

## GATE TO SOUTHWELL 1991

- all 9.45 massed dancing Old Market Square  
10.00 Lord Mayor starts the procession  
all 10.30 Hermitage Square (via Wheeler Gate)  
*bus to edge of Burton Joyce*  
all 11.00 process through Burton Joyce  
stopping at Cross Keys  
*bus to Magna Charta Lowdham*  
all 12 noon process to the Ship, Lowdham for lunch  
A 12.45 depart Ship  
B 1.30 depart Black Horse Caythorpe  
A 1.55 depart former Old Elm Tree Hoveringham  
B 2.20 depart gravel pits Hoveringham  
A 2.50 depart Coach and Horses Thurgarton  
B 3.10 depart Goverton Turn  
A 3.30 depart Wagon and Horses Bleasby  
B 3.50 depart junction half way to Fiskerton  
4.15 arrive Bromley Arms Fiskerton  
*bus to White Lion Easthorpe*  
all 4.30 procession along Church Street to Minster  
" 4.45 arrive Minster  
" 5.15 process to Market Place for display  
" 6.00 Bramley Apple



Saturday June 8th

## Gate to Southwell

Saturday 8th June 1991

Welcome once again to the Gate to Southwell, Nottinghamshire's traditional morris event. For this 11th staging of the Gate to Southwell we have made a few changes to the arrangements whilst still keeping the basic format. Let me know what you think to the changes and your ideas can be incorporated into next year's plans. Obviously we want to keep the elements of the Gate that people most enjoy, but equally I don't think that the arrangements should become totally fossilised - there's room for a certain amount of experimentation.

The idea behind the changes this year is to spend less time on the parts of the route that people least enjoy, especially along the main Nottingham- Southwell road, and to have more people in the procession through the villages. This cuts down the length of the day - we'll be starting an hour later and arriving an hour earlier. To achieve this we will all bus from Sneinton to Burton Joyce and from there to Lowdham, and will similarly go by bus from Fiskerton to Easthorpe in Southwell.

After last year, the weather can only improve (I hope) - 9 hours of rain in one day is fairly unusual even by English standards! Over the years we seem to have had a very wide range of weather, though I reckon we are overdue a sunny day.

George at the Bramley Apple is again arranging a free pint for bona fide participants - tickets from me. We should be there at about 6 pm. George has even put the Gate before taking his wife Dorothy out to celebrate her birthday (one of those with a 0 in it) so many thanks to them both.

Thanks for your continued support of the Gate. We are a few sides down this year mainly due to a clash with the Wimborne Folk Festival, so I hope next year for a specially big turnout.

Bob Hine  
(0509 880635)

*BH*

Media Announcement

## **The Gate to Southwell 1991**

The traditional Nottinghamshire Whitsuntide procession known as the *Gate to Southwell* and dating from the 12th Century will be re-enacted on **Saturday 8th June 1991**. Local morris dancers will receive the Southwell Pence from the Lord Mayor of Nottingham at **10 a.m.** outside the Council House in the Old Market Square Nottingham, and will convey them to the Chapter Clerk in the North Porch of Southwell Minster, where they expect to arrive at **5 p.m.** The *Gate to Southwell* will pass through Sneinton, Burton Joyce, Lowdham, Caythorpe, Hoveringham, Thurgarton, Bleasby and Fiskerton. Dry weather is hoped for this year following nine hours of rain on last year's procession! Sponsorship will be in aid of the *Smile Don't Stare* Fund for disabled children attending the City Hospital, Nottingham.

Organiser: Robert Hine  
27 Hollytree Close  
Hoton  
Near Loughborough  
Leicestershire  
0509 880635

# Colourful procession gets civic send-off

BEER flowed later but the traditional Gate to Southwell procession from Nottingham stayed dry.

Participants were soaked last year, when it rained for nine hours, but mild weather held this time.

Up to 100 Morris dancers and clog dancers joined the 20-mile journey from the Old Market Square to Southwell Minster on Saturday.

The Lord Mayor of Nottingham, Coun Alan White, handed the Southwell pence — the traditional offering for the Minster's upkeep of 13 shillings and fourpence (about 67p today) — to Mike Wilkinson, of the Dolphin Morris Dancers.

