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## New memorials at St. Luke's honour Kenley Airfield's heroes

On Sunday 17th September, St. Luke's Church in Whyteleafe held their Memorial and Thanksgiving Service for the 77th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain. This year's service was extra special because it also saw the dedication of the recently-installed RAFA (Royal Air Forces Association) memorials to all those who lost their lives while serving at

Kenley Airfield between 1922-1962 and are buried in Airmen's Corner in the churchyard. Many local dignitaries attended the service including Sam Gyimah MP, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey, Mr Michael More-Molyneux and his wife Sarah, London Assembly member for Croydon and Sutton, Mr Steve O'Connell, Canon Duncan Swan,

Rector of Caterham Team Ministry and representatives of the Canadian, New Zealand and Australian Air Forces that also served at Kenley during WWII. Mr Hartmut Klein and his wife Evelyn, who, until recently, resided in Kenley, were also in the congregation. Hartmut, a member of Kenley and Caterham RAFA, helped to raise £7,500 towards the cost of the memorials and had travelled back from Germany especially for the service. **Continued on page 14.**



Reverend Tim Goode, far left, with officials and dignitaries in front of the memorials that take pride of place either side of the altar in St. Luke's Church, Whyteleafe.

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## Soper Hall unveils its refurbished "Garland Hall"

by James Highsted

On Friday 8th September, members of Soper Hall Community Centre Ltd. presented the revamped Garland Hall to a packed room of centre members, dignitaries and volunteers.

Soper Hall's patron, West Ham United co-owner, David Gold, and Gwyneth Fookes BEM, honorary vice-president of the Bourne Society, performed the official opening of the new hall.

The Garland Hall received a make-over following the Caterham and Warlingham Citizens' Advice Bureau's relocation to Caterham Valley Library in January 2017.

Mr Gold said: "I've always felt that Soper Hall is the centre piece of Caterham, and that the community can revolve around this historic building." Cllr. Beverley Connolly, Chairman of the Soper Hall Com-

munity Centre Ltd., said: "This event shows that Soper Hall is a key fixture of the community because of all the events we have here, like the Comedy Nights, the Caterham Round Table Beer Festival and the adult education classes. That is why it is so important for Caterham, by being an activity centre offering a variety of events. "Our next challenge is "Soper Hall-Access For All". We are looking to fundraise for a new disabled/baby change facility here at Soper Hall, and that's our focus for 2018."



Members of Soper Hall Community Centre Ltd. and their guests celebrate the opening of the new Garland Hall in front of the portrait of William Garland Soper. Photos by James Highsted.



Mr. David Gold and Gwyneth Fookes BEM perform the official opening.

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## Residents celebrate the 65th birthday of Le Personne Homes

The residents of Le Personne Homes in Caterham-on-the-Hill enjoyed a special celebration recently, to mark the 65th birthday of the Homes this year.

East Surrey MP, Sam Gyimah, was amongst the special guests attending the celebration, as well as friends and family members of the residents.

During his visit, Sam Gyimah cut the impressive birthday cake, assisted by Daphne Osborne. Later in the afternoon, the residents enjoyed some live entertainment laid on by the trustees of the Home, especially for the occasion.

The Homes, comprising 43 one-bedroom flats, were originally set up in 1939 by wealthy Caterham resident, Louis le Personne, in memory of his wife Henrietta Frances to provide accommodation for elderly ladies. For more information about Le Personne Homes, visit [www.lepersonne.co.uk](http://www.lepersonne.co.uk).



Le Personne Homes resident, Doris Downes (left) with (left to right) Admin Manager Gina Caunt and trustees Cllr. Cindy Steer, Cllr. Eithne Webster, Rob Richards and Jackie Servant at the 65th birthday celebration.



Sam Gyimah MP and Daphne Osborne cut the birthday cake.



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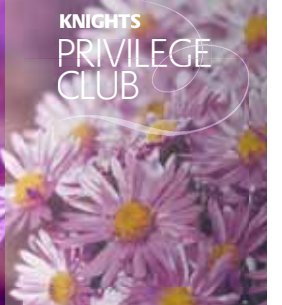
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## Caterham's gardeners celebrate life of "Dahlia King" Jimmy Skilton

On Saturday 9th September, 20 hopeful entrants, up 50% from 2016, placed over 150 exhibits in the Caterham and District Horticultural Society Autumn Show at Hillcroft School in Caterham.

