

# **GAYTON NEWS**

## **DECEMBER 2017**



**MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR**



## GAYTON'S TIDY UP

The footpath on Bugbrooke Road 'before and after'. A huge thank you goes out to Robin, Jens, Manja, Sue, Colin, Pete, Glenyss & Bob for their hard work clearing the entrance and footpath. Take a walk and enjoy.

*Thank You*



### Gayton's Litter pick on Sunday 29 October

Many thanks to the twelve stalwarts who braved the cold and collected litter from around the village. Even though they said there didn't seem so much rubbish they still filled about 16 bags and found a few other items dumped in the hedges, as you can see from the photograph. By arrangement with SNC the bags are collected the day following the litter pick so I don't have to put up with

the rubbish outside my house for long.

A pile of tyres had been left on the verge in Wrights Lane. I reported this to SNC and they were removed very promptly. Fly-tipping can be reported to Robin Skinner tel: 01327 322347. Thank you, Joan Wood

## GAYTON EVERGREEN CLUB

In October Lesley Fox (SNC Disability information, Equipment and Outreach Officer) gave a very informative talk about her role. She brought along leaflets and examples of equipment available for purchase and also made time to talk to members individually. After tea, members enjoyed a quiz kindly written by Len Schofield. Tea and cakes were required to keep the brain cells functioning!

The Fish and Chip Lunch was very successful. The fish and chips were delicious and members always appreciate the home-made desserts which followed.

We have had several other opportunities for eating out. In September we enjoyed an outing to Poppy Field Farm Pub and Restaurant at Duston which is on the site of the old British Timken Factory. The food was excellent, especially the puddings. Members were made very welcome by the staff. Thank you to Manja for driving the minibus in David's absence.

In November we went to the Cherry Lane Garden Centre at Pottersbury. Many members enjoyed a lunch in the excellent restaurant. The shopping is good too - judging by the amount of bags and parcels in the minibus on the way back.

Our next two meetings have a Christmas theme. We start the season on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November with our traditional Christmas Entertainment afternoon at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. This year Mike Gee, comedy and vocal entertainer, will join us. Seasonal refreshments will follow. This meeting is open to guests so do come and join us. The price is £3.50 which includes refreshments, booking is advisable. Please contact a member of the committee.

Members are looking forward to our annual Christmas Lunch at Woodward's Restaurant at the Boat Inn, Stoke Bruerne. Once again, this lunch is generously supported by the Gayton Alms Charity. Members enjoy a pre-lunch drink before sitting down to a three course seasonal lunch followed by tea/coffee and mince pies.

Members have been invited to join the staff and children of Gayton Primary School for Carols and Tea on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 1.45pm. This was a lovely occasion last year and we are very much looking forward to meeting everyone again.

As is traditional at this time of the year the Gayton Evergreen Club Committee would like to thank all those who support the club, especially the Gayton Alms Charity, David Coppock who drives the minibus for our outings and all those who have provided extra help (especially with the washing up) throughout the year. It is very much appreciated by all our members.

Gayton Evergreen Club warmly welcomes new members, who are 55 and over. Our AGM is on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. If you are thinking of joining our great club then please come along, you will be assured of a very warm welcome.

The full programme of activities is available on the Gayton website or by contacting one of the committee members Carol Coppock (859645), Jan Leeding (859275), Manja Ronne (859253), or Naomi Sheehan (859814).



# TOWCESTER MUSEUM

## Victorian Christmas

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 10am - 4pm

The volunteers and trustees of Towcester Museum warmly invite you to our magical Victorian-themed Christmas celebration, which will be held on Saturday 9th December from 10am - 4pm.

Entry to the Victorian Christmas as well as **'The Towcester Story'** and the **'Old Railway Exhibition'** will be **FREE all day!**

You will be merrily welcomed into the museum by the wonderful Towcester Studio Band who will be playing Christmas carols. The museum will be decorated traditionally and our volunteers dressed beautifully in period costume, so that you can experience the charm of a Victorian Christmas.

We will be serving mulled wine, wassail punch and our locally brewed heritage ales as well as a selection of festive treats, including mince pies, sugar plums and our Christmas fudge.

