

SERVICES AT THE PARISH CHURCH

Sunday in the Month	8am	9.30am	11am	6.30pm
FIRST	CW HC	Morning Worship with children		Evensong
SECOND	CW HC	Morning Worship	Mattins	CW HC
THIRD	CW HC	Morning Worship		Evensong
FOURTH	BCP HC	Morning Worship with HC		Evening Praise
FIFTH	CW HC	Morning Worship		Contemplative Service

CW = Common Worship. BCP = Book of Common Prayer. HC = Holy Communion

YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP every Sunday after Evening Service **Sundays**
in Church Hall

FROGS 11-14 years, first Sunday of month 6 p.m. in Church Hall

OTT 8-11 years, 9.30 a.m. in Church Hall

except on first and second Sunday when in Church

SUNDAY CLUB 3-7+yrs, 9.30 a.m. in Village Hall

except on first Sunday when in Church

HOLY COMMUNION Weekdays

Every Wednesday 10.00 a.m. (BCP)

Saints Days and Holy Days as announced

If you would like to book a baptism or wedding, please contact Rev. Pat Hopkins.

Saturday morning is usually a good time for routine enquiries at the Vicarage.

Please don't hesitate to let the Vicar know of anyone who would appreciate a home visit.

Vicar's rest day: Thursday.

SIDESMEN and WOMEN

Messrs Bailey, Beasley, Brackett, Cheswick, Dilley, Dipple, Dunning, Finley, Fleetwood, Grogan, Howie, Ingram, Johnson, Lattimer, Lea, Matthews, Sherwood, Vigis, Wickham, Wood, Worssam, Wragg, Young, Mrs Ambrose, Mrs Beasley, Miss Bromley, Mrs Dunning, Mrs Fleetwood, Mrs Johnston, Mrs Kelsey, Mrs Marchant, Mrs J. Matthews, Mrs Mills, Ms Nicholls, Mrs Richardson, Mrs Speer, Miss Waites, and Mrs Wood.

PARISH MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

Mrs Ambrose, Mrs Austin, Mr Beacom, Mrs Chandler, Mrs Cole, Mrs Corson, Mrs Davison, Mr Dipple, Mrs Fleetwood, Mrs Garner, Mrs Greener, Mrs Groom, Mrs Hayes, Mr Housden, Mrs Hubbard, Mr Hunt, Miss James, Mrs Jeremiah, Mrs Lattimer, Mrs Lawrey, Mrs Malan, Mrs Marchant, Mrs Martin, Mrs Mills, Mrs Parker, Mrs Raynor, Mrs Redding, Mrs Reynolds, Mrs Richardson, Mrs Roffey, Mrs Scantlebury, Mrs Sidley, Mrs Stevens, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Thomas, Mrs Wills, Mrs Worssam, Mrs Wragg, Mrs Yates.

OCTOBER 2004

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 1 – 8.45am Russell House School Harvest Festival (in school)
9.30pm-12 midnight Prayer in Church
- 2 – 9.00am onwards Decoration of the Church for Harvest
2-4.00pm Prayer in Church
6.00pm Harvest Supper and Barn Dance (Oxford Village Memorial Hall)

