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Council says "No" to new housing at Surrey National

Local residents will be delighted to see that Surrey National Golf Club and the fields adjacent to Roffes Lane in Chaldon comprise two of the sites that: "Cannot be recommended for development" in the next stage of Tandridge District Council's Local Plan. The council has released the documents that will form the basis for the second stage of consultation once formally agreed by the Planning Policy Committee on Monday 31st October.

This second consultation will give residents an opportunity

to comment on sites being assessed as part of the Plan. The Sites Consultation will last for eight weeks, starting on Friday 4th November and finishing on Friday 30th December.

Each site has been through a landscape, ecology and other assessments to look at whether it could be developed or not. As a result, sites have been identified which:

- Could be realistically developed;
- Cannot be recommended for development;

 Need more investigation before a decision can be made either way.

The Sites Consultation will include evidence that can be used to protect the Green Belt in the long term and will not allocate any land for development or change the boundary of the Green Belt. Piers Mason, Chief Planning Officer, said: "We have released a lot of documents that relate to the Sites Consultation and the preparation of the Local Plan. We have taken all the sites that were part of the first stage consultation and assessed them against a range of evidence to decide on their suitability for development or not.

Continued on page 2.



Surrey National Golf Course.

SEE HOW TO TAKE PART IN THE SECOND STAGE OF THE LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON SITES BEING ASSESSED FOR DEVELOPMENT - PAGE 2









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Council says "No" to new housing at **Surrey National**

(Continued from page 1)

Mr Mason continued: "Drawing up a Local Plan is a long and complex process set out by the government. We are working hard to provide the evidence we need to convince the Inspector the amount of housing which can be built is realistic, but unlikely to meet the population needs.

'We want you to feel you have been able to shape and influence the place you live, work or visit, so please take this opportunity to tell us what you think. The findings of this consultation will be taken into account when the next consultation is carried out in the autumn/winter of 2017. Speaking about the council's decision with regard to Surrey National Golf Course and the fields adjacent to Roffes Lane, Chairman of Tandridge District Council and District Councillor for Chaldon, Cllr. Pat Cannon, said: "As a Chaldon resident. like everyone else. I am pleased to see that these two sites are no longer under

threat of being developed. However, there are still many sites in Tandridge that are classified as: "Needing more investigation before a decision can be made either way". This means there is already some evidence to show that the sites should not be developed. but more evidence is needed. Therefore people need to get behind the council to help collate evidence to support no future development so that the final version of the Local Plan will stand up to rigorous tests from the government and be accepted by the Inspector." Speaking about the Green Belt, Leader of Tandridge Dis-

trict Council, Cllr. Martin Fisher, said: "We, as well as all the other Districts, are having to do Green Belt assessments as part of the Local Plan. We are not doing the assessments because we want to develop the Green Belt, it is because we want to protect it. but for some reason people think we suddenly want to build all over it when we do not. To protect it we have to have a robust Local Plan that everyone can be happy with but we have to go through a very complex regulatory pro-

cess. I think our officers are

doing a very good job within a barrage of criticism."

An extension to an existing settlement at either South Godstone or Blindley Heath is another possibility under consultation, as an alternative to further infill in the established settlements in Tandridge.

Drop-in sessions

As part of the consultation, drop-in sessions will be held where planning staff will be available to talk about the consultation. Drop-in sessions are taking place between 2pm-7.30pm on the following dates: Tuesday 15th November at South Godstone Sports and Community Association, Lagham Road, South Godstone RH9 Wednesday 16th 8HN: November at St John's Church

Hall, Eastbourne Road, Blindley Heath RH7 6JR; Thursday 17th November at Lingfield & Dormansland Community Centre, High Street, Lingfield RH7 6AB; Monday 21st November at Council Offices, Road East, Oxted RH8 0BT; Tuesday 22nd November in the Soper Hall, Harestone Valley Road, Caterham CR3 6HY; Wednesday 23rd November in the Centenary Hall (Outwood Room), Wheelers Lane, Smallfield RH6 9PT; Tuesday 29th November in Warlingham Church Hall, 339 Limpsfield Road, Warlingham CR6 9HA and on Wednesday 30th November at Bletchingley Community Centre, 78 and 78A High Street RH1 4PA.

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HAVE YOUR SAY

The Sites Consultation documents can be viewed on the Tandridge District Council website at www.tandridge.gov.uk/localplan. From Friday 4th November until Friday 30th December, anyone can make comments by:

- Registering online and making your comments using the consultation portal http://consult.tandridge.gov.uk/portal/.
- By e-mail to localplan@tandridge.gov.uk.
- By post to Planning Policy, Council Offices, 8 Station Road East, Oxted RH8 0BT.

