



# GIRTON

## Parish News

July 2023



**St Andrew's Church gets  
a facelift – see page 32**

**The village fox and the  
mystery of a size 9 shoe  
– see page 29**

**Bats flourish in  
Girton – see page 30**







## Girton Social Club

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

Email: [Girtonsocialclub@gmail.com](mailto:Girtonsocialclub@gmail.com)

**We are a family social club situated in the village of Girton.**

We hold various events throughout each month including:

Play Your Cards Right, Discos, Karaoke and Live Music

Fortnightly Bingo on **Fridays** - non-members welcome but must be signed by a member on the eve

We have two modern pool tables - £1 per game or £6 per hour (free Wednesday evening),  
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**We now have Free wi-fi and BT Sports Children are welcome Dogs are welcome on a lead**

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Pints £3.70; Amstel beer £3.90; Wine £2.50 per bottle (187ml)

### Opening Times

**Monday to Thursday:** 7.30pm to 11pm, **Friday:** 12 to 3pm, 7.30 to 11pm,

**Saturday:** 12pm to late, **Sunday:** 12pm to 3pm

### Annual Membership

Adults £7.50, Senior Citizens £3.25, Armed Forces £1,  
Adults new/lapsed £10, Senior Citizens new/lapsed £3.50



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## Publication Information

**Editor:** Rob Neal, 101 High Street, CB3 0QQ  
tel. 07875 374966  
email: [editorgirtonparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:editorgirtonparishnews@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** Sheila Bowler, tel. 276914

**Advertising Manager and Treasurer:**  
Marion Fisher, 117 High Street, CB3 0QQ  
tel. 570866  
email: [gpnads@girton-cambs.org.uk](mailto:gpnads@girton-cambs.org.uk)

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](http://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, Pat Dickens,  
Claire Lightley, Bill Rothwell

*Distribution Co-ordinator:* Karen Richardson,  
email: [gpnadist@gmail.com](mailto:gpnadist@gmail.com)

*Editors and Proofreaders:* Chris Bowler,  
Wendy de Horsey, Mike Fay, Marion Fisher,  
John Gibson, Alison Giles, Carol Huxley,  
Michelle Jones, 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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## Lightning strikes GPN!

The production of this month's GPN has been disrupted after lightning struck a telegraph pole close to typesetter Claire Lightley's house on Sunday 18th June. It blew the telephone junction box several feet off the pole and took out her landline, internet and computer.

Thanks to mobile Wi-Fi, a borrowed screen, and a very old, very slow computer, Claire battled on to complete this edition.

Thanks Claire!

A quick look online reveals some useful tips on lightning safety, and we thought it would be useful to share these with all our readers.

- At home, unplug appliances and electronic devices such as corded phones, televisions, computers, and other electrical equipment. Anything that's plugged into an outlet in your home is at risk of suffering damage from an electrical surge during thunderstorms.
- If you're outside when you hear thunder, seek shelter if possible. You are already within range of where the next ground flash may occur as lightning can strike as far as 10 miles away from the centre of a storm.

*Rob Neal*

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**Copy date for August issue: Wed. 19 Jul. Issue date: Sat. 5 Aug. Covers 5 Aug – 2 Sept.**





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## Girton Parish Council

### Look out for Girton Parish Council at Girton Feast!

Thank-you to all of you who entered our Coronation Treasure Hunt and our Logo Competition. There was significant interest especially in the Treasure Hunt which got 432 hits on our website in May. As a result, some great entries have been received. We will be announcing the winners at Girton Feast on 8th July and displaying all entries on our Feast Stalls. Girton Parish Council will be at the Feast together with our Neighbourhood Plan lead - Andrew Muston, Local Nature Recovery Plan Group and our District Councillors, Richard Stobart and Corinne Garvey.

We will be repeating last year's successful data alley event which collected 101 suggestions of what was most important to you in our village. Hope to meet as many of you as possible at this great village event.

Also we hope you will be able to join us for a quiz to be held at The George on Tuesday 11th July to celebrate and add to Girton Feast Funds.

### Girton Parish Council - 2022/2023 Financial year-end process completed

During the last two weeks Girton Parish Council has completed their internal audit and their Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) which was submitted at our Full Council meeting on 14th June. Council was given a clean bill of health at the internal audit. A copy of the notice of Public Rights and Publication of unaudited AGAR for the year end 31st March 2023 will be posted on Girton Village Community Website on 19th June as approved by Council.

### Pavilion Refurbishment Group meets for the first time to consider re-scoped project

This group met for the first time since this project had been re-scoped and will be looking for your input over the summer months both at Girton Feast, and a survey which will be available both on-line and in the August edition of Girton Parish News. We were pleased to welcome representatives of our co-opted Sports Teams for Football, Tennis, Girton Village Celebrations and Girton Musical Theatre who all were able to confirm what they wanted to see in any Refurbishment project for the pavilion. Look out for more information coming soon.

### Girton Village Planters get their summer make-over

We are so pleased to announce that 35 Planters have been sponsored by local residents and businesses at the time of writing this report. Thank you to Phillip Graves who has been busy planting ready for the summer and to our top team of Angie Vidler (Girton Parish Council - Facilities Manager) and Carol Noble of Girton Village Celebrations who have been busy

reaching out to sponsors. If you would like to sponsor a Planter please contact: [admin@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@girton-pc.gov.uk).

### Hotel Felix Inspector's Report

Immediately the above was posted on our website there was interest from Girton Residents. There are 168 hits on our website for June, which makes this topic top of the viewed content. It also featured in our public participation in June. Any comments you would like to raise on the inspectors reports please visit this page of the Girton Village Community website or contact GPC Clerk.

### Sloe Farm Planning Application

Different decisions took place at the GPC planning committee and full council during June, both on policy and the need for increased information on the application. Both decisions involved a request from council for more information from GCP planning authority on the background to this application. Full Council approval to request a meeting with GCP is underway and we will keep you updated on our discussions with SCDC and GCP Planning.

A full calendar of dates and times of all Parish Council meetings is available here: <https://www.girton-cambs.org.uk/girton-parish-councillor-co-option-opportunities>.

Girton Parish Clerk

01223 237173

[clerk@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@girton-pc.gov.uk)

See full list of Councillors on page 34.



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## From Our Councillors

### County Councillor's Report

#### Making connections – results of consultation published

The key findings and the wide-ranging views, both in favour of and against the proposals are contained in a paper to the Greater Cambridge Partnership's Joint Assembly. The headlines are:

- Over 70 % were in favour of the future transport network, with more buses to more locations, cheaper fares, and longer operating times; supported by better walking and cycling infrastructure, to give people faster, cheaper and more reliable travel alternatives to the car.
- 58 % opposed the proposed Sustainable Travel Zone (STZ) as the means for delivering the transport vision. Opposition increased with age. Those who lived outside Cambridge were also more likely to oppose.
- 34 % supported the STZ as proposed. Support was highest among the youngest and the oldest respondents, who are more likely to find it most difficult to access education and healthcare due to the limitations of the existing bus network. Support was highest in the centre and west of Cambridge.
- Around half of those who opposed the STZ did support the vision for better buses.
- The views from organisations such as business, healthcare and others were broadly supportive of the plans but with caveats about the impact on staff or those who were vulnerable.

The reasons for supporting or opposing varied but covered a variety of areas.

- Those who supported the proposals were keen to get more frequent bus services, be able to cycle more safely, and generally were positive towards the idea of a charge to tackle climate change and reduce congestion.
- Those who opposed felt the exemptions didn't go far enough and perceived a charge to be unfair on those travelling to Addenbrooke's, and believed there would be a negative impact on jobs.

With many free text responses in the survey to supplement the 'closed questions', a lot of detail is now available about what people feel could be positive amendments to the scheme. These included changing the rate for cars, changing the hours, amending the discounts and exemptions, and altering the boundaries.

