



## **Flower & Craft Show at the Village Hall 5 August**

### Dates for your Diary

Hothfield Parish Council next meeting 7pm Wednesday 12 July at the Bluebells Centre

Flower & Craft Show at the Village Hall 5 August (see page 7)

Nine Oaks Theatre 20 August presents 'Peter Rabbit' & 'A Midsummer Nights Dream'

Scarecrow Saturday St Margarets Church 30 September (see page 8)

## Nine Oaks Vineyard – July Update

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With the launch of our second wine, our first wine tastings and open-air theatre in the vineyard, June has been a really busy and exciting month!

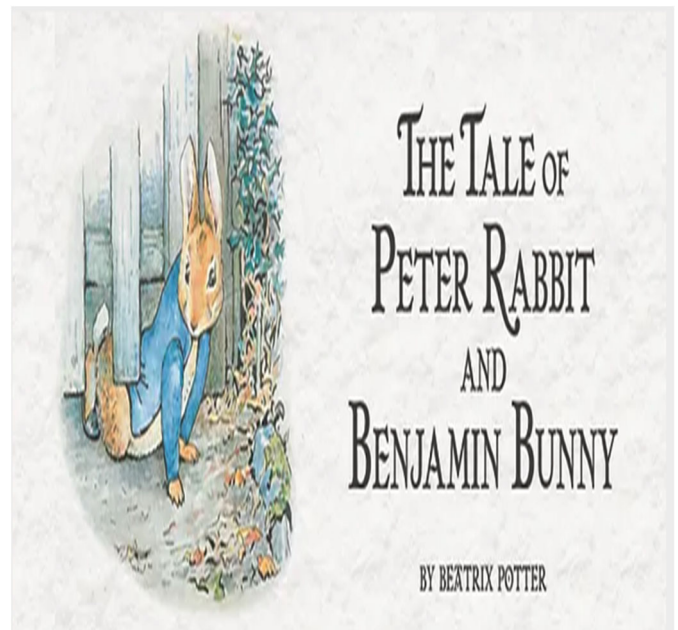


Alongside our still Pinot noir rosé we have now also launched a still Chardonnay which is available in Hothfield stores, as well as other select Kent retailers. The arrival of our Chardonnay has also coincided with our launch of both wines at one of Kent's oldest specialist food and wine retailers, Macknade Faversham. During English Wine Week Helen will be in store at Macknade on 23<sup>rd</sup> June for a producer-led wine tasting and on the 6<sup>th</sup> July she will be part of the Macknade's Summer Wine Fayre. Tickets are available for the latter at <https://macknade.com/products/summer-wine-fayre>



In terms of the vineyard and vines, we have been busy cutting off the sacrificial canes as we are now past the traditional frost period that so often plagues English vineyards. Early June was characterised by rapid cane growth and the emergence of the tiny bunches that will become our crop for this season. In early July we have the most important part of the vineyard season, flowering, whereby the vines self-pollinate, and the bunches open out into individual grapes. Fingers crossed for some nice warm settled weather over this period!

Following our debut open-air theatre events in June, this August we will welcome Quantum Theatre to the vineyard who will be showing The Tale of Peter Rabbit and Benjamin Bunny, and A Midsummer Night's Dream as open-air theatre on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August. Tickets available at:



The Tale of Peter Rabbit and Benjamin Bunny: <https://www.quantumtheatre.co.uk/event-details/nine-oaks-vineyard-peter-rabbit>

A Midsummer Night's Dream: <https://www.quantumtheatre.co.uk/event-details/nine-oaks-vineyard-a-midsummer-nights-dream>

# 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](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)

## Your Parish Council

Who wants a return of the Village Fair? We have been asked by residents to bring the Village Fair back, its has been a few years since it was last held. To run this event we need lots of volunteers, if you can help please come to our next Parish Council meeting on the 12th July, or email [parish.clerk@hothfield.org.uk](mailto:parish.clerk@hothfield.org.uk)

