The Village EGGSPERT will be awaiting your entries in the Club Room of the Otford Village Hall on Easter Monday 18th April between 9.30am - 11.30am and then viewing of entries and prize giving will take place between 2pm - 4pm. Their EGGSPECTATION is high and we look forward to some EGGCELLENT eggs decorated as EGGSTRAVAGANTLY as you like. Eggs can come in all shapes and sizes. So come on join in the fun, EGGSPRESS yourself get EGGCITED, get DEGGORATING, EGGCOURAGE your friends and family and your EGGQUISITE entries will be EGGSTATICALLY received. The yolk will be on us if you don’t turn up!

Best of the Best Village of The Year

A big thank you to members of the WI who did a mammoth litter pick in Palace Field last month, and a thank you to all of you who have also been doing your bit. Judging takes place between 2.30-4.30pm on Tuesday 18th April. Fingers crossed.

Otford Village Fete

The Otford Village Fete to be held the Recreation Ground on Monday 29th May is fast approaching and we are already praying for sunshine for the day. With this years theme as ‘BOOKS’ we are hoping for a good turn out, not only for the Fete but also for the procession. With such a wide scope there are no excuses for your school, church, society, group or even individuals not to join in. Linda Linton will be organising this years procession and can be contacted on 01959 522710. Any holders of stalls for the Village Societies can be confirmed to Deborah Terry on 01959 522354. We look forward to another wonderful Fete this year and know that with the hard work of the village that we can make it one to remember!

Playground Project

Thank you for the magnificent response so far to the appeal by the Otford Society for the funds needed for refurbishment of our village playgrounds. The total project will cost £69,250 and to obtain an 80% grant from DEFRA the local community not the council needs to contribute the remaining funds of £13,850. Currently the donations stand at £5,115.

Police Surgery

The next Police Surgery with our PCSO Dave Birchall will take place on Thursday 4th May between 11am and 12.30pm. Please come and see him if you have any problems.

Otford Evening W.I Boot Sale

Don’t forget to go to the Evening W.I. Boot Sale in the Village Hall on Saturday 22nd April. Go along and see the great variety of goods on offer, there will be lots of bargains, and at the same time have a nice cup of coffee with friends. Buying starts at 9.30am and finishes at approximately 12.30pm. Entrance is 50p with children FREE.

Applause

As part of the Applause programme the next performance will take place in Otford Village Hall on Thursday 27th 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.
St Bartholomew's Church Extension

The PCC have now formally approved the plans for the Church extension and hoped to go out to tender at the end of March in the expectation that building work will commence at the beginning of June. Before that, a specialist firm will be employed to prepare and level the site. This will include the removal and relocation of a small number of 19th century monuments together with the removal, storage and reinstatement of some others to avoid possible damage to building work. Unfortunately, the site can only be accessed across The Green and the PCC and Parish Council are in discussion as to how this can be best achieved both to avoid any permanent damage and to minimise disruption to residents and visitors. It is intended that The Green will be largely reinstated in time for the Remembrance Day Service in November.

Dog Fouling
This is still a big problem, especially on the Recreation Ground at the moment. The bins are there so DO NOT be selfish and allow your dog to foul without picking it up. It’s the downside of dog ownership yes but essential. Also just a small point but when your doggie has tired of his big stick would you mind throwing it back into the hedgerow to aid the mowing. Thank you. It is very anti social and potentially health threatening not to pick up after your dog and if you don’t you risk having to pay a fine of up to a maximum of £1,000 or a fixed penalty of £25. Dog wardens do patrol the village and every effort will be taken to discover who is responsible and when caught, fined. If you see someone letting their dog foul on a regular basis and not clear up after it do contact the dog warden at SDC.

Citizens Advice Bureau Surgery
The next CAB Surgery will take place at School House on Tuesday 2nd May between 10am and 12 noon. No appointment necessary.

Annual Assembly
This is notification for the Annual Assembly of the Electors of the Parish, more commonly called the Annual Parish Meeting, which will be held, in the Village Hall on Monday 22nd May at 7.30pm. This is your chance to ask questions about what is happening in the village, so please attend if you can.

Wednesday Surgery
Otford’s Community Warden Nic Roots will be available to chat to residents every Wednesday morning at School House between 10am - 12 noon. This is a change of day and time.

Otford Gardeners’ Society
The next meeting takes place in Otford Village Memorial Hall on Tuesday 2nd May at 8pm when the lecture is ‘Termus de Chillian – Alpines of Chile’ - an illustrated talk by John Hughes a seasoned traveller. 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.otford.info/gardeners.

