

Gayton News

Est. 1988



The Teddy Bears' Picnic @ Gayton Open Gardens

Gayton
N • E • W • S

Summer
2025

Issue 168

Publication

Gayton News is published by the Gayton Information & Communications Action Team.

Over 200 copies of the Gayton News are printed and distributed across the entire village, by a team of excellent volunteers, Thank you!

The Parish Council covers the cost of printing the Gayton News. The cost is also defrayed by advertising, if you would like to place an advert for your local business, please contact the Editor.

If you would like to submit an Article for the News, please contact:
gaytonnews@gayton-northants.co.uk

The Cut-off for articles for inclusion in the **Winter Issue is: 14th November 2025**

Advertising Rates

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

All other advertising	By Villagers	By Others
Whole Page	£12	£24
1/2 Page	£6	£12
1/4 page	£3	£6
4 lines or less	Free	n/a

(Increased in Jan 2025 to cover costs)

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Welcome!

If it's still as hot when you're reading this Summer Gayton News Issue as when I was editing it, then I think we're in for a very "Long Hot Summer" (*Paul Weller?, 40+ years ago?*)!

So, how about keeping your cool with a night in the pub, listening to some laid-back Jazz and Blues with "A Long, Tall, Drink of Water" sorry, make that a Beer! On the other hand, maybe, join us for a Quiz to overheat the brain cells! The Gardening & Allotment Society have asked me to host a pub quiz night and I will be challenging them to answer questions that may not all be directly related to horticulture, so why not see if you can beat them at their own game!

As you will see in here, the Parish council are working through all of your excellent input to the Neighbourhood questionnaire and their feedback will be forthcoming!

The next major highlight in the village calendar is the September Produce show. The Schedule is included in here for your entries!

I feel very confident that the Open Gardens event was a resounding success for the Church Heritage Trust. Despite the mediocre weather, in the first hour, over 100 tickets were sold!

As always, the schoolchildren seem to have had an inexhaustible series of events that educate their minds, yet somehow sound very enjoyable!

Moreover, those Gumballers are up to their shenanigans again! I think we all need to encourage their madness as much as possible! The next thing you know they will probably be getting us a Gayton Lido or something equally amazing!

Regards,

Colin Simmonds, Editor, Gayton News
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webadmin@gayton-northants.co.uk

9 Jul, Wed 10:00 – 11:30 Evergreens meet @ Eykyn Arms for tea, coffee & chat
9 Jul, Wed 20:00 – 22:00 Pub Quiz @ Eykyn Arms
11 Jul, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @The Eykyn Arms
12 Jul, Sat 20:30 – 23:00 *Live Music* Conundrum @ Eykyn Arms
13 Jul, Sun 10:00 – 13:00 Gayton Walkers Monthly Walk
17 Jul, Thu 19:30 Parish Council Meeting @Village Hall
18 Jul, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @The Eykyn Arms
19 Jul, Saturday Allotment & Gardeners BBQ – Members only
19 th -20 th July Art Exhibition, Abthorpe Old School
23 Jul, Wed 20:00 – 22:00 Pub Quiz @ Eykyn Arms
25 Jul, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @The Eykyn Arms
27 Jul, Sun 11:00 – 12:00 CW Family Communion at Gayton Church
29 Jul, Tue 18:30 – 20:30 *Live Music* Jazz & Blues Night @The Eykyn 17:30 Pizzas by The Wood Oven @The Eykyn
1 Aug, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @The Eykyn Arms
2 Aug, Sat 20:30 – 23:00 *Live Music* The Furzey Suite @ Eykyn Arms
6 Aug, Wed 20:00 – 22:00 Pub Quiz @Eykyn Arms
8 Aug, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @The Eykyn Arms
10 Aug, Sun 10:00 – 13:00 Gayton Walkers Monthly Walk
13 Aug, Wed 10:00 – 11:30 Evergreens meet @The Eykyn for tea, coffee & chat

