



the Gander

GOXHILL VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Winter 2011



A Willow Tree, supplied by the Memorial Hall Committee on behalf of the Short Award, being planted on Willow Lane as a perfect location to remember all the works Pip Teasdale had done in the village.

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I apologise if I appear to be hogging this issue for my personal use, but I think I am completely justified.

You will see by the photograph on the front page, that the Short Award, given posthumously to my wife, Pip Teasdale, back in April this year, has come to fruition. She died in February this year after a 20 year battle with Multiple Sclerosis.

One of Pip's carers came up with the idea of a tree planted in her memory and we took the idea on further and suggested a Willow tree. We could have planted it in our garden, but no one else other than our family would have appreciated that. So we thought of planting it on Willow Lane opposite our house, Willow Farm, on the very open and bare corner with Meadow Close. This way we would be enhancing the village and benefiting ourselves as well. We had to get permission from the Parish Council and North Lincolnshire Council and happily no one stood in our way.

So Penny and David Carnell and Ann Burford, of the Memorial Hall Committee, took it on themselves to research a suitable type of Willow tree, where to get it from and the best time to plant it.

The autumn appeared to be an appropriate time, so it seemed particularly fitting to plant it on what was my wife's birthday. So we gathered in October, with family and friends, for an official planting and the placing of a commemorative plaque also donated by the Memorial Hall Committee as part of the Short Award. I must admit it looks to be a perfect place for the tree and I can just see it growing into a fine feature on Willow Lane and a constant reminder of how much my wife did for the village. I hope everyone else who passes by will also get pleasure from it too.

My family cannot thank Penny, David and Ann enough for all their help in making this happen and we thank again all those people who voted for her for the Award. We really do appreciate it and we hope the tree will give everyone pleasure for many years to come.

Perhaps the large grass verges on either side of Meadow Close could do with some trees planting on them too, to enhance the area further.

Amazingly the tributes to my wife have not stopped there.

After suggestions from governors at Goxhill School, the PTA has been reformed, after several years absence, to support the school by organising fund raising events. Rather than resurrect the old name FOGS (Friends of Goxhill School) it was decided on a completely new name - Goxhill PIPs, Parents in Partnership, but also in memory of Pip, who was Chair of FOGs for several years. It was a complete, and a very pleasant, surprise, when we were told this was the new committee's decision.

It just goes to show if you do things to help others, you can get so much back in return.

But all those other fantastic people in Goxhill, doing more than their fair share of good work for the village and for the people of the village, are not doing it for some reward in the future, but for the pleasure of doing these things and for the satisfaction of 'putting something back'. Making Goxhill such a wonderful place to live. They are the ones who deserve our recognition and gratitude.

So if you have a little time to spare, join local clubs and groups, help organise enjoyable events, whilst raising funds for worthy causes, and feel the sense of satisfaction and enjoyment it can bring.

However, to come down to earth, please take note of the article on page 23 where events organised at the Memorial Hall, for very good causes, had to be cancelled for lack of support. Come on, surely we can all do better than that! Don't you want a village with lots of entertainments and activities organised for all ages?

Jeff Teasdale, Editor of the Goxhill Gander



We now have a facebook page so you can publicise events between issues of the Gander, so check it out!

The Gander Team

Mike Gathercole	Ferry Lodge, Ferry Road	532208	Coordinator
John Noton	Owlet Cottage, Mill Lane	532628	Treasurer
Nicola Jones	4 Hawthorne Gardens	01469 532260	Invoicing & Distribution
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 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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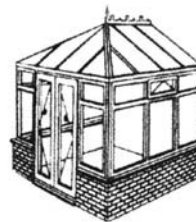
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LETTER FROM THE VICARAGE

ADVENT begins this year on November 27th and is often referred to as 'a time of preparation'. All of us know how easily we can get caught up in our Christmas preparations and so miss out on the opportunity which the church calendar gives us to embrace a sense of perspective as we prepare for the celebration of Jesus' coming into our world as a human child: 'Emmanuel – God with us'. It would be good if, in the middle of all the other things which have to be done, we could make some time really to focus on this great truth. Christians believe that God, in the person of Jesus Christ, really has come into the world: born into a very ordinary family, growing up sharing in all the experiences of human life just as we do. But then going on to do something truly amazing in giving his life on the cross for us, dying and rising again that we might share in his risen life.

How might we focus our preparations? One suggestion is to use the familiar figures who appear in the nativity story and who will be represented in the thousands of nativity scenes set up in homes, shops, public buildings, arcades – not to mention churches! Try to imagine yourself as one of those shepherds, for example, experiencing the awesome spectacle of the hosts of angels proclaiming the good news. Hurrying to Bethlehem and finding the tired but elated parents with their newborn child, all wrapped up against the cold of the night. Knowing somehow, sensing deep within your soul that this child is more special than any child that has ever been born and ever will be. Falling to your knees (if only in your mind), realising the need to acknowledge and worship the newborn King. And there are the other familiar nativity figures; you could try this imaginative way of praying with one of them!

However you prepare yourself during this Advent season, when Christmas really arrives, join the shepherds, the wise men, Mary and Joseph, the whole host of heaven, and one another, to worship the Saviour of the world. 'Emmanuel': 'God with us'. And you might fancy coming to church to do so!

Reverend John Girtchen

Christmas Services in Goxhill

Sunday	11th December	4.00pm:	Christingles & Carols for all the Family at All Saints Church.
Sunday	18th December	6.00pm	Goxhill Methodist Church: Traditional service of lessons, carols and music for Christmas.
Saturday	24th December	4.00pm	Family Crib Service at Goxhill Methodist Chapel
Saturday	24th December	11.30pm	Midnight Mass of the Nativity at All Saints Church.
Sunday	25th December	10.00am	Family Communion at Holy Trinity, Barrow

LETTER FROM THE CHAPEL

Dear Friends,

I welcome this opportunity to introduce myself to you.

I trained at Lincoln Theological College and it is with great joy that I return to Lincolnshire having served in Thirsk and Northallerton in North Yorkshire and more recently completing eight years as Superintendent Minister of the Brampton Circuit in Cumbria. In Brampton, I served as Chaplain to the local Cottage Hospital and, as Chaplain to RAF Spadeadam caring for both military and civilian personnel. During my time in Brampton the church was re modelled and the new hall, kitchen and toilet facilities have been of great benefit to the Church and the town providing opportunities of outreach to the community. I particularly enjoyed my work with local schools and, with the support of church members and help from other local churches, After School, Messy Church and Holiday Clubs have been set up. As Chair of the Brampton Fairtrade Town Group, Brampton achieved Fairtrade Town status and Brampton Primary School became the first Fairtrade School in Cumbria. For the past five years I have been the Ecumenical Officer for Cumbria and served as a member of the Churches Together in Cumbria Executive. I was pleased to hear that Barton & Brigg Circuit have a special covenantal relationship with other churches in the area.

My husband John and I are looking forward to getting to know you and we thank you for the warm welcome and the kindness we have already received.

Every Blessing, Rev Sue Wilkins, Superintendent Minister Barton & Brigg Circuit

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GOXHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT

At the time of writing, the nights are drawing in and temperatures are slowly dropping. As seems to often be the case, I am reflecting on how unseasonal our weather patterns seem to be. I do hope that the weather forecasters are wrong in their prediction of another harsh winter. Having said that, we are now into November and the heating has not been used in school since before Easter.

Our Autumn term has been packed with great activities for the pupils and there is a buzz around the place that is steadily growing as we move towards Christmas.

We celebrated Harvest in All Saints Church on the 7th of October. We were thrilled to see how many parents supported us by attending the service. Mrs Kell organised the service and pupils from Y1 to Y6 read to the gathered audience. Sandra Smith represented Reverend Girtchen in his absence and gave some important Christian messages to the children based on words that can be made from the letters within the word 'Harvest'. We contributed towards the Church's Harvest produce sale with proceeds going to charity. The same week, we held our own produce sale at school and raised almost £60 which we donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal to mark the 90th anniversary of the Poppy Appeal.

At the end of September, our year 5 and 6 pupils spent a weekend at Robinwood outward bound centre. A great time was had by all. The children came back very tired and were full of exciting stories of 'Big Red' the piranha, the climbing walls, stream walks and various other activities that they had enjoyed. Mrs Brown and Mrs Savidge enjoyed their first visit to the centre as did Mr Cawkwell, one of our governors who also attended. I have it on good authority that Mr Cawkwell spent a great deal more time on zip wires and swings than either Mrs Brown or Mrs Savidge.

All other year groups have enjoyed educational visits over the course of the term with activities as diverse as making pizzas at a farm and visiting Normanby Hall.

We have also had lots of enrichment activities in school. History topics have been



Halloween was, as always, an exciting time with pumpkins grown in the school's garden entered into a lantern competition. Children were allowed to dress up for the day and Mark Russell held a disco in the evening.



brought to life for Y1-6 with the visit of a historian who is a specialist in cookery

relating to different time periods – she has done sessions on such themes as World War 2 food, mediaeval banqueting and Ancient Egyptian food. We also have a live theatre group who will be performing 'A Christmas Carol' to all pupils in school – we're already getting excited about that.

On Halloween we decided to hold a fun day as a fundraiser. The children had a non-uniform day with a Halloween theme and in the afternoon, Mark Russell gave up his time to hold a disco for all of the children in the school. In the morning, we held a spooky story writing competition and in the afternoon, prizes were awarded for best costumes and also a pumpkin carving competition took place. Altogether, we raised around £400 which was boosted by the bun sale that we held during the day. We are really grateful to the parents who gave their contributions, particularly those who went the extra mile and also baked buns!

As is often the case at the end of a term, we have some changes to staffing. Mrs May began her maternity leave at the October half term – this is being covered by Mrs Odette Spencer. Mrs Kell begins her maternity



Goxhill School pupils held a Remembrance Day Service and produced posters, book marks and glitter poppies to commemorate the occasion and raise funds for the Royal British Legion.

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Paramedic, Jean Scargall, working with the foundation children.

leave at the end of this term – this will be covered by a local teacher – Mrs Natalie Hogg. Our best wishes go with Mrs May and Mrs Kell and we will see them at the start of the next academic year.

