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Local talent from local musicians was the order of the day at Caterham's first ever Party in the Park last month. The event, held at Marden Lodge School on Saturday 10th May, attracted over a thousand people and made a profit of £5,000. 15% of the proceeds is being donated to the Caterham Carnival fund and the rest will go towards the completion of a new school swimming pool. Pictured above, local girl band 'Roxy'. See page 9 for full story and more photos of the event.



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Funding for town facelift on the horizon

The next stage of the ABC Caterham Healthcheck project will see an Expression of Interest for SEEDA funding form being submitted to the Surrey Rural Towns Group (SRTG) on 19th June. Last year's ABC Healthcheck survey revealed the key issues of concern to local residents, and in recent weeks members of the ABC committee have been putting together a 'wish list' of short-term measures that would smarten up our town, known as the 'Shabby to Smart' initiative.

Caterham could potentially receive £100,000 from SEEDA (the South East England Development Agency) with match funding from Surrey County Council, Tandridge District Council and other supporters doubling the figure to £200,000. If SEEDA approves the bid a more detailed follow up form will need to be com-

pleted including proposed timeframes and who will be responsible for monitoring and implementing the project. The second form could be ready for submission during the autumn with a view to works commencing from spring 2009.

Most of the measures to smarten up Caterham would involve highways issues, such as street lighting, railings, signage, flooding and pavements. To explain how S C C Highways funds are managed, the highways officer from Surrey County Council, Derek Poole, met with committee members last month. Derek was able to explain how the Council prioritises its budget spend and therefore which projects could potentially be paid for by Highways and which would need to come out of the SEEDA grant. Derek also advised on safety and other regulations and ongoing main-



A shabby sign of the times

tenance issues that need to be considered before submitting the 'Expression of Interest' form later this month.

Chris Windridge, Chairman of the ABC Committee, said: "The meeting with Derek was invaluable. The information he provided was very helpful and is relevant to both Caterham-on-the-Hill and the Valley."

A new ABC Healthcheck leaflet will be published soon with an up-to-date progress report on actions being taken, project funding and timescales.

New Chairman

Councillor for Bletchingley and Nutfield ward, Tony Elias, was elected Chairman of Tandridge District Council for 2008-2009 last month. Also elected was new Vice-Chairman, Councillor Glynis Whittle. Tony has been Chairman of the Resources and Community Services Committees and the Vice Chairman of the Housing Committee. Tony's consort will be his wife, Drusilla who he has lived with in Bletchingley since 1985. They have a daughter and three sons.



Tony and Drusilla Elias

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Caterham to launch its own cultural festival in 2009

Momentum is building towards the creation of a Caterham Festival which is being planned for the summer of 2009.

Members of the ABC 'A Better Caterham' group came up with the idea as a way to bring visitors into the town and promote a positive image of Caterham to the world. The arts-based event will have as its objective several events in different locations around Caterham. It will build on the wealth of local clubs, societies, groups and regular annual local events, co-ordinated into a Festival programme. ABC committee member, Barbara Brunson, said: "We already have a lot of cultural activity in Caterham, with choirs, art groups, schools and a host of other organisations putting on both indoor and outdoor shows throughout the year. We would like to bring all of these groups

together to really showcase what Caterham has to offer. Events like the recent 'Party in the Park' and the annual Caterham Carnival could be highlights of the Festival."

The subject of a festival for Caterham has been raised periodically during the Healthcheck process and now a firm decision has been made to go ahead with the idea. On Wednesday 18th June an 'Ideas and Suggestions' meeting is being held at the Arc in the Village Development in Caterham-on-the-Hill at 6.30pm. Everyone is invited to attend the meeting to discuss the way forward for the Festival. It is hoped that by the end of the meeting an organising committee of volunteers will have been formed.

If you would like to attend the meeting, please telephone Barbara Brunson on 01883 345004 to let her know beforehand.

Art exhibition

Oxted Art Group held its 44th annual exhibition during the last week of May at the Woodhouse Centre in Oxted, opposite Tandridge Leisure Pool.

"The Woodhouse Centre was a perfect setting for our work and we are thrilled to have found such an excellent venue," said exhibition organiser, Hank Arnott. "We had a very positive response by our many visitors, whose numbers increased daily as the week went by. For more information about the Group call the secretary on 01883 371265.



The Woodhouse Centre became a stylish art gallery for the exhibition

New road sign commemorates RAF hero

The name Victor Beamish Avenue has been restored to a historic road in Caterham at an official unveiling ceremony last month.

On Tuesday, 13th May, Councillor Steve Altria performed one of his last official duties as Chairman of Tandridge District Council, by presiding at the ceremony in Caterham-on-the-Hill.

Also present were Cllr. Matthew Groves, Cllr. Hilary Turner and other members of the Parish Council, members of the local Royal Airforce Association (RAFA) and local historian Norman Skinner. Norman first came up with the suggestion that the name of the road that leads to Kenley Airfield should be changed back from Caterham Close to Victor Beamish Avenue.

"I remember this road being named after Group Captain Beamish when I



Victor Beamish Avenue:

'Group Captain Francis Victor Beamish DSO & BAR, DFC, AFC, Kenley Wing Leader Killed In Action 28th March 1942 Aged 38 "One of the Few"'

was an A.T.C. leader after the war," said Norman during the proceedings. "I am very pleased to see the name 'Victor Beamish Avenue' restored to this length of road and I thank everyone for their help. Not wishing in any way to detract from the man we are here to honour, I ask you all to give a moment's thought to the hundreds of men and women of more humble rank who must have passed this very spot with its Guard Room and barrier as they discharged their duties whilst at R.A.F. Kenley."