No decisions have been made. We will need time to absorb the detail of this consultation and consider how to progress with improving public transport.

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

## District Councillors' Report

### Clean and Punctual - the future of our passenger bus service

Our bus services took a battering during the Covid pandemic. Government support helped keep things running, but as life has got back to normal, we have found that the way we travel has changed. During the "Making Connections" consultation, we talked a lot about a possible congestion charge - and not so much about the bus services that would need to come first and would need to be seen to be meeting our daily travel requirements. We're seeing some developments now which we hope will lead to a future of clean and convenient transport.

#### New electric buses

Just a few weeks ago, the first of the ZEBRA buses arrived. Within a few days they were deployed on



park-and-ride duties and the Citi 2 services. ZEBRA (Zero Emission Buses Regional Area) is a UK Government initiative. Our bus authority is the Cambridge and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA). The CPCA led the bid for funds and the result is 30 new electric buses.

Serious air quality issues in Cambridge cause up to 100 early deaths each year, the ZEBRA buses will make a significant contribution to improving air quality in the city. By replacing 30 of our buses with the ZEBRAs, we can expect to see a reduction of emissions in that central zone of over 40%, contributing significantly to improved air quality and public health.

The state-of-the-art Volvo BZL buses are full battery electric vehicles which produce no tailpipe emissions and offer a quiet and smooth journey. They can travel on average 200 miles between charges, which takes approximately five hours, and uses around 1.2 kWh of electricity per kilometer. The buses use the technique of regenerative braking to recharge the batteries every time the bus slows down.



A competition to name the buses has just been launched, with members of the public asked to take inspiration from people who have made a positive difference to their community. For the online form to suggest names for the buses please scan this code:

### Bus-on-demand: TING

What about smaller villages where fewer people travel? CPCA has been running some trials in



Huntingdonshire under the brand name TING. Responding to a phone call or smartphone app, the TING system will take the traveller's booking and then advise of where (nearby) and when (soon) a bus will arrive. The TING system arranges all these requests into routes and the buses are despatched. The aim is to remove young people's dependence on parents for lifts and allow residents to lessen their reliance on cars.

### Franchising puts us in control of our bus services

Our current bus provider Stagecoach operates a commercial service. If a route fails to be profitable, it will likely be withdrawn. Such commercial operations may be subsidised to meet a particular need, but CPCA has little control over those commercial decisions. CPCA talks of "reform" of the bus services. One of those reforms under consideration is "franchising" where CPCA would award franchises to operators to deliver a particular service. There are requirements (timing and frequency for example), and penalty clauses are invoked if the operator fails to deliver. The CPCA bus team is working hard on the bus service proposals, and we can expect announcements and requests for consultation in due course.

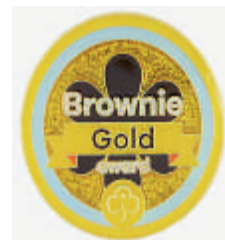
As residents we can also think about our own bus services and get those ideas back to the CPCA. We would like to encourage Girton to think about what would really work. Not just for existing buses, but whole new patterns and timings of service. Please write to us or see us at the Girton Feast.

*Cllr Corinne Garvie,*  
mobile: 07780 932267,  
email [cllr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk)

*Cllr Richard Stobart,*  
mobile: 07950 934793,  
email: [cllr.stobart@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.stobart@scambs.gov.uk)

## Girlguiding 2nd Girton Brownies


This year I have been delighted to award two Brownies their Brownie Gold Awards. This is the highest award possible in Brownies and shows true dedication to attending meetings, learning new skills, and completing interest badges. They completed badges about aviation, languages, gardening, archaeology, space, local history, mindfulness, knowing their rights, baking, zero waste and painting. The final step to achieve their Gold Awards was planning and delivering an activity of their choice to the rest of the unit. We were delighted to learn about endangered



animals and had fun decorating pictures of them. And also learning about different types of code and how to decipher them.

Well done, girls!

*Jen/Brown Owl*  
[2girtonbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:2girtonbrownies@gmail.com)

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# GIRTON FEAST 2023



**Friday 7th July – Music on a Summer's Evening Concert**

**Saturday 8th July – Girton Village Fete**

**IT'S HERE ... THE BIGGEST ANNUAL EVENT IN GIRTON...  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**

Please see the additional pages in the June GPN for details or visit our website: [www.girtonfeast.org.uk](http://www.girtonfeast.org.uk).  
There are also posters around the village.



We would like to thank all our sponsors and volunteers who help to make these such great events.  
If you are free to help us set up on Friday 7th or anytime over the weekend,  
particularly on Sunday morning to help us clear up, we look forward to seeing you.

## **Music on a Summer's Evening Concert, Friday 7th July at 7pm**

The concert features the popular Cambridge Wind Band and Bethany Jane, soloist and guitarist.  
Ticket prices are £6 for adults and £2 for children. Tickets can be purchased online (a booking fee applies)  
at: [www.ticketsource.co.uk/girtonfeast](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/girtonfeast) via our website: [www.girtonfeast.org.uk](http://www.girtonfeast.org.uk) or at the door.

## **Girton Village Fete, Saturday 8th July, 11.45am to 9pm**

We have a full line-up of entertainment, from bouncy castles, children's rides, a **children's entertainer**,  
stalls selling a wide variety of goods, belly dancers, model aircraft flying display and children's choirs.

We have several **local bands** playing during the afternoon and evening: The Remnants,  
The Lexie Green Band, Junkyard Preachers, as well as Sandy Ukulele Band and Rock Choir.

Pitches are available for stalls to promote your organisation, with booking forms  
on our website: [www.girtonfeast.org.uk](http://www.girtonfeast.org.uk).

Please contact us via our website: [www.girtonfeast.org.uk](http://www.girtonfeast.org.uk) – all queries will be answered.

Event Manager, Rowena: [rowena@girtonfeast.org.uk](mailto:rowena@girtonfeast.org.uk),

Stalls Officer, Carol: [carol@girtonfeast.org.uk](mailto:carol@girtonfeast.org.uk),

Asst. Event Manager, Helen: [helen@girtonfeast.org.uk](mailto:helen@girtonfeast.org.uk).



# FORTHCOMING EVENTS

## FOOD TRUCKS

**FRIDAYS AT THE COTTON HALL  
CAMBRIDGE ROAD, GIRTON**



**7th July - Jamra Charcoal Grill**

**14th July - Tradizione on Wheels**

**28th July - Pizza Passione**

Information correct at time of going to  
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website or Facebook page

<https://www.cottonhall.co.uk/>



### Girton Netball Club

Netball skills and team-based  
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The club meets every Monday  
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Girton recreation ground.

Email: [girton.village.netball@gmail.com](mailto:girton.village.netball@gmail.com)  
or find on Facebook: *Girton Netball Club*



**Girlguiding**  
2nd Girton Brownies

### Are you looking for an opportunity to volunteer in Girton?

Girton Brownies, part of  
Girlguiding, are looking for  
new female volunteers  
(aged 18+) to join our popular group in the village.  
A Brownie volunteer helps girls, aged 7-10 years,  
to build their confidence, have adventures, learn  
new skills and have loads of fun – no matter your  
experience or your background you will be  
made welcome at Girton Brownies.

Email Jen/Brown Owl to find out more about  
volunteering at Girton Brownies:  
[2girtonbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:2girtonbrownies@gmail.com).

**Girton Parish Council will be at Girton Feast On 8<sup>th</sup> July**

**GPC Coronation Treasure Hunt  
& GPC Logo Competition  
Winners to be Announced**



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## An update from Fen Drayton Lakes

Perhaps the most beautiful of our doves and pigeons, the Turtle Dove is a cherished sight in our landscape and one which has been celebrated in poetry

and art since the time of Chaucer. With orange scalloped wings, a rose-hued breast, and a black-and-white striped neck patch this is a distinctive bird. They have nothing to do with turtles themselves; the name comes from their repeated purring call which sounds like the French word – ‘Tourterelle’.



