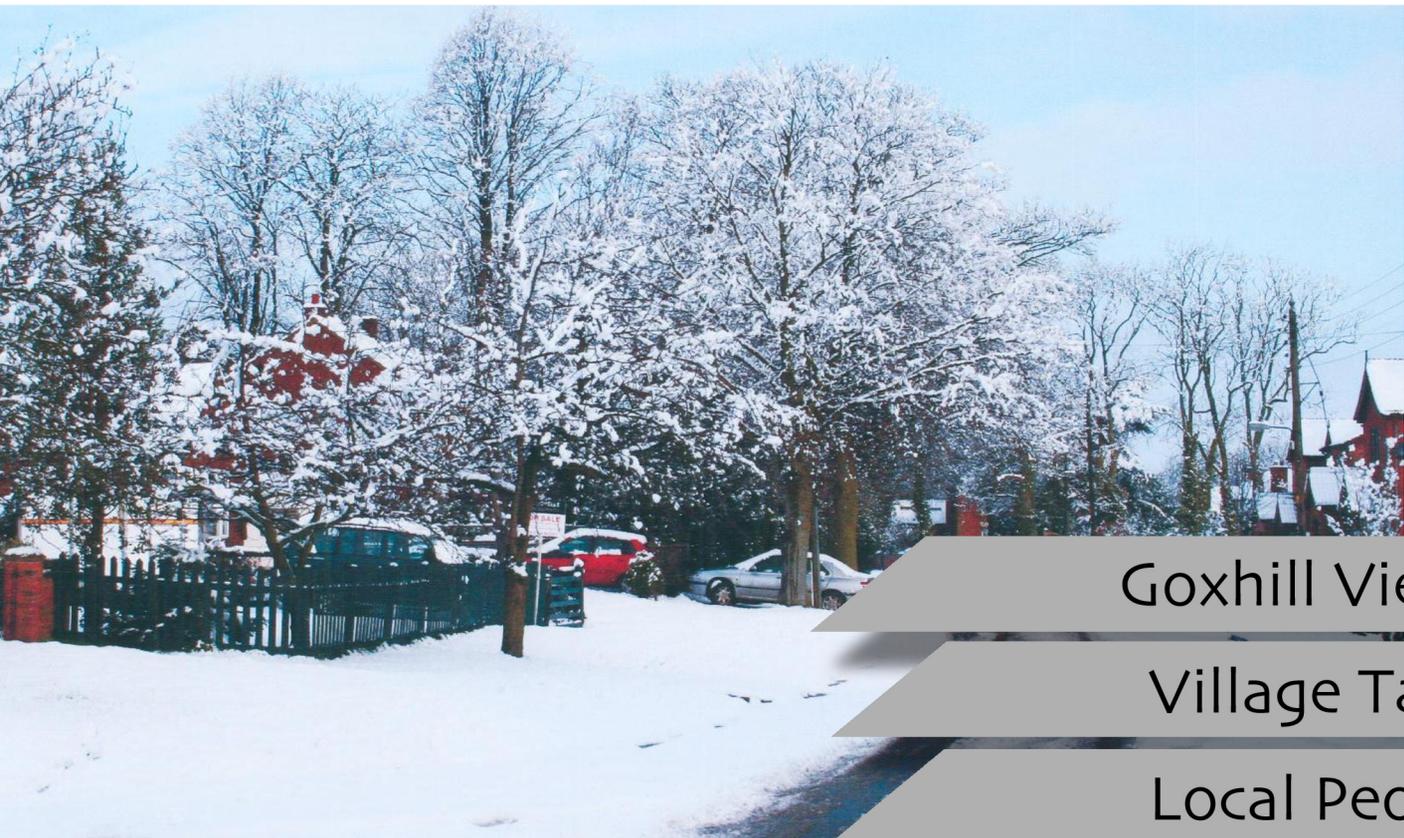




the Gander

GOXHILL VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Winter 2008



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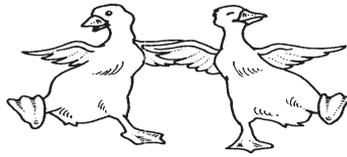
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the Gander

At the end of term Andrew Jackson leaves his post as head teacher at Goxhill School after seven years. This edition of the Gander carries four pages looking back over Mr Jackson's time in the village, thanking him for his hard work and celebrating his achievements. From the reports we publish in every edition, we can all see how our village school goes from strength to strength, and as head Mr Jackson is at the centre of all that. One thing that is for sure, however, and I know Andrew would agree with me on this, is that no head or teacher can do it without the support of a dedicated and trusted team. Schools rely on their ancillary staff - caretakers, dinner ladies, teaching assistants - for their smooth running. As we praise Mr Jackson, I would also like to thank those people who have made his job so much easier.

On 28th October Goxhill lost one of the greatest servants of its primary school. Ethel Collingwood may not have been as involved with the school during Mr Jackson's tenure, but for more than 40 years she was essential to its running. As school secretary she served five heads, but when age meant she was no longer able to continue in this capacity she helped out in so many other ways. Through my years at the school she was an ever-present help to staff and pupils alike, a volunteer who just loved to be around the place, and who was vital to so much that went on. Mr Jackson's predecessor as head, John Bailey, pays tribute to Ethel on page 19 and it is hard to think of someone more deserving of such words.

I am proud to have known Ethel and to celebrate her, but though I have lived in Goxhill all my life there are people I do not know and stories I have not heard. At Christmas we often leave a small gift for the teenager who delivers our newspaper, for the milkman, the postman, the people who make our lives run smoothly, but who we perhaps don't know too well. We may not know their name, or even recognise them outside where we expect to see them, but quite rightly we take the time to say thank you for the important contribution they make.

There is no reason why these expressions of gratitude should only come when the person has moved on or died, or even just at Christmas. Every day we rely so much on the often hidden acts of selflessness, kindness or just a job done well, but how often do we stop and say thank you? The Gander is here for such expressions when they relate to our neighbours in Goxhill - whether to a known individual or collectively. In this issue we have thank yous for the upkeep of the cemetery, for supporting a petition, and for attending a concert and helping raise money for chapel funds. I myself wish to use this space to say thank you to the volunteer who put this newsletter through your letter box on a cold December day. And whether I know you or not, whatever you bring to this community, wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Adam Ellis

The Gander Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Tel</u>	<u>Role</u>
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Please contact any of the above with any queries that you may have regarding the Gander.

Articles should be sent by e-mail to: 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 team.

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Andrew Jackson

This is your life at Goxhill Primary School

At the end of this term Goxhill Primary School will be saying a very sad goodbye to its popular headteacher, Andrew Jackson. Andrew has been promoted to a headship at a very large school in Hull. Their gain is our loss.

The pupils, staff, governors and parents would like to pay this tribute to Andrew.

Andrew began at the school, as deputy, in 1998 and has been head since 2001. Andrew has implemented many improvements and changes in that time and past pupils who visit the school can often not recognise it as the school that they once attended.

So what has changed?

Academic achievement and standards

Andrew took over the school at a time when OFSTED found it to have serious weaknesses. In July 2008 OFSTED visited once again and thanks to his excellent leadership, this time they found Goxhill School to be a good school with many outstanding features. Standards have improved with more emphasis on teaching quality and pupils' achievement. The school has high expectations of all children and there has been a good impact of 'praise richness', all pervasive positivism & the celebration of achievement. There has been extensive staff development and Andrew's policy of employing at least one full time teaching assistant per year group has driven standards up. Attendance has improved vastly with updated systems and procedures and pupils are eager to come to school. Andrew has developed a calm working atmosphere in the school which is welcoming and caring and this

ethos generates good mutual respect and trust. All pupils now wear uniform which indicates that they are proud to belong to the school community. He also introduced a positive behaviour system. The main pillar of which is to praise, celebrate and reward. At Goxhill School our pupils are keen to succeed and as such we ensure that they are duly rewarded for their efforts!

Andrew has also established effective anti bullying policies and pastoral monitoring systems. Our children care for each other; are well-mannered and polite and are capable of taking responsibility. The ethos of the school has been praised by OFSTED and underpins a culture that aims to raise attainment.

To further improve standards, Andrew introduced curriculum enrichment opportunities like the participation in National Film Week, activity days and termly school visits. These have further motivated pupils to be their very best. The pupils now benefit from drama and music days, French lessons and high quality additional resources.

Pupils in Years 5 and 6 have greatly benefited from residential visits like The Great Robinwood Adventure Weekend and the week long stay in Yorkshire. These visits are jammed packed with team-building and personal achievement adventure activities such as climbing, canoeing, archery and caving.

The building

Goxhill School was built in 1976 but there had been little change to the actual structure of the building until Andrew arrived. Since then many of you will have noticed that there has been extensive building works, considerable refurbishment and updating at the school which have replaced the original accommodation.

There has been large scale refurbishment (internally & externally) in fact no area has been left un-touched! The school now has a purpose built Foundation Unit and outdoor play area, an IT suite, two new classrooms, a larger hall, a disabled toilet and an administration block with additional rooms which staff can use to support and meet the individual needs of pupils. The ageing pupil toilet blocks have been completely refurbished and on the playground we have a super dedicated ball park. This multi-purpose sports area is very popular with the youngsters. We also have new playground equipment. There are two low-level assault courses, which have things like rope bridges and balancing planks to climb across. The children have a wonderful time on these and because of the specialist soft-fall surface underneath the equipment the whole area is very safe and child-friendly. The new perimeter fencing means that when parents leave their children at school they can be sure that they are safe. The school has also become 'greener' as all windows have been replaced with new double glazed units. Even the small car park has been improved.

