

Otford Parish Council January Newsletter 2007 No 153

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

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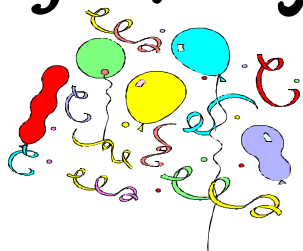
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Happy New Year



Tree of Light

The total amount of donations for Hospice in The Weald received for the Tree at Otford was £1094. Thank you for your generous support.

Otford Village Fete

The wonderful news is that the fete will be going ahead this year after a new committee was formed following a meeting on the 10th January. A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who has come forward. The theme this year will be 'WATER' Watch this space for further information and requests for help.

Scouts are Growing

Otford Scout Group is going from strength to strength. For the last two years they have seen a steady increase in numbers of boys and girls wanting to join the Group, and several sections have been obliged to introduce waiting lists. As a result, they would like to form two new sections, namely Beavers for 6-8 years, and Cubs for 8-11 years. If your son or daughter would like to come along, if possible with a friend, please contact them, and they will try to meet the need. As you will appreciate, they are only able to operate because they have an enthusiastic group of Leaders, and will need to recruit more members for the new sections. At present they have over 100 boys and girls in the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, from Otford and the surrounding area, and are sure that your son or daughter will enjoy the experience. If you are over 18, and would like to join the Group, either

as a uniformed leader, or in any other capacity, please do not hesitate, your help is needed. For example, with help from volunteers they have been able to start a programme of improvements to their Hut, with a new roof installed, decorations begun, and heating installed inside that works! Also in recent years they have restarted the Scouts' Bonfire night, with over 500 people coming along this year. For more information about any of the above, please contact Ray Groom on 01959 525413.

Otford Library



The new opening times for Otford Library now that Sevenoaks Library has reopened are as follows:

- Monday - 9am - 1pm
- Tuesday - 9am - 5pm
- Wednesday - Closed
- Thursday - 9am - 1pm
- Friday - 1pm - 5pm
- Saturday 10am - 2pm

The Library now holds a village events diary, please drop into the library to make sure your event is included.

Guide Christmas Post Box

Thank you to all those who supported the 2006 Christmas Guide Post Box in Otford Library. Over 1100 cards were delivered in the village by the Brownies and Guides. This raised over £280, which has been divided between the two charities Demelza House Children's Hospice and Spring House Family Support Centre.

Police Surgery



Dave would like to wish you all a happy, crime free and safe new year.

The next Police Surgery with our PCSO Dave Birchall will take place on **Thursday 25th January** between 11am and 12.30pm at School House. Please come and see him if you have any problems.

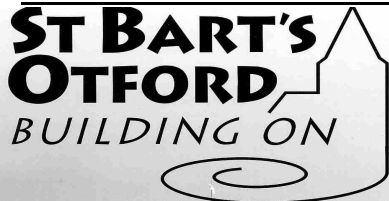
Otford CC Colts Under 13s

Sevenoaks Chronicle Team of the Year?

The Sevenoaks Chronicle have been running a competition to find the local Team of the Year 2006. The success of the Otford Cricket Club Under 13s in the summer of 2006 has led them to be nominated.

They were Kent champions beating several large clubs along the way and finished third in the South East region. They also won their league and league cup with an unbeaten record. For a village side this was a phenomenal achievement. Please support them if you can. You can vote for them on the forms printed in the 18th and 25th January editions of the Sevenoaks Chronicle. Thank you and let us hope that your help will bring this prestigious award to our village.

St Bartholomews Church



As part of the fundraising programme for the new extension you are all invited to 'SIGN A TILE' that will then go on the roof. This will take place from 10.45am on **Sunday 4th and 11th February** in the Church porch. There is no charge for children but a suggested donation of £5 per adult. A wonderful way to leave your mark on the history of our lovely village.

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 Dec TOP Draw are:

- 1st Prize £50 - 232
- 2nd Prize £15 - 130
- 3rd Prize £10 - 117

Citizens Advice Bureau Surgery

The next CAB Surgery will take place at School House on **Tuesday 6th February** between 10am and 12 noon. No appointment necessary.