Malcolm Skilton scooped the Merritt Cup for his dahlias. A number of Skilton family members came to the show. They shared fond memories of their father James (Jimmy) Skilton, who sadly passed away on 3rd September.

Speaking at the prize-giving, Roger Davies, Society President, said: "Jimmy Skilton was the backbone of the dahlia section for many years and always wanted more competition. As well as being known as the "Caterham Dahlia King", he was a national dahlia judge. He created new dahlia varieties, like the "Tandridge Princess".

Other cups awarded on the day bore Jimmy Skilton's name from the 1960s onwards. This included the Murray Bowl, which was awarded to Jimmy 50 years ago. It is now held by Joe Perera.



Debbie Fox and Joe Perera with the Murray Bowl. Photo by Richard Pearce.



Malcolm Skilton receives the Merritt Cup from Society President Roger Davies, supported by family members to the rear from left: Alan, Marion, Alison and Christine. Photo by Richard Pearce.



Marian Fancourt won the Johnston Challenge Cup for the most points in floral arrangements. Photo by Debbie Fox.



Caden Evans with his winning exhibits including a citrus drizzle cake. Photo by Richard Pearce.

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## Scouts hold second successful Model Show

The 5th Caterham Scouts were back again on Saturday 16th September with their impressive Model Show in the Centenary Hall, EsSENDENE ROAD, Caterham-on-the-Hill. The show featured 20 displays, double the number from last year, including Meccano and Lego models. The organiser, Peter Corish, would like to thank everyone who supported the event, especially the local sponsors.



Model enthusiasts of all ages pack the Centenary Hall.



Five-year-old Louis plays with the Lego.



Trystan Haslam with a Meccano model made by Kathy Hill.



Youngsters gaze at the train going by on the model railway.



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## Diary of a Plantaholic

by Sue Baines

I am even more aware of how quickly the seasons are changing this year as we have a very tight schedule for "downsizing" the garden. Geoff has almost finished paving across the back of the house and placing new fencing in position. Suddenly the garden looks enormous!! It won't be long, as we are making a start on clearing the front, and guess where all the plants from the front will be housed? We have 30 litre pots that have feet incorporated into them. However although all the pots will be removed from the front garden, I must make sure they remain on feet wherever they are, as poor drainage and cold temperatures are a recipe for winter loss.

While the soil in pots is still warm, I have been using nematodes for vine weevil. This year I may even do some pots twice, as they are being moved around a lot.

I am particularly proud of the Heucheras/Heucherellas, which have looked pristine all season, giving a lovely show of coloured leaves in the quite



Sue Baines.

shady area under the birch tree. I know from experience that these are a vine weevil favourite, along with begonias, which can look fine when put into winter storage, but if unchecked can give a home to the white grubs which increase in size as the begonia rapidly diminishes.

Before taking up and potting plants on, I am taking a few photos of the displays I am particularly fond of. Most will be integrated into the back garden. I have no idea exactly where yet, but as they are in pots it should not be too hard to decide.

Cutting back, especially in the ponds, and keeping mould at bay in the greenhouse/conservatory and emptying my leaf bags are all still to do, so it's going to be another busy month.

## QUICK QUIZ

by Alec Herbert

Five questions on people who have changed their names:

1. Which contemporary singer/songwriter was born Stefani Germanotta?
2. Which circus performer's real name was Charles Stratton?
3. Tynian O'Mahoney became which comedian?
4. Footballer Edson Orantes de Nascimento (they would never get that on the back of a shirt) became who?
5. Which half of a famous duo was originally named Arthur Stanley Jefferson?

