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September 2008

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We did it!

de Stafford pupils celebrate GCSE success

- see page 2



de Stafford pupils Crispin Makokoro (left) from Zimbabwe and Hamid Moudi from Iran both came to England just two years ago and despite having to get to grips with a new culture and language, both achieved six A-C's in their GCSE's. Both will be going to Reigate College, Crispin to study Business Studies and Hamid to study Computing. Crispin said: "I have had a great time at de Stafford and made loads of friends, but I've worked hard so I'm very pleased with my results."

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Congratulations to de Stafford!

(continued from page 1)

Following a roller-coaster year, de Stafford School has, in the words of head-teacher Mark Phillips, "Broken the barrier" with its GCSE results this summer. The results showed a huge increase to 55% for five A*-C grades, which is a marked increase from 36% last year. Despite a very positive Ofsted report, in June the school was included in the Government's list of 638 failing schools that could face closure, leaving staff at the school appalled. "The government should have waited before publishing its list," said Mr Phillips. "We have reached our targets and this is a group of pupils to be proud of." The number of students that achieved five A*-C grades, including Maths and English, has leapt from 27% last year to 40% this year.

This incredible increase comes as no surprise to staff, governors and students at the school as it is an outcome of a programme of school improvement that has been implemented over the last four years.

"It is fantastic news," said the Chair of Governors, Ros Langham.

"I am so thrilled. After all the criticism we have had this year we have shown we can do it and you have to congratulate the students as well as the staff. I am thrilled for the students and thrilled for the school."

Pupil Billy Williams, who achieved six A*'s said: "I am feeling very bemused, but I was hoping for it! It's all a bit unreal at the moment!" His proud mum Kerry said: "We'll definitely be going out to celebrate - there'll be champagne corks popping tonight!"



Smiles all round as pupils celebrate their success.



Billy Williams (centre) who achieved six A*'s with mum Kerry and brother Joe.

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The Chaldon Fete



Jack Lewis, 11, from Chaldon tests his strength.

The rain miraculously held off for the Annual Chaldon Fete on August Bank Holiday Monday, despite dark clouds threatening to put a dampner on things. Hundreds flocked to the popular event, a favourite annual outing for local residents and visitors from out of town.

Last year the Fete distributed £6,500 to local charities and it is hoped that a similar sum or more will be

raised this year. St Peter and St Paul CofE Infant School once again hosted the fete in their school field. Colourful bouncy castles, a host of stalls, a fire engine, beer tent and live band all contributed to the fun and it seemed that every other visitor had brought a four legged friend with them! As always, the dog show was hugely popular, with the animals and owners on their best behaviour!



The Polygon Dixie Jazz Band in full swing



Sheila makes her selection from the large plant stall.



Dog show judge, Lucy Barrett, checking over one of the many entrants.



Faf Peay, 7, fancies winning a delicious basket of fruit.

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Burtenshaw's Beat

by Tandrige Neighbourhood Inspector Elaine Burtenshaw

The Caterham-on-the-Hill Safer Neighbourhood Team were delighted to see so many people at last month's Panel Meeting. More than 60 residents attended the meeting at Linden Homes with lots of them providing input which will help my team prioritise policing in the area. A number of issues were discussed including anti-social behaviour in Queens Park, burglaries in the area and speeding concerns. Neighbourhood Specialist Officer PC Craig Roberts explained the benefits of establishing a local Neighbourhood Watch in the area and I hope that is something residents will be



keen to pursue and set up. At the meeting it was agreed the three top priorities for my officers to tackle are anti-social behaviour in Queens Park, speeding concerns in Ninehams Road and gate issues in Green Lane. The next meeting will be later this month on Tuesday, 30th September. I know PC Roberts and the team look forward to seeing as many people as possible. Last month officers from my team carried out a raid at a suspected brothel in Caterham. We acted on in-

formation from the community and searched a property in Croydon Road. As a result of that three women were arrested and have been released on police bail while enquiries continue. I am keen to stress that Surrey Police takes all issues such as this very seriously as they have a detrimental effect on the quality of life in the community. I hope our pro-active action reassures residents that we do listen to their concerns and will take action on the information we receive. Throughout September Surrey Police is running a campaign to raise awareness of the local Safer Neighbourhood Team officers. A roadshow will take place on Saturday, 20th September, from 10.30am to 4pm at Morrisons, Oxted, where you can come along and meet officers from my team.

Apply early for school places

Surrey County Council is asking parents to act early for a better chance of getting their child into their preferred school. From 1st September parents can apply online for school places for 2009. This quick and easy method even allows parents to change their selection up to the closing date for applications (23rd October for primary places and 24th October for secondary places). Applications that miss the deadline will have to be put to one side until after all the other applications are processed, reducing the chances of getting into a preferred school. Parents can still apply by post, but this process is slower and there will not be the opportunity to change preferences once they have been submitted. Peter Martin, Surrey County Council's Executive Member for Schools, Children and Youth Services said: "We want to do all we can to get parents the places they want for their children, and they have a better chance of getting one of their preferred schools if they apply on time." For more information visit www.surreycc.gov.uk

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Caterham's local Space Maker store in Redhill offers storage for all shapes and sizes, with flexible hours and its motto: 'Clean, Dry, Secure' sums up the quality of storage they offer. The obvious reasons for using storage are house moves, redecoration and extra office space. However, store manager John Kane has seen a variety of items pass through Space Maker's door - ladies storing their winter clothing collections; a rock band who needed a place for their equipment whilst not on tour and even aeroplane parts have at some point resided in Space Maker, Redhill. John also had a good tip for those attempting to sell

their houses; de-clutter. Storage is the perfect compromise for those well-loved items that simply cannot be thrown out but are not helping in the sale of your house. The larger rooms at the Space Maker site can hold the entire contents of a five-bedroom house, and the smallest is a 1m locker, so there is a size to fit every need. Space Maker's location is just ten minutes from Caterham, just off the A23 close to the Holmethorpe Industrial Estate. More information and opening hours are available at www.spacemaker.co.uk, or you can contact Space Maker, Redhill directly on 01737 645454.



