



GIRTON

Parish News

March 2024

**Time to have a Rally-good
time on the Rec as new
table tennis facilities
unveiled! - See page 5**



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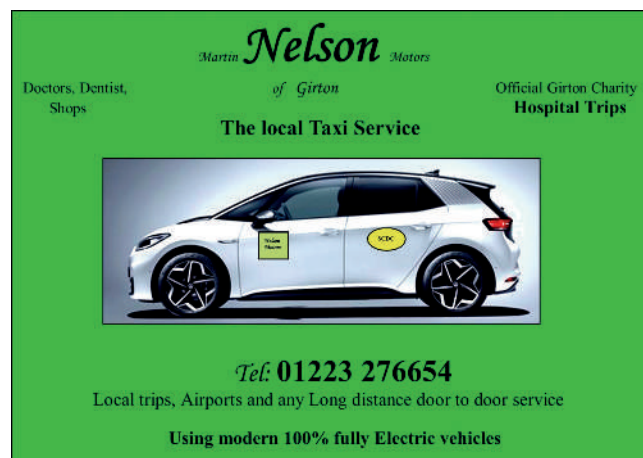
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Matthew Courtney-Jones



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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),

3 dartboards, skittles and a juke box updated twice weekly.

We now have Free wi-fi and BT Sports Children are welcome Dogs are welcome on a lead

Come along and support your local Social Club

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

Publication Information

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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, Pat Dickens, Claire Lightley, Shahila Mitchell, Bill Rothwell.

Distribution Coordinator Karen Richardson
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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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Girton Walking Group

On 3 February, fourteen walkers set out in warm, dry, though cloudy conditions.



The easy paths allowed plenty of chatting and a break by the Northstowe lakes was welcomed. The photo shows us leaving Longstanton and heading back to Girton

Our next walks are:

Saturday 2 March: Grantchester and back

A five-mile walk along the river Cam to Grantchester and back. Meet at Granta Place at the bottom of Mill Lane at 10am. We will pause in Grantchester for a rest stop. Those who want to try the Tea Rooms are welcome to do so and walk back separately. For those who prefer to bring their own refreshments, we will stop in or near the churchyard. The walk includes going through the Paradise nature reserve. It may be muddy. Gina and Paul Lane lead the walk, ginaklane@aol.com

Saturday 6 April: Horseheath and West Wickham

A gentle four-and-a-half-mile ramble through rolling country on the eastern border of Cambridgeshire. Meet at 10am at the tiny green in the centre of Horseheath, which is on the A1307 Haverhill Road, just after Linton. The route follows part of the Harcamlow Way and then goes across country to West Wickham, returning via Hare Wood and a stretch of the Roman Road. More details about parking to follow. Bring refreshments. Angela Blackburn will lead the walk: angela.blackburn@cantab.net

If you need a lift for either walk, or would like to join our mailing list for future walks, please contact Angela at: angela.blackburn@cantab.net

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Copy date for April 2024 issue: Wed 20 Mar. Issue date: Sat. 6 April. Covers 6 April – 4 May.

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Girton Parish Council

Some interesting and important agenda items from February Full Council. Agenda items are noted in case this encourages you to view our 'Must Read' minutes available now on Girton Village Community Website.



Girton Parish Residents - we want to know (Agenda Item 23FC/190.1)

Girton Parish Council have launched a new online reporting tool that was the bright idea of a Girton resident. The convenient new service is tailored specifically for our community. Reporting issues in our village just got simpler and quicker! The user-friendly platform allows you to easily share any concerns you encounter around Girton. Whether it's about various amenities such as allotments, bus shelters, community centres, play areas, or issues like litter, graffiti, fly posting, dog offenses, maintenance of trees, hedges, and public amenities, your input is invaluable. Let us know your concerns and help us maintain the beauty and functionality of Girton. Visit <https://girton.municipal.report/> or scan the QR code below to report any issues effortlessly. Let's work together to ensure Girton remains the vibrant, thriving community we all love!

Food Truck latest

Many of you have asked for advance notice of Food Trucks at Girton Recreation Ground on Saturday evenings. The details for March are as follows:

2nd – Steak & Honour

9th – Pizza Mondo

16th – La Piazza

23rd – Wrapunzel

Joint statement from Girton Parish Council and Girton Bowls Club (Agenda Items 23FC/190.4 & 23FC/190.5)

Girton Parish Council and Girton Bowls Club are delighted to announce that after long but positive negotiations we are able to confirm that approval has been given for toilets and a club house to be built at Wellbrook Way within the grounds of the

Bowls Club. This will raise the profile of the Bowls Club and make it a facility the whole village can use and be proud of. Our thanks go to the committee members of the Bowls Club and the Parish Council whose commitment to achieving this has finally come to fruition.

Improving Girton Parish Council Assets for the Community (23FC/190.2)

Quotes from a master planner, Wilby & Burnett, were approved with the aim of improving assets owned by Girton Parish and a focus on optimum use for Girton residents. This appointment will help the council, key user groups and residents identify projects for delivery. The plan will include consideration of the development of the Girton Recreation ground pavilion and look at possible quick wins for some areas of the project. There will be a focus on social value and value for money to ensure that as many people in the village as possible benefit from the projects which GPC initiates and supports.

Civil Burial Site for Girton

In our Chair's report for February there is information on a meeting with Girton Town Charity and St Andrew's Church to discuss burial needs in Girton. It was estimated that the existing burial ground may have another 20 years before it would be filled. The need to consider possible needs for a civil burial site, suitable for people of all faiths and none was agreed.

Table tennis tables now ready for use

You may have noticed two new table tennis tables are now available for use at Girton Recreation Ground. We hope that you will make good use of these new facilities. Special thanks to Angie Vidler, our Facilities Manager and Cllr Nas Hayat for spearheading this project.

What is a 'Climate Emergency'

Thank you to the Girton resident who picked up on Girton Parish Council's intent to call out a Climate Emergency in our Environment Committee Report this month. (See Agenda item: Public Participation) As a result, we note below the definition of a Climate Emergency and will put further details on Girton Village Community website over the next month.

Climate Emergency definition:

A situation in which urgent action is required to reduce or halt climate change and avoid potentially irreversible environmental damage resulting from it: *"millions of people around the world took part in protests against inaction on the climate emergency" · "they are asking lawmakers to declare a climate emergency and terminate all current fossil fuel projects and proposals"*.

Please let us have your views on whether you think Girton Parish Council should call a Climate Emergency and finally for this month please take a look at your hedges before bird nesting season begins and cut them back. If there are any areas that you feel need cutting back, please report them via our new 'We want to know' online tool!



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From Our Councillors

District councillors' report

People on low incomes are encouraged to check eligibility for energy bill discount

The government is encouraging people on low incomes to check if they can benefit from a £150 rebate on their energy bills (<https://shorturl.at/bgnuQ>). The help is available to over three million households in Great Britain that are most at risk of fuel poverty, with many receiving the discount automatically. However, some customers in England and Wales have been sent a letter asking them to confirm their details by calling the Warm Home Discount Helpline so they can check their eligibility and get the rebate. Customers should stay alert to potential scams and report them to relevant authorities where they are suspected (<https://shorturl.at/nzQT7>). Households who need to provide more information should call the helpline on 0800 030 9322 by 29 February to get the support they are entitled to.

Cold Weather Payments have also been triggered to help households receiving certain benefits to stay warm this winter. The scheme – which runs until March 2024 – provides low-income households with an automatic payment of £25 following periods of cold weather. Further information about the Warm Home Discount Scheme (<https://shorturl.at/apzT8>) is available here and households can check if they are eligible for the support via the online eligibility checker (<https://shorturl.at/gwFUY>).