Answers:

1. Lady Gaga;
2. Tom Thumb;
3. Dave Allen;
4. Pele;
5. Stan Laurel (Laurel & Hardy).

## Readers' letters

### Rose & Young

Every week I read about the Rose & Young eyesore and I have now reached the stage where I simply cannot sit back and not air my view. This is in fact a beautiful example of an Art Deco building from the 1930s. It reflects the Art Deco time and is a piece of Caterham's past. It is not an eyesore but a beautiful Art Deco building which should really be restored to its former glory. Why not? Why not just restore it to the way it was back in 1930? There is plenty of space for other developments. The site will indeed make a beautiful restaurant or pub. I can, for example, refer you to the Weatherspoon pub in West Croydon. Why not invite Weatherspoon to take this site and turn it into a beautiful pub, or perhaps Toby Carvery? They have done a great job with the site at

Ewell West, or even better, look at the old former Croydon Airport site. Why not convert the building into an office park or small cinema but keep the building the way it is. Once it is gone or overly modified the 1930s Art Deco history will be lost for ever. I would rather see it remains an "eye sore" than some developer turning it into some modern cross-breed.

**Edward Roos, Whyteleafe.**

### Rose & Young latest

Following Tandridge District Council's recent decision to withdraw the Compulsory Purchase Order ("CPO") issued for the Rose and Young site, as far as the council is aware, contracts have not yet been exchanged between the owner of the site and Clarion Housing Group. Tandridge District Council is preparing all the paperwork necessary to issue another CPO if no progress is made by the end of the year.

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**COMPETITION WINNERS!**  
 The two lucky winners of last month's competition to win a massage with Sue Hannaford were Will Parkhouse and Tracey Tomkins.  
 The winner of the two-night stay for two at Corner House Bed and Breakfast was Kris Daniels.  
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# Thieves target RSPCA South Godstone for the second time in a year

On the night of Monday 11th September, RSPCA South Godstone Animal Centre was raided, just a day after staff held a fundraising car boot sale there.

A number of high-value items (including those pictured right) were stolen from the rescue centre including a quad bike worth around £10,000, used for moving around heavy objects such as pallets of food, and a £2,000 diesel-powered steam cleaner used to clean out kennels.

A leaf-blower worth £500, a drill and a number of other smaller items were also stolen when thieves smashed through the

Centre's gates and ransacked four buildings within the grounds.

Centre manager, Darren Parrish, said: "The break-in has cost us around £15,000 in terms of the items we have lost and the damage caused. Thankfully we are insured, so we will get the items replaced, but this will still end up costing us money. We have an excess to pay and, as this is the second break-in here within a year, our insurance premium will rocket. It takes money away from the animals."

The Centre was also raided in November 2016, just days after it held a successful Christmas Fair to raise funds.



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For more information about South Godstone RSPCA visit <https://www.rspca.org.uk/local/south-godstone-animal-centre/> or find them on Facebook.

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## Bletchingley teacher sets new rowing world record!

Congratulations to Helen Hankey, Head of Music at The Hawthorns School in Bletchingley, who, alongside a team of seven others, set a new rowing world record this summer.

The eight-women team completed a relay row of 320 nautical miles along the entire south coast of the UK in a coastal double scull. Their epic challenge started in Sennen Cove in Cornwall, crossing the start line at Lands End at 5.55pm on Saturday 12th August and finished by passing North Foreland, Kent, five days, eighteen hours and twenty five minutes later, setting the new world record.

The rowers used all their skills to take their tiny 54kg, 7.5m long and 1m wide boat around some of the most challenging headlands in the UK, running tidal races off Lands End, the Lizard and Start Point and punching foul tides around St. Alban's Head and Selsey Bill.

Afterwards, Helen said: "The feat of rowing a boat around the Foot of Britain succeeded in bringing individuals with a variety of skills together to become a well-oiled team who aim to inspire others to get out there and do something exciting and different. We are normal every day people and have managed it. So, with self belief,



*Helen Hankey on board the tiny boat.*

training, hard work and determination - follow your dreams."

As well as setting a new record, The Foot of Britain team have chosen to support two charities - Mind and The Youth Sport Trust.

To make a donation to Mind in support of Helen's achievement, visit <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/FOBRow2017>

To donate to The Youth Sport Trust, visit: <http://bit.ly/2fkBCBl>.



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## The New Caterham Arms hosts a successful Fun Day for C.H.E.C.K.

On Saturday 2nd September, Geraint Jenkins MBE and his helpers held a Fun Day at The New Caterham Arms in Caterham-on-the-Hill, raising nearly £900 for C.H.E.C.K. (Community Health and Education for the Children of Kimilili).

