



FUN DOG SHOW
SAT 8th JUNE
HOTHFIELD
VILLAGE HALL
FIELDS
TN26 1EG

Entries
£2
per class
or
£5
for 3 classes

Rosettes,
Trophies &
Prizes to be
won

Gates open at 10am for class registrations.
First shows for judging start at 11am.

Ring 1
Golden Oldies
Handsome Hound
Looks Most Like Owner
Best Trick

&
Best In
Show

Ring 2
Cutest Puppy
Loveliest Lady
Best Rescue
Waggiest Tail

Food Trucks
Refreshments
Craft Stalls
Games
Bouncy Castle
Cats Protection Tenterden
Thorne Hedgehog Rescue



 RSPCA Kent, Ashford,
Tenterden & District Branch
Registered Charity No. 208111

Dates for your Diary

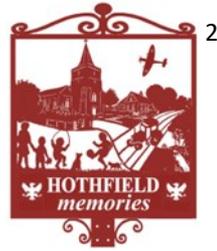
Hothfield Parish Council next meeting 7pm 13 June Hothfield Village Hall

Fun Dog Show Sat 8 June 10am Hothfield Village Hall

The Arts Society Egerton 12 June AGM then Lecture 'West End Winners' (see page 3)

Nine Oaks Open Air Theatre 27 July & 15 August (see page 7)

Lord Hothfield's luggage turns up!



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A few months ago I was contacted by Kevin Powles who had bought some old luggage from a well-known on-line auction site because he was looking for old leather straps for a project. When his purchase turned up it was a long canvas bag that would be used for a suit or a uniform; the clothes could be laid flat in it and rolled up so that they didn't get creased. The bag has the look of something the army might use. On it was a label with the words: "Lord Hoth-

field, 74 Albion Gate, Hyde Park, London" which was the London home of the Tuftons around 100 years ago; and on the reverse a Southern Railway label dated February 1946 "To Ashford".

The second Baron (Lord) Hothfield, Johnnie Tufton, held that title until he died in 1952, and he was in the army reaching the rank of Major, so it was probably his military uniform bag. He had retired finally from the army in 1925. It looks like he was travelling to Ashford in February 1946 or at least sent his bag, but why not to the Hothfield Station? This was only a few months after World War II had ended and maybe the army were still occupying his Manor, and surrounding land, while they cleared up and removed their equipment. Perhaps the Lord was coming to inspect his property but had to stay in Ashford if there wasn't accommodation for him in his own house? Sadly we'll never know why his bag was going to Ashford's train station but it has survived in reasonable condition. Thank you to Kevin for sharing this story and for sending lots of photographs.

Village History website update

I'm pleased to announce that we now have all the funds needed to modernise the on-line archive and website of stories and articles on Hothfield's past. I'm grateful to Hothfield Parish Council, Hothfield Education Foundation and Councillors Clair Bell and Charlie Simkins for generously supporting this project. The redesign is already underway so that the website will work better on small devices such as tablets and smart phones, but will still have all the content of the original website. I'll let you know when it's finished.

Hothfield in 21st Century

In 1999 the History Society produced a book on the main events in this parish during the 1900's. The book is still available in paperback, or in Word for Windows and .pdf format on USB memory stick or CD.

Now that we're in the 25th year of the 21st Century what historic events have happened in the first quarter of the 2000's? Off the top of my head:

- the school closed, and became a children's centre, and has closed again,
- the pub closed after briefly being a fish restaurant, and houses have been built in the grounds,
- the WWII NAAFI hut was demolished,
- a flint arrow head was found,
- we had an application for what could have been one of the biggest solar farms at the time, but subsequently reduced in area, and that has paid for broadband for some of the village,
- there's a vineyard selling its own wine,
- a bus service has been curtailed (at a time when we're meant to be using public transport more),
- and there were renovations at the church, and alterations including a toilet and new bell-ringers' gallery.

