of 2022/2023 fees. We would encourage you to join our friendly club soon and enjoy some outdoor exercise.

Our popular Friday evening supervised sessions for Junior members started again on 22nd April. We often have quite a large group of youngsters wanting to join in so adult help from parents and other club members is always welcome. If you are able to offer help, please contact committee members Alan Richardson or Victor Travieso.

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 web site www.girtontennisclub.uk or by contacting our membership secretary by email info@girtontennisclub.uk.

Fundraising For Ukraine

Thank you to everyone who came out to support Ukraine. What a wonderful afternoon we had on Saturday 9th April when so many of you came to enjoy tea and cakes at the Cotton Hall.



The tables groaned under the numerous cakes, baked and donated by many within the village. The atmosphere in the hall was buzzing with chat, with enthusiasm for being part of a community, and with the idea that we can do *something* to help Ukraine.



To all who donated goods, services, time, and money – we are so very, very grateful. With donations and our Just Giving page we have to date raised over **£2,030**. An incredible sum. We have been truly humbled by the result, and by seeing how generous people have been.

We could not have put this event together in the two weeks it took to plan it, without the help of the people of Girton, and beyond. We are so grateful to all those businesses and individuals who made this happen; the hall trustees, the printers, people who put up posters, the dozens of bakers of cakes, biscuits, scones, bread, the lady who made brooches, the helpers who put up bunting and made tea, washed up and mopped floors and every single one of you who has made a donation.

At the end of the day, the few cakes that were left were taken to Jimmy's Night Shelter in Cambridge, where the guests enjoyed a feast of home-baked goodies.

Let's not lose sight of why we did this. Let's keep this initiative going. Families here are wanting to welcome refugees into their homes; perhaps our efforts could now turn to support everyone in that venture.

From Karen and Trish – simply THANK YOU.





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GIRTON FEAST UPDATE



Friday evening concert, 8th July at 7pm

Tickets are available for the 'Music on a Summer's Evening' concert on Friday 8th July at 7pm. The concert will feature Rock Choir the contemporary choir which is back at the Feast by popular demand, Woody Marcus musician and guitarist, and Policemen Badger a jazz trio. Ticket prices are £6 for adults and £2 for children. Tickets can either be purchased on the door, or online at: www.ticketsource.co.uk/girtonfeast or through our website: www.girtonfeast.org.uk (a booking fee applies). Chairs will be available in the marquee or come and have a picnic while you listen to the music. There will be food stalls and a beer tent, selling local real ales and wine. These will be available from 5.45pm onwards.

Village Fete, Saturday 9th July, 12noon to 9pm

Our traditional annual event including bouncy castles, children's rides, a children's entertainer, lots of stalls selling a wide variety of goods, live entertainment with local bands and musicians, food stalls, a beer tent selling local real ales, a model aircraft flying display, tug-of-war, face painting and much, much more... Stalls and games run by local clubs such as 'Beat the goalie', 'Have a go tennis', target bowls and golf putting. German sausages and burgers, pizza, hot potatoes, teas, coffee and cakes, a wide selection of real ales from local breweries, ice-creams, popcorn and candy floss, will all help to make this an enjoyable day for all ages.

1 mile Fun Run at 3pm

A one mile Fun Run circuit of the sports field with a water station half way round will be held at the Village Fete. It is hoped all ages from very young to very old will participate as it will be more a fun activity than a race. Every registered runner will receive a finishing medal and there will be trophies for the top three. Please register via our website or on the day at the front entrance. A £2 fee will be charged and registration can be made in advance on the Girton Feast web site (www.girtonfeast.org.uk or www.ticketsource.co.uk/girtonfeast).

We are actively looking for volunteers to help on the Saturday during the day and on the Sunday morning to help us clear up.

If you are a local business or club, pitches are available for stalls to promote your organisation. Booking forms are on our website.

