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Community rallies to support flood victims

Businesses and residents in Whyteleafe whose properties lie close to the route of the Bourne River are reeling from the effects of the river finally bursting its banks following weeks of heavy rain. The Environment Agency had issued a flood alert for the Bourne in mid-January, warning people to prepare for possible flooding. Despite the efforts of the local council and the Environment Agency to clear culverts and gullies close to the Bourne, the level of the groundwater-fed river continued to rise, finally flooding the area in the first week of February. Within a very short time the A22

in Whyteleafe had to be closed to traffic and back gardens and a number of houses were flooded along with several businesses. To make matters worse, raw sewerage burst through manhole covers to mix with the flood water. Godstone Road resident, Robert Baynham, said: "I am lucky because only my garden is flooded, not my house, but there is sewerage floating around in my garden and we cannot flush the toilet when we need to. Thames Water have delivered Portaloos for us to use but that's not much fun in the middle of the night."

Other families have had to find temporary accommodation after evacuating their flooded properties. In an effort to alleviate the immediate distress caused to those residents affected by the flood, community leaders in Whyteleafe launched the 'Whyteleafe Flood Appeal'. The vicar of St. Luke's Church, Reverend Tim Goode, said: "Local people can see the suffering caused by the floods but feel powerless to help in these situations. Making a donation will not just help in a practical sense – it will also send out a strong message to the victims of the flooding that their community cares about them. We can act now to do something to help them." **Continued on pages 12-13.**



The vicar of St. Luke's Church, Reverend Tim Goode with local resident Maria Chydzik in Godstone Road, Whyteleafe.

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Community in shock following tragic death of 14 year-old Breck Bednar

On Sunday 23rd February the bells of St. John's Church in Caterham Valley and St. Mary's Church in Caterham-on-the-Hill were rung half-muffled and prayers were said for 14 year-old Breck Bednar who was stabbed to death on Monday 17th February.

Breck had travelled by train to meet an 18 year-old stranger in Grays in Essex that he had met over the internet. Breck had told his parents he would be staying with a friend overnight.

Hours after he arrived, Breck was found dead at the flat by paramedics. He had been stabbed in the neck.

Breck was a Year 10 student at St. Bede's School in Redhill. He lived in Caterham with his parents Barry Bednar and Lorin LaFave and three younger siblings.

In a statement his parents said: "Our family is devastated by the loss of our beloved Breck David LaFave Bednar. He was a kind, intelligent, thoughtful boy with a good sense of humour and was a dedicated student at St Bede's School in Redhill and extremely gifted in computing, electronics, and engineering. Breck was a member of the Air Cadets with the 135 Squadron



Breck Bednar.

in Redhill and a member of St. John the Evangelist Church of England Church in Caterham. "His three younger siblings knew him as a kind and loving older brother who always helped out by looking after them."

Computer engineer Lewis Daynes, 18, of Roseberry Road, Grays, has been charged with murder. He has been remanded in custody and a plea and case management hearing is due to be held at Chelmsford Crown Court on Monday 28th April.

Have your say at the Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Day

The CR3 Forum are inviting the whole community to attend a Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Day. The event will take place on Wednesday 5th March at St Luke's Church in Whyteleafe from 2pm until 7pm.

The CR3 Neighbourhood Plan is an opportunity to shape where we live now and in the future. Mark Bristow a local resident volunteering on the Plan said: "It is vitally important that the community has a say in the contents of the Plan which will cover the community for the next 20 years. If you have strong views on where development should or should not take place it is important that the CR3 Forum hears from you. By attending this consultation day, you will be able to identify what is important to you. For example do you

want to live next door to a 24 storey tower block or perhaps even a waste incinerator? The Neighbourhood Plan is a great way for you as a resident and a member of the community to directly influence local government policy and development of the area.

If you have an opinion or great idea, please share it for the benefit of the whole community."

The CR3 Forum is currently also looking for what land may be likely to become available for development. This could be for housing, business use or even community facilities. If you have land or know of land that might be available please notify a CR3 Forum member at the Consultation Day or email info@cr3forum.org.uk or telephone 01883 577008.

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Hop along to the Bunny Fun Run 2014!

Plans are well under way for this year's Easter Bunny Fun Run being organised by the Rotary Club of Caterham. The run is taking place on Sunday 13th April at Queen's Park in Caterham-on-the-Hill. There will be a 1K Fun Run starting at 10am and a 5K Race starting at 10.30am.

The 1K Run is mostly in the park and along Wood Lane with no roads to cross and marshals at each turn. The 5K Race is over an undulating course of grass, pathway and track through Chaldon and Caterham-on-the-Hill.

To help keep the costs down, the following local businesses are sponsoring the event: Catax Ltd., Ross Cycles, Surrey National Golf Club, Nutfield Priory Hotel & Spa, Harestone Lops, Tesco, BCL Systems and The Caterham and District Independent.

Caterham Rotary Club is encouraging local charities, groups and businesses to



Runners setting off on the 1K Bunny Fun Run.

put together teams to raise funds.

Registration is £5 for the 5K Race and £2.50 for the 1K Fun Run, but registration on the day is double. All registered runners receive an Easter Egg at the finish line and there will be prizes for the best dressed bunnies!

Runners can register online or request registration forms via www.rotaryruns.co.uk, by email request to rotaryruns@gmail.com, by post from 'Rotary Runs', 11a Queen's Park Road, Caterham CR3 5RB or by telephone during business hours on 01883 346641.

Caterham Dene Minor Injuries Unit extends opening hours

The Minor Injuries Unit at Caterham Dene Hospital has extended its opening hours from 9am-8pm, 365 days a year for adults aged 18 and over.

The hospital, located on Church Road, Caterham-on-the-Hill, is run by local community health provider First Community Health & Care.

