



GIRTON

Parish News



May 2019

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it inside*



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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

May

- Wed. 1 Girton WI**, William Collyn Hall, 7.30pm
Resolutions and Community Choir
- Thur. 2 Club 55**, 12 for 12.30pm
Lunch at Girton Golf Club
- Fri. 3 Rotary Memory Café**, 10am–12 noon
St Vincent's Close Community Centre
- Sat. 4 Girton Walking Group**, Walk to Grantchester
Meet Granta Place, Mill Lane, 10am
Girton Garden Society, Spring Plant Sale
46 Cambridge Road, from 2pm
- Sun. 5 Girton College Music Society**, Stanley Library,
2.30pm, Recitalists in Concert
- Thur. 9 Girton Garden Society**, St Vincent's Close, 7.30pm
RHS Hyde Hall – Robert Brett
- Fri. 10 Early Birds WI**, CFWI, Oakington Road, 10am
Internet Scam Awareness – Bernadette Merry
- Sat. 11 St Vincent's Close Community Centre**, 10.30am
Open Meeting concerning future of the centre
FOSA, St Andrew's Church, 7.30pm
What a Wonderful World – An Evening of Music
- Sun. 12 Girton College Music Society**, Chapel, 2.30pm
David Bendix Nielsen, Organ
- Tue. 14 Annual Parish Meeting**
Girton Glebe School, 7.30–9pm
- Wed. 15 Stay Stronger for Longer**, Fitness MOT, 2–4pm
Orchard Close Community Centre
- Fri. 17 Where's Bob?** Cambridge Pop, Rock & Blues band
The George, 9pm
- Tue. 21 Girton Parish Council**, AGM
St Vincent's Close, 7.00pm
- Sat. 25 Girton Churchyard Volunteers**, Work Party
St Andrew's Churchyard, 10am–12 noon
- Sun. 26 Girton College Music Society**, Stanley Library,
2.30pm, Julia Wallin, Piano
- Fri. 31 Girton Craft Club**, 2–4pm
Orchard Close Community Centre, all welcome.

June

- Sat. 1 Girton Walking Group**, St Neots Riverside
Meet Riverside Car Park, St Neots, 10am
St Andrew's Action Abroad, Silent Auction of Art,
Cotton Hall, Preview 3–6.30, Auction 6.30–7.45

Contents

Pages 5–7	Council and Councillor Reports
Pages 8–11	Forthcoming Events
Page 13	Girton Glebe School Report
Page 15	Girton WI & Girton Youth Project
Page 17	Girton Green Fingers
Pages 18–21	Girton Scoreboard
Pages 31–33	Our Churches
Page 34	Rubbish Collection & Mobile Library

Copy date for June issue: Wed. 15 May. Issue date: Sat. 1 June. Covers 1 June–5 July



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For bookings or enquiries, email me at
janine@spuoc.com



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Girton Parish Council

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

At the April meeting, amongst items discussed were arrangements for Girton Feast's usage of the Pavilion and Recreation Ground and the renewal of the lease of 'St John's Field' beyond the Recreation Ground. Following the well-attended Road Safety and Connectivity Meeting held at Girton Glebe School on 26th March, the Council conducted a detailed discussion of options and priorities for a Local Highways Improvements grant application, and will present proposals for these at the Annual Parish Meeting on 14th May. It is envisaged that there should be a rolling programme of applications over the coming years, with the first one to include a countdown to the 30mph speed restriction on Oakington Road, a 20mph zone encompassing the Cambridge Road/High Street junction and the Glebe School and provision of moveable speed monitoring signs.

Ideas for larger (i.e. more expensive!) highways projects and improvements which might be funded from A14 upgrade Legacy Funds were also discussed. These include the possibility of a crossing on Girton Road close to the Co-op store and provision of street lighting along Oakington Road. We understand that provision for an improved non-motorised users (NMU) link from Girton to the new local road and improvements to the cycle/pedestrian path between Girton and Oakington are already planned to be funded at least in part from this source. The matter of improving road crossing provision between Girton and Eddington will be taken up with Highways and the University.

Next Meetings

The Parish Council's Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st May, and the subsequent meeting will be on Tuesday 18th June, both at St Vincent's Close Community Centre at 7.00pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend all Parish Council meetings and to speak in the open session at the start.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th May at Girton Glebe School, and all residents are invited to attend. There will be light refreshments and local society stalls from 7.00pm, with the meeting from 7.30–9.00pm. Hope to see you there.

From Our Councillors

County Councillor Lynda Harford

My thanks to all who attended the recent public meeting and to Girton Parish Council for arranging it. Attendance was good and there was some very useful debate about how community supported projects on highway improvements and safety can be taken forward. I hope to see many of you at the Annual Parish Meeting when there will be a further opportunity to discuss the things that were raised and the priorities for getting them done.

For some years councils have been required to publish what is commonly referred to as the Chief Officer Pay Policy Statement. This requires the disclosure of the number of employees paid £50,000 p.a. or more and the ratio between the highest salary and the median salary of its workforce. Since last year there has also been a requirement to publish on the Government portal, information on the gender pay gap – something about which there has been quite a lot of media attention recently. A full review carried out since last year has provided positive evidence overall, with the Council's mean gender pay gap being 13% (unchanged from last year) against a national public sector mean of 17.5%. However, it also highlights the fact that those on higher level salary bands within the Council are less likely to work part time.

The Council is keen to improve access to its meetings for residents of all parts of the county and, demonstrating this commitment, The Children & Young People committee held its most recent meeting in the town of March. One of the things discussed was the recent Ofsted inspection of the Council's children's services. The unannounced inspection in January gave the Council an overall rating of 'requiring improvement' but this was mitigated somewhat by inspectors' assessment that the impact of the services' senior leaders is good. They also acknowledged that the Council had itself already identified the same areas for improvement as the inspectors did, and that steps had already been taken to improve, through further investment in the change programme and by boosting staffing levels. 'Requiring improvement' Councils were given an opportunity to apply for a share of £87m of Department for Education funding and it was recently announced that Cambridgeshire County Council's bid has been successful. As a 'trailblazing authority' the Council will play a national role in supporting Government's nationwide roll out of Family Safeguarding, an innovative approach aimed at improving outcomes for vulnerable children and young people.

The recent demonstrations by school children during school time have provoked both support and criticism. I fall into the support group as I believe that learning can happen in places other than the classroom and, listening

...continued from page 5

to some of the young speakers outside the Guildhall was evidence that we are, despite the financial challenges, educating a fine new generation. The Council is certainly trying to do its bit and has recently approved a Plastics Strategy. It has for some time been directing some of its investments into sustainable technology.

Concerns have been raised about public access rights to the mound and civil earthworks when the Council sells the leasehold to its 6 acre site at Shire Hall. The Council has sought to reassure residents that the importance of these ancient monuments is fully recognised and that all bids for the leasehold must clearly show how any proposal for the site's future use will provide enhancement of both access to, and the public experience of, these historic features.

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

Funding axed for young athletes

A South Cambridgeshire grants scheme for aspiring young athletes has been shut down.

The awards scheme, offering small grants to individuals out of a yearly £10,000 pot, came on the back of an initiative launched nationally by Lord Sebastian Coe, the gold medal winning runner who steered the 2012 London Olympics to success. South Cambridgeshire District Council was one of many areas that heeded the call to build on the sporting legacy of the Olympics, and its Elite Athletes Scheme was launched. The new administration in charge at South Cambridgeshire has decided to close the scheme.

