

KING CHARLES III CORONATION VILLAGE PARTY

8 May 1pm at the Village Hall

A Royal High Tea will be held at the Village Hall with fantastic cakes and a Coronation Medal to keep.

Tickets are available at the Post Office Now!

This is a Ticket Only Event to confirm numbers.

Tickets are only £2 each. There will be a raffle with great prizes, star prize is a Nine Oaks bottle of rosé. For the children we have a bouncy castle and a prize for the best dressed King or Queen.



Dates for your Diary

Hothfield Parish Council next meeting 7pm Wednesday 17 May at the Bluebells Centre

Hothfield Parish Council Annual General Meeting at the Village Hall on Sat 13 May 10.30am.

St Margarets Church Spring Concert Sat 20 May 7.30pm

Nine Oaks Theatre 24 & 25 June presents 'MacHamLear'

Flower & Craft Show at the Village Hall 5 August 2023.

Nine Oaks Theatre 20 August presents 'Peter Rabbit'

Nine Oaks Vineyard – May Update



It has been a huge month for Nine Oaks Vineyard. We have wine! Our 2022 Pinot Noir Rosé is now on sale and we have been thrilled with the response, particularly and most importantly from our lovely local community. Thank you so much for sharing your feedback with us – it means so much to hear. Our 2022 Chardonnay will be on sale from 23 May so please do look out for that.



On the vineyard itself we are now thoroughly looking ahead to the next season. All the vines have been pruned and tied down ready for the new season's growth and the buds are just starting to burst. We need a period of 10 days where the weather is 10C or above for this to happen - we're almost there. Keep an eye on them! Unfortunately the freak hail storm did some damage to the buds but overall the vines look really well so we are excited to see what the season brings.

We won't know until later in the summer quite what our yield will look like (and everything is subject to change right up until the last minute) so what wines we produce is also subject to change but we are anticipating the same rosé and chardonnay, with the addition of a Bacchus. With the varieties we have planted we can play around with the blends or combinations so we may have a few surprises up our sleeves. Next spring will also see the release of our first sparkling wine (from our 2021 harvest) which will be fantastic to see.

Kent Wildlife Trust (KWT) visited the newly developed site to check on our amphibian population in April. Alas no great crested newts to be found as yet, but we have had some much larger and very exciting new creatures take up residence. We are thrilled that the beautiful longhorn cattle have taken a break from the Heathlands to visit Nine Oaks. They are hugely important in naturally and organically managing the landscape, eating and breaking down the vegetation. Of course, they are absolutely stunning to watch too.



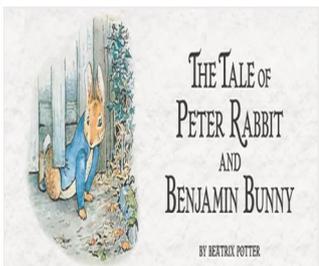
Helen Matheson-Pollock Co-founder, Nine Oaks Vineyard

The theatre is coming to Nine Oaks! We are very excited to announce a programme of live theatre events to be held at Nine Oaks Vineyard, Hothfield this summer.

On 24th and 25th June, Heartbreak Productions



will be performing *MacHam-Lear*, 'a farcical piece of new writing from award-winning playwright Michael Davies that shamelessly exploits the genius of England's most celebrated writer.'



On 20th August, Quantum Theatre are bringing the timeless Beatrix Potter, 'Peter Rabbit' to life for a family-friendly matinée, followed by the open-air



HOTHFIELD CRAFT AND FLOWER SHOW

Competition Categories:

Fruit & Veg

Painting

Crafts

Baking

Photography

Children's arts and crafts

And many more!

5th August

**£1
VIEWING
ENTRY**

At Hothfield Village Hall

12 - 4 PM

Email: hjmathesonpollock@gmail.com

**TEA AND
COFFEE**

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

Your Parish Council NEEDS YOU!

Thank you for the great response to last months appeal! We now have two new councillors which is wonderful. However, we still have vacancies and need more volunteers. If you want local views to be represented and a strong voice on planning around Hothfield, we need you!

