

Otford Parish Council March Newsletter 2010 No 188

Kent and South & South East England
Village of the Year 2002
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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 be read via <http://www.otford.info/parishcouncil>. The next meeting will be on **Monday 12th April** at 7.30pm in the Club Room of Otford Village Hall.

Newsletter Deliverers

If there is anyone out there who could help by delivering newsletters in following areas:

- The Charne
- Twitton Meadows

Please contact the Parish Council office. Thank you

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.

Safer Plates

Kent Police will be at Otford Village Car Park on **Saturday 20th March** between 10am and 2pm with the Safer Plate Scheme - where they will be replacing screws on number plates for tamper proof ones FREE.

Tree of Light

The total amount of donations for Hospice in The Weald received for the tree at Otford was £2755. Thank you for your wonderfully generous support. The Hospice received as always a fantastic response and raised nearly £56,000.

Otford Village Fete



As the excitement for the forthcoming World Cup begins to gather momentum the Fete Committee has started to

make arrangements for the Village Fete. Once again we are delighted that Elands Veterinary Clinic has agreed to run the dog show. Last year proved so successful that we will be starting 30 minutes earlier. Details about the various categories will appear on our website and in April's issue of the Parish Council Newsletter.

Otford Village Fete AGM

The Fete Committee held their AGM at the beginning of December when the Chair, Patty Chatterjee reported that the 2009 Fete was a tremendous success with over 6000 visitors enjoying the sunshine and the numerous activities they had organised. As a result the bank account was replenished and since June the Committee has approved several applications for funds amounting to over £5,000. There is still a little left, so if your Otford based organisation wish to apply they can find an application form on the club's website (www.otford.info/villagefete)

Otford & District Historical Society

The last meeting of the year was the AGM on Wednesday 9th December. The next meeting of 2010 will be on **17th March** when Pat Mortlock will talk about '*Henry VIII and the Otford Connection*'. After the outstanding success of the first publication, the new Otford - Past in Pictures II Book is now available for sale at £7. They are available from the Parish Council Office / Heritage Centre, The Crown PH, The Chemists, The Post Office, Willow Tea Rooms, Yvonne and Sevenoaks Bookshop

Indoor Boot Fair

The Otford Primary School PTFA are holding an Indoor Boot Fair on Saturday **20th March** in Otford Village Memorial Hall from 9am to 12 noon. Tables are £10 and can be booked on 07901 968175 or give your name, contact number and payment in an envelope to the Otford Primary School Office. Refreshments will be available.

Otford Gardeners' Spring Show



The SPRING SHOW will take place in Otford Village Memorial Hall on **Saturday 27th March** between 2.15pm - 4.15pm, admission 50p, under 16's free. Refreshments are available till 4pm.

The next meeting of the Otford Gardeners' Society will take place on **Tuesday 6th April** when Julia Jarman will talk about '*Twelve months of interest*'. Meetings start at 8pm in Otford Village Memorial Hall. Admission is 50p for members and £1 for non-members to include refreshments.

Get Involved in the Parish Plan

It doesn't matter if you only have the odd evening free, find out what is going on and get involved in helping to make our Parish Plan. This is a community endeavour and everyone is welcome.

If you want to read all the responses we got from the questionnaires at home, go to www.otford.info/parishplan and you will be able to see the outcomes. There is a volunteer form on the site which you can download or pick one up from the Parish council office. If you simply want to comment, then there is a forum set up for you.

You have a choice of what particular aspects of the plan you would like to contribute to, as many or as few as you like. Just complete the form and drop it in to the parish office. Your voice will count and we want to hear what you have to say.

We had over 130 visitors to the public display of the comments at the drop-in event in the Memorial Hall at the start of the month. If you have any queries you feel you would like answered, please contact rod.shelton@tiscali.co.uk.

A Greener Otford?

What can I do to help tackle global warming? It's tempting, isn't it; to think that anything we do is just a drop in the ocean. But if we work together we can make a real difference. There are hundreds - perhaps thousands - of towns and villages in Britain which are doing just that. Local community groups are working to improve insulation of local homes, for example helping older folk to get grants and save money on heating bills. They are doing local micro-generation of electricity. They are funding 'district heating' schemes, whereby village halls and schools are heated by green energy. These initiatives are making a real, measurable difference to the carbon footprint of local communities.

A sub-group of the Parish Planning team is working to develop a community-based low carbon organisation here in Otford. Would you like to be part of this exciting initiative? If so, please phone Bill Lattimer on 01959 522058.

Otford Netball Club



A really friendly club for young people to enjoy playing Netball out of school. Otford Netball Club is keen for young people to join in regardless of ability or experience. There are lots of opportunities to play in league games and tournaments. If you would like to why not come along and give us a try.

The Club meets at Bradbourne School for Girls on Monday evenings with Years four to six - 5 until 6.30pm and years seven and over - 6.30 until 8pm. For further details please contact Angela Dadson on 07770 884382 or e mail angela@lakeview-accountants.co.uk

Darent Valley Choir



Ben Odom our Musical Director has chosen Haydn's Creation for our Spring Concert. We sing at St Mary's Church, Swanley on **Saturday 24th April** at 7.30pm. We

hope you can join us. Tickets are available from Sevenoaks Bookshop or from 01474 815591 or 01959 523279.