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Burtenshaw's Beat

by Tandridge Neighbourhood Inspector Elaine Burtenshaw



I would like to start by giving you a quick update on the investigation into the Whyteleaf sex assault. A reconstruction was featured on BBC One's Crimewatch at the end of April which resulted in the most amount of calls during the programme. Having spoken with the Detective Inspector who is leading the investigation I know that we have some very promising leads which her team are currently pursuing. I can't say too much now but as soon as we have an update I will be sure to let you all know.

I was delighted to see so many of you at the Caterham Valley Parish Council AGM last month. These meetings are vitally important and act as a great way for me to meet members of the community. The Drugs Bus was out and about in Tandridge last month to support the National Tackling Drugs week. It visited Tescos and Skaterham, Caterham-on-the-Hill, and other prominent places throughout the area. The purpose of the Drugs Bus was to educate, inform and raise awareness of drugs misuse in the community and reiterate the message that

'Drugs Destroy Communities'. Officers from my Safer Neighbourhood team were on board the bus and youngsters had the opportunity to be in with a chance of winning lots of prizes. In addition to the Drugs Bus officers also carried out a number of search warrants in Tandridge which yielded class A and class C drugs, money and other drug paraphernalia. You may have also seen us out in the local public houses working with the licensees to eliminate supply/use within their premises. Surrey Police will not tolerate the supply of illegal drugs and we work closely with partner agencies to prevent misuse, educate the public about the dangers of drugs and where appropriate provide support to those affected by drugs. Drugs misuse is a community problem and a motivation for committing other crimes to fund the habit. I would encourage anyone with information about drugs to come forward and speak with my officers or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Quick Quiz

by Alec Herbert

A question of numbers – all the answers are a number.

1. How many moons has the planet Mars?
2. According to the Bible, how many people were saved on the Ark, once the flood receded?
3. How many players in a water polo team?
4. Katherine Hepburn won a record how many best actress Oscars?
5. What was the number of the Apollo spacecraft which effected the first moon landing in 1969?

Answers

1. Two (Phobos & Deimos);
2. Eight (Noah, his wife, his three sons and their wives);
3. Seven (each team is allowed four subs);
4. Four;
5. Eleven.

New fundraising initiative for Tandridge

The Chairman of Tandridge Voluntary Service Council, Mike Moss, held a meeting at the Tandridge District Council offices last month regarding the establishment of a new charitable foundation. The proposed 'Tandridge Community Fund' would be built up over the years to generate interest for charitable purposes in the Tandridge District Council area.

Two years ago the Surrey Community Foundation was set up, which now has a fund of nearly £1m and is starting to issue grants from the interest to charitable groups within Surrey.

"Although there is already a Surrey-wide scheme, the Tandridge Community Fund would assist local charitable groups who would otherwise compete for grants with other groups throughout Surrey," explained Mike. Wendy Varcoe, the Executive Director of Surrey Community Foundation, attended the meeting to

explain about funds and foundations and endorsed the introduction of a District-wide fund in Tandridge.

Once set up, the Foundation would be seeking donations from local organisations and individuals who would like to help build the initial capital sum. Mike was keen to emphasise that local charities should not lose their support in favour of the Tandridge Community Fund. "We do not want potential donors to stop helping local groups but to consider also helping this Fund because the interest earned will help others," he said. "Once sufficient capital has been accrued to raise the interest, the Management Committee will be in a position to consider requests for donations from local charities." If you have any questions about the Tandridge Community Fund or would like to offer support, please telephone Mike Moss on 01883 713322 or e-mail: mikemoss22@hotmail.com

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Rose & Young latest

by Julia Church

In the April edition of The Caterham Independent we highlighted the plight of the derelict Rose & Young site at 67/69 Croydon Road, Caterham Valley. MP Peter Ainsworth told us that he would write to the owner of the site, Mr O'Riordan of Caterham Properties Ltd., about the situation. In his letter he complained about the 'blot on Caterham's landscape', saying the site was "unsightly, wasteful and damaging to the town's economic vitality." He asked Mr O'Riordan what his proposals were for the site and the timescales involved.

On May 28th Mr Ainsworth received a reply from a spokesperson for Caterham Properties saying that they are endeavouring to provide a mixed development but to do so they would require relief in relation to the standard parking requirements for office/retail parking. The

letter stated: "Please be assured that we are very anxious to progress matters and to give the town an attractive building as quickly as possible."

The spokesperson explained that Caterham Properties is not the sole owner of the land. Last year a portion of the land was sold to another company who have since sold part of their acquisition. Both companies have agreed that the best way forward is to work with Caterham Properties Ltd to create a joint development submission to the Council for planning approval on the basis of one building only, with a common street facade. Caterham Properties Ltd are in the process of working with other professionals to progress the planning application and design of the new development. They have stated that they want to provide a good looking building and will not cut costs in doing



The front page of the April edition of The Caterham Independent

so. They are very conscious of the 'eyesore' and the new building, when completed, will have a very positive impact on the development of Caterham. The Caterham Independent will be monitoring progress and keeping our readers updated.

NEWS AND VIEWS
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New supported living scheme

People with learning disabilities of all ages are being helped to live independently thanks to a new development of eight fully self-contained flats in Whyteleafe Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill.

Surrey County Council is working in partnership with HydeMartlet and Tandridge District Council on the £1.27 million scheme and the decision-making Executive has agreed to offer land at a peppercorn rent to the new supported living project. Planning permission has been given for the eight one-bedroom, wheelchair accessible flats on land next to an existing building that the county council already leases to HydeMartlet. The existing building provides a six-bed residential care home and five supported living flats for people with learning disabilities. There will also be a communal courtyard area between the new and old buildings. To move the £1.27m

scheme forward, the Executive has agreed to grant a 99-year lease on the land from the date the development is completed and to extend the lease of the current building to 99 years as well. A small rent will be paid by HydeMartlet.

