



GIRTON Parish News



August 2019

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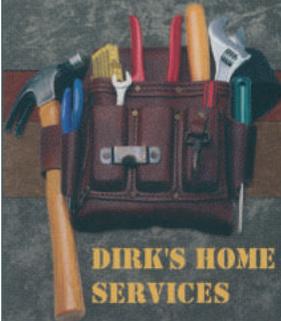
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The editorial team reserves the right to edit, accept or reject any material submitted for publication. The views expressed within the magazine are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial team.

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

Advertisements

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

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

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

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Webmaster Andrew Haylett

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

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The Village Diary

August

- Fri. 2** **Rotary Memory Café**, 10am–12 noon
St Vincent's Close Community Centre
- Sat. 3** **Girton Walking Group**, Anglesey Abbey
Meet 10am in National Trust Car Park
- Wed. 7** **Club 55**, Lunch, 12 for 12.30pm
The Old Crown, Girton
Girton WI, William Collyn Hall, 7.30pm
100th Birthday Party
- Thur. 8** **Dementia Café**, 10.30am–12pm
Arlington Manor Care Home
- Tue. 20** **Parish Council Meeting**
St Vincent's Close, 7.30pm
- Thur. 22** **Club 55**, Bowls Match from 10.30am,
Lunch and Film 'Maudie' from 12.30pm
William Collyn Community Centre
- Sat. 31** **Girton Churchyard Volunteers**, Work Party
St Andrew's Churchyard, 10am–12 noon

September

- Wed. 4** **Girton WI**, William Collyn Hall, 7.30pm
Wood Green Animal Shelter – Cheyenne Smith
- Sat. 7** **Girton Walking Group**, Clayhithe to Baits Bite
Lock. Meet 10am at Clayhithe bridge

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Cambridge Citizens Advice Bureau in Girton has moved!

If you have a problem or need advice please come and see our friendly staff at the Girton drop-in service at **William Collyn Community Centre**, Wellbrook Way, every **Wednesday** between **1 and 4pm**. Service funded by Girton Town Charity.

Copy date for September issue: Wed. 14 August. Issue date: Sat. 31 Aug. Covers 31 Aug.– 5 October.



Arlington Manor Open Day

**Saturday 17th August
10am – 4pm**

Join us at Arlington Manor to see for yourself why we are a care home with a difference.

Alongside our high quality care, residents can also enjoy our range of inclusive services and varied dining options as part of our wellbeing programme. So if you haven't come to see us yet, now is your chance.

Pop in on Saturday 17th August or speak to Lisa, Arlington Manor's Customer Relationship Manager, on **01223 814900** for more information or to make an appointment to talk to one of our dedicated team.

Arlington Manor Care Home, Wellbrook Way, Girton, Cambridgeshire, CB3 0FW
www.hallmarkcarehomes.co.uk

GIRTON PARISH COUNCIL

The following are amongst items discussed at Parish Council meetings and information received by the Parish Office

The Parish Council would like to congratulate and thank the committee members of Girton Village Celebrations for their excellent organisation of the recent Girton Feast Week. It was lovely to see our village community coming together, taking part and enjoying the events

At the July meeting, the Council approved an application to the Local Highways Improvements grant scheme, and a response to the proposed extension of the 40mph speed limit on the A1307 in Girton. The Council also approved revised proposals forwarded by Virgin Media for siting telecoms equipment in Wellbrook Way.

Thank you to those residents who have responded to the item in last month's Girton Parish News about using the trim trail. The Council are now looking at refurbishing some items of the equipment.

Sadly, one of the floodlights on the tennis courts has been badly damaged, most likely deliberately. If anyone has any information relating to this incident, please report it to the Clerk or any Councillor. The light has now been repaired at a not insignificant cost.

The repairs to the worst of the potholes in the road between the car park and Girton Glebe School were undertaken by volunteers using donated materials, in anticipation of the heavy usage during the end of Feast Week. They are only a temporary measure and we are grateful to Cllr Harford for her continued efforts to get the County Council to fulfil their responsibility to resurface the road.

Following receipt of permission from SCDC, George Thorpe has kindly trimmed the worst of the overhanging tree foliage along Mayfield (many thanks George). A more comprehensive crown lift will be undertaken in the autumn.

Next meetings

The next Parish Council meetings will be held on Tuesday 20th August and Tuesday 17th September, both at St Vincent's Close Community Centre at 7.00pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend all Parish Council meetings and to speak in the open session at the start.

Please see page 38 for a full list of councillors.

CHARITY BIKE RIDE

I am riding 100 miles on 4th August in aid of the Alzheimer's Society. The route is in Surrey and follows the Olympic Cycle Race circuit of 2012. The roads are closed to other traffic, so it should be good fun. I am trying to raise as much money as I can, rather than just setting a target. Dementia is getting more prominent now that the population is living longer. There is a lot of research going on now, some of it here in Cambridge. This money will help towards it.

Donations can be made by sending a cheque made payable to the Alzheimer's Society, to me at 20 Thornton Close, Cambridge, CB3 0NQ. There are also collection boxes at the Girton Co-op and at the BP petrol station on the Huntingdon Road.

Alternatively, please make donations at:
[justgiving.com/Andrew-West19](https://www.justgiving.com/Andrew-West19)

Thank you!

Andrew West
01223 277255



GIRTON NEEDS A

POPPY APPEAL ORGANISER

TO CO-ORDINATE THE 2019 CAMPAIGN

The role involves co-ordinating volunteers to collect donations for poppies in Girton for the British Legion's biggest annual fundraiser, which culminates in November's Remembrance Day service at St Andrew's church, Girton.

I have organised the campaign for the past 2 years, but regret that a replacement is needed now to carry on with this very worthwhile cause. Girton volunteers raised over £8,000 last year through collecting in the village and in Sainsbury's at Eddington.

The role can be as basic or as involved as you wish to make it and I found it to be a very rewarding experience.

If anyone is interested in taking over as PAO or wishes to know more about the role, please contact me on:
07885 190597



Thank you

Wendy Ripley
Current Poppy Appeal Organiser for Girton

From Our Councillors

County Councillor Lynda Harford

Safety on the *Cambridgeshire Guided Busway* (CGB) continues to be reviewed as a priority for the County Council. It carries out regular inspections and assessments on all the roads, footpaths and cycleways for which it is responsible and the CGB is no different. Following the incident at Kings Hedges Road, Officers have been assessing all the crossing points along the busway to increase awareness and promote safety. As a result extra advisory signs have been installed at the crossing points along the route. These additional signs are blue and state 'Busway Look Both Ways' to remind cyclists and pedestrians to stop and look for buses before crossing the busway. Since the busway opened in 2011 the area along the route has changed and evolved. There are increasing numbers of people and cyclists as the number of houses and businesses expands. The Council has also reduced the speed of buses as they approach the crossing point at Fen Drayton Lakes from 30mph to 20mph. These latest enhancements follow the additional signage and guard rail installed previously on the busway at Kings Hedges Road.

I am often asked to support requests for road safety improvements in Girton and pursuing the objectives of these is sometimes difficult because the County Council's data does not always back up the genuine belief of local people that a particular location is unsafe. Changing signage or road layout has to be supported by evidence of the need for the change. This year's report on road casualty data for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough provides some interesting information. Using agreed criteria for identifying a cluster site (6 injury collisions or 3 fatal or serious injury collisions within a 100m radius) over the 3 year period 2016–18, 53 collision cluster sites were identified in Cambridgeshire, none of which are in Girton; the nearest one is shown as Huntingdon Road/Oxford Road with a total of 7 collisions (1 serious and 6 slight). In 2018, 27 people were killed in road traffic collisions across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough (C&P), 430 were seriously injured and 2,073 slightly injured. The number of fatalities is at a 5 year low. Although the trend is downwards it is young people (aged 17–29) who remain at most risk of being injured in a road traffic collision. Conversely the number of older road user casualties (aged 70+) although relatively small appears to be on the increase; frailty being a key factor for this age group. 81% of fatal collisions in C&P occur on our rural road network. This is significantly above the national average which is approximately 60%. Importantly, though, from the point of view of local people wanting to be able to justify requests for road safety improvements, it is estimated that only 1 in 10 incidents is reported. If you are convinced that there is a real safety issue at a particular location it really would help

if encouragement were given to all those involved in minor incidents to report them to the police.

I felt very privileged to be invited to join the A14C2H Project Director to watch at close hand when the old bridge at Bar Hill was demolished recently. Up with the birds I set off to meet him at the Swavesey depot at 4.30am. After my health and safety induction and having donned all the necessary protective clothing, we drove to a point very close to the bridge from which we watched as 8 massive machines with long extensions and cutters closely resembling the heads of dinosaurs started to 'nibble' through the concrete until the reinforcing steel was cut and the span fell. When we left, work was starting to demolish the supports and crush the concrete on site. It was an amazing experience to watch the precision with which everything was planned and choreographed.