What else should we record as an important or notable story from 2000 to 2024? Please e-mail me at: hothfieldmemories@hotmail.com with your suggestions. **Chris Rogers, Hothfield History Society**

Hothfield Parish Council

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

HPC May Agenda Highlights

- 1) Esso Garage planning decision report.
- 2) CCTV survey decision.
- 3) Speed Restrictions - Works to proceed.
- 4) Village Triangle garden.
- 5) Nine Oaks meeting report.
- 6) Church Lane safety improvement suggestions.
- 7) Ashford 2041 plan joint committee with Westwell PC.

Charing Scouts

This has been a busy month! Beavers have been out and about including a session climbing at the Stour Centre. I love the photos they put on Facebook, but there never seem to be any of beavers landing like a sack of coals on the floor.

Cubs have been out and about including a walk around Charing following the trail set by the Charing History Society. What a lot of information! Thoroughly recommended. Well done for all the work and research done.

Scouts have been working up to their talent show. Brilliant fun! Well done to everyone. There was also the presentation of awards for the photographic competition. The standard was very high. Particular congratulations to Thomas, the overall champion and Matthew for the best individual photograph.

Explorers are largely involved with school exams at the moment. We wish them well. They still turn up to meetings when they can. I haven't heard the result of the district cookery competition yet. I wonder how we did.

Terry Group Scout Leader 07748818660

Hothfield Village Hall

Bookings via
www.hothfieldvillagehall.co.uk

Regular weekly events

Mondays @ 16:30

Target Shooting School

www.targetshootingschool.co.uk/ashford

Tuesdays @ 19:00

Bowls Club

Contact: John 07492 862974

Wednesdays @ 17.30

Koba Dog Training

Contact: justine@kobadogtraining.co.uk

Fridays @ 18.30

Bowls Club

Contact: John 07492 862974

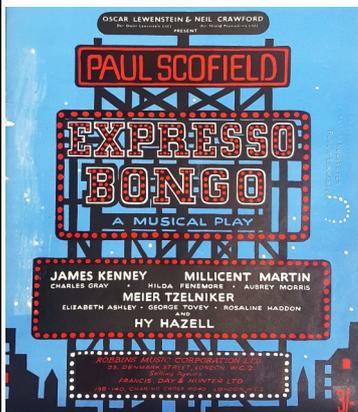
THE ARTS SOCIETY EGERTON

The Arts Society brings people together through a shared curiosity for the arts

Our next lecture in the Egerton Millennium Hall will be:

Wednesday 12th June: a short AGM starts at 2.00 pm followed by:

West End Winners – the Rise of the British Musical from Noel Coward to Lionel Bart at 2.30 pm.



This lecture rediscovers a distinctive West End story to give a new perspective on the shows and the people who made them

Dr John Snelson is a leading expert on British musical theatre. Especially known for exploring musicals in the light of not just knowing the music and the stage, but also society and culture, to reveal what makes them so appealing, enduring and important.

This will be our final lecture in our 2023-24 season. We are delighted that during the past year membership has risen to 178. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 11th September when Caroline Walker will present 'Discovering MacDonald Gill, architect, artist and mapmaker. See our website for the full 2024-25

Programme at www.theartsocietyegerton.org.uk or contact Gill via gillbrom57@btinternet.com or 01622 890214 if you'd like a printed copy

Visitors are always very welcome at £6, refunded if you join. Membership costs £40. For further information please contact Christine Willis, our Membership Secretary via cmwillis75@gmail.com or 01233 756377.



On 19th May one hundred years ago the first outdoors broadcast by the BBC was of professional cellist Beatrice Harrison playing to and with nightingales in the garden of her Surrey home. Around a million listeners tuned in to the midnight broadcast, and she performed for similar outdoor broadcasts over the next twelve years. On 18th May this year the Natural History Museum of Berlin ran a field trip in the Tiergarten in the centre of the city to teach about the more than 3,000 nightingales that migrate to Berlin every year.