Please contact us via our website: www.girtonfeast.org.uk - all queries will be answered – or contact Rowena: rowena@girtonfeast.org.uk , Carol: carol@girtonfeast.org.uk or Helen: helen@girtonfeast.org.uk



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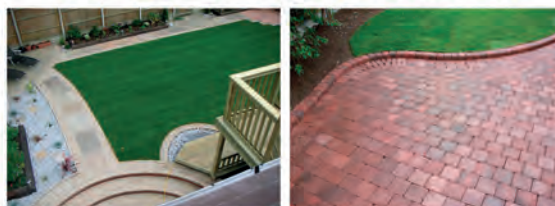
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Positive progress in a challenging year

by Ann Bonnett, Chair of Girton Town Charity

Girton Town Charity has continued to steer a very busy programme with a major new almshouse project underway at Dovehouse Court, the completion of Suffolk Terrace and the welcoming of its first residents, managing activities at the William Collyn Community Centre in response to rapidly changing COVID-19 guidance and administering the wide range of Schemes and Grants which help a wide range of Village residents.

There have also been changes to our team of Trustees and the need for flexibility in the day-to-day running of the Charity, with virtual meetings and a temporary relocation of GTC Office.

This summary is extracted from the report prepared for the Parish Council's Annual Meeting in May.

Full accounts for the year to 30th June 2021 can be viewed on the Charity Commission website.



Trustees and Administrator, Rachel Allchorne. Not present Andrew Muston, Patsy Smith and Gilly O'Brien.

Trustees

There are normally seven Trustees who serve five year terms; five are currently appointed by Girton Parish Council (GPC) and two by the Board of Trustees. We were delighted to make two GTC appointments during the year, with Dan Buck joining us in December 2020 and Andrew Muston in July 2021. We are currently looking for at least one new Trustee and we always welcome expressions of interest from residents of the Village.

Charity Office and Administration

Following the demolition of 22 High Street, GTC Office moved to the Parish Office at 42 Church Lane and remained operational throughout lockdown thanks to the efficiency of our Administrators, Mrs Rachel Allchorne and Mrs Gilly O'Brien.

Trustees' Meetings

The Trustees met virtually ten times between 1st July 2020 and 30th April 2021 to consider the regular business of the Charity, in addition to participating in an Extraordinary Meeting and two Strategy Meetings.

The period saw some financial market volatility which had an adverse impact on GTC funds. It was necessary to rebalance funds to cover running costs at the William Collyn Community Centre in the light of reduced income

during lockdowns, almshouse maintenance and donations to organisations based outside Girton which make general provisions for the residents of the Village.

Almshouses

The Charity currently has 13 almshouses within Girton, occupied by residents over 55 and families from the community. Over 55's and

anyone with a registered disability are appointed as permanent residents; families are appointed for three years. All are managed on the Charity's behalf by the CHS Group, based in Histon.

Suffolk Terrace

Three new family homes at Suffolk Terrace on the High Street were completed and ready for occupation in April 2021 and the successful applicants moved in on three-year appointments.

Dovehouse Court

The major project to redevelop the central almshouse site on High Street, has continued through the year and once completed, will provide a mix of bungalows and apartments for people over the age of 55, as well as a new office for GTC, all built to stringent Passivhaus standards.

The Trustees applied for a grant of £675,000 towards the building of these homes from Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority which was successful.

CarePlus Grant Scheme

This Scheme helps Girton residents to live independently in their own homes by providing additional short-term care to suit their needs over and above any statutory care to which they are entitled, including assistance on returning from hospital. Requests for help are made by referral from GP, Social Worker, Age UK Warden or Older Residents' Co-ordinator or other Healthcare professional. During the period 41 residents benefitted from CarePlus.

Educational Grant Scheme

This helps with the costs of buying books and equipment for study in further and higher education; some apprenticeships and similar qualifications at NVQ Level 4 or above. Claims totalling no more than £300 per Academic Year may be made for up to four years of study. 31 Educational Grants were awarded during the year.

Hospital Taxi Scheme

This helps people go by taxi to outpatient appointments at Addenbrooke's Hospital the Rosie or Royal Papworth Hospital and some of the pandemic-designated satellite outpatients clinics, when alternative transport is not practical. The Trustees continue to be grateful to Nelsons and Wendy Barret for supporting this Scheme. The Scheme operates a 'membership year' with a single annual renewal date on 1st April.