Thank you to all of you who have been in touch recently. Please do continue to contact me with your views and questions on the issues that are important to you.

Lynda
lyndaharford@icloud.com;
01954 251775/07889 131022;
Follow me on Twitter: @2whit2whoo

District Councillor Tom Bygott

Organisational Review

Despite SCDC having had an extremely good past record of efficiency and good management going back many years, the current administration continues to embark on its Organisational Review. This is contrary to the time-honoured maxim: 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it.' Such organisational reviews often result in unnecessary changes, spreading uncertainty and nervousness amongst staff, often prompting the best and brightest to look for more security and better opportunities elsewhere. Adding to this insecurity and sense that ominous secrets are being hidden, the administration insisted on excluding the press and public from the debate on the subject during May's council meeting, and again when the minutes were presented at July's meeting.

Having been present at both meetings, I am legally forbidden from revealing what was discussed. However, I find myself unable to identify a single piece of the information that actually justifies being kept secret; like many council minutes it is in fact all rather dull and boring. It is a complete mystery to me why this information has been deemed to be confidential or to require the press and public to be excluded. I and others have raised our concern over the number of meetings where the council is requesting the exclusion of press and public. Lack of transparency is not in the public interest.

Parks and green spaces receive £700,000

Cambridgeshire's and Peterborough's parks and green spaces will receive £700,000 from the ground-breaking

Future Parks scheme funded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, the National Lottery and the National Trust. There were 80 projects in total submitted across the UK to receive a share of the funding, and our area was one of the ten projects to be successfully awarded the funding. The County Council was the lead partner in this collaboration of a number of Councils, businesses and charities working together. The collaboration included SCDC. I am very proud of all of the work that officers across several councils have put in to get this money directed towards green spaces and parks, which ultimately we will be enjoying.

Fly-tipping education and prevention campaign

South Cambridgeshire District Council is running a campaign between now and March 2020 based on the successful S.C.R.A.P. Campaign being run by other authorities. Two thirds of fly-tips come from householders, so it is important that residents understand their Duty of Care. A common scenario is that a householder employs a firm that they believe to be a reputable waste removal company, which illegally dumps the waste in a fly-tip instead.

Householders can avoid an unlimited fine by following the SCRAP code:

- Suspect ALL waste carriers
- Check with the Environment Agency on 03708 506 506 that the provider taking your waste away is licensed
- Refuse unexpected offers to have waste taken away
- Ask what will happen to your waste
- Paperwork should be obtained – get a full receipt

The campaign reminds people to check their waste is being taken away for disposal by a licensed carrier – either by asking to see a Waste Carriers Licence or by looking up the company on the Environment Agency website: environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-carriers-brokers

A new policy for adult education

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority took control of the £11.5 million budget for adult education earlier this year. Upon this budget being devolved, the Combined Authority reviewed how the money should best be spent. The new strategy is to re-focus the funds, giving lower paid and skilled people the qualifications they need to secure better jobs. Adult education had a strong demand-led focus on community, leisure and pleasure courses, including arts, crafts and hobby activities. Whilst such courses will remain a part of the mix of adult education, the focus will now be on working with training providers and the business community to target specific skill gaps within the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough economy.

Public funds will now primarily be spent on those who have the lowest level of qualifications or no qualifications at all. There are a number of businesses in Cambridgeshire

and Peterborough that fail to fill vacancies due to a lack of skills. It therefore makes sense to prioritise funding on qualifications that are required by local businesses in order to create a larger pool and wider mix of skills to recruit from, improving the local economy. Qualifications in English and maths, as well as general courses enhancing employability, will still be offered. This new approach fits in with the Combined Authority's broader skills agenda to improve productivity, foster employment opportunities and reduce inequality in the economy. To this end, funding for independent training providers that specialise in vocational courses will be doubled.

Cllr Tom Bygott
cllr@bygott.net
07765 475 513

A View From the District

The Ely Cathedral Science Festival included a civic reception. There are many areas where Church and District can work together, most notably perhaps with hunger and poverty. Which reminds me to say that the Foodbank is under particular stress during the school holiday and the pause in free school meals. As Chairman I am supporting the Foodbank this year – will you join me?

I have raised again with the Eddington Project Director the question of the Girton boundary sign, and am told that the this will be discussed with Highways. The bollards on Eddington Avenue are now in operation and have already been hit by a vehicle.

I attended a dinner to welcome the new Vice Chancellor of Anglia Ruskin University, and discovered that ARU is keen to be involved with local government and local business; since I am also keen to establish links with businesses in the District this began, I hope, a fruitful dialogue.

I am now Chairman of the Joint Development Control Committee which decides planning applications for Cambridge fringes including Eddington and the NIAB site ('Darwin Green'). We shall have an update on Darwin Green at our next meeting.

Four years ago I helped to establish our Design Enabling Panel, a group of senior architects who freely give their time to consider significant planning applications at the pre-application stage, and make recommendations to the developer. On 27 June I spent a very pleasant day with four top architects, which included the contentious development in Michael's Close. They liked both revised proposals; but then they had liked the rejected proposal too. They still felt there was room for improvement and the architect was keen to incorporate their views.

Following that we had a presentation on the Local Transport Plan. The presenters were young and enthusiastic,

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

but I found it profoundly depressing. There was a lot of talk about there being no safe level of particulates in the air, about making roads safer and with lower emissions, and about the transport hierarchy. But nothing about increased atmospheric monitoring, and when I suggested a simple means of achieving a lot of benefits by reducing maximum speeds to 50mph I was met with mere polite interest. They did at least write furiously as we talked so maybe something will come of it, but in general the LTP's approach seems to be mere tinkering around the edges.

However, the County has announced plans to make the current temporary 40mph limit on Huntingdon Road north of the College permanent, which I regard as a great step forward. If only they would do the same for the equivalent stretch of the new A14 right up to Bar Hill: that is the major cause of noise pollution for Girton.

On Sunday 30 June I joined Girton College for their 150th birthday celebration, when among other things a blue plaque – the first in South Cambridgeshire – was unveiled to celebrate the pioneering work of Emily Davies and Barbara Bodichon.

On 4 July Council appointed our new Chief Executive. Liz Watts has an outstanding CV both nationally and internationally and I look forward to welcoming her to South Cambs at the end of the summer. Following that we had a presentation on Exception Sites: sites which would not normally be allowed development unless the housing is all affordable. I hope there might be some in Girton.

Councillors have had the first major workshop on the new Local Plan. It is a pity that so many Members were absent, as it is we who ultimately have to take the hard decisions. It was very well run and an excellent start.

The County has informed me of the closure of Whitehouse Lane from the Felix Hotel to where it meets the footpath from Thornton Close: from 16 September to 31 January 2020. This is to upgrade this stretch to a full cycle path, though I have no specific details. The diversion is back to Huntingdon Road, along Thornton Road and Thornton Close down the footpath there.

During this month I received an anonymous complaint about a neighbour. Please note that I am unable to take any action on any anonymous communication. While I shall keep your details confidential I must know who you are if you wish me to act for you.

Please remember the Foodbank over the school holidays.

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

**Cambridge
breast cancer
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**Charity Walk
6th October 2019**

Join us for a 9 mile walk
from Milton Country Park to Waterbeach

For further details and registration please contact:
jo@hartmcleod.co.uk or avrilwilliams04@gmail.com

Breast Cancer Now is a working name of Breast Cancer Care and Breast Cancer Now, a company limited by guarantee registered in England (8347608) and a charity registered in England and Wales (1160558), Scotland (SC345284) and a business name of the registered charity in the Isle of Man (1200). Registered Office: Fifth Floor, One House, 42-47, Minories, London EC3N 1DY.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

GIRTON WALKING GROUP

Saturday August 3rd: Anglesey Abbey (approx. 5.5 miles). The walk starts at the National Trust car park at Anglesey Abbey, Lode, CB25 9EJ. Meet at 10.00am. The link to this walk can be found here: www.caravanclub.co.uk/media/6552237/walking.pdf. For further details contact Kay Green, kaygreen1@gmail.com.

Saturday September 7th: Baits Bite lock from Clayhithe (approx. 5 miles). Meet 10.00am at the bridge over the River Cam at Clayhithe. There is roadside parking on the road from Waterbeach. This walk is included in the Clive Brown book *Walks for All Ages: 20 Circular Walks in Cambridgeshire*.

Friends of St. Andrew's Church



An escorted visit to Grimsthorpe Castle & Gardens

near Bourne, Lincs.

