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# Santas get running to raise cash for St. Catherine's

The St. Catherine's Hospice Santa Run held in Caterham on Sunday 18th November was a runaway success. Nearly 130 people spent a sunny Sunday morning dressed up as Santa, running round Queen's Park to raise funds for the local

charity. Santas limbered up before the run with a kick boxing warm-up run by world champion Jody Blunt and at the end of the event all participants were given a welldeserved medal and treated to drinks and mince pies.

Sponsorship money is still coming in but St. Catherine's hope to raise combined total of £20,000 from the Caterham, Horsham and East Grinstead Santa Runs this year.

Wickham, Events Fundraiser at St. Catherine's Hospice said: "A big thank you to everyone who took part in our Santa Run in Caterham. It was great fun watching loads of Santas running, walking and skipping round the course and every penny raised will go towards caring for local people with a terminal illness.

MP for East Surrey, Sam Gyimah took part in the run with his wife Nicky and his Parliamentary team. After the run Mr Gyimah said: "It was fantastic to see so many turn out and support St. Catherine's Hospice, an organisation that offers essential and highly specialised end of life care in the area.

"Thank you to my team and their partners who volunteered their time to run on Sunday, helping to raise essential funds for the charity. Well done to all those involved and a particular thank you to the organisers for putting on a great event.



Sam Gyimah MP and his team warm up for the St. Catherine's Hospice Santa Run.

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# Appeal dismissed regarding the redevelopment of the old Marie **Curie Hospice building**

On Monday 12th November Mr David Prentis, the government Planning Inspector, dismissed the appeal by Independence Homes against a refusal by Tandridge District Council to grant planning permission for their application to redevelop the site of the former Marie Curie Hospice in Harestone Valley Road in Caterham. In his report Mr. Prentis stated that when taken as a whole the reason for refusal by Tandridge District Council was complete, precise and specific. The Council's decision was based on a planning judge-



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The old Marie Curie Hospice building.

ment in relation to the effect of the scheme on the character and appearance of the area and the Council had not acted unreasonably.

The scheme by Independence Homes that was refused planning permission was for the erection of a 25 bedroom apartment building (15 x 2 bed and 10  $\times$  1 bed apartments), a 20 bed care home, three terraced houses (2 x 3 bedroom houses with garages and 1 x 2 bedroom house), a pair of semi-detached houses (2 x 5 bedrooms) and a two

storev office building with office accommodation in the roof space, with parking, pedestrian/vehicular access road, bike and bin stores. Following the decision, Tandridge District Councillor for Caterham Valley, Beverley

Connolly said: "I am delighted that the Inspector agreed with the views of local residents and councillors and dismissed the appeal. Hopefully now the developer, Independence Homes, will come back with a more suitable scheme for this site that respects the character of the area."

# **Tandridge Community Fund** celebrates reaching its £100,000 target

At the November meeting of the members of the Tandridge Community Fund ('TCF') Chairman Mike Moss MBE was delighted to announce that the fund now has over £110,000, exceeding the original target of £100,000. The target was set in 2008 when Mike started the fund with a small group of volunteers in order to help support good causes in Tandridge. The fund was set up in partnership with the Community Foundation for Surrey who carefully invest the donations received by TCF. The government's Grassroots and Community First matchfunding initiatives have helped to boost the amount of money in the fund in addition to the extra cash raised through Gift

The fund members are very grateful to all who have supported them over the last four years including Sainsbury's in Warlingham,

Waitrose in Oxted, their patron David Gold who hosted two fundraising events for TCF, local councillor, Sally Marks for helping to publicise the fund, the Tandridge residents who have donated to the fund and everyone else that has offered support in some way. TCF has made donations to a number of local groups from the interest generated by the capital fund including the Oxted-based Stepping Stones charity, Age UK, Godstone at Play, the Baby Cafe in Caterham and budding local musician Ross Stevenson. Their next donation will be to the Community Responders to help purchase a new defibrillator for medical emergencies.

At the November meeting Mike Moss told other members of TCF: "I am very pleased we have reached our target of £100,000. We must now work towards our new target of £200,000!"

If you would like more information or would like to make a donation please call Mike on 01883 713322 or visit www.surrevcommunityfoundation.org.uk and search for 'Tandridge'.









# A 'Skyfall' of colour at the Caterham Round Table firework display!

Bond film theme tunes were the very topical musical accompaniment to this year's firework display organised by Caterham Round Table held in the Dene Field on Saturday 3rd November. The display was preceded by a torchlight procession along the High Street to the Dene Field before the lighting of the enormous bonfire.

The Round Table was helped on the night by both the Caterham Rotary Clubs, 1st Caterham (St. Mary's) and 5th Caterham (Sacred Heart) Scout Groups, the 9th Caterham Girl Guides, St. John Ambulance, Surrey Police, Surrey Fire and Rescue Service and the Caterham 41 Club.

Earlier in the day the judging took place of the Build-a-Guy competition that was won this year by nine-year-old Charlotte Tracy and her five-year-old brother Matthew (pictured with Caterham Round Table chairman Peter Dommett) with their Guy modelled on the scathing judge Craig Revel Horwood from BBC's Strictly Come Dancing!





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### An extra-special Remembrance Day as Whyteleafe announces launch of new Royal **British Legion branch**

Remembrance Day services took place at churches across the district on Sunday, 11th November, with many uniformed groups, councillors, politicians, ex-servicemen and members of the public turning out to mark the occasion on what was a beautiful, sunny autumn day. The service at St. Luke's Church in Whyteleafe was attended by Sam Gyimah MP and his wife



Cllr. Sally Marks with D-Day veteran, Mick Bromley who form part of the team starting the new branch of the Royal British Legion in Whyteleafe.

dridge District Council, Sakina Bradbury, Chief Executive of District Council. Tandridge Stephen Weigel, Surrey County Councillor Sally Marks and other local councillors. The service in Whyteleafe was especially significant this year for many who attended as it was announced recently that a new branch of the Royal British Legion is being launched in Whyteleafe to replace the old branch that closed four years ago.