Sally Marks, the county council's Executive Member for Adults and Community Care, said: "I fully support this excellent project because it will help people with learning disabilities have the same opportunities as everyone else, allowing greater choice and greater independence."

"Through close partnership working, eight people in Caterham who are currently in residential care will enjoy the greater flexibility that supported living accommodation allows." Building work on the project is expected to start in October this year and it is hoped the new tenants will move in about a year later.

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The exam season is upon us!

by Mark Phillips

Headteacher of de Stafford School

Our Year 9 students at de Stafford have just taken their SATs exams in English, Maths and Science, and Year 11 are in the midst of their GCSE exams. Our students take exams very seriously and have worked very hard in preparation for them. I would like to wish them every success, especially Year 11 who will be using these results to lead them on to the next stage of their education.

de Stafford has a formal partnership with both Reigate College and East Surrey College and all of our students are guaranteed a place at the college of their choice, provided that they gain the necessary grades in their GCSEs. Both colleges offer excellent opportunities to

young people. Reigate College specialises in the more traditional A Level courses alongside some excellent vocational courses such as Health and Social Care and Sport Studies. East Surrey College offers a vast array of vocational courses at every level leaving students with the choice of going straight into employment or continuing into Higher Education.

It was a very tough decision for the de Stafford governors to take when we stopped offering Sixth Form courses within the school. However, we continue to be delighted with the quality of the education provided by the two colleges and are confident that the range of opportunities exceeds those on



offer at a school-based Sixth Form.

We need help please

Earlier on in the year I outlined the role of the Governing Body and asked for volunteers to join us in supporting the further improvement of de Stafford School. We are again in need of individuals who have an interest in education and are prepared to attend approximately six meetings per year, and take an active interest in the school's development. If you would like to find out more please contact the school and arrange a preliminary visit to meet with me and Cllr Ros Langham, our current Chairperson.

Viva Vivace!



Star performers - the pupils of Vivace Pianos

They say "practice makes perfect" and it certainly did for the pupils of Vivace Pianos who gave some excellent performances last month at the Caterham Hill Community Centre. Children of all ages and standards took part as well as teenagers and even some brave adults! The concert was held to show off all the dedicated piano practice of the last year to families, friends and each other. It cer-

tainly proved that as well as being about success in exams, it is also about having fun. Some played on their own, some with backing tracks and some as duets. As well as performing individually, the Vivace teachers played a trio entitled "Anyone for Tennis" during which tennis balls were lobbed from behind the piano into the audience!

Vivace are donating £80 to the Robert Bouffler Trust



Piano teachers (from left) Viv Shiplee, Di Moorhouse and Amanda Hemmer

which supports young musicians who would otherwise be unable to fund their lessons. £50 was raised from the concert and an additional £30 from the sale of second-hand music in the shop. Vivace also run a knowledgeable and efficient sheet music service (for all instruments) which will soon be available on-line at: www.vivacepianos.co.uk For enquiries about lessons or anything else to do with pianos, call 01883 345569 or pop into the shop at 29/31 High Street, Caterham-on-the-Hill.

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Young Writers



This month, we are delighted to feature Young Writer, 13 year-old Laura Payten from Caterham-on-the-Hill. Laura has written this account of how it felt to be part of the cast of de Stafford School's production of 'Annie' earlier this year.

March 19th and 20th were two very special nights for me, seventy other students and a good number of staff at de Stafford School. Those two nights were the result of six months' worth of after school and lunchtime rehearsals for the school's performance of 'Annie'.



Laura Payten

The auditions were held in October, and I don't think I've ever been so scared in my life than when I was waiting outside the Drama Studio to audition.

Two weeks later, the cast list was pinned on the Drama Studio doors. Everyone rushed outside as the bell went, to discover whether or not they had been successful. I

was thrilled that standing at 5'7", I was to be Duffy 'The Biggest Orphan'. Over one hundred students auditioned and directing teachers; Miss Rainford, Miss Wright and Mr. Allen, had to cut this down to seventy pupils. Then followed weeks of gruelling rehearsals from 3.00pm till 5.30pm every Tuesday and Thursday. Finally, it was the last

week of rehearsals. All the students involved in the cast and crew were given three days off their normal timetable to rehearse in the school hall where the show would be performed.

The stress of rehearsals was starting to show in the flagging energy on stage. However, the dress rehearsal went spectacularly and the teachers and other cast members were delighted with the performance quality.

Nerves returned on the day of the first show, but after we had all warmed up we felt raring to get on stage and act our best.

We all remembered our lines to perfection and we Orphans as well as the Adult chorus sung and acted our hearts out.

I'd like to say a huge congratulations to everyone and can't wait to audition, and hopefully get into, next year's performance.

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Ten wins for Tandridge swimmers

Despite not being able to compete in five events, Tandridge Aquarius Swimming Squad secured second place at a gala in Tunbridge Wells on Saturday, 17th May.

Coach Caroline Mabb said: "It was a tough gala because we were short on numbers in the boys' team and unable to compete in five events. However, with some excellent performances in both the individual and relay events we managed to gain second place overall. A number of our swimmers achieved

personal best times. "A special mention must go to Niamh O'Connor, Ellie Skilton and Elisha Wilson who swam up an age group in both relays and individual events to make up the girls' team, and also James Nye, Oliver Colman, Finn Slattery and Ben Staig who swam up in both relays and individual events to make up the boys' team." Other teams taking part were from Ashford, Bromley, Tonbridge and Folkestone swimming clubs.

