

Otford Parish Council

October Newsletter 2009

No 183

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 newsletter is also available on the website.

The next meeting will be on **Monday 9th November** at 7.30pm in the Club Room of Otford Village Hall.

Aladdin



Otford Players are doing a Panto - Oh no they're not -oh yes they are!!

Otford Players are presenting their first ever Pantomime in November in Otford Village Memorial Hall so get ready to cheer the goodies HOORAY and hiss at the baddies BOO!

This popular story is taking place on **Thursday 5th, Friday 6th and Saturday 7th November** with shows starting at 7.30pm and a Matinee on the Saturday at 2.30pm

For tickets please call 01959 525404. Adults are £7 and children under 14 yrs £4.

Twinning

Another French village (Neufchatel-Hardelot) wishes to "twin" with Otford. It is relatively close - only 45 minutes from the tunnel at Calais - on the coast, with a wide, gently sloping beach and has good provision for many sports activities. A party of councillors and others went there and saw the football grounds, tennis courts, golf courses and equestrian facilities. The wide beach is used for sand yachting. There

is also a lake where one can fish and the castle where concerts and other activities are held. All this in a - compared with Otford - quiet and peaceful setting. In the sandy soil here are pine woods where one can see their distinctive flora and fauna. It has been recognised by KCC as a place both "foreign" and near, with splendid recreation opportunities, and they have a centre that may be hired. It is ideal for young people, and it has been used for visits to historic sites, for environmental studies and by bird watchers, ramblers, church and other groups. There are also of course hotels, etc., where one can stay - and the beach is great for children. If you think you might be interested in going, please let the parish office know, and if you would like more information the office will be able to help you.

Halloween



We know that many people are worried about people coming to their door at Halloween particularly those calling late in the evening and especially if you live on your own. You do not have to answer the door to them. You can make this clear by displaying a poster as above. These are available from the Parish Council.



Bonfire Night



The Scouts Bonfire Night will be on **Saturday 14th November** this year, at the Chalk Pit, off Station Road. Tickets are £4.00 per person (under 5's free), available from either Otford Dry Cleaners or The Crown. Gates open from 5.30pm, and the evening starts about 6.00pm. There will be two Firework displays, with an interval for refreshments. Burgers, Hotdogs and soup will be available. Don't forget to get your tickets early, as this is a very popular event. NO WOOD *please*, we have plenty, thank you very much. So put the 14th in your diary, and remember, this means you will be able to see Aladdin at the Memorial Hall on the 7th! See you there.

Remembrance Day



The Remembrance Day Service and Parade will take place on **Sunday 8th November** at 11am. Please be advised that the traffic will be stopped at the pond during the laying of wreaths at the War memorial. Please be patient.

Otford Primary School - Open Day

On **Friday 23rd October** between 1.30pm and 3.30pm the school gates will be open during this Staff Development Day to new parents considering the possibility of sending their children to the school. This will be an excellent opportunity to take a guided tour of the school and its grounds, view some of the children's work and to meet the teachers in a relaxed and informal atmosphere. At 3pm in the Hall, the Headteacher Peter Denereaz will deliver a speech detailing some of the school's recent successes, during which he will outline some of the exciting plans for its future. No appointment is necessary.

Bogus Callers

Please be aware that bogus callers have been going around the District. Remember to make sure you are shown some id by the caller which you can phone to check first, always use a door chain if you have one and don't leave a back door or window open whilst you are at your front door. And remember you **DO NOT** have to open your door.

St Bartholomew's Christmas Market



St Bartholomew's will be holding their Christmas Market in the Church Hall on **Saturday 21st November** between 10am to 12 noon. Stalls will include: gift wrapping, cards, Christmas tree and table decorations, candles, cakes, winter woollies (scarves, gloves, hats etc), sweets and chocolates. Refreshments will also be available

Indoor Boot Fair

There will be an Indoor Boot Fair at Otford Village Memorial Hall on **Saturday 21st November**. From 9am and 1pm. To book a table at a cost of £8 please contact Claire on 01959 525582 (evenings) or Donna on 01959 522236 (evenings). Entrance will be 50p and refreshments will be available.

