



the Gander

GOXHILL VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Winter 2014

Goxhill Views

Village Tales

Local People

School Reports

Church Letters

Parish Council News

& Much More

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and Advertisers
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a Happy New Year

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Consultations	Monday	9am to 10am	
	Tuesday	9am to 10am	5.30pm to 6.30pm
	Wednesday	9am to 10am	
	Thursday	9am to 10am	5.30pm to 6.30pm
	Friday	9am to 10am	5.30pm to 6.30pm

My appeal for stories of what younger residents of the village are doing, has really worked. It is with great pleasure that I have included 3 pages of articles about children and young people. These young people are the future and their parents should be very proud of them.

I know we live in a small village and cannot compete with the facilities of big towns and cities, but the Parish Council are listening to what suggestions are made for the young people of the village and have already found funding to build the MUGA and are well on the way to providing a Skate Board Park for boarders, scooters and BMXs. Goxhill Primary School and the local secondary schools provide a great deal of out of school activities and there are many clubs and groups providing a wide range of opportunities in the area, from squash to dance, from scouts to drama, from music to horse riding. I know it means that parents are just a taxi service. But that is the downside in living in a relatively peaceful village.

It is fairly peaceful at the moment, but it is set to change very dramatically soon. You may have attended the recent consultation held by National Grid in the Memorial Hall, or visited their website from the links put on the Goxhill Grapevine page on facebook. If so, you will have heard about the plans to replace the existing gas pipeline under the Humber with a new one, in a tunnel dug under the Humber, from the Goxhill side to Paull on the North Bank.

Maurice Brawn explains in great detail the problems in his article on Page 33.

This is a vital national infrastructure development and no one should have objections to its necessity. The problem comes in the volume of traffic that will have to access the site down on the marsh. It will result in up to seven 38 ton heavy lorries per hour bringing in all the plant, machinery, supplies and pipe and tunnel components, travelling from College Road along Thornton Road, Ferry Road, down the single track road to the river bank and along East Marsh Road to the site, over a 2-3 year period.

They have proposed a one way system to minimise the disruption, with the return route being along Chapelfield Road and back onto College Road. Unfortunately there is a weight restriction on the crossing on Soff Lane, so in reality some of the really heavy traffic may have to come back the same way it came in. Plus there are the lorries from the tileries etc which will be using Ferry Road as normal. Heavy lorries in one direction will be bad enough, but in both directions, they could cause huge disruption along many parts of the route. I hope the railway bridge can stand the strain.

I have submitted my concerns to Highways at North Lincolnshire Council, who say they are looking at it again, and to the National Grid as part of their consultation period which ended on 31 October. I hope others have expressed their concerns in time. Watch this space for updates.

It was with great sadness that I heard of the death of Mike Ruddock recently. His wife Kay has put a notice on Page 15, but I would like to add my own personal tribute to Mike. He was involved in many things especially golf and wine, and his Goxhill Church Wine Tastings are legendary. I recently attended a very grand wine tasting in Nottingham, it wasn't a patch on Mike's. It was no more informative and certainly had none of the fun or competitive spirit he created in Goxhill. Mike's gavel took a lot of hammer trying to get attention above the chatter and laughter amongst the packed audiences. Mike certainly brought his unique character and sense of fun to all he did. He will be sadly missed.

Accordingly, for some families this time of year may not be festive. But on behalf of the Gander Team, I do hope all will have as good a Christmas as possible. It is a time to celebrate with our families, for the children and young people and for those not so young. **Jeff Teasdale - Editor of the Goxhill Gander**

The Gander Team

Mike Gathercole	Ferry Lodge, Ferry Road	532208	Distribution Coordinator
John Noton	Owlet Cottage, Mill Lane	532628	Treasurer & Distribution
Jeff Teasdale	Willow Farm, Willow Lane	07774 671175	Editor & Advertising
Stuart Cooke	Mill Vale, Mill Lane	531038	Distribution
Jane Arnott	Innisfree, Church Street	530962	Distribution
Penny Nadin	Honeysuckle Cottage, Ferry Road	532223	Secretary & Invoicing

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.*

If you wish to advertise contact Jeff on the number above or use the same email address.

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

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What's On for Christmas & New Year

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LETTER FROM THE VICARAGE

The Christmas story begins in darkness. There was the darkness of oppression, for God's people were a conquered people. Their land was occupied by those who sought to oppress and exploit them. In fact, it was a resented universal taxation that brought the characters in the famous story together on that fateful night so long ago.

There was the darkness of disillusionment. There was an ever-increasing number who felt that violence, not faith, was the most effective path. Over past centuries prophets had predicted the coming of God's Messiah who would inaugurate a new order, but as the years rolled on, the mood of many was one of despair and resignation, and not just because the inns were full.

As it was then so it is now. We too live in a world of darkness. There are wars and rumours of wars, hunger and unemployment, racism, loneliness, and, for many people, a sense of emptiness. Many in the Middle East will spend this Christmas in refugee camps, having fled from conflict in their home lands of Iraq and Syria. Many in West Africa will spend Christmas without loved ones who have succumbed in the year to the dreadful Ebola virus. In one form or another, at one time or another, 'darkness' has touched the life of us all. Perhaps as you look back on the year now drawing to its close, some of you feel there has been more darkness than light?

Those who follow the Christian faith know that to deny the existence of the darkness is unrealistic.

Nowhere in the Bible do we receive a pep talk or argument that things aren't really as bad as they seem. Rather, it affirms that the darkness is real and it is present in world events and in the lives of individuals.

But, it also affirms that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. The prophet Isaiah wrote, seven centuries before the birth of Christ, that the "people who walk in darkness have seen a great light." John's Gospel emphasises that the light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it. At Christmas time we come together to sing again the words: "Yet, in thy dark street shineth the everlasting light". May those who feel they have been too acquainted with the darkness this year look forward with this hope to the future. And may Jesus Christ bring light into your world this Christmas.

Rev John Girtchen

Christmas services We wish you all The Joy of Christmas and hope you may be able to join us for some of our Christmas services to celebrate the season.

Saturday 13th	December 6.00 pm	Christingles & Carols	at All Saints Church
Friday 19th	December 7.30 pm	Service of Lessons & Carols	at All Saints Church
Christmas Eve	4.00 pm	Crib Service	at Goxhill Methodist Chapel
Christmas Eve	11.30 pm	Holy Communion	at Goxhill Methodist Chapel
Christmas Day	10.00 am	Family Communion	at Christ Church, New Holland

LETTER FROM THE CHAPEL

Dear Friends

What a joy it is to be working with the people of Goxhill; so far, everything I have attended has been accompanied by lots of laughter, or a sense of togetherness as at the Service of Remembrance in November.

It isn't the first time I have been minister at Goxhill Methodist; about 4 years ago, the Barton and Brigg Methodist Circuit was a minister short, and so I had all 14 churches for a year – with a lot of help from my friends, I should add! This time, I am here for a bit longer, and hope to get to know the community a bit better, within my scope of having Goxhill, Ulceby, and developing group work and mission work across the circuit as a half-time minister. You may well still see Revd Sue Wilkins, as she continues her ministry in Barton, Barrow, East Halton and S Ferriby.

Well now, after the introduction, I'm conscious that by the time you read this, we shall be in the season of Advent – a time of preparation and reflection as we prepare our homes, places of work, churches and our hearts for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. A child once described Jesus as 'God with skin on' – and that just about says it all! At Christmas Christians celebrate that God came to earth. - Just pause to think about that for a moment. - The God 'who made heaven and earth'; the mind behind the stars and the planets, the ant and the atom; the One who is the source of all that is good, true, right and light; God who is love eternal; That God came to earth in human form, as a tiny wriggly baby in Jesus. And why would God want to do that? Because He has always, from the beginning of time, wanted to have a special relationship with people, and to have them share eternity with Him; God came to show us what Love means; God came to show us the way back to Himself.

Well, I began with joy, and I shall end with joy, because I hope that as you ponder that last paragraph, your hearts will begin to swell with joy as you realise that all that Jesus came to earth for is for you and your family.

Have a joyful Christmas! And celebrate!

Revd Enid Knowles Goxhill Methodist Minister



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on
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DEADLINE

Please have
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January
Distribution 1st
week of March
**email: goxhill-
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NOTICE BOARD

Christmas Tree Festival All Saints Church

Saturday 13th December 10am - 4pm
Sunday 14th December 1pm - 4pm

There will be a display of Christmas Trees from
different organisation and businesses. Also a
memory tree, for people to hang items on, or
you may wish to put in a small tree in memory
of a loved one.

If you would like to put any tree in church, or
place a picture or item in memory of someone
on the memory tree, please contact **Delie
Simon 530630 or Sandra Smith 530065**.

Trees may be taken into the church on Friday
12th Dec. between 2-4.30pm, or by
arrangement with Delie Simons.

Seasonal refreshments will be available during
the day.

TWAM (Tools With A Mission)

TWAM can make use of any old tools from a
garden hoe to a sewing machine or old bike.
They refurbish the items and send them to Third
World Countries.

If you have any items to donate you may leave
them in All Saints Church before the 11th
January, or call **David Hutson 531895**

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY.

Churches Together Quiz Night

Friday 13th February

For any further information, contact
Sandra Smith on 530065

The Luncheon Club

Meets at the Chapel at 12 noon on the second
Wednesday of every month. If you would like to
come along and share an excellent two-course
meal and conversation, phone **Jane Arnott** on
530962 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
Colin Creasey tel. 530354

Goxhill Women's Institute

The W.I. meet every 2nd Monday of the month
throughout the year except August, at 7 p.m. in
the Memorial Hall. New members and visitors,
including gentlemen, are welcome at any of the
meetings. For further information please
contact **Mrs. Alyson O'Leary, President**, on
01469 531568.

Future programme:

12th January Marie from Scissor Box is giving
a demonstration of an Indian Head Massage

9th February Gary Payne will be
giving us a talk.

9th March is our Annual Meeting



Goxhill WI would like to
thank everyone who
helped to make the
Macmillan Coffee
Morning such a success.
With your support we raised a
whopping £773.82

Goxhill Memorial Hall 200 Club

200 club winners for the last three months -

August	11	Mrs M Knapton	£ 30.00
"	51	Mrs S Smith	£ 30.00
September	76	Mr A King	£ 100.50
"	7	Mr M Robinson	£ 29.50
"	42	Mrs J Kirby	£ 29.50
October	84	Mr M Parker	£ 29.50
"	187	Mrs E Warton	£ 29.50

The Methodist School Room

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

DEADLINE FOR THE SPRING EDITION OF THE GANDER

Please have submissions in by Saturday 31st
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NOTICE BOARD Part 2

Bee Keeping

Our next few months meetings programme is:
January 26th - AGM

February 23rd - Paul Horton, Seasonal Bee Inspector

Our meetings commence at 7.30pm on the last Monday of every month (apart from August and December) at Broughton Village Hall, 59, High Street, Broughton. DN20 0JX

£1 Members £2 Non-Members which includes refreshments

Kevin Seddon Secretary - North Lincolnshire Beekeepers District **Tel 01469 531285**

email - kevinbeeseddon@hotmail.co.uk

website - www.northlincsbeekeepers.org.uk

Bell Ringers

If anyone would like to learn to ring the bells, contact **Stuart Cooke on 531038**. You do not have to be a churchgoer to learn to ring the bells.

See Page 49 for the Bell Ringers fantastic Strawberry Teas fundraising for LIVES.

