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April 1st sees launch of the Caterham Pothole Club

On Sunday 1st April, an exciting new piece of "hub cap art" appeared near the top of Church Hill in Caterham, on the railings at the junction with Stanstead Road. The hub caps spelled out the words: "Caterham Pothole Club" and were the latest April Fools Day joke for the local community by Andy Parr MBE and his friends. The display, consisting of 125 hubcaps painstakingly tied onto the railings the night before by Andy & Co, had a serious message directed at Surrey Highways, to draw attention to the many potholes that have

formed along Church Road over recent months. Andy said: "I started to collect the hub caps on my walks round to the King and Queen pub in the High Street. So many had been damaged and fallen off cars thanks to accidentally driving through potholes. I think Church Road is particularly bad, possibly the worst road in the area, and I don't know why. It was fully resurfaced about five years ago, around the same time as the High Street and Church Hill, which have both survived a lot better."

Speaking in March about the extra investment Surrey County Council (SCC) is spending on its roads, Cabinet Member for Highways, Colin Kemp, said: "We know our road network is under-funded by central government and we are not able to maintain our roads at the levels our residents expect. SCC cabinet has taken the decision to invest an additional £5 million in these roads to help reverse the impact of the winter's weather. This will deliver 33 larger schemes, 300 smaller schemes and 22 miles of surface dressing to seal the repaired roads. This work will be done on our very busy B and C roads that our residents use to get to and from work. "We will talk to local members



The April Fools Day hub cap display at the top of Church Hill. Photo by "Nige T".

and local highways teams to build a picture of where this work is needed. Our commitment is to start to deliver the smaller schemes during next month and the larger schemes in June/July this year. In the meantime we will continue to respond to any defects that are reported on our network."

To report a pothole visit: <https://bit.ly/2Hwz4G4>. To hear Colin Kemp's full statement visit: <https://bit.ly/2qIN7O3>. Visit Facebook to join the Public Group "Caterham Pothole Club" to view photos, updates and opinions about the condition of local roads.

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Caterham's Got Talent!

More than 350 children took part in a colouring competition to transform Caterham Valley into a temporary art gallery during the Easter holidays.

Nearly 30 runners up were displayed in shops and business windows throughout the town, and the two overall winners took pride of place at Caterham Galleries.

Children as young as three and up to the age of 11 took part in the competition, organised by Caterham Valley for You as part of its Colour Caterham initiative.

"We were astounded by the ideas and quality of the artwork, which made the job of judging very hard work," said Caterham Galleries owner, Jodie Green, who helped judge the competition alongside her colleagues, June Allen and Sam Pattinson.

After much deliberation, a stunning picture of a special flag for Caterham, drawn by 11-year-old Finley Drayton from Audley Primary School, and images of the town in different seasons, created by Harry Lyles-Clarke, aged six, from Essendene Lodge School, were chosen as the overall winners in their respective age groups.

Both had their artwork professionally framed and were presented with them this week at Caterham Galleries. As well as the children's competition, the Colour Caterham initiative saw the town transformed overnight with guerilla knitting hung from lampposts, trees and railings. Many local schools crafted giant artwork which was also displayed in shops and business windows.

"For two very special weeks, people stopped talking about potholes or the terrible weather and instead talked about the wonderful knitting and artwork," said Andrew Browne, Chairman of Caterham Valley for You. "Colour Caterham has



Harry Lyles-Clarke, left, and Finley Drayton with their framed artwork presented to them by Caterham Galleries. They are pictured with Andrew Browne and, from left to right: Caterham Galleries' Sam Pattinson, June Allen and Jodie Green.

brought together the local community and the town's businesses and it has been a pleasure to see so many people get involved, especially children."

