



GIRTON

Parish News



September 2019

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20
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Publication Information

Editor: Angela Blackburn, 141 Thornton Rd, CB3 0NE, tel. 528278, email gpned@girton-cambs.org.uk

Secretary: Sheila Bowler, tel. 276914

Advertising Manager and Treasurer: Marion Fisher, 117 High St, CB3 0QQ, tel. 570866, email gpnads@girton-cambs.org.uk

Copy should be submitted to the Editor in electronic form as Word or Text files, 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, Claire Lightley, Bill Rothwell, Andrew Hawkes

Distribution Manager Rosemary Jones, tel. 276491

Editors and Proofreaders Chris Bowler, Wendy de Horsey, Mike Fay, Marion Fisher, John Gibson, Alison Giles, Carol Huxley, Jenny Knights, Mike Pearson, Nicola Pearson, Matthew Vernon

Webmaster Andrew Haylett

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

Printed by Victoire Press Ltd, 9-10 Viking Way, Bar Hill, Cambridge CB3 8EL, Tel:01954 781919

The Village Diary

September

- Wed. 4** **Club 55**, 11am for return 1pm
Shopping trip to Morrison's, Cambourne
Girton WI, William Collyn Hall, 7.30pm
Wood Green Animal Shelter – Cheyenne Smith
- Thur. 5** **Dementia Café**, 10.30am–12pm
Arlington Manor Care Home
- Fri. 6** **Rotary Memory Café**, 10am–12 noon
St Vincent's Close Community Centre
- Sat. 7** **Girton Walking Group**, Clayhithe to Baits Bite Lock
Meet 10am at Clayhithe bridge
Charity Band Night, starting 5pm
The George Public House
- Tue. 10** **Girton Neighbourhood Watch**
Meeting, Arlington Manor, 7.20pm
- Wed. 11** **Club 55**, Lunch, 12 for 12.30pm
Lunch at Baytrees, Hilgay
- Thur. 12** **Friends of St Andrew's Church**
Outing to Grimsthorpe Castle, dep. 9am
- Fri. 13** **Early Birds WI**, CFWI, Oakington Road, 10am t.b.a.
- Sat. 14** **Open Eddington**, 10am–4pm
- Tue. 17** **Club 55**, 11am for return 1pm
Shopping trip to Morrison's, Cambourne
Parish Council Meeting, 7.00pm
St Vincent's Close Community Centre
- Thur. 19** **Club 55**, Film 'St Vincent', 12 for 12.30pm
William Collyn Community Centre
- Fri. 27** **Macmillan Coffee Morning**, 10–11.30am
Abbeyfield Girton Green, Wellbrook Way
Girton Craft Club, 2–4pm
Orchard Close Community Centre, all welcome
- Sat. 28** **Girton Churchyard Volunteers**, Work Party
St Andrew's Churchyard, 10am–12 noon

October

- Wed. 2** **Girton WI**, William Collyn Hall, 7.30pm
Heffers of Cambridge – Dr Julie Bounford
- Sat. 5** **Girton Walking Group**, Swavesey and Over
Meet 10am at Swavesey church

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Copy date for October issue: Wed. 18 September. Issue date: Sat. 5 Oct. Covers 5 Oct.–1 November.

GIRTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

The August Parish Council Meeting is being held after the submission date for this report, but items to be discussed include the replacement of the Multi-Use Games Area carpet and floodlights, and maintenance of the Pavilion hall floor.

The County Council continue to be pressed for a permanent repair to the road behind the school and progress is being held up by difficulties in obtaining the requisite number of cost estimates. We eventually heard indirectly that our applications to the A14 Legacy fund for lighting along the Oakington Road cycle path and a crossing near the Co-op store have been rejected. Reasons for these border on the ludicrous and will be investigated further. A third application to improve the footpath between the Church and Girton Wood is still under consideration. An application for speed limit reduction through part of the village and a mobile speed monitor has been made to the Local Highways Improvement Fund.

The Parish Office received a letter from Trading Standards which seemed to indicate that Girton residents were in particular danger of exposure to scams perpetrated by rogue traders. An edited version of this is published in this edition of GPN. Residents should not be alarmed but be vigilant against unsolicited offers of paid 'help' with property maintenance and approaches via internet or telephone from unknown or unverified individuals or authorities.

Riparian Owners

The Environment Agency has asked us to remind residents of the need to talk to them if anyone wishes to do work near a watercourse (within 8 metres of top of bank). Their email address is PSO-Brampton@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Next meetings

The next Parish Council meetings will be held on Tuesday 17th September and Tuesday 15th October, 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.

From our Councillors

County Councillor Lynda Harford

On one of those very hot days that we had in July I was made very aware that the County Council really means to live up to the principles that it has laid down in its Plastics Strategy 2019. Having left my water bottle at home, I went in search of something to replace it during what would be a long, hot meeting. The vending machines on the second floor revealed no plastic bottles of water. Neither the water cooler that replaced it nor the one on the first floor had drinking receptacles and I remembered that we had received an email to say that we must bring our own cup/mug for the coffee machine, so I wouldn't find anything there. Fortunately a rummage in my car boot brought forth that little mug I had obediently brought from home. The strategy

provides a clear statement of the Council's leadership and commitment to delivering a greener and healthier Cambridgeshire. Plans are being prepared to further reduce single use plastics by the Council itself, as employer, service provider and waste disposal authority as well as through influencing the many other organisations that it works with. It has also recently signed the UK100 pledge, promising to deliver 100% clean energy for Cambridgeshire by 2050. A much wider-reaching Climate Change & Environment Strategy is currently being developed.

As the Health Committee's appointed liaison between it and the new project team working on delivering the East of England Children's Hospital, I would like to share with you news of this exciting project as it progresses. Following the announcement by Government that it would provide £100m towards its cost, the team has been working on its plan to deliver a hospital that will provide a purpose-built new home for most of the paediatric facilities currently located at Addenbrookes and bring together both physical and mental health paediatric services. There is no intention to impact on the services currently being provided at other hospitals around the region but the ambition is to treat the sickest children from across the east of England within the region rather than referring them to other centres that mean long journeys for families. Close working with other providers will help to keep the care and treatment of as many children as possible local to their homes and communities. Support will be given to services and the workforce around the region through better networks, education, training and advice.

Local news: Taylor Wimpey has now employed a consultant to bring the Wellbrook Way site to adoption at long last. That consultant has placed an order with a contractor to carry out the work that the County Council requires to be completed to bring the road up to the required standard for adoption.

Darwin Green (phases 2/3) is now at pre-application advice stage. This is the development that will provide the foot/cycle link from Wellbrook Way. I am following progress and will do all I can to influence the earliest possible delivery. Other cycle/footpath improvements are also coming: to the existing Girton/Oakington path and to bridleways 5/6 which will ultimately be joined with the new non-motorised users path along the new local road.

I am constrained by the limited space available in this local publication so please do continue to contact me about the things that matter to you. Thank you to everyone who has been in touch with me recently. Your views and questions are very important.

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

A View From the District

Sustainability is high on this Administration's agenda; Members were briefed on a Supplementary Planning Document for developers. Some important issues were

raised which go beyond our current policies: these will be fed into the new Local Plan. Someone asked if Eddington's boast to keep water consumption down to 80 litres per person per day (national average about 115) had been achieved. I asked the Eddington team and the answer is that it is too early to tell. I have asked when a figure will be available.

A briefing on the proposed Citizens' Assembly was not especially promising. The Assembly will consist of 60 members, chosen from the 350 responses to the 10K invitations sent out. It will discuss the question 'How do we reduce congestion, improve air quality and provide better public transport in Greater Cambridge?' – but as it has to co-operate with the Mayor and his love of an autonomous metro bus we were told it's basically about buses. I do not believe that buses can ever solve our problems.

Over the past year we have come to realise that our financial reporting had been in a complete mess for some years. It will take quite a while for the new Administration to sort this out and will be a major job for our new CEO, who starts on 23 September.

The Joint Development Control Committee had a briefing on air quality; it was explained how Air Quality Management Areas are defined and how the quality is assessed. I expressed disappointment that for us this is still a very blunt instrument: we do not measure the smallest particles (PM1) which are increasingly being realised as the greatest threat. Air quality will be measured after the completion of the A14 works; I shall want to ensure that we get accurate information about the effects it has had on us.

