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# Another peaceful event - or was it?!



by Julia Church

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**Editor**  
Julia Church

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## A bright new image for Stafford Road Rec

On Saturday, 20th June local residents were joined by members of Surrey Police, Surrey County Council and Tandridge District Council for a clean-up at the recreation ground in Stafford Road, Caterham. The idea came from a meeting of North Tandridge Youth (NOTY), a multi-agency group of residents, councillors, police, Surrey and Tandridge officers and young

people who meet on a regular basis. Harestone Ward Tandridge District Councillor, and Chairman of NOTY, Beverley Connolly, said: "We were all delighted with the response to the Action Day which involved the removal of many lorryloads of accumulated rubbish. It was also a consultation day to gather suggestions for uses for the recreation ground. We have plans to upgrade the children's playground and also, subject to raising of funds, instal facilities for teenagers and older children, but we are open to suggestions."



Local residents Ben Gales, age 13 (left) and Jake Bickers age 15 join in the clean-up.

## Ticking off the 'to do' list

Interview with Surrey County Councillor, Sally Marks by Julia Church

Following her recent re-election as Surrey County Councillor for Caterham Valley, Sally Marks from Woldingham is determined to continue to work for improvements to her ward. "I really want to see through and get things achieved that are in the pipeline already," said Sally. "I am always frustrated at how long things take. To do something about the Rose & Young site in Croydon Road is on my magic wish list and I think the whole of the community should try and encourage the owner to do something about it. There is not enough money in local government to buy it and I have every sympathy with Tandridge District Council who had a reduction in its grant. If they were to buy the site they would have to make huge savings

elsewhere so I would like to ask people 'What would you be willing to do without in order to buy Rose & Young?' Maybe have rubbish collection every two weeks instead of every week, for example? We have talked about having a protest or getting together a petition to present to the owner but we haven't done that. People need to make their voices heard."

The new Youth Centre in Godstone Road is one of the initiatives that Sally is spearheading. "Unfortunately I have heard that there is going to be a delay in the opening of the facility because there is a big problem with the roof but I am working very hard to make sure the delay is limited," explained Sally.

"The recent clean-up operation in Stafford Road



Back in the driving seat - Councillor Sally Marks

Recreation Ground was fantastic. I think we saw a glimmer there of the community starting to take responsibility for their surroundings. I don't mind getting my hands dirty to get things started and that is where personal responsibility kicks in - it is not about me lecturing people. We have seen with the Festival how fantastic it is when the community works together and if we can extend that into other aspects of the community that would be great."

## Planning permission refused for Kenley Airfield fence

The latest MoD planning application for a fence around the perimeter track at Kenley Airfield was rejected by neighbouring Croydon Council on June 11th, when its Planning Committee refused permission for the one and three-quarter mile long, four foot high fence.

The MoD has three months in which to appeal against this decision. Meanwhile, in late May 'temporary' barriers were erected at various points around the airfield. The MoD says that these are a necessary 'health and safety' measure to determine whether conflict can be eliminated between gliding equipment and leisure use of the airfield without using a permanent fence. Portley Ward Councillor Hilary Turner says: "Several residents have already contacted me about these temporary barriers. Please get in touch with me if you have a view. That will help me at future meetings where this issue is discussed."

You can telephone Hilary on 01883 343359 or e-mail her at: hilaryturner@chalky-bank.co.uk

See the August edition of

*The Caterham & District Independent for an interview with the new Liberal Democrat Surrey County Councillor for Caterham-on-the-Hill, John Orrick*

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## Surrey teams up with the Met in Whyteleafe



*Friendly faces - Caterham PCSO Rupert Kelley (right) and PCSO Greg Tickner from Kenley Police Station meeting a local resident at the BP Garage in Whyteleafe.*

Last month saw the launch of Surrey Police's cross-border police surgeries with colleagues from the Metropolitan Police.

PCSO Rupert Kelley has been holding regular drop-in surgeries at the BP garage in Godstone Road for more than two years as he finds it a convenient way to meet members of the community going about their day-to-day lives.

Rupert is now joined by PCSO Greg Tickner from the Kenley Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Rupert said: "Our surgeries are good for the morale of the staff and good for the customers who see a local officer eager to help. Working closely with colleagues from the Metropolitan Police is the way forward to ensure we have a joined up approach in order to keep the community safe. At the end of the day it is about helping people and being available for them. If people don't feel able to pick up the phone or come to the station they can talk to me and Greg about their concerns."

*The police surgery takes place at the BP Garage every Wednesday and Friday between 4.30pm and 6.00pm.*

## Tea Time to Dance

September will see the launch of Tandridge Leisure's 'Tea Time to Dance', an inter-generational dance project for young people and over 50's who will work together to perform at 'Celebrating Surrey' at Loseley Park on 17th and 18th July 2010. 'Tea Time to Dance' is a great opportunity to develop creative skills, dance, movement, exercise and performance, culminating in taking part in a dance film. The project is being funded by the Big Lottery Fund and is supported by the Local Authority Arts Partnership. No prior skills or partners are needed, just the desire to move and explore dance in a creative way with enthusiasm. The project also

offers the possibility for both carers and the young people they look after to work and dance together.

