Otford Christmas Shopping Extravaganza
Sunday 26th November
A big thank you to the shopkeepers and pubs and all who took part in this special day. What a success it was with lots and lots of people enjoying the opportunity to browse around and buy from our lovely shops and having time to enjoy the entertainment provided in the High Street by the Primary School Choir, the Morris dancing, Father Christmas and his big basket of chocolates, St Bartholomew’s Church also joined in, with the Otford Art Group in the Village Hall. It was a wonderful village occasion, which might hopefully become an annual event. Well done everyone.

Tree of Light
Labels for you to write your message on are available from the Parish Council Office. If you cannot get into the office during opening hours (8.30am - 12.30pm) then please phone up and we will write your card for you. Cheques for your donation need to be made out to Otford Parish Council. The Tree of Light will remain lit up until after the New Year. Donations are once again going to The Hospice in the Weald.

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

Guide Christmas Post Box
The Christmas Guide Post Box will be in Otford until Friday 15th December inclusive, during opening hours. Stamps are 15p, the same as last year, and the cards will be delivered in the village of Otford by the Brownies and Guides. This year proceeds will be for Demelza House Children’s Hospice and Spring House Family Support in Sevenoaks. Please post early!
Twinning
M Francois Cerbelaud Salagnac, his wife Madame Geraldine Cerbelaud Salagnac and M Gilles Rousselet (an English teacher) from Precigne, France were very appreciative of the welcome they received in the Village during the weekend of 25/26 November and thank all those who made them so welcome. There were 17 Otford residents at the Gatehouse for the formal meeting and many more were able to meet them as they went around the Village. There will have been a Review of the visit for all those who expressed an interest and it is hoped that Schools will start exchanging emails and that it may be possible for a group of Ottordians to visit Precigne in 2007. A full report of the visit (in French) and a summary of the meeting in the Gatehouse as well as the post visit Review (in English) will be available in the Heritage Centre.

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 Nov TOP Draw are:
1st Prize £50 - 188
2nd Prize £15 - 43
3rd Prize £10 - 241

Otford Allotment Association
And then there were none. It is pleasing to note that all plots have now been taken, with one interested party waiting in the wings. At the same time it is a shame if you were anxious to take up a plot, and now cannot immediately do so. Experience tells us that plots will become available from time to time so don’t lose heart. Give Barbara Hine a ring on 01959 525468 and she will make sure that you are put on the list and will be advised as soon as there is something to offer you. In the meantime she would be pleased to take you around the site to give you an idea of what is involved in having a plot of your own.

2007 Calendars
Calendars for 2007 are now on sale from the Parish Office and Heritage Centre. The calendars with local pictures have been produced by the Sevenoaks Round Table and supported by The Sevenoaks Chronicle and local businesses. The calendars cost only £1.50 each.

Otford & District Historical Society
The AGM of the Otford & District Historical Society will take place on Wednesday 13th December at 8pm in the Memorial Hall. The next talk in the programme will be on 17th January with Peter Mountfield and David Williams on ‘Lessons from Local History: the case of Seal’. Membership is £5 per year and visitors are welcome at £1.

Sevenoaks Embroiderers’ Guild
The next meeting will take place in Otford Memorial Hall on Saturday 27th January when, in the afternoon, Joan Egan will talk on ‘20th Century Collectables’
The meetings begin at 2pm and more information can be obtained from Jane Barratt on 01732 833588.

Knole DFAS
Knole Decorative and Fine Arts Society meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Sevenoaks Community Centre, Bat & Ball. The next lecture of the 2006/07 programme will be on 21st December by Jane Tapley on ‘A History of Pantomime’ Lectures start promptly at 1.45pm preceded by refreshments at 12.30pm. Anyone interested in joining the Society or who would like more information, please contact, Hilary Thomas on 01732 762529.

Otford Oast WI
Kicking off their first meeting of 2007 in the Otford Memorial Hall on Thursday 18th January at 9.30am they have guest speaker Chris Clarke who will be explaining the worthwhile activity of fostering. If you would like to learn more or just come for the company, they are a young WI and have a free crèche for your children. Everyone is welcome.

Picture of the Month
The artist for December / January is Margaret Lowe who has been a member of the Otford Art Group for over 10 years. Margaret says that she enjoys painting in both pastels and watercolours. She paints many forms of art from landscapes to life models which classes she studied under Stephen Rose. She has also studied general art with Marie Blake in Lyme Regis. The painting is a watercolour of Sidmouth Beach. Please contact Doug Dickerson on 01959 524183 if you are interested in displaying your artwork in the Heritage Centre.

Sevenoaks DFAS
The Decorative and Fine Arts Society of Sevenoaks (Evening NADFAS) 2006/2007 lecture season continues on Thursday 11th January at 8.15pm in the Aisher Hall, Sevenoaks School with a talk by Mrs Jane Kelsall on ‘Pearls before Swine? The History of a Royal Necklace’ Please contact Mrs Jackie Bradforth on 01732 761631 or Mrs Mary Aldous on 01732 452209 for more information.
Sevenoaks Music Club
The programme of the Sevenoaks Music Club continues on **Sunday 28th January** with Cerys Jones on violin and Rhodri Clarke on piano playing Beethoven, Bloch and Prokofiev at 8pm in the Ship Theatre, Walthamstow Hall. For further information on their brochure, season ticket or ticket prices please contact Richard Hargreaves on 01732 453251.

Otford Heritage Centre/ Parish Council
From Saturday 23rd December to Friday 5th January, the Heritage Centre will only be open on weekday mornings when the Parish office is open. Normal weekend/bank holiday opening resumes on 6th January 2007. The Parish Council office will reopen after Christmas on Wednesday 27th December and then again after the New Year on Tuesday 2nd January.

