Heathfield & District Bonfire Society CIC

Company number: 16753433

Heathfield Bonfire Night – Saturday 10th October 2026

Joining Instructions for Visiting Societies & Bands

Dear all visiting societies & bands,

Heathfield & District Bonfire Society look forward to welcoming you on Saturday 10th October.
We hope you enjoy your evening with us and I'd like to thank you all in advance for your attendance and support, we very much appreciate it.

Please read the information below carefully and make sure it reaches all your members attending.
It will help you prepare, enjoy the night and stay safe:

ROAD CLOSURES

Road closures will be in place from 18:30 until 22:30.

Why not arrive early and enjoy a drink at **our outside bar The Martyrs Bar,** which is outside Pennells, opposite the fire station, open from 16:30.
You can then make your way to **The Heathfield Tavern** on Station Road for the procession form up.

Roads closures include:
Station Road, High Street, Mutton Hall Hill, Mill Road, Mill Close, Wealdview Road and Sheepsetting Lane.



The roads around The Tavern and High Street will reopen earlier once it is safe to do so.
Roads around the firesite, including Mill Road and Mill Road Car Park, will remain closed until **22:30** to allow spectators to leave safely.

While closures are in place, there will be no access to or exit from car parks, driveways or side roads within the closure area, except for emergency vehicles.

PARKING

Please DO NOT park along the High Street, including in any laybys, as these will be used within the procession route.
Car parks are available at the rear of Sainsbury's, Tesco Express, and the Co-op, as well as Mill Road Car Park or the Cuckoo Trail Car Park opposite Waitrose. Please note most of these are within the road closure so you will not be able to exit until road closures are lifted.

We recommend that **Bands** use Mill Road Car Park (TN21 0XD) as this is closest to the firesite, making the walk back with instruments shortest however Mill Road Car Park will not reopen until 22:30.

Coaches can drop off along Hailsham Road at The Heathfield Tavern, on the corner of Station Road and Hailsham Road, outside the road closures. Coaches should then move on to the layby outside Heathfield Community College (Cade Street, TN21 8RJ) to park up during the event.

At the end of the evening, coaches should return only once contacted by their society coordinator. Pick up is at the bus stop close to the fire station, just outside Mill Road Car Park (High Street, A265).

TOILETS

In Heathfield the public toilets remain shut, and The Heathfield Tavern will have limited facilities.

- The Union Church, on the corner of High Street & Station Road, and Noakes on Station Road will have toilets available.
- The Co-op will be open, but whether it allows public use of its toilets is at its discretion and is not confirmed.
- We will be providing portaloos at the firesite on Sheepsetting Lane.

Please note, the Community Centre will NOT be open for public access during our event.

Urinating in public: urinating in the street, or anywhere other than a toilet, will not be tolerated. Please use the facilities provided.

FORMING UP

19:00 - The procession will form up along Station Road from the Heathfield Tavern.
Bands will be slotted into the procession at appropriate positions on the night.
19:15 – Procession steps off.

There are **no breaks** during the procession, but there will be several pauses:

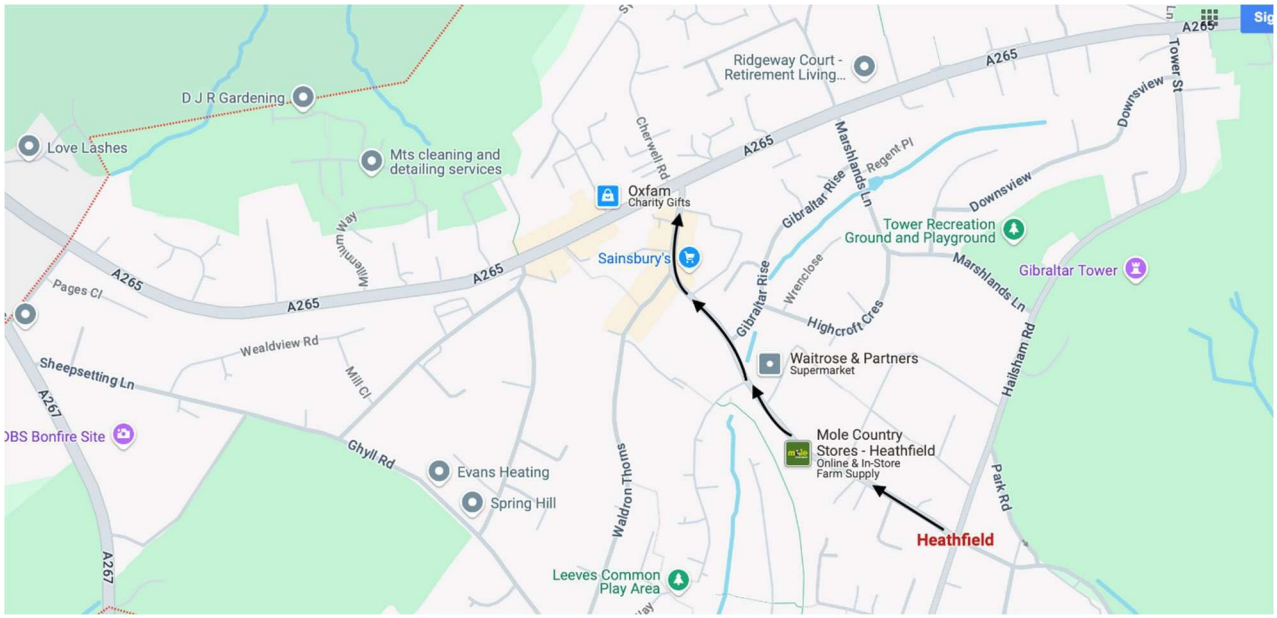
1. At the top of Station Road, to pick up our fiery pieces as we reach the High Street.
2. At the turning points (Nursery Way and Mutton Hall Hill), to re-torch.
3. At the mini roundabout, just before the final stretch of the High Street, for an Act of Remembrance including a 1 minute silence. We encourage everyone in the procession to join in this silence to remember those who have fallen. Listen out for the sounding out of the whistles.