Improving Home Energy Efficiency

Action on Energy (<https://bit.ly/Action-on-Energy>) is a partnership made up of the six councils across Cambridgeshire - helping to support people to create more energy efficient homes. The partnership offers advice on a number of grants including:

- The Home Upgrade Grant 2 (HUG2), offers funding from government, see <https://shorturl.at/bkoD5>, delivered by Action on Energy and can provide home energy efficiency improvements for people on low incomes with properties not heated by gas.
- Boiler upgrade scheme (<https://shorturl.at/ouQ89>). Grants are available from government to replace gas boilers with cleaner heating systems.
- The ECO4 (<https://shorturl.at/bchrs>) and Great British Insulation (<https://shorturl.at/nCOX0>) schemes.

Find out more about the funding schemes and advice available on the (<https://bit.ly/Action-on-Energy>). Simply visit the 'Get in Touch' page and complete the short grant funding application form (<https://shorturl.at/bhIOV>).

To find out more about energy and cost of living:

- Local foodbanks are all listed on the Council's website (<https://shorturl.at/brtK1>). Residents don't need a voucher to use most of them.

- Residents can access a wide range of energy advice on the Council's Fuel, Energy and Utilities page (<https://shorturl.at/swPQX>).
- Visit South Cambs cost of living page (<https://shorturl.at/eyBER>) to find out more.

Greater Cambridge Housing Strategy: Your comments are requested

Working with Cambridge City Council, South Cambs District Council hopes to build strong, healthy communities for both existing and new residents

Please could everyone comment on the draft housing strategy, so the Council can hear first-hand whether you agree that they are on the right track. They will listen, and your comments will influence how they meet South Cambridgeshire's housing challenges. To comment on the draft Greater Cambridge Housing Strategy, visit <https://shorturl.at/ceHKL>. Closes 3rd March 2024.

Update from Environmental Health: Landlord Forum

There will be private sector housing Landlord Forum on Microsoft on Thursday 7 March from 6pm to 8pm. This year's agenda includes: - Fire Prevention: Focus on e-bikes and e-scooters (Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service) - Damp and mould in the private rented sector - Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards - Q&A session This is a free event. Private sector housing landlords can secure a place by emailing env.health@scambs.gov.uk.

Update from the Economic Development & Investments team: Green Business Impact Programme

The Green Business Impact Programme can help local small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) create a practical plan to deliver on Environmental Social and Governance (ESG) targets, through free tailored advice from environmental experts from PECT and Allia. For any questions about the scheme please contact the SCDC Business Support team on OpenForBusiness@scambs.gov.uk.

Police Community Engagement

These meetings are quarterly and held online from 7pm-8pm. They allow members of the public to meet their neighbourhood officers and hear about recent activity. Attendees will also get the opportunity to raise any concerns they have and help shape future priorities. The next is on 28th February.

To attend, please visit the neighbourhood page and click the link on the date. You will be sent to EventBrite to register for free and will be sent a meeting link - <https://shorturl.at/IALN2>.

If you don't use a computer but would like to access some of information on links, contact us for a paper copy or ask a neighbour with a printer!

Cllr Corinne Garvie 07780 932267,
cllr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk

Cllr Richard Stobart 07950 934793,
cllr.stobart@scambs.gov.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS



GIRTON FEAST 2024 12TH AND 13TH JULY



A calendar is being produced again this year. Please contact us if your business would like to advertise in the calendar. It will be delivered free to every household in Girton.

Carol: carol@girtonfeast.org.uk

ALREADY BOOKED FOR THIS YEAR:



Food stalls: Pizza Passione, Baked potatoes, Winters Burgers and Slush puppies, Lexi's cakes, Toni's ices

Entertainers: Planet Abba tribute band (Friday 12th),



Pom Pom the Magic Fox, Girton Glebe Primary School, The Junkyard Preachers, Oakes Summerfield, Rock Choir and much more.....

Would your charity, club or society like to book a stall for Saturday 12th July? Please use the booking form on our website: www.girtonfeast.org.uk



For any other information, please contact Rowena: rowena@girtonfeast.org.uk



The Grove Collective

The Grove Collective presents an evening of 20th Century greats – both vocal and instrumental – including Sir William Harris' Faire is the Heaven, Herbert Howells' Take him, earth, for cherishing, excerpts from Hubert Parry's Songs of Farewell and Gustav Holst's Nunc Dimittis. Plus, an unmissable performance of George Gershwin's 'Walking the Dog.'

Join us for our second recital on Monday 18 March, 6pm at St Andrew's Church, Girton. Free entry.



Girton Gardeners

Put these dates in your diary now!



Girton Garden Society

1. Garden Society Spring Plant Sale on Saturday 4th May 2024,

2pm onwards at 46 Cambridge Road, Girton

2. Garden coach trips

a) Easton Walled Garden (www.visiteaston.co.uk)

Wednesday 26th June 2024

b) Wrest Park (www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/wrest-park)

Wednesday 17th July 2024

Full details and prices on our website and in the April edition of GPN

3. Mini Show and stall with Girton Allotment Society at the Feast Week Village Fete on Saturday 13th July. Full details in the May edition and on the diary page of our website. Get planting now.

Parish Survey Arrives Imminently

PARISH SURVEY 2024

Help shape Girton for our community's future



Andrew Muston
Girton Neighbourhood Plan Team Lead
Girton_Neighbourhood_Plan@girton-pc.gov.uk

Since November 2023, the Neighbourhood Plan team has been obtaining grants, researching land ownership, contacting landowners and adjacent parish councils, and drafting the main Parish Survey. All slow but steady progress.

The survey is to gather evidence of what residents, and those linked to Girton, want to see in and for Girton over the next 15 or so years. This is important information to feed into the plan. This is your major opportunity to tell us your views. Please use it.

Subject to grant money and printing schedules (the survey will be both online and in hardcopy on your door mat), the survey will be out from 1 March 2024 and close on 23 April 2024 (St. George's Day).

If you do not receive a copy of the survey, or need further copies, please contact me or Yvonne Murray (Parish Clerk – 01223 618619).

If you need any help in completing the survey, please contact Yvonne Murray.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Music at Girton College

From Light to Darkness

Saturday 2 March, at 8pm (until 9pm),
Chapel, Girton College.

Isabel Benson (soprano); Emily Clare-Hunt (alto); Chris Brain (tenor); Daniel Sandell (bass).

A programme of Renaissance motets charting a path from light to darkness.

Admission free; retiring collection.

Composers' Concert

Sunday 3 March, at 2.30pm (until 3.30pm),

Stanley Library, Girton College.

Music by student composers at Girton College; expect a wide variety of styles and genres.

Admission free; retiring collection.

Bach's St John Passion

Friday 8 March, at 8pm (until 10pm),

Great Hall, Girton College.

Bach's St John Passion, BWV 245, performed in the round.

Cambridge University Chamber Choir, Cambridge University Collegium Musicum,

and members of the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment Experience Scheme.

With Margaret Faultless (Violin/Director) and Nicholas Mulroy (Tenor/Director).

NB: There will be a pre-concert talk with Professor Bettina Varwig at 6.45pm.

Tickets: £25(standard); £22.50 (concessions); £5 (Cambridge University students)

available from <https://shorturl.at/dzQ02> or call 01799 588 545.

Cambridge University Brass Ensemble

Sunday 10 March, at 2.30pm (until 3.30pm),
Old Hall, Girton College.

Jan Koetsier: Brass Symphony, Op. 80.

Alexander Arutiunian: Armenian Scenes.

Jim Parker: A Londoner in New York.

Conductor: Christopher Lawrence.

Admission free; retiring collection.



Girton Garden Society

Girton Garden Society

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

7.30pm at William Collyn Community Centre

www.girtongardensociety.co.uk

girtongardensociety@outlook.com

Wednesday 13 March 2024

Q&A with Barry Gayton: a local radio broadcaster and expert on all aspects of gardening.

