



# the Gander

GOXHILL VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Winter 2010



Goxhill Views

Village Tales

Local People

School Reports

Church Letters

Parish Council News

& Much More

At a time of cuts and austerity budgets it is a real boost for the village with the opening of the new Surgery and Pharmacy. See the article on page 27.

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# THE GANDER REALLY DOES WORK

After my list of complaints and pleas for tolerance and understanding last time, I am pleased to say I have only had one letter for this issue and that was in agreement with what I had written. So I hope everyone else agrees.

Also after the very short piece asking for more bell ringers, I am delighted they have had a good response and several new recruits. As did the bowling club after a similar appeal in a previous edition. Both clear demonstrations of the power of the Gander?

Another example of the impact of the Gander was demonstrated when a council official came to my door, clutching a copy of Maurice Brawn's article from the last edition, asking where he might find the brick culvert in Willow Lane referred to in the article, so he could organise an inspection of the state of this vital part of the drainage system. The power of the press and public commitment to change things or make things happen, is often underestimated.

The saving of Goxhill's library, although with a community-run rather than council run system, is another example of how individuals can get together and produce sufficient influence to change outcomes or stop things happening.

As a direct result of the success of the Gander, I am in the embarrassing position of having too many contributions for this issue. We are limited to how many pages we can afford to print by how many pages of advertising are paid for. We have been able to go up to a bumper 40 pages for the last few issues and that continues with this one. That is excellent for us as it shows that the Gander is seen as a successful advertising medium and ensures that the Gander is financially in a sound position to keep going. But it would not be so attractive to advertisers without being a good read for the village. And that only happens with interesting contributions and articles. It is NOT a chicken and egg situation, for being a good read has to come first before it can attract sufficient advertising.

Even with that many pages, there is not room to get every contribution in this edition, so some items have had to be cut down or deferred until the next issue. I do apologise to those who have supplied these items. I do appreciate them and they will be used in future issues. So don't be deterred from sending in any articles in the future. The Gander is successful because of the variety and interesting nature of articles submitted by its contributors. However I do continue to take the role of editor seriously and reserve the right not to print articles that are unnecessarily offensive or derogatory to others in the village.

On a wider note, Goxhill is obviously seen as a successful village. The opening of the new Doctors Surgery and Pharmacy and the new Integrated Services Building at the school are clear examples of the investment being made to improve facilities and services in the village.

However there is much more to do. Solving the drainage problem in the village is one of the most important as it affects existing properties as well as the future growth of housing. There are plans being put forward by the numerous agencies concerned, but I do not see the real problem of inadequate drains being addressed in these plans as yet. Perhaps we need to put the power of the Gander to good use to fight this battle. So if you have any information on this subject or examples of problems with main drainage systems that are not being solved then let me know. You never know what can be achieved unless you try.

**Jeff Teasdale**

**HELP NEEDED** The Gander team could do with more help, both on the committee or delivering. If you can spare a little time please get in touch with any member of the team listed below.

## ROGUE WEBSITE

*It has been drawn to my attention that there is a rogue website out there on the net under the guise of the Gander at [www.goxhillgander.co.uk](http://www.goxhillgander.co.uk). I do not know who is behind this website and attempts to contact it by its email link have drawn a blank. The information on the site is at best inaccurate and misleading. It has nothing to do with our website on [www.goxhillgander.com](http://www.goxhillgander.com) and could well cause confusion. Attempts to contact the Gander through this website will not reach me, and I have no idea how many contacts or contributors we might have missed because of this. So please ensure you only contact us by the email address or phone numbers printed in the Gander or from the email addresses on our official website [www.goxhillgander.com](http://www.goxhillgander.com). If you know who is behind the other website, I will be grateful for any information.*

## The Gander Team

Mike Gathercole	Ferry Lodge, Ferry Road	532208	Coordinator
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Jeff Teasdale	Willow Farm, Willow Lane	07774 671175	Editor & Advertising

**Please contact any of the above with any queries that you may have regarding the Gander. Articles should be sent by email to: [goxhill-gander@fsmail.net](mailto:goxhill-gander@fsmail.net) or direct to the editor. Advertisers should contact Jeff or Nicola or use the same email address.**

Comments or opinions expressed in articles printed are not necessarily those of the team.

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E&OE



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# LETTER FROM THE VICARAGE

"It's time again to dig out the old toilet brush and decorate it for Christmas."

"Hey kids, help us pack this old toilet brush back into the box until next year!"

An odd couple of comments to make as we begin to think about Christmas. The truth is that in 1930 the U.S.-based Addis Brush Company created the first artificial Christmas tree made from brush bristles. The company used the same machinery that it used to manufacture toilet brushes.

An artificial tree certainly has its place in today's world. Time, space, mess, variety even (you can even get them in black!) -- all these factors encourage many of us to choose a 'look-alike' rather than a real Christmas tree. It is easily (generally) pushed back into its box and stored for another year after its seasonal outing. Then, a year later, we search it out, and find it scrunched, misshapen, and worn. With some shoving, pinching, and pulling, lots of lights, tinsel, and ornaments, it again looks (almost) like new. We sigh with relief -- and then when the celebrations are over, we strip it down and force it back into its container until next year.

Sadly, many people treat Jesus the same way. We haul him out for the "big season", sing some nice songs about him, maybe go and see the children / grandchildren in a nativity play. Then, when Christmas is over he is stuffed back into the 'box' in which he will remain as a baby in a manger: a cute, helpless (and harmless) figure who is irrelevant for the rest of the year.

The artificial is chosen rather than the real. That might be fine when it comes to Christmas trees -- but do we really want to treat the Son of God that way? He is for life, not just Christmas, and his invitation is to all to let him into their lives to make a real difference, to bring hope for tomorrow and always. If we can celebrate Jesus this way, Christmas takes on a whole new meaning! Have a good one! Reverend John Girtchen

## Christmas Services

Sunday 12th December	4.00pm:	Christingles & Carols for all the Family at All Saints Church.
Friday 17th December	7.30pm	All Saints Church: Traditional service of lessons, carols and music for Christmas followed by seasonal refreshments.
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	2pm	Carol Service Greenfields Community Room
Friday 24th December	4.00pm	Family Crib Service at Goxhill Methodist Chape. Informal service for all to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas
Friday 24th December	11.30pm	Goxhill Methodist Chapel: Holy Communion
Friday 24th December		Midnight Mass of the Nativity. Holy Trinity Barrow
Saturday 25th December	10.00am	Holy Communion at Christ Church, New Holland
Sunday 26th December	9.30am	Holy Communion at All Saints, Goxhill, to celebrate The Feast of St Stephen.

## Goxhill Library Petition



On the 16th of July 2010, Goxhill WI, with the backing of the Gander, started a petition so that everyone in the village might have an opportunity to record their support for the village library and for Wendy Wilkinson, its dedicated 'librarian'. Thanks to Goxhill Post Office and Goxhill Chippie, and in spite of the fact that many families were away from the village on holiday at the allotted time, 122 people had signed the petition by the time that North Lincolnshire Council's consultation period ended, at short notice, on the 16th August.

What we did not know when we submitted our petition to North Lincolnshire Council is that any petition bearing 10 or more signatures, is likely to result in an informal petition hearing for 3 representatives of the petitioners to put their case to 3 members of the Council's Cabinet. Our representatives at the petition hearing, held on the 16th of September, were Caroline Atkins & Alison O'Leary of the WI and Caroline Breslin, Head Teacher of Goxhill school. It lasted for a very interesting hour, but did not give us much reason to hope that our library would survive unchanged. A month later, the Cabinet did indeed decide to accept the recommendation of Neil Laminman, Service Director Community Planning and Resources, and consequently, from April 1st 2011, Goxhill Parish Council will take over the day-to-day management of a community-run library housed, as now, in the Parish Room. More details of this are included in the Parish Council article.

Those of us who were able to sign the petition may have failed to change the course of events but at least we made the effort -- had the council's consultation period not been timed to coincide with the school summer holiday, who knows what we might have achieved. Thank you to everyone who supported our campaign.

There is no doubt that the community-run library has a number of advantages over the mobile library option and we hope that everyone in the parish will continue to make good use of our library's facilities or we might still lose the library altogether if usage declines.