Our strict headmistress will be running a craft workshop for children to make Victorian-style Christmas crackers or tree decorations in our Victorian classroom, complete with chalkboards and authentic finger stocks.

Christmas soaps and candles made using Victorian methods as well interesting books, yummy treats and children's gifts will be available to buy from our shop, so that you can find the perfect Christmas present.

### **'Towcester Goes to War' Temporary Exhibition Opening in 2018**

Towcester Museum will be staging an informative and respectful temporary exhibition to commemorate World War One, the impact it had on Towcester and the town's inspirational local heroes.

### **Interested in Volunteering?**

Towcester Museum is currently welcoming new volunteers to join our friendly and dedicated team. We tailor each role to the individual and their aspirations. For more information please see [towcestermuseum.co.uk](http://towcestermuseum.co.uk), call on 01327 352662 or visit us at White Horse Yard, 163-165 Watling St, Towcester NN12 6BU.



## GAYTON WALKERS



The Gayton Walkers still meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at Fiveways at 10am for an approximately 2hour Walk. In October, we started from The George Inn, Tiffield and walked towards Caldecote then across to Bronte Farm. We crossed on the byway to the old railway bridge on the Tiffield road, which was covered in a vast amount of scaffolding. It seems that Network Rail are still required to keep old bridges safe. We then returned to The George along the Tiffield Country Park, being the old railway line. The November walk will be

from Nether Heyford along the canal. We do have some "outsiders" who join us, mainly from Pattishall Parish, as they don't have a walking group. Following the footpath survey, we are having a working party or two in November to undertake clearance along some paths and also to re-discover stiles that have got lost. Please come and join us on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays. Details from me - [robin.kelso@btinternet.com](mailto:robin.kelso@btinternet.com) or 01604 857585.

"Don't forget that we have a "cobweb blower" walk on Monday January 1st 2018 at **11AM**. Meet at Fiveways for a 1 hour walk."



### **Christmas Craft Fayre at Gayton Village Hall Sunday 3rd December from 10am to 3pm**

We warmly welcome you to our Christmas Market Event with a wide range of gift products and ideas bought to you by local crafters creations and small businesses.

We are raising funds to support the Northampton Services of **ACTION FOR CHILDREN** which is a registered charity

set up to help under privileged children. Their services are a lifeline for vulnerable children and their families. With your support we can give them a brighter future. A representative from the Charity will be with us on the day and will have some Christmas cards to sell and information about what they do.

Handcrafted ethnikal jewellery, Avon gifts, Scentsy warmers and waxes, Usborne books, Handmade crochet items, Confectionary and home made cakes, Yunique makeup, Mini mind and body pamper experiences, Christmas wreaths and Neal's Yard remedies. Plus a creative craft station for children to make and decorate their own creative seasonal makers. Looking for Gift Certificates? These will be available from some of our sellers. Refreshments will be available throughout the day at no set charge. We just kindly request a donation to be put into the fundraising pot. For further information, to help or to make a donation please contact Sharon on 858863.





## DOOR TO DOOR Can you help TADD??

An hour? Half a day? Or maybe more? That is all the time you need to volunteer to help TADD. We take people to their medically related appointments at hospitals, their doctors, dentists & opticians. The time you give can be flexible and entails driving an elderly person so it is possible for them to attend these appointments. You are able to claim a tax free mileage allowance and your car insurance premium should not be affected. If you are able to help contact TADD on 01327 810300 (9.00am to 1.00pm) or email on [tadd@btconnect.com](mailto:tadd@btconnect.com)

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Find us on  
**Facebook**

The Gayton Information Communications Group

Regards,

Colin Simmonds, Chair of Gayton Information Communications Group

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**Buy a brick for Christmas!** The opportunity to have your own personalised message engraved on a brick which will then be set into the very fabric of the school is still open. Make your mark, say thank you, remember friends and loved ones, or just share a memory or a message for future generations at Campion. A brick in the Golden Anniversary wall is a wonderful way of celebrating either your time or your support for the school. All money raised

will go towards the Campion Opportunity Fund. Not only will the Project show our pride in Campion's past, it will also give an opportunity for our next generation of students to walk in the footsteps of those who came before them and inspire the future. Please have a look at <https://campionsgoldenjubilee.co.uk/index.php> for further information and to donate a brick and help us fundraise for Campion.