Prescription Delivery Service

Run by the pharmacist at the GP practice serving Girton, the Prescription Delivery Service is available for patients who live within the Pepys Way dispensing area and are unable, through reasons of incapacity, to collect dispensed medicines from the Pepys Way or Huntingdon Road Surgeries.

Youth Project with Connections Bus Project

During 2021 the Trustees investigated options to offer a Youth Group from a new provider and in December 2021, were pleased to award the Connections Bus Project a grant to commence a weekly youth group as soon as recruitment of the necessary staff and the pandemic allowed.

Cambridge Citizens Advice Bureau and Relate Counselling Service

Face to face meetings at the William Collyn Centre were paused during the pandemic. Both CAB and Relate continued to provide services via online resources and virtual meetings and a range of services have been provided to help residents.

Age UK Activities

GTC supports two Age UK activities. In the Community Warden Scheme, Fiona provides full-time cover with support from Jane to more than 20 villagers who subscribe. As Older Residents' Co-ordinator, Patricia has worked on a number of initiatives to broaden provision and participation in a variety of activities across the Village.

Grants to external charities

GTC supports charitable organisations outside the Village with grants based on the number of Girton participants in their activities including Arthur Rank Hospice, Cam Sight, Cambridgeshire Headway, Cogwheel Trust, East Anglia Children's Hospice, Kings Junior Voices and Macmillan.

Grants to local schools

Girton Glebe Primary School has received substantial grants for intervention, educational enrichment activities, provision of wrap-around support for the children of families-in-need and funding of school trips that could not be met by the families of the children concerned.

Grants to individuals

Grants to individuals are given to cover costs such as modest fees for activities that were otherwise unaffordable, support for those in need of respite breaks and contributions towards household items such as support chairs, cookers, fridge/freezers and beds. In the year to date, 17 grants were made to individuals.

Future Focus

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought many changes to all sections of our community and going forwards, our Trustees will be focusing on the new landscape and how best to support Girton residents.

This will run alongside other important projects such as Dovehouse Court to ensure that we can futureproof our provision with truly affordable housing that many of our residents need.

I'd like to thank all our Trustees for their huge contribution and also our Administrators who support us and run the office so efficiently. We can't predict what challenges lie ahead but GTC is in a strong position, with a skilled, experienced and committed team to find the right solutions for us.

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 office:

**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

Vacancy for Parish Council appointed Trustee

Girton Town Charity is registered with the Charity Commission and exists to help Girton residents, both as individuals and collectively. The Charity's primary purpose is provision of Almshouses within the Village and relief of the needs of our elderly residents. In addition GTC offers a range of Schemes and Grants to help both individuals and groups.

There are seven Trustees: five are appointed by Girton Parish Council and two are appointed by the Trustees themselves.

The Trustees of Girton Town Charity wish to be representative of the residents of the Village and welcome expressions of interest for a new member regardless of age, disability, ethnicity, race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin on the grounds of gender, gender reassignment, marital or civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, religion, belief, or sexual orientation.

As a Trustee you must be prepared to take an active and hands-on part in the running of the Charity which will involve working on specific allocated responsibilities. We have a monthly (currently virtual) evening meeting to discuss the routine business of the Charity with additional daytime meetings and activities on a regular basis. New strategies are developed at an annual all-day meeting.

If you are interested in the position, please contact the Chair or any other Trustee to talk about what is involved in carrying out the work of this vibrant charity.

Written applications to be addressed to the Chair of Trustees.

Closing date 31 June 2022

Girton Town Charity, 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

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration Tea Dance at the William Collyn Community Centre Friday 3rd June 2022 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm

**Open (Free to attend) event for
Girton residents
Refreshments and afternoon tea included.**

Girton Town Charity are delighted to host a Tea Dance at the William Collyn Community Centre in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Youlie and David Pullinger are award winning dancers and highly regarded instructors and we are fortunate to have them introduce and compere the dances.

Dances will include something for everyone of any ability from Waltz, Foxtrot, Rumba, Cha Cha and Quickstep to Sequence and Line dances, Jive and an Argentine Tango.

