



the Gander

GOXHILL VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2011



Goxhill Views

Village Tales

Local People

School Reports

Church Letters

Parish Council News

& Much More

The new Integrated Services Building, sited at Goxhill School, is another wonderful new facility for the village especially for the children at Pre school. See the articles on pages 7 & 23

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THE GANDER GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH



Firstly, I must apologise to those in the village who received their copy of the Winter issue of the Gander far too late. I know the weather was atrocious and the roads very difficult but the Gander is a vital medium for publicising local events, so it can only be successful if it gets out to the readers before some of these events take place. The committee have taken action to try to overcome late deliveries in the future. Our deliverers are all volunteers and I thank them for their continuing work on the village's behalf and I must congratulate all those who did get their copies delivered around the village despite the snow and ice. I actually thoroughly enjoyed delivering my copies. I went out when it was bucketing down with dry fluffy snow that was a pleasure to walk in and Goxhill was as pretty as an alpine village in winter, apart from the lack of mountains. That was just before it got worse and the ice age set in.

Secondly, you may notice this issue is even bigger than ever. Interest from new advertisers has pushed us to have to go up to a record 44 pages. We do not want to fill the newsletter with advertising, so it is vitally important to keep it in balance with the amount of village and local news and information. Thankfully the amount of articles and items to be included continues to increase and I am still left with some that have to be held over for future issues. So once again I apologise to those who have sent me articles which have not appeared, they are appreciated!

Please do not be put off sending in any interesting pieces about Goxhill life and people and events, now or in the past, for this is what the Gander needs to continue being successful. You may feel that you do not have the skills of a journalist, so are deterred from putting that story in writing, but Maurice Brawn has kindly offered to write articles on behalf of others, as he has done with the piece about dairy farms in Goxhill, from information compiled by Colin Creasey. I too would be willing to help out in the same way if needed.

Thirdly, we are coming up to the Annual General Meeting season, when all the clubs and societies in the village have to have an AGM, by law. There are always the few who have been working away behind the scenes, for many years to keep these vital village activities going, for the many. But all the committees need new blood, new volunteers to help. This is not onerous work. It is usually fun and rewarding, working in teams to spread the load. So if you could spare just a little of your time, please go along to one or more of these AGMs, see what is involved and offer your help and ideas.

This applies especially to the Gander Team, the details of our AGM are below, but other AGMs are publicised within this issue or around the village and all could do with more help..

Working together, for the benefit of the community and consideration for others makes village life in Goxhill such a pleasure. It is also important to try to stop a few spoiling our village life, as has been described elsewhere in this issue of the Gander.

Finally, all at the Gander were upset by the sudden death of Joan Gould, so soon after her husband Alan had died. She seemed so fit and well and had volunteered to take on delivering more Ganders for us. She had passed on to us all Alan's Gander archives and village walks information. Once we have gone through it all we will pass it on to our new Community Library as a fitting place for it to be kept. **Jeff Teasdale**

The GANDER's AGM has been set for **Wednesday March 23rd at 7.00pm** in the Parish Rooms. All are welcome to come along and ask questions of the Gander team or make your views known. Any ideas for different articles or information in the Gander are always appreciated.

The Gander Team

Mike Gathercole	Ferry Lodge, Ferry Road	532208	Coordinator
John Noton	Owlet Cottage, Mill Lane	532628	Treasurer
Nicola Jones	4 Hawthorne Gardens	07772 519421	Invoicing & Distribution
Jeff Teasdale	Willow Farm, Willow Lane	07774 671175	Editor & Advertising

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

Comments or opinions expressed in articles printed are not necessarily those of the team.
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LETTER FROM THE VICARAGE

What is the church? A silly question you might say. Everyone knows what the church is: it's a national / international institution. It's a good cause (some might say, referring for example to the work of Christian Aid or The Salvation Army) It's also a building, some of which are ancient, some are beautiful. Some, like Goxhill's All Saints are both.

Who is the church? Is this another silly question? Is it the clergy? Often when someone says a person is going into the church they mean joining the clergy rather than merely entering the building. Or is the church those who attend regularly, the usual Sunday congregation? But what about those who only go occasionally? Those who attend for their families baptisms, weddings and funerals – are they not 'the church' also?

The problem is one of language. The Greek in which the New Testament of the Bible was written uses a word meaning 'fellowship' or 'assembly' which in English has been translated into 'church'. So, church is not primarily a building but rather a general collective noun meaning the people who believe. The sign of joining and belonging to this body of believers is Baptism (Christening as it's sometimes also known). By definition, a lot of people in Goxhill are members of the church. If you and/or your children have been baptised you are a member of the church. If this is you and you live in Goxhill, then All Saints is YOUR Church. (Even if you are a member of another denomination it's still your church!)

Which should make quite a lot of people sad, upset and downright annoyed that over the last year or so regular attacks and vandalism on their church have been a factor of life. The notice board has been repeatedly vandalised and set on fire, blasphemous graffiti has been daubed, the lamp over the gate arch has been destroyed and on more than one occasion the Sunday morning congregation have been unable to enter through the usual door as the lock had been 'superglued' These attacks are not just on a building, but on what it represents and on the community that sees the church as precious to them and their families. Perhaps someone has a grudge against the church for whatever reason or it may be a sad factor of contemporary life that few things are regarded as sacred any more and an isolated church is seen as fair game for someone's vindictiveness. If anyone has any information as to who is responsible for all this upset please advise the Police at Barton who are well aware of the problems we are currently experiencing.

The Easter story will once again be celebrated in churches, locally and throughout the world. Then we will recall that the worst that human nature could do was unable to conquer God's love as demonstrated in the resurrection of Jesus from the grave. It speaks of the possibility of a fresh start, the slate wiped clean, a future full of hope and a new purpose for living. Easter is the greatest festival in the Christian calendar – why not join us this year? It could mark a new chapter in your life and revise your understanding of church from being 'them' to 'us'

Reverend John Girtchen

Easter Services in Goxhill

Sunday 17th April	9.30am	All Saints Church	United Service for Palm Sunday
Thursday 21st April	7.00pm	Goxhill Methodist Chapel	Holy Communion for Maundy Thursday
Friday 22nd April	7.30pm	Goxhill Methodist Chapel	United Service for Good Friday
Sunday 24th April	7.00am	All Saints Churchyard:	Vigil Service for Easter Morning
Sunday 24th April	9.30am	All Saints Church	Holy Communion for Easter

LINDSEY LODGE HOSPICE

Happy New Year to all readers. Please make a late new year's resolution to support your local hospice. Keep an eye open for activities arranged by our Barton upon Humber Supporter Group. Lindsey Lodge Hospice cares for people in North Lincolnshire area whose lives are affected by life-limiting conditions such as cancer, multiple sclerosis, motor neurone disease, heart or renal failure.

Lose Weight & Donate during 2011. Take up our challenge of losing weight and getting yourself sponsored by family, friends and colleagues. For more information visit our website at www.lindseylodgehospice.org.uk, call our fundraising team on **01724 843731** or email: enquiries@lindseylodgehospice.org.uk.

Donations needed to our Hospice shop in Barton upon Humber. Until April 2011 you can help us make an extra 28% on the sale value of donated goods. We are now able to claim Gift Aid on goods donated by UK tax payers. Ask in our shops for information.

You can support Lindsey Lodge by helping our Supporter Group or sending donations to Lindsey Lodge Hospice Burringham Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN17 2AA.

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 Jayne Hutton (Supervisor)
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 or Val Gorbett (Chair)
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SCHOOL REPORT

We are really hoping that by the time you read this article, the weather will be greatly improved and Spring will be in full swing. As Spring is the season of new life and new beginnings we are really looking forward to the year ahead of us and the exciting opportunities that it will bring. As well as this, we also reflect on the winter months and the many exciting things happening in school. One exciting event that also threw up many challenges was the period of snowy weather and extreme temperatures that we endured. We were very proud when it was announced that we were the only school to remain open in the North Lincolnshire area throughout the bad weather. We are very fortunate that many members of staff live within walking distance of school and trudged through the snow every day to make sure that we remained open. We were aware that whilst it would have been a very easy decision to close the school for a few days, we also know that lots of our parents are employed in areas that could be considered to be vital in such times. As for the children, they enjoyed the week just as much, if not more, than a normal school week, building snowmen and snowballing at playtimes and working on a snowy theme during lessons.

After many trials and tribulations we were thrilled to open the Integrated Services Building just prior to the October half term. The school's Breakfast Club and Out of School Club are now fully operational in the building. During the day, Goxhill Pre-School operate and on Thursday mornings, 'Lets Play' sessions take place with babies and toddlers. Our extended provision is open to all children from 2 -11 years old and our rates are the cheapest in the area. We are currently exploring the need for us to open during school holidays. If you would like to use our service during school holidays, please contact us at the school.

During October, we were thrilled to receive a delegation of Chinese visitors in school. The group of headteachers were visiting the area on a return visit and our school was selected as an example of outstanding behaviour and attainment. The children enjoyed meeting the visitors and Year 5 created a

PowerPoint presentation telling the visitors all about our school.



As part of what is becoming a tradition in school, Year 5 pupils conducted

our Remembrance Service, attended by representatives of the Royal British Legion, various members of the community and friends of the school. Reverend Girtchen kindly took part in the service and helped us to remember the sacrifices that people have made.

In school, we have a School Council. This is made up of representatives from each class who come together to represent the views of all pupils in the school. They have discussed several issues over the last few

months, but one of the most significant ones was school dinners. There has been lots of discussion about the types of meals served at lunch times and there have been meetings between catering staff and the school council. So far, the outcomes of these meetings are that we would like to investigate building flexibility into the menus, meaning that more popular meals can replace less popular ones.

The children have also decided that they would be interested in a system used in another local primary school whereby the children choose their meals a week in advance to ensure that their choice is booked and available on the day that they have chosen it. We are hoping that we will shortly be able to make some changes to our systems with the help of our school council and governors.

