

**Otford Parish Council**  
**March Newsletter 2008**  
**No 166**

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

Clerk: Mrs. B.J. Darby

The School House, 21, High Street, Otford,  
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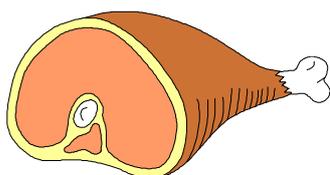
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### Copus Butchers



It is with great regret that we have to say goodbye to Copus Butchers. Jason is emigrating to Japan with his family and the shop will be closing on 22<sup>nd</sup> March. We wish them good luck. We thank him and Paul for their wonderful friendly efficient service over the years. Paul Copus will be running a delivery service to Otford from his shop in Borough Green and you can contact him with your orders on 01732 883636.

### '3 Peaks' Boot Sale



The '**3 PEAKS**' Boot Sale will be taking place on **Saturday 22nd March 2008** in Otford Village Memorial Hall between 9.00am - 12.30pm. If you would like to have a table at a cost of £8 please contact Sue on 01959 524808 or evenings 01959 523789. Refreshments will be available.

PCSO Dave Birchall, Community Warden Paul Robertson and Assistant Clerk Sue Stephenson are undertaking the '3 Peaks Challenge' to raise money for Otford Primary Early Years and Shoreham Pre School. Sponsorship forms are around the village. Please support them.

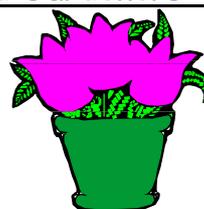
### Police Surgery

The next Police Surgery with our PCSO Dave Birchall will take place on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April** between 11am and 12.30pm at School House. Please come and see him if you have any problems.

### Otford Allotments Association

Allotment gardening is still continuing to create interest and we currently have a fully tenanted site. As the gardening year progresses and the weather improves, no doubt interest will continue to increase, so if you have the tiniest bit of interest in starting allotment gardening, please give Barbara Hine a ring on 01959 525468 who will be pleased to show you the area and possibilities which may exist to suit your needs.

### Otford Gardeners' Society



The **SPRING SHOW** will take place in Otford Village Memorial Hall on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March** between 2.15pm - 4.15pm, admission 50p, under 16's free. Refreshments are available till 4pm. Featuring spring flowers, photography, flower arrangements, cookery and junior classes. The Junior Class will be '*My best dressed floral welly*' (use your imagination to decorate an old welly with a flowery theme).

The next meeting of the Otford Gardeners' Society will take place on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April** when Jack Wheeler will talk about '*The splendour of Japanese Gardens*' followed on 3<sup>rd</sup> May with a visit to Jack Wheelers Garden in Sevenoaks. Meetings start at 8pm in Otford Village Memorial Hall. Admission is 50p for members and £1 for non-members to include refreshments.

### Otford Society

The Otford Society AGM is on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April** at 8pm in Otford Village Memorial Hall. The speaker is the Director of the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Nick Johansen

### Otford Afternoon WI

The Otford Afternoon WI's next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April** when Mr Shearan will talk about '*Rudyard Kipling - well loved Poet and Author*'. For more details please contact Joyce Shaw on 01959 522736

### Oxford Library

**BABY BOUNCE AND RHYME TIME** - Every Monday morning 11am until 11.30am - Babies and Toddlers welcome for nursery rhymes and sing-a-long songs.

**STORYTIME** - Now every Tuesday afternoon (not just term time) 2.15pm until 3.00pm - All children welcome to hear stories of their choice.

### Oxford Community Warden

Paul Robertson who has been temporarily covering Oxford and Shoreham as Warden has now been confirmed as a permanent replacement. We welcome him. Paul will now be holding a weekly surgery to discuss any problems and community issues at School House every Tuesday between 11am and 12 noon.

### Oxford Methodist Church

Ladies, the Oxford Methodist Church would like to invite you to a Women's Breakfast at 8.30am on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April** in the new Methodist Church Hall where you can enjoy a full continental breakfast and listen to guest speakers Max and Sue Sinclair talking about 'You & Me'. There is a small cost of £4 payable on the day. For further details or information please call Margaret on 01959 522046

