

Otford Parish Council

July / August Newsletter 2017

No 264

Twinned with Neufchatel-Hardelot

Clerk: Mrs. S. Palmer

The School House, 21, High Street, Otford, Sevenoaks, Kent TN14 5PG

Telephone/answerphone: 01959 524808 Fax: 01959 525298

Office hours 8.30 to 12.30 Mon to Fri - clerk@otfordpc.co.uk

Parish Council

For those interested in all the activities of OPC, the minutes of meetings are available in the library, and all minutes, agendas and newsletters can be obtained via the web (also available in the library). They can all be read via <http://www.otford.info/parishcouncil>. The next meetings will be on **10th July** and **14th August** at 7.30pm in the Club Room of Otford Village Hall.

Chairman's Report



Much of my Council over the past month has been taken up with the implications of the Northern Sevenoaks Masterplan. For those of you who have missed this visionary plan, it deals with the regeneration and development of Northern Sevenoaks over the next 15-20 years. Unfortunately, among other notable omissions, the consultants have failed to take into account the infrastructure constraints including the increased traffic through Bat & Ball junction that will be created by large numbers of new houses north of the A25, as well as the additional demands for school places and health facilities. These will inevitable have a significant impact on the neighbouring parishes of Riverhead, Dunton Green, Seal and, of course, Otford. In addition to increased traffic on the A225 between Otford and Bat & Ball, there will be pressure to extend the Vestry Estate northwards into the Green Belt that separates Otford from Sevenoaks. This is unacceptable and the Council will resist it resolutely!

On 6th June, Otford Parish Council hosted a well-attended meeting in the Village Hall for councillors and residents of all the parishes that border Northern Sevenoaks. Although neither Sevenoaks Town Council nor the consultants who drafted the plan were formally represented (although they had been invited), several Town councillors attended and spoke. In summing up, I noted that those present seemed to agree that there was a need for a plan - but that it had to be the right plan. The current draft of the Masterplan appears to be impractical

and STC need help to deal with the infrastructure issues. To this end Otford Parish Council has formally requested that it should be included in the new group/committee to look at the infrastructure issues and we have every hope that the other neighbouring parishes will also ask to be included. You can find the report of the meeting on Otford.net or pick up a printed copy from the Parish Office. This will be an ongoing project so please keep in touch.



I would remind you that every meeting on the Council and its committees starts with a ten minute public forum to which you are invited. This is your Parish and your Council and we want you to be involved.

And if you want to get in touch with me, you can find my contact details on the OPC website: <http://www.otford.info/parishcouncil/>



OPC are looking for a "paid" part-time litter picker to collect rubbish from all the parish assets, i.e. the Village Recreation Ground, Hale Lane Recreation Ground, Telston Park, the Village Green, Palace Field and the Cemetery and footpaths. If you are able to help, please contact the office on 524808.



In very warm weather could all residents please remember to put **ALL** your rubbish out by 7am on the morning of collection otherwise bags will start smelling and causing a nuisance.

Otford Primary School Summer Fete



The Otford Primary PTFA Summer Fete will take place on **Saturday 1st July** from 12pm to 3pm. There will be lots of fun things to enjoy including bouncy castles and an assault course, music and entertainment, summer shopping, BBQ, beer tent, miniature garden competition, face painting, silent auction, a raffle and lots of games for the children to play. Please go along and support the school.

Oxenhill Meadow & Woods Family Nature Event



To celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Oxenhill Meadow & Woods and to kick off the start of the Summer holidays there will be a Family Nature Event on **Saturday 22nd July** from 2pm to 4.30pm. There will be nature walks, tree, flower and insect recognition, bug hunts, face painting, bark & leaf rubbing and a treasure hunt. Bring a picnic with you. Entrance from the bottom of Tudor Drive. Hope to see you there.

Sevenoaks Summer Festival



The 48th Annual Summer Festival will take place at various venues in the District between **Saturday 24th June to Sunday 9th July**. Pick up your festival programme from the Stag Box office, libraries and other shops and some copies are available in the Heritage Centre. Celebrity acts this year include The Manfreds



Community Warden Surgery

Paul holds his weekly surgery to discuss any problems and community issues at School House on Tuesdays between 11am and 12 noon. Come and see him. Paul can also be contacted on 07813 713366.

Otford Oast WI



The next meeting will be on **Thursday 20th July** at 9.30am in Otford Village Memorial Hall when they will have a talk on '*Battersea Dogs Home*'. The first visit is free. For more details or please contact the Secretary Sharna Peyto on 07860 463656.