Time commitment to HPC is minimal with only one evening meeting per month. If you want your say on what happens in Hothfield then join us!

Contact: ian.lloyd@hothfield.org.uk

HPC Annual General Meeting 13 May 10.30am at the Village Hall

At our AGM we will be updating residents on all the village projects and have the opportunity to answer your concerns. We look forward to seeing everyone.

Planning

If you are preparing a planning application come and talk to us first. We can advise and make suggestions before you start the formal process.

Local Elections Thursday 4 May 2023

Voters must show Photo ID for the first time when voting at this election.

You may already have a form of photo ID that is acceptable. You can use any of the following: **Passport / Driving licence (including provisional licence) / Blue badge / Certain concessionary travel cards / Identity card with PASS mark (Proof of Age Standards Scheme) / Biometric Immigration document / Defence identity card / Certain national identity cards.**

If you don't have an accepted form of Photo ID contact ABC 01233 330402.

Ian Lloyd Chair HPC

1st Charing Scout Group

The longer light evenings allow us to get out and about so much more. We've just planned our programmes for the term and we hardly need the hut (unless it rains). We are delighted to formally welcome a new leader for our Beavers. We know that Sophie will be going off to university, but she'll always be part of 1st Charing.

Scouts are organising a litter pick around the village. This is good badge work for them but also keeps us involved in the community.

This month, of course, we are looking forward to the coronation. We will have a special badge to commemorate the event. We hope to get them before our big celebration evening, when all sections are getting together for the evening. It sounds chaotic but I'm sure it will be great fun. One of our cub leaders, Saskia Caddell was put forward by Kent Scouts to represent us at the coronation. She is on the waiting list so fingers crossed. I'm delighted to say that Heather and I have been invited to the Coronation Garden Party at the palace on the Tuesday after.

Terry Lister Group Scout Leader 07748818660

Volunteer & Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer

PSE 59727 Andrew Judd

Police Station, Church Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1BT

Tel: 01233 896151 - please leave a message and I will return your call.

Hothfield Village Show

will take place on 5 August 2023 at Hothfield Village Hall.

Categories will cover local produce; baking, flowers, photography and crafts as well as categories specifically for children. The list of categories and entry requirements will be published in a future Newsletter.

If you have requests for categories, or you would like to be involved in organising the event, please do get in touch! For further information contact: hjmathesonpollock@gmail.com

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.

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: jus-tine@kobadogtraining.co.uk

Thursdays @ 18.30

Bowls Club

Fridays @ 18.30

Contact: John 07492 862974

HOTHFIELD HEATHLANDS IN MAY

There is so much to see, hear and enjoy on the Heathlands in May. But one of our summer visitors, arriving this month and from as far south as the Democratic Republic of Congo, just does not want to be seen and is rarely heard. The enigmatic ground nesting



Nightjar, *Caprimulgus europaeus* has grey and brown plumage, heavily mottled and marked to resemble bark, that is superbly camouflaged in daylight, when the birds sit in undergrowth or when incubating eggs laid on bare ground. Nocturnal, their flight is silent, as their large eyes help them locate moths, flies and beetles caught on the wing with a small beak but very wide gape edged with bristles to trap prey. These elusive birds are most easily spotted when they hunt or display to females at dusk, the male making a distinctive extended churring call, or when hawking for food at dawn. They have long wings and a long, pointed tail, both marked with white in the male, and in shape resemble a cuckoo or kestrel.

Caprimulgus is Latin for goatsucker, as birds being noticed around livestock, it was believed they sucked the milk from goats. In reality they would have been hunting for the insects attracted to the ani-

mals. Nightjars will be breeding from late May and hopefully will have two broods. Sitting on eggs laid on bare ground for 20 days and caring for chicks for another two weeks, camouflage provides essential protection from foxes and hedgehogs which will eat both eggs and chicks. During this nesting period any disturbance of the adults risks leaving eggs and chicks exposed. Nightjars will migrate south in September. Their routes were little understood until the mid-2000s. Numbers have increased but they are on the amber list as a species of conservation concern. Loss of habitat for breeding is believed to be the biggest issue for nightjar populations, but this heathland with open woodland and clearings provides just what Nightjars need.