Oxenhill Meadow & Shaw

After all the recent publicity if you are interested in knowing what work is being done in your wood please go along to the guided walk being held on **Saturday 31st October** at 10.30am. Meet at the end of Tudor Drive.

Police Surgery

The next Police surgery with PCSO Jane Wright will be held on between **Tuesday 20th October** between 12 noon and 1pm

Otford & District Wine Club

On **Wednesday 28th October** at 8pm the Otford & District Wine Club are holding their AGM and Pudding Competition. AGM's are normally notoriously boring but our AGM is one of our most popular evenings. We try to clear up business of the evening as quickly as possible so that we can enjoy the buffet (at which wine will be provided) and judge the Pudding competition. Of course we can't have a competition without entries, so please get out your recipe books and start thinking about puddings - you may win the Kirsch Cup. We are pleased to report that we have decided to keep the subs to £6 per head for the year but they are due at the AGM so bring your cheques books or cash (except for the new members who joined at the BBQ) Also we would be grateful if you could let us have suggestions for interesting and entertaining evenings the Wine Club could hold during the next year. The programmes will not be distributed at the AGM as usual but at our November meeting so we can incorporate your ideas. We have received the menu for the Christmas Dinner from Catercraft, so these are available now and at the AGM. Any queries please call the Secretary on 01732 761359

Christmas Market

The Hospice in The Weald Christmas Market will be held on **Monday 2nd November** between 10am and 4pm at the Hospice in Maidstone Road, Pembury. Wonderful stalls for your Christmas shopping including Food Hall. Refreshments, cakes and light lunches will be available. Admission £2 (free after 12.30pm) All enquiries 01892 820508.

Pilates in Otford

Classes take place on Monday mornings between 9.30am and 10.30am at Otford Methodist Church Hall

Pilates can:

- Increase core strength and stability
- Improve & correct postural alignment
- Increase mobility
- Aid Injury rehabilitation

Pilates is for anybody at any age
For all enquiries please contact Anna Torikian on
07947 136169.

Living Heritage A series of talks

Following on from last year's Autumn series of talks entitled 'Living Stones' in which the Vicar Rev Richard Worssam looked at the history, theology and worship embedded in the fabric and architecture of St Bartholomew's Church, this year he has entitled his talks 'Living Heritage'. These talks have focused on the historical development of the Christian faith and the parish system in these Isles, from Roman times through the formative period of the Anglo Saxon Kingdoms to the spirituality of the early medieval Church. They draw on local history and archaeology, on Saxon texts and medieval wall paintings. The final talk in this series will be on **Tuesday 20th October** at 8pm in the Church Centre.

Oxford Community Warden

Paul Robertson our KCC Community Warden holds a weekly surgery to discuss any problems and community issues at School House every Tuesday between 11am and 12 noon.

Oxford & District Historical Society

The Oxford & District Historical Society next meeting will be on **Wednesday 18th November** at 8pm when the subject of the lecture by Anne Carter will be 'Rochester Cathedral' Annual Members Subscriptions are £5. Visitors are welcome for £1.

Oxford Methodist Wednesday Afternoons Women's Fellowship

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

October

21st - Lady Miranda Cormack - 'Growing up in a political family'

28th - Michael Richardson - 'Ethiopia'

November

4th - Kath Pawlett - 'All Saints and All Souls'

11th - Games afternoon

18th - Chris Towers - 'Spitzbergen'

25th - Pub Lunch - 'Polhill visit'

Hatha Yoga Class

The new term for your friendly Hatha Yoga class at Oxford Church Hall has started. Classes are weekly on Tuesdays between 7.30 - 9.00pm in term time and cost £8 per lesson.

Beginners and all abilities are welcome. For further details and to reserve a place please contact Brenda Hambrook on 01959 525969 or yoga @otford.net

Oxford Allotments Association

The Allotment Association had a very successful AGM. There is once again a Full Tenancy with a small waiting list. You are always welcome, however, to have a look round if you give Barbara Hine a ring on 01959 525468 she will be pleased to take you on a tour."

