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December 2014

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The Cedar Tree lights up for Christmas



Crowds fill the street outside Buxton Homes for the switching on of the Cedar Tree lights.

On Saturday 22nd November the Christmas season started officially in Caterham-on-the-Hill with the popular switching on of the Christmas lights on the ancient Cedar Tree in the High Street.

A bigger crowd than ever of about 600 people turned out for the occasion that was held in the car park of Buxton Homes. As the car park was full to overflowing this year, many people watched the

proceedings from across the road.

Blends Caterers provided free mince pies for the crowd and the King and Queen provided free mulled wine. The crowds were entertained by Caterham School brass band, St. Francis and Hillcroft School Choirs and the Caterham Community Choir who led communal carol singing.

The event was organised and funded by Caterham-on-the-

Hill Parish Council.

Surrey County Councillor and member of Caterham-on-the-Hill Parish Council, John Orrick, thanked the 1st Caterham Scout Group and all those who had helped make the event such a success then the lights were officially switched on by Father Christmas and his helpers.

Caterham-on-the-Hill Parish Council are very grateful to Buxton Homes for the use of their car park and for providing the power for the Cedar Tree and thanks also go to their other generous sponsors and volunteer helpers.

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Leah lights up Warlingham Green at the annual festive switch-on

Ten-year-old Leah Cardy from Whyteleafe had a very important role to play in Warlingham recently when she won the right to switch on the Christmas Lights on the Village Green on Saturday, 22nd November. The Green was packed with on-lookers as Leah switched on the lights after a countdown led by Master of Ceremonies, Jeremy Pursehouse. Warlingham residents have even more lights to enjoy this year, with a new festoon of lights alongside School Common.

The annual lantern parade preceded the switching on of the lights which was followed by carol singing led by choirs from Warlingham Village, Warlingham Park and Hamsey Green primary schools.



Leah Cardy prepares to switch on the Christmas lights closely supervised by Master of Ceremonies, Jeremy Pursehouse.



The lantern parade following the Warlingham Flute Band. Photo by Paul Brown Photography.



The illuminated war memorial provided a beautiful centrepiece for the proceedings. Photo by Paul Brown Photography.



Photo by Paul Brown Photography.



The Caterham and District
INDEPENDENT

The Caterham and District Independent
The Officers' Mess
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The Salvation Army Songsters come to Caterham

On Sunday 23rd November, the congregation at the Salvation Army meeting in Oakhall Church, Caterham-on-the-Hill, were treated to a very special visit by the Croydon Citadel Songsters.

The 20-strong choir, led by Gerry Boniface, sang a variety of songs from the Salvation Army's repertoire including 'I Lift My Hands' and 'Built on a Rock' as well as joining in with the congregational songs.

At the end of the meeting, the Caterham Salvation Army Envoy, Don Hall, said: "I would like to say a big 'thank you' to the members of Croydon Citadel Songsters for coming to Caterham this morning to join us in worship. It has been an honour to sing alongside you and a real pleasure to listen to you." The Caterham Salvation Army are



The Croydon Citadel Songsters being conducted by Gerry Boniface.

holding a special Christmas Café Meeting on Sunday 21st December with an informal layout of tables and chairs replacing the usual rows of seats. Food will be served and there will be carols for anyone who wishes to join in with the singing. The Meeting will take place between 10.30am and 11.30am at Oakhall Church in Francis Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill. Everyone is warmly invited to attend.

New Christmas Lights Committee prepare for big switch-on

It was all hands on deck on Saturday 15th November when members of the Caterham Valley Christmas Lights Committee turned the Soper Hall in Harestone Valley Road into a lantern-making factory! The Committee, which includes the management of Church Walk Shopping Centre, Caterham Valley Parish Council and Team Caterham, created 67 lanterns during the afternoon. The lanterns were in readiness for the switching on of the Christmas lights in Caterham Valley on Saturday 29th November. This year, Church Walk, Caterham Valley Parish Council and Caterham businesses have teamed up to create one big switch-on event featuring entertainment in Church Walk, market stalls in Croydon Road and a Christmas market in the Soper



11-year-old Kaine and six-year-old Judge from 1st Woldingham Scouts and Beavers with Mike Stephens of Team Caterham.

Hall. Father Christmas will, of course, be in attendance along with choirs from local schools singing carols. Photos of all the fun taking place on the day will be published in the January edition of The Caterham and District Independent.



Members of the Caterham Valley Christmas Lights Committee with some of their Christmas lanterns.