Managing Director, Philip Greenhill said: "Our hugely popular Minor Injuries Unit is a safe and convenient alternative to A&E for Minor Injuries."

"Our MIU currently sees 70-100 patients per week and we consistently receive excellent patient feedback results via the national Friends and Family Test. There is no need to book an appointment, and we have limited free parking on site. With the centre being open for longer hours, this will only serve the needs of our population better."

Dr Joe McGilligan, GP and East Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group Chair said: "With the service now open 9am-8pm (last

patient 7.30pm), seven days a week, working people will find accessing the service much easier. It is important that patients access the right service for the right illness. Often people go to A&E because they are worried and unsure of where else to go. The Minor Injuries Unit provides convenient treatment for sprains, strains and minor burns, so there is no need to go to A&E."



Alison Williams, one of the lead Emergency Nurse Practitioners (left) and Davina Buttery, Senior Emergency Nurse Practitioner outside the entrance to the Minor Injuries Unit at Caterham Dene Hospital.

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Wildlife Aid team rescues trapped deer

by Shelley Patey

A young roe deer trapped in an enclosure by Kenley Airfield since spring last year has finally been freed, much to the relief of local residents.

The deer had been trapped close to Victor Beamish Avenue in Caterham-on-the-Hill and seemed unable to escape. At the end of January, local residents concerned for the animal's welfare called the Surrey Wildlife Trust who recommended consulting the Wildlife Aid Foundation based in Leatherhead. After first assessing the situation, the decision was made to try to capture the young female deer and return her to the wild.

Wildlife Aid worker David Gooden and his team were concerned that the deer may injure herself on the high security fencing during the rescue attempt, but as she negotiated a ditch the



The Wildlife Aid crew secure the deer's legs after capturing her in the ditch.



A member of the Wildlife Aid team carries the frightened young deer away from the ditch.

crew were able to catch her and safely secure her fore and hind legs to avoid injury. She was then put in a sleeping bag, carried to a vehicle and transported to Kenley Common where she was released.

David Gooden said: "After we released the deer she ran a short way off then stopped and looked back at us before walking away."

For more information about Wildlife Aid, to make a donation and to view films of recent animal rescues visit www.wildlifeaid.org.uk



The deer is placed into a sleeping bag for safe transportation.

Photographs by Shelley Patey.

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In the spotlight

This month we feature Caterham resident and member of the Rotary Club of Caterham, Stef Barrett.



Birthplace: Carshalton, Surrey *Stef Barrett.*

Marital Status: Married 35 years!

Children: Daughter Laura.

Cars: VW Golf (which I love).

Pets: Had dog, ponies and horses and now two cats Alfie and Molly.

Likes: Life and having fun.

Dislikes: People who do not say please and thank you.

Favourite TV show: Soaps, period dramas.

Favourite Food & Drink: White wine and Italian food.

Pastimes: Having a good social life and Rotary.

Favourite book: The Dragon Tattoo collection by Stieg Larsson. A brilliant read.

Childhood hero: Lassie

Who would you most like to throw a custard pie at?: Tony Blair.

Favourite holiday destination: Porta Pollence, Majorca.

Favourite song of all time: 'Build me up Buttercup' by The Foundations.

Biggest influence on your life: My husband David.

Proudest moment: My daughter becoming a vet. She worked so hard.

Most embarrassing moment: Falling off a bar stool when having too much wine! (I will not say where.)

Where would you most like to live? More in the countryside.

Who would you most like to meet?: Alive: Robbie Williams, Died: Marilyn Monroe

If you won the Lottery jackpot, how would you spend it? Big question. Keep some, give some away to people that I love and charities.

Blue plaque unveiled to commemorate former Soldiers' Home.

On Saturday 22nd February the unveiling of the Bourne Society's 30th blue plaque took place outside the Raja Tandoori at 4 High Street, Caterham-on-the-Hill. This latest plaque commemorates the Soldiers' Home that occupied the building from 1898 until circa 1950.

Before the unveiling, Bourne Society President, Roger Packham, explained the history of the Soldiers' Home. He also described the grand ceremony that took place at its official opening on Friday October 28th, 1898 when the ceremony was performed by Lord Roberts of Kandahar V.C., the Commander-in-Chief in Ireland.

The unveiling of the blue plaque was performed by Caterham resident, Mr John Barnes, who was born in the building in 1944. His parents lived there because his father, Charles Barnes, was the last Superintendent of the Soldiers' Home.



Mr John Barnes unveiling the blue plaque. Photo by Neil Hadrill.



For more information about the Bourne Society local history group and the location of the other 29 blue plaques visit www.bournesociety.org.uk

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Diary of a Plantaholic

by Sue Baines

With sogginess still prevailing, I find it hard to think that Spring really is on its way, yet the birds are singing and the bulbs are showing, and the beautiful snowdrops are fully out. Dry days have seen Geoff trying to finish trimming the hedges, before the birds start nesting. I have been concentrating on clearing the beds for my hardy annual seeds. Poppies, Clarkia and Love-in-a-Mist are favourites. They cope with cool spells, but my half-hardy seeds won't be sown till mid-March, and will have the protection of a propagator. Nets will need to be removed from the pond shortly, as the frogs have hardly hibernated this year. I hope they are hungry, as there should be plenty of slugs for them! Do start protecting the young shoots of plants like Delphiniums and Lupins and any other tender growth.

A good start has been made



Sue Baines.

pruning the Roses, and lightly trimming Clematis, especially if they are early flowering, as I don't want to cut off any flower buds. Roses are tougher and fairly forgiving, but I try to remove any dead or diseased stems, and any that are crossing and congested. I cut back to outward-facing buds.

Last year I fed both Roses and Clematis with long-life granules and well rotted manure. The granules last six months and are so easy to apply at this time of year. My giant 'Skyscraper' Lillies have been planted in large pots in situ. This year I will make sure I can get to them easily (so I can squash lily beetles!).