The warm, sunny weather ensured a good turn-out on the day and the activities laid on for the visitors to enjoy included a bouncy castle, barbecue, face painting, stalls and a great line-up of live entertainment. There was also a raffle and "Guess The Number Of Balloons In The Car" to win a helicopter ride.

After the event, Geraint said: "I am delighted the day was such a success and I would like to say a big "thank you" to The New Caterham Arms and everyone who helped on the day and came to the event. All the proceeds raised will go directly to help fund projects to benefit the schoolchildren in Kimilili, Kenya."

For more information about the work of C.H.E.C.K. visit [www.checkkimilili.com](http://www.checkkimilili.com)



X Factor contestant, Leah McKenzie, entertains the crowd at the C.H.E.C.K. Fun Day.



Local artist, Len Quinnell, provides some lively entertainment on his ukulele.



Geraint Jenkins MBE in his balloon-packed car outside The New Caterham Arms. Photo by Allison Kenna.



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## St. Catherine's Hospice Open Gardens are a blooming success!

Garden gates across Surrey have been swinging open this summer to welcome the local community into exclusive, private gardens as part of St. Catherine's Hospice Open Gardens.

Between April and the end of August, 44 gardens across Surrey and Sussex opened to support their local hospice. Thanks to their collective generosity, donations blossomed to more than £28,000 - the most money ever raised from an Open Garden season. As part of the Surrey openings, residents explored almost two acres of cottage gardens at Tollsworth Manor in Chaldon, owned by Gordon and Carol Gillett. As well as the garden, visitors enjoyed refreshments served by St. Catherine's voluntary fundraising group, Tandridge Friends.

Gordon said: "It was great fun opening our garden, meeting over 360 lovely people and raising more than £3,000 in just five hours.

Open Gardens was a lot of work but the help given and the lovely community spirit made taking part a real pleasure."

Well-known Caterham resident and St. Catherine's supporter, David Gold, also opened his garden at The Chalet, Caterham. His two openings were a big success, raising more than £4,000 for his local hospice.

Other Surrey gardens included Southlands Lodge in Oxted, which opened for the first time, and five cottages and barns in Newdigate Village. Leigh Village in the Mole Valley District also held its annual charity plant sale in aid of the hospice.

St. Catherine's provides expert care to local people living with a terminal illness across East Surrey. By allowing the public a unique insight into their private space, Open Garden hosts are helping ensure St. Catherine's can continue to provide their local community with this expert care.

To find out more about opening your garden for St. Catherine's next spring and summer, please call Keely Bicknell in St. Catherine's community fundraising team on: 01293 447376 or email: [comfun@stch.org.uk](mailto:comfun@stch.org.uk).



Open Garden at The Chalet.



David Gold welcomes guests to his Open Garden event.



The Tandridge Friends of St. Catherine's Hospice at Tollsworth Manor.



A stunning flower bed at Tollsworth Manor.



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The pilots at Kenley Airfield.



A replica Hurricane in one of the blast pens.



The Model Aircraft Display outside the Portcullis Club.



A re-enacted Ops Room.

Photos by Terry Fletcher

# Kenley salutes Sky Heroes

by James

On Sunday 10th September, Kenley Airfield celebrated the Battle of Britain heyday, in what is the Airfield Heroes show. Over 4,500 people attended the event, organised by the Kenley Airfield Friends Group ("KAFG") and City of Kent Council. Visitors had the opportunity to make a donation to the Airfield Friends Group and see a chance to sit in replica Spitfire and Hurricane aircraft. Demonstrations and operations demonstration and learn how the aircraft were used. Children had the opportunity to make a Hawker Hurricane could be seen fly. Visitors could also see the work carried out on the aircraft, which has included repairs to the Airfield Friends Group. Kenley Airfield remained operational during the Battle of Britain in 1940. KAFG Chairman, Alan Morgan, said: "We have restored the central spine of the Airfield. The blast pens have had a certain amount of work done to conserve as much original fabric as possible, what is absolutely necessary for the moment, which does involve re-creating the original fabric. For more information about the show, visit [www.kenleyrevival.org](http://www.kenleyrevival.org).