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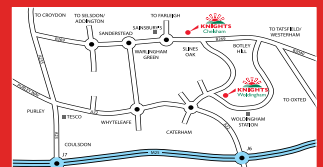
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Tandridge Magazine Winter 2014

The latest Tandridge Magazine is currently being delivered to residents and businesses in the district. The cover highlights the extended recycling service which starts on 1st December and features local children with the WEEE* man, whose outfit is made from reused electrical items. Inside the magazine there is a special pull out leaflet giving more details about the service. Features include Christmas holiday information, details about how the Council is preparing to deal with any severe weather, voting, the Douglas Brunton Centre, the Care and Repair Agency, the Befriending Scheme and Action Surrey. Anyone who has not received a copy of the magazine by 1st December should contact Customer Services on 01883 722000 or e-mail customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk. *Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment.

Race along to brand new North Downs Cycles in Warlingham

Saturday 1st November saw the launch of an exciting new shop in Warlingham which is already catching the attention of serious cyclists in the area. North Downs Cycles is the culmination of a dream for owners Dave and Colvin who have had the riding bug for over ten years. Cycling is their passion and following lots of talk and planning, they are now getting down to the grindstone! Their aim is to start a sustainable cycling business that will grow over the years as they build a firm customer base of fellow cyclists. Their mission is to focus on customer values and achieve a reputation for providing a consistently reliable service for their customers. North Downs Cycles offers a build service with sales to

their clients at an affordable cost, both from the shop and online. They cater for all types of cyclists, from family groups to enthusiasts. Dave and Colvin have acquired the premises in exactly the location they wanted, close to the North Downs Trail Route 21. The shop is easy to find, being situated on the Limpsfield Road opposite Sainsbury's. As the only shop in the country to build to order the Vivello road bike, Dave and Colvin's vision is to offer the best pricing for every active racer and support the companies that share the same vision. They understand how hard a rider's daily routine is and how expensive racing at any level can be! North Downs Cycles is also an official dealer for Mondraker bikes which has pioneered the awesome new Forward Geometry concept. For more information call Dave or Colvin on 01883 622622.



Dave and Colvin outside North Downs Cycles with the Vivello road bike.

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The Soper Hall hosts exhibition of paintings by Caterham Art Group

Over 160 paintings by 44 local artists were on display in The Soper Hall at the beginning of November, when the Caterham Art Group held their 62nd Annual Art Exhibition.

The event, which was opened by Cllr. Sally Marks, the Vice Chairman of Surrey County Council, was a celebration of the members' work over the last year. As always the paintings were of an extremely high standard, the majority of which were for sale. They comprised of oils, water-colours, acrylics and other media.

Over 300 people visited the exhibition this year and listened to live classical guitar music while enjoying tea and cakes.

The paintings were judged by local artist and tutor, Bill Hall, who took nearly three hours to decide the prizewinners. The winners were: Best Oil - Eva Ishojer; Best Water-colour - Wendy Ward; Best Acrylic - Joy Tarling; Best Pastel - Evi Trickey; Best Other Media - Lilian Beer; Best Newcomer - Sue Bradley; Public Vote - Jackie Flaherty.

Chairman John Ward said: "We pride ourselves on being a very friendly club with a membership of over 80 and we always welcome new members.



Best Acrylic 'Party Time' by Joy Tarling.



From left: Cllr. Sally Marks, the President of Caterham Art Group, Ray Page and Chairman John Ward.

"We meet once a month on a Wednesday evening in the Douglas Brunton Centre, Chaldon Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 5TA. We also hold Saturday workshops, have sketching days and visit museums and places of interest. If you would like to come along to one of our meetings you will find details on our website www.caterhamartgroup.co.uk."

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Coulsdon College students meet Benjamin Zephaniah

On Thursday 6th November, students and staff at Coulsdon College were delighted to welcome performance poet Benjamin Zephaniah to the College. Students listened with great interest while Benjamin told stories of his early life living in Birmingham, including incidences that were the foundation of his views today. Benjamin spoke of the struggles caused by his dyslexia at times but how he used poetry to express himself. Benjamin recalled when he

was a young boy his mother announced in church that he would perform to the congregation. So with nothing prepared, he found his voice and performed his poems. After a great speech and reciting two of his poems: 'Wrong Radio Station' and 'What Stephen Lawrence Taught Us', students were invited to ask questions before having the opportunity to have a book signed and have their photo taken with the celebrity. Benjamin then stayed on to speak directly to English A Level students, who were able to ask him direct questions about his poems that they are studying in class.



Benjamin Zephaniah poses with A Level students during his visit to Coulsdon College.

Cake Sale raises £500 for Caterham Dene Hospital

On Saturday 15th November, Caterham Harestone Rotary Club held a Coffee and Home Made Cake Sale in Harestone Valley Road, Caterham Valley. Around £500 was raised during the morning, that will go to the League of Friends of Caterham Dene Hospital. Caterham Town Crier, Sonia Hunt, opened the morning and promoted the cake sale to the shoppers in Church Walk. As well as the food and drinks available on site, visitors could purchase cakes, preserves and biscuits to take home. There was also a raffle with lots of donations of prizes from local businesses. Afterwards, Caterham Harestone Rotary Club member, Nick Drake, said: "Everyone who attended was impressed by the quality of the baking! Many thanks to all the local businesses who helped to make this event a great success."