During the Refreshment interval Youlie and David will perform a presentation dance.

Spaces are limited so call 01223 279587 to reserve your place or visit the William Collyn Community Centre to collect your ticket.

This event is supported by Girton Town Charity and free to attend.

Please see website for up to date details of Clubs and Classes www.williamcollyn.co.uk
Information correct at time of going to press.

The Centre continues to ask all visitors to wear a face covering whilst in any communal areas

Wellbrook Way, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0GP

01223 279587

info@williamcollyn.co.uk

www.williamcollyn.co.uk

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

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 on page 17.

5		10		26	4	7	17	8	16	20		
16	13	8	5	14		17		5		5	23	20
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1	8	5	25		4	8	18	24	26	18	8	8
13		24		1		4				24		16
5	6	6	5	26	14		8	18	14	8	16	16
	21			24				5			9	
23	8	10	10	24	8		26	13	23	5	26	14
14		12				23		8		22		8
5	23	23	8	4	25	26	19		2	21	21	13
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		16	20	8	14	4	17	13		24		8

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CLUES	
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13	26

WORDSEARCH

Fictional Detectives !

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.

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

ANGEL	MAGNUM	TRACY
BLAKE	MAIGRET	TRENT
COLE	MARS	WALLANDER
COLUMBO	MORSE	WAYNE
CREEK	POIROT	WIMSEY
DELAWARE	QUEEN	
DREW	REBUS	
GRAY	SHERLOCK	
HART	SOLO	
HERCULE	STEELE	
HOLMES	THESAINT	
INSPECTOR	TINTIN	
IRISH	TOMMY	



The sausage rolls were great!

Our Monday coffee morning on the 11th April was enjoyed by a number of members and friends. Coffee, sausage rolls or cake for this little taster morning were paid for by

Club 55. We have a regular Monday morning date in the restaurant at Abbeyfield dealing with anyone who needs help with their laptops, iPads and mobile phones. We are there between 10am and 12noon every Monday and will extend these meetings to include a Coffee Morning every second and fourth Monday of each month, except when it's a bank holiday. Call in and enjoy a coffee and snack with friends, we can't make it free again, but for just £3.50 you can keep up with your friends and local gossip over a cuppa and a cake. By the way did you hear about - oh, wait a minute, I'd better keep that under my hat for the next coffee morning.



Friends meeting for tea or coffee and a snack

There is also a pop up Cafe in the Cotton Hall each Friday that members might like to visit. Don't be lonely - get out and have a chat.

On Wednesday 25th May it is 12.30pm for a 1pm lunch in the William Collyn Hall. It's Fish and Chips out of paper followed by a dessert and tea or coffee. We will also be showing our 2017 homemade film 'Cinderella'. It has not suddenly matured into a blockbuster film since we made it five years ago but is still just as bad as it was then. I am sure, however, that it will bring back fond memories of several of our dear friends who took part then but are no longer with us now. The price is likely to be £15 per head to cover entrance fee, food and drink.

For more details or order forms contact us using the details below:

Sam Clift

Tel: 07850740721 or email samclift@ntlworld.com



News for older residents

Preventing Falls

Healthy You is planning falls prevention/strength and balance assessments and an exercise group in Girton. These sessions will be essential for anyone who has fallen and does not want to fall again and will also be very beneficial for those whose walking mobility is not what it once was.

A request

I need two people from Girton, who have used this service, to participate in a study led by Cambridge Public Health. Participants can also have used other services provided by Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The researchers want to understand the ways in which services in the community support the wellbeing of the people who use them. Taking part will use approximately one hour of your time. You can choose to either have an interview/discussion with a member of the research team or by completing a set of postcards in your own space and time. See me for further details.

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Let me know if the lack of transport will prevent you from attending any of the celebrations. Together we might be able to find a solution.

Good homes are needed for all the following items

Two zimmer frames, a shower stool, various urine bottles, a large quantity of packets of small Tena pants, a traditional walking stick, two adjustable quad foot walking sticks, a folding commode, a safety step with a handle and a pump for an inflatable cushion. Can you use any of these things?