13 Aug, Wed 19:30 – 22:00 Horticultural Pub Quiz @Eykyn
15 Aug, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @The Eykyn Arms
20 Aug, Wed 20:00 – 22:00 Pub Quiz @Eykyn Arms
22 Aug, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @The Eykyn Arms
24 Aug, Sun 11:00 – 12:00 CW Family Communion at Gayton Church
26 Aug, Tue 17:30 – 20:30 *Live Music* Jazz & Blues Night @The Eykyn 17:30 Pizzas by The Wood Oven @The Eykyn
29 Aug, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @The Eykyn Arms
3 Sept, Wed 20:00 – 22:00 Pub Quiz @Eykyn Arms
5 Sept, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @The Eykyn Arms
10 Sept, Wed 10:00 – 11:30 Evergreens meet @The Eykyn for tea, coffee & chat
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26 Sept, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @ The Eykyn Arms
28 Sept, Sun 11:00 – 12:00 CW Family Communion at Gayton Church
30 Sept, Tue 18:30 – 21:30 *Live Music* Jazz & Blues Night @ The Eykyn 17:30 Pizzas by The Wood Oven @The Eykyn

Get your event in the Village calendar:

events@gayton-northants.co.uk

Gayton Evergreen Club

Why not join us on the second Wednesday in the month for a coffee and a chat?

Karen and John offer great hospitality at the Eykyn Arms .

No need to book, no subscription to pay, just come along and enjoy the company!

The dates of future Coffee and Chat Mornings for 2025 are:

Wednesday 9th July

Wednesday 13th August

Wednesday 10th September

Wednesday 8th October

Wednesday 12th November

All at the Eykyn Arms starting at 10.00 am.

Further information from:

Carol Coppock 01604 859645

carol.coppock14@gmail.com

Manja Ronne 01604 859253

ManjaRonne@btinternet.com

Advertisement

Art Exhibition

Hi everyone, here's a date for your diary.

Six local Artists will be exhibiting our work in Abthorpe Old School the weekend of the 19th July.

We work in a variety of media including ceramics.

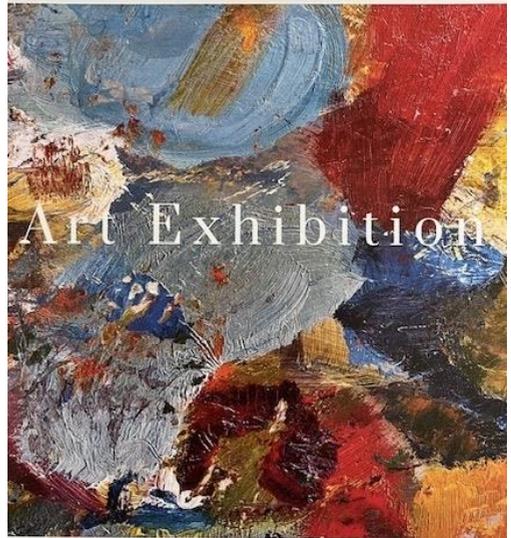
I live and work here in Gayton and specialise in painting wildlife in oils, watercolour, and pastel. I also turn my hand to drawings in graphite pencil.

Hope to see you there,

Judy Hamilton

Large variety of original artwork and ceramics to view commission and purchase

Abthorpe Old School
School Lane Abthorpe NN12 8QT



Sat 19th and Sun 20th July 10am to 4pm

Allotment Musings....

The allotment site is a hive of activity at this time of year with crops going in now the danger of frost is over, weeds coming out, sheds going up, weed membrane coming off and machines whirring away.



We are pleased to say that the site is full, no vacancies, but we will start a waiting list if the need arises so, please contact me if you are considering

trying your hand at growing your own.

We have quite a few 'newbies,' who claim to know nothing about growing fruit and vegetables, already producing great veggies and making their new plots into their own personal growing space. Allotment sites are always very interesting spaces to wander round as all the plots are different, reflecting the personalities of the tenants.



We have a thriving membership of Gardeners from the village. For just an annual fee of £5, you can become a member of the Society. This gives you access to the site, swop shop, invites to a garden visit, BBQ and Quiz evening. Email me if you are interested in joining.