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Christmas Eve Menu

Christmas Day Menu

New Years Eve Menu

New Years Day Menu

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Lindsey Lodge Hospice in
Scunthorpe takes many people
from this area to look after them.

We would like to thank everyone
who has supported us during the
last 10 years that we have been

having fun fundraising.

There are two future events which we would like
to let everyone know about -

14th December 2014 at 4pm - The Lindsey
Lodge Hospice Barton Supporter Group are
holding a **Tree of Lights Service** in **St. Mary's
Church, Barton**. This is a service that you are
able to remember a lost loved one by either
lighting a candle or giving a small donation to the
Hospice to have a loved one remembered in the
Book of remembrance. Please contact **Liz
Schofield on 07748572396** if you wish to have
a loved ones name in the book.

5th March 2015 at 7pm - Andrew Mason is
doing a **Flower Demonstration** for us to raise
funds. It will be in the Methodist Hall, Holydyke,
Barton upon Humber.

Watch out for posters nearer the time.

Chris Patterson (Secretary)

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NOTICE BOARD Part 3

Potty Panto Players

We are performing Puss in Boots, of which I just happen to have a script tucked in the back of a drawer! OH YES I HAVE!! Last years panto Jack and the Beanstalk was very well received in the village and we sincerely hope that this years production will be just as well supported. We always stage our panto's the first weekend in **December (5th & 6th)** so look out for our advertising boards, posters etc from mid November. With your continued support we should once again be able to donate money to local worthy causes. **Lynne Brocklesby**

SOUTH BANK PLAYERS' NEWS



Our recent production of the comedy, 'Home Is where Your Clothes Are', at Ropery Hall, Barton, brought in record audiences. The antics of the hapless Major who has rented his flat to more than one tenant and has to constantly move their belongings in and out, were hilarious, and had everyone in stitches. At times we had wondered whether this play would ever make it to the stage, as one cast member broke his arm, another broke his ribs, and a third was involved in a car accident only four days before the show! However, every thing was alright on the night, and several audience members said it was the best play they'd been to!

We are now rehearsing our annual pantomime, which this year will be, 'Aladdin the Sequel – Or Wishy Washy's Chinese Takeaway'. It promises to be great fun for all the family, with lots of singing, dancing and the usual audience participation. It's one not to be missed, so you'll want to get your tickets early. The first night (Thursday 22nd Jan) will be a special community performance, and if you are involved with a uniformed group and would like to make a block booking at a reduced rate please contact us as soon as possible. Other performances will be Friday 23rd Jan at 7.30pm, and Saturday 24th Jan at 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Tickets £6/£5.

Ghost Walk season is now upon us. Dare you walk the streets of old Barton town at night, with only spirits to guide you??? Upcoming dates are 28th January, 25th February and 25th March. Walks start from Baysgarth Museum at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £4/£3 and can be booked in advance (recommended) or purchased on the night.

Tickets can be booked through **Alun Friend** on **07500 474446**, or you can book online via our website **www.southbankplayers.weebly.com**

New members always welcome – give us a call!

The Ropewalk

Christmas at The Ropewalk

Ropewalk's traditional Christmas Art Market
Saturday and Sunday, **December 6 and 7th**

Original gifts and Christmas presents will be on sale. More than 40 artists and makers, many of whom took part in Northern Lincolnshire's Open Studios event held in September and early October, will be lining the corridors of the quarter-mile long building for the two day event. On sale will be original handmade gifts, cards, and artwork. Opening times for both days are 10am - 4pm and admission is free.

Duckegg Theatre's Christmas offering
At Ropery Hall between **December 17 and December 22.**

Young people and those who are young at heart shouldn't miss this show which is suitable for children aged three years and over and their families. The show features professional actors from the Duckegg Theatre Company and young people from the Youth Theatre. The evening performances start at 6pm and on **December 19, 20, 21, and 22** there are also matinee performances starting at 2pm.

Tickets cost £8 for adults and £6 for concessions. A family ticket (two adults and two children) costs £24.

Full details, including ticket prices, of all Ropery Hall's events until the end of the year can be found on **www.roperyhall.co.uk**

Badaos



BADAOS are looking forward to our next show, Oliver! Which we will perform **17th February to the 21st of February 2015.**

But before that, we are also doing a night of coffee and carols on the **13th December** from 10am until 12 noon at the Barton Methodist Chapel. Pre sale tickets for our upcoming Oliver show will also be available that morning.

Please follow our Facebook page & our website **www.badaos.webden.co.uk** for more details.

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NOTICE BOARD Part 4

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Wed 31st Dec 2014

7.30 til Late

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**Charity Event
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Dale James
for the Air
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**Tickets £7.50
Available from
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Bring your own drinks!**

Goxhill Art Circle

We meet on Wednesday afternoon in the room
at the rear of the Methodist Church Goxhill from
2 - 4pm. The door is always open from 1.45pm.

We paint whatever is our interest. However if
you are a beginner we would help you with
every aspect of this hobby. Just come along and
relax with us over a cup of tea & biscuits or call
Peter Hornby on 01469 208625.

BARTON AREA FOOD BANK



To help in this vital work or for further
details contact **Margaret Sidell on**
01652 632512

DEADLINE FOR THE SPRING EDITION OF THE GANDER

Please have submissions in by Saturday 31st
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CPRE NORTHERN LINCOLNSHIRE FUNDRAISING CEILIDH

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NOTICE BOARD Part 5

Church Roof Update

There can be few people in Goxhill who are not aware of the challenge thrust upon us to address the damage caused by the theft of lead from the aisle roofs over the Christmas / New Year period a year ago.

Thanks to the efforts of members of our congregation and to the generosity of many local people we were in a position to fund the necessary remedial work. The south aisle has already (and temporarily, we hope) been covered with heavy duty roofing felt as we felt we could not wait until we had raised enough to cover both aisles with 'terne-coated' stainless steel, an approved lead substitute.

We were 'all systems go' for beginning work on the north aisle when a preliminary site inspection revealed some serious problems. Significant deterioration to the stonework of the parapets (invisible from ground level) has been identified, along with the necessity of replacing a massive oak beam which runs the length of the aisle and is badly decayed. Both these problems must now be assessed in depth and a revised schedule of work devised.

Needless to say, this will result in further delay, not least because we are obliged to make allowance for the church's bat population whose interests are a matter of legal protection. There will also be the question of the additional expense which all this will incur. At the time of writing this is unknown, but it is a certainty that the people of All Saints, and all those who have affection and regard for their village church, will have a challenge before them in the months ahead to restore God's house to its deserved state of structural soundness. Please, in whatever way you can, be prepared to assist us in this enormous task.

Rev John Girtchen

MICHAEL RUDDOCK

Mrs. Kay Ruddock would like to thank everyone who has sent cards and messages of condolence and goodwill following the death of Michael after a brief illness.

This came as a great shock to his family and his many, many friends, but it is comforting to know that he was so well thought of by so many.

Thank you all again.

GOXHILL MEMORIAL HALL - FUTURE EVENTS

SPRING CRAFT FAIR

at the Goxhill Memorial Hall on
Sunday 1st March 2015
10.30am - 4.30pm

ENTRY IS FREE. The usual contributors who provide an extensive range of crafts including hand made sewing boxes, baby clothes, jewellery, local art, woodcraft and much more, which is just in time for 'Mothers Day'.

The very popular **Photographic Competition** will again take place, free entry and open to all ages, the subject being 'Village Life'. The entries will be displayed in the side room at the Craft Fair. There will be a prize for the best entry and runner up, voted for by the public. The prizes will be awarded at the end of the day.

Photos should be delivered in a sealed envelope to Colin Creasey's corner shop by Friday 13th February 2015.

We hope everyone will come along and children bring pocket money to buy 'Mothers Day' gifts.

Tables are still available for hire – please contact **Penny Nadin – 01469 532223**

TOMBOLA APPEAL

The Management Committee are appealing for donations towards the tombola stall at the **'Spring Fair' to be held on 1st March, 2015**

Any unwanted gifts, bottles of wine left unopened or donations to purchase items are desperately needed. Please donate all to Colin Creasey at the corner shop before the event.

Any enquires ring **Penny Nadin - 01469 532223**

STOP PRESS – ADVANCE NOTICE

The Big Smoke Band on Sunday 22nd March 2015

Please keep an eye open for notices for this forthcoming event to be held in the Memorial Hall.

The evening will be full of entertainment with refreshments being served. Prices are not yet available.

Please put the date in your diary now! And keep an eye open for further information or contact **John Guggiari on 01469 530363** or **Penny Nadin on 01469 532223**



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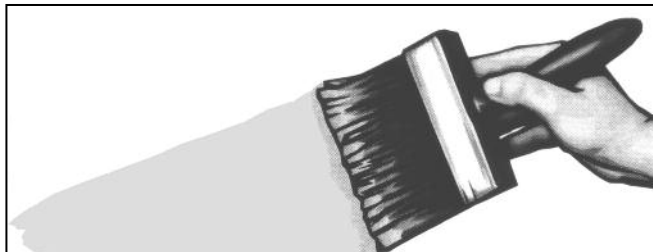
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GOXHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT

This term we have had a few new staff join the school – I thought it would be nice to ask for their impressions of the Autumn term so far, the school as a whole and the experiences and enrichment in which our children flourish.

Impressions of Goxhill Primary School

"My children have been at Goxhill Primary School for nearly 6 years now and I have always found the staff and teachers very approachable and helpful, not really knowing how much work that actually goes on behind the scenes. I started my job as a teaching assistant in September 2014 and I am astounded at how much effort, work and after school work, the whole staff actually does. Every child's need is taken into account and executed with precision. Goxhill School I feel, offer the best primary education in this area, they are an outstanding school, which strive to provide the best possible education that they feel the child can achieve."

Nicky Green Y5 Teaching Assistant

"As a 'newbie' to Goxhill Primary School, I was asked to write a short piece about how I have settled into Goxhill Primary School so far; however I feel like I'm 'home' again. Although it has been some time since I attended Goxhill Primary School myself as a pupil. Some things have obviously changed, such as the wall on the playground shrinking, however it still feels as friendly and welcoming as it always did. I started volunteering at Goxhill Primary School whilst studying for my A-levels and I was shocked to see the pupils who I supported then, have now left their secondary school! How time flies! Already as I write this, the half term is rapidly approaching, Christmas nativity plans have already begun and school trips booked; before we know it we'll be planning Sport's day. What an exciting year ahead!"

Mrs. Kathy Cook (Year 1 teacher)

"I have always known that Goxhill Primary School was a good school for my children to attend. Both of my girls settled into school life well and had a keen thirst for knowledge. As a parent, I have always liked being involved in my children's education and keeping up to date with any changes that are occurring within school. When the school decided to become a federation, I certainly had my concerns. I was worried about how much teachers would be out of the classroom and who would be covering their absences. After speaking to the head teacher about my concerns I began to feel a little more positive."

Since becoming a teaching assistant at Goxhill School (a role I have previously undertaken in other schools) any prior concerns have been annulled. Being a part of everyday school life has highlighted to me what a great school this is. As a whole, the school is good, but the teaching staff are, or strive to be, outstanding. What sets this school apart from others in the area, is the staff. Every member, at every level of the staffing structure, thrives on providing the best education they can deliver. They are enthusiastic, dedicated and genuinely care for the pupils. Children are instilled with the attitude that they must 'aim high' in all they do and this is modelled first hand, by the teachers and teaching assistants that they are supported daily. Children are also encouraged to have pride in

themselves and be proud of their accomplishments.