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In the Spotlight

Each month we put a local personality or resident in the spotlight. This month we feature Chaldon resident, Geoff Fane, proprietor of Caterham Auto Repairs, producer of the new Hurricane sports car and motor racing driver.



Pastimes: My pets; motor racing (single seater circuit racing)

Birthplace: Croydon

Likes: Being happy and taking positive measures to be happy; motor racing

Marital Status: Married

Dislikes: Politics; petty bureaucracy

Children: Two daughters

Favourite TV show: Top Gear and documentaries

Cars: Lots, but my favourite to drive every day is my Mini

Pets: Birds – finches, chicken, geese etc.

Favourite books: Non fiction, mainly motoring books

Childhood hero: Yogi Bear

Favourite song of all time: 'I'm Not in Love' by 10CC

Favourite Food & Drink: Peanut butter; water

Favourite holiday destination: The Cotswolds

Biggest influence on your life: Motor racing

Who would you most like to throw a custard pie at? Politicians and other such dignitaries

Proudest moment: The birth of my daughters; success in motor racing

Most embarrassing moment: Being centre stage in front of a crowd of 500 people, receiving congratulations for performing well in a fitness test

Where would you most like to live? In England, in a little wooden hut in the middle of nowhere.

Who would you most like to meet? I would have loved to have met the late racing driver, Giles Villeneuve

If you won the Lottery jackpot, how would you spend it? Pursuing full time motor racing



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Take a guided tour of St. Lawrence's

The Guild of Friends of St. Lawrence's Church in Church Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill, have been sharing some of the secrets of this ancient church, the oldest building in Caterham, in a series of guided tours. The next and final tour takes place on Sunday, 14th September at 3pm. Entrance £2.00 for adults, children free.



The Ancient Church of St. Lawrence - Photo by Katie Barker

Tandridge Community Fund

Next month sees the launch of the new Tandridge Community Fund, an initiative being introduced by a panel chaired by Mike Moss, of the Tandridge Voluntary Council. The new charitable foundation will be part of the Surrey Community Foundation (SCF) which was set up two years ago. Having built up a fund of nearly £1m, the SCF is now in a position to issue grants from the interest to charitable groups in Surrey.

As reported in The Caterham Independent last month, the SCF recently made a successful bid to the government for 'Grassroots' funding of £1m over the next three years. A further £1m will be

available by match funding of £1 for every £2 donation received by the Foundation. This means that by being part of the SCF, the Tandridge fund will qualify for match-funding, providing a very cost effective way to give to a charity that will direct its funds towards local Tandridge organisations. The launch event will be taking place at Oxted Community Hall on Monday, 20th October at 7pm. The Tandridge Community Fund panel want to raise £100,000 in donations to get the fund off to a strong start and will be inviting donors to the launch event. If you would like more information about making a possible donation to help the Tandridge Community Fund get off to a great start, please call Mike Moss on 01883 713322.

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Knife crime and young people

by Mark Phillips

Head teacher of de Stafford School

I am sure that there cannot be a parent who is not deeply worried by the sudden rise in the number of knife attacks and murders that have occurred involving teenagers. South London and Croydon have been particular hotspots. Whilst I know parents are worried, children are scared, and fear is the excuse that many teenagers give for carrying a knife in the first place. So, we have a vicious circle, teenagers scared so they carry a knife to protect themselves, they feel threatened by a situation and so pull their knife out, and we know what the outcome of this situation can be.

The school does have an important role to play in educating teenagers about the dangers of carrying knives. Through assemblies and citizenship lessons we make

them aware of the devastating impact it will have on their lives if they commit a knife crime. We encourage them to think about the victims and their families. We present them with the consequences for their own life of serving a long prison sentence, and living with a criminal record. In certain cases we have even taken students to a prison where they have met and spoken to young men serving life sentences, and who make clear how much they regret their actions. So from a school's perspective we are being proactive and I hope at times hard hitting and, where necessary, reactive by working closely with the police and regularly sharing information.

However, it must be remembered that schools only work with young people for a small part of the



time; the real decisions about the way teenagers behave and live their lives are made by parents. It is parents who set the boundaries, influence where their children spend their spare time, what they do and who they do it with.

It has to be remembered that the vast majority of teenagers are good, responsible citizens who treat each other with high levels of respect. de Stafford is full of fantastic young people who are eager to play their part in creating a safe, positive, caring and supportive community. However, what all of them need are adults that give them fairly and consistently applied rules that enable them to thrive and grow.

Local guiding news

by District Commissioner, Charley Formosa

During the past few weeks I have been busy visiting some of the units in the District. One evening found me with Chaldon Rainbows, who held a camp-themed evening in the Leader's garden. The girls sang camp songs, took part in a treasure trail based on things to do with camping and then had a picnic. It was a great evening, finishing with the Rainbows saying goodbye to a number of girls who have now moved up to Brownies. I have also visited a couple of Guide companies at their Summer camps, and really enjoyed meeting the girls and getting to know them a bit more. Guide camps usually have a theme, with each patrol having a name dictated by the theme. One of the camps I visited was themed 'Bugs' and I was amazed at the beautiful patrol flags the girls had produced. The other camp was all to do with Cowboys and Indians, and I was taken aback to be greeted by five fantastically decorated totem poles. The girls thoroughly enjoy these camps even though they work hard

and do things that they would not dream of doing at home; it is a time for them to get right away from everything they take for granted, and to learn to look after themselves and others. Camps are hard work for the adults as well and they spend a lot of time planning to make sure the girls are safe and happy. I think they deserve a very big pat on the back!

