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ROUTE XX

ROUTE 11

June 2026				July 2026			
2	F		R	7	F	G	W
9	F	G		14	F		P
16	F		W P	21	F	G	
23	F	G		28	F		W R
30	F		R				

Gosfield Grapevine



Tranquil reflections on Lake Anney.

Issue 125 – June-July (2026)

Gosfield Parish Council

**F – Food Waste; G – Garden Waste; W – General Waste;
 P - Paper and Card Waste; R – Recycled Mixed Waste**

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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

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

Friday, 24th July, 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

DATES TO NOTE (see also page 39):

Saturday, 20th June – Summer Fete (Gosfield School)

Sunday 21st June - Summer Solstice

Sunday, 21st June - Father's Day

Monday, 22nd June – GPC Meeting

Saturday, 4th July – Gosfield Fete

Saturday, 18th July – GHS Summer Show

Monday, 20th July – GPC Meeting

Sunday, 26th July – 'born2tri' Gosfield Multi-Sport Triathlon

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

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ACCESS CODE:

What3Words

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

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES, Tricia Edwards:

It's good to see that Spring may have finally arrived and very pleasing how many young people are using the skate ramp. Also, good news in that the Parish Council have added a further picnic bench in the children's play area and the Parish Council have also commissioned two chainsaw sculptures to be created from the two oak trees which have to be cut down in the children's play area as they are dying. We look forward to seeing Paddington Bear in the near future!

The Parish Council continues to be very active. We have already contacted our new County Councillor, Isi Rocha, about all the highways issues that we are experiencing and also to again request consideration of a zebra crossing in The Street.

Now the weather has improved, the planned works for draining to the playing field will start in early June. This may unfortunately involve the closure of part or all of the playing field and will clearly cause inconvenience to users but please bear in mind it will only be for a short period and there are substantial gains to be achieved from these works. Also, to let everyone know these works are being undertaken at no cost to the Parish Council as the works are being funded from development moneys which we cannot use for any other project other than this.

Immediately following the drainage works, it is planned that the car park improvement works will take place and again, for a short while, there will be inconvenience here but works are planned so that our community village shop will be open as usual.

The Parish Council have been approached by Gosfield United Football Club, which have both a men's and ladies' team, to discuss some exciting collaborative projects, one of which is the installation of an InPost parcel locker service, a survey for which is being carried out at the end of May.

Residents will notice shortly the installation of a gate on the track from Halstead Road to the Gosfield Nature Reserve. Hopefully this will prevent the overnight camping and resultant issues that have been experienced recently. This will of course not prevent walkers and also visitors accessing the nature reserve car park.

To finish, can I please make two requests. The first being to residents to remove overgrown vegetation from the pavements in front of their properties. This is becoming a health and safety issue again as pavements are becoming too narrow to use. Secondly, the Parish Council still have two vacancies which it would like to fill. The maximum commitment is currently to attend eleven meetings and to offer your input and opinion on matters affecting the village. Anyone interested, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Ongoing planning applications for building works are as follows:

Proposed solar panels to the roof 11, The Lindens, Gosfield Halstead Essex CO9 1GW, Ref. No: 26/00943/HH.

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 07894-577629
Councillor	Tony Strudwick	17 Park Cottages, Gosfield, CO9 1TP tony.strudwick@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 07505-825635
Councillor	Richard Edwards	Home Farm House, CO9 1RZ richard.edwards@gosfieldparishcouncil.org 01787-472958
Councillor	* 2	Volunteers needed !

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

Bin Collections:

Welcome to the new bin collection regime

PARISH PONDERINGS - FROM ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH

Saturday, the 2nd of May, saw the first of the Three Saints Parishes weddings take place at St Catherine's, Gosfield.

The forecast for a day of rain was washed out by the beautiful sunshine and the church was packed with the lovely family and friends of Lauren and Harry.

Lauren was stunning in a really wonderful gown and the most incredible train and Harry oozed confidence and charm. The bridesmaids and flower girl were very pretty and Olivia, one of the bridesmaids, read a poem with such confidence it earned her a round of applause.

The bride was given away by her son, Nick, who did an excellent job at navigating the dress, the walk and holding his mother's arm.