WARLINGHAM PARK SCHOOL - where technology leads the way

Warlingham Park School in Chelsham opened in 1986 to introduce the concept of technology to young children. Its founder, Stuart Sexton, was the Special Advisor to the Secretary of State for Education from 1979-1986 and firmly believed that design and technology should form a key part of children's education. "We feel we pioneered this concept; teachers from other schools came to see us to see how we were introducing design and technology at primary level," explained headmaster,

Mike Donald. From the age of three, children are introduced to the world of practical problem solving, using a wide range of tools and materials. Coupled with extensive computer facilities, this modern element is incorporated into a traditional Prep school curriculum placing emphasis on the fundamentals of literacy and numeracy. Children are also greatly encouraged in art, drama, music and games in order to develop their all round ability.



Mike Donald, headmaster of Warlingham Park School

"All these activities help to bring out the personality and confidence of the child," said Mike. "We are a small, mixed ability school, and for a small school we do remarkably well at music. Primary education is about a lot more than just being in a classroom."

Children can start at Warlingham Park's Playgroup at the age of two and enjoy the security of staying in the same school until the age of eleven. For more information, telephone the school on 01883 626844.



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In the Spotlight

Each month we put a local personality or resident in the spotlight.

This month we feature Caterham Valley resident Sakina Bradbury.

Sakina is Tandridge District Councillor for Whyteleafe and campaigns on behalf of young people.

Sakina is also a practitioner of natural medicine.

(Photograph by Mark Bushkes Photography)



Favourite Food & Drink: French food and Champagne

Favourite books: Emotional Intelligence

Pastimes: Flying light aircraft and volunteering for community work

Favourite TV show: Casualty

Who would you most like to throw a custard pie at? Tony Blair

Favourite song of all time: I Vow To Thee My Country by Sir Cecil Spring-Rice

Favourite holiday destination: Austria and Switzerland

Biggest influence on your life: Christian and Islamic teaching

Proudest moment: Becoming a mother

Most embarrassing moment: As a newcomer to England and the English language, I inadvertently used an expletive at a smart dinner party shocking everyone at the table

Where would you most like to live? Where I am now in Caterham Valley

Who would you most like to meet? Richard Curtis (who started Comic Relief)

If you won the Lottery jackpot, how would you spend it? I would buy my own aeroplane. I would also like to provide homes for homeless young people.

Birthplace:

Royal Hyderabad in India

Children:

One daughter and one son

Car:

Volvo C70

Pets: One cat, four rabbits, five chickens

Childhood hero: Gandhi

Likes: Helping to improve other peoples' lives

Dislikes: Dishonesty

Having a shot

by Julia Church

I'm always up for a challenge so I was delighted to be invited to a training day at the Kent Gun Club last month.

I took up archery for

about six months a few years ago and was looking forward to trying my hand at another target shooting sport, except this time the target



Bob Barrett shows budding Annie Oakley, Nicola Botwright, how to aim a shotgun

would be moving! Kent Gun Club members Bob Barrett and Kevin Barrett (who aren't brothers, despite the shared surname) are opening their store for shooting and country sports enthusiasts this month, aptly named Barretts of Caterham. Bob was one of a team of five shooters from the club who set the world record for clay pigeon shooting, while at the same time raising £6,000 for charity. On 27th March 2005 the team broke a total of 4,602 clays out of 5,000, entering the Guinness Book of Records. The highest scorer, Bob, scored an incredible 954 out of 1,000! The Kent Gun Club is situated off the beaten track behind Brands Hatch racing track in very pretty surroundings. After some preliminary instruction on the components of a shotgun and safety procedures, my fellow trainees and I were introduced to 'Down The Line' ('DTL') shooting. DTL

shooting consists of five shooters positioned 9ft apart in a 16-yard arc from the trap house that releases the clays. After shooting at five targets each, everyone moves along one place so that you shoot the clays from a different position, until everyone has shot at a total of 25 targets. Under the expert guidance of Bob and other club members, I proudly scored three out of 25, which was about average for our group of beginners.

By the end of the session I was feeling quite comfortable using Bob's record-breaking shotgun, which predictably didn't break any records that day!

You can meet Bob and Kevin at Barretts of Caterham at 22 High Street, Caterham-on-the-Hill when the shop opens later this month. To find out more about Kent Gun Club go to www.kentgunclub.co.uk or call Bob or Kevin on 01883 330110.

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Party in the Park

Crowds enjoyed a mini heatwave at the Party in the Park last month and kicked off their shoes and relaxed with picnics and Pimms whilst listening to a showcase of talented musicians. Organisers, Mark Jones and Linda Smith were delighted with the attendance and with all the support and help offered by local organisations and individuals. "We're on a real high," said Mark. "This is just how we wanted the event to be, wiith families gathering together to have a good time without breaking the bank." The music ranged from the Surrey Police Band to heavy rock group, Esoterica and local young groups, some of them performing live for the first time. Free workshops in African Drums, Samba and Circus Skills provided added attractions as well as bouncy castles and face painting. The beer and wine tent was also a popular hit with the adults!



Esoterica



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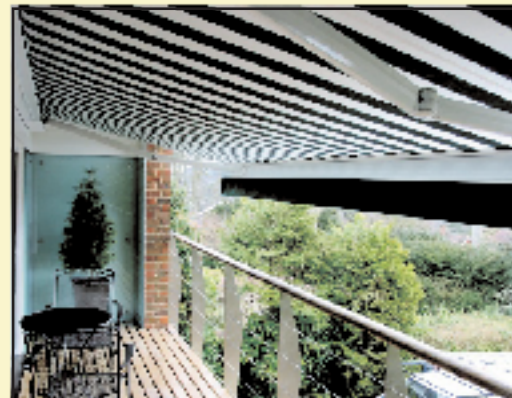


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Rotary Reachout

Caterham Rotary held their annual 'Reachout' event at the Douglas Brunton Centre, Caterham-on-the-Hill last month. The event is especially organised to provide a treat for vulnerable elderly people in the local community. Volunteer drivers collected the guests from their homes and took them to the centre where they relaxed and chatted while waiting to be served lunch. After dining on a full roast dinner accompanied by

wine or soft drinks, the guests were entertained by 'The Golden Girls' who sang a medley of nostalgic hits.