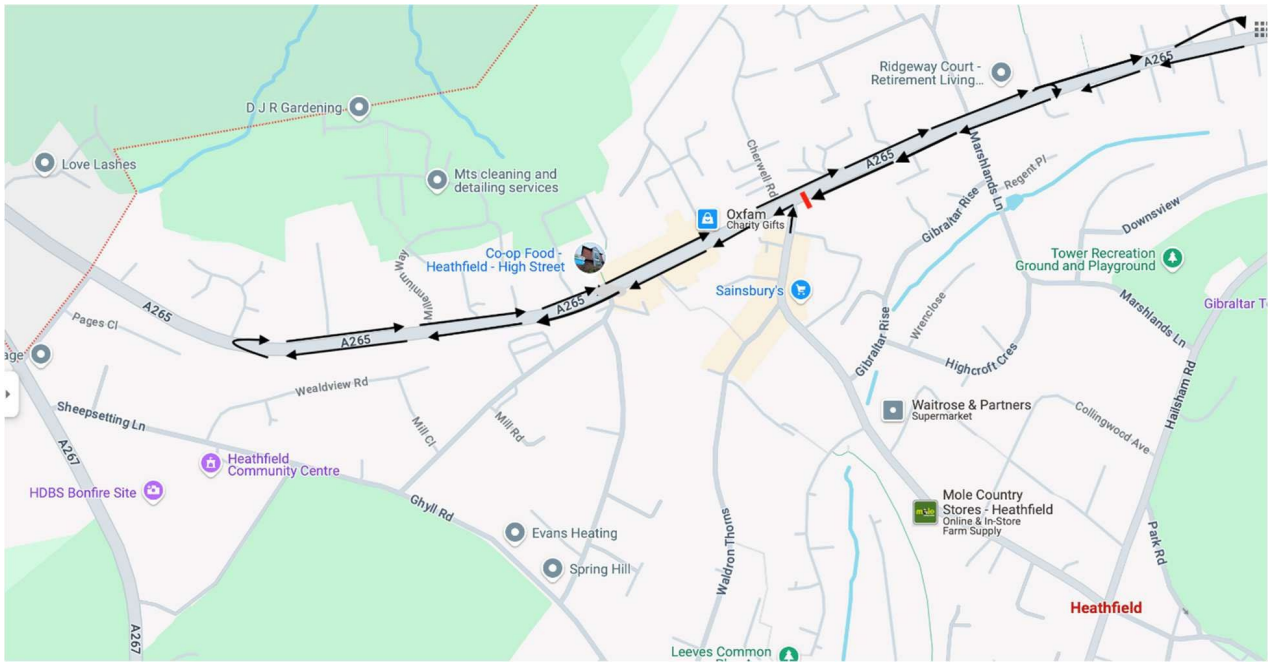
PROCESSION ROUTE

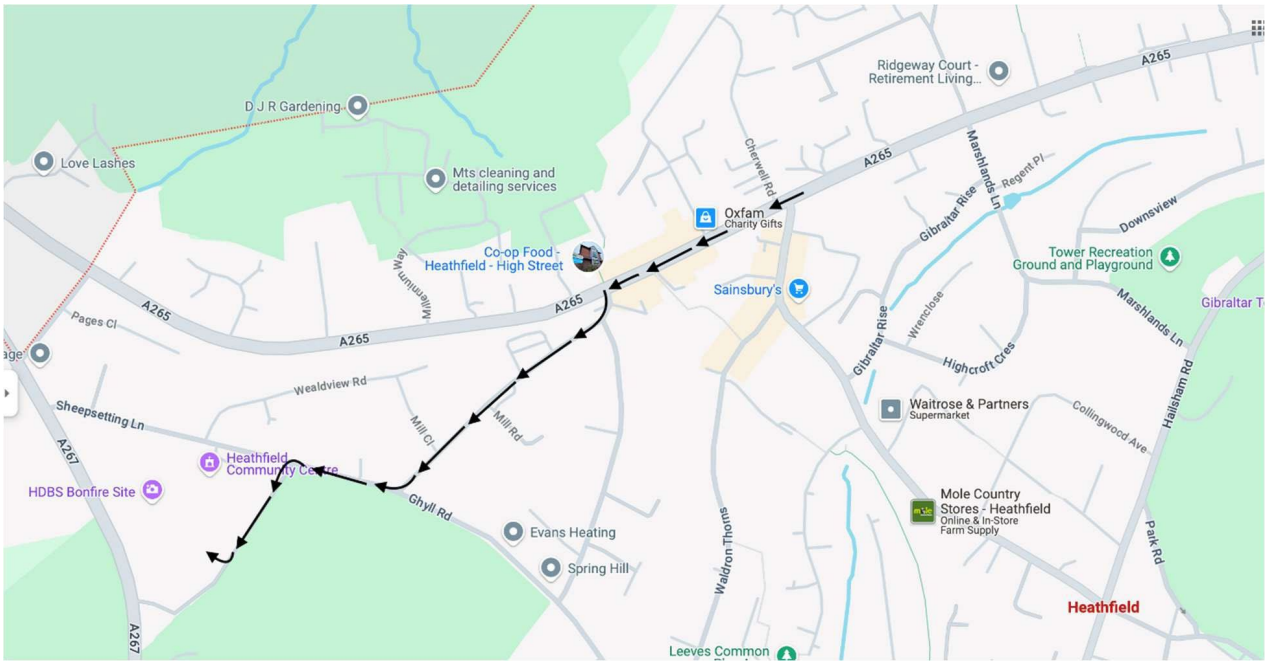
- Up Station Rd from Heathfield Tavern to mini roundabout. (Image 1)
- Left onto High Street and straight on until approx. Nursery Way,
- Turning back along High Street until just directed on Mutton Hall Hill,
- Turning back towards the High Street, pausing at the mini roundabout for an Act of Remembrance. (Image 2)
- Stepping off through the High Street, turning left up Mill Road, then right onto Sheepsetting Lane and into the Firesite as directed. Procession must de-torch before entering lane to firesite. (Image 3)
- At the firesite there will be our clergy stand. **Please read and follow the Important Rules below.**
  Followed by the bonfire and fireworks.