Visitors and members should bring some prepared questions especially on the topic of coping with extremes of climate.

Girton Open Gardens 2024

Open Gardens will be held on Sunday 16 June 2024, 2-5 p.m.

Open gardens is an established summer activity in the village, raising funds for the flowering phone box.

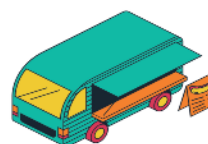
We need more gardens! Please consider taking part; all gardens are interesting – wild and formal, established or still developing. Wildlife gardens are particularly welcome.

A chance to meet other residents of Girton, all brought together by a love of gardens and gardening. Don't be put off by thinking you cannot see the other open gardens in the village, we arrange private views for participants, during the following week.

More information email: mary.rodger32@gmail.com or call 01223 277316, 07905 584224

FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS

COTTON HALL, CAMBRIDGE ROAD,
GIRTON



8/3/24 - 4 pm - Tradizioni

15/3/24 - 4.30 pm - Papas Locas

22/3/24 - 4.30 pm - Pizza Passione

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- Jill - Histon



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Girton Glebe

With the weather warming up in recent weeks, the children at Girton Glebe have been enjoying exploring their new raised beds (kindly funded by FOGG!) and looking after the plants that are beginning to make

their way into the ground. Willow Class (Year 5) have particularly enjoyed propagating, planting, and caring for the plants they have grown from seed as part of their Sow, Grow & Farm topic. We can't wait to see what we can grow through spring and to see who will win the coveted Golden Trowel at the end of the summer term!

Football Champions!

Mr Butler and ten excited Year 5&6 girls enjoyed a blustery Tuesday afternoon in Cambourne as they left school to attend a football tournament in February. The girls, with their shared commitment to football training at the Glebe this year, competed against 15 other Cambridge teams and walked away with the top award, beating their closest rivals on goal difference! Mr Butler and Mr Bull (our girls & boys football coach) are very proud of the team, not just for the commitment they have shown to win the tournament, but how they represented the school with a positive and happy attitude throughout all their games.

Well done to Lilly, Thea, Kikki, Clara, Delilah, Pattie, Zara, Alicia, Phoebe and Flo. And a huge thank you to Mr Bull for coaching our football teams throughout the year!

National Storytelling Week

This fantastic annual event was a joyful celebration of the power of sharing stories. Stories teach us about the world, they allow us to step into someone else's shoes and feel empathy, they help us to relax and escape and they can help develop essential literacy skills. We celebrated in school with additional trips to the library (which is now being brilliantly looked after by our wonderful Volunteer, Alison), with chances to hear favourite stories told by adults and those written by Girton Glebe children themselves, buddying up to read with other classes and much more!

As part of this special week, Headteacher Mr Butler, and our Early Years Lead Mr Holt, visited Cottontails Nursery to share some of their own favourite stories. We are looking forward to our next story-telling celebration: World Book Day on Thursday 7 March.

International Baccalaureate

This half term, the staff at Girton Glebe have fully immersed themselves in preparation for becoming an IB School. Before this half term, teachers researched the IB and delivered staff meetings to the rest of the staff about elements relating to the theory of IB. These "nano-sessions" were really engaging and enthusiastic sessions.

Since our return after Christmas, our weekly staff meetings have focused on developing our curriculum and aligning it to the IB pedagogy. We have had some

productive and collaborative planning sessions, which have enabled us to develop engaging 'Central Ideas': these are broad statements that underpin what we will be teaching and learning each half term. Some examples of Central Ideas that classes will be investigating include 'Forces and movement can cause a process of cause and effect' and 'Our local area is influential in the world's use of technology.' As we continue to develop our curriculum, we will constantly reflect on these Central Ideas and adapt them if needed. We really enjoyed discussing possible class texts to link to each Central Idea and were really pleased to see some old and new favourites make the list: The Boy at the Back of the Class, The Colour Monster, The Boy who biked the World and Anne Frank's Diary to name a few.

It has been wonderful to see our children at Girton develop their understanding of the IB too. In a whole-school assembly, we looked at the IB Learner Profile, which includes a broad range of characteristics and responsibilities that go beyond academic success. We compared the Learner Profile to our six core values. The children engaged in discussion with their classmates to think about which of our core values align with the learner profile. It was lovely to see the children make these links and be able to explain so enthusiastically why they link together. For example, we linked the learner profile of 'thinker' to our core value of curious. We also had fun thinking about ourselves and which of the learner profile characteristics we already exhibit.

Coming Soon.... GG Ensemble!

We are pleased to announce a new Girton Glebe Ensemble forming, led by our music specialist teacher Mrs Hamilton. The ensemble is an arrangement of invited key stage 2 gifted and talented musicians, who rehearse together with their instruments to provide otherwise limited opportunities to play their instruments alongside their peers.

We have been fortunate to have already had many an opportunity for our choir to perform at local events, so we hope you will see our musicians playing together in the not too distance future - including an aspiration to play at the Girton Feast! Watch this space.

Chris Butler, Headteacher

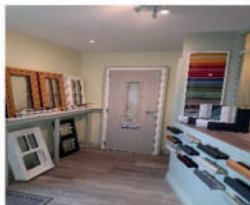
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Girton Cottontails Preschool

Spring may be well on it's way, so we are very late in sharing these photos of our Christmas Forest School craft project from last year; but still wanted to as we are so proud of them. The children worked so hard sawing, drilling and glueing to create their reindeer. We know there may have been a few lost limbs when taking them home, but I'm sure they were all still well loved over the Christmas period!



This term we have opened up our Thursday afternoon sessions to all aged preschool children, with a new session for the younger children. This is being run alongside our successful rising 5s sessions; which is for children in their final preschool year, to fully focus on school preparation. The younger children will be in a small group with a gentler focus on school preparation, this will be a great start for children moving on to rising 5s sessions in the following year. So far, the sessions are going really well and the children are settling into this new routine.



The rising 5s have been learning about being healthy this term, and have so far looked at the benefits of eating different coloured foods. They have learnt about different nutrients, germs, keeping teeth healthy, and weighing and measuring. This week they are going to be making

homemade pizzas, following picture instructions, and weighing ingredients.

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:

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10th Cambridge (Girton) Scouts Group

The 10th (Cambridge) Girton Scouts, Cubs & Beavers, finished off the new spring term with pancake making and a good old fashioned pancake race. We are all looking forward to the start of some longer days and have a fun packed half

term ready and waiting. The Cubs and Beavers will be kicking things off with a visit to Click n' Climb, followed by a creative cake decorating session for Mother's Day. Throughout this term the Cubs will be teaching the Beavers a camp song, which will be put to good use at the sleepover at Shepreth Wildlife Park in April.

Come and join us, we have spaces in our Beaver colony! Beavers are young people, aged six to eight, who are curious about the world around them. Attending our fun packed sessions provides a great opportunity to master new skills, try new things, have fun, and go on adventures. Young people will make friends, help others, and make a difference on their own doorsteps and beyond.

The Girton Beaver colony meets at Cotton Hall on Thursdays between 5pm-6pm. If you have a young person who would like to join us for a chat and a trial session, then please pop in or contact us at:

admissions@girtonscouts.org.uk

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Do you love watching Spring Watch? Are you amazed by the diversity and ingenuity of wildlife on these islands and eager to find out more? One way you can do this is to take part in a citizen science project, such as the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch. Having little or no prior knowledge isn't a barrier to participation either, just an interest in learning.

