

A RIGHT ROYAL OCCASION

What a wonderful day at the Village Hall to celebrate our Queen's Platinum Jubilee! More than 120 villagers came to enjoy a Royal High Tea with delicious sandwiches and cakes. The bouncy castle was a huge hit with the children, as were other games and drawings. Everyone also received a Hothfield Platinum Jubilee mug. A limited number of mugs are left over, and if any child living in Hothfield would like a mug, then please email parish.clerk@hothfield.org.uk and we will arrange delivery/collection.

The best-dressed Princess competition was very competitive and great fun.



It was delightful to see such a large turnout, the biggest we've had for years. Of course, a lot of organisation went into making the day so memorable, with a number of great people giving up their time building up to the day and on the day itself. Special mention of thanks to the Village Hall committee of John, Lesley, Steve, Kenny, Liz and Snooky, without whom the event couldn't have taken place. We also had great help from Pam Howard, Pat Coles and my lovely wife Louise as well as many others. The Royal High Tea boxes were baked and prepared by Natasha of Flossy Fussy Bakes. Everyone loved them!



Saint Margaret's Church



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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 July

Sunday 3 1100 The Eucharist

Sunday 10 1100: BCP Matins

Sunday 17 No service in Hothfield

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

Sunday 24: 1100: Family Worship

Sunday 31: 1030: Benefice Communion in CHARING

Hothfield Village Hall

For your reference, we include below the key information about your Hall for whenever it might be useful for your needs or for mentioning to any friends or acquaintances should they share with you a need for a space in and around Ashford.
The Hothfield Village Hall Committee.

Available for parties, receptions, dancing, indoor games, etc.

Spacious hall (18x10.7m) plus kitchen, dining area & stage.
20 tables & 100 chairs supplied
Fully equipped kitchen
Large dedicated car park
Free WiFi



Rates:

Residents of Hothfield £12.00 per hour

Others £15.00 per hour

All Day Hire

Residents £175.00/day (£175.00 deposit)

Others £250.00/day (£250.00 deposit)

07510944055 | hothfieldhall@outlook.com | www.hothfieldvillagehall.co.uk

Hothfield Educational Foundation

Many residents will already be aware of the Foundation, which makes financial grants to applicants in the village for educational purposes. What you may not know is how the Foundation came into being.

Between the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries a quantity of land and money was given by the Lords of Hothfield to the village. The Thanet Charities were set up in 1887 to distribute money to adults in the parish who were in need. This charity still exists.

In 1834 Lord Hothfield built the first school in West Street for the children of the Hothfield Estate workers, followed some time later by the second and larger school at what is now the Bluebells Children's Centre. In 1908, his descendant rented the school to Kent County Council for 5 shillings a year. The Head Teacher rented the Old School House to live in. This money, plus an additional annual sum from the Hothfield Estate, formed the basis of the Hothfield Educational Foundation.

An old cash book found recently in the church shows that, from 1910 onwards, individual grants were given to pupils moving from the village school to Ashford Grammar School, up until the second World War. A grant was also made annually to Hothfield Church for the religious education of children. At the end of the War, in addition to individual payments, a substantial grant was paid to the village school for extra activities such as swimming and taking the older children away on holiday.

The Foundation is alive and well in 2022. The Trustees meet four or five times a year and welcome applications for consideration from residents for grants to help with activities such as music lessons, sports coaching and further education. If you think someone in your family may be eligible, do please contact the Secretary on hothfieldeducation@gmail.com or telephone 07973119462



What a hectic time this is for scouting! Cub scouts had an amazing camp at Godinton Park. Scouts and explorers have been rehearsing and planning for the Gang Show. At the time of writing, this is just a few days away and by the time you read this it will all be over. We owe a huge debt of thanks to the leaders who have worked tirelessly to make this happen. Debbie and Martin Grant have been amazing, but particular credit goes to all our young people who have pushed themselves out of their comfort zone to achieve something special.

The Charing fête was a huge success, with Cub Scout leaders running the barbecue on Saturday. It's a long time since we've had such long queues and completely sold out.

Thoughts now turn to summer activities as our scouts and explorers get ready for the Kent International Jamboree. This promises to be a memorable experience.

Our two representatives will be traveling to South Africa to help work on projects supporting wildlife and preventing poaching. We can't wait to hear all about it when they return.