This has resulted in the local school benefiting from a top quality learning environment which is attractive, tidy, safe and accessible.

Information and Communication Technology

Andrew planned and installed a new computer suite in the school and led Goxhill School

Continued over the page...

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Continued from previous page...

to become the first village school in the area to be fitted with a private 'Broadband' Internet connection to link with the North Lincs Council computer network in Barton. This innovation massively speeded up our pupils' Internet connection and allowed for new and exciting ventures such as making contact with other schools across the world! Now Goxhill pupils have IT skills far in advance of those of other primary children.

Pastoral care

Thanks to Andrew's leadership, the village school is popular amongst local parents and attracts many out of catchment pupils from surrounding villages with their own schools. OFSTED praised the pastoral care of pupils as outstanding at Goxhill School. Pupils like the 'Special Mention' assemblies which celebrate their achievements, being treated 'kindly' and learning in an environment where teachers 'don't shout'. Parents like the positive ethos and the family atmosphere. They also appreciate the swift resolution of problems and the slick and professional approach of staff. Andrew also introduced a new style lunch system that is very flexible and convenient for parents.

Community services

Andrew has always believed that it is vital to keep the school as the focus of the Community. To this end, he has continually encouraged a learning culture, involving the children, their parents and the wider local community. Since he became headteacher at Goxhill School, the playgroup runs sessions on site and the community benefits from on site Adult Education classes.

The school is now an Extended School. This means it is open to and serves the local community. There is an affiliated Out of

School Club which is very popular as it gives parents the flexibility to drop off their children at school early and collect them after the traditional end of the school day.

The school is always keen to build and maintain our strong links with a wide variety of community groups and initiatives. In fact Goxhill School is the only local school to support Livelincs, a scheme that brings live professional theatre to rural audiences. The school has adopted the railway station and also hosts a range of additional activities such as football, music tuition, Brownies and Rainbows.

A legacy to celebrate and remember

Since becoming headteacher, Andrew has led Goxhill School to become the most popular school in the area. Visitors (parents, professionals and even contractors!) comment on the friendly, welcoming atmosphere engendered throughout the school. He has promoted a positive "can do" community in which the academic, physical and social potential of individual pupils is fully developed in a stable, supportive, stimulating and caring atmosphere.

Andrew has been a very proactive and highly visible headteacher in our community. There is daily informal contact with parents at the school gates and equally constant contact with pupils around the school. In fact he knows all 250 pupils and their parents/carers by name! Andrew is a very approachable headteacher. Parents and the local community alike have valued his caring, prompt and effective responses to queries or concerns.

I'm sure you will join the pupils, staff, and governors of Goxhill Primary School to wish Andrew Jackson a very happy and successful career in Hull and to

thank him for leaving Goxhill with a school that we can all be proud of.

*Karen Jackson
Deputy Headteacher
Goxhill Primary School*

The pupils will be presenting Andrew with a gift from the staff, pupils (old and new), parents and the local community in the last week of term. If you would like to make a contribution towards the gift please place a cheque / cash in a labelled envelope and hand it into the School Office c/o Mrs. Dunderdale. Many thanks.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Andrew all the best in his next challenge across the river. It is a very different school he is taking charge of, and I'm sure that staff, children, parents and governors will realise how fortunate they are to have a man of such calibre.

He has done an enormous amount for Goxhill School both as my deputy and then, of course, in his own style. The school has made enormous strides and I'm sure that you will be sorry to see him move.

In my retired 'job' I do get into Andrew's new school, so I look forward to keeping in contact with him.

All the best, Andrew.

*John Bailey
[Headteacher 1985-2001]*

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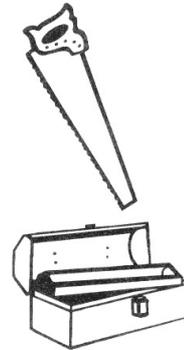
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Letters from the Churches

What is oblong, recycled and for a needy child? Answer - one of the thousands of shoeboxes that many of us cover with Christmas paper, fill with appropriate gifts for boys and girls of different age groups, so they can be sent abroad for distribution.

What is any shape, recycled and for a needy person? Answer - a box not covered with Christmas paper, and filled with a homeless person huddled in a shop doorway or the like.

In God's eyes the child in a foreign land, the homeless person, you and I are equally needy and special. Christ came with His love, a love that gave His life for each human, a love that can be ours for the asking. This is the only relationship that gives us life long security and purpose, and a place in heaven.

What was an unknown shape, recycled and filled with a baby? Answer - the manger in which Jesus lay; Operation Christmas Child of 2000 years ago.

A few years ago I heard of a primary school class who were each to hold one letter of the words CHRISTMAS LOVE at the end of their Nativity play. Thirteen little people stood proudly in front of a packed room. However, the child holding the middle letter had hers upside down – the ripple of laughter quickly became a poignant silence for the message now read CHRIST WAS LOVE, and wonderfully He still is.

Operation Christmas Child 2008 is more than a box of goodies to thrill a child's heart in foreign parts, it is Jesus and He can thrill all hearts in whatever parts.

Reverend Gillian Belford
01652 632148

As the year draws to a close many of us will look back on the turbulent financial dealings of 2008 with mixed emotions. A few may be rejoicing that they have profited from the worldwide financial uncertainty. The majority of us will probably have received depressing statements advising that our investments are worth significantly less than they were a year ago.

As I write this, on the day before the clocks are to be put back an hour, the daily newspapers offer no prospect of recovery in the immediate future. As we adapt ourselves to the literal darkness of the winter months that lie ahead, many of us are asking if there is any light at the end of the tunnel in the world of finance?

As human beings, we need the light as much as we need oxygen. Fears, worries, depression and the bad things of life so often seem to be drawn out at night time, while daylight and Spring brings hope, a fresh start, clarity and purpose.

Well, light nights are some way off. Financial recovery may be even further away. In the midst of the darkness though we will pause to remember the old, old story. Christmas is all about Jesus Christ- God's Son, born on earth as a baby and living a life that would change the world forever. And one of the ways Jesus described Himself was as 'the light of the world- a light that would never go out.

Why not join us at church this Christmas, and find out what it means not only to follow 'the light of the world', but to know his love, forgiveness and purpose in your life? Come and join our celebration - you'll be very welcome! It won't improve the state of your investments, but it might just give you a different perspective to what really is important in life.

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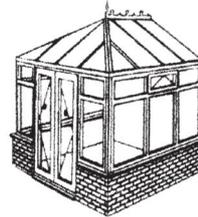
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A Lasting Treasure

In the autumn edition of the Gander I wrote about the Village meeting that was held at the beginning of the First World War. I commented upon the misapprehension that the war would soon be over and the lack of understanding of what would be involved.

The war lasted for four years and in that time the world changed and the village changed with it. The war ended on Tuesday the eleventh day of November in 1918 and just nine weeks and one day later The Parish Council called another Parish Meeting. I can do no better than to quote the minutes of that meeting as they are written in the minute book.

War Memorial

At a public meeting, held in the Day School on Tuesday the 14th day of January 1918 convened by the Parish Council, Coun Alfred Asher in the chair it was unanimously resolved, on the motion of the chairman, Sec by Coun Hornsby "That a Parish Hall be erected as a memorial to the Sailors and Soldiers of this Parish who have taken part in the Great War".

It was further resolved that the building be erected by voluntary contributions and that a committee be elected to carry out the proposal. The following were elected members of the committee: Mr T Raby Mr P M Hornsby Rev S A Andrew Mr & Mrs M Holmes Mr J Robinson Mr W T Brewer Mr H Porter Rev C H Marsh Mr H West Mr J Northern Mr E Buckley Mr W Shearwood Mr Jas Taylor Mr G Allison Mr A Asher Mr H Tyson Mr T E Elliott Mr J Broughton Mr W J Smith Mr T Plumtree Mr G C Man Miss Hardy Mr L Williamson Mrs Buckley Mrs H West Mrs W Shearwood Mrs E Naylor Mrs Buntton Miss Plumtree Mrs W Lamming Mr Jas Osgerby Mr Thos Dunn Mr T Lamming jnr Mrs G Vickers Mrs J Northern Mr L P Houlton.

By Consent of the Vicar it was arranged that the first meeting of the committee be held in the Vicar's

Room on Tuesday 21st January 1919.

In the long years of the war the people of this country had come to understand the debt which was owed to the young people who had gone to fight. The sad news of death and injury continued even after the end, and so it was that just those few short weeks after the end of the war the village had decided to build a hall. Not simply as a memorial for the dead but in the words of the minutes to the Sailors and Soldiers of this parish who have taken part in the Great War.

We can see other changes the committee was made up of a wide variety of people, not just men as would probably have been the case before the war but now women were involved. Although it would be some years before women were recognised politically the door was opened for them to join the committee and become part of this enterprise.

When the committee met the following week they elected Mr Tom Raby as chairman Coun A Asher as Vice Chairman and Mr W T Brewer and Mr J Northern as Joint Secretaries. Mr W A Witty manager of the London and Joint Stock Bank at Barton became the treasurer. And they immediately elected all members wives and twenty other people to join the committee. More than seventy five people eventually became committee members. They immediately began to collect and organise fund raising events and by the end of the first year they had raised more than £600.

During that first year they purchased forty whist tables. Four people sit at each table to play whist so they were expecting nearly one hundred and sixty people to take part in whist drives. They also purchased crockery and a piano and all three items were available for hire by other organisations at a fixed rate.

Whilst the fund began to mount up

quite quickly the search for a suitable site upon which to build was a very slow and difficult business. Even when a suitable site had been found there were objectors. Suffice it to say that Not In My Back Yard is not a recent concept.

