

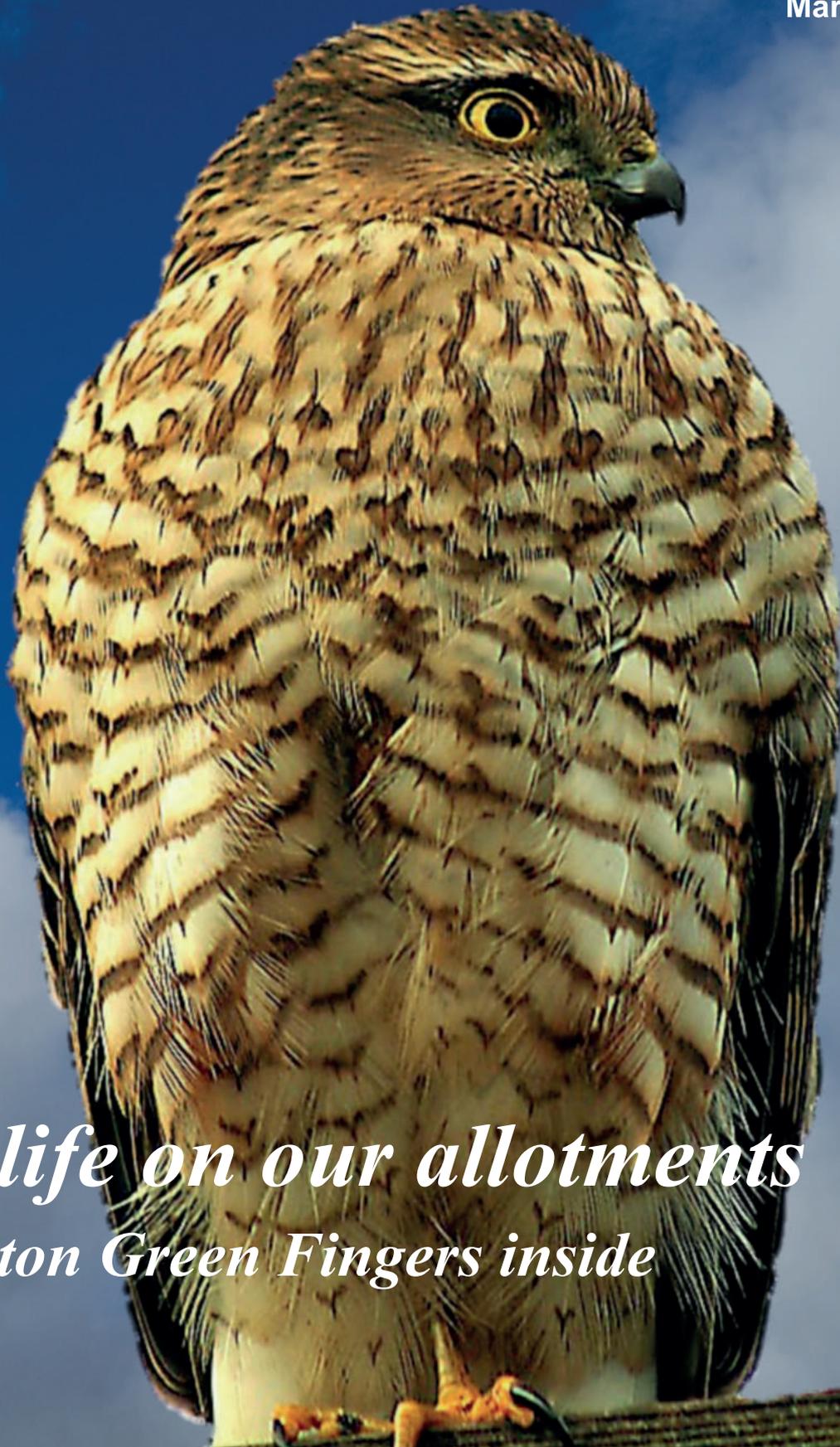


GIRTON

Parish News



March 2018



Wild life on our allotments
See Girton Green Fingers inside

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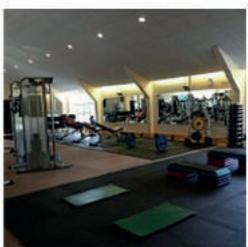
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Copy should be submitted to the Editor in electronic form as Word or Text files, with any photos, graphics or logos submitted as separate attachments, not embedded in the file. Questions about submission should be addressed to the Editor.

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, 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

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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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St Ives, Cambs. PE27 3WS*

The Village Diary

March

- Thur. 1** **Club 55**, St Vincent's Close, 12 noon
Film, 'Dunkirk'
- Fri. 2** **Rotary Memory Café**, 10am–12 noon
St Vincent's Close Community Centre
- Sun. 4** **Girton College Music Society**, 2.30pm
Recital for Cello and Piano, Stanley Library
- Wed. 7** **Girton WI**, Girton College, 7.30pm
Group Meeting (members only)
- Thur. 8** **Girton Garden Society**, St Vincent's Close, 7.30pm
Caroline Holmes – Herbs for the Gourmet Gardener
- Fri. 9** **Impington Music Society**, IVC, 7.30pm
Lucy Maynard, Piano and voice
- Sat. 10** **Cambridge Science Festival**, 11am–12pm
Hack your Brain, Storey's Field Centre,
Eddington
Jumble Sale, 11am–1pm, Friends of Girton
Glebe, Girton Glebe School
- Sun. 11** **Girton College Music Society**, 2.30pm
Recitalists in Concert, Stanley Library
- Tue. 13** **Girton Neighbourhood Watch**, 7.30pm
St Vincent's Close Community Centre
- Thur. 15** **Club 55**, Lunch, 12 for 12.30pm
Arbuckle's, Ely
**Open Meeting on GTC High Street
Development plans**, 7.00pm, Girton Glebe
School Hall
- Tue. 20** **Parish Council Meeting**, 7.30pm
St Vincent's Close Community Centre
- Fri. 23** **Girton Craft Club**, 2–4pm, Orchard Close
Community Centre, all welcome
- Sat. 24** **Girton Churchyard Volunteers**, 10am–12 noon
Work Party, St Andrew's Churchyard

Contents

Pages 5–7	Parish Council and Councillors' Reports
Pages 8–9, 11	Forthcoming Events
Page 13	Natural Girton
Page 17	This Month's Recipe
Page 19	Girton Green Fingers
Page 22–23	Scoreboard
Page 25	News from Girton Glebe School
Pages 26–27	Girton Town Charity
Page 29	Club 55
Pages 31–33	Our Churches
Page 34	Rubbish Collection, Mobile Library Dates

*Cover photo of a sparrowhawk by the late Oliver Cook,
provided by Graham Jones*

Copy date for April issue: Wed. 14 March. Issue date: Sat. 31 March. Covers 31 March–4 May.



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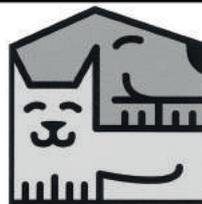
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Girton Parish Council

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

The copy deadline for this edition comes before the February Parish Council meeting has been held, but items to be discussed include the appointment of a contractor for the village verge cutting contract, the provision of new signage for dog walkers at the Recreation Ground, and approval of contractors to repair the basketball court fencing which was damaged in recent high winds. The need for dog walking signage was prompted by reports of dog walkers allowing their animals to run free on both the recreation ground and the 10 acre field. This is not permitted; the route is designated to allow passage between the playing fields to the woods and beyond.

A few villagers have expressed concern that a replacement tree for the Holm Oak which was removed from near the Cotton Hall has still not been installed. The Chairman has been in touch with the South Cambs Tree Officer on several occasions and matters are reported to be in hand.

In response to widespread concern, County Councillor Lynda Harford has been fighting our corner with Highways to get the road through the village repaired and resurfaced. We understand that all necessary work has to be prioritised but hope that her efforts will soon bear fruit.

Your Village Needs You!

The Parish Council Elections are to be held on 3rd May. If you would like to serve our community by standing as a Parish Councillor, please get in touch with the Clerk for more details. The Chairman hopes to write a short item in next month's *Girton Parish News* giving more information on being a Parish Councillor.

Next meetings

The next Parish Council meetings will be held at St Vincent's Close Community Centre at 7.30pm on Tuesday 20th March and Tuesday 17th April. Members of the public are welcome to attend all Parish Council meetings and to speak in the public session at the start.

A full list of Councillors can be seen on page 34.



Guaranteed rent payments

We have launched a new scheme that offers homeowners a hassle free way to rent out properties. This includes no fees and guaranteed rental payments – even if the home is empty.

We would like to hear from you if you own a property in the district that you would consider renting out through us in the future.

We are looking for good quality properties in a lettable condition within South Cambridgeshire. Each property needs to meet minimum standards for them to be suitable to be rented. Whatever size property you have, from a bedsit to a four bedroom house, we are interested in hearing from you.

