

GAYTON NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2018



What a summer

Operation Viper is Northamptonshire Police's crackdown on serious and organised crime. Serious and Organised Crime has no home in Northamptonshire. The Police need the communities help in telling them if you are aware of any issues in your area so they can investigate them. Please take a moment to complete the survey. The Police are determined to make Northamptonshire a hostile place for criminals, they rely on our communities to provide them with a wider intelligence picture. Everything we tell them, no matter how small, counts. Please feel free to share this link on any social media pages where the users may also want to have their say. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ViperSaxonDaventrySouthNorthants>



Daventry & South Northants Neighbourhood Teams **Would you like help identify policing priorities in your local area?**

If so, please follow this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DaventryandSouth>

Campion School & Language College. It has been wonderful to greet all students and colleagues at the start of this new term. It was also good to give a special Campion welcome to our new students, parents and colleagues. Our Sixth Form enrolment was especially busy this year and we were delighted to be joined by six overseas students and those joining our Sixth Form from other schools too.



Whilst school might close to students for the summer, the 'holiday period' was busy and included some very special occasions. Exam results days are particular highlights and we enjoyed celebrating much success with our GCSE and A level students as they received their exam results and secured their places at university and on top apprenticeships; Campion students are heading off to Cambridge, Oxford, Warwick, Leicester, Sheffield and Manchester universities, to name but a few. We wish them continued success in the future (copies of the Root are on our website). We were also thrilled that our World Challenge Team enjoyed a wonderful experience in India and arrived safely back with us.

The Site, Cleaning and Network Teams were particularly busy with a vast range of work taking place to further improve our facilities. We were pleased to receive the keys to our newly extended F block which will now house the English team and a great new toilet block; we have a brand new Science lab to replace the leaking mobile; three new ICT suites have been created; and a new ramp has been built to ensure accessibility for all to C and F Blocks. All of this is in addition to the usual deep clean and painting which takes place over the summer. Work now continues on site with our £548,000 changing room refurbishment project. I am very grateful to all colleagues who contributed to this programme of works – their commitment and high quality work is greatly appreciated.

As we head into the new school year, I look forward to working together with all members of our school and local communities to provide the very best experiences for all students at Campion. Claire Whitmore. Headteacher

GAYTON EVERGREEN CLUB

The June outing to Turweston Aerodrome was a great success. Members enjoyed a light lunch in the café situated on the second floor of the control tower. It has panoramic views of the airfield and gives an opportunity to watch the small planes take off and land. At the annual Strawberry Tea members were served a traditional afternoon tea with sandwiches, strawberries and cream, cake and as much tea as could be consumed!

The annual fundraising Coffee Morning in August was very well attended by members and their friends. There were stalls to browse, a raffle, tombola and cakes for sale. The morning raised £258.67 which will be used to support our activities through the year.

Our Autumn programme begins on Tuesday 11th September with a talk from Alan Brewer called "Up in the clouds (with some fluffy bits)". Alan worked as an airline steward for 38 years and has travelled the world many times over, flying with BOAC/BA, cooking in the air and looking after VIPs. We are looking forward to hearing about his interesting encounters and anecdotes. 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Guests £3.50.

Thursday 27 September we have a lunch outing to the family run Jeyes in Earls Barton, NN6 0NA Departing from Fiveways at 11.15 am. We expect to be back in Gayton at around 3 pm. Transport £2. Thursday 11 October we have our fish & chip lunch by Howe & Co. Please bring plate, knife, fork and spoon and any special drink you might want. Juice and tea/coffee will be provided. Cost to be advised. 12.30pm in the Village Hall. Tuesday 23 October is Bingo afternoon. Guests £1. 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Thursday 15 November brings another lunch outing, this time to the refurbished Weston Favell Shopping Centre, NN3 8JZ. Departing from Fiveways at 11.00am. We expect to be back in Gayton at around 3pm. Transport £1.50.

Tuesday 27 November we welcome back the Hunsbury Voices Community Choir, who entertained us so well in June 2017. Family and friends are very welcome – it would be good to outnumber the large choir! 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Guests £3. Thursday 6 December is the Christmas lunch at The Boat Inn in Stoke Bruerne, NN12 7SB. Departing from Fiveways at 11.30am. A three course meal with a drink, tea/coffee and mince pie. (Arrive 12.00 noon for 12.30 pm) Members only. Transport £2.

Future Meetings & Events in 2019

January	Tue 8 th	Bingo	Tue 22 nd	AGM
February	Tue 12 th	Speaker	Thu 28 th	Fish & chip lunch
March	Tue 12 th	Entertainment	Thu 28 th	Lunch outing

Full details of these meetings including timings and costs are on the Gayton website.

Members were sad to learn of the death of Renee Dundas. Over the last five years Renee been cared for at Spencer House in Northampton. She was a member of the Gayton Evergreen Club from 1986 and Treasurer from 1994-2008.

Gayton Evergreen Club warmly welcomes new members, who are 55 and over.