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On Thursday 8th November, a public meeting was held in the Function Room at the Whyteleafe Tayern to begin the process. County Councillor Sally Marks, District Councillor and landlord of the Whyteleafe Tavern, Tom Dempsey, Col. John Lowndes TD, CPO Michael Bromley RN retd., and Mr. George Gadd joined together to form the new branch and needed at least 15 people to sign up in order to proceed. There was a good turn out for the meeting and by the end of the evening the figure had been exceeded and the formal process to launch the new club will go ahead.



The Remembrance Day service at St. Luke's Church in Whyteleafe. Photo by Jon Harrison.



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# Volunteers needed to help shape the future of housing and businesses in Caterham, Whyteleafe and Chaldon.

The CR3 Forum that is creating the Neighbourhood Plan for Caterham, Whyteleafe and Chaldon, urgently needs new members to join the Housing and Business workgroups to help shape the community for the future.

Releasing a Green Belt location around Caterham for up to 1,000 homes over the next 20 years is just one idea that is being considered within the Neighbourhood Plan. The Housing workgroup will consider whether continuing to safeguard the Green Belt is causing higher densities of housing to be built elsewhere such as at the Oaklands site (now 'Oakgrove') in Caterham-on-the-Hill. The Housing workgroup will have a stong impact in helping to shape the Neighbourhood Plan, including influencing the type of new homes built in the area. It will consider whether or not there is the right mix of homes or if Croydon Road in Caterham Valley and Whyteleafe are being overdeveloped with flats.

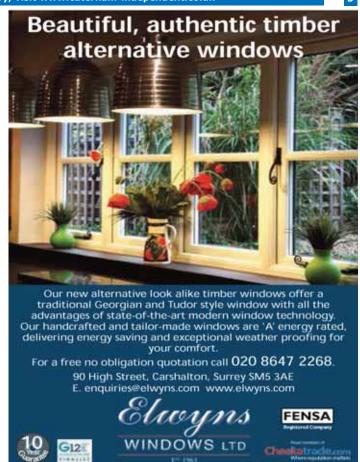
CR3 Forum member, Mark Bristow, who is a graduate in Town Planning, said: "Historically the area has seen a considerable loss of employment land with new homes built on these sites, such as at Caterham Barracks and Oaklands. Whilst we still have some small-scale brownfield sites these are limited. The consequence is that we lose the opportunity for businesses to locate or expand in the Caterham area. A clear example of where this is the



de Stafford students taking part in a discussion led by Councillor Sally Marks to engage the youngsters in the Neighbourhood Plan. The students were encouraged to think about the sort of changes and improvements they would like to see in the locality in years to come.

current situation is the Caterham Cars and Marie Curie Hospice

Mark explained that the Business workgroup will need to work with the Housing workgroup to protect the commercial properties in CR3 and maintain local employment opportunities. He said: "We currently have some developers involved who are searching for potential sites to develop so we need to balance that with people from the community! Please come and get involved and influence what happens along your street.' Anyone wishing to be involved in the Business or Housing workgroups should contact Chris Windridge on 07850 757037 or e-mail caterhamabc@mac.com



# HAVE YOUR SAY!

A household questionnaire from the CR3 Forum has been delivered to homes in the area for completion and return by the end of November. Please return the form as soon as possible or complete the survey online at http://caterhamareaforum.wordpress.com



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# In the spotlight

This month we feature Debbie Fox, the new Chairman of the Cater-ham and District Horticultural Society.

### Birthplace:

Woking, Surrey.

Marital Status: Cheeky!

Children: None.

Cars: A Toyota Prius.

Pets: None.

### Childhood hero:

Bellamy, botanist and broadcaster.

**Favourite** Food Drink: Fish and a very good boutique gin. Not necessarily together.

Favourite TV show: Meet the Romans with Mary Beard.

### **Favourite books:**

I've just bought some lovely secondhand books on floristry by Constance



Debbie Fox

Spry, from the RHS Wisley Library.

Likes: Nature is a constant source of wonder for me.

### Dislikes:

Belligerent drivers.

Pastimes: Gardening and local food growing.

Who would you most like to throw a custard pie at? Jeremy Clarkson, for being a belligerent driver.

Favourite song of all time: I have diverse musical tastes. It could be Poker Face by Lady Gaga or the Toreador's Song in the opera CarFavourite holiday destination: Egypt.

Biggest influence on your life: I was adopted as a baby so a recent milestone was meeting my birth family.

### **Proudest moment:**

My partner Richard being made Head of Higher Education at East Surrey College.

Most embarrassing moment: Many as a teenager with my best friend. We wanted boys to notice us. It was a great benefit to my education that they didn't.

Where would you most like to live? In a house with a view of the Malvern Hills.

Who would you most like to meet? Monty Don.

If you won the Lottery jackpot, how would you spend it? I'd open a plant nursery and fund restorations. might buy a fully electric concept car.

# Beautiful gifts for all inside the Treasure Chest

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If you are struggling for ideas for Christmas presents this year, visit the Treasure Chest at 45 Croydon Road, Caterham Valley where you will find a wide range of toys, gifts and greetings cards for special occasions.

Owner. Janet Jenner. opened the store two years ago and now has many regular customers who pop in when they need to buy a special gift rather than driving all the way into Crovdon or elsewhere out of town.

"We are just a short walk from Church Walk, so many of my customers come in before doing their weekly shop in Morrison's or Waitrose," said Janet.

"I like to keep up-to-date with the popular lines, so we stock traditional and companies such as Melissa and Doug, Orange Tree Toys, Paul Lamond, Big Jigs and Airfix. Our toys include dolls, soft toys, vehicles,



Inside the Treasure Chest.

puzzles and games, as well as a wide selection of creative items to keep the litte ones busy!"

The Treasure Chest also sells a great selection of gifts for ladies and gents such as wallets, handbags, jewellery, jewellery boxes and manicure sets.

The range of items for the home are also very popular, especially as weddina presents.

The shop also sells knitting yarns and haberdashery which Janet will be developing more in the New Year. Janet would love you to call

in to say 'hello' and if you modern toys from reputable mention The Caterham and District Independent you will receive a 10% discount throughout December, just in time to stock up with gifts for Christmas.



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# 'Calendar Girls' raises thousands for Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research

On Tuesday 6th November a cheque for £5,028 was presented to Gordon Hvde of the Leukaemia and Lvmphoma Research charity by Barbara Beckett, the Artistic Director of The Miller Centre Theatre Company. The donation was raised by the Company's recent production of Calendar Girls.