I love my role in school and within this federation. I enjoy being part of a team that has high standards for all its pupils. More importantly, as a mum, I could not be more pleased with the education my children are getting here. I have two children, both of which enjoy going to school. They are enthusiastic about learning and are both working above the national average. What more could a parent ask for? Whilst the school may always have an area that needs improvement, at this moment, it's certainly proving to be a good school with outstanding expectations."

Kate Wilkinson Y6 Teaching Assistant



Robinwood

Every year, Goxhill and East Halton Year 5 children go on a weekend residential trip to the Robinwood Outdoor Centre. It's a jam packed weekend, full of a wide variety of activities. Canoeing, archery, raft building, zip wiring, are just a few. The children develop their team work skills over the weekend, the encouragement and support towards one another is very heart warming. Many children surprise themselves and conquer their fears. Below are two write ups of the experiences they had.

Memories of Robinwood by Hannah Shearwood Y5

"Robinwood is a place where you do lots of activities such as the Zip Wire, Obstacle course, Raft building and caving. These are only some of the many great things you get to do when you are there. The zip wire and trapeze really boosted my confidence with heights especially with the zip wire being 7 metres high off the ground and the trapeze being about 4 or 5 metres high. On the trapeze I said at first that I didn't want to do it because I was so scared. But when I jumped and swung on the bar and came down, I had a big smile on my face and I wanted to do it again."

The Piranha pool was my favourite thing because we lost one of the tools we needed for working out all of the problems and it fell into the pool. Jonathan Murthwaite said he would jump in and get it. He screamed so loud because he thought there were really piranhas in the pool, which might bite him. At the end everyone had to crawl along a very slippery pole above the pool and everyone fell in and laughed – we got soaked but it was really good fun!

I truly loved Robinwood. Jemima and I went on the big swing and we went so high it made our tummies go funny. At the end of each busy day we came together and got hot chocolate before we went to bed."

continued on page 19

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continued from page 17

Memories of Robinwood by Owen Stamp Y5

"On the morning we were leaving, I woke up so excited thinking about the Robinwood trip. We had to be at school early in the morning to catch the bus with our luggage. At 8.15am we set off for our adventure and waved goodbye to our parents. We arrived at the coach park, which was 3 miles away from the Robinwood centre and we walked up a very steep hill under lots of bridges. We saw a canal, lock gates, sheep and a train track.



The first activity for our group was archery, which I really enjoyed. At 7pm that evening we did the trapeze but we were washed and ready for bed by 10pm after enjoying a lovely cup of hot chocolate. The next morning we built a raft and jumped into the lake afterwards. The water was freezing cold but we had so much fun. It was a good job we had a lovely warm shower to warm us up after.

The big swing was very scary and made me scream but I was glad I went on it and chose to have another go! The caving activity was



very tight for space and we learnt about stalagmites and stalactites. The last activity was the crates challenge, which was very difficult but lots of fun. Robinwood is a fantastic place with lots of opportunities where I have learnt so many different things!"

It brings a tear to my eye reading all of the lovely comments that our staff and children have to say about our school. I often ask the question: 'Can others see what I see?' and reading this report, I am pleased to say they can.

As far off as it may seem, I would like to wish everyone a warm and happy Christmas period and as always look out for the school calendar which is packed full in the run up!

Warmest wishes,

Miss Breslin, Miss Teasdale and Mrs Kell

WINNER - North Lincolnshire Council's 'Best Garden'

I entered the North Lincolnshire Council's 'Best Garden' competition in May having seen it advertised on their website. There were 5 categories: Best Small Garden, Best Large Garden, Best Disabled Garden, Best School Garden and Best Eco Garden. I entered the large garden and the best eco garden categories. I forgot about it until one Monday morning two gentlemen turned up with clipboards asking to look around my garden. I had no prior warning otherwise I would have cut the grass and weeded the borders! However, they didn't seem put off and their visit lasted nearly an hour. On their departure they said that if my garden were to be shortlisted I would hear within the next few weeks. To my complete surprise I received a phone call one afternoon telling me that I had indeed been shortlisted and that the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress would be

visiting all of the shortlisted gardens to make the final judgement. Here

is the photo of Kevin and I with them on the day of their visit. Kevin and I were invited to attend Normanby Hall to the award ceremony and I'm pleased to say that I came second in the Large Garden category and first in the Eco Garden category. My prize for winning was an afternoon with the Head Gardener at Normanby Hall along with a shiny silver cup that I get to keep for a year. This is the first time I've ever entered a garden competition and I would urge others to do the same.

Shelagh Seddon



Shelagh Seddon with husband Kevin and the Mayor Councillor Trevor Foster and his wife Angela, during the final judging.



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YOUNG GOXHILL PEOPLE TO BE PROUD OF!

OPERATION LIFESTYLE

Goxhill Parish Council would like to thank Lucy Brierley and Erin McWilliam for choosing to make improvements to the village as part of their Goxhill Primary School Year 6 Lifestyle Challenge. The girls raised over £70 by holding a cake sale and selling homemade items, such as bracelets and hair scrunchies. They used some of the money to purchase plants for Goxhill Memorial Hall and also undertook a number of tasks, which included weeding, sweeping and planting the flowers around the hall. The rest of the money was donated to the Help the Heroes Charity.

I am sure the rest of the village will join the Parish Council in thanking them for their hard work and community spirit. Both girls are now at Baysgarth School and we wish them well for the future.

Chris Tooby (Clerk to Goxhill Parish Council)

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

Goxhill Community Library would like to thank Tyler Green, Jemima Green, Hannah Shearwood, Georgia Shearwood and MacKenzie Welton for giving up part of their holidays to raise money for the library. Their efforts are much appreciated by all the volunteers.

They had previously been in the library and just decided one morning to have a sale at the front gate. They nominated the library because "nobody else gave the library anything." They came in with their parents to hand over £10 they had raised.

It was a lovely gesture with no prompting or promise of reward. It quite restores faith in humankind.

Alyson O'Leary (Library Volunteer)



DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S GOLD AWARD

Following my completion of the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold award last summer, I was recently invited to London for the presentation ceremony. This was a wholly unique experience, with the event held in St. James' Palace: one of the few chances to see the interior of the spectacular building since it is still used for royal events. Taking the day off from university, it was an early start but on what turned out to be a warm, dry day. I was allowed one guest in the palace and so my Dad came down from Goxhill and, after a short queue in the courtyard, we were allowed inside the palace. All award holders from this region were in the Queen Anne room, and it was good to see some familiar faces alongside me. While we waited for Prince Philip to arrive, we were treated to a speech from Vivienne Westwood, who would be presenting our room's certificates! At last the moment arrived: HRH entered our room to a nervous silence and proceeded to chat to both guests and award holders in a fairly relaxed manner. Indeed, I had a brief exchange with him about my voluntary work for the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, and how wild sheep could be! With the presentation of certificates, the day was over: a fitting finale for what has been an enjoyable journey. I would very much encourage anyone who has the chance to give the award a go.

Sean Guggiari




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MY SUMMER DOWN UNDER

I have lived in Goxhill since the age of two, and the first time I really left was to go to the University of Sheffield to study medicine. This was a massive step for me, leaving the peaceful rural environment to embrace city living. An even bigger leap was to spend seven weeks this summer on the other side of the world: Australia. As part of our degree before entering the final year of training we get the opportunity to practice any branch of medicine we want, anywhere in the world, for seven weeks. So it was that I travelled to Geraldton, a town 260 miles north of Perth on the west coast, to start my adventures down under.

This region of Australia is very rural; communities can often be far away from each other and medical care. There is a shortage of doctors in these areas, and so doctors are somewhat required to be 'multi-talented'. I spent time with one doctor who was a GP, anaesthetist, dermatologist, and also a pilot. I myself did a large variety of medical work, including GP clinics, anaesthesia and minor surgery in the local skin clinic.



I actually spent much of my time in the air: I went on weekly fly-in doctor clinics to the rural areas of the outback to attend to the patients that live out there. The closest settlement we visited was over an hour's car drive away, and so the doctor's Cessna aircraft was the most practical way of reaching these isolated places. I understand that it can be difficult to get an appointment with a GP here in Lincolnshire, but this was another level. I didn't imagine I would find situations like this, where people can be so far away from a doctor who only visits weekly at most, in a developed country such as Australia.

I also had a lot of hands-on experience in the operating theatres of the local hospital practicing anaesthetics, which is an area I am interested in as a possible career path. I got to perform procedures that students aren't usually able to perform until they are into their specialist training, such as delivering spinal anaesthetic (similar to an epidural that a woman might receive in labour).

When I worked in the skin clinic it was fascinating to learn from the Australian doctors who were clearly experienced experts in the field. It may surprise you to learn that two out of three Australians will develop skin cancer by the age of 70. On a typical day at the skin clinic I would see numerous skin checks and assist in up to ten excisions. The majority of locals have outdoor occupations (farmers, fishermen and builders in particular), and so the prevalence of skin cancer is particularly high. Luckily there is so much awareness of the risks of sun damage now in Australia, and clinics like the one where I practiced do some brilliant work; a cure is relatively easily achieved and often as simple as chopping the area out. Again, I was very hands-on, and by the time I left I was performing these minor excisional operations independently. All of this was a marvellous opportunity I would not be able to encounter in my work experience here back home.

Admittedly, it wasn't all hard work. Geraldton is an ideal base from which to access all the amazing places that Western Australia has to offer. On (long) weekends I was able to explore places such as bustling Perth, the stunning gorges of Kalbarri National Park, and the clear waters of Coral Bay, which offered the perfect snorkelling opportunity that some say rivals the Great Barrier Reef. I experienced plenty of wildlife in feeding native kangaroos at a farm, saying hello to quokkas on Rottnest Island, plus I was lucky enough to swim alongside nine-metre whale sharks and manta rays in the ocean! As a finale on the day before I left, I took a skydive from 14,000 feet over the stunning beach and coral reefs of Jurien Bay. Overall my seven weeks in Australia was, I think it's safe to say, the experience of a lifetime.

I'm fortunate enough to be doing what I'm doing now and having all these fantastic opportunities because of where I started: Goxhill Primary School. I am thankful for the indispensable education I received there from 1995 to 2003, under the leadership of two great headmasters, John Bailey and Andrew Jackson. I feel from my beginnings there I had the best preparation possible to endeavour to achieve what I wanted in life. I am due to graduate in June 2015, and will be very excited to finally realise my aspiration of becoming a doctor. I am sure that my special medical experiences in Australia have developed me as a professional, and will last with me into my future career to help me become the best well-rounded doctor I possibly could be.



Brooke Powell


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LOCAL GOXHILL BOY SERVES 2 YEAR MISSION TO GREECE & CYPRUS

Isaac Murphy moved to Goxhill 10 years ago with his family from Dewsbury, West Yorkshire. His parents had wanted a more rural lifestyle to bring up their four young children and after visiting Goxhill they knew it was the place for them. When the Murphy family moved to Goxhill Isaac was just 8. He started attending the local village junior school in Goxhill, he then went to senior school at Winterton and then college at John Leggott. During this time Isaac also attended the LDS Church services at Grimsby and then Scunthorpe. Isaac from a young age had wanted to serve a mission and after leaving college Isaac made the decision to go on a mission before he started university. So Isaac filled out the paperwork and sent it off to church Headquarters at Salt Lake City, he then awaited for the letter telling him where in the world he would be sent to serve his mission.



Elder Isaac Murphy in the MTC July 2014

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' missionary program is one of its most recognized characteristics. Mormon missionaries can be seen on the streets of hundreds of major cities in the world as well as in thousands of smaller communities. Most are young people under the age of 25, serving in more than 400 missions throughout the world.

Missionaries can be single men between the ages of 18 and 25, single women over the age of 19 or retired couples. Single men serve missions for two years and single women serve missions for 18 months. Missionaries receive their assignment from Church headquarters and are sent only to countries where governments allow the Church to operate. Missionaries do not request their area of assignment and do not know beforehand whether they will be required to learn a language.

A typical missionary day begins by waking at 6:30 a.m. for personal study. The day is spent proselytizing by following up on appointments, visiting homes or meeting people in the street or other public places. Missionaries end their day by 10:30 p.m.

Missionary work is voluntary. Missionaries fund their own missions and are not paid for their services. Contacts with family and friends during this time of service are limited to letters and occasional phone calls to family at special times.

Isaac received his letter with his assignment inside, so he called all his family and friends together, he opened the letter and read that he was called to serve a 2 year mission in the Athens Greece Mission. He was so excited and was also relieved as he was not serving where his dad had served his mission 30 years ago in the West Midlands and North Wales. Greece and Cyprus would be a lot more exciting and a lot warmer. Isaac would have to learn a new language and not just that but a new alphabet too.

Isaac left his home to enter the Missionary Training Centre (MTC) at Preston on 31st July this year to spend 9 weeks at the MTC learning the language and skills needed to communicate with the Greek people. Isaac now has the title of Elder and has joined over 100 more young people training to be missionaries and learning the new language.

Elder Murphy wrote home and said "Overall I am super enjoying the MTC, I love it soo much, it's unreal. The constant companionship of the spirit is just sooo strong, it is great, I am so grateful to be able to serve a mission, to serve my Lord Jesus Christ and to represent Him."

Elder Murphy finished his training at the MTC and on the 3rd October he flew out to Athens and met up with the other missionaries already serving there. The Greece Athens mission is made up of around 50 missionaries, who teach the gospel of Jesus Christ on the mainland, the islands of Greece and Cyprus. Elder Murphy will take an active part in spreading the gospel in Greece & Cyprus and serving the people who live there. After serving his 2 year term Elder Murphy will return home to his family and continue his education at university. Isaac will have the memories and experiences from his mission that he will never forget and that will help guide him through the rest of his life.

A mission is a great opportunity to help develop communication skills, learn how to talk to people from all types of backgrounds, learn to speak to large groups, learn to handle rejection and how to work hard. "I think the greatest lesson Isaac will learn is how to be selfless, to put others before himself and show love and kindness to all around him, in fact be like his greatest example, Jesus Christ." said his father, Mark Murphy.



Isaac with his family before going to Greece

REMEMBRANCE SERVICES 2014

All the pupils from Goxhill and East Halton Schools gathered together at All Saints Church on Tuesday 11th November. Each Year Group read poems, sang songs or gave readings to commemorate Remembrance Day. It was very moving to see how seriously the children took the occasion.



Year 6 pupils from Goxhill Primary School did a special assembly to commemorate Remembrance Day at school. It was so good that they were asked to repeat it in the Chapel on Wednesday 12th November, to a wider audience from the village. It was so moving that there was hardly a dry eye in the house by the end.



The Memorial Hall was packed for the Remembrance Day Service & Wreath Laying on Sunday 9th November. Lead by Rev Enid Knowles, with Rev John Girtchen and David Hutson, wreaths were laid by representatives from the Memorial Hall, Parish Council, 1st Goxhill & Barrow Scouts and Penny and David Carnell on behalf of RAF Squadron 141.



The Remembrance Day Service, on Sunday 9th November at the Airfield Memorial, lead by Sandra Smith, with Rev Enid Knowles and Rev John Girtchen, was treated to an unintended fly past by a Hurricane as well as several passes by the Piper Cub. It marked a very meaningful ceremony on a spectacularly beautiful day.

Poems inspired by the famous lines by Mary Elizabeth Frye, 1932. Written by Year 6 pupils from Goxhill Primary School and read out beautifully at their Remembrance Service in Goxhill Methodist Chapel 12 November 2014

Do not stand at my grave and weep.
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am the final rays of sun,
I am the moments full of fun.
I am the flow of the summer breeze,
I am the play of piano keys.
I am the smell of the morning dew,
I am the gift given to you
treasured 'til the end of time,
I am a poem's final rhyme.
I am your first lost tooth,
I am a constant reminder of your youth.
I am an end to your strife,
I am the favourite moments of your life.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there. I do not die.

By Josh Carn



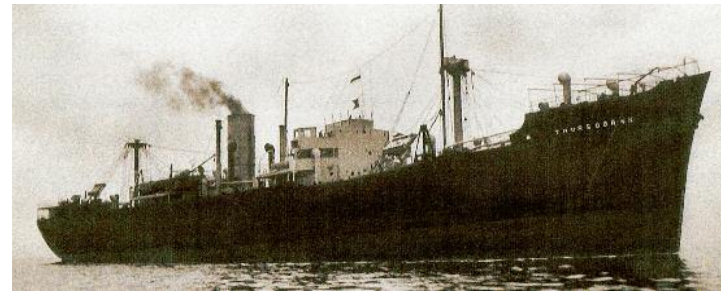
Do not stand at my grave and weep.
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am the soldier that went to war,
I am his son that lives next door.
I am the tears that you cry,
I am the fish as you swim by.
I am the love that keeps us together,
I will love you forever.
I am the ripple of the great blue sea,
I am the life that my family gave to me.
I am your first love,
I am the bird you call a dove.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there. I do not die.

By Francesca Merrison

Reginald Johnson M.B.E., L.W.M.

On October 23rd 1935 the Hull Trinity House Navigation School admitted 31 boys who had undergone 3 months probationary training. Among them were two former pupils from Goxhill Methodist School. They were Thomas Plumtree and Reginald Johnson.

Reginald Johnson was born at Louth on 22nd January 1922, he later moved to Goxhill and lived with his parents at Glenora House, The Square, Goxhill. His father was a marine engineer employed on the Railway Ferry boats, plying on the River Humber from New Holland to Hull. It follows that Reginald would pursue a career in ships. Reginald left Trinity House on 7th October 1937, at the age of 15 years 9 months on being accepted as a cadet by J & C. Harrison of London



After passing examinations, Reginald was appointed as Third Officer on "S.S. Thursobank" This ship was completed by J. Readhead & Sons Ltd., South Shields in 1940. She had taken on 7839 tons of general cargo, which included Martin Maryland light bombers destined for use in Middle East. The route "Thursobank" was to take was from New York to Alexandria via Cape Town. She was to sail unescorted with a crew of 55. There were seven DEMS (Defensively Equipped Merchant Ship) gunners on board. While sailing in Chesapeake Bay she was torpedoed by U-boat U373 captained by Paul-Karl Loeser. On this voyage U373 also sank S S Mount Lycabettus, a Greek ship of 4,292 grt which had left Baltimore bound for Leixoes, Portugal, on 17th March 1942. Five days later, U373 had it's second success, sinking S S Thursobank.

The Captain, 21 crew and 7 DEMS gunners were lost. 26 crew members in the life boat were picked up by the Norwegian tanker MV Havsten which landed on March 25th 1942 at Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Extracts from a confidential statement made by Reginald Johnson dated 8th June 1942 reads -

'We left New York on 21st March 1942, sailing without escort, I had no information about submarines, although I had heard that two ships had been sunk in that area. The sky was cloudy and overcast, but visibility was good, the sea was very rough and the wind south-westerly, force 7. I took over the watch on the bridge at 20.00hrs.

About 30 minutes later I noticed what appeared to be the wake of a torpedo crossing the bow. I called the Master to the bridge and he ordered the course be altered. As nothing further was seen we resumed our course. We proceeded without incident until 22.40 when a gunner at the look-out saw a torpedo approaching from the port beam.

Simultaneously there was a violent explosion on the port side of the ship abreast of the engine room. It was pitch dark but I could see that the after port lifeboat had been blown to pieces. The Master ordered the starboard lifeboats and the port forward life-boat to be lowered and the crew scrambled into them quickly and got clear of the ship. The second mate was in charge of one of the starboard boats but

I did not see him at all after the incident. I believe that two men launched a raft and got away on it.

I was in charge of the Captain's starboard lifeboat; the captain insisted on remaining on the ship and seeing that all the crew were clear. He ordered me to get the boat away. I do not know what became of him.

When my boat was 20 yards from the ship I heard a much more violent explosion and I did not see the ship again.

The wind was blowing a moderate gale so I decided to put the sea anchor out and to heave to. I burnt four red flares to attract any survivors, but nothing happened. At dawn I saw the two men on the raft but was unable to reach them owing to the gale and the high sea. There was a lot of wreckage floating about which must have come from my ship. I decided to remain at anchor until the weather moderated and commenced rationing the food and water.

We had a good supply of drinking water and I was able to allow a dipper full to each man every day. The concentrated food sustained us very well during the time we were in the boat. I had 33 of the crew in my boat, including the 3rd engineer, an apprentice, 5 gunners (2 Navy, 3 Army) and 26 Chinese ratings. The 3rd engineer reported that the boats Morris motor was out of order as the magneto was under water a foot deep.

We succeeded in pumping out the water, but by that time our feet were wet and as we had no dry sea boots, we suffered from extreme cold. I'm sorry to report that one Chinese member of the crew had to have both feet amputated. Most of the crew suffered from sea-sickness.

I had trouble with the Chinese ratings, who seemed to be under the impression that the white men were going to claim the food and they announced their intention of throwing overboard all the white men in the boat. I reported their behaviour to the Naval authorities at Halifax, but I do not think any disciplinary action was taken against them.

On 24th March, after being at anchor for 3½ days, the weather moderated so I set sail and steered to the west hoping that I could reach the American coast, inspite of the northerly set of the current. The peak of the lug was well topped up and the boat made good headway.

About 23.00 on 26th March I sighted a ship on the port bow about ½ mile distant and burned the remaining two flares, flashed my torch and ordered every man to switch on their life jacket light. The ship altered course and steamed towards us. She turned out to be the Norwegian tanker M.V. Havsten. I managed to climb up the ladder but to my surprise, on reaching the ship's deck, I could not stand up because my feet were frostbitten.

We were treated with every consideration on board the Havsten and were landed at Halifax, Nova Scotia, on March 28th 1942, where most of the crew were treated for frostbite. Only 10 Chinese members of the boat's complement escaped the affects of exposure. All members of the boat's crew with the exception of myself and the 3rd engineer wore protective suits. My suit had been stolen shortly after I got in the boat. I was admitted to the hospital at Halifax. I do not know what happened to the other life boats or the raft and can only conclude that they must have capsized during the gale".

The Honours and Awards Committee said 'To his seamanship, discipline and unwavering resolution the survivors owe their lives. **Reginald Johnson was awarded a Lloyds War Medal as well as an MBE.**

Based on information supplied by **MAURICE BARRICK**

FOOTNOTE - The fate of U373 was determined on June 8th 1944, sunk in the Bay of Biscay by a Liberator from RAF 224 Squadron. The U-boat commander and 43 crew were rescued by a fishing boat and landed in France, 4 crew were lost. On August 3rd 1942, MV Havsten was torpedoed by U160 when on a voyage from Freetown to Trinida.

