



February 2014

No. 123

Fiveways in February..... Busy busy Moles!



February Walk... flooded footpath near Ashton



Picture Rod Poxon

EDITORIAL

This has not been an auspicious beginning to 2014. So far, it has been a strange winter, with the lack of cold weather allowing spring plants to bloom much earlier than usual, and the grass beginning to grow. Plants which should have been killed off by the frost long ago still survive, whilst next to them, daffodils and snowdrops are ready to burst into bloom. And haven't the moles been busy, especially at Fiveways! But we must consider ourselves fortunate to be living at some distance from the areas which have been flooded. The horror of having one's home inundated with several inches of (not very clean) water for several weeks is unimaginable.

Yes, we did suffer horrendous gales on several days, but this was at night, and only for a few hours, not the days experienced in the rest of the country. And although we did have a power cut, we were re-connected quite quickly during the night, not after several days as in some places.

A quick glance at the programme of events organised by the GCHT for the village this year shows a wide variety of things for us to enjoy throughout the year. This committee works very hard to organise a lot of very different events, as well as some old favourites, and has succeeded in raising considerable sums towards the upkeep of our beautiful church. Much of what is happening this year is in connection with the centenary of the start of the First World War (see details elsewhere), while, in a completely different vein, we are all eagerly anticipating the visit of 'The King' in Gayton – the Elvis Presley Tribute Act will be in the church on this coming Saturday, March 1st. Make sure that you keep the programme of planned events, delivered to every house, in a safe place for future reference.

Over the last month, Gayton has lost two of its most well known residents, who, for many years have contributed much to the upkeep and well being of the village. Tributes to Eric White and Geoff Wood can be found elsewhere in this Gayton News. Suffice for me to say that right from the first issue in January 1988, Eric immediately volunteered to deliver the magazine, and has done so along High Street and Park Lane, with a smile on his face, ever since (this is the largest 'patch' in the village). And Geoff has kept us all up to date on all Neighbourhood Watch, Police and

traffic matters. Many thanks, Eric and Geoff. Now there is no-one to open the door of the minibus for the Tuesday and Friday passengers, nor to warn us of potential problems.

The decision to publish this edition just over two months after the last one was necessary, as I shall not be around in March, but it has proved difficult in a number of respects. This is always a lean period for news, but also maybe the fact that the closing date happened to coincide with half term caused a problem. One or two of our regular features are missing, and the magazine is thinner than usual. However, do please remember that this is YOUR magazine, and we would welcome contributions from anyone – news, ideas, thoughts, recommendations. The more variety, the better. And don't forget, it's very cheap to advertise in!

Finally, with everything that is going on in the country today with which people are generally dissatisfied, the annual Halifax quality of life survey, which looks at factors such as health and life expectancy, crime rates, weather, employment and schools, placed this area, South Northamptonshire, third best in the country, after Hart in Hampshire and Uttlesford in Essex.

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Gayton News – Parish Council Update

Since the last copy of the Gayton News the Parish Council has met and most recently on the 10th February 2014. Copies of the minutes of all Parish Council meetings are available from Viv Hartley, the Clerk to the Parish Council, and from the village website. Meeting agendas are also available from Viv plus a copy is posted on the village notice board.

The Parish Council is there to act on behalf of the village and to liaise with other Local Authorities. South Northamptonshire District Council is currently developing a new Local Plan. We discussed this at our meeting held on the 10th February. The entire agenda of this meeting was devoted to discussing this consultation document and to start discussions around the need for a new vision for the village. We agreed a programme of work for the development of the vision which will be discussed at the meeting to be held on the 10th March.

As part of the consultation for the new SNC Local Plan the Parish Council answered a number of questions regarding thoughts about sustainability of the village through to the appropriateness to the current village confines. The consultation and the final Local Plan are very important as it will guide future planning decisions that could affect how Gayton evolves, or not, over time. A copy of our response to the consultation questions is available from Viv Hartley.

The Local Plan consultation raised the issue of the appropriateness of the village confines and we agreed that as part of the development of the vision we would review the existing village confines as they currently require in the least a tidy to follow garden and field boundaries as appropriate. As you would expect this review will include full consultation of any proposals with the village and will be on an individual/household basis including an “open forum” session.

The consultation will also include gathering village views regarding the sustainability of the village as part of the vision for the next 15 years. SNC provides a useful definition of sustainability that we have followed:

“The aim is to create sustainable rural communities within South Northamptonshire. This is described as a place where people want to live and work, now and in the future. They meet the diverse needs of existing

and future residents, are sensitive to their environment and contribute to a high quality of life. They are safe and inclusive, well planned, built and run and offer equality of opportunity and good services for all”

Now is an important time for the village as we consider what it will be like in the future. The work around the new village vision will lead to the development of a new Village Plan to replace the Village Plan of 2003. As you will recall the Village Plan of 2003 was vital in supporting funding streams into village projects that have given us some many improvements such as the development of the village green and the restoration of the Church into not only an improved place of worship but an excellent venue for events.

