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Events announced for Caterham Festival 2012

The line-up of events being staged for this year's Caterham Festival have been finalised and are listed in the Festival brochure, now in circulation. Now in its fourth year, the award winning Festival is featuring over 100 events, some of them celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June. The two day deFest music festival at de Stafford School will launch the Caterham Festival on 26th and 27th May followed by the Street Party and Queen's Diamond Ju-

bilee Big Picnic in Caterham-on-the-Hill the following weekend. Caterham is registered as having one of the 2012 Beacons that will be lit around Great Britain and the Commonwealth on Monday 4th June to celebrate the Jubilee. The lighting of the Beacon takes place at 8pm on Westway, followed by a firework display generously sponsored by Caterham-on-the-Hill Parish Council. Before the lighting of the Beacon, a special 'British Music for the Jubilee'

classical concert is being held at St. Mary's Church to raise money for the Tandridge Community Fund. The concert will feature music from Elgar to Vaughan Williams performed by the orchestra of St. Paul's, Covent Garden and conducted by Ben Palmer. Following the concert the audience will be invited to parade down to Westway for the Beacon lighting and fireworks. Tickets to the concert cost £20 for adults and £12.50 for children and are available from Vivace Pianos in the High Street, tel: 01883 345569. For more information about all the Festival events, go to www.caterhamfestival.org



From left, Flautist Julie Groves, violinist Phoebe Goddard, Town Crier Sonia Hunt, Caterham Festival chairman, Andy Parr and Cllr Jeremy Webster of the Tandridge Community Fund at St. Mary's Church in Caterham to promote the British Music for the Jubilee concert on 4th June.

Caterham Rotary Bunny Fun Run 2012 - see centre spread for photos of this year's event at Queen's Park on 1st April

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Three men remanded in custody after armed robbery in Caterham

On Monday 23rd April three men appeared in court after being charged in connection with an armed robbery in Croydon Road, Caterham on Friday, 20th April. Marvin Ralph Samuels, 27, of Woodside Green, South Norwood, Paul Tucker, 35, of Headley Drive, New Addington, and Nicholas Barry Leacock, 35, of New Cross were all charged with conspiracy to commit robbery. All three were remanded in custody and are due to appear at Guildford Crown Court on 18th May.

A fourth man who was arrested was released on police bail while the investigation continues. He is due to answer bail on Saturday, 23rd June. The incident took place just before 12pm outside the Blockbuster store when a cash delivery driver was threatened with what is believed to be a firearm before



The scene outside Blockbuster in Croydon Road following the armed robbery.

the offenders took a box containing cash from him. No-one was hurt in the incident. Officers from the Tandridge Safer Neighbourhood Team, Targeted Patrol Team and CID were soon on the scene and with the aid of specialist units including the firearms unit and the force helicopter a thorough search took place in a bid to locate those responsible. Neighbouring police forces including The Metropolitan Police Service, Kent Police and Sussex Police also assisted with the search. Two men were arrested about an hour after the robbery took place and two

other men were arrested shortly afterwards. All of the men were arrested in the New Addington area by the Metropolitan Police Service. Tandridge Neighbourhood Inspector Angie Austin, said: "This was a frightening ordeal for those involved and who witnessed it and I would like to reassure the community that we are doing all we can to bring those responsible to justice. "I would like anyone who has information on this incident who has not yet spoken with officers to contact Surrey Police on 101 quoting reference P12111327."

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Pediatric Services to move to Caterham

A building that has been empty at Caterham Dene Hospital for approximately two years is currently undergoing refurbishment in preparation for its re-opening later this year. Paediatric services provided by Virgin Care will be moving out of East Surrey Hospital to the vacant Conifers building as soon as the refurbishment is complete. First Community Health and Care who run the

Caterham Dene Hospital, including the new Walk-In Centre, will also occupy some of the space in the refurbished building.

Conifers has been unoccupied since Surrey Borders Trust, responsible for mental health in Surrey, moved to other clinics. Chris Botten, Programme Director for Community Services at the NHS and Tandridge District Councillor for Portley Ward in Caterham, said: "We are making the best use of the available premises at the Caterham Dene Hospital which has always been our priority."



The Conifers building at Caterham Dene Hospital.

Planning permission granted for Oaklands scheme

On Thursday, 19th April a planning application for 161 dwellings and a replacement health facility at the Oaklands site in Coulsdon Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill was approved by Tandridge District Council. After consultations with the local community and a visit to the site by the Planning Officers, the developers, Langham Homes and Berkeley Homes, had submitted revised plans earlier this year.