INDEPENDENT

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Business owners celebrate winning 'BID' status for Caterham

On Thursday 20th October, business owners in Caterham Valley celebrated the fantastic result of the recent referendum, when it was announced that they had voted overwhelmingly in favour of BID (Business Improvement District) status for Caterham. The results were Yes by number of votes - 91% and Yes by Rateable Value - 93%. Caterham now joins hundreds of other towns including Croydon, Oxted and Purley in having BID status, which will help the town to influence local authorities and fight for additional investment in Caterham. The funding for the project to introduce the BID was made available by Tandridge District Council, who provided an interest-free

The BID will commence in April 2017 and it will be in place for up to five years. During this time, the Board will work to bring about positive change to make Caterham a better place to do business, work and visit. The changes will include developing an identity and marketing strategy for Caterham, addressing the issues relating to parking and supporting businesses by driving down costs through shared procurement and encouraging inward investment.



From left, Cllr. Martin Fisher from Tandridge District Council, Andrew Browne, Sue McGeown and Mo Aslam from the Mosaic Partnership.

Andrew Browne, Chair of the Caterham BID Development Group said: "I cannot believe what a fantastic result we have, which means that the business community of Caterham has given us a mandate and now the hard work really begins. When the BID starts in April 2017 we will start to put our proposals into reality. There are lots of people I want to thank who have helped to bring about this successful result, including our consultants, the Mosaic Partnership; the BID Project Manager, Sue McGeown and the rest of the BID Development Group, all of whom have worked very, very hard."

For more information about the Caterham BID and the benefits it can bring to local business, visit www.caterhambid.co.uk





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Caterham councillor quits Conservative Group over Local Plan

Cllr. Clive Manley, the councillor for Portley ward in north Caterham, has left the ruling Conservative Group on Tandridge Council in protest at their Local Plan, which, says Cllr. Manley, would result in 9,000 new homes and the loss of large swathes of the Green Belt and open spaces.

Cllr. Manley said: "At the last Group meeting, we were told it would be 470 houses per year, which is four times the current housing requirement and approximately one new house for every four existing. I was elected last year on a platform of opposing significant new development. There has already been vast amounts of building in the Caterham area, which has put intolerable and unsustainable pressure on health services, schools, roads and parking. Now the Conservatives want to build at an even greater rate than before. I cannot remain part of a Group whose plans are in direct opposition to the wishes of the people who elected me, so I have no choice but to leave.

"I have tried to change the minds of the Conservative Group, and reduce the number of houses they want to build, but to no avail. I am determined to stand up for residents, I am determined to stand up and challenge the flawed approach to the Local Plan that the Tandridge Conservatives have adopted."

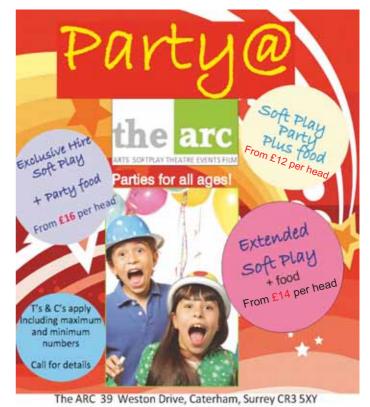
Councillor Manley will remain as an Independent for the time being, but says he will shortly be representing the newly-formed Caterham and Chaldon Residents' Group ("CCRG"), which has arisen from the merger of a number of residents' groups across the north of Tandridge.

In response to Cllr. Manley's statement, the Chairman of Tandridge District Council and District Councillor for Chaldon, Cllr. Pat Cannon, said: "What Cllr. Manley is saying is inaccurate and, quite frankly, scaremonger-Tandridge ina. District Council has not said that it plans to build 9,000 new homes in Tandridge. It is currently working on the Local Plan, which means going through the arduous process of having to identify every single pocket of land in Tandridge that could be remotely per-ceived as "developable" by a property developer, in order to then be able to collate enough evidence to demonstrate to the government inspector that, where ever possible, the land cannot be developed, either for reasons of ecology, topography or the inability to provide adequate infrastructure. This is a process that residents, with their intimate local knowledge, can assist with.

"I would be interested to know what Clir. Manley would do to meet future housing demand in Tandridge that is different from what our officers are already doing. Like every other district, Tandridge is following the law that says you have to have an Objectively Assessed Need for housing and a Local Plan with evidence to demonstrate if it will be possible or not to meet that need."

CCRG will be working closely with the Oxted and Limpsfield Residents' Group ("OLRG"), which already has an elected councillor, and will have access to OLRG's legal and other experts.