The Sixteen
A fundraising concert given for St Bart’s ‘Building On’ by members of the ‘Sixteen’ directed by Harry Christophers will take place at St Bartholomew’s Church, Otford on Saturday 6th May at 7.30pm. Tickets are £25 and £20 (some £20 tickets may have a restricted view). The evening begins at 6.30pm in the Vicarage Garden (by kind invitation of Revd. Pat Hopkins) with Bucks Fizz and Canapes at £5 per ticket. Booking Forms are available from the Church, Parish Office and Heritage Centre. Book quickly to hear this internationally renowned group - ‘The Voices of Classic FM’

Otford Afternoon W.I
Meetings are held in the Village Hall at 2pm on the 2nd Tuesday each month. Membership is £22 per year. The meeting on 9th May is on 2006 Resolutions preceded by a light lunch. Please contact 01959 522915 for more details.

Otford Allotment Association
Otford Allotments are continuing to enjoy a full tenancy, but experience tells us that there is a constant to-ing and fro-ing as people’s circumstances change, in fact this happened recently when an allotment holder moved away and immediately new tenants came along who are now enjoying preparation for the current season’s growing. If you are thinking about allotment gardening, and now is the time to do so, give Barbara Hine a ring on 01959 525468 who will be delighted to show you around the allotment site and maybe put your name down for the next vacancy, or you can call into the Parish Council Office on any weekday morning to get details.
Otford & District Wine Club
The Otford & District Wine Club held a very successful Spring Buffet at the end of March when Brenda Montague of Kemsing provided a delicious feast for us all and we had an entertaining cabaret to round off the evening. On Wednesday 26th April Reg Lancaster is coming to give a talk entitled ‘My Nine Years in Paris’. Reg was Chief Cameraman for the Daily Express for many years, nine of which were spent in Paris. As you can imagine, he has many interesting and amusing anecdotes to relate about this time, so do come along and give him your support. As usual this will be held in the Otford Memorial Hall starting at 8pm. Cheese and Biscuits will be provided but please bring your own liquid refreshment. The evening is free to members but visitors will be charged a small fee.

Otford Tennis Club
Otford Tennis Club is holding a Play Tennis morning on Saturday 23rd April, where there will be free coaching from a team of fully qualified coaches for adults and children alike. All levels of players will be catered for, from children as young as 3 ½ years upwards. Mini Tennis will be on offer for the younger players whilst mums and dads, grannies and grandpas will have an opportunity to have a go or renew old skills. There will be plenty for all the family. Refreshments will be available throughout the morning. For further details please contact Mary Evans on 01959 523881 or email mary.a.evans@btinternet.com

Otford Cricket Club Colts
The club has weekly coaching on a Sunday morning for two hours from 7th May to 23rd July at 10.30am on the Village Recreation Ground. The juniors also play friendly matches, tournaments and compete in the Bat & Ball Sports Mid Kent Youth League at under 11, under 13 and under 15 age groups. You are welcome to join and get involved. For further details please contact Colts Secretary Angie Stevens on 01959 523881.

Senior Members
New Senior members of the Club are also welcome. The Club fields two teams on a Saturday in the Kent County Village League on some of the best village grounds across West and Mid Kent. The Sunday side plays friendly matches against excellent local opposition. If you are interested in playing, umpiring or scoring please contact one of the captains.
Saturday 1st X1 - Mark Stevens (01959 523881)
Saturday 2nd X1 - Dave Cahalin (01732 844770)
Sunday X1 - John Boyden (01959 524097)

Sevenoaks Embroiderers' Guild
The next meeting will take place in Otford Village Hall on Saturday 29th April when Lesley Clifford will talk about ‘Twists and Turns in Embroidery’. The meetings begin at 2pm and more information can be obtained from Jane Barratt on 01732 833588.

Picture of the Month
The artist for April/May is Steve Sargeant. Steve is a self-taught artist and was once a member of the Sevenoaks Art Club. His preferred mediums are oils and pastels and he particularly enjoys painting both portraits and animals. In this vein he has an interest in figures and has painted a number of life subjects. The painting he has chosen to exhibit at the Heritage Centre is of a Ballet Dancer in Swan Lake. Please contact Doug Dickerson on 01959 524183 if you would like to have a picture exhibited.

Knole DFAS
Knole Decorative and Fine Arts Society meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Sevenoaks Community Centre, Bat & Ball. The April lecture will be on 20th April with David Eveleigh on ‘Smoke, Grime and Little Soottie’ and on the 18th May the lecture is by Dr Catherine Oakes on ‘Art and Architecture in Chaucer’s 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.

