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No. 63

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Soper Hall to be saved for the community

Councillors vote in favour of transfer to community group

Celebrations have been taking place at the Soper Hall in Caterham following the decision by Tandridge District Council to transfer the hall to the Soper Hall Community Centre Limited (SHCCL). On Thursday 21st July councillors voted unanimously in favour of the transfer to enable the 'Soper Hall Group' to develop and run the building as a community facility. The 100 year-old building in

Harestone Valley Road used to be Caterham's Town Hall. In the 1970's the new council offices were opened in Oxted and since then the building in Caterham has slowly fallen into disrepair. In order to save the building from being sold off to developers, the Soper Hall Group, chaired by local resident Graham Tapley, formulated a bid for the transfer of ownership of the building from Tandridge District

Council ('TDC') to the community. Caterham Baptist Church, whose congregation is outgrowing its current premises in Beechwood Road, Caterham Valley, also submitted a bid to TDC to take over the building. The lengthy process leading up to the recent council vote on which group should take over the hall was a worrying time for all concerned, during which the Soper Hall Group launched their 'Save the Soper Hall' campaign to rally support from the community. Continued on page 2.



The Soper Hall Group celebrating their success outside the Soper Hall in Caterham following the council vote on 21st July.

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Soper Hall to be saved (Cont. from P1)

A report about the details of the transfer, including the terms of the legal agreement, will be considered by the Resources Committee on 13th October.

Leader of the Council, Councillor Gordon Keymer, said: "During this process we have considered a lot of detailed information. Doing nothing was not an option, but the final two proposals were both viable as presented and offered a tangible future for the Soper Hall. It was appropriate to be

made by all councillors. Local support for the Soper Hall Community Centre group has been very strong and we feel we have made the best decision by securing the building for the widest possible community benefit."

Following the vote, Caterham Baptist Church issued a statement saying: "Caterham Baptist Church welcomes the fact that the Council has taken a clear decision regarding the Soper Hall. We wish SHCCL every success in their endeavours to bring to fruition their plans for the hall's future use. We had asked God to guide us very clearly by opening or closing doors for us in relation to the Soper Hall. We are, therefore, happy to accept a closed door as the answer to our prayers and as God's direction for us at this time.

We shall resume our search for an appropriate solution that will enable us to relieve the pressure on our current accommodation and continue our on-going programme of serving the community through our corporate life as a church family." Chairman of the Soper Hall

Group, Graham Tapley, said: "I would like to thank the Caterham Baptist Church for their good wishes and exemplary conduct throughout the bid campaign, and repeat my offer made to Keith Johns in that any assistance The Soper Hall Community Centre Ltd can offer during their search, and subsequent relocation and possible upheaval, will be willingly offered.

"The next thing for us is to get the local framework in place and from today we start serious fundraising. We need to raise £100,000 and I am absolutely confident that we will succeed." Following the celebrations outside the Soper Hall, local businessman and supporter of the Soper Hall Group, David Gold, said: "The impromptu gathering at the Soper Hall today was I hope the first of many meetings in the community to celebrate a renaissance of the Soper Hall in its second 100 years. Many congratulations and I feel confident that the group, community and District Council will be pleased with the outcome in the years to come.

Remember to 'Shop Smart, Shop Local' this summer!



August is the second anniversary of the launch of the Shop Smart scheme to reward shoppers for their loyalty. There are now around 60 businesses participating in the scheme in Caterham, offering discounts and other benefits to over 2,000 members.

An exciting BIG PRIZE initiative is being launched this summer for members of the scheme, sponsored by a number of local 'Shop Smart' businesses.

Membership of Shop Smart for shoppers is free and joining is easy. Membership cards can be obtained from the JJ Browne Jewellers, Touché Hairdressers, Peter Groom Jewellers and La Fiaba restaurant in Caterham Valley and from Vivace Pianos, Swift Windows and Caterham Pine in Caterham-on-the-Hill.

The 2011 Shop Smart

leaflet listing all the businesses offering rewards to members has recently been delivered to households in Caterham. A copy can be downloaded at www.shopsmartcaterham.co.uk Members of Shop Smart are sent an E-newsletter twice a year with updates on the latest shops and businesses participating in the scheme. If you are not already a member then you are missing out on some great deals in local shops - why not join and help Shop Smart grow to 3,000 members for its third year!

