



the Gander

GOXHILL VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2012



Goxhill Views

Village Tales

Local People

School Reports

Church Letters

Parish Council News

& Much More

The photograph shows the authentic costumes and enthusiasm for the music of the period that made last year's 40's dance so successful. By popular demand the Memorial Hall are putting on a repeat performance this year, see page 25 for details.

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**Daisy House,
Churchside
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I hope by the time you read this the first signs of Spring will be well under way with the welcome sight of daffodils emerging out of the frozen ground and bursting into colour. It is amazing to me as a 'not very good' gardener, how something so beautiful and uplifting can happen every year without any real attention from myself.



Wouldn't it be wonderful if everything in life happened without us having to do much. Sadly this is rarely the case. Usually you have to work hard to achieve anything. Even the daffodils have to be planted in the first place by someone prepared to do the digging, so it doesn't really happen entirely by nature. Then there are the annual flowers and fruit and vegetables, that need much more work to get the ultimate benefits of beautiful blooms and tasty produce later.

The same applies to life in the village. The initial hard work by the committees of all the clubs and social organisations, in setting them up initially and developing programmes of activities, blossom later and are enjoyed by many more people. Unfortunately they don't just have to do it the once and then sit back and enjoy it year after year. It is a continuous job and just like plants, improve with nourishing ideas and hard work and TLC. But it is pointless doing any of these things if it does not provide pleasure to others.

I know I have said this before, but it is an on going problem, and all the facilities of the village need your support and use to keep going. The shops and the pub, the churches, the Memorial Hall, the clubs, the local businesses, all need your custom to survive.

It is Annual General Meeting season, so this is your best opportunity to volunteer to help, but if you cannot do that, at least go along and attend some of the events organised.

One of the great successes last year was the 40's dance organised by the Memorial Hall Committee, and, by popular demand, they have organised another one in April, see the advertisement on page 25. But the Memorial Hall needs using much more for other activities, for its tennis and snooker facilities and for private functions, as well as the events organised throughout the year by the committee.

Another success is the Library. Thanks to dedicated volunteers it was saved from extinction and is now being used much more. In fact it has had more new members sign up since becoming a community run library, than in the whole of North Lincolnshire combined. And it is evolving into more than just a library, with computers and printers available with web access, coffee mornings and links with the school. But they will gladly welcome more of you through the doors of this wonderful village facility.

There are also lots of other activities you can join in. The Bowling Club have superb greens and club house and welcome new members. All the clubs and societies on the Notice Board pages offer many social occasions. The pub have a darts and dominoes team, quiz nights and Saturday night entertainments. To mention only a few.

If your group is not included here, get in touch, so I can promote your activities in the Gander.

Jeff Teasdale, Editor of the Goxhill Gander



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

THE GANDER
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, 18th April, 2012 at 7.00.p.m.
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	01469 532260	Invoicing & Distribution
Jeff Teasdale	Willow Farm, Willow Lane	07774 671175	Editor & Advertising

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

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

Happy Easter !

Almost everyone likes Easter eggs. A beautifully rounded chocolate shell, sometimes empty and sometimes full of sweets or sometimes a rather gooey yellow and white creamy centre made to look just like a real egg. These seem so popular I hear that they were on sale the day after Boxing Day!

Why do we have eggs to celebrate Easter? If you have been in 'chocolate denial' during Lent and can resist the temptation of eating one long enough to look at it, you will see that it can also remind you of the joy of Jesus' resurrection.

If the egg is empty, the rounded shell can look like the cave which was the burial place of Jesus - at first it is perfectly sealed, then, when it is opened, it shows that the tomb is empty, Jesus is not there. He has risen.

If the egg is full, then it shows the goodness of God in bringing the new life of the resurrection to Jesus and promising us that we can have that new life, too. This spiritual new life is rich and full of energy, even more than a cream egg, and even more than an ordinary egg which brings forth new physical life.

Many people prepare for the joy and richness of celebrating Christ's resurrection on Easter Day by living more simply during Lent and thinking seriously about their spiritual life and discipline. Following this season of preparation and denial they then join their fellow Christians at the Easter service to praise the God who has transformed our world and given us the new hope of a goodness which will fill us all. Youngsters (and the not-so-young) who come to our 9.30am service on Easter Sunday may even find a small egg waiting for them : this is, after all, the most important day in the Christian year!

With every blessing, **Rev John Girtchen**

Fun Wine Tasting Evening!

A quiz evening with a difference is planned for the Vicar's Room, Barrow on **Friday 11th May 2012 at 7.15pm** for a prompt 7.30pm start. The evening will take the form of a fun wine tasting quiz presented by local wine enthusiasts Roy Smith and Chris Farrow.

A variety of wines will be tasted, each with an accompanying hors d'oeuvres or 'lite bites' to complement each wine. We hope you will perhaps learn something new about wine, discover some new grape varieties and try your hand at a fun wine quiz while enjoying an evening out with friends.

Any profit made on the evening will be used to support the SOS Communion Service at Holy Trinity Church. Tickets for the event are just £10 each. To book a place or a table for you and your friends contact **Annette on 01469 531613**.

Dave Bilbrough returns to Barrow.

Dave Bilbrough, international Christian singer and songwriter is returning to Holy Trinity Barrow on **Saturday 28th April at 7.30pm**.

This is part of his Precious Grace tour where he will be showcasing his latest CD as well as sharing his story and leading us in worship . Dave and his wife Pat appeared at Holy Trinity in 2010 for a praise concert that was greatly appreciated by all who came and we are greatly looking forward to welcoming them back .

Some of us have seen Dave live at Spring Harvest and other big events but usually with thousands of others so to have an opportunity to hear him in the intimate atmosphere of Holy Trinity is really special.

Dave has three decades of experience in Christian song writing. 'All Hail the Lamb', 'I Am a New Creation', 'Holy Ground' and 'Abba Father' are among his many compositions that have been sung worldwide by all denominations. Alongside his music he is in regular demand as a seminar speaker on themes related to worship. His ministry brings an emphasis on the grace and faithfulness of God and we are privileged that he is returning to Barrow.

We anticipate that this event featuring an artist of Dave's calibre will sell out fast. Tickets are just £5 each and are available now from **Annette on 01469 531613**.



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LETTER FROM THE CHAPEL

‘ VEILED IN CHOCOLATE ’

St. Valentine’s Day – A FEAST OF CHOCOLATE !

Chocolate, that wonderful substance that can be eaten or drunk, of which we consume thousands of tons a year, is a daily ingredient in the lives of people of all ages, and those who market our major festivals are well aware of it!

For while chocolate is commonplace, it is also special and makes annual appearances as Christmas decorations and yule logs, as Easter eggs and bunnies and on St. Valentine’s Day, as chocolate hearts with soft centres.

For where ever there is something to be celebrated, out comes the chocolate!

In the 3rd Century in pre Christian Rome, the Emperor Claudius 11, had great difficulty getting his soldiers to go away from home to fight, because the men did not want to leave their wives and families. So Claudius decided to abolish marriage.

But marriage, then, as now, was held in high esteem in Christian circles and Valentine, who was a priest himself, continued to encourage couples to marry and performed the marriage ceremony himself. The Roman authorities were not impressed and Valentine was arrested and sentenced to death.

What was once a festival to commemorate the courage of Valentine and the lengths to which he was willing to go for love of his Lord, Jesus Christ, has become a festival dominated by the love of chocolate.

The original purpose of the feast day was to help us focus on the love of God for humanity shown in the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to remember those who were willing to suffer for their faith.

The truth and joy of God’s love has been given a thick chocolate coating.

God’s love has become veiled behind a product that has become sentimentalised.

If love is seen as something that lasts barely longer than a box of chocolates, then its no surprise that we devote only one day a year to it!

But Valentine is not, nor ever has been a patron saint of love. We do not need a patron saint of love, because we have a God of love.

A love that is committed, forgiving and enduring, the kind of love we’re not always very good at showing. A love that is patient, kind, faithful, always full of hope. A love that never gives up. Such love we grasp only partially is perfected in Christ and through the Holy Spirit is still present among us in our hearts, our faith and in our relationships.

This is something to be celebrated not just today, not just once a year, but every day.

If you would like to know more about God’s love, turn in your bible to Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians, chapter 13.

If you want to know more about God’s love for you, then join the many followers of Christ, who week by week, in Church, discover the wonder and the reality of God’s love for all.

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

Easter Services at Goxhill All Saints Church and Methodist Chapel

Palm Sunday	1st April	10.00am	Meet at All Saints Church for walk of witness to Goxhill Methodist Chapel and United Service at 10.30am.
Maundy Thursday	5th April	7.00pm	Holy Communion at Goxhill Methodist Chapel
Good Friday	6th April	7.30pm	United Service at All Saints Church
Easter Sunday	8th April	7.00am	Vigil Service in All Saints Churchyard (followed by breakfast at Goxhill Methodist Chapel. Donations for charity)
Easter Sunday	8th April	9.30am	Holy Communion at All Saints

DEADLINE

Please have submissions for the Summer edition of the Gander in by Saturday 5th May. Distribution 1st week of June for date sensitive items **email: goxhill-gander@fsmail.net** or telephone 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 01469 532260** or by the email address above.

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NOTICE BOARD

Goxhill Memorial Hall 200 Club

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

November	188	Mrs J Northen	£30.00
"	224	S Wrightson	£30.00
December	181	Miss A Cook	£106.25
"	85	Rev J Girtchen	£30.00
"	105	I. Ross	£30.00
January '12	11	Mrs M Knapton	£30.00
"	90	G. Horlock	£30.00

Goxhill Women's Institute

The W.I. meet on every second Monday of the month in the Memorial Hall, commencing at 7 pm except August when there is no meeting.