Thursday 12th September

Leaving Girton at 9.00am

Includes: morning coffee, tour of the park, lunch and tour of the castle. Walk the gardens & visit the shop.

Leaving Grimsthorpe at 4.00pm

Cost: £35.00 inclusive
payable on booking

To book a place, or for further details,

tel: 01223 276381

CHARITY BAND NIGHT

On the 7th September 2019 at the George public house Girton, starting at 5pm.

It's a free band and food, with charity events.

This is in aid of helping Laurence Parker, whom many of you will know, who lived in Girton for most of his life. He was a very active man, both in his work and his hobbies, and lived life to the full until three and a half years ago, when he had a major stroke. Sadly this has left him with major disabilities, but since then he has been fighting back, and his latest venture is off road biking, which will hugely benefit his drive to get some fitness back, as well as the benefits of fresh air and social interaction.

However these bikes are not cheap, so we are planning a fundraiser to start him on his way.

Please come along and support him if you can, and have a great night out with Laurence, as we know some of you haven't seen him in a long time.

If you want or need more information then please contact his sister Fiona Higgins on 07979 327 551.



SUMMER BOUNCY CASTLE DAY WITH GIRTON YOUTH PROJECT

Summer is here, and the sun is (finally) shining! It was great to see so many lovely people at the annual Feast Day – what a success. We have lots of fun things arranged for summer and on Monday 19th August we will be holding our summer bouncy castle day at the Rec between 12pm and 4pm. Come along and join in!!!

We'll see you all there!

Club times are as follows:

Monday group is for ages between 7–11, from 4.30–6pm.

Thursday group is for ages between 11–18, from 5–9pm.

If you are interested in being part of or enrolling your young person on to the youth project, please email me at frances.roach@ymcattrinity.org.uk or contact 07771 357 187



News from Girton Glebe Primary School

We have had an incredibly successful academic year at Girton Glebe Primary School, and, at the time of writing this, our pupils and staff are enjoying their final few days in the classroom ahead of a well-deserved summer break. Please read on for a round-up of our recent news...

Thank you, Girton!

I would like to thank all members of the community who have supported Girton Glebe over the last academic year. I always enjoy receiving feedback about the school and it has been wonderful to have had your support at the many events we have hosted this year; from the ever-popular FOGG (Friends of Girton Glebe) jumble sales to anyone who has turned out to cheer us along on Sports Day or at the Girton Feast celebrations – thank you.

I would also like to express our enormous gratitude to Girton Town Charity who have continued their invaluable work, supporting us directly, through funding curriculum enrichment activities, and indirectly, through the work we have done with the Girton Youth Project. We are very fortunate indeed to be part of such an incredible community!

Open Afternoon & Evening – An Invitation!

I would like to welcome you all to the Open Evening and Afternoon we will be hosting on Tuesday 7 November (2pm–3pm and 6pm–7pm) where you will have the opportunity to talk to staff, meet our governors and experience the wide range of activities taking place within our classrooms. There will be a café run by members of FOGG and there will also be a presentation at the start of each session by the Headteacher. Our Year 6 ambassadors will also be giving guided tours of the school if you wish to join them. I look forward to seeing you there!

Foundation Stage Open Morning

For parents with children of pre-school age, I would like to draw your attention to the Foundation Stage Open Morning we will be hosting on Saturday 21 September (10am–12pm). This session is designed to give parents and children an idea of the exceptional EYFS provision we offer at Girton Glebe Primary School and provide you with the opportunity to talk to the Headteacher and the EYFS team. Please, come and join us!

School Performance

I would like to say an enormous thank you and well done to all members of staff as we celebrate another successful year at Girton Glebe.

The summary of results, which is provided below, is testament to the hard work that has been put in by all pupils and staff, and that dedication ought to be celebrated. A huge thank you to parents and carers for your continued support across the year.

Well done to all children across the school for their hard work and determination!

Key Stage 1 Results:

% Expected Standard	Reading	Writing	Maths	Combined
Girton Glebe	80%	75%	75%	70%
National	75%	70%	76%	65%
Cambs	74%	67%	75%	63%

% Greater Depth	Reading	Writing	Maths	Combined
Girton Glebe	45%	20%	35%	20%
National	26%	16%	22%	12%
Cambs	26%	15%	22%	11%

Key Stage 2 Results:

% Expected Standard	Reading	Writing	Maths	GPS	Combined
Girton Glebe	93%	93%	93%	96%	85%
National	75%	78%	76%	78%	64%
Cambs	73%	75%	76%	75%	62%

% Greater Depth	Reading	Writing	Maths	GPS	Combined
Girton Glebe	56%	19%	63%	56%	19%
National	28%	20%	24%	34%	9%
Cambs	28%	17%	26%	33%	9%

Year 1 Phonics Results:

Girton Glebe = 95%
National = 82%
Cambs = 80%

EYFS Good Level of Development:

Girton Glebe = 71%
National = 71%
Cambs = 70%

Key Stage 2 Production

Well done to all of our Key Stage 2 pupils for their work in bringing the script and score for *Edith's Wartime Scrapbook* to life during the penultimate week of term. Children from Years 3–5 sang the nine songs which accompanied the script whilst our Year 6 pupils, in their final few weeks at Girton Glebe, took on all the acting roles.

The children performed magnificently well over the two evening shows and our Year 6 pupils shone on the stage in front of audiences of parents, friends and family members.

Well done to all children involved and a special cheer for our magnificent Year 6 cohort! Thanks also to Mr Austin and Miss Tweddle for supporting Year 6 in bringing these roles to the stage!

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Andrew Simpson
Headteacher

The Cotton Hall



Ideal for Childrens Parties

Large Hall +
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BOOK NOW

Contact our Booking Clerk for availability, details and to reserve your space.

In the heart of Girton Village — next to St Andrews Church, close to the Recreation Ground and Car Park.

Tel: **07759 983 420**

Office hours

cottonhallclerk@yahoo.co.uk

Girton, Cambs CB3 0PN



Charity Number 311356

GIRTON SOCIAL CLUB

At 48 Cambridge Road, Girton, is a small friendly Club looking for new members.

Small annual subscription with reduced rates for Senior Citizens. Children are welcome with parents.

Facilities include Pool, Darts, a CD Player and Licensed Bar. Also available for members to hold functions. Open Friday to Sunday lunchtimes, & evenings from 7.30pm.

Interested? Either call in and have a look around or 'phone:

01223 276890 during opening hours

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Cottontails Preschool

We are now at the end of the summer term and the end of the pre-school year, my first as Manager. It's been a lovely year and I am very proud of all of our children and the progress they have made. On a daily basis we celebrate every achievement, from children learning to put on their own shoes to writing their name, every step they take is amazing.



We had a great sports day. The children ran, jumped, balanced eggs on spoons, crawled through tubes and transported water. Lots of fun was had by all. We also saw everyone's competitive sides come out in the mums, the dads and the staff's races!

We took a walk to the lovely Girton Allotments where we were very kindly welcomed and shown around. The children picked raspberries and courgettes and took them back for a feast of a snack along with potatoes and green beans and even some pretty flowers to decorate the snack table.

We have said goodbye to many of our wonderful children who will be going to primary school in September with some lovely end of term events including a leavers presentation, forest school campfire, summer party and family picnic. The children have been preparing for the transition to school with school visits, their new teachers coming to visit pre-school and writing and posting letters to their new teachers. I wish all of our school leavers well for the future, we will miss you all.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my brilliant staff team for all of their hard work and their commitment this year. Also to our committee who have put their all into supporting Cottontails to be the best that it can be: they manage the business side of things and do lots of fundraising too, most recently the cheese and wine evening which was a great success and a really fun evening too. Thank you to all of you.

Cottontails pre-school is open to children aged 2-4 years, and we have spaces available from September 2019. If you would like any further information about Cottontails, please visit our website www.cottontailspreschool.org or contact us on 07935224607 or info@cottontailspreschool.org.

Laura Norman
Cottontails Preschool Manager



Girton WI

Our July meeting started off with a bit of a panic, our common members having almost all arrived but our speaker Rachel had not. It was mostly me panicking as I had arranged the speaker for the first time and I thought I had been remiss by not having her phone number, as we had done all our communication by email or Facebook. Luckily due to modern technology, I found I could call her on Facebook, panic over! Rachel had gone to the the CFWI building and was sitting in the car park also wondering what to do. A few minutes later she arrived with us at the William Collyn Community Centre, much to our members' and my relief.