If you are interested in joining this friendly and lively club please contact one of the committee members Carol Coppock (859645), Jan Leeding (859275), Manja Ronne (859253), or Naomi Sheehan (859814). Carol Coppock

It's been another solid season for **Gayton Cricket Club** finishing 5th in the South Northants Cricket League Division 3. Played 15, won 7, lost 7, one tie. Our strategy of having a different captain every week has worked well, confusing opposition teams and ourselves at times.

After last year's exciting debut of local lad Freddie Holcombe, a few more juniors have started their Gayton careers in earnest this season. Fourteen-year-old Tom Hill has had a wonderful debut season scoring runs (including a game changing partnership of over 70 runs) and taking wickets. Sixteen-year-old Sophie Willis has bowled and fielded superbly alongside sixteen-year-old Gayton veteran Ed Salaman (now playing in his 5th season) whose batting performances on 2 occasions this season have thwarted the mighty Gawcott. Jon Whiting, just 19, has finally made his first 50's for the club and blown teams away with his ferocious fielding. And 13-year-old Ohm Dam suddenly became a bowling machine to be feared.

The magic moment of the season came in the last match, a game where Gayton scored 263 for 3 in 40 overs, when our proper cricketing star Henry Newby (95 with the bat and 5-23 with the ball that day) bowled in tandem with his 12-year-old son Alfie (or King Alfred as he is known). Our Northern Irish giant - Reid Wilson - went from being our worst batsman to 3rd in the averages this season, including the winning runs against the top team. Our 70-year-old apprentice, young Chris Leads, continued to snaffle slips catches all season. Sadly, the Aussie keeper showed his age at 52 with a record number of byes, dropped catches and missed stumpings - much to the disdain of our star allrounder and spin bowler - Amit Dam. Still, the Aussie keeps his place due to the most incredible home-made afternoon teas his wife Amanda provides each week. Gayton is quickly becoming the benchmark for the whole of the UK's village cricket afternoon tea scene.

Jon Bobsin, playing since the age of 8 in his 25th season, just 25 more to catch up to father Neil Bobsins 50 at Gayton, was as menacing as ever with bat and ball as was on-call nurse Nathan and our international man of mystery Spencer (if that really is his name). When Chris Reeve (not superman) turned up he continued to thrill occasionally including a season high 68 in the last match.

The ground has never looked more English "picture postcard" and it's been great to see some of the locals - Alfie, Bobby, Sam and Alfie - enjoy the junior's training during the season.

We are lucky to have the support of retired players in and around Gayton - Merryn Robinson, Martin Church, Bill Roberts, Mervyn Cockerill, Neil Clark and Chris Johnson. Mark Leeding has also been a great help this season with pavilion repairs and a very special thank you to Jim Byron. Without Jim's generosity, support and guidance, we wouldn't have a club in Gayton.

And now for the "how you might be able to help" bit. With some of the youths going off to university shortly, we are looking for new players for next season. As long as you have a sense of humour and know the difference between a bat and a ball, you'll fit in perfectly. Age or gender is no issue. We will start the juniors again next May on a Saturday morning and more information will come out closer to then.

The pavilion is now 20 years old and we will be completing a few necessary repairs to the ceiling and doors this month. At least one or two of us knows what we are doing. Continued

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There are lots of other jobs needed to be done so if anyone has a trade related skill, you are always welcome to help out. The ground will also be worked on over the next few weeks, the pitches next season will only be good because of the work we do in September this year. If anyone has an old mower they could lend/gift the club, that would be very useful for certain work.

Going forward, we are working towards raising enough money for a sit on roller, a generator for the pavilion, and an artificial wicket for the juniors. Any expertise or help is always welcome.

If you are keen to play, or help out in any way, or just come along and watch the entertainment, contact Merryn Robinson on 01604 858276 / 07740 603920

You have two sides one out in the field and one in each man that's in the side that's in goes out and when he's out comes in and the next man goes in until he's out when they are all out the side that's out comes in and the side that's been in goes out and tries to get out those coming in sometimes you get men still in and not out when both sides have been in and out including the not outs the winner is declared if there is one!

Howzat!



Fundraising for World Challenge Cambodia and Thailand trip My name is Lucy Ward and I live in Gayton. In 2019 I will participate in a 3 week World Challenge trip to Cambodia and Thailand. World Challenge is an organisation that supports communities in the developing World and helps students “build the life skills young people need to live a life of courage, kindness and adventure”. The challenge is student-led and over the next 18 months we will participate in: team building/skills development exercises; a training expedition; planning for the trip

itinerary (which includes engaging with local communities, conservation work and jungle trekking) and **Fundraising! My fundraising target is £3500!** I hope to raise this money by Babysitting, Dog walking/pet sitting, running local events eg afternoon tea, giving presentations to local groups eg Rotary, Church, Evergreen Club etc. I am 16 and have been a volunteer swim coach at a local swim club for the past 2 years. I also recently qualified as an ASA Assistant Swim Teacher so I have experience of working with young children, safeguarding procedures and first aid. I love animals and regularly walk my dog around the local fields. I can provide references, if required. Thank you - I hope to hear from you! Lucy. Please do get in touch - by supporting me you will also be supporting the local communities of Cambodia and Thailand. Contact Lucy at twomk@hotmail.co.uk Tel: 07884 480953 please leave a message if I am unable to answer.



