

Otford Parish Council

July/August Newsletter 2006

No 148

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

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Alice in Wonderland

An outdoor production of 'Alice in Wonderland' by Chalkfoot Theatre Productions will be taking place in the grounds of Otford Primary School at 7pm on **Friday 21st July**. Tickets will be available from School House at £6.50 adults, £5.50 concessions and £4.50 for under 16's. If you purchase your tickets 7 days or more before the performance there will be £1.50 discount on each ticket. The grounds will be open for an hour before for picnics (fingers crossed for sunshine) and the PTA will also be serving refreshments for school funds.

An invitation to Twin

Otford has been invited to twin with the small market town of Presigne in Anjou (western France), which has a similar population as Otford. It already has links with the German village of Wewelsburg, and regularly has exchange visits with both young people and adults. If you would be interested in exchange visits with either town / village please let the Parish office know. The offer will only be taken up if sufficient people are interested. Presigne has a website www.presigne.fr where further information can be found

'Wot'z On' - Summer 2006



Wotz On Summer is a programme brought together for you, the young people of Year 7 to those of 19 years in the Sevenoaks District Area organised by the Kent Youth Service in partnership with SDC, Social Services, Sencio Leisure and Swanley Town Council. There is often a cry that there is nothing to do, here is your opportunity to get involved, meet new people, try new or preferred activities and by getting involved start a process where you will have more and

more say in the activities that are run in future years. Activities this year include: Deep Sea Fishing, Archery & Shooting, Record your own CD, Skiing, Snow Boarding, DJ Workshops, Ice Skating, Paintballing, Two day camping trip with activities including climbing. The Booklets with details of activities and booking form are available from SDC and Parish Council Office / Heritage Centre or by contacting Steve Hanks on 01322 662779

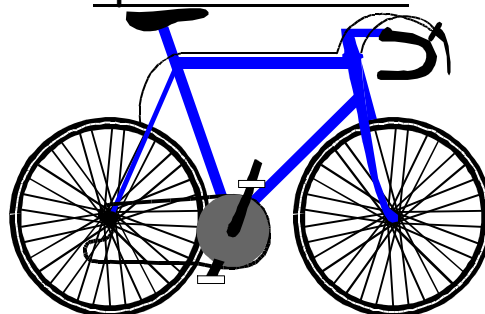
Youth Van

Team games, circus skills, parachute games, arts and crafts and much, much more can only mean one thing - Sevenoaks District Council's Youth Zone van will be out and about again this summer. The van and team will be visiting:

- ❖ Date: **Friday 18th August**
- ❖ Time: **11am - 3.30pm**
- ❖ Place: **Hale Lane Recreation ground, Otford**
- ❖ Event: **Youth Van**

There is no need to book in advance or reserve a place on the programme as all activities are run on a turn up and join in basis. All children are registered when they arrive and children over 8 can be left with Youth Zone staff for the day. It is recommended that children bring a packed lunch and a sun hat. The fully equipped van includes seating for up to 10 people, disabled access, music, video, DVD and PC facilities as well as loads of equipment for a wide variety of sports, arts and circus skills.

Sponsored Bike Ride



To raise money for the Otford Playground Project and the newly formed Shoreham Youth Club our PCSO Dave Birchall will be undertaking a bike ride from Sevenoaks to Brighton. We are very grateful to Dave for giving his time for the youth of two of the villages that he patrols. He will be training hard and performing this feat on **Sunday 3rd September** starting at 8am. Dave also hopes to get some sponsorship from local businesses. Sponsorship forms will be available for you to place your name on at School House / Heritage Centre, Stan's, Telston Stores, other village shops and Sevenoaks Police Station. So come on, Dave works tirelessly for the village so now it's our time to say thank you and give him our full support. Please be generous.

HRH The Duke of Kent

The sun shone, the helicopter arrived to much excitement on the Recreation Ground and the village was looking its best for the visit of HRH The Duke of Kent KG. He visited the Library where he unveiled a plaque, then the Heritage Centre where he spent some time looking at the exhibits and was presented with a few mementos of his visit and signed the visitors book. Then he walked up the High Street, speaking to villagers and shopkeepers and calling in at the florists where he was given a buttonhole to wear and a small bunch of flowers. After having the Mosaic explained to him he made his way to the new Eric Dilley Sports Pavilion where he was first introduced to representatives of the community, sport and The Football Foundation, who were the major funders of the project. He then unveiled a plaque to loud applause and numerous photographs before retiring inside for a short tour and some excellent home made cake. Upon leaving the pavilion he visited the model of the Solar System before taking off for his lunch date in Folkestone.

The Pond

The Pond will, if no further problems arise, have its base re-puddled in August, this will clearly mean more screens and vehicles in the heart of the village but it will be fun to watch and it is hoped that the village can get involved at some point.

Police Surgery

The next Police Surgery with our PCSO Dave Birchall will take place on **Tuesday 10th August** between 11am and 12.30pm. Please come and see him if you have any problems.