Christmas/New Year Travel Details
**Sevenoaks Bus Station** - 01732 743040

**Bus**
- Dec 25th - No service
- Dec 26th - No service
- Dec 27th - Saturday service
- Dec 28th - Saturday service
- Dec 29th - Saturday service
- Dec 30th - Saturday service
- Dec 31st - No service
- Jan 1st - No service
- Jan 2nd - Normal service

**Train**
- Dec 24th - Sunday service with last trains running earlier. Last from Victoria - 2118 (fast) 2156 (slow), last to Victoria 2117 (slow) 2124 (fast), last to Ashford 2155 and last to Sevenoaks 2248
- Dec 25th - No service
- Dec 26th - No service
- Dec 27th - Saturday service
- Dec 28th - Saturday service
- Dec 29th - Saturday service
- 27-29th - Additional train at 0735 to Blackfriars fast and return from Blackfriars at 1730
- Dec 30th - Normal service
- Dec 31st - Normal Sunday service

Sally Maycock
For those of you who remember Sally from the Bull P.H. she has recently written to a resident in the village after she was seen on television. She is now Deputy Mayor of New Romney, her home town. She sends her love and best wishes to all in Otford.

Neighbourhood Watch
West Kent Police Neighbourhood Watch Team will be holding meetings this month. If you live in the district and are interested in participating in Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, then you are welcome to attend the Conference Room at Sevenoaks District Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks on **Wednesday 13th December** between 6pm – 8pm. For more information please contact Leila Hughes or Shaun Chapman on 01892 502159.

Holiday Refuse Collections

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<th>Normal Collection Day</th>
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Please ensure that your black and clear sacks are put out by 7am on your rescheduled day of collection. Refuse put out after the crew has been through your road will not be collected and MUST be taken back in until the next collection.

Christmas tree Recycling
As in past years you can have your Christmas tree recycled by the District Council. All you do is put your tree at the kerbside and they will collect it at no cost when they do the next garden waste collection in your road. Trees with a trunk of 3½” in diameter or smaller will be collected until the end of January. Trees should not be decorated or in a pot or stand. Trees with a larger trunk can be taken to Dunbrik Recycling Site in Sundridge. If you are still unsure about how
to dispose of your Christmas tree or would like to know when your next garden waste collection takes place, call the Council on 01732 227000.

Planning
The following applications will be considered by the Parish Council at its meeting in December. 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/06/02870 42 Tudor Drive
Side and rear extensions
SE/06/02883 19 Telston Lane
Loft conversion with side gable and rear dormer
SE/06/02897 8 Greenhill Road
Two storey extension to rear with new enlarged roof over new and existing dwelling and garage
SE/06/02504 9 The Old Walk
Double storey rear extension, singe storey front extension, pitched roof over part garage and façade alterations
SE/06/02743 Milestones Row Dow
Two storey and single storey extension to side/rear of dwelling (including demolition of existing outbuildings)
SE/06/02985 3 Sevenoaks Road
Display of 1 internally illuminated projecting and 1 internally illuminated fascia sign
SE/06/02995 6B High Street
Change of use from retail (A1) to retail (A1 and financial and professional services (A2)

b. Results received
SE/06/01113 Frog Farm Pilgrims Way West
Change of use and conversion of existing barns into offices and car parking
SE/06/02190 The Chantry The Green
Single storey extension
SE/06/02191 The Chantry The Green
Listed building consent - Single storey extension
SE/06/02229 Maunders, St Michael’s Drive
Demolition of dwelling and erection of detached house
SE/06/02345 14 Greenhill Road
Erection of timber framed and clad single detached garage
SE/06/02372 59 High Street
Repairs, alterations and refurbishment works
SE/06/02391 15 Willow Park
Two storey side and single storey rear extension and front porch extension

SE/06/02440 Fruit barn and stables
New Barn Farm Telston Lane
Conversion of redundant barn buildings into 5 dwelling units

SE/06/02466 9 Greenhill Road
Replacement roof and garage extension with room in roof

SE/06/02488 51 Knighton Road
Provision of extra roof light to bedroom as amendment to approval

SE/06/02510 Clyderhowe Sevenoaks Road
Erection of a two storey front, side and rear extension, single storey rear extension and erection of a dormer window to the existing south facing roof to comprise enlarged living accommodation. Relocation of dental practice to new ground floor wing of property and use of existing surgery area as part of living accommodation. (revised scheme to that permitted under SE/06/01312)

SE/06/02521 Orchard Hey Rye Lane
Conversion of existing bungalow with dormers to a two storey dwelling plus part two/part single storey side extension

SE/06/02532 19 Pilgrims Way West
Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of 2 no. 3 bedroomed link detached houses

SE/06/02675 3 Coombe Road
Application to remove condition 3 (windows to be maintained fixed shut and obscure glazed) and 4 (no new windows in the eastern elevation) of approval

SE/06/02710 Red Roofs Rye Lane
First floor side extension above garage (resubmission of SE/06/01911)

SE/06/02771 Fruit barn

Amended applications
SE/06/01113 Frog Farm Pilgrims Way West
Change of use and conversion of existing barns into offices and car parking

SE/06/02190 The Chantry The Green
Allowed

SE/06/02191 The Chantry The Green
Allowed

SE/06/02229 Maunders, St Michael’s Drive
Refused

SE/06/02345 14 Greenhill Road
Allowed

SE/06/02372 59 High Street
Allowed

SE/06/02391 15 Willow Park
Allowed

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SE/06/02391 15 Willow Park
Allowed

The Chairman, Parish Councillors, Clerk, Assistant Clerk and the Boxers Bobbie & Becky wish you all a very happy, restful and peaceful Christmas and New Year. Woof! Woof!