

GAYTON NEWS



December
2018

MERRY CHRISTMAS
HAPPY NEW YEAR

St Mary the Virgin

Thank goodness the festivities of Christmas are just around the corner, something to take the mind off the shortening yet damper and gloomier days, at the time of writing anyway. Never mind, we should try and find sunshine where we can, such as reflecting on recent events. The Harvest Festival, Quiz and Supper came and went and a jolly good time was had by all. Very many thanks to the efforts of Alison Foster in co-ordinating the latter, all in the midst of moving away from Gayton and into the wilds of Moreton Pinkney, we all wish you and Pete good luck, health and fortune, we shall miss you on the PCC.

I am told the wind must have been blowing in the wrong direction on Remembrance Day as some of you in the extremities of the village were unable to hear the open church bells Ringing for Peace just after midday, this was along with thousands of other churches across the land, it was quite thought provoking. Also on Remembrance Sunday, the church hosted the Remembrance Service in the evening, supported by Gayton Festival Singers and was well attended by those on the village, the sum of £350 was collected and shall go to the Royal British Legion.

We were also recently privileged to have the Bishop of Peterborough attend and officiate a Confirmation Service for five Gaytonians, many thanks to those who made the fine array of very tasty post-service refreshments. The Collection from this service, approximately £200, is to benefit the Bishop's favoured leprosy based charity.

Looking ahead, we have the Carol Service from 5.30pm on Sunday the 9th of December, again with the successful support of Gayton Festival Singers and the children from Gayton School, it always turns out to be quite a fun event and so by all means please do come along.

We are also providing the benefice Christmas Midnight Communion Service starting at 11.15pm (I appreciate it doesn't actually start at midnight!!) on Christmas Eve. Consequently there is no Christmas Day Service here in Gayton, the alternatives being a 9.30am Family Service in Pattishall, 10.00am Communion Service in Cold Higham or an 11.00am Family Service in Tiffield.

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.

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
01327 830569 / 07980 881252 karenajongman@gmail.com

Andy Hartley

A Note from the Rectory

By the time you sit down to read this note, October will be over, our celebrations of another Harvest almost forgotten, and although the clocks will have gone back an hour, perhaps you will be looking forward to cosy evenings in by the fire! You may have attended a firework party, or have listened to the sound of fireworks as you sit in your warm home. As we came to this year's Remembrance Day, we gave thanks for the peace we enjoy in this country, and remembered that 100 years ago there were prayers for a lasting peace. And yet after another World War, and many other battles in which our men and women have been involved, we still need to pray for lasting peace, and we ask the question, why are so many people still fleeing their homes to reach a 'Promised Land' of Peace and Plenty? Yet many will encounter hostility, and hunger.

On every side we are facing world hunger. We may think about hunger only in personal terms. 'What will we have for dinner tonight? Or 'Next week I'll contribute a can of something for the food bank'. But we cringe when we see babies with bloated stomachs, too weak to be nursed by their starving mothers. When tragedy strikes the universal need for food and support is recognised.

Since the Harvest Service at Gayton, when the account of Naomi and Ruth was read, my thoughts have been very much with those two women, who, like many since them, fled their homes to reach a land which had peace and plenty of food. We read quickly and forget they endured ten years of famine, lack of food, deprivation and a lack of comfort or joy. And when they found food back in Bethlehem, the future still looked pretty bleak: there was no visible sign of support, two women very much on their own, they had experienced huge loss, and were now alone. Ultimately, God worked wonders that would trickle down to affect the lives of both Jews and Christians. King David and our Saviour Jesus Christ find Ruth in their lineage. The God who walked through the famine with them brought them to the feast of fullness. He promises to do the same for us but the timing might not be what we expect. Just like Naomi and Ruth, God's answers may come in surprising ways.

So as we prepare for Advent, and then Christmas, I am asking you to make a difference for someone you may never meet or know, Boaz in the story of Naomi and Ruth gave the edges of his field for Ruth to gather, and to share with her mother-in-law. Eventually he met Ruth, loved her, and she became his wife; their child was King David's grandfather.

Would you give something from the edges of your cupboard to the Food Bank, and cover the hands and feet of those in need with a pair of warm socks and gloves, for those in the Hope Centre? Boxes will be placed at the back of St Mary's church in Gayton into which you can put items of non-perishable food for the Food Bank. Towcester Food Bank are in need of all tinned foods and dry food except baked beans and pasta. Also items of clean clothing for the Hope Centre. The church is open every weekend from 9.30am until 4.00pm.



Love in Christ, Reverend Karen

GAYTON WALKERS

We continue to meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 10am, although our October walk had to be cancelled as the weather was awful. November proved to be a lovely day as we met at The Wharf, Bugbrooke. We had a 2hour walk along the canal, up to Litliff Farm then on to Eastcote. Being Remembrance Sunday, we stopped at 11am for a one minute silence. We were in a field in sunshine with lovely views over rural Northants. What a difference it was compared to the fields of N France and Belgium 100 years ago. The walk continued to Pattishall where, opposite the school, we paused to admire the memorial stone commemorating the Prisoner-of-War camp that was in nearby fields between 1914-1920. We continued through Pattishall and back to Bugbrooke for refreshments at The Wharf. The September walk was moved to the Saturday to coincide with the Historic Churches Ride & Stride fund-raising event. Unfortunately, there were only 3 from Gayton on this walk which went from Cold Higham church, visiting the churches of the benefice- Pattishall, Astcote chapel, Tiffield and Gayton. However, I was able to raise £200 of which £100 went to Gayton church. We do have some new residents in the parish who have expressed an interest in joining us in the future. Remember- 2nd Sunday, 10am, meet at Fiveways cross-roads. Dogs welcome.

