

# Parish Council NEWS



## WANTED... PARISH WARDEN

Caterham on the Hill Parish Council is currently recruiting for the post of Parish Warden.

The main role of the Parish Warden will be to walk throughout Caterham on the Hill reporting on issues with graffiti, litter, hedges, footpaths, street furniture and on highways matters such as road defects. The Warden will also maintain Parish notice-boards and public areas for which the Parish Council is responsible.

Cllr David Gosling, Chairman of the Parish Council said, "The Parish Warden will play an important part in keeping Caterham on the Hill looking good and in reporting local issues and defects to the District and County Councils. The Parish Council wants to ensure that all the relevant authorities maintain our roads, footpaths and public areas to a high standard. The post will be reviewed after one year."

The job is for 8 hours a week with the days and times flexible. It will initially be a one year fixed term contract. Anyone interested in applying should contact the Parish Clerk for an application form and job description by email at [Caterhamhillpc@msn.com](mailto:Caterhamhillpc@msn.com) or on 01883 382151. These can also be downloaded from the website at [www.caterhamhillpc.org.uk](http://www.caterhamhillpc.org.uk).



**Welcome** to the latest edition of our Parish Council News. I hope that you find it interesting and useful. In last Autumn's Parish Council News, we launched two important consultations with Hill residents. One was over the Parish Council's draft Four Year Plan. The other was over a possible Parish funded extension of bus services between the Valley and the Hill. We received valuable feedback from residents in both these consultations. Thank you to those of you who responded.

The Four Year Plan has now been approved by the Council, and this Newsletter outlines how some of the projects in that Plan are now being taken forward.

Last Autumn, Councillor John O'Neill resigned from the Council due to ill health. We wish him well for the future and thank him for the service he gave the Council and his constituents. A bye-election was held in Portley Ward just before Christmas. Councillor John Orrick won that bye-election, and we welcome him back onto the Parish Council.

All nine Councillors' contact details can be found in this newsletter, and on the Parish Council's website. Please contact us should you wish to raise anything.

*David Gosling, Chairman of the Parish Council*



## THANK YOU

 to the following traders who contributed to the Christmas lights this year.

• Ainsworths • Alice Rose Gifts • B C Baker Son • Ballet Box Ltd • Butler Caterham • Carpet Cave Ltd • Caterham Clearance Centre • Cedars Osteopathic Practice • Doves Decorating Supplies • Drapes Design • Swift Windows • The Buxton Group

Thank you to the Buxton Group who generously supplied the power for the Cedar Tree lights and allowed use of their car park for the Cedar Tree Lights Ceremony.

*Published by Caterham on the Hill Parish Council*

Clerk to the Council, Helen Broughton tel: 01883 382151 email: [caterhamhillpc@msn.com](mailto:caterhamhillpc@msn.com)

# Christmas Tree Festival

Councillors Pat Groves and Jean Hooper thoroughly enjoyed being involved in the recent Christmas Tree Festival organised by the Guild of Friends of St. Lawrence's Church.

The Parish Council, along with Caterham-Hill based businesses, clubs and societies, was invited to enter a tree. Pat and Jean decorated the tree with miniature park benches, hanging baskets, bins, C.C.T.V. and a notice board. These decorations represented some of the Parish Council's various activities. The other entrants also had themed decorations and in total there were eighteen imaginatively decorated trees. The church looked so pretty when lit by the fairy lights and the refreshments provided gave visitors the opportunity to sit down and soak up the lovely atmosphere. There was also a Christmas raffle, cards, candles and postcards for sale. Whilst raising funds of over £1000 towards the upkeep of the ancient church the festival gave so much pleasure.

Congratulations to the Guild of Friends for organising such a successful and truly wonderful Christmas event.



Cllrs Pat Groves and Jean Hooper with the Parish Council's Christmas tree



Cllrs Jean Pidgeon and John Orrick at Queen's Park Playground

## QUEEN'S PARK NEWS

### New CCTV coverage in Queens Park

It's a sad fact of life that vandalism and antisocial behaviour are regular occurrences in our public spaces and unfortunately Queens Park is no exception.

There is over £300,000 of play equipment in the children's play area, including many items installed as a result of the fund raising activities of PlaySafely using money raised by the charity. However, in the last year, mindless vandalism of equipment has cost over £7,000 in the form of repairs to damaged play equipment, which has deprived children of the use of several items of equipment whilst damaged items were replaced.