From Greenwood Gardens to Paralympic Gold!

by Phil Saville

On Friday 14th February more than 50 people attended St. John's Church Hall in Caterham Valley to hear Helena Lucas give an entertaining talk for COAT (Caterham Overseas Aid Trust) on how she won Paralympic Sailing Gold at London 2012. Helena, who was brought up in Greenwood Gardens, Caterham, dreamt of reaching the Olympics from an early age, but not in sailing!

After a flotilla holiday in Greece with her parents she was won over to the joys of water sports. Then, after joining her parents' sailing club and going on to compete successfully in many regatta events, she eventually reached the Olympic Trials in 2000 and 2004, only to miss out on both occasions. Despite these setbacks, she never gave up, and although

born with no thumbs she had never considered herself disabled until one of her support team suggested the Paralympics. Helena became a member of the Paralympic sailing team, and despite the team not achieving expectations in Beijing, she came good at London 2012 and won Paralympic Gold in the 2.4MR class, afterwards being awarded an MBE.

Helena is the only female to win Paralympics Sailing Gold, and her success is all the more remarkable because she has shown total dedication to excel against all the odds in a male-dominated sport. Still ambitious, Helena is now competing this year for selection for the Rio 2016 Paralympics. She is an inspiration to us all, and



Helena Lucas with her Paralympic Gold medal.

COAT is very grateful to her for her talk and the £200 raised from a retiring collection.

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Please come and join 'Team Caterham'!

by Andy Parr

There are many people in the Caterham area who already assist at events and functions in various ways. Some are willing to stand and direct people or traffic whilst others prefer to sit and talk. Some people, for various reasons are unable to volunteer on a regular basis and don't want to sit on a committee but would still like to be involved on an irregular basis with community events. With this in mind my volunteer friends and I decided to launch 'Team Caterham'. When volunteers are required for an event, an e-mail will be sent out to everyone signed up to Team Caterham, asking for volunteers to assist. There is no compulsion to volunteer for any of the events but we hope that everyone will volunteer at least once a year. Volunteers will be required for a variety of events, so you could be looking after a road closure at the Caterham Festival Street Party, helping



The Caterham Carnival is one of the many popular events that relies on the support of a team of volunteers.

on a stall at the Carnival or marshalling beside the float procession. At other times of the year groups such as Round Table need helpers at the Fireworks Display or the Beer Festival; Caterham Rotary may need help with the Half Marathon. Schools, churches or similar organisations may approach us and ask for help at a particular event and you will then be contacted. There will be perks for our volunteers, for example free entry to the Fireworks Display for those who help, sandwiches at the Street Party or possibly an annual get together with the rest of

Team Caterham but above all there will be a sense of pride in doing something positive for the community. Team Caterham is being run through the Caterham Volunteer Centre who will hold your details and contact you when required. They will not forward other volunteering opportunities to you, will not pass on your details to others or contact you unnecessarily. To join please e-mail your name, address, date of birth, telephone numbers and any particular skills or qualifications you may wish to use to teamcaterham@outlook.com. Thank you.

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St. John's receives Gold Anti-Bullying Award

On Tuesday 11th February, St. John's CoFE Primary School in Caterham became the first school in Surrey to be awarded a Gold Anti-bullying Award as part of Surrey County Council's new Anti-bullying Chartermark. The Chartermark accreditors praised St. John's for 'the strength of the school ethos which enables pupils to build and experience positive relationships'. Pupils were praised for being courteous and confident and 'excellent ambassadors' for the school.

Mrs Connie Cooper, one of the accreditors for the Surrey Anti-bullying Chartermark, presented the award to head teacher Mrs Liz Wombwell at the end of a special assembly celebrating the achievement of the award.

Afterwards Mrs Wombwell said: "All schools experience some incidents of bullying and it is important to have a clear system in place to deal with it. We encourage pupils to tell us about it and we work hard to stop it. We are delighted that our commitment has been recognised and that our work is judged as effective but we are not complacent and will continue to work with the children to stamp out bullying."



Connie Cooper (centre right), Mrs Liz Wombwell and the Year Six Captains with their Gold Anti-bullying awards. Photograph by Neil Hadrill.

VIP guests join de Stafford students to celebrate GCSE success

On the Thursday 30th January de Stafford School in Burntwood Lane, Caterham welcomed back the class of 2013 to celebrate their successes and the school's best ever GCSE results.

Former professional footballer Ian Pearce presented the students with their certificates and then gave an inspirational speech about his career and how you can achieve your dream if you put your mind to it.

Former teacher, Geraint Jenkins MBE, was invited back to present a new award, 'The Jenkins Award' named after him in recognition of his good work in the school over many years. Mr Jenkins was proud to present the award to two former students, Connie Saunders and Jack Gillam for their special contributions to de Stafford during their time at the school. The evening was hosted by head teacher Mr Jeremy Garner who was thrilled so many past students came to receive their awards.



From left: Ian Pearce, Connie Saunders, Jack Gillam, Geraint Jenkins MBE. Photograph by Neil Hadrill.

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Head tries out life in a wheelchair to help Megan's campaign

Students at de Stafford School in Caterham were surprised to see their head teacher, Mr Jeremy Garner, navigating his way around the school in a wheelchair recently. Mr Garner was using the wheelchair, kindly loaned to him by Titan Mobility in Caterham, to help one of his pupils, Megan Downs, raise awareness of the issues faced by wheelchair users. Megan was born with a very rare condition called Arthrogryposis Multiplex Congenita which inhibits the movement of her limbs, so Megan spends much of her time in a wheelchair. Megan said: "As part of our Citizenship Project I had to choose something to campaign about so I chose the issues faced by wheelchair users. Mr Garner kindly agreed to spend some time in a wheelchair to see for himself the challenges we face and to get the attention of the rest of the school. "I think it is very important that disabled people are seen as human beings, and not just nuisances getting in the way."