Robin Kelso

Campion School

We have enjoyed a good start to the school year and are pleased that our year 7 students have settled in very well to their new school.

It has been an important term too as we have considered the contribution of others whose actions impact on our lives. This has included visits to Parliament. We were grateful to volunteers from local companies who gave their time to help our Year 11 students understand how to respond in interview situations and enjoy their World of Work Day on 9th October. The Diana Award facilitated a training session for our Anti-bullying Ambassadors on Wednesday 7th November and we were delighted to welcome students and colleagues from other local schools who are part of this too.

A most powerful and moving experience was felt when the whole school gathered together in the quad on Friday 9th November for our period of remembrance. Students and staff stood together in silence which had a significant impact on all.

We have been extremely pleased to be able to open our newly refurbished D Block changing rooms to students and community groups. They have been funded from a successful £548,000 Healthy Pupil Capital Fund with the aim to offer a bright, safe and secure environment for students and to further encourage their involvement in sporting activities. The second set of rooms will be completed by the end of January and we will then have high specification changing facilities to be enjoyed by all who are linked to our sports community. Our Hands (PTA) Team continue to work hard to raise funds for the school. We were pleased to welcome friends and neighbours to our HandS quiz night and fish and chip supper on 2nd November. Please check our website for dates of any future events.

As we head into December, on behalf of all at Campion I wish you a happy festive season and very best wishes for 2019.

Claire Whitmore, Headteacher



Dear friends in Gayton

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2019.

Instead of delivering individual Christmas cards to you, a donation will be made to Gayton Church Heritage Trust.

Jens and Manja, 6 Baker Street

FREE TO A GOOD HOME, EITHER FOR PERSONAL USE OR FOR SALE AT ONE OF OUR VILLAGE EVENTS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE CHURCH / VILLAGE HALL

APPROXIMATELY 50 BOOKS, MOSTLY BY AUTHORS JOSEPHINE COX AND ANNA JACOBS, OTHER AUTHERS TOO.

**PLEASE CONTACT STEPHANIE PLATT
01604 859150 / 07808 546 617**



Autumn Litter pick

Thank you to all those people who responded to my cry for help sent out on the village message system. It really does make me panic when the date for the litter pick gets so close and I only have a few names on my list of helpers!

In spite of the horrible cold weather sixteen hardy folk turned up so most of the roads were covered. 17 bags of litter, 12 plastic containers and a variety of bits and pieces were collected. Well done!

Joan Wood

Gayton Village Hall Management Committee

A quiet August has been followed by a busy September and October for our Village Hall. Alongside the regular users, the Evergreens, Dance Class and the Table Tennis, there is now a regular Yoga Class and a Toddler Group using the Hall.

Leandra Bramham and Nina McCarlie have been working tirelessly, organising events at the village hall to encourage community interaction, advertising on social media, raising funds to improve the 'presence' of the Hall and enlisting local trades to undertake some much-needed maintenance (e.g. rebuild of porch).

Other new members of the management committee are providing alternative perspectives regarding management and use of the Hall and we hope these 'small changes' will result in increased activities and income for your Village Hall.

Mark Leeding has retired from the management committee after 14 years of serving on the management committee. I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of Gayton Village, to thank Mark for all his time and efforts over the years, working towards ensuring the village hall remains a community asset.

Your Village Hall continues to be one of the cheapest venues in Northamptonshire for social events, clubs, activities and children's parties. Please continue to use your Village Hall.

David Ayre

Chair of Gayton Village Hall Management Committee

November 2018

Village Hall Hire Charges

The village hall can be hired from as little as £15 (£11 for the committee room) for a wide range of social activities.

If you require the Hall for a Private Function then charges start from £60 (where alcohol will be sold an appropriate licence can be obtained from South Northants Council).

Further information is available at www.gayton-northants.co.uk/services//villagehall.html

Or contact Joan Adams for bookings – 01604 859416.

Gayton Primary School

We held a very successful Coffee morning here at Gayton Primary in September and raised a fantastic £300.00. The school received lots of visitors during the morning who all enjoyed a slice of cake and coffee with the children.

Children are busy learning their parts for the Nativity service which will be held on, Sunday 9th December at 5.30pm at Gayton Church. The Nativity will be joined with the Gayton Church Carol service, we hope to see you all there.

We also have the pantomime coming up in December at the Royal and Derngate, this will be an exciting trip for the children before we break up for Christmas.

We have two new members of staff joining us in January, Miss Munday will be covering maternity leave in class 2 and Mrs Caple will be our High level teaching assistant, we wish them luck in there new position.

GAYTON EVERGREEN CLUB

Our Autumn programme began 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. Members enjoyed hearing anecdotes of his interesting and humorous encounters over a long and varied career.

The lovely warm weather in September contributed to the success of the outing to Jeyes at Earls Barton. Members enjoyed a lunch in the café and there was plenty of time for browsing in the shop, visiting the Jeyes Heritage and Pharmacy Museum, and exploring the village including the magnificent Saxon 'All Saints Church', which was named this year, along with St Mary's Church Gayton, as one of the top 100 churches in Northamptonshire.