April 16th 2012 - 'The Staffordshire Hoard' speaker is Kevin Leahy leading archaeologist and has appeared on Time Team.

May 14th 2012 - 'Hearing Dogs for Deaf People' - possibly one or more dogs will be arriving with the speaker.

July 2012 - a talk by the Barton & Goxhill Surgery Practice Manager.

Everyone would be welcome to attend any of the above meetings although for non-members a small charge will be made but this will include refreshments. Please watch out for posters.

If you require any further details on any of the above please telephone **Mrs. Iris MacLeod** on **01469 530772**.



The Women's Institute invites everyone to come along to the Memorial Hall on the afternoon of

Saturday, 2nd June to help celebrate **Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II's, Diamond Jubilee**, at a Tea Dance with music by the 'King of Swing'. Hopefully, there will be dancers to show us all how it was done in the 'good old days' of the mid 20th century.

Tea, sandwiches, cakes will be available together with a raffle.

Please look out for posters with full information nearer the date. **Don't forget 2nd June 2012.**

POP IN

We have had numerous requests to restart the monthly Pop In. Therefore as Churches Together we will be restarting the Pop In's. We have a change of day of the week, also a change of venue. We will now be meeting on a Saturday morning 10am – MD in the Chapel School Room, which has disabled access. Come and join us for a chance to meet up with others and chat over a cup of Coffee or tea. Other refreshments will be available. Second hand books, Fairtrade stall and a bring and buy.

The first Pop In will be on **Saturday 18th February**, then on the third Saturday in the month: **17th March, 21st April, 19th May**

Any enquiries contact **Jane 530692** or **Sandra 530065**

'Fourum' in concert

Saturday 31st March 7.30pm

All Saints Church

'Fourum' are a four part harmony group from Scunthorpe. They have done five concert tours in the south eastern states of the USA. In 2007 they were in concert at a prestigious event in Jamestown Virginia, to celebrate America's 400th birthday.

Admission £6 Children £3 includes A light supper which will follow the concert.

You will enjoy an evening of excellent music and entertainment.

For further details, contact **Sheila on 531954** or **Sandra on 530065**

Quiz Night in Aid of Christian Aid

Friday 11th May. 7.30pm in the Chapel Schoolroom Admission £5 including supper.

Coffee morning and soup lunch.

in aid of Christian Aid

Saturday 12th May 10am – 1pm

In the Chapel Schoolroom

Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday 2nd March 7.30pm Goxhill Chapel

Join us for a service that has been prepared by the women of Maylasia.

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

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NOTICE BOARD Part 2

SPRING CRAFT FAIR

This will be the third year for the Spring Craft Fair at Goxhill Memorial Hall and it will be held on the 5th and 6th May from 10.30am to 4.30pm on both days with free entry. We expect to have our usual contributors who provide an extensive range of crafts including hand painted china, glass, decoupage, soaps, cards, baby clothes, local art woodcraft and many other items.

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

This year as an exciting extra we propose a village Photographic Competition with free entry open to all ages, on the subject "Village Life" - there will be a prize for the best entry which we will ask the public to vote on over the weekend and the winning entry will be announced before we close the Fair on Sunday 6th May. As part of the fun the entries will be displayed in the side room at the Craft Fair so that people can view them and fill in a voting form.

Photos should be delivered to Willow Cottage by Friday 27th April (post box on wall at gate) so that we have everyone's entry available to display before the event.

We hope everyone will come along at some time over the weekend and look forward to welcoming friends old and new.

Tables still available for hire - please contact **Steve Wrightson 01469 531720**

GOXHILL MEMORIAL HALL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 18th April, 2012 at 7.30.p.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 Methodist School Room

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



We Need Your Help

At the AGM of the Goxhill Allotments and Garden Association the idea of holding a village **Horticultural type Show** was raised.

Ideally this would include the WI, Village School, Memorial Hall, Mother and Toddler and the Churches and cover baking, preserves, fruit and vegetable growing, flowers and crafts, a good old fashioned style village show. Traditionally the village held such events for many years and it would be lovely for it to become once again a key date on the village calendar. If you have any experience of such an event or are involved in any of the village associations and would like to meet to discuss the idea please contact **Viv Sharland on 01469 533800** or alternatively you can call into the Library on a Wednesday afternoon 2-5pm.

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**

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.

DVD. "The Americans at Goxhill"

Shot by an American officer in 1944 using a gun-camera removed from a crashed aircraft with a 24 volt battery pack on his shoulder, contains clips of the airfield, village, bomb damage in Hull and Grimsby, he also visited Derby and Newark.. Price. £5-00 un-boxed....

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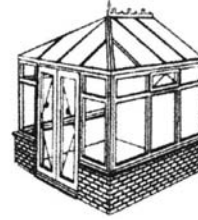
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NOTICE BOARD Part 3

TABLE TOP SALE

In the Memorial Hall at the **end of July**. Get a table booked now and start collecting. Contact **Penny Nadin on 01469 532223** or any Memorial Hall committee member

CONCERT AT THE CHAPEL

The Lund Singers are performing at the Chapel on April 28th at 7.30pm. . For further information contact **Jack Elwood on 01469 530690**

Feel confident with English & Maths

English and maths skills are not just for school – they are for everyday life. You may want to improve your skills and confidence because you are starting a new job, doing some training or because you haven't used certain skills for some time. This webpage tells you how you can boost your skills and confidence in English and maths.

A good way to start is to check the level of your skills.

What are Skills for Life?

English: Speaking and listening, reading and writing
Maths: Number, measure, handling data

What will a Skills for Life course do for you?

- Help you to look for work – writing a CV, application forms or preparation for interviews
- Improve your prospects at work
- Help you to access further education courses
- Help you feel more confident in coping with everyday family situations, for example managing family finances, helping with children's homework

What courses are available?

- Courses are available in English and maths at different levels up to and including a GCSE

On all courses you:

- work at your own speed on the individual skills that you need; and
- take nationally recognised qualifications.

What next?

Classes are held mornings, afternoons and evenings throughout the week at Barton Adult Community Learning Centre, Providence House in Barton upon Humber.

An appointment will be made for a confidential interview to discuss your individual needs and select a course that suits you. Please contact **01652 632994** or email **eve.wilkinson@northlincs.gov.uk**

GOXHILL CHURCH

With regard to the letter written in the last issue of the Gander, ALL SAINTS CHURCH has not been locked due to the recent spate of vandalism, the Church has been kept locked for many years, but for anyone wishing to gain access there has always been a key available which at present can be obtained from the Spar Shop.

Eddie & Janet, Church Wardens

QUEEN'S CORONATION

Do you have any memorabilia or pictures of children from the Queens Coronation?

I am helping put on a display at the Wilderspin school of the Queens Coronation and life for Children at that time, if you would be willing to loan any of the above items please contact **Francesca Noton on 532628**

'AN EVENING OF CLAIRVOYANCE'

with Paul Steven in the Memorial Hall on the 15th April, 2012, 7 – 9 p.m

GOXHILL MEMORIAL HALL "SHORT AWARD" 2012

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 14th March 2012.

The Award will be presented to the winner at the Hall's AGM on Wednesday 18th April 2012. 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 2012 Short Award.....

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Signed.....

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In the last edition of the Gander, I remember writing about the ridiculously mild weather for the time of year. Despite a few cold snaps since that time, we still seem to have been blessed with a mild winter, helping us all with our fuel bills and avoiding the trials and tribulations that the previous year's snowfalls gave us.

This Spring term, we have been delighted to welcome Miss Breslin back into school. The children (and staff) have missed her and are once again skipping down the corridor for their Sticky Wickers! As I expected, the school has settled down straight away and it is as if Miss Breslin was never away.

In the run up to Christmas, we had a number of exciting events and the festivities were well received by the children and staff alike. We were pleased to welcome John Bailey into school, carrying out his annual duty as the man in red with the white beard! Our newly formed PTA (PiPs) were very active in the run up to Christmas with activities including a Christmas Fayre and raffle, Christmas Disco and carol singing around the village. We are very lucky to have members of PiPs who work for Barclays Bank who offer a match funding scheme – this boosted our total for fund raising to nearly £5000. This has given a tremendous boost to our school fund and we have decided to spend two thirds of this amount on ICT in the next few weeks. We are indebted to the PiPs members who give up their time so freely. Special thanks go to those members who provide the link with Barclays that is so profitable for us. Once again, Mark Russell provided our disco for which we are really grateful. A very big thank you needs to be given to Barton Rotary Club who not only loaned their Santa's Sleigh to us, but also provided the transport and volunteers to help us perform the carol singing. Many thanks to Colin and David for giving up their evening and allowing us to raise lots of money whilst providing festive cheer around the village.



The Humberside firemen visited Year 2 as part of their theme - THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON



Our final fund raising event of 2011 was to help 'Lives' emergency paramedic service who are raising funds to buy a vehicle dedicated to their first response service. We asked for donation from parents and received a total of £137.05 – again thank you for your generosity!

You will remember that in my previous article, I told you that Mrs Kell was about to depart on maternity

leave. A baby girl was safely delivered shortly after Christmas, Zara Lily. Both mum and Zara have been into school to see us and both are doing well!

We were lucky enough to secure the services of Mrs Hogg for the remainder of Mrs Kell's maternity leave. She has settled down with us really well and is already proving herself to be an excellent addition to the school.