Local residents concerned at the density of the scheme and the loss of mature trees attended the Planning Meeting held in the council offices in Oxted to hear the decision of the Planning Officers.

After the meeting, Martin Redman, Director of Langham Homes, said: We are very pleased with the planning decision from the Planning Committee. The objections as well as the points in favour of the development were all considered and we feel that the right decision has been made for the

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future development of the site.

Together with Berkeley Homes we look forward to ensuring that the scheme is developed to a high standard and successfully integrates into the local community."

Jeremy Webster, Tandridge District Councillor for Queen's Park Ward, said: "I was very disappointed that the small alterations that we wanted to have

that would have made life so much better for residents both new and existing were not accepted by the Planning Committee. A few less houses would have made all the difference."

The developers expect to be on site in the late summer for the commencement of the works and demolition, with an approximate two-year building programme.

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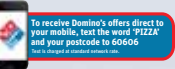
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St. George's Day celebrations

by Andy Parr

On Monday 23rd April over 700 children wore their Scout and Guide uniforms to various schools in Caterham, Oxted and Croydon to celebrate St. George's Day. The scheme that started in Caterham about ten years ago is slowly spreading around the area.

On Sunday, 22nd April around 500 children and leaders paraded through Caterham Valley to the United Reformed Church for a service led by Revd Watt from the Reigate URC. In view of the weather the previous week, plans had been made to hold the service inside rather than on Timber Hill recreation ground 'in case' of inclement weather. This was fortunate as during the service it rained quite heavily! Sharon Andrews was presented with her Silver Acorn in recognition of all the work she does for Surrey Scouts, and John Clarke was presented with the bar to the Silver Acorn in honour of the work he continues to do for Caterham Scouts.



Pupils at Hamsey Green School in their uniforms.



The St. George's Day Parade in Caterham Valley. Photograph by Chris Windridge

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In the spotlight

This month we feature Caterham resident, Audrey Eldridge who is a member of Kenley and Caterham Royal Air Forces Association (RAFA). Audrey was a founder member of RAFA when the group formed in 1947 in the function room at the rear of the Whyteleafe Tavern.



Audrey Eldridge

Favourite holiday destination: Canada.

Marital Status: Widow.

Children: Two daughters, four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren plus two step-children and four step-grandchildren.

Car: Nissan Micra.

Pets: None at present.

Childhood hero: Errol Flynn.

Favourite food and drink: A good English roast and red wine.

Favourite TV show: Countryfile.

Favourite book: 'Vanessa' by Hugh Walpole.

Who would you most like to meet: The Queen (informally).

Who would you most like to throw a custard pie at? People who swear!

Proudest moment: Seeing my first husband Peter being awarded the British Empire Medal in 1969.

Most embarrassing moment: When I was 16 I took a young evacuee on a trip to London Zoo during the war. When boarding a packed train at London Bridge on the way home he cheekily shoved in front of me to get the last seat. When I loudly ticked him off for not letting a lady sit down, all the city gents in the carriage stood up together to give me their seat!

If you won the Lottery Jackpot how would you spend it? I would help my daughters clear their outstanding mortgages and help my grandchildren buy a home. I would also make a significant donation to the Huntington Disease Association and take my best friend Bert on a world cruise.

Pastimes: Active member of local RAFA branch, gardening and bowls.

Biggest influence on your life: My grandmother and Mr Masani, a teacher at Caterham Hill Central School (now Hillcroft Primary School).

Likes: Helping people, supporting RAFA and travel.

Dislikes: Waiting for buses and swearing.

Where would you most like to live? Apart from three years' service in the WAAF (Women's Auxiliary Air Force) the Caterham area has been home. I now have no wish to live anywhere else.

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Hair-raising snap wins Scouts photography competition

An action shot taken by Scout, Ben Burke, has won a recent photography competition organised for local Scouts and Cubs. The competition, sponsored by The Caterham and District Independent and Caterham Digital Limited attracted entries in four different categories - 'Scouting', 'Landscape', 'Wildlife' and 'Favourite' and the photos had to be taken on disposable cameras so that they could not be digitally enhanced.

Ben wins a £25 voucher to spend in Caterham Digital in Croydon Road, Caterham and his photo will be enlarged and framed.

The three Highly Commended entries have each won a £10 voucher for Caterham Digital. They go to Scout Adam Stone for his photo of a surprise balloon landing in Queen's Park on 11th March; Cub Niamh Burke for her colourful landscape photograph taken in Chaldon and Cub Caris Carpenter for her photo of a daffodil garden taken in Tupwood Lane, Caterham.