There were also difficulties which we living in Goxhill today cannot easily imagine. There was no piped water supply at that time so a Well was bored and a pump was fitted. Mr Batson was paid £8. Of course there was no gas or electricity in the village so heating was by radiators and a coal fired boiler. Lighting was more difficult Oil lamps were used. 4 hanging bronze mantle lamps 4 Gilt bracket lamps central. 60c.p. and three duplex lamps for cloak-rooms and kitchen were purchased. A second hand Billiard table was found to be available in Hessle and was bought for £75 Carriage paid and fixed. That also required lighting and a second hand Acetylene outfit was obtained.

The trustees and the committee had resolved to build a large hall with Committee room, Billiard room, Kitchen, and Toilets. They carried out this resolution with the support and assistance of the people of the village and other benefactors and in March 1925 it was opened. Ninety years ago the residents of Goxhill resolved to build a lasting memorial and since that time the Memorial Hall has provided facilities for entertainment and a place of remembrance for all of the members of the armed forces from this village. The Memorial Hall committee are planning a special function to commemorate the anniversary of the beginning of that great work. All of us who live in the village whether of old Goxhill families or recent arrival must remember with gratitude the people who have worked to build and support the Memorial Hall during the past Ninety years.

Maurice Brawn

For dates, see page 13



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Local Church services over Christmas

- Thursday 11th December, 2.00pm Greenfields' Community Room, Westfield Road: Christmas Service led by Churches Together in Goxhill. All welcome, especially the elderly who don't like going out in the evening but enjoy carols.
- Sunday 14th December, 4.00pm, All Saints: Family Christingle Service
- Thursday 18th December, 7.30pm, All Saints: Service of Lessons & Carols at All Saints.
- Friday 19th December, 6pm, Brigg Market Place: Open Air Nativity with Carols. Wrap up well!
- Sunday 21st December, 10.30am, Methodist Chapel: Morning Worship led by the Chairman of the District, Rev Dr David Perry.
- Wednesday 24th December Crib Service 4pm, the Chapel: A service for all ages to take part in the Christmas story.
- Wednesday 24th December, 11.30pm, Holy Trinity Church, Barrow on Humber: First Communion of Christmas (Midnight Mass).
- Thursday 25th December: 10am, Christ Church, New Holland: Holy Communion for Christmas Day.

We would like to advertise the 90th Anniversary of the Goxhill Memorial Hall Committee, formed in 1919 and which raises funds and manages the Hall as our local War Memorial to the war dead of both World Wars.

To celebrate this event we are holding a Committee meeting at 7.30pm on the 14th January 2009 where we will be reading the Minutes of the very first Committee meeting in 1919 then dealing with current issues. We would like to make this Committee meeting an Open Meeting and invite people connected to the Hall such as ex-committee members, relatives of the war dead named on the 2 commemorative plaques and anyone else who remembers the commissioning of the Hall as well as members of the public, to attend.

We also have a further exciting event planned for the weekend 31st January/1st February 2009. This will be an Open Day where the project steering group will be creating a Time Line of village life from the First World War, through the Second World War and up to the present day. As well as local historians, Goxhill Primary School have also agreed to take part in the Open Day and they will be preparing a display on education and village school life through the years.

Any member of the public who is interested in our Open Day and who would like to contribute memorabilia, props for the displays or photographs would be very warmly welcomed and can contact me on 01469 531720.

Steve Wrightson

Calling all vegetable gardeners. If you are like me then most years you end up with more seedlings than you need for some vegetables and fewer plants or varieties for others. And it's often almost impossible to give them away as whatever you have surplus - be it tomato plants, courgettes or otherwise - is almost guaranteed to be the very thing everyone else has too many of. So does anyone fancy getting together a small group where we agree in advance which of us grows particular vegetables from seed and then we share out the seedlings amongst us? It would work best if everyone in the group had a greenhouse, although I guess one or two others could be fitted in and perhaps just contribute to seed/compost cost.

If interested then please give John Guggiari a call on 530363.

The Gander would like to hear about any activities village residents are involved in.

If we can help, in the newsletter or on the website, just let us know.

Email us at: goxhill-gander@fsmail.net

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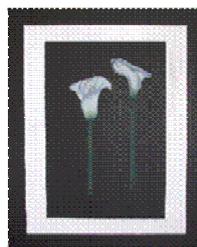
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Please have any
submissions of
articles, letters,
photos or adverts
for the Winter
edition of the
Gander to us by
Saturday 7th
February

Notice Board

Cash Bingo

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

Christmas Prize Bingo is on
Saturday 20th December at 7.30pm.

As ever your caller is Tina Whyley.

The Luncheon Club

meets at the **Chapel at 12noon**
on the **third Wednesday** of every month.

If you would like to come along and share an excellent two-course meal and conversation all you have to do is phone **Jack Elwood** on **530690** to book your place.

Goxhill Methodist Church wishes to thank the Orpheus Male Voice Choir of Grimsby and Cleethorpes and young violinist Sally Belcher who performed in an excellent concert at the chapel on **Saturday 13th September.** £265 was raised for Chapel funds.

Get on course for January 2009

If you want to enhance your skills or improve your job prospects pick up your latest adult education brochure for courses starting in the New-Year.

The spring 2009 issue is packed full of opportunities to help you achieve your goals. Even if you are just looking for a new hobby there's a course to suit all needs from creative writing, to pottery, to ICT and Multimedia courses.

Adult Education is open to anyone aged 16 or above and has four main centres across North Lincolnshire including three purpose built state of the art facilities at Ashby Link Adult Education and Multimedia Centre, Barton Adult Education Centre at Providence House and Brumby Adult Community Learning Centre. There is also a term-time only centre at Brigg.

The spring brochure is available on the council's website and from adult education centres, local links and libraries.

Please have submissions for the Winter issue of the Gander in by **Saturday 7th February 2009**
Spring edition distribution: 1st week of March.

Memorial Hall 200 Club Winners

<u>Month</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
August	46	Mrs S Wraith	£27.25
	191	Mr M Firth	£27.25
September	72	Mrs V Prestwood	£224.00
	224	Mr S Wrightson	£28.00
	10	Mrs L Wood	£28.00
October	84	Mr M Parker	£28.00
	153	Mrs E Fisher	£28.00

The **Methodist Schoolroom** is available for hire at a competitive price.
To book, contact **Jane Arnott** on **530962.**

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Goxhill Airfield Book & DVD

In 1944 an American Officer stole a gun camera from a crashed aircraft at Goxhill and with a 24 volt battery pack on his shoulder he went around filming, on the airfield, village, Grimsby bomb damage and to Hull twice on the ferry to also view the bomb damage there. This was then put on video and the camera was stood on the same places as it had been 43 years earlier, now this unique video tape has been transferred onto a DVD for it is Goxhill's heritage for future generations, so I now have to offer the following:

- **Book**, "Goxhill Airfield in Memories & Photographs", RRP £18.00. my price £15.00
- **DVD**, "The Americans at Goxhill" RRP £9.00, my price £7.00
- **The pair** together, RRP £27.00. My offer is £20.00.

Can be collected or delivered to your door locally, free of charge.

Contact **Ron Parker**. The Bungalow. Church Side, Goxhill. Nth Lincs. DN19 7HY. Tel. **532183**
e-mail ron.parkgox@btinternet.com

Thank you to everyone concerned with the maintenance of Goxhill Cemetery. It is looking the best that I can remember and is a credit both to the village and a comfort for those who visit it.

Mrs Barbara Peach

E-mail: goxhill-gander@fsmail.net

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Not Forgotten...

In the last issue we printed the request for information about Robinson Atkin and his descendants. Here, the researcher explains his connection to Goxhill:

I'm an ardent genealogist living in Sussex, researching my own family tree of Atkin, a prolific surname originating from Lincolnshire. During the course of my research, I traced a number of my ancestors who lived and worked in Goxhill during the latter half of the nineteenth century.

The family I'm interested in is a Robinson Atkin born in 1873 at Waltham who married Emma Ellis in 1897. The couple had four children, Charles Atkin born in Grimsby, Elsie Atkin b.1898, Arthur L Atkin & Harold Atkin b.1900 in Goxhill. According to the 1901 census, the family were living on a farm in the area with an occupation of Horseman on a farm and most importantly, parishioners of your local church. At this point, the trail goes cold.

Were Robinson's children christened or maybe married and then buried at the church? Did his children marry and have children of their own? Are descendants of Robinson Atkin still living at Goxhill? As you can see, I have many questions but few answers.

It is for this reason that I would like to make an appeal for your help. Are you an Atkin or do you know of anyone in the Atkin family who might recall these names? Do you remember maybe seeing these names in the parish register or inscribed on a grave stone in the churchyard? Are you in fact a descendant of Robinson Atkin?

If you think you could help, you can email me at: zincraft@bbfamilytree.co.uk or alternatively please contact the editor.

Irrespective of how small your information might be, it all helps build and expand this fascinating family tree.

Sincere thanks, Bruce Atkin

For the Atkin Family Tree Web Site: www.bbfamilytree.co.uk

The Willis Fleming Charitable Trust, based in Hampshire, wishes to know more about Rev. William Seed, who was vicar of Goxhill in the early 20th century. They have in their collection a carved wooden bible box, with a brass inscription saying that the box was presented in 1883 by Rev. William Seed to D. S. Croft on the occasion of the latter's 58th birthday on 6 June 1883, and made from wood from Hull Grammar School restored in 1883 as the Parochial Mission Room. If you can have more information about the man or how his box came to be in North Stoneham, contact the Gander.

