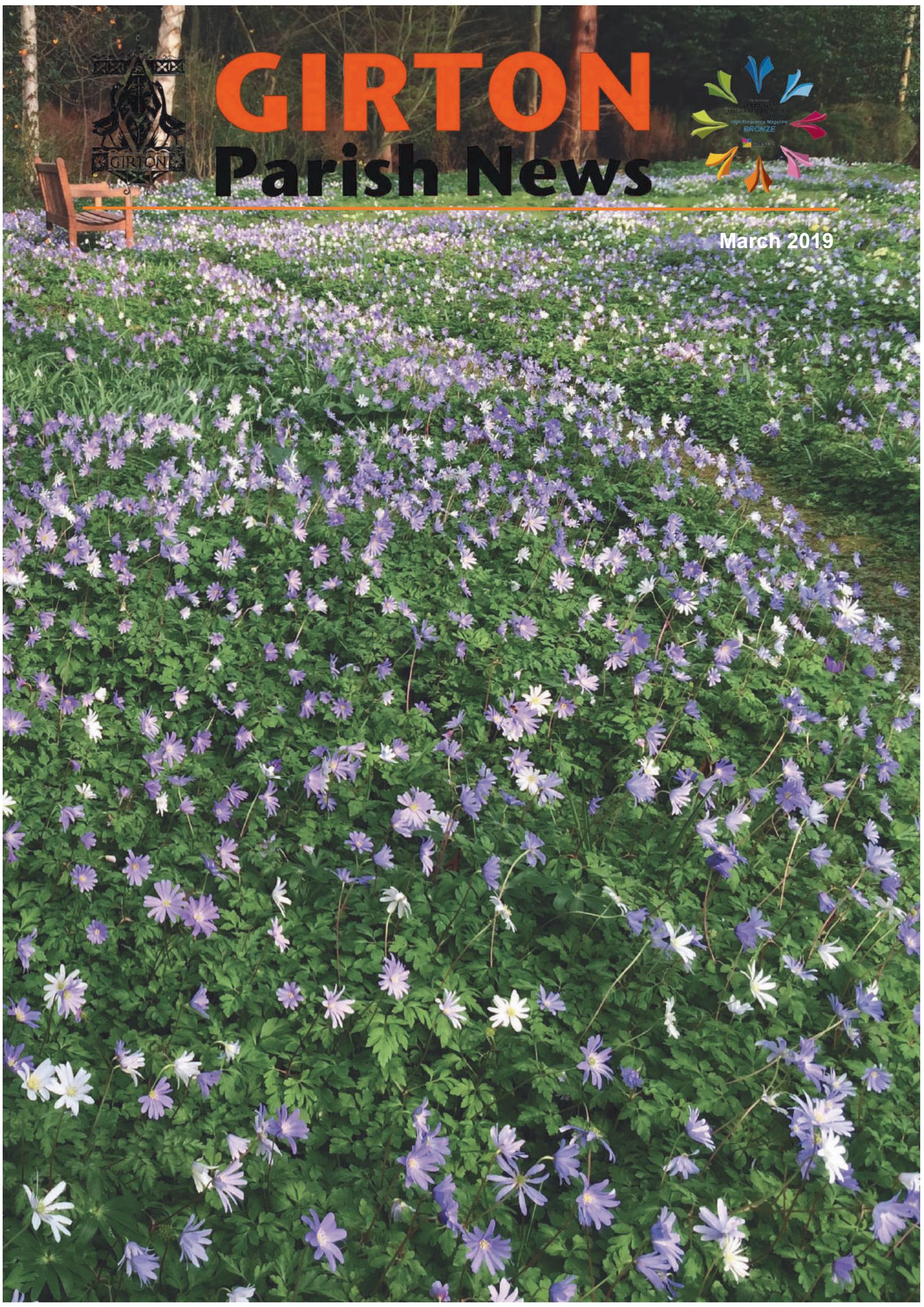


GIRTON

Parish News



March 2019



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Publication Information

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

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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 Sam Clift, Andrew Hawkes, 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

March

- Fri. 1 Rotary Memory Café**, 10am–12 noon
St Vincent's Close Community Centre
Girton Musical Theatre, The Gondoliers, Girton Glebe School, 7.30pm
- Sat. 2 Girton Walking Group**, Stapleford–Babraham
Meet at The Rose pub, Stapleford, 10am
Girton Musical Theatre, The Gondoliers, Girton Glebe School, 2.30 and 7.30pm
- Sun. 3 Girton College Music Society**, Stanley Library, 2.30pm
Recitalists in Concert
- Wed. 6 Girton WI**, Annual Meeting, Abbeyfield, 7.30pm
- Thu. 7 Girton College Music Society**, Stanley Library, 9.15pm
Concert in aid of RAG
- Fri. 8 Early Birds WI**, CFWI Office, Oakington Rd, 10am
Justin Agnes – Growing Together: A Development Project in Sudan
- Sat. 9 FOGG Jumble Sale**, 11am–1pm, Girton Glebe School
- Sun. 10 Girton College Music Society**, Old Hall, 2.30pm
Junior Prime Brass
- Thu. 14 Club 55**, St Vincent's Close, 12 noon, Film, 'On Chesil Beach'
Girton Garden Society, St Vincent's Close, 7.30pm
Garden Birds – Rebecca Saunders
- Sat. 16 FOGG Quiz Night**, 7.30pm, Girton Glebe School
- Sun. 17 Girton College Music Society**, Stanley Library, 2.30pm
Amaranth Trio
- Tue. 19 Parish Council Meeting**, 7.00pm, St Vincent's Close Community Centre
- Wed. 20 Club 55**, 12 for 12.30pm
Lunch at the Rose and Crown, Histon
- Fri. 29 Craft Club**, Orchard Close, 2–4pm, All welcome
- Sat. 30 Girton Churchyard Volunteers**, Work Party
St Andrew's Churchyard, 10am–12 noon
William Collyn Centre, Wellbrook Way, Open Day 12–6.30pm

April

- Wed. 3 Girton WI**, Abbeyfield, 7.30pm, Titanic – Robert Burridge
- Fri. 5 Rotary Memory Café**, 10am–12 noon
St Vincent's Close Community Centre
- Sat. 6 Girton Walking Group**, along Coldham's Brook
Meet Newmarket Road P&R, 10am

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Copy date for April issue: Wed. 20 March. Issue date: Sat. 6 April. Covers 6 April–3 May.



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Girton Parish Council

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

The submission deadline for this edition comes before the February Parish Council Meeting, but items for discussion will include approval of contractors for CCTV installation and maintenance work, and responses to the Bedford-Cambridge Rail Link Consultation (which closes on 11th March) and Madingley Parish Council's Local Highways Improvements Grants Application. The Council will also receive an update regarding a new community website for the village, and we are most grateful to Alison Giles who has led the development of this.

As an interim measure to attempt to improve our communication with the village on matters of urgency we have initiated a Twitter account '@GorgeousGirton'. Residents are urged to follow this to maximise coverage in the village.

Following a spate of burglaries from sheds, outbuildings and one house at the end of January, residents are urged to ensure that their properties are as well secured as possible. It is regrettable that the pressures on resources of our Police Force dictate that such matters cannot be given any priority.

We have been notified of concerns that some domestic hedges are intruding onto public pavements/pathways and residents are urged to cut them back before the start of the nesting season.

A further spate of cycling mishaps at the junction of High Street and Cambridge Road near the Language School have highlighted the need for the remedial measures which are in the pipeline to be completed urgently. Following the recent works to the pavement at the Girton Corner end of the village, Cllrs. Harford, Hickford, de Lacey and the Chairman are to review all 'highways' improvement requirements for the village and develop a plan for priorities and implementation.

Noticeboard key

One of the parish noticeboard keys has not been returned to the Parish Office after a resident used it. If you have the key, could you please return it to the Parish post-box (on the side of the Pavilion facing Girton Glebe School) as soon as possible. Many thanks.

Next meetings

The next Parish Council meetings will be held at St Vincent's Close Community Centre at 7.00pm on Tuesday 19th March and Tuesday 16th April. 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.

GPN DELIVERY

Help needed to deliver copies of the *Girton Parish News* in Thornton Road. Our stalwart friends who have been doing this for many years feel they must now 'retire' so we need someone to deliver 56 copies once a month.

If you can help, please get in touch.

Rosemary Jones

Tel: 276491

E: rosemary.jones987@gmail.com

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From Our Councillors

County Councillor Lynda Harford

The County Council met at the beginning of this month to approve its budget and set council tax for 2019/20 in the context of its 5 year business plan. The overall objective is to continue to protect and invest in vital services whilst using service transformation, efficiency, investment and commercialisation to offset cuts in funding. Transformation of the way the Council works is a key factor in delivering best value for money, and to support this the budget includes an increase of £4.764m in the transformation fund. The Council will also carry forward the £9.1m remaining balance of the smoothing fund that was created last year which will continue to act as a contingency, as it did recently when £3.4m was used to safeguard children's services in the face of rising demand. The Council's commercial projects to date are due to return a profit of £11.2m in 2019/20 including £1m from the Soham solar farm which this year met its annual £1m income target 2 months ahead of schedule. The money derived from commercial activities is a key element of the funding required to support delivery of front-line services. This month saw a proposal to generate solar power at Babraham Park & Ride which would involve putting carports over parking spaces to support solar panels. A planning application will be made in 2019 with construction planned to start in 2020. Reductions in Government funding continue to be a challenge for the short/medium term. The decision has therefore been taken for 2019/20 to raise council tax by 2.99%, the Government's proposed maximum, in addition to the 2% precept for social care. This will allow increased budgets to be allocated to services that support vulnerable adults and children and to highways maintenance.

Concern has recently been raised with me about possible changes to local bus services. I believe the concern has arisen due to misinterpretation of information relating to the way bus services are funded. The current situation is that responsibility for bus services now lies with the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) which levies the County Council (CCC) for the cost of bus contracts. Until the CPCA completes its review of bus services, it is effectively returning the levy for 2019/20 and CCC will continue to maintain the requisite contracts for that time. I have confirmed that the tender specification will be for exactly the services that are currently provided. However, I have asked to be kept updated on progress towards awarding the contracts to ascertain that the successful provider's bid exactly mirrors that specification. I am not though aware that any of the routes being retendered affect Girton's bus services.

There are a couple of consultations taking place at the moment that you may be interested in responding to:

The **Greater Cambridge Partnership's** consultation on the Cambourne to Cambridge busway – Phase 2 is open for comment until 31 March 2019. Full details: www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/cambourne-to-cambridge/cambourne-to-cambridge-phase-2/

East West Rail's consultation on the route options for Bedford to Cambridge which is open for comment until 11 March 2019: eastwestrail.co.uk/haveyoursay

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

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

District Councillor Tom Bygott

Increase in Council Tax on empty homes

The South Cambridgeshire District Council Cabinet has recommended an increase in Council Tax on properties that are left empty. This is scheduled to be decided by the full Council on 22nd February. There is currently a 50% Council Tax surcharge on properties that are left empty, which will be replaced by:

- From 1 April 2019, double tax on homes that are empty for two years or more
- From 1 April 2020, triple tax on homes that are empty for five years or more
- From 1 April 2021, quadruple tax on homes that are empty for ten years or more

So, after 10 years a Band D property would attract £6,982 Council Tax a year, or £13,964 for Band H, using the 2018–19 rates.

Their plan is to discourage property owners from not renting out properties that could be rented out. There are currently 180 properties in the District that have been empty for two years or more, a low number by national standards, or about 4.5% of the size of the housing waiting list.

Many of our housing problems are caused by 'land banking', where developers get planning permission and then wait many years before building the houses. Householders who apply for planning permission must start building within three years or lose their permission, but developers are allowed to delay indefinitely. Fixing that problem would have a much greater impact on our limited supply of housing than increasing these penalties much further.

These charges do not apply to second homes, and there are exemptions and discounts for many types of situations, such as during probate (after the death of the owner), or if the owner is in a nursing home or hospital, or away caring for someone. These are set out in more detail in a document called Understanding Your Council Tax Bill, sent with each tax bill and available at: tinyurl.com/SCambsTaxDesc

Brexit preparation update

Following on from my story last month about preparing for a No Deal Brexit, I have found that International Driving Permits are available at Histon Post Office (for £5.50).

There is one additional item for the list: EU countries may refuse to recognise the GB letters on a number plate when

accompanied by an EU flag. This can be rectified either by using a GB sticker (available at Halfords for £2.39) or replacing the number plates with the Union Flag GB design (from £16 at Halfords).

The full list of official government advice can be found at: www.gov.uk/prepare-eu-exit

East West Rail route consultation

A consultation is open until 11th March on the route of the East-West Rail between Bedford and Cambridge. There are five specific options being reviewed – three via Bassingbourn and two via Cambourne. In Bassingbourn there is strong local opposition to their local routes, and an organisation promoting a route between Dry Drayton and Maddingley, and between Oakington and Girton: www.cambedrailroad.org

This route doesn't feature in the five options, but oddly enough forms the northern boundary of the main map of the consultation area. It is important that we make clear that we value our countryside as well. To take part in the consultation, visit: eastwestrail.co.uk/haveyoursay

Copies of the Consultation Document and Technical Report can be read on paper at South Cambridgeshire District Council office in Cambourne, or at the City Council Regent Street office, and a written form filled in.

Cllr Tom Bygott
cllr@bygott.net
07765 475 513

A View From the District

We began the Civic year on 9 January with a 200-page Cabinet agenda. The major item was an Area Action Plan (AAP) for Cambridge Northern Fringe (CNF), the land south of the A14 from the Science Park to the new railway station. Assuming the water works can be relocated it would represent a major new development. The AAP will be, like the Local Plan, a major basis for our decisions on development. We made a large number of suggested improvements, and the Plan now goes out for consultation. We then looked at our joint (City and SCDC) Statement of Community Involvement: a comprehensive statement of how we shall consult on our future plans. Consultations may be tiresome to read and respond to, but we do take responses seriously.

SCDC has launched mysouthcambs.scambs.gov.uk which is a new customer portal. While intended to reduce pressure on staff, it should actually enable 'customers' (you, dear reader!) to get the information they really need more quickly and easily than through the help-desk. I am innately sceptical about such claims but it does look well-designed; please comment to me if you use it.

The Town Charity's application for Michael's Close went to Planning Committee on 16 January, and was rejected on a majority vote. This will delight the neighbours, but disappoint 17 people with Girton connections who might have found affordable homes through the scheme.

Another massive agenda (405 pages) for Scrutiny on 22 January. The major item was a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD, one down from an AAP) for Waterbeach, and it was good to have immediate feedback – albeit not precisely positive – from two public speakers, the Chairman of the Waterbeach Parish Planning Committee and a representative of the Waterbeach Cycling Campaign. It now goes to Cabinet with our comments. We then scrutinised the draft budget and Cabinet's business plan, and it was really good to see Cabinet members (more than half sat through our 4+-hour meeting) taking notes and clearly taking our views on board. These also go to Cabinet.

The Joint Development Control Committee has had a developer presentation on the hotel planned for Eddington. We challenged (of course!) the parking provisions and were told that guest car parking must be booked with a room booking: this will allow proper allocation for electrical vehicles. There is an over-provision of 20% on cycle parking.

On 23 January we had an evening to celebrate staff achievement. Staff could nominate each other (and we could nominate staff) for 5 excellence awards: 'Star of 2018'; 'Community Champion'; 'Innovation Award'; 'Newcomer of the Year' and 'Team of the Year' – I am delighted that the last went to our waste collection service team who had a particularly difficult year, weather-wise, in 2018. We offered a hog-roast (with suitable alternatives) and I believe that a good time was had by all.

On 26 January I attended the Winter Fair in St Giles' Church where two charities were raising money for their causes and had asked me to speak. CamCrag takes food, shelter and clothing to the refugees still hopelessly camping around Calais while the Whitworth Trust runs a home for vulnerable and homeless young women in Cambridge. Only days before, Whitworth was told that this home will have to close under County Council cuts. Between them they raised over £11,000 through the Fair and a sponsored sleep-out, on one of the windiest, wettest nights of the year so far. They did not press me to join them for the sleep-out, though my PA had kindly(?) offered me a sleeping bag.

February 6 was Cabinet: 600 pages of agenda. 400 were more-or-less repeats of Scrutiny, though our views had been considered and incorporated. The Leader steered us through the complexities and our views were welcomed and made a difference. Thanks to the activity of a single Councillor, Cabinet agreed to sign us up to the Disability Confidential scheme; the Leader noted with approval that Members now have a real ability to influence Council policy. And thanks to the eagle eyes of another we are not now in danger of working for 'metal wellbeing'. A lot of this now has to go to full Council for ratification – an even larger Agenda pack!

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

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Early Birds WI

meeting daytimes in Girton

We are a new friendly WI open to all ladies and meeting in Girton on the second Friday of each month from 10am to 12 noon. We would love to welcome newcomers to join us – first visit **FREE**. We meet at the CFWI office, Oakington Road, CB3 0QH.

Our next meeting is on Friday 8 March when our speaker will be Justin Agnes speaking on 'Growing Together – A new development project in South Sudan.'

We are just getting started, but are planning to have interesting and very varied speakers, demonstrations, craft sessions, and plenty of chat and refreshments.

Please contact Rachel at earlybirds.wi.cambridge@gmail.com for more information.

Friends of Girton Glebe

Jumble Sale

Saturday 9th March 2019
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
- Bedding
- Bric-a-brac
- CDs & DVDs
- Accessories
- Toys & Games
- Books
- Baby Items

 Donations can be dropped at the school entrance from Monday 4th March.
No electrical items or videos, thank you.

Friends of Girton Glebe Registered Charity 1098145

Girton Garden Society Spring Plant Sale

Saturday 4th May 2019
2pm onwards
46 Cambridge Rd, Girton

Put the date in your diary now!

After another successful Spring Plant sale last year we have decided to keep doing it!

So do come along promptly at 2pm and pick up some of the many bargains available including large perennials, delicate annuals, bedding plants, herbs, vegetable seedlings (tomatoes, peppers, courgettes etc.), wild flowers and packets of seeds.

We will also have cakes, biscuits, jams and chutneys for sale.



? Quiz Night ?

Saturday 16th March
7.30pm at Girton Glebe
Tickets £5 per person

available from 25th Feb
from the school office or playground
Ticket only entrance

Make a team of six in advance or on the night
Bring your own drinks, snacks & brain!
Raffle prizes and kudos up for grabs

 Registered Charity 1098145

FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Cambridge Science Festival

The Cambridge Science Festival runs from **11–24 March 2019**.

Bookings for all pre-book events are open, from **11am–3pm on weekdays**.

The Festival web address is:
www.sciencefestival.cam.ac.uk/

With hundreds of free events on everything from Astronomy to Zoology, the 2019 Cambridge Science Festival welcomes adults, teenagers and families to explore science with researchers from across Cambridge.

Join us for talks, hands-on activities, performances, exhibitions and films; the Festival has something for everyone!



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3.45PM - 4.45PM
TUE 5 MARCH
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FREE, EVERYONE WELCOME!

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Girton College Music Society

SUNDAY 3 MARCH at 2.30 pm (until 3.45 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 compositions for flute, clarinet, voice and piano, including works by Rachmaninov, Prokofiev and Scriabin
Admission free; retiring collection

THURSDAY 7 MARCH at 9.15 pm (until 10.00 pm)
Stanley Library, Girton College

Concert in Aid of RAG (Raising and Giving)
Nicholas Maier (Piano)

A varied selection of music ranging from Bach to Scriabin (and including music by Ravel, Mozart and Tchaikovsky). RAG is Cambridge's largest charity fund-raising society; any donations, however large or small, will be very welcome
Admission free; retiring collection

SUNDAY 10 MARCH at 2.30 pm (until 3.30 pm)
Old Hall, Girton College

Junior Prime Brass

The teenage version of Prime Brass, Cambridge's leading brass ensemble, Junior Prime Brass (conducted by Christopher Lawrence) has performed at numerous prestigious venues, including the Royal Albert Hall. This afternoon they present a varied programme of original works and arrangements for brass dectet.
Admission free; retiring collection

SUNDAY 17 MARCH at 2.30 pm (until 3.30 pm)
Stanley Library, Girton College

Amaranth Trio

The Amaranth Trio, consisting of Sanziana Dobrovicescu (violin), Izabela Ghergu (cello) and Maria Diana Petrache (piano), was formed in Romania and performs regularly throughout Europe. This afternoon's programme includes beautiful pieces by Haydn and Rachmaninov alongside exciting new compositions by living composers from Romania and Chile. The concert forms part of a tour that has seen them playing in Bucharest and Graz; their next stop will be London.
Admission free; retiring collection

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Cambridge Ten Sing's Annual Concert 2019

DESTINY

Saturday 30th March 2019
7:30pm

Histon Baptist Church

Tickets - £7
Under 16's - £5

For more information contact Theresa King
07880 697 230 or jking47@aol.com




Huntingdon Road and Girton Surgeries Patient Group
Mental Health First Aid
Wednesday 3rd April 2019

Do you know about First Aid for Mental Health?

In any year, 1 in 4 of us experience some sort of mental health issue. This could be your friends, family, members of the community, work colleagues or you.

Would you like to learn more about how to help yourself and them?

Please come and join us at our Open Meeting at 6.30pm on Wednesday 3rd April in Huntingdon Road Surgery

Juliet Adloun, an accredited instructor in Mental Health First Aid, will lead us in an informative, participative and fun session covering:

- ✦ Some statistics
- ✦ How to manage ourselves
- ✦ How to look after others
- ✦ Signposts to more information



FIRST AID

www.huntingdonroadsurgery.co.uk

Do you enjoy visiting beautiful gardens?

Then here are some dates for your diaries!

Girton Garden Society would love you to join their members on coach trips which are planned for this summer to two well known gardens.

On **Wednesday 5th June** we will visit the outstanding Royal Horticultural Society gardens at **Hyde Hall, Essex.**

On **Wednesday 17th July** we will visit **Bressingham Steam and Gardens** near Diss.

Full details will be available next month.

Girton Garden Society

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

Garden Birds

By Ms Rebecca Saunders, RSPB

Competitions

A pot of flowering bulbs
Broccoli or Spring Greens

Girton Walking Group

Saturday March 2nd: A walk from Stapleford taking in Babraham village. Meet at the Rose pub, London Road, Stapleford, at 10am. If you don't intend to use the pub, please park elsewhere – the walk route goes along Bury Rd. This walk is about 5½ miles.

Saturday April 6th: A walk along Coldham's Brook. Meet at Newmarket Road Park and Ride at 10am. This walk is about 7 miles, but you can decide to catch a bus back either to Cambridge or to the Park and Ride, after about 5½ miles.

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

Girton Pavilion

A gap has become available for booking the Pavilion on Thursdays from 12 midday until late evening.

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



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 ...

FOGG Pond Party!

Many thanks to members of our FOGG committee for putting aside two hours of their Sunday morning on 10th February to clean out our pond area and surrounding garden. We are incredibly fortunate to have such wonderful outdoor learning environments at Girton Glebe and appreciate the support of our parent community in preparing this space for the children to extend their studies beyond the classroom.



Children's Mental Health – Healthy: Inside & Out

During the week of 4th February, Girton Glebe was proud to support Place2Be's Children's Mental Health week. This year's theme was *Healthy: Inside & Out* and our children spent lots of time in their classrooms identifying ways in which they could keep both their bodies and minds healthy.

Alongside their teachers, the children completed a range of exciting activities designed to help them develop sustainable strategies to support their wellbeing. The theme inspired many thought-provoking questions and discussions and the work that was produced provides a springboard for our

pupils as we continue to support their physical and mental wellbeing.

Antarctica Day

Congratulations to five Girton Glebe pupils for their fabulous Antarctica Day posters which



travelled to Ross Island with a polar researcher in time for the annual celebration on 1st December.

Earlier this month we received the news that the children's work had reached its destination and were sent evidence of its arrival in the Antarctic! The children's posters were photographed amongst a collection comprising those submitted by other primary-aged children from across the world. Well done to all involved in this wonderful event!

Archaeology Workshops

On Thursday 14th February, our Year 4 and 5 pupils took part in a Stone Age workshop led by Professor Vander Linden from the Department of Archaeology at the University of Cambridge.

The children had the opportunity to find out all about being an archaeologist, including what tools archaeologists use and how they go about finding objects from the past. They found out about how we can use these artefacts to learn more about how people used to live. In addition to this, they had the opportunity to look at different items that have been found in the area and asked many questions about these artefacts. Thank you to Professor Vander Linden for volunteering his time and knowledge to inspire our children!

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Cottontails Preschool

We've had a busy month at Cottontails with visitors to the setting and visits out. Making links with our local community in Girton and beyond is very important to us so the

children can learn from real life experiences. We are very grateful for the opportunities that are available to us locally and to our children's families and other members of the community who give us their time.

We have been to visit one of our family's smallholding and saw and found out about their pigs and bees. We went for a walk to the sensory garden, which was thoroughly explored, particularly the hills!

For Chinese New Year, one of our parents came to cook dumplings with the children, and everyone also had a go at using chopsticks to eat noodles for snack.



The snow at the beginning of February brought about much excitement and a chilly forest school session. We pulled each other around on sledges, and the children had a good go at pulling me around, which certainly encouraged them to work as a team! We also shovelled snow and of course had a

snowball fight. There was even enough snow to build a snowman. After all this fun, Girton Glebe very kindly allowed us to warm up and have our snack there – thank you for accommodating us.



At forest school we have also been on the hunt for woodland animals, looking for tracks and animal holes. We thought about what it might be like to live in a rabbit hole; the children thought it would be cosy with all their family.

From 28th March, we are very pleased that the mobile library will begin making a stop outside Cottontails each month. It will be in the layby at the front of Cotton Hall from 11 to 11.30am as part of their usual round. The children will visit every month to borrow books for Cottontails. All members of the community are also welcome to use the library at this stop too.

If you would like any further information about Cottontails, please visit our website www.cottontailspreschool.org or contact us on 07935 224607 or info@cottontailspreschool.org.

Laura Norman
Cottontails Preschool Manager
manager@cottontailspreschool.org

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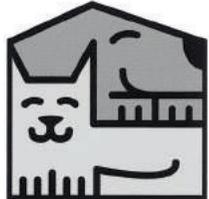
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Girton Youth Group have been busy planning and starting some new activities and ventures for the upcoming months. As I am writing this, we are planning a challenge and 'escape room' themed activity day for the Monday group during February half term. And as you read this, hopefully that day was as successful and fun as we had wished! The Thursday group are hoping to begin monthly climbing sessions at Kelsey Kerridge – with our first session being on 28th February. This is an activity that the young people particularly enjoyed at their residential trip last year. We are thankful to Girton Town Charity for their continuing support. We now are able to go ahead with plans for this year's residential ... let the fundraising begin!

With the support, and funding, from Girton Town Charity we are able to offer a variety of different activities and opportunities for the young people of Girton. We are always welcoming new people to join us on either a Monday or Thursday evening, so if you are a young person aged between 8 and 18 and want a place where you can hang out with your mates and have some fun, check us out on our Facebook page or website: ymcatrinitygroup.org.uk/family-support/gyp/

Club times are as follows:

Monday group is for ages 7–11, from 4:30–6pm.

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

If you are interested in being part of or enrolling your young person on to the youth project, please email me at frances.roach@ymcatrinity.org.uk or contact 07771 357187.

Frances Roach

YMCA TRINITY GROUP



Girton WI

Our speaker for our February Meeting was John Flood, a trustee of the Museum of Cambridge or, as it was formerly known and still is by many, Cambridge & County Folk Museum. He was ably assisted by his wife Eileen in charge of the projector and slides.

The origins of the Museum can be traced back three years before it opened, to October 1933, when the Cambridgeshire Federation of Women's Institutes held an exhibition called A Festival of Olden Times in the Guildhall. Each Village that participated presented local objects and the exhibition was such a success that there were calls for a permanent social history collection to be established. We were all pleasantly surprised to find out that it was an exhibition put on by the CFWI that started the ball rolling. A lady called Catherine E. Parsons from Little Abington was the chair of CFWI at the time and was an avid collector and local historian. An Association was formed, made up of a diverse group of people who shared a common interest in history and collecting. Catherine Parsons was appointed Honorary Curator.

The Museum was officially opened on Tuesday 3rd November 1936 by Sir Cyril Fox, Director of the National Museum of Wales. It was housed in The Old White Horse Inn, No. 2 Castle Street, where you will still find it today.

John and Eileen showed us many interesting slides and they made the talk very entertaining as well as educational. We were all amused by the topic of old-fashioned remedies for toothache and other such ills. I don't think anyone would use some of these today.

Last year I visited the museum with my husband and grandchildren. There was so much of interest there from local villages and the grandchildren particularly liked the games from bygone years that they were allowed to play with. I think as a member of Girton WI, I would thoroughly recommend a visit, next time you are in Cambridge.

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At intervals during the nights of Thursday 7th and Friday 8th February, our allotment site thrust itself into my thoughts. And that in spite of my being 260 miles away! I was in bed in my cottage in the Lake District. Storm Erik with its (his?) violent gale and lashing rain was buffeting the roof and skylights with scarily dramatic force. My thoughts went to the sheds, greenhouses, fruit cages and other items on our Girton allotment site. I feared devastation. However, on my return on Sunday, my first action was to go upstairs to survey the site; I found that apart from some smaller items having been scattered, there was no major damage to be seen. Perhaps members are getting more careful in battening down their buildings, or Storm Eric was less severe in the south. So this time the site held firm against the storm. We'll see what the next one (Storm Fred?) does.

It's mid-February – not quite time for serious prolonged work out on our plots. Recent bitter cold has discouraged most of us from venturing out on the site. The earth has been too wet and sticky for working. But despite recent conditions there are usually the odd one or two members out there pottering around on tidying and preparation for the coming season. (I hasten to add that by the word “odd” I mean “miscellaneous”, not “peculiar”.) Even a little grass cutting. Before the bird-nesting time starts, there has been hedge trimming around the site, and working parties have pruned fruit trees and training in the art of pruning has been given. An unused area has been prepared for the planting of bushes which will provide food and shelter for wildlife. I am including a picture of our site manager engaged in hedge-trimming, his hat having been removed by an aggressive bramble.



Where's my hat?

So, general site management has continued. And for all of us members, anticipation of a new season of sowing, planting, growing and harvesting is stirring. Patience is necessary so as not to sow most seeds too early before temperatures enable germination. But sweet pea tips are appearing in greenhouses and conservatories. Seeds for greenhouse-grown tomatoes can be sown (because they can be planted out earlier in their sheltered environment). Seed potatoes are laid out in conservatories, greenhouses etc. for chitting. Seed catalogues!! What a source of temptation

they are. We begin our lists vowing to be sensible in our range of choice. But the pictures and descriptions of (supposed) pest-resistant, delicious vegetables weaken our resolve; our final list is too long. And when you get on one seed company's mailing list, you seem to get onto every other company's. Almost every day, throughout the year, beautifully produced catalogues plop through the letter box.

Two months ago, I mentioned the curse of persistent bindweed and its spaghetti-like roots I had dug up from a small area. There was no room for the illustrative picture but I am submitting it again for this month's edition.

Bindweed



Finally, I was sent two excellent pictures of a member's sons. Great to see the enthusiasm as they display their harvest-

ed produce. Obviously the seed of horticulture has been sown (an appropriate metaphor?). Thinking of what happened with my own children, the seed lies dormant during the years of pop music, girl- and boy-friends, university and setting up home; but it comes alive again and grows into enthusiasm for gardening and vegetable-growing.

Graham Jones, Girton Allotment Society








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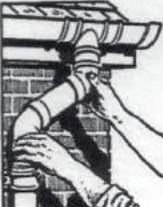
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Girton Garden Society

At the meeting of the Girton Garden Society on Thursday 14th February at St Vincent's Close Community Centre, Margaret Nimmo-Smith gave an excellent talk entitled "How to make the most of a small garden". Her three rules are:

1. Grow the best of whatever you choose to grow.
2. Grow what you like.
3. Aim at a long season of interest.

Pruning and feeding are, of course, essential for the maintenance of the garden.

Starting with the bare bones of the garden, to be considered are rowans, *Sorbus cashmiriana* with its pinkish white flowers and white berries, Japanese cherry trees, hawthorn, amelanchier and *Viburnum bodnantense*.

A good pairing for winter colour is mahonia with cornus, while an early spring delight is *Daphne odora* 'Rebecca' with its fragrant flowers and variegated leaves. Summer specials include white *Clematis montana* behind white spirea. Late *Clematis viticella* grows to about twelve foot and needs, finally, to be cut down to one foot.

Amongst the great array of roses, the climbing form of Cecile Brunner is a winner. Madam Alfred Carriere is another climbing rose which has fragrant, repeat flowering creamy white blooms. The Bourbon repeat flowering rose, Honoring de Brabant, with its dark pink stripes is always an attraction.

Primroses, doubles and primrose 'Gold Lace', will soon be with us. There also are double flowered yellow wallflowers.

Plants for foliage interest include pulmonaria 'David Ward' with variegated foliage and pulmonaria 'Roy Davidson' with spotted foliage,

or a stripy variegated lily of the valley. Ajuga is good ground cover. *Aquilegia* has lovely foliage, and for those who can beat the slugs, hostas are a summer favourite. In shade, ferns can be much enjoyed.

Stupa grass, native sea holly, phlox with variegated foliage – ex-Bressingham, hardy geraniums, viola 'Irish Molly', dianthus and cranesbill are all good subjects in the flower beds. Hardy, showy favourites are penstemon and salvia.

Tubs must not be forgotten as they can be switched about with great ease, featuring lilies, dahlias, maybe creeping Jenny, amongst many others.

With spring upon us and good sunshine, the garden will soon be calling.

Felicia Moor

Garden Tip of the Month – March

I expect some of you feed birds in your garden. If like me you have a hanging feeder with seeds in, you have probably noticed how much debris builds up underneath. When I was pruning in a garden last winter I was surprised to see a mound of Nyjer seeds under a feeder that were sprouting, making a rather odd bright green hummock that dwarfed the small rose bush next to it. Our hanging feeder is partly over a paving slab, but some of the husks and seeds fall onto a narrow bed with *Iris reticulata* just coming into flower, which I have to protect with twigs from the woodpigeons that strut around flattening any plants that are not robustly woody. So my point is when possible hang feeders over paving, and if not then consider the fate of the plants beneath. It's worthwhile clearing the debris from time to time, as it can attract rats.

One of the pleasures of milder weather at this time of year are the lovely scents hanging in the air. Three worth mentioning are the winter flowering shrubby honeysuckle, *Lonicera fragrantissima*, *Mahonia media*, and the lovely, generally smaller, Christmas box, *Sarcococca* sp. If you don't have one of these do consider it as a worthy addition to any garden, and remember to place it near enough the house to catch a waft as you pass by.

George Thorpe

GIRTON

scoreboard



Girton Bowls Club

Does the Bowls Club have any cause for concern? We do hope not.

At the time of going to print and with the impending opening of The William Collyn Centre, we and other prospective users are still

waiting to hear from the Town Charity or their management company ACRE as to what the hire charges will be for 2019.

They have indicated that their charges must take into consideration what the other facilities in the village currently charge. Whilst we understand the reason for this, it is interesting to note that in February's GPN, the Parish Council, having already set their precept for 2019-20, have planned for a potential loss of income from the hire of their Pavilion as a direct result of the new Community Hall.

Hopefully by the time you read this article everything will have been successfully resolved and we and others can look forward to using this fantastic facility.

On the bowling front things are relatively quiet at the moment. The latest cold snap in the weather will have helped to kill off any potential disease that might exist in the bowls green and soon our maintenance team will be looking to the Spring and to preparing it for the forthcoming season.

All the league fixtures are now known and again we have a busy programme with nearly 70 matches to play in the 4 leagues we play in. Can we go one better in the Cambridge & District Division 5 this year, having only just missed out on promotion in the previous two seasons? I feel sure that our second season in the Meldreth League will show better results as we are now aware of the standard of competition it presents. Promotion into Division 1 of the Mixed Business House League this season will again test how much our club has improved as will our second year in the top flight of the Ely & District League.

Our participation in this winter's Indoor/Outdoor League played at Chesterton is also showing great improvement, we are currently 5th with a third of the matches to go. Our new venture into the Short Mat Bowls at Cottenham is proving to be very different and enjoyable and we hope that when we have use of the William Collyn Centre next winter we will be able to encourage more of the village people to come and try it. Watch this space for more details to follow.

We are always looking for new members, so if you are interested please contact our Secretary Margaret McCall on margaret.mccall@ntlworld.com for more details. You can also visit our website at www.girtonbowlsclub.weebly.com to catch up with events and photos of our activities to date.

David Fryer



Girton Golf Club

The first quarter of the year at the golf club tends to be pretty quiet as the weather is so uncertain, as has been proven this year. So far, only 4 days have been lost to the snow and the course has been

playing incredibly well the rest of the time, having invariably 18 main greens in play. What a change from last year!

What is not quiet, however, is the clubhouse. So many playing and social members have been enjoying the comfortable atmosphere and the great value, and varied, lunch menu, with the daily specials getting a lot of attention – not surprising, as Ben and Trevor produce wonderful food, all freshly prepared and cooked. I have to say that there are also many who are just calling in for a delicious coffee and cake during the mornings and afternoons (with the odd cheeky gin and tonic or pint sliding down too). Don't forget that we are always happy to host family, social group, club and company "get-togethers" and parties, as well as offering our various size meeting rooms for business or club meetings.

Check with the club, or the website diary, about upcoming social events as there are many every month from Pie nights to Punjabi Parties and Steak Nights to the incredibly popular Friday Quiz Nights every 2 weeks. Look out for our Charity events like Charity Day or our PGA ProAm, which are being held to support Arthur Rank Hospice, our Captain Brian Pettengell's choice of charity for this year. This is a great cause that needs every penny we can raise – there are collection boxes on the bar counters for those who wish to contribute, as many do from their quiz night winnings.

Playing and Social membership is still available so call the office or Pro Shop to discuss the options, or better still, pop in (lots of free parking) have a coffee and see what we are all about.

Alan Henderson-Smith - Tel: 01223 276169
www.girtongolf.co.uk



Girton Colts Football Club

It remains a tough season for Girton Colts Under 16s in the league, with every game being competitive. The last month has seen the team lose to Cottenham

and to Cherry Hinton, both of whom are well placed in the top half of the league. It could have certainly been a different result against Cottenham where Girton failed to convert a number of goal scoring opportunities only for Cottenham to take the lead against the run of play. By the time Girton had rallied they simply couldn't get back in the game. More recently they suffered a heavy defeat against a very well organised Cherry Hinton side who will be close to the top of the league. With a handful of games left, it will be important to keep our chins up and enjoy the rest of the season!

The Under 11s have generally had a good few weeks since the new year. January started with a disappointing 4-3 defeat at home to Stretham but since then the team have won 3 matches on the trot. Morden Magpies were dispatched 10-0 with goals from Finley, James, Alex, William, Charlie and Cosmo. The team then scored a dramatic 4-3 win over Witchford, coming from 3-2 down, with two goals in injury time from Zaki. Most recently the team scored a comfortable away win against Cambourne.

The Colts Under 9s are all enjoying their football and continue to develop and improve as a group. Their passion and teamwork are leading to great results in both the league and friendly fixtures. A great 8-1 friendly win against Saffron Walden Yellows was followed with a 2-2 home draw against Saffron Walden Greens (a team they lost 5-1 against in December), a 6-2 away win at Waterbeach and a 5-1 home win against Over.

The U8s remained unbeaten throughout January and have enjoyed joining the new league. The team is improving together and players have started to rotate positions progressively – multiple players have been further added to the score sheets. The team and team parents are now looking forward to a deserved rest over the half-term.

The U7s have had a number of exciting games including a 9-6 win against Waterbeach, a 7-2 win against Chesterton and a 6-all draw with Cambourne.

Mini Kickers are continuing to make great progress this year and it is wonderful to see the improvements in all of the players. The Under 6s had their first match which they thoroughly enjoyed and will only gain from playing more matches in readiness for next season. Well done, Matt and Angie. Keep up the good work.

Kevin White



Girton Cricket Club

Winter nets are now underway, 8-9pm at Hills Road Sports Centre, on Purbeck Road.

Attendance has been great and we have welcomed some new faces already. There has also been a rumour that a previous club captain might be making a miraculous return to the pitch; we sit with fingers crossed. The early signs are promising and we hope this enthusiastic start continues into and throughout the season.

Ten waterproofed warriors braved the tail end of the recent wintery blast and chipped, chopped and sliced their way around Bar Hill golf course for the first of four golf days held throughout the year. Scores were not anything to write home about, but in this weather it really was the taking part that counts - congratulations to all those who took part. The next social events are Bingo on 2nd March and a Race Night on 14th April at Girton Golf Club.

Contact information:

Dean Stacey (dean1973@email.com; 07841 625675)
Matt Hobbs (07525 254907)

Alex Rodger



Girton Netball Club

Part 2 of the league is well underway and currently Girton is in second position – just 4 points behind first place. In our recent match we unfortunately lost by 7 goals against Witchford Witches 3 (who sit in first place), but we put our coach's feedback into practice in

the next match against Wildcats and won by an impressive 20-12. Helen Stepney has worked hard on getting us to think about spacing and waiting for an accurate pass (rather than our usual 'panic').

At the time of writing our next match is on Valentine's Day and all the team are available to play as netball is our one true love! We will face Kings Ely; in our previous match against the 'Vikings' we drew – so if we continue putting our new skills into practice, we should be able to give them a run for their money! See next month's report for the result!

Continued on page 23 ...

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St Neots PE19 2BH

Storey's Field Centre
Eddington Avenue
Cambridge CB3 1AA

WEDNESDAY
Fowlmere Village Hall
Chrishall Road Fowlmere
Herts SG8 7RY

CONTACT alma@cerocspirit.co.uk 07710 409167 or david@cerocevoke.co.uk 07747 848375

GIRTON scoreboard

...continued from page 21

Girton Netball training sessions are run on a pay and play basis at £5 (first session is free) so you can come as and when you're able. They are held in Girton Recreation Ground on a Monday evening (now an earlier time of 6.30–7.45pm, term-time). If you would like to come along, please contact Mel at 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 Community Choir

In a recent Guardian article entitled 'Seven Ways to Make New Friends', joining a choir was rated number 2. 'Singing has an "ice-breaker effect", helping strangers bond more quickly.' There is a choir very close by, where no one is a stranger for very long: Girton Community Choir.

Its members meet every Wednesday during term time in the North Room at St. Andrew's Church at 7.30pm. It is an un auditioned choir; we sing a variety of musical styles and an ability to read music, although helpful, is by no means essential. We sing for the enjoyment it brings us and we perform at various local events.



The picture shows part of the soprano section and if you would like to join them, they would be very pleased to welcome you, as would the alto, tenor (entirely female at the moment) and bass sections.

For further information, please ring Jane on 01223 474667 or just turn up – we would be very pleased to see you!



Join us this March and enjoy some fresh air and exercise in the beautiful local countryside.

Spring Clean Litter Pick

Sunday 10 March: 1.30–3.30pm

Lend us a hand and help pick litter from footpaths and hedgerows in the reserve and surrounding village as part of the Great British Spring Clean. Meet outside The Plough pub in Coton village. All equipment provided; wear tough clothing and footwear. No need to book, just turn up. If driving, park in Martin car park on Grantchester Road, CB23 7PZ. OS grid reference TL414 577GB.



Weekly Healthy Walking

Every Thursday throughout the year: 10am (faster walk) and 10.30am (slower walk)

Each walk lasts around 30 minutes and covers about 1.5 miles. We meet all year round at 10am every Thursday morning, with the slower walk starting at 10.30am. Teas and coffees are available afterwards. Free of charge and no need to book. Meet at the Stables Education Centre, Wandlebury Country Park, CB22 3AE.

Wandlebury Wildlife

Sunday 24 March: 11am–3.30pm

Explore the habitats of Wandlebury and the wildlife that calls it home. Fun and learning for all ages! In conjunction with the Cambridge Science Festival. Free, drop-in event for all ages. No need to book. Donations welcome. Wandlebury Country Park, CB22 3AE.

For more information: Tel: (Mon.–Fri. 9am–4pm) 01223 243830

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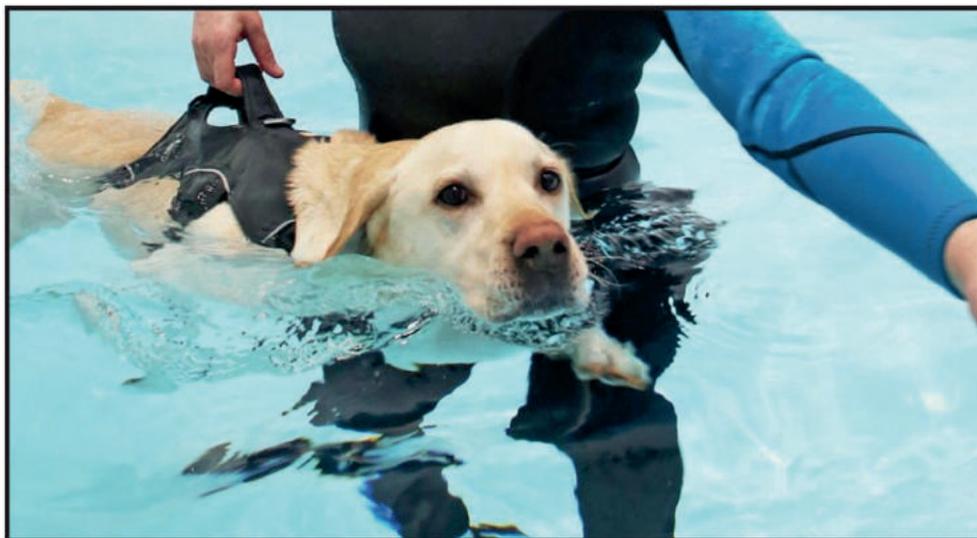
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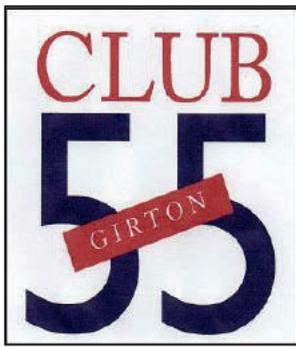
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Men's Shed

Men's Shed is not dead in the water yet; there has been some encouraging news over the last couple of weeks or so and I really do hope we will be able to move forward with a shed, and that the present

negotiations by Abbeyfield representatives go well. A few more men are joining our group when we go out for lunch and I hope this continues to be the case. Let me encourage you gentlemen out there to come along to one of our functions and see what we are all about. Check out our diary details at the end of this article and get in touch with me or one of our members; we will do the rest. I am sure that you would have a very enjoyable few hours and you may be interested to hear more about Men's Shed, a worldwide organisation where men and women can gather to pursue their hobbies.



Howard enjoys his lunch

Howard came along to our lunch at Abbeyfield on 6th February and clearly enjoyed the experience because he complained that whenever we use a photograph of our lunches he gets cut off the edge. We got you this time Howard!

Forty-five people went along to the Abbeyfield restaurant that day and were treated to some excellent dishes, very tasty, and the portions were generous. It's well worth just popping in to try one of their lunches. The restaurant is spacious, beautifully furnished and with very helpful and pleasant staff.

It has occurred to me whilst I sit here writing this article on my holiday patio in Tenerife, looking out to blue skies this morning at what promises to be a very warm day, that this article has a very long way to travel before it finds its place in the *Girton Parish News*. From here it will travel by email to North Carolina where it will be checked by our editor who is presently on holiday there. Knowing her, it is quite likely that she will find something that needs my attention and the article will be sent back to me. After correction, back to North Carolina to be placed into our Dropbox where it will be picked up by one of our typesetters in Girton and placed into this magazine. Isn't technology wonderful? Imagine all that by longhand and post; the cost in stamps would be astronomical. If you want to know more about emailing and the use of such things as Dropbox you would be very welcome at one of our computer sessions at the St Vincent's Close Community Centre every Monday (except Bank Holidays) from 10am to 12noon and it's free. See our website at www.club55.wordpress.com

For your diary:

Thursday 14th March, 12 noon: Film Club at St Vincent's Close Community Centre: 'On Chesil Beach' plus Dick Whittington, a re-showing of our Christmas Pantomime. Buffet £5.

Wednesday 20th March, 12 for 12.30pm: Lunch at the Rose and Crown, Histon.

Thursday 11th April, 12 noon: Film Club at St Vincent's Close: 'The Children Act'. Buffet £5.

Wednesday 1st May, 12 for 12.30pm: Lunch at Girton Golf Club.

Wednesday 5th June: Girton Garden Society bus trip to RHS Gardens Hyde Hall.

For more details contact:

Sam Clift Tel: 564808

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To arrange a visit, call **01223 633 677** or for more information, go to www.hallmarkcarehomes.co.uk



William Collyn Community Centre opens for business

Girton Town Charity is delighted to announce a major milestone – the new William Collyn Community Centre is now completed and ready to welcome visitors at an Open Day on Saturday 30th March.

The £2.5 million Centre is a purpose-built facility in Wellbrook Way and available for Village activities and local groups, as well as corporate and independent bookings for meetings, training sessions and conferences from the wider community.

Open seven days per week, it will be managed on a day-to-day basis by Cambridgeshire ACRE, specialists in rural community development and run by a dedicated Centre Manager.

Called the William Collyn Centre after the founding benefactor of the predecessors to the current charity who date back to 1521, the Centre has a number of different spaces to suit a range of activities such as clubs and classes for yoga, dance and bowls to name a few.

The largest room, the Hall, can be partitioned into two smaller areas, each fitted with a high-quality sound system, data projector and screen as well as upgradeable hearing loops.

There is also an entrance with reception, a smaller room for meetings, a fully-equipped kitchen, lavatories and changing rooms and showers. Throughout, high quality materials have been used, including a wooden sprung floor. The Centre is fully accessible so that everyone can enjoy the facility.

At the time of writing letting rates are being finalized and will be available from the beginning of March, but GTC can confirm that they will be in line with other Village Halls and community buildings.

Dr Robin Hiley, GTC Chairman said: “After years of discussion and planning, we are thrilled that the William Collyn Community Centre is now ready to welcome individuals and community groups. We hope that as many people as possible will come along to our Open Day to see the wonderful facilities for themselves.



“I’d like to thank everyone who has been involved in managing this major project including Trustee Ray Gordon and our Architect Nick Twitchett.”

If you would like to make a booking or have any other enquiry, please contact Girton Town Charity:
Telephone: 01223 276008 Email: info@williamcollyn.co.uk

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

Tel 01223 276008

email gtc@girtontowncharity.co.uk

Girton Town Charity Registered Charity No: 1130272

* Terms and conditions apply

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

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

Dr Robin Hiley (Chairman) 1 Fairway Girton CB3 0QF t:277296
Ann Bonnett (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
www.girtontowncharity.co.uk

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Our full walks programme can be viewed (with photos) at
www.combertonramblers.org.uk

For further information please contact Stella, the Secretary.

Email: stella.ramblers@hotmail.com

Tel: 01954 210049



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www.girton-bobtails.org.uk



News for Older Residents

Hope Again is the six-week bereavement course running in Histon from 26th March to 30th April. See last month's GPN for further details. Or phone Peter on 07707 263353.

Technology Enabled Care (formerly Assistive Technology)

This service enables people to stay in their own homes by preventing hospital admissions and delaying or preventing a move to residential care. It is jointly funded by Health and Social Care.

In consultation with the Senior Practitioner I have decided not to hold an information session. Instead, I would encourage those for whom this is relevant and their family and/or carers to contact me for more information and a referral form. Alternatively you can phone the TEC team directly on 01480 378181.

Staying Stronger for Longer

Thank you to all those who have asked me for the super six exercise leaflet. I hope you have been finding it useful. In May, Public Health are planning on having a county-wide focus on the

Stronger for Longer Campaign. As part of this they are intending to print a better version of the leaflet for those with eyesight problems. Their website is www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/strongerforlonger.

In conjunction with this campaign, Ellen Bridges of Let's Get Moving Cambridgeshire and I are planning a functional activity session in Girton on a Wednesday afternoon in May (possibly 15th). Watch this space for further details.

Sharing Time

I wrote about this Age UK service in January's magazine and since then have matched up several more residents with visitors. Please let me know if you would like a bit more company each week.

Annual leave

I have annual leave to use before the end of March and will do so at the end of the month. So, during that time please accept my apologies if there is more delay than usual before I respond to your email or phone message.

Patricia Johnston, Older Resident's Co-ordinator
Tel: 07469 660866

Email: patricia.johnston@ageukcap.org.uk



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



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Girton Baptist Church



Growing Believing Communities

The Big Question

In recent times there has been a huge upsurge of interest in ancestral history, with the media encouraging our exploration with a variety of programmes of that genre. Some have mused that the prospects of the future now seem so utterly daunting that we are clinging to the anchor of the past.

Last month my daughter and I received the results of a DNA test, purchased out of curiosity about origins. My supposed pure Celtic blood was quickly exposed as having been infiltrated by various other donations. Subsequently, we have been linked to second cousins whose names are mystifyingly alien to us and who may be located on the far reaches of the globe.

In the United States these readily available kits have been wreaking havoc. Family secrets intended to go to the grave are being winkled out of the closet amidst angst and angry speculation. Answers to hard questions are being demanded and things will never be the same again. It is indeed surprising how easily a good relationship can be dislodged by the shadows of earlier deeds, and how unforgiving the human spirit can be. Also underlying the curiosity about bloodlines lie the secret hopes that one may have emerged from superior stock, thus giving a boost to self-confidence and pride.

But does it all really count for much if our present-day moral stance is flawed and compromised? Is it not better to bring honour to the ancestral line in the person we have become here and now? More important still, do we believe that God planned our human timespan in eternity? Moreover, on the thread of dynasty, that we are worthy to carry the witness of his grace, mercy and love into the chain of life? The BBC programme called 'Icons' highlighted the lives and progress of some of our fellow human beings whose dedication, initiative, inventive creativity and even self-sacrifice had changed history. Yet, they each began like us as tiny helpless babes in a cradle, and although we may not

attain to their heights, we each have a part to play in the unfolding drama of the generations.

You will remember the song that asks, 'Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water?' What did Mary think as she gazed at the perfection of her newborn son? What was it that she stored up and pondered in her heart as she watched him grow up and when, at twelve years of age he said that he must be about his father's interests? What sustained Mary as she watched his body being lowered from the cross and carried to a tomb?

The artist Bill Viola has created a new video instalment in St Paul's Cathedral. It is a *pietà* of Mary holding the body of her dead son, grief-stricken but full of gentle reverence and a mother's love. It is not set in marble but moving in flesh and blood. It brings the heart into head knowledge of what happened to secure our redemption.

Jesus had walked beside Galilee, going on foot along the valley of Jordan, stopping at villages, speaking in synagogues, healing, teaching and challenging his followers. He could reference all the prophetic writings and not only recite but keep all of the Law. He resisted temptation, wept with compassion and vehemently rebuked hypocrisy. Some dismissed him as a carpenter's son. Others saw him transfigured in radiance on a mountain top and later realised they beheld the glory of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

In AD70, the Temple archives and records were destroyed with the building. How then could any future claimants to messiahship prove their credentials? Remarkably, the Gospels have preserved a full record of the lineage of Jesus. Matthew takes his line back through his adoptive father Joseph, the righteous man chosen by God to provide earthly care for his beloved son. Luke takes us through King David on Mary's line.

So here is the big question. Who do you believe Jesus IS?

Iris Niven



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Contact details: Bookings via the Rector on 01223 276235

SPRINGTANGLE

Been to Christingle?
Try Springtangle!



Craft, songs, story, Easter hunt and games (on the recreation ground if the weather is nice).

Meet in church on Easter Monday,
22nd April at 10.30am





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: 575089 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 & Mrs Wendy Hunter
 Tel: 503958

Sunday Services: March

3rd	10.00am	Holy Communion
	7.00pm	Taizé Worship
10th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	All Age Family Worship
	6.00pm	Evensong
17th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Evensong
24th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Morning Prayer
31st	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	All Age Mothering Sunday Service

Weekday Services: March

Monday 4th, 11am Way of Life Course
 at Abbeyfield Girton Green

Tuesday 12th, 11am Service of Holy Communion
 at Arlington Court
2.30pm Service of Holy Communion at
 Abbeyfield Girton Green

Thursday 28th, 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.

3rd	10.30am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship with Communion
10th	10.30am	Morning Worship
17th	10.30am	Morning Worship with Communion
	6.30pm	Evening Worship (leader t.b.a.)
24th	10.30am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship led by Christine Kimmitt
31st	10.30am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship led by John Searle (t.b.c.)



The Cotton Hall is a village facility. Room(s), Kitchen and enclosed Garden can be booked for Meetings, Classes, Parties, Rehearsals and Wedding Receptions. Accessible.

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cottonhallclerk@yahoo.co.uk



charity number 311356

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

Chairman

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

Vice-Chairman

Andy Griffin, 1 Churchfield Court, Tel: 07956 447674

Councillors

Jane Buckler, 28 Girton Road, Tel: 277636
Gill Cockley, 73 Cambridge Road, Tel: 276703
Julie Dashwood, 36 High Street, Tel: 276590
Douglas de Lacey, 9 Woodlands Park, Tel: 565219
Val Godby, 38 Woodlands Park, Tel: 276372.
Roger Hickford, Manor Farm, Manor Farm Road, Tel: 07985 770082
Anne Kettle, 11 Redgate Road, Tel: 277505
Mary Rodger, 11 Fairway, Tel: 277316
John Thorrold, 53 Cambridge Road, Tel: 276760

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

District Councillors

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

County Councillor

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

Parish Clerk and Acting Finance Officer

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

Recreation Centre Bookings Administrator

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

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

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

Girton Neighbourhood Watch

OPEN MEETING
12th MARCH 2019
7.30PM



With the Eddington team

Please join the Girton Neighbourhood Watch meeting on Tuesday 12th March in our new venue at Arlington Manor. The meeting will start at 7.30pm and the doors will be open from 7.00pm.

Our meeting tonight will feature guest speakers from the Eddington Development. They will be talking about Eddington, its facilities and the benefits this can bring to Girton residents. We expect the meeting to end by 9.00pm. Refreshments will be available. All are welcome.

Girton Neighbourhood Watch Committee

Chair: Val Godby
v.godby897@btinternet.com (01223 276372)

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

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

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

Contact numbers for bookings

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

Mobile Library

Please Note changes to routes and times

Thursday 28 March

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

Rubbish Collection

Thursday 7 March	Black bin
Thursday 14 March	Blue and Green bins
Thursday 21 March	Black bin
Thursday 28 March	Blue and Green bins

The Girton Chiropodist

(Mobile Service)

ERICA NICHOLS

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



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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 or go to www.sallywagsdaynursery.com



Sallywags
daynursery.com

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