

GOLDSWORTH NEWS

September 2024 – Issue 189

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Autumn edition



Photo: Pam Taylor



Photo: George Binyon.



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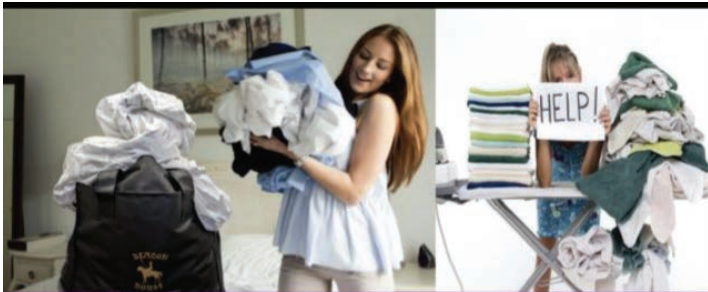
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GOLDSWORTH NEWS is the magazine of the Goldsworth Park Community Association CIO and is distributed free to approximately 5,000 homes and organisations throughout Goldsworth Park and the surrounding area.

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and Royer Slater.

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Published by the

Goldsworth Park Community Association CIO

Designed and printed by Knaphill Print

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Please submit articles for the next edition by Monday 4th November 2024 to: editor@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk

GPCA CIO MEETINGS

Next public meeting 23rd October 2024
AGM 7.30pm The Lodge.

Membership of the GPCA is required to receive details of forthcoming meetings. Contact chair@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk for information on how to join.

LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Ann-Marie Barker WBC (Lib Dem)
Martin Sullivan WBC (Lib Dem)
Stephen Oades WBC (Lib Dem)
Lance Spencer SCC (Lib Dem)
Saj Hussain SCC (Conservative)

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Views from the Chair

GPCA trustees and volunteers have been busy this summer involving ourselves and helping out with community events.

We were once again happy to man the refreshment stall at Woking Hospice's Dragon Boat Race day at the lake on June 9th which raised £1,200.

Then, at the Goldsworth Park Summer Fair in June 22nd at St Andrew's Church we assisted with organisation on the day as well as sponsoring the popular children's rides for the second year running.

In July we helped the Lakeview Community Action Group set up and assist with the running of their Fun Day. As well as erecting gazebos and manning the bouncy castle, we sourced and donated prizes for the very popular raffle.

All the events were a success and showed what an excellent community spirit exists on Goldsworth Park.

Our next event will be a community litter pick on ██████ October 26th. We provide picking sticks and hi-viz vests, so put that date in your diary. We'll be meeting at The Lodge, Wishbone Way at 2pm.

Plans have also been finalised for a GPCA quiz night Friday November 8th at the Dianthus building in Wishbone Way. See the poster on page 7 for details.

Christina Candey, the advertising manager for this magazine since 2018, is standing down for personal reasons. The GPCA trustees would like to thank Christina for her efforts over the years in sourcing and maintaining the revenue that pays for the publication of the Goldsworth News. If you are interested in taking on this voluntary role or would like to know more, please see our advert on page 7.

The GPCA AGM is booked for Wednesday October 23rd at The Lodge, starting at 7.30pm. All residents are welcome, but if you are a registered member you are entitled for vote on the appointment of trustees and any other issue needed to be resolved by a show of hands. You also receive, by email, notice of meetings and other news. It is free to join, so if you would like to register please email Bob at community@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk with your home address.

If you would like to be involved with the work of the GPCA please contact me at the email address below.

George Binyon

chair@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk

X@ourgpca

facebook.com/groups/goldsworthpark

www.ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk

Volunteer GPCA News deliverers sought

YOUR help is urgently needed to deliver, just 4 times a year, the Goldsworth Park News. If you live in or near one of the roads listed below please volunteer today to ensure GPNews, which is run totally by volunteers, continues to be received and enjoyed by your fellow residents.

GPNews will be delivered to your door by our dedicated volunteer coordinator Peter and will only take a few minutes of your time to deliver. I am sure you will find supporting your local community enjoyable – you could even meet a fellow resident you have not spoken to before.

The following roads require volunteer deliverers: Bankside, Caradon, Dene Place, Selby, Wyndham Road, Waterside Way, Winnington Way, Lidstone Close, Watercress Way, Quintrell Close, Foxhills, Claydon Road, Tresta Walk and Darvel Close.

Please get in touch with Peter Hill at peter.hill3@ntlworld.com to offer your services.

