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Places available for Girls aged 10-14

Meet on a Friday 7.00pm-8.30pm

Term time only

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On

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Gosfield Rangers

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

Today, in the here and now of a wet November morning, in the penultimate month of 2026, I am hoping that the door bell will not ring. It will take me even longer than usual to get there. I am the new owner of an old reconditioned stair lift and after a decade I am once again sat at my big old desk in a room upstairs. I still need to use the hospital bed in my lounge but I'm used now to all the changes made for my safety after my long hospital stay almost a decade ago. Forbidden a lift access then to sleep upstairs, or use the bathroom due to immobility and drugs impairment of my senses…especially involving the crossing of a small landing and stairwell during night time with wheels. So a wet room was put into my integral garage etc. with access from kitchen off the lounge. No oven or hotplates or grills as I can no longer safely use them. It took some getting used to. Note a kettle wasn't mentioned and I severely burned/scalded all my left hand recently. My right hand jolted as it poured boiling water into a mug which I was securing with left hand. It has been an awful time, reliant on help (which I used to give to others in the past).

Upstairs was becoming a dumping ground of STUFF and 'Out of sight, Out of mind' was bothering me. I saw the stairlift advert in the Halstead Gazette and on the spur of the moment bought it especially as it wasn't even 'one' of the thousands of pounds they usually cost and included a guarantee and fitting. I am not intending to constantly use it and can take my alarm button up with me when I do and my phone. My sons are relieved that STUFF will hopefully get disposed of at long last or at least filed away. Also, now I'm delighted to have occasional access to my wardrobes and boxes with family history data that I traced back to the 1700's.

When I sat typing a Gosfield Millenium issue article I was viewing the village green from my desk on the huge landing of Gable Cottage. The latter a Grade 2 late Tudor build once named The Limes Cottage. Street Farm was then the next old building on that West side of the Kings Highway through Gosfield (the farmhouse once named Holly Cottage). The Limes and Holly Cottage probably given names early 1900's. were partly surrounded by huge trees and fields with the Public House opposite named. 'The Green Man' on the East side… you can blame Cromwell for that name change. Nowadays it isn't a village pub at all …but at night I wonder if echoes of old Cecil Jeavons' playing his SQUEEZE BOX can be heard.

I am at my big old desk now but looking down a road named for a Boer War battle. The first house brick laid in 1900. It's not in Gosfield although men who fought in those wars were from all local areas. 2 of the Sparrow Sons from Gosfield Place fought in them. My late school friend and Gosfield footballer Andrew Williams had relatives in the Boer wars, and both World Wars. In fact he was related to the Gunn and the LEE family of the twisted chimney house (Dial House) in a past century. The historic village street picture well viewed of the father and small son of that family standing by the Green Man frontage. During WW2 Mr Gunn tutored the men of the Home Guard locally as a Veteran soldier himself . He also had charge of 'out working' Prisoners of War from a camp nearby. I have a snapshot including their names.

Continued

MEMORIES and such like from LINDA, continued:

I am aware I am no longer the Linda people once knew. But occasionally I need to be out in the public forum as I am still here. Recently I received an INVITATION as a former ACSL in Scouting to attend the final event of the ending (one hopes not forever) of Scouting in Gosfield.. Our much-valued STEVE SUDBURY has passed the village Scout Memorabilia and equipment to the care of GOSFIELD SCHOOL who are part of the other Scouting Family nearby. It was interesting to see the displays of all the photos and such from over the decades and good to reconnect with long ago and recent Scout leaders some still active from local areas and the display of our Flags of course. There are no longer any LEADERS to carry the Baton of our Scouts into the future. Maybe one day there will be another Gosfield Scout Troop, who knows. Steve Sudbury has served us well.

My late Father-in-Law was one of the early village Scout Leaders Len Richardson who lived nearby the original old soldier Bert Lock who always read the ' They shall not grow old ' part of the Remembrance Service. My late husband Richard as a teenager, before National Service with the RAF always played the Last Post on his Silver Cornet at those Remembrance services. He was a member of the Long Melford Silver Band. His father taking him there 'riding pillion' on his old motorcycle' It was good to see the recent Gazette pictures from Gosfield's Remembrance service with our two final Scouts Peter Dyson and Steve Sudbury in attendance. Well Done.

Thanks go to all those past and present of Gosfield Scouting and for all you have given the village. It began in 1909. One of the first Gosfield Hall Scouts killed in WW1 in France was young Fred Pye. He lived near Cut Hedge the home then of George Courtauld. For the new villagers it is now Gosfield School. Fred Pye's brothers were also soldiers in that war. Fred's two great nephews IAN and COLIN WILSON travelled back to Gosfield for the recent village Scouts event. Spotting photos of themselves as did I and Steve mentioned in his speech that I was a Flag bearer at his and Marys' Wedding.

JEAN WILSON Nee PYE along with Scout Leader JOE COPSEY's wife NELLIE was the Guide/Brownies Leader in the village those two were the Camp caterers of repute. Maybe some local girls will recall earning their cooking badge in the kitchen at Jeans' or at my mothers' next door. All the very many memories too of going camping with Guides. I recall us having to dig latrine trenches on arrival. Miss Hinds was the leader, Then Rev Burdon's wife. Myself as an ACSL I also camped with Cubs. Such fun in the days of erecting a Zip wire of course many activities indoor and out were ceased for Safety reasons in more modern times.

In the History stuff box upstairs I found some bits on GILBERT De CLARE 8th EARL of GLOUCESTER and 7th of HERTFORD, one of the most powerful BARONS of ENGLAND from the time of EDWARD 1st… relevance to Gosfield….? I'll sort that for the next issue. Please enjoy your seasonal break and raise a glass of Good Cheer to Herald in the Year of 2027. Thanking, as always, all the folk who give up their time for this village. Past and Present. LK.



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GOSFIELD VILLAGE ENTITIES - continued

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 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 CARPET BOWLS CLUB

November and December is always an entertaining time for the club members, particularly for the number of "friendly" games that we play against other clubs within our area during the lead up to the Christmas period. The spirit of Christmas is not always prevalent within these events as the will to win is always present, more so when playing against certain clubs than others. However, the actual competitive nature of the match is, the evening is always friendly and enjoyable.

Membership within the Gosfield Carpet Bowls Club remains high and we continue to hold club nights on a Monday and a Wednesday evening within the Rowson Village Hall. Holding a club night twice during each week is well received by the membership as it enables them to attend once, or twice, a week to suit their individual requirements.

Christmas is fast approaching again and the club will be holding a formal Christmas dinner for members and their friends. Details are available from myself for those members who have not yet reserved their places.

As always, we will welcome new members into the club irrespective of their playing abilities. Should you wish to try your hand at this competitive, yet entertaining, sport you are welcome to join us on either of the club nights for a trial session.

Wishing all members, past and present, a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Paul M Nicklin, Gosfield Carpet Bowls Club.

Gosfield
SOCIAL CLUB

The Trustees of Gosfield Coffee Room Charity are looking to appoint a Steward (or Stewards) for Gosfield Social Club.

It is envisaged that the commencement date will be the 1st March 2027.

Further details on the duties involved in the position, and to obtain an application form, please contact:

Mr Bob Waters (Secretary to the Charity)
21 Meadway, Gosfield. Halstead, Essex. CO9 1TG

Email: rhwaters7@gmail.com

Tel: 01787 473863

Gosfield Coffee Room Charity is a registered charity: Registration number 222662



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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	01787-471771	gosfieldsc@gmail.com
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

THE GOSFIELD PLAYERS: gosfieldplayers@gmail.com

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