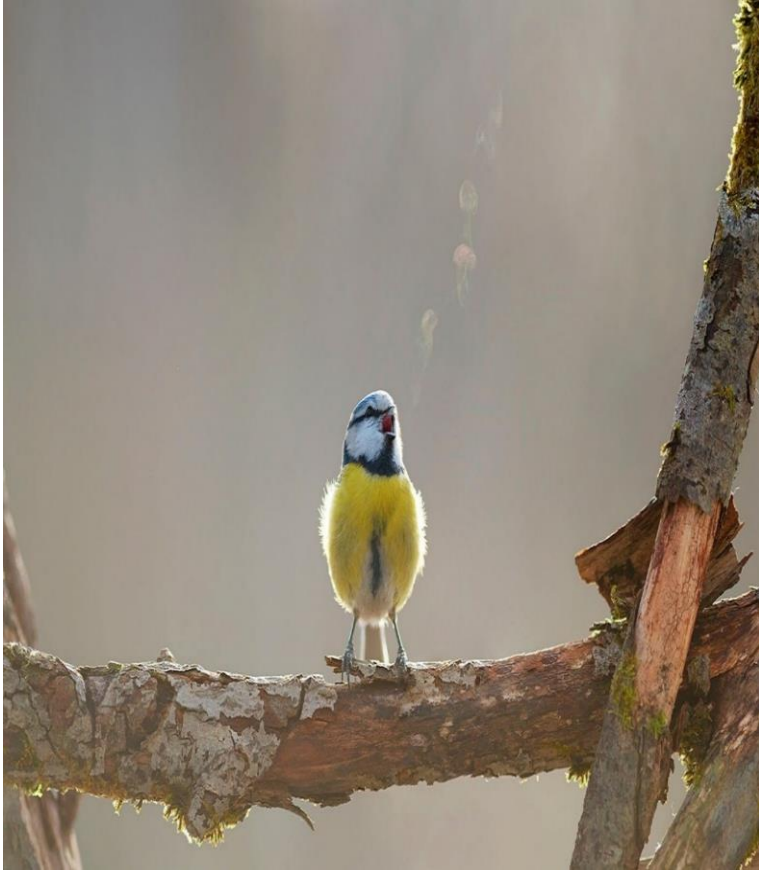


GAYTON NEWS – SPRING 2024





Carol Service – December 2023

We really enjoyed the Carol Service on Sunday evening in our wonderful church. Gayton Festival Singers were as brilliant as ever and delightful to listen to. The children sang beautifully - how did they remember all the words!



And the congregation played their part, exercising their lungs enthusiastically, blasting out those so familiar carols.



A big thank you to all the volunteers involved in organising the service, in the absence of a resident rector. The Village Carol Service is such an important feature of our traditional Christian Christmas celebrations. Long may it last! Barry, Wendy, Phil Steer.

Gayton's Father Christmas 2023

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the tractor run last Christmas and visit from Father Christmas.



It was the busiest and best one yet! And you raised £720 for the Gayton charity fund. We'll have more news about this soon.

We hope you liked the new light additions, I'm sure you'll all agree, the elves and Santa did an amazing job decorating the tractor and trailer.

The new Gayton Charity is being set up and we will let you know how we propose to use these funds to benefit the village.

Gayton Charity Fund.



Bugbrooke Post Office reopened on the 1 March in its new location in Ninas Store, 40 High Street, Bugbrooke, NN7 3PG.

Gayton Litter Pick

The next litter pick will be Saturday 6 – Sunday 14 April. I have litter pickers, high viz tops and black sacks, you just need your own gloves. Please let me know if you can help. Many hands make light work. This is the last litter pick I will be organising. If you would like to take over this role please contact me.

Several people in the village now have litter pickers and high viz tops and continually pick litter. A huge thank you to you all.

If you would like a litter picker/high viz top please do let me know.

Karen karencooper@mortimers.uk.com Tel: 07753 638180



Chain Gang



This will be my last report on The Chain Gang as we are moving to Towcester. The "gang" have worked very hard maintaining the footpaths/pavements in the Parish and building and repairing the stiles. I know that the dog walkers have appreciated the dog gates.