Additionally, the School's history has been recorded in the 50th Year Anniversary Book, A History of Campion School: Fifty Years Young. Carefully researched and prepared by historian and retired colleague, John Perkins, his text and extensive collection of photographs capture the highly distinctive heritage of Campion and the school's achievements. You can order a copy of this glossy, commemorative book today priced at £9.99.

[http://www.campion.northants.sch.uk/uploads/asset\\_file/3\\_439\\_orderform.pdf](http://www.campion.northants.sch.uk/uploads/asset_file/3_439_orderform.pdf)



Dear Friends in Gayton

As in previous years, you will not get an individual Christmas card from us this year. Instead we will make a donation to the Gayton Church Heritage Trust.

Through Gayton News we send you all our very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Jens & Manja, 6 Baker Street



## Gayton & Tiffield Community Minibus

Well no doubt you have all heard that Northants County Council are planning to drastically cut bus subsidies from next year as part of their widespread expenditure reduction programme. We are included in their current consultation process and our grant is currently scheduled to be **unaffected** by the cuts next year, although the 86 service (Towcester via Stoke Bruerne to Northampton), the 87 service (Towcester via Hanger Lane to Northampton) and the County Connect demand responsive services are currently scheduled for cuts. I will keep everyone updated on the developments as the consultation process progresses.

We held our AGM on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October at Gayton Village Hall which was very well attended this year. Our existing Trustees; Geoff Wilkins, Steve Jowers, and Chris and Rae Spencer with the addition of Cate Gardner were all nominated and elected for next year. Cate Gardner was also elected as Treasurer from 1<sup>st</sup> June this year and her previous high-level skills and experience in similar roles have enabled her to provide a great service. Rae Spencer, Cate Gardner and Chris Spencer were duly nominated and elected as Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary respectively for next year. There were two major items of discussion at the AGM, the potential replacement cost of the minibus which is now 8 years old and has completed almost 60,000 miles and the viability of including Weston Favell Shopping Centre into our Tuesday timetable. I am currently looking in detail at these possibilities and will report back as soon as possible.

We have an excellent group of 11 committed volunteer drivers and accumulated reserves of circa £40,000 thanks to a record year for private hire usage by local schools and community groups. But we still desperately need to keep our passenger numbers up as we have lost several regular users in the past two years. With all forms of NCC transport subsidies scheduled for savage cuts, our Tuesday and Friday passenger numbers will be key to continued NCC grant support. So please do utilise our service because we have many residents who depend upon it.

Rae Spencer (Chairman) 01327 353352 / 07784 561268 [rae.spencer@btopenworld.com](mailto:rae.spencer@btopenworld.com)



Care, commitment and community have been key themes of our first term at Campion. Our Sixth Form Student Leadership Team organised a superb Macmillan Bake Off with more 40 entries. The judging team was wowed by the high standard of cakes which had been carefully and skilfully created by Campion students. We were also delighted when following the judging ceremony, the sale of the cakes raised well over £300 to support the Macmillan Cancer Support Charity.

In October we welcomed students and their guests to our annual Key Stage 4 Awards Evening. These awards recognised the outstanding commitment made by each award winner during 2016-17 in a wide range of academic and non-academic fields. It was great to acknowledge the commitment of students to their learning, to school life, to extra-curricular opportunities and to community work on behalf of others. Our guest speaker for this special event was ex-student, Joe Stockley who shared his experience with our award winners.

On 11<sup>th</sup> October we were packed out with people visiting Campion for our Year 5/6 Open Evening. With more than 300 people attending each one of the three presentations sessions, car parking was something of a challenge on this very busy night! As always our students were great ambassadors for the school and our guests enjoyed a wide range of exciting experiences including scientific experiments, popcorn poetry and some pancake making (and tasting!) too. Hearing our Year 13 and Year 7 students – who had only been with us for 5 weeks - speak about life at Campion is always a real joy and privilege too.

That week was particularly busy week for Year 7, with 40 students then heading off to Staffordshire for a weekend residential experience. Abseiling, rock climbing, problem solving, zip wiring and caving are just a few of the activities both staff and students took part in over the two day event. The students had a fabulous time (and not much sleep!). Another group of Year 7 students enjoyed this experience in November.

