

Otford Parish Council September Newsletter 2004 No 126

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

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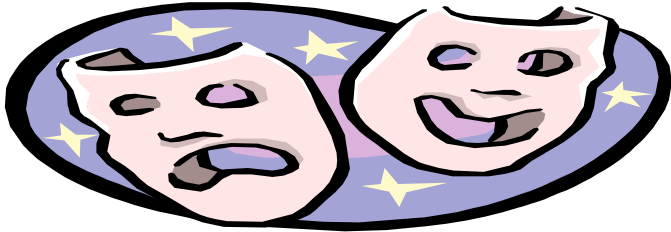
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Applause- Live Theatre in Otford



Cartoon de Salvo present 'The Chaingang Gang' on **Saturday 25th September** at 7.30pm in Otford Memorial Hall.

Cartoon de Salvo makes exuberant, witty and irresistible theatre. The company's ability to tell splendid stories and to invent, inspire, celebrate and discover new ways of making theatre has meant a rapidly developing interest in their work. Cartoon de Salvo's vision is to change the way people feel about going to the theatre, so their work is intentionally accessible and fun.

'The story will evolve from a simple scenario, 5 characters improvising an escape. Once over the fence the 5 characters plan to go their separate ways. But they can't. Throughout the performance the 5 performers are chained together on stage, there can be no exits or entrances, no solo moments, no privacy, no secrets. During the story the characters may encounter freak weather conditions, unconvincing disguises and fierce animals!'

Like all of Cartoon de Salvo's shows 'The Chaingang Gang' will be a giddy cocktail of stories, improvisation, adventure and live music.

A previous performance by Cartoon de Salvo was one of The Observers' *Top Ten Shows of 2002*'

'*Irresistible Magic*' - The Times

'*A Delight*' - Independent on Sunday

The performance is suitable for all ages and tickets available from School House will be priced at £5 for adults, £4 for concessions and £3 for children.

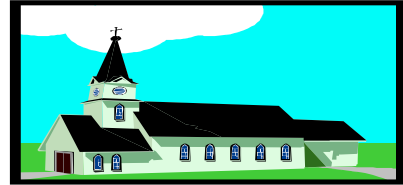
Do come along and enjoy a fun and inexpensive evening out.

Police Surgery



The next Police Surgery will take place on **Wednesday 3rd November** and PC Jackie Allen will again be joined by Lorraine Chapman from West Kent Housing. So if you have any concerns please come and see them between 10am and 12 noon.

St Bartholomew's Looks Forward



Planning permission has now been granted by Sevenoaks District Council for an extension to be built on the north side of St Bartholomew's Church.

The extension will provide the ancient parish church with much-needed new facilities: a church office, toilets and small kitchen, a new changing room for the choir and visiting musicians which will double as a crèche room and a large meeting room mainly for use by the children's groups on a Sunday.

It has been designed by Otford architect Jim Lidbetter, who has used his extensive experience in this field to ensure that the design and materials are in keeping with the existing building and that the finished extension will enhance its picturesque setting by the village pond.

The lack of modern facilities at the church has proved a drawback for Otford residents and visitors alike. The church conducts many baptisms, weddings and funerals for local people each year, and yet it is unable to offer toilet facilities or even a cup of tea to those arriving in the village for special services.

Running in parallel, some minor updating of the church building is planned which will give easier access for people with disabilities and provide a more flexible chancel or stage area for concerts and other events.

"The new facilities will enable us to continue to welcome people of all ages and abilities to St Bartholomew's and to care effectively for our visitors" says the Vicar, Revd Pat Hopkins.

The Church Hall will continue to be offered as a village facility, and some repairs and changes are planned to benefit then many local organisations using it each week.

St Bartholomew's parishioners will be setting up a new Church Building Fund to provide for these projects. They hope to raise the cost of the building work first and foremost from members of the church (who will see many benefits from these changes), but also from charitable trusts, fundraising events and local people.

The Fundraising Appeal will be launched in the New Year and a brochure and website will give full details of the project and forthcoming events.

Post Office

Due to a major shop refurbishment the Otford Post Office will close at 12 noon on **Monday 11th October** 2004 and will re-open on **Thursday 14th October** 2004 at 12 noon. Please see further notices within the Post Office for details of surrounding Post Offices who will deal with your custom for these few days closure.

Please be assured this is only a temporary closure and the future of Otford Post Office is **NOT** under threat.

Otford Library

Otford Library have started a Reading Group which they call Bookchat. The next meeting will be on **Thursday 23rd September** from 10.30am until 11.45am and the theme is '*Books we have read as Children*'. Everyone is welcome to join.

Also the Library has a display cabinet in the foyer, which members of the public can use to advertise and display any local events, groups or societies.

Otford Players

The Otford Players' November production will be '*The Noble Spaniard*' by W. Somerset Maugham. The play is directed by Christina Edwards and performance dates are **November 11th, 12th & 13th** at 8pm in the Otford Memorial Hall. Tickets £5 (Thurs), £6 (Fri & Sat) from the Box Office on 01959 522786.