The run up to the festive season was magical this year with lots of different events happening in school. We had a theatre group in school performing Alice in Wonderland and invited the children from New Holland to join us for the performance. The children were mesmerised by the performance, so much so that we have booked the same group to perform Oliver Twist to the school in December.



We had a special visit from our good friend (and ex-headteacher) John Bailey who spent time with our younger pupils handing out gifts dressed in a very fetching red outfit with fur trim. We also had a visit from Magic Ella as part of a Christmas party which pupils loved. Our Christmas festivities were rounded off very nicely when members of our community were invited into school to take part in a carol service around the Christmas tree.

Our Spring term is now beginning to unfold, with lots of events happening in school. We have a variety of extra-curricular activities taking place – such as netball club, cookery club, school newspaper (which may well be rivalling the Gander before long) and French club run by Mrs Spencer. In the pipeline, we have plans for a cricket club and a dancing club later on in the year. All year groups will be taking part in educational visits to enrich their learning even further.

As always, we would like to thank all members of our community for their ongoing support which we very much value. For up to date information about our school, please visit our school website at www.goxhillschool.com

C.Breslin P.Brown

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For inclusion in all four issues (1 off ads available).

Ad size	Cost	Dimensions (mm)
1/2 page	£105	127 x 180 (DxW)
1/4 page	£60	127 x 87
1/8 page	£40	60.5 x 87
small box	£25	60.5 x 40.5

Payment must be received prior to inclusion.

*Public Service Announcements & Charity Appeals
included free up to 1/4 page.*

If you would like to advertise in the Gander, please
contact either **Jeff Teasdale on 07774 671175** or

Nicola Jones on 07772 519421

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

NOTICE BOARD

Goxhill Women's Institute

The WI meet every 2nd Monday of the month throughout the year except August.
7.00pm at the Memorial Hall.
New members welcome. For further information contact **Mrs Iris MacLeod tel. 530772**

Saint Patrick's Day Lunch

Irish Stew followed by Irish cheese and biscuits.
Tea or coffee - £5
Thursday 17th March 11am - 2pm
In the Church Room
for further information contact
Sheila Leadley 531954

Christian Aid Week

Over the years it has become increasingly difficult to get people to do house to house collections in the village. Sadly this is due to the verbal abuse the collectors receive when collecting. We are therefore going to hold two fund raising events these are:

A Quiz Night

on Friday 13th May

at 7.30pm in the Chapel Schoolroom

£5 per person which includes supper

Space is limited, so please book your team in by ringing **Jane on 530962** or **Sandra on 530065**

Soup Lunch

Saturday 14th May

11am - 2pm in the Chapel Schoolroom

As well as soup and a roll there will be tea, coffee and cake available.

If you normally give to Christian Aid week and would still like to do so, collection envelopes will be available at both events if you would like to call in and put some money in.

If you are happy to collect from one or two houses around you from people you know please contact **Sandra Smith 530065** for some envelopes.

The Luncheon Club

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

GOXHILL MEMORIAL HALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday, 20th April, 2011
at 7.30p.m.**

Take this opportunity to come and share your views with the Committee whether you are a new comer or long time resident of the village.

Find out about the forthcoming events, remember you do not have to join the Committee, your support and any ideas will be greatly appreciated.

The Memorial Hall

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

Goxhill Memorial Hall 200 Club

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

Nov	149	R. MacDonald	£30.00
"	159	R. Hebblewhite	£30.00
Dec	54	J. Russell (Mrs)	£30.00
"	109	J. Teasdale	£30.00
"	40	L.J. Barrick	£110.00
Jan	117	D.W. Barrick	£30.00
"	209	G. Dyson	£30.00

Goxhill Spring Craft Fair

is to be held at Goxhill Memorial Hall Saturday and Sunday the 14/15th May 2011. Anyone who is interested in booking a stall please contact:
Steve Wrightson on 01469 531720.

The Methodist School Room

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



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NOTICE BOARD continued

GOXHILL SQUARES **MODERN SQUARE DANCE CLUB**

GOXHILL MEMORIAL HALL

We are a small group of people who enjoy dancing and a good laugh. We are currently looking for more people to help us build the club up. Why not pop in to the Hall one Friday evening and see what it is all about... even if you think you can't dance, you may be pleasantly surprised. Young or not so young, Square Dancing is suitable for all ages. Bring a partner/friend or come alone - all are welcome.

FRIDAYS 7pm - 9pm

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or email **pammiholly@aol.com**

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£4 per session

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Hail and Farewell

I feel it is appropriate to thank everyone who has supported me over the past years. Together we have helped to raise much needed funds for the Church, with the last effort realising £121.00.

I am also delighted to report that two young ladies, Justine and Jannine have volunteered to carry on with the Bric a` Brac stall. I am sure these two younger versions of Auntie Wainwright can count on your continued generous support and contributions.

Many thanks.

Iris Macleod, aka Auntie Wainwright

DEADLINE

Please have submissions for the Summer edition of the Gander in by **Saturday 7th May**
Distribution 1st week of June

(for date sensitive information)

email: goxhill-gander@fsmail.net



North Lincolnshire Homes **Rural Surgeries**

North Lincolnshire Homes are offering weekly housing advice surgeries for tenants, at various locations in the North Lincolnshire area. These surgeries are to offer the same services that are available at the Customer Centre, with just a few examples shown below:

- General housing advice for NLH tenants
- To receive help completing forms such as the Self Assessment Medical Forms and application forms
- Making or changing appointments for repairs to homes or garages
- Signing up new tenants
- Checking existing applications on the NLH system

The aim of these weekly sessions is to extend the range of customer access points and to make it easier for tenants in rural areas to receive help and advice from North Lincolnshire Homes.

The Barton Surgery will take place on a **Monday from 2pm – 4pm** at the Barton Local Link Office, Barton.

For more information please visit our website **www.nlhomes.org.uk** or call **01724 279900**

Virgin Media and Sky television subscribers can also use our DigiTV service - NLTV

You can now follow us on Twitter at **www.twitter.com/nlhomes**



Can anyone identify this mystery farm and where it was located?

Photograph supplied by Geoff Brown



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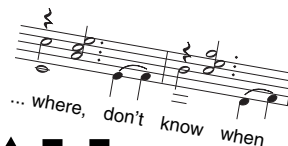
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CENTRAL SURGERY - PATIENT FORUM

The Patient Forum has been in existence for just over a year. We have attempted to meet every two months during that time and have discussed a wide range of issues and attempted to garner advice and opinions from the patients who use Central Surgery. We have advertised our presence in the local press and a variety of community newsletters. For a time we had news of our existence attached to prescriptions from Boots, Lloyds and the pharmacy at the surgery. A suggestion box has been placed in the surgery and over a period of a week members of the Forum also conducted interviews with patients attending the surgery. (There is also a NHS website where patients may express their views.)

We have examined regional and national statistics and compared the figures with those available for our own practice. We have discussed the cleaning of the surgery and the possible health risks posed by magazines and toys in the surgery. We have suggested a clearer signage so that more patients can avail themselves of the hand-washing gel that is available near the entrance to building.

The biggest topic of discussion has been the appointment system. We have had more feedback on this subject than any other. The Practice is committed to providing the best possible service and to this end a number of changes have occurred. There is now new and more efficient computer system. Patients who telephone in are now put into a queue and as soon as a receptionist is available the calls will be answered. There are now some appointments which can be booked in advance and some that are available outside normal hours. If you wish to book an advance appointment there is no need to telephone at eight o'clock.

The doctors are still concerned about the number of people who make appointments and fail to attend. The number of missed appointments is advertised in the surgery. In October, for example, there were 116 appointments missed. This roughly equates to three working days for one of the doctors.

We have been kept informed of the progress regarding the new surgery at Goxhill which was opened in November. There is a doctor and nurse there every weekday and prescriptions will be available on the premises. A trial is being conducted for patients living in Barrow who wish to have their medicines delivered to their homes. This can be done as long as someone is at home to receive the medication.

We have had a number of patients contact us and those who could be identified received feedback. Members of the Forum have attended two meetings of the Barton Senior Alliance in order to keep them informed of what is happening. If there are any other community groups who would like us to attend their meetings then please get in touch.

If you wish to make contact then please write to the Chairman, Patient Forum c/o Central Surgery or place your comments in the Suggestion Boxes which are to be found in the two surgeries.

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Goxhill Milk Producers 1935/50

A short time ago Mr Colin Creasey asked me if I knew how many people used to keep cows for milking in Goxhill. I made a guess but I was far below the correct number. He then showed me a list and there were 44 farms. Today there are no cows kept for milking in the village. Here are the names of the farmers, of their farms and of the village names for the roads where they were to be found

Haven Road (Ferry Road)

L Wilford
 W Bainton
 T F Raby North End Farm & Marsh Farm
 S Girdham Totney Hill
 A Oliver Neatgangs Lane
 G Dent G Walker Haven Farm

Middle Road (Horsegate Field Road)

G Brown Brookhill Farm
 W Parrit Horsegate Farm
 J Foulston Glebe Farm
 F Foulston Glebe Farm
 G Bows. Mason. G Weldon. Elba Farm

Bottom Road (East Marsh Road)

S Thornton Klondyke Farm
 M Milson. E Edwardson. P Dunn. M Dodd. E Percy.
 Firtree Farm

Far Road (Chapelfield Road)

A Blow Spring Farm
 F Proctor Marshlands
 A Dent Field Farm (Chapelfield House)

South End

A Birkett Littleworth Grange
 H Foulston Littleworth Grange
 J W Prescott Manor Farm
 A Denniff Littleworth Hall
 Neil ?
 Sewell ? Abbey View
 Turner ?