Many of our students enjoyed a wide range of experiences including Barcelona, Cologne and St Omer in France. In addition our World Challenge students were in Snowdonia preparing for their summer visit to India (Ladakh region).

It speaks volumes about the commitment of Campion colleagues that they are willing to give their weekends and time during school holidays to provide such wonderful opportunities. Indeed, more members of Year 7 enjoyed the same experience in November. Our *S.T.O.P* anti-bullying campaign remains high profile as we continue to remind all students about the importance of caring for each other. J Sol joined us to lead a series of workshops encouraging all members of the school community to be aware of Cyberbullying.

Our students continue to be involved in a wide range of excellent experiences and have enjoyed most successful autumn term.

On behalf of all at Campion I wish you a joyful festive season and all the very best for 2018.

Claire Whitmore. Headteacher



## The dreadful events of the 10<sup>th</sup> May



I would expect that seven months on, most, if not all readers would be aware of the devastating fire that on May 10<sup>th</sup> 2017 completely destroyed number 13 Bugbrooke road, leaving an empty shell. The fire spreading also took 15 Bugbrooke Road, leaving a significant amount of smoke and fire damage throughout. It is with great sadness that I report that the family pets at number 13 did not make an escape. Both families, Peter Taylor, Jane Ratledge and Lauren Taylor at number 13, and brothers of Peter, John and Robert Taylor at number 15 have since found temporary accommodation while arrangements and plans are being made to decide the future of the Semi-detached dormer bungalows. The bungalows have been a part of the village since 1946 and were imported to the United Kingdom

from Sweden post World War 2. 'During this time Winston Churchill was prime minister. He proposed the need to address a shortfall in housing following the war and so 156,623 prefabricated homes were erected. Today a number of these homes still stand 71 years later. A testament to the durability of a series of housing designs and construction methods only envisaged to last 10 years!!

During the days, weeks and months after the loss of their home, Peter and Jane have received much support from the community and have been inundated with offerings of clothing and furnishings for the home, however due to the severity of damage to the home they have had to turn away the kind offerings for lack of storage space. The family continues to be forever grateful to the generosity of the community, near and far. 6 weeks after the fire, they were presented with a cheque from their close friend and next door neighbour of many years, Sharon Crossley. Sharon had set up a community funding page using social media. Which helped raise over £6000 which will be a tremendous help in the future plans of rebuilding the family home and rectifying the causation of fire.

Kerry Holligan

May 10<sup>th</sup> started out a beautiful sunny day. I left for work at 9.30am it was to be for the last time. The Lady I was working for said 'Jane your not going to believe this but you have to go home your house is on fire' I grabbed my keys and ran! When I arrived there was smoke coming from the air vent at the top of the house. I ran to the front door but was pulled away, so I ran around the back of the house to let our kitten out. The new patio doors had already been smashed. The fire engines began to arrive, Hannah had seen the smoke coming from the vent and called the fire brigade. They broke down the front door and managed to get our pets out but sadly the smoke had already got to all of them. Continued .....

Continued.....

The firemen were then all called out, the chief fireman came to me and said it's over a 1000 degrees in there and he couldn't allow his men to stay in. The fire report said the time of call was at 10.23am and they arrived in 7 minutes. 7 fire engines were sent out and our smoke alarms had worked. At the end they sent up a drone to check there were no more hot spots.

I can't tell you how it feels to watch your home burn for ten hours, at the time I just thought I need to be really strong to get through this! So many family, friends and villagers came that day and the days after. The support we received was amazing from firemen and the Red-cross. The school in true British spirit opened their doors and cups of tea flowed. Clothes, towels, toiletries and food arrived by the bag load. People offered us so much help in so many different ways.

Sharon set up a just giving page, Karen had a collection and people turned up with donations. Your generosity has been phenomenal. Every penny will go to help us replace what we have lost.