GOXHILL'S PUBS!

It is hard to imagine a village the size of Goxhill without a pub!

But did you know there used to be 4 pubs in Goxhill? YES FOUR!!!!

We all know, or should it be knew 'The Brock'? Let's hope the Brocklesby Hunt's new owners will recognise the need for a village pub, as a social point of the community, with good food and good wines and spirits, and a warm welcome to all residents of Goxhill, young and old.

But what about the Generous Briton, the Royal Oak and the Ferry Inn. What a pub crawl that would have been, though it is a long way to stagger to and from the Humber bank.

The Generous Briton was closed in 1971 when it was sold as a private house, that is now Briton Lodge on North End.

When I moved to Willow Lane in 1982, the pub was still marked on my Ordinance Survey map, and I was bitterly disappointed to find it was no longer in existence when I popped round the corner for my first welcoming pint.

What a shame, it sounded like a great pub and I have heard it said that 'the wrong pub closed'.

The Royal Oak on Westfield Road, had closed long before and the Ferry Inn, down on the river bank at Goxhill Haven, too.

I already have a very interesting article on the Generous Briton in its heyday, from Mrs Stead.

But I would like to gather together as much information as I can about all our four pubs, for a future article in the Gander. So if any of you have a long memory or have stories handed down about any of Goxhill's old public houses, I will be very grateful for your anecdotes.

You can contact me, Jeff Teasdale on 07774 671175 or on email goxhill-gander@fsmail.net



The Generous Briton on North End next door to the old blacksmiths.

The Brocklesby Hunt looking rather better than it does now.



The Ferry Inn on the river bank at Goxhill Haven, in the 18th Century, with barrels outside.



The Royal Oak on Westfield Road, c1919. It is the low building this side of the pub sign.



1st GOXHILL & BARROW SCOUTS



As always, our boys and girls have had a busy year with many activities arranged including hikes, camps and outdoor fun. Bonfires, conkers and Christmas treats now beckon for the winter season. We will be supporting our community this year by presenting a wreath to commemorate Remembrance Day and hope to have a large number of our young people attending the centenary service.

We would like to say a big thank you to Chris Richardson who has retired as our treasurer and a big welcome and thank you to Alan Croft who has volunteered as his replacement.

Our Group is run entirely by volunteers who give up their free time to plan and supervise the safety of our children at weekly sessions, accompany children on weekend camps and activities, fundraise and attend training sessions. Can we please take this opportunity to thank Tracy Morley, Chantelle Jackson, Andy Oliver, Kevin Wright, John Ratcliffe, Kevan Lari, Tony Morley, Fred Somerscales, Damian Connolly, Chris Richardson and Alan Croft for their hard work and commitment to 1st Goxhill & Barrow Scouts. Our parent helpers are also an invaluable help and we thank them; you are very much appreciated.

Beavers

Beavers have returned after the summer holidays. We are at full capacity at the moment with a mix of boys and girls looking forward to winter activities.

During the year Beavers took part in a very entertaining 'Beavers got Talent' show – an interesting mix of enthusiasm and talent! We also visited the fire and police stations in Barton and had a first aid lesson from our local LIVES response team. We have had fun learning the phonetic alphabet and making floor shapes and have had an Olympic sporting events evening, pancake tossing, easter activities, mothers day, fathers day, St. Patrick's day the list is endless!

We have a waiting list running at the moment so if you are interested in your child joining beavers, please call the number at the bottom of this article as early as possible. Beavers can join at age 6.

Cubs

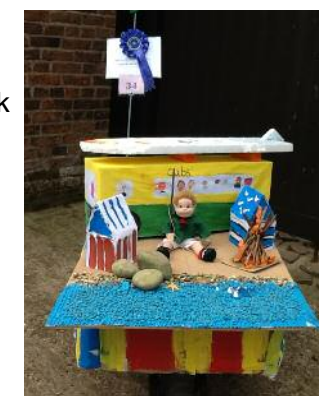
Having returned after the summer holidays many of our older children have moved up to Scouts and a new set of Cubs have started. We have a pack of 24 boys and girls and have started the term on working towards the Fire Safety badge. Already the cubs have learned the importance of knowing the fire drills and evacuation plans and how the various smoke and heat detectors can help save your life. We are also planning a visit to Scunthorpe Fire Station in the next few weeks. This time of year wouldn't be the same without a conker competition and, after a tense battle, this year's champion was Abbie who beat Ethan in the final. Next we will be teaching the Cubs how to build and light fires safely

- the important building blocks for attending camps and outdoor cooking.

Talking of which, the very first PrimJam camp run by Lincolnshire District was held in September; hats off to all the organisers who put on a magnificent weekend of activities and fun. Our Group was the biggest by far with 49 cubs, scouts, explorers, leaders and parent helpers all camping and enjoying the weekend despite the mixed weather. This was the first time we had such a large contingent at a camp and our camping equipment was stretched to the limit.

Fortunately we recently held a charity Race Night with over a 120 people attending and we raised over £1000 to buy new camping equipment. Thank you to all those who supported us by sponsoring horses and coming to the evening.

Finally, last term the Cubs entered the Better Barrow Wheelbarrow competition and were awarded a rosette for our beach and camper van themed barrow. Akela



Scouts

1st Goxhill & Barrow Scout Troop has been boosted by a large intake of former Cubs, but places are still available for boys and girls aged 10½ to 14.

The Troop meets each Tuesday during term time between 7pm - 8.45pm at the Scout HQ on Barrow Road in New Holland.

In-line with national policy, the emphasis is on fun, action and adventure to help our young people realise their full potential. We are also going through a back-to-basics resurgence with more time spent on the outdoors, camping, hiking and the essentials of outdoor enjoyment.

Yes, we do know a reef knot from a sheepshank!

New parent helpers are also welcome to help share the workload! You will also have some great fun!

Explorers

We have some places available in Explorers so if you are aged 14 to 18 years and fancy coming along, please give us a call. We appreciate the maturity of this age group and welcome input and activity ideas from our young adults – we go rock climbing, bowling, camping, cooking, shooting, etc. Many young people are realising how good being an Explorer looks on job and university applications! Don't feel intimidated – we are a really friendly group!

Until next time, Yours in Scouting
1st Goxhill & Barrow Scouts

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At Pre School we really find it difficult to believe that it is December. Back in August we held our Scarecrow hunt, lots of families participated in the Scarecrow Trail. The winner on the day was Daisy Sullivan and her family. Well done, and thank you to all who participated.

In September we returned with lots of new faces, including our new member of staff Georgia Robinson, Georgia is an apprentice and is studying towards a childcare qualification at Grimsby College on one day per week. Georgia has settled in very well with everyone and is a wonderful addition to the team.

During the first half term we introduced the children to the books 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and 'Dear Zoo' the children absolutely adored these stories and it was wonderful to see them sharing them around the setting with their friends. We took the children around the grounds of the school and collected autumnal natural resources, the children went on to make collages with them, they used them to print with, they explored their textures, looked at the differences and talked about the changes in the seasons.

We also embarked on a programme to bring more cooking activities in to the children's learning. The children brought in apples they had found in their gardens and we cooked with them, we baked bread, made soup, and in response to their play made 'birthday' buns. These adult led activities are great opportunities for the children to try new foods, turn take, share resources, follow instructions, use mathematical language, look at text in the form of packaging or recipe books, explore textures and so much more!

The children took part in a Sponsored Listen. This will go towards the setting receiving the value raised in Usbourne Books. We thank all of the children who took part, and thank all their families and friends for sponsoring them. So far we have £450 to spend on books.



Finally the end of term saw the Halloween Disco held in the School Hall. It was a huge success and was a very busy evening. We saw some wonderful costumes and some very scary face painting! We raised £276.00. Thank you to everybody that came and supported this fantastic event.

As always we thank all of our families for their ongoing support, and we look forward to a very busy Pre Christmas Term.

New 2 year old Funding

From September 2013, some two year olds who live in North Lincolnshire will meet eligibility criteria to be entitled to 15 hours per week free childcare from the term following their second birthday. Children will only be able to access their places in settings with a good or outstanding ofsted. If you would like more information with reference to this, please contact the **Family Information Service on 01724 296629**.

As we have a Good Ofsted, there are places available at Goxhill Pre-school for children who are eligible for the 2 year funding.

For more information on anything in this article please call in during our opening times, which are Monday through to Friday 9am to 3.30pm (Term time only) at the Integrated Services Building, located at Goxhill Primary School.

Contact **Lyndsey Percy on 01469 535061** or email us at goxhillpreschool@gmail.com

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Contact Pre-school on **01469 535061**

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The Humber Tunnel, Secretary of State to make Final Decision!

The National Grid has decided that it needs to replace the gas pipeline beneath the river Humber. The present pipe which was originally placed in a trench beneath the river has been exposed by the current and it is now unprotected. They have chosen to build a tunnel and to place the new pipe in the tunnel. The tunnel will lie close by the present pipe and will link the site at Paull on the other side with the terminal in the East Marsh at Goxhill. The tunnel will be bored and all of the work will be done from Goxhill.

This will be a massive project. Vast quantities of chalk will be extracted and will have to be carted away for disposal. Just over 3 miles of steel pipe and 3 miles of tunnel lining will be brought to site together with machinery and materials for the construction of buildings and assembly areas. This will have a tremendous detrimental effect upon the village, which will be experienced by most of the people who live here. There is however little to be gained by protesting. This is a necessary piece of work to ensure the future safety and continued availability of gas.

In my youth in the village where I was born there was a gentleman renowned for his great wisdom and wise sayings, one of which was "There is more to be got by licking than by biting". I think that we should consider that very carefully and seek to find the opportunities within the situation rather than to fight what must be a losing battle. When projects of this nature are undertaken there is usually an amount of finance made available to ameliorate the suffering of the victims of the problems that will inevitably arise. It is however important to be mindful of this and to plan ahead. We must know what we want before the opportunity arises. It would also be helpful if the wider public could be involved rather than "essential confidentiality" being used as an excuse for telling no one.

A large amount of planning by the Gas Grid has already taken place. A one way route around the village which does not allow traffic to and from the site to enter the village has been projected. Unfortunately an error in a street name made by Google Earth Maps (South End Churchside) has been faithfully copied in the Gas Grid publicity material thus revealing that the planner relied more on the computer screen than observation on site. This lack of local knowledge is evident in the detail of the plan. The intention to route ten very heavy loads per hour, over the existing Ferry, East Marsh, and Chapel Field Roads over a period of two years shows no understanding of the state of those roads at the present time.

There was a presentation in the Memorial Hall with people available to explain the project. Several groups of people from the village were present and were taking a great deal of interest in the information available. The numbers were not very large considering the large number of people living here. I also felt that if there was representation of our village council it was not made evident. Although neither the Parish Council nor the North Lincolnshire Council can prevent this national scheme from going ahead that does not exclude them from any interest in it. There is a great deal that they can do to look after the interests of the village.

The programme has been ongoing for 3 years and there is a further period of planning so that construction will

not begin until 2016. With this in mind it would be helpful if our Councils, Anglian Water, House Builders, and others who may have projects that might exacerbate the problems could take this timing into consideration.