'Hair' by Ben Burke.
Overall Winner.



'Surprise Landing' by Adam Stone.
One of the three 'Highly Commended' entries.

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| TUESDAY | 9.30 – 11.00 Stay and Play Parents and carers with children under 5 yrs. £1.00 per session | 12.30 – 1.45 Baby Clinic Come along, weigh your baby and meet the Health Team | TUESDAY | Drop In 8.45 – 9.15 Advice & Information | Stay & Play 9.15 – 11.15 Parents & carers with children under 5 years | TUESDAY | Stay and Play 9.15 - 11.30 For children who want to get messy £1.50 per session | |
| WEDNESDAY | 10.00 - 11.00 Talk With Tatty Fun and interactive activities for children aged 2 to 5 with their grown-ups | 1.00 - 3.00 One Step at a Time For children who have or may have additional needs. 1st and 3rd week of each month. Plus 1.30-3.00 Maternity Discharge Clinic Bookings made by midwifery team. | WEDNESDAY | Drop In 8.45 – 9.15 Advice & Information | Childminders Stay & Play 9.15 – 11.15 Come along and meet other registered childminders | 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 Michuigo Building Stay & Play Sessions All ages welcome |
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Please call our centres for more information and to check availability before attending any of the above sessions.

Caterham teenager revs up Europe

13 year-old Liam Kelly from Caterham-on-the-Hill visited the European Parliament recently to urge MEPs to boost battery-powered cars.

Liam won the trip to Brussels by entering an eco-video competition, organised by Eurostar and the Young People's Trust for the Environment.

Liam said: "In my video entry for the competition I talked about how we need to improve electric cars so that they can travel faster and further. I think more young people should know about MEPs and how to contact them and make a difference."

On arriving in Brussels on Tuesday 27th March, Liam and four other winners were given a tour of the European Parliament and had lunch with MEPs, before making a speech and taking part in a debate.

"The highlight was when we had the debate with MEPs as it was really interesting to hear everyone's views and share ideas and opinions about the environment," said Liam.

"I told them my views on sustainable travel, recycling and how different countries can save energy. I think they really listened."



Liam Kelly at the European Parliament in Brussels.

Whyteleafe gets set to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Whyteleafe Village Council are planning a variety of themed activities and events to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 3rd June.

In addition to encouraging the local community to hold Diamond Jubilee street parties, the council is organising a children's art competition, a best dressed street, house and business competition, a tree planting and plaque unveiling in the Whyteleafe Community Garden and a special OAP lunch.

Whyteleafe Village Councillor, Tom Dempsey, said: "We wanted to plan events for the whole community to enjoy, including our youngsters and the elderly, so we hope these activities offer something for everyone. We would really like everyone to enter into the spirit of this extra-special day and get involved. It will be a great opportunity to have some fun and meet the neighbours!"

More details will be circulated on flyers and on the Whyteleafe Village Council website at www.whyteleafecouncil.org.uk or call Tom Dempsey on 01883 626270.

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Little Shop of Horrors

by Helena George

de Stafford School surpassed themselves with this year's school production of Little Shop of Horrors.

The show began with an energetic chorus line of 'Little Shop of Horrors'. From there on in, the audience knew that they were in for a treat.

Harry Lindley, who played Seymour, was confident and animated throughout. Harry connected with the audience beautifully, portraying his longing for love, fame and fortune balanced with the guilt of feeding Audrey II human blood! Tash Nicholls, who played Audrey, is undoubtedly a West End actress in the making. Throughout the performance Tash was simply enchanting and captured the gentle and kind nature of her character seamlessly. Her solo performance was simply harmonious.

Jack Usherwood who played Orin the dentist managed to strike both the comedic and wickedness of his character and Daniel Sharma, who played Mr Mushnik, was exceptional at portraying a more mature character. The six singing girls and narrators worked fantastically as a team, with comic wit and choreography timed to perfection.



Daniel Sharma (left) and Harry Lindley as Mr Mushnik and Seymour.



'Audrey II'

However, the surprise star of the night was definitely James Clayton who played Audrey II (the plant). The whole audience was in stitches each time his voice came out of the elaborate yellow and red polka dot evil human-eating plant. Who knew that James had such an extraordinary voice!

Well done to all the students and staff who helped make 'Little Shop of Horrors' a huge success.