Preparations for this month's Council meeting were complex: I had to reject most of the Member motions which had been submitted. As last month, our legal officers recommended to me that I should make an item on the agenda confidential, and the Conservative Group objected. Some of them walked out when the vote went against their proposal that it be in public, though others remained to fulfil their duty to the community.

On 24 July I was as Chairman invited to the opening of Zeiss' new site in Cambourne, where a large office block has been reconstructed to provide a factory for the manufacture of electron microscopes. It is good to see their confidence in a post-brexite Britain and I hope to work with them on our relationships with business.

We have had another briefing on the Genome Campus' proposal for a vast expansion of their Hinxton site, including 1500 dwellings which would be exclusively for employees. This goes against our Local Plan but entails benefits for the community. It will be an interesting and complex application to decide. We were told the total cost of the scheme is £932,822,110.00 – they must have some very competent bean-counters.

As I have mentioned, we are consulting on a new taxi licensing policy, and I attended one of the drop-in sessions to talk to officers and taxi operators. It was a useful time and I am now submitting a critique of the proposals, which I think could be much improved. You can find this and other consultations at www.scambs.gov.uk/consultations/ with details of the documents and how you can respond.

I mentioned a while ago that we plan a Zero Carbon Grant Scheme for innovative community projects and it launched on 5 August. Applications for up to £15,000 may be made up to 31 October via www.scambs.gov.uk/community-development/grants/zero-carbon-communities-grant on our website.

The Local Plan is moving on, and we are very anxious to have input from the community. There is an opportunity to learn about it and to make your views known on 28 September 0900–1300. Details should be available at www.cambridgeppf.org/Pages/Events/ by the time you read this.

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.

Douglas de Lacey

District Councillor Tom Bygott

Council outsources processing of planning applications to cope with staff shortages

Problems in South Cambridgeshire District Council's planning department, which is run as a shared service with Cambridge City Council, have reached such a crisis point that Council has been forced to part-privatise its planning service because it has been unable to retain enough staff to process its work internally. This was revealed by a disturbing article in the Cambridge News on 14th August.

According to the newspaper article, 'The processing of household planning applications is set to be outsourced to a private company in Cambridge as councils struggle to fill vacancies. Thirty per cent of the household planning team, part of the shared planning service for Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council, is currently vacant.

'An exterior company will assess and write a report for household planning, which will include a recommendation for permission or refusal. All planning decisions will still be made by council staff or councillors.'

The article then goes on to say that the planning service will not release the cost it intends to pay to the provider per application, and that in the first quarter of 2019/20 only 74% of applications were determined within the 8-week target.

Planning is one of the core activities of the Council, and it is quite extraordinary that such a core function should be outsourced; most organisations tend to outsource their non-core activities in order to be able to focus more management time and energy on their core activities. It is also quite extraordinary that 30% of posts should be currently vacant. The two reasons given by the Council's management for the high level of vacant posts were 'a national shortage of qualified planners' and 'the high cost of living in this area'. If, as the article says, the private company is located in Cambridge, it would presumably be subject to those same two factors.

Being a planning officer is a difficult and often thankless task, and we are fortunate to have received such dedicated service from our staff, even in difficult circumstances.

Last month I mentioned the Organisational Review being embarked upon by the current administration, with a reference to the time-honoured maxim: 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it.' Such management consultancy projects often lead to a great deal of uncertainty and low morale. This is particularly the case in high cost economies where staff have a 25-year commitment to a mortgage but only a month's (or a few months') notice from their employer.

I do believe that the current administration is truly open to, and even excited by, the many possible destinations to which the Organisational Review might lead. However, it takes more than openness, optimism and curiosity to run a large and mission-critical operation. Staff need some degree of certainty about where things are heading; a steady hand at the tiller is needed to build confidence.

Cllr Tom Bygott
cllr@bygott.net
07765 475 513

Trading Standards warns Girton residents to be wary of rogue traders

Trading Standards have become aware of several suspected rogue trader incidents in Girton in the last two months, with substantial amounts of money paid to the traders concerned. They are appealing to residents to be wary of any traders that call at their door offering to do work on their property, and are also urging any resident who may have been affected to contact them for confidential advice and support. Trading Standards would also welcome contact from relatives, neighbours or friends of elderly or vulnerable people in the village who are concerned that they may have been targeted by rogue traders. All information will be treated in the strictest of confidence. Please call Trading Standards advice partner, the Citizens Advice Consumer Service, on 03454 040506.

Typically rogue traders call at the door saying they can see loose tiles on the roof and offering to fix them, saying that a tree looks unsafe and offering to fell it, offering to re-do driveways (often saying they have tarmac left over from highways work nearby), offering to do gardening work, or offering general building services. They will invariably be friendly and chatty to the homeowner to put them at ease. The price for the work will start small, but then the price will increase dramatically, often because they claim they have found more issues leading to major works such as re-roofing. They can end up taking tens of thousands of pounds from customers, and once they have finished one job, either those same individuals or their 'associates' will call again and again with the aim of extracting more money, often claiming the original work was of poor quality and needs to be done again.

Invariably when work has been assessed by independent surveyors or experts they find it has been done to a poor standard and in many cases needs to be done again by

professional tradespeople at yet more expense to the homeowner.

If somebody calls at your door saying that they think work needs doing, get a second opinion from an independent source. Speak to friends and neighbours to seek trader recommendations and seek quotes from three of them to ensure the price is reasonable. Alternatively, Trading Standards operate a 'Buy with Confidence' approved trader scheme where you can find traders that have been vetted and approved by Trading Standards. Visit www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk to find local traders or call Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 03454 040506 to be given the details of the 3 traders closest to you.

What's On in Girton

We are very lucky to live in a thriving village, with lots of community groups and activities, but it's sometimes difficult to find out what's happening where. This is a very brief round-up of some of the activities in Girton that you might feel like trying as the new school year begins. If you are running an activity or club which isn't listed, please get in touch at gpned@girton-cambs.org.uk and we will try to include you in our next round-up. Apologies to those whose entries have been shortened, we've got so much going on that we had to keep to the basic details!

Monday

Bobtails Playgroup: Mondays and Thursdays at the Pavilion, 9.30–11.30am. For parents, carers and their children from birth until school age. Contact Robyn at girton.bobtails@gmail.com

Ballet: Mondays at the Pavilion. Classes for age 3+ to 16+, from 4pm. Contact April Martin, 01954 200533, tutusrus@ntlworld.com, website www.abmschoolofdance.co.uk.

Bridge: The North Cambridge Bridge Club meets at the Pavilion on Mondays at 7.15pm. Experienced players only. Contact Alison Lloyd, 07795 387447, alison.lloyd@camdata.co.uk

Computer Club: Mondays (not Bank Holidays), 10–12. At St Vincent's Close Community Centre. Contact Sam Clift, 07850 740721, samclift@ntlworld.com, www.club55.wordpress.com

Netball: Monday evenings during term time 6.30–7.45 pm at the Rec. Age 16+. Contact Mel Gulston at girton.village.netball@gmail.com

Pilates: Monday nights at Gretton School, 5.30pm and 6.35pm Beginners class, 7.40pm Intermediate class. Contact Wendy Horrocks, 07946 637396 or hello@wendyjanepilates.co.uk

Tuesday

Holistic Core Restore – Heat Exercise Class: Term time Tuesdays 9.15–10.05am, William Collyn Centre. Contact Nikki Baring, 07955 431015, www.optimumpersonaltraining.com

STRONG by Zumba®: Tuesdays 7–8pm in the Pavilion. Music-led workout but without the dancing. Suitable for beginners. Contact Jane Mansley, 07527 156564, janemansley@gmail.com, www.janemansley.weebly.com

Yoga: Vinyasa Flow Yoga at the Pavilion, Tuesdays 8.15–9.15pm. Contact Rachael Moore, 07834 484490, hello@rachaelmooreyoga.com or visit www.rachaelmooreyoga.com/

West Coast Swing: William Collyn centre, Tuesdays 7.30–10.30pm. Contact Lee Easton, 07744 554325, eastonswing.com/classes/tuesday-west-coast-swing-cambridge/

Pilates: Tuesday nights 6.30pm Beginners class and 7.35pm Intermediate class, both at Gretton School. Contact Wendy Horrocks at 07946 637396, hello@wendyjanepilates.co.uk

Wednesday

Miss Fit Bootcamp: Wednesday mornings at the Rec, 9.15 to 10.15, term time only. Contact Lisa on 07743 896150 or llmbootcamp@gmail.com

Baby and Toddlers: Hartbeeps 9.30am toddler to preschool, 10.30am confidently sitting, 11.45 newborn to sitting, in the Pavilion. Contact Debbie at 07834539219, Debbie@hartbeeps.com, www.hartbeeps.com

New Age Kurling: Wednesday mornings 10–11am starting September, at William Collyn Centre. Contact Helen Johnston, 01223 279587, or wccmanager@cambsacre.org.uk

Strength and Balance: Wednesdays at Gretton Court, 10.30–11.30am. Aimed at older people. For further information phone Patricia Johnston, 01223 276372.

