

37th Stradsett Park Vintage Rally

Sun 5th & Mon 6th May 2013

10am to 5pm

Adults £5 - Children Free



A Great Family Day Out



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BACK IN TIME:
Clive Bond,
Olive Turpin
and Mim Neal
take part in
the dig at
Gayton.

GAYTON

Villagers join in to dig into the past

Fifty villagers joined in with an archaeological dig aimed at uncovering the history of the Gaywood Valley.

They sunk test pits in a pub garden in Gayton, fields and the grounds of a nearby hall, unearthing a wealth of finds over the weekend.

Clive Bond, director of the Gaywood Valley Archaeological and Historical Project, said: "We've found a lot of animal bones, typically sheep and cows.... people were cutting up animals and eating them. We've also had some metal artefacts, including

some coins that are medieval. I can't give you exact locations, because the risk here is night hawking."

These are rogue metal detector enthusiasts who raid sites for coins to sell to dealers.

A Roman coin was also uncovered at the dig, along with a range of pottery including the distinctive green Grimston Ware, which was thrown and fired nearby prior to the Norman conquest.

More modern – and mysterious – was the single spent 9mm cartridge found in the garden of the Crown

Inn, alongside 20th century coinage and oyster shells.

American forces used the calibre during the second world war, when a weapon may have been fired nearby.

The project, funded by a £9,900 lottery grant, will be carrying out digs at Gaywood (May 18-19), Grimston (June 15-16), Great Massingham (July 27-28) and Congham (September 21-22).

On Saturday, it will be staging a finds processing day at True's Yard, in King's Lynn (11am).

■ <http://gaywood.greghawk.org.uk>

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ANMER

Bells to ring