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### ROUTE 2

FEBRUARY 2026

3 10 17 24

MARCH 2026

3 10 17 24 31

### ROUTE 7

FEBRUARY 2026

3 10 17 24

MARCH 2026

3 10 17 24 31

# Gosfield Grapevine



St. Katherine's church resplendent in the snow [photo by Tony Sale] –  
new bell ringers urgently required [see herein]

Issue 123 – February -March (2026)

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, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2026**

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](mailto:grapevine@gosfieldparishcouncil.org)

### DATES TO NOTE:

Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>, February – MR Hall closed for redecoration

Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> February – Cuppa Club revised meet date

Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> February - Braintree Wildlife Trust (evening) [Molluscs]

Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> February – Gosfield Parish Council meeting [MR Hall]

Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February – Shrove Tuesday [pancakes]

Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> February – Village Circle Club

Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> February - Craft Fair

Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> March - Craft Fair

Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> March – Gosfield School Open Day

Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> March – Gosfield Parish Council meeting [pavilion]

Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> March – Mothering Sunday

Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March – Village Circle Club

Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March to Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup>, March – “The Players”

Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March - Gosfield Horticultural Society Spring Show

Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March – British Summer time begins

Good Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Easter Egg Hunt (playing field)

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.

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## CHAIRMAN’S NOTES, Tricia Edwards:

I am disappointed to have to report that we have had several incidents of vandalism to the pavilion toilets. Reports have been made to the Police and they are investigating based on CCTV evidence. In view of this, the toilets have been closed outside of shop hours. However, the Parish Council have since decided to open the toilets on a Sunday afternoon for the benefit of those attending football matches, using the children's play area, etc.

Our Parish Clerk reports and actively chases all reported potholes and blocked drains in the village. Our County Councillor, Chris Siddall, has been very proactive in attempting to expedite repairs which is a never-ending task, especially as the County Council have a system of temporary emergency repairs which do not last.

The Parish Council were successful in obtaining grants for specific improvement projects in Gosfield Nature Reserve and Westover Woodlands are currently carrying out this work with a view to completion by the end of March.

At this time of year, the Parish Council are tasked with reviewing expenditure in the parish and setting budgets for the forthcoming 2026/27 fiscal year. Full details of the budget will be on the Council website shortly. Please do take time to look at what is spent for the village and of course if you have any questions, please email the Parish Clerk.

The Parish Council have now awarded the contract for the resurfacing, etc, of the playing field car park and works will hopefully commence in early Spring. The Parish Council would like to thank the Rowson Perpetual Trust and Gosfield Community Shop for their pledges of financial support towards the cost of these works.

As part of the planning agreement for the development at the top of Meadway, the Parish Council will receive a transfer of land to the west of the site for use as community open space. Following the transfer, which will not take place until later in the year, the Parish Council will assume management of the land. In the meantime, the developers' contractors will still be responsible for its maintenance. However, following requests, the Parish Council have agreed to install a further dog poo bin and we would encourage all dog owners to pick up and use these.

I would bring to your attention again the fact that we do need two new Parish Councillors and if anyone at all has any interest in helping to run our wonderful village, then please do contact the Parish Clerk or myself for further information.

### GOSFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Spring Show Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2026, Maurice Rowson Hall

The days are getting longer, the snowdrops are in bud, and primroses, cowslips and aconites are all showing fresh new leaves; Spring is coming and it's time to get the garden ready for a new season of flowers, fruit and vegetables. Don't be too tidy though, because the birds and insects still need food and shelter.

By the time you are reading this, the schedule for our 2026 shows will be available in the village shop and social club, price £1. We are looking forward to a year of good gardening and well supported shows. See you there.