The major disadvantage of the new community-run library will be the loss of our dedicated 'librarian', Wendy, who soon will be moved to another library after serving this village for 30 years. During that time she has befriended and encouraged readers of all ages and has been particularly supportive of young children while they learnt to read and to love books. We, the members of Goxhill WI, hope that we speak for all parishioners when we say **'WENDY - THANK YOU, VERY, VERY MUCH.'**

**Caroline Atkins, Goxhill WI Secretary**

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# SCHOOL REPORT

John Keats described autumn as the “Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness...” in his Ode to Autumn. Over the years I find myself quietly reciting the first verse as the days start changing and the nights start to creep up in to take over the afternoon hours.

We have been glad to welcome the children back after the summer vacation. All of them have been so eager to get back into a routine and have been excited about their new classes – as of course have the staff. We are looking forward to a successful year ahead and hope we can build very positively on our successes from last year. Indeed we should feel very proud – our Local Authority has defined our school as one which is “Striving for Excellence – Good to Outstanding”! It is so good to have recognition that all staff are pursuing a vision for the school which is not only about securing outstanding levels of achievement and attainment but one where all members are valued and there is a real sense of enjoyment.

We mentioned in our last contribution to the Gander of our appreciation of the support we get from our families and other members of the community for our fundraising activities. We are again in the process of planning for our Christmas Fair and would welcome support for this as well as it being an opportunity for community members to come and have a stall. Last year the Christmas Fair was a particular success and had a record attendance of over 500 people.

Our school garden continues to bloom and develop and towards the end of the summer term, classes participated in a class cook-off. Each class had a small budget and the use of produce from the garden to create and cook a three course meal. This was then judged by members of our governing body and the Barton Rural Alliance who initially supported our school in contributing plants, seeds and gardening equipment when it first relocated to the far end of our school playing field. The standard of this project was outstanding and we really appreciated the support and help from some of our mums who were the main chefs for the event. Mrs Cook’s fish and chips for the seaside theme for year 2 were delightful as was Mrs Cole’s French Onion soup for year 4 and Ms Hickman’s baked sea bass in sea salt for the year 3 theme of Titanic!



Everyone was a winner and the children enjoyed the event immensely. But the overall winning class was Year 5 with Mrs Cain guiding them in their Mexican theme providing our

judges with an array of tapas, salsa dips and rice dishes. A big ‘Thank You’ to all the staff and children and adult helpers for making the project a great success!

The year 6 children thoroughly enjoyed their residential in June which was organised by Mr Brown. He

reported that they were a great year group who really bonded well and made the most of the social opportunities created during the week. We have already celebrated the academic successes of this year group in a stunning end of term assembly but truly they were amazing working hard to secure outstanding results in their end of key stage SATs.

We came back after the summer break with fingers crossed for the opening of the new building. It will be known as Goxhill’s Integrated Services Building and signage has been ordered and will go up soon. There will also be a sign directing new visitors to the ISB to attend the office in the main school building. This is due to the fact that the office in the ISB is not manned on a continuous basis and our school office staff will be dealing with any enquiries in relation to the building’s services and usage. After a few ‘hic-ups’ we received the official hand over on Monday 4th October. At the point of writing this article, the Holiday Club is using the building but we are still waiting the delivery of a range of furniture and there are a few ‘technical hitches’ to be corrected. Despite these the building is useable and we are looking forward to having the Pre School operating in it from Tuesday 16th November.



During the first part of this term I attended a meeting with members of Goxhill’s WI in relation to the maintenance of the library at the Parish rooms. Members of our community may recall that information about its possible closure was distributed around the village towards the end of June / July. I am pleased that it has been announced that the Library will remain in the Parish rooms and will be maintained by North Lincolnshire council.

We are getting our heads down now for the remainder of the autumn term and are looking forward to the run up to Christmas and all of the activities which we get involved in at this time of year. As well as collecting boxes for Operation Christmas Child, we will be hosting a number of performances

which the children will be practising for when they return from their half term break. Like last year we will be singing Christmas songs around the Christmas tree and I’d like to use this opportunity to invite members of our community to this event. Dates for all of these events will be on our website or enquiries may be made to the school office. We would welcome community members to come and enjoy the occasions with us with some brandy and mince pies.



All that remains is for the pupils, staff and governors of Goxhill School to wish all Gander readers a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

**Caroline Breslin**

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1/8 page	£40	60.5 x 87
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**Nicola Jones on 07772 519421**

NB we rotate the position of ads in each issue to share the best pages

## HELP FOR HEROES

This year my chosen charity has been Help for Heroes. Thank you Steve Wrightson for the mention in your report on the Craft Fair. I did in fact raise £234 - a magnificent amount considering the Fair only lasted 2 days - with the help of the Cushion Tombola.

Again with the Cushion Tombola, I took part in the Water's Edge August Bank Holiday Craft event over 3 days and raised £446, another fantastic effort by the visiting public. I ran out of cushions by 3:45pm on the Monday!!

Therefore this area raised a total of £680 for a very worthy cause. That may be a measure of how important these money raising ventures are to Help for Heroes.

I have received an email thanking us for our magnificent efforts on behalf of H4H.

**THANK YOU EVERYONE**

**Janice Leather, Hallands Field Farm, Goxhill**

## BADAOS



Hello again. I would like to give a huge thank you to everybody who came to support us in our previous two events; the production on Little Shop of Horrors, and the ABBA tribute summer concert. I hope you all had as much fun watching them, as we did putting them on.

For our February production in 2011, we have chosen to perform *When The Lights Go On Again*, a musical focussed around a family hardships at the time of World War II. This wonderful storyline is accompanied by many songs from this era, including "we'll meet again", "The White Cliffs of Dover" and "As Time Goes By", to name a few.

I was very much hoping to give the show a local feel, and so if anyone could supply the society with and photographs of Goxhill during the War, it would be greatly appreciated. I can be contacted on 01469 531808.

The show will be taking place at Baysgarth School from the 15th of February until the 20th. There will be a showing every evening, with a matinee on the Saturday. Tickets will be on sale in the New Year, so look out for posters.

Prior to our annual show, we have our Christmas concert, which contains a variety of secular and religious music, and is just the thing to get everyone in the mood for Christmas. We will hold three concerts this year. 7th of December at 7:30 at Ulceby Church, 10th of December at 7:30 at Wootton Church, and finally our coffee and carols morning, which is on the 11th of December at Barton Methodist Church (doors open at 10 a.m.)

Although we will have already commenced rehearsals the society is always looking for new members. We meet on Tuesdays at Baysgarth School 7:30 and 9:30. Please come along if you are interested. **David Phillips (Chairman)**

## BARTON ROTARY CLUB

Rotary Club members are preparing for their busiest time of the year.

The annual Christmas Concert, presented by Rotary, with entertainment by Barton and District Amateur Operatic Society, together with Barton Town Band, is held in Baysgarth School Hall on 12th December. The concert, including supper, is free to OAP's in the Barton and villages area. Please let David Witter (phone 01652 632675) know if you would like to attend. Transport can be arranged to the hall.

Rotarians will be escorting Santa around Barton and some of the villages between 13th December and 22nd December. This now a very popular event and many parents bring out their children to see Santa. Money raised in the collection is used to pay for the OAP events, Christmas meals and for the benefit of the community.

About fifty Christmas Day lunches are cooked and delivered by Rotary Club members to elderly people in the town and villages, who may be on their own at Christmas or are unable to cook a meal. These are free of charge and, again, please contact David Witter if you would like us to deliver one to you. (phone 01652 632675)

The club has given 199 Illustrated Dictionaries to pupils who left Junior Schools in July to move on to Senior Education. This covered Goxhill, Barton and the other six surrounding villages.

2,000 LifeStraws have been sent to the Pakistan disaster by the club. A LifeStraw is a short plastic tube used to purify dirty water and used, mainly by children, who suck the water through the tube like a straw. Many more have been sent to the area by Rotary clubs.

Last winter, helped by local schools and churches, we sent Rotary Shelterboxes to Haiti. So far, 27,500 have been sent by Shelterbox to that island, some of which were needed following a Hurricane in September. The Shelterbox organisation has also sent 3,224 Shelterboxes, 9,323 tents, 20,000 family Lifestraws and 10,000 water carriers to Pakistan to help families made homeless by the flooding.

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## A Hard Act To Follow at Goxhill Memorial Hall

In this two person comedy, we follow the progress of Benjamin Lecrosse, a seasoned, perhaps over-seasoned, actor as he prepares for his role as Hamlet, and Paul Upshott, playing a peasant in the same production ... and unexpectedly the understudy for Hamlet.