Sevenoaks DFAS
The Decorative and Fine Arts Society of Sevenoaks (Sevenoaks Evening Society) 2005/2006 lecture season continues on Thursday 11th May at 8.15pm in the Aisher Hall, Sevenoaks School with a talk by Mr Adrian Sumner on ‘Everything you always wanted to know about Modern Art - but have been afraid to ask’ 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 final concert of the season will be held on Saturday 22nd April at 8pm with a concert by Raphael Wallfish, cello and John York, piano. Raphael has played with the top orchestras of the world and at major festivals since winning the Gaspar Cassado International Cello competition at the age of 24. In great demand as a teacher internationally, he holds
professorships in Switzerland and Germany. John York's career has also taken him round the world as a soloist with orchestras such as the London Philharmonic. He is often a guest with other international artists such as the Allegri and Lindsay quartets. The concert will take place at the Ship Theatre, Walthamstow Hall School, Hollybush Lane, Sevenoaks. Everyone is welcome and tickets are £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

‘Building On’ - Boot Sale
St Bartholomew's Church are organising a Boot Sale in Otford Village Hall on Saturday 20th May. Buying will start at 9.30am and finish at 12.30pm. Tables will be £10 and entrance will be 50p with children FREE. Please contact Sue Stephenson on 01959 523789 or leave message to book tables.

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 March TOP Draw are:
1st Prize £50 - 13
2nd Prize £15 - 103
3rd Prize £10 - 421

Public Notice
Licensing Act 2003 - Application for the grant of Premises Licence. An application to vary the Justices’ Licence at The Pavilion, Otford Recreation Ground has been made by Otford United FC. A summary of the proposed licensable activities and the proposed hours of opening:
The supply & sale of alcohol on training / match days.
- Monday 10.00 - 14.00
- Tuesday -Thursday 19.30 - 22.00
- Friday 10.00 - 14.00
- Saturday 16.00 - 19.00
- Sunday 10.00 - 14.00
Note: Monday & Friday to cover bank holidays
Any person wishing to view details of an application can contact the licensing team on 01732 227339 / 7270 / 7299 / 7033
Any person wishing to make representation about the proposals should make them in writing to:
Licensing Team, Council Offices, PO Box 182, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1GP
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary of conviction for the offence is £5000

Churchill Portrait
We have had an enquiry concerning a plasticine portrait of Winston Churchill that was done by an Otford artist Mrs Goodge in 1956. Apparently Churchill was said to have sat for it in the village. Can anybody help with verification of this? Please contact the office on 01959 524808 if you can.

Planning
The following applications will be considered by the Parish Council at its meeting in April. 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/06/00507 30 Greenhill Road
Proposed 1 no detached five bedroom house with integral garage
SE/06/00544 31 Pilgrims Way West
Loft conversion
SE/06/00715 11 Hillydeal Road
Two storey side extension to provide new kitchen and bedroom and bathroom over, and increase height of ridged roof of dwelling
SE/06/00795 64-66 Well Road
Demolition of existing dwellings, construction of road, 21 no houses and garaging

b. Results received
SE/06/00152 23 Warham Road
Two storey side extension
SE/06/00089 The Grange High Street
Single storey rear extension
SE/06/00092 The Grange High Street
Single storey rear extension (LBC) allowed
SE/06/00174 Culvennan, 14a Hillydeal Rd
Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and erection of replacement oak framed dwelling

Culvennan, 14a Hillydeal Rd
Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and erection of replacement oak framed dwelling

SE/06/00193 Stradbrook Shoreham Road
First floor side extension as amended by plans received 15.02.06
SE/06/00795 64-66 Well Road
Demolition of existing dwellings, construction of road, 21 no houses and garaging

Culvennan, 14a Hillydeal Rd
Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and erection of replacement oak framed dwelling

SE/06/00193 Stradbrook Shoreham Road
First floor side extension as amended by plans received 15.02.06
SE/06/00795 64-66 Well Road
Demolition of existing dwellings, construction of road, 21 no houses and garaging

Culvennan, 14a Hillydeal Rd
Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and erection of replacement oak framed dwelling

Amended applications
SE/05/02787 34 Greenhill Road
Rear basement swimming pool. As amended by plans received 06.03.06

Tree work in Conservation Area
06/00625?WTCA Bubblestone Farm
Remove diseased apple tree

A Happy, Peaceful and Joyous Easter to you all