In the last issue we printed the request for information about George Frederick Sheppard. This is Ron Parker's response, which we have passed onto the very grateful family:

Apple Jack

I recall in my youth an old hand who as a child was brought up in Barton, must of been in the Pasture Road south area for he knew it so well, he used to talk of Apple Jack, I never knew of him by any other name until I read the Gander which brought back memories..

He said of Apple Jack that he lived in a cottage at Barrow Haven with a large orchard, mostly of Apples, he said that Apple Jack could be seen walking down the railway line into Barton with a Butchers Basket under his arm full of apples to sell to the Barton shops, he would then walk back with it full of groceries, no doubt paying for them with apples, he also used to trap song birds such as the finches, the most prized in those days were the Goldfinch, which was trapped almost to extinction in those days, I was about 18 before I saw my first pair one day feeding on some Burdock, though they have made a come back this last 40 years, today one can see flocks of several hundreds out of breeding season, his orchard was an attraction for these sort of birds, the finch family, he then used to take them to Hull and sell them to the Pet Shops as cage birds because of their colours and songs, He was reputed to be an expert at Grafting Fruit trees and in the Hawthorne hedge along side of his orchard you could see a mature Hawthorne bush with a branch of a Pear or apple growing out of the top

More noted for his love of Fox Hunting he was known by many for he always followed on foot, he must have been very fit to do this, he would walk to a meet, most likely in the Barrow or Barton Market Place and follow the hounds until they found a fox and set off after it with the huntsmen in tow, Jack would set off running in a different direction, for as one may know or not know a fox will usually run in a wide circle, often coming back to where he started from, Jack had followed them that many times he knew where the fox would be heading for, so he set off across country in the direction that his knowledge took him, it was said that he was often waiting at a vantage point to greet both fox & hounds with the hunters behind to wave them past, more often than not when the hounds made a kill he was there waiting for the Huntsmen to arrive...

When he died it was said that when cleaning out his cottage (I believe it was demolished many a decade ago) the hearth in the fire place was full of used Tea Leaves, piled high for he never thrown any out for some time after use, possibly he had a use for them when dried, who knows with a man of Jack's character.

Memories of our Headteacher - Andrew Jackson

Written by pupils of Goxhill Primary School

I remember when I was little (in reception) I was actually quite scared of him because he was very tall, but then when I actually talked to him he was really nice and I thought he was a great Headteacher ever since.

Caitlin

In 2007 Mr. Jackson had a big trip with Year 5 to a place in Cumbria. It was an activity center call Robinwood. I think Mr. J had the best time of his life.... On the second day Mr. J went on an activity called the giant swing. Mr. J's scream could be heard all over Robinwood it was so loud. I'm sure Mr. J will never forget the great drop of the swing on his first ride.

My favourite memory of Mr. Jackson is when we did the summer fayre because we were able to throw wet sponges at his face.

Ben

Mr. Jackson is the best headteacher you could ever have. I remember when me and the choir group went out and made some money and there were five groups. We all went down different roads and streets in Goxhill. It was good and everyone had a great time.

Emma

In the time I've been at Goxhill School I have always appreciated Mr. Jackson. I used to like ICT in year 3 and 4. I remember when he took us every week; it was always fun.

Gareth

I remember, oh yes I do, remember when Mr. Jackson, being young then, was teaching us handwriting. He was always very happy and was in a particularly good mood. He taught us as usual. After leaning on the old blackboard, he left with a big white dust patch on his behind! We laughed ourselves silly as soon as he was gone. He went home with the same patch as well.

Emily

It was the last night at Robin wood. When I was in bed, I was poorly and Mr. Jackson came in and said, "Are you alright?"

Now he is leaving. He will be missed by every single person just wanting him to come back.

Alex

I remember when I first came here in Year 4, me and my mum went to look around the school and when we saw him he was smiling, as always like a Cheshire cat.

Abi

It was the week of Halloween when Mr. Jackson was full of jokes. He would make us all laugh and scared us with a weird mask. At playtime, or even he was just passing through the classroom, he would 'high five' everyone. Everybody used to laugh and never stop. Mr. Jackson was the best and funniest headteacher.

When I was little I always had to really look up to see his face and I always used to think he was a giant until Year 2. It was really funny. Ha Ha!

Georgia.

I bet lots of pupils and teachers will miss him because he has been here for so long and people have so many great memories of him. I remember when Sam was making a fish noise and Mr. J copied him. He did look funny and didn't make the right face. He had his eyes closed, chomping with his teeth.

Louis

In Year 2 we all did spellings and you gave us lots of sweets. The funniest time ever was when you were screaming like a girl and at the summer fayre when you got all wet. You are the best headteacher ever.

Molly

We were at Robinwood. It was Friday before teatime and we were told to sort out our dormitories. I couldn't do my duvet cover and I was scared. Scott, the night guard, thought I was 'taking the mick'. Mr. J walked in and told Scott that Robbo wanted to see him. Then he helped me do it. When Scott came back, he said Robbo didn't want him. Mr. J said "Oh sorry it must have been the other Robbo", When there was only One Robbo.

Oliver

I remember when Mr. Jackson was in a team with the teachers in Robinwood's team challenge 2008. He cheated on the egg parachute challenge by not even strapping the egg to the parachute. He then cheated in a game where you stack as many paper cups as you can. After he failed with all his cheats, he lost the game he didn't cheat on. I really liked the team name too... 'The Sandwich Eaters'.

Matthew

When I left the school in reception you were upset but when I came back in Year 3 you were excited. In Year 5 you let me help you in assembly. You also let me order 'White Slip' prizes and unpack them. I hope our new headteacher is as nice as you are.

Alex

I remember when I cut my leg and was crying on the playground and Mr. Jackson came over and helped me to first aid.

I remember whenever we did a good play he would say nice things about it and make some funny jokes about parts that we did.

Andrew Jackson leaves Goxhill Primary School

The governing body announce the departure of our head at Goxhill Primary after 11 years.

Andrew Jackson came to Goxhill school in 1997 after the school had had a very poor OFSTED inspection. Obviously wanting a challenge he was appointed as Deputy Head teacher and joined from a neighbouring local authority (Hull Education Department) He joined the then Head Mr J Bailey. He quickly became a hit at the school and with the local authority since having been in post for a very short time he was quickly snaffled by North Lincolnshire Council to spearhead Westcliffe Primary School as a trouble shooter to put that school back on course.

Rejoining Goxhill School he then became Headteacher in 2001 upon the retirement of John Bailey.

Andrew's approachable manner and clear management skills quickly came to the fore and he established a strong management team with Karen Jackson as Deputy Headteacher and Phill Brown as senior teacher.

His vision for the school was to move it to the forefront of education provision in the North Lincolnshire area. Many parents from outside the Goxhill parish realised the benefits Goxhill Primary School had to offer and our numbers on roll reached an all time high of 252 with nearly 25% of the pupils from outside Goxhill. He has project managed two major building works at the school namely two extra classrooms and just recently the Office and three extra multi purpose rooms for the benefit of teaching.

Andrew not being satisfied with that continued to strive with the school and it was this year that two matters of events were recognised.

Firstly the school came in the top 11% in the country for achievement and secondly and by far the best achievement we had an OFSTED inspection. Andrew and his management team have turned the school around from 1997 OFSTED inspection of being a school of concern, to 2008 OFSTED inspection of a Good School with many outstanding features. The Inspector clearly identified Andrews's leadership and management of the school and praised these efforts as outstanding.

Andrew has certainly made his mark on the school, its pupils and parents and it is now with regret that Andrew has been headhunted by his old Local Authority and has been offered the post of Headship at a very large primary School in Hull. That school lying in a very heavily populated area has Government support for the whole school to be knocked down and rebuilt. Andrew has taken up this challenge and now leaves us in December 2008.

The governing body are obviously delighted for Andrew but with regret realised that to hold him back would not be in the best interest of both Andrew and children in general and therefore accepted his resignation.

I personally have thoroughly enjoyed working with Andrew and on behalf of the whole Governing Body wish him well for the future, he will be missed at the school and no doubt will be a hard act to follow.

Well Done Andrew

Mike Gathercole, Chair of Goxhill School Governing Body

It was with deep sadness that I heard of the recent death of Ethel Collingwood. I have known Ethel for the last 24 years as a colleague and friend. When I was appointed as the head of Goxhill School in 1984, Ethel immediately made me so welcome and eased a very anxious and nervous new head into the post.

I well remember my first day at Goxhill and the immediate impact of Ethel's kindness. I had had to leave my wife and young family back in Long Bennington near Grantham where I lived as we had still not managed to buy a house. I got lodgings in Barrow that were adequate but hardly home. Ethel straight away recognised my concerns and within 24 hours had consulted with Jane and Robert Arnott [daughter and son-in-law]. A solution was found and I moved into a part of Jane and Robert's home on Church Side. I remember the weather was very cold with significant snow but the warm welcome and lovely cheery coal fire helped to thaw my problems. I was to be on Churchside for eight weeks until my family were able to move to Bonby. The kindness did not stop there as after we had moved in to a house that had not been lived in for 18 months, Ethel and Ross Coggan, then caretaker at the school, with several well organised helpers descended on the house to give it a good clean and make it habitable.

Ethel, of course, was a brilliant school secretary who knew the school backwards, having been there since the mid 1950s. I was her fifth headteacher and her knowledge of the area as well as her contacts with office staff at Humberside County Council offices at Scunthorpe made my job a lot easier.

It was a sad day when she had to retire as she had reached a certain age but the school still relied on her heavily over the next 20 years, working in an unofficial capacity for both Andrew Jackson and myself. I never had to worry about the running of parents' evenings, Christmas parties, school photographs and numerous other events, which Ethel organised superbly. She also assisted in the classroom on a regular basis helping staff in various roles, such as hearing children read and working with craft activities. The village and school owe an enormous amount to Ethel. She will be much missed and, if I may be permitted, I echo the thanks of present day and past staff and raise a glass to the memory of Ethel, with sincere condolences to Jane and grandson, Edward.

