

Otford Parish Council

July / August Newsletter 2016

No 254

Twinned with Neufchatel-Hardelot

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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). They can all be read via <http://www.otford.info/parishcouncil>. The next meetings will be on and **11th July** and **8th August** at 7.30pm in the Club Room of Otford Village Hall.

Newsletter Deliverers

If anyone is willing to deliver in Station Road please could they contact the office it is only 10 times a year for 30-40 minutes. Many thanks.

Chairman's Report



Firstly I would like to welcome Mrs Helen Roberts the new Head Teacher at Otford Primary School.

Planning to protect our village against threats from outside our boundaries is an ever present role for a parish council. In Otford we are, by our very location, so close to London and the Sevenoaks conurbation that we are in a very vulnerable position. We cannot afford to be complacent and simply respond to problems as they occur. By that time it can often be too late to take effective action. We need to be proactive not reactive, to look ahead and plan for the future. We did this with the Parish Plan five years ago and the achievement of so many of the plans objectives has visibly created an improvement in people's lives. Now another period where village sites are being identified as possibly suitable for new homes lies ahead of us and we must look to see in what areas we will be most vulnerable to the effects that these may bring.





A regular sight in the summer is Paul our KCC Community Warden out and about on his Parish Council sponsored bicycle. Flag him down if you if you have any concerns, he is always willing to have a chat and help if he can. A cold drink on hot days would go down well too.



If you are on holiday during July and August I hope you will have a good one, forget all your worries and most of all, I hope the sun shines on you wherever you go.



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.

Otford Primary School Fete



The PTFA of Otford Primary will be holding their annual Summer Fete will take place on **Saturday 2nd July** between 12 noon and 3pm. There will be lots of exciting games to play, tombola's, bouncy castle, inflatable assault course, face painting, glitter tattoos, raffle, silent auction, BBQ, refreshments, entertainment, shopping stalls, plants and lots more.

We are also looking forward to a special visit from some magical unicorns!! Lots to offer for everyone so please come and join us! Adults £1 entry, children are free."

Otford Village Fete

With over 4,800 visitors, a huge number of beautiful dogs, two medieval armies, an Elvis and a Sinatra impersonator what was there not to like about this year's fete? Well, maybe the weather, but the Committee braved the high winds to ensure that visitors had a great day out. As always, it is not about what we do that matters, it's about what we are able to do as a result of funds raised at our annual event. After the expenses have been deducted we will have money to donate to the village associations who help make Otford special. You can rest assured that your contributions, whether by buying raffle tickets or spending money on the various attractions and stalls, really do go to help worthy local causes.

What did you like about this year's fete? To help the committee plan for 2017 we would be very grateful if you could kindly complete our short survey that you can find by following the link to our website www.otford.info/villagefete Thank you

for your support, this is your fete and we are merely the administrators. Patty Chatterjee, Chair, Otford Village Fete Committee



Sevenoaks Summer Festival

The 47th Annual Summer Festival will take place at various venues in the District until **Sunday 3rd July**

Sevenoaks Camera Club



The Sevenoaks Camera Club are holding their Annual exhibition until 9th July at the Kaleidoscope Gallery, Sevenoaks Library.

Otford Allotments Open Morning



The Otford Allotments Association will be holding their Open Morning on **Saturday 16th July** between 10am and 12 noon. There will be a scarecrow competition and visitors will be able to vote for their favourites, a children's competition to create a creature from vegetables and a tasting table. Bojangles will be on site selling refreshments.

Summer Play Day



There will be a summer play day organised by Sevenoaks District Council on the High Street Recreation Ground. On **Wednesday 27th July** between 10am and 2pm. Go along and enjoy the fun.

Front Garden Competition



The Otford Gardeners' Society, on behalf of the Parish Council, will again be organising the Annual Otford Front Garden competition. Preliminary judging will be taking place during July & August when committee members will be walking around the village taking notes. The competition will again be based on the front gardens that would take the eye of a stranger to the village, without him or her having to look over or around a hedge, wall or fence.

