

HOTHFIELD NEWS

BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY
VOLUME 12 NUMBER 8
August 2021



VINE 2 WINE

Talk in Hothfield Vineyard
TN26 1EL

Saturday 21 August 2021
at 6.30pm

followed by drinks and canapés in
Saint Margaret's Church

Price £6.50

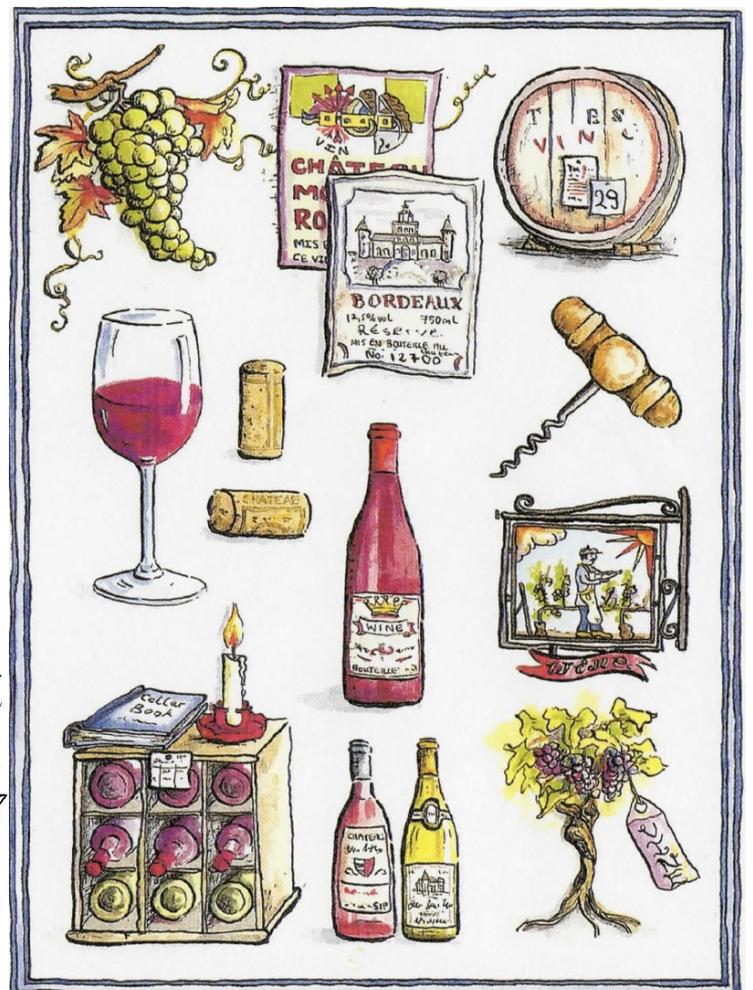
Advance tickets available
from Pat Coles

01233 635580

or Jay & Bina,

Hothfield Post Office Stores

Parking in front of church,
walk to vineyard entrance



Saint Margaret's Church



For weddings, baptisms, etc. Contact the Parish Office calehillpcc@gmail.com 07395 910317
Rector: Rev. Sandra Marsh The Vicarage Pett Lane Charing Kent TN27 0DL Phone: 01233 713996 email: revsandramarsh@btinternet.com

THE BENEFICE OF CALEHILL WITH WESTWELL



CHARING WITH LITTLE CHART, CHARING HEATH, EGERTON, HOTHFIELD, PLUCKLEY AND WESTWELL

Services in August:

- Sunday 1st at 1100: The Eucharist
- Sunday 8 at 1100: Matins
- Sunday 22 at 1100: Family Worship
- Sunday 29 at 1030: Benefice Communion at WESTWELL

Update on the plans to reorganise paths near Hothfield church

Work and discussion between the parish council and the owner/operator of the new vineyard has carried on longer than expected. It has only become clear recently that the pandemic has caused problems at the rights of way department at Kent County Council, which have created much longer than usual queues, even for straightforward approvals. Modifications to proposed plans are being discussed to get an agreement as soon as possible. In the meantime, the only permitted route is via the kissing gates of AW116, through the wide avenue left clear of vines that traverses the two sections of vineyard. The Friends of Saint Margaret's, who are organising the Hothfield Walking Festival on 18 September, have been kept informed of the evolving situation.