North End

W Mumby Horsegate Farm
 W Howsham Langley Farm
 Miss A Bennett White Bungalow Elm Lane
 C Simons North End Farm
 W Reed
 P Kent
 M Bows Mill Farm, Mill Lane
 W Lammiman Willow Farm, Willow Lane
 K Brown Manor Farm, Manor Lane

Barrow Road

E Nielson
 H Fidell

Thornton Road

F Creasey Daffodil Farm
 G Sanderson
 E Bradley Homestead
 W Edwardson Homestead

C Rhodes Sandes Farm (Sandes Farmhouse)
 A Knight Garness Hill Farm
 Door delivery sales within the village

College Road

W Roberts Hallands Farm
 A Roberts Hallands Farm
 G Shaw
 G Parkin
 V Chantry
 A Denniff

Station Road (Howe Lane)

H Naylor Door delivery sales within the village

Westfield Road

H Buckley Westfield Farm
 Door delivery sales within the village
 N Chapman Westfield Farm
 Door delivery sales within the village

Farms Marked ? There is doubt whether the milk from these farms was sold to dairies or made into butter

Please Note. This list has been compiled from memories, if anyone can offer additional information Mr Creasey would be pleased to receive it. In this era all farms and small-holdings had dairy cows for milk, the majority sold it to the Dairies in Grimsby. The milk was collected by lorry from the farm gate; previously it had been taken in churns to Goxhill station to be sent by rail. The farms which did not sell milk made it into butter which they sold to the local

shops or on the market stalls in Grimsby and Hull. On Friday mornings the wives could be seen at the station taking large baskets containing their produce to the market in the town and bringing them back filled with groceries paid for with the proceeds of their produce.

The Roads that were laid out around the village had very wide grass verges and they were used to graze cows during the summertime. This was called Tenting. The cows from several farms were often collected after milking in the morning by a man or boy who took them out and looked after them during the day bringing them back for the afternoon milking.

When the fields of Goxhill were enclosed the Act of Parliament stated that "all the Grass and Herbage growing or renewing in any of the ways and roads shall at all times hereafter be vested in the Surveyor or Surveyors of the said Parish, who shall or may let the same, and apply the Profits thereof towards the repair of the said Highways." The surveyors were to account to the Inhabitants of the Parish touching the application of the said rents and profits annually on Easter Monday in the Parish Church.

Thus it was some hundred and seventy five years later that a young Master Colin Creasey went to pay the rent of Half a Crown per cow to the Parish Council for his uncle at Daffodil farm to "tent" cows upon the grass at the sides of Thornton Road College Road and Gatehouse road from the sixth day of April until October.

Maurice Brawn. By kind permission of Colin Creasey



Can anyone recognise where this milk churn stand is? And how many are left in Goxhill?

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If you would like to advertise in the Gander, please contact either **Jeff Teasdale on 07774 671175** or

Nicola Jones on 07772 519421

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

PARISH COUNCIL

As I sit here looking out the window at the bright sunny morning sun it is hard to imagine a better place to live in than in the village of Goxhill. Unfortunately there is minority in the village who appear hell-bent on ruining the peace and tranquillity of our lovely village as my first article will highlight by destroying public property and behaving in a threatening and abusive manner towards members of the village.

All Saints Church

Some of you may be aware that for some time now the church has been the target of certain individuals who have made targeting the church and its members their main source of enjoyment. Over the past few months they have put super glue into the locks of the church, set fire to the church notice board resulting in replacement costs of hundreds of pounds, and worse still, behaved in a threatening and abusive manner towards those who take great enjoyment from using the church either as a parishioner attending a service or a member of the public attending a function within the building. The police were made aware of this problem by the Parish Council but appeared to prefer the softly-softly approach rather than tackling the problem head on. At the last Parish Council meeting it was decided that enough is enough and the problem, will once again be raised with the police, this time at a higher level in the hope that at last action will be taken against the perpetrators. The police will also be requested to supply their mobile CCTV unit to assist in the identification of these jobs. Their identities are already known but the police will not take action unless they have concrete evidence of the identities. With this in mind all villagers with any knowledge of this type of behaviour are requested to either contact the police direct or the Parish Council through any of the Councillors or Parish Clerk. That way a dossier of information can be amassed which might in turn force the police to accept there is a problem and convince them that intervention and direct action is the only solution.

Dog Fouling

Whilst talking of anti-social behaviour I thought it might be a timely reminder to all dog walkers and owners of the requirement to remove their dogs waste from the streets and pavements of the village. This is not an onerous task and most thoughtful dog owners carry out this function as part of the duty. Once again though there is a minority in the village who believe they are exempt from this and leave the waste where it lies possibly thinking that it will just disappear and no one will notice. Dog waste is a dangerous toxic substance that can cause serious health damage to children (not long ago a child in Scunthorpe was blinded through contact with dog waste left lying around) and this fact alone should be enough to convince everyone of the need to pick up the waste and deposit in one of the dog litter bins provided or take it home and dispose of there. The

other fact that should convince owners and walkers of their duty is that fouling of pavements by dogs is an offence and punishable by a fine. Please do not be part of the problem be part of the solution!

Goxhill Community Library (Update)

You will be aware from previous editions of the Gander that due to Governments Austerity measures the Parish Council was requested to look at ways of saving our Library from closure. There were various options to be considered and after consultation with the village the option of a Community-run library was chosen.

Since that time things have moved on at a pace. Volunteers were asked for and thus far nine members of the village have registered their interest with others due soon. On the 24th Jan and 7th Feb the volunteers and members of the Parish Council attended a briefing session presented by North Lincs libraries where the new self-service kiosk style volunteer controlled system was outlined. Everything appears now to be in place and a timetable has been prepared to enable a seamless changeover from North Lincs to the Community Library this year. Details are:

28 March	Library closes - last day of control by North Lincs
29 March	Normal library closed day
30 March	Library closed – Installation of Self-service Kiosk
31 March	Library closed for staff training of volunteers
1 April	Library closed for staff training of volunteers
4 April	Library opens as Goxhill Community Library

If you wish to act as a volunteer please contact the Parish Clerk.

And finally after the doom and gloom of the first two articles I thought it might be nice to close on a more gentler note that highlights the true nature of the villagers of Goxhill. The last note below was passed to the Parish Council by the resident of Greenfields for assistance rendered to them by some kindly gentlemen during our recent cold snap. The article is reproduced verbatim:

'The residents of Greenfields would like to thank the kind gentlemen and their young helper who came and cleared all our paths and walkways of snow thus enabling us to get to the shops, our cars and the doctors etc.

We would also like to thank George who was out with his shovel everyday. This was very much appreciated by all of us, so once again many thanks to you'.

The above I believe shows the true nature of Goxhill. To George and the unknown helpers (you know who you are) a big thank you from Greenfields, the Parish Council and villagers of Goxhill. Well done!

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OFF THE HOOF

“Never fear shadows. This simply means there’s a light shining somewhere.” Anon

The nights are beginning to draw out again heralding the coming of Spring. It does seem to have been a long hard winter when even the simplest of tasks becomes very hard and exhausting.

Once the snow had retreated we started to see horses out again and most were quite lively and some even had steam rising up off them.

I wondered how many owners had remembered to adjust their feed to a maintenance diet.

I know there has been a huge increase in the number of both horses and ponies getting Laminitis. It does not need to be small ponies and spring grass that is the cause. It has been proven that paddocks which have had a frost and the afternoon sun gets on it goes through a chemical change, which may trigger it off. I know we try to leave putting them out until the ground has a bit of give to save their feet a little so in some respects we cannot win. Insulin intolerance is now rife amongst horses and ponies and is now checked as routine on the onset of Laminitis as both conditions would then need to be treated.

Older horses are susceptible to Laminitis too as it generally goes hand in hand with Cushing’s disease so please be vigilant and do as much as you can to prevent this horrible disease. Soaked hay removes some of the sugar and only feed sugar free feeds recommended by the Laminitis Trust and then in moderation. Invest in a grazing muzzle, which still allows the animal to go out for a few hours and interact with other horses and keeps them moving. Exercise is also paramount to keeping them fit and healthy. Remember that prevention is better than cure and less expensive.

The Animal Health Trust is currently working extremely hard on Insulin Intolerance and Laminitis. I know of a couple of people who are helping with their research, which involves monitoring progress and lots of blood tests. These are candidates recommended through their Veterinary practice and their participation will prove invaluable to the research.

One type of treatment a horse, which is prone to Laminitis, is not allowed is “Bowen” treatment as it opens up the blood vessels to promote natural healing.

Bowen treatment is excellent for both horses and humans suffering with aches, pains and injuries. It is non invasive and broadly speaking is a series of rolls on muscles to put them back in place but are given a few minutes to allow the body to accept and repair naturally.

Myself, and many of my friends attend the Rowland Clinic in Ulceby, where Cheryl keeps us going.

Closer to home, in Goxhill, Sharon Irish has now completed her “Equine Bowen Course” after her human one for which she worked closely with Cheryl. She is now ready for clients of the four-legged variety and can be contacted on 530309.

As part of her course she worked on several horses at Jo Burns yard where their progress was closely monitored.

Jo said the results were “Pretty impressive”. There was certainly a marked improvement in flexibility and the length of stride was improved. All the horses seemed much freer and happier.

An excellent result particularly when a horse cannot verbally tell you where it hurts. There is something pleasing when a horse lowers its head and gives a big sigh after treatment. – It says it all.

Not much seems to have happened competition wise as most events were cancelled owing to the weather.

You may remember in a previous edition of the Gander two horses, which were on Jo’s yard. Max a young horse belonging to Audrey Hunt and Red Bolero, which also showed great promise.

Max had moved on to Alex Poleskis yard for further training and Red Bolero had also moved on.

It is really sad to report Max died following breaking his neck whilst playing in the field. It is believed there was already a weakness from a previous injury, which had been undetected.

Red is on box rest after major surgery following a twisted gut. We wish him a speedy full recovery.

Back on Jo’s yard one of her liveries horses underwent surgery for Cancer in its eye but thankfully now is fully recovered.

One horse suffered attacks of spasmodic colic and her four-year old Sonny suffered a mystery virus, which really knocked him off his feet. He is now recovered and has just started work again. Thankfully none of the other horses contracted the virus.

Magali is now back in work after a strained tendon and came 2nd in a recent competition.