Tandridge Leisure has organised two taster workshops at de Stafford Sports Centre in Burntwood Lane, Caterham to offer people the chance to get a feel for the project. They will take place on Thursday 9th and Thursday 16th July at 2.30pm for the over 50's and 4.15pm for young people and cost just £1. Once committed to the project, the groups will meet weekly, during term-time from September 2009. The second part of the project runs from September 2010 until February 2011 and aims to create a dance for camera film to be shown as part of the Woking Dance Festival and Caterham Festival.

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Hello to all our new readers in Whyteleafe and Kenley!

This summer sees the circulation of The Caterham & District Independent extending to our neighbours in Kenley and Whyteleafe. We hope you will enjoy reading our news and articles and will find our many local advertisers within the paper an excellent resource - please remember to *Support Your Local Trader!*

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Brand new for this summer **Holiday Hoppers** day camps for 5 - 12 year olds. **Holiday Hoppers** offers youngsters the opportunity to try new sports and creative activities alongside their favourite team games. Based in the sports hall and led by a team of trained activity workers, children will experience quality care whilst enjoying basketball, mad science experiments, big scale arts, swimming, street dance, Wii fit and drama, to name but a few!

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## In the Spotlight

This month we feature Mark Jones, the manager of Catax Taxis and one of the main organisers of the Caterham Festival 'Party in the Park'.



**Birthplace:** Romford.

**Marital Status:** Engaged.

**Children:** Shannon (9), Jack (7), Joe (4 months).

**Cars:** Volvo S80.

**Pets:** A cat called Bob.

**Childhood hero:** Danger mouse.

**Favourite Food & Drink:** Rib Eye steak and saute potatoes with a nice bottle of Carlsberg.

**Pastimes:** Motor Racing; computers; spending time with my children.

**Likes:** Caterham; music; community people; good manners; environmentally friendly packaging.

**Biggest influence on your life:** My partner Caren. Without her support I wouldn't be able to do the things I do for the school or the community.

**Proudest moment:** The birth of my children.

**Favourite holiday destination:** Great Yarmouth.

**Most embarrassing moment:** My mother falling through the breast feeding tent drunk at last year's Party in the Park.

**Where would you most like to live?** Caterham (Valley of course).

**If you won the Lottery jackpot, how would you spend it?** On my family first then I would buy the Rose and Young wreck and change it into a community building and give a generous donation to the Caterham Carnival to make the procession the best and longest in England.

**Dislikes:** People pretending to do stuff for the community but who really do it for self gain; People who are false and those who complain about community events but never help out.

**Favourite TV show:** Shameless.

**Favourite books:** 'Prison Diaries' by Jeffery Archer, and any true life crime stories.

**Who would you most like to throw a custard pie at?** Most taxi drivers.

**Who would you most like to meet?** My father who died before I had memories of him.

**Favourite song of all time:** 'Time' by Pink Floyd.

## A florist for all seasons

It's always good to see an empty shop being taken over by a new business and Whyteleaf has certainly benefited from an exciting new shop-front recently. Inside you can find Rita Henry busily working on her latest creation in between serving her customers. "I set up *Four Seasons Floral Design* from home seven years ago and as my business grew I decided to go for it and open a shop!" explained Rita. "There aren't any other florists here in Whyteleaf and this is a great position to be in, on the main road and close to two railway stations."

The shop is distinctive in its contemporary style and perfectly reflects Rita's creative flair with its attractive layout and displays.

Over the years *Four Seasons Floral Design* has built up an excellent reputation for providing beautiful flower arrangements, whatever the occasion. Weddings are



Rita's speciality and she works closely with her clients to turn their ideas into a stunning reality. Rita also caters for anniversaries, parties, corporate events, regular in-home or business contracts and funerals. From garden parties in the summer to Christmas celebrations, Rita can create beautiful seasonal decorations for the perfect finishing touch.

You can view some of Rita's work by visiting her website, [www.fourseasonsfloraldesign.com](http://www.fourseasonsfloraldesign.com) where you can also see a list of wedding fayres where *Four Seasons Floral Design* will be exhibiting. See the advert below for the shop's opening times and contact details for further information.

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## Specialist School status for de Stafford

de Stafford School head-teacher Mark Phillips is delighted to announce that, following an application to the Department for Children, Schools and Families in March 2009, the school in Burntwood Lane, Caterham-on-the-Hill has been granted Specialist School status in Maths and Computing. The success of this application will bring great benefits to the school and students by providing additional resources to invest in the delivery of the two specialist subjects.

A major refurbishment will take place during the summer break of the school's Science block which will house the new Specialist School Faculty. All the labs will be modernised and a new suite of Maths teaching

rooms established at the top of the block. de Stafford will also start a full refurbishment of the adjacent Dining Hall building, currently in a very dilapidated state. Over the coming months the whole block will be refurbished, creating a more modern dining area and a new Learning Resource Centre that will incorporate the school Library. Specialist School status will not only benefit de Stafford students, but also local residents with plans to extend the use of facilities for the local Caterham community.

Mr Phillips said: "These are very exciting developments for the school and will support our continued aim of providing all of our students with the best possible education at de Stafford".

## Blake drops in for a visit!



Olympic diver, Blake Aldridge, visited St. Francis' Catholic Primary School in Caterham-on-the-Hill recently to help the children raise money for Sports for Schools in support of the 2012 Olympic Campaign. Encouraged by Blake and the Sports for Schools team the children performed a range of sponsored fitness activities including step-ups, star jumps and running. During his visit, Blake discussed his sport and achievements with the children and performed impressive handstands before a delighted audience.

