

BYGONE DAYS



OF HOTHFIELD

Saturday 27th September
St Margaret's Church, Hothfield TN26 1EL
10am to 4pm

**An exhibition of the history of our
beautiful 13th century church,
Hothfield Place and its estate, and the
Lords and Ladies who lived there**

Delicious cakes, savouries and
refreshments at the church café

Visit the belfry
(for the fit and able
over 12 years young)

Free entry

www.hothfieldmemories.org.uk
 **Friends of St Margaret's Church, Hothfield**

Dates for your Diary

Hothfield Parish Council next meeting 7pm 11th Sep Hothfield Village Hall

Chilham Village Hall Craft Fair 10am 7th Sep (see page 5)

History Society Exhibition 10am 27th Sep St Margarets Church

Harvest Lunch Hothfield Village Hall 12noon 5th Oct (see page 7)

Table Top Sale Hothfield Village Hall 10am 15th Nov (see page 7)

Bygone Days of Hothfield exhibition– Saturday 27th September, 10am – 4pm

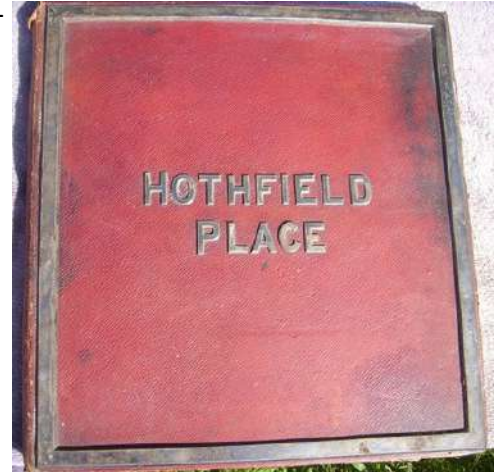


2

Pictures and information about the former Hothfield Place estate, the Lords and Ladies who lived there, and our parish church will be on display in St.Margaret's Church. Entry is free and the belltower will also be open.

The Friends of St.Margaret's Church will be providing homemade cakes, savouries and refreshments to buy and enjoy in the historic surroundings. There is free parking close to the church. We look forward to seeing you there.

The former Manor was a temporary home to evacuated children and the their Norland Nurses in late 1939 and early 1940. Recently a postcard appeared on that well-known on-line auction site which was posted from Hothfield Post Office on 4th May 1940 from a trainee Norland Nurse, Joan, to a friend in Canterbury. Normally the nurses would have been in London. She had included her own address as "Norland Institute, Hothfield Place". Her message provides a brief insight to their short time at Hothfield: *'I should love to call + see you one day, & I will do if time, but as you know there is a lot of work to do. I have five more months training & I love it. I have also had 3 months Hospital training which is quite useful. Isn't the country looking wonderful now? We have love bike rides in our spare time.'*



Family photos

A descendant of the Luckhurst family is hoping to come to the exhibition to bring some old family photos of her ancestors who worked the land around the Manor's estate. We look forward to seeing those and adding them to the village's archive. There are Luckhurst graves in the churchyard and on the roll of honour on the wall of the church, and the exhibition will include information on a few of the notable former residents and workers.

Hothfield Manor tablecloths found

Kind residents Will and Farrah Storr recently purchased a handful of small tablecloths bearing the embroidered 'Hothfield' name and a coronet emblem in red thread. They found them on that well-known internet auction site and have very generously donated three of the cloths to the village archive.

The Hothfield name and coronet match the emblem used in Lady Rosamond Tufton's autograph book around 1900 and so we can be fairly sure that these tablecloths have come from the former Hothfield Manor (Hothfield Place) and not from a different place like the hospital.

These white cloths are quite plain with a slightly decorative border but a straight edge. They're also quite small at 26inches x 42inches (66cm x 107cm) and so would have only covered a small table or bedside cabinet for example, or a small runner on a larger table. The name appears once in one corner of each cloth and so would not have displayed neatly when draped over a table. I wonder if they were used 'below stairs' in the servants' quarters. One would have hoped for something more ornate in the main part of the house for guests and the Lord and Lady to see. These will be on display on 27th September along with a few other artefacts from the manor.



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

Charing Scouts

We've been on summer holidays for the last month so not much has happened..... think again! The Kent International Jamboree was a fabulous success. There was non stop activity and fun for thousands of scouts from all over the world. Our leaders and young people came back exhilarated and exhausted.

Beavers had a brilliant day at the Big Cat Sanctuary in Smarden. We are now all getting ready for the new term. Lots of new beavers and others moving up to new sections. Exciting times. If you hear sirens around the scout hut on Thursday September 11th don't be alarmed, we are hoping for a visit by the highway police.