Kenley couple, Walter and Jill, celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary

"The secrets to a long marriage are shared interests, patience and mutual respect", say Kenley couple, Walter and Jill Tassera, who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with their family in Suffolk, on Thursday 8th March. Walter, from Lake Maggiore in Northern Italy and Jill from Caterham met in 1956 when they were both working at hotels in the Channel Islands. The couple married in All Saints Church in Kenley on 8th March 1958 and have two daughters, Gisella and Samantha and two grandchildren, Ruby and Kyle. Over the past ten years they have opened their garden to the public for various charities, organised by Jill with her theatre background, and held various events at the local Memorial Hall in Kenley. Walter has been a member of Croham Hurst Golf Club for 30 years.



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Whyteleafe Village Council makes grant awards

Whyteleafe Village Council is pleased to announce that at its last meeting councillors were able to award two grants to great organisations that will help the village stay safe.

Local resident, Celia Rudland, who chairs the council said: "It is great that we can support the local Neighbourhood Watch schemes that help protect our village from crime. We also gave £500 to the "Safe Drive Stay Alive" campaign run by Surrey Fire and Rescue to help young drivers stay safe."

The council awards grants to local organisations twice a year. The council was unable to accept an application from the local fete this year as the application did not provide sufficient information.

Councillor Rudland said: "Any community groups in Whyteleafe who would benefit from a small grant from the council can go to our website, www.whyteleafecouncil.org.uk to find out more."

The application deadline for the next round is Sunday 30th September 2018.

Grange Park, Old Coulsdon, hosts a day of Easter Fun

by James Highsted

Scores of families had an eggcellent time taking part in Grange Park's Easter Eggstravaganza Egg Trail in Old Coulsdon on Saturday 31st of March.

In addition to the Egg Trail, there was face painting, a BBQ and, to the delight of youngsters, an appearance from the Easter Bunny. The event was raising money for new facilities for Grange Park, including a perimeter pathway, outdoor table tennis tables and gym equipment.

The Friends of Grange Park raised £100,000 to improve the play area for under-12s in 2016.

Chairman of the Friends, Cllr. Chris Wright, said: "The Friends of Grange Park are raising another £100,000 for new equipment, and we are about halfway there so far. The play area is for the under 12s but we want facilities for over 12s and people of any age.

"We will have a double stall at the Rotary Club Fair in Old Coulsdon this July and we will be providing activities for kids and providing information on the new facilities. We will also be able to gain more feedback from people about what equipment they



Kitty Sleight, age 5, with the Easter Bunny. Photos by James Highsted.



Dean Miranda with his son Dylan and daughter Ava with their Easter Egg prizes.

would like to see in the park." For more information on the plans for the new equipment visit: www.friendsof-grangepark.com.

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Maui Jim sunglasses won't change the world, but Rob Eatwell from Rawlings Opticians explains how they changed the way he sees it.

As I was venturing off to the sunny tropics, I knew it was important to protect myself from the dangers of harmful UV light. I didn't want any more age related wrinkles or sunburnt eyelids, so settled on a stylish pair of Maui Jim sunglasses. Wrapping close to my face, I understood why they are approved by The Skin Cancer Foundation - these gave me total protection from the sun's rays. Whilst paddling in the shallow wa-

ters, I could clearly define the amazing tropical colours of the fish, as my Maui Jim's had polarized glare protection and a mirrored coating for clarity control - it was almost like the sunglasses were squinting for me!

Relaxing back on the beach, I knew it was important to protect my skin too, but my greasy fingerprints were now on my new sunglass lenses. Thankfully, they are super durable and have a hydrophobic coating on them, to make cleaning very easy. Laying back to read the next encounter of Harry Potter, I realised I had forgotten to bring my reading glasses - being 48 years of age is no fun! I thought that I really must get my Maui Jim's with prescription lenses next time, so I could catch up

on the adventures of the most famous wizard. We all know that J.K. Rowling has produced the most magical of tales, but not so many realise the magic of Maui Jim.

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Knights announce winners of painting competition

On Monday 9th April, the winners of the Knights Spring Flower Painting Competition were presented with their prizes in a special ceremony at Woldingham Dene, next to Knights Garden Centre. Mr Frank Holland, manager of Chelsham Knights, congratulated the winners and thanked them for entering the competition, then Mrs Knight presented the winners with their prizes. There were over 80 entries in the competition and almost 100 Knights' customers voted for the winners.