Otford Evening WI



The next meeting of the Otford Evening WI will be held on **Thursday 13th July** at 7.30pm in the Club Room of the Otford Village Memorial Hall and the speaker will be John Yarrow who is a retired crime scene investigator. In August, they will meet on **Thursday 10th** when Glen Jones will talk about '*Kentish Valour - Kent winners of the Victoria Cross.*' Visitors are very welcome at the meetings and if further information is required please contact their President on 01959 524831.



Otford Library Craft Mornings



There will be a craft morning (10.00am-12.00pm) for children on d **15th July**. As usual all craft events are free but children must be accompanied by an adult. Please phone 03000 413131, asking to be put through to Otford library, to ensure a place or for more details.

Otford Allotments Open Morning



The Otford Allotments Association will be holding their Open Morning on **Saturday 15th July** between 10am and 12 noon. Go along and have a look at all the members hard work.

Otford Library News



- Baby bounce and rhyme time (BBRT) sessions will run throughout the school holidays - Mondays 11.00-11.30am.
- The last story time for the summer will be on **Tuesday 11th July** 2.30-3.00pm. It will resume in September when children go back to school
- The **Summer Reading Challenge** at the library this year is called '**Animal Agents**' and starts on **15th July**. They look forward to joining as many primary school aged children as possible to the challenge. When six books are read over the summer, children receive a medal and certificate. There are also nice little rewards (stickers, bookmarks etc) given out at different stages, along the way, in order to sustain interest in the challenge. If anyone has any queries please do contact Lorraine at Otford library.
- Talk time continues at the library throughout the year on Mondays 11.30-12.30. We welcome anyone who would like to join in for a chat over a cup of tea, coffee and biscuits.
- Computer assistance with the IT volunteer is available on Saturday and Monday morning. It is essential to book, in advance for this assistance at Otford library.

Otford Methodist Church Classic Car Show



Otford Methodist Church would like to invite you to their Classic Car Show in the Church car park (next to Otford Library) on **Saturday 15th July** between 4pm and 7pm. Entrance is Free and refreshments will be supplied. Go along and see a range of old, interesting and exotic cars, talk to the owners, take photos and enjoy an afternoon tea. For more information or if you have a car you would like to bring please contact Derek Baxter on 01959 523687.

Otford Methodist Church - Watt-A-Lott Castle Holiday Club

Their Summer holiday club running from **29th August to 1st September** is now open for bookings for 5 to 11 year olds. Cost is £3 per morning or £12 for the week. Activities will include Watt Family, Quest, Games, Bible stories, songs, puppets and lots of fun. For bookings please call Ann on 01732 762872.

Citizens Advice Sevenoaks - Otford Outreach



The next surgeries will take place on **Tuesday 4th July** and **Tuesday 1st August** between 10am and 12 noon. Drop in appointments may be available on the day. Ring 01732 440488 and leave a message at any time.

Sevenoaks Embroiderer's Guild



The next meeting will take place on **Saturday 29th July** in Otford Village Memorial Hall when there will be an all-day workshop with Trish & Viv on '*Bird themed collage/hanging*'. The meetings start at 10am and 2pm and end with tea and cakes at about 4pm. For further information please contact

Front Garden Competition



The Otford Gardeners' Society, on behalf of the Parish Council, will again be organising the Annual Otford Front Garden competition. Preliminary judging will be taking place during July & August when committee members will be walking around the village taking notes. The competition will again be based on the front gardens that would take the eye of a stranger to the village, without him or her having to look over or around a hedge, wall or fence.

Otford-Neufchatel-Hardelot Twinning Association



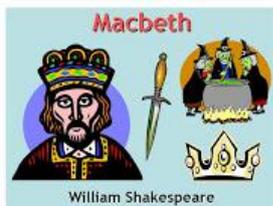
Our next Social Gathering will be at The Woodman on **Monday 17th July** from 7.30 pm.

This is a final invitation to join the coach to Hardelot, between Boulogne and Calais, on **Saturday 2nd September** when you will have the opportunity to explore the seaside resort and beach area, to challenge our Twins in a game of petanque, to visit the

Biscuit factory and children will be able to take part in Les Boucles d'Hardelot (running races: aged 5-7 one kilometre, aged 8-11 two kilometres, aged 12-15 three kilometres, and adults 10 kilometres. Only £40 per adult (plus £5 membership if you have not yet paid for 2017) children free.

Please contact Mrs Jane Lawrey via the Otford Parish Council Office for an application form as soon as possible to be sure of a seat on the coach.

