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Gosfield Grapevine



A Landscape Frozen in Time – since 1435 (photo by Tony Sale)

Issue 106 –April - May

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, 24th May

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:

Saturday, 1st April – Spring Show, Gosfield Horticultural Society

Friday, 7th April - Good Friday (and Easter Egg Hunt)

Monday, 10th April - Easter Monday

Thursday, 20th April – Village Circle Club

Tuesday, 25th April – ANZAC Day

Sunday, 23rd April - St. George's Day

Monday, 1st May – Early May Bank Holiday

Friday, 5th May – Coronation Celebrations (see flyer)

Saturday, 6th May – Coronation of HM King Charles III – and BBQ

Sunday, 7th May – Coronation Celebrations (see flyer)

Monday, 8th May – Coronation Bank Holiday

Monday, 29th May – Spring Bank Holiday

Sunday, 11th June – Gosfield Open Gardens

Saturday, 1st July – Gosfield Fete ['Heroes and Villains']

Sunday, 2nd July – Gosfield Lake Triathlon ('born2tri')

Saturday, 15th July – Summer Show, Gosfield Horticultural Society

Saturday, 16th September – Autumn Show, Gosfield Horticultural Society

Saturday 2nd December – Thursford Christmas Spectacular

(to book please phone Jo Colyer 07894-577629 or -477808)

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

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.



CHAIRMAN'S NOTES:

I would like to pay thanks to the many volunteers who contribute towards the variety of events that take place in Gosfield. Now that the clocks have gone forward and the evenings are lighter, and hopefully the weather improves, then we have much to look forward to in the next few months, including the Easter Egg Hunt on Good Friday, the King's Coronation celebrations over the weekend of 6th to 8th May, Gosfield Open Gardens on 11th June and, of course, the Gosfield Fete committee are busy preparing for 1st July and raising much needed money, primarily for the upkeep of the playing field.

I would like to make a special mention of Steve Sudbury who will be receiving the "Silver Wolf" award from The Scout Association at a presentation in April. This is the highest award in scouting and we look forward to seeing the photographs !

In the middle of all these festivities, there also falls the council elections. I would like to encourage you all to participate in these to elect your District Councillors who serve on Braintree District Council and to elect Gosfield Parish Councillors, of which we need nine. Several of the current Parish Councillors are leaving the Council this year and we would welcome some new faces to come and help make decisions affecting the village. For more information, please visit the Parish Council website where you will also find an application form.

Finally, to let you know that the Parish Council have recently obtained grants for restoring the old village sign, for the commissioning of the design and printing of new footpath maps and a plaque for the tree to be planted by the Parish Council in the playing field for the King's Coronation.

Tricia Edwards.

Ongoing planning applications for building works are given on page 15.

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH 50/50 CLUB

February Winners:	No. 9 Mrs. J Cornell	No. 37 Mrs. T Edwards
	No. 35 Mrs. B Wicker	No. 53 Mrs. R Smith
March Winners:	No. 44 Mrs. P Rayner	No. 82 Mrs. E Crouch
	No. 200 Mr. S Sudbury	No. 93 Mr. L Carter

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



GOSFIELD COMMUNITY SHOP:

Opening Times:

Monday to Saturday: 8 am to 4 pm

Sunday: 8 am to noon

PARISH COUNCIL AND COUNCILLORS:

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 powers to Parish Councils have?

They have a wide range of powers which essentially relate to local matters, such as looking after community buildings, open spaces, allotments, play areas, street lighting, bus shelters, car parks and much more. The council also has the power to raise money through taxation, the precept. The precept is the parish council's share of the council tax. The precept demand goes to the billing authority, the district council, which collects the tax for the parish council.

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.

It is true to say that on their own Parish Councils have limited powers to make decisions. But they do have the ability to negotiate with and the power to influence those other organisations that do make the final decisions (such as the district council, health authorities, police, etc.). In this respect, Parish Councils are extremely powerful. The organisations that make the final decisions know that a parish council gives the best reflection of how a community feels about something and its views will be taken seriously.

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.

How long does a Parish Councillor serve for?

Once elected, parish councillors sit on the council for a maximum of four years. If they then want to stay in the post, they can stand for re-election.