Our beavers have their sleepover and can only dream of the fun and excitement that scouting will provide for them in the future.

Terry , Group Scout Leader 07748818660

The Street

Micro-surfacing will start sometime around 9 August, involving several days of closure of The Street (for through traffic to the south) and Fridd Lane (Bethersden Road) to Bears Lane from MJ Allen for all traffic. The running water on much of The Street and the downhill section of Fridd Lane (Bethersden Rd) prevents the work from proceeding there until the water issues are sorted out.

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

Justine Wright

Koba

Dog

Training

Wednesday

evenings

5.30 to 8.30pm

Facebook:

Koba dog training

Email:

justine@kobadogtraining.co.uk

HOTHFIELD HEATHLANDS IN JULY

The devastating decline in nearly all the 2,500 UK species of moths was reflected in a recent acquisition by the Victoria and Albert Museum, a series of 23 mezzotint prints of UK moths by Sarah Gillespie, started in 2019 after she learned that the total abundance of moths in Britain has dropped by a third over the past 50 years. 62 moth species have become extinct.

Half of the 59 British butterfly species are now on the red list. Butterflies and moths are still breeding and flying on the heathland, but Ian Rickards reported in mid-June that they had a 'desperate beginning to the season: we are recording small heaths, small coppers and green-veined whites in low numbers. However, a recent increase in small tortoiseshells butterflies will boost numbers.'

The plump, juicy bodies of moths and butterflies and their caterpillars and pupae are all essential foods for birds, bats, hedgehogs, lizards and predatory invertebrates such as parasitoid wasps. They are also very important pollinators of flowers, without which there are no fruits, berries and seeds, another essential part of the food chain. Moths are generally thought to do the night shift after the daytime pollinators have gone to bed, but there are many more daytime moth species in the UK than butterflies, and some butterflies fly at night when migrating. Anne Rowe spotted day-flying moths *Mother Shipton* in May

and *cinnabar* in June. The former needs clover and trefoils for its caterpillars, while cinnabar caterpillars will feed on ragwort later this summer. We have a dedicated pair of moth surveyors at Hothfield Heathlands who have collated years of data and have used lamp traps at night to monitor the moth population. Currently they have records for 286 different macro moths (the larger moths). There will be many more micro moths, which are much smaller and harder to identify.

Butterflies and moths are sensitive indicators of the health of our environment. Gardens can be a year-round haven for them, with night-scented flowers, untidy corners, areas of tall and medium-height grass, no chemicals, completely unlit areas or bat-friendly red lighting if necessary.

Moths and butterflies are all classified in the huge order Lepidoptera. There are so many exceptions to the differences between moth and butterfly that it really comes down to a slightly arbitrary cultural distinction. While English has two words, *butterfly* and *moth*, in French *papillon* is used for all the species; in Brazilian Portuguese *borboleta* for diurnal, *mariposa* for nocturnal; in Spanish *mariposa* and *mariposa nocturna*; in Italian *farfalle* and *farfalle notturna*, in German *schmetterling* and *motte*. All delightful names, as are the inventive, evocative common names of the species.

Margery Thomas

Green-veined white



Cinnabar



It's a joy to walk on Hothfield Heathlands, and everyone is welcome. Please remember this is first and foremost a haven for wildlife. You can help our work by staying on the main established paths to prevent soil erosion elsewhere and wearing footwear suitable for the muddy sections. Keep dogs close at all times, do not let your dogs run off the paths and through the areas of heather and gorse where they will disturb wildlife. Remove litter and dog mess and place all dog bags in the bins. Hothfield Heathlands is one of the best spots for wildlife in the county; with your help we can keep it that way.

We have been building a new surfaced path through the Triangle, accessible from the reserve car park. This should be completed by the time the newsletter is published. We hope that this will create an easy-to-use path by buggies, wheelchairs and mobility scooters, with a surface that can be used any time of year.

Ian Rickards, Area Manager



5 Hothfield History Society

Royal Celebrations

A big thankyou and 'well done' to the Parish Council, Village Hall and especially Natasha for putting on a Royal Tea Party to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Many residents also had their own local celebrations and parties over the long weekend. Commemorative mugs were available at the Village Hall to mark the occasions, as there had also been in 2011 for the Royal Wedding of William and Catherine.

The village has marked the previous Jubilees in 1977 and 2002 with parades and local parties, with residents dressing up.

