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### ROUTE 2

APRIL 2025

1 8 15 23 29  
WED

MAY 2025

7 13 20 28  
WED



# Gosfield Grapevine

### ROUTE 7

APRIL 2025

1 8 15 23 29  
WED

MAY 2025

7 13 20 28  
WED



Gosfield Church from the air [photo by Tony Sale]

Issue 118 – April – May (2025)

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, 23<sup>rd</sup> 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, 5<sup>th</sup> April – Gosfield Horticultural Society Spring Show  
Good Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Egg Hunt (playing field) and Club BBQ  
Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April – St. George's Day  
Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> April – ANZAC Day  
Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> May – early May bank holiday  
Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> May – VE Day celebrations (MR Hall, evening)  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May – VE Day celebrations (playing field, afternoon)  
Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Social Club 'Mini Beer Festival'  
Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> May – 'FORD' Ride-London Essex Cycle Event  
Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> May – spring bank holiday  
Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> July - Gosfield Village Fete  
Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> July – GHS Summer Show  
Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> September – GHS Autumn Show  
Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October – GHS AGM (Gosfield Social Club, 7 pm)

Chilly Dippers is on Fridays 12.30-1.30 and Sundays 8.30 and 9.00 – beginners will need an induction – booking in via FB @Gosfieldlakeopenswimming

### **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:**

We always welcome new volunteers so, if you would like to join an award-winning team, leave your details in the shop and our Volunteer Coordinator, Jo, will contact you to arrange training etc.

## CHAIRMAN'S NOTES:

It's been a busy month for the Parish Council and I am pleased to report that the fence at the top of the playing field has now been erected and is looking very smart.

VE Day is advertised in this magazine and we look forward to seeing you either on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> May at the Maurice Rowson Hall and then for the lighting of the beacon on the playing field, or on the playing field on the Saturday afternoon for a barbecue.

In readiness for this major event, we are having the top basket of the beacon replaced.

We would be very pleased to receive more articles for the Grapevine magazine which may be of interest to villagers. Please forward to our editor.

Finally, we are hoping to welcome some little visitors to the nature reserve in early May – please look out on Facebook and in the village shop for further details !

Tricia Edwards.



### **GOSFIELD COMMUNITY SHOP:**

Opening Times:

Monday to Saturday: 8 am to 4:30 pm

Sunday: 8 am to noon

### **GOSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

As you read this issue of the Grapevine, our first show of the year, on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April, will be imminent. As I write this, we are in a spell of warm sunny weather, and the daffodils are beginning to open. Will there be any left for the Show, or will they all be over; a question we ask ourselves every year ? The Muntjac aren't helping either; they have eaten all my tulips, destroyed the Bergenia, and had a nibble at several other plants.

In spite of it all, we hope for a good show. Schedules are available in the Village Shop and Social Club. Do please try and find an entry or two, or visit in the afternoon to view the show and enjoy tea and cakes.

#### **Ongoing planning applications for building works are as follows.**

Change of use from annexe and dwelling to a single dwelling, 6 Woodland Way Gosfield Essex CO9 1TH, Ref. No: 25/00373/FUL.

Self-Build Scheme - Change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3), and for associated operational development, Fallow View Barn Parkhall Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1SQ, Ref. No: 24/02733/FUL.



## GOSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL:

ROLE:	NAME:	CONTACT INFORMATION:
Parish Clerk	Diane Jacob	5 Crocklands, Greenstead Green, CO9 1QY <a href="mailto:parishclerk@gosfieldparishcouncil.org">parishclerk@gosfieldparishcouncil.org</a> 07907-631172
Chairman	Tricia Edwards	Home Farm House, CO9 1RZ <a href="mailto:tricia.edwards@gosfieldparishcouncil.org">tricia.edwards@gosfieldparishcouncil.org</a> 01787-472958
Vice Chairman	Bob Waters	21 Meadway, CO9 1TG <a href="mailto:bob.waters@gosfieldparishcouncil.org">bob.waters@gosfieldparishcouncil.org</a> 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 <a href="mailto:joanne.colyer@gosfieldparishcouncil.org">joanne.colyer@gosfieldparishcouncil.org</a> 01787-477808
Councillor	Tony Strudwick	17 Park Cottages, Gosfield, CO9 1TP <a href="mailto:tony.strudwick@gosfieldparishcouncil.org">tony.strudwick@gosfieldparishcouncil.org</a> 01787-473444
Councillor	John Willis	3a Gosfield Lake Park, CO9 1UG <a href="mailto:john.willis@gosfieldparishcouncil.org">john.willis@gosfieldparishcouncil.org</a> 07932-859061
Councillor	Tony Farrelly	White Ash House, Gosfield Road, CM7 5PA <a href="mailto:anthony.farrelly@gosfieldparishcouncil.org">anthony.farrelly@gosfieldparishcouncil.org</a> 07930-870688
Councillor	Richard Edwards	Home Farm House, CO9 1RZ <a href="mailto:richard.edwards@gosfieldparishcouncil.org">richard.edwards@gosfieldparishcouncil.org</a> 01787-472958

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

## PARISH PONDERINGS - FROM ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH

I cannot be the only person who finds the first three months of the year a struggle, with cold, grey days and long, dark nights? Over the last couple of weeks, though, we have had some beautiful bright mornings, with clear skies and sunshine, even if it has still been frosty. As we look around our gardens and the local countryside we can enjoy the welcome sight of the spring flowers, with daffodils, crocuses and snowdrops giving us hope that the warmer weather is on its way.