Eight-year-old Heather King from Brockham, winner of the Under 12s category said: "I am very happy to have won first prize because I love painting and would like to be an artist when I grow up!"

Second in the Under 12s was Chloe Wilson and 3rd was Isabelle Bottomley. Isabelle's aunty and uncle received her prize on her behalf because she was on holiday.

In the Teens category, Tyler Edwards came first, Ethan Edwards came second and Helen Pritchard came third and in the Over 20s category, Josephine Gowers came first, Rosemary Seymour came second and Alan Holmes (on holiday) came third.



From left: Rosemary Seymour, Heather King, Chloe Wilson, Ethan Edwards, Tyler Edwards and Helen Pritchard.

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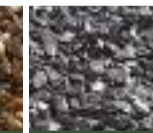
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Youngsters celebrate opening of new playground

On Wednesday 18th April, local councillors, residents and children from the local nurseries celebrated the official opening of the new playground in the old Caterham Barracks, now known as The Village.

Following a short speech by Matthew Ashmore, a director of The Village Association, Chief Executive of Tandridge District Council, Louise Round, announced the playground open. The play area, which cost £40,000, was installed by play

equipment provider eibe and features a number of different pieces of equipment to suit a wide age group of children. The project has been supported by Tandridge District Council, Caterham-on-the-Hill Parish Council, Caterham Barracks Community Trust and The Village Association. In December, by agreement with the parties, Tandridge District Council secured the freehold for the play area and work to install the new equipment began shortly afterwards. The project was funded by money the residents pay to Caterham Barracks Community Trust ("CBCT") and a generous donation by Caterham-on-the-Hill Parish Council.



Louise Round and her young assistants cut the ribbon.



Youngsters trying out the new playground equipment.

Local geocachers commemorate RAF's 100th anniversary

On Easter Sunday, 1st April, the local group of Caterham Geocachers held a special event at Kenley Airfield to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the formation of the RAF.

Geocachers explore the country looking for objects hidden by others, and which are found by using GPS technology. The focus of this event was



Andy Hawk cutting the cake.

the RAF, and a way in which non-military personnel could acknowledge what the service has done in its time. The organisers put out flags on the airfield including the RAF Ensign and the 100 Year Flag, cut a special birthday cake and held a paper aeroplane competition. The competition was interrupted at 11am for a minute's silence, then the certificates were handed out. Peter Whitefriar received a certificate for the Most

Acrobatic Flight. The Most Accurate Landing was a draw between Matt Richard and Hilary Lasser; the Longest Flight went to Billy Winston and the Plane That Was Thrown The Highest was won by Jonno Cowell.

To find out more about geocaching in the area, research Surrey Geocaching or The League of Extraordinary Cachers. Both groups meet every month and welcome and assist all newcomers.

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Kelvin brings a wealth of experience to his role as head coach, having played at a high level at clubs including AFC Wimbledon, Millwall (Youth), Dulwich Hamlet and Welsh Premier League side, TNS. Kelvin has played with a number of professional players and some of them have agreed to attend Kelvin's training sessions when they are available.

Kelvin says: "Children simply want to play football and have fun, so that is what we do. We create fun, technical sessions which will not only improve their playing skills but improve their fitness, activity, enjoyment and other motor skills such as confidence

building, communication and teamwork that add benefit to other areas of their life. I am a local Caterham resident, love the area and want to contribute to the community."

Kelvin has an FA coaching badge with Surrey FA, which he is progressing to a higher stage. He is CRB/DBS clear, First Aid qualified, safeguarding qualified and talent identification qualified.

At Football Start, children receive one hour of coaching expertise from Kelvin and his assistant Gary, who helps run an under 12s side in the Sutton little league. The sessions take place outside at Townend Recreation ground in the summer and indoors at a local school in the winter. The children are coached ten kids to one coach, split according to age. The first session is free and costs £6 per session thereafter.