Girlguiding Otford



Girlguiding Otford would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came and bought cakes and drinks from them at Otford Village Fete or donated Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers to them recently. Your support is greatly appreciated. There are four very active units in the village,

catering for girls aged 5 and up, but there are also long waiting lists for them and most of the units in the surrounding area. If you are female, aged 18 or over and would like to find out more about volunteering with Girlguiding locally to help girls reach their full potential, whilst having plenty of fun along the way.

Please contact them by registering your interest at.

https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved/register_your_interest.aspx

Rose & Summer Show



The Otford Gardeners' Society Rose and Summer Show will take place on **Saturday 2nd July**. This show brings together the beautiful flowers and tasty fruit and vegetables from the early summer garden. Also featured are flower arrangements, cookery and photographic classes.

The show takes place in the Otford Village Memorial Hall and opens to the public at 2.15pm. Admission is 50p. Teas will be served until 4pm.

Limehouse Lizzy



One of the country's biggest tribute bands is coming to Otford. After six months of negotiation the management of Otford Village Memorial Hall are delighted to announce that Limehouse Lizzy will be appearing at the Hall on **Saturday, 23rd July**. Limehouse Lizzy continue to keep the spirit of Celtic rock icon Philip Lynott and his band

Thin Lizzy alive and well and dominating stages worldwide. The band have also added a tribute into their show to ex-Thin Lizzy guitarist (and world renowned solo artist) Gary Moore. From their Official PRS award, performing for Virgin Atlantic in Barbados, T.V. appearances (BBC 2's 'Arena' amongst others), and to actually being recruited to record and tour by members of the original Thin Lizzy, Limehouse Lizzy enter their 21st year with their most explosive show and critically-acclaimed line-up yet.

Tickets are available now at just £14:00 in advance (£15.00 on the door although we don't expect there to be any!), by calling 07887 780 576 or by sending an e-mail to ovmh.manager@otford.net. Alternatively, tickets are now available from www.wegottickets.com/event/338639 but are subject to a £1.40 booking fee. Tickets can also be purchased in person from Otford Parish Council's offices in the High Street (Mon-Fri, 08:30-12:30, no credit cards). Wegottickets is also the only way to pay using a credit card.

As with all concerts organised by the management, all profits will go towards the Hall's refurbishment fund. Further details from - Ron Dullage, Secretary to the Trustees, Otford Village Memorial Hall - 07887 780576 e-mail: ovmh.manager@otford.net.

Otford-Neufchatel-Hardelot Twinning



The coach to Hardelot (our Twin town between Boulogne and Le Touquet) on **Saturday 3rd September** is booked and we are looking forward to receiving your applications to travel by ferry from Dover to Calais, leaving Otford at five to six a.m., which may sound early, but we should be back in Otford by 8pm in the evening, ready for an early night! £38 per adult, children free, plus £5 per adult, £10 per family, if you have not yet paid this year's subscription. The Tourist Office will be organising activities for the children, as they did very successfully last year, and there will be an optional 1k running race for children born between 2005 and 2012 and 2k for those born between 2001 and 2004. Adults (and children) will be able to visit the Chateau of Hardelot, enjoy a meal in a restaurant, go on a guided walk in Hardelot or sit/play on the beach. Let us know what you would like to do. Please contact Jane Lawrey at Otford Parish Council as soon as possible so that we can travel with a full coach. We are looking forward to seeing you. Do bring family, friends and neighbours. Our next Social Gathering will be at the Woodman on **Monday 18th July** from 7.45pm

Otford Youth Singing Group



A new group is being formed for young people aged 9 to 17 to enjoy some fun learning to sing. The group will meet once each month for an hour on a Sunday afternoon, and is open to those from within our church, from local schools and from the village. It doesn't matter if you can already sing - or not! Just come along. The aim is to start in September, but there may be a taster session during the summer. If you are interested, please contact St Bartholomew's Church office or phone 01959 523185.