This species migrates to Sahelian Africa in the autumn and doesn't return until the following May, spending longer away from the UK than here. The migration is a perilous one and is made even harder by the risk of hunting around the Mediterranean area. This, in combination with a few other causes such as agricultural intensification and habitat loss, has led to the Turtle Dove becoming the UK's fastest-declining bird species with numbers down 98% since the 1970s. A national survey carried out in 2021 found that there were only around 2,100 territories left across the country.

Given this context we are pleased that Fen Drayton Lakes continues to provide a home for several Turtle Doves which have returned this year. The best places to see them are around Holywell or Far Fen, where a scan of the treetops and listening out for the gentle call could help you find them. There have been up to six males in recent years, but it is very hard to tell if they have bred as they become tricky to see during the summer months. However, late last summer we were overjoyed to see young birds following their parents around, learning to feed for themselves.

As part of our reserve management to help the doves, we ensure there are thick hedges for the birds to nest in which are left undisturbed during the breeding season. They also need somewhere to feed such as wildflower-rich field margins that provide a profusion of seed. We supplement this with additional seed to give them a helping hand. The final requirement is somewhere to drink, and the margins of the lakes provide lots of opportunities to quench their thirst.

As well as efforts on reserves, the RSPB also runs a partnership project called Operation Turtle Dove, with the aim to reverse the decline by assisting farmers and landowners with advice and support. The project is raising awareness of the plight of this lovely species so that generations of people in the future will be inspired by the special wildlife that chooses the UK as home.

### Wednesday Wander

Ever thought you'd like to know more about the reserve and its wildlife? Volunteer-led guided walks take place once a month, usually on the second Wednesday.

To see details and book, please visit:  
[www.events.rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes](http://www.events.rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes).

Email: [fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk](mailto:fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk)

Phone: 01954 233260

Visit: [rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes](http://rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes)

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is a registered charity: England and Wales no. 207076, Scotland no. SC037654



### Earlybirds WI

Earlybirds WI had a particularly fun meeting in May, thanks to Philip and Mary Watson who introduced us to the sport of archery.

They are both county coaches for the sport and Mary is a national longbow champion. We were given a fascinating talk on the history of archery with a display of both traditional wooden bows, and very modern high-tech ones with laser sights, allowing us to examine arrows and quivers. After this we all took part in an



indoor, practical, hands-on session, using (for safety reasons) suction arrows. The session proved instructive and hilarious, some ladies proving to

have good hand/eye co-ordination – but not all. Our pictures tell the story!

If you'd like to join us, please contact:  
[earlybirdsec@gmail.com](mailto:earlybirdsec@gmail.com) and do visit us on the Earlybirds stall at the Girton Fete on Saturday 8th July.

Trish Peroni


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# GIRTON GREEN FINGERS

Sunday 11th June: this morning I took my cup of tea out onto the allotment at 7am, my spring/summer routine, to open up the greenhouse, to check on my plants, to enjoy the early morning sun. I was not the first on site. Several members had risen early and made their way to their plots (whereas I have only to come through my garden gate). Their motive? ... To be ahead of the forecast record high temperatures and heave cans of water from the pumps to their crops in comparative cool comfort.

After an hour or so of urgent slaking the thirst of crops, the site became almost totally depopulated for the rest of the day. Then from about 5.30pm hordes of members appeared in the cool of the evening, criss-crossing the site with cans and wheelbarrows, backwards and forwards



*Room in the freezer, Ron?  
This is only half his crop!*

between pumps and plots, compensating for the meteorological failure to give us regular moderate and sufficient rain. (In case you are wondering what I am doing while the water carriers ply their trade, because of an annoying medical condition, I cannot manage the trek and the carrying. I take my can into the kitchen and rack up my Cambridge Water Co. bill.)

So this tells what the main issue on the allotments has been in the early part of June. To use the old football cliché, it's been a June of two 'alves. Up to a few days before the Sunday I opened with, our greeting, when we met up

out there, started with moaning about how unpleasantly cold it was, in spite of bright starts to the day. But another cliché: be careful what you wish for. A heat wave set in, so reminiscent of last year; temperature records featuring in the news. And for us gardeners, the difficulty, and in some cases inadvisability, of working in the heat of the day.

Looking further back: we got away with it! In spite of our gardening knowledge telling us we mustn't commit young plants to the outside too early, while there is the chance of their being cut down by frost (I remember

being at an opening game of the cricket season one June and a blizzard stopping play), our impatience so often overrules our brains. From early May, members paraded from the gates to their plots with trays, bags and barrow-loads of young plants, some nurtured at home, others garden centre purchases. Bumping into fellow members, conversation would acknowledge the risks being taken. But we got away with it. There were no late May frosts, and vegetable plants of many, many varieties are now thriving and, hopefully, moving towards good harvests.

I'll waste space with an odd conjured-up picture. Two members with adjacent plots near to mine each covered their extensive area of peas with enormous swathes of fleece, white in colour, to keep out the pigeons. The wind caused the fleece to billow in dramatic fashion. I pictured someone coming over the site, late at night, in pitch dark. The wind catches the fleece and it billows outwards and upwards. If he survives the fright, what a story to dine out on ... the ghost of an ancient Girton allotmenteer stalks the land.



*We don't only do vegetables ... we try to help the bees*

Girton Open Gardens Day hasn't happened yet, but will be over by the time you read this. The allotment site opens to visitors. Plenty of people come in to see what goes on behind our hedges and gates. I like to sit near my plot talking to visitors. Over 20 years ago when I first had a plot and was asked for horticultural advice, I felt a fraud,



*Rob's idea of a hard day on the allotment*

the blind leading the blind. I hope I can discuss with a bit more authenticity after 23 years of being a member.

*Graham Jones  
Girton Allotment Society*

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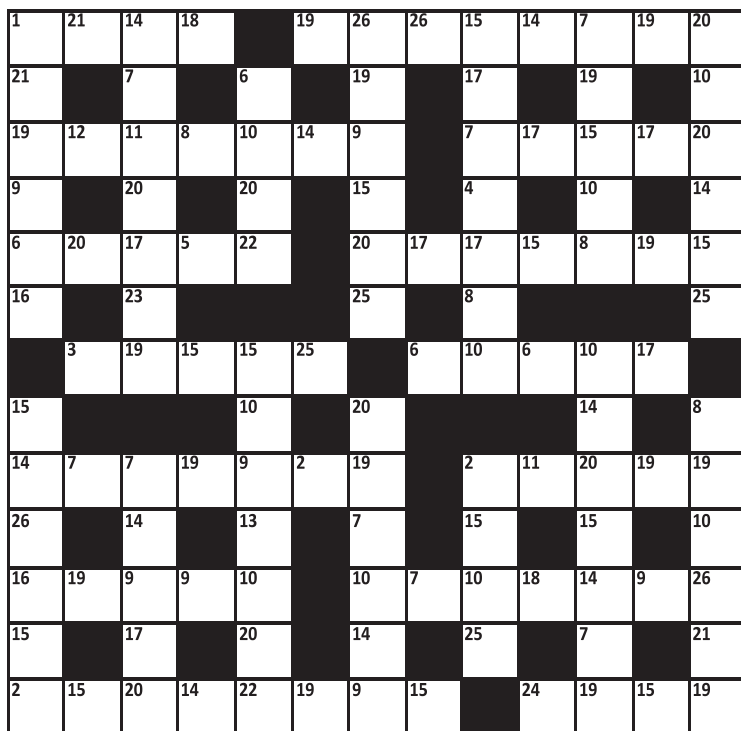
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# puzzle corner