Woldingham Brownies recently did a sponsored walk for the R.S.P.C.A. and raised £180.50, so well done to all those girls.

September sees the start of the new term in Guiding, with Woldingham Senior Section holding its first meeting on the 11th September. Also on the subject of Senior Section girls, Caterham and Tilburstow Districts are proud to have had ten girls selected to act as stewards at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday – good luck to them.

Finally, we urgently need a new Guide Leader for the Guides in South Godstone as the current Leader has had to give up due to work commitments. If you would like to find out more about this, or anything else to do with Guiding in Caterham or Tilburstow, please contact Charley Formosa, District Commissioner, on 01883 653356.

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Katy joins East Surrey Museum

This summer, a new full-time Heritage Development Officer started a three-year contract at the East Surrey Museum in Caterham Valley to implement the Heritage Lottery Project to bring out 'Hidden Stories' of East Surrey's heritage. Until last April, Katy Potter taught history at the Norton Knatchbull Grammar School for Boys in Ashford. "I've always loved history and education so I'm enjoying the outreach side of my new role," said Katy.

Katy is helping schools in Tandridge to research and interpret the history of Godstone, Bletchingley and Oxted through art, drama and exhibitions.

"This summer we have been working with local primary schools, putting together starter resources and helping school children to research the 'hidden stories' of their local area," explained Katy.

"Next year we will be working with the older children and will be focusing mainly on the history of the three asylums that were in Tandridge and the history of



Katy Newton, second right, with museum volunteers, left to right: Elvey Humphreys, Kath McCarthy and Doreen Middleton

Caterham Barracks." East Surrey Museum is open 10am-5pm Wednesdays and Saturdays and 2pm-5pm on Sundays.

For more information call 01883 340275, e-mail east-surreymuseum@btconnect.com or you can visit their website: www.eastsurreymuseum.org

Quick Quiz

by Alec Herbert

All answers begin with 'A'

1. Little Rock is capital of which of the United States?
2. What is the birthstone for February?
3. From which creature is mohair obtained?
4. Jerusalem and Globe are varieties of which vegetable?
5. Which Scottish football club play at Somerset Park and are nicknamed the Honest Men?

Answers:

1. Arkansas
2. Amethyst
3. Angora Goat
4. Artichoke
5. Ayr United

A trip down memory lane



This fascinating photograph was taken outside The Valley pub in Croydon Road which for years was known as The Commonwealth Tavern. It was sent to Caterham resident, Ann Lardeur, by a lady who's grandfather lived in Caterham about a century ago. He was John Laker, a member of the Salvation Army, so it might have a Salvation Army connection as the citadel used to be next door to the pub.

The charabanc was hired from Charles Taylor of 36 Grant Road, Croydon. Registration no. BY 4074.

"The lady who sent me the photograph would love to know more about it and so would the Surrey History Centre," said Ann.

If anyone has information, please can you contact The Caterham Independent on 01883 346641 or e-mail: editor@caterham-independent.co.uk

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Oasis academy :coulsdon

This September sees the opening of an exciting new generation of school in Coulsdon, The Oasis Academy. Open to pupils from ages 11-16 of both sexes, Oasis will guide students through the vital GCSE years encouraging them to work towards their strengths, whatever they may be. The Academy aims to work not only with its students, but also the local community in order to develop student-community relations and produce conscientious students and citizens. The Academy's motto 'Our Partnership for Success' reflects its core aims for schooling.

"We have a positive attitude towards students and their capabilities, which in turn will feed the students' desire to learn," said Oasis Academy Principal, John Murphy. "We use individual learning plans to personalise learning

in order to pinpoint and develop the gifts and talents of every student."

In their quest for education the students are guided by professional, highly qualified members of staff who value all achievements, understanding these are different from student to student. This personal approach to schooling is one aspect that sets the Oasis Academy apart and marks it out as a truly 21st Century school.

The school's broad curriculum gives its pupils more choice, which is complemented by a specialism in science and technology with business and enterprise. Everything students need to equip them for lifelong learning can be gained at the Oasis Academy where the focus is on education, not only of pupils, but of parents and the community as well.



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Walkers raise money for prostate cancer research



Tired but happy - some of the walkers whose efforts raised approximately £2,000 for charity

On Sunday, 31st August, members of Caterham Army Cadet Force, and members of the Royal British Legion and Ex-Serviceman's Club did a sponsored walk to raise money for prostate cancer research. After setting off from The Golden Lion Pub in Caterham-on-the-Hill at 9.30am, they walked 15kms through Chaldon, Netherne-on-the-Hill and

back to the Ex-Serviceman's Club in Townend for refreshments. One of the organisers, Ashley Beatens (pictured third from left, top row) said: "We regularly get together for fund-raising activities and we decided to support prostate cancer this time, especially in the light of the fire at the Royal Marsden Hospital where they conduct cancer research."

A drive to blow you away!

by Julia Church

Although it's fair to say I'm not a motoring 'expert', it doesn't need much expertise to know when you're in a car that is quite simply 'fun on four wheels'!

I recently went out for a test drive in the new 'Hurricane' sports car, with local motor racing driver and garage proprietor, Geoff Fane at the wheel. Geoff has been working on the Hurricane in his garage in Chaldon, importing the basic model from abroad then changing and improving it to produce the finished article, ready to rock 'n' roll around town. It's a head-turner all right, something I don't normally experience driving my Fiesta and it was smiles all round as we roared into Caterham-on-the-Hill.

