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Gosfield Grapevine



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Issue 109 –October – November

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, 22nd November

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:

Tuesday, 3rd October – Gosfield Fete AGM at 8pm in The Pavilion

Tuesday, 17th October – AGM - Gosfield Horticultural Society

Saturday, 28th October – Halloween Fancy Dress (Gosfield Social Club)

Sunday, 29th October - Clock change (<<)

Tuesday, 31st October -Halloween

Thursday, 2nd November -All Soul's Day

Sunday, 5th November -Gunpowder, Treason and Plot

Saturday, 11th November - Armistice Day

Saturday, 18th November - St. Catherine's Christmas Fayre

(Maurice Rowson Hall – 10:00 to 12:00, free admission, all very welcome)

Saturday, 25th November - St. Catherine's Day

Thursday, 30th November - St. Andrew's Day

Saturday 2nd December – Thursford Christmas Spectacular

(to book please phone Jo Colyer 07894-577629 or -477808 – 2 pm performance - coach from Gosfield leaving approx.. 9am - Cost £73)

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

Last Friday of the month – 'Finding Your Feet' walks – start at the Community Shop – 10:30 to 11:30

COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR


Location and Maurice Rowson Hall, Church Road, 

Post Code: Gosfield, CO9 1TL

ACCESS CODE:

What3Words

location: "bedding-framework-elephant" **C159X**

Please note that a 999 call must be made before attempting to access the defibrillator. 

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES:

First of all, welcome to our two new Parish Councillors, Tony Farrelly and Richard Edwards.

I understand that some villagers are not aware of what the Parish Council get involved in and I would like to list below some of the things we have been discussing and have acted on recently:

- Dilapidated bus stops in Halstead Road
- Overhanging trees in Church Road which need cutting back by Essex County Council
- The Nature Reserve
- The Neighbourhood Plan
- Speeding along Braintree Road – County Councillor Chris Siddall is assisting with this
- The new shop garden
- Overhanging trees etc., in The Street
- Children's Play area repairs
- Essex County Council regarding the streetlights outside The Lindens
- Children's play area – removal of dead pine tree
- What to do with the community land at the top of Meadway – agreed to be "an informal recreation ground"
- Cllr Carol Hough and I ran a golf day and raised £2,200 towards new fencing between the playing field and Hall Drive
- Discussing planning applications in the village
- Approving the name "Roman Close" for the development by the tennis club
- Investing some of the Parish Council money
- Arranging for the old village pump outside The Cedars to be restored by Eastlight
- Discussing the benches, etc., in the village which need repairing
- Arranging for a tender document to renew the playing field car park
- Streetlights which need repair

Please do not hesitate to ask if you would like further information on any of the above. Tricia Edwards.

Ongoing planning applications for building works are given on page 11.

**Village Post Office
– Community Shop**

Open on Wednesdays
from 2 pm to 4 pm

GOSFIELD YARNIES:

A Knitting and Crochet group.

Wednesday – 10am - midday

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

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	Joanne Lisa Colyer	13 Nuns Meadow, Gosfield, CO9 1UB joanne.colyer@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 01787-477808
Councillor	Tony Strudwick	17 Park Cottages, Gosfield, CO9 1TP tony.strudwick@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 01787-473444
Councillor	John Willis	3a Gosfield Lake Park, CO9 1UG john.willis@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 07932-859061
Councillor	Tony Farrelly	White Ash House, Gosfield Road, CM7 5PA anthony.farrelly@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 07930-870688
Councillor	Richard Edwards	Home Farm House, CO9 1RZ richard.edwards@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 01787-472958

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

PARISH PONDERINGS - FROM ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH

I was lucky enough to spend some time in Wales this summer, exploring Pembrokeshire in a vintage campervan. It was wonderful – winding country lanes with high hedged banks, bright foxgloves and ox eye daisies lining our routes, stunning cliff walks and glorious wide views of sea and sky.