There are four progress stages from 1-4 which motivates the children to progress as their skills improve. As they go up through the stages they are rewarded with trophies, medals and certificates. Kelvin invites local clubs to come and have a look at the children who have reached level 4.

See www.footballstart.co.uk for more information.



Kelvin alongside some of his many football trophies.



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Open Garden at The Chalet supports St. Catherine's Hospice

David Gold and Lesley opened their magnificent garden to the public for two weekends over Easter to raise cash for St. Catherine's Hospice and The National Garden Scheme. The weather was not as good as it was last year, but the Open Days were still well attended. Visitors enjoyed home-made cakes, classic cars, stalls by St. Catherine's Hospice and Caterham and District Horticultural Society and a lively programme of live music organised by local singer, John Lazenby.



David Gold with Beth Wood of Prospero Theatre.

Exciting new events lined up for the Caterham Festival 2018

The Caterham Festival kicks off at the end of May and there will be a number of new events taking place for the community to enjoy. Local groups will be showcasing activities such as learning a new hobby or improving your social life at a new event taking place at the Soper Hall in Caterham Valley on Saturday 16th June. On Sunday 1st July, the Soper Hall will also be presenting two live radio plays followed by a discussion, in conjunction with Ridge Radio.

As part of Caterham's commemorations of the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War, the Caterham Festival will be holding a Poetry Trail. Nine sites in Caterham will host a war poem displayed on a distinctive sign for the duration of the Festival. However on the 27th May, between 2pm and 4pm, five sites will each have a local actor or actors in period costume reading the poem and other poetry for ten minutes, allowing a few minutes for the public to then move on to the next site. The

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The daffodils at The Chalet. Photos by Sonia Hunt.

sites are the Asprey Fountain in The Square, Caterham Valley; St. Lawrence's churchyard at the top of Church Hill; outside the British Legion and Ex-Servicemen's Club in Townend, Caterham-on-the-Hill; outside the library in Westway, Caterham-on-the-Hill and beside the beacon on Westway.

This event is supported by The Miller Centre, Prospero Theatre, The Harlequin and other local acting groups. Further details about all the Caterham Festival events can be found in the Festival brochure, being delivered in and around Caterham with this paper, or on the Caterham Festival 2018 website.



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Chaldon WI launches history book with royal approval

by James Highsted

On Thursday 12th April, Chaldon Women's Institute (WI) launched a book about their history to celebrate their centenary at Caterham Valley library, and with a copy sent to Her Majesty The Queen!

Chaldon WI: "A Hundred Years of History 1918-2018" chronicles every decade of the group's existence, including recipe ideas, trips and outings and their efforts during the Second World War. Artefacts, which included archive photographs, a patchwork quilt produced in 1925 and a letter of thanks for the book from Her Majesty's Lady-in-Waiting, Annabel Whitehead, were on display for visitors.

A passage from each decade was read to visitors by different members of the Chaldon WI, during a book-reading. Gillian Weaver, President of the Chaldon WI, said: "The group is really proud of the book. It took us about two years to put it together, with different members writing and researching different chapters.

"Our secretary, Maureen



Chaldon WI members with copies of the new book.

Messett, wrote to The Queen saying that we were making the book. The Queen is a member of the Sandringham WI and it's their centenary next year. We received a letter back from the Lady-in-Waiting saying The Queen would very much like to have a copy of the book, and now she has one.

"We have another centenary celebration at Chaldon Village Hall on Saturday 23rd June that will be open to the public. There will be another history display, activities and of course tea and cake. We would very much like people to attend."

Copies of the book will soon be available from Caterham-on-the-hill and Caterham Valley libraries as well as East Surrey Museum.



Chaldon WI President, Gillian Weaver, giving an introduction to the book. Photos by James Highsted.

In the meantime, copies can be obtained by contacting committee members via their website: www.chaldonwi.btck.co.uk.