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The Children's Centre will be continuing to run the very popular Stay and Learn, Kickers and Crawlers and Grandtime Sessions at the Centre over the Summer

### Stay and Learn

A Stay and Learn Session specifically for Registered Childminders and the children in their care

Thursday 23rd July  
Thursday 30th July  
Thursday 6th August  
Thursday 13th August  
Time: 9.30 – 11.30



### Grandtime

A Stay and Play Session for Grandparents and the children in their care (0-5 years)

Wednesday 1st July  
Wednesday 5th August  
Wednesday 2nd September  
Time: 10.00 – 12.00

### Kickers and Crawlers

A "safe" Stay and Play Session for parents, carers and babies who are not yet walking

Friday 24th July  
Friday 31st July  
Friday 7th August  
Friday 14th August  
Time: 10.00 – 12.00

## Summer Activities

The Children's Centre will be having lots of fun at ANTICS.

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Thursday 23rd July  
1pm – 3pm

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Thursday 30th July  
1pm – 3pm

Tuesday 4th August  
10am – 12pm

Thursday 6th August  
1pm – 3pm

Tuesday 11th August  
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Thursday 13th August  
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## A new Teletubbies garden for Tots'



There was plenty to smile about at Tots' Village Nursery in Burntwood Lane, Caterham last month at the Grand Opening of their exciting new garden. The Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Glynis Whittle, performed the opening ceremony on 27th June, with a special appearance from the Tots' Teletubbies who said they had to check all the underground tunnels for

safety! The organizer of the event, Ann Kingston, said: "Our children love the garden and we spend a lot of time in it. The children love crawling through the tunnels and hiding in them! We could not be happier with the design." For more information about Tots' Village Nursery see their advert on page 6 of the Caterham Festival Souvenir pull-out.

## Warlingham School pupil achieves top scouting accolade



Ian Tobin displaying his Queen's Scout Award with County Commissioner Richard Shortman

On Monday, 29th June, Warlingham School pupil Ian Tobin received the Queen's Scout award in recognition of his exemplary service to the Scout movement. Ian joined the 2nd Hamsey Green Beaver Colony in 1997 at the age of six. In 1999 he moved to the Cubs where he gained 25 different badges. 2003 saw him moving up to the Scouts and last year he helped to raise £2,200 for the Cater-

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ham Carnival. Ian, who recently gained his Duke of Edinburgh Gold award, has been an assistant Scout Leader at the 5th Caterham

Scouts and in September will move on to become Assistant Explorer Scout leader at the 2nd Explorer Scout Unit.



Envisage living in a country with 70 million people and only a couple of Optometrists.

This campaign is also very close to optometrist Deborah Griffiths from D&A Caterham who had the opportunity to visit Ethiopia with Vision Aid Overseas (VAO). She was there for two weeks with four other volunteers and the trip was split between training and testing. Debbie remembers how she always liked the idea of giving something back to a worthwhile cause and putting into practice the skills she has as an Optometrist.

She said: "For the first days I helped train nurses from local clinics.

**THIS IS ACTUALLY HAPPENING** in Ethiopia and for this reason D&A the Opticians has been working with the charity Vision Aid Overseas on fundraising activities aiming to raise £50,000 to develop a new optical workshop at the Menelik II Hospital in Ethiopia and fulfil a desperate requirement for eye care in Addis Ababa.

They received a certificate following their training, providing them with an opportunity to gain better positions within the clinics with a view to carrying out eye tests for people from their local villages."

Dollond & Aitchison in Caterham is pleased to announce that it will dedicate the first week of July to raising money for the Ethiopia cause. This is in addition to the

normal collection of unwanted spectacles that are reused and sent to Ethiopia and other countries for somebody that otherwise would not have the opportunity to wear glasses.

Dollond & Aitchison Manager, Ernest Gomez, said: "We will have various activities organised and your visit and any contribution would be much appreciated."

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# Caterham Festival 2009



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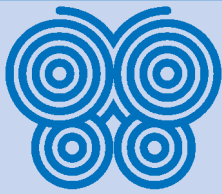
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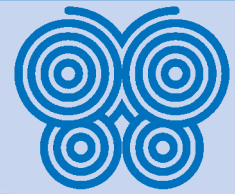


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# Something for everyone



'Rhymetime' at Caterham Valley library

It was at a meeting of the ABC 'A Better Caterham' committee that the idea for the Caterham Festival was first put forward by Caterham Valley resident, Barbara Brunson. "We need something to put Caterham on the map and showcase all the culture and events that go on here," she said. The idea soon gathered momentum and last summer an initial meeting was held to discuss the format of the event.

The 'Caterham Festival Committee' was formed and local groups and organisations were invited to take part. The result was a superb six-week Festival that pulled together the arts, music, theatre, local history and public events like the traditional Caterham Carnival and the first ever Street Party. The Caterham Festival was born!