Otford Allotments Association

Are pleased to say that all waiting list tenants have now been satisfied - if you would like to start a new list please contact Barbara Hine on 01959 525468 or email barbara.hine@otford.net. Plots very often become available during the year so it is as well to put your name down in readiness - you never know. Weather permitting (ha ha!) the growing and planting months are just starting and we look forward to another rewarding time.

Sevenoaks Embroiderers' Guild

The next meeting will take place in the Methodist Church Hall on **Saturday 28th March** when there will be an all day workshop by Marilyn Pipe, entitled 'Texture with a Hot Twist' and also mini workshops run by members. Morning sessions begin at 10am and afternoons at 2pm. More information can be obtained from Sylvia Grafton on 01732 452117

Otford Oast WI

The meetings take place on the 3rd Thursday of each month starting at 9.30am in Otford Village Memorial Hall. The next meeting will take place on **Thursday 18th March** when Mary Anketell will talk about 'My Life in Japan'. There is a crèche and the first visit is free. Do join them.

Otford Afternoon WI

Meetings are held in the Village Hall at 2pm on the 2nd Tuesday each month. The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 13th April** when there will be a talk by Christopher McCooey on wacky, weird and wonderful 'Kent Characters'

Annual Subscription is £29.50 and visitors at £2 are very welcome. For further details please contact Joyce Shaw on 01959 522736.

Otford Evening WI

At their February meeting members enjoyed a beautifully presented selection of films by Barbara Darby taken on her trips to wonderful places round the world and including one of two busy Otford robins and their 3 chicks in the garage. They said au revoir to Diana Jeremiah who is moving shortly to Wootton Bassett. Diana has been a member of the institute for 43 years most recently as a past President and everyone wished her well for the future. The meeting in March had Sue Hollings demonstrating simple Indian cookery.

All meetings take place on 2nd Thursday of each month in Otford Village Hall. The next one will be the Birthday meeting to be held on **9th April** when Maurice Tripp will talk about 'Why the Show Must Go On'. Visitors are always welcome at the meetings which start at 7.30pm

Otford Bridge Club

Otford Bridge Club meets every Friday evening in Otford Church Hall at 7.30pm, it is a friendly club and they would be pleased to see anyone who fancies a game.

Otford Methodist Church

Otford Methodist Church invites all ladies to our Women's Breakfast at 8.30am on **Saturday 20th March** at the Methodist Church Hall when the guest speaker is Michele Guinness whose speech is entitled 'Autumn Leave' The cost is only £4 on the door. We are really looking forward to Michele's visit and hope that you can join us to listen to this lively Christian speaker. To book your place please call Margaret Mathews on 01959 522046 or email Sue Ward on johnandsueward@btinternet.com

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

17th - 12pm - Ploughman's Lunch at The Drive Methodist.

24th - Easter Meditation

31st - No meeting

Hospices of Hope

'Be a Whizz at the Otford Quiz'

The next fundraising event will be a Supper and Quiz night on **Saturday 10th April** at 7pm in the Otford Tea Rooms. The cost is £10 per ticket. Please contact wendy@hospicesofhope.co.uk or 01959 525110 for tickets.

Picture of the Month

The artist for March / April is Evelyn Hubner. Evelyn moved to Otford from Orpington in 1985 and on retirement joined the U3A in Sevenoaks. Seven years ago a China Painting group was formed which she joined and she has been painting ever since. China Painting is quite different from water colours and the picture is built up gradually by firing in between, one piece can be fired two or three times. She has her own kiln at home which enables her to fire several pieces of china at once. Please contact Doug Dickerson on 01959 524183 if you would be interested in displaying your work in the Heritage Centre.

Community Safety Unit



The CSU (Community Safety Unit) was launched August 2009 and incorporates Community Development, Environmental Health, Licensing, CCTV Control Room & the Contact Centre as well as six Police officers and partners who 'hot desk' which include community wardens, youth workers and others. The CSU holds daily briefings where the previous day's crimes are reported and action taken.

From 1 August to 31 January 2010, the CSU received 394 reports, actions have been completed and where appropriate 376 of these actions have been fed back to the community. As a result of the CSU, joint visits have been carried out by PCSOs and the anti-social behaviour officer, across the district where banning letters have been issued by CSU staff, abandoned vehicles

have been removed from Swanley, Edenbridge, Otford and Sevenoaks and a rave was prevented from taking place in West Kingsdown by partnership work between Kent Police and Environmental Health.

