

Global Warming, continued...

living memory, and on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May last year 07 I counted 26 Avocets on the Out-marsh, one incubating eggs, though 2 days later they had vanished with the eggs becoming a first class breakfast for the Carrion Crows, their arrival was said to be due to the colony which was washed out at Reads Island when the Tide broke through the bank, they first nested at the Island about 5 years ago, their short stay at Goxhill was maybe prompted by the Public Footpath which runs on the Humber Bank top, only yards from their habitat and nest, In mid July I saw 5 Little Egrets on the Goxhill side of Skitter Haven feeding in the pool of water there, a few weeks later one lived on the Out-marsh for a week where the Avocets had been seen, for the last five years or so we have had around a thousand Black-tailed Godwits spending the winter with us on the foreshore and marshes, whereas before it was a rare sight to see any other than the odd one, along with increased flocks of both Green and Golden Plovers, which at times must total approximately 3,000 each, again all due to the protection they are now given, and the Green Plover is now attempting to nest here as they did 50 years or so ago, while the flocks of wintering Curlew have increased in numbers..

We now have another invader, or aliens which hasn't been seen in the UK until recent years, that is infesting the countryside, whether one travels to Lands End or John of Groats, they can be seen all along the wayside, a parasite or fungus taking root on the hedge-rows and trees, Witches Knickers, we have always had the Witches Brooms, (an abnormal bunch of twigs growing on trees, mostly on the Silver Birch and Lime that looks like a Magpies Nest)) and I have a Witch Stone from days beyond recall that was hung over the stable doors to keep evil spirits away by the Superstitious ones, these Witches Knickers grow in every colour and shape, fluttering in the breeze, The Plastic Bags and Packaging which escape from captivity, and colonise themselves, multiplying faster than the local Rabbits, while the Super Markets get the blame for introducing them, it is not they who lets the Witches Knickers escape into the environment.

*Ron Parker, February 2008*

## Christmas Postie

On Christmas Eve, Goxhill residents were treated to the wonderful sight of John Whitwell in fancy dress (pictured right) delivering our mail.

Well done John for doing it.

Well done the Royal Mail for allowing it.

Well done Goxhill residents for contributing £750 to Stars in their Eyes. More of the same, please.



The Gander would like to hear about any charitable activities village residents are involved in. If we can help, in the newsletter or on the website, just let us know.

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

## Barton Upon Humber Civic Society Up-Coming Events

**13th June, 7.30pm, Barton Assembly Room**  
*Edward and Mrs Simpson:*

*After the Abdication*  
**with Marilyn Roberts**

The lives of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor after the abdication crisis of 1936.  
A catalogue of missed opportunities.

**18th July, 7.30m, Barton Assembly Room**  
*Annual General Meeting*

**August - No meeting**

**4-7 September**

*National Heritage Open Days*

**6/7 September**

*51 Fleetgate Open 10am - 3pm.*

Congratulations to **Ladybirds** - Maureen Scowen and Christine Brace (with help from Penny Carnell and Hilda Lamming) - who won the **Churches Together Quiz** in April. The runners-up were the **Golden Girls** (Elsie Van den Bos, Betty Richardson and Anne Lawson), and **Stone the Crows** (Michael and Alyson O'Leary, Paul and Carol Thornton). The next quiz, will be in September.

Martin and Sarah, your Goxhill pedalling posties, are attempting the challenging **London to Paris** bike ride for **Christian Aid** on 23rd July. They have to raise at least £1,200 each, so need all the support Goxhillians can provide. In order to assist, our friends at Penny Lane and the Spar shop have kindly offered to keep a sponsor sheet. Martin and Sarah will be very grateful for all sponsorship/donations.