

Off the Hood, continued...

is a subscription for socks for a year. These are of good quality and an ideal present for those living near or far and lasts the whole year. A Brilliant idea.

Membership of the British Horse Society is another good present and a Gold membership includes not only the usual magazines, help lines and legal advice, but also Public Liability Insurance which works out at less than a pound a week.. Bargain!

While talking about presents, a friend said she was trying to source a pair of cufflinks with the Lincolnshire flag on. I was not aware we had one but apparently we do and it has a *fleur de lisle* on it, which is as much as I know, but it sounds like another good and personal present.

Please remember.. You cannot have too much high visibility when riding, walking or cycling. Recently a woman was knocked by a car whilst riding and, although she had a tabard on, the court ruled she was still not visible enough as the horse did not have high vis on the outside legs. This is debateable as, when I was Riding and Road Safety Officer it was said to be distracting with the legs going up and down, so please do not use them on their own, but be just as visible as you can be.

Tips of the issue - Save all the polystyrene packaging you may receive at Christmas. In the Spring, when you are doing your big flower planters, fill the pot with  $\frac{1}{3}$  polystyrene chips. This saves on expensive compost, retains water to help avoid drying out and protects the roots for next winter. Second tip.. If you drop small like a contact lens, earring or jewellery and you know the vicinity it fell, slip a stocking over the end of the hose on your vacuum cleaner and you should be able to retrieve it without it disappearing into oblivion. That's all for this edition, let me wish you a Happy Christmas and New Year!

Take care – Ride safely.

*Aileen*  
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## GNeWs from Goxhill Neighbourhood Watch

Those of you who received the SmartWater property coding liquid earlier this year should have found it easy to use and by now have marked up all your household valuables. Okay, not everyone received one of the free kits but everyone should nevertheless benefit from the deterrent effect on potential burglars. As we have put up a number of signs around the village to publicize the fact that SmartWater is in use in our village, hopefully any burglars will think twice and leave Goxhill alone.

The GNeW website:

<http://beehive.thissscunthorpe.co.uk/GNeW-Goxhill>

was only set up late last year. It was designed only as a basic reference source with relevant help, advice and useful information about crime prevention and related topics. Unfortunately we have heard from the providers of this free web resource that the free website hosting will be withdrawn in its current format in the near future - so GNeW's stint on the web may be short-lived, at least this time around.

The question that this poses is: should GNeW funds be spent on setting up a replacement website? Whilst no decision is likely to be taken before our next Annual General Meeting (in early Spring) it would be helpful to know your views - especially if you do not attend AGMs. If you have already visited the GNeW website then did you find it helpful and would you like to see it continue? Please let us know by emailing [gnew@tesco.net](mailto:gnew@tesco.net) or by telephoning me on 530363. Equally, if you have suggestions about better uses for our funds then it would be helpful to hear from you too. Many thanks.

*JOHN GUGGIARI,*  
GNEW AREA CO-ORDINATOR

Early in the New Year, Christine Creasey retires from her role running Goxhill Guides. In the next issue she will look back on her time with the Guides, but she is still looking for someone to take over from her. If you think you would be up to succeeding Mrs Creasey in this important role, pop into the Post Office and speak to her about what would be involved.

And if you are a former Guide and have stories or photos of you time with them, we'd love to share them with the village as a way to say thank you to Christine for her years of service to the girls of the community.