A table magician proved to be very popular as he went round to each table, impressing the diners with the range of tricks up his sleeve.

Caterham Rotary would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped on the day, especially the hardworking team in the kitchen.



Rotary President, Roger Easter, with one of the guests.

Out and about with the Scouts

by Andy Parr

We are now well into the summer season, and the Groups are taking every opportunity to get outside as part of the Kids Outdoors campaign. Hamsey Green are camping every month as part of the Group's 50th Birthday celebrations. The 3rd Caterham have visited an aircraft museum near Gatwick airport, the 12th Caterham Beaver Scouts have learnt to ride bicycles safely, and Woldingham Cub Scouts have learnt to play tennis, and also to ride horses. The Explorer Scouts have been off road cycling and the 1st Caterham held a large Group camp at Roverdene, when many former members were invited back for a hog roast and campfire. Food was cooked and prepared all day for the 160 campers and visitors.

Research has shown that young people are spending less time outside but want to do more outdoor activities. The Kids Outdoors campaign is sponsored by the Scout Association and many other partners. It aims to encourage young people to do more outdoor activities in order to enjoy a healthier life.

Last weekend over 100 Cub Scouts from our District spent a weekend camping at Frylands Wood. They were joined on the Saturday by another 100 Beaver Scouts who had fun and games in the rain. The Cub Scouts tried various activities including climbing and abseiling, shooting and archery, bungee stretch, catapults and blow darts. The Beaver Scouts learnt about the workings of a



medieval fort, where they pulled long bows, blew hunting horns and wore armour.

In the evening there was a campfire where various leaders were covered in shaving foam, then I got covered in sawdust as well. 'Tarred and Feathered'!

It takes a lot of adults to be able to put on these activities for the young people. If you think you could assist us, please contact me, Andy Parr, on 01883 340561.

1st Caterham (St. Mary's) Scout Group
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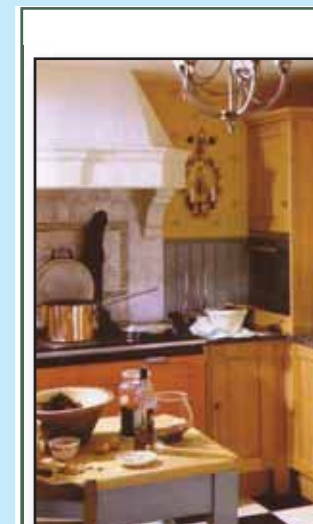
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Ye Olde King & Queen and the Blacksmiths Arms in the High Street taken in 1910*



Ye Olde King & Queen and the Blacksmiths Arms today - note how both of the old entrances are now blocked up

Specialist Shopping in Caterham

The ancient church of St. Lawrence in Caterham-on-the-Hill has been providing a place of worship for the local community since the 11th century. That tiny hamlet has since grown into a busy town; the High Street was established centuries before the arrival of the railway in 1900 brought entrepreneurial property developers and businessmen to Caterham Valley.

Very few of the very old buildings remain, but Caterham's oldest house, the Grade II listed 16th Century Wilderness House, still stands close to the magnificent Cedar Tree that marks the start of the High Street. Two more Grade II listed buildings, no. 33 High Street (built c. 1760) and Townend Farmhouse (built c. 1672) remain. The rest of the High Street, Townend and Chaldon Road is a mixture of Victorian architecture and more recent structures put up in the 1960's when Caterham-on-the-Hill was rapidly expanding.

The High Street and what is now called The Raglan Precinct areas are now home to 'specialist shops' which bring in regular visitors from outside Caterham. As well as the traditional butchers and greengrocers that still trade on the Hill, you will find outlets like Vivace Pianos, Jam music store and the soon-to-open Barretts of Caterham, suppliers of guns and other sporting goods. Alice Rose Gifts has saved many a trip to Croydon for a last minute birthday present, and Milan Design is worth a visit if you want something stylish for a special occasion. Add to the list four friendly public houses, two restaurants and two cafes, you have all the ingredients for a memorable visit.



Children from The Hill Council School parade to Queen's Park for Empire Day celebrations in 1914*



Hillcroft Corner today
*Historic photographs reproduced from 'Bygone Caterham' by Jean Tooke published by Phillimore & Co. Ltd.

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Happy Birthday Rainbows!

by District Commissioner, Charley Formosa

Rainbow Guides in Caterham and Tilburstow Districts celebrated their 21st birthday with a party at the United Reformed Church hall recently. 85 girls gathered for an afternoon of fun and activities themed around the colours of the Rainbow. They made models of animals and decorated biscuits.

As at all good parties there were drinks and cake, and party hats which the girls had made themselves. Linda McRae, a Guider from 9th Caterham Guides made seven beautiful cakes, each one decorated in a colour of the rainbow which the girls thought were fantastic. The afternoon was rounded off with some singing in good Guiding tradition. As the girls left, they were given a commemorative purse with some money in it and a badge to mark the occasion.

The girls had been asked to design a badge that would show what Rainbows were like so that they felt more involved with the celebrations. All the entries were very good indeed, but the design by Charley Moore of 2nd Caterham Rainbows was felt to be outstanding, and it was on her drawing

that the actual badge was based. Charley was awarded a 21st birthday commemorative t-shirt as a prize.

We would like to offer thanks to the URC who allowed us to use their hall free of charge.

If you are interested in Guiding in Caterham or Tilburstow Districts, please contact Charley Formosa, District Commissioner on 01883 653356.



