



Otford Parish Council December Newsletter 2006 No 152

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

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Merry Christmas

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.

Congratulations

We send our congratulations to Dave Birchall who was nominated for and won the Safer Kent Award for his commitment in tackling anti social behaviour. The presentation took place on 28th November at Kent Police College. The award came with a grant of £250 for a community project of his choice and he has nominated the Gatehouse Nursery in Otford. We thank him also for the £1270 that he raised in sponsorship on his Sevenoaks to Brighton bike ride, half of which will go to Shoreham Youth Club and the other half to our new children's play area. Thank you and well done Dave.

Police Surgery

The next Police Surgery with our PCSO Dave Birchall will take place on **Thursday 14th December** between 11am and 12.30pm at School House. Please come and see him if you have any problems.

Dave reminds you to be aware of the following so that criminals don't enjoy their Christmas at your expense.

- Keep your presents out of sight in your car and house. If they can be seen they can be stolen. Keep curtains pulled.
- Always close windows and lock all doors when going out
- Park in a well-lit area or an attended car park.
- If going away, consider using timer switches, cancel milk and papers and ask a neighbour to keep an eye on the house.
- Only open your door after identifying the caller.
- Do not keep large amounts of cash at home or carry large amounts of cash around with you.
- If you are offered a quality product at a bargain price ensure the source is genuine.
 - In an emergency always dial 999
 - To confidentially report information about crime call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111
 - The number for Sevenoaks Police Station is 01732 771055

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!

Twining

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 Otfordians 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 East 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

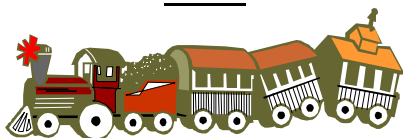
Sevenoaks Bus Station - 01732 743040



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



(Check at the Station or South Eastern Customer Services on 0845 000 2222) or see www.southeasternrailway.co.uk

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

Jan 1st - To Victoria 0817,0824,0924 will not run. First train will be 0917 slow. To Sevenoaks 0850 and 0955 will not run. First train 1018. To Ashford first train 0955. Then normal Sunday times for rest of day.

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

<u>Normal Collection Day</u>	<u>Rescheduled Day</u>
Mon 25 th December	Tues 2 nd January
Tues 26 th December	Wed 27 th December
Wed 27 th December	Thur 28 th December
Thur 28 th December	Fri 29 th December
Fri 29 th December	Sat 30 th December
Mon 1 st January	Tues 2 nd January
Tue 2 nd January	Wed 3 rd January
Wed 3 rd January	Thur 4 th January
Thur 4 th January	Fri 5 th January
Fri 5 th January	Sat 6 th January

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, single 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 *Allowed*

SE/06/02190 **The Chantry The Green**

Single storey extension *Allowed*

SE/06/02191 **The Chantry The Green**

Listed building consent - Single storey extension *Allowed*

SE/06/02229 **Maunder's, St Michael's Drive**

Demolition of dwelling and erection of detached house *Refused*

SE/06/02345 **14 Greenhill Road**

Erection of timber framed and clad single detached garage *Allowed*

SE/06/02372 **59 High Street**

Repairs, alterations and refurbishment works *Allowed*

SE/06/02391 **15 Willow Park**

Two storey side and single storey rear extension and front porch extension *Allowed*

SE/06/02440 **Fruit barn and stables** **New**
Barn Farm Telston Lane

Conversion of redundant barn buildings into 5 dwelling units *Withdrawn*

SE/06/02466 **9 Greenhill Road**

Replacement roof and garage extension with room in roof *Allowed*

SE/06/02488 **51 Knighton Road**

Provision of extra roof light to bedroom as amendment to approval SE/06/00112 *Allowed*

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) *Allowed*

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 *Refused*

SE/06/02532 **19 Pilgrims Way West**

Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of 2 no. 3 bedroomed link detached houses *Allowed*

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/05/00748FUL *Refused*

SE/06/02710 **Red Roofs Rye Lane**

First floor side extension above garage (resubmission of SE/06/01911) *Refused*

c. Amended applications

SE/06/01113 **Frog Farm Pilgrims Way West**

Change of use and conversion of existing barns into offices and car parking

d. Tree work in Conservation Area

06/02972/WTCA **Quies, High St**

Various works to ash tree

e. Planning Appeals

SE/06/01197 **64-66 Well Road**

Demolition of existing dwellings and erection of 21 no dwellings together with associate garaging and roadway. Resubmission of SE/06/00795. Public Inquiry against refusal to be held 6th March 2007.



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!