

inshape

ISSUE 72 Winter 2008

www.sevenoaks.gov.uk

Latin football league kicks off in Swanley

see page 4

in this issue...

Christmas and New Year refuse collections

see page 3



A day with the Chairman

see page 5



Winter days out
see pages 14 and 15



Developing sporting talent

see pages 16 and 17



Pull out and keep
A to Z
of local Services

see pages 12 and 13



*Davis
of
Sevenoaks*

....for all your Renault needs
a family business since 1919



New Koleos 4X4

Offord Road, Sevenoaks, TN14 5EG



01732 455174

www.davisofsevenoaks.com



Have you visited CARE yet to see what we have to offer?

Phillippines Close
(off Hever Road)
Edenbridge
Kent TN8 5GN
Tel: 01732 782700
www.care-ltd.co.uk

CARE provides tailored support for people with learning disabilities to enable them to live as independently as possible at the heart of society.

Interested in volunteering?

Help make a real difference in someone's life.... call for details

The Oak Tree Bistro

- Light lunches • Snacks • Sandwiches • Tea • Coffee • Soft drinks • Cakes

All meals freshly prepared using the finest local ingredients when available

OPEN

MONDAY - FRIDAY: 10 am - 4 pm

Outside catering at competitive prices.
Function room evenings & weekends

Acorns

CARE's award winning eco-friendly horticulture training centre with wind turbines; solar panels; ground source heat pump; reclaimed water system & living roof

- Shrubs • Perennials • Herbs • Vegetable plants • Seeds • Seasonal bedding plants • Hanging baskets • Containers

OPEN

MONDAY - FRIDAY: 10 am - 4 pm

SUNDAY: 11 am - 3 pm

VISIT OUR SHOP FOR GIFT IDEAS!

Creative Arts Studio

- Card making • Art Therapy • Photography, Film & Animation • Weaving • Rug Making • Mosaics • Creative Sewing

Come and see the range on sale
COMMISSIONS WELCOME
(Fabric donations welcome)



**The three aaghs
Reading, writing and arithmetic.**

Even the most angelic children need a solid foundation in maths and English.

Kumon programmes:

- work at a pace tailored to your child's needs
- give their confidence a real boost
- develop invaluable study habits and concentration
- complement the school curriculum

Contact your local Instructor today.

Mandy Yarnold
SEVENOAKS AND
EDENBRIDGE
study centres
01342 851 221

Maki Bates
OTFORD study centre
020 8333 9550

0800 854 714
kumon.co.uk

KUMON
50th ANNIVERSARY



www.sevenoaks.gov.uk

Christmas and New Year refuse collection times



Over the Christmas and New year period, there will be some changes to your refuse collection times.

Wednesday 24 December

Normal collection

Thursday 25 December (bank holiday)

Next collection Friday 2 January

Friday 26 December (bank holiday)

Collected next day, Saturday 27 December

Monday 29 December

Normal collection

Tuesday 30 December

Normal collection

Wednesday 31 December

Normal collection

Thursday 1 January (bank holiday)

Collected next day, Friday 2 January

Friday 2 January

Collected next day, Saturday 3 January

Monday 5 January

Normal collection

The fortnightly garden waste collection service will also be affected.

The last 'blue week' collection before Christmas will be on Thursday 11 December. The next collection will be on Thursday 8 January 2009.

The last 'green week' collection before Christmas will be on Thursday 18 December. The next collection be on Friday 2 January 2009.

Please ensure that your black and clear sacks and green waste are put out by 7am on your rescheduled day of collection.

Refuse put out after the crew has been through your road will not be collected and must be taken back in until the next collection.

Anyone who would like additional recycling sacks over the holiday period can visit our Sevenoaks offices in Argyle Road or the Swanley Library & Information Centre in London Road. See page 23 for their festive opening times.

For more information, contact Sevenoaks District Council on **01732 227000**.

Why is there no re-arranged weekly collection for 25 December?

When two bank holidays fall together during the same week, one collection day during that week has to be cancelled.

With Christmas and Boxing Day bank holidays falling on a Thursday and Friday, our refuse collectors will be working on Saturday to make up one of the days. However it is not possible to make up both days as the waste transfer station, where the refuse is taken, is open Monday to Saturday and closed on Sundays and bank holidays.

Magical Christmas panto comes to Sevenoaks

One of the best-loved family pantomimes is heading to the Sevenoaks District this Christmas.

Sencio Community Leisure centres in Sevenoaks, Edenbridge and Swanley will all play host to an imaginative and engaging interpretation of the traditional English fairytale 'Jack and the Beanstalk' performed by the 'In The Wings' touring company.

One of a handful of the most consistently popular seasonal shows, Jack is synonymous with the well-loved tradition, coming complete with its dastardly henchman, glamorous fairy, dashing hero and colourful dame.

'Jack and the Beanstalk' will be staged at Sevenoaks Leisure Centre (01732 470700) on 16 and 17 December, Edenbridge Leisure Centre (01732 865665) on 19 December and White Oak Leisure Centre in Swanley (01322 662188) on 23 December.

For details of ticket prices and performance times contact your nearest leisure centre.



Advertise with *In Shape*

In Shape is produced by the Council and distributed to some 48,000 homes and businesses throughout Sevenoaks District by Royal Mail three times a year.

A limited amount of space is available for local companies or organisations to promote their goods and services.

If you would like to know more about our competitive advertising rates, please call Bob Gray on **07788 191306**.

Moving house? Remember to pack your voice!

You're moving house and you think you've remembered everything - you've informed your bank of your new address, worked out your new route to work and found the nearest takeaway.

However, many people forget one important thing - their voice!

Every year, thousands of people forget to register to vote when they move house, meaning they can't have their say on local and national issues which affect them.

Even if you've moved within Sevenoaks District, you still need to remember to register to vote at your new address. The same is true for renters as well as homeowners. And paying Council Tax does not register you to vote.

An annual canvass takes place between September and November every year when voter registration forms are sent to every property in the Sevenoaks District.

However, if you move house outside of this canvass period you can let the Council know of your new address by e-mailing the



Electoral Registration Team at elreg@sevenoaks.gov.uk, or by calling on **01732 227188** or **01732 227243**, and asking for a voter registration form to complete.

Further information can also be found by going to www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/elections.

So if you are moving house, make sure you've packed your voice!

'Tree cycle' this Christmas

After this year's festivities have ended, the Council will collect your Christmas tree for free throughout January and arrange for it to be composted.

Trees should be placed at your property boundary by 7am on days when the Council's fortnightly garden waste collection service takes place in your road.

Only trees with a trunk of 89mm (3.5" in diameter) or smaller will be collected. Bigger trees can be taken to your nearest KCC Household Waste Recycling Site.