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Diary of a Plantaholic

by Sue Baines

At this time of year I can usually be seen turning in a large circle (sometimes ever decreasing), as there are so many jobs to do, and they all need my attention at the same time. This season has been very different, as my priority is to cope with the hosepipe ban which promises to be in place for many months.

My planting plan has gone up in smoke, although always rather flexible, this year the aim is to get as many plants planted asap, so they get their roots down to any available water. I have used 'Rootgrow', the mycorrhizal fungus that attaches itself to the roots, it increases the fine root hairs, hopefully enabling them to resist drought. I have been using it for the last few years when planting any permanent plants. I also used it very successfully on an old rose bed, which got re-planted without taking



the old soil away or disinfecting it against rose sickness.

I have sown more hardy annuals than usual. They are in a seam of poor, dry soil in full sun. Poppies are my favourite (and the bees), but godetia, nigella (love in a mist), nicandra (shoo fly), marigolds, clarkia, phacelia (gentian blue), corncockle, linums, gypsophila (covent garden) and the silene electra (shock pink), should hold their own whatever the weather. Seed is easily saved later, and if happy, often come up on their own. They are lovely for children to sow too, but make sure you can identify the weeds, the earlier the better, so that they won't have to compete for water.

Fun for all the family planned for Old Coulsdon's Diamond Jubilee Giant Picnic

A jazz band, tug of war, junior races, a barbecue and many other activities are being planned for a special Giant Picnic being held in Old Coulsdon to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The Rotary Club, churches, schools, local societies and councillors are all supporting the event that is being held in Grange Park from 12 noon until 4pm on Tuesday, 5th June.

One of the organisers, Cllr. Chris Wright, said: "We wanted to organise an event for the many residents who cannot hold a street party, so they can get together for this special occasion. People have rallied round very well indeed and weather permitting it should be a good day."

The Mayor of Croydon will be attending to plant an Oak tree to commemorate the Jubilee and a plaque will be installed next to a Horse Chestnut that was planted



Grange Park, Old Coulsdon.

on Bradmore Green in 1897 to mark Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. Also planned is the naming of the road that crosses Bradmore Green, 'Jubilee Way'. For more information or if

Readers' letters

Bedrock concert

On behalf of COAT (The Caterham Overseas Aid Trust) I would like to thank everyone who supported the Bedrock concert we held on Friday, 13th April. It was a fantastic night and we had loads of good feedback. The evening raised over £1,100 for COAT, which is superb. Many thanks to the guys in Bedrock and also to Caterham School for their superb venue and service.

Phil Saville, Chaldon.

you would like to have a stall at the Giant Picnic please email chris.wright@croydon.gov.uk

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Warlingham Library volunteers await Council decision

On Saturday 24th March over 40 potential community volunteers attended a meeting at Warlingham Library. Warlingham is one of ten Surrey libraries planned to be launched as a 'community library' to avoid closure. At the meeting it was agreed that Surrey County Council ('SCC') would put together a training programme for the volunteers and would commence training as soon as possible. However, the process has been delayed due to a technical challenge brought late last year in respect of the Equality Act 2010. Mr Justice Wilkie upheld the challenge and on 20th February a judicial review commenced of the council's plans. On 24th April SCC announced that it will take a decision on its libraries plan again at a Cabinet meeting on 19th June following completion of the judicial review. It will consider all the work that has been done to develop a comprehensive training package for volunteers. Helyn Clack, Surrey County Council's Cabinet Member for Community Services and the



Warlingham Library

2012 Games, said: "Our aim all along has been to keep all 52 of Surrey's libraries open while elsewhere in the country branches are closing. Allowing communities to run libraries enables us to do this and it is still the council's policy. Although the council had done a lot of work to develop equalities training, the High Court ruled there should have been more detail in the Cabinet's papers about it at the meeting last September, so we are going to take the decision again, with all the information we need about volunteer training. "A huge amount of work has already gone into ensuring volunteers are properly trained to help all library

users. I'm certain that this training would enable volunteers to provide an excellent service. There are a lot of people eager to begin running their local library." A spokesperson for Warlingham Library said: "I am pleased to say that Warlingham's model overcomes many of the objections, particularly as we will be engaging a professional librarian and Surrey will supplement this with an additional 20% of opening hours from their professional team. The volunteer team is looking forward to helping Warlingham achieve a thriving library and will seek to broaden the range of activities held at the library."