Benefits for the home owners include:

- regular property inspections
- no management fees
- day-to-day maintenance
- guaranteed rental payments even when empty
- full management service, including inventories.

The introduction of this scheme will allow us to provide secure, affordable and good quality housing to people looking for a new home.

For more information contact Louise Moulding on shire.homes@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713046.

'U' Bus from Eddington

The Universal (U) service links Eddington with West Cambridge, the City Centre, Cambridge Railway Station and Addenbrooke's and the Biomedical Campus. There are bus stops located on Eddington Avenue outside Sainsbury's, and further down towards Madingley Road, next to the Park and Ride.

The U operates a service every 15 minutes, Monday to Friday, and every 20 minutes on Saturdays (please note the route terminates at the Rail Station on Saturdays). There is a flat fee of £2 per journey (£1 with a University card)

Timetable and bus stop location can be found at: www.go-whippet.co.uk/new-route-u.

From Our Councillors

County Councillor Lynda Harford

At the February meeting of Council, members voted to approve the 2018/19 budget. Frequent interruptions, many not meeting the criteria for ‘point of order’ and ‘point of personal information’, might certainly be blamed for members’ distraction at times and one has to feel for the leader of one of the opposition parties who voted in error to support the budget after speaking against.

In the main there was agreement on the decision to raise the general council tax precept by 2.99% and the adult social care precept by 2%. The main disagreement was over the proposal that the funds raised from increasing general council tax in excess of that required to balance the 2018/19 budget (£3.65m) should be allocated to a smoothing reserve. The creation of such a reserve is an acknowledgement that, although a robust, balanced budget has been set for the coming financial year, significant challenge remains in respect of closing the budget deficits in the longer term.

Provisional council tax precept rates for each of the next five financial years were set at 2.99% for the coming year; 1.99% for next year; returning to zero for the 3 years 2020/23. Additionally, the assumption was made that there will be a continuation for those last 3 years of the 2% allowed by Government for adult social care and that the County Council will levy that amount.

The County Council is the third lowest funded, upper tier authority in England and faces the challenge of responding to the need created by a very rapid growth in the county’s population. Its programme to increase efficiency, generate additional income and manage demand for its services will continue to be supported by additional transformation investment, where required.

In his written statement to Parliament confirming the final local government finance settlement for 2018/19 (delivered after the County Council’s meeting), the Secretary of State (SoS) for Housing, Communities and Local Government confirmed that there would be an extension for a further 3 years of the capital receipts flexibility programme. This scheme gives local authorities the freedom to use capital receipts from the sale of their own assets for transformation and efficiency savings. It is this freedom that has allowed the County Council to set up its new Innovate and Cultivate Fund that I wrote about last month, and I encourage the many local organisations and groups doing such good work for the community to consider making an application.

The SoS also announced an additional £150m for an Adult Social Care Support Grant in 2018/19, stating that it would be allocated ‘according to relative needs’ – details awaited. He confirmed too that there will be a green paper this summer setting out Government proposals for funding reform to secure a resilient and sustainable system for the future. Those of us fighting for fairer funding for Cambridgeshire hope that this will address historic inequality.

Please do contact me about any concerns or questions you have about any local or strategic issue. 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.

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

A View from the District

I have often been critical of Council meetings, but this month’s stands out in the annals of incompetence. It started well; we were told that we have appointed Cllr Neil Davies of Histon and Impington to be Champion for mental health and wellbeing. He has already done a great deal on this in H&I; and this appointment, though providing comparatively few extra resources, could bring big dividends.

We then had a major item on re-drawing the boundary between Willingham and Over parishes. The introduction was confusing enough, with two maps showing, we were told, the result of extensive consultation and discussion. But when the Leader proposed what he called a minor amendment, confusion was worse compounded; even he did not understand the maps. A heated discussion produced more smoke than light, but the Leader’s version was carried.

There followed reports from the Combined Authority, but since no papers had been made available these were quite unhelpful, though the Mayor was roundly taken to task for leaking papers and thus preempting any proper discussion of the transport options. A period of 30 minutes is allocated for Members’ questions, which included one the front bench clearly did not want to tackle: by rambling and filibustering they managed to run out of time before we got to it. That the Chairman allows such blatant abuse is deeply disappointing. There was a motion to provide a small amount of money for a study on the effects of Brexit on the local economy, but being proposed by the opposition it was bound to fail.

The following day I had to be back bright and early for the Corporate Governance meeting, where the most interesting point was that our external auditors had picked up a typo which enabled us to claim an extra £135,000 from central Government: more than covering our auditors’ fees.

Immediately after that I had a meeting with our senior planners. The volume of successful appeals against planning refusals has made us eligible for ‘designation’ – the equivalent of a school being put in special measures. However, as most of the appeals arise out of the speculative applications put in because of our lack of a Local Plan, officers believe the Government will take a generous view.

At a subsequent meeting with our CEO we opposition leaders raised lessons to be learned from the chaotic Council meeting and our general lack of clarity. We also discussed the CEO’s plan to have staff briefings with all departments, with a focus on customer service and ‘building our brand’. We looked at homelessness: new additional duties will require some £200,000, while our grant is about £22,000.

Several residents have asked me if they could have their blue

bin caddies back. They have now arrived and I shall contact those who asked individually.

I have had another meeting with the Director of the NW Cambridge project: we covered a lot of contentious issues without as much agreement as I had hoped. There will be no indication on the roads which criss-cross the city-parish boundary as to exactly where the boundary is, which will make it difficult for residents to know exactly where they live (important for anyone wishing to apply for funding from Girton Town Charity) and also hard for people distributing material like electioneering leaflets or Village magazines. They are looking at the question of the illegal advertisement for Hill housing (which I have now raised at the highest level), and at the several issues raised by their neighbours along Huntingdon Road, so far without resolution. They still deny all knowledge of the boundary stone and the village sign, and ask for evidence. (This stone is not the fancy one with 'Cambridge' on it, but a much humbler one which was largely hidden in the ivy in the north-bound verge.) Does anyone out there have a photo of either?]

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

Centenary of Equal Suffrage The 6th February was the 100th anniversary of The Representation of the People Act 1918 receiving Royal Assent. This gave many women in Great Britain the right to vote in General Elections, following the examples set in New Zealand (1893), Australia (1903) and Finland (1906). To celebrate this momentous occasion, a series of commemorative activities have been held, including a Vote100 Archive unveiled by Cambridgeshire County Council, showing how Cambridgeshire was a hub of suffragist activity with groups such as the Cambridge Association for the Women's Suffrage. These archives will be on show across the County throughout 2018.

One of these events, on 6th February, was the unveiling of a blue plaque to Dame Millicent Fawcett. Dame Millicent formed the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies in 1897, which used peaceful campaign tactics, including non-violent demonstrations, petitions and the lobbying of MPs. The equal rights campaigner, who dedicated her life to getting the women's vote, was also active in the fight to give women the chance of a good education, co-founding Newnham College in 1871. The plaque was revealed at Cambridge Guildhall and will be placed on her former home on Brookside in Cambridge next to that of her husband, The Rt Hon Henry Fawcett MP. She is also set to be the first woman to be honoured with a statue in Parliament Square later this year.

Energy saving fund The District Council's Cabinet has approved plans to create a Green Energy Loan Fund. Residents, community groups and businesses will be able to

apply for loans from £1,000 to £10,000 per year for the next four years. Loans will be paid back over three years, so recipients can spread the cost of purchasing energy saving products. Examples of some of the projects that might be eligible for a loan from the fund include: solar panels, ground or air source heat pumps, household battery storage units, electric car charging points, LED lighting, insulation or draught proofing. Residents and community groups will pay no interest on the loans. Small and medium-sized businesses (up to 250 staff) will be charged interest at the same rate as offered by Government for start-up loans.

It is anticipated that the fund, which will be paid for via business rates income from new renewable energy projects in South Cambridgeshire, will be set up and launched by mid-July. Meanwhile, the District Cabinet also approved proposals to invest further elements of the same business rates fund into renewable energy projects. These will aim to generate income for the Council to spend on services, and allow the authority to become more environmentally friendly. Potential projects such as solar canopies over the car park at the authority's Cambourne offices, and renewable energy generation schemes at the planned new Sports Pavilion and Community Centre sites at Northstowe, will now be investigated.

More detailed information can be found in the Cabinet papers at scambs.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=293&MIId=7185&Ver=4.

'Make your metals matter' campaign This is a campaign that has been launched by the Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service between South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City Councils in conjunction with the metal packaging manufacturing industry. It is directed to all 119,000 households across both districts, and aims to remind residents to recycle all metal packaging found around their home.

They have calculated some extraordinary statistics: We use over 141 million cans, foil trays and aerosols every year in South Cambs and the City. If all of the metal packaging used in homes in the two districts each year were collected for recycling it would save around 3,820 tonnes of carbon dioxide, the equivalent of taking over 812 cars (of the soon-to-be-obsolete petrol or diesel variety) off local streets for a year.

