



# GIRTON Parish News



December 2017

*Merry  
Christmas*

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## Publication Information

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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](http://www.girton-cambs.org.uk), where you may also find expanded versions of selected items.

### Advertisements

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

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

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

*Typesetters* Erin Austin, Sam Clift, Claire Lightley, Bill Rothwell

*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

*Webmasters* Andrew Haylett, Paul Greaney

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

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## The Village Diary

### December

- Fri. 1** **Rotary Memory Café**, 10am–12 noon  
St Vincent's Close Community Centre
- Sat. 2** **Girton Walking Group**, Walk to Histon  
Meet at St Andrew's Church, 10am
- Sun. 3** **Girton College Music Society**, 2.30pm  
Stanley Library, Works for erhu and piano
- Fri. 8** **ANNUAL VILLAGE CHRISTMAS EVENING**  
Girton Social Club, from 7pm
- Girton WI**, The Old Crown, 7.30pm  
Christmas Meal (members only)
- Tue. 12** **Girton Neighbourhood Watch**, 7.30pm  
Christmas Social, all welcome
- Thur. 14** **Club 55, Film**, 'My Cousin Rachel'  
St Vincent's Close Community Centre, 12 noon
- Girton Garden Society**, St Vincent's Cl., 7.30pm  
Plants for Winter Interest – Peter Jackson
- Tue. 19** **Parish Council Meeting**, 7.30pm  
St Vincent's Close Community Centre
- Wed. 20** **Club 55**, Buffet Lunch and Christmas Party  
The Pavilion, 12.15pm
- Thur. 21** **Carol Singing around Girton**, 6.30–9pm  
Meet outside St Andrew's Church
- Fri. 22** **Girton Craft Club**, 2–4pm  
Orchard Close Community Centre, all welcome
- Carol Singing around Girton**, 6.30–9pm  
Meet at the Girton Road end of Thornton Road
- Major Rat Run**, Annual Christmas Special  
The George Inn, 9pm
- Sun. 24** **Carol Singing around Girton**, 6.30–9pm  
Meet at the Girton Road end of Wellbrook Way
- Sat. 30** **Girton Churchyard Volunteers**, Work Party  
St Andrew's Churchyard, 10am–12 noon

### January 2018

- Thur. 4** **Girton WI**, The Pavilion, 7.30pm  
Members' Night
- Fri. 5** **Rotary Memory Café**, 10am–12 noon  
St Vincent's Close Community Centre

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Cover photo by Joe Sipos

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## GIRTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

The copy deadline for this month's *Parish News* precedes the November Parish Council meeting, but agenda items for discussion at the meeting will include Parish Council agreements for Girton Town Charity's artistic fence and bus shelter by St Andrew's Church and the refurbishment of the Recreation Ground Car Park. The Council will also receive reports on potential security measures at the Pavilion and Recreation Ground Car Park, and a presentation on a revised proposed housing development to the rear of Pepys Way and Weavers Field.

### Remembrance Thank You

Thank you to all residents who took part in or attended the recent Remembrance-tide ceremonies on the 11th and 12th November, with special thanks to Zoe Perkins who played the 'Last Post' and 'Reveille' so note perfectly. It was also particularly lovely to have Year 6 pupils from Girton Glebe School with us for a ceremony on the 10th, at which they read their excellent and poignant pieces about WWII. Many thanks also to the band of residents who collected donations for the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal – with particular thanks to Wendy Ripley, whose first year as Girton's Poppy Appeal Organiser has been very successful. Our warm thanks also to Barrie Spencer and James Barnard for their work as Poppy Appeal Organisers over past years.

### Bag It and Bin It!

The Council have received a number of complaints relating to dog fouling on the village's streets and verges. This is a particularly unpleasant, unhealthy and anti-social habit, and dog-owners/walkers are requested to make sure that they clean up after their pets, with mess being securely bagged and taken home or placed in a dog bin. We shall be posting notices to remind of the severe penalties that can be meted out to offenders.

### Next meetings

The next meetings of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 19th December 2017 and Tuesday 16th January 2018, both starting at 7.30pm at St Vincent's Close Community Centre. Members of the public are welcome to attend all Parish Council meetings, and to speak in the open session at the start.

**The Chairman, Councillors and Staff of Girton Parish Council wish all residents a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.**

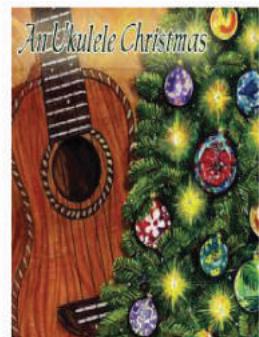
Please see page 34 for a full list of councillors.

## Annual Village Christmas Evening

From 7pm on Friday 8th December 2017 at  
*Girton Social Club*



**Switching on the Christmas Tree Lights  
with Revd Mandy Maxwell at 7.30pm**



**Mince Pies & Mulled Wine  
Free for adults (squash for children)**

*There will be a collection for the Alzheimer's Society*

# From Our Councillors

## County Councillor

### Lynda Harford

Residents continued this month to contact me about inconsistency of the number 6 bus service. The CEO of Stagecoach has said that roadworks are a major contributor and I accept that these must have some effect. The work on the final stage of the Huntingdon Road cycleway is due to finish, weather permitting, on Sunday 19 November and the single lane restriction at junction 14 of the M11 is due to be lifted around the same date. Once these two major contributors are out of the picture, I will be able to discuss what other reasons there are for this.

On the subject of roadworks: starting on 27 November and continuing until 15 January there will be multi-way signals in place for work to be carried out on Wellbrook Way. With two construction sites underway and the fact that there is only one way in/out of Wellbrook Way, traffic will need to be very carefully managed and I am already working with County Highways Officers to ensure that the contractors understand just how challenging this may prove to be and that they do everything they can to keep inconvenience to residents to a minimum.

It's the time of year when retailers start their 'best Christmas advertisement' competition and Cambridgeshire County Council starts its budget setting process again. In the last 6 years it has made £215m of savings whilst striving still to provide good quality services. Over the next five years the Council faces a further £100m pressure on its budgets. Whilst it is on target to deliver savings of £31m this year, it now has to look for even more savings in 2018/19 when the gap between the money it receives from Government, council tax, business rates and its own income generation, and the amount that it needs to spend on services, stands at £37.5m. The historic underfunding of large rural counties like Cambridgeshire cannot continue and the Council is now working with the county's MPs and its own network of similarly affected councils to campaign for fairer funding.

Having a free NHS Health Check has proved to be a wake up call for some residents, influencing them to improve their health through simple lifestyle changes. The checks are designed to spot early signs of stroke, kidney disease, type 2

diabetes or dementia and give people the opportunity to take steps at an early point to help lower their risk of developing such conditions. Often just changing to a healthier diet and doing a bit more exercise is all that's needed. Anyone aged between 40 and 74 can book a free check with their local GP service. Funded by the County Council through its Public Health budget, the 20–30 minute session provides checks on blood pressure, weight, cholesterol and the lifestyle factors that influence your health. For more information go to [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/be-well/health-improvement/](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/be-well/health-improvement/)

Please do contact me about any concerns or questions you have. If you would like to receive a copy of the full report that I write for the division's parish councils each month, please email me and I will add you to its circulation. Meanwhile my best wishes to you all for the forthcoming festive season. I hope to see many of you at the various events that will be happening starting with the Christmas Fair at Girton Glebe on 25 November.

Lynda.  
[lyndaharford@icloud.com](mailto:lyndaharford@icloud.com)  
01954 251775/07889 131022

Follow me on Twitter: @2whit2whoo



#### Problem? Need advice?

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Girton drop-in service at  
**St Vincent Close Community Centre**  
on Wednesday between 1-4pm.

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Service funded by the  
Girton Town Charity

Cambridge & District CAB is a registered charity no. 1056102,  
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## A View from the District

I noted last month that I had managed to get the large and unauthorised Sainsbury's sign removed from the entrance to the NW Cambridge site. Within a few days another equally large one appeared, advertising the market housing on the site. Again I complained, and am now told they have submitted a planning application. This will allow the sign to remain at least until we have a chance to reject it – such abuse of planning law is unfortunately outside our control. I have also complained to the University authorities.

