

# the Gander

**Goxhill Village Newsletter**

**Summer 2007**



Not a very exciting photograph, perhaps,  
but this is the field behind the school leased by the Parish Council  
to provide us with allotments and more recreational space.

**Goxhill Views**  
**Village Tales**  
**Local People**

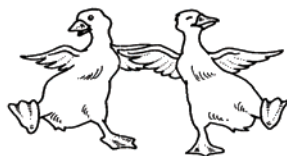


**School Reports**  
**Church Letter**  
**Roots research**

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**+ the long-awaited return of Copper's Corner**

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## the Gander

**T**his is the eightieth edition of the Goxhill Gander. We have chosen to mark the 20th birthday of your favourite village newsletter in September when we intend to run some form of retrospective. In the meantime, as ever, we must look forward and plan for the future. In the last Gander we asked for your suggestions of a project to mark two decades of the Gander. The best offered was restoring an online presence.

In the early days of the Internet, before I became editor, the Gander was available around the world by click of a mouse. Perhaps there were too many cats about then; there were certainly too few mice - the website was closed down as not enough people were visiting. Today, as many more of us spend hours in front of the computer we hope to bring it back in new shape. I know of a number of former residents living off in other parts of the country and the world, some who are sent copies by family, friends or the Gander team. This would be a way of having more personal contact with them and opening it up to everyone.

Whatever form the new website takes, the first priority has to be the paper Gander you are reading now. We want a thriving community conversation to centre around this newsletter. In this edition we have the return of Copper's Corner after several years, and a complaint about the lack of police interest in 'low priority' crimes like vandalism and theft. The Gander is where both sides come. Elsewhere a man who had never previously visited this part of the world has written after discovering his family can be traced back to Goxhill in the late 19th century. He is asking for your help in identifying his ancestors and has chosen the Gander to speak to every single one of you and make his appeal.

As my time at university draws to a close I have to find myself a job. I hope it doesn't take me too far from home. I shall try to ensure I still have time to edit the Gander and as Richard Owen wrote when seeking his replacement three years ago, "put something back". If you can help in any way, with ideas, articles or almost most importantly, deliveries, please get in touch. If you can do none of these things use the advertisers and keep our money coming in. I wish you a happy summer.

**Adam Ellis.**

### The 'Gander' Team

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*Please contact any of the above with any queries that you may have regarding deliveries, advertising, letters or contributions you would like to submit.*

*Articles should be sent by e-mail to: [goxhill-gander@fsmail.net](mailto:goxhill-gander@fsmail.net) or direct to the editor.*

*Please note that comments or opinions expressed in articles printed are not necessarily those of the Gander Editorial Team.*

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# School Report



**B**y the time that you read this article our Summer Term will be well under way and hopefully we will have been blessed with lots of sunshine. We are proud to be able to share with you a selection of the many activities and events that make our local primary school a very busy and exciting place.

## Highlights from the end of the Spring Term

Some of the activities that were crammed into the final part of the Spring Term included:

### Easter Production and Talent Evening

Year 5 helped us mark this important time of year with their excellent Easter production entitled 'Resurrection Rock'. The traditional Easter story was performed in the form of a musical. The audience were treated to a range of superbly performed songs, from sad ballads to much more 'up-tempo' numbers. Solos from Matthew Mason, Freddie Bloomfield, Lauren Magee and Frankie Noton added to what was already a superbly presented production.

On the same evening, more of our pupils were given the opportunity to show off their talents. The 'Cheer Dancers' gave us a display of their cheerleading influenced dancing skills. More music was provided by a group of our violinists, accompanied and supported by our music teacher Mrs Carol Dawson. The school choir also added to a memorable evening with a medley of traditional and action tunes, including the Red Nose Day song: 'Make Someone Happy'.

### Decorated Easter Egg Competition

Pupils from all classes entered this competition by decorating

a hard-boiled egg and placing it within a scene. The judges had a very difficult time deciding upon winners, but eventually a first place and runner up were awarded. A range of prizes were given out in recognition of the tremendous thought and hard work that had gone into each and every one of the cleverly designed settings.

### End of term Prize Giving Assembly

Pupils who behave well and work hard at our school are awarded 'white slips' - the Goxhill School version of traditional merits. As well as holding weekly merit assemblies to celebrate these on going achievements, we also organise a grand end of term event. This involves a prize giving ceremony with congratulations all round. At Goxhill School our pupils are keen to succeed and as such we ensure that they are duly rewarded for their efforts!

### Easter Egg Bingo

Our annual Easter Egg Bingo event was a great success and proved to be just as popular as in previous years. Great fun was had on the night, with our guest bingo caller (Alan Travis) adding comedy to the family atmosphere.

### Professional Live Theatre

Goxhill Primary is an active member of the Live-Lincs initiative. This is a scheme that brings live professional theatre to rural communities. As part of this, we hosted a production of "Little Red-you know who". The show was much appreciated by the large audience of both children and parents.

### School Disco

As always our Spring term discos proved very popular with the pupils. We would like to thank Mark Russell and Alan Travis for providing the sound and music on the night.

## The Summer Term

As ever, we have a broad range of stimulating events planned to enhance the lives and learning of the pupils at Goxhill School.

### Curriculum enrichment through educational visits

In order to enrich our curriculum, all pupils take part in a variety of educational visits.

Visits planned this term include:

- A train journey to support a theme on 'transport'
- A visit to 'The Deep' in Hull to link with work on an 'Under the Sea' theme
- Farm visits to study agriculture
- Science work based around pond dipping at Normanby Hall
- Cinema visits to support on going work in Literacy
- A visit to Bridlington as a contrasting locality to Goxhill
- A trip to a food factory
- A History Detectives workshop
- A visit to the 'Collection Museum' in Lincoln to study art and design

### Year 6 Pupils - their final term in primary school

- In recognition of their hard work in the run up to National tests, Year 6 pupils will enjoy a post-SATS activity day involving both swimming and ice skating.
- At a later stage they will visit Hull University as part of an initiative to enhance and celebrate educational aspirations.
- Week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> June marks their residential visit. Pupils will visit a wide range of venues throughout the North of England, thereby allowing them to end their time with us in a fun, exciting and hugely valuable manner.

Continued over page:



# School Report - page 2



Continued from previous page...

- As a result of close liaison with our partner schools we spend much time this term preparing pupils for the move to secondary education in September. We see this as being crucial in ensuring smooth induction and transition at a key time in a child's life.
- At the end of term there will be a grand Graduation Evening for Year 6 pupils and their families. Pupils will reflect on their life at primary school and provide their parents with a poignant and entertaining evening.

## Other events

Within school there is a strong, positive, community ethos. To encourage our pupils to be active participants in society, we like to hold Community focused events and activities. External speakers and theatre groups also bring the wider world into the classroom hence adding extra relevance to the learning experiences on offer.