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## 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> 07894-577629
Councillor	Tony Strudwick	17 Park Cottages, Gosfield, CO9 1TP <a href="mailto:tony.strudwick@gosfieldparishcouncil.org">tony.strudwick@gosfieldparishcouncil.org</a> 07505-825635
Councillor	Richard Edwards	Home Farm House, CO9 1RZ <a href="mailto:richard.edwards@gosfieldparishcouncil.org">richard.edwards@gosfieldparishcouncil.org</a> 01787-472958
Councillor	* 2	<b>Volunteers needed !</b>

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

### Bin Collections:

Green circle – green bin [if paid], clear sacks and food bin;  
Grey square – grey bin and food bin

**The recycling bins - regime will change in June, 2026**

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

Hello everyone and Happy New Year.

Well, my first Christmas in the Three Saints parishes was fantastic. I met so many people, attended loads of community events, school activities, church services and saw a place that does Christmas well. Thank you for making my family and I so welcome.

Then of course we started to celebrate Epiphany - totally wonderful. Lots going on in the schools, house blessings and thinking about Ash Wednesday and Easter. Then I had a mini epiphany of my own. There is so much planning, so much thinking ahead, Easter eggs and summer holidays to think about that maybe we are missing the joy of right now.

It is widely believed that Christ's ministry lasted roughly three years, John's Gospel mentions three Passover festivals (John 2:13; 6:4; 11:55). Jesus didn't spend his time in meetings or pouring over faculty applications, he spent it with the people. He enjoyed being in the midst of real life, in the hard places, in the uncomfortable places, meeting people wherever they were and walking a metaphorical mile with them.

Obviously, as your priest the meetings and the planning are important. Looking ahead is vital if we are all going to arrive at church and find enough communion wafers. It is, however, also really important, and this is for us all, to enjoy the moment. Look at what God is doing right now. Jesus did a huge amount in three years and a lot of his "doing" involved chatting with people like the Samaritan woman at the well; he ate with people from tax collectors to close friends like Levi/Matthew and Marym Martha and Lazarus; he prayed with people think of Jairus and his family.

Yes, there is a huge amount of please in the planning but I challenge us all, and most of all me at the moment, to just stop and appreciate what is good - and if that feels like nothing for you come at the moment then come find me and let's have a chat over a cup of tea - and just breath in the heavenly scent of Jesus in this post Christmas period.

He had three years. We have our whole lives, the Ash Wednesday planning can wait one more day while I spend a bit of quiet time with God maybe in prayer or maybe just watching this sunset with the lady I have bumped into in the carpark just now.

Either way, in our human-ness, let's not simply live for tomorrow but take a moment for the joy of today.

God bless you all and I mean it about the tea and a chat.

Love Rev Sue



## GOSFIELD COMMUNITY SHOP:

Opening Times:

Monday to Saturday: 8 am to 4:30 pm

Sunday: 8 am to noon

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## 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 1 <sup>st</sup> February	10.30	Holy Communion	St Catherine's
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	10.30	Morning Worship	St Catherine's
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>TBA</b>	Holy Communion	St Catherine's
<b>Ash Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	19.30	Three Saints Service, St Andrew's, Halstead	
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	10.30	Morning Worship	St Catherine's
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	10.30	Holy Communion	St Catherine's
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30	Morning Worship	St Catherine's
<b>Mothering Sunday,</b>			
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>TBA</b>	Holy Communion	St Catherine's
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	10.30	Morning Worship	St Catherine's
<b>Palm Sunday,</b>			
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	10.30	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.

### Cuppa Club in February - Important information:

#### 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.



Due to the redecorating in the Maurice Rowson Hall during the first week of February, the Cuppa Club for this month has been moved to Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February.

We look forward to seeing you there.

