

No. 39

August 2009

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INDEPENDENT

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Editor	

Julia Church

The Caterham and District Independent 33 High Street Caterham Surrey CR3 5UE

Tel: 01883 346641

E-mail: Editor@caterham -independent.co.uk www.caterham-independent.co.uk



Residents voice their protest over plans to build on beauty spot

Local residents and environmentalists are furious at a planning application for a 1,800 square meter residence to be built on a site called Ten Acre Shaw which forms part of Old Park Wood opposite View Point in Caterham. Local resident David Barber was alerted to the application when Tandridge District Council wrote to just four houses in the nearby vicinity in June giving only 21 days from that date for objections to be submitted. This stretch of woodland which includes some ancient Saxon woods is a valuable asset to wildlife and the people of Caterham," said David. "If the plans went ahead much of the woods would be fenced off so both public and wildlife would not be able to



Gwvneth Fookes at View Point, Gravelly Hill, close to the site of the proposed development.

move freely through the woods. Disruption would be immense and the number of trees felled would total many hundreds."

David notified local residents including Chris Windridge of the Caterham Community Partnership and environmentalist Gwyneth Fookes. The reaction was

tion was started by the War Coppice Garden Village Residents Association, a group set up 20 years ago to fight off an attempt by the owners of the site to build a golf course in the woods.

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Environmentalist campaigner Gwyneth Fookes is convinced the application "The site will not succeed: is in the Green Belt and the development would impinge on an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty," said Gwyneth. "It is in the new designated Surrey Hills area, right by the North Downs Way. It has all the protection it needs and if current legislation does not protect this area I don't . know what we have been fighting for for the last 20 odd years."

The Council extended the deadline for objections to 3rd August, during which time many local residents signed the petition and wrote to the Council. If planning permission is refused the applicants are likely to appeal against the decision, but the latest developments can be viewed at the Old Park Wood www.oldparkMichael raises £2.000 for charity using oldfashioned pedal power

www.caterham-independent.co.uk



Local butcher, Michael Lord, put thousands of racing cyclists to shame when he completed the London to Brighton charity bike ride in just four hours. Cycling enthusiast Michael, pictured above, completed the ride on a 56 year old Raleigh Robin Hood bicycle with just one working gear out of three, although many of the riders could only view Michael from behind as he overtook them on his trusty machine.

Afterwards, Michael said: 'I'd like to thank all my customers who helped me to raise £2,000 for the British Heart Foundation by sponsoring me."





FENSA

MP visits le Personne Homes



(Left to right) Trustee, Rob Richards; Chairman of the Trustees, John Rawling; David Bolton (Co-operative Bank) and Peter Ainsworth MP Photograph by Tom Giles

On Friday, 10th July Peter Ainsworth MP officially opened the refurbished West Wing of le Personne Homes in Banstead Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill. With a grant from the Homes and Communities Agency and a loan from the Co-operative Bank, the 12 flats were reorganised into 10 new, larger flats with a new laundry room and a lift. Caterham Rotary Club and Caterham Harestone Rotary Club both donated money to the refurbishment.

Trustee, Rob Richards, who managed the project, said: "I am very pleased that this project has been completed on time and on budget. The residents who have moved in are delighted with the new accommodation and other residents are asking to transfer to the

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Andrew wins TPS photo competition



Last month Tandridge Pho-(TPS) tographic Society were delighted to announce the winner of their Caterham Photo Treasure Trail - Andrew Pritchard from Caterham. Andrew is pictured formation above being presented with his prize of a Canon compact digital camera by Caterham Festival Chairman, Andy Parr and TPS representative, Marie-Ange Bouchard.





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In the **Spotlight**

This month we feature Tandridge Neighbourhood Inspector, Elaine Burtenshaw, who recently celebrated her 30th anniversary in the police force.

Birthplace: London.

Marital Status: Living with significant other.

who is 21 this month.

Cars: Audi convertible.

Two Miniature Pets: Dachshunds, Giovanni and Pinot Grigio.