Please be assured that all decisions will be supported by full consultation with all village residents and stakeholders.

This brings me to ask if anyone would like to join the Parish Council at this exciting time? At the May meeting of the Parish Council the members of the new Parish Council are sworn in for the coming year and we are potentially looking for two new people to join us. If you are interested please let either me or Viv Hartley know. Viv can be contacted on (01604) 858360 and my email address is simone@pdqcf.co.uk

Gayton Traffic Action Group

The last few months have been quiet and I am waiting for further details from the Community Speed Watch Scheme. In the meantime I have been liaising with Elaine O’Leary the Rural Officer for Northamptonshire ACRE (Action with Communities for Rural England) who provides advice and a link between us and the Police.

Again I still need more volunteers for the training on the ‘Speed Gun’ equipment and I have until May to get everything in place. Please email me on simone@pdqcf.co.uk if you would like to volunteer.

Please let me know if the Speed Indicator Signs in the village are not working so that we can get the battery packs recharged.

Thanks you for your continued support.

Simone Wade

From the Priest-in-Charge

What is February? It's a funny month isn't it? The joy of the Christmas and Epiphany celebrations are over but we're still a long way off Easter. It's the shortest month of the year but what happens in February, especially when Easter is not until the end of April so we haven't even got the start of Lent in it?

Well there is a lot happening but maybe we're so busy that we just don't notice. As I write this there is a bird singing in the tree near the office window. That bird has been singing since it got light and is a joy to listen to. The sun is shining – what a welcome after all the torrential rain we've had recently. The daylight is getting noticeably longer each day. There are signs of new life all over the countryside. Yes, we're still in winter; it can still be very cold but the year is moving, unstoppable, into spring.

The beginning of February marks Candlemas (or the Presentation of Christ in the Temple), 40 days after Christmas and the traditional end of the Christmas/Epiphany season, a time to draw breath, to recharge our batteries before the season of Lent, Passiontide then Easter.

Waiting is good for us! The great national and international debt crisis would have been nothing like as long and bad if we could have retained the habit of saving up for things and enjoying them when we could afford them, instead of buying them on credit as soon as we are attracted by them. In that respect I think the media has an awful lot to answer for as we are bombarded incessantly with things that we "must have and have them now!" I'm not minimising the blame of those who offered credit to those who couldn't afford it, but it does take two to tango! The misery some are still feeling several years later cannot be minimised.

Wait on the Lord, scripture tells us. At the start of the year we may have plans as to what we want to do/achieve this year; we may have the germs of ideas but, in general we do not know what this year will bring. So, spiritual waiting, waiting on God, moving forwards day by day with him, feeling and sensing each day the joys and, yes, the troubles of life together with the thrill of his presence, knowing that with Christ the best is yet to be: that is February.



Alison

St Mary the Virgin

I am sure there is no real need to mention the sad losses we have had in Gayton recently, but certainly from our church's perspective, Eric is going to be so very much missed by us all,. His legacy will continue for many years to come. He has done so much for the church, village and community for many decades and it is as safe as safe can be to say he is irreplaceable, no matter how hard we may try, no one will ever be able to match his input into Gayton, right until the day he passed away. "You have done so many good deeds over the years Eric, now it's your turn to take it easy, just put your feet up and look down on us trying (and probably failing) to do half as much as you did."

There is no need to mention a surname as we all know who he is, in my mind, that says it all.

You are all no doubt in possession of a programme of events for 2014 in support of the church, many in the guise of GCHT,. I shall therefore try my hardest not to duplicate more than necessary. Outside of the regular services a couple of notable events cropping up soon are:-

An evening of music and reading to commemorate the start of WW1, 7.30pm on Saturday 22nd March,

and.....

The Annual Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting following the morning service on Sunday 6th April, the meetings are to commence at 11.00am. Without getting hooked-up by the terminology and detail, suffice to say this is the opportunity to reflect on the church's performance over the last year and try to build for the coming year. They are genuinely quite interesting and well worth attending if you can. And what's more, Alison Foster and Penny Taylor have agreed to bake a fine range of cakes for us to enjoy during the proceedings.

A fairly fundamental development over recent times at St Mary the Virgin is that of charitable giving, primarily from but not exclusive to, collections taken on specific occasions. We have contributed to the Philippines Disaster Fund, Towcester Food Bank, Westgate House pop-up cinema fund, Royal British Legion and the collection from the Christmas Day

service 2014 will be destined for a local charity for the homeless. The PCC fully appreciate the efforts of Gaytonians towards maintaining the fabric of the church and like to take these opportunities to, in some way, feed back some of this generosity to the wider community, so many thanks to you all.