To find out when your road is scheduled for a garden waste collection, visit the Council's website www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/refuse or call **01732 227000**.

Futsal's coming home

A Latin sporting sensation kicked off in Swanley when the District's first ever futsal league started last month.

Originating from Brazil and played by 25 million people world-wide, futsal is a form of non-contact indoor five-a-side football.

Because of the size of the pitch, speed of play, rules and, crucially, the smaller heavier ball, the game helps to develop close ball skills and improve fitness.

Players are encouraged to develop speed of thought and quick reflexes in order to play the game, which lasts 40 minutes.

Several high profile Premiership players, Brazil's Robinho and Portugal's Ronaldo to name just two, developed their football skills by playing in futsal leagues in their home countries.

Sevenoaks District hosted its first ever competitive futsal match at Swanley White Oak Leisure Centre on 8 October as part of the Kent Futsal League. The league, for men aged 16 and above, is one of only three in the country and five of the league's teams are based in the Sevenoaks District. League games take place most Wednesdays at White Oak Leisure Centre from 8.30pm to 10.30pm.

For more information about the Futsal League, contact Colin Hunwick, Sencio's Sports Development Officer, on **01732 747304** or e-mail colin.hunwick@sencio.org.uk. Alternatively visit the 'Your Futsal' website at www.yourfutsal.org.

Sencio Community Leisure teamed up with Sevenoaks District Council, NHS West Kent and The Kent Football Association to deliver futsal in the Sevenoaks District.

The Chairman's day out

The Chairman of Sevenoaks District Council, Cllr Felicity Broomby, is both the Council and the District's principal ambassador.

Sevenoaks District has had an annually elected Chairman since 1976. The position is non-political and in addition to chairing full council meetings, the Chairman's role is to promote the District.

This year Cllr Mrs Broomby is working to raise the profile of local voluntary organisations and charities as well as promoting healthy lifestyles.

Within Kent there are just four Districts with a Chairman, whilst in the Boroughs this position is held by the Mayor. They all perform similar duties, differing in name only and in protocol rank above town mayors.

In this issue of *In Shape*, we followed Cllr Broomby on her engagements on Wednesday 8 October to see what happens during a typical day of the District's Chairman.

If you would like the Council's Chairman to attend a local event, please call Margaret Hagger on **01732 227201** or e-mail civic.office@sevenoaks.gov.uk



8:45am - Leaving home ahead of a busy day



9:15am - Riverhead Infant School to talk about the role of the Chairman



10am - As a ward member for Sevenoaks Kippington, Cllr Broomby returns home to discuss a local planning application with fellow ward member Cllr Avril Hunter



12 noon - Edenbridge Tea Dance, a joint Council and NHS West Kent initiative to promote healthy lifestyles amongst older people



2:30pm - Talk with staff at the Council's Contact Centre



3:30pm - Meeting with Voluntary Action West Kent staff to discuss volunteering matters



4:45pm - Return home for a cup of tea before the evening engagements



6:30pm - A guest of honour at 'Dreams can happen', a celebration of the contributions made by people with learning difficulties to local life



9:15pm - Return home



Kent Homechoice means more choice

Sevenoaks District Council has just launched Kent Homechoice, its new choice based lettings scheme which advertises all vacant social housing homes and gives people on the register more choice about where they want to live.

Available properties are advertised on the Kent Homechoice website at www.kenthomechoice.co.uk and in a publication which is freely available in public buildings across the District. You can also call into the West Kent Housing Association or the Council's Offices to see what properties are available.

Only those on the Sevenoaks District Housing Register can 'bid' for up to three properties each fortnight and this will be the only way to be considered for a housing association tenancy. Bids are only accepted through the Kent Homechoice website, the 24 hour automated bidding telephone line, by text or by a coupon ordered via the Kent Homechoice website.

If more than one person bids for a property, priority will still be given to the applicant with the greatest need who has been waiting the longest.

In the run up to the launch of Kent Homechoice, the Council ran a number of awareness sessions for members of the public and other professionals on the new scheme. Three hundred applicants from the Sevenoaks District Housing Register were also invited to an evening meeting to learn about Kent Homechoice.

If you would like any more information about Kent Homechoice, please ring West Kent Housing Association's Housing Options Team on **01732 749433**, e-mail housing.options@wkha.org.uk or visit the Kent Homechoice pages on the Sevenoaks District Council website at www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/kenthomechoice.

No ifs, no buts, benefit fraud is a crime

Benefit fraud is not a victimless crime. It is something that potentially costs local taxpayers' thousands of pounds every year, money that could otherwise be used to help pay for local public services.

If you think someone you know is claiming benefit they are not entitled to then call the Council's confidential Benefit Hotline on **01732 227445**.

New Ash Green CCTV improvements

Public safety in New Ash Green is set for a boost when 13 CCTV cameras in the village centre are upgraded with state-of-the-art technology.

When installed in the mid 1990s, the fixed black and white cameras were adequate, but as time has passed, they have become outdated.

Several cameras were vandalised. To further reduce any damage, metal cages were installed around some cameras. This however upset some residents, as they felt the cages were unsightly.

Installation of the new cameras is due to begin before the end of the year.

The new vandal resistance dome cameras tilt and pan in all directions working in full colour with a powerful zoom. This will drastically improve coverage. Any cages around the existing cameras will be removed. The new cameras can easily be relocated in the event of any village centre regeneration.

All the cameras are linked to the Council's CCTV control room, which operates 24 hours a day seven days a week by fully trained and experienced staff who are licensed by the Security Industry Authority.

The control room has a direct radio link to the police who can be contacted in an instant in the event of a problem. All images from the cameras are recorded digitally and could be used by the police as evidence in the event of a crime.

Important notice for benefit customers!

If you receive Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Benefit and your circumstances have changed during your claim, you must notify the Council's Benefit Team without delay.

You need to tell us about changes to income, changes to the number of occupants in your household or if you are moving address.

Full details are available on application forms and notification letters. Alternatively see our leaflet 'Changes you need to tell us about'.

It is your responsibility to tell us, and failure to do so means you may be getting too much benefit, which has to be paid back, or too little which we may not be able to pay you from the date your circumstances changed.

For further information call the Council's benefit team on **01732 227000**.

Don't miss out on business rate discounts

Local charitable and non-profit making organisations can claim an important discount on their business rates.

Groups, such as scouts, village halls and voluntary organisations, could all benefit following a review of discretionary rate relief by Sevenoaks District Council.

Discretionary rate relief is a reduction in the business rates bill. New applications can be accepted during the year and are assessed individually by the Council's Cabinet.

