



# R. A. D. I. O.

## RESIDENTS AGAINST DEVELOPMENT IN OTFORD

### NEWSLETTER, JULY 2006

Welcome one and all to our latest newsletter. To start, a brief summary of some recent social events:

**Otford Village Fete:** The RADIO stall at the village fete was a great success. With attendance at the fete bolstered by the welcome – but unexpected! – sunshine, we were busy throughout the day. We signed up over 50 new members and raised some much needed funds from the raffle we organised. In addition, we collected almost 200 signatures each on two important petitions – one against the new application for development of 64/66 Well Road and the second requesting that Rye Lane be blocked to stop through traffic from Dunton Green coming through Otford if the West Kent Cold Store development in Dunton Green goes ahead. Many thanks to all those who manned the stall through the day; also, to all those who signed up to join RADIO and all those who signed the petitions.

**RADIO BBQ:** This event, held for RADIO distributors and their families, was also a roaring success. Once more the weather was kind to us – hot but not too hot – and even the importance of the England v Ecuador football match did not deter folks from turning up. Fortunately, we had a TV rigged up so that all those who wanted to were able to watch the match anyway. And even the result was right!! Food and drink were supplied in abundance and (we hope!) a good time was had by all. Thanks to Richard McDowall for the use of his garden and to all who helped organise the event, especially to Wayne Patrick for the excellent salads and side dishes he and Diane provided. It was a great pleasure to meet all those who attended and we look forward to repeating this event next year.

Moving on to more serious considerations, the latest news on a number of proposed developments that will affect the village:

**Well Road:** SDC have, to date, received well over 100 letters of objection to the proposed development, many thanks to all those who have written. We are advised that a decision will not be made by the case officer at SDC until mid-August and have established that all letters of objection received by the council prior to this time will be taken into consideration (despite the deadlines given in their correspondence). **So, if you have not yet written in objection, there is still time to do so.** We would urge everyone to write, to show the strength of feeling against this intrusive and unwanted development. If you would like assistance or a draft letter to work from please contact Keith Stockman (tel. 01959 523475/07798 767770, e-mail [stockers@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:stockers@dsl.pipex.com)).

**Frog Farm:** SDC have received an application to convert the barns at this site into offices and parking spaces. It should be pointed out that the existing structures will be retained, and even improved in certain instances. However, a re-sited access road onto Pilgrims Way and an inevitable increase in traffic in this part of the village may cause problems. Full details of the proposals are available on the SDC website. The Parish Council are minded to approve the application, but we would welcome resident's views on this proposal. Please contact Bryan Symons (tel. 01959 522419/07733 228828, e-mail [bryan.symons@v21.me.uk](mailto:bryan.symons@v21.me.uk)) with your comments.





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**West Kent Cold Store:** An outline planning application has now been submitted to SDC by Berkeley Homes after extensive consultation with residents. This allows for the construction of 470 dwellings of mixed design, including affordable housing, some commercial building and facilities such as a doctor's surgery. Whilst it must be said that development of this site is inevitable in some shape or form, our major concern with the current proposal, and that of the local residents association, is the vast increase in domestic traffic that will be generated. From our own point of view, the use of Rye Lane as a 'rat-run' is of particular concern. We have already written to SDC suggesting that, if the development goes ahead, Rye Lane should be closed off to through traffic. We welcome resident's views on this issue, both the proposed development itself and the traffic implications. Please contact Richard McDowall (tel. 01959 525336 / 07733 350934, e-mail rmm62a@yahoo.co.uk).

Last but certainly not least, we would like to take this opportunity to present details of a **major RADIO fund-raising event** to be held later this year.

We are staging the band "**Letz Zep**" (Europe's leading tribute to Led Zeppelin, see their website [www.letzzep.com](http://www.letzzep.com), particularly the Jeremy Clarkson review), in Otford Village Memorial Hall on Saturday 30 September. This will be a major event in the village calendar. The band will play a full 2½ hours and there will be a support act.

Tickets cost £12.50 each and are available from The Woodman, High Street, Otford, and The Compact Disc, London Road, Sevenoaks, or by post from Zep Tickets, 58 Well Road, Otford, TN14 5PT (cheques to K. Stockman, please enclose an sae).

**However, as a special offer, for a limited time, we are offering RADIO members a 20% discount i.e. tickets at £10.00 each! To take advantage of this special offer please contact Keith Stockman (tel 01959 523475 / 07798 767770, e-mail [stockers@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:stockers@dsl.pipex.com)).**

**Tickets for this event are very limited and are already selling fast!  
To avoid disappointment, don't delay, book your tickets today!**

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**If you would like to join RADIO** (and take advantage of the above special offer) please download the membership form available on the village website, [www.otford.info/radio](http://www.otford.info/radio), or contact our membership secretary Mike Steeden (tel. 01959 523174 / 07884 267570, e-mail [mike@steedenhome.freemove.co.uk](mailto:mike@steedenhome.freemove.co.uk)).

**If you are a RADIO member** and would like to assist by becoming a distributor, please contact Mike Steeden as above.

**Finally**, would all RADIO members with e-mail please re-confirm their e-mail address to Mike Steeden, as we have a number that have been transcribed incorrectly. Thank you!!

