

# Otford Parish Council

## March Newsletter 2006

### No 144

Kent and South & South East England  
Village of the Year 2002

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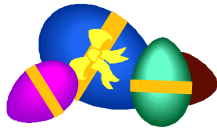
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### "EGGSTRAVAGANZA"



The Parish Council will be holding an 'EGGSTRAVAGANZA' event in the village hall on Easter Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April. You are invited to bring your decorated eggs in any shape or form for judging by our 'EGGSPERT' who will award prizes in all age ranges from spring chickens to retired roosters! More details will appear in the next newsletter.

### Best of the Best

#### Village of The Year

As previously reported we have been entered into this competition. Although there may be a call to arms for a major tidy up around the village, in the mean time please DO NOT drop litter anywhere. There is absolutely no need to do it as bins are provided all around the village. If you see any litter please can you pick it up and also look after the pavement and hedges outside your properties. Many thanks. The judging will take place on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April from 2.30pm - 4.30pm.

### Drought Update from SE Water

The Environment Agency and South East Water are reminding people it's essential for everyone to continue to use water wisely, as a lack of rainfall leaves the South East in the grip of a worsening drought. We have now had below average rainfall for the last 14 months across Kent, Sussex and Hampshire. That has left groundwater levels, some river flows and reservoirs well below normal levels for the time of year. Unless we get substantial and prolonged rainfall from February to April, significant recovery of these water sources seems unlikely. Bewl Water, which is owned by Southern Water but from which South East Water also takes some water

supplies, is only 36% full. Customers can log onto [www.southeastwater.co.uk](http://www.southeastwater.co.uk) for more information on water efficiency tips for home and garden. **NOTE:** A hosepipe ban remains in force for South East Water customers in the Sevenoaks District Council area. The ban includes the use of hosepipes for watering private gardens and washing private vehicles. It also prohibits the use of garden sprinklers, which use as much water in an hour as a family of six does in one day.

### Otford Society

The Otford Society AGM will take place in the Otford Village Memorial Hall on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April** starting at 8pm. The speaker will be Louise Shrubsole an Energy Conservation Officer with the District Council on the subject of 'How to save energy, money and help the environment'

### Police Surgery

The next Police Surgery with our PCSO Dave Birchall will take place on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** between 11am and 12.30pm. Please come and see him if you have any problems.

Here is a short story about community policing at its best. Dave and his colleague Dennis encountered 3 youths in Dunton Green daubing graffiti. They took their details, spoke to the parents and then got all the youths to get buckets and brushes to clean it off. Well done.

### Crime Writers Evening

Otford Library will be holding a crime evening on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March** at 7.00pm with visiting authors Judith Cutler and Edward Marston.

Tickets are £3 to include a glass of wine available from Otford Library 01959 522488, Kemsing Library 01732 762199 and Seal Library 01732 762510. This promises to be a very entertaining evening.

### Parking on the footway

Please **DO NOT** park your vehicles on pavements in the village, especially in the High Street, Willow Park, Telston Lane and Hale Lane areas. It is very inconsiderate to pedestrians and unnecessary. The police will issue tickets to persistent offenders - so beware.

### Primary School Jumble Sale

Otford Primary School are holding their Spring Jumble Sale on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March** from 10am to 11.30am. Entrance will be 50p for adults and children are free. Refreshments will be available. Please go along and grab yourself a bargain whilst supporting your local school. For further information please call 01959 522441 or 01959 524600

## Oxford Evening W.I Boot Sale

Springtime and that means its time for our BOOT SALE. So clear out your cupboards, book a table and join us in the annual event. The venue is the Village Hall and the date is **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**. Buying starts at 9.30am and finishes at approximately 12.30pm. To book a table contact Diana on 01959 522981 and hurry as the tables are always sold out. Entrance is 50p with children FREE

## Applause

As part of the Applause programme the next performance will take place in Oxford Village Hall on **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April** starting at 7.30pm. It is a concert by Eduardo Niebla a 'world class virtuoso' (Time Out) Spanish guitarist and composer. He performs amazing new compositions with his guitar accompanist in a 'breathtaking' fusion of flamenco latin jazz. This concert is an opportunity to see one of the world's great musicians whose career encompasses concert tours worldwide. He has composed works for films and documentaries and music critics have declared him a world-class guitar player. The concert is suitable for all ages. Tickets will be available from School House for the usual cost of £5 per adults, £4 concessions and £3 children.