Take beetles, for example. In the British Isles there are over 4,000 different species, a greater number than any of our other plant or animal groups. By comparison there are only 1,100 British wildflowers, so moths with over 2,500 varieties don't do too badly in the league table of diversity. In fact, they are vital pollinators and, in their turn, a valuable source of food for bats: each species of moth having its own ecological niche, which explains why our wildlife is so vulnerable to change and interference. Surprisingly, certain species will be active throughout the year, even during mid-winter.



Whatever takes up residence in our gardens needs food. Wildlife can consume our cherished plants, and this can be disfiguring. For example, the partial defoliation of weeping birch trees in summer by Buff Tip Moth caterpillars, seen above.

Sometimes misleadingly labelled 'infestations' with advice of how to dispose of the invaders, they are, in truth, very good house guests. They strip leaves from a tree, but do no lasting damage, and are good enough to move on to a different host the following year, allowing the tree to recover and look just as good as always. The adult moths have also evolved a brilliant disguise,

resembling a twig when at rest. How much better it is to enjoy the progress of these incredible animals as they transform, than to kill them off, whilst denying other garden visitors a valuable meal.

Unfortunately, box plants have not fared so well. Whilst the damage the Box Tree Moth and its caterpillars does is devastating, the situation can be managed by cutting plants down to the base and allowing them to regrow. By keeping the regrowth compact any newcomers can be removed more easily. Without natural predators in the UK, our wildlife is beginning to adapt to new species such as this, with jackdaws, sparrows, starlings, and blue tits seen feeding successfully on the caterpillars.



So, what of citizen science? If you are interested in learning more about these important creatures, the Local Nature Recovery Group will be running further moth surveys (see advert for details). It is a chance for budding Chris Packhams and Michaela Strachans to get involved in the vital job of recording the species living locally. Not only will this support the work of other naturalist organisations and the 'big picture' of how UK wildlife is faring, but it will also help us to understand the value of our gardens to the wider ecosystem upon which all living things, ourselves included, depend. What could be more interesting than that?

Keith Archer

Puzzle solution (see page 24)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
X	J	Y	A	L	B	H	W	E	U	K	C	V
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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There is no anxiety of deciding on a theme for this month's article. It is "Farewell to the readers of my bi-monthly allotment musings for the GPN." Looking into my documents folder, it appears I have been contributing for about 12 years. At the start of my contributions, I had a full-sized plot ... however did I manage it while working full time ? ... home at 6 o'clock and out to the plot.

Then, as ageing advanced, I reduced my holding and continued to love the hobby in retirement. But just before Christmas, I received bad news regarding my health. In short, strenuous activity like digging, water carrying and all the bending and stretching were now beyond my powers and could be dangerous. With enormous sadness, I gave up my tenancy of 23 years. The committee has agreed to let me continue in my greenhouse, and I remain a member of the Society, thus being entitled to go out onto the site.

However, no longer engaging in the main activity of the allotments, I would feel a fraud if I continued to write for the Society.

There has been satisfaction and pleasure in the bi-monthly task. But also 'suffering'. On the downside has been occasional writer's block, with the resultant laying awake the night before deadline date for submission. The awareness of the long period between writing and GPN publication date. Today I could describe a dreadful day of non-stop rain and sheets of water on plots; but readers might open the March edition on a glorious spring day half a month later. I had to keep in mind that the article is not for allotment members (we have our own monthly newsletter); it is for Girton residents in order to convey the life of one of the village's many diverse groups. Tips and descriptions of vegetable growing techniques are not appropriate for the majority of residents who don't grow vegetables (as opposed to the Gardening Society's article, which does advise, most readers having gardens). Worst of all, I've always been aware of my limited horticultural ability and the restricted range of stuff I grow (admittedly, I have frequently heralded the success of my 'signature' crop ... the delight of home-grown tomatoes). I fear the thoughts of the real old veterans.

Well, there are the woes of this upstart author. But there has been much enjoyment in composing my article. At regular intervals, I have reflected on the essence of the Society and the site, and then tried to distil that essence into a 750'ish word essay. I look out from my study window, observing prevailing weather conditions, watching the labourers in the fields, weighing up the

growing crops at their various stages, admiring or critical of the state of soil cultivation, noting the spread of sheds, cloches, netted areas, plant supports. I recall the benefits beyond vegetable growing ... the sense of involvement with nature, getting hands into the soil, learning soil structure and care, the range of birds, mammals wild flowers living on the site. And I can wander around the site, observing at close range. I think of fresh vegetables being brought into the kitchen. I recall a few extracts from GQT and make the odd book recommendation. Then comes the attempt to convey to Girton gardeners and non-gardeners what a busy and rewarding part of Girton life is the Allotment. I hope I may have to some extent succeeded.

There is one aspect of allotment life which I have saved until the end: the forging of friendships and the linking with acquaintances. I now count a number of members as such. We talk, we compare our tastes in good coffee, we rejoice and grieve at football results, we assist one another with big jobs or during absences on holiday. Looking back, I feel I hardly noticed covid lock-down; with so much time spent on the allotment, friendship and meeting (was it 2 metres apart?), life remained good and warm. And more honourable than Downing Street parties.

That's my signing off. From April, I'll be opening the GPN with you all to read about The Good Life.

Graham Jones, Girton Allotment Society

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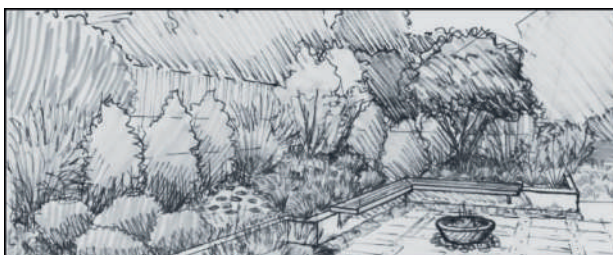
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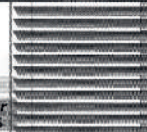
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Thank you for your continued support and stay safe.

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Girton WI

Girton WI were delighted to welcome David Duker to our February meeting, to give his talk "One of our own" about a Battle of Britain pilot, Victor Ekins, MBE, DFC. Using Victor's diaries from the Battle of Britain, his logbooks and the photographs Victor had kept of his time in the RAF, David took us on

Victor's heroic journey from trainee pilot to squadron leader. We heard about the young men who never came home, their mid-air battles against enormous odds, and the exceptional bravery of the Hurricane pilots who defended Britain's southeast coast. A moving talk, about a remarkable St Neot's man, by a very talented speaker and author.

We look forward to our AGM in March, and the speakers we have planned for the rest of 2024, including Bake Off finalist Ian Cumming in May (which will be a ticketed event), and a trip to Southwold in the summer. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at the William

Collyn Community Centre at 7.30pm. If you are not a member and are interested in coming to any of our meetings (including the one in May), or finding out more about Girton WI or the WI nationally, then please contact girtonwisecretary@gmail.com. Whether you are a member, a past member, or someone who has never tried the WI before, I look forward to seeing you and giving you a warm welcome.

Hannah Wyborn, Girton WI President



Earlybirds WI

What interesting talks we've had! Firstly, in January Honor Ridout gave us a history of Sturbridge (not Stourbridge) Fair, from the time of King John in 1211. Originally held on the feast of the Exultation of the Holy Cross on 14 September, for three days,

the fair grew over the centuries to become one of the most important in Europe. Every purchase for the household could be made – from musical clocks to silverware, textiles, spices, soaps, books, and baskets. Plus of course there were refreshments – coffee houses, ale booths, food stalls and a famous cheese market. There were even sales of second-hand goods for the less well off, and a horse fair. Booths were built, prefab style, with bedrooms at the rear to aid security. The university retained "quality control" over goods and held courts to fine anyone selling faulty wares.

A procession with a bellman, the Grand Marshall, redcoats to police the fair, the mayor, bands, and more led to the opening of the fair which had to be proclaimed.