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# Airfield es its eroes

## s Highsted

ey Airfield returned to its Battle of  
eld's centenary year, with their Sky  
event, organised by Kenley Airfield  
London Commons. Visitors had the  
Hurricane planes, watch an RAF opo  
to disarm an unexploded bomb.  
ke their own gasmasks and a real-life  
ing circuits overhead.

ied out by the Kenley Revival Project,  
rfield, archaeological digs and guided  
ains the most preserved airfield used

:"It was a great day. We had a good  
an excellent time too. The event was  
kenley Airfield but it was also to show  
ation work we have done on the Air-  
ge Lottery-funded Revival Project.

of the Tribute blast pen and all of the  
unt of restoration work, but the idea  
inal material as possible and only re-  
l. We are restoring the rifle range at  
placing some of the brickwork."

he Kenley Revival Project, visit



A visit to a bomb shelter.



An excited youngster in a Mk II Spitfire.



Visitors tour the Airfield.



A Ford Jeep.



Members of "RAF at War" living history group in a 1932 MG.



A lesson in disarming a bomb.

Photos by James Highsted

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**New memorials at St. Luke's honour Kenley Airfield's heroes** (cont'd from page 1)

During his address to the congregation, Reverend Tim Goode, who is also padre to the local RAFA branch, said: "I first spoke to members of RAFA at the Portcullis Club at Kenley Airfield in March last year about commemorating those buried in Airmen's Corner with a proper memorial inside the church. Hartmut, a German citizen, immediately offered to help to raise the funds required to install a memorial, demonstrating a wonderful act of reconciliation." Hartmut and fellow RAFA member, Mike Roach, contacted many local individuals and organisations who were happy to make a donation, including members of the Portcullis Club, Caterham Rotary Club and students from Royal Russell School in Croydon. Two beautiful wooden memorials are now installed on either side of the altar at St. Luke's Church, bearing the names of the 58 airmen so they shall always be remembered.



The memorials bearing the names of the airmen who died whilst serving at Kenley Airfield.



Hartmut Klein chatting to Mr Michael More-Molyneux and Rev'd Tim Goode after the service.



Representatives of the Australian, New Zealand and Canadian RAF lay a wreath in Airmen's Corner.

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### Tandridge residents are invited to find out more about becoming a local councillor



As part of Local Democracy Week, which runs from 9th-13th October, the Council is inviting anyone living in the district who is interested in becoming a local councillor to an event being held at the Council Offices, Oxted, on Tuesday 10th October from 7.30pm to 9pm. The evening will begin with a short introduction from a number of councillors who will talk about why they chose to serve their communities and what the job entails day-to-day. This will be followed by refreshments and informal group gatherings to give every resident the opportunity to ask questions and find out more. The session will conclude with a short summary of the nomination process for standing as a district council election candidate. Residents can also get in touch if they have any questions about the event. There will also be two drop-in sessions, hosted by staff in the Council Offices. These will take place on Wednesday 11th October and Thursday 12th October, from

12.30pm until 2pm. There is no need to book a place, just pop along. Councillor Gill Black, Chairman of the Council, said: "There has never been a more exciting time to be a local councillor, whether you represent a party or are independent. This is a challenging time in local government and the course we decide on now will contribute to the success of our district and prosperity of our residents and businesses for years to come. We would like to encourage everyone to come along and explore the contribution you can make to the district."

To help plan the event on 10th October, residents wishing to attend are requested to fill in a contact form at [www.tandridge.gov.uk/contact](http://www.tandridge.gov.uk/contact), e-mail [customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk) or call 01883 722000. Thank you.

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# Eating Out

## Try something seasonal at Delhi Kitchen

Review by Julia Church

Situated on the Limpsfield Road in Sanderstead is Delhi Kitchen, an Indian restaurant that prides itself on its seasonal menu. When I visited the restaurant recently with my mum, Pam, the Manager, Ali, said: "We change the menu very regularly to make the most of seasonal produce, and we sometimes have to explain to customers that a favourite dish they are looking for on the menu has gone out of season. They are usually very happy to try a new dish in its place."

The restaurant is bright and spacious with very large windows offering a wonderful view of the sunset over the recreation ground opposite.

Mum chose the Sheek Kebab (minced lamb seasoned with aromatic spices) for her starter and I chose the Vegetable Samosas. Both starters were beautifully presented. The pastry on my samosas was nice and crispy and Mum said her kebabs were quite spicy, but not too hot.