CLUES	
1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26
14	1
15	2
16	3
17	4
18	5
19	6
20	7
21	8
22	9
23	10
24	11
25	12
26	13

## 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 34.

## WORDSEARCH – Girton feast food to enjoy - 7th and 8th July – SEE YOU THERE?

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

BAPS	FISH	PIZZA
CAKE	HOTDOG	POP
CHEESE	ICES	POTATOES
CHIPS	JAM	REALALES
CIDER	KETCHUP	SAUSAGES
COD	LAGERS	SCONES
COFFEE	LITTERPICKS	SLUSHIE
COLD	MERRY	SOFT
CREAM	MINT	TEA
CUP	NIBBLES	THAI
DRINK	ONIONS	VEGETABLES
EAT	OVEN	WATER
FEAST	PIMMS	WINE

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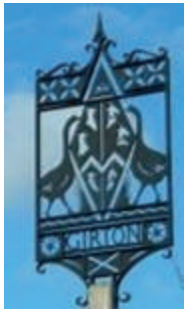
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## **GIRTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – SWOT SURVEY**

The Neighbourhood Plan is a plan looking forwards to 2041 regarding aspects of electoral parish life that can feed into the Planning system, and it is also an opportunity to define collective aspirations / goals all the 4400 people in the parish can strive towards. It is Girton's opportunity to set out Girton's own aims.

### **So what is SWOT – or 'swhatz SWOT'?**

It is a well established, some might even say well hackneyed, management tool to identify Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats to an organisation, or in our case, our parish.

### **Why use it?**

Its advantage to us is its simplicity. While students at the Judge Business School at Cambridge University might seek to use more complex and sophisticated methodologies, simplicity helps us cover more easily the wide range of people and views that the parish has.

In due course there is planned to be a detailed survey for everyone. This SWOT survey will enable that survey to be constructed so that it is more relevant to Girton and hence the detailed survey will be more insightful.

**This survey should be popped through the letterbox or posted to The Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Cambridge Road, Girton, CB3 0FH. Alternatively, the letterbox at 59 Thornton Road or the email address of**

**[Girton\\_Neighbourhood\\_Plan@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Girton_Neighbourhood_Plan@girton-pc.gov.uk) can also be used.**

**There is an electronic version to be found on the village website ([www.girton-cambs.org.uk](http://www.girton-cambs.org.uk)), and if anyone is housebound and cannot make use of any of these alternatives, then collection can be arranged (07831 591809).**

## **LIMITED INFORMATION ABOUT YOU**

Our own perceptions of Girton are probably coloured, at least in some part, by where in the parish we live. To that end it is helpful to know in which area of the parish you live. Please identify your area (including all side roads in each area, e.g. the Thorntons fall into the Huntingdon Road to, but excluding, Wellbrook Way area):

- |                                                                       |                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Eddington to Huntingdon Road                                          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Huntingdon Road to, but excluding, Wellbrook Way                      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Wellbrook Way to the allotments                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Allotments to The George pub, including High Street/ Church Lane, etc | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The George pub to Cambro Business Park (far end of village)           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Outside the developed area                                            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prefer not say                                                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Or are you:                                                           |                          |
| A business, organisation, club or society etc in the parish           | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## **STRENGTHS (i.e. what are the three best aspects of the parish?)**

**1:**

**2:**

**3:**



**WEAKNESSES** (i.e. what are the three worst aspects of the parish?)

1:

2:

3:

**OPPORTUNITIES** (i.e. what three things should the parish do?)

1:

2:

3:

**THREATS** (i.e. what three things that do or could affect the parish adversely?)

1:

2:

3:

**How would you summarise the Parish?**

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**Thank you for completing this survey.**

**Andrew Muston**  
Neighbourhood Plan Team Lead

**Yvonne Murray**  
Girton Parish Council Clerk



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## July Wine Selection

Here are three very appealing wines to get your July off to a great start ... Cheers!

### Terres Falmet Carignan 2020 (Southern France)



Produced from Carignan vines over 80 years old, this very pleasing wine from Saint-Chinian in the Languedoc is a smooth, well-rounded wine. The vineyards benefit from the long, hot summers and mild winters of this Mediterranean region, and the grapes are picked at peak ripeness to ensure an excellent balance of tannin and fruitiness. With plum, blackcurrant and savoury overtones on the nose, and cherry, blackberry, and peppery spice on the palate, this is a well-balanced, full-bodied wine with medium tannins and a lengthy finish. An excellent match for red meats or cheese.

*Available from Cambridge Wine Merchants (£14.99).*

### Canadian Riesling The Falls 2019 (Ontario)



It is not easy to find Canadian wine in the UK, and so it was a very pleasant surprise to discover this Canadian Riesling quite by chance at Aldi. And at a very reasonable price to boot! Produced by one of Ontario's longest established wineries, Henry of Pelham's, this 2019 Riesling is an aromatic wine with honeysuckle, apple, and pear on the nose, followed by citrus and peach on the palate. An off-dry wine with refreshing acidity and a lengthy finish, this can be enjoyed by itself or with a seafood, salad, or chicken dish. It will also go well with a slightly spicy dish.

*Available from Aldi (£7.49).*

### Burn Valley Vineyard Solaris 2021 (Norfolk)



Created in 1975 at the Freiburg Wine Institute in Germany, Solaris is an early ripening, frost-resistant grape variety that is particularly suited to cool, damp climates and is very much at home in the UK and other parts of Northern Europe.

This Solaris from Burn Valley Vineyard in North Norfolk is outstanding. It is an aromatic wine with pronounced notes of vanilla on the nose, leading to peach, nectarine, and honey on the palate, and has a rich, buttery mouthfeel.

Refreshing and well-balanced, this is a delightful wine which can be enjoyed as an aperitif, or with seafood or white meat. We

had it with grilled salmon and it was a perfect match.

*Available from Grape Britannia (Arbury Road) (£24.99).*

*Martin Nuttall, [www.itmustbewineoclock.com](http://www.itmustbewineoclock.com)*

## Girton Walking Group

### Saturday 1 July: St Ives

An old favourite, the Houghton Meadows, should be a lovely sight in July. The walk is approximately six miles long, and mostly on good paths. We will meet in St Ives at the large car park by the Leisure Activity Centre (now called One Leisure) at the end of Westwood Road PE27 6WU. Please park at the lower end away from the Centre. We will take a break so please bring a drink and snack. Toilet facilities are available at the halfway point. This walk is led by Ann and Ian Jerram, email: [ann.jerram@gmail.com](mailto:ann.jerram@gmail.com).

### Saturday 5 August: Cambourne–Caxton–Bourn circular

This is a varied six mile walk through part of the extensive nature reserves of Cambourne and across farmland to the south, touching the fringes of Caxton and Bourn. We'll plan a rest stop, so bring refreshments. Meet at the car park for Cambourne Nature Reserve (aka Oaks Wood Car Park). After turning off the A428 to Cambourne, take the second exit at the roundabout (NOT to the Morrison's car park), then turn right at the T-junction. The road wiggles past the primary school, and the car park is on the right just BEFORE the sign for Lower Cambourne. When we were last there, the 'P' car park sign had been knocked over but there was a temporary sign on the verge to 'Cambourne Nature Reserve'. The walk will be led by Angela and Simon Blackburn, email: [angela.blackburn@cantab.net](mailto:angela.blackburn@cantab.net).



**Girton Garden Society**

### Visit to Childerley

On Tuesday 6th June Girton Garden Society had a visit to Childerley House and Garden, located between Knapwell and Dry Drayton. We were made very welcome by Carolyn and Jocelyn Jenkins who gave us a short

history of the estate since the 15th century. We visited the historical, highly decorated Charles Room, where Charles I stayed for three nights and met Cromwell for the first-time face to face on top of the garden steps leading to the great lawn.