Sadly, over the last two centuries the fair ceased to have the prominence it had once had. It dwindled and by the 1930s was merely a few stalls. However, there is still a small ceremony every year with a proclamation by the proctor of the university. You may like to attend, it's due to take place on 7 September 2024. February brought a delightful talk from Leisbeth Ten Ham, encouraging us all to make our gardens homes for wildlife. Leisbeth is a garden designer but not one that will transform your garden in a week. Leisbeth is a "slow designer," passionate about working with nature over time to make space for plants and creatures alike. We were told that 56% of species in the UK are in decline, with many including the hedgehog critically endangered. Over 40 million birds have vanished from the UK in 50 years – Leisbeth recalled having seen hundreds of lapwings in her childhood but none for many years. Wildlife gardening is not as many of us thought – abandonment. It means managing the space – wilding grass needs cutting to enable butterflies to feed and lay eggs, plants need pruning to encourage regrowth. Butterflies, ladybirds, and bees will eat the aphids – there should be no need for chemicals. We as gardeners need to be ecosystem engineers.

Leisbeth is involved in the redevelopment of the Alice Hibbert Ware Garden in Girton and gave us a historical background to this wonderful lady in whose name the garden was established. Alice was a naturalist and ornithologist, one of the first women elected to the Linnean Society (devoted to natural history). Alice was famed for proving that the little owl was not a danger to chickens as had been previously thought, and which had led to their near destruction. Alice's garden is a haven amid a busy village, and Leisbeth and a team of volunteers are raising awareness of it, making it more attractive and more diverse. You may like to get involved.

If you'd like to join in the fun with Earlybirds, come along to our next meeting on 8 March at 10.30 am when we will be decorating some eggs for Easter. We meet on the second Friday of each month at the CFWI office on Oakington Road, at 10.30am. If you'd like more information, please contact: earlybirdsec@gmail.com
Trish Peroni

GIRTON scoreboard



Girton Bowls Club

For those who enjoy indoor bowls, we were treated to a masterclass recently with the televising of the annual World Championship bowls, held at Potters Resorts, Norfolk. There were some enthralling matches and familiar names, including

local player Nick Brett. He won the mixed doubles final with his partner Julie Forest and reached the quarter finals of the men's singles. His opponent in the quarter final was Paul Foster MBE, who was relentless and won the match 12-3 and 6-2. Paul then proceeded to the semifinal round, where his opponent was Alex Marshall. The match was described by the commentator as a titanic battle, won by Alex Marshall in a tie break. The final was an all Scottish affair between Alex Marshall and Stuart Anderson, which Stuart won after a nail-biting final game.

In the Indoor League, Girton 1 are currently second in Division 1, helped by having inflicted the only defeat of the season on Newmarket, the League leaders. Girton 2 are in a group of five teams separated by just 2 points, fighting for fifth place in Division 2, with a game in hand over several of the teams.

The Indoor League is progressing well, but our members have already been asked to decide which external competitions they wish to enter in the forthcoming outdoor season. Our Cambridge and District finalists were very successful again last season and will be attending the Cambridge and District Presentation dinner to be held at Girton Golf Club on 24th February.



As the evenings become noticeably lighter, we can start to look forward to the upcoming outdoor season. The maintenance of the green will begin in earnest in order for it to be in the



usual great condition for the start of the season. Thanks to our wonderful volunteer maintenance team who work so hard.

Work on the new Toilets

I am pleased to be able to report that work has started on the installation of toilets at the Bowls Club which should be ready in early May. There has also been significant progress made with the GPC on their commitment to provide a clubhouse for the Bowls Club, and hopefully for other organisations in the village.

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 Tennis Club

Our AGM will be held on Tuesday 19th March, at 7.15pm at The George, Girton.

Many thanks to Michelle for agreeing to host us again this year. Like many voluntary committees, we are fortunate to have a core group of members who are willing to help keep our club running but we would be delighted to have some more volunteers. Being on our small committee is not very time consuming

and it gives you the chance to shape the way our club operates. If you are interested in how the tennis club is organised, please come along to the AGM. We will be reviewing the previous year and planning for the next membership year which starts in April.

Our club nights on Friday evenings have suffered a bit from poor weather and we have also had one of the floodlights out of action. I am pleased to say that the evenings are getting a bit warmer now, and the floodlight was quickly repaired by the Parish Council, so do consider coming to join a friendly game in the near future.

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.girtontennisclub.uk or by contacting our Membership Secretary by email at info@girtontennisclub.uk.

Alan Franklin



Girton Colts Football Club

The Under 7s have had a good start to 2024 with pure determination across the team, especially during the cold and wet weather! In the

four games so far this year, we've scored some fantastic goals (21 goals in total!) along with some brilliant saves and tackles and the team are working closely together.

We are sad to say goodbye to Cillian Browne who is off to ventures new. He has been there from day one, when I formed the team 3 seasons ago, and has worked so hard, and he has developed into a wonderful footballer.

We wish him and his family all the best for the future and hope his football continues!

As always, a huge thank you for the support within the team and the club.

Annie Daniels, Under 7s Manager



Girton Cricket Club

Indoor nets at Fenners have started.

March 2024 dates:

Sunday 3rd 9–10am

Sunday 10th 9–10am

Sunday 17th 9–10am

Saturday 23rd 11am–12 noon

New players welcome. Contact:

Email Girtoncc@hotmail.com

Facebook [Girton cricket club](https://www.facebook.com/girtoncricketclub)

Website <https://girton.play-cricket.com/home>

Andrew Burton



Girton Golf Club

What a miserable February for the weather, our course has been closed for more time than it has been open, or it certainly seems so. However, better weather is coming (we hope), so things will look up soon as our competitive

season starts again.

Away from the golf course a massive congratulations goes to our longstanding member David Tiplady, who has become a World Senior Champion – not in golf – but in Hardbat Ping Pong. In a hard-fought final, in Mexico City last month, David won against American rival Alexis Perez, winning by two legs to nil, after having won through the heats without losing a game. His final move was a spectacular backhand smash to win the game, match, and title. Well done, David, a great result, and a huge win.

Our last quiz night of this winter's series is on Friday 15 March, so ensure that you get down to the clubhouse in plenty of time and book your pre-quiz meal with the catering team.

Just a final reminder of our social membership that gives you great discount on food and drink, plus notice of all social events and updates on all that is happening at your local club. Pop in for lunch or a coffee and have a look around if you are new to the golf club, have a chat with the office and/or bar staff and join us.

Alan Henderson-Smith

Girton Golf Club

01223 276169

Follow us on X, Facebook, and Instagram.

A welcoming Centre at the heart of the Village

It is five years since Girton Town Charity officially opened the William Collyn Community Centre and during that time, it has become an integral part of Village life, used by all ages and for a wide range of events and activities. We caught up with Manager Tom Lee to find out what we can look forward to in the future.

The Centre is run by a team of three: Tom Lee, Centre Manager and Duty Supervisors Max Ruddock and Katherine-Seiyefa Edmond. Together they help with events, administration including bookings, managing the extensive cleaning and maintenance programme and ensuring appropriate policies and Health and Safety procedures are in place.

Enjoyable experience

Tom says: "In addition to taking full day-to-day responsibility for the building during opening hours, the team is committed to providing a high level of customer service to hirers and visitors to ensure their experience is enjoyable.

Ages and stages

"Our regular weekly programme covers a variety of classes and activities for all ages and stages. These include Tumble Tots physical fun and Hartbeeps sensory music classes for little ones; weekday yoga and pilates classes; dancing with Easton Swing and CJ Ballroom Dance School; Bounce Fierce Fitness Classes; Kurling for the over 55's; and singing with Whole Notes Gospel Choir.