It is of course usual in such matters for only a few people to be interested until the rest are personally affected, but if only by noise, dust and delays to traffic, everyone will be involved. For some people that ride horses the extra traffic, which in many cases is routed past the entrance to their stable yards, will present a special hazard. For others simply getting out of the village to go to work and returning afterwards will become a daily rush hour problem.

The publicity material identifies the location of the scheme as a rural environment and the local economy as based on agriculture with a small number of farms surrounding the area. This is true of the area surrounding their tunnel but it is a total misrepresentation of the village and the people who will be affected. For about 150 years, Goxhill has been the chosen home of people who travel to the surrounding towns and villages by road, rail and ferry to their places of work. The economy of the village has relied and still does rely heavily upon the work of these commuters, as well as upon agriculture. The restoration of all land to its original condition in agreement with land owners is important but the effects of the disruption will be felt by a far larger population.

When the decision of the Secretary of State is finally announced and work begins, one group living in the Marsh will no doubt raise a loud clamour and be up in the air about it, but, being unable to do anything will move to a different spot and return when the work is completed. I do hope that the Goxhill Goose and Gander will not suffer too great a disturbance.

Maurice Brawn

THE PARISH COUNCIL would like to point out that PC members did attend the meeting, and have indeed raised points for and against aspects of the project but in principle are of the opinion that this is a major national infrastructure for the benefit of the community as a whole. The proposal has been discussed at each PC meeting for about four months under any other business.

Humber Gas Pipeline Construction Traffic through Goxhill - From a base south of the Lynton Stud they propose drilling, removing waste then bringing in precast concrete sections to line a 5km long, 8 ft wide tunnel under the Humber, from Goxhill. All support vehicles will use a one-way traffic route, entering the village along Ferry Road, turning right at East Marsh Road, returning if possible by Chapel Field Road back onto College Road. This means that there will be no way in or out of the village that is not being used by heavy industrial traffic. At peak periods, as many as 7 HGVs per hour of the 12 hour working day. Full details can be found on their website at <http://www.riverhumberpipeline.com>. There is a "give us your views" button, or speak to **Darren Cowling (01724 296699)** at North Lincs Council highways authority. National Grid will be applying for final National Infrastructure Planning Approval in early 2015 with construction to start in 2016.



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GOXHILL PARISH COUNCIL

TREE FELLING

Firstly I would like to thank the chair of the Parish Council and the Humber volunteers for taking the time to take the trees out on Ferry Road that were in a poor state and the self set trees down the Green Ramper along the pavement side. But there is someone among our community that has taken the time to ring up North Lincolnshire Council to report the fact that the brush from the trees has been left in the Ramper. YES THIS IS TRUE. But when the brush has dried OUT it will be burnt. To the person who rang up North Lincolnshire Council, if you have too much time on your hands, why don't you offer your services and help these people that took the time VOLUNTARILY to take these trees out, so they would not blow over in the wind onto the road, and possibly hurt someone. If anyone has grievances come along to the council meetings where your opinions can be answered. REMEMBER the Parish Councillors are Volunteers.

PLAYING FIELDS

We have the design plans for the skate park and we are awaiting a time scale for the work to commence.

SKATE PARK? The question was raised by a member of the community as they thought it meant just skateboards, but the park is for scooters, BMXs, etc. as well.

There have been a few comments stating that the park is going to interfere with the football pitch. This not true as the Skate Park is going to run along the side of the M.U.G.A.

If anyone has any concerns please feel free to come along to one of our council meetings and hopefully we can answer anything that you have concerns about.

ALLOTMENTS

We still have vacancies for allotments. They are a good way of meeting people, also getting good ideas, and great gardening tips. Plus the benefit of eating your own produce.

CEMETERY

The cemetery is looking good, and the cemetery keeper is still keeping busy with the jobs.

LIBRARY

The library still needs new members and they have the computers for your use.

MEMORIAL HALL

The New booking secretary is Colin Creasy at the Post Office – telephone 01469 530354.

The booking rates have been put up for Premium Nights, such as Boxing Day, New Years Eve.

Val Gorbitt

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

7th MAY 2015

If you are considering putting yourself forward to help on the Parish Council, the next election will be on 7th May 2015 if required.

The Parish Council will post information about the process on their website nearer the time. If you need any more information about the work covered by your Parish Council, please contact the Clerk, Chris Tooby, or any of the Parish Councillors.

KNIT & NATTER

I was kindly invited to visit Knit & Natter by Enid Girdham. And I was really surprised and impressed by the hive of activity and the buzz of chatter that greeted me. It was not just knitting, though, there was crocheting and painting on to silk going on too. And a lot of very friendly chatter from a surprisingly large group of ladies of all ages.

But this is not just a social occasion, for they do some very serious charity work. They knit baby clothes for the Neo Natal Unit at Scunthorpe Hospital; teddies for Tragedies, for children in the Gambia; clothes and toys for the shoe boxes appeal for Operation Christmas Child; and knitted poppies for Remembrance Day. Plus they make handpainted silk cards and many other gift items. All proceeds go to Goxhill Church.

Terry Hewitt puts out all the tables,




turns the heating on and makes tea so nothing stops the chatter and clatter of the needles.

Knit & Natter meet Every Thursday 2-4pm in the Church Rooms and for just £3 a week subs they get Tea and refreshments, and a raffle. Plus they organise meals out and train trips as well. A genuinely social group that gets real pleasure whilst doing such valuable charity work. What else would you expect from Enid and her friends. **Jeff Teasdale - Editor**

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Lamplight in the Shadows

By Robert Jaggs-Fowler

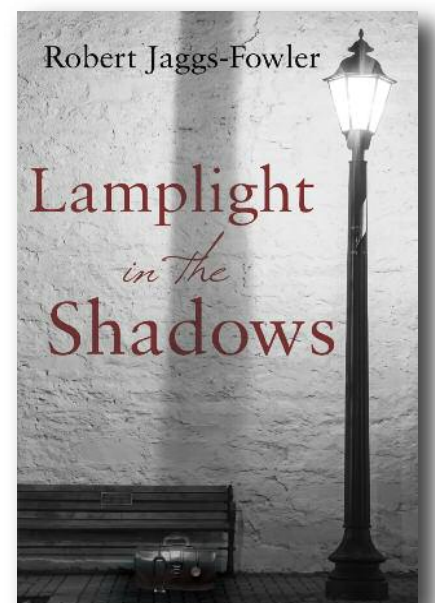
How had it happened? How had his entire world been turned upside down; his every sense of right and wrong, of morals and religious duty, been so deftly swept aside to leave his mind in a tumult of emotions?

Set in the early 1990s, Dr James Armstrong, a young, newly-qualified GP lives with his wife, Janice, in Barminster, where he is busy laying out plans for their future. However, his search for a medical partnership is complicated by a long-term and persistent sense of being called to ordination in the Church of England. Whilst exploring the possibility of a dual professional life as a doctor and priest, he accepts a position as a locum GP in a practice in the quiet market town of Bishopsworth. Once there, his world is thrown into chaos when he finds himself powerfully drawn to a beautiful young woman, whose own marriage is failing. The result is an emotional drama that brings into focus the underlying difficulties of his own bleak relationship. Torn between his loyalty to his wedding vows and the unexpected discovery of true love, James is left battling powerful emotions that make him question all that he has previously stood for. He needs to make some difficult decisions; decisions that will mean winners and losers. But what is he prepared to sacrifice and at what price?

Lamplight in the Shadows explores the complex tensions between perceived duty and misplaced loyalties. With characters drawn from rural society and religious settings, the story will appeal to those who enjoy romantic fiction.

ISBN: 9781784621582 eISBN: 9781784628208 Publisher: Matador.

Orders can be made by post to my home address (see below), or by using the 'Contact' page on my website www.robertjaggsfowler.com
Dr Robert M Jaggs-Fowler, The Retreat, Park View, Barton upon Humber, North Lincolnshire DN18 6AX



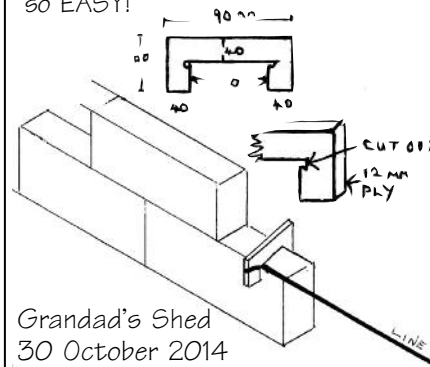
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Grandad's Shed
30 October 2014

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES

Please have submissions for the SPRING EDITION of the Gander in by Saturday 31st January Distribution 1st week of March (for all date sensitive information)
email: goxhill-gander@fsmail.net
or contact **Jeff Teasdale on 07774 671175**

Shadows

Author's Note. 'Shadows' is a poem that describes the early start of a young boy's day on a small dairy farm in Cheshire during the 1939-40 Winter black-out and his world of shadows. It will be hard for the children of today to be able to relate to such a lifestyle at such a young age. It was written at the age of 82 having taken up a creative writing course.

Mother's shadow on my bedroom wall as she bent near the candle to give a call.

"Come on, Get Up there are cows to milk", and other tasks of that ilk.

I looked again upon the wall but there was nothing there at all!

Mother had gone, and my work-clothes I must don.

"Oh look, there's my head", I saw as I sat up in my bed.

I picked my clothes up from the floor and watched my shadow to the door.

Down in the kitchen by the oil-lamp glow, Mother's shadow was on the go

As she worked to put breakfast on the table; I left; and went out to the stable

Where Father's shadow large and tall, mixed with cow shadows in their stall.

Now the shadows mixed with milk pails rattle as we tended to the cattle.

After taking of the cows' milk yield I trudged my way up to the field.

"What to do" ? you may ask; cutting kale was to be my task.

No shadows here, just shape, to raise the hair upon the nape.

Shapes big and stark, that loomed up from the dark;

Then dark was changed to light and mist, from damp earth the sun had kissed.

The Sun had come to say "Good Morn"; Telling of a new day born.

W. Derek Baxter Copyright 27-9-14

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THE ‘LAST POST’

Having served in the British Army for 22 years, 14 in the regular army and 8 in the territorial army, I feel obliged to offer an alternative, and I believe the correct version to the origin of The Last Post, to that published in the last Edition of the Gander. I would however like to point out that I contacted the Museum of the Royal Military School of Music to ascertain their opinion of the version I offer. Whilst they could not give 100% certainty to my version they rejected the American version.

The Last Post is a bugle call used at Commonwealth military funerals and Ceremonies commemorating those who have fallen in war. The Last Post was originally a bugle call used in British Army camps to signal the end of the day. The name derives from the practice of inspecting all the sentry posts around such a camp, at the end of the day, and playing a Bugle call at each of them. The “last post” was thus the last point of this inspection, and the bugle call signalled that this post had been inspected, and marked the end of the military day. This custom dates from at least the 17th Century, and originated with British troops stationed in The Netherlands, where it drew on an older Dutch custom called Taptoe.

Taptoe was also used to signal the end of the day, but has a more prosaic origin. Taptoe originated signalling the moment that beer barrels had to be shut, hence that day had ended. It comes from the Dutch phrase Doe Den Tap Toe, meaning “Turn the tap off “. However the Dutch “Taptoe” bugle call Taptoesignaal, now used for remembrance events, is not the same tune as The Last Post . Neither Last Post nor Taptoesignaal is to be confused with the US call “Taps”, which has a similar function but different tune and origin.