Businesses can also apply for two other types of relief, rural rate relief, which applies to certain types of village shops, and hardship relief, which only applies in exceptional circumstances to local businesses who provide a service to the community and are suffering financial hardship.

For further details and an application form please contact the Council's Local Tax Team on **01732 227000**.



Try something new in Swanley!

Swanley's White Oak Indoor Bowls Centre has more on offer than just bowls.

In addition to its eight state of the art bowl rinks, it now offers new age kurling and short mat-bowls together with café and members' bar facilities.

Open seven days a week, White Oak Indoor Bowls Centre is known for its friendly atmosphere and is a great place to meet new people and try something new!

With function rooms for hire with or without catering, we're ideal for clubs looking for a new venue.

For more information call **01322 665571** or visit the Centre at Garrols Close off Hilda May Avenue in Swanley (next to the White Oak Leisure Centre).



R.P. Dalton Joinery
CARPENTER & JOINER

specialists in purpose made joinery
Kitchens, bedrooms, bathrooms, windows and staircases

www.daltonjoinery.co.uk

Tel: 01732 763688 • Mobile: 07850 201709
e-mail dalton7oaks@aol.com
Stonepitts Farm, Seal Chart, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0ER

The Carpet Cleaning People

honours
interior cleaning specialists

- Carpet Cleaning
- Upholstery Cleaning
- Curtain Cleaning
- Rug Cleaning
- Hard Floors
- Carpet and Fabric Protector Treatments

Tel: **01732 865970**
Mob: **07919 346113**
www.honourscleaning.com

Martin Honour Ltd



Reporting crime

To report a crime that is taking place, always call **999**. If the incident has passed, call Tonbridge Police Station on **01732 771055** or Crimestoppers on **0800 555111**.

Reporting a racial incident

To report a racial incident leave a recorded message by calling **0800 138 1624**. To report a hate crime call the 24 hour reporting line on **0800 328 9162**.

Taking a stand against anti-social behaviour

Tackling anti-social behaviour is a high priority for the Sevenoaks Community Safety Partnership and for Cara Sillett, the District Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Officer.

From April 2007 to September 2008, 315 cases of anti-social behaviour were referred to Cara.

Cara liaises closely with a number of partner organisations including the police, County Council and housing associations to take action.

Cara also chairs the Partnership's Anti-Social Behaviour Task Group. The multi-agency group has been particularly successful in dealing with the problem as 90% of the 76 people who were referred to the group have shown an improvement in their behaviour.

Action taken to address the anti-social behaviour has included Anti-Social Behaviour Orders, commonly known as ASBOs, given to three individuals. Four individuals signed Acceptable Behaviour Agreements and a further 25 people received written warnings about their behaviour.



A number of support initiatives are also in place to help deal with anti-social behaviour such as:

- The Power Project, which works with young people who are at risk of offending
- Links with Blantyre House, an open prison, which helps with community projects
- Kenward Trust, an organisation to help people stop alcohol and substance abuse
- The Ssky project which aims to meet the emotional wellbeing needs of children
- West Kent Mediation Service who provide help with neighbourhood disputes
- 1-2-1 befriending which offers a support service to vulnerable young people.

Buy with confidence

Kent County Council's Trading Standards officers are encouraging people to log onto the 'Buy with Confidence' website www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk to find details of approved traders in their area.

The site is free to use and features only local businesses that have passed the rigorous assessments carried out by Kent Trading Standards. Once approved onto the scheme, the

businesses are permitted to use the 'Buy with Confidence' logo and benefit from increased consumer confidence and promotion of their business.

Services listed on the site include home improvement companies, air conditioning, insurance services and financial advisers.

For more information call Consumer Direct on **08454 040506**.



Reporting graffiti or anti-social behaviour

To report graffiti or anti-social behaviour call **01732 227000**, complete the online form on the Council's website www.sevenoaks.gov.uk or text details to **07799 732732** starting with the word GRAF.

Domestic abuse

The Freedom Programme is available to help men and women who have or who are suffering from domestic abuse. Call **07854 780690**.

The Community Domestic Abuse Programme is a free course for those who are or have been abusive to their partners. For details call Penny Hennessey on **07933 359210**.



Safety gadget giveaway

Free community safety and crime reduction devices such as timer switches, shed alarms, purse chains and personal alarms are being made available to vulnerable residents.

Funded by the Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership, the devices are being distributed by Police Community Support Officers and Kent County Council Community Wardens in the communities they serve.

The Partnership has also part-funded, with West Kent Police, marking kits to help reduce theft from houses and sheds such as power tools, lawn mowers and household items.

Over 300 vehicles had their number plate screws replaced with special tamper-proof screws in an effort to cut vehicle crime. This was carried out at special Safe Plate Days across the District in October and November.

For more information on these products or Safe Plate Days please contact your local neighbourhood team by visiting www.kent.police.uk or calling **01732 771055**.

Residents urged to play their part in cutting crime

With the winter months now upon us, neighbourhood policing teams are reminding residents of the small measures they can take to help them remain safe.

An empty house is easy to spot on a dark night if there are no lights on. Try to leave a light and perhaps the radio on if you are going out. Is it possible to use timer switches to turn on one or two lights automatically when it starts getting dark?

If you have bought Christmas presents don't leave them on view at home or in a vehicle visible through a window. Keep presents out of sight. If they can be seen they can be stolen!

Never leave car keys in the ignition even for a short period, for example on garage forecourts. Always close windows and engage the steering lock, lock all doors and remember to take all valuables with you. Always park in a well lit area.

If you would like to talk to a neighbourhood officer about community safety in your area or home security, you can find out who to speak to by visiting www.kent.police.uk and entering your postcode. Alternatively call **01732 771055** and ask for your local neighbourhood officer.



Why don't you give me a bin for my rubbish?

You've recently received your 20 black refuse and 25 clear recycling sacks from Sevenoaks District Council, and you may ask yourself "Why doesn't the Council give me a wheeled bin for my rubbish?"

The answer is simple. Some neighbouring councils operate an alternative weekly collection for rubbish and recyclable waste materials, which require households to have wheeled bins and/or boxes to store materials for up to two weeks.

Sevenoaks District Council maintains an effective weekly collection service by using black and clear sack, which avoids the problems of bin storage and any smells resulting from rotting waste. We ask that rubbish and recycled materials are put into the correct sack and securely closed when put out for collection. Large cardboard boxes can be left out of the sacks but should be flattened to aid collection.

Due to recent advances in technology, the black sacks collected from your household are no longer buried in a landfill site. Instead they are taken to an energy-from-waste facility near Maidstone and used as fuel to generate electricity.

Experience also shows that those who have bins to store their waste often put loose material in them rather than secured in a sack.