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

Thursdays @ 10.30am

Dance Visions Zumba

Contact: bookwhen.com/dancevisions

Fridays @ 18.30

Bowls Club

Contact: John 07492 862974

Hothfield Village Hall (KCHFT Health Visiting Team)

Tuesday Drop-in Session Weekly 9.30am to 12.30pm

These breastfeeding drop-in sessions are supportive, social, and welcome all pregnant and breastfeeding women and their families, including partners. Trained Breastfeeding Champions from the local Health Visiting Teams will be able to provide information and help if you have a breastfeeding concern. Get more information and support for parenting under-fives at www.kentcht.nhs.uk/kent-baby

GOOD VIBES 😊

CALLING ALL FIRST TIMERS

TRIAL PRICE £5.50
Class THURSDAYS 10:30am
Hothfield Village Hall **BOOK NOW!**

bookwhen.com/dancevisions

Book your space with flexible ticket options and on or offline payment options at checkout!
OR contact us: info@dancevisions.co.uk
01233 516098

First, a big thank you from the KWT staff for keeping dogs on leads during the nesting season.

Heather peaking, fungi appearing, thistledown floating; by early August the reserve's regular observers and volunteers sensed the season was gently turning. Among the lizards basking in August were this year's young, which will eventually hibernate. The moth team led by Terry Dunk recorded the peppered moth in its metallic form for the first time on the reserve, this dark form is normally seen in more urban/industrial areas. Anne Rowe commented that some of the wasp spiders are extremely large this year. The female of this orb spider is camouflaged as a wasp but is harmless, except to the males who mate with it. Grassland and heathland on the reserve are ideal habitats for the webs of this recent arrival from the continent. The silk egg-sacs are attached to the grasses.

The reserve and other areas of Hothfield and Westwell parishes are home to two living fossils, horsetails, *Equisetum*. They are descendants of prehistoric *Calamites*, a huge family of plants including tree-like species 20-30 metres high in the carboniferous period, some 325 million years ago, evolving from the Devonian period, 400 million years ago. *Calamites* are known from fossils found in many locations including in this country, often as a cast of the debris filling a fallen stem segment, and are described as primitive in comparison with the seed-bearing plants that eventually dominated. Seedless and flowerless, now classified with ferns, reproduction was by means of spores held in cones at the tips of shoots, but the plant spread mostly by massive horizontal underground stems or rhizomes, sprouting clones of the same plant, the only group of trees of that period known to be clonal. Growing in swampy forests deep rhizomes anchored tall plants as they quickly spread. Sounds familiar? Indeed, the mostly small modern horsetails behave in just the same way, and have changed little. Mexican Giant Horsetail, *Equisetum myriochaetum*, grows up to 24 feet.

Water horsetail, *Equisetum fluviatile*, is an axiophyte of clean water, ie an indicator of a habitat that is considered important for conservation, and listed in Alex Loxton's 2021 survey of plants on the reserve as abundant in bog 4. Growing in shallow water, tolerating a wide range of damp habitats including salty, it has a distinctive, almost smooth dark green, jointed but unbranched upright stem, and can grow up to 2 meters tall. Fertile stalks bear a cone at the tip. The stems are hollow and snap easily at the nodes so...Lego plant to some. The scales in darker rings at the nodes are reduced leaves fused together. The plant is used as an ornamental and for water purification, as it's able to absorb pollutants. *Equisetum* from the Latin *equis* for "horse" and *seta*, "bristle".

Field Horsetail, *Equisetum arvense* (*arvense* from the Latin "*arvum*", meaning "ploughed"), occurs around bog 4 and in the woodland below bog 2. Whorls of green side shoots at the segment joints give it a feathery appearance. Gardeners and farmers know it is difficult to clear, due to the deep rhizomes. Off-white succulent-looking stems appear from bare earth in early spring, with whorls of brown scale leaves up the stem, tipped by a brown spore cone. The ferny green stems follow on. The plant is rich in silica, and feels rough to the touch. It was used to polish or scour metal and fine-polish wood. Both species spread by vegetative reproduction, rhizomes spreading and fragments of stem rooting. Native in the Northern Hemisphere, when introduced to a new country they inevitably become a serious pest, so in New Zealand the sale, spread and cultivation of field horsetail is prohibited.

Spiders disguised as wasps, living fossil horsetails, not to mention Insect-eating sundew – it's all about survival, for a few days or a few million years.

Margery Thomas

Late Summer
CRAFT FAIR
 Sunday 7th Sept
 10am to 3pm

Chilham Village Hall
 Chilham. Near
 Canterbury. Kent
 CT4 8DB

Handmade crafts.
 Refreshments. Free parking.

