

# Otford Parish Council

March 2015

No 241

Twinned with Neufchatel-Hardelot

Clerk: Mrs. S. Palmer

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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 **9<sup>th</sup> March** and **13<sup>th</sup> April** at 7.30pm in the Club Room of Otford Village Hall.

There is a CAB Surgery in Parish Council offices between 10am and 12 noon every Tuesday

## Chairman's Report



Unfortunately after consulting with British Gas Networks we will not be able to replace the felled diseased spruce on the Village Green. It would be too close to a gas supply which runs under the Green and there are strict rules that trees cannot be planted closer than 3metres to a gas supply pipe. When the original spruce was planted we were unaware of this rule.

If you have recently moved to Otford, to a road where the Parish Council Newsletter are NOT delivered by hand, please contact the parish council if you would like to receive it by e-mail. Also please contact the Parish Council if you or someone you know would like to receive the newsletter in different formats.

## Otford & District Historical Society



The next meeting for 2015 will take place on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March** in the Club Room of Otford Village Memorial Hall when Gerald Cramp will talk on '*The History of the Ordnance Survey*'. Subscriptions are

£6 per year for adults and visitors are welcome at £2.

## 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.

## Guide Christmas Post Box

Thank you to all who supported the 2014 Christmas Guide Post Box in Otford Library and the Parish Council Office. This again was a success and raised in total £456-00p which has been divided between the girls` chosen charities - Hospital Radio Tunbridge Wells and Ehlers-

Danlos Support UK. A big thank you to Angela in the Library and Sue and Brenda in the Parish Office for helping us, also to Gerry Froggatt and Craig who continue every year to print the stamps and posters for us.

### Library - Craft Activity

There will be a free craft activity on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March** from 10am to 12 noon. All ages welcome. To book a place please ring Angela on 01959 522488.

### An evening with Jonathan Smith

Oxford Library is hosting an evening with best-selling author Jonathan Smith speaking about his new novel 'KBO -The Churchill Secret' on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm. Tickets are £2 to Library Members or otherwise £3. Call 03000413131 or call into the library.

### Book Fair

The next Oxford Book Fair will take place on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March** in Oxford Village Memorial Hall between 9am and 2.30pm - Free admission. Refreshments are available.

### Oxford Oast WI

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March** in Oxford Village Memorial Hall at 9.30am when they Angie Jordan will be there with 'Easter Treats'. There is a crèche and the first visit is free. Do join them. Contact Jo Hall on 01689 638996 for more details

### Fashion Show



Oxford Oast WI invite you to a Fashion Show on **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April** in Oxford Village Memorial Hall at 7.30pm for an 8pm start. Tickets are £8 including wine and nibbles. Clothes for ages, shapes and sizes, also handbags and jewellery. For tickets please contact Julie Stevens on 01732 458732 or Marilyn Sheppard on 01959 524031

### Oxford Evening WI

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March** in Oxford Village Memorial Hall at 7.30pm when David Westphal will talk about 'The Livery Companies of the City of London' Contact Christine Masson on 01959 522637 for more details.

### Oxford Players



Oxford Players present a pair of 1 act plays that will keep you laughing all evening.

On **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March** at £9 per ticket.

- **White Lies - a comedy about 4 university friends who meet up for a reunion meal**

Imagine the mix of successes and failures and of course, the one that is so absorbed that the others decide it is time for a little playback.

- **Crawl to be Kind - a comedy about a spider!**

An arachnophobic woman moves into a new house- her mother reluctantly moves in as well to help with finances but marks her reluctance by planting the idea that the previous owners have left behind Terry, their pet Tarantula. Say no more what follows is chaos with hilarious results.

## Gardeners' Society



The first meeting will take place on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** when Philip Johnson will talk about '*Growing Sweet Peas*'. Admission which includes refreshments is £1 for visitors. Contact Janet Finney on 01959 523760 for more details or e-mail [gardeners@otford.net](mailto:gardeners@otford.net)

## Otford Methodist Church

Otford Methodist Church would like to invite ladies to join them for a Women's breakfast at 8.30am on Saturday 14th March in the Methodist Church Hall. The speaker will be Helen Cottee, whose talk is titled 'Taking Egypt out of the Girl'. Entrance is £5 payable on the day. To reserve your place please call Sue Ward on 01959 535099 or email them on [johnandsueward@btinternet.com](mailto:johnandsueward@btinternet.com)

### Easter Services

Palm Sunday - Open air service on Village Green, Procession will start from Otford Methodist Church at 10.45am.