Within the church calendar we are marking the season of Lent, a time that mirrors the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness, after his baptism in the river Jordan. For Christians Lent is a time of reflection, waiting and hoping as we move towards the events of the Easter weekend – Jesus' arrest and trial, his life sacrificed on the cross for us all, and his glorious resurrection from the dead, on Easter Sunday.

Self-sacrifice is part of Lent, and many test themselves by giving up something they really enjoy – chocolate, cake or alcohol, perhaps. Remembering the sacrifice made by so many service personnel who gave their lives for our safety and freedom will also be the theme on May 8<sup>th</sup> when Gosfield, along with many other communities, will be celebrating the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Victory in Europe.

As we watch and listen to the news, though, it may seem that humanity has learned nothing from two world wars. Then I look at the diversity we see in Gosfield – the many different clubs, groups and pastimes people pursue - and, still, we have been able to come together to plan, and will celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day as an inclusive and united community. That, too, is worth celebrating. Would it not be amazing if that way of living could be emulated across the globe ?

May God bless you richly, Judy.

## ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH 50/50 CLUB

<b>February Winners:</b>	No. 31 Mr. D degnan	No. 26 Mr. D Bedwell
	No. 38 Mrs. K Hughes	No. 63 Mrs. Boyton
<b>March Winners:</b>	No. 45 Miss D. Richardson	No. 65 Mr. M Smith
	No. 56 Miss M Richardson	No. 108 Mrs. D Clary

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

**Village Post Office  
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### GOSFIELD YARNIES:

A Knitting and Crochet group.

Wednesday – 10am - midday

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



## 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 and other churches are as follows:

Day--Date →	Time →	Service →	Location¶
Sunday-6 <sup>th</sup> -April →	10.30 →	Holy-Communion →	St-Catherine's¶
Sunday-13 <sup>th</sup> -April¶			
<b>Palm-Sunday</b> →	10.30 →	Morning-Worship →	St-Catherine's¶
Thursday-17 <sup>th</sup> -April¶			
<b>Maundy-Thursday</b> →	7.30pm →	Holy-Communion →	St-Andrew's, Halstead¶
Friday-18 <sup>th</sup> -April¶			
<b>Good-Friday</b> →	2pm →	Hour-at-the-Cross →	St-Catherine's¶
Sunday-20 <sup>th</sup> -April¶			
<b>Easter-Day</b> →	10.30 →	Holy-Communion →	St-Catherine's¶
Sunday-27 <sup>th</sup> -April →	10am →	Halstead-Team-Holy→St-James',-Greenstead¶	Communion→ → Green¶
Sunday-4 <sup>th</sup> -May →	10.30 →	Holy-Communion →	St-Catherine's¶
Sunday-11 <sup>th</sup> -May →	10.30 →	Morning-Worship →	St-Catherine's¶
Sunday-18 <sup>th</sup> -May →	10.30 →	Holy-Communion →	St-Catherine's¶
Sunday-25 <sup>th</sup> -May →	10.30 →	Morning-Worship →	St-Catherine's¶
Thursday-29 <sup>th</sup> -May¶			
<b>Ascension-Day</b> →	7.30pm →	Three-Saints-Service→St-Andrew's, Halstead¶	

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

For those who prefer to access an online service, each Sunday at 10am Three Colnes Churches live stream via Facebook (The Three Colnes), or You Tube (HalsteadAreaTeam@halsteadareateam3650). There is also the Daily Hope phone line, which offers familiar hymns and prayers free of charge if you dial 0888-804-8044.

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



**Gosfield Grapevine Community Group**

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Your home is at risk if you do not keep up rent and mortgage payments.

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Applicants must be registered with on Share to buy, BPHA  
[www.sharetoobuy.com](http://www.sharetoobuy.com)

Applicants must live and/or work and have local connection to Braintree District Council

Priority will be given to serving military personnel.

Information correct as at March 2024.

The shared ownership property in Edmund Green has again become available. You should contact "Leaders" in Halstead on 01787-479947 if you are interested in this property.

## GOSFIELD CARPET BOWLS CLUB:

The club is fast approaching the end of the Essex CBA Winter League Program which will end on 31<sup>st</sup>. March 2025. At present we have one further match to play which will be at home against one of the potential league winner, Hunters. We will however finish our season program in mid table which will be a respectable position considering that we lost some of our experienced players during the season through illness, re-location and resignations.

