Chairman’s Report

It is anticipated that Pay and Display will be operational in the car park from mid-October. Now that all the banana skins have been removed and the remaining “i’s” have been dotted and the “t’s” crossed, all we are waiting on now is the installation of the pay meters and notice boards, which is down to the operators and should take place during September. This has been two years in the planning, but some still think that we are shoe-horning it in. Not the case - there have been council meetings, a public meeting resulting in a working group being set up with all interested stake holders and reports in this newsletter over the past two years. The charging rates have been kept as low as possible to make it a viable operation for the parking operators, whilst keeping the cost down for short to medium stay parkers and trying to dissuade car owners from parking all day, thereby freeing up spaces for the hall and shop users. Permits for qualifying applicants have been negotiated with the operators and application forms can be obtained from the parish office for processing by the operators. Residents of Otford will be entitled to apply for parking permits if there is no off road parking at their address and there is fully restricted parking on their street during the car park chargeable hours. After an initial bedding in period of 12 months, if necessary, terms and conditions can be re-evaluated with the operators every 6 months.

The operating times are from 07.00 to 18.00

The rates are:-

**Monday to Friday (except Bank Holidays)**

- First hour free (get a ticket)
- 2nd hour 50p
- 3rd hour 50p
- Every subsequent hour or part thereof £1.00

**Saturday**

- First hour free (get a ticket)
- 2nd hour 50p
- 3rd hour 50p
- All day £2.00

So for weekdays 3hrs will cost £1.00 but 9hrs will cost £7.00

Any complaints regarding “parking tickets” should be made to the Operators NOT the Parish Council.
Allotments
It has been reported that several cases of vandalism have taken place during August. This is intolerable behaviour from a few mindless idiots which has caused a great deal of distress to the affected users of the allotments. The police have been made aware and will take appropriate action if the culprits are found. Meanwhile the gates may be locked to prevent a reoccurrence of the trouble.

Village Green Christmas Tree
Unfortunately, the Christmas tree on the green has to be felled as it has had a disease that has caused it to shed a lot of its needles. It is also being overshadowed by the adjacent small leaved Lime tree. Where will we put the lights this Christmas? Good question and one that is being discussed by your parish councillors. Any useful suggestions would be appreciated, but remember, they have to be powered by mains electricity and must not be a distraction to drivers.

Switch and Save
Are your energy bills costing you more than they should? Residents and businesses now have the opportunity to compare tariffs and switch energy providers through a simple, independent comparison website, www.sevenoaksswitchandsave.co.uk. The new Sevenoaks District Council site provides a 100% impartial, trustworthy route which compares all of the national utility providers. It's easy to use - simply enter your postcode, personalise the search and start comparing prices for gas, electricity or both. If you don't have access to the internet there is also a freephone number where contact centre staff will guide you through the process. This can be reached on 0800 410 1147 or 01732 227 111 (standard rates may apply). Phone lines are open Monday to Thursday 9am-8pm and Friday 9am-6pm. It only takes a few minutes to complete and there is no obligation to sign up to any of the tariffs offered. Have a go today and see how much you can save.

Heritage Centre Exhibition
Please find some time and come and have a look at the new World War I exhibition in the Heritage Centre. The garden has also been replanted and includes a display in commemoration of WWI. The Heritage Centre is open Sat and Sun between 2.30pm and 4.30pm and also Bank Holidays. It is also open between 9am and 12 noon during the week when the Parish Council office is open.

Petrol Mower Needed
Does anybody have a petrol mower that they don't use anymore? The Otford United Football Club are looking for one to help keep the area around the pitch tidy. Please contact the Parish Council Office if you can help.

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.

MacMillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning
On Saturday 20th September between 10am and 12noon there will be a coffee morning in the Club Room of Otford Village Memorial Hall. Entrance is 50p. There will be cakes, tombola, cards and refreshments. For more details contact Jean on 01959 523404
**Gardeners’ Society**  
The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 2nd September** when Daniel Denness of Alphabet Orchids will be giving a talk about ‘Basic Orchid care’. There will be plants from the nursery for sale. Admission which includes refreshments is £1 for visitors. Contact Janet Finney on 01959 523760 for more details or e-mail gardeners@otford.net.

**The Autumn Flower & Craft Show**  
The Autumn Flower Show will take place on **Saturday 6th September** between 2.15 - 4.15pm. This is the final show of the year and on display will be the best of the season’s flowers, fruit and vegetables. There will also be cookery, photographic and flower arrangement classes as well as classes for handicrafts and art classes. Admission is 50p and homemade teas are available until 4pm.