Good Friday - Service at 10am

Easter Sunday - 9am Communion, 10.30 Family Service, 6.30pm Evening Service

## The Darent Valley Choir



The Spring concert will be held on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March** at St Margaret's Church, Halstead, TN14 7HQ at 7.30pm. From classical pieces to songs from the shows - a good mix of music. Do join them if you can and if you feel like singing they rehearse on Wednesdays at 8pm in the Anthony

Roper School in Eynsford.

## St Luke's Church Sevenoaks Recitals

St Luke's Church in Sevenoaks has a free half hour lunch recital at 12.30pm every Wednesday which is always worth attending. Refreshments available from 12 noon. Free parking in Eardley Road. 4 March Jackie Sanjana and Friends - Wind Quintet, 11 March Jean Bentley's String Quartet, 18 March Peter Dodsworth - Bassoon and Jenny Miles - Piano, 25 March Fumi Otsuki - Violin.

## Knole Decorative and Fine Art Society

Knole Decorative and Fine Arts Society meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at the Sevenoaks Community Centre, Bat & Ball. The lectures start promptly at 1.45 pm and finish by 3 pm. The December lecture is members only. The next lecture will be on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March** when Dr Nick Slope will talk about '*The 1916 Battle of Jutland*'. For further information see the website [www.knoledfas.org.uk](http://www.knoledfas.org.uk).

## Fleetwood Bac come to Otford

As part of a fund-raising campaign for a major refurbishment of the complex, the Trustees are delighted to announce that Fleetwood Bac will be appearing at Otford Village Memorial Hall on **Saturday 4th April** at 8.00pm. The Times described Fleetwood Bac as "*One of Top 5 tribute bands in the UK*".

Tickets are available at just £12:50 in advance (£14.00 on the door) from 07887 780576 or e-mail: [ovmh.manager@otford.net](mailto:ovmh.manager@otford.net) or, for credit card bookings, from Wegottickets at [www.wegottickets.com/OVMH](http://www.wegottickets.com/OVMH) (subject to a £1.25 booking fee). This event is being promoted by the Trustees of the Village Hall themselves and all profits will go to the fund-raising campaign. Further details from - Ron Dullage, Secretary to the Trustees, Otford Village Memorial Hall - 07887 780576 e-mail: [ovmh.manager@otford.net](mailto:ovmh.manager@otford.net)

### Sevenoaks Local RSPB Group



The next meeting is on **Thursday 5<sup>h</sup> March** at 7.45pm in Otford Village Memorial Hall. The talk by Jonathan Forgham is called '*The walk to Hel: a 50 mile walk to Hel on the Baltic Coast of Poland*'. Jonathan is a lifelong birdwatcher and natural historian, who specialises in backpacking with his camera to get the full flavour of the wildlife along his chosen route. Local Group members are £2.50 and non-members are £3.50. Telephone 01959 563530 for further information.

### Sevenoaks Embroiderer's Guild



The next meeting will take place on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March** in Otford Methodist Church Hall. (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE) when the subject by Lee Ault will be '*Rationed Fashion*'. 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.

### Quilling Guild

The Quilling Guild will meet in St Bartholomew's Church Hall on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March** between 1.30pm and 4pm

### Otford- Neufchatel-Hardelot Twinning

The next social gathering will be on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** from 7.30pm at the Woodman PH where there will be wine and cheese tasting. Do join them. On **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April** our twins will be visiting Scotney Castle by coach before coming to Otford for tea and cakes in the Club Room of the Village Hall, with songs from the Community Choir. They look forward to seeing people there from about 4.30pm. A cake contribution would be most welcome (please advise Jane on 522360 beforehand). Looking ahead, would you like to take part in a car sharing visit to Hardelot from 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> July Individuals, couples and families welcome. Contact Jane for more details. Can't speak French, don't worry - Vive L'Entente Cordiale!