The Hurricane's a vehicle to be enjoyed at weekends, when you want to forget about the daily commute, dress down, and go for a drive to make your eyes



Sunshine and shades - both essential for an optimum Hurricane driving experience!

water. With so little protection from the elements, Geoff wears a full-face crash helmet when driving the Hurricane. I, on the other hand, opted to simply wear sunglasses, wanting to feel the wind in my hair Bridget Jones style. In hindsight I should have left off the mascara as well. It felt exhilarating, exciting and above all, fun! There's something about being so close to the road and with minimal bodywork surrounding you, its very much like going for a spin in a sophisticated go-kart! And that's what it felt like when it was my turn to drive - an

experience completely different to driving a conventional car. Its 650cc engine is surprisingly nippy and can easily go up the steep Succombs Hill in first gear, Geoff tells me. He even has to brake for the bend at the top! "One of the great things about this car is that there is not a lot can go wrong with it," explained Geoff. "The engine is from Japan so it's pretty bullet-proof." Well, it's safe to say the Hurricane would probably be your last choice for Popemobile, but it should be first choice for a low-cost, economical, sports car driving experience.

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Bollywood

a taste of India's finest

by Julia Church

Smart and sophisticated is the best way to describe the impression you get upon entering this award-winning Indian restaurant in Caterham Valley. Its reputation has spread way beyond Caterham, with people travelling from miles around to come and enjoy the Bollywood experience. Its fashionable décor and courteous staff in their emerald green uniforms all contribute to its welcoming and relaxing ambience. Although it is likely to be busy on any week night, Bollywood is still a great choice for those who want to be able to have a conversation over their meal, without being drowned out by loud music and general restaurant clatter. The food is delicious – the Adraki Lamb Chop I chose for starter was perfectly cooked, with a hint of ginger giving it a delightful tang. My dining partner was finding her choice, Chicken Chat, just as mouth-watering, served piping hot and beautifully tender.

For our main courses we chose the Murgh Sagraana, described in the menu as 'An exceptional chicken dish unique to Bollywood.' Often served at special occasions, it is the chef's speciality, and



one of the most popular dishes on the menu. The Lamb Pasanda had a creamy sauce, flavoured with almonds and herbs, that went particularly well with the accompanying Naan bread! For side orders we chose the Saag Aloo (spinach and potatoes), Onion Bhaji and Coconut Rice, although there were many other tempting vegetable dishes that caught my eye to be enjoyed on another occasion.

The meal represented excellent value for just over £30.00 for the two of us, not including the wine. For an even better deal you can try the Banqueting Nights on Wednesdays, offering a five course set meal for just £10.95 per head, or you can enjoy their Sunday Lunch Buffet for only £7.95. The restaurant is situated at 19 Godstone Road and to book a table, call 01883 349877.

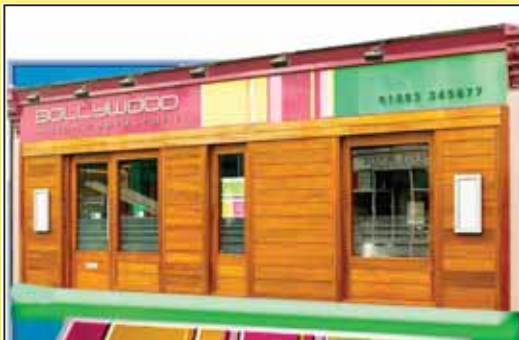
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Walk for Marie Curie



Marie Curie Surrey Office fundraisers, from left to right, Ros Hooper, Carol Hunt and Tracey North

Many of us have been touched by cancer either personally, or through relatives and friends, and so are aware of the vital work done for patients and relatives by the Marie Curie Nurses. This September you have the chance to show your support by joining the Happy Valley Walk over Coulsdon's beautiful Farthing Downs. Enthusiastic walkers of all ages are encouraged to take part and help raise even more funds for those who have cancer and need

the care and support of Marie Curie nurses. The walk is on Sunday 21st September starting anytime between 9.30am and 12.30pm at The Fox public

house on Coulsdon Common, so come along and get involved!

With the choice of either a seven or three mile walk the event caters for all ability levels, so there is no excuse to miss out.

The walk began in 2004 and sparked a successful partnership between Marie Curie and the local Rotary Clubs of Croydon Jubilee, Coulsdon and Caterham to raise money for the Caterham Community Nursing Service. Last year they managed to raise a staggering £14,000 so why not sign up now and help make it even more this year.

For more information call 01883 832665 or email: se.events@mariecurie.org.uk

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What's On

Art Exhibition

The Caterham Art Group is holding its 56th Annual Exhibition in the Soper Memorial Hall, Harestone Valley Road, Caterham Valley on Saturday 27th September to Monday 29th September inclusive. Opening times are 10.30am-5pm and entry is free. Do please come and see the exciting and varied work of local artists.

Magnificent Music Hall

Caterham Harestone Rotary Club are presenting the paper Moon Theatre Company's performance of 'The Magnificent Music Hall' on Friday 3rd October at 8pm (bar from 7.15pm) in Woldingham Village Hall. Tickets cost £12.50 and the proceeds will go to MacMillan Nurses and Crossroads. To book tickets e-mail: mmhbooking@caterhamharestone-rotary.co.uk with contact details and the number of tickets required or book online at www.caterhamharestone-rotary.co.uk. Alternatively, telephone Kay on 01883 625076.

Flower Demonstration

The Chaldon and Caterham Floral Club is holding

a flower demonstration entitled 'Supermarket Sweep' by Mrs Sue Flight on Wednesday 24th September. The demonstration starts at 2.00pm at the Centenary Hall, Essendene Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill. For more information telephone Jennifer Newland on 01883 344317.