On the Reserve up to 6 singing nightingales have been observed this year, which is a welcome increase on previous years. They nest on the ground, or very low to the ground under scrub or among nettles, a loose gathering of leaves with a lining of grass, roots and hair, so this is another species sensitive to disturbance by dogs. Dense low scrub provides a safe space for parents and young foraging for insects in the leaf litter. Only the males sing, through until mid-June, at night to attract a mate, in the day to warn off rivals, and not from a high perch but often low down in a hedge, easily observed. From mid-June males help feed nestlings and only use an alarm call resembling the croak of a frog. Crowd-sourced recordings made in Berlin have revealed over 2000 song patterns, but an individual bird will work on unending variations of around 190. The trills, gurgles, and whistles are in scratchy contrast to the mellifluous invention of the bird singing in Berkley Square, indeed the almost mechanically precise hard rapid “beats” have been compared to techno music. Some nightingales have been recorded singing non-stop for 20 hours and they seem to sing at their loudest between around 11pm and 3am but I haven’t personally checked that. Britain is at the limit of the nightingale’s range. They winter in West Africa and seem to migrate across land and narrow sea crossings to Europe and only the southeast corner of England. By 2018 numbers had plummeted by 92% due to loss of habitat, placing them among the ‘Red Sixty-Seven’ birds on the UK Red List of endangered birds. At Knepp in 1999, just 7 nightingale territories were identified; post re-wilding, there were 40 singing males in 2021.



In June the heathland will be a flowery delight. Despite May roses in gardens, the orchids and cross-leaved heath are late so will be best in June. Sorrel already casts a bronze haze over rabbit-cropped turf, cotton grass nods across the main bog, with very dense communities of species in the tussocks and along the edge of the boardwalk; lousewort, tormentil and milkwort and various grasses and sedges in flower, sundew now visible. Major tree clearance around the bog will help these specialised plants spread and flourish. Fresh scrapes down grass slopes still look raw and bare but older ones have a thin patina of diminutive plants including mosses with fruiting capsules, buck’s horn plantain, and bird’s-foot *Ornithopus perpusillus* with tiny white pea flowers. The black peaty mud dug up by the pigs is now coated in fresh green growth. The tiniest of the buttercup family and Hothfield’s rarest plant, the three lobed water crowfoot appears to be spreading and the sphagnum moss translocation experiment of 2023 seems to have worked.

The brilliant volunteers, have been improving access across the site, building steps down a steep woodland slope, using sand to build up muddy paths, put in new wider gates, suitable for wheelchairs and already appreciated by the moth trapping team with their barrows of equipment, alongside regular tree-popping and myriad other tasks.

Margery Thomas



CATS PROTECTION TENTERDEN AND DISTRICT ADOPTION APPEAL

www.cats.org.uk/tenterden

Like many rescue centres currently, we at Cats Protection Tenterden and District branch are currently full of many very eligible cats patiently looking for a new home.

We are always looking for special people who feel they can offer a good home to a cat or two, especially those who feel they may be able to adopt a more senior cat or a more needy cat, requiring just a little more care and love than others. Here are just some of our beautiful cats that would love to come home with you and give you some thoroughly feline love and affection. For more information on these cats or any others in our care please contact us on:

Tel: 07972 658387 Email: adoption@tenterden.cats.org.uk www.cats.org.uk/tenterden



Hector

Hamish and Hector – We need some love after a difficult start in life

Hi, we are Hamish and Hector and we are brothers! We came to rescue after a very tough and scary start, so we were a bit nervous around people. However, we’ve now had lots of love and patience from our Cats Protection foster mum and we’ve started to flourish. We are still kittens at 9 months old so we are very playful but it’s probably best we are homed with an experienced and older family (with no young children). We promise to make a great (and very cute!) addition



Hamish

your home. Our friends at Cats Protection have kindly made sure that we are neutered, vaccinated, microchipped and flea/worm treated. If you think that you may well be the family we are looking for, please do get in contact with our Cats Protection – call 07972 658387 or visit www.cats.org.uk/tenterden



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THE GRANARY SPA

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Many of us have a busy work schedule and home life. Whilst it's good to feel a sense of achievement, we sometimes push ourselves too much and, as a result, our immune systems can be weakened. We can only do so much!