Festival organiser, Barbara Brunson  
Photograph by: Brian Lavery off  
Tandridge Photographic Society



'Art on Show' in Church Walk,  
Caterham Valley



'Festival Photographs' by Tandridge Photographic Society  
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Lesley Lambdon with her stunning  
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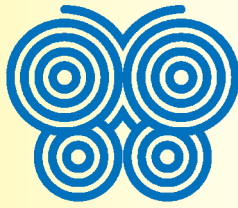
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# Street Party Sunday 24th May 2009



The Street Party on the first weekend of the Festival was a huge success and a great launch pad for all the events yet to come. The local community has traditionally turned out in droves for outdoors events and the Street Party drew a crowd of thousands. The fun began with a children's boat race, followed by a grown-up's boat race, with teams careering along the High Street much to the great amusement of spectators. With the races over, the live entertainment started with music to suit all tastes being performed on two stages along the High Street. Craft stalls, free ice cream, a graffiti wall and BMX displays were just some of the many attractions keeping the crowd entertained.

The local pubs, takeaways and shops did a roaring trade and the big question after the event was: "When will the next one be?" In reply, Festival Chairman

Andy Parr said: "The Street Party was the result of a lot of hard work by a very few volunteers. If we were to do it again we would need more helpers, both before the event and on the day." If you would like to volunteer your services and help ensure the future of the Street Party, call Andy Parr on 01883 340000.



Caterham High Street, 24th May 2009



Festival Chairman Andy Parr with drumming band, 'Rumpeldrumskin'



The 'Stone Beats' rocked the crowd



The girls from Caterham Prep needed a bit of a helping hand!



Swing jive by The Congaroo Club

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## Caterham Carnival, Westway Common, Saturday, 13th June



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Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Glynis Whittle and Chairman of the new Tandridge Community Fund, Mike Moss.



The Wombles - winners of the walking parade.

The Caterham Carnival and the Party in the Park were two more crowd-pulling events that entertained thousands of local residents and visitors to the town.

Both events were blessed with warm sunshine, as was the Street Party and Dene Fete which has been the icing on the cake for Caterham's first Festival.

The well-established Carnival Day with its procession of floats, sideshows and arena performances has always been one of our most popular community events and this year was no exception. The street collection raised £182.31 but the full total for the day will not be announced until the Caterham Carnival AGM in the autumn. The organisers say they are hoping for a record amount this year!

The second annual Party in the Park is still very much in its infancy but has already established itself as a great day out for all the family. Organiser, Mark Jones said: "We had an absolutely fabulous day. For me, it is just a pleasure to turn round and see families sitting and relaxing and enjoying themselves in the sun." The crowds were entertained by a line-up of excellent local bands throughout the day alongside other attractions including an ice rink, birds of prey display and Punch and Judy show. During the afternoon a bouquet of flowers was presented to a delighted Tandridge Neighbourhood Inspector, Elaine Burtenshaw, to congratulate her on her 30 year anniversary as a police officer.

Nearly 1,500 people attended the Party and the event made a staggering £8,000. A percentage of the money is going to local charities and the rest will go towards a fund for an adventure playground at Marden Lodge School where the event was held.



The Marching Band. Photo by Chris Tucker.



Punch and Judy - one of the sideshows at Party in the Park

## ... and the sun kept on shining!



## Party in the Park, Marden Lodge Primary School, Saturday 27th June.



Solo artist, Gaz Twist



Great pals really! Organisers Mark Jones and Linda Smith.



Coco Brown delighted the crowd with a medley of popular hits



Peter Ainsworth MP officially opened the Party



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## 'Open Caterham' 6th and 7th June 2009

The 'Open Caterham' weekend offered everyone the opportunity to re-discover local places of interest, or even visit places for the first time that are normally closed to the public. Visitors could step back in time at Chaldon Court, a timber framed Medieval building with many fascinating features and artefacts, or peer through telescopes at the

Kenley Observatory. Many people visited the fascinating Godstone Mine and Caterham Caves that were originally used in mining hearthstone then used later as an air raid shelter during the war.

Over 400 people visited the stunning Tollsworth Manor garden that surrounds a beautiful 15th Century Grade II listed house in Chaldon.



A beautiful cottage-garden flower bed at Tollsworth Manor



Cricket at Caterham Barracks



The forecourt of the Caterham 7 Garage in Station Avenue, Caterham.



The back garden at Tollsworth Manor



St. Lawrence's Ancient Church in Church Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill. This was just one of the many local churches that held special events for visitors during the Open Weekend.



Six Brothers Field in Chaldon, given to the National Trust in 1926 in memory of two Harman brothers.

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# ...the party's over



Some of the Caterham Festival Committee members relax at the end of a hectic but memorable six weeks. From left to right, John Swanson, Andy Parr, Neil Burtenshaw, Mark Jones and Martin Vaux

The 2009 Caterham Festival was the result of a great deal of planning and hard work by a relatively small number of people, but the rewards were enormous. Caterham Festival Chairman, Andy Parr, said: "I got e-mails and cards from people I don't know thanking me. There will definitely be a Festival next year!" "It was all about people having fun and there being a buzz in the community," added Neil Burtenshaw. Everyone was pulling together and there was a really happy feeling in the community after each event." If you would like to help at next year's Festival, telephone Andy Parr on 01883 340000.



Members of Caterham Rotary with their successful Tombola stall at the Caterham Dene Fete.

Hundreds of people took advantage of the sunny weather and went along to have some fun at the Caterham Dene fete on Sunday 28th June. Roger Wright of the League of Friends said: "We raised over £4,000 for the Dene Hospital and we received a lot of very positive feedback about the new layout and the extra stalls. The Lions did a great job with the BBQ, beer and Pimms tent!" The Tang SooDo, Cats Mini Rugby and the Line Dancing demos in the main arena were well supported as well as the ever popular dog show.

On Saturday 20th June, the County Councillor Tony Elias and various local councillors welcomed over 350 people to their Open Day and the event formed part of the Caterham Festival Open Weekend. The day was a great success including very moving performances from apprentices, staff and volunteers, interactive singing and drama workshops and various craft stalls. The centre raised over £1,300 towards their ongoing work. Supporters included MP Peter Ainsworth, elected

County Councillor Tony Elias and various local councillors. The next Orpheus performance will be the end of year show, written by founder Richard Stilgoe and performed by the apprentices at the Linbury Studio of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden on Friday 17th July. For more information about the centre or tickets for the show please contact Charlotte Barton on 01883 744664 or visit [www.orpheus.org.uk](http://www.orpheus.org.uk).



Richard Stilgoe makes some technical adjustments for a student from the Orpheus Centre. Photograph reproduced with kind permission of Pure View Photography.

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## Eating Out

A great night out for 'The Village Inn' people!

The Village Inn in Caterham-on-the-Hill hosted a successful fund-raising event last month in aid of Cystic Fibrosis and Downs Syndrome. On Friday 19th June the popular pub and restaurant was buzzing with hundreds of guests enjoying the lively party. The proceeds from the ticket sales, raffle and auction reached the sum of nearly £5,000 for the two charities - an amazing achievement for just one night. The Village Inn donated the venue, buffet for 250 people and a raffle, all free of charge and Disco7 kindly donated their services to entertain the crowd. Steve Kirk, owner of The Village Inn, said: "Without the amazing efforts from Helen, Sharon, Louise, Catherine and Lizzy whose extremely hard work made the night, we would not have raised such an amazing amount of money. They were absolutely fantastic, selling over 500 raffle tickets on the night alone!" The raffle and auction prizes were all donated by local businesses and individuals. Steve added: "Looking at attendance, atmosphere and sheer generosity this was without a doubt the best night we have had in the four years Catherine and I have owned the pub. This will most definitely be an annual event. I'd like to say a special thank you to Louise and Peter Percy who donated the biggest auction prize of £765 Thomas Cook vouchers."

### The blood, sweat, tears and smiles of Gio's sponsored cycle ride

Although still nursing some nasty grazes after falling off his bike, local restaurateur Gio Gonzales is all smiles when he tells you about the thrill of taking part in the 2009 London to Paris Cycle Tour recently. The topple came on the first day of the three day event, whilst travelling at 29mph. "I think it was the hardest thing I have ever, ever done in my life," said Gio who is 67 this month. "I spent 23 hours on the bike over three days, but the feeling at the end when we cycled through the centre of Paris in the sunshine was ecstasy! We were like a snake with hundreds of cyclists winding their way through the city with motor cycles escorting us. By the time we got to the Eiffel Tower I was crying like a kid!" Gio was riding in a team that included his old friends, ex-Crystal Palace footballers John Salako and Geoff Thomas in aid of the Geoff Thomas Foundation

for leukaemia research. The cyclists had to battle through flash floods, thunder and lightning over the 540km, three day ride, staged by global sports event company HotChillee. Gio, who owns Casa Lola spanish restaurant in Caterham Valley, even won an award for being the most charismatic and entertaining cyclist in Group 4! So far Gio has raised nearly £1,500 for the Foundation but he will continue to collect donations until he hands over the proceeds on September 5th.



John Salako (left) and Geoff Thomas with Gio in Paris at the end of the tour.

To advertise in the 'Eating Out' section of The Caterham & District Independent, call 01883 346641 or e-mail: [info@caterham-independent.co.uk](mailto:info@caterham-independent.co.uk)



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## Alexanders raises the bar



'Alexanders at Limpsfield' restaurant has finally now re-opened after a devastating escape of water forced it to close for 45 weeks.

Such a lengthy closure would destroy most businesses and, with the restaurant trade being particularly vulnerable, it is a great tribute to the resilience and tenacity of the owners of Alexanders that they have been able to recover and improve upon the enviable reputation they have created since first opening. The original building has been faithfully and lovingly restored and the interior design and decorative finishes are an absolute delight.



Alexanders has crafted a team that works to provide the most appealing and creative dining experience, bringing together a combination of

exciting new faces and reliable old ones. The high quality front of house staff serve mouth watering modern International and European cuisine from the hand selected kitchen brigade.

"We have closely reviewed our pricing to reflect the current economic climate," explained Patricia Douglas, owner of Alexanders. The result is that a visit to Alexanders is more affordable than ever with variable fixed prices for lunch and dinner. The consistently popular A la Carte and Mini Tasting menus are supplemented now by Menus Du Jour and Menus Du Midi.



"We regularly introduce exciting new dishes, taste variations and special menus to add to the unique dining experience for our customers," said Patricia. "The weeks of painstaking reconstruction and refurbishment have made us even more determined to improve and keep on improving!"

The result is that Alexanders has raised the bar and is looking forward to welcoming you back to experience this for yourself.

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## Eating Out

Try something new at 'The Curry Leaf'! Review by Julia Church

We are very fortunate in this district to be served by numerous excellent restaurants with food from all over the world and if you fancy trying some excellent Indian and Bangladeshi cuisine, The Curry Leaf is definitely worth a visit. You can be sure of a warm welcome from the owner, Ali Uddin, and his friendly staff are always on hand to ensure you have an enjoyable evening. The menu boasts a host of exotic dishes and if you're not sure what to try, Ali will come up with a recommendation to suit your taste.