Thank you to the gang. I hope that I haven't been too hard a "gang-master"! I shall return occasionally to check that the work continues. I have attached a couple of photos. The last project - repairs to the steps on RL6, the footpath next to the rail line going up to Blisworth Marina and enjoying a lunch at Fair View after another working session. Robin Kelso



Robin, on behalf of everyone in the village and beyond, many many thanks for all your hard work and dedication to the village, you, Barbara & Molly will be missed. We wish you well settling into your new home. Karen

Gayton Walkers

I regret that this will be my last report on the state of the Gayton walkers as we are moving to Towcester in April, hopefully. We have had the usual walk on the 2nd Sunday of the month. The January walk was from Bugbrooke towards Pattishall then back up to Litliff Farm and then to The Wharf at Bugbrooke. The February walk was organised by Colin Simmonds and started in Cosgrove. We also had the usual New Year's Day walk for 1 hr around Gayton ending at The Eykyn Arms. Colin Simmonds has agreed to take on the role of organising the walks in the future so, hopefully, you will support this regular event. No doubt he will keep you informed. Do come along to Fiveways at 10a.m. on the 2nd Sunday of the month. I might even see you there.

Robin Kelso

OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FOR MYELOMA UK



On 3rd February Ian and Gill Hensley hosted a coffee morning at the Village Hall to raise funds to help create awareness of this terminal cancer and to help find a cure which Ian is suffering from. The support was overwhelming and the amount raised was £1,355.00. It was featured on Anglia News which was organised by Rebecca Haworth who lives in the village. Their next event is a silent auction which will start on the 15th April and run for a week on Facebook. Donations for auction are being received and our local artist, Judy Hamilton's painting of Albert Hensley, their donkey, is anticipated to be at the top of the lots. It will be displayed for viewing during the week of the Auction at Bloom Fine Art (next door to Bell Plantation garden centre). On 4th May Ian starts his Coast2Coast walk, some 200 miles, to hopefully raise more funds, he has set himself a target of £50,000, which currently stands at just under £6,000. If you would like to read Ian's story or make a donation, you can visit his Just Giving page <https://www.justgiving.com/page/ian-hensley-1701020486266>

Winter fuel costs are rising again!

If you are finding it difficult to cope with ever increasing cost of living Gayton Alms Charities may be able to help with financial assistance.

For information contact David Coppock, Chair of Trustees, on 01604 859545
All calls and any subsequent applications will be dealt with in strictest confidence.

Please note: Anyone applying for assistance must be resident in the Parish of Gayton.

Gayton News 'news'

I am stepping down from producing the Gayton News after the summer edition. Colin Simmonds is the new editor.

I send my thanks to everyone who contributes articles, news, updates, photos and more, and for the hard work you and many in the village do supporting the village. Without you the Gayton News would not be here for the village and beyond. Thank you too to Rita Poxon for your interesting and entertaining historical writings of Gayton past, keep writing

There is a super team of volunteers who deliver the Gayton news so that each household receives their copy, my thanks to you all for your support. Thank you to Leandra for sending out to the village via email and to Sue for putting it on the website. Thank you to Robin Kelso for your support for many years delivering the Gayton News.

Please send me your articles, news, photos etc by Thursday 20 June for the summer edition of the Gayton News. It will be distributed to the village over the weekend of 29/30 June.

The Autumn edition will be Colin's first. Colin can be contacted via email: gone4abeer@gmail.com

Thank you, Karen karencooper@mortimers.uk.com Tel: 07753 638180

Gayton and Tiffield Community Minibus

Our extended service to cover Eastcote, Dalscote, Pattishall and Astcote has been running since last June and we are now getting regular passengers from there on the bus which all helps towards our running costs. The small extra journey time does not appear to be important as passengers are already on the bus in the warm and dry but some recent road closures and diversions have been a challenge.

Our current timetable remains the same and is shown on the back cover. Please note that both the Tuesday and Friday services are now the same with the bus leaving Gayton as before at 9:30 but then going through the other villages to Towcester, and then on to Northampton (if requested when getting on. You do not need to book by telephone). The bus will then return to collect from Towcester, drop off passengers in the villages and then collect anyone from Northampton. This allows about an hour each in Towcester and Northampton.

The government have introduced a fare cap for cash customers of £2 per single journey. This is a temporary measure until the end of December 2024. Passengers with bus passes do not have to pay anything.

