

Goxhill's Man-Made Floods,
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Unfortunately, the time of the rain this year coincided with the Clew Doors being jammed open allowing three tides to flow through *into* the Marsh before it could be rectified. This is due to the design which covers the doors: the old sort were not covered and one could look into them from the side of the Haven, indeed it was common to do so. When this was possible in the old days, and stones or driftwood got jammed in the bottom, Mr Arthur Wright who lived in the cottage (since demolished) noticed very quickly or was informed by the farmer whose land was in danger of flooding, and would lower the inner-door with a handle that would stop the flow making it slack water. This being done he would prod or poke at the doors until the obstruction was released, open the inner doors again, and all would be well. This would take 15 to 20 minutes. So much for progress???

So to summarise, Goxhill residents over 200 year did not dig these drains, dykes and ditches by hand for fun. They were done for the purpose of successfully draining a village built on the edge of a flood plain, and the progress of the past 40 years by filling in dykes and the mains service pipes passing over them to the properties/dwellings has made it an almost impossible task to solve the flooding problems which are Man Made.

These abnormal rains have happened in the past and will happen again in the future. The only suggestion I can make to protect dwellings is someone a Clamp-On Water Tight Cover for Airbricks and a Water Tight Dam Board approximately 2-3 feet high to fit on the outside of the doors when future floods threaten. When the water reaches the window sills I give up.

Ron Parker

Theft of Street Signs

As some of you drive around villages like Barrow, Wootton, and Ulceby you may have noticed some familiar street signs are missing. The signs in question being Give Way, Stop Signs, Chevron markers and the like. They are being stolen during the night. The signs although not heavy cannot exactly be placed in the back pocket so the thieves are using vehicles. Having spoken to NLC the signs being made of Aluminium have a high scrap value and weighing a lot are easily removed. This is not only theft but a danger to road users not knowing particular locations and driving accordingly thus making a Road Accident more likely.

Firstly I would ask you to drive accordingly until the signs are replaced and then secondly should you see anyone acting in a manner which draws suspicion (other than NLC Vans) in the vicinity of the road signs then to contact the police on 999 since the theft is potentially life threatening.

BCCRP

The partnership is going from strength to strength and securing the line for years to come. It has now a stronger position in the minds of Government that the line is well patronised, the stations are improving, the trains are newer and more importantly the service is now reliable and cheaper to travel on than two years ago. Nationally the government has targets for the railways and whilst some Train Operating Companies are running at 70 and 75% reliability Northern Rail the Franchise holder is running the service at above 90% and on some occasions are able to reach 100% punctuality. Well what does this mean, basically to reach 100% the service to be provided has to reach its destination within 5 minutes of its advertised arrival time. Northern do this repeatedly and when they fail it is usually down to other factors out of the control of Northern i.e. Network Rail points failure etc.

Try your service. From Goxhill it runs to Barton at 25 minutes to the even hour until 2135 and to Cleethorpes and Grimsby at 11 minutes past the even hour. The only exception being the first additional train of the day which is 0635 to Barton and 0711 to Cleethorpes.

And remember if two or more travel in the same group the second only pays half price.

Mike

The book, '**Goxhill Airfield**' in **Memories and Photographs** has recently been published. This book is compiled for the future generations of Goxhill and contains memories of 65 veterans of the RAF and United States Eighth Air Force, American Red Cross, NAAFI and civilians, and includes 350-400 photographs selected from a collection of approximately 600. It is an album of history in typescript and photos of everyday life on the airfield and the village in the days when Goxhill hosted the 'Friendly Invasion', as the Yanks were later known, out-numbering local residents two to one. It can be obtained at **Goxhill Spar Shop**, and from **Ron Parker**, Church Side, Goxhill, at the reduced price for villagers of £16.00 (RRP £18.00).

And, for the next few months there is an exhibition of **Goxhill Airfield and Wartime Artefacts** on display at Baysgarth House Museum, Barton. Open Friday-Sunday from 12pm to 4pm. Admission is free.