The procession, backing the Smile Don't Stare fund for disabled children, dates from 1109.

This year, it wound through Sneinton, Burton Joyce, Lowdham, Caythorpe, Hoveringham, Thurgarton, Bleasby and Fiskerton, before arriving at Southwell about 5pm.

Everyone then adjourned to the Bramley Apple pub for a free pint.



● The Lord Mayor of Nottingham, Coun Alan White, hands the Southwell pence to Mike Wilkinson

## The Gate to Southwell, 1991

### HYMNS FOR THE SERVICE IN SOUTHWELL MINSTER

#### (I)

- 1 He who would valiant be  
'Gainst all disaster,  
Let him in constancy  
Follow the Master.  
There's no discouragement  
Shall make him once relent  
His first avowed intent  
To be a pilgrim.
- 2 Who so beset him round  
With dismal stories,  
Do but themselves confound -  
His strength the more is.  
No foes shall stay his might  
Though he with giants fight;  
He will make good his right  
To be a pilgrim.
- 3 Since, Lord, thou dost defend  
Us with thy Spirit,  
We know we at the end  
Shall life inherit.  
Then fancies flee away!  
I'll fear not what men say,  
I'll labour night and day  
To be a pilgrim.

*(Tune: English traditional)*

#### (II)

- 1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could  
destroy,  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of  
the day.
- 2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane  
and the lathe,  
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon  
of the day.
- 3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to  
embrace,  
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of  
the day.
- 4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence  
is balm,  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of  
the day.

*(Tune: ancient Irish air)*

TEL. No. 483500

THE LORD MAYOR'S PARLOUR,  
THE COUNCIL HOUSE,  
NOTTINGHAM. NG1 2DT.

LMS/PB/13  
May 1991

Dear Mr Hine

With reference to our previous correspondence, I write to let you know that the Lord Mayor designate, who will take Office on Monday the 13 May 1991, will be pleased to start the Gate to Southwell procession from the Council House on Saturday the 8 June 1991 at 10 am.

Please could you kindly arrange for the enclosed form to be completed and returned to me as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

*Sharon Reynolds*

*PP* The Lord Mayor's Secretary  
Miss A Turnpenny

MR R HINE  
ORGANISER - THE GATE TO SOUTHWELL  
C/O MR I AMBROSE  
20 BEECH WALK  
CROMFORD  
MATLOCK  
DERBYSHIRE  
DE4 3RB

4/4/91

copy

4 April 1991

Mr Taylor  
The Lord Mayor's Secretary  
The Lord Mayor's Parlour  
The Council House  
Nottingham

Dear Mr Taylor,

The traditional Nottinghamshire Whitsuntide procession known as The Gate to Southwell will take place this year on Saturday June 8th, and I am writing to ask if, in keeping with tradition, the Lord Mayor would kindly consent to start the procession on its way from the Council House. This year, the procession will start a little later than usual, leaving the Old Market Square at 10 a.m. Otherwise, the arrangements will be as usual.

We are very grateful to successive Lord Mayors for their support in maintaining The Gate to Southwell custom, and we hope very much that the current Lord Mayor will be able to officiate on Saturday June 8th.

As I am currently in Spain, it would be most helpful if you would communicate with Mr Ian Ambrose who is organising the arrangements until my return.

Yours sincerely

*Robert Hine*

*address given*

Robert Hine  
Organiser  
The Gate to Southwell

3rd June 1991

The Chief Constable  
Nottinghamshire Constabulary  
Arnold  
Nottingham

Dear Sir,

It is planned to hold the 11th annual **Gate to Southwell**, the traditional Nottinghamshire Whitsuntide procession, on **Saturday 8th June 1991**. The procession is due to start from the Old Market Square where the Lord Mayor will hand over the Southwell Pence and will follow the usual route to Hermitage Square Sneinton, passing along Wheeler Gate, Low, Middle and Upper Pavement, Hollowstone, Fisher Gate and Pennyfoot Street, Newark Street and St Stephens Street. From there the procession will this year be bussed to Burton Joyce, arriving at 11 a.m. At 1 p.m. the procession will leave Lowdham travelling on the customary route via Caythorpe, Hoveringham, Thurgarton, Bleasby and Fiskerton to arrive at Southwell Minster to hand over the Southwell Pence at 5 p.m.