The Joint Development Control Committee met recently, though I could not attend because of a hospital appointment, to assess an office block at Cambridge North Station. I am pleased that it was unanimously rejected on the grounds of pedestrian and cycle safety, a very satisfactory result. It would have disrupted a shared-use path, the defence being that users could go all the way round the back of the building instead.

Group leaders have had meetings with our Chief Executive, our senior planners, and the Leader. While we are pleased that we do now have these meetings, it is still sometimes difficult to get hard data out of them. Most of the issues we look at are confidential, but we did ask some hard questions, particularly in the areas of staff recruitment and retention, customer service, the City Deal and the mayor, and of course the Local Plan. The Council has put out a very upbeat press release on the Plan; it is not quite clear that all the optimism is justified. One question I raised on almost all these topics is: Where do we record our failures? Only by acknowledging them can we hope to improve; it is a lesson I find hard to get across. We expressed concern that Councillors' attempts to get dubious planning applications sent to the Committee were consistently ignored; we now have a way ahead which I hope will see real improvement.

You may have seen in the press a month or so ago that Cambridgeshire Constabulary have rejected the proposal that they should adopt 'Operation Close Pass', a scheme to warn drivers who refuse to give cyclists sufficient room while overtaking. I wrote to the PCC expressing my concerns, and have received an anodyne response which claimed to support cyclists' safety but mentioned 'difficulties'. It at least included 'The door is not closed to initiatives such as Operation Close Pass'. I shall take this further.

A Draft Accessibility Action Plan was launched recently by the Department for Transport, and I have submitted a personal response. I have also responded to the consultation on deposits on drinks containers.

UK Power Network have once again launched their 'Winter Ready' scheme for vulnerable customers. If you have not already registered with them, but are a pensioner, a family with children under 5, or someone with a disability or medical needs, you can do so to get priority help in the event of a power cut. See the web page [tinyurl.com/kt6xdv3](http://tinyurl.com/kt6xdv3) or contact me.

If you would like a fuller monthly report emailed to you please contact me at [scdc@de-lacey.org](mailto: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*



### St Andrew's Christmas Services

#### Sunday 17 December

10.00am – Nativity

6.00pm – Traditional Carol Service  
of 9 Lessons and Carols

#### Sunday 24 December Christmas Eve

8.00am Book of Common Prayer  
Holy Communion

10.00am Morning Prayer

3.30pm Christingle Service

11.00pm Midnight Communion

#### Monday 25 December Christmas Day

8.00am Book of Common Prayer  
Holy Communion

10.00am Family Communion

***Wishing everybody  
a very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!***

# G.S. DECORATING

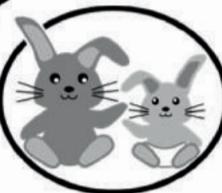
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# FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Next concert  
at Histon Baptist Church  
7.30pm Friday 8th and Saturday 9th December

Dvorak: Organ Mass  
Bruckner: 3 Motets  
Carols for All

Conductor: Peter Britton, Organist: David Warham  
With Histon Junior School Choir (Friday 8th only)  
and

Chesterton Singers (Saturday 9th only)

There will be a retiring collection in aid of the  
East Anglian Air Ambulance

## Carol singing in Girton 2017: Collectors & Singers Needed!

*Can you spare an hour or two to help support Child carers?*

Traditional Carol Singing will again take place around the streets of Girton in the run-up to Christmas Day! This year we are collecting for the Cambridgeshire Young Carers Fund. Last year the generous people of Girton donated £925 for our two charities: the Phoenix Trust in Milton and Singing for Breathing. We also had support from the Girton Town Charity.

Can we do even better this year? To do that we need Singers, and Collectors, and preferably lots of both! Please come and join us.

Singing will start at 6.30pm and carry on till around 9pm, at which point all remaining singers and collectors are invited for refreshments. This year's dates are:

Thursday 21st December – meeting outside St Andrew's Church at 6.30pm, and singing in High Street, Woodlands Park, Dodford Lane, Northfield and Fairway.

Friday 22nd December – meeting at Girton Road end of Thornton Road, singing in Thornton Road, Thornton Close and in the courtyard of Thornton Court

Sunday 24th December – meeting at the Girton Road end of Wellbrook Way, singing to Wellbrook Way and Weaver's Field.

Please note that we cannot guarantee to get to the last roads in the list, but having more helpers speeds things up!

- Wrap up warmly in light coloured or reflective clothing.
- Wear comfortable shoes with good grip (in case it's icy).
- Bring a torch.
- Children under the age of 11 should be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Any enquiries – please contact Helen Wilson (276940).

Maps and details of previous charity collections on [www.girtoncarolsinging.org.uk](http://www.girtoncarolsinging.org.uk)

Friends of St. Andrew's present  
*Encore – by popular demand*



**Songs & Laughter  
for a January Evening  
with Jennifer Thompson  
(Soprano) & Friends**

**SATURDAY JANUARY 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2018  
AT ABBEYFIELD GIRTON GREEN  
WELLBROOK WAY, GIRTON  
FROM 7.30P.M.**

Tickets include a light supper:  
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or telephone 01223 697988

# FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Does Love or Money  
make the World go round?



These two are in Love but don't know it.  
Money is involved.

These two aren't in love, but think they  
are. More than money is at stake.



Can Njegus, he who is shocked and  
perplexed by these states of affairs,  
engineer any happy endings?

Can they sort the affairs out themselves?

Find out in The Glebe School Hall NEXT  
YEAR at the end of February.

Don't let the dilemma spoil your  
Festivities.

Girton Musical Theatre wishes you a  
Very Merry Christmas and we hope to  
see you in 2018!

## "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"

Those of you who heard us during last  
year's Festive Season may remember us  
singing those words to you.



If you missed us, we will be singing at  
various events throughout December,  
even venturing beyond the village  
boundary to Oakington Garden Centre on  
9th December, where we will be  
collecting for homeless charities. This  
photograph was taken last year and, as  
you can see, we are a very merry lot. All  
year round!

So, we send you **Season's Greetings**,  
and if you feel in need of shedding a few  
excess lbs/kgs in January, we would be  
very pleased to help you sing them away!  
We're not changing our details, so you  
will still find us in the School Hall on  
Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm and  
would be delighted to see you.

Sing your way into a Happy New Year!

Girton Community Choir

# FORTHCOMING EVENTS

## Girton Walking Group

Saturday 2nd December. Meet at 10am at St Andrew's Church, Girton for a short walk to Histon and back. There will be a Bring and Share Christmas lunch after the walk at Claire Nickson's house.

Please email Claire at [cnludlow12@gmail.com](mailto:cnludlow12@gmail.com) if you would like to leave food/drink contributions at her house before the walk.

## Girton Garden Society

Thursday 14th December at 7.30pm  
St Vincent's Close Community Centre

**Plants for winter interest**

by Peter Jackson (Scotsdales)

*Competitions*

A Christmas table arrangement  
Six Brussels Sprouts or three Leeks

Visitors most welcome: £2

## Girton Village Yard Sales – Advance Notice

Next year will be our 5th year of holding these sales in the village. It is an incredibly well supported event and raises just over £1000 each year for the Arthur Rank Hospice.

Please note that I intend to hold the event on Saturday 12th May 2018. Please put this date in your new diary!