We are waiting to hear from West Northamptonshire Council about our grant funding for the coming year and are hopeful that they will continue to support us with grant funding at about the same level as last year (or preferably higher), which is a very important source of income for us, as well as our fares (both cash and refunded concessionary ones) and private hire.

Thanks again to our team of nine dedicated drivers which includes John Rogers, Peter Baxter, Manja Ronne and Jens Buus from Gayton and to our Trustees who run things behind the scenes.

Please remember that we are a charity and it is a community bus, so if you want to hire a 16 seater (plus driver) for trips out, airport runs, sports or social events please contact us to see if we are available. Recent trips have been to local pubs and restaurants, airport runs, monthly dining club visits and regular darts team away matches.

If you have any comments to make about the service please contact me.

Steve Jowers, Chairman, Gayton and Tiffield Community Transport
stevejowers@gmail.com Tel: 01327 350 292 – 07890 764 633

Gayton Evergreen Club

Members continue to be warmly welcomed to the monthly Coffee Morning at the Eykyn Arms. These mornings are well attended and are open to anyone who would like to a coffee and chat with their fellow villagers. We can recommend the toasted teacakes and also the all-day breakfast!

The dates of future Coffee and Chat Mornings:

Wednesday 10th April, Wednesday 8th May, Wednesday 12th June, Wednesday 10th July

All at the Eykyn Arms starting at 10.00 am.

Further information from:

Carol Coppock 01604 859645 carol.coppock14@gmail.com

Manja Ronne 01604 859243 ManjaRonne@btinternet.com



Coffee & Chat

GG&AS Annual Village Show

We had a very productive meeting at the beginning of February to finalise the Show Schedule, and we have included the finished copy within this magazine, it has the entrance form included so keep it safe! There are many categories to enter, so we hope there is something for everyone. The show is open to all village residents, whatever your age or interests, and this year, we are very excited to announce we have a few prizes for a number of categories kindly donated by various individuals.

Our next meeting is at the end of April where we will be deciding on table top stalls and entertainments, most importantly we will be including tea, coffee and cake in that discussion too! So, if you feel like you would like to be involved either with a table top stall (limited spaces) an entertainment idea or even to help in the kitchen for an hour or two, please feel free to pop along to the village hall on Monday 29th April at 7-30 pm. If you can't make it, then contact me (Judy Hamilton) with your ideas etc on 07543471872.

Judy Hamilton. For Gayton Gardeners & Allotment Society (GG&AS)

Solar Farm Appeal – Gayton – DISMISSED

Simon Hoare MP, Minister of State for Local Government on behalf of the Secretary of State has reported: I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that consideration has been given to the report of Mike Robins MSc BSc(Hons) MRTPI, who held a public local inquiry in person which sat for 4 days into your client's appeal against the decision of West Northamptonshire Council to refuse your client's application for planning permission for the construction of a temporary Solar Farm of up to 49.72MW, to include the installation of solar panels with transformers, a substation, a DNO control room, a customer substation, GRP comms cabin, security fencing, landscaping and other associated infrastructure, in accordance with application Ref.

WNS/2021/1858/EIA, dated 22 October 2021. On 12 April 2023, this appeal was recovered for the Secretary of State's determination, in pursuance of section 79 of, and paragraph 3 of Schedule 6 to, the Town and Country Planning Act (TCPA) 1990.

The Inspector recommended that the appeal be allowed and planning permission granted subject to conditions. For the reasons given in his report, the Secretary of State agrees with the Inspector's conclusions, except where stated, **but disagrees with the Inspector's recommendation. He has decided to dismiss the appeal and refuse planning permission.**

Anesco have 6 weeks from the date of refusal to take this to the High Court but they can only challenge process not opinion.

A huge thank Gayton Parish Council for their incredibly hard work and commitment fighting against the planning application and the appeal, and all the residents and people beyond who sent in objections and attended the appeal.

The Inspector, Mike Robins decision was that the appeal be allowed.

Simon Hoare MP, Minister of State for Local Government on behalf of the Secretary of State disagreed and has dismissed the appeal and refused planning permission.

If you would like the full report please email me.