Rachel's talk for the evening was titled Green Beauty. Aided by slides she gave us some frightening facts and figures on the fact that many products we use on our skin can be full of chemicals and toxins and can be harmful to our environment. In particular, sunscreens often contain oxybenzone which can affect coral reefs and ocean sea life. Some countries like Mexico have started to ban sunscreens that are not mineral based. Another harmful thing are parabens, an inexpensive and common type of preservative used in skin care products that can disrupt hormone function. Individual products may contain limited amounts of parabens which used alone are within guidelines, but they could cause problems if using several products containing parabens at the same time. Rachel certainly made our members think about how many products we use on our skin each day. Rachel is an ambassador for a company called Tropic Skincare which was founded by Susie Ma, a contestant on The Apprentice in 2011 where she came third. Sir Alan Sugar has invested in her company after taking her natural skincare products home to see if his wife liked them. Our members were all keen to learn more about Tropic Skincare and sample the products in the future.

On a lighter note, several of our members had a fun day at Girton Feast Day on Saturday 13th July where they ably manned our bottle tombola and the usual cake stall. The cakes were of a very high quality, all made by our lovely WI ladies who produced a lovely array of fruit cakes, Victoria sandwiches, chocolate cookies and cake, meringues, the increasingly popular gluten free and many more delights to tempt the Feast goers. Thank you very much to all our members who baked or provided bottles for the tombola. The funds raised are going towards our 100th Birthday Party on Wednesday 7th August, where we hope to have a lovely celebration with members old and new.

Wendy Hall



Girton Garden Society

Feast Week Village Fete 2019 – The Mini Show

What would the weather bring this year? I ask this question every year as there no longer seem to be any certainties. We had a very warm period in February then a late frost, very sporadic rainfall and finally potato blight on the allotments. However this didn't seem to deter hardy gardeners and we ended up with a magnificent display in almost all categories. I think only beans of a decent length were in short supply, and by 10am a steady stream of people were arriving with their entries for the show and extra produce for the stall. In the end we needed an extra table so 'well done' everyone!



Four laden tables

In the flower categories there were 8–10 entries in each category with a huge variety in the 3 single

blooms group, from agapanthus, achillea and dahlias to hostas, lilies and penstemon. The roses were glorious and the mixed bouquets were beautifully done. All entries would have been worthy winners.

The children's entries included a wonderful vegetable monster by Wendy Booth, some competitive beans and funny carrots.



The Judging Begins

By 11.45am the tables were full and Malcolm Frew arrived to judge the entries and award the rosettes. Starting with the vegetables he examined the entries and awarded the prizes. Stand out entries were the wonderful onions of John Gibson, Wendy Ripley and Ian Jones; rhubarb from Louisa Cook, John Gibson and Judy Clare; Kay Green, John Gibson and Andrew Field's 3 different vegetables; and potatoes entered by Graham Jones, Kay Green and Catherine Fullah. Judy Clare, Robin Bradford, Wendy Ripley and Ian Jones were commended in the bean class. In the children's categories Ellie McIntosh won with her carrot with Delilah and Josephine Whittle in second place. 3 different coloured vegetables was won by Wendy Booth with Ellie McIntosh in second place. Rafi Leach-Cook grew the longest bean with Wendy Booth in second. There was only one entry for 'An animal modelled from vegetables, fruit

and/or flowers' but what an entry from Wendy Booth. It was imaginative, cleverly constructed and fully deserved to win the 'Best in Show' cup which was awarded to Wendy by Malcolm Frew.



Best in Show



Winning vegetables

On to the fruit: John Gibson, Beatrice Moring and Kay Green shared the prizes for a small plate of fruit.



Winning fruit

The flowers were more plentiful than last year due to the weather and were much harder to judge as they were all really good. Uniformity of size and stage of development is important for the 3 stems category and symmetry of composition in the mixed bunch category. The 3 stems category was won by Judy Clare for her dahlias and Rod Mathie and Ann Jerram came 2nd and 3rd with agapanthus and penstemons. The bunch of garden flowers category was won by Rod Mathie with Kay and Judy close behind. In the rose category the winner was Corinna Tabor with Beatrice Moring in second place and Judith Addison third.



Beautiful flowers

On behalf of the Girton Garden Society and Girton Allotment Society I would like to say a big 'thank you' to all the members who took the time to help organise the show on the day and who donated their vegetables, fruit, jam, chutney, plants and tubs to be sold on our combined stall. Also many thanks to everyone who helped on the stall – it really looked lovely and demonstrated very clearly that growing your own fruit, flowers and vegetables is rewarding, satisfying and clearly helps foster community spirit! Finally I would like to thank Malcolm Frew for doing the judging for us in such a careful and completely unbiased manner. Not an easy task but carried out with ease and professionalism.

I look forward to next year with even more entries (and tables) as people are inspired by what they have seen and realise that adverse weather conditions just make people more determined.

Kay Green, Girton Garden Society



August can be quite a challenging month for gardeners, as several difficulties can present themselves at this time:

- some clematis, roses and perennial borders can look tired and 'end of season'.
- pots and hanging baskets can become leggy, scruffy and lacking in flowers.
- there is the 'holiday challenge' of how to ensure adequate watering while you are away, and how to cope with an overgrown, weedy or desiccated garden on return.
- and the school holidays present the challenge of how to keep the children (or grandchildren) occupied, amused and preferably outdoors for some of each day.

The good news is that gardening magazines in July and August are full of tips to help with all the above, so I've tried to assemble a selection of their most useful advice:

There are two basic solutions to the 'tired garden' look. One is to encourage regeneration of repeat flowering roses and large flowered clematis by deadheading and lightly pruning out dead or congested stems, then feeding, watering deeply, and mulching. Similarly, early flowering perennials such as delphiniums, lupins, oriental poppies, and cranesbill geraniums can be cut right back to the crown, removing the old flowered stems and any dead leaves, and then be fed (with tomato food or similar), watered, and mulched. This treatment should produce a flush of new leaves, and often gives a late second flowering in the clematis, roses, delphiniums, lupins and some geraniums.

Secondly, new plantings at this time can revitalise the garden. You can often buy mature late flowering perennials such as dahlias, rudbeckias, penstemon and cannas to give instant impact this month. Also, many retailers will stock a range of autumn flowering bulbs, which can flower in the next six weeks if planted immediately. Look out for nerines, colchicums (Autumn crocuses), cyclamen hederifolium (small, pink and good under trees and shrubs), hesperantha – used to be called schizostylis or crimson flag lilies – and sternbergia, known as the summer daffodil. These are all colourful, like a dry, sheltered position and need well drained, but quite poor, soil.

- Dull, straggly planters and hanging baskets can also benefit from a fairly drastic prune, tidy and regular feed at this stage. Petunias in particular can recover brilliantly with this treatment, although you will have a couple of weeks when the plants look rather pathetic. You can also often find bargain 'replacement' tubs or baskets being sold cheaply later this month. There have been several years when I have bought a late basket and with TLC it has looked splendid for a further two months.

- A holiday absence of a week or two from the garden always poses the problem of how to keep plants in good condition,

and raises the spectre of returning to a weedy, overgrown or desiccated plot. Many of us hesitate to ask family or friends to take on the responsibility for watering for any length of time, and the drip watering systems you can buy for baskets, tubs or borders tend to be expensive. There are, however, some basic steps you can take to avoid the worst effects of your absence. If pots and planters are placed close together on damp gravel in a sheltered spot, they will retain humidity, avoid wind damage and keep moist roots. You can also place pots on capillary matting (or old towels) with one end in a bucket of water to produce a 'seep' system, and houseplants can be put in a washing up bowl or shallow bath of water as long as the light level is good. Lastly, if you weed, deadhead, water and mulch the garden extensively, and mow the lawn, just before you go away, this should limit the 'overgrown jungle' look which is so depressing to return to.

- Finally, the 'school holiday challenge'. There are many garden and wildlife activities which children can enjoy over the summer – the examples below are just a small selection. Cambridge University Botanic Garden offers a variety of experiences, including the exotic, weird and rare plants in the glasshouses, the 'Bee borders', and the display of how and why plants open their flowers at different times of day. There is also a newish viewing platform to climb and this tells the story of when different types of plants first appeared on earth, and their impact on the environment, and there are child friendly games and quizzes underneath the structure. A gentle walk through the magnificent trees and informative borders can be rounded off with a visit to the shop or café.

A walk around the rapidly establishing pool and wild flower banks at the Madingley Road end of Eddington provides chances for butterfly, insect, wildflower and water bird identification, and there are plenty of picnic tables around the site.

An hour or two spent doing a garden bird, butterfly or bee count in the garden on a warm morning can improve identification skills, and give a view of how you have a wildlife sanctuary at home! Practical activities can include making a Bug Hotel (or Bee and Bee!) out of wood, bricks, bamboo canes, twigs, straw and old egg boxes; creating slug traps from half skins of oranges or grapefruit filled with beer, and earwig traps from small plant pots or yogurt cartons filled with straw and put upside down on canes next to plants in the border; or making a scarecrow to keep pigeons off the vegetable patch

Sowing seeds is a longer term project, but it is fun to watch tiny seeds germinate and grow into full size plants. Clear large yogurt pots with a lid make a good miniature greenhouse on a warm windowsill (remove the lid when germination has started), small yogurt pots make good first plant pots, and there are inexpensive seeds in the 'Country Value' range from garden centres. Pansies can be a good choice at this time of year, as they will develop into hardy plants for the spring.