## Sevenoaks Minibus Service

Many residents take advantage of this service, which is organised by Sevenoaks District Council. If you would like more information then call into the Parish Council office any weekday morning for a free leaflet.

## Sevenoaks Rural Energy Focus

Look out for the Sevenoaks Rural Energy Focus Van, which will be visiting our car park on a Saturday in April. You will be able to get advice on energy saving items and thereby reducing your bills.

## Oxford Lawn Tennis Club

The Club has three excellent hard courts on the far side of the Recreation Ground, which adjoins the village car park in the High Street. Two of the courts have floodlights, which are available to all members. LTA qualified coaches run both daytime and evening coaching sessions for adults and juniors, for details please contact Ricky Reardon of Breakpoint Tennis 0781 205 9778.

The Club is offering full membership until March 31 (The Club's Year-end) for only £15 to include an introductory coaching session (individually or in a group) absolutely free. Please contact the Treasurer 01732 450549 or Breakpoint Tennis.

The first event of the summer season is a "Mixed Doubles Charity Tournament" on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** at

10.30am. All of the proceeds will be donated to a Charity, which will be chosen by the entrants on the day. Any single entries will be matched up on the day. The £6 entrance fee includes a Ploughman's Lunch. It is an 'Open event' so if you play tennis and would like to take part, this would be an ideal opportunity to try out the Club facilities and to meet some of the Members. To book your place please call 01732 450549 or email [doncave@onetel.com](mailto:doncave@onetel.com)

Later in the month **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April** there is a Play Tennis Day at 10am when anyone of all ages can join in a programme of events; radar measured serving speed, playing against ball machines etc. completely free of charge

There is a thriving Mini Tennis section for younger children from the age of 3½ to 8years. For details of the Junior Section (aged 9-16)) and Mini Tennis please call Mrs. Mary Evans at 01959 523701 or email [mary.a.evans@btinternet.com](mailto:mary.a.evans@btinternet.com).

For further information about the Club or Membership or Events, please call the Secretary, Anthony Shea 01732 458968 or email [janantshea@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:janantshea@tiscali.co.uk)

## Oxford Gardeners' Society

Don't forget the *SPRING SHOW* in Village Hall on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March** between 2.15pm-4.15pm, admission 50p, under 16's free. Refreshments are available till 4pm. Featuring spring flowers, photography, flower arrangements, cookery and junior classes. The next meeting takes place in Oxford Village Memorial Hall on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April** at 8pm when the lecture is 'Growing Chrysanthemums' Brian Everest will give an illustrated talk and practical demonstration on how to grow Chrysanthemums for the garden and for exhibition. Admission is 50p for members, £1 non-members. The admission price includes refreshments.

Visitors and new members are always welcome. For further details contact Janet Finney on 01959 523760 or visit [www.oxford.info/gardeners](http://www.oxford.info/gardeners).

## Oxford & District Historical Society

The next meeting will be held in Oxford Village Memorial Hall on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April** at 8pm when Griselda Barton will give us 'A taste of Tudor Cookery' Subscriptions are just £5 per year and visitors are welcome at £1.

## Young Women's Health & Beauty

A young women's Health & Beauty session organised by Kent County Council will be held in Oxford Library on **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April** from 7pm - 9pm aimed at 12-17 year olds. More details will appear in the next newsletter.

## Citizens Advice Bureau Surgery

The next CAB Surgery will take place at School House on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April** between 10am and 12 noon. No appointment necessary.