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Diary of a Plantaholic

by Sue Baines

Suddenly there is everything to do, even though I am not opening the garden this year. The light levels are soaring and after months of trying to find enough light, I am having, on sunny days, to give shade and ventilation to lots of the over-wintered plants. Before hardening them off outside, I have given the tender cuttings and conservatory plants a dose of Nematodes (for vine weevil). It's so easy to move a couple of infected plants around the garden, ignorantly spreading the problem. Geoff has taken out the misshapen espalier apple trees that formed a barrier to stop our young nieces and nephews climbing on the wall. They have never been productive and have been replaced by rope, as similar as possible to rope on the other side.

Various Clematis collected over the last year with well-established roots have been planted in soil from our compost bins. I have used Rootgrow as there is a lot of gravel at one end, and



Sue Baines

Clematis really thrive on deep, rich, moisture-retentive soil. Hopefully this will help the roots to establish in less than ideal conditions. If they don't look happy at the end of the summer I will just have to take the soil out at that end.

I have started to feed lots more, now that the plants are really growing, in the hope that as they start to grow, the winter "burnt" leaves will be shed for fresh new growth. If the plants still appear dead I will lightly scrape the bark to see if there is any sign of life before replacing them.

After quite a cold spring I will be keeping the fleece handy in case there is a sudden cold snap, although hopefully, summer is just around the corner.

QUICK QUIZ

by Alec Herbert

Five questions which all have an association with Britain's favourite topic of conversation - the weather!

1. Which detective was created by the writer R D Wingfield?
2. What was the name of Tin Tin's dog?
3. Which of the Beatles wrote "Here Comes the Sun"?
4. Who was the Roman god of thunder?
5. Tradition says if it rains on St. Swithin's Day it will rain for the next forty days. On what date is St. Swithin's Day?

1. Jack Frost;
2. SNOWY;
3. George Harrison;
4. Jupiter;
5. 15th July.

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Council Chairman holds Civic Reception to thank volunteers

On Wednesday 18th April, the Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Councillor Gill Black and Mr Jeff Black hosted a Civic Reception and Dinner for the Voluntary Sector at Bletchingley Golf Club. The event was held in recognition of the huge amount of unpaid work done by volunteers to help make Tandridge a better place to live. Guests included representatives from the Scout movement, Rotary International, Churches Together and many other local organisations.



Cllr. Gill Black and her husband Jeff with her PA Diane Pike (centre), who organised the event.

During her speech, Cllr. Black thanked guests for their contributions to the community. For more information about local volunteering opportunities, visit www.tva.org.uk.



Caterham Town Crier Sonia Hunt and other guests at the Dinner.

Prospero Theatre launches "Inspiring Change" Festival

Caterham based Prospero Theatre have partnered up with Mind Fitness to produce Inspiring Change, a Festival of plays and wrap-around events celebrating a positive and compassionate approach to mental health. The Festival runs from 13th May to 24th June and many of the events are in the Caterham area.

"As well as great theatre and dance companies taking part we have some really exciting talks, seminars, films, workshops, poetry and art," says Prospero's director, Beth Wood. "Both the plays and the other events span the widest possible range of subjects and styles around the mental health theme. We are keen to create an atmosphere that is uplifting, supportive and inspiring."

The Festival has something for everyone, with workshops and events for both children and adults.

Beth said: "People are very interested in mental health and how they can take best care of themselves and others. The seminars and workshops will give really valuable informa-

tion to help people build simple and effective techniques into their daily lives."

Due in part to the work of Prince William and Prince Harry, the mental health conversation has begun and is gathering volume. Prospero hope that Inspiring Change will ask questions and raise awareness, and also profile some of the great work that is already going on.

For a full list of plays and events and to book, go to www.mindfitness.training.

If you have any questions about the Festival please contact Beth Wood on bethwood@prosperotheatre.com.

