



# GIRTON

## Parish News



January 2019



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

A copy of the magazine is available on the Girton website at [www.girton-cambs.org.uk](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* 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, Matthew Vernon

*Webmaster* Andrew Haylett

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

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## The Village Diary

### January

- Wed. 2** **Girton WI**, Abbeyfield, 7.30pm  
Members' Night
- Fri. 4** **Rotary Memory Café**, 10am–12 noon  
St Vincent's Close Community Centre
- Sat. 5** **Girton Walking Group**, walk in Newnham  
Meet 10.15am at Lammass Land paddling pool
- Sun. 6** **FOGG Christmas Tree Shredding and Repair Café**  
Girton Glebe School, 12–2.00pm
- Thur. 10** **Girton Garden Society**, St Vincent's Close,  
7.30pm, AGM and Social Evening
- Fri. 25** **Girton Craft Club**, 2–4pm  
Orchard Close Community Centre, all Welcome
- Sat. 26** **Girton Churchyard Volunteers**, Work Party, St Andrew's Churchyard, 10am–12 noon  
**FOSA**, The Montagnana Trio in Concert  
Abbeyfield Dining Room, 7.30pm
- Sun. 27** **Girton College Music Society**, Stanley Library  
Music for Soprano and Guitar, 2.30pm

### February

- Fri. 1** **Rotary Memory Café**, 10am–12 noon  
St Vincent's Close Community Centre
- Sat. 2** **Girton Walking Group**, Walk to Fen Ditton  
Meet Magdalene Bridge at 10am
- Sun. 3** **Girton College Music Society**, Stanley Library  
Cambridge Wind Quintet, 2.30pm
- Wed. 6** **Girton WI**, Abbeyfield, 7.30pm  
Museum of Cambridge – John Flood

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*Cover photo: Golden Goose Railings by Matthew Lane Sanderson commissioned by Girton Town Charity*

**Copy date for February issue: Wed. 16 Jan. Issue date: Saturday 2 Feb. Covers 2 Feb.–1 March.**

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## GIRTON PARISH COUNCIL

We hope that everyone had a good Christmas and New Year.

The early submission deadline for this edition precedes the December Parish Council meeting (and, indeed, the setting of the agenda), but at the November meeting we were pleased to welcome co-opted member Mary Rodger to the Council. Other items included approval of contractors to undertake repairs to fencing and play equipment at Girton Recreation Ground. The Council also considered representation from the Parish Council to national government concerning recent developments in the debate on possible changes to Girton Interchange.

We hope that by the time of publication the works to the Recreation Ground Car Park will be effectively completed. We are pursuing the County Council to maintain the adjoining road.

The Local Highways Improvement Grants presentations will be held in mid-January at Cambridgeshire Highways offices, Girton's application focusing on speed-awareness measures.

County Councillor Lynda Harford is holding a drop-in event for the village at Girton Glebe School on Thursday 10th January from 5.30–7.00pm, and all residents are invited to attend.

### Next meetings

The next Parish Council meetings will be held at St Vincent's Close Community Centre at 7.00pm on Tuesday 15th January and Tuesday 19th February. Members of the public are welcome to attend all Parish Council meetings and to speak in the open session at the start.

*Please see page 34 for a full list of councillors.*

### Zaytoun Palestinian Fair Trade Produce

A big thank you to everyone who came to the coffee morning. It was a special pleasure to meet Palestinians who live locally. We sold £700 worth of products which helped support Palestinian farmers and with donations raised £80 for Amnesty letter writing.

*Pamela Manning*



### Friends of Girton Glebe Christmas Fair

Thank you to all who visited our Christmas Fair at Girton Glebe Primary School on Saturday 24th November – we had over 400 visitors and together we raised an amazing £2003 for our school! The funds will go towards improving the learning environment for our pupils.

We are especially grateful to Smartkidz, St Andrew's Church and the School Governors for fundraising for the school, and to the long list of local companies who generously donated raffle prizes. We also extend our thanks to the external stallholders who brought their festive cheer and lovely products to the fair, and to Girton Community Choir for their fabulous carol singing.

With all best wishes for the New Year.

*Friends of Girton Glebe*

*Registered Charity 1098145 [www.foggpta.org.uk](http://www.foggpta.org.uk)*

### TYPESETTER NEEDED!

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is looking for an additional typesetter to join our team.

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So if you are computer literate (and maybe enjoy jigsaws ...?) this might be an interesting part-time occupation!

We share the load between four team members, so you would normally only have to work on three issues over the year.

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## From Our Councillors

### County Councillor Lynda Harford

As I write this report I am still making preparations for the drop-in event on 10 January that I have already mentioned in my last two reports. I think though that by the time you are reading this that date will have passed. I am hoping that many of you will have found time to pop in and give your thoughts on what you would like to see the community doing together in Girton in the future. There are some really marvellous things already going on in Girton; the Dementia Café is really valuable and inspirational and the support sessions that are run for those wishing to learn about computer use have already been recognised by more than one award. Girton's own village Primary School is doing some great work despite the massive financial challenges that it has and the parish council is working on various projects including the resurfacing of the car park at the Pavilion and an application to the County Council's Local Highways Improvement scheme for funding to introduce speed restrictions around the area of the school. Girton Town Charity provides village facilities and financial support for residents and community groups.

There are though other projects that residents have told me they would like to see get off the ground. There has, for example, been more than one attempt to set up a Community Speedwatch group in Girton but this has failed to progress due to the lack of volunteers coming forward to join. Many of the other projects that residents tell me about relate to road safety and cycling provision. Funding for this type of project is not always easy to secure but one of the things that always carries weight on funding applications is community support and involvement.

To secure support and to encourage involvement, communication is key. Each month I write for Girton Parish News and read with interest the contributions from others. I am grateful to our editor and her team for this source of communication but I do ask myself: is it sufficient on its own as a means of community communication? I am disappointed when I look at the village website which is, to put it kindly, somewhat out of date. Girton is the only village in my County Division that doesn't have an interactive website and/or a Facebook page or some form of community-wide communication. How many of the things that I have referred to here were you aware of? Would you like to have better opportunities to communicate with the community of which you are part? And, if you would, are you able to volunteer to set up a Facebook page or support the development of an all singing, all dancing village website?

These are some of the things that I hope to have had the chance to talk about with residents who were able to drop in on 10 January but hopefully even more of you will also give this some thought. If consensus is that you are all happy with the status quo, that's fine but I would like to know that is the case.

I do hope that you had a good Christmas and I send you all my very best wishes for 2019.

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

### District Councillor Tom Bygott

#### Cambourne Guided Busway

In December I attended a meeting of the Greater Cambridge Partnership on the route of the busway to Cambourne. The good news is that the GCP has agreed to run this route with electric vehicles, rather than heavily polluting buses, and to design it to a standard that will allow it to become part of the new Cambridge Metro, which is likely to run on rubber tyres and take over the two existing busways.

However, there are still concerns that the route will harm the countryside. It is still planned to cut down the strip of trees between the A428 and St Neots Road in Hardwick, and pass either through the village of Coton or along the A1303 and down Madingley Hill. Whilst the first is highly unpopular, the latter would be harmful to the setting of the American Cemetery and the residents living along the road. Few cities of the stature of Cambridge have such a pleasant country road to enter by.

#### Target to cut local carbon emissions to zero by 2050

The District Council has unanimously backed a motion proposing that 'South Cambs shows responsible climate leadership by supporting the transition to zero carbon by 2050 in the next Local Plan.' As a result, South Cambridgeshire's next Local Plan will consider how new homes, jobs and services will support that commitment. This will be a joint local plan with Cambridge City Council, which has adopted a similar aim. The next plan will look at ways South Cambridgeshire District Council can press for a carbon-free area through the design of homes and other buildings, land use including open space, transport links, energy supplies and waste and recycling services.

We live in one of the fastest growing areas of the UK and so must find ways to reduce carbon emissions associated with new development. Greener developments could be built around railway stations, rather than trying to add public transport in later – when it is more expensive, and the possible choices are more limited.