### Police Matters

The Mobile Police Station will be at Sainsbury's on **9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> March** between 4.30pm and 5.30pm if you would like to raise any policing issues or for crime prevention advice. On **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March** between 9am and 1pm there will be a Bike Marking and Safer Plates event at Halfords.



## Otford Methodist Church Wednesday Afternoon Women's Fellowship

Meetings are at 2.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall. Phone Rosemary Cracknell on 01959 522325 for details/transport

### March

6<sup>th</sup> - Women's World Day of Prayer Service at 2pm at Holy Trinity

11<sup>th</sup> - Chris Towers /18<sup>th</sup> - Lunch Out/25<sup>th</sup> Easter Meditation

### April

1<sup>st</sup> - Holy week - no meeting

8<sup>th</sup> - no meeting/ 15<sup>th</sup> - Tea in the Hall

## Sevenoaks Amateur Boxing Club



Sevenoaks ABC proudly presents an Evening Boxing Show hosting Kent v Derbyshire on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March** starting at 7pm, doors open 6.30pm at Knole Academy, Bradbourne Vale Road. Entry fee £10 per person. More information from Paul Lynch 07939 707333

## Battersea Cats & Dogs Home



Battersea Dogs & Cats Home are organising two bucket collections in the area. Funds raised will help to care for and rehome the many dogs and cats that arrive at their doors in London, Brands Hatch and Windsor every day. These events are only possible with the help of people like you. Please can you donate one hour of your time to collect for Battersea?

The collections will take place on:

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April** at Woodlands Garden Centre in Ash, 11am to 3pm, and

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May** at Polhill Garden Centre in Sevenoaks, 11am to 3pm

If you'd like to make a difference for animals in this fun and simple way, please contact Battersea's Regional Community Fundraiser, Victoria Lawrence on 07590 173456 or at [v.lawrence@battersea.org.uk](mailto:v.lawrence@battersea.org.uk). Thank you.

## Hospice in the Weald Travel Club

Enjoy a great day out and fundraise for your local Hospice

Hospice in the Weald Travel Club is an opportunity for individuals or groups of people to come together and socialise in a fun and friendly way. Throughout 2015 enjoy a range of excursions and trips to Cambridge, Stratford-upon-Avon and Portsmouth, amongst many others, all by luxury coach. Last year the Travel Club raised £15,000 towards providing care for our patients, families and carers in West Kent and East Sussex. This is enough to run our Hospice Day Service for 2 weeks or to fund care for 4 patients in our In-Patient Unit. Lyn, one of our members says, "The friendly atmosphere of the Travel Club outings helps for a relaxing day, especially if you are on your own. The convenient parking and ease of travelling by coach makes it an enjoyable and entertaining day out". Our annual membership for new and existing members is priced at £10 per person or £18 when purchasing two memberships. We are sure

you will find something of interest to tempt you on-board; please contact Maddy Boyle on 01892 820533 or maddy.boyle@hospiceintheweald.org.uk

## Heritage Centre Artist for the Months of March and April

### Elizabeth Ward



I have enjoyed drawing from early childhood. An interest inherited from my father and would loved to have gone to Art College, but this was not to be. In adult life I had the opportunity to 'dabble' with pictures, posters and displays large and small. My largest paintings are the 'Time Line' in the Heritage Centre depicting Otford's history and one in the garden of Otford Palace, painted in a hurry for a village fete to raise awareness of the threat of it being altered to a 'Little Chef. One of my smallest paintings is of a Fungus (framed here). I enjoy attending Otford Art Group where I have the opportunity to learn different techniques, but still life, landscapes and botanical illustration are where I feel most comfortable.

### Hospice of Hope Events

Otford Quiz Night - **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March** at 7pm in the Otford Tea Rooms

£12 per person to include a light supper

Contact Carole Ford on 01959 525110 for tickets or e-mail carole@hospicesofhope.co.uk

### 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/15/00049    **57 Tudor Crescent**

Conversion of garage to habitable room to provide disabled facilities.

SE/15/00147    **Burfield, Pilgrims Way East**

Minor material amendment to SE/14/00387 - erection of a two storey side extension with four velux windows to roof and a Juliet balcony to front elevation. To show removal of Juliet balcony and entrance stairs to front elevation and a new bay window and front entrance beneath the front elevation.