Otford Evening WI

At their December meeting members of Otford Evening WI and guests enjoyed a Christmas arrangement demonstration by Denise Thompson, the Otford florist. It was fascinating to watch her create a stunning arrangement for the Christmas table, all the time talking about the materials she was using, and how to go about it! Women in Print with Monty Parkin in February, Demelza Childrens Hospital in March and the Petticoat Pilot in June are just some of the subjects our speakers will be giving us at our meetings throughout 2007. Visitors at any meeting will receive a warm welcome. Meetings start at 7.30pm on the second Thursday of each month in the Otford Village Hall. Ring Diana on 01959 522981 if you would like more details.

Otford Gardeners' Society



Otford Gardeners' Society will hold their first meeting of 2007 in the Otford Village Hall on **Tuesday 6th February**. This will be the annual Cheese & Wine Evening. Everyone is invited. The evening is an opportunity for members to collect their new schedules and visitors can come along and see what the Society has planned for 2007. The evening begins at 8pm and the admission price of £2 includes cheese and wine. Annual membership for the Society is £4.50/£7.50. For further details telephone Janet Finney on 01959 523760 or email gardeners@otford.net

Otford & District Historical Society

The next talk in the programme will take place in the Village Hall on **Wednesday 21st February** at 8pm when Carol Griffiths will talk on 'The Cinque Ports' Membership is £5 per year and visitors are welcome at £1.

Otford Allotment Association

A first opportunity to wish all readers of this newsletter a very happy 2007, and to hope that we get some better gardening weather for our allotment holders. We have full occupancy and there are two anxious prospective tenants waiting in the wings. Hopefully there will be suitable allotment gardens to offer them in the near future. If you would like to add your name please give Barbara Hine a ring on 01959 525468 or call in at the Parish Council office on any weekday morning, or if you would like a look around the site, Barbara would be pleased to give you a view and talk about the benefits of allotment gardening.

Otford & District Wine Club



I think everyone who attended the Christmas Social will agree that it was a wonderful evening with a delicious Christmas dinner provided by Catercraft and fantastic music to dance to. We had a good turnout - thank you all for coming and supporting us. However, we are pleased to announce that the festive season is not yet over! On **Wednesday 31st January** we are holding a Burns Night Party in the Otford Memorial Hall starting at 8pm prompt. There will be Scottish music, dancing and singing. Mulled wine,

whisky, haggis, cheese and oatcakes will be served (no need to bring your own wine!) and there will be a Scottish Raffle! As usual it is free to members but visitors are most welcome to attend at £4 per head. Please do come along for an entertaining evening out amongst friends. If you have any queries, please ring the Secretary on 01732 - 761359

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.

Otford 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: -

January

24th - Barbara Darby - 'New Videos' at 27 Well Road

31st - Gilbert Denton - 'Sevenoaks Safari' at 23 Warham Road

February

7th - Outreach Theatre - 'What will it be like?' - at Village Hall

14th - Jill Saunders - 'An estate car, understanding husband and a vague knowledge of cookery' at 25 Brookfield

Phone Rosemary Cracknell on 522325 for details /transport

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 **18th January** by Martin Beazor on 'English Furniture from 1660 - 1830'. The on the **15th February** Colin Bailey will talk on 'The, So called, Italian and Flemish Primitives' 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.

Newsletter

If you would like to put details of your events, clubs, or societies in the newsletter, please let the office have copy before the second Monday of the month.

Picture of the Month



The artist for January / February 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.

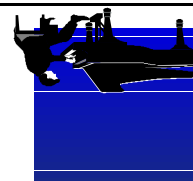
Sevenoaks DFAS

The Decorative and Fine Arts Society of Sevenoaks (Evening NADFAS) 2006/2007 lecture season continues on **Thursday 8th February** at 8.15pm in the Aisher Hall, Sevenoaks School with a talk by Mr William Forrester on 'Milord Abroad - the British on the Grand Tour' 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.