Parish Duties

Gosfield Parish Council has nine councillors who stand for election every four years. It meets every month and considers planning applications and any other matters referred to it by local residents, Braintree District Council and Essex County Council. All meetings are open to the public and there is a forum before the start of the meeting at which members of the public can raise concerns and ask questions. There is also an annual meeting which all parishioners are invited to attend. All meetings are advertised on the council notice board and our website. Residents can bring to the attention of the parish council anything that concerns them, either directly or through the clerk. If matters raised are not the responsibility of the council, the clerk can bring them to the attention of the proper authority.

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

The best way to find out what it's like to be a parish councillor is to talk to someone who's doing it now. Come along to a parish council meeting or speak to one of our councillors and find out that they think of the job.

FROM THE VICAR - ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH

Dear all,

All around us new life is starting to spring up. Although we've had some cloudy and rainy days recently, we do need the rain and it will help all the plants just starting to show their young shoots, whether in our gardens or on our local farms.

In the Bible, Jesus often uses images drawn from farming and cultivation. Thinking about the name of this magazine, the Grapevine, reminded me of that he often refers to the Kingdom of God as being like a vineyard. We think of a vine connecting us; it is also a plant that, when healthy, is very fruitful. It needs to be well rooted to flourish, and pruned at the right times of year. We have several vineyards across our part of north Essex now, producing local wines, and their orderly rows of vines are very pleasing to see.

The image of the vineyard prompts us to reflect on what helps us to grow well. We too need to be well rooted, knowing where we find security in life, and choosing well the values that shape our lives: the type of soil we are rooted in will affect the fruit we produce! There are times in life when we seem to be being pruned, cut back, and while painful at the time, many of us would say that during times of darkness or struggle, we know that we have also grown. Ideally, we will find that we are fruitful, able to contribute to our family, our community – but if there are times when we feel we can't achieve much, when life is hard, we hope that a patient gardener, or vinedresser I should say, will tend us, fertilise if needed, and wait until we are able to grow and produce fruit once more. And vines need support, being grown on trellises or wires. We need support too, and that's where being a community comes in. We are able to keep an eye out for each other, come together to mourn and to celebrate, and help each other grow and flourish.

Revd Katie de Bourcier

halsteadrector@gmail.com

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

KIDS CHURCH 2023

Come and join us at St Andrew's Church, Halstead.
The first Sunday of the month in St Andrew's Centre at 10.15.
2nd April – 7th May – 4th June – 2nd July.

Children of all ages welcome, pre-school children must be accompanied by an adult.

Each Sunday at 10:30 am the service from St. Catherine's is streamed via Zoom. The details, if you wish to join, are as follows:

Meeting ID – 843 6287 0732, passcode 489461

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.



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.

BAPTISMS and Christenings AT ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH, Gosfield

Are you considering a Baptism or Service of Thanksgiving to welcome a new child into your family? You will be very welcome at St Catherine's Church.

Our regular Church services start at 10.30 most Sundays; do come along and join in, and afterwards you are welcome to stay for refreshments – home baked cakes, and often sausage rolls or cheese scones, along with tea, coffee and squash. It's also an easy way to have a word with our Rector or church wardens.

A Service of Thanksgiving is an ideal way to celebrate the gift of a new arrival. For those who want to commit to bringing their child up in the Christian faith, as part of the church family, Baptism gives the chance to make those promises. Both baptisms and thanksgivings take place within our Sunday services.

And of course, baptism is not just for young children. If you would like to find out more about Christian faith, or perhaps return to the faith you once knew and reaffirm your commitment, do have a word with us.

There is no charge for baptisms or thanksgivings. While donations are always welcome, there's no pressure or expectation to give.

See our website for more details on this plus weddings, funerals and what happens in a Church service as well as so much more.

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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FORTHCOMING EVENT

To mark the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III on
Saturday 6th May, the Social Club will be holding a BBQ at the
club starting at 1pm.

All welcome

For further information on the Social Club, or if you would like to
be emailed our newsletter detailing future events at the club,
please email [**gosfieldsc@gmail.com**](mailto:gosfieldsc@gmail.com)

BARRY BROYD

Barry was a special person who had been a pillar of our Gosfield community for so many years.

