

# Otford Parish Council January Newsletter 2009 No 175

Kent and South & South East England  
Village of the Year 2002  
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## Football Match @ Charlton

Through the parish council, Charlton Athletic has made an offer which many Otford residents will surely find it impossible to refuse. On Saturday 7th March 2009, for a total cost of £43 per person, the club will:

- provide a coach to take us to and from The Valley,
- in the morning arrange a one-hour tour of the stadium followed by a brief audio-visual presentation about the club and its history,
- serve us a three-course lunch in one of their restaurants overlooking the pitch, and
- give us seats together to watch the Championship game versus Watford.

We can have only 53 places and these will be allotted strictly on a first come, first served basis. To reserve a place or places, please contact the parish office, telephone 01959 524808 or email [otfordpc@btinternet.com](mailto:otfordpc@btinternet.com). The latest day for bookings, should places still be available, is Friday 23rd January and payment has to be made by Friday 6th February.

STOP PRESS After a grant from the Fete Committee we can now offer £20 OFF for the first ten (10) UNDER 16'S to apply (you must be accompanied by adult).

## The Village Design Statement

Many residents received their Otford VDS books for Christmas. There have been a number of additional requests for copies. If you would still like to order an

Otford VDS book please fill in the form found at the Parish Office. Don't leave it too long. We are running low on copies and need to estimate how many re-prints may be needed.

## Otford Car Park

Following a suggestion by a resident at the Annual Parish Meeting, the Parish Council has been considering a 'one way' system in the High Street car park. Designs have been produced by a Parish Councillor and can be viewed in the Parish Council office together with a copy of the current layout. The designs would involve taking a small piece of the Recreation Ground and obtaining planning consent for change of use to car parking. One design would involve the overall loss of two car parking spaces, even with the extra piece of land, the other would involve an overall loss of eight spaces. However with the extra piece of land, assuming planning consent could be obtained, and with the existing plan, four extra spaces could be added. Please let us have your views. The plans can be viewed during normal office hours until January 30<sup>th</sup> or on [www.otford.info/parish council](http://www.otford.info/parish_council)

## Guide Christmas Post Box

Thank you to all those who supported the 2008 Christmas Guide Post Box in Otford Library and the Parish Council Office. This year the Brownie and Guide collection and delivery has raised a total of £343 which will be divided between the girls' chosen charities - Demelza House Children's Hospice and the Kent Air Ambulance Trust.

## Otford Young Achiever Award

This award will be presented at the February Parish Council Meeting. We thank all those who have nominated young people.

## Councillors' Allowances

In view of the articles and comments in the Sevenoaks Chronicle about Councillors' allowances it was felt that the Parish Council should point out to parishioners that although Parish Councillors could claim allowances none do so, seeing the work they do as totally voluntary and a contribution to the life of the village.

## The Otford Parish Plan

This year we hope every resident will take the chance to be involved in producing the Otford Parish Plan. The Government wants local communities to take more control of their own lives and engage with other organisations to get things done. The Parish Plan lays

out a shared vision for the community over the next 10+ years and will contain a detailed action plan for achieving this. It is fully supported by our Parish Council and can also influence decision making by our District Council who are currently preparing their own plan for the next 15 years, the Local Development Framework. There will be lots of opportunities to get involved. There will be meetings, workshops, discussion events and action groups being created. You can get up-to date information on the Otford Website on [Otford.info/parishplan](http://Otford.info/parishplan) and you will be able to read of monthly progress in this newsletter. If you would like to volunteer to get involved in a small or big way, please pick up a form at the Parish Office.

### New PCSO

We would like to welcome our new PCSO Jane Wright who took up the post in January. She looks forward to meeting you all in the near future. If you would like to contact her concerning any problems or issues in the village please call her on 07772 226036

### Otford Community Warden

Paul Robertson our KCC Community Warden holds a weekly surgery to discuss any problems and community issues at School House every Tuesday between 11am and 12 noon.

### Indoor Boot Fair

There will be an Indoor Boot Fair in Otford Village Memorial Hall on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March between 9am and 1pm. Anyone wishing to book a table please contact Claire on 01959 525582 or Donna on 01959 522236. Tables are £8. Entrance will be 50p for adults and children free.

### Otford Oast WI

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February Sue Atkins will talk about *'Positive Parenting'*. Do join them. The meetings start at 9.30am in Otford Village Memorial Hall. There is a crèche and the first visit is free.