We were introduced to the wonderful gardens created by Chloe Jenkins after they took on the challenge of Childerley in 1957, we were free to wander around and admire them, followed by tea and cake in the chapel. Today the family still farm the estate, run events in the Long Barn, and attend to the buildings and grounds. It really is worth a visit, and you can join their mailing list for events at: [events@childerley.org](mailto:events@childerley.org).

*Kay Green*



# GIRTON scoreboard



## Girton Bowls Club

The weather having changed dramatically over the last week has meant that players have gone from wearing three or four layers just to stay warm to wearing sun hats and sunscreen to protect them in the heat.

We are hoping the weather will remain warm and sunny for our Open Triples Competition on 25th June, for which we now have 20 teams taking part.

Occasionally we have had matches interrupted by various wildlife wandering onto the green, but the strangest interruption came recently during a game in Cottenham when a swarm of bees suddenly flew onto one of the rinks. Luckily it soon became apparent that they were just on their way to a new location so the game could continue after a few minutes with no casualties.

Having recently entered for the first time into the Ladies Ely and District Knockout Competition, we had our first match against Fordham. I am pleased to report that Girton won at both venues, home and away, and now proceed through to the next round.

In the Ely and District Afternoon League our two Girton teams A and B came up against each other recently and enjoyed a lovely afternoon of bowls, which resulted in a win for Girton A.



*Girton teams*

We will be concentrating all our efforts on the Girton Feast on Saturday 8th July once our Open Triples Competition is over. We will again have two stalls, one a Bottle Tombola and the other, our ever popular Target Bowls. Please come and find us and have a go.

If you are interested in finding out about joining Girton

Bowls Club, please see our website [www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com](http://www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com) or please contact our Secretary, Carey Horton, at [carey@horton.uk.net](mailto:carey@horton.uk.net). We are always pleased to welcome new members.

*Lynne McGill*



## Girton Golf Club

Lots going on at and around the golf club at this time of year. Recent competition winners included:

Kevin and Lucy Julian  
(father/daughter combination): Allan  
Gow Memorial Trophy (with a

better ball 45 points pipping Martha and Graham How by one point)

Tina Barker: Women's Coronation Cup

Janet Johnstone: Cole Cup

Martha How and Susan Heaver: Ladies' Stablefords

Caroline Turner: Jubilee Cup (held over two rounds with a score of 69 (34+35) beating Jacqui Storey by 2 points (31+36))



*Past Lady Captain  
Pauline Downes  
presents the  
Jubilee Cup to  
Caroline Turner*

Pam Gregory and  
Elaine Taylor:  
Coronation Four's  
(with a score of 36;  
they have qualified to  
play in the next round  
at Thetford GC)  
Paul Tiplady: Mens'

Stablefords (3 times; medals won by Tommy Wilkinson, Colin Coleman and Jonathan Gilbert)

Paul Yaxley: Senior Section Captains Challenge (round 3)

Ronak Alwala (a very junior member): Tony Camden Salver, Peter Silk Trophy and Junior Stableford.

Both Aryan and Ronak Alwala played in the US Kids Golf European Championship 2023 last month in East Lothian, Scotland representing the United Kingdom. We are very proud of the boys. If you would like to join them contact the club for details of Junior membership and the Golf Academy.

Eight ladies played a friendly match away at Brampton and came second in all matches. On 3rd June, the Girton men's team of Ben Carruthers, Charlie Dunn, Ken Okoro, Paul Matthews, Peter Adams, Simon McKnight, Jon Gilbert and Captain Tony Omo took on the Heydon Grange team on their home course and won 2½ to 1½. The Seniors team played a match against Haverhill and lost 2-4. Seniors meet every Wednesday morning welcoming new members over the age of 55.



On 8th July at Girton Feast Week, Girton Golf Club is offering Golf, Beer & Music for just £20.00. Book a round of golf from 3pm (subject to availability) and stick around to enjoy a beer in and around the clubhouse with music from the live band Whats Next (first beer included in ticket price; band starts at 7.30pm). Why not grab some friends and make up a 4 ball. Contact the office to book a tee time. We are including social membership for a year (worth £15.00) if you choose. Just complete a membership form.

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



## Girton Tennis Club

Last month the tennis courts received a thorough spring clean, which involved cleaning and then repainting the hard tarmac surface. This means that surface grip is much improved and there is no

excuse for not seeing the lines! We are grateful to the Parish Council for this important maintenance action. The two photos below show the painting work nearly complete and our first chance to enjoy the finished result at club night.



We will be opening the courts for the Girton Feast during the afternoon of Saturday 8th July. Anyone who would like to come and try out a bit of tennis is very welcome. Balls and racquets are provided but please wear soft, flat-soled shoes if you would like access to the courts.

The Summer League is well under way and the men's season has nearly finished, with just one last game to play at Saffron Walden. The league has proved to be very competitive and we have secured two draws so far. The mixed team start their matches in July and we wish them all the best for the season.

Our local Rocket Cup competition started on 17th June and will run until 15th July, so do come along and support some of these matches if you know someone who is playing. The friendly competition was much enjoyed last year and, with the recently refurbished courts, could be even better this year. Details are on our website.

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](http://www.girtontenniscub.uk) or by contacting our Membership Secretary by email at [info@girtontenniscub.uk](mailto:info@girtontenniscub.uk).

*Alan Franklin*



## Girton Colts Football Club

Here are the victorious Under 11s who won the Isleham Football tournament in May. (Apologies that this couldn't be fitted in the

last edition due to lack of space.)

*Andrew Hawkes*  
*Chairman*



*Under 11s victorious!*

## Schemes and grants - could you benefit?

Girton Town Charity runs a range of Schemes and Grants to help Village residents of all ages – from a youth group to a warden scheme. Here's a summary of what's on offer.

### Educational Grants

These are open to all young people in the Village who are leaving secondary school for further or higher education or undergoing training which leads to a formal examination at degree level BA, MA or PGCert, or NVQ Level 4.

The Grant, which can only be claimed against actual expenditure, is a maximum of £300 per year and intended for books, equipment, tools or other direct costs related to the course.

The next payment date for grant applications is the end of this month - July 2023.

### Connections Bus Project

#### Youth Club

This weekly club for young people in School Years 7-11, is held on Tuesday evenings, 7.00-8.30pm, in the Cotton Hall.

Supervised activities include: table tennis, Uno, table football, cooking and quizzes, as well as discussions on issues and subjects that young people attending want to raise.

For more information:

please email [admin@connectionsbusproject.org.uk](mailto:admin@connectionsbusproject.org.uk) or visit [www.connectionsbusproject.org.uk](http://www.connectionsbusproject.org.uk)

### Girton Colts Football Club

GTC has provided Development Funding for this junior football club which attracts more than 130 Girton children each session.

This has enabled it to link with professionals to improve the skills of players and coaches and to offer training to parents to become managers, team assistants and referees.



Club Chairman Andrew Hawkes says: "We are very grateful for the funding which has enabled us to access professional assistance, boosting confidence and enriching the club experience for everyone."

### Counselling by Relate

Relationship counselling services with six sessions funded by GTC are on offer to help residents address specific difficulties or learn new skills and strategies to tackle particular issues.

GTC also funds the Buddy Scheme and Family Counselling delivered by Relate at Girton Glebe School.

For further details please telephone 01302 347 866, email [counselling@relatecambridge.org.uk](mailto:counselling@relatecambridge.org.uk) or visit [www.relate.org.uk/centre/cambridgeshire](http://www.relate.org.uk/centre/cambridgeshire).

### Warden Scheme

Working in partnership with Age UK Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, GTC funds a Community Warden to assist older people maintain their independence whilst living in their own homes and to complement the work of statutory services.