During the 19th century, the Last Post was carried to the various countries of The British Empire. In all these countries it has been incorporated into Military funerals, where it is played as a final farewell, symbolising the fact that the duty of the dead soldier is over and they can rest in peace. The Last Post is used in public ceremonials commemorating the war dead, particularly on Remembrance Day in the Commonwealth of Nations. In Australia and New Zealand it is also played on ANZAC Day.

Andrew Creswell, Ex Staff Sergeant, Royal Engineers



What will you leave behind?

When I was writing this, it was the late October and Gill and I were shortly to have a weekend in London with our family, and planned to visit the Tower of London Remembrance installation, the display of 888,246 Poppies called ‘Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red’, marking the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War on 28th July 1914.

This was a war in which, by its end, more than 9 million combatants and 7 million civilians would die as a result. TV coverage and radio programmes recently have been focusing on this event and have retold the stories of just a few of the countless people involved in a conflict that touched literally everyone in the United Kingdom in some way.

Their stories told of self-sacrifice, trauma; the shocking attitudes of some leaders towards those who were scarred physically and/or mentally as a result and the joint suffering of millions. Each story though, carves a mark - a record in history. Some stories tell of outstanding bravery in the face of overwhelming odds through which some lived to tell, but many did not.

The stories of those lost live on and are retold at times like these. The stories of men and women from all walks in life. Many did not leave much behind other than their love and their stories, the marks they carved in the annals of history.

At the beginning of October, Gill and I visited the Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres, Belgium where the names of more than 54,000 soldiers never found or never identified are recorded. There are other memorials in France and Belgium that also recorded

unfathomable numbers of lives lost.

Visiting the Flanders Museum in Ypres, the stories of those involved are brought to life, to remind us of what they left behind and the sacrifices made so that I can live, walk and work in peace; free to question and challenge my country’s leaders without fear of oppression. Yes, they left more behind than just their stories, they left a real freedom too.

This reminded me of one thing that has concerned me for most of my adult life, what do I want to leave behind when my existence on this mortal coil is no more? For me, yes I would like to leave a physical financial wealth of some degree to my family however, the one thing that has always concerned me more is what will people say about me when I am gone? Who will feel that they must and want to come to my farewell? This may sound a bit morbid, a bit extreme but the ‘testimonies’ I leave behind are more valuable for me than any physical wealth.

I hope that I make it through life carving a mark, a record that will stand testament to the records of those lost in conflict; that their loss was repaid by me living my life fully, peacefully, respectfully, serving others in need around me, as well as loving and supporting my family.

We now move towards Christmas 2014 (how time just marches on) a time of joy, celebration and of families coming together, Gill and I hope that you have a wonderful time. We will be having friends around for dinner on Christmas Day and on that day, indeed every day, take a few moments out of your time to think of those lost yet who created the environment in which we can enjoy these celebrations.

A Merry Christmas and a healthy, prosperous new year to you all.

Gary Payne

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Living in the Present - Remembering the Past

All through the summer time I have driven Dennis around Goxhill; mostly in the Marsh areas where he spent his childhood and early working life until we were married and he moved up to 'civilisation' i.e. the village. It is here that I learn and am reminded of so much about Goxhill as it was long ago.

All through this summer we've watched the grain harvesting; accompanied by Dennis' description of 'the way he used to work with the harvesting'; he started farm work in the days when horses were still used; he talks about reaping the corn with a binder, which tied each sheaf (a sort of 'bundle') with binder band. The sheaves were then 'stooked',

that is about six sheaves were leant up together to make the stook. These were left to dry in the field; when, later, weather permitting they were taken to the farmyard, having been manually hoisted on to a wagon drawn by two working horses; this was very hard labour intensive work; at the farmyard the sheaves were unloaded and made into a stack; this was a very skilled job too. The stacks were much later put through a steam threshing machine; this entailed hiring a machine and crew; buying a load of 'steam coal' hiring or borrowing extra workers to get the job done. Each farmer would 'lend out' his workers to his neighbour, who returned the favour. This was a dirty job; rats would be all the while running from what had become their home; often caught by the farm dog. The corn was carried into the granary; straw was stacked to be used for animal bedding etc. In those days a farmer always carried a bit of 'binder band' in his pocket; used for all sorts of things that needed fixing. Now the potato harvest is taking place; gone are the days of spinners and potato picking by hand, people arguing that their 'stint' is bigger than their neighbours. All now done efficiently and quickly. When discussing the changes in working we remember the people who used to 'glean', picking up corn left from the old way of Harvesting, maybe to feed to their chickens; and gathering small potatoes left by the old method. Do the new methods allow time for the friendships to form, like used to happen using the old, slower methods?



Potato picking was a back breaking job.

Harvest Suppers were well earned in those days. One of the last of these real Harvest Suppers that I remember was at Fir Tree Farm in the early 1950s, where we were invited with other farm workers to partake of food made by the Farmer's family; a piano accordion provided music to 'dance' to, or to sing

along with. This all took place in a barn cleaned for the purpose.

Dennis remembers, as a child, attending Harvest Festivals in the long gone chapel that served Marsh residents. He remembers lots of people 'biking' down from the village in support (very few cars in those days). Later when we were raising our family in Goxhill in the 1950s, many people attended the Harvest Festivals. We were pleased to give thanks for our food.

How wonderful to see the aforementioned hard and long labour all done by the machines of today! Having said that we travel miles to see the old ways on display, at Steam Fairs

Is there time while working, usually alone, with modern machinery to form friendships; workers are usually wearing earmuffs for protection or listening to the radio.

What have we gained? What have we lost?

Last week we were sad to see a tree blown down by the gales on the bottom Marsh Road (Dennis still uses the old names of Haven Road, Middle Road, Far Road, Bottom Road). This tree was at the spot where one of the land mines dropped; a 'dip' in the road marks the exact spot. He says he remembers that tree from being a small boy. Further along the road, he pointed out to me where the old chapel was; then at the chicken farm, we see the remains of the track that led down to where he lived; close by the Humber. The entrance to what was the gun site is nearby; the water tower built for the site in wartime still stands there covered in Ivy. Next we passed 'Five Seasons', a large house, which in Dennis' young days was a small cottage where one of his friends Percy Clark lived. Further along this road at the junction with 'Middle Road' is a site that was the searchlight base. Towards the end of the road there now appears large developments at what was, in Dennis' memory Parker's farm, where Ron lived. Lastly, before Fir Tree Farm there is an old type bungalow. Dennis wanted to rent this bungalow for when we were married, but was put off this idea when it was rumoured that there had been a suspicious death there; does anyone know anything about this?

There are so many changes in this area that he loved so much.

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ROTARY CLUB OF BARTON-UPON-HUMBER

On **December 14th**, Senior Citizens are invited to a free **Christmas Concert at Baysgarth School Hall**, starting at **6.00pm**. Barton Town Band, together with the choir of John Harrison School, Barrow will provide the seasonal entertainment and members of Barton Rotary Club will provide refreshments during the interval. Please phone **David Witter** on **01652 632675** to arrange transport for you to the Hall. Residents of Goxhill are included in this invitation.

The now traditional way for Barton Rotarians to spend Christmas Day morning, is to cook and deliver around **50 Christmas Lunches** to elderly people who are on their own. This is a full Christmas Dinner, including Turkey with all the trimmings, a trifle, mince pie and fruit. To arrange this, again please phone **David Witter** on **01652 632675**, by **Tuesday 9th December** and a member will call round to make

the delivery arrangements. We deliver to Goxhill and other villages.



The John Harrison Barrow School Choir entertaining at last year's Rotary Concert

THE ROTARY CLUB BARROW MERIDIAN



Well its been a busy time in our calender so far.

Food Bank - A cash donation was made to Barton food Bank to assist with there work locally, we have supported this cause since we formed the club and shall continue to do so.

Barrow 10 mile bike ride hosted by our club - The ride went well, with approximately 70 participants. The race started and ended at Barrow Rugby club, round by New Holland and on to Goxhill. The event had fun for the children and food available on site with the club bar open, it raised almost £800 on the day for St Andrews Hospice. Many thanks to the people of Barrow and surrounding area for their generosity.

Car Boot Sale - We staged the car boot sale at Barrow playing fields, it went without a hitch and many people supported the event, raising approximately £600 for local projects.

A presentation by Laurie Robinson on the lifes and times of local soldiers through two wars. And what a presentation Laurie gave us, both pictorial and through the spoken word, we had children from Baysgarth School and Barton army cadets present. It was educational and informative to young and not so young. Laurie captivated his audience with his enthusiasm throughout. A big thankyou to Laurie.

Fishing match - Colin Finnis staged his annual fishing match at Barton once again, there was good local support for this event to raise funds for Lindsey Lodge Hospice, a great day was had by all and almost £1000 was raised, thanks to Rotarian Colin and the anglers who made this a success again.

Coast to Coast bike ride - On the 12th to 14th October, Barrow Rotarians President Simon Weightman and Colin Finnis successfully cycled the "Coast to Coast" from Whitehaven to Sunderland. With neither of us having ever before cycled more than 35 miles in a day and only managing a little training in North Lincolnshire beforehand, the hills through the Lake District and over the Pennines to Northumberland were you might say somewhat challenging, particularly when we also had strong head winds for the last two days. Anyway we are very pleased to have completed the challenge and both bikes are now on the market for sale! We will have raised well over our target of £2000 for St Andrews Children's Hospice and money is still coming in. Many thanks for all those that have kindly sponsored us. The club also respects the efforts the two riders made, well done.

Pizza night - at a members home in Barrow. Rotarian Zena Colwell wined and dined the club and guests to celebrate another year of good work by the club. Many thanks Zena.

Christmas Fair Barrow Market Place - On **December 13th** the Rotary Christmas fair will be staged in Barrow Market place, with trade stands, mulled wine and hot food, and of course santa will be there to see the children, some live music including carol singers on the night. There will also be a quality raffle being run on the night, we very much look forward to seeing you all there, starting at 17.00 hrs. The event is held for Barrow and surrounding villages all are welcome.

DEADLINE FOR THE SPRING EDITION OF THE GANDER

Please have submissions in by Saturday 31st January Distribution 1st week of March for date sensitive items
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OFF THE HOOF

"Curiosity is one of the permanent and certain characteristics of a vigorous mind"

Samuel Johnson

Firstly, my apologies for the absence of 'Off the Hoof' from the last edition of the Gander. This was due to a couple of short unscheduled stays in hospital. Happily, family and friends rallied round and looked after the horses, for which I am eternally grateful. I am not very good at not doing them myself and was constantly being told off, but everything is back on track now.

Altogether I was out of action for about 4 weeks when the weather was really good and would have been ideal for creosoting the fences. Alas, it will have to wait until next year. The one thing I did learn was to have a 'go bag' ready, with basic nightwear, towel and toiletries, just in case.

We cannot complain about our summer this year but some of the weeks were a bit erratic. It had been decided not to have a Goxhill Show this year, but East Halton was there to look forward to. Unfortunately, torrential rain struck, which soaked the fields and it would have been unsafe to continue and the decision was taken to abandon it. All the hard work that had gone into it was, unfortunately, lost. Hopefully, both the Goxhill and East Halton Shows will run next year.

