

# Hothfield News

BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 2 March 2020

## A Day in the Life of a PCSO



My name is Aaron Newell, and I have worked for Kent Police as a Police Community Support Officer for 12 years. I have worked in different areas during my career, starting off in Whitstable and Herne Bay, before moving to work in rural wards in Canterbury and then Canterbury City Centre. I then changed departments and worked with missing children and child exploitation. I currently work in the Community Safety Unit at Ashford Police Station, where I am one of three rural PCSOs. I cover five ward areas which incorporate 20 villages, including Hothfield. I also deal with 16 Parish Councils, write a monthly report for them, and hold regular meetings.

No two days are the same, which is one of the things I enjoy about the job. However, an ordinary day starts with me going into work at Ashford Police Station and getting ready for my shift. Our shifts are usually ten hours long with a 45-minute refreshment break. We start at 7am and finish as late as 11pm.

At the start of each shift I turn on my radio. This shows the Force Control Room that I am on duty and ready to work. I then check my emails and sort out what jobs I have for the day. This done, I go out on patrol into the many rural wards I cover. I normally travel to the rural areas in a marked police vehicle before parking up and walking around.

Some of the things I may deal with during my shift include Burglaries, Road Traffic collisions, neighbour disputes, anti-social behaviour, following up on victims of fraud and crime, including offering advice on crime prevention and scam and fraud education. I also deal with vehicles obstructing the highway or pavements and nuisance vehicles, animal incidents, where I work closely with the Kent Police Rural Task Force, missing persons and attend other incidents with colleagues as required.

I visit schools to talk about my work, and monitor the parking outside schools which is a regular problem, and I attend coffee mornings and other events aimed at the elderly to offer advice and support as required.

If there is an issue I am unable to deal with, I am able to liaise with other agencies such as ABC, KCC, Parish Council, RSPCA etc.

I normally return to the Police Station for my refreshments, but occasionally take my break while out on patrol. At the end of the day, I return to the Police Station to deal with admin, before turning my radio off and going home to my young family. Another day done, let's see what tomorrow holds.

**Hothfield Parish Council**

**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 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

## Put them where they belong!

A few Hothfield residents are disposing of wet wipes and nappies into the sewage system. This causes a blockage in the underground pipes. The result is raw sewage bursting up in front of the entrance doors of the village hall, which is very unpleasant for everyone. This has happened more than once in recent weeks, and wet wipes and nappies were the cause every time. We ask that those guilty of this stop putting bulky items down the loo and dispose of them in the grey refuse bins.

# SAINT MARGARET'S CHURCH



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

## Services at Saint Margaret's

Sunday 1 March Lent 1 11.00

The Eucharist; Holy Communion in modern English

Sunday 8 Lent 2 11.00

Matins: Traditional Morning Prayer

Sunday 15 Lent 3: No service in Hothfield

Sunday 22 **Mothers' Sunday** 11.00

H4: Informal service for all the family

Sunday 29 Lent 5 10.30

Benefice Communion Service here in Hothfield

## THE BENEFICE OF CALEHILL WITH WESTWELL



CHARING WITH LITTLE CHART, CHARING HEATH, EGERTON, HOTHFIELD, PLUCKLEY AND WESTWELL

For services in the other Calehill and Westwell churches, see <https://www.calehill-westwell.uk/pew-news-1>

## 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 April 2020 issue is 20 March.

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.



# Bingo

every Thursday night  
Hothfield Village Hall

7pm, eyes down 7.30  
Cash Prizes. All welcome  
Ring Ken for more information  
07790850911



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

## VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY

### February Draw Results

1st prize	£22-25	no.200
2nd prize	£13-35	no.107
3rd prize	£8-90	no.162

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 Post Office

The very heart and centre of our village  
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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

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. 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).**

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

Some regular walkers on Hothfield Heathland receive the email updates from Area Manager Ian Rickards when the livestock are moved to a new compartment. In early February Ian emailed that the ponies took it upon themselves to move into a different compartment after being spooked by a branch that blew off a tree next to them. Thank-you to the member of public that saw it and reported it, otherwise Ian wouldn't have believed it. With some encouragement the ponies eventually made a staged return to the right area. It's a reminder that everyone can help care for this amazing site in many different ways, and that our grazing animals need treating carefully.

Unfortunately the monthly Sunday task session on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Feb was knocked on the head due to Storm Ciara, but we have high hopes for the next Sunday on the 8<sup>th</sup> March. All the tools are provided for these task days, there's usual-

ly a bonfire and lunch, snacks and tea are also provided. Contact Ian Rickards if you are interested in joining the team. There are many other ways of supporting KWT's work protecting Hothfield Heathlands for future generations in addition to physical on-site work and you can now sponsor a tree on this reserve for £30. Full details of this and tree dedication and planting schemes in other reserves are on the KWT website.

