

# HOTHFIELD NEWS

BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY



# NEWS

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 4 April 2020



## CORONAVIRUS PROTECT YOURSELF & OTHERS

## Rules on staying at home and away from others

1. Staying at home
2. Closing non-essential shops and public spaces
3. Stopping public gatherings

The single most important action we can all take, in fighting coronavirus, is to stay at home in order to protect the NHS and save lives.

When we reduce our day-to-day contact with other people, we will reduce the spread of the infection. That is why the government is now (23 March 2020) introducing 3 new measures:

- ◆ Requiring people to stay at home, except for very limited purposes
- ◆ Closing non-essential shops and community spaces
- ◆ Stopping all gatherings of more than two people in public

Every citizen must comply with these measures. The relevant authorities, including the police, will be given the powers to enforce them – including fines and dispersing gatherings.

These measures are effective immediately. The government will look again at these measures in 3 weeks, and relax them if the evidence shows this is possible.

### I. Staying at home

You should only leave the house for one of four reasons:

- ◆ shopping for basic necessities, for example food and medicine, which must be as infrequent as possible
- ◆ one form of exercise a day, for example a run, walk, or cycle – alone or with members of your household
- ◆ any medical need, or to provide care to a vulnerable person
- ◆ travelling to and from work, but only where this absolutely cannot be done from home

These 4 reasons are exceptions – even when doing these activities, you should be minimising time spent outside of the home and ensuring you are 2 metres apart from anyone outside of your household.

These measures must be followed by everyone. Separate advice is available for individuals or households who are isolating, and for the most vulnerable who need to be shielded.

If you work in a critical sector outlined in this guidance, or your child has been identified as vulnerable, you can continue to take your children to school.

### 2. Closing non-essential shops and public spaces

The government has ordered certain businesses to close, including:

- all non-essential retail stores – this will include clothing and electronics stores; hair, beauty and nail salons; and outdoor and indoor markets, excluding food markets
- libraries, community centres, and youth centres
- pubs, cinemas and theatres
- indoor and outdoor leisure facilities such as bowling alleys, arcades and soft play facilities
- communal places within parks, such as playgrounds, sports courts and outdoor gyms
- places of worship, except for funerals attended by immediate families
- hotels, hostels, bed and breakfasts, campsites, caravan parks, and boarding houses for commercial/leisure use (excluding permanent residents and key workers)

### 3. Stopping public gatherings

To make sure people are staying at home and apart from each other, the government is also stopping all public gatherings of more than 2 people.

There are only 2 exceptions to this rule:

- where the gathering is of a group of people who live together – this means that a parent can, for example, take their children to the shops if there is no option to leave them at home
- where the gathering is essential for work purposes – but workers should be trying to minimise all meetings and other gatherings in the workplace

In addition, the government is stopping social events, including weddings, baptisms and other religious ceremonies. This will exclude funerals, which can be attended by immediate family.

### Delivering these new measures

These measures will reduce our day-to-day contact with other people. They are a vital part of our efforts to reduce the rate of transmission of coronavirus.

Every citizen is instructed to comply with these new measures. They will initially last for the three weeks from 23 March, at which point the government will look at them again and relax them if the evidence shows this is possible.

*Continued on back page*

Keep well, keep safe, keep happy and ...

HAPPY EASTER!



# **SAIN T MARGARET'S CHURCH**



2

For weddings, baptisms, etc. Contact the Parish Office [calehillpcc@gmail.com](mailto:calehillpcc@gmail.com) 07395 910317

**Services at Saint Margaret's are suspended for the duration of the Coronavirus epidemic. Readings, prayers and a short sermon will appear each Sunday on the Parish website,**

**<https://www.calehill-westwell.uk/>**

**Save this date for  
St Margaret's Church  
Hothfield's Angel Festival  
November 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> 2020**



We would be delighted if you would create an angel to decorate our church

## **A LILY FOR EASTER**

**Contact Jane on 01233 840310  
if you would like to donate a lily  
to Saint Margaret's Church for Easter  
in memory of a loved one, relation or friend.**



## **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: [hothfieldnewsletter@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:hothfieldnewsletter@tiscali.co.uk)

Available on line at [http://www.hothfield.org.uk/news\\_letter.html](http://www.hothfield.org.uk/news_letter.html)

The deadline for the May 2020 issue is 20 April.

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.

# HOTHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

There was a good turnout to the Village Hall in February to discuss ideas put forward by residents to spend the Solar Funding money. It was very pleasing that so many people took time out of there Saturday to express their views. We will be discussing in detail the many ideas at forth coming Parish Council meetings and would continue to encourage further suggestions. As a Parish Council we are here to serve and benefit Hothfield and are always available to hear residents views.

We are fortunate that the Parish Council has such dedicated councillors who give up their free time to help our community and include such skilled and knowledgeable individuals. Our recent success in bringing in a 50mph speed limit on the A20 has been welcomed throughout the village.

Our village is also fortunate to have such a wonderful facility as the Village Hall and I would recommend everyone in the village to use this great location for parties, clubs and events. On the subject of the Village Hall, the small Village Hall committee is desperate for some volunteers to provide a few hours support so this facility remains available.

In these trying times, please take care and keep an eye on those more vulnerable in our lovely village.

Ian Lloyd

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find out more: [www.wkps.org.uk](http://www.wkps.org.uk)  
[secretary@wkps.org.uk](mailto:secretary@wkps.org.uk) 07919 871543

## VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY

### March Draw Results

- |           |        |        |
|-----------|--------|--------|
| 1st prize | £21.75 | no. 42 |
| 2nd prize | £13.05 | no. 40 |
| 3rd prize | £8.70  | no. 91 |

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

Hothfield Parish Council

## Hothfield Gardeners' Competition

Saturday 4 July 2020

Following the announcement of the Competition in last month's paper, here as promised are the categories that Hothfield residents will be able to enter:

**Best Small Garden**

**Best Container**

**Best Large Garden**

**Best Kitchen Garden**

**Best Border Design**

**Best Young Gardener**

More details and an application form will appear with May's Hothfield News

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

## Village Hall



### Regular Activities

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| Mondays    | Toddler Sense 9.00 to 12.00am.<br>1830-2100 tai chi and yoga |
| Tuesdays   | 1900-2100 Hothfield short mat Bowls Club                     |
| Wednesdays | Dog Training 5.30-9pm  |
| Thursdays  |  |
| Fridays    | Toddler Sense 9.00 to 12.00am.                               |
| Saturday   | Rugby Tots 9-11.45am.  |

To book the Village Hall for your Parties, Get-togethers, etc., please ring 01233 625942, or email [hothfieldhall@outlook.com](mailto:hothfieldhall@outlook.com) Or visit [www.hothfieldhall.online](http://www.hothfieldhall.online)

Prices: Village £10 per hour,  
Outside Village £12.50/hour

All Day Hire – Village £175.00  
 (£175.00 deposit required).

All Day Hire – Outside Village £250.00  
 (£250.00 deposit)

Children's Birthday £35.00 first 4 hours,  
then at hourly rate. (£25.00 deposit required).

# APRIL ON HOTHFIELD HEATHLANDS<sup>4</sup>

The gloom of a soggy February and the early March mud are morphing into the delights of Spring on the heathland. Birds are nest-building, mating, feeding early broods, insects are emerging from hibernation, flowers and leaf buds bursting into life in the warm sun and longer days. When will the first bluebell appear this year? Will there be any white sports? The Heathland is a good place to clear the head after the frenzy of supermarket aisles and the mist of uncertainty we are trying to see through.

Birds naturally try to hide their nests from predators and the call of long-tailed tits will be far more obvious on the heath than their beautiful nests. These are made from moss and wool, camouflaged on the outside with myriad flakes of lichen held together with silk from spider egg cocoons. The inside of the flexible barrel-shaped nest is lined with feather down. Such intricacy is a big investment in species continuation, with a high rate of predation. The birds at Hothfield have adapted to nesting in the tangles of gorse and bramble. Long tailed tits live communally over the winter splitting up at nesting time,

but if a nest fails, that pair is quite likely to turn to helping feed the brood of a family member. The communities of extended families and extra singletons re-group for the rest of the year, constantly twittering to each other. Their diet is mainly insects although they come to feeders in winter, always a delight; communal roosting is essential for one of the smallest and prettiest British birds.

Nature's shelves are increasingly empty of insects, the whole country is in trouble over this drastic decline in the essential source of pollination of crops and wild plants, food for other insects, birds, animals. If every gardener made one or two small changes – ditching the insecticide, allowing patches of long grass and wild flowers, adding a mini pond or more nectar-rich flowers, creating hedgehog highways – that would make a big contribution to safeguarding essential insects. The 2020 KWT Wild About Gardens scheme has advice and plenty of specific ideas at <https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/get-involved/wild-about-gardens>.