Protecting equipment from the unwelcome attentions of a minority has become essential and hence the reason for the new CCTV installation adjacent to the play area. This has multiple infra red cameras able to record images both during the daytime and at night. Cameras are focused only within the park. The installation has cost £12,000 and is expected to reduce vandalism and anti social behaviour and quickly pay for itself from the savings Tandridge District Council will make by not having to repair vandalised equipment.

This has been a joint project, funded by Caterham on the Hill Parish Council and local charity PlaySafely in partnership with the District Council.

### Queen's Park Playground

The Parish Council was pleased to give a grant to PlaySafely for thermoplastic drawings in the Queen's Park playground. The grant of £500 enabled local charity PlaySafely to purchase various colourful games and footprints on the existing paths and tarmac in the playground.

### Litter

Queens Park had a nasty attack of "Littering" recently. The litter at the Playground, in particular, almost became a Health and Safety issue. The Parish Council requested more and bigger bins and the litter collections were increased during that period. The Parish Council keeps a constant eye on this problem.

Please report any problems to either Tandridge District Council direct or via the Clerk to the Council.

## Invitation to Caterham on the Hill's Annual Parish Meeting

At this years Annual Parish Meeting the Headmaster from De Stafford School will be speaking on the future of the school. There will also be a short presentation from Clifton Hill School on the findings of their study into disabled access.

If you would like to know more about De Stafford school, disabled access or have any local issues you want to raise, or would like to meet your Parish Councillors, do come along.

This years Annual Parish Meeting takes place on Wednesday 22nd April from 7.30pm to 8.00pm at Hillcroft School, Chaldon Road. All residents are invited.

## Come and "Beat the Bounds"

The first Caterham on the Hill Parish Council Circular Walk will take place on Sunday 17th May at 11.30am. The walk is approximately 6 miles long and where possible follows the boundary of Caterham on the Hill Parish.

"Beating the Bounds" is an ancient, and once widespread custom. A group procession walked around the 'bounds' of a common, carrying sticks or 'wands' to hit landmarks along the way. This was believed to pass knowledge of the land onto the next generation.

Caterham on the Hill "Beating the Bounds" will start at St Mary's church car park at 11.30pm on Sunday 17th May. There will be a break for refreshments after 3 miles, near Coulsdon Common, where people who can only do 3 miles can leave or join.

Please bring a packed lunch.

For more information contact the Parish Clerk at [caterhamhillpc@msn.com](mailto:caterhamhillpc@msn.com)

## BUS SERVICE UPDATE

You may remember from our last newsletter that the Parish Council is considering extending the 541 Metro Bus service at the evenings and weekends. A survey was circulated and of those responding the vast majority were in favour of this.



The Parish Council has since learnt that Surrey County Council are considering leading a very similar pilot service. This Hoppabus service will hopefully run from September 2009, extending an existing service into the evening from Monday-Friday. The details are unconfirmed as yet.

Obviously the Parish Council will not want to duplicate any service extension and will be working with Surrey County Council to ensure the Hoppabus service responds to residents needs.

## INVITATION TO POLICE NEIGHBOURHOOD PANEL MEETINGS

Residents living in Caterham on the Hill are invited to come along to their next Police Neighbourhood Panel. These meetings are held at The Linden Homes building, Guards Avenue (in the former Barracks), Caterham Hill.

The next meetings are to be held on Tuesday 26th May 19:30 - 20:30, Tuesday 28th July 19:30 - 20:30 and Tuesday 29th September 19:30 - 20:30



# HILL IN BLOOM

Once again the Parish Council will be holding the Hill in Bloom competition in 2009.

The only conditions are that entrants must live in Caterham on the Hill and that the displays are visible to passers-by. Please send us your details to receive an entry form nearer the time.

The Closing date is 25th June 2009 and judging will take place in early July. Please send your form to Caterham on the Hill Parish Council, 65 Court Road, Caterham CR3 5RH or email [caterhamhillpc@msn.com](mailto:caterhamhillpc@msn.com) with your contact details.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## KENLEY AIRFIELD FRIENDS GROUP (KAFG) NEWS



The Kenley Airfield Friends Group (KAFG) has been set up to protect and preserve this historic Second World War Airfield. The Group aims to be as representative as possible of all the people who live locally and of those who have historical or other ties who may live further afield. It will also include the membership of the local RAFA Association and Club.