### Aikido & Self Defence

If you are interested in practising a defensive martial art and are 16+ male or female, then why not make your way to the Scout Hut, Station Road, Oxford any Tuesday from 8pm to 10pm and see without obligation, what is involved. Beginners are always welcome and are individually taught the basics of Aikido before being integrated into the main class. The club has six coaches who, between them, have years of experience of the art of Aikido and of instructing beginners to black belts. All are nationally qualified coaches belonging to an organisation recognised by 'Sport England'. Aikido is a 'soft' defensive martial art and is based on using circular movements to turn an attacker's aggressive force against itself. It exercises the whole body, it teaches and develops flexibility, co-ordination, balance and quick reaction and is an effective method of self defence. For more information please contact 01959 522011 or 07889 321643 or visit the website at [www.oxfordaikido.co.uk](http://www.oxfordaikido.co.uk)

### Darent Valley Choir

The choir's Spring concert takes place at St Nicholas Church Sevenoaks on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April** at 7.30pm. Their Musical Director Ben Odom has chosen the very contrasting music of Fauré's Requiem and Rutter's Magnificat. Tickets are available at

Sevenoaks Bookshop and locally on 01959 523279. Do go and join them.

### 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 **20<sup>th</sup> March** when Launce Gribbin will talk about '*Grinling Gibbons: Carver to the Crown and Court*' The 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 and Alison Davis on 01732 780453.

### Oxford Oast WI

On **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** Elizabeth Ward will talk on Oxford. Elizabeth is a member of the local Historical Society and she will talk about Oxford's interesting past. Do join them. The meetings start at 9.30am in Oxford Village Memorial Hall. There is a crèche and the first visit is free.

### Oxford - Précigné

We hosted a 15 year old boy from Précigné, near Le Mans, last autumn for 6 weeks, in 6 different families, while he attended a local school. Both he and his hosts enjoyed the experience. Also pupils from St Michael's School have been exchanging correspondence and small gifts with a Primary School in Précigné.

During the weekend of 9-11 May 2008 we shall be welcoming a group of 12 visitors from Précigné to Oxford. If you, your family or organisation would be interested in meeting our visitors that weekend or in visiting Précigné or in making contact in the future please contact Jane Lawrey on 01959 522360, as soon as possible please, so that we may finalise our programme.

### Oxford Wine Club

They have started selling tickets for their Spring Buffet on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** which will consist of a cold buffet prepared by Brenda Montague and a cabaret. Members will be charged £11.50 and guests £13. If you have any queries please contact 01732 761359.

### Charity Bridge Tea

The Inner Wheel Club of Sevenoaks Amherst are holding a Charity Bridge Tea in aid of Hospice in The Weald and Demelza House Children's Hospice on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March between 1.30pm - 5pm at The

Kippington Centre, Kippington Road, Sevenoaks. Tickets are £6.50 per head. For more information please contact Mrs Mary Arthur on 01732 454224.

### Picture of the Month



The artist for March / April is Jean Wylie. Jean has always been interested in art; it was her favourite subject at school. She is a member of the Chipstead Lake Painting Class and her preferred mediums are oils and acrylics. She enjoys painting landscapes, botanical and wildlife subjects. Jean says that now she has retired and her family grown up she has more time to pursue her hobbies. Please contact Doug Dickerson on 01959 524183 if you would be interested in displaying your work in the Heritage Centre.

### Otford Players

Otford Players are having a Quiz Night in Otford Village Hall on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March** at 8pm. Tickets are £5 each. Book a table for 6/8 persons or come on your own and make new friends. Tickets are available from Marian Wills on 01959 522856. Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

### 5-a-side Football - GIRLS

If you like football, are female and aged between 13 - 16 yrs (a bit negotiable) and would be interested in playing football in a 5 a-side team within the local area. Please leave your contact details for the attention of Sue at Otford Parish Council office on 01959 524808 or email at [otfordpc@btinternet.com](mailto:otfordpc@btinternet.com)

### Sevenoaks DFAS

The Decorative and Fine Arts Society of Sevenoaks (Evening NADFAS) 2007/2008 lecture season continues on **10<sup>th</sup> April** with the AGM at 7.30pm and then at 8.15pm Mrs Frances Hughes will talk about '*A Small Master*' - *The life and Art of Sir William Nicholson*. Please contact Mrs Maggie Llanwarne on 01732 460709 or Mrs Mary Aldous on 01732 452209 for more information and membership.

### Sevenoaks Embroiderers' Guild

The next meeting will take place in Otford CHURCH HALL (please note change of venue) on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March** with all day workshops and a talk by Alison Hird on 'Fabulous Flowers' Morning sessions begin at 10am and afternoons at 2pm and more

information can be obtained from Pat Curtis on 01959 532391.