Another recent appearance on the Heathlands is more permanent. A warm welcome to the new Ashford Area Warden, Will Glasson, who has moved from Wyre Borough Council in the damper Northwest to one of the drier corners of the British Isles.

February this year was indeed one of the driest on record. March made up for that (and Easter Monday - typical!). In late March the indefatigable volunteers built a series of "leaky" dams in New Fen, a small reserve off Watery Lane, on the road to Westwell. The dams are logs laid in ditches, held with stakes and topped with brash, all material cut on the reserve. This work copies the labour that beavers would have done naturally, creating localised flooding, helping wildlife during the drier months and provide breeding areas for amphibians and other water loving species. A healthy colony of Marsh Marigolds (*Caltha palustris*) or Kingcups has developed here and they will adapt to higher levels of water, their hollow stems reaching out over the water surface to root and grow wherever they touch soil.

The highland cattle meanwhile have been moved to a new grazing area the other side of Hothfield Village. This is an exciting project with a local landowner to spread the wildlife benefits of conservation grazing to a larger area. The cows will return to the reserve later in the spring.

As the first orchids appear and the sundew unfurl their tiny spoons of glistening tentacles, the Great Grey Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*) will head back to mainland Europe, perhaps as far north as Norway, but was still attracting attention on the heathland over Easter. It has been observed with a harvest mouse, and picking minotaur beetles off the ground. Hosting one of only a hundred or so individual shrikes that over-winter in this country, is yet another rich element in the constantly evolving tapestry of this amazing but fragile wild place. **Margery Thomas**



Message from the Warden: Ground nesting birds and dogs on leads: Thank-you to everyone who has been supporting the wildlife at Hothfield Heathlands by keeping their dogs on a lead across all the open areas. We appreciate the changes that people have had to make and hope that we will see some real benefits to our wildlife over the next few months.



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THE GRANARY SPA

Holistic & Beauty

Can we learn to manage our emotions?

The Granary Spa love to support local charities. So last Monday, Laura and I arranged a visit to the Pilgrims Hospice. We wanted to offer the hard working staff a hot lava shell neck and shoulder massage. As Monday was approaching my body was filled with physical emotions because the last time I had entered a hospice was four years ago to visit my beloved best friend Emily who was sadly diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumour. On my days off from work my Mum would always drive me to the The Princess Alice Hospice in Surrey and we would chatter away, whilst I massaged Em's hands and sometimes a manicure.

The realisation I was going to enter a hospice, albeit a different one, filled my body with anxiety and fear! I spoke to Laura about how I was feeling (it's good to talk) took a deep breath and kept my eyes firmly on the floor. Once I got inside and started treating the wonderful staff, my emotions eased. I walked out feeling a sense of pride that I managed to overcome my emotions and I felt a huge sense of honour to be able to give something back to such amazing, compassionate, deserving people. We thank you.

How to cope with your emotions:

- Talk to someone, don't bottle up emotions
- Learn to identify how you are feeling, i.e. sad, confused, worried, happy, etc
- Positive affirmations can be helpful, i.e. I am strong

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



We're hiring!

We're looking for **Nurses, Healthcare Assistants and more at Hothfield**

At Hothfield Brain Injury Rehabilitation and Neurological Centre we look after adults with a brain injury or other neurological condition. We're committed to helping every person we support feel safe, happy, empowered enabling them to live the best life possible.

We're looking for **Healthcare Assistants, Nurses, A Service Manager, Housekeepers, Kitchen Assistants and Cooks** to join our passionate team and help those with complex needs live their best life. We provide personal career pathways and training that enables you to develop your skills, knowledge and expertise.

Thinking of a career change?

We offer full training for our Healthcare Assistants and Domestic Roles such as Catering Assistants and Housekeepers so, no experience? No problem!