Residents who want to store their black sacks in a bin before collection can purchase a suitable sealed bin. The Council's refuse collection crews will remove black sacks from residents' bins and return the bin to where they found it, but they will not remove loose materials.

The best bin to buy is one that is about waist high, as it is difficult for crews to lift heavy sacks out of the bottom of a large 240ltr wheelie bin.

For further information call **01732 227000** or e-mail direct.services@sevenoaks.gov.uk.

Items that can be recycled in your clear sacks



- **Cans or tins of any kind** including metal jar lids
- **Cardboard**
- **Kitchen-foil or aluminium trays** such as those from ready meals or takeaway meals
- **Paper of any kind** unless it is bonded with another material or heavily soiled with food.
- **Plastic bottles**
- **Thin plastic carrier bags**



Charles Nouhan, Recycling Manager, pictured with two bins that are suitable for the Council's refuse collection service

Items that can be put in your black refuse sacks



- **Food waste of all kinds:** But please try to compost your vegetable peelings and other compostable kitchen waste at home. Call 0845 077 0757 to order a low-price compost bin
- **Plastics that cannot be recycled and polystyrene:** The only plastics we can recycle are plastic bottles and thin carrier bags. All other packaging should be put into your black sack
- **Full vacuum cleaner bags**

Things that should never be placed in your black refuse sacks



- **Animal carcasses**
- **Batteries** (car batteries or more than a handful of disposable household batteries)
- **Broken glass** should be wrapped in newspaper or cardboard and left alongside your black sacks marked with the words 'Broken glass'
- **Electrical appliances or furniture**
- **Fire extinguishers and gas bottles**
- **Hazardous materials**
- **Large quantities of pet litter or animal waste**
- **Liquids**
- **Metal of any kind**, such as knives, or any other heavy metal
- **Plasterboard**
- **Sludge**
- **Tyres**
- **Bulky items**
- **Garden waste**
- **Hot ash**
- **Medical waste**
- **Sharp items**
- **Stones, rubble or soil**
- **Wood**

These items should be taken to your local Kent County Council Household Waste Recycling site for disposal.

Dramatic approach to tackling fires

A fire in a commercial wheeled bin might seem like harmless fun, but it is a serious crime that affects hundreds of people across Kent.

Clean Kent's latest campaign sets out to highlight these dangers with the launch of a theatre-in-education production, a hard-hitting cinema advert and business advice.

'Street Wise' is Clean Kent's latest education project and is taking the issues of anti-social behaviour and restorative justice to secondary school pupils in years 8 and 9 across the county.

Using the scenario of a wheeled bin fire and the crime of arson as key plot devices, this challenging and powerful play aims to help children make informed decisions in order to dissuade them from committing environmental crimes and entering the criminal justice system.

Complementing the messages of Street Wise, Clean Kent's latest cinema advert focuses on the inherent dangers of bin fires within a commercial context. Certified as a 12a, this advert launched in September at cinemas and multiplexes countywide.

In addition to the cinema advertisement, Clean Kent is also providing information and advice for

Kent businesses on the best way to dispose of their rubbish and protect themselves from crimes of this nature.

Stuart Skilton, Kent Fire and Rescue Service explains the current activities: "Deliberately started fires of this nature not only put the lives of the general public and firefighters at risk but also have devastating consequences on businesses as well. As part of Clean Kent's ongoing commitment to reduce rubbish fires, we have seen a countywide reduction in these crimes by 40 per cent but need now to bring this particular issue to the public's attention."



Cast, crew and organisers behind 'Street Wise'

Residents have an appetite for the 'Scores on the Doors'!

Discerning diners have had one year to digest a pioneering new food hygiene scheme, and the verdict seems to be that it is a resounding success.

Sevenoaks District Council launched the 'Scores on the Doors' initiative in January 2008.

Since then over 20,000 residents have logged onto the website, which can be viewed at www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/scoresonthedoors to check the scores of more than 300 food businesses that are now available at the click of a mouse button.

'Scores on the Doors' is a national initiative which sees food businesses inspected by the council's environmental health team and given a star rating, ranging from zero to five stars, based on an assessment of their food hygiene standards.

Two businesses have been re-inspected since the scheme was launched, with both showing major improvements in their food hygiene standards.

The 'Scores on the Doors' website is continually being updated with information added as premises are inspected.

Scores on the Doors in numbers

21,557 The number of visitors to the Sevenoaks District section of the 'Scores on the Doors' website.

344 The number of food businesses on the Sevenoaks District section of the 'Scores on the Doors' website.

33 The number of five star premises

104 The number of four star premises

109 The number of three star premises

36 The number of two star premises

40 The number of one star premises

22 The number of zero star premises

Details correct as of 3 November 2008.

Your A to Z of local services

In this issue of *In Shape* we have included a pull-out-and-keep A to Z guide to your local services.



Sevenoaks District Council

For all services call **01732 227000** or e-mail information@sevenoaks.gov.uk

To visit the Council's website go to www.sevenoaks.gov.uk.

A

Abandoned vehicles
Air quality
Animal welfare
Asbestos
Anti-Social Behaviour

B

Benefits - Council Tax / Housing
Bonfires
Bottle banks
Building control
Bus passes
Business Rates

C

Caravans
Car parks
CCTV
Cesspool/septic tank emptying
Commercial waste collection
Community development projects
Community safety
Community involvement
Composting
Concessionary fares
Conservation areas
Contaminated land
Councillors
Council meetings
Council Tax
Countryside sites

D

Dangerous structures
Direct Services
Disabled facility grants
Dog warden services

E

Economic development
Elections/electoral register
Elderly people
Energy conservation
Emergency planning
Environmental health
Empty properties

F

Fly tipping
Food hygiene
Food hygiene training

G

Garden rubbish
Graffiti removal
Grants
Grass cutting
Grounds' maintenance
Gypsy matters

H

Health and safety at work
Health improvement
Healthy lifestyles initiatives
High hedges
Housing advice and homelessness
Housing conditions

I

Infectious diseases

K

Kent Agreement

L

Land charges
Leisure (provided in partnership with Sencio Community Leisure)
Licensing (alcohol, entertainment and gambling)
Listed buildings
Litter
Local Plan / Local Development Framework

M

Mapping services
MOTs
Markets
Minibuses
Mobile home parks

N

National non-domestic rates
Noise nuisance

O

Ombudsman complaints

P

PACT (Partners and Communities Together)
Parking enforcement
Parks, recreation grounds
Pest control
Planning enquiries, applications and policy
Pollution
Property - Council owned
Public conveniences

R

Recycling
Refuse collection
Resilience (emergency planning and business continuity)
Rubbish

S

Sewers
Smells
Smoke
Smokefree enforcement and advice
Street cleansing
Street naming and numbering
Sustainable development

T

Taxis
Toilets
Tourism
Trade waste collections
Transportation
Travellers
Trees and tree preservation orders

W

Waste collection
Work conditions

Y

Youth activities

Housing associations

Housing associations own and manage Sevenoaks District's social housing stock.

