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Double win for Michael at Silverstone race weekend

On Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th April, 20-year-old Caterham resident, Michael Gibbins, stole the show at the Sports 2,000 race weekend at Silverstone in Northamptonshire.

On the Saturday, Michael, who drives a 2 litre, 4 duratec engine MCR Sport 2,000 car, lined up with 36 other cars for the very short 15 minute qualifying session, and put in a time good enough for pole position for race 1 later in the day.

After some minor changes to the car, Michael took to the grid to start the first round of the season from first position, but dropped to second position after a not-too-perfect start. However, later in the race he managed to pull off a daring move all the way around the outside of the right-hand bend at the end of the straight, getting back into first position. He went on to win the race comfortably with a margin of nine seconds.

Michael was on pole again for race 2 on the Sunday, and this time kept ahead at the start. A battle for lead position continued for several laps until Michael was able to open up a small gap and go on to win the

second race of the season. After winning the two races, Michael said: "I'm very pleased and especially delighted that nothing broke down! Everything was quite smooth, which was a nice surprise, especially

of the season."
Michael started racing at the age of eight when he received a go-kart for his birthday.

given that it was the first race

He said: "My dad used to race, so I have been at the race track since I was about five years old."

Michael said that he is hoping to get more sponsorship so that he can move up to the next step, driving GT cars.

Michael said: "The ultimate goal for me would be winning the Le Mans 24 hour race and BRSCC BRSCC

Michael Gibbins on the podium after winning race 1, flanked by Tom Stoten who came second (left) and Nick Bacon who came third. Photo by Kevin Gibson.

becoming a professional racing driver"

Michael is currently studying Mechanical Engineering at the University of Birmingham which, he says, is his back-up but will also nicely complement a career as a professional racing driver if he can achieve his dream.

Michael is currently sponsored by Croudace Homes and Protectall (London) Ltd. Businesses interested in sponsoring Michael can contact him via Facebook or Twitter.







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Long-serving county councillors for Caterham both step down this May

Cllr. Sally Marks, the Conservative Surrey County Councillor for Caterham Valley and Cllr. John Orrick, the Liberal Democrat Surrey County Councillor for Caterham Hill, are both stepping down as councillors in the local by-elections this May. Sally Marks, who is currently Chairman of Surrey County Council, has been county councillor for Caterham and Whyteleafe (and, until recent boundary changes, Woldingham) for 16 years.

Sally said: "After 16 years I have decided to stand down and pass on the responsibility to someone else. During my time as county councillor I believe there has been greater recognition that the Caterham area is a great place to live.

"I have loved being part of the community and thank

everyone for the part they play in its success. There are hundreds of people in the area who work hard and play hard and yet also give selflessly to improve and sustain the area for the good of others. I hope my successor, whoever that will be, will work as hard as I have done to remind the 'Centre' that we, in the north-east corner of the County, deserve continued support, help and investment for the betterment of evervone.'

The persons nominated for election as the next Surrey County Councillor for Caterham Valley are: Jeffrey Bolter, UKIP; Michael Cooper, Conservative; David Lee, Liberal Democrat and Mark Wood, Labour.

Surrey County Councillor for Caterham-on-the-Hill, John Orrick, who is stepping down after eight years as county councillor due to family health issues, said: "It would be unfair on everyone for me to stand at a time when I will only devote

my activities to home life. For over a year I have tried to balance the competing demands but cannot fill the councillor role to my expectations and to the level that the people of Caterham Hill deserve. I am extremely to colleagues arateful across the political spectrum for their kindnesses and forhearance and particularly to Cllr. Chris Botten for taking on so much of the workload from me in what was a very busy year. "I shall continue as a parish councillor for Caterham-onthe-Hill Parish as I hope for a return to 'normality' toward the end of summer. My fondest memories of the eight years are all related to our wonderful community and the many courtesies shown to me by residents."

The persons nominated for election as the next Surrey County Councillor for Caterham Hill are: Chris Botten, Liberal Democrat; Joe Banco, UKIP; Tafara Eddington, Labour and Rod Stead, Conservative.







Cllr. John Orrick.

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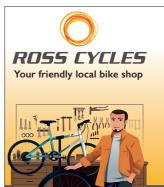




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The public have their say on the Caterham Masterplan

On Friday 21st, Saturday 22nd and Monday 24th April, Caterham residents had the opportunity to have their say about the Masterplan for Caterham being prepared by Tandridge District Council. The exhibition had a display outlining the vision for the town's future, such as which particular parts of the town need improvement and ways in which to implement improvements.