Community Litter Pick – Sponsored by



THE GPCA is holding a community litter pick on Saturday October 26th, meeting at The Lodge car park, Wishbone Way at 2.00pm. Litter pickers, bags and high-vis safety vests are all provided. All welcome, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Hope to see you there. Any questions please contact secretary@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk

GPCA AGM Wednesday October 23rd, 7.30 pm, The Lodge

Natural Goldsworth Park Update



OUR efforts to establish wildflowers on the meadow began in 2019 with the planting of trial plots that were stripped of turf. Since then GPCA volunteers have planted seeds over a couple of years but results have been disappointing due to the fertile soil and predominance of rye grasses.

However, we haven't given up hope of adding some colour to the meadow with trustees Tina and Celia attending a wildflower planting course organised by the Surrey Wildlife Trust in the hope of finding a solution to the difficulties we face. The cost of the course is being met with funds from the donation to Natural Goldsworth Park (NGP) made by the John Lewis Partnership (JLP) as part of their

Give a Little Love scheme. If, after the course it is considered viable to attempt a seeding programme, the costs will be met from the JLP donation.

NGP volunteers took part in cherry laurel clearance last year around the woodland walk. We are planning to do the same later this year in conjunction with land owners Thames Water. Please keep an eye on the NGP Facebook group page for a date.

We are still looking for someone to take on the role of NGP project manager to lead the efforts to conserve and manage the meadow and woodland as unspoilt open space. If you are interested or would like more information please contact chair@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk

Natural Goldsworth Park Facebook Group



AS a nature lover, I'm a great fan of the Natural Goldsworth Park group on Facebook, especially as I'm unable to get as close as I'd like to nature nowadays, writes Royer Slater.

I'm in awe of the photos posted to the group showing the variety of wild plants and creatures seen in Goldsworth Park. I especially appreciated the photos by the group's most frequent contributors: Gerry Smeethers, Liz Wilkinson and Conor Macleod. These three have also posted photos of beautiful skylines, especially of

stunning sunsets and gorgeous dawns.

I must also mention the magnificent photo of the Aurora seen over Goldsworth Park Lake, photographed by Deb Evans, and the fascinating videos and photos of insects on the North Meadow by Katy Murray. Several others have also shared their superb photos of our flora and fauna on the group – sorry I can't mention everyone.

If you love our natural world, please join the Natural Goldsworth Park Facebook group, and prepare to be amazed!

Brockhill closes its doors

BROCKHILL, Woking Borough Council's extra-care sheltered accommodation in Clifton Way, is closing its doors for good on September 30th 2024.

The building, which opened in 1990, will then be demolished to avoid any vandalism or squatter problems that could arise from leaving a large building empty.

Most residents from the 48 units have now been found alternative accommodation, but a few may need to stay in interim accommodation until suitable long-term homes are found.

Following consultation with residents, Woking Council approved the closure of Brockhill in February. If the building remained open the council would need to undertake significant fire safety remedial work and replace the heating system. The estimated spend over the next 10 years for maintenance and other upgrades would be close to £6million. That level of investment is considered unviable for a building of its age and size.

Action has been taken to manage the fire safety risks, including the introduction of a team of evacuation officers at a cost to the council's housing revenue account of around £24,000 a week.

The council will put the site up for sale on the open market where it expects there to be strong interest and says the income from any sale will be spent only on council homes.

The site is expected to remain designated for specialist residential use, such as sheltered accommodation or retirement homes, with any future development being sympathetic to the character of the area.

Woking Council's Strategic Director for Communities, Louise Strongitharm said: "The ongoing costs and capital expenditure required to keep the building safe and compliant with regulatory standards is simply

unviable given the small number of remaining residents, size and age of the housing scheme.

We have successfully supported many Brockhill residents to move to suitable alternative accommodation locally, based on their needs and preferences, since the decision to close the extra care scheme in February."

Woking expects to recoup the cost of demolition from the site purchasers.



Photo: Pam Taylor.



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WHERE good looks are concerned in the insect world, butterflies tend to win the honours. Now a new kid on the block is winning respect – and it's a moth.

Often confused for a butterfly because of its striking colours and patterns, the Jersey Tiger moth is being spotted in increasing numbers in our area.

I was alerted to its presence here when Steve Davies shared with me his photo of a Jersey Tiger in his Goldsworth Park garden. After publishing it last year in my weekly Out and About feature in the Woking News & Mail, readers from all around responded with sightings and photos. The reports continued this summer.