Having known Barry since the mid Sixties, when his family farmed at Bounces Farm, I have witnessed his progress and success as a valued member of our community.

He was a good cricketer, eventually becoming Captain of our local Club which was such an integral part of our village during the Seventies and beyond.

Barry became a Councillor for the village, eventually becoming our District Councillor representing Gosfield on the Braintree District Council

He was held in high regard by all who knew him, a trusted and loyal worker on any Committee he served. For many years he was active as a Trustee of the Gosfield Coffee Room Trust, taking over as Chairman in the last few years.

Barry was a Freemason whose loyal and charitable service extended through Halstead and Braintree Lodges.

Barry was a true son of Gosfield and will be sorely missed.

We All extend our sincere sympathy to Sheila and all the family at this sad time GR.

BUSTER TUTTON

To everyone who sent good wishes to me and my family. We are overwhelmed by the love and kindness shown.

All those kind people who sent donations, on his death, helped to raise £500 cash and many cheques were sent in and online.

I divided the cash between Alzheimer's, Marie Curie, Children with Cancer, the rest went to Parkinson's.

My cup runneth over. I know Buster would be pleased to know he helped so many.

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart. Josie Tutton

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www.each.org.uk/volunteering

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KING CHARLES III CORONATION GOSFIELD CELEBRATIONS



Friday 5 May 2023

7pm Scouts and Guides parade from the Playing Field to the Church for the raising of the Union Flag Ceremony
Parade returns to the Playing Field for the lighting of the Beacon at 8.00pm
All welcome to the parade and lighting of the Beacon

Saturday 6 May 2023

Afternoon BBQ at the Social Club and activities at the Kings Head

Sunday 7 May 2023

1pm until 7pm Big Lunch on the Playing Field
Bring your gazebo, picnic blanket, hamper & bunting to celebrate the Coronation together at the Playing Field
Prize for best decorated Gazebo
BBQ by the Social Club and Pop-up Cafe by the Gosfield Bloomers
A tree will be planted during the afternoon to commemorate the Coronation
DJ and Live Music

Please decorate your house and gardens for the weekend
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CHURCH SERVICES:

First Sunday:

10am Morning Worship at St James'
10.15am Kids' Church at St Andrew's in the hall
10.30am Morning Worship at St Andrew's
10.30am Holy Communion at St Catherine's
(Possible addition of 9am BCP Communion at St Andrew's – tbc)

Second Sunday:

10.30am All-Age Service at St Andrew's (alternating between Communion and not)
10.30am Morning Worship at St Catherine's
6.30pm Reflective Service at St Andrew's (with Communion when the morning service is not)

Third Sunday:

9am Holy Communion at St James'
10.30am Morning Worship at St Andrew's
10.30am Holy Communion at St Catherine's

Fourth Sunday:

10.30am Holy Communion at St Andrew's
10.30am Morning Worship at St Catherine's
6.30pm for 7pm Ignite at St Andrew's in the hall

Fifth Sunday:

Team service, venue rotating

Every Thursday:

10am Holy Communion at St Andrew's

DAILY HOPE: A FREE PHONE LINE OF HYMNS, REFLECTIONS AND PRAYERS

Here's how the Daily Hope FREE phone line works:

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Press one of the following numbers:

- 1) Hymns we love: short talks based on well loved Hymns.
- 2) Hymnline: recordings of daily Hymns on a loop.
- 3) Prayer link: Prayers for God's help and reassurance.
- 4) More options.
- 5) The Church of England weekly Worship service.
- 6) Traditional morning or evening Prayer.
- 7) Latest government advice on Covid 19.