The October Fish and Chip Lunch was as usual well attended. The freshly cooked fish and chips provided by Howe and Co. were a great treat. Homemade desserts followed by tea or coffee rounded off a delicious meal.

At the beginning of November members took a trip to the Weston Favell Shopping Centre for lunch and a browse around the many shops, all under one roof.

At the end of November we welcome the Hunsbury Singers who will entertain us with popular songs, no doubt a carol or two will be sung! This will get us in the mood for our Christmas Lunch the following week. Once again we are going to Woodward's at The Boat Inn, Stoke Bruerne where we will enjoy a three course festive meal. Thank you once again to the Gayton Alms charity for subsidising this event.

At this time of year it is customary to say thank you to all our helpers and minibus drivers for the time they give to the club. You know who you are, and hopefully know how much your contribution is appreciated.

Our Spring programme is as follows:

- 8.1.19 AGM at 2.30pm in the Village Hall
- 22.1.19 A social afternoon with Bingo at 2.30pm in the Village Hall
- 12.2.19 Speaker: Neil McMahon on 'Wildlife at Pitsford Reservoir' at 2.30pm, Village Hall
- 28.2.19 Fish and Chip Lunch at 12.30pm in the Village Hall

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

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).



GAYTON *and the* GREAT WAR

The record of Gayton's role in the Great War has been compiled by Joy Ayre, Carol Coppock and Anna Fox and originates from the exhibition of 'Gayton and the Great War' presented in St. Mary's Church Gayton 2014 – 2018. The authors wish to thank Daniel Jefferey for his work in presenting this material on the Gayton website. This project started in November 2014 with an exhibition in the church about the effects of WW1 on the village of Gayton, and the 15 men who died and were named on the memorial in the church. The exhibition was well attended and many visitors shared their own family stories. During the week-long exhibition a small selection of sculptures from 'The Long Shadow of War' by Clare Abbatt were on view in the church. An evening talk by Dr. John Sunderland called 'The Pendulum Of War' gave an insight into how the British Expeditionary Force foiled the Schlieffen Plan in 1914. In 2017 an embroidered wall hanging, worked by residents of Gayton, commemorating the fallen men was hung on the west wall in the church. Over the four years of the WW1 Commemorations, information has been collected about how life in Gayton was affected by the war. In addition, many poignant personal stories have been revealed about the fifteen men who died and those who returned from the war.

Visit gayton-northants.co.uk to read more about Gayton and the Great War.

If you would like an A4 printed copy of this 67 page colour document for £6.70 please contact me. Karencoper@mortimers.uk.com Tel 07753 638 180

Gayton Alms Charities

Gayton Alms Charities have been established for over 100 years. Today they are called the 'Gayton Relief in Need Charity' and the 'Gayton Educational Foundation'.

Gayton Relief in Need Charity

This charity exists to provide assistance to any person living in the Parish of Gayton* who for whatever reason find themselves in need, hardship or distress. Usually this assistance is financial, with money paid directly to the successful applicant.

Examples of where this charity might be able to help are with the purchase of food, clothing, heating costs, and grants to assist with funeral expenses.

Gayton Educational Foundation

This charity exists to provide assistance to people living in the Parish of Gayton* who for whatever reason find themselves in need of financial help with their education. Money may be paid directly to the successful applicant but the trustees are able to grant money to organisations in the Parish of Gayton whose purpose is to educate or improve the lives of people through leisure-time activities.

Examples of where this charity might be able to help are in the provision of books, equipment, computer software, IT hardware, musical instruments, travelling expenses, music or dance tuition, residential educational experiences, university fees or anything else not normally provided or funded by an educational institution such as a school, college or university.

The charities receive their modest income from land rent and returns on investments.

Trustees meet twice a year to review income and expenditure, and to consider application for assistance under the terms of the scheme for administering the charities.

Any villager who feels they might be eligible for help under the terms of either of the Gayton Alms Charities should contact the Chair of Trustees who will provide the appropriate application form. The Chair of Trustees is happy to offer general advice about an application and/or assist with the completion of an application form.

*In exceptional cases the Trustees may give assistance to people living just outside the Parish of Gayton. These people must be able to satisfy the trustees that they ought to be treated as if they lived in the Parish.

David Coppock. Chair of Trustees (01604 859645)



Service of Remembrance Sunday 11th November

**The collection taken at this service raised
£350 for the Royal British Legion.
Thank you to all who made this a very
memorable occasion.**

Gayton & Tiffeld Community Minibus

Hi Everyone

With Christmas and the icy winter months fast approaching, we find ourselves embroiled in the dreadful situation regarding public transport in the County, resulting from the woeful mismanagement over many years by Northants County Council. The severe NCC transport financial cutbacks have drastically affected the availability of public transport in the rural villages throughout the County. The recent removal of County Connect services from many rural villages has now left many residents having to rely on very expensive minibus taxi services to access local towns for essential services.

Although our Minibus service was specifically excluded from the NCC cutbacks, we have been extremely busy during the past few months in trying to help groups of local villages by potentially extending our service. We have also been providing help and guidance, so they can try to establish their own community minibus services. One group of four villages, all larger than ours, distributed flyers to all residents asking for volunteer drivers, had posters displayed in all the village pubs and held open campaign meetings. Unfortunately, they were not able to get **any** volunteer drivers willing to devote just a few hours of their time to enable them to contract hire our Minibus for one morning per week to provide access to Towcester and Northampton for at least 12 – 14 elderly residents desperate for help.