Photo: Steve Davies.

Gerry Smeethers has posted several photos of Jersey Tigers on the Natural Goldsworth Park Facebook group. They include caterpillars as evidence they are breeding here.



Photo: Gerry Smeether.

The moth used to be confined to the Channel Islands and pockets of the south coast of England, especially Devon. In 2019 an unusually large influx of migrants was recorded in the southern half of the UK. Caterpillars from eggs laid by these migrants boosted the numbers of moths flying in 2020. Since then they have spread northwards through England.

It is named for the distinctive markings on its forewings, which resemble a tiger's stripes. These are closed in Steve's photo, so they hide the moth's bright red hindwings, which have large black spots, shown in the photo below from the Butterfly Conservation charity.



Photo: Luigi Sebastian.

The Jersey Tiger is most often seen flying on warm days, but also at night. It can be found anywhere, in gardens, parks and hedgerows. Its caterpillars feed on a wide variety of plants, such as dandelions, nettles, white dead nettle, plantains, borage, ground-ivy and bramble.

Moths – the invisible pollinators

Unlike the Jersey Tiger, most moths fly only at night. Yet they play a vital unseen role in our lives. While we can't deny the

importance of bees as pollinators, new findings suggest moths are better and more important.

"Busy bees" is a familiar expression, but perhaps it should be "busy moths".

Moths pollinate at a faster rate than day-flying insects, they pollinate over much larger distances and they pollinate plants rarely visited by other insects. The research gives moths the credit they deserve in seed production, a significant process that benefits wild plants and creatures as well as the production of human food crops.

Just as we learned of moths' importance, there is news that many moth species are in serious decline across Britain, especially the south. This has a knock-on effect not only on the pollination we need for food and plants, but for their part in the food chain for bats, birds and other creatures. If moths continue to decline, many other species and the wider ecosystem will be put at further risk.

Many factors are causing a decline in the populations of moths and other insect, including climate change and intensive agriculture. Light pollution – especially street lights – is another. They are naturally drawn to light, and may spend a lot of time and effort travelling to artificial lights, and often circling them, leaving them too exhausted to find food or breed. They are also more likely to be gobbled up by predators.

We can help moths by turning off night lights, by planting white flowers (as some moths are attracted to them) and by growing patches of scrub and rough grass. You might even create a pesticide-free wild space in your garden or patio, where butterflies and moths can complete their life cycle: there's lots of advice online at butterfly-conservation.org/wild-spaces.

We need moths, so let's love and look after them!

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News from St Andrew's by Revd Scott Smith

Greetings Goldsworth Park!

IT seems a long time since the Goldsworth Park Summer Fair: thanks to all of you who came and supported a lovely day of community. It was great to chat with many of you, in between 'Splatting some Rats'!

As September rolls around, I wonder how we approach the impending arrival of autumn as well as a new school year? Perhaps it's been a mad rush to ensure you have the right school uniform or the right number of pencils or glue-sticks.

Perhaps you're looking forward to getting away on holiday now that prices have dropped with children heading back to school. Perhaps the mere thought of autumn brings you to lament the ending of summer and the inevitable progress towards winter.

For the poet John Keats, autumn was a 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness...' which allowed him to explore the age-old and universal theme of the cycle of life, using the metaphor of the seasons to reflect on the human experience of life.

Regardless of however you are approaching autumn, I hope too you've found some time for rest and refreshment during the summer, whether at home or away.

Through our Summer Sundays together at St Andrew's, we've been exploring songs and films and how they can speak to faith. From Disney's *The Jungle Book*, to Coldplay, Bruno Mars and Taylor Swift, we've considered friendship, prayer and the power of words (for good or ill) amongst other things.

Now, through the autumn term, we're going to be exploring 'Spiritual Formation', essentially looking at tools and practices that can help us become more like Jesus. We'll be covering topics such as, 'Why and how we read the Bible', 'Why and how we pray' and 'Why and how we seek solitude', amongst others.

Every day, each one of us is being formed and shaped. The question is not whether we are being formed, but rather what (or who) we are being formed by. Because it's all too easy for us to be *unintentionally* formed by TV, news, books, social media, or whatever cultural 'bubble' we live within. You are very welcome to join us at any of our Sunday gatherings.