South Northants Art Trail in 2017 was another huge success! More artists, more venues and more visitors! We were delighted to see so many people, both familiar faces and new. There was a plethora of talent on show, jewellery, ceramics, textiles, photography, millinery, paintings, sculpture and more with many of the artists and makers demonstrating their craft to appreciative onlookers. One thing that makes this Art Trail especially successful is that it is across a relatively small area making it easy for visitors to navigate their way around several venues in a day. Work was admired, much of it purchased, ideas exchanged and coffee, tea and cakes consumed. All in all a super week.

We can now look forward to our 6th Trail, which runs from Saturday 6 to Sunday 14 October and is supported by an SNC Local Community Grant It will be the biggest so far with 68 artists taking part, exhibiting in 20 venues, with people having the chance to meet artists, learn first-hand about how their work is created and to buy directly from them. All the exhibitions are free to enter and some of the artists will also be offering ‘have a go’ sessions too. You may have to book your session in advance for these.

For more information visit www.arts-sn.org.uk or pick up an Art Trail programme from venues across the district including The Forum and our libraries.

Gayton & Tiffield Community Minibus

Hi Everyone, our beautiful summer weather has now made the 'Beast from the East' a distant memory and as the warm weather is scheduled to continue through September and into October, hopefully our drivers and passengers can continue to don their bikinis and speedos to attract attention to our Tuesday and Friday minibus services.

Our annual AGM is scheduled for October 25 at Gayton Village Hall to elect our trustees and officers for the forthcoming year. Cate Gardener, our Treasurer, has again done a brilliant job in keeping the finances in great shape and will be presenting the annual accounts at the AGM. We are still in the process of replacing our Minibus with a similar model fitted with a much better retracting step and sat-nav, but incorporating an electrically driver operated sliding door requires official safety approval which hopefully will shortly be resolved.

We were involved with the local commercial bus operators in the consultation meetings with Highways England and the contractors in the pre-planning for the A5 Towcester roadworks. We provided extensive input on the planned closure of all the A43 crossing points for 'traffic safety reasons' between the M1 and Tove roundabout. Unfortunately our input on the predictable safety hazards was ignored, resulting in Stagecoach having to issue, at very short notice, a totally revised timetable for all their scheduled services between Towcester and Northampton who use the Blisworth A43 crossing point. Predictably this crossing point closure caused immediate traffic hazards with buses having to slow down on the A43 as they approach from the M1 roundabout the tight turn down into Blisworth and having to use almost all the road width on the tight turn! So eventually Highways decided with only 2 days' notice to bus operators to re-open the Blisworth and St John's crossing points because of 'traffic safety considerations,' rendering the Stagecoach revised timetables and routes a costly waste of time. I am sure local residents are equally bemused that Highways England insist that using the narrow, poorly surfaced Caldecote lane with blind bends and few passing points is much safer than using the Donkey Lane crossing point!

With Christmas approaching we are again planning to run shopping trips to MK and Oxford in December subject to getting a minimum of 6 passengers for each trip. We will confirm the dates, prices and times for the runs following the AGM but the trips will continue to be excellent value for a 'door to door' service to these attractive shopping venues.

With excellent financial reserves, record revenues from Private Hire and the impending arrival of a new minibus we continue to be in great shape, **but** we all need to ensure that everyone in our communities are aware of the need to **actually use the service**. This will ensure that we can continue to operate to Northampton and Towcester on a scheduled basis which provides us with the minibus which is a valuable community resource for local clubs, schools, organisations as well as individuals.

Our thanks to everyone in our communities, our Parish Councils, our Trustees and of course especially to our drivers and passengers for your help and support in keeping our village Minibus service going for an amazing 33 years!

Rae Spencer - 01327 353352 - rae.spencer@btopenworld.com - Mobile 07784 - 561268

Gayton Primary School We would like to welcome our 6 new reception pupils and their families that have joined us here at Gayton Primary School this September. We would also like to welcome our two new Class 1 teachers, Mrs Thurley and Mrs Steventon we wish them lots of luck in their new roles here at Gayton.

The summer term flew by, we hope all the children had a fabulous summer break and are ready and refreshed for a busy and exciting school year ahead.



We wish Good luck to our year 6 pupils that left us in July and hope they are having fun and enjoying their time at their new secondary schools. They celebrated their time at Gayton by putting on a fantastic leavers show for all our pupils and parents.



They also had their leaving prom with all the other year 6 pupils across the Federation on their last week, they all looked lovely for the occasion and enjoyed dancing, mocktails and the photo booth.



We would like to invite Parents, Grandparents, Friends and the Gayton residents to our Macmillan Coffee morning being held in school on Friday 28 September from 8.45am to 10.30am. We look forward to seeing you, please spread the word.

Teachers and pupils will be attending the Harvest Church service on Sunday 7 October at Gayton Church.