*Janet Sheard
Girton Garden Society*

Garden Tip of the Month – August

While cutting down my blighted potato tops, I was glad to see alongside the healthy tops of my Main crop: Sarpo Mira, which is blight resistant. I don't know if you have tried them but they are a versatile and tasty potato, and they crop heavily. What's not to like?

We have a small lawn in which a little clump of cowslips flowers each spring, around which I mow until July, when I crop the seeds and then cut them low. Lately I've been mowing round a little viola that got started during the dry spring and which I haven't the heart to dispatch now. Earlier there were loads of dandelions and there are usually a few daisies, and sometimes the blue haze of speedwell. Bumbles visit the clover and occasional deadnettle. Actually it can only loosely be described as a lawn, it's more a grassy mead, and quite enjoyable in a low key way. It's all quite low maintenance too!

On a more practical note many shrubs have just finished flowering, so now is usually the best time to give them a prune. If you have little idea what to do there's a lot of truth in the maxim: prune back to two buds. What does this mean? Generally the branches bear many spent flowers and you need to cut most of this off, just retaining two buds, or more likely (lengthening) side shoots which will lengthen this year and flower next year. Don't remove more than a third of the bush though or you'll be likely to provoke too much leafy extension growth at the expense of flowering wood.

A quick final plea to try controlling the vigour of your fruit trees by chopping off a lot of the year's growth and thereby denying it the benefit of this year's growth. When the side shoots are stiff rather than flexible near their base it's time to snip them back to about five leaves. Better to do some that are easy to reach than think 'I can't reach them all', and do none!

There – I managed the whole article without once mentioning the drought ...

George Thorpe



GIRTON FEAST 2019

Wow!! What a weekend – The Greatest Showman under the skies, rockin' at the Summer Evening Concert and followed by the best attended Village Fete ever! Were you one of the hundreds of people that came along on Saturday and enjoyed all that the Fete had to offer? If so, thank you, for helping to make it so successful. Girton Baptist Church were the winners of the best dressed stall, with Abbeyfield the runners up.

During the Feast Week there have been BBQ's, Motown, cake, tea, Pimms, beautiful gardens, wine and cheese, the pub quiz, the steak night and lots more.

The Feast Committee would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who came along, all the clubs and societies that took part, all those who had stalls and events, all our programme sellers, our entertainers and performers and all our sponsors and prize donators. With a special thank you to Girton Glebe Primary School for your Maypole dancing, singing and instrument playing. It was great to see you all!!

If you have any ideas or suggestions for the future, please let us know while these are still fresh in your thoughts. If you would like to join the team that puts all this together please contact us. rowena@girtonfeast.org.uk 01223 565247 or helen@girtonfeast.org.uk





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GIRTON scoreboard



Girton Bowls Club

At last the summer seems to have arrived and we are enjoying some good bowls matches in the sunshine. We have had some good results in the E & D league and to date we have played 13 games and won 6. This places us midway in the table, out of

12 teams. We are also doing well in the C & D league and are currently sitting at the top of Division 5 and hopefully, if we can maintain this position, will look towards being promoted at the end of this season.

In the Business Houses league we have had some very close games, one of which was our game against Abbey which was won by just one point. Something that is unique to the Business Houses league is that players play with 4 bowls as opposed to the usual 3. On 3rd July our Business House Pair of Janet Graaff and Malcolm Creek achieved what is known as a 'hotshot' against the team from Alexander/Beehive. This is when all 8 bowls for the pair count as they are the nearest to the Jack. Our two players will receive a certificate and badge at the next Business Houses AGM. Well done, quite an achievement!

In the Meldreth League there is good news, we have now won 2 games in this League which was proving much more challenging than at first thought, so the victories are even sweeter.

Girton recently had 2 teams enter into the annual Rose Bowl competition held at the Cambs & County Bowls Club. The B team, consisting of Trevor Dean, Alan Benton, Mike Collier and Jane Hewer, had some very close games but were not among the finalists. The A team, however, consisting of Pat Collier, Margaret McCall, Geoff McCall and Dave Fryer, won all of their four games achieving a net score of 17 points. This resulted in a draw with Longstanton who had exactly the same stats and also a net score of 17. In order to decide on a winner the organisers then looked at the number of ends won, the result of which was Longstanton 19 ends, Girton 16 ends, which meant Girton were the runners up. It could not have been closer; well done to all our players who I know had a most enjoyable day.

In the E & D knockout competition, Girton are through to the semi finals and will play Mildenhall on 26th July.

Our Club's thanks go to Arlington Manor Care Home who have very generously offered their cafe facilities free of charge for several of our after match refreshments.

Our participation in the Annual Feast day was a great success. We had a treasure hunt, a tombola and a target Bowls Competition, all of which proved very popular.

Our Thursday evening Rollup nights are ongoing so if you would like to come and join us the only requirement is that you wear flat soled shoes on the Green. Bowls are available as is coaching. Please contact our Secretary Margaret McCall on margaret.mccall@ntlworld.com for more details.

You can also visit our website at:

www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com to catch up with all our results and view photos of our activities to date.

Lynne McGill



Girton Golf Club

Our fantastic ladies pair of Girton residents Ruth Webster and Jacqui Storey march on in the Daily Mail foursomes national competition and are now through to round 6 with another great win, at home this time against Gedney Hill. This competition is really country wide and as they have progressed the opponents can come from further away. The next round is not too far and against Sheringham Golf Club with the original starting line-up of over 2,000 clubs now down to 64, including our pair. Well done Ladies and best of luck for the next round.

We held a hugely successful ProAm on 9th July with 88 participants playing in teams of 4 (3 amateurs and one professional) in good weather with fabulous camaraderie, a wonderful atmosphere, some great golf, some less so and an excellent carvery meal after play. Well done to the winning team led by our Captain Brian Pettengel with Jason Levermore, the PGA East Captain, and also many congratulations to Mark Talbott of Thorpe Hall Golf Club and David Salisbury of 3 Rivers Golf Club who were the winners of the Professionals competition. Congratulations also to our hardworking green keepers who produced the course in brilliant condition on this our great show day! The day was in aid of our club charity for this year, Arthur Rank Hospice, and we raised over £700 on the day.

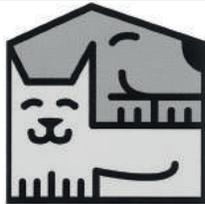
The next big fundraiser will be our Charity Day on 31st August when the whole day is dedicated to raising maximum funds for Arthur Rank Hospice. Teams of 4 will be competing in a Texas Scramble, many in fancy dress, the theme being Sporting Events. We are expecting up to 160 participants, so it should be a great day.

Captain's Day saw 130 golfers take to the course and the day was won by Ben Carruthers on 41 points just pipping Kevin Tonner and Colin Jackson on 40. The Past Captain's Salver went to Trevor Dean while the 9 hole Ladies competition was won by Ruth Lawton. A really successful day for our captain Brian Pettengel.

The Hardstone Trophy was won by Stephen Johnstone with a massive 44 points with Neil Turner winning the Long handicap Cup. The Hewett Goblets was won by Grant Cowie.

In the Ladies competitions Pat Douglas (Lady Captain) won the Ladies Coronation Cup (Scratch Prize), but there is a play-off for the trophy with Jean Curtis. Lady Captain's Day

Continued on page 23 ...



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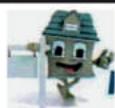
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GIRTON scoreboard

...continued from page 21

was a scorcher, and the 3 category winners were Pauline Naisbett in Division 3, Phillipa Towlson-Mulbregt Division 1, and the overall winner was Claire Tonner with an excellent 43 points. Past Lady Captain's Salver was won by Margaret McCall.

Ladies Day was won by Gillian L'Angellier with 38 points and the Jubilee Cup was won on count back by Claire Tonner over Kerry Towlson-Mulbregt. The Ladies team has won against Bourn.

The Allan Gow Memorial mixed was won by Sunil Gujral with Emma Findlay who scored a superb 44 points.

Our Juniors lost in the semi-final of the St Neots Knock Out trophy at the first extra hole - a great effort by our young team but they will come again even stronger.

Summer is now certainly here and the warm weather is wonderful to play in, if you don't weaken. We are still open for more playing and social members so come down to the club and have a look around. About 20 people did on Sunday morning in Feast Week and a number signed up for social membership – come along and see what attracted them. We also offer a Corporate membership for those small companies who would like somewhere to meet clients and suppliers, where they can get free WIFI, no parking charges, privacy and really good coffee. Talk to the bar staff for more details.