All of this was accompanied by the fabulous string quartet - Oakwood. It was hard to believe the music wasn't coming from a highly manipulated studio recording.

As I drove home, I thought about my own wedding day and marriage in general. Hollywood always makes marriage seem like the goal. You know the type of thing: girl and guy meet; things go wrong; they get back together because true love cannot be denied. The reality of marriage is something quite different.

There is the quiet growing together; the love that becomes something far more than just butterflies in the stomach; the knowing that you have someone who is in your team and can be relied on. Now I am starting to sound like one of those romcoms I just mentioned.

As many of you will know, my father died on the 25th April. He and my Mum were married for 65 years. Really quite incredible. It would be a lie to say they never had a row, or that Mum never gave Dad the 'silent treatment' or that things never went wrong, of course they did - just like they have in my marriage and in yours as well I am guessing.

In spite of all that, the memories I have of their marriage and of mine tend to be the happy ones - the laughter, the family jokes, the holidays and Christmas', the family meals and watching TV together. The ordinary things that made us family.

The glitz and glamour of yesterday's lovely wedding will fade but the love we saw in that couple's faces will grow. They have God with them, their friends and families and all of us as their Christian family and so do we! Whether we made our vows recently or years ago the love of God is still with us and always will be.

So, to those preparing to get married and to all of us that are already married and those of us that aren't married, or are divorced, or have loving partners that we aren't married to, may God hold you in his loving arms and bless you with the richest of his blessings.

Amen. God bless you all, Rev Sue Goldsmith.

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 7 th June	10.30	Holy Communion	St Catherine's
Sunday 14 th June	10.30	Morning Worship	St Catherine's
Sunday 21 st June	11am	Holy Communion	St Catherine's
Sunday 28 th June	10.30	Morning Worship	St Catherine's
Sunday 5 th July	10.30	Holy Communion	St Catherine's
Sunday 12 th July	10.30	Morning Worship	St Catherine's
Sunday 19 th July	11am	Holy Communion	St Catherine's
Sunday 26 th July	10.30am	Morning Worship	St Catherine's

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.

Become a member of The Friends of St. Catherine's Church.

The Friends of St. Catherine's Church is registered with the Charity Commission with funds invested funds, the interest on which we use to help support the upkeep of the Church and Churchyard.

Sadly though, over the years, the membership has dwindled somewhat and we are now appealing for more members to join us in our work for the Church. Single Members pay an annual fee of £10, whilst joint membership costs £20 and that's it! You won't be asked to do any fundraising or tin rattling though you may be invited to join the committee if you'd like to. The Friends meet on a quarterly basis, including our Annual General Meeting, to consider any requests for funding from the PCC (Parochial Church Council). If you'd like to know more about us or would like to join us please contact the secretary, Ann Willis by email at:

ann.willis2006@btinternet.com

or call 07773 -40216. We look forward to hearing from you.

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PARISH COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS:

Group / Committee:	Councillors:
Nature Reserve	Strudwick, R. Edwards
Playing Field Management Committee	T. Edwards, Hough, Strudwick
Allotment Officer	Strudwick, R. Edwards
Footpaths	Colyer
Finance	R. Edwards, T. Edwards, Waters
Appeals	Colyer
Children's Play Area	Colyer, 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	R Edwards, Strudwick, Waters
Wethersfield Scrutiny Committee	Strudwick - to attend WSC meetings
Information, minutes and agendas:	www.e-voice.org.uk/gosfield

MEMBERS OF OUTSIDE BODIES:

Braintree Association of Local Councils [BALC]	Tricia Edwards
Coffee Rooms Trust	Waters
Rowson Perpetual Memorial Fund	Pawsey, Hough, Colyer

Member of Parliament: Mr James Cleverly MP - or: Braintree Conservatives Association Office:	House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk Suite 11, The Centre, Lakes Industrial Park, Braintree, CM7 3RU
Essex County Councillor [Halstead]: Cllr. Isi Rocha	Essex County Council, PO Box 11, CM1 1LX cllr.isi.rocha@essex.gov.uk Office: TBC
Braintree District Councillor: Cllr. Peter Schwier Gosfield & Greenstead Green Ward	Long Fen, Great Maplestead, CO9 2RJ cllr.pschwier@braintree.gov.uk 01787-460473

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WHAT'S ON AT THE HALL IN JUNE AND JULY ?

