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). Copies of the Helplines Directory can be printed off for residents if required. They can all be read via http://www.otford.info/parishcouncil. The next meetings will be on 14th October and 11th November at 7.30pm in the Club Room of Otford Village Hall. Contact details of Councillors can also be found on the website.

Chairman’s Report

The Car Park resurfacing and lining appears to be a success. Please follow the new one-way system and DO NOT park outside of the bays or on the double yellow lines as this causes an obstruction. We are currently resolving legal and contractual issues re introduction of Pay & Display Car Parking.

The recent Twinning weekend was a rip roaring success. A visit to the Chatham Dockyard on Saturday was followed by a very lively Barn Dance and Fish & Chip supper, the likes of which our French guests had never seen before! Then on Sunday, despite the weather, there was a delicious barbecue courtesy of Cllr and Mrs Whitehead.

Cricket and football are ending and beginning their respective seasons, and the recreation ground still suffers from dog poos’ which have to be cleared away before the games can start. Come on dog owners, clear up after your pets or there will no option other than having to keep them on a lead, or even worse - be banned.

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. Come and see him. Paul can also be contacted on 07813 713366.

Police Matters

PCSO Jane Wright will be holding a police surgery on Saturday 16th November at Homebase between 1pm and 2pm if you have any concerns that you wish to discuss with her.
Also a mobile police van will be visiting the High Street car park fortnightly on Wednesdays between 12noon and 1.00pm for residents to discuss any policing issues and get crime prevention advice.

The next dates are 16th October, 30th October, 13th November, 27th November and 11th December.

If you want to report a non-urgent crime or contact your local officer please call 101.

**Footpaths**

The cutting back of vegetation on footpaths in the village is the responsibility of Kent County Council. Contact them on 0845 3450210. They are also responsible for anything to do with roads, pavements, verges and drains. Please contact them direct on 0300 333 5539 with any problems.

---

**Otford Players present - 'AN OTFORD CHRISTMAS CAROL'**

On **Thursday 14th November** to **Saturday 16th November** at 7.30pm

with a matinee on Saturday at 2.00pm.

'It is 2 days before Christmas in the village of Otford, circa 1880, and there are big problems in the church. A crack has appeared in the crypt and for the last 18 months or more the village has been infested with mischievous spirits and ghosts. The devious Ebeneezer Scrooge is up to his usual tricks alongside his downtrodden assistant Scatchitt, but a visitor has arrived in the village and he could prove to be an interesting match for old Ebeneezer!'

They hope you will join them for this exciting fun-filled show.

For tickets please call the Box Office on 01959 525404 or email otfordplayers@otford.net

---

**Otford Tennis Club**

Otford Tennis Club is a small, friendly club situated in the heart of the village behind the children’s play area on the recreation ground.

Club sessions are held Tuesday and Thursday evenings (7.30-9.30pm) and Sunday mornings (9.30am-12.30pm). Adult coaching is available subject to availability. Players of all levels and experience are welcome. Please contact Alison Dykes if you would like to come along and see if this is the club for you!

Alison's contact details are: AlisonD@OtfordTennis.org.uk.

---

**Big Christmas Lunch - Fundraising Disco**

In the last issue of the newsletter there was a piece about the Big Otford Christmas Lunch. On **Saturday 12th October** there will be a fundraising disco in the Village Memorial Hall to raise the money to pay for the event. It will be starting at 8.00pm and going through 'til Midnight. Tickets are just £7.50 each and you can bring your own drink and nibbles. Please support this event that is trying to make Christmas just a bit better for some people in the village and local area. Tickets are available from Ron Dullage, either on 07887 780576 or by e-mail to ron.dullage@hotmail.co.uk.
Table Top Sale
2nd Otford Brownies are holding a Table Top Sale on Saturday 9th November in Otford Church Hall (opposite The Bull) between 9:30am - 12 noon to raise unit funds. Admission is free. Tables are £10 and sellers can book one by emailing Jane on neil.jane.t21@btinternet.com. Refreshments of tea, coffee etc and homemade cakes will be on sale together with a raffle and a Phoenix cards stall. Please come along and support us.