Some of the more astute amongst you may have noticed during the evening services over the winter months that the lights mounted on the main gate pillars are working again, a bit of refurbishment, rewiring and TLC has now made the passage from road to porch and back again that little bit easier and safer.

An annual request, I do apologise, as spring approaches and flora and fauna come to life, alas this also includes the grass/vegetation and ivy in the church yard. A small number of very kind individuals try their hardest to keep on top of it but it can be a thankless and sometimes frustrating task and so if any of you can spare any time to pop in with a strimmer or a mower and “do a bit”, the PCC and visitors to the grave yard would be very grateful. I shall be marking out a number of areas we wish to maintain in a naturalistic way, hopefully these will be clear to see. If anyone has any queries by all means please let me know. There may be the occasion when a call for volunteers for the odd blitz is made if the situation gets beyond us, I shall let you know.

In addition to the regular church services there are a few extras looming for which we would ask you to give a bit more consideration to attend, you will be most welcome and we are sure you will also enjoy any après-service refreshments and socialising where provided. These being:-

5th March : Ash Wednesday Services at Holy Cross Pattishall, 10.00am and 7.30pm.

16th March 10.00am: Cold Higham Communion Service with Bishop Donald (**no service in Gayton that day.**)

30th March 9.30am : Joint Benefice service in Gayton with Bishop John. (Including additional “fun” aspects to this Mothering Sunday service)

2nd April, 1.30pm : Gayton Primary School Easter Service

Should you need reminding, the regular communion services in Gayton remain at 9.30am on the 1st Sunday of the month and 11.00am on the 3rd Sunday, the latter taking the form of a Family Communion service ,and is aimed at being more “younger generation” friendly, so please come along to either or both.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding church matters by all means please contact the Church Wardens David Coppock (859645) and Andy Hartley (858360) or Rev Marion Reynolds:

The Rectory
Church Street
Pattishall
Northants NN12 8NB

Tel: 01327 830573

Andy Hartley

CAROLS ON THE GREEN

Once again this was a well attended, successful community event. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way and particularly to Colin and Sue Simmonds and Sharon Crossley.

The sum of £117.86 was raised for the Warwickshire Northamptonshire Air Ambulance.

Tesco and Morrison’s kindly supported this event with a donation which contributed to the cost of the mulled wine.

Jan Leeding

Eric White (1930-2014)

Eric White was a lovely man!

He and I became friends over the 23 years that I drove the Village Bus. He was on nearly every bus journey that I made. Soon, he became my Conductor, opening and closing the doors, seeing the passengers on and off quickly, but safely, thus enabling us to stop outside every passenger's home delivering their shopping to their front door and still keep to the timetable! We were a team.



We lost a passenger in Milton Keynes *Eric at the Evergreens, Jan 2014* once and after that Eric made sure that they all found their way back to the right exit of the Centre and were lined up, ready and waiting for the bus. When I drove the Evergreen Outings, he sat up in the front seat and we chatted about his work which had involved driving around the Northamptonshire countryside that, in his quiet way, he adored. Often he kept me 'on route' so that we arrived at the right watering place at the right time. He even steered all the replete passengers back to the picking up point while I fetched the bus.

Eric loved travelling. In his later life he went on coach holidays all over the country coming back with tales of where he had been and how beautiful the British landscape was.

Eric was a villager: indeed, he was related to Rene Dundas, Chris Wilcox, Harry George, and the Ratledges, all old traditional Village families! He attended the village school during the Second World War and contributed to the War Effort from a young age by potato planting and picking, collecting dandelions, cowslips, rosehips and stinging nettles, collecting newspapers and he was the milk boy for Mrs Herbert East. Here, no doubt, he developed his deep appreciation of the countryside.

Eric had a strong work ethic. On leaving school in July 1944, he worked at the Blisworth Bacon factory but also was a land boy for Eric Ratledge,

going out on the van, and he helped the ladies working in the bakehouse making pies. Mrs Jacobs ran the laundry and he collected washing for her to earn an extra few pence.

But Eric was more, he was a fund raiser; Whist Drives, Dances and Flower Shows were his forte. He was a member of the Rosebud Lodge, the Gayton branch of the National United Order of Free Gardeners, and with Gerald Morgan he organised the Village Flower Shows, and he represented the Cricket Club on the Village Hall Committee.

Following the war there was an active church life in Gayton and Eric took a committed part. On 1 January 2000 a short service was taken by Eric to celebrate 2000 years from the birth of Jesus Christ, and to ring in the new millennium.

Rita Poxon

Eric White was a quiet man, never using ten words or more when one would do. He took an interest in both Northampton Cricket and football, supporting the Cobblers for 46 years. How's that for loyalty!