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A sell-out success for Woldingham's **Big Band Concert**

Memories and music from a bygone era rung out in Woldingham School's Dineen Auditorium on Friday 14th October at the sold-out Woldingham Big Band Concert in aid of St. Catherine's Hospice. The concert featured the 17-piece ConChord Big Band, who performed music from iconic 1940's swing orchestras and popular tunes from musicians like Glenn Miller.

More than 400 people attended the event, hosted by voluntary fundraising group, Tandridge Friends, and sponsored by W.A. Truelove & Son raising more than £8,000 for the area's local hospice. The Woldingham Concert is just one of the successful events Tandridge Friends, who have supported St. Catherine's for five years, host each year.

The Tandridge Friends Committee said: "It was fantastic to see so many people enjoying the music of the Con-Chord Big Band. We're We're thrilled to support St. Cather-



The ConChord Siblings performing a '40s number with the band.

ine's and would like to thank Woldingham School for loaning us their auditorium, Barclays for supporting our raffle and W.A. Truelove & Son for sponsoring this wonderful concert. And most importantly, we'd like to thank everyone who came out to support their local hospice. To find out more about St. Catherine's or how you can join Tandridge Friends or another local fundraising please group, visit: www.stch.org.uk



Chief Executive of St. Catherine's Hospice, Giles Tomsett with head of Woldingham School, Mrs Alex Hutchinson.



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East Surrey Museum to remain at the heart of the community

by the East Surrey Museum Fundraising Team

The East Surrey Museum is delighted to announce that, following discussions with Tandridge District Council during the summer, the Resources Committee was able to renew the on-going lease on our premises in 1 Stafford Road, Caterham for another five years, together with the generous support of a grant to fund the entire rent.

Management Committee Chairman, Clir. Beverley Connolly, said: "We are delighted that the Rental Subsidy Committee recognised the value of the Museum to the whole community and understood the work of the many loyal volunteers who support the Museum".

The Museum will be continuing its work of helping the community to enjoy the historical background of our area and the local environment. Outreach work in schools and communities continues, and



East Surrey Museum.

the popular ten-minute talks at lunchtimes will resume in January.

Now that the tenancy of the Museum in its present building has been confirmed for at least the next five years, we intend to double our efforts at fundraising to support maintenance and improvement of the premises as well as the continuing work to ensure the proper care and storage of artefacts in the custody of the Museum.

Unique to East Surrey, the Museum is open to the general public on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, from 10am to 5pm. In addition to its permanent displays, it exhibits constantly changing thematic displays featuring subjects of local interest. We look forward to welcoming residents, students, school children and researchers.

Why don't you come in and see me some time?

My name is Una and I am more than 100 years old. I am one of



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Local youngsters bake cakes to raise cash for Macmillan **Cancer Support**

This autumn, coffee mornings have been taking place all over the country in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. On Thursday 29th September, the Year 9 students at de Stafford School in Caterham and their Head of Year, Mrs held a coffee Callanan, morning attended by members of the local community including Caterham Rotary Club. The sale of the coffees and delicious home-made cakes raised over £500.

The following Sunday, 2nd October, 11-year-old Sophie Shaw from Caterham-on-the-Hill held a coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer Support at the Soper Hall in Caterham Valley. In addition to the great selection of cakes on sale, there were a number of craft and gift stalls for visitors to browse. The event was a huge success and with the support of her friends, her Mum, Elaine and her Grans, Janet and Mairi, Sophie raised over £1,000 for the



de Stafford students at their Cake Sale with the Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Pat Cannon.



From left: Sophie's Gran, Janet Shaw; Sophie, and Sophie's Mum, Elaine, selling cakes in the Soper Hall.

Our Local Plan Sites Consultation

Friday 4 November to Friday 30 December

Have your say on the future development of the district

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Small school, big reputation! Essendene Lodge School celebrates 50 Years!

A small school that does big thinas!

Essendene Lodge School is a small prep school situated in Caterham on the Hill. The school was founded by Mrs Shirley Haydock and officially opened its doors to local pupils in October 1966. The school has been enormously successful in meeting its main aim of providing an outstanding education in a family friendly atmosphere. Mrs Haydock is the Principal and is still very actively involved in the strategic and day to day running of the school.

The school now attracts many pupils from a wide area and it is the norm for children of previous pupils to attend this school.

Editorial Feature



The pupils of Essendene Lodge School celebrate the school's 50 year anniversary.

Essendene Lodge School continues to be in high demand and whilst the school is not big in terms of size, it is the intimate family atmosphere and small class sizes that contributes to its success. Mrs Haydock made an active choice to keep the school small as she says: "I wanted a school where each child is treated as an individual, where talents are fostered and nurtured so that every pupil can reach their potential".