We understand some young people in the village are interested in a Youth Council. If you do please come to our next Parish Council meeting on the 12th July, or email [parish.clerk@hothfield.org.uk](mailto:parish.clerk@hothfield.org.uk)

## 1st Charing Scout Group

This time of year means camping. Cub camp was exhausting but great fun. The ground was very uneven which was hard work for the leaders but didn't seem to bother the young people. Everyone made commemorative medallions to take home. Scouts had a very successful camp for patrol leaders. Beavers are getting ready for their sleepover. We had a super evening learning circus skills, definitely for young people not adults

One of the wonderful things about scouting is the active support of young people working towards their Duke of Edinburgh awards. There is a dedicated section of explorers in Ashford and we also support those who choose to do it with school. The gold award is a major achievement and can be completed up to the age of 25 so many who achieve this are adults. There is a presentation evening in Ashford and those achieving gold are invited to Buckingham Palace where the Duke welcomes them. He has taken over from his father with enthusiasm.

At the Ashford presentation there were 20 young people of whom four had links with Charing and another two were unable to attend. We are very proud of them all:

Duncan, explorer scout and young leader. Bronze award  
Toby, explorer scout. Silver award  
Saskia Caddell, Cub Scout leader. Gold award  
Mark Boughton, Cub Scout leader. Gold award  
Harry Bellamy, former group member. Gold award  
Eugenie Dodds, former group member. Gold award

**Terry Lister Group Scout Leader 07748818660**

## New Kent Police Neighbourhood Policing Model

**New Beat Officer ~ PC Natalie Faiers**

**New Supervisor ~ Sergeant Richard Batten**

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

*Email : [csu.ashford@kent.police.uk](mailto:csu.ashford@kent.police.uk)*

## Hothfield Post Office

Convenience Store ~ Off Licence

Mail Services ~ Driving Services

Travel Services ~ Foreign Currency, Travel Insurance

Banking

Lotto Tickets

## 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](http://www.hothfieldvillagehall.co.uk)

### Regular weekly events

Mondays @ 16:30

Target Shooting School  
[www.targetshootingschool.co.uk/ashford](http://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 @ 18.30

Bowls Club

Fridays @ 18.30

Contact: John 07492 862974

# HOTHFIELD HEATHLANDS IN JULY

**Ground nesting birds and dogs on leads:** Thank-you to everyone for 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.

## Hothfield Heathlands Updates June 2023

The Precious Peatland project work will be continuing over the next few months (all the works to be finished by the end of the year). Click on this link for a good summary of the project.

<https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/hothfield-heathlands/precious-peatlands>



The work is focused on improving peat bogs, of which Hothfield has the best ones in the county. Peat bogs are mainly made of sphagnum mosses that have built up over thousands of years, they store tonnes of carbon making them one of the best natural carbon stores – better than trees! Peat acts like a sponge, holding water to reducing drought in the summer and flood in the winter. They have an amazing diversity of wildlife associated with them, including carnivorous plants, dragonflies,


and reptiles.

Peat bogs are very vulnerable, they can be damaged by invasion of scrub, which sucks out the water, pollution from enriched water, sewage, and farm waste. On a larger scale, many of our peat bogs have been destroyed through extraction for garden peat.

### How can you help?

The easiest thing you can do is make sure the compost you buy from a garden centre is 100% peat free. Check the small print, most garden centre compost does not use peat anymore, but a recent visit revealed several which still contained up to 50% peat.





Every year KCC Highways & Transportation receive lots of complaints regarding trees, hedges and other vegetation, which overhang the highway from private property. This can pose a number of problems for people trying to use the footways, especially if they are trying to pass with buggies, wheelchairs and scooters. It would be greatly appreciated if you could ensure that any trees and hedges that are bordering the Highway are maintained and cut back to your boundary which would greatly benefit all Highway users. This will help us all keep the highway safe and prevent the need for KCC writing to you requesting that you cut back your vegetation. If the boundary of your property borders the footway, then please be aware that: A) The full width of the footway/pavement must be available for use by pedestrians. B) There must be a minimum height clearance over the footway/pavement of 2.1 metres/7 feet for any vegetation. If the boundary of your property borders the carriageway, then please be aware that: A) If you have vegetation that overhangs into the road, there must be a minimum height clearance of 5 metres/16 feet to accommodate buses and HGVs that may use the road. B) If your property is rural, then vegetation should be 0.45 metres/1.5 feet behind the edge of the road and all signs need to be kept clear of foliage.