John Bailey [Headteacher 1985-2001]

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Goxhill Parish Council

Allotments

Want to grow your own veggies and don't have enough garden space? Well the Parish Council has just the answer as one of the very popular allotment plots has unexpectedly become available. Any interested party should contact the Parish Council for further details.

Planning Application Notifications

The Parish Council is expected to comment on all planning applications that take place within the parish boundaries and on many occasions members of the parish represent their views direct to the council at a public meeting but it has been brought to the attention of the council that in many cases people respond directly to North Lincs Council (as they are asked to) and the Parish Council is left unsighted of their views. It would be helpful therefore if you do respond to North Lincs that you forward a copy of your letter to the Parish Council which will assist them in making informed decisions about a proposed application. North Lincolnshire Council are required by law to listen to views expressed by the Parish Council and it is therefore essential your views are made aware to the Parish Council.

Near Misses

Have you nearly been involve in a road traffic accident or collision, which was not your fault. If so North Lincs Council would like to know. In 2006 North Lincs Council introduced a 'Near Miss Form' to allow members of the public to notify them of a near miss e.g. a car pulling out in front you at a junction etc although it is not for reporting speeding vehicles, roads rage etc as these incidents are collated from elsewhere. The main purpose of the form is to identify areas where multiple problems take place and will allow the council to examine the site to see if it needs to be improved. The form is available on the North Lincs website www.northlincs.gov.uk and further information can be obtained from Becky Leach on 01724 296364 or by email at: becky.leach@northlincs.gov.

And now something for the younger members of the parish.

R U 8 – 18 would you like to get involved in a new initiative called Street Sport? Street Sport is a multi sport activity and as the name suggests takes place in the street or car park. The Sport is co-ordinated by North Lincs Council's Sport, Play and Community Development Team and is supported by the Youth Offending Team, Extended Schools, Sport England and the Humber Sports Partnership. Many sports are included and a few examples are Cricket, football, in-line skating, rounders, rugby, hockey, Frisbee and much more. The council will supply instructors and much of the kit. It is soon to start in Ulceby and if a success and there is enough interest in Goxhill it could be coming here too! If you are interested then contact the Parish Council. In the meantime why not take a look at their website: www.lincs2leisure.co.uk.

That's about it for this edition. All that leaves me to do is to wish you all on behalf of the Parish Council a very Merry Xmas and Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Pete Shields

Thanks to everyone who supported the British Bee-keepers Association petition for increased funding of scientific research into maintaining UK bee stocks. By the time you read this, the petition will have been handed in to the Prime Minister on 5 November. At the end of September there were over 80,000 signatures and the aim was to reach 100,000 once all of the petition forms had been collected in centrally. Let us hope that it makes a difference and that the government feels able to give bees just a tiny fraction of the support that it has given to the banks.

Online: www.goxhillgander.com
E-mail: goxhill-gander@fsmail.net

The Gander needs your help!

We need photographs of Goxhill old and new, which may be printed in the newsletter and will go on the website.

We need your memories of the area in times past, your stories of former residents or significant events, the history of your home if it has been standing a long time.

We are not asking for commitment, maybe only a few minutes, but we do need your help.

With thanks to Stan Short for this edition's front cover photograph.

Goxhill Trader Celebrating 12 months online!

It doesn't seem like 12 months ago that I was walking the streets of Goxhill delivering flyers to introduce the new website, www.goxhilltrader.co.uk. Door-to-door in the cold, fending off unfriendly dogs, who would be a postman?!

Anyway, the fliers did the trick. Thanks to your support, the site has grown steadily throughout the year and now runs to about 30 different pages covering everything from missing cats to property for sale, and not forgetting the Shopping Mall with access to over 130 different retailers, all from one page, very handy for your Christmas shopping! Take a look at the 'Special Offers' page too - there are some great discounts always available and it is kept right up to date with the very best deals.

As ever, the local advertising is free. All you need to do is visit the site, and drop me an email, if you want to sell anything locally or advertise your business or service. The site is now widely viewed, consistently getting around 200 visitors a day and growing, and the more it is used, the better for everybody. If you haven't had a look recently, please do, you will be amazed how it has expanded! Plenty of room to grow further with your help!

Speaking of which, for those people who are trying to sell or let property locally, there is currently a special offer on the 'Property' page to give a little help in these 'financially challenging' times. Even if you are under contract to an Estate Agent, you can still advertise your property now free of charge on Goxhill Trader. You can never get too much exposure if you are trying to sell property, and the internet is the perfect place to advertise. Just supply the text of your ad and photos by email, and I will do the rest.

As we move into our second year online, I am confident of a bright future for the service. Please don't hesitate to contact me with anything at all you have to say, and once again thanks to all for your support.

Stephen R Foster,
Webmaster www.goxhilltrader.co.uk

Merry Christmas from the Gander team

Do you have a little bit of spare time? Would you like to earn some cash? Why not become a Voluntary Driver?

Community Transport Solutions urgently needs voluntary drivers to help provide transport for residents of North Lincolnshire who are experiencing genuine transport difficulties, i.e. people who do not have transport of their own, do not have access to public transport or have health problems which prevent them from using public transport.

We need:

People who are prepared to use their own cars to take Individuals or small groups of people on pre-arranged journeys to a wide variety of destinations. A mileage rate of 35p per mile is paid to the driver by the passenger for these trips. (The mileage is calculated from and to the driver's home).

People who are prepared to drive our community and wheelchair accessible minibuses to provide transport for local community groups and individuals with specialist transport needs. Full driver training is provided free and all expenses are paid.

We recognise all our volunteers are free to spend as little or as much of their time as they choose volunteering for us. The odd hour spent helping us just every now and again would make a huge difference to the lives of people in your local community and would be greatly appreciated.

If you would like more information please contact the Community Transport Team on 01652 636292 / 661226 or e-mail jen.reeve@hwrcc.org.uk

We would love to hear from you.

OFF THE HOOF



Why am I here (when half me's asleep and the other's still in bed) making the coffee with teabags?

Michael Alkins

As I begin to write 'Off the Hoof' I can hear the rain beating strongly against the window. The past few days have been bitterly cold and already some of my fields are under water. The clocks went back last week and so there is less daylight in the evenings and there seems to be so much more to do.

As the 'credit crunch' takes hold, the knock-on effect is starting to bite. Already feed and bedding costs have risen. I know I am not alone in trying to keep my horses out for as long as possible, although mine do have the advantage of being able to free range. They have a small feed with additives and carrots each day and hay is available. It is essential to have rugs which fit correctly and are both warm and waterproof and are checked daily to prevent rubbing and discomfort.

Bedding will possibly be in short supply owing to the bad weather when straw was cut. Cut-backs in the building industry means sawmills will not be producing as much woodchips. An alternative is now on offer in the form of 'recycled' wood chip-pings in pellet form. These are reported to work out cheaper to buy and less is used as the absorbency rate is higher so less is removed.

I have noticed the prices for horses and ponies have fallen dramatically in the last couple of months and this will possibly raise the issue once again of live horses being exported for meat. This (as most animal lovers do) I find disgusting.

World Horse Welfare (formerly

known as ILPH (International League for the Protection of Horses) is always looking for support, so if you really care, call **01953 497262** for more details of either how to join or what you can do to help.

Last month I was asked to Steward at the British Miniature Horse Championships at Arena UK. Not having any dealings with these little equines I thought it might be a learning experience. Jill Latchford was the judge I was stewarding for and the procedure is pretty much the same as all showing classes. One of the other judges was from America and they certainly do things differently over there. To say it was an experience is putting it mildly. The people are really passionate about their charges and I have never seen so many adults in the Fancy Dress Class. They even had a best dressed Evening class with ladies in sparkly long dresses and glitter on the ponies. There was a ridden class and also a driving class which looked really good. Another unusual class was a freestyle where the pony was let loose in the ring and was controlled by two persons. I guess this was a Parelli class but would have benefited with a round ring. I cannot say I was impressed with it although I appreciate the owners must put in a lot of hard work in to keep the little horses as fit as they do. I even have difficulty calling an equine that is only inches high - a horse.

It was a very long day, starting for me getting up 4.30 a.m. and crawling back to bed at 4.15 a.m. the following day. The last class was at 1.30 a.m. as everything was running late, and guess what? It was a two day event and so they had to it all again the next day! I do not think I will be showing Miniatures as endearing as they may look.

Joanne Burns did not do as well as hoped in the Summer Championships, but a few days prior to them she was involved in a bad car accident and was not fully fit, in fact she is lucky to have survived.

While she is extremely busy breaking and schooling as well as jumping, she has managed to take time out to train

for U.K.C.C. qualification (United Kingdom Credited Coach) for the BSJA (British Show Jumping Association). It is quite an intensive course which covers aspects of teaching methods and the physical and psychological aspects of both horse and rider along with diet and fitness of both. At present she is aiming for level 2 and, following an assessment will progress to level 3. Once successful, she will be the only Accredited BSJA Instructor for this area which is area 24. Joanne is truly is truly a knowledgeable, dedicated horsewoman with the enthusiasm to learn and share her knowledge.

Christmas is not far away now and it is always a time of mixed emotions and, no doubt, many of us will be watching the pennies more than usual.