Childhood hero: Donny Favourite books:

spicy food, particularly I swer that with my occupaadore Ice Cream.

nerable, violence, the dentist, snakes, spiders.



Elaine with Giovanni and Pinot

Likes: Food, drink, having a good time, holidays, people, animals and my job!

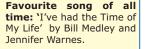
Pastimes: Socialising (in-Children: One son, Dean, cluding eating & drinking), concerts, walking, camping and beating the Wii.

> Favourite TV show: Strictly Come Dancing, Greys Anatomy, The Apprentice.

Osmond; Julie Andrews; Romance, Autobiographies Chelsea FC. (Lillian Board to name one). (Lillian Board to name one).

Favourite Food & Drink: Who would you most like Champagne, English, Ital- to throw a custard pie ian, Spanish, Indian - all at? Now I really can't antion!

Dislikes: Cream, cruelty to- Favourite holiday destiwards people or animals, nation: - Somewhere hot people who prey on the vul- with a beach and not too crowded, apart from San Francisco, my favourite city.



Biggest influence on your life: Different people and different events throughout my life.

Proudest moment: There have been many but to name a couple; the birth of my son and taking part in the Golden Jubilee parade in front of Her Majesty.

Most embarrassing moment: Too many and too embarrassing to mention.

Where would you most like to live? By the coast or San Francisco.

Who would you most like to meet? Margaret Thatcher, Sir Alan Sugar, Julie Andrews.

If you won the Lottery jackpot, how would you spend it? On a holiday for my special friends, a house of my dreams (not necessarily big) with room for animals and also on a bottle or two of vintage champagne.

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News update from **Caterham Harestone** Rotary

At Caterham Harestone Rotary Club there was a flurry of presentations and awards recently to mark the end of the Rotary year. President Terry Servant handed over to the incoming President Ian Harris. Ian is a resident of Warlingham and is a founder member of Caterham Harestone Rotary Club.

Outgoing President, Terry, also presented its highest award, a Paul Harris Fellowship, to Rotarian Martin Vaux. Martin has served the Caterham area for many years first as a Round Table member and then as a Rotarian but he has also been Chairman of the Caterham Carnival Committee and continues to work on the committee. Martin was presented with the award at the first meeting to be held at the club's new venue, the Surrey National Golf Club in Chaldon.

On the same evening the club gave cheques to Chase - the Children's Hospice, PSDS – supporting children



Martin Vaux

with Down's syndrome and the Lily Foundation - supporting children with Mitochondrial Disease. During the year the club has purchased two Shelterboxes for International Relief, supported Tandridge Crossroads, Macmillan Cancer Care, Warlingham Guides, Clifton Hill School and the Dene Hospital as well as contributing towards Rotarv's own Foundation that is leading the World Health Organisation and Centres for Disease Control in eliminating Polio from the world.

Caterham Harestone Rotary Club are always looking for new members. There are no restrictions on age, gender, religion or politics, you just have to want to provide service. Visit their website for details: www.caterhamharestone-rotary.co.uk



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Whyteleafe then and no

The main thoroughfare through the centre of Whyteleafe, now known as the A22, was constructed from Purley southwards in 1796. Above -Whyteleafe in the 1930's.



In 1865 the White Leafe Tavern was opened, facing The Square. As with Caterham Town Centre, with the advent of the motor car The Square has since become a large roundabout!



In the last 150 years Whyteleafe has devel-

oped from largely unpopulated country-

side between the parishes of Warlingham,

lage in its own right. Following the ad-

vent of the railway in the 19th Century,

Whyteleafe started to attract those seek-

ing a healthy and attractive place to live that was not too far from London.

Caterham Valley and Coulsdon, to a vill-

Like its neighbours Warlingham and Caterham, Whyteleafe has a wide variety of successful shops and businesses with very few closing due to the economic downturn that sadly has hit some other towns so badly. Whyteleafe is a pleasant place to shop where small traders abound, keen to offer excellent service and value for money to their customers. With easy parking, and a good choice of interesting places to eat and drink, Whyteleafe is well worth taking the time to explore!