There are still large numbers of metal items, such as drink cans, food tins, foil trays, empty aerosols, metal screw tops and foil wrap that are not being recycled, but could be. South Cambridgeshire has one of the best recycling systems in the country, but there is plenty of opportunity for us to improve our recycling efforts. The central section of each edition of the South Cambs magazine contains a guide for which items can be recycled. The South Cambs website has, at www.scambs.gov.uk/what-goes-which-bin, one of the most amazingly exhaustive directories of how to dispose of various items imaginable, dealing with such subjects as bubblewrap, asbestos, used drinking straws and Japanese Knotweed.

Cllr Tom Bygott
cllr@bygott.net
07765 475 513

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Charity Abseil – Emirates Spinnaker Tower, Portsmouth

5 August 2018

My name is Mandy Foster and, for those of you who do not know me, I have lived in Girton for the last fourteen years, married to my late husband Clive, who was born and bred here. Sadly Clive passed away last Autumn after bravely fighting cancer for two and a half years.

Before he died, an old school friend of Clive's, Trevor Root, also originally from Girton but who moved to Suffolk many years ago, was visiting him and said that he was intending to abseil down the Spinnaker Tower in Portsmouth in order to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society.

Trevor's wife is in an advanced stage of Alzheimer's and currently in care in Bury St Edmunds. Trevor said he would split the charity money with a charity of Clive's choice, so he thanked him and chose the Arthur Rank Hospice in Cambridge.

Once I knew that Clive wanted to support Arthur Rank, I decided to do my bit along with Trevor and will abseil alongside him in memory of Clive. We do hope many of you will feel able to sponsor us in support of these very worthwhile causes.

We will be performing the event under the team name of 'Daring to Care' and ask that any donations, other than those made online, i.e. cheques, be made payable to Trevor Root or Mandy Foster. Please add your name and 'Virgin Money Giving' to the back of the cheque so that when the monies are transferred to Virgin Money Giving, they will record the donation and donor. Please be aware that you will not be able to specify a single charity as all proceeds will be paid into the single account with Virgin Money Giving and then divided equally between the two charities. Feel free to drop them off at my address below.

Otherwise donations can be made on line by going to: uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Team/DaringtoCare then click on 'Donate' and follow the instructions.

We thank you in advance for every donation made.

Mrs Mandy Foster
24 Dodford Lane

Girton, Cambridge CB3 0QE



Girton Garden Society

Girton Garden Society

SPRING PLANT SALE

Saturday 5th May, 2pm onwards
(until sold out)

Put the date in your diary!

Cambridge breast cancer now

Cambridge Pinks

Cambridge Pinks is the regional group for Breast Cancer Now.

Would you like a stall at my indoor summer fete on 9th June 2018, at Orwell Village Hall? Adults £10 a table, children £6 a table and charities £8 a table. Set up time is 10.15am for an 11am start, finishing at 3pm There will be a raffle, so please could I ask for a raffle prize from each stall? This will be helping Breast Cancer Now. If you would like a table please contact me at the email address below.

Kirsten Bailey

popcornandmo@hotmail.com

Follow our fundraising on our Facebook page
www.facebook.com/groups/cambridgepinks



GIRTON FEAST 2018

Girton Feast (Girton Village Celebrations) is delighted to announce that we have given the following grants from last year's surplus to village organisations: £600 to Cottontails Nursery for new toys and equipment; £850 to Girton Bowls Club for a Rolaspoke wheel and £119 to the Tennis Club for a practice net. It is only with the support of so many villagers, local businesses and sponsors that we are able to run such a successful week for all ages to enjoy and that generates a surplus to be given back to community groups within the village.



Dates for your diary: Friday 6th to Sunday 15th July

Planning is well underway for this year and we have even more events during Feast week than in previous years. Watch out for: *Macbeth* by Girton Glebe pupils at Girton College, Pimms & Cake at Girton College, Miss Fit Girton Bootcamp on the recreation ground, Coffee & Cake at Girton Golf Club, and a Bands evening on Saturday 14th July, plus lots, lots, more ...

Please see our website for more details: www.girtonfeast.org.uk



Pitches are available for stalls if you would like to raise money for a charity or organisation or sell goods, the booking form is on our website.

If you are able to help either leading up to or during the week please contact us: Carol 01223 276103 or Rowena 01223 565247.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

GIRTON COLLEGE MUSIC SOCIETY

SUNDAY 4 MARCH
at 2.30 pm (until 3.30 pm)

Stanley Library, Girton College

RECITAL FOR CELLO AND PIANO

Christopher Hedges (cello)

Lucy Morrell (piano)

Programme to include works by Beethoven

Admission free; retiring collection

SUNDAY 11 MARCH
at 2.30 pm (until 3.30 pm)

Stanley Library, Girton College

RECITALISTS IN CONCERT

A selection of music taken from examination programmes to be performed by Girton's Music students. The concert will feature works for piano, recorder and voice.

Admission free; retiring collection



Girton Garden Society

GIRTON GARDEN SOCIETY

Thursday 8th March at 7.30pm
St Vincent's Close
Community Centre

Herbs for the Gourmet Gardener

by Caroline Holmes

Competitions:

A pot of flowering bulbs
Broccoli or spring greens
Visitors most welcome, £2

CAMBRIDGESHIRE HEARING HELP

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 12.30pm Monday to Friday.

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

CHOIR 2000

Choir 2000 Chamber Orchestra

Conductor: Peter Britton

REQUIEM

GABRIEL FAURÉ

CORONATION MASS

W.A. MOZART



FRIDAY 23 and SATURDAY 24 MARCH
7.30pm

HISTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Tickets: £10.00

students £5.00

under 16s accompanied by an adult are admitted free of charge

See also Facebook and www.choir2000.org

Friends of Girton Glebe Jumble Sale Saturday 10th March 2018 11am – 1pm

Girton Glebe Primary School

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

We'll be selling:

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



Donations can be dropped at the school entrance from Monday 5th March.

No electrical items or videos, thank you.

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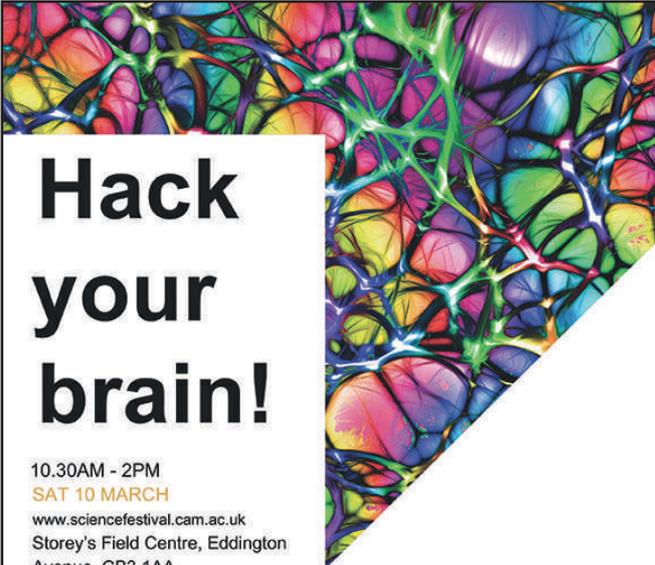


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Make a will, help transform patient care

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Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust's annual Make a Will Week takes place this year from 23rd to 27th April. A group of local solicitors and will-writers have kindly agreed to waive their usual fees and write or update a simple will, in return for you making a donation to change patients' lives at Addenbrooke's and the Rosie hospitals. To find out more, simply call Alice on 01223 254841, email hello@act4addenbrookes.org.uk or visit www.act4addenbrookes.org.uk/makeawill.

Girton Village 5th Annual Yard Sales

in aid of The Arthur Rank House
(our local Hospice)

Saturday 12th May 10am – 4.00pm

Register your venue from 1st April

For those who have not been involved with these sales before, the idea is that you hold a Garage/Yard Sale at your own home, although there are a few open sites within the village that we can use. You pay a minimum of £6 donation to Jenny Knights and this donation then goes directly to The Arthur Rank.

Registering and paying the fee then gets your site marked on a map of the Village and also on a list, by roads, saying the kind of things you intend to sell, where the profits that you raise will be going to and what hours you are open. You can sell what you like (as long as it is legal!) and raise money for yourself or a charity – that's up to you.

For further information and to register your venue please contact

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Deer

If you spot a deer somewhere in the UK and want to identify it, there are six species to pick from. If you see a deer in Girton it's almost certainly a

Reeves' Muntjac. At about 40–50cm high and weighing around 15kg they are small by deer standards, and their coat colouring changes from russet brown in summer to a grey/brown in winter. Their rump is higher than their shoulder, giving them a hunched appearance. The bucks (males) have short antlers of about

10cm, usually pretty straight and with no branches. The males also have a striped face with clear downward black lines. Does (females) have no antlers, and heads with a dark crown patch.