The school has undergone various inspections through Ofsted and also the Independent Schools Inspectorate, which have endorsed the school's outstanding pastoral care and academic achievements. Essendene Lodge School marked its 50th year with many events such as a 1960s day, a PTA 60s tea party and cheese and wine alumni event. Mrs Havdock also presented each child with a special individual souvenir. The school has a long history of success down the years and will most certainly be around for another 50 years!



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Marden Lodge School attains 'Good' Ofsted rating

Staff and pupils at Marden Lodge Primary School in Caterham Valley have been celebrating the publication of the school's June Ofsted inspection. For the first time in 21 years, Marden Lodge has attained the second highestpossible rating of 'Good'.

Department of Education inspectors visited towards the end of the summer term but have only just published their findings, and Marden Lodge received good ratings in all of the six judgement categories, earning the school an overall 'Good' verdict.

Head teacher, Kelly Storey, said: "Receiving a 'Good' judgement is a tremendous achievement and recognises the work of children, parents, staff, school leaders and the governors here at Marden Lodge. This is nothing less than the children and school community deserves and we would like to thank everyone



The school's celebration cake.

for their support and contribution.

The last time Marden Lodge had been inspected before this year was in July 2013, when it was identified as needing improvement. At that point, running of the school was taken over by the GLF Trust, a multiacademy group running more than a dozen schools, from new-build primaries to 90year-old secondaries, across the south east of England.

Mrs Storey said: "As a school, we look to strive to improve all the time, so although attaining a 'Good' status is an achievement in its own right, we want this to just be the start of the journey for Marden Lodge and everyone who is part of it."



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Cubs sponsor three guide dogs for the blind by Paul Lovell

As part of the Disability Awareness Badge, 5th Caterham (Sacred Heart) Cubs undertook a sponsored swim in aid of the Guide Dogs for the Blind at Caterham School on Sunday 2nd October.

Most of the Cubs managed to swim for an hour, completing a number of lengths. Those that could not swim also kept going with the use of buoyancy aids and floats!

The aim was to raise enough money for two Guide Dogs at £109 each. The Pack managed to raise a staggering £354.80 (not including gift aid) which

means they can sponsor three puppies from six weeks old up until they qualify as Guide Dogs. The group will also be sent regular updates with a narrative and photos of the pups.

The following Monday night Cub session saw a visit from Paul (who is visually impaired) and his adoring companion Spencer, a Golden Retriever. Paul has visited a number of groups in Caterham District, and it was a very enjoyable and informative time for the pack who said the best part was being permitted to stroke Spencer, and finding out that he was quite naughty and his favourite toy is still his teddy bear!

The Cubs enjoy stroking Paul's friendly Guide Dog, Spencer.



Readers' letters

Thank you

I write to thank the public for their support for the Community Health and Education for the Children of Kimilili ("CHECK") Concert held at de Stafford School on Saturday 8th October.

The choir delighted the full Hall with their singing of songs, anthems, hymns, pop and folk. They were wonderfully supported by the Caterham Community Choir and three students, namely Natalie Bishop, Anna Simonova and Isaac Quinton, a trio from Caterham School.

The Trustees of CHECK would like to thank the performers and everyone who came along to support the concert, which raised just over £2,000 for the children of Kimilili.

Geraint Jenkins MBE, Chairman of CHECK.



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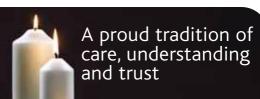
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Diary of a Plantaholic

By Sue Baines

Priority jobs for November, apart from leaf sweeping, are deconstructing the garden and safely gathering in before the winter storms begin. We've cut down all the pond plants and water lilies. Decomposing foliage exudes gases, which can be quite toxic to our fish should the pond freeze for any length of time. A fine net has been put over to catch the usual deluge of leaves. A couple of balls sit in the ice to allow any build up of gases to escape, and our fish haven't been fed since the beginning of October.

Planted pots need to have bricks or feet put under them, as frozen soil in the pots, can easily crack them. I have forgotten before, and it's so disappointing in spring, when you realise.

The dahlias are just getting better each year. It is heart-breaking to have to dismantle them, but I have so many now. I have made a good start, leaving a few further down the garden to be hit by



Sue Baines

the frosts, then all the frozen, damaged foliage is removed and whole bags of manure carefully placed over them. These stay in situ until spring. The lifted ones are cleaned of soil, wrapped in newspaper and, importantly, labelled. I then place them upside down in a shoe hanger in the garage till next February, when they will have bottom heat and start again.

I have planted a few seeds this year that need cold to help them germinate. They're safely in a cold frame, as the bulbs have been repeatedly rearranged by the fox, despite copious amounts of chicken wire!

With most of the winter preparations now complete, I will see you all again in the spring!