**Otford Twinning Association**  
The next social gathering of the Otford-Neufchatel-Hardelot Twinning Association will at the Woodman PH on **Monday 29th September** from 7.45pm and they are also planning another coach trip to Hardelot on Saturday 11th October for a Franco-Anglo day with some hypermarket shopping. Les Boucles d’Hardelot, a running race, 10K for adults and 1K or 2K for children starts at 4pm on **Saturday 6th September** in Hardelot and there is a special Twinning Cup to be won by an Otfordian with prizes for all competitors. Please contact Jane Lawrey on 01959 522360 or e-mail kl@lawrey23.freeserve.co.uk for further details on all events as soon as possible. Adults and children will be most welcome to join them.

**Otford Tennis Club**  
Otford Tennis Club is a friendly club situated in the heart of the village (just behind the children’s play area). We have two floodlit courts; club sessions are held on Tues & Thurs (7.30pm - 9.30pm) and Sundays (9.30am-12.30pm). All standards of players are welcome. If you would like to come along and join us for a free session contact Alison Dyke at: alisond@otfordtennis.org.uk or call her on 01959 522050.

**Sevenoaks Embroiderer’s Guild**  
The next meeting will take place on **Saturday 27th September** in Otford Village Memorial Hall. There will be an all day workshop with Caroline Mamfray and machine embroidered jewellery. 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.

**Countdown Champion**  
The search is on for a Countdown champion for Sevenoaks District. There will be an all day tournament in the Otford Methodist Church Hall on **Saturday 13th September** between 10am and 4pm. Entry is £10 in aid of the Kent Association for the Blind. Lunch will be provided. Everyone will get to play 5 games in pairs, with letters, numbers and conundrums on the big screen, modern authentic computer graphics and music just like on the telly and the two top players compete in a final at the end with a trophy for district champion and other prizes. Please contact Phyllis Styles on 01732 461623 or ap.styles@mybroadbandmail.com.
Otford & District Historical Society
The first meeting of the new programme will take place on Wednesday 17th September at 8.00pm in Otford Village Memorial Hall when Mark Smith will give a talk on ‘For Valour, the story of the Victoria Cross’. Subscriptions are £6 per year and visitors are welcome at each lecture for £2.

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 be on 18th September when Chris Sutcliffe will talk about ‘The changing seasons at Chartwell’. There is a crèche and the first visit is free. Do join them. Contact Jo Hall on 01689 638996 for more details

Otford Evening WI
Otford Evening WI’s next meeting will be on Thursday 11th September in the Club Room of the Otford Village Memorial Hall at 7.30pm when they will hear of Queen Victoria’s uncles - six of them who apparently were pretty awful! For more information please contact Pat Goddard on 01959 522578

Otford Village Fete AGM
The Annual General Meeting will be held at 7.45pm on Monday 15th September in Otford Primary School. The committee would like to thank Natasha Caisley for the loan of the school hall. They would like to encourage all residents of Otford to attend as it is an opportunity to hear from the Committee on how the day went and their plans for 2015.

Singalong Baby Sign Classes
Singalong Baby Sign Classes are coming to Otford soon. If you have just had a baby and want to be able to communicate with them before they can talk this is the class for you.
Little Bright Sparks are also coming to Otford soon. This is fun phonics, literacy and numeracy classes for 2 - 4 yrs old. Help give your little one a head start before they begin school. For more information contact Tracey on 07768 447657

Friends of Otford Medical Practice
We are a group raising funds to provide extra facilities for all the patients of the Otford Medical Practice. Our first project is to provide specialist higher chairs with arms to aid patients who have mobility difficulties. We would like one for each of the doctors’ consulting rooms in both Otford and Kemsing surgeries, also one for each waiting room. Please could you help us by joining the fund raising group or donating to the project. Contact us by e-mail on judy@cardinals.co.uk or telephone 01959 522513. Our first fund raising event will be a fun quiz on Friday 19th September at St Ediths Hall, Kemsing. If you would like a table of eight please contact the above for tickets.

Happy’s Circus and Family Fun Day
Happy’s Circus is coming to Knockholt County Primary School for 1 day on Sunday 5th October. Gates open at 12.30pm and close at 5.30pm. Circus from 2pm to 4pm. BBQ, Beer tent, stalls, rides - great fun for all the family. Wrist bands will be for sale allowing unlimited rides for primary children. Tokens can be purchased on the day for individual rides.
• Family tickets £28.00 (2 adults & 2 children OR 1 adult and 3 children)
• Single tickets £8.00 per person / Wrist bands £5.00 per person.
Tickets will be available from 1st September from Knockholt Village Store, Main Road, Knockholt.
Any enquiries please contact 07958 762828

**Heritage Centre Picture for the Months of September and October**
The artist for the months of September and October is Audrey Tratell. Audrey says 'My first foray with pencil and crayon was at the age of five when I decided to redecorate my bedroom with drawings - needless to say my parents were none too happy. I always enjoyed art classes at school and eventually won a place at art school, but due to family circumstances was unable to take up my place. On retirement after a long career in legal publishing, which I thoroughly enjoyed, I joined the Otford Art Group. My life changed, not only did I make many friends but it also renewed my love of painting. I prefer to use watercolour and enjoy painting landscapes, seascapes and boats.'