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Bunny Fun Run 2012

Over 400 people took part in the Rotary Bunny Fun Run in Queen's Park, Caterham on Sunday 1st April in an event described as "the best so far" by Rotarian Richard York. The event raised over £1,500 for Disability Challengers and Rotary Charities and many of the runners also raised further sponsorship for their chosen charities. 206 runners finished the 5K race and 196 completed the 1K Fun Run, with all the runners being given a free Easter Egg as a prize after crossing the finishing line. 12 year-old Nathan Smith, a pupil of the Royal Alexandra and Albert School in Reigate, came first in the 1K Fun Run. The winner of the 5K race, Mark Cawood, finished in just 20 minutes and nine seconds. Also taking part was 'Shawn' a real lop-eared bunny from the 'Harestone Lops', one of the organisations sponsoring the event. DJ Tony Nash from Ridge Radio provided music at the event and the 1st Caterham St. Mary's Scouts ran a burger stall to raise money for their trip to Malta later this year. Helping to warm up the crowd

before the runs was Isla Jane from Boomdance2fit with some lively Zumba routines. The Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Brian Perkins and his wife Sonia attended and started both the races assisted by Sonia Hunt, the Town Crier. Richard York, the main organiser of the event, said: "I would like to thank everyone who helped to make the Bunny Fun Run 2012 such a success. A lot of Rotarians and their friends put in a huge amount of effort to make the event run smoothly. I am delighted at how well it all went again this year!" Caterham Rotary are very grateful to the sponsors for their support - Catax, Ross Cycles, BCL, the Harestone Lops, Budgens, The Surrey National Golf Course and The Caterham and District Independent. For more information about Caterham Rotary Club go to www.caterhamrotary.org.uk If you raised money for your chosen charity at the Bunny Fun Run please can you e-mail the amount raised to runrurns@gmail.com so that they can keep a record.



Brothers Ben and Stuart Read celebrating after the 5K race.



Runners set off on the 1K Fun Run.



1K Fun Run winners, from left, Nathan Smith (1st), Harley Norman (3rd) and Matthew Eagling (2nd).



The Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Brian Perkins congratulating one of the 'Best Dressed Bunnies', Mike Mackenzie of the Chaldon Creakers.



Hannah Killick (left) and her friend Ellen Berry, both aged 12, took part in the run to raise money for the charity PSDS (Providing Support for children with Downs Syndrome and their families).



Diana Norman, the winning lady in the 5K race.



Winner of the 5K race, Mark Cawood, crosses the finish line.



'Stragglers' Amy Munnery, left, and Ella Hunter-Murphy at the end of the 5K race.



'Shawn' the lop-eared rabbit lines up at the start of the 1K Bunny Fun Run.

'Complete Plumbing Services' arrive in Oxted

Thursday 29th March saw the official opening of a brand new one-stop-plumbing shop in Oxted called 'Complete Plumbing Services'. The Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Brian Perkins and his wife Sonia attended the opening, delighted to support a new business opening right opposite the council offices in Station Road East. Owners, Simon and Michelle Connolly have created a bright and modern showroom complete with working models. Simon said: "We have had the premises since November so we are very excited to be finally opening. We were originally just going to open an office but decided that a shop would give customers the opportunity to come in and find out more about the services we offer." CPS have a fleet of eight vans with eight Gas Safe engineers on the road and are proud of the reputation they have built up with their clients for honesty and re-



Michelle and Simon Connolly with Cllr. Brian Perkins and his wife Sonia.

liability. They are keen to embrace the latest innovative technology in renewable energy solutions that can save their customers money as well as protecting the environment. They specialise in Viessmann products for their heating services that include gas fired boilers, solar thermal and photovoltaic technology, wood burning boilers and heat pumps. If its a new bathroom you require, CPS will arrange a visit to discuss ideas and provide a free no-obligation quotation. With their 24 hour emergency plumbing service, CPS are just a phone call away. Call 01883 734958 for more information or visit their website: www.complete-plumbing.co.uk

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Local Walks

A new monthly column by Ruth Sear, a regular writer for the Bourne Society publications.

The area around Caterham offers excellent walking among the attractive countryside of the North Downs. Most walks involve steep hills but the rewards are beautiful views and we all know about the health benefits of walking. Inevitably there is some travelling along and crossing over busy roads, where great care must be taken. Wear appropriate footwear and take adequate drinks, maps and a compass.