It seems a major target to aim for in only 31 years, but technology will enable it to be achieved while enhancing rather than sacrificing economic growth. Regions that try to preserve environmentally harmful industries, such as those based on coal or oil, will find themselves limited by technological backwardness. For example, Germany generates nearly half its electricity from coal, compared to less than seven percent (and falling rapidly) in the UK. Nearly three quarters of BMW and Mercedes cars are sold with Diesel engines, yet to protect this industry from competition, we charge high import tariffs on cars from the US. Tesla buyers receive a £3,500 grant for buying an electric car, yet pay between £6,000 and £12,000 in import tariffs. Perhaps it will take many years before these kinds of perverse incentives are sorted out, but it is necessary if we want to protect the environment.

*Cllr Tom Bygott*

## A View From the District

The answers to my question on priorities were overwhelmingly that the District should take precedence, and I now think that is right. When I was just an independent backbencher I felt strongly that my primary commitment was to the Parish; and all my committees had daytime meetings so there were no clashes. Now I am Chairman, and Scrutiny (the only evening committee) has much greater significance, I think I need to change. However, I shall attend Parish Council meetings as often as I possibly can.

This month I joined a County Members' briefing which gave helpful updates on renewable energy, the Combined Authority, and adult social care.

Renewable energy: There are now a number of local energy projects in and around Cambridge, but the grid is simply not designed for inputs from them. Cambridgeshire is looking for funding to explore how Cambridge can become a 'smart energy city' and how projects across the County can link in – more on this below. These issues will have an impact on our new Local Plans and our administration is keen to incorporate them.

The Combined Authority's main concern at present (apart from staffing and massive cost overruns) is transport, and we were enthusiastically told we need to double our current public transport offer (mainly buses). Two obvious problems were largely glossed over: Stagecoach already struggles to find enough drivers, and buses are comparatively slow and very polluting. Electric buses would need huge investment; there is also the problem that buses are not an end-to-end solution, especially if one needs to change in the city centre. Is the metro the solution? Probably not. One Member claimed that a lot of pollution is caused by people driving round and round looking for parking, and suggested that all free parking in the City should be removed.

The contribution on adult social care was thoughtful and thought-provoking. New IT systems, the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), and better co-operation with other groups are all making strides, but there remain problems including recruitment and retention of staff.

At various functions this month I have established valuable contacts including a partner at Mole, who are responsible for designing the Michael's Close development.

November's Scrutiny started with two pre-meetings; we were in session from 3.30 to 8pm with no break. Scrutiny now has teeth, and is being proactive in looking at issues before they go to Cabinet or Council; this makes our comments much more useful. But it means a very tight timetable, and concerns were raised about timescales. We had a major item on significantly increasing our loan to the Cambridge Ice Rink (CLIC); we needed to sure we understood all the issues. Yet some members had only had three days to digest the details and we have made strong representations to Cabinet that the system simply will not work without some changes.

The third annual County Parishes Conference was as always a place for useful contacts. There was a session on renewable energy, which focused on a pilot project in Swaffham Prior to provide an energy centre for the whole village. Other sessions on neighbourhood planning and community engagement were not so exciting or informative. Neighbourhood planning is costly and labour-intensive, but can work to protect important sites as well as identifying those which should be developed; or focus on design and landscaping and identify essential infrastructure. How do we get the local community (and that means **you**) involved, when the Parish Council is short of members? The session gave no easy answer.

We had another over-long Council meeting with many issues under discussion: motions ranging from improved conditions for our staff through climate change and the Local Plan to transport infrastructure. And then we had to return again to CLIC funding; it was 6.30 before our final vote. Not that I complain about the length of the meetings: it is the result of our new Councillors having so many ideas for improvement of the District.

During the Council meeting I was somewhat distracted as the story had just broken of the 'horrendous' explosion (see the *Cambridge News*) in Girton, and we were being given updates by the police. As I surmised, the whole story was a damp squib, blown up out of all proportion by the media. But it did entail evacuations and we had to set up a relief centre briefly that evening.

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*

# FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**HBC**  
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**Concert at HBC**  
**Peterborough Community Gospel Choir**  
 (Supported by Ten Sing)

**Saturday 19th January 2019 7.30pm**  
**Admission: Free**



The evening will include an introduction and invitation to join the new Alpha course exploring the Christian faith

**Girton Musical Theatre**  
**The Gondoliers**  
 By Gilbert & Sullivan

**Thurs 28th Feb to Sat 2nd March**  
 at 7.30pm and  
 Sat 2nd at 2.30pm

**Girton Glebe School Hall**

**Advance Tickets £10 (£4 children) or on the door: £12 (£5 children).**

**From Maggie (01223 233555) or online from**  
**www.ticketsource.co.uk/girtonmusicaltheatre**

**www.girtonmusicaltheatre.org.uk**



**Girton Community Choir Wishes You All a Very Happy New Year**



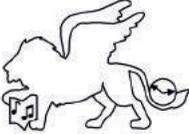
And if you want to begin 2019 with a song in your heart, why not come and join us in our NEW venue?

We are now meeting in the North Room, attached to St Andrew's Church, but the time is still the same: 7.30 – 9.00pm, meeting every Wednesday during term time, and we are still friendly and cheerful, unless Christmas has been so exhausting that we've had personality changes! But even if we have, we'll be back to normal by 9<sup>th</sup> January! You don't need to be able to read music, just an enjoyment of music: we sing a variety of styles and there are always some modern/popular pieces which will be familiar. If you need more information, please ring Jane on 01223 474667.

And remember! The dark nights can be depressing, but singing releases endorphins, which make you feel happy and more positive.

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**Girton Musical Theatre**



**The Gondoliers**

The long suffering Venetian Ladies, Tessa and Gianetta, have been waiting for Giuseppe and Marco to pop the question for AGES. Just when everything falls into place and it looks like the happy couples will live happily ever after, a sinister man appears and puts several spokes in the wheel. One spoke involves a very pretty Spanish Princess and the other presents the unlikely possibility that one of them has inherited the crown of a foreign power, based on an island across the sea. Moral dilemmas indeed! Will our gallant gondolieri forsake their new brides? Will they renounce their republican principles and become despotic monarchs? Are the marriages over before they have begun? Or will there be a very simple solution to all their problems and will there be a happy ending after all as the not quite so newlyweds resume their (hopefully) idyllic lives back on the canals of Venice?

Come and find out!

**Thursday 28th February to Saturday 2nd March at 7.30pm and Saturday 2nd March at 2.30pm.**

Girton Glebe School Hall, Cambridge Road, Girton CB3 0PN.

Advance Tickets £10 (£4 children) or on the door £12 (£5 children).

From Maggie (01223 233555) or online from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/girtonmusicaltheatre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/girtonmusicaltheatre)

# FORTHCOMING EVENTS

## **Girton College Music Society**

**SUNDAY 27 JANUARY** at 2.30 pm (until 3.30 pm)

Stanley Library, Girton College

### **Music for Soprano and Guitar**

Milly Atkinson (Soprano)

David Cotter (Guitar)

Girton Music student Milly Atkinson and Sidney Sussex PhD student David Cotter perform an eclectic mix of songs spanning five hundred years of music history, illustrating the development of the role of classical guitar as an accompanying instrument. Works by Dowland, Schumann, Britten, Fauré and Manuel de Falla

Admission free; retiring collection

**SUNDAY 3 FEBRUARY** at 2.30 pm (until 3.30 pm)

Stanley Library, Girton College

### **The Cambridge Wind Quartet**

Felix Blake (flute)

Katrina Mulheran (oboe)

Madeleine Morris (clarinet)

Francis Bushell (bassoon)

The Cambridge Wind Quartet, one of the ensembles in the University's Instrumental Awards Scheme (and featuring Girtonian Madeleine Morris), performs Ibert's *Deux Mouvements* and Francaix's *Wind Quartet*

Admission free; retiring collection

## **Girton Walking Group**

**Saturday February 2nd.** A walk along the River Cam to Fen Ditton. Meet at Magdalene Bridge at 10am. This walk has mostly good surfaces until the fields at Fen Ditton, where it is possible to divert along pavements if the grounds are very muddy. This is roughly three miles, and it is possible to catch a bus back to central Cambridge if preferred. For more details contact Gina Lane [ginaklane@aol.com](mailto:gina@ginaklane@aol.com).

*Friends of St. Andrew's  
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## **IN CONCERT**



## **The Montagnana Trio**

**Emma Halnan (flute), Kate Elmitt (piano),  
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*Includes works from Beethoven, Bizet,  
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**Saturday January 26th**

**2019 at 7.30pm**

*In the Dining Room,*

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Tickets include a light supper with a glass of wine, available in the interval.

**£15.00** each from

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## **Girton Garden Society**

Thursday 10th January at 7.30pm  
St Vincent's Close Community Centre

**Annual General Meeting  
and social evening with light buffet**

*Competitions:*

A foliage plant

A photo of a plant or of your own garden

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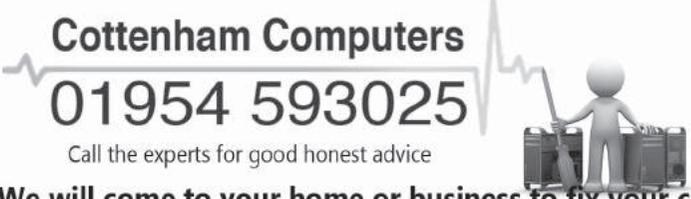
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## News from Girton Glebe Primary School

The end of the autumn term was a wonderfully exciting time at Girton Glebe Primary School, with many activities and celebrations taking place in the lead up to the Christmas break. Please read on for a round-up of our latest news ...

### **Christmas Fair – Thank You!**

This year's Friends of Girton Glebe (FOGG) Christmas Fair was an amazing success, with the hall and classrooms filled with festive stalls and activities to raise money for the school. The event was incredibly well attended and visitors were treated to two wonderful carol performances by the Girton Community Choir and the school choir, which was led by Miss Browne.

I must extend our gratitude to FOGG who raised a record breaking £2003 for the school at this event. Girton Glebe is so incredibly fortunate to have such a supportive parent body and the work that FOGG do is an invaluable support to the provision we offer in our classrooms. During the Christmas Fair, FOGG were presented with a cheque for £2627 from Paul and the management at The Co-op from their Local Community Fund; our thanks once again for the continued support from our local store.

Huge thanks to all staff, pupils, parents, carers and members of the community who came out in support of this event; we could not have done it without you.

### **Key Stage 1 and Foundation Stage Christmas Performances**

Over the final fortnight of the autumn term, we were treated to two wonderful shows performed by our Key Stage 1 and Foundation Stage pupils. Our Year 1 and Year 2 children staged *Prickly Hay*, the Christmas story with a twist, performed twice to packed audiences on Friday 7 December.

Our Foundation Stage pupils did a wonderful job of performing their nativity, *Little Star*, on Friday 14 December. This was the tale of a little star that was blown out of the sky meaning the special visitors could not find their way to the stable. The star was eventually guided back into place by the rest of the cast, just in time for the visitors' arrival.

All pupils worked incredibly hard to learn their lines and rehearse the wonderful songs that accompanied the performances. Well done to all of our children and a huge thanks to our dedicated staff for preparing the children so well!

### **Carol Concert & Christmas Performance**

On the evening of Monday 17 December, an audience of parents, family members and friends were treated to a night of Christmas music, mince pies and mulled wine. The programme consisted of performances from our school choir, orchestra, Lime class keyboards, guitar group and ukulele players.

This performance was followed by our carol concert on the morning of 19 December when each class performed a range of traditional and contemporary carols to an appreciative audience. There was also another performance by the guitar group who performed *Good King Wenceslas*.

Well done to all singers and musicians for taking part in these concerts and thank you to all staff for your hard work in leading groups and rehearsals.

### **Sporting Success**

During the final two weeks of term, Girton Glebe was represented in two big sporting events by children from our Key Stage 2 classes.

On Tuesday 4 December, a group of Year 5 & 6 children took part in a swimming gala at Impington Village College and spent the morning competing against other schools in a range of disciplines. The children took part in breast stroke, freestyle, T-shirt and float races and ended the morning finishing first overall ahead of Histon Juniors and Oakington Primary. Well done, swimmers!

On Thursday 6 December, children from Years 4, 5 and 6 took part in the Cambridgeshire Cross-Country Competition at Wimpole Hall, where our pupils competed against children from other schools within their respective year groups. The weather was kind to our runners who completed the mile-long course in spectacular surroundings, taking to the trails in front of Wimpole Hall. Congratulations to all of the children who took part in the event and a special 'well done' to Ella in Year 5 who finished 2nd in her race.

Many thanks to all of the children who represented Girton Glebe in both of these events; you were fabulous ambassadors for the school and we are incredibly proud of you all!

*Mr Andrew Simpson*  
Headteacher

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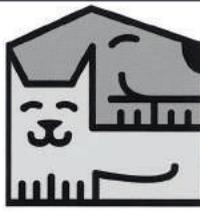
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## Cottontails Preschool

As I write this, we are in the midst of our Christmas celebrations and events. It's a busy time of year, but full of lots of fun and plenty of sparkle and

glitter too! Our Christmas disco was very successful and I and the Committee thank all who attended and helped for their support. The children are practising for their Christmas performance and we are looking forward to our forest school Christmas camp fire and our Christmas party. By the time this is being read, we will have started a new term in the new year. The children enjoy sharing their news so we will have had lots of opportunities to talk about all that they did during the holidays.

The children cooked their own snack last week while also finding out about Hanukkah. We made potato latkes and everyone tried them after helping to make them. This involved lots of hard work grating all the potatoes. At all sessions, children prepare their own snack including cutting fruit and vegetables – and they do their own washing up! These skills encourage their independence and self-confidence and the children participate very well.



At forest school this time of year there is plenty of thick oozy mud which has been inspiring 'We are going on a bear hunt' role play. There is nothing

better than quelching and squerching through mud on a winter forest school morning, though maybe we might get a swirling, whirling snowstorm one day soon which I am sure would be enjoyed too! The children have spent time together making dens and talking. They have formed friendships, they help each other and work together well. Recent visitors to forest school observed that the children are confident, focused and fully engaged.

Over the last few weeks we have received some lovely donations of toys and books. These have been gratefully received and enjoyed by the children and I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who donated.

If you would like any further information about Cottontails, please visit our website [www.cottontailspreschool.org](http://www.cottontailspreschool.org) or contact us on 07935224607 or [info@cottontailspreschool.org](mailto:info@cottontailspreschool.org).

*Laura Norman*  
Cottontails Preschool Manager  
[manager@cottontailspreschool.org](mailto:manager@cottontailspreschool.org)



## Girton WI

Members enjoyed their Christmas dinner at Girton Golf Club on 5th December. With good food and drink, helpful and efficient staff and beautifully decorated tables, it was a happy evening. Much chatter, and a quiz to puzzle over. The answers were all Christmas carols and songs – and we made a merry if not melodious sound while trying to sing each one. So thanks to the Golf Club staff, and our own members who had organised the evening.

January's meeting on the 2nd was a members' offering, with a quiz and Wendy telling us about her postcard collection. If you'd like to join us, find out more on [girtonwi@gmail.com](mailto:girtonwi@gmail.com).

*Rosemary Jones*

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## The New Year at Girton Youth Project

I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself as Girton Youth Project's new Youth Engagement Project Manager. I am thrilled to have been appointed to the position and look forward to maintaining the fantastic work that is already in place. As 2019 is fast approaching, I am keen to start some new collaborative projects with the local community as well as continuing to provide a safe and enjoyable environment at our weekly youth group sessions. All the young people, staff and volunteers at GYP have been so welcoming and it's been great to see all the young people relaxing, having fun and showing such kindness and consideration.

At Girton Youth Project we pride ourselves on making the Club personal to the young people that attend, we do this by listening to the needs of our group; whether that be a new game for our PlayStation, a particular trip people may wish to attend, offering the arts award, supporting a new hobby or learning to cook during Mess Club.

We are always looking to welcome new young people to our groups and look forward to 2019 at Girton Youth Project.

Club times are as follows:

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

**Thursday** group is for ages 11–18, from 5–7pm and 7–9pm.

Please check out our website [www.girtonyouthproject.co.uk](http://www.girtonyouthproject.co.uk) for further information.

If you are interested in being part of or enrolling your young person on to the youth project, please email Frances at [frances.roach@ymcatrinity.org.uk](mailto:frances.roach@ymcatrinity.org.uk) or contact 07771357187.

*Frances Roach*

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## Cambridge Pinks

Cambridge Pinks is the regional group for Breast Cancer Now.

On a rather damp but warm morning we headed off for a leisurely walk along the towpath from Milton Country Park to Cow Hollow Wood in Waterbeach. We saw wildlife, fishermen, joggers, cyclists, and a rowing team. We stopped at Cow Hollow Wood to enjoy well-earned hot chocolate or tea and salted caramel brownies. Once again, we managed to recruit a lively spaniel, who was more interested in the undergrowth than our picnic! Feeling fully revived we headed back along the river to Milton Country Park. What a perfect way to spend a Sunday afternoon. And with a total raised of £171 for Breast Cancer Now, a very rewarding day.

If you like what you've read, then we have some good news for you. Cambridge Pinks are going to do the same walk again in 2019. So keep your eye on the press coverage or drop us an email for a registration form and more information:

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## Co-op Local Community Fund: Thank you from Girton Glebe Primary School and Cottontails Pre-school

All at Girton Glebe Primary School would like to say a huge thank you to everyone in Girton who has taken part in the latest round of the Co-op's Local Community Fund by swiping their Co-op membership card while shopping. This has raised an amazing £2627 which will be put into very good use by the children of Girton Glebe Primary School. An especially big thank you to Paul and the staff at the Co-op for encouraging new members and reminding us all to use our cards! We are very grateful for your support.

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A dilemma: it's Sunday 2nd December, a beautiful sunny winter's morning after a miserable Saturday. The deadline for submission of this GPN article is imminent because of Christmas at the printers. I should be at my desk, writing. But can I resist going outside to the allotment and enjoying the sun and warmth?

6.30 pm same day. No, it was good to get fresh air and exercise, pottering around on non-urgent but useful jobs, mulching raspberry canes with wood chips, weeding, spreading heaps of soil conditioner over my plot (more of that later) And, inevitably, chatting. At this time of year, with only occasional forays onto the allotment, one suffers a bit from aching back, whereas in spring and summer with almost daily working, arms, legs and back are better tuned.

So what is there to write before the start of the final episode of *Little Drummer Girl*? (Can anyone explain to me what's it all about !?)

Individuals' activity has wound down for the winter months. Most days there are just one or two members out there. They harvest over-wintering crops for the kitchen; there are handsome round cabbages, kale and broccoli, brussels sprouts; clouds of whitefly can be off-putting. Unfortunately, not many leeks this year (more on this later). There is covering and uncovering of crops like broad beans. Even some planting: garlic, strawberries, for example. Structures such as fruit cages and raised beds need renovating. So much rubbish accumulates and needs clearing.

Behind members' plot occupancy and tending thereof, other 'corporate' activities ensure the orderly state of the site. Site manager, Malcolm Frew, and site manager emeritus, Ray Gordon, voluntarily work incredibly hard on organizing hedging, trimming, cleaning of abandoned plots, and much more, with time-to-time working parties.



*Allotment Rubbish*

It is surprising how members, supposedly sensitive to the environment, create so much rubbish. On Friday 23rd of this month, a skip was brought onto the site for the clearance of non-vegetative material (timber, metals, torn fleece, plastics, broken furniture, bricks, concrete, and much more). I am

including a picture of just a little of the rubbish. The skip was full in a short time.

Also on Friday 23rd November, Amey Cespa, the waste management company, delivered 4.7 tonnes of soil conditioner to the site. This conditioner is the product of Amey Cespa's treatment of the contents of our green bins. It can be dug into garden or allotment and will add slow release nutrients to the soil, providing humus to improve soil structure and water retention. (Take a look at Amey Cespa's Waterbeach website, particularly the section on vegetable waste treatment.) Plot-holders were invited to take 5 barrowloads at £1 per load. The 4.7 tonnes had gone by Sunday morning and raised £105 to defray the cost of the rubbish skip.



*Soil Improver*

Growers face many adversaries during the year. I mentioned above that leeks will be missing from this winter and spring cooking. A pest called allium leaf miner has spread through Europe. It lays eggs in the tissues of leeks (and other onion family crops); the hatched maggots munch through the leek, making nasty tunnels, and become brown pupae at the base of the leek. The problem has affected our site badly and many growers have had to destroy their leek crop. This means an unfortunate loss of seasonal produce to be enjoyed at this time of year. For next year, the only known solution is to cover plants with micromesh immediately after planting to keep off the fly.

From an area of regularly dug ground I managed to extract a pile of what looks like dirty spaghetti. Members will groan, recognising the roots of bindweed or convolvulus - a deep-rooted perennial weed which winds its way up any plant it encounters, and is almost impossible to eliminate. To carefully remove an unbroken length of its creamy-coloured root is satisfying, but usually bits break off, to soon reappear to wind round the bindweed's target again. We try and keep it under control, but once it's in your raspberry canes it's a lost cause.

These are just two of the many adversaries we encounter: pests and weeds, not to mention birds, slugs, snails. But we overcome them sufficiently to reap the rewards of successful cropping. Already we are thinking of next season's potential produce, and of setting off into the cycles of a new season.

*Graham Jones, Girton Allotment Society*

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## Bending your Neck to Confound the Laws of Physics

I have been noticing increasingly regular visits by a watchful and graceful predator of the pond life in our garden in Thornton Road. Standing motionless for extended periods, the Grey Heron waits patiently for signs of movement from its prey before striking suddenly, and then launching itself upwards in a comic, laboured fashion seeming almost to have forgotten how to fly, just making it over the fence and away.



*Photo by Garth Peacock*

There is an old fairground game involving playing cards stuck down at the bottom of a pool of water. You have to throw a coin from a distance and if the coin lands on the card you win a prize. Though not as unfair as the stuck-down coconut that can never be knocked off, nevertheless the optical effect of the light altering the position of the coin underwater makes it easy to misjudge, and, therefore, lose.

If herons were to find themselves playing this game, they'd probably do a great deal better than humans. As well as position, the refraction of the light distorts the apparent depth of an object, but their long necks, as well as evolved behaviours, seem to compensate for these optical deceptions. In a study of the Reef Heron, a similar species to our native Grey Heron, their capture of underwater prey was found to have two stages. Initially their neck stays in an S-shape, head above the level of their shoulders and bill horizontal. Then, at the exact point where they have compensated for the distortion of depth and angle, they stretch the neck forwards, turn the bill down and strike. When the prey is not submerged, the pattern is different – though

not exactly making mathematical calculations, the outcome is the same and somewhat more efficient.

Though it would undoubtedly be nice to protect the resident frog and newt population, our visiting heron does bring us a great deal of pleasure, and after all it does have to eat.

In the absence of my ability to construct verse, I'll end with a short extract from Walter Scott's *The Lady of the Lake*, one of the three times the heron gets a mention:

*'Who is this maid? what means her lay?  
She hovers o'er the hollow way,  
And flutters wide her mantle gray,  
As the lone heron spreads his wing,  
By twilight, o'er a haunted spring.'*

*James de Winter*

*ng@cambridgescience.co.uk*

### Further Reading:

A nice summary of some research into heron strikes is here: [goo.gl/E2v5dD](http://goo.gl/E2v5dD)

You can read a full version of the original printing of the *Lady of the Lake* poem here: [goo.gl/y3qrxH](http://goo.gl/y3qrxH)

## Garden Tip of the Month – January

I expect some of you have been given plants and sundries for Christmas, and are probably eager to try out your super new cutting tools! The usual line up for this time of year includes: wisterias, roses, vines, fruit trees and a host of deciduous trees and shrubs. Remember the usual cautionary note about not taking off more than 20%, nor pruning plants that will flower on last year's wood in the spring (like forsythia), nor pruning stone fruits (like cherries), that can catch the spores of the killer fungus silver leaf on cuts.

Giving plants as presents seems like a good idea, and can work out brilliantly, but it can sometimes be a bit embarrassing if, for example, it dies before you've got round to planting it, or if you can't think where there will be room for it. Generally speaking, it works best the other way round; so you realise there is a large gap in a bed in a semi-shady spot, and work out that a plant about a metre high and wide of interest in late summer will fit the bill and start looking out some possibilities

We live in uncertain times, so I think in the garden we can make prudent plans for difficult conditions, but do our best to roll with the fickle weather and make the most of fine spells.

Happy New Year!

*George Thorpe*

# GIRTON scoreboard



## Girton Bowls Club

Now that the beautiful heatwave summer is just a distant memory, bowls is probably the last thing on most members' minds. However, we do have a number of members who are playing in the Indoor/Outdoor League at Chesterton Bowls Club and, in a new venture for our Club this year, we are taking part in the Short Mat Bowls League, where most of our games are played at Cottenham Bowls Club.



*Short Mat Bowls at Cottenham*

In the Indoor/Outdoor League we are currently lying in 5th position out of a total of twelve teams. With a recent 4-2 win over Coton, this is our best season since joining the League.

The Club AGM was held on Friday 30th November at Abbeyfield. One of the decisions taken was to maintain the current rate of annual subscription at £35, match fees at £3 and roll-up fees at £2.

If you would like to follow weekly results or look at photos of events throughout 2018, or keep up to date in the 2019 season, please go to our website at [www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com](http://www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com). And if you would

like to try your hand at Bowls next season or have any questions regarding the Club please contact our Secretary Margaret McCall at [margaret.mccall@ntlworld.com](mailto:margaret.mccall@ntlworld.com).

I understand the William Collyn Community Centre is nearing completion and we are looking forward to making use of this wonderful facility, where we hope to be able to offer after-match refreshments to visiting teams during next season.

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very healthy, peaceful and prosperous New Year and good luck for the 2019 bowls season.

*Lynn McGill*



## Girton Golf Club

Writing this in early December makes it feel a little early to wish all of you a very Happy New Year in 2019, but we do, particularly to all of the playing, and expanding number of social, members of Girton Golf Club.

January is typically a quiet time of year at the Golf Club, especially this year after an amazingly busy December when we had over 1,000 people booked in for Christmas lunches and dinners. Early reports have been hugely positive about the food, service and the festive decorations. Great work by our excellent bar and catering team under the leadership of Steve Drage and Nick Cooke, alongside Ben and Trevor, our wonderful chefs. Thanks also to our brilliant bar and waiting staff for all their hard, and diligent work.

At the end of November Alan Fletcher, our Director of Golf and Head Professional, received a significant award. At the Cambridgeshire Golf Awards run by England Golf, held at Girton Golf Club, he was presented with the Judges Choice Award for his major contribution to the ongoing success of our club and the development of golfers of all ages and abilities. Congratulations, Alan!

On 1st December we held our Annual Dinner Dance and a wonderful evening was had by all. The meal was delicious and we were royally entertained by

Mix'd Tape, a great 3-piece band from Leicester.

### **Girton Golf Club Junior Academy.**

At Girton Golf Club we run a thriving pathway into Junior Golf. If your son or daughter has ever shown an interest in golf, or if you would like them to try it, please contact our Head Junior Coach Dean Saunders. Dean uses the Junior Passport scheme which is designed to let all children progress at their own speed, with each child receiving their own passport to track their progress. All sessions are games based with the emphasis on fun!!! For more information, call the Pro Shop at the golf club – 276169 – or call into the shop.

*Alan Henderson-Smith*  
Tel: 01223 276169  
[www.girtongolf.co.uk](http://www.girtongolf.co.uk)



### **Girton Colts Football Club**

Girton Colts Under 16s have been finding life a little tough in the B league after being promoted from the C league as champions last season.

However, the early season struggles were completely forgotten as the team produced an excellent performance to beat league leaders Cottenham 3–1. Goals from Alex Boyle, Charles Dryer and Jon Hanlon secured the win.

The U11s are continuing to have a good season. In recent weeks they have beaten Manea 6–2 in the league and secured an exciting draw in a friendly against Cambridge Celts, with Alex Arnold equalising in the dying minutes. However, their successful run in the plate was ended by Shelford and Stapleford.

The U9s continue to develop as a team and are thoroughly enjoying their football. They have been challenged with a run of away fixtures in the league and friendly matches against teams in higher leagues. All of which they have taken in their stride, with really positive results – most notably in the league fixtures, with a great win against Waterbeach and a narrow defeat to Isleham in very difficult conditions.

The U8s had a great month of November with a friendly win against Bottisham and an away win against Cottenham. The players are excitedly heading into the last match of the year with great anticipation. It will be interesting to see who will win player of the match for the last time this year!

The U7s continue to have a good season, winning more matches than they are losing.

Mini Kickers are looking forward to 2019. It's going to be an exciting year with the Under 6s starting to take shape, with a few friendlies coming up. Then we have the Under 5s preparing for the new year in readiness for next season

*Kevin White*



### **Girton Tennis Club**

The tennis club committee would like to wish all readers a happy and healthy 2019. Tennis is a great way to stay fit and have some fun so why not consider joining our club this year?

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. Potential new members are very welcome to come along to our Friday club nights for one or two free sessions to check it all out.

Details about our activities can be found on our website [www.girtontennisclub.uk](http://www.girtontennisclub.uk) or by contacting our Membership Secretary Kevin Keeves on 276660 or by email [info@girtontennisclub.uk](mailto:info@girtontennisclub.uk).



### **Girton Netball Club**

The Winter League is taking a break during the Christmas period. Our last match of 2018 was played against Witches3. Having thought about our spacing, lateral passing and trying

to slow down our play, we got off to a flying start and were winning by half-time. Sadly, the Witches upped their game and the match finished Witches3 31:14 Girton. Centre player Paula De Matos was named Player of the Match, unsurprisingly as she manages to get everywhere and is super speedy! This was the last match of our current Division B. The results are used to split the divisions in half, with the top three teams playing the top three teams from Division A and the bottom three teams playing the bottom three teams of Division A in the new year. Our first match of 2019 takes place on January 10th (thermals at the ready!).

*Continued on page 23 ...*

**GIRTON SOCIAL CLUB**

At 48 Cambridge Road, Girton, is a small friendly Club looking for new members. Small annual subscription with reduced rates for Senior Citizens. Children are welcome with parents. Facilities include Pool, Darts, a CD Player and Licensed Bar. Also available for members to hold functions. Open Friday to Sunday lunchtimes, & evenings from 7.30pm. Interested? Either call in and have a look around or 'phone: **01223 276890 during opening hours**



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## GIRTON scoreboard

...continued from page 21

**New Year, new time, new price** for Girton Netball Club. Starting 7th January, training sessions will be from 6.30 to 7.45pm at Girton Recreation Ground on a Monday evening, during term-time. The cost is £5 per session (first one free). Training sessions are run on a pay and play basis so you can come as and when you're able. If you would like to come along, please contact Mel at [girton.village.netball@gmail.com](mailto:girton.village.netball@gmail.com) or see our Facebook page at <http://tinyurl.com/girton-netball> for information on when and where we'll next be meeting.

*Claire Chapman*

### Girton Walking Group

#### Science Walk Part Two

The group met to continue the science walk that we had begun in the summer. We started at Herschel Road, named for John Herschel, renowned for astronomy, photography, and the theory of science. We stopped by but could not enter Gonville and Caius College, which has 14 Nobel prizes in all.

Blue plaques in King's Parade commemorate George Cunningham, the father of preventative dentistry, and Alan Turing, the creator of theoretical computer science. Farther south is the Hawking family's house at 6 Little St Mary's Lane. The Eagle pub in Benet Street has a blue plaque commemorating Crick and Watson's discovery of the structure of DNA. In Free School Lane is a plaque commemorating the Old Cavendish, where 29 of Cambridge's Nobel prizewinners worked. At the New Museums Site is a lab built for ultra-low temperature physics, in particular to house Pyotr Kapitsa, a leading Soviet physicist. Back in Free School Lane, a plaque on the left celebrates J.J. Thompson and his discovery of the electron. In Pembroke Street you can look up to spot four coats of arms, celebrating Francis Bacon, Isaac Newton, William Herschel and William Wollaston.

Back on the New Museums Site, a building on the left used to house the Cockcroft Lecture Theatre, named after John Cockcroft, who together with Ernest Walton

carried out the first artificial splitting of the atom in 1932. On the right is the Zoology department, with the main part now called the David Attenborough Building. The recently re-opened Zoology Museum is also here.

We then headed for Christ's College, and visited the Darwin Garden with a statue of a young Charles Darwin perched on a bench. Another student at Christ's was Robert Oppenheimer, known as the leader of the Manhattan Project to develop a nuclear bomb. Then Trinity, whose Nobel Prizewinners number 32 – only the US, Germany and France have more!

St John's College boasts two notable scientists: First, Paul Dirac (who won the Nobel prize in 1933) was a hugely influential physicist, but much less well-known. There is, it seems, nothing in Cambridge named after Dirac, although he spent most of his career here. Second, Roger Penrose, a mathematical physicist and colleague of Hawking's. There is a small section of Penrose tiling outside the college library; this is constructed from just two carefully designed shapes so that the pattern never repeats, however large an area is tiled.



*The Girton walking group with their new friend Charles Darwin*

This was another outstanding walk, very informative and entertaining as last time, and the group would like to record its thanks to John Cook for all his hard work preparing it.

*Gina Lane*

*[This is a short version of the description of the walk - a full version can be found on the Village website, containing many additional interesting details.]*

## Girton College

Huntingdon Road  
Cambridge  
CB3 0JG

### HOUSEKEEPER: MISTRESS' RESIDENCE

Salary £19,305 per annum pro rata  
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Hours to be worked ideally over 5 days, 2 hours a day (further discussions to be had at interview stage)

An opportunity has arisen to appoint a permanent Housekeeper to look after the Mistress' Residence at Girton College.

This role would suit a motivated individual who takes great pride in their work, and who would enjoy working in a beautiful and interesting environment.

The successful candidate will need to be able to demonstrate previous housekeeping/cleaning experience gained within a domestic setting in addition to flexibility and a strong work ethic.

The College offers 34 days paid holiday per year pro rata, pension scheme, on-site parking, use of gym and swimming pool, free lunch plus other benefits commensurate with working for a large Cambridge University College.

A full information pack, including application form (no cvs please), is available from the College website at [www.girton.cam.ac.uk/vacancies](http://www.girton.cam.ac.uk/vacancies) or email [recruitment@girton.cam.ac.uk](mailto:recruitment@girton.cam.ac.uk) / telephone 01223 339244 / 339891. Please quote job reference 300.

**Please note that this appointment is subject to a basic level DBS clearance.**

**Closing date for applications: 9am on Friday 25 January, 2019.** We are expecting to hold interviews on Monday 04 February 2019. Please note that the interview process may include a second stage during which candidates will receive a tour of the flat and meet the Mistress.

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## Have you ever asked yourself ...

... how the *Girton Parish News* gets to you each month?

**Step One** Editor Angela Blackburn sends out a reminder of the deadline for next month's issue to all the regular contributors – from the Parish Council (page 5) to the Churches (pages 31–33), via the Sports Clubs, the Garden Society, Girton Town Charity, the Glebe School, and as many other village organisations or individuals we think may have something to contribute.

**Step Two** Meanwhile, Marion Fisher, our Advertising Manager, is collecting together all the advertisements that have to go in that issue, and making sure they have been paid for. This is what keeps us afloat – but we also hope we help our advertisers!

**Step Three** When the contributions come in (including announcements about Forthcoming Events in the village), they are edited by Angela with the help of Carol Huxley and sent on to that month's typesetter to be made up into pages. Marion also sends the ads on to the typesetter. Currently our typesetters are Claire Lightley, Bill Rothwell, and Sam Clift, although we are hoping to recruit one more!

**Step Four** The typesetter sends out proofs to our regular proofreaders, who are all listed on page 3 of the *Girton Parish News*. They do a terrific job of spotting errors and returning their marked-up proofs to the typesetter in record time.

**Step Five** The typesetter makes the corrections that have been spotted by the proofreaders, does a final check and sends the issue (electronically, of course) to our printer Victoire at Bar Hill.



*Roger Mason, Rosemary Jones, and Derek from Victoire.*

**Step Six** Thursday is the usual day when the printer's van arrives at the church porch and delivers 21 boxes of magazines to our Distribution Manager, Rosemary Jones. The boxes are then collected by trolley, wheelbarrow or strong arms by our four stalwart deliverers (Jacques and Margaret Wheatley, Alastair Lorimer, Martin Harnor and Roger Mason), to be counted out – all 2040 copies – to be taken round the village. They are then pushed through letterboxes by 60 volunteers – you may be one of them – so that everyone in Girton has a copy.



*That's a lot of boxes! Margaret Wheatley doing some of the heavy work with a wheelbarrow.*

We are always looking for volunteers to help with distribution and Rosemary is always happy to add people to the reserve list.

The magazine has evolved over the years to what we have now – a 36 page colour issue – and we have all those people to thank who have contributed in many ways in the past. We are proud to have received the following awards in the Cambridge Building Society's annual Community Magazine Awards:

**2014** – Most Improved Magazine

**2015** – Best Editorial (for an article in the Natural Girton series)

**2016** – Silver Award in the High Frequency Magazine category

**2018** – Bronze Award in the High Frequency Magazine category.

But we can do better! Let us have YOUR suggestions – especially if you are willing to write or edit a column or feature that will inform, amuse or entertain a group in the village we don't currently reach!

*Angela Blackburn*



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**CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**  
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**Cambridge Fire and Rescue**

**Happy New Year to all!** It's time for making your New Year Resolutions, so why not find out how to keep your family safe in your home.

At Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service, we are encouraging people to make four New Year's Resolutions for 2019 to keep your families and homes safe from fire.

- **Make sure you have a correctly fitted working smoke alarm on every floor of your house and test it weekly** – involve the children in this to ensure they are aware of what the smoke alarm does, what the alarm sounds like and what it means if it goes off.
- **Check older relatives and friends have a working smoke alarm and test theirs regularly** – you may support older relatives and friends with transport and shopping but may overlook the crucial role of a smoke alarm. We can provide testing sticks to help older or less mobile people to test their alarms without overreaching or hurting themselves.
- We also offer **Safe and Well visits** to those who are eligible which covers a far wider range of areas than just fire safety. Find out if you are eligible for a Safe and Well visit by contacting us on 0800 917 9994.
- **Escape Plan:** Make a fire escape plan so you and all of those in your home know what to do in case a fire breaks out in the home.

Like us on Facebook for regular updates [www.facebook.com/cambsfrs](http://www.facebook.com/cambsfrs) or follow us on Twitter @cambsfrs. For more information or to get in touch contact us at [firefire@cambsfire.gov.uk](mailto:firefire@cambsfire.gov.uk) or on 0800 9179994.

**William Collyn  
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Manager  
Girton, Cambridge**



**Full-time (35 hours per week including some evening and weekend work)**

**In the range of £28,221 - £33,136 per annum**

Cambridgeshire ACRE is working on behalf of the Girton Town Charity to set-up, manage and run its William Collyn Community Centre, a new, purpose-built community facility for Girton.

The Community Centre Manager will play a key role in managing and ensuring the smooth running of the William Collyn Community Centre. Important aspects of the job are to develop the business; to maximise use of the available facilities; and to identify new opportunities by means of effective marketing, networking and innovative solutions. The Manager will work to ensure the Centre is a vibrant, well-managed facility that operates for the benefit of local residents and organisations.

The Manager will be given a high degree of autonomy and will need to be self-motivated. The Centre Manager will be managed to achieve his/her full potential within the role, with mentoring support being provided in the more practical aspects of the role.

The successful applicant is likely to have experience of working with people and community groups in a front-facing role, organising events, running marketing and engagement campaigns as well as managing digital communication channels including websites, Facebook and Twitter.

You'll need a professional attitude and approach to the management of the Centre, first rate customer service skills, a positive approach to team-working and be confident, innovative and able to work under pressure.

For full job details and information about how to apply, go to [www.cambsacre.org.uk/jobs.php](http://www.cambsacre.org.uk/jobs.php). The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Thursday 24 January 2019. Interviews will be held on Tuesday 5 February 2019 in Girton – please ensure you can be available on this date before applying. For an informal discussion about the role, please contact Alison Brown, Head of Business Services, on tel: 01353 865029 or email: [alison.brown@cambsacre.org.uk](mailto:alison.brown@cambsacre.org.uk).



## Schemes and Grants to help you through the Winter

The Winter months can be a more challenging time for some Village residents, with colder weather, darker days and more difficult conditions for getting around. Girton Town Charity supports a range of different Schemes and Grants which may help – here's a summary of what is on offer..

### Hospital Taxi Scheme

For Girton residents who have problems using public transport, do not have their own transport or find it difficult to use their own car, the Hospital Taxi Scheme enables them to get to outpatient appointments at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Brookfields Hospital or Chesterton Hospital.

An annual registration fee of £6 is payable and then taxi fares are capped at £7 for each return trip. This service is carried out by the Girton taxi companies: Nelsons and Wendy Barrett to whom the Charity is very grateful.

### CarePlus Grant Scheme

This is for people in the Village and their carers and is to assist independent living, providing short-term additional care to suit the individual's need over and above any statutory care to which the applicant is entitled. The Grant also aims to help residents return home from hospital as soon as possible, responding quickly at a time of need.

Application is by referral, with care worth up to £1,700 per calendar year provided by one of two care professionals nominated by GTC – Avaiil and Home Instead. Over the last 12 months 17 residents benefitted from the Scheme.

### Cambridge Dial-A-Ride

This entitles residents to low-cost local transport, once they have paid the annual membership fee of £10. Dial-A-Ride offers the chance to travel around the City to attend day centres or community groups, as well as appointments at the doctor, dentist or hairdresser or for shopping, visiting friends or relatives.

### Community Warden

Working in partnership with Age UK Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, GTC funds a Community Warden to assist older people living in their own homes to continue an independent lifestyle and to complement the work of statutory services.

Contact Gail (Monday to Thursday) on 07979 333963 or Fiona (Thursday to Friday) on 07967 827843.

### Prescription Service

GTC funds a Prescription Delivery Service, run by the pharmacists at the GP practices at Pepys Way and Huntingdon Road Surgeries which is available for those



Girton patients living within the Pepys Way dispensing area who are unable, through reason of incapacity, to collect their dispensed medicines.

If you feel you could benefit from any of the above Schemes and Grants, please contact the GTC Office.

## Project update

### William Collyn Community Centre

The construction work is more or less complete. During the next few weeks phone and media connections will be installed, while Health and Safety checks and equipment are put in place. Cambridgeshire ACRE, our partner implementing the William Collyn Centre, is advertising for a Centre Manager and once in post, we will be organising a formal opening as well as an Open Day.

### Golden Goose Railings

The bus shelter and footpath were completed at the start of December and we anticipate the Golden Goose Railings will be in place by Christmas.

### WI Hall Site

With construction completed at the William Collyn Centre, Trustees can now turn their attention to the new Almshouses on this site and look forward to work commencing during the next year.

### High Street Development.

Changes within the Planning Department at SCDC have resulted in delays in progressing the Planning Application.

(Note: information correct at the time of writing - 6th December 2018 - due to early GPN copy deadline.)

## Educational Grants 2019

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

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

Payment date for grant applications received will be July 2019.

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.

\* Terms and conditions apply

## WILLIAM COLLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE

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

During the next few weeks, the interior will be completed, and Cambridgeshire ACRE, our partner implementing the William Collyn Centre, is advertising for a Centre Manager. Once this person is in post, GTC will be organising a formal opening as well as an Open Day for the Village to drop in and find out more about this exciting new Community building.

In the meantime, if you would like to make a booking for 2019 or have any other enquiry, please contact Girton Town Charity:

01223 276008  
email: [info@williamcollyn.co.uk](mailto:info@williamcollyn.co.uk)

## Two family homes available for limited term appointment

Two homes located in Centenary Court, Wellbrook Way are available for three year appointments.

These properties are suitable for families. They have a fitted kitchen, large living room, two/three bedrooms and a small garden. Green features include solar panels, triple glazed windows, enhanced thermal insulation and a heat recovery system.

Applications are invited from residents of Girton or those having a close connection with the Village, who meet qualifications laid down by the Charity Commissioners.

Further information if required, may be obtained from any Trustee.

Applications should be made in writing, preferably using the application form available from the GTC Office. These must be returned by 21st January 2019 latest. Interview will take place on 28th January 2019.

Contact information for GTC is given below.

The Town Charity exists for purposes which include the relief of need in Girton, either individually or collectively, or the support of any charitable purpose for the benefit of the inhabitants of Girton.

Enquiries on behalf of individuals or Village organisations may be made in confidence and addressed to any of the Trustees below:

Dr Robin Hiley (Chairman) 1 Fairway Girton CB3 0QF t:277296  
Ann Bonnett (Vice Chair) 41 Church Lane Girton CB3 0JW t:276354  
Marc Bermann Huntingfields Huntingdon Rd Girton CB3 0LH t: 277319  
Yvonne Higgons 121 Thornton Road Girton CB3 0NE t:500886  
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

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)



### Stay Stronger for Longer

This year there will be a national

campaign to encourage and urge everyone to do strength and balance exercises and this will apply to younger as well as older people. I have plenty more Super Six leaflets to give away so a really good (and healthy) New Year resolution would be to do these simple exercises on a regular basis.

The two Strength and Balance classes continue to run at 10.30am every Wednesday in Gretton Court and 10.30am every Thursday in Orchard Close Community Room.

The next local Functional MOT session will be held in the afternoon of Wednesday 16th January in the Community Room, Franklin Gardens, Cottenham. To arrange a time phone Ellen on 01954 713294 or email her at [ellen.bridges@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:ellen.bridges@scambs.gov.uk).

**‘Too many of us feel isolated, strange or invisible. Conversation helps end that,’** writes MJ Wheatley in *Turning to One Another*.

Conversations matter, whether phone calls or face to face, in depth discussions or casual chats in a shop or on the bus. They are particularly important for those of us who don’t get out and about much.

In Girton, we are fortunate to have local people who want to visit and talk with residents in their own homes. Currently, we have more volunteers than participants so I would love to hear from anyone who would consider having a weekly visitor. As volunteers with AgeUK Sharing Time they are all appropriately vetted and checked. Please get in touch with any questions you might have.

Thank you to the volunteers who have been visiting Girton residents during 2018 and here’s to many more partnerships being formed in 2019.

### Assistive Technology and Mobility Aids

Assistive technology is an umbrella term for assistive, adaptive, and rehabilitative devices to enable and empower people to live as independently as possible. Suitable mobility equipment is something I am regularly asked about.

So, I am planning to hold an information session on these important aspects of life possibly in February or early March. Look in the Parish News next month for further information.

### Last and not least ...

More volunteer drivers from Girton are really needed for the Histon, Impington and Girton Community Car Scheme which is known as HIGS for short. Let me know if you can spare a few weekday hours each week or each fortnight. Thank you.

*Patricia Johnston* Older Residents’ Co-ordinator  
Tel: 07469 660 866



### 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)



### Problem? Need advice?

We give free, confidential, impartial and independent advice and help on a wide range of issues.

Come and see our friendly staff at the Girton drop-in service at **St Vincent Close Community Centre** on **Wednesday** between **1-4pm**.



Service funded by the Girton Town Charity

Cambridge & District CAB is a registered charity no. 1056102, authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority FRN 617537.

# Girton Baptist Church



## AN OPEN DOOR

Childhood memories take me back to an Easter holiday spent in an old mansion house in the Border country of Scotland. Our lady hostess was surprisingly generous in her 'freedom to roam' licence and there was much to explore. To my delight, two little secret doors were waiting unlocked and ready to fire a child's imagination. One door was located in an upper bedroom, leading to an attic storeroom running along the roof space with skylight windows. It was filled with an assortment of discarded artefacts and pieces of antique furniture from bygone days when family history was in the making.

The other door was discovered at the far end of an extensive garden, ivy covered and neglected, reminiscent of the locked entrance to The Secret Garden, a heart-warming story of love and triumph over disaster, illness and prejudice. The door to that garden was found by Mary, a sad and lonely child, and it became the gateway to a fulfilling change in her life. The first impact is described thus: 'Once inside she stood with her back against it [the door] and breathing quite fast with excitement and wonder and delight ... she could come through the door under the ivy any time, and she felt as if she had found a world all her own.'

The story brings together a group of disparate characters, adults and children motivated by compassion and united in determination to bring about a happy result for their efforts and a future full of hope.

Such too were the plans of a group of friends who cared for a paralysed man in the time of Jesus. They longed to help him. Hearing that Jesus had healed many of their diseases and that he would be at a particular venue, they arrived, earnestly hoping for a miracle. Finding that the doorway was blocked by a thronging crowd, they made a hole in the roof

and lowered the makeshift stretcher to the place where Jesus stood. When he saw their faith, he rewarded it with healing and a whole new life began for the disabled friend.

In John ch.10, we read the words of Jesus: *'I am the door; whoever enters through me will be saved. He (or she) will come in and go out and find pasture. I have come that they [the flock] may have life and have it to the full.'*

As we close another year and look through the mist of the new year rising, with all its unknown opportunities and sometimes daunting events, we may take endless comfort and assurance each new day, that the Shepherd of our souls is the One who stands at the entrance. He has expressed his desire and purpose that we may have life through faith in his redeeming death and resurrection and the sustaining joy of peace with God.

Perhaps, as you look ahead, you can see as a metaphor, the unlocking of the door to the Secret Garden. It became a place of production, shared interests and goals reached, obstacles overcome, and new skills discovered. New links and associations may be waiting just over the horizon, along with the satisfaction of deepening existing ones.

Here, to make our own, is the Novena prayer for each one who stands at the open door of the future, either with eager anticipation, or hesitating with concerns.

*'O God of invitation  
as we stand at the door,  
as we ask the hard questions,  
as we search you out,  
may we sense you already at work  
preparing a feast of answers  
drawing us over the threshold  
and satisfying all our hungers.'*

Happy New Year.

*Iris Niven*



### Comberton Ramblers Club

The Comberton Ramblers Club walk on alternate Sundays. Our Spring 2019 Walk Programme starts:

**13th January 2019** – Abington Piggotts, 6 Miles.

**27th January 2019** – Therfield, 5.5 Miles.

All walks start at 10.15 a.m. Walks are from 5 - 7 miles, usually ending near a public house.

We are a friendly/informative group and enjoy exploring the varied countryside in this area. New walkers are welcome to join us with up to 2 free walks, and if you enjoy our walks we request that you become a member.

For further details on how to join our sociable rambling group please contact Stella – The Secretary.

Email: [stella.ramblers@hotmail.com](mailto:stella.ramblers@hotmail.com)

[www.combertonramblers.org.uk](http://www.combertonramblers.org.uk)

Tel: 01954 210049



### 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

### Bert Collacott (1926–2018)

At the time of his death last August Bert Collacott had lived in Girton for 56 years. He served on both the Parish Council and the Girton Town Charity but his lasting memorial may be the changes to the fields at the north end of the village where, in retirement, he established the riding stables.



*Before*



*After*

The photographs are 'before and after' pictures of Oakington Road taken from the bridge. What was once a bare and dreary landscape has been transformed by the many thousands of trees and hedging plants that he planted. (We have also gained a cycle path and some footpaths). The photos are, I think, spring 1991 and October 2018.

*Tim Sparks*



## St Andrew's Church

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

**Associate Priest:** The Revd Christine Barrow  
 Tel: 575089 Email: [mcbarrow@me.com](mailto:mcbarrow@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: January

<b>6th</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	Holy Communion
	<b>7.00pm</b>	Taizé Worship
<b>13th</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	BCP Holy Communion
	<b>10.00am</b>	All Age Family Worship
	<b>6.00pm</b>	Evensong
<b>20th</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	BCP Holy Communion
	<b>10.00am</b>	Holy Communion
	<b>6.00pm</b>	Evensong
<b>27th</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	BCP Holy Communion
	<b>10.00am</b>	Morning Prayer

### Weekday Services: January

**Monday 7th, 11am** Way of Life Course  
 at Abbeyfield Girton Green

**Tuesday 8th, 2.30pm** Service of Holy Communion  
 at Abbeyfield Girton Green

**Thursday 31st, 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](http://www.girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk)

### Sunday Services: January

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.

<b>6th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	Morning Worship
	<b>6.30pm</b>	Evening Worship with Communion
<b>13th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	Morning Worship led by John Searle
<b>20th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	Morning Worship with Communion
	<b>6.30pm</b>	Evening Worship
<b>27th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	Morning Worship
	<b>6.30pm</b>	Evening Worship

[www.girtonbaptistchurch.co.uk](http://www.girtonbaptistchurch.co.uk)  
 103 Hight Street Girton CB3 0QQ

**Messy Church**

**Crafts**

**January - Thursday 10**  
 Messy Science

**February - Thursday 14**  
 Jesus and the Children

**March - Thursday 14**  
 The Great Parade

**Friends**

**Food**

Doors open at 3.30pm

**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  
Gill Cockley, 73 Cambridge Road, Tel: 276703  
Julie Dashwood, 36 High Street, Tel: 276590  
Douglas de Lacey, 9 Woodlands Park, Tel: 565219  
Roger Hickford, Manor Farm, Manor Farm Road, Tel: 07985 770082  
Anne Kettle, 11 Redgate Road, Tel: 277505  
John Thorrold, 53 Cambridge Road, Tel: 276760  
Bernard Townshend, 15 Churchfield Court, Tel: 564919  
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  
[cldr@bygott.net](mailto:cldr@bygott.net)  
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

### Thursday 24th January

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

Thursday 10 January	Black bin
Thursday 17 January	Blue and Green bins
Thursday 24 January	Black bin
Thursday 31 January	Blue bin only

## Carpet & Vinyl Fitter

Pattern Book Service Free Quotes  
No Obligation

**John Spencer**

18 Dodford Lane, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0QE

07454 697870

johnspencer.flooring@yahoo.com

## Gruffs (based in Girton)

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Jason Martin 07854 382003  
gruffsdogs@gmail.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

[www.wendyjanepilates.co.uk](http://www.wendyjanepilates.co.uk)  
[hello@wendyjanepilates.co.uk](mailto:hello@wendyjanepilates.co.uk)  
Wendy 07946 637396

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**Louie Holliday**

10 High Street Girton Cambridge CB3 0PU  
Tel: 01223 277710 Mobile: 07980475856

  
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[jadwiga123@btinternet.com](mailto:jadwiga123@btinternet.com)

## Wendy's of Girton

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Phone: 528675  
or 07815 057 202  
Email: [w99wg@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:w99wg@yahoo.co.uk)



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

### All year round

- For students aged 16+
- For professional students aged 25+
- January-May & Summer young students aged 13+
- Good weekly rates – over £316 per week for twin room

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

### Interested in becoming a host?

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



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

Cambridge **CAE** Academy of English

# Nursery & Forest School

Sallywags 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 for our pre-school children 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 Sallywags or would like to arrange a visit please contact us on 01223 232400 or [enquiries@sallywagsdaynursery.com](mailto:enquiries@sallywagsdaynursery.com) or go to [www.sallywagsdaynursery.com](http://www.sallywagsdaynursery.com)



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**Sallywags**  
daynursery.com

Westwick Hall Farm, Westwick, Oakington, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB24 3AR 48 Cambridge Road, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0PJ