Members of Caterham Harestone Rotary Club with Town Crier, Sonia Hunt outside The Soper Hall.

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Council launches extended recycling scheme

On Tuesday 11th November Tandridge District Council's Recycling Officer, Rob Luck, visited Godstone Village School in Ivy Mill Lane to launch the council's expanded recycling scheme. From Monday 1st December Tandridge residents will be able to recycle textiles, shoes (paired), small waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) such as irons, hairdryers, radios, mobile phones, electrical toys and batteries.

The new service will be simple to use. All residents will need to do is:

1. Place each type of item in a separate plastic carrier bag (supermarket size, no larger than 35 x 40cm and not in black bin bags).
2. Put batteries in a separate, sealable/tied up bag, e.g. a freezer bag.
3. Tie each bag.
4. Leave the bag(s) at the front of their property boundary on their usual recycling/waste collection day by 6 am.



Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Cllr. Liz Parker, with children from Godstone Village School.

Round Table Firework Display biggest and best ever!

Saturday 1st November saw record crowds packing the Dene Field in Caterham-on-the-Hill for the annual Round Table Firework Display. The extremely mild weather ensured a great turnout and hundreds of people took part in the traditional torchlight procession along the High Street before the lighting of the enormous bonfire that preceded the fireworks. Firework Display Company 'The Knights of Fire Fireworks' provided the impressive display again this year which had a Halloween theme, being held so close to Halloween night. Earlier in the day members of Caterham Round Table judged the annual Build a Guy competition that had attracted a number of highly original entries. The winners, Siena and Roman D'Alberto won £50 for their Guy and all the entrants received free tickets for the display.



The spectacular display in the Dene Field. www.lo-caleventphotos.co.uk



Seven-year-old Siena and five-year-old Roman D'Alberto with their parents Shereen and Angelo and their winning Guy.



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Coulsdon gears up for its second annual Yulefest Christmas Festival

On Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December, Coulsdon Town Centre will be buzzing with festive fun for the second annual Coulsdon Yulefest.

The event is organised by volunteers who launched the event last year to help bring festive activities back to Coulsdon and boost local trade at the same time. The Yulefest was a great success, with shopkeepers benefitting from an increase in sales over the two days and crowds of visitors enjoying all the festive attractions. Art Rebellion was transformed into a magical Santa's Grotto and there was live music performed on an outdoor stage.

This year's event promises to be even bigger and better, with Coulsdon's first outdoor ice rink an added attraction for 2014!

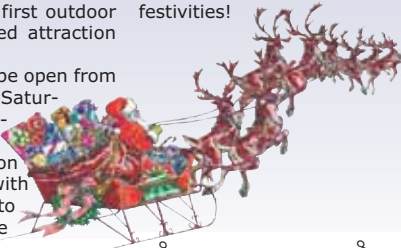
The ice rink will be open from 11am-7pm on Saturday 6th December and 11am-5pm on Sunday 7th, with entry just £5 to include skate

hire. There is no need to book - just turn up!

The switching on of the Christmas Lights will take place at 5.30pm on the Saturday. This year Home Hardware, who are celebrating their 60th anniversary, will be switching on the lights.

The Santa's Grotto will be in Art Rebellion at 171 Brighton Road again this year. Tickets cost £6.50 (to include a present) and can be pre-booked by calling 020 8668 0007.

With market stalls galore in addition to Coulsdon's great variety of shops, Yulefest offers the perfect opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts for all the family. For more information about Coulsdon Yulefest visit www.yulefest.co.uk Enjoy the festivities!



Jenny Green leading the torchlight procession in 2013.



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Local senior citizens enjoy a big day out

by Roger Easter

Over 160 local senior citizens from Caterham, Whyteleafe and Warringham were recently treated to lunch to celebrate the 21st anniversary of Caterham Rotary's annual 'Reach Out'. Caterham Rotarians and Dial A Ride provided a free "taxi service" to and from the Surrey National Golf Club where the event took place.

Following a two-course lunch, entertainment was provided by local singer John Lazenby and he was followed by the Rotary "Sing Songsters" who led a communal sing song which included numbers from The Beatles, Cliff Richard and well known musicals.

The afternoon was rounded off with tea and home made cakes before the guests were driven back to their homes.

Organiser of the day, Caterham Rotarian Steph Barrett said: "This is a real community event which we thoroughly enjoy arranging, as



Local singer John Lazenby entertains the guests at Reach Out.

it brings such joy and happiness for those who come along."

The Rotary Sing Songsters will be visiting a number of local Care Homes and Residential Homes including The Douglas Brunton Centre in the lead up to Christmas, with a special carols event at the Caterham Dene Hospital on Christmas Eve.