For further information contact Sarah on 07979 333963. Registration is £10 per week for a single person and £12 for a couple.

Chair of GTC Ann Bonnett said: "GTC funds a wide range of Schemes to support all sections of our community and feedback shows how much this help is appreciated. We also know how supportive residents are in carrying out unofficial acts of kindness, keeping an eye on neighbours and assisting with jobs or errands when required."



## Girton TownCharity

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
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](mailto:gtc@girtontowncharity.org.uk)**  
**[www.girtontowncharity.org.uk](http://www.girtontowncharity.org.uk)**

Girton Town Charity Registered Charity No: 1130272

[williamcollyn.co.uk](http://williamcollyn.co.uk)

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To find out more contact  
[info@williamcollyn.co.uk](mailto:info@williamcollyn.co.uk)  
 01223 279587

The William Collyn Community Centre is owned and operated by the Girton Town Charity.  
 Company limited by guarantee No: 01916381. Registered charity No: 1130272. Registered office 22 High Street, Girton CB3 0PU

## WILLIAM COLLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Please see website for up to date details of Clubs and Classes [www.williamcollyn.co.uk](http://www.williamcollyn.co.uk)  
 Information correct at time of going to press.

### Monday

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

### Tuesday

8.30 - 9.30am	Yoga with Julia Dale
10.00 - 11.00am	Yoga with Julia Dale
12.30 - 2.30pm	Falls Prevention Clinic
11.15 - 12.15pm	Yoga with Jess (Hatha)
6.15 - 7.15pm	Pilates with Wendy Jayne
7.30 - 10.30pm	Easton Swing

### Wednesday

6.15 - 7.00pm	Bounce
7.30 - 10.00pm	The W.I. (first in month)
7.30 - 10.00pm	Girton Garden Society (second in month)

### Thursday

9.30 - 11.30am	Pilates with Wendy Jayne
5.45 - 6.45pm	Pilates with Jax Eades
7.15pm & 8.15pm	Ballroom Dance Classes

### Friday

9.30am - 12.30pm	Little City Toddler Play (second in month)
7.30 - 8.30pm	Easton Swing (third in month)
7.30 - 8.45pm	Sound Our Souls (monthly)

### Saturday

9.00 - 10.00am	Bounce
11.00 - 1.00pm	Cambridge Jazz Co-op (monthly)

Wellbrook Way, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0GP  
 01223 279587  
[info@williamcollyn.co.uk](mailto:info@williamcollyn.co.uk)  
[www.williamcollyn.co.uk](http://www.williamcollyn.co.uk)

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

## News for Older Residents



### Community Coffee Mornings

Everyone is welcome on Wednesday mornings between 9am and 11am in the Cotton Hall, a donation of £2 is suggested. This is a very good opportunity to see friends and meet younger residents and preschool children.

### Arlington Manor

Look out for the new group starting this month on a Thursday morning at Arlington Manor.

### HIG Community Car Scheme

This is for residents of Histon, Impington and Girton who do not have a car and find public transport hard to use. Contact the Coordinator on 01223 297881 or email: [hig.car.scheme@gmail.com](mailto:hig.car.scheme@gmail.com) giving, if possible, a week's notice.

### Summer Fair in Cambridge

Following on from the success of the Winter Fair, a Summer Fair will be taking place from 10am to 1pm on Wednesday 12th July at the Abbey Stadium, Newmarket Road, Cambridge. There will be free drinks and ice creams along with a variety of stalls and activities.

I will be taking leave in the second half of July so please contact me early this month for matters that may take a little time. I still have incontinence items to pass on and items specifically for men.

Patricia Johnston  
Older Residents' Coordinator  
Tel: 07469 660 866  
Email: [Patriciajohnston@ageukcap.org.uk](mailto:Patriciajohnston@ageukcap.org.uk)



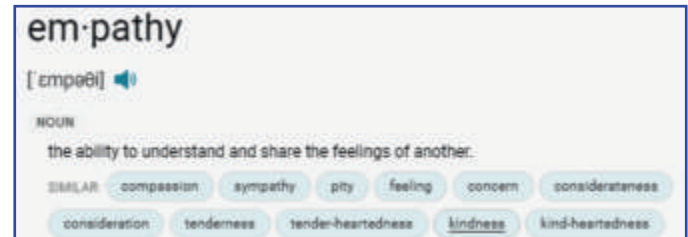
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### 'At least...'

Brené Brown writes and talks about emotions, mental health, well-being, and leadership. Her work on empathy is particularly notable - she explains that it is a skill that strengthens with

practice and encourages people to both give and receive it often. If we are to show empathy, we are unlikely to say phrases such as, 'At least your health has been good up until now...' or 'At least the sun is shining...' or 'At least you have a job at the moment...'



### Signposting

In this section of my monthly article I usually signpost to charities, organisations and support groups locally or nationally, but this month I'd like to take the magnifying glass and invite you to scan through this very publication and take note of what is on offer in our very own village: a sporting activity or a musical opportunity; accessing support for the elderly, for parents/carers or for children of all ages; being part of one of the religious communities or the Wild Girton group. There's a lot on our own doorstep!

*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](https://www.facebook.com/listeninglantern.julietadlouné) or [mhfa.julietadlouné@gmail.com](mailto:mhfa.julietadlouné@gmail.com).*

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## Blood Runners

It was on Monday 22nd May that Colin Mitchell from Blood Runners (SERV Suffolk & Cambridgeshire) came along to give a talk to our members who had gathered in the restaurant at Abbeyfield, Girton Green. Colin explained that the blood runners provide a free delivery service to our NHS hospitals, vulnerable patients, Air Ambulance Service, Hospices and Human Donor Milk Banks. They deliver blood, blood products, patient blood samples, medicines, medical equipment and donated human milk.

Free coffee and cakes were on offer for those attending and soup with bread was available for lunch after the talk for just £2. After the talk everyone gathered outside to view the motorbike he had brought along and it was Wendy de Horsey who jumped into the saddle to try it out for size. The group managed to raise £150 which was donated to the charity on the day and you may still donate if you wish.



### Lunch at Abbeyfield at 12pm on 26th July

I have arranged a three course lunch at Abbeyfield Girton Green for midday on Wednesday 26th July. The cost of a three course meal will be around £18 and two courses £15 and will include coffee. Contact me using the details below for menu details. The menu is as follows: Starter: 1. Watermelon and feta salad 2. Sweet summer tomato soup 3. Pate with crusty bread. Main course: 1. Venison onion and red wine pie 2. Seafood linguine 3. Sweet pepper stuffed with vegetable rice. Dessert: 1. Summer fruit cocktail 2. New York cheesecake 3. Cherry pie.

### Night-time intruder

"Quick, quick come here," was the cry from my wife "Look!" as she pointed out of the window. I could not believe my eyes, there on our six foot high wooden fence at the bottom of our garden and walking along the one inch wide top of the fence was a fox. I scrambled for my camera but too late Reynard the fox had jumped down into my neighbours garden and disappeared. It

was a few months later that the same thing happened and again I was unable to get a photograph of the animal.

Only a few days after this my wife found a shoe in the middle of the road near to where we live. On close inspection of the shoe she thought she might know to whom it belonged. She took it to the potential owner who immediately recognised it as his, explaining, "It's that fox again, he seems to have a liking for shoes." I couldn't imagine why a fox would want a single size 9 shoe, surely size 9 would be far to big for a fox.

### Who knocked the ornament over?

"Did you knock over that ornament in the room?" said our member's wife to her husband. "No not me," came the reply. "Are you sure, because if it's not you we may have had an intruder?" A check of the house revealed that all doors and windows downstairs were closed, locked and secured. The only window left open at night had been a small window upstairs and surely no one would get in through that.

