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Gosfield Grapevine



Contour Map of Gosfield (ca 1777, Chapman and Andre)
[white 85 m down to 50 m]

Issue 111 –February – March

Gosfield Parish Council

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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

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

Friday, 22nd March, 2024

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, 14th February - Valentine's Day

Thursday, 15th February- Village Circle Club Meeting

Tuesday, 13th February - Shrove Tuesday

Saturday, 24th February – Fete Quiz Night

Friday, 1st March - St. David's Day

Sunday, 17th March – St. Patrick's Day

Sunday, 10th March – Mothering Sunday

Wednesday, 20th March - Spring Equinox

Friday, 29th March – Good Friday – Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday 31st March - Clocks change (>>>)


Monday, 1st April – Easter Monday

Sunday, 16th June – Gosfield Open Gardens

Chilly Dippers - Fridays 12.30-1.30 and Sundays 8am and 9am – suitable for beginners – booking in via FB@Gosfieldlakechillydippers

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. 

Gosfield Community Shop Ltd

We have just started a second hand book box, available on Fridays only between 11am and 2pm. Come in and have a look. You can just borrow if you wish or exchange if you'd like to, but only good second hand books accepted.

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES:

First of all, thanks must go to Becky and the Society Club for their wonderful Christmas tree and decorations. It certainly brightened up the village during the festive season again this year.

The Parish Council met recently and approved the budget for 2024/25. They agreed a 3.96% increase. We have again tried to set budgets as low as possible while still attempting to retain a similar level of services.

Items under discussion this period have been:

- Budgets
- Planning applications
- Streetlight repairs
- Footpaths
- Positioning of possible new skate ramp
- Parking generally in the village
- The Neighbourhood Plan

Tricia Edwards

**Village Post Office
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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.

Ongoing planning applications for building works are as follows:

Proposed single storey rear extension, 17 Halstead Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1PG, Ref. No: 24/00021/HH

Gosfield Neighbourhood Plan

Work has now commenced on producing the draft neighbourhood plan.

We have received a grant that allows us to employ the services of a specialist consultant to advise us and prepare the draft plan.

Data has been analysed based on the responses from the questionnaires (26.5% of 683). These represented the views of 328 individuals.

We expect to complete the draft by the end of April, 2024. It will then go to Braintree District Council to confirm all requirements have been met and that any necessary evidence is provided.

John Willis, Parish Councillor.

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

Thought for the month:

This year, 14 February is not just Valentine's Day, but also Ash Wednesday. On the face of it, the two can seem a somewhat unlikely combination - a day when we celebrate romantic love, and a day of penitence, remembering our mortality, and seeking forgiveness of our sins. But, looked at from another perspective, these two complement each other rather well.

While it is generally accepted that Valentine did exist, and was martyred on the Via Flaminia outside Rome by order of the emperor Claudius II, there is some dispute as to his precise identity, and as to his date of death. Some sources hold it as being 14 February 269, which ties it neatly to the day when we remember him. Martyred for refusing to renounce the Christian faith, it seems it may have been the case that Valentine secretly married Christian couples at a time when Christians were persecuted by Rome. But it might not have been until 1375 that the saint's day became particularly associated with expressions of romantic love: the medieval poet Chaucer, in his work "Parliament of Fowles" (fowles being birds), links a tradition of courtly love with the celebration of Valentine's feast day, and it was the attention given to his poem that seems to have created this lasting association. Chaucer wrote, "For this was sent on Seynt Valentynes day / Whan every foul cometh ther to choose his mate", linking the supposed date when birds paired up with the famous saint.

But what of Ash Wednesday? It is the start of Lent, of course, a sombre season in church life when we recall our need for God and his forgiveness, and when we re-commit ourselves to live well, in line with his command to love God and love our neighbour. At our local Ash Wednesday service in Halstead, there will be the chance to have the symbol of the cross marked in ash on our foreheads, as a sign of our turning back to God. But human penitence is just one part of the significance of Ash Wednesday. The other side of the coin is God's overwhelming, unconditional love for each one of us as his children - his love of us whoever we are, whatever we have done, whatever our life experience. When we come to him, we come humbly, but also knowing we can be sure of his loving welcome. He invites us to live in close relationship with him, allowing his love to make us more loving in turn.