West Kent Housing Association

101 London Road, Sevenoaks
Kent, TN13 1AX
01732 749400 www.westkent.org

Rockdale Housing Association

(housing for older people)
Rockdale Lodge, Rockdale Road,
Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1JT
01732 458762 www.rockdale.org.uk

Moat Housing Group

Mariner House, Galleon Boulevard,
Crossways, Dartford, Kent DA2 6QE
0845 600 1006 www.moat.co.uk

Places for People

4 The Pavilions, Port Way,
Preston PR2 2YB
01772 897200
www.placesforpeople.co.uk

Town & parish councils

Town or parish councils provide or maintain a range of important community assets. These may include allotments, common land, woodland, burial grounds, play areas, tennis courts and other sports facilities, museums, litter bins, seats, car parks, ponds and crime prevention schemes. For more information about town and parish councils, call Sevenoaks District Council on **01732 227000** or visit www.sevenoaks.gov.uk.



Kent County Council

Call Kent County Council on **08458 247247** or e-mail county.hall@kent.gov.uk Alternatively, visit website www.kent.gov.uk

A

Adoption
Adult education
Air quality
Archives
Arts development (exhibitions, events)
Awards

B

Births, marriages and deaths
Business Continuity Advice

C

Countryside access
Country parks
Childcare
Consumer protection
Coroners

E

Economic development
Education
Emergency planning

F

Family support
Fly tipping (commercial waste)
Footpaths and bridleways
Foster care

G

Gritting
Gully emptying
Gypsy site management

H

Highways and transport planning

L

Libraries

M

Magistrates' courts

N

Nursery education

P

Partnership with parents
Planning for KCC developments (schools, waste developments)
Pot holes
Proof of age cards
Public rights of way
Public transport

R

Registration services
Residential care
Resilience (emergency planning and business continuity)
Respite care

S

School admissions and appeals
School governors
School inspections
Snow clearing

Social care and health
Social services
Sports development
Street lighting

T

Tourism (County-wide)
Trading standards
Traffic lights

V

Verges (KCC owned land)

W

Waste disposal

Y

Youth services

Libraries

Libraries in Sevenoaks District are run by Kent County Council.

Edenbridge Library

01732 862600

Hartley Library

01474 704403

Kemsing Library

01732 762199

New Ash Green Library

01474 872506

Otford Library

01959 522488

Riverhead Library

01732 459218

Seal Library

01732 762510

Sevenoaks Library

01732 453118

St Johns Library

01732 456623

Swanley Library

01322 662570

West Kingsdown Library

01474 854623

Westerham Library

01959 562326



Police

Kent Police

Police Station,
1 Pembury Road,
Tonbridge,
Kent TN9 2HS
01732 771055
www.kent.police.uk



Emergencies

For out of hours emergencies call Sevenoaks District Council on **01732 462222**.

Crime

To report a crime which is in the process of taking place, always ring **999**. If the incident has already passed, the central number for reporting crime throughout Kent is **01622 690690**.

Utility companies

In the event of a gas leak call Southern Gas Networks on **0800 111999**. For emergencies involving electricity, call EDF Energy on **0800 783 8866**. Contact information for the water board will depend upon the

supplier - see your local phone book for details.

Flooding advice

Environment Agency
0845 9881188

Health

NHS Direct provides a telephone service offering health advice, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, just call **0845 4647**. You will be asked to provide some basic information to enable a trained advisor to assess health or medical problem and advise you on the best course of action.

Health NHS West Kent provides all NHS healthcare in the Sevenoaks District.

NHS West Kent Headquarters

Wharf House, Medway Wharf Road,
Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1RE

NHS West Kent - 01732 375200

Freephone Helpline - 0800 0 850 850

www.westkentpct.nhs.uk



West Kent



Eagle Heights

Winter days out in your District

When the days draw into the reds and golds of autumn, and Christmas looms, there is still plenty to enjoy in and around the Sevenoaks District.

Whilst many of the historic properties have been 'put to bed', the magic of Christmas is being celebrated at Hever Castle where, from 4 to 21 December, visitors can see the rooms of the castle traditionally decorated with twinkling Christmas trees and seasonal gardens. As dusk falls, the gardens are illuminated and turn into a winter wonderland with festoons of colour in the magnificent Italian gardens. With Father Christmas, the Christmas Post Office and Husky Dog rides around the grounds, there is plenty to please all. For opening times and information see www.hevercastle.co.uk or call **01732 865224**.

At Eagle Heights Wildlife Park in Eynsford there is fun for all the family throughout November, January and February with the Africa Show, owl handling and bird and reptile displays. A novel idea to make Christmas shopping easier is to buy Christmas gift vouchers from Eagle Heights for bird of prey experiences, mammal encounters, husky rides, cheetah walks, and there is a 10% discount available on these vouchers by quoting 7OAK

08 when purchasing in 2008. For full details of all on offer see www.eagleheights.co.uk or call **01322 866577**.

Christmas shopping becomes a pleasurable experience at Penshurst Place where the Christmas Gift Shop is open until 24 December with gift ideas, local produce hampers, Christmas trees and estate grown mistletoe. There are late night shopping evenings, a Christmas farmers' market and Father Christmas resident in his starlit grotto, and complimentary coffee and mince pie as you shop. For full details see www.penshurstplace.co.uk or call **01892 870307**.

At Chiddingstone Castle, the festivities include 'Divas, the Dramas and the Unforeseen Disasters' on Saturday 29 November, a light-hearted look behind the scenes of opera production. Then there is the Christmas Floristry Workshop on Thursday 4 December where you can learn to make floral Christmas decorations for the home. Finally Sunday December 7 sees the annual Christmas Cabaret. Nearby is Chiddingstone Village with its half-timbered houses, dating back to Tudor times and beyond, providing a backdrop for a pleasant afternoon stroll. For more information visit www.chiddingstonecastle.org.uk or call **01892 870347**.



Penshurst Place and Gardens

Chartwell, near Westerham, is the place to be between Friday 5 and Sunday 7 December, when their Christmas market takes place on the terrace outside the restaurant between 11am and 4pm each day. Visitors will be able to browse a wide selection of local crafts and food stalls, and the gardens, shop and restaurant will also be open to help turn a shopping trip into an occasion! Visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/chartwell or call **01732 866368** for details.