- Our annual sports mornings will take place during July (let's hope for good weather!)
- Throughout the Summer term, parents will be invited into school to enjoy their children perform in class assemblies.
- As part of their music education, pupils in a variety of year groups will take part in the much acclaimed 'Wider Opportunities in Music' scheme
- Pupils from across the school will experience an African Day. As well as allowing them to understand African Culture, the children will be able to play traditional African drums.
- Community artists will be welcomed into school. In liaison with our adoption of Goxhill Station, Wendy Reeves will work with pupils in a variety of year groups to produce art

work especially commissioned by Northern Rail to brighten up the station environment. Charlotte Carson will work with pupils to design art-work based on the Healthy Eating 'Five a day' theme.

- On Saturday 14th July, we will hold our annual Summer Fayre. As usual, there will be lots of games and attractions, providing a fun day out for all the family.
- Our adoption of Goxhill railway station in partnership with Northern Rail has now been finalised. Pupils are making weekly visits to the station in small groups to take care of the station, keep it free from rubbish and report any damage.
- On July 13th we will hold our termly afternoon for pre-school pupils. Parents of registered 'Goxhill pupils of the future' will receive a personal invitation to the event.
- In order to raise awareness of healthy eating and a variety of environmental issues we are developing a school wildlife and gardening area. As well as having an allotment to tend, the children also maintain a thriving pond.

## **Extended school provision**

*Goxhill School Provides Childcare from 7.50am – 6.00pm daily.*

Children can take part in a range of play, craft and sporting activities at the Goxhill Out of School Club. The club is affiliated to the school and opens daily from 7.50am to 8.55am and from 3.30pm to 6.00pm. It also runs during the school holidays 8am to 6pm. Simply ring the school to reserve a place.

We also host a range of extra curricular activities such as netball, football, athletics, choir, music tuition, 'Dancersise', Cheer Leading, Brownies, Rainbows, Cycle Training, and pedestrian training.

Our School is very popular amongst parents from Goxhill and the surrounding villages. As such, if you have a child over 6 months old please feel free to contact the Head to register him / her for a place. (tel. 530743 or visit our website [www.goxhill.uk.org](http://www.goxhill.uk.org)). NB The Head / Deputy are always very willing and proud to meet with parents of prospective future pupils and to show them the fantastic facilities that we have on offer.

We look forward to seeing you this term; the school door is always open for you to come and see the lovely things we do at Goxhill School. The staff, pupils and governors of Goxhill School hope you have a wonderful summer!

**The Gander** is currently planning to run a series of articles about Goxhill Primary School of the past.

Some people have already been approached and the present head, Andrew Jackson consulted, but we couldn't speak to everyone.

We would like to hear from anyone who had long associations with the school and wants to share happy memories.

People such as Ethel Collingwood, who became secretary 50 years ago and can recollect half a dozen heads; Frances Boxer, who retires this summer. Both contributed so much.

We thought you would appreciate the chance to read some of their memories and others. So if you have any, or the names of others who might, please get in touch.



# Letter from the Churches

On my day off, I love to eat out and one of my favourite regular venues is a well known pizza restaurant. With pizza and pasta my favourite tippie is 'diet' cola (I'm not trying to lose weight – I just like the taste!) The restaurant we favour offers 'free refills' to keep the enthusiastic pizza eater refreshed!

As I reflected on this very pleasant offer, I was reminded that Jesus Christ came to give us a 'spiritual refill' or, if you like, a second chance for free. When we invite him into our lives we are given new life. The Bible tells us that in Christ we can become 'new creations' (2 Corinthians 5.17) As we live this new life we will, along the way, stumble and fall, or occasionally lose our way. Then, all we have to do is ask Jesus for a 'refill', or second chance, after we've acknowledged that our spiritual glass is getting low.

He simply asks us to put aside our concerns, to trust in him, to obey his word, and to try to respond to his guiding Holy Spirit.

He will then not just "refill our glass", He will keep it full and running over. If we stay connected to him, he will keep our hearts refreshed with his Holy Spirit and with his love. And, who knows, we may even have enough to offer some others a taste of what we've received. Try Jesus Christ, like a famous brand of cola – he's the 'real thing'!

Reverend John Girtchen

## GOXHILL METHODIST CHURCH Goxhill, North Lincolnshire



**Open Gardens**  
**Sunday**  
**17 June 2007**

1.00 – 6.00pm  
Approximately 12 gardens to view

ADULTS £2.00  
Accompanied children free  
To be paid at the starting point, which is the Methodist Church,  
Chapel Street, Goxhill, where maps will be issued.

**Floral Decorations in the Methodist Church**  
Theme: "Time"

Refreshments served in the Schoolroom.

Designed and printed by Goxhill Action Team (Goxhillville Ltd), Beaumont House, Goxhill, Goxhill Road, Goxhill, North Lincolnshire, DN18 6JN. Tel: 01509 503037. Reg Charity No. 1088018

## Scarecrow Trail

**June 30th – July 1st**

1pm - 5pm

No Theme this year

If you would like to make a scarecrow for your garden please contact

**Delie Simon**

(Welholme, North End) 530630

or **Enid Girdham**

(Janshome, North End) 531957

**Using the form below please make your interest known by 20th June.**

In the meantime the annual  
**Church Garden Party** is on  
**Saturday 9th June**  
at the **Memorial Hall**,  
starting at **2.30pm.**  
**Please do come along.**

**Scarecrow Trail 2007** - I will have a scarecrow in front of my house

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# BAYSGARTH NEWS

## Rock Challenge Success for Baysgarth Pupils!

Around one hundred pupils from all years took to the stage at Grimsby Auditorium on the last day of the Spring Term with their 2007 entry for Rock Challenge. Their efforts over the previous four months were well rewarded by



Aliens waiting to venture on stage!

being placed an extremely close second out of nine entrants from across the North East and East Anglia. The pupils won Best Set Design and Staging; Best Hair and Make-up; Best Video; Best Lighting and the award for the school which demonstrated the Strongest Spirit of Rock Challenge. Co-producers Mrs. Valentine and Mr. Scruton both agreed that all those involved gave maximum effort to the event and the pupils performed to the highest possible standard on the night, but were just pipped at the post. It is so rewarding to see so many Teachers, teaching Assistants and Clerical Staff enabling pupils to experience a truly wonderful event. It was a chance of a life-time for many of them to perform on a commercial stage. 'We are tremendously proud and grateful to all those involved,' said Mrs. Valentine at the end of the competition. This year's theme was Science Fiction and was based around Commander Tanner of the Starship *Baysgarth*, whose mission was to explore a new world. A surprise alien encounter changed the direction of his crew's exploration as love struck the intergalactic heartstrings of those in hyperspace. It just goes to show the depth of imagination of Baysgarth School!

## The Learning Resource Centre

In September 2006 the School Library was reopened as the LRC (for short), boasting as well as a huge bank of computers, lots of new ventures and opening hours. Many pupils take advantage of all the extra activities which take place in this area both at lunchtime and after school. Mrs. Codd, who organises and co-ordinates all that happens in this area says that she is extremely pleased and excited by the way that the pupils have taken to the LRC 'It is always really busy and all Year groups want to be involved in what goes on.' Mrs. Codd's diary for the Learning Resource Centre so far this year stands at: *Scholastic Book Fair* – this was held in the LRC in March and proved to be very popular with the LRC being awarded over £200 worth of free books. Then, as a fund raising exercise for the LRC, local businesses were approached with the proposal that they 'Sponsor a Shelf'. A generous donation has already been received from Total Lindsey Oil Refinery of £649.50 which will buy some much needed vital resources for the LRC. A formal presentation will be held once the books have been

For further information about Baysgarth School, A Specialist Technology College, please contact Colin Saywell, Headteacher, on 01652 637576  
Don't forget to visit our new school website!! Visit us now on [www.baysgarthschool.co.uk](http://www.baysgarthschool.co.uk)

purchased. Then there is the RaW Book Swap scheme. This is still under development and anyone wishing to donate reading material to the LRC will be eligible for a swap token. The scheme is to be launched towards the end of term, and Mrs. Codd hopes that it will be well received by teachers, parents and members of the community.