Pelham Tack in Immingham offer a very extensive range of clothing, saddlery and gifts, from high visibility wear, cufflinks, jewellery, hunting flasks and an amazing range of rugs and offers galore, including everything your horse will need to fight off mud fever and buy a wash and get a gel free! This Aladdin's Cave has been nominated for the Small Business of the Year Award which is amazing as it has only been running for a year. Certainly gets my vote and is really worth a visit.

Naturally Beautiful offer Gift Vouchers which are an ideal present as there are lots of treatments on offer which can be taken after Christmas. See the advert in this edition.

Dr. Robert Jaggs-Fowler has a book of poems published which is available in both paper and hardback, a truly enjoyable book. Again, see his advert in this edition.

Dan Burton is still running his company called *Socks On*, which

Continues over the page...

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Off the Hood, continued...

is a subscription for socks for a year. These are of good quality and an ideal present for those living near or far and lasts the whole year. A Brilliant idea.

Membership of the British Horse Society is another good present and a Gold membership includes not only the usual magazines, help lines and legal advice, but also Public Liability Insurance which works out at less than a pound a week.. Bargain!

While talking about presents, a friend said she was trying to source a pair of cufflinks with the Lincolnshire flag on. I was not aware we had one but apparently we do and it has a *fleur de lisle* on it, which is as much as I know, but it sounds like another good and personal present.

Please remember.. You cannot have too much high visibility when riding, walking or cycling. Recently a woman was knocked by a car whilst riding and, although she had a tabard on, the court ruled she was still not visible enough as the horse did not have high vis on the outside legs. This is debateable as, when I was Riding and Road Safety Officer it was said to be distracting with the legs going up and down, so please do not use them on their own, but be just as visible as you can be.

Tips of the issue - Save all the polystyrene packaging you may receive at Christmas. In the Spring, when you are doing your big flower planters, fill the pot with $\frac{1}{3}$ polystyrene chips. This saves on expensive compost, retains water to help avoid drying out and protects the roots for next winter. Second tip.. If you drop small like a contact lens, earring or jewellery and you know the vicinity it fell, slip a stocking over the end of the hose on your vacuum cleaner and you should be able to retrieve it without it disappearing into oblivion. That's all for this edition, let me wish you a Happy Christmas and New Year!

Take care – Ride safely.

Aileen
01469 530643

GNeWs from Goxhill Neighbourhood Watch

Those of you who received the SmartWater property coding liquid earlier this year should have found it easy to use and by now have marked up all your household valuables.

Okay, not everyone received one of the free kits but everyone should nevertheless benefit from the deterrent effect on potential burglars. As we have put up a number of signs around the village to publicize the fact that SmartWater is in use in our village, hopefully any burglars will think twice and leave Goxhill alone.

The GNeW website:

<http://beehive.thissscunthorpe.co.uk/GNeW-Goxhill>

was only set up late last year. It was designed only as a basic reference source with relevant help, advice and useful information about crime prevention and related topics. Unfortunately we have heard from the providers of this free web resource that the free website hosting will be withdrawn in its current format in the near future - so GNeW's stint on the web may be short-lived, at least this time around.

The question that this poses is: should GNeW funds be spent on setting up a replacement website? Whilst no decision is likely to be taken before our next Annual General Meeting (in early Spring) it would be helpful to know your views - especially if you do not attend AGMs. If you have already visited the GNeW website then did you find it helpful and would you like to see it continue? Please let us know by emailing gnew@tesco.net or by telephoning me on 530363. Equally, if you have suggestions about better uses for our funds then it would be helpful to hear from you too. Many thanks.

JOHN GUGGIARI,
GNEW AREA CO-ORDINATOR

Early in the New Year, Christine Creasey retires from her role running Goxhill Guides. In the next issue she will look back on her time with the Guides, but she is still looking for someone to take over from her. If you think you would be up to succeeding Mrs Creasey in this important role, pop into the Post Office and speak to her about what would be involved.

And if you are a former Guide and have stories or photos of you time with them, we'd love to share them with the village as a way to say thank you to Christine for her years of service to the girls of the community.

My Goxhill Family History

I came to live in Goxhill with my husband six years ago having previously always lived in Grimsby. Neither of us had any connection with Goxhill but we both liked the village and found the people we met here were friendly. My favourite pastime came to be walking with our dog, Harry, on the Humber bank. I loved walking there, feeling somehow drawn to the place and although some find it too bleak, I always felt kind of at home there amongst the peaceful wild beauty.

About three years ago at Christmas time I fell while walking there with Harry and broke my ankle. While recovering, and finding myself with a lot of time on my hands, I began researching my family history something that had been on my 'to-do' list for ages. Starting with the 1901 census that had recently been made available to view online, I had some snippets of information about both sides of my family. Almost one of the first things that came up was an entry for my paternal grandfather's family, living in Hull, but what intrigued me was that the birthplace listed for both of his parents was "Lincolnshire - Skitter Haven". This interested me because I knew that there was a Skitter Ness and a Haven shown on the OS map on Goxhill's coastline. It couldn't be connected, could it?

I sent an e-mail to Scunthorpe library to enquire if there was any record of a Skitter Haven in this part of the country. The answer came back no - there was no such record but they did tell me that skitter was an old word for a waterway or open sewer, which I found quite amusing.

Next I sent off for a copy of my great-grandmother's birth certificate and when it arrived it showed that my great-grandmother, Sarah Elizabeth Johnson, was born 1 April 1870 in East Halton and her father's occupation was as a brickyard worker. This excited me because I knew that there had been brickyards in various places along the Humber bank and I was convinced there was a connection. Going further back the 1871 census showed the Johnson family residing in Skitter Lane, East Halton, with the children's birthplaces listed as "Goxhill, Lincs".

Everything fell into place for me when I bought a copy of the book "Glimpses of Old Goxhill" published in June 2004. On page 106 was a piece about the local brickmaking industry by Bob Towle. When I read the words "the seventh yard was on the Goxhill side of Skitter Haven (East Halton Haven)" and that the brickyards had each had "a row of terraced houses for the workforce" I knew that this was the exact place that my great-grandmother had been born and had lived there as a child with her parents and brothers and sisters. Although there wasn't much more information about the community, I did discover that Skitter Haven had even had its own Methodist Chapel. Sadly, there's no trace left of what must have been a thriving community because it was all demolished some time ago.

I felt so moved by these revelations because it occurred to me that here was a reason why I'd felt drawn to spending time walking along the bank. Something in me had felt an instant sense of belonging even though before moving here I'd hardly ever heard of Goxhill and I had never been here. I could hardly believe that by pure coincidence I now lived so close to the place where 130 years ago my ancestors had lived and worked.

Why be a victim of circumstance?

I read an article the other day about some research concluding that over the past 50 years our society has shifted its basic beliefs from "I can make a success of my life if I try hard enough" to "Success is more about chance than anything I can do."

Okay, so both statements are rather simplistic. But what interests me are the implications of those belief systems. If you see yourself as a victim of forces beyond your control then personal responsibility becomes a meaningless concept. For our society that victim mentality manifests itself in matters as diverse as obesity (it's the fault of fast-food marketers) to poor turnouts to vote in elections (politicians are all as bad). One could also make a strong case for its knock-on effects for crime rates, drug & alcohol use, and family break-up.

Yet it should not be this way. We are living in an age when we have more control than previous generations over our lives. There is less prejudice and discrimination on grounds of race, gender or sexual orientation. Technology frees up our time from mundane tasks and brings greater travel and entertainment opportunities within our reach. Better communication and the Internet help create more efficient markets in goods and services.

So what about the implications for each one of us as an individual? Buck the trend and focus on what you can do instead of what you may feel is "being done to you" and you will bring more success to your life.

John Guggiari (Diploma in Performance Coaching) – telephone 530363

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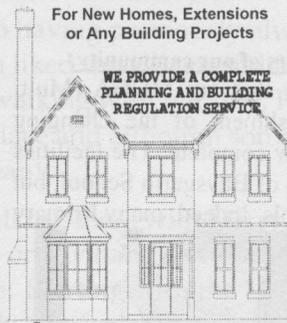
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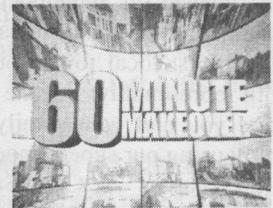
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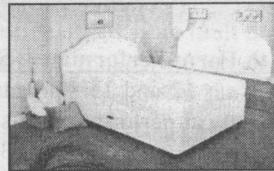
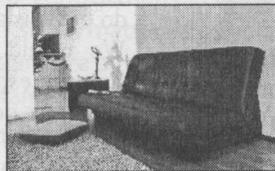
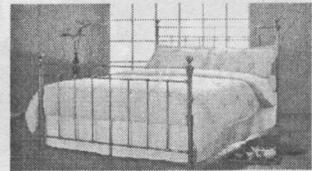
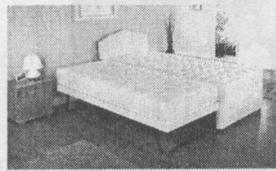
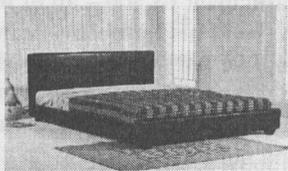
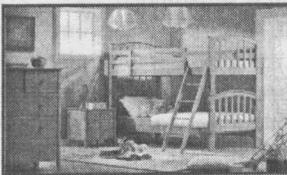
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Goxhill's Wildlife, continued...

on the mudflats while the blacktails live on both the salt and fresh water marshes). By the first week of August the Dunlin and Ring Plover were here in better numbers than for many years, though maybe only passing through on migration. Many will stay the winter: an odd flock of Grey Plovers are to be seen at times with increasing numbers of Turnstones.