For much of the action we watch a stage divided centrally between Upshott, in his fairly basic room, and Lecrosse in rather plusher surroundings. Every other character is brought to life through the halves of the conversations that we hear. It was cleverly done and well-delivered by John Hewer (who also wrote and directed) and Adam Shannon of Hambleton Productions.

An early scene where each was discussing, with their mutual agent, the basis for an understudy, set the comedic pace and tone. A later melding of the action was the highlight for me: Lecrosse attempting to seduce one young actress; Upshott simultaneously trying to escape a similar fate at the hands of another. But the whole play was delightful.

Maybe there was something unmissable on satellite television that last Tuesday evening in September? For whatever reason, only about thirty people came along to watch A Hard Act To Follow at the Memorial Hall. That was a shame when a ticket cost just £5, and a disappointing turnout for a village the size of Goxhill.

There are some cracking professional shows doing the rounds of local villages at present and, if we want to attract them to Goxhill, the best way to do so is by offering the prospect of a good audience.

If you missed this show then please keep your eyes open for future ones and give them a chance.

**John Guggiari**



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# NOTICE BOARD

## Goxhill Women's Institute Outing to Chatsworth House

Do you fancy a day out to Chatsworth House in Derbyshire to see the Christmas Decorations, this year they are following a Russian Theme?

If so, why not come along with the W.I. on Wednesday, 8th December for an enjoyable trip.

The cost will be in the region of £16.00 to include bus fare and admission to Chatsworth House and Gardens. Refreshments are available at Chatsworth. Please contact **Mrs. Iris MacLeod** for further information and to book a seat. **Telephone 01469 530772.**

## Flower Arranging Evening

At our December meeting on Monday 13th December, we are being entertained by Barbara Giles who will be giving a demonstration of her flower arranging abilities, with ideas for Christmas decorations. Everyone, be they W.I. Members or Goxhill residents will be welcome to attend. For non-members there will be an admission charge of £2.50 which will include refreshments.

Goxhill Women's Institute meets every second Monday of the month (except August) at 7.15 p.m. in the Memorial Hall on Chapel Street.

We look forward to seeing you there.

## Christmas Prize Bingo

The Christmas Prize Bingo will be held on Tuesday 21st December at 7.30p.m. in Goxhill Memorial Hall. The caller, as usual will be Tina Whyley and everyone will be welcome.

## Goxhill Memorial Hall 200 Club

Herewith details of the 200 club winners for the last three months

Aug	85	Rev J Girtchen	£30.00
"	155	Mr D Whyley	£30.00
Sept	195	Mrs R Gladwin	£110.00
"	28	Mr R Richardson	£30.00
,"	15	Mr C Heseltine	£30.00
Oct	54	Mrs J Russell	£30.00
"	182	Mrs J Stamp	£30.00

## The Luncheon Club

Meets at the Chapel at 12 noon on the third Wednesday of every month. If you would like to come along and share an excellent two-course meal and conversation, phone **Jack Elwood** on **530690** to book your place.

## Ghost Walks

Dare you walk the streets of Barton after dark with only spirits to guide you? If you do then join the South Bank Players as they bring the grisly history of Barton to life on their atmospheric Ghost Walk – now in its ninth spooky season!

Discover the haunted backstreets and alleyways of bygone Barton and hear tales to make your hair stand on end. Actors in period costume make the past seem frighteningly real, and it's not for the faint-hearted. Be there – if you dare!

The new season begins with ever popular Halloween walk and advance booking is recommended for this one. Subsequent walks take place on Wednesday 24th November, Wed 26th January, Wed 23rd Feb and Wed 23rd March. All walks start at 7.30pm from the front of Baysgarth Museum in Barton. It costs just £4 for adults and £3 for children. Tickets can be booked in advance, or just turn up on the night. Further details can be obtained from **Dennis Bloor** on **01469 531003.**

## Quiz Night

The next quiz night will be held on Friday 11th February at 7.30pm In the Chapel Schoolroom To book a team call **Jane** on **530962** or **Sandra** on **530065**

## The Methodist School Room

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

## The Memorial Hall

is here for every one and has excellent facilities for a number of activities. The main hall has a marked court for soft ball tennis, badminton and carpet bowls, plus full size snooker tables and table tennis. All enquiries should be made to **Mrs Iris MacLeod** tel. **530772**

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# NOTICE BOARD continued

## **FREE Art and Craft**

### **Demonstration at Barton Adult Education Centre!**

Come and visit Barton Adult Education Centre and drop in to our free art and craft demonstration within our Venture art & craft shop. Have a go at designing and making plant pots using creative techniques. Create plant pots with egg shells.

**Tuesday 7 December 2010 1-3pm FREE**

All items produced will be donated to the Venture shop for sale. Venture is an adult community learning retail shop specialising in art and craft products produced by learners. Work being showcased for sale includes unique paintings, hand crafted cards, pottery, jewellery and much more.

**Venture is currently open to the public:**

**Tuesday and Friday 10am to 3pm**

Note: Term time only

For more information about these free demonstrations contact **Amanda Worgan at [amanda.worgan@northlincs.gov.uk](mailto:amanda.worgan@northlincs.gov.uk)** or telephone Ashby Link Adult Education Centre on **01724 862217**.

## **Cash in on Craft (Venture Project)**

Come along to a free 10 week art and craft course, where learners can create decorative items to sell through the 'Venture' art and craft retail shop at Barton Adult Education Centre.

A range of craft techniques will be covered in the class including sewing craft, glass painting and mosaic work.

Items to be made could include greeting cards, pincushions, scissor fobs, bookmarks, candle holders and bags.

The course is on:

**Tuesday 11 January 2011 6.30-8.30pm  
10 weeks FREE**

Venue - Barton Adult Education Centre  
Providence House, Holydyke, Barton upon Humber DN18 5PR **Tel: 01652 632994**

**Email: [eve.wilkinson@northlincs.gov.uk](mailto:eve.wilkinson@northlincs.gov.uk)**



## **ON A HOUSING WAITING LIST IN NORTHERN LINCOLNSHIRE?**

### **YOU MUST RE-REGISTER NOW**

HOUSING providers in North Lincolnshire are changing the way that people apply for an affordable home for rent.

This affects everyone currently on a waiting list with North Lincolnshire Council or wanting a home with North Lincolnshire Homes.

A new lettings scheme called Home Choice Lincs is being jointly launched.

However, people already on waiting lists with the partner organisations will have to re-register with Home Choice Lincs – their existing application will not be valid.

Letters have been sent to everyone this affects, explaining what they need to do now.

Home Choice Lincs is an online scheme and is a much fairer and faster way for people to get affordable homes for rent with registered social landlords.

Every week, all available homes for rent are advertised online and in housing and council offices. People on the register can then bid for any home they are eligible for.

People can bid for up to three homes every week. Homes will be offered to those bidders who have the highest level of housing need and have been on the waiting list for the longest period of time.

The quickest and easiest way of registered with the new scheme is to log onto [www.homechoicelincs.org.uk](http://www.homechoicelincs.org.uk)

For more information or help to re-register, contact one of the below:

- **North Lincolnshire Council, tel 01724 296296**
- **North Lincolnshire Homes, tel 01724 279900**

## **DEADLINE**

Please have submissions for the Spring edition of the Gander in by **Saturday 5th February**  
Distribution 1st week of March

(for date sensitive information)

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



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# If walls could talk

I have no experience or knowledge of the brick layers art but watching bricklayers at work I have realised that they work by holding the bricks with one hand whilst manipulating a trowel with the other. This however has not always been the way of working. If you go to Thornton Abbey and look at the bricks which make up the Barbican you will see that the bricks that were used to build it were very much larger than our present day bricks. They could not have been held in the hand in the way that is done at present and probably the brick layers of the sixteenth century worked quite differently from the workmen of today.

Early bricks were very variable in size, some years ago I was in Helsinor in Denmark and I was shown some very remarkable brickwork. A row of old small houses had front gardens and garden walls. The houses and garden walls were built of handmade bricks but what a variety of bricks there were. Some were about the same size as present day breeze blocks others were very thin and there were long ones and short ones all of them laid in groups as if someone had been experimenting and trying to decide what was the best size and shape to make a brick.

Of course bricks made in Goxhill have varied in size and it is quite easy to find walls that show this variation in many parts of the village. The oldest are said to be those thin bricks which are only 2 inches (50mm) thick. The early bricks were made with clay that was dug by hand and mixed by hand in an attempt to make it uniform. The failure of this effort can be seen where the bricks are weathered and the softer less dense material has been lost. At a later stage machines were made which mixed the clay and although they were hand powered by men turning a handle they improved the quality of the bricks and made their texture much more consistent.