Party time for the Caterham and Tilburstow Rainbows

Caterham Carnival



Last year's colourful Carnival parade

We're counting down to the 2008 Caterham Carnival which is taking place on Saturday 14th June on Westway Common, Caterham-on-the-Hill. This year's beneficiaries are the 1st Woldingham Guides and 9th Caterham Guides; the Caterham District Explorer Scouts; Marden Lodge School and Kestrels Children's Centre. The Carnival opens at 1.00pm

and the arena entertainment kicks off at 1.30pm with the Trevor Hills Falconry Display. At 3.15pm the float procession returns to Westway Common, led by the colourful samba band, Bloco Fogo. The Caterham Carnival Committee hopes everyone will come along on the day to enjoy what promises to be another superb event for the local community.






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In the garden

by Alec Herbert

Shrubs in borders are one of the key factors in determining the appearance of a garden. The right selection when replacing a dying or straggly looking bush or filling an empty space will give you pleasure and satisfaction in years to come.

Most shrubs, given the right start initially and a little care later will last for many years and here are some of my favourites:

Choisya ternata – an evergreen shrub whose foliage is usually a lime or light green and contrasts vividly with other greenery around it. Sometimes known as the Mexican orange blossom, it will do well in full sun or partial shade and can be grown on most soils, including clay, as long as it does not become waterlogged. The plant produces small white flowers through late spring

to early summer and will grow naturally into a domed shape bush. It has a distinctive, pleasant fragrance and can be propagated in late summer by semi-ripe cuttings. To me it is one of the most attractive and durable of garden plants.

Viburnum – this shrub has over 100 varieties and can be both evergreen or deciduous.

Whilst it is not possible to detail all varieties, two well worth serious consideration are **Viburnum burkwoodii** and **plicatum**. Both are hardy evergreens. Burkwoodii has a bronze like foliage and the older leaves turn a deep red in autumn. It is adorned with white flowers in springtime. Plicatum also has white flowers carried in large flat heads whilst the foliage is a deep green in summer, turning to a reddish tint in autumn. As the branches tend to interlock, the plant often looks as if it is covered in snow when it is in

full bloom. Both shrubs prefer a slightly acid soil and full sun and both look really spectacular at their best. Viburnum is such a lovely shrub with an extensive range of varieties from which to choose. Every garden should have one, to paraphrase a well used expression.

Finally – tip of the month – one year's seed equals seven years weed!! Keep the weeds under control before they are able to flower and seed – happy gardening!



Choisya ternata

Clifton Hill exchange visit

Last month, three students from Clifton Hill School in Caterham travelled to Latvia as part of a European Exchange Project to enable students with learning difficulties to compare disabled access in their schools and communities. The students, 18 year-olds Daniel Birch and Ben Solomon and 13 year-old Georgina Reilly had the opportunity to interact with the European students on

a social basis while their three teachers observed the special needs provision in the former Russian state.

"The special needs provision in Latvia was, as expected, pretty much behind what we have in the UK but they have only had 18 or 19 years to do their own thing," explained teacher, Nick Warner. "Some of it was impressive though - they had a fantastic computer suite, but the teachers are paid very poorly."

Having met each other, the students will now under-



Ben Solomon and deputy head, Peggy Murphy try to get to grips with a menu in a cafe in Riga

take regular internet video links prior to the next exchange which will be to Germany this November.

SK Complementary medical practice

Caterham resident, Sakina Bradbury, BA, MBRCP, ISMA, IHHHT, MICM Practitioner in Natural Medicine, has been helping to treat people with chronic depressive illnesses for the last eight years. During that time, Sakina has found that complementary medicine has a magical effect on people's health. "I have been treating people with asthma, IBS, MS and ME where conventional medicine was unsuccessful," said Sakina. "The results have shown that these people have maintained good health, keeping them away from the doctor's surgery and the side effects often associated with conventional medicine."

Sakina provides a professional, confidential service which encompasses a wide range of physical and emotional complaints. Her patients come to her for stress management, soft

tissue manipulation, sports injury massage, allergy testing, aromatherapy, homeopathy, iridology, reflexology, Tui Au, acupuncture and Neuro-linguistic programming to name but a few.

"Stress can be a major cause of sickness and the more relaxed and happier you are, the healthier you will be!" explained Sakina. "You don't have to be ill to benefit, our treatments help you to maintain good health," she added.

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Readers' letters

Thank you

I write to you on behalf of the Rotary Club of Oxted & Limpsfield to ask you if you would allow us the courtesy of your columns to thank all the generous people of Oxted, Limpsfield, Caterham and others from outside the immediate district who donated to our emergency street collection on Saturday 17th May for victims of the cyclone in Burma and the earthquake in China. We also thank Tandridge District Council which sanctioned at very short notice this collection and who waived their usual period of notice regarding collections and Messrs Boots and Morrisons for allowing us to be at their premises. The sum raised in a relatively short space of time was £430.23 to which the Rotary Club has added £620 and this sum will purchase two ShelterBoxes and an Aquabox.