If you pass by the church building regularly, you will have hopefully noticed that our Wellbeing Garden is slowly taking shape and coming to life. Thanks for your patience! It's now well-established that spending time in green spaces such as gardens can

improve mental and physical wellbeing, by reducing stress and anxiety as we reflect on nature and we take the time to rest and enjoy it.

In early autumn, we'll lay a resin-path that will allow the garden to be accessible for all, whatever the weather. It's been great to see people already stopping to enjoy the flowers, and it's great to speak with some of you as you've done so. Please do come and use and enjoy the garden as it opens later this year – our intention has always been for the garden to be for the benefit of the whole community.

Later in the autumn, I will once again have the privilege of leading the Act of Remembrance outside the Goldsworth Park Medical Centre, as we take a moment to stop, remember and give thanks for all the freedoms we (too often) take for granted, but which were bought at such a heavy price. Do join us at 10:45am on Sunday, November 10th as we stop to remember.

Finally, just a reminder that across the week at St Andrew's we have a number of groups and activities, as well as our Warm Welcome space that is open every Tuesday morning (9am-12midday), our opportunities for Coffee and Chat (first, third and fifth Tuesday mornings (10:30am-12midday), our Community Cafe, Andy's (open Wednesdays and Thursdays 10am-2:30pm in term-times). Do drop by and you're sure to receive a warm welcome.

And if you do happen to see me out-and-about, do stop me and say 'Hello' – I would love to meet you!
Scott.



GPCA seeks Advertising Manager

THE GPCA is seeking to recruit a volunteer for the role of advertising manager for the *Goldsworth News*. The post requires communicating with regular advertisers regarding copy deadlines, dealing with enquiries from potential advertisers, sourcing new business and emailing invoices after publication. If you are interested or would like more information please contact chair@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk



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From the Lakeside



■ Roger Westcott is Goldsworth Park Angling Club secretary and fishing bailiff working in partnership with Woking Borough Council to oversee fishing, monitor fish stocks and other wildlife, and keep the area clean and tidy.

I'm sure most of you will have noted by now our pair of swans have been very busy over the last few months caring for their five offspring who by now are almost as big as themselves and already showing their individual characteristics. You can easily see who's the braver and who's a little more reserved – no pun intended but, "the pecking order as they say". The cob and his Mrs have been doing a great job keeping them safe by letting us know quite clearly with puffed necks and a hiss or two dare we get to close, albeit we may only want to offer a treat and admire.



Photo: Pam Taylor.

When it comes to those treats, whether for the swans or any other wildfowl round the lake, please discourage from feeding too much bread, it's not good for them and never feed them on land, only on the water. Dry food is not good for them, they need to take in water with their food to help digestion, plus any uneaten foods on the ground just encourages rats and believe me, this year in particular we have more than our fair share of them on site. We don't wish to discourage anyone from feeding the birds however do think about the welfare of them. Consider rather than just bread try purpose made wild fowl pellets easily obtained from pet shops, garden centres and even from Quackers cafe by the side of the lake – it's as cheap as chips, full of nutrition and the birds love them. Just think if one hundred people each came down with 2 slices of bread that's a lot of loaves and when I say one hundred people that is not by any means an exaggeration

particularly at weekends where you could easily double that number. We have a great little cafe but we don't need a bakery.

Having said that, the amount of bird life and other wildlife this year is truly amazing. Everywhere you look it's either a flock of geese or coot or jackdaw or long-tailed tit, damsel or dragonflies around every reed bed. Swifts and martins skimming the water for insects, frogs and toads in the water margins, even the odd grass snake going for an early morning swim – the list goes on and on. Then there are the fish hidden beneath the surface, anything from a tiddler to a monster carp or a metre long pike all making the park and lake their home. However all this needs a little helping hand here and there, and that's where we come in, us humans, whether it's picking up a bit of litter or trimming overgrown foliage or just being mindful on how we use our open spaces, so it remains for us to enjoy it's wonders and for future generations.

The Angling Club is now in its tenth year on the lake and in that time, we have been investing both time and money looking after the lake and our ponds in Brookwood by running work parties, holding fishing events and even running charity events. As an example on the 10th August, we held a fishing competition and raffle to raise money for our local Multiple Sclerosis Society.



Photo: Paul Wilson.

Despite the fact fishing proved hard going on the day, but ha that's why we call it fishing and not catching. The lads had a great time and managed to raise over £400.00 on the day and with still more donations coming in the MS piggy bank is getting fatter. Which leaves me to say well done everyone who took part whether by fishing or donating or buying raffle tickets. "Thank You" so much.