Two of the visitors to the exhibition were residents of Caterham-on-the-Hill, Malcolm and Jean Sanders. Malcolm said: "We would like to see something done about the Raglan Precinct because it is not an attractive feature of Caterhamon-the-Hill. The new flats nearby, at Pinewood House, have a much nicer appearance. The Valley is already much better than it used to be, before Church Walk was built. That was a great improvement for the town." Peter Tooher from Nexus

From left: Anthony Shapland, Colliers International Property Consultants; Peter Tooher, Nexus Planning and Efua Dadze-Arthur, Principal Planning Policy Officer at Tandridge District Council at the Masterplan Exhibition in Caterham Valley Library.

Planning, who are working with the council to create the plan, said: "There is a lot of potential in Caterham and we are looking forward to getting the views of the community. We can then come back in the summer with more details of the key projects in the Masterplan.'

There will be a further consultation period in the sumbefore the final mer Masterplan is produced in the autumn, ready for approval by Tandridge District Council.



Visitors view the display at the exhibition.



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Dedication of Grange Park Centenary Field takes place in Old Coulsdon

Saturday 15th April saw the dedication of Grange Park in Old Coulsdon by Croydon Council as a Centenary Field to commemorate the lives of those from Old Coulsdon who died in World War I. The park is now known as Grange Park Cenetenary Field and will be legally protected from development, through the initiative led by Fields in Trust. Amongst the VIPs attending the event was MP for South Croydon, Chris Philp.

The dedication of the park resulted from a campaign by the Friends of Grange Park over the last two years, and with the help of a funding grant from the local councillors' ward budget.

Cllr. Chris Wright, Chairman of the Friends of Grange Park, thanked everyone for attending, especially those who had worked hard to award Grange Park "Cenetenary Field" status. The Deputy Mayor of Croydon, Toni Letts, then performed the official unveiling of the board bearing the new name of the park.

The ceremony was followed by the annual Easter Extravaganza in the park, organised by the Friends to raise funds to further improve the park's facilities.



Friends of Grange Park, Cllr. Chris Wright (left) and Hannah Price-Harries with the Deputy Mayor of Croydon, Toni Letts and members of 285 Coulsdon and Purley Air Cadets at the Dedication Ceremony.



Members of Old Coulsdon Cupcakes WI at their stall at the Easter Extravaganza.











Tandridge District Council says "thank you" to our dedicated volunteers

On Wednesday 19th April, Surrey National Golf Club in Chaldon was the venue for the Civic Reception for the Voluntary Sector hosted by the Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Cllr. Pat Cannon and his wife Jill.

Pat welcomed the guests who represented a cross-section of the many and varied voluntary organisations in Tandridge, and spoke about how much their work was appreciated in the local community.

Pat said: "When I became Vice Chairman of the Council some 23 months ago, I knew I would Myers, Caterham Sea Cadets. be meeting lots of people that stood out from the crowd who would be known for their good deeds. I know that those of vou gathered here are only a representative few of our army of volunteers in Tandridge, but please relay to everyone just how highly appreciated you all

Reverend Tim Goode from St. Luke's Church in Whyteleafe then spoke about how, despite all the bad news we hear is going on in the world, we



From left: AC Georgia Myers and Sgt. John Wood from Caterham Sea Cadets; Maria Coyle, President of Caterham, Oxted and Godstone Lions; Cllr. Pat Cannon, Chairman of Tandridge District Council; Lynne Martin, Tandridge Voluntary Service Council; Colin Vane, President of Caterham Rotary Club; Tim Evans, District Scout Commissioner; MC2 Chloe

should remember that there is far more good news happening, thanks to the kindness and hard work of so many people. Local organisations represented at the event included the Cubs. Scouts, Brownies, Guides and Cadets; Caterham Rotary Clubs, The Caterham Dene League of Friends and the Bletchingley Skills Centre.

Other important guests at the reception included the Lord Lieutenant, David More-Molyneux; the High Sherrif of Surrey, Richard Whittington; the Chairman of Surrey County Council, Sally Marks and other leading members of the community, who had the opportunity to meet the volunteers and thank them for their work.