John Coles, who has been in the village since 1949, was at the Village Hall's Tea Party this year, and he recalls a bonfire built in 1953 for the Coronation. The area where the Council houses are now, in the centre of the village, was previously a woodland, and a wet boggy one. There was a path crossing the area from the pub to the junction of Cades Road and School Road. Parish Council minutes repeatedly record that the path was wet, flooded and impassable, and more stone and material had to be added to keep it open. During the second World War the army strengthened Coach Drive and built concrete hard-standings under the trees to park tanks hidden from aerial view.

In 1953 the Council had started to clear the trees from the site and break up the concrete pads, before starting work on building the new houses. The trees were pushed into a big pile in the middle of the site and kept in readiness for a bonfire to celebrate the long-awaited Coronation. However, John recalls that the bonfire was mischievously lit a few days before the Coronation, probably by local children. The residents rallied and found more timber and trees to build another bonfire, which was then guarded for a few days to make sure that it wasn't burned down before the Coronation.

We don't think that the original fire-starters who set light to the first bonfire ahead of the Coronation were identified. Do you know who it was? If you think you know the miscreants, then please let us know. No-one will be in trouble after all this time, and it would solve one of the village's mysteries.



Our Fish and Chip Van (The Mermaids Plaice) will be coming to Bluebells car park every Wednesday from 6.30pm -7.30pm. For pre orders, please call 07973 410973 before 1pm Wednesday Cash and Card payments welcome



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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

TRADITIONAL MOLE CATCHING



(NO POISONS USED)

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HOTHFIELD NEWS

is edited by Hedley Grenfell-Banks and financed by Hothfield Parish Council.

Email: hedley@grenfell-banks.com

The deadline for the August 2022 issue is 20 July.

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



GARDENS

Open Tuesday to Sunday & Bank Holiday Mondays from Tuesday 1st March 2022 to Sunday 30th October 1pm–6pm (last booked entry 5pm). [Book your tickets online.](#)

HOUSE

Open Friday and Saturday from Friday 1st April 2022 to Saturday 1st October. Tours at 1.30pm, 2pm, 2.30pm, 3pm, 3.30pm and 4pm. [Book your tickets online.](#)

TEAROOM

Open Friday and Saturday from Friday 1st April 2022 to Saturday 1st October. (For our Garden, House & Garden visitors only) No reservations taken.



OPEN AIR THEATRE – THE PANTALOONS

16th July 2022, 18:30 – 21:00

War of The Worlds. The critically-acclaimed Pantaloons invade the stage in this funny yet faithful new adaptation as they use musical instruments, puppetry and, um, enthusiasm to recreate deadly heat-rays, giant fighting-machines, squidgy tentacled Martians and interplanetary warfare on an epic scale. The chances of success? A million to one... Performed in the delightful Walled Garden, picnics from 5.30 pm, performance from 6:30 pm. Purchase your tickets directly from the [Pantaloons website.](#)

EVENT



SCULPTURE IN THE GARDENS

23rd July 2022 – 14th August 2022, 13.00 – 18.00

Godinton's annual exhibition of contemporary work. This long-established summer sculpture show is now a popular fixture in many diaries. For three weeks a selection of new work is shown adding an exciting element to the 12 acres of beautiful and varied gardens. Homemade refreshments are available. Purchase your [admission ticket here.](#)

EVENT



OPEN AIR THEATRE – THE RUDE MECHANICALS

30th July 2022, 19:00 – 21:30

The Rude Mechanical Theatre Company will perform Gods and Dogs on the Croquet Lawn. The annual visit by this exciting theatre company bringing you an hilarious and provocative new story of love, marriage and a celebrity game show, 'Marriage Maker!' Set in social media driven 2084 when being different is a crime. Remember to bring your chairs, rugs and picnics! Picnics from 6.30 pm, purchase your tickets directly from [The Rude Mechanicals.](#)

EVENT

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 unsuitable 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