Cllr Karen Cooper, West Northants Council karen.cooper@westnorthants.gov.uk

Village Hall update

Bookings are steady for birthday parties and events and frequent users include pilates, private dance lessons, dog training and table tennis.

Two more windows have blown which are being replaced on 25 March.

We still continue to pursue replacing the emergency exit doors, which we hope at least 1 will be fitted this year and we plan to fit the new blinds before the summer.

Please do remember us for your events, prices are very competitive; children's birthday parties can be booked for as little as £15 for 3 hours hire and functions £70 all day.

Fundraising has started again to raise funds for improvements, the current focus is to go towards the cost of replacing the doors. A cheese, wine and beer tasting night is being held on 23 March and other social fundraising nights are planned for over the summer.

If you wish to book the hall please contact Jenny Hinds on 07494 558987 or villagehallbookings@gayton-northants.co.uk

If you'd like to join the Village Hall Management Committee or have any other query please contact Leandra Bramham on 07368 227694 or lbramham.gvh@gmail.com

Gayton Primary School - March

A lot of exciting things have been happening at Gayton Primary School since our last article in Gayton News. In October we underwent our Ofsted Inspection- It has been over 10 years since our last inspection and a lot of the framework has changed over that time. Mrs Hollis is very proud of all the children and the staff At Gayton and we were awarded a Good accreditation by Ofsted.

Some of year 5 and 6 boys kicked off the New Year with the small schools football tournament final. They had already had great success reaching the final, knocking out over 90 teams, winning the district champions and getting down to the final 12. Our team played fantastically; they ended up being knocked out on penalties but Gayton is now 4th in the county. Well done boys, we are all extremely proud of you.



Year 3 and 4 had a wonderful afternoon at the Forest Federation Netball Competition on Tuesday 16th January. We played a tournament against all our friends across the federation before play offs to find the winners! We can't wait for the next one!



Years 5 & 6 are having a great time at Forest School, they have enjoyed exploring the new camp and were very excited when it snowed during one of their sessions whilst having their hot chocolate.



We have recently been awarded the Healthy School Bronze Award. This shows the schools commitment to healthy eating, physical activity, mental health and well-being for all. The school has worked hard over the last year to achieve this and will now begin to work towards the Silver award.

Our children in years 5 &6 have been learning about the Tudors in history, the children have all worked so hard and to celebrate this children from Gayton and Tiffield came together to take part in a Tudor workshop, delivered by Past Productions Education Ltd at Gayton Primary School.



To enhance the atmosphere the children were invited to come to school dress in Tudor wear. They all had a really great day.



Our class 1 children have been learning about Kings and Queens in History. To celebrate the end of their topic we had a very Regal day, full of our very own Gayton Kings and Queens. The children had a fantastic day, making dragon eyes, discussing what makes a good leader, writing about what they would do if they were King or Queen for the day and drew their own portrait. They then finished off the day with a dragon hunt!



Our children in years 3&4 have been learning about the Egyptians for their history topic, they have also worked really hard and were treated to an Egyptian workshop to celebrate how well they have done.



Across the Federation children in years 5 & 6 were lucky enough to represent our schools at the Royal and Dergate Theatre at the beginning of the month for NMPAT's The Big Sing, the children all had a lovely time and did us proud.

We have also celebrated TT Rock Stars Day, World Book Day and Mother's Day here at Gayton and are looking forward to more celebration over this term including our Easter Service at St Mary's Church and celebrating the end of term with our Easter Disco.

St Mary the Virgin church

Those of you with a memory far better than mine, will no doubt recall my opening lines in the previous edition of Gayton News. I had recalled the summer departure of our previous vicar, Karen, and the uncertainty as to when we might be able to secure her successor. You may already be aware, I am pleased to say Rev Marion Reynolds is coming back to us after her foray a little further north. Marion's service of induction and installation shall be led by the newly installed Bishop of Peterborough, the Right Revd Debbie Sellin at 7.00pm on Tuesday 19th of March in Pattishall church, you are all most welcome to attend. This invitation of course extends to Marion's first Sunday communion service on her return, here in Gayton, starting at 10.00am on Palm Sunday, 24th of March.