Call 01732 227000 to report graffiti, abandoned vehicles, intimidation, drugs problems, hate crime, noise and other nuisance, joy-riding or rowdy behaviour. For more information and full quarterly reports visit our webpage http://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/public_safety/community_safety/3913.asp

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 will be on **18th March** by Frances Hughes on 'Staffordshire Portrait Figures and the Theatre: Buy My Image'. Frances Hughes will look not only at the Staffordshire potters' techniques and sources but will also trace the backgrounds of some of the great stars of the early 19th Century Theatre including lion tamer Issac Van Ambrugh, opera divas Maria Malibran and Jenny Lind and the great clown Joey Grimaldi. 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.

Sevenoaks DFAS

The Decorative and Fine Arts Society of Sevenoaks (Evening NADFAS) 2009/2010 lecture season continues on **8th April** with the AGM at 7.30pm and the talk at 8.15pm will be by Mr David Evans on 'Painting in Newlyn 1914 - 1950'. The meetings are held in the Ship Theatre 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.

Citizens Advice Bureau Surgery

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

The Henry VIII Show



In Otford Village Memorial Hall on **Friday 7th May** at 7pm you will be able to see the 'On The Other Hand Puppet Theatre Company' with their 'Henry VIII Show'. This unique show tells Henry's story in his own words, with the ghosts of his Queens and principal courtiers coming back to haunt him, oh, and his dog gets in on the act too. It is a vividly entertaining show with a mixture of high drama and low comedy. This is an ideal show for children aged 6+ yrs so come along and meet Henry VIII for yourself. Tickets are £5 for adults, £4 for concessions and £3 for children. Please call 01959 524808 for bookings.



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/10/00098 **42 Hillydeal Road**
Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a two storey four bedroomed detached property with room in the roof and detached garage to be built within previously approved footprints (SE/09/00531FUL) - no objection in principle

SE/10/00198 **Bankside Cottage Shoreham Road**
Demolition of existing side extension, conservatory, garage and outbuilding and erection of new single storey side and rear extension (including garage) together with ancillary works

SE/10/00211 **The Mill House High Street**
LBCALT - Formation of a shower room at second floor level and replacement of one window at first floor level

SE/10/00219 **Hillway, Pilgrims Way East**
Erection of replacement dwelling

SE/10/0223 **Downsview Shoreham Road**
Demolition of existing house and garage. Erection of a new dwelling and relocation of access

SE/10/0224 **Downsview Shoreham Road**
Demolition of existing house and garage. Erection of two detached dwellings and relocation of access

SE/10/00226 **6 Pilgrims Way East**
Part demolition of ground floor to rear. Erection of a first floor side extension

SE/10/00236 **Mayola, Station Road**
Construction of two detached residential dwellings with detached double garage

SE/10/00242 **8 The Old Walk**
First floor extension above existing garage and utility room, front extension to garage and porch infill

SE/10/00311 **69 Sidney Gardens**
Erection of single storey side extension and demolition of existing garage

SE/10/00336 **99 Willow Park**
Demolition of single storey extension to facilitate erection of single storey rear glazed conservatory extension and alterations

b. Results received

SE/09/01824 **2 Hopfield Close**
Erection of canopy garage door to existing new car port
Approved

SE/09/02584 **St Michael's School St Michaels' Drive**
Erection of a new pre-prep school following the demolition of the existing Headmaster's house, together with the change of use of the existing pre-prep school to replacement residential accommodation following the part demolition of additions and temporary buildings and improvements to an existing playing field
Withdrawn

SE/09/02586 **Bag End, Shoreham Road**
Retention of wooden decking over existing paved terrace, with two small additional areas and one set of stairs repositioned
Refused

SE/09/02702 **Broughton Manor High Street**
LBC - To upgrade and refurbish existing oak framed boathouse for use as a recreational room, tea station and wc facility. Construction of deck overlooking lake
Approved

SE/09/02895 **8 Hillydeal Road**
Retention of swimming pool in rear garden
Approved

SE/09/02976 **3 Hopfield Close**
Erection of conservatory to rear
Approved

SE/09/02563 **Block 12 Vestry Industrial Estate**
Demolition of detached boiler house. Demolition of single storey part of building and construction wall to retained building. Replacement of dilapidated link building with new. Infilling of door openings, internal layout alterations. Provision of new parking bays, paths and resurfacing. Replacement of fence and provision of new gates, relevel lower yard. Change of use to sui generis Royal Mail Delivery Office
Allowed

SE/09/02803 **32 Warham Road**
Erection of a single storey rear extension and conversion of garage to form residential accommodation
Allowed

SE/09/02830 **McDonalds Restaurant**
New monument to be installed to the west of the building
Withdrawn

SE/09/02973 **Block 11 Vestry Industrial Estate**
Partial demolition to structure at front. Recladding and alterations to both internal and external layout (for uses falling within Class B)
Not valid

c. Amended applications

d. Appeals

e. Tree work in Conservation Area

10/00277/WTCA **31 High Street**
Various works to trees

10/00360/WTCA **The Crown PH**
Various works to 1 sycamore tree

10/00457/WTCA **Yew Tree Cottage High Street**
Various works to 1 ash tree

f. Tree Preservation Order



Don't forget the clocks go forward on **Sunday 28th March**

A Happy, Peaceful and Joyous Easter to you all and lots of chocolate....!

