

The Goxhill Shepherd

A poem by Peter Raby in the 1950s, with reference to George Clayton, since deceased.

I am the shepherd , I tend my flock
In summer time I clip and dock
I keep them in with stake and net
And always count them you can bet

With good old Rover by my side
Around the fields we waltz and glide
Up to now we've not done bad
Not lost many sheep, the boss is glad

One broken neck while on the board
But that was Willie, O my Lord
We clip three hundred in a week
With the last one, we played hide and seek

Then my mate comes, I got the rudd
I give him a wave, say hi ya bud
Away we go and talk things over
And into the fields clover

We throw the tup and mark him red
On his breast, not his head
Then all is done, we must wait and see
Until next year what the harvest will be

Then winter comes, the day grows short
But my old ewes are a sturdy sort
They all survive the winter well
Of that I'm proud, you can tell

I've carried them oats and a bit of chaff
And I sometimes think I've heard you laugh
But laugh if you like, I love my sheep
And to see them suffer makes me weep

But now its Spring and I do declare
I can see some green and smell fresh air
My lambs will be coming then I'll be throng
Getting them born, helping nature along

I shall make them little homes of bales
And when they grow I shall cut their tails
All through the summer they will grow
And then will come their turn to go

Then they will go away to be graded
While my old ewes will be sad and faded
But after al it must be done
For the fight of mutton must be won.

The Gander deadline
for Summer 2008 is

**Saturday
3rd May**

for the issue to be
distributed during the
first week of June.

But, if you have
anything to say in the
meantime, e-mail

**goxhill-
gander@fsmail.net**
or use the new website



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Free initial consultation

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