- 3 – **The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity: Harvest Festival**
8.00am Holy Communion (CW)
9.30am Family Praise for Harvest
6.00pm FROGS (Church Hall)
6.30pm United Churches Harvest Songs of Praise service
- 4 – **Morning Prayer will be held in Church on Mondays and Tuesdays each week at 8.15am**
9.30am onwards Distribution of Harvest: Help appreciated for delivering goods
8.00pm Church Extension presentation (Church Hall)
- 5 – 1.00pm Church Extension presentation (Church Hall)
- 6 – 9.30am ‘First Steps’ (Methodist Hall)
10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
8.00pm Deanery Synod (Kemsing)
- 7 – 2.30pm Ladies’ Prayer Circle (4 Warham Road)
- 9 – 9.30am Churchyard Working Party (Foreman: Clive Southgate)
- 10 – **The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity: Feba Sunday**
8.00am Holy Communion (CW)
9.30am Morning Worship (CW) Speaker: Jon Hargreaves, Feba
11.00am Matins Speaker: Jon Hargreaves, Feba
6.30pm Holy Communion (CW)
- 11 – 8.00pm Finance Committee (‘Lorien’, St Michael’s Drive)
8.00pm Parish Prayer meeting (39 Tudor Drive)
- 12 – 8.00pm Church Extension Presentation (Church Hall)
- 13 – 10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am Otford School Harvest Festival (in school)
3.00pm Homegroup (5 Colets Orchard)
Magazine material for the November magazine by today, please, to Bernard Worssam, 19 Warham Road
- 14 – 8.00pm Homegroup (14 Knighton Road)
- 16 – 2.00pm Wedding of Daniel Blake and Amanda Flisher
- 17 – **The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**
8.00am Holy Communion (CW)
9.30am Morning Worship (CW)
6.30pm Evensong
- 18 – 8.00pm Ecumenical meeting (38 Warham Road)
- 19 – 8.00pm Ministry Team meeting (39 Tudor Drive)
- 20 – 9.30am ‘First Steps’ (Methodist Hall)
10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 24 – **The Last Sunday after Trinity (Trinity 20): Bible Sunday**
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion (CW)
6.30pm Evening Praise
- 27 – 10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.45am Coffee Club (Ellenor’s)
3.00pm Homegroup (5 Colets Orchard)
- 28 – 8.00pm Homegroup (14 Knighton Road)
- 30 – **British Summer Time ends: Put clocks BACK one hour**
- 31 – **The Fourth Sunday before Advent (Trinity 21)**
8.00am Holy Communion (CW)
9.30am Morning Worship and baptism of Megan Louise Handy
6.30pm Contemplative Worship

EDITORIAL

'Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.' (Philippians 4:6-7)

We celebrate at this time through our Harvest Festivals the faithfulness of a great and loving God. As we read the terrible headlines within the Press, we are aware of the rise of evil, and the need to pray for victims of such evil. As individuals, we find ourselves and those whom we love assailed by different kinds of evil and we struggle against the storms of illness, bereavement, and many other problems. At such times it is a strengthening to know that we are being upheld by the prayers of others.

The Methodist, Roman Catholic and Anglican churches in Otford begin a new initiative this month, entitled 'Prayer Points'. The idea is to have a few central points in the village where a Prayer Points box is placed. Cards will be available near the box on which anyone may write their prayer request, anonymously. The prayer request will then be passed to the local churches for united prayer. The request might be for someone about to go into hospital or someone who is facing long-term illness. The request could be for a family going through difficult times or a family member living away. Christian names may be used or something more anonymous like 'a lady facing difficulties'. The contents of the cards will be treated in confidence. The box will be emptied regularly. Mr Flude is kindly making the boxes.

The following initial sites have agreed to have a Prayer Points box with cards:

The Doctors' Surgery
The Post Office
Ellenor's

Leaflets describing the scheme will be included with your Christmas Card from the local churches and the boxes will be in place shortly.

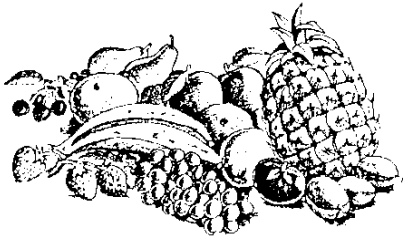
In addition, you will also receive in the autumn an updated leaflet from the local churches, detailing their services and organisations. This leaflet will, we hope, continue to be used to welcome newcomers to our village, and both it and the new Prayer Points scheme will be used to foster the good pastoral care and concern for which Otford is known.

(Revd.) Pat Hopkins

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Some early November dates:

- 1 – 2.00pm Feba Radio meeting (41 Park Hill Road)
Morning Prayer will be held in Church on Mondays and Tuesdays each week at 8.15am
- 3 – 9.30am 'First Steps' (Methodist Hall)
10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
12.30pm Visiting Team meeting (34 Dartford Road, Sevenoaks)
- 4 – 2.30pm Ladies' Prayer Circle (4 Warham Road)
- 6 – **10-12 noon Christmas Market (Church Hall)**



FROM ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

Harvest. Our Harvest services will be held on Sunday 3rd October. The 8.00am service will be based on the Common Worship service of Holy Communion. The 9.30am Family service will include the traditional harvest offerings from our children. Also at the 9.30am service will be a 'Thanksgiving

Tree' on which individual 'thanksgivings' may be placed. We hope you will also join us in the evening at 6.30pm on that day for the annual united Churches' Songs of Praise service.

These services are, above all, services for everyone, especially for those of us who live here, where we have seen the harvest of the fields, hedgerows and gardens all around us through this summer. There will be familiar harvest hymns and readings and the evening service will feature candlelight and some beautiful music. The church will look lovely decked with fruits, vegetables, corn and a harvest loaf. It will smell lovely too – the scents of harvest ripeness. We would love to see the church bursting with people as with fruitful abundance: please come!