We all long for love and acceptance as human beings. It is one of our deepest needs. And whether we acknowledge it or not, we all at some level fear that what we see as our short comings might get in the way of our being truly loved. St Valentine's Day, if we strip back the commercialism and hype, can be seen as a reminder of the importance of letting our loved ones know what they mean to us. But whereas Valentine's Day can for so many feel excluding, because they are alone, or grieving the loss of a loved one, or in an unhappy relationship, Ash Wednesday is inclusive - an invitation to us all to return to the loving embrace of a God who gave everything for us, who in Jesus shows us what true, self-giving love is all about. Another well-known saint, Paul, reminds us of this: "And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Letter to the Romans, New Living Translation of the Bible).

On the other hand, if you want to mark 14th February in an entirely different way, St Valentine is apparently also the Patron Saint of bee keepers, epilepsys, fainting, greetings, plague, travellers, and young people. He must be a busy saint indeed!

Best wishes, Revd Katie,

Team Rector, Halstead Area Team, Area Dean, Hinckford Deanery

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. Services for the next two months at St. Catherine's church are as follows:

Sunday	4	February	10:30	Holy Communion	
Sunday	11	February	10:30	Morning Worship	
Sunday	18	February	10:30	Holy Communion	
Sunday	25	February	10:30	Morning Worship	
Sunday	3	March	10:30	Holy Communion	
Sunday	10	March	10:30	Morning Worship	Mothering Sunday
Sunday	17	March	10:30	Holy Communion	
Sunday	24	March	10:30	Morning Worship	Palm Sunday
Friday	29	March	12:00	Good Friday	'An Hour at the Cross'
Sunday	31	March	10:30	Holy Communion	Easter Day

Services for the next two months at St. Andrew's church, Halstead, are as follows

Wednesday	14	February	19:30	Holy Communion	Ash Wednesday
Thursday	28	March	19:30	Holy Communion	Maundy Thursday

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:

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

*** FLOWER ARRANGING AND CHURCH CLEANING ***

Do you have a passion for flower arranging? We are currently looking for people to join our team of flower arrangers to help with the floral arrangements which keep our lovely church looking beautiful.

Alternatively, perhaps you have a couple of free hours each month and would consider joining our church cleaning team?

If you would like to know more of what each of the above might entail, please contact Judy Paterson on 01787-472514

GOSFIELD CARPET BOWLS CLUB:

The club is half way through its fixture list of matches for the Essex Winter League which finishes on the 31st. March 2024. So far we have had mixed success, which is not surprising as many of our members are new to competitive league match competitions. The atmosphere when playing league matches is more intense and competitive than when playing on a normal club night, or indeed playing friendly matches against teams that we may well play against in the winter league.

As a club we meet twice a week throughout the year playing in the Rowson Hall on a Monday and Wednesday evening. Some members play on both evenings whilst others select an evening that suits them.

We play competitive bowls in the Essex Carpet Bowls Associations North West Division which at present has 7 participating clubs playing in a home and away basis. The league starts October and all matches have to be completed by 31st March of 2024.

Playing in the league system improves the ability of all players since all clubs play in village halls where the floors are uneven, with a variety of gradients, making it difficult to judge direction and pace of the bowl as it is played. Players must therefore adjust their bowling action to compensate for this unevenness of the playing surface. Home teams should therefore be in a more advantageous position than the away team but that is not always the case. Teams with the more experienced players who may have been playing in the league division for many years have a better chance than those teams with less experienced members.

Normally, Winter League matches are played in a 12 players per team format with each match played in a 2 pairs and 2 four ball format over 9 ends per match. Due to Covid some teams have a reduced number of players to select from and in those cases they play in a 2 pairs and two three ball format, but also over 9 ends each match.

Clubs can elect to play in the league, to play only friendly games or to play both. Gosfield plays both league and friendly games which enables the club to play competitive games throughout the year, If you would like to experience the atmosphere of a normal club night you are welcome to attend one of our normal weekly club nights. Monday between 8 and 10.00pm and Wednesday between 7 and 9.00pm. No special clothing is required other than clean, soft-soled shoes.

Paul M Nicklin, Manager, Gosfield Carpet Bowls Club.

VILLAGE CIRCLE CLUB

We ended 2023 with a visit from the Belles of Sudbury, a hand bell ringing team, who played a variety of carols for us to join in with and some of us even had a go. Great fun.

We begin 2024 on Thursday, 15th February but, please note that this meeting will be held in the Pavilion from 2 to 4pm. Our speaker will be Brian Carline, an ex-school master. This will be followed by a short AGM with tea/coffee and cake.