"We also have community groups such as the WI and Gardening Club which hold their popular monthly evening meetings and also Tuesday Connections run by Patricia, AgeUK Cambridgeshire & Peterborough's Older Residents' Co-ordinator where a group meet together over a cup of tea, to listen to speakers and take part in fun activities. With health in mind, we also host Healthy You checks and a Falls Prevention Clinic too.

Future events

"Looking ahead we are investigating the possibility of a monthly farmer's market; welcoming back Matt Gamble with an Italian Wine Tasting on 15th March and a return visit of Custard Comedy on 27th April.

"The team loves meeting people and helping to bring ideas to life. Our Hall is fully equipped to provide memorable parties or celebrations for adults or children; regional meetings for local organisations and special events for our community so do get in touch if you are interested in hiring the Centre.

"The small meeting room is ideal for one-to-one sessions particularly as reception and waiting area are available.

"Our vision is to continue to provide a sustainable, secure, culturally diverse and accessible space that is valued and



supported by the residents of Girton, as well as the wider community including our great partnerships with AgeUK C&P, community groups and local businesses.

"Over the next month we will be creating a more comfortable reception space where residents will be welcome to drop in and relax with friends and neighbours and enjoy a hot drink from our barista-style coffee machine. We look forward to seeing you soon!"

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
Gill Cockley	t: 276703
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

WILLIAM COLLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Weekly Activities

Monday

9.30 - 1.00pm	Tumble Tots (school term time)
2.00 - 3.00pm	Kurling for over 55's
6.00 - 7.00pm	Pilates with Wendy Jane
8.00 - 9.30pm	Whole Notes Gospel Choir

Tuesday

9.00 - 11.00am	Yoga with Julia Dale
10.45am - 1.45pm	Hartbeeps (school term time)
11.15am - 12.15pm	Yoga with Jess
2.00 - 4.00pm	AgeUK Tuesday Connections (monthly)
6.00 - 7.00pm	Pilates with Wendy Jane
7.30 - 10.30pm	Easton Swing

Wednesday

9.30 - 10.30am	YogaBright: baby and post-natal yoga
10.30am - 1.30pm	Falls Prevention Clinic
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 Jane
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)

Saturday

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

Monthly health checks for people aged 40-74 in partnership with **Healthy You** are available to book at the Centre.

Information correct at time of going to press.

Photographs used with permissions from the activity organiser.

William Collyn Community Centre

Wellbrook Way, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0GP

01223 279587

info@williamcollyn.co.uk

www.williamcollyn.co.uk

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

Girton Town Charity Registered Charity No: 1130272



Meetings - Seminars - Presentations



Yoga - Pilates - Exercise - Relax



Parties - Dance Classes - Celebrations - Fun



@williamcollync



William Collyn Community Centre



@williamcollyncentre

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 15

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

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CLUES	
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12	25
13	26

WORDSEARCH – Enjoying Spring and the Garden?

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.

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

BEE	EASTER	SOW
BEETLE	EQUINOX	SPAWN
BIRDSONG	FROG	STRIMMER
BLOSSOM	GREBE	SUN
BLUEBELLS	HARE	SWEEP
BREEZY	IRIS	TADPOLES
BUDS	LADYBIRDS	THAW
BULB	LAMBS	TIDY
BUTTERFLIES	MARCH	TOAD
CHORUS	NEWT	TWINE
CROCUS	PANSIES	WARMTH
DAFFS	PRUNE	
DAWN	RETIE	



The Listening Lantern Food Hut

This month's article proudly accompanies photographs of the NEW Listening Lantern Food Hut. With funding from the Girton Parish Council, and support from our Village Ranger and even with donations collected by

Girton Cubs and Beavers, what started as a small idea and a DIY open fronted hut has emerged as something a lot more:



- A spacious weatherproof hut which can now offer all sorts of food items including some fresh food.
- An open all hours resource for our community and locality, in a private location.
- A fully inclusive offer for anyone who needs food -

no questions asked, no explanation expected, and no vouchers required. Please visit to look, to take what you need at:

What3words location: bits.yours.drama

Postcode location: CB30PB [St Vincent's Close]

Directions: Make your way down Pepys Way, past the Girton GP Surgery. Turn left down St Vincent's Close. Follow along to the third set of terraced houses. You will see the Food Hut by the pavement side.

Signposting

In addition to the Listening Lantern Food Bank, you [or someone you know] may want to access a nationally run Food Bank. If you live in England or Wales, you can call "Help through Hardship" for free, to talk confidentially to a trained Citizens Advice adviser on: 0808 208 2138 (Open Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm. Closed on public holidays.)

They can help address your crisis and provide support to maximise your income, help you navigate the benefits system, and identify any additional grants you could be entitled to. If needed, they'll issue you with a voucher so you can get an emergency food parcel from a local food bank.

Associate Instructor for Mental Health First Aid

I am delighted to have been accepted as an Associate Instructor for MHFA. This means that I will be commissioned, on behalf of MHFAEngland, to deliver training for businesses and organisations nationally as well as locally in Cambridgeshire where demand is high. To be accepted in this role I had to outline the range of organisations to which I have already delivered. This has included:

- Education sector – Public
- Education sector – Independent
- Education sector – Further Education/ University
- Religious communities
- County Council
- Accountancy firm
- Housing Association
- Estate Management firm
- Technology industries

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



News For Older Residents

Tuesday Connections

On Tuesday 12 March representatives of Girton Parish Council are taking the meeting. At time of writing, I am unsure what form it will take. It will be, as usual, in the William Collyn Community Centre from 2pm to 4 pm. Sarah, my manager is planning to join us.

Feedback is always welcome on all aspects of my role. At this meeting I will be requesting your feedback on Tuesday Connections and a short feedback form will be available. Let me know if you will not be at the meeting and would still like to give your feedback.

Spring Fair in Cambridge

This will be in the Cledara Abbey Stadium, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, on Wednesday 17 April from 10am to 1pm. It will include stalls, energy advice, home safety, fitness tips and free refreshments. There is on-site parking.

Singing for Breathing

Did you see the article in February's magazine? The group which meets weekly on Zoom is looking for new members. For more information speak to Mary on 07972 645 473 or email her at:

singingforbreathingcambridge@gmail.com

I will be on annual leave on Tuesday 26 and Wednesday 27 March and working slightly reduced hours throughout March.

Sarah Stuart, the Community Warden's phone number is 07979 333 963. There is a two-week trial period for her service.

Patricia Johnston Older Residents' Coordinator
Tel: 07469 660866

Email: patricia.johnston@ageukcap.co.uk

supported by
Girton
TownCharity

March Wine Selection

Three appealing Italian white wines to put a spring in your step!

With their wide variety across the country, Italian white wines never fail to surprise (and delight) me, and here are three appealing wines to tempt your palate this month:



The Society's Falanghina 2022 (Campania)

Falanghina is an ancient white wine grape variety from Campania in southern Italy, which typically has flavours of orange peel and citrus fruits. This Falanghina from the Wine Society is a crisp, refreshing wine with an

attractive tanginess and flavours of citrus and nectarine. A dry, medium-bodied wine with a pleasantly long finish, this can be enjoyed as an apéritif or with a seafood dish, such as garlic prawns, swordfish, or a seafood salad. It will also go well with a creamy pasta dish.

Available from **The Wine Society** (£9.25)



Sainsbury's Taste the Difference Discovery, Verdeca 2022 (Puglia)

This dry white Verdeca made from grapes grown in Puglia in the heel of Italy is part of Sainsbury's new Discovery Selection.

Although the grape variety is not very well-known, it is an interesting aromatic wine to explore. With rose blossom, honey and citrus notes on the

nose, and flavours of lemon and peach on the palate, this is a refreshing wine with a smooth, rich, almost buttery, mouthfeel and a lingering finish. This is a very good value wine which is perfect as an apéritif and pairs well with a seafood, chicken, or creamy pasta dish.