The village has been developing and changing over the centuries, we see today that gardens are being turned into building plots but this has happened continually. Most of the building that was done in the 18th and 19th centuries within the boundaries of the homestead was done to create tenements which were either let for rent or used to house servants. In Barton and Barrow there are many big houses with a third attic floor which provided the garret bedrooms for serving maids and men but there are only two such buildings in Goxhill.

Recently when the builders R & J Wilkinson were working on the house at the corner of Chapel Street and the Square they removed the rendering from the brickwork. On the bared wall of the gable end of the house adjoining the Square there was a clear line

where the roof of another small building had once been. This small building would have stood upon what is now the road surface of the square. From the appearance of the roof line it was a one up one down house with a lean-to kitchen. In 1774 a map of Goxhill was drawn and this shows the road that we now know as The Square. The road on the map looks the same as the next lane which is Stothards Lane but on the ground today they are very different.

In or about 1851 there was a man who was described as a farmer of 18 acres he was Mr Joseph Percival he employed a carpenter and an apprentice and had a son who was a carpenter journeyman living at home. I am told that he was the man who built the houses on the south side of the road. This was Victorian Britain and a neat orderly approach to house building had become the rule. New houses were built in rows set back from the street. Streets were straight and of uniform width. Mr Percival working from his side of the old lane removed the small cottage and made the gable wall of the corner house the line for the footpath and he set the front of his new houses back from that line, so creating the new straight street. What became of the Percival family I do not know but in the census of 1871 only Mary Percival Widow is recorded and she was described as a Landowner.

There are very many lovely old brick walls in Goxhill. Building demolition and change of use have gone on over the years perhaps the most important and certainly the most impressive change at the present time is the new Doctors Surgery and Pharmacy. We are fortunate to have this new service at this time it is something that has been lacking in the village and it has been provided in a most satisfactory way. There is a brick wall dividing the car park from Bridlington House, it was built with handmade bricks probably made in Goxhill brickworks many years ago. The bricks and their defects show the limits of the technology as it then was and invite us to compare and contrasted the living conditions of the people who made the bricks and the wall with the nearby service and help that is available to us now.

**Maurice Brawn.**

## **DEADLINE**

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Distribution 1st week of March

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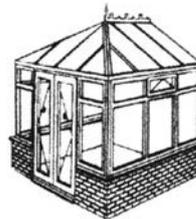
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# PARISH COUNCIL

The first note this month is brief but none the less very important as it highlights an issue that is very dangerous and potentially life threatening to the livestock in the village. It appears that lately a person or person unknown has been firing golf balls into the fields where horses are being kept. This practice is foolhardy in the extreme and must stop as the lives of very expensive livestock are at risk should they inadvertently swallow the ball(s) when grazing.

## LIBRARY SERVICES

The second note this edition covers an issue surrounding the services available to the villagers of Goxhill; hence the large amount of space given to explain it to you.

You will recall from previous editions of the Gander that a survey was undertaken (Service User Consultation) in July and August of this year to establish the views of the village with regard to the future of the static library in Goxhill vis a vis community run library versus the mobile option and on the importance of the library to the village. Approximately 250 forms were sent out to active library members, covering circa 180 different households. 87 people replied to the survey (34%). Of those who did 86% responded that the library is very important to their local community. 63% said they would like or don't mind the idea of a community-run library. 26% said they would like or would not mind a mobile library service. In addition 28 adults expressed some interest in volunteering to help run the library.

Following a consultation exercise the Parish Council has now agreed to work in partnership with North Lincs Council with a view to assuming the day to day running of the Goxhill Library, as a community-run library, from 1st April 2011. This outcome is supported by the service user consultation outlined at Paragraph 1 above.

In summary the option to adopt the Community-run library was accepted and this outcome is supported by the information at paragraph one above. The Parish Council has agreed to work in partnership with North Lincs Council and Service Level Agreement will be promulgated to clarify respective roles and regularise the new arrangements.

The table opposite highlights the division of responsibilities between the Parish Council and North Lincs Council.

Volunteers will be required to operate the Community-Run library on a daily basis and anyone interested in this worthwhile cause should contact the Parish Clerk at their convenience (mindful that 1st April 2011 is fast approaching) It would also be helpful

if the 28 adults who expressed a desire to become involved (from the survey) could re-affirm their interest to the Parish Clerk.

### COMMUNITY RUN LIBRARY - SERVICE DELIVERY MODEL

	Community (1) Responsibility	Council(2) Responsibility
Volunteer operated	√	
Cost of volunteer coordination	√	
Facility costs/maintenance	√	
Site specific policies	√	√
Stock provision		√
Systems maintenance		√
Self-service		√
Training of volunteers		√

(1) Parish Council

(2) North Lincs Council

A Service Level Agreement between the lead community body, North Lincs Council, would underpin any community run library. This would be of a specified duration and clarify the roles and commitments of each party in relation to the issues outlined above.

## Funding 2011/2012

Any village organisation that will be seeking financial assistance from the Parish Council should submit their request to the Parish Clerk in writing by 30th December 2010. Any donations subsequently approved will be added to the Parish Precept request and will be payable in the financial year April 2001/2012. Please remember that the Parish Council will not consider donation requests at any other time (except into eh case of financial emergency).

## Cemetery

Villagers are politely requested not to place glass flower vases in the cemetery as these inevitably get broken and could constitute a danger to visitors to the cemetery.

Finally, on behalf of the Chair and all members of the Parish Council I would like to wish you all a Merry Xmas and prosperous and Happy New Year.

**PJ Shields MBE QGM**

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We also serve an all day breakfast of sausage, bacon, egg, tomatoes, beans, mushrooms and 2 slices of toast for £2.95 served between 9am and 2.30pm

All of the above including the all day breakfast can be eaten in or taken away. If you prefer to eat in we have extra seating upstairs and for those rare summer days seating outside.

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# OFF THE HOOF

**“It is better to be late in this world than early in the next.”**

Where has this year gone? It does not seem long since I was talking about Christmas and here we are again with it fast approaching.

There can be no denying that perhaps this year will be harder financially for a lot of people. We cannot escape the economic pressures that the whole country is in and now have to be pragmatic on how we spend our hard earned cash.

It is getting cold and wet now, which means more horses, are in. My girls brought themselves in a month ago but they are all now in their teens (or older) so need more attention.

Hay and straw are in short supply so again prices will be high and the price of short feed is also set to rise. Once again it is important to look at the way we feed to get both the best for our horses and our pockets. Mineral licks are definitely high on my list and for mine I will get one of the Horslyx range. Mine are also due for worming which is expensive but a necessity. Remember any changes to feed should be over a 5 – 7 day period to allow the gut microflora to adjust.

Perhaps to invest in new rugs or to price rubber matting would be a long-term investment.

When feeding hay or haylage try not to waste it. If feeding more than one horse in a field put out extra piles so it minimizes them chasing each other off and trampling it into the ground. Has anyone tried the new Allen and Page Fast Fibre as an alternative? If so please let me know what your verdict is for the next issue.

There are two new products on the market for large round bales. The first is a turntable, which makes it easier to unwrap sections and pull them off. These are £45 and for further details [www.haymate](http://www.haymate) or 01670772214. The other is Bale Buddy for use out in the field or in a barn. It is like a big bag which a large round bale fits into and as the horses eat it from the centre it collapses down. It is available in three sizes and has a year's warranty. Further information can be obtained from [www.balebuddyuk.com](http://www.balebuddyuk.com).

At last Pelham Tack have moved and expanded. Their new premises are at the farm near the Little London pub. Whilst they have suffered delays for change of use with the planning department it is now all systems go. They have an extensive range with ideas for presents and stocking fillers for all pockets. They also have a full range of Lunar Hi – Vis for both horse and rider or dog walker. The farm itself will stock a variety for feeds for horses, dogs, cats, chickens and stable equipment so well worth a visit.

HumberSide Police who has launched an awareness scheme is taking a big push on riding and road safety.

The B.H.S. are fully backing the “Lighter later “ campaign and would welcome your support. For further information, including how to support the 10.10 project and reduce your carbon emissions see [www.lighterlater.org](http://www.lighterlater.org).

Did you know last year, 16 riders were injured, 13 horses were killed and 12 horses were injured?