For our mains, I chose a selection from the Vegetable Dishes section of the menu - a Mixed Vegetable Curry, Tarka Dall (lentils and garlic) and one of the seasonal dishes, the Mistee Koduu (spicy butternut squash). Mum chose one of the chef's signature dishes, the Chicken Tikka Nahar (chicken pieces on



The Chicken Tikka Nahar and accompanying vegetable dishes.

a skewer on a bed of spinach in a thick creamy sauce). We shared a portion of mushroom rice and the lentils and squash. We had a bottle of the house wine, a crispy Chardonnay, with our meal. Ali said they are very proud of their carefully selected wine list.

The Chef, Shaju Alom, is the owner of the restaurant, and cooked our food beautifully. Mum said that her chicken was tender, mildly-spiced and juicy, sitting on a lovely bed of spinach. She lives in Sanderstead and said she would definitely be taking advantage of their 15% off collection service soon!

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## Awards ceremony celebrates the "Local Heroes" of Tandridge

The local heroes of Tandridge were celebrated on Saturday 9th September at the Local Heroes Awards hosted at the Tandridge Volunteers' Fair. The Local Heroes Awards is an exciting new initiative designed to recognise the invaluable help and support given by volunteers in our community.

The six awards were presented by local dignitaries including Tandridge Voluntary Service Council Chairman, Peter Damesick, who said: "We are delighted to celebrate the outstanding commitment of local volunteers and to raise the profile of the voluntary sector in Tandridge by running this event. It is good to see so many local charities represented here today."

Councillor David Hodge CBE, Leader of Surrey County Council, said: "The judging process was extremely difficult as there were so many good entries. I would like to congratulate each nominee and also extend my heartfelt thanks to all our local volunteers."

Bruce Reed, Chairman and Manager of Oxted and Limpsfield Barn Theatre and winner of the Lifetime Award, said: "I am delighted, excited and

grateful that the work of 42 years - 31 as Chairman - creating a thriving and well-equipped enterprise with the help of my team of trustees, has been publicly recognised."

Stephanie Watson of Disability Challengers and winner of the Young Volunteer Award, said: "I was so surprised and pleased to win the award. I really enjoy volunteering with Challengers. It is extremely rewarding to support disabled children and young people and see them enjoying themselves taking part in activities and trips out. The team is incredibly supportive and the atmosphere is always welcoming and fun. Oxted Volunteer Centre referred me to Challengers and have supported me on a regular basis by asking how I am doing. I didn't anticipate how much I would get out of volunteering and would definitely recommend it. It is an admirable way to contribute to the community."

Roy Jones, a volunteer driver for the North Tandridge Car Scheme won the Tandridge District Council Chairman's Award, for being an 'Invisible Hero'. Roy said: "It was a bit of a surprise to win but it was brilliant and I hope they do it again next year!"

Other winners included: Service Up To Five Years Award - Peter Lloyd of Furnistore; Service Up To Ten Years Award - Mark Jones of Ridge Radio and the Team Award went to the Caterham Festival Committee.

For more information about volunteering in Tandridge, visit [www.tvsc.org.uk](http://www.tvsc.org.uk).

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## Caterham Sea Cadets share their memories of a trip of a lifetime!

Georgia Myers and Nicole Milton of Caterham Sea Cadets both enjoyed a memorable trip abroad this summer as representatives of the Caterham Unit. Georgia ("AC Myers") travelled to Bermuda on 6th July as part of a British contingent visiting the country with other cadets from Canada and America. During her ten-day visit, AC Myers took part in activities such as archery, surfing, snorkelling and paddle boarding, as well as meeting the Premier and Governor of Bermuda.

On her return, AC Myers said: "My exchange trip to Bermuda is one of the greatest memories I've been a part of with Cadets, and is one I will never forget. I have made friends for life and will hopefully try to get on another exchange if it is possible, as it was honestly the best thing I've done this summer."



The Cadets pose for a group photo in South Korea.



AC Myers, far left, with the Premier of Bermuda, Mr. Michael Dunkley.

Nicole Milton ("POC Milton") left on 29th July to take part in a two-week international exchange to South Korea. Alongside cadets from Canada, Hong Kong and the United States, POC Milton learned about Korean culture, as well as taking part in lots of water sport activities and having lessons in taekwondo.