Oasis students' fundraising efforts raise over £1,300 for Pudsey

Students at Oasis Academy Coulsdon have been pulling out all the stops to help raise money for Children in Need. Fundraising activities started on Monday 10th November when Eloise Jenkins and Tilly Foard began running a marathon that they finished over five days, completing a leg of the 26 miles each night after school. Between them they raised over £500. The following week, Dan Foard and Joseph Parker joined the girls in their endurance challenge by completing a half iron man each during the course of five days, all in aid of Pudsey.

On Thursday 13th November the Academy held a mufti day, with many students being sponsored to wear onesies to school for the day. Sponsored silences throughout the Academy made for a somewhat quieter than normal lunch time, and other sponsored activities included students standing all day

without sitting, and being handcuffed together. However, the main attraction was the cake sale, with dozens of students baking hundreds of delicious treats to sell at lunch and break time. The total raised so far is over £1,300 but the students still have more sponsorship money to come in.



Onesie winners, from left: Chloe Martens, Faith Johns, Simeon Johnson with teacher Mrs Pam Goodwin.



Oasis Academy Coulsdon students race to raise money. Students from left: Eloise Jenkins, Tilly Foard, Dan Foard, Joseph Parker.

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DAY

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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Bella's Stone Baked Pizza Co joins forces with The Soper Hall

Recently, shoppers in Caterham Valley may have noticed the delicious aroma of home-made pizzas wafting through the town every Friday and Saturday. The reason is that since Friday 7th November, Bella's Stone Baked Pizza Co has been bringing a little slice of Italy to the community, from the car park of The Soper Hall in Harestone Valley Road. Bella's Stone Baked Pizza Co, an ethical and healthy take-away alternative, are serving their VIPs (Very Important Pizzas) to the people of Caterham from a beautiful vintage HY van, complete with a stone baked oven which cooks freshly made, mouthwatering pizzas in just two minutes. Bella's prides itself on using only the finest, organic ingredients and won't serve their customers anything but the best. Family run business, Bella's, was only established this year but is already achieving great success with their fully refurbished, vintage pizza van which dates back to



Bella's Stone Baked Pizza Co's beautiful vintage van.

1965. Joining up with fellow Golden Oldie, The Soper Hall, which has stood in Caterham for over 100 years, seemed like the perfect collaboration and welcome addition to Caterham. Come and see Bella and taste her delicious Italian delights every Friday and Saturday from 12 midday until 8pm. With a menu to suit everyone's tastebuds and regular offers and promotions, it makes the perfect lunch or dinner treat. Bellissimo! Bella's is also pleased to offer over the phone orders! Call 07985 105675 to order a fresh pizza, ready to collect with no wait.



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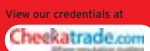
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The Kenley Tribute following the service on Remembrance Sunday. Photo by Carole Streeter.

Remember November



The Caterham-on-the-Hill Remembrance Service at Lawrence's Church. Photo by Jon Harcourt

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Oakhurst pupils dressed in period costume on Tuesday, 11th November.

The Mirror

by Charles

On Beacon Hill two lovers lie
Entwined beneath the moon,
Making every moment count
Since he must leave by noon
For he's a British Soldier
Fraught with all its fears.
A thousand marching footfalls
Will echo to his going
And the waves of many oceans
Will mirror all her tears.

As he marches off to battle
And aye a thousand more,
Every one a mother's child
In flower of their youth.
Will they make it home again
To see the British shore?
They will fight for their lost
causes,
Their version of the truth,
And these brave men are
knowing
Their Judgement Day, it nears.
A thousand footfalls echoed
his departure
And the waves of many oceans
Mirrored all her tears.

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On Tuesday 11th November Oakhurst Grange School had a Day of Remembrance for those who died in the two World Wars. As it was one hundred years since the beginning of the First World War it was decided that the children and staff would dress up in clothes representing that era of history. The Quantum Theatre group were invited in to give all the children an outline of the events which led to the war and how the soldiers and families handled their lives. This year it was decided to let Mr Gardner and Rose play the Last Post and Reveille on the building's parapet. All the children and staff were on the tennis court before 11am to partake in a minute's silence and Act of Remembrance.