## Oxford Afternoon W.I

Meetings are held in the Village Hall at 2pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each month. Membership is £22 per year. On the **11<sup>th</sup> April** Mrs M Sowter will speak on '2000 years of the History of London' - Learn some fascinating details about our capital. Please contact 01959 522915 for more details.

## Oxford & District Wine Club

The Oxford & District Wine Club are holding a Spring Buffet on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March** beginning at 8pm in the Oxford Village Hall. It will be a 1920's theme evening so get dressed up and enjoy the short Cabaret and dancing afterwards! Brenda Montague is organising the buffet, which will consist of salmon, prawns and eggs, cold meats, salad and potatoes followed by a wide range of sweets. Everyone who attended last year will agree that Brenda puts on a delicious feast, so please book up as soon as possible for this popular evening (by 22<sup>nd</sup> March at latest). Please bring your own glasses and liquid refreshment. Members will be charged £9.50 and guests £11.50. They prefer cheques, which should be in favour of the Oxford & District Wine Club. To book please ring the secretary on 01732 761359

## Sevenoaks Embroiderers' Guild

The next meeting will take place in Sevenoaks Community Centre on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March** when there will be an all day workshop with Sam Beresford. The meetings begin at 2pm and more information can be obtained from Jane Barratt on 01732 833588.

### PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE

## Picture of the Month

The artist for March / April is Sheila Dickerson. Sheila has lived in Oxford for the past 30 years. Having always enjoyed embroidery, Sheila felt a need to discover how to draw and paint flowers and ten years ago started attending Adult Education classes to find different approaches to watercolour painting. Three years ago she was introduced to a Botanical Art class where she has been greatly encouraged to refine her skills in botanical art. She is a member of the Oxford Art Group, the Sevenoaks Art Club and is a Friend of the Society of Botanical Artists.

As we seem to have run out of Oxford artists, would anyone who has a picture placed in the Heritage

Centre, and would like to have another displayed, please contact Doug Dickerson on 01959 524183

## Knole DFAS

Knole Decorative and Fine Arts Society meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at the Sevenoaks Community Centre, Bat & Ball. The March lecture will be on **16<sup>th</sup> March** with Elizabeth Linn lecturing on 'Images in Brass: An introduction to the Brass Memorials of Medieval and Tudor England'. Lectures start promptly at 1.45pm preceded by refreshments at 12.30pm. Anyone interested in joining the Society or would like more information, please contact the membership secretary, Hilary Thomas on 01732 762529.

## Oxford Methodist Wednesday Afternoons

### Women's Fellowship

Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings, which take place at 2.30pm. While the Methodist Hall is being rebuilt meetings will be in members homes and a list of the next two months speakers and venues are as follows: -

#### March

22<sup>nd</sup> - *Energy Saving* - Louise Shrubsole at 25

Brookfield, Kemsing

29<sup>th</sup> - *India* - Joyce and John Allen at 27 Well Road

#### April

6<sup>th</sup> - *Easter & Holy Land* - Peter Hills at 23 Warham Road

## Sevenoaks DFAS

The Decorative and Fine Arts Society of Sevenoaks (Sevenoaks Evening Society) 2005/2006 lecture season continues on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April** at 8.15pm in the Aisher Hall, Sevenoaks School with a talk by Mr David Phillips on 'Fine Art Forgery - Craftmanship or Conjuring trick?' Contact Mrs Honor McMillan on 01892 532651 for more information.