Quick Quiz

by Alec Herbert

Around the country – all the answers contain a place in England

- 1. Superman worked for the Daily Planet under what name?
- 2. Magnesium sulphate is commonly known by what name?
- 3. Who had a British number one hit with "Heaven is a Place on Earth"?
- 4. Graham Greene wrote a gangster novel published in 1938 named after which seaside resort?
- 5. Who wrote the novel "The Moon and Sixpence"?

Answers:

1. Clark Kent; 2. Epsom Salts; 3. Belinda Carlisle; 4. Brighton Rock; 5. Somerset Maughan

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Remember, remember, the 5th of November!

Plans are forging ahead for this year's Caterham Round Table annual Firework Display taking place on Saturday 5th November in the Dene Field in Church Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill. Entry on the night costs £5 per person, under fives go free. Tickets can be purchased in advance of the event at the reduced rate of £4 from Computer Solutions and Costcutter in the High Street in Caterham-on-the-Hill and JJ Browne Jewellers in Croydon Road and Godstone Road in Caterham Valley.

The traditional, annual Torchlight Procession, preceded by the Redhill Corps of Drums, will set off from Caterham Hill Library in Westway at 6.30pm and will process round to the Dene Field in time for the start of the display.

Local children are invited to enter the Build a Guy competition on the Dene Field next to Caterham Dene Hospital on the day of the display. Simply take your Guy along to the field by 1pm to be judged and the winner will win £50. All entrants will receive a free ticket to the display.



The Caterham Round Table Firework Display. Photos by Jon Harrison.

To book an advertisement please call Jenny on 01883 346641 or e-mail jenny@caterham-independent.co.uk

Caterham

RoundTable



Saturday 5th November



Saturday 5th November

Caterham Dene Field

Gates open at 6pm. Display starts at 7.15pm

Torch Procession at **6.30pm** from Cater am Hill Library

Food/Beverage — for all the family

Entry £5 per person—under 5's go free

Pre-sale tickets can be bought from J J Browne and Son (Jewellers) Godstone and Croydon Road in Caterham Valley, and from Computer Solutions and Costcutter on Caterham on the Hill for £4.

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Please support your local traders this Christmas!

Christmas gets underway in Caterham with a host of activities taking place around the switching on of the Christmas Lights in Caterham Valley on Saturday 26th November (see full programme on facing page). There will be a Christmas Market in Croydon Road, a Christmas Fair in the Soper Hall and lots of entertainment and live music from local singers and musicians in Church Walk. And don't miss the annual switching on of the Cedar Tree Lights in Caterham-on-the-Hill on Sunday 27th November. Residents are invited to join in with carols, watch Father Christmas switch on the lights and enjoy mulled wine and mince pies from 6pm-6.45pm. Please bring a torch!





The Cedar Tree lights. www.localeventphotos.co.uk



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Last year's Lantern Parade Photo by Paul Brown Photography.





The Christmas season in Warlingham will start with the ever popular big switch on of Christmas Lights on Saturday 19th

Once again, with the help of sponsors and traders around The Green, the Warlingham Christmas Lights Committee has been able to add additional pure white lights to the glittering display in the village's trees.

The festivities surrounding the switchingon ceremony will begin at 3.30pm, building up to the children of local primary schools setting out on the traditional lantern parade around the centre of the village at around 4.45pm, led by the Warlingham Flute Band. The lights will be switched on at 5pm, followed by carols from a combined children's choir.

Other attractions on the day include a Christmas market in the Village Hall and stalls in the Church Hall from 3.30pm and from 5.15pm, Santa will be in his Grotto in the Church Hall. Children's activities will be taking place in the Guide Barn, Westhall Road. There will be lots to eat and drink, including mulled wine in the BGL Wealth car park and the forecourt of Manor Park Garage. Also, more businesses than ever around The Green will remain open late and be staging special events.

For more information visit www.warlinghamlights.org.uk.





The Captain's Tabi wish the Christmas Lights Committee all the very best for a successful event.

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Caterham School Band & Choir 11.45 - 12.00

Jarden Lodge School Choir 12.15 - 12.30

Face Painting & DJ from 11.00

Caterham School Band & Choir 12.15 - 12.30

Marden Lodge School Choir 12.40 - 12.55

> Caterham Rock Choir 1.00 - 1.30

Baptist Church Choir 4.00

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> DJ 1.00 - 5.00

Caterham School Band & Choir 1.00 - 1.15

Marden Lodge School Choir 1.20 - 1.30

12 Days of Christmas Competition

Lantern Parade

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Christmas Lights

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5.00 Church Walk

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Calling all young snappers

Following the success of Caterham Rotary Club's first Young Photographer Competition, the club is delighted to announce the launch of their next annual competition, this time with the theme: "Seasonal Scenes in Surrey". The competition will provide young photographers plenty of opportunity to take advantage of the autumn and winter, including Christmas and the New Year.