What we offer:

- Full time and Part Time roles
- Professional development & career progression
- Active Rewards retail discount scheme
- Enhanced sick pay
- Enhanced maternity pay
- Refer a Friend bonus

Please get in touch to register your interest in working with us by contacting the team on:

01233 643272

Bethersden Road, Hothfield, Kent, TN26 1AZ

careers@activecaregroup.co.uk





activecaregroup.co.uk/careers

Sheila's Homemade Jam: Damson with Damson Gin

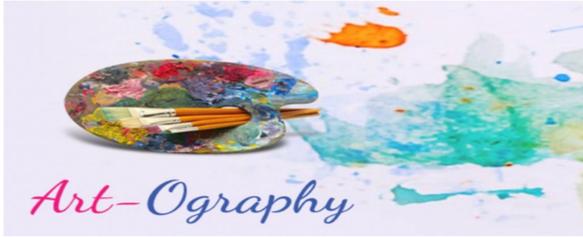
Delicious and ever-so-fruity jam made with lovely Hothfield damsons and homemade damson gin.

Large (13oz/370g) £3.50
Makes an ideal gift
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☎ Sheila: 01233 624 105
✉ hothfieldhoney@outlook.com



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The site for private Italian tuition in the mid-Kent area.

Whether you are interested in simply learning the basics for a holiday in Italy, need help in preparing for GCSE or AS/A2 exams, would like to improve and update your current knowledge for use in the Italian work market, or simply have a passion for Italian language and culture, individually tailored courses can be created focussing on your own specific learning needs. Tuition is offered by PGCE and CLTA qualified, native speaker tutor, with over 15 years' experience teaching Italian to adults of all backgrounds.

For more information on courses, areas covered and tuition fees, please go to www.learnitalianinkent.co.uk



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HOTHFIELD NEWS

is edited by Ian Lloyd and financed and published by Hothfield Parish Council.
Email: ian.lloyd@hothfield.org.uk

Letters and articles for publication are always welcome, deadline for inclusion is 20th Monthly. Advertising is free to businesses working in, or for, the Parish of Hothfield. Email the Editor for information on advertising prices for outside companies.

March Fun Quiz Night and Hearty Supper – A Great Success



By 7.30pm on a March evening, the village hall was filled with quiz teams and the hubbub of around 130 people. People came from far afield as well as from Hothfield. The evening was great fun and thanks to everyone who came along and joined in. This is the first event we have held since before lockdown and it was wonderful to see people out enjoying themselves and hearing the room filled with laughter.

A big thank you goes to all the volunteers whose efforts ensured that we had a great night out. We are grateful to Derek from Whitstable for writing the quiz with a range of questions to suit all levels, and the imaginative Family Fortunes round and Millionaire round were big hits. Thanks also to Susie who cooked a wonderful feast comprising at least five hearty meals, and to her lovely friendly assistants who helped out and spent most of the evening on their feet. There was plenty of choice and lots of second helpings too, all for £6 !

We are grateful to all those who generously donated fabulous raffle prizes including The Yellow Fisherman; Nine Oaks Vineyard; Brenda's Bees local honey; Lesley for her fresh fruit basket; Pat and John for their Easter chocolate hamper and pretty spring plants; Sheila for her homemade jam and teatime treats; plus there were numerous bottles of wine, the ever popular roast dinner hamper and other wonderful items. Thank you also to Jay and Bina who very kindly sold the tickets in advance at Hothfield Post Office.



The winners were presented with wine, whilst the losing team received lemons. This highly successful evening resulted in a profit of over £700 which has been shared equally between the Village Hall Committee and the History Society.

Our next joint community event will be a Race Night with a hot and hearty supper on the evening of 11 November. Put it on the calendar now - we look forward to seeing you then!