Once again Jo will be chasing H.Y.S. Autumn qualifiers on her and Yvonne and Brian Willis’s Swallow. The big shows for them commence in June.

As Area rep for the B.S.J.A. Jo is organising a show on July 10th at Arena UK

Alison, with her little coloured pony, Jack O’Dandy achieved her own personal goal and has won her hundredth rosette on him so congratulations are in order.

continued on p 21



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DEADLINE

Please have
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Summer edition of
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of June

(for date sensitive information)

**email: goxhill-
gander@fsmail.net**

continued from p 19

Congratulation to Jo Burns and her partner, Dave Firth. They are finally engaged after being together for ten years. Dave did it all correctly asking her father, Gerry Burns, permission. He went down on one knee to ask Jo. The ring had not arrived so an orange and yellow Halibo ring was used as a substitute. The real one is now in place and was especially designed in white gold of a farrier's nail with three diamonds. Not to be rushed, the wedding is due to take place in three years in Mexico. Brilliant!

Carol Sanderson's foal by Medoc is growing fast and has now been weaned. She had her first visit from the Farrier when she threw herself on the floor twice before eventually giving up. I know she has been well handled and had her feet picked out every day so could have been worse.

Her mum, Final Desire, is due to foal again at the end of June to the stallion Le Decteur from the Ravendale Stud who are standing a new stallion "Saint Malo" who is also a dual purpose stallion.

Cass-Cou one of Carol's other dressage horses, shows great promise and has qualified for the Novice Regional finals at Willerby Hill at the end of February and has won his first Medium with 69%.

Asgard (Grazy) has qualified for the Winter

Championship at Hartpury Gloucestershire in April at Advanced Medium.

Local talented rider Kate Johnson rides both horses. We will watch their progress.

Legislation has changed yet again on horse boxes and trailers which I find most confusing so for clarification please visit the VOSA website to ensure you are legal. Pelham Tack finally moved just before Christmas to the Farm Shop at little London, which is a mile and a half straight up the road from the old shop. The premises are much improved from the old one and they are hoping to stock a range or country wear to compliment the horse wear and saddlery side. They have not had an official opening yet so watch out for the announcement. The Farm Shop is still hoping to stock horse feeds but at the time of writing, carrots are the only thing on offer but they seem to have been like gold dust to find this winter so I for one am pleased to find a supply.

Please keep the snaffle bits coming in for the "Do Your Bit" appeal. Donations to myself, Vikki Burton or Pelham Tack. Many thanks to those who have already given.

That is about it for this edition so until the next time keep your news coming in.

Take care – Ride safely. **Aileen 01469 530643**

Salmon Quenelles with Saffron sauce

Nigel has been too busy recently to answer "ASK THE CHEF" questions but he has given us one of his special recipes.

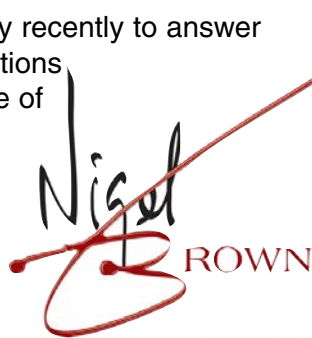
250g Fresh salmon
50g smoked salmon
1 egg white
20ml double cream

Poaching

1/2 bottle dry white wine
1 slice of lemon
1 bayleaf
parsley stalks
8 peppercorns
rock salt

Saffron Sauce

Saffron (A pinch)
2 Shallots (Chopped)
25g Unsalted butter
80ml Whipping/Double cream
80ml strained poaching liquid



Skin and pin bone the fresh salmon fillets

Season the salmon and place in a food processor along with the egg white and double cream and smoked salmon, blitz the salmon mixture until smooth and light.

Using two dessert spoons shape the salmon mixture into quenelles and place onto cling film and chill until required for poaching

Poach the quenelles for 2.5 mins and remove from the pan and keep them warm while you prepare the sauce.

For the sauce, strain the poaching liquid and place it back into the pan with the saffron and chopped shallots. Reduce the liquid by 2/3rds and add the cream and reduce by 2/3rds, now start adding the unsalted butter in small chunks one at a time until the sauce becomes thick and glossy in consistency.

Place the hot quenelles onto a serving plate and serve with the sauce.

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When you read this, we will have been in the Integrated Services Building a couple of months. We opened on the 5th January in our new premises. Both parents, children

and staff are pleased with the new building and outdoor area. The children are able to access the outdoor equipment whenever, they please in a safe and secure environment. This past half term has seen 6 new children join Pre School and the new and existing children have adjusted well to the new premises, by doing familiar activities that help them to settle faster. The children have initiated an interest in space, so an interactive table has been set up with various items relating to space, along with stories and songs where the children can learn about this topic.

The children are able to initiate play more, as we are able to have our resources out all the time, the children are now more involved in planning their own interests in accordance with the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. After the February half term, we will be talking about spring, and new beginnings. Where we will be doing various activities relating to this, and along with topics the children initiate.

We had a visit from Magicella at our Christmas Party at the Memorial Hall on the 15th December 2010, a good time was had by children, parents and staff and our Christmas Raffle took place on the

same day. We would like to thank all parents and supporters of Pre School who bought tickets. The proceeds received have gone towards enhancing the children's learning and development.

Goxhill Pre-School is holding a Easter Open Day, on Wednesday 6th April.

At the Integrated Services Building. This will be split into Morning and Afternoon Sessions. This is for existing and future parents and children, there will be various activities and refreshments. There will also be A Easter Egg Hunt for parents and children to do. If you are interested in coming along, please call into Goxhill Pre-School (during opening hours), or contact us on the numbers below.

A Cake Stall is also being held on School premises on Friday 13th May.

Our Pre School is open to children from 2 yrs to 5 yrs of age. Three year old children are entitled to up to 15 hours a week free flexible funding from the term following their 3rd birthday. By being on site, we continue to have excellent links with Goxhill Primary School and work together in supporting children through the transition process. Breakfast and after School Care is also available for children from 2 years old through the Goxhill out of School Club.

For more information please call in during our opening times; Monday through to Friday 9am till 3:30pm or contact us on **01469 535061** (during opening hours) Alternatively please contact **Jayne Hutton (Supervisor) on 01469 531587** or **Val Gorbutt (Chair) on 01469 531012.**

Charity Number: 1018539

GOXHILL MEMORIAL HALL "SHORT AWARD" 2011

The Goxhill Memorial Hall received a bequest, many years ago, from the late Charlie Short. Since then an annual award has been presented to a village resident in appreciation of their voluntary efforts within the village. Everyone must know someone beavering away for the good of the community. Now is your opportunity to say "thank you" to that special person, by nominating them for the 'Short Award'. All you have to do is complete the nomination form below, place it in a sealed envelope, and pass it to either a member of the Goxhill Memorial Hall Management Committee or Colin Creasey at the Supply Stores, Westfield Road, Goxhill, by 16th March 2011. The Award will be presented to the winner at the Hall's AGM on Wednesday 20th April 2011. In previous years, recipients have received, according to their interests, various awards, such as garden centre vouchers and crystal glass, etc.

I nominate for the 2011 Short Award.....

Because.....

.....

.....

.....Signed.....

Please return this form in a sealed envelope marked Short Award to Colin Creasey at The Supply Stores, Westfield Road, by March 16th, 2011. The successful award winner will be announced at the Goxhill Memorial Hall AGM on Wednesday April 20th 2011.



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GOODBYE TO GOXHILL Part 2

Frances and Laurie Boxer have left Goxhill after twenty five years living on South End. This is Laurie's memories of their time in Goxhill.

Laurie

We'd only moved in for a couple of days when John Mellor knocked and asked us to a party to get to know some of the locals. It was a really nice welcome to village life and the separate community of South End. We quickly got to know lots of people, especially John and Kate Mellors and Alan and Joan Gould whose property backed onto ours across the old railway line. (It was sad to hear of Joan's premature passing just after we moved.) They were part of the burgeoning environmental movement and Alan was a major figure in the recently formed Green Party. It was nice to be able to buy fresh produce and dairy products without having to start the car. It was even nicer for our kids to be able to walk to our neighbours by themselves along the old railway, without having to cross the road, to get some fresh goats milk, eggs or veg. They had both spent their early years in the city, (Hull) and it was a real education for them to learn about living as part of a more natural relationship with the environment. They both loved animals and enjoyed helping with them. Donovan seemed to have a natural empathy with all animals and not only befriended Aby the Ballard's horse that lived in the paddock backing onto our garden, but also seemed to get on with their old goat Billy, who, almost without exception, attacked anyone else who wasn't one of its owner's family. Speaking of animals we had a lot of interesting encounters with goats. We often used to look after John and Kate's four goats if they were away, and many was the evening spent chasing the wretched creatures around their field when they refused to come in. Their leader was Sybil (named after Mrs. Fawcett), a big brown goat with an evil temperament who was always getting into, and causing trouble. Mind you, Alan Gould had a couple of white goats, Penny and Tuppence, who he used to chain up along the roadside in Thorn Lane. But Penny had a habit of dragging her chain out of the ground and blocking the traffic. She also looked quite striking as she had her horns decorated and covered with lengths of bright green garden hose pipe to stop her hurting passers by! Also, while on the subject of animals, we were often woken by the sound of Kate screaming "RILEY, SYDNEY" across the airfield at her two wayward setters - a true sound of the natural habitat!

Anyway, at that time Alan was central to H.A.N.D. (Humberside Against Nuclear Dumping) which fought hard, and successfully to prevent British Nuclear Fuels dumping their waste at Killingholme. We became involved in a fairly peripheral way but through that, and various meetings and conversations, I found myself elected to the Parish Council. I've always been a firm believer in everyone being involved in the democratic process, but had never fully realised that stalagmites move at a much faster rate! At first it was interesting and enjoyable, but after ten years, including a stint as chair, I really had enough. The most frustrating thing

was when the council was asked its opinion on strictly local matters but was either ignored by Glanford and Humberside, or, even more of a slap in the face, our decisions were totally reversed for no good reason.