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# THE GRANARY SPA

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## How can we support the ones we love?

Yesterday was my Mum's birthday and of course Father's Day. We celebrated with a family meal at our local village pub. My Mum and Dad have always been my biggest supporters and the older I get, the more I appreciate it. They are at my house every weekend helping with my house and garden renovation. It got me thinking about how we can support the people we care about?

You never know when you might need them.

### Ways we can support others:

- ~Practice active listening
- ~Offer your help if needed (or not)
- ~ Continue to check in on them
- ~Give them reassurance and encouragement
- ~Encourage them to seek support

Kindness is one thing you can't give away. It always comes back.

Love, Georgia x

# 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

## 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  
Made in small batches  
Deliciously fruity

Delivered free to Hothfield



📞 Sheila: 01233 624 105  
✉️ hothfieldhoney@outlook.com



# 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

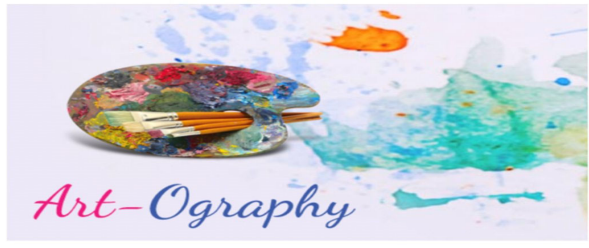



Please get in touch to register your interest in working with us by contacting the team on:

**01233 643272**

Bethersden Road, Hothfield, Kent, TN26 1AZ

✉️ careers@activecaregroup.co.uk  activecaregroup.co.uk/careers



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£15 per hour  
Free no obligation quotes



**HOTHFIELD NEWS**

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

## Hothfield Craft and Flower Show 5 Aug 2023

Growers, bakers, candlestick makers - join us on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August at Hothfield Village Hall for the first annual Hothfield Craft and Flower Show! Free competition entry for a wide range of categories covering everything and anything (not quite) that is grown, made or produced in Hothfield. A full list of categories is detailed below, but if you have something that you would like to enter that we haven't covered then do drop us a line. Children are welcome to enter all categories, but there are some specifically for children too.

12 – 4 PM in the Village Hall, come throughout the day to view the best produce. £1 entry on the day, light refreshments available. Please register your interest in a specific category not detailed below with Helen at [hjmathesonpolluck@gmail.com](mailto:hjmathesonpolluck@gmail.com).

### Category A: Flowers

- 1) 3 Annuals, stemmed in a vase
- 2) 3 Perennials, stemmed in a vase
- 3) 3 Pansy heads 4) 1 Rose
- 5) A perfect but lonely flower in a vase
- 6) 3 Gladioli 7) 3 Dahlias, any type
- 8) 6 Sweet peas 9) Pot Plant (Max. pot 8")
- 10) Tallest sunflower (photograph with measurement will suffice!)

- Category B: Vegetables** - Collection of 6 different types of veg on a tray, only one of each
- 11) 3 White potatoes 12) 3 coloured potatoes 13) 3 beetroots, globe or round
  - 14) 3 carrots, any variety 15) 3 parsnips 16) 1 cucumber 17) 2 courgette
  - 18) 1 squash 19) 6 Runner beans 20) 6 Dwarf beans 21) 3 onions from set, dressed
  - 22) 5 shallots 23) 3 garlic bulbs 24) 3 peppers, sweet or chilli
  - 25) 2 sweetcorn 26) 3 leeks 27) Vegetable Marrow 28) 1 Lettuce with root
  - 29) 4 Tomatoes 30) 6 Plums 31) 4 Cooking apples 32) 4 Dessert apples
  - 33) 6 soft fruit, e.g. raspberries, blackberries, etc.
  - 34) Spray of culinary herbs in container (min. of 3, max. of 6 varieties)
  - 35) **The biggest specimen** 36) **The best oddity!**