Sevenoaks Amherst Rotary Club



The Amherst Rotary Club presents Bobby Chen (an exceptionally good young pianist) in concert for an evening of classical music at The Ship Theatre, Walthamstow Hall School, Hollybush Lane, Sevenoaks

on **Friday 9th February** at 7.30pm to benefit charities supported by Rotary. With supporting young soloists from Sevenoaks School - Rachael Ryves (soprano), Lynne Fugard (flute), Audrey Fitchett (piano), Olivia Howie (soprano) and from Coombe Bank - Caroline Chard (cello), Lizzie Chard (violin) and Francesca Cooper (violin) and others from Walthamstow Hall School. Tickets are £12.50 from Sevenoaks Book Shop or Simon Welham on 07785 392699

Can't stick to your New Year's resolutions?

If one of your goals this year is to help out more in your local community then paying a visit to the Volunteer Centre in Sevenoaks could transform the experience. About 80% of people think about helping out in their local community but don't know where to start. Their friendly staff can give you lots of information about volunteering, the opportunities available and match you up to a role that you will, above all else, enjoy. By giving you guidance, follow-up support and the opportunity to access any training you may need, we can ensure that you get the most out of your volunteering experience. You may not want to volunteer by yourself so getting together with a friend to share a volunteer role or getting together with a group of colleagues or neighbours and taking on a team challenge is also possible. Anyone can become a volunteer. It doesn't matter what age you are, whether you are in employment, unemployed, retired or at home. People volunteer for all sorts of reasons; you might want to get out of the house more, meet some new people, get some work experience or get some exercise. All kinds of skills are useful, whether you are good with plants, animals, older people, children or if you have key skills such as book-keeping, marketing, IT, or in legal work..everyone has something amazing to offer. Your enthusiasm, combined with even a tiny bit of your spare time, can make a huge difference to the lives of other people and to your community. They look forward to meeting you. Contact the Sevenoaks Volunteer Centre on 01732 454785, email info@sevenoaksvolunteers.org.uk or pay a visit at 34, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks, on the approach road to Waitrose Car Park. You can also visit the website at www.sevenoaksvolunteers.org.uk

Planning

The following applications were considered by the Parish Council at its meeting in January. For more information, please contact the Parish Clerk or the Head of Development Services, Sevenoaks District

Council, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent on 01732 227000

a. New applications

SE/06/02981 **4 Warham Road**

Single storey rear extension to provide disabled bathroom and sitting room

SE/06/03006 **2 Coombe Road**

First floor extension including widening of dormer. Construction and siting of summer house

SE/06/03039 **109 Evelyn Road**

Single storey rear extension. Loft conversion with rear dormer

SE/06/03125 **Springfield 17 Hillydeal Rd**

Erection of two storey extension at front to provide double garage and living accommodation above, conversion of existing double garage to an exercise gym, erection of first floor extension over existing front entrance/porch, and erection of single storey extension to rear to provide a conservatory and exercise pool.

SE/06/03230 **76 High Street**

Demolition of conservatory and erection of single and two storey extensions together with window and flat roof alterations.

SE/06/03269 **Culvannan 14A Hillydeal Rd**

Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and erection of replacement oak framed dwelling (revision to SE/06/00174)

b. Results received

SE/06/01408 **Umberslade Shoreham Road**

Variation of condition 8 (obscure glazing to windows in side elevations) of planning permission SE/05/01092 for the erection of two dwellings, inclusive of boundary treatment alongside the flank walls *Allowed*

SE/06/02883 **19 Telston Lane**

Loft conversion with roof extension to form a half-hipped roof and installation of rear dormer *Allowed*

SE/06/02792 **39 Willow Park**

Single storey rear extension and conservatory *Allowed*

SE/06/02870 **42 Tudor Drive**

Erection of first floor side extension and ground floor rear extension. As amended by plans received 30.11.06 *Allowed*

SE/06/02958 **3 Sevenoaks Rd**

Display of 1 internally illuminated projecting and 1 internally illuminated fascia sign *Allowed*

c. Amended applications

SE/06/01408 **Umberslade Shoreham Road**

Variation of condition 8 (obscure glazing to windows in side elevations) of planning permission SE/05/01092 for the erection of two dwellings, inclusive of boundary treatment alongside the flank walls