Alan Henderson-Smith



Girton Cricket Club

As we approach the sharp end of the season both Girton teams have much to play for in their respective leagues. The 1st team are sitting 6th in a highly competitive

league with 3 wins and some crucial bonus points gained from the losses. There are 6 games left, and with 20 points for a win there is a real possibility to challenge for promotion to Senior Division 2, currently sitting 48 points off the promotion spots. In the coming month they play the two sides sandwiching them in the league, both of which could prove decisive in the final standings.

The 2nd team have won 4 and lost 5 so far and sit 7th in Junior League 4. With 80 points still available this season, a good run of form could see them also challenging the top teams in their league. They play Camden (2nd in the league) then Bar Hill (3rd in the league); good results here will be the key as they finish the season against current bottom team Shelford.

There have been several outstanding performances with bat and ball over the past 2 months since the last update. Tony Thornton carried his bat for 110 vs Fen Ditton and Paddy Coughlin for 83 against league toppers Sawston & Babraham, and Ed Crewe hit 87 not out against Coton.

For the bowlers, Troy Sparks had figures of 4 for 17 vs Yelling, Andy Burton 4 for 22 vs Fen Ditton. New signing Mohammed Bilal 4 for 26 vs Cambourne and Dean Stacey 4 for 27 vs Cottenham.

If you feel inspired after watching England win the World Cup in 'the greatest game of all time' (Joe Root), feel free to join a practice session at the rec. Call Matt (07525 254907) or Dean (07841 625675) for details.

Alex Rodger

Girton Tennis Club



We are delighted to report that our 'Open Court' session during the main Feast Saturday afternoon was very well supported. Adults and children enjoyed the chance to hit a few balls and also try the 'Ball Can Challenge'. Play continued well into the early evening. If any of those that took part

on 13th July are interested in playing some more tennis in Girton, please contact Kevin (details below) for club membership information.



Our first picture shows committee members Kevin and Alan just finalising the tennis tent before opening the courts for general use.

About 10 days before the Feast we had a major problem that threatened to halt all play on the courts due to broken glass. This could have affected home matches, club nights and the Feast Open Court session. One of the floodlights had had the front protection glass smashed and this fell and scattered around the far court. Although the debris could be cleared up there remained several sharp glass shards that could fall at any time onto anyone passing under the light – a safety hazard that could not be left. The Parish Council are arranging for a company to repair the damage but, in the meantime, I am pleased to report that committee members Kevin and Alan Richardson sorted out the remaining glass shards so that we can safely use the courts again. The second picture overleaf shows Kevin doing a final check with a very long, light pole. Thanks to their quick and effective action we were able to host a home match and then open to the public for the 13th July.

Continued on page 25 ...

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GIRTON scoreboard

...continued from page 23



Although Wimbledon is now a distant memory our mixed team have started their matches and are always interested to hear from members who may be interested in playing a few friendly matches against local teams this summer. Do get in touch if you feel up to the challenge.

We play on the Girton recreation ground courts and members who purchase a key have court access during most daylight hours. 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. We run supervised sessions for juniors on Friday evenings (6.30 to 7.30pm). Adult club members play from 7.30pm on Friday evenings.

Details about our activities can be found on our web site www.girtontennisclub.uk or by contacting our Membership Secretary Kevin Keeves on 01223 276660 or by email info@girtontennisclub.uk



Girton Netball Club

Cambridge & District Netball League (CDNL) – Summer League 2019

Following on from our last report, we have played our final summer league match with the result at full time: Girton 36 – 18 Trumpington Tigers (player of the match: Jane). During this summer league we have put in some incredible performances and got some brilliant

results and we finished joint top of our division with Thundercats on 38 points but second in the division on goal difference. We now have to wait until the autumn to play in the winter league.



Girton Feast

It was very nice to meet so many people on the 13th July at our Netball stall at the Girton feast. We have had some very colourful entries for our kit design competition and will be spending time this summer deciding which the winning design is. Winners will be notified as soon as possible, but there are some difficult decisions to make.



Training Sessions

Monday evening training sessions at the Recreation ground in Girton, 6.30–7.45pm will start again in September 2019 but if you would like any information about our club in the meantime please contact Mel using girton.village.netball@gmail.com. Also find us at: sites.google.com/site/girtonnetball/ and tinyurl.com/girton-netball

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Arlington Manor Bridges the Generation Gap

Arlington Manor Care Home will attempt to bridge the generation gap by hosting a weekly sing-along activity for 0 to 4 year olds and their parents within the local community. The care home, on Wellbrook Way, will host a weekly session called Songs & Smiles held in association with not-for-profit social enterprise, The Together Project.



Songs & Smiles has been designed to entertain and engage everyone from the youngest to the oldest members of the group, through singing, movement, instruments, coloured scarves and bubbles. Each session lasts approximately an hour, with the creative activity followed by refreshments and a meet and mingle with the home's residents and care team. The purpose of the activity is to reduce loneliness, improve well-being, tackle ageism and unite local communities through joyful intergenerational activities.



Customer Relationship Manager Lisa Vile said: 'We are delighted to be hosting this activity at our home as we know that intergenerational activities can help to improve both the residents' physical and emotional well-being. We are really looking forward to our first session and we hope that local parents and their little ones will come along and join us for a great morning of socialisation and fun.'

Founder of The Together Project Louise Goulden says: 'We're so pleased to have partnered with Arlington Manor Care Home. It means we can spread the Songs & Smiles joy to children, parents and older people within the Girton community, bringing everyone together for music, fun and friendship. It's an exciting step for The Together Project and we're thrilled to be working with a care home that shares our commitment to enriching the lives of people living in residential care.'

Arlington Manor's first Songs & Smiles session took place on Thursday 11th July at 11.00am. Each session is free, however donations are welcome.

For further information please email songs@thetogetherproject.co.uk.

Verity Prentice
PR Manager, Hallmark Care Homes

End of Term for Girton Community Choir

July 3rd saw members of Girton Community Choir meeting in the garden of The Old Crown for their annual social evening, celebrating the achievements of another year under the guidance of Elaine Diamand, who has led us for the past five years.

The weather was fine and warm, the food and drink excellent, the conversation convivial; the only fly in the ointment was saying farewell to Elaine, who has led us for the past five years. We will miss not only her musical expertise, but also the feelings of friendship and mutual support she has fostered within the group.



So ... we are looking for a new person who would be willing to be our new musical director. We are about 15 strong and sing a variety of styles at a variety of village venues in four part harmony. We can't offer a salary, I'm afraid, but can cover expenses. We are a willing and friendly bunch and we're looking forward to meeting our new leader. Could you be that person, or know of someone who could be? For further information please contact Jane on 01223 474667.

Jane Williams

Ten Sing

Ten Sing has just had their last session of the year, ending the way we do every year with a barbecue for all the members and their families. We will be returning!

Ten Sing is an international youth choir run by young people for young people, originating in Norway. We sing, dance and act, but more importantly we develop a range of other skills such as team work. We meet at Histon Baptist Church on Thursday evenings, 7-9pm. If you are interested please contact our administrator at jking42@aol.com and come for a taster session one Thursday.

Jennifer Evans

Almshouses play increasingly important role in social housing provision

The severe shortage of affordable rental accommodation in the UK means that almshouses are more important than ever in providing low cost housing for families and the over 55s. Today more than 35,000 people live in almshouses, supported by charities and not paid for by the taxpayer. In our own Village, Girton Town Charity funds ten almshouses, with more in the pipeline to meet the growing demand for housing provision in the future.

Girton enjoys a long history of providing almshouses which goes back to the start of the 19th century when homes were located at Camping Close in Cambridge Road and between the Old Rectory (now Cambridge Academy of English) and St Andrew's Church. The first of the current almshouses were built in the 1930s on land owned by the Charity in the High Street and four more in Michael's Close were added in the 1960s.

Village connection

GTC Chairman Dr Robin Hiley says: "As an almshouse charity, we provide 100% of the funding to build new homes and do not rely on support from the taxpayer. We currently have seven GTC almshouses at Centenary Court in Wellbrook Way and one each in Girton Road, St Vincent's Close and Fairway. All these two and three bedroom unfurnished homes are made available to those with a Girton connection.

"As they are let as almshouses, they are subject to different legal arrangements from private, council or housing association tenancies. Residents are 'appointees', not 'tenants', live in the house under licence and pay a maintenance contribution, not rent. As they are almshouses there is no 'right-to-buy' or opportunity for shared equity.

"We advertise vacancies locally for which residents can apply and be interviewed. Decisions are made after careful consideration on the basis of a wide range of criteria."