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by Pauline Harrison

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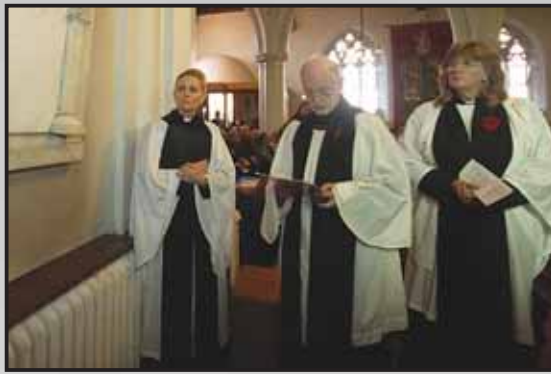
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Remembrance Day November 2014



Remembrance Parade marches towards St. Mary's Church, Caterham. Photo by Jon Harrison, www.localeventphotos.co.uk



From left: Reverend Steph Nadarajah, Reverend Roger Lamont and Reverend Frances Long at the rededication of the St. Lawrence's Memorial in St. Mary's Church. Photo by Jon Harrison, www.localeventphotos.co.uk

As part of the plans to mark the centenary of the First World War, the Bourne Society initiated a project to move the St. Lawrence's Hospital Staff War Memorial, originally in the hospital chapel, from Caterham Cemetery to a place of honour inside St. Mary's Church. Reverend Duncan Snow launched an appeal during his sermon on Remembrance Day 2013 and applied to the Diocese for a Faculty,

which was granted. Donations from the local community, the Bourne Society and Waitrose Community Fund, together with a large grant from Caterham-on-the-Hill Parish Council enabled the project to go ahead. The First World War Memorial was subsequently cleaned and installed inside St. Mary's Church and it was rededicated at the end of the Remembrance Day Service on Sunday 9th November.



Florian Kirchertz (left) and Louis Russell of London Stone Conservation, preparing to remove the St. Lawrence's memorial from Caterham Cemetery, watched by members of The Bourne Society and Caterham-on-the-Hill Parish Council.

Of Her Tears

By Les KIELTY

She knows, though none have told her
He's perished in the fray.
Somewhere in a foreign field
The poppies mark his grave.
When hell was at its fury high
He died with others brave
And that all of her tomorrows
Will be darker shades of grey.
A thousand footfalls echo now his going
And the waves of many oceans
Mirror all her tears.

But yet she lights a candle
And prays for his return.
In her troubled head she knows
Though a hundred candles burn,
That her love has gone forever
And she cries out to the moon.
His body lying buried there
wrapped in whitest shroud,
But the moon is silent to her cries
And slips behind a cloud.
The mocking footfalls echo his
departure
And the waves of many oceans
Mirror all her tears.

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Eating Out

Sunday Roast is back on the menu at the Whyteleafe Tavern

Review by Julia Church

The new management at the Whyteleafe Tavern is pleased to announce that their home-cooked Sunday roasts have been reintroduced, much to the delight of the Tavern's many regular customers.

My mum, Pam, and I went along one cold and wet November day and the Tavern provided a welcoming and cosy retreat from the chilly weather. After we had settled down by the fireplace, Becky came and took our order for starters and mains. I chose mushroom soup to start with followed by the vegetarian roast option and mum chose prawn cocktail for her starter followed by roast lamb. The other meat available that day was pork, but Becky told us the meat choices change each week.

When the starters arrived, mum was very impressed with the amount of prawns piled on her plate and she particularly

liked the salad with refreshing, home-made salsa that accompanied the prawns.

My lovely hot mushroom soup was very tasty and both starters came with plenty of bread and butter.

I was pleasantly surprised by the vegetarian roast when it arrived which had two red peppers stuffed with rice mixed with Mozzarella cheese and courgettes. Mum had a generous quantity of tender roast lamb and both meals came with two Yorkshire puddings, carrot and parsnip mash, roast potatoes, broccoli, sugar-snap peas and cauliflower - quite a selection! Becky said the vegetables change according to the season.

Unsurprisingly, we did not have room for a dessert although the choices such as apple pie, spotted dick, cheesecake and other favourites was very tempting.

The Whyteleafe Tavern is ideal for a family lunch out with children with its relaxed, friendly and informal atmosphere.

The cost of the lunches is very reasonable, with starters costing £3.95, mains costing £7.95 and desserts £3.50. Ordering two courses costs £9.95 and three courses costs £11.95.

The Tavern will soon be



The prawn cocktail starter.



The vegetarian roast.

introducing Steak Nights on Wednesdays and Curry Nights on Fridays - look out for the posters in the Tavern announcing the launch of the steak and curry nights.

Senior Citizens' lunches are served every Thursday for just £4 and bookings are now being

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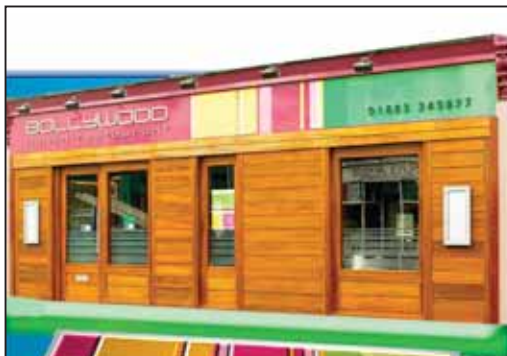
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Crowds pack The Soper Hall for second Caterham Beer Festival

The second Caterham Beer Festival organised by Caterham Round Table took place in The Soper Hall in Caterham Valley on Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd November. During the course of the two days around 900 guests consumed about 3,000 pints, with 57 varieties of beer and cider to choose from. 50 volunteers helped with running the event, from setting up, to serving the guests and cleaning up afterwards. The event raised over £8,000 for charity.