## New York, New York!

Thirty-five pupils and four teachers have spent a week of their Easter Holidays exploring and enjoying the exciting delights of the City of New York. For some it was a re-visit, but for many it was a first in many ways: their first long flight; their first week away from the family; the first time they have had to manage money and the first time to buy food and presents by themselves. Mr Scruton, the Party Leader, said, 'New York is always a city of grand surprises and this year threw several at us. One day we played football in the sun on the sands of Coney Island and rowed around the lake in Central Park. The next day we paddled around Times Square in inches of water as New York suffered its biggest spring flood for years. The whole group proved to be the best that I have ever taken to this magical city and we all had a fantastic time. Even the flight home was eventful, but not a moan was heard. It was a great visit and I hope to plan more.'



Baysgarth pupils in New York

## Keep Kids Safe

Baysgarth has worked hard at improving the attendance rates of its pupils and has been very successful during the past year, to such an extent that the school was visited by a DfES regional adviser to find out what strategies are being used. Baysgarth are trialling a new system for communicating with parents during the second half of this term. The system enables the school to send instant text messages, voicemail messages or e-mails in a variety of situations, for example absence, truancy, or lateness to school; exam reminders; reminders about term dates and parents' evenings. This has proved very successful in other areas of the country and this new approach is the school's next major development to improve pupils' attendance even more.

## Baysgarth School Magazine

For several years now Baysgarth has sent to parents a half-termly newsletter. This has now given way to a biannual professionally produced colour magazine entitled '*School Daze*' with an editorial team of pupils and staff. The first magazine was sponsored by Martyn Bell and John Boddy. Free copies may be obtained from the school office, and additional sponsorship will be welcomed for the second issue, due out in June.

# Notice Board

## Cash Bingo

Every **Friday night** in the  
**Memorial Hall at 8pm** - Strictly Adults Only .

The **Luncheon Club** meets at the **Chapel** at  
**12noon** on the **third Wednesday** of every month.  
(This month, however, it will be the second  
**Wednesday - 13th June**)

If you would like to come along and share a two-  
course meal and conversation with similar older  
residents please contact **Jack Elwood** on **530690**  
to book your place.

## Memorial Hall 200 Club Winners

<u>Month</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
February	110	Mrs M. Wilford	£26.25
	146	Mr. D Haddock	£26.25
March	115	Mrs. M Akester	£26.25
	76	Mr T King	£26.25
	109	Mr J Teasdale	£210.00
April	145	Mrs A Kerrins	£26.25
	120	Mr M Parker	£26.25
	183	Mrs M Lamming	£26.25

## The 'J' Team

The 'J' Team is a children's group for  
young people from the age of 4 upwards.

We meet at the **Methodist Schoolroom** on a  
**Friday** from **3.45 – 5.15pm** during term-time;  
during when activities including games, sing-  
ing, craft, stories and prayers take place.

If you would like your child to come just bring  
them along one Friday, or for more information  
ring **Christine** on **532880** or **Sandra** on  
**530065**.

The **Methodist Schoolroom** is available for  
hire at a competitive price.

To book the Schoolroom contact  
**Jane Arnott** on **530962**.

## Darby & Joan Club

We meet every Tuesday at 2pm in the  
Memorial Hall — All are welcome.

£1 - includes tea and a raffle.

Contact **Jane Arnott** on **530962**.

Once again the members of **BADAOS** are well into rehearsals for  
the Summer Concert '**From Beatles to Broadway**'.

As the title suggests, there will be a variety of music from the  
Beatles, Andrew Lloyd-Webber and many more.

There will be two concerts this year, the first on **June 28<sup>th</sup>** at

**Baysgarth School Hall**, Barton as par of Barton Arts Week.

The second will be at the Methodist Chapel, Barrow High Street on  
**July 4<sup>th</sup>**. We hope to see as many people as possible, further details  
will be published closer to the date.

The last year has been a busy one for us, with our Christmas Concert  
and the production of 'Barnum'. Due to the success of our Christmas  
concert and our 'Coffee & Carols Morning', we were able to hand over  
a cheque of £300 to the Odyssey Centre which is based in Barton.

As always, we would welcome any singers who would like to join us  
(especially men).

Visit our website on [www.badaos.co.uk](http://www.badaos.co.uk)

## **Goxhill Primary School Summer Fayre**

**Saturday  
14<sup>th</sup> July 2007 2pm  
All welcome**

**PLEASE USE THIS NOTICE  
BOARD TO MAKE YOUR  
ANNOUNCEMENTS,  
APOLOGIES, APPEALS AND  
APPRECIATIONS.**

## Deadline

Please have submissions for the next issue of the Gander in by  
**Saturday 4th August.**

Distribution: 1st week of September (For date-sensitive copy)

**E-mail: [goxhill-gander@fsmail.net](mailto:goxhill-gander@fsmail.net)**

## Copper's Corner

I would like to start with an apology.

I am sorry that the regular feature from some time ago 'Coppers Corner' disappeared from 'The Gander'. A missed opportunity to tell the village about what the police are up to and explain when things don't go as we would like. From this edition things are changing and *The Gander* will be one of the ways we can tell you what is happening. Not the only way of course, as we are giving all our local officers mobile email access so you can contact them at any time. The potential to use the library as a regular surgery plus the Cop Shop in the village, I hope will give you access to your local officers, Pc John White and Police Community Support Officers Jay Pick and Sarah Heath.

I have just got in from playing at the park with my two boys. We were joined by a couple of their friends, played some football and joked about a group of teenagers looking silly, and not older, as they were smoking. As we were leaving some of these youths were sat on the bench near the entrance. I noticed one was playing with a cigarette lighter, entertaining the girls present. They were local youths and were not committing any offences. I thought back to a comment Mike Gathercole had made to me concerning two weekends of damage to the school and wondered if they were responsible. I will never know, they were doing nothing wrong but later that tonight, who knows. I wonder if their families knew what they are up to, do they care about what they are doing when they wave goodbye and so look forward to a relaxing evening of peace and quiet. I wondered how I will challenge as mine get older and want to venture further a field.

Criminal damage in Goxhill is a real concern to me. The school has a tight budget and has suffered senseless damage and money, no doubt planned for our children, will be spent on repairs rather than education. The Memorial Hall is also a target and I am aware of the occasional damage to cars. It is really sad, as in general, it is not visitors to our village who are responsible. It is our own. I hope parents and friends will challenge and ask what their young people are up to. If not, they cannot be surprised when they get a knock on the door from my officers.