A particular highlight was visiting St David's, Britain's smallest city. We walked through its streets, following signs to the cathedral. Through an archway, it suddenly appeared before us, set in a wide bowl of green, rising timeless and sure, much more visually impressive than I'd expected given its location. Like many cathedrals, inside it is composed of several distinct spaces and chapels, each with their own altar. The larger and more decorative ones were striking, even imposing, full of historical and architectural interest. And then there was the Holy Trinity Chapel, tucked in between other chapels towards the east of the cathedral - apparently built by a Bishop Vaughan in 1509 to fill in an open space.

It is somewhat strange in proportions, being long and thin, and with a high vaulted ceiling. I don't know what altar it would originally have had, but in the 1920s a unique and striking altar and reredos (the backdrop to the altar) were constructed, pieced together from beautiful medieval fragments found during restoration work. There is a Latin text which reads "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world".

The altar is very obviously made of broken, mismatched bits of stone, carefully brought together in an act of love and worship. I was intensely moved by this space: the others had been awe-inspiring, but here I was moved to tears. The construction of something beautiful, graceful, purposeful from broken stone spoke to me deeply of the heart of the Christian faith – that nothing and no-one is beyond redemption, that God makes all things new in Christ, that out of what we see a spoiled or wasted can come something new and hopeful and life-giving.

We all pass through our dark valleys, or the "slough of despond" a Christian in John Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress did. We know what it is to experience the knocks and bruises of life, sometimes even to feel we are of little use. But God always sees more than that - sees us as beloved, precious, worth saving; sees how new can be brought from old, light from darkness, hope from despair. I was reminded strongly of that as I sat and wept in the Holy Trinity Chapel there in St David's Cathedral. And so I pray that, whatever your faith, or none, whatever your hilltops and valleys in life, and wherever you find the spiritual in your own pilgrimage, you too might experience renewed hope, and know that you are loved and of great value.

Revd Katie



Gosfield Grapevine Community Group

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH, GOSFIELD:

We are part of The Three Saints group of parishes along with St Andrew's Church, Halstead and St James' Church, Greenstead Green; and belong to the wider Halstead Area Team Ministry.

Everyone is welcome at your local parish church. Our services this month and next are:

Sunday 1 st October	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 8 th October	10.30am	Morning Praise
Sunday 15 th October	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 22 nd October	10.30am	Morning Praise
Sunday 29 th October	TBC	Team Service
Sunday 5 th November	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 12 th November	TBC	Remembrance Service
Sunday 19 th November	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 26 th November	10.30am	Advent Sunday
Every Thursday	10.00am	Holy Communion at St. Andrew Church, Halstead

Refreshments – usually including home-made cakes and sausage rolls ! – are served after Sunday services at St Catherine's.

Sunday services are also streamed via Zoom. If you wish to join, the meeting details are:

Meeting ID – 843 6287 0732, passcode 489461

If you are housebound and want to join in worship but prefer the phone to Zoom, there is also the Daily Hope phone line, which offers familiar hymns and prayers free of charge if you dial 0800-804-8044.

For families with children we offer additional activities and services:

Kids Church:

Sunday 1 st October	10.15am	St Andrew's Hall, Halstead
Sunday 5 th November	10.15am	St Andrew's Hall, Halstead

Children of all ages welcome; pre school aged children must be accompanied by an adult

Messy Church:

Saturday TBC	3.00-5.00pm	St Andrew's Hall, Halstead
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Crafts, activities, games – a bible story and songs – prayer activity - a free meal

For more information on services and activities in the Three Saints Parishes, please contact the parish office on 01787-478471.

GOSFIELD CARPET BOWLS CLUB:

The club begins the Winter league series of competitive matches on October 4th this year, playing in the North West Essex division. The effect of the Covid pandemic is slowly diminishing at last. Prior to the pandemic there were some 9 clubs competing in the Winter League competition. Last year, the first season since the pandemic closed the League competition down, we had only 6 teams competing. This year we have 7 clubs competing.

We are slowly coming back from the pandemic, however, although we have lost two teams due to a lack of support, many of the members from those failed clubs have joined other clubs within the area.