Promoted at the event was the Volunteer Fair taking place on Saturday 9th September in Oxted Community Hall, Church Lane, Oxted, being organised by Tandridge Voluntary Service Council. For more information call TVSC on 01883 722593.



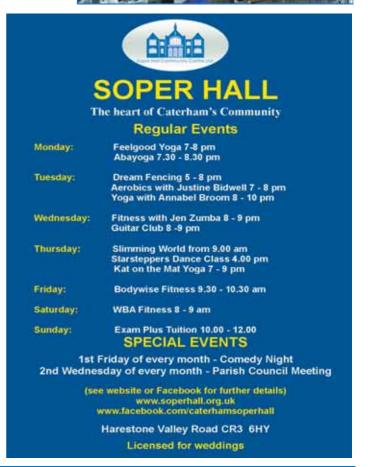


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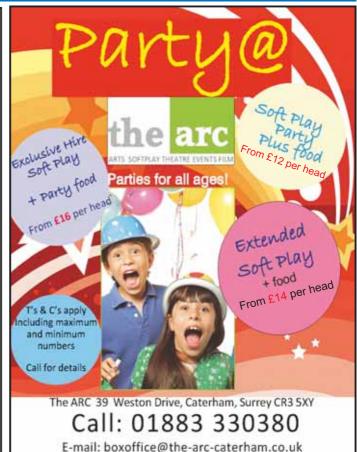
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by Julia Church

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The practitioner explained how carefully chosen delicate essential oils from rose petals saffron and coconut, are used whilst applying hands on lymphatic drainage using gentle acupressure on the face. After cleansing my skin, the practitioner cajoled the muscle tissue beneath my cheeks upwards, in order to enhance my cheekbones. The process was applied over my whole face, paying particular attention to around the eyes and forehead, where lines and wrinkles have started to appear. The practitioner explained that after five to six treatments the effect of a more youthful appearance will last for five to ten years, without the need for cosmetic surgery. Alternatively, clients can attend a one and a half hour training session to learn how to carry out the procedure on themselves if they prefer. The practitioner than applied an essential oil mask and left me to relax in subdued lighting, with classical music to listen to. It was wonderfully therapeutic.



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After removing the mask, the practitioner then gently carried out lymphatic drainage on the rest of my body, starting with my legs, then moving to my back, arms and hands. She explained how our face mirrors the condition of our body so any toxins that accumulate in the body will show on our face. This is why lymphatic drainage of the whole body helps to enhance our beauty as well as our health so by the end of the treatment not only did

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my face look radiant, but my whole body felt rejuvenated as well.

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The Motown sound visits Caterham School for Lions' annual concert

On Saturday 8th April, Caterham, Oxted and Godstone Lions ("COGS") held their annual concert featuring "Mo-Soul", town raising over £1,000 for local causes. The concert was held in the recently upgraded auditorium at Caterham School in Harestone Valley Road, Caterham Valley. Lion, Fran Pavely, said: "The school very kindly gives us its marvellous theatre completely free of charge. The upgraded facilities at the school are

outstanding. Let's hope that next year more people will come along to enjoy an evening of fun and good music."

As part of the Lions' International Centenary celebrations, COGS are organising a Swimathon on Saturday 20th May at de Stafford School in Caterham. Scouts and other organisations are being invited to take part. Up to half of a team's sponsorship money can be donated to a good cause of their choice, with the other half going to Lions Club charities. For more information contact Ian Macaulay at ian_rm@blueyonder.co.uk



Motown Soul performing at Caterham School.

A brand new comedy comes to Caterham in June!

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Along with 19 other cadets from all over the country, they joined the tall ship in Gosport and spent the next seven days sailing along the south coast of England and up the Thames to Woolwich.

There, they joined up with other tall ships from around the world to take part in the 2017 Tall Ships Festival from 13th-16th April.

As part of the Festival, the cadets spent one afternoon climbing the rigging and motoring down the Thames, past sights such as the O2 Arena and Canary Wharf. They learnt lots of new skills, such as navigation, night sailing and rope work.

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From left: James Flanagan, Abbie Hoult, Chloe Myers and Benjamin Cunningham aboard the T.S. Royalist.

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Easter fun in Coulsdon with **Cosy Glow Home!**

On Friday 7th April, over 250 meters of bunting decorated Coulsdon town centre to mark the trail of the first ever Cozy Glow Home Easter Egg Hunt in support of The Samaritans. Over 100 children took part in the event, becoming "Official Easter Egg Hunters"!