One of the main organisers, Round Table member, Glen O'Dwyer, said afterwards: "The second Caterham Beer Festival was a resounding success! The atmosphere was very friendly and all our guests thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It's great to be able to raise such large amounts of money for charity in such an enjoyable way. Thanks to everyone, especially our sponsors, for their support."



Members of the busy Beer Festival crew pose for a quick photo on the packed Friday night.



Guests jostle at the make-shift bar in the Soper Hall.

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Women's rugby star, Kay Wilson, inspires local youngsters

On Wednesday 12th November, the pupils of Hillcroft Primary School in Caterham-on-the-Hill were treated to a visit by Kay Wilson, who is a member of the England Women's Rugby Team that won the World Cup in Paris last August. Kay, who grew up in Caterham, spoke about how she first learned to love the game when she joined the Old Cats Minis

at the tender age of five, and how she went on to achieve her dreams in the sport. Kay brought along her World Cup medal especially to show the children. Head of Hillcroft, John Williams, said: "It was fantastic to have such an inspirational sporting role model come to Hillcroft Primary School. The children were fascinated and inspired listening to Kay's motivational talk on how they can achieve anything that they put their minds to."



Kay Wilson, centre, with Hillcroft Primary School pupils during her recent visit to the school.

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Super Sleek Slimming Supermen!

On Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th November, members of Slimming World groups in Caterham and Warlingham were voted by their fellow members as Mr Sleek and Miss Slinky 2014. It was the first year the Mr Sleek title had been added to the competition.

Jodie Davison, who runs the groups said: "We always have Miss Slinky, but this year was the first opportunity to name one of our men 'Mr Sleek'. The winners really proved why it was needed. We've seen a real increase in the amount of men joining, so to add another competition to celebrate their success is fantastic."

In Warlingham, Tariq Hafeez went up against two other very inspirational men to be crowned Mr Sleek 2014. Far from the expectation of a room of only women, Tariq is often the first to arrive and one of the last to leave, helping out with taking payments, and always staying to offer his support and knowledge to other members.

The Mr Sleek title for the Caterham morning group was



Warlingham Slimming World Miss Slinky and Mr Sleek winners, from left: Sylvie Hartnell, Tariq Hafeez and Dawn Bennett.

taken by Paul, who has lost over seven and a half stone. Paul, who joined with his wife at the end of 2012, said: "This is not a diet, it really is a lifestyle change."

He now enjoys cycling, swimming and walking, and the health benefits that come with increased physical activity.

The 5.30pm group named their Mr Sleek 2014 as Andy Cole. After walking into the group at the end of July with no idea what to expect and images of weight loss groups like those seen in TV sitcoms in his head, Andy was soon put at ease and made to feel so welcome by the group, and has gone on to lose three and a half stone. He

loves the fact he can still go out and socialise with his friends and still lose weight. The last Mr Sleek title to be handed out on the 6th November went to Steve. Steve joined the group with his wife and has embraced the new, healthy way of eating. He did say, however, that his wife was due much of the credit of his success, as she is always keen to try out new recipes. Alongside the Mr Sleeks were six completely inspirational Miss Slinky winners: Georgina, Dawn, Sylvie, Chloe, Lauren and Anne who helped bring the total loss of all winners to a whopping 26 stone! Huge congratulations to all of the nominees and winners.



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know you're amazing

Fireworks, Frozen, Fun and Friends

The Friends of Marden Lodge are proud to have raised £2,425.70 at their Fireworks Event held on Friday 7th November. The Friends worked hard all day and whether they were practising making candy floss on their newly purchased machine or dragging wooden pallets across the rain sodden playing field, they did so with a smile on their faces. The weather played tricks all day before finally settling down to a dry and mild evening, and the excitement mounted as the crowds grew. During the evening families from the local Caterham community and as far away as Reigate joined pupils from Marden Lodge to meet Olaf and Anna from Frozen together with Fireman Sam. A fantastic LED light display was presented by Kudos Juggling and this complemented the fireworks taking centre stage complete with Guys made by the pupils of Marden Lodge. Parents were pleased with the event, with the following comments being posted on the Friends Facebook page afterwards: "Totally amazing fireworks night, thank you to all who arranged it", "Worth every penny", "Wish my children's school could arrange something

like this" and "Well done you guys, be back next year!" The Friends of Marden Lodge have shown great commitment to the fundraising events for the school in the last 13 months, raising £6,713.00 in the process.



Anna and Olaf from 'Frozen' with Emily May Lawrence.

Book your tickets to see Snow White at The Arc!