Otford & District Historical Society
There will be no September meeting this year as there are two meetings in November. The first meeting will take place on Wednesday 16th October at 8.00pm in Otford Village Memorial Hall when Albert Granville will talk about ‘And so we raised the Mary Rose’.

On Saturday 2nd November the Society are again welcoming the eminent Historian / Historical novelist Alison Weir. She will be presenting a lecture in St Bartholomew’s Church at 4.30pm. Her subject will be ‘Richard III: the Man and the Myth’. Tickets cost £8 and will be available from the Parish Council Office, Otford and Seal Libraries and Sevenoaks Bookshop.

The Otford Society
The Autumn Meeting of The Otford Society will be held on Thursday 17th October at 8pm in the Otford Village Memorial Hall. There will be a talk - ‘The Darent - the story of our river’ by Rod Shelton
The Otford Society URGENTLY needs a Secretary / Organiser. No minute taking required. There are only three committee meetings per year. Please contact Carol Griffiths on 01959 523140 if you can help.

Autumn Leaves Vintage Tea Party
Go along to the Vintage Tea Party on Saturday 12th October in Otford Village Memorial Hall between 1.30pm and 4.00pm and enjoy some nostalgia. There will be music, tea, sandwiches and cake all served on special bone china. There will also be a wonderful singer. Vintage dress is optional but there is a prize for the best dressed 1940’s / 1950’s style. Tickets are £9 which includes everything. Please book on 01322 553101 or e-mail teapartyticketsd@yahoo.co.uk. This event is supporting Help for Heroes.

Denise Thompson Designer Florist Autumn Workshop
On Wednesday 23rd October at 7pm in Otford Village Memorial Hall Denise Thompson our village’s own designer florist is offering the chance for you to come and create your own beautiful autumn basket of flowers. The cost will be £30. Everything will be provided (except scissors/secateurs - please bring your own) and light refreshments will add to the fun. Places are always limited so please call 01959 525009 to book your place.
Denise will also again be holding her popular Christmas Wreath making workshop on Wednesday 4th December so why not book that too if you are interested. Cost will be £30.
Son et Lumiere

On **Saturday 12th October** at 7.30pm as part of the St Bartholomew’s Re-ordering Appeal they will be putting on a Son et Lumiere, highlighting the history and heritage of St Bartholomew’s Church over the past 1000 years. The evening will focus on five significant historical periods - Saxon, Medieval, Reformation, Victorian and Edwardian - and for each period they will look at developments and new features in the fabric of the church. There will also be excerpts of spiritual writings and music from each era. The cost is £5 and tickets are available from The Parish Council Office and St Bartholomew’s Church Office.

Auction of Promises

Also as part of the Re-ordering Appeal there will be an Auction of Promises held in St Bartholomew’s Church Hall (on the High Street) on **Saturday 16th November** at 7.30pm.

There will be a great array of different promises to bid for so come along and join the fun. Light refreshments will be served.

Fellowship Meeting

The October Ecumenical Fellowship meeting is to be held on **Wednesday 9th October** at 2.30pm in St Bartholomew’s Church Centre. The speaker will be David Debenham, a local man whose work has taken him to East Africa. Whilst there he developed an interest in improving life for the people and as a result, he has set up the charity ‘Sevenoaks Kenya Education Trust’ (SKET). This charity sponsors education for girls who would not otherwise receive that essential benefit. Davis speaks informatively and entertaining about his experiences and the charity David’s talk will be followed by refreshments and EVERYONE is welcome.

Sevenoaks Book Fair

The next Sevenoaks Book Fair will take place on **Saturday 2nd November** in Otford Village Memorial Hall between 9am and 2.30pm - Free admission. Refreshments are available.

Otford Oast WI

The meetings take place on the 3rd Thursday of each month starting at 9.30am in Otford Village Memorial Hall. First visit is free. Do join them. Contact Julie Stevens on 01732 458732 for more details

Oast Pamper Morning

The next meeting will be on **17th October** when they will be holding an ‘Oast Pamper Morning’ which is open to everyone. Go along and be pampered by an array of qualified therapists. Treatments cost between £5 and £10. Indian Head massage, manicures, pedicures, aromatherapy, reflexology and more will be available. Browse and buy beautiful gifts, clothes and accessories. Entry includes homemade cake and coffee. A crèche is available from 9.30am to 11.30am. Entry will be £3 for non-members and £1 for members.
Sevenoaks Embroiderer’s Guild

The next meeting will take place on Saturday 26th October in Otford Village Memorial Hall. They will be holding their AGM and a member’s Show and Tell with Trader and DVD show. The meetings start at 10am and 2pm and end with tea and cakes at about 4pm. For further information please contact Sylvia Grafton on 01732 452117.