Cllr Mark Howell, representing Caxton and Papworth, who originally launched the scheme, said, 'It appears from this decision that the Liberal Democrats have turned their backs on any of our young people who aspired to sporting excellence.'

Over the years the scheme has helped young people in sports as varied as diving, power lifting and clay shooting. The small grants were intended to help with items of kit or travel to training venues.

Cllr Peter Topping, representing Thriplow and Whittlesford, a keen rower and cyclist, said, 'This scheme was intended to help young people with the potential for the highest levels of sporting excellence. The

scheme was aimed at young athletes from the villages that make up South Cambs. We wanted young people to aim high and be their best. It's a shame that the Liberal Democrats don't value this local legacy from the pride and achievement that was the 2012 London Olympics.'

Since becoming your councillor, my policy has consistently been to support sporting facilities for all ages, which is why I have long supported the Girton Bowls Club and the proposed Olympic Swimming Pool on the West Cambridge site. If we cut back funding on sport, and that results in a drop in fitness levels and activity within the general population, we will end up spending far more in the long term on health care and treating the many chronic illnesses for which inactivity is a key cause.

The A10 and the Cambridge Metro both take a step forward

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, led by Mayor James Palmer, has taken a step forward on two major projects to improve transport in the region, which are the dualling of the A10 between Ely and Cambridge, and the Cambridge Metro.

Improving the A10 corridor between Ely and Cambridge is one of the Combined Authority's priority schemes. It is seen as having a crucial role to play in better connecting the economies of Fenland and Greater Cambridge. More than 18,000 vehicles use the corridor daily, with capacity issues resulting in significant delays which is restricting growth. The corridor carries the highest level of north-south traffic flows in the county, and journeys over the 16-mile route can take over 45 minutes. Development in the A10 Cambridge to Ely corridor has been forecast to generate up to 17,000 new homes and 14,000 new jobs, with further development anticipated in the East Cambridgeshire part of the corridor, including Ely.

The Combined Authority Board has approved a study, called a Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC), to look at potential routes for the dualling. A number of routes would be identified to consider which would offer best value for money and meet the objectives of the project. It will also look at other smaller projects that could improve traffic flows in the shorter term.

Meanwhile, the report examining the feasibility of a metro system for Greater Cambridge and the wider region (another SOBC) has found a 'compelling case' for the project. Both the economic and strategic cases for the Cambridge Autonomous Metro (CAM) are described as particularly compelling. It found up to 100,000 jobs and 60,000 new homes could result from the CAM. Based on both conservative and upper estimates of the CAM's potential, the economic benefits would outweigh costs by two to four times. The

'benefit-cost ratio' (BCR) figure of the CAM would be considered as offering very high value for money by the Department for Transport's assessment standards. This also compares favourably for other major transport infrastructure projects like Crossrail 1 and 2, which each have a BCR of just under 2, or the Northern Line Extension whose BCR is 3.

The Combined Authority is inviting local business groups and other stakeholders to also contribute to the costs of taking the project forward. This would include the development of a detailed funding strategy and a programme of stakeholder engagement, completing in February 2020. Construction could start as early as 2021 for the City Deal-funded projects, with the core metro infrastructure anticipated to be built between 2023 and 2029.

Replacement of single use plastics

Last summer, the Council debated a motion on ways to reduce the incidence of single use plastics, which I was very happy to support. There are many ways in which we as a community can help to end this waste and the environmental destruction it causes. Some very simple things we can do include buying a reusable water bottle that can be filled up at taps or water coolers at work, taking a reusable coffee cup when we go to buy coffee, or buying a reusable straw – many supermarkets now stock washable stainless steel straws.

Cllr Tom Bygott
cllr@bygott.net
07765 475 513

A View From the District

In preparation for expected planning applications for the redevelopment of the Cambridge Northern Fringe, the Joint Development Control Committee received a technical briefing on Odour. Although the Government has now approved funding to move the sewage works, this will take a long time. It is interesting that the device for determining the acceptability of a pong remains the human nose. We accepted the report, which will be used to determine what kinds of development are acceptable at various distances from the works; and approved another large section of the University site, blocks of flats down by the P&R.

It is customary for the Council Chairman to host a reception. This year, in a break with tradition, I invited my choir, Choir2000, to allow me to present a charity concert and they enthusiastically agreed. Although the attendance was smaller than I would have liked the evening of Handel extracts (*Messiah* and *Water Music*) was rapturously received and raised over £1000 for charity (the local Foodbank and the Carers Trust). And since the choir refused to accept any payment the

overheads were very small, so many thanks indeed to Choir2000.

I have attended the High Sheriff's awards to community groups. The one which most caught my eye was Power2Inspire, led by John Willis, who despite having no legs and only half an arm, has taken part in all the Olympic sports and spends his time encouraging schoolchildren to realise that whatever they may think their disadvantages are they too can succeed. I hope he may soon visit the Glebe.

In a long meeting the Scrutiny Committee assessed the business plans for our shared services, not all of which are functioning well, and our Homelessness Strategy which we approved for Cabinet consideration. We have a team working with clients in danger of eviction after moving to Universal Credit. We also approved for Cabinet a proposal to resettle up to 5 Syrian refugee families, after assurances that the impact on our own housing needs would be negligible. At 9pm we decided to call it a day leaving a Vision and Ambition paper for another time.

After 10 months in office the current Administration is assessing its priorities and method of working. Consultants have now reported on ways to meet the Council's 4 main goals: Growing local businesses and economies; Housing that is affordable for everyone to live in; Being green to our core; and Being a modern and caring Council. Now we have to turn the rhetoric into action. Having lost several senior officers there is an opportunity to revise the way we work and explore new ways of satisfying demands. As Chairman I hope I may make our officers feel more valued and more a significant part of the team. They already tend to be highly motivated; we need to learn to encourage and channel that.

We are informed that there is now a new service for claimants for Universal Credit, run by Citizens' Advice and sponsored by the Government:
citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/universal-credit will give you details or by all means contact me.

You may have seen a report in the *Cambridge News* warning us not to crush cans before recycling them. The story comes from the USA, and has no relevance to Cambridge. Crushing might take a little longer for cans to reach the right spot; but it also reduces the number of extra trips to Waterbeach to empty the trucks. Much more useful: ensure the cans are clean before they enter the blue bin.

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

Do you enjoy visiting beautiful gardens?



RHS Hyde Hall



Bressingham Gardens

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

On Wednesday June 5th we are visiting the outstanding Royal Horticultural Society gardens at Hyde Hall, Essex (www.rhs.org.uk). On an extensive hillside it has always been noted for its roses, themed borders, woodland and ornamental ponds and now the new Global Growth Vegetable Garden.

We will leave Girton Church bus stop at 9.30am and hope to return by 5.45pm. The cost, including entry and automatic membership of GGS, for non members is **£22.50** per person.

On Wednesday 17th July we are visiting Bressingham Steam and Gardens near Diss, Norfolk (www.bressingham.co.uk). The gardens cover 16 acres in total and include summer, winter and fragrant gardens. Added attractions are the steam train (cost included with your ticket), a museum, the Dad's Army Collection and The Gallopers (carousel).

We will leave Girton Church bus stop at 10am and hope to return by 5.30pm.

The cost is **£23.25** per person, which includes a ride on the steam train.

For further details and booking forms please contact either Wendy Cattell at wrc25@cam.ac.uk or ring Wendy on 01223 277534

or girtongardensociety@outlook.com

SILENT AUCTION OF ART

Work by local artists

Cotton Hall

Saturday 1st June

Preview 3 to 6.30pm

Bidding 6.30 to 7.45pm

Refreshments and raffle

Free Entrance

All funds raised will be used by St Andrew's Action Abroad in support of the Domboshawa House in Zimbabwe and the Diocese of Kigali, Rwanda.