Kenley Tribute March Past

The Royal Air Forces Association are inviting the public to attend a march past at the Kenley Tribute in Kenley Airfield to celebrate the 68th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain. The march past will take place on Sunday, 21st September at approximately 1pm.

'Munch with Music'

'Munch with Music' is the name of a new series of lunchtime concerts to be held every first Wednesday of the month in St. John's Church, Clareville Road, Caterham Valley. Performances will start at 12.45pm and last for 40-45 minutes. Admission is free. The audience are invited to bring their own sandwiches and tea and coffee will be provided. The first concert will be on Wednesday, 1st October featuring local jazz musicians Dave Hewett and Len Quinnell (trombone, guitar and vocals).

International Event

Caterham Baptist Church in Beechwood Road, Caterham Valley, are holding an international event on Saturday, 20th September from 5pm-7pm. There will be displays, food-tasting from around the world and a talk entitled 'Coming from the outside, being on the inside' by Brian Makokoro from Zimbabwe. Entrance is free. Please wear national costume if you have it!

Coda Singers Concert

On Saturday, 20th September at 7.30pm in the United Reformed Church, Caterham Valley, the Coda Singers led by conductor Christopher Greenhalgh will be performing a programme of religious music in aid of the Caterham Overseas Aid Trust. Items will include Faure's Requiem, pieces by Rutter, Vaughan Williams, Brahms, Bach and others. There will also be an organ solo by Jeremy Lloyd. Tickets cost £7 (to include tea/coffee) and will be available on the door or from Margaret Deards, telephone 01883 380104.

National Heritage Weekend

From 12th-14th September, St. John's Church in Caterham Valley will be open from 10am-4pm on Friday and Saturday and after the morning service (11.10am) until 1pm on the Sunday. Come and view the beautiful stained glass windows in this large Victorian church. There are also interesting memorials to local people, including those dedicated to residents of Caterham Valley who fell in the two World Wars.

Don't bank on it

by Jerry Connor, Director of Kenley Financial Ltd.



Apparently Michael Caine never said: "Not a lot of people know that", but if he did he may have been passing comment on who owns who in the banking world.

Frankly it's a mystery to many but why is it important?

Well, if we were to have another bank collapse a saver is currently only protected up to £35k (there are suggestions this will rise to £50k) and that is per institution or parent not per bank. To give you a flavour, HBOS includes the brands of Halifax, Bank of Scotland, Birmingham Midshires, Intelligent Finance and Sainsburys Bank.

The huge RBS group owns Royal Bank of Scotland, Natwest, Coutts, Drummonds and Ulster Bank. But if you had accounts with all of these, you are only protected up to one lot of 35k in relation to each ultimate parent. Now I am not suggesting for one minute that HBOS or RBS are in any way financially unstable, but with dozens of banks and building societies to choose from why not ensure you are adequately protected by checking out who owns the parent company first and sprinkling your hard earned cash around a wee bit? The old adage of never put your eggs in one basket has perhaps never been so appropriate.

There are also quite a few foreign banks chasing your money where again the same may apply. They have to ensure they comply with UK rules but why chase an extra 0.25% or so when peace of mind is possibly more important? Cash remains a very attractive investment as the markets remain volatile and it should always be a home for some of your assets. Don't forget that National Savings offer the prospect of guaranteed returns if the right account is chosen and Premium Bonds offer the chance of a 'big win' with capital security. So whilst there are good deals around just remember to make sure you are protected as much as you can.



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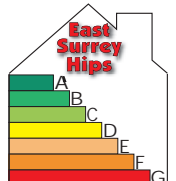
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In the garden

by Alec Herbert

I have referred many times in this column to the purchasing of shrubs and bedding plants from the many and varied garden centres in the area. Whilst a visit to such a centre is always an enjoyable experience to anyone with an interest in gardens, it can also prove to be expensive! 'Impulse buys' are something most of us can resist in a supermarket but find it more difficult when confronted with the floral displays of a nursery. In the current economic climate 'plants for the garden' are unlikely to top the monthly budget list and, indeed, in some cases will not feature on the list at all! Cost can be reduced by growing plants yourself from seed or cuttings. Late summer (what summer?) is a good time to take cuttings

from bedding plants such as geraniums and fuchsias. With geraniums, use the new shoots and with a sharp knife make a cutting of around three inches, removing any leaves from the bottom half. The cutting should be inserted into a pot of damp multi-purpose or seed compost. Simply push the bottom third or so of the cutting into the compost – rooting powder is not necessary with geraniums. Cover the pot, which can hold a number of cuttings, with a plastic bag held in place with an elastic band. Leave in a dry place for a couple of weeks by which time rooting should have started. Once the cuttings are established they can be repotted individually and over winter kept in a frost free environment.

Much the same procedure is used for fuchsias taken from semi hardwood cuttings although they usually

benefit from the use of a hormone rooting powder. So, taking cuttings now will save you money next year and give you great pleasure seeing flowers grow from your own cuttings! Another example of the benefits of forward planning. Happy gardening!



Take cuttings of fuchsias now for a dazzling display next summer

Globetrotters wanted!

The Rotary Club of Caterham is in the process of choosing non-Rotarian team members for a Group Study Exchange (GSE) visit to the Patagonian region of Argentina. The exchange is largely free to participants as travel is paid by Rotary and accommodation is

provided in the homes of Rotary members in Argentina. The date of the visit is 30th March to 27th April 2009 and applicants should be aged between 25-40.

The GSE program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for young business and professional men and women. The program offers meaningful opportunities

for international service by providing young, formative professionals a different perspective of their vocation in another country and culture.