On presenting the cheque, Barbara Beckett said: "It was a privilege to be involved in such an inspirational play as Calendar Girls. Everyone involved in the show gained a huge amount from doing it and made many new friends. This included those who lives have been touched by Leukaemia or Lymphoma, which gave an added spur to our efforts. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to make a calendar and I thank the brave girls who did it because that enabled us to make a heap more money. It is a privilege and delight to be able to hand to you, Gordon, a cheque for £5,028". In accepting the cheque, Gordon Hyde said that he was astounded by how much money had been raised. "This is a fantastic amount for us in Leukaemia Research." said Gordon.



The cast of 'Calendar Girls'.

"This money will soon be heading to the research programmes that are going on around the country. At the moment, we are trying to improve the treatment for Leukaemia, find better ways of detecting it earlier and better ways of treating it without the horrendous side effects that affect some people".

£5,028 was raised for Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research, of this £3,909 came from sales of the Calendar Girls cheeky 2013 colour calendar, starring the cast, and the balance from donations made by theatregoers.

The A3 size 2013 Calendar Girls calendars can be purchased at The Miller Centre for £5 and on eBay for £8 including postage (please search for 'theatre calendar 2013').



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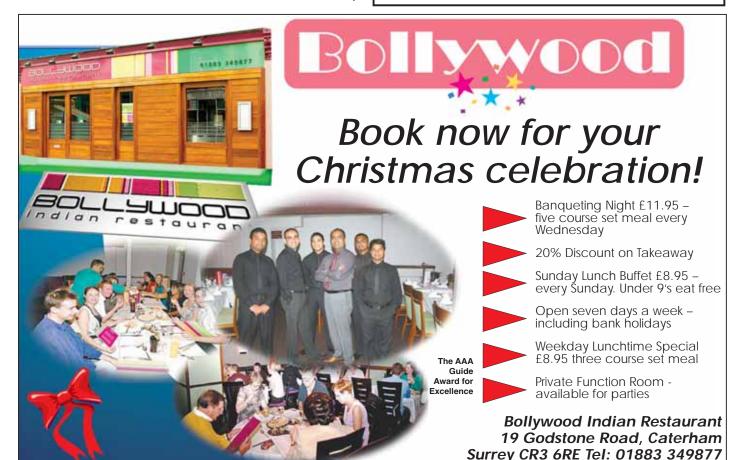
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# **Caterham Valley Secondary School pupils** meet up after 48 years

On Saturday 10th November a group of 18 ex-pupils of Caterham Valley Secondary School met for a reunion in the hall of the old school, now Marden Lodge Primary School in Croydon Road. The old Caterham Valley Secondary School merged with de Stafford School back in 1968. The reunion was the second organised by former pupil, Steve West who has spent the last year tracing fellow students from the 4th grade of 1964. Teacher, Miss Alison Wilson (Reli-

gious Knowledge), attended, meeting up with ex-students from as far afield as Vermont, USA (Ray Ginsbury), France (Linda Moore) and Cornwall (Chris Bird). "The old headmaster Alison said: 'Butch' Howell would have enjoyed seeing how his students had turned out". Lauraine Nicholls, bursar at Marden Lodge, gave guided tours of the school facilities, showing how classroom usage had changed since 1964.

Allan Seal, former head boy, thanked Steve and his wife Mary for the excellent buffet and all there for making the event such a success.

Steve apologises to any school friends who he was unable to contact.



Back row: Davd Ballantyne, Steve West, Roger Cotterell, Nigel Sutton,

Centre row: Christopher Haliday, Graham Leah, Raymond Ginsbury, Allan Seal, Alison Wilson, Lawrence Wiggins, Christopher Bird, Joseph Kosek. Front row: Shelagh McEvoy (Partington), Ruth Whitton (Wilde), Barbara Dunn (Rhodes), Linda Moore (Powell), Lesley Morss (Ross), Beryl Evans.

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We aim to provide a happy, secure and welcoming environment where parents, carers and children can access support to play and achieve together. If you are looking for things to do in the local area, Job Centre Plus information, family support, information about local childcare, advice or help with parenting then please pop in to see us at your local centre.

HAMSEY (	GREEN CHILDI	REN'S CENTRE		
MONDAY	17th December 10.00 to 12.00 OR 1.00 to 3.00 CHRISTMAS FAMILY FUN DAY Call to book your place.	1.30 – 2.30  Baby Bumpkin Yoga inspired sensory play for you and your baby. 0 to 1 yr. Last session 10th December		
	9.00 – 10.30 Stay and Play	12.30 – 1.45 Baby Clinic		
TUESDAY	Come and have fun together. 0 to under 5 yrs. Last session 11th December	Come along, weigh your baby and meet the Health Team. Last clinic 18th December		
WEDNESDAY	10.00 - 11.00 Talk With Tatty Interactive story adventures. 2 to 4yrs. Last session 12th December.	1.30 - 3.00  One Step at a Time Friendly, play session for children who have or may have additional needs. 1st and 3rd week of each month. 0 to under 5yrs. Last session 5th December		
THURSDAY	9.15 – 10.45 Stay and Learn Fun session for ALL registered home based carers with children under 8 yrs. Last session 13th December	The Centre will close for the Christmas Holidays on 19th December. We will be back with our new timetable on Tuesday 8th January 2013!		
£1.00 DONATION – To cover the cost of refreshments and resources each family will be asked to donate £1.00 per session. Thank you.				