### Otford Afternoon WI

Meetings are held in the Village Hall at 2pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each month. The first meeting in 2009 will take place on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February when there will be a talk Mrs J Page on *'Ladies through the Eye of a Painter'*. For more details please contact Joyce Shaw on 01959 522736.

### Otford Evening WI

Otford Evening WI meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month in the Otford Memorial Hall starting at 7.30pm. The annual subscription of £29 will be due. For more information please contact Diana Jeremiah on 01959 522981

### Otford Methodist Church

Otford Methodist Church would like to invite you to join them in their Hall for a very special Café Evening at 6.30pm on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February with Paul Field.

Paul is a professional singer / songwriter who has won many awards including the Ivor Novello award from the British Academy of Songwriters. He has written songs for a host of artists including Cliff Richard, Elkie Brooks and Tammy Wynette. He has also written many of the modern Christian songs used in the church. For further details please contact Kath on 01959 522196

### World Day of Pray

The World Day of Prayer Service for 2009, prepared by women for Papua New Guinea, is to be held on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm at Otford Roman Catholic Church. The theme of the service is, 'In Christ there are many members yet one body' and the speaker will be Mrs Susan Ward. The service will be followed by refreshments. EVERYONE is welcome to this ecumenical event.

### Otford Gardeners' Society

Otford Gardeners' Society will start the new year with a Cheese and Wine evening in the Village Hall on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. This is a chance for everybody to get together informally and find out what the Society has in store for the coming year. The evening starts at 8pm and admission will be £2. Everybody is invited.

### Sevenoaks DFAS

The Decorative and Fine Arts Society of Sevenoaks (Evening NADFAS) 2008/2009 lecture season continues on 12<sup>th</sup> February when Mr Anton Gabszewicz will talk about 'A concise Chronology of Early Meissen Porcelain'. The meetings are held at Walthamstow Hall Senior School, Hollybush Lane, commencing at 8.15pm. Please contact Mrs Maggie Llanwarne on 01732 460709 or Mrs Mary Aldous on 01732 452209 for more information and membership.

### Otford Village Hall

The Trustees of Otford Village Memorial Hall would like to record their thanks to those members of Otford Wine Club who came down to the Hall on the 7<sup>th</sup> December and made such a great job of putting up the Christmas decorations in the Main Hall. The trustees know that there are many organisations both in the village and from outside who appreciate their efforts and are grateful for the time and effort that they put into this role every year.

### Otford Allotments Association

Not much 'growing on' at the moment, but if you are one of those on the waiting list please be patient as history tells us that a plot will become available during the next few months. In the meantime please come to Otford Library on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm to hear Janet Finney and Barbara Hine talking respectively about Otford Gardeners and Otford Allotments and how their interests overlap historically and today to the benefit of all.

### 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 next lecture will be on 19<sup>th</sup> February when Dr Colin Bailey will talk about '*Joseph Wright of Derby and the English Enlightenment*'. The Lectures start promptly at 1.45pm and finish by 3pm. Anyone interested in attending a lecture or joining the Society please contact Alison Davis on 01732 780453.

### Hatha Yoga Class

The new term for your friendly Hatha Yoga class started on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Classes are weekly 7.30 - 9.00pm in term time and cost £8 per lesson. Beginners and all abilities are welcome. For further details and to reserve a place please contact Brenda Hambrook on 01959 525969 or yoga@otford.net

### Otford Methodist Wednesday Afternoons

#### Women's Fellowship

Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings, which take place at 2.30pm in the new Church Hall. Phone Rosemary Cracknell on 01959 522325 for details

#### January

21<sup>st</sup> - Keith Lawrey - 'The Titanic'

28<sup>th</sup> - Kath Pawlett - 'Lindisfarne'

#### February

4<sup>th</sup> - Robert Bright - A master tailor

11<sup>th</sup> - Games afternoon

18<sup>th</sup> - 12pm Ploughman's lunch at the Drive Methodist

### Otford Methodist Exercise Group

The Serendip exercise group meet every Thursday from 9.30-10.30am in the Otford Methodist Church Halls. The group is for men and women over 50 and lead by a REPs level 3 supervisor. Refreshments and chat afterwards, followed by Table tennis or Chess. The cost is £2 per session. You will be welcome for all or one of the activities. Phone David Knight on 01732 743056 for details.

### Sevenoaks Embroiderers' Guild

The next meeting will take place in Otford Village Memorial Hall on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January when there will be an all day workshop and mini workshops on '*Beadwork*' with Liz Thornton. Morning sessions begin at 10am and afternoons at 2pm and more information can be obtained from Pat Curtis on 01959 532391.