The B.H.S. are fully aware this is not a true picture as records are only kept if the Police or Ambulance service is called. They are asking for your help. If you have slipped on a rod, been chased by a dog, startled by a firework or had problems with low flying aircraft they need to know. Any accidents or near misses involving horses they need to know so they have a new system [www.horseaccidents.org.uk](http://www.horseaccidents.org.uk). If you are not a horse owner/rider and have nearly hit a horse because the rider was not wearing Hi Viz and could not be seen I would also urge you to report it. Only when all

the information is gathered can things be addressed.

As we get older our joints take a bit of a bashing and we are not as flexible as we used to be. When I first started riding stirrups were made of nickel which was soft and bent easily. Happily things have now improved and there are so many different types on the market. I have just bought some “Flexi stirrups” which have rubber on both the uprights. What a difference! I cannot say how pleased I am with them. My battered ankle is no longer painful when riding and there is a vast improvement in my knees and hips as the stirrups absorb more of the movement. I can thoroughly recommend them Mountain Horse also have something similar which have a release integrated in its construction which releases in the case of a fall to prevent foot being caught and the rider being dragged. It sounds good to me!

Jo Burns is busy in the livery yard and almost at full capacity. Magali, her main horse has been off work with a pulled tendon but has now recovered and will be back competing in the spring. Once again Jo has qualified for the National Amateur Championships at Aintree on Yvonne Willis's “Swallow”. Results in the next edition of the Gander.

On the back of Vikki's visit to India she is launching a “Do Your Bit Campaign” which ties in with a larger organisation. Basically the Indians are still using barbaric bits on their horses. If we can send bits which we no longer use they will be exchanged to pull the barbaric ones out of circulation.

These are collected and go to a central point down south where they are checked and sanitised and then flown out to India.

Jo Burns has already kindly donated 20 which is a brilliant start so thank you for that. Donated bits can be sent to either myself, Vikki or Pelham Tack has kindly agreed to be a collection point. Please look amongst your stock. Each one saves another horse from torture.

On the subject of donations and charity we are still collecting stamps for “Bransby Home Rest for Horses”. These can be either given to me or taken into the Post Office.

For a new Animal Welfare Codes of Practice April 2010 regarding cats, dogs and equines including donkeys, ponies and horses copies can be downloaded from [www.defra.gov.uk/farminglink](http://www.defra.gov.uk/farminglink).

A couple of tips for this edition. Since Velcro is widely used on equine and human equipment it tends to get clogged up with bits of hay and seed etc. Use a dining fork to remove and regain the sticky. A fork can revitalise a carpet where furniture has been stood if dampened. Secondly a spray of inexpensive furniture polish to a horses tail helps to keep it mud /tangle free.

Pip Young is back on her travels around South Africa again as a Veterinary Nurse and returns in mid March. She has some stunning photographs, which really should be shared. Perhaps she can be persuaded to give talks on her exploits on her return.

Eva Border is available for that family photo to send to the relatives for Christmas.

A new girl on the block is Lou Wilks from East Halton who is a communicator and helps to sort out problems “Naturally Horse”. A half hour consultation is free and she can be contacted on 01469 541517 for further details.

That's about it for this edition. Wishing you all a Very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Take care – Ride safely

**Aileen 01469 530643**

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We have been saying it many times in this article, but hopefully by the time you read this we will have moved into the new Integrated Services Building based on Goxhill School's site! It has been a frustrating time for all concerned but with the ongoing support of the Memorial Hall – who have allowed us to continue there, and the parents who remain committed to using our services, we hope to be in very soon and thank you all for your tremendous patience and support!



This past half term has seen 12 new children join Pre School with some more commencing in the coming weeks. The children have been learning about autumn and harvest and have shown particular interest in baking and going to the fair! To support them in this we have been baking bread and buns as well as setting up a small world fairground for the children to play with.

We have also had some very successful fundraising events including the Scarecrow Trail in the summer holidays (an event we plan to repeat next year), cake stalls and the hugely popular Halloween disco.

As we lead into the Christmas period we have some more exciting events planned for the

children. On 23rd November is our trip to Normanby Hall to visit Father Christmas in his grotto, see the deer and have a ride on the train, this is a trip that the children and staff all look forward to!

We also have the Christmas Raffle taking place on 15th

December at our Pre School Christmas party – raffle tickets will be available from various sources from 25th November. As always we would appreciate your support. Magic Ella will also be making a special appearance – a popular act amongst all the children!

Our Pre School is open to all children from 2 – 5yrs of age. Three year old children are entitled to up to 15 hrs a week of free flexible funding. Breakfast and after school care will also be available through the Goxhill out of School club.

For more information please call in during our opening times; Monday through to Friday 9am till 3:30pm or contact us on **07873 428906** (during opening hrs) Alternatively please contact **Jayne Hutton (Supervisor) on 01469 531587** or **Val Gorbitt (Chair) on 01469 531012**.

Charity Number: 1018539

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## NEW MEMBERS NEEDED URGENTLY

As you are aware, Goxhill Pre School is a registered charity and is run by a voluntary committee which not only addresses fundraising but management and personnel issues. We are a small group of individuals all of whom have a keen interest in supporting the village of Goxhill and the young generation within it.

We rely on fundraising to run the Pre School and this includes amongst other ideas, very successful events throughout the year such as cake stalls, the Halloween party, supporting open mornings and the recent scarecrow trail.

We also rely on committee members having some interest or experience in managing people and businesses so that we can be seen as a professional and competent organisation offering a rewarding challenge to staff and enjoyable learning experience for children.

We on the committee have become increasingly aware of what a huge and sometimes daunting task managing and fundraising for Pre School entails, and that this may be putting off individuals who might otherwise have been interested in

joining the committee from offering their support.

We are therefore proposing to separate the committee into two, with one sub committee focussing on the fundraising and the main committee focussing on the management and personnel.

It may be that there are fantastic cake makers and organisers around who feel that they don't have the skills to manage the legalities of Pre School.

Or it may be that there are people with skills and experience in managing a business but can't bake a carrot cake!

With our new move to the Integrated Services Building at Goxhill School, we are looking for some new members to support our Pre School. So if you have a few hours to spare in a month, please think about supporting Goxhill Pre School in either forum, and taking it forward with a fresh start in an exciting new building.

For more information please see the contact details in the main Pre School article.

**Goxhill Pre School Committee**

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# GOODBYE TO GOXHILL Part 1

Frances and Laurie Boxer are leaving Goxhill after twenty five years living on South End. They haven't time to say farewell to everyone, so have sent in some memories of their time in Goxhill.

## Frances

I remember the first day I drove to Goxhill there was a sheep on the corner of Barrow Road and Thornton Road and the blossom was all out. I was coming for an interview at Goxhill School and I remember chanting 'Please let me get this job in this beautiful village' Well I did and 25 years later we are now saying farewell.

There were so many times at Goxhill School that made me smile- here are just a few.

Driving round the village with Ethel Collingwood (school secretary) who not only showed me where everyone lived but regaled me with all the family histories and all the events through the years in Goxhill. I thought that her local knowledge was wonderful and that I would never know the village so well; but after all these years I think I do.

I have so many memories of the school: the plays with Joe Sinden in green tights as Peter Pan, Bradley Barker jumping up and down as the King of the Jungle in Jungle Book, Harry Steer, a natural comedy actor, as a crook in 101 Dalmatians, Amy Savidge as a little Alice in Wonderland whose Grandma made 3 identical dresses for the three sizes of Alice, James Mortimer as the evil dwarf in the Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe and the wonderful Charlotte Robinson who, as Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz, sang solo 'Somewhere over the rainbow' and then, as Vera Lynn, in a school assembly, sang 'We'll meet again' and brought tears to all our eyes.

Numerous Christmas celebrations with Jack Ellwood as Father Christmas, arriving, for the first few years in a helicopter, courtesy of Mr Owen. Many summer fayres including those with children as King, Queen and Prince and Princess arriving in John Hankinson's horse and cart. Matthew Abbott and Year One finding Barnaby Bear on Goxhill Station with the help of my good friend Jane Arnott.

The celebrations in the church and chapel not forgetting the bears wedding where Rev Girchen brought along his Rev. Bear to marry Barnaby and Rosie bear and everyone brought their bears to watch. All the parents put their best hats on and we had lemonade and a proper wedding cake made by Rebecca Hewitt's Grandma.