A Note from the Rectory

Ernest Hemingway said *“There is nothing to writing. All you do is sit down at the typewriter and bleed”* There are few things worse than sitting in front of a blank computer screen when someone had demanded that you produce something. It could be a sermon, a letter, a novel, a report. But when it is completed, it can feel like a weight has been lifted from our shoulders. We say to ourselves, *“Look what I have done!”* And we might even go on to share with our friends or colleagues what an arduous task creating this thing was. Why does writing feel like such an accomplishment? As Hemingway suggests, we leave a little bit of ourselves in each word.



To an infinitely greater extent, God has left Himself in each word of Scripture written for us. It's a book that is definitely beyond what any man could have written. Without the Holy Spirit, what could mere man have produced? Humans would have been incapable of actually revealing anything about God's nature without supernatural intervention. But the Bible itself says that all Scripture is *“God-breathed”*. God sent the Holy Spirit to move through David, Paul, and the other 40-plus writers who authored the Bible.

It's a miracle, if you think about it. In symbols of Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic (and now translated into more languages than any other book in the world), God reveals Himself to humanity. God's true character can be learned from reading His Word – and His true emotions toward us are revealed, too. The writing of the Bible was directed by the Spirit of God, and only through the Holy Spirit can we begin to comprehend such love as we read, ponder, and meditate on those words – but that's not the end of it.

“You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life”. – John 5:39-40

The Holy Spirit uses God's Word to reveal who God is to us in Jesus. That's the end game. That's why God wrote. That's why He bled. Those of us who are in Christ have the capacity to truly know who He is and experience Him in a rich way every moment of every day.

Holy Spirit, thank you for expressing love in a way I can understand through the Word so that I can come to Jesus and find life. Make the living and active Word of God come alive today, that I might be able to comprehend that which otherwise would be beyond me. Amen

Love in Christ
Reverend Karen

Your Parish Council

The Parish Council (PC) has decided that over the next 12 months we should make a concerted effort to improve communication with villagers and village organisations and the Gayton News seems like the logical place to start.

Let's begin with the budget. Most of what the PC does is paid for by Council Tax, our share being about £60 to £70 Per Annum for mid-range Council Tax payers. Most of this money is spent on essential services such as maintaining street lights, cutting grass and maintaining the children's playground but a small proportion goes towards keeping Gayton an attractive and safe place to live.

These non-essential services include such things as the refurbishment of the village sign, replacement of the post box, maintenance of the benches on the Pound and installation of dog waste bins. If you have ideas for any other small projects that would benefit the village, why not e-mail me, or Viv the Parish Clerk (see address later), or come to our next meeting.

Next, I would like to outline some of the things on our agenda. We recently installed a defibrillator on the outside wall of the village hall. So, in future, if you are with someone who suffers a heart attack, when you ring 999 you will be given a code to access the defibrillator. Having collected the device and opened the package, recorded messages instruct you on what to do. We have already provided training but intend to hold another session if enough people are interested, please e-mail Viv (our Parish Clerk) at clerkgaytonpc@gmail.com if you would like attend.

You may have noticed that there is quite a bit of building work going on in Gayton at the moment. Work has started on converting the Queen Victoria Pub into flats and building two houses in the car park. Also, the two houses destroyed by fire on Bugbrooke Road will shortly be re-built. The next potential development is also on Bugbrooke Road and consists of converting Hillcrest Farm into residential homes. This is still in the planning stage and if you would like to know more, details can be found on the SNC Planning site.

Speeding remains a big issue to many people in the village, especially on Bugbrooke Road and Back Lane. We recently met with a Highways representative from Northampton Council to discuss some options and ideas. We can't get much from a Northants Council that is strapped for cash but do expect some help with additional/improved speeding signs and a 20mph speed limit in the vicinity of the school was not ruled out. We'll keep you posted on that one.

Those who know about such things suggest that Parish Councils may find themselves with additional duties as the changes to local government in Northamptonshire take shape. Some villages are already organising bus routes and I'm sure that other services will have to be provided locally or will disappear. It is important to be in a position to deal with these changes as they happen and a full complement of Councillors and volunteers is very important. At the moment we have one vacancy due to the departure from the village of Pete Foster (thanks for all your hard work Pete) If you would like to fill that vacancy please speak to Viv or come along to our next meeting.

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We have been debating for some time whether or not to produce a new Village Plan and have decided against it, at least for the moment. But we will review the existing plan (it's on the Gayton Website) and see if there are good ideas that haven't yet been implemented.

We will also get as much feedback as possible from villagers regarding things they would like to see happen, without getting them to fill out questionnaires. Some of the things we will do in order to improve lines of communication are:

- Put a larger, more visible notice board on the Pound next to the post box to make PC business accessible to everyone whether or not they have access to the internet.
- Introduce our own website with links to all important services and sources of information.
- Monitor village news on Facebook and Twitter. Note: We would give a huge welcome to anyone who is comfortable and expert with social media who wishes to join the council and become our tweeter.
- Strengthen links between the PC and Village Hall Committee with a view to helping refurbish the village hall.
- Make more use of the village messaging system.

Last, but not least, the next PC meeting will be on 10th October in the village hall and the Agenda will be published, as always, on our noticeboard next to the old Queen Vic and on the Gayton Website. Please come and see what goes on and have your say at our 'public voice' session.

