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Gosfield Grapevine



Natures Bountiful Harvest (for some, at least) !

Issue 104 –December 2022 – January 2023

Gosfield Parish Council

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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

The deadline for things to go into the next Gosfield Grapevine magazine is:

Wednesday, 25th January, 2023

Anything sent in after this will be put forward into subsequent magazines.

If you would like to advertise your community event, club, or business, and for anything Grapevine related, please contact the Gosfield Grapevine editor at:

grapevine@gosfieldparishcouncil.org

DATES TO NOTE:

Wednesday, 21st December – Winter Solstice

Sunday, 25th December – Christmas Day

Monday, 26th December – Boxing Day

Tuesday, 27th – Bank Holiday

Saturday, 31st December – New Year's Eve

Sunday, 1st January, 2023 – New Year's Day

Wednesday, 25th January, 2023 – Burn's Night

Don't forget, swim practice at the lake every Tuesday, Friday and Sunday.

Royal Festival Hall - Carols

Christmas Carol Singalong at Royal Festival Hall Saturday 10th December, 4.15 pm performance. Coach leaving from Halstead at 12.45. Cost including coach £45. Joanne Colyer.

All profits to Community Shop Building Fund.

Monday "Cuppa" Club

In

The Maurice Rowson Hall

Afternoon tea, sandwiches, cakes, coffee and tea all for just £2

Plus good conversation, raffle and entertainment

First Monday of every month at 2pm

Looking forward to seeing you all there.



VILLAGE CIRCLE CLUB

The Village Circle goes from strength to strength and we now have 27 members. Thank you everyone for supporting us and look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas Lunch at The Kings Head and in 2023. Ann.

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES:

Below, there is an article in this magazine which gives a brief explanation of the role of the Parish Council in local government.

You may or may not be aware but next May we will be having Parish Council elections to elect our nine Parish Councillors for the next four years. Please do consider becoming a parish councillor – it is very interesting and can be very rewarding. Why not come along to the next Parish Council meeting to see what goes on. This month's Parish Council meeting is on Monday, 12th December at 7.15pm in the pavilion. From January 2023 onwards, they will be held on the third Monday of each month.

I am pleased to report that the building works going on at the pavilion in respect of the extension to create a new home for the community shop are on target. Hopefully there will not be too many delays due to the current inclement weather and we look forward to completion in March/April.

Your Parish Council are currently looking for funding in relation to improvements to the car park which hopefully may be carried out once the building works are complete. At the last Parish Council meeting, it was agreed to support the '20s Plenty Group' which is campaigning for a 20 mph speed limit in towns and villages in Essex. We will keep you updated on this.

On the subject of pavements and hedges, a big thank you to all those residents who have addressed this issue. Also, both developers in the village are doing their part in clearing the pavements in front of their developments.

Christmas is nearly upon us again and on behalf of myself and the Parish Council, I would like to wish you all an enjoyable Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Tricia Edwards

What is a Parish Council and why Become a Parish Councillor?

A Parish Council is a local authority which makes decisions on behalf of the people in the parish. It is the level of government closest to the community. As it is the authority closest to the people, parish councils are invariably the first place people will go to with concerns or ideas. For this reason they are a vital part of any community.

What decisions do Parish Councils make?

Parish Councils make all kinds of decisions on issues that affect the local community. Probably the most common topics that parish councils get involved with are planning matters (they are statutory consultees), crime prevention, managing open spaces and campaigning for and delivering better services and facilities.

How much time does it take up?

Councils usually meet once a month for the council meeting to which members of the public are also invited. Meetings may last two or three hours depending on the agenda set for the meeting to discuss. Some councils have committees to deal with specific subjects. In addition to regular meetings, councillors are required to attend other meetings representing the council. For example, acting as a representative on an outside body, community activities or helping develop a new project for the community.

If you do become a parish councillor, you will have to sign up to the Code of Conduct and disclose your interests.

GOSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Dates for 2023 Spring Show 1st April, Summer Show 15th July, Autumn Show 16th September.

Schedules for the 2023 season will be available from the village shop in the early part of the new year at just £1.

It has been a strange and difficult year in the garden. With no late frosts, the potatoes were looking good, indeed, the first earlies did quite well. Then the heat and drought hit, and come August, I was digging up small, soft potatoes that were already sprouting. Carrots died, and, with the lack of insect pollinators, the bean crop was very poor. On the other hand, onions were good and have stored well, and both cooking and eating apples fruited reasonably well. Most surprising of all, my late fruiting raspberries, which seeme-d to die in the heat of July and August, recovered to produce fruit until the end of November. Summer flowers fared little better, and even with six water butts in the garden, getting enough water on to everything is an impossible task.