Cam Sight London to Cambridge Bike Ride 21st July 2019

For the 6th year in a row, Cam Sight will be taking part in the ever-popular London to Cambridge bike ride. On Sunday 21st July, 2000–3000 cyclists of all abilities will take on the challenge. The ride will be taking on the 60 mile route, starting at Pickets Lock in North London between 7.30am and 9am. Riders will work their way through beautiful countryside, ending at Jesus Green in the centre of Cambridge.

Cam Sight has places available with free entry and one way travel for you and your bike. All we ask is that you raise a minimum of £100. If you are interested, please get in touch with our fundraising and promotions officer Nick Burr at nick@camsight.org.uk to book your place. You can then create your own sponsorship page by clicking the 'Fundraise' button the the right.

Cam Sight's fleet of tandems is available to clients and volunteers to use for the ride.

If you are interested, go to www.camsight.org.uk/appeal/london-to-cambridge-bike-ride-2019

Girton Garden Society Spring Plant Sale

Saturday 4th May 2019
2pm onwards

146 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.



CALLING ALL GARDENERS

Girton Open Gardens will be held on 7 July 2019, 2–5 p.m., as part of Girton Feast Week.

No matter if your garden is large or small, wild or formal, please consider entering this hugely enjoyable village event. A chance to catch up with your neighbours and meet fellow gardening enthusiasts.

If you'd like to open your garden or know more details of what is involved, please contact Mary Rodger on 277316 or mary.rodger32@gmail.com. Closing date for entries is 15 June 2019.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Where's Bob?



Cambridge Pop, Rock, Blues and Soul Band



NEXT SHOW!

Friday, 17th May 2019
The George, Girton.
9pm start



Girton Feast 2019

Friday 5th to Sunday 14th July

Celebrates the moon landing
50 years ago

The Greatest Showman

won the vote for the Outdoor Cinema Event
(Thursday 11th July), in last month's GPN.

Buy your ticket online at:
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/648076>

Prices: £5 online, £7.50 at the door.
Beer & Refreshments Tent, Pizza, Popcorn and Icecream

Village Fete Day: Saturday 13th July
Summer Evening Concert with Rock Choir and
Simply Reeds: Friday 12th July
Local Bands Evening: Saturday 13th July with
Chords against Humanity and The Remnants
.....and lots, lots more!

Stalls still available, please contact:
carol@girtonfeast.org.uk

Would you like to be part of the biggest community event
in Girton this year?
Last year over £5,000 was raised by local charities,
groups and organisations.

Please contact: carol@girtonfeast.org.uk or
rowena@girtonfeast.org.uk



WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD!

An evening of music
with **Richard Hinitt, Mandy
Maxwell & Friends**

SATURDAY 11TH MAY, AT 7.30PM
ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, GIRTON
ADMISSION FREE

Donations gratefully received

GIRTON WALKING GROUP

Saturday 4th May: A walk to Grantchester and back. Meet at Granta Place, Mill Lane in Cambridge at 10am. This walk is about 3 miles each way. I suggest we break for coffee at the Orchard tea room.

Saturday 1st June: St Neots Riverside and part of the Ouse Valley Way. Total walk distance is about 6 miles. Meet at the Riverside Car Park in St Neots at 10am. (The X5 bus leaves 9.10 from Parkside, 9.22 from Madingley P&R, arriving St Neots 9.50, a few minutes from the car park.)

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

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

St Vincent's Close Community Centre

IMPORTANT NOTICE

**Meeting – Saturday 11th May, 2019,
at 10.30 am**

South Cambridgeshire District Council are carrying out a **Consultation** to determine whether to close the St Vincent's Close Community Centre and sell the property. We invite **ALL** residents of St Vincent's Close to an open meeting to find out if there is sufficient interest in taking over the property for the local residents and running events ourselves. This will be held on **Saturday 11th May, 2019, at 10.30 am.**

Do come if you can, whatever your views, and help keep this facility open for the future for St Vincent's Close Residents and the village.

*The St Vincent's Close Community Centre
Committee
stvincentscommunitycentre@gmail.com*

GIRTON COLLEGE MUSIC SOCIETY

SUNDAY 5 MAY at 2.30 pm (until 3.30 pm)
Stanley Library, Girton College

RECITALISTS IN CONCERT

A selection of music taken from examination programmes to be performed by Milly Atkinson and Ruari Paterson-Achenbach; the concert will include works for voice by composers including Alma Mahler, Berg, Warlock and Ligeti
Admission free; retiring collection

SUNDAY 12 MAY at 2.30 pm (until 3.30 pm)
Chapel, Girton College

DAVID BENDIX NIELSEN

David Bendix Nielsen is a prize-winning Danish/Hungarian keyboard player, who has studied with some of the world's most eminent organists, including Olivier Latry and Hans Fagius; though still a student, he has held positions in important churches in Denmark, including Frederiksborg Castle Church, Holmens Church and Roskilde Cathedral. His programme will include Bach's Passacaglia and Fugue in C minor, BWV 582, Franck's Pièce héroïque and music by Stanford and Pierné

Admission free; retiring collection

SUNDAY 26 MAY at 2.30 pm (until 3.30 pm)
Stanley Library, Girton College

JULIA WALLIN

Prize-winning Finnish-born pianist, Julia Wallin, who has performed as soloist with Grammy-awarded Sinfonia Lahti and at St Martin in the Fields, plays Rachmaninov's Moments Musicaux and works by Melartin, Sibelius and Chopin

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GIRTON GARDEN SOCIETY

Thursday 9th May at 7.30pm
St Vincent's Close Community Centre

The Delights and Possibilities of the RHS Garden Hyde Hall

By Robert Brett

Competitions:

A vase of spring or early summer flowers
Three fresh herbs in a jar

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

FEAST WEEK VILLAGE FETE

SATURDAY JULY 13th 12 - 5pm

CALLING ALL GARDENERS - COMPETITION TIME

The theme of **Feast Week** will be **'Moon Landing 1969'**

The Girton Allotment Society and the Girton Garden Society will be organising a mini fruit, flower and vegetable show in the main marquee. The categories chosen for our part of the show represent the fruit, vegetables and flowers most likely to be ready in early July, weather permitting!

Growing your own fruit, flowers and vegetables reduces transport costs and air miles as well as being very satisfying. We would like to encourage all adults and children living in the village to show off their gardening and growing skills by entering any or all of the following competition categories:

Adults Vegetable/fruit classes

- 1v. 3 sticks of rhubarb
- 2v. 5 beans (Runner or French)
- 3v. 5 potatoes (any variety)
- 5v. 3 different vegetables
- 4v. 3 onions (any variety)
- 6v. A small plate of fruit

Flower classes

- 1f. 3 stems of one type of flower in a tall, colourless glass jar or vase
- 2f. A bunch of garden flowers in a clear jam jar (no labels)
- 3f. A bunch of roses (no more than 7 stems) in a clear jam jar (no labels)

Children Vegetable/fruit/flower classes

- 7v. 3 different coloured vegetables
- 8v. The longest bean
- 9v/f. An animal modelled from vegetables, fruit, and/or flowers

- Rules**
- All entries must be brought to the main marquee between 10 and 11.30am and a small entry card filled in.
 - The vegetables and fruit will be displayed on 22/23cm white paper plates.
 - Judging and awarding of rosettes will take place at 12 noon.
 - The winners will be announced during the afternoon and entries can be collected after 4pm.