One good thing that happened was a meeting with Jan Clarke who was a rural community outreach worker (and also a senior figure in the Green party at national level) She proposed that the village start a community magazine and, before I could say, "I really don't have the time" I was elected editor. (If only I'd kept my mouth shut about my previous career in journalism!) The first issue of the Gander was hatched on Alan Gould's hand cranked stencil duplicator, which was thirty years out of date in the early eighties. (Younger readers wanting an explanation of a "hand cranked stencil duplicator" only need to know that it was pre computers and not even steam powered, relying instead on something called elbow grease) Admittedly it didn't look particularly impressive, but people responded positively and so it was decided to continue the great experiment. At this point Paul and Carol Thornton joined the crew and found a printers who would produce it at the low rates they charged charities, while Moira Abbot started selling advertising space to anyone who was silly enough to stop running away from her! This made the gander more financially secure and as it became more attractive, so more people wanted to read it, sometimes submit articles and even help out. It won a couple of prestigious awards, but I can't remember who from. It had some useful support from Telethon in the form of a grant to pay for the first easy to read local directory of house names and locations - useful for delivery drivers and vital for the emergency services where very few houses have numbers and many streets are poorly labelled. There was also the hilarious sight of the Goxhill Gander itself walking the parish boundaries, accompanied by various servants, which caused many people to do a double-take and generated a wave of indifference amongst passing dogs and horses.

Anyway, a return to paid media work meant I no longer had time to do the Gander and I'm pleased to say that subsequent editors and their teams have kept it lively, interesting and growing from strength to strength. Most community magazines cease publication after about a year, the Gander is waddling on strong after more than twenty! It's something Goxhill should be really proud of - please help it waddle on for the next 20, or 200, years.

And that's about it really, of course there are loads of other memories but that'll do for now. I've lived in Goxhill longer than anywhere else and think it's a wonderful place that I will always appreciate. However, I do firmly believe that, if you want to enjoy the benefits of living in Goxhill, you should get involved, join the Parish Council, help with the Gander or become an active member of one of the many community groups. It's a beautiful place to live but only because a very small number of people fight to keep it that way - you really should help them out. - **Laurie Boxer**



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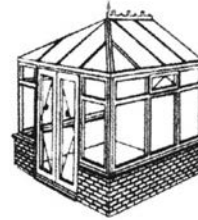
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Badminton Champions

Year 9 students Carrie Grimbleby, Kirsty Gossop, Tilly Needham, Hannah Snell and stand in Louise Bell recently won the district badminton competition against North Axholme and St Lawrence Academy, after qualifying from the area tournament against Sir John Nelthorpe and Vale of Ancholme.

They then went on to represent North Lincolnshire in the Humber area county final where they played Newlands School for girls, Toll Bar & Wolfreton. Their winning streak continued as they beat Toll Bar and Newlands, but unfortunately they lost out to Wolfreton (who had two county players), so finishing second in the county. The trophy was presented from the district competition, and medals were presented from both the district and county rounds.



Young Enterprise Challenge – Enterprise in Action 2011

On the 10th and 11th of January a group of students from year 9 were selected to take part in a school design and technology project, the young enterprise competition of 2011. It involved us splitting into teams of five or six and designing and making a product for our chosen market. Our company name was 'Topdog' and we decided to use a product that was already on the market, and adapt it. We took a normal design of a dog coat and improved it by adding lights and reflective strips to ensure safety whilst out in the dark. We also added pockets, a pedometer, easy fastening and a built-in collar and lead.

Not only did we have to design and create the product, we also had to work out things such as profit, price, advertisement and making sure our product was suitable for our target market. In order to meet the deadline for the presentation evening we gave up our free time to complete the marketing pitch! The evening was nerve-wracking, but after showing a panel of judges, from the school and local business community, and parents our display boards and delivering our presentation we felt that we did rather well!

After much deliberation by the judges the results

finally came, we were ecstatic to find that we had won, as the other groups had some really good ideas and designs and all the judges agreed that it had been a tough decision!

We all really enjoyed the competition and are looking forward to the next stage of the challenge later in the year! We would also like to thank the business volunteers who gave up their time to help us through the day and judge on the presentation evening.

Written by Oliver Steggles and Hannah Holden

Panto Packed with Potty Players – Oh no it wasn't!

Well it certainly was! This years pantomime from the South Bank Players played each evening to a full house and the cast was well stocked with Baysgarth talent. Students and staff played key roles in the panto and it was thoroughly enjoyed by cast and audience alike!

Alice Marlow, Emily Leaning, Heather Mason, Carrie Grimbleby, Alex Wharton, Carla Potter, Sophie Bullingham, Alexandra Rowell, Kate Jackson, Luke Bennet, Bradley Campion, Tilly Needham, Jake Gross, George Thompson and Carla Potter please take a bow!

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

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES

Please have submissions for the Summer edition of the Gander in by **Saturday 7th May**
Distribution 1st week of June
(for all date sensitive information)

email: goxhill-gander@fsmail.net

If you would like to advertise in the Gander in the next issue, please contact either
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1ST GOXHILL AND BARROW SCOUTS GROUP

Remembrance Sunday

The leaders of 1st Goxhill and Barrow Scout Group, would like to send a message of thanks and appreciation to the 27 smart and very well behaved boys and girls who represented the group at the Goxhill Memorial Hall service.



Fund Raising for a New Scout Hut Roof

In early December members from the cub, scout and explorer sections, kindly gave up their Saturday to help the group fund raise for a new Scout Hut roof by attending a bag packing session at Tesco in Barton. Organised by cub leader Andy Oliver and the management of Tesco, the day commenced at 10am until 4pm, with the boys and girls bag packing for two hour periods at a time.

A huge thank you to the generous customers of Tesco who bravely allowed for their bags to be packed (with no reported breakages or spillages) and who showed their support for the local troop by donating an impressive £528.16.

The Scouting Year

Overall the Scouting year for 2010 was very busy for the various sections and some of the highlights were:

JANUARY - The year started with a strong 76 members, 5 leaders and 3 uniformed helpers.

FEBRUARY - Scout and Explorer Wolds Challenge Hike, North Yorks and a weekend camp. The 2 Scout and 1 Explorer teams from 1st G&B Scouts produced competitive times for this challenging event.

MARCH - PGL weekend trip in Nottinghamshire for Cubs and Scouts.

APRIL - Annual District St. Georges Day Parade and Service in Barton plus a Scouts Community Badge camp whilst working at Pear Tree Farm in Goxhill.

MAY - District Beaver Fun Day at Raywell, North Yorks with an appearance from Chief Scout Bear Grylls. Glanboree weekend camp for Scouts and Explorers at Primrose Hill, Broughton.

JUNE - Cub District weekend camp at Primrose Hill. 1st Goxhill and Barrow Scout Group AGM.

JULY - Evening point to point hike setup by the Explorer section and carried out by the Scout section.

AUGUST - Week long Summer camp at Bradley Wood, Brighouse attended by Scouts and Explorers

SEPTEMBER - GOFA weekend camp at Primrose Hill for Scouts and Explorers.

OCTOBER - Fells Marathon and Competition Camp organised, but unfortunately cancelled.

NOVEMBER - Remembrance Service at Goxhill Memorial Hall.

DECEMBER - Fund Raising bag packing event and District Ten Pin Bowling night for the Explorers.

The group ended the year with a total of 87 members who have been looked after by a small team of dedicated leaders and helpers and who without would not be possible to run. A massive thank you to Beaver Leaders Tracy Morley and Denise Neve, Cub Leaders Andy Oliver and Michelle Gale, Scout Leaders Terry Hill, Neal Bruce and Kevan Lari and Explorer Leaders Mark Crawford and Tony Morley.

On a final note, it was with great pleasure and a privilege to present along with Group Chairman Kevan Lari, the Chief Scout Gold Award to explorer scout Henry Fielding. Well done Henry, this is a well deserved prestigious award for all your hard work and effort.

Rachel Mitchell Scout Leader



GOXHILL MEMORIAL HALL BOWLING CLUB

We are once again looking forward to the outdoor bowling season which is now not so very far away. We held an Open Day last year at the beginning of May and this year we are hoping to host another one on **Saturday 7th May at 2.00p.m.** Please make a note of the date and time !!

After last year's event, we enrolled several new members and would like to think that we can expect a repeat this year with more people from Goxhill taking an active part. After all, there is nothing to lose by "just turning up and having a go" - you may even enjoy it as did the new members last year.

All you need initially is a pair of flat, soft soled shoes. Thank you.

Chris Ellis, Secretary.

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



With the hikes in oil prices over the past year it is becoming increasingly attractive for criminals to steal heating oil from domestic and other premises. A recent report stated that tankers delivering oil are sometimes being followed by criminals who note where they deliver and then return later to pump out the oil and make off with it. So what can householders do to protect themselves from such thefts? The obvious answer, if at all possible, is to padlock the fuel tank filler cap. Buy a good quality lock with the thickest clasp that will comfortably fit through the hole that is often alongside the cap. When we first moved into our current home it was heated by oil and one of the first things I did was replace the metal pegs that held the fuel tank caps in place. There were two separate tanks, thus two caps, and the hole was not a very big diameter so that only a rather feeble padlock had a clasp that would fit. Instead, I passed a reinforced steel cable through the hole on each cap and secured the ends of the cable with a more robust padlock. Every situation will be different, so just try to think of something that would put off a criminal wanting to pump the oil from your fuel tank quickly and without being detected. The financial return from emptying a full tank could easily be thousands of pounds these days so make sure any deterrent is more than just a token effort

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

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

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

 **Email** for non-emergencies – contact your local Police Community Support Officer via email the police website at www.humberside.police.uk.

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

For more useful tips take a look at GNeW's new page on the Goxhill Links website at <http://goxhill.moonfruit.com/#/gnew/4545727371>. Should you want to discuss anything related to neighbourhood watch then please ring 530363 or email gnew@tesco.net.