Much has been said about policing in our village. Pc John White is a regular face to some and is a police officer committed to helping and sorting

out problems which need his personal attention. I am delighted with John's enthusiasm and know he puts a lot of his own time into the village dealing with enquiries. He is not the only officer who can respond but is the named officer for the area. He gets frustrated when he has to patrol other areas of North Lincolnshire due to the *thin blue line*. When I speak to him, I am impressed about what he knows, who he knows and who he suspects is responsible for the damage and other crime we suffer in the village.

The other night I heard the helicopter hovering over Goxhill. I made a quick call and found that a patrol in East Halton had tried to stop a van and then been rammed. The helicopter had followed and located a house in the village where the suspects had run. Arrests quickly followed, as hiding in the roof space is obvious even to the youngest of cop!

Goxhill is a wonderful, friendly place to live and I know we want it to stay that way. I for one, don't like to think there are people looking to commit crime in the village but have to face up to reality. There are some looking for such opportunities. Please don't give them the chance. An unlocked garage, a laptop or mobile phone on the car seat or a sat-nav can be very tempting. Lock it away and it won't happen. As warm nights roll in, please keep doors locked. And as the saying goes, *'its better to be safe, than sorry'*.

If you have information concerning any crime please contact Pc John White or use Crimestoppers, tel. 0800 555 111.

**Stuart Donald**  
Chief Superintendent  
Humberside Police

It's good to have **Copper's Corner** back but it does not stop the Gander printing criticism of the local constabulary when it comes to us. A report of damage to a parked car is on page 23; this is a letter received from a concerned resident:

*Dear Gander,*

*I read with interest a report in the local evening paper that up to three policemen had been sighted patrolling our village streets. Could the Gander publish details of when and where this rapidly decreasing species are most likely to be seen? I and many other villagers would actually like to see them with our own eyes.*

*Yours faithfully,  
Mrs AA Burford.*



## Goxhill Genes

**T**he Gander was delighted to receive a letter from David Downes of Wolverhampton who is researching his family history, a trail which led to this village. He has done a lot of groundwork and now looks to you in the hope you can help further.

My great grandfather, **James Dixon** was born in Croxton and was married to **Ellen Hare** from Broughton in 1886. As a child James spent time living in the Goxhill/New Holland area, and on the 1901 census, by now living in Hyde, Cheshire, had a visitor - **William** - whom we presume to be his brother. He named Goxhill as his home.

I have visited your lovely village and found more definite connections by looking at gravestones (as you do!) I found Goxhill residents to be helpful and hope they can do more for me now. I hope someone may know of **Alfred and Ada Hilton**, who on the 1881 census are listed as William Dixon's lodgers at East Marsh Road, but it is the Dixon line itself on which I hope Gander readers can be most helpful.

It seems that James and William were two of at least 11 children with further siblings including John Dixon and **Fanny Tong** and **Eliza Naylor** (after respective marriages). The positions in the list of mourners at my great grandfather's funeral leads me to conclude other sisters married men with the surnames **Pell** and **Ralph**. County boundary changes have made it difficult for me to trace these people any further, as sadly the branches of my family tree lost touch after 1917.

So if you know of any of the following please contact the Gander and your information will be passed on.

**John Dixon**, a brick maker at Goxhill Haven, married to Anne E Dixon with children **George** (b. 1880, Goxhill) and **Sarah Elizabeth** (b. 1884) by then in New Holland; **William and Hannah Dixon**, living at East Marsh Road with children **Hannah** (1875) and **James** (1880); **Fanny and Edward Tong** and son **Charles Dixon** (b. 1875) of Littleworth and Goxhill and still in the village in 1901; **Eliza and William Naylor** of East Marsh, children **James** (1880), **Alice** (1888), **Annie E** (1891), **Ethel** (1886), **Herbert** (1882), **Betsy** (1897) and **Ivy** (1897).

Thank you very much for your time. I look forward to hearing tales of my ancestors if you know of any.

*David Downes.*

David has done as much as he could with official records which is why only long-standing Goxhill residents can now help.

If you are interested in researching your own family history, as a project for your retirement, children or grandchildren, but don't have the equipment or the knowledge of how to start contact Adam at the Gander.

*I have done much of my own tree, some of which is in this village's past and would be happy to help anyone to wants to look into theirs.*

I'm afraid there would be a small charge due to the cost of certificates etc, so it is not an official part of the Gander's work, just a project after my university course is completed. If you are interested in learning more, just get in touch.

—  
Also, if you have any genealogical knowledge of Goxhill or the history of your home, the Gander would like to hear from you.

Thank you to Colin and the boys from **CB Property Services** for their excellent painting of my house while I was away for a week. They were exemplary professionals, always helpful and friendly, and did a perfect job. I would recommend them to anyone.

*Suzan Bevan (Ferry Road)*

*This advert has been paid for by a satisfied customer.*

*She chose **CB Property Services**  
because they advertise in the Gander.  
Please use our advertisers, not only do they keep this  
newsletter going, but they do an excellent job.*



PHOTOGRAPHY  
By  
EVA BORDER

PORTRAITS  
PETS  
CHILDREN  
FAMILIES

RESTORATION OF  
OLD PHOTOGRAPHS  
BLACK AND WHITE

WHITE BUNGALOW  
ELM LANE  
GOXHILL  
N Lincs DN19 7JU  
01469 531224  
emborder@btinternet.com



## **Goxhill Windfarm Awareness Group (GWAG)**

**GWAG** has continued to meet on a regular basis to discuss the Scoping Report that had been undertaken by SLP Energy to look at the viability of erecting wind turbines on the Goxhill airfield site.

Since its inception the group has actively undertaken research, delivered flyers throughout the village, effectively liaised with Goxhill Parish Council and North Lincolnshire Council, forged links with other local Wind Farm Groups and contacted action groups such as the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England, the RSPB and the Humber Environmental Data Centre. Members have also visited Wind Farms to assess visuals and noise, attended the Elsham Wind Farm Enquiry and monitored the developments of other Wind Farm Enquiries nationally.

We have also been fortunate to have had several Goxhill residents who were able to inform us on points such as the effect on the village roads and the local environment of the heavy haulage required to build the site, information on the size and appearance of the site as well as details on the topography of the site and its wildlife, the energy output produced by wind farms and the associated vagaries of wind flow and weather.

In November **GWAG** wrote to SLP Energy asking for information on whether the company intended to pursue their proposal to erect wind turbines at Goxhill and a time limit for a reply was agreed as the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007. By the group meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> February no reply had been received and it was agreed to write again to the Chief Executive of SLP Energy enclosing a copy of the original letter and asking for a reply.

A reply was duly received from SLP Energy on the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2007 incorporating the following paragraph :  
*"The current position is that for technical reasons we will not be pursuing this proposal further".*

**(Paul Smith. Onshore Development Manager, For and on behalf of SLP Energy)**

Although we are pleased to have received this letter from SLP Energy we are aware that the Government has elected to pursue wind energy resources over the next several years and that the SLP action may not be the only Wind Farm proposal that is directed towards Goxhill.