I am also pleased to report that the valiant efforts of the Gayton Gumball team in raising funds for the additional defibrillators in the village should now finally getting to maturity. One of the units was installed at the Eykyn Arms last year, we have now received the approval of the higher authorities in the Church of England for the second unit to be installed in the church porch. Very many thanks from the PCC and the wider community to all those who went to such lengths to raise the funds.

Photographs of the 2024 crop of snowdrops, emerging primroses, and soon blue bells and a splendid assortment of native wild flowers in the churchyard have been posted on the Gayton Community Facebook page, why not pop along and see them in the flesh! With the help of the volunteers working to clear some of the overgrowth last year, the area is being opened up further and the wild flower displays should be quite impressive. On that note, we have renewed the registration within the Northants Wildlife Trust's Churchyard Conservation Scheme as we continue to promote the such aims here on our doorstep. Of course. we shall strive to maintain those appropriate areas of the churchyard in a way sympathetic those visiting departed relatives and friends.

With botany firmly in mind, a key date for your diaries is Sunday the 9th of June. Once again Gayton shall be hosting the most enjoyable Open Gardens event. Not only is there always a fine array of green-finger talent on show, side events such as produce stalls and afternoon teas make it an afternoon not to be missed. So please put it on the calendar and let family and friends know too. I ought to mention that it is one of our main fundraisers for the year, so please please help us meet our commitments to keep our lovely village church running.

As a reminder, the usual Sunday communion service rota continues with Gayton hosting the 10.00am service on the 4th Sunday of each month, followed by tea and coffee served with biscuits and friendly chit chat, by all means please join us if you can. We shall let you know if there are any changes to the rota after Marion gets her feet under the table.

Should any of you need to contact the church for any reason, the church wardens (Andy Hartley and John Rogers) and pastoral lay reader (Jean Pugh) would be more than willing to help, full contact details are available on the church noticeboard. Rev. Marion's contact details shall also be circulated when these are confirmed.

Award-Winning Litter Picking - Local boy helps the community, and himself, by regular rounds of litter picking

Keen-eyed villagers might have spotted what's becoming a regular sight on Saturdays. Corvus Kilroy each week has been doing the rounds with a trusty litter-picking stick and bin bag in hand, making sure the paths and hedgerows of Gayton are as clean as can be. This hour-long weekly service forms the volunteering part of his progress towards the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award programme, which rewards teenagers for being active and helpful members of society, and it's been something of a surprise.

"The volunteering section was the bit of the award I was least looking forward to," says Corvus, "but I've actually really enjoyed it. It's a good feeling to contribute towards the village, but there are other reasons as well." Chief among these has been getting to explore the surroundings. "We only moved to the village a few months ago," Corvus continues. "When we moved, I didn't know the area at all, but now I'm getting a real feel for it. Also, it's a really pretty place to walk around and because I'm doing this every week, I've been able to watch the seasons change and spring actually start to bloom." The reason for being able to turn the litter picking into a walk is a simple one. "When I first started, I was walking all around the village centre and not seeing much litter to pick up: Gayton is really tidy and you can tell that people care about where they live. So I've started walking down the lanes leading away from the village, and that's where I've found a load of stuff." Even so, where there have been obvious piles of litter, they've still been cleared away by locals. "When we went on a Sunday walk as a family a couple of weeks ago, there had been some fly-tipped rubbish down Eastcote Road. I made a mental note of it so I could clear it up the following Saturday, but when I got there, it had already gone. That really impressed me."

There was plenty of other litter to pick up, however, mainly thrown from passing cars. "Every week I'm seeing a lot of empty cans of booze – mainly Fosters – as well as two bottles of Jack Daniels and some wine bottles. The fact that there seems to be so much literal drink-driving probably explains the number of abandoned car parts as well: I've picked up hubcaps, radiator grills, and part of a bumper." There have been other surprising finds as well. "Given the fact that Waitrose is meant to be really up-market, I've picked up a lot of empty meal deal wrappers from there. I've also found a perfectly intact tea mug and a drinks glass, and a male fragrance bottle. I wasn't brave enough to smell what was inside though!" When asked if he's likely to continue after he's finished the required time, he replied, "Probably not every week! Generally I'm looking forward to having a bit more free time, but I have started noticing litter more now – like when we're in the car or on a walk. I'm not sure I'll be able to stop myself from clearing it up any longer. Also, it turns a bumble into a walk with purpose, which is fine by me!"