The competition this year will therefore be very competitive and hotly contested. Gosfield CBC has survived the pandemic and will begin the Winter League season with a membership of 23 players to choose from, many of whom will be new to playing in competitive league matches. They are however very keen for the new season to start.

It is with great sadness that I have to report the loss of one of our members through a long illness, Trevor, whilst being a more recent member of the club will be remembered for his enthusiasm, calmness and yet competitive spirit. He will be sadly missed by all our members.

We continue to play on two evenings per week, Mondays from 8.00 pm to 10.00 pm and Wednesday 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm. We welcome new members to the club, those that have never played before to those that are experience players. If interested you are welcome to attend either of the two evenings per week that the club meets. There is no restriction on age, male or female, experienced or pure novices you will be very welcome.

Paul M Nicklin, Manager, Gosfield Carpet Bowls Club.

VILLAGE CIRCLE CLUB

Gosfield Village Circle meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month at The Maurice Rowson Hall from 2pm to 4pm, visitors £3, including refreshments. For October's meeting on Thursday 19th, we welcome speaker Lindsay Whitehouse, an ex-prison governor. On November 16th, Joanne Bealer from 'The Little Flowerhouse' will be demonstrating how to make Christmas wreaths. We celebrate Christmas with a lunch at The Kings Head on Tuesday, 5th December, and at our meeting on Thursday 21st December, 'The Belles of Sudbury', a hand bell ringing group, will give a demonstration of hand-bell ringing, followed by carols for us to join in with before we have the chance to 'give it a go'. So plenty going and you'd be very welcome to join our very friendly group. If you'd like to know more you'll find our contact details within Gosfield Village Entities further in the magazine.

Ann.



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PARISH COUNCIL WORKING BODIES:

Group / Committee:	Councillors:
Responsible Financial Officer	Richard Edwards
Nature Reserve	Hough
Allotment Officer	Waters
Footpaths	Colyer, Hough
Finance	Waters, Tricia Edwards,
Appeals	Colyer
Children's Play Area	Colyer, Hough, Pawsey
Planning	Waters, Pawsey
Grapevine Editor	Alan Summerland
Tree Warden	Hough
Personnel	Tricia Edwards, Pawsey, Waters
Neighbourhood Plan Committee	Willis [Chairman]
Information, minutes and agendas:	www.e-voice.org.uk/gosfield

MEMBERS OF OUTSIDE BODIES:

Braintree Association of Local Councils	Tricia Edwards
Coffee Rooms Trust	Waters
Maurice Rowson Hall Management Committee	Strudwick
Rowson Perpetual Memorial Fund	Pawsey, Hough, Colyer
Playing Field Management Committee	T Edwards, Hough, Pawsey
Wethersfield Airbase Scrutiny Committee	Strudwick

<p>Member of Parliament: Mr James Cleverly MP - or: Braintree Conservatives Association Office:</p>	<p>House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk Suite 11, The Centre, Lakes Industrial Park, Braintree, CM7 3RU</p>
<p>Essex County Councillor: Cllr. Chris Siddall</p>	<p>Essex County Council, PO Box 11, CM1 1LX cllr.chris.siddall@essex.gov.uk Office: 01376-562288</p>
<p>Braintree District Councillor: Cllr. Peter Schwier Gosfield & Greenstead Green Ward</p>	<p>Long Fen, Great Maplestead, CO9 2RJ cllr.pschwier@braintree.gov.uk 01787-460473</p>

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 Girls Women's Institute	Janet Hull	07968-145599	gosfieldgirls.wiessex@aol.com
Gosfield Village Circle	Ann Willis	01787-274665	ann.willis2006@btinternet.com
Gosfield Community Shop	Brian Payne	01787-703787	thepaynes57@hotmail.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 Open Gardens	Brian Payne	01787-473670	thepaynes57@hotmail.com
Gosfield Playing Field & Pavilion	Ann Willis	01787-274665	ann.willis2006@btinternet.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

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

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term time only

Rainbows is exciting, messy,
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Come join us!

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TODAY!

Gosfield Brownies



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

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world of new adventures,
challenges and fun!