This has highlighted just how exceptional our communities are in having a consistent supply of volunteers for over 30 years willing to donate their time to helping our residents access the local towns at minimal cost.

We held our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 25th October to elect our Trustees and Officers for the forthcoming year and to review all aspects of our service. Steve Jowers, Geoff Wilkins and Phil Leggett were elected as Trustees and I was re-elected as Chairman, Cate Gardner as Treasurer and Chris Spencer as Secretary.

Although our revenues were slightly lower than last year's record levels, primarily due to a reduction in private-hire revenues from local schools, our finances continue to be in great shape with accumulated reserves currently totalling just over £41,000. It was decided at the AGM to increase our fares from 1st November as comparable local commercial fares had dramatically increased following the withdrawal of NCC transport subsidies. We are currently in the process of considering replacing our Minibus which is now 10 years old with a similar but upgraded model with air-conditioning, wider electric step, automatic driver operated door closing, heated front and rear windows and electrically adjustable wing mirrors.

We are again providing Xmas shopping trips in early December and are repeating the very popular trips to Oxford city centre and Milton Keynes shopping centre. The Oxford trip is priced at £10 return on Wednesday December 5th and the MK trip is £7 return and is on Wednesday December 12th. Please contact me via email, phone or text if you would like to reserve a place on either of these trips.

Finally we would like to thank all of our supporters in our villages, our drivers and passengers past and present, our Trustees and Officers past and present, our Parish Councils and everyone in our communities for all of their unflinching support over the years. This has enabled us to demonstrate to all the villages in the County, just what is achievable when you have residents who are willing to donate their time and efforts without reward for the benefit of everyone in our Communities. Thank you all and we hope your Xmas is blessed with happiness and good fortune.

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



HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS

CHRISTMAS FOOD GIVING AND REVERSE ADVENTS

A visit to the food bank isn't exactly a traditional Christmas activity, but one UK charity is asking for a little extra help right now, when demand is at its highest and families are choosing between eating and heating. At the beginning of December the Food Bank starts giving out Christmas bags to people who come for food. They welcome donations in the form of Christmas treats to help brighten up Christmas for them. Also they welcome donations of toiletry items such as toilet paper, toothpaste, soap. At Christmas time, many food banks try to do a little extra for users. Alongside the standard food parcels which have three days of non-perishable, nutritionally balanced food in it, Towcester food bank welcomes Christmas presents for children, chocolates, sweets, which is really nice. It's trying to give people a bit of normality at Christmas."

While many of us know that food banks provide food, and are happy to donate tinned items and other grocery items, not all of us are aware that food banks could do with donations of other essential non-food items as well. **Toilet roll, Sanitary towels and tampons, Tin openers, Nappies, Toiletries (shampoo, shower gel, deodorant), Baby food.**

Currently Towcester Food Bank doesn't need Tinned Baked Beans and pasta.

WHAT'S IN A FOOD PARCEL? Towcester foodbank provides three days of nutritionally balanced, non-perishable food. **The Trussell Trust** has worked with nutritionists to ensure food parcels contains sufficient nutrition for at least three days worth of healthy, balanced meals for individuals and families. A typical food parcel includes Breakfast cereals, Soup, Pasta,

Rice, Pasta sauce, Tinned beans, Tinned meat, Tinned vegetables, Tinned fruit, Tea or coffee, Sugar, Biscuits, Snacks. Towcester foodbank can usually adapt the food parcel to meet the individuals dietary needs, for example, gluten free, halal or vegetarian. When you arrive at the foodbank centre, a volunteer will chat to you about any special dietary requirements you may have.



How you can donate:

- Boxes will be placed at the back of St Mary's church in Gayton into which you can put items of non-perishable food for the Food Bank, also items of clean clothing for the Hope Centre. The church is open every weekend from 9.30am until 4.00pm.
 - Or take your donations to the Towcester Food Bank at St John Ambulance Hall, Islington Road, Towcester NN12 6AU. Tuesday Afternoons 12:00 – 2pm. Friday Mornings 10:00am - 12:00
 - Or bring them to me, Karen at The Paddocks, Baker Street, Gayton
- PLEASE GIVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO THOSE IN NEED BEFORE CHRISTMAS.**

Notes from Your Parish Council

As there won't be another Parish Council (PC) Meeting until January 2019, the PC thought it would be a good idea to bring you up to date with some of the things that we've been dealing with over the past few months.

Although I am not a regular Facebook user, in order to keep up to speed with some of your concerns I recently joined the Gayton Villager's Facebook Group. It turns out to be very informative and I'd like to start with a couple of issues it alerted us to.

The first is the broken street lights in various parts of the village that are causing concern to a number of residents. During our November meeting, we agreed that getting them repaired was a priority task for Viv, our Parish Clerk. She is placing a contract to repair the broken lights, and any that stop working in the near future. All of them will be replaced by modern Light Emitting Diode (LED) devices that are both cheaper to run and more reliable. Looking further ahead, we are investigating the possibility of modernising the complete network, probably by applying for a grant from SNC but, before embarking on the tedious task of applying for funds, it would be good to know if you think we need additional lights in poorly lit areas or down lighters to reduce light pollution. If you have a view (or would like to help with the grant application) you can contact us on Facebook, by e-mail or face to face at a PC Meeting.