You may also see their upper canines if you get close enough. Even if you don't spot them you may have heard their call, which gives them the alternative name 'the barking deer'. The sound is somewhere between dog and crow but not quite like either. You may also see their small hoof prints, just 2.5cm long. They were introduced to Woburn Park in Bedfordshire from China in the early 20th century, but are now much more widespread, particularly in the East of England. Unlike the other species in the UK they have no breeding season, and are able to reproduce within their first year, becoming fertile again almost immediately after giving birth. These factors have helped the population to grow to the point where they are a conservation concern. Whilst one newspaper may have overstated the problem by describing them as 'foreign invaders wreaking havoc on our countryside', they do have an impact on woodland ground flora and present a collision risk for drivers.

The Reeves after whom they are named was certainly an interesting man. In addition to being an art collector



Muntjac in garden - photo by Amit Roshan

and amateur naturalist, John Reeves held the post of 'Chief Inspector of Teas'. Much of the Natural History Museum's collection of over 2000 botanical and zoological paintings from China were collected by him during his tenure (1812–1831) as an inspector for the British East India Company. At that time plants could be as profitable a commodity as food and spices, and Reeves was responsible for the introduction to the English gardens of many varieties of plants such as chrysanthemums, roses, camellias, and peonies. Ironically, these may well be eaten or damaged by a stray Reeves' Muntjac if they make it into your garden.

*James de Winter
ng@cambridgescience.co.uk*

Chinese Art and the Reeves Collection: Images of Nature by Judith Magee features much that will not be cultivated in Girton, but still worth getting hold of.

Car Club arrives at Eddington

The University of Cambridge and E-Car Club have launched a new car club at Eddington in a bid to lower car ownership on the development. The scheme offers a convenient alternative to running a car for those who don't need it every day.

E-Car Club have deployed two hybrid vehicles at Eddington, which can be booked for as little as one hour and up to several days at a time. The vehicles are specially adapted to include an RFID card access system, meaning the cars can be booked online (or via the E-Car Club mobile app) and used by several different people throughout the day at a cost of just £5.50 per hour or £40 per day for the small hatchback, and £6.50 per hour or £47.50 per day for the larger estate car. These prices include insurance.

Amanda Nolan, Transport Manager at the University of Cambridge, said: 'It is really exciting that we are bringing a car club to Eddington. As part of our Travel Plan we need to keep car traffic to less than 40% of all journeys created by our development. By providing residents with E-Car Club vehicles, as well as excellent cycling and walking facilities, and providing quality local bus services, we can reduce car use both here and to other areas of Cambridge even further.'

E-Car Club are currently running two joining offers, where Eddington residents can become a member for free and get two free driving hours included. Local residents who live outside of the development can join for £15 which includes £15 driving credit.

Visit ecarclub.co.uk/eddington for more information.

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News for Older Residents

Walking Netball

How about trying something new on Tuesday 6th March from 7–8pm at Impington Sports Centre? The charge is £4 for the session and to book, phone 07887 760426.

Wellbeing Taster Session for over 65s

This will be held on Tuesday 20th March from 3–4.30pm in St Vincent's Close Community Room. It will be a good opportunity to learn more about wellbeing groups and their value for participants. With sufficient interest, an 8 week course will run later in the year. To book either phone 01223 357221 or email info@grouptherapycambridge.org.uk. I plan to serve tea and coffee at this event.

Dementia Friendly Cinema

Are you aware of the monthly screenings on Fridays at the Arts Picturehouse in Regent Street, Cambridge? The next showing is 'Love Me Tender' on Friday 16th March at 11am, with free tea and biscuits available from 10.30am. It has a relaxed atmosphere, the lights are left low and there is an interval. Subsequent dates are 20th April and 15th June.

This cinema also has a Silver Screen Club for over 60s with cheaper tickets and free refreshments.

Loneliness

This is often in the news at the moment and money is being spent to reduce it in Cambridgeshire. Loneliness is a complex problem and should not necessarily be associated with being alone or being socially isolated. If you have experience of, and/or ideas on, tackling loneliness I can pass your contributions on to those working locally who need and really want to hear from you.

I have a hard-backed **Mosaics Art Therapy** colouring book to give away. The designs are intricate and small. Do you know someone, **of any age**, for whom it would be useful?

Finally, is anyone interested in having a local Tai Chi class?

Patricia Johnston, Older Residents' Coordinator
07469 660866
patricia.johnston@ageukcap.org.uk

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Ray Gordon 10 Pepys Way Girton CB3 0PA t:276933
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

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'Date night'

More than one in seven adults (14%) in the East of England says they 'never' find dedicated time to spend with their partner, and 22% spend time together just once, or a few times a year. The good news is that four in ten people (40%) living in the East of England manage to spend dedicated time with their partner, such as a date night, once a week or more. A reassuring 8% find time for each other once a fortnight and 13% do so once a month. According to the research, partners with children are considerably less likely to find time to spend together – 12% said they never find time and 29% said they find time once a year or a few times a year. The younger the children, the less likely couples were to spend time together.

Relate Cambridge, which provides relationship support to individuals, couples, families, children and young people living in Girton, says that spending quality time together is a key ingredient for a healthy relationship. They are concerned that time-strapped couples, particularly those with young children, are struggling to find opportunities to enjoy each other's company and are offering tips for turning things around.

Elaine Taylor, relationship expert at Relate Cambridge, said: 'Relationships are good for our health and wellbeing, so it's important to make time for them, not only on Valentine's Day but throughout the year. This can seem difficult when you're juggling commitments like work and childcare, but if you look after your relationship it's likely to have a positive effect on other areas of your life. Spending time together doesn't have to mean spending money. A "date" could happen in your own home and it could just as easily happen during the day. The key is to create space to concentrate on each other.'

KISS stands for **Keep It Small and Simple**. It's not necessary to lavish gifts on each other or have unlimited time together in order to feel loved. You can simply show your partner you care for them by kind words and gestures.

For more information, call us on 01302 347866 or visit www.relatecambridge.org.uk.

*Relate Cambridge would like to thank Girton Town Charity for their 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 01302 347866 Mon-Thur 8am-10pm, Fri 8 am-6pm, Sat 9am-5pm (confidential answerphone at all other times).

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Lemon posset

Makes 6

600ml double cream
140g caster sugar
2 large lemons, juice and zest

In a saucepan, heat double cream and sugar, bring to boil and then simmer for 3 minutes. Take off the heat and stir in lemon juice and zest. Pour into ramekins and refrigerate for 2 hours to set.

This simple dessert goes really well with shortbread.

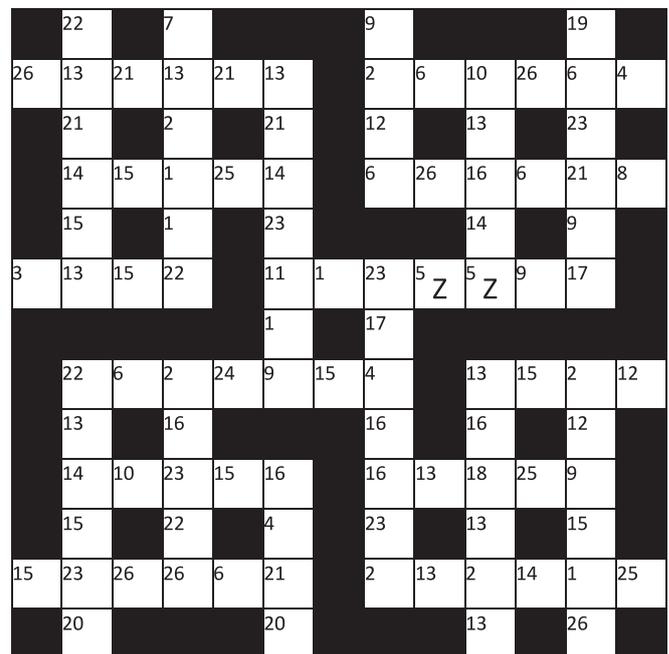


Trudy, the Abbeyfield Chef

Codeword No. 3

The word puzzle where each letter is represented by a number. Good luck!

Erin Austin



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

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

SOLUTION to Codeword No. 2

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

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GIRTON GREEN FINGERS

Since the turn of the year, there has been a surprising amount of activity on the allotment site. I'm a bit of a tender being and have watched with admiration from my study window wrapped-up figures trundling barrows, digging, generally busying themselves out there in the



cold. (I hope the owner doesn't mind the attached picture of his shed bowled over by one of the frequent storms.) There has been some excellent

communal activity. On 6th January eighteen members turned up to trim both sides of the Hicks Lane hedge and to tidy the boundary grass. The social element meant comradeship was resumed after the winter lay-off, and a chance to meet other members one had not previously encountered.