Theft of Bicycle

Please be aware that a child's bicycle was stolen from a front garden in the village so don't let it happen to you, keep your property safe and secure. Now that summer is here remember not to leave windows or doors open when you go out, keep your garage doors locked and do not leave car windows open on your drive or when in car parks. Opportunist thieves will take anything. If you are going away on holiday make sure you cancel, milk, papers if you have them delivered and make sure you let neighbours know that you will be away so they can keep an eye on your property. If you see anything suspicious contact Sevenoaks Police Station on 01732 771055.

Playground Project

A big thank you to all who have so far donated to the appeal to raise the £13,850 needed. Thank you also to the Otford Society for organising the appeal. Keep

your donations coming please and cheques should be made out to the Otford Society and dropped into School House.

Otford Over 60's Social Club

HELP NEEDED! Is there anyone who could help me organise and run the OOSSC on a voluntary basis. We have about 25 members and meet every other Wednesday afternoon (except August). If you think you are interested please ring Jill on 01959 525775 for a chat or leave a message and she will ring you back or e-mail jill.Yates@tesco.net.

Citizens Advice Bureau Surgery

The next CAB Surgery will take place at School House on **Tuesday 4th August** between 10am and 12 noon. No appointment necessary.

Otford Primary Top Draw

TOP DRAW - The Otford Primary Draw. Your chance to win cash prizes and raise money for your local school.

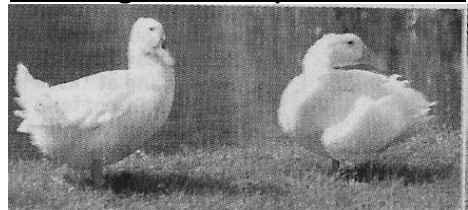
The winning numbers of the June TOP Draw are:

1st Prize £50 - 215

2nd Prize £15 - 223

3rd Prize £10 - 112

Ducklings Nursery Pre-school



Are you looking for a nursery for your child? Ducklings, has been established in Otford for more than 20 years. They take children from 2½ years to Primary School entry. Ducklings, offers a safe and caring environment at St Bartholomew's Church Hall. They are open Monday to Friday 9.15am to 12.15pm (until 3.15pm on Mondays and Wednesdays and Fridays). Ducklings, more than meets OFSTED requirements and gained a glowing report on the last inspection. As a not for profit nursery, they ensure that all the money is used for the children's benefit. There are a few places for September 2006. Contact Ducklings on 07720 955717 (times as above) or Maureen Perry on 01959 524298.

Otford Afternoon W.I

Meetings are held in the Village Hall at 2pm on the 2nd Tuesday each month. Membership is £22 per year. The meeting on **8th August** is a members meeting. Please contact 01959 522915 for more details.

Oxford Allotment Association

Didn't I tell you so - yes that small plot offered last month has gone to a keen tenant so now we are back to full occupancy. However, there is a small well maintained plot which will become available when the present tenant vacates at the end of September. If you would like to put your name to this, please give me Barbara Hine, a ring on 01959 525468, so that you can be assured of a plot which will require little maintenance. Before all of that, the Oxford Allotment Association have an Open Day on **Saturday 19th August**, to celebrate National Allotment Week. Details are currently being planned and will be published on our website - www.oxford.info/allotments and in the local press and on notice boards. We would like to welcome any member of the public to show you around the allotments site to see what can be achieved through a little healthy working exercise. There should be other things to see and we expect to be able to offer some refreshment. Please make a note in your diary and hope for continued good weather.

Oxford Gardeners' Society

The next meeting takes place in Oxford Village Memorial Hall on **Tuesday 5th Sept** at 8pm when the lecture is by Len Stebbings on '*Container vegetables - with seasonal hints*' - an illustrated talk and practical demonstration on how to grow vegetables on the patio. Admission is 50p for members, £1 non-members. The admission price includes refreshments. Visitors and new members are always welcome. For further details contact Janet Finney on 01959 523760 or visit www.oxford.info/gardeners.

Ladies Fashion Sale

You are warmly invited to attend an End of Season Sale of Ladies Summer Fashions on behalf of Oxford Methodist Church Hall. It is being held at Oxford Village Memorial Hall on **Wednesday 19th July** from 10am until 1pm. Admission £1, Light refreshments will be available. Take your friends along to see the affordable colour co-ordinated clothes for all occasions considerably discounted.

Sevenoaks Embroiderers' Guild

The next meeting will take place in Oxford Memorial Hall on **Saturday 29th July** when there will be all day workshop with Pam Watts 'Magic Machine Embroidery'. 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 first lecture of the 2006/07 programme will be on **21st September** by Nicholas Bagshawe on '*A Dealers Story*'. Lectures start promptly at 1.45pm preceded by refreshments at 12.30pm. Anyone interested in joining the Society or would like more information, please contact the membership secretary, Hilary Thomas on 01732 762529.