Facts and historical photos courtesy of Roger Packham and Gwyneth Fookes



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Celebrations at Craigmyle Glebe

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Last month the residents of Woldingham celebrated the 75th anniversary of Craigmyle Glebe which comprises the village's playing fields, tennis grounds and children's playground.

Craigmyle Glebe was bought for the village by Lord Craigmyle in 1934 to prevent the land being developed into housing and turned it into a permanent recreational area for the community instead. The celebrations took place on July 11th and 12th with an under-11 soccer tournament and an under-14 tennis tournament on the Saturday, while the Sunday was given over to an under-14 cricket tournament and the traditional President's XI match in the afternoon. The Oxted Band provided the entertainment alongside a barbecue, bar and numerous sideshows.

The Saturday afternoon brought steady rain, but that did not stop the soccer and tennis going ahead. With five neighbouring village teams competing for the John Cox Memorial Cup, Hamsey Green won the soccer final 2-0 against Barnet Wood. Former England player John Salako presented the trophy to the winning team, pictured above. He congratulated everyone who took part, adding: "I started my football career playing for a small, local



club just like yours. Enjoy your football because you never know where it might take you!"

The girls' tennis final was a tightlyfought match with Flavia Rowson eventually triumphing over her sister Francesca. The boys' tennis final was won by Connor Halliday.

On Sunday, in much better weather, Reigate won the final against Woldingham in the cricket tournament and Robin Tozer's President's XI narrowly won the senior match. In spite of the weather the weekend succeeded in bringing competitive sports to the Glebe and raised much-needed funds for the upkeep of the facilities. Craigmyle Glebe Chairman, Mark Tapley, said: "I would like to thank the many volunteers who made the weekend a success. I would also like to record our gratitude to our previous chairman, John Cox who had the idea of the tournament but who sadly died late last year. John served our community selflessly for many years as treasurer and then as chairman of the Craigmyle Glebe."



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Tennis Club to hold American Tournament

Caterham and Whyteleafe Tennis Club is holding an American Tournament on Sunday 6th Sept from 1.30pm. The Club is inviting non-members to join them for a pleasant afternoon of tennis with a friendly group of players. There is an entrance fee of £3 which includes light refreshments. See advertisement below for more details.

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John Orrick – doing his best for the town he loves

Interview by Julia Church

Liberal Democrat councillor, John Orrick, is determined to see residents getting the best possible value for money from their Council Tax now that he is representing Caterham-on-the-Hill at Surrey County John explained: Council. "It's not easy. Budgets are set and you cannot change things overnight. I think most people simply expect a decent level of provision and if it drops below par I am there to make sure something is done about it. I think a little more responsiveness and urgency by the Council is needed, while

recognising that we can only spend the money once."

One priority that John is able to address now that he is County Councillor is the roads: "Some of the roads desperately need attention," he said. "There should be joined-up thinking when we are faced with situations such as when we had the heavy snow. There has to be a plan just to keep the main roads such as the High Street, Church Hill and Burntwood Lane open. I do expect the salt bins to be kept topped up so I am trying to make sure that they are refilled before winter."

Plumbing

safe



John is firmly of the opinion that the whole of the community plays a part in ensuring the well-being of a town. "I think Caterham is a beautiful place with lots of smashing people and I just love to see it all work," he said. We have many individuals who are passionate about making Caterham a great place to live in as well as our Parish Councils and the new Caterham Community Partnership. They should be setting the agenda in deciding which issues need to be a priority then my role should be as a conduit.'

Finally, John expressed his main passion to protect the greenbelt, saying: "Our greenbelt is the most important thing of all and I think we should all lie down in front of bulldozers to protect it!'

Burtenshaw's Beat

by Tandridge Neighbourhood Inspector, Elaine Burtenshaw

I will start this month with an update on my final story last month which was about the Surrey Police Authority (SPA) and the fight with government regarding the capping order, which will cost £1.2m in rebilling to cut the Surrey Police budget by £1.6m. The SPA has now exhausted all avenues of appeal and the capping will happen. There is a report of the effect of this on Surrey Police as a force, which can be found on the Surrey Police website www.surrey.police.uk, but I know that importantly you want to know what the effect on your local neighbourhood team is.