ShelterBoxes provide humanitarian aid worldwide in the form of shelter, warmth and comfort for people displaced by natural and other disasters. An Aquabox provides up to 30,000 litres of purified water. Aid is sent in uniquely numbered ShelterBoxes each holding a ten-person tent and other essential equipment designed to help an extended family survive for at least six months. The ShelterBox Trust was set up and is administered by the Rotary Club of Helston and Lizard in Cornwall and is now supported by Rotary Clubs worldwide. In just over six years the Trust has provided emergency aid for over 500,000 people in more than 40 countries.
Mike Moss, President, Oxted & Limpsfield Rotary Club

Party in the Park

On behalf of Kestrels Children's Centre and Marden Lodge School, we would like to say "thank you" to everyone who attended this year's Party in the Park on May 10th. A great day was had by all. Organising such a big event would not have been possible without the expertise and extra help we received from Tandridge Licensing Office and also Tandridge Environmental Office and of course the local Community Police team, Leesa, Rupert and Nick. Big thanks to our local sponsors and an even bigger thank you to John at Kitt's Scaffolding, who donated his time free, Andy Parr, the bands, Scream Studio and the whole team at Marden Lodge School and Kestrels Children's Centre. The whole day just proved the point we were trying to make - family days out don't have to be expensive and can be trouble free. Everyone who attended

was well behaved and even used the bins provided making our job at the end a lot easier. Of course we would also like to thank The Caterham Independent for publicising this event. Now for the more important question... Would we do this again? You betcha! See you all at Party in the Park, Caterham 2009. Caterham people, we salute you!
Linda Smith and Mark Jones, Party in the Park organisers

Please send your letters to:

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Jump for St. John!

Last year, intrepid St. John first aiders braved burning coals to walk through fire to raise money for their divisions. This year the challenge is even more nail-biting - to jump out of an aeroplane at 10,000 and skydive down to earth. St. John would be delighted if members of the public joined them in the jump at Maidstone on Sunday, 29th June. So far there are seven jumpers lined up including Greg Ashley-Buck from Caterham Division and Deputy Headteacher of St. Hilary's School in Godalming, Margaret Morris. "I have al-

ways wanted to do a skydive," said Margaret. "I am doing it partly in aid of St. John and partly for St. Hilary's Bursary Fund. St. John Ambulance is a fantastic organisation. Our staff do the St. John First Aid training and we appreciate the role the volunteers play in the community." No experience is necessary. Full training is provided and if you raise from £360 in sponsorship, your jump is free. Three types of jump are available: accelerated freefall solo from 12,000ft; tandem skydive from 10,000ft and static line jump from 3,000 ft. Call 01883 567163 for a full information pack and Jump for St. John!

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Andaman Discoveries

Review by Caterham resident, Emily Gilbert

Although skeptical of eco-tourism before coming to Thailand, I started working at Andaman Discoveries with an open mind. Established after the 26th December tsunami, the initial emergency relief programme of North Andaman Tsunami Relief (NATR), now called Andaman Discoveries, turned into continued efforts with villages along the Andaman Coast, ensuring long term benefit and sustainability. Through participatory workshops, villagers voiced concerns of the adverse effects the mass tourism in popular destinations around them, such as Phuket and Koh Samui, was having on their culture and environment. With many villagers having lost their fishing boats and villages, they had to adapt their lives to regenerate income and support

their families, choosing eco-tourism as a way to do so.

The idea of the villages' and Andaman Discoveries' work is to allow a few tourists at a time to discover their unique lives, whilst participating in interesting activities and having the opportunity to volunteer if they wish. Activities and volunteering includes jungle hikes and snorkeling off deserted islands, mangrove restoration, orchid conservation, soap making and batik workshops, long-boat and big-net fishing, weaving nipa-palm leaves to sell for roofs, teaching in the schools, eco-tours, rubber-tapping, cooking Thai cuisine, fruit and cashew nut harvesting- the list is endless. Andaman Discoveries also offers a homestay programme which is very popular. As the only westerners in the

villages, it really gives you the chance to interact with the local people and gain an insight into their lives that you otherwise would not have. Andaman Discoveries is the winner of the 2007 Virgin Holidays as well as the Wild Asia Responsible Tourism Awards.

Also unique about Andaman Discoveries is the lack of long-term commitment needed. People can come for anything from a day to a few months, with 80% of income going directly to the villagers. To date, Andaman Discoveries' 'volun-tourists' range from 7 years to 73 years! It really is a holiday suitable for every kind of traveller. Whether you are traveling alone, as a couple, in a group, or as a family, there is something for everyone and I highly recommend it.

For more information visit www.andamandiscoveries.com or e-mail: info@andamandiscoveries.com



Sunset - photograph by Craig Lovell



Dining with locals on a family holiday



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Biarritz to Barcelona

Intrepid cyclists, Scott Georgiades and Clive Harper have safely returned from their epic ride over the Pyrenean mountains between Biarritz and Barcelona. Last month, the two Caterham Round Tablers cycled for seven days along with a team of 25 other riders to raise money for the Children's Trust in Tadworth. "We had all expected the journey to be tough but none of us was quite prepared for the sheer magnitude of the task ahead of us - freezing temperatures, driving rain, snow drifts and eight steep climbs including the renowned 'beast' that is the Col de Tourmalet," said Scott.

The team covered 430 miles, climbed six major mountains, were forced to make three diversions and cycled through roadworks that resulted in seven punctures.

"We have seen sights that we will never see again, achieved more than we thought possible and discovered the strength, both mental and physical to carry us through," continued Scott. "Above all we

made 25 great new friends."

The team was brilliantly supported by their team of drivers and had a welcoming committee of family and friends when they arrived in Barcelona. The team has raised £59,367 so far, beating their initial target of £50,000 for the Children's Trust. Scott said: "We would like to thank everyone who sponsored us for their help so far or, if you have promised to support us, thank you for your pledge.

To view photos of the trip and read about Scott and Clive's experiences, visit www.biarritz2barcelona.com



Scott in action

STOP PRESS!

At a meeting of the Planning Committee at Tandridge District Council last Friday, 30th May, planning permission was refused for a mixed development of flats, a restaurant and wine bar on the site of The Clifton Arms in Chaldon Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill.

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What is the human body?

by Steve Robertson, Energy for Life

What is the human body? Well it is an amazing organism. It is made up of many different body systems each with a specific function. Body systems support each other and work together to keep us alive and healthy. The better we look after our bodies the better they will serve us, and the more resilient they will be.