INDEPENDENT

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**Up, up and away!
de Stafford
School celebrates
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with balloon
release**

On Tuesday 5th July a breathtaking balloon release took place at de Stafford School in Caterham to celebrate their recent Ofsted success. The spectacle was witnessed by the entire school and invited guests as well as local Year 6 pupils who were at the school for their induction day. Newly appointed Head Boy, 15 year-old Jack Usherwood, started the proceedings with an introduction to the Head Teacher, Caroline Longhurst. Ms Longhurst congratulated the students and said that the balloons would help to symbolically and physically spread the news far and wide. She quoted from Ofsted that the school is a 'well ordered, calm and safe community for students who enjoy their learning and are making good



The balloon release at de Stafford School.

progress' and that the students are 'welcoming, polite and courteous'. Ms Longhurst ended with a quote from an anonymous student saying: "This school is limitless. It enables you to develop your talents no matter what they are." Cards were attached to the balloons with quotes from the Ofsted report. The card that travels the furthest will receive a prize once posted back to the school. The first card has already been returned, less than 24 hours after the event from Caning Town in East London.



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Local students help out at Ridge Radio

by Felicity Lawrence

The team at Ridge Radio welcomed nine Year Ten students from Warlingham and de Stafford schools into the studio recently to give them the opportunity to broadcast live from the station.

As well as learning how to broadcast, the students learnt the technological aspects that go on behind the scenes.

On Tuesday 12th July, 15 year-old Alex Peters from Warlingham School interviewed the editor of The Caterham and District Independent, Julia Church, in his very own radio show. They talked about current affairs and the challenges Julia faces as proprietor of the newspaper.

When asked if he wanted to continue broadcasting in the future Alex replied: "I'm a bit of a techie so I would prefer to be behind the scenes, or maybe get involved in journalism."

Founder of the station, Mark Jones, is very impressed with how the students have performed whilst working with him. He said: "The students have all grown in



Warlingham School student, Alex Peters.

Photo by Felicity Lawrence

confidence. Alex is a natural; his voice is great for the radio. It's good to get the kids involved in the community, since we're a community radio station.

"We have invited Julia to come in once a month on the Wednesday after The Caterham Independent is published so that we can interview her live on the radio about the latest local news stories. The Caterham Independent is at the heart of the community which is why it will be nice to team up with her each month."

Ridge Radio has an excellent line-up of DJs broadcasting a variety of music and interviews with local people. To listen to the station's live broadcasts go to their website at www.ridgeradio.co.uk

Chelsham and Farleigh fundraisers boost funds for 'Help for Heroes'

After 13 months of fundraising, the Chelsham and Farleigh Help for Heroes Committee gathered one final time at The Coach House at Chelsham Common to make two cheque presentations. The committee raised nearly £30,000 by organising a variety of events including a Golf Day at Farleigh Golf Club, a car boot sale and a hugely successful Fun Day. Chairperson Boo Marchant was very proud to present a cheque for £14,041.44 to Captain Nkoya Wright from Headley Court that will pay for equipment to help wounded soldiers in their rehabilitation. A cheque was also presented to Avril Bailey from Help for Heroes for £15,850.75.

Committee member, Pam Whittingham, said: "Local support was outstanding with collections at Sainsbury's and weekly raffles in The Coach House. Warlingham School threw themselves into the cause raising nearly £1,200. Warlingham Rugby



The Chelsham and Farleigh Help for Heroes fundraisers outside The Coach House at Chelsham Common.

Club, Whyteleafe Under 12s Football Team and the Surrey Masonic Sports Association were also instrumental in their fund-raising efforts. The committee would like to thank everybody involved for their generosity with

their time and for digging deep into their pockets. It has been a wonderful opportunity for the local community to get together, have a laugh and raise some money for a very worthwhile cause."

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Meet Jesters and Maids, Medieval Fancy Dress Competition in the afternoon, free face painting, free all day parking in Morrisons and community stalls.

24 September PIRATES DAY 10am-4pm

Meet Captain Jack Sparrow, Caterham Sea Cadets, Pirate Fancy Dress. Competition in the afternoon, free face painting, free all day parking in Morrisons and community stalls.

29 October GUYS & GHOULS DAY 10am-4pm

DJ Gravedigger, Barron Blood. Halloween Fancy Dress Competition in the afternoon, free face painting, free all day parking in Morrisons and community stalls.

Friday 25 Nov SWITCHING ON CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 3pm-8pm

Meet Father Christmas, Mother Christmas and Christmas Lunacy. Free face painting, free parking in Morrison's after 3pm and community stalls.

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In the spotlight

Geraint Jenkins MBE is retiring from his teaching role at de Stafford School in Caterham this year after teaching Geography there for 32 years.

Geraint is travelling to Kimilili in Africa this month to provide aid along with other members of the Caterham Overseas Aid Trust ('C.O.A.T.') and members of the Caterham community.



Favourite Food & Drink: Anything with custard; cold milk.

Birthplace: Ystradgynlais, Swansea Valley.

Marital Status: Single - but still hopeful.

Children: None - but there are several children called 'Jenkins' in Kimilili - but nothing to do with me, honest!

Cars: Rover 25.

Pets: I used to have a terrier called Wendy.

Favourite TV show: Match of the Day.

Who would you most like to throw a custard pie at?:
My image in the mirror.