Please come and join us. We'd be very pleased to welcome you.

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	John Willis [Chairman], Tricia Edwards, Richard Edwards, Tony Strudwick, Bob Waters
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

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
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Essex County Councillor: Cllr. Chris Siddall	Essex County Council, PO Box 11, CM1 1LX cldr.chris.siddall@essex.gov.uk Office: 01376-562288
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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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GROUPS, SOCIETIES AND COMMITTEES:			
Toddler Group	Emma	07872-916917	
Gosfield Players	Jules Wilkinson	07958-903932	
Gosfield Rainbows	Stacey Creak	07814-233219	
Gosfield Brownies, Guides and Rangers	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

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On

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ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH 50/50 CLUB

December Winners:	No. 5 Mrs. R Coomes	No. 35 Mrs. B Wicker
	No. 40 Mr. F Boyle	No. 118 Mrs. M Pawsey
January Winners: [2024]	No. 15 Mr. W Pasfield	No. 108 Mr. D Clary
	No. 37 Mrs. T Edwards	No. 115 Mrs. C Ssnowden

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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Mon - 7.00pm - Gosfield School (Halstead Road)
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Thurs - 9.15am - Pebmarsh Village Hall

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SCHOOL GOVERNORS-GOSFIELD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Primary School

Gosfield Community Primary School currently have vacancies on the local governing body, members of the local community would be most welcome to participate.

The school is part of the Attain Academy Partnership and the local governing body reports to the Trust Board.

There would be a security check which the school will pay for. Induction training and support will be given to you when you join. No specific skills are required just a desire to make a difference.

The governing body meetings take place once every half term lasting approximately two hours each during an evening. The main purpose of being a governor is mostly about the children's education naturally. Visits to school take place around three times per year to monitor progress of the pupils and the school.

It is a very rewarding and responsible position, and can be demanding, but if you would care to be considered please contact the school office on 01787-472266 and speak to the head teacher who will be happy to discuss the role in more detail.

We look forward to hearing from you.



Gosfield Grapevine Community Group

Gosfield Open Gardens

SUNDAY, 16TH JUNE, 2024

**We are still looking for some new gardens for this year's event !
If you would like to open your garden this year please contact me**

In aid of Scouts & Guides: Email: thepaynes57@hotmail.com

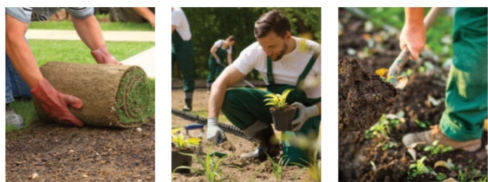
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Thank you Brian

LW LANDSCAPES

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- *Turving
- *Jet Washing

07467439993
Lukewheeler75@gmail.com



07467439993

Roll Up, Roll Up! Save the date for Gosfield's CIRCUS Themed Fete Saturday 6th July 2024

Even during these cold winter months, plans are being made for the annual village fete! Bookings for bands, entertainment, catering and games have already been made....and this year we're excited to announce that it's going to be a fabulous **circus** theme! There are lots of ways you can be involved in the fete if you'd like to be...

Floats

The more the merrier! It's always such an amazing sight to see the procession of floats making its way through the village. You don't need to have a trailer, as we've had plenty of walking floats taking part too. To all the amazing groups who spend so much time and effort planning and decorating their floats, we're excited to see your interpretations of the circus theme this year.

Stalls

If you would like to have a stall at this year's fete, please email us and we'll send you a booking form to secure your place. We'll be limiting similar types of stalls to make it fairer for those trying to sell goods or run activities so we don't have too many duplicates - first come, first served, so get in quick if you'd like a stall this year.

Local Groups and Businesses

We're keen for all our local groups, schools, organisations and businesses to get involved to make this a real village event – let us know if you're able to get involved and support the day.

Arena Entertainment

We're always keen to showcase local talent, so if you are a choir, dance troupe, acrobatics group, sports team or musician and would like to perform in the arena, please get in touch.

Volunteers

We've said it before, and we'll say it again...! We're a small committee who love planning the fete for you all to enjoy, but we really need extra help on the day as we can't do it alone. So please, keep the day free and if you can spare an hour to help we would be SO grateful.

Watch this space for more fete news in the coming months, and keep an eye on the 'Grapevine' and 'Gosfield Fete' Facebook pages for announcements too. We look forward to sharing our plans with you and hope you'll be a part of it.