He played for Gayton Table Tennis Club right from the inception of the Towcester Table Tennis League, and subsequently became a life vice-president. Contrary to his character, and to the surprise of his opponents, he would, if the returned ball landed at a particular spot on the table, launch an extremely vicious forehand smash which was completely unreturnable!

Len Schofield

Thank you for all the kind messages of sympathy sent to me and my family at this sad time.

The tributes paid to Geoff made us very proud of him. He loved the village and did his best to make it a better place in which to live.

Joan Wood

Village Tribute to Geoff Wood

As the villagers of Gayton will know, Geoff made many contributions to our village, and it is an honour and a privilege for me to pay tribute to this on behalf of Gayton Parish Council.

Geoff was involved with the Neighbourhood Watch group for over 20 years. For most of this time he chaired the group, assisted by Joan. Geoff also contributed to Neighbourhood Watch on the regional level.



At the Evergreens Christmas party.

One of the most successful achievements of the group was the creation of the Gayton email messaging system which now includes three quarters of all households in the village. This system has mainly been operated by Geoff, who gradually became the GCHQ – the Gayton Communications Headquarters.

Geoff, again ably assisted by Joan, organised our twice-yearly village litter pick campaigns, helping to keep Gayton and its surroundings tidy.

I should also mention the Gayton and Tiffield Minibus, for which Geoff was the treasurer for a number of years, balancing the books and making sense of the forms filled in by the drivers.

It was fitting that Geoff was one of the representatives for Gayton when we attended the Best Village Competition awards evening in 2011, and won the category for small villages.

We now owe it to the memory of Geoff, and to the villagers of Gayton, to recruit new volunteers to take over the many jobs which have been left vacant. It heartens me to notice that there have been several expressions of interest.

Jens Buus

GAYTON CHURCH HERITAGE TRUST

In this 100th Anniversary of the start of World War I, information through the media, websites and newspapers about the Great War has become readily available. As a result, many people have become interested in finding out more about their relatives who lived through those terrible years.

Gayton War Memorial is on the left hand wall of the Parish Church near the lectern. The simple plaque commemorates the names of fifteen men who signed up for war and did not return. One cannot help but dwell on the effect that loss of manpower had on a small farming community. There are farms in Gayton that are still run by the same families and I have begun by asking their relatives about any records they may have - letters or memorabilia of this time of loss and the changes it brought about in the village.

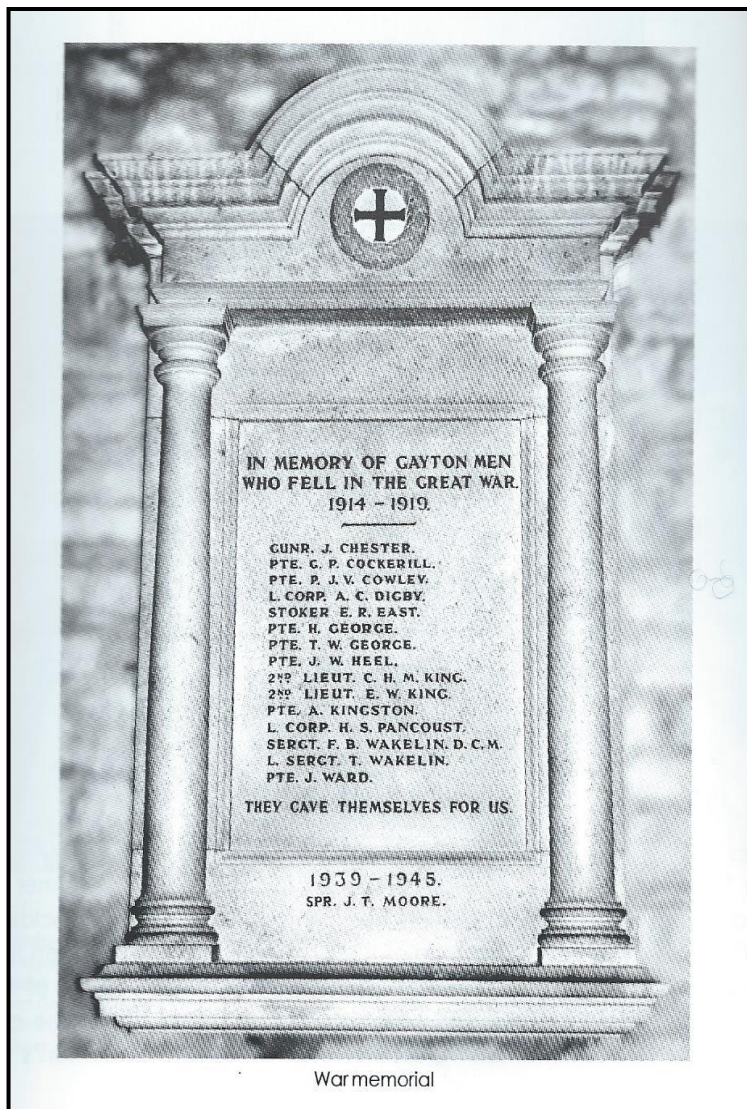
The Christmas edition of Gayton News mentioned that we would like to stimulate interest, by everybody living in the village now to find out about their relatives who lived through World War I. Families move away and new ones arrive in Gayton with a different set of memories and sense of belonging.