Otford Evening WI

In September they learnt of 50 ways to tie a scarf which proved to be very interesting with a very lively speaker. On Thursday 10th October at 7.30pm in the Club Room of Otford Village Hall, they will hear about 'The secret life of the Mole’ with Chris Stewart. For more information please contact Evelyn Hubner on 01959 523359.

Food & Craft Market

The next HKSD market will take place on Saturday 19th October in Otford Methodist Church Hall between 9am and 1pm. There will be Fresh Fish & Seafood, Fresh Bread, Jams, Chutneys, Cakes, Fresh Eggs, Fruit and Veg, Gluten free cakes, crafts and haberdashery and much more.

Otford Methodist Church

Otford Methodist Church would like to invite ladies to their next Women’s breakfast in the Church Hall at 8.30am on Saturday 12th October. The speaker is from "Mercy Ships" and this should be a really interesting talk accompanied by a DVD. Cost at the door is £5. To book your place or ask for more information please call Sue Ward on 01959 535099 or email johnandsueward@btinternet.com

Otford Methodist Church Wednesday Afternoon Women’s Fellowship

Meetings are at 2.30pm in the Church Hall. Phone Rosemary Cracknell on 01959 522325 for details / transport.

October

9th - Joint meeting at St Barts Church Centre - David Debenham
16th - Knole Artefacts - Marcia Barton
23rd - Games Afternoon
30th - Community Warden in Otford - Paul Robertson

November

6th - Lunch at Crown Point

Knole Decorative and Fine Art Society

Knole Decorative and Fine Arts Society meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Sevenoaks Community Centre, Bat & Ball. The lectures start promptly at 1.45 pm and finish by 3 pm. Their theme for this year is ‘Around the World in Art and Architecture’ and 5 of the lectures cover this theme. The next meeting is on 17th October when Anthony Penrose will talk about ‘Lee Miller and Roland Penrose at Farley Farm’. This lecture links to a visit to Farley Farm later in October. Anthony is the son of Lee Miller and Roland Penrose and has for the past 30 years been conserving and disseminating the work of his
parents. Anyone interested in attending a lecture or joining the Society, please contact Yvonne Stewart on 01732 457852 or email knoledfas@gmail.com

Heritage Centre Picture of the Month October

The Artist for this month is Chris Towers. Chris has been a member of the Otford Art Group for about eight years. He likes to paint flowers in watercolour during the spring and summer and cuts them from his garden. Tulips are a special favourite; he plants a mix of early, mid and late flowering varieties to give him a chance to finish one before the others open. This month’s picture shows the varieties grown this year. He has already ordered next years selection and is looking forward to painting some new ones. Other flowers especially irises, day lilies and clematis feature in the paintings later in the year- in fact any that do not have many petals!

Hospice of Hope Events

On [Saturday 5th October] - 'Starry Starry Night'
Join their black tie ball taking place at The High Rocks, Tunbridge Wells. Arrive at 7.30pm, drinks and canapés to be served whilst listening to The Robert Reid Duo, a 3 course meal with coffee followed by dancing to a live band 'Stereo Sound' Auction and fundraising on the evening with all proceeds going to the Bucharest Hospice Appeal. Tickets are £60. Please contact Vanessa@hospiceofhope.co.uk or 01959 525110

On [Saturday 19th October] at 7pm - Murder Mystery Evening - 'The Grave Peril of the Pilkington Garden Gnomes' at Bessels Green Baptist Church Hall. Teams of 4-6. Tickets cost £12 to include supper. Please contact carole@hospiceofhope.co.uk or 01969 525110

North West Kent Countryside Partnership - Volunteering

Are you interested in Kent’s countryside, its wildlife and improving the surroundings for local communities? Why not join our volunteer teams on a Wednesday or Thursday. Projects are varied and include woodland management, river enhancement, managing ponds, building school nature areas, and much more. You don’t need any particular skills but if you’re handy with a hammer or love carpentry then they have plenty of jobs to keep you busy. To find out more contact Louise Smith on 01322 294727 or email l.smith@nwkcp.org. You can also visit the website to find out more about what they do at www.nwkcp.org.