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ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH 50/50 CLUB

August Winners:	No. 61 Mrs. C Hough	No. 93 Mr. R Carter
	No. 65 Mr. M Smith	No. 127 Mrs. P Ellis
September Winners:	No. 19 Mrs. A Degnan	No. 52 Mrs. J Howlett
	No. 44 Mrs. P Rayner	No. 58 Mrs. S Mackinnon

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

Gosfield has Beavers (6-8 years) Cubs (8-10 years) meeting on a Wednesday and Scouts (10-14 years) meeting on a Monday, we are looking for more boys and girls to join us, we are also looking for more volunteers to help.

**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	Richard Waters	07900-236754	richard.waters@gateway.net
Gosfield Lake	Linda Turp (Office Manager)	01787-4785043	turps@gosfieldlake.co.uk

PUB, CLUB and EVENTS HIRE:

Maurice Rowson Hall	Amanda Degnan	01787-274992	rowsonhall@gmail.com
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	
Community Agent	Sara Moutard	07938-733207	

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



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[Acknowledgements to Andy Bull / Trailblazers]



London Bridge (St. Magnus the Martyr) to Walsingham Camino – maybe young Henry VIII (pre-reformation) made the pilgrimage at age 18 walking in bare feet. Used to be a very busy path. Has anyone from Gosfield walked on it yet ?

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Saturday 28th October
 Halloween Fancy Dress.

Prizes for best fancy dress.

Live Music by



Doors open at 7:30pm.

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

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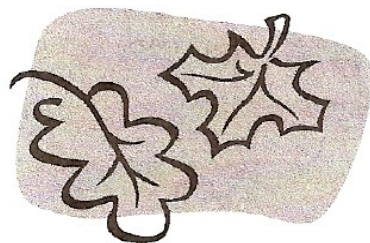
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Gosfield Lawn Tennis Club

New members are welcome of all ages and standards.
Professional coaching sessions available.
Adult memberships starts at only £30 for the first year.

For more information, contact our Secretary, and look at our website:
www.gosfieldtennis.co.uk

I am hoping to start NEW BEGINNERS ART CLASSES next Month in Gosfield:

'DRAWING FOR THE TERRIFIED'

'ACRYLIC PAINTING for BEGINNERS'

'DRAWING FOR CHILDREN 7-11 YEARS OLD'

For more information please call Georgie on:
01787-472803

Gosfield (Mobile) Library

Route 2 - Nuns Meadow, Saturday,

Halstead Library

(Not open public holidays)

9:45 am to 10:15 am:

9th September

30th September

21st October

11th November

2nd December

23rd December

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

9am to 5pm

9am to 6pm

Closed

9am to 6pm

9am to 5pm

9am to 5pm

Closed

PLANNING APPLICATIONS (BUILDING):

Retrospective front porch, Woodland House Halstead Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1PE, Ref. No: 23/02082/HH

Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of approved application 20/01504/HH, granted 09.12.2020 for: Erection of a two storey garage with study and WC in roof space. Variation would allow 1. Roof pitch increase 2. Rooflights provided to front roof slope as well as rear roof slope, Rookery Cottage The Street Gosfield Essex CO9 1TJ, Ref. No: 23/02045/VAR

Application for approval of details as reserved by conditions 3, 4 and 9 of approved application 22/02973/FUL, 12 Park Cottages The Street Gosfield Essex CO9 1TJ, Ref. No: 23/02008/DAC

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.



A colorful poster for 'Finding Your Feet Walks'. The background is a stylized landscape with green bushes and a blue sky with white clouds. In the foreground, there are two sneakers, one pink and one blue, with white laces. The text 'FINDING YOUR FEET WALKS' is written in large, bold, blue letters. To the right of the text is a purple circle with 'COMMUNITY 360' inside. Below the main text, it says 'Working in partnership with Gosfield Parish Council'. At the bottom, it says 'FREE walks in your neighbourhood! Meeting at Gosfield Community Shop, Church Road, Gosfield CO9 1TL'.