Brownies: Wednesday evenings. Contact Jen Goodwin, 01223 279383, 2girtonbrownies@gmail.com

Girton Community Choir: Wednesdays 7.30–9pm, venue tbc. Contact Jane Williams on 01223 474667, jscwilliams@googlemail.com

WI: Meets on the first Wednesday of each month at William Collyn Community Centre, Wellbrook Way, 7.30pm. Contact girtonwi@gmail.com

Kung Fu: Cotton Hall, Wednesday 7.30–8.30pm, ages 14+. Contact Matthew Courtney-Jones, 07989 412908, matthew.courtneyjones@gmail.com

Thursday

Fit as a Fiddle: Orchard Close Community Room, Thursdays 10.30–11.30am. Contact Patricia Johnston 01223 276372.

Bowls: Thursday 6pm roll-up on the Bowling Green, Wellbrook Way. More information from Margaret McCall, margaret.mccall@ntlworld.com or www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com

Girton Garden Society: 2nd Thursday of the month, October to May, 7.30pm, William Collyn Community Centre, Wellbrook Way. More information from 01223 277381, girtongardensociety@outlook.com, www.girtongardensociety.co.uk

Girton Musical Theatre: Thursdays 8pm (and Fridays in Jan./Feb.), Orchard Close Community Centre. Contact Helen (01223 276940) or info@girtonmusicaltheatre.org.uk

Club 55 Film Club: 3rd Thursday of the month, William Collyn Community Centre. Contact Sam Clift, 01223 564808, samclift@ntlworld.com, www.club55.wordpress.com

Friday

Pilates: Girton Pavilion, 9.15am Intermediate class and 10.20am Beginners class. Contact Wendy Horrocks, 07946 637396, hello@wendyjanepilates.co.uk

Rotary Memory Café: For people with various forms of memory loss and their carers. 1st Friday of every month, St. Vincent's Close Community Centre, 10am–12 noon. Contact Richard de Horsey, 01223 276192.

Mobility class: Fridays, Girton Baptist Church, 12–12.45. Over-70s: balance, strength and stability. Contact Matthew Courtney-Jones, 07989 412908, matthew.courtneyjones@gmail.com

Girton Tennis Club: Supervised sessions for juniors on Friday evenings (6.30–7.30pm) on the tennis courts (weather permitting). Adult members play from 7.30pm.

Bridge: Come and enjoy an evening's bridge at the Cambridge Friday Bridge Club, but please contact Ted Shaw initially for further details on tedshaw007@gmail.com

Saturday

Girton Walking Group: First Saturday of the month at 10am, at a starting point within a short driving distance or bus journey from Girton. The walks are about 5–6 miles. Further details from ginaklane@aol.com

Football with Girton Colts: Saturdays in term time on the Rec.: 9–10am U5 & U6 Football Fun; 10–11am U7–U11 Football Fun (girls); 11am–12pm U7–U11 Football Fun (boys and girls). Contact info@girtoncolts.co.uk

Sunday

BarreConcept: The Pavilion, 10–11am. Low impact body workout. Contact Emma Cuadrado, 07919 893888, www.cambridgebarreworkout.co.uk



Cambridgeshire Hearing Help

Advice about equipment for deafness is available to all; in addition NHS hearing aid wearers can exchange batteries and have hearing aids re-tubed.

Sessions are from 2pm to 4pm on the third Wednesday of each month at Girton Baptist Church. These are free sessions and no appointment is necessary. Should you require a home visit please telephone 416141 between 9.30am and 12.30 pm Monday to Friday.

More information can be found on our website www.cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

EDDINGTON
CAMBRIDGE

Arts
Family
Music
Food

Open
Eddington

A day of free activities, talks,
tours and entertainment

Saturday 14 September
10am to 4pm

www.eddington-cambridge.co.uk

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

**Cambridge
breast cancer
now**

**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:
jwhartinc@ed.ac.uk or awhitell@mac.com

Cambridge Breast Cancer Now is a registered charity. The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The registered office is at the University of Cambridge, 100 Brook Hill Drive, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA. The charity is registered in England and Wales. The charity is also registered in the USA. The charity is a member of the American Cancer Society. The charity is a member of the Breast Cancer Research Network. The charity is a member of the Breast Cancer Research Network. The charity is a member of the Breast Cancer Research Network.

GIRTON WALKING GROUP

Saturday September 7th: Baits Bite Lock from Clayhithe (approx. 5 miles). Meet 10am at The Bridge pub, Clayhithe Rd, Waterbeach, Cambridge CB25 9HZ. There is roadside parking on Clayhithe Road, but by agreement with the pub, we may use its car park. There is also parking at Waterbeach station (charged).

Saturday October 5th: Swavesey and Over, 5 miles. Meet 10am at Swavesey church. The church is a few minutes' walk from the Swavesey guided bus stop.

For details, contact Gina Lane,
ginaklane@aol.com.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Girton Glebe Primary School

Jumble Sale

Saturday 28th September 2019
11am – 1pm

Girton Glebe Primary School, Cambridge Road, CB3 0PN

Entry: 50p adults, children free
Café for tea, coffee and cake
All proceeds go towards our school

We'll be selling good quality:

- Clothes & Shoes Bric-a-brac
- Toys & Games Books
- CDs & DVDs Accessories
- Baby Items School uniform



Donations can be dropped at the school entrance from
Monday 23rd September.

No electrical items, videos or duvets/pillows, please.

Friends of Girton Glebe, Registered Charity 1098145



Juicing in Girton

After such a great summer for the fruit trees, we are eagerly awaiting our harvest. Girton residents are able to make use of the village crusher, press and pasteuriser, kindly provided by the SCDC community chest, for a mere £7.50 per year. It's incredibly easy to make juice and we provide full instructions and are very happy to give advice.

Whilst the press is designed for apples, it works equally well for pears, grapes and berries. Whether you have fifty pears, hundreds of apples or thousands of elderberries, or are simply keen and have friends or neighbours with spare fruit, juicing them and, maybe, even making cider, perry or wine, is a great way of preserving the fruit rather than simply adding them to your compost heap. It makes a great social occasion and the taste of freshly pressed juice is incomparable to anything you can buy in the shops.

For further information or to renew your membership please get in touch by email at: apple-juice-club@googlegroups.com (n.b. previous email address and website have gone rotten).

Free English lessons!

Chesterton Community College, Gilbert Road, Cambridge – Friday 13th September, 9.30am

Contact Sarah Adams to book your free place sadams@chesterton.cambs.sch.uk – www.esolcafe.co.uk

Girton Musical Theatre

Come and join our next
production February 2020

Pirates of Penzance

Rehearsals start
Thursday 12th
September,
8pm.

Venue:
Orchard Close Community Centre.

From January,
Friday rehearsals too, in the Glebe School.

More information...?

Visit our website, find us on
facebook, or contact Jane (474667).
www.girtonmusicaltheatre.org.uk

Girton



Anyone ready for a bit of Musical Swashbuckling?

Girton Musical Theatre are looking for new members for their next production: The Pirates of Penzance! The show will be performed in the Glebe School Hall from 27th to 29th February, 2020!



A chorus of Pirates, Policemen and Ladies is needed for the comic operetta. Rehearsals take place every Thursday from 12th September at 8pm in the Orchard Close Community

Centre, and from January additional rehearsals are on Fridays in the Glebe.

Perhaps you haven't sung since school, and are ready to dust off your vocal cords again! If so why not give us a try?

If you are interested please email info@girtonmusicaltheatre.org.uk. You can also find us on Facebook, or find more information on www.girtonmusicaltheatre.org.uk.

Falls Prevention Seminar

Monday 23rd September 2019
10am - 12:30pm

In honour of Falls Prevention Awareness Day, Ryan Chillingworth, from Everyone Health, will be talking about how to prevent falls within the home and how their service can support you or your loved one following a fall.

There will also be the chance to get involved in a short taster of their chair based exercise session.