Happy Valley and Farthing Downs are popular walking areas lying east of Caterham-on-the-Hill and north of Chaldon. They can be accessed from the Coulsdon or Chaldon end of Ditchens Lane or from Fox Lane in Old Coulsdon. The Downs,



Happy Valley

acquired by the Corporation of London in the late 19th century, were originally named Fairdene. Happy Valley was acquired for public use in the 1930s and is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

The hills and woodlands, alive with birdsong and wild flowers at this time of the year, give the walker the impression of being far away from London and the suburbs. The walk can also be extended westwards to Coulsdon or Kenley Common. There are large public car parks in Ditchens Lane and just behind The Fox pub in Fox Lane, the perfect place for refreshment after your walk across the Downs!

Caterham and District Horticultural Society Spring Show

On Saturday 31st March the Caterham and District Horticultural Society held its Spring Show at Hillcroft School in Caterham-on-the-Hill. The hall was filled with colourful exhibits that included homemade produce and crafts in addition to the flower and vegetable displays. The 9th Caterham Brownies and Guides and the 4th Caterham Brownies entered the Children's classes with tables full of Easter Bonnets and Easter Chicks together with their pictures and handwriting entries. President of the Society, Roger Davies presented cups to Mrs Meenan, Jacky Hughes, Joe Perera and Tabitha Wren.

Following the presentation of the awards the exhibitors donated their entries for auction.

The Society was established in 1886 and hosts three shows a year, a talk at The Arc and a summer outing for its members.

The Society sells gardening



The colourful, Easter-themed table display by the Brownies.

products at their Trading Hut located behind the allotments in Westway, Caterham-on-the-Hill and is open to members Saturday's 9.30-12.00 for products and advice on all aspects of gardening. A plant sale is being held at the Trading Hut on the morning of Saturday, 12th May. Membership of the Society costs £3 a year. For more information about membership contact Mrs Brohier on 01883 242928.

To find out more about the Society visit their website, www.caterhamdistricthorticulturalsoc.weebly.com



Roger Davies congratulates Brownie, Tabitha Wren.

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Dispelling the myths on laser hair removal - your questions answered

by Sarah Slade, Surrey Skin & Laser Clinic

I am sure many of your thoughts are now turning to summer, which more often than not involves exposing your flesh. Unwanted hair removal used to be limited to painful waxing or epilating, time consuming shaving or daily plucking which for many of us can cause painful ingrown hairs, unsightly stubble or rashes. Lasers for hair removal have advanced significantly over the last few years from a very painful time-consuming experience to one that is likened to just a hot stone massage with the Soprano XLI.

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pigment. "I am Asian and have heard laser is unsuitable for my skin"- Soprano XLI diode laser is safe and effective for all skin types.

"Isn't it very expensive?" - Prices are much more competitive now and it is an investment. Add up waxing over a few years and laser works out much cheaper in the long run and for permanent hair reduction.

Watch out for 'too good to be true' deals on voucher sites. Sometimes you really do get what you pay for. Make sure a trained nurse or doctor treats you. Ask to see their certificates, ask how long they have been qualified and don't be afraid to ask questions.

Look at the premises- is it clean and well maintained? Do they have indemnity or public liability insurance? Make sure you have a thorough consultation and a medical questionnaire is completed.

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Eating Out

An exciting new start for The Village Inn

Review by Julia Church

On Sunday, 15th April The Village Inn in Caterham-on-the-Hill relaunched its restaurant with a fabulous new Sunday carvery and A La Carte menu. During the course of the day over 160 people dined in the restaurant, including myself and some family and friends. When we arrived at 2pm the restaurant and spacious bar was full of families enjoying the occasion while Steve Kirk, the owner and the rest of his team bustled around making sure everyone was having a good time.

The food was perfect. "Ten out of ten," and "The best carvery I have ever had," were two of the compliments flying around our table as we tucked in to our steaming-hot roasts. Our plates were filled with roast pork, turkey and beef with all the trimmings and our choices from a selection of ten different vegetables. All the food at The Village Inn is 100% freshly prepared and cooked,

from the veges to the Yorkshire puddings and the stuffing - nothing had been cooked from frozen. There is no doubt you can tell the difference, the food was superb. And we could pop back for more vegetables if we wanted to - not bad for under £10!

We could not resist the tempting choice of desserts and between us we had the Homemade Pecan Pie, Homemade Profiteroles, Eton Mess, Ice Cream Trio and Homemade Apple Crumble and everyone thoroughly enjoyed their choice. Throughout the meal the service was excellent.

My mother is always on the lookout for new venues to visit with her lunch club so I revisited the restaurant a few days later so we could try out the A La Carte menu.