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Ross's friendly doodlers, and the winner will have the opportunity to see it go up in person from the inside of the shop and speak to the talented doodle artists. The winner will also receive a Ross Cycles £50 gift voucher to spend by the end of 2018. There is no cash alternative. To view the rules and guidelines visit www.rosscycles.co.uk. The closing date is Thursday 28th June 2018 and the winner will be announced on the website on Friday 29th June. Please call Ross on 01882 331414 if you have any questions.



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What's On

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St. Mary's May Fair

St. Mary's Church, Caterham-on-the-Hill, is holding its May Fair on Saturday 12th May from 11am-2pm with crafts and gifts, food and treats, fun activities, plants, a raffle and lots more. Entry £1 for adults, accompanied children free.

Charity Quiz Night

The Tandridge Friends of St. Catherine's Hospice are holding a Quiz Night on Saturday 12th May at 7pm for 7.30pm at The Community Centre, High Street, Caterham CR3 5UE. Teams of eight maximum. £12 for adults, £6 for children. Buffet included. Call 01883 344797 to book tickets.

RSPCA Boot Fair

South Godstone RSPCA, Eastbourne Road, RH9 8JB, are holding a Boot Sale on Sunday 13th May from 10am-2pm. Admission by donation for buyers. Sellers, £10 per vehicle, £3 extra for a trailer. Pay on entry. No need to book. Dogs welcome on a lead.

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Kentwyns Lodge, Nutfield - £625,000

A unique Grade II listed three bedroom home overflowing with character features and forming part of an original 18th century Manor House. Set in a semi-rural location with delightful countryside close by yet close to a range of amenities. Nutfield and Redhill Train Stations nearby offer services to London. Junction 6 of the M25 motorway is within easy reach.



Flint Hall Cottage, Godstone - £995,000

Flint Hall Cottage is an attractive family house set in grounds extending to approximately 2.25 acres. This character home is approached through a private gated entrance to a long private driveway with parking, garage, parking barn for 4 cars outbuilding/store. The landscaped gardens are a lovely feature of the property, which is situated in the Greenbelt, less than a mile from Godstone Village and junction 6 of the M25.

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Friars Cottage, Pains Hill, Limsfield - £425,000

An attractive Grade II listed property circa 1492 with later additions in 1800's. It offers a wealth of original features, character and appeal as well as 3 double bedrooms. Pains Hill is a sought after and highly regarded country lane, within one mile of Limsfield Chart and 2 miles of Oxted Town Centre with its mainline railway links to London.



Surrey View, Godstone - £575,000

A unique 2/3 bedroom first floor apartment with approximately 1280 sq ft of living space. Ideally located in Godstone Village with outstanding views over the Green. Features include high ceilings, original sash windows and beautiful open fire places. Located in the heart of historic Godstone village and within moments of the village green, pond and local amenities.

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OIEO £800,000

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CATERHAM

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A rarely available four double bedroom detached family home occupying a well established level position with driveway and integral garage situated in a highly sought after cul-de-sac location and offered to the market with no onward chain. EPC Rating: D UPC2173



KENLEY

£710,000

An attractive three double bedroom detached chalet style bungalow set in well established grounds with driveway and garage situated in a highly sought after private road in the popular village of Kenley. EPC Rating: D UPC2143



KENLEY

£689,950

A well presented four double bedroom detached house occupying a well established level position with car port and garage to side offering further potential for extension subject to planning permission situated in a highly sought after cul-de-sac in the popular village of Kenley. EPC Rating: E UPC2094



CATERHAM HILL

£575,000

A deceptively spacious and well appointed four bedroom three storey town house with driveway and integral garage with views over village market green to boot situated on the highly sought after and unique Village development. EPC Rating: C UPC2168



CATERHAM HILL

OIEO £350,000

A larger than average two bedroom apartment situated in the sought after Country Point retirement complex on the unique Village development in Darenth on the Hill. Viewing highly recommended. EPC Rating: C UPC2169



CATERHAM HILL

£365,000

A three bedroom house with driveway to front and level landscaped rear garden situated in a popular residential road. EPC Rating: BDC UPC2171



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