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On

07801 265603

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

## PARISH COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS:

Group / Committee:	Councillors:
Nature Reserve	Strudwick, R. Edwards
Playing Field Management Committee	T. Edwards, Hough, Pawsey
Allotment Officer	Strudwick, R. Edwards
Footpaths	Colyer
Finance	R. Edwards - plus all other councillors
Appeals	Colyer
Children's Play Area	Hough, Strudwick
Planning	Waters, Pawsey
Grapevine Editor	Alan Summerland
Tree Warden	T. Edwards
Maurice Rowson Village Hall	Strudwick - to attend M R Hall meetings
Car Park drainage/surfacing	TBA
Wethersfield Scrutiny Committee	Strudwick - to attend WSC meetings
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
Coffee Rooms Trust	Waters
Rowson Perpetual Memorial Fund	Pawsey, Hough, Colyer

<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
<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
<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

**Village Post Office – Community Shop**  
Open on Wednesdays from 2 pm to 4 pm

## MAURICE ROWSON HALL – SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

### Church Road, Gosfield, CO9 1TL

### WHAT'S ON AT THE HALL IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH ?

#### Regular bookings

**Mondays:** Aerobics 9:15am to 10:15am, Pilates 11:00am to 12:00pm, Rainbows 4:45pm to 5:45pm, Brownies 6:00pm to 7:30pm, Bowls 8:00pm to 10pm.

**Tuesdays:** Yoga 9:45am to 11:30am, Hummingbird Hub 12pm to 5pm, Karate 6:00pm to 7:00pm. Yoga 7:00pm to 8:30pm.

**Wednesdays:** Wiggles and Giggles 9.30am to 11.00am, Fitness Class 6pm to 7pm Bowls 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

**Thursdays:** Sunnydays 9am to 12pm

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

**Sundays:** Players 4:00pm to 6:00pm

#### Once a month bookings

**Mondays:** Cuppa Club 2:00pm to 3pm (1st Monday of the month – see change)

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

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

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

#### One off bookings for February and March

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February.** Braintree Wildlife Trust (evening)

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February.** Craft Fair

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March.** Craft Fair

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March to Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March.** The Players. Please see separate article in the Grapevine for details of performance timings and how to purchase tickets.

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March.** Gosfield Horticultural Society Spring Show

**Please note.** The hall will be closed between Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February and Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February for internal re-decoration. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

**For further information on the Maurice Rowson Hall, please contact the Booking Clerk, Amanda Degnan, on 07308 530638 or by emailing [rowsonhall@gmail.com](mailto:rowsonhall@gmail.com)**

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Gosfield Grapevine



Community Group

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## Gosfield Lawn Tennis Club

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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)**

## THE GOSFIELD PLAYERS

The Gosfield players are back with this year's panto 'Oliver 'with a' Twist. They've 'panto-d' up the Charles Dickens classic, much to his disgust. Join Charles Dickens as he navigates through songs, jokes and dodgy accents all squeezed into a tale very, very, very, very loosely based on his infamous novel Oliver Twist.

**Shows are as follows:**

**Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm**

**Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2.00pm**

**Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> March 7.30pm**

**All tickets £12**

Scan the QR code [on page 31], visit the website or call the box office for tickets.

**\*Tickets will NOT be available in the village shop\***

We desperately need volunteers to help back stage on show nights. If you're available on our show nights and can come to rehearsals please get in touch via our email address below.

If you would like to see our dress rehearsal, so we have an audience to practice with please email. We'll be rough around the edges so we'll only be asking for a donation on that day. Dress rehearsal is Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March.

The Gosfield Players can't wait for you to see their show. They're sure you'll be asking for more. more, more !

**[gosfieldplayers@gmail.com](mailto:gosfieldplayers@gmail.com)**



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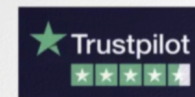
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## **GOSFIELD PITS NATURE RESERVE**

The new 5 year management plan has been adopted and published on the Parish Council web-site. Braintree District and Essex County Councillors are both giving financial support for work in the nature reserve this winter. In addition to the continuing clearance of fallen willows from the Horseshoe Pond, we have opened up seven fishing swims to improve access for fisherfolk. During the freeze in early January, the small thawed patches in the ice were teeming with black and silver fish around 15cm long, so there is something to catch.