All this had an effect on our horticultural shows, with entry numbers and quality suffering. However, the shows were well supported, friendly affairs, and we even made a tiny profit this year Thank you to everyone who entered, and who visited the shows.

Autumn is the time of year to tidy up the garden for the winter, but don't be too tidy; wildlife needs somewhere to hibernate; if you still prefer to burn your garden waste, then make sure no hedgehogs, frogs, toads, newts or ladybirds are hiding in the heap, and save a bit in the corner of the garden for just that purpose.

Happy gardening,
Stephen Westover

Gosfield Fete 2023

Following a very successful recruitment drive for new members, we're delighted to announce that the village fete WILL be going ahead next year! Save the date for **Saturday 1st July 2023!**

Our first planning meeting has taken place and we're already busy securing entertainment, caterers and music to make it another fantastic fete day for everyone to enjoy.

The theme for 2023 is *Heroes and Villains* - so start thinking about those floats and how you can showcase your interpretation of the theme!

We're keen for all our local groups, schools and organisations to get involved to make this a real village event and will be making contact to see how you can get involved and support the day.

Watch this space for more fete news in the new year, and keep an eye on the 'Grapevine' and 'Gosfield Fete' Facebook pages for announcements too. We look forward to sharing our plans with you.

We're always happy to hear from you - please email:

gosfieldfete@gmail.com

if you'd like to get in touch.

With very best wishes, The Gosfield Fete Committee

FROM THE VICAR - ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH

Dear all,

I've just got an Advent Calendar for this year - not chocolate, which has often been my choice, but one with different herbal tea bags in it. Maybe not so indulgent! But they are different from my usual herbal teabags and as I'm trying to be a bit healthier, I'll enjoy the treat nonetheless. And, of course, with Advent comes the countdown to Christmas.

Advent is about looking ahead to an arrival; it is a time of waiting. Waiting is something we tend not to be too keen on these days. Do you remember one of the original credit card adverts, many years ago? "Takes the waiting out of wanting", the strapline went. We want to be able to buy things now and not have to save up; we want to be able to get to places almost instantly and not sit in traffic; we want to speak to someone straight away and not queue on the phone. The exception to all this was of course The Queue, earlier this year, when thousands of people waited with patience and good humour to see HM The Queen lying in state. That's a good example of waiting well - waiting with purpose, waiting with others, waiting patiently but with anticipation.

Life isn't always about instant gratification, and things definitely can be worth waiting for. At Christmas, we remember that in biblical times people had long waited for a Saviour, a Messiah, to be sent from God - and he came in the form of the tiny infant Jesus, born in obscurity to an ordinary family, but with an amazing future ahead of him. During Advent, we wait to celebrate his birth once more, and as Christians look ahead to the time when we believe he will come again to complete his work and bring in his kingdom of justice, mercy, love and peace. This time of waiting is good for us, as we remember not just Jesus' purpose in the world but our own. We each have our part to play in working for justice, mercy, love and peace where we are. Advent is a good time to wait well, to remember our purpose, to spend time with others, to learn patience again, but also to look ahead with eager anticipation to all that lies in store, at Christmas and beyond.

I wish you a good and purposeful Advent, and every blessing for Christmas and for the New Year, Revd Katie

halsteadrector@gmail.com

Priest-in-Charge of the Halstead Area Team Ministry, including St Catherine's Church



GOSFIELD COMMUNITY SHOP:

Opening Times:

Monday to Saturday: 8 am to 4 pm

Sunday: 8 am to noon

CHURCH SERVICES:

We meet in St Catherine's on Sunday mornings – all welcome.
<https://st-catherine-s-church-gosfield.sumup.link> or you can use our QR code.
St. Catherine's Advent and Christmas Services

Sunday 27 th November	Advent Sunday	10.30am	Jesse Tree Service
Sunday 4 th December	2nd Sunday of Advent	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 11 th December	3 rd Sunday of Advent	10.30am	Morning Worship
Sunday 18 th December	4 th Sunday of Advent	10.30am	Holy Communion
		3.30pm	Carol Service
Sunday 24 th December	Christmas Eve	4.00 pm	Crib Service
Sunday 25 th December	Christmas Day	10.30am	Christmas Holy Communion
Sunday 1 st January	No service at St Catherine's 10.00 am - Team Service in Knights Hospitallers Parishes, venue TBA.		