The play is a romantic comedy with plenty of characters of a colourful nature in true Maugham style. The Players look forward to welcoming you to the play in November. They are sure you will enjoy it.

Over 60's Social Club Autumn Programme

2004

- ❖ Wednesday 15th Sept- Talk by Mr Tim Healy - Origins & Work of the Royal British Legion
- ❖ Wednesday 29th Sept- Musical Concert by pupils of Russell House.
- ❖ Wednesday 13th Oct - Harvest Festival with pupils of Otford Primary School.

For further details please contact Jill or Ed Yates on 01959 525775

Youth Day/Skateboard Park

Otford's entertainment day for children was on 26th August when both the Sevenoaks District Council's Youth Van and a mobile skateboard park were available at our Hale Lane Recreation Ground. The

skateboard was half funded by the SDC, to whom thanks are due, with Dunton Green and Otford Parish Councils paying the remainder. Over 90 children came and enjoyed themselves on the one fine day that week. Thanks are due to all the Otford Councillors who arranged and managed this day. They worked hard to sweep and thoroughly clean the car park and pavilion, supply drinks and sweets, and help haul the skateboard ramps in to position. We were told that twice as many children than the Youth Van usually entertains came on that day, and they obviously all enjoyed themselves. We hope we can repeat this exercise another year.

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 August TOP Draw are:

1st Prize £50 - 89

2nd Prize £15 - 212

3rd Prize £10 - 179

Congratulations to this month's winners and thank you to everyone who continue to support the school. Don't forget forms are still available from the School office, Parish Council, the Chemist and Post Office for those who would like to take part.

Otford Gardeners' Society

The next lecture will take place in the Otford Memorial Hall on **Tuesday 5th October** at 8pm when Colin Morgan will be giving an illustrated talk on '*Landscaping and Designing a Winter Garden*'. Admission is 50p for members and £1 for non-members.

Honey Show

The Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells Branch of the Kent Beekeepers Association are holding their Honey Show on **Saturday 25th September** in Otford Church Hall. Open to the public from 1.30pm-4.00pm. Go along and learn about beekeeping, there will be displays and exhibits and an opportunity to purchase honey and related products.

Otford Allotments Association

The Allotment Association were blessed with fine weather to celebrate their Open Day on August 14th. They had many visitors from all around, who seemed genuinely interested in what members got up to on their plots.

Parish Councillor, Eric Dille, a onetime secretary of the Association, kindly agreed to officially open the new Equipment Store at 10.15am and this was

followed by coffee and refreshments in the Methodist Hall. A display of vegetables, freshly picked and reflecting the bountiful produce from the allotments, was on show in the hall, along with some photographic memorabilia and flower paintings, some depicting the allotments and they are grateful to the W.I Art club for their contribution. Cream teas were on offer in the afternoon attracting further visitors and helping to raise much needed funds. There are still some Souvenir Newsletters available if you missed out on the day, but numbers are limited so get your order in quick to Ken Gunderson on 01959 522709 as this is a print that will not be repeated. The Association welcomed a new tenant on that day, Carol Whitfield and her family, and we wish them well in the coming months as they have much work to do to clear a plot which has not been used for many years. So the site is once again full, but don't be disappointed if you would like to become a member of the 'green team' as the situation is constantly changing. Give Barbara Hine a ring on 01959 525468 if you are interested or call into the Parish Office on any weekday morning.

Otford & District Wine Club

The next meeting of the Wine Club will be held on **Wednesday 29th September** in the Otford Memorial Hall. This will feature a talk by Norna Munson entitled 'A Year in Chains' describing her year as Chairman of Sevenoaks District Council. A lot of you will know Norna, and are familiar with her wit and humour, so go along for an amusing night out amongst friends. As usual the evening starts at 8pm and cheese and biscuits will be supplied but you may bring your own liquid refreshment if you wish. It is free to members but visitors are welcome for a small charge. If you have any queries please ring the secretary on 01732 761359

Picture of the Month



The artist for September/Oct is Vyvyan Lindsay, who has known the Sevenoaks area all her life. She started painting as a little girl, spurred on by an Enid Blyton colouring prize and her mother being an Art teacher. She continued to have an interest in all forms of art particularly when living in East Africa and for a time she studied at the Ravensbourne School of Art as part of extra curricular activities. Due to failing eyesight active art has been curtailed for a number of years. However, now that cataracts have been removed from both eyes, she has found new impetus, vision and colour sense and finds it all to be a very exciting prospect.

Otford Oast W.I.



Their next meeting of the Otford Oast WI will be on **Thursday 21st October**. Dig out your magnifying glasses and go along for a talk on 'Solving Murder with Fingerprints, with Jack Deau an ex - Scotland Yard officer. Give it a try, you can be sure of a warm welcome. There is a free crèche at every meeting. The first visit is free, second visit £1.50 and Annual membership is £20. For more information please contact Mrs D Metcalfe on 01322 271873

Lindy Hop

The Sevenoaks Swing Dance Club resume Lindy Hop (early jive) lessons after a summer break. Fortnightly Tuesday meetings in the Otford Church Hall start at 8pm. Next meeting will be **21st September**. Entry is £6.