Available from **Sainsbury's** (£8.50)



Vallade Gavi DOCG 2022 (Piemonte)

Produced from Cortese grapes grown in the Piemonte region of north-west Italy, this Gavi is a well-balanced, light-bodied, easy-drinking wine.

With light floral aromas of blossom and peachy notes on the nose, and flavours of green apple, pear, and a hint of almond on the palate, this is a crisp, refreshing wine with medium acidity.

You can enjoy this by itself or as a pairing with white fish, chicken, or a light pasta dish.

Available from **Tesco** (£10)

Martin Nuttall

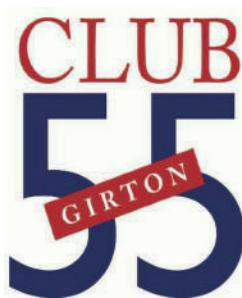
www.itmustbewineoclock.com

An Italian Wine tour

After my last visit to Piemonte, Italy a couple of years ago, I thought hard about why I was stepping on the plane to come back to the UK. Sometimes as a Brit you feel repressed by nature, even if you're actively trying not to live that way. It's in the woodwork of our grey, drizzly climate. Italy as a country is far from perfect. However, the art of living is something taken very seriously indeed, and it's hard not to admire Italians for it and not become dewy eyed about the place. Evelyn Waugh perhaps captures the English desire for "la Bella vita" best in *Brideshead Revisited* where Charles likens his experience of Venice to "drowning in honey". For greedy hedonists like me who love history and being surrounded by beautiful buildings, people and glorious food it is paradise.

Italian wine, however, has a different reputation in the UK for most. Without knowing where to look the delicious affordable bottles remain only the preserve of the privileged and knowledgeable. This is heartbreaking in my view. As a result there are some even in the wine trade who are immune to its charms. My last visit was a revelation. I loved other Italian wine regions before I went but I have to admit I had only experienced Piedmontese wines that were largely expensive, tannic and disappointing. I couldn't have been more wrong! As with everything, education and experience go a long way. Come and share what I learnt and tasted on my travels...

Come and join Girton Wine Club! Friday 15th March 7.30pm. William Collyn Community Centre, Girton. Tickets via website: mattgamblewine.com or directly from matt@mattgamblewine.com.



What can you do with a stick of celery?

On Monday 5 February Chris Cowood turned up with her cards, paints and a stick of celery to set about showing us how she makes greeting cards. It was great to see members gathered

round a table so intent and interested in the passion of card making.



Greetings card making at Abbeyfield Girton Green

Ann Jeram took part and this is what she had to say about it. "The craft of card making. A table full of eager card makers were not disappointed as we used pieces of card, tubes of paints, sticks of celery and a variety of other tools.



Finished greetings card

Chris was most generous in sharing her experience, patience and all her own equipment. The pictures show ladies at work and an example of the success achieved.

Many thanks to her and to Abbeyfield for providing a space for this activity"

Chris will be back in the Abbeyfield restaurant on Monday 18 March at 10.30am to do it all again so why not drop in and see how easy it is make an Easter card. Come and have a go.

'To spy or not to spy' was an extremely well structured talk given by our gently spoken, but informative speaker Nick Leader on Monday 12 February. He presented for Club 55 members an insight into the influential role spying and secret messaging has played in our history. Nick, also an author, brought along a copy of his book for people to ask him about and it was great to see so many of his neighbours from Churchfield Court there at this

Monday morning session. Thanks very much to both speakers for coming along to spread a little enjoyment.

Our next lunch will be at the Three Tuns public house, Fen Drayton on Wednesday 20 March but don't worry about getting there. If you want to come we'll try to arrange for you to get there if you can't make it under your own steam. Some of our members have volunteered to take those not having transport so it will be important to let me know that you need help getting there. The menu is not available as I write this article but the price of a two course meal will be £17.50 and three courses £21.50.

Just reminding you that on Monday 4 March our local Flukes Ukulele group will be performing during our regular 10am Monday morning session in the restaurant at Abbeyfield.

Reynard: An email from one of our readers explaining that she had just been listening to a BBC Radio 4 broadcast in which listeners were complaining that the sounds made by mating foxes were keeping them awake at night. She wondered, was this Reynard our village fox? Well let me assure you dear reader that Reynard is far too busy stealing shoes to be part of any shenanigans with lady foxes.

Sam Clift

Tel: 07850740721 or Email: samclift@ntlworld.com

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THE PASCHAL LAMB

Easter arrives early this year. The commercial world has eagerly set out its stall, and the world of nature vibrates with the joy of regeneration. But behind all the seasonal activity, lies a deeply profound and life changing significance.

Picture, if you will, an elderly man and his young son making their way, step by step together towards the mountains of Moriah. The father, Abraham, knows that under divine instruction, he is approaching a place of extreme testing and sacrifice. Would his nerve hold? Would his faith and trust crumble when the dreadful moment came? Could he without dissent, offer Isaac, the son of his love, and on whom rested the covenant promises of God, upon the altar as directed?

Isaac has a question. "My father, the fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for sacrifice?"

Abraham replies, "God himself will provide a lamb."

And God did so. Right at the last moment of Abraham's trial, God provided a ram caught in the thicket, a substitute for Isaac, and Abraham received the promise that through his offspring all nations would be blessed.

Generations later in the history of Abraham's descendants, the Israelites were about to embark on the journey of a lifetime out of the bondage of slavery in Egypt. That night the angel of death would pass over the land, taking the firstborn of every family except for those whose homes were marked by the blood of a substitute lamb.

As the feast of Passover is remembered to this day, the vital importance of the saving mark of the substitute lamb preserves the central theme in memorial, of God's provision of the Paschal Lamb.

Around the fields of Bethlehem, the shepherds would keep watch over their very special flocks. These were the lambs reared for the temple sacrifices for the trespasses of the people, the substitute Paschal lambs.

As Jesus began his ministry, John the Baptist stood beside the river Jordan. Upon seeing Jesus, John turned to his own disciples and announced, "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world."

He had seen God's provision, the one who would offer himself as that final sacrifice, once for all. (John 1v29)

*"Paschal Lamb, by God appointed
All our sins were on Thee laid;
By Almighty love anointed
Thou hast full atonement made.
All Thy people are forgiven
Through the virtue of Thy blood;*

*Opened is the gate of heaven
Peace is made for us with God."*

J. Bakewell (1757)

As we view the array of symbolic Easter gifts and take part in rituals both of fun and of memorial worship, let us contemplate the endless blessings afforded to us by faith.

Where human demerits are exposed by the light of divine holiness, there is forgiveness.

Where guilt blights peace, there is freedom and deliverance.

From the mastery of addiction, there is an escape and an open road of new beginnings.

Over the chasm of failure and default, there is a bridge to eternal blessing, life hope, joy, and great expectations. Enjoy this very special season and carry all its gifts into the rest of the year. Happy Easter to all.

Iris Niven.

