



## the Gander

In addition to constructing the Gander you are reading, I'm also responsible for getting more than 400 copies distributed around the village. Every three months as I knock on the doors of the volunteers who deliver them, the response I most regularly receive is 'Oh, it's that time again already is it?' If it seems to come round quickly for them, just think what it's like for me - I need the best part of a month to check through all the contributions, chase articles and adverts, and put together all the pieces of what is essentially a giant jigsaw. I have always been able to measure my life in terms of medical appointments; these past five years I've also had Gander deadlines as markers of the passing months.

Where does the time go, I often wonder. Two months into the new year, it still surprises me to think it is 2009; all the more so as this means I'm racing towards my 27th birthday. Now I have passed my driving test and own a car, I have a bit more freedom with regard to my work and social life - but still my first consideration as I plan for the future is the Gander and my commitment to it.

Our website has been up and running for exactly a year now and we are very proud of it, but I have yet to find time to fulfil my intention to upload Ganders of the past and add the exclusive web content we have envisaged. This edition will be the first to direct you to [www.goxhillgander.com](http://www.goxhillgander.com) to continue reading an article I just didn't have sufficient room to reproduce in its entirety in these pages - Jayne Bright's recollections of the formation of the Goxhill company of Girl Guides - while another feature offering advice on the best plants to attract bees to gardens will also only be found online. However, I have a list of other items waiting to be worked on ready for transfer and before I know it I'll be preparing the summer newsletter and have to postpone it once again.

A significant annual event for the Gander is the AGM at which we plan for the coming 12 months. This year's will be on **Thursday 19th March** at 7.30pm in the Parish Room, and you are all invited. I realise that the tone of this letter suggests I plan to resign as editor, but I am not yet at that point. There is still work to be done and I do not leave jobs unfinished. Even though Goxhill is no longer my permanent address, it is still my home, and the role the Gander plays in the community is very important to me. We recently agreed to take over the hosting of the Neighbourhood Watch website and will always be available to help individuals or groups in the area in whatever way we can. However, that does not mean the present situation can go on indefinitely. I cannot continue to have sole responsibility for all content and hope to have a life and good health. We need to be making arrangements for the future now, because time passes quickly and I do not want to reach a point where I have to give up the newsletter altogether, especially if that means losing what I believe is a vitally important part of village life and hope will remain so for years to come. If you can help in any way, please come along on the 19th or contact us before the meeting.

*Adam Ellis*

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*Please note that comments or opinions expressed in articles printed are not necessarily those of the team.*

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