HILLCROFT CHILDREN'S CENTRE				
MONDAY	Drop In 8.30 – 9.00 Advice and Information at Hillcroft School site Stay & Play 9.30–11.00 Please call to book your place 01883 343987	Baby Clinic 9.30 – 11.15 Come along and weigh your baby and meet the health team At The Old Naafi Site		
TUESDAY	Drop In 8.30 – 9.00 Advice and Information at Hillcroft School site			
WEDNESDAY	Drop In 8.30 – 9.00 Advice and Information at Hillcroft School site	Childminders Stay & Play 9.15 – 11.15 Come along and meet other registered childminders		
THURSDAY	Drop In 8.30–9.00 Advice and Information at Hillcroft School site	Baby Club 9.30 - 11.30 Parents & Carers with		
	at i morbit dender one	babies who are not yet walking		

For friendly advice and support our Outreach Worker Emma is available to m at the centre, at Hillcroft School or in your own home. Please call her on 079

	<b>KESTREI</b>	.S CHILDREI	V'S CENTRE	
	MONDAY	Little Hands Baby Signing 2pm How to use simple sign language to understand your baby's needs. Call 07710 279915 for details.		
	TUESDAY	STAY AND PLAY 9.15 - 11.30 For children who want to get messy £1.50 per session 2'S COMPANY Fun and learning sessions for families with 2 year olds. Referrals necessary. Call us to find out more.	CRAFTY COOKS 11.45AM - 1.45PM Cooking & Christmas Crafts No Charge - Hot lunch provided  Tell Me A Story 2.00-2.45 Call Tara for details	
	WEDNESDAY	Kickers and Crawlers Sessions 9.15-11.30 For babies who are not yet walking £1.00 per session	Kestrels at Tatsfield 1.00-3.00 Aileen McHugo Building Stay & Play Sessions All ages welcome	
	THURSDAY	Bumps and Beyond 9.30 – 12.30 FREE Sessions for Mums-to-Be & New Mums & Dads	Baby Clinic 12.30 – 1.45 Come along weigh your baby and meet the Health Team. Our Team will be here to offer you tips and advice on breastfeeding.	
l	Kestrels Day Care, Wrap Around Care & Holiday Playschemes			

Open 7.30 - 6.00, 5 days a week, 50 weeks a year This is the centre where Ofsted said "This is like a big house full of happy children"

We are pleased to support the Caterham Baby Café, where help is available on all aspects of breastfeeding and its impact on daily life – from starting to stopping and all the variations in between. Situated at de Stafford School, Burntwood Lane, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 5YX every Thursday 10.00am – 12.00noon.

Please call our centres for more information and to check availability before attending any of the above sessions

# Warlingham Green lights up for Christmas

Christmas got underway in Warlingham on Saturday 24th November with the traditional lantern parade and switching on of the Christmas lights on a very muddy Warlingham Green! Despite the rainy weather, hundreds of residents turned out in their raincoats and wellies to see the Warlingham Flute Band lead the lantern parade onto The Green and the Christmas lights being turned on. The crowd then joined in with the traditional carol singing by a combined children's choir.

The organisers are very grateful to Natwest bank for sponsoring the lantern parade and carol singing this year.

A new feature for this Christmas is a stunning corner tree covered in hundreds of lights.

Many of the local shops stayed open late so people could make a start on their Christmas shopping including Dales gift shop, Warlingham Furniture and Son Flowers florists.

As always, the event was a very special occasion and a lovely start to the Christmas season in Warlingham.



A warm welcome awaited customers at Dales gift shop.





The lantern parade.

The brightly-lit Christmas tree, a new feature this year.





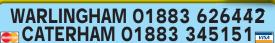
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# AN INVITATION OPEN TO ALL

Please join us for a service of remembrance at our

# LIGHT A CANDLE SERVICE

at All Saints' Church, Church Road, Warlingham. CR6 9NU on Saturday December 8th 2012 at 11.00 a.m.

We hope that you will join us afterwards for coffee and mince pies in the vestry hall.



To reserve a seat call 01883 623 067



### **Salvation Army launches Christmas Present Appeal**

Thousands of children, young people and their families will have a happier Christmas this year, thanks to the Salvation Army's nationwide Christmas Present Appeal. Members of the public are being invited to donate new gifts for children aged 0-16 for distribution to needy children in the local area by the Salvation Army. If you would like to donate a toy please take new, unwrapped toys to Superdrug or the Manager's Office in Church Walk, Caterham by Sunday, 16th December.

The Church Walk Shopping Centre manager, Shelley Filippi, would like to thank members of the public for their support.



Shelley Filippi Church Walk Centre Manager; Gwen Smedley Salvation Army; Dave Randall, Superdrug

# The Soper Hall is open for business!

The refurbishment of the Soper Hall in Harestone Valley Road, Caterham by the Soper Hall Community Centre Ltd continues with improvements to the toilet facilities, the creation of a new meeting room, redecoration to the communal areas and a new kitchen/servery area under construction. This work has paid dividends for the community and the Memorial Hall has played host to two

types of functions recently that have not been seen in the Soper Hall for many years - a Christening party and a children's birthday party. The building echoed to the sounds of children having fun, parents relaxing and celebrating, and all in a safely controlled environment.

With a recent enquiry for a wedding reception the Soper Hall looks set to regain a place at the heart of the community.

Booking enquiries can be made through the website at www.soperhall.co.uk





www.TidyGardensDIY.co.uk



The recent children's party at the Soper Hall.





· Half price venue hire including one year's free membership

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Whyteleafe vs Erith town Saturday 15th K.O. 3pm Whyteleafe vs Beckenham Town Wednesday 26th K.O. 3pm

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# Peter Groom Jewellery

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Crowds by the Asprey Fountain for the switching on of the Croydon Road lights. Photo by Shelley Filippi



The Christmas tree in Church Walk

On Friday 23rd November there was plenty of fun and excitement in Caterham Valley as the Christmas lights were switched on in Croydon Road, Godstone Road and Church Walk.

Businesses in Caterham contributed to the cost of the Christmas lights in Croydon Road and Godstone Road, with a generous donation again this year from Caterham Valley Parish Council.

Later on, Father Christmas made a grand arrival in Church Walk in a Caterham 7 car, before switching on the lights in the centre at 6pm. Singers from Caterham Baptist Church then led the carol singing for what was a truly magical occasion.

# /aitrose Caterham

# Christmas Shopping Evening Thursday 6th December from 6pm - 9pm

Why not come along and sample some of our delicious party food, stollen, mince pies, pates, cheeses and wines? There will be free drinks on arrival and mulled wine to drink on your way round the store. The local choir will also be joining us again to sing some lovely carols.

This is the perfect way to do your Christmas shopping. Don't forget to come and buy your Heston Christmas puddings and mince pies. We hope to see you on the night.

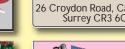
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With gold prices still very high, now may be a good time to either sell your unwanted/unused jewellery for cash or part exchange it for a new piece of jewellery.

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# VAS TIME IN

Many of the shops stayed open late for Christmas shopping and Morrisons permitted three hours free parking in their car park.

Afterwards, Centre Manager, Shelley Filippi said: "This year was the busiest yet; it was lovely to see such a huge crowd of people visit the centre and we hope everyone enjoyed the event. There was so much support from the local community groups without who's help we could not put on such a show."

Caterham is all dressed up and ready to go for Christmas so please remember to shop locally!



Father Christmas switching on the lights in Church Walk. Photo by Sarah Hills.



From left: Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Sakina Bradbury; Chairman of Caterham Valley Parish Council, Mick Lincoln; Town Crier, Sonia Hunt and Chairman of the Caterham Business Partnership, Andrew Browne getting ready to switch on the Croydon Road Christmas lights.





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Morrisons • Purrfect Pet Care • Pretty Woman • Peter Groom • Specsavers Superdrug • WH Smith • Dorothy Perkins • Sportsdirect.com • Clinton Cards ad & Simpson • Thomson • Card Factory • Tots 'N' Weenies • Wimpy pson • Starkuts • Pomodoro • Holland & Barrett • Burtons • Coughlan • rie Curie • Boots the Chemist • Lorimers • Costa Coffee







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**THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER** THURSDAY 13 DECEMBER

# LIVE SINGER DANCING TIL LATE

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CELEBRATE @ ID

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Coupled with the individual products from these ranges we also have in store a large selection of Christmas Gift Sets.

This added to our wide range of seasonal gifts including Wax Lyrical candles and room diffusers makes us a must visit store for all your Christmas Gifts.

# Diary of a **Plantaholic**

by Sue Baines

With blooms rapidly diminishing, it is time to look at the structure of the garden. Many plants that have been in the background and taken for granted, come into their own now, such as Chamaecyparis Nootkatensis. It is a lovely specimen conifer tree that only gets to 30ft x 15ft spread. It has dark green pendulous foliage, and is quite a winter focal point.

In front is the home-grown `sofa' topiary (yellow Privet). It was very easy to create, although it took several years to properly fill out. We have had it for over 25 years, and it is always a talking point, although surprisingly in cold winters, it does lose its foliage.

The evergreen shrubs, such as Photinia Red Robin with striking red foliage, cope well with any winter weather, as does the Prunus Lusitanica Variegata. The hedge would have looked good in solid green, but the



variegated form is, in my opinion a lot more interesting. As they are evergreen they sit quite happily next to the busy summer colour, and help to define the 'garden rooms'.

The silver filigree of the Perovskia foliage, minus flowers now, still has an imposing presence unlike any other outline and sets off the nearby dark Echinacea (thistle-like heads) a treat. Of course topiary shapes are very fashionable, and rightly so, their outlines add another dimension. If they are in pots they can be moved to best effect but it is worth remembering that top-heavy topiary is vulnerable to wind. Glazed pots, to avoid frost damage, are best raised off the ground and put on pot feet.

# Merstham Glass has something special to celebrate!

On Tuesday 20th November, Ron and Terri Jacks celebrated the 40th anniversary of the day they opened their new business, Merstham Glass. Their intention was to provide a first class glazing and double glazing service which, Ron explained, is still their aim.

Ron said: "We have never wanted to grow outside the area as we prefer to remain local. Our slogan is 'large enough to cope, small enough to care' which we think suits us very well."

Over the years the range of products sold by Merstham Glass has grown, ranging from windows and conservatories to the latest maintenance free 'evolution storm windows'.

After listening to what their customers wanted, the company can now supply and fit garage doors! Merstham glass serves both the public and the private sectors covering a wide range of requirements.

Speaking about their anniversary, Ron said: "In many ways the 40th is just another working day but it is great to reflect on the early years and the many changes to our industry. We have several staff who have been with us over 15 years, a few over 25 years and a couple over 30 years! We offer our thanks to all our staff past and present for what they have con-

tributed to our success. "Finally but not least, thanks to all our customers for their continued support."

Ron Jacks and his son Anthony at the Dickens Christmas celebration in Merstham last year.

For more information about Merstham Glass www.southeastsurreydoubleglazing.co.uk

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very Happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you on Christmas Eve for live entertanment with 'The Versions' and for our New Year's Eve party with the super sounds of The Mark Bishop Band.

**Tickets for Christmas Eve** and New Year's Eve cost £5 from The Whyteleafe Tavern.

For Function Room bookings call Peter on 07511 745771



# **Eating Out**

# Indian fine dining at Dewan-E-Am

Review by Julia Church

A new Indian restaurant, Dewan-E-Am, has just opened in Coulsdon Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill, along the road from Tesco. The restaurant offers Indian fine dining at very reasonable prices and is a lovely new restaurant for the local residents to have on their doorstep.

My daughter Jenny and I visited the *The stylish interior of Dewan-E-Am.* restaurant recently and we had a wonderfully relaxing evening. Sam Choudthe owner explained that Dewan-E-Am means 'dining room for royalty' to reflect the experience they like to provide for their customers. We enjoyed great service throughout the evening in the very stylish, modern surroundings.

The menu offers a wide range of traditional Indian dishes and a selection of Dewan-E-Am Specialities. To start I chose the Tandoori Chicken (£2.90) and Jenny chose the Lamb Chops (£3.50). Jenny's chops, which she let me taste, were beautifully succulent as was my chicken which had just enough spiciness for my taste.

For our mains we both selected Dewan-E-Am Specialities - I chose the Tandoori King Prawn Korai recommended by Sam, and Jenny chose the Chicken Tikka Bhuna. My dish was the most expensive main course on the menu at £8.50 and on 01883 348913 to reserve a table.



Jenny's main course was £6.10. To accompany the mains we shared a Pilau Rice (£2.10), Saag Aloo (spinach with potato) and Vegetable Korma (£2.80 each). Our meals were lovely and were just the right quantity and I noticed that other customers were giving great feedback to Sam as well.

Jenny said that the Vegetable Korma, which neither of us had had before, was really good and an excellent choice.

The restaurant offers excellent value. On Sundays they serve a buffet from 12pm-2pm for just £7.99 per person or if you want a cosy night at home you can order a takeaway.