We have two members of staff who are leaving and, sadly, not returning. Mrs Sarah Brown has recently been promoted to the role of Deputy Head at Burton Stather Primary School – a remarkable achievement bearing in mind that she has been teaching for only four years. She has taken every opportunity given to her at our school and she will be sorely missed. I will be covering her teaching commitment in the Spring term upon Miss Breslin's return to the school. The children and staff are looking forward to Miss Breslin coming back to us with her infectious enthusiasm.

Mrs Dunderdale is taking early retirement at the end of term. After spending almost thirty years working at the school in various roles, most significantly in the school office, she has decided to spend more time with her family. Val has been a constant presence in the school for three decades and the school will seem very different without her. We will be organising events to celebrate Val's contribution to the school and giving parents opportunity to wish her well. The staff, governors and pupils would like to wish Val a long and very happy retirement.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you to all individuals, local businesses and the Barton Upon Humber Lions for their generous support in helping us, by providing gift donations to enable us to

raise much needed funds for the school and enriching the pupils' learning.

The festive season is always an exciting time in school and this year will be no different. Our annual Christmas Fayre will be jam –packed with activities for pupils and parents alike. As usual, we will be hosting carol services, parties and productions. By the time that you read this article, the school will be fully into the Christmas festivities with a real buzz in all of the classrooms. We really welcome the community into our school at this special time of year. It is always an enjoyable term but one also when we look forward to going home at the end of it, closing our doors, lighting our fires and being with our families. Despite the ups and downs of a busy term, Christmas is a time to look forward and to hope. We'd like to wish all members of the community and readers of the Gander a very

Merry Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Phil Brown, Acting Headteacher



GOXHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

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October	5	Mrs L. Firth	£30.00
"	126	Mrs J. Collingwood	£30.00

Goxhill Women's Institute

The W.I. meet on every second Monday of the month in the Memorial Hall, commencing at 7 p.m., except for August when there is no meeting. In December we will be holding our Christmas Party and January is Members' Night - weather allowing.

In February our Guest Speaker is John Hankinson who will be giving a talk on Wildlife. This should be very interesting as John is a Goxhill resident and known to many as a 'Bee keeper'.

If anyone would like to come for a 'try before you buy' taster, please come along to the Memorial Hall or telephone **Mrs. Iris MacLeod** on **01469 530772** for more details."

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.

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**

ALLOTMENTS

If you are interested in an allotment, please contact **Mike Gathercole** at Goxhill Parish Council or on **01469 532208**

POPPY APPEAL.

This is the 90th year of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and I am pleased to report that for the first time in many years Goxhill has had Poppy People covering the whole of the village. This is due to four new volunteer collectors. My sincere thanks to the following Poppy People. Amanda Lind, Ann Lawty, Barbara Nettleton, Eddie Smith, Enid Girdham, Heather Nettleton, Jane Arnott, and Sheila Gray. Mr. Allan Coggan has retired this year after many years of Poppy Appeal service.

Thank you Allan.

Businesses in Goxhill have once again been happy to support the Appeal and my thanks are extended to them.

This year the Primary School have created posters for Remembrancetide. Thank you to all the pupils taking part and also to Janet Caine for organising the project. It was a difficult decision deciding the winners as every one had made such a remarkable effort. The school also gave a generous donation to the Appeal from their Harvest Festival.

Sincere thanks also to Enid and Jeff Girdham for hosting a Coffee Day in aid of the Appeal. I will report final amounts received for 2011 in the next Gander.

Penny Carnell

Co-ordinator for the Poppy Appeal.

Quiz Night

Next Churches Together Quiz Night Friday 3rd February 7.30pm in the Chapel School-room. £4 including supper.

Music Evening

Saturday 31st March 2012 An evening of music with 'Fourum' who are a four part close harmony group from Scunthorpe. Look out for posters with details.

For further information on any of these events please contact **Sandra Smith** on **530065**.

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NOTICE BOARD Part 2

BARTON GHOST WALK

Dare you walk the back streets of Barton at night with only spirits to guide you? If you do, join the South Bank Players as they take you on a ghostly tour through Barton's turbulent past.

Actors in period costume bring the stories to life and make the past seem frighteningly real. It's not for the faint hearted!

The Barton Ghost Walk enters its 10th spooky season this year. The first walk on Halloween was attended by over 60 people, but don't worry if you missed it, there are four more planned.

Wed 30th November, Wed 25th January, Wed 29th February and Wed 21st March. All walks start at 7.30pm from Baysgarth museum. Adults £4, children £3. Tickets can be booked in advance from **Dennis Bloor on 01469 531003**.

SLEEPING BEAUTY

This year the South Bank Players' annual pantomime will be Sleeping Beauty. Oh yes it will!

As usual there will be lots of traditional panto banter and audience participation. There will be three evening performances at Ropery Hall, Barton on Thurs 19th, Fri 19th and Sat 21st January at 7.30pm, plus a matinee on the Saturday at 2.30pm. Book early to avoid disappointment. Tickets are £5/£4 and can be obtained from the **Ropewalk on 01652 660380** or **Dennis Bloor on 01469 531003**

If anyone is interested in joining the South Bank Players we are always looking for new members. Whether you want to act, help backstage or front of house, or operate sound and lights we would be pleased to welcome you. **Contact Dennis on 01469 531003** or come along to one of our Sunday rehearsals at 7.30pm at Ropery Hall.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Organised by Goxhill PIPs, the newly formed PTA, will be held at Goxhill School
Monday 12th December
2.30-4.30pm

It starts during the school day so all the children get to visit it and it is then open to parents after school.

Santa is visiting Foundation in the afternoon.
Lots of games and gifts and fun for all!

BADAOS

I would firstly like to thank everyone who attended our February show of 2011, When the Lights Go On Again. We hope you enjoyed watching it, as much as we did performing it.

As you may remember, last year we experienced a very harsh winter, which prevented us from putting on our usual christmas performances.

However, we will be back this year with our favoured Christmas medley of traditional and modern christmas music, along with a few of the numbers from our up and coming show. These will be performed as coffee and carols on the 10th of December in the Barton Methodist Church Hall. We will be performing a concert, and there are various festive stalls also. Doors open at 10am. Tickets are £3 on the door (children are free) and the price includes coffee and a mince pie! We will also be performing at Wootton Church the same evening, to which tickets are £6 on the door.

Our show this year will be The Sound of Music, and our Society will be one of the first amateur societies to perform it since its 3 year run on the West End. There will be 7 performances of this show, running from the 13th of February, and including a Saturday Matinee. More information, including ticket prices, will be available in the New Year.

BADAOS is always on the look out for new members, so for more information on joining the society, please email us, at **badaos@live.co.uk**

DEADLINE

Please have submissions for the Spring edition of the Gander in by Saturday 4th February
Distribution 1st week of March

(for date sensitive information)

email: goxhill-gander@fsmail.net

CAROL SINGING

Pupils, staff and parents from Goxhill School will be touring round the village singing carols on the evening of the **8th December**. The procession will be led by Santa in his sleigh (kindly provided by the Rotary Club).

Please listen out for them!



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NOTICE BOARD Part 3

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ART AND CRAFT COURSES

Title	Start Date	Time	Course fee	Admin fee
Techniques in watercolour	Monday 9 January	9.45-11.45am	£50.60	£5
Sugar craft- cake toppers	Monday 9 January	7-9pm	£46	£5
Fashion for all occasions (Christening gowns to Prom gowns)	Monday 9 January	7-9pm	£50.60	£5
Fun with crazy patchwork	Tuesday 10 January	9.30-11.30am	£50.60	£5
Pottery-Spring inspirations	Tuesday 10 January	10am-12pm	£46	£5
Sewing and Upholstery	Tuesday 10 January	1-3pm	£50.60	£5
Fun with fabric and beads (decorate a mirror or create a small handbag)	Tuesday 10 January	6.30-8.30pm	£23	£5
Upgrade your soft furnishings	Tuesday 10 January	6.30-9pm	£63.25	£5
Stitch your family tree	Wednesday 11 January	6.30-8.30pm	£50.60	£5
Introduction to craft skills				
Create, paint and decorate 3 HOUR WORKSHOP	Wednesday 11 January	6-9pm	£6.90 NO CONCESSION	£5
Introduction to watercolours	Thursday 12 January	6.30-8.30pm	£50.60	£5
Go large in oils or acrylics ONE DAY WORKSHOP	Monday 13 February	10am-4pm	£12.65 NO CONCESSION	£5
First steps into Pottery	Friday 13 January	10am-12pm	£46	£5
Make an exhibition of yourself (Art)	Friday 13 January	9.45-11.45am	£50.60	£5
Introduction to craft skills				
Create, paint and decorate	Wednesday 18 January	6.30-8.30pm	£46	£5
Magical Macramé Create a Handbag	Tuesday 21 February	6.30-8.30pm	£27.60	£5
Figures and faces (art course) ONE DAY WORKSHOP	Wednesday 14 March	10am-4pm	£12.65 NO CONCESSION	£5
Can do crochet projects ONE DAY WORKSHOP	Thursday 15 March	10am-4pm	£12.65 NO CONCESSION	£5
Can do knitting projects ONE DAY WORKSHOP	Thursday 29 March	10am-4pm	£12.65 NO CONCESSION	£5

* Non vocational courses will be half price for over 60s not in receipt of Pension Guarantee Credit and £5 only for those in receipt of benefits. Evidence will be required at enrolment.

COMPUTER COURSES AND MULTIMEDIA

Getting to know your digital camera and improve your pictures: part 2	Monday 16 January	1-3pm	£46	£5
Creating cards using IT and desktop publishing	Tuesday 17 January	10am-12pm	£46	£5
Introduction to Word 2007	Tuesday 17 January	1-3pm	£46	£5
Introduction to Excel spreadsheets	Wednesday 18 January	1-3pm	£46	£5
Switch on and get going with computers	Thursday 19 January	10am-12pm	£46	£5
Desktop publishing	Thursday 19 January	1-3pm	£46	£5
Computers for improvers	Friday 20 January	9.30-11.30am	£46	£5

* Non vocational courses will be half price for over 60s not in receipt of Pension Guarantee Credit and £5 only for those in receipt of benefits. Evidence will be required at enrolment.