The Group has various projects in hand. These include: preparing a heritage trail for individual and group use; working with the City of London Commons and the Ministry of defence (MoD) to produce guidance for the users of the Common and Airfield, thus helping to ensure the safety of all concerned; helping with protection and interpretation of the Kenley Tribute; and defending the Airfield against proposals for inappropriate development. The Group intends to develop project work that will enhance infrastructure and heritage aspects (subject to permissions) and to engage in fundraising to enable it to do so.

Many residents will know that the MoD has made planning applications for a fence around the perimeter track of the Airfield. The first of these was successfully resisted, but a further proposal is under consideration by Croydon Council. The latest details may be found in the Online Planning section of the Croydon LBC website; type in Kenley Aerodrome. Both KAFG and the Parish Council have notified Croydon Council of their opposition to the fence.

Clr Hilary Turner is a member of the KAFG Core Group, and Clr Jean Hooper is also on the KAFG Committee. The website [www.kafg.org.uk](http://www.kafg.org.uk) is being developed and already has some interesting features for you to review. There will also be a newsletter for members.

If you haven't yet applied for KAFG membership and wish to join, the cost is £5.00 for an individual and £10.00 for a family. Payment should be sent to the Membership Secretary, Mrs L West, 5 Hillhurst Gardens, Caterham CR3 5HX, giving your full contact details including e-mail address if available. Application made now will grant you immediate membership but will carry through to June 2010.

Chris Baguley- Chairman 020 8660 8271

### Dormers 'Pirates of the Caribbean' Spring Fete

Saturday 9th May 2-4pm at Foxon Lane, Caterham on the Hill.

*Lots of fun for all the family.*

## Am I the only one fed up with hearing about the credit crunch?

As a trader here in Caterham on the Hill business has been growing steadily over the 10 years I have had my piano shop. So far I have not seen any significant downturn. People are a little more cautious perhaps but when were sensible people ever NOT careful with their money?

What potential customers to the area will mostly find are individual specialist shops run by people who are extremely knowledgeable and even passionate about their own subject and can give you all the information you need to make informed choices. Many of the shops offer products and services that go hand in hand and you may find you come for one thing and go home with several!



I love working here. There is always activity on the High St. and camaraderie amongst the various shop-owners. I am also rewarded every day of the week for the inevitable hard work that running a business entails by meeting a lovely selection of polite honest people.

### My message:

**To other businesses is:** Come and join us here on the Hill – it is a fertile ground for seriously run, well-promoted businesses to flourish.

**To landlords of empty properties:** Please smarten them up and actively promote getting them let. You will make more money out of it and it will give the whole area more to offer.

**To Shoppers:** Look at what we have and if you like it, buy it!

Vivien Shiplee, Vivace Pianos Ltd, 29/31 High Street, Caterham on the Hill



## CATERHAM FESTIVAL

22 MAY - 28 JUNE 2008

2009 sees Caterham hold its first ever arts-based Festival. It will run for six weeks in late May and the month of June and will feature a street party where Caterham High Street is closed for music and entertainments. There will be a children's festival, choral events, local rock bands, Open Caterham, and hopefully a drive-in movie. New activities will link with established favourites such as the Caterham Carnival, and Party in the Park.

Filmmakers from past and present are being sought to submit their movies for inclusion into the film festival. We want old and new film of Caterham (including people's home movies and videos); we also want to see work by new filmmakers. Short clips or animated films.

Local residents are organising the event, which is designed to highlight local creative talent, and cultural opportunities in the town, promote local groups and clubs, and attract visitors. There is still time for you to get involved and assist us, or even bring in new ideas.

Andy Parr, [www.caterhamfestival.org](http://www.caterhamfestival.org)

## Are you interested in Local or Family History?

In Caterham Valley Library in Stafford Road there is a local and family history centre which can help with your questions.

We have an extensive range of resources relating to Caterham and Caterham Hill such as census records, parish registers, local directories, large scale maps from 1870 to 1943 and many photographs.

Volunteer stewards are in the Local History Centre to answer queries, show you the photographs and guide your research on the 1st Tuesday in each month from 2.00 pm until 4.00 p.m. and on the 2nd and 4th Saturday in each month from 10.00 a.m. until 12.00 noon.

When the Centre is not staffed a written inquiry can be left although the reference shelves of the library contain much information on Caterham and Caterham Hill, together with the other local areas.

We look forward to seeing you and maybe you can help us too by bringing in your old photographs and sharing with us your knowledge of Caterham Hill.