Otford Nursery

Otford Nursery in the grounds of Otford Primary School have funded spaces available for September for 2-4 yrs. Contact them at nursery@otford.co.uk or 01959 522364 or look at www.otfordnursery.co.uk.

Football Club - Request for Mower



Otford United Football Club are looking for a petrol rotary mower to help them maintain grass areas. If you have a one in working order that you no longer need or are thinking about

changing yours please think of them. Contact David Hobson on 01732 763318 or the office on 01959 524808 if you are able to help. Thank you

Otford Library



If you are no longer able to come to the Library for any reason we can help you. We can deliver books of your choice to your home. Our Home Library Service will provide you with Audio Books that you would like to listen to, or any book that you request. Please contact Angela at Otford Library on 03000 41 31 31. Also we no longer have a Baby Bounce and Rhyme time on Thursday mornings now, only on Monday Mornings.

Otford Oast WI



The next meeting will be on **Thursday 21st July** at 9.30am in Otford Village Memorial Hall. This month speaker is Jan Parsons on '*How not to become a victim of crime*'. A crèche is available and the first visit is free. For more details or if you wish to join please contact the Secretary Sharna Peyto on 07860 463656 for more details. There is NO meeting in August.

Otford Evening WI



Lifeboats



The next meeting will be on **Thursday 14th July** at 7.30pm in the Club Room of Otford Village Memorial Hall when Marilyn Bass will be talking about the role of the RNLI, its history and the training that the crews have to go through and the types of boats they use etc. The August meeting is on **Thursday 11th August** when the speaker is Don Dray who will talk about the History of the British Seaside' in a light-hearted and nostalgic way. Their President can be contacted on 01959 524831 for further information.

Sevenoaks Shakespeare Society



Sevenoaks Shakespeare Society are currently rehearsing in Otford for their open-air summer show to mark the 400th anniversary of the Bard's death. This year they will be performing "The Comedy of Errors", Shakespeare's shortest and possibly funniest play. Performances will be at the White Rock Inn at Underriver TN15 0SB as part of the Sevenoaks Summer Festival on **July 1st and 2nd and July 6th-9th** at 8.00pm. Matinee on **Sunday July 10th** at 3.30pm. Tickets (£12 in advance, £15 on door, children and students £5) in person or by telephone from The White Rock Inn 01732 833112, or from the Festival Box Office

www.stagsevenoaks.co.uk 01732 450175. Bring warm clothing and rugs or low-backed folding chairs!

Sevenoaks Embroiderer's Guild



The next meeting will take place on **Saturday 30th July** in Otford Village Memorial Hall when there will be an all day workshop led by Marilyn Pipe on *'Playing with mixed media'* 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.

Get into gear with more free cycle rides



Residents and visitors wishing to have fun and get fit for free can now do so with cycle rides offered by Sevenoaks District Council.

The Council has organised professionally led cycle rides which this year will take in Knole Park and Brands Hatch and are open to people of all abilities.

Knole Park rides offer a gentle 90 minute ride at a slower pace with breaks and traffic-free paths in the stunning park. These rides are suitable for families with small children and are open to all ages and abilities.

Brand's Hatch rides offer open rides on the world famous racing circuit. Riders can cycle at their own pace and there are opportunities for time trials.

Trained cycling coach, Ollie Ireland, from Track 'n' Trail Biking, will lead and guide cyclists. Cllr Michelle Lowe, the Council's Cabinet Member for health, says: "These rides are a fun way to see the fabulous scenery across the District with friends and family, as well as enjoying some fresh air and improving health! We are thrilled to be able to offer these rides again, as they were extremely popular last summer." "Cycling with others is not only great for physical health but it is also good for mental health. This is another way we use our open spaces for the general wellbeing of our residents"

Rides are taking place as follows:

Sunday 24th July - Knole Park - 10.30am

Monday 1st August - Brand's Hatch - 10.30am and 2pm

Wednesday 31st August - Brand's Hatch - 10.30am and 2pm

Sunday 11th September - Knole Park - 10.30am

Sunday 25th September - Knole Park - 10.30am

All under 18s must be accompanied by an adult and cyclists must wear a helmet, arrive 15 minutes early and bring their own bike. Places must be booked in advance as numbers are limited. To reserve places ring 01732 227000 or email communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk. Visit www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/cycling for more information. Riders will be asked to complete a short health questionnaire

before setting off. Riders should bring water, money and a mobile phone. Road bikes are not suitable for the Knole rides.