In view of that fact and as agricultural crops are being grown on the airfield site we have written to Goxhill Parish Council to ask whether the Local Authority and the Parish Council intend to press the case for the re-classification of the airfield site from Brownfield to Greenfield status and we currently await their reply.

In the meantime **GWAG** would like to thank everyone who has been involved in this campaign and to congratulate you all on your efforts, interest, involvement and motivation. It has been a pleasure and several of us will continue to keep a "weather-eye" on future developments.

For further information please contact: **Steve Wrightson (Chairman): on - 01469 531720**

## **Memorial Hall**

Congratulations to John Gouldthorpe. John is the recipient of the 2007 Goxhill Memorial Hall '**Short Award**'. Nominated for his patience and dedication as an instructor to the younger members of the club and his ability as an instructor to all karate enthusiasts.

The Karate Club is an exceedingly popular association in as much as the present two meetings a week are having to be increased to three as membership expands.

Other nominations received for this year's Short Award were Anne and Brian Burford, Mrs Mary Blanchard, and Mr Ron Parker. Congratulations to all nominees - all worthy of our thanks for their voluntary contributions to Goxhill village life.

—  
The new Chair for the Hall Committee is Charlie Leaning; vice-chair Mike Gathercole. We wish them well.

## **Congratulations**

Congratulations to former village residents (now in Barton) **Alice and Frank Galloway** for their forthcoming Diamond Wedding, on 25<sup>th</sup> June. We are sure that friends of Alice and Frank, especially from her time as part of the Ladies Darts Team at the Brocklesby Hunt, will want to wish them well on their special day.

Their daughter Margaret and son Frank still live in Goxhill and we pass on our best wishes through them.

—  
This message was asked for by Alice's sister, Kathy Quickfall, now living in Cyprus.

We know that former Goxhill residents are spread far and wide and would like to hear from them. If you have a friend or relative who used to be a neighbour, please let us know or ask them to contact us.

If we are able to pursue the plan to take the Gander back online, this should be easier.

# **Goxhill Parish Council**

## **Allotments**

Goxhill Parish Council are pleased to announce that after public request we have been able to secure land at the rear of the school for allotment use. The land consisting of two acre will be available to rent to prospective allotment holders from 1/6/07. The site is presently being prepared ie, the grass being cut, the soil ploughed and harrowed together will temporary roadways and bridges, thus enabling the plots to be allocated. If you are interested in renting a plot you should in the first instance contact Goxhill Parish Council.

## **Cemetery Keeper.**

A new position of Cemetery Keeper has been created to tender the grassed areas and to generally smarten the area up thus bringing it back to a place of rest and tranquillity. Any Goxhill resident interested in this part time post should contact Goxhill Parish Council to register their interested.

## **Police Matters**

I am pleased to report that at the last Parish Council meeting attended by C/Supt Donald we have been informed that Police presence in the village continues to rise with two dedicated Community Support officers now allocated to Barton Local Policing Team which now supplements the good work which has always been done by our NBO Pc John White.

Additionally we have been informed that if a resident of Goxhill wishes to become a Special Constable then after training being provided by Humberside Police that officer will then be dedicated to patrol Goxhill only. This is an exciting time for Goxhill and it will be effectively the only village in the Humberside Police area with such a dedicated police presence. Therefore here is a chance for any resident wishing to become part of the policing scene of Goxhill to make a big difference. Anyone interested should contact Insp B Rutty at Barton LPT.

## **Vandalism**

Over two weekends at the end of April and beginning of May acts of senseless vandalism has taken place in the village. The school was targeted on two occasions whereby two skylights where smashed, Ornamental Plants uprooted and general litter deposits of Beer Cans and the like. Regrettably the damage has cost over £2000 and this money is taken from the school budget allocated for education. A cost the school cannot afford.

At the same time the new Refuse bin in the shape of the Teddy Bear was damaged and then the following week it was set on fire. The bin cost £350 and again the money comes from you the Goxhill council tax payer.

Many hedges where damaged around the village and again it is you the householders who picks up the bill.

If you have any information on the culprits who caused the vandalism then please contact Humberside Police.

The Gander adds its support for the Parish Council's provision of allotments for interested villagers.

We would like to hear from some of those involved in the next issue. The Gander was formed 20 years ago with a mind to environmental issues and they've never been more in the public eye. So, please also respond to Alan Gould's piece on page 25 and let us know what more can be done.

The Deadline for the next edition of

**the Gander** is  
**Saturday 4th**  
**August**

To reply to anything the Parish Council has to say, or make any suggestions on future projects, please let us know.

*Contact us at the usual address:*

**goxhill-gander@fsmail.net**

# Dear Gander: the good and the bad

Congratulations on The Gander Spring 2007. It is always a pleasure to keep up with village events. I particularly enjoyed the "inauthentic story of how the village got its name." It is a much more entertaining explanation than the real thing – more of that later. My sister Gladys and husband have been staying with us. We all enjoyed our visits to the village, at its best adorned by the flowering cherries. Both father and myself helped Sam van den Bos and friends with the planting. Gladys and I have been spending a long time looking at your cover photograph and we may have identified two or possibly three of the girls: Jean Palmer to the right of the lad on the cycle and Joy Drinkall next to her. The girl on the right could possibly be Anne Plaskett. There is a real puzzle, though, because the photograph was taken in the afternoon, which means the group were leaving school and walking home. If we are correct in our identifications, the girls must have been walking AWAY from their homes. The blazers show the pupils were at secondary school. Gladys was at Immingham School then and blazers were worn there as well as at Barton Grammar. We look forward to seeing other readers' views.

Back to the story of how the village got its name. Michael Border and I have been exploring this subject thoroughly over the last two years and we hope to publish our findings in a new book on the history of the village in the Middle Ages soon. Some residents of Goxhill played an important part in the events of 1066 and the village Lord was murdered soon afterwards when fighting for Hereward the Wake against William the Conqueror. All through the Middle Ages Goxhill Lords played a leading role in national affairs. The de Goxhill family lived in South End, in what we are convinced was a mighty castle, alongside "the Priory". From this castle, a later Lord, Hugh le Despenser, organised the counter attack against Braveheart, Robert the Bruce, after the battle of Bannockburn. Hugh failed miserably and, like his close friend King Edward II, met a most gruesome death.

The book will have lots of information on farming as well as politics and about the weekly market and annual fair. There is a chapter, too, on All Saints' Church – its history and architecture.

Finally, congratulations to the pupils of Goxhill school for adopting the railway station.

*Russell Cook*

## To The Gander

It is with great reluctance that I write to condemn the security provided by the Council and the Police for the elderly and disabled persons residing at Greenfields, and the residents of Goxhill.

On the morning of Saturday 3rd March I discovered my car was vandalised the previous night, the radio and my walking stick were stolen and the contents of the glove compartment taken and thrown into a nearby garden, some items have not been recovered. The damage caused is extensive, costing over a thousand pounds and me a £75 excess with my insurance company plus a great deal of stress and inconvenience. This is the third time I have had a car vandalised in the same place by probably the same persons. The driver's door has been badly dented, the bonnet chipped by thrown stones and the windscreen and nearside window smashed.