## Sevenoaks Music Club

Sevenoaks Music Club has been delighting audiences with classical music concerts of world class for the last 71 years. The third concert of the season will be held on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March** at 8pm with a recital by The Kegelstatt Trio. They will be playing Brahms, Bruch, Gordon Jacob, Rebecca Clarke and Mozart's 'Kegelstatt' Trio in Eb K498. Since its formation in 1982 the Trio have performed widely throughout the UK, broadcasting for BBC Radio 3 & Channel 4 and in the Purcell Room on the South Bank. The concert will take place at the Ship Theatre, Walthamstow Hall School, Hollybush Lane, Sevenoaks. Everyone is welcome and tickets are £14 for each concert and

£16 for the premium concert in April. Student tickets are £5. If you would like a copy of the brochure giving full details, please contact 01732 453251

### Otford Primary Top Draw

**TOP DRAW** - The Otford Primary Draw. Your chance to win cash prizes and raise money for your local school.

The winning numbers of the February TOP Draw are:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize £50 - 401

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £15 - 212

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize £10 - 246

Congratulations to this month's winners and thank you to everyone who continues to support the school.

### Spring Jazz Concert

Age Concern Sevenoaks presents a Spring Jazz Concert starring Two Divas - Sally Higham and Lisa Twiss on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March**. Doors open at 7pm and concert starts at 7.30pm. Tickets are £8 per person to include a drink. Admission by ticket only, available from Cobden Road on 01732 454108

### Planning

The following applications will be considered by the Parish Council at its meeting in March. For more information, please contact the Parish Clerk or the Strategic Services Director, Sevenoaks District Council, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent on 01732 227000

#### a. New applications

SE/06/00152 **23 Warham Road**

Two storey side extension

SE/06/00168 **J Sainsbury plc Otford Road**

Change of use of car park to allow erection of temporary marquee for the display and retail of horticultural and seasonal products

SE/06/00193 **Stradbrook Shoreham Road**

First floor side extension

SE/06/00196 **J Sainsbury plc Otford Road**

Various advertisements associated with erection of temporary marquee

SE/06/00263 **49 Greenhill Road**

Two rear first floor extensions, one rear ground and first floor extension and a number of window/door alterations

SE/06/00363 **Maunder, St Michaels Drive**

Demolition of dwelling and erection of a detached house

SE/06/00416 **St Michaels Sch St Michaels Drive**

Erection of new external escape stair to first floor Accommodation

#### b. Results received

SE/05/02794 **The Barn, Long Lodge Lane**

New roof on existing agricultural building - part retrospective *Conditionally allowed*

SE/05/03081 **Foyle, Pilgrims Way East**

Single storey rear extension *Allowed*

SE/05/03111 **47 Sidney Gardens**

Erect a pvcu conservatory to rear of property

*Withdrawn*

SE/05/03116 **20 Rye Lane**

Conversion of bungalow to house plus extensions to rear *Allowed*

SE/05/03145 **8 Rye Lane**

Single storey and part two storey extensions

*Allowed*

SE/05/02420 **Frog Farm Pilgrims Way West**

Demolition of existing farmhouse and erection of replacement dwelling, double garage and creation of replacement new vehicular access off Pilgrims Way West As amended by plans received 18.10.05 and 09.01.06 *Allowed*

SE/05/03084 **Bartram Farm**

Use of an agricultural building for the storing of furniture and building materials (split decision) for use for the storing of building materials

*Allowed*

SE/05/03084 **Bartram Farm**

Use of an agricultural building for the storing of furniture and building materials (split decision) for use for the storing of furniture *Refused*

SE/05/03133 **The Farm, Twitton Lane**

Telecommunications installation comprising a 17.5m "telegraph pole" style mast and base station. As amended by plans received 10.01.2006 *Allowed*

SE/06/00005 **45 Pilgrims Way West**

Resiting of approved detached garage to side of property *Allowed*

SE/06/00007 **21 Tudor Crescent**

Single storey side and rear extensions, 2 storey front feature, porch extension *Allowed*

#### c. Amended applications

SE/05/02915 **Holly House Shoreham Road**

Two storey side extension, first floor extension to front, single storey rear extension, provision of pitched roof above existing garage, insertion of dormer in front roof plane, alterations and new access and landscaping to Shoreham Road. As amended by plans received 04.01.2006 and 07.02.06

SE/06/00193 **Stradbrook Shoreham Road**

First floor side extension

**Don't forget the clocks go forward on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 1am**