Dewan-E-Am is now taking bookings for Christmas parties when you can order from their regular menu at their usual

Check out their advert to see theiir fabulous opening offers and call the restaurant



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Open for lunch and dinner Monday-Sunday 12pm-2pm and 5.30pm-11pm

### **OPENING OFFER**

To welcome you to our new restaurant we are offering a free bottle of house red or white wine to every table of four diners eating in during December

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PLUS we are offering a GREAT VENUE 20% DISCOUNT OFF our takeaway menu for collection only FOR ONE WEEK from Monday 3rd-Sunday 8th December

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### Caterham and District Rifle Club AGM

by Honorary President, Norman Skinner.

The Caterham and District Rifle Club is in its 105th year with 140 plus full members shooting in the range just off Waller Lane, Caterham. Long range competitions are shot at Bisley.

The AGM and prize giving took place at Warlingham Sports Club on Friday 5th October.

Some notable shooters were Nigel Toze who won three major trophies (displayed by Nigel in the photo from left to right): The Morris Memorial Shield for the highest match average; The Cranmer Shield for prone .22 rifle knock-out and the

Uridge Cup for best 30 scores. Philip Crease was a formidable opponent with the free-standing Light Sporting Rifle, winning the Rapid Fire Tankard and the President's Shield for the highest match average.

Miss Feyja Chapman won the Alfred Price Cup (.22 rifle breakable disc knock-out) – a thrilling neck and neck tie shoot decided the outcome.

Junior member Jonathan Barnes took the Captain's Cup with the highest combined scores in air rifle prone, standing air rifle and match air pistol. Tom Stretton once again remained unbeatable winning the Uridge Pistol Trophy.

At Bisley Will Daly won the Bisley Cup with the highest average at ranges from 300 to 900 yards.



Front row from left: D. Scott, Miss F. Chapman, N.W.T. Skinner, J. Barnes, N. Toze, C. C-Salmon, I. Kerr. Back row from left: W. Daly, M.P.J. Skinner, T.W. Harrison, A. McGarty, P. Crease, T.F. Stretton, R.Giddens Photo by Rachel Lockwood.

For more information about the Caterham and District Rifle Club go to www.cdrifleclub.co.uk



# **// Carretto**



The popular Italian restaurant from South London is now in the heart of Coulsdon.

We are fully open and reviving the good old days!

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# OPERA NIGHT

on Friday 7th December Serving Christmas Menu

Ian Gallagher will also be performing in December – call for more information

121 Brighton Road, Coulsdon Surrey CR5 2NG Tel: 020 8660 5056









### **Munch with Music**

The December 'Munch With Music' in St. John's Church, Caterham Valley, is on Wednesday December 5th.

Coffee and mince pies will be provided at 12.15pm. The performance is from 12.45pm-1.30pm and will feature Tuxedo Junction with Ruth Fahie (Vocalist). You are invited to bring your own 'Munch'.

### The Nutcracker

The Arc at 39 Weston Drive, Caterham CR3 5XY is presenting 'The Nut-cracker' written and directed by Beth Wood from 15th December-5th Janu-Tickets cost £9, concessions £6. A family ticket (2 adults, 2 children) costs £25. To book phone 01883 759416.

### **Christmas Concert**

East Surrey Choral Society is presenting a Christ-mas Concert featuring 'Magnificat' by contemporary composer John Rut-ter and carols with with audience participation on

Saturday 8th December at 7.30pm at the United Reformed Church, Harestone Hill, Caterham CR3 6SX. Tickets cost £10 (incl. programme and refreshments). Children under 14 free. Please call the box office on 01293 786358 or pay at the

### Reading of 'Nativity'

Gatton Community Theatre is presenting staged dramatic reading of 'Nativity' by John Durain on Friday 14th December at 7.30pm at All Saints' Church, Warling-

Tickets cost £8. Please phone 01883 625880 to book tickets.

### Christmas by Candlelight

The Downland Chorale is holding an evening of festive, enchanting choral music conducted by Adam Assen on Saturday 8th December at 7.30pm. The concert is being held at St. John's Church, Canon's Hill, Old Coulsdon CT5 1HA. The evening will include a 'Big Sing' of Christmas Carols. Tickets cost £10. Please call 07729 618226 For tick-

ets. For more information

visit www.downlandchorale.org.uk

### Wine Tasting Evening

A Wine Tasting in aid of St. Catherine's Hospice is being held on Saturday 1st December from 8pm until 11pm at the Community Centre in the High Street, Caterham-on-the-Hill. Tickets cost £10 to include wine tastings and food. For more information and to book tickets call Julie on 0208 668 9515 or mob. 07754 165428.

Christmas Fayre St. Francis RC Primary School in Whyteleafe Road, Caterham is hold-ing a Christmas Fayre on Sunday 2nd December from 11.30am-2.30pm. There will be stalls, games, food and drink, Santa's Grotto, Pampered Chef and crafts. An auction will be held at 2pm for an exclusive golf day for two on a private golf course. There will also be a Christmas raffle with many top prizes including an Xbox 360!

Entry £1 per adult, children free - all proceeds go towards a new safety play surface for the infants' playground.

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  CAR PARK TO REAR

8PM - LATE

PLEASE BOOK TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT (Minimum booking for 20 people)

Open Tuesday-Friday 12noon-3pm, 6pm-10pm\* Saturday 12noon-10pm\* Sunday 12noon-7pm \*Last food orders taken at 9pm

# Ridge Radio celebrates official opening of its new premises

On Monday 22nd October the community radio for Tandridge, Ridge Radio, held a launch party to celebrate the official opening of its new studio in Croydon Caterham Valley. Road. Volunteers, friends and supof Ridge Radio porters packed the new studio with Beavers and along Cubs from the 1st Woldingham Scout Group, their leaders and parents.

Sir Richard Stilgoe who founded The Orpheus Centre performing arts college in Godstone was one of the guests of honour, as well as local businessman and owner of West Ham United. David Gold, Both Sir Richard and David Gold gave speeches congratulating Ridge Radio on its new home and later on David Gold was interviewed live on air by Charlie, a Cub from



David Gold with members of the 1st Woldingham Beavers and Cubs.

1st Woldingham Scout Group.