On a visit last month my partner Keith and I decided to go for dishes we hadn't had before, just to be adventurous, and we started with Mussels Rangila for Keith and Palak, a 'famous Indian street snack', for me. Keith's generous serving of mussels was completely covered in a thick and

creamy almond sauce - mussels as we had never seen them before! The taste, however, was superb - the sauce didn't obscure the flavour of the mussels but complimented them very well. Be warned, this starter is very filling so bear that in mind when ordering your main course! My Palak was rather like an Onion Bhaji, but with creamy spinach in the centre instead of onions, which also tasted great dipped in Keith's almond sauce!

Keith decided to choose a highly recommended sea food dish, the Trout Khakri, for his main course, a medium to hot dish with the trout cut into small pieces and cooked with onions, herbs and spices in a bhaji formula. His verdict was 'unusual, but very enjoyable'. I opted for a House Speciality dish, the Special Curry Leaf Balti - a tangy



'The Curry Leaf' in Old Coulsdon

combination of prawns, lamb and chicken with vegetables. Knowing how filling Ali's meals can be we had ordered just one vegetable and one rice dish to accompany our main course which was ample.

For a first visit why not try their Special Wednesday Banquet Night for a four course meal at just £10.95 per person. Or you can eat as much as you like at their Sunday Lunch Buffet which costs £7.95 for adults and £4.95 for children. Both deals offer excellent value for money and you may discover a favourite new dish!

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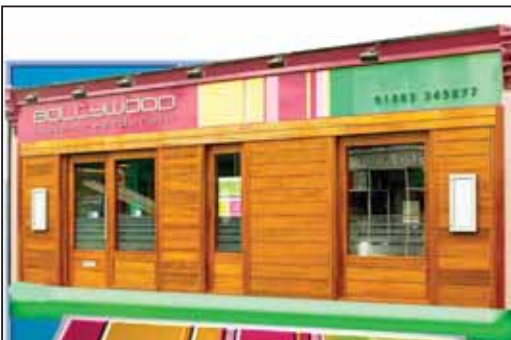
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# Warlingham Fete

Blanchman's Farm, 20th June 2009.



The Warlingham May Queen, 11 year-old Katherine Reynolds, with her entourage on Warlingham Green before setting off in the Carnival procession.



Volunteer collectors for St. Catherine's Hospice, Letty Durrant and Toni Derricott, take time out to visit the plant stall.



Seven year-old Jessica with Eeyore the donkey, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Warlingham Scout Group.



21-month old Kacy Kenyon tries her luck at the Caterham Harestone Rotary Tombola Stall.

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## In the garden

by Alec Herbert

A few days ago I was asked to re-pot a Japanese Acer as the large pot in which it was planted had cracked in several places and pieces were falling off. The tree had grown to eight or nine feet high and is a magnificent specimen. Acers, of course, are grown for their foliage and this one had certainly outgrown its pot but still managed to survive.

Re-potting periodically is necessary to prevent plants becoming pot-bound. This occurs when their roots have completely permeated the compost and become tightly packed in the pot. The signs of a pot-bound plant are a stunted growth, yellowing of leaves and a wilting appearance, despite regular watering. Any plant which has outgrown its existing pot is likely to benefit from being re-planted into a larger pot, enabling the roots to grow more freely. In addition, it will provide the nutrients found in the new compost which the plant requires to thrive.

At this time of year when growth is good, do not be too concerned about root disturbance. Aim to remove



*Acer palmatum*

as much of the old growing medium as possible while minimising root damage, something quite different from disturbance. Tease out "balled" roots, otherwise they will continue to grow round in circles, a feeling we all know from time to time! Potting on, together with new compost and top dressing undertaken at the correct time, are essential for the well-being of plants which spend their life in containers. They can then expect healthy and vigorous growth and become free flowering.

I look forward to the stunning foliage of the Acer come the autumn. Happy gardening.

## The Amber Salon launches new beauty range



A luxurious hand massage was just one of the free demonstrations on offer at the Amber Room salon in Croydon Road, Caterham Valley last month. The event celebrated the launch of their new flower and plant-based beauty products, 'Aveda'. For more information call the salon on 01883 335867.

## Quick Quiz

by Alec Herbert

Easy as ABC - answer 1 starts with a, 2 with b, etc.

1. In the Christian calendar what name is given to the first day of Lent?
2. Who is the Roman god of wine?
3. What is the world's largest lake?
4. What is the collective name for a group of pigs?
5. What is the name of the lioness in Born Free?

### Answers

1. Ash Wednesday;
2. Bacchus;
3. Caspian Sea;
4. Drove;
5. Elsa.

## Readers' letters

### Can you help Christian Aid?

I write as the Christian Aid Week house-to-house collection organiser for Caterham Valley. Your correspondent writing in your June edition described what, sadly, is a common experience for our collectors. There is however another side. There are very many welcoming and generous people opening their doors and in the part of Caterham Valley most regularly covered year by year the total this year has been a record despite the economic gloom. Well done the Harestone Ward who gave no less than £1611 plus considerable Gift Aid tax recovery.