BEWARE OF THIS SCAM

If you get an Email looking very official from the DVLC Swansea referring you to a questionnaire which asks for your driving licence etc.details to update their records

DO NOT RESPOND, IT IS A SCAM.

I have confirmed this with the DVLA this morning. (31.1.11) They were unaware 'till now so be prepared.

It also warns you that if you do not respond your license will be cancelled and you will have to re-take your test. Rubbish I know but it looks very official with the correct green triangle logo and everything.

Be prepared.

John Guggiari, GNeW Area Co-ordinator

READERS' LETTERS

I am aware that this issue has been raised many times in the Gander and that there have been dog bins and penalty notices installed over the years in the village in an attempt to resolve the issue. I can see little or no improvement in the matter of dogs being allowed to foul on the pavements in our village, owners not clearing the faeces up or the council enforcing the penalties for dog fouling. I have contacted the council about this issue today as it has become near impossible to take my three year old and my eight month old in her pram out in the village for a walk without dog faeces getting on the pram or our boots and this is having a detrimental impact on potentially our health and most certainly our enjoyment of this village where we live.

This is a simple request to ask the dog owners of this village to please clear up after their pets.

Megan Dennison

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HELPING GOXHILL'S SWIFT POPULATION



Every spring Goxhill welcomes back its populations of migrant birds. Arriving slightly later than the Swallows and House Martins at the end of April, the Swifts spend a short summer with us and then begin their long journey back to South Africa where they over winter.

As bird lovers may have noticed, Swift numbers have dropped markedly over the past few years (as much as 40%), noticeable last year in Goxhill. This is thought to be largely due to loss of nesting

sites. Swifts are known to be very loyal to their chosen site, returning to the same nest year after year, if this site is lost for any reason while they are away they do not readily make a new one – usually not nesting at all that year. If access to a nesting site is blocked while it is in use, Swifts are known to be injured or even killed attempting to regain access to the site.

Swifts gain access to nest sites – usually in old roofs, through small cracks and holes, typically between tiles, often the older hand made types, under the eaves – under the bottom row of tiles above the gutter or under lead flashings of chimneys or skylights.

These gaps may be the reason for repairs, although the ones used by Swifts are often too small to cause major problems (they need only just over an inch to gain access) or you may be at the point – like us, when a new roof is the only option. Repairs or replacements to these old roofs are the major cause of loss of nest sites.

After renewing our very old pan-tiled roof last year and successfully maintaining the longstanding Swift nest within it (with advice from Swift conservation sites and the help of our ever patient builder, Colin) I thought I'd share a few tips I learnt during the experience, hopefully encouraging others to help Goxhill's Swift population.

If you do have to repair / replace tiles or the whole roof please try and follow these guidelines:

Most importantly, **DO NOT do it between May 1st and August 10th** (the nesting season i.e. while the nest is in use – Nesting sites in use are protected from interference BY LAW

Do not block up cracks and holes that are not causing any problems

If sealing the eaves on a mortar layer, leave a few small gaps

Try not to replace old uneven tiles with perfectly fitting ones unless you have to – and then maybe lay a few unevenly to form small gaps

If leaving a nest in situ after repairs make sure the entrance is as near as possible to the original one (within a few inches and on the same orientation)

If none of the above are possible but you would still

like the pleasure of housing some Swifts each summer, there are a number of options available to you. These include special hollow blocks – to incorporate into walls or special nest boxes for under the eaves or simply high up on a wall. Instructions in the use of commercial nest boxes as well as for home-made ones can be found on the internet.

My thanks go to Edward Mayer and Bill Ball of the London Swift and Swift Conservation groups at www.londons-swifts.org.uk and <http://www.swift-conservation.org/> for all their help and advice. These websites are full of useful information and local contact information. You will find my details there, I will help if I can or put you in contact with people with much more experience than myself. There are also some examples of ways to maintain / provide Swift nesting sites, including mine (– still a work in progress but used by the Swifts last year and hopefully for years to come).

I hope this article may encourage a few people to help maintain and even increase our Swift population as they are no trouble and make little or no mess and, in this country, are now dependant on our roofs for nesting sites.

Helen Robertson

GOXHILL & THORNTON
PLOUGHING
MEETING.

The Society will hold its **ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING**
On FRIDAY, November 29th, 1867,
When the following Premiums will be offered for Competition:

CLASS 1—To the Farmer's Son, under 25 years of age, never having been in Service from his own home, nor having been in business for himself, and living on a Farm of not less than 40 Acres, using a Plough with or without wheels with two horses abreast, without a driver, who shall in the opinion of the Judges, Plough Half an Acre of Stable Land within Four Hours in the manner best adapted for a Winter Fallow, the Furrows not to average less than five inches deep. A **SILVER CUP**, value £3. Candidates in this Class to pay 2s. 6d. each Entrance.

CLASS 2—To the Ploughman of any age, using a Swing Plough, who shall Plough best as above. First, 40s; Second, 20s; Third, 10s.

CLASS 3—To the Ploughman under 25 years of age, using a Wheel or Swing Plough, who shall Plough best as above. First, 40s; Second, 20s; Third, 10s.

CLASS 4—To the Ploughboy under 18 years of age, using a Swing or Wheel Plough, who shall Plough best as above. First, 30s; Second, 20s; Third, 10s.

CLASS 5—A Championship Prize consisting of a Silver Cup value Four Guineas, presented by the Society. Open to All England.

A Plough given by Messrs. Ransome and Sims to the best Ploughman or Boy in any Class, excepting to any Servant of an Implement Maker.

CLASS 6—To the Labourer who shall Cut an Underdrain within Four Hours and a Half, 20 yards long and 3 feet deep, and put in Draining Pipe Tiles half the length, in the best and most workmanlike manner. First, 40s.; Second, 20s.; Third, 10s.

CLASS 7—To the First Prize Drainer only, who shall cut an Underdrain as above, 20s.

CLASS 8—To the Labourer who shall Bank, Cut, and Lay 16 yards of Quick-set Fence in the best manner, within Four Hours and a Half. First, 20s.; Second, 10s.

CLASS 9—Premiums will be given to Labourers or Servants above 14 years of age, employed in Husbandry, who shall best pass the Examination in Reading, Writing, Spelling, and Arithmetic (first four Rules).

Three Competitors in each Class up to 8, and Six in Class 9, or No Prize will be given.

Competitors whose Employers are not Subscribers of 2s. to the above Society will be required to pay 2s. entrance.
Winners of a First Prize at the Goxhill or any other Ploughing Meeting will be excluded from competing in a similar Class at the present Meeting, except in Class 5.
The Ploughs must be brought on the ground with the coulters reversed, and each person must set his own loam, for which a quarter of an hour will be allowed, and any person allowing others to walk with or direct him, to be disqualified.
Competitors in Classes 1, 3, and 4 will be required to produce satisfactory proof of age.
Entries for the different Classes may be made at the "ROYAL OAK," Goxhill, and "THORNTON HEX LEX," Thornton, on or before Thursday, the 26th November instant, at Nine o'clock p.m., and no Entries can be made after that time.
All the Candidates must be at the place to be named when the Entries are made at Seven o'clock in the Morning of the 29th November, and they will be required to be on the Ground, set out for work, at Half-past Seven o'clock.
The Unsuccessful Candidates in Classes 6, 7, and 8 will have their Drivers give them, provided the work be done to the satisfaction of the Judges.
Candidates in Class 9 will be required to meet for examination at the "ROYAL OAK," Goxhill, on Tuesday, the 26th November, at Six o'clock in the Evening.

THE PUBLIC DINNER

of the Society, to which the Friends of Agriculture are respectfully invited, will take place at Three p.m. on the day of the Anniversary, at the "**ROYAL OAK INN**," Goxhill, where all Successful Candidates will be required to attend immediately after, to receive their Premiums. **TICKETS** for the Dinner 2s. 6d. each.

R. FULSTOW, President. **F. SERGEANT**, Treasurers.
THOS. WARD, Secretary. **F. HOOKHAM**,

A poster, kindly supplied by Don Faulding, that is a fascinating insight into Goxhill life nearly 150 years ago.



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LIVING ON THE VERY EDGE

(of the airfield or, of life in wartime)

As we were in 1939

We were living in Field Farm Cottage in 1939: this being a 'tied house' belonging to Field Farm, (which is now known as: Chapel Field House), then farmed by Mr. Alf Dent.

That this cottage was allowed to stay at the very edge of the airfield, gave our family 'Ringside Seating' to events described below.

I remember being in the garden of Field Farm Cottage, on September 3rd, when my mother tapped on the window and beckoned me to come into the house. There my elder brothers Frank and Harry were sitting round the radio; mother said "The Prime Minister is to make a statement at eleven o'clock" When he came through it was to say that War had been declared on Germany. I remember that mother shed a few tears saying: "What is going to happen to us"; of course she could remember the horrors of the First World War.

About a couple of weeks later, a tractor and trailer arrived in Alf Dent's farmyard, loaded with planks, taken from a ship which was being broken up. Alf and my brother Harry spent several evenings digging a large hole in the orchard. When it was deep and large enough the planks were stood on end around the hole, forming walls; then more planks were placed on the top to form a roof. This roof was finished, by piling soil on the top as camouflage. Planks were placed inside along the walls to use as seats. Sack bags filled with wheat chaff were used as seats or as a mattress. This was our air raid shelter completed!

Within a few days, we were in bed when Alf Dent came and woke us up; telling us the air-raid siren had sounded. We all traipsed up to the shelter; someone brought a lantern, probably Alf. Then Mrs. Dent came in later. When asked by Alf why she was late, she said she had been finding a bed sheet and soaking it in water, in order to hang it over the entrance in case we had a gas attack. No sooner were we settled in, when the 'all clear' was sounded. Next days news told us it had been a false alarm, one of our aircraft had been mistaken for the enemy.

Construction of the airfield

One day around the end of August or early September 1940, three strange men arrived in a very smart car. We, that is Alf Dent, Harry and myself, were at the field gate; Alf was telling us that we would start cutting the corn in the morning; the strangers said "you'd better get on with it, as this field is being taken over as part of the airfield we are going to build."