For more information, or if you would like to attend the seminar, call Lisa on **01223 814900**, or email **lisa.vile@hallmarkcarehomes.co.uk**



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A New Era for the Church Clock!



Our magnificent clock is being brought up to date by Smith of Derby. They are installing an automatic winding mechanism and also a pendulum regulator. This will mean the clock will no longer need to be wound manually and the time will be automatically adjusted so as to be always accurate year on year. We are told that the actual mechanism is a smaller version of the mechanism in Big Ben.

The photo by Bruce Hunter shows the team of Alastair Lorimer, who has faithfully wound the clock each week for 12 years, and Keith Archer, who has done the job almost as long. They can both take a well earned retirement.

GPN Wins Award!



GPN Editor Angela Blackburn and GPN Chair Hugh Field receiving the award from Andy Lucas, Chief Operating Officer of the Cambridge Building Society

At the Cambridge Building Society annual Community Magazine Awards in July, we are proud to announce that the *Girton Parish News* won the Bronze award in the High Frequency Magazine category.

Congratulations and thanks to all the people of Girton who contribute to the success of the magazine, by writing, proofreading, typesetting, distributing, and administering. Without you, there would be no magazine!

Girton Florist Honoured to Make Queen's Bouquet

When the Queen visited Cambridge on 9th July 2019, one of her stops was at NIAB, who are celebrating their centenary year. Girton florists Peter Graves were contacted by NIAB to make a bouquet which would represent what they are about. Talented florist Zoe created the bouquet from Chrysanthemums, Roses and Wheat – and it had not to be too big as it needed to be held in one hand.

Zoe joined the Peter Graves Florists in 2017, bringing with her 10 years of experience in floristry, having moved from Worthing in West Sussex to Cambridge. She has become a highly valued member of the team in Girton.

Zoe said she enjoyed the challenge and loved using her artistic skills to create the bouquet for the Queen and for



Left: The Queen with Zoe's bouquet

Small picture below shows the bouquet in more detail



Below Zoe with another of her creations





Mexican Night

Saturday 14th September 2019
6:30 pm for 7:00 pm

Great Mexican Food including

Smoky Pork & Kidney Bean Tacos
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Poor Man's Mexican Chilli
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Tomato and Sweet Corn Salad
Crusted Guacamole
Sour Cream, Tomato salsa
Wedges and Nacho's

£15 for members
£20 for non members (inc 12 months Social Membership)

Book quickly last few events have sold out early

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When one hears the word ‘allotment’, a picture is created of brown earth strips, producing in due season many sorts of vegetables and soft fruits,

with men and women toiling with spade, fork and hoe (and the mandatory dilapidated sheds). And that is, of course, basically what an allotment site is about. Subdue nature with her weeds, insects and unwanted vegetation. Dig, hoe, rotovate the soil; plant and cultivate. However, with the universal growing ecological awareness and concern, our thinking about such patches of land is broadening. Here on Girton’s 6 or 7 acre allotment site, while the basic purpose of food growing is paramount, its ecological importance is impacting on our appreciation of the site, and affording a sense of working with, not struggling against, nature.

I recently read *Wilding: The Return of Nature to a British Farm* by Isabella Tree (yes, that’s the author’s name!). It told of the abandonment of unprofitable intensive farming on a Sussex estate, and of the project of working with nature to establish, in time, habitat for the return of lost species of birds, mammals, butterflies, plants. Now, I know, of course, we’re talking here of totally different scale. We won’t be introducing Exmoor ponies, wild boar, long-horn cattle onto our site, nor dredging out watercourses and lakes. But the principles of working with nature made me see our allotment site anew. (The Sussex venture soon saw the return of the now-rare turtle dove, and this sent me out to Fowlmere RSPB Reserve to find that lovely bird.)

Here we have had 2 years of a wild flower area. A nut and berry area is to be established for the benefit of birds, insects and mammals. Think of this: the *Gardeners’ Question Time* team recently urged us not to be over-zealous in our weeding; many weeds feed bees and butterflies. If only the site were a model for Britain and the world: on a warm summer’s day, as one walks around the site, one is delighted by the hordes of bees and insects exploring flowering plants; with fledging having taken place, there is an explosion of young birds adjusting to the wide world; I have spent ages watching butterflies on a buddleia – Painted Ladies, a few of the thousands which have flown here from North Africa, and Peacocks, Red Admirals, Gatekeepers. We are occasionally startled on disturbing toads and frogs.



Left: Painted Lady

I hope Allotment Society members will increasingly enjoy working towards bringing more of the

riches of nature to our precious acres. No space this time, but I may write in future articles about the soil; it’s not just that mucky stuff which sticks to our boots and dirties our hands. I learned from the aforementioned book the importance of understanding soil, the complexity of its structure and enormous numbers of diverse living organisms assembled in complex and varied communities.

But now, back down to earth, and something about current activities. Time of writing and reading is the height of

summer when a lot (but not all) of our season’s efforts come to fruition. Now is the time when members approach their plots not necessarily to work, but to harvest, and to leave with bags and baskets full, looking forward to cooking and eating utterly fresh produce, with the added satisfaction of ‘I did this; I have seen this through from seed to plate’. Additionally, freezing, pickling, making chutneys will prolong the satisfaction for months ahead.

Word-count and readers’ concentration span discourage an A-to-Z of our produce. And so a limited commentary on just one crop which by general consensus has been very successful. The crop which, in the opinion of many, causes the hardest work of the season. The potato! There’s the trenching to plant rows of seed tubers; earthing up; and now lifting the mature potatoes. However carefully we lift them, it’s certain that a few tubers will be missed, to sprout up amongst our carrots, beetroots, and whatever, next year. And heavy as the crop is, it still grieves the sensitive ones amongst us occasionally to pierce with the fork a grand healthy potato.



Left: Potatoes

Last year the potato harvest was poor. Prolonged drought through the critical growing weeks resulted in small numbers of undersized tubers. We were buying in after Christmas, our own stored crop not seeing us through until this year’s first earlies.

Although this year has again seen periods of drought, when the soil has been dust-dry, somehow the harvest has been excellent. Early blight warnings had us cutting down any blotchy wilting tops. (I suspect we sometimes panic over blight when in fact the green tops flop when their productive time is spent.) Lifting of the harvest has occurred early this year and we have found heavy crops of good-sized potatoes, free of rot, scab and slug damage. The fascination of the names with which we label the sacks! ‘Maris Piper’, ‘Picasso’, ‘Pink Fir Apple’, ‘Desiree’, ‘Kestrel’, ‘Belle de Fontenay’.



Left: Borlotti beans and Corn on the cob

Hurriedly to finish, the Allotment Society has been involved in Girton life recently. In July, in conjunction with Open Gardens Sunday, the site was open for the public to visit and talk to plot-holders. At Feast Day on the Rec, the Society co-operated with the Garden Society in promoting a competition with many

classes for vegetables and flowers, and a stall selling allotment produce, flowers and plants.

Graham Jones, Girton Allotment Society

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Garden Tip of the Month – September

Beware the box tree moth! I regret that I didn't act sooner when I first saw a caterpillar munching on my little ball of box. By the time I acted, about ten days later, there was scarcely a whole green leaf left, which did at least make the caterpillars easier to spot. I hand-picked over 60 of these handsome green wrigglers from a bush only about 40 cm in diameter. I am glad that I don't have to patrol more extensive bushes or hedges. If you do, also look for the webbing from which they emerge, you might be in time to foil a breakout. The RHS website gives



good information and photos and a request for details of your sighting should you feel so inclined. This little

blighter was first identified in the UK in 2007 and is spreading rapidly. If you have a box bush be vigilant.



Remember to make sure that plants that flower early, like camellias, particularly ones in pots, have enough food and drink to build their buds. As we approach autumn and the light levels decline, consider removing your greenhouse shading.

George Thorpe

- nappies, wet wipes, sanitary towels – place in black bin
- tissues and kitchen roll – can be put in green bin for composting
- black bags – place in black bin
- clothes, textiles, shoes – donate, swap, place in a textile / shoe bank, Household Recycling Centre
- food and liquid remains – remove any food and rinse containers, and empty all liquids from bottles. Squash and replace caps before recycling.

More information on what can and can't be recycled can be found in the South Cambs magazine or on the website at: www.scambs.gov.uk/bins.



**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



Thank you for recycling right

Most of us recycle right but there still some items that cause issues when taken to Materials Recycling Facility to be

segregated for further recycling.

It costs Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service £10,000 every month to remove and dispose of incorrect items from recycling collected from blue bins.