Patricia Johnston, Older Residents' Coordinator

Email: patricia.johnston@ageukcap.org.uk

Tel: 07469 660 866

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Breath of life

By the genius of modern space technology, we have been able to listen to the sound of the Martian wind as it streams across the Red Planet. The BBC also enabled us to compare the quality of sound transmission through the atmosphere of Mars, with the same sounds transmitted on our own planet Earth.

The clarity and stability of sound passing along Earth's airwaves was strikingly superior to that of Mars. The exercise highlighted the enormous benefits we take for granted in our shared conversations, music, information and broadcasts.

So many beautiful sounds reach us on the wind and lift our spirits. The woods throng with the chirping of nesting birds. The Alpine shepherds hear each other call across the valley. The lost lamb bleats and is heard by its mother. The sound of rushing water bids the traveller to come and be refreshed.

The breath of life that reaches us in myriads of ways enables us to function, communicate and connect.

Now we are looking to the power of the wind to provide the energy we need for our complex existence. Not that harvesting of wind power is new. Pictures of colourful windmills turning their great sails amidst glorious swathes of tulips create perfect, iconic images.

Nowadays, huge turbines stand sentinel on the hill-sides and around our shores. Necessity has awakened us to finding solutions in the great force that has been a historical change-maker in the works of mankind.

We can marvel again at the all-encompassing provision designed into this place we call home.

The Greek and Roman theatre players noted the benefits of building a stage where the prevailing wind would carry voices towards the audience ranked in tiers before them.

When Jesus was pressed by a great throng eager to hear his ministry, it was recorded that he stepped into a boat a short distance from the shore and began to teach. His was the significant voice that astonished the disciples as it calmed the raging wind and stormy sea, yet was so gentle with a sick child or a grieving widow.

It was this same voice that made sense of national life with illustrative stories conveying divine wisdom, and brought the revelation of Good News that God's love reaches out of eternity to embrace all who came to him by faith.

When Jesus finally called from the cross, "It is finished", he was not simply conveying that his earthly ministry, as they had known it was to cease. He was assuring those present and all the generations still to come, that the work of redemption was complete, and their debt was paid. Jesus was, in the full vigour of manhood, giving up his life and his voice, to usher in the new era of forgiveness, peace with God, and eternal life.

How do we recognise that voice nowadays amidst the clamour of sounds demanding attention, distracting and competing? Sometimes it is in the powerful oratory of a preacher addressing a vast gathering of souls, or in the hush of whispered guidance, or a message of loving concern and support. It is through our voices now that God conveys his challenging wisdom, his loving care here and now and assurance for the final journey home.

*Oh breath of Life come sweeping through us
Revive your Church with life and power
Oh breath of Life come cleanse, renew us
And fit your Church to meet this hour.
Oh breath of God come breathe within us
Renewing thought and will and heart
Come, Love of Christ afresh to win us
Revive your Church in every part.*

Iris Niven

Girton Musical Theatre nominated for Technical Award

We were delighted to be nominated for an award for our last production, *Pirates of Penzance*, in February 2020, for "exceptional sets and costumes".

We received a runners' up certificate at a recent NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association) awards ceremony.



Painting and building the sets for our shows involves most of the cast, and various friends and relations. If you would be interested in helping, with painting, construction or scenery shifting, please contact us at info@girtonmusicaltheatre.org.uk or phone Helen on 01223 276940.

Our website has photos of all our shows, including some of the set building in process. Our next show is at the end of October, but some painting will take place over the summer, and the set build from Friday 21st-Sunday 23rd October.

www.girtonmusicaltheatre.org.uk



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

Sunday Services: May

1st	10.00am	Holy Communion
	7.45pm	Taize Service
8th	10.00am	All-age Communion
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)
15th	10.00am	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)
22nd	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.00am	Morning Prayer
	4.00pm	Contemporary Style Worship
29th	10.00am	Holy Communion

Weekday Services: May

Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer (said)
	3.45pm	Choir Church (during school term time)
Weds	9.00am	Morning Prayer (said) (Online)
Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer (said) (Online)
	9.00pm	Compline (said) (Online)

Other Services:

11th	2.00pm	Abbeyfield Holy Communion
12th	4.00pm	Messy Church
17th	2.15pm	Arlington Manor Holy Communion
26th	11.00am	Gretton Court Holy Communion (BCP)
	7.00pm	Ascension Day

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 Taizé service will be held in person in the North Room. All are welcome. Please email Kay Barrett at singing.kay@gmail.com for details.