The human skeleton consists of many bones, each made up of living tissue that constantly grows and renews itself and marrow in each bone produces most of the body's red blood cells.

Bones can reveal details about your sex, weight, height and even your diet. By eating a balanced diet that is rich in calcium and by taking regular exercise, you reduce the risk of developing bone diseases such as osteoporosis or osteoarthritis later in life. Where two bones meet, a joint is formed and to

enable smooth movement, joints are covered with lubricated cartilage. Some joints, the shoulder for example, have a greater range of movement than others. Bones in less mobile joints, such as the spine, are attached by strong ligaments and generally provide more stability.

Muscles make up about half the weight of the body. All the voluntary movements you make depend on relaxing and contracting your skeletal muscles, so muscles on either side of the body should be in good balance with each other. If not - for example one side of the body is tighter than the other, weakness develops. Muscle imbalance can develop if you always carry heavy bags on one side of your body or sit at an awkward position at a desk. A common place for imbalance is the lower back but taking regular exercise

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- Bicycle repair tools - especially spoke spanners.



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and constantly stretching the muscles will ensure they are flexible and will prevent muscle imbalance. So now you have had a very basic anatomy lesson there is no excuse to not go walking, running or cycling in the sun, undertake good healthy food and enjoy life.

For more information on any aspect of health and fitness contact the team at Energy for Life based in Woldingham, 01883 650100 or visit: www.energyforlife.uk.com

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St. Francis kids get creative!

Children at St. Francis RC Primary School in Whyteleaf Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill spent a week devoted to the creative arts last month. School Governor, Fiona Kemp, said: "The Creative Arts week was an amazing opportunity for all the children to participate in various drama, music, dance and art activities out of the norm. Professionals came in to the school and shared their skills and experience with the children who were delighted with the whole experience."

Amongst the various

activities on offer was African drum playing, pottery, stagecraft and textile painting. All the children had the chance to enter a Talent Competition where the children performed a range of acts including reciting poetry, dancing, singing, drum playing and a piano recital.

The winners of the Under 7's were Luke Roberts and Luke Rogers with an excellent dance routine (see photo). Chris Matthews, George Balcombe and Calum McNulty won the Junior section with their act entitled 'Sound Effects'. The audience was amazed as they reproduced the sounds of a chain saw, motor racing and feeding the seals.



Luke Roberts (left) and Luke Rogers



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What's On

Caterham Carnival

The annual Caterham Carnival takes place on Westway Common, Caterham-on-the-Hill on Saturday 14th June opening at 1.00pm. There will be sideshows, arena events, a funfair, beer tent and lots more. The Carnival Procession will be leaving the Dene Hospital and parading along the High Street at 2.45pm, arriving at Westway Common at 3.15pm.

Summer Concert

The East Surrey Choral Society is holding its Summer Concert entitled 'The Best of British' on Saturday 28th June at 7.30pm. The event is being held at de Stafford School in Burntwood Lane, Caterham-on-the-Hill. Tickets cost £10 for adults, £5 for children and £9 concessions, to include a programme and refreshments. For more

information and to book tickets, call 01883 653221.

Audley Summer Fayre

Audley Primary School in Whyteleafe Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill, is holding its annual Summer Fayre on Saturday 21st June between 2.00pm-4.30pm. There will be lots of sideshows including Prize Bingo, raffles and tombolas, as well as many stalls with things to buy. Refreshments will be available so come along and join in the fun!

St. John's Summer Fayre

The St. John's CofE Primary School Summer Fayre is taking place on Saturday 28th June from 11am-2pm in Markfield Road, Caterham Valley. A fun day is being planned including arena events, a BBQ, Drinks Tent, Face Painting, Bouncy Assault Course, and much more.

Everyone is welcome to come and support our event.

RAFA Grand Sale

The Royal Air Forces Association are holding a Grand Sale at the Portcullis Club at Kenley Airfield on Saturday 7th June 11am-3pm. Books, bric-a-brac etc. Coffee and teas available from 11am, ploughman's lunch and a raffle. Ample parking available.

Concert for Kenya

A concert is being held on Saturday, 12th July at de Stafford School in Burntwood Lane, Caterham-on-the-Hill. The concert will feature a Welsh Male Voice Choir and Seventh Day Adventist Choir and the proceeds will go to the de Stafford School Kenya Fund. Tickets cost £10 each and are available from Geraint Jenkins, c/o de Stafford School, telephone 01883 347818.

Surrey Treasure Talk

Surrey Finds Liaison Officer, David Williams is giving an illustrated talk entitled 'Surrey Treasure'

in Caterham Valley Library, Stafford Road, on Thursday 5th June at 7.30pm Refreshments from 7.00pm The event is free.

Question Time and Gardeners Lunch

On Saturday 21st June at 11.30am in St. Peter and St. Paul School, Rook Lane, Chaldon, a panel of local experts will be answering gardening questions for about an hour, followed by a ploughman's lunch. Tickets cost £7.50 in advance please from Janet Payne, telephone 01883 330785.

What's On

Local schools, societies and other organisations are invited to send details of their fundraising events to:

**The Caterham Independent
33 High Street,
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Community Book Pledge

2008 is the National Year of Reading and as part of this nationwide initiative, Usborne Books are inviting local businesses and other organisations to increase the reading resources of local schools. Julie McKinnon, the local co-ordinator of this scheme, said: "I have spoken to local headteachers and shown them the wonderful range of books for all ages produced by Usborne Books and they are all impressed with their quality and adherence to the National Curriculum. One of the participating schools, de Stafford, is aiming to collect £1,000 in donations and if successful, Usborne will generously donate an additional £600 worth of free books on top of this." If you would like more information about how you can participate in this worthwhile scheme, call Julie on 01883 382863.

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