On 13th September, a glorious Saturday afternoon, I was having a ride on the Humber flood bank near Goxhill Haven at approximately 4pm and saw a new visitor to the parish, maybe due to Global Warming which had caused it to stray from its native home in South America - a white "Rea." No not a pink panther, a white Rea having an afternoon stroll on the bank top, admiring the view of the river, (I had only been drinking tea and it was also witnessed by three fishermen). It is not every time I go I see such a rarity, a small type of the Ostrich family similar to an Emu. Was it included in the bird count that weekend?

By 17th September, the autumn migration is in full flow with all the spring migrants now moving it the opposite direction. Mud flats and fields on the marsh are full of the wading birds, Plovers, four species, Curlew, Black & Bartailed Godwits. There must be a thousand Blacktails with us at this time, with the Dunlin and Ringed Plover joining in. Any day the Pink-Foot geese should arrive from Iceland, at Goxhill Haven there were a 100-plus Goldfinches feeding on a clump of Chicory eating the seeds (when they all got landed on it you could only see a bunch of birds with their Gold wing bars which reflected in the sun, the Chicory had disappeared), a similar number of Linnets were feeding on a nearby wheat stubble, all passing through to their winter quarters; a Merlin looking for a dinner was also around keeping them on the move every few minutes.

24th Sept saw a flock of around 400-plus Goldfinches feeding on a newly combined field of spring Rape, again on the move every few minutes. What a sight with all the Gold Wing bars showing when they flew up onto the nearby hedgerow, forever on the outlook for the Sparrow Hawk, Merlin or other winged predators.

October saw the birds of the foreshore and marsh here in ever increasing numbers, which fluctuates daily due to migration (wheatears were passing through to their winter quarters in Africa from August to October as usual). As far as I can recall, there are now more birds than in the days before the Humber became polluted 50 years or so ago with the chemical factories discharging their waste into it which killed almost all the sand worms and other insects/creatures that live in the mud or sand which is food for these bird. Such are their numbers at present, I wonder how the environment can produce enough to fill their tummies - when

these insects/creatures disappeared so did the birds; if it is a case of "No Food No Birds" this proves that the pollution in the Humber has been cleaned out and become habitable again for the insect life. Many of these waders - as the foreshore birds are called - are just passing through to their winter quarters though many of them will stay with us (will they recall their stay as being at Goxhill or have another name for it ?) until the spring when they will return to their breeding grounds in the northern hemisphere. One morning or evening the wise old leaders of the flock decide the weather and time is right, they just take off and go - no bookings, passports, IDs or bankrupt airlines to contend with. The Fieldfares and Redwings (a Scandinavian Thrush) began to arrive for the winter at Hull Fair, the usual date one can expect to see them from then on. Our Song Thrushes at Goxhill have increased in numbers this year...

During the first week of October I saw what I had been looking for in the past three years, the footprints of an Otter. They were in the East Halton beck under a bridge that was always one of their favourite places in the days when they were more common, before the 1960s when the chemicals became overpowering in many uses and were discharged into the streams and poisoned the fish which killed them and in turn the Otters which lived on the fish. The brick pits, becks and drains in North Lincolnshire always had a few with the Otter Hounds having several meets a year, sometimes at the Brocklesby Hunt, Goxhill. Such was the effect on the otters that by the mid 1960s or even sooner the otter was declared extinct in most areas of the British Isles and North Lincolnshire was no exception. An otter sanctuary, the Philip Wayre Otter Trust, near Bungay in Norfolk had a few which survived and continued to breed them to release in the wilds and the first was released in 1983. They have now released 117 and closed down, believing their job is done, leaving the rest to Nature and hopefully numbers will increase in the wilds. Other sanctuaries followed and over the years they too have been successful; for a number of years now reports have been increasing of otters being sighted in Lincolnshire's rivers, including the Ancholme, and creeping ever nearer to Goxhill. Hopefully the sightings will become numerous in the future.

An incident I always remember as a youth regarding otters, in the 1934 era and days of a farming recession the Otter Hounds visited Goxhill Clay pits as usual, (always in summer time due to the water temperature) and killed an otter. While all the hunt followers stood around admiring the days work, the huntsman passed the Cap round (a collection of money to show appreciation) and handed it over the farmer who had the pit. On receiving it he thanked the hunt with a speech and said how he had been preserving the otters for them to hunt for many a year when his 10-year-old son pushed

through to the front to see the kill at the feet of the hunters, took one look and said for all to hear, "it's not as big as the one you shot last week is it Dad?" Amen

I have heard in the Bush Telegraph that the Goxhill Lifestylers 2008, Kelly, Alison, Katie and Amy have carried out a Wildlife Project by making Insect, Bat and Bird Boxes and have placed them around the village with 50-plus nest boxes in the wilds of the Marsh, a project that has been needed for many years. It will give the hole nesting birds a place to sleep in the winter and nest in the springtime without returning to the village, the only place where nesting boxes are situated, for there are almost no hollow trees left in the wilds.

For the past two centuries the Wood Pigeon, Rabbit and an occasional Hare were for the poor man's table, the Ducks, Geese and Hares belonged to the Middle-Class table and the Game Birds, Pheasants, Partridge and Grouse adorned the tables of the rich. This was the case until the rationing of World War Two ended around 1950 and the prosperity which got better during the war for the working-class enabled them to afford better things for the table. These countryside products began to decline for two reasons: first, in the kitchen because they took up so much time preparing them for the oven such as plucking, drawing or skinning them, and the oven-ready meals at supermarkets became available which saved the time and mess in the kitchen. Cheap meals of pigeon or rabbit have never stopped being available but the sales are slow. A few years after rationing ended, new legalisation began to protect the endangered species and continued to increase until almost every bird has some sort of protection, even the ones regarded as vermin. During the times of rationing a wild rabbit or a pigeon pie made a delicious change

of wartime meat, Mutton was known as Jump-Dyke for it was old and tough, while the Beef was known as Cow Beef, tough enough to sole one's boots with, best put through the mincing machine first. Today the countryside is full of these would be dinners for all classes, The younger generation will no-doubt say "Never" but I can assure them that an empty stomach has no scruples; I sometimes vaguely wonder if the recession looming on the horizon will bring back these birds and rabbits to the pot. Today Nature's Larder has more stock than it has had for over half a century.

For the last two centuries Estate and Land owners helped the pheasant population to increase by employing Gamekeepers to artificially rear some birds and protect the wild ones to give the aristocrats, their associates and the rich the sport of shooting at an expense. During the period between the wars in the last century in a recession, with rural workers wages at approximately 25 shillings (£1.25 today) per week, gamekeepers included, there was a Saying on Shooting Days "Up gets a Pound, Off goes a Penny and down comes Half a Crown" that is if the shooter hit the bird; Definition - it cost a pound to rear a pheasant and drive it with bush beaters (Men with sticks frightening the birds) over the Shooters, Cartridges for the gun cost a penny each, and the dead bird was worth Half a Crown, which was 2 shillings & 6 pence (12½p today) when it was sold to a game dealer who plucked and drew it (removed the intestines) after it had been hung up until the rear end was green (said to give it a Gamy flavour), who with his expenses and profit added sold it to the rich to adorn their table when cooked with the usual bottles of wine to wash it down..

Ron Parker, November 2008

GOXHILL FAIR

Many readers will remember at this time of year the annual funfair. This was set up during the late Forties and early Fifties in the paddock on Station Road next to the Brocklesby Hunt (where a bungalow called Fairfield would later be built). We children loved it. I remember well the Swingboats – rather difficult to start but great fun when you got going and most definitely a cut above our home-made garden swing. We always risked a few pennies (old money of course) on the slot machines, but the greatest excitement came from the Dodgems. The cost was a tanner – just think a whole week's sweet ration, but well worth it and a topic of conversation in the school playground instead of the usual adventures of Dick, Jock and Snowy.

Goxhill had had its annual fair in much earlier times than this. This took place some seven hundred years ago and was entirely different to the event described above. It was certainly the highlight of village life in the autumn all those years ago. Grimsby and Barton had annual Spring Fairs; so, too, did Lincoln and a few wealthy towns and villages in the Fenlands. That Goxhill received a Royal Charter for a weekly market (each Thursday) and an annual Fair says a lot about the wealth and importance of the village.

The site was in the triangle made by Howe Lane, King Street and Church Street long before these streets names and the present buildings existed. The Fair lasted four days beginning on the 31st October. Villagers would take part in the many religious ceremonies that were part of the Fair, especially on All Saints' Day. How the villagers would welcome the noise, the colour and the bustle. Imagine rubbing shoulders with merchants from Flanders, Italy, the Baltic and the Mediterranean. Wealthy villagers like the de Veres, the de Gousels and, most important of all, the Despencers would buy wines, furs and spices (pepper, cinnamon, ginger and saffron) and sell fish and wool. The king's officials would be present to make sure all taxes were duly paid. Some things never change!

The full history of medieval Goxhill is on sale at the Post Office or phone 01472 752504 for the two volume history of the village.

Russell Cook

Local Team Takes Up Challenge for Breast Cancer Care

Martin Wharton of Barton-upon-Humber and Clara Smith from Goxhill will be trekking in Peru, over the Andes to Machu Pichu, in order to raise money for Breast Cancer Care, the UK's leading provider of breast cancer information and support.

The trek will take place over 10 days next year - 4th-13th September 2009.

Martin said of the challenge: "I have chosen to support Breast Cancer Care by raising as much money as I can because it's not just women who can get breast cancer - each year 300 men are diagnosed too."

Louise Skinner, Events Officer at Breast Cancer Care said: "We are delighted that Martin and Clara are trekking for Breast Cancer Care. Every contribution makes a difference and funds will go towards ensuring that Breast Cancer Care can continue to offer vital support to women and men with breast cancer, their families and friends."