ST ANDREW'S GIRTON

Easter Holiday Club

FOR KIDS AGED 5-11

- ✓ 9.30 am to 12 noon
- ✓ 9th and 10th April
- ✓ Games, crafts, Bible stories
- ✓ £5 per child per day

Cotton Hall, Girton CB3 0PN

**LIMITED SPACES -
TO REGISTER EMAIL
CFM@GIRTON.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

Children and Families Minister:

Eona Bell Tel: 07305 201419

Email: cmf@girton.church

Churchwardens:

Mr Bruce & Mrs Wendy Hunter Tel: 503958

Sunday Services: March

3rd Mar	10:00am - Holy Communion (+StA4K)
10th Mar	8:00am - Holy Communion (BCP)
	10:00am - All-age Communion - Mothering Sunday
	6:00pm - Evening Prayer (BCP)
17th Mar	10:00am - Holy Communion (+StA4K)
	6:00pm - Evening Prayer (BCP)
24th Mar	8:00am - Holy Communion (BCP)
	10:00am - Morning Prayer (+StA4K) - Palm Sunday
31st Mar	10:00am - Holy Communion (+StA4K) - Easter Day
* StA4K is St Andrew's for Kids in the church North Room	

Regular weekday Services: March

Tues	9am	Morning Prayer (said)
Weds	9am	Morning Prayer (said) (Online)
Thurs	9am	Morning Prayer (said) (Online)

Other Services:

13th	2:00 pm	Abbeyfield Holy Communion
14th	3:45 pm	Messy Church
19th	2:15 pm	Arlington Manor Holy Communion
28th	11:00 pm	Gretton Court Holy Communion (BCP)

Services in Holy Week

25th	10:00 am	Palm Sunday Morning Prayer
28th	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday
29th	11:00 pm	Good Friday
31st	10:00 am	Easter Day Holy Communion

We look forward to our services on Mothering Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Day. You are warmly invited to share in our worship. For date, time, and place information about all these events please see the church website. You are welcome to join us for Sunday morning worship in person or remotely at: <http://bit.ly/GirtonParishLive>. Please check the church website for up-to-date information (www.girton.church). This is the day that the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad in it! This is the day of the Lord; our Saviour, Christ, is risen! He has conquered sin and death, the power of love has overcome, and God has given us the victory! Alleluia!
[from Ps 118 and 1 Corinthians 15]

From the Registers

Weddings:

Tom Bicknell & Daisy Winch-Furness

Funerals / Burials of Ashes:

Ron Goodfield

Linda Ferrier

Etsuko Handley

James Fitzsimons

Minister: Revd Nick Lowe

Tel: 01223 279289

Secretary: Mr Ken Smith

Tel: 07860 736536 01223

Website: www.girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk

March Services

(all at Girton Baptist Church, and on Zoom)

3 rd	Morning Worship with Communion, at 10.30am, led by Nick Lowe
10 th	Morning Worship, at 10.30am, led by Tina Stephens, preacher Nick Lowe
17 th	Morning Worship with Communion, at 10.30am, led by Nick Lowe
24 th	Morning Worship, at 10.30am, led by Nick Lowe
28 th	Maundy Thursday Service, at 7pm, led by Nick Lowe
29 th	Good Friday Service, at 10:30am, led by Nick Lowe
31 st	Easter Day Service, at 10.30am, led by Nick Lowe

Other events

Messy Church: Thursday 14 March from 3.30pm. Fun for parents, grandparents or carers and their children, with craft activities based on a Biblical theme, a story, and a meal together. This month the theme will be on Easter. If you would like to find out more, please contact us or just come along.

Tuesday Afternoon Friendship Group for seniors: 5 March at 2.15pm.

Coffee morning: Would you like a chat and a free coffee on a Thursday morning? Why not try our friendly coffee morning at Girton Baptist Church, from 10am.

Wednesday Prayers: Wednesday 20 March, 7pm - 8pm, at 29 Fairway.

Invitation to Prayer: Every Friday, 7pm - 9pm, at GBC.

Abbeyfield A Look at The Book: Sunday 17 March, at 4pm, in the Activity Room.

All are welcome to the services and events.

For further details about any of the above, including the online link for the service, please ring 07483 334860 or email: secretary@girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk

Psalm 92:1-3

"It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High, proclaiming your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night, to the music of the ten-stringed lyre and the melody of the harp."

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

Chairman

Daniel Carney, Tel:07986592507
daniel.carney@girton-pc.gov.uk

Vice-Chairman

Ann Muston, Tel:07796 430345
ann.muston@girton-pc.gov.uk

Councillors

Gary Betts, Tel: 07950 526349
gary.betts@girton-pc.org.uk
 Victoria Brown, *victoria.brown@girton-pc.gov.uk*
 Andrew Clare, *andrew.clare@girton-pc.gov.uk*
 Alison Giles, Tel: 07855 184549
alison.giles@girton-pc.gov.uk
 Nas Hayat, Tel: 07917 204126 *nasir.hayat@girton-pc.gov.uk*
 Leslie Lampe, *leslie.lampe@girton-pc.gov.uk*
 Patrick Linton, *patrick.linton@girton-pc.gov.uk*
 Stuart Marshall, *stuart.marshall@girton-pc.gov.uk*
 Haydn Williams, Tel:07831 858584
haydn.williams@girton-pc.gov.uk
 Carolyn Wright, *carolyn.wright@girton-pc.gov.uk*
 Richard Reeves, *richard.reeves@girton-pc.gov.uk*

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

District Councillors

Corinne Garvie, Tel: 07780 932267 & 01223 276184
cllr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk
 Richard Stobart, Tel:07950 934793
cllr.stobart@scambs.gov.uk

County Councillor

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

Parish Clerk

Yvonne Murray Tel: 01223 237173
clerk@girton-pc.gov.uk

Facilities Manager

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



Bin collections - March

Thursday	7 March	Blue and Green bins
Thursday	14 March	Black bin
Thursday	21 March	Blue and Green bins
Thursday	28 March	Blue bin

Mobile library

Thursday 28 th March	
Thornton Court	9.40-10.00am
Abbeyfield	10.10-10.50am
Cotton Hall/Church	11.00-11.30am
Orchard Close	11.35-11.55am
St. Vincent's Close	12.00-12.40pm
Gretton Court	12.50 - 1.15pm
Churchfield Court	1.20 - 1.45pm

Contact numbers for bookings

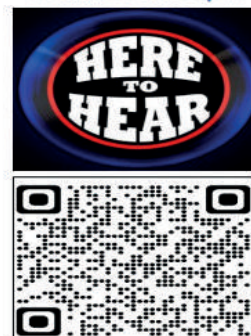
Cotton Hall	07759 983420
Orchard Close	277164
Pavilion	618619
St Vincent's Close	276447
William Collyn Community Centre	279587



The A10 Fish & Chip Van
 Visits Girton most Thursdays

Church Yard	3.50 – 4.10
Orchard Close	4.15 – 4.30
Wellbrook Way	4.30 – 4.45
St. Vincents Close	4.45 – 5.30
Church Lane	5.30 – 5.45
Hicks Lane	5.45 – 6.00
Duck End	6.00 – 6.30
Gretton Court	6.30 – 6.45
Woodlands Park	6.45 – 7.00

Girton Parish Council
 At Lexi's Pop-up Café
 11am to 12.30pm



The Mobile Post Office

Opens every Friday
 1.30-2.30 pm in the
 car park in Orchard
 Close behind Girton
 Village Day Nursery

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Cambridge
CB3 0QH

OSTEOPATHY

REHABILITATION

CRYOTHERAPY

STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

High performance Boat Race staff now offer services in Girton.
Contact info@lightblue.clinic or 01223 504723 for more information.




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

Mob: 07703 292354
e-mail: erica.n@me.com



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Mobile: 07980475856
Email: louieholliday@icloud.com

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6PM - 9PM (ORDER IN ADVANCE)

OTHER DATES TO FOLLOW

Join Girton Golf Club as a Social Member, and enjoy a drink with your food order. Pick up a Membership form in the Clubhouse.
£15.00 single annual membership
£20.00 couple annual membership

Dodford Lane, Girton, Cambridge, CB3 0QE Tel: 01223 276169





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morning cuppa.
For when '7 across'
has you stumped.



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For when a custard
cream tickles
your fancy.



For a hand to
hold when it all feels
too much.



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fall in love,
again.
For that fit of
giggles after a
serious chat.



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though you just
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