Events for the Diary:

July 19th

Summer BBQ

For Gayton Allotment & Gardeners Members only, which proves that the £5 annual membership is worth it for this alone!

August 13th

Horticultural Quiz.

This fun event will be at the Eykyn Arms so open entry to all. More details to follow but definitely a date for the diary!

September 6th

Annual Produce Show



Held at the Village Hall, this event is now in its third year having had a gap of about 35 years. It is open to all Gayton residents and there are classes for everyone to enter.

If you are able to help with Raffle prizes, cake donations, renting a stall, or refreshments, please contact me. It's really touching to see all the generations getting together and chatting with friends over tea and cake. Lots of prizes to be won too!



We all have various ways of feeding our produce over the course of the season.

I like to use **Comfrey**, which I make into two different liquid fertilisers. At the beginning of the season when the shoots are about a foot high I chop them down and seep them in buckets of water for about 2 weeks. Placing it in a hessian bag or similar is useful for ease of removing the comfrey before applying with a watering can, diluted about 50/50. The smell is rich to say the least!

The second method I employ takes longer but produces lovely dark black liquid which can be diluted about 10/1.



The comfrey goes into a black dustbin, which has a hole cut in the bottom and a bowl placed

under the hole. Sprinkle sparingly with water if it's very dry, cover and leave to do its magic. Keep topping up every 2 or three weeks. This way I have enough to last all season and I save some for the beginning of the next season.

You can buy comfrey online, preferably the variety that does not spread, as it will seed itself quite readily, usually where you don't want it.

Comfrey has many uses, one of its common names is knitbone and it was used as a poultice to help heal broken bones, also used as an ingredient in cough mixture (not that I've tried either remedy!)

Happy Gardening!

Hilary Glanville (Sec)

hilaryglanville6@gmail.com

Wednesday 9th July 8pm Pop Music Quiz

Test your musical memory!

Saturday 12th July 8:45pm The Conundrum



70's to current Brit pop and rock covers band. T-Rex, Kinks, Free, Oasis, Blur, Suede, Kaiser Chiefs, The Jam, Buzzcocks, and The Fratellis.

Monday 14th July 8:45pm Open Mic Night

"Court Jester" hosts a diverse night of music!

Saturday 19th July 8:45pm J45's



J45s cover from the sixties to the present

including a guaranteed set list of foot tappers and sing-a-longs!

Saturday 2nd August The Furzey Suite



The Furzey Suite plays an epic and diverse mix of mainly 80s Anthems from synth based rock to Stadium rock Anthems and even a bit of the unexpected! You'll wanna see us again...

Last Tuesday of Every Month 6:30pm 29th Jul, 26th Aug, 30th Sep Jazz & Blues Night

Cliff Brown & Friends – With Cliff as the Guitarist bandleader for our monthly jazz, blues, swing & rock 'n' roll music night. You can expect varied & beautiful sets from exceptional musicians, & guest artists.

Every alternate Wednesday 8pm Pub Quiz

General knowledge quiz, teams of up to 6, or just turn up and join in! £1 a head.

The Gayton Gumball Rally is back!



Yes, once again, those intrepid boys from the Front bar of The Eykyn arms will be heading off on an audacious road trip with the twin objectives of having an absolutely smashing

time and raising funds for worthy causes in the Parish of Gayton!

Previously, their road trips have raised funds that allowed the purchase and installation of

two extra defibrillators in the village (@The Eykyn and @the Church Vestibule) to join the one at the Village Hall (the Parish Council has adopted all three for ongoing maintenance).

Subsequently, the Gumballers have also supported the Village School Panto; provided new electricity Meters for the Village Hall and purchased a set of cordless power tools to help the Chaingang maintain the village environs.

This year, their inspiration comes from Les, who wants to fulfil a long held ambition to drive the Amalfi Coast in Italy; the drawback for Martyn is that they will fly to Italy, the prospect of which, he is not so keen about!