Favourite books:
Long Walk To Freedom by Nelson Mandela.

Favourite song of all time: 'I Can't Help Falling In Love With You'.

Favourite holiday destination:
The Gower Peninsula.

Biggest influence on your life: My parents.

Proudest moment:
Receiving the MBE from Prince Charles.

Most embarrassing moment: Having to ask a bus to stop in the middle of Kenya as I had a tummy upset and with no toilets for miles around.

If you won the Lottery jackpot, how would you spend it?
Easy one - providing a clean water supply and a high quality hospital for the people of Kimilili.

Pastimes: Fundraising for de Stafford PSA and C.O.A.T. and C.H.E.C.K. (Community Health and Education for the Children of Kimilili). Swansea City Supporter.

Childhood hero: My Dad.

Likes: Good Manners.

Dislikes: Rudeness.

Who would you most like to meet? Michael Palin.

Where would you most like to live? Kimilili.

Supported Housing scheme opens in Caterham

On Friday 22nd July the Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Councillor Brian Perkins, planted a tree to mark the opening of eight flats for people with learning and physical disabilities at Robinsfield Gardens in Whyteleafe Road, Caterham. Robinsfield Gardens tenant Celia McCarthy also helped to plant the Acer Davidii tree.

The new homes, which are already fully occupied, were built through a £1.2m partnership between Tandridge District Council, Surrey County Council, the Homes & Communities Agency,

Hyde Housing Group and Welmede. All the flats are accessible to people in wheelchairs and support is available to all residents so they can lead independent lives.

Councillor Brain Perkins said: "The Council is proud to be involved in an initiative which will make such a positive impact to the lives of those that live there and their families for many years to come."

Rhys Daniel, Development Director at Hyde Martlet, part of the Hyde Housing Group, said: "We are delighted to be part of this important development providing local homes for disabled people to live independently in the community. The homes have been built to meet their specialised needs."



Cllr. Brian Perkins, his wife Sonia and Robinsfield Gardens tenant, Celia McCarthy at the tree planting ceremony.

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Tots hold 'Blooming Great Tea Party' in aid of Marie Curie



Three year-old Finn Henderson, winner of the 'Under Fives Cup Cakes' (centre) with some of his friends at Tots Village Nursery.

The staff and children at Tots Village Nursery in the grounds of de Stafford School in Caterham held a 'Blooming Great Tea Party' recently as part of the nationwide campaign to raise funds for the Marie Curie cancer charity. Children brought cakes of all descriptions to the party with prizes

being awarded to the best decorated cakes. Around 60 children from the nursery attended the party that was held on Wednesday 29th June, with many parents joining in the fun too. The £273 raised by Tots Village Nursery is being donated to Marie Curie.

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TUESDAY	9.30 - 11.00 Stay and Play Parents and carers with children under 5 yrs. £1.00 per session	12.30 - 1.45 Baby Clinic Citizens Advice Bureau 1.00 - 3.00 1st and 3rd week of each month please book an appointment	TUESDAY	Drop In 8.45 - 9.15 Advice & Information	Stay & Play 9.15 - 11.15 Parents & carers with children under 5 years	TUESDAY	Stay & Play Sessions 9.15 - 3.15 A variety of activities for families to enjoy together. Drop in any time and stay as long as you want to £1.50 per session	
WEDNESDAY	10.00 - 11.30 Grandtime £1.00 per session for grandparents and the children in their care	1.30 - 3.00 One Step at a Time £1.00 per session for children under 5 with additional needs. 1st and 3rd week of each month	WEDNESDAY	Drop In 8.45 - 9.15 Advice & Information	Childminders Stay & Play 9.15 - 11.15 Come along and meet other registered childminders	WEDNESDAY	Kickers and Crawlers Sessions 9.15 - 3.15 £1.00 per session	Double Trouble TAMBA Multiple Births Club 1.00 - 3.00
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We are pleased to support the Caterham Baby Café, where help is available on all aspects of breastfeeding and its impact on daily life - from starting to stopping and all the variations in between. Situated at de Stafford School, Burntwood Lane, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 5YX every Thursday 10.00am - 12.00noon.

Please call our centres for more information and to check availability before attending any of the above sessions.

St. John's pupils perform 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

by Emma Berry

On 13th-15th July the Year Six students at St. John's Primary School in Caterham enchanted their families and friends with performances of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. The play was adapted from the original Shakespeare play by the company 'Shakespeare 4 Kids' to add humour and make the story enjoyable for all ages.

The story takes place one summer's night in Athens and the surrounding woods and tells the tale of the wedding of Duke Theseus and Queen Hippolyta and the events surrounding it. The show contained many lively songs and dances, performed by the fairies and woodland people. All the children wore brightly



Georgia Bean and Kade Anderson playing Titania and Puck. Photo by Emma Berry.

coloured Athenian costumes to add to the play's Shakespearean feel.