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 10:00pm.

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' 9:00am to 12:00pm

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

Once-a-month bookings:

Mondays: Cuppa Club 2:00pm to 4:00pm (1st Monday of the month)

Thursdays: Village Circle 2:00pm to 4:00pm (3rd Thursday of the month)

Gosfield Girls WI 7:30pm to 9:00pm (3rd 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:

Saturday 18th July. Gosfield Horticultural Society Summer Show

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

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GOSFIELD FETE

We are just a few weeks away from our fantastic fete, on Saturday 4th July. The Committee have been beavering away to get things into place, and we're all looking forward to yet another brilliant village event!

Our Fete Royalty has been decided. The Fete Queen this year will be Darcie Archer, and she will be joined by two princesses, Sophia May & Tillie Mackshea. We are still looking for suitable transport for the leading ladies so if anyone can provide a flatbed truck or trailer on the day, please get in touch!

As always, we can't do it without you and your valued help...we are looking for volunteers both on the Friday evening (3rd) to help erect all the tents for the big day, and on the Saturday to help us man the committee stalls and generally help out with the smooth running of the day. Get in touch via email at gosfieldfete@gmail.com

We need cakes! If you're a keen baker and would be happy to donate your tastiest efforts, please bring your baked goods to the Playing Fields Tea Room tent at 10.30am on the morning of the fete. We would be so grateful as these are always popular with the fete goers and last year we ran out very quickly indeed!

We need crockery too ! Not to serve the cakes upon, but to smash to smithereens! So clear out those old plates and let us know where we can collect from, and we'll add them to the best therapy stall in the UK, the Crockery Smash!

Finally, we would dearly appreciate if you could bring cash with you this year for all the stalls and tents. Whilst the games are cash only, the bar and BBQ have previously been able to accept cards, but we experienced problems with 4G signals last year so please try to pay in cash where you can.

See you all very soon! Gosfield Fete Committee.

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GOSFIELD CARPET BOWLS CLUB

The club continues to meet twice a week throughout the year, on a Monday and Wednesday evenings in the Maurice Rowson Hall. Our membership continues to remain steady at around 22 members

The club did not take part in the Essex Carpet Bowls Winter League this winter due in part to the large distances between member clubs where driving at night, particularly in the Winter, could be difficult. Several league games were played where members had to drive for up to 45 minutes in the dark with poor visibility and potentially bad weather. As a club we miss the competition and in particular the meeting with other clubs that we do not normally meet in non-league games.

However, the club is now in contact with a number of clubs close to Gosfield with whom we now play a series of "friendly" matches on an away and home arrangement which is proving to be very enjoyable and competitive.

It is important that we continue to meet and play other clubs in order to maintain a high standard of play. Whilst we do not play as a club team in the Essex County Carpet Organisation, we do encourage members to play within the Essex CCC individual championship events. At present we have a number of members who do play in these individual competitions and they are able to pass on to other club members some of the skills necessary for competitive individual and league events.

Our club continues to meet and play other clubs within our area which maintains a high standard of play enabling the club to enjoy both regular club nights and, for those wishing higher standards of play, to enjoy individual competitive events.

Should you wish to try your hand at playing Carpet bowls please contact the club during the club night on a Monday evening within the Maurice Rowson Hall after 8:00pm.

Paul M Nicklin, Gosfield Carpet Bowls Club.

VILLAGE CIRCLE CLUB

For our meeting at Village Circle on the 16th April, Gaynor Edwards visited us with some examples of her stained glass.

Lorraine Ely entertained us at our May meeting on the 21st with songs from the musicals, both old and newer, along with some brilliant reading of a couple of Pam Ayres' poems and Amanda Sutherland will be returning on June 18th but with a different subject this time as she has recently qualified as a hypnotherapist.

Do come and join us if you'd like to enjoy a friendly afternoon with good entertainment and tea/coffee and cake! Just come in on the 3rd Thursday of the month to The Maurice Rowson Hall, Church Road from 2 to 4pm. Visitors fees are £3 which includes refreshments. If you'd like to know more, please call Ann on 07773-140216.

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DOG PLAYGROUND
FARM SETTING

Happy dogs, happy tails!

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

07801 265603

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

07801 265603

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

ABSORBENT HYGIENE PRODUCTS [AHP]:

This free service is available to eligible kerbside households where nappies, continence or other absorbent hygiene products are used regularly and additional non-recyclable waste capacity is needed. The service has been introduced to provide practical support to residents and to help manage waste more effectively. Key points are:

- The AHP service provides a separate, free collection of absorbent hygiene waste using council-issued sacks where additional non-recyclable waste capacity is needed.
- AHP waste is collected two out of every three weeks: once in the week before the grey bin is collected, and again on grey bin week.
- AHP sacks can also be placed inside the grey bin on the normal refuse collection day where there is space and the lid can fully close.
- The service is optional and households can continue using their grey bin if they have sufficient capacity.
- The service has been designed to be discreet and dignity-focused.
- Residents must apply for the service; it is not provided automatically.
- The service is aimed at supporting households who generate higher levels of non-recyclable waste due to care or medical needs, including families with young children and residents using continence products.
- That their household is a kerbside property.

Full details, including eligibility criteria, accepted items and how to apply, are available on the Council website <https://www.braintree.gov.uk/ahpcollections>.

For queries that are not covered on the website, please direct residents to Customer Services on 01376 552525 or via the online contact options.

See also pages 14 and 27 for more information.

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.



GOSFIELD COMMUNITY SHOP:

Opening Times:

Monday to Saturday: 8 am to 4:30 pm

Sunday: 8 am to noon

ABSORBENT HYGIENE PRODUCTS [AHP]:

Accepted items:

Nappies & Childcare AHP

- ✓ Nappies, nappy bags & wipes
- ✓ Training pants/pull-up's

Continance and care products

- ✓ Disposable bedpans & liners
- ✓ Incontinence pads, pants, pouches
- ✓ Colostomy/stoma bags (emptied)
- ✓ Catheter bags & tubing (emptied)
- ✓ Feeding tubes and equipment/paraphernalia
- ✓ Urine bottles (emptied)

Care-related

- ✓ Consumables Disposable gloves, wipes, aprons, tissues
- ✓ Disposable chair/bed pans & liners
- ✓ Single-use absorbent bed sheets

Excluded items:

- X **Clinical waste** (needles, syringes, sharps, dressings, medical swabs)
- X **Business/commercial waste** (childminders, nurseries, care homes, hospitals)
- X **Hazardous materials**
- X **General household waste or recyclables**
- X **Period products** (sanitary towels, tampons, menstrual cups)
- X **Textiles and soft furnishings** (blankets, sheets, clothing)
- X **Animal waste** and bedding Reusable nappies or washable pads
- X **Food waste or recyclables**

PLEASE REMEMBER

- ✓ We will only collect BDC AHP sacks
- ✓ Place your AHP sacks at your usual collection point
- ✓ You may also present your AHP sack on the day of your non-recyclable waste collection.

To order more sacks

Please visit:
www.braintree.gov.uk/ahpcollections or contact Customer Services.

Reviews and renewals

We'll contact you one month before your review date with a link to renew.

If you no longer need the service please inform us.

MEMORIES, continued:

We were on occasion given food from the base canteen by guards on duty. They would have more meat in a sandwich than we had for a whole weeks ration...they treated the village well. Until they upset them big time. Suddenly they had trucks with shovels etc, digging out channels in the village playing field for a baseball pitch ...oh my! that was a bad move. It all had to be put back to its original state which was probably better than before some might've said. All was soon forgotten and the Airbase was up to full strength ... more aircraft and flights some so low coming in that buses had to be halted on the Hedingham Road. The area was still getting occasional bombs being dropped but nothing like the night of the much-publicised Airfield official opening. Lights everywhere. Big Wigs arrived and a dance for all ... people brought in from the areas around all had the invite. BUT who sent one to the enemy ? When the first load of bombs dropped around us there was myself, brother Ken, Mum and Mrs Britten who was caretaker of the school and including the dog all under our big old kitchen table.

There were several waves of bombs and someone afterwards said about 60 had dropped in the area. The walls of our Lodge were 14 inches thick and we had wooden shutters but for all the dance folk etc. We just dreaded to think. Miraculously only a few were hospitalised but lots were cut by shattering glass. Within a week or so etc. the Base was fully back to normal and even more took off every day. Ken was serving but not in France, further afield someplace. My 18th birthday would be Dec.1944 meanwhile I was still working at Rippers but my mate there ' Le Roy' who was nick named ADDIE had joined the Airborne Regiment and had been killed in action. Mum was worrying as when I went in January '45 she would only have one son still at home. The time soon passed and I had a letter to attend Britannia Barracks, Norwich, Norfolk. January 1945. So me and Johnny Brooks and another mate went skating on Gosfield Lake. I had just purchased the skates after the military medical which was a heck of an experience ! But so was skating. .I soon ended up flat on my back. Johnny thought I was a gonner but I was okay. .I was soon serving and our Ken died just before Peace was declared. I survived and my youngest brother after the war ended was called up into his National Service. We both would visit Gosfield again on the occasional Fete day as the years passed. Catch up with some folk and look at our brothers' name Kenneth Sewell on the Memorial. Go down the Lake and then a swift half in the pub. //

nb. The late John Brooks saved my life after the war when he was working at the top of a ladder and happened to see a 3 year old feasting on Deadly Nightshade berries across the neighbour's garden. He ran to my Mum then he ran to the call box for an ambulance then he cycled up Braintree Rd to My Nan's house, so she could cycle down to take me in the ambulance to Hospital ... as my Mum was busy with my baby sister just out of hospital. Years later... whenever we were in the same Badminton team John would say ...I saved your life, you owe me. Now play well.

I hope you all have a good Fete Day. So much work goes into organising it all.

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH 50/50 CLUB

April Winners:	No. 3 Mr. M Richardson	No. 6 Mrs. L Kemp
	No. 22 Mr. G Rayner	No. 7 Mrs. D Holt
May Winners:	No. 128 Mrs. B Crouch	No. 58 Mrs. S Mackinno
	No. 200 Mr. S Sudbury	No. 120 Mrs. M Moth

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

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

HELLO The BATS are in the BELFRY at St Catherines and I smile. I like knowing some things stay the same. Some however do change. Sadly The Rev. Barry Rodwell recently died and I'm sure some of our older residents will fondly remember him and his family.

I'm delighted as a once upon a time daughter, sister, niece, girlfriend, wife and mother of one family of Gosfield Utd footballers, to read that we are the Division One Champions in the 2025/26 Essex and Suffolk Border League season. Congrats to all it really pleased me to hear that news.

I was chatting with Steve Sudbury recently now that his self- published work on the village memories is available. Contact Steve directly if you are interested in getting a copy. The text is taken from the long running Facebook site that he created over the years with many folk that 'do' facebook have contributed to. An excellent labour of love and at times when his health was not good. I personally do not 'do' facebook', but support him and anything Gosfield related as I always try to. I am delighted that my volunteering over decades at our Halstead and District Museum adjoining The Queens Hall in town has inspired Gosfield 's Elizabeth Woods to join us there as she has assisted Steve and they both knew that I greatly supported the endeavour. As Steve says himself some things may not be Historically quite accurate from folk's memories but it is from the people contributing their recollections. I wrote in an article some time ago Recollections May Vary ... but that's History for you. There are discoveries all the time, as the much-respected Sir David Attenborough has said during his 100th year that just make you think. Wow. Completely changing some facts as we knew them.

As a student 'of old school history' I remember reading about the Farm workers rioting in our area. The villagers' lives were agricultural mostly. Known as 'The Hedingham Riots.' Our area has so much history.

HERE is the final part of the WW2 memoir from Len the brother of Kenneth Sewell who was the London evacuee called up from Gosfield who lost his life overseas in 1945 and remembered on our village memorial. My mother was the only girl in Gosfield who was called up and was stationed at the Shoeburyness Gunnery on the South Essex coast. She almost finished living her 100th year.

Cycles... well it was the only way most village folk got anywhere even those lucky enough to have use of a vehicle which needed fuel (which was strictly rationed) so we boys had this idea to acquire an old bike, smartened it up a bit and sell it to an American soldier as he passed the Lodge where we were living. They'd park it by the Lodge on their return and we would sell it to the next fella. Eventually we were getting bikes from anywhere we could and by the evening there would be lots of them returned later. Plus others ? We soon got in a right old pickle not knowing where they'd come from and we had to stop. Some of the young soldiers would be invited to tea it was a regular thing during their stay over here in Gosfield. One of them saw my mothers' needlework and asked her to embroider something for him to send home. She ended up doing lots like that for them. Had a nice thankyou from the soldier's mother. Things suddenly were changing, more flights taking off etc. and equipment in huge crates 7' x 8' x 10' long were arriving and the crates being broken up, so Dad had a word with the Sergeant and explained that our Aunt and Uncle were visiting and we'd be jam packed in the Lodge. A couple of days later some of the base guys arrived with 2 huge crates and other stuff including a little Pot-Bellied stove. It was a perfect Chalet in no time. Aunt and Uncle came regularly to escape the night raids in the City, but then we soon realised why the camp was expanding etc. More aircraft left for day raids in France and of course we were put on the enemy's radar.

Continued 30

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



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

1st Gosfield Scout Group

www.1stgosfieldscouts.co.uk

The 1st Gosfield Scout group is still open.

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

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

We desperately need new leaders to volunteer to help run the group. If this is you, please contact Steve Sudbury on:

stephensudburygardens@gmail.com

Gosfield (Mobile) Library

Route 2 - Nuns Meadow, Monday,

9:45 am to 10:15 am:
8th June
29th June
20th July
10th August
21st September
12th October

Library - Halstead - Braintree

(Not open public holidays)

Monday	9am to 5pm	9am to 7pm
Tuesday	9am to 6pm	9am to 5:30pm
Wednesday	Closed	9am to 5:30pm
Thursday	9am to 6pm	9am to 5:30pm
Friday	9am to 5pm	9am to 5:30pm
Saturday	9am to 5pm	9am to 5pm
Sunday	Closed	Closed

The BDC new bin collections include:

- Grey bins will be collected every three weeks
- Food caddy will be collected weekly (now collected from flats as well)
- NEW Glass, Metal and Plastic bin will be collected every four weeks (alternate with Paper bin)
- NEW Paper and Card bin will be collected every four weeks (alternate with Glass bin)
- Green Garden Waste bin will continue to be collected every two weeks (if paid for - no change).

15



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Join Gosfield Parish Council – Be a Voice for Our Village!

Do you love Gosfield and want to help shape its future?
We're looking for two new Parish Councillors to join our friendly team.
This is a fantastic opportunity to:

- Represent your community
- Support local projects and improvements
- Share your ideas and help shape village life
- Make a real difference right where you live

No previous experience is needed — just enthusiasm, a bit of time, and a passion for Gosfield.

To find out more or express interest, please email:

parishclerk@gosfieldparishcouncil.org

'THE GOSFIELD PLAYERS ARE BACK!

You can't keep a good amateur dramatic group down.

We have dates you need to lock into your diaries.

We're in the process of refreshing our show that had to be cancelled in March. The show is still a pantomime based on Oliver Twist but with a few more twists in the tale, including a new title... 'Let's Twist Again'.

Performances will be on Friday 27th November and Saturday 28th November tickets will be available in the July issue of the Grapevine.

Another date for your diary is Friday 11th September. We'll be hosting a fundraising quiz. Challenging your brains and of course you gotta have a raffle. We'd love to have your support.

Finally, catch us at The Gosfield Fete on Saturday 4th July please come to our stall and say hello, chat to us about joining us and enjoy our performance in the arena.

If you would like any more information about joining the Gosfield Players on or off stage please email: gosfieldplayers@gmail.com

Gosfield Girls WI

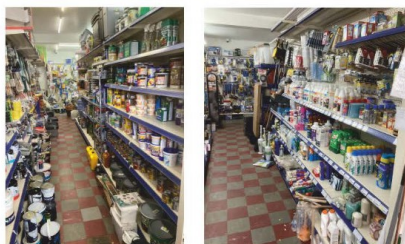
If you have an interest in joining us, then please come along for a taster session – first one is free! We meet for 11 months of the year at the Maurice Rowson Hall on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. We hope you can come along. All ladies are welcome.

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Visit Martha's Tearoom, nestled in picturesque Greenstead Green Barns. Enjoy our selection of freshly brewed teas and homemade treats. Whether you seek a peaceful spot or a cosy gathering place, our tearoom is perfect. Join us Monday to Friday, 9 AM to 4 PM, or Sunday, 10 AM to 4 PM. For more info or to book a table, call 01787 703722. We look forward to welcoming you!
 Address: Greenstead Green Barns, CO9 1QY
 Afternoon Teas, private events and catering available



The Gosfield Bloomers do their best
 At weeding, planting, and the rest
 Now some are getting on in years
 We really need more volunteers
 If you can spare a few odd hours
 Then come and help maintain the flowers

Please contact Mandy on 07876 805865 or Jan on 07769 040075

ABSORBENT HYGIENE PRODUCTS [AHP]:

Your AHP collection calendar 2026/27

Monday is your collection day

Please put your grey AHP sacks out on your collection day by 7.00am



JUNE 2026

1 8 15 22 29

JULY 2026

6 13 20 27

AUGUST 2026

3 10 17 24 31

SEPTEMBER 2026

7 14 21 28

OCTOBER 2026

5 12 19 26

NOVEMBER 2026

2 9 16 23 30

DECEMBER 2026

7 14 21 29

TUES

JANUARY 2027

4 11 18 25

FEBRUARY 2027

1 8 15 22

MARCH 2027

1 8 15 22 29

APRIL 2027

5 12 19 26

MAY 2027

4 10 17 24

TUES

Dates shown in red have been changed due to bank holidays

GROUPS, SOCIETIES AND COMMITTEES:			
Toddler Group	Emma	07872-916917	
Gosfield Players	Alison Bongo-Brown		gosfieldplayers@gmail.com
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	Joanne Hedley	07749-472832	
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	Ian Scott	07798-753639	
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	Sue Goldsmith	01787-478471	halsteadrector@gmail.com
PCC Secretary	TBC		
Church Wardens	Jo Colyer	07894-577629	
	Judy Paterson	01787-472514	judith_paterson@hotmail.com
Wedding Co-ordinator	Rae Haylock	01787-472171	halsteadparish@gmail.com
Bell Ringing - Tower Captain	Laurence Carter	01787-472225	laurencejcarter@gmail.com

Please note: bell ringing practice on most Tuesday evenings, 745 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

22nd June 2026 (In the Pavilion)

20th July 2026 (In the Pavilion)

17th August 2026 (In the Pavilion)

21st September 2026 (In the Pavilion)

19th October 2026 (In the Pavilion)

16th November 2026 (In the Pavilion)

14th 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?"

There is no minimum commitment. Can you spare **one hour a month**, your contribution makes a massive difference. Sessions are scheduled based on volunteer availability.

READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Join our friendly team today and help us reclaim our roads.

Contact: SHAUN HARRIS

Phone: 07436467215

Email: 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	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	office@gosfieldlakegolf.club
Gosfield Juniors Football	Mark Wiskin	07930-990013	
Gosfield United Football Club	Simon Fraser (Chairman)	01206-211470	
Gosfield Tennis Club	Richard Waters	07900-236754	gosfield-tennis@hotmail.co.uk
Gosfield Lake	Linda Turp (Office Manager)	01787-4785043	turps@gosfieldlake.co.uk

PUB, CLUB and EVENTS HIRE:

Maurice Rowson Hall	Amanda Degnan	07308-530638	rowsonhall@gmail.com
The Kings Head		01787-474016	
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			

GOSFIELD POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO):

PCSO 70714	John Thorne	07812-068636	John.Thorne@essex.police.uk
PSCO TBC			



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TILL 5:00PM

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

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FOOD STALLS - AMUSEMENTS - BOUNCY CASTLE - RAFFLE
DOG SHOW - ENTERTAINMENT - STALLS
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STARTING SAT 20TH**

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT

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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.



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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."



MEMBERSHIP

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**

GREEN FEES

18 Holes Lakes Course

Weekdays £30.00 Weekends £38.00

18 Holes Meadows Course

Weekdays £18.00 Weekends £20.00

Special rates for Members Guests, Twilight rounds and Juniors

Call 01787 474488 to pre-book



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

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!

EVENTS & SOCIETIES

A golf event is a great way to have fun with golfmates, publicise your company, say thanks to your clients or raise money for your charity.

Our experienced team are on hand to help your day be enjoyable and memorable, with great golf, food, service in a truly stunning setting.

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