Carl Hamilton

Chairman

E-mail: chairmangaytonpc@gmail.com

GAYTON AUTUMN LITTER PICK

Our Autumn litter pick will be on **SUNDAY 28TH OCTOBER**. Please meet at Linthorpe House, Back Lane from 10am onwards. Picking tools, sacks and Hi-viz tabards will be provided. Gloves are available but as they are well worn it is preferable for you to bring your own (or some thin inner gloves). Tea and coffee will be served on your return.

The lanes around the village seem to act like a magnet for people to throw their litter in the hedges and verges - we always fill up about 20 sacks! If you have an hour (or even longer) to spare please come along. New faces are most welcome.

It would help me with organisation if you would please let me know if you are able to come.

Joan Wood Tel: 858800 email: joanwood8@btinternet.com



Gayton Village Hall Fundraising

Well, it's been a very busy 4 months since we joined the Village Hall committee and took on the role of fundraising for the Village Hall. So far we have managed to raise £780 for the Village Hall which is a good way towards our goal of £1200 for June – December 2018.

Thank you so much to everyone who has attended, helped, donated and supported our events. It is lovely that the Village Hall is becoming a real 'social hub' for the village bringing long standing and new residents together, friendships made and lots of family fun had along the way, we do hope that this momentum continues.

Upcoming events:

22 September - Wine and cheese pairing evening on

28 September - Children's Halloween Party

10 November – TBA, Possibly Race Night

1 December – Family Christmas Disco

Gayton Village Hall Improvements - We hope that you have noticed by now that the porch has been re-clad and stained which makes the Village Hall more welcoming and considerably tidier. Thank you to A Hinds Fencing and volunteers for doing a fantastic job.

Ready for the darker evenings, the broken outside light has been replaced with a more energy efficient new model. Thank you to Jos Holligan for fixing this for us.

You also may have noticed that Joan has arranged for a recycling bin for the Village Hall, at present we've only got a regular sized one, it is very encouraging to find that this does seem to be filling up very quickly so we will monitor and replace with a larger model if there is a need.

The committee are currently in the process of replacing the blown window panes and are looking into funding options to replace all the doors, we are also hoping to get the committee room carpet cleaned by the end of the year.

And don't forget, there is a Gayton Village Hall facebook group where we advertise events, you can submit suggestions for events and have your say. Please request to join and we will add you so you can keep up to date.

Leandra and Nina on behalf of the Gayton Village Hall Committee



St Mary the Virgin

As appears fairly typical, all has been a little quiet over the summer/holiday season apart from the odd wedding service or two. With that said, those enthusiastic souls that took part in the recent annual Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust sponsored "Ride and Stride" deserve our thanks as 50% of the money they raise comes back in our direction for the benefit of Gayton church. The weather was again on our side but that should not belittle the achievements of the cohort of ramblers, press-ganged into action by those Kelsos again. Much deserved thanks also to those who provided and/or dished out refreshments to those visiting here on the day, I am sure it makes the hill you have to face to get here more bearable.

Casting further back, as they had promised, we had a merry band of volunteers doing a bit of de-forestation and scrub clearance in the church yard, it is in on-going task and in conjunction with the regular grass mowing it certainly aids the navigation within what is quite a difficult area to maintain (too many bumps, holes and stones). Because we had so much fun, we thought we would do it again, probably towards the end of October, we shall keep you posted.

The autumn time though appears to be a little busier as we look towards the festive activities such as the Harvest Festival at 5.30pm on the 7th of October, this being in conjunction with the school and supported by the Gayton Festival Singers. We also have the Harvest Quiz fund-raiser looming on the 20th of October.

At 3.00pm on the 28th of October there is to be a Service for the Commemoration of the Departed at Holy Cross Church, Pattishall, at which we shall have the opportunity to remember recent losses of family and friends to people of our Parishes, this always proves to be a fitting and, if I may say, nice way to call to mind those nearest and dearest to us. The traditional Remembrance Services follow in the Benefice in November, this year they shall be a part of a wider ranging move to incorporate the centenary of the end of the Great War. More information and reminders will follow on these events closer to the dates.

On the subject of reminders..... on the pastoral front, we continue with a 9.30am service on the 1st Sunday, this is now a communion service whereas the 11.00am service on the 3rd Sunday of the month is one of Family Worship without Communion. However, the monthly service rota is currently under review in the benefice, we shall of course let you know in plenty of time should there be any proposed changes.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding church matters by all means please contact the Church Wardens David Coppock (859645), Andy Hartley (858360) or the Rev'd Karen as below:-

Rev'd Canon Karen A Jongman
The Rectory, 17 Church Street, Pattishall NN12 8NB
01327 830569 / 07980 881252
karenajongman@gmail.com

Andy Hartley

Gayton Church Heritage Trust – (GCHT) September 2018

The church has a nice new roof now which has made a big difference to the feeling inside the building in that it is slowly drying out, much helped by the hot summer we have experienced this year.