Lullingstone Roman Villa near Eynsford will be hosting a Christmas weekend on 22 and 23 November with festive fayre and an opportunity to see the marvellous mosaic floor and remains of the world of the ancient Romans. See www.english-heritage.org.uk/lullingstone or call **01322 863467**.

On crisp winter days, nothing could be better than a leisurely stroll around the deer park at Knole, in the centre of Sevenoaks, taking in the wide range of Christmas events in the House and Brewhouse tearooms. Events include Christmas lunches, The Lord Sackville Christmas Lecture, Christmas Wreath and swag workshops, the delightful sound of the Knole

Singers in the Great Hall, The Sackville Children's Choir and the Christmas Shop open up to 21 December. Contact Knole for full details visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/knole or call **01732 450608**.

Visitors will be surprised by the peace and tranquillity that the lakes and woodland walks at Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve have to offer. As you step away from the Jeffery Harrison Visitor Centre it is incredibly easy to leave the hustle and bustle of everyday life behind you. Visit www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk or call the Visitor Centre on **01622 622012** for opening times.

Once winter is over and spring approaches, the azaleas and rhododendrons burst into colour in the gardens at Riverhill House, a little way from the top of Sevenoaks High Street. At this time of year the gardens are at their finest and visitors can enjoy a haven of vibrant flora with stunning views across the downs. See www.riverhillgardens.co.uk or call **01732 458802**.

For details of all of these places and many more, visit www.visitheartofkent.com.



Chiddingstone village



Chartwell



Chiddingstone Castle

More than a sporting chance

Sporting achievement is born and nurtured at a grass-roots level, and when it comes to a thriving sports development scene, Sevenoaks District has much to boast about.

As Sencio Community Leisure's Sports Development Officer, Colin Hunwick's job is to bring together sports men and women, clubs, groups, providers and partners involved in sport across the District.

"We are very fortunate in Sevenoaks District to have a wide range of activities on offer, not just in the Sencio centres, but also at club and community levels. The challenge is making sure people know what's on offer and how it can fit in with their sporting, social and recreational needs," says Colin.

A key example of the District's diverse sports development programme can be seen in the pool, where much effort has been directed to addressing a government requirement that year six children should be able to swim 25 metres.

"Our Top-Up Swimming initiative is key to this, and through a three-year funding arrangement with the Amateur Swimming Association, this has allowed us to direct resources to extra swimming classes and train up new coaches. We also run lifeguard courses, and at White Oak in Swanley, the Highgate Diving Club has long been a popular feature."

Sencio's programme also includes the popular Prime Time for the over 50s, work with young disabled people, and a very successful programme to launch the game of Futsal - a shorter, faster-moving style of football, gaining popularity worldwide.

Another sport that has seen a significant increase in popularity over the past couple of years is fencing, as Paul Romang, Sencio's coach for the sport, explains:

"What is interesting about fencing is the age range it attracts," says Paul, who runs weekly sessions at Sevenoaks Leisure Centre for young players from the age of seven. We are now

regularly producing members for the England squad and have players specifically training for London 2012 - and that is hugely exciting."

Nurturing the District's young golfers has also provided Sencio with another success.

The Junior Golf Development Centre at Lullingstone Park has seen membership grow from just a handful of players two years ago to around 100.

Lullingstone's head professional, Mark Watt, believes their success is down to a sustained effort, implementing a full programme and combining that with a competitive annual membership fee.

"We focus on a set programme of events and I believe this has been a key factor in engaging younger players. Alongside group lessons every Saturday morning, members can also join in with organised events, participate in our nine and 18 hole league tables, play against adults as part of their development and, if they choose, have additional tuition with a professional."

Colin Hunwick believes it is vital to inform people what is on offer on their doorstep - and that was the driving force behind the launch this autumn of the Get-Active website by the Sevenoaks and District Community Sports Network.

"We need to bridge that gap and ensure people have access to all that's on offer. The Get-Active website will go a long way to achieving that, but I also want to encourage people to contact Sencio community sports development and Sevenoaks District Council, which is also a major and important source of information."

"There is a lot happening right on your doorstep. Don't miss out."

For further details visit www.sencio.org.uk or www.sevenoaks.gov.uk.





Edward Oatley, Chairman of the Sevenoaks District Sports Council, District Council Chairman, Cllr Felicity Broomby, and British tennis star Amanda Cunningham

Get online and get active!

From belly dancing to bowls, from salsa dancing to scuba diving, a newly launched website looks set to help local residents find out exactly what health and fitness opportunities are available to them in the District.

The Get-active website, www.get-active.org, is a free service which allows users to find out exactly what forms of physical activity they can become involved in, regardless of age and ability, across the District.

Launched in September the website also allows organisations and residents to add and advertise their own activities, as well as search for activities in their local area.

The website has been developed by the Sevenoaks Community Sports Network, a multi-agency group who promote the positive role that physical activity can play in all aspects of community life. The Network works to increase participation in sport and physical activity in the area to provide opportunities for all.



Celebrating the Olympic handover from Beijing at Sevenoaks District Council's offices

Countdown to the Games

In August, at the end of the Beijing Olympics, Sevenoaks District Council's Deputy Chairman, Cllr John Lankester, raised the Olympic Handover Flag outside Sevenoaks District Council offices to celebrate Olympic Handover in the build up to 2012.

This ceremony was just one of hundreds of similar events held across the country to mark the advent of the London Olympiad.

To celebrate the Olympic Handover on Sunday 24 August, residents enjoyed free swimming at Edenbridge, Sevenoaks and White Oak Leisure Centres, with 699 free swims clocked up on the day.

In the Olympic spirit, and to encourage greater take up of swimming, 5,745 young people took advantage of £1 swims over the summer holidays, funded by NHS West Kent and the Great Stone Bridge Trust.

Sevenoaks District - gearing up for the games

Although the main east London Olympic site is some 15 to 40 miles away, depending on where you are in the Sevenoaks District, organisations and businesses are gearing to make the most of the 2012 Games.

The Games will be held over a six week period in the summer of 2012, with over 200 nations competing, supported by 70,000 volunteers. The Games are expected to leave a legacy of national benefits in culture, sport, volunteering, business and tourism.

Locally, three venues can play host to some of the world's pre-eminent sporting talent in the lead up to 2012 as they have secured status as pre games training camps.

Brands Hatch in West Kingsdown will be a venue for cycling and Penshurst Off Road Circuit will host mountain bike training.

Sevenoaks School is a training venue for a range of sports including archery, athletics, basketball and fencing. The School has also secured status as a paralympic training camp for archery, paralympic athletics, wheelchair

basketball, wheelchair fencing, wheelchair rugby and wheelchair tennis.

With excellent transport links to London, local tourism is expected to take a share of the additional £1 billion in tourism income the Games are predicted to generate.