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 two months speakers and events are as follows: -

September

22nd - Malcolm Hunt - *Stained Glass*

24th - Friday 10am - 12 noon - Coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer Relief, coffee, cakes, bring and buy

29th - Barbara Scriven - *Songs and Poetry*

October

6th - Ann Suaznabar - *Working with Childline*

13th - Irene Pugmire - *Miniatures*

Parking

Residents are to be reminded that footways are for pedestrians not cars or lorries, so **DO NOT** park on the pavements, it is illegal and it makes life difficult for blind residents, wheelchair users and mothers with buggies. Roads with particular problems include Tudor Drive, Well Road and Willow Park.

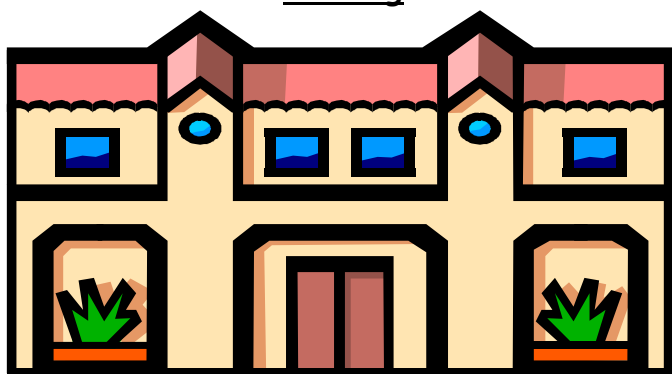
Otford Folk Dance Club



The next Thursday night special takes place in the Church Hall on **30th September** from 8pm with the 'Footnotes'. Tony from Dorking plays the accordion, and David from Erith, originally from Poland, plays the fiddle

The regular 'Thursday Nights' run from 8pm in the Parish Church Hall and mostly finish at 10pm. Admission and membership is £1.50. The first visit is FREE! Including Tea / Coffee and biscuits. They have dancing to Eddie and Morris each usually taking half of the evening. On the first Thursday of each month they have an introductory session for the less confident, and on the last Thursday in the month they are supported by visiting callers or musicians. They welcome new members at any time. All dances are walked through first and called and the range of dances cover English, American, Scottish, Irish, Folk, Square and Barn. Enjoyment takes first place over skill so just go along from and enjoy the friendly atmosphere of the Otford Club. Website <http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/otfordfdc2>

Planning



The following applications will be considered by the Parish Council at its meeting in September. 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/04/01888 **58 High Street**

Extension to left hand side and new porch

SE/04/01985 **93 Willow Park**

Domestic Garden

SE/04/02013 **9 Tudor Drive**

Erection of two storey front extension with porch, single and first floor rear extensions and side dormers

SE/04/02045 **12 Flowerfield**

Two storey side rear extension

SE/04/02028 **35 Tudor Drive**

Loft conversion with rear dormer

SE/04/02142 **15 Tudor Drive**

Single storey rear extension

b. Amended applications

SE/04/01068 **32 Greenhill Road**

Replacement dwelling

SE/04/01319 **16 Greenhill Road**

Erection of two storey front extension, rear conservatory and garage extension together with detached double garage / ancillary room. Revised location of proposed garage and demolition of part of existing garage building

SE/04/01752 **The Old Vicarage Shoreham Road**

Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 3 detached dwellings with integral garage

c. Results Received

SE/04/00963 **Clyderhowe Sevenoaks Road**

Erection of a freestanding advertisement board

Allowed

SE/04/01319 **16 Greenhill Road**

Erection of two storey front extension, rear conservatory and garage extension together with detached double garage / ancillary room. Revised location of proposed garage and demolition of part of existing garage building

Allowed

SE/04/01361 **St Bartholomew's Church, The Green**

Proposed extension

Allowed

SE/04/01519 **Block 1 Vestry Industrial Estate**

Amendment to car parking and turning layout including a reduction in the number of car parking spaces to 28 spaces in respect of condition 3 of SE/03/01703. Proposed addition of fire escape together with minor changes to external elevations. Minor changes to external elevations permitted under SE/03/01703

Allowed

SE/04/01649 **12 Hillydeal Road**

Conversion of garage to form habitable room, formation of rear bay window, new external chimney, detached single garage with new crossover and single storey front extension

Allowed

SE/04/01725 **Land r/o 18-20 Tudor Crescent**

Erection of a new single dwelling

Allowed

SE/04/01798 **31 Hillydeal Road**

Two storey extension to rear of property

Allowed

d. Planning Appeals

SE/03/02542 **32 Hillydeal Road**

Subdivision of plot and erection on new dwelling within garden

Appeal dismissed