FAMILY HISTORY

Digital family history	Wednesday 11 January	7-9pm	£50.60	£5
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* Non vocational courses (only) will be half price for over 60s not in receipt of Pension Guarantee Credit and £5 only for those in receipt of benefits. Evidence will be required at enrolment.



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Friday	9am to 10am	5.30pm to 6.30pm

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From Crystal to Digital

I was born a little too late to have experienced the Crystal Set as a means of receiving radio signals other than as a boyhood oddity. We certainly knew about “Cats Whiskers” and finding a good spot on the crystal but ours was the new technical age and the wireless set had replaced such old fashioned methods. I say the wireless because that was the common name that we used, radio was a word spoken by persons of the educated sort some of whom were clever enough to know how it worked.

It is perhaps as well to say wireless because the apparatus was nothing like the Radio of today. Being wireless it was anything but wireless because it was in several bits joined together by wires. There was a box with three knobs on the front, one was on off; one was for volume and the centre one which had a large dial was to select the station, or rather as there was only one station, to Tune In. The other bit was a loud speaker. The first one that I remember was as big as a dinner plate and hung from a nail like a picture on the wall. By far the most common loud speaker was a device similar to the trumpet that accompanies the little dog of His Masters Voice fame. Scattered around this were the power supplies first the High Tension battery. High tension meant high voltage and this battery consisted of many dry cells connected in series with several tapping points. Beside this was the Grid Bias battery this was a smaller similar dry cell battery of about 9 volts which provided the voltage to the grids in the valves. Finally there was the accumulator. It was a low voltage high capacity lead acid battery. Rechargeable, it provided the main input of power, unsealed full of strong sulphuric acid and frequently needing to be carried about to be recharged this was a health and safety hazard of unimaginable proportions.

Because this wireless was powered by batteries it was possible to use it in a house in which there was no mains electricity and in a room lit by gas light or oil lamps to sit and enjoy the latest entertainment from London.

What was this entertainment? Well perhaps the first thing about it was that it was understandable and memorable in that I can remember things that I heard as a child, people spoke properly so that although regional names were used the accent was always understandable. Songs had words, lots of them they told a story. Singers were accompanied their voices were heard rather than drowned by the backing. There were those lovely girls from Manchester singing Nymphs and Shepherds come away, or; With our hands we clap, clap, clap, with our feet we tap, tap, tap. On Saturday night the first of the radio interview programmes that began with the announcement. Once again we stop the roar of London’s traffic to bring to you some of the interesting people who are In Town Tonight. For the children there was Children’s Hour; Uncle Mac who told wonderful stories and Toy Town where Larry the Lamb and Dennis the Dachshund got into so much trouble with Constable Ernest and Mr Maaayor. (Say it aloud)

But what is happening? The sound is going down, it is getting quieter, I can’t hear properly. Oh dear the accumulator is running down and needs recharging. Now dear readers I need your help for although I remember well the man in my village that had a little shop and recharged

the lead acid batteries with his Rectifier and Transformer I do not know how or where this was done in Goxhill. Perhaps there is someone who can remember who recharged the lead acid batteries for the wireless I would love to know.

Relief was however to come from dependence upon batteries of one sort or another with the development of the National Grid when we all got “The Electricity”. Not just electricity but a standard alternating current at a standard voltage all over the country. This opened the way for large scale production of Radios working from mains electricity. Yes we had all become educated now and even if we slipped back to calling it wireless we knew it was The Radio.

Here again I do not know when electricity came to Goxhill many places had their own local supplies and although the national grid eventually covered the country there was considerable variation in the time of its arrival. Radio broadcasting was not as well delivered everywhere as it was in the cities and there was still a need for a big aerial in some places. The radio Comedian Mr Sandy Powell may have had this in mind when he introduced the catch phrase “*Can you hear me Mother*”.

Thus it was that radio broadcasting came into our lives. Something that is now commonplace but which was something of wonder when I was a child. The chimes of Big Ben and the time signal the News and Weather forecast but wait a minute the Weather forecast came later and there was a time when the weather and its vagueness were not permitted to be mentioned. It began on a Sunday morning when the Prime Minister Mr Chamberlain was speaking on the radio A final note had been delivered to the German government asking for an undertaking that German troops would be withdrawn from Poland. Mr Chamberlain said “*I have to tell you now that no such undertaking has been received and that consequently this country is at war with Germany*”. I can remember exactly where I was standing when I heard those words at eleven o’clock on September 3 1939. The effect that the announcement had upon the grown up people around me has remained with me. A whole new use was found for broadcasting, information propaganda, forces programmes Garrison theatre, Jack Warner and the blue pencil censor, Workers Playtime, Food Facts The Radio Doctor and at two o’clock on Sunday Mr Middleton who made the flowers grow.

In those dark times at Christmas 1939 in his Christmas broadcast King George VI quoted from a poem by Minnie Louise Haskins

*I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year
Give me a light that I may tread safely into the
unknown*

And he replied,

*Go into the darkness and put your hand into the
hand of God that shall be to you better than light
and safer than a known way*

We are perhaps somewhat more sophisticated now and have less trust in the broadcast media so it is more difficult to understand just how important those radio broadcasts were to everyone at that time. We interrupted our activities to listen because of course these programmes were not recorded and once heard were gone forever. On the wireless there were no repeats.

Maurice Brawn

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This term is perhaps our most hectic of the year, one full of activity and events, which began with our annual fundraiser Halloween Party, held on 21st October.

This year's party was our best ever, with over 100 children attending many with their parents/ carer's, and most of whom were dressed up in amazing Halloween costumes, ranging from pumpkins and little witches/wizards to skeletons' and zombies. The children also enjoyed the party games including; Bump in the Night and Creepy Corners. We would like to take this opportunity to thank once again the Pre School staff and committee for organising such a wonderful event each year, and for the support which our parents/carer's give us, along with Goxhill Primary School who allow us to hold our fundraising events at the school. We raised over £268.00 which will help not only with the day to day running costs of the Pre School but will also go towards purchasing new resources and equipment for the children, thus supporting their continuing learning and development.

Our next fundraiser event will be the Christmas Raffle and already some wonderful prizes have been donated to us for by local businesses, parents and staff. Tickets will be available shortly from the Integrated Services Building where the Pre School is located (at Goxhill Primary School) and will be drawn at the children's Christmas Party on Wednesday 14th December 2011. If you would like to purchase raffle tickets, then please pop in and see us at Pre School, or alternatively contact Val Gorbitt, Chair on 01469 531012. As always we appreciate your continuing support.

At Pre School this term we will be talking about; Bonfire Night, Remembrance, Children In Need, Thanksgiving and Christmas. It is through these experiences, play opportunities and adult-led activities that the children are given an awareness and understanding of the world in which they live. This also helps them to remember and talk about significant events in their own experiences, as well as supporting them to respect and value all people, in developing positive and caring attitudes towards them. We will also be planning further play opportunities/ experiences around the children's interests, as

'play underpins all development and learning for young children, and it is through play that they develop intellectually, creatively, physically, socially and emotionally' (DCSF 2008)

At the beginning of December, the children

together with their parents/ carer's will once again be going to see Father Christmas at Normanby Park. This is a trip we arrange each year, where the children get the chance to meet Santa in his speical grotto and tell him what they would like for Christmas. They then have an opportunity for a ride on the model train to see Santa's reindeers. Finally on the 14th December will be the children's Christmas Party. This year we have invited Poncho Pete to come and entertain the children before they receive a special visit from Father Christmas.

Our Pre School is Ofsted registered and we are open to children from 2 years to 5 years of age. Children who are 3 years of age are entitled to 15 hours a week of free flexible funding from the term following their 3rd birthday. This funding can be used across more than one early years' provider/setting, giving parents greater flexibility. For more information please call in during our opening times which are; Monday through to Friday 9 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. (term time) at the Integrated Services Building, located at Goxhill Primary School. Alternatively please contact Jayne Hutton (Supervisor) on 01469 535061 (Pre School) or 01469 531587, or Val Gorbitt (Chair) on 01469 531012. We look forward to seeing you soon.

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Opening times are as follows:

Monday to Friday 9.00am to 3.30pm

(Before/after school care and holiday provision are available from Goxhill Out of School Club)

Contact Pre-school on **01469 535061**


Jayne Hutton (Supervisor) **01469 531587**

or Val Gorbitt (Chair) **01469 531012**

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PARISH COUNCIL

With the forecast of an arctic winter the first of the five Parish Council articles is timely and welcomed. The remaining articles are a mix of updates and requests for your assistance.

NORTH Lincs COUNCIL SNOW CODE

North Lincs Council have introduced a 'Snow Code'. The main purpose of this code is to (hopefully) address some of the problems experienced by rural communities when adverse/severe weather conditions prevail. To facilitate this, each parish / village has been asked to nominate a Snow Warden.

The snow warden will be responsible for providing the North Lincs Highways control room in Scunthorpe with local updates and co-ordinate local contractors if needed to clear the roads. To that end, any local contractor with snow moving/clearing equipment e.g. tractors etc can request to be added to the North Lincs Council approved contractors list for this winter. If you have the necessary equipment and wish to volunteer your services then please contact the under-mentioned who is the main point of contact:

Rod Chapman, Highways Dept North Lincs Council – 01724 297537 or by email at **rod.chapman@northlincs.gov.uk**

In addition to the above the Parish Council has asked for three (3) extra salt bins to be sited at the following locations:

Junction of Bridles/Horsegatefield Road,
Butterswood crossing and Soff Lane/College Road.

The Snow Warden for Goxhill is one of you very own Parish Councillors **Charlie Leaning – 01469 530632**

PLAYING FIELDS

Goxhill has some first class facilities for the benefit of our young (and old), the Playing fields being one of them. Unfortunately it appears that there are those amongst us who see it something that should be destroyed and or damaged. Over £2000 has had to be spent of your money recently to repair damage mostly carried out by mindless thugs with nothing better to do but vandalise equipment that has been supplied for the benefit of all. Some examples of the damage caused recently and the repair costs are as follows:

Plastic cover on the zip wire cut through - £238.00

Three swing seats with chunks cut out of them - £200.00

Holes dug in the safety surfacing - £175.00

There is much more but the above represents a recurring theme. In addition fires have been lit in the middle of the football pitch together with anti – social activities by groups of youths. It is time that we took control of this situation and the only way to do so is by reporting any and all acts of vandalism / anti-

social behaviour to the police. The police will only take action if the problems appear to be prevalent and reporting every incident no matter how small will help achieve this.