All in all a very satisfactory season and one which will certainly encourage the membership to participate and improve within the next Winter League Program 2025/26.

During the summer period the Essex CBA. used to organise a Summer League and a series of Individual competitions e.g.:- Single, Dual, and 4 man team championships. These normally took place on a Sunday, lasting all day, and were often played in the Braintree Leisure Centre. These were well received by clubs and their members throughout Essex when the competition was fierce with twelve mats in play most of the day.

These events and competitions ceased during the COVID period but have fortunately been re-introduced recently but as yet Gosfield has not entered into any of the Summer competitions or League matches. However several members within the club have shown an interest in participating in the future, we shall wait and see.

The club will hold its annual Annual General Meeting on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March immediately after a round of bowling sets when we will select a New Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Management committee. Wendy and I, after serving for 11 years as Chairman and secretary, will be standing down from office, but still remain within the club as members. We have enjoyed our time as members of the committee and have enjoyed the company of many of the members of Essex CBA over the years.

We wish the new Chairperson and committee all our best wishes for the coming new season but look forward to playing within the ranks.

Paul Nicklin, Manager, Gosfield Carpet Bowls Club.

Dear Editor, I read the chairman's notes from last edition and noted comments regarding speeding, noisy manhole covers in and around the village. Has anyone else commented on the huge increase of HGV Lorry's now travelling through Gosfield / Sible Hedingham on their way to Haverhill and beyond utilising every body's friend Sat Nav. Although delivery vehicles to Gosfield / Sible H have to use the road there has been a very noticeable increase in Foreign and container lorry's now ploughing up and down using the road as a short cut. We may at some stage get the manhole covers up and down the road to the traffic lights at High Garrett repaired but how long will they last with the aforementioned increase in these HGV 44 Tonne movements.

Regards, Rob [G].

Congratulations to the Courtyard Brewery on their recent prize from CAMRA.

## GOSFIELD EASTER EGG HUNT

  
**Good Friday**

**11am to 1pm**

**£2.50 entry - egg for everyone!**



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Refreshments served in the Pavilion.

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**Gosfield Playing Field**

Organised by Gosfield Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers.



# 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	<a href="mailto:stephensudburygardens@gmail.com">stephensudburygardens@gmail.com</a>
Gosfield Girls Women's Institute	Janet Hull	07968-145599	<a href="mailto:gosfieldgirls.wiessex@aol.com">gosfieldgirls.wiessex@aol.com</a>
Gosfield Village Circle	Ann Willis	01787-274665	<a href="mailto:ann.willis2006@btinternet.com">ann.willis2006@btinternet.com</a>
Gosfield Community Shop	Brian Payne	01787-703787	<a href="mailto:thepaynes57@hotmail.com">thepaynes57@hotmail.com</a>
Gosfield Horticultural Society	Rebecca Westover	01787-477331	
Gosfield in Bloom	Mandy Adams	01787-273494	<a href="mailto:mandyladams@icloud.com">mandyladams@icloud.com</a>
Gosfield Fete Committee	Ian Scott	07798-753639	
Gosfield Open Gardens	Brian Payne	01787-473670	<a href="mailto:thepaynes57@hotmail.com">thepaynes57@hotmail.com</a>
Gosfield Playing Field & Pavilion	Ann Willis	01787-274665	<a href="mailto:ann.willis2006@btinternet.com">ann.willis2006@btinternet.com</a>
Rowson Perpetual Fund	David Jarvis	01787-474562	<a href="mailto:davjar33@gmail.com">davjar33@gmail.com</a>

# ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH:

Priest -Reverend	Katie de Bourcier	01787-478471	<a href="mailto:halsteadrector@gmail.com">halsteadrector@gmail.com</a>
PCC Secretary	David Degnan	01787-472291	
Church Wardens	Jo Colyer	01787-477808	
	Judy Paterson	01787-472514	<a href="mailto:judith_paterson@hotmail.com">judith_paterson@hotmail.com</a>
Wedding Co-ordinator	Rae Haylock	01787-472171	<a href="mailto:halsteadparish@gmail.com">halsteadparish@gmail.com</a>
Bell Ringing - Tower Captain	Laurence Carter	01787-472225	<a href="mailto:laurencejcarter@gmail.com">laurencejcarter@gmail.com</a>

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### **GOSFIELD NATURE RESERVE**

The nature reserve continues to be a place for dog walkers and others to enjoy, and the spring flowers are putting on a good show, with several large patches of snowdrops almost over, and the primroses just coming in to bloom. Sadly, Muntjac deer are busy destroying the excellent display of Male Ferns. Several dangerous, dead Alder have been felled this winter, some hazel coppice cut, and tree surgery to oak and ash along the footpath from Greenways have been reduced to remove potentially dangerous branches. One of the footbridges has also been repaired.