The main characters included 'Titania', played by Georgia Bean and Hannah Killick; 'Oberon', played by James Hurcomb and Luke Houllahan and 'Bottom', played by Annie Brooks and Luke Andrews. The play was directed by the Year Six team, with other members of staff making the costumes and set.

Dunottar dazzles visitors with its exhibition of students' art

Dunottar School for Girls held a private viewing of art recently, showcasing work by the Year 11 and Sixth Form students.

The excellent display showed a strong ability in a wide range of materials ranging from traditional painted canvases and observational life drawings to sculpture and mixed media incorporating the use of coloured light and acrylic sheets.

Currently, ex-students from Dunottar are studying Fine Art degrees at Goldsmiths', The Slade and Chelsea. Students from Dunottar have also gone on to take Foundation courses at Camberwell (formerly Central St Martins'), Chelsea, Wimbledon, Kingston and Surrey Institute of Art and Design.

Right - a selection of the many different forms of stunning artwork on display at Dunottar School for Girls in Reigate last month.



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Chaldon Village Hall hosts Islam exhibition

On Saturday 2nd July an exhibition of Islam was held in Chaldon Village Hall to create awareness of the religion to the general public. The exhibition featured literature and displays of holy text and had members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association (AMA) on hand to answer visitors' questions. The AMA members were keen to dispel common misconceptions about Islam, especially with regard to the position of women in Muslim society. They explained that in Islam, many rights for women were available for centuries before they were introduced in Europe e.g. ownership of property. Dominating the exhibition



AMA members Dr Khurum Butt and Mr Amir Gill at the exhibition.

was a series of banners with biographies and photographs of the Khulafaa, the religion's spiritual leaders. For more information about the 'Love for All, Hatred for None' campaign, visit www.loveforallthatred-fornone.org

Diary of a Plantaholic

by Sue Baines

The borders are full to overflowing after all the rain and sunny weather - it's known as the growing season, and it certainly has been. That includes the weeds which appear from nowhere, at an alarming rate. I have a lot of trouble with bindweed, which always comes up in the same places. I pull on it gently trying to keep the root intact and I never compost it or leave any bits to re-root. I could use a glyphosate weed killer, but I prefer to do it by hand.

With so much of the watering being done for me, I've had less contact with the plants, and when I have had a close look have found that aphids have been cosily populating the new shoots - it is the soft growth that they like. The vigour and general health of a plant is soon affected. I have been assisting the ladybirds, using gloved fingers to squash them. If you do use an insecticide spray do it away from the bees.



Sue Baines

The roses have been gorgeous, but the constant rain has taken its toll. Repeat flowering roses have had their spoilt buds taken off and I have given them a light feed of Miracle Grow and Tomorite, this works

very quickly, so that the next crop of buds are only a few weeks away, depending on how much sun they get. Both roses and clematis are heavy feeders, and to do well like to have well rotted manure added to the soil in spring, plus a proprietary rose feed in March and after the first flush of flowers in June.

Sue is in the final four in the Daily Mail National Garden Competition 2011. Two finalists' gardens will feature in the August 6th edition of Weekend magazine and two in the 14th August edition before the winner is announced. Good luck Sue!



A recent photograph of Sue's garden in Caterham.

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Whyteleafe Fête declared "A great success!"

by Emma Berry

The Whyteleafe Grand Summer Fête on Sunday 3rd July has been declared a great success by the local community. Hundreds of people met up with family and friends to enjoy the entertainment that included gymnastics and boxing displays, performances from local bands, craft-making and a Punch and Judy show. The fête was also a good opportunity for local businesses to promote and sell their products, with stalls selling jewellery, food and beauty products. Eastenders actress, Lucy Speed, opened the fête saying: "Whyteleafe is very close to my heart as I lived and went to school locally when I was younger. The organisers have done a fantastic job; the bar looks lovely, the hog roast smells great and there is a good community atmosphere."

Local MP Sally Marks said: "This is what the big society is all about. This is one of the best days in the history of Whyteleafe; there is a great sense of community and we have been blessed with beautiful weather. In the past, Whyteleafe has suffered with a lack of community spirit but I am hopeful that, with more successful events like this, that will change."

There was plenty of food and drink available for the visitors, from delicious cakes from the cake stall, a succulent hog roast and even a huge paella cooked by Joe Inacio from the local Spanish restaurant, Costa del Sol. There was also a licensed bar set up by Tom Dempsey of the Whyteleafe

Tavern, who is also on the fête's organising committee. Tom was delighted at the huge success of the fête, and confirmed the event will be held again next year, saying: "It was a most marvellous community effort and full credit to everybody from the car park attendants to the litter pickers, stallholders and band members for all of their hard work and we look forward to a bigger, better and brighter fête next year on July 1st."

