

Caterham-on-the-Hill Town Trail

9. Continue along the High St, to the roundabout, and cross to Chaldon Books and Records.



Find more on your mobile via this QR code.



The building on the left (now Emmaus) was originally the forge of Robert Vigar, the local blacksmith who became Caterham's first fire chief. He expanded his business, opening an ironmonger's shop in his home, shown on the right (now Chaldon Books and Records). His son Robert Vigar later opened a cycle shop, also in the High St.

10. Cross the High St again, head to the left of the Golden Lion, continue down Chaldon Rd. to Hillcroft School on the left.



Find more on your mobile via this QR code.



The first school on this site was established in 1804-5, on land donated by Thomas Clark, subject to the free education of not less than six children. Following the 1870 education act, the school became the Caterham Hill Board School, occupying the current buildings which date from 1873. In 1937, the school became primary-only when older children were moved to a new school in the valley. In 1979 the primary school was renamed Hillcroft School, and still continues on this site today.

Caterham-on-the-Hill Town Trail

11. Take The Westway (right fork from Chaldon Rd), and continue to the bottom and the Caterham Arms.



Find more on your mobile via this QR code.

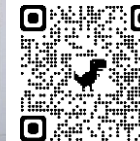


The pub was originally called The Asylum Tavern, and was directly opposite the entrance to St Lawrence's Hospital (now Hambledon Rd). The Hospital opened in 1870 and rapidly grew to cater for over 2000 mental health patients and was a major employer in the town. This closed in 1994 and was redeveloped for housing.

12. Turn right and continue down Coulsdon Road to Tesco, turn left down Guards Rd to the Bus Stop.



Find more on your mobile via this QR code.



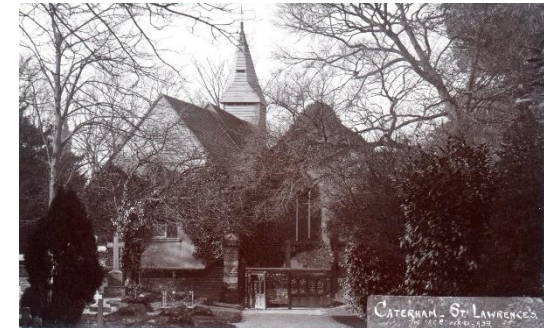
The Guards Depot at Caterham was established in 1877 as a home for all the Guards foot regiments but closed in 1995 for redevelopment. The parade ground is now Tesco's car park, behind the bus stop to the right can be seen the chapel built in 1886, and to the left is what was the Officers' Mess, built in 1877. Many of the remaining buildings have been adapted and repurposed for modern uses (e.g. the chapel is now home to 'Skaterham'!).

THE BOURNE SOCIETY



Caterham-on-the-Hill Town Trail

1. Start at St. Lawrence's Church, Church Hill.

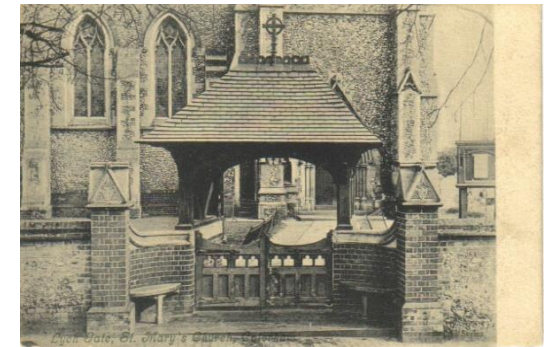


Find more on your mobile via this QR code.



St Lawrence's Church dates from c.1095, and is one of the oldest churches in Surrey. Originally dedicated to St Leonard, a French hermit, the tiny church was extended in the 13th c. with the addition of the north aisle. Largely redundant after St Mary's Church was built in 1866, St Lawrence's was restored and reconsecrated in 1927.

2. Now cross the road, to St Mary's Church.



Find more on your mobile via this QR code.



In 1851, Caterham had only 487 residents, but with the coming of the railway in 1856, Caterham's population grew rapidly and a new church was needed. St Mary's cost £3,500 in 1866, and when the north aisle was completed in 1913 the church could accommodate 550 worshippers. Many of the town's notables are buried in St Mary's Churchyard, how many can you find?

Caterham-on-the-Hill Town Trail

3. Turn right out of St Mary's Church, continue up the hill, and cross the road into Queen's Park.

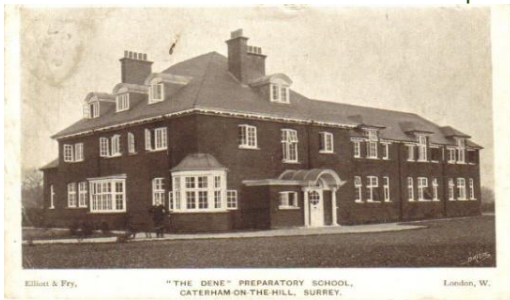


Find more on your mobile via this QR code.



Queen's Park opened in May 1900, to mark Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. In addition to the fine pavilion above (since replaced by a modern building), the park is home to many sports clubs including the Bowls Club (founded 1911). The park also contains two memorials to the Boer War, a beech tree to mark the relief of Ladysmith, and The Borer Ambulance Station (1902).

4. Turn left out of Queen's Park, cross the road, and continue to the Caterham Dene Hospital.



Find more on your mobile via this QR code.



Dene School was originally founded in 1875 in Underwood Road, Harestone Valley. It moved to Church Road in 1905 but closed at the advent of World War 2 in 1939. In 1948, the building became an annexe for the Caterham and District Hospital, and after many reorganisations, it is presently a rehabilitation hospital with an outpatients department and a walk-in centre.

Caterham-on-the-Hill Town Trail

5. Leaving the Hospital, turn right, cross Whyteleafe Rd and continue to the Cedar Tree and the Rectory.



Find more on your mobile via this QR code.



The Rectory started life as a small timber-framed house, possibly originating from 16thc., with many later additions in the 18th and 19th centuries by successive rectors. The building was taken over by Buxton Builders for their offices in 1984 and sympathetically restored. The huge cedar was originally in the front garden and is now a focal point of the town for things like the Christmas Lights switch-on.

6. Leave the Rectory, and cross the road to the old cottage (no. 84), next to Grummett's Music Shop.



Find more on your mobile via this QR code.



The white weatherboarded cottage and its right-hand neighbour shown in this old postcard have now been replaced by a small housing development, but the cottage on the far right (no. 84) remains – dating from the early 17thc., this is probably the oldest existing dwelling in Caterham and is listed by Historic England at Grade II.

Caterham-on-the-Hill Town Trail

7. Continue along the High Street until you come to two public houses – Ye Olde King and Queen (on the left) and the Blacksmiths Arms (on the right):



Find more on your mobile via this QR code.



The Blacksmiths was the first to open as a 'beer house' in 1820, with the 'King and Queen' following in 1845, although probably in an older building. The Blacksmiths was rebuilt in 1878 by Crowley's Brewery, and had a large club room for concerts and billiards. On Wednesdays and Saturdays, the Blacksmiths provided changing rooms for sports teams playing in Rectory Field.

8. Continue along the High St., to number 4 – currently occupied by the 'Raja Tandoori'.



Find more on your mobile via this QR code.



This building (centre in this photo) was originally the Soldiers' Home, built in 1898 to provide a 'home-from-home' for new army recruits. The building to the right, with the small bell turret, was the Caterham Fire Engine House, with additional space for the tender (far right). Sadly, the original Fire Engine House was demolished by developers, and the current building is a replica.