The food was of a very high standard, cooked by the restaurant's top chef and beautifully presented. I started with the Prawn and Smoked Salmon Cocktail and Mum had the Baked Camembert with Apple and Walnuts which she said was "lovely and soft and runny and nice to have the crispy nuts against



The new carvery bar at The Village Inn.

the soft cheese". For our main course we had a choice of traditional home cooked Main Dishes, Steaks and Grills, Salad Platters and Vegetarian. Mum opted for the Grilled Chicken and Bacon Salad and I had one of the Main Dishes, the Beef Wellington. I was surprised to be asked how I like my beef and when it was served the beef was medium rare, just how I like it and beautifully tender. It was enclosed in a delicate lattice of pastry with a wonderful red wine and raspberry sauce and served with vegetables and chips.

Steve and his new business partners, John, Janine and Simon have been working hard

to seriously address the issues arising out of the Friday and Saturday late-night opening until 2am. Since April the pub has been closing two hours earlier, at midnight instead of 2am which has made a great improvement. From 1st May the pub will be for over 21s only after 6pm, a rule that will be strictly enforced. Families with children will still be warmly welcomed to the restaurant.

Why not pop along and see the difference for yourself? The new Village Inn is set to become a great local hot spot for families.

For more information and to view the menus, go to www.thevillageinn-caterham.co.uk

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Quick Quiz

by Alec Herbert

The Olympic Games

1. On what date will the official opening ceremony of the 2012 Olympic Games take place?
2. Which Oscar winning director has been appointed to oversee that ceremony?
3. How many times has London staged the Games previously?
4. The sailing events will take place off the coast of which seaside resort?
5. Which sport will be held on Horseguards Parade, London?

Answers:

1. 27th July; 2. Danny Boyle (Oscar for Slumdog Millionaire); 3. Two (1908 & 1948); 4. Weymouth; 5. Beach Volley Ball.

Bonnets Galore in Church Walk



The Easter Bonnet Parade in Church Walk.

On Saturday 7th April there was lots going on for children in Church Walk, Caterham when the centre held its Easter Bonnet Fun Day. Amongst the activities taking place throughout the day was free face painting for children outside Wimpy and an Easter Bonnet competition. Hosted by DJ Chris, 25 children entered the competition and all received an Easter egg donated by Morrison's and the Church Walk management team. Donations raised from the face painting and balloon modelling were donated to the Ambulance Service Benevolent fund. There were also fundraising stalls run by the Godstone Brownies and Kenley and Caterham RAFA Wings Appeal. The winners of the Easter Bonnet competition each received a goodie bag sponsored by the shops in Church Walk.

// Carretto



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What's On

RSPB Talk

On Wednesday 9th May, East Surrey RSPB is holding a talk at the White Hart Barn in Godstone, entitled 'Flights of Fancy' by Brian Nobbs - how birds fly explained in an innovative way. The talk starts at 8pm until approximately 10pm. The fee is £3 for adults and £1 for children.

For more information visit www.eastsurreyrspb.co.uk

St. Mary's Church Fayre

St Mary's Church in Church Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill is holding its May Fayre on Saturday 12th May from 11am-2pm.

The stalls will include: bric-a-brac, toys, plants, children's games, tombolas, Grand Cash Draw, books, homemade crafts, cakes and confectionery and refreshments. For more

information call the Parish Office on 01883 348751.

Annual Parish Meeting

Caterham Valley Parish Council are holding their Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 23rd May at 7.30pm in the Soper Hall, Harestone Valley Road, Caterham Valley. The meeting will give local residents the opportunity to put their questions to the council. Refreshments will be available.

Kenley Flypast

Weather permitting, there will be a flypast over Kenley Airfield by a single Spitfire from the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight on Sunday, 20th May. The date commemorates the arrival of No. 416 Spitfire Squadron, part of the Canadian Wing, which was based at Kenley in 1943. The exact timing will be announced closer to the date on the Kenley Airfield Friends Group website, www.kafg.org.uk

Bowling Club Open Days

Caterham Bowling Club is holding four Open Days in May at the club in Queen's Park Road, Caterham. There will be members of the club on hand to provide some free basic tuition and refreshments will be available. Visitors may attend more than one session and there is no need to book. For dates and times see the advertisement below. For more information call Michael Miller on 01883 622305 or Lettie Brindle on 01883 744724.

deFest

The deFest Music Festival is taking place on Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th May in the playing field of de Stafford School, Burntwood Lane, Caterham. Tickets cost £5 for under 18s and £7 for adults on the day or £3 for under 18s and £5 for adults in advance. Ticket information will be posted on the Caterham Festival website, www.caterhamfestival.org where more information about deFest and all the other Caterham Festival events can be found.