**Otford Methodist Church Wednesday Afternoon Womens Fellowship**
Meetings are at 2.30pm in the Methodist Chuch Hall. Phone Rosemary Cracknell on 01959 522325 for details/transport

**September**
3rd - Tea in Hall and Quiz / 10th - The Crystal Palace - Eveline Turner
17th - Fostering - Phyllis Styles / 24th - Lunch Out - Spadework at Offham

**Battersea Cats & Dogs Centre - Ash**
On **Wednesday, 10th September** a free information event will be held at your local Battersea Dogs & Cats Home centre. Animal lovers are invited to visit the centre at Crowhurst Lane in Ash at 12.30pm for some free cake, a cup of tea and a talk about the history and activities of Battersea in your area. With the new series of Paul O'Grady's *For the Love of Dogs* airing this Autumn and focussing particularly on the Home's satellite sites, this is a great opportunity to have your own behind the scenes look at the world-famous animal charity, which aims never to turn away a dog or cat in need of help. Victoria Lawrence who lives in the area has recently joined Battersea as one of their first Regional Community Fundraisers, covering Kent and Sussex. She said, "Battersea takes in over 9,000 dogs and cats a year at its three centres and, as we receive no government funding, we rely on the generosity and support of the public to help care for the animals we look after. Battersea's Brands Hatch centre, set in 12 rolling acres, is a peaceful retreat for dogs who are stressed by the big city and cats who enjoy a slower pace of life. Now celebrating its 15th year, the centre cares for and re-homes 45 dogs and 25 cats at any one time. Every day, the Home helps animals like Maisie the Staffordshire Bull Terrier (pictured) to find their forever homes. To register your free place at this event or for an informal chat about how you can show your support for Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, contact Victoria at v.lawrence@battersea.org.uk or on 07590 173456. But hurry, as spaces are limited.

**Planning**
The following applications have been considered by the Parish Council. 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/14/01705 **Orchard House, Shoreham Road**
Variation of condition 11 of planning permission SE/11/02555 - Erection of a detached dwelling with alterations from previous application SE/09/00643 including change of access, repositioning of
dormers, additional window to east elevation, repositioning of fenestration, alterations to sun room roof, lantern light replaced with velux over stairs, alteration to ridge height to west wing only and addition of tube lights - to have wording 'Prior to commencement of works' removed.

SE/14/01825  Pets at Home Ltd
Replacement like for like signage and secondary fascia signage

SE/14/01872  15 Greenhill Road
Variation on condition 6 and condition 12 of application reference SE/13/00687 for the erection of detached dwelling with rooms in roof with roof lights to front, rear and side elevations, rear balcony, basement with light well, attached garage with roof in roof, retaining walls to gardens, parking and landscaping in order to allow the windows to first floor SW and NW in home office to be top hung and fitted with restrictors, restricting the opening to 300mm

SE/14/01899  91 Willow Park
Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of a single storey rear/ side extension

SE/14/01991  The Oast House, Broughton Manor
Demolition of existing barn. Erection of a new 4 bay barn

SE/14/02039  Burfield, Pilgrims Way East
Erection of two storey side extension with one dormer window to rear and two velux windows to front elevations

SE/14/02081  5 Coombe Road
Erection of a 2nd floor side extension above existing garage, double storey extension to the rear of the property and new open porch with small ground floor extension to the front of the existing garage to bring in line with the porch

SE/14/02150  Brambles, Shoreham Road
Demolition of outbuilding and erection of single storey rear extension with glass lantern.

SE/14/02102  Orchard House, Shoreham Road
Removal of condition 8 (gradient of the parking, turning and access) and 11 (Code of Sustainable Homes) of SE/11/02555 to erection of a detached dwelling with alterations from previous application SE/09/00643 including change of access, repositioning of dormers, additional window to east elevation, repositioning of fenestration, alterations to sun roof, lantern light replaced with velux under over stairs, alteration to ridge height to west wing only and addition of tube lights.

SE/14/02123  St Michael's School
Minor extension to existing car park together with the installation of lighting and surface water drainage.

SE/14/02198  St Michael's School
Minor material amendment to application SE/10/02088 for the erection of a new pre-preparatory school following the demolition of the existing Headmasters House together with the conversion of the existing school building to provide replacement accommodation including part demolition and improvements to an existing playing filed amended to use of part of the former pre-prep building, allowing for the continued use of the first floor as staff accommodation but with more generalised use of the ground floor as classroom space/non specific ancillary school use.