CEMETERY

During a recent inspection of the cemetery several of the older headstones were found to seriously unstable and have had to be laid flat before they toppled over. By way of a polite reminder I would like to remind you that upkeep and safety of headstones is the responsibility of next of kin/family and as such it is their responsibility to ensure that they are kept in a safe condition. Many thanks.

Can I also remind you that the grass cutting season is just about over but you are asked to be considerate to Mr Martin Gorbett by removing any seasonal glass vases, wreaths etc (the metal pegs and wires that hold down the Xmas wreaths can be especially damaging got mower blades) etc by February to allow the grass to be cut safely at the beginning of the year.

FOOTPATHS/BRIDLEWAYS

The Parish Council has invested funds to ensure that the bridleways etc have been flailed and cut back to preserve their integrity and maintained in good order for those who enjoy horse riding and for walkers alike. Any parishioners who use these facilities for dog-walking are politely asked to clean up after their pets.

LIBRARY

You will all be aware that the village recently took over the running and control of the library and since then a first class service has been provided for the entire Parish. Like any other organisation the library needs your support to grow and flourish and would love to welcome new members onto the books. If you have not yet joined why not do so now.

Finally as this is the last Gander before Xmas it only leaves me to wish you all on behalf of your Parish Council a Merry and Safe Xmas and a Happy (and prosperous) New Year.

Peter J Shields MBE QGM

REMINDER

All Clubs, Societies, Organisations etc that would like a donation from the Parish Council are to put their request in writing by Thursday 29th December. emails are fine - **goxhillparishcouncil@btinternet.com**

or drop them off at:

Sleepers, 4 St Michaels Court. Any verbal or late requests will not be considered.

Thanks very much Chris Tooby

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To make an appointment, contact Jo on : 01724 868611, email joatkin@lawlincs.co.uk or just pop in to our Scunthorpe or Brigg offices.

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MEMORIAL HALL

Over a number of years works have been taking place at the Hall, opened in 1928, to make it a more comfortable, attractive place for the villagers and also to meet changing legal, health, safety and hygiene requirements. In addition to contributions from the Parish Councils Precept, monies have been applied for from a wide variety of grant making bodies. The latest and hopefully the last large works required to the outside of the Hall has been to the front. Many of you will have noticed the bright orange insulation around the electric cables to protect workers renewing the rendering and painting the wall. It was thought to be appropriate to remove and refurbish the three memorial plaques. This caused a problem in that the top one was not easily accessible but with help of a "Cherry Picker" driven by Albert Sinden of S.J.Barricks Haulage the problem was resolved. Having been restored by Memorial Memories, Albert returned and Brian Burford and myself were elevated enough to replace the plaques.

Dave Carnell.



WHAT DO YOU WANT PUTTING ON AT THE MEMORIAL HALL?

WHAT ENTERTAINMENTS WILL YOU SUPPORT?

Over the last 2 months a Quiz Night on behalf of the Alzheimers Society and a Charity Dance, have both been cancelled due to lack of support. Without fundraising the Memorial Hall cannot go on. The upkeep exceeds the income at the moment, so it is a situation that cannot continue. **Do you want a Village Hall as a venue for a whole host of family and village activities or not?**

If so, we need your support and ideas?

Please contact **Penny Nadin** on **01469 532223** or any Memorial Hall committee member.



The Christmas Craft Fayre at the Memorial had a wonderful array of gifts, decorations, local arts and crafts, and charity stalls. It was a great success only because enough customers came to buy some of the quality products on display, and enjoy the refreshments provided, including lunch, tea and cakes.



ROTARY CLUB

New Rotary Club being formed in Barrow and its surrounding villages

In the Summer 2011 a new Rotary Club was proposed in our local district. Since August regular weekly meetings have taken place and successful progress has been achieved. We are now known as the "Rotary Club of Barrow Meridian" and meet every Wednesday at the Barrow Squash Club in the 1st floor meeting room for a 7 for 7.15pm start. To date we have 25 members and are we are looking to support both local and international charitably causes. A sponsored walk to raise money for "When you wish upon a star" has been organised for a Sunday in November and an Outdoor Carol Concert, seasonal refreshments and a Santa's Grotto has been organised with Barrow Band in Barrow Market Square on 17th December at 6pm to raise further funds for local causes.

We are a club that intends to mix raising money for charity with having fun and we will be having club social events on a regular basis. Future social events include a Halloween Party at a member's house in the village and a trip to the Spice Lounge in Barton for a cracking curry at that local 5 star restaurant.

We are a vibrant mixed club and if you think what we are doing may be of interest to you, why not come to one of our meetings? For further information, please call **President Peter Towle** on **01652 633087**

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READERS' COMPLAINTS

Hello there. My name is Maire Ryan, I am 21 and major in Religious Studies (principally Muslim-Christian Relations and Ecstatic Spiritualism) at Edinburgh University. All my life I have lived in Goxhill, firstly on King Street, until around the age of 8 when we made the drastic move to Howe Lane. My grandmother, Joy Connell, has been an active member of All Saints Church ever since she came to the village (I forget when; I was only tiny) to help my parents look after my siblings and I. All Saints has been a part of my life ever since I can remember. Living only down the road, I was always aware of the comings and going of church people; the weddings where we would rush to pick up all the remaining confetti for future use, and the sounds of bell pulling practice going on as we were subjected to our night time baths. Though raised Roman Catholic, we were as children always eager to accompany Granny Joy to the various annual services - Christingle was always our most favourite.

I have always been fascinated by the history of such a beautiful holy place. This interest led me to wander over to the church recently in the hope of gaining entrance so that I could sit and consider the various elements of All Saints' architecture and resultant resilience, and perhaps get a little sneak peek at the fresco I seem to recall being shown once by my Granny. I wanted to imagine the many histories and experiences of the gone-by congregations, specifically of a rural setting, with their own particular life-values and religiosities. Having completed many courses which focused upon the history of Christianity - with a particular emphasis upon the development and growth of the Church of England - I had, for some time, nursed a hankering to physically experience a Church that has been the focal point of the village in which I grew up. Unfortunately, the Church was closed. Today, I asked my granny when the Church was open to the public. I had foolishly assumed that Churches still remain open daily - having been preoccupied with Protestant history I hadn't given much thought to the here and now. My granny informed me of a series of vandalisms upon All Saints, elucidating the need to protect the Church from a choice selection of it's own parish-inhabitants! This has given me impetus in writing today. I must admit, though I no longer attest to any particular religion, I am completely ashamed and disgusted at what I've heard. That times are hard is undeniable, and that the 'secular' threat to Christianity in the UK is an ongoing issue can be obvious to any person.

But there is, in my opinion, no possible justification for the damage of not only an historical building, but also a public place of worship. Christianity, and its earthly

domains, will forever remain a strong facet of English social history. Though every human being is free to believe (or not), this does not then allow a person to react negatively to the beliefs of others. When you attack a person's spiritual home, it seems to me that this is more hurtful than attacking a person's own material belongings. To behave with such ardent disrespect, damaging not only a beacon of faith, but also a village landmark, is to portray an indecency of character which is becoming all too frequent in the mindsets of people today. It deeply saddens me to know that there are those dwelling in our beautiful village that feel the need to lash out at their surroundings.

I felt a strong need to express to the Reverend John Gitchen and to the people of the village, that, despite the behaviour of some Goxhillians, there are still young people around who hold the highest regard for the Christian faith, even if they don't personally endorse it themselves. I intend for my upcoming thesis to centre upon positive manifestations of religious toleration in the modern setting, and I hope to continue working post-degree to champion co-existence not only between religious devotees of various factions and types, but also with the general public. One would have thought that with all our advances, in technology etc, that we would have been able to bring our mindsets up to date.

Maire C. Ryan

Sadly it has been drawn to my attention that even younger members of the community have been upset by mindless actions.

A number of posters created by children from Goxhill School to commemorate Remembrance Day, were displayed prominently around the village.

Some were torn down and left on the floor, others completely vanished.

The children and staff at the school were particularly upset because the posters were in memory of soldiers who have died in wars in the past and those fighting wars today, and to help support the British Legion's poppy appeal.

The school are very keen that the children understand the importance of this national day of remembrance and to continue to remember the sacrifices made in the past and the present to protect our country or to maintain peace where ever in the world.

Such disrespectful behaviour is so sad particularly in this situation.

Jeff Teasdale, Editor

Food Service Times
See our web site



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Authors Visit to Baysgarth School

'Reads United', an author team with a difference, entertained our year 7 students and year 5 and 6 students from Barton St Peter's, Bowmandale Primary, Castledyke, Wootton St Andrew's, Goxhill, New Holland and John Harrison School!

Helena Pielichaty and Tom Palmer are both authors of books that focus on the popular sport of football. Tom has



written two series, the Foul Play (9+) books are about a fourteen year-old boy who investigates football crimes, like kidnapped players and murdered managers and

the Football Academy (7+) series follows the challenges - on and off the pitch - of the players at an under-twelve Premier League academy. Helena's Girls FC books are based around the highs and lows of a girls' football team, each one focusing on a team player and their story.

Over 230 children from local primary schools filled the hall at Baysgarth School and Tom started the 'ball' rolling with his football quiz based around newspapers, magazines, and books. The students who answered the questions correctly were chosen for a 'penalty shootout' at the end of the session. Helena entertained the crowds with tales of her inspiration behind the books and a brief history of women's football.

At least one representative from each of the schools



made up the squad of penalty shooters and with our own Mrs Marlow in goal an exciting and intense shootout followed. After a question and answer session the students had the opportunity to purchase one of the authors' books and have it signed by them.

All of the students and staff from the primary schools expressed how much they had enjoyed the morning and it was a pleasure to host the event for them.