The immediate effect is that as of the 1st August I will lose two members of my community safety team; Crime Prevention Officer (CPO) PC John Lee and Youth Intervention Officer (YIO) PC Gina Reed. As from that date there will be one CPO for the four Districts and Boroughs that form East Surrey Division and two YIOs; PC Gina Reed is one of those and she will now be responsible for Tandridge and Reigate and Banstead. I would like to thank both officers for their



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work in Tandridge and their contribution to the work of the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

I am pleased though to say that I now have a replacement for PS Jane Pettett, who moved to Reigate Custody earlier this year. PS David (Dave) Coomber comes to the team with twenty-three years of police experience gained in a variety of roles. I know he is very much looking forward to getting to know the area and the people of Tandridge. He will be based at Caterham Police Station, where you can contact him and please do!

Finally I would like to say a very big thank you for the flowers that were presented to me at Party in The Park to mark my thirty years of being a serving officer within Surrey Police. It was a very pleasant and welcome surprise to receive them particularly at a community event so again a heartfelt thank you from me.



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Trot along to 'The Horseshoe'! Review by Julia Church

From an evening celebration with friends to a Sunday lunch treat for the family, The stylish Horseshoe Restaurant and Carvery in Warlingham offers superb food at an excellent price. The popular Carvery is open seven days a week so diners can opt for a traditional Sunday roast whenever they choose. The Carvery offers terrific value at £8.50 but those over the age of 60 can become 'Gold Members' and pay just £6.95 for the Carvery from Monday to Saturday.

The Carvery was my choice on my recent Saturday evening visit and I chose some beef and gammon but there was also turkey on offer. I then helped myself to a Yorkshire pudding and a selection of vegetables. The food was piping hot and perfectly cooked, a real credit to Wendy, the chef. Having already consumed a starter of beautifully creamy

'Mixed Mushrooms in a Garlic Cream Sauce served on Toast', I skipped desert and opted for my favourite treat, an Irish Coffee to end the meal. My partner Keith had chosen the 'Prawns in a Spicy Chilli and Tomato Sauce' for starter which he described as: "Spicy and quite refreshing," and came served in a cute miniature frying pan on a wooden platter. Apart from the excellent quality and flavour of the food, what also struck us was the wonderful presentation of each dish and excellent service enhancing our enjoyment of our meal. Keith's main course, the 'Horseshoe Fish Pie with Salmon, Smoked Haddock, Cod and Prawns', came in a large boatshaped dish accompanied by fresh seasonal vegetables. He described the pie as having a tasty, delicate flavour topped with light and fluffy mashed potato. All the portions were generous and filling, but nevertheless Keith couldn't resist



Top: The bright and spacious dining area; Bottom: Head Waiter, Manuel looks on as Chak expertly carves a freshly cooked joint of beef.

ordering a sumptuous 'Meringue and Strawberry Stack with Ice Cream, Cream & Coulis Sauce' for desert. Simply superb! For further information and to book a table, see 'The Horseshoe' advertisement.



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maican chef." Alex added: "We like to sup-

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Chris with the Jerk Chicken our vegetables from a local greengrocer."

been open have built up a The generous portion of reputation for good quality spicy Jerk Chicken comes food and excellent service with an accompaniment at a very reasonable price. called 'Rice and Peas' which despite it's name normally tional sandwich favourites, comes with beans of various the Carribean types. favourite being kidney dishes such as Jerk Chicken beans. The meal is delipeas, cious and very filling offerand ing excellent value at just s - a £5.50. What's more, if you real hit with the customers! live or work within five "Our customers love the miles of 'Hungry' you can Jerk Chicken," said Chris. order your meal over the "We get it from a specialist phone and it will be deliv-supplier called 'Bagelhut' ered to your door free of and it is cooked by a Ja- charge! As well as a wide range of savoury choices, 'Hungry' can also cater for port local businesses and large numbers, for example parties and business meetthe butcher up the road and ings. Just speak to Alex or