Date for your Diary

RIDE AND STRIDE

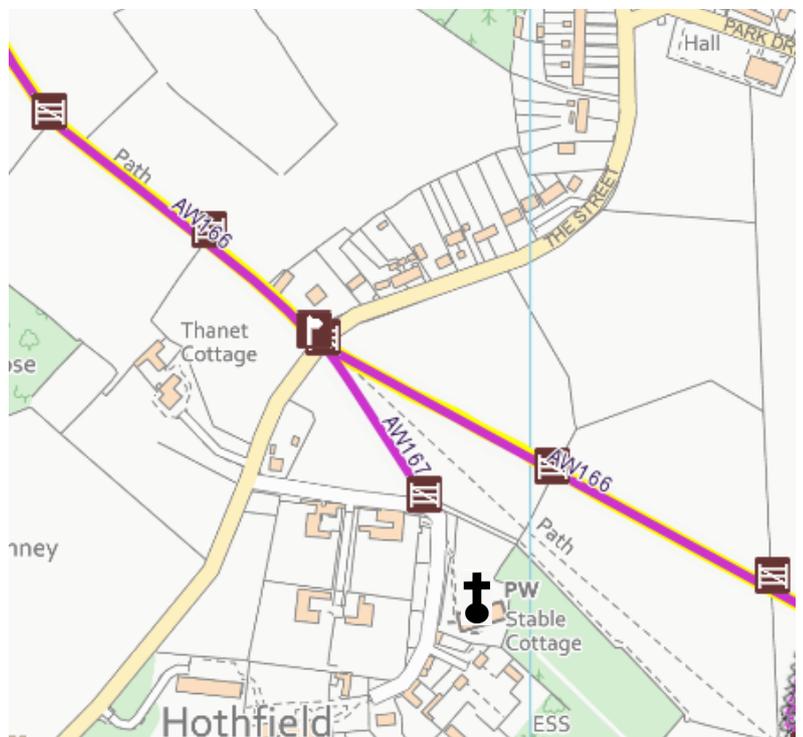
11 September. Plan ahead!

Country Funerals

Our Lady Funeral Director will assist and guide you in saying goodbye to your loved one with compassion.

Leah Hutchinson
01233 712 222

Yonderway, Westwell, Ashford, Kent TN25 4LE



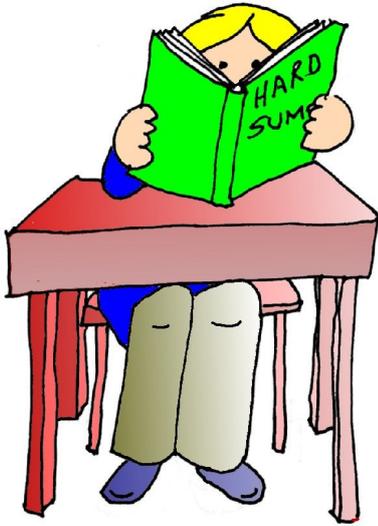
HOTHFIELD NEWS

is edited by Hedley Grenfell-Banks, printed and published by Richard Sutcliffe, financed by Hothfield Parish Council and distributed free to every house in the village by dedicated volunteers. Email: Hedley@grenfell-banks.com

Available on line at <http://www.hothfield.org.uk/community/hothfield-parish-council-17945/newsletter/>

The deadline for the September 2021 issue is 20 August.

Hothfield Educational Foundation



Please note
that the
Foundation
will be
meeting
next on 17
August.
All
applications
should reach

the secretary,
e-mail address

hothfieldeducation@gmail.com,
by 10 August.



Getting back to normal has been an amazing adventure for us all. Our scouts led the way with a weekend of camping and hiking. Wonderful fun and totally exhausting for all (especially the leaders). Every summer the cubs have an athletics competition. Last year Covid was the winner. This year we had a tie with two sharing the trophies. Everyone who tried their best won the athletes badge.