ROGER

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Thank you

Lakeview Community Fun Day



THERE was another Lakeview Community Fun Day held on Saturday 13th July following on from the successful event last year. It thankfully stayed dry and the sun even made an appearance! James Sanderson, Chair of Lakeview Community Action Group, said "We were very pleased to be able to run another Fun Day for the Lakeview area given the positive feedback we received after last year's event". The Mayor, Louise Morales, and Woking's new MP, Will Forster, came along mid-afternoon and visited many of the stalls.



Photo: George Binyon.

Similar to last year there was plenty to do for all the family: bouncy castle, lots of different stalls offering a wide range of activities and goods, live music, various dance performances including around the maypole and several places to eat and drink.

There was a full programme of live entertainment throughout the day which was kicked off by the Salvation Army Band. There were a number of dance performances organised by Dance Woking and featuring the Community Dance Platform and a number of dance groups including from Beaufort School and a belly dancing group.



Photo: George Binyon.

There were a couple of maypole dances and even a karate session, both of which encouraged audience participation. There was also live music provided by local bands including Graham Kirby-Smith & Friends and the Monday Club. All in all, there was great engagement with the crowd.

There was a variety of catering provided: a BBQ stand, sweet treats like waffles, candy floss and popcorn, and inside the Community Centre, teas, coffees and cakes were provided by Andy's Community Café.

The bouncy castle was a great hit with younger children and was well used throughout the day. Many of the stalls ran a tombola or other family friendly activities and there was also a drumming workshop.

A number of local charities and community groups including Woking Youth, Young Carers, Andy's Mans Club and Catch-22 were able to publicise their activities and raise much needed funds. There were also a variety of other stalls selling for example jewellery, children's books, handmade textiles and a wide range of jams, jellies and chutneys.

One of the highlights of the Day was the Grand Prize Raffle. "We are very grateful to the many local businesses who donated prizes for the Raffle" said James Sanderson. A wide variety of prizes were given out including a £100 cash top prize, various food and drink hampers and vouchers for restaurants and various leisure activities.

The Community Fun Day was a great success, showcasing the diversity and vitality of Lakeview and Goldsworth Park and brought local people together for a day of fun and friendship. James Sanderson



Photo: George Binyon.

concluded "Thanks very much to the many people who worked so hard to make the event go so smoothly. We hope to run similar events in the future".

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Dates for your diary



Local Organisations in Goldsworth Park

■ GOLDSWORTH PARK GUIDES AND SCOUTS

Meetings are in The Generation Centre at The Goldsworth Park Community & Shopping Centre.

GUIDES: Rainbows (ages 5-7) – Monday, Tuesday and Friday 4.45pm to 5.45pm; Brownies (ages 7-10) – Monday Tuesday and Friday 6pm to 7.30pm; Guides (ages 10+) – Tuesday 7.45pm to 9.15pm. Contact: Hannah Lambert on 01483 766001 or email gpbrownies4@hotmail.co.uk

SCOUTS: (ages 6-8) – Wednesday 5pm to 6pm; Cubs (ages 8-10) – Thursday 5.45pm to 7.15pm; Scouts (ages 10+) – Thursday 7.30pm to 9.00pm. Contact: Dave Morris on 07985 684086 or email gsl.gpark@gmx.com. Dave says the group needs extra leaders or helpers so they can accommodate young people on the waiting list: can you help?

■ GOLDSWORTH PARK RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB

Grassroots football opportunities for boys and girls, based at Goldsworth Park Recreation Ground. Details: visit gprfc.org or email clubsecretary@gprfc.org

■ SEA CADETS WOKING

Through activities and adventures, we learn teamwork, respect, loyalty, self-confidence, commitment, self-discipline, honesty and how to be the best version of ourselves. We meet at the Dianthus Building, Wishbone Way GU21 3RT. Sea Cadets (ages 12-18) – Mondays and Thursdays 7pm-9pm; Junior Cadets (ages 10-12) – Mondays 7pm-9pm; Royal Marines Cadets (13-18) – Mondays and Thursdays 7pm-9pm. Details: visit www.sea-cadets.org/woking or email info@wokingseacadets.org.uk or call 01483 901909.