Year 7 students were able to enjoy the event in the afternoon and again were entertained by the authors with Mrs Codd in goal for the shootout! Helena and Tom had a great time and commented on the excellent behaviour and positive attitude displayed by all the students and expressed thanks to every one of them.

World Challenge 2013

World challenge will be going to Thailand and Cambodia in summer of 2013; students have signed up and will be fund raising for the next two years. The group will be participating in trekking and a community project, possibly, rebuilding a school in a community in Cambodia, one of the most impoverished countries in the world. The group have to raise just over £3000 pounds each for the trip, where they will use some of the money to develop the community, along with learning about responsible travel, leadership, independence, teamwork and empathy.

The first fundraising event was an activity day based at the school and although the day did not reward the group with a great deal of profit, it showed that they work incredibly well as a team and support each. Teaming up with the PTA at Baysgarth School, the second event will be a Bingo at the school near to Christmas. Please look out for further details.

For all these stories and more Baysgarth news please visit www.baysgarthschool.co.uk

REMEMBRANCE DAY MADE MORE MEMORABLE

At the Remembrance Day Service at the Airfield on Sunday 13th November, Ron Parker told the minister, Mark Hutson, that he didn't think the Piper Cub, which was due to make a fly past, would make it due to fog. So he announced it at the beginning of the service and low and behold the Cub arrived on time. This is the pilot's description of the problem he had to get there on time...

It was touch and go with the weather and I wouldn't have made it except for my Sat Nav. We went up above the thicker cloud at 2000ft and tracked down the Trent, then followed the Humber with occasional glimpses of same through the cloud. When we reached the bridge, the downward viz improved and we were able to descend to 500 ft and grope towards the memorial. I saw your crowd at the last moment and just made it at the appointed time! Very close indeed. We had a lot of help from the Humberside air traffic controller who gave us a "well done" for the task in trying conditions. We went back in the same manner but the cloud had cleared a little so we motored back at about 1200 ft before groping for Sturgate. All the time I had an elderly passenger who had never flown before, so it was a real experience for her. It was a pity that the weather was so bad as she wasn't able to see much of the countryside. However, mission accomplished and I'm looking forward to the mission next year.

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NEWS FROM GOXHILL SURGERY & PHARMACY

It is just over one year since the new surgery and pharmacy was opened, and I think that it is true to say that overall it has been well received. That said, the year has not been without its difficulties with our dependence on a series of locum pharmacists, along with the recent relocation of Drs Lavery and Chapman to Scotland and the very sad death of Dr Imran Arfeen. As a result, the medical team has struggled to keep a full time service running with the help of various locum doctors. The changes have been unsettling for everyone, and not least of all for you, the patients; we thank you for your forbearance during these difficult months.

The good news is that we now have a new team starting. This month sees the arrival of our new full-time superintendent pharmacist, Ms Bethan Jones, who will be delighted to discuss with you your ideas for improving the service offered from the Goxhill Pharmacy. She also has many ideas of her own for new services, so watch this space!

We have also been fortunate in being able to appoint two new, full-time doctors. Dr Aman Sanghera started work with us in October, and Dr Tehmina Mubarika will commence at the end of December. Both doctors are very well qualified and we feel sure they will bring a valuable extra dimension to the team. That said, we have not finished, and work is in progress to recruit two more full-time doctors for 2012.

As you will be aware, the NHS is undergoing enormous changes. As a result, the pressures on general practices are forever increasing, and we are not immune to this. Our GPs now run far more surgeries than twenty years ago, but still it is not enough. The ultimate solution is to have even more doctors, but sadly the NHS cannot afford to expand to meet that demand. Locally, we have tried to meet the demand by building the Goxhill surgery and pharmacy, and running the surgery as a second full-time surgery rather than a part-time one as was previously the case in Goxhill, Barrow and New Holland; making it available five days per week to everyone. However, there was no NHS money available for its development and the only way we have been able to develop the surgery and pharmacy was to pay for it ourselves. Neither is there any money from the NHS to pay for the running costs of the surgery. Historically, rural practices have funded their branch surgeries through the running of dispensaries, with the dispensary profits going towards the cost of the branch surgeries. Sadly, we lost a major part of our dispensing when a new pharmacy opened in another village, and as a result we have had to make redundancies amongst our dispensing staff. The truth is, the only way we can now afford to keep the Goxhill surgery open is through your support of the Goxhill Village Pharmacy. If the pharmacy is not well used, then the surgery cannot financially survive. It really is a case of 'use it or lose it'; I cannot be more candid than that.

Before finishing, I would like to clear up a misunderstanding which seems to be circulating, which is to say that the doctors are only involved with one pharmacy in the area and that is the Goxhill pharmacy. We do not have any business interest or say in the running of any other pharmacy. So if you see services being offered from other pharmacies, please do not think that they are acting on our behalf; they are not. Of course, patients are free to use whichever pharmacy you choose. However, it is important that you know that only the Goxhill pharmacy is run by the doctors, and only the Goxhill pharmacy pays for the running of the Goxhill surgery.

Finally, the surgery does now have an active Patients' Forum, which is keen to hear your views on how we can try to stretch limited resources of time, money and manpower further and to better effect. So do please write to the Forum and give us your ideas – we do need you to help us to help you. Contrary to popular belief, we really do try hard to give you a good service!

Dr Robert M Jaggs-Fowler

GOXHILL MEMORIAL HALL BOWLING CLUB

National title for Goxhill Bowling Club duo!

AFTER becoming County two-bowl pairs champions in the English Bowling Federation finals in July at Kirmington, Chris Ellis, from Barrow, and Tina Morris, from Goxhill, enjoyed success on the national stage.

They competed in the National Finals at Skegness and won a national title after beating two ladies from north Cambridgeshire in the final.

This is something they have both been striving for over a number of years and are very proud of their achievement.

The pair, who are both members of Goxhill Bowling Club, were rewarded with the Alice Rice Trophy.

GLITTERING PRIZE: Tina Morris and Chris Ellis, of Goxhill Bowls Club, who won the Women's Pairs Championship at the EBF Bowling Finals.





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Preparing For Christmas. Has it been moved to September?

I am writing this whilst we are still in the month of September. Asking for some everyday things in the shop I was told 'Oh we have put those away to make room for Christmas stock'

This is the 'norm' these days but how different it was in the 1930's, the years of my childhood. In September some of the Harvest was yet to be brought in; we called the full moon in September the 'Harvest moon' It helped the workers see their way home from the fields. In early October, came 'Harvest Festivals' in the churches and chapels; fruit and vegetables, brought to the churches to give thanks. These were sold by auction to raise funds for the poor.

Then came the 'Harvest Suppers' a celebration in country style for a good harvest. Now the concentration was on the Threshing of the corn; sometime between now and Spring the Steam Threshing set would arrive, along with extra helpers: neighbours, friends and even 'gentlemen of the road', one of which turned up at my Grandparents farm every year.

After this thoughts were given to Hallowe'n; One lady cooked dried peas in her coal copper all afternoon so that we could go with our cup and spoon and a penny for collection; and sit on forms brought from the chapel, and frighten each other with tales of weird ghostly happenings. Games and competitions would follow; such as ducking for the apple.

That gone we heard the story of Guy Fawkes and his demise. Mothers made treacle toffee, gingerbread and such-like goodies, which we consumed around a bonfire upon which there were several unfortunate 'Guys'. Fireworks although there were a few were not the most important part of our celebrations.

At the beginning of December, we began to hear the story of Christ's birth, both in Sunday-school and in our day school. At the end of School term when we 'broke up' for Christmas, the Infant class were sent out into the yard one afternoon to see Father Christmas going down the chimney. We NEVER saw him, and could not understand how he had entered our classroom, leaving us all a present!

Before the war (which stopped most pleasures) we hoped for some treasure for Christmas. There was usually a few games, jigsaws crayons and perhaps a doll or a train, not a lot but we were happy

At the farm; a week or so before the Day, my Grandmother and my mother plucked and dressed chickens, which had been 'fattened up' for the occasion. I learned so much about the anatomy of chickens, from

watching them being 'drawn' that is their insides pulled out. Geese had the same fate. Customers at Brigg Market had their orders in weeks before. We had 'giblet pies for dinner; a liver from this one, neck from that one, hearts and livers from several more. After all who would check the giblets as long as there were enough to make gravy? No 'granules' then; or in my home now.

A few days before the great day, the house would be decorated with greenery and a Christmas tree; the fashion which had come from Prince Albert. We made paper chains. If the tree was lighted candles were used; a dangerous thing to do

Lastly I must mention Uncle Billy Lefley, my Grandmother's brother who would pack all the insides of chickens into an interesting looking parcel. Then I would go for a ride in the pony cart with him to drop this parcel on the road-side; we would ride round to see who picked it up. I was only three years old at this time, so never questioned this action.

So where did I begin? Oh yes it is September and we are bombarded with the trivia around Christmas. The grandchildren are asking for expensive items for Christmas, things they see on the Television, things that are displayed in shops, even as early as August. Everyone is spending money they don't have on the 'elastic plastic'. I look back to our simple celebrations, where carols were sung and games played with all the family taking part. There was no debt that ran from one Christmas to the next. Sending a card at Christmas was reserved for family who were far away. Where can I get a REAL card these days, portraying the Christmas Story? How many children really know WHY we have Christmas? Ask around and you'll be shocked Of course in my young days we were not under the influence of television advertising.

Have a Happy Christmas with your family

Ramona Percy

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CABLE THEFTS

Along with others at a recent Safer Neighbourhoods Forum, I listened to a talk by BT-Openreach about thefts of cable and other metals. Like most people, I knew it was happening in our area but I had not appreciated the scale:

- British Telecom nationally suffers dozens of cable thefts every week with Doncaster being the top hotspot for some reason.
- Network Rail last year averaged 6 thefts or attempts a day, sometimes the cause of another 'signal failure' announcement when a train is late.
- Electricity companies have over 1,000 theft attempts annually but electricity tends to bite thieves back with 4 deaths & 31 injuries in 1 year.
- Locally Scunthorpe steelworks & Killingholme power stations have suffered significant thefts of valuable equipment for its scrap value.
- Cost to the UK economy is an estimated £770m. But what price the fear and misery of vulnerable folk with phones & medical/panic alarms cut-off?