The next project is to overhaul the heating, in particular in the South Aisle which currently has nothing in the way of radiators. There is in the region of £10,000 in the GCHT account but another £40,000 at least needs to be raised before any improvement can be undertaken. I hope that funding can be gained by applying for grants and the remainder from events in the village.

The next event is a Halloween Disco, in fact there are two Halloween Discos this year!! The first in the Village Hall at 7.30pm until late on Saturday 27 October organised by GCHT to raise money towards Church Heating.

HALLOWEEN DISCO VILLAGE HALL, GAYTON **SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER 7.30PM TILL LATE** **TICKETS £15 TO INCLUDE PARTY FOOD** **DRESS TO IMPRESS – BEST OUTFIT WINS A PRIZE** **CASH BAR – RAFFLE**

On Sunday 28 October is a Children's Halloween Party between 5:00 and 7:00pm organised by Leandra Bramham to raise money for the Village Hall.



I hope both events will be well attended. A variety of events in the village are an opportunity for people of all ages, to get to know each other better. A disco may not suit everybody but in the last couple of years they have been a real hit. All events are listed on the Gayton Website and in the Gayton News. Very many thanks to all Gayton organisers especially to the new Village Hall Team.

Anna Fox GCHT

Towcester Watermeadows will truly come to life on Sunday 14 October. The Chairman of South Northants Council, Cllr Richard Dallyn welcomes you to join him in raising money for his chosen charities, Katharine House, Willen, and Cynthia Spencer hospices.

The Watermeadows are currently underused, this is a great way to introduce new people to this wonderful public space. For those who love to walk and run, and for those who keep putting off that lifestyle change, this is the ideal opportunity to enjoy the Watermeadows.



The Fun Run will feature two races, 3 miles for those who want to challenge themselves, and 1.5 miles for fun runners, walkers, dog walkers and families. Bring your friends, your family and your dogs. Register to take part on line at via Eventbrite.



TOWCESTER FOODBANK
HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS

CAN YOU GIVE HELP Towcester Food Bank wants to make sure that no one in our local community has to go hungry, they need help to make this happen. Your gift of food and essentials, your time as a volunteer, financial support or business partnership will make a real difference. Volunteers are the life blood of foodbanks. Can you make a donation? They currently need all food items *except pasta and baked beans*, they also need toiletries and household items. Have a look at their website for their location in Towcester, their open times and how you can help. Towcester.foodbank.org.uk

Part of my District Council work includes the Foodbanks across South Northants District. I want to send a huge thank you to everyone involved, the volunteers, everyone who donates to this much needed cause and the Trustees. Thank you, Karen

Calendar of events

September

- Sunday 23 10.30am Gayton cyclists monthly ride – meet at Fiveways
Thurs 27 11.15am Depart from Fiveways. Evergreen lunch outing to Jeyes in Earls Barton

October

- Sunday 7 9.30am CW Family Communion. Gayton Church
5.30pm Harvest Festival with the Gayton Festival Singers and Gayton School.
Gayton Church
Wed 10 7.30pm Gayton Parish Council meeting. Village Hall
Thurs 11 12.30pm Evergreen Fish & Chip Lunch. Village Hall
Sunday 14 10.00am Gayton walkers monthly walk – meet at Fiveways
Sat 20 7.00pm Harvest Supper & Quiz
Sunday 21 11.00am Family Service. Gayton Church
Tues 23 2.30pm Evergreen Bingo afternoon. Village Hall
Sat 27 7.30pm Halloween Disco. Village Hall
Sunday 28 10.30am Gayton cyclists monthly ride – meet at Fiveways
3.00pm A Service of Commemoration. Holy Cross, Pattishall
5.00pm Children's Halloween Party. Village Hall

November

- Sunday 4 9.30am CW Family Communion. Gayton Church
Sunday 11 10.00am Gayton walkers monthly walk – meet at Fiveways
5.30pm Remembrance Service with the Gayton Festival Singers and Gayton
School. Gayton Church
Wed 14 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting. Village Hall
Thurs 15 11.00am Depart from Fiveways. Evergreen lunch outing to Weston Favell
Shopping Centre
Sunday 18 11.00am Family Service. Gayton Church
Sunday 25 10.30am Gayton cyclists monthly ride – meet at Fiveways
Tue 27 2.30pm Evergreen Event. Hunsbury Voices Community Choir. Village Hall

December

- Sunday 2 9.30am CW Family Communion. Gayton Church
Thurs 6 11.30am Depart from Fiveways. Evergreen Christmas lunch. The Boat Inn, Stoke
Bruerne
Sunday 9 10.00am Gayton walkers monthly walk – meet at Fiveways
5.30pm Carol Service with the Gayton Festival Singers and Gayton School.
Gayton Church
Sunday 16 11.00am Family Service. Gayton Church
Sunday 23 10.30am Gayton cyclists monthly ride – meet at Fiveways
Tues 25 9.30am Christmas Day Service. Gayton Church. Collection for a charity for the
homeless

Please email your articles for the December edition by Friday 23 November 2018

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The History of Evergreen Farm (Part Three: Chaos)

Richard Kent was a successful London Fishmonger and was wanting to make the transition from Tradesman to Property owner to Land owner to Gentry as so many Tradesmen aspired to do. He was a successful man and was well on the way to achieving this end. He set his sights on Gayton and started buying up affluent estates.