I taught with some great staff over the years including Jean Houson, the first person I got to know at

school and a real pleasure to work with over the years. I really appreciated the help of numerous parent helpers and teaching assistants. I won't forget Denise Neve who shared so many happy, funny and sad times with me. Over the years I taught hundreds of you to read, write and do your maths but most of all I hope I inspired you to have fun and enjoy life. I will miss Sue Sharpe who over the years has made our birthday cakes including my 60th a few months ago.

I will certainly miss shopping at Dales' where Colin Creasey and his daughter Caroline always make you feel welcome and unhurried. I used to take my class to the shop for a history lesson on how shops used to be, before supermarkets, long may it remain the same.

## New York to California by bicycle!

I would also like to say a really big THANKYOU to all the people in the village who supported me in my charity ride in June when I bicycled 106mils for Cancer Research UK and raised £1,335. I managed the ride in two days' 51mils the first and 55 days the second. It was a glorious weekend and fortunately, although hot, not very windy. After training for 10 months I was a little bit nervous and at the same time excited. However lots of friends came to see me off from New York (near Boston - Lincs!) first thing

Saturday morning. I am holding up a big apple for the photos to show it really is New York. Then, with Laurie accompanying me in the van, I set off for the first leg to Holbeach. We eventually stayed overnight near Gayton which is just past Kings Lynn. The following day I biked on and having done 30 miles up and down hill to reach the Norfolk Broads I thought what the heck it's only another 26 miles I might as well finish today. I arrived at

California sands (Not quite the glorious place you would imagine but a rather smeggy holiday

village with a grotty beach!) at 5 o'clock on Sunday. I was very tired but extremely happy. I immediately phoned my sister in whose daughter's memory I had done the ride and raised the money.

**Thanks again for your support - Frances**

**Laurie Boxer's part of this article will follow in the next issue, due to lack of space this time.**





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# GOXHILL SURGERY & PHARMACY

Our new Village Surgery and Pharmacy opened for business on 1st September 2010 providing a much needed service to the population of Goxhill and surrounding villages. The surgery is run as a branch surgery of Dr Jaggs-Fowler & Partners from Central Surgery in Barton-upon-Humber and is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am until 6pm (closed for lunch between 1pm & 2pm).

Gary Hunter, practice manager, said "This new facility is a huge improvement on the old premises which operated from Chapel Lane. We felt it was no longer acceptable to provide healthcare in the front room of a terraced house and that those patients in surrounding areas deserved to have access to modern up-to-date facilities with car parking and on-site pharmacy".

The surgery in Howe Lane has at least one doctor (usually two) and one nurse on site everyday. Patients have been very positive about the new surgery and feedback has been very encouraging from those who have used the service so far. To make appointments at the Goxhill surgery you may either call in person or telephone 01652 632565.

The adjoining pharmacy on Howe Lane not only dispenses NHS prescriptions but is also available for advice on minor ailments and medications as well as selling a range of counter medicines and health products. You do not need to be a patient of the Goxhill Surgery to use the pharmacy. The pharmacist on site at Goxhill Pharmacy is Kieron who would be pleased to discuss any concerns regarding your medication or minor illnesses with you.

There are no scheduled flu clinics after end of November in Goxhill although there may need to be a "tidy up" clinic to catch anyone who may have missed. We don't schedule this until we see what the take up has been during November.

We are looking to review INR arrangements so that patients on warfarin can be seen at Goxhill instead of Barton. We would also encourage patients living in the nearby area who require a blood test to book for Goxhill first as the waiting time is shorter than at Barton.



## LIVES - Look out - it's behind you!

Don't worry, this is not an early invocation of pantomime spirit (oh no it's not!).

Our subject was prompted by two things: a recent ambulance service article and hearing of a learner driver who failed their driving test by trying to let an ambulance pass. Be aware of ambulances (indeed all emergency services) when driving – here are some tips to help them help us:

- Check your mirrors, stay aware of the traffic around you and consider the route an ambulance may want to take to pass you.
- If necessary, pull to the side of the road and stop. Avoid stopping in a hazardous place – near a bend, brow of a hill, narrow road section.
- Do not endanger yourself, other road users or pedestrians and avoid mounting the kerb.
- On a dual carriageway an ambulance will always try to pass between the lanes of stationary traffic.
- Avoid braking harshly at a junction or roundabout – a following vehicle may not have the same view as you.
- Make your intentions clear by using your indicators.
- Before resuming your journey, check that a second emergency vehicle is not approaching.

LIVES volunteers, not having the status of the emergency services, rely on their local proximity and familiarity with the area to arrive promptly. Time can be critical in cases like cardiac arrest; every minute could be the difference between life and death.

LIVES consists of trained volunteers with a car and able to be on call to attend local emergencies. Often the ambulance arrives first but, if not, we are on hand with equipment that can help.

Locally LIVES covers Goxhill, Barrow and New Holland with volunteers from each village regularly on call. We really need extra volunteers to enable us to provide cover at more times. Even if you can only spare a few hours once a week, it would help. Prior medical experience is unnecessary: you receive full initial training, regular refreshers and support from fellow volunteers. All equipment, except your car, is provided and you only commit to being on call when you can fit it in. Even then you can still do many of the things you already do and just break off if needing to respond to an emergency.

To find out more please contact **Maurice Cole**, the local branch co-ordinator, on **530512**. If you would prefer to chat with someone from Goxhill about what is involved, please feel free to ring me on **530363**.

And what about that driving test failure? Well, apparently, the candidate - already stopped at traffic lights - pulled across in front of the car alongside them to allow an ambulance to pass. Driving over the solid white line at the lights was classified as a major fault.

LIVES registered charity number 1098364.

**John Guggiari**

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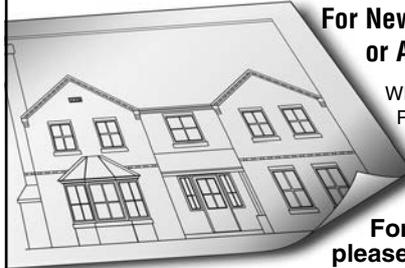


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# 1ST GOXHILL AND BARROW SCOUTS GROUP

## Scouts Summer Camp 2010

The last week in August saw nine scouts, six explorer scouts and five leaders set off for their week long summer camp to Bradley Wood Scout Activity Centre and Campsite, near Brighouse. The first weekend was spent setting up camp and taking part in some of the onsite activities including high ropes, archery, indoor wall climbing and swimming. Unfortunately the sunny and warm weather that we arrived to at Bradley Wood was short lived, but this didn't dampen any spirits. This was a good job as the Monday saw the group take on a challenging hike around Malham Cove, Malham Tarn and the Gordale Scar area. The terrain was hard and the weather unkind, but they trooped on relentlessly and without too much complaining!



After a day of well earned rest and more wet weather, the group headed off to Laser Tag, near Barnsley, to take part in an outdoor laser quest challenge. After donning camouflage outfits and a briefing (don't shoot each other) the dirty fourteen casually laser shot anything that moved, including themselves and the overall winners of the day were 1st Goxhill and Barrow Scouts. Well done boys and girls.

Thursday started with better weather and yet another hike, this time around the Brighouse area and where a small detour found the troop at Robin Hood's grave (allegedly). A fantastic and fun evening was had at the Hollywood Bowl in Bradford.

The week culminated on Friday with an afternoon at the Barnsley Metrodome Centre, with hours of fun in the swimming, diving and waterslide pools, followed by an unforgettably, fantastically behaved and funny evening at the Frankie and Benny's restaurant in Barnsley. The weary troop returned home Saturday morning to awaiting parents full of stories of their packed and intense week of fun and lots of dirty washing!



Special thanks go to Shane Hempstock, Harry and Celia Mortimer, without whom the trip would not have been possible and for their hard work throughout the week. A great time was had by all and already looking forward to next years camp.

The Cubs raised £190 for the Hearing Dog Charity by doing a sponsored cycle ride across the Humber Bridge.

On a final note, members from 1st Goxhill and Barrow Scout Group attended the Remembrance Day service at the Goxhill Memorial Hall on Sunday, 14th November. **Rachel Mitchell Scout Leader/Acting GSL**

## GOXHILL MEMORIAL HALL BOWLING CLUB

Following a successful season, the outdoor bowling has once again come to an end and some members are now bowling indoors. Not only did we finish top in two of the three leagues in which we compete, but we also gained the respectable position of fourth in the Grimsby Premier League.

Apart from three members gaining County titles, one member won the Cleethorpes Open competition held in June and six members have played for the County all season.