The second thing I learned on the Gayton Villagers site was that there was support among some residents for the idea of turning our telephone box into a book swap, something that has been done in other villages around the UK. We discussed it at our November meeting and decided on the following course of action. First, get BT to tell us what the current usage is in order to see if the phone was still being used. Second, ask residents whether they object to decommissioning it and, last but not least, ensure that someone in the village is responsible for keeping it clean and in a good state of repair. We already have a group of volunteers keen to take responsibility for the project so maintenance should not be a problem, which means, that if BT do the survey reasonably quickly, the PC can make a decision at our January meeting. If you have strong feelings, either for or against, please let us know before then.

A serious and ongoing concern is the proposed development of the Rail Central SRI. The contractor's application was accepted by the Planning Inspectorate on 15th November 2018 and by the time this Newsletter is published, the dates for the public to register an interest should be known. If you have access to the internet, all of the latest information, including how to register and what our local MPs are doing is on the PINS website:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process/>.

Whilst on the subject of traffic, the PC continues to engage with Northampton County Council regarding changes to our speed limits. We will formally ask them to consider reducing the limit in the region of the school to 20mph and on Blisworth Road to 30mph. How successful that will be remains to be seen but we will at the very least be able to beef up our 'slow down' electronic signs at points in the village where speeding is of the greatest concern.

Continued

Continued

On to things horticultural. Below is a picture of yours truly using the strimmer the Allotment Society purchased with grant money that the PC helped them get from SNC a couple of years ago, so a big thanks to our local Councils for supporting this important village asset. As you can see it enables the members to keep vacant plots tidy. This one's particularly nice, great soil, secluded spot, cheap rent and no air miles! It will be split into smaller, more manageable pieces, so why not rent one and grow your own flowers or veg? Even if digging isn't your thing, you could still join the Gayton Allotment Group on Facebook and follow the latest news and views from Cub Close?



Forgive my somewhat blatant recruiting drive on behalf of the Allotment Society but as they say, use it or lose it!

I'm afraid I can't hope to cover everything we're doing in such a short article, so if I've missed something you think is important, or you want to report problems with lights or potholes etc., contact Viv Hartley at clerkgaytonpc@gmail.com. Alternatively, come to our next meeting and speak at our Public Voice session or contact me at the e-mail address below.

Finally, the PC would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Carl Hamilton

Chairman

E-mail: chairmangaytonpc@gmail.com

Gayton Church Heritage Trust

GCHT is concentrating on raising money to improve the heating in the church. The oil-fired boiler is situated in the damp cellar on the South side of the building, beneath the sacristy and can only be accessed from outside via a treacherous flight of steps. On the frequent occasions when the boiler fails to light, David Coppock or Andy Hartley have to risk their lives on the slithery steps. To improve matters, the boiler needs to be sited inside the church and this will also improve the efficiency of the existing radiators. There is no heating in the South aisle and although the old radiators warm up well, they are noisy and have to be switched for any musical performance in the church. The cost of installing an efficient (and silent) heating system will be considerable but given the improvements that have been achieved since the formation in 2005 of GCHT the job of creating a warm, welcoming building will be worth another surge of effort to raise the funds. The Halloween Disco on October 27th raised a total of £1196.99 and after expenses there was a profit of £532.30p. I am most grateful to everyone who supported the event and in particular to those who made and donated the delicious Food, gave generous Raffle prizes and much more besides-the result was very good considering the other events in the surrounding area that week-end.

The other amenity in the village benefitting from the efforts of a hardworking group is the Village Hall. This group want to make significant improvements to the hall. An impressive number of their events have attracted a good response and made up somewhat for the absence of a pub as a way of getting together. Gayton is a great place to live and has much to recommend it.

Anna Fox GCHT

NEED A DECORATOR

**'GAYTON
DECORATING
SERVICES'**

**40 YEARS PAINTING &
DECORATING EXPERIENCE**



CONTACT PHILIP PLATT 01604 859150 / 07967 119 349

Calendar of events

December 2018

Sunday 2 nd	9.30am	CW Family Communion, Gayton Church
Thursday 6 th		Evergreen Christmas lunch
Sunday 9 th	10.00am	Gayton walkers monthly walk. Meet at Fiveways
	5.30pm	Carol Service with the Gayton Festival Singers and Gayton School
Sunday 16 th	11.00am	Morning Worship, Gayton Church
Sunday 23 rd	10.30am	Gayton Cycling, monthly cycle. Meet at Fiveways
Monday 24 th	11.15pm	Midnight Communion, Gayton Church

January 2019 HAPPY NEW YEAR

Sunday 6 th	9.30am	CW Family Communion at Gayton Church
Sunday 13 th	10.00am	Gayton walkers monthly walk. Meet at Fiveways
Sunday 20 th	11.00am	Family Service at Gayton Church
Sunday 27 th	10.30am	Gayton Cycling, monthly cycle. Meet at Fiveways

February

Sunday 3 rd	9.30am	CW Family Communion at Gayton Church
Sunday 10 th	10.00am	Gayton walkers monthly walk. Meet at Fiveways
Wednesday 13 th	7.30pm	Gayton Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall
Sunday 17 th	11.00am	Family Service at Gayton Church
Sunday 24 th	10.30am	Gayton Cycling, monthly cycle. Meet at Fiveways