In addition to our Harvest services we are organising a Harvest Supper and Barn Dance on Saturday 2nd October at 6.00pm in the Village Hall. Tickets are available from the Parish Church Office: those of all ages are welcome.

Church Extension

We are delighted to report that planning permission has been granted by Sevenoaks District Council for the building of our new church extension. The plans for this are on display at the back of church. Great care will be taken to ensure that the new building enhances the look of the church and its setting. It is vital that we continue to pray about this project and to this end we have organised a Prayer Weekend for Friday 1st–Sunday 3rd October. There will be a half night of prayer on Friday 1st October and the opportunity for concentrated prayer on Saturday 2nd October between 2 and 4pm. The Sunday services on the theme of Harvest Thanksgiving will also include prayer for the new project, and the church will be open all day for prayer. The fund-raising appeal to the church will be launched on Sunday 3rd October, followed by publicity within the village from 9th October.

There are various fund-raising activities going on at this time. If you have not done so already, we hope you will sponsor Tony Grogan as he takes on the Great South Run in Portsmouth on Sunday 10th October: contact him on 01959 523649.

Christian Aid Week Results. We have been informed by the local Christian Aid Committee that this Week in May raised over £26,770, an increase of just under 10% on last year. In addition, a thousand Gift Aid envelopes have been sent to Christian Aid covering some £12,700 of this amount which means that Christian Aid will be able to recover an additional £3,600 in tax, bringing the total to over £30,000. The final figure for St Bartholomew's contribution (excluding the tax element) was £1,205. The Committee would like to sincerely thank all the collectors for their great contribution to this year's success.

Confirmation

The next Confirmation service at St Bartholomew's will be held on Sunday 1st May at 9.30am when we welcome Bishop Michael, Bishop of Rochester. If you would like to consider being Confirmed, please contact the Vicar on 01959 523185. Classes will begin in January. Children should be aged around at least eleven.

Prayers for Bereavement. All Saintside falls on Sunday 31st October. We shall be remembering within the 8am and 9.30am services those who have died in the last year and praying for those bereaved. If there are particular people you would like us to remember, please contact the Vicar (523185).

Contemplative Service

This service is held on the fifth Sunday evening of each month at 6.30pm and takes the form of quiet hymns and songs, readings and silence. The next one will be held on Sunday 31st October at 6.30pm. The theme of the last service was 'Loving Yourself', and this one will take the theme of 'Loving God'. Please join us if you can.

Remembrance Sunday, 14th November. Please note that the Remembrance Sunday service will be held at **10.00am**, as last year, in order to allow for the traditional Act of Remembrance at 11.00am. This service replaces the 9.30 and 11.00am services on that day.

December Date for your Diary

The traditional Christingle service will be held on Sunday 5th December at 3.30pm in aid of The Children's Society. Details will be available in November through the children's church organisations and from the back of church.

Feba Radio News

We are pleased to announce that on our **Feba Sunday, October 10th**, our missionary speaker will be our friend **Jon Hargreaves**, the International Director of the mission.

Since his appointment in September 2003 Jon has travelled many thousands of miles to meet each of the National Directors, together with their senior local members of staff, for consultations and planning for the future. His visits included a few days' stay in each area: India, Pakistan, East Africa, South Africa, Zimbabwe and, recently, Cyprus, where **Alex Stout** is working on the exterior of the Feba studio to provide a conference room for such a purpose.

Jon will be speaking at the 9.30am and 11am services, and will be available for questions we may want to ask in order to be well informed for our prayers and for sharing information with others, in the informal lunch-time meeting in the Church Hall.

(Ruth Barclay)

After twelve years of holding the **Save the Children Fund** Coffee Morning and Christmas Card sale at 'Burway', Mr Leonard Taylor no longer has the cards for sale in private homes. **Thank you** to all who have supported this charity in the past and I hope you will continue to support the Save the Children Fund by purchasing some cards from the Charity card sale in Sevenoaks in November. (Susan Reid)

Baptism Cards – a Thank You. We are most grateful to Mrs Joyce Shaw who has done such a sterling job in writing up the Baptism and Confirmation cards over the years and who now retires from that job. Joyce has used her calligraphic gifts so beautifully and we are most grateful to her for all that she has done, often under time pressure. There are many families and individuals who will continue to treasure her gifts.