The things to spark off thought and hopefully action are:-

- A concert on 22nd March of poetry and music that reflect the feelings expressed by those facing the impending war and how they endured the disruption it brought about. Tickets Anna Fox 0160-4859444
- A group has already begun and would welcome newcomers to create ideas for a Banner to hang in the Church. Contact Joy Ayre 01604-858837
- Activities in Gayton Primary School – help with these will be requested through the school
- Those wishing to look into their Family History and do not know where to start contact :- Anna Fox anna@foxfam.demon.co.uk 01604-859444
- **An Exhibition of WWI Memorabilia.** Gayton Church will be open during the week before the Remembrance Day Service,

Sunday 9th November 5.30p.m. The exhibition will arise from our collective findings and ideas and will be the way that the village honours our forebears who suffered so much during the five years of the Great War.

Anna Fox



War memorial

Gayton War Memorial

Creative Opportunity to Commemorate The Great War and the Village

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the start of the Great War in 1914. As part of the commemoration we are planning to put together a banner to be hung in the Church in Gayton. The banner is :

- To provide a record of what these events meant to the village and those individuals who served and died in the conflict.
- To bear witness to the experiences of relatives of current residents of the village during the Great War and present day whether they lived in the village at the time or not and whether they fought or not.

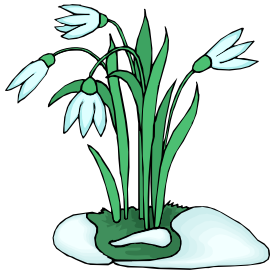
The banner is to be made up of squares on which residents will be able to create their own memorial to their family's experiences and the squares will be joined together by a border that will include the stories and names of the village fallen and some appropriate poetry. The aim is to get the banner up in the Church in time for the Remembrance Sunday Service.

The project is open to all and you do not need to be a Kirsty Alsop or Sewing Bee to take part. You can sew, stick, paint or iron on your design but it needs to withstand the Bats and damp in the Church when it is not heated.

To help to get people started we are running "get togethers". At these we will be to providing squares and help with ideas. There will be a small charge of £3.00 to cover the cost of the fabric to make the squares and the backing. If you have materials that you would be willing to share with others to help them make their squares please bring them along.

We are looking to create a legacy from this project and if it proves to be popular we are hoping to move to a regular "get together" to carry on with this type of activity. You can also create your square without coming to any of the groups.

If you want to be involved with this project please contact Joy Ayre on 01604 858837 or for any further information or help.



GAYTON ALLOTMENTS

Most of our plot-holders have now paid their rent for this year and hopefully we will soon get some weeks without rain so we can start preparing the soil for the coming season, BUT until then we are still asking plot-holders NOT to drive any motorised vehicles down the allotment road. It is very soggy and any traffic badly affects the condition of the allotment road. Instead, please park on the road outside in such a way that you do not obstruct neighbours and passing traffic.

At the moment a few vacant plots of varying sizes are available for anybody who would like to put their growing skills to the test. If you are interested, please contact the Allotment Secretary, Judy Hamilton, on tel 859786, or by email to judyhamilton.1@btinternet.com.

The 10th Gayton Dog Show will be held on **Saturday 13th September**. This is a change of date from that recently circulated on a list of events raising funds for Gayton Church Heritage Trust.

The format will be the same as for previous years, with classes for Pedigree Dogs and Junior Handlers in one ring, and novelty classes in the other. The Michael East Shield will be on offer for the Best Junior Handler associated with the village, and the John McCarthy Trophy will be presented to the Best Gayton Dog; so we hope these will attract as many Gayton dogs as possible.

Further details, including the judges, will be put on our website throughout the year. www.gayton-northants.co.uk/dogshow

Alison and Steven Huckle

GAYTON EVERGREEN CLUB

The first meeting in January was Bingo which was very well attended. Members seemed very pleased to be venturing out after the bad weather and enjoyed a chat over tea and cake in the break between games.

The AGM was held at the end of February, again this was well attended. The minutes of the meeting held in February 2013 were read by Carol and agreed to be a true record. Manja outlined the current financial position of the club. There is a healthy balance in the bank account. The Gayton Alms Charity was once again thanked for their donations over the year which paid for the Christmas Lunch and subsidised outings. Jan reminded members of the busy year the club had enjoyed. Highlights included the lunch outing to 'The Lane' restaurant at Northampton College, Paul Kybert, the magician who entertained us in November, and the Christmas Lunch at Whittlebury Hall Golf and Country Club.

The committee stood down and Jan, Manja and Carol were immediately re-elected to serve for another year. Len Schofield said that he wished to retire from the committee after many years service as Treasurer and latterly as a co-opted member. On behalf of the club Carol thanked Len for his hard work and commitment to the club, and presented him with a gift and card from all the members. At the end of the meeting Barry Steer thanked the committee for all their work over the year. After the meeting closed tea was served and members enjoyed a slice of the cake made especially to celebrate the club's 30th year.

Dates of future meetings are as follows:

Tuesday 25th February Entertainment Afternoon with Paul Dumas at 2.30pm in the Village Hall

Thursday 13th March Fish and Chip Lunch at 12.30pm in the Village Hall

Tuesday 25th March An entertaining talk by Sylvia Smith on 'Holiday Horrors' at 2.30pm in the Village Hall

Thursday 10th April Outing to Billing Garden Centre followed by lunch at Billing Mill



Tuesday 22nd April Bingo at 2.30pm in the Village Hall

Thursday 8th May May Lunch at 12.30pm in the Village Hall

The programme for the whole year is available on the Gayton website.

If you would like to join our friendly and sociable club or join in with some of the activities as a guest, please ring Carol Coppock (859645), Jan Leeding (859275), Manja Ronne (859253).

Carol Coppock (Secretary)



The Committee of Gayton Evergreen Club, with the cake specially made to mark the 30th anniversary of the founding of the club. L to r. – Carol Jan and Manja

Jazz In The Church Concert

After a gap of about eighteen months, “Jazz In The Church” returns on Friday, May 23, with a superb quintet – “Standard Miles” – formed during 2012/13 and comprising five of the finest jazz musicians in the country. See flyer on opposite page.

Gayton News readers during the past few years may well know that the ten JITC concerts, which commenced in September 2007, have so far raised over £12,000 for Gayton Church Heritage Trust. As well as presenting a selection of some of the best in UK jazz, they have brought aficionados in from far and wide: London, Birmingham, Derby, Leicester, Wellingborough and Northampton. So our venue is well known by many jazz fans and enjoyed by them, and the musicians, for its excellent acoustics and friendly atmosphere.

If you have enjoyed our previous concerts, we invite you to join us again. If you “don’t like jazz”, as we so often hear, why not give this group a chance; you may be “converted”, as have been more than a few of our previous sceptics.

Newcomers to the village may not be aware of the opportunity this event presents; if you would like information about the ten earlier concerts or the activities of The Gayton Jazz Appreciation Society, please contact me at Tel: 01604 859 364 or email: joloshaw@tesco.net
John Shaw

GAYTON NEWS

Advertising Charges

Fundraising events held in the village and organised by residents for village affairs **FREE**

All other advertising:	by villagers	by others
Whole page	£5	£10
½ page	£2.50	£5
¼ page	£1.50	£2.50
4 lines or less	50 pence	£1.50

LIVE JAZZ IN GAYTON!

Jazz In The Church returns

Friday, May 23, 2014 at 7.30pm in

The Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Gayton

THE GAYTON JAZZ APPRECIATION SOCIETY

Presents

STANDARD MILES

with

Simon Spillett - tenor sax

Henry Lowther - trumpet & flugelhorn

John Critchinson - piano

Dave Green - bass

Trevor Tomkins - drums

Bar opens at 6.45pm Beer and wines

Raffle Ample nearby parking

Admission: £13.00

You may wish to bring a cushion – the pews are hard!

Tickets and/or information may be obtained from either:

John Shaw tel: 01604 859364 email: joloshaw@tesco.net, or

Barry Steer tel: 01604 858886, email:

barrywendysteer@yahoo.co.uk

All profits will be donated to Gayton Church Heritage Trust,
a registered charity.



Make a difference in Gayton Volunteering for Northamptonshire Police



Volunteering is at the heart of my vision to make Northamptonshire the safest place in the country. One year on from being elected as the county's first police and crime commissioner, I have been inspired by the many volunteers I have met who so generously give their time to making a difference where they live.

From special constables to our young police cadets and police staff volunteers, there are so many different ways residents in Gayton can become involved with Northamptonshire Police and making a contribution to our county. Northamptonshire Police currently has around 285 special constables complementing the 1,220 regular police officers. My ambition is to increase this to 900 special constables by this time next year.

Whilst we are especially keen to recruit more special constables, not everyone necessarily wants to be involved in front-line policing or out in our town centres at weekends. There are other ways people help and I am taking a new approach to volunteering. On taking office in November 2012, I asked the chief constable to ask every department across the force – from the dangerous persons unit to roads policing – to identify opportunities for using volunteers. There are a wide range of skills, specialisms and interests that people have developed through their working lives and I am asking people across our county to consider bringing these skills to Northamptonshire Police as a volunteer.

A school teacher, who has all of the necessary experience of teaching children in schools and understanding them, could volunteer their time to educate children about crime. A retired accountant could volunteer their expertise to assist the force's fraud teams. Someone with a background in IT could volunteer to assist the covert operations team. Volunteering opportunities are as varied as admin support to acting in riot training scenarios. Also, you will know the problems and concerns of your local community and by volunteering, you could contribute directly to how such issues are dealt with.

Volunteer Police Officers contributed significantly more hours in 2013 than in 2012 and contributed a great deal to make our county a safer place to live and work. It is clear that volunteering can enhance our capabilities, and give villages such as Gayton a dedicated policing presence. Looking ahead, I will also be bringing forward proposals to overhaul how the force polices rural areas such as yours, which will include the creation of dedicated rural policing teams. The priorities in rural areas such as yours differ greatly from our urban areas, and it is important that the force can respond to them effectively.

Please consider volunteering for Northamptonshire Police and help us spread the word by telling your friends and family about volunteering to help us in our mission to recruit more volunteers. Together we can achieve so much more and take steps forward to achieving the ambition of making Northamptonshire the safest place in the country.

If you are interested in volunteering, or if you have any further questions about any of the work I am carrying out, please do not hesitate to contact me further on the following e-mail address:

commissioner@northantspcc.pnn.police.uk

If you would like to receive regular updates via my newsletter, please sign up using the following link:

<http://www.northantspcc.org.uk/signup.aspx>

Adam Simmonds

Northamptonshire Police & Crime Commissioner



GAYTON WALKERS



NEW YEAR'S DAY. Nine intrepid humans and three dogs braved the persistent rain: Pete and Alison Foster and Nero, Robin and Barbara Kelso and Meisie, Viv and Andy Hartley and Shep, Sue and Colin Simmonds and Manja Ronne. (Picture Manja Ronne)



FEBRUARY 9th Another nine intrepid walkers, plus Nero negotiate the flooded Midshires Way near Courteenhall, following heavy rain the previous night – but there was no rain during our walk! (Picture Rod Poxon).

This is a very early reminder that the annual Open Gardens day will be held on Sunday June 29th. The next Gayton News will not come out until just after this, so please remember to save books and other items for sale at this popular village event

HELP!

The Gayton News is in urgent need of volunteers to add to a list of those willing to deliver the magazine.

This list has, at the moment, no reserves, and with the holiday season coming up there may be a problem next time.

The Gayton News is delivered 4 times per year, at roughly 3 month intervals. Each person delivers to one street, the magazines are brought to you, and the time in which these must be given out is flexible (within reason). Ed.

Autumn on Gayton Footpaths

Pictures taken on 30th October 2013, a glorious autumn day.



Roast chestnuts anyone! There was a bountiful crop on the trees lining footpath RL14 that runs from the Village Green towards Dalscote.



Footpath RL12 runs from Eastcote Road, behind Westgate to Goggs Farm and back to Eastcote Road at Old Wilds, wonderful views across the valley towards Banbury Lane !



**Byway SA9 runs from Eastcote Road across Gayton Wilds to Tiffield Pocket Park.
The muddy ruts created by 4 x 4's can be surprisingly picturesque!**



Footpath RL17 runs from Goggs Farm to Britain Cottages via Eastcote and Tiffield Roads.



Footpath RL17 near Eastcote Road



Bridleway SA14 runs from Eastcote Road down to Folly Farm near Tiffield

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

This year's Quiz brought in a record number of entries, and the result was very close. The standard of entries was high, and of the 100 questions, 35 were answered incorrectly by at least one person!

Congratulations to the winners:-

1 st :	Steven Huckle Joan Wood	97
2 nd	Ros Agar and Rose Harle Robin Kelso The Reynolds family	96

Unfortunately the Gayton News has only limited resources, so winnings had to be shared. However, as the saying goes, 'It's not the winning, but the taking part'.

In these days of google, it's virtually impossible to devise a quiz whose answers cannot immediately be found on the computer. I know many more people enjoyed doing this one over Christmas than sent it in.

ANSWERS

1. Side of river Cash deposit	BANK
2. Tome Reserve	BOOK
3. Voter Ingredient	CONSTITUENT
4. Chart Item of furniture	TABLE
5. Sick person Long-suffering	PATIENT
6. First Hole	OPENING
7. Water container Military vehicle	TANK
8. Area of ground Story	PLOT

9. Begin Jump	START
10. Walk out Hit	STRIKE
11. Colonise Resolve	SETTLE
12. Number Finger	DIGIT
13. Type of school Thorough	COMPREHENSIVE
14. Periodical Arms Store	MAGAZINE
15. Grievance Ailment	GRIPE
16. Stand out Scheme	PROJECT
17. Ignore Slim	SLIGHT
18. Solid Business	FIRM
19. Car pedal Type of bag	CLUTCH
20. Pledge Talent	PROMISE
21. Judgement against Group of words	SENTENCE
22. Overpass Card game	BRIDGE
23. Apartment Horizontal	FLAT
24. Food box Get in the way	HAMPER
25. Golf club Operates car	DRIVER
26. Runner-up Small unit of time	SECOND
27. Grand Prix track Electric pathway	CIRCUIT
28. Moving air Rotate by hand	WIND
29. Practise Means of transport	TRAIN

30. Cricketer **BOWLER**
Type of hat
31. Up to date **CURRENT**
Moving body of water
32. All alike **UNIFORM**
Worn at school
33. Base of building **FOUNDATION**
Make-up
34. Season **SPRING**
Coil
35. To glue **STICK**
Baton
36. To be filled in **FORM**
Long seat
37. Game of golf **ROUND**
Delivery route
38. Disc **RECORD**
Best time
39. Replenishing **STOCKING**
Hung at Christmas
40. Metal **IRON**
Finish the laundry
41. Vision aids **SPECTACLES**
Extravaganzas
42. Approach **OVERTURE**
Musical prelude
43. Incubate **HATCH**
Conceive
44. Nag **HARP**
Stringed instrument
45. Pugilist **BOXER**
Dog
46. Cope with **HANDLE**
Opener
47. Religious fraternity **ORDER**
Sequence
48. Breaking up clouds **HARROW**
Distressful **-ING**
49. Received at Christmas **PRESENT**
Now
50. Prayer **COLLECT**
Gather

51. Statement **ACCOUNT**
Story
52. Type of meat **GAME**
Type of sport
53. Plastered **TIGHT**
Mean
54. Function **WORK**
Job
55. Squeeze **PRESS**
Newspapers
56. To mend **PATCH**
Plot
57. Light filament **BULB**
Type of plant
58. Racquet game **SQUASH**
Vegetable
59. Cleaner **VACCUUM**
Empty space
60. Gives heat **ELEMENT**
Component part
61. Climbing aid **LADDER**
Damage in hosiery
62. Attendant **PAGE**
Leaf in book.
63. Artist **PAINTER**
Rope in small boat
64. Gasps **PANTS**
Underwear
65. Retain **KEEP**
Stronghold
66. 2 under par **EAGLE**
Bird of prey
67. Essay **TRY**
Rugby score
68. White wine **HOCK**
Gammon joint
69. Drum **SNARE**
Trap
70. Slip **SLIDE**
Hair decoration
71. Electric conductor **WIRE**
Telegram **OR CABLE**

72. Woollen cloth **FLANNEL**
Ad lib
73. English painter **CONSTABLE**
Policeman
74. Pay here **TILL**
Cultivate
75. Hat **PANAMA**
Canal
76. 5 shillings **CROWN**
Royal headgear
77. Seashore **COAST**
Freewheel
78. Place of worship **TEMPLE**
Forehead
79. Mattress covering **TICKING**
Sound of clock **OR TICK**
80. Dessert **TRIFLE**
Plaything
81. Lens cover **CATARACT**
Waterfall
82. Apportionment **ALLOTMENT**
Rented vegetable patch
83. Not vacant **ENGAGED**
To be married
84. Belongs to me **MINE**
Pit
85. Denture fitting **PLATE**
Tableware
86. Public service vehicle **OMNIBUS**
Multiple edition
87. Payment to elderly **PENSION**
Small French hotel
88. Tree covering **BARK**
Dog's voice
89. Pointer **NEEDLE**
Annoy
90. Past tense **PERFECT**
Faultless
91. Aircraft **JET**
Hard black lignite
92. Centre of activities **HUB**
Part of wheel

93. Bathroom fixture **SHOWER**
Brief spell of rain
94. Woolly **JUMPER**
Aintree horse
95. Flag **DUSTER**
Cleaning cloth
96. Apply oneself **ATTEND**
Be there
97. Rearmost oarsman **STROKE**
Disabling attack
98. Go to the bottom **SINK**
Kitchen furniture
99. Pick **GATHER**
Deduce
100. Important body part
Church musical instrument
ORGAN
-

Stop press

GAYTON & TIFFIELD MINIBUS

WANTED -

A volunteer to act as treasurer.

As mentioned in the “Village Tribute to Geoff Wood”, one of his many jobs was treasurer of the minibus. Rae Spencer, chairman of the Trustees has taken over on an interim basis, but needs to find a permanent replacement for Geoff as soon as possible. If you are interested in taking on this very worthwhile role, please contact Rae Spencer :- 01327 353352

Mobile 07784 561268

email: rae.spencer@btopenworld.com

Please note: Monday June 30th

Deadline for news and comment