Richard Kent had bought Gayton Manor from Thomas Samwell for £11,021, plus £1,000 for the timber, and £1,000 for the Advowson, and he was able to let it for £420 per annum. Dover's House (Evergreen Farm) he paid £3,721 and let it at £105 pa and Hartley's House (the first Gayton House), described as a 'neat, small, house', cost him £950, and he kept this for his own occupation, but let out some land at £28 pa. Richard Kent had spent £11,692, had an income of £553 pa, and a mortgage of £6,000.

Photo: Courtesy of Betty East



Although it was known that Richard Kent was mortgaged up to the hilt, he was well regarded and it was generally thought that he would sort out his finances within a few years.

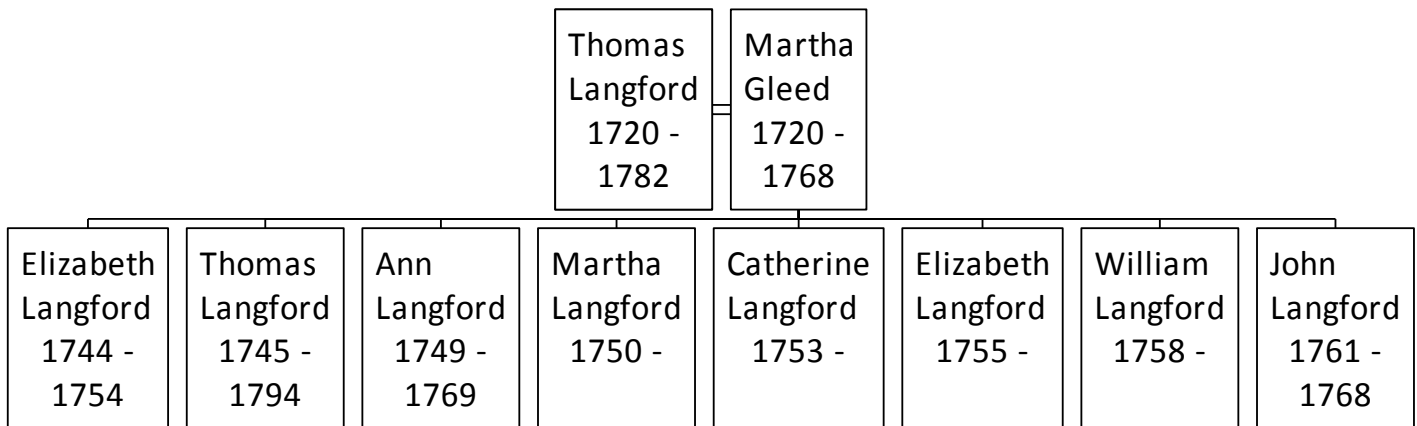
However, he died unexpectedly in 1753 and his son, also Richard Kent, was faced with paying off his father's mortgages.

Richard Kent, junior, was not a business man like his father, but a Captain in the Northampton Regiment of Militia. When his mother died four years later in 1757, his solution to the problem was to throw caution to the winds and further mortgage his father's estate for £9,000 to invest in a Privateering Scheme. He became Commander of 'The Volunteer' a private ship of war. A private ship of war operated under a Government licence and was, in effect, a Government sanctioned Pirate! Northamptonshire was agog and his father's creditors sat back and waited for the crunch!

John Markes had sold Dover's to Richard Kent in 1736 but continued renting and living in the farmhouse. For a time he may have 'supervised' the running of the Farm, but he was in financial difficulties himself and having to cut costs. Richard Kent senior had to concentrate on

earning money to pay off his mortgages, and his work was in London. A year after John Markes died, on 1 May 1753 the grasping Reverend Walter Griffith, who had paid over the odds to buy the advowson when it was vacant, fearing he would not now get his money in lieu of tithes, wrote to Richard Kent senior informing him the tithe agreement was £9 pa for the farm. Walter Griffith also states that the farm was now 'in the occupation of Thomas Langford, Husbandman, and others'. The import is that Langford (and others) were not the same calibre as the Markes, and Kent could make more money from the farm!

The Langford Family



Thomas and Martha Langford had children baptised in Gayton over a timespan of twenty years from 1744 until 1761 and may well have moved to work on Dover's just after their marriage perhaps living in the tenement in old Dover's House which was by now mainly used as a Granary and Brewery barn.

By 3 September 1760 Richard Kent junior was in desperate straits and agreed to convey his property to trustees who were to sell it for the benefit of his creditors, as he was unable to keep up the payments on the mortgage. Dover's and the Markes land once again was up for sale but so was the Manor and its land and the Gayton House Estate. The new purchaser of Gayton House, John Darker, was a trustee for the Northampton Infirmary and referred many Gayton people to the Infirmary when they were seriously hurt or sick. John Darker referred Thomas Langford there twice, in May 1766, and May 1767, once to outpatients for a blow to the eye and the second time Thomas Langford spent four months in the Infirmary, with Rheumatism. To be kept as an in-patient for four months he must have been in a bad way. Thomas Langford, a husbandman, died on 20 November 1782, a pauper.