Following the success of last year's new adaptation of The Wizard of Oz, The Arc Artistic Director, Beth Wood, has risen to the challenge and has this year written an enchanting adaptation of Snow White. Beth also directs and the show will again feature magical original songs written by Another Way Theatre's Artistic Director, Chris Chambers, who also musical directs. Snow White boasts a team of talented professional actors and singers, supported by future stars from The Arc's Theatre School and Harlequin Theatre Youth Groups. This adaptation tells the traditional story of Snow White from when she was a child, through to being a young adult. It is not a pantomime but has plenty of opportunity for the audience to get involved, lots of laughs and a few surprises.

Show Dates

Mon 15th–Tues 30th December.
 Mon 15th December - 7pm.
 Tues 16th, Wed 17th, Thurs 18th December - 10am and 1pm.
 Fri 19th, Sat 20th, Mon 22nd, Tues 23rd, Sat 27th, Mon 29th and Tues 30th December - 2.30pm
 Sat 20th, Tues 23rd, Sat 27th, Mon 29th and Tues 30th December - 6pm.



Nicky Chambers as Queen Ravenna and Ella Richards as Snow White.

Adults £10. Kids and concessions £7.50. Family Ticket (four persons) £30.

Testimonials from last year's show, The Wizard of Oz:

"A wonderful family show, appealing to all ages and the inclusion of youngsters in the cast gives them a great opportunity to find out what an acting career might involve".
Yvonne Richards.

"The show was excellent. Lots of laugh-outloud moments. Funnier and more enjoyable than a professional pantomime at a well known outer London theatre." *Tim Birkett.*

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 Music by Chris Chambers

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39 Weston Drive, CR3 5XY
www.the-arc-caterham.co.uk

WHAT'S ON

Munch with Music

The December 'Munch with Music' at St. John's Church in Clareville Road, Caterham Valley, is taking place on Wednesday 3rd December and will feature The Pleasure Singers, whose programme will include songs for Christmas. Coffee will be served at 12.15pm and the performance will take place between 12.45pm-1.30pm. Entrance is free. Please bring your own 'munch'.

Whyteleafe Christmas Fayre

The Whyteleafe Christmas Fayre is being held at St. Luke's Church, Whyteleafe Hill CR3 0AA on Saturday 6th December from 1pm-5pm. There will be a Santa's Grotto, stalls, carol

singing, kids' games, face painting, hot food and mulled wine, a tombola and live music. The Christmas Tree lights will also be switched on at 4.30pm. All proceeds to St. Luke's Church. For more information visit www.whyteleafecommunity.co.uk or www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk

Boot Sale

de Stafford School are holding a Car Boot Sale on Saturday 6th December from 8am-12pm (sellers 7.30am-12pm, fee £8). Entry £1 before 9am, 50p after 9am. Food on sale.

Christmas Concert

East Surrey Choral Society are presenting their Christmas Concert featuring Handel's Messiah Part 1 and carols for choir and audience at 7.30pm on Saturday 13th

December. The venue is Caterham Valley United Reformed Church, Harestone Valley Road CR3 6SX. Tickets cost £10. Book online at escs.org.uk, by e-mail to gillenglish@gmail.com, call 01293 786358 or pay at the door.

Santa's Grotto at Gatton Park

On Sunday 7th December, enjoy a golf buggy ride to see Santa in his grotto at Gatton Park, explore the grounds following a trail of clues and then return to Gatton Hall to make a Christmas decoration. 1pm-3pm. Cost: £5 per child. Tea and cakes available to purchase.

Essendene Lodge School Christmas Fayre

Essendene Lodge School PTA is holding its Christmas Fayre on Sunday 7th December from 11am-2pm in the Community Centre, High Street, Caterham-on-the-Hill CR3 5UE. Stalls will include tombolas, a hamper raffle, nail bar, Santa's Grotto and lots more.

Nature Notes

by Adele Brand

Five teenagers around one small burrow under the crushing Mexican sun: "Is anyone here arachnophobic?"

"No, no, we want to see it!" I was leading them on a mammal survey in the wild Yucatan rainforest, but jaguars had proved harder to spot that day than the silken trap on the jungle floor. Obediently I found a long stick and tapped the strands of web around the burrow, and a multitude of stout hairy legs emerged from within. Gasps and cries of 'wow' failed to amuse the tarantula, and it duly retreated to its burrow to sleep off the morning.

Mexico puts a different slant on Britain's debate over false widow spiders, but our

own eight-legged friends excite a reaction far out of proportion to the risk of being bitten. Maybe it's an ancient instinct to be wary around small scuttling creatures, or maybe it's taught to us as children by unfortunate fairytales, but fear keeps us in the dark. But spiders are worth getting to know better. The UK has over 600 species, from water spiders that live in air bubbles, to jumping spiders patterned with zebra-like stripes, to light-fearing cave spiders. We've all met house spiders trapped in the bath, but were perhaps unaware that they were probably males searching for a mate - or that their most potent enemies are the fragile daddy-long-legs spiders hanging quietly in the corner.