Ascended Christ, we worship you; Christ, present with us now, we ask for your Spirit to make us brave in following your way. Reign as King in our hearts, and, in the foolishness of the divine love, make us wiser than the ambitions and power-games of the world.
Angela Ashwin



Minister: Revd Nick Lowe

Tel: 01223 279289

Secretary: Mrs Virginia Rootham-Smith

Tel: 01223 520442

Website: www.girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk

Sunday Services- all at 10.30am at Girton Baptist Church and on Zoom

1st Morning Worship, with communion, led by John Searle

8th Morning Worship, led by Nick Lowe

15th Morning Worship, with communion, led by Nick Lowe

22nd Morning Worship, led by Nick Lowe

29th Morning Worship, led by Nick Lowe

Messy Church is on Thursday 12th May from 3.30pm. Messy Church is for parents and their children, with craft activities based on a Biblical theme, a story and a meal together.

Tuesday Afternoon Friendship Group for seniors is restarting on Tuesday 3rd May at 2.15pm at GBC. For further details about any of the above please ring 07751 748757 or email pastor@girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk.

Psalm 40 in the Bible, penned by King David, has been set to music many times over the centuries. It expresses prayer uttered by the Psalmist, and answered by the God who hears. Today there are hymns ancient and modern based on this Psalm, especially the first three verses. The Psalmist is in deep trouble, like being stuck in a slimy pit or in mud and mire, and he is unable to help himself. He patiently cries out to God who answers him, and sets his feet on a rock, in a firm place to stand. As a result the Psalmist has a new song of praise in his mouth, to God who rescued him. It is no doubt intentional that the exact circumstances of the Psalmist are unknown, so the Psalm can be applied to many situations.

Charles Hutcheson was a 19th century merchant from Glasgow and amateur musician. He wrote a hymn, the words of which closely follow Psalm 40:

1. I waited for the Lord my God,
and patiently did bear;
at length to me he did incline
my voice and cry to hear.

2. He took me from a fearful pit,
and from the miry clay,
and on a rock he set my feet,
establishing my way.

3. He put a new song in my mouth,
our God to magnify:
many shall see it, and shall fear,
and on the Lord rely.

During World War II the Christian Corrie ten Boom spent time in a concentration camp for helping Jews escape from the holocaust. She later said, echoing Psalm 40, "There is no pit so deep that God's love is not deeper still."

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

Julie Dashwood, 36 High Street, Tel: 276590
Daniel Carney, 28 Cambridge Road, Tel: 07986 592507
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 447642
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: 01223 276184
cldr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk

County Councillor

Edna Murphy, Tel: 01223 577005
Edna.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Parish Clerk

Yvonne Murray Tel: 01223 618619
clerk@girton-pc.gov.uk

Assistant Parish Clerk

Angie Vidler, Tel: 01223 618619
admin@girton-pc.gov.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	618619
St Vincent's Close	276447
William Collyn Community Centre	279587

Bin collections May

Friday 6 May

Thursday 12 May

Thursday 19 May

Thursday 26 May

Blue and Green bins

Black bin

Blue and Green bins

Black bin

Mobile library

Thursday 26 May 2022

Thornton Court	9.40 -10.00
Abbeyfield	10.05 -10.50
Cotton Hall/Church	11.00 -11.30
Orchard Close	11.35 -12.00
St Vincents Close	12.05 -12.30
Gretton Court	12.35 -13.00
Churchfield Court	13.05 -13.30



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For more information contact 01223 277188 /
girton@abbeyfield.com



Girton Social Club

48 Cambridge Road, Girton, CB3 0PJ. Tel: 01223 276890

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