### Otford Methodist Wednesday Afternoons Women's Fellowship

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

#### March

19<sup>th</sup> - No Meeting

26<sup>th</sup> - No Meeting

#### April

2<sup>nd</sup> - Tea Party

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

16<sup>th</sup> - Mary Bestwick - Meditation on paintings

23<sup>rd</sup> - In Touch - home improvement agency

### Sevenoaks Music Club

The next concert of the Sevenoaks Music Club will take place on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March** at 8pm when the Erard Ensemble will play Beethoven, Schumann, Milhaud and Brahms. The concert will take place at 3pm in the Ship Theatre, Walthamstow Hall School, Hollybush Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent. Tickets are £14 and Students £5. Contact Richard Hargreaves on 01732 453251

### Citizens Advice Bureau Surgery

The next CAB Surgery will take place at School House on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April** between 10am and 12 noon. No appointment necessary.

### Otford & District Historical Society

The next meeting will take place in Otford Village Hall on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March** when Geoff Hutchinson will talk on *Rudyard Kipling*. Membership of the Society is just £5 per year and visitors are welcome at all lectures for £1

### Otford Book Fair

The next Otford Book Fair will take place in the Memorial Hall on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April** from 9am to 3pm. Free admission.

### 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 Feb TOP Draw are:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize £50 - 429

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £15 - 268

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize £10 - 401

## Secret Gardens



As part of ongoing fundraising for St Bartholomew's Church it is hoped to again hold a Secret Gardens weekend on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July 2008. If you would be willing and interested in opening your garden to the public for that weekend could you please contact Sue Stephenson on 01959 524808 (mornings only). Thankyou.

## Dog Fouling

This is still a big problem, especially on the Recreation Ground. It is very unpleasant for the poor person who trims the grass especially around the pavilion. Think of others who work and play there and children who are running around so please pick up after your dog, it is very anti social and potentially health threatening not to pick up after your dog. And then place bags in the bins provided DO NOT just throw it into the hedgerow please. If you don't you risk having to pay a fine of up to a maximum of £1,000 or a fixed penalty of £25.

## Rockdale Appeal

The next forthcoming fund raising event will be on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April** at 10am with a History Quiz Walk in Knole Park - a 3 or 5.5 mile walk with a quiz - uncover some of the lesser known stories of Knole. The quiz has been compiled with the help of Bridget Sackville-West from Knole and Bob Ogley, local historian and author. Tickets £15 to include ploughmans lunch and a glass of wine (Family ticket £25 includes 2 adults and 2 children) All children under 12 yrs are free. Contact Lynn Tier on 01732 458762

## Planning



The following applications will be considered by the Parish Council in March. 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/08/00129 **Newlands Shoreham Road**

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

SE/08/00191 **Burfield, Pilgrims Way East**

Removal of existing roof, construction of new roof to form additional bedrooms

SE/08/00208 **16 High Street**

Two storey rear extension to form self contained flat above. Internal alterations and alterations to shop front

SE/08/00210 **Copper Beeches 8 Greenhill Road**

Formation of room in existing roofspace

SE/08/00260 **Hillview, Shoreham Road**

Front entrance gates

SE/08/00292 **36 Pilgrims Way East**

Conversion of integral garage to living accommodation and minor changes to external elevations

SE/08/00335 **Sainsbury Petrol Filling Station**

Replacement totem sign, replacement of forecourt canopy signage, new fascia to kiosk, new door sign adjacent to sliding doors

SE/08/00481 **21 Pilgrims Way West**

Single storey rear conservatory

### b. Results received

SE/07/03630 **Maunders, St Michaels Drive**

Replacement dwelling, as amended by plans received on 28.01.08 *Allowed*

SE/07/03717 **Springhill Shoreham Road**

Boundary fence and gates *Allowed*

SE/07/03739 **19 Tudor Drive**

4 no. new windows in existing walling *Allowed*

SE/07/03915 **95 Willow Park**

Two storey flank extension *Allowed*

SE/08/00048 **16 Greenhill Road**

Amendments to front extension (approved

SE/04/01319) Amended drawings received 07.02.08

*Allowed*

### c. Amended applications

SE/07/03586 **37 Greenhill Road**

Two storey rear and side extension. Detached double garage. Amendments to application

SE/06/01837

### d. Planning appeals

SE/07/01614 **4 Hillydeal Road and part Bramber House Shoreham Road**

Demolition of Darentmead and construction of 3 dwellings. Access from Hillydeal Road (2 units) and via Bramber House (1 unit) (as amended by drawing no 934/101a received with letter dated 19.07.07) - appeal against refusal - now to be informal hearing (no date yet)

### e. Trees in Conservation Area

08/00549/WTCA **59 High Street**

Removal of 6 leylandii trees

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. Thankyou.