There will be one more **Churchyard Working Party** before winter sets in, on Saturday morning October 9th, with Clive Southgate as 'foreman'. From 9.30 to about 11.30am, coffee break included. Volunteers are always welcome.



ROUNDABOUT

OTFORD OVER-SIXTIES SOCIAL CLUB. On Wednesday October 13th the pupils of the Otford County Primary School will share their Harvest Festival with us. Then on October 27th we have a Fish and Chip Lunch at Pappas Barn, Ditton. All enquiries to Jill or Ed Yates on 525775.

GLAUCOMA SUPPORT GROUP. There will be a Coffee Morning in the Club Room of the Village Hall on Wednesday 3rd November, at 10am to 12 noon. If you suffer from Glaucoma or have a family member who has the condition please do come along and meet our very friendly members.

There will be a Bring and Buy stall and a Raffle; and the speakers will be Mrs Val Greaterox and Mr David Webster from the International Glaucoma Association. For more information please contact Hilary Johnson on 01959 522914.

OTFORD OAST WOMEN'S INSTITUTE. Our next meeting will be on Thursday 21st October, when our guest speaker will be Jack Dean on 'Solving Murder with Fingerprints'. After the success of the Seal Chart Murder event last year, we're extending our detective capabilities and hope to learn something from Jack who is ex-Scotland Yard.

Another date for your diary is Saturday 6th November, when we will be holding an Indoor Boot Sale in the Village Memorial Hall. This will be at 9.30am at an entrance charge of 50p per adult. Refreshments will also be available. If you are interested in booking a table at a cost of £8.00, you can reserve one by calling Ann Roberts on 01959 522521. Space will be limited so if you are interested, do give her a call now. Time to clear out those lofts and cupboards before Christmas!

We meet once a month in the Village Memorial Hall – and don't forget we have a free crèche for the under 5's too, so there is no excuse for not coming along if you have young children. Our meetings start at 9.30am so you can come straight after the school run. We are a very friendly group and have a number of activities planned for the coming few months, in addition to our monthly meetings – there is sure to be something to interest you. Give us a try – your first visit is free.

THE OTFORD PLAYERS' Autumn production will be '**THE NOBLE SPANIARD**' by W. Somerset Maugham, directed by Christina Edwards. The performance dates are Thursday 11th, Friday 12th and Saturday 13th November, at 8pm in the Memorial Hall, Otford. Tickets cost £5 (Thursday) and £6 (Friday and Saturday) – obtainable from the Box Office, 01959 522786.

The play is best described as a romantic comedy and is full of colourful characters. We hope you will join us for our latest production.

OTFORD AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY. In September we had a guided tour of Hall Place, Bexley. This originally Tudor manor house, now in the care of Bexley Council, was in private ownership until 1935. Few alterations were made by successive owners after it was greatly enlarged in the seventeenth century, so it retains many original features. The stonework of the Tudor wings externally presents a curiously patchy appearance, having been built by Sir John Champneis, a Lord Mayor of London in 1534. In 1537-40, when work on the house started, he was in a good position to pick up loads of second-hand Kentish Rag, Reigate stone and Caen stone from London monastic buildings then in course of demolition. The gardens of the house, too, are well worth seeing.

The Society's first lecture of the winter season is on Wednesday 20th October, at 8pm in the Village Hall. It is by Karl Wittwer, and entitled 'Gavelkind – a Kentish Inheritance'. Something to do with the way in which landed estates were passed down through families (it lasted until 1926), and which had an effect on subtle ways in which the Kentish landscape differs from that of other counties.

OTFORD EVENING WOMEN'S INSTITUTE. After hearing details of a guided bird walk at the Jeffery Harrison Reserve planned for November and listening to an update of the work being done on the collage for the West Kent room at Denman College, we sat back to hear Ms L. Pullen tell us about Health & Beauty – the modern way! Not many of us had heard of these latest beauty treatments; ear candles which help clear congested sinuses, semi-permanent make up (rather like tattooing), which enhances lips and eyebrows, the benefits of botox. (Whatever happened to Pond's Vanishing Cream??) We had certainly never heard of perming our eye-lashes or standing in a plastic 'tent' to be sprayed with semi-permanent tan but when Ms Pullen stressed the importance of drinking plenty of water for the benefit of skin, nails and eyes we felt on much more familiar ground. It was an enlightening talk and we felt we had learnt a lot.