When the wrong items are put in the recycling, this reduces its quality, and if there are a lot of incorrect items this can cause large quantities of materials to be rejected and not recycled. This means your Council Tax money is wasted, instead of being spent on improving local services.

These items do not belong in your blue recycling bin:



**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 Road, every **Wednesday** between **1 and 4pm**. Service funded by Girton Town Charity.

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Cottontails Pre-school

As I write this article, Cottontails is closed for the summer, though I am looking out of the window and the weather is far from summery!

Whatever the weather, though, our children and staff will all be enjoying a well earned break after a busy and fun filled summer term. On our last day of term we had a party in the morning with party games and dancing, and then in the afternoon the children's families joined us for a picnic. It was a lovely opportunity for the families to see their children with their friends and to socialise together, and just a great way to celebrate how wonderful the children all are. Our school leavers are pictured below (with a few absent due to holidays) during their last week at Cottontails.



We will be welcoming new children and their families to Cottontails this term, as well as those who will be returning from last year. We are

looking forward to beginning a new year of exciting learning with them all.

This term we will be holding an open session on Monday 30th September, 9–11am. We would like to invite all parents, carers and young children from the local community, as well as the parents and carers of our current children, to come along and join in our session. Come and play, look around the setting, chat to the staff and committee and find out what we do. Refreshments will be available.

We will be continuing with our regular inter-generational sessions at Arlington Manor, our library van visits and are looking forward to seeing how our 'classroom' changes at Forest School as we move into autumn. It's an exciting and beautiful time in the forest and we get to be in the best place to experience it.

We will also be keen to continue visiting other local places as we did last year and to have visitors to pre-school. All new places, people and experiences for the children are excellent learning opportunities. If you think you have anything to offer and would be willing to spare some time, we would love to speak to you.

Cottontails Pre-school is open to children from the term after they turn 2. We currently have children's spaces available and we accept fee paying and both 15 hour and 30 hour government funded children.

If you would like any further information about Cottontails, please visit our website

www.cottontailspreschool.org or contact us on 07935 224607 or info@cottontailspreschool.org.

Laura Norman
Cottontails Pre-school Manager
manager@cottontailspreschool.org

Bobtails Baby and Toddler Group

Last year, Bobtails was delighted to receive a grant for £2445 from the Co-op which has had a big impact on the running of our village playgroup.

We wanted to invest the money on activities and items which were going to engage, excite and entertain the



children who come to Bobtails. Top of our list was a soft play climbing frame which could be played on from crawling babies to pre-schoolers.

Now children can climb, roll, stack, build, slide and wriggle across the brightly coloured blocks to their heart's content. We also used some of the grant money to help run our summer parties which entertained lots of children from Girton and surrounding villages. We will be organising our Christmas parties on Monday 9 and Thursday 12 December, so keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for further information.



We are also looking to invest in some new toys to refresh our toy cupboards and offer our regulars something different to play with.

We are grateful for the Co-op's support. Bobtails is open to all from babies to pre-schoolers. It is a very friendly group run at the Girton Pavilion from 9.30–11.30 on Mondays and Thursdays. We always welcome new faces with a smile and a cup of tea or coffee for the grown-ups.

Victoria Willis

Girton Bowls Club

History

Back in the 1950s the Recreation Ground was a vastly different place to what it is now.

The sports changing room consisted of a green building constructed of corrugated iron sheeting. The floor inside it was the ground it stood on, no heating, no water, no electricity; the seats around the edges of the inside acted as storage containers for sports equipment. As for the toilet facilities, well, let's just say, we won't go there, at least that's what most people thought at the time.

Alongside the building was a black wooden hut. This was used during the Second World War as accommodation for the personnel who manned a searchlight battery located on the recreation ground. Later it was used, amongst other things, for serving refreshments after cricket, tennis and football matches.

In the corner of the recreation ground, where the MUGA pitch now stands, was a bowls green, used by a small number of men who had formed themselves into what was the first bowls club in Girton. In the corner of the green was a small summer house mounted on a pedestal so it could be turned around to always face the sun. This was used for storage of the equipment required to play bowls. By the late 50s and early 60s, interest in bowls waned and the club folded. The condition of the bowls green declined, indeed it was not unusual to see youngsters playing football on it, creating a surface that certainly was not fit for bowls. Eventually the bowls green was replaced with the current MUGA pitch.

Fast forward a few decades, and two parishoners decided to see if there was sufficient interest in the village to warrant the possible creation of a new bowls green. Having decided there was, the idea was handed over to the Parish Council in the hope that, somewhere in the village, a site could be found for the construction of a green.

Following the gaining of planning permission, the Parish Council, in collaboration with Girton Town Charity, found the funding to begin construction of a new bowls green for the village at a location in Wellbrook Way. The inaugural meeting of Girton Bowls Club was held on 20th July and construction of the green started that year.

After the Opening of the Green

The official opening of the green was held on 25th April 2015 and in this year the Club entered the competitive bowls arena, being accepted to play in the Cambridge & District and the Business Houses Bowls Leagues. A high proportion of the current membership were new to bowls when the Club started and as they have become more proficient they sought to play more competitively. Because of this the Club entered the Ely & District League in 2016 and the Meldreth & District League in

2017 and as a result there are now more than 60 league matches throughout the season. The Club has gained promotion in the Ely & District and the Business Houses Leagues and now plays in the top divisions of both leagues. In our short time of existence we have become a club of some playing ability, and indeed we can now boast amongst our members Janet Graaff, the current Cambridge and District Ladies Singles Champion.

In the winter the Club also plays in an Indoor Bowls League at Chesterton Indoor Bowls Centre and recently Short Mat Bowls using the facilities at Cottenham Bowls Club. It is our hope to eventually run the Short Mat/Carpet Bowls at the William Collyn Community Centre but this is still under discussion.

The Club currently has an active membership of over 40 members plus several social members. Almost all members are Girton residents though prospective members from outside Girton may join. Members have access to the green at all times unless it is being used for a match and all Girton residents who are not members are able to use the facility at a small charge. Groups may also hire the green. Irrespective of the large number of matches that are played, the Club runs a Club night on Thursday evenings so that members may meet socially, practise and play less competitively. Potential new members are also invited to join us to see if they get hooked on the game of bowls. We always welcome new members whether they wish to just 'get into bowls', play social bowls or additionally play competitively. We also welcome spectators. There are numerous seats around the green thanks to Jenny Knights who gave them in memory of her husband Noel, a keen bowler and champion of the 'birth' of our new Girton Bowls Club, and it is a pleasant environment to sit on a warm day. If you are lucky you might even get a cup of tea!



Watering the greens

Not having our own Clubhouse we are reliant on using facilities in the area for entertaining visiting teams after matches. We are grateful to Abbeyfield for making us most welcome during the initial years of our being. Since the William Collyn Community Centre has opened we are pleased to be able to hire its facilities, when available, for refreshments after our matches. We also are pleased that Arlington Manor Care Home has

also made us most welcome for the same purpose. Without the use of these the Club would have difficulty fulfilling its obligations to the Leagues.

We are a self-help Club with members maintaining the whole of the area around the green, cutting the green during the playing season and helping maintain the green during the winter.

The Club has progressed well and the green is much admired by opposing clubs. That we have such a good, thriving club and such a good green is due to the vision and hard work put in by all the people who initiated the project and those, including all our Club members,

who have continued the good work.

We hope that the Club continues to thrive, improve and become a welcoming environment for people to learn and play bowls and be an asset for the village.

Further information about the Club may be found on our Website www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com or alternatively from the Secretary, Margaret McCall at margaret.mccall@ntlworld.com

Lynne McGill



First roll up – July 2014



Indoor short mat bowls match



First Open Triples Competition, 15 June 2019

GIRTON scoreboard



Girton Bowls Club

As we play our last full month of outdoor bowls in August, it is all to play for, with all our bowlers trying to fit in their internal and external competitions.

In the C&D League Division 5 we are still top of the league, and if we manage to maintain our position, we should win promotion to the Division 4. One of our most convincing wins to date has been against Needingworth, a victory of 7-0, with a shot difference of over 60!



C&D Girton v Needingworth

In the E&D Afternoon League Division 1 we are in second position out of 12 teams, having played 20 matches and won 11. In the Business Houses League we are currently in 8th position out of 13 teams, having played 12 matches and won 6, which is not a bad position considering we were promoted to Division 1 at the end of last season and have come across some very good teams in this top division.