So while spiders might not conform to everyone's ideas of beauty, I'd argue they do make this world a more interesting place.

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A web photographed in an English garden, probably made by garden spider *Araneus Diadematus*. Photo by Adele Brand.

Co

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Undercover investigations by Animal Aid found breaches of animal welfare laws in eight of the nine randomly chosen UK slaughterhouses it investigated. These included animals being beaten, punched, kicked, burned with cigarettes, dragged by their ears and tails and being deliberately electrocuted with stunning tongs. The cruelty was widespread and horrifying.

Independently-monitored CCTV cameras could help stop the abuse.



Visit www.SlaughterhouseCCTV.org.uk to sign the petition



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A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioners office.

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CATERHAM VALLEY £155,000



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This semi-detached house is situated in a tucked away, elevated location with far reaching views across Caterham. The property features three bedrooms, a first floor bathroom, two separate reception rooms and a fitted kitchen. The property has been upgraded by the current owners but there is still potential to update and improve further.

KENLEY £270,000



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A superb conversion flat situated in a tucked away location close to Kenley Station. Benefiting from its own private garden and garage. This two-bedroom property retains many character features. Offered with no onward chain, a viewing is highly recommended.

CATERHAM VALLEY PRICE ON APPLICATION



CATERHAM 01883 349114

A character conversion of a former stable block and coach house. This four-bedroom property is in a tucked away location off Harestone Valley Road and offers a wealth of character as well as two reception rooms, a garage and garden. The property does offer some scope to update.

CATERHAM ON THE HILL £375,000



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Situated in an enviable location overlooking the cricket green at the Village, this split level, two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment also features a 21' x 22' double aspect lounge and a spacious kitchen/diner. This age restricted development has a caretaker and residents facilities. No onward chain.

CATERHAM ON THE HILL £335,000



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Situated in a tucked away location, close to local shops and transport, this modern three-bedroom semi-detached house benefits from an en-suite to the master bedroom as well as a family bathroom and GF WC. There is parking to the front and landscaped gardens to the rear.

CATERHAM VALLEY £325,000



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KENLEY £600,000



KENLEY 020 8668 1000

Located adjacent to Kenley Common within a rural setting is this well presented five bedroom extended detached house, arranged over three floors which is in proximity to Kenley Station and amenities. This family home has recently been extended to the rear to include a stunning 27ft open plan lounge with bi-folding doors onto a decked patio, with views over the valley.

WHYTELEAFE £415,000



KENLEY 020 8668 1000

An extended four-bedroom semi detached house located in a popular residential location close to schools and station. The property comprises lounge plus open plan dining room/family room, extended kitchen, shower room and utility room to the ground floor. Upstairs there are three double bedrooms and a single bedroom plus a modern family bathroom.

KENLEY PARK £225,000



KENLEY 020 8668 1000

A two double bedroom ground floor apartment within a small purpose built block located in the sought after Kenley Park adjacent to the infamous Kenley Aerodrome and Kenley Common. The property features two double bedrooms and a 20' open plan lounge/diner/kitchen.

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Chaldon

£675,000

Built circa 1871 this charming former school house occupies a well established corner position offering ample off street parking with detached garage and workshop to rear. Viewing highly recommended to fully appreciate this unique character home. EPC Rating E UPC1487



Caterham Valley

£985,000

A rare opportunity to acquire a five bedroom detached house which has been stylishly decorated and updated by the present owners to create a lovely family home situated in the highly sought after Dome Hill, in the Harestone Valley area of Caterham. EPC Rating E UPC1478



Caterham

£700,000

An opportunity to acquire a capacious four bedroom three storey period residence boasting a wealth of character features and occupying a well established level position directly backing playing fields and situated in a highly sought after residential road. EPC Rating F UPC1477



Kenley

£639,950

A four bedroom detached family home offered in our opinion in excellent decorative order throughout occupying a beautifully maintained well established position with driveway and detached double garage situated in the popular Village of Kenley. EPC Rating TBC UPC1486



Whyteleaf

£349,995

An opportunity to acquire this beautifully presented three bedroom Penthouse Apartment with Roof Terrace situated in the heart of Whyteleaf with excellent transport links to London. Highly recommended. EPC Rating B UPC1485



Caterham Valley

£325,000

This rarely available two double bedroom detached bungalow has level front and rear gardens and driveway leading to detached garage, situated in a popular residential area and convenient for Caterham Valley Town Centre. EPC Rating E UPC1480



Godstone

£325,000

A modern three bedroom semi detached house with allocated off street parking and level rear garden occupying a tucked away position within walking distance of the picturesque Godstone village green. EPC Rating B UPC1482

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