"In this case the fostering of international peace and understanding is particularly important in view of the legacy of the Falklands war in this area of Argentina," said Rotarian, Roderick Stead. "We will be visiting Comodoro Rivadavis, the home port of the Belgrano, Briloché, Nuequen, Peninsula Valdez, Trelew and the glaciers of Lago Argentina." You can find out more about the GSE program by visiting www.rotary1270.org/content/view/620/67/

If you would like to speak to Roderick about the trip, telephone 07968 155457 or you can e-mail him at roderickstead@aol.com

Summer scouting

by Andy Parr

Summer. A great time to be out and about, and Scouts from Caterham have made the most of their time.

Chaldon Scout Troop travelled to Belgium by Eurostar, where they met German and Dutch Scouts. They visited Bruges and Brussels, and went to the daily remembrance service at the Menin Gate. Belgium chocolate was very high on the shopping list, and had to be tested.

The 1st Caterham Scouts went to Lincoln showground with 3,500 other Scouts and Guides. This was a lovely flat site until it rained and a night had to be spent in the cinema. Various activities were tried for the first time, such as Zorbing and Horse Riding.

The 4th Caterham and Hamsey Green Scouts went to the Scout Boating Centre at Marlow, where all gained their BCU awards for kayaking. They also tried open canoes and Dragon Boating.

The 3rd and 5th Caterham and Whyteleafe Scouts went to Bristol for a traditional camp, where they went on two day hikes, cooking all their own meals on open fires. I must admit that when I visited and had to judge the cooking competition, the standards of some quite adventurous and unusual dishes was very high indeed.

Trips like these couldn't be done with out some dedicated leaders and helpers. I have now stood down as District Commissioner, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who have been involved in scouting, either as leaders or in many other ways during my time in Caterham. I have met some fantastic people, all wanting to help children reach their full potential as responsible citizens.

In his farewell message to Scouts, Lord Baden Powell said: "Try and leave this world a little better than when you found it". I don't plan on leaving it yet, but I hope that I have done that. If you would like to assist scouting in any way, please contact John Andrews, the new District Commissioner on 01883 731592.



Members of the Chaldon Scout Group visited the Menin Gate during their trip to Belgium. The famous monument to nearly 55,000 soldiers from the 1914-18 war for whom there is no grave is both impressive and thought provoking. The scouts spent a while reading names on the walls before assembling for a minute's silence. Later, they attended the Last Post ceremony and scout Jack Lewis laid a cross and poppy in the name of the Chaldon Scout Group.

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Readers' letters

Social facilities for young people

How can we expect young people to behave as we would like when there are so few facilities provided for them in Caterham? In the 1950's I had a choice of youth clubs in the area almost every night of the week! In the 1980's my son attended the Caterham Youth and Community Centre in Godstone Road. It was open on weekday evenings for numerous youth club functions such as a gym and the motor project. In addition there were independent users, including judo. Most of the facilities were still available through the nineties when I was a volunteer youth worker. It is now closed.

Our children and young people are our future; how can we treat them so shabbily yet want them to grow into fully rounded responsible adults?

Norma Holmes, Rogers Close, Caterham.

Casting for Recovery

The members of Leigh Mill Fly Fishing Syndicate in Godstone took part in their annual fishing competition in July, raising £245 for cancer charity, Casting for Recovery. Once the fishing was over, members and their guests retired to enjoy a delicious buffet lunch, hosted by the owner of Leigh Mill, Petronella Chernin-Venhovens, and the prizes were awarded to the winners. 14 year-old junior member Henrik Wetter won the trophy for the Most Fish Caught, catching no less than eight rainbow trout during the course of the morning! Henrik Wetter was also proud to be the joint winner, along with Vernon Lawrence, for catching the largest fish - each caught a 2lb rainbow trout. Other winners were Laurence Clifford for Casting Accuracy and Alan Quayle for Casting Distance. Casting for Recovery was founded in the United



Proud trophy-winner, Henrik Wetter with his father, Erik (centre) and Syndicate Chairman, Alex Chard.

States in 1996 to provide fly-fishing retreats specifically tailored for women who have or who have had breast cancer. The charity has now been brought to the UK and Ireland by the England Ladies Flyfishing Association. Any woman who has experienced breast cancer is eligible to apply to attend a retreat (with medical clearance from her doctor). For more information, visit www.castingforrecovery.org.uk. For more details about the Leigh Mill Fly Fishing Syndicate, call Laurence Clifford on 0208 669 1630.

Who wants to be a volunteer?

by Marion Piggott



I know eavesdropping is wrong, but sometimes you can't help overhearing something, can you? Last week for example, at the next table in the pub, some chap started with: "Young people today ..." then shook his head and ended with a pessimistic sweeping generalisation. Hard to disprove and impossible to challenge, his accusation was left frustratingly uncontested. Fortunately most people recognise that his views are vastly wide of the mark; certainly the young people who come to the Volunteer Centre are a credit to our community. So, fresh and optimistic initiatives that develop youngsters' potential and take positive steps to harness their energy, enthusiasm and creativity are to be welcomed. A recently introduced project encourages our youngsters in their appreciation that giving something back is part and parcel of being a rounded individual.

The Volunteer Centres in Surrey have just entered into a partnership

agreement with Surrey involved. This will increase our capacity to create youth volunteering opportunities; placing more volunteers between the ages of 16 and 25 into meaningful volunteering positions.

Surrey involved is part of a three year Government funded project which inspires young people to become concerned with social action and volunteering. Surrey involved specialises in youth volunteering offering support to the young volunteers as well as to the organisations with which they are placed.