Stef launches first ever 'Rotary Extravaganza'

Caterham Rotary Club will be holding their first ever 'Rotary Extravaganza' event at de Stafford School in Caterham on Friday 6th July from 6pm-10pm. The event is being organised by the club's only lady member, Stef Barrett.

Stef said: "We will have lots of different stalls at the event for people to browse around, as well as a cash bar, Pimms and café. We hope lots of people come along to see what's on offer,



have a great evening and help us raise money for Rotary charities."

Entry will cost £3 per person and will include a strip of raffle tickets.

To book a stall at the Extravaganza or for more information call Stef Barrett on 01883 347348/07855 301448 or e-mail her at stefandnonsense@hotmail.com

The Miller Centre

From Thursday 24th May to Saturday 2nd June the Miller Centre Theatre Company in Godstone Road, Caterham is presenting 'Tartuffe' by Moliere. Tickets costing £7 and £9 are available from the Miller Centre booking office, telephone 01883 349850 or online at www.millercentretheatre.org More details about the production can be viewed on the website.

We are now taking bookings for adverts in the June edition of The Caterham and District Independent.

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An impressive collection of silverware for local rugby player Kay Wilson

It has been a whirlwind rugby adventure for Caterham resident, Kay Wilson, who made her England U20 debut against France in March last year. Since playing for the Old Cats Rugby Club in Caterham, Kay has progressed through the ranks and now has six England caps to her credit. During the RBS Six Nations Tournament this year she scored tries against Wales at Twickenham and against France in Paris.

Kay attended St John's Junior School in Caterham and St Bede's Secondary School in Redhill. She then worked as a gap year student at Oakhyrst Grange School in Caterham and is now reading for a BSc(Hons) in Sport Development at the University of Wales Institute in Cardiff. Kay now plays for Bristol as well as her university.

Kay has had some memorable moments in front of



Kay Wilson pictured at Twickenham Stadium on the occasion of the British Universities and Colleges Women's Rugby Final with some of the silverware she had a part in winning: The British Universities and Colleges (BUCS) Final won by her team, University of Wales in Cardiff (UWIC); The RBS Six Nations Cup won by England for a record seven times in a row (and a third successive Grand-Slam); The IRB Womens Challenge Cup won by England at the Hong Kong Seven-a-side Tournament.

the TV cameras, in particular when she touched down for England against Wales at Twickenham and in the Hong Kong Sevens Final when her 75 metres sprint to the try line was the pivotal moment in England's victory over favourites Australia by 15 points to 10.

In 2010 Caterham Rotary Club awarded Kay their Sporting Excellence Award and a cheque for £250. Kay recalled her U20 debut against France with special pleasure. She said: "Pulling on an England shirt was wonderful and there was a massive crowd!"

Witness the Olympic Flame being carried through the streets

Local residents will be able to witness the Olympic Torch as it is carried through the streets of Godstone and Betchingley on Friday 20th July as part of the Olympic Torch Relay this summer.

At 1.42pm the convoy will arrive from Sevenoaks and travel to the fire station on the B2235 Godstone Hill. From there Torchbearers will carry the torch down Godstone Hill, onto the A25 High Street, A25 God-

stone Green Road and stop at Ivy Mill Lane at 1.53pm, where the torch will be taken back into the convoy.

The convoy will then travel from Godstone along the A25 and stop at Chevington Villas, Betchingley at 1.55pm. Torchbearers will run from there along the A25 High Street and onto Castle Street until they reach Barfields at 2.08pm, where the torch will be taken into the convoy.

The convoy will continue its journey on the A25 until it reaches Redhill.

The full London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay can be viewed at www.london2012.com/olympictorchrelay.

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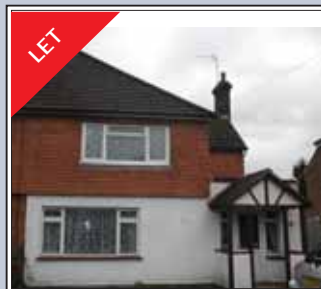
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An attractive three bedroom detached bungalow occupying a well established level plot with driveway and carport situated in a highly sought after residential road. Viewing highly recommended.

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An attractive four bedroom bay fronted detached family home situated on a well established level plot with driveway and attached garage.

UPC0782

£465,000**CATERHAM HILL**

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