Then in early February working parties carried out coppicing of the hazel plantation, established eighteen years ago to dry out a particularly wet area (truly a millennium copse). Coppicing is the pruning technique where a tree is cut to ground level, resulting in regeneration of new stems from the base. It creates a multi-stemmed shrub rather than a single-stemmed tree. There is a splendid pile of cuttings, suitable for bean poles, pea sticks and other plant supports.



Each month the Allotment Society secretary sends round a newsletter to members. It contains practical notices such as the dates of proposed working parties, reminders of members' responsibilities as to site tidiness and safety, offers of equipment for sale or giving away. The February newsletter was an inspirational message reminding members that the site where we labour away at growing vegetables and fruit is more than just a 'food factory'. I quote the opening sentences:

Individually and collectively we are fortunate to be temporary caretakers of a unique piece of our village environment. It contains a diverse range of wildlife, plants, animals, birds and insects.

Through spring and summer, my articles will necessarily range over planting, tending, harvesting. This month I'm thinking about the allotment site as this environmental storehouse of natural history, and a place of bio-diverse interdependency of species and activities.

Bird-watching is my chief natural history interest. I'm not zealous enough to tour around East Anglian reserves, binoculars sweeping the wetlands. But over the years, there is plenty to watch on the allotments. It's easy to underrate such everyday birds as pigeons, crows, magpies, blackbirds, dunnocks. But one stops to enjoy goldfinches, flocks of delightful long-tailed tits, a robin perched on a spade handle, or to follow the roller-coaster flight of the green woodpecker, or watch it pecking into the grass for ants. The great-spotted is also around. Other of my 'specialities' are blackcaps (becoming an overwintering species) and the colourful jay; a pair of bullfinches is a delight; and I remember a whole flock of yellowhammers. High above there are buzzards and kestrels, and one year the thrill of the huge red kite with its distinctive forked tail. Fieldfares and redwings from Scandinavia have sometimes spent their winter holidays here. After Christmas there appeared a heap of feathers and down on the main track, a sure sign that our resident sparrowhawk had killed a pigeon. An enduring memory is watching at close range the sparrowhawk sitting on my garden fence, his malevolent eye fixed on me.

There are frequent reports of the decline in butterfly numbers. But as I relax on my allotment bench, close to a buddleia, I have recorded tortoiseshells, peacocks, red admirals, brimstones, little blue fellas. Last summer, unusually, there was a resident comma; painted ladies are good to see, though I failed to spot one last year. Cabbage whites are a different matter for us brassica growers.

A few mammals have been recorded. I once watched a fox and her cubs playing in a boundary ditch. A badger has made a temporary stay. A muntjac was not welcomed. We often uncover a frog or a toad, welcome scavengers of slugs. Likewise hedgehogs.

We are ambivalent about wildflowers and plant life. These are weeds on our plots, competing with our crops. But wildflowers can be encouraged on dedicated areas, and in the grass around the boundaries. Many members have areas of herbaceous and annual flowers, attractions to bees, wasps and other pollinating insects, which then afford us the benefit of pollinating our beans, courgettes, tomatoes, etc. Bio-interdependency is the watchword.

I select one more quotation from the inspiring newsletter.

It is with this thought in mind that we are asking all plot holders to please consider carefully how they can protect and manage their plots, and the wider communal areas of paths and hedges, to protect the wildlife, and the environment.

Graham Jones, Girton Allotment Society

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Neil is extremely reliable and efficient. He sorted my laptop out very quickly and efficiently and talked to me in language I understood, which is very helpful as being a silver surfer it can be confusing. I have no hesitation in recommending him to all."
- Jill - Histon

Garden tip of the month – March

I don't often deal with turf professionally, I'm more of a pruning specialist these days, but years ago I had to look after quite a lot of well-maintained lawns, and March is a good month to apply a bit of t.l.c. to grass. Many lawns appreciate a spring feed, and you may already have your own tried and tested formula for success. For grass that is prone to moss one application I considered well worth the effort was 'lawn sand'. This is mainly sand but contains enough iron to give moss a hard time even if it doesn't actually eradicate it, and it contains a modest amount of nitrogen which will give the grass a little boost just as it is coming into rapid growth: enough to liven it up without leading to an over exuberant surge that would require extra mowing! A prudent method of application is to apply it twice at half the dose rate in two different directions to lessen the chance of over or under applying it.

March is often a good month to divide herbaceous plants: clumps that have grown too wide for their space are an obvious example. Note the cagey way I say 'often': this is because I'm writing this copy in mid-February, and I haven't a clue whether March will be very cold, unusually warm, or something nearer normal. A word to the wise: if you do split clumps, water the replanted bits after planting, as it helps to restore a connection between the fine roots and the particles of soil in which they are placed.

George Thorpe



Girton WI

At the February meeting we had a very entertaining talk given by Lucy Allen about her career as a stunt woman for over 27 years.

Lucy's parents were actors and Lucy was a keen gymnast as a child, inspired by Olga Korbut at the Munich Olympics. Lucy spent her earlier career as a trapeze artist with a circus.

We were shown padded protectors that she wears to protect her body and her fire resistant underwear. Her work has included body doubling for Dame Helen Mirren, Dame Judy Dench in the Bond films, and also recently Julie Walters.

To relax she goes sky diving.

Corinne Garvie



Girton Garden Society

Girton Garden Society

The first Garden Society talk of 2018 was on Thursday 8th February by Richard Gant, Head Gardener of Madingley Hall.

Marry money! Always a good idea! The wives of two of the owners of the Hall came into substantial amounts of money, to the great advantage of the Hall. The father of one wife very successfully sold his South Sea investments just before the bubble burst.

To start at the beginning, it was in 1543 that Sir John Hynde acquired the estate and started to build the Hall. One of the subsequent owners, Sir St Vincent Cotton, being burdened by gambling debts, transferred the property to his two sisters, one of whom leased the Hall to Queen Victoria for the use of the Prince of Wales.

With the Hall came large amounts of land. Today, 8 acres of it are laid out as a delightful garden, with a topiary garden (most trees having come from Histon Manor), a walled garden, a sunken garden and a medicinal border, among others. It is always a pleasure to wander around the grounds, whatever the season. There are 1200 different varieties of plants and trees.

Felicia Moor

Girton Neighbourhood Watch

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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 • (01223) 276372

Vice-Chair: Geoff Varley

geoff.varley3522@btinternet.com • (01223) 276772

Secretary: Margaret Wheatley

wheatleymargaret606@yahoo.co.uk • (01223) 527093



For next meeting see GPN calendar

All Welcome!

GIRTON scoreboard



Girton Bowls Club

In the absence of our Press Secretary Lynn McGill, currently enjoying bowls with Janet Graaff in South Africa in temperatures of 37 degrees, your Chairman has entered the following report.

We welcomed Matt and Peter Smith to their first committee meeting in January and look forward to their contributions to the committee and as Captain and Vice-Captain of the newly entered Meldreth League.

The green maintenance is ongoing with our first cutting and spiking this year followed by a lawn sand application to further control the moss. The cost of the green maintenance will be a major expenditure for the forthcoming seasons. Recognising this, we had already gained approval at the AGM to increase the annual subscription and match fees, and we are now also pleased to acknowledge the promised agreement of financial support from the Parish Council.

Our sincere thanks must also go to Carol Noble and her Girton Feast Committee for their recent approval of our grant application. Their generous donation of £850 will be used to purchase additional equipment for maintaining the green. We again look forward to supporting this year's Girton Feast Week and have offered to help with the some of the necessary organisational tasks.

With all the 2018 League fixtures now complete and members' availability dates known, the four league Captains will meet to select the teams for the first two months of the season. The planned opening date for the green is Thursday 12th April followed by three pre-season friendlies against Histon, Newnham and Stretham.

We are always looking for new members, so if you are interested please come along to our Thursday night Club Roll-ups or contact our Secretary Margaret McCall on margaretmccall@ntlworld.com for more details. You can also visit our website at www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com to catch up with events and photos of our activities to date.

Dave Fryer



Girton Golf Club

What dreadful golfing weather we have encountered over December and January; and here we are now in mid-February being told to expect yet more rain for the next few days.

There is so much happening at the Golf Club despite the difficult playing conditions. Our new clubhouse staff are settling in well and the February Sunday Carvery was sold out in advance so book early if you would like to join us for future Sunday lunches.

We have an extensive and growing programme of social events:

- the **Comedy Night** on 14th April. Call us on 01223 276169 to book your tickets; £10 for members and £15 for non-members, which includes 12 months Social Membership.
- a **Three Flavours of India Night** on 12th May with great Indian food, Indian dancers and drums and a wonderful outdoor movie to cap off the exciting evening; £22.50 for members and £27.50 for non-members which again includes 12 months Social Membership.
- And don't forget our **Quiz Nights** every two weeks on a Friday night – get along with your team (max 6).