On calling the police I was informed that they were short handed at weekends and that house burglaries and traffic accidents take precedence. I am confused where theft with vandalism comes in. Upon insisting that an officer attends the scene, I was told someone would visit in a few days. Over a week later no such visit had taken place, though the police did turn out in force in the area to zealously man a speed trap and no doubt treat drivers as they would criminals were they ever to meet one!

Without doubt if any of the perpetrators were caught in the act and given the good hiding they deserved, the police would have arrived in minutes to arrest the good citizen responsible.

I, like so many people are fed up with the motives and motivation of the police who are expensive to maintain and poor value for money, particularly in Goxhill. There have been a number of instances of vandalism in the village and the police know who the

culprits are having trapped them on CCTV, yet they still fail to patrol the village or restore law and order.

I telephoned Mr Carl Riley of North Lincs. Council Housing Department requesting that I be allowed to park my car in front of my bungalow to make it secure. His response was that a drop kerb would have to be put in at a cost of £300 which the council would not pay. When I said that a dropped kerb existed further along the path, he said I was not allowed to drive on the pathway. When I asked for the CCTV for the security of the complex, he said there was no chance despite the Warden's house and Communal Room having windows broken, theft from cars and sheer wanton destruction to people's property.

The brave morons no doubt boast of their conquests, including the theft of a walking stick needed by a disabled person. I am pleased to see the Parish Council is contemplating legal action against the parents of culprits caught on CCTV whilst vandalising the camera and Goxhill Memorial Hall.

The responsibility is primarily with the parents of these low life - they should be made to pay for all of the damage sustained. Then perhaps they will exercise appropriate parental controls on their "little angels" and convert them into worthwhile human beings.

In the unlikely event that this will happen, the police have a responsibility to POLICE our village and should be equally held to account for the damage and losses sustained by decent law abiding people.

Undoubtedly, the vandals are just a few in number, but the devastation and cost enormous. Something must be done now to stop them and preserve the security and good reputation of the village of Goxhill.

*Name and Address Supplied to Gander.*



# GOXHILL - GREENVILLE?

## Environmental issues in a rural village.

In a world becoming increasingly concerned about global warming, never has the Green slogan of "Think Globally, Act Locally" been more apt to those of us who live in rural communities. Issues like pollution, climate change, ecology, food production, transport, re-cycling, energy consumption etc. affect the lives of villagers as much as they do dwellers in towns and cities.

Adopting a greener lifestyle does not have to mean making great sacrifices or dramatic changes to the way we live. We can enjoy our homes and gardens, our families, our leisure and pleasures in the manner we choose while at the same time taking a little more care of the planet on which we live. In whatever way we in Goxhill choose to become a little greener, it will be part of acting locally. It will also be our personal contribution towards the world environment in which we all live, and that will be thinking globally.

Our modern 21<sup>st</sup>. century society has developed on the increasing availability of private cars and commercial road transport. These assets have been an immense boon to all of us and they will remain an important feature in our lives for the foreseeable future. Their emissions do cause air pollution however, and the fuel on which they run often comes at the cost of international conflict. While quite a few Goxhill residents live without owning a car, most of us need one or more of them, and we all depend upon commercial road transport more than we may have thought.

Goxhill village is mostly surrounded by agricultural land. That land is mostly used to grow food, either for humans to eat, or to feed to livestock which humans will eventually eat. Some of the food grown around this village is eaten in the village, but the majority of it is not. At the same time all of our village's residents eat food, the majority of which is grown and processed elsewhere. This creates the need for one network of transport to take away most of the food grown here, and another to bring to us the food we need.

That factor of double transportation is repeated for every village and town in the whole country, and it is just one small example of how dependent we have become on road vehicle distribution, and why our roads

are so choked up. Some of the food we eat comes from other countries, partly by choice, partly by necessity, and some of the food produced in this country is exported, thus involving air, seaborne and rail transportation. This has been and always will be the case, there is no question of attempting to stop it, but we can look at ways of reducing it, and its environmental penalties.

Happily, the process of reduction has already begun. As people become more concerned about where their food has come from, so shops and supermarkets are responding by stocking more local produce. In a similar way, concerns about how livestock are treated and how crops are grown is resulting in an increasing proportion of certified organic produce being offered and sold. Much of the recent interest in locally produced and organic food is being catered for by farm-shop sales and Farmers' Markets. Whole-food and Health-food shops too like to stock such wares.

The most certain and most local way to obtain fresh healthy food is enjoyed by those who grow some of their own. So it is good to see that there is resurgence in home food gardening, whether it is only to have a summer supply of delicious tomatoes or for twelve month's provision of vegetables, fruit and salad stuffs to be ready for the table at all times. It is not long ago that horticulture was one of Goxhill's main industries. That enterprise and Goxhill's beautiful avenues of flowering trees are a tribute to the families from Holland who settled in this village and demonstrated the horticultural suitability of Goxhill's soil and climate.

Not everybody who would wish to grow their own food has sufficient garden space to do that, or they may not wish to use what space they have in that way. For those, an allotment is one of the answers, and it is encouraging to know that Goxhill Parish Council is striving to make allotments available to them. In this way the horticultural heritage of our village will be maintained, and Goxhill will have made great steps towards becoming Greenville.

*This article by Alan Gould aims to open an ongoing dialogue about green and environmental issues in Goxhill and like villages. Its continuance will depend upon the responses it attracts.*

### Goxhill Millennium Green

We thought it was time we gave you an update on the Millennium Green.

Those of you who have visited will notice that the trees and shrubs are coming along nicely and we now have some height on the Green. We have managed to get replacement shrubs and trees for those that have died or been damaged.

Whilst we receive a generous amount each year from the Parish Council, this does not cover our costs, which are mainly grass cutting and public liability insurance. In order to maintain the Green for use in future years we need to be able to have fund raising activities. Unfortunately, because there are so few of us it is becoming more difficult to think of new ways to raise funds and carry out maintenance tasks.

Last year the "Helping Hands" Lifestyle team of Jacob Stillyards, Daniel Swift, Daniel Lind, Amy-Jo West and Amy Richardson (along with their adult helpers) worked very hard to paint bridges, seats and gates, and tidy up the pond area.

There is much more to do. Anyone willing to help in any way – large or small – please get in touch with the chairman, Keith Brown, telephone 530045 or email [kbrown@chimneys10.freemove.co.uk](mailto:kbrown@chimneys10.freemove.co.uk)

**TO THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE ALREADY HELPED - A BIG THANKYOU**

# Off the Hoof



*'It doesn't take long, but it do all take time.'*  
Mrs. Plumb

We are now well in to 2007 and unfortunately I missed the Spring edition of the Gander.

You may have read in the *Grimsby Evening Telegraph* that I had a horse trapped in a plough and that the Fire Service battled for an hour and a half to release her, tying ropes around her legs to pull her free. This newspaper doesn't allow accuracy interfere with a good story! I do not possess a plough as such (and I am a Miss not Mrs).