Eight Easter-themed questions made up the trail, with the final question in Cozy Glow Home at 160 Brighton Road, opposite Coulsdon Library.

Ashley Cooke, one of the owners of Cozy Glow, said: "We were amazed at how popular the event was and we had to extend the Easter Egg Hunt until the Easter weekend due to popular demand. We enjoyed organising the event and it was lovely to see so many smiling faces in the shop when the children came in to claim their certificates and Easter Eggs."

Ashley and his business partner Christian have been making candles for over three years, and opened their store in Coulsdon last year to



Proud Easter Egg Hunters, Amber and Samuel, in Cozy Glow Home with their prizes and certificates.

showcase their products. All the candles are handmade in South Crovdon and are organic and veganfriendly, with seasonal scents. The candles can be personalised in-store for free (also available on Amazon at an additional charge).

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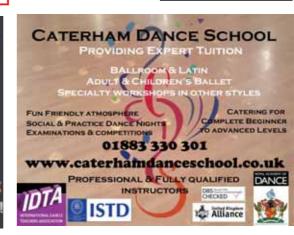
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Clifton Hill School celebrates the opening of its new Food Technology room

On Monday 27th March, the Chairman of Surrey County Council, Cllr. Sally Marks, performed one of her last official duties before stepping down as a councillor in May, when she opened the new Food Technology room at Clifton Hill School in Caterham.

Before cutting the ribbon, Sally Marks made a speech, during which she thanked the main sponsors of the new facilities, St. Faiths, a Surrey charity and the Army and Navy Lodge.

Welfare Assistant at Clifton Hill School, Caroline Radford, said: "Cooking and other life skills are such a vital part of our curriculum and the Food Technology room is in constant use by our students. Our young people learn to become as independent as possible within the areas of self-help and daily living skills. The new kitchen not only looks modern, fresh and practical, but is specially adapted for disabilities. We are delighted with it and are very grateful for the support from our sponsors."



Cllr. Sally Marks with Clifton Hill students at the opening of the new Food Technology room.



The brand new Food Technology room at Clifton Hill School.

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Course record broken at tenth annual Rotary **Easter Bunny Runs**

On Sunday 9th April, nearly 500 runners took part in the tenth annual Rotary Easter Bunny Runs at Queen's Park in Caterham.

First home in the 1K Fun Run was Estee Norman, followed by Harry Thomas. Congratulations to the fastest runners in the 5K race. First was Patrick Canavan in 16 minutes 56 seconds, a new course record, followed by Harley Norman and Alix Ramsier who also both beat the old record. Diana Norman was the first lady home, in fourth position, with a time of 19 minutes 21 seconds. The Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Pat Cannon, started the runs and also presented the prizes. Caterham Rotary Club's organiser for the event, Richard York, said: "I hope everyone had a good time and raised lots of money for their chosen charity or for our Rotary charities. Please can runners kindly email how much they raised for which charity or organisation to rotaryruns@gmail.com as we are keen to know how much money the event raised for charity."

Full results are available on the website www.rotaryruns.co.uk.



The Best Dressed Bunnies in the 1K Fun Run with their prizes.





From left: Alix Ramsier, Patrick Runners setting off on the 1K Run Run.



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Blue skies and sunshine for **Open Garden at** The Chalet

On Sunday 9th and Sunday 16th April, visitors flocked to the Open Garden events being held at The Chalet in Caterham, home of local businessman, David Gold.

Local singer, John Lazenby, introduced the programme of varied and highly talented musical entertainment, while the Friends of St. Catherine's Hospice ran a stall selling plants and other items to help boost the profits for the charity.

Friends and supporters served a wonderful array of home-made cakes to the visitors, who could enjoy their refreshments whilst listening to the live music in the Easter sunshine.

The events raised £7,095 for the National Garden Scheme, £4,277 for St. Catherine's Hospice, £1,440 for Prospero Theatre plus substantial sums for a number of other charities. Mr Gold would like to thank everyone involved in the two Sundays and for all of the visitors who made the fantastic donations possible.



The Chalet in all its spring glory.



David Gold thanks visitors for supporting the event.



Local singer, Pat Fencott, performing at The Chalet.