We have gained several new members this year and hope to improve on this next year. They all seem to be enjoying their new found recreation and one or two have already played in league matches. We have gained one new member from New-Holland and are hoping for more to come!!

The Winter domino drives held to boost club funds have already started. They are held monthly on a Friday Evening and cost just £1.50 which includes a cuppa and a biscuit.

Further details can be obtained from Maurice on 530083. Please do try to support us.

I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and also Voluntary Action North Lincs for their continued support. **Chris Ellis, Secretary.**

## DIGITAL TV SWITCHOVER

The timescales for the switchover from analogue to digital TV transmission is shown below.

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Like all neighbourhood watch groups in this part of the country, GNeW is affiliated to Humberside Association of Neighbourhood Watch Groups (HANWaG). We do not use them a lot - thankfully we have not needed to be especially proactive over the past few years - but they help with tips and keep us informed of things to watch out for. Perhaps that is just as well since HANWaG has been told that its Police Authority funding will cease at the end of next March. Whilst it is unclear what the outcome will be, it probably makes it more important that GNeW keeps ticking over as a potential point of contact for the police. Should you want to discuss neighbourhood watch then please ring 530363 or email [gnew@tesco.net](mailto:gnew@tesco.net).

If you are unlucky enough to suffer a theft or need to contact the police then here is a reminder of the options available to you:

 **999** only if you need to report an emergency e.g.: life at risk, crime in progress, public disorder, violence used or threatened, serious danger or fear.

 **0845 6060 222** to report or pass on information about a crime or incident that has happened – it could fit in with other people's reports.

 **Email** for non-emergencies – contact your local Police Community Support Officer via email the police website at [www.humberside.police.uk](http://www.humberside.police.uk).

 **0800 555 111** to speak to someone at CRIMESTOPPERS if you have information about a crime but are unwilling to identify yourself.

**John Guggiari, GNeW Area Co-ordinator**

## First Person – Neighbourhood Watch will continue

A recent article announcing that local funding to support the Humberside Association of Neighbourhood Watch Groups (HaNWAG) was coming to an end left an element of doubt as to the future of Neighbourhood Watch across Humberside. I'd like to take this opportunity to celebrate the undoubted success of HaNWAG and to reassure readers as to the future of Neighbourhood Watch more generally.

HaNWAG was the result of a vision over 25 years ago by its founder and Chief Executive Alene Branton who saw the potential benefit of having a Humberside wide organisation to provide support and training to local Schemes and to spread good practice. The undoubted success of HaNWAG was formally recognised in the award of an MBE to Alene Branton which reflected great credit not simply upon the work of HaNWAG and but on Neighbourhood Watch Schemes across Humberside generally. She subsequently went on to become an Independent member of the Humberside Police Authority and retired as Chair only this year. Alene was tireless in her efforts to improve things for local people.

As reported, public sector funding cuts have now resulted in local partners bringing their sponsorship of HaNWAG to a close but the successes achieved over the years will not be lost and Neighbourhood Watch Schemes across Humberside will continue and flourish. Since my arrival as Chief Constable in 2005, Humberside Police have invested heavily in our Neighbourhood Policing Teams and we regard Neighbourhood Watch schemes as being an essential part of the rich network of local contacts upon which we have been able to build. These will become even more important when police resources come under pressure as a result of the cuts in coming years.

Similarly, Local Authority Community Safety Partnerships regard Neighbourhood Watch as one of those well established building blocks upon which partner agencies can develop their joint work. It will, inevitably, take a little time for all of us to assess the full impact of the recently announced public sector cuts and the effect of the loss of HaNWAG. Within each of the four local authority areas, however, I am confident that new arrangements will be put in place to link in with Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and I regard Police as having an important role to play in support of those local initiatives.

We are all in favour of encouraging local people to become involved in improving things within their community – that is after all what the much heralded Big Society seeks to encourage - and what those involved in Neighbourhood Watch across Humberside have been doing with great success for many years. Long may they continue.

**Tim Hollis, Chief Constable, Humberside Police**      **26 Oct 2010**

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## North Lincolnshire Skills Centre

The Skills Centre is now fully operational and is being regularly attended by pupils from Baysgarth, The Vale, Winterton and Sir John Nelthorpe Schools.

The Centre was officially opened on the 14th October by Vanessa Fisher from C V Day Spa, Martyn Bell from Martyn Bell Motor Engineers and Gary Whall from Keigar Homes. We would like to express our thanks to them for their generous sponsorship of the centre. They are keen to support the students in their choice of



vocational skills. For further information in connection with choosing a course at the centre please contact Baysgarth School.

A variety of adult education courses are also available at the centre, including an Introduction to Hairdressing Skills, Car Care and Maintenance for women and Basic Bricklaying. For details on these and the other courses available please contact North Lindsey College on 01724 294030.

## Book Club and Spelling Bee

Students at Baysgarth School are proving to be keen readers and accurate spellers. The recently formed lunchtime book club, Baysgarth Book Worms, is well

attended and the group has just completed 'Before We Say Goodbye' by Gabriella Ambrosio.

The annual Times Spelling Bee local heats will be held early next year and nine keen year 7 students are competing weekly for a place on the team. The competition is close and the team will be announced before the end of term.

## Sporting Excellence

Schools in the district sent their most talented sports students to Baysgarth recently for a day of activities with a competitive edge! Fifty students were involved in a variety of sporting events to find an elite team who will enjoy a day of training with a Multi skills Academy at the school in the near future. Well done to all those who took part and special thanks to the year 10 students who assisted throughout the day as Sports Leaders, Jack Waller, Tom Hughes, Liam Blomeley, Ben Yarrow, Craig Gregory, Ryan Morton.

## Ofsted

'Students feel safe in the school. Eighty-five per cent of students agreed they feel safe at school and 95% of parents and carers agree.' Ofsted September 2010.

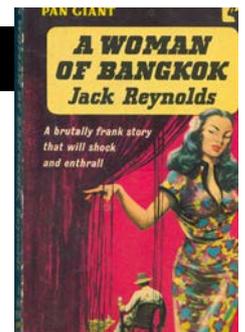
'Students are attentive in lessons and keen to learn. They listen well, ask questions and work hard. They collaborate well in lessons and discuss sensibly in groups. They are polite, friendly and helpful. Older students take on the responsibility of looking after younger pupils and the vertical grouping in forms helps to promote this.' Ofsted September 2010

These are just an example of the many positive comments that were made by inspectors from their interviews and observations on the 15th and 16th of September. The full report can be read from the school's website at [www.baysgarthschool.co.uk](http://www.baysgarthschool.co.uk). We are very proud of the pupils and staff at Baysgarth and will continue to build even further upon the strong progress made in the last year.

## AN APPEAL FOR INFORMATION

"A Woman of Bangkok" by 'Jack Reynolds' was a saucy 'Suzy Wong' published in 1956 that became hugely famous worldwide but the Lincolnshire connection is now totally forgotten. Its author Jack Jones lived in the county in the thirties and perhaps early forties and ever after proclaimed his love of Lincolnshire, its countryside and dialect. Born Emrys Reynolds Jones in Hertfordshire in 1913 he 'ran away to sea', working as a trimmer on Grimsby trawlers to escape his 'ferocious' non-conformist minister father. Poor eyesight let him down and his boss then found him his first job in market-gardening, I presume somewhere nearby. I am now trying to write his biography and need to learn more about him if readers can assist.

At the end of the war, he joined the Quakers and spent six years doing relief work in China before settling for life in Bangkok, Thailand. While training in London for service abroad, in September 1944 he spent three weeks sick leave with Mrs Jackson of Polden Trees, Goxhill, Barrow-on-Humber, and that is about all I have to go on. So who was Mrs Jackson and what sort of house was Polden Trees? It seems strange that in wartime he travelled so far instead of taking sick leave with his parents in north London. His romantic novel is



Jack in beard and singlet with men of the Friends Ambulance Unit in China, 1946

partly auto-biographical and before leaving for Bangkok the English protagonist in the story had a landlady who was an important mother figure for him and perhaps more. Could this character have been modelled on the mysterious Mrs Jackson perhaps? It is possible that he worked as a market gardener at Hawthorne Gardens in Goxhill. Could there be any records of this substantial concern? Jack also worked as a monumental mason with a man called Phil Pape somewhere in Lincolnshire, he wrote poems in Goxhill and perhaps he attended a Quaker meeting house too.