*Please note, this year we also have the Gun Brewery Airstream bar & Kendale Catering on the firesite.




D J R Gardening
Love Lashes
Mts cleaning and detailing services
Ridgeway Court - Retirement Living...
A265
Tower St
Downsview
Cherwell Rd
Oxfam
Charity Gifts
Marshlands Ln
Regent Pl
Gibraltar Rise
Tower Recreation Ground and Playground
Sainsbury's
Wrenclose
Gibraltar Tower
Pages Cl
Millennium Way
Wealdview Rd
Highcroft Cres
Waitrose & Partners
Supermarket
Sheepsetting Ln
Mill Cl
Hailsham Rd
A267
Ghyll Rd
Mole Country Stores - Heathfield
Online & In-Store
Farm Supply
Evans Heating
Spring Hill
Waldron Thorns
Park Rd
Heathfield
Leeves Common Play Area


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Co-op Food - Heathfield - High Street
Millennium Way
Tower Recreation Ground and Playground
Sainsbury's
Wrenclose
Pages Cl
Wealdview Rd
Highcroft Cres
Waitrose & Partners
Supermarket
Sheepsetting Ln
Mill Cl
Mill Rd
Hailsham Rd
Collingwood Ave
A267
Heathfield Community Centre
HDBS Bonfire Site
Ghyll Rd
Mole Country Stores - Heathfield
Online & In-Store
Farm Supply
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Heathfield
Leeves Common

IMPORTANT RULES

Each visiting society will be required to **nominate one marshal** to oversee their ranks and be a point of contact for HDBS. Please send your marshal's name and mobile number to heathfieldbonfire@gmail.com before the day of the event and make sure they are easily identifiable (ie. by sash or armband).

We are very excited to announce that our **CLERGY STAND** will be returning to our firesite. Participants are invited to make their protests known towards the clergy. Please help us keep this traditional element of our night by making sure all your members follow these rules:

1. **STRICTLY NO DROP DOWNS OUTSIDE OF THE DESIGNATED CLERGY STAND AREA. THIS INCLUDES BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE PROCESSION!**
2. There will be a **designated area** (to the Left) for those who wish to make their protestations known to the clergy and a clearly marked **family area** (to the Right) which will be a rook scarer free zone for societies and bands. **Please do not throw drop downs in or around the family or public areas.**
3. Rook scarers may be thrown only if you are in the designated area and not in the path of others. No blues or homemades will be tolerated. Marshals will be watching what is thrown, and we will be asking marshals from visiting societies to assist us with this.
4. Please be mindful of others and only throw towards those who have volunteered to take the stand.

THERE IS STRICTLY NO FIRECRACKERS OR FLARES AT THIS EVENT!

Designated HDBS members only will set off planned firecrackers during the procession. No other members or societies will be allowed to do so.

Please **do not attempt to enter our firing areas** as you will be turned away. Security are under strict instructions to deny entry to **any** unauthorised person. The pyro team are employed to deliver a safe and spectacular display and do not need distractions.

Please respect the above rules as we are still under the watchful eye of the Sussex Police. Any misbehaviour could jeopardise future events.

And lastly, our **Spirit of Bonfire Cup** and **Best Dressed Visiting Society Cup** are both up for grabs!
Our selected judges will be watching the procession as you pass. The winning societies will be announced at the firesite before the bonfire is lit.

We hope you enjoy the night and look forward to seeing you there.

Many thanks,

Rachel Keep
HDBS Secretary
heathfieldbonfire@gmail.com

www.heathfieldbonfiresociety.co.uk

For more event details, read our **2026 Programme:** Online Flipbook