The Fire Service were excellent and, guided by myself and the vet from Rase Veterinary Centre, were with us for about half an hour and we could not without their muscle power. Mr. & Mrs Clifton were there throughout and their son-in-law Grant assisted in pulling her over to get her in a better position. I will be eternally grateful to them all, especially as it was Mrs. Clifton's birthday and the family were due to go out. I think she appreciated the twelve firemen though! Mr. Girdham who first raised the alarm, stayed in the road to direct the Fire Service to where they needed to be. The *Telegraph* missed a good opportunity to report on how good neighbours and community spirit still exists, instead of all the doom and gloom that they usually report. It would also have been nice if they could have been bothered to call and ask how the horse was the following morning. As for the mare *Honey*, she has fully recovered and looking well for her age. I was touched by the many people who had read the article and rang

to find out how she was, thank you very much.

In the terrible storms earlier this year most of us had a little bit of damage, but Jo Burns lost the roof to five of her new stables. Luckily, it had been seen to be moving and they managed to get the horses out, although they said the noise had been horrendous, which was very frightening to all concerned. Jo has asked me to pass on her thanks to all who offered her help and support at that time. It is hard enough to find space for one extra horse, but in situations like this, it is good to find a good community spirit in Goxhill.

Jo is still working hard and qualified '*Daniel*' for the British Amateur Finals Grand Prix in December at Arena UK where he was placed 3<sup>rd</sup>. She also qualified Yvonne Willis's '*Swallow*' for the Blue Chip Winter Championships at Solihull where they came 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> on her own horse '*Magali*' out of a class of approximately 120. Since then she has qualified '*Swallow*' and '*Just June*' for the Welsh Masters in August. '*Just June*' has also qualified for Scope BSJA Summer Championships in August.

It seems that Goxhill riders are once again in trouble for misuse of the footpaths and have the threat of fines placed on them. Please do not ride on the footpaths. I know it is like a race-track down Ferry Road when the tileries finish work and the cars parked along Thornton Road do not make things any easier. In the last edition of the Gander it was reported that *Green Ramper*, *Little Ramper* and *Nan Brigham* were the only bridled ways. I think the writer had forgotten the one from off *Mill Lane* and out by *Farrows Pond*. The other one which I believe causes the most controversy, is the one by the side of the Church. It is not a very good one and the one on the other side of the Church would be better, but as I usually say, "use them or lose them." Perhaps more routes for bridled ways could be found

for the ever growing horse population of Goxhill.

This issue's tip: Keep a child's fishing net by the water troughs in fields. All sorts of debris can be quickly and easily removed from the surface helping to keep the water fresher. Remember, the hot weather is on its way, so out with the fly fringes, nets, insect repellents and don't forget sun creams for nostrils and eyes, particularly for light coloured horses to prevent sunburn. Ideally they should be brought in during the day and turned out at night. It is also time to be vigilant and remove ragwort from pastures.

New regulations concerning the welfare of animals during transport came into force on January the 5<sup>th</sup>. It is mainly aimed at businesses but details can be found from Defra at:

[www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/welfare](http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/welfare)  
Or State Veterinary Service:  
0845-603-8395.

e-mail [wit@svs.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:wit@svs.gsi.gov.uk)

The British Horse Society is working hard to submit a draft policy on safe distances of wind turbines from equestrian rights of way and roads. Hopefully, more will be known by the next issue.

Dates for your diary:

**Goxhill Show** from 9am 22<sup>nd</sup> July (Kind permission of Mr. & Mrs. D. Faulding). All enquiries to Sue Hrynyk on **01469 588940**, please.

**East Halton** 4<sup>th</sup> August

Those who rang me for a free feed scoop were not disappointed although I do have a couple left if you missed out last time. Please keep your news coming in and any tips you may have to share with us.

Until the next edition Take care and Ride Safely!

*Aileen*  
**01469 530643**



# 1<sup>st</sup> Goxhill & Barrow Scout Group News

Contact: Louise Thompson  
Tel: 01469 531636

Reg'd. Charity No. 1028511

## Beaver Colony

We have said a sad farewell to Beaver Leader, Helen Margetson (aka 'Tigger') who has done a fantastic job as the Beaver Leader for the past few years. Helen was sorry to leave us but we hope to see her back as part of the group very soon. The group and the Beavers are very pleased to welcome Tracey Morley who has taken over the role and is doing a fantastic job with the youngest members of our group. The Beavers will be taking part in a fundraising event for Leukaemia in the summer and have also got lots of activities planned including planting plants around the scout field, drumming and crafts.

## Cubs Section

The Cubs have been keeping busy from the start of 2007 up to now with lots of activities. Back in January we had an art night with the Cubs all helping to make 3 large wall posters, one showing the Cub Scout Law, another showing the Cub Scout Promise and the last showing the Cub Scout Rules. Cubs were given the opportunity to decide what rules they wanted and the finished products certainly brighten up the hut walls!

The baking night also proved a very enjoyable event (if not messy) and along with a quiz night and magic night, the dark winter evenings proved very entertaining! The last meeting before Easter saw the Cubs taking part in an Easter Egg Hunt in the back field (with a couple of cream eggs still missing - the

New Holland foxes will have had a treat!) A weekend Cub Camp was held straight after Easter at Primrose Hill and was for many of the younger Cubs their first experience of Cub Scout camping.

With the light nights upon us we are enjoying many outdoor activities and with plans afoot to make the whole New Holland Scout hut and site much more safe and secure we are looking forward to being able to use the back field for weekend camps for all the sections of the Group to enjoy and learn about outdoor pursuits.

## Scouts Section

Although January to April are not the best months for good weather the scout section still managed to keep itself very busy. During January and February many of the scouts spent the weekends working with the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust as part of the nature reserve working parties. The scouts spent the time with the working parties doing some general site maintenance and clearing some new pathways at Far Ings Nature Reserve. During February we sent several teams to the annual Wolds Challenge competition, it was the first year any of the scouts had entered this key scouting event and all managed to complete the course.

During March the scouts joined forces with the explorer scouts for a very challenging weekend of zip wires & rope bridges amongst the trees at the High

Ropes Adventure, Lindum Warren Scout Centre, Market Rasen.

More camping followed in early April with a weekend at Nettleton working towards the Outdoor Challenge Badge. This included a days hiking along the Viking way. Fifteen scouts took good advantage of the mild April weather spending a very entertaining weekend working towards their Survival Skills badge. This included camping out in a local wood without a tent, gutting fish and cooking them over an open fire.

During this time the scout section has grown ever larger and we now run scouts on a Monday and a Tuesday evening from 7:15pm until 9pm. If anyone would like to get involved, either as an adult helper or as a scout then please call 01469 532696.

## Explorer Section

Whilst the Explorer section of the 1<sup>st</sup> Goxhill and Barrow Scout group enjoys only its second year of existence the group itself has an enviable record in terms of the numbers of young people and adult leaders it attracts and the activities it completes every year. The Scout movement itself celebrates its centenary this year and although it retains links to the origins of Scouting it continues to progress to remain relevant in the modern world and has over 20 million members throughout most of the world.

Continued on next page...



### Scout News continued...

The Explorer section consists of two assistant leaders a number of adult helpers and twelve active members both male and female between the ages of 14 and 18. The group welcomes everyone either as an adult helper or young adult Explorer and no previous Scouting experience is necessary. With the exception of some school holiday dates we meet every Friday 19.00 – 21.00 at the Scout hut in New Holland and also enjoy several days out, weekends away and an annual camp.