It would be good to see many more of the Valley church members participating in the collection next year. The need is huge, the collecting task not easy as

your correspondent discovered but we really do need to stand up together and be counted. The organisation is in position. Please offer your help now by e-mail to bill.pike@talktalk.net or ring 01883 342135.

**Bill Pike, Caterham Valley.**

### A shop for St. Catherine's

Two of our close relatives died peacefully in the Marie Curie Hospice at Caterham after it was no longer possible to care for them at home. We were therefore deeply upset to hear that Marie Curie has closed their hospice but were pleased to hear that St. Catherine's Hospice in Crawley would be taking over that service. As St. Catherine's is now our local Hospice, should not Marie Curie hand over their charity shop in Caterham to St. Catherine's?

**Adrian Oliver, Caterham Valley.**

**Please send your letters and e-mails to the contact addresses on p2.**

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## COMPETITION WINNER

The lucky winner of the competition in the June Edition of The Caterham & District Independent is Lorna Tebby from Caterham-on-the-Hill who has won a free mobile tanning session for herself and four friends kindly donated by Martese's Mobile Spray Tanning (See advert on page 3)

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## All change at Caterham Rotary!

Thursday 2nd July saw a double inauguration at Caterham Rotary Club during a special lunch held at Surrey National Golf Club in Chaldon on Thursday 2nd July. David Hodge took over from Pat Evans as Governor for District 1250 which covers clubs in Surrey, Sussex and Kent and Jim Burton took over from Bill Ridley as President of the club.

During his speech, David acknowledged the dedication and hard work put in by his predecessor, Pat, saying: "I think Pat has led the District with a great deal of distinction."

David now faces a very busy year during which time he will be visiting all 60 clubs in the District.

Rotary International has members across the Globe who raise money for charity while at the same time enjoying the friendship and camaraderie of the meetings and social events.

For more information visit [www.caterhamrotary.co.uk](http://www.caterhamrotary.co.uk)



Pat Evans congratulates new District Governor, David Hodge.



New President Jim Burton presents Bill Ridley with the Presidential Plate which all Rotary Presidents receive at the end of their term.

## Midnight Walk set to raise £130,00 for St. Catherine's

This year's Midnight Walk in aid of St Catherine's Hospice looks set to raise around £130,000 for the local charity.

Around 900 women took part, walking a 13-mile route through Horsham's town centre on Saturday 20th June. Many were dressed in colourful fancy dress featuring an array of pink Stetsons, tutus and deeley-boppers as they put their best feet forward to raise funds for the hospice. At the end of the walk, all of the participants were given a medal and treated to a well-deserved free breakfast. Although the Midnight Walk itself was a women-only event, lots of men added their support by acting as event marshals.

St. Catherine's Event Fundraiser, Cat Boulter, said: "The amount that we look set to raise is a massive achievement and we're absolutely delighted. It's the second year that St Catherine's has organised a Midnight Walk and the atmosphere on the



night was fantastic. We'd like to say a huge thank you to all of the women who took part, and everyone who has supported them. "We'd also like to thank all of the event marshals and other volunteers, Horsham District Council, The Red Cross, RAYNET, and everyone else who has helped us to run this event in so many ways."

St Catherine's provides specialised end of life care for patients and their families, friends and carers in Crawley, Horsham, Mid Sussex and East Surrey. The hospice needs to raise £4.7 million through voluntary income each year to fund its services.



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## Chaldon WI visit Lullingstone Castle



Club members with Tom Hart Dyke in the World Garden

Members of Chaldon Women's Institute were transported back in time when they visited the beautiful Lullingstone Castle in Eynsford, Kent earlier this summer. Built in 1497 the castle is one of England's oldest family estates and is now home to 'The World Garden of Plants' created by Tom Hart Dyke.

Following a fascinating guided tour of the castle the group met Tom in the World Garden, who introduced the ladies to his new project, the 'Cloud Garden' as well as his collection of Cactii.

For more information about the history of Lullingstone Castle, the World Garden and visitors opening times telephone 01322 862114 or visit [www.lullingstonecastle.co.uk](http://www.lullingstonecastle.co.uk)

## Munch with Music

The first year of the The 'Munch with Music' Wednesday lunch-time series of concerts at St. John's Church ended on Wednesday July 1st with a concert by students from The Royal Alexandra and Albert School, Gatton, near Reigate, directed by their Musical Director Jo Rose and accompanied by Audrey Thomas.

The excellent support for

## Who wants to be a Volunteer?

by Marion Piggott



A colleague remarked the other day that it's not only the fledgling birds spreading their wings at the moment. Having acquired some additional resources, and with the help of a new colleague, Paul Hutchings, a new project will bring volunteering opportunities closer to those living in Warlingham.

Our Volunteer Centre has been in Soper Hall for over three years now. In that time we have been delighted to witness the burgeoning number of volunteers in and around Caterham. We have no plans to leave our present office but now we hope to bring the same service into the heart of Warlingham.

The library has been very welcoming to us. There will be a volunteering display there in mid-July and shortly after that Paul will be in the library regularly to meet potential volunteers. Keep a look out for our posters giving the day and times.

Paul would also like to hear from charities and not for profit organisations who would like to promote their volunteering opportunities. We will also be happy to provide information and support to organisations who contact us.

On a seasonal note, we have a range of summer volunteering opportunities for young people in the 16-25 year age range. These are from our partnership with Surrey 'vinvolved', who I mentioned in these pages last autumn.