I anticipate that the number of morris dancers and walkers will be between 50 and 100, and as in previous years will stress the importance of safety aspects to the participants.

I wish to apologise for the lateness of this letter. As you will know, in previous years I have written substantially earlier. I have just returned from three months abroad and unfortunately forgot to ask my deputy to write to you while I was away.

Yours faithfully

Robert Hine  
27 Hollytree Close  
Hoton  
Near Loughborough  
Leics  
tel Home 0509 880635





## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE CONSTABULARY

SHERWOOD LODGE, ARNOLD  
NOTTINGHAM NG5 8PP  
Telephone (0602) 670999 Ext.  
Telex 37622  
Fax 0602 670900

Your Ref.

Our Ref. HQ(OSD)F1/1/35/91

(PLEASE QUOTE REFERENCE WHEN REPLYING)

5 June 1991

Mr R Hine  
27 Hollytree Close  
Hoton  
Nr Loughborough  
Leics

Dear Sir/Madam

GATE TO SOUTHWELL WHITSUNTIDE PROCESSION - 8 JUNE 1991

Thank you for your letter dated 3 June 1991 advising me of your intention to hold the above event.

It is my policy and that of all Chief Officers of Police to discourage events which involve the use of the public highway, since conflict is likely to be caused between participants, pedestrians and other road users and accidents could occur. Whilst I appreciate the charitable intentions, it is the duty of the Police to do everything possible to prevent road accidents and to ensure the free flow of traffic using the public highway at all times.

The Police have considerable experience of events of this kind and although you may properly take maximum precautions in respect of participants' safety, there can be no guarantee, unfortunately, of the conduct and behaviour of drivers when approaching or passing them, which is the time when accidents are most likely to happen. I hope, therefore, that you will decide upon reflection not to proceed with the present project, but perhaps replace it with one that does not involve any use of the public highway.

If in spite of my views you still pursue your original intention and proceed with the event as envisaged, full risk and responsibility must rest with the organiser and participants. I would strongly urge that the arrangements are carefully checked to ensure that they conform fully either with the advice given in the enclosed pamphlet entitled 'SAFETY AND SPONSORED WALKS' or, in respect of marathons, to the rules laid down by the AAA and particularly in relation to young persons, the contents of which are equally applicable to other types of events on the highway.

In addition I should mention that if a vehicle is used to accompany the participants, the driver of that vehicle must conform to all traffic signs and regulations and accord to all the rules governing the use of a vehicle on the highway. Should any alleged offences be brought to my attention in respect of any person involved, then I must give consideration to the prosecution of the offender. The Police cannot assist or facilitate the event, but it would be appreciated if we could be advised of any changes in your present arrangements as soon as possible so that I can inform the local Police who can then be in position to attend any untoward incident which may arise as a result of your event.

Should you wish to make a street collection as part of the overall arrangement you must first obtain permission of the appropriate District Council.

Finally, may I reiterate the need for extreme care when using any highway open to the public.

Yours faithfully



CHIEF CONSTABLE

# SAFETY AND SPONSORED WALKS

## Organisation

Start and finish the walk off the road.

Be sure there are enough marshals to supervise the whole route as well as the start and finish. See that they are properly briefed and clearly identifiable.

Make proper arrangements to care for people who drop out. Stops for refreshments must be off the road.

Never allow cars to follow walkers at their pace.

## Walkers

Do not allow children under 15 on walks. They get tired easily and straggle on to the carriageway.

Mass starts are dangerous. The start should be in small groups of not more than 6 people.

Marshals should see to it that walkers keep in small groups, use the footpath or verge and do not walk in the carriageway. If there are no footpaths people should walk facing on-coming traffic and not more than two abreast.

Make sure that if any animals are taken along they are kept under strict control.

Gimmicks such as four-poster beds, wheelbarrows and prams can be dangerous.