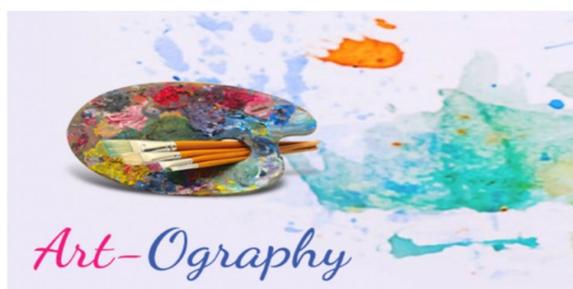
weald of kent protection society

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

Victoria Park. Ashford

Ashford Borough Council are pleased to announce that the works to redevelop and restore Victoria Park will be starting very soon. Prior to the pandemic, ABC were awarded £3 million from The National Lottery Heritage fund to revitalise Victoria Park. Plans include a new children's play area, wetland habitat, community building with café and more. Following a successful procurement process, contracts with two suppliers, BBS and Blakedown Landscapes, are now being finalised. The Council has also made a separate successful funding bid for Changing Places toilets in the borough, and some of this funding will be used to install a Changing Places toilet within the park as part of the overall works. In line with ABC corporate plan and the development of strategic parks, throughout the process the project team worked closely with residents and stakeholders and an independent group, called the Friends of Victoria Park, which was set up to engage with the plans, put forward ideas and promote the park within the community. Contractors will continue working closely with the above, with works in the park anticipated to commence in June, with the completion date for the works anticipated to be summer 2023. There will be some minor disruption to areas of the park as the works progress, however we are working hard to keep this to a minimum. As part of the restoration works the current toilet facilities will be closed, but an alternative temporary toilet provision will be made available for the remainder of the summer period. The works will see some vegetation and mature trees removed to allow the redesign of the park areas accordingly, however as part of the project over 150 standard trees will be replanted. You can find out more information on <https://victoriaparkashford.co.uk/tree-maintenance-in-the-park>

Additionally, the current children's play area will be closing from September to allow re-landscaping of the area. However, as part of the project a new children's play provision will be created which will sit in front of the café and hub building. ABC hope residents will be pleased to see work is starting, and we will be sharing updates on the project as it progresses on ABC and Victoria Parks' channels. You can also keep up to date with the Victoria Park project on <https://victoriaparkashford.co.uk>



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AUNT JEMIMA'S SUMMER QUOTES

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawnmower is broken.

— James Dent

It's a sure sign of summer if the chair gets up when you do. — Walter Winchell

I believe someone made a grievous mistake when summer was created; no novice or god in their right mind would make a season akin to hell on purpose. Someone should be fired. — Michelle Franklin

Ah, summer, what power you have to make us suffer and like it. — Russell Baker

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

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 grill, it was quite a moment. I discovered that summer is a completely different experience when you know how to grill. — Taylor Swift

Deep summer is when laziness finds respectability. — Sam Keen

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

Summer bachelors, like summer breezes, are never as cool as they pretend to be. — Nora Ephron

I'm glad it's finally hot enough to complain about how hot it is.

What dreadful hot weather we have! It keeps me in a continual state of inelegance. — Jane Austen

It was always the view of my parents...that hot weather encouraged loose morals among young people. — Ian McEwan

The heat was so dreadful here that I found there was nothing left but to take off my flesh and sit in my bones. — Sydney Smith

It's a smile, it's a kiss, it's a sip of wine ... it's summertime! — Kenny Chesney

Being a child at home alone in the summer is a high risk occupation. If you call your mother at work thirteen times an hour, she can hurt you. — Erma Bombeck

To go out with the setting sun on an empty beach is to truly embrace your solitude. — Jeanne Moreau

Let a man walk ten miles steadily on a hot summer's day along a dusty English road, and he will soon discover why beer was invented. — G K Chesterton

A day without sunshine is like, you know, night. — Steve Martin

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

BARN DANCE

Saturday July 23rd

Hothfield Village Hall TN26 1EQ

Great live music!

The caller teaches everything.

No experience or partner needed.

7:30pm: Ceilidh Skillz Workshop

8:00pm – 11:00pm: Dance

£10 in advance; £12 on the door.

We do lots of fun, easy dances so that you will be able to join in everything. You don't need a partner; everyone dances with everyone and we make sure that no-one is left sitting out. Lots of our dancers come by themselves; we are a very sociable group so you will feel part of the crowd straight away.

Bring your own drinks and refreshments.

We would love to see you on the dance-floor.

Why not give it a try?

Lots more details at <http://www.contrafusion.co.uk> and <http://contrafusion.co.uk/KentCeilidhs.html>.

Contact John Sweeney for more information and tickets:

