

# Off the Hoof



'Whenever I enter a village, straightway I find an ass'

Rev. Sydney Smith  
(1771-1845)

At the time of writing it is just coming in to August and it is scorching hot outside. It is difficult to believe that just two weeks ago, Goxhill was all but under water with fields down the marsh flooded. Farmers with livestock were having to use the first cut of hay as feed, while doubting whether they would get a second cut. When the weather changed, everything had to be done at the same time - the hay, peas, corn and straw. Farmers have been working round the clock to get the crops in.



I, like many other horse owners, was very worried that I would be losing all my hay and at times like these, farmers would have to look after their own stock first in the event of shortages. But I was lucky! I was very fortunate in having George Turner from East Halton to do my small field. It is now all wrapped and in and I even have a bumper crop. I was concerned that it would not have any feed value, but Mr. Turner assured me that it was 'Good stuff.'

The farmers are really having it bad at the moment with the announcement of another outbreak of Foot and Mouth, so all movement of livestock has been sus-

pending. I would remind you, that if you are walking through a field and there is a trough with disinfectant in, please clean your footwear thoroughly and not just dip your soles in it.

Both the Goxhill and the Barton shows were cancelled owing to the bad weather. Perhaps next year the organisers will liaise and ensure that they are not on the same day.

Jo Burns has still been able to participate at some venues as they have parking on tarmac and jumping indoors. Jo has qualified two horses for the Welsh Masters and five for the SCOPE BSJA Festival. She was very pleased with her homebred 11y.o. mare *Maggali*, who went clear in the 125 Speed Class at the Lincolnshire Show.

Julie Lamming has qualified for the Royal International Horse Show at Hickstead on her coloured horse *Jon-Jo*. Julie and Dave travelled down and stayed with Aggie (nee Creasey, formerly of Goxhill), and her husband Chris at their equestrian centre, and made an occasion of it. Luckily, the weather had improved and they attained a rosette.

Chloe Foulston is all set to follow in her mother and aunt's footsteps, and now has her first pony named '*Billy Whizz*,' he is a handsome little chap of Exmoor extraction. No doubt they will be getting further mentions in 'Off the Hoof.'

I have no horsey tips to pass on this time; but if you clean your own windows, either at home or the car - When drying off, dry up and down on one side and from side to side on the other. This way, you soon spot whether that elusive smear is on the inside or

outside.

Keep your results and tips coming in. Until the next issue...  
Take care - Ride safely.

Aileen  
01469 530643

## Recollections of Goxhill School...

houses have since been built. We would be marched from the classrooms into the shelter which always seemed cold, dark and damp. We were always glad to be allowed back to School.

Re-cycling is nothing new! We were taught never to waste anything. Used paper put into a large Hessian sack in the cloak room ready for collection. Most of wore some sort "hand-downs" from relatives or friends and there was no shame in wearing mended clothing. We also made our small contribution to the war effort by collecting "ship halfpennies" in school to pay towards a battleship. Rose hips were collected for the manufacture of rose-hip syrup for babies and young children. On one occasion I remember going gleaning in a nearby field for corn to feed the school chickens. Anyone taking a rat's tail to school could earn a halfpenny as this proved the vermin was destroyed. (No Health and Safety in those days!)

One wonderful Christmas, the American forces stationed in Goxhill gave us a party to remember. We were collected from School and transported in army trucks to the campsite where we were given a positive feast of food we never saw on our own tables. After the meal we watched a film and then went home clutching a stocking full of sweets.

Kathie Lawson,  
At school Kathleen Clark.

If you have personal memories of Goxhill School, old or new, please write in to the Gander.

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