Contacts: Girton Garden Society – Kay Green 01223 276819

Girton Allotment Society – Patsy Smith 01223 575288



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A Date For Your Diary

There will be the **Midsummer Festival** on **Friday 21st June**, when **The Community Choir** will join forces with **Girton Musical Theatre** and **Flukes** to present a programme of happy, summery music for you to enjoy.

Watch out for more details in this magazine and posters around the village.



Richard will be there, providing much of the accompaniment. Remember the date: Friday 21st June. We hope to see you then.

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News from Girton Glebe Primary School

The end of the spring term was an incredibly exciting time at Girton Glebe. Please read on for a roundup of some of the events which took place

in school before the Easter break ...

Science Week

The week beginning April 1 saw pupils at Girton Glebe take part in a range of exciting activities in support of Science Week. The week was launched with an assembly led by Jon Bonsor-Matthews, who talked to the children about engineering and showed them the journey that fuel takes before it reaches your car at the petrol station.

Throughout the week, the children were set a number of challenges and investigations which staff adapted to the different year groups across the school. These activities were as follows:

1. Using lollypop sticks, binder clips and pegs, make the tallest structure or the strongest structure possible
2. A Marbles and Playdoh STEM challenge.
3. Build a Da Vinci bridge with lollypop sticks and skewers.
4. Build the longest bridge with no internal support using blocks and lollypop sticks.
5. A Bridge challenge using art straws and masking tape.
6. Build a hex bug maze using straws, masking tape and paper.

Well done to all staff and pupils for their hard work throughout the week and many thanks to Jon for leading Monday's assembly. Thanks also to Mrs Storer for putting together the week's activities and providing the resources for staff to lead these sessions.

Active Planet Museum

On Thursday 4 April, the area around Lime class was buzzing with visitors who came to see the pupils' museum, set up to celebrate their work on The Active Planet. The classroom, library and corridors looked absolutely stunning and were filled with examples of the work that the children had completed over the last half term.

This consisted of everything from Hokusai-inspired art to information posters on earthquakes and diagrams of volcanoes! The afternoon concluded with the children erupting the volcanoes they had made out on the grass in front of an audience of parents, family and friends. We were also joined by Cllr Gerri Bird, Mayor of Cambridge, who came to visit the Active Planet Museum.

Thanks to FOGG, who provided refreshments in the museum's 'bakery', and well done to all pupils and parents for providing cakes to be sold during the afternoon.

The level of preparation that went in to the afternoon was truly staggering and I must say an enormous thank you to all pupils in Lime as well as to Miss Evans and Mrs Harman for all of their hard work! What an incredible afternoon!

Egg Rolling

The final day of the spring term saw Girton Glebe pupils take part in their inaugural egg rolling event to celebrate the arrival of the Easter holidays.



The children gathered in the hall with their decorated eggs and took turns at rolling their shelled athletes down our precision ramp, crafted from sports equipment and duct tape.

Throughout the morning there were two prizes available per year group. One was for Best Dressed Egg, which was judged by members of the School Council, and the other was for Best Racer, which was decided on the ramp.

*Mr Andrew Simpson
Headteacher*

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Girton WI News

The 30th March saw the lovely Girton WI ladies serving tea and cake at the Grand Opening of the new

William Collyn Community Centre. Many WI members had made a glorious array of cakes, sausage rolls, scones, jam and cream. We were a bit concerned, not knowing the exact numbers who would turn up to this event, but we needn't have worried – our ladies did us proud with a few cakes to spare to enjoy at our April meeting. It was a very busy afternoon and the tea never stopped flowing. Many thanks to those who made cakes etc. and served the teas. Luckily the new hall is equipped with a 3-minute dishwasher and it was put to good use many times that afternoon.



At our April meeting we welcomed back Robert Burrige, who had previously spoken to us about being a Royal Bodyguard. This time his topic was 'Titanic', and I for one was really looking forward to this talk. He did not disappoint and brought with him many books, articles and a wooden replica of the famous ship that he used as a prop to show us where the infamous iceberg struck the unsinkable ship, and showed us different parts of the ship's makeup. Robert knew his subject well and enthralled us with many facts about the building of the ship, passengers aboard, survivors and some (unknown by me) conspiracy theories that surround the Titanic. If you want to know more about the conspiracy theories I suggest you Google them – whether true or false, they make intriguing reading. One of the survivors was a lady called Violet Jessup who was a stewardess and nurse. She is famous not only for surviving the Titanic disaster, but she was also on its sister ship Britannic when it met its fate in 1916 and also survived this too. She wrote a book *Titanic Survivor: The Memoirs of Violet Jessup*, an interesting read I should think. After 42 years at sea, she died on 5th May 1971.

The speaker thank you was given by Margaret Pearce Higgins and we all went home with food for thought.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 1st May in the William Collyn Community Centre, which will be our new home. It is our Resolutions meeting and we will be entertained by Girton Community Choir. We have a full programme of events and speakers, a copy of which can be found on Girton WI's Facebook page. Do come and join us. Look out for monthly posters around the village.

Wendy Hall



Writing this article, I think myself and the fantastic Girton youth team have just about recovered from a full week of Easter activities. We kicked

off the week with a great bouncy castle day and it was good to see so many new faces from the village join in. We all woke up aching and tired the next day, but got stuck in with paintballing on day two – no rest for the wicked! We also enjoyed trips to SpyMissions, a day out in London and Splatmaster. Needless to say, lots of fun was had, but we all needed a good kip by the end of it. We now look forward to settling back into regular youth club life. With exam season on the horizon, we plan to keep a chilled out and stress-free zone for our young people to relax ... then the summer activities can 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 Frances at frances.roach@ymcatrinity.org.uk or contact 07771 357187.

Frances Roach

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GIRTON GREEN FINGERS

Date of writing is Monday 15th April in order to meet the deadline for submission of articles for the May edition. The last five nights, Wednesday to Sunday, have seen very sharp frosts (following uncomfortably cold days). Thursday to Monday mornings, as soon as it became light, I looked out over the allotment site to see it white and sparkling. A lovely sight ... BUT ...

We all know the popular maxim "Practise what you preach". Several times in these articles I have talked about patience at this time of year; about not planting seeds too early so that young plants are not straining to face the elements before the possibility of frosts is passed. Thinking that tomato plants destined for the greenhouse border would be safe planted out in mid-April, I had sown and nurtured sixteen plants, six for my greenhouse, six for my son's, and four spare. They were strong and healthy – fine plants; I was proud of them. Tuesday, I put in supporting canes and six plants into the greenhouse soil. Another maxim: "Pride comes before a fall". Thursday morning, I went out early with the frost still on the grass. Two of the planted-out tomatoes shrivelled and dead. Eight of the remaining ones likewise. Two spares survived. Sorry, son; you'll get your plants later than I promised.



Before and After

Here are two photographs: "before" and "after". What a sorry sight! It truly upset me. I hope perhaps that feeling a sort of familial tenderness towards one's plants contributes to success overall.

"If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster, and treat those two impostors just the same" ... these words from Kipling's famous poem come to mind. Keep calm and carry on sowing!