### Category C: Preserves & Cooking

- 37) 3 Eggs (1 cracked into a saucer)
- 38) Marmalade 39) Jam or Jelly
- 40) Lemon Curd 41) Chutney
- 42) 4 Scones - plain, fruit or cheese
- 43) Fruit Cake (any recipe)
- 44) Loaf of Bread – specify variety
- 45) Apple pie 46) 3 Biscuits and recipe
- 47) A Victoria Sandwich cake – *recipe provided in the July newsletter.*
- 48) Chocolate cake 49) Shortbread
- 50) A novelty/celebration decorated cake

- Category D: Alcohol** 51) Homemade Beer 52) Homemade Wine 53) Country Spirit (Sloe Gin, Damson Vodka etc)

- Category E: Handicrafts & Art** 54) Artwork, painting or drawing – portrait 55) Artwork, painting or drawing – Landscape 56) An item of needlework 57) Any handicraft item

- Category F: Flower Arrangement** 58) Best Buttonhole 59) A jug of Flowers

### Category G: Crafts—Age 10 & Under (state age on entry)

- 60) Favourite fictional character (model, painting or collage)
- 61) An animal made from fruit and/or vegetables and/or pasta
- 62) A drawing or painting created at home or school
- 63) Any kind of handiwork created at home or school 64) A Lego (or similar)

### Category H: Crafts—Age 11 plus

- 65) Favourite fictional character (model, painting or collage)
- 66) A drawing or painting on a subject of your choice
- 67) Any collage or sculpture made from recycled things
- 68) Any kind of handiwork created at home or school
- 69) Create a poster for your favourite band or singer

- Category I: Cookery—Age 10 & under** 70) Chocolate brownies – *recipe in the July newsletter* 71) Decorated biscuits – 2 digestives per entry

- Category J: Cookery—Age 11 & over** 72) 3 decorated cup cakes  
73) A cake of your choice 74) 3 biscuits (sweet or savoury)

### Category K: Photography - Adults

- 75) Landscape/Seascape 76) Funniest – including caption 77) Buildings/Monuments 78) Gardens 79) Special occasions
- 80) Hothfield Village Life 81) A sporting event 82) Trees 83) Portrait; human or animal

### Children

- 84) Family Photo 85) My Holiday 86) Funniest Photo 87) Pets 88) Hobby or pastime

# Saint Margaret's Church

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

Rector: Rev. Sandra Marsh The Vicarage Pett Lane Charing Kent TN27 0DL Phone: 01233 713996 email: [revsandramarsh@btinternet.com](mailto:revsandramarsh@btinternet.com)

Services in July  
 Sunday 2nd 1100am The Eucharist  
 Sunday 16th 1100am BCP Matins

For services in our other churches, see [www.calehill-westwell.uk](http://www.calehill-westwell.uk)

## Scarecrow Saturday

On September 30<sup>th</sup> 2023 at  
 St Margarets Church TN26 1EL

Please make a scarecrow using anything you like. Use all those odds and ends that get taken to the shed or garage! Bring to the church on Friday September 29<sup>th</sup>



The church will be open on Saturday 30th September from 10:00 to 16:30 for

everyone to admire your scarecrow. The Friend's of St. Margaret will have their usual wonderful selection of home made snacks and cakes. There will be a Raffle, Home Produce Stalls and a Prize for best Scarecrow. Also I hope your sunflowers are growing well for the sunflower competition. Take a photo, measure it and bring along on the Friday to go on our display board. Prizes for the Tallest Sunflower

For more information email Karen or Pamela at [fsmhothfield@gmail.com](mailto:fsmhothfield@gmail.com)

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