GTC almshouses at Centenary Court, Wellbrook Way.

Residency

With GTC almshouses, residency is limited to a maximum of three years except for those over the age of 55 or in the case of disability.

In addition to the homes at Centenary Court which have green features and energy efficient insulation and heating systems, there are two projects in the pipeline to expand the portfolio of almshouses to meet future demand for housing.

Suffolk Terrace

On the former WI site, work is due to start shortly on building three terraced almshouses. Called Suffolk Terrace as the hut was originally used by the Suffolk Regiment, these two and three bedroom homes will be accessed directly from the High Street and include one parking space per house and a private garden with its own amenity area incorporating recycling and refuse bin storage. All include high levels of insulation and energy efficient heating systems.

The development is two storey in keeping with the other residential properties surrounding the site. Great care has been taken to ensure the materials used will be complementary to the existing character and colour palette of the area, with the exteriors featuring red brick and render with Tuscan clay tiles.

High Street

The second major almshouse project is on High Street where proposed plans to provide 14-16 homes for over 55s are being developed for submission to South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Each property has been designed to meet the future needs of the elderly to allow for extended independent living, with easy wheelchair access and bathrooms equipped as wet rooms.

Parking spaces are proposed, one for each apartment and two for the GTC office.

The gardens are designed to be the centre of this community with small individual areas for ground floor homes and communal spaces. Neighbouring gardens will be screened with hedging and trees.

The new project replaces six bungalows in Michael's Close, in addition to the current GTC office, which were all built in the 1930s and 1960s and no longer provide adequate accommodation, in terms of comfort, energy-efficiency and modern facilities.

21st century living

The Almshouse Association is a charity that supports almshouse providers in their task to provide suitable accommodation for their appointees. It says:

“Almshouse charities today have to invest heavily in the modernisation and updating of almshouse dwellings to provide 21st century living, either in building new, contemporary, purpose-built flats and bungalows or by refurbishing buildings.

“Standards of accommodation are continually rising, with technology playing an increasing part in making life easier. Disabled access, internet connection, electronic doors and sophisticated alarms all contribute towards enabling residents to remain independent in their homes for as long as possible.”

Cambridgeshire County Councillor Lynda Harford added: “GTC’s almshouses play a very important role in providing homes for those with a connection to Girton. South Cambridgeshire District Council’s housing register currently shows eight applicants over 55 with connections to Girton who need age-appropriate affordable accommodation. The new projects to increase the number of almshouses will help meet this growing demand.”

GTC is inviting Girton residents to get in touch if they or members of their family think they would benefit from living in almshouse accommodation.

The Trustees would also welcome the support of Village residents who share its ambition to provide low cost housing to meet future housing needs.

Appointment of Trustee

The Trustees of Girton Town Charity wish to be representative of the residents of the Village and we would welcome a new member of any age, sex, race or belief who shares an interest in the promotion of the Charity and its purposes.

As a Trustee you must be prepared to take an active and ‘hands-on’ part in the running of the Charity which will involve working on specific allocated responsibilities.

We have a monthly evening meeting to discuss the routine business of the Charity and new strategies are developed at an annual all-day meeting.

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

Written applications to be addressed to the Chairman at 22 High Street, Girton, CB3 0PU.

The 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:

Dr Robin Hiley (Chairman) 1 Fairway Girton CB3 0QF t:277296

Ann Bonnett (Vice Chair) 41 Church Lane Girton CB3 0JW t:276354

Colin Carr 10a Duck End Girton CB3 0PZ t:276312

Marc Bermann Huntingfields Huntingdon Rd Girton CB3 0LH t: 277319

Jenny Knights 47 Fairway Girton CB3 0QF t:276405

Patsy Smith 27 Woody Green Girton CB3 0PG t:575288

or the GTC office:

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News for Older Residents

You have heard of Tea Dances, now try a Coffee Dance!

Dances will be held from 10.30am–12 noon on Tuesday 13th and 27th August in the William Collyn Hall. Partners are not required for these ‘elegant, gentle paced recreational dance steps’.

The charge of £5 per session includes coffee and biscuits.

Warden Service

Fiona Bennett, the Warden in Girton, provides weekday contact and support for people living independently. This can either be a visit or a phone call. There is a small weekly charge after a two week trial period. Ask me about this service or contact Fiona directly on 07979 333 963.

Club 55 Bowls, Buffet and Film event

This is on Thursday 22nd August from 10.30am at the Bowls Club and William Collyn Hall. For more details look at the Club 55 page of this magazine.

New Age Kurling

Numbers were disappointing at the July taster sessions but those who came enjoyed it. More sessions are planned for the autumn so watch out for further information. Please note that this activity can be equally enjoyed by sitting and standing participants.

T'ai Chi

Thank you to those who responded to my query about a T'ai Chi class. As yet, I am unsure whether running a class is viable, so please watch this space.

Ladies, what about learning Taekwondo?

Taekwondo is a low impact, joint friendly martial art. A Girton resident is part of MAUL Taekwondo which is a women’s club run by female volunteers for women only. She would like to hold a free session for the older women in the village. When I have more information I will let you know.

Information and Advice Session on 24th September

Dawn Long, Leader of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Age UK Information and Advice Team is holding a session in the morning of Tuesday 24th September. Dawn will talk about setting up Lasting Powers of Attorney, Pension Credit (in the light of TV licences) and/or any other issues that are of interest. Please let me know a.s.a.p. what subjects you would like Dawn to tackle.

Slip into Slippers

Age UK is holding this fundraising campaign in October. Schools, workplaces and interested groups are being asked to encourage people to wear slippers for a day (or session) and pay a penalty of £1 for the privilege.

Patricia Johnston Older Residents’ Co-ordinator

Phone: 07469 660 866

Email: patricia.johnston@ageukcap.org.uk

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The William Collyn Community Centre

Now booking - weekly activities starting September see website for details

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3.45 - 4.45pm	Artastick! Kids craft group
4.45 - 6.15pm	Kids Sewing Club
6.45 - 7.45pm	Clubbercise
Tuesday	
9.15 - 10.15am	Holistic Core Restore
7.30 - 10.30pm	West Coast Swing
Wednesday	
1.00 - 4.00pm	Citizens Advice Bureau Drop In
7.00 - 9.00pm	Adult Art Class
Thursday	
9.30 - 11.30am	Adult Sewing Club
11.00am - 3.00pm	Relate Counselling
6.00 - 7.00pm	Yoga
Saturday	
10.00 - 12.00am	Kids Art Club

Also Kurling classes for adults and children and coffee mornings with ballroom dancing - dates and times to be confirmed. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

The William Collyn Community Centre is a purpose-built facility in Wellbrook Way, Girton available for Village activities and local groups, as well as corporate and independent bookings for meetings, training sessions and conferences from the wider community.

William Collyn Community Centre
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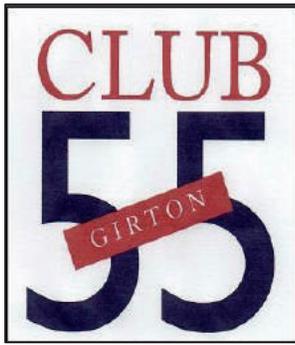
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Fortnightly trips to Morrison's at Cambourne.

For a trial period of two months Club 55 will run shopping trips to Morrison's supermarket at Cambourne. The intention is to make these trips a

regular feature but only if the trial proves successful and that will depend on how many people use the facility. A minibus operated by Dial-a-ride Cambridge and supervised by Club 55 will pick up passengers from the following areas, Dodford Lane, Orchard Close, St. Vincent's Close, Wellbrook Way and the Thornton Road area. The trips will vary between two and two and a half hours allowing time for some shopping and/or coffee and a snack or even a more substantial lunch in the supermarket café. The cost of a return trip will be £5 payable to Club 55. If these trips are successful other supermarkets may be considered and a possible visiting rota may be organised.

The minibus is capable of carrying 15 passengers only, so if you want to use this service you will need to call Sam on the number below at least 24 hours before departure to book your seat. Some walking aids will be accepted but as there are shopping trollies to aid stability, two wheelchairs and one mobility scooter available at the supermarket you will be asked, where possible not to bring them. *This does not mean that you may not do so - it is merely that space on the minibus may be at a premium.* To qualify you simply need to live in Girton and be 55 years old or over.

The trial trips are as follows:

Friday 9th August – Dodford Lane 10.30am
Tuesday 20th August – Dodford Lane 11am
Wednesday 4th Sept. – Dodford Lane 11am
Tuesday 17th September – Dodford Lane 11am
Times may vary slightly at other pickup places through the village as the minibus progresses to its final pickup point. Where possible carers will be welcomed on board.