We are very open to local groups using our clubhouse for events, meetings and activities. Just call the office to discuss how we can help you, and come along to see what we can offer. Perhaps you would like to grab a coffee and slice of cake whilst looking around, or enjoy a lunch – our offer of 2 for £12 is proving very popular currently.

If you are female and have ever thought of trying golf this is for you!! Girton Golf club is a love.golf Centre. What's love.golf?

love.golf is a ground-breaking golf coaching initiative for women which creates a genuine sense of community among participants and is proven to inspire and enhance lives

Ninety per cent of your time will be spent on the course learning! Yes, on the course straight away! The next 6 week programme will start on Wednesday 28th March from 6–7.30pm. There is limited space so don't delay, book today. Call the Proshop on 01223 276169 option 3.

Alan Henderson-Smith



Girton Netball Club

Lots of club members had a fantastic time at London's Copperbox Stadium watching international netball this month. Whilst our own training continues apace, bad weather has meant we have not yet played a winter league

match in 2018. Rain and cold temperatures threatened to turn the outdoor courts into ice rinks and, while we are skilled on dry land, skating netball would be a different matter. This leaves us with a busy few weeks ahead with lots of matches to fit in that should, weather permitting, mean plenty of results to report next month.

Our Milton training sessions have come to an end and so all of our training sessions are now being held at Girton Rec at 7.30–8.45pm on Mondays. We're always happy to welcome new members to the club whatever your previous experience of netball. Our training sessions are fun and sociable, and matches are in no way compulsory! If you would like further information, please contact Mel at girton.village.netball@gmail.com or see our Facebook page at tinyurl.com/girton-netball.

Sally Thorpe



Girton Tennis Club

Our tennis club AGM will be held on Wednesday 14th March at the George Inn, Girton from 8pm. If you read this before then and want to raise any issues – or maybe join our committee –

please either come along or have a word with one of our current committee members. The minutes from last year are on our website and the new ones will be published there during March. Thanks in advance to The George pub for hosting us again this year.

For many years we have been trying to find a way to provide a practice wall or net so that members can practice their shots without a partner. We were therefore very pleased to receive a generous donation from the Girton Feast Committee which has enabled us to purchase and install a practice net. We hope that our members will appreciate this new facility and thanks to Alan Richardson for getting this organised.

Our tennis club has use of the recreation ground courts and members who purchase a key have court access during most daylight hours. Club members meet and play from around 7.30pm to 9pm 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 01223 276660 or by email at info@girtontennisclub.uk.

Alan Franklin



Girton Colts Football Club

Girton Colts, the village's youth football team, is looking for volunteers to help it expand. Whilst the club currently has more than 40 players, there are

many more who would like to play, if there were volunteers to run teams. Anyone who is interested in helping to run a team for children in the 6–11 age range should email info@girtoncolts.co.uk for more information. No previous coaching experience is needed.

With the advent of colder weather at the beginning of the year, the frost laid claim to a couple of Under 15s fixtures, so it means that the boys will be probably playing into May at this rate! However, they did manage to get a couple of league games in and both turned out to be excellent performances against two good sides. The first game saw an excellent home victory against Sutton who are in second place behind Girton in the league. And the last match was an away fixture at Waterbeach where on a rather bobbly pitch they turned in a fine display of attacking football to justify their current position at the top of the league. Special mention must go to the forwards, especially Peter Watts, who showed a real striker's instinct, being exactly in all the right places at all the right times.

The Under 10s have had two games so far in their new division. They produced a very encouraging performance away at Saffron Walden where they came back from 1–0 down to win, with 2 goals from William Hawkes. The second game was a chastening experience as the team were soundly beaten by a Cambourne team who are likely to sweep all before them in this division.

The Under 8s have had 3 games since the new year and continue to find it hard going. They have shown in parts of all 3 games that they can be competitive. However, other teams generally have one good player who makes a real difference.

At the start of February the club ran a well-attended taster session for under 6s. The club would like to thank Steve Dobbyne for coaching the session. Steve has now offered to run a further 10 sessions for under 6s on Saturday mornings.

Kevin White

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News from Girton Glebe Primary School

The last month has been an incredibly exciting time at Girton Glebe Primary School and the classrooms have been their usual hive of activity.

Please read on for a round-up of our recent highlights...

Celebrating Uniqueness – Anti-Bullying Week

In late January, our pupils celebrated their uniqueness and the strength this adds to our whole-school community through a range of anti-bullying activities.

The week began with an assembly on this theme and our children were encouraged to come to school wearing odd socks in support of our work on individuality. The aims for the week were to empower children to celebrate what makes them and other pupils unique, and to help them understand how important it is that every child feels valued in school, without the fear of bullying.

There were many activities taking place around school, some of which included poems written from the perspectives of victims and perpetrators, the creation of posters focusing on what makes a good friend and debates around how people can hold both similar and opposing views about an experience or object.

Our pupils also took to the forest to complete an activity called 'The Unique Stick' with Mr Smart. During this session, the children were asked to find a stick, give it a name and decide what things, based on its appearance, it may be good for. The children then discussed their perceived individual strengths and weaknesses before they 'picked on' a stick, breaking it up and making fun of it. The children then 'healed' the stick by showing compassion towards it and showering it with support. The session ended with a friendship web where the children stood in one large circle, passing on a ball of string and a compliment to somebody else within the circle.

Golden Mile Success

In the short time that our pupils have been taking part in The Golden Mile, they have covered an astonishing 1100 miles around our school playground, and during the last week of the half-term we began handing out our first certificates for children who had run over 10 miles. Congratulations to all children for their hard work and dedication!

Fun-Triton

On Thursday 1 February, our Year 3 pupils were visited by an ambassador from Premier Sport who spent an hour with the children, completing activities from their Fun-Triton programme.

The aim of Fun-Triton is to inspire children, parents and teachers to make healthy lifestyle choices through a

range of cross-curricular tasks. The children spent time in the school hall completing challenges designed to make them think about the principles of keeping healthy – eating well, drinking well, moving well and sleeping well.

The pupils worked collaboratively on all the tasks and came up with some incredibly thought-provoking ideas during the morning's session. Well done to all of our Year 3 pupils who took part!

North West Cambridge Development

On Monday 29 January, Girton Glebe Primary School welcomed experts from the North West Cambridge Development and Cambridge Archaeological Unit to learn about town planning.

During a whole-school assembly, the pupils were introduced to the principles of town planning and were shown how the site's archaeology had evolved. Two workshops were then held for Year 5 and 6 which allowed the children to think about what they wanted to see in a new town and to consider the infrastructure needed to move about. The pupils also handled archaeological finds from the site including pottery and a skull!

Mr Andrew Simpson
Headteacher

GIRTON PARISH NEWS PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2018

GET YOUR CAMERAS READY!

The *Girton Parish News* will be organising a Photographic Competition in conjunction with Feast Week 2018. Here's a brief summary of the classes we propose, so start snapping!

Adults (19 and over):

1. Girton through the year – should reflect the season, but can be people, events, scenery, whatever
2. Portraits and people
3. Water (to loosely tie in with the theme of Feast Week, which is 'Pirates') – any aspect, from oceans, rivers, ponds and puddles, to the household tap!

Under 18:

1. A Few of my Favourite Things
2. Open class: My Best Photo

Open Meeting Thursday 15th March Girton Glebe School Hall at 7.00pm



High Street Development

All Village residents are invited to a presentation of the proposed plans and GTC's vision for the development of 16 apartments and a new GTC office on the High Street/Michaels' Close site.

At the meeting those attending will be able to see a 3D graphic walk-through of the apartment building, as well as a display of plans and a model of the development prepared by Mole, our award-winning architects, based in Cambridge.

The plans have been developed with the aim of providing modern, safe and comfortable homes for older residents of the Village. They are the outcome of months of thought and exploration of different options and are near to ready for submission to SCDC for planning permission.

Mole were appointed by GTC Trustees following an architectural competition organised by the Charity's Project Management Consultants, Northmores. Representatives from both firms will be at the Open Meeting to meet residents and answer questions on the proposed development.

Tel 01223 276008
email gtc@girtontowncharity.co.uk

Registered Charity No: 1130272

Chris Green (Trustee 2015-2018)

The Trustees of Girton Town Charity regret to announce the death of Chris Green on 18th February after several months of illness.

Chris has lived with his family in Girton from 1985, initially in Thornton Road and then from 1994 in Fairway, with a four-year gap in the 1990s when they lived in Hong Kong and Singapore. Chris and his wife Kay have three children, all of whom attended Girton Glebe and then Impington where he was a parent governor for several years. More recently two grandchildren have joined the family.



In 2015, Chris became a GTC Trustee to make a contribution to the quality of life for people in Girton, since he felt that his family has gained so much from living in the Village.