*Jenny Knights, 47 Fairway*

*Tel: 01223 276405 or email  
[jenny.knights@virginmedia.com](mailto:jenny.knights@virginmedia.com)*

## Girton College Music Society

**Sunday 3rd December at 2.30 pm (until 3.30 pm)**  
Stanley Library, Girton College, Cambridge  
**Chun Hau Ng, Kok Foong Lee and Yu Yan Tsang (erhu)**

**Ji Xia Lim (piano)**

*Works by Wenjin Liu, Vittorio Monti (Csárdás),  
Jianmin Wang, Weili Hu*

*and Dong Heng Qian (a first performance)*

Admission free; retiring collection



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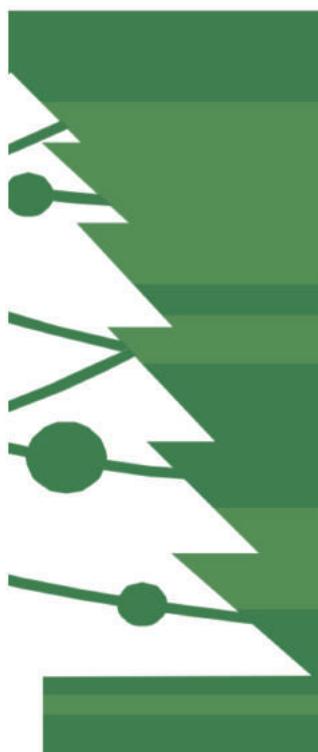
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## News from Girton Glebe Primary School

The second half of the autumn term is now in full swing and there have been many exciting things happening at Girton Glebe Primary School over the last month. Please read on for a round-up of our latest news ...

### Girton Glebe Open Session

Many thanks to all who came out to share our open day sessions with us in early November. It was a wonderful atmosphere in school and the classrooms and corridors looked lovely – well done to all staff for their hard work and dedication in preparing for this event!

We were joined by a nice mixture of both present and prospective parents and, during the evening session, were also given a short presentation by Ryan Kelsall, Principal of IVC.

Well done to all of our Year 6 ambassadors who did an exceptional job of showing prospective parents around the school; your enthusiasm and impeccable manners made a great impression. We are very proud of you all! Many thanks to FOGG for providing refreshments during both sessions; it is always a pleasure to see you in school.

### Shakespeare Schools Festival

On Tuesday 14 November our Year 6 pupils took part in their final performance of *Macbeth* as part of the annual Shakespeare Schools Festival. This year there were over 1000 schools taking part in the festival in 136 theatres across the UK and, over the course of the evening, our children shared the stage with pupils from two other schools, each performing separate plays.

After many months of rehearsals, our children did themselves proud in front of a packed audience at the Mumford Theatre, Cambridge, taking on all the roles required to stage such a show. In performing such a professional and engaging production, our pupils assumed the roles of the cast, technicians, stage managers and marketing assistants and received both well-deserved applause from the audience and an incredibly positive appraisal by the Shakespeare Schools leader at the end of the show.

Huge thanks must be extended to Mr Kohler for directing the performance and to Miss Pyle and volunteers for accompanying the children to the theatre. Many thanks also to all of the parents

involved for making time for rehearsals and organising costumes and props!

### Remembrance Day

Thank you to all children, parents and carers who have supported us in raising money for the Poppy Appeal. Our Year 6 children did a fabulous job of selling poppies around school and were magnificent ambassadors for Girton Glebe as they attended the war memorial on Friday 10 November to read aloud their poetry and observe two minutes' silence. It was lovely to see so many children wearing poppies around school in support of this cause – well done all.

### School Field

Over the last 18 months there has been a significant amount of work taking place beyond the fence line at the furthest end of our school site. Heavy machinery was on site during the winter, stripping and preparing the land, the grass was sown in April and I am delighted to announce that our new school field is now in use!



Our children have been using the field for PE sessions and other outdoor learning activities and on Friday 17 November we hosted a special event for Children in Need. Over the course of the morning, our pupils competed in a sponsored run around the track on our field whilst being cheered on by parents and carers. This event was followed by a Staff v. Pupils football match in which the pupils played a stunning game, winning 4–3. Throughout this, we were all kept warm by our FOGG committee who kindly provided refreshments. Well done to all who took part in this event and many thanks to Co-op Community Fund for allowing us to purchase a range of sports equipment to use on our new field.

*Mr Andrew Simpson  
Headteacher*

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The sites, entry time periods and last exits are as follows:

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### Department of Assessment, Park Terrace CB2 1GG

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### Department of Chemistry, Lensfield Road CB2 1EW

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December dates when all three sites are open are:

**Sat 2nd, Sun 3rd, Sat 9th, Sun 10th, Sat 16th, Sun 17th, Sat 23rd**

**Wed 27th, Thurs 28th, Fri 29th, Sun 31st**

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[www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/page.php?PgID=670134&ClubID=500](http://www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/page.php?PgID=670134&ClubID=500)

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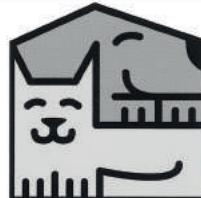


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Traditionally, the short, cold days of December have been the time when sheds are tidied, tools are sharpened and oiled, evergreens and berries are brought indoors for festive displays and the gardener settles down in the warm with seed and nursery catalogues to plan next year's brilliant garden. The garden itself has been put to bed for the Winter!

However, writing this in mid-November at the end of a long, slow and very colourful autumn, I can still see trees and hedges holding on to glorious coloured leaves, and late roses and perennials flowering in neighbouring gardens. In addition, some supposedly late winter flowers are already putting on an early show – yellow winter jasmines are fully out in friend's gardens, and my own Algerian irises bear delicate new violet flowers daily.

Many deciduous trees and shrubs are not yet dormant, and anyone wanting to plant bare root roses, fruit trees, soft fruit or native hedging may still be waiting for nurseries to lift them from the fields.

So this could be a very active gardening December, with many of us catching up on jobs which would normally have been done one or two months earlier. Hopefully, the weather will not suddenly turn excessively wet, windy or icy, which would make the soil unsuitable for digging or planting (and probably discourage us from going outside!) and we will be able to make up for lost time on the following tasks:

- clearing the lawn of leaves, and bagging these to make leaf mould;
- cutting the grass, with blades set high, on fine, dry days;
- planting and moving bare root shrubs, trees, roses and hedging;
- pruning to renovate old trees, shrubs and climbers;
- taking hardwood cuttings of shrubs such as dogwoods, forsythia, *Pyracantha*, and hydrangeas, and setting these in well prepared ground in a corner of the garden where they can lie undisturbed for up to two years;
- dividing perennials and lifting dahlias and cannas for dry, frost-free storage;
- finishing planting tulips and hyacinths to flower this spring.

However, there are also several 'insurance' tasks which I shall try to do just in case the weather takes a turn for the worse, as extremes of rain,

wind or frost/ice can cause real damage in the garden, especially to any plants in pots. This is my checklist (not always all achieved!).

- Mulch tender plants in the border with compost, straw or leaf litter around the crown.
- Move tender plants in pots (especially those such as salvias, cordylines, bay, olives, or alpines, which like well drained Mediterranean conditions) into a frost-free, well-lit shed or greenhouse, or shelter them in the rain shadow under the eaves and against the walls of the house.
- Protect pots from absorbing water and shattering in frost by bubble wrapping them. This will also protect plant roots from frost damage, and if the bubble wrap covers the compost (but not the plant stems) and the pot is raised on bricks to aid drainage, then the plant should not get waterlogged. Excessive wet kills plants!
- In an extended period of dry or windy weather, water evergreens in pots regularly. They need to absorb water all year, and can actually die from desiccation in a dry Winter.
- Keep an eye on the moisture level in pots of camellias and rhododendrons. These produce next Spring's buds from late Summer onwards and buds will drop or shrivel if the plant is too dry. Give a weak ericaceous feed in fine periods when the buds will be growing.

Everyone will have their own 'to do' lists, but for all gardeners this promises to be a busy December. Hopefully there will still be time for creating festive wreaths and indoor displays with evergreens and twigs from the garden and the early hellebores, snowdrops, hyacinths and scented narcissi available from florists this month, and for brisk walks around stunning Winter gardens like Anglesey Abbey or Cambridge Botanic Garden to inspire us. Happy December gardening, everyone.

*Janet Sheard, Girton Garden Society*



## GIRTON WI

At our November meeting we made Christmas baubles. The organisers had prepared the polystyrene balls and cut out the fabrics so we could make these Christmas baubles easily and they looked good. It was a fun activity and there was lots of time to chat too!

If you would like to know more about the WI, please contact:

[girtonwi@gmail.com](mailto:girtonwi@gmail.com) or visit the WI website. We welcome new members!