The children are working on exciting topics and themes and teachers are currently planning educational visits for the coming term. In Year 4, the theme is Africa. You may remember, about a year ago, employees of Kimberley Clark raised money to help create facilities for a school in South Africa. We are currently working with Jim Oakshott to build a link with this school. We recently held a bun sale in school. As always, we were really well supported and managed to raise over £100 that we will use to buy a small video camera to ship to South Africa. The African teachers will then be able to record footage of their school environment and upload them to the podcasting section of our school website.

KS1 and Foundation children visited the Goxhill Library, where the volunteers were keen to show off the range of suitable books for children of all ages.

continued on p 17



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continued from p 15

Our younger children recently visited Goxhill library and spent time reading books and engaging in activities provided by the volunteers. The children enjoyed the visit tremendously and several of them joined the library soon afterwards – a great result for such an important community service. Many thanks to the library volunteers who organized the events, particularly Viv Sharland who is now beginning to bring her artistic talents into school to work with the children.



The Arts and Crafts Club

You will remember that in the previous edition of the Gander, we shared the news of Mrs Dunderdale's retirement. Just before the end of the term, we had a special assembly in school to mark the occasion. Val was presented with gifts and a specially formed choir performed two moving songs – 'Valerie' and 'Valerie Goodbye'. The previous evening, we held a gathering in the school hall. Many of Val's friends and colleagues (past and present) gathered to wish her well in her retirement. It was great to have so many former staff members of school (I dare



Year 3 playing the recorder in music lessons with Carol Dawson

not list them in fear of missing someone out and causing offence – let's just say it was a 'who's who' of Goxhill past and present. Val made a fantastic contribution to the school for nearly thirty years and will be sadly missed – once again we wish her well and hope she has a long and happy retirement. We really do hope that she will continue to pop into school regularly.

As always, our staff, governors and pupils would like to thank all members of our school and wider community for their continued support.

Phil Brown and Caroline Breslin



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After teaching at Goxhill Primary for five years, I left the school at the end of the Autumn term to take up the position as Deputy Head at Burton Stather Primary School. I have been involved with Goxhill School for over ten years in various capacities working my way up from parent helper to my final term working as Acting Deputy Head. It has been without doubt the most rewarding career I have ever had and I have loved every minute of it. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunities and experiences that the school gave me and for the way that parents, children, staff and governors welcomed me into their community. I wanted to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks for all of the beautiful gifts and kind messages that I received when I left. Goxhill Primary is a fantastic school and I am very proud to have been a part of it.

Thank you all for your support over the past years.

Best Wishes

Sarah Brown

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2012 has links to the past

It seems a long time ago now but as I write this in February I remember that sixty earlier in 1952 I began my national service with the Royal Navy. I was very fortunate because I finished my "Square Bashing" just too late to be involved in the funeral of The King. I say fortunate because such state occasions involved much polishing and cleaning and marching and standing about in cold streets whilst demented officers, commissioned and petty, screamed and shouted commands. I remember the little things, the brass lettering on the side of the Rum Tub which had been altered from The King God Bless Him and now read The Queen God Bless Her but although the inscription had been dutifully changed the impression caused by years of polishing could still be seen. Yes, we had a queen and of course the Navy being what it was quickly remembered that earlier Elizabeth to whom naval tradition owed so much.

We were not to be disappointed but it was the following summer before the full celebration of the coronation took place. A few days later there was the review of the fleet in the Solent. Almost all of the ships of the navy were there drawn up in line between the Isle of Wight and the estuary so many that the ends of the lines disappeared from view. Every ship freshly painted a new ship side grey, they were accurately placed, and they were swinging on anchor chains, which were cleaned and painted and gleamed, white as they dipped into the green water. Every sailor washed; uniform ironed, blanched, polished and adjusted to perfection. The Queen reviewed the fleet from the Royal Yacht sailing up and down between the lines of ships. As she past, on the word of command, we raised our caps and gave three cheers. This was of course a well-rehearsed manoeuvre and as the caps waved in synchronous motion we cheered. Even here the navy ensured that voices were raised "ship shape and Bristol fashion", we were instructed to pronounce the word Hoorah, no sloppy hooray business.

Sadly there can be no repetition of that wonderful and memorable event. Unfortunately if all of the ships of the Royal Navy were drawn up for review at the Foreland they would be outnumbered by the ferries that daily pass through the Solent. There will however be a Royal Pageant as the Queen sails up the river Thames in a Royal Barge. Over a thousand boats from many parts of the commonwealth will take part in the procession and a million people will be able to line the banks of the river to enjoy the spectacle. I shall probably watch this on television and so I shall not cheer but my feet will be braced against the swell of the sea as they were on the deck of H.M.S. Obedient sixty years ago. There may be some difficulty in controlling the large number of private vessels on the tidal water as the barge proceeds up the river Thames but the handing over of the maritime celebration from the Royal Navy to the civil community reflects the changes that have occurred during her majesties reign.

Another memory of times past arose from the series of television programmes about the stars and the night sky. The young man presenting the programme spoke of many wonders, of billions of years, of distances that I could not imagine and of things that were not visible to the human eye, but when he talked about something that he must only ever have been able to see in remote places. I immediately knew what he was talking about.

That was light pollution of the night sky. He was talking about the light from our cities, towns, villages and houses that reflected in the sky make it impossible to see most of the stars. This is only too apparent in Goxhill where our lights and those of Hull, Scunthorpe, Grimsby and the smaller towns completely obscure almost everything above us. He seemed like a nice young man and he placed the blame upon the modern desire to put powerful lights in our streets and in and on our buildings but he could not have been old enough to have been able to step outside of the house where he lived and see the night sky above him in all of its glory. When I was a child we lived without much artificial light little electricity some gas in larger villages and towns but we walked the streets and played our games in semi darkness. Some people had lanterns and hurricane lamps that they carried. When the T.V. broadcast travelled to Dulverton on Exmoor to an experiment in shutting of all of the lights in the village I could see the flash of electric torches, which as a child were regarded as most desirable almost in the same way that mobile telephones are today.

Perhaps the greatest period of unpolluted night vision came during the war. The black out (for explanation see Dads Army) was complete and above us the stars and the Milky Way were to be seen in greater detail by just looking up at them than has ever been possible since. We in my village had an American base nearby just as there was the airfield at Goxhill. I wonder if any of you still remember those American electric torches with the light at a right angle at the end of the tube holding the batteries. They had a clip to fix them to your coat for hands free illumination. Unfortunately although received by the generosity of the Americans it became impossible to have such a torch because some children stole them and so they were forbidden to all.

It seems quite extraordinary that during a lifetime mankind has travelled to the moon, sent rocket probes to the planets and beyond, and looked into and explained the mysteries of the universe, but can no longer see the wonder of the stars above our heads. If you can take children to a place free from light pollution to see the stars it is better than a holiday paddling in the Mediterranean, and I have done both.

I would like to thank James Austin for telling me where I could have taken my Wireless Accumulator to get it charged in Goxhill. I should of course have realised that his father's shop at the corner of Howe Lane and Church Street, opened in 1940 when Mr Austin returned wounded from the war, was indeed the place to go as it was for many other things when I first came to the village.

Maurice Brawn



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By the time you read this article, spring will be upon us and it seems such a long time ago that we were getting ready for our Christmas celebrations at Pre School. Looking back the

children along with their parents/carer's enjoyed their trip to Normanby Park to see Santa and his reindeers, as well as having a ride on the miniature train. It was lovely to see the children's faces and expressions when entering Santa's Grotto, with comments such as "Look a Ho Ho tree" and "It's Father Christmas" and on the miniature train; "Train, Train" and "Choo Choo" while watching their happy, excited faces as they went passed. It is through opportunities and first hand experiences such a child's first visit to see Santa, that are so precious, as our children today seem to grow up so quickly. It's is children's development in language and communication that is fundamental in laying a secure foundation, preparing them for the transition to school later on.

"Good Communication skills are central to children's learning, well-being and life chances and we need to get children's language and communication right before the age of five" (Two Years On: final report of the Communication Champion for children to the Government, which can be accessed from www.hello.org.uk)

This year was our first children's Christmas Party in our new building, and we were a little apprehensive about how this would go. However, it has to be said that the party was a great success. There was a children's entertainer who made balloons for each child, a visit from Father Christmas himself, and presentations for those children moving up to school in January. A great time was had by everyone, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, committee and parents for all their hard work and support with the Christmas Party and with the Fundraiser Raffle. The money raised in the raffle was just over £200.00 and this was kindly matched by Barclays Bank. This amount will be used to buy and replace resources and equipment for the children, which will promote and enhance their enjoyment and learning and development at Pre School.

Our next Fundraiser event is our 'Valentine Fayre' which is to be held on Thursday 16th February 2012 from 9.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. at the Memorial Hall. There will be; Tempest Photography, Tombola, Raffle, Mandy's Market 2 Bazaar, Crafts for the Children, refreshments and much more.

This term the children have already been very busy, celebrating the New Year, talking about the wintery weather and celebrating Chinese New Year, the Year of the Dragon. The children had the opportunity to taste Chinese foods at snack time, make a lucky money purse, which is a Chinese tradition, create and make a dragon puppet, a hat, as well as a lantern. The children were shown using a globe and atlas where china is, along with pictures and photographs of people and places in China to promote their knowledge and understanding of the world.

The children also initiated interests in 'camping' and 'all about me' and a variety of play opportunities, activities and experiences were planned around this to further extend the children's interests while supporting their

learning further.

Following half term, we will be planning experiences and activities around Pancake Day, Mother's Day, Spring and Easter along with Sport's Relief in which we will be helping to raise money to help change lives in the UK and the world's poorest countries.

As a Pre School we are also embarking on a new venture. Each Thursday morning during term time only we are now holding a 'Stay and Play' session for parents/ carer's to come to, with their baby/ toddler. The session runs from 9.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. with a minimal charge of £1.00. The session offers a variety of play opportunities and experiences for babies upwards which are sensory, stimulating, fun and engaging, with a key focus each week. For more information please pop in to Pre School or alternatively contact Jayne Hutton (Supervisor) on 01469 535061.

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

We look forward to seeing you soon.

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PARISH COUNCIL

A fairly mixed bag of notices this week from the Parish Council so I will just crack on with the first one which is:

Litter

During the high winds of last month many of the bins in the village were blown over and the contents decanted onto our streets and unfortunately that is where much of was left. It would be helpful if circumstances such as this if the owners of the bins could make an effort and pick up this rubbish as it tends not to hang around and ends up discarded all over the village leaving the village looking very untidy.

MUGA

What? who ? is it ... I hear you say. Well MUGA actually is an acronym which stands for Multi Use Games Area. Great, that has cleared that up ... not! What has this got to do with the village? Let me explain. For some time now the Parish Council have been carrying out some behind the scenes work on how we can get funding for such an area here in the village, for the benefit of all. A MUGA is an area with space to accommodate a variety of different games and will be of great benefit to members of the village. As part of the ongoing process we would like to canvass your views on the matter and accordingly you are asked to represent your views directly to a member of the Parish Council or to the Parish Clerk.

Dog Litter

This old chestnut just keeps raising its unsightly head time after time and I make no apologies for bringing the issue to you in most editions of the Gander. As a pet owner you have a duty to clear up after your pet if and when it fouls on any public area. If you don't you face prosecution. However it would be best if you cleared up the mess as part of your civic duty and not because if you do not you might be fined. Make it part of your routine. Taking the dog for a walk?... get his collar, lead, and plastic bags for his waste and set off (don't forget to take the dog). You should also be aware that due to circumstances beyond our control that the dog bins situated throughout the village will longer be furnished with free bags so all the more important to take your own bags.

Telephone SPAM/Hoax calls

For the uninitiated SPAM is the name given to unsolicited contact either by email or telephone and is becoming prevalent through the UK. The purpose of the SPAMMER is to obtain from you personal details such as bank account numbers, sort codes, card emails, computer passwords etc for the purpose of theft. The topic is too vast to cover in full detail here but a few simple steps by you will go a long way to ensure that you do not become a victim of this type of internet/telephone theft e.g:

Do not open an attachment on any email that do not know the source of. Equally if someone you know sends you an email and the attachment looks like gobbledegook then you should call the person and ask if he/she sent it and what it is about before opening. In the main these type of emails are sent out in their thousands to unsuspecting people who open straight away and by doing so allow a virus or Trojan into their computer that allows people to monitor your keystrokes thereby allowing them access to all passwords used by you on the internet e.g. internet banking. Equally please remember that your bank or building society will never ask you by email to verify your password and account details, no matter how official the email looks. Do not respond to these emails. If in doubt call your bank.

As well as the internet there are approaches being made by unscrupulous people by telephone using a variety of ruses to gain access to your computer. In fact there have been a couple of cases in the village where villagers have received a call from

someone stating to be from a variety of companies ranging from Windows (computers) to banks asking that the person they called carry out specific actions on their computer buy logging on and pressing specific keys. This is clearly an external agency attempting to gain access to your computer for the purpose of identity theft, card detail theft et al. Once again please be aware that reputable companies do not ask for this type of action to be carried out unless you have actually generated the call for the purpose of computer repair etc.

Finally, no matter how official the telephone call is you receive you should not give out any personal details over the phone unless you are absolutely sure of to whom you are giving to and this would normally be in the circumstance when you generate the call. If in doubt simply tell the person that you are uncomfortable giving this information on the phone and would like to take their personal details etc, end the call and take whatever action you deem necessary to confirm the identity of the person you are talking to. If it is important they will write to you. Better be safe than sorry.

Neighbourhood Plan

You will be aware of the government's new initiative with regard to the proposed change to planning laws. The Parish Council takes the view that it is better to be part of the solution than part of the problem and with this in mind we are hoping to promulgate a Neighbourhood Plan which will stand the village in good stead and give it a voice with regard to the government initiative. As in everything else in this world there will be a cost associated with putting the plan together (i.e. monies will be asked for in the precept) and your views and thoughts would be most welcomed on the whole topic.

Criminal Damage – Playing Fields

There has been a marked increase in the amount of damage being done to the playing fields by a selfish few motorbike riders who appear to be under the impression that they can do what they like within the village without fear of being held responsible for their actions. The Parish Council, ultimately you the tax payer, has to pay to repair this damage and accordingly the matter has been reported to the police and a request for financial recompense has been made to higher authority. However there is no guarantee that this will be successful. The best way is to stop the damage and all members of the village are asked to report any incidents of this kind immediately to the Parish Council to enable action to be taken.

Parish Council Surgery

A new initiative is being trialled by the Parish Council in that on the first Thursday of each month a parish councillor will be in the Parish Rooms to answer, record your queries or concerns. The initial dates together with the nominated councillor are as follows:

March 1st – Mrs Val Gorbett
April 5th – Mrs Viv Sharland
May 3rd – Mrs Freda Dunkley

The attendance of Ward Councillors can also be arranged if requested.

Martin Vickers MP

Conservative MP for Cleethorpes would like to hold a 'Surgery Evening' in the village. The venue will either be the Parish Rooms or if the numbers dictate the Memorial Hall. If you would like to take part in this or think it is a good idea then please contact the Parish Clerk or any member of the council.

If you would like any further information on any of the above topics then please contact the Parish Clerk or any member of the council who will be please to assist you.

PJ Shields MBE QGM



Swan Beck Veterinary Centre

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1977 The Queen's Silver Jubilee. Goxhill had its own celebration with a procession of 6 floats from the Brock to the Playing Fields where the do was held. This is the Cubs & Scouts float, the lorry and driver (Harry Percy) were so very kindly loaned by S.J. Barricks. *STANDING L to R* - Les Drewell, Neil Portas, Richard Drewell, Johnathon Gilman, Jon Brown, holding the flag - M Drewell, & Robert Drewell. *SITTING* - Richard Gissing, Antony Hewitt, Philip Barwick, Joan Wise, Adrian Cox, ?, Andrew Thompson, Paul Howsam. The photograph was kindly loaned by Maureen Drewell, who was an assistant with the scout troop at the time, and she has named those she can remember.

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Flaunt it for Fashion...

Four year 11 students, Talia Roberts, Chloe Brown, Jade McDonald and Sarah Cox, are planning a fashion show to raise money for McMillan Cancer Support.

The show is just one element of a qualification that the girls are studying. The Higher Project encourages students to engage in independent study and project management, they are required to research a topic, produce a 'product' and submit a written report, presentation and log book to record the process. As the girls are all studying Hair and Beauty, they decided to work as a team and came up with the idea of a catwalk show. The project has developed over the weeks and they will enjoy the fruits of their labour when the show is held at the school on Sunday 1st April at 2.00pm in the main school hall.



Sarah Cox, Jade McDonald, Talia Roberts and Chloe Brown

This is a fashion show with a twist as the clothes have all been donated by friends, family and members of staff. After the catwalk section of the event, the clothes will be available to buy with some items being auctioned. They have collected pieces from well-known designers and popular high street shops and a large variety of accessories including jewellery and scarves.

If you would like to donate any resalable items please contact the school and we will be happy to arrange collection. As well as the live catwalk show and auction there will be refreshments, a raffle and name cards. Tickets will be on sale in the very near future and we hope that the event will be widely supported. Please contact Mrs Codd 01652 632576 for further details.

Learning Resource Centre News

Lunchtimes in the Learning Resource Centre at Baysgarth School are just getting busier and busier with two or three clubs being held during the same lunch! Chess has been particularly popular this year and the Friday Chess club will see at least ten games being played simultaneously. Students have even been



known to sneak in a game during the Tuesday film club!

Our reading club is becoming more popular and we are once again following the Doncaster Book Award. The group is hoping to attend the prize giving ceremony 'Lit's a Knockout' on the 23rd May at the Doncaster Athletics Stadium.

A graphic novel reading and drawing club has recently been formed and meets on a Friday to discuss the latest Anime and Manga releases.

The club was formed to follow the Stan Lee Excelsior Award and with 8 books on the shortlist, the group

have started reading with a vengeance! Club member Hailey Thompson in year 10 has always been an avid fan of the Japanese books and is trying to teach Mrs Codd how to approach the back to front (literally) reading style required.

The Newspaper Club has enjoyed a visit from journalist Shaun Ringwood from the Scunthorpe

Telegraph, he was on hand to offer writing tips and explain to the students what makes a good story. Members of the club are currently working on articles for a page about Baysgarth School News which will be in the paper.

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



DEADLINE

Please have submissions for the Summer edition of the Gander in by Saturday 5th May
Distribution 1st week of June

(for date sensitive information)

email: goxhill-gander@fsmail.net

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TRY BOWLING – IT WILL BOWL YOU OVER



First of all, I should give you the health and safety warning. Lawn bowls can be a dangerous game and do all sorts of damage ... mainly to your self-esteem. Let's face it, there are not that many sports where you can find yourself losing to a teenager one week and then soundly drubbed by an octogenarian the next! But that's also the great advantage of lawn bowls: it can be taken up at almost any age and is accommodating of a wide range of fitness levels so we can all play on for many years.

At Goxhill Bowling Club we have great facilities on Manor Lane with a well-maintained bowling green and a club pavilion for that all-important reviving cuppa on sunny afternoons. There's a lot of flexibility over using the bowling green so our members do not have to bowl in a league to get a game. You can turn up for a friendly game - picking up tips by teaming up with a more experienced player to take on another pair - or practice on your own if you prefer. We run several club competitions during the season with the emphasis on enjoying ourselves - so pairings or teams are frequently selected at random.

We would love to introduce you to the game of bowls this summer so that you will discover what a fun sport it can be. To start, all you will need to bring along by way of 'special equipment' is a flat pair of shoes. (Slippers are fine if the weather is fine too but not so great when there's dew on the grass.) We will lend you some bowls and provide everything else that you will require to get started. Our annual Open Afternoon will be on Sunday 6 May from 2pm but you do not have to wait until then to get started. We open the green for play in April so, if you are interested, why not contact us right now so that you are ready to try bowling early on. That way, if you enjoy it - and I'm sure you will - you can make the most of the season.



Since I joined Goxhill Bowling Club, the only people I have met who do not say "I wish I had known what I was missing, I would have taken up bowls years ago." are the ones who took up bowling years ago! Join us in 2012 and bring your children or grandchildren to try out bowling too. To find out more please contact our **Club Secretary, Chris Ellis on 530579**, or visit our website at <http://goxhill.moonfruit.com> then give me a call on **530363**.

John Guggiari

GOXHILL COMMUNITY LIBRARY

FOR ALL LIBRARY DETECTIVES

Avid readers of detective fiction doubtless had no trouble identifying the sleuth whose middle name is "Death". It was **Lord Peter Death Bredon Wimsey**.

For this issue there is a bit more for you to get your literary teeth into as I am giving you a mixture of fictional detectives and their the authors. Can you sort out who's who and match up the the detectives with their creators?

- *Adam Dalgleish Jim Taggart Georges Simenon*
- *Glenn Chandler Phyllis James Jack Frost Cordelia Gray*
- *Jules Maigret Steve Madden Rodney Wingfield*

The answers will be published in the next issue of the The Gander. If you have not previously come

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

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

Mondays	from 3.30pm	until 7pm
Wednesdays	from 2pm	until 5pm
Fridays	from 3.30pm	until 7pm

If I happen to be the volunteer on duty when you call in at the library then I will even tell you if you have the correct answer.

John Guggiari

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

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Poverty - Then and Now

We are in a time of increasing unemployment; with jobs available to the majority scarce, and most often poorly paid. People are struggling to make ends meet; or more likely come into within shouting distance. It's a distressing situation; but welfare benefits, such as 'unemployment benefit, job seekers allowance, income support, severe hardship allowance, working tax credit for people on a low wage, child tax credit and child benefit are all available. Means tested benefits, such as help with Council tax, and rent allowance, all help the unemployed and single parent.

For the long term sick, several benefits are available, some are helped with mobility problems, also allowances for carers.

It would take too much space to expand on these, and other allowances available. So to come to the point :-

I wish to compare the help available when my Mother in Law was left a widow (single parent family), in 1933. Her husband, a farm worker, living in a 'tied cottage' died as a result of being kicked by a cow; no suing for compensation in those days! He left behind, a wife and six children, aged from six months to thirteen years.

The family, newly bereaved had to move from the cottage, at Frogmoor Farm, in Thornton Curtis. The farmer concerned found them a house in the very remote area of East Halton skitter; where the school children had to walk about 2 to 3 miles to school; and she had to 'shop all that way in the village' Her allowance (was it Parish Relief)? was ten shillings (50p) for herself and a small amount for the children. The Education authority sent someone to see her; he told her that the 13 year old must leave school and work to help support the family. She had to sign an agreement to facilitate this. This is not the place to relate how miserable their lives were made, by the owners of the house; that can be said later.

They moved to Goxhill Marsh to a cottage very near the Humber Bank, where the Gun site was built later. From there the eldest son (13) had to cycle to work each day in Thornton Curtis. They had no money to spare to keep his

bike in repair, so he often had to walk most of the way. The children attended Goxhill

School, as mentioned in a previous article, travelling the three miles in a horse drawn bus. Their clothes were clean, shabby, well patched (a patch is an honour not a disgrace my Mother in Law used to say to me).

Their mother drew her pension on a Tuesday, having to walk the three miles to the village. She did her shopping there and met the children from school; they looked forward to this day for she gave them each a penny to buy sweets, the only treat they had! Any heavy shopping was fetched from the shop on a small hand cart; travelling three miles to do that.

Men arrived in the area to build the Gunsite, for war was coming! When the soldiers arrived they lived in tents, whilst their 'huts' were under construction. An unexpected boon was that my Mother in law was asked to 'cook' for them, using a paraffin stove and oven. They had plenty of food supplied, and she was allowed to use the leftovers for her family!

The guns firing for practise loosened tiles and shook the house. Now the family moved to Field Farm Cottage; this was where they lived when war broke out; one of the sons working on the farm.

Two of the sons went to war; both were in the D day landings This reduced the family income further; when Dennis, my husband, wished to be an apprentice Blacksmith, it was not possible, as he had to earn money to help keep the family; for years the men were tied to farmwork, until all were grown up.

To conclude: This brief description of the struggle to live as a one parent family, in the times related, shows what it was like before the 'Welfare State' came.

Now nobody has to live like that. Do we demand too much these days?

It is so hard to be out of work; not to have what your peers have; I think more could be done to help the employment situation; but it is a far cry from the 1930's.

Ramona Percy

BARTON & DISTRICT HISTORY GROUP

This group has now been running for four years. Its purpose is to collect and collate material relating to Barton and the area, to make available the extensive archives housed in Baysgarth House Museum, interview local people about their lives, and encourage people to undertake their own research. We also hold public meetings at Baysgarth House, our programme for this coming season including talks by Brian Peeps on South Ferriby, by Nick Lyons on local history and folklore, and Di Plumb on the folksong musician Joseph Taylor of Saxby. Posters advertising these events are displayed at the post office and the library. We are keen that our work should not focus too narrowly on Barton and would therefore welcome contributions from any Goxhill resident, past or present, about the history of our village. Goxhill, of course, has some excellent local historians who make regular contributions to the Gander and who may wish to join us. We are interested in anything that helps give a picture of life as it was lived in the area in years gone by, be it biography, items of historical research, personal reminiscences or anecdotes. If any of this interests you or you would like to know more, please contact me at **01469 532669** or our secretary, **Nigel Land**, at **01652 633363**. **Martin D'Alessandro (Chairman BDHG)**

DEADLINE

Please have submissions for the Summer edition of the Gander in by Saturday 5th May
Distribution 1st week of June

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GNEWS from NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Recently there have been reports of thefts of garden ornaments and decorative plant tubs from the gardens of homes along Howe Lane and Horsegatefield Road. Whilst "trying to find the right house" is the most likely explanation if you see a vehicle cruising along Goxhill's roads looking into front gardens, it might not always be the case. Please do not ignore the chance that they could be scoping out likely targets to steal and make a note of the vehicle's registration number if you have the slightest suspicion. It is difficult these days when so many firms are delivering online orders – and not always in a van with the livery of your chosen supermarket – but please stay alert to the possibilities. If you hear of a theft later then your information could be key to the police apprehending the perpetrator.

If you see a crime taking place then the correct action to take is to ring 999 and ask for the police. If you wish to report a crime after the



event, or talk to the police about anything else, then the new non-emergency number is 101; the call will cost a fixed 15 pence no matter how long you are on the telephone. If it is important that you remain anonymous when passing on information about a crime or criminal then you can do so by ringing **Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111**.

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

John Guggiari, GNeW Co-ordinator

COUNTRYWATCH REPORTS:

BEWARE theft of heating oil. Method employed by thieves; they hang a light in a bush or tree outside a property identified as having an oil tank. Later on other thieves look for the lights and then steal the oil.

PLEASE REPORT ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS

FOOD BANK - NEEDS YOUR HELP!

As some of you might know, I have been unemployed for some time now. I count myself very fortunate to have been able to return to Goxhill, to have been welcomed back into the family home and have a warm bed and good food while I look for the job that is going to get my life and career back on track. I am writing this piece for the Gander because there are people living locally who are not as blessed.

In many areas the present economic situation is really biting. There are people out there suffering far more than I can imagine, with mortgages to pay and families to feed, but no means of doing either. Even if the state sector wasn't being cut, there wouldn't be enough to help them all. There is a place for charity – to help those in the greatest and most immediate need put food in their children's stomachs. That's where the Food Bank comes in.

In Barton, responding to the needs of local people, and repeating a formula used successfully across the country, a Food Bank has been started by folk who might not be able to do much, but know what they can do will make a massive difference. What they are doing is quite simple: they collect non-perishable food (anything in a tin; tea, coffee, sugar; cartons of long-life milk or fruit juice; pasta and sauces) and give it out to the neediest in an area from the Killingholmes in the east, Worlaby in the south, and Winterton and Winteringham to the west.