1940's Society



The next meeting will be on **Friday 29th July** in Otford Village Memorial Hall. Alan Williams will give an illustrated talk entitled '*The shelter of the tubes in wartime London*'. During world war two and despite official opposition, the London underground was used by many Londoners to shelter from the 'blitz'. Alan will explain the story of how thousands of Londoners, initially in acts of civil disobedience, and as they had done in the first world war, used the 'tube' to shelter from bombing and subsequent rocket attacks. The meeting starts at 8pm and admission is £3.

Heritage Centre Artist for July - August

Sheila Dickerson



Sheila has lived in Otford for the past 40 years. Having spent many years of her life developing all aspects of embroidery, Sheila then felt the need to give expression to a deep urge to discover how to draw and paint flowers. Some years ago she started attending a class at the Adult Education Centre where she learned different approaches to water colour painting. She was then introduced to a Botanical Art class, where she was greatly encouraged to refine her skills in Botanical Art and where she also had the opportunity to explore the use of artist coloured pencils. As a member of the Otford Art Group Sheila enjoys combining calligraphy skills with her botanical work to create pleasing designs.

Citizens Advice Sevenoaks - Otford Outreach



The Citizens Advice service provides free, confidential, independent and impartial advice to help people solve their problems. Help is available on a range of issues: Employment, Housing, Consumer, Relationships, Benefits, Debt problems and others. Sevenoaks Citizens Advice hold a weekly surgery at the Heritage Centre in Otford every Tuesday from 10.00am till 12.00noon. Drop in appointments may be available on the day. For telephone advice or to book an appointment at the Otford outreach: ring 01732 440488 and leave a message at any time. Someone will call you back.

For email advice: info@sevenoaks.cab.org.uk

For further information about Sevenoaks Citizens Advice: visit the website www.citizensadvice.org.uk/sevenoakscab



Hospices Of Hope Events

Otford Quiz Night

Saturday 16th July at 7pm

Hospices of Hope Tearooms, 11a High Street, Otford

£12.00 per person to include a light supper.

For tickets please contact amy@hospicesofhope.co.uk / 01959

525110

Shop Local



Please remember your local shops during the summer holidays. Get presents and holiday items from our lovely individual village shops and dine out in our restaurant or pubs. Support your local businesses.

Kent County Show



The 2016 Show will be held on **Friday 8th, Saturday 9th Sunday 10th July** at the Kent County Showground and has something for the whole family. Open from 8am to 6pm every day, the Show is a wonderful day out with plenty of displays, entertainment and local food. With over 400 exhibitors and trade stands and over 300 competitions,

activities and displays.

For those who have never attended the Show before, the Kent County Show is a showcase event for farming, countryside and rural life. The three day event brings together the very best of Kent with animals and food, fun and excitement and above all a sense of what 'The Garden of England' has to offer.

Following the incredible success of the 2015 Show, 2016 will be an exciting year for all aspects of the Show. Visitors will experience a more hands on Show with better access to the cattle marquee, shire stables on site, flower and woodland craft workshops, cookery demonstrations, more live music and the Why Farming Matters Discovery Zone.