Historic Coronation celebrations in Hothfield

The past minutes of Hothfield Parish Council give us a brief insight into celebrations that were held in the village for past Coronations. In 1902 the village was preparing to recognise the coronation for King Edward VII, and the minutes in May 1902 show that Mr Sayer proposed that a penny rate be made to give the children a treat, and 'the old people to receive the benefit of anything left'. However Mr Croucher proposed that the women and children be treated at a cost not exceeding two pence on the rateable value of the Parish. But a further amendment was proposed by Mr Collyer "That the whole of the people of the Parish be included in the treat".

In 1911 the Parish Council planned a similar event for King George V and would spend one and a half pence per person from the Rates. The celebrations were to include sports and entertainment in the evening. The views of the Rector were sought and there was a proposal that the Poet Laureate Alfred Austin, who lived at Swinford Manor, would be asked to plant an oak tree on the Common in a ceremony to be attended by the whole village; and there were to be fireworks. That Coronation was in June 1911 and the Kentish Express reported that there had been a cricket match with Westwell (won by Hothfield), the church bells were rung and there was a service. Lady Hothfield presented mugs and medals; there were swings and a bonfire was lit at 10pm. The Minutes in July 1911 recorded the expenses of the celebration including: "Tea - £13 9shillings and 10pence, Ginger Beer - 18shillings, coconuts..., fireworks..., oak tree - 8shillings, spoons and eggs, sports trophies." It all totalled £25 8 shillings and 3pence.

In 1937 there was to have been a Coronation for Edward VIII but as he abdicated his brother George VI was crowned in May. The Parish Council was again organising an event which included tea for children and adults, sports and fireworks. It was also agreed to hire a Radiogram to be used in the Institute Hall. (The Women's Institute Hall doubled as the village hall and presumably the radiogram was for people to listen to the Coronation being broadcast.) After the event the records show that there were Coronation Mugs and medals.

In March 1953 the Minutes record that the tenants of Hothfield Camp were to be invited to the Coronation celebrations for Elizabeth II. In 1953 the plans were not only for tea and sports, but for a Fancy Dress competition, baby show, a 'social', and Coronation mugs for children under 5 years old. Mike Bates records that the children were given mugs and a coach and horses.

Hopefully we will enjoy the next Coronation celebration in the Village Hall on Monday 8th May.

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 May

Sunday 7th | 10am Service of Thanksgiving for the Coronation

Sunday 14th | 10am BCP Matins

For services in our other churches, see www.calehill-westwell.uk

Kent Chamber Choir



Spring concert



7:30pm Saturday 20th May 2023 at St Margaret's Church,
Church Lane, Hothfield, TN26 1EL

with:

David Rosenthal - Organ
Alan Vincent - Conductor



Music by:

- Tomás Luis de Victoria
- Clara Schumann
- Benjamin Britten
- Charles Stanford
- Cole Porter

and local composers
- Sián Hall
- John MacKenzie

Admission £12
(students £5) on the door,
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Margery Thomas 07870 829659
margerythomas@f2s.com
or fsmhothfield@gmail.com

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Save the date 30th September 2023

The Friends of St Margaret's will be holding a Scarecrow Day in September and as part of that event we would like to have a grow your own sunflower competition – see how tall it will grow? Prize for the tallest. Open to all, the young and the young at heart!

Collect your free seeds with instructions from Bina & Jay in the village shop.



THE ARTS SOCIETY EGERTON

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



We meet at Egerton Millennium Hall on the second Wednesday of each month at 2.30 pm (doors open from 2.00pm). Our next lecture will be:

Wednesday 10 May 2.30 pm **HISTORY OF THE CITY OF LONDON AS TOLD THROUGH ITS STAINED GLASS**. This lecture covers almost 2000 years of London's history illustrated through its stained glass windows - 19th century, 20th century and contemporary glass makers.

Our lecturer, **Anna Warrillow**, Blue Badge Guide whose passion is Art and History. Anna was a curator in the Sculpture Department at the Victoria & Albert Museum as well as in smaller collections such as the Henry Moore Family Trust. As well as guiding she an adjunct lecturer at Richmond The American International University in London where she teaches undergraduates The History of London.

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

See also our website www.theartsocietyegerton.org.uk