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Diary of a Plantaholic

by Sue Baines

The Alliums (onion species) which I adore, have absolutely taken over this year. Their chive-like flowers tend to be in shades of purple/mauve or white. The Christophii are the size of tea plates in a beautiful metallic shade of blue. They completely light up the garden in May and June. However there is one drawback, in that the foliage is so prolific that it easily obscures all the upcoming perennials, also home to numerous slugs and snails. As I have so many, I have taken a lot of the foliage off, with slight trepidation in case onion fly gets a whiff!! The great thing about them is that after flowering a lot of them have interesting heads, even though the colour has gone. Later they disappear as summer progresses, so pots of dahlias fill the gap quite nicely.

The grass is growing quickly now and I recently gave it a really good rake, which leaves a



Sue Baines

few bare patches, but these quickly fill in, as I feed it with liquid Evergreen feed that is attached to the hose. Timing is really important, as there is no point if the ground is too dry. May is the busiest month of the year, as cuttings, plug plants, and tender perennials are all being hardened off and planted out in sheltered spots.

"Chelsea chop" on plants like sedums which reduces them by half, staggers the flowering time.

Getting my runner beans started in the greenhouse and covering the vegetable patch to warm the soil, plus staking wayward plants, are all on my "to do" list, which is growing by the moment, but it will definitely be worth it!!

To advertise your business, call Jenny on 01883 346641 or e-mail jenny@caterham-independent.co.uk

Quick Quiz

by Alec Herbert

Literary animals - five questions on animals in well-known books:

- 1. Which book by Henry Williamson is set in the Devon countryside?
- 2. In "Watership Down" what animal was "Fiver"?
- 3. Which Lewis Carroll animal faded away until all that was left was a grin?
- 4. Which animals became the leaders in George Orwell's "Animal Farm"?
- 5. In "Wind in the Willows", which character has a love for motor cars and the open road?

Answers:

4. Pigs; 5. Toad.

I. Tarka the Otter;A. A Rabbit;J. The Cheshire Cat;A. Digg:

Celebrate YARN SHOP DAY at Ida9s House Saturday 6th May An annual celebration of local yarn shops on high streets up and down the country! We have planned a great day at Ida's House to mark the occasion 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m Finishing Techniques Workshop: This two hour session will cover the skills needed to achieve a 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Bring in your knitting and crochet projects to work on and we will supply cake, coffee and a warm welcome! There will be some special offers available in store and an exclusive Debbie Bliss pattern professional finish for knitting projects. Contact the shop for more info on this class and the follow-up session on Saturday, 13th May. designed for the day. Fine Yarns on The Hill 27 High Street, Caterham-on-the-Hill, CR3 5UE 01883 345220. www.idashouse.co.uk 01883 345220.





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Eating Out

Dewan-E-Am celebrating five years of bringing Fine Indian cuisine to Caterham

Dewan-E-Am Fine Indian Restaurant at 188 Coulsdon Road, Caterham, is celebrating its fifth birthday this year. Owner, Sam Choudhary, says they are very happy in Caterham and have lots of lovely, regular customers.

Sam said: "Our customers fect vegetarian starter. are almost like family now. We For our main courses, Sam have so many regular customers that it is quite a surto the restaurant that we have not met before, but we always give them a warm welcome of course!"

My daughter Jenny joined me for my recent visit to the restaurant, as she loves her curries, either home-cooked or dining out.

For our starters, Jenny chose the Special Platter and I chose the Onion Bhaji. The Special Platter consisted of Chicken Tikka, Lamb Tikka and Lamb



only smelt delicious but was nice and juicy. My Onion Bhajis hit the spot nicely, the per-

said they could prepare a vegetarian version of any of the prise when someone comes in mains, but I chose the Vegetable Dansak, a dish comprising a variety of vegetables mixed with lentils cooked in a blend of spices, which gave it bags of taste. Jenny chose one of the Dewan-E-Am Signature Dishes, the Murgh Makhani tandoori chicken in a creamy, buttery sauce.

Jenny was pleased with the generous amount of chicken and described it as wonderfully mild dish, plenty of buttery sauce to mop up with our Kebab, which Jenny said not naan bread! We also shared a



The "Special Platter" starter.

portion of garlic rice and creamy saag paneer, which Sam said was one of the restaurant's most popular side dishes.

We ordered a bottle of very reasonably priced Pino Grigot to enjoy with our meal. Throughout the evening the service by Robin, our waiter, was excellent. To book a table, call the restaurant on 01883 348913.