It definitely can be a challenge finding the time for self care. After work, I always have a hot bath. This is my nightly ritual, and it works really well for me. The heat eases my tight shoulders and I feel instantly relaxed. An aromatic candle (or two!) helps with creating a restful, fragrant ambiance. At the weekend, I always try to do something fun. Having a change of scenery and fresh air can definitely help to uplift your spirits.

Self care Ideas:

- Scheduling time for yourself
- Meditation
- Do something fun of different.
- Invigorating walk (but take time to admire the flowers, trees and wildlife)
- Bath
- Give yourself a facial
- Hair mask
- Saying 'no'
- Spa treatment

This week try to gift yourself some YOU time!

Love, Georgia x

SHIFT HAPPENS

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Paul 07703 685143

www.shifthappensdrivingtuition.co.uk

DVSA approved driving instructor & Pass Plus registered

Art Group

There is a small group that meets twice a month on Monday afternoons in Westwell Village Hall.

We enjoy painting, drawing etc, together with a cup of tea and a chat.

If anyone is interested in joining us, please contact Penny Sutcliffe on 01233 634191 for more details.



Marmite and Saturn – We're in need of some cosy snuggles



Hello there! I'm Marmite, and I'm joined by my friend Saturn. We're seasoned black cats who find ourselves looking for a new home after our owner sadly passed away. At 11 years old, I, Marmite, boast a luxurious long-haired coat, while my companion Saturn, a 15-year-old short-haired gent, completes our duo. We're on the lookout

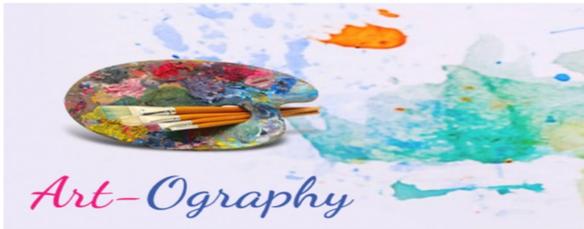
for a home together for our retirement years - we are both very friendly and affectionate so we can fit in in any family set up. We relish our moments of peace, cosy naps, and the occasional trip out in to the garden when the mood strikes. Intrigued by the idea of sharing your home with seasoned feline companions? Please don't hesitate to get in touch with those lovely people at Cats Protection – call 07972 658387 or visit www.cats.org.uk/tenterden



Cola – Let me brighten your day

Hello, my name is Cola, I'm 9 years old. I am looking for a new place after finding myself in the good care at Cats Protection and I'd would love the chance to join your house. I do really love a fuss and snuggles but I am a little cautious around new people at first, so I may need some patience. I'm also not too good with other cats, so if I could be an 'only' furry friend I would thrive! My kind friends at Cats Protection have made sure I'm neutered, vaccinated, microchipped and flea/worm treated, so I'm fully fit to join you! If you're ready to open your heart and home to me, please reach out– call 07972 658387 or visit www.cats.org.uk/tenterden Don't forget From 10/6/24, it will be a legal requirement in England to have your cat microchipped or you may be fined.





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ANNA LUBANSKA

PHOTOGRAPHY

PHOTOGRAPHY



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 ANNALUBANSKAWILK@OUTLOOK.COM
 07521000697