■ WOKING HOCKEY CLUB

With many teams (men's, ladies, mixed, youth and touring sides), plus "back to hockey" sessions, the clubs offer hockey to players of any ability. Details: www.wokinghc.com or email secretary@wokinghc.com

■ GOLDSWORTH PARK BADMINTON CLUB

The Club seeks new members who currently play or are thinking of restarting badminton. Meets in Woking High School Sports Hall on Saturdays 1pm-3pm. The club has a friendly but strong level of badminton using feather shuttles whilst enjoying the fun and social side. For details email paulrussell01@aol.com

■ ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Goldsworth Park's friendly, community-focussed parish church, at the heart of Goldsworth Park near the shops. Our church family is made up of all ages and backgrounds from a variety of nationalities and cultures. We'd love to welcome you at a Sunday service in our upstairs Worship Area (we have a lift!) or during the week at our many events downstairs in Andy's Community Café. Details: www.standrewsgwp.org email office@standrewsgwp.org or call 01483 723879.

■ SALVATION ARMY

We invite you to join with us on Sundays at 11am for our worship meeting. In addition, we offer many programmes at our Community Church throughout the week so please know that you're welcome at The Salvation Army Community Church, Sythwood, Woking GU21 3BE. For details visit www.salvationarmy.org.uk/woking or email woking@salvationarmy.org.uk or call 01483 793704.

■ LAKESIDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Meets Sundays at 10am for worship, teaching and Holy Communion in the Dianthus Building in Wishbone Way, GU21 3RT. Other meetings during the week include Holy Communion, prayer and house groups. For more information visit lcfwoking.wixsite.com/lakeside or email lcf_woking@hotmail.co.uk or call 01483 870045.

■ RADIO SAILING WOKING

Wesail model boats on Goldsworth Park Lake on Sundays from 11am (weather permitting), sometimes Wednesday and Fridays, plus competitive meetings (listed on web site). During the other "free" weekends we are more able to answer public questions and let people have a go. Although primarily a sailing group the club is open to models of all types, excluding fast electric and steam. For details see www.rudiosailingwoking.uk

■ GOLDSWORTH CARE

A good neighbour scheme offering help to residents who find it difficult to get around. Volunteer drivers take clients to health centres, shops etc and wait to take them home again. They may also do shopping for housebound people. For details, registration and to request a pickup call 07751 801587, Monday to Friday, 10am-12 noon.

■ WOKING SHOPMOBILITY

Hires out mobility scooters, power chairs and manual wheelchairs to help access Woking town centre shops and amenities. Also offers manual wheelchairs and travel scooters for holidays and day trips. Blue Badge not necessary. For full details, registration and pick-up info call 01483 776612, visit www.wokingshopmobility.co.uk or email wokingshopmobility@gmail.com

Regular Events

*Events marked with an asterisk, and possibly others too, may take a break during school holidays. We recommend checking with the organisers.

■ **WARM WELCOME Tuesdays, drop in 9am-midday** | Friendly chat and company on in Andy's Community Café at Goldsworth Park Centre. Free entry and with free tea, coffee and biscuits.

■ **COFFEE AND CHAT First, third and fifth Tuesdays of each month, drop in 10.30am-midday** | Conversation and company at **Warm Welcome** in Andy's at Goldsworth Park Centre. Church pastoral assistants are available to offer support to those struggling in any way.

■ **TODDLER GROUPS Mondays and Wednesdays, drop in 10am-11.30am*** | With toys and ride-ons, crafts and singing. Run by St Andrew's Church during school term times, in A2 Youth & Community Centre (next to the church). These are drop-in groups but entry may have to be restricted if max number is reached. Optional donation £2 per family. Details: email toddlers@standrewsgwp.org

■ **BUMP & BEYOND Fridays, drop in 10am-11.30am** | Relaxed group for parents-to-be and parents with babies not yet walking. Offers support and opportunities to make friends and share experiences. Fun for babies with toys and activities. Run by St Andrew's Church in Andy's Café (or the A2 Centre if there is an event in the church). Optional donation £1 per family. Details: email bumpandbeyond@standrewsgwp.org

■ **SING GOLD Wednesdays, 2pm to 3.30pm** | Goldsworth Park's Community Choir meets to have fun singing songs of all kinds in the Chapel at St Andrew's Church, GP Centre.

■ **WOKING YOUTH Wednesdays, 6.30pm-8.30pm** | Drop-in for young people aged 11-19 in Lakeview Community Centre, Tracious Close. See www.wokingyouth.org.uk for details. Volunteers needed to help at sessions: for info please email admin@wokingyouth.org.uk

■ **YOUTH EVENING Alternate Fridays, 7.30pm-9pm*** | For young people aged 11-16, with games and activities, and a termly trip out. For information and dates email youth@standrewsgwp.org.