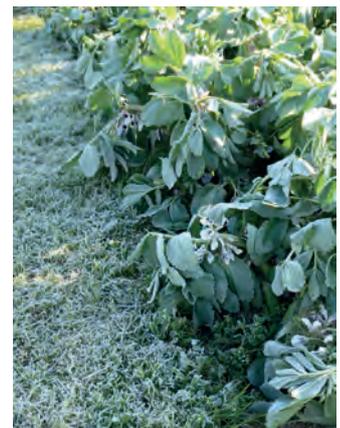
I also lost a few other young plants. Fortunately, dozens and dozens stayed safe, including sweet and cayenne peppers, lettuces and courgettes. But I have learned that the interior of a greenhouse is not a safe environment when sharp frosts strike. Since the 'disaster' I have been carrying all my seedlings into the

warmer conservatory in the late afternoon, back out to greenhouses in the morning; and using fleece and bubble-wrap for stuff bedded into the greenhouse.



Sweet pea protection

I also include a picture of a hastily erected ramshackle guard around sweet peas. Ramshackle maybe, but the sweet peas are surviving. Each of the mornings with frost on the ground, I walked over to inspect other members' broad beans. Just over from my plot, there are two swathes of broad beans, tall, strong and lush. The frosts hit these badly, especially the plants exposed on the outside of the swathe. Again, I include a picture. Broad beans are fairly hardy and straighten up again once the sun gets on them. However, the ones I refer to are so advanced and the tops so heavy, some have snapped as a result of bowing over. Unlike tomatoes, the beans will sprout again from the bottom. But once again it's a case of disobeying the "rules" ... don't sow your broad beans too soon so that there is too much growth whilst frosts might strike.



Broad beans

Here is an extract from an article taken from the internet, explaining how frost destroys or damages tender plants: "The main damage is caused by the formation of ice crystals in the plant tissue and sometimes even within the cells of the plants. Damage from the crystals can be sufficient to kill plant tissue directly or lead to moisture loss from cells and tissue. Leaves may go limp, or turn black, as if they have been burnt, and buds and stems may show damage too. How much damage occurs depends on the plant. While some plants will die, others may only die back and recover when warmer weather sets in."

Well, a lesson learned for next year? I wouldn't bet on it. Less of "me" and more general allotment matters next time.

Graham Jones, Girton Allotment Society

GIRTON scoreboard



Girton Bowls Club

We have started our outdoor bowls season with our first club night held on 11th April, and despite the very chilly weather, it was good to see so many members on the green.

This follows the end of the indoor season in which Girton participated in the Indoor/Outdoor League, played at Chesterton Bowls Club and the Short Mat Bowls League, played at Cottenham Bowls Club. At Chesterton we had our best season yet, finishing 9th out of 12 teams. However, in our first season in the Short Mat Bowls we finished bottom of the League, but I understand that all the members who played really enjoyed the experience. Well done to all the bowlers!

We have three pre-season friendly matches to be played against teams from Newnham, Histon and Stretham. Then the season proper starts with our first matches on 30th April, one in the C & D league against Melbourn and one in the Business Houses League against Fulbourn. Both matches are to be played at home.

I think we should give a huge vote of thanks to all the club members who have given up their time over the winter to work on the maintenance and preparation of the bowls green. This has involved hours of really hard work, which I don't think we always appreciate when we turn up to play. The green is looking fantastic, so I am sure we will have another successful season.

The big event coming up for the club is our first Invitation Open Triples Competition. This will involve 24 teams of 3 players in each team and will be played on Saturday 15th June at Girton Bowls Club. We are pleased to confirm that Peasgood and Skeates (Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons) are sponsoring the event, which we hope will be well supported by players from other local bowls clubs.

We will also be participating in this year's Feast Day where we will have two stalls. There will be more information nearer the time.

Discussions with the William Collyn Community Centre are ongoing regarding the use of the facilities and we are hoping a mutually acceptable solution will be reached soon. We still have to rely on our portaloos, as to use the WCCC toilets would cost the Bowls Club up to £20 for our club nights and £8/hour for all our ad hoc bowling. This would prove financially unsustainable for the club.



Girton Bowlers queuing up to use their new facility!!

If you would like to come and join us and try your hand at bowls, we are always looking for new members. Our club night is on Thursdays and starts at 6pm. The only requirement is that you wear flat-soled shoes on the green. We have bowls you can use and coaching is available. Contact our Secretary Margaret McCall on margaret.mccall@ntlworld.com for more details. You can also visit our website at www.girtonbowls.club.weebly.com to catch up with events and photos of our activities to date.

Lynne McGill



Girton Golf Club

I apologise if it is pouring down when you read this, but you can blame our greenkeepers who are now complaining about the lack of rain on the golf course and who are even having to water the fairways – in April!!!

The season is off to a flying start with fabulous weather for golf and much activity on, and off, the course as competitions and matches get under way and social golf grows in popularity. Our membership is looking healthy, but we still have room for more playing members at all levels – 7 day, 5 day and Associate – and we would like to see more Juniors coming along and joining in. Just talk to the Pro Shop for more information on the options available, and just how affordable playing can be. Social events are also still going strong, with a hugely successful Punjabi Party Night in March, our Chinese Evening in April and the ABBA Tribute Night coming up on 18th May. There may be an odd ticket or two for this night still available when you read this, but currently they are going like hot cakes.

Club Matches have been played against The Bedford

(lost), Bourn (lost) and Ely (won), plus a Burrige Cup victory over our local rivals The Cambridgeshire (Bar Hill). Our Ladies have played Gog Magog (lost) and Newmarket (lost), and we have held one mixed match so far against Brampton Park, which we also lost. On 25th March over 100 ladies played at Girton in a County Am/Am competition in splendid weather and thoroughly enjoyed their day, and meal. A great effort from all involved in the organisation of the day.

Congratulations to Jacqui Storey and Ruth Lawton for getting through to the 3rd round of the Daily Mail 4s by beating Ely – well done, ladies!!

We held our Junior Open on 8th April and 34 juniors from around the county played and had a wonderful day, with great support from Alan Fletcher (our Head Professional), Maureen Mansfield (Ladies County President), Craig Russell (managing the scoring), and our Club Captain and Ladies Captain Brian and Pat, who presented the prizes. Well done, Dave Upchurch, our Junior Organiser for arranging this day.

On Wednesday 17th April we had 63 seniors from around the county playing at Girton in a Past Senior Captains Invitational and managed to raise £355 from a raffle for Arthur Rank Hospice, our charity for this year. A great prize of a new golf bag and trolley (donated by our Club Captain) was won by Girton member BP Edwards. Bourn won the team event and Paul Goddard from March the individual.

We have our PGA ProAm coming up on 9th July and would love to hear from local companies who would like to sponsor a hole and/or enter a team. Please contact the Pro Shop for more details.

For those people who feel they don't have time now to play 18 holes and therefore have lost, or are in danger of losing, their handicaps we are introducing 9 hole qualifying competitions at Girton so please ask in the Pro Shop how you can cut down the time dramatically that playing takes (and potentially the cost) and still keep fit and stay competitive.

I hope to see you in the bar, at an event, or on the course in the near future.

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Girton Colts F.C.

It was a tough season for Girton Colts U16s following promotion last season, but as ever all the boys made a really great effort in all of the games and were incredibly unlucky to lose a number of games by the odd goal.

The boys have been a great bunch to work with and as Rich Davies and I stand down in our last season, it's fair to say that the last 9 years with this team have been very enjoyable. Thanks to all the parents and helpers along the way who have supported us, and most of all a huge thanks to the boys whose behaviour and camaraderie over the years made it a pleasure. Any team that can boast no cards whatever over its lifetime must be doing something right.

As Rich and I now slump into our respective soft sofas of football retirement we look back with some great memories. Thanks again to everybody.

Garth Hanlon

The younger age groups continue to thrive and have had a very successful season in the Mini Soccer League. The U6s have started playing some friendlies in preparation for joining the league next season and are very much enjoying themselves. The younger children continue to train on a Saturday morning at the recreation ground. The club would welcome more reception year children into this younger age group as the club continues to expand. Email info@girtoncolts.co.uk for more details.

With two more league matches to go, the U8s are looking back at a great season with many memorable events. The friendly in Bottisham went well and gave players another boost to try and finish the league matches on a high. The recently extended daylight and training on the grass was welcomed by players and coaches alike. With the team moving up to 7-a-side next season, there are places to fill in this squad and the team would be happy to hear from any Year 3s who would like to join.

The U11s have now stretched their winning run to eight consecutive games. Recently they have beaten Morden Magpies, Chatteris and Gamlingay. The players are all improving and can look forward to moving up to the Colts League next season.

Kevin White



Girton Netball Club

There are various reasons why people join a netball team – perhaps to get some exercise or to take part in a team sport, maybe for the social aspect or it could be to vent that competitive streak. Here,

Girton Netball's team captain Mel Gulston answers some frequently asked questions.

What will I get out of it? Most people would say they make new friends and have a laugh at our netball club. Everyone ends up becoming fitter over time and we definitely learn more netball skills, of course. When you play in matches you get a real buzz from being part of a team and working together – there is

Continued on page 21 ...

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...continued from page 19

nothing else quite like it.

What age group are members? We have members aged between 16 and around 50 and we all play together.

I haven't played since school – does that matter? Our club was started in 2012 in order for people to get back to netball after not playing since school. We always welcome people who haven't played for a (long) while. You will soon pick up the rules again and our members are very encouraging and friendly so will help you to fit in.

Do I have to attend matches or can I just do the training? You can just do training if you like – there is no obligation to play in matches. Some people thrive in a match with the excitement of a little competition and others prefer to get fit in a fun way at training without the match competitiveness.

Do I need to travel far? Training sessions are always held in Girton at the netball/tennis courts at the Recreation Ground. Matches are played either in Histon or Milton, so are never far away and team members usually share lifts.

Girton Netball Club 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 6.30pm–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 tinyurl.com/girton-netball for information on when and where we'll next be meeting.

Claire Chapman



Girton Tennis Club

We held our club's Wimbledon ticket ballot on Monday 9th April at the George Inn, Girton and our thanks go to the George for hosting us again. Six lucky club

members have the opportunity to buy a pair of tickets for the 2019 Championship as a result. The photo shows our membership secretary trying to read the name of the next lucky name pulled from the bag.

Our club membership year started from the 1st April so now is a good time to renew your membership or consider joining us to get best value from your annual payment. The latest rates are published on our website

and also in an advert in this edition of the GPN.

We play on the Girton recreation ground courts and members who purchase a key have court access during most daylight hours. The club runs a free supervised session for juniors from 6.30 to 7.30pm on Friday evenings and club members' play from 7.30pm. 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.

After a break for the Winter we are pleased to say that our Friday supervised sessions for juniors are back up and running.

We are delighted to report that our coaching sessions have been very popular and those taking part are aiming to improve their strokes and overall tennis ability. Occasionally we have members who have to drop out at the last moment so do email coaching@girtontennisclub.uk if you are a member who would like to be contacted if a space becomes available.

Details about our activities can be found on our website www.girtontennisclub.uk or by contacting our Membership Secretary Kevin Keeves on 276660 or by email info@girtontennisclub.uk.

Alan Franklin



Girton Tennis Club

Our membership year started in April so now is a good time to consider joining our friendly club.

Membership Benefits

- Court access until April 2020
- Opportunity to play in a team & at club nights
- Free supervised tennis sessions for children
- Entry to our Wimbledon 2020 ticket ballot

Membership fees are:

Family (up to 2 adults and children):	£132
Single adult:	£66
Junior (under 21 if studying full-time):	£29

Application forms are available on our web site at www.girtontennisclub.uk or from Kevin Keeves on 01223 276660.

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Girton Garden Society

Girton Garden Society

At our meeting on Thursday 11th April, Roger Harvey talked to us about “Spring Borders”. From his nursery, Harveys Garden Plants at

Thurston, he brought a good selection of plants for us to buy. They included Erythroniums and lily of the valley.

Apart from showing examples of the plants, there was discussion of their cultivation. At this time of year, frosty nights followed by a sunny dawn means that their location needs to be considered. General cultivation tips included:

- planting below the soil level as the latter will subside;
- to improve drainage, composted bark is much better than grit;
- plants should be divided with knives and not spades;
- if muntjac deer are a problem, to the rescue comes a bar of soap suspended at nose level!

With our tendency for online shopping, business for such nurseries is slowing down. And Roger says that he has done 15 shows where every exhibitor wants that one award – Gold! Are they happy with Gilt? No! He is now stopping exhibiting at all shows apart from Chatsworth. “Pure theatre” is his description of such events. To this end, chillers (3 degrees) and LED lights play a major part in synchronising the displays. Once in the marquee, plants can grow 6 to 7 inches in a few days.

Thinking of our own borders, we have a challenge to try new ideas in planting, but it is a relief that we have no exacting standards to meet!

Felicia Moor

Garden Tip of the Month – May

Some buds contain a flower or a leaf, others contain a miniature twig, which when pumped full of sap rapidly expands: beech twigs can extend a couple of feet in a couple of weeks. This is the excitement of May; garden plants are growing at prodigious rates, and if they get enough water they will mature and burst into flower. Sorry to bring it up again, but it has been too dry for ages, and unless April ends with plenty of rain, do water plants at risk well; young plants, recent transplants, etc.

Many evergreen shrubs are pruned in May, including sarcococca, mahonia, winter flowering jasmine, bay, laurel, etc. I usually wait for choisya to finish its first flush of flowers before pruning, as you can with *Viburnum tinus*, although both these sometimes seem

determined to flower all the way through the growing months!

Training young shoots is worth the time it takes, although it’s all too easy to overlook some: sweet peas, clematis, and honeysuckle will usually do better if you steer them a few times in spring. I have been appalled at how many of its own shoots clematis can decapitate by binding to them too tightly. I find it’s easier to snip through the offending tendril, than to try to unwind it, and you’re less likely to tear the stem.

George Thorpe

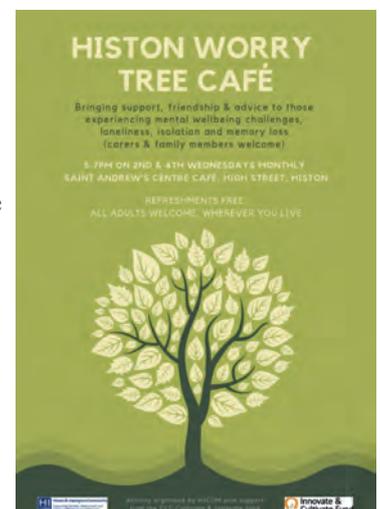
What is the Worry Tree Café?

The Histon Worry Tree Café is open 5–7pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month at the St Andrew’s Centre Café, High Street, Histon. The purpose of the Worry Tree Café is to offer a safe, friendly, non-judgemental space for individuals in our communities who are suffering a downturn in their mental wellbeing. The café is available to anyone who may be feeling isolated, lonely or overwhelmed (perhaps as a sole carer, a single parent, or due to a bereavement) and to those of us feeling anxious or suffering from low mood or depression.

You can always expect to get a friendly welcome at the Worry Tree Café. You can have some refreshments, meet others with similar experiences, be listened to or just sit in company if you prefer.

There is no requirement to share your story, but we will support you if you wish to do so. This is a supportive space, but it is not therapy. If you wish we can signpost you to counselling or other therapeutic services and talk you through the available options. We also hope to be able to hold periodic ‘information evenings’ on wellbeing topics that are of interest to you.

The Worry Tree Café is for anyone over 18 from Histon, Impington, the surrounding villages and north Cambridge suffering a downturn in their mental wellbeing. We offer a supportive and caring environment for those in need.



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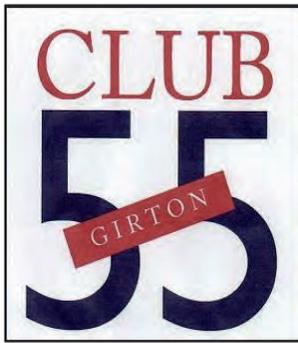
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Film Club to continue for another year

At our Annual General Meeting held at St Vincent's Close Community Centre at 11am on Monday 15th April 2019 it was agreed that Club 55

should apply for another licence to cover the period May 2019 to the end of April 2020. At present the Club is using the William Collyn Community Centre for a three month trial period to show their films.

There was concern about the use of the St Vincent's Close Community Centre as South Cambridgeshire District Council are carrying out a review of many of their community centres. After our discussions about this matter it was decided that our computer group should continue to operate from there until we are in possession of the full facts as to its continued use or otherwise. We are, however, making enquiries of another venue just in case terms and conditions change regarding St Vincent's.

Just to make it clear, our computer group is open to anyone 55 years or over and who lives in Girton Parish, South Cambridgeshire or Cambridge City. We are open from 10am to 12pm every Monday except on Bank Holidays. There is no charge, help is available and 'drop in for help' is encouraged. It is a friendly group and help at your own speed is available and encouraged.

Lunch Club

Our lunch outings usually take place once a month on Wednesdays when we visit local eateries for a two or three course meal. The object is to get people out in a friendly and stress free atmosphere not only to enjoy food but to give older people the chance to make new friends. Loneliness is not good for your health so a good old natter over lunch might do wonders for you, giving you something to reminisce about or look forward to. Why not give us a call and try one of our outings.

First use

Club 55 were the first Club to use the William Collyn Community Centre after the grand opening on the 30th March. It was a great day for the Film Club. More than forty people

watched two films and enjoyed a buffet lunch. There is no doubt that the facilities are excellent and we found the manager exceedingly helpful. I hope that we will have enough support to enjoy regular films here.



Club 55 at the William Collyn Centre

For your diary

Thursday 16th May, 12noon: Film 'Bohemian Rhapsody', a biopic of Freddie Mercury of the band Queen. Starring Mike Myers and Rami Malek. At the William Collyn Community Centre. Buffet £5.

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

Wednesday 12th June, 12 for 12.30pm: Lunch at the Blue Lion Public House, Hardwick.

Thursday 20th June, 12noon: Film 'Stan and Ollie' (*released 5th June*) at the William Collyn Community Centre. Buffet £5.

Wednesday 17th July: Girton Garden Society bus trip to Bressingham Gardens.

For more details contact:
Sam Clift Tel: 564808



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WILLIAM COLLYN 1521 COMMUNITY CENTRE

Saturday 30th March was an important day for everyone in Girton – it marked the official opening of the new William Collyn Community Centre. The Open Day was attended by more than 250 Village residents who had all come along to see the facilities which will be used for a wide range of activities in the years ahead.



Accompanied by Girton Town Charity Chairman, Robin Hiley and Cambridgeshire ACRE CEO, Kirsten Bennett, a plaque to commemorate the occasion was unveiled by Trustee, Ray Gordon who had led the project over the last few years. It was followed by a delicious afternoon tea for all served in the Gordon Hall (named after Ray) and generously provided by Girton WI who enjoyed using the Centre's new kitchen facilities.

A Centre for Everyone

In addition to the various 'taster' classes held throughout the day, visitors were entertained by the Girton Ukulele Band, Flukes, which played a selection of music.

Amongst the guests were Jill Scrine's daughters Claire Withnell and Sarah Taylor who came along to see the meeting room being named in honour of their mother who had played such an active role in Girton over many years.

Also attending was Kirsten Bennett CEO from Cambridgeshire ACRE which will be running the Centre on a day-to-day basis.

Dr Robin Hiley, Chairman of GTC said: "Our Open Day was a very happy occasion and it was wonderful to see so many Village residents coming along to see the Centre for the first time.

"I'd like to thank everyone who helped to make this such a success and a day to remember. Special thanks are due to Ray who has shepherded the project for more than ten years. We must also remember that Jill was looking towards this day way back in the 1990s and it is a pity that she is not here to enjoy it. It is a tribute to the hard work of these and many other people that we now have a first-rate community centre here in Girton. We look forward to the William Collyn Community Centre becoming a focal point for activities in the Village."

Feedback cards which were handed out on the day came back with positive comments on the building, accessibility and entertainment on offer. There were also lots of suggestions on the types of activities Village residents would like to see at the Centre including: movie nights, sports events, craft markets and regular tea dances.

The events of the day were captured on camera – we hope you enjoy these photos that mark a major milestone for our Village.

For further information or bookings contact the Centre on 01223 279587
Email: info@williamcollyn.co.uk

New Manager at William Collyn Community Centre

Helen Johnson has started work as the new Centre Manager at William Collyn Community Centre, employed by Cambridgeshire ACRE which is carrying out the day-to-day running of the facility on behalf of Girton Town Charity.



Helen's role will include ensuring that the Centre is firmly embedded into the local Girton community and is one of the options for anyone seeking to arrange an event, whether it's community groups, families or businesses.

Speaking about her new post, Helen said: "The role sounds really interesting and is a great new challenge for me. I have had experience of managing a village pub and I am also a Trustee of my own village hall. The combination of these two things, as well as my experience in running events, made it seem the perfect fit for me. It is also a good opportunity to get involved with a community rather than big corporations.

"I think the Centre is a superb facility, well-designed and built to the highest standards. It is very modern and bright and a flexible space that can be utilised for so many things.

"What I am looking forward to most is creating a busy and thriving Centre with lots going on for the community to engage with. I am keen to meet the regular hirers and the users so that we can build a varied programme of regular activities for all, as well as one-off bespoke events – and I'll be posting regular updates on social media."

For the last six years, Helen was a Senior Events Coordinator for a corporate events company near Huntingdon, organising family fun days, dinners and entertainment, team building and conferences. Her role also included working at some well-known events such as Wimbledon, The Ryder Cup, London Fashion Week and The Cheltenham Gold Cup.

www.facebook.com/williamcollyncc
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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.
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* 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

Colin Carr 10a Duck End Girton CB3 0PZ t:276312

Marc Bermann Huntingfields Huntingdon Rd Girton CB3 0LH t: 277319

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News for Older Residents

Staying Stronger for Longer

So much planning for later life centres around financial provision, accommodation etc. In contrast there is much less encouragement to maintain physical (and mental) fitness which we also need in order to continue doing the things that bring us pleasure and fulfilment.

Put Wednesday 15th May between 2 and 4pm in Orchard Close Community Room in your diary and plan to come along. This Functional Fitness MOT Session will be led by Ellen Bridges of Let's Get Moving (funded by CCC Health Committee). You will be able to test your present level of strength and balance and discover how best to improve and maintain them.

Jane Jones of Forever Active will also be present to gauge our interest in different physical activities and update us on any plans for Girton. I will provide the teas and coffees and you are welcome to just come along for a cuppa and see what is happening.

HICOM Wellbeing

Histon and Impington Community (HICOM) is holding a Wellbeing Week from 3rd to 14th May with a range of social, physical, mental and spiritual activities for all age groups. For more information look at the website hicom.org.uk

HICOM is also launching a Worry Tree Café which will happen on 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 5 to 7 pm in St Andrew's Centre Café in Histon. Those experiencing a downturn in mental wellbeing are welcome alongside those with ongoing worries.

Please let me know if ...

- you would like to accompany a resident on very short walks in the village, preferable away from traffic.
- you could make good use of a toilet frame and seat.

Patricia Johnston Older Residents' Co-ordinator

Tel : 07469 660 866

Email : patricia.johnston@ageukcap.org.uk

Girton Baptist Church



Growing Believing Communities

Transformation

I wonder if you are enjoying the sheer intoxication of springtime, the season of renewal and transformation with its vibrant palate of colours, jubilant bird song and abundance of fresh green foliage everywhere, so lyrically described in the Song of Songs:

‘See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land.’

Ahead of us lie the long-light days that stretch from the dawn chorus to hazy dusk in the golden rays of a warming sun.

The dog walkers are passing by under the window, eyes totally dedicated to a small hand-held screen. If you were to ask later, ‘Did you notice the cluster of scarlet tulips? Did you stop to admire the exuberance of cherry blossom? Did you catch the fragrance of the red currant bush?’ – No. Nothing but the screen. How sad to miss the generosity of nature’s bounteous gift and the therapeutic hopefulness that it stirs in the spirit, so needful in this confusing, chaotic and often cruel world. But what if winter-cold seems to be clinging relentlessly onto your spirit as you cope with depressing situations, unresolved problems and dwindling resources? What if the clouds of weariness or doubt dim the sun and drain the colour out of life?

‘In the midst of winter, I found there was within me, an invincible summer,’ wrote Albert Camus. All very fine, but what happens if the unseasonable rains of adversity blight the crops of security and expectation, leaving us feeling withered inside?

This is a pertinent time to take a look at the helpful lessons that God presents to us in the season of rebirth. We de-clutter and clean our homes, but do we de-clutter our attitudes and ditch the restricting effects of dominating habits? Can we sit with open hands in prayer, accepting that the dear wishes in which we once put confidence have bio-degraded, and now we need to trust God to fill our empty palms with his blessings and directions? God is faithful to his promise of seedtime and harvest, and he specialises in transformation, tadpole to frog, egg to chick, bud to fruit, caterpillar to butterfly. If we lack the courage and resolve to weed out the slights and criticisms that have stunted the growth of talent and confidence, God is a willing husbandman. He plants hope where there seems nothing but dry ground, watered by consistent love and nourished by his word.

He transforms relationships through forgiveness. He seeds empathy from shared experiences. He provides support from soul mates.

Someone advised, ‘Be kinder than necessary. Everyone you meet is fighting some sort of battle.’ So, we need to look out for opportunities to offer encouragement to others too, whose hopes have been dented.

Considered a dullard at school, the writer Sir Walter Scott’s prospects seemed poor indeed. One day however, he encountered the poet Robert Burns viewing a painting under which were two stanzas of a poem. No one knew its origins. Timidly, the teenager Walter supplied not only the name of the writer, but also the remaining stanzas of the poem. Laying his hand on the boy’s head, Burns commented, ‘Ah bairnie, ye will be a great man in Scotland some day.’ Walter’s outlook was transformed, and the rest is history.

How much greater then can God’s hand on our mind and heart transform our view and our prospects under his care. Like Bunyan, we can lay the burden of guilt and folly at the foot of the cross of Christ, and walk into the sunlight of revelation, inspiration and freedom to grow.

Iris Niven

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

Girton TownCharity 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
Growing Believing Communities

coffee morning

join us for a coffee and a biscuit every thursday 10.00 - 12.00

Tuesday Afternoon Friendship Group

Come and join us at 2:15pm on May 14th – Ken Smith (BEFA) Buckingham Emergency Food Appeal Bring & Buy sale May 28th - Emmaus - Speaker: Seamus

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

Girton Baptist Church
 Growing Believing Communities

Girton Neighbourhood Watch

OPEN MEETING
11th JUNE 2019
7.30PM
With Libra Security

Please join the Girton Neighbourhood Watch meeting on Tuesday 11th June 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 Libra Security. They will be talking about all aspects of home security, including actions householders can take to make their properties more secure. 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 wheatley.margaret606@yahoo.co.uk (01223 527093)
Vice-Chair: Geoff Varley geoff.varley3522@btinternet.com (01223 276772)	Communications: Sandy Couch sandy_couch@hotmail.com (01223 277782)

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

Messy Church

Crafts

April - Thursday 11
 An Important Meal

May - Thursday 9
 A Dreadful Day

June - Thursday 13
 A Happy Day

Friends

Food

Doors open at 3.30pm



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: May

5th	10.00am	Holy Communion
	7.00pm	Taizé Worship
12th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	All Age Family Worship
	6.00pm	Evensong
19th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Family Communion
	6.00pm	Evensong
26th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Morning Prayer

THURSDAY 30th Ascension Day
 7.45pm Holy Communion

Weekday Services: May

There will be no Way of Life Course at Abbeyfield, Girton Green, this month

Tuesday 14th, 11.00am Service of Holy Communion at Arlington Court
2.30pm Service of Holy Communion at Abbeyfield, Girton Green

Thursday 30th, 11.00am Service of Holy Communion (BCP) at Gretton Court
7.45pm – Ascension Day – Service of Holy Communion in church

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

Girton Baptist Church



Minister: Revd Nick Lowe
 219 Wellbrook Way, Girton CB3 0GL
 Tel: 279289

Secretary: Mrs Virginia Rootham-Smith
 Tel: 926807

Website: www.girtonbaptistchurch.org.uk

Sunday Services: May

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.

5th	10.30am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship with Communion
12th	9.00am	Prayer Breakfast
	10.30am	Morning Service
19th	10.30am	Morning Worship with Communion
	6.30pm	Evening Worship led by John Searle
26th	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Patrick Bryan
	6.30pm	Evening Worship

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

Chairman

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

Vice-Chairman

Andy Griffin, 1 Churchfield Court, Tel: 07956 447674

Councillors

Jane Buckler, 28 Girton Road, Tel: 277636
Gill Cockley, 73 Cambridge Road, Tel: 276703
Julie Dashwood, 36 High Street, Tel: 276590
Douglas de Lacey, 9 Woodlands Park, Tel: 565219
Val Godby, 38 Woodlands Park, Tel: 276372.
Roger Hickford, Manor Farm, Manor Farm Road,
Tel: 07985 770082

Anne Kettle, 11 Redgate Road, Tel: 277505
Shahila Mitchell, 18 Northfield, Tel: 07519 265755
Rachel Thomason, 168 Wellbrook Way, Tel: 07896 980799

John Thorrold, 53 Cambridge Road, Tel: 276760
Mary Rodger, 11 Fairway, Tel: 277316

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

District Councillors

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

County Councillor

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

Parish Clerk and Acting Finance Officer

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

Recreation Centre Bookings Administrator

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

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

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

**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



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

Contact numbers for bookings

Cotton Hall	07759 983420
Orchard Close	01223 277164
Pavilion	01223 472182
St Vincent's Close	01223 276447
William Collyn Hall	01353 865029

Mobile Library

Please Note changes to routes and times!

Thursday 23 May

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

Friday 3 May	Black bin
Friday 10 May	Blue and Green bins
Thursday 16 May	Black bin
Thursday 23 May	Blue and Green bins
Friday 31 May	Black bin

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