Megan Downs with head teacher Mr Jeremy Garner.

Describing the experience, Mr Garner said: "The students were very concerned to see me in the wheelchair when Megan and I popped in to their classrooms. One of the biggest things for me was the physicality of it - my arms are really hurting from pushing the wheels! "The students can see that Megan doesn't make a fuss. She has such a positive outlook in life and is such an ambassador - she confronts challenges head on." Megan said: "I have bad days sometimes but the school has been brilliant at accommodating my needs over the last five years. I am grateful to Mr Garner for helping me with my awareness campaign today."

A proud night had by all at Caterham Sea Cadets

On Friday 31st January, parents and guests packed the Caterham-on-the-Hill HQ of the Caterham Sea Cadets and Royal Marine Cadets of T.S. Zephyr for their annual Awards Presentation Night. Guest of Honour, Lieutenant Commander Loveridge attended the event along with representatives from Caterham Round Table and town crier, Sonia Hunt. Royal Marine Detachment Commander, Sergeant John Wood, explained that the presentation night is held so that parents can find out what their children have been doing over the past year and how successful they have been on District and National courses. It is also a chance for groups that have supported the cadets over the last 12 months to see where the money donated by them has been spent and the range of opportunities the cadets have had during the past year. For more information about the group visit www.sea-cadets.org/caterham



Petty Officer John Russell (left), Lieutenant Commander Loveridge (back right) and Town Crier Sonia Hunt with some of the award-winning cadets. Photo by Andy Parr.

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East Surrey Community Mediation wins Big Lottery Fund Grant

by Kasia Janes

East Surrey Community Mediation charity has received a grant of £9,892 from The Big Lottery Fund, which will expand our capacity to help residents in dispute with their neighbours.

In 2013 we experienced a large increase in demand for our help. This increase has come as a result of a local press campaign, launch of a new website and working more closely with the local police, housing associations and individual community members. We have neither sufficient capacity nor the technical infrastructure to handle such an increase in volume.

The grant from The Big Lottery Fund will be invested in:

- Training of 16 new volunteer mediators.
- Development of automated tools for case administration to manage cases on a greater scale while controlling costs and managing quality.
- Expanding awareness of our free mediation service, giving the entire community knowledge of a peaceful alternative to resolving differences at an early stage.

The best chance for successful

mediation comes when individuals approach us before the situation escalates. For this reason we want to increase awareness of our service to the general public, not just via other organisations. John Whetsel, the General Manager, said: "We are both proud and excited by this grant, which will enable us to serve 50% more of the estimated 7,500 neighbour disputes in East Surrey while maintaining effectiveness and quality. Certainly this grant goes a long way to The Big Lottery Fund's commitment to bring real improvements to communities and the lives of people."

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Funded by the National Lottery through the Big Lottery Fund

Alastair Campbell promotes mental health awareness campaign to local students

by Julia Parlett

On Thursday 13th February, former Labour spin doctor, Alastair Campbell, visited Coulsdon College in Old Coulsdon to talk to sixth form students about mental health awareness and alcoholism.

Until 2003 Alastair was Tony Blair's Director of Communications and Strategy but he now describes himself as a writer, communicator and strategist.

As a recovering alcoholic, Alastair has suffered with severe depression over many years. As an ambassador for the 'Time for Change, time to talk' campaign, Alastair encourages people to be more open about mental awareness, and has written three books on mental illness.

After signing his most recent book, 'My name is...' he took questions from English and Politics A Level students before addressing a packed theatre full of students from across the College.

He spoke about his concerns about the bad reputation he says Britain has as a country when it comes to alcoholism. He is appalled that you can now buy cheap alcohol in service stations.

He said: "We're like Russia used to be. They used to be known for their drinking habits. They have tackled it and they will reap the rewards from that. You won't see any alcohol advertising in Russia any more, and no branding at sports events. Our sports events are littered with advertising."

As well as banning the advertising of alcohol, Alastair is campaigning for minimum unit pricing.

Coulsdon College Principal Brett Freeman was delighted to be hosting the visit. He said: "The issues which Alastair is passionate about are very real issues for many teenagers. We are pleased that he came in to talk to our students about them. Our students weren't backwards



Alastair Campbell signing copies of his book at Coulsdon College.

in coming forwards with questions for him; this may be as a result of some campaigns we have been running in the College this year to raise awareness of things like mental health and alcoholism."

For more information about the 'Time to Change, time to talk' campaign go to www.time-to-change.org.uk

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The Bourne Flood 2014

Continued from page 1.

Whyteleafe businesses were also badly affected by flood water and the closure of the A22. Although some businesses were able to remain open or re-open, their customers had difficulty reaching them.

Trevor Slaughter of Wraysbury Tyres said: "We had to close when the flood first came because we lost power, but we have managed to re-open one of our four workshops now. Instead of our customers coming to us, we are going to them so that we can keep the business ticking over until things get back to normal."

On Friday 21st February Sam Gyimah MP and the Chief Executive of Tandridge District Council, Louise Round, met local business owners in the BP garage in Whyteleafe. After hearing the views of the business owners about how they felt the situation could have been handled better by the different agencies, Louise Round said: "I will guarantee we will co-ordinate a review

of this situation and get a clear plan for the future should this happen again. We need to have Thames Water, Surrey County Council, Tandridge District Council, the Environment Agency and local businesses all round the table."

Sam Gyimah also expressed his support, saying he would do all he could to ensure business owners received financial assistance from the government.



The flood beneath the viaduct in Woldingham.



From left: Trevor, Joe, Kev and Jake outside flooded Wraysbury Tyres.



Croydon Council declared a major incident and Purley flooded, threatening to close the A22 and work on the A23. In Godstone, the Engineering there was no risk to the local flat out to protect the works.



Godstone Road resident, Robert Baynham, by the waterfall cascading out of his back garden.

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Major incident on Thursday 6th February when Kenley closed the Kenley water treatment works. Emergency services worked round the clock to prevent the works from flooding. The Director for Sutton and East Surrey Water said that the water supply and that all the agencies were working

On Friday 21st February the army arrived in Woldingham to create a dam in a field by Woldingham Viaduct. The dam is designed to hold back the flow of the Bourne River to alleviate the flooding in Whyteleafe and Kenley.



Simon Peet (left) and Steve Lott moving equipment out of their Godstone Road premises to safe storage.



Sam Gyimah MP with business owners and representatives of Tandridge District Council on 'Whyteleafe Pier', the temporary scaffold walkway erected by Formark Scaffolding.



A car driving too fast through the floodwater, causing contaminated water to flow into homes and businesses. Photograph by Neil Hadrill.

FLOOD APPEAL

Please send a cheque to Whyteleafe Flood Appeal to c/o, Whyteleafe Hill, Godstone, Surrey CR3 0AA or hand cash to the collection point at St. Luke's Church or The Whyteleafe Tavern.

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Eating Out

A 'royal' dining experience at Dewan-E-Am

Review by Julia Church

The name 'Dewan-E-Am' means 'The dining room of royalty' which will give some indication of the quality of service diners can expect when they visit this popular Indian restaurant in Caterham-on-the-Hill. Located just along the road from Tesco at 188 Coulsdon Road, the restaurant is easy to find with ample parking nearby.

When I visited recently on a Saturday evening with my friend Sally, the restaurant soon became busy with regular customers who were greeted warmly by restaurant owner Sam Choudhary.

As we nibbled on some lovely warm papadams we perused the menu, trying to decide whether or not to order a starter or have an extra side dish with our main courses instead. The 'Special Platter' starter caught our eye, so we decided to order one to share as an appetiser. The dish consisted of tender pieces of Chicken Tikka, Lamb Tikka and a Sheekh Kebab, just the right amount for us to share, beautifully presented



The stylish interior of Dewan-E-Am.

with a drizzle of sauce and salad garnish.

For our main courses I chose the Chicken Surprise and Sally chose one of the Dewan-E-Am Specialities, Lamb Korai. We ordered a portion of Mushroom Pilau Rice and a Peshwari Nan bread to share, to go with our meat dishes.

Sally's Lamb Korai was cooked with hot fresh garlic, chilli and a selection of spices with onion and green herbs. It was not too spicy and Sally said that it made a wonderful change from the creamy curries she normally chooses. My Chicken Surprise was a lovely mild Chicken Bhuna but you will have to order the dish yourself to find out what the added surprise is! Both our main courses had

generous servings of meat.

The excellent service and food accompanied by a delicious bottle of Chardonnay ensured a very enjoyable evening and the quantity of food we ordered was just right. The prices are very reasonable too. For example Sally's Lamb Korai was £6.10 and the Mushroom Pilau Rice was just £2.75. Sam encouraged us to try Masala tea to finish our meal, which neither of us had had before, which tasted of Cinnamon and hit the spot perfectly!

Dewan-E-Am have Banquet Nights every Wednesday which, at £12.95 per person offer excellent value for a wonderful Indian meal. Be sure to book a table - call the restaurant on 01883 348913.

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Treat your Mum this Mother's Day

To celebrate Mother's Day on Sunday 30th March we are bringing you not one but two fantastic competitions with prizes to delight every Mum! In our Mother's Day Cake Competition, Elizabeth George Cakes are donating a beautiful cake that would make a truly unique gift to say 'thank you' to a very special Mum. The Caterham-based company makes a range of lovingly crafted cakes for a wide range of occasions including bespoke wedding cakes, gluten-free cakes and mouth-watering cupcakes. The prize-winner

has the option to choose any other cake up to the value of £50 instead of the Mother's Day cake if they wish. Or if wedding bells will be ringing for you this summer, you could opt to have £50 off one of their stunning wedding cakes.

To enter the competition, simply answer the following question by choosing answer a, b or c.

In which town is Elizabeth George Cakes based?

- a) Warlingham;
- b) Coulsdon;
- c) Caterham.



A bespoke wedding cake by Elizabeth George Cakes.

E-mail your answer to info@caterham-independent.co.uk with 'Mother's Day Cake Competition' in the subject heading. Please include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Entries can also be sent on a postcard to: 'Mother's Day Cake Competition, The Caterham and District Independent, The Officers' Mess, Coldstream Road, Caterham CR3 5UX.' Entries must be received by 5pm on Friday 14th March.

Everyone who enters will be offered a 10% discount for their first cake order from Elizabeth George Cakes.



A Happy Birthday cupcake by Elizabeth George Cakes.

Elemis

For our second competition, Sahara Studio is donating a luxurious Elemis skin specific facial worth £49.50. The winner can choose either Exotic Moisture Dew, Fruit Active Glow or Herbal Lavender Repair. If your Mum likes to be pampered, this generous prize will be the fabulous treat all great mums deserve!

To enter the competition, simply answer the following question by choosing answer a, b or c.

Which of the following is not an Elemis skin specific facial?

- a) Exotic Moisture Dew;
- b) Tropical Ocean Balm;
- c) Fruit Active Glow.

Entry instructions are the same as for the Mother's Day Cake Competition but with the heading: 'Elemis Facial Competition' in the subject line.

All entrants will be offered £5 off any treatment worth £15 or over by Sahara Studio. One £5 discount per entrant.

The lucky winner of the dozen red roses from Four Seasons Floral Design in our Valentine's Day competition was Mr Richard Moore from Westerham.

Quick Quiz

by Alec Herbert

First an apology for a glaring error in last month's quiz. The first Summer Olympic Games to be held in an Asian country were in the sixties (Tokyo 1964), not the eighties as stated. As Captain Mainwaring used to say: "I wondered who would be the first to spot that." So, five questions on "Sorry".

1. Who wrote and originally recorded 'Sorry seems to be the hardest word' in 1976?
2. Who starred as the 'mummy's boy' in the TV sitcom "Sorry"?
3. There is a popular board game simply called "Sorry". True or False?
4. Which member of the original Rat Pack once said: "I feel sorry for people who don't drink. When they wake up in the morning, that's as good as they're going to feel all day".
5. Which American statesman and scientist, who has featured on dollar bills, once said: "Never ruin an apology with an excuse"?

Answers:

1. Elton John; 2. Ronnie Corbett; 3. True; 4. Dean Martin; 5. Benjamin Franklin.

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What's On

Charity Concert and Art Exhibition

The Chairman of Tandridge District Council, Councillor Beverley Connolly, is hosting a Charity Concert and Art Exhibition at Caterham School, Caterham, on Sunday 23rd March, from 2pm to 5pm. Tickets cost £12.50, including refreshments. All the money raised will go to the charities the Councillor is supporting this year - St.

Catherine's Hospice, the East Surrey Museum and the Soper Hall Community Centre. Local school children aged 11 and over who are experienced musicians, singers and artists are invited to take part. For more information and tickets please contact Lesley Ayers, on 01883 732701, or email layers@tandridge.gov.uk.

Evening of Magic
On Friday 4th April Caterham Rotary Club is presenting an 'Evening of Magic' with eight members of the Magic Circle from

7.45pm-10.45pm at Woldingham School. Tickets for the event are £25 each, including a free glass of wine. To book tickets contact David Monk by email at monk461@btinternet.com. The profits from the evening will be divided between The Children's Trust and The Orpheus Centre, Godstone.

RSPB Talk
At 8pm on Wednesday 12th March, East Surrey RSPB is hosting a talk in the White Hart Barn, Godstone entitled 'The RSPB's Natural Secrets' by Peter

Holden MBE. All including non-members of the RSPB are most welcome. There will be refreshments at half time and the evening will finish at 10pm. The fee is £3 for adults and £1 for children. For more information the website is <http://www.eastsurreyrspb.co.uk/>

Bedrock Concert
On Saturday 29th March from 8-11pm, Caterham Overseas Aid Trust will present 'Bedrock' classic rock covers band at The Humphreys Hall, Caterham School. Tickets cost £10

each. Please call 01883 341063 or email secretary@overseasaid.org.uk to reserve tickets in advance. Attendees are advised to bring their own drinks, but nibbles will be provided.

Jumble Sale
On Saturday 15th March at 2pm there will be a jumble/nearly new sale at Caterham Community Church, Coulsdon Road, Caterham. The funds raised will be donated to the Methodist Women in Britain Missions Department.

Continued on Page 17.

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Nature Notes

by Adele Brand



Adele Brand.

The magpie rhyme has run short. There are 22 chalk-and-ebony chatters milling about the field's edge, chuckling from trees or scavenging for grubs. It is the winter social season, and these supersized flocks allow unpaired magpies to find new mates. But on the other side of the meadow, huddled into a bare hedgerow still damp with January's record-breaking rain, a single fox awakes. He ambles away from his dripping shelter. He doesn't approach the magpie flock, but I've no doubt that he's noticed - they don't miss much.

Fox and magpie: there is something special about seeing them together, our two most intelligent wild creatures subtly vying like masters at chess. Like ravens following wolves in the Canadian forests, magpies seem irresistibly drawn to the spectacle of a fox on the move - a black-and-white train that ever grows, perching on fence-posts, swooping overhead. Of

course magpies will steal scraps from whatever prey their fox manages to catch, but their interest is far more than that - curiosity at a potential danger and rival, and perhaps even amusement. Like crows and ravens, magpies have a well-documented playful streak, and sometimes it's hard to judge if they're pecking a fox's brush to hassle them away or just in jest. But it's not always negative for the fox. They can show amazing tolerance to a magpie that removes moulting fur during spring. Their relationship is a rivalry, but one with room for an occasional truce. You can follow Adele's wildlife blog at <http://foxescrossing.wordpress.com>

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Fox and Magpie. Photo by Adele Brand.

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To advertise a vacancy in the April edition of The Caterham and District Independent call 01883 346641.

What's On

Downland Chorale
On Saturday 29th March at 7.30pm, Downland Chorale will be performing 'Haydn, The Creation' at St. John's Church, Canon's Hill, Old Coulsdon, CR5 1HA. The conductor will be Jemma Riches, with St. Paul's Sinfonia and soloists performing. Tickets are available at £12 on the door.

East Surrey Choral Society
On Saturday 5th April at 7.30pm, East Surrey Choral Society will be performing 'Handel's Messiah parts 2 and 3' with soloists and instrumentalists from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama at St. John's Church, Canon's Hill, Old Coulsdon, CR5 1HA. Tickets cost £12 (free for children under 14) from the box office on 01293 786358. Email gillenglish@gmail.com for more information.

Meet Sam Gyimah MP
On Friday 7th March at 7pm, Sam Gyimah MP invites the public to join him at Chaldon Village Hall, where he will be answering any questions on the political topics of the day. Sam says "I am looking forward to this opportunity to discuss any questions people have - either on local issues or on the wider, national topics of interest - this will be a very relaxed evening and very much talking about the issues that those present want to talk about". Please email Pamela Parker at

Sam Gyimah MP.

nect.com or call her on 07710 170137 with your intention to attend. Drinks and nibbles will be provided free of charge.

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Oakwood Rise, Caterham £2,500pcm
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Bairstow eves

Caterham – 01883 349114

9-11 Station Avenue Caterham CR3 6LB
Email: caterham@bairstoweves.co.uk

Kenley – 020 8668 1000

3 Station Approach, Hayes Lane, Kenley CR8 5JD
Email: kenley@bairstoweves.co.uk

CATERHAM VALLEY- SIMILAR WANTED



CATERHAM 01883 349114

A three bedroom semi detached house in need of substantial updating. Sold at open house. Further property required for disappointed buyers.

CATERHAM VALLEY - SIMILAR WANTED



CATERHAM 01883 349114

Two bedroom ground floor flat close to town and station. Sold at open house. Similar property required for disappointed buyers.

CATERHAM ON THE HILL - SIMILAR WANTED



CATERHAM 01883 349114

An extended three double bedroom house with open out look. Sold at open house. Similar property required for disappointed buyers.

CATERHAM ON THE HILL - SIMILAR WANTED



CATERHAM 01883 349114

Three bedroom detached in cul de sac backing onto woodland. Similar property required for disappointed buyers.

CATERHAM VALLEY - SIMILAR WANTED



CATERHAM 01883 349114

Two bedroom ground floor maisonette with garden and parking. Similar property required for disappointed buyers.

CATERHAM VALLEY - SIMILAR WANTED



CATERHAM 01883 349114

A one bedroom ground floor, conversion flat close to shops and transport links. Similar property required for disappointed buyers.

KENLEY - SIMILAR WANTED



KENLEY 020 8668 1000

Three bedroom semi detached house, sought after residential road. Sold at open house. Further property required for disappointed buyers.

KENLEY - SIMILAR WANTED



KENLEY 020 8668 1000

Two bedroom ground floor flat, share of freehold, close to Kenley Station. Sold at open house. Further property required for disappointed buyers.

KENLEY



KENLEY 020 8668 1000

Five bedroom detached house in sought after cul de sac off private road. Sold - Further properties required.

WHYTELEAFE



KENLEY 020 8668 1000

Two bedroom large converted apartment, two bathrooms. Sold - Similar properties required.

KENLEY



KENLEY 020 8668 1000

Five double bedroom house in favoured residential road. Sold - Similar properties required.

WHYTELEAFE



KENLEY 020 8668 1000

Four bedroom detached close to two stations and Kenley Common. Sold in Open House - similar properties required for disappointed buyers.

www.bairstoweves.co.uk



MARTIN&CO



Whyteleafe - £700pcm

Ideal for commuters! Ground floor one bedroom flat located within minutes walk of Upper Warringham and Whyteleafe stations. Allocated parking.



Caterham Valley - £700pcm

Wonderful one bed top floor flat in town centre. Walking distance from shops and station. Bright and spacious. New carpets and recently redecorated. Available now unfurnished.



Blindley Heath - £695pcm

1 bed first floor maisonette. Extremely spacious. Open plan kitchen/lounge. Storage cupboard and loft space. Small courtyard. Allocated parking.



Whyteleafe - £895pcm

Newly refurbished 2 bed ground floor flat with garage located within walking distance of Whyteleafe South, Whyteleafe and Upper Warringham stations. Available unfurnished.



Caterham Valley - £1000pcm

2 double bed ground floor maisonette with private garden and conservatory. Spacious lounge. Gated parking. Available unfurnished.



South Croydon - £1195pcm

2 bed stylish ground floor apartment. Recently refurbished. Modern kitchen and bathroom. Non restricted parking. Available now unfurnished.



Caterham Valley - £1350pcm

Fantastic 1 bed apartment with large spacious lounge. Kitchen. Double bedroom overlooking lounge (mezzanine). Perfect for single professional. Walking distance of station and town.



Edenbridge - £850pcm

Fantastically located for Edenbridge station, this is a spacious refurbished 2 double bedroom first floor maisonette with a good sized private garden with shed.



Caterham on the Hill - £1300pcm

Spacious 2 double bedroom first floor executive apartment with balcony. Fully fitted kitchen. Walk in wardrobe and en suite bathroom to master bedroom. Available unfurnished.



Caterham on the Hill - £1795pcm

Stunning 4 bedroom detached property in popular road with level garden to rear, off street parking for 2/3 cars and integrated garage with electric doors.



Caterham Valley - £1400pcm

Stunning and character filled 2/3 bedroom apartment in Victorian manor house in sought after Harestone Hill area. Located minutes walk from station and shops. Huge lounge. Private patio area.

LANDLORDS We can provide:

- Specialist investment advice to help you identify the best buy to let property.
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- Vetted and screened suitable tenants.

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'Martin & Co. Caterham managed the letting of our house for 6 years. They were always proactive, responsive and engaged. They provided an excellent service to our tenants and us.'

Call in to speak to us and experience our tailor made, friendly and efficient service.



Caterham Valley - £1100pcm

2/3 bed top floor flat in conversion property in a sought after location. Walking distance to shops and station. Allocated parking. Available unfurnished.



Kenley - £1195pcm

2 double bedroom apartment in convenient location. Walking distance to train station. Balcony. Allocated parking. Available now unfurnished.



Kenley - £1395pcm

Modern 3 bed house in popular quiet location near Kenley Aerodrome. Nice sized garden. Off street parking. Available 1st April unfurnished.

Martin & Co Caterham
5 Godstone Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 6RE

Martin & Co Reigate
29 Church Street, Reigate, RH2 0AD

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MARTIN&CO
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All about people & property

Caterham Lettings 01883 340024



Godstone

£1,800 pcm

A very well presented 4 bedroom detached family house located in popular cul-de-sac comprising kitchen/breakfast, 3 reception rooms, cloak room, upstairs there is Master bedroom suite, 3 spacious bedrooms and family bthrm. Well established gardens and a double garage with OSP. EPC Rating: C



Woldingham

£1,200 pcm

An 18thc two bed country cottage set in the heart of Woldingham opposite the village green and walking distance to the train station. Renovated standard through out with kitchen, newly fitted bathroom, lounge/dining and two bedrooms. OSP EPC Rating E

“
We always find quality tenants for our Landlords and we look after their property just as if it was our own
”

Jacqui Tailadores Lettings Manager

For a valuation of your home, please contact the our lettings team on 01883 340024



Caterham

£1,100 pcm

Two bedroom semi-detached bungalow in quiet cul-de-sac. Low maintenance front and rear garden. Garage and off road parking for 2 further cars. Close to shops and bus routes and local amenities. Just decorated and new carpets fitted. EPC Rating F



Warlingham

£2,350 pcm

A four double bed detached house with double garage and large covering drive in prestigious position in Warlingham within walking distance of Upper Warlingham train station and village green. Accommodation includes re-fitted kitchen, utility room, 2 reception rooms, master suite, 3 further bedrooms, re-fitted family bathroom. EPC Rating Contact the branch.



Whyteleafe

£895 pcm

A well presented two bed ground floor apartment with garage within walking distance of both Whyteleafe and Upper Warlingham Train Stations. This light and airy apartment has been recently re-decorated and the Bathroom has undergone a total re-fit with a contemporary suite with addition of a power shower. EPC Rating D

All about people & property



All about people & property

Caterham Sales 01883 342205



Kenley £459,950

A four bedroom detached family home with driveway garage and enclosed rear garden situated in the popular village of Kenley. Viewing highly recommended. UPC1285 EPC Rating D



Caterham Hill £475,000

An opportunity to acquire a rarely available and highly sought after four bedroom 1330's semi detached property with well established level rear garden, driveway and garage. Viewing highly recommended. UPC1294 EPC Rating E



Caterham Valley £695,000

Open House Saturday 1st March Strictly By Appointment. A stunning five bedroom detached family home, situated on a private road, having its own gated entrance and occupying a well established and fully landscaped plot with spacious driveway and double garage. UPC1297 EPC Rating D



Caterham Valley £215,000

A stunning two-bedroom purpose built top floor apartment with balcony, residents parking and garage on site on a popular development conveniently located for Caterham Valley town centre. Viewing highly recommended. UPC1301 EPC Rating D



Whyteleafe £650,000

A five bedroom detached chalet style residence occupying a well established and secluded position and offered to the market with no onward chain. UPC 1298 EPC Rating E



Chaldon £895,000

An opportunity to acquire a substantial four bedroom detached residence offered in our opinion in excellent decorative order throughout occupying a well established plot of approximately half an acre in one of Chaldon's most prestigious private roads. Viewing highly recommended. UPC1287 EPC Rating C



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Phone 01883 347 446 or email valuations@raynersproperties.com
 to arrange a FREE marketing appraisal

**FIRST TIME BUYER OPEN DAY
 Saturday 22nd March**

- Are you a First Time Buyer and keep missing out on the few properties coming to the market?
- When you see a new property on the web has it already been marked as sold?
- What steps can you take to ensure you don't miss out?

You are cordially invited to attend our special *First Time Buyers* open day. Following on from the success of previous years, this Spring's event will be focussed on helping First Time Buyers put themselves in the best possible position ensuring they hear about every new property that comes to the market.

In addition to gaining invaluable tips and advice from a licensed Estate Agent, First Time Buyers will also have the opportunity of speaking with a leading local **Solicitor**, independent **Mortgage Advisor** and Chartered **Surveyor**.

Spaces are limited and by appointment so please do make contact early to [book your place](#)

Phone 01883 347 446 or email ftbd@raynersproperties.com
 to book your appointment



CATERHAM
£275,000

Positioned on the end of a terrace is this 3 bedroom family home situated within a short distance of Caterham railway station. Off road parking along with a garage is available at the front of the property. EPC C.
 Caterham Office • 01883 347446



CATERHAM
£279,950

Ideally positioned for Caterham Valley and train station is this 3 bedroom semi-detached family home offering a generous amount of ground floor accommodation and 1st floor bathroom. EPC D.
 Caterham Office • 01883 347446



OXTED
£625,000

An attractive 5 bedroom semi detached property, situated at the end of a popular cul de sac boasting a stunning, recently fitted kitchen. Well located for Oxted train station and town centre. EPC D.
 Caterham Office • 01883 347446



CATERHAM
£685,000

Situated in a highly desirable cul de sac with stunning far-reaching views is this substantial 5/6-bedroom family home. NO ONGOING CHAIN. EPC C.
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WARLINGHAM
£172,500

A one bedroomed purpose-built retirement flat located on the ground floor. Kitchen with integrated appliances. Lounge/dining room. Double bedroom with wardrobes. Bathroom. Communal Lounge. Parking. Third of a mile from Warlingham Village. EPC B.
 Warlingham Office • 01883 622258



WARLINGHAM
£315,000

Two double-bedroomed purpose-built flat in a contemporary modern development in four acres of wooded grounds. Open plan living/kitchen room. Ensuite shower room. Bathroom. Private balcony. Air source under floor heating system. Parking space. EPC TBC.
 Warlingham Office • 01883 622258



WARLINGHAM
£139,950

One-bedroomed purpose-built first floor flat overlooking Warlingham Green. Double Bedroom. Lounge. Kitchen Breakfast room. Bathroom. Gas CH. Part Double Glazed. Parking space. New lease. EPC E.
 Warlingham Office • 01883 622258



WARLINGHAM
£324,950

Last flat remaining of a purpose-built, high spec development, a half mile from Upper Warlingham train station and half mile from Warlingham Green. Two double bedrooms. Bathroom. Wet room. Kitchen. Lounge/dining room. Under-floor heating. Oak floors. Lift. Parking.
 Warlingham Office • 01883 622258

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