If you prefer a traditional Book of Common Prayer service, you can phone 01376-317669 at any time and for just the cost of the phone call can listen to the latest recorded service.

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH 50/50 CLUB

October Winners:	No. 44 Mrs. P Rainer	No. 83 Mr. R Walters
	No. 38 Mrs. K Hughes	No. 140 Mrs. S Broyd
November Winners:	No. 18 Mrs. J Paterson	No. 43 Mr. A Summerland
	No. 22 Mr. G Rayner	No. 63 Mrs. D Boyton

Anyone wishing to join, please contact **Hazel** on 01787-472593

GOSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL:

ROLE:	NAME:	CONTACT INFORMATION:
Parish Clerk	Diane Jacob	5 Crocklands, Greenstead Green, CO9 1QY parishclerk@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 07907-631172
Chairman	Tricia Edwards	Home Farm House, CO9 1RZ tricia.edwards@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 01787-472958
Vice Chairman	Bob Waters	21 Meadway, CO9 1TG bob.waters@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 01787-473863
Councillor	Maggi Pawsey	Tye Beams, The Street, CO9 1TP Via the Parish Clerk 01787-472967
Councillor	Carol Betty Hough	13 Braintree Road, CO9 1PR Via the Parish Clerk 01787-477208
Councillor	Sara Moutard	27 Meadway, CO9 1TG sara.moutard@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 07837-699014
Councillor	Joanne Lisa Colyer	13 Nuns Meadow, Gosfield, CO9 1UB joanne.colyer@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 01787-477808
Councillor	Mark David William Bloomfield	6 Woodland Way, Gosfield, CO9 1TH mark.bloomfield@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 07879-604074
Councillor	Jo Beavis	The Retreat, New England, CO9 3HY jo.beavis@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 07771-984365

For anything Parish Council related, please contact the Parish Clerk, as above.



Gosfield Grapevine Community Group



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GROUPS, SOCIETIES AND COMMITTEES:

Toddler Group	Emma	07872-916917	
Gosfield Players	Jules Wilkinson	07958-903932	
Gosfield Rainbows and Guides	Stacey Creak	07814-233219	
Gosfield Brownies and Guides	Gill Hillman-Crouch	01787-478097	Or: 07801-265603
Gosfield Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Steve Sudbury	07885-467712	stephensudburygardens@gmail.com
Gosfield Village Circle	Ann Willis	01787-274665	
Gosfield Community Shop	Brian Payne	01787-473670	thepaynes57@hotmail.com
Gosfield Twinning Association	Bridget Waterer		swithin.wfl@googlemail.com
Gosfield Horticultural Society	Rebecca Westover	01787-477331	
Gosfield in Bloom	Mandy Adams	01787-273494	mandyladams@icloud.com
Gosfield Fete Committee	Chris Flint	01787-474573	
Gosfield Playing Field	Isla Gill	01787-473398	isla.gill@hotmail.com
Gosfield Open Gardens	Brian Payne	01787-473670	thepaynes57@hotmail.com
Maurice Rowson Hall	Amanda Degnan	01787-274992	rowsonhall@gmail.com
Rowson Perpetual Fund	David Jarvis	01787-474562	davjar33@gmail.com

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH:

Priest -Reverend	Katie de Bourcier	01787-478471	halsteadrector@gmail.com
PCC Secretary	David Degnan	01787-472291	
Church Wardens	Jo Colyer	01787-477808	
	Judy Paterson	01787-472514	judith_paterson@hotmail.com
Wedding Co-ordinator	Dave Patmore	01787-474047	
Bell Ringing - Tower Captain	Laurence Carter	01787-472225	laurencejcarter@gmail.com

GOSFIELD VILLAGE ENTITIES

SCHOOLS:

Gosfield Primary School	Jo Morgan (Head Teacher)	01787-472266	admin@gosfield-pri.essex.sch.uk
St. Margaret's School	Carolyn Moss (Headteacher)	01787-472134	admin@stmargaretsprep.com
Gosfield School	Rod Jackson (Principal)	01787-474040	enquires@gosfieldschool.org.uk

SPORTS CLUBS:

Gosfield Carpet Bowls Club	Paul M Nicklin	01787-478269	paul.nicklin39@gmail.com
Gosfield Lake Golf Club	Tony O'Shea	01787-474747	gosfieldlakegc@btconnect.com
Gosfield Juniors Football	Mark Wiskin	07930-990013	
Gosfield United Football Club	Simon Fraser (Chairman)	01206-211470	
Gosfield Tennis Club	Sheila Goldsmith (Secretary)	01787-478519	
Gosfield Lake	Linda Turp (Office Manager)	01787-4785043	turps@gosfieldlake.co.uk

PUB, CLUB and EVENTS HIRE:

The Kings Head	Emma and Matt	01787-474016	info@kingsheadgosfield.com
The Social Club	Becky and Steve	01787-476235	
The Apple Tree	Maxine and Keith	01787-477715	enquiries@theappletreegosfield.co.uk
Courtyard Brewery	Tanya and Marc	07710-230662	

GOSFIELD SUPPORT:

Community Agent	Chivonne Claydon	07540-720603	
Neighbourhood Watch Group	Louise Smith	07962-268376	

GOSFIELD POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO):

PCSO 70714	John Thorne	07812-068636	John.Thorne@essex.police.uk
PSCO 70955	Jo Cooper	07812-068697	Joanne.Cooper@essex.pnn.police.uk
Special Constable	TBA		

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Places available for Girls aged 5-7
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term time only

Rainbows is exciting, messy,
friendly and a lot of fun!
Come join us!

Call Stacey, Rainbow Leader
on
07814 233219
or look online at
Girlguiding to register your daughter
TODAY!

Gosfield Brownies



Places available for Girls aged 7-10
Meet on a Monday 6:00-7:30pm
term time only

Introduce your daughter to a
world of new adventures,
challenges and fun!

Call Gill, Brown Owl
on
07801 265603
or look online at
Girlguiding to register your daughter
TODAY!



GOODBYE TO GOSFIELD AND THANK YOU !

On May 7th, Alina and Yana, sisters, and their two little boys, Tymofii and Matvii, arrived in Gosfield to share our home as refugees from the ongoing war in Ukraine. Now, almost six months later, the war continues but the pull to return and see their family outweighs the uncertainty they will face in Ukraine and so they are returning to their homeland to see if they can stay or whether it is too dangerous. They have been delightful guests, and I'm sure many of you have seen them around the village.

What a wonderful place Gosfield has been. When we had just a few days notice that they would be arriving, back in May, generous hearted villagers rallied around, dropping off everything we could possibly need. If we realised the family would need something, we asked on The Grapevine website and the need was met almost immediately. Thank you so much.

One of the first generous gifts was from The Apple Tree and we were able to take the family there for a welcome Sunday roast, to introduce the family to our wonderful British tradition, Oh my, how they loved the Yorkshire puddings! Thank you so much.

Sparrows Campsite offered a weekend glamping and the family had so much fun there and returned many times due to Charlie's generosity, friendship and kindness.

The community shop raised money from plants sold that were donated by BDC, which enabled us to take bikes that been kindly donated to Lobbs to be serviced plus a child seat to be bought for the back of the bike, all enabling the family to have independence as neither girl can drive. Georgie Roy also raised money which they used to buy bike helmets, school shoes etc. Thank you.

When we went away on a previously booked holiday, not long after the family arrived, lovely ladies in the village, along with family, stepped in to act as transport for shopping and other necessary visits along with any other support needed. Thank you.

On Fête day, back in early July, the girls were invited to judge the floats and open the fête. You have no idea how much that meant to them, they felt a sense of belonging and although having to use the microphone to declare the fête open gave them the jitters, they came home buzzing with excitement. Thank you for that opportunity We had many giggles helping them learn to say the words 'We declare that the Gosfield fête is officially open' as they couldn't say 'village' and it always came out as 'willage' ! We had many other times when things got lost in translation and we all ended up in fits of laughter. What a great sense of fun they had !