On a closer inspection of the house it became clear that they had had a night-time intruder who had left his

calling card in the form of a large lump of poo on the carpet in the garden room. But who was it? The husband who was not exactly the world's leading authority on poo declared "That's fox poo", and continued, "I am experienced in the field of fox poo having seen it many times and beside that I have looked it up on the internet. The size, shape,

smell and texture leads me to the certain conclusion that Reynard the fox has broken into our house during the night whilst we were asleep." He counted his shoes, they were all there, they were size 10 anyway, too big for Reynard. Nothing else was missing but the couple were of course 'one poo' to the good so they counted their blessings that nothing was missing.

How did Reynard get in? The scene was not forensically examined but the only window open at night was that small upstairs window outside of which was a flat garage roof leading to another short sloping section but giving access to the window. Reynard had climbed onto the garage and squeezed in past the net curtains escaping by the same route. So, if you leave your window open at night and feel the brush of a fluffy tail across your face whilst sleeping, well then, it could be Reynard passing by. Look around for his calling card.

*Sam Clift*

*Tel: 07850740721 or email: samclift@ntlworld.com*



## Bats

By the time this article goes to press the open evening at Town End Close will have taken place. Thank you to all who attended, and we hope you enjoyed taking

the time to admire and learn more about Girton's only nature reserve.

Because of the nature reserve allowing space for wildlife in the village, along with other features of the surrounding area, it is a good place to go looking for bats and this time of year is one of the best to spot them... providing you are willing to stay awake until dusk!



*A pipistrelle bat*

We are lucky enough to have several colonies of bats in the village. Some of the LNRP group have been out with bat detectors to get an initial feel for local bat hot spots with a view to doing a more in-depth survey later in the year. It will come as no surprise to any of you to hear that the churchyard is one of those spots; also, Town End Close, Washpit Lane, Wellbrook Way and more. Interestingly, there are several streets, away from the rural areas, that also seem popular. The bat detector works by picking up the noises the individual bat makes while navigating the night using echolocation. The bat makes an ultrasonic noise, and its brain translates the echo into usable information. Each bat makes between 10 to 200 noises a second, so if there are several around it can be quite a cacophony. The key available to us for identifying bat species has all manner of enjoyable terms for the noises from "squeaks" to "clicks" and "slaps" to "machine gun"! Ultimately, identification for the amateur comes down to information from the bat detector and, importantly, being able to see the bat – their general shape, size, and behaviour in flight are all clues to which species they belong to.

Official CPERC records for the village have us down as having Noctule, Brown long-eared, Common pipistrelle and Natterer's bat. More widely in the UK we have 18 species of bats. They all have the same diet (invertebrates) but have different areas of specialism. For example, the Common pipistrelle is more often found in woodland or farmland whereas the Daubenton's bat hunt insects from the surface of the water. The Natterer's bat has large wings that allow it to fly slowly and precisely enough to snatch spiders from their webs!

Wherever they are to be found, thanks to their echolocation and ability in flight, bats are prolific hunters, and some eat up to 3,000 bugs per night!

To attract bats to your garden, the advice is very similar to other wildlife gardening tips:

- Provide food: include plants that support insects in your planting scheme, do not use pesticides and don't be too tidy.
- Provide shelter: trees and mature shrubs make good places for roosts, and the addition of a bat box or two will certainly help.

### Send us your sightings

As always, we would like to hear about wildlife sightings in the village. This month we are particularly interested in bats but anything else that you have seen or snapped (see below) please send in.

### Photo competition reminder

There should still be just enough time to share your photographs of Girton wildlife (no pets or houseplants please!) for the Girton Feast LNRP photo competition. Send your photos to us at: [lnrp@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:lnrp@girton-pc.gov.uk) along with:

- your name
- what the photo is of
- where you saw it
- when you saw it.

### Events

As part of 'Swift Awareness Week' (2nd–9th July), Rowena Baxter and members of the Dry Drayton Swift Project have kindly invited Girton residents to view the successful colony in Pettitts Close, Dry Drayton, CB23 8DQ, on Sunday 2nd July, 2.30pm – 4.30pm. It is free but please RSVP for tickets via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dry-drayton-swift-project-open-afternoon-tickets-656187393157>.

In addition, LNRP Group will have a stand at the Girton Feast (8th July). Come and say hello and review the entries for the photo competition.

*Local Nature Recovery Plan Group*  
[lnrp@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:lnrp@girton-pc.gov.uk)





## Heartbeat of Earth

Like many truly inspired pieces of music, 'Rhythm of the Earth' by Sarah Class is at once poignant, sublime and mesmeric. It breathes in and out like the great organic being that we call Planet Earth; unfurling our inner sanctum that cringes against the destructive forces assaulting its existence. Yet still, amidst the greed and grime of heavy industry, the whirl of technology and the bitter brutality of futile, insufferable wars, the poet within each of us longs to describe the wild beauty of our islands, to walk barefoot on sun-blessed beaches and to harmonize with majestic whales rising from ocean depths. The once wistful, even whimsical desire for restoration has become a surge of craving, no longer creeping in our dreams, but plunging daily into our ordinary lives. We still leave Eden behind. Back through the ages, the prophets of God urged the stewards of Earth's treasures to seek the wisdom of the One who made the stars to shine, who appointed times and seasons, and caused the sun to give light and warmth for sustaining life.

It is a reminder that the comforting rhythm and regenerating power of nature is to be celebrated with thanksgiving. As we watch the moon sailing serenely behind rain clouds, see waterfalls tumbling from rocky heights, gaze at the lark ascending and listen to the long, sweet notes of the nightingale, we let loose a captive praise that the soul cannot hold back.

In a recent rediscovery of stored literature, there emerged a tribute to the late Nell H. Alexander (1915-1986). She was a member of Zion Baptist Church and elected to many high offices including first lady president of the Baptist Union of G.B and N. Ireland (1978). Nell was gifted with many talents and much appreciated for her expansive ministry and leadership skills. It seems to be an appropriate time to quote some words from her own poem, 'In Memoriam':

"Born on the wind, flashing exultant wings  
Herald again the returning, certain Spring.  
Across the pools of reddening elms  
The pewter-silvered river hides from sight  
The waking darting life beneath -  
And beside a bush of gold, the almond -  
Black wrought iron against the sky  
Raises its pink tipped fingers,  
And sun-laced trees shake spangling catkins  
In tumultuous joy.

Just such a Spirit quickened us  
To serve our God 'so great'  
Not only with our lips, but with our lives  
With joy!"

Nell's poem continues with praise and worship to the God of all comfort, inspiration, and regeneration around, but also within each soul responding in faith to his call to lay down the burden of regrets and failings, and to find cleansing, forgiveness, and a renewed spirit through Christ as Redeemer and Restorer. "The earth is the Lord's and all fullness thereof" (Psalm 24v1,2) and that includes us. Furthermore, we look to a time still to come, of Divine restoration, peace, and hope.

"Nearer and nearer draws the time  
The time that shall surely be  
When the earth shall be filled  
with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea."

*Iris Niven*



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*Lisa Logan*

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Please quote Girton 1





## St Andrew's gets a facelift

St Andrew's is primarily about the people who gather week by week to worship God. However, we also have a fabulous

building to enjoy and, at the moment, there's lots of work going on.



The eagle-eyed reader will already have spotted the smart new coat of blue paint with fresh gilding on the



clock face. We're very grateful to a donor (who wished to remain anonymous) for funding this work. Getting the actual mechanism of the clock to work reliably is on the list of things to do next!

Secondly, the Royal Coat of Arms is down from its position above the chancel arch. As far as we know it's occupied that spot for about 200 years but it's now in a conservation workshop getting some much-needed care and attention in this coronation year. We're grateful to the Friends of St Andrew's, the Church Buildings



Council and a different anonymous donor for funding this.

Finally, from 3rd July onwards the main body of the church will be closed to the public for 12 weeks while the church undergoes some significant re-ordering work. This will be the fruit of the "makeover" project that Rev. Mandy Maxwell (my predecessor) began over 10 years ago.

We have already added smart and effective new heaters. Now the west (back) end of the church is being cleared out to make a more flexible space, some much-needed additional storage, and a servery area.

Sunday services will continue throughout the work, but the church building will otherwise be closed to public access. Foodbank drop-off will still be available in the porch and, for those of you who need your fix of Wendy's jam and marmalade, this will still be able to buy from the porch too.

We are hugely grateful for the very many individuals and organisations who have given time, money and expertise to make this happen. We look forward to a big launch in October when the work is finished. It should be a great venue for concerts and other events too. The first of which will be an evening of Christmas Jazz with the Tim Boniface Quartet on Saturday 9th December (put the date in your diary now!)

Apologies to the very many people who regularly come into the church during the week to enjoy the prayerful peace. We hope that when this work is finished, we'll be able to engage further as a church in God's work using God's building. Please come and join us on a Sunday whenever you want to!

More information about the project, as well as regular updates on the work, are available at <https://www.girton.church/makeover>.

*Rector Michael Bigg*







## St Andrew's Church

**Rector: Revd Michael Bigg**

**Tel: 01223 202145 Email: [rector@girton.church](mailto:rector@girton.church)**

**Website: [www.girton.church](http://www.girton.church)**

**Associate Priest: Revd Christine Barrow**

**Tel: 575089 Email: [mcbarrow@me.com](mailto:mcbarrow@me.com)**

**Licensed Lay Ministers:**

**Mr Dugald Wilson Tel: 276940**

**Mrs Christina Deacon Tel: 525337**

**Children and Families Minister: Dr Eona Bell**

**Tel: 07305 201419 Email: [cmf@girton.church](mailto:cmf@girton.church)**

**Churchwardens:**

**Mr Bruce and Mrs Wendy Hunter Tel: 503958**

### Sunday Services: July

**2nd 10:00am** Holy Communion (+StA4K)

**9th 8:00am** Holy Communion (BCP)

**10:00am** All-age Communion

**6:00pm** Evening Prayer (BCP)

**16th 10:00am** Holy Communion (+StA4K)

**6:00pm** Evening Prayer (BCP)

**23rd 8:00am** Holy Communion (BCP)

**10:00am** Morning Prayer (CW)  
(+StA4K in the Cotton Hall)

**30th 10:00am** Holy Communion (+StA4K)

**6th Aug 10:00am** Holy Communion (+StA4K)

\* StA4K is St Andrew's for Kids in the church North Room unless otherwise stated.

### Regular weekday Services: July

**Tues 9.00am** Morning Prayer (said)

**Weds 9.00am** Morning Prayer (said) (Online)

**Thurs 9.00am** Morning Prayer (said) (Online)

**9.00pm** Compline (said) (Online)

### Other Services

**12th 2:00pm** Abbeyfield Holy Communion

**13th 3:30pm** Messy Church

**18th 2:15pm** Arlington Manor Holy Communion

**27th 11:00am** Gretton Court Holy Communion (BCP)

For up-to-date information about all these events please see the church website ([www.girton.church](http://www.girton.church)). You are welcome to join us for Sunday morning worship in person or remotely at: <http://bit.ly/GirtonParishLive>.

Thank you, Father, for the rhythm of rest and Sabbath at the heart of creation. Bless those who are, or will be, on holiday; may they be refreshed and re-created, and come home with a new vision.

*Angela Ashwin (alt)*

## Girton Baptist Church



**Minister: Revd Nick Lowe (on Sabbatical)**

**Tel: 01223 279289**

**Secretary: Mr Ken Smith**

**Tel: 07860 736536**

**Website: [www.girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk)**

### Sunday Services: July

**(all at Girton Baptist Church and on Zoom)**

**2nd 10.30am** Morning Worship, led by John Seale

**9th 10.30am** Morning Worship, led by Margaret Jude

**16th 10.30am** Morning Worship, with Communion, led by Philip and Laura Staves

**23rd 10.30am** Morning Worship, led by John Searle

**30th 10.30am** Morning Worship, led by Christine Kimmitt

Messy Church is on **Thursday 13th July** from 3.30pm. It is for parents or grandparents and their children, with craft activities based on a Biblical theme, a story, and a meal together. This month there will be a picnic on the Recreation Ground. If you would like to find out more, please contact us or just come along.

All are welcome to any of the services and events.

For further details about any of the above, including the online link for the service, please ring 07860 736536 or email: [secretary@girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:secretary@girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk).

1 Corinthians 13:4 NIV: Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

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

**Chair**

Daniel Carney, Tel: 07986 592507  
[daniel.carney@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:daniel.carney@girton-pc.gov.uk)

**Vice-Chair**

Ann Muston, Tel: 07796 430345  
[ann.muston@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:ann.muston@girton-pc.gov.uk)

**Councillors**

Gary Betts, Tel: 07950 526349  
[gary.betts@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:gary.betts@girton-pc.gov.uk)  
 Michael Blom, [michael.blom@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:michael.blom@girton-pc.gov.uk)  
 Andrew Clare, [andrew.clare@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.clare@girton-pc.gov.uk)  
 Alison Giles, Tel: 07855 184549  
[alison.giles@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:alison.giles@girton-pc.gov.uk)  
 Nasir Hayat, Tel: 07917 204126  
[nasir.hayat@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:nasir.hayat@girton-pc.gov.uk)  
 Patrick Linton, [patrick.linton@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:patrick.linton@girton-pc.gov.uk)  
 Stuart Marshall, [stuart.marshall@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.marshall@girton-pc.gov.uk)  
 Haydn Williams, Tel: 07831 858584  
[haydn.williams@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:haydn.williams@girton-pc.gov.uk)  
 Carolyn Wright, [carolyn.wright@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:carolyn.wright@girton-pc.gov.uk)

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

**District Councillors**

Corinne Garvie, Tel: 01223 276184, 07780 932267  
[cllr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk)  
 Richard Stobart, Tel 07950 934793  
[cllr.stobart@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.stobart@scambs.gov.uk)

**County Councillor**

Edna Murphy, Tel: 01223 577005  
[edna.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:edna.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

**Parish Clerk**

Yvonne Murray Tel: 01223 237173  
[clerk@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@girton-pc.gov.uk)

**Assistant Parish Clerk**

Angie Vidler, Tel: 01223 618619  
[admin@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@girton-pc.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.girton-cambs.org.uk/council.html](http://www.girton-cambs.org.uk/council.html)

**Postal address**

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

**You can also use these QR codes to contact us:**



**Contact numbers for bookings**

Cotton Hall	07759 983420
Orchard Close	277164
Pavilion	618619
St Vincent's Close	276447
William Collyn Community Centre	279587

**Mobile Post Office**



The mobile Post Office is open every Friday 1.30-2.30pm in the car park in Orchard Close behind the old Scallywags Nursery.

**Mobile Library**

**Thursday 13th and 27th July 2023**

Thornton Court	09.40 – 10.00
Abbeyfield	10.10 – 10.50
Cotton Hall/Church	11.00 – 11.30
Orchard Close	11.35 – 11.55
St Vincent's Close	12.00 – 12.40
Gretton Court	12.50 – 13.15
Churchfield Court	13.20 – 13.45

**Bin Collections**

Thursday 6th July	Black bin
Thursday 13th July	Blue and Green bins
Thursday 20th July	Black bin
Thursday 27th July	Blue and Green bins
Thursday 3rd August	Black bin



Solution to this month's Codeword on page 15:

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



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## The Girton Chiropodist

(Mobile Service)

**ERICA NICHOLS**

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

Glebe House  
39 Cambridge Road,  
Girton CB3 0PN

Tel: 01223 520077  
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