In recent months we have invested in some lightweight camping equipment to make the Explorers more independent and able to accept new challenges. We have completed a number of camps, high ropes experience, winter on the Hills and the Humber night Challenge orienteering events and a recent armed forces visit to RAF Coningsby to name a few of our activities.

We are now linked to the Duke of Edinburgh scheme providing us greater opportunities and have plans for sailing and canoeing this year. Our ambition is to undertake a 2-3 week expedition to Romania and Transylvania in the summer of 2008 in order to complete wilderness activities and charitable work.

The costs to Explorers are kept at a minimum and we periodically raise our own funds and receive some donations and are particularly grateful to the local parish councils. The subscription costs are £30 per school term, which includes membership to the Scout association. A typical weekend is around £25 and a week for £125 inclusive of activities and food. New persons having a look to see if it suits them are not expected to join immediately and reasonable volunteer costs are covered.

If you wish to become involved or have any comments or ideas for the Explorer section please call Martin on 07866 374501 or pop and see us on a Friday night.

### **Deadline:**

Please have all submissions for the next issue of

**the Gander**

**in by Saturday 3rd August**

Distribution 1st week of September.

## **Goxhill WI**



Goxhill WI meets on the second Monday of each month in the Memorial Hall, Chapel Street. First we have an interesting speaker, then we get down to business. Everyone is welcome to come along and hear the speaker – in June it will be Ilona Richards, talking about "30 years in the Driver's Seat" - as a female HGV driver, she will have lots of stories to tell. Coming in July there's Dr S Moorcroft talking on Herbal Matters in July; and Mr I Akester joins us in September to talk on the Monologues and Songs of Stanley Holloway.

However, we know that there are a lot of new people in the village who have probably never even thought of joining the WI, so we are widening our appeal.

To begin with, lots of events take place over the year in the village – the Church Fete and the Chapel Open Gardens are a couple that spring to mind. But if you are new to the village, how do you know? Goxhill WI is to try out a What's On Diary. Each month, members will add new events to the Diary, and we will print it out and display it at the Post Office, Newsagent and Spar Shop. With luck, this will take off and we will not clash with each other in future, plus everyone will know when events take place and be able to come along and support them.

Goxhill WI held a very successful event to promote good food and local produce. The event took place in the Parish Rooms on Saturday 12 May 2007, selling plants, garden produce, preserves and cakes and offering tasters and drinks. Local honey was available, as well as information about Barrow Wholefoods, a company from the next village. Delicious cakes made by WI members were on sale, and some contained local cream from the Barrow dairy. Free recipe cards were available to encourage people to make their own delicious food.

Despite a day of spring showers, there was a constant flow of people, sometimes packing the Parish Room! It was an opportunity to meet friends, make new ones and find out more about the WI as well as local food suppliers. WI members are a mine of information and very happy to pass on their wealth of information about growing your own vegetables and flowers, cooking and nutrition.

We also hope to write a History of Goxhill WI. We have lots of information, but would welcome more, including pictures etc., to record for the future what Goxhill was like, from the birth of the WI in 1936 ?? to the present. We hope to publish a small book at the end of the project, which could be available both in the village and at the tourist attractions such as Water's Edge in Barton and Thornton Abbey.

Finally, we hope to attract members in a much more obvious way. In the winter, we plan to hold a Pudding Club at which members of the WI will be invited to make and bring along a pudding, and everyone present will get the chance to taste any or all of them! What better excuse to come along and find out about real, local food? Come and join us – you never know what you might learn.

Carol Thornton  
President, Goxhill WI  
01469 531308



# Long Ago But Not So Far Away

This year is the two hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade. We commemorate the efforts of William Wilberforce and others that eventually succeeded in bringing the trade to an end. One aspect of this trade, which is not often mentioned, is the fact that most of the slaves were not captured by the crews of slave ships but were sold by other Africans. They were of other tribes and brought their captives to the coast and traded them with the masters of the slave ships. The sad state of the relationships between some of the present peoples of Africa indicates that mans inhumanity to man did not cease two hundred years ago.

Slavery is mentioned in the bible. The Romans were quite good at it and carried their slaves about their empire as they themselves travelled. In many parts of the world it was quite common. Slavery has taken many forms. The need for labour was the driving force and in mediaeval times there was established in this country a system of serfdom or bondage, which provided this labour. Ownership of land was the mechanism, which made the system work. Without land, you could grow no food and so you starved. Men bound themselves to a lord who permitted them to occupy some of his land and in return they had to provide work service. This was often several days per week with extra time at hay time and harvest. In addition there were other little impositions such as the obligation for two or three people to bring their own oxen and a plough to plough the lord's fields. Sometimes there were journeys to be made carrying corn or driving cattle to market and all of this labour service had to be carried out at a time to suit the requirements of the lord. In your spare time you cultivated the small plot granted to you and did what you could to grow your own food, find fuel for your fire and so keep body and soul together.

Now in order to show your good will to the lord you had to give voluntary extra days at busy times. For example at harvest you went with your sickle to reap the lords corn. These were Boon days, of which more later.

There was no need for any physical restraint upon the bondmen or serfs because there was nowhere to run to. A serf or bondman could not simply arrive in another town or village and say I have come to stay because he would not be accepted. He had to remain at the place where he was born. His sons and daughters were born into bondage and be-

longed to the lord of the manor and the lord had to give permission for them to marry. The bondmen were essential to enable the agricultural system to operate and they were part of the farm stock in the same way as the farm animals. They were regarded in law as chattels.

It was not only the lords of the manor and wealthy men who owned people in this way. The church also needed labour for lands belonging to it and to the monasteries and the system there operated in the same way. There was one important difference. The bondmen being regarded as chattels, were the property of their owners. A lord could in recognition of some special service or payment grant freedom to his bondman. However in law a chattel could only be sold or given by its owner. The bondmen of the monasteries and the church were the property of the church not the archbishop or the abbot. The archbishops or abbots might wish to grant freedom to a bondman but they could not do so. Only the Pope in Rome could grant freedom to them. When Henry VIII made the break with the Catholic Church the bondmen of the church were still bondmen but the reformation and the dissolution of the monasteries eventually made freemen of many.

Over time less labour was needed to work the lords land and work service was commuted to a money rent. This transferred the obligation from the person to the land that was occupied and gradually the system of tenancy built up. A note of the piece of land and the rent to be paid together with any special impositions and fines (a fine was a registration fee) was written and entered in the Manor Rolls. A copy was made and given to the tenant who was then a Copyholder. The tenant was not always completely free of obligation and in addition to the rent there was sometimes a Boon payment to recognise the old obligation to Boon service.

These Boon payments persisted over many years. In Goxhill in 1775 when the village was enclosed The Corporation of Trinity House was entitled to, "certain out rents distinguished by the name of Sickle Boon Rents", and so a portion of land was allotted to the corporation in lieu of these rents. This finally extinguished the last tenuous link with medieval bond service in Goxhill. Thirty-two years later the bill brought to Parliament by William Wilberforce was passed into law and slavery was abolished throughout the British Empire.

*Maurice Brawn.*