By partnering with eight official agencies such as the Jobcentre, the Food Bank team not only identify the most deserving but get help to them quickly. The only referrals are made through the agencies, and

only referred people who have already proved their need get that help. That is a food parcel to feed their family for three days; and they can only claim this assistance three times. It's a short-term fix, but sometimes keeping the wolf from the door, a brief moment of respite and time to breathe, can make a huge difference. It's designed to cover the start of proper benefits or prevent children going hungry when the last money in the purse or account has gone to stop the bailiff taking everything.

Many churches in the area are a part of it, and Goxhill's are no exception. Both the church and chapel have collection boxes, and if you want to give but can't make it on a Sunday morning when the buildings are guaranteed to be open, please contact **Sandra Smith on 530065** or drop items at **Owl Lodge** by the school, or **Ros Ellis on 530713** at **Fresh Fields** on Ferry Road. Alternatively, there is a permanent collection point just inside the entrance at Barton Co-op, which will be manned one Friday a month to put a face to the pleas; Tesco has a collection one Saturday a month.

I have already done one session in the Co-op, greeting customers and explaining what we were doing. In just 60 minutes I was handed a good collection of items. While I am around, between job applications, I shall do what I can to help. If you can give some time to do more than donate an extra tin of something from a 2-for-1 deal, please contact **Margaret Sidell on 01652 632512** or **Wendy Fowler on 01652 633123**.

Many thanks,

Adam Ellis

Food Service Times
See our web site



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Golden Days of Milk or a Life of Slavery 3

Parker's Jottings

There would be no commercial dairies, only small local firms or one-man bands selling milk on the doorsteps of individual houses, liquid/loose in covered buckets that were oval in shape with pint measures to put it in to the residents jugs. Occasionally cows were kept in stables in the town itself for liquid milk and their fodder from the countryside led in to them and their manure led back to the farms.

There were carriers in most villages with horse and carts making a living, until the mid thirties groceries were delivered from Barton shops round Goxhill Marsh with the eggs and butter collected on the same trip. In 1926, during the general strike when railways ceased to operate, Bob Atkin, who occupied East Marsh Farm on bottom road, took his milk direct to Grimsby with his horse and trap rather than pour it down the drain. I remember in our school holidays during summer one day in the mid thirties, father got out the tub trap and the old cream mare [cream with black legs] and put in half a dozen fat lambs and myself. Off we went to Barnetby Fat-stock Market, that was held each Tuesday, at a steady trot. We passed Thornton Church and then on the left by the terraced houses we saw a man walking towards us on the footpath with a dead chicken in his hand, we drew alongside and father said "are you coming with us today?" Holding up his chicken, he replied "yes just hang on while I drop this in" and he disappeared into the passage through the houses and in half a minute he was back and climbed into the trap with us. Standing room only for there were no seats. With a flick of the reins the old mare returned to the steady rhythm of her hoof-beats as she trotted on. We then went passed Wootton Dam, the first time I saw it and on through high street where I saw the village pump with its high spout for loading water carts from local farms and a lower spout for the village residents that was still in daily use. A thing we didn't have at Goxhill because we had a good water supply, but I thought it would look good if we'd had one standing in the street anyway. And so on to Wold road towards Elsham. About a mile out the village we turned left into Race Lane towards Melton Ross and when we got to the hollow in the lane we turned right into a farm road leading to a farmyard [now Tom Woods Brewery] to make a short cut through farmland. As usual the farmyard was gated and our passenger jumped out to do the honours of a gateman. We travelled through the fields on this private road and came out somewhere at Barnetby Top crossroads and down the hill into the village. The market was situated on the left, just through the old subway [now removed] on side of the railway, with the old Malt-kiln standing against the skyline at the other side of the railway line. Today both market and kiln are history, long gone.

On arrival we put the lambs in a pen for the butchers to look at. There were two auctions side by side and joined by a rickety wooden bridge over a dyke to walk over. The one next to the railway line was run by Ronald Davy of Dickinson & Davy and the other by Jack Markham, that joined hands when Jack was called up for war service making it Dickinson, Davy & Markham. If I remember right our lambs went into Jack Markham's. Father then tied the mare to a fence still yoked in the trap along side of some more that had brought lambs or pigs. Cattle were brought in lorries that were just starting up in livestock transport, previously they were walked or arrived by rail. Then we had a sandwich as thick as a door step (no thin sliced bread in those days) with a pint mug of strong tea to wash it down in a ram-shackled wooden hut, while the old mare only had a long stand for refreshments. Then the hand bell was rung to say the auctioneers was starting to sell so we went to watch and listen how the sales were doing that included our lambs. After that father collected a cheque from the office, another ram-shackled hut, untied the old mare and we were homeward bound with the old mare making more speed than when we came for she knew it was home and rest, with only a pause at Thornton to drop off our passenger. His name I never knew. How long the trip took I cannot remember but we did it from the bottom road in the marsh all in a days work and I enjoyed the day for it was something different, a change from school at least and I expect our family had done it many times before. I don't think it would be much further or longer going to Brigg with a load of butter and eggs collected from the smallholdings each week a century earlier. After

the railway arrived there was a service connecting Goxhill to Brigg and in the thirties there was a market bus to Brigg on a Thursday from Barrow, with Wesley Clark, calling at Thornton, Wootton and Croxton, but Goxhill residents had to bike to Thornton to meet it leaving their bikes in a farm-shed. It was only a small bus and in summer holidays Barrow people filled it so when it got to Thornton it just went sailing past the waiting passengers and we had to bike back home with no day out. This bus service ceased to operate a few years after the war, I used both services at different times with father to attend Brigg market.

Many towns in the first half of the last century and beyond held public auctions of countryside and dairy products from the smallholdings each week and Brigg was no exception, held each Thursday in Manley Gardens just off Bridge Street as was the cattle market in the town centre. It was known as "Stennett's" after the auctioneer from Gainsborough who ran it, (still exists today in the same name under another owner and venue). The live poultry and rabbits were in cages outside in the open while the products such as butter, curd, dressed poultry, eggs, mushrooms and the vegetables were under cover in a shed with an open front set out on trestle tables. I always remember the butter for sale in the late thirties when I visited it one school holiday, the butter in the usual lb blocks in grease proof paper with the tops open all nicely patterned with butter spades or a moulding made in wood for the job which pressed in the image of a cow or something from the countryside scenery on the top to make it look better, though it wouldn't improve the taste, all laid out in neat rows. One had a 1? inch length of tobacco ash on the top of it, obviously one of the potential buyers had leaned over to view it and the ash had fallen from his fag and no-one had bothered to remove it, such were the hygiene conditions. In a winter many would be coughing and blowing over it from their fags or colds and yet no-one ever caught anything as far as I know.

Lane Letting. Many of the smallholdings had more cows than their land could feed so it was increased by renting the grass verges of the roadsides. In this era the Parish Council used to let the roads for hay or grazing. On the first week in April the Parish Council secretary would hold Lane Letting night in the Parish Room and anyone could bid for given stretches of a road for the grass. Cows could be grazed or cut for hay between the 6th April (Lady Day) to the 6th of October (Michaelmas). It also included the letting of Hogcotes, a 3 acre grass field in the marsh. It was an old Pinfold where in bygone days the Marsh-men and shepherds used to drive the cattle or sheep in to it in front of rising floods for protection as it was banked in to keep the water out. It most likely got its name from the sheep, as the lambs for fattening were called hogs and were fattened on the marsh in the winter months. Many years ago someone left it to the Poor Widows of the village and the rent from it had to be shared out between them each year. One year in the post-war era it made £16-00 though in the thirties it was it was more often £3-00 or thereabouts. Today it has been sold on and joined on to an arable field growing grain. A length of the roads such as half a mile could be taken for 5 to 10 shillings, the price increased as things got better as one says.

Cow Tenting. Harold Beswick (better known as Tommy) was a cow Tenter in the nineteen thirties for the smallholders. It was illegal to let cows stray on the roads so someone had to be in attendance all the time they grazed. In a morning he would collect the cows as he walked down Ferry road to the marsh with each owner in turn looking out for him and would release their cows to join the group as they wandered down Ferry road and Sykes Lane eating their fill of luscious grass. When they were full he would turn them round and walk them back home. On the way they could have a drink of fresh spring water from a drinking dike on Ferry road, on the right a hundred yards or so past Sykes Lane end, when entering the village from the marsh. As he returned home past their respective holdings, where the yard gates had been left open, the cows that lived there would peel off into the yard without any orders from him. During school holidays some of the village lads would take a packed lunch and spend the day helping him to tent the cows for a day out and at the same time Harold and the boys would pick *continued on p 37*

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A traditional family business

continued from p35

brambles from the roadside hedges and maybe a few mushrooms when the weather introduced them to grow. Happy Days. When these roadsides were grazed the cows eat the grass and vegetation from dike-side to dike-side leaving the verges neat and tidy unlike today.