Gosfield's Lovely Lake

A poem printed in The Halstead Times - 5th September 1903

By J.A.S. Slimming - Blackmore End

Let other poets tune their harps and sing of maidens fair
With cherry lips and rosy cheeks and golden tinted hair
But there is still a sweeter theme that's made my muse awake
And forced me on to sing a song in praise of Gosfield Lake

There may be fairer spots on earth, but none so fair to me,
And other bards may sweetly sing the praises of the sea
But if they find a fairer scene let them their haunt forsake
And view the beauties of the year that cling round Gosfield Lake

Tis lovely in the early Spring and in the Summer's prime
It has a beauty all its own in Autumn's golden time
And in the gloomy winter too, young men and maidens take
Advantage of the glassy ice that covers Gosfield Lake

Fond lovers come from far and near to linger 'neath its spell
And e'en the cares of married life its beauties can dispel
The children, too in holiday their happy way betake
To play the merry hours away by Gosfield's silver lake

Whenever I am sad at heart of when the world seems cold
I hasten there to read the tales that nature doth unfold
There find a solace for my grief, a balm for every ache
When wandering through the shady woods that circle Gosfield Lake

And when I start to totter down life's solemn slippery hill
When all our children have gone forth their little niche to fill
I'd like to spend life's even-tide with her whose love can make
This earth a little paradise by Gosfield's lovely Lake



Thanks to the Halstead and District Local History Society / Museum Research

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	Cherie Ames-Tull	07964-190103	
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	laurencecarter@gmail.com

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Gosfield Brownies



Places available for Girls aged 7-10
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world of new adventures,
challenges and fun!

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07801 265603
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Gosfield (Mobile) Library

Nuns Meadow, Saturday,

9:45 am to 10:15 am:

15th April

6th May

27th May

17th June

8th July

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

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



**Contact Steve Sudbury
on 07885-467712, or:
stephensudburygardens
@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	07960-014607	gosfieldsc@gmail.com
The Apple Tree	Maxine and Keith	01787-477715	enquiries@theappletreegosfield.co.uk
Courtyard Brewery	Tanya and Marc	07710-230662	

GOSFIELD SUPPORT:

Neighbourhood Watch Group	Louise Smith	07962-268376	
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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

Please note: bell ringing practice on most Tuesday evenings, 7.45 pm to 9.00 pm, novices and experienced ringers welcome.

GOSFIELD EASTER EGG HUNT



Good Friday

11am to 1pm

£2 entry - egg for everyone!



Come along and join the fun!
Fantastic raffle, bottle tombola,
rubber chicken throwing,
name the Easter Bunny and more!
Refreshments served in the Pavilion.

Great prizes to be won.
CASH ONLY EVENT

Gosfield Playing Field

Organised by Gosfield Rainbows, Brownies and Guides.

Teas Cakes BBQs Beer Garden

Gosfield Open gardens

Sunday 11th June 2023

11-5.30 pm



Tickets from Gosfield shop

In the Park

£5 adults children free

Sorry no dogs please

Beer Garden Teas Cakes BBQs



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General Garden & Home Maintenance

GOSFIELD CARPET BOWLS CLUB:

Our club is gradually recovering from the affects of the Covid Pandemic that occurred over the last two years or so. Membership is now back to 25 members , the same as it was before the lockdown. We lost some members because of the long period of inactivity and new members have joined in their place. Many of these members were new to the game of carpet bowls but are proving to be very enthusiastic and keen to play club games and competative matches within the Essex CBA, league program. We enjoy also, playing social matches against local clubs that do not play in the Winter League program of the Essex CBA.

Our main activity and enjoyment however, is meeting twice per week throughout the year to play our normal club style carpet bowls. The Winter League program for 2022/23 finishes at the end of March 2023 but will commence again from September 2023 to March 2024 . together with the Essex Championships for singles, pairs, triples and fourball . Members of the Gosfield club can play in these championship competitions as individuals the winners of which can play at a higher level against other areas in England before finalising in the National competitions played each year at Potters.

In the meantime however we will continue to hold two club night meetings throughout the summer period when we look forward to playing “friendly” matches against local clubs. These are social events but are nonetheless very competative and played in a spirit of “friendly aggression”

We have a full program of events throughout the year , who said that the game of Carpet Bowls is for “oldies “ ?

Paul M Nicklin, Manager, Gosfield Carpet Bowls Club.



GOSFIELD
IN BLOOM

With the worst of the freezing weather behind us, we can start to look forward to warmer days ahead.

You may already have spotted the orange jacketed bloomers slowly emerging from hibernation, tidying beds and planters in readiness for summer planting activities.

Gosfield in Bloom is a voluntary group which is entirely funded by sponsorship from some local businesses and individuals. The main source of income is raised by GIB itself with fund raising events such as Quiz nights and Pop-up cafes.

We are seeing a massive increase in the cost of plants this year and so additional donations would be more than welcome. We would also like more volunteers to come and help us out. Don't worry if you are not an avid gardener – you don't need to be Monty Don to water and dead head plants or to weed the beds and planters.

If you feel you can help in any way, donations or volunteering then please contact Mandy Adams on 01787 273494 knowing that your support has contributed to making the village more beautiful.

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

Open on Wednesdays from
2 pm to 4 pm



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Gosfield Lawn Tennis Club

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and look at our website: www.gosfieldtennis.co.uk

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Fare increases on Saturday 01 April 2023

Please be aware that bus fares on a number of ECC supported services in Essex are set to rise by 5.9% (rounded to the nearest 10p) from Saturday 01 April 2023. Please note the £2 single fare cap remains in place until Friday 30 June 2023 for operators that are currently taking part.

For more information and a list of all the services that are affected please visit

<https://www.essexhighways.org/fares-and-bus-passes/bus-fares>

GOSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

By the time you read this, the Spring Show will probably have been and gone. If not, please exhibit or visit. The Show is open to the public between 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm. As well as displays of spring flowers and seasonal produce, we will be hosting the “Intervillage Floral Competition”, where several local villages enter a floral display of spring flowers from their own gardens. Gosfield won the shield last year.

Although it has been an unsettled couple of weeks, weather-wise, Spring is definitely here. The earlier varieties of daffodils are in bloom, Primroses and Wood Anemones are out in surrounding woodlands, bees are out and about, and the birds are signing well and busy building nests.

This all means that it is time to start planting and sowing the summer flowers and vegetables. Seed potatoes and onion sets generally go in the ground around Easter time. The ground is warm enough to make outdoor sowing of vegetables such as parsnip and carrots, and salads such as radishes and early lettuce. Under glass, sowings of leeks and more lettuce can be made, and it will soon be time to sow courgettes, squashes and beans.

Remember to protect just about everything from the pigeons, but try not to disturb nesting birds, frogs and toads. Keep a small part of the garden untidy for insects, partly to feed these creatures, but also as essential pollinators.

Happy gardening, Stephen Westover.

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

Back at Fishers Farm (do keep up) Travelling Gypsies of the old style with ornate wagons and their families would camp in the fields nearby at Harvest Time to help local farmers , these wandering folk had been visiting Gosfield for generations bringing in crops or root veg like Swedes and Turnips. They were there and working when War broke out and all the able bodied men signed up to fight for their country, leaving the women and children and the elderly to remain at their camp by the farm to help with the work. A stray bomb one day nearly destroyed them all and the Orchard as well.

Old Reg Burder and I sat one day talking of olden days of farming and he gave me a photo taken of him with his scythe after the final threshing of the corn harvested on Hall owned fields before the Red Combine Harvester took the job away from the men. Reg Burder was a village cricketer back in the day as was Barry Broyd and his Dad Ken.

Dear JOSIE, I can see you and Buster both swirling around a dance floor or rock 'n' rolling. The King and Queen of the Jive. I am so sorry for your loss. I can remember the wonderful 'hands of pork' from your farm that I slow cooked to get every piece of meat off when times were hard and Richard and many others were on a 4 day week. I remember when you Josie knocked at my door saying you had brought me a stinky present !! and there stood my son Mark in a 'mucky' state, to put it politely, whilst his wellington boots stood beside you stuffed with newspaper after he and his pal 'stub' (you know who you are) had been chasing about on the Farm with your own much missed Mark and of course my boy had to be the one that stepped into an old cess pit. ... Memories.

Some good and some funny and some very sad and some are stories never to be told, but that's life and it blooming well hurts sometimes. As I type this another cricketer, a Halstead one, and twice Halstead Mayor and a respected teacher and town councillor for many years, David Hume, is being remembered at his memorial service at St Andrews, which reminded me again of Barry Broyd taking over as the Gosfield Councillor after my Dad retired . They have much to discuss up there. A lady called Janet Turner wrote in the Hasstead Gazette about how kind David was to her mother who lived in Gosfield. I remember Janet fondly her parents the Whybrews ran a small Nursery opposite the Church. Janet also had the longest plaited hair I could never compete ... if she should ever read this then Janet I remember you so well.

Another cricketing family the Chinnery's are also mourning the loss of their Uncle David Wiffen . A Gosfield boy, his sister Janet married cricketer Barry Chinnery. As a girl she was my Aunt Iris' bridesmaid. Finally the recent death of Anne (South) nee Jeggo a Gosfield girl born and schooled in the village (her twin sister is Doreen Clarry). Their late brother Tony Jeggo was also a Gosfield cricketer. May all those having departed 'Rest in Peace' I remember you all and will do until I go away with the Fairies from whence I camesupposedly.....but Oral History is like that.

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

I am heart sore at the loss of another friend from the village, Barry Broyd. Barry his wife Sheila and son Daniel were at Richard's funeral only a few months ago and this news has really made me think again of the fragility of life. I virtually watched Barry growing up from starting school. His brother Geoff and myself were that bit older and my heartfelt sympathy goes to all his family.

Years ago when Barry and Sheila first married they rented a lovely bungalow along the Lake road to Beasley End (also Beiseley or Beazley). Always having been interested in history I was told by Barry that the property was built using the very last of the bricks made at Sunnyside brickworks along the road from the Lake. The old brickyard there had to have its fire kilns put out during the war as the glow would direct the Enemy bombers to the aerodrome beyond the lake, which on a moonlit night was also a giveaway to enemy aircraft as was the Church tower but I digress (get used to it). Further along Beasley End Rd. was 'Fishers' Farm, with the lovely pond in front. It was then owned and farmed by the Parmenters. ..Old Reg Burder (as he was by then) would on a wet day when little could be done outdoors sit down on an upturned bucket in the barn cleaning and oiling tools (pre stainless steel) and the damp clay mud he gathered he would mould into little animals.

Kit Parmenter kept one of a squirrel I think it was on her mantel piece above the fire where they dried solid for years. She told me there was a secret door under the old carpet behind where I sat. She rolled away the carpet to reveal a wooden hatch type lid and of course I knew that was to a cellar as I had been down the one in the Church (that had ancient coffins in it) when I was a member of the Young Communicants. At the farm Kit said this is not over a cellar. How about a secret tunnel then? I was told by an old relation in Castle Hedingham that there was a secret tunnel from the Castle opposite our cottage that ran to Colchester Castle so the soldiers could escape attackers when it was under siege etc. back in the day. Fact or Fiction?

Well, I was also told the fairies left me for my Mum to find and I believed that!! Maybe I will go away with them one day, who knows.

So what was under that cover in the middle of a busy farm house to walk across? It was a deep well, quite a scary one too and I had seen down many a well in the village but never inside the house. We played about the Ox Yard well and told off for lowering the bucket on the chain as it was not a toy. (No, but it was quite fun) at that memory as I type it is our late Ox Yard friend Brian Williams' March birthdate. His Mum Doris taught me so much regards knitting. Which I am busy doing now for my Gt Grandson who is almost 2 mths old.

The depth of our village WELLS in the Hedingham Road were the deepest and the one in Ropers Row was dangerously deep.. It stands now in the garden of the house built much later at Gosfield Corner after the demolition of many a thatched and old property. This demolition took place in villages in the late 1920's and early 1930's. I think I wrote about them before in either this or the Halstead and Local History magazine. When I sold Gable Cottage the Well there was still the only source of water for the property. The well was about 8' deep. And beautiful water.

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Please note you must have the person you are referring's permission. Lines open Monday to Friday 8am-7pm and Saturday 10am-2pm.



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Community Agents are employed by the Rural Community Council of Essex and are part of the Essex Wellbeing Service

www.essexwellbeingservice.co.uk
www.communityagentsessex.org.uk

www.essexrcc.org.uk

VILLAGE CIRCLE CLUB

Our February AGM and social meeting went very well and was attended by 17 members and 8 visitors. Annual membership began again at March's meeting and 26 signed up - thank you for your support. We have a full programme for this year, including an afternoon tea in July as well as some trips out with Community Transport. So, if you like good company, a friendly atmosphere, entertainment and tea and biscuits and - on special occasions, cake - do come and join us. We meet in the Maurice Rowson Hall on the 3rd Thursday of each month, next meeting 20th April, 2pm to 4pm and everyone is welcome. Ann

ARTHUR GLYN ROBERTS

It was with much sadness that I heard that Glyn had died on 21st March 2023. Glyn had lived in the village since 1963.

Glyn was husband to Theresa, known as Terry, who died suddenly in December 2020. They had three daughters, Alison, Elaine and Samantha all devoted to their dad. His grandchildren were more than a pleasure to him.

Glyn had numerous ways in which to support the village. A true sportsman, particularly in cricket. For 20 years he was a parish councillor, and gave excellent service in many aspects of the community he grew to love.

His most recent interests being the Maurice Rowson Hall where he was a respected chairman of the Management Committee, always keen to see it prosper as a social venue for residents.

Glyn was a great railway enthusiast. On Thursdays it was his day to spend time at the Colne Valley Railway at Castle Hedingham, with its restoration and daily maintenance. I am told he drove the train along the tracks in suitable attire. With others he organised train trips, first to York and then to Canterbury, all fundraising for village projects.

In his working life he travelled to many parts of Great Britain where his knowledge became valuable to many in industry.

He took great pride in his garden and devoted time to its upkeep.

Glyn will be sadly missed by all that knew him.

Bill Pasfield

GOSFIELD COMMUNITY SHOP:

We are delighted to tell you that your **new shop** is now built and is nearly finished and should be ready sometime in April. Although we don't yet have a date, but we hope we will open in May. **Gosfield will now have a permanent shop for the foreseeable future.** But we still need **you help to keep the shop open**, so please can you **volunteer for just 2 hours a week**, or help out when we need it. Why not pop in the shop and find out about helping to keep the shop open. **Please don't leave it to other people or you might lose the shop and we cannot let that happen.**

On behalf of the Committee, Brian Payne.

Joanne on 07894-577629, email Joanne_colyer@yahoo.co.uk, or

Ann on 07773-140216, email ann.willis2006@btinternet.com

GOSFIELD FETE - Saturday 1st July, 2023

The committee are working hard to bring you an amazing fete in July, but we need your help! Can you help with any of these requests ? Or know anyone that can ?

PROCESSION CAR

Do you have an open topped vehicle that would fit 3 children in ? Are you available on fete day from 12 – 1 pm to drive the Fete Royalty through the village ?

CHOIR

Are you a member of a local choir/rock group/folk group who would like to showcase your talents in the arena during the day ? We're looking for a group who would be happy to sing for around 20 minutes during the event.

RAFFLE SPONSOR

We're looking for a generous sponsor to donate £100 for our top raffle prize. Do you know a company who would be willing to help us out ?

FACEPAINTER

Are you a face painter who would be available between 1 pm – 4pm on fete day to come along and have a stall ?

CROCKERY

If you are having a spring sort out, we would love any old crockery for our crockery smash stall and would be grateful if you could keep it for us. Matt is happy to collect from village addresses nearer the time – please message him on 07798-846051 with your name and address and he will come and pick it up. (Please can we request no glass, thankyou).

If you can help with any of these requests, please get in touch via gosfieldfete@gmail.com or call/message Cherie on 07964-190103. Thankyou.

OTHER FETE NEWS

FETE ROYALTY

There's still time to let us know if your son or daughter would like to be entered into the draw to be this year's fete Queen, King, Princess or Prince. Please send their name and age to the email address above by 14th April.

STALLS

If you would like a stall on the day please email us for a booking form. Spaces are getting booked up quickly so don't delay!

TUG OF WAR

We're excited to announce that we will be holding a village 'Tug of War' at this year's fete! We'll be asking for teams to come forward on the day to take part, so start thinking about who you could join forces with to create a winning tug of war team and watch this space for more information in the next edition.

PET SHOW

The pet show will be returning this year so start prepping your pets for the event of year! There will be rosettes for winners in the following categories: Best Dressed 'Superhero' Pet, Best Behaved Pet and Most Unusual Pet.

Thanks for all your support ! - The Fete Committee

Rowson Perpetual Memorial Fund

Registered Charity Ref. No. 284176

Annual Report for Year to 31st December, 2022

Meetings of the fund were held quarterly in February, May, August and November with Trustees in attendance at most meetings. As a result of some health restrictions, Mr Tom Abrahams tendered his resignation as a Trustee. Tom had served as a Trustee for 24 years and his thoughts and contribution to discussions at meetings was most appreciated. Following Tom's resignation, three names were put forward by the remaining Trustees and a close ballot resulted in Mr Alex Mair being elected to serve as a Co-opted Trustee for a five year period. **Present Trustees are:**

<u>Co-opted Trustees (5 year period):</u>	<u>Nominated Trustees (4 year period):</u>
Mrs M Adams	Parish Council nominated:
Mr. D Jarvis	Mrs. A M Pawsey
Mr. M Smith	Mrs. J Colyer
Mr. M Ford	Mrs. C Hough
Mr A Mair (as from Nov 22)	Mr. W H Pasfield (GPCC-nominated)

Applications for grants from the fund must be made a minimum of two weeks before each quarterly meeting. Application forms for grants are available from Dave Jarvis who serves as a Trustee and Clerk to the Fund. Please phone Dave on 01787-474562, or email davjar33@gmail.com for an application form.

FINANCE, £:

(Note: value of invested funds is subject to market fluctuations)

<u>Income for the year to:</u>	<u>31/12/2022</u>	<u>31/12/2021</u>
COIF Dividends	20,684.30	20,154.53
Bank Interest	725.03	7.69
Totals	21,409.33	20,162.22

Expenditure, £:

Grants made totalled	16,925.07	8,256.86
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Assets and Liabilities:

	<u>31/12/2022</u>
COIF Permanent Endowment Funds	685,988.52
COIF Accumulated Income Units	6,724.17
Bank balances as at 31/12/22	78,106.93
Total	770,819.62
 Outstanding liabilities	 44,450.00

PLANNING APPLICATIONS (BUILDING):

Variation of Condition 1 (Approved Plans) of approved application 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 for: - Amendment to finishes to Plots 02, 05, 06 and 08 - Removal of external chimney stacks but retain stacks above roof line to Plots 02 and 05 - Replacement of render with cementboard cladding to Plots 06 and 08 Land Rear Of 10 New Road Gosfield Essex, Ref. No: 23/00647/VAR.

Application for Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed development - Single storey rear extension, Church Cottage Church Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1UD, Ref. No: 23/00557/PLD.

Two storey side extension, 3 Chestnut Avenue Gosfield Essex CO9 1TD, Ref. No: 23/00460/HH.

Variation of Condition 1 (Approved Plans) of approved application 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 for: Addition of PV solar panels to south-facing roof slopes of approved house types, Land Rear Of 10 New Road Gosfield Essex, Ref. No: 23/00334/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 for amendments to Plots 01 & 04: Addition of rear dormer and internal alterations, Land Rear Of 10 New Road Gosfield Essex, Ref. No: 23/00270/VAR.

Erection of two-storey rear extension, 37 Braintree Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1PR, Ref. No: 23/00252/HH.

Gosfield Lake Triathlon & Multisport

The Gosfield Lake Triathlon & Multisport Event is promoted by Born2Tri, based at the beautiful Gosfield Lake resort www.gosfieldlake.co.uk close to Braintree and Halstead, Essex. This popular open water swimming venue is well known within the region.

Following the success of last year, we are offering Middle, Sprint & Standard Distance Triathlon, Aquabike & Aquathlon and Duathlon. For more info and full details, please visit the event website.

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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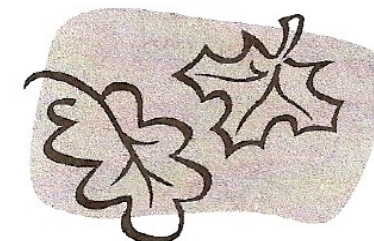
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SOCIETIES AND EVENTS IN THE CLUBHOUSE

We can provide tailor made packages for your requirements, to create your unique golf day.

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**For further information regarding membership, please telephone: 01787 474747
For Green Fees, speak to the Professional shop on: 01787474488
For events and hospitality please call the clubhouse on: 01787474400**