 Otford Parish Council
October Newsletter 2005
No 139

Kent and South & South East England
Village of the Year 2002
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Football Match
Otford Youth v Kent Police
Sunday 2nd October

What a great community occasion this was and for those of you who didn’t turn out, you missed a wonderful match, played with great spirit by both sides on a lovely sunny afternoon. With grateful thanks to our PCSO Dave Birchall whose idea this was and which he carried it off with great enthusiasm. The result of the match was a 4 -2 win to Otford. The goal scorers for Otford were Erdin x 2, Dominic x 1 and grateful thanks to John B for his own goal! Dennis scored both goals for the police. Thank you to all the boys who played – Aaron, Daniel, Dominic, Erdin, Jack, Jamie, Joseph, Liam Michael, Robert, Sam, Sam C (Man of the Match) and Thomas (Captain) and huge thanks to all the police officers and PCSO’s who took part. After the match tea was laid on for the players and there was a presentation of commemorative certificates, pennants, pens and key rings and the Chairman of the Parish Council presented the Man of the Match Cup.

Glaucoma Coffee Morning
If you would like to learn more about Glaucoma, which is an eye condition affecting about 1 in 100 people over 40 in the UK. Come to the coffee morning on Friday 4th November between 10am - 12 noon in the Club Room of the Village Hall. The speaker will be Mrs Annette RAY D.B.O. who is Orthoptist at Sevenoaks Hospital. Christmas cards and diaries will be on sale, also a raffle and Bring & Buy stall. For further information please contact Hilary Johnson on 01959 522917.

Front Garden Competition
Congratulations to this year’s winners
● 1st Prize - Mrs A. Baldwin - 67 Willow Park
● 2nd Prize - Mr G. Vickers - 57 Sidney Gardens
● 3rd Prize - Mrs J. Hubbard - 19 Hale Lane
Well done also to those who were Highly Commended and Commended. The Parish Council thanks you for all your hard work to help make this village a lovely place for residents and villagers to walk around.

Police Surgery
The next Police Surgery with our PCSO Dave Birchall will take place on [Thursday 20th October] between 11am and 12.30pm. Please come and see him if you have any concerns.

Otford Scouts’ Bonfire

OOOH, AHHH, it’s that time of year again - The Otford Scout Group are holding a Bonfire and Fireworks evening on [Saturday 5th November], from 6.30-9.00pm in the Chalk Pit. Previous years have been a great success, so don’t delay buy your tickets now! The cost is £4 per person (including a burger, or sausage), children under 5 are free. Contact Gary Cutts on 07787 150510. Please support the Scout Group and have a marvellous evening.

Otford Village Hall Coffee Mornings

This is a reminder to anyone down in the village on a Saturday morning that tea /coffee is served in the Club Room of the Village Hall from 10.30am to 12.15pm. This has been an on-going event ever since funds were being raised for the Club Room extension (which was opened in 1985), and is organised by Maureen Bolton (01959 522789) and Joyce Shaw.
(01959 522736). If you are new to the village this is also an ideal place to come and have a chat with the regulars and to find out just what goes on in Otford, as there is a list of at least 45 Societies that meet regularly in the hall and you might like to join one of them. Maureen or Joyce would also be delighted to hear from anyone, or two friends, who might like to join the team of volunteers who serve the coffee, the atmosphere is friendly and dates are very flexible, so please give them a call or pop in to the Club Room one Saturday morning.

**Otford Library – Storytime**

Take your little ones along and enjoy Storytime in Otford Library which takes place every Tuesday during term time from 2.30pm - 3.00pm.

**Otford Methodist Church**

Otford Methodist Church is holding an Autumn Sale from 10am to noon on Saturday 29th October. There will be a wide range of stalls, coffee and car washing in the car park. Traidcraft food and Christmas cards will also be available. The sale is in aid of the Church Hall building fund.

**Otford & District Historical Society**

The first meeting of the winter programme takes place on Wednesday 19th October at 8pm with an entertainment 'Hopping down in Kent' - in pictures, words and music, by Geoff Doel and Mike Flynn. The hall will be open from 7.30pm for members to pay their annual subscriptions of £5. Visitors are welcome at all meetings for just £1.