The Best & Worst of Milking Cows. With the age old milking method by hand, it was to sit under the cow usually on the right side on some kind of seat with a bucket and draw the milk from the cow's udder with strokes from ones fingers on her teats, squirting the milk into the bucket. For a seat there were many types though the popular one was a three legged stool specially made known as a Milking Stool. For those who couldn't afford one, anything of the right size and height would make-do, such as a few off-cuts of wood nailed together, a fish-box or the used reel of a barbed wire spool. When one got seated it was custom to press your head into the cows groin when starting so with the popular cloth cap of the day the peak then pushed it from your head, so the answer was to wear it back to front for the milking session. Some cows had small red/brown lice and if they got into your hair you was for rest of the day or night scratching it until they died for they could not live on humans, thankfully. You could trap the cows tail under your cap at the same time to stop it hitting you when it tried to switch the flies off itself. By the mid thirties, milking machines were coming into use as technology improved and a few farmers began to make use of them, though only slow at first. After the war, with an approaching farm labour shortage they really took off. Today these machines, like every other machine, have become highly efficient, with some cows being milked on a Carrousel or a Merry-go-round, with the milkmen standing behind and below all dressed in white overalls and hat to match. With some amusement I wonder what happens when the cow gets the call of nature without warning, just a thought for I remember when cows went out to grass in the spring, due to the rich grass, they were a little loose at the rear end and were known to crap and cough at the same time sending the crap [excrement] as if it were from a canon. Anything up to ten or twelve feet, both in the market and milking stable. There are memories of incidents when a cow made a direct hit on a person in attendance.

When the heavy snow came it would no-doubt stop the liquid milk sellers getting to the station with their milk or later the lorries from collecting it for a time. While the butter men would carry on as usual all in a days work. For when the autumn arrived they would have had the hay and straw in the stacks ready for winter use, Potatoes and Swedes in the pie covered with straw and soil to keep out the frost, Apples in the cellar and all the fruits of summer preserved mostly in the form of jam. By the end of November or early December the first pig of the season would have been killed giving meat and lard for baking, so there was every thing to eat on the job for both man and beast without having to leave the premises for a few days. Only the liquid milk producer would have a problem with his milk if he couldn't get to town. Most of them had standby equipment for such emergencies with a separator and a butter churn stored away. They would bring them out and make the milk into butter products, eat them or sell them where ever they could when the snow melted. It would not be wasted because they could not afford to tip it down the drain. For the liquid milk men it was less work to put it in the churn than make butter but in turn they had to be on the Ball in a morning to get it to the station or ready for when the lorry arrived or they missed it and had the milk on their hands, which they could little afford. While the butter makers didn't have to watch the clock. If they over slept they could catch up later and didn't have the milk to dispose of. Though it was harder work making butter it mostly fell on their wives making it and carrying it to the markets or shops. During the war things got better as one says and one by one many of the farmers got out of the trade, for growing grain had become more profitable. A few of the larger farmers only kept cows for their own household use, some had large families and would need a good supply of milk and butter with its products to feed them with and did not sell any. These small few were considered the Rich Ones.

Recession of the Thirties. In this period of fifteen years from the mid thirties to 1950 some of the farms and smallholding changed hands and didn't sell milk all the time, for the tenants or owners changed and the next one did not always do the same with his cows.

I remember one smallholding that changed tenants three times in three years though all sold milk. During the recession, in between wars, farming was at a low ebb. In 1934 on bottom road East Marsh Farm was unproductive for the tenant who sold milk, had left and the owner could find neither tenant or buyer for it, such was the situation. Two farms further up the road was Low Risby Farm where the owner Ted Cake, who had sold milk, had ceased due to ill-health and died leaving it like the other, grown up with vegetation and no livestock living on it. In better days Ted use to catch the early morning milk train at the station 3 miles away and when returning home he would be seen sitting in his trap fast asleep with his horse navigating its-self home. Nothing new in Sat-Nav's today. And drivers still cannot sleep in their seat like Ted did. Farms changed owners in Goxhill for eight to twelve pounds an acre and it could be rented from five to ten shillings and sometimes less, though few of the younger generation will believe me, it is quite true. In this era I recall two farms had a beef herd instead of a milk herd and one that had Lincoln Reds and sold milk, for Lincoln Reds were one of the few breeds that could be used for milk or beef production. They were known as a duel breed making the male calves worth more for they could be reared along with the cows for beef or sold at birth to be reared by another farmer for the butcher making a better outlet for the male calves, though the cows of these duel breeds gave a less milk than the dairy breeds. What you gained on the Swings you lost on the Round-a-bouts to coin a phrase. Male calves from dairy breeds could be reared for the butcher but they never made the price as calves or the finished product of the beef type. Then we had two types of dairy cows, one that gave quality without quantity for cream to make into butter and the other that gave quantity lacking in quality for household milk trade so what the end product was to be decided on was which breed of cows was best for the job.

A smallholder living in South End, previously a towns-man, said he couldn't get a job and he noticed these smallholdings were going for a song, though he knew nothing about farming. He took one to have a go, better than nothing. As far as I know he made a go of it for he stayed there until he retired. A few may remember him for he also took on the Dilly Cart to help out. I believe there were others who did the same thing rather than be without work. In those days of cattle prosperity or numbers, the silence of the air was continually broken by the Mooing of these animals day and night as they talked to each other in their field and to their neighbours far beyond. A countryside sound now long gone and replaced with tractors, combines, lorries and aircraft in general.

Today Goxhill is a Milk Free zone as far as production goes, the only residents who get fresh milk is the calves of the few beef herds within the village when they raid mothers milk bar. So if we want some we have to visit the supermarket in general with the odd exception and wonder which country on the continent it was produced in and what treatment it has had to suit the health authorities to make it keep from going sour while travelling and on the supermarket shelves until it is sold. While not forgetting the transport costs that adds to the price and maybe a week old into the bargain. No longer on our table the same day as it was milked from the cow and delivered untouched by the modern army of food and health inspectors for that was the real thing. If any-one can remember it when straight from the cow in a cup was a delicacy and the taste known only to few people who have drunk it in the days when it was yellow with cream. Today we are told it is not good for us with the fat contents and could kill us though it never did me any harm regardless. I suppose today it is called "Progress". Until 1935, the year things began to get better [more money], for a century before and beyond these small farms and smallholdings were family run, all including the children and before child abuse was invented, having to work seven days a week to make a living. They only earned just what life required and not a penny more. Those who say the "The Good old days were Best" are the lucky ones for they have Never Known Them.

Any comments, corrections or additions are welcome, **Ron Parker.** *If any reader would like a free copy of the complete article as published in The Gander in three instalments, "Golden Days of Milk" please contact me by Email, ronparker.gox@btinternet.com or phone, 01469 532183*



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BARROW MERIDIAN ROTARY CLUB

The new Rotary Club is now fully up and running. We became a fully Chartered Club on 2nd December 2011 which is fairly impressive we believe, having only taken 3 months to move from talking of the concept to having 30 fully signed up members, with 25% being either residents or members employed within the villages of Goxhill and New Holland. Our Inaugural Meeting and presentation of our Charter was held at Reeds Hotel on the 25th January 2012 and our guest speakers were RIBI President Ray Burman and District Governor Terry Sykes. The Dinner and Presentation was attended by nearly 200 members, guests and friends and a thoroughly enjoyable evening was held by all.

To date we have quickly moved on to raising charity for local, national and international causes. Funds raised so far include over £3000 from our sponsored walk for the charity "When you Wish upon a Star". A cheque of which was presented to the charity at an organised and enjoyable social evening at The Spice Lounge in Barton. A surplus of in excess of £300 was collected from our Christmas Fair in Barrow Market Place just before last Christmas, the funds of which have been allocated for local causes. We were all impressed on how well attended that evening was, the Santa's Grotto was extremely busy for the full 2 hours and the local Barrow Band who played and Barrow Play Group who sang did us proud. Needless to say we intend to run the same event this year and we have appreciated the warm and positive feedback from the local residents living in Barrow, Goxhill and New Holland.

A further event next Christmas that we have agreed to get involved with and help organise is the Traditional Football match on Boxing Day within the Village where funds have successfully been raised by Peter Bowen over previous years on behalf of the Charity "LIVES". Finally, regarding our international donations to date we have collaborated with several other local Rotary Clubs in providing a small donation towards assisting a Blind School in South Africa and we are considering raising funds for a Rotary Shelter Box which would be sent to assist in response to a future overseas Disaster. Our meetings are based on a mixture of Charity Fund Raising, Event Planning, Business Networking and of course Social Events, but they are always carried out in a laid back manner with lots of fun. We continue to meet every Wednesday evening at the Barrow Squash Club at 7.15pm. Eugene and now Lisa kindly prepare supper for us, which is greatly appreciated. If anyone is interested in knowing more or is interested in joining our vibrant dual gender club then please do not hesitate to contact **President Peter Towle on 01652 633087** or **Simon Weightman (PR Secretary and Vice President) on 01469 532110**.



BARTON ROTARY CLUB

It was a busy Christmas for Barton Rotary Club members. They helped Santa in his sleigh to tour Goxhill, when children from Goxhill School sang carols around the village. Helped by Barton Rotary Club members Santa also toured Barton, Barrow and New Holland and brought excitement to many young children, some of whom were brought out in their pyjamas to see and talk to him. Some of the money raised from the Barton collection has been used to stage a concert for over 100 elderly people from Barton, Barrow, and Goxhill. They were transported to the event in Baysgarth School Hall where they were entertained with Christmas music and songs by Barton and District Armature Operatic Society and Barton Town Band. They were also served refreshments.



On Christmas Day, Barton Rotary Club members cooked and delivered 48 Christmas Dinners to elderly people who were on their own or could not cook a meal. Some of these were delivered in Goxhill, Barrow and New Holland.

If you wish to know more about The Rotary Club of Barton-upon-Humber, or would like to help us, please contact **David Lee 01652 660986** or **david@jeanlee.plus.com**

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DEADLINE

Please have submissions for the Summer edition of the Gander in by Saturday 5th May. Distribution 1st week of June for date sensitive items **email: goxhill-gander@fsmail.net** or telephone 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 01469 532260** or by the email address above.