On each of the above dates the minibus will leave the supermarket at 1pm for the return to Girton.

Fish & Chips

On Thursday 18th July it was fish and chips in the William Collyn Community Centre followed by strawberries and Cream and the

Film 'The Fisherman's Friends'. More than forty people enjoyed eating the fish and chips that were served in boxes having been collected from the fish shop at Histon.



For your diary:

Wednesday 7th August 12 for 12.30pm:

Lunch at the Old Crown Girton our first visit since it re-opened.

Thursday 22nd August 10.30am for 1.25pm:

Film 'Maudie'. Based on the true love story of a disabled woman and an unstable man. *This is a change to the film previously advertised.*

Preceded by a **Bowls Match** between local teams. 10.30am: Bowls match on green next to William Collyn Hall, 12.30pm: Buffet lunch and 1.30pm: Film. Come and support your team and have a fun day. *In inclement weather teams will have the opportunity to take part in some indoor Kurling in the main hall.* Entry for players and spectators £5 – includes buffet lunch and coffee refills.

Wednesday 11th

September 12 for

12.30pm: Lunch at Baytrees Hilgay, our first visit since it re-opened under the new management. View the Garden Centre items and take lunch in 'The Barn'.

Minibus available.



Thursday 19th September 12 for 12.30pm:

Film to be announced.

To see more details go to:

www.club55.wordpress.com where you may see diary entries, menus, order meals and pay online.

For more details contact:

Sam Clift Tel:07850740721

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30 DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE





St Andrew's Church

The love of the land

There is the caricature of 'Lovely sermon, Vicar,' as the congregation leaves the church. By the time they reach the end of the church path, how much can they still remember? How much has stuck by the middle of the week? Or by the following Sunday? Obviously, this *never, ever* happens in Girton! How remarkable is the fact that I can still remember the three points of a sermon given *over thirty years ago* by someone from the Iona Community in Scotland! It was so inspiring that, there and then, my wife and I almost hopped on a train to go north over the border to be part of their movement.

So what did the preacher say all those years ago? As his second point, the preacher talked of 'the love of the land'. It wasn't in the sense of Scottish nationalism – rather he talked of Creation having been given to us to steward, to care for, to tend and not to abuse. We have been given something of infinite value. Actually, we have not been 'given', but 'lent' – Creation has been 'entrusted to us' and we have been 'put in charge of it' as God's representatives. We should 'love the land'. When one thinks of one's self as being 'God's representative' one has a completely different view of Creation and one's duty to it. It should modify our behaviour.

The 'climate crisis' is not new: it has been talked about for nearly two centuries. In 1824, the Greenhouse Effect was first identified. In 1861, John Tyndall linked water evaporation and other factors to global warming. Environmentalism goes back millennia, when ancient humans recognised the delicate relationship between different parts of Creation and themselves. Where we are now should not come as a shock. How have we got to this point of a 'climate crisis'? I am sure you could list many, many factors.

More importantly, how are we going to solve it? Individually, we can do little, so little that it seems pointless even to try. Even as a nation, our carbon dioxide production is vastly swamped by other countries, so why try? What we *can* do is to lead by personal and national example. In May, Britain managed one entire week without using coal for power generation, the first time since 1882. And some rivers

are 'coming back to life' from being seriously polluted. Work remains to be done.

People and governments must recognise that to solve the climate crisis, it will cost. It will cost in time and money. As Kermit the frog said in *The Muppets*, 'It's not easy being green.'

St Andrew's Parochial Church Council recently took the decision to choose a new heating system for the church reordering works which are to start soon. We decided to be as eco-friendly as we could: we would be using an air source heat pump, solar panels, and we would use the existing gas boiler until it needed replacing. We felt it was our duty to care for Creation. We made our decision with the best technical and financial information we had at the time, but who knows what the future will bring? It's a risk.

In the book of Genesis, when God had created the universe, He declared it as being 'very good'. As stewards of His Creation, let's do our best so that we can say with Him, 'It is *still* very good.'

Dugald Wilson

LLM St Andrew's, Girton

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Goodbye to our Rector, Mandy Maxwell

Sunday July 7 was Mandy Maxwell's last service at St Andrew's Church after 8 years leading our parish.

A large congregation came to thank Mandy for all her work and to wish her well in her new parish, Trumpington. Those attending included couples Mandy had married and children she had baptised as well as others who had benefited from her comfort in times of sorrow.

Mandy has been a very fine Rector for our village and we will miss her and her family greatly. We have been lucky to have her.

Wendy Hunter, a Church Warden, presented a coffee pot to Mandy, with a gift inside. After the service, she had requested only a simple goodbye and so we just had coffee, wine and lashings of cake.

Sheila Hiley





Rector: Vacancy

For general enquiries, email:

rector@girton.church

Website: *www.girton.church*

Associate Priest: The Revd Christine Barrow

Tel: 575089 Email: *mcbarrow@me.com*

Curate: The Revd Diana Johnson

Email: *diana.johnson@cantab.net*

Licensed Lay Ministers:

Mr Dugald Wilson Tel: 276940

Mrs Christina Deacon Tel: 525337

Churchwardens:

Mr Bruce & Mrs Wendy Hunter

Tel: 503958

Sunday Services: August

4th	10.00am	Holy Communion
11th	10.00am	All Age Family Worship
	6.00pm	Evensong (BCP)
18th	10.00am	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Evensong
25th	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.00am	Morning Prayer

Weekday Services: August

Tuesday Communion Services at Arlington Manor and Abbeyfield, Girton Green will take a break until September.

Wednesdays

10.15am Silent Prayer in the North Room

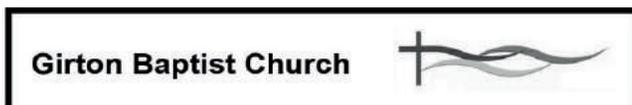
Thursday 29th, 11.00am Service of Holy Communion (BCP) at Gretton Court

Especially during the interregnum, please consult the church website for up to date information about any changes to listed services (*www.girton.church*).

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219 Wellbrook Way, Girton CB3 0GL

Tel: 279289

Secretary: Mrs Virginia Rootham-Smith

Tel: 926807

Website: *www.girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk*

Sunday Services: August

We welcome families with children of whatever age. Classes with interactive activities are available for children each week during the morning service. Tea and coffee are served after the service.

All services are led by Revd Nick Lowe, unless otherwise stated.

4th	10.30am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship with Communion
11th	9.00am	Prayer Breakfast
	10.30am	Morning Service
18th	10.30am	Morning Worship with Communion
	6.30pm	Evening Worship led by Christine Kimmitt
25th	10.30am	Morning Worship led by John Searle

Girton Baptist Church



Notices

Girton Baptist Church
Uniting Believing Communities

coffee morning

Join us for a coffee and a biscuit every thursday 10.00 - 12.00

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

Chairman

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

Vice-Chairman

Andy Griffin, 1 Churchfield Court, Tel: 07956 447674

Councillors

Jane Buckler, 28 Girton Road, Tel: 277636
Gill Cockley, 73 Cambridge Road, Tel: 276703
Julie Dashwood, 36 High Street, Tel: 276590
Douglas de Lacey, 9 Woodlands Park, Tel: 565219
Val Godby, 38 Woodlands Park, Tel: 276372.
Roger Hickford, Manor Farm, Manor Farm Road, Tel: 07985 770082
Anne Kettle, 11 Redgate Road, Tel: 277505
Shahila Mitchell, 18 Northfield, Tel: 07519 265755
Rachel Thomason, 168 Wellbrook Way, Tel: 07896 980799

John Thorrold, 53 Cambridge Road, Tel: 276760
Mary Rodger, 11 Fairway, Tel: 277316

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

District Councillors

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

County Councillor

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

Parish Clerk and Acting Finance Officer

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

Recreation Centre Bookings Administrator

Linda Miller, Tel: 472182
admin@girton-cambs.org.uk

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

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

Girton Neighbourhood Watch

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?



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For emergencies, dial 999
For non-emergencies, dial 101

For next meeting see GPN Calendar
All Welcome!

Girton Neighbourhood Watch Committee

Chair: Val Godby
vgodby897@btinternet.com (01223 276372)

Secretary: Margaret Wheatley
wheatleymargaret606@yahoo.co.uk (01223 527093)

Vice-Chair: Geoff Varley
geoff.varley3522@btinternet.com (01223 276772)

Communications: Sandy Couch
sandy_couch@hotmail.com (01223 277782)

Contact numbers for bookings

Cotton Hall	07759 983420
Orchard Close	277164
Pavilion	472182
St Vincent's Close	276447
William Collyn Hall	01353 865029

MOBILE LIBRARY

Thursday 22 August

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

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Friday 30 August	Blue and Green bins

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