Picture of the Month

The artist for July / August is Betty Cooper. Betty moved to Oxford eleven years ago. She decided to get involved in village life and joined the Women's Institute. It was here that she learned of the W.I Art Club and decided to become a member and enjoy her passion for watercolours. Over the past few years the membership has included lovers of painting, both male and female, and has now become the Oxford Art Group. Betty is also the co-ordinator for this group. Please contact Doug Dickerson on 01959 524183 if you are interested in displaying your artwork.

Garden Open

As part of the National Gardens Scheme Pam Hadrill at Little Oast, High Street, Oxford is opening her garden on **Sunday 3rd September** between 2pm - 5pm. Admission will be £2.50, children free. This tranquil and peaceful garden has taken over 50 years to become what it is today, full of mature trees, plants, ferns, grasses and shrubs, 3 summerhouses and a pond with seats in secluded corners where you can enjoy your tea and cake which will be for sale.

Sevenoaks DFAS

The Decorative and Fine Arts Society of Sevenoaks (Sevenoaks Evening Society) 2005/2006 lecture season continues on **Thursday 13th July** at 8.15pm in the Aisher Hall, Sevenoaks School with a talk by Dr David Bostwick on '*Changing Rooms: the development of the English Manor House from medieval to Jacobean times*'. Contact Mrs Honor McMillan on 01892 532651 for more information.

Your local Country Market

Do you know what happens between 2pm and 3.30pm every Friday afternoon in Eynsford Village Hall. Your local Country Market takes place where you can buy at very reasonable prices a large selection of homemade savouries, cakes and biscuits. The number of different jams, marmalades, chutneys and pickles needs to be seen to be believed. They also sell very fresh home-grown vegetables and fruit in season and bread. Lastly there are numerous plants and cut flowers and a wide selection of crafts and cards to

suit every occasion. It is certainly the meeting place for many who come to enjoy tea or coffee and homemade cake and a chat. Why not give it a try - you don't know what you are missing. The hall is located in front of the castle in Eynsford and parking is available beside the. They look forward to seeing you there.

Explore the world of Volunteering

At Sevenoaks Volunteer Centre they can help you find a volunteering activity that interests you, that'll get you fit, out of the house, using your brain, meeting new people, getting work experience or supporting issues you care about... you name it and they will try to find it for you! The range of volunteering opportunities is hugely varied and all kinds of people volunteer for all sorts of reasons. Everyone has something to contribute to the community. You may have key skills that are in demand, for example accountancy, marketing, PR, IT and legal skills. You might be good with kids, with older people, with animals, with plants. Your skills, combined with even a tiny bit of your time, can make a huge difference to the lives of other people and to your community. You can help as part of a team working on a project, with individuals on a one-to-one basis or even get a team of friends or colleagues together to take on one of the fun volunteer team challenges. They also have interesting one-off opportunities for people who want a volunteering 'taster' without regular commitment.

- At the moment we are particularly short of volunteers to join the bank of volunteer drivers helping older people attend essential appointments and maintain their independence. Driving is a very flexible way to volunteer.
- Could you help with marshalling or administration on a Marie Curie Cancer Care Great Forest Fun Run to be held **Sunday 10th September** through the beautiful Bedgebury Pinetum?
- They need helpers for the fun-filled Marie Curie Ladies Driving Challenge to be held on **Saturday 30th September** at the Hop Farm in Paddock Wood. Help is required with the registration desk, welcome desk, marshalling and car park duties.

Interested? Find out more about volunteering opportunities by contacting the Sevenoaks Volunteer Centre on 01732 454785 or email info@sevenoaksvolunteers.org.uk. Visit the website on www.sevenoaksvolunteers.org.uk or pop into see them in town at 34, Buckhurst Avenue.

Deliverers Required

We are looking for volunteers **PLEASE** to deliver newsletters in **TELSTON LANE & WILLOW PARK**. We are grateful to a lady resident who has volunteered to deliver in the High Street. It only takes about 30 minutes once a month and you will get invited to a reception every year as a thank you! If you feel you could help please contact the office on 01959 524808.

Planning

The following applications will be considered by the Parish Council at its meeting in July. 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/06/01113 **Frog Farm Pilgrims Way W**

Change of use and conversion existing barns into offices

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

SE/06/01458 **11 Broughton Road**

Two storey rear extension & conservatory

SE/06/01673 **36 Willow Park**

Two storey side extension. Demolish existing garage. Front and rear porches and extend crossover to drive.

b. Results received

SE/05/02761 **7 Hale Lane**

Erection of a two storey side extension

Allowed

c. Amended applications

SE/06/00944 **39 Greenhill Road**

Demolition of existing property and construction of new dwelling. As amplified by plans received 9.06.06

SE/06/00982 **38 High Street**

Ground floor rear conservatory. As amended by plans received 25.04.06

SE/06/01312 **Clyderhowe Sevenoaks Road**

Front, side and rear, part single & part two storey extension to comprise enlarged living accommodation and replacement of one dental surgery (amendment to description)



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