The weather has been kind to us so we've been able to do lots of outdoor scouting. This has meant a huge number of badges gained by our enthusiastic young people.

We are hoping that Covid settles over the summer so we can continue to meet all together when we return

Terry Lister Group Scout Leader 07748818660

For full minutes of meetings of Hothfield Parish Council, please either see the noticeboard outside the village shop or visit www.hothfield.org.uk
PLEASE NOTE: The email address for the Parish Council is
parish.clerk@hothfield.org.uk

VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY

July Draw Results
To be announced

Cost to enter: only £1 per draw,
£12 per year or £6 for six months.

Collect a form from
HOTHFIELD POST OFFICE
Or telephone Peter on 01233 623568

what a wonderful weald
help us keep it that way



The aim of our dedicated team of volunteers is to protect our unique Wealden towns, villages and countryside from the effects of damaging and unsustainable development, preserving its charm and character for future generations to enjoy. We welcome active members to help us with a range of activities, from scrutinising planning applications to organising events. If, like us, you care about the Weald, please get in touch and get involved.

wkps
weald of kent protection society

find out more: www.wkps.org.uk
secretary@wkps.org.uk 07919 871543

HOTHFIELD POST OFFICE STORES

Sunday	0900 To 1200		Post Office closed
Monday	0900 To 1300	1400 To 1800	Post Office closes 1730
Tuesday	0900 To 1300		
Wednesday	0900 To 1300	1400 To 1800	Post Office closes 1730
Thursday	0900 To 1300	1400 To 1800	Post Office closes 1730
Friday	0900 To 1300	1400 To 1800	Post Office closes 1730
Saturday	0900 To 1300	1400 To 1800	Post Office closes 1230

HOTHFIELD HEATHLANDS IN AUGUST



Swathes of heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and clumps of devil's-bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*) bring new delight as the orchids and other early summer flowers set seed. July rain encouraged plenty of fungus, and sunshine enabled volunteer Rob Insall to record 200 banded demoiselles (*Calopteryx splendens*) on one day, along with marbled whites, large and small skippers, meadow browns, some ringlets and gatekeepers, as well as emperor dragonflies (*Anax imperator*) and broad-bodied chasers (*Libellula depressa*). Val Butcher also saw a keeled skimmer (*Orthetrum coerulescens*) and Ann Rowe spotted cinnamon moth caterpillars munching ragwort. Most of these damsel- and dragonflies will still be flying in good weather in August except perhaps the emperor. These lethal slivers of iridescence live for a few weeks or months at most, hunting insects, mating and defending their territory, while the equally predatory larvae that hatch from the eggs laid in water or on water plants can spend two years underwater, moulting several times as they grow. The final moult takes place out of the water as the adult slowly emerges, redistributing body fluid as the legs, wings and abdomen harden. The cast-off pupal skin can sometimes be found stuck to iris leaves or reed stems.

At rest, damselfly wings are folded parallel with the slender body, whereas dragonflies

keep their four wings flat at right angles to the usually larger body. The emperor is Britain's largest dragonfly and hawkers are the fastest, reaching nearly 30 mph. The ability to move each wing independently means that dragonflies can fly backwards, forwards, sideways and hover. Their vision is panoramic thanks to huge compound eyes that spot prey up to 12 metres apart in any direction. The various raptors that patrol the reserve, including the kestrels and buzzards that Ann watched "having a barney" may have snapped up emerging (teneral) damsel- or dragonflies or caught the lighter damselflies thrown high by strong winds.

Fossils show that dragonflies with wingspans of 60cm were flying around 300 million years ago, before the dinosaurs appeared, and were one of the first types of insect on the planet. The modern mini versions can be seen not just by water where they mate and lay eggs, but across the open areas of the reserve where at night they will hide clinging to plants. So even a small area of water in a sunny spot in a garden will attract these high-energy colourful acrobats and their longer-lived larvae.

Devil's-bit scabious is a tall blue flower, the name of which refers to the root of the plant, which appears to be cut off, supposedly by the devil. The latin name for devil's-bit scabious is *Succisa pratensis*: *succisa* is Latin for



Common Darter (Ashford Warren)

© Ian Rickards

cut off from below, *pratensis* is Latin for 'of meadows'. The name Scabious itself derives from the Latin *scabere*, to scratch, as the leaves were used to treat sores.

Calopteryx splendens is the latin name for Banded Demoiselle, and derives from the Greek for beautiful wing, while *splendens* is indeed Latin for splendid. The scientific naming of plants and animals is governed by international codes and committees; names for new and reorganised species have to have an accepted rationale. *Dichelostemma ida-maia* celebrates Ida-May Burke, the stagecoach driver's daughter who got the plant identified. The fern genus *Gaga* and two new species celebrate the fervent defence of equality and individual expression by Lady Gaga. An extinct species of wasp found in amber, *Archaeoteleia astropulvis*, is named after David Bowie, Star Dust translating into *astropulvis*. How heart-breaking that a new grasshopper found in Catalonia has been named *Pycnogaster ribesiglesiasii* to commemorate the conservation work of rangers Xavier Ribes Vilas and David Iglesias Díez, murdered in 2017 by a hunter discovered illegally shooting thrushes. The popular name for the new species, *somereta de Davier*, incorporates the men's names, David and Xavier. I can only echo the words of

Llorenç Ricou, the head of the wildlife rangers in Lleida, that "for those who dedicate themselves to protecting the natural world, it's a lovely and symbolic act." But terrible that such a reason should ever be necessary.

Margery Thomas

Livestock checkers wanted:

Do you have the time to help us look after our conservation grazing animals? All the cattle, ponies and sheep at Hothfield Heathlands are checked on a daily basis, by a mixture of staff and volunteers. We currently have spaces in the rota, and are looking for new volunteers.

It is not an easy job; it can take two hours to find all the animals, searching through brambles and bracken over tricky terrain. We ask that people commit to the same day each week, ideally checking in the mornings (currently we have spaces on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday). You would need to have a smartphone, as we communicate with the team using Whatsapp (a very easy app which is free to download).

You do not need any previous experience, but you do need to be confident around big animals, and we will send you on an introductory training session before starting. If all of that hasn't put you off, please contact me. I can send you a registration form and we can get the ball rolling.

ian.rickards@kentwildlife.org.uk

Ian Rickards,
Kent Wildlife Trust

Devil's-bit scabious (with Bumblebee)



Hothfield History Society

History Walks on 18 September

The Friends of Saint Margaret's Church are organising a number of walks in and around Hothfield on Saturday 18 September. There will be walks of different lengths covering different local topics, including two or three on Hothfield History. There will be a short walk around the remaining buildings of Hothfield Place, next to the church, including the site of the manor itself. Hopefully we'll include a few of the older buildings of the village nearby, and the vineyard. Former resident Andy Spicer also will describe his memories as a boy growing up in the village. Look out for publicity on the walks, and register your place on the walk of your choice. Refreshments and lunches will be available in the church during the day.

Did you know Owen and Margaret Hall at Kempton Manor?

Stuart McKellar e-mailed from Canberra, Australia, and ordered a copy of our publication "Hothfield in the 20th Century". Stuart has traced a family connection to Kempton Manor which was on the site of what is now the Holiday Inn and the Hop Pickers public house on the A20. Kempton Manor had previously been known as Cowlees while it was owned by a copper merchant, Chester Beatty, between 1934 and 1950.

Kempton Manor, or Cowlees, was one of the very few properties not previously owned by Lord Hothfield. The Westwell/Hothfield boundary used to run across the 'Common' (as it was then) which meant that Cowlees was in the parish of Westwell for most of its ex-

istence. Sadly, therefore, Rev. Russell's extensive research on the parish of Hothfield makes only one passing reference to Cowlees.

During WWII Kempton Manor was commandeered by the army, along with all the big houses and farms in the area. The REME were based at Kempton Manor, and you can read more about their time there on our website: www.hothfieldmemories.org.uk (see John Wilkinson's story). When the Holiday Inn was built in 1990 they named a restaurant 'Kempton's' in honour of the previous manor which burned down.

Past residents of Hothfield recall that the Manor had a swimming pool on the western side, which the public were allowed to use for a modest fee. Sadly, we know very little about the Manor, and we don't have any pictures. If anyone has any in-

formation on the Manor, we'd love to see it.

Stuart wrote: 'It seems my Grand-Uncle, Owen Moore Hall, died at Kempton Manor Hothfield suddenly 10th November 1953. He may have been the proprietor, but I'm not sure as a news article says that a Mr A Kempe Roberts was the proprietor. Would anyone have any more information or photos relating to the pub and Owen Hall and partner Margaret from that time? Owen was last in Melbourne Australia in 1937, and never returned, spending his remaining time in Kent, firstly in Folkestone in the ARP ambulances in 1939, then at various parts of the Kent countryside - Hotel Celeste in Molash, then 'White Ladies' Harrietsham, then Hill House Lenham, and finally Kempton Manor Hotel. He was a solicitor, so perhaps some real estate work, I don't really know.

I believe Margaret moved on to Whitstable at some point around 1953. I've found, via a very helpful Ashford Cemetery's team, that Owen is buried in Bybrook Cemetery there, and no sign of Margaret. His profession is recorded as 'hotel proprietor'. We believe that he had a mental illness, and I would really appreciate any info that would help me understand his issues a little better.'

If any past residents of Hothfield from the late 1940s or early '50s can remember anything about Kempton Manor, or Owen and Margaret, then please e-mail me at: hothfieldmemories@hotmail.com or leave a comment on our website.

Chris Rogers



HOTHFIELD WALKING FESTIVAL

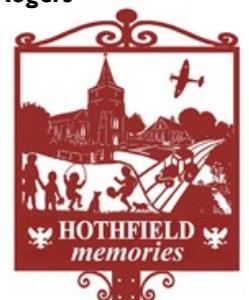
SATURDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2021 9.30 TO 4.00
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GARDENS

Open Tuesday to Sunday & Bank Holiday Mondays from Tuesday 30 March 2021 to Sunday 31 October 1pm to 6pm (last booked entry 5pm). Book your tickets online.

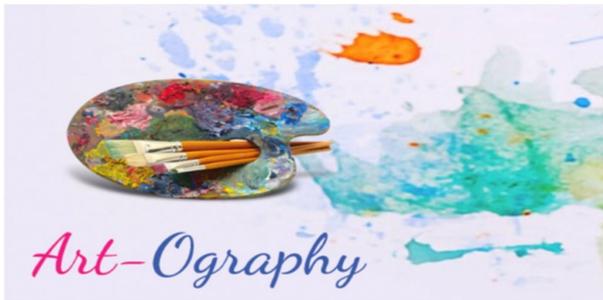
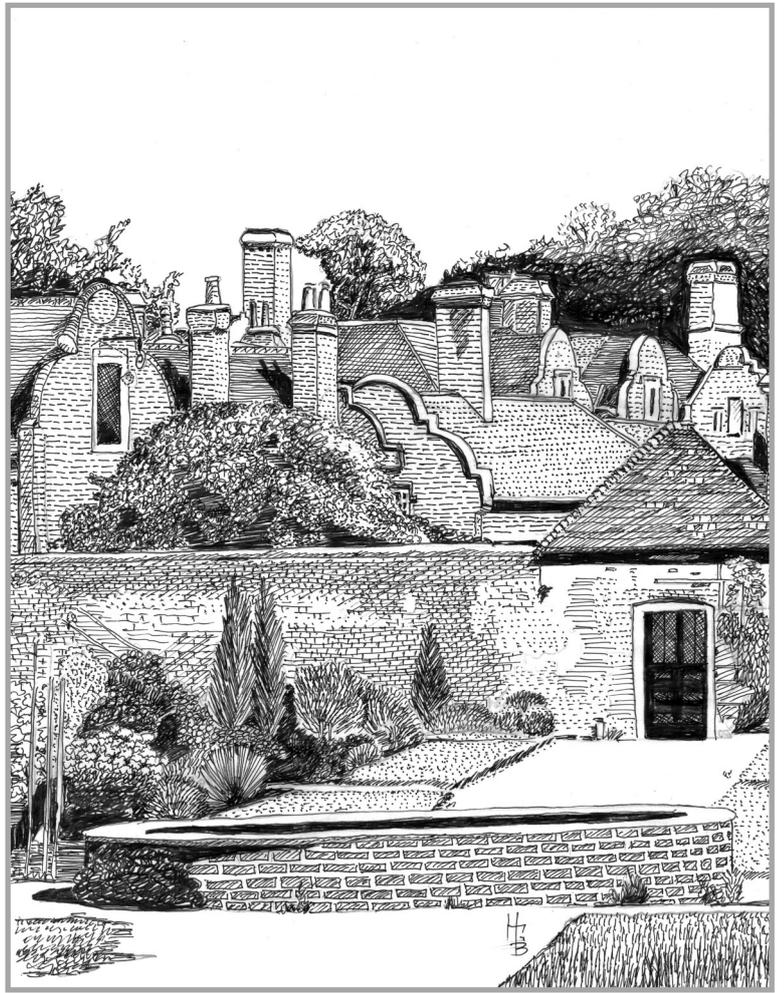
HOUSE

Open Friday and Saturday from Friday 4 June 2021 to Saturday 2 October. Tours at 1.30pm, 2.15pm, 3pm and 3.45pm. Book your tickets online.

SCULPTURE IN THE GARDEN

24th July 2021 – 15th August 2021, 13.00 – 18:00

Godinton's annual exhibition of contemporary work. Local artists display their work within the 13 acres of beautiful gardens giving an additional dimension. Visitors can enjoy a stroll, enjoy the eclectic mix of work from the traditional figurative art and abstracts in stone, through to bronze, glass, steel and willow. All pieces can be purchased and collected at the end of the show. Book your admission ticket on-line at <https://godinton.digitickets.co.uk/tickets>



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will be coming to Hothfield Village Hall car park
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before 1pm Wednesday
Cash and Card payments welcome**

AUNT JEMIMA'S ENJOYING THE SUMMER

"Deep summer is when laziness finds respectability." — Sam Keen

"Some of the best memories are made in flip-flops." — Kellie Elmore

"Summertime is always the best of what might be." — Charles Bowden

"Spring being a tough act to follow, God created Summer." — Al Bernstein

"The summer night is like a perfection of thought." — Wallace Stevens

"Summer has always been my favourite season. I feel happier." — Zoey Deschanel

"I love summertime more than anything else in the world. That is the only thing that gets me through the winter, knowing that summer is going to be there." — Jack McBrayer

"Summer is the annual permission slip to be lazy. To do nothing and have it count for something. To lie in the grass and count the stars. To sit on a branch and study the clouds." — Regina Brett

"Everything good, everything magical happens between the months of June and August." — Jenny Han

"If summer had one defining scent, it'd definitely be the smell of barbecue." — Katie Lee

"In the summer I was a wild child, with no shoes, and in the Autumn it was back to the city, shoe shops and school."
— Margaret Atwood

"Summer afternoon — summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language." — Henry James

"When I figured out how to work my barbecue, it was quite a moment. I discovered that summer is a completely different experience when you know how to barbecue." — Taylor Swift

When the sun is shining no mountain is too high, no trouble is too difficult to overcome." — Wilma Rudolph

"A holiday is having nothing to do and all day to do it in." — Robert Orben

"Keep your face to the sunshine and you will never see the shadows." — Helen Keller

I love how summer just wraps its arms around you like a warm blanket." — Kellie Elmore

"A little bit of summer is what the whole year is all about." — John Mayer

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 Concessions: £9.00
 Children: £4.50
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