March

Sunday 3 rd	9.30am	CW Family Communion at Gayton Church
Sunday 10 th	10.00am	Gayton walkers monthly walk. Meet at Fiveways
Wednesday 13 th	7.30pm	Gayton Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall
Sunday 17 th	11.00am	Family Service at Gayton Church
Sunday 24 th	10.30am	Gayton Cycling, monthly cycle. Meet at Fiveways

April

Sunday 7 th	9.30am	CW Family Communion at Gayton Church
Sunday 14 th	10.00am	Gayton walkers monthly walk. Meet at Fiveways
Sunday 21 st	11.00am	Family Service at Gayton Church
Sunday 28 th	10.30am	Gayton Cycling, monthly cycle. Meet at Fiveways

May

Sunday 5 th	9.30am	CW Family Communion at Gayton Church
Wednesday 8 th	7.30pm	Gayton Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall
Sunday 12 th	10.00am	Gayton walkers monthly walk. Meet at Fiveways
Sunday 19 th	11.00am	Family Service at Gayton Church

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 THURSDAY 14 MARCH 2019

TO: karencooper@mortimers.uk.com Tel: 07753 638 180



Tiny Wooden Figures

**Over in the corner 'neath the Christmas tree's green,
Are the tiny wooden figures, our Nativity scene.
Each tells a story, each plays its part.
Each holds a special place in my heart.**

**Down from the attic, unwrapped with great care,
It just isn't Christmas if they are not there.
They are faded and dented, their paint chipped away,
But the love they stand for is as fresh as today.**

**And as the years go by and our days grow few,
Outside we grown older, inside we grow new,
And the tiny wooden figures are a symbol of love,
Of the grace and the peace of our God above.**

**By the side there stands Joseph, keeping watch in the night
The smile on his face, a reflection of light
In the hay kneels sweet Mary, so gently and mild
So willingly to sacrifice all for her child.**

**And as the years go by and our days grow few,
Outside we grown older, inside we grow new,
And the tiny wooden figures are a symbol of love,
Of the grace and the peace of our God above.**

**In the hay, baby Jesus, his arms open wide.
The same way He lived, the same way He died.
Now He stands up in Heaven, and He holds the door wide,
And He says, "Welcome children! Welcome Inside!"**

**Over in the corner, 'neath the Christmas tree's green,
Are the tiny wooden figures, our Nativity scene.
Each tells a story each plays its part.
Each holds a special place here in my heart.**

Jokes for your Christmas gatherings. Telling funny Christmas jokes brings lots of smiles and laughter, which makes the world a happier place.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Q: Who delivers Christmas presents to elephants?

A: Elephanta Claus

Q: What do you call Santa if he goes down a lit chimney?

A: Crisp Cringle

Q: How many presents can Santa fit in an empty sack?

A: Only one – after that it's not empty any more

Q: Why is it always cold at Christmas?

A: Because it's in Decembrrrrrr

Q: When does Christmas come before Thanksgiving?

A: In the dictionary

Q: What can you get if you eat Christmas decorations?

A: Tinselitus

Q: How do elves get to the top floor of Santa's workshop?

A: They use the elfator.

Q: How did Santa describe the elf who refuses to take a bath?

A: He's elfully smelly.

Q: What do sheep say to each other at Christmas?

A: Merry Christmas to ewe



Q: What happened to the thief who stole a Christmas calendar?

A: He got 12 months

Q: Who says oh, oh, oh?

A: Santa Claus walking backwards

Q: Who delivers Christmas presents to cats?

A: Santa Claws

The History of Evergreen Farm (Part Four: A New broom)

James Hawley Esq MD was looking for property to buy just as Richard Kent had done before him. However, Dr Hawley was a professional man, rather than a Tradesman, looking to raise his status to land owner. James Hawley liked what he saw in Gayton and in 1757 bought on a mortgage as Richard Kent had done, both the Manor and Old Gayton House with the associated land. Within two years all the tenants who had been farming that land had given up their tenancies and two farmers from East Haddon arrived in Gayton to take over. William Payne and his wife, Elizabeth, and their family, moved into the Manor and William George and his wife, Alice, and family, moved into Home Farm. Old Gayton House was rented to John Darker an 'eminent London Merchant' who became MP for Leicester 1766-68, 1774-1784. He was the Treasurer of St Bartholomew's Hospital, London and became Lord of the Manor of Litchborough and Milton Malsor! In the absence of James Hawley the Lord of the Manor of Gayton, John Darker assumed the responsibility for the villagers.

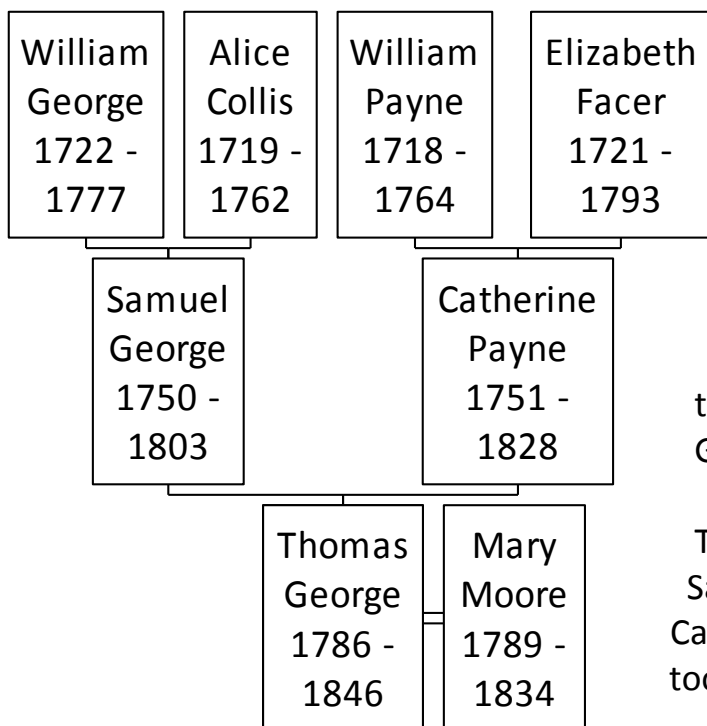
Within five years of arriving in Gayton, William Payne, and William George's wife, Alice, had both died leaving William George and Elizabeth Payne both with children to bring up. Uniting the two families by a marriage between the childhood friends was a masterstroke. William George married Elizabeth Payne on 23 October 1764 securing their children's farming futures.