Brian and Eamonn are helping to organise things, creating the Route plan and arranging the car hire. However, it appears that these, what can only be described as “burly” chaps, will be squeezing their frames into Fiat 500’s!

So imagine if you will, Les & Martyn; Ronnie & Adam; Gary & John; Brian & Eamonn; and Pete, Tony & Tom in a cavalcade of little Italian cars wending their way from Rimini to Naples!

Across the week of 18th-25th September, they will be taking in Bologna (‘cos they think they can just about order Spaghetti Bolognese in Italian), then onwards to Florence. Sorrento is definitely next, (but there seems to be some uncertainty about whether Rome is on the way or not...!); before arriving on the Amalfi coast for the iconic coastal road drive.

I am sure that they’ll have a brilliant time and have some great tales to tell, but of course the real point of this is the fund raising!

So what can YOU do to Help?

There will be a number of opportunities for you to get involved from as little as £1 a go!

A Giant Bingo card (£1 to choose a number; the Eykyn Bingo machine draws the winner!)

A £1 entry Sweepstake to guess how many Kilometres they will drive; a grand total for all the cars added up, the uncertainty is whether it will be 5 or 6 Fiat 500’s! Nearest the total wins a Prize!

Or, YOU could set them a Personal Challenge!

I have started with: ***The team to bring me back the heaviest Sorrento Amalfi Lemon will collect £50!*** (runners up to be auctioned off!)

So, if you can think of an “Italian” challenge (hopefully legal!) with the offer of a cash reward then contact Les (07885 677734) or Martyn (07933 845016) or indeed, the Gayton News Editor.

Moreover, if you know of a worthy cause or recipient of some of the resulting funds, then feel free to propose it, the only stipulation is that it must be within the Parish of Gayton!

Further updates will be via Village Messenger, Facebook or in the Eykyn Arms.

Good Luck to all The Boys!

Gayton Gardeners & Allotment Society Produce Show

Show Schedule

GAYTON VILLAGE HALL
SATURDAY 6th SEPTEMBER
1.00pm – 4.00pm

Free Admission

Teas & Homemade Cakes

Raffle

Stalls

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Class

FLOWERS

- 1 Rose: 1 bloom
- 2 Dahlia: 1 bloom
- 3 Flowers raised from seed, 1 vase, 1 kind, 5 stems
- 4 1 vase, 6 stems 1 or more kinds (Hardy Perennials)
- 5 Vase mixed foliage: 6 stems
- 6 Flowering plant in pot, (pot not to exceed 20cm)
- 7 Foliage plant in pot, (pot not to exceed 20cm)
- 8 Cactus or Succulent, (pot not to exceed 15cm)

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

- 9 3 x Dessert Apples
- 10 3 x Cooking Apples
- 11 3 x Pears
- 12 5 x Stoned Fruit
- 13 6 x Soft Fruit
- 14 4 Onions, Red
- 15 4 Onions, other
- 16 3 Potatoes, white
- 17 3 Potatoes, coloured
- 18 6 Dwarf French Beans, with stalk
- 19 6 Runner Beans, with stalk
- 20 6 x Shallots
- 21 3 Beetroot, with tops complete
- 22 3 Carrots, with tops complete
- 23 1 Lettuce, with roots

- 24 4 Tomatoes, with calyx attached
- 25 2 Courgettes
- 26 1 Squash (any variety)
- 27 1 Cabbage, with 50mm of stalk
- 28 Vegetables, 2 of one kind not included in schedule
- 29 Longest Runner Bean
- 30 Wonky vegetable
- 31 Chilli Plant, pot not to exceed 23cm
- 32 Herbs: 5 stems in vase – one or more varieties
- 33 Heaviest Onion

DOMESTIC

Classes 39-42 must be made within the year and Dated

- 34 Victoria Sandwich
- 35 6 Cheese Scones
- 36 6 Pieces of homemade Shortbread
- 37 Loaf of Bread – any kind, hand made (not bread maker) (not Sourdough)
- 38 Sourdough loaf
- 39 Jar of Pickled Onions
- 40 Bottle of Fruit (s)
- 41 Jar of Jam, Soft Fruit (s)
- 42 Jar of Chutney

CRAFT SECTION

Photographs max size 10cm x 15cm, no frames or mounts

- 43 A petite floral arrangement of fresh plant material (overall size 4" to 9" including the container)
- 44 Photograph of Garden or Allotment
- 45 Handicraft, Knitting, Embroidery, Macrame or Crochet

ART

18 years and over. Paintings should not be signed or framed.