Macbeth - Sevenoaks Shakespeare Society



Members of Sevenoaks Shakespeare Society are hard at work rehearsing in Otford for their annual summer show, this year presenting the famous tragedy Macbeth in the open air at the White Rock Inn, Underriver, **from June 29th to July 1st and July 5th to 9th.** Tickets for the

show, part of Sevenoaks Summer Festival, can be booked at

www.thewhiterockinn.co.uk 01732 833112 or www.stagevennoaks.co.uk 01732

450175. £12 in advance, £5 children and students. Pre-show dinners are

available at the White Rock. Please bring warm clothing and low-backed folding

chairs. As an extra attraction in its 20th year, the society also presents "Bard With a Beat", a programme of musical settings of Shakespeare's words and songs inspired by the Bard, at the White Rock on **Monday, July 3rd** at 8.00pm. Entry by programme £5 from the pub.

Heritage Centre artist for July /August - Jeanne Prestage



Jeanne says 'We moved to Otford in 1964 with a young family. Once the family had grown and left home I had some 'me' time and I made use of it by enrolling in many Adult Educational classes including art. After a number of years, I joined the Otford Art Group where one is free to experiment in techniques, ideas and mediums. Having dabbled in many of the mediums available my preference is for Acrylics which I find are very flexible. The picture displayed is a Doormouse in pastel.

Kent County Show



The 2017 Show will be held on **Friday 7th, Saturday 8th Sunday 9th July** at the Kent County Showground and has something for the whole family. Open from 8am to 6pm every day, the Show is a wonderful day out with plenty of displays, entertainment and local food. With over 400 exhibitors and trade stands and over 300 competitions, activities and displays. For those who have never attended the Show before, the Kent County Show is a showcase event for farming, countryside and rural life.

Hospices of Hope Events



Otford Quiz Night

Hospices of Hope Tea Rooms, High Street

Saturday 8th July

Doors open at 7pm, supper served at 7.30pm.

Tickets £12 per person to include a light supper

Contact Rebekah on 01959 515110 or e-mail events@hospiceofhope.co.uk

Hedges



Hedges are growing very quickly at the moment and growing over the public footway. This can cause a nuisance to pedestrians, especially those who have poor sight. Please check the boundaries of the property you are in and if necessary arrange for it to be cut back from the footway as soon as possible. Thank you.



Planning

The following applications have been considered by the Parish Council. Contact the Parish Clerk or SDC on 01732 227000.

a. New applications

SE/17/01578/79 **Heriots Croft, Twitton Lane**

Erection of a single storey rear infill extension. New painted timber door to rear elevation.

SE/17/01637 **Lower Barn Cottage, Park Farm, High Street**

Proposed cellar

SE/17/01793 **10 Hale Lane**

Erection of a single storey rear extension and alterations to front elevation fenestration.

SE/17/01679 **The Gables, Tudor Crescent**

Erection of a detached glasshouse

SE/17/91797 **St Bartholomew's Church, The Green**

Various works to trees

b. Results received

SE/17/00789 **Maunders, St Michael's Drive**

Use of loft space to accommodate 3 bedrooms, 2 with en-suite. *Allowed*

SE/17/00860 **11 The Old Walk**

Erection of front extension with infill to ground floor and rear extension to incorporate a first-floor extension. Alteration to fenestration and associated sun pipes and a new flue. *Allowed*

SE/17/00958 **75 Sidney Gardens**

Demolition of existing side lean-to. Single storey rear extension with large metal sliding doors, roof-light and green roof. Formation of a front covered porch and conversion of existing garage to living room, insertion of window to the north elevation side passageway to bedroom 2 and two new openings to the south elevation. Loft conversion incorporating rear and side dormers and two roof-lights over the front elevation. *Allowed*

SE/17/00988 **2 Flowerfield**

Erection of a single storey rear extension with side extension connecting to garage to be converted to a bedroom. Alterations to driveway. *Allowed*

SE/17/01021/22 **McDonalds, Old Otford Road**

Installation of canopies over the COD units and the installation of a new wall mounted 'Good Times' sign. *Allowed*

SE/17/01135 **6, Shinecroft, Rye Lane**

Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a new conservatory to the front of the property. *Allowed*

SE/17/01109

Byre Cottage, Shoreham Road

Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a replacement dwelling house with associated parking and landscaping.

Allowed

SE/17/01146

Little Warren, 38, Hillydeal Road

Erection of detached triple garage to house two vehicles with storage area and associated hard standing.

Allowed

Shop Local



Please remember your local shops during the summer holidays. Get presents and holiday items from our lovely individual village shops and dine out in our restaurant or pubs. Support your local businesses. **Following on from the business special last month the Forge House Restaurant (under new management) is offering 20% discount on their a-la-carte menu until 31 August (quote Otford Village Fete when booking).**

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for items for the September newsletter is **Friday 18th August**

WHATEVER THE WEATHER JUST RELAX

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