Martin and Clara have a webpage www.justgiving.com/martinwhartonperu, which is the most efficient way to sponsor them.

For any breast cancer concerns contact Breast Cancer Care's free helpline on 0808 8006000, open Monday to Friday 10am-5pm and Saturdays 10am-2pm, or visit www.breastcancercare.org.uk

Lindsey Lodge Hospice

Situated on the edge of Scunthorpe, Lindsey Lodge Hospice is an independent charity offering special care for people in the North Lincolnshire area with specific life-limiting illnesses such as cancer, multiple sclerosis and motor neurone disease.

The hospice was opened in September 1992. and provides loving, specialised nursing and medical care which is sensitive to the needs of the individual patient and their loved ones—helping make every moment count.

Lindsey Lodge helps hundreds of people every year by providing services that include up to 14 daycare places each day, a '24/7' in-patient service with 10 beds available, together with additional services such as a Lymphoedema Clinic.

Services to patients living with a life-limiting illness and their families are provided free of charge, but cost nearly £3.50 each minute of every day. Generous funding is received from the North Lincolnshire Primary Care Trust but Lindsey Lodge still needs to raise at least £1,300,000 this year to keep helping people.

Tree of Lights commemorative services

Christmas is a time when we meet together with friends, family and loved ones to celebrate. It is also a time when we remember loved ones who are no longer with us.

You are welcome to join others in remembering a friend or relative by coming to one of our services and /or requesting a light on our Tree of Lights. The name of each person for whom a light shines will be entered in our Book of Lights and a commemorative card will be sent to you.

Each of our simple services lasts about an hour, with hymns, readings, prayers and where the Tree of Lights is turned on and our Book of Lights placed next to the tree. Tree of Lights Services nearest to Goxhill will be held at the following locations:

- Wednesday 3rd December, St Hybald's Church, Scawby, 7pm
- Sunday 7th December, St Mary's, Barton upon Humber, 4pm
- Monday 8th December, Methodist Church, Burton upon Stather, 7pm

Leaflets are available in each church. If you would like any further information about any of these services or wish to make a donation, please contact Lindsey Lodge Hospice on Tel. 01724 843731, email fundraising@lindseylodgehospice.org.uk or write to Lindsey Lodge Hospice, Burringham Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN17 2AA.

Visit the hospice website at www.lindseylodgehospice.org.uk to find out more information.

GOXHILL MEMORIAL HALL BOWLING CLUB - 2008

Once more the bowling season has come to an end—again not without it's successes. Numerous club members did very well in the County Competitions which are played on a knock-out basis during the bowling season Christine Ellis won a singles title and both Tina Morris and Tony Hebblewhite narrowly lost in their singles semi finals and Maurice Broughton and Don Dougherty also lost in the semis. Vicky Herbert was runner-up in two singles finals and along with Dorothy Jerrison was also runner-up in a pairs final. Well done to all. Congratulations must also go to the following players:

Cleethorpes Open: Peter Cox won the singles title.

League results:

Barnetby League: Runners-up Grimsby Premier League: 3rd Triples League: Runners-up

The results of successes in the Barnetby League competitions were as follows:

Webster Cup: Runners-up: G Brace and K Smith
Barrowclough Trophy: Winners: J Spittlehouse, M Heath and L Adlard.
Lowish Singles: Winner: P. Cox

CLUB COMPETITION RESULTS.

Event:	Winners:	Runners-up:
Eric Lacey	J Heath, M Broughton, G Brace	A Faulkener, T Gaytor, H Dixon
Cavill Cup	D Jerrison, P Cox	B Anderson, B Richardson
Ladies singles	D. Jerrison	V. Herbert
Mens singles	H. Dixon	M. Broughton
Lewis Breese	J. Spittlehouse	D. Dougherty
Club Pairs	A Frazer, D Jerrison	K Smith , DDougherty.
Cavill Shield	H Dixon	T Hebblewhite
Ernie Lamming	C Ellis	T.Morris
Jesse Broughton	T. Hebblewhite	G. Brace
Stan Breese	H. Dixon	D. Jerrison
Gordon Rosbrook		
Remembrance Cup	J. Spittlehouse & A Turner	A. Frazer & T Cooper
Roving Pairs	J. Spittlehouse & A Turner	T.Hebblewhite & H Dixon
Ladies Champion of Champions:	C. Ellis	V. Herbert
Men's Champion of Champions:	H. Dixon	T. Hebblewhite

These last two competitions are County competitions, the winners qualifying to play against other Club winners in the 2009 Season for a County title which in turn qualifies them to play in the National Championships at Skegness in August.

CLUB OPEN COMPETITION RESULTS

Doreen Gladwin Trophy: Winners: D. Dougherty, M. Lammiman.
Nan Chapman Trophy: Winners: C Ellis, T Morris : Runners-up: K Smith, J Dougherty.
Danny Thompson Trophy: Runners-up: V. Herbert, L Adlard

We must once again thank North Lincolnshire Council for their continuing support. Thanks must also be expressed to club members who helped throughout the season, with special thanks to those who work tirelessly to make our bowling green one of the best in the area - as a result of which we have been asked to host a County Under 25's game next Summer.

Sadly, the club has lost two members this year - Mr Brian Sutcliffe and Mr. R. Ramwell. We shall once more be running domino drives on a monthly basis during the Winter months and anyone is welcome - you do not have to be a member. Please phone: **530083** for details.

We are always looking for new members and the Bowling Season usually commences at the end of April each year, weather permitting! Please come along and try it - you may enjoy it!!!

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The Gander

Advertising Rates

For Inclusion in the next two issues:
*(The year runs from August to August and
we try to have all advertisers
synchronised to save on administration)*

Half Page	£60
Quarter Page	£40
Eighth Page	£25
Small Box	£15

Payment must come prior to inclusion.

***Public Service Announcements
and Charity Appeals are printed free of
charge, up to a maximum ¼ page.***

All advertisers were invoiced over the summer,
and as you will have seen, not all returned.

If you or would like to advertise with us from
the Spring edition, do please contact us before
the end of October and we will help you -
whether you are a new business or have been
established in the community for years.



Mayflower

Barrow Parent and Toddler Group

The group meets every Monday
between 10am and 12pm in the
Barrow Village Hall.

Ages from birth to five years
0-6 months FREE
6-12 months £1.00
12+ months £2.00

Additional children maximum £1

This is a structured group designed for parents
to interact with their children in play, crafts/
baking, eating fruits, songs and dance run by a
committee of volunteers.

Newcomers welcome. First session free.
For further information, please contact Tina -
01469 533119

Donations Gratefully Received

Registered Charity No. 1076677

Index of Advertisers

These advertisers in the **Gander** are **vital** for the continuation of this newsletter. Please give them all your support.

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S.T. Leaning	12		

If you wish to advertise with the Gander please contact us at your earliest convenience. We believe the Gander remains a valuable community resource in its 22nd year. We hope you agree.

E-mail:
goxhill-gander@fsmail.net

Telephone:
01430 432699

Post to:
Fresh Fields, Ferry Rd.

Deadline:
All submissions for the Winter issue of
the Gander
Should be in by
Saturday 7th February
Distribution 1st week of March.
(For date sensitive copy)

Useful Numbers

Health

<u>Doctors Surgery - Barton</u>	(01652)
General Enquiries	635435 / 6
Emergencies	632573
Appointments	632565
Prescription Line	632257
Facsimile	632122

NHS Direct 0845 4647

Hospitals

Scunthorpe General	01724 282282
Hull Royal Infirmary	01482 328541
Grimsby - Diana. P.O.W.	01472 874111

Dentist - Barton

Jeremy T. Walker 01652 633580

Chemists - Barton

Lloyds	01652 632129
Moss	01652 632393

Veterinary Surgeons - Barton

Barton Veterinary Centre 01652 636359

Emergencies

Electricity Emergencies

Freephone (24 Hours) 0800 375675

British Gas Emergencies

Freephone (24 Hours) 0800 111999

Anglia Water Emergencies

(24 Hours) 08457 145145

Helplines

Alcoholics Anonymous 0845 769 7555

Childline (Freephone) 0800 1111

Citizens Advice Bureau

Grimsby	01472 359005
Scunthorpe	01724 8484645

Cancer Support Group 01724 282282

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

Drugline 0800 526475

Lone Parent Helpline 0800 018 5026

Marriage Guidance (Relate)

(Lincoln) 01522 524922

NSPCC (Freephone) 0800 800500

Police Domestic Violence Unit

(Scunthorpe) 01724 274161

RSPCA (National Linkline) 0990 555999

Samaritans (Lo-call) 0345 909090

Social Services

Emergency Duty Team 01724 296500

Travel

National Rail enquiries

24 Hour Linkline 0345 484950

National Express Bus Services

Enquiries 0990 808080

Humberside Airport 01652 688456

General

Goxhill School 530743

Bavsgarth School 01652 632576

Clerk to the Goxhill Parish Council -

Mrs. C. Tooby 533971



PENNYLANE HAIR SALON

For a warm and friendly welcome we would be pleased to greet all clients old and new to the newly refurbished PennyLane Hair Salon. Come and enjoy the relaxing experience of being pampered in our air conditioned salon whilst receiving the latest style or colour from our highly trained technicians, who use only the highest quality products specifically selected for your personal requirements with the latest up-to date specialist salon equipment available.

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Wednesday: 9.00am to 5.00pm

Thursday: 9.00am to 7.00 pm

Friday: 9.00am to 7.00pm

Saturday: 9.00am to 4.00pm

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