"The next community event for Whyteleafe will be our Pantomime and we are looking for 12-14 adults to help on the Pantomime Committee."

If you are interested in getting involved with the Whyteleafe Christmas Pantomime, pop in to see Tom at the Whyteleafe Tavern or call him on 01883 626270.



Lucy Speed



Photographs by Emma Berry

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The BBC films Kenley RAF veterans for TV documentary

On Thursday, 7th July a BBC team led by well-known reporter Nick Higham visited the RAFA (Royal Air Forces Association) Portcullis Club on Kenley Airfield. The purpose of their visit was to talk to WWII veterans and witnesses about the momentous Luftwaffe air raid of 18th August 1940.

The raid on Kenley Airfield was carried out by nine German Dornier Do 17 bombers. One of these warplanes has been discovered off the Kent coast. Only a very few of them survived the war and the RAF Museum in Hendon is making preparations to recover the seemingly still intact wreck. Nick Higham is interviewing people who witnessed bombing raids by Do 17s for a documentary to be broadcast in September. They contacted RAFA Kenley & Caterham Branch and a meeting with six local witnesses, most of them RAF veterans, was arranged.

This was quite remarkable as the event took place almost 71 years ago! RAFA has posted a few photos of the visit by the BBC on their website at www.rafa-kenley.com

Right: Nick Higham talks to Ken Raffield about Ken's recollections from the war.



From left: Bert Fane, RAFA; Nick Higham, BBC; Frank Stanhope, RAFA President; Martin Roberts, BBC; Ken Raffield, RAFA and Peter Machin, BBC.

See the curtains and blinds at Drapes Designs

'Drapes Designs' curtain and blind shop at 76 High Street, Caterham-on-the-Hill, was opened 11 years ago by Stuart Roberts, who has spent all his working life in the curtain trade.

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Customers are spoilt for choice with a wide range of curtains by leading names such as Crowson, Blendworth, Hardys and Prestigious Textiles. The shop also sells Sunway, Sunseeker and Luxflex blinds as well curtain accessories.

If you are thinking of giving your windows a facelift this summer, remember to check out the choice at Drapes Designs!



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A Classic Summer Evening

On Sunday 2nd July the Tandridge Community Fund ('TCF') presented a Classical Concert in the grounds of 'The Chalet' in Caterham, the home of the charity's patron, Mr David Gold.

The proceedings started at 2pm, with singing from local music students entertaining the crowd as they settled down with their picnics. The programme of classical musicians started at 6.15pm with a performance by classical guitarist Ahmed Dickinson, followed by further superb performances by Yuki Negishi (piano), Aisling Ennis (harp), Julie Groves (flute), the Blackheath String Quartet and the London Myriad Ensemble wind quintet.

At the end of the evening cheque presentations were made by TCF to three local beneficiaries and TCF were themselves presented with a cheque for £782, raised by the staff of Waringham Sainsbury's.



Cheers ladies!



Aisling Ennis



Ahmed Dickinson.



Julie Groves



The grounds of The Chalet (in the background) provided the perfect setting.



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To celebrate our anniversary, we would like to invite you to visit our Caterham-on-the-Hill branch for coffee/tea and biscuits at our open days on:

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Thursday 4th August

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Dene Fête raises over £3,000 for local hospital

On Sunday 26th June the League of Friends of Caterham Dene Hospital (LOF) held their annual Fête in glorious sunshine at the Dene Field next to the hospital in Caterham-on-the-Hill. The event was well supported by the local community, raising over £3,000 for the hospital.

One of the highlights of the afternoon was the Dog Show with two year-old 'Dudley', owned by Andrew Holloway, winning Best in Show.

Roger Wright of the LOF explained how the money would be used at the Dene Hospital: "The LOF are awaiting the new GP Consortium for Tandridge Residents to go 'live' later this year. The LOF will then be able to discuss with the GPs any new equipment which may be needed at the Dene Hospital, a Hub to East Surrey Hospital. We are aware that the Rapid Assessment Unit is likely to need an Ultra Sound Machine costing



The Dene Fête.

£80,000 and there may be other equipment needed. The funds raised at the Dene Fête will go towards providing equipment for the new services to be provided by the Hub hospital."

The LOF comprises a small band of volunteers who organise the annual Fête and other events to raise vital funds for the hospital. If you would like to get involved or become a 'Friend of Caterham Dene Hospital' call Roger Wright on 01883 382350.



'Dudley'

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Arnold & Self - on the move for 25 years



Local removal company, Arnold & Self, are celebrating 25 years since the launch of their business this summer.

From its very humble beginnings operating locally in Caterham, the company now covers the whole of the South East.

Managing Director, Ian Siddle, has been with Arnold & Self for 22 years. "We have historic ties in Caterham so we like to continue to support the local community," said Ian. "One of the events we look forward to every year is the Caterham Carnival, so we make sure it is in our diary so that we can get along and help out with moving equipment."