- 46 British Wildlife, any medium
- 47 Landscape, any medium

CHILDRENS CLASSES

- 48 3 Cookies decorated (up to 5 years) judged on decoration only
- 49 3 Fairy cakes (6-9 years) judged on decoration and taste (home made)
- 50 6 Flapjacks, home made (10-17 years)
- 51 Drawing or Painting (up to 5 years) any medium, any subject (not photo)
- 52 Drawing or Painting (6-9 years) any medium, any subject (not photo)
- 53 Drawing or Painting (10-17 years) any medium, any subject (not photo)
- 54 Garden in seed tray
- 55 Sunflower grown in a pot from seed (quality is more important than size)

-

SHOW ENTRIES TO

Tom Rathwell email: thomasrathwell@gmail.com

Malzor Cottage, 23 High Street , Milton Malsor. NN7 3AS

or

Post through door 5 Bugbrooke Road, Gayton
(before 9pm on Thursday 4th September).

HINTS TO EXHIBITORS

-

Read the schedule and the show regulations carefully, noting the number of specimens to be staged, the number of varieties required and the exceptions to the various classes.

The preparation of produce for exhibition.

Apples and pears should not be polished. All fruit should be shown on the stalk.

All vegetables should be prepared for exhibition by washing only.

Beans and peas should have some stalk attached.

Onions tops and roots should be trimmed and can be staged on rings.

Tomatoes should be ripe but firm, with calyxes attached.

Potatoes should be clean and clear-skinned.

Any paper used on plates or for positioning should be white.

Pick Flowers in the evening or early morning and place them almost up to their necks in deep containers of clean water and place in a cool position until ready for staging.

Pot Plants should receive enough water so they are fresh at the time of showing.

Domestic Jars should be labelled and dated using plain white labels.

Whatever you exhibit, remember that quality, freedom from blemish and uniformity are considered of greater importance than size alone.

Exhibits to Village Hall between 9.00 and 11.00am on the day of the show.
Doors of the show open at 1.00pm (at conclusion of judging).
Presentation of prizes at 4.00pm.
Followed by the auction and draw of the raffle.

Trophies to be Awarded

Heaviest Onion
Best plate of potatoes
Best vegetable exhibit in show
Best exhibit flowers
Trophy for overall points
Classes 51, 52, 53 sponsored

Rules

- 1 Entries close on the previous Thursday 4th September at 9.00pm. The date is definitely **FINAL**.
- 2 No flower, fruit or vegetables shall be exhibited unless the same shall have been the property and in possession of the exhibitor for at least two months previous to the show.
- 3 All exhibits must be ready for the Judging at 11.30am.
- 4 All vegetables to be shown in a clean state.
- 5 No exhibitor will be allowed more than one exhibit in each class.
- 6 Exhibitors must provide their own plate and vase, and everything shown at the risk of the exhibitor, though every precaution will be taken by the committee to ensure safety.
- 7 Junior relatives of village residents are eligible to participate in the children's section.



Gayton Open Gardens and Teddy Bear Trail, Sunday 8th June 2025



After a prolonged period of dry, sunny weather, the days before the Open Gardens were unsettled, ending with a thunderstorm and heavy rain on Saturday afternoon.

However, Sunday morning dawned bright and sunny and although we had a few spots of rain in the afternoon this did not deter the visitors to Gayton's lovely gardens.

Eleven gardens were open as well as the allotments. There were two new gardens for visitors:-

Allotment plot 2 whose owners were in the second year of growing their own vegetables were keen to share their experiences as new growers.