We have all be through a rollercoaster ride of emotions, the one that remains is sadness the events of that day will stay with us for ever. But the kindness we felt will also stay with us. Your help has been over whelming. Peter, Lauren and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

We Wish You All A Very Merry Christmas

Jane Ratledge xxx

Nobody can explain the pain you feel when you lose a house. The feeling of having everything you ever had being ripped away from you is unbearable and I don't wish on anyone. One small flicker of a fire can ruin everything, I have learnt this. To be pulled out of school to be told your house is burning down is utterly traumatic. To stand there and watch your family members and yourself fall apart is devastating. You feel like you have to be strong but you know you never will be. Writing this brings tears to my eyes, not just my eyes, they are all down my face. People might find this weak of me as I know this happened months ago, however I find this strong. Not every person can say they have been through such an unsettling event and still be able to put a smile on their face. Since the 10<sup>th</sup> of May my family has become stronger and my friends have become closer. I have realised that as they say there is a good in every bad and I have found the good. I now have a closer family, friends and even a better support system. As my mum says, "I can't replace 14 years in five minutes". This is true, I have realised that I didn't need all the things I had and I don't now. I appreciate my things so very much more. Everything is more precious to me. When I found out about the fire I didn't care about my bags or my make up or jewellery, they were just things at the end of the day. I cared about the simplest of things including my animals, my photos and oddly my retainers. Things you have that you think are important are honestly not. When things like this happen you discover the things that really are important. This is your family, your friends and the things that make you happy. I haven't fully recovered and I realise it will take time. My head tells me I'm fine but honestly I don't know if my heart will ever be. I want to thank my family and friends for helping me get through this. Thank you to the people who gave money to the just giving page that was set up by a very lovely and supporting neighbour. I want to thank everyone. I felt that there was a hole in my heart but people have been helping me patch it up and I am truly grateful.

Lauren Taylor



## St Mary the Virgin

During this period since Marion's departure (she is apparently settled into her new role and is enjoying life closer to her family) we are spending much of the time looking forward as we navigate through the tides and currents in our quest to be able to fill the vacancy at some stage, fingers crossed it won't be too long.



Although it seems quite some time ago now, we must thank Alison Foster and her merry bunch of helpers for putting on a great event for us academic athletes, the Harvest Quiz was a great success, judging by the look on our collective faces I think we must all have been winners in some way or another. This, combined with the Harvest Service, ably supported by the Gayton Festival Singers and the children of Gayton School made for quite an action packed weekend, well done to all.

You may recall the stoic efforts of the Kelso, Fox and Foster households whilst tackling the annual Ride and Stride sponsored challenge, not only did they enjoy a lovely walk in our beautiful countryside washed down by a sumptuous lunch in a local hostelry but they earned the church funds £80 from the Historic Churches Trust in the process, not bad for doing what they do so much of anyway!

The lights and canned music in the shops tells us it is that time of year again, should you wish to escape from the hussle and bussle you could do no better than come along to the Church Carol Service which is to held from 5.30pm on Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup> of December, again the supporting cast will be Gayton Festival Singers and the Children of Gayton School all rounded off with seasonal fayre.

Following on the Christmas theme, each of the churches in the benefice shall again be holding a Christmas Day service, here in Gayton it is a 9.30am start, please do come along to help put you in the right spirit for the day.

Although we are still without a regular vicar during this period of interregnum, we must thank Sue Titheridge of Tiffield for holding the fort with the regular 9.30am services on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month and "Nick the Vic" from Far Cotton for taking the communion services at 11.00am on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays. We are very fortunate to have been able to continue with the regular service pattern.

Finally, if you have any concerns or questions regarding church matters by all means please contact the Church Wardens David Coppock (859645) or Andy Hartley (858360).

*Andy Hartley*

## Notes from Gayton Parish Council

Let me start by providing some information about defibrillators and explain why the Parish Council decided that the village should have one. I must admit that I was sceptical at first but a presentation by Mandy Lowe from the NHS changed my view. She explained that in a rural community like ours, a defibrillator significantly improves the chance of a heart attack victim surviving till an ambulance arrives. She also assured us that you can't injure someone who has not got a real problem, the device senses the rhythm of the heart before allowing a shock to be administered.

So, after her talk, we agreed to purchase a device for the village and site it on or near to the village hall. We also agreed to arrange a training course for interested parishioners - I will come to that later. If you are unsure about the need for a defibrillator and missed the short talk given by a one of Mandy Lowes colleagues at our November meeting, you may find the following quote from Wikipedia interesting:

'Studies have shown that immediate CPR followed by defibrillation within 3–5 minutes of sudden cardiac arrest dramatically improves survival. In cities such as Seattle where CPR training is widespread and defibrillation by EMS personnel follows quickly, the survival rate is about 20 percent for all causes and as high as 57 percent if a witnessed "shockable" arrest. In cities such as New York, without those advantages, the survival rate is only 5 percent for witnessed shockable arrest'.

Of course we don't live in Seattle and some of the language (witnessed shockable arrest?) is a bit strange. However, it is clear that a combination of CPR and defibrillation gives a significant number of heart attack victims a better chance of survival. It is also clear that in a rural community like ours a 20 minute wait for an ambulance is likely to be the norm and without intervention that wait would probably be fatal.

So, we have ordered a defibrillator which will be placed in a secure, heated box on or near the village hall. Anyone in Gayton who has to deal with a heart attack victim will be given the secure code to the box when they phone the NHS help line. This will enable them to access the defibrillator and fit it to the patient quickly, hopefully in the critical first few minutes. The NHS will remain on the line throughout to provide support until an ambulance arrives.

It is very important to understand that the defibrillator is only part of the overall treatment required and that to improve the patient's chance of recovery it is essential to carry out constant cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) until the ambulance arrives. That is a skill that many of us don't have, so we are going to organise a 2 hour training session in February 2018. A Para Medic from the NHS will work with people to give them a good knowledge of both CPR and the use of the defibrillator. The CPR training alone is well worth while so I hope lots of you can turn up to take advantage of it. The date will be confirmed and publicised once we have finalised it with Mandy Lowe - hopefully before Christmas.

I will continue with a plea for re-enforcements! There are currently only four of us on the PC so if two of us are unavailable, as was the case in October, we can't form a quorum and have no choice but to cancel the meeting. We can manage this in the short term but it will inevitably lead to problems, e.g. late payment of our bills, missing external meetings etc.. continued ....



Notes from Gayton Parish Council continued ....

So, if you think you may like to get involved come along and see what goes on, please contact Viv Hartley our Village Clerk at [viv.hartley3@btinternet.com](mailto:viv.hartley3@btinternet.com). for details.

I would like to close on a lighter note. Every year, on Gayton Allotment, the members organise a BBQ. We put up a gazebo and incinerate sausages, burgers and fish (regardless of the weather). Members bring salads and puds and a freezer box keeps our drinks, both alcoholic and soft, cool and refreshing. We thought that if the allotment can regularly get forty or fifty people attending, how many would come from the village if we organised a similar event at the Village Hall?

If you think it might be a good idea to organise a village BBQ in 2018 (once the weather warms up) and you'd like bring yourself and a bottle and something for the buffet, or even help organise please contact me at [carlhamiltonat5@gmail.com](mailto:carlhamiltonat5@gmail.com) or Viv at the address above.

Carl. [carlhamiltonat5@gmail.com](mailto:carlhamiltonat5@gmail.com)

## Another Magical Evening in St Mary's Church

Once again Helen Swift, Jonathan French and Stephen Morris came to Gayton and wowed us with their exceptional talent and vibrant personalities as they presented their fifth Gala Concert in September.

This year's event was entitled 'A Night at the Movies'. As in previous years, our guests began in classical style, with music from Vivaldi and Mozart before moving on to works from more modern composers. Helen sang *Bushes and Briars* by Vaughan Williams – a personal favourite from the film 'Far from the Madding Crowd' – and Jonathan deserved his standing ovation for his unbelievable performance of *Hungarian Rhapsody No.2* by Liszt.

More popular and well known movie themes followed including songs from West Side Story, Schindler's List, Star Wars and Porgy and Bess with Stephen playing Bess on clarinet and Helen singing Porgy in their rendition of *Bess you is my woman now*.

The concert ended with the audience enthusiastically joining in the singing of *As time goes by* from the film Casablanca. A really lovely way to end a lovely evening.

No-one would have guessed that Helen was suffering from a really painful migraine which affected her vision throughout the concert. Such talent and professionalism!

A huge thank you as always to the people who helped both before and during the evening. Also, thanks to Gayton Alms Charities for their on-going support. The event was again sold out and made just under £1000 which will help us to meet the ever increasing costs of running our church for one more year.

David Coppock



## HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS CHRISTMAS FOOD GIVING

The Foodbank gives out Christmas bags to people who come for food in December. They very much welcome donations in the form of Christmas treats to help brighten up Christmas for people who have very little. The Foodbank also welcome donations of toiletry items such as toilet paper, toothpaste, soap, shampoo etc. Please contribute these by the 15th December to enable them to be given out before Christmas. We want to make sure that no one in our local community has to go hungry, but we need your help to make this happen. Your gift of food, time or financial support will make a real difference. Towcester foodbank is a project founded by local people and community groups, working together towards stopping hunger in our local area. Based in the St John Ambulance hall, Islington Road, it opens twice a week on Tuesdays between 12.00noon – 2.00pm and Fridays between 10.00am – 12.00noon. The Foodbank is staffed by volunteers, the shelves in the storeroom are stocked with the food kindly donated by members of the public and organisations. If you would like to support the foodbank in some way please visit the Give Help page on their website for more details [www.towcester.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.towcester.foodbank.org.uk). Items currently needed are 'all foods except pasta and baked beans', toiletries, household items such as tin openers, tea towels, toilet rolls, kitchen rolls, cling film are all very much needed. Bring your donation to the Foodbank or to Tesco and Waitrose in Towcester and St Lawrence Church in Towcester. Thank you.

## Gayton Primary School

Whittlebury Primary joined Gayton for the day to celebrate Harvest. We went to Gayton Church for our Harvest Service. All of the children then returned to school and carried out some fun Harvest activities.

Gayton School raised £212 for Children in Need. We held a mufti day and had a Gayton bake off competition, we had some amazing cakes brought into school. Pudsey bear came to visit all the children in the Federation which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

The children will be singing carols on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December in school at 2pm, we will be welcoming the Evergreens and would also like to invite others from the village to join us.

Children across the Federation took part in a Cluster Football Competition last term, we would like to congratulate them on making it through to the finals. Our children throughout the Federation also attended the Sports Hall Athletics at Sponne.







Thanks to Barry Steer we have a superb collection of pictures of autumnal sunny days in Gayton





## Calendar of events

### December 2017

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30am	Morning Worship at Gayton Church
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Evergreens Christmas Lunch
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Gayton Walkers Monthly Walk – meet at Fiveways
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Family Communion Service at Gayton Church
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Gayton Cyclists Monthly Ride – meet at Fiveways

### January 2018 HAPPY NEW YEAR

Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Morning Worship at Gayton Church
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Evergreen AGM followed by a slide show – Village Hall
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Gayton Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Gayton Walkers Monthly Walk – meet at Fiveways
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	Family Communion at Gayton Church
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	2.30pm	Evergreen Event – Speaker Kevin Varty
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Gayton Cyclists Monthly Ride – meet at Fiveways

### February

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Morning Worship at Gayton Church
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Gayton Walkers Monthly Walk – meet at Fiveways
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Gayton Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	12noon	Evergreen Lunch outing
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Family Communion Service at Gayton Church
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Gayton Cyclists Monthly Ride – meet at Fiveways
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Evergreen Bingo – Village Hall

### March

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Morning Worship at Gayton Church
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Gayton Walkers Monthly Walk – meet at Fiveways
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Gayton Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Family Communion Service at Gayton Church
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Gayton Cyclists Monthly Ride – meet at Fiveways

### April

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	9.30am	Morning Worship at Gayton Church
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Gayton Walkers Monthly Walk – meet at Fiveways
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Gayton Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Family Communion Service at Gayton Church
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am	Gayton Cyclists Monthly Ride – meet at Fiveways

Thank you very much to everyone who contributes to the Gayton News and to those who deliver it to the village. I wish you and everyone in village a Wonderful Christmas and a Healthy & Happy New Year. Karen.

**PLEASE EMAIL YOUR ARTICLES FOR THE SPRING EDITION BY FRIDAY 16 MARCH**

**TO: [karencooper@mortimers.uk.com](mailto:karencooper@mortimers.uk.com)**

**The Paddocks, Baker Street, Gayton      Tel: 07753 638 180**