Gayton Open Gardens

Gayton Open Gardens will be held this year on Sunday 9th June 1-5pm. The purpose of the event is to raise money for Gayton Church, helping towards the running costs, utility bills and fabric repairs of the building.

As in previous years a number of villagers will open their gardens, there will be a teddy bear trail for younger visitors and refreshments will be served in the church. Additionally this year there will be a plant stall.

We have welcomed visitors from surrounding villages, towns and even further afield. Many of our gardeners have opened their gardens on more than one occasion and some have opened every year since 2015!

This year we would like to have some new gardens open, which will maintain interest for our regular visitors. Please would you open your garden?

Gardens don't have to be huge, or highly manicured! Our visitors are interested in looking at gardens big or small, with flowers or vegetables, gardened for wildlife or children.

Please will you consider opening your garden. If you are interested and would like to know more please contact either Joy or Carol (details below).

We would also like to hear from you if you would be willing to help by baking a cake or helping serve the teas (or both), or have plants, which we could sell on the stall. Village support would be much appreciated.



Thank you

Joy Ayre – joyalisonayre@gmail.com 01604858837

Carol Coppock - carol.coppock14@gmail.com 01604859645

GAYTON & TIFFIELD COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

MINIBUS TIMETABLE & FARES – From 1st June 2023 - TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS ONLY

FARES: BUS PASSES – FREE. ALL OTHER FARES £2 SINGLE

BUS TO TOWCESTER IS A SCHEDULED SERVICE

BUS TO NORTHAMPTON IS A REQUEST SERVICE ONLY

Please note the timetable may be subject to minor delays depending on unforeseen circumstances

TO TOWCESTER – SCHEDULED SERVICE

Stage	Gayton - start	9.30	Dep	Gayton – Hillcrest Rd, Five Ways, High St, Back Lane
1	Tiffield	9.40		Tiffield High Street – North and South
	Eastcote	9.50		Eastcote High Street – Eastcote Arms
	Pattishall	9.55		Pattishall – Church St, Fosters Booth Rd, Leys Rd, Pool Cl
	Astcote	10.00		Astcote School, High Street
	Towcester	10.05	Arr	Towcester – Tesco, Aldi, B&M, Market Sq, Waitrose

TO NORTHAMPTON BY REQUEST

2	Towcester	10.10	Dep	Towcester – Waitrose
	Northampton	10.25		Tesco - Mereway
	Northampton	10.35		Northampton - Morrisons
	Northampton	10.40	Arr	Northampton - Drapery

RETURN FROM TOWCESTER – SCHEDULED SERVICE

3	Towcester	11.15	Dep	Towcester – Waitrose, Market Square
	Towcester	11.20		Towcester – Tesco, Aldo, B&M
	Tiffield	11.25		Tiffield High Street – South and North
	Gayton	11.30		Gayton – Hillcrest Rd, Five Ways, High St, Back Lane
	Eastcote	11.35		Eastcote High Street – Eastcote Arms
	Astcote	11.40		Astcote School, High Street
	Pattishall	11.45	Arr	Pattishall – Church St, Fosters Booth Rd, Leys Rd, Pool Cl

RETURN FROM NORTHAMPTON – BY REQUEST – COLLECTION TIMES TO BE CONFIRMED BY PASSENGERS

4	Northampton	12.05 approx dep		Northampton – Drapery
	Northampton	12.10		Northampton - Morrisons
	Northampton	12.15		Northampton – Tesco – Mereway
	Gayton	12.25		Gayton – Hillcrest Rd, Five Ways, High St, Back Lane
	Tiffield	12.30		Tiffield – High Street – North and South
	Eastcote	12.40		Eastcote – High Street – Eastcote Arms
	Astcote	12.45		Astcote School – High Street
	Pattishall	12.50	Arr	Pattishall – Church St, Fosters Booth Rd, Leys Rd, Pool Cl

St Mary's Church Gayton NN7 3EY

**GAYTON OPEN GARDENS
AND ALLOTMENTS**

SUNDAY 9TH JUNE 1-5^{PM}



**Tickets and map from the church
(Family Tickets Available)**

Gardens Open

Plant Sales

Teddy Bear Trail

Homemade Teas in the church

Car Parking