Courtyard Cottage opened for the first time having been developed from scratch over the past three years.

A teddy bear's picnic (front cover) was in full swing in the shady glade seating area of the Millennium Spinney and Sue was on hand to answer questions about the new developments and plans for this lovely, popular village area

Once again, a welcome addition to the day was the free shuttle minibus service around the village kindly driven by Peter Baxter and John Rogers.



Afternoon teas, served in the church had a great selection of homemade cakes and scones. There was also a well-stocked plant stall and an opportunity to buy local Gayton Honey.



On the following afternoon 23 members of the Silverstone Gardening Club visited to view two gardens and they were also served tea and homemade cake in the church.

Gayton Open Gardens celebrated its 10th year on Sunday 8th June, it has developed into a community event, which many residents get involved with.



Many thanks go to all the volunteers who made this event so successful. The gardeners, who worked so hard to get their gardens ready for opening, the cake makers, the tea makers, the washers up and the clearers up, those who helped set up the church for the

day and provided flowers for the tea tables. Thank you also for the donations of plants for the stall and to those who sold the plants on the day.

Not forgetting the gardeners who kindly opened their gardens again on Monday afternoon and those who baked even more cakes and provided the hospitality to the visitors. Thank you to the residents of Gayton who supported our fund raising by visiting the gardens and enjoying some refreshments afterwards.

The total money raised for the church was £2,133.00, which included the donation from the visiting gardening society.



Joy Ayre
01604 858837
joyalisonayre@gmail.com

Carol Coppock
01604 859645
carol.coppock14@gmail.com

There are a couple of things happening in the Parish that I thought you should be aware of.

The first is the latest news about the Solar Farm development. You will be aware that Anesco's original submission was rejected by the Secretary of State and his decision upheld by the court of appeal. However, that isn't the end of the matter, and we have been told that Anesco are going to submit a new application within the next few weeks. It is best not to speculate on its exact content, but I believe it to be a modified version of the original, designed to tackle the issues that led to its rejection. As soon as we have full details, i.e. a new map of the site and details of any changes to the original bid, we will let you know. I hope to have a much clearer picture of Anesco's plans by the date of our next Parish Council meeting on the 19th of June, so keep an eye open for the minutes of that meeting which will be published on our website.

The second thing I wish to update you on is the Neighbourhood Development Plan. More than 70 people came to the Village Meeting in May, and we have since received 161 replies to our questionnaire. I would like to thank everyone who took part and emphasise that it is still not too late to have your say as we are only just starting to write the first draft of the plan. We have gathered a great deal of useful information about the way residents wish to see the village develop over the next decade and we will share that with residents over the next month or so. Please be patient as it is important that we release it in a way that is accessible to all. As far as the future is

concerned, we must now develop a draft plan, so if any of you have an area that you feel passionate about, why not speak to us about helping in some way. Just talking to us about your ideas may be more helpful than you think.

Villages that have completed a Neighbourhood Plan have taken, on average, two years to complete this challenging phase, so please be patient and, if you have any questions or wish to get involved, please come to a Parish Council meeting or contact us direct. Dates of meetings and councillors contact details can be on our website at <https://gaytonparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Councillor Carl Hamilton,
Chairperson Gayton Parish Council
carl.hamilton@gaytonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Potholes!

Probably just like the rest of the county and indeed UK, the state of the village roads is becoming worse and worse! New potholes spring up and "repairs" fail in double quick time! You can do your bit by reporting them to West Northants Council using the Fix My Street website or App:

<https://www.fixmystreet.com/>

Litter Pick

Would someone be willing to take a lead on this long established and worthy twice-yearly ritual of village life? There are established volunteers and equipment, but we need someone to co-ordinate it. If you could, please contact the Parish Council.

We have had a really fun and exciting time here at Gayton Primary School since the Spring edition of Gayton News!

Our class 3 children were incredibly lucky to have the talented local artist, Kealey Farmer, join us for a fantastic art session!