Henry Hawley had inherited the Gayton Hawley property by the time that Richard Kent's trustees had exhausted the procedures to recover the lost leases for Dover's (Evergreen Farm). He purchased the farm in 1771 when it was put up for public auction and Benjamin Lawton became his tenant. Benjamin Lawton found life so uncomfortable under the Hawley regime that he quit farming at Dover's in 1775 and moved into Grey House.

The Evergreens (Earliest known mention 1881) Photo: Courtesy of Wendy Briglin



William George married Elizabeth Payne (nee Facer) in 1764



The Paynes and the Georges forged even closer ties when in 1772 William and Alice George's eldest son, Samuel George, married William and Elizabeth Payne's daughter, Catherine Payne. When Benjamin Lawton left Dover's in 1775, Samuel and Catherine George took over the running of the farm and moved into the Farmhouse. This put the largest three farms in Gayton into the hands of the Georges and the Paynes.

Thomas George was only 17 when his father Samuel died in 1803, but he helped his mother, Catherine, run Evergreen Farm and gradually took over from her.

His brother Benjamin worked as a butcher before he became the landlord of the Crown and

Squirrel. One of his sisters, Alice, died just a couple of years after her father. Thomas married Mary Moore, of Bugbrooke, in 1823 when he was 37 and his mother was 71. Thomas' mother Catherine died in 1828. Thomas and Mary had four children but his wife Mary died in 1834 and Thomas' sister, Susanna, died within a couple of weeks of Mary. Thomas' remaining unmarried sister Catherine helped Thomas with the farm and the children. Until Catherine, still a spinster, died in 1844, aged 60, when Thomas' youngest child was 15. Thomas died two years later also aged 60.

When Thomas and his sister Catherine died, their cousin William Payne with his wife Ann (nee Ashby) took over the farm. James Coleman George, Thomas' son stayed on and worked as an Agricultural Labourer on the farm, living at Oldfield.

Evergreen Farm: William and Ann Payne

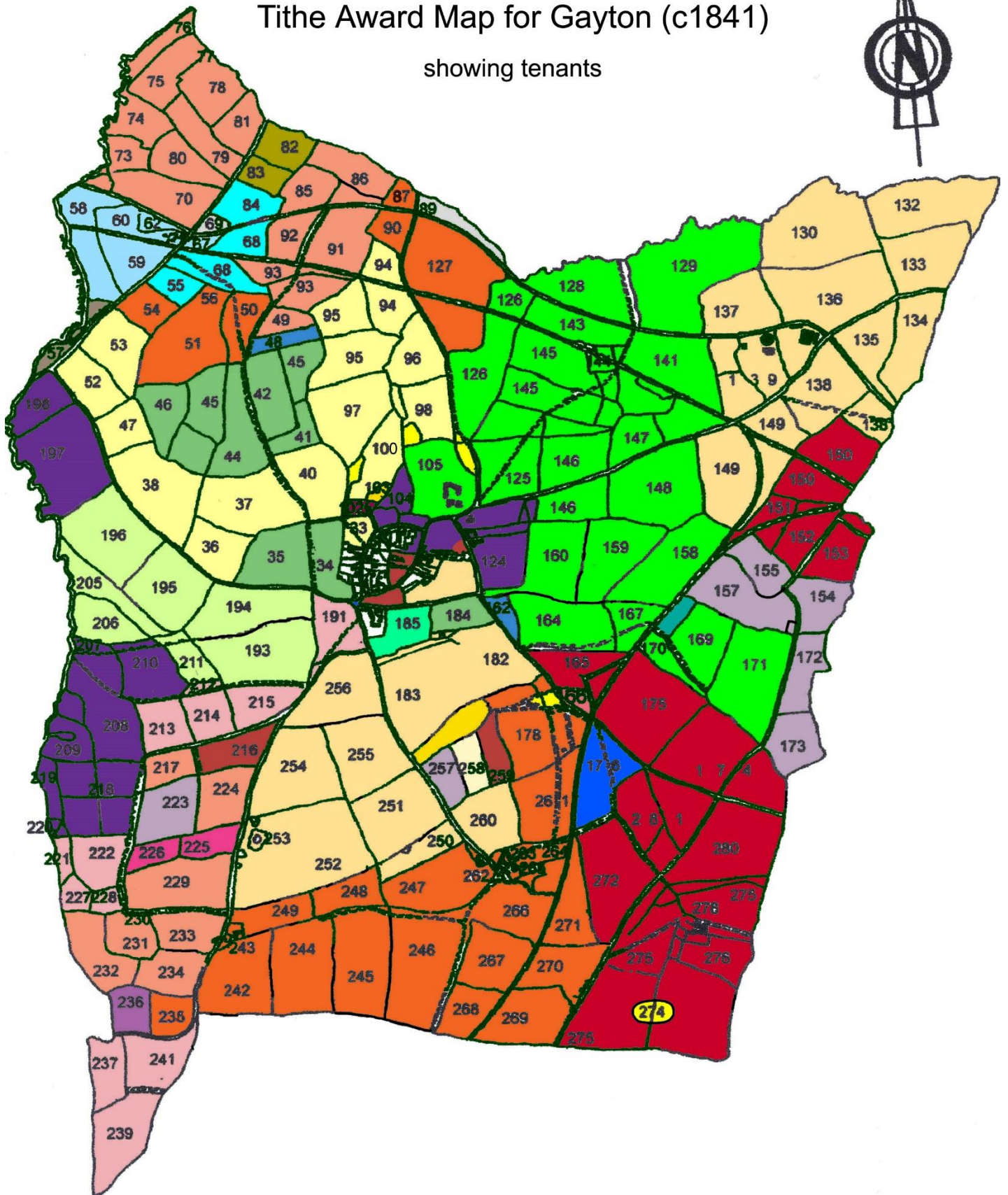
William	Payne	1851	32	Farmer of 140 acres and 4 labourers
William	Payne	1861	41	Farmer of 150 acres emp 4 labs
William	Payne	1871	52	Farmer of 160 acres emp 2 men + 1 boy
Ann	Payne	1881	61	Farmer 165 acres 2 men, 3 boys