The amount of water on the reserve this spring is far greater than last year, which should bode well for the complex community of inter-dependent plants, insects, animals and birds that the pools, bogs and fen support. This site is legally protected as a Site of Special Scientific Interest because more than 90% of the bogs in England have been damaged or destroyed and these are the only such bogs in Kent. KWT's item on Channel 4

News on 12 February and in the national press the next day reported that their 2019 'Splatometer' survey, counting insect splats on car registration plates, revealed 50% fewer impacts than in 2004, with modern cars actually hitting slightly more insects than vintage cars. The long-term loss of insects reported across Europe has already been described as catastrophic. Insects are fundamental to the food chain for birds, animals and humans, and KWT's work protecting and joining up habitats on and around Hothfield helps create spaces for insects that are safe from light pollution, pesticides, climate change and other harm. On a smaller scale, water is one of the best elements to provide for wildlife in any size of garden and can quickly become a valuable complex habitat. If combined with a bit of bog garden they attract more wildlife than either habitat on its own.

The Heathland is open eve-

ry day for everyone to enjoy. Trails are sign-posted 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 heather and undergrowth where they will disturb sensitive wildlife. Please remove dog mess, including in the Triangle compartment.

Our final Sunday task day until the autumn is on the 8<sup>th</sup> March (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month from Oct-Mar). Our Tuesday volunteer group will be out every other week all through the year.

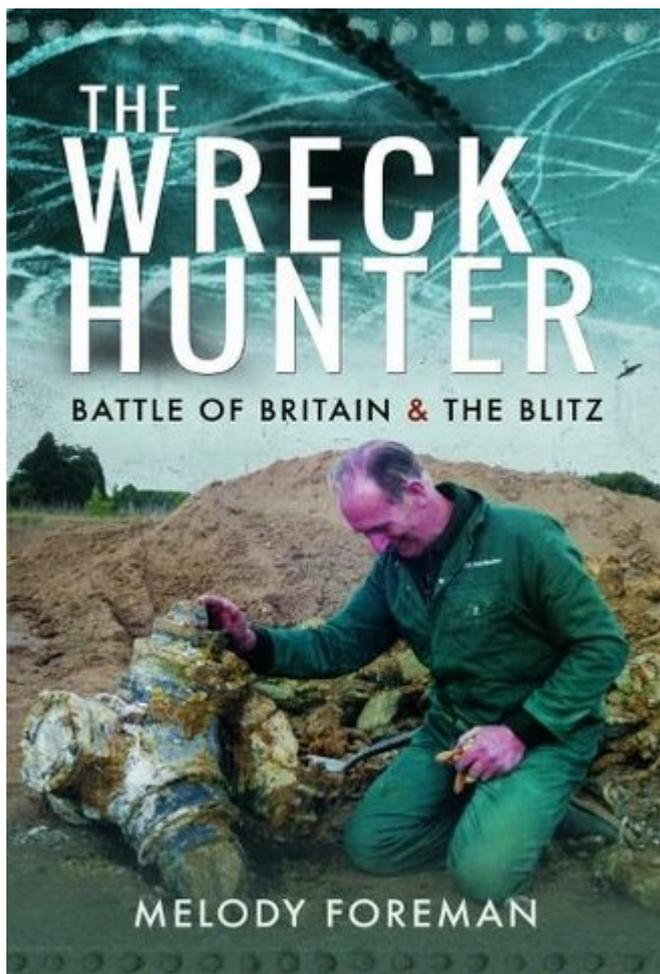
For email alerts on the location of the livestock or volunteer opportunities contact Ian Rickards on

[ian.rickards@kentwildlife.org.uk](mailto:ian.rickards@kentwildlife.org.uk)

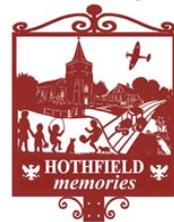
**Margery Thomas**



# Hothfield History Society



**Next Free Public Talk:**  
*"The Wreck Hunter: Battle of Britain and The Blitz"*



**Friday 3 April at 7.30pm,  
 Hothfield Village Hall**

Hothfield History Society invites you to our next free public talk by local resident Melody Foreman on her new book about the pioneering aviation archaeologist Terry Parsons who has dug up more than 900 RAF and Luftwaffe wrecks in the South East.

Her book includes a chapter about **Hothfield** and the dig for a Hurricane that crashed in 1940 on Home Farm. The tree that the Hurricane hit can still be seen today and is arguably our most famous landmark of The Battle of Britain. Melody's illustrated talk will also include some artefacts.