Our social evening takes place on 23rd October. Any member reading this who would like tickets and wasn't able to be at our September meeting just ring Chris Bourne on 522485 for details. Next meeting is on 14th October and is our AGM when we elect our committee and president. Vacancies on the committee will need to be filled so come along and be prepared to put up your hand and say 'Yes'. Brenda Young (01732 885356)



GREENHILL QUIET GARDEN. There will be a Quiet Garden Day – a time for reflection, appreciation of beauty and time for yourself – on Tuesday 12th October, at 10am to 2pm. Come for as long or as short a time as you wish. The cost is £3.50 if you have lunch. I do have a structure for the day, but there is no pressure to do anything except sit somewhere to relax in the garden, or in the house if the weather is bad.

Please contact me if you need further information – Mrs Margaret Matthews, 41 Greenhill Road, Otford, 01959 522046. I am affiliated to the Quiet Garden Trust.

THE OTFORD GARDENERS' SOCIETY'S next lecture will be on Tuesday 5th October at 8pm in the Otford Memorial Hall. Colin Morgan will give an illustrated talk on 'Landscaping and Designing a Winter Garden'. Admission is 50p for members and £1 for non-members.

FORMER WI MARKET IN SEVENOAKS. Did you know that there is a special regular market in Sevenoaks run by local residents? It is called the Sevenoaks County Market (formerly the WI Market) and is held every Thursday from 9 to 11am at the Drill Hall, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks. It sells home-made cakes, savouries, eggs, fruit and vegetables, plants, and cards and craft for all ages. They sell some very worthwhile goods, and would be glad of your support.

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SPOTLIGHT ON

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Chairman: Mr John Allen

Parish Clerk: Mrs B. Darby. Tel: Otford 524808

Otford's entertainment day for children – was on 26th August when both the Sevenoaks District Council's 'Youth Van' and a mobile skate-board park were available at our Hale Lane Recreation Ground. The skate-board 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 skate-board ramps into position. We were told that twice as many children than the Youth Van normally entertains came on that day, and they obviously all enjoyed themselves. I hope we can repeat this exercise another year.

'Helpers' – On the parish council one becomes very aware of the people in our village who freely give a great deal of their time to assist in running our many organisations. This was a major factor in Otford winning the 'Village of the Year' competition a little while ago and it makes a tremendous difference to the lives of the majority of us. At the present time there are several positions becoming vacant, where fresh volunteers are needed to carry on our tradition. Over the years I have seen many tentatively take small responsibilities and find they can both do the work and receive much fulfilment and satisfaction from it. Now is the time of annual general meetings when positions on committees are becoming vacant; please volunteer if you can. The satisfactions from helping outweigh the time spent – and it makes for a vibrant village.

JGA

Life in this world will end: Life with God is for ever

It gives me a deep, comforting sense that 'things seen are temporal and things unseen are eternal.' *Helen Keller*

The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. *1 Peter 5:10*

God of my birth and God of my death, help me know you have been, you are, and you are to come ... Amen

IN MEMORY

We send our condolences to the family and friends of **John Bradley** who died on 30th August aged 73. His funeral was held at the Parish Church on 10th September, where his wife Jean was recently Confirmed, followed by cremation at Vinters Park.

John was a member of Boys' Brigade locally and later went on to do National Service, training first with the Kent Buffs, and serving in Cyprus and Egypt and later Kenya. John met his future wife Jean in the 1960s and they were married in 1965. John was a builder and carpenter and indeed built their house in Borough Green. They rejoiced in the birth of two children, Tracey and Richard, and enjoyed a very happy marriage. He was a very kind and generous man.

John was a first-class craftsman, always reliable and conscientious. He lived life to the full. He enjoyed photography and computers, all kinds of gadgets, and loved holidays, not least the recent one to Devon. Donations in his memory were given to the church and to Great Ormond Street Hospital.



Registers



Baptisms (Our Welcome)

29th August	Felicity Anne Woolard
5th September	Thomas Nathaniel Lewis
5th September	Daniel David Wall
5th September	Robert Thomas Stanley Andrews
5th September	Ellis Alfred Thomas Andrews
5th September	Theo George Goff
5th September	Jessica Ann Moncur

Weddings (Our Congratulations)

21st August	Julian Anthony Grant Bunclark and Amanda Bearfoot
28th August	Adrian Pieter de Warrenne Boult and Rebecca Lucie Allgood

Funeral (Our Sympathy)

10th September	John Bradley (aged 73) – Cremation
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Church Offerings in August

Open Collections, for Church expenses and charities	£706.79
Freewill Offerings	£5,486.00