There will be three prizes of £100 awarded to the winners of the following age groups: Junior: Up to and including Year 6.

Intermediate: Up to and including Year 11.

Senior: Age under 19.

(All categories are based on a qualifying end date of 31st August 2017.)

Photographs can be in colour or black and white and must measure 6" x 4" in jpg format



and submitted by email. Full details of the competition, including an application form and terms and conditions, are on Caterham Rotary's website: www.caterhamrotary.org.uk. The deadline for submitting photographs with a completed application form is Wednesday

1st February 2017.

Organiser of the event, Rotarian Marianne Woods, said: "We were thrilled with the response and quality of photographs that we received from our first competition and we are looking forward to seeing the results from the latest event. We are also very grateful for the support from Ying Shi, the joint owner of Caterham Photography, who has kindly

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James (left) and Andy Browne of APB Windows.

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PARTNERS

Le Personne Homes savs "Goodbye and thank you" to Hilary

On Wednesday 12th October, residents and fellow trustees of the Le Personne Homes in Caterham-onthe-Hill attended a reception for Cllr. Hilary Turner, who is retiring as a trustee of the Homes after 18 vears.

After welcoming everyone to the reception, the Chairman of the trustees, Cllr. Eithne Webster, said: "Thank you for coming to this special event to mark Hilary's retirement. Hilary has worked very hard to provide the very best in living here and has always shown a great deal of interest in and concern for our residents."

After being presented with a bouquet, Hilary said: "I have really enjoyed being a trustee and had a wonderful time. I am very proud of all the improvements we have made to the building over the years. I think it is a marvellous thing to have done with only five trustees who are very committed."

A bouquet was also presented to Mrs Ros Rawling, who had donated a bench to the Homes in memory of her late husband, John Rawling, who sadly passed away in August last year. John had been a trustee of the Homes since 1983 and Chairman of the trustees since 1998.

Ros said: "I think John took huge pleasure in coming here and seeing the improvements. Thank you for all the friendship you shared with him.'



Cllr. Hilary Turner (left) and Cllr. Eithne Webster.



Back row, from left: Le Personne Homes warden, Cathy Wade; Trustee, Cllr. Eithne Webster; Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Pat Cannon; Clerk to the Trustees, Gina Caunt; Trustees Rob Richards and Jackie Servant, Front row: Cllr, Hilary Turner and Ros Rawling with the bench dedicated to the memory of John Rawling.





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Eating Out

Enjoy authentic Keralan cuisine at **Fushia**

Review by Julia Church

I took my friend Jill for her first visit to Fushia South Indian restaurant in South Croydon recently, and she was amazed to see the transformation since the venue's days as Scott's Dine and Dance.

The spacious interior is colourful and welcoming, with a long bar and bags of space between the tables.

The food is authentic Keralan cuisine, and is one of the best restaurants to cater for vegetarians. In addition to the vegetarian choices on the menu, the chefs can also produce dishes using excellent fish, chicken and mutton substitutes.

I chose the Nairobi Bhajia for mv starter - sliced Kenvan potatoes marinated in delicate spices and deep fried, and Jill chose the Calamari that was also marinated in Indian spices. Jill was very impressed with her spicy Calamari, which she said was lovely and crispy and she could tell was freshly-prepared.



The colourful restaurant interior.

For our main courses I chose the Vegetable Kohlapuri made with dessicated coconut and Jill chose the Special Bhuna Gosh, boneless lamb cooked 'Bhuna' style, in a creamy, mediumspicy sauce. To accompany our mains we shared a portion of Mushroom and Peas Pilau Rice, some Vegetable Hakka Noodles and a Peshwari Naan. Srini, the owner of the restaurant, then brought us a vegetarian fish substitute dish from

Malaysia to try.

Jill said: "I would have put money on the fact that this is real fish. Honestly, I cannot tell the difference!" She added that it was certainly not something she had expected to be

served in an Indian restaurant. I was amazed - I had no idea you could get a vegetarian fish substitute. Srini said that they did not include all the vegetarian substitute dishes on the menu, but customers can ask Javed the waiter for suggestions for vegetarian alternatives.

Jill and I had a superb meal, with plenty of expert guidance on Keralan cuisine by Srini and laved.

With its spacious interior and reasonable prices, Fushia is a venue well worth considering for Christmas parties.

For more information and to book a table call the restaurant on 0208 680 8833.

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The Quintessential Restaurant - Fabulous Fine Dining in Coulsdon

Review by Julia Church

Coulsdon has been put well and truly on the map for lovers of fine dining, with the recent arrival of The Quintessential Restaurant at 121 Brighton Road.