Want to know more? Please ring Paul or me, Marion Piggott, at the Volunteer Centre, 01883 344444, email: [caterhamvc@owen29.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:caterhamvc@owen29.wanadoo.co.uk), or visit our website: [www.surrey-community.info/tvsc/](http://www.surrey-community.info/tvsc/)

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these events throughout the year has been encouraging for the organisers and rewarding for the performers. Our second series will start after the summer break on Wednesday 7th October. If you wish to recommend

an experienced performer or a young talented performer for inclusion in one of our programmes from March 2010 onwards please contact John Parkes on 01883 342961.



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2	6	£60

## Queen's Park FC

by Chairman, Chris Varley  
 The end of the season culminated with some excellent news for the club as we received a National Lottery grant in excess of £5,000 to cover the cost of some portable floodlights. With these we are now in a position to allow all of our senior teams to train on grass throughout the winter and substantially reduce the expense base of the club. Our initial estimates are that this will save us some £2,000 on hire charges per annum. In addition it enables us to move forward our plans for some elite training and also allows us to bring forward our plans for community coaching in the winter months as well as the summer months. Last month we had a stall at the Caterham Carnival, which was as usual a well run and successful day.



Queen's Park FC with their National Lottery cheque

Once again the hard work of the carnival committee paid dividends, with the carnival really showcasing our town for the great place it is. We now look forward to our presentation afternoon in Queen's Park, where local councillor Jeremy Webster has agreed to present some of the awards. Jeremy has been instrumental in allowing us to progress our plans and I would like to offer our sincere thanks to both

Jeremy and Paul Barton and his team from Tandridge District Council. Queen's Park FC are seeking new players, both boys and girls, for next season. We also need a referee to officiate at some of the Sunday matches. If you would like to join the club as either a referee or a player please call me, Chris Varley on 01883 380943 or our Club Secretary, Maurice Auletta on 07957 595831.

## Lions help out at St. Stephen's School

Caterham, Oxted & Godstone Lions are always quick to answer requests for help in the area, and were more than happy to help out at St Stephen's School in South Godstone. Teacher Abbie Dunne asked the Lions for help with supplying some garden equipment for the special needs unit which she heads up. The club were happy to help with providing four raised beds. In the meantime Waitrose, Caterham store had contacted the Lions regarding their monthly charity help scheme. The Lions quickly told them about the beds for St Stephen's School which they were pleased to support and as a result of the token contributions by

the public COG Lions received £550. This, along with Club funds, was used to buy the beds, soil and name plates. This is just one example of the help the Lions provide in the area. Their minibus is available for use by community organisations; any one who is interested in using it should contact the Lions on 01342 893353. The Lions also have an electric mobility scooter which is available on a long term loan. The Lions are able to cover the cost of the maintenance of the scooter. For contact the Lions on 01883 742590. Caterham, Oxted & Godstone Lions are always happy to consider requests for help, particularly from young people and youth projects in the area. For more information about Caterham, Oxted & Godstone Lions visit [www.cogslions.co.uk](http://www.cogslions.co.uk)

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**CATERHAM £1500 pcm**

Impressive ex-show with 4 double bedrooms. Spacious deluxe fully fitted kitchen. Large lounge/dining room with feature fireplace leading to conservatory. Master bedroom with ensuite shower room and fitted wardrobes. Family bathroom. Up to second floor with large double bedroom and fourth double bedroom/large office. Single Garage with access to garden. Driveway. Avail u/f

**CATERHAM ON THE HILL £1550 pcm**

Well presented 4 bedroom detached house. Spacious fitted kitchen/breakfast room. Separate utility room. Lounge. Sitting room. Dining room. Stairs with large landing leading to 4 bedrooms. Newly fitted family bathroom. Double length garage. Parking. Level garden to rear. Avail u/f

**CATERHAM VALLEY £1600 pcm**

Light and spacious detached chalet bungalow. Entrance hall, two spacious reception rooms. Three bedrooms to ground floor with family bathroom. Stairs to master bedroom with ensuite shower room. Fully fitted kitchen. Double garage with remote control. Attractive landscaped gardens with pathways, borders and raised pond. Avail part-furnished

**CATERHAM ON THE HILL £1700 pcm**

Spacious 4 bedroom town house. Good sized modern fully fitted kitchen/breakfast room. Dining room/Study. Conservatory. Good sized lounge with feature fireplace. 2 bedrooms on first floor sharing a bathroom. 2 further bedrooms on the top floor both with fitted wardrobes & ensuite bathrooms. Garden to rear. Double garage with large bonus room with sink & WC above it. Avail u/f

**CATERHAM £1750 pcm**

Stunning character 5 bedroom newly refurbished house. Lounge with original features and fireplace. Dining room. Open plan stylish kitchen. Utility room. 4 bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms and fitted wardrobes. One further bedroom. Courtyard garden to rear. Avail u/f

**CATERHAM £3000 pcm**

Stunning 5 bedroom detached house. Large open plan living space with stylish fully integrated kitchen, dining room and lounge. Formal sitting room. Study. First floor has 3 double bedrooms. 1 single bedroom. Top floor has impressive master suite offering views to front and rear with dressing area and bathroom with stylish features including wetroom shower. Large garden to rear with lawn and patio area. Garage and driveway. Avail August furnished or unfurnished.



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