What can we do to try and stop cable theft in and around our own village? Theft takes place so quickly that we should usually ring **999** if we spot anything to make us suspicious that a cable theft is

in progress. If that seems inappropriate then ring the non-emergency police number **101**. Out of the way rural locations are frequently used for temporary storage of stolen items. Clues are:

- *A removed or disturbed cable box cover could indicate thieves have checked it out and will be back soon to steal cables.*
- *Large quantities of cut lengths of cable or twisted copper wiring piled up.*
- *Unusually thick black smoke (burning off the cable sheathing).*
- *Street work outside normal hours or by people without hi-visibility jackets using unmarked vans, trucks or 4x4 vehicles.*
- *Apart from their own Openreach vehicles and staff, BT employs only one contractor: Carillion telenet. These people will have vehicles with their firm logo on and all carry identity badges.*



If the above has not already convinced you to keep an eye out for cable thieves then please note that BT-Openreach is offering up to £1,000 reward for information that leads to a conviction. You can collect that even if you want to remain anonymous by ringing **Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111**.

POSTAL SCAM

They gave warning of this scam on Radio Humberside.

It has been confirmed by Royal Mail and the Trading Standards Office are making people aware of the following scam:

A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906 6611911 (a Premium rate number).

DO NOT call this number, as this is a mail scam originating from Belize.

If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message you will already have been billed £315 for the phone call.

If you do receive a card with these details, then please contact **Royal Mail Fraud** on **020 7239 6655**.



To keep in touch with neighbourhood watch, join our circulation list by emailing **gnew@tesco.net** check out our website page on **http://goxhill.moonfruit.com** or you can ring me on **530363**
John Guggiari,
GNeW Co-ordinator

101 is now the number to call when you want to contact your local police – when it's less urgent than 999.

When should I call 101?

To report less urgent crime or disorder and for general police enquiries. For example;

- if your car has been stolen;
- if your property has been damaged;
- when you suspect drug use or dealing;
- to report a minor traffic collision;
- to give the police information about crime in your area; or
- if you'd like to speak to your local police officer.

How does it work?

You can call 101 to contact your local police force. The service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For more information visit **www.police.uk/101**

What does it cost me to call?

Calls from landlines and mobile networks cost 15 pence per call, no matter what time of day or how long you are on the phone.

Can I call 101 if I'm deaf, hard of hearing, speech impaired, or if English is not my first language?

Yes, If you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired you can textphone 18001 101. If you have difficulty speaking English, your local police can access interpreters who can translate your call.

Remember, in an emergency always call 999.

For example this is when you need an immediate response because a crime is in progress; someone suspected of a crime is nearby; when there is danger to life or when violence is being used or threatened.



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Golden Days of Milk or a Life of Slavery 2

Correction, The last instalment in the autumn issue regarding the number of premises built to keep cows of 82 was incorrect, for there were 3 smallholdings on East Marsh road missing, originally I had put them in the list but somewhere down the line I had accidentally deleted them and I had forgotten the farm at the end of Skitter Lane, Skitter farm, way out on limb with the farmstead being near the East Halton Haven and demolished 40 years ago along with another farm on Chapelfield road, the old Goxhill Grange that was demolished 70 years ago to make way for the airfield giving a grand total of 87.

Wages, in October 1936 the wage board awarded farm workers £1-12-0 [£1-60 today] for a 50 hour week....

Butter Making. When the cows were milked it was put through a Separator that removed the cream, the separator had a large bowl on top with a sieve/filter above to pour the milk in from the bucket while it was still warm [milk for the trade had to be put through a sieve/filter and a cooler before it went in a churn]. The milk then flowed from the bowl through a tap that controlled the flow which went into a small enclosed bowl with some fins inside that was spinning round at a fair speed that separated the cream from the milk, each having their own spout as it left the separator under which bowls for cream and a bucket for milk were placed. The small bowl was made to spin by turning a handle, first you turned the handle until the correct speed was reached and then turned on the tap that let the milk flow into the spinning bowl, the faster it was turned the thicker the cream became, the cream was saved for up to a week to turn thick or sour before it was put into the butter churn. It was usual to make it once a week, mostly on a Tuesday so it was then ready for the following weekend sales on the market stalls. The churn barrels came in many sizes and two types were made of wood, one horizontal and one vertical which was the most popular. A third type was a small one made with a glass bowl and paddles inside them again turn with a handle for small amounts of cream, The cream was put in the churn and on the wooden types the lid was fastened down with strong screw clamps and the handle turned for some time. It could be 30 minutes on a good day and over an hour on others due to the temperature. At times it stuck to the churn sides and went round with it instead of falling to the bottom each time it turned. It was said "It has gone to Sleep" then by turning the churn very slow it would start again to fall to the bottom each time round and continue to become butter. The churns had a small glass window in the lid so one could see how it was doing. When it was still cream it was white and when it became butter it was clear, The amount of milk needed for a lb of butter was approximately 3 gallons seventy years ago, according to the butter fat contents of the milk. Today it would need more for the butter fat contents are far less.

In winter when the cows were kept inside for warmth and not getting any grass, the butter would become pale in colour so one could put in a little dye made from carrots, I believe it was called Carrotine or a similar name and was bright orange. It only needed a couple of teaspoons full of this dye to colour 10

or 12 lbs of butter the same as the summertime grass did. When the butter was taken out of the churn it was in one big lump and placed on a butter board about 3 feet square and sides two inches high and worked with a round piece of wood like a roller by pressing on it to workout and remove the small drops of water within the butter and work in a little salt which had been sprinkled on for flavour. It was then weighed off in small lumps on the scales of one pound each and worked in to the oblong shape it is sold in, with Butter Spades and placed in a piece of grease proof paper. It is still the same shape today when you see it for sale occasionally at the Farmers Markets that are now getting more popular.

Butter By-products. As well as butter there were the by-products from separated milk such as Curd or Curd Cheese as it is sometimes called. To make it one had a large heat proof pan, fill it with separated milk and put it in the oven or on the open fire of the farm house till it was almost boiling but not quite and stir in some Epsom Salts that made it curdle, it is then known as Curds & Whey. Whey is the water like liquid that is

with the curd and is of no use as far as I know. Also lemon juice or rennet can be used to curdle the milk though rennet makes the curd hard as does acids that can be used. Rennet has been used for centuries, it is from the stomach lining of calves, young goats or lambs which helps to digest the milk when they are young. Then there was the Cream Cheese regardless of the fact that there was no cream in it, it was made from separated milk after it was kept until it went sour and was then made on the same lines as the Curd and placed in a muslin bag for a day and hung up with a bucket under until the liquid drain off, then salt and pepper was mixed in according to taste. It was like a smooth cheese spread we know today and

was eaten fresh without maturing unlike the original cheese. It certainly helped out with the wartime rations. Separated milk was also used to rear the calves or feed the pigs. Unlike the Yorkshire Dales, Lincolnshire doesn't have any cheese making history in this bygone era, the only reason I can think of is that butter made a better price in our towns than cheese....

Market Stalls. It was the smallholders who made butter and sold it on Market Stalls in Hull and Grimsby on Fridays. The wives who went could be seen on Goxhill station catching the



Butter Churn decorated to celebrate the Chapel's 100th anniversary.



Market Ladies going to Hull on Goxhill Station, c1900.

continued on p 37



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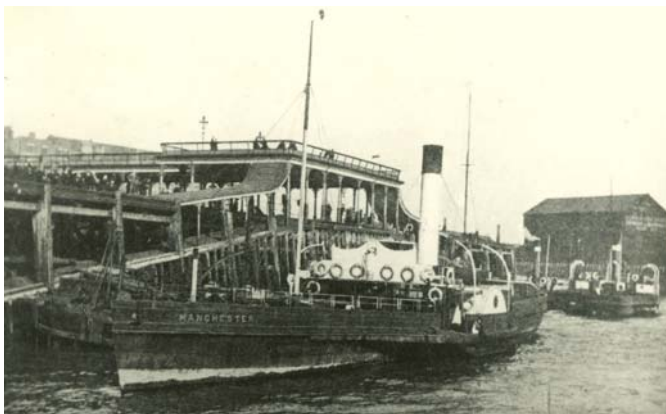
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continued from p35

early trains loaded with their willow cane baskets usually one under each arm full of products. Butter was the main one along with its by-products, eggs and surplus garden vegetables. Some used to take baking, such as curd cheese cakes and egg custards, all home made from their own produce. Five of the Hull Market stallholders come to mind, Mrs Girdham, Ruard Lane, Mrs Neal in Thorn Lane, Mrs Sewell of Abbey View, South End who loaded her products on her old bike and pushed it to the station for it was too heavy loaded to ride, Mrs Trimmingham of South End Farm (now South End House) and Mrs J Stainton of Spring Farm, Chapelfield Road. Mrs Stainton was attending in the mid thirties but may have started some years before they came to this farm and she carried on through the war until some time in the late fifties. She must have had that stall there for over thirty years every Friday in the covered market next to Trinity Church. Some of these traders included their neighbours produce as well. It was usual for these traders to bring back the weeks groceries in their baskets having paid for them with the takings of their produce. One or two liked to stay for a while in a pub near the Pier for a drink and follow on a later ferry. I think Hull was most popular because the market was covered over and Grimsby was out in the open market place near the railway station, not the best place in winter though the Hull market supporters had some distance to walk from the pier. The same way of payment applied to those who sold their produce to shops and the shopkeeper would knock the money for the eggs and butter off their grocery bill. The market traders began to decline when the war started for some were frightened of the air-raids thinking the towns were going to be bombed day and night so stayed at home. When rationing started one could sell the products in the village to friends and relatives without carrying them all the way to town. I cannot remember if the butter sold to shops during the war had to go in the Ministry food chain of rationing. I expect it had to officially but doubt much of it got there, unlike the eggs which had to be sold to the Egg Packing Stations and then supplied to the shops...



The Steam Packet, Manchester, at Hull Pier c1900. Her sister ship, Liverpool, operated alternate trips across the Humber.