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Sunday 11th December - 3.00pm

St Andrew's Church, Halstead
Saturday 17th December - 3.00pm
 (Doors open 30 minutes prior to each performance)

Tickets £10.00 including mulled wine and mince pies
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PLANNING APPLICATIONS (BUILDING):

Application for approval of details as reserved by condition 7 of approved application 20/00700/REM, Octavia House Bridge Meadow The Street Gosfield Essex CO9 1TU, Ref. No:22/03151/DAC

Application for approval of details as reserved by condition 3 of approved application 21/01857/HH, North Lodge Hall Drive Gosfield Essex CO9 1SX, Ref. No:22/03095/DAC

Erection of 1No. two-storey 3-bedroom dwelling, 12 Park Cottages The Street Gosfield Essex CO9 1TJ, Ref. No:22/02973/FUL

Installation of photovoltaic (PV) panels to east and west facing roof slopes, The Maurice Rowson Hall Church Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1RU, Ref. No:22/02818/FUL

Single storey annexe, 3 The Limes Gosfield Essex CO9 1UA, Ref. No:22/02810/HH

Variation of Condition 3 (Restriction of Use) of permission 20/01438/VAR granted 11/11/2020 for: Variation of Condition 2 Approved Plans of permission 18/01039/FUL for: New Centre for Performing Arts. Amendment would allow:- Reduction in the footprint of the building and reduced excavation depth. Variation would allow the building hereby approved to be made available for use by Gosfield School and local community groups for performing arts in connection with the use granted by this planning permission, Gosfield School Halstead Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1PF, Ref. No:22/02797/VAR

Variation of Condition 1 (Approved Plans) of permission 20/00500/REM granted 05/05/2021 for: Application for approval of Reserved Matters (appearance and landscaping) of outline planning consent 17/00119/OUT - Demolition of existing buildings and hardstanding and construction of 8 no. new dwellings together with new vehicular access onto New Road and associated development. Variation would allow amendment to house types :- Plot 02 - additional front dormer. Plots 01 & 04 -reduction of heavy front gable, Land Rear Of 10 New Road Gosfield Essex, Ref. No:22/02762/VA, Installation of post-mounted directional sign, Public Weighbridge Hedingham Road Gosfield Essex, Ref. No:22/02764/ADV

Retention of 3No. air-conditioning units to side elevation, 19 Meadway Gosfield Essex CO9 1TQ, Ref. No:22/02656/HH

Application for Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed development - Stationing of mobile home ancillary to main dwelling, 52 Halstead Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1PG, Ref. No:22/02584/PLD

Single storey rear extension, first floor side extension, 3no front dormers and rear roof dormer, 3 Highlands Gosfield Essex CO9 1PH, Ref. No:22/02452/HH

Gosfield (Mobile) Library

Nuns Meadow, Saturday,

9:45 am to 10:15 am:

10th December

31st December

21st January, 2023

11th February, 2023

4th March, 2023

Halstead Library

(Not open public holidays)

Monday 9am to 5pm

Tuesday 9am to 6pm

Wednesday Closed

Thursday 9am to 6pm

Friday 9am to 5pm

Saturday 9am to 5pm

Sunday Closed

Steve Sudbury and his team made Tim so welcome at Beavers, this is something he has enjoyed very much each Wednesday and enabled him to make new friends. When Tim was invested, a leader made him a woggle woven in blue and yellow to represent the Ukrainian colours. What a thoughtful thing to do. Thank you.

Lastly, Both Gosfield School and St Margaret's offered the boys a bursary place for the duration of their stay and provided them with uniform. This was the perfect solution to our problem of finding the right place to enable their education to continue, and the boys could walk (or cycle!) to school with their mums and be in small nurturing classes where their English has flourished. Thank you again.

We are so proud to live in a village like Gosfield, where people have been so kind, helpful and generous. It has overwhelmed us at times and both of us, along with Alina, Yana, Tim and Matvii say a huge thank you. It's something we won't forget and we're sure the family will take Gosfield back to Ukraine in their hearts and remember that when they had to flee their country, Gosfield cared for them so admirably.

Will they return? We don't know the answer, we hope not, we hope they can stay in Odessa, in safety, with their united family but if not, they are welcome to return.

Elaine and Stuart Jones

Post note: A few weeks ago, a lovely gentleman saw Yana on her bike, struggling against the rain, on her way back from Halstead and he gave her his coat. We do not know who he was, but we have the coat if you would like to collect it. Thank you for that act of kindness! Also, we are storing all the items that were donated, for a while, but if you would like anything returned to you, please let us know. If not, in the Spring, when we are sure they won't be needing to escape Ukraine, we will dispose of them charitably.



**1st Gosfield
Beavers, Cubs
& Scout Group**



**Contact Steve Sudbury
on 07885-467712, or:
stephensudburygardens
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General Garden & Home Maintenance



Maurice Rowson Hall

The Maurice Rowson Hall (also known as Gosfield Village Hall) is located at the junction of Church Road and Nuns Meadow in the centre of the village and is available for hire for village residents, village organisations and for people and organisations from outside the village.