Dover's Farm presented Richard Kent junior with additional problems: he could not find his father's leases for Dover's Farm. By now John Markes, had died, and his wife and daughter had moved away and died, so, in 1766 Richard was forced to advertise for the safe return of the leases in the London Gazette:

November 18-22 1766

Lost or mislaid, certain Indentures of Lease and Release, dated in the year 1736, being a Conveyance of a Freehold Estate at Gayton in the county of Northampton, from John Markes of Gayton aforesaid to Richard Kent of the Parish of St Clement Danes in the county of Middlesex, Fishmonger, since deceased

London Gazette Extracts by Ralph Hall

Meanwhile, in 1759, Richard Kent junior had had to let Dover's and Benjamin Lawton and his bride Ann Osborne rented the Farm and followed John Markes' widow, Elizabeth, into the Farmhouse. Benjamin Lawton became Richard Kent's tenant and in the absence of the leases in 1760 a Bargain and Sale was created to this effect listing the Farmhouse and Dover's House which included the farmyard over the road and the tenement of Thomas Pell and 105 acres. Whether Benjamin Lawton took advantage of Richard Kent's dire situation or not, Benjamin's rent was very low, he was living in a prestigious house which boasted 11 windows and he enjoyed remarkable privileges for wood cutting and ploughing.

Benjamin Lawton's Holding (Evergreen Farm) 1759-1771

Thomas Wilson's half acre
Nether Park
Fern Close
Upper Park
Pitts Meadow
Peter's Close
Farmhouse
Dover's House
Meadow Close
Maple Close
Pinfold Close
Meadow Close
Fern Close
Upper Barn Ground with Barn
Furze Close
Lower Barn Ground
Rush Meadow
Cottage Barn and Orchard
Stables, Farmyard, Pell's dwelling

Maidstone Archives, Ref: Hawley Estate U850 T13

Until the canal went through Gayton Parish in 1794-96 and coal became an accessible commodity for the people of Gayton, the control the king exerted nation-wide, over the right to gather the underwood from every foot of every hedge around every field, every landowner replicated in their own locality. Wood was sold to villagers and meticulously accounted for. Ben Lawton had negotiated himself a valuable perk.

Richard Kent was absent from Gayton, John Markes had died and Elizabeth Markes and her daughter, Margaret Markes had moved away. Benjamin Lawton was well aware that Pinfold Close and Waples Meadow were owned by Margaret Markes and after her death, Richard Glead. Kent's Trustees finally put up Ben Lawton's Farm to public auction in 1771 still with

Pinfold Close and Waples Meadow listed as part of the 105 acres. Henry Hawley, had inherited Dr Hawley's Estate in Gayton, and it was he who bought Dover's House.

Two years later, on 15 April 1773 Henry Jephcott who represented Henry Hawley wrote to him criticising Lawton's low rent and farming privileges 'from which he must now be restrained' with suggestions of how to extract more income from Ben Lawton's farm saying 'he will scarce continue to be your tenant'.

A 1773 Survey of Estate (Evergreen Farm) belonging to Dr Hawley, Benjm Lawton tenant

Little Pitch Meadow	19s - £2 2 10 1/4d
Great Pitch Meadow	20s - £7 12 4 1/2d
Thistle Hill	20s £6 13 6d
Upper Hill	19s - £3 1 11 3/4d
Siden Hill	20s £3 13 7 1/2d
Horse Hill	21s - £7 3 0 3/4d
Upper Park	20s - £14 7 6d
Nether Park	16s - £10 13s 21/4d
Pell's Close	21s - £5 3 61/2d
West Close	20s - £6 8 9d
Barn Close	18s - £10 7 6 3/4d
Fielding Lane Furlong	17s - £8 18 0 3/4d
Furze Close	16s - £10 9 10 3/4d
Rush Meadow	20s - £5 11 3d
Houghton's Close South	22s - £8 2 6 1/4d
Houghton's Close North	21s - £9 3 7 1/4d
Birt's Close, Rickyard, Fold Yard & Buildings	40s - £3 0 9d
Site of ye Farmhouse & Close adjoining	40s - £1 12 6d
Total acreage	£124 6 6 1/4d
Birt's Close, Rickyard, Fold Yard & Buildings	40s - £3 0 9d

Maidstone Archives, Ref: Hawley Estate U850 E2

Jephcott had already been in discussions with Mr George for one of his sons to take over the farm 'in case' Lawton quits. And sure enough by 1775 Samuel George was farming at Dover's.

As ownership of land passed from the experienced Country Gentlemen to the upwardly mobile Tradesman, and to the absentee landlord, so the quality of the farming of the land deteriorated and the opportunity for obscuring the issues, presented itself. (Notice how most of the field names had 'changed' between the 1771 list and the 1773 survey.) For a time everything fell apart in Gayton. How much was due to personalities, with standards being allowed to decline and how much an inevitable result of land rentals increasing due to Enclosure and attracting investors who had little farming experience?