Early days of transport, Butter making in the nineteenth century must have been an important part of country life, making it would be the easy bit compared with selling for the problem would be getting it too the customers in town. There was a market boat to and from Goxhill Haven recorded to be up and running in 1823 in the Hull Directory, so it must have started some years earlier, I quote "From the Flagstaff Inn, Humber Street, Hull, the Goxhill Packet, William Dent, Master, sails every Tuesday & Friday, wind permitting, three



Harry Buckley, 1932- transport after his bike.

hours before high water for Goxhill Haven carrying goods and passengers." It also records "On the days of spring and autumn tides when many Packet boats would arrive, they were known as Full Boat Days". Though it was called a market boat it doesn't mention livestock, like the steam packets carried in later years, so I expect it was just for farm produce with farmers wives and farm requirements, though it must have been well supported to be viable for William Dent to make a living. This ferry service finished when the railway steam packets gave a better and more reliable daily service from Hull to New Holland starting in 1848. I'll bet passengers on the Goxhill packet had a few hair-raising tales to tell over the years and did all their eggs get to market intact on a rough crossing? Better left to ones imagination. These Humber ferries were still called Packets Boats when I first remember in the 1930s, a name that took time to fade out. In these days it was the only public transport and to get to the packet from the village there would only be a track through the marsh with no metallic road that had a foundation under it on which to walk, though maybe a carrier with his horse and wagon or cart gave a service to and from the packet. The track in wet times would be axle deep in ruts full of water made by the wagons.

In the market towns there were special buildings constructed to sell the butter, "The Buttercross" built in or near the market place of the towns. The one in Brigg built in 1817 still stands, long since finished with the purpose it was built for, now houses the Information Centre. I expect some of the butter, by-products and eggs from Goxhill at that time could have been taken there as well as Hull because it was before the railway came in 1848, opening public transport to Hull and Grimsby from the village. Some people are frightened of water and thought it was safer travelling to Brigg with a horse and trap on terra-firma rather than crossing the Humber on the Goxhill Packet, relying on a wind and a prayer, to Hull and back. Before the railway came into existence all the milk for liquid sales would have to be taken in to towns with horse and traps/carts, for there were no other means unless one walked.

Any comments, corrections or additions are welcome,

Ron Parker.

This article will be continued in the next issue.

Mrs Black (was Miss Pamela Parkin) in response to Ron Parker's article on milk producers, in the Autumn issue of the Gander, would like add that her father, George Parkin, sold milk from Foxhill Farm starting around 1950. Also that Vic Chantry had 2 or 3 jersey cows and Norman Chapman took over Harry Buckley's farm also around that time.

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OFF THE HOOF

"I freely admit that the best of my fun, I owe it to horse and hound" **Whyte-Melville 1821-1778**

"The unspeakable in pursuit of the uneatable." **Oscar Wilde**

Do you think this year has gone extremely quickly? I was thinking it must soon be time to start my article and checked the date of submission and it was 5th November. That's today!

Two things are happening, apart from my article being late. It is Guy Fawkes' Night and all it brings with it: the fireworks, bonfires, parties etc although I must admit I have not heard many fireworks in the preceeding days as I normally do. I am not sure if it because it falls on a Saturday or people cannot afford them.

The other significant event for this area was the Opening Meet of the Brocklesby Hunt. The turnout was quite good and a generous supply of sausage rolls were handed out with a stirrup cup (drink) prior to setting off. The atmosphere was good with the hustling and bustling and hounds making much of the attention from the children. I believe they enjoyed a good ride out.

The two quotes I have given will give a rise to much lively debate as they are from both ends of the argument for many years to come.

Christmas is fast approaching and once again our thoughts turn to presents for our friends or indeed our equines.

One suggestion I have is an Equine First Aid Kit. Listed below are items for an Emergency Kit, which I urge you to stock up on:

Sterile non-stick dressings

Soft bandages

Self-adhesive bandages eg vetrap

Adhesive bandages eg Elastoplast

Ready to use poultice eg Animalintex

Cotton wool

Gamgee

Set of stable bandages

Hibiscrub solution

Instant hot and cold packs

Wound cream/powder

Violet Spray (note – do not use unless vet has seen wound if you intend calling one first as cannot see wound clearly. Suggest a clear wound spray)

Petroleum jelly eg Vaseline

Round-ended curved scissors – ordinary scissors

Thermometer

Latex gloves

Plastic tape

Small pair tweezers

Pelham Tack has a few gift ideas to suit all pockets and worth a visit.

Carol Sanderson's, Casse Cou, ridden by Kate Johnson, attended the British Dressage Senior Home International competition at the David Broome Equestrian Centre in

Wales for three days. They were pleased with a 2nd overall in the Advanced Medium. The intention is to now progress him to Prix St George so he has now started learning more advanced movements such as Canter Pirouettes, Piaffe, and two time flying changes all of which he is taking in his stride.

Despite Theresa Leaning and her horse, "Witness" having a disappointing result at the Regional Championship, they have since had two wins at Bishop Burton. They have no competitions forthcoming and are concentrating on training. We hope to hear more of them in the New Year.

Jo Burns is now fully recovered and although the four year old, "Tempting Business", rolled on her, they have formed a good partnership and attained a 4th in the British Novice! Magali, Jo's grey, came 3rd out of 200 at Arena UK and has also qualified for the Blue Chip Winter Championships to be held at Hartpury Gloucestershire in April 2012. Magali is now taking a long earned rest.

Jo also has a really good all-round cob that has been broken and brought on in her yard. "Pickles" stands at 15.2hh and is a 4 y.o. He enjoyed a day's cubbing as part of his education and is now for sale. He is the sort of horse that could give a family a lot of fun for years.

Jo continues to study hard for her level 3 teaching exam but is still available for lessons for all capabilities in her well-maintained ménage.

At present the weather has remained mild and it is hard to keep up with putting rugs on and taking them off again when it gets warm, but that will soon change. Hopefully we will be able to avoid mud fever but, as always, prevention is better than cure so rub baby oil well into clean dry heels and the bacteria in the mud will hopefully not penetrate as this should prevent the skin from breaking open.

Whilst a list has been given for a First Aid Box, a few things to be added are large nappies. Lidl's are not as expensive as other brands and in a recent national survey, came close to the top. These are ideal for leg wounds and are flatter if the elastic is cut in a couple of places on both sides.

Although not as long as Vetrap, the Pound Shop sell something equivalent. They may also be bought from other outlets (e.g. chemists), sold as support bandages. Two of these are still half the price of the genuine article, which soon adds up. They are also available online. Ducktape is also another useful item to keep in the kit as it can help keep poultices in place.

Tip of the issue: keep a record of your horse's normal temperature. Each horse varies, and this may help identify any problems if your horse becomes ill. Not all horses temperatures are not the same. Keep your news and tips coming in. All that remains is to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Take care- Ride safely.

Aileen 01469 530643



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1ST GOXHILL AND BARROW SCOUTS GROUP

Explorers and Scouts Fells Marathon in the Yorkshire Dales held on 7-9th October.

Goxhill and New Holland Scouts group sent a team of 5 Explorers to enter this most challenging of weekends. The team consisted of William Needham, Max Crawford, Alex Lari, Henry Fielding and Bradley Campion. [aged 14-16]

It involved walking 48.7km over 2 days carrying a full back pack with all their gear.

And it was all the gear, they had to take spare shirts, fleece, waterproofs, walking trousers, hat, gloves, spare socks (which one forgot and used plastic bags for the second day) sleeping bag, sleeping mat, torch, spoon and mug first aid kit survival bag, water bottle, emergency rations (a minimum of 4 mars bars which would be checked at the finish, only to be used in an emergency). All in a 60ltr rucksack.

Just in case you thought that was enough they then, as a team, had to carry 2 maps 2 compasses, tents for all 5, food for the weekend, stove and fuel. (don't forget matches) cooking pans, 2 hi vis vests (to be attached to back of ruck sacks) 2 watches and one mobile phone to be used in emergency only.

The heaviest ruck sack was 13kg, the lightest was 10kg.

For those of you that do not remember it rained, it started Friday night and drizzled most of the weekend.

The team decided to take a 3 man tent for 5 of them, the week before they tried it in the scouts hut to see how comfortable it was, very tight but they thought if they take the inner lining out they could all fit in and it would reduce their weight and give them more space. A decision they grew to regret as they arrived after walking 27 km on sat and arriving at 4 pm to a very wet farmer's field for the overnight stay.

Two of the five had forgotten to pack their sleeping

bags in the ruck sack liner so when they pitched the tent in the rain and put their sleeping mats out on the wet grass they found their sleeping bags were wet through. Most boys at this age would have called for help. Any help would have disqualified them from the competition, not only do they have to be left on their own without any external help but the whole team has to finish together to successfully complete the challenge.

The two boys, without sleeping bags, slept in the middle with all their clothes on. They survived.

Rain came in from the sides they all got wet; they still did not ring for help

Sunday: wet with no dry clothes to put on they decamped and set off, 6 check points to pass and only 20km to go. They were all excited about surviving what must have been the most gruelling night they had ever had to endure.

All started well, but by check point 4 they started to wane and complain to each other, feet hurt, backs ached and large blisters started to appear on feet. Coming up to checkpoint 6 they had all had enough. With only 6km left the scoutmasters manning the check point persuaded them to go on, they only had a little further to go and it would be a shame to give up now.

You can imagine how tired & wet they must have been, but they encouraged each other, got their second wind, convinced each other they could do it and went on.

What a day. They arrived at the finish line with big grins on their faces.

They came 4th out of 8 teams with 3 teams not completing the challenge.

It was a fantastic weekend they will never forget.

(Out of the 21 scouts teams who walked 32km 10 completed).

GOXHILL COMMUNITY LIBRARY

READING THE DETECTIVES AGAIN

Hopefully you enjoyed the 'odd one out' questions posed in the last issue of The Gander. Amongst the lady detectives it was Precious Ramotswe, being the only one created by a male author. For the male detectives it was Cadfael on the grounds that he is a monk whilst the others are all policemen. However, it later occurred to me that you could also have chosen him because he goes by his Christian name. As his full name is apparently Cadfael ap Meilyr ap Dafydd he would perhaps be known as Dafydd were he to follow the examples of Frost, Morse, Wallander etc.