And if you're wondering "what's it all in aid of?", here's why it's so important for the fete to be a success....

The profits from the fete are distributed between the Playing Field Management Committee to support the upkeep of our fabulous playing field, and the village youth groups. At our AGM in October we were delighted to announce a record breaking year with **£5430** profit! We were able to pass on £3260 to the Playing Field

Committee and £310 to every youth group in the village – that's £310 to Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts - £2170 of much needed funds to support them.

Lastly, 2 of our members decided to step down from the committee following the 2023 fete. Carole and Scott, thank you for all your hard work over the last few years in making the fete a roaring success. You will be missed!

We're always happy to hear from you - please email gosfieldfete@gmail.com with any suggestions, questions or if you'd like to get involved in any way.

With very best wishes, The Gosfield Fete Committee

MEMORIES by LINDA (MARLOW, RICHARDSON , KEMP)

Welcome to 2024.

I was watching a Documentary about the WINTER of 1947 that long and fierce winter of snow. My brother was also interested as we grew up listening to our parents tales of getting to the hospital for his birth in the early February of that year. We both had vivid teenage memories of the winter of 1963. He had just started work for Essex County Council in the Drawing Office after exam finals at The Braintree College. I was studying there still.

I know for sure it was extremely cold with snow and frosts in the winter of 1954/5. My Mother was pregnant and she gave birth to my Brother Barry on 24th January 1955 and the Halstead Gazette reported a temperature of 4 degrees and 28 degrees of FROST on the 21st the coldest for 8 yrs since the winter of 1947. On that Monday when Barry was born the temperature fell to 3 degrees. I recall that day vividly. Getting dressed and being reminded as usual NOT to try and open the bedroom curtains on waking to see if the snow was back (too cold for that Dad said) BUT do not TRY to open those curtains because they were frozen onto the glass panes of the windows. Dad earlier had entered into the bedrooms with red hot coals on a shovel to place into the grates of the little fireplaces. Barely changed the temperature though. Glad at least the previous year that mains water had been piped to Gosfield so no more ' bucket trips' to the pump. However, the water pipes tended to freeze! A down side of the new water system. We helped rip up old sacking for Dad to wrap around them. Miss Lewin and her Father at Gable cottage refused the mains as did some others. My youngest brother Andrew used to love being at the sink there pumping water from the well. How very delighted she as a State Registered Chiropodist would be to see him on his rounds in her Profession. When I moved from Gable Cottage it still had its own water supply.

BARRY MARLOW was a delight as a babe and I learned to spend much time 'as a mini mother to him' but also sitting on my Mums bed learning how to mix batter for the oven and help prepare a dinner as it was 10 days of bed rest in those days after a birth.

Barry was an active boy who loved his village life with his mates Michael Dyson, Christine Morgan, and many more, the Tatums, the Wrays, so many to remember.

Barry sadly left this world on a Monday in December he was destined not to make his 69th birthday this month after a brief illness bravely born. As our Dad said with only days to live himself "I have come full circle".

Barry was not just content with playing football he went on to become a Referee in the County. He worked for Braintree Council and also Halstead Rural in Social Housing departments from 1972. His career in that field took him to Derbyshire, Devon and finally Suffolk where after clocking 25 yrs of working for those councils and Housing Associations he began his own consulting agency in that same field of expertise and lectured all over the UK until his retirement a couple of years ago. Known for using his vast 'housing' knowledge with his unique popular style and dry sense of humour so like our Father's. He was much appreciated as hundreds of retirement messages proved. Barry leaves behind his beloved wife Allison who nursed him devotedly to the end and his daughter Eleanor and step daughter Rebecca.

NB..... My first job after college was with Holmes and Hills Solicitors (before I moved on to Braintree Council) therefore I am saddened to hear that THELMA WRIGHT has died because one of my friends at Holmes and Hills was her late husband JOHN. My condolences to Debbie.

I am also sending my condolences to JAYNE and RICHARD SIMPSON on the loss of their Dad CLIVE. I have fond remembrances of Clive and Judy. Let's look for Snowdrops and cheer on the Springtime.

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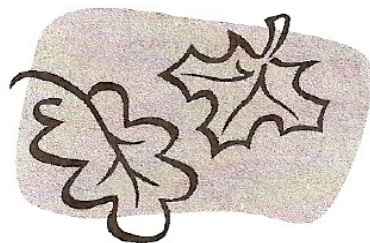
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Gosfield Lawn Tennis Club

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

Gosfield (Mobile) Library

Route 2 - Nuns Meadow, Saturday,

9:45 am to 10:15 am:

3rd February

24th February

16th March

6th April

27th April

18th May

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

Gosfield Guides



Places available for Girls aged 10-14

Meet on a Friday 7.00pm-8.30pm

Term time only

Fun filled evenings with friends

Learn new skills whilst

Challenging yourself!