### Picture of the Month

The artist for December / January is David Simpson. David has lived in the village for over 30 years and has never painted on a regular basis. Having retired he now finds more time to participate. He paints mainly in oils, which he finds a flexible medium inasmuch that mistakes can easily be rectified, although detail can be a problem. He says he admires David Shepherd as an artist hence his penchant for painting animals, but the only thing they have in common is their first name.

### Citizens Advice Bureau Surgery

The next CAB Surgery will take place at School House on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February between 10am and 12 noon. No appointment necessary.

### Otford Petanque Club

On Thursdays at 3pm the Otford Petanque Club plays on the new purpose-built terrain in the High Street Recreation Ground and makes good use of the tea making facilities in the nearby Eric Dilley Pavilion. Why not join them? You would be most welcome and no previous experience is required. For further information and dates when the club meet please contact the club secretary Margaret Chandler on 01959 523620.

### 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 December TOP Draw are:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize £50 - 437

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £15 - 440

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize £10 - 330

## Planning

The following applications will be considered by the Parish Council 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/08/03091 42 Hillydeal Road

Two storey extension with dormers and detached garage

SE/08/03272 33 Well Road

Single storey rear and front extension

SE/08/03280 26 Rye Lane

Proposed sand school

SE/08/03386 Greenhill Manor 17 Greenhill Road

Replacement dwelling including detached garage and associated access

SE/08/03391 2 Flowerfield

Two storey side and single storey rear extension

### b. Results received

SE/08/02629 49a High Street

Proposed front and rear dormers for loft conversion  
*Allowed*

SE/08/02738 35 High Street

Erection of ground floor rear extension  
*Allowed*

SE/08/02789 Crookfoot, Rye Lane

Demolition of outbuilding and erection of two storey side extension  
*Refused*

SE/08/02813 17 Leonard Avenue

Erection of single storey front porch *Allowed*

SE/08/02885 Newlands Shoreham Road

Demolition of existing house and erection of two new detached houses with garages  
*Refused*

SE/08/03197 4 Wickham Field

Lawful Development Certificate - Erection of external chimney breast and chimney *Granted*

### c. Amended applications

#### d. Planning appeals

SE/08/01136 1 Wickham Field

Erection of dwelling within curtilage Appeal against refusal

SE/08/02556 Little Coombe Shoreham Road

Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling Appeal against refusal

#### e. Tree Work in Conservation Area

08/03253/WTPO New Forge House High Street

Crown reduce 1 beech tree by 20%

08/03352/WTCA 1 Pickmoss Lane

Fell one picea abies

## Yorkshire 3 peaks Challenge



Yes we are at it again. In May Paul (our Community Warden) Dave (our ex PCSO) and Sue (Assistant Clerk) will this time be completing the Yorkshire 3 Peaks Challenge covering 26 miles in 12 hours including climbing 3 peaks.

Money raised will go to the Over 60's Club and to the Otford Primary Swimming Pool Appeal. Please support us if you can. Thank you

### T'ai Chi Classes:



**Energy  
Posture  
Balance  
De-stress  
Relaxation  
Circulation  
Muscle-tone**

If you are interested in taking up T'ai Chi then classes are starting in January.

[General aims: The aims are to improve the general health, strengthen the legs, improve balance & coordination, promote better circulation, whilst bringing relaxation and increased energy. The courses will also work on improving posture and breathing.]

Sevenoaks: Thursday 15th January: 6.35-7.30pm at The Bradbourne School, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks. TN13 3LE.

ALSO: New class for Wudang T'ai Chi Sword Form - on Thursdays at 8.35-9.30pm.

Friday 16th January: 12.05-1.00pm at St. Luke's Church Hall, Eardley Road, Sevenoaks. TN13 1XT. This class is specifically aimed at the over-60s, but anyone can attend.

#### Longfield:

Friday 16th January: 10.05-11.00am at The Longfield Integrated Care Centre, Tuppence House, Brickfield Farm, Main Road, Longfield, Kent. DA3 7PJ.

Length & Cost of Course: 12 weeks [Try-out session: £5 & the remaining 11 weeks of the course : £105] Email: [james@taiji.co.uk](mailto:james@taiji.co.uk) for information

The Parish Council apologises if dates have gone past when you receive your newsletter as timings for deliveries cannot always be guaranteed due to pressure on our local printer and on the volunteer deliverers. Thank you.