The Heathland is open



Long-tailed Tit Photo: Val Butcher

every day for everyone to enjoy. Trails are signposted and marked on entrance maps, as is the location of livestock. The noticeboard down the main slope from the Cades Road car park gives recent wildlife sightings. Please keep dogs in check, especially around children and livestock, and away from the scrub, heather and undergrowth where they will disturb sensitive wildlife. Please remove dog mess, including in the Triangle compartment.

Our Tuesday volunteer group may well need to take a break in the face of the current Coronavirus Pandemic, but please get in touch to find out updates.

For email alerts on the location of the livestock or volunteer opportunities contact Ian Rickards on [ian.rickards@kentwildlife.org.uk](mailto:ian.rickards@kentwildlife.org.uk).

Take care.

Margery Thomas



## HOTHFIELD CHURCHYARD CLEAN-UP

Helpers are needed to clear the rubbish heap in the Churchyard.

Over the years the rubbish heap has grown considerably .

We would like to clear it to make a better place for people who come to visit their loved ones

If you have a relative or friend buried in Hothfield or would just like to help your village community, please give us a couple of hours of your time.

Dates: Saturdays 21 March, 18 April and 25 April



## Hothfield Gardeners' Competition

Saturday 4 July 2020

The judging for our bi-annual competition will be taking place this year in the village on Saturday 4 July.

We will have details of the categories you can enter in the next edition of Hothfield News

# Hothfield History Society



## Talk postponed: The Wreck Hunter

I regret that we will not be holding the talk on 3rd April by Melody Foreman about her new book – 'The Wreck Hunter: Battle of Britain and the Blitz'. In the spirit of supporting the national crisis we have postponed this fascinating presentation. Furthermore the Village Hall has been forced to temporarily close. We will publish a new date for the talk later in the year and hope that you can come along then.

In the meantime you might like to seek out a copy of Melody's book, and her other publications, some of which have Hothfield connections.

The village's history website: [www.hothfieldmemories.org.uk](http://www.hothfieldmemories.org.uk) lists other publications that are about Hothfield or which have references to Hothfield. Some of them have been written by past or present Hothfield residents. The History Society's own publications are available on memory stick (flash drive), CD (Word for Windows documents) and our book on the village in the 20th Century is also available in paper copy. Please e-mail



Out for our daily constitutional. Most of the evacuees were seeing the countryside for the first time.

me at: [hothfieldmemories@hotmail.com](mailto:hothfieldmemories@hotmail.com) for more information.

If you're self-isolating, or if we're all told to stay at home, then you can spend time looking at our website where you can read stories from past and current residents with photos from their past. It would be even better if you have the time to add your own story, please, or to add a comment to our website. You can write directly to the website or to the e-mail address above and I can publish your

memories and hopefully some pictures if you have them, for everyone to see. So if you find yourself with time on your hands then please drop us a line and tell us your tales of past Hothfield.

I have recently been contacted by a lady who helped to look after the Vietnamese 'Boat People' in 1979 so I will soon add her story and pictures that she has emailed onto the website and in a future newsletter item for everyone to see.

In December I wrote about

a book called "A Spoonful of Sugar" which was about Norland Nurses and included a chapter about their charges being evacuated to Hothfield Manor during one winter.

Past editions of the village Newsletter can be found on the Parish Council's website ([www.hothfield.org.uk](http://www.hothfield.org.uk)) so you can find my past articles there. Here are a couple of the photos from that book that were taken during the children's stay in Hothfield (with kind permission of the publisher Hodder and Stoughton).



The winter of 1940 was the coldest on record. Sledging and snowball fights with the Bethnal Greenies.

## Bingo

every Thursday night

Hothfield Village Hall

7pm, eyes down 7.30

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Previously named Lara's Pet Services



Regrettably, due to the current coronavirus crisis and following Government advice, the House will not open for the rest of the season this year. The house tearoom will close until the end of May at the earliest, and the gardens will close from 5pm Wednesday 18 March 2020 until further notice.