Call Gill, Guide Leader

On

07801265603

Or look online www.girlguiding.org.uk
to register your daughter TODAY!

Gosfield Rangers



Places available for Girls aged 14-18

Meet on a Friday 7.00pm-8.30pm

Term time only

One big adventure after another,

Space to develop and grow whilst

Having fun!

Call Gill, Ranger Leader

On

07801265603

Or look online www.girlguiding.org.uk
to register your daughter TODAY!

BRAINTREE MALE VOICE CHOIR

****We are looking for new members****

For well over fifty years we have been bringing
male voice music to the local community



From rousing marches to moving anthems; from pop to Broadway musicals and opera choruses; from folk songs and ballads to sea shanties - our repertoire is broad and our approach is friendly and fun.



No experience is necessary; no auditions are held

Do come and join us at St Peter's Church Hall in Braintree
on Wednesday evenings from 7.30-9.30pm

Contact - Ron Fosker: rfosker@btinternet.com; Tel: 01376 512582
or go to: www.facebook.com/braintreemalevoicechoir

Sponsored by
Janet C. Davies
for Braintree Male Voice Choir

HUNNABALL
Family Funeral Group

GOSFIELD EASTER EGG HUNT

Good Friday

11am to 1pm

£2.50 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, Guides and Rangers.



Formed in 1975, the Charity is an Educational Trust that administers funds from investments, in the form of grants to local young people.

Educational Grants Available

The Earls Colne and Halstead Educational Charity offers grants to individuals and voluntary groups and is keen to encourage applications to provide support for suitable projects that would benefit local young people.

Projects previously funded: the purchase of equipment such as mini nets for a tennis club, specialist equipment for those competing in sports or arts, first aid training, expeditions and guide/scout group events

To qualify, applicants must:

- be aged between 5 and 25 *
- have attended school or have lived for at least one year within the Charity's area of benefit (catchment area) *

* Voluntary groups must cater for young people in this age range and be located within our area of benefit



Find out more:

More information about the Charity and application forms can be found on our website – www.echec.org.uk . Alternatively call 07539 489477 or email earlscolnehalstead.edcharity@yahoo.co.uk

GOSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Dates for 2024:

Spring Show Saturday 6th April

Summer Show Saturday 20th July

Autumn Show Saturday 21st September.

Annual General Meeting Tuesday 15th October 8.00pm in the Social Club.

As I type this, we have just come to the end of a very cold spell that started almost two weeks ago with a bitter wind from the north east carrying driving sleet, followed by several hard frosts. Perfect weather for working outdoors, if you are dressed for it. I've made good progress with winter pruning, but on the downside, I have had trouble digging parsnips out of the frozen ground. In spite of the cold, the Winter Jasmine is in full flower, Camellias are in bloom in sheltered spots, and the Snowdrop and Aconite buds are showing their colour, all a promise of spring to come.

The Gosfield Horticultural Society is making plans for the coming year. The schedules for the shows will be available from the village shop and the Social club by the end of February, and we hope to see many of you visiting and perhaps exhibiting at the Spring Show. We are a small, friendly, informal group, so please come along and give it a go.

Happy gardening, Stephen Westover (Show Secretary)

'CUPPA' CLUB 10th ANNIVERSARY

The 'Cuppa' Club was started by Graham and Sheila Allen back in February, 2014. Graham and Sheila owned the village shop, G and S News until they retired in January, 2013.

Sheila had always wanted a tea shop which gave her the idea to start afternoon teas in The Maurice Rowson Hall.

The first one took place on the 6th February, 2014, and cost just £1.00. Sheila made the sandwiches and I made the cakes along with help from friends.

Sheila decided these afternoon teas needed a name so she asked for suggestions and pulled 'Cuppa' Club out of the hat.

When Sheila was too ill to carry on running the club she asked me to take over and run it with Graham.

Since day one, 'Cuppa' Club has flourished, it brings together friends and strangers over tea and cake, Sheila would be so proud that we are still going strong 10 years later.

Come along and join us at the Maurice Rowson Hall at 2pm on the first Monday of every month.