In September, I went as a spectator to a Pony Club run Hunter Trials. We walked the course as everyone does and were deciding which jump to stay at to watch a certain horse, which was beside a car which contained two jump judges. They informed us that the event had started but I could see four people with two dogs, ambling along the course, chatting away quite oblivious to the fact that horses were coming. I pointed it out to the two judges in the car but was informed that they were no longer allowed to blow the usual warning whistle, owing to 'Health and Safety' issues ...! I shouted "mind your backs, horses coming through." It completely took them by surprise and they scattered in all directions. It certainly woke them up but this seemed like Health and Safety gone mad. I still cannot believe this kind of directive has been issued. After several phone calls, I have been asked to put the incident in writing as the Pony Club Health & Safety Executive have no knowledge of this and, after investigation, it will go before the seminars they hold. Hopefully I will have an answer by the next issue.

In the last article I wrote, I said that I had bought an expensive Grazing Muzzle for my laminatic pony. In the book it was £75 but it shows it with a special head collar. When it arrived there was no head collar with it. Apparently they no longer stock those. I did not like the look of the muzzle as it had sharp edges and so I have not used it. We are now on our fourth bucket type, so that was a waste of money.

It has been without doubt, the most horrendous year for flies, affecting both horses and humans. The horses just wanted to stay in, but still could not escape them. I have been covered in bites and buying Anthisen to stop the itching, especially when trying to sleep. There also appears to be an increase in rats. It may be something to do with the water coming over the banks earlier this year. I certainly have never had so many before. The Council came five times to check the bait boxes and I

thought they had gone, but then I saw a couple more and rang the Council to ask whether they would come out again. To my surprise, I was informed that, because I had stables I was classed as 'Commercial' and that I had to get a private firm in.

As far as I am concerned, this is ridiculous as I am in a built up area of the village and my 'stables' are not, and do not, constitute a business. I have now put down bait boxes purchased from Farm Star in Brigg. I have since seen the odd one, but a friend told me I should have made my own bait boxes. I purchase little buckets which contain additives. All that is required is to put a little hole in the side of each of the bait boxes so that the rat can pass through and the poison is placed in the centre of the box. For mice, use an empty spread container. **SIMPLEZ!**

Are you exempt from paying prescription charges? Are you aware of the 'Minor Ailment Scheme'? Basically, if you register with a pharmacy which is on the scheme and can prove entitlement, you are eligible to receive advice from the pharmacist in private, without an appointment, and certain medications are free. Enquire at Goxhill Pharmacy who, I am sure, are on the scheme, even if they are not, they will advise you who are.

After an horrendous accident on a cross country course, Kathy Hurst is still recovering. She will have to undergo several operations but cannot wait to get back in the saddle. One very brave lady, and I'm sure we all wish her well.

There is no getting away from it. Christmas is now only a few weeks away. The shops have had their stock out for at least a month now, but there will still be the usual Christmas Eve panic and the sales all starting on Boxing Day.

My grandmother had fourteen children who each married and had their own offspring. She made presents for us all throughout the year and never forgot a birthday. I used to buy her a selection of birthday and occasion cards and include postage stamps, as in the latter years she could not get out much. So, that is one suggestion that may prove useful.

With November 5th behind us, people will still have fireworks kept over for New Years Eve. If you are one of these, please consider the animals when setting off the fireworks. Mind you, looking at the price of fireworks this year, I am surprised that anyone can afford a private display. They seem to get bigger and better all the time, but one must remember they can be lethal.

There have been several outbreaks of Horse Flu, so make sure the jabs are up to date. There are reports that the number of accidents involving horses has risen so, once again, make sure you can be seen. This might be an appropriate place to remind riders that **It is an Offence** to ride a horse on the wrong side of the road.

If you are selling a lorry, please remember that since 2nd October, the Tax Disc is not transferrable, so don't get caught out.

That's about all for this edition so do have a good Christmas and New Year.

Take Care – Ride Safely. Aileen 01469 530643

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Payment must be received prior to inclusion.
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If you would like to advertise in the Gander contact
Jeff Teasdale - email: goxhill-gander@fsmail.net
or tel: 07774 671175

GOXHILL COMMUNITY LIBRARY



What a wonderful idea it was by Goxhill's Women's Institute to use the village's old telephone boxes as repositories for spare books so that anyone might borrow them. We library volunteers frequently think that when we see folk walking along Howe Lane towards the Parish Rooms with an armful of books - not entering the library - and walking away again with another batch of books!

Seriously though, the 'book boxes' do seem to have hit the numbers using the library, which is always a concern for those of us who care about keeping our library going. It is curious really when you consider that - apart from being open 24-7, which we cannot compete with - Goxhill's community library offers everything that the telephone box does plus a whole lot more. Without any charge at all, you can borrow library books straight off the shelves or track down books you want to read and reserve them. Books are available from anywhere in the collection of North Lincolnshire Library Service for you to collect from Goxhill library, which can be really handy if you are reading a series of books or looking for a sequel to one you have enjoyed. Logging books out, or back in, could hardly be easier: simply scan the barcode on your library membership card and stack up the books in the kiosk. It's a lot less trouble than using the self-service checkout at the supermarket, that's for sure.

Mon	from 3.30pm until 7pm
Wed	from 2pm until 5pm
Fri	from 3pm until 6pm

Goxhill's community library is situated in the Parish Rooms on Howe Lane, run by volunteers and free for you to use. We do not just have books; there are computers available, or use your own devices along with our wi-fi broadband connection. We are not open every day so please make a note of our opening times so that you do not have a wasted visit.

If you are not a library member then you can join online via the North Lincolnshire Council website - it should only take about 5 or 10 minutes. If you are unsure about using the internet or would like any help with joining then simply call in and the volunteer on duty will take you through the process. To contact the library volunteer team about anything to do with Goxhill community library please either email goxhilllibrary@yahoo.co.uk or call in and talk to us.

Even if you think that all you really want is a book from the old telephone box, please drop in when we are open and see if we can interest you in using the library as well. You will receive a warm welcome both literally and metaphorically - something that a telephone box cannot offer.

John Guggiari

With politicians and the media publicising forthcoming changes in legislation to increase the flexibility we have for taking our pensions, it has not taken long for related scams to proliferate. With pension scams on the increase, please take care to ensure that neither you nor those you care about are cheated out of hard-earned pension savings.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

However tempting or genuine an offer might seem, do not be fooled or hurried into what could be an irreversible decision. A lifetime's savings can be lost in a moment.

Check your facts first:

- Scammers use a range of tricks like any of the following:
- They could approach you by telephone, text message, email or even in person door-to-door.
 - They may suggest or pretend that the Government has asked them to contact you.
 - Claims that you can access your pension pot before age 55 through them.
 - Enticements of upfront cash or lump-sums in advance of reaching pension age.
 - Offer a free 'Pension Review without obligation'.

- Never be rushed or pressured into making a decision about savings or pensions.
- Before signing anything, call **The Pensions Advisory Service** on 0300 123 1047.
- If you have already accepted an offer, call **Action Fraud** on 0300 123 2040.
- To find out more visit the www.pension-scams.com website.

Similar tips and advice are on our website at <http://gnew-goxhill.clubbz.com> which you can join free of charge to receive bulletins or warnings that the police and other agencies send to us.

John Guggiari, GNeW-Goxhill

A PLEA FOR INFORMATION ON GOXHILL FAMILIES FROM THE PAST

Our family originated from around Goxhill and I am trying to locate information regarding where the children may have gone to school. The two families I am researching are the **Luty** and **Gilliatt** families. Amos Luty was born in 1843 and his wife Hannah Gilliatt was born in 1847. We have information from family, but am not sure how correct it is, that Hannah attended a young ladies private school. Do you know of any such schools that may have been nearby Goxhill that could fit this description?

Do you have records from your school dating back to this era? If so are you able to tell me whether they attended this school or if there are other schools nearby that I can contact.

I have been researching this line of family for quite a number of years now so am just looking for more information on their lives in England (they emigrated to New Zealand in 1870).

Amos's father was James and his mother was Mary and they lived in Goxhill according to the 1851 census.

Other children in the family included James, John and Hannah. Hannah's father was Thomas and her mother was Mary. Her only other sibling was Elizabeth as their mother died at a young age.

Thank you in advance. Nicola Langdon, New Zealand.
Email: kevnick@clear.net.nz



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2014 was another year in which the volunteer First Responders of our local branch of LIVES were once again very busy. Most of us thankfully never need to call for an ambulance and consequently do not get to see them in action, but it is undeniably good to know that they are around helping those who need them. First Responders keep themselves updated and up to speed through regular training sessions throughout the year and requalification testing so their time commitment goes well beyond just the emergency call-outs that they each attend.

Another aspect of the LIVES service that needs to be equally ongoing is its financing, since none of it could happen without the funding to cover the not inconsiderable running costs. This Summer, representatives of the local branch were delighted to receive a cheque for the impressive sum of £1,363 raised by Goxhill Bellringers through their annual Strawberry Tea. Many thanks from LIVES to Stuart Cooke, the Belltower Captain, all the bell ringers and everyone else who attended that charity event.

If you would like to support LIVES locally, whether through training to become a first responder or by fundraising, please contact **Damian Connolly, the branch co ordinator**, for more details; email connolly.dam@gmail.com or telephone **530656** or **07802 710065**.

LIVES is a registered charity number 1098364. Our local branch covers Goxhill, Barrow and New Holland, with First Responder volunteers from each of those villages regularly on call to provide medical help and offer assistance until an ambulance arrives.



BELL RINGERS

Goxhill Church Bell Ringers held their annual Strawberry Tea in August. We had a very enjoyable if windy afternoon and we raised £1363 for Goxhill, Barrow and New Holland First Responders. LIVES.

We would like to thank all the visitors and especially the helpers who were there prior to, on the day and afterwards.

Photo of some of the Bell Ringers presenting the cheque to members of the local First Responders.

GOXHILL BOWLING CLUB

Barnetby League Champions 2014

In the previous issue of The Gander I mentioned that our village club was riding high in the Barnetby & District Bowls League table - one of three leagues that we compete in. I am delighted to say that we were successful in maintaining our performance and crowned League Champions for 2014. Goxhill has now won the league championship 13 times, including the very first year of the Barnetby League in 1935. It is an achievement that our village should be proud of. There are quite a few lawn bowlers in Goxhill so please remember to congratulate any you know!

Nevertheless, ask those same lawn bowlers about their sport and most will probably tell you it is about more than winning cups or championships. As with football, rugby and tennis - indeed most



sports - it is often the very fact that peaks of success are infrequent that makes them all the sweeter when they arrive. The vast majority of bowlers - and I definitely include myself in that number - just want to enjoy themselves each time they bowl. It is pretty easy to enjoy success, even an undeserved victory when one's bowling was poor. But I do not think I am alone in also enjoying a close game where I have played well but lost. Of course, that's not to say that I only want to win if I bowl well; I'll accept all the luck that's going ...!

If you would like to be part of our successful club, whether with a view to playing in league matches or simply to enjoy a regular roll-up and social game, then let us know. Even if you do not have any friends who bowl, or who fancy coming along with you to try it out, you will know plenty once you join us. It is an inexpensive hobby to take up, the basics of the sport are easy to learn, and yet there's always plenty of scope for you to improve. Bowling is accessible to people at all levels of fitness and regular bowlers are likely to tell you that it helps with their flexibility.

Visit our website at <http://goxhill-bowls-club.clubbz.com> to find out more about the club or contact us by email. Even if you are just thinking vaguely about trying or taking up lawn bowls, please feel free to ring me on **530363** for a chat.

John Guggiari

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