*Corinne Garvie*



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## Garden Tip of the Month – December

At a marvellous talk about the garden at Keukenhof in Holland, the speaker, Max Penning, explained that for the eight busy weeks of their annual spring opening showcasing many attractive bulbs, the star attraction was the tulips. In fact, although they had experimented with a summer opening displaying gladioli, lilies and other summer bulbs, it had been discontinued after three years because over 80% of the visitors were disappointed because there were no tulips! The Dutch clearly have a thing for tulips, but they are very popular in the UK too. There are so many different sizes, shapes, colours, and months of flowering that they have a wide appeal, and they can be planted fairly late, even into the New Year and still do well (compared with daffs which do better if planted by September). A word to the wise: when planting tulips try to get the bulbs about six inches down as they are then more likely to stand up straight.

Hellebores are welcome flowers during mild spells in the winter, and appreciate shade, which is abundant in many gardens. The view of the flowers, which are fairly low down, can be much improved by chopping off old leaves, particularly ones that have brown blotches on them. These are often caused by a fungus (*Microsphaeropsis hellebore*) specific to the genus, which can in severe cases kill the plant. If the leaves of your plants have a lot of brown marks on consider burning them, or send them away in the green bin. Like many shade tolerant plants hellebores are fond of a mulch of leaf mould.

George Thorpe

### Girton Garden Society



**Girton Garden Society**

In November, Mr Philip Waites of Wimpole Hall gave a talk to Girton Garden Society on ‘The Birth of a Garden’.

First, a date for our diaries – early August 2018 for those of us who have not visited Wimpole Hall gardens recently. It is then that the borders and flower beds will be flowering in all their glory. Not that the rest of the year doesn’t have spectacles to delight the visitor. The peony border is one such eye catcher.

Mr Waites arrived at the gardens in 1981, being made Head Gardener in 1987. The gardens, after suffering neglect in the Second World War, presented a big undertaking. The most urgent need was to deal with the unruly elm trees etc. and the flower gardens had to wait their turn. This job fell to Mr Waites and his team of three others *plus* the 97 multi-skilled garden volunteers who dedicate half or a whole day a week to assorted jobs. They come from far and wide and deserve great credit.

Mr Waites has overseen the tree planting of the two-and-

a-half mile South Avenue, the creation of the Pleasure Grounds and the restoration of the Dutch Garden, the Victorian Parterre and the borders. Most recently, the Folly has been renovated with great success.

The Walled Garden provides the restaurant with an abundance of vegetables of every conceivable colour and shape, including black and orange tomatoes. These all create wonderful displays. With several types of walnut trees, there is no limit to the innovation to be seen.

A treat awaits us when we visit!

Felicia Moor



### Burglary Prevention

Police are urging residents to check their home security now the dark winter evenings are with us. With more homes empty after sunset, officers are concerned the number of burglaries could rise. In the six months from November 2016 to April 2017 (inclusive), 1238 homes were burgled in the county. During the previous six months (May–October 2016), 1051 homes were burgled, meaning offences rose by 17.8 per cent over the autumn/winter months.

Police are offering the following advice:

- Install good lighting; for example exterior lights with dawn-to-dusk sensors and an alarm.
- Use timer switches. These can be linked to lighting or even a radio giving the impression that someone is at home and can be switched on through mobile phone applications.
- Close your blinds or curtains at night, preventing people from looking into your home. If your children are home first from school encourage them to close curtains and blinds first.
- Keep windows and doors secure, and lock side gates, even if you are at home.
- Do not leave spare keys hidden outside – a burglar will always look for these first.
- Mark your valuables – with your post code and house number – or garden and shed equipment with a spare can of paint or even nail varnish.
- Do not leave car keys near the front door or anywhere easy to find.

For more burglary prevention advice, visit the Constabulary website:

[www.cambs.police.uk/information-and-services/Burglary.aspx](http://www.cambs.police.uk/information-and-services/Burglary.aspx)

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## A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR GIRTON FEAST VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS

More than 50 volunteers came to the Girton Feast Thank You party in November. Real ales and wine were on offer, together with food provided by Hilary Duncan.

Over £5,000 was raised by charities, local clubs and societies during Feast Week, the highest amount yet! A movie was on display showing the various events that had taken place during Feast week, plus a video showing an excerpt from the Rock Choir performance at the Friday evening concert.

We have started planning for 2018 and the theme next year will be 'Pirates'. We're looking for ideas for this theme. If you would like to come and help us, please contact Carol on 01223 276103 or Rowena on 01223 565247.



With the surplus monies achieved by the Girton Feast Committee, tubs on the road verges will continue to be funded, together with the tubs at the front of Girton Glebe Primary School. Donations have been given to Bobtails, Cottontails and Girton Glebe School. If you have a project that requires up to £500 funding, you may apply for a grant from the Girton Feast Committee. Please submit your proposal in writing to [carol@girtonfeast.org.uk](mailto:carol@girtonfeast.org.uk).

### Become a volunteer with Girton Feast

**Would you like to help the community spirit within Girton while at the same time raise money for local clubs and organisations?**

We are looking for volunteers to help with a wide variety of tasks in the lead up to next year's Feast Week.

To find out more, please call Carol Noble on 01223 276103 or Rowena Barnes on 01223 565247, alternatively email: [carol@girtonfeast.org.uk](mailto:carol@girtonfeast.org.uk) or [rowena@girtonfeast.org.uk](mailto:rowena@girtonfeast.org.uk)

# GIRTON scoreboard



## Girton Golf Club

As Autumn turns to Winter, the weather gets colder (and wetter) and the leaves fall to the ground, the tremendous work done over the past month by our contractors and greens staff to transform much of our course has come to an end. New tees, bunkers and drainage have put the course on a great updated footing and come 2018 we will really see the benefit of the investment made.

*Die-hard golfers braving the chill on a frosty November morning.*



Comedy Night on 11th November proved a huge success. Four wonderfully funny and differing comedians entertained over 80 people, with the headline act, Mark Dolan, proving to be a clever and acerbic wit. We will be holding another Comedy Night early next year so look out for tickets going on sale in order not to be disappointed. Visitors and members are all welcome, and there are discounts for all members. With Social Membership at just £15 a year a couple, this is a real bargain.

We currently have a great offer for new playing members who join before Christmas and that is a free Lynx Wood with every new 5 or 7 Day Membership signed, so talk to our Pro shop today and take advantage.

May we wish all members of, and visitors to, Girton Golf Club a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and fun-filled New Year.

*Alan Henderson-Smith*

December 2017

22



## Girton Bowls Club

A momentous day arrived on 30th October, when the digger appeared on site to begin clearing the land for the building of the new Community Centre in Wellbrook Way. The Bowls Club will be hoping to make use of this for our home games, and while the marquee has served us well over our first three seasons, the Community Centre will really be appreciated. The contractor is Godfrey and Hicks and the projected time line for completion is 49 weeks. Please see our website to follow the progress: [www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com](http://www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com)



*Clearing the land for the new Community Centre*

The season may be over but green maintenance now begins in earnest. In preparation for our forthcoming season the club has made a conscious decision to take more control of their bowls green maintenance. Thanks to a generous grant from the Town Charity, together with a sizeable investment from club funds, we have recently acquired a 'state of the art' ISIS scarifier. We have also invested in the expertise of greenkeeper Steve Kane who will be managing the bowls green maintenance while at the same time training club members with a view to them becoming more knowledgeable in the skill of bowls green care. With the help of Steve, we have recently started the major Autumn maintenance programme and already we are seeing the fruits of our labour and are looking forward to what else can be achieved.



Some of our members are playing indoor bowls at this time of the year and while they have not yet won any games they are enjoying the experience.

*Indoor bowls*

Our Christmas dinner has been arranged for 8th December at the Golf Club. A reminder to all those who are going, please let our Secretary, Margaret, have your meal selections as soon as possible.

For any further information please contact our Secretary, Margaret McCall – [margaret.mccall@ntlworld.com](mailto:margaret.mccall@ntlworld.com).



## Girton Colts Football Club

For Girton Colts U15s it has been an excellent start to the season. Sitting at the top of the league table, the team has played 6 games and won them all. Each of the games has been competitive and in those cases where they have been behind, they have shown real character to take their chances and to earn in most cases what has been a well-deserved win.

Special mentions go to Dan Filippi and to Sean Griffin, the two goalkeepers who have shared the responsibility and have kept the team in the game when it matters. Sam Hough and Julen Lippman-Errasti in the central defending spine have given some fine performances. They have provided a great backbone to the team to allow the midfield and forward line to seize the chances up front with some fine attacking goals

The U10s have had a more mixed month. They scored an excellent win at Witchford in blustery conditions with a hat-trick from James Barge. However, they fell to defeat in a friendly against Cottenham, despite two excellent goals from Zaki Adloune. Most recently they suffered a narrow defeat against Red Lodge. The team put in an excellent performance with great defending from Misha Kaminskiy and attacking midfield play from Ethan Wilson, Zaki Adloune and Cosmo Crossley, but sadly didn't take enough of their chances in a game they could easily have won.

The U8s continue to improve in their first ever season. The highlight was a thrilling game at Histon played in heavy rain. George scored 4 as Girton put in their best performance of the season, with everyone contributing to a good team effort.

The U8s continue to have spaces in the squad for more players and are now training regularly on Monday afternoons.

*Kevin White*



## Girton Netball Club

It's been a busy month for Girton Netball Club. Training sessions have continued at Girton and Milton, and we have played our first three matches in Division A of the

Cambridgeshire Adult Friendly League. We're very much enjoying putting our training into practice in a sociable and fun atmosphere, with a

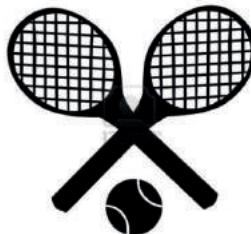
squad bolstered by new players. So far, we have played Melbourn, Kingaroos and The Bears, resulting in one closely fought loss against Melbourn and two evenly matched draws. We have one more match to play before Christmas against Stetchworth and have our sights set on ending the year with a win – we will report the result next month.

As always, we welcome new members to our club whatever your previous experience of netball may be. Training sessions are run on a pay and play basis (first session is free) so you can come as and when you're able and matches are optional. Our last training session of 2017 will be at Girton Rec on Monday 4th December from 7.30–8.45pm; we'll be restarting on Monday 15th January 2018, same time, same place, weather permitting. For more information, please contact Mel at [girton.village.netball@gmail.com](mailto:girton.village.netball@gmail.com) or see our Facebook page at [tinyurl.com/girton-netball](http://tinyurl.com/girton-netball).

Best wishes for a very merry Christmas from all at Girton Netball Club.

*Sally Thorpe*

## Girton Tennis Club



The tennis club would like to wish all readers a very happy Christmas. The committee are working on plans for 2018 and we have entered both a Men's and a Mixed team for the Summer League. We will play in Division 11 against teams such as Newmarket, St Neots and Haslingfield. If you are interested in playing in either of our teams, please let Kevin know (details below).

We may also have the opportunity to offer coaching sessions for up to 8 members at a time over the next few months. If this is something that would be of interest, please get in touch.

We have use of the recreation ground courts and members who purchase a key have court access during most daylight hours. Despite the dark and colder evenings our club members meet on Fridays from 7.30pm and play for around 90 minutes under floodlights. New potential members are welcome to come and have a free session – just come along with your racquet!

Tennis is an excellent way of getting some exercise and having fun. Details and application forms can be found on our website [www.girtontennis.org](http://www.girtontennis.org) or contact our Membership Secretary Kevin Keeves on 01223 276660 or by email at [info@girtontennis.org](mailto:info@girtontennis.org).

*Alan Franklin*

# FM FAMILY LAW

Our solicitors are specialists in family law with over 28 years' experience in supporting clients in divorce and relationship breakdown. Our services include:

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[christina@fmfamilylaw.co.uk](mailto:christina@fmfamilylaw.co.uk) 01223 355333  
8 Wellington Court, Cambridge, CB1 1HZ

We understand family matters



Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority no 559228

## Nursery & Forest School

Scallywags Nursery & Forest School provides care for children aged 3 months to 5 years, Monday to Friday from 7.30am - 6pm.

Forest School sessions run every day and are led by our own qualified Forest School Leaders.

Every day come rain or shine outdoor activities take place for all ages of children in our care

If you would like to know more about Scallywags or would like to arrange a visit please contact us on 01223 232400 or [enquiries@scallywagsdaynursery.com](mailto:enquiries@scallywagsdaynursery.com) or go to [www.scallywagsdaynursery.com](http://www.scallywagsdaynursery.com)



Westwick Hall Farm, Westwick, Oakington, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB24 3AR

48 Cambridge Road, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0PJ

**Scallywags**  
day nursery.com



## Vacancy—Girton Youth Project Sessional Worker

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Sessional Worker to join YMCA Trinity Group at the Girton Youth Project. In return we offer a competitive hourly rate of £9.59 per hour.

The Sessional Worker will play a key role in arranging, organising and delivering youth work activities for young people aged 8–19 during term time (Monday and Thursday evenings) and school holidays.

The Sessional Worker role will involve:

- Participating in the planning, organising, implementing and reviewing an all year round youth project
- Maintaining high standard of safety and welfare for staff, volunteers and young people.

You will need to have:

- Experience of working with young people under 18
- Understanding of the principles, and know the limits of child protection and confidentiality
- The ability to assess and manage risk
- Good organisational skills
- Current UK driving licence.

The hours of work are as and when required. Possible hours of work would be Monday from 4.00pm to 6.30pm and Thursday from 4.30pm to 9.30pm

Please email Rachel Rason on [rachel.rason@themca.org.uk](mailto:rachel.rason@themca.org.uk) for an application form.

**Closing date:** 20th December

**Interviews:** Week commencing 8th January.



## Cambridge TenSing

November was a more relaxed month for TenSing – after the very busy National TenSing Festival at the end of October. We had a Team Building Day this month, full of team building activities, baking and cooking a meal for ourselves. Following that, we had a fundraising quiz to help raise money for our trip to the European TenSing Festival in Norway next summer.



This December, we have several projects coming up. We will be in Choir 2000's Advent Concert on Friday 8th December as their guest choir. We will also be singing at Carols by

Candlelight at Histon Baptist Church on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> and are currently learning some Christmas songs to sing at the concerts and to get into the spirit of Christmas!

TenSing is an international youth choir run by young people for young people. We sing, dance and act, but more importantly, are set up to build young people up: boosting their confidence, developing leadership skills and giving them a chance to be part of a great community and all the support which comes with it. We meet at Histon Baptist Church on Thursday evenings, 7–9pm. If you are interested, please contact me at [lilyduncan@icloud.com](mailto:lilyduncan@icloud.com) or our administrator at [jking47@aol.com](mailto:jking47@aol.com) and come for a taster session one Thursday.

*Lily Duncan*



## 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](http://www.cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk)



## Friends of the Rosie

We hope all our customers are looking forward to Christmas.

The Friends of the Rosie Hospital are, and we have lots of stalls raising money to help make the Rosie a more comfortable environment for mothers and babies. For up-to-the minute information follow Rosie in Stitches Facebook page.

Rosie in Stitches would like to thank all our customers at our recent stalls. Our income for 2017 is already at £760.

### Upcoming Stall dates this autumn

#### **Tea Bar, Rosie Hospital Outpatient Clinic**

Monday to Friday, 9am–4pm

#### **Bar Hill Community Market**

Saturday 2nd December, 10.30am–2pm

Selling gifts for all ages

#### **Christmas Market, Cambourne Marketing Suite**

Wednesday 13th December, 12noon–2pm

Selling hand knitted toys

New members are always welcome, whether to contribute financially, to join our team of knitters, to organise the three large stalls per year at Addenbrooke's Outpatients, provide transport for our volunteers, display a small selection of our wares or to help on the Rosie tea bar. Contact Mary Sanders on 01223 356615; further details are given on our website [www.rosieinstitches.org.uk](http://www.rosieinstitches.org.uk).

*Winter Robin  
(photo by Paul Loveday)*



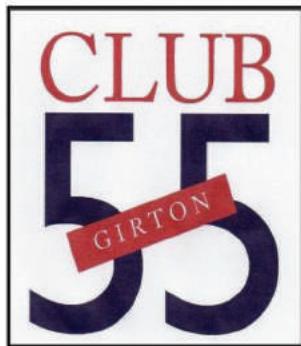
## GIRTON PARISH NEWS PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2018

### CALLING ALL GIRTON PHOTOGRAPHERS!

In conjunction with Girton's 2017 Feast Week the *Girton Parish News* organised a Photographic Competition. The organisers were pleased with the response from Girton photographers and impressed with the standard of entries. Now, building on what we learned from the first venture, we are thinking ahead to a second competition in 2018, again in conjunction with Feast Week.

One of the themes for the Feast Week Photographic Competition will be 'GIRTON THROUGH THE YEAR' – so we hope you are busy with your cameras, capturing the changing seasons and happenings in Girton as the months roll by.

More information in the January *Parish News*.



## 'Cinderella', our pantomime, billed as the worst ever!

Most of our pantomime is 'in the can' now, as they say, and by the time you read this article hopefully it will have had its 'Premiere' – no red carpet or swanky after parties

though – unfortunately. I must say that whether or not anyone likes it when it is released on 20th December won't really matter because we have had a great time putting it all together. It has been great fun, and everyone taking part has entered into the spirit of Panto, so I hope more fun will be on the way when it is shown. I've seen it and believe me I have never seen anything like it before. Made in our 'film studios' at St Vincent's Close and on location in Girton, it features local actors Patricia Kissane as Cinderella, Joan Bland aged 95 as Fairy Grandmother – she insisted on being Grandmother (everyone else has a Godmother, but not us!) – and Flo aged 94 as a scooter rider – scooter rider in Cinderella? – well, I did tell you I'd never seen anything like it.



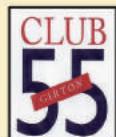
*Makeup artist Anne puts the finishing touches to an ugly sister – well, someone had to!*

See it for yourselves on 20th December and help us raise money for Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust.



*Toasting Cinderella's marriage at the Old Crown on 15<sup>th</sup> November – what some people will do for a drink.*

**Thursday 14th December, 12noon:** Film at St Vincent's Close, 'My Cousin Rachel'. Note change, now showing latest version. Buffet Lunch £5



### Christmas Party

At Girton Pavilion

12.15pm until 3.30pm

Wednesday 20th December

Buffet Lunch, mulled wine, mince pies

Singalong Carols with Revd Dr Maxwell and Harpists

Cinderella, a 'Girton blockbuster' – don't believe it – it's rubbish!

The Golden Girties

In aid of Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust

All for £5 per person – carers free.

Book early. Tel: 01223 564808

Tickets limited

**Wednesday 24th January, 12 noon:** Lunch at the Rose and Crown, Histon

**Thursday 1st February, 12 noon:** Film at St Vincent's Close, 'Victoria and Abdul'. Buffet Lunch £5

**Wednesday 14th February, 12 noon:** Romantic Lunch at Abbeyfield, Girton Green

(Films shown at St Vincent's Close Community Centre.)

For more details or to book any event contact: Sam Clift Tel: 564808

*Sam Clift*

## Major progress made on projects during 2017

At the start of this year, Girton Town Charity hoped that there would be significant progress on current projects by the close of 2017. It is now pleased to report that a number of major milestones have been reached – here are the headlines.

### **William Collyn Centre**

At the end of October, work started on the new £2.5 million Community Centre which will provide a flexible space for community groups at the heart of the Village.

Following a tender process, the contract was awarded to Godfrey & Hicks who are now working on site.

### **WI Hall Site**

Planning permission was received for three two-storey Almshouses on the former WI Hall site. In September the option agreement for the sale of land was exchanged between WI Land Trustees and GTC. Net proceeds from the sale will be divided equally between St Andrews Church and the Baptist Chapel, in accordance with the WI Trust Deed.

The old WI Hall has now been moved to the First World War Visitor Centre at Hawstead near Bury St Edmunds and the site has been cleared by contractors in preparation for the start of construction work.

### **High Street**

In July, GTC appointed Mole Architects as part of the team to redevelop the High Street site, helping to futureproof housing provision in the Village.

Mole, an award-winning practice based in Cambridge, specialises in producing modern designs that are appropriate to their local context, combining traditional materials and techniques with environmental strategies and a more contemporary attitude to design and building.

GTC Project Manager, Northmores has brought together a range of professionals to create a full design team for the project. This team meets regularly to plan and progress the project whilst Mole is working on designs for the proposed apartment building. A planning application is currently being prepared and it is intended that designs will be presented to residents at Michael's Close and the Village during the first quarter of 2018.

### **GTC Sensory Garden**

In early September, we celebrated the completion of the new GTC Sensory Garden with an official ceremony attended by Village groups and representatives including MP Heidi Allen.

Created by Sylvia Newman Garden Design, this new addition to the Village is being enjoyed by all ages and we have received many positive comments and thanks from residents who appreciate the improvement to this previously redundant area.

Species hedging, standard trees and mixed borders will provide year-round colour as the garden continues to be regularly maintained and monitored.

### **Sculpture railings**

The final piece of good news for 2017 came with planning permission for the Sculpture Railings and Bus Shelter, which is part of GTC's commitment to improving public space and enhancing the Village environment for all residents.

This project which GTC has been planning in partnership with St Andrew's Church and Girton Parish Council will complete the boundary between the churchyard and the recreation ground car park, with some bespoke Artistic Railings created by Sculptor Matthew Lane Sanderson.

GTC has appointed Northmores to Project Manage and is delighted that Girton Parish Council has agreed to co-operate with Northmores in order that the refurbishment of the car park can be completed at the same time. Northmores is currently carrying out a drainage survey of the car park and will manage the tendering process to the benefit of all parties.

Dr Robin Hiley, Chairman of GTC said: "This has been an exceptionally busy year for GTC and my fellow Trustees but a very satisfactory one – we have made great strides with a number of our current projects. I'd like to thank everyone for their commitment and time in enabling us to have reached this stage and look forward to reporting further progress early in 2018."

## Community Warden

Our Community Warden Gail, supports older people living in their own homes in Girton by providing them with daily support and assistance.

This service is provided by Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and is funded by GTC.

- Assisting older residents living in their own homes
- Helping to continue an independent lifestyle
- Providing regular home visits or telephone support
- Complementing the work of statutory services.

If you or a family member resident in Girton, would like more information please contact Gail on 07979 333963.



## CarePlus Grant Scheme

This scheme assists independent living by providing additional care over and above any statutory care to which the applicant is entitled.

It is for Girton residents over 18 years of age and their carers and can include a range of tasks such as getting up or getting ready for bed, shopping, preparing a meal, personal care or companionship.

Residents who are experiencing increasing immobility can receive help with dressing or changing clothes or perhaps showering and washing hair.

Application for the Grant is by referral from a GP, the Age UK Older Residents Co-ordinator, Headteacher, Church Rector/Minister or similar professional.

Following assessment, care worth up to £1,700 per calendar year will be provided by care professionals nominated by GTC.

- Short-term additional care to suit the individual's need over and above any statutory care provided
- Helping residents return home from hospital as soon as possible
- Grant for adults over 18 years
- Application by referral
- Avail and Home Instead are GTC nominate care professionals.

For more information on this Scheme contact GTC on 01223 276008

## Educational Grants 2017/18

Applications for an Educational Grant are invited from young people leaving secondary education and moving on to further or higher education or on to training schemes.

The Grant covers books, equipment, tools or other direct costs relevant to the course and is a maximum of £275\* per year for up to four years.

Next payment date for grant applications received will be July 2018.

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

Contact the GTC office for an application form.  
22 High Street, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0PU.  
Open 10.00am – 1.00pm Tuesday-Thursday.

01223 276008  
email [gtc@girtontowncharity.co.uk](mailto:gtc@girtontowncharity.co.uk)

\* Terms and conditions apply

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 41 Church Lane Girton CB3 0JW t:276354  
Ray Gordon 10 Pepys Way Girton CB3 0PA t:276933  
Chris Green 43 Fairway Girton CB3 0QF t:276819  
Jenny Knights 47 Fairway Girton CB3 0QF t:276405  
Brian Pycock 49 Cambridge Road Girton CB3 0PN t:565247  
Patsy Smith 27 Woody Green Girton CB3 0PG t:575288  
Pippa Temple 10 Cambridge Road Impington CB24 9NU t:07775 446443

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



## News for Older Residents

### Christmas Party

This happy event will be on Wednesday 20th December in the Pavilion at 12.15pm for a 12.45 start. Please plan to come, especially if you are at home a lot. There will be a buffet lunch, carol singing, a harp recital, an award ceremony and the best Panto film you will ever have seen! It costs £5 which needs to be paid in advance. For more information ask me or look at the Club 55 page.

### Exercise

The Thursday Strength and Balance class is at 10.30–11.30am in Orchard Close Community Room.

A second Strength and Balance class has now started on Wednesday mornings in Gretton Court. Non-residents are welcome to attend so if you cannot attend on Thursday mornings ask me for the details.

I can also arrange help with strength and balance exercising and ways of preventing falls for anyone who would like individual help. This applies whether or not you currently attend a class.

Ryan sends his good wishes to all who came to his course a year ago. When I saw him recently he was keen to know how everyone was getting on.

### Winter Warmer

On Wednesday 17th January 2018 from 2–4 pm I will be holding a musical afternoon in St Vincent's Close Community Room. Please make a note of the date and plan to come along.

### Finally ...

Best wishes for a Happy Christmas!

And I still need to find homes for the shower chair, the toilet riser seat and the zimmer caddy!

*Patricia Johnston, Older Residents' Coordinator*

*Tel: 07469 660 866*

*Email: patricia.johnston@ageukcap.org.uk*

supported by

**Girton  
TownCharity**

# relatecambridge

## Volunteering is good for your health!

Make it your New Year's resolution for 2018  
to volunteer for Relate Cambridge

One of our volunteers says: 'It means a lot to know that I'm supporting a worthwhile organisation like Relate – and good too to feel I'm a valuable member of the team. Relate are always looking out for new volunteers – I'd recommend it.'

Relate Cambridge supports relationships, and helps children and young people and improves lives. We offer: couple/relationship counselling, divorce counselling, psychosexual therapy, family counselling, life skills training. These activities take place in Cambridge, South and East Cambridgeshire, Fenland and Huntingdon.

We need volunteers to welcome our clients and hold the fort. Ideally we need someone who is flexible and reliable with customer care skills, friendliness, common sense, reliability and commitment. DBS (Disclosure & Barring check) will be required but this can be applied for through Relate.

For further details and an application form, please contact our admin team during office hours on 01302 347866 or email [admin@relatecambridge.org.uk](mailto:admin@relatecambridge.org.uk)

Relate Cambridge would like to wish all the readers of the *Girton Parish News* a healthy and relaxing Christmas.

For more information, call us on 01223 357424 or visit [www.relatecambridge.org.uk](http://www.relatecambridge.org.uk)

*Relate Cambridge would like to thank Girton Town Charity for their recent offer of a further 3 years of funding.*

*Relate Cambridge – supporting relationships at every stage of your life*

Relate Cambridge has been fully supported by the Girton Town Charity specifically to offer services to the local community, and particularly welcomes Girton Residents. For more information or to book an appointment, contact

Relate Cambridge on 01223 357424

Mon–Thur 8am–10pm, Fri 8am–6pm, Sat 9am–5pm  
(confidential answerphone at all other times).

supported by

**Girton  
TownCharity**



## St Andrew's Church

### Mary's Song

I particularly enjoy short stories, perhaps because my time for recreational reading is limited, and also because the writing of short stories tends to be sharp and well focused. Often, the plot of a short story is relatively simple; what brings the story to life are the detailed descriptions of context and the interaction between the characters – their reactions to circumstances, to each other, to the places they encounter. The other great art to story writing is building up a sense of tension or suspense as the plot unfolds. Without a sense of anticipation the crux of the story seems flat and unremarkable.

The Bible contains a lot of narrative. One of the best narratives is the Christmas Story, written about in different ways by each of the four evangelists. Luke is probably my favourite author because of his ability to tell an atmospheric story. He carefully crafts the narrative, building suspense and giving us a flavour of the characters and predicaments of the leading protagonists.

Luke's narrative of the birth of the Christ child includes some beautiful poetry, not least from Zechariah (John the Baptist's father), and from Mary, the mother of Jesus. Both of these poems build a sense of expectation and wonder at God's next move.

Mary is sent to stay for a while at the house of Zechariah the priest and Elizabeth, her relatives living in the hill country. On her arrival, both women are filled with the Holy Spirit and Mary bursts into a peon of praise. Mary's song (sometimes known as the Magnificat) is a burst of joy.

The song has some very memorable lines:

*The Lord 'has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;*

*'He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;*

*'He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.'* (Luke 1: 51–54)

For me, these verses provide much food for thought in the month leading up to Christmas. There are many different ways of interpreting this song, but I like the interpretation that suggests nothing less than revolution in the coming of Jesus:

- Personal and moral revolution: the removal of pride and conceit. Underlying this song is the acknowledgement that all revolutions start with the transformation of the individual.

- Social revolution: that all are of equal worth in the sight of God.

- Economic revolution: sharing the resources that we have.

These words revealed Mary's awareness of the social and economic disparity in the society of which she was a part.

It is a song of longing, of hungering and thirsting after God's salvation which was promised in Jesus.

As Christmas approaches, if there is any time to think and be still, perhaps join Mary in her sense of anticipation – not for turkey and tinsel, but for the justice of God's kingly reign breaking into the world.

*Mandy*

### Girton Churchyard Work Parties

The Girton Village calendar for 2018 has a lovely collage showing the wide range of public open spaces in the village – recently extended by the attractive sensory garden in Wellbrook Way – where villagers can walk, sit and rest for a while in quiet natural settings. One of the largest of these spaces, and probably the most widely visited, is the Parish Churchyard.

Many of the graves and memorial slates are regularly and lovingly tended by families and friends, but other villagers just visit to sit in the gardens for a few moments of peaceful contemplation or remembrance, or walk through as a pleasant route to the playing fields or Girton Wood. There are many impressive mature trees and the new area to the rear has been attractively landscaped with birches, flowering cherries and native viburnums.

Whilst grass mowing and major tree works are carried out regularly by professionals, keeping the hedges, shrubs, island beds and shaped yews under control is an ongoing task undertaken by volunteers. You may have noticed small groups of people clearing ivy and cutting back intrusive shrubs and saplings on occasional Saturday mornings.

There is now a regular work party from 10am to noon on the last Saturday of each month. The work includes basic maintenance like pruning, leaf clearing, and weed and sapling control, as well as protecting the Church fabric by clearing debris from gutters and gulleys.

Tasks are allocated by the churchwardens, basic equipment is provided (though you can bring your own) and the session usually ends with a welcome cup of tea or coffee with cakes or biscuits, and a chance to chat to fellow volunteers.

The churchyard would really benefit from more volunteers joining these sessions. You don't have to be a church attender, simply someone who appreciates the peace and seclusion of this ancient village site and is willing to tackle basic maintenance tasks (I come into this category myself!).

The final session of this year is on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> December, so if this appeals to you do put the date in your diary and come along – you'll receive a very warm welcome.

*Janet Sheard, for the Churchyard Volunteers*



**Coffee Morning**

Come and join us for a chat over a cup of coffee and some biscuits!

**Every Thursday 10:00 - 12:00**

Girton Baptist Church  
Growing Believing Communities

Come along and bring a friend!

WWW.GIRTONBAPTISTCHURCH.ORG.UK

**COME AND JOIN OUR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**



**Messy Christmas**

**THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
**DOORS OPEN AT 3.30PM**

**Tuesday Afternoon Friendship Group**

**Come and join us at 2:15pm on**  
**5<sup>th</sup> December – Jean Symonds**  
**Christmas Celebration with songs**  
**from WI choir**

*For more information or to arrange a lift please call*  
Christine Kimmitt - 01223 575881 or Chris Whitby- 01223 276044

Girton Baptist Church  
Growing Believing Communities



**For Hire: North Room  
adjoining St Andrew's**

**What is available?**

A modern centrally heated room linked to the rear of the church. Ideal for meetings of up to 12 with tea/coffee making facilities, toilet facilities and adjacent car parking at the recreation ground.