The company's origins were in domestic removals which includes associated services such as storage, packing, dismantling and reassembling furniture.

A surveyor will visit the customer before the moving date to discuss their requirements and see if there are items such as flat-screen TVs or pianos that will need to be moved. The surveyor can then make a note of any specialist packing or lifting equipment that will be required on

The latest brand new Arnold & Self truck at the Caterham Carnival this year.

the day. Arnold & Self help to take the stress out of moving day with their expert team making sure that all items are correctly labelled and positioned in exactly the right spot at the new address. The customers can simply sit back and relax, knowing that the process will go smoothly.

Arnold & Self have recently set up a new commercial division headed by Derek Deamer. The company has all the specialised expertise and equipment needed to move the valuable and often delicate items housed in libraries, hospitals, laboratories and even museums. Arnold & Self are fully insured and are members of the British Association of Removers.

For more information about their services visit www.arnoldself.com or call 0800 694 0394.

Winners of 'Hill in Bloom' competition

Another successful Hill in Bloom competition came to a conclusion with the prize giving at Audley School in Caterham-on-the-Hill on Wednesday, 13th July. The competition is run by Caterham-on-the-Hill Parish Council to encourage businesses and schools to make the Hill more attractive. There was a break from the usual residential classes, however it is hoped these will return next year. Mary Mountain, Chairman of the Parish Council said: "I would like to thank everyone who entered and in particular the competition judge Mr Stebbings and Audley School for hosting the event." Audley Primary School was awarded first prize in the Schools' Class. Hillcroft Primary School won second prize. The King and Queen pub won first prize in the Commercial Class; Second prize went to The Village Inn and third prize was awarded to the Caterham Ex-Servicemens Club and Royal British Legion.



From left, Cllr. Hilary Turner, Sally Ward from the King & Queen, Peter McNeil from the Caterham Ex-Servicemens Club, Cllr. Mary Mountain, Mr Len Stebbings, Steve and Catherine Kirk from The Village Inn with baby Ethan and Cllr. Helen Broughton.



Children from Audley Primary School celebrate their award with Premises Manager, Steve Butler.

New Funeral Parlour opens in Caterham

The Caterham Funeral Parlour opened for business recently, marking the occasion with a launch event held on Saturday 2nd July.

Visitors had the opportunity to meet Russell and Jennifer Holt, the owners, look around the premises and learn more about the range of funerals they provide.

Russell and Jennifer live just down the road in Kenley with their young children and Russell is pleased to have found premises for their new business so close to home.

"I used to work in the family funeral business in North London, which was a long commute," said Russell. "I didn't get to see my children until after they had gone to bed most evenings, so I felt the time was right to open the Caterham business."

The couple have put a lot of thought and effort into creating just the right atmosphere for their funeral parlour. The stylish decor provides pleasant and com-



Russell and Jennifer Holt.

fortable surroundings for their clients.

Russell is particularly proud of the range of traditional and alternative funerals his clients can choose from. The alternative choices include unusual hearses such as a motorbike with sidecar for transporting the coffin, or a converted VW Camper Van. A custom-made coffin can also be made to the client's specifications.

More information about the Caterham Funeral Parlour can be found at their website, www.caterhamfuneralparlour.co.uk or call the parlour on 01883 347660.

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Eating Out

Escape to 'The Harrow'

by Felicity Lawrence

The Summer Menu at The Harrow in Stanstead Road, Chaldon offers flavours to bring some sunshine into your summer.

I visited The Harrow with Julia from The Caterham Independent recently and we were spoilt for choice by the menu. It offers a variety of great home-made starters, mains and desserts to appeal to all tastes.

After spending some time deciding on what we wanted for starters, we finally narrowed it down to sharing the Baked Camembert and the English Asparagus. The food was served promptly and we were impressed with what we saw. As soon as she laid eyes on the Camembert Julia said: "That looks really, really nice!"

It certainly looked appetising - a whole Camembert with tomato and onion chut-

ney over the top, and bread and celery to dunk into the warm, creamy cheese. It was incredibly more-ish and before we knew it the poor Camembert had been demolished! The English Asparagus was presented beautifully and tasted delicious.

When the main courses arrived they were also a feast for the eyes and the smell was mouthwatering. Julia had ordered the Chef's Recommendation, Lamb Shank and I ordered the Chicken Mozzarella. The Chicken Mozzarella was gorgeous and the combination of flavours blended together beautifully, particularly the bacon and the cheese. Julia was thoroughly enjoying the Lamb Shank as the tender meat fell off the bone.

After the very generous portions of the first two courses we were unable to eat dessert, but the selection looked amazing. It will definitely be worth coming back just for pudding, especially for the Homemade



Our mouthwatering starters.

Baileys Crème Brûlée and the Vanilla Pannacotta.

The menu is very moderately priced and as well as offering the Summer Menu, The Harrow has themed nights including: Fish 'n' Chip Night every Friday and Steak Night on Thursdays. Traditional Cream Teas are served daily between 3-6pm. The Harrow is an old-fashioned, rustic pub with a very friendly atmosphere and great service.

With its large garden and ample parking, The Harrow is also very child friendly, with a children's menu for under 12's.

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Readers' letters

Housing development in Caterham

Peter Brent made several excellent points about the oddities of developments in Caterham versus Oxted. It does seem that Caterham gets the developments but seemingly no apportionate improvement in infrastructure - so perhaps also promoting the backlash on developments in Caterham. However it is a fact that property developments in Caterham are quickly occupied, implying a property shortage. Not surprising due to Caterham's excellent transport links and location. Meanwhile rents continue to spiral for the young and residential care for the elderly is heavily oversubscribed, overpriced and often inadequate. So perhaps we need more, not less development, but of the right kind?

Development enabled by simply releasing more green belt as TDC proposes will take too long and is an irreversible last resort. I don't

see why it is wrong for new developments to be focused on brown sites or replacing ageing housing stock - around existing services - but for each site to also contain a minimum proportion (33% perhaps) of affordable or residential housing, maintained in partnership with housing associations and the council. All council tax collected from that scheme should be directly credited to maintaining Caterham's infrastructure. Added to no change in existing budget allocations this will ensure that people in Caterham feel they are directly getting the benefit from housing regeneration, while we embrace the realities of housing shortage and elderly care. Idealistic maybe? Realistic why not?

Mark Lewis, Caterham.

...more feedback on the July edition ...

With reference to two items in the July issue, I would like to add my comments. Firstly, regarding the over-development of Caterham Hill or 'North Tandridge', I could not agree more with Mr Peter Brent although I am not of his political persuasion.

I sometimes feel that other council planning departments such as Reigate and Banstead and their residents are more militant and stand up to the developers, often winning the day.

I was born in Caterham in 1927 and I do not like what has happened here since about 1960. Prior to this Caterham was a pleasant small town where everyone spoke to each other, even to strangers and visitors. In 1960 flying at Kenley airfield was at an end and our third cinema, 'The Florida' was closed and redeveloped. Since then deterioration has been the password. How some of the developers' plans are passed is beyond me. The results are hideous and often do not merge compatibly with the existing architecture. Secondly, with regard to the 'Whyteleafe Grand Summer Fete' - the fete was billed as 'the village's first'. Surely there must still be people in Whyteleafe who remember such events being staged before WW2 and in the post-war years? I am 84 years old and I remember them!

Kenneth Sayers, Caterham.

What's On

Dance and Cabaret Night

A Cabaret Night featuring 'One Jump Ahead' hosted by No Name Jive is being held on Friday 5th August from 7.45pm until Midnight. The venue is The Swing Joint at the Royal British Legion and Ex-Servicemens Club, 15 Townend, Caterham, Surrey CR3 5UJ. The club has a licensed bar, a wooden dance floor and free parking opposite. Tickets cost £10. To book contact Mark on 07954 591631 or Julie on 07804 593503.

East Surrey Museum

East Surrey Museum in Stafford Road, Caterham Valley, has a varied programme of free children's activities lined up for August. On Saturday 6th August, Karl Lee the 'Flintknapper' will be at the museum from 10.30am-12.30pm and 2-4pm to demonstrate the art of prehistoric tool-making.

For more information about the activities taking place at East Surrey Museum this

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summer, e-mail eastsurreymuseum@btconnect.com or call 01883 340275.

Tours of St Lawrence's Church

Guided tours of the 900 year-old St. Lawrence's Church in Church Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill are taking place on the 7th and 29th August and the 4th and 11th September starting at 3pm. The cost is £2 for adults, free for children.

For more information about What's On, go to www.caterham-independent.co.uk

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'Focus on the Crocus' plaque unveiled

On Thursday, 30th June the Rotary Clubs of Caterham and Caterham Harestone joined together to unveil a new plaque in Queen's Park, Caterham, to commemorate the 'Focus on the Crocus' campaign. The plaque is located alongside the putting green where Rotary members, with help from local schoolchildren, planted a crocus maze that came into bloom for the first time last spring. The 'Focus on the Crocus' campaign has been raising money to help eradicate polio worldwide over the next five years, and the purple colour of the

crocuses matches the colour used to mark the children that have been vaccinated.

The maze has been sponsored by local businesses and individuals whose names have been recorded on the plaque. Caterham Rotary Club member, Jonathan Moun-tain, who made the plaque said: "I am delighted the Rotary Maze Plaque is now on display, complete with its Table of Sponsors - a big 'thank you' to all including our principal sponsor, Linden Homes South East. We have now raised over £4,500 towards ending polio."

For more information on the 'Focus on the Crocus' campaign visit www.caterhamrotary.org.uk



Members of Caterham and Caterham Harestone Rotary Clubs by the plaque in Queen's Park.

Photograph by Felicity Lawrence

Quick Quiz

by Alec Herbert

With which sport do you associate the following trophies? Award yourself an extra point if you know within that sport to whom the trophy would be awarded.

1. A Lonsdale Belt
2. Lance Todd Trophy
3. The Claret Jug
4. Swaythling Cup
5. Venus Rosewater Dish

Answers:

1. Boxing - to a British boxer who wins and successfully defends a title three times.
2. Rugby League - to the Man of the Match in the Challenge Cup Final.
3. Golf - to the winner of The Open Championship.
4. Table Tennis - the Men's World Team Champions.
5. Tennis - Winner of the Ladies' Singles at Wimbledon.

Croquet Club celebrates 25 years

by Jon Male

Caterham Croquet Club celebrated its 25th anniversary at Queen's Park on Saturday 2nd July. A good turnout of club members and a few young guests celebrated with croquet challenges and games. A fine tea with a croquet court cake followed in true club tradition.

Since its foundation in 1986, the club has built two full-sized lawns in Queen's Park with the support of Tandridge District Council, and has over 40 members. Starting with association croquet, the club now also supports golf croquet, which has become the more popular game with many members over the last decade.

Caterham competes in two South Eastern Croquet Feder-

ation leagues each year and has even won them a few times!

Unfortunately none of the founders could attend but the club stalwarts, Chairman John Gilbert and his wife Olive were there to host proceedings and cut the special anniversary cake. John and Olive joined the club in 1990 and are still very active members.

John said: "I'm very pleased that the club is healthy and continuing to develop after 25 years. We get superlative service from the Queen's Park team, Phil and Graham."

Graham Petifer, groundsman at Queen's Park, cut the first sod for the club's first lawn and is still looking after both lawns today. The first time he cut the lawn Graham used a rotary mower! Thankfully, today's cylinder mowers should keep the lawns in excellent shape for croquet in Caterham for at least another 25 years.



John and Olive Gilbert cut the celebratory cake at Queen's Park.

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Diamond Jubilee Tournament marks 60 years of Warlingham Archery Club

Warlingham Archery Club, founded in 1951, is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee this year and to mark the occasion the club hosted a Jubilee shoot on Sunday, 10th July. Over 50 archers took part in the friendly competition to celebrate the anniversary.

"The dry and windless conditions were perfect for target archery," said Club Secretary Keith Barrett. "The shooting line had a definite tournament air with tents and club colours on display as well as plenty of Longbow archers among the more modern Compound and Recurve bows. We were particularly pleased to receive a superb new club pennant made by Jenny Beal, the mother of one of our up and coming junior archers. It is also an archery tradition going back centuries to have a Lady Paramount present and this role was filled by Betty Bass, one of our longest-serving members." The club shoots throughout



Archers line up to shoot at the Diamond Jubilee tournament at Warlingham Archery Club. Inset: The new club pennant made by Jenny Beal.

the year at its superb home ground at Warlingham Park School, Chelsham Common. In the winter months it also has indoor venues at Warlingham School and Kenley Memorial Hall available to its members that number approximately 50. The club is very much part of the local community with most of its members living in and around the East Surrey area. After shooting a Western round with four dozen arrows shot at 60 yards and then four dozen at 50 yards the archers gathered to hear

the results and enjoy a tea fit for the occasion. All those participating also received a souvenir mug commemorating the event.

Warlingham Archery Club supports all forms of archery and is open to anyone interested in the sport. Beginners' courses are held each year in the spring and autumn under the management of qualified coaches. The Club website can be accessed at www.warlinghamarchers.co.uk and the Club Secretary Keith Barrett at warlinghamac@aol.com

Calling all Football teams!

The Whyteleafe Astro-Soccer Sixes based at Whyteleafe Football Club in Church Road, Whyteleafe are looking for new teams to play in their new Friday night six-a-side football league.

The club has three state of the art 3G astro turf pitches, shower and changing facilities and a fully licensed bar that serves discounted drinks.

Alex Peters of the Astro-Soccer Sixes said: "The teams don't have to be the next Barcelona, they just need to have a little bit of a competitive edge and the

will to have fun! Readers of The Caterham and District Independent will get free team registration, they just need to tell us before registering."

The club offers fun and competitive league and cup matches that last 50 minutes with FA qualified referees and supplies the match balls and bibs. Its league website keeps players and supporters up to date with all the stats, results, fixtures and news.

For more information, visit www.leaguewebsite.co.uk/whyteleafeastrosoccer or call 07729 760048.



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CATERHAM HILL



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CATERHAM HILL



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CATERHAM HILL



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CATERHAM £700 PCM

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