**Otford & District Wine Club**

On Wednesday 26th October the Otford & District Wine Club will be holding its AGM and Buffet starting at 8pm, when your subscriptions for 2006 will be welcome. As usual, we intend to get the business of the Club out of the way as quickly as possible so we can enjoy the cold buffet supper. As we did not make as much money on the Ice Cream Stall as we hoped (we were hit by a storm and everyone was soaked to the skin!), the Committee decided that the Club would not supply the wine for this event, as we have hitherto, so you are requested to bring your own liquid refreshment, but of course the Buffet is free to members. We are having a Pudding Competition this year and the Kirsch Cup will be awarded to the winner, so start studying your recipe books now! Please do come along even if you do not wish to enter the competition, as you all are the judges and you will have a great time sampling the entries! Any queries please ring the Secretary on 01732 - 761359.

**Sea Britain 2005**

Marine paintings by the W.I. Art Group and local artists will be on view in the Parish Church Hall all day on Saturday 22nd October. Open from 10am to 5pm. No charge, but donations to cover costs will be welcomed.

**First Steps**

First Steps pre-school playgroup has moved from the Methodist Church Hall to the Evangelical Free Church, 81, Pilgrims Way West, Otford. They meet alternative Wednesdays starting on the 7th September from 9.30am to 11.30am. First Steps offers a warm, friendly welcome to mums, dads and carers with babies and pre-school children. For further details please contact Hazel Terry on 01959 523047.

**Otford Fete – Open Meeting**

This year’s Open Meeting will take place in the Hope Room at 8pm on Monday 17th October. Please come along to contribute your ideas on how 2006 can build on the success of previous years events.

**RSPCA – Coffee Morning**

The West Kent Branch of the RSPCA will be holding a Coffee Morning in the Otford Village Memorial Hall on Saturday 26th November. You will be able to chat to the local RSPCA Inspector Charlotte Baumann and members about the work of the RSPCA. Please join them from 10.30am onwards.
High Visibility Coats
Following on from the campaign by local resident David Thomas concerning the wearing of high visibility yellow waistcoats to make residents / children more safe as they walk around the village, or on the walk to school. If you would be interested in purchasing at cost price one of these type of tops then please contact the Parish Council Office on 01959 524808.

Otford Allotments Association
Then there were two – two what? You may ask. There are two allotments remaining for letting and judging by the last few weeks allotments are being snapped up – probably because this is the commencement of the allotment year and a golden opportunity to prepare your plot for next year's harvest so don't hesitate give Barbara Hine a ring on 01959 525468 to see what is available.

Our AGM is on Saturday 29th October in the Hope Room of the Village Hall from 9.30 a.m. If you want to come and see what we are all about you would be most welcome but of course you will not be able to have a say - unless that is you get cracking and take one of both of the two vacant plots before that date.

Knole DFAS
Knole Decorative and Fine Arts Society meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Sevenoaks Community Hall, Bat & Ball. The next lecture will be on 20th October when Patricia Wright will speak on 'The Strange History of Buckingham Palace'. Lectures start promptly at 1.45pm preceeded 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.

Sevenoaks DFAS
The Decorative and Fine Arts Society of Sevenoaks (Sevenoaks Evening Society) 2005/2006 lecture season continues on Thursday 10th November at 8.15pm in the Aisher Hall, Sevenoaks School with a talk by Dr Sam Newton on 'Sutton Ho and the Master Workshop of the Wuffings'. Anyone interested in joining the Society, or would like more information should contact Mrs Honor McMillan on 01892 532651.

CAB Surgery
The next CAB Surgery will take place at School House on Tuesday 1st November between 10am and 12 noon. Please come along and see the adviser who will be happy to help you with your problems.

Picture of the Month
The artist for September to November is Bernard Worssam. Bernard came to live in Otford about 20 years ago and it was then that he took up painting. He has been a member of Sevenoaks Art Club since 1989 and on one of their painting days out in the summer they went to Bayham Abbey, which is the subject of his painting. If you reside in the village and paint in any medium, would you like to have one of your pictures exhibited in the Heritage Centre? Please contact Doug Dickerson on 01959 524183 for further information.

The Gatehouse Day Nursery
Debbie, Jo and Nicky warmly invite you to their Open Day at The Gatehouse Day nursery, located at the newly refurbished Scout Hall, Station Road, Otford on Saturday 22nd October from 10am to 1pm. Places available Mon - Fri for children 2½ - 5 years. Fully qualified staff and Ofsted Registered. Please call them on 07791 935960 for more information.