The owner, Sonia Francis-Mills, has created a stylish venue without being at all ostentatious. Her friendly welcome and the charming staff soon make their customers feel very well looked after.

I went there for dinner recently with my Mum, Pam, who is always particularly interested in trying out new restaurants.

The menu is seasonal and Sonia uses local suppliers, Bashford & Co and Simpsons Fisheries for her meat and fish and her top quality vegetables are from West Green Vegetables in New Covent Garden. Although the food is predominantly English, the menu also features French, Italian and other worldwide dishes from time to time. Compared to some other restaurants the choice is limited, but each dish is exquisitely created by the chef, Sebastian, who trained and won awards with Jamie Oliver and has also worked in Marco Pierre White restaurants.

My starter of Roasted Heritage Beetroot came with goats cheese mousse, pickled turnips, finely sliced chestnuts and baby basil. Mum's starter of Hand-dived, Seared King Scallops came with brown shrimp, smoked



Chocolate Fondant dessert.

Jerusalem purée and baby sea herbs. For our mains I chose the Blue Cheese Polenta with creamed wild mushrooms, comfit cherry tomatoes, truffle and basil and Mum chose the Stuffed and Rolled Lamb with caramelised red onion, heritage carrots, pomme purée and lamb gravy. The food looked amazing and tasted beautiful, accompanied by a crisp, fruity white wine in crystal glasses.

We finished our meal with Sonia's recommendation, the Chocolate Fondue, a speciality of Sebastian's, consisting of warm, creamy chocolate in the centre of a chocolate sponge, garnished with berries and a flower that were all edible.

The restaurant is not open for lunch but is open for afternoon tea, serving a selection of sandwiches, pastries and cakes with a choice of teas for £16 per person.

Sonia is offering our readers 20% off all evening main meals throughout November so now is the perfect time to try the new, local Fine Dining experience! Visit www.quintessential-restaurant.co.uk for more information.





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Catherine wins the trophy in the Grand Round Table Conker Competition!

On Sunday 9th October, 32 enthusiastic contestants and their children congregated at The Fox pub, Coulsdon Common, to take part in the second annual Caterham Round Table Conker Competition.

The dry weather and perfect autumn day provided the ideal backdrop for the fun competition.

Last year's winner, Tricia Louvell, was knocked out in the second round by winner Catherine Iman. Round Table members Mike Stephens and Haydn Lamb came second and third respectively.

Fellow Round Table member and organiser of the event, Pete Dommett, said: "It was a great day and Catherine won a hard fought battle. We are looking forward to holding the event again next year".



Master of Ceremonies, Pete Dommett.



From left: Haydn Lamb, Catherine Iman and Mike Stephens.

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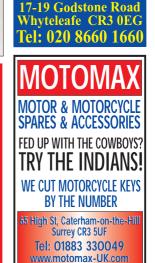












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BASED IN WARLINGHAM

Christmas Market

On Sunday 20th November from 11am-3.30pm, Sacred Heart Church in Essendene Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill, CR3 5PA is holding a Christmas Market in the Centenary Hall. Stalls will include art and craft, cakes, toys, preserves, jewellery, decorations, gifts, tombolas and a Lucky Dip. There will be light lunches and snacks available as well as a har.

League of Friends Christmas Fair

The League of Friends of Caterham Dene Hospital is holding its Christmas Fair in the United Reformed Church in Harestone Valley Road, Caterham Valley on Saturday 3rd December from 10am-2pm. There will be a great variety of Christmas stalls including toys, gifts and Christmas cards. Lunch, coffee, tea and cake will be available.

Isis Concert

On Saturday 12th November, the Isis Duo, Yvonne Lewis (piano) and Denise Todd (violin) are holding a charity concert to raise money for Rakitovo SS Fund. The repertoire will include themes from great movies including Fiddler on the Roof and Harry Potter plus some classics by Chopin, Kreisler, ABBA and Cole Porter. Tickets cost £10/£5 from Denise on 01883 652022. The doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start, at Woldingham Village Hall, The Crescent, Station Road, Woldingham CR3 7DB.

What's On

On Saturday 5th November between 11am-3pm, the Soper Hall, Harestone Valley Road, Caterham Valley, is hosting in aid of MIND, the mental health charold skills. Tea, coffee and cake will be

available as well as a raffle and tombola. **Lennon and McCartney Evening**

On Saturday 12th November, Caterham Harestone Rotary Club are presenting "Lennon and McCartney Come Together". The concert starts at 7.30pm and is being held at de Stafford School, Caterham, CR3 5YX.