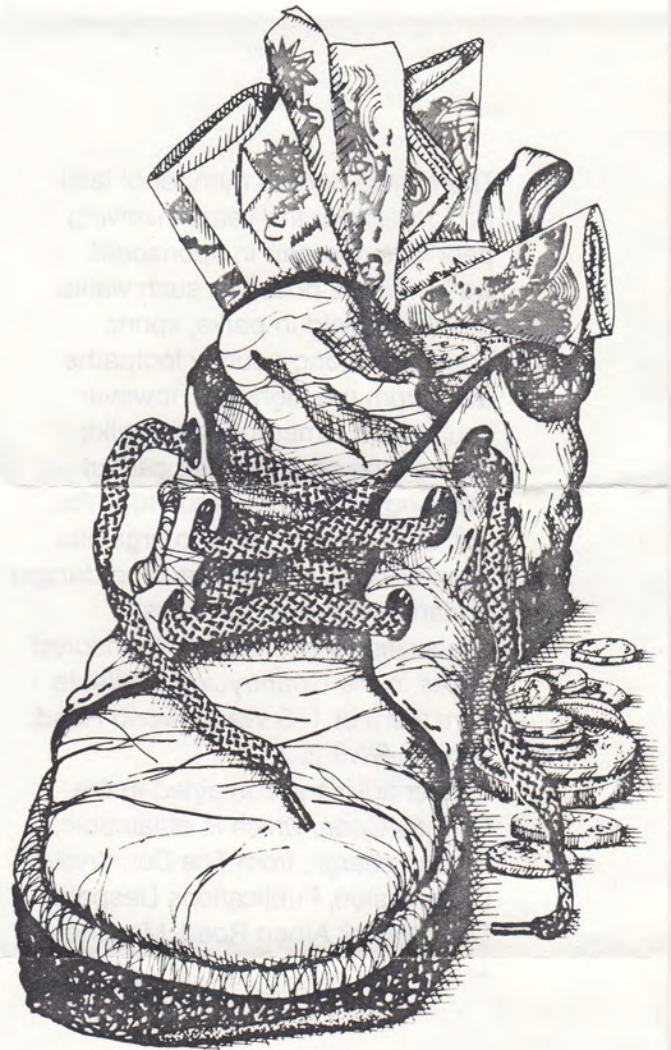
Follow the Highway Code at all times.

During the day and at dusk, walkers should wear bright-coloured clothing, preferably with something fluorescent, such as jerkins, waistcoats etc.

At night white or light-coloured clothes should be worn together with something reflective, for example, strips, patches, belts, sashes, waistcoats etc. A lighted torch should also be carried.

Items of clothing or attachments combining both fluorescent and reflective properties would be suitable for day or night use.

**BE SAFE – BE SEEN – BE CONSPICUOUS**



## A code for organisers

The safety of people taking part in sponsored walks is the responsibility of those who organise them. This means planning, organisation and control. Walks along roads are bound to have some danger; this Code gives rules for keeping the risk to a minimum.

### Police

Though it is not their job to protect walkers from the dangers they create for themselves, the police are responsible for the maintenance of law and order and for the control of traffic. Tell them well in advance the route, date and time of the walk. Let them know exactly where and when it is planned to start and finish, how many people are expected to take part, how many marshals there will be and where the check points will be placed. The police may advise you to make changes. Always follow their advice.

### Time

Avoid walking at night. Bad visibility and tiredness make accidents much more likely.

### Route

Wherever you can, plan the route away from roads, particularly main roads. Avoid planning a route along a road unless there are continuous footpaths or verges wide enough for the walkers to keep well clear of traffic.

If any part of the walk has to be on roads at nightfall or after dark, choose roads which are well lit.

Ensure that changes in the direction of route are made clear to walkers by means of signs or marshals. Any sign used must be approved by local Highway Authority.

When planning a route avoid roads which will be congested through roadworks or other causes.

When the crossing of a busy road is unavoidable this should be done in groups at points with good visibility and supervised by marshals.

There have been a number of fatal accidents over the years involving people taking part in sponsored walks. Where possible, such walks should be held in parks, sports arenas, or along country footpaths away from the highway. However you should remember that walks through the country need careful planning and organisation too. You will find advice on how to organise country walks, without causing danger or damage, in the Ramblers' Association's publication *Sponsored Walks in the Countryside* available from them at 1-5 Wandsworth Road, London SW8 2LJ. Further advice is contained in the Country Code, which is obtainable, without charge, from The Countryside Commission, Publications Despatch Dept, 19-23 Albert Road, Manchester M19 2EQ.