If you would like to know more, either as a young volunteer or as an organisation with volunteering places for young people, please ring me, Marion Piggott, at the Volunteer Centre, 01883 344444, email: caterhamvc@owen29.wanadoo.co.uk, or visit our website: www.surreycommunity.info/tvsc/

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When doctors gave up hope that Chris Clark would ever be able to use his wrists again he became understandably depressed. He had been suffering for a year with severe wrist problems and nothing gave him any relief, that is, until he gave complementary medical practitioner Sakina Bradbury a call. Using various massage techniques across Chris's neck, shoulders and wrists Sakina managed to increase his flexibility and allow him to use his wrists again, something that seemed impossible before he started working with Sakina. Now he is back at work and has regained much of the mobility in his wrists. Chris stresses that this is not a miracle cure, or a quick fix, but it does work. "I recommend Sakina's

healing hands to anyone," says Chris, who has friends who have also enjoyed the same positive effects. Chris has seen a steady improvement since beginning his treatment - astonishing considering his doctors had given up on him!

So what is different about Sakina, what does she do? Her complementary medical practice employs various techniques to help a variety of ailments from arthritis to depression. Her motto, 'Prevention is Better than Cure' illustrates how her treatments are not just for chronic sufferers such as Chris, but for those who want to improve their overall health and wellbeing. For more information visit the website at www.skpractice.co.uk or call 01883 348453 (Caterham Valley practice) or 01883 341510 (Caterham Hill practice).

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The Caterham branch of The Royal British Legion is still here at 15 Townend, Caterham-on-the-Hill (almost opposite the Esso Garage)

 We meet every second Monday in the month at 8.00 pm for all ex-service and serving military personnel.
Remember - if you need help we are here!
For more information call Peter McNeil on 01883 348221

A successful season for Whyteleafe CC

As the cricket season draws to a close after another disappointing summer weather-wise we catch up with one of our local cricket teams to see how they fared this season.

Whyteleafe CC men's 1st XI play in Division 1 of the Surrey league and are currently a respectable 2nd in their league. The 2nd XI are sitting 4th in their league and the club also boasts a friendly Sunday XI who have won eight out of the eleven matches they have played.

Some of the highlights of the 2008 season include four players making League Centuries, David Holloway - 136, Jason Fernandes - 123, Neil Goodwin - 107 and Annal Mohabir - 104 and Neil Goodwin also broke a club record this season by scoring 221 not out vs. Sutton in a 40 over match. The



Whyteleafe Cricket Club

club has a proud history dating from its foundation back in 1890 and has seen a series of successful players pass through its doors. Most famous was India test side opening batsman Sanjay Bangar. Other Whyteleafe members have played for their county and even their country, showing the club's success is deep rooted.

At its core is a group of local residents, many of whom have been with the

club since they were colts, and who are always looking to expand the club with enthusiastic new members. Congratulations to all members on another successful season!

Whyteleafe CC is based at Whyteleafe Recreation Ground, Hillbury Road, Warlingham. For more information see the club website at www.whyteleafecc.co.uk.

COGS Lions

Have you ever thought of getting involved with Caterham Oxted & Godstone (COGS) Lions? Lions make a difference around the community by fundraising activities at events such as the Godstone Fete, Caterham's Party in the Park and the Big Band Night in Bletchingley. The profits from these events are then spent helping out the local community.

The Club meets at the White Hart Barn in Godstone on a Tuesday night once a month and as well as helping out others, COGS have a good social life too.

COGS Lions live in all parts of the Tandridge area. There's no age restriction and the only qualification you need is to want to have fun helping others. If you would like more information why not call Tony Gordon on 01883 743457 or email us at cogslions@lineone.net

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Old Cats RFC

This coming season will see the first ever ladies youth teams playing at the Old Caterhamians. During the 'off' season, 22 girls from local schools have shown sufficient interest and enthusiasm to join in with the club's summer youth training sessions.

Having a ladies youth section at the club will fulfil the club's vision of offering rugby, with qualified coaches, to all sections of the community as well as working towards their second year target set by the RFU for their prestigious Seal of Approval award.

This season will kick off on Saturday 6th September when all senior sides of the club will be playing and registering. Everyone is welcome to come and watch the games - to see all this season's games details visit our website www.oldcats.co.uk.

The minis and youth registration is at the club house on Sunday 7th September from 10.00 am. We cater for ages 5-18 years, male and female, experienced or new player. Why not give the game a try?

For more information visit our website www.oldcats.co.uk or even better come and meet us.

Citation for Caterham Rotary

Caterham Rotary club was delighted to be awarded a prestigious Club Citation by the District Governor Alan Knight.

It was awarded to the Club for activities during the last year that included the following:

1. Increasing the club's net membership by at least one person (actual net increase was three new Rotarians).
2. The club's activities with a Sierra Leone War Orphanage project and also the Greek Dancing charity evening. The money

raised went towards Shelter boxes (specialist disaster relief tents and humanitarian supplies).

3. The Young Sports Person's Award (cash award to Caterham's Hannah Brooks, a middle distance Olympic prospect for the 2012 London Olympics).

4. The Prostate Awareness project that saw 150 men receive free PSA tests in Caterham, and six new cases of prostate cancer were identified and referred for treatment.

5. Hosting a visiting team of Mexican students and taking them to visit Caterham Cars in Caterham Valley and Brooklands Publishing in Redhill.