RENEW Gardening Services

Joseph Ellis

Phone number: 07753174115

Email: renewgardening@gmail.com



Free no obligation quotes

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

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 07923 448187
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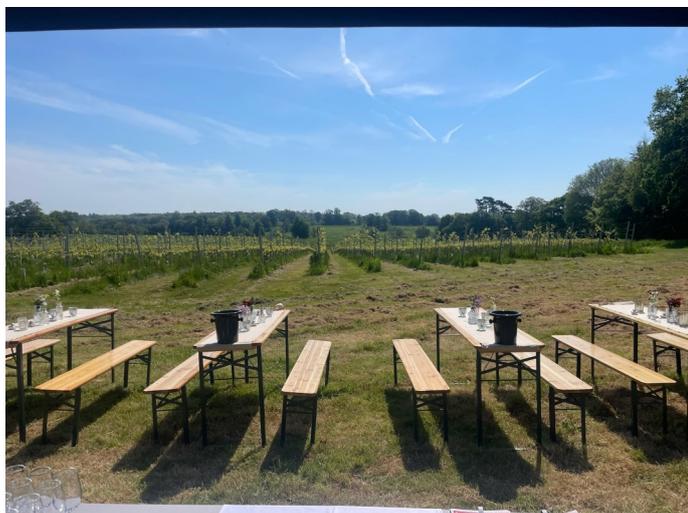
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May in the Vineyard

It has been an exciting month in the vineyard. After an exceptionally wet start to the year and a bitterly cold April, Spring has finally sprung and there has been rapid shoot growth across the vineyard. If you take a look as you walk along the Greensands Way you will see tiny bunches have appeared on the shoots and these will go through the flowering process in June whereby the vine self-pollinates, and the bunches are set for the year - known as 'fruit set'. The weather is absolutely crucial over the next month. We need warm fine days to ensure we get a good flowering period and to set us up for the rest of the year.



In May we held our first tours and tastings in the vineyard which were a great success. Each session had a good mix of people from the village as well as those from the surrounding area in attendance. Away from the vines we have had stands at both the Canterbury Wine Festival and the London Wine Fair, and most excitingly after months of back and forth we have finally fulfilled our first order with Majestic Wine Warehouse for our still Chardonnay. As well as being in some select stores nationwide the Chardonnay will be in Majestic's Grand Tour wine club box for May and will be sat alongside a Cru from Beaujolais, a Hunter Valley Semillon and a punchy red from the Douro, amongst others.

From the cellar we are eagerly awaiting the release of our first traditional method sparkling wine. This was from our first ever harvest in 2021 and has spent seven months in tank plus another 24 months lees ageing. The sparkling is due to be disgorged sometime in June. Disgorgement is the process by which the yeast sediment is removed from the bottle and a cork and cage are affixed prior to release. We do not have an exact date yet, but we are hoping to release the wine in July or August this year!

**WE ARE HIRING AT
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- Physically fit and robust
- Dependable
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info@nine-oaks.co.uk



Summer 2024 - Open-air theatre at Nine Oaks Vineyard



Beatrix Potter's *Jemima Puddle Duck*

Saturday 27th July 3.00pm

Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations*

Saturday 27th July 7.00pm

William Shakespeare's *Henry V*

Thursday 15th August 7.30pm

For more information and to book tickets use the QR code or visit

www.nine-oaks.co.uk

Nine Oaks Vineyard, Hothfield, Kent



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

Services in June
 Sunday 2nd 11.00am The Eucharist
 For services in our other churches, see www.calehill-westwell.uk

FRIENDS OF ST MARGARETS' CHURCH

SPRING FAYRE & PLANT SALE REPORT 11th MAY 2024



The sun shone and visitors poured in from Hothfield and surrounding villages for two hours of retail therapy from fudge, sausage rolls & samosas through books, records and jigsaws to plants & garden tools, aided by wedges of cake & refreshments.

Many indulged in a gamble on the tombolas and came away with something different, and those who participated in the raffle had the chance to win 10 wonderful prizes including expensive perfume, champagne and a selection of bird feeders.

The event was a great success, both in terms of the numbers who attended, and the money raised by the Friends, which will be used to provide financial assistance for the upkeep of the Church & Churchyard.

There are so many thank yous to various people who helped make the day so special: My fellow Friends of St Margaret's Church who spent many hours in the organisation and running of the event.



All those who donated items for sale on the day and/or gave their time in manning stalls. All the people who visited the Fayre and generously bought items.

If anyone has any ideas for fund-raising events in the future or would like to help out as a friend of the Friends, please let us know. We will be at the Dog show on 8 June.

Nicholas Wheat Chairman of the Friends of St Margaret's Church Hothfield.



HOTHFIELD NEWS

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