The Meldreth League has definitely proved to be our most challenging, but we have all enjoyed the experience of meeting new teams and visiting new venues. We have played 10 matches and won 3 to date.

In the E&D knockout competition, Girton won their semi-final match against Mildenhall and went through to the final, where they played a team from Sawston. A fantastic achievement! In the C&D pairs competition, Geoff McCall and Dave Fryer won their quarter final match against Balsham.

Well done to all our players. Girton Bowls Club has come a long way in a relatively short period of time. The standard of bowls now being demonstrated is something everyone at the Club can be proud of.

On 14th August Girton were delighted to play host to the C&D Ladies and Men's singles semi-finals. Our finals day will be held on Sunday 8th September and as usual we plan to have a barbecue at the event. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us.

Our members are currently being canvassed regarding the playing of short mat bowls in the William Collyn

Centre for winter 2020. A firm commitment is being requested from those who are interested as the initial financial outlay for the equipment will be considerable. In the meantime, we will continue to play our games at Cottenham Bowls Club this winter. The indoor/outdoor season will begin in the autumn and will be played at Chesterton Bowls Club.

Our Presentation Dinner will be held at Girton Golf Club on Saturday 21st September and menus are being circulated for everyone to make their choices.

There is still time to come and join us on a Thursday evening at 6pm to give bowls a try. The only requirement is for flat soled shoes to be worn on the green. Bowls are available, as is coaching.

Please contact our Secretary, Margaret McCall on margaret.mccall@ntlworld.com for more details or 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 Colts Football Club

Girton Colts are back after a long summer break! This season we have U7, U8, U9, U10 and U12 teams competing in the FA Cambridgeshire leagues and we are ready to get going for the start of the season in September. We welcome as much support as possible, so please do come down to the Rec on a Saturday morning and you can grab a hot drink and catch a game most Saturdays from 10am.

Saturday morning fun for all boys and girls U5-U11
Did you know that we run three sessions on a Saturday for kids to come down in term time and have fun playing football? The sessions are based on football fun, improving skills in football, teamwork, friendship and fitness, no previous experience is necessary. If players are looking to join one of our competitive teams, they can be invited to play with the teams in friendlies and tournaments, if they are keen to do so.

09.00-10.00 U5 and U6 (mixed)
10.00-11.00 U7-U11 Development Squad (girls only)
11.00-12.00 U7-U11 Development Squad (mixed)

Places are limited so please get in touch to register:
teamsec@girtoncolts.co.uk

Adult referees needed

Why not help your local football club and become a referee? We offer fully funded training and once completed you will be paid per match. The U7-U11 matches are very easy and the fixtures are always in term time between 10 and 12am. The minimum age is 14, but we are interested in all ages coming forward. Please contact chair@girtoncolts.co.uk if you are interested.

Andrew Hawkes



Girton Golf Club

Craig Russell has won the Men's Club Championship in incredibly windy conditions, taking both Scratch and Handicap competitions in a real tour de force. An absolutely brilliant performance! Tom Smith is our Junior Champion and Pam O'Grady our Ladies champion; Pam won over two days earlier in July.

The Golf Club clubhouse is available to local clubs and organisations for meetings and events and makes a wonderful location for parties, lunches and dinners, and can be booked by members and non-members alike. We also host a number of wakes each year. Ask us for a quotation should the need arise. Companies can also book the facilities for business meetings, product launches etc., with the extensive free parking, excellent catering and a competitively priced bar making it a very attractive option.

On the 14th September we are holding a Mexican Night with a fabulous range of Mexican themed food. See our advertisement for details, but book as quickly as you can as we are now selling out events very quickly.

We will be starting to host regular light breakfast meetings, in conjunction with Age UK, serving bacon or sausage rolls and unlimited coffee and tea for just £4.50, starting on Wednesday 18th September. Come along after 9.00am and sit, enjoy a bite to eat and have a chat with others. No rush, take your time

We now have osteopath Bethany and reflexologist Katja holding sessions at Girton Golf Club on Wednesdays for members and non-members, so if you need the attention of an experienced and qualified therapist, or want to know more, then contact Cambridge Osteopathy on 07986767702 or Good Company Reflexology on 07599259723 to arrange an appointment at Girton Golf Club.

Alan Henderson-Smith
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Girton Tennis Club

Our committee would like to congratulate our men's team on a very successful summer season. They won three matches and drew one other and finished halfway up their league table. This is an excellent result, which may have been helped by our coaching sessions this year. Mark Lawton (team captain) tells me that he has just entered our men's team for the winter league, so we hope for more good results from them in due course. Do get in touch if you are interested in playing a few friendly matches against local teams.

Our mixed team have played three matches so far and have only lost one of these. We wish them continued success in their remaining matches.

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 website www.girtontennisclub.uk or by contacting our Membership Secretary Kevin Keeves on 276660 or by email info@girtontennisclub.uk.

Alan Franklin



Girton Netball Club

New season training sessions start on Monday 9th September, 6.30pm at the Girton Recreation Ground courts. For any further information please contact Mel on girton.village.netball@gmail.com. Also find us online at sites.google.com/site/girtonnetball/ and <http://tinyurl.com/girton-netball>.

Mel Gulston

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News for Older Residents

Are you well informed on issues that matter?

Dawn Long, Team Leader of our local AgeUK Information and Advice service is coming to talk on **Tuesday 24th September from 10am to 12 in Orchard Close Community Room**. She will cover lasting Powers of Attorney, Pension Credit and any other requested subject.

This is a good opportunity to ask your questions directly to Dawn, rather than on the telephone helpline (information and advice helpline number is 0300 666 9860). There will be time to chat over a cuppa. To help Dawn prepare please let me know the areas you would like her to explain.

Daytime T'ai Chi classes

In response to several requests two T'ai Chi classes are planned for Thursday 5th and Thursday 12th September. They will be from 11.30am–12.30pm in the William Collyn Hall and cost £5 per session. T'ai Chi is good for a sense of wellbeing and helps with flexibility and balance and it is hoped that there will be enough support to get a regular class going in October. Contact George on 01223 560084 or geoviv2.@ntlworld.com for more information or to register your interest if you are not able to attend these tasters.

Hope Again

A six week bereavement support programme starts on Thursday 5th September, 2.30–4pm in Histon. Phone 07707 263353 or email HABG1@icloud.com for more information.

The **Strength and Balance** classes resume on

- Wednesdays at 10.30am in Gretton Court with Hannah Black as the tutor and on Thursdays at
- 10.30am in Orchard Close Community Room with Clare Strongman as tutor.

Walking Rugby

This new venture starts on Tuesday 3rd September from 10.30–11.30am at Cambridge Rugby Club on Grantchester Road. This less physical version is suitable for those who have never played rugby before. Go along or contact Simon Leader on 07854 085338 for more information.

Breakfast Club at the Golf Club

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast with company anytime from 9am at the Golf Club on Wednesday 18th September and again on Wednesday 2nd October. The cost will be £4.50 for a bacon/sausage bap along with unlimited tea and coffee and chat.

Let me know if you would like to join us but could have difficulty getting there.

AgeUK Cambs and Peterborough fundraising

26,286 little hats were knitted for the Big Knit, which means that AgeUK has the potential to raise £6571 for this region. Many thanks to the local knitters.

The Slip into Slippers campaign will be running throughout the area in October. Pay a 'penalty' to the charity for wearing your slippers away from home.

Patricia Johnston Older Residents' Coordinator

Tel: 07469 660 866

Email:

Patricia.johnston@ageukcap.org.uk



Girton WI

Party, party, party was the agenda for our August meeting – it was all about celebrating Girton WI's 100th Birthday. Our ladies were dressed in outfits of their favourite era

from the last 100 years. A lovely buffet was provided for us which was enjoyed by all, with ample amounts of tea. There were a few notices from our president Susie Cumming, who also talked about past and present events. Photographs of members from the past enjoying WI events were displayed, alongside other memorabilia such as cups and programmes, all of which had been kept



beautifully by Margaret Pearce Higgins. One of our cups was presented to a recent new member Elsie Evans for the best outfit of the afternoon.

There was a celebratory cake, decorated with a picture of a special WI badge, and it was cut by a group of our treasured members Eileen Drew, Hazel Freeman, Nora Rutherford and Mavis Diss and our current president Susie, who had worked really hard to bring the whole celebration together. A toast was given, with a glass of sparkling wine to Girton WI and the next 100 years.



The members were then presented with a specially designed badge, which surprisingly matched the cake. Many more pictures were taken of previous presidents and

everyone having a wonderful afternoon. There was one last thing to do, which was to draw the raffle, and the much sought after prize of a £50 voucher donated by The Old Crown, Girton, was won by Mavis Diss.

Wendy Hall

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- Jill - Histon

To Wimbledon!

My Mum and I won tickets through the Girton Tennis Club's annual draw to see Wimbledon. A number of different seats were up for grabs, and we were allocated ones for court 1 – which just this year had been renovated with a new roof in case of rain. Luckily, we didn't need it, as temperatures on the day were well in the 20s and the sky was perfectly blue. Wimbledon weather? Check.

My Mum and I wandered into the grounds. Upon entering, centre court towered over us with its legendary 'green wall' and giant boards with the order of play displayed. Feeling slightly starstruck, we moseyed over to some of the minor courts where boys' singles were being contested. Not only did we notice the pristine grass – impeccable even after a week of play – but the physicality of the game shocked us. These teenagers were extremely tall, fast and strong. No wonder: when faced with 100mph fuzzy apples you would have to be ...

Eventually, we headed over to court 1 where the 23rd ranked Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut was to play the 26th seeded Argentinian Guido Pella in the men's quarter-finals. Bautista Agut had his counterpart on the ropes and prevailed in straight sets. During the break, we headed over to the food station where there was a booth dedicated solely to strawberries and cream. Hurriedly, we ate ours up in order to back to court 1 to see Rafael Nadal (who needs little introduction) and the big-serving American Sam Querrey battle it out. Nadal's power, technical superiority and killer forehand were enough to break his opponent several times, resulting in another straight-sets victory.



On the way back I grabbed a quick photo by the Fred Perry statue, the last Brit to have won Wimbledon for 76 years before Andy Murray came along and gripped the nation in 2013. It reminded me of the great history behind Wimbledon and its rather British quirks,

and for that reason, I am immensely grateful to Girton Tennis Club for allowing me to have this opportunity to go to such a wonderful place, bestowed in tradition. It's just another reminder that getting involved with the Girton community is beneficial in so many ways.

James Boucher



Dear Girton Parish News,

I wonder if I can thank three members of the public in our village who helped me when I managed to impale our car on a broken bollard opposite the Co-op in Girton Road on 10th July.

I went to leave the parking space outside the Co-op by backing around into their yard and then turning left out of the yard towards Thornton Road. Unfortunately, someone had parked right behind me, blocking my exit. I then attempted a complete U-turn in Girton Road and had to mount the pavement opposite to do it. There was a broken bollard there which I did not see, and I drove over it. The car would not readily move either back or forth as it was stuck fast on the bollard.

Whilst I was pondering this, three men approached and offered their help. One was a motor mechanic and the others were just burly guys. Between us we cut the bollard down and then lifted the car clear with the help of a trolley jack. Without their help, I would have been stuck there a long time. It was a bit embarrassing as the car was stranded halfway across the road. The manager of the Co-op came out and helped too. Unfortunately, I did not get the names of the three nice gentlemen.

Andrew West



A new report from Healthwatch into people's views on improving local NHS services shows that good communication is really important to people. People want health professionals to acknowledge their own knowledge and experience about their condition and to listen.

Share your views too

Like to give your views on local NHS services? Healthwatch, the independent champion for people using health and social care services, wants to hear from you.

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www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk/content/have-your-say

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Read more about the What would you do? report on the Healthwatch Peterborough website or the Healthwatch Cambridgeshire website.

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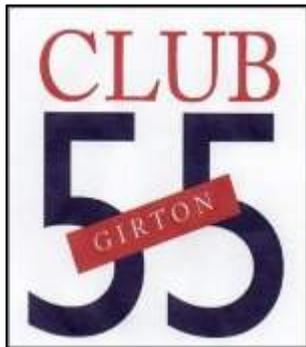
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Four walls

Have you ever thought to yourself, 'I'm fed up with these four walls – I wish I could get out and about?' Read about what we have been doing and who's been there doing it.

Perhaps you could join in and do some of those things with us. Since the August issue of this newsletter we have been out for two lunchtime meals, first to The Rose and Crown at Histon where we enjoyed a very nice meal in pleasant surroundings with very helpful landlord and staff. Joy was there, celebrating her one hundredth birthday at the beginning of July, and she still regularly joins us at the Pub for lunch. So, now you know you are not too old to join us.

Our second lunch out was at The Old Crown, Girton, an excellent venue with a very nice ambience again with a really helpful landlord and staff. The meal was a little different to our usual choices, but 'Hey, change is good.'



Edith and Veronica find something very interesting to listen to in the picture above or was it funny in the picture below.



Veronica, a wheelchair user, managed to get there and back home with a little help from us. Now you know that you can get there, that it's interesting and even fun. By the way, a 100-year-old, a 97-year-old and three 93-year-old people were present. Forty-one people in all attended and with an

average age of eighty – 3,200 years of experience were available.

Then we went shopping. Our first trip to Morrison's Supermarket at Cambourne went very well although we didn't have a full bus. We picked up through the village with the Dial-a-ride minibus driven by an extremely helpful and attentive driver.



Jonathon our driver helps Mavis.

So now you know you can go shopping with us. Just give us a call on the number below for any one of our functions – don't be lonely or get stuck inside those four walls.

For your diary:

Wednesday 4th & Tuesday 17th September, 11am for return 1pm: Shopping trip to Morrison's at Cambourne. £5 return.

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: 'St. Vincent', starring Bill Murray and Melissa McCarthy, at The William Collyn Community Centre. Fish & Chips £10.

To see more details go to: www.club55.wordpress.com where you may see diary entries, menus, order meals and pay online.

Or contact:
Sam Clift Tel:07850 740721

A long history of helping Girton residents

In 2021, Girton Town Charity will celebrate its 500th anniversary, having been first mentioned in The Victoria County History in 1521 with a bequest from William Collyn. A great deal has happened since those early days – so what have been the major milestones?

It is a fitting tribute that the new William Collyn Community Centre in Girton, recently opened for business, has been named after the Charity's founder, in recognition of his generosity and vision. Funded and run by GTC, the Centre is at the heart of the community and provides facilities for a wide range of activities.



The William Collyn Community Centre at Wellbrook Way, named after the founder of Girton Town Charity.

Almshouses

By the start of the nineteenth century there were already almshouses in Girton in the form of tenements within a single parish house and located at Camping Close in Cambridge Road, between the Old Rectory (now the Cambridge Academy of English) and St Andrew's Church. This site was acquired in 1848 by Miss Anna Maria Cotton, the founder of the Village school, now the Cotton Hall.

The first of the current almshouses was 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.

Until recently, GTC's primary assets were pieces of land in and around Girton which were used to provide income for charitable works which in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries was often in the form of coal distributions to the poor.

These land holdings currently include half of the Town Field which is in the centre of the Village and bounded by Hicks Lane and Cambridge Road. The other part of the Town Field is owned by St Andrew's Church but the whole is managed by Girton Allotment Society on behalf of the two Charities.

Helping residents

Some of this land has always been let to farmers but in 2003 GTC sold a large area at Wellbrook Way for development, resulting in a substantial sum of money which was invested and is now being used for the benefit of Girton residents.

This funding enabled major grants to be made for the refurbishment of the Cotton Hall and additions to both St Andrew's Church and the Baptist Church. A scheme

of initiatives were introduced for example, the Hospital Taxi Scheme, the Educational Grant Scheme and later the CarePlus Grant Scheme.

Over the last few years the number of Schemes and Grants has increased and GTC has also made awards to individuals, Girton Glebe School and Village clubs and organisations, as well as to charities from outside the Village so that they can provide help specifically in Girton including YMCA, Relate, Age UK Cambridgeshire and CAB.

Recent years

In 2012, 11 new almshouses were built at Centenary Court for use by Village residents and further projects are currently underway to increase housing provision in the Village, on High Street and the site of the old WI Hall.

During 2014, the Charity commissioned its first community project called Passing Through and Settling which was run by Artist-in-Residence Holly Rumble and involved over 500 Village residents over its six-month duration.

A Sensory Garden has also been created at Wellbrook Way for use and enjoyment by all residents.

In December 2018, Sculpture Railings created by artist Matthew Lane Sanderson were installed between St Andrew's Church and the car park and the bus shelter replaced with a structure in keeping with the Grade II Star of St Andrew's Church.