SE/15/00165    **Foyle, Pilgrims Way East**

Two single storey rear extensions

SE/15/00225    **2 Tudor Drive**

Demolition of existing single storey extension and steps to south elevation. The erection of a new single storey extension, new canopy to side entrance, alterations to fenestration on all sides and internal alterations.

SE/15/00246    **Land to the South of Fairacre Wood, Shoreham Road**

Proposed detached dwelling and detached garage on land adjacent to Fairacre Wood

SE/15/0299    **The Grange, High Street**

Partial demolition of existing dilapidated barn and erection of replacement barn to be used as a residential annexe to The Grange. Removal of existing timber gates, to be replaced with

new metal gate and railing, set back to create space and allow a car to pull into the drive safely. Erection of wall and new timber clad three-bay garage barn.

**b.Results Received**

SE/14/03570      17 Hale Lane

Erection of a single storey extension together with a first floor side extension and internal and external alterations. *Allowed*

SE/14/03724      **Homebase, Riverside Retail Park, Old Otford Road**

Variation of condition 13 (use) of SE/94/2298 to non-roof retail warehouse development comprising 3 units - with amendment to allow the sale of A1 non-food goods by a Catalogue Showroom Retailer from up to 185 square metres of the existing Homebase sales area.

*Allowed*

SE/14/037872      **1-36 Twitton Meadows, Pilgrims Way West**

Proposed replacement windows and doors

*Allowed*

SE/14/03194      **41 Knighton Road**

Erection of a two storey side and rear extension with balcony and a single storey rear extension with roof lantern and changes to fenestration

*Allowed*

SE/14/03462      52B Pilgrims Way East

Removal of condition 5 (permitted development) and variation of condition 10 (removal of existing structures prior to commencement) of SE/14/01074 to Prior commencement of development of existing outbuildings shown as 1&3 on 444-PD-002 Rev A shall be demolished and all resulting materials removed from site. The existing dwelling shown on drawing no 4441-PD-001 Rev A shall be completely demolished and all resulting materials removed from site within 3 months from the date of completion of the approved dwelling. *Allowed*

SE/14/03846      **Llamedos, Shoreham Road**

Demolition of the existing detached property and the erection of a new detached dwelling.

*Allowed*

SE/14/03848      **Llamedos, Shoreham Road**

Demolition of the existing detached property, subdivision of the plot and the construction of two new detached dwellings

*Allowed*

**c. Appeals**

SE/14/03709      **Pilgrims Way Cottage, Pilgrims Way East**

Demolition of existing double garage and the erection of two detached four bedroomed dwellings, including the closure of the existing access onto Pilgrims Way West and the creation of the new access from Rye Lane to serve the existing and proposed dwellings. Improvement to footpath. Associated landscaping.

**d. Tree works**

SE/15/00267      **Moat Cottage, Station Road**

Various works to trees

**Newsletter Deadline**

The deadline for items for the April Newsletter will be **Friday 20th March**

## Rubbish and Garden Bags

Garden waste bags packs are available from the Parish Council office at £13 for 25. It avoids all those trips to the tip. Rolls of black sacks at £1.50 and white sacks at 50p are also available. The correct change would be much appreciated.

## Parish Councillors Contact Details

Chairman		
John Edwards-Winser	Oastbrook, Telston Lane	522503
Councillors		
Douglas G. Cracknell	23 Warham Road	522325
Mrs. Mary Evans	14 Tudor Crescent	mary.a.evans@btinternet.com
Mrs. Jackie Howe	33 Pilgrims Way West	525434
Nick Fothergill	7 Darnets Field	524120
Mrs. H. Jane Lawrey	23 Tudor Crescent	522360
Howard Leicester	Albany, Shoreham Rd	howard_leicester@btconnect.com
Mrs. Charmian Marsh	40 Greenhill Road	522609
Jon Verrall	24 Pilgrims Way East	jon.verrall5@btinternet.com
Mrs. Elizabeth J. Ward	Thymebank, Coombe Rd	522384
Martin J. Whitehead	19 Coombe Road	524088

**Don't forget that the clocks go forward on  
SUNDAY 29th MARCH**



**And don't forget Mother's Day on SUNDAY 15th MARCH**