NHS 111

NHS 111 is a new service that has been introduced to make it easier for you to access local NHS healthcare services. It provides one, easy-to-remember number that is free to call from landlines or mobiles.

You should use the NHS 111 service if you urgently need medical help or advice but it's not a life threatening situation.

Call 111 if:
- you need medical help fast but it’s not a 999 emergency
- you think you need to go to A&E or need another NHS urgent care service
you don't know who to call or you don't have a GP to call
you need health information or reassurance about what to do next

What happens when you call NHS 111?
When you call 111, a trained advisor will ask you questions to find out what's wrong, give you medical advice and direct you to someone who can help you, like an out-of-hours doctor or community nurse.
If your advisor thinks your condition is more serious, they will direct you to hospital or send an ambulance.
If you do not speak English, tell the advisor what language you want to speak and they will get an interpreter. You can call NHS 111 any time of the day or night 365 days a year.
NHS111 can be used by people with a hearing impairment or communication difficulties, via a text-phone by calling 18001 111.
Leaflets explaining how NHS 111 works are available in a number of different languages and in easy read format at www.nhs.uk/111
There are now only three numbers to call if you need NHS care urgently: 999 for life threatening emergencies, your GP surgery and 111

Planning
The following applications have been considered by the Parish Council. For more information, please contact the Parish Clerk or Sevenoaks District Council, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent on 01732 227000

a. New applications
SE/13/02458 47 Pilgrims Way West
Demolition of existing 2 storey dwelling and garaging and construction of a new 2 storey dwelling with attached double garage.
SE/13/02671 5 and 6 Hopfield Close
Erection of conservatories to rear of numbers 5 and 6

b. Results
SE/13/01855 21 Tudor Crescent
Erection of first floor extension  Refused
SE/13/01943 Orchard Cottage, 11 Colets Orchard
Erection of a garage with extended drive area  Allowed
SE/13/02017 11 Coombe Road
Minor material amendment to application 13/00483 (Conversion of roof space into habitable space with dormer windows to the front and rear of the property. Small infill extension to ground floor (2.6sqm). Replacement roof to existing dilapidated annex building roof and adjoining roof. Minor alterations to doors and windows to suit new internal layout) to show demolition of the annex walls and rebuilding of new.  Allowed
SE/13/02030 The Old Printworks, High Street
Replacement roof  Allowed
Rubbish and Garden Bags
Garden waste bags packs are available from the Parish Council office at £13 for 25. It avoids all those trips to the tip. Rolls of black sacks at £1.50 and white sacks at 50p are also available.

Newsletter Deadline
The deadline for items for the November Newsletter will be Monday 21st October

Parish Councillors Contact Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chairman</th>
<th>Oastbrook, Telston Lane</th>
<th>522503</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Edwards-Winser</td>
<td>23 Warham Road</td>
<td>522325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Mary Evans</td>
<td>14 Tudor Crescent</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mary.a.evans@btinternet.com">mary.a.evans@btinternet.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Jackie Howe</td>
<td>33 Pilgrims Way West</td>
<td>525434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Knight</td>
<td>38 Warham Road</td>
<td>524488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. H. Jane Lawrey</td>
<td>23 Tudor Crescent</td>
<td>522360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard Leicester</td>
<td>Albany, Shoreham Road</td>
<td><a href="mailto:howard_leicester@btconnect.com">howard_leicester@btconnect.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Charmian Marsh</td>
<td>40 Greenhill Road</td>
<td>522609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon Verrall</td>
<td>24 Pilgrims Way East</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jon.verrall5@btinternet.com">jon.verrall5@btinternet.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Elizabeth J. Ward</td>
<td>Thymebank, Coombe Road</td>
<td>522384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin J. Whitehead</td>
<td>19 Coombe Road</td>
<td>524088</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Don't forget the clocks go back on 27th October