The Maurice Rowson Hall consists of a main hall and two smaller rooms known as the Bernard Brooks Room and the Bill Pasfield Room. The rooms can either be hired together or individually. There is also a fully equipped kitchen with a large catering oven. The hall is fully accessible for wheelchair users and has a unisex disabled toilet. There is a large carpark at the hall with parking for approximately 20-25 cars.

Maximum occupancy figures for the various rooms are:

Main Hall:

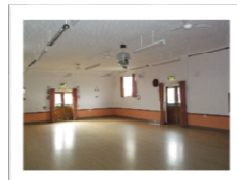
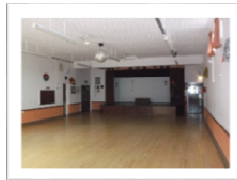
Standing = 150 persons
Seated in rows = 120 persons
Seated audience at tables = 100 persons

Bernard Brooks Room

= 40 persons seated in rows

Bill Pasfield Room

= 20 persons seated in rows



Charges to hire the main hall for Gosfield residents and village organisations, and for children's birthday parties, start at just £9:00 hour during the summer and £10:50 per hour during the winter. Commercial rates start at £18.00 per hour.

Booking of the main hall includes use of the kitchen, crockery, tables and chairs. Heating is also included at no further charge.

For further information on how to book the Maurice Rowson Hall, and for further details of hire rates and conditions, please contact the **Booking Clerk, Amanda Degnan on 01787 274992** or by email rowsonhall@gmail.com

Please note that bookings for teenage birthday parties are only taken if agreed by the management committee and we cannot accept bookings for 18th or 21st birthday parties.

GOSFIELD YARNIES:

A Knitting and Crochet group.
At the Maurice Rowson Hall.

Wednesday – 10am - midday

£3 per person – which includes
tea/coffee and homemade cakes.

Village Post Office – Maurice Rowson Hall

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GOSFIELD CARPET BOWLS CLUB:

The club continues to recover from the effects of the COVID pandemic at both club and county levels. The club continues to hold two meetings per week, Monday and Wednesday evenings, and has a membership of 23 members which is much the same as pre-lock down levels.

We are now well into the North West Essex league programmes and have participated in several Triple and Double championship meetings this year, one held in Downham Market and the other in Maldon where we won the Doubles, but failed to reach the play-offs in the Triples. These championship meetings are very popular and attract an attendance of between 100 and 150 competitors.

Other championships will be held early in the new year. Winners of the single championships will be invited to play in County events and, if successful, into National meetings, the finals of which may be held in Potters Arena in early 2023.

The club has only two matches scheduled until end 2022, but then have a full programme arranged for 2023 end on March 31st.

As normal, and in spite of the restrictions that the COVID pandemic caused over the past two years, we shall be holding our Christmas lunch at the Gosfield Golf Club venue nearer to Christmas in December. We look forward to this social meeting particularly so as an ending to the lock-down and the continuation to the return of normality for the playing of carpet bowls in Gosfield.

We are always pleased to receive new members, there is no restriction to age or sexual orientation. If interested, you would be welcome at either of the weekly club meetings that are held in the Maurice Rowson Hall.

Paul M Nicklin, Manager , Gosfield Carpet Bowls Club.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

We want Essex to be the best local authority in the country – as judged by the people, the businesses and the communities we support and serve. To achieve this, we need to be honest and open. We need the honesty to admit that we don't have all the answers when it comes to tackling complex problems. And we need to be open to new ideas and approaches – ensuring the services we provide and the investments we make are developed with our communities.

As we shape our financial plans for 2023/24 and beyond, we want to hear from local people about their views and values. We would like to hear your views about:

- the big issues we face and the challenges that lie ahead for Essex
- the things that concern you and your family
- where we should focus resources as we work to improve lives across our county

For information on how ECC spends its money, and where it gets its money from can be found here:

<https://survey.euro.confirmit.com/wix/7/p350931054797.aspx?ebrm=2&l=9>

ECC would like as many residents as possible to complete the survey. Thankyou

high above the area where the font is today, Girls sat in the Gallery via a door up the tower steps and boys sat on benches underneath their behaviour controlled by a man who sat on a stool holding a long cane to rap their knuckles if they misbehaved. Jane Elliot (the vicars daughter) playing the Organ also kept a sharp eye towards the Gallery. One boy as an elderly gent once recalled her descending upon him like an avenging Angel taking him by the collar and placing him on the Organ stool beside her. As a girl I sat willingly beside the elderly Jane in her home while she taught me tapestry work .I've written before of the Carol singing that took place in the lead up to Christmas .. so I will not repeat those memories but Hot chocolate and Mince Pies at Gosfield Eaves the furthest we walked along the main road (traffic , what traffic ?) was a particular bonus ...and only a short walk from the old prison camp now the 3 counties Crematorium. The latter I visited for the funeral of Richard Hall Richardson a few weeks ago. I have known him since I was a young girl when he played the cornet at memorial services and sang solo in the Choir ' Once in Royal David's City' during Christmas service. He played football for Gosfield Utd he scored his first goal for them age 15.... in a Cup Match. He played Cricket, Badminton, Tennis and Snooker, he loved fishing too... Before life in Gosfield he was just baby Richard Hall in a London Hospital nursery in 1939 when WW2 began. The Nursery was given a government directive to leave next day with all its babies and staff to Glyndebourne Opera House in Sussex. Many Nurseries arrived on site to avoid possible bombing. By 1942 some were relocated to family or to foster care as it was hard to locate surviving families during war time. Richard was in foster care in Monmouthshire but nearing school age he was relocated to Knebworth in Hertfordshire and he wasn't sent away to Australia or Canada as so many were. Instead he was temporarily placed in Essex. He was taken to Church and schooled locally until 8 yrs old and taught how to 'tend a garden' having his own vegetable patch. A skill he retained all his life. Halstead Police Sgt.Len Richardson and his wife Hilda (nee Humphries) came to meet him and later brought him to their home near Gosfield Corner, next door to Hilda's brother Claude wife Cora and family, Peter, Roger and Margaret Humphries. He was officially adopted by 1950. Later he joined the RAF(national service) he signed up for extra time so he could be sent abroad and he enjoyed those years in Ceylon.. He resided in Gosfield for the rest of his life, he became a part of my family in April 1966 when we married and later had 3 sons Paul, Mark and Lee and then 6 grandchildren the eldest grandson 27 is soon to be a Father himself... Life goes on.. Richard loved fishing from when he first came to Gosfield so you might see a shadowy figure one day at the side of a pond or lake who knows. I must tell you the village ghost stories sometime. A big stage coach used to rumble through the village in December an old villager once recalled the majestic sight of it laden with brown paper parcels and Turkeys draped on the exterior. That was true though and not a ghost story.

Christmas Eve a joint from my Grandad's pig would be left on a needy villagers doorstep with a bottle of Parsnip wine as a goodwill gesture. Dad whilst saving lives with the Ambulance gave 22 years to Gosfield, elected onto Parish and District Council he's now another village memory but I'm sure he's peeping through a corner of a cloud at the progress 'nearby' his old home and just like after the war people DO need homes. So from me and mine to you and yours Seasons Greetings to One and All'

MEMORIES by Linda Marlow (Richardson, Kemp)..... cont'd.

A distant Gosfield memory November 1915....brought with it an Outbreak of Scarlet Fever. It was Polio 35 years later when I was young but during the winter Whooping cough time, in the memory from one villager (born in the mid 1800's) clearly recalled that a treatment of whooping cough was a child being sent to school with a bag tied around her neck with a SPIDER inside it. The belief was that once the Spider had found its way out then the Whooping cough would leave the child. During the Crimean War children collected spiders webs, these were carefully packed by committees of ladies and sent to the hospitals where they were used to arrest the bleeding of the soldiers wounds.

// In 1740 a COLD REMEDY was a powder created by Dr Boerhaue. " 4 drams of Nitre and a quarter ounce of Camphire , 18 grains of Saffron and 4 grains of Cochineal. These ingredients must be powdered together, put into a bottle and keep it close (sic) Using 10 to twenty four grains will take off any feverish heat that attends a cold, if the fever continues repeat it every three to four hours, it is particularly good in the beginning of a sore throat and in all colds." \\ THIS was an extract from Lord Nugent's papers and household accounts (Lord Nugent of Gosfield Hall).