Please do not hesitate to contact the warden or the Parish Council if you have any comments about the reserve.

N.B. Whilst clearing the Horseshoe Pond, we pulled out various items of litter, including four pieces of Vaping paraphernalia, all the same brand. Over the weekend of 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of January, an unknown person or persons disposed of their garden waste into the ditch beside the footpath from Greenfield into the Reserve. Garden waste can be composted or put into the green bin; placing it into a ditch is not acceptable, and may, if the ditch ever has to act as a drain, result in flooding. Please remember that littering is illegal.

---

## **Gosfield Fete Committee 2026**

Following our first team meeting of 2026, we've provisionally decided on a sports theme for this year's Fete. More details will be available soon !

**The date for your diaries is Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> July.**

Last year was a record-breaking Fete for stall numbers, so if you would like a stall this year or would like more details, please email us at:

**[gosfieldfete@gmail.com](mailto:gosfieldfete@gmail.com)**

Once we've confirmed the theme, we'll be asking all the local children to submit their finest artwork for the programme cover...we'll let all the schools know in good time to give everyone a chance to enter !

Being a rural village, we still find it amazingly hard to secure a flatbed tractor/lorry/trailer combo for our Fete Royalty to lead the procession. If you know anyone who could provide this for us on the day (it's just a short journey from Gosfield School to the Playing Fields at 5mph), please get in touch on the email address above.

And as ever, we are looking for volunteers on the day to man our stalls, put up tents, direct traffic and generally help to make the day special. The committee and the helpers work incredibly hard behind the scenes to put this wonderful event together, so if you are able to lend a hand, we'd love to hear from you !

**We'll be back with much more info in the next Grapevine !**

***Gosfield Fete Committee***

## **Gosfield Guides**



**Places available for Girls aged 10-14**

**Meet on a Friday 7.00pm-8.30pm**

**Term time only**

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## **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!**

---

## **VILLAGE CIRCLE CLUB**

Village Circle ended 2025 with a lovely Christmas lunch for just over 30 of us at the Golf Club. Good company, super food plus entertainment provided by the head chef! What more could you wish for in the run up to Christmas.

2026 began with our 1<sup>st</sup> ever January meeting at the request of our members. 25 members and visitors joined us in a social afternoon playing a variety of different games including UNO, bingo, scrabble, snakes & ladders, sequences and Crazy Apes! A great meeting with everyone catching up on each other's news, drinking tea or coffee and eating cake and a raffle to complete the afternoon.

Our February meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> will be our AGM plus a talk from Cherry Mullins on Tales of a Tour Manager and on 19<sup>th</sup> March, Peter Tatum will be with us again with a talk on The Old Vicarage at Granchester.

If you'd like to join us, we'd love to see you. Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month from 2pm to 4pm in The Maurice Rowson Hall, Church Road, Gosfield and if you'd like more information just call Ann on 07773-140216.

### MEMORIES and such like from LINDA. (Marlow, Richardson) KEMP

Firstly, my condolences to the Tutton family but I think Josie is twirling her skirt jiving with Buster once again. I also offer condolences to Mary Hull and family on the recent death of Sam. One of the village men always willing to be there helping. Mary Cottam once lived in Meadow and has now gone to fly with her late husband JACK high above the clouds someplace. My condolences to Lesley and family.

JACK first arrived in this village during WW2. He was in GOSFIELD with the 575 Squadron Down Ampney that took off for Gosfield on March 21st '45 for OPERATION VARSITY on 24th March 1945...Jack fell in love with the village and vowed to live here one day and did just that. Daughter Lesley attended our Primary school and her Dad could be seen flying his model aircraft on the land his unit once flew from. RIP Mary last but one of the Tuesday snooker widows as they called themselves.

Much younger is the death of Eric Metson. My brother was in his class at Gosfield Primary school. I will write more about the long connection his Metson ancestors had with the area another time. Condolences go to his sister Daphne and family. His Aunt Ruby was my Aunt Iris' best friend from their first day at Gosfield Primary school in 1932 until Ruby predeceased her several years ago. But I had driven Aunt and another of their school friends over 200 miles to re-unite, it was a special 2-day visit and a pleasure to do for them.

,,,Continuing from the previous issue 122. Is the story of the evacuee family ' in their sons' own words ...//...during the war MAURICE ROWSON a local bloke used to come to the Village Hall and teach us boys and girls to Dance on Friday evenings. On Saturdays most of us got together after finishing work around lunch time to play Cricket in summer and Football in winter usually against another village. In the evening we'd catch a bus to a local Cinema. We couldn't stay out late as the last bus then was 8.30 unless we used Shanks' pony (walked), but several miles and NO LIGHTS was dodgy during 'black out rules'. Sometimes we could go fishing in the Lake or get into the old Pavilion Shed for a game of cards. There were rarely any lads about from 18 yrs of age as they'd been called up. There was a magazine called HOBBIES WEEKLY it often gave ideas of things to build with scraps of wood... we could get the wood easily and so I carved airplanes and painted them. Good to do.

One night some lorries trundled right up by our Lodge. It was 1943. They had blazing headlights. SO much for 'blackout.' but they were Americans. They soon learned though. They had come straight from a Troopship and were A CONSTRUCTION UNIT. Within a couple of days, they started to excavate the narrow drive between the two lodge houses. Never in my life had I seen so much equipment as they used to build a roadway. As this was going on they also built a BRICK SENTRY BOX on the WALL of the other lodge so they could observe all comings and goings beyond that point. As we lived opposite we effectively were then on the American base ! The work got more intense, more lorries (sorry TRUCKS), more equipment and everyone wondering what exactly was going on. Communication. News travelled slow then days. It turned out to be an AIRBASE for the 410 Bomber Group flying HAVOCS and BOSTONS. As time went on. they asked for Local workers. My brother Fred was leaving school, age 14 and my Dad was looking for work away from Docks so both of them started working for the Air Ministry with the Americans. Continued 14

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### Your Village needs your involvement to help improve Gosfield for future years.

The Parish Council would like to invite applications from members of the public to fill two vacancies within the Parish Council. We are a vibrant and democratic Council, if you would like to be involved and contribute to your parish, please contact in the first instance for more information: -

Mrs Diane Jacob, Gosfield Parish Clerk, e-mail  
[parishclerk@gosfieldparishcouncil.org](mailto:parishclerk@gosfieldparishcouncil.org)

Telephone 07907-631172

## Community Agents Part of the Essex Wellbeing Service

Community Agents provide support to individuals in order to maintain independence living in their own home. We can help anybody over the age of 18 that is in particular need of a home visit in order to source the support needed.

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**Please call EWS direct 0300 303 9988**

Please note you must have the person you are referring's permission. Lines open Monday to Friday 8am-7pm and Saturday 9am-12pm.



### MEMORIES, continued:

Dad having been 30 yrs in the building trade was made foreman. We were now recognised by all base personnel and Dad was called 'POP' and even by the village folk in the Kings Head. There being a limited war time bus service there was a good market in BIKES ....but ... well .... More about that next time ///

We shall resume the tale in Issue 124 with hopefully, dear villagers, many sightings of Snowdrops. Celandines, Aconites and Crocus'. Hyacinths and Daffs too probably by late March, Violets and then Primroses. Sticky Buds too.

OH... SPRING TIME. I hear my forebears crying out 'PATIENCE LINDA, PATIENCE it's a VIRTUE'. Indeed it is and speaking of the virtuous ... 'Welcome' to the new 'Team Vicar' The Rev. Sue.

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



Contact Steve Sudbury  
on 07885-467712, or:  
[stephensudburygardens@gmail.com](mailto:stephensudburygardens@gmail.com)

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

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

At the moment the Beavers and Cubs are not meeting in Gosfield, but the 1<sup>st</sup> Gosfield Scout group is still open. Scouting is open to both boys and girls, all are welcome.

We will be reviewing the situation, probably around Easter.

All the Beavers and Cubs have been transferred to other local groups, Castle Hedingham, Halstead and Braintree.

This is due to a lack of leaders. We desperately need new leaders to volunteer to help run the group. If this could be you, please contact Steve Sudbury on e-mail:

**[stephensudburygardens@gmail.com](mailto:stephensudburygardens@gmail.com)**

#### Gosfield (Mobile) Library

Route 2 - Nuns Meadow, Monday,

9:45 am to 10:15 am:  
2<sup>nd</sup> February  
23<sup>rd</sup> February  
16<sup>th</sup> March  
27<sup>th</sup> April  
18<sup>th</sup> May  
8<sup>th</sup> June

#### Library - Halstead - Braintree

(Not open public holidays)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9am to 5pm	9am to 5pm	Closed	9am to 6pm	9am to 5pm	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	9am to 5pm	Closed



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## Hedge and Tree Pruning – Cutting:

Most trees and hedges by roads are on privately owned land.

Landowners are reminded that trees, hedges, ditches and other vegetation close to the highway needs to be maintained with summer drawing to a close.

Overgrown vegetation can prevent roads and paths from being safe when wetter weather, and shorter days draw near, blocking paths and restricting clear view of the highway.

Grass cut in wet conditions can also lead to clumps being deposited by lawnmowers onto highways. Therefore, grass cutting is ideally carried out when the weather is drier.

Landowners are responsible for maintaining foliage on their land, even if it is close to a road or pavement. They have a duty of care to take reasonable steps to prevent risk.

Overgrown vegetation can restrict paths, reduce sight, and cause floods when ditches and drains become clogged.

Now bird nesting season is over, landowners should carry out work such as:

- removing overhanging branches that obscure the view of the road
- removing overhanging branches that lower the road's clearance for tall vehicles, such as double-decker school buses
- trimming or removing trees that are in danger of falling onto the pavement or road
- removing overgrown shrubs that block lighting or traffic signs
- clear trenches on private property to prevent flooding when it rains

**Residents with hedges abutting the pavements:** please ensure that hedges, etc, do not encroach onto the pavements/roads to help ensure clear visibility on our roads and footpaths for pedestrians and road users alike.

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

<b>December Winners:</b>	No. 44 Mrs. P Rayner	No. 130 Mr. C Hough
	No. 108 Mrs. D Clarry	No. 163 Mrs. B Wilkin
<b>January Winners:</b>	No. 3 Mr. M Richardson	No. 39 Dr. J Patterson
	No. 38 Mrs. K Hughes	No. 53 Mrs. R Smith

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

## Gosfield Girls WI

If you have an interest in joining us, then please come along for a taster session – first one is free! We meet for 11 months of the year at the Maurice Rowson Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. We hope you can come along. All ladies are welcome.



# 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,  
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name the Easter Bunny and more!  
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## GROUPS, SOCIETIES AND COMMITTEES:

Toddler Group	Emma	07872-916917	
Gosfield Players	Alison Fisk		<a href="mailto:gosfieldplayers@gmail.com">gosfieldplayers@gmail.com</a>
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	Joanne Hedley	07749-472832	
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 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	Sue Goldsmith	01787-478471	<a href="mailto:halsteadrector@gmail.com">halsteadrector@gmail.com</a>
PCC Secretary	TBC		
Church Wardens	Jo Colyer	07894-577629	
	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>

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

**New ringers required urgently !**

## Gosfield Parish Council

Future scheduled meeting dates, subject to the Parish Council being quorate, however, check website for agenda to confirm dates, start time 7.15pm

**23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026** (Annual Parish Assembly – In the Pavilion)

**20<sup>th</sup> April 2026** (In the Pavilion)

**18<sup>th</sup> May 2026** (In the Pavilion)

**22<sup>nd</sup> June 2026** (In the Pavilion)

**20<sup>th</sup> July 2026** (In the Pavilion)

**17<sup>th</sup> August 2026** (In the Pavilion)

**21<sup>st</sup> September 2026** (In the Pavilion)

**19<sup>th</sup> October 2026** (In the Pavilion)

**16<sup>th</sup> November 2026** (In the Pavilion)

**14<sup>th</sup> Dec 2026** (In the Pavilion)



## Our current shopping list

2026

### Food items

- UHT/Long Life Milk
- Teabags 40's/80's
- Sponge puddings
- Tinned/packet custard
- Sugar 500g
- Tinned tomatoes

### Donate money

We are having to buy food to fill our food boxes. A monetary donation will help us to do this. Search for us on JustGiving





## SLOW DOWN FOR GOSFIELD

**Help keep our community safe, quiet, and friendly.**

### Do you worry about the speed of traffic through our village?

We are looking for local volunteers to join our **Community Speedwatch (CSW)** team. Speedwatch is a peer-led initiative designed to educate drivers, reduce road risk, and improve the quality of life for everyone living here.

### Why we need YOU:

- **Protect our residents:** Help make the roads safer for children, elderly residents, and pets.
- **Support local riders:** Make our lanes safer for cyclists and horse riders.
- **Reduce Noise:** Slower traffic means a quieter, more peaceful village.
- **Gather Evidence:** Our data can help the Parish Council lobby for additional permanent traffic-calming measures.

### How it works:

1. **Full Training:** You'll receive brief, professional training online from Essex Road Safety working on behalf of Essex Police
2. **Safety First:** We always work in teams of minimum of three at risk-assessed locations.
3. **No Confrontation:** We don't stop cars or engage with drivers. We simply record speeds and plate numbers.
4. **Education over Punishment:** Most speeding drivers receive an educational letter, not a fine, unless they are repeatedly speeding. It's about changing habits!

### "I'm busy—how much time does it take?"

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

*"We aren't looking to catch people out; we're looking to bring the community together to make our home a safer place to live"*

## GOSFIELD VILLAGE ENTITIES

### SCHOOLS:

Gosfield Primary School	Mrs. Bower (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	
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			

### 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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*Knowing Every Child ■ Nurturing Potential*







## Open Morning

### Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March

### 9.45am

 01787 474040  
 [admissions@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:admissions@gosfieldschool.org.uk)  
 [www.gosfieldschool.org.uk](http://www.gosfieldschool.org.uk)



**Register Here**

# DISCOVER



## 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.



**GOLFSHAKE.COM**

**50 Hidden Gem Golf Courses to Play in England**

**"Perhaps the perfect golf club.**

**Fourth time playing this Sir Henry Cotton  
designed course in glorious Essex countryside.**

**Lucky enough to enjoy it in fabulous  
early April sunshine."**

### WINTER WARMERS



Enjoy a Bacon, Sausage and Egg Bap or a Full English Breakfast and 18 Holes of Golf on the Lakes Course for a great price!

**Coffee/Tea  
Breakfast Bap  
&  
18 Holes  
Lakes Course  
£32.00**

**Coffee/Tea  
Full English  
&  
18 Holes  
Lakes Course  
£37.00**

### MEMBERSHIP

**New Members 2026**

**Get 15 months Membership for  
the price of 12...at 2025 prices!**

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.

Call our Memberships team on 01787 474747

# HIDDEN GEM



## 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

**Happy NEW Year**

Now taking bookings for your New Year event in January & February.

With space for lots of cars and over 100 guests we can accommodate every type of event...from family to work.

Call the Clubhouse on 01787 474400

**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**