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/16/00079 **The Oast House, Broughton Manor, High Street**
Amended description of development: demolition of former thatched barn and replacement with a 4 bay workshop and store.
- SE/16/01157 **2 Flowerfield**
Erection of a single storey side extension and rear extension
- SE/16/01425 **3 Rye Lane**
Erection of a single storey rear extension, replacement of existing flat roof over existing family room.
- SE/16/01466 **Conway House (Becket House), Vestry Road**
Main entrance sign advertising company.
- SE/16/01452 **Castle House, Sevenoaks Road**
Erection of a single storey rear extension
- SE/16/01338 **1 Rye Lane**
Erection of a single storey side and single storey rear extension. Raising flat roof area and extending ridge to create loft accommodation. Alterations to fenestration.
- SE/16/01264 **69 Sidney Gardens**
Erection of a single storey rear/side extension. Alterations to roof and fenestration. Internal alterations.
- SE/16/01464 **1B Leonard Avenue**
Erection of a two storey and single storey rear extension and associated alterations.
- SE/16/01586 **78 High Street**
Demolition of existing shed. Erection of a single storey side extension and a front porch.
- SE/16/01672 **Devon House, 49, High Street**
Minor material amendment to SE/15/0339. Removal of front right hand dormer, reduce height of left hand front dormer. Reduce the height and width of rear dormer to alter the rear dormer dimensions.
- SE/16/01640 **Woodside, 9, Greenhill Road**
Demolition of conservatories and erection of a single storey rear extension with two roof lights with new retaining wall to form patio area with steps.
- SE/16/01568 **Greenhill House, Shoreham Road**
Erection of a single storey rear extension.
- SE/16/01477 **59 Willow Park**
Demolition of existing garage. Erection of a part single/part two storey side and rear extensions. Erection of a front extension with canopy. Black paving to drive.
- SE/16/01723 **21 High Street**
Alterations to chimneys and roof tiles

SE/16/01659 Llamedos, Shoreham Road

Minor material amendment to application SE/15/00559 (Minor material amendment to SE/14/03848 - Demolition of the existing detached property subdivision of the plot and the construction of two new detached dwellings to show lowering of ground floor level at rear, flipped garage configuration and an orangery to plot 2) to show proposed Air Source Heat Pump to plot 1&2 located at the rear of the properties adjacent to the railway line. Conversion of garage roof space to provide storage.

b.Results Received

SE/16/0093 21 High Street

Removal of existing chimney stack to be replaced with slates to match existing.
Refused

SE/16/00655 Lorient, St Michael's Drive

Demolition of garage. Double storey infill front extension and a ground floor extension to the rear elevation. Alterations to fenestrations and internal alterations including a Juliet balcony.
Refused

SE/16/00803 Burfield, Pilgrims Way East

Raising of the roof ridge with the installation of two roof lights.
Allowed

SE/16/00804 25 Knighton Road

Conversion of existing garage into habitable space with bay window to front elevation. Erection of a pitched roof to front porch extending over new bay window. Demolition of existing conservatory to allow for the erection of single storey rear extension. Various internal and fenestration alterations.
Allowed

SE/16/00862 Rosemar Cottage, 17, Station Road

Erection of first floor rear extension. Conversion of garage into habitable space.
Allowed

SE/16/00948 Holmewood, 8, Bubblestone Road

Minor material amendment to SE/15/017478 (Double storey extensions to the right hand flank and rear, single storey extension to the left hand side. The demolition of the existing single storey rear extension. New crossover) to show removal of kitchen windows to provide new external doors. Formation of 3 new velux windows to the loft space. Tile hung to be removed all round and replaced with a render finish.
Refused

SE/16/01007 The Crown Inn, 10, High Street

Demolition of existing extensions and erection of a two storey rear extension to enlarge bar area to ground floor and office units to first floor.
Allowed

SE/16/01105 13 The Butts

Demolition of the existing double garage/utility room and the erection of a new single storey side extension. The construction of a new detached double garage.
Allowed

c. Appeals

SE/15/03963 107, Evelyn Road

Additional dormer windows to side and rear.

Rubbish



If you see litter outside your house, please pick it up don't just leave it for somebody else. Let's try and make our village litter free

Hedges



Hedges are growing very quickly at the moment and growing over the public footway. This can cause a nuisance to pedestrians, especially those who have poor sight. Please check the boundaries of the property you are in and if necessary arrange for it to be cut back from the footway as soon as possible. Thank you.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for items for the September Newsletter will **Monday 15th August**

**WHATEVER THE WEATHER JUST RELAX
HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