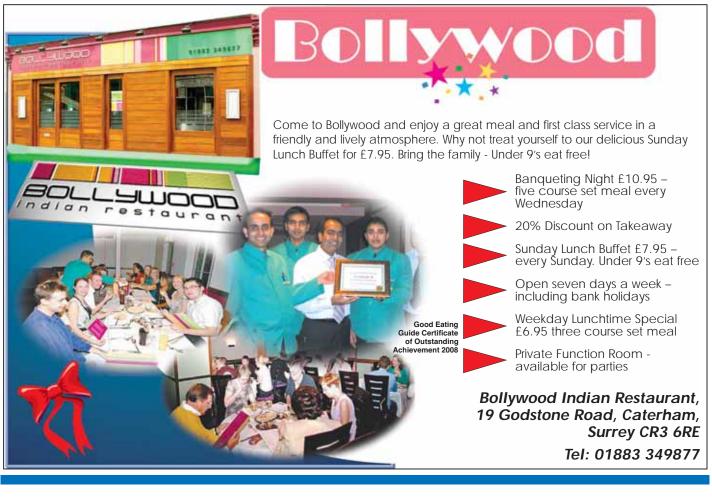
Chris to discuss your requirements. To order a menu call Freephone 0800 410 2500 or you can pick one up at 'Hungry' at 30 Westway, Caterhamon-the-Hill.

Leader needed for Rainbows

The 1st Caterham Guides may not have a Rainbows section this September if a new Leader cannot be found to take on the role. District Commissioner, Charley Formosa, said: "This would be a great shame as it is a thriving unit and once closed, may not re-open." The role of Leader can be

shared which might make it more viable for some people and support and help would be given to the new Leader or Leaders.

If you are female, aged 18 or over and would be interested in offering a couple of hours a week to work with airls aged between five and seven (or any age group) please contact Charley Formosa on 01883 653356.



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Celebrities bowled over by Roger's new book

Last month saw the publication of a fascinating book that will appeal especially to cricketing enthusiasts and anyone familiar with the beautiful Sheffield Park in Sussex. 'Cricket In The Park, The Life And Times Of Lord Sheffield 1832-1909' is the latest work of Caterham resident and historian Roger Packham. The publication of the book coincided with the completion of a ten year project by The National Trust to restore a lovely old cricket ground in Sheffield Park to its former glory. "The eccentric Lord Sheffield spent all his money on cricket and the cricket ground, which he made fit for top class cricket," explained Roger. "Whenever the Australians came over they started their tour at Sheffield Park. In 1891 Lord Sheffield sent the England team out to Australia for the Ashes and he got W.G. Grace to be his captain. He funded the



whole thing, but they lost 2-1." Roger has been busy at the launches of the book, at Sheffield Park on 28th June, and at Lord's Cricket Ground on 30th June, signing copies for cricket fans Peter O'Toole, Tim Rice and Lord Owen amongst many others. The Foreward was written by Sir John Major, another cricket enthusiast who Roger helped with a book two years ago. The book is published by Methuen and costs £18.99. You can purchase a copy by contacting Roger Packham on 01883 349189.



Money laundering? by Jerry Connor,

Kenley Financial Ltd.

Right now we have around one million people retiring each year and this natural process resulting from the baby boom years of post war Britain has been fast tracked a wee bit with the current recession. With that in mind it is worrying that around 60% of those buying a pension do not shop around for the best annuity rate when they reach retirement. This is called an OMO. You may know this more as a brand of washing powder but for this huge event it is vital that you exercise your right to the Open Market Option (OMO) and give your pension pot a fighting chance to deliver you the best level of income you need for the rest of your life. Often this can give you 20-30% more income and even more if you qualify for an enhanced annuity if you have certain lifestyle habits or take regular

medication.