The children loved creating their Wishing Wings and beautiful flowers, bringing their creativity to life in the most magical way.

The day was truly inspiring, sparking their imaginations and leaving them feeling like real artists. A huge thank you to Kealey for sharing her passion and talent with us!

We celebrated Shrove Tuesday at Gayton - featuring our annual pancake race! The children showed lovely manners when having their pancakes as well as cheering each other on. A lovely day all round.



A Spectacular Ukulele Concert!



We had a fantastic afternoon showcasing the incredible talents of our Class 2 and 3 children! Their ukulele concert was nothing short of amazing, filled with beautiful melodies and joyful smiles.

A special thank you to Mrs Harris and Mr Doyle from [Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust](#) for their dedication and hard work over the 10 week workshop, your support has helped our children shine through their music!

We are incredibly proud of all our young musicians—keep strumming and shining!

Back in March we had a great time on Brain Awareness Day, the children were asked to come dressed in anything colourful and or have crazy hair and they all made a cracking effort. We held different activities throughout the day including looking at the three main areas of the brain. Children learnt about the:

- Cerebrum - The front and larger part of the brain, responsible for the senses, thinking and memory.

- Cerebellum - The smaller and back part of the brain, mainly responsible for motor control.
- Brain Stem - the part of the brain which is linked by the spinal cord to the rest of the body. It is responsible for all unconscious activities, such as breathing.

Thanks to the generosity of our parents/carers as a federation, we managed to raise £333 on the day for The Brain Tumour Charity.

Celebrating VE Day 80 in Style.



What a splendid day we had celebrating VE Day 80.

Our wonderful children embraced the spirit of this significant historical event with an array of engaging activities that brought history to life!

From historical quizzes, to art and craft sessions, each class thoroughly enjoyed learning about the resilience and bravery shown during World War II.

The highlight of the day was undoubtedly our delightful street party lunch!

Our Class One children have been learning all about canals in their recent history topic. To round off this brilliant topic they had a trip on Charlie along the canal at Stoke Bruerne.

A Fabulous Day at Warwick Castle

What an unforgettable day we had at Warwick Castle for our end of year school trip. Our children were absolutely brilliant and received several compliments on their outstanding behaviour throughout the trip.

From exploring the impressive towers to wandering through the stunning gardens, everyone showcased their curiosity and enthusiasm.



We couldn't be prouder of our amazing Class 3, who took to the stage at Whittlebury Hall to perform a dazzling rendition of "I'm a Believer" from the beloved film Shrek!

Their dedication and hard work truly shone through, and while we secured a commendable 3rd place, the true victory lies in the spirit of friendship and support among our fabulous Federation. It was a joy to see our children deliver such a heartfelt performance filled with laughter and camaraderie!

Well done, Class 3! You truly are all believers!

We are looking forward to many more exciting adventures before we close for the summer and look forward to sharing these with you in the next edition of Gayton News. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all the residents of Gayton Village a happy and sunny summer!

Minibus Driver Wanted

We are looking for a casual minibus driver to work term time, 38 weeks a year across the Federation. Variable hours each week. £12.26 per hour. Must have minibus driving on current license. Midas training will be provided.

Contact for more information.

Bev Tyler-Bedford

bursar@gayton-ce.northants-ecl.gov.uk

Gayton Spinney & Chaingang

Over the years, a fungal disease has attacked our native Ash Trees that in 1999 were part of the planting of the Millennium Spinney.

Unfortunately, many of ours have succumbed and indeed died from the ravages of this disease. The good news is that there is some current scientific thinking that Ash trees are quite rapidly developing some immunity to the disease, and indeed, my cousin, who helps to manage a large area of woodland on the Isle of Wight, reports that some trees that survive, seem to slowly recover from it!

However, for a few of our trees, this has come too late and over the winter, we identified quite a number of potential “Widow Makers” in the Spinney that had completely died and needed to be taken out before they fell down!

So, with the expert knowledge of our local Tree surgeon, Colin Ellis, (see back page advert) the dead trees have been removed and this has opened up some opportunities for new planting in the “glades” that have been inadvertently created out of the rigid linear planting that was used for ease of maintenance in the early days.