### **Learn Italian in Kent**

*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](http://www.learnitalianinkent.co.uk)

### **TRADITIONAL MOLE CATCHING**



(NO POISONS USED)

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**HOTHFIELD  
YOUTH  
CLUB**

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Arts n Crafts  
Tuck Shop  
Support & Advice**

**Socialise & Have FUN!  
Summer Trips  
BBQ  
Slip n slide  
Outdoor sport**

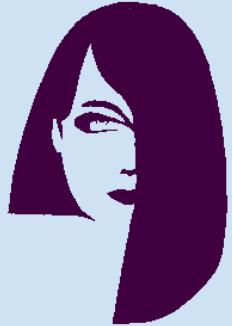
**Ages 8-18 Free**

### **Hairdressing student**

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And from July 2019,  
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**[facebook.com/flybykent](https://facebook.com/flybykent)**



We are following government recommendations and so all face to face scouting has stopped. Cub camp and many other events have been cancelled. We are still in contact with our young people and making suggestions for how they can spend their time and work on badges. Scouting is an incredibly important part of the growth and development of young people and we can't wait to get back to doing it properly

*Terry Lister  
Group Scout Leader  
07748818660*

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## Hothfield Post Office Stores

### Opening Times

Sunday	0900 – 1200	Post Office closed
Monday	0700 – 1300, 1400 – 1800	
Tuesday	0700 – 1300	
Wednesday	0700 – 1300, 1400 – 1800	
Thursday	0700 – 1300, 1400 – 1800	
Friday	0700 – 1300, 1400 – 1800	
Saturday	0800 – 1300, 1400 – 1800	PO morning only



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## Country Funerals

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will assist and guide you in saying goodbye to  
your loved one with compassion and dignity

For a Caring 24 Hour Service

Contact Leah Hutchinson

Tel 01233 712222 or 07708407229

Yonderway, Westwell, Ashford,  
Kent, TN25 4LE

# AUNT JEMIMA'S FAVOURITE COMEDIANS

"It's amazing that the amount of news that happens in the world every day always just exactly fits the newspaper." – Jerry Seinfeld

"I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day, but I couldn't find any." – Tommy Cooper

"My wife – it's difficult to say what she does. She sells seashells on the seashore." – Milton Jones

"I have kleptomania. But when it gets bad, I take something for it." – Ken Dodd

"I like to go into The Body Shop and shout out really loud, 'I've already got one!'" – Jimmy Carr

"As a kid I was made to walk the plank. We couldn't afford a dog." – Gary Delaney

"Crime in multi-storey car parks. That is wrong on so many different levels." – Tim Vine

"My New Year's resolution is to get in shape. I choose round." – Sarah Millican

"The anti-ageing advert that I would like to see is a baby covered in cream saying, 'Aah, I've used too much!'" – Andrew Bird

"My therapist told me the way to achieve true inner peace is to finish what you start. So far I've finished two bags of M&Ms and a chocolate cake. I feel better already!" – Dave Barry

"Hey, if anyone knows how to fix some broken hinges, my door's always open." – Paul F. Taylor

"Why do people say things like 'my eyes aren't what they used to be.' So what did they used to be? Ears?" – Billy Connolly

"I was watching the London Marathon and saw one runner dressed as a chicken and another runner dressed as an egg. I thought: 'This could be interesting.'" – Paddy Lennox

"You can't lose a homing pigeon. If your homing pigeon doesn't come back, then what you've lost is a pigeon." – Sara Pascoe

"I think the worst thing about driving a time machine is your kids are always moaning, 'Are we there yet?'" – Paul F. Taylor



Val Butcher



HGB

## Further advice to avoid infection

The advice is to follow these main guidelines.

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of a new continuous cough and/or high temperature. If you have these symptoms, however mild, stay at home and do not leave your house for 7 days from when your symptoms started. You do not need to call NHS 111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days, contact NHS 111 online. If you have no internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.

Wash your hands more often than usual, for 20 seconds using soap and hot water, particularly after coughing, sneezing and blowing your nose, or after being in public areas where other people are doing so. Use hand sanitiser if that's all you have. To reduce the spread of germs when you cough or sneeze, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue, or your sleeve (not your hands) if you don't have a tissue, and throw the tissue in a bin immediately. Then wash your hands or use a sanitising gel. Clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces using your regular cleaning products to reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people.

At the current time and based on our understanding of what is known of COVID-19 and other similar respiratory viruses, it is likely that older people and those with chronic medical conditions may be vulnerable to severe disease. As more information emerges, recommendations may change.

## Coronavirus

### Isolate your household Stay at home

If you or anyone in your household has a high temperature or a new and continuous cough – even if it's mild

- DO NOT** go to your GP or hospital.
- Go to [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) to check your symptoms and follow the specialist medical advice. Only call NHS 111 if you can't get online or your symptoms worsen.
- Protect older people and those with existing health conditions by avoiding contact.

Find out how to isolate your household at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

**CORONAVIRUS**  
**PROTECT  
YOURSELF  
OTHERS &  
THE NHS**