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With falling annuity rates pensions making look poorer and increased longevity the decision you make at retirement will last longer than ever. Once made, that choice cannot be reversed so it's vital you make the best-informed decision at that key moment. Hopefully your pensions provider would have made this choice clear to you. If not ask them the question or seek advice from a professional who will act on your behalf. If you are approaching retirement and by that I mean in the next two to three years, it is also essential to make sure you are in funds that are appropriate to your needs and not too volatile as the retirement day nears. This does not have to be 60 or 65 but the date you want your pension to commence. Whilst the thought of an OMO may put you in a spin, it is better for you that your pension pot is given a good and thorough wash prior to you using it for the rest of your life. Using the OMO will make it fresher and last lonaer.

Alexanders - one step beyond



AFTER a highly successful trading period since re-opening in July, Alexanders at Limpsfield is continuing to build on a very impressive record in the face of the UK's worst financial crisis in many decades. In response to the very positive and encouraging feedback from regular clients, Alexanders is extending its extremely popular mini tasting and menu du midi variations that have been available on Tuesday and Wednesday to now include Thursday evenings.

The menu du midi is also available each lunchtime and provides a superb local alternative to the franchise and pub menus that are on offer in the area. Added to the fact that this all happens in the most wonderful surroundings and is provided by the highest quality professional waiting staff, it is little wonder that old clients are flooding



back and many new customers are trying the culinary and service experience of a kind not readily available within reasonable travelling distance.

The finest quality A la Carte menu, in addition to full tasting menu, continues to be available on Friday and Saturday evenings and on Sundays, traditional roasts are tantalisingly blended with A la Carte cuisine to satisfy every taste. Whenever you decide to join us, you can be assured of a warm welcome and an unrivalled menu selection all at very realistic and competitive prices.



Alexanders constantly strives to bring new and innovative dishes to the table and uses only the finest quality produce and ingredients in the process. Only the finest cuts of meat, poultry and the freshest fish and seafood is purchased by the Head Chef for use in every dish.

Alexanders takes you one step beyond by providing the highest quality West End cuisine and service at local prices and you are encouraged to sample this yourself. Booking is encouraged to avoid disappointment and is essential at weekends as demand continues to grow.

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Alexanders on a Sunday Our delicious and extremely popular Sunday Lunch Menu Call now for more information or visit

www.alexanders-limpsfield.co.uk

In the garden

by Alec Herbert

There are many shrubs which can be planted as the focal point of the garden and my favourite is the hydrangea. Its large and profuse flower-heads are borne through most of the summer into autumn, and the heads may be numerous enough to cover most of the bush. Popular with growers, garden centres and buyers alike are the mop-head varieties which have large balllike blooms in many colours of which a deep pink, blue and white are the most common. Hydrangeas are ideal to grow as pot plants for the patio or courtyard for the first year and planted into the garden in the second year. They are tolerant of most soils but prefer a well drained and rich soil with good quality compost added at planting time. The blue flowering hydrangea requires an acid soil which can be maintained by feeding the plant with an iron based liquid feed.

Cuttings - about 4-6" in length - can be taken at this time of year and put into a cold frame, giving additional plants for next year. Most hydrangeas are hardy



Hydrangea

but it is advisable to give them some protection against hard frosts. Do this by mulching to a depth of 2-3" around the base of the plant in the autumn. The mop-head variety should have the dead heads left until March. The heads will provide some extra protection against the frost whilst looking attractive when coated by it. Also in the spring the removal of any weak or dead wood is all the pruning the plant will require. Whilst the rose, with its romantic associations, will remain the number one favourite of the nation, the hydrangea, on appearance alone, merits a place in any English garden. Happy gardening.

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Quick

by Alec Herbert Five for fun. August loosely speaking

1. The month of August is named in honour of which historical figure?

2. Augusta is the capital of which American state?

3. In which sport does one of its major events take place at Augusta, Georgia, each year?

4. "Hot August Night" was a best selling album of the early seventies, by which male American artist?

5. In which decade did August Bank Holiday Monday switch from the first Monday of August to the last?

Answers:

- 5. Seventies (1979). 4. Neil Diamond; 3. Golf (The Masters);
- ;9ni6M 1. Augustus Caesar;

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Readers' letters Thank you

The seats on the War Memorial outside the front of the ex-Servicemen's Club in Town End, Caterham-onthe-Hill, have been vandalised several on occasions. Each time the seats were repaired and paid for by members' kind The seats had services. been donated by Caterham Rotary Club to the memory of those who gave their lives in two World Wars and the ongoing conflicts that are with us today.