The charges: £10 per hour.

Contact details: Bookings via the Rector on 01223 276235

**ST ANDREW'S PARISH REGISTERS**

**Funerals at St Andrew's**

**Audrey Marion Bowyer**, funeral service at St Andrew's on Wednesday 22nd November, 10.45am, followed by cremation at City of Cambridge Crematorium. Minister: Revd Mandy Maxwell.



**POPPY APPEAL**

**2017**

**The total raised in Girton this year was:**

**£4,142.61**

On behalf of The Royal British Legion I would like to give a massive Thank You to everyone who supported this worthwhile cause in any capacity, but especially the house to house collectors who braved the November weather.

If anyone would like to be involved in the 2018 appeal, please contact Wendy on: 07885 190597.

*Wendy Ripley  
Poppy Appeal Organiser for Girton*





## St Andrew's Church

**Rector:** The Revd Dr Mandy Maxwell  
The Rectory, 42 Church Lane, Girton  
CB3 0JP  
Tel: 276235  
Email: [girtonandrews@gmail.com](mailto:girtonandrews@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.girton.church](http://www.girton.church)

**Associate Priest:** The Revd Christine Barrow  
Tel: 277674 Email: [mbarrow@me.com](mailto:mbarrow@me.com)

**Curate:** The Revd Diana Johnson  
Tel: 07377 866567  
Email: [diana.johnson@cantab.net](mailto: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: December

3rd	10.00am	Holy Communion
	7.00pm	Taizé Worship
10th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Advent Service of Readings with Songs
17th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	All Age Family Worship and Nativity
	6.00pm	Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
24th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Morning Prayer
	3.30pm	Christmas Eve Christingle Service
	11.00pm	Christmas Eve Communion
25th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Christmas Day Family Communion
31st	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Holy Communion

### Weekday Services: December

12th 2.30pm Service of Holy Communion at Abbeyfield

All are welcome to any of our services.

## 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](http://www.girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk)

### Sunday Services: December

(There is an All Age Service the first Sunday of the month and Sunday School is available the following weeks during the morning service. Tea and coffee are served at the end.)

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

3rd	10.30am 6.30pm	Morning Worship Evening Worship with Communion
10th	10.30am 4.00pm	Morning Worship Christmas Songs of Praise at Abbeyfield Girton Green
17th	10.30am 4.00pm	Morning Worship Carols by Candlelight
24th	10.30am	Christmas Eve Service
25th	10.30am	Christmas Day Family Service
31st	10.30am 6.30pm	New Year's Eve Service Prayer and Communion Service

### Appeal by Jimmy's Nightshelter, Cambridge

Jimmy's is appealing for sleeping bags, rugs and blankets so that they can give them out to rough sleepers this winter. If you have any spare ones please let me know and I can come and collect them from you and pass them on to Jimmy's.

Thank you.

Jenny Knights, 47 Fairway

Tel: 01223 276405 or email – [jenny.knights@virginmedia.com](mailto:jenny.knights@virginmedia.com)

**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](mailto:chairman@girton-cambs.org.uk)

**Vice-Chairman**

Andy Griffin, 1 Churchfield Court, Tel: 07956 447674

**Councillors**

Jane Buckler, 28 Girton Road, Tel: 277636  
Tom Bygott, 9 Station Road, Oakington, Tel: 232966  
Julie Dashwood, 36 High Street, Tel: 276590  
Douglas de Lacey, 9 Woodlands Park, Tel: 565219  
Val Godby, 38 Woodlands Park, Tel: 276372  
Anne Kettle, 11 Redgate Road, Tel: 277505  
Mark Taylor, 16 Mayfield Road, Tel: 276563  
John Thorrold, 53 Cambridge Road, Tel: 276760  
Douglas Whittle, 23 Fairway, Tel: 704747  
Lyndsay Williams, 51 Weavers Field, Tel: 07970 101578

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

**District Councillors**

Tom Bygott, Tel: 232966  
[cllr.bygott@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.bygott@scambs.gov.uk)  
Douglas de Lacey, Tel: 565219  
[scdc@de-lacey.org](mailto:scdc@de-lacey.org)

**County Councillor**

Lynda Harford, Tel: 01954 251775/07889 131022  
[lyndaharford@icloud.com](mailto:lyndaharford@icloud.com)

**Parish Clerk and Acting Finance Officer**

Susie Cumming, Tel: 472181  
[clerk@girton-cambs.org.uk](mailto:clerk@girton-cambs.org.uk)

**Recreation Centre Bookings Administrator**

Linda Miller, Tel: 472182  
[admin@girton-cambs.org.uk](mailto:admin@girton-cambs.org.uk)

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

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

# 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

### Girton Neighbourhood Watch Committee

**Chair:** Val Godby

[v.godby897@btinternet.com](mailto:v.godby897@btinternet.com) • (01223) 276372

**Vice-Chair:** Geoff Varley

[geoff.varley3522@btinternet.com](mailto:geoff.varley3522@btinternet.com) • (01223) 276772

**Secretary:** Margaret Wheatley

[wheatleymargaret606@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wheatleymargaret606@yahoo.co.uk) • (01223) 527093



**For next meeting see GPN calendar**

*All Welcome!*

### Contact numbers for bookings

Cotton Hall	07759 983420
Orchard Close	277164
Pavilion	472182
St Vincent's Close	276447

### MOBILE LIBRARY

The Mobile Library will NOT be visiting Girton during December.

The next scheduled visit will be on Thursday, 25th January.

If you have questions about renewal of books over the Christmas period, please contact Library Services on 0345 045 5225 or visit [your.library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:your.library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

### RUBBISH COLLECTION

**Please note changed days over the holiday period!**

Thursday 7 December

**Blue bin only**

Thursday 14 December

**Black bin**

Thursday 21 December

**Blue and Green bins**

**Saturday 30 December**

**Black bin**

**Saturday 6 January 2018**

**Blue bin only**



**Problem nails. Hard skin. Corns.  
Bunions. Sore Feet. And more...**

Home visits offered in Girton,  
Oakington, Cottenham and Histon.

Ian Radford Bsc (Hons) MChS FACS  
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### B-Fluent - Language Tuition

German, Russian, French and English for Foreigners

#### Language Tuition (Group or Individual)

- Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced:  
German, Russian, French
- Near Native: German
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- English for all levels and needs (foreign language, work and job applications, CV etc.)

Weekday evenings and Weekends

Local to Girton, friendly, structured around your level and need, based on course book, conversation, grammar, audio-visual

Qualifications: BA-Hons: Modern Languages (German, Russian) with International Relations

French: A-Level plus decades professional and private usage.

Professional Experience: 27 years professional experience in Germany as Section Head delivering multi-lingual research/recruitment/translation /interpreting solutions.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for more details:  
Contact: [gavb2@t-online.de](mailto:gavb2@t-online.de) Mobile: 07939 667285

### Carpet & Vinyl Fitter

Pattern Book Service    Free Quotes  
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[johnspencer.flooring@yahoo.com](mailto:johnspencer.flooring@yahoo.com)



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Wishing all of our customers  
and readers a very  
Happy Christmas and New Year



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Short or Long Distance Travel  
Local Reliable Comfortable Affordable  
Phone: 528675  
or 07815 057 202  
Email: [wb9wg@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wb9wg@yahoo.co.uk)



## Your local language school open all year is looking for homestays in Girton and Oakington

### All year round

- For students aged 17+
- For professional students aged 25+
- January-May & Summer young students aged 14+
- Good weekly rates – twin room up to £302 per week

### Interested in becoming a host?

Call Antonella for a friendly chat on  
277229/277230 or email her at  
[cae@cambridgeacademy.co.uk](mailto:cae@cambridgeacademy.co.uk)



"A great way to make international friends and supplement my income at the same time." CAE host

Cambridge **CAE**  
Academy of English

"My host was very friendly and helpful. I was treated like a real family member."  
CAE student



## Gretton Court Girton Ideal Retirement Apartments for over 55s to rent

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