On returning from her two-week trip, POC Milton said:

"I had an amazing experience and thoroughly enjoyed the time I spent over there, as I learnt a lot about Korea and made some lifelong friends who I hope to see again and it was one of the best opportunities I have done with Sea Cadets."

For more information about Caterham Sea Cadets, visit: <http://www.sea-cadets.org/caterham/>

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## Update on Alabama Rot

by Vet on the Hill, Ian Mathers.

Over the last few years, increasing numbers of people have been asking me about Alabama Rot, more correctly called Cutaneous and Renal Glomerular Vasculopathy ("CRGV"), a disease of dogs which damages the blood vessels of the skin and kidneys. The cause of the disease isn't known, although it is possible that it is caused by bacterial toxins. Symptoms can include redness or swelling of the extremities. Sadly, if the kidneys are affected, the mortality rate can be as high as 85%. The first thing I would like to stress is that CRGV is a very rare condition, with fewer than 100 confirmed cases nationwide in the last five years combined. Secondly, if your dog develops red or inflamed feet, it is extremely unlikely to be CRGV, and more likely to be some other form of skin disease such as an infection or

allergic skin disease. In any case, veterinary attention should be sought. Finally, CRGV does not affect humans.

My take on it is that there's little point in worrying about CRGV because at present there is no proven method of prevention. Far better to protect your dog against comparatively common, potentially fatal, and totally preventable diseases, by ensuring it is fully vaccinated and given a monthly treatment to prevent lungworm.



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## The National Service (RAF) Association

by Peter Stimpson.

National Service was first introduced at the beginning of the Second World War. It continued by successive Acts of Parliament right through to 1960, with the last RAF National Service recruit being demobbed in January 1963. During this period, the world saw many conflicts in places like Korea, Suez, Cyprus, Aden and, nearer to home, the Cold War stand-off in Germany with the USSR in the 1950s.

Some 400,000 young men saw service in the RAF, receiving training in diverse trades such as electricians, engine mechanics, airframe fitters, radio, radar mechanics and operators, cooks, clerks and policemen during this time and are now in their 70s and 80s.

National Service in the RAF brought together 18 year-olds from every part of the United Kingdom and from every walk of life. Many became lifelong friends and are still in touch with each other, but many are not. If they would like to meet up with other now not-so-young lads living in this area,



From left: David Talbot, member of our group and speaker that day, and Linda; Tony Waters, current organiser, and Mary; Peter Stimpson, founder and previous organiser.

the National Service (RAF) Association is there for them. It has 32 branches scattered around the country, and old and new pals from the 1940s and 1950s meet regularly. The local Kenley Branch covers North East Surrey and South West London but is quite happy to see members from outside the area at their regular lunch meetings at The Caterham Arms. In addition to a local newsletter, the Association has a quarterly national magazine 'The Astral'. National membership lists are sent to all new

members, from which they may be able to trace and rekindle old friendships. There is an Annual Reunion and Parade which is held at the National Memorial Arboretum, with the salute and March Past taken by Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Dalton. Other events organised are a weekend summer break, a Mock Burns Weekend in Blackpool and, of course, participation in the London Cenotaph Parade. See advert below for details of our next carvery lunch meeting.

### National Service RAF?

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## Enjoy a warm welcome at Caterham Job Club

by Stephen Bidwell

Caterham Job Club opened over five years ago, with the aim of supporting people who are going through the job seeking process, whether they are unemployed or looking to change employment. It is led by Stephen Bidwell with the help of other volunteers and meets every Thursday at Caterham Community Church between 4.30pm-6.30pm through school term time.

We enjoy welcoming people as we know that job seeking can be a difficult and demoralising time and so there is always tea, coffee and a listening ear available. The format of our meetings is flexible, depending on the needs of the people there, but we will often look at writing or adapting CVs, interview techniques, the transferable skills that people have that could be useful in a different job altogether as well as all the different ways of finding and applying for jobs.

We have a Facebook page that advertises jobs, which can be found at [facebook.com/caterhamcommunityjobclub](https://www.facebook.com/caterhamcommunityjobclub). From time to time we have speakers on a variety of subjects such as debt management, the benefits of volunteering, computer skills and lifestyle tips to help deal with how we feel when we are unemployed. It is often helpful to know that these feelings are a normal reaction to our situation.