This time, do you know which of the following detectives really does have "Death" as their middle name?

<i>Andy Dalziel</i>	<i>Cordelia Gray</i>	<i>John Rebus</i>
<i>Kay Scarpetta</i>	<i>Peter Wimsey</i>	<i>Philip Marlowe</i>
<i>Sherlock Holmes</i>	<i>Sam Spade</i>	<i>Hercule Poirot</i>

The answer to that question will be published in the next issue of the The Gander.

If you have not previously come across any of the detectives mentioned then why not check them out by borrowing a book from your nearest local library?

Goxhill's community library is situated in the Parish Rooms on Howe Lane, run by volunteers and free to use. We do not just have books; there are computers available with broadband connection. We have the following opening times:

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LET THE SEASONAL FESTIVITY PREPARATIONS BEGIN

No British Christmas is complete without a Christmas Pudding. Everyone needs a great recipe, and this is a fantastic recipe for you to try.

Despite reports that the traditional Christmas pudding has fallen out of favour for lighter desserts, it is as popular as ever. Christmas pudding is best made well in advance to allow it to mature which traditionally is made on 'Stir it up Sunday' the Sunday before Advent around the end of November.

Stir Up Sunday is traditionally the day the pudding is made, about five weeks before Christmas.

The delicious aromas which float through the house as it steams on the stove are the start of the festivities. The customs surrounding making pudding brings the whole family together as each takes a turn to stir the mixture and make a wish and add coins; the finding of them on Christmas day purportedly bringing wealth, health, happiness, and ensuring everyone at least eats some to find one!

The Perfect Christmas Pudding should be dense, moist and oozing decadence of rich fruits and brandy. Making one does take time to weigh, with at least 13 ingredients (to represent Christ and his disciples), time to marinate and steaming which takes at least 7 hours. But, once made, put it away in a cool, dry place, it then needs only a further hour steaming on the day itself.

There are many, many recipes for Christmas pudding, some dark and rich others lighter. Some use beef suet and others vegetarian suet for a lighter pudding. Whichever you decide on, you will only need a small slice after dinner and the beauty of the pudding is it reheats well - perfect for Boxing Day.

Flaming the Pudding is another tradition, believed to represent the passion of Christ, and again is an essential part of the theatre of Christmas day. Eating Christmas pudding was banned by Oliver Cromwell in the 17th century because he believed the ritual of flaming the pudding harked back to pagan celebrations of the winter solstice.

The flaming of the pudding needs a steady hand and for safety reasons, not be someone who has enjoyed too much wine!

Half fill a metal ladle, or similar, with brandy and carefully heat over a gas flame or lit candle.

When the flame is hot enough, the brandy will light.

Pour the flaming brandy over the pudding. Make sure the lights are out when taking to the table for a grand entrance.

Once the flames have subsided, serve with a brandy butter, brandy sauce, cream or home-made custard.

Don't be put off by the number of ingredients in this recipe, although it may seem daunting, simply assemble all your ingredients in advance, and the rest is easy.



Ingredients Serves 8 - 10

1lb /450g dried mixed fruit

1 oz /25 g mixed candied peel, finely chopped

1 small cooking apple, peeled, cored & finely chopped

1/2 large orange and 1/2 lemon

4 tbsp brandy, plus a little extra for soaking at the end

2 oz /55 g self-raising flour, sifted

1 level tsp ground mixed spice

1 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon

4 oz /110 g shredded beef or vegetarian suet

4oz /110g soft, dark brown sugar

4 oz /110 g white fresh bread crumbs

1 oz /25 g whole shelled almonds, roughly chopped

2 large, fresh eggs

Preparation:

Lightly butter a 2 1/2 pint/1.4 litre pudding basin.

Place the dried fruits, candied peel, apple, orange and lemon juice into a large mixing bowl. Add the brandy and stir well. Cover the bowl with a clean tea towel and leave to marinate for a couple of hours, preferably overnight.

Stir together the flour, mixed spice and cinnamon in a very large mixing bowl. Add the suet, sugar, lemon and orange zest, bread crumbs, nuts and stir again until all the ingredients are well mixed. Finally add the marinated dried fruits and stir again.

Beat the eggs lightly in a small bowl then stir quickly into the dry ingredients. The mixture should have a fairly soft consistency.

Now is the time to gather the family for the Christmas Pudding tradition of taking turns in stirring, making a wish and adding a few coins.

Spoon the mixture in to the greased pudding basin, gently pressing the mixture down with the back of a spoon. Cover with a double layer of greaseproof paper or baking parchment, then a layer of aluminum foil and tie securely with string.

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continued from p43

Place the pudding in a steamer set over a saucepan of simmering water and steam the pudding for 7 hours. Make sure you check the water level frequently so it never boils dry. The pudding should be a deep brown colour when cooked. The pudding is not a light cake but instead is a dark, sticky and dense sponge.

Remove the pudding from the steamer, cool completely. Remove the paper, prick the pudding with a skewer and pour in a little extra brandy. Cover with fresh greaseproof paper and re-tie with string. Store in a cool dry place until Christmas day. Note: The pudding cannot be eaten immediately, it really does need to be stored and rested then reheated on Christmas Day. Eating the pudding immediately after cooking will cause it to collapse and the flavours will not have had time to mature.

On Christmas day reheat the pudding by steaming again for about an hour. Serve with brandy or rum sauce, brandy butter or custard.

Left over Christmas pudding can be reheated by wrapping tightly in aluminum foil and heating through in a hot oven.

To all my fellow villagers, may I wish you a very merry Christmas and a healthy, happy new year. **Nigel Brown**

For further information on the Nigel Brown Cookery Academy -

Email: info@nigelbrownchef.co.uk

Telephone: 01469 530044

Website: www.nigelbrownchef.co.uk

LIVES is seeking a new Branch Administrator for Goxhill, Barrow, and New Holland

Lincolnshire Integrated Voluntary Emergency Service – called LIVES for short – is registered charity number 1098364. Our local branch covers Goxhill, Barrow and New Holland, with several First Responder volunteers from each of those villages regularly on call to provide medical assistance until an ambulance arrives.

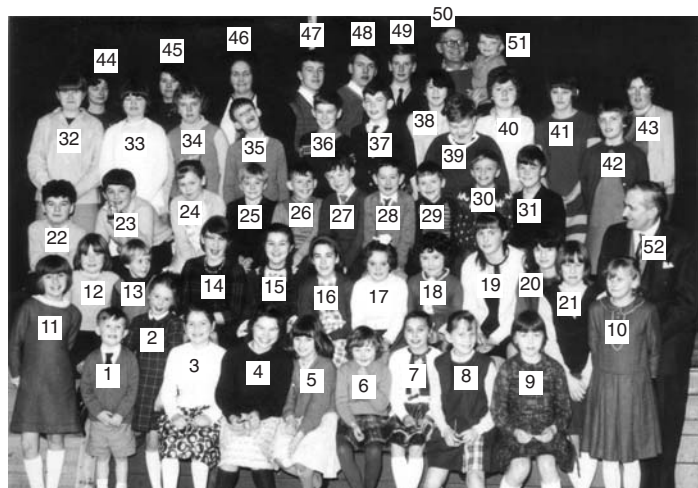
We are currently looking for somebody with skills as an administrator and some spare time to take over organizing our local branch. You can largely fit the work in when it suits you and a medical background is quite unnecessary. It is your experience as an organizer that we seek; your ability to liaise with LIVES head office in Horncastle and a willingness to deal with essential paperwork. Having said that, much of the communication is by email as our volunteers often have day jobs.

If you think this role could suit you and are keen to give something back to your local community then please contact **Bob Dasey**, who is currently in that role. Email bobdasey@btinternet.com or telephone **533037**. You can chat with Bob about what is involved, ask any questions you may have, and you will be under no pressure whatsoever to take it any further if you decide it is not for you.

As usual, we continue to seek new volunteers to become First Responders because every now and then people move out of the area or their work commitments cause them to be unavailable. The more volunteers we have, the fuller the cover we can provide - and our aim is every hour of every day. No previous medical experience is necessary as you will receive full initial training, with monthly updates and support from your fellow volunteers. All equipment, except your car, is provided for you and you only commit to being on call when you can fit it in. Even when on-call you can continue to do most of what you already do and just break off if you need to respond to an emergency. Again the person to contact, to find out more, is **Bob Dasey**. John Guggiari



THIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN OF A GOXHILL SUNDAY SCHOOL PARTY AT THE MEMORIAL HALL IN 1963



Thank you to Pam Shearwood, now of Lincoln, and her mother who have done their best to identify all. Sadly there are still one or two they are not sure about.

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Robert Giles | 19. Suzanne Parkin | 37. ? Freeman |
| 2. Elizabeth Giles | 20. Margaret Smaller | 38. Kathleen Jarvis |
| 3. Lesley Spilman | 21. Maureen Spence | 39. Graham Thornton |
| 4. Linda Jarvis | 22. Mike Clark | 40. Susan Clark |
| 5. Janet Smaller | 23. Colin Reeve | 41. Karen Clayton |
| 6. Debbie Lewis | 24. Christine Finch | 42. ? Freeman |
| 7. Angela Cartwright | 25. Barry Sykes | 43. Anne Dent |
| 8. Jane Hackford | 26. Peter Jarvis | 44. Margaret Neave |
| 9. Caroline Rash | 27. Robert Dunwell | 45. Elizabeth Neave |
| 10. Gillian Coggan | 28. Howard Lamming | 46. Betty Neave |
| 11. Susan Hart | 29. Christopher Rash | 47. Kevin Percy |
| 12. Jill Finch | 30. Graham Dunwell | 48. Colin Lamming |
| 13. John Finch | 31. Richard Shearwood | 49. James Brennan |
| 14. Sheila Hallam | 32. Brenda Towle | 50. ? Mr Freeman |
| 15. Wendy Percy | 33. ? | 51. ? Freeman |
| 16. Pam Shearwood | 34. Audrey Dent | 52. Fitz Neave |
| 17. Jill Girdham | 35. Mark Van Den Boss | |
| 18. ? | 36. Graham Catley | |

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