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OFF THE HOOF

“Our greatest glory is never falling, but rising every time we fall” (Confucius)

We are now on the way into a New Year. By now I guess most of the New Year's resolutions have already been broken. Myself, I never make any because I know I am at rubbish at keeping them. Like most people I just try hard with the everyday living.

As I sit compiling this article it is absolutely freezing outside (not much warmer in!!!) It is hard to believe 2 weeks ago I was taking rugs off so that the horses could get a bit of sun on their backs and groom each other. Their coats are coming out in handfuls. The animals and plants do not seem to know where they are with the seasons as many spring plants showed themselves early. The birds too are confused and we must endeavour to help them build up their numbers in the Spring, remembering that hedges should not be trimmed between 1st March and 1st August. If you care for the wildlife I hope you will adhere to this. I have bird feeders outside my kitchen window and am amazed at how many varieties it attracts. I even have a woodpecker that visits regularly.

I think the warm weather has started the Spring grass off early which is bad news for laminitic equines and by the time this goes to press the grass will be rich again so please keep an eye on ponies in particular and invest in a muzzle. This allows a more natural life but curtails the intake of grass. The bringing in and starving is not the ideal solution as they gorge themselves when they go out again. If you watch horses in a field they do not eat constantly, there are long rest periods. It is a miserable existence and not healthy to starve them and then allow them out for a few hours – have you ever missed a meal and then pigged out???? I am sure we have all over-indulged at some time and can remember how our tummies hurt!!!

The first in a series of seminars held by Rase Veterinary Centre on 27 January 2012 at Caistor Equestrian Centre on Colic and the speaker was Norrie Chapman. There were slides showing intestines of a horse and how colic may occur. At the end there was an interesting question and answer session. One lady had a horse which regularly suffered from 'sand colic'. This can occur in equines that graze on sandy pastureland as is common around the Wolds. She really loved her mare to the extent she moved house to gain better grassland. Sadly it still gets colic but I really admire her. I wonder what you have done to accommodate your four legged friend!! Please let me know for inclusion in the next edition. The evening concluded with a wonderful buffet with hot and cold drinks provided. Rase are hoping to run a seminar on different subjects every three months. Following the seminar and upon my suggestion they are going to offer a worm count at £5 per horse for the month of March, which is a bargain. The practice of worming every 6 weeks is now outdated as the parasites have become more resilient. By having a worm count you will receive advice if your horse actually needs worming at that time and with what product. Please mention you read it in the Goxhill Gander when you book or pay.

In previous editions I have mentioned putting ICE (In Case of Emergency) into your mobile phone contacts so that if an accident occurs the Emergency Services look for it. Another number to add is Police on 101 which is for non-

emergencies, local Police assistance.

Jo Burns said she has almost been in hibernation during the winter months but on her return from holiday she organised a New Year's ride from her yard for 23 riders. They went through the village displaying tinsel and antlers. It was really lovely to see and I wish I had joined them – my horses did too!!! She has examinations in September but before then she will be organising Area Show Jumping at Arena UK so she is still very busy.

I have had good reports of a demonstration held on 3rd February at Bishop Burton by Emile Faurie on his Grand Prix dressage horse that he is hoping to qualify for the Olympics. Not only was he spectacular to watch but he stressed the importance of fitness in both horse and rider and mental attitude.

For those who are about to visit Pelham Tack you at Little London you will get a surprise. They are now Tea and Togs and they are a traditional tea room which also sells country wear. On the first Tuesday of each month they run a Bring and Buy auction commencing at 6 pm and once a month they hold a Spiritualist session. You have to give the girls full marks for courage in this new venture.

Thornton Animal Feeds are due to move shortly to Burnham so keep your ear to the ground for the date and continue to support this outlet.

The Goxhill Show Committee hope to organise a table top tack sale in the Village Hall to raise funds to continue to hold the Show supporting Lincs. and Notts. Air Ambulance, the date will be well publicised when the date is known. If you are interested please contact Jill Latchford on 01469 531319 or speak to Caroline Foulston at the Post Office. The date of the **2012 Goxhill Show is 22 July 2012** for which volunteers with help on the day is always welcome.

It is hoped Sharon Irish who has practices the Bowen technique on both horses and humans and cold laser treatment on open wounds will have a stand at the tack sale and will advise on the merits of these treatments. Both have amazing results to which I can testify.

At the end of this hunting season John Goode the huntsman of the Brocklesby Hounds retires after 47 seasons in hunt service, 15 of which have been with the Brocklesby Hounds. I am sure that all those who are followers and supporters of the Hunt wish him a long and healthy retirement.

Jane Francis reports she has now gained change of use to allow her yard to be run as an equestrian establishment. Jane stands one stallion who passes his good temperament and confirmation onto his youngstock which can be viewed with the possibility of purchase.

I have received complaints from riders about other riders not being tactful and respecting other horses when passing them at different speeds. We all need to be safety conscious in this matter. There have also been complaints of horses being ridden around grass fields without permission. Please respect others and their property to avoid spoiling it for everyone.

Keep you news and views coming in.

Take care – ride safely

Aileen 01469 530643



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FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

Have you piled on the pounds over the festive season?

Have no fear, detox dinners are here!

So, like me, no doubt you are all feeling the effects of the festive season, no money left, no holiday left and thankfully no more turkey and Christmas pudding left.

What we the nation are left with now is a muffin top reminder and if we don't act now it will continue to become a roly poly top by Easter!

Why not try to combat the cholesterol this year with some really healthy but tasty recipes starting with one of my all time favourite fat busting ingredients "eggs".

Now I know "Egg -sactly" what your thinking, you cant go to work on an egg. Well actually, with this fabulous recipe for a hot poached egg and bacon salad you really can go to work on a egg now with no excuses either as it's so easy to do.

If you're not an Olympic gold medalist in egg poaching don't worry, I've included a few top tips for you to perfect your poaching!

What a perfect start to the New Year. Muffin top, what muffin top!

Happy cooking!



Top tips for poaching eggs

- 1 Use fresh free range eggs
- 2 Use bottled mineral water (still)
- 3 Use quality white wine vinegar
- 4 Use a good pinch of Malvern salt flakes
- 5 Have some kitchen paper to hand, a drainer spoon and a bowl of iced water at the ready.

Hot Poached Egg and Bacon Salad

Serves 2 people

- 150g smoked bacon lardons
- 4 medium or large eggs
- 2 good handfuls of mixed salad leaves
- 8 baby plum tomatoes, halved
- 1 stick celery, chopped

For the dressing:

- 1 tbsp rapeseed oil
- 1 tsp white wine vinegar
- 1/2 tsp Dijon mustard
- Salt and ground black pepper

Method

Heat a frying pan, add the bacon lardons and fry until golden and crispy. Take out of the pan with a draining spoon and set aside on kitchen paper to absorb any excess fat, keep the lardons warm in your top oven.

Meanwhile, to poach the eggs, pour the mineral water (4in) in depth, into a small pan over a high heat. Add a dash of white wine vinegar and Malvern salt. When the water boils create a water vortex with a whisk in the pan, breaking your egg into the centre of the pan.

As the water comes back to the boil, reduce the temperature to simmer for 2 minutes for a soft egg, longer for a firmer one.

Lift the egg out of the pan with the draining spoon and put it into a bowl of iced cold water if cooking more than one egg. Add another egg to the pan and repeat the process until you have four eggs.

Mix together the dressing ingredients. Put a good handful of salad leaves on to 2 plates. Divide the bacon, tomatoes and celery between them. Plunge your poached eggs back into the simmering water for 1 minute and then spoon the drained eggs on top of the mixed leaves, drizzle the salad with dressing and sprinkle with Malvern salt flakes and cracked black pepper and serve.

For further information on the Nigel Brown Cookery Academy -

Email: info@nigelbrownchef.co.uk

Telephone: 01469 530044

Website: www.nigelbrownchef.co.uk



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SEASONAL TIPS FROM THE ALLOTMENTS



It is time to start cleaning out the greenhouse ready for the new season.

Tomatoes will be one of the first crops to be sown (Feb, March, April).

There are two major types to choose from, the vine and the bush (this may depend on you growing area). The vine tomato has a tall central stem and will require staking up for support, whilst bush are more compact and have more spreading or trailing branches (better in containers or hanging baskets) and are quicker to ripen than the vine ones.

Whilst a bit of TLC is needed - watering, feeding, staking up, pinching out and so on - they really do repay the effort with an abundance of fruit.

Leave the tomatoes on the vine until they are ready to eat and enjoy!

Companion planting with a herb such as basil or flowers such as marigolds or nasturtium are a natural way to keep pests and bugs away and can add a new flavour to your salads as both flowers are edible, marigolds with a tangy, zesty taste and nasturtium with a peppery flavour.

Kevin Wood

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

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

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

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

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



Transport Solutions Service moves to Winterton



Humber & Wolds Community Council's Transport Solutions team has moved from their previous office in Barton on Humber, to Winterton Town Council's office based at the Old School Hall in West Street.

Providing transport solutions for residents and community groups in North Lincolnshire.

The service, provided for those experiencing genuine transport difficulties, incorporates the Voluntary Car Service, Transport Solutions Minibus Brokerage and Wheels to Work scooter loan scheme.

Tel 01724 732560

**Humber & Wolds
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Prescriptions (Barton)	636600
Doctors Surgery - Goxhill	(01469)
Enquiries & appointments	532617
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British Gas Emergencies	
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(24 Hours)	08457 145145

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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
National Express Bus Services	
Enquiries	0990 808080
Humberside Airport	
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