

Off the Hood, continued...

much safer to exit from King Street onto the main road. I urge you all to keep using the few bridleways we have and if there is a problem to contact Anita Greener at the Council or myself. Hopefully we will have more news on bridleways for the next edition but things are never as straight forward as they seem and take much longer to resolve.

In the last edition I mentioned Jill Latchford and her judging expertise. Not to be left out her eldest son, Simon, is facing a riding challenge of a lifetime. Simon entered for the opportunity to ride in the "John Smiths Race" which was promoted by the "Market Rasen Mail." At the time of entering he thought it would be fun but he has progressed far beyond his expectations. He is currently in the final 16 of which 10 will be chosen a week before the race which will be on Grand National Day at Aintree. He has been training at the Northern Racing College at Doncaster and at the time of writing he has lost 16 pounds in 14 days and still has another stone to go. That alone should be inspirational for those trying to loose weight and it is not compulsory to ride a horse! Perhaps Simon will divulge his secret in the next issue because he obviously still has to keep exceptionally fit. The Prize is £50,000 for a favourite charity.

Joanne Burns is back on a high after her car crash last year as she came 4th in the British Amateur Championships on her horse "Magali" in the 120 Grand Prix at Arena UK just before Christmas.

Congratulations are also in order as she has now passed her U.K.C.C. (United Kingdom Credited Coach) for B.S.J.A. (British Show Jumping Association). Joanne is the only Accredited B.S.J.A. Instructor for this area which is area 24. Very well done!

Pelham Tack at Immingham had been nominated for the Small Business of the Year Award. I am pleased to report that out of 2,000 nominations they are now amongst the last 5 in the National finals.

The girls have worked extremely hard to open their doors six days a week. They constantly seek to improve their stock and will "special order" when required. They currently stock an innovative synthetic saddle which is fully adjustable for all spheres of riding as alternative saddle flaps can be purchased separately. These look really good and synthetic saddles have certainly improved over the last couple of years. Well worth investigating. They are hoping to be able to offer a saddle fitting service in the near future.

In this dreadful weather please remember to break the ice on water

troughs and put out separate water for the birds. You certainly do not want it contaminated or a bird falling to its death in it. Remember to put whatever you can out for the wildlife as it gets increasingly difficult for them.

Hopefully next time the sun will be shining and if all you avid gardeners require quality fertilizer for free please contact me. For parents or teachers who want to create a small wormery ready for the spring to help feed the fledglings just bring a bucket or container round and I will fill it for you. You will have hours of fun watching the parents feeding the young and later the young learning to fly. Nature at no charge!

No matter what the weather let both yourself and your horse be seen.

I was impressed by Eva Border, who has to lead her horses along the road to get to the field. Her jacket is high-vis but she has sewn high-vis material on the browbands and a strip on the tail flap of the New Zealands.

I think that's enough of my ramblings for now. Please keep your news and views coming in because if I don't hear about it I can't write about it.

Take Care - Ride Safely

Aileen
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The Annual General Meeting of the Memorial Hall will be held on Wednesday, 15th April, 2009 at 7.30 pm. The Management Committee would love to see some enthusiastic young people eager to come up with exciting new projects and different activities for the community to enjoy. Do not think there is "nothing to do in Goxhill" – there is if only volunteers would give an hour or two each month. The Hall is here for everyone – it has excellent facilities for a number of activities. The main hall has a marked court for soft ball tennis, badminton and carpet bowls. Full size snooker tables and table tennis. All enquiries to Mrs. Iris MacLeod, tel.no. 530772.

We would also like to advertise for a minutes secretary for the monthly meetings at the Memorial Hall. Starting April 2009. Due to work reasons Heather is retiring but will work with anyone interested in taking up this voluntary post.

Do not forget the Gander AGM is to be held on
Thursday 19th March at 7.30pm in the Parish Room (by the library).