Dog Fouling

This is still a big problem, which should **NOT** be a problem at all, on the Recreation Ground especially around the new pavilion. Thank you to those who do pick up but please **DO NOT** then throw the bag into the hedgerow but use the bins provided. It is very anti social and potentially health threatening not to pick up after your dog. 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.

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 **15th October** when Roderick Taylor will talk about 'The World of Carpets'. This lecture traces the initial development of carpets and rugs in the Old World and their subsequent spread throughout the West. It will also look at the differing manufacturing processes contrasting in particular those developed in Turkey, Iran, Morocco and China. 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 Embroiderers' Guild



The next meeting of the Sevenoaks Embroiderers' Guild will be on **Saturday 31st October** in Oxford Village Hall when in the afternoon session they will have a talk from Mr Walter McLaren on 'The History of Fans'. Morning sessions begin at 10am and afternoon at 2pm. For more information please call 0208 304 4416.

Community Responders

Community First Responders are volunteers who respond to emergency calls on behalf of South East

Coast Ambulance Service. They often arrive at life threatening emergencies before the ambulance can get there as they are just around the corner. They are looking to recruit new volunteers in order to expand their local schemes. Have you got a few hours each week to spare for this extremely worthwhile venture? Would you like to make a real difference to people in difficulty in your own community. If you feel this is for you please contact 01273 897861. Kent Search & Rescue are also looking to recruit. Contact them on 01843 832995.

Picture of the Month

The artist for October / November is Zoe Sands. Zoe decided to try water colour painting about 10 years ago at Adult Education classes but unfortunately work and family life got in the way of doing any serious painting. She says I thought that when I retired, 3 years ago, I would find more time to paint but travelling, gardening and catching up with friends gets in the way. However, joining the Otford Art Group and having weekly sessions does keep my brushes working and I will try to do more painting when on holiday. Please contact Doug Dickerson on 01959 524183 if you would be interested in displaying your work in the Heritage Centre.

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 July TOP Draw are:

- 1st Prize £50 - 368
- 2nd Prize £15 - 194
- 3rd Prize £10 - 440

The winning numbers of the August TOP Draw are:

- 1st Prize £50 - 293
- 2nd Prize £15 - 286
- 3rd Prize £10 - 332

The winning numbers of the Sept TOP Draw are:

- 1st Prize £50 - 330
- 2nd Prize £15 - 412
- 3rd Prize £10 - 250

Citizens Advice Bureau Surgery

The next CAB Surgery will take place at School House on **Tuesday 3rd November** between 10am and 12 noon. No appointment necessary.

Planning

The following applications will be considered by the Parish Council in October. 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/09/00768 **14 Shinecroft**

Retention of fence

SE/09/01804 **6 High Street**

Conversion of upper floor from 1 no self contained flat to 2no.

SE/09/01824 **2 Hopfield Close**

Erection of canopy garage door to existing new car port

SE/09/02036 **J Sainsbury plc**

Extension to existing store to provide additional retail sales floorspace, new warehouse (backup) floorspace, relocation of customer restaurant, provision of a car park deck and associated alterations to the car park

SE/09/2051 **Clan Cottage Pilgrims Way East**

Demolition of existing cottage and erection of five bedroom house

b. Results received

SE/09/01393 **8 Leonard Avenue**

Erection of single storey rear extension - Certificate of Lawful Development *Refused*

SE/09/01398 **30 Knighton Road**

Single storey rear and side extension to provide an enlarged kitchen and family room plus WC/shower. As amended by plans received 25.08.09 *Allowed*

SE/09/01628 **39 Tudor Drive**

Erection of two storey rear and side extension *Allowed*

c. Tree Works

SE/09/02057/WTPO **5 Great Till Close**

Various works to 1 no ash tree.

STOP PRESS



On **Sunday 29th November** between 11am and 4pm our lovely shops will be open again for you to get your Christmas presents and treats. Also there will be street entertainers and other surprises.



Don't forget the clocks go back on **Sunday 25th October**