With the kind assistance of the Gayton Alms Charity, we have £150 to spend on potted wildflowers from Blisworth Wildflowers <https://blisworthwildflowers.co.uk/>, The dairy, 4a Northampton Rd, Blisworth, NN7 3DN, 07999 638759. We hope to get these in ASAP before the autumn, but given the present heat, that may be a challenge!

To a cursory look, the Hibernaculum may appear as if it has become overgrown with weeds, but trust me, these are a careful selection of over 40 native wildflowers in a specialist woodland turf!



The Chaingang has continued to be busy, clearing undergrowth on both Back Lane and Blisworth Road, albeit once the Daffodils had finished their growth period. After all, we would not want to ruin the lovely work of our predecessors, (Pete Butcher was it?) who planted them.



As well as a bit of Wood chip spreading, we have mainly looked forward to the Open Gardens event and soon the Produce show!



Hi Everyone,

Good News. Thanks to generous grants from local parish councils, charities, legacies and donations, and a major increase in private hires of the minibus, we have managed to raise enough money to replace the loss of our traditional grant from WNC and to cover a steep increase in insurance cover. Also, we have now received a grant from the Northamptonshire Community Foundation for the current year so we appear to have a sustainable future for the medium term.

Since expanding the service to Eastcote, Pattishall and Ascote passenger numbers have increased and these now make up more than half of our regular users. At the moment we are continuing with this service for the foreseeable future. We do realise that it means a slightly longer journey for Gayton residents but we do need the extra fares to keep the service operating.

Most users seem happy with the current timetable but please let us know if you have any comments, suggestions or wish to volunteer. This is a Community Bus Service so we do try to respond to everyone's wishes but if you would like to comment on the service please contact me directly or attend our **Annual General Meeting at Gayton Village Hall on Wednesday 25th June at 7:00 pm.**

The government's fare cap for **cash** customers has been increased to **£3 per single journey.** **Passengers with bus passes do not have to pay anything.**

Please remember that we are a charity and it is a community bus, so if you want to hire a 16 seater (plus driver) please contact us to see if we are available. Recent trips have been for cubs/guides, local schools and group visits to local pubs and restaurants, monthly dining club visits and sports team away matches. Airport runs are possible but not at unsocial times. **Donations are always welcome.**

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

We are grateful to receive funding from;



GAYTON AND TIFFIELD COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

MINIBUS TIMETABLE AND FARES - From 1st JANUARY 2025

TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS ONLY

FARES: BUS PASSES - FREE. ALL OTHER FARES £3 SINGLE.

BUS TO TOWCESTER IS A SCHEDULED SERVICE

BUS TO NORTHAMPTON IS A REQUEST SERVICE ONLY

Please note that 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		High Street - North and South
	Eastcote	9:50		High Street - Eastcote Arms
	Pattishall	9:55		Pattishall - Church St, Fosters Booth Rd, Leys Rd, Pool Close
	Astcote	10:00		Astcote School, High Street
	Towcester - Arrive	10:05	Arr	Towcester - Tesco, Aldi, B&M - Market Square - Waitrose

TO NORTHAMPTON - BY REQUEST

2	Towcester - Depart	10:10	Dep	Towcester - Waitrose
	Northampton	10:25		Tesco Mereway
	Northampton	10:35		Morrisons
	Northampton - Arrive	10:40	Arr	Northampton - Drapery

RETURN FROM TOWCESTER - SCHEDULED SERVICE

3	Towcester - Depart	11:15	Dep	Towcester - Waitrose - Market Square
	Towcester	11:20		Towcester - Tesco/Aldi/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		High Street, Eastcote Arms
	Astcote	11:40		Astcote - School, High Street
		Pattishall	11:45	Arr

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

4	Northampton - Depart	Approx 12:05	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		High Street, Eastcote Arms
	Astcote	12:45		Astcote - School, High Street
		Pattishall - Arrive	12:50	Arr



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