Sevenoaks Embroiderers’ Guild
The next meeting will take place in Otford Memorial Hall on Saturday 29th October when the branch AGM takes place and is then followed by 'The Sevenoaks Hospital Millennium Embroidery. The meetings begin at 2pm and more information can be obtained from Jane Barratt on 01732 833588.

Otford Afternoon W.I
Meetings are held in the Village Hall at 2pm on the 2nd Tuesday each month. Membership is £21 per year and Tea at the meeting is 30p.
The next meeting takes place on 8th November with the Annual General Meeting. Please contact 01959 522915 for more details.
Otford Methodist Wednesday Afternoons
Women’s Fellowship
Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings which take place at 2.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall and a list of the next months speakers and events are as follows:

- October
  - 19th - Mary Beswick - Art meditation and music
  - 26th - AGM and tea
- November
  - 2nd - Doreen Makepeace - Antartica
  - 9th - Phil Smith - Australian Relations
  - 16th - M Clarke - Trees - my life

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 September TOP Draw are:
- 1st Prize £50 - 123
- 2nd Prize £15 - 456
- 3rd Prize £10 - 121
Congratulations to this months winners and thank you to everyone who continues to support the school.

R.A.D.I.O
Residents Against Development in Otford are holding a meeting concerning Planning and Development in Otford at the Otford Village Memorial Hall on Wednesday 9th November at 7.45pm. R.A.D.I.O is a new group set up by residents to combat the growing pressure from builders imposing new housing development on the village. Everyone is welcome.

Planning
The following applications will be considered by the Parish Council at its meeting in October. 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/05/02213 34 Greenhill Road
  Rear basement swimming pool
- SE/05/02420 Frog Farm, Pilgrims Way West
  Erection of replacement dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling and conversion of existing barn into offices and use of other barns for parking
- SE/05/02431 65 Pilgrims Way
  Single storey side extension
b. Results received
- SE/05/01483 32 Hillydeal Road
  Log cabin in rear garden to replace 2 existing sheds
  Allowed

SE/05/01764 24 Rye Lane
Demolition of existing and erection of new conservatory at rear
  Allowed
SE/05/01801 3 Vestry Ind Est
Pylon, fascia, flag- poles and communication panel
  Allowed
SE/05/01884 Block 9 Vestry Ind Est
Demolition of existing building and erection of 3 terraced industrial units with ancillary offices, car parking and service yards (as amended by plans (nos. PO2, PO3, PO4rev.B) and letter received 29/09/05).
  Allowed
SE/05/01887 Telecomms Mast Sepham Farm, Old Polhill
Remove 2 omni antennas replace with 3 x antenna. Relocate existing 0.3m transmission dish. Replace existing cabin with 3 small cabinets.
  Allowed
SE/05/01904 61 High Street
LBC - Replacement of double glazed doors and windows, with timber units in keeping with the property
  Allowed
SE/05/01919 52A Pilgrims Way East
Revised part details pursuant of condition 2 (facing bricks) of application SE/02/02794 for new dwelling
  Allowed
SE/05/01926 64–66 Well Road
Demolition of existing dwellings, construction of road, 21 houses
  Refused
SE/05/02041 Four Acre Bank Coombe Road
Demolition of existing garages and erection of a new semi-submerged garage and increase in height of bungalow and alterations to create a house (as amended by plan nos. TT:409/03/rev a and TT:409/05/rev a).
  Allowed
SE/05/02138 71 Pilgrims Way East
The construction of a conservatory adjoining the lounge at the rear of the property
  Allowed

c. Amended applications
SE/05/01483 32 Hillydeal Road
Log cabin in garden to replace existing two sheds
  Allowed

STOP PRESS
His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent, along with the Lord Lieutenant of Kent and others will be paying a visit to our village on Tuesday 15th November. He will be opening the newly refurbished library then visiting the Heritage Centre and hopefully taking an escorted walk around the village centre before having refreshments in the village hall. If you are out and about on that day, please give him a warm welcome. This visit has been arranged by The Otford & District Historical Society and KCC. More exact times will be in local press / noticeboards.