GOSFIELD COMMUNITY SHOP:

Opening Times:

Monday to Saturday: 8 am to 4:30 pm

Sunday: 8 am to noon

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

Cricketers gave way to the footballers and the tennis players packed away their rackets and the Badminton nights began. Dominoes and Cribbage in the pubs and Darts and allotments dug over for early potatoes to be planted and the Sprouts to get growing ready for Christmas pick 'em after the frost has been on 'em said old Mr Vickers, they'll be sweeter and get your Shallots peeled and bottled in vinegar and pickling spice said old Mrs Owers. So they're ready for Christmas and Get Hams hung and Jam made. Fruit bottled and not to forget to shred suet and get vine fruits and blocks of sugar 'smashed' to make sweet Mincemeat ready for all those Christmas events and bazaars with mince pies on offer and not forgetting that October was always the month for making the Christmas cake. And packing it away in an old Huntley and Palmers biscuit tin. Other brands available ha ha. If you were in our kitchens then the marzipan was homemade too.

The number of beer houses and pubs for local made brews were more than just 2. Years ago I would study the very old Court Rolls and various Gosfield establishments were often fined for coin chipping or other illegal practices. A Beer House was not an Inn. The Inns were places where people could get a bed for the night and food. Long gone is the little pub opposite our Church that would get raided by the Vicar before a service to make its visitors come across into Church or pay a fine for the collection box. There was no road around the Lake from the Church in those times. Our Kings Head Inn was where felonious characters would await with the village constable for the travelling magistrate to be transported to the local prisons, probably after spending the night in Gosfield's lock up. No en-suite in those days it was all use a bucket and chuck it.

Halstead's House of Correction was roughly where the Factory Shop stands now... Most Hue and Cry's from Gosfield were started from the Kings Head. Each point thereafter carried on the Cry and quite often along the way the 'felon' would be caught. My late father in law was a policeman with a 'cycle round'...Halstead to Heddinghams to Yeldhams and circuitously back around Gosfield and returning to the station in Halstead. Later he would cycle home. And according to the time of day dig his garden or be a Scoutmaster in our village. Oh and don't forget the clocks go back late in October I taught my boys the SPRING forward and FALL back mantra that I was taught but it's me now I fear that realises 2 days afterwards that my clocks etc. are all wrong, I don't get out much. Ha ha.

A little winter warning ...don't put your LIBERTY bodice in front of the fire to warm as the rubber buttons go bendy and difficult to get through the button holes and worse still when they cool they go brittle and snap. One can much warm the chest with brown paper over goose fat slapped on you to stop those bad coughs. The Liberty Bodice buttons mis- hap was a memory I'll never forget My poor Mum was so upset. Glad it wasn't my fault..oh! memories.

My brother Doug along with me and my sons Paul, Mark and Lee, send our Condolences to John Lewis and Jane, Sophie, Amy and David. R I P Margaret Lewis nee Wooster. Also R I P to a fellow Cub Scout Leader, Janet Crisp, widow of 'big' Robert who ran the Gosfield Butchers Shop for the Newman family. Janet's sister married Bruce Braybrooke, a Gosfield lad and village Cricketer who grew up adjacent to that shop. We had a long chat with lots of looking back. Stay as well as you can everyone. x



GOSFIELD
IN BLOOM

MEMORIES by Linda Marlow (Richardson, Kemp)

We plough the fields and scatter, the good seed on the land.

Memories of the very many Harvest Festivals in our Church. The produce carried to the Altar with children each side of a basket handle unsteadily walking ahead of various village groups. One child often letting their side lower as they lacked grip or concentration and the occasional apple rolling away and a deft kick by the next basket holder scoring a goal alongside the organ pumper, when it had to be done manually.

It began with the usual requests to all villagers for produce for the aforementioned baskets and pretty WI offerings including Jam. Competing with large manly football club boxes etc. All the village clubs and institutions took part and the 3 schools did too. The Church clubs added décor to the sides of the Church with Autumnal or late blooming summer flowers and a few colourful squashes and larger marrows that had escaped the various cooks eye. I never did like stuffed marrow, but confess to eating the odd raw broad bean from the basket to nibble and it was my grubby finger tips carrying the basket that gave that temptation away! It stained as one peeled a pod. My mother well into her mid- nineties would ask me to drive her to various local fields of broad beans in flower in the early evening as she said the perfume was her favourite. Simple pleasures.

The song that I sang to qualify for the Choir was that Harvest favourite. We Plough the fields, et The first basket I carried was as a Brownie but the only one I nearly dropped was as a teenager and a tall boy from Gosfield's Leigh Hall School pushed a Dahlia bud down the back of my dress....silence being the requisite inside Church during a service I couldn't squeal (I thought it an insect or similar) but because the offending item had shaken out before the start of the choir stalls the boy trod on it lost his momentum and nearly caused a domino effect from the pulpit back down the aisle of seniors clutching their baskets and boxes more firmly. Head Master Mr Pinegar outside Church gave the boy a talking to ! He was a good looking lad and for many a parade of Leigh Hall boys all marching along to Church in two's we girls would be hurrying along fully aware of them and he always gave me a smile. I would many years later be marching along with my cub pack on a St Georges day parade alongside the other leaders and a man came up to me, very tall and distinguished he said "I apologise for putting a SHALLOT down your dress when I was at boarding school here years ago" I said I had thought it a Dahlia bud. Mr Pinegar approached me smiling and asked if I had got an apology, I said I had and Mr P said that the marble could have caused an injury so he didn't view it lightly at the time but I did wonder that it could not have been a marble as we youngsters treasured our collections, I still have my favourite one but as a young teen I didn't know my onions (ha ha) so on that note maybe it was a Shallot as a Dahlia bud would easily crush and not trip anyone.

Acorns collected for the pig farmers provided a small income to put towards shoes or plimsolls and it was hard work for children as paid by the bushel. Captain Lowes children gathered them alongside village children after the first world war. Betwixt Gosfield Hall and the Church was a lovely Walnut Tree and the nuts were ready to pick and be stored for Christmas. Another of nature's edible gifts that made your fingers stain brown ! The hedgerows were full of Sloe berries and blackberries and Elderberries which were great for wine but my Nan put them in Apple pies too, mmmm. All along Braintree Road before the tennis courts the hedges were full of Hazel/ Cob nuts and of course Bullace for jam making. Rose Hips to make syrup for the babies. The Crab apple tree by the park entrance always heavy with fruit for anyone to pick up for jelly making and jam and of course superb Chestnuts too were over in the park for gathering and stuffing pockets full keep an eye out for them this time of year.

HARVEST Festival Shopping List:

Dear "Friends of Foodbank"

I am reaching out to you myself this month as we approach Harvest Festival. Every year we face different challenges, and we are ever thankful for your continued support to aid us to meet these challenges head on. See overleaf for items required.

This year we have seen a huge increase in demand for our service and anticipate we will feed more people than we did last year. **Last year we fed 9,473 people which is by far our busiest year on record.** This calendar year we have had to spend over £40,000 on food and essentials to ensure that our shelves are stocked to be able to deal with this increased demand. Without us spending funds on food and other essentials we would have empty shelves for several of our key items.

The current cost of living crisis is forcing many people who would have never previously thought of using a Foodbank turn to us in their time of need.

With your support, we are confident that we will be able to continue to meet the demand for our service in the Braintree District. Harvest is a wonderful time of year to celebrate what we have and what we can be thankful for, whilst thinking of others and giving in whichever way we can. Any donation, no matter how big or small supports us in our mission to ensure that no one has to go hungry.

As always, we are more than happy to arrange a collection for you with our transport team if transporting your Harvest Festival collection to us is going to be a challenge. If you would like to arrange this please let me know and I will have a look at scheduling something in to suit you.

If you are a Church, we also have lots of resources that you may find useful including a Harvest service talk guide, bible studies and songs. We also have resources that everyone can take part in, in the form of youth group worksheets, essential costs activities and more. Please let me know if you would like me to discuss this with you further and provide you with these resources free of charge. We can also provide you with a personalised Harvest Festival poster with your date of collection included.

Thank you as always for taking the time to read our Harvest ask for this year, I hope you have a wonderful few months as we move into the Autumn season. Personally, my favourite time of the year!

Kind Regards,

Lee Ranson - Project Manager

07483-387696

Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd.

Postal Address: Unit 6 Lakes Industrial Estate, Lower Chapel Hill,

NB: DONATIONS MAY BE LEFT AT THE VILLAGE SHOP



EssexVoluntaryBloodService.com





HARVEST Festival

SHOPPING LIST

Essential Items

Jam
Tinned Cold Meat
Packet Custard
Cereal
Sponge Puddings
UHT Milk

To Maintain Our Stocks

Instant Snack (Pot
Noodle)
Tinned Hot Meat (Stew,
mince)
Packet Soup
Pasta Sauce
Deodorant

We ask for small packs as larger packs do not fit in our boxes making it difficult for our clients to carry home. Also, we are unable (for hygiene reasons) to split large size or catering packs.

We follow the standards set by the Food Standards Agency. We can only accept donations of unopened and undamaged goods that are still well within their "use by" date (no less than six months if possible). Items which do not meet these requirements cannot be used and your donation may be wasted.

01376 330694

info@braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk



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GOSFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – UPDATE

A tremendous amount of work has been put into analysing the data & feedback that has been given by the residents of Gosfield along with businesses and specialist consultants.

The next steps for the plan will be to start drafting the policies that will formulate the plan. There will be plenty of opportunities for residents and businesses to feedback on these recommendations as policies are formulated and the plan begins to take shape. Remember, ultimately, this is a plan created by the village for the village.

The following recommendations for the Neighbourhood Plan are not exhaustive, but give a sense of what the residents have been telling us. We've grouped these recommendations into 3 main sections:

Section 1 – Housing

- Use the Neighbourhood Plan to increase the discount on the First Homes Scheme (including informing the village of the scheme & the discount)
- Encourage Private renters
- Encourage future developments to increase proportion of 'Affordable' 2 bedroom homes (the Neighbourhood Plan will have to define what it means by 'affordable' rather than taking the National or BDC definitions)
- Dis-courage future developments having large quantities of 4-5 bedroom homes
- Robust Design Policy
- Encourage the development of 'supported/un-supported' accommodation for the elderly to enable downsizing without the need to leave the village.

Section 2 – Road Safety

- Campaign for Crossing in The Street
- More Speed Indicator Devices (permanent & temporary)
- Campaign for Twenty's Plenty in The Street/Hall Drive/Meadway
- Campaign for extension of 30mph limit to Petersfield Lane, the entrance of the airfield on Hedingham Road & to Russells Road on the Halstead Road
- Campaign for cycling route to Halstead & Braintree

Section 3 – Other

- Creation of a Business Support Plan
- Creation of a Nature Reserve Plan
- Encourage & Campaign for more village policing
- Encourage maintenance of bus routes
- Plan to encourage greater use of 'open-space'
- 'Increase' Street Lighting
- Greater use of the Grapevine to inform the village of what is happening (both from the Neighbourhood Plan & the Parish Council)



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Gosfield Village Hall

Room to rent, ideal office space
 (floor area 52 square feet)
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If interested, please email Dave Jarvis on davjar33@gmail.com

On behalf of the Rowson Hall Management Committee



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THE MEADOWS 9 HOLE ACADEMY COURSE

Our course is located in the attractive village of Gosfield. A beautiful parkland course which is perfect for the established golfer, beginners and families who are new to golf.

It can also be used as the ideal development opportunity to progress to our 18 Hole Championship Lakes Course



We are an accredited Safe Golf Course so you can rest assured of the welfare of your children.



We can offer expert tuition and playing lessons with our resident coach Helena Holland at competitive rates.

NEW MEMBER OFFERS

Please contact the office to discover our attractive introductory offers for new members.

We have membership packages to suit a wide range of aspiring golfers and for parents looking to join, we have special packages for children to make up a true family package.

For further information regarding our new member packages, please call the office on 01787 474747.



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For events and hospitality please call the clubhouse on: 01787474400