To avoid scam accounts only email
chilhamcraftfair@yahoo.co.uk

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

Educational Grants

Uniform



Dance



Scouts Subs



University



Travel



School trips



Sporting Activities



If you live in Hothfield and think that Hothfield Educational Foundation could help with your children's education, or know of someone else who could benefit, please do contact us via HothfieldEducation@gmail.com

Join the Nine Oaks Vineyard Harvest 2025

6

After a very challenging growing season in 2024 we are hoping for better harvest this year and as always, we will be looking for volunteer pickers. Whether you're a seasoned picker or it's your first year we are very happy for your support.

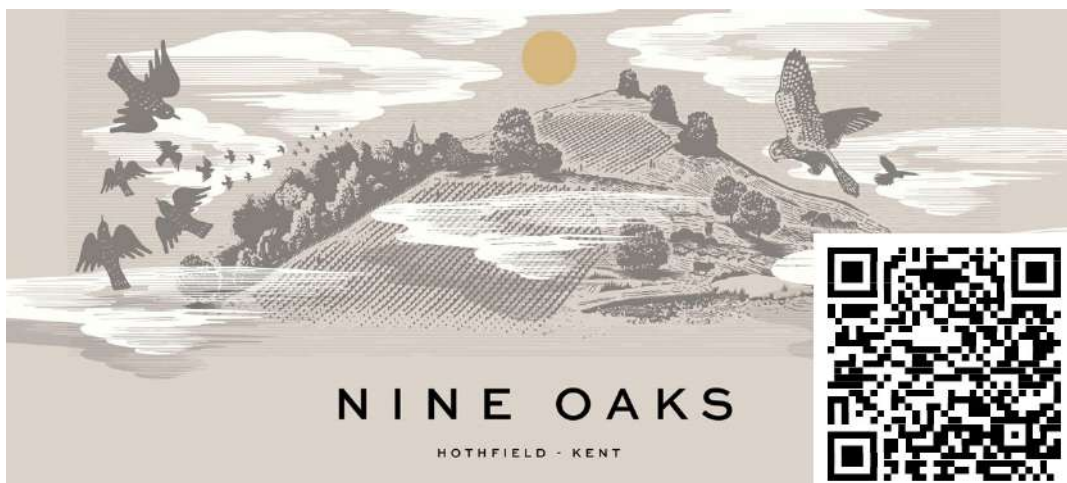
Predicting harvest dates is always hit and miss, but the harvest typically takes place over several weekends in late September/early October, and we are generally able to confirm dates from mid-September.

We ask for volunteers to pick for 4-6 hours on one or more of the harvest days (some do all). In return we provide tea, coffee and biscuits throughout the day and a harvest lunch in the vines, washed down with our wines. We also provide a discount code to all those who attend which is valid on wine purchases in 2025 and tour & tasting bookings in 2026.

Interested in joining us?

Please register your interest by either emailing info@nine-oaks.co.uk or signing up to our newsletter at the link below or Scan the QR code below and we will keep you up to date as things progress towards harvest.

<https://www.nine-oaks.co.uk/#:~:text=Email%20Address-,Sign.-Up>



FRIENDS OF ST MARGARET'S CHURCH HOTHFIELD ARE HOSTING A



HOTHFIELD VILLAGE HALL
15 NOVEMBER 2025 10.00 TO 12.30

£10 per table, Telephone Sharon on
07968054898 to reserve a table

HARVEST LUNCH

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, HOTHFIELD FOLLOWING
THE SERVICE ON OCTOBER 5TH 2025 AT 12 MIDDAY

ALL WELCOME

SUGGESTED DONATION OF £5 PER PERSON

Ploughman's Lunch and dessert with glass of wine or soft drink followed by coffee
or tea

Donations go towards upkeep of the Church.

Contact: Pamela 01233 623568

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 Sep

Sunday 7th 11.00am The Eucharist

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

THE ARTS SOCIETY EGERTON

Wednesday 10th September at 2.30 at Egerton Millennium Hall, Elm Close TN27 9DS



Wednesday 8th October: King and Collector- Henry VIII and the Art of Kingship

Our lecturer Siobhan Clarke has worked for Historic Royal Palaces for 20 years.

Visitors are always very welcome at £8 (just turn up and pay on the door), refunded if you join. Membership costs £45 for 10 lectures. 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

Image provided by lecturer



Celebration Cakes for all occasions including Weddings

Special bakes include personalised cupcakes, Brownies, Blondies, chunky cookies and personalised biscuits

You can find me on: Instagram - @flossysfussybakes



SHIFT HAPPENS

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Paul 07703 685143

www.shifthappensdrivingtuition

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 NEWS

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