Construction started in October. I remember large crawler tractors and earth moving machinery squelching through the mud, in this rainy spell of weather. I, being 13 years old and curious, spent my spare time watching the men work; machines were digging out the main runway. I was talking to a lorry driver, who agreed to my request to go for a ride with him. This led to me spending weekends and school holidays travelling with him to Scunthorpe slag bank, which was higher than a house! A road had been dug out to take us round the outside of the slag bank, climbing in a spiral, higher and higher, until we came onto the flat top; the slag was hot and was being cooled by the sprinkling of water. When we set off with our load, steam would still be rising from the hot wet slag ('Health and Safety' Ha Ha)

Several times he would be directed to bring a few loads of chalk; I went with him to two different quarries in Burnham; and sometimes to a quarry near Ulceby, not far from Brocklesby Station.

During the time that the airfield was being built, a man, whose

name I never knew, asked whether I would like to earn some money, when not in school. Of course I agreed to this. There was an old sand quarry down in the fields where I lived, which was to be re-opened. I was told to start on Monday morning; another man would be joining me; also a lorry would be there for us to load. When I arrived as instructed, I was met by a man with only one arm; two shovels were awaiting us; one each. I asked "How are you going to use a shovel?" He said that first of all he was going to have tea and a sandwich, as he had travelled a long way to get here (I think he had travelled from Tetney).

After refreshment we started. I was amazed to see him take a 'harness' out of his bag; he put it round his shoulders; It had a chain attached, with a hook at the end. He hooked into an eyebolt at the bottom of the shovel shaft; then held the top of the handle with his good hand. He dug into the sand and with a swing and a twist of his body, the sand was sent flying onto the lorry. I have not seen the like of this before or since! He could load a lorry without pausing for breath; he said that it was easier to work with a shovel with no arm, as it never tired or ached. (what a good example he set) All week we worked like this; a fresh lorry replacing the full one without pause!. Saturday midday came. Bringing the man who had hired me to help; the one-armed man was asked for a report on my work; happily he gave a good report, and I received the princely sum of seven shillings and sixpence (35p), with which I was delighted.

Whilst this building went on, the heavy traffic caused great damage to the roads, breaking the surface; allowing mud to ooze out of the asphalt. Loads of slag, like cobbles made a quick repair; this was disastrous to our bike tyres (all in a good cause?) When the Perimeter Track was finished we used to ride on this before the 'planes arrived of course. We were pleased to see the roads restored to their original state.

In the early hours of one morning we were awakened by an aeroplane, which seemed to circling round the house. Getting out of bed, opening the window, we saw a Wellington bomber so close we felt we could reach out and touch the wing. The body and tail plane were in tatters; bullet holes all over; holes in the tail rudder. It had come back from a raid damaged and was seeking somewhere to land safely.(I do not know from which airfield it was operating).It seemed to land safely.

For a while there were learner pilots from the RAF, landing and taking off again. They were flying air speed Oxfords and Avro Ansons, training as bomber pilots. We saw several catch the hedge as they came in too low.

I remember squadrons of spitfires arriving; there had been snow and frost overnight. We watched as they landed; the plane would touch down; then the pilot seemed to lose control as they skidded along; some finished up on the grass in the middle of the airfield; the runway was a skating rink!

Then of course along came the Americans. I remember a lot of c47 Dakotas(20 or 30) arriving. Soon after that there were American airmen all over the place. I can't remember the sequence of their arrival; but over the years that the Americans were here, we had p47 Thunderbolts, p38 Lockheed Lightnings, Bell Airo Cobras and p51 Mustangs.

We saw almost every type of aircraft land at Goxhill, including what was called 'The Flying Circus': this consisted of one of every type of German aircraft, captured, crashed or shot down and rebuilt. It was a great day watching them fly very low over the airfield. This must have taken place on a Sunday, as we were home, and it was a sunny day too.

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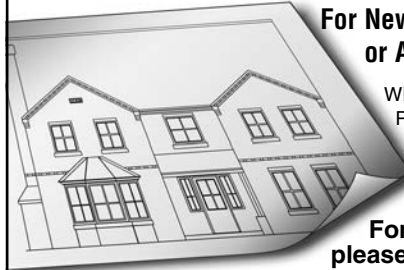


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continued from p35

I recall that when the airfield was built a large mound of earth as high as a house was constructed to act as a firing range to test aircraft guns. Standing at the edge of the airfield, I remember watching the guns being tested. They were Bell Air Cobras. The gun was placed behind the propeller, and synchronised to fire through the propeller, without hitting it. I watched as the engine was revved up; then the gun was fired creating all sorts of noise: banging as the bullets were fired; loud crashing as the bullets hit the propeller! Men ran in all directions, until the pilot stopped the engine; then all went quiet.

Just one little anecdote before going on to the next section: While the runways were being constructed, boys from the village would ride their bikes along where the men were working. A worker yelled at one boy "Keep off the Tarmac" The lad replied "My name isn't Mac," and went riding on. I wonder who he was.

Some reflections on amusing or interesting experiences

One night we were at the farm, after the sirens had sounded; we were watching the searchlights trying to pick up an enemy aircraft; we could hear it, as it was a still, bright night, with what we call a 'mackerel' sky. We saw the plane, high up; the searchlight in Southend was getting very close to the 'plane. Suddenly we saw bombs leaving the plane! We all made a dash for the door at once!

No one in the melee could find the sneck! What a panic! Suddenly the bombs went off; luckily we were still all in one piece. We think they were aimed at the searchlight, but were a long way off their target; they fell near the sewerage plant belonging to the airfield.

The mentioning of sewerage brings to mind that I was sent with a horse and cart to lead away what was called the "spoil" to the

farm where I worked. Surprisingly to me there was no smell, and the "spoil" was so light that we were able to use very large shovels to load it onto the cart. We piled it up so high, leading to a point at the top. When we were ready to go, even the horse gave us a look that said 'where is my usual heavy load?' We spread this load onto the land to enrich the soil.

After the bombs had exploded, Alf Dent, my brothers Harry and Frank went to see whether they could find where they had dropped. On the way back they met Mr. Arthur Short in full chase after his pigs, which had gained 'freedom' when the blast from the bombs had blown open the gate to their pen. These episodes caused amusement to relieve the stress and worry of these times.

Another amusing incident, looking back, though not so at the time was: we had been in the shelter during a raid, and had walked across the field home in the early hours of the morning after the 'All clear' had sounded. Mother needed to visit the toilet, which was outside. When she pushed the door to open it, it was pushed shut from the inside! After several tries and repeatedly demanding, "Who's in there?" but receiving no reply; it was realised that many enemy planes had been overhead, and it was possible that someone had landed by parachute; anxious moments passed then brother Harry, who was a member of the 'Home Guard' fetched his rifle, and issued a challenge to whoever was in there to come out or he would shoot. Suddenly the reply came! It was "baa"; the intruder was the lamb we were rearing by bottle! What a laugh that caused; we needed these lighter moments!

To conclude: living during the war was a frightening experience; it was a great leveller; it was also a time when people helped each other; maybe something could be learned from that.

Dennis Percy

NEWS FROM THE ALLOTMENTS

It feels good to be back working on the allotment after such a long hard winter. The ground was well and truly frozen for most of December and early January, with a thick covering of both snow and ice. Being fairly new to the allotments and the growing of fruit and veg, I have been intrigued by the old country saying that 'A blanket of snow is the poor man's fertilizer' and wanted to find out if there was any truth behind it. Well, it turns out that there is. Snow contains nitrogen compounds that were suspended in the air as the snowflakes formed. It is estimated that between 2 to 12 pounds of nitrogen, (depending on the thickness of the snow), can be deposited per acre of land. Nitrogen is the most important element for plant development and a major component of chlorophyll, the green colouring, which allows all plants to convert carbon dioxide, water and sunlight into oxygen and glucose through photosynthesis. So a blanket of snow is as the tale says a poor man's fertilizer and will indeed improve the quality of the soil.

The allotments at this time of year are a hive of activity with everyone making sure that their soil is well prepared ready for the new season of crops. Well-rotted manure and the contents of the compost heap are being dug in and used as a top dressing ready for the hungry young plants. As every gardener knows that to grow strong and healthy plants you need to have good quality soil.

At home, the greenhouse and every available window sill are being used to propagate seeds (ornaments have been relegated to cardboard boxes). Peas, beans, tomatoes, peppers, chillies, aubergines, courgettes and pumpkins are all growing well. Broad beans, onions, garlic, shallots, cabbages, potatoes are already out in the allotment and with the blackcurrants, raspberries, gooseberries, rhubarb and strawberries we are looking forward to some fresh, organic and money saving produce. In a recent survey carried out by 'The Allotment and Leisure Gardener's Association' it was estimated that a staggering £1,400 per year can be saved through growing your own. This figure took into account £202 that would be spent on tools, equipment, seeds, plants and rent and compared fruit and vegetable prices from the supermarket.

We still have a couple of vacant allotment plots, so if you are interested in a new hobby that allows you to be outside, get fit and save you money give us a ring. **Kevin 01469 531544** or **Derek 01469 533800**. You don't need to be an expert (there are always knowledgeable allotmenters who will always give advice and guidance) but you do need to be reasonably fit and have at least a few hours a week free to be able to work your plot. We look forward to hearing from you.

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STRICTLY SOUTH BANK PLAYERS!



In January the South Bank Players performed their annual pantomime 'Strictly Cinderella' to over 300 people at Ropery Hall. The show involved all members of the Players from the very youngest (aged 6) to the very oldest (aged 70+) and the whole cast worked extremely well together. The show was written by member Liz Drury, and was based on the well-known tale of Cinderella – with a modern twist! There were plenty of opportunities for audience participation and all the audiences threw themselves into the panto spirit with great gusto!

Following the success of the Barton shows the Players took the pantomime out to South Killingholme Community Centre. Recent grants from LEADER and North Lincolnshire Homes have allowed the group to buy portable sound and lighting equipment to enable them to tour. Once again the show was very well received and the Players have been asked to return with future productions.

The Barton Ghost Walk has continued through the winter months and the last walk of the season will take place on 23rd March starting at Baysgarth Museum at 7.30pm. Tickets can be booked in advance from Dennis Bloor on 01469 531003, or just come along on the night – if you dare!

The South Bank Players' next production will be 'Last Tango in Lower Barton' – a one act comedy by David Tristram which follows an amateur theatre group of dwindling membership as they try to get 'bums on seats!' "There's only one thing that sells tickets these days," argues Gordon the Chairman "Sex!" Thus begins the chaotic and hilarious build-up to an evening of extraordinary home-grown drama – an evening the locals would never forget!

On the same evening the youth group will perform 'Hit and Run' by Chris Maybury.

Wheelchair bound Gwen is rebuilding her life, with the help of Emmet Hugo, her imaginary Private Eye. Closer to home there is another mystery to be solved, but at what cost??

Performances take place on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th April at 7.30pm at Ropery Hall. Tickets are £5/£4 and are available from **the Ropewalk on 01652 660380** or **Dennis Bloor on 01469 531003**.

The Players are always looking for new members. If you are interested in acting, sound, lighting, costumes, helping backstage, or any other aspect of the theatre then contact Dennis Bloor or come along to one of our rehearsals at Ropery Hall on Sunday evenings at 7.30pm. We also have two junior groups for youngsters aged 6-11 and 11-16 run by **Jeanine Guy 01652 635738**.

BARTON ROTARY CLUB

Barton Rotary Club members had a busy Christmas period, although the snow and ice caused problems with some of the events. The Christmas Concert for Senior Citizens, to be performed by BADAOS and Barton Town Band was postponed until possibly March due to the dangerous icy footpaths and roads. Santa still toured Barton and Barrow but on less evenings, again due to the ice. 39 Christmas Day Dinners were cooked and delivered by Rotary Club members to elderly people who would be on their own in Barton Goxhill and Barrow. The turkeys were donated by Roger Sargeant of Barrow and the potatoes by Mike Knapton.

An evening at the Royal Oak in Barrow raised £360 towards the cost of a specially adapted electric wheelchair for a teenager with Cerebral Palsy who hopes to attend Lincoln University in the summer. The club has organised several events for this including two at Barrow Squash Club and one at the Old Mill in Barton. Rotary members and friends did a sponsored walk in the pouring rain and raised £1,000 towards the £4,980 cost. So far, a cheque for £2667 and sponsorship of £500 for a river swim by the girl's mother, have been handed over.

Just over a year ago, the Haiti earthquake devastated the island. With the help of local schools, including Goxhill Primary, and churches, we paid for 14 Shelterboxes from the Barton and villages area, to provide accommodation for 140 people. The Rotary Shelterbox organisation sent a total of 28,000 boxes to Haiti, which include a ten person tent and cooking equipment, etc.



A Rotary Club sponsored walk that raised £1000

45,000 Shelterboxes were sent to seventeen devastated countries during 2010.

Goxhill is included in the Barton Rotary club area and we would be very interested to hear from residents who wish to help in the club's projects. Please phone the club president **John Leaning 01469 530003** or **David Lee 01652 660986**

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LOCAL BEES AND PEOPLE LIVING IN HARMONY

The two questions that I am most frequently asked about bees are probably 'What sort of calls do you get about bees?' and 'Do you get many calls about swarms of bees?'

Looking back over my 2010 diary, five swarms of honey bees were actually collected: from a fence in Immingham, a bush in Ulceby, a head-height tree branch in Barrow, the top of a pear tree in Goxhill and high in a 15 feet conifer hedge in Keelby. These were later hived with beekeepers either starting the hobby or wanting to increase the number of their hives – ending up in Scawby, Brocklesby, Alkborough and Goxhill.

Additionally to those five, a swarm of bees were tempted to move into a nuke (a small temporary hive) that I left speculatively near a Goxhill colony living wild after occupying an unused chimney last year. And an old, previously empty, hive in Brocklesby (it belonged to an apiarist who died a few years ago) - now with bees that had moved in - was transported to Goxhill.

But it is not all success stories; some bees were lost along the way too. When out walking my dog I saw and heard a swarm of bees buzzing around a hedge at Goxhill South End, but it had gone by the time I returned. According to a neighbour they had arrived the evening before and presumably were leaving for a more permanent home when I saw them.

This shows how (i) the best chance of catching a swarm is to report it when it arrives, but (ii) a swarm will usually leave a hedge or branch once it locates a home with more potential, though (iii) the new home could well be somewhere more problematic (e.g. a roof space or shed).

I received a call from Ulceby about honey bees that had taken up residence beneath a wooden play house but, after postponing my visit because one of their children was unwell, the caller never got back in touch. The bees may still be there or perhaps a pest controller was brought in to destroy them. In another case, I helped a new beekeeper retrieve a swarm that somebody else had given him but which would not settle in his brand new hive for some reason. Those bees left again for good, the day after we re-hived them, so we never resolved why they disliked that hive.

I am frequently delighted by how many people are comfortable about taking a "live and let live" approach with bees. Often people just want to know what the issues are, to be aware of any "dos and don'ts" and to have the chance to ask me questions – then they are happy to leave the bees alone. This year I met with two different people content to leave a colony of honey bees living in part of their roof when there was not an easy way to remove them (so destruction was the alternative). I will be getting in touch with them both in 2011 to check whether those colonies survived beyond Autumn and to see what may need to be done. Several colonies of bumble bees were left to live out Summer in peace once their involuntary 'landlords' knew what was

involved. One colony in Immingham had occupied a bird nesting box and seemed to be doing well. Two other ground nests of bumble bees in Goxhill and Ulceby were simply roofed with a tile so that the bees exited in a people/animal friendly direction, and that was enough to sort them out. I was also contacted by somebody in Grimsby with a bumble bee nest in his garage; the bees coming and going via a broken window. I contacted a public-spirited beekeeper living nearby and, as his only experience was with honey bees, I talked through what was involved in moving the nest. He apparently did a great job moving the bees – but I must admit to feeling a bit guilty since he had some bad luck when a tool fell off the wall and rather upset the bees (who upset him) on his first attempt.

Of course it is not always practical to leave bees alone, especially if they are inside the house or somebody is allergic to stings or children play close by. Chimneys are my least-favourite location for a bee swarm because it is almost impossible to get to the bees: so smoking them out becomes the favoured, but unreliable, approach. As one Goxhill couple were shortly going on holiday when bees turned up in their chimney, waiting to see if smoking had worked was not really an option for them. They suspected the bees might have left but, to be on the safe side, called in a pest controller to waft poison up the chimney. It added a nasty supplement to their holiday bill.

Fortunately, at a recently-restored East Halton farmhouse it proved possible to simply block up a hole in the wall being used by honey bees to access a cavity between floors. My first fear that the bees might have moved in proved unfounded. By observing the bees coming and going it seemed most likely that there had been a colony there prior to the renovations and the bees were simply cleaning out any residual honey. In May, when I found myself hearing buzzing as I lay in bed, I wondered initially if I had been spending so long with bees that I was hearing them in my sleep – except that I was still awake. The next day, and subsequently throughout Summer, I watched a steady stream of bumble bees exit the air brick below our bedroom from what must have been a pretty large colony based under our floorboards.

I'm not sure I would recommend the buzzing of bees as an aid to sleep but I reckon there are a lot worse sounds to listen to as you drop off at night. So those were my attempts in 2010 to help bees and people live in harmony. To find out more see the website <http://goxhill.moonfruit.com/#/bees-beekeeping/4545761348>. Whilst I am currently taking a break from keeping bee hives, I still intend to collect swarms, help new beekeepers get started and advise people about anything bothering them on the bee front. My telephone number is 530363 but if I am unavailable then **John Hankinson on 531029** would be happy to help.

John Guggiari



Food Service Times
See our web site



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Mayflower

Barrow Parent and Toddler Group

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

Ages from birth to five years

0-6 months FREE

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DEADLINE

Please have submissions for the Summer edition of the Gander in by Saturday 7th May
Distribution 1st week of June for date sensitive items
e: goxhill-gander@fsmail.net
 or tel any member of the team
 If you would like to advertise in the Gander, please contact either
Jeff Teasdale on 07774 671175 or Nicola Jones on 07772 519421
 or by the email address above

Useful Numbers

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 General Enquiries 635435 / 6
 Emergencies 632573
 Appointments (for Goxhill also) . 632565
 Prescriptions (Barton) 632257
 Prescriptions (Goxhill) . 01469 532560
NHS Direct 0845 4647

Hospitals

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 Hull Royal Infirmary .. 01482 328541
 Grimsby - Diana P.O.W.01472 874111

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Barton Dental Centre . 01652 633580

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Lloyds 01652 632129
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Veterinary Surgeons - Barton

Barton Veterinary Centre
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HELPLINES

Alcoholics Anonymous

..... 0845 769 7555

Childline (Freephone) ... 0800 1111

Citizens Advice Bureau

Grimsby 01472 268894

Scunthorpe 01724 848645

Barton (appointments). 01724 296800

Cancer Support Group 01724 282282

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

Drugline 0800 526475

Lone Parent Helpline 0800 018 5026

Marriage Guidance (Relate)

(Lincoln) 01522 524922

NSPCC (Freephone)... 0800 800500

Police Domestic Violence Unit

(Scunthorpe) 01724 274161

RSPCA (National Linkline)

..... 0990 555999

Samaritans (Lo-call)... 0345 909090

Social Services

Emergency Duty Team 01724 296500

TRAVEL

National Rail enquiries

24 Hour Linkline 0345 484950

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Humberside Airport

..... 01652 688456

GENERAL

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Thursday: 9.00am to 7.00 pm
Friday: 9.00am to 7.00pm
Saturday: 9.00am to 4.00pm

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