His wealth of professional experience was immeasurably helpful on a number of recent projects, including ensuring successful liaison with the SCDC Planning Department for the application processes for the Sensory Garden, Art Railings and High St Redevelopment. Chris assisted in improving both the service provision for our almshouse residents and our almshouse management by introducing the Cambridge Housing Society to GTC. He also made sound contributions to the Charity's Investment Committee.

In his professional life, Chris was CEO of the SQW Group, leading many large, complex and multi-disciplinary consultancy contracts. His 35 years experience of economic development and planning work in the public and private sectors, included 25 years in consulting and ten years in local government in the UK and Australia.

Dr Robin Hiley, Chairman of GTC said: "We are greatly saddened by the passing of Chris Green and deepest sympathy goes to his family and friends at such a difficult time. During his work with us, he demonstrated a range of skills and qualities that helped us forward in our projects, delivered with modesty, understanding and sound judgment. His professional expertise was of particular benefit. His death leaves a huge gap in our Trustee team and we mourn the loss of a good friend."

Could a GTC Grant or Scheme Help You?

As part of its remit to improve the lives of Girton residents, GTC offers a range of Grants and Schemes to help individuals and their families – whether it is students seeking help with funding their education or older people needing additional care in the home.

Almshouses

GTC has recently welcomed some new residents to its homes at Centenary Court. Some of the first appointees were able to move out ahead of their agreed date, making for an efficient transition. This second rotation of residents have been appointed for three years.



Centenary Court, Wellbrook Way.

To manage Centenary Court and the other almshouses in the portfolio, GTC has recently appointed CHS Group, based in Histon.

Currently all 16 homes are occupied and GTC is receiving more applications for housing than properties available. This level of demand underlines the importance of the Charity's strategy to 'futureproof' housing provision in the Village, with two projects already well underway. These include three houses on the old WI Hall site and the new apartments planned for the High Street site.

CarePlus Grant Scheme

Now well established and valued, the CarePlus Scheme helps Girton residents to live independently in their own homes by providing additional short-term care to suit their needs over and above any statutory care to which they are entitled. In particular it assists residents to return home from hospital as soon as possible.

Help is generally requested by GP's, the Age UK Warden or Older Residents' Co-ordinator and is delivered by care specialists nominated by GTC. The grant of up to £1,700 in any 12-month period is payable directly to the care provider.

Hospital Taxi Scheme

Aimed at helping people go by taxi to outpatient

appointments at Addenbrooke's, Brookfields or Chesterton Hospitals when alternative transport is not practical, the Hospital Taxi Scheme operates on a membership basis with an annual registration fee of £6. Each return trip with the Village taxi companies of Nelson Motors and Wendy Barratt is capped at £7. Renewal notices are currently being sent out to the 200+ members who are part of the Scheme.

Age UK Activities

GTC supports two Age UK activities: the Community Warden Scheme and Older Residents' Co-ordinator.

Gail, the Age UK Community Warden, is highly valued for the contact, support and reassurance she gives to residents who subscribe to the Scheme, providing complementary help to the work of the statutory services and enabling them to live independently in their own homes.

The Village's Older Residents' Co-ordinator, Patricia, continues to create opportunities for socialising and activities. Look out for Patricia's regular column in the *Parish News* where she provides an update.

If you feel that you or your family could benefit from any of the Grants and Schemes, please contact GTC's office.

www.girtontowncharity.co.uk



GIRTON GOLF CLUB
Comedy Night
Saturday 14th April at 8:00pm



Starring
The Big Aussie Colin Cole



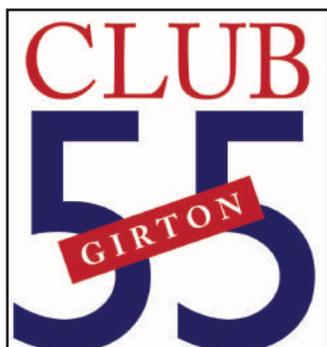
Cornish Story Teller
Matt Price



Comedy Magic
Martyn James

Tickets £10 for members
£15 for guests which includes 12 months Social Membership
Supper available from 6:30 to 7:15 just £8.00 (book in advance)

To book tickets contact the office or bar
01223 276169 Dodford Lane Girton Cambridge CB3 0QE



Cash Raised

Our Club 55 Christmas Party raised £257.70 for Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust and I am very pleased to say that this money was passed on to them by Rosie and Bonnie Scott, the two young harpists who performed

for us on the 20th December. I must say that to raise that amount of cash exceeded all expectations so thanks to those who attended and gave so generously.

Our January lunch trip to the Rose and Crown at Histon saw 39 members enjoy a really nice meal which was served hot in a very pleasant manner by staff. All in all an excellent visit for our members, well done the Rose and Crown. On 1st February there was a full house at St Vincent's Close Community Centre for our film 'Victoria and Abdul' and we have a number of very good films on order for the coming months. These films include 'Dunkirk', 'The Darkest Hour', 'The Post' and 'The Mercy'. 'The Darkest Hour' is due for release on 4th June and is likely to be shown on 14th June, but this may change so keep an eye on our diary for all our forthcoming films. Our computer group is still open every Monday from 10am to 12 noon and you are very welcome to drop in with your laptops, iPads and mobile telephones for help. We are able to deal with most problems so if you need some help using or setting up your piece of electronic equipment, please drop in on any Monday and we will do our best to help. Help is free and tea, coffee and biscuits are always on offer, as is quite a lot of friendly banter.

Don't be lonely – you will be welcomed at Club 55 if you would like to join us at any of our events. There is no pressure but there is friendliness to spare, so why not come along and make new friends – it's easy.

Christmas Spectacular at Thursford

Forty tickets are available for a matinee performance of the Christmas Spectacular at Thursford on 21st November 2018. It will be a bus trip from Girton including a two course Turkey Lunch (vegetarian option available) with mince pies, tea and coffee at Fakenham Race Course. Bus to leave Girton around 10am and return around 7.30pm with the cost of tickets set at £75.

Girton groups other than Club 55 are invited and persons of any age are welcome. For further information contact Sam on the telephone number below or see our website at: Club55.wordpress.com/notice%20board.

Valentine's Day at Abbeyfield



Club 55 members lunch at Abbeyfield



A little romance from our senior citizens brings smiles from dedicated couples

Thirty-nine members of Club 55 attended a

Valentines day meal at Abbeyfield on 14th February. The Restaurant staff there had made a special effort with their table settings, bringing about a romantic ambience. An enjoyable lunch, thank you Abbeyfield.

For your diary:

Thursday 15th March, 12 for 12.30pm: Lunch at Arbuckle's, Ely – a minibus will be available.

Thursday 5th April at St Vincent's Close Community Centre, 12 noon: Film 'Learning to Drive'. Buffet lunch £5.

Wednesday 18th April, 12 for 12.30pm: Lunch at the George and Dragon, Elsworth. Minibus available.

For more details contact:
Sam Clift Tel: 01223 564808

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

01223 276890 during opening hours



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Free parking and WIFI available

Why not come down and meet our Events Coordinator before you decide if the venue is suitable for your occasion. We charge £20.00 per hour and can provide waiting staff, glasses etc for an extra fee.

For more information please contact us on 01223 277 188 or visit us at The Abbeyfield Society, Girton Green, Wellbrook Way, Cambridge CB3 0GQ.

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Surprised By Joy

Dancing behind the freshly greened hedgerows, the daffodils are spreading along our gardens with a promise of more to follow. Even whilst snow showers threaten on the horizon, the brave cherry blossom, that sweet harbinger of springtime, turns its pink fragile petals towards the awakening sun and challenges it to burn brighter, stronger, warmer. Undaunted by late frosts that devastate fruit orchards, it blushes in defiance and takes its stance against the elements.

Now the mating calls of song birds cheer us on to plan for summer activities just as they too are preparing sturdy nests for a full brood of fledglings.

There is something so resilient, so reassuringly irrepressible about the natural world despite our wasteful plundering of resources and careless greed or neglect. In the midst of war and destruction, the tiny seeds of wandering plant life gamble their existence on the smallest patch of dust and brighten the grey shattered ruins of our making. In the bleak stone yard of a concentration camp, one small flower struggled through a crack and surprised the inmates with hope and joy.

A recent BBC series has been turning its focus on the camera crews behind our superb wildlife documentaries. In temperatures ranging from freezing cold to burning heat, at risk to life and limb, encountering dangers from terrain and predators, they sit out the long hours for a few moments of captured drama. When photographer Gordon opened his laptop to check the recorded movements of any remaining tigers still surviving in the wild, he glimpsed the majestic beauty of a striped creature furtively crossing the lens of a hidden camera. In shock, delight and relief, he put hands over face and said, 'Oh God! Thank you, thank you, thank you!' It was a moment of overwhelming joy.