Through encouragement and helpful advice, we have seen many people secure jobs and even long-term job seekers have managed to get back into work. It is very rewarding to see people regain their confidence and self-esteem. Job Club is free to attend and there is no commitment required - people can attend as and when it suits them, but one thing is sure, you will always be offered a warm welcome.

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**Music Recital**  
On Saturday 7th October at 2.30pm, the Friends of St. Leonard's Chelsham are presenting a recital in St. Leonard's Church, Church Lane, Chelsham, Warlingham CR6 9PJ. The recital will feature the acclaimed NOVA Guitar duo, Nelly von Alven and Luiz Montovani, who will play a wide repertoire of modern and classical pieces, followed by a tea provided by Nancy Marsh. Entrance is free but a donation to the Friends of St. Leonard's will be gratefully received.  
**Charity Concert**  
On Saturday 7th October at 7.15pm, Caterham Community Choir is presenting a concert at de Stafford School, Burntwood Lane, Caterham in conjunction with, and raising funds for, the League of Friends of Caterham Dene Hospital. The concert will be supported by local artistes including many school children. Entrance £5.

**St. Lawrence's Church Guided Tour**  
A guided tour of the Ancient Church of St. Lawrence's, Church Hill, Caterham-on-the-Hill is taking place on Sunday 8th October. Entrance is £3 for adults, free for children.  
**Jumble Sale**  
A jumble sale is being held at the Methodist Church, Coulsdon Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill (at the junction with William Road) on Saturday 7th October. Doors open 2pm. Entrance 30p.  
**RSPB Talk**  
On Wednesday 11th October from 8pm-10pm, East Surrey RSPB are hosting a talk entitled: "Trinidad and Tobago - Home of the Hummingbird" by Ashley Grove. Entrance is £3 for adults and £1 for children. Refreshments will be served at half-time.  
**Munch with Music**  
The next Munch with Music at St. John's Church,

Caterham Valley, is taking place on Wednesday 4th October featuring a programme of romantic music including works by Brahms, Schubert and Britten performed by Ian Ritchie, baritone and Esther Cavett, piano. Tea and coffee will be served from 12.15pm and the performance will be from 12.45pm-1.30pm. Entrance is free.  
**Old Coulsdon Camera Club**  
On Tuesday 17th October, Old Coulsdon Camera Club is holding its Awards Evening in Cameron Hall, Canon's Hill, Old Coulsdon. The judge will be reviewing the entries that were on display at the Club's recent exhibition. The meeting will take place at 7.45pm for 8pm. Entrance for visitors is £5 (refunded on joining the Club). For more information visit www.oldcoulsdon-cameraclub.org.uk.

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A THREE BEDROOM HALLS ADJOINING SEMI DETACHED HOUSE located on the borders of Caterham and Coulsdon Common. The house has GREAT POTENTIAL to extend to the side (subject to planning permission). **NO ONWARD CHAIN**. EPC: D  
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**OIEO £675,000**



**The Pilgrims,  
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Spacious three bedroom terraced property built in 2016 by Quantum Homes including a high level of specification, en-suite, cloakroom and two allocated parking spaces. EPC B

**Price £435,000**



**Ivy Mill Close,  
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A delightful three bedroom detached property in a popular cul-de-sac close to Godstone Green and within walking distance of a range of local amenities, the property also benefits from a landscaped south facing rear garden. EPC E

**Price £639,950**



**Cedar Court,  
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**CATERHAM HILL**

**GUIDE PRICE £575,000**

A three bedroom detached house with level rear garden, driveway and garage, situated in a popular residential area close to the historic Kenley aerodrome and Coulsdon Common. EPC Rating TBC. UPC2076



**CHALDON**

**GUIDE PRICE £575,000**

A two/three bedroom detached bungalow occupying a well established and secluded position with block paved driveway and detached garage situated in a highly sought after lane in the picturesque village of Chaldon and offered to the market with no onward chain. EPC Rating D. UPC2072



**CATERHAM HILL**

**OIEO £400,000**

An opportunity to acquire a recently refurbished three/four bedroom semi detached house with driveway, recently fitted contemporary kitchen, rear garden and close to local amenities. Viewing highly recommended. EPC Rating D. UPC2062



**CATERHAM VALLEY**

**£175,000**

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