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Full-bore shooting at Bisley

On Saturday 23rd August, nine members of Caterham & District Rifle Club shot with 7.62mm rifles for the Brian Streeter Cup at Bisley Camp in Brookwood, Surrey. The marksmen shot at distances of 300 yards and 500 yards. The competition is unusual because the winner does not necessarily have to score the highest score but should strive to make the same score at both distances. The winner of the Cup on



the day was Malcolm Hall with a score of 36 at both distances. James Hall, Colin Campbell-Salmon and Toby Reid all tied for second place with a difference of only 0.2 points between the distances. Les Shilling and Martin Hall tied for third place with a difference of 2.1 points. The bullseye has a small dotted circle in

the middle giving the shooter a bonus of .1 of a point if hit. The actual gun scores of all competitors were:- Les Shilling 96.5; Dave Creton 92.0; Martin Hall 90.3; Colin Campbell-Salmon 86.7; James Hall 85.4; Toby Reid 80.4; Ross McEwan 70.6; Malcolm Hall 72.0 and Paul Goodhew 65.0. The Club membership caters for ladies, gentlemen and young people of 16 years of age and over. Please contact us to arrange a visit. For more information visit www.cd rifleclub.co.uk, call club secretary Roger Gustavson on (0208) 657 5792 or e-mail: contact@cdrifleclub.co.uk

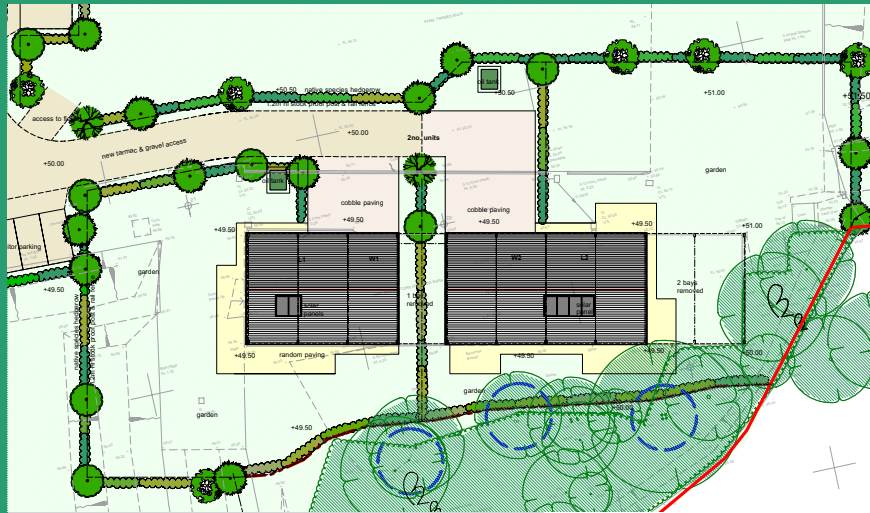
History Centre celebrates ten years

The Surrey History Centre in Woking, custodian of the county's collection of historic records and publications, celebrates its 10th birthday this month. Amongst its holdings are some extraordinary treasures, from Tudor letters to photographs taken by Lewis Carroll. Its collections reflect the lives of generations of Surrey people, from penniless paupers to the grandest aristocrats.

The Centre is marking its birthday with an exhibition to coincide with the nation's Heritage Open Day on Saturday 13th September from 9.30am-4pm. Other events on the day will include talks on historic costume and a display by Surrey Wardrobe, drop-in craft activities for families, behind the scenes tours of the building including the conservation room, family history advice, demonstrations of the 'Exploring Surrey's Past' website for local history and archaeology, and a local history book sale. For more information call 01483 518737 or visit www.surreycc.gov.uk/heritageevents.

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Rotary -v- Round Table in Six Brothers Field



Members of Caterham Rotary and Round Table in Six Brothers Field in Chaldon where the match took place

Sunday, 17th August saw the 18th annual Caterham Round Table v Caterham Rotary Club cricket match.

Every player had to bowl two overs, which made for quite an entertaining afternoon. The overs are now limited to three wides or no balls.

Rotary (with a team whose average age was younger than the Round Table's

team) ran out the winners by just over 20 runs. It was a pleasant, socialable, family afternoon, with entertainments for the children although the cloudy weather was disappointing compared to the sunny weather the cricketers enjoyed last year.

If anyone is interested in helping Round Table regain the title, please call Andy Browne on 01883 340945.

Holistic training - good for the mind and for the body

by Steve Robertson, Energy for Life

More people than ever are incorporating wellbeing exercises into their training regime, like Pilates and yoga. Most local gyms offer Pilates mat-work classes and different styles of yoga, but it's seldom made clear that you can actually do both disciplines, because the two complement each other. Yes there are differences in the way Pilates and yoga are practised, but it's a great way to expand your knowledge and your exercise routine.

So what is intelligent exercise?

The main thing that sets an intelligent approach to exercise apart from the outdated 'go for the burn', is to respect the body at all times. Try and follow these five points to help you:

1. Not all knowledge is good knowledge. It's up to you to find out who and where can offer you the best information. Remember - only the right practice makes it

perfect.

2. Empower yourself by making your own decisions and taking responsibility for the exercises you do. That means practising too. After all, an hour of practice is worth many more hours of theory.

3. Exercise is not about show, but how it feels from within. Do not worry how you look in a class or in front of the teacher; it's what you're doing that matters.

4. Listen to your body and let what you feel govern how you proceed, rather than working through pain.

5. Don't separate exercise from the rest of your life. There is no finishing a great workout then feasting on unhealthy foods and slouching in an armchair. Try and make it a balanced lifestyle.

Finally don't think that the concept of intelligent exercise only applies to the disciplines of Pilates and yoga.

You can apply this approach to the gym, swimming, or even outdoor exercise. It even applies to how you sit, eat, and walk because it relates to every movement you make, just remember to use your body intelligently. For more information about holistic exercise and other types of training please contact the team at Energy for Life on 01883 650100, or look on our updated website for the new class time table www.energyforlife.uk.com



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