It is a sad indictment that the Memorial has been vandalised but through the goodwill of Rotary Club members they have donated two more seats to replace them. I personally hope this gesture will be treated with the respect our servicemen and women deserve.

My thanks to the Rotary Club, members of the ex-Servicemen's Club and to the general public. Peter McNeil

President of Caterham Branch, Royal British

to thank all of our supporters in Tandridge for their generosity over the past few months.

St Catherine's took part in the Caterham Street Party on 24th May and raised £185.92 through voluntary donations. Other events, including the Caterham Carnival, Warlingham Fair and our recent collections at Morrisons, Caterham have raised over £790.

We would like to thank all local people, groups and companies for their assistance and generosity at these events. This year we need to raise £4.7m in voluntary income to continue providing our end of life care free of charge to local people and their families, friends and carers. This is only possible with the continued support of our community and we are very grateful for your help.

For further information about fundraising or volunteering for St Catherine's Hospice, please contact 01293 447333 or visit our website at www.stch.org.uk Victoria Lawrence **Community Fundraiser**

St Catherine's Hospice



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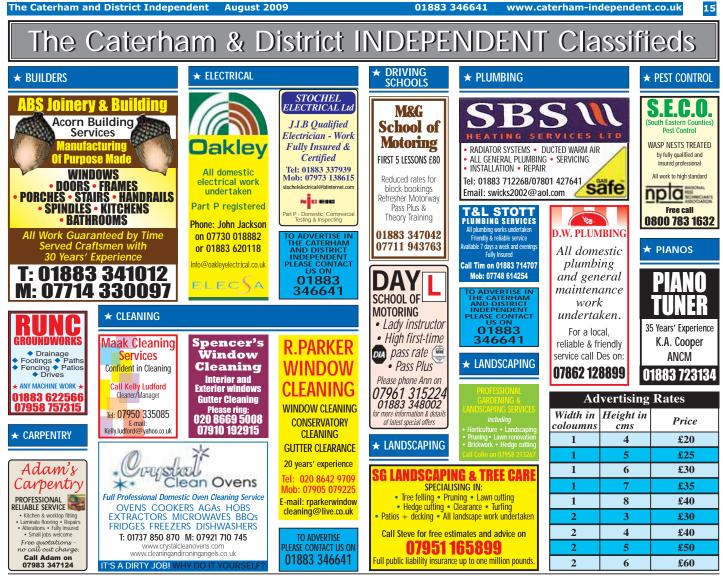
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Wednesday, 2nd September and the deadline for artwork is Friday, 21st August.

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Old Cats RFC

by Chairman, Steve

Dalgleish

Out of season, the Old Caterhamians Rugby Club, being a community rugby club contributed to the Dene Hospital's successful annual fete in June for the second year running.

Members of the club's mini section gave a demonstration of their rugby skills and abilities, ably assisted by their qualified coaches who equally enjoyed their day. The organiser of the fete, Mr Roger Wright, wrote the following in response to the demonstration on the day:

"Very many thanks for a superb display by your team on Sunday. We received lots of positive feed back saying how much people enjoyed seeing youngsters in sport. I hope your membership benefits. Please thank everybody involved for



giving up their Sunday in support of the Dene Hospital. We would love to have you again next year if you can make it."

Many of the coaches now leading up the mini section are playing members of the club as well as being parents of the children. All our coaches are volunteers, giving of their time to encourage all children to participate in sport in a safe and enjoyable environment. Photograph by Cindy Hadley Old Caterhamians Rugby Football Club cater for children from the age of five years through to adulthood in the senior game. Our season starts on Sunday September 6th with registration for the minis and junior sections at 10.30am at the clubhouse in Park Avenue, Caterham on the Hill. For further information visit: www.oldcats.co.uk or call me, Steve Dalgleish on 07729 591256.



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