The legacy of the 2012 Games in Kent is intended to increase participation in sport, and to this end, the Council and Sencio Community Leisure are encouraging residents to become more active with a variety of physical activities.

Over the course of the next four years, there will be many opportunities for volunteers, sponsors and businesses to get involved in the Games. For more information on the Olympics visit www.london2012.com.



Young people speak out!

Thousands of people aged nine to 18 have set out their priorities and concerns as part of the development of an innovative plan aimed specifically at young people.

Between April and July, 3,060 children and young people from across the Sevenoaks District completed a survey about the issues that are important to them. The survey findings have been used in the development of the Sevenoaks District Young People's Action Plan, which will set out young people's priorities and how the District and County Councils and others will address them.

The Plan itself will be launched in April 2009 and will run for three years.

The emerging themes are:

- Making sure young people know what happens when they move from primary to secondary school and ensuring they feel supported
- Giving young people good health advice on issues such as drugs, alcohol, smoking, sex and relationships and healthy eating
- Promoting positive body image and a healthy lifestyle
- Improving the range of affordable local activities and increasing opportunities to take part in physical activity that young people enjoy
- Working with young people to help them feel safe
- Working with young people and schools to reduce bullying
- Providing workshops to help young people understand the consequences of anti-social behaviour and crime
- Increasing awareness of how to be safe while using the Internet
- Providing more opportunities for young people to participate in their community and recognising their achievements

Young people are being directly involved in the development of the plan. They have already given their comments on the draft version during Youth Takeover Day in November. It has also been given to the Sevenoaks District members of the Kent Youth County Council to ensure they agree with what has been suggested.

If you are aged between 11 and 18 you can get involved with any of the issues outlined in the Plan. This could include



Young people have asked that the Council continue with its summer In the Zone programme

influencing the way the Council works with young people, deciding how money should be spent on young people's services and sharing your views on important issues.

For further information visit

www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/readyforaction, e-mail youthmail@sevenoaks.gov.uk or speak to Sophie Lord, the Council's Youth Development Co-ordinator on **01732 227000**.

Get those new year's resolutions S.O.R.T.ed!

With the end of the year fast approaching, a time when new year's resolutions are often made, and then subsequently broken, a specialist team touring the District might be able to help you keep those resolutions for longer.

Whether you want to lose weight, cook healthier food, cope with life's stresses or just feel more energised and alive the Get S.O.R.T.ed team can work with you and help you achieve your goals.

The Sevenoaks Out Reach Team, or Get S.O.R.T.ed for short, is made up of fitness professionals and nutritionists and are currently visiting venues providing one-to-one advice and information to residents of the District.

They will help you create a perfect individualised lifestyle plan and provide the added support of a four week phone call or e-mail. All the support provided is free.

The Get S.O.R.T.ed team realise that modern life is busy and sometimes stressful and often your own health takes a back

seat. They will help find ways to overcome barriers such as time, money, childcare and transport, and motivate you into action with small manageable steps.

For details of venues the Get S.O.R.T.ed team will be visiting or to book the Get S.O.R.T.ed Team to visit your group or workplace please contact Sevenoaks District Council on **01732 227000** or e-mail healthyliving@sevenoaks.gov.uk.

Further details can also be found at www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/health.

The Get S.O.R.T.ed initiative is organised by Sevenoaks District Council in partnership with Sencio Community Leisure and jointly funded by NHS West Kent. This initiative is part of the 'Sevenoaks District Healthy Lifestyles Project' and the national 'Choosing Health' Agenda to make healthier choices easier.



Lead a balanced life in Edenbridge

Edenbridge residents who have problems maintaining their balance, or who have recently had a fall, could benefit from a new, free to attend class, that started in the town recently.

The Falls Prevention class is held every Thursday, from 12.30pm to 1.30pm, at the Edenbridge Centre on Four Elms Road.

This gentle exercise class is aimed at helping older adults improve balance, strength and stability and begins mainly in a chair and gradually progresses to standing activities.

Refreshments are provided at the class and there is no need to book, anyone can turn up and join in, and all abilities will be catered for and encouraged to work at their own pace.

If you require further information please contact Sevenoaks District Council on **01732 227000** or e-mail healthyliving@sevenoaks.gov.uk.

More opportunities to get healthy!

From line dancing in Swanley to health walks in Edenbridge, Sevenoaks District Council's healthy lifestyle initiatives have benefited a multitude of local people.

Last year there were around 11,000 attendances at over 670 sessions that took place as part of the 26 healthy lifestyle initiatives that were on offer for people in areas of need across the District.

Those who attended the activities have reported increased levels of fitness, improved diet, weight loss, an increase in social inclusion and improved mental wellbeing.

Building on the successes over the last year, a range of new activities have started up in the past few weeks, with more to follow in the new year. These include:



Three new health walks will be starting up in the new year.

Activity	When and where	Cost
Relax and Chat For over 50s. A yoga class followed by a chat with a guest speaker on interesting topics	Wednesdays, 3pm to 4.30pm Dunton Green Village Hall	£1
Falls Prevention Class For over 50s who are worried about falling or who feel unsteady	Thursdays, 12.30pm to 1.30pm The Edenbridge Centre	Free
The Why Weight Plan A weekly weight management programme for adults offering support to achieve a healthy weight	For further details contact: your local dietician Sevenoaks - 01732 885776, Swanley - 01322 622132, Edenbridge - 01342 414445	Free
Parent Then Toddler Yoga Gentle yoga session for parents, followed by a half-hour parent and toddler session	Fridays, 1.15pm to 2.45pm – Edenbridge Children's Centre. A free crèche space is available, although this must be booked in advance on 01732 864045	£3
Futsal Five-a-side indoor Brazilian style football league for men	Wednesdays, from 8.30pm White Oak Leisure Centre, Swanley	Call Sencio on 01732 747304 for details
Health Walks Friendly local walks for all ages and abilities led by trained walk leaders	Hartley, Swanley and Sundridge walks will be starting in the new year	Free

All of these initiatives are organised by Sevenoaks District Council and are funded by NHS West Kent as part of the National Choosing Health agenda, which aims to make healthy choices easier.

For further information on any of these activities please contact Sevenoaks District Council on **01732 227000**, e-mail healthyliving@sevenoaks.gov.uk or visit www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/health.

It's your money

Local people have until Monday 8 December to have their say on the Council's budget for the coming year.

During February, the Council will set its budget for the 2009/10 council year and residents' input will help inform the decision.

Over the course of the past three months, residents have aired their views on the Council's financial priorities via a questionnaire available on the Council's website, at three listening days in Sevenoaks, Westerham and Knockholt and in the Council's reception at its main Sevenoaks offices.

Young people were asked for their views via a specific website consultation to find out their priorities for Council spending.