There must be someone who can help me fill in some of the details of people or places that had links with Jack Jones and give me some leads on his early life. I can think of no better way than to ask your readers to tell me what they know by emailing me at [arhicks56@hotmail.com](mailto:arhicks56@hotmail.com).

**Andrew Hicks**

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# Austerity Christmas

Well Christmas is approaching; Grandchildren are making their lists of presents, which they would like to receive. Plans are being made for the great feast to come; for the entertainments; the pantomimes; the outings and all sorts of lovely things, which I will be sharing with my ever increasing family!

Oh how different were our Christmases in my early years of marriage. We came to live in Goxhill in 1949, into a brand new house; a council house in Abbeygarth Villas. Food rationing was still in place until 1954, so very careful arrangements had to be made for these special occasions.

Well by late autumn; the Christmas cake and puddings had been made.. How different that job was then! Mother and Grandmother and I pooled resources for a shared cake mixture Allowances of dried fruit were still not sufficient, so we all helped by chopping up prunes to resemble currants; grated carrot was added to swell the mixture. Eggs were not too much of a problem for us, who kept chickens. Of course a chicken would be killed for Christmas Dinner, if you were one of the families who kept chickens.

Added to this: some of us, who were farm workers, kept a pig; this was allowed if you gave up your bacon rations for a year. This pig would be killed in time for Christmas, providing pork, pork pies, lard for baking, and numerous other treats. Dealing with the pig meat was called 'putting the pig away'. This took about three women to sort the meat into different bowls, for pork pies, for sausage (and this included the pig lungs). The sausage meat was mixed with herbs, always to a 'secret' family recipe, and bread crumbs; I often had the task of preparing the skins for the sausages; these were the intestines from the pig; they had to be scraped, using the back of a spoon, then placed in salt water for cleansing. When clean they were turned inside out, fitted on the end of the 'sausage machine, filled and made into the familiar 'strings of sausage'. In those days we always thought the sausages tasted better, after the been left hanging long enough to start deteriorating (we called it growing whiskers) This would defy all health and safety rules today. The meat that was not able to be used fairly quickly, on roasts, or stuffed chins, or pork pies or sausages, or put into fries for the neighbours, was salted; great blocks of salt were grated; the hams and flitches were laid on a stone slab; saltpetre was put in the bony parts; the covered in salt, for about three weeks. Later the meat was wrapped in butter muslin, and hung from strong meat hooks in the kitchen, for use all the year round as bacon. It was the custom to give a share of the pig in the form of a pig fry to neighbours, who returned the compliment, when they killed a pig. It was said that every part of a pig was used except the squeal. Boys would use the bladder for a football. The tail and trotters and head made brawn.

Presents were a problem, as, in our early years of marriage, very little was available to buy; but living in those times we knew how to improvise! Our young son

would receive a wooden engine, or a desk and stool, or a blackboard and easel made by my husband with help from my father. All would be constructed from spare pieces of wood. A doll's pram for my daughter which was once owned by a relative, who had outgrown it, was scrubbed and painted; covers were made from scraps of material. Rag dolls (home made) were popular, unless there were hand me down dolls, which could be cleaned and dressed. For an older niece there would be such things as a 'sewing box', made up of articles from my, and my mother's and grandmother's sewing kits; included would be scraps of material, knitting needles and wool.

Everyone would have presents of scarves, gloves, hats and if lucky a new jumper. in the early years of marriage, when materials were still scarce, these were often made from wool obtained by pulling down garments; this wool was made into 'hanks', stretched over drawer knobs, tightly; then made wet; whilst drying the wrinkles would disappear So we would have many striped garments to make the wool go round.

Our Christmas entertainments consisted of joining in the Carol services in either chapel or Church, depending on your preferences, attending simple 'get togethers', for want of a better word, providing our own entertainment. My parents were gifted musically, and the piano came in to good use for sing songs at such celebrations. Even now I get a feeling of great happiness, singing along (even though my singing is not good) Parties were arranged for the children in school and Sunday School, with help from parents. Most of us attended church services in those days; we were bell ringers, an enjoyable task. Of course there was very little then that would be regarded as entertainment in these more modern times.

Well what remains is 'what about decorations?' Well we had a crib scene, made from wood, and 'clothes peg dolls' dressed from scraps. Paper chains were made by the children. We had a Christmas tree, growing in the garden all year round; and carefully dug up each Christmas. We inherited baubles from family, who had had them for years; the lights were candles, only lighted on Christmas Day. We were lucky to be able to fill a stocking with apples, and small toys; a pillow case was filled with presents as mentioned above; then it was the custom to have wax crayons, a pencil and a book to draw in. The children were so happy with their gifts; no one demanded more, as more was not available

Well time moves on; I enjoy living in this time of rapid change; and refuse to be an old fashioned Grannie. But I remember the past, that I enjoyed too.

Happy Christmas everyone

**Ramona Percy**

**CORRECTION** the article in the last issue of the Gander about Goxhill in the 1930's was written by Ramona's husband Dennis Percy. and should not have appeared with her name, Ramona Percy, under it.

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# A Ride in the Land of the Abandoned Flip Flop!

## Or - British Horse Society Challenge Ride To India In Aid of UK Equine Welfare - September 2010

*In September as a very last minute decision I decided to undertake a very personal challenge – namely riding in India for 10 days for 8 hours a day to raise money to support the BHS UK Equine Welfare Group and to prove to myself that I was not past participating in something that would significantly test my riding skills and my personal resolve.*

*While my lasting memory of riding through the deserts of Rajasthan will be the thousands of abandoned flip flops – I can also claim that it was an adventure of a lifetime - never to be forgotten. Succeeding in the riding part of the challenge has been achieved and now I have to raise the*



Snake temple

*£2000 sponsorship required for BHS equine Welfare. In addition I want to share details of my 'Do Your Bit' Scheme to collect kind snaffle bits to be exported to India to hand out to local farmers to replace their barbaric razor like mouth pieces still in everyday use on their horses. Something which I witnessed there to be a great need for out in India. I am hoping for donations of money from people who want to*

*support the Equine Welfare Charity and small fees in return for delivering talks and presentations about my experience of riding in India. And donations of bits from anyone who has 4" to 5" snaffle bits surplus to their requirements, which will make some horses in India very happy.*

### What follows is a taster of my adventure.

*Flying from Humberside to Delhi followed by an 8 hour minibus journey to Nawalgarh in the Shekhwati region of India, just had to be endured, as once there the red carpet ceremonial welcome party set the scene for the many more amazing experiences. My fantastic 120 mile riding journey started from a royal palace on a pure bred and very handsome Indian battle horse (known as the Marwari breed), accompanied by minstrels and royal flag bearers. We were riding with kings through the majestic landscape*



Marwari horses at the palace

*of the Maharajas, filled with hidden villages, colourful characters and exotic culture.*

*On that first morning after carefully being allocated horses appropriate to our riding experience we went out on a short (4hour) breakfast ride to get familiar with our mounts – quickly learning the 5 kilometer gallops would be a regular feature! Wow – the horses knew their job and looked after their jockeys too - thankfully! On arrival at the breakfast site we were still too stunned to eat any food! Some of us were just gasping for breath and wishing we were fitter!!!*

*After that gentle introduction we returned to the palace stables and just had time for a swim before lunch, a siesta and our first cultural visit to the local town. The next 3 days were spent gradually increasing the number of hours spent in the saddle until by day 4 we would be camping overnight with our horses for a week. The masseuse that accompanied us was now in very popular demand. Having also visited a snake temple, we also knew where to go in case we were bitten by a snake.*

### To be continued...

*For further information and donations – please contact Vicki Burton, Daffodil Farm, Thornton Road, Goxhill. Tel 07788 497422*



Red carpet welcome at the palace

## GARLIC - OVERWINTER PLANTING

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At the time of writing this, we have just planted some Iberian White and Lautrec White garlic cloves into a bed on our allotment. We grew both varieties over winter last year and had a very good crop from each. Planting your own garlic at home could not be easier, different varieties from mild to very strong are available from garden centres at the moment. Don't be tempted to use that bought from a supermarket as we found the result wasn't worth the wait. To plant split the bulb into individual cloves, make a hole approx 1" deep plant top side up and 8" apart in all directions in a border or even a large plant pot will do. It really is that easy to get fresh tasty garlic that beats shop bought any day. It will store for up to five months hanging in your shed or garage ready for your culinary delights , or just to keep the vampires away!

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