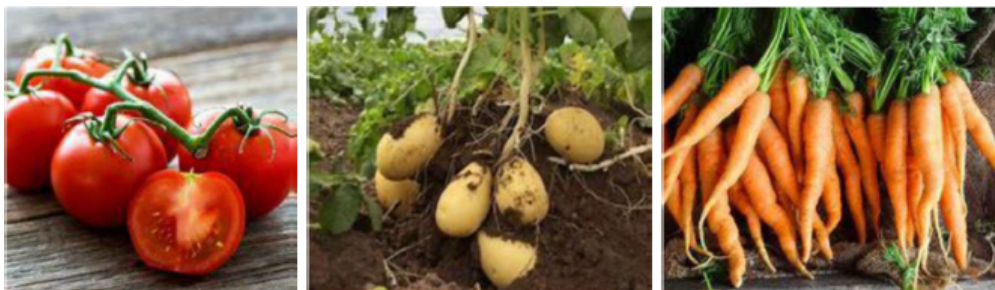
Mary Hull

Interested in Taking on an Allotment ?

The allotments are located in the village opposite Greenfields in The Street, Gosfield. Once a plot is allocated the tenant must sign and return one copy of the agreement before any activity commences on the said plot. Rents are payable in arrears.

Plots will be inspected at frequent intervals to see that plot conditions are being complied with in accordance with the agreement, by our allotment Officer Councillor, Bob Waters.

If you would like to rent an allotment plot, please contact the Parish Clerk for further details. Tel: 0790-7631172 (parishclerk@gosfieldparishcouncil.org).



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.



GOSFIELD COMMUNITY SHOP:

Opening Times:

Monday to Saturday: 8 am to 4:30 pm

Sunday: 8 am to noon

FREE walks in your neighbourhood!

Meeting at Gosfield Community Shop,
Church Road, Gosfield CO9 1TL

EARLS COLNE & HALSTEAD



Formed in 1975, the Charity is an Educational Trust that administers funds from investments, in the form of grants to local young people.

Studying for a degree course?

The Earls Colne and Halstead Educational Charity offers Resource Grants to young people studying undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses

(excluding one or two year Foundation courses and Further Education courses).

To qualify, applicants must:

- be aged between 18 and 25
- have attended school or have lived, for at least one year, within the Charity's area of benefit (catchment area).

Note: Grants are not means-tested and anyone can apply as long as you meet the above criteria.



Find out more:

More information about the Charity and application forms can be found on our website – www.echec.org.uk . Alternatively call 07539 489477 or email earlscolnehalstead.edcharity@yahoo.co.uk .



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Two full-size snooker tables and pool table
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Membership £10 per year
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New members welcome

For more information, please e-mail gosfieldsc@gmail.com

ROUTE 2

FEBRUARY 2024

6 13 20 27

MARCH 2024

5 12 19 26

ROUTE 7

FEBRUARY 2024

6 13 20 27

MARCH 2024

5 12 19 26

Green diamond – green bin, clear sacks and food bin
Red hexagon – clear sacks and food bin only

Note: 'Garden Waste' [green bin] from 4th March, 2024, this will be a subscription service only [£55 per year]. If you want a garden waste collection, make sure you sign up at www.braintree.gov.uk/gardenwastesubscription



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Our Championship Lakes Course designed by 3 time Open winner Sir Henry Cotton, is sculptured into 160 acres of stunning and historic parkland and ancient woodlands.

The 6700 yard, par 72 course boasts gently undulating fairways, challenging water hazards and perfectly manicured greens. It is truly a great test for all levels of golfer.



GOLF SOCIETIES

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

MEMBERSHIP

We have fantastic value membership packages to suit a wide range of aspiring and seasoned golfers with attractive introductory offers.. We have special offers for children to make up a true family package.

For Membership and Societies, please call: 01787 474747

For Tee and Buggy bookings, speak with the Professional Shop: 01787 474488

For Events and Hospitality please call the Clubhouse: 01787 474400



THE MEADOWS NINE HOLE 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



NEW PRO, NEW SHOP

Come and visit our new professional, Helena Holland, and see the new shop. Helena caters lessons for all standards, genders and ages and offers a fun and simple teaching method to get that score down and really add to the enjoyment of playing golf. Latest equipment and clothing brands, the shop offers some great deals.



We can offer expert tuition and playing lessons with our resident PGA Professional Helena Holland at competitive rates. Call 01787 474488



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