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Don't let a car thief spoil your summer! Protect your vehicle with the help of Brian Car Sounds.

Surrey Police have been advising motorists to be extra vigilant and take care to protect their vehicles now that the warmer weather is here, as there has been a recent spate of car thefts and breakins while motorists have been out walking in public areas, enjoying the sunshine.

Surprisingly, all new cars with push button start are vulnerable to theft. Investing in one of the latest theft prevention and tracking devices is well worth the peace of mind - no-one wants the heartache of losing their vehicle to an opportunistic thief.

Brian Car Sounds in Brighton Road, Coulsdon, not only sells the latest kit available on the market to protect vour car, but can install the equipment while you wait.

The obd Portector is innovative hardware that integrates into the vehicle without the need to cut into the wiring, thereby invalidating the vehicle warranty. It works by stopping the information travelling to the OBD port, preventing a thief from accessing it.

The obd Portector has no subscription or ongoing costs and retails from £329.99.

The Ghost immobiliser protects your car from keycloning, hacking and even key theft - the only way a thief could take a Ghost protected car is by towing it away, but even then they will never be able to drive it! There is even an iPhone app that connects to your car, allowing you to get in and drive without having to enter th PIN code. The Ghost immobiliser retails from £399.99.

To find out more about the features of the obd Portector and Ghost immobilisers, call Brian Car Sounds on 020 8645 0655. Remember to ask about the special deals they are offering on their car security products this spring!

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BCSS are offering a discount off all security products during May exclusively to readers of The Caterham and District Independent and The Warlingham and District Independent.

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What's On

On Saturday 6th May from 11am 1pm, the PTA of St. Peter and St. Paul School in Rook Lane, Chaldon, are holding a Nearly New Sale of clothes, toys and other items for babies and children. Tables £10 - keep 100% of profit. To book a table email ptastpeterstpaul@outlook.com. Buyers £1 entry.

Team Elsie Rainbow Run

The Team Elsie 2km and 5km Rainbow Run in support of Shooting Star Chase children's hospice is taking place at Caterham School, Harestone Valley Road, Caterham CR3 6YA on Sunday 21st May at 10am. The event is being held in memory of Elsie Poole and will include face painting, a toy stall and lots of fun. Entry costs £10 per adult, £5 per child, with a 20% discount for each team. To register please go to www.shootingstarchase.org.uk/Elsie RainbowRun.

Munch with Music

The next Munch with Music is taking place on Wednesday 3rd May at St. John's Church, Clareville Road, Caterham, featuring Louisa Perais (soprano) and Christopher Bundhun (Guitar), presenting songs from England, Spain and Greece. Admission is free. Tea and coffee wil be served at 12.15pm and the performance will be 12.45pm-1.30pm. Please bring your own "Munch".

Spring Fete

20th May, St. On Saturday Peter and St. Paul School in Rook Lane, Chaldon are holding their Spring Fete from 1pm-4pm, featuring bouncy castles, face painting, stalls, a beer tent, barbecue and more. Entry is £1 for adults, free for children.

8pm, East Surrey RSPB are hosting a talk at the White Hart Barn in Godstone entitled Amazing Birds by Chris Collins. Entrance is £3 for adults and £1 for children. For more information Old Coulsdon. Entry is £4 for visit www.eastsurrevrspb.co.uk

RSPCA Car Boot Fair On Sunday 14th May, South aclub.org.uk

Godstone RSPCA on the Eastbourne Road/A22 RH9 8JB are holding a Car Boot Sale from 10am-2pm. All vehicles £10, sellers arrive from 9am. Trailers cost an additional £3. Entrance for buyers by donation only. For information more visit www.rspca-friendsofsouthgodstonerspca.org.uk.

Caterham Art Group

On Wednesday 24th May, Caterham Art Group are holding a pen and wash demonstration - Oast House Cottages by Anthony Nield in the United Reformed Church, Harestone Valley Road, Caterham starting at 7.30pm. Entrance is £4. For more information visit www.caterhamartgroup.org.uk.

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Old Coulsdon Camera Club RSPB Talk
On Tuesday 2nd May, Old
On Wednesday 10th May at Coulsdon Camera Club is hosting a talk by Adriaan van Heerden entitled "developing creative vision". The meeting starts at 7.45pm for 8pm, in Cameron Hall, Canon's Hill, visitors. For more information visit www.oldcoulsdoncamer-



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