The Parish Council is in the process of updating the 5-year management plan. If you have any particular ideas about how the Nature Reserve might be improved, your comments will be welcomed.

The draft management plan can be viewed on the Parish Council web-site and comments can be sent by email to:

**parishclerk@gosfieldparishcouncil.org**

### **Bin Collections:**

Green circle – green bin [if paid], clear sacks and food bin

Grey square – grey bin and food bin

## **GOSFIELD VILLAGE ENTITIES**

### **SCHOOLS:**

Gosfield Primary School	Joanne Deaves (Head Teacher)	01787-472266	<a href="mailto:admin@gosfield-pri.essex.sch.uk">admin@gosfield-pri.essex.sch.uk</a>
St. Margaret's School	Carolyn Moss (Headteacher)	01787-472134	<a href="mailto:admin@stmargaretsprep.com">admin@stmargaretsprep.com</a>
Gosfield School	Rod Jackson (Principal)	01787-474040	<a href="mailto:enquires@gosfieldschool.org.uk">enquires@gosfieldschool.org.uk</a>

### **SPORTS CLUBS:**

Gosfield Carpet Bowls Club	Paul M Nicklin	01787-478269	<a href="mailto:paul.nicklin39@gmail.com">paul.nicklin39@gmail.com</a>
Gosfield Lake Golf Club	Tony O'Shea	01787-474747	<a href="mailto:office@gosfieldlakegolf.club">office@gosfieldlakegolf.club</a>
Gosfield Juniors Football	Mark Wiskin	07930-990013	
Gosfield United Football Club	Simon Fraser (Chairman)	01206-211470	
Gosfield Tennis Club	Richard Waters	07900-236754	<a href="mailto:gosfield-tennis@hotmail.co.uk">gosfield-tennis@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Gosfield Lake	Linda Turp (Office Manager)	01787-4785043	<a href="mailto:turps@gosfieldlake.co.uk">turps@gosfieldlake.co.uk</a>

### **PUB, CLUB and EVENTS HIRE:**

Maurice Rowson Hall	Amanda Degnan	07308-530638	<a href="mailto:rowsonhall@gmail.com">rowsonhall@gmail.com</a>
The Kings Head		01787-474016	<a href="mailto:info@kingsheadgosfield.com">info@kingsheadgosfield.com</a>
The Social Club	Becky	07960-014607	<a href="mailto:gosfieldsc@gmail.com">gosfieldsc@gmail.com</a>
The Apple Tree	Maxine and Keith	01787-477715	<a href="mailto:enquiries@theappletreegosfield.co.uk">enquiries@theappletreegosfield.co.uk</a>
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	<a href="mailto:John.Thorne@essex.police.uk">John.Thorne@essex.police.uk</a>
PSCO 70955	Jo Cooper	07812-068697	<a href="mailto:Joanne.Cooper@essex.pnn.police.uk">Joanne.Cooper@essex.pnn.police.uk</a>



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## What's on at the Social Club in April and May ?

### Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April (Good Friday)

Come along and enjoy a hot dog or two from the BBQ. Club will be opening at 7:30pm

### Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May and Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May,

The Social Club are pleased to be holding our first ever –

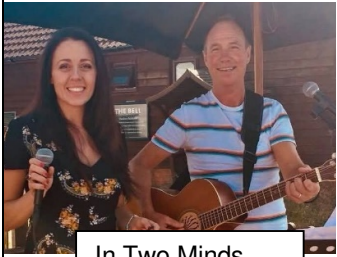
### Mini Beer Festival



We will have a selection of local draught beers and ciders to sample. Burgers and sausages from our popular BBQ will also be available on both days.

There will be live entertainment on both days. On Saturday, "In Two Minds", a local singing duo, will be providing the entertainment.

The club bar will be open to provide our usual range of drinks for anyone who isn't a beer or cider drinker.



In Two Minds

Doors open at 1pm on both days.

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)


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



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**01787 478789**



## GOSFIELD COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH TEAM:

Does the speed of traffic along The Street, Halstead Road, and Church Road bother you ?

Do you walk along the footpaths of any of those roads and feel intimidated by the excessive speed of some lorries, buses, and occasionally fast cars coming unnervingly close to you ?

If you're walking a dog or small child on the narrowest footpaths, it can sometimes feel as if you've just experienced a walk along the hard shoulder of a motorway.

The 30mph limit along the main village roads does get exceeded by a considerable number of drivers, especially closer to and during rush hour times.

Gosfield Community Speedwatch are looking for more volunteers to increase the number of speed watch sessions that are undertaken.

Online training is provided by Essex Road Safety. Help your village deter speeding on our roads.

Contact Shaun at:

**[sharris.sh01@gmail.com](mailto:sharris.sh01@gmail.com)**

## Gosfield Lawn Tennis Club

New members are welcome of all ages and standards.

Professional coaching sessions available.

Adult membership starts at £54 for the first year.

For more information, contact our Secretary, and look at our website:

**[www.gosfield-tennis.co.uk](http://www.gosfield-tennis.co.uk)**

### Gosfield (Mobile) Library

Route 2 - Nuns Meadow, Monday,

9:45 am to 10:15 am:

10<sup>th</sup> February

3<sup>rd</sup> March

24<sup>th</sup> March

14<sup>th</sup> April

16<sup>th</sup> June

7<sup>th</sup> July

### Library - Halstead - Braintree

(Not open public holidays)

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

9am to 5pm

9am to 6pm

Closed

9am to 6pm

9am to 5pm

9am to 5pm

Closed

9am to 7pm

9am to 5:30pm

9am to 5:30pm

9am to 5:30pm

9am to 5:30pm

9am to 5pm

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**

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**Call Gill, Guide Leader**

**On**

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**Or look online [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://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**

**07801 265603**

**Or look online [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)  
to register your daughter TODAY!**



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**Gosfield**

**80**

**VE Day**

Loran.S - WW2 singer

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**Saturday 10th May 1 to 5pm**

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## GOSFIELD PLAYERS..... IT'S ALL OVER!!!

Oh no it isn't .....Oh yes it is..... well it is for 2025's production of 'Strictly Sleeping Beauty' written and directed by Mark Bloomfield. A hilarious all singing all dancing panto, very loosely, based on the classic fairy tale, recently performed at the Maurice Rowson Hall. Alongside a sleeping maiden were flying fairies, a dancing Mohican wearing cowboy, Merryweather stretched to her limits, a stage invasion from a keen audience member plus a Strictly style dance competition finale (well I did say it was very loosely based on the fairytale). [Photo montage on page 25].

The Gosfield audiences didn't disappoint with grade 'A' heckling, singing, dancing and chanting 'He's behind you'. We had a blast performing for you and judging by some amazing comments on Facebook you enjoyed it too.

**"Great show! Two hours of fun and laughter!!"** *Ursula Crofts* ".....What a laugh. Brilliant singing, hilarious script. Such enthusiasm, and wonderful to see the younger members flourishing." *Lucy Harris* **"Thank you for great entertainment you wonderful bunch of troupers!"** *Prim Rayner*

The support of village residents and local businesses means so much. We could not do it without you all so a huge **Thank You!**

We're always on the look-out for new members. Not just to perform but working backstage with scenery changes, prompting, front door, promotion and selling raffle tickets. If you think you'd like to get involved with our fun group email our secretary Alison Fisk at [gosfieldplayers@gmail.com](mailto:gosfieldplayers@gmail.com) or come and chat to us at the Gosfield fete on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July. You can't miss us we'll be the ones in fancy dress.

**1<sup>st</sup> Gosfield  
Beavers, Cubs  
& Scout Group**



**Contact Steve Sudbury  
on 07885-467712, or:  
stephensudburygardens  
@gmail.com**

**1<sup>st</sup> Gosfield Scout Group**

**[www.1stgosfieldscouts.co.uk](http://www.1stgosfieldscouts.co.uk)**

We meet at Gosfield School in Halstead Road on Wednesdays Beavers (aged 6 to 8) 5.30 to 6.30, and Cubs (aged 8 to 10) 6.30 to 7.30

Scouting is open to both boys and girls, all are welcome.

We are in need of more leaders, in particular we would like to start up the Scout section again, aged 10 to 14 – anyone up for the challenge ?

Steve Sudbury Group Scout Leader.

## Rowson Perpetual Memorial Fund

Registered Charity Ref. No. 284176

### Annual Report for Year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

The Fund Trustees meet on the second Monday in the following months: February, May, August and November and applications for grants are required a minimum of two weeks before each meeting. To obtain an application form please either phone Dave Jarvis on 01787-474562, or email:

[davjar33@gmail.com](mailto:davjar33@gmail.com)

#### FINANCE, £:

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

#### Income for the year to: 31-12-2024

COIF Dividends	21,054.00
Bank Interest	3,725.07
<b>Totals</b>	<b>24,779.07</b>

#### Expenditure, £:

Grants made totalled	9,306.48
Expenses	20.18

#### Assests and Liabilities:

#### 31-12-2024

COIF Permanent Endowment Funds	765,944.84
COIF Accumulated Income Units	7,507.91
Bank balances as at 31-12-24	86,575.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>860,027.85</b>

#### **Please note:**

Liabilities (grants still to be paid) as of 31-12-2024 totalled £15,260. Therefore, end of year balance was reduced to £71,315.10.

#### Co-opted Trustees (5 year period): Nominated Trustees (4 year period):

Mrs M Adams  
Mr. D Jarvis  
Mr. M Smith  
Mr. M Ford  
Mr. A Mair

Parish Council nominated:  
Mrs. A M Pawsey  
Mrs. J Colyer  
Mrs. C Hough  
Mr. W H Pasfield (GPCC-nominated)

Prepared by Mr. W H Pasfield, Chairman

18<sup>th</sup> February, 2025.

## Gosfield Fete 2025

The new committee are continuing to work hard to put together another great Fete this year....and as always, we need your help !

Firstly, we are still accepting applications for the Fete Procession Queen/King plus princes and princesses, the closing date will be 13<sup>th</sup> April. Winners will be randomly drawn after that date and all applicants will be notified.

Every year we love to create the Fete programme using local children's art work, so get your creative heads on and ready your entry by 15<sup>th</sup> April please. The local schools have been notified, so pictures can be submitted through your classes.

We need help! On the Fete day (and the night before), we need many hands to ensure the event runs successfully, so if you are able to help us run a stall, put marquee tents up, guide traffic or just be on hand during the day to assist the committee in any way, we would love to hear from you !

Finally, our Fete Day raffle is always a successful fundraiser for the local community, and that is due to the generosity of local people and businesses donating some terrific prizes. If you have something wonderful to give, please let us know and of course any businesses or individuals will be credited.

For all of the above (except the artworks), please email:

**gosfieldfete@gmail.com**

## VILLAGE CIRCLE CLUB

Village Circle is going really well. We ended year 1st March 2024 to 28th February 2025 with 31 members and plenty of visitors and start this year with 30 paid up members already.

Our March meeting saw the return of Georgina Burr with her Move It or Lose It exercises so we were all taking part in a variety of exercises to improve balance. Next month's speaker, on April 17th will be Sharon Gould talking about Downs Syndrome and on May 15th a member of the Perrywood Garden Centres team will be giving us the history of the group who have just opened their 3rd nursery at Buckhatch, more or less backing on to RHS Garden Hyde Hall .

If you'd like to come and see what we do you'd be very welcome. We meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at The Maurice Rowson Hall in Church Road from 2 to 4 pm. Visitors fees are £3 including refreshments and membership is just £20 per year.

Please call Ann on 07773-140216 if you'd like to know more. We look forward to meeting you.

## Gosfield Open Gardens

Due to a lack of entries, there will be no Open Garden event this year.

Many stories were told in the village by the adults in those post war days, and children were seen but not heard. We heard a lot by just being seen in GOSFIELD and listening. The village was very much still a bomb site in PLACES and we knew of them because you were told NOT to go there, but some did. Recollections may vary. The village policeman was of the silent breed ...No sirens, a Bicycle with a rusty Bell little used. The look- out rarely heard him approach ears got boxed with a pair of leather gloves or if you are a girl the warning of " I know your Mother young lady sufficed"... Interrogation took place on the spot'. NOW then, where are the boys ? What boys sir? (They had of course done a runner across the field before a word was spoken). ..... ME? I was an intrepid lone explorer . Totally innocent but of course some Recollections may Vary.

Back to the present day and as always in Spring especially in March I think about the birthdate of one of the gang of village explorers Brian Williams. So do go sit on his memorial bench and glance about at this village. His family heritage was Pilgrims' and Newcombs' much a part of Gosfield Social History through centuries past. Did we ever break rules around the forbidden deep WELL ? Did we explore the back part of Dial House by the old laundry cottage in our search for the enemy behind the broken timbers ? NO of course not... However..... Recollections may 'WELL' Vary.

## “Anyone for a game of Pétanque ?”

A number of residents banded together to raise funds and organise having a petanque court made next to the pavilion on Gosfield Playing Field.

This has now been completed and is ready to be used and enjoyed by anyone wishing to play. The court is large enough to enable two matches to be played simultaneously. In the event of there being a queue to play, it would be appreciated if those on the court could limit their play to 2 games.

The court would not have been possible without the funding from The Maurice Rowson Trust and the support of the Parish Council and the playing field management committee who all deserve are grateful thanks. Lastly thanks to Matt Jarvis for investigating the construction and completing such a good job.

*(Pétanque sets will be available to purchase in the Gosfield Community Shop)*





## MEMORIES ...from LINDA. (Marlow, Richardson ) KEMP.

RECOLLECTIONS MAY VARY...as our much-lamented late Queen Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup> is quoted as saying. Whereas now it seems it was first uttered by Prince William's aide and later said to Her Majesty by (the then) Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge. However that's an example of a memory varying yet again and if so should one 'never' say anything about anything ever again? Acting on the side of caution perhaps, waving goodbye to debates, comments, opinions hearsay and LOCAL HISTORY.. which is sometimes also based on recollections. Possibly, but looking for the fact is sometimes a grey area. Am I Older and Wiser? YES and NO. Although it can be uncomfortable just sitting on the fence. I prefer to jump off...regardless of stinging nettles. Ouch.

I remember quite clearly my curly haired young sister screaming as my mother yet again tried to brush her hair "keep still or I will get a pair of scissors and cut your curls off "she told her.. Now my sister was still heaving with sobs and unable to toddle away, so I saved the day. I went to the sewing basket and picked up the scissors and started to snip at the curls. She would never have to go through that ordeal again, poor little mite. That's my story. The version that my mother told everyone probably even the milk man Mr Shadrack was that she left the room to take the kettle off the stove and returned to see my sister happily sat whilst I chopped her hair off because' I was jealous' of her curls. Recollections may vary.

My sister was half paralysed at 6months of age in 1950 from the Polio Epidemic that hit this area in the late 1940's early 50's. Halstead and villages had many casualties varying in severity. But it had created a protective instinct in me. Her tiny curled feet were nightly placed into straightening boots affixed to a metal bar and a nut tightened. Much to her great upset and groans of distress. A Great Notley Hospital's physio boot torture spanner was kept on a shelf downstairs but I could reach it easy enough. First though, my military training kicked in (recollections may vary). It was just after the war and we raiding parties were jumping off dead trees in the village and partially standing walls whilst wearing old Gas masks and parents uniform jackets and caps ..So with such experience I would creep down the stairs avoiding 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> creaking tread and cautiously push the lounge door open to reach the spanner to set her free. My brother (14 months older than me) taller and stronger but not a rule breaker (recollections may vary). muttered it was too much risk and returned to reading his Beano Comic. A smack was permitted parental punishment in those days. Our Head Mistress used a wooden ruler across the back of a leg, or hand.( It hurt for a while! so I'm told ) I digress...and SO Back to my night manoeuvres to rescue my poor sis. Many a good sleep she had thanks to my success. But getting the key back in place was the biggest risk as I replaced it onto the shelf just one time too many. My arm was part through the gap in the door and a rather big hand grabbed it and pulled me in. I had sight of trouser legs but my Father was a 6'4" ex CMP in the Army and after night missions in Italy he was wise to insurgents in the dark. Not I confess usually wearing PINK WINCYETTE PYJAMAS with ROSEBUDS on. It was a long way up to see his face so I meekly looked at the floor. Afterwards I ran into my brother's room and shouted ' I had a smack'... "SO" he replied you are used to it " I quietly left the room ...I think Mum ironed his crumpled Beano comic later.. Recollections may Vary . continued 24



## Our current shopping list 2025

### Food items

- Instant/packet Mash
- Instant Snacks i.e. Pot Noodle
- Packet Soup
- Canned Fish
- Jam

### Non food items

- Laundry Powder/Liquid
- Shampoo (male and female)
- Toilet Roll
- Washing Up Liquid
- Shower Gel (male and female)

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.



[braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/collection-points/](https://braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/collection-points/)



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## MAURICE ROWSON HALL – SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

**Church Road, Gosfield, CO9 1TL**

### **WHAT'S ON AT THE HALL IN APRIL AND MAY:**

#### **Regular bookings**

**Mondays:** Aerobics 9:15am to 10:15am Pilates 11:00am to 12:00pm Rainbows 4:30pm to 5:30pm

Brownies 6:00pm to 7:30pm Bowls 8:00pm to 10pm

**Tuesdays:** Yoga 9:45am to 11:30am Karate 6:00pm to 7:00pm Yoga 7:00pm to 8:30pm

**Wednesdays:** Wiggles and Giggles 10:00am to 11:00am Bowls 7:00pm to 9:00pm

**Thursdays:** Sunnydays Toddler Group 9.30am to 11.30am

**Fridays:** Pilates 10:45am to 11:45am Guides and Rangers 7:00pm to 8:30pm

**Sundays:** Dog Training 10.00am to 12:00pm Gosfield Players 4:00pm to 6:00pm

#### **Once-a-month bookings**

**Mondays:** Cuppa Club 2:00pm to 3:00pm (1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month)

**Thursdays:** Village Circle 2:00pm to 4:00pm (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month)

Gosfield Girls WI 7:30pm to 9:00pm (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month)

**Saturdays:** Craft Market 10.00am to 1.00pm (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month)

#### **One off bookings for April and May**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April.** Gosfield Horticultural Society's Spring Show starting at 2.00pm

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April.** Gosfield in Bloom Quiz Night. 7.00pm for 7:30pm start. £5 per head, teams of up to 8 people. For tickets contact Sally Amerio on 07586-309330. Bring your own nibbles and drinks.

**Thursday 8th May** Gosfield at War Talk by Andy Cox. 7.00pm start. Tickets £5 each from Community Shop. Profits to Essex Air Ambulance.

**Contact details for Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Bowls, Village Circle, Gosfield Girls WI and Gosfield Players can be found elsewhere in this Grapevine magazine.**

**For further information on the Rowson Hall, please contact the Booking Clerk, Amanda Degnan, on 07308-530638, or by emailing: rowsonhall@gmail.com**

**Free Wi-Fi available at the Maurice Rowson Hall courtesy of Gigaclear**

#### **Monday "Cuppa" Club**

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## PARISH COUNCIL WORKING BODIES:

Group / Committee:	Councillors:
Responsible Financial Officer	Richard Edwards
Nature Reserve	Strudwick
Allotment Officer	Farrelly
Footpaths	Colyer, Hough
Finance	Waters, Richard Edwards
Appeals	Colyer
Children's Play Area	Colyer, Hough, Pawsey, Strudwick
Planning	Waters, Pawsey, Farrelly, Colyer, Tricia Edwards
Car Park drainage/surfacing	Willis
Grapevine Editor	Alan Summerland
Tree Warden	Hough
Personnel Committee	Tricia Edwards, Farrelly, Waters
Neighbourhood Plan Committee	John Willis [Chairman], Tony Farrelly,
<a href="http://www.gosfieldneighbourhoodplan.org">www.gosfieldneighbourhoodplan.org</a>	Tony Strudwick, Bob Waters
Information, minutes and agendas:	<a href="http://www.e-voice.org.uk/gosfield">www.e-voice.org.uk/gosfield</a>

## MEMBERS OF OUTSIDE BODIES:

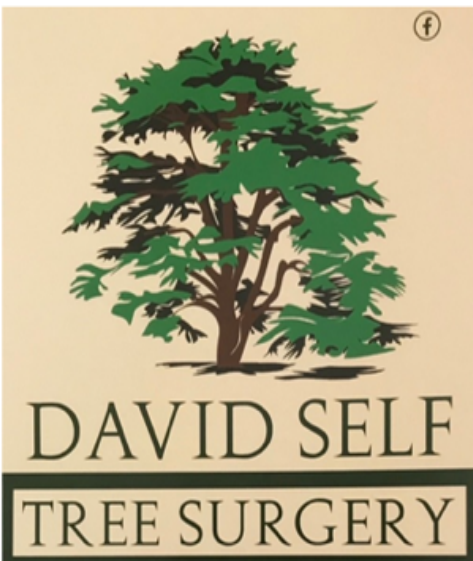
Braintree Association of Local Councils [BALC]	Tricia Edwards, Waters
Coffee Rooms Trust	Waters
Maurice Rowson Hall Management Committee	Strudwick
Rowson Perpetual Memorial Fund	Pawsey, Hough, Colyer
Playing Field Management Committee	T Edwards, Hough, Pawsey
Wethersfield Airbase Scrutiny Committee	Strudwick

<b>Member of Parliament:</b> Mr James Cleverly MP - or: Braintree Conservatives Association Office:	House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA <a href="mailto:james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk">james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk</a> Suite 11, The Centre, Lakes Industrial Park, Braintree, CM7 3RU
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<b>Essex County Councillor:</b> Cllr. Chris Siddall	Essex County Council, PO Box 11, CM1 1LX <a href="mailto:cllr.chris.siddall@essex.gov.uk">cllr.chris.siddall@essex.gov.uk</a> Office: 01376-562288
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<b>Braintree District Councillor:</b> Cllr. Peter Schwier Gosfield & Greenstead Green Ward	Long Fen, Great Maplestead, CO9 2RJ <a href="mailto:cllr.pschwier@braintree.gov.uk">cllr.pschwier@braintree.gov.uk</a> 01787-460473
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Membership £10 per year  
(£5 for seniors and juniors)  
Joint membership also available.



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## THE LAKES COURSE

### THE LAKES 18 HOLE COURSE

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.

Set in peaceful surroundings, 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.



### MEMBERSHIP

**New Members rates start January 1st 2025 - 15 Months of Membership for the price of 12!**

Lakes and Meadows courses offer great value for money for the regular golfer.

We cater for the newcomer and seasoned golfer offering a wide choice of opportunities for our members to join in and make the most of their Membership. You also get great benefits inc. England Golf Affiliation, Liability Insurance and Clubhouse Deals.

Our team will help new members to become involved with all aspects of the game making this New Year a great time to start.

**Call our Memberships team on 01787 474747**



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



## THE MEADOWS COURSE

### THE MEADOWS NINE HOLE COURSE

The Meadows Course is an outstanding course for the new and aspiring golfer. Regarded by many seasoned golfers as a challenging par 4 course, it is a great place to start your golfing journey.

Particularly suitable for the younger golfer, we have coached groups of Juniors regularly honing their skills on shorter tees.

It truly is a "Hidden Gem"...and is the perfect introduction to Golf.



### CLUBHOUSE

In the Clubhouse you will find a great selection of freshly prepared food choices. From Bar Snacks to full 3 Course Menu options to tempt the most discerning palate!

A warm welcome and great service completes a great experience - topped off with breathtaking views across the Lakes Course

### PRO-SHOP

Great range of products for the beginner to aspiring Golfer...Juniors especially catered for. Pop in and have a chat - upgrades and lessons. Regripping and maintenance of your gear is important too...let us look after you.



**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**