Tickets cost £20 which includes fish/chicken and chips. A vegetarian option also available.

There will be a licensed bar, along with a raffle with some great prizes to be won. All proceeds go to Rotary Charities. To book tickets call 01883 345678 e-mail

beatles@harestonerotary.co.uk.

Caterham Beer Festival

The fourth Caterham Beer Festival is taking place on Friday 18th and Saturday 19th November at the Soper Hall, Caterham Valley.

Over 50 real ales and ciders are being sold by Caterham Round Table to raise funds for local good causes. Tickets are £5 on the door, to include a souvenir glass and tasting notes. Advance tickets are available from Computer Solutions in Caterham on the Hill and JJ Browne Jewellers in Caterham Valley.

Doors open at 4pm on Friday and noon on Saturday. This year there will be a Fizz Bar to cater for wider tastes. Beers will range from light blondes to dark stouts and can be sampled from just 1/3 pint upwards. For more information about sponsoring a barrel please call Glen O'Dwyer on 01883 336633. www.caterhambeerfestival.co.uk

RSPCA Christmas Fair

The RSPCA South Godstone Animal Centre is holding a Christmas Fair on Saturday 19th November from 12pm-4pm. Activities include games, stalls, face painting, craft stalls and lots more. There will also be the opportunity to visit Santa and his elves in the Grotto! Admission to Santa's Grotto: £3 per child, present included. All proceeds directly support the Animal Centre on Eastbourne Road/A22, South Godstone, RH9 81B.

Fun Run

A Santas and Elves Fun Run sponsored by Gatwick Airport in aid of St. Catherine's Hospice is taking place at 10am on Sunday 27th November at Caterham School in Harestone Valley Road. Entry costs £25 per adult, £15 for children or £60 for a family of four (two adults, two children). For more information and to for the event sian up visit www.stch.org.uk/santasvselves or call 01293 447355.

Whyteleafe School **Festive Fundraiser**

On Saturday 3rd December, Whyteleafe School in Whyteleafe Hill is holding a Winter Wonderland Festive Fundraiser between 11.30am-3.20pm.The event will feature a Silent Disco and other games and activities, craft stalls and Santa's Grotto. Freshly cooked food and mulled wine will be available and there will be a festive craft room for the children.

For further details e-mail whyteleafepta@gmail.com

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CATERHAM £370,000

A recently refurbished Victorian family home full of character set over three floors. This beautiful property offers adaptable accommodation with three bedrooms, living room and an open plan kitchen diner with patio doors leading to the private rear garden. FEO Caterham Office • 01883 347446



CATERHAM £250,000

Calling all Investors and First Time Buyers. A ground floor flat with two bedrooms, two parking spaces and communal grounds. This property is Share of Freehold and is close to Caterham local amenities and public transport. Offered to the market with vacant possession. Viewings highly recommended. EPC D possession. Viewings highly recommended. EPC E Caterham Office • 01883 347446



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A well-presented 3 bedroom semi-detached home which offers spacious living accommodation. Outside there is off street parking with side access leading to a private rear garden which is well maintained. EPC E

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WHYTELEAFE OIEO £260,000

A sought after two bed purpose built flat with convenient access to transport links and M25 yet set in lightly wooded communal gardens which include BBO and child play areas with communal parking and single garage en-bloc.

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SANDERSTEAD

OIEO £425,000 OPEN HOUSE - SATURDAY 29TH OCTOBER.

Three bed semi det. house, situated in a popular residential road within half mile of local shops and amenities and local secondary school and primary schools. OSP and garage. Modernisation is required. Potential also to extend STPP. EPC: E Warlingham Office • 01883 622258



WARLINGHAM £425,000

B Bed 1940s semi det house with OSP det garage and large level rear garden within half mile of Warlingham and potential for a side or rear extension subject to planning permission. EPC: TBC.

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WHYTELEAFE £270,000

Two bed purpose built ground floor flat with bathroom and separate shower cubicle. Share of freehold. Garage and unrestricted road parking. Easy walking distance of mainline railway stations. EPC: C

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WARLINGHAM OIEO £500,000

Unique 3 bed det bungalow style property and former gate house. Requires updating and redecoration but set in a rural position, within ½ mile to local amenities. The property is bordered by open fields with unencumbered access to footpaths, bridleways and Kings Wood. EPC: G

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An opportunity to acquire a stunning and deceptively spacious four bedroom detached chalet bungalow with block paved driveway, detached garage and stunning well established rear garden with direct access onto Kenley Common. EPC Rating D. UPC1884



An attractive three bedroom detached house occupying a well established elevated position with stunning panoramic views to front towards Riddlesdown providing off street parking and situated in a popular residential road EPC Rating F. UPC1886







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