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:

Dr Robin Hiley (Chairman) 1 Fairway Girton CB3 0QF t:277296
Ann Bonnett (Vice Chair) 41 Church Lane Girton CB3 0JW t:276354
Marc Bermann Huntingfields Huntingdon Rd CB3 0LH t:277319
Colin Carr 10a Duck End Girton CB3 0PZ t:276312
Jenny Knights 47 Fairway Girton CB3 0QF t:276405
Patsy Smith 27 Woody Green Girton CB3 0PG t:575288

or the GTC office:

22 High Street, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0PU.
Open 10.00am – 1.00pm Tuesday-Thursday.

01223 276008

email: gtc@girtontowncharity.co.uk

www.girtontowncharity.co.uk

Educational Grants 2019/20

Applications for an Educational Grant are invited from young people over 18 leaving secondary education and moving on to higher education and some training schemes or NVQ qualifications Level 4 and above.

The Grant covers books, equipment, tools or other direct costs relevant to the course and is a maximum of £300* per year for up to four years.

Next payment date for grant applications received will be December 2019.

Applicants must have lived in Girton for a minimum of two years immediately before leaving secondary education.

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4.45 - 6.15pm Kids Sewing Club
6.45 - 7.45pm Clubbercise
7.45 - 9.15pm Whole Notes Gospel Choir

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

Friday

7.00 - 9.00pm Tribe - New Life Church Youth Club

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.

William Collyn Community Centre

Wellbrook Way, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0GP

01223 279587

info@williamcollyn.co.uk www.williamcollyn.co.uk

!GOOD NEWS!

Girton Community Choir has a new leader! So we will be meeting in September, as usual, although we have yet to confirm a venue.

BAD NEWS



.Penny is not in a position to commit to the Community Choir long term, so we are still seeking someone who can take over from Elaine in the

long term. If you, or anyone you know, would like to lead this enthusiastic and friendly choir, please contact Jane on 01223 474667 for more information.

And this number is also the one to ring if you would like to join us in singing a variety of songs, many of which are in four part harmony. You don't need to read music, just a sense of humour and an enjoyment of music. And if you have contacted me already and left your details, could you please do so again, as I have had a tidy up and temporarily put them in a safe place? Thank you. We look forward to reuniting on the 11th September and perhaps meeting you for the first time.

Jane Williams

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CALL BACK

This is the time of year when intrepid teenagers, having survived the stresses of A-level exams, now embark on gap-year adventures. It has become a rite of passage, for testing resolve, resilience and mastery of the unknown.

Mindful parents, having made provision for every known pitfall, plead hopefully, 'Call me, won't you? Let me know where you are.' The occasional text message will not suffice. Tuned-in parents can interpret every nuance of tone in the familiar voice, happy, anxious, afraid, excited 'Call back!'

In pre-television times when entertainment was home-spun and community-based, little mission halls around the country would host what came to be called 'Testimony Meetings'. Speakers would step to the front and captivate audiences with personal reports of the faithfulness of God in provision, protection, guidance, healing and redeeming grace. Human nature being prone to limelight seeking, these well-intended meetings might at times degenerate into competition for the most spectacular report. Nevertheless, these dramatic recounting were 'call back' stories of those who had passed along a track in life that led to encounters with God who interacts and intercedes. The principle remains worthy of practice, that we who have experienced 'the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living' should call back to those who follow in our footsteps through the tough situations of life. The most effective comfort and reassurance comes from the empathy of one who has survived the same thorny way and can share advice and encouragement and thanksgiving to God. In testimony we bear witness to God who offers cleansing and forgiveness, who guides and provides, who hears and answers prayer and whose mercies are without end.

Charles Simeon, that great Cambridge luminary, after decades of teaching and preaching amidst hostile opposition, found himself so weakened in physical strength that he could not deliver two sermons in one day. Conversations were often reduced to whispered exchanges and for thirteen years he suffered bouts of extreme exhaustion. Reaching sixty years of age, he anticipated the relief of retirement from these strenuous labours and retreat from battle. But it was not to be. On his last visit north in 1819, he found himself miraculously renewed in strength and re-commissioned for active service for a further thirteen years. His call back advice is still relevant to us today, with regard to prayers of intercession. He said, 'Sometimes an extraordinary sense of want may beget fervour in our petitions, or a peculiar mercy enliven our grateful acknowledgements, but it is scarcely ever that we can intercede with fervour unless we enjoy our habitual nearness to God.' Thus, he echoes the advice of the writer of Psalm 91 who urges to make

our habitual dwelling place in 'the shelter of the Most High'.

Call Back (writer unknown)

*If you have gone a little way ahead of me, call back.
Twill cheer my heart and help my feet along the stony track;
And if, perchance, Faith's light is dim, because the oil is low,
Your call will guide my lagging course as wearily I go.
Call back and tell me that He went with you into the storm;
Call back and say He kept you when the forest's roots were torn;
That when the heavens thundered and the earthquake shook the hill,
He bore you up and held you where the very air was still.
And if you'll say He heard you when your prayer was but a cry,
And if you'll say He saw you through the night's sin-darkened sky,
If you have gone a little way ahead, O friend, call back
Twill cheer my heart and help my feet along the stony track.*

Iris Niven

www.girtonbaptistchurch.co.uk
103 Hight Street Girton CB3 0QQ

Messy Church

Crafts

July - Thursday 11
Goodbye at Last -
The Ascension

August - No Messy Church

September - Thursday 12
Noah

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30 DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE





St Andrew's Church

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

Licensed Lay Ministers:

Mr Dugald Wilson Tel: 276940

Mrs Christina Deacon Tel: 525337

Churchwardens:

Mr Bruce & Mrs Wendy Hunter

Tel: 503958

Sunday Services: September

1st	10.00am	Holy Communion (CW)
8th	10.00am	All Age Family Worship
	6.00pm	Evensong (BCP)
15th	10.00am	Holy Communion (CW)
	6.00pm	Evensong (BCP)
22nd	10.00am	Morning Prayer (CW)
29th	10.00am	Harvest Holy Communion (CW)

Weekday Services: September

Wednesdays

10.15am Silent Prayer in the North Room

Tuesday 10th

11.00am Service of Holy Communion at Arlington Manor

2.30pm Service of Holy Communion at Abbeyfield

Thursday 26th, 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).

It would be great to see you at any of our services and events.

Girton Baptist Church



Minister: Revd Nick Lowe

219 Wellbrook Way, Girton CB3 0GL

Tel: 279289

Secretary: Mrs Virginia Rootham-Smith

Tel: 926807

Website: www.girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk

Sunday Services: September

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.

1st	10.30am	Morning Worship led by John Searle
	6.30pm	Evening Worship with Communion led by Robin Giles
8th	9.00am	Prayer Breakfast
	10.30am	Morning Service
15th	10.30am	Morning Worship with Communion
	6.30pm	Evening Worship led by Iris Niven
22nd	10.30am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship led by Scot Palen
29th	10.30am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship led by Christine Kimmett

Tuesday Afternoon Friendship Group

Come and join us at 2:15pm on
September 24th – Starts again,
speaker TBA

For more information or to arrange a lift please call
Christine Kimmett - 01223 575861 or Chris Whitby - 01223 276044

Girton Baptist Church




Girton Baptist Church

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
cllr@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

LOST & FOUND

A mobile phone was handed into the Parish Office on 7th August 2019 by a Girton resident. It was found in St Vincent's Close. Please contact the Parish Office on 01223 472181 if you think it may be yours.

RUBBISH COLLECTION

Thursday 5 September	Black bin
Thursday 12 September	Blue and Green bins
Thursday 19 September	Black bin
Thursday 26 September	Blue and Green bins
Thursday 3 October	Black bin

MOBILE LIBRARY

Thursday 26 September

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

CONTACT NUMBERS FOR BOOKINGS

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

Girton Neighbourhood Watch

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?



Why not become a Neighbourhood Watch coordinator?

Members work together, alongside the police, sharing concerns and observations, reducing crime and fear of crime and looking out for each other.

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

For next meeting see GPN Calendar

All Welcome!

Girton Neighbourhood Watch Committee

Chair: Val Godby <i>v.godby@97@btintemat.com (01223 276372)</i>	Secretary: Margaret Wheatley <i>wheatleymargaret606@yahoo.co.uk (01223 527098)</i>
Vice-Chair: Geoff Varley <i>geoff.varley3322@btintemat.com (01223 276772)</i>	Communications: Sandy Couch <i>sandy_couch@hotmail.com (01223 277782)</i>

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