The talk will start at 7.30pm and is free for everyone to attend. Free refreshments will also be provided. We look forward to seeing you there.



*...one of Kent's finest*

2020 Prices	Adult	Children (under 16)
Garden Only	£7	Free, except on some event days
House and Gardens	£12	Free, except on some event days

**GARDENING THROUGH THE YEAR**  
 18 March 9:30 – 13:30

**THE ART OF PRUNING**  
 21 March 9:30 – 14:30  
**WILDLIFE GARDENING**  
 28 March 9:30 – 12:30

Opening Times	Dates	Days	Times
Garden	1st March – 1st Nov, every year	Daily	1pm – 6pm
House	3rd Apr 2020 – 4th Oct 2020	Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Bank Holidays	1pm – 5pm Last Tour 4pm
Tearoom (for House & Garden visitors only)	3rd Apr 2020 – 4th Oct 2020	Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Bank Holidays	1pm – 5.30pm (Last Orders 5pm)

**THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LANDSCAPE GARDEN**  
 12, 19 & 26 March  
 10:00 – 15:00

**NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME OPEN DAY**  
 Sunday 15th March, 1pm until 6pm

**WILDLIFE GARDENING**  
 Saturday March 28th  
 9.30am – 12.30pm,

For further information, bookings and course prices, go to <https://godintonhouse.co.uk>

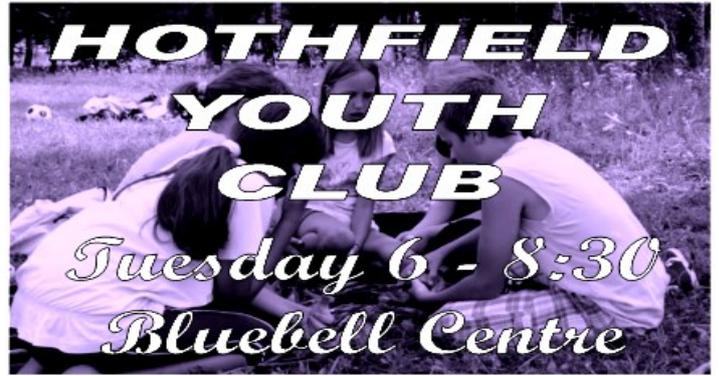


### Learn Italian in Kent

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For more information on courses, areas covered and tuition fees, please go to [www.learnitalianinkent.co.uk](http://www.learnitalianinkent.co.uk)



## HOTHFIELD YOUTH CLUB

Tuesday 6 - 8:30  
Bluebell Centre

Board Games  
Arts n Crafts  
Tuck Shop  
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We're all getting a bit stir-crazy waiting for the lighter evenings. We've done lots of practice making gadgets for camp and our young people are looking forward to using them in earnest.

The wet winter has stopped us finishing work on the field. As soon as we can we want to get the site of the old hut level and seeded. It will be good to use the whole field again.

**Terry Lister**  
**Group Scout Leader**  
**07748818660**



**Family Service for Mothering Sunday**

Bring your Mum to Saint Margaret's on Sunday 22 March at 11.00 for the Mothering Sunday family Service. Posies for all Mums!

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# AUNT JEMIMA'S FULL OF THE JOYS OF SPRING

Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'

*Robin Williams*

In the Spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours.

*Mark Twain*

The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month.

*Henry Van Dyke*

Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush.

*Doug Larson*

Indoors or out, no one relaxes

In March, that month of wind and taxes,

The wind will presently disappear,

The taxes last us all the year.

*Ogden Nash*

The day the Lord created hope was probably the same day he created Spring.

*Bernard Williams*

The first day of spring was once the time for taking the young virgins into the fields, there in dalliance to set an example in fertility for nature to follow. Now we just set the clocks an hour ahead and change the oil in the crankcase.

*E. B. White*

Spring is the time of the year, when it is summer in the sun and winter in the shade.

*Charles Dickens*

Spring has come when you can put your foot on three daisies.



*Hothfield*

*History Society*

Invites you to attend our next free public talk on:

## **The Wreck Hunter: Battle of Britain and The Blitz**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.30pm**

**Hothfield Village Hall**

Melody Foreman is an author of social history during the war years. Her new book includes a chapter about **Hothfield** and the dig for a Hurricane that crashed in 1940 on Home Farm. The tree that the Hurricane hit can still be seen today. Melody's new book is about the pioneering aviation archaeologist Terry Parsons who has dug more than 900 RAF and Luftwaffe wrecks in Kent and Sussex. Melody's illustrated talk will be about her new book and the Hothfield wreck and will include some artefacts.

Please come along to find out more and to ask questions.

**All welcome. Free admission and refreshments.**



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**VALID UNTIL  
30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019**

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