Sevenoaks District Council is in the first of a four-year budget plan. However, due to additional financial pressures, the Council could be faced with a £500,000 shortfall next year.

The pressures are associated with free bus passes for the over 60s, new responsibilities for trees and open spaces and inflation, including higher fuel costs. Income has also reduced in some areas, most notably from local land searches.

Residents who would like to have their say on the Council's budget can still complete an on-line questionnaire up to 8 December at www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/budget.

Paper copies of the questionnaire are available by calling **01732 227000**.



Age - a positive experience

WEST KENT

By 2025, just 16 years away, half the adult population will be aged 50 and over. All older people should have the chance to lead full, active and productive lives.

West Kent Housing Association wants to promote positive images of ageing and inspire people to see old age as an opportunity to take on new challenges.

Above all, it wants to ensure that everybody, regardless of age, feels included in society. Which is why they have been busy preparing a strategy - 'Age, a positive experience' - to take into account the changing needs of the community.

West Kent aims to support older people, people with special needs or disabilities and their carers to ensure they have the information they need to make the right choice about where and how they live. It will prioritise provision of support services to assist older people to live independently for longer and when they decide to move to specialist housing, that this is delivered to the highest quality.

For further information on our older people's accommodation please visit West Kent's website www.westkent.org.



White Oak Indoor Bowls Centre gives you more

With recent additions of new age kurling and short-mat bowls, White Oak Indoor Bowls Centre is proving that it has more on offer than just bowls!

Played in nearly 50 countries, new age kurling is a form of the original curling game, but adapted so that it can be played indoors on any smooth, flat surface, rather than on ice. Importantly, it can be played by both able-bodied and disabled people of all ages.

The aim of the game is to deliver stones from one end of the court to the other getting as close as possible to the target.

In recent months, the Centre has also introduced short-mat bowls, a game similar to that of indoor bowls, except it is played in a smaller area.

The mainstay of the Centre, indoor bowls, has also benefited from recent investment when the eight bowl rinks were completely re-laid last year.

To find out more, call White Oak Indoor Bowls Centre on **01322 665571** or visit the Centre at Garrolds Close, off Hilda May Avenue, Swanley.

The Council's Christmas opening times 2008



Sevenoaks Office

- Open as usual on Tuesday 23 December from 8.45am to 5pm
- Closed on Wednesday 24 to Friday 26 December
- Open on Monday 29 to Wednesday 31 December from 8.45am to 5pm
- Closed on Thursday 1 January 2009
- Open on Friday 2 January from 8.45am to 4.45pm
- Open as usual from Monday 5 January from 8.45am

Edenbridge Local Office

Benefits surgery 1.30pm to 4pm by appointment

- Open as usual on Thursday 18 December
- Closed on Thursday 25 December and Thursday 1 January
- Open as usual from Thursday 8 January

Fortnightly Planning surgeries 10am to 12.30pm

- Open as usual on Thursday 11 December
- Closed on Thursday 25 December
- Open as usual from Thursday 8 January

Swanley Local Office & Information Centre

- Open as usual on Tuesday 23 December 9.30am to 5.30pm
- Closed at 1pm on Wednesday 24 December
- Open on Monday 29 December 9.30am to 5.30pm
- Open on Tuesday 30 December 9.30am to 5.30pm
- Open on Wednesday 31 December 9.30am to 4pm
- Closed on Thursday 1 January 2009
- Open as usual from Friday 2 January from 9.30am

Swanley benefits surgeries 9.30am to 12.30pm

Open Monday 22 December
No surgeries on Wednesday 24 December, Monday 29 December and Wednesday 31 December

Open on Monday 5 January and Wednesday 7 January

Hartley Benefit Surgeries (afternoon)

No surgeries on Wednesday 24 December and Wednesday 31 December

Open on Wednesday 7 January

To contact the Council in the event of a serious emergency when its offices are closed, please call **01732 462222**.



New homes ready soon

Older and disabled people will soon benefit from 40 new extra care apartments that are nearing completion.

Building work is well under way at Emily Court residential care home in Wilmington through the £72 million Better Homes Active Lives partnership.

The rented extra care apartments will provide an alternative to residential care, giving tenants their own home in a communal scheme with 24 hour care and support services for those who need them. Facilities on offer include communal residents' lounge, restaurant, bar, gymnasium, hairdressing salon, shop, internet café and landscaped gardens.

The site is being developed by Housing 21 in partnership with Kent County Council, Sevenoaks District Council and Dartford Borough Council.

Anyone interested in the new accommodation, due to complete in April 2009, must be on the housing register. For more information, contact the Sevenoaks District Housing Register on **01732 749433** or speak to your care manager.

In Shape is published and distributed by Sevenoaks District Council to inform local residents and businesses about the work of the Council.

Editor Daniel Whitmarsh

Editorial Assistants Steve Mandaluff and Alison Walker

e-mail communications@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Tel **01732 227000**

Sevenoaks District Council, Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1HG.

In Shape is available in an audio format for residents with visual impairments. Call **01732 227177** for details.

If you need help understanding this document, we can arrange for an interpreter to help you. Please call us on **01732 227414** stating your language and telephone number.

Printed on environmentally friendly paper. Published November 2008.

Sevenoaks District Council at your fingertips

Main Office

Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1HG
Tel **01732 227000**

Minicom **01732 227496**

(text telephones only)

Open Monday to Thursday 8.45am to 5pm
and Friday 8.45am to 4.45pm

Emergencies (outside office hours)

01732 462222

Complaints co-ordinator, Julie Heather

01732 227000

Swanley Contact & Information Centre

Swanley Library & Information Centre,
London Road, Swanley BR8 7AE

Tel **01322 614660** Council Tax payment
facility available Monday to Thursday 9.30am
to 5.30pm, Friday 9.30am to 6pm and
Saturday 9am to 4pm

Edenbridge Local Office

Adjoining Edenbridge Leisure Centre,
Stangrove Park, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 5LU.

Thursdays only. Planning surgery open
fortnightly. Tel **01732 227000** for surgery
days and times. Benefits surgery open
weekly from 1.30pm to 4pm

Leisure centres

Ash Green Sports Centre*

01474 707164

Edenbridge Leisure Centre**

01732 865665

Lullingstone Park Golf Course**

01959 533793

Sevenoaks Indoor Bowls Centre***

01732 451889

Sevenoaks Leisure Centre**

01732 470700

White Oak Indoor Bowls Centre, Swanley***

01322 665571

White Oak Leisure Centre***

01322 662188

* Operated by Ash-cum-Ridley Parish Council

** Operated by Sencio Community Leisure,
Head Office **01732 746010**

*** Operated by independent limited companies