My November memory was Guy Fawkes time jumping jacks and bonfire potatoes dripping with butter, mugs of hot chocolate and of course Remembrance Sunday with Sgt. Fred Lock , voice saying 'We will Remember Them' at the service by the memorial outside the old Sunday school room and young Richard (Hall) Richardson playing the Last Post on his silver Cornet ... Sgt. Lock no doubt remembering 1944 and the men who died after an incident during a Local Home Guard Training exercise involving a hand grenade when Six men were killed and Three injured including Sgt Lock with an eye injury. I believe Ron Clampin a boy of 7 in nearby Maplestead along with 2 others were taken to the Halstead cottage Hospital with injuries after picking up an unusual object which turned out to be a hand grenade and also about this time Lt. David Lowe of Gosfield Hall was killed in action, son of Aubrey Lowe, his Aunt told me of a letter they had received from him when in Cassino (my own father was there also the same year). During that same year in Gosfield a tragedy occurred at the Lake, it was found the water had been contaminated and hundreds of fish were gasping at the Lake side. It took six cart loads to dispose of the fish.

November also meant preparation at school for the annual Christmas sale. I still have our Christmas Tree a fairy made by Mary (Philips) Hull... she made a few 'tree fairies' one year when our children were at school. Mary was my favourite village cake maker too in those days and she still is and Prim Rayners meringues were amazing and Val Clampins superb decorations on cakes also come to mind. .. November into December was the coach trip for Christmas Shopping and a trip to the Pantomime was usually on the events calendar too as well as school Nativity play preparation how many of us were busy sticking cotton wool clumps to old torn up bedsheets for sheep and making their cardboard faces.

Whist Drives and Social evenings and Church activities took place as usual, teaching children Bible stories in the Wentworth Chapel all year during the family services, but more special at Christmas, myself and friend Susan Spinks were teachers, Susan the God daughter of Jane Elliot daughter of The Rev. H L Elliot vicar of St Catherines Church for many years after arriving in 1871. It was very different then when there was a Gallery to the rear of the Church where children were sat silent it was



EVENTS AT THE SOCIAL CLUB THIS DECEMBER.



Thursday 8th December. Turning on the Christmas lights. Come along and enjoy warm mince pies and mulled wine. Lights switch on at 7pm.



Christmas Eve. Family evening starting at 7:30pm.

New Year's Eve. Come along and see in the New Year. 8:00pm till late.

Live music with club member Vince Stephenson.



Happy New Year!

On Christmas and New Year's Eve please bring along a plate of food for a shared buffet.

All members and Gosfield residents welcome.

For further information on any of the above events please email Dave Jarvis at gosfieldsc@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL WORKING BODIES:

Group / Committee:	Councillors:
Nature Reserve	Hough, Moutard
Neighbourhood Plan	Beavis, Bloomfield, Moutard, Waters
Allotment Officer	Waters
Footpath	Beavis, Hough
Finance	Waters, Edwards, Bloomfield, Moutard
Appeals	Colyer
Children's Play Area	Hough, Pawsey, Colyer
Planning	Moutard, Waters, Beavis, Pawsey
Grapevine Editor	Alan Summerland
Tree Warden	Beavis
Personnel	Bloomfield, Edwards, Waters
Information, minutes and agendas:	www.e-voice.org.uk/gosfield

MEMBERS OF OUTSIDE BODIES:

Essex Association of Local Councils	Beavis
Braintree Association of Local Councils	Beavis
Coffee Rooms Trust	Waters
Maurice Rowson Hall Management Committee	Moutard
Rowson Perpetual Memorial Fund	Pawsey, Hough, Colyer
Passenger Transport Representative	Beavis
Playing Field Management Committee	Hough, Pawsey, Bloomfield
Member of Parliament: Mr James Cleverly MP - or: Braintree Conservatives Association Office:	House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk Suite 11, The Centre, Lakes Industrial Park, Braintree, CM7 3RU
Essex County Councillor: Cllr. Chris Siddall	Essex County Council, PO Box 11, CM1 1LX cldr.chris.siddall@essex.gov.uk Office: 01376-562288
Braintree District Councillor: Cllr. Peter Schwier Gosfield & Greenstead Green Ward	Long Fen, Great Maplestead, CO9 2RJ cldr.pschwier@braintree.gov.uk 01787-460473

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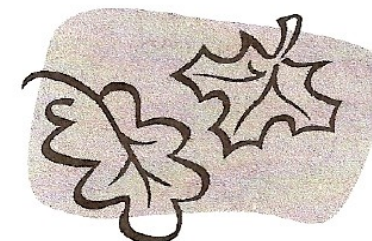
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For Events and Hospitality please call the Clubhouse: 01787 474400