SE/14/02285  8 Leonard Avenue
Cladding of the gable wall with PVC shiplap planning above first floor level

SE/14/02279  Bartram Farm, Old Otford Road
Demolition of two detached dwellings and a number of commercial buildings and the construction of a new office building and associated parking.

SE/14/02074  Hopgarden Farm, Telston Lane
Conversion of former stables to 2 bed dwelling including link

SE/14/02220  Greenhill House, Shoreham Road
Erection of garden room
SE/14/02352  
20 Rye Lane  
Single storey front extension with 3 velux windows

b. Results Received

SE/14/00622  
Kursella, Sevenoaks Road  
The erection of a two storey side and rear extension, first floor side extension, alteration to roof and loft conversion, addition of two dormer window and velux window on rear roof elevation, addition of two dormer windows on front roof elevation, alterations to fenestration and front canopy porch  
Refused

SE/14/00744  
48 Willow Park  
Erection of two storey side and part rear extension, pitched roof to porch to replace existing flat roof  
Refused

SE/14/00803  
2 Hopfield Close  
Conversion of part of garage into habitable playroom/office and the installation of French doors to the rear of the garage. Due to the slight height difference in the land a small set of steps from the garden up to the access doors will be required.  
Allowed

SE/14/01004  
Devon House, 49 High Street  
Construction of front and rear dormers (retrospective)  
Refused

SE/14/01255  
45 Sidney Gardens  
Demolition of existing side garage and the erection of a single storey side and rear extension  
Allowed

SE/14/01250  
57 Willow Park  
Demolition of existing garage and erection of a single storey front, two storey side and a single storey rear extension  
Allowed

SE/14/01370  
Lorien, St Michael’s Drive  
Ground floor infill extensions and a dormer window to the front elevation and a ground floor extension to the rear elevation.  
Allowed

SE/14/01389  
Bramley, Old Otford Road  
Erection of double storey rear extension. Part conversion of garage to study and boot room with insertion of one roof light.  
Allowed

SE/14/01074  
52B Pilgrims Way East  
Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and erection of replacement dwelling with integral garaging facilities and timber decking to rear elevation  
Allowed

SE/14/01244  
6 The Butts  
Demolition of existing store/garage and erection of a single storey side and rear extension  
Allowed

SE/14/01525  
Castle House, Sevenoaks Road  
Increase width of existing opening between kitchen and breakfast room  
Allowed

SE/14/01529  
9 Greenhill Road  
Demolition of conservatories and erection of single storey rear extension with lantern light with new retaining wall to form patio are with steps.  
Allowed

SE/14/01535  
38 Willow Park  
Demolition of existing garages to facilitate the erection of a single storey side and rear extension  
Refused

SE/13/03151  
30 Greenhill Road  
Details pursuant to condition 11 (programme of archaeological works) of planning permission  
Refused

SE/14/01338  
Little Coombe, Shoreham Road  
Replacement detached garage  
Allowed

SE/14/01779  
Pilgrims Way Cottage, Pilgrims Way West  
Demolition of existing double garage and the erection of two detached four bedroom dwellings, including the closure of the existing access onto Pilgrims Way West. The creation of a new access
from Rye Lane to serve the existing and proposed dwellings. Improvement to footpath and associated landscaping.

Refused

c. Appeals
SE/14/00622  Kursella, Sevenoaks Road
The erection of a first floor extension to the north elevation, a one and a half storey extension to the south elevation to provide a garage with accommodation in the roof, part two storey and part single storey extensions to the rear, alterations to the roof and a loft conversion, the addition of a pitched roof dormer window and roof light to the rear roof slope and two pitched roof dormer windows in the front roof slope alterations to the fenestration and a front canopy porch.

SE/13/03595  52B Pilgrims Way East
Demolition of existing dwelling and three outbuildings, erection of replacement dwelling with integral garaging facilities, with raised timber decking and external steps. APP/G2245/A/2222792/NWF

SE/14/01130  50A Pilgrims Way West
Erection of a single storey rear extension with as roof light. APP/G2245/D/14/2222529

d. Tree Works
SE/14/02107  12 Hopfield Close
Remove some side branches and 20% from the top of three poplar trees

SE/14/02320  4 Appledowne Place, Shoreham Road
Remove minor secondary branches of 1 Ronina Tree (TPO)

SE/14/02325  Otford Primary School
S1 Horse Chestnut 25% crown reduction

SE/14/02340  Otford Village Pond
T1 Willow - reduce 3 overhanging limbs shading newly planted tree by 2-3m and crown lift growth over duck house

Parish Councillors Contact Details

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<th>Councillors</th>
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Newsletter Deadline
The deadline for items for the October Newsletter will be **Monday 22nd September**