When Charlie asked Mr Gold what he thought of the new venue for Ridge Radio, he "I think that Ridge said. Radio is a great community asset and it is great to see it in its new home. It has something for everyone, voung and old. This new venue is perfectly situated, on the main road where everyone can see it, and I wish you all very good luck." Jones, Afterwards Mark founder of Ridge Radio said: "I think the launch party was fantastic. Lots of local businesses showed up and networked with each other - it injects more energy into the project when so much support is shown to us by local people.'

Another member of the Ridge Radio team, Tony Nash, commented: "I am so pleased that this went so well for all concerned. So many people behind the scenes worked long and hard to get this studio presentable for the opening night. Many thanks to all who turned up to see what a great job we are all doing at 77 Croydon Road."

# Phil and friends complete one thousand mile cycle challenge



Phil (right) with Andy and Johnny at Lands End.

Well done to ex-firefighter Phil Charrington from Caterham who undertook the challenge to cycle from Lands End to John O'Groats with his friends Johnny Banks from Southborough and Andy Duncan from Greenwich. The trio set off on Wednesday 19th September and completed the 1,017 mile route in 19 days. Afterwards Phil said: "The ride was very wet and very cold. We went through floods in the Midlands, two

of them at least two feet deep, which meant we were pouring water out of our shoes! It was very cold around Glencoe – I couldn't change gear my fingers were so cold! The ride was on my 'bucket list' of things to do and although we did not do the ride for charity we have been given some donations for the fire brigade charity."

Phil said that their average mileage was 53.5 miles a day with a diversion on the way to visit Culloden Battlefield.



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# Quick

### Five questions on winter:

- 1. "Now is the winter of our discontent", one of Shakespeare's most famous quotes, spoken by which historical character?
- Which Shakespeare play shares its title with a Number 2 Christmas hit for David Essex?
- 3. The first Winter Olympics were held at Chamonix in which year?
- Who was the female writer of the poems "A Winter Ship" and "Winter Trees"?
- 5. In 1969 who won the Best Actress Oscar for the third time for the film "The Lion in Winter"?

### Answers:

ine Hepburn. 4. Sylvia Plath; 5. Kather-Winter's Tale; 3. 1924; 1. Richard III; 2. A (The)

# Who wants to be a volunteer?

by Rosemary Banks, Caterham Volunteer Centre

Have you put up your Christmas tree or thought about how many cards you will be sending? Does 'another' invitation to a Christmas party make you groan?

As the words of the popular carol tell us "tis the season to be jolly...." but as we are bombarded with Christmas music and seasonal images in shop windows and on television commercials, for many people this time of year can make their hearts sink.

Some people don't have happy memories of family gatherings and all the fuss and the shopping frenzy can be as empty as the large wrapped boxes under the corporate Christmas trees.

In her poem In The Bleak Midwinter, Christina Rosetti wrote:

"If I were a shepherd, I could give a lamb. If I were a Wise Man, I could do my part, yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.'

Perhaps it's time to think of doing something completely different this Christmas. Perhaps you would like to think



Rosemary Banks

about giving a bit of your heart and your time to be a listening ear by volunteering. For example, you could be a befriender to someone who is lonely and isolated or a driver for a voluntary organisation such as the Caterham Car Scheme, St. Catherine's Hospice or Seeability. If you wanted to give more practical help you could spend a few hours one evening a week with the Winter Night Shelter. If you would like to try something different and find out more about the diverse volunteering opportunities that are available, come to the Soper Hall in Harestone Valley Road, Caterham from 3pm-6pm on Wednesday 5th December, email me on caterhamvc@ tvsc.org.uk or take a look at the National Volunteering Database www.do-it.org.uk. Thank you and Happy Christ-

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# Readers' letters

### A 'shabby trick'

To all supporters of National Remembrance Day November 11th yearly Poppy Appeal, a most deserving cause to help all Ex Service Personnel 24/7. The most deserving member of the aforesaid Appeal is 'County Field Officer for Surrey' Canon Peter Bruinvels who is in my personal view one of the most genuine and hard working, likeable, conscientious people I have ever had the pleasure to work with in over sixty years of belonging to the Royal British Legion. Peter has pulled Surrey's Poppy Appeal status over the last ten years from nowhere to the second most prolific collector and accumulator of funds for the Royal British Legion. It seems that from nowhere the 'faceless ones' of the Royal British Legion have decided that the County Field Officer position is no longer required and (Saint) Peter has been made redundant and to add insult to injury, has been offered a lower salaried job. Where

and doing what? Is this a thank you? In my 60 years of membership and at 81 years old this is the most shabby trick I have ever known and I hope somebody comes to their senses.

Yours, devastated, Peter Mc-Neil,

President of the Caterham Branch, Royal British Legion.

### Thank you

Thanks to everybody who turned out on the parade and a special thanks to Caterham Townend women's Group who took over the parade marshalls job when the original marshalls failed to turn up. The police were delayed and eventually joined with stewards. Everybody who paraded I give my unreserved thanks to for making it memorable.

Barbara Henning, Ladies Section, Caterham Royal British Legion and Townend Women's Group.

### Charity bag-pack

On Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th September Caterham Guides and Scouts helped customers to pack

# Christmas at the Sacred Heart RC Churc

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**Saturday 22nd December:** Come and join us at 6.00 pm for sing-along carols (Religious and Secular), accompanied by the Medway Brass Ensemble in the Centenary Hall. Following the carols there will be mince pies, mulled wine and a licensed bar. Free Admission.

**Christmas Eve Masses:** 6.00 pm (children's);

9.00 pm; 12 midnight

Christmas Day Masses: 9.00 am; 10.30 am.

www.sacred-heart.co.uk

their groceries at Tesco in Caterham-on-the-Hill raise money for Tesco's Charity of the Year, Cancer Research UK. On Saturday, Guides from 9th Caterham (St. Mary's) Guides collected £627.93 whilst on Sunday, Scouts from 1st Caterham (St. Mary's) Scout Group collected £563.36.

Tesco staff and management would like to thank Caterham Guides and Scouts for collecting £1,191,29 for Cancer Research UK and their customers for their generous donations.

Margaret Ledger, Serv-Manager, ices Tesco Caterham.

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# **Historic Society** saved

Caterham's 120-year old Horticultural Society has a bright new future as it recently filled key committee positions, some of which lay vacant for over a year.

The Society feared it would not survive without a chairman, following the sad passing of Roy Skelton and the Society sent out a plea to its 400 members. At the Society's AGM in September, the committee elections saw enough new people step forward to save the Society. Some extra committee members and helpers in the Trading Centre in Westway, Caterham-on-the-Hill would still be welcomed.

New chairman Debbie Fox comes with some horticultural credentials. She has an honours degree in botany, was previously a government parks champion and is a . Green Flag Award judge. Debbie has many fond childhood memories of Caterham. She now lives in Redhill, where she tends her own 100 foot garden.

Debbie said: "The Society felt a great loss after the sad passing of chairman Roy Skelton. As the new chairman I want to help the Society to realise its ambitions. These include fundraising for a new Trading Centre and involving more young people. I want to maintain the Society's high standing in the community, its horticultural credentials and membership of over 400 local people."

For more information about Caterham and District Horticultural Society www.caterhamdistricthorticulturalsoc.weebly.com



Caterham Horticultural Society Trading Hut volunteers.

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# Whyteleafe FC

by Adam Wilmott

October began with Leafe hosting ambitious Channel Islanders Guernsey Church Road in the FA Trophy. Leafe found themselves three down at half time but fought back with two late goals to make the final scoreline 3-2 in front of 252 spectators. The following week Leafe travelled to Medway to face Lordswood, again finding themselves behind at half time, but managing to turn around a two goal deficit to emerge 4-2 victors, with a rousing second half performance including a spectacular strike from striker Jay Garrick. October was rounded off with a comfortable 4-0 home win against Fisher Athletic.

November started with a two-legged Macron Kent Cup affair against strugglers Sevenoaks. A bad tempered first leg in which two red and numerous yellow cards were shown ended in a 3-1 victory to Sevenoaks. However, the following week Leafe again managed to turn things around with an

emphatic 4-0 win and will face Erith & Belvedere in the next round. The run of good form continued the following week, a goal in each half was enough to secure a 2-0 win against Greenwich Borough, moving Leafe up to 5th in the table. Leafe will play two home games in December. First at home to unbeaten high flyers Erith Town on Saturday 15th of December and then Beckenham Town on Boxing Day, which will be a 3pm kick off.

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Finally, all at the Leafe would like to pay their re-



spects in memory of a great supporter of the club Allen Kelly who sadly passed away this week. Allen will be sorely missed and fondly remembered by all of us.





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# The 'Gunners' get sponsored!

Queen's Park U8 'Gunners' proudly showed off their new kit recently, which has been sponsored by Astro Soccer Sixes Ltd, based in Whyteleafe.

The boys would not look out of place at the Emirates Stadium in their new strip, but instead grace the pitches of Queen's Park, Caterham and other local grounds in the Epsom and Ewell Youth Football League on Saturday morninas.

Astro Soccer Sixes are a six a side football league who operate out of Whyteleafe Football Club on Monday evenings. They run league and cup competitions throughout the year on 3G astro turf and are affiliated to the Surrey FA.

Director of Astro Soccer Sixes, Alex Peters, said: "Our leagues have been running at Whyteleafe now for over two years and are going from strength to

strength so we thought it was a good idea to give something back to the local community. We saw Queen's Park as an ideal club to do that, even though I am a Tottenham supporter and they are called 'The Gunners' it's nice to see our leagues help others."

For more information on Queen's Park YFC visit wwwqueensparkyfc.co.uk or for information on Astro Soccer Sixes Ltd visit www.astrosoccersixes.co.uk



Queen's Park U8 'Gunners' in their new football kit.

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# **Croudace wins** prestigious housebuilder award

The winners of the 31st What House? Awards - for the best new homes in Britain - were announced at a gala lunch in London's Grosvenor House Hotel on Friday 16th November. Entries from every corner of the UK had been independently judged by a panel of property experts, culminating in the most prestigious event in the housebuilding calendar, hosted this year by actor James Nesbitt in front of 1,400 senior property industry figures.

Caterham based Croudace Homes were delighted to win a Bronze award in one of the most highly contested categories, Best Medium Housebuilder, where all aspects of a company's activities are assessed.

Russell Denness, Managing Director of Croudace Homes, said: "Having the quality of our product and service recognised by our industry is extremely satisfying. We strive to achieve



From left: James Nesbitt (Presenter); Claire Wright (Interior Designer, Croudace Homes; Jane Clay (Sales Office Supervisor, Croudace Homes); Paula Parsons (Group Marketing Executive); Sian Lane (Prize Sponsor); Mark Collins (Sales Director, What House?).

the very highest standards and are delighted that the efforts of everyone at Croudace and those who work with us have been rewarded with one of the most respected symbols of distinction."

Rupert Bates, Editorial Director of Whathouse.co.uk, said: "The standard this year across all categories has been arguably the best in the 31-year history of these coveted Awards. From volume housebuilders committed to culture of excellence through every site and every discipline, to niche developers producing some sensational cutting-edge products, the very best of housebuilding was on show.'

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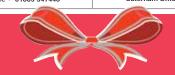
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**CATERHAM** 



An attractive four bedroom bay fronted detached family home situated on a well established level plot with driveway and attached garage. View-ing highly recommended. **UPC0782** ing highly recommended.

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CATERHAM ON THE HILL





Season's Greetings from the team



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### SOUTH CROYDON



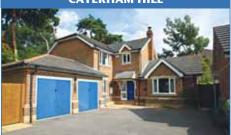
A two bedroom Victorian house with level rear gar-den situated in a popular residential road within walking distance of South Croydon railway station. Viewing highly recommended. **UPC1047** 

£229,950

### £199,950

A two/three bedroom terraced town house with off street parking situated in convenient residential location. **UPC0991** 

### **CATERHAM HILL**



A four bedroom detached house offered in our opinion in immaculate decorative order throughout with level landscaped rear garden and double garage situated in the popular Hambledon Park development. UPC0775

### **CHALDON**



An elegant four bedroom detached family home occupying a well established plot in one of Chaldons finest roads with views over countryside to front. Viewing highly recommended. **UPC0813** 

CATERHAM ON THE HILL



A larger than average three bedroom semi detached Victorian house with driveway to front and level rear garden providing additional off street parking to rear. Viewing highly recommended. **UPC1025** 

### £489,950



£350,000