In 1851 the Payne Family were running three Farms in Gayton totalling 550 acres and employing sixteen farm labourers.

William and Ann had one House Servant, 24 year old Mary Ann Digby and also had Ann's sister, Jane East, living there, possibly because Ann was expecting a baby any day. Ten years later Ann was helped by a 17 year old House Servant, Charlotte Hillyard. In 1871 Ann had no live in help but an 11 year old daughter, Julia. On 21 December 1874 William Payne died aged 55. Ann continued farming with her sons, Robert and George, and Arthur worked as a carpenter, probably on the farm as well. Ann's Farm in 1881 now officially has the name 'The Evergreens' and Ann once again has a General Servant, 14 year old Charlotte Burbidge.

Tithe Award Map for Gayton (c1841)

showing tenants



Evergreen Farm in pale yellow showing Thomas George's Holding: Produced by Rita Poxon

Samuel George's Holding 1795

Farm House	16	3r 10p
Birts Close, rickyard	32	1a 2r 3p
	33	
Fielding Lane Furlong	36	10a 1r 36p
Barn Close	37	11a 2r 5p
Furze Close	38	13a 19p
West's Close	40	6a 1r 30p
Pells Close	40	4a 3r 29p
Rush Meadow	47	5a 2r 10p
Houghton Close South	52	7a 1r 22p
Houghton Close North	53	8a 2r 39p
Pitch Meadow (Little)	94	2a 1r 1p
Pitch Meadow (Great)	94	7a 2r 19p
Upper Park	95	14a 1r 20p
Thistle Hill	96	6a 2r 28p
Nether Park	97	13a 1r 12p
The Old Fish Pond a	98	3r 11p
Siden Hill	98	3a 2r 29p
Upper Hill	98	3a 1r 2p
Bitt adjoining spinney	99	1r 5p
Horse Hill	100	6a 3r 10p
Total Acreage:		129a 1r 15p

Thomas George's Holding 1841 (From Tithe award Map)

Ploughed Park	95	12a 2r 30p
Pitch Mead North	94	3a 7p
10 Acres	36	10a 28p
Rushy Meadow	47	5a 2r 18p
Home Close	33	2a 18p
Upper Barn Close	37	11a 1r 18p
Lower Barn Close	38	13a 32p
The Meadow	52	7a 1r 19p
The Lower Meadow	53	8a 2r 32p
Horse Hill	100	7a 2r 24p
Thistley Hill	96	7a 1r 21p
Greensward Park	97	13a 3r 24p
Siding Hill	98	6a 3r 13p
Farm House Y G Orchard	16	3r 16p
Farmyard Outbuildings	32	1r 12p
Pitch Mead South	94	5a 1p
Floor lakes with garden	98	3r 32p
Pell's Close	40	11a 2r 28p
Total Acreage:		128a 3r 13p

Ref: Maidstone Archives:

Hawley Estate U850 T13

(Field Nos refer to those on Tithe award Map)

Sometime after 1881 George and Harriet Dunckley moved into The Evergreens. George Dunckley was a retired Builder and his son, George Henry Dunckley was the farmer. Harriet, like Ann Payne, had a Domestic Servant, 18 year old Frances Marriott, who had been born in Gayton and whose mother was running the Crown and Squirrel next door to Evergreens from 1890 to 1894. George Henry Dunckley died from Heart Disease in 1912 and the Farm was put up for sale. He had made several improvements to the house such as adding a nicely laid out garden, grass and a privet hedge at the back and new grates in several rooms. It was advertised in the Northampton Mercury on 3 February 1912. The Gammages from Wood Farm applied for it on 10 January 1912, Frank Chester applied for it on 27 January 1912, Charles Lucas, also applied for it.

Finally the successful applicant Henry East applied on 12 February 1912.

Rita Poxon