If you have managed to watch any of 'The Life of a Zoo' series, you will have noticed that same exhilaration and joy amongst the keepers when new baby animals make their appearance, bringing hope for the preservation of their species; their dedication brings rich rewards. It is a timely reminder that in the wisdom of the Book of Genesis, we read of the commission given to the man Adam by his Creator, to take responsibility for the living world of seas, plants and creatures. For each of us it is a commission from which there is no retirement. The charge endures while life remains, and we pass it on to every generation fuelled by the enthusiasm stimulated by conservation successes.

Chris Packham, recognized for his seasonal wildlife programmes, has published a memoir called *Fingers in the Sparkle Jar*. It is a beautifully detailed observation of the myriad life forms all around us if only we had eyes to see and hearts to appreciate them. This immersion in the energy of the throbbing organism that binds us all in an extraordinary eco-system is the antidote to the stressed-out pace of work for gain. Our serendipity times get swallowed up in a frantic rush to meet targets, deadlines, profit margins.

The distress of Job is recorded at great length in the book of his name. He frets over his own misfortunes, ill health, fall from status and tragic family losses. He berates the malpractice of his fellow beings and despairs at society's malaise. Such moments of angst reach each of us too when we face the reality of an alarming prognosis, a financial downturn or maybe the loss of someone on whom we depend.

In answer to Job's hopeless despair, his Creator God takes him in spirit back to a time when the glorious earth was formed, when 'the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy'. Can redeeming grace forgive such spoiling of the masterpiece, such misery and destruction?

Sovereign peace flooded Job's soul as he was given glimpses of the enduring faithfulness and mighty power of God who has all wisdom and creative resources. If we can walk behind Job in grace, we will not only fulfil our purpose, discharge our duty, and inform our young, but we too may be constantly surprised by joy and be able to say with heartfelt conviction, 'My God, how great Thou art!'

Iris Niven





Notices

St Andrew's Parish Registers

Funeral

Thursday 25th January 2018 at 2.30pm, **Charles Hindley**, burial at St Andrew's. Minister: Revd Mandy Maxwell.

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.



Notices



Friends of St Andrew's Church

Songs & Laughter for a January Evening on January 13th proved to be 'the perfect antidote to Christmas', when the Friends of St Andrew's Church, Girton, hosted this concert at Abbeyfield Girton Green. The audience, comprising a healthy mix of residents, churchgoers and villagers, were entertained with a wonderful evening of arias, comic verse, and sing-along favourites. Soprano Jennifer Thompson and her Friends delighted their audience with a selection of pieces that had everyone humming along, or joining in, and even providing the backing track to *Nessun Dorma!*

If that was not enough, an extensive buffet supper and plenty of wine flowing rounded off the evening perfectly. So much so, that there have already been requests to do it again!

The evening raised nearly £700 for the village church; funds used to support projects helping to enrich the life and work of St Andrew's in the village. Both Abbeyfield Girton Green and the Friends of St Andrew's look forward to the next opportunity to work together.

Richard Peroni

Girton Community Choir actually doing some singing!



We do this every week, preparing for public performance, as well as socialising, supporting one another, making each other laugh and generally enjoying each other's company. We also eat together on occasion and have been known to drink the odd glass or two.

If you would like to join us, you would be very welcome, so come and give us a try at Girton Glebe School Hall on a Wednesday evening at 7.30pm. Meetings are only during school term time. Or phone Jane on 01223 474667 for more information.



St Andrew's Church

Rector: The Revd Dr Mandy Maxwell
 The Rectory, 42 Church Lane, Girton CB3 0JP
 Tel: 276235
 Email: girtonstandrews@gmail.com
 Website: www.girton.church

Associate Priest: The Revd Christine Barrow
 Tel: 277674
 Email: mcbarrow@me.com

Curate: The Revd Diana Johnson
 Tel: 07377 866567
 Email: diana.johnson@cantab.net

Licensed Lay Ministers:
 Mr Dugald Wilson Tel: 276940
 Mrs Christina Deacon Tel: 525337

Churchwardens:
 Mr Bruce and Mrs Wendy Hunter
 Tel: 503958

Sunday Services: March

4th	10.00am	Holy Communion
	7.00pm	Taizé Worship
11th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	All Age Family Worship for Mothering Sunday
	6.00pm	Evensong
18th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Holy Communion, plus Make an Easter Garden for children
	6.00pm	Evensong
25th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Morning Prayer

All are welcome to our Easter Services:

29th	7.45pm	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion
30th	1-3pm	Good Friday Meditations on the Cross

April

1st	8.00am	Easter Day BCP Holy Communion
	8.30am	Easter Breakfast in the Cotton Hall
	10.00am	Easter Day Family Communion

Weekday Services: March

13th	2.30pm	Service of Holy Communion at Abbeyfield
29th	11.00am	Service of Holy Communion (BCP) at Gretton Court

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

Sunday Services: March

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

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

4th	10.30am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship with Communion
11th	10.30am	Morning Worship
18th	10.30am	Morning Worship with Communion
	6.30pm	Evening Worship led by John Searle
25th	10.30am	Morning Worship
	4.00pm	Songs of Praise followed by tea
Thursday 29th	6.30pm	Maundy Thursday reflection

April

1st	8.00am	Easter Morning Communion
	10.30am	Easter Morning Worship

Tuesday Afternoon Friendship Group

Come and join us at 2:15pm on
6th March – Matt Courtney-Jones
Chair based exercised to keep you moving
20th March – Easter Celebration
Turkey Lunch noon for 12.30 pm
with Rev Nick Lowe

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

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
Tom Bygott, 9 Station Road, Oakington, Tel: 232966
Julie Dashwood, 36 High Street, Tel: 276590
Zoe Kirby, Gretton School, Manor Farm Road,
Tel: 07540 000478

Douglas de Lacey, 9 Woodlands Park, Tel: 565219
Val Godby, 38 Woodlands Park, Tel: 276372
Anne Kettle, 11 Redgate Road, Tel: 277505
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
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

Contact numbers for bookings

Cotton Hall	07759 983420 (new number)
Orchard Close	277164
Pavilion	472182
St Vincent's Close	276447

Births, Marriages and Deaths

For a trial period, from the April issue of the *Girton Parish News* we are planning to publish a column of short one- or two-line announcements of 'Births, Marriages and Deaths'. This item is intended to replace the 'St Andrew's Parish Registers' which only give partial coverage of life events in the village.

The intention is to give simple information such as: Family name, given names, relevant dates, and if wished, street name. In order to avoid conflict with the Data Protection Act we will not be including full addresses or contact details.

We feel this information will be of interest to our readers. The announcements should be about residents or former residents of Girton. For reasons of space, we are not planning to include personal messages.

Please send your announcements to the Editor at gpned@girton-cambs.org.uk, or drop a line to 141 Thornton Road, Girton, CB3 0NE.

ART EXHIBITION 2018

Action Abroad, St Andrew's Church, Girton

**Original work by local artists
at affordable prices**

Thursday 3 May, Friday 4 May, 11am – 7pm

Saturday 5 May, 10am – 5pm

Free Entry

All funds to Action Abroad Overseas Charities

Mobile Library

Thursday 22nd March

Thornton Court	09.40 – 10.00
Abbeyfield	10.05 – 10.50
St Vincent's Close	10.55 – 11.30
Orchard Close	11.35 – 12.00
Gretton Court	12.05 – 12.40
Churchfield Court	12.45 – 13.15

Rubbish Collection – March

Thursday 1 March	Blue and Green bins
Thursday 8 March	Black bin
Thursday 15 March	Blue and Green bins
Thursday 22 March	Black bin
Thursday 29 March	Blue and Green bins

Afterschool art sessions with Elena Arevalo Melville for all abilities. At Storey's Field Centre, Eddington (opposite Sainsbury's). £10/session.

ART
for Children ages 6-11
Wednesdays 3:25-4:25

ART
for Teens ages 12-15
Wednesdays 4:30-5:30



elena@artsandcomicsclub.com
WWW.ARTSANDCOMICSCLUB.COM

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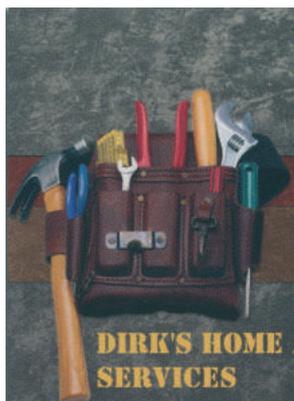
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M.S.S.Ch. M.B.Ch.A HCPC Ch20454

Glebe House
39 Cambridge Road,
Girton CB3 0PN

Tel: 01223 520077
Mob: 07703 292354
e-mail: erica.n@me.com



PILATES CLASSES IN GIRTON

Beginner level;

Monday at 5.30pm and 6.35pm
Tuesday at 6.30pm Friday at 10.20am

Intermediate level;

Monday at 7.40pm Tuesday at 7.35pm
and Friday at 9.15am

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info@amandaplattpilates@btinternet.com
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CAE student



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