■ **LIFT UP TOGETHER Thursdays, 12pm-3.30pm** | Social self-support group aiming to destigmatise mental health issues in a safe environment. With lunch, newspapers and magazines and activities such as bingo, quizzes and games, in Lakeview Community Centre, Tracious Close.

■ **ANDY'S COMMUNITY CAFÉ Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10am-2.30pm** | Offers a range of superb barista coffees, teas and snacks and a "pay as you feel" menu: no fixed prices – just pay what you can afford (or nothing if you're feeling the pinch), so no one goes hungry. Toddler-friendly play space with train track, books and toys, free Wi-Fi, comfy sofas or tables to work from, dog friendly. Andy's is on the ground floor at St Andrew's Church, GP Centre, GU21 3LG. Details: www.standrewsgwp.org/andy

■ **MUMS' BIBLE STUDY GROUP Alternate Thursdays, 10am to 11.30am*** | Meets fortnightly in the Chapel at St Andrew's. For dates contact Karin by email: children@standrewsgwp.org

■ **CRAFT GROUP Thursdays, 10am-11.30am*** | With a variety of craft activities in Andy's Community Café. Materials provided, all FREE.

■ **ART GROUP Thursdays, 1pm-3pm** | Creativity, conversation and coffee. All abilities welcome. Meet and make friends in Andy's Community Café. Materials provided, all FREE. The event does not

take place when the leader is away, so it is recommended you check with the St Andrew's Church office on 01483 723879.

* Not during school holidays

■ WOKING LADIES CHOIR

Tuesdays, 7.45pm - 9.45pm from 3rd September | Woking ladies choir is looking for singers to join their small, friendly, ladies choir. There are no auditions, no need to read music or have singing experience. We meet at Trinity Methodist Church, Brewery Road, Woking. You can find out more at our website wokingladieschoir.org.uk, contact Susan Bennett 07887930505 or email pr@ladieschoir.org.uk

■ BOAT TRIPS ON THE BASINGSTOKE CANAL

The Basingstoke Canal Society owns two passenger boats providing pleasure trips on the Basingstoke Canal. Kitty operates from The Town Wharf in Woking, while John Pinkerton II operates from Odiham. For details and bookings visit basingstoke-canal.org.uk/boat-trips

■ **THE LIGHTBOX – Tuesdays to Sundays, times vary (closed Mondays and Bank Holidays)** | Art exhibitions (changed regularly), Woking's Story (museum) plus workshops for adults and for families with young children. The headline exhibitions are currently Henry Moore in Colour (until 3 November) featuring colourful drawings by the renowned sculptor, and Material Thinking (until 13 October) including work by major artists from The Ingram Collection and also work by contemporary artists associated with the Fine Art programme at the University of Gloucestershire. For full details and charges where applicable visit thelightbox.org.uk or call 01483 737800.

■ **WOKING REPAIR CAFÉ operated by Woking Environment Action (WEAct) – 10am to 12.30pm** | Volunteers offer free repairs for small electricals/mechanicals, clocks, furniture, toys, garden tools, clothing and textiles. Donations welcome to cover costs. Only items that can be carried by one person will be accepted. No petrol-driven items for safety reasons. Upcoming dates/venues: 14th September at Trinity Methodist Church, Brewery Road, GU21 4LH; 12th October at Andy's Café in St Andrew's Church, Goldsworth Park GU21 3LG; 9th November at Old Woking Community Centre, Sundridge Road GU22 9AT. If possible, email beforehand with details of what you wish to bring: hello@wokingenvironmentaction.com.

Diary Dates

September

■ **TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER Hymns We Love, 11am** | The first in a series looking at well-known hymns. We will enjoy a beautiful rendition of a hymn, explore the story behind its author and the meaning behind the words. This time the hymn is Amazing Grace. There will also be time to chat. . St Andrew's Church, GP Centre. For more information or to express an interest, email community@standrewsgwp.org or call the church office on 01483 723879.

■ **TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER Free Cookery Course "Healthy eating on a budget" (six weeks on Tuesdays) 1pm – 2.30pm** | The FoodWise charity aims to help you build knowledge and confidence to regularly prepare and cook healthy and nutritious meals, affordable to people on a restricted food budget. No charge, and ingredients supplied free. Limited places available: call Gracie on 07426 42221. Venue: A2 Building at St Andrew's Church, GP Centre. Info: www.foodwisetlc.care or follow [foodwisetlc](https://www.facebook.com/foodwisetlc) on social media.

■ **SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER Messy Church at St Andrew's, 3pm – 5pm** | Join us for fun, crafts, games, songs and food. Aimed at families with children aged 4-10 (primary school age), but older/younger siblings are welcome). Free to attend. St Andrew's Church, GP Centre.

■ **SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER Woking Car Show in Woking Town Centre, 11am – 4pm** | Free event. Classic, custom and American cars will fill the pedestrianised areas from Victoria Square, along Commercial Way into Jubilee Square. McLaren will take over Mercia Walk to display models manufactured locally. Nova Cinema will show car-themed films throughout the day. For details follow @wokingcarshow on Facebook. To display your vehicle register at woking.gov.uk/carshowregistration

■ **SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER "Encounter" free local youth event, 7pm – 9pm** | Special youth event being held at St Andrew's Church Goldsworth Park for young people in school years 7 to 13 from the Woking area to meet and hear about God in a different way. Our time together will start with refreshments, games and a chance to socialise, followed by lively worship and our guest speaker Neil Hopkins. Join us for food, fun, games, talk and worship. For info and to sign up visit <https://ticketpass.org/event/EUOJPH/encounter> Encounter is organised by local charity Engage Woking Schools: office 01483 901891, email office@engagewoking.org

October

■ **WEDNESDAY 2 OCTOBER Hearing aid clinic: drop in from 1pm – 3pm** | NHS hearing aid general maintenance including cleaning retubing, general advice and free NHS batteries. St Andrew's Church, GP Centre. Free service run by NHS-trained volunteers. For details visit www.standrewsgwp.org/hearing

■ **FRIDAY 4 OCTOBER Trefoil Guild, 7.30pm – 9.30pm** | Monthly meeting for current and past Guiders who enjoy meeting like-minded folk. The Generation Centre, GP Centre, Denton Way. Details: email sylvia.lambart@ntlworld.com or call 01483 766001

■ **SATURDAY 5 OCTOBER Andy's 'Out of Hours', 7.30pm – 10pm** | Live music and entertainment in the comfort of Andy's Community Cafe, with licensed bar and food. Tickets FREE (donations accepted) but book here: tinyurl.com/andysooh

■ **TUESDAY 8 OCTOBER Hymns We Love 11am** | We'll enjoy a beautiful rendition of a hymn, explore the story behind it and the meaning behind the words. There will also be time to chat. St Andrew's Church, GP Centre. For more information or to express an interest, email community@standrewsgwp.org or call the church office on 01483 723879.

■ **SATURDAY 12 OCTOBER Repair Cafe 10am – 12.30pm** | At Andy's Community Café in St Andrew's Church, GP Centre. For full details see the "Organisations" section (above).

■ **SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER Goldsworth Park Community Association Litter Pick, 2pm** | Meet at The Lodge, Wishbone Way. Wear strong shoes and gardening gloves. Bin bags and litter pickers will be provided if you don't bring your own.

November

■ **FRIDAY 1 NOVEMBER Seniors' Lunch 1pm** | Free event (donations accepted). In Andy's Community Café (within St Andrew's Church). Speaker to be announced. Booking essential: call 01483 727834 or email pastoral@standrewsgwp.org

■ **WEDNESDAY 6 NOVEMBER Hearing aid clinic: drop in from 1pm – 3pm** | NHS hearing aid general maintenance including cleaning retubing, general advice and free NHS batteries. St Andrew's Church, GP Centre. Free service run by NHS-trained volunteers. For details visit www.standrewsgwp.org/hearing

■ **FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER Trefoil Guild, 7.30pm – 9.30pm** | Monthly meeting for current and past Guiders who enjoy meeting like-minded folk. The Generation Centre, GP Centre, Denton Way. Details: email sylvia.lambart@ntlworld.com or call 01483 766001

■ **FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER GPCA Quiz Night, 7.30pm – 9.30pm** | Dianthus Upper Deck, Wishbone Way. Come along and enjoy the quiz together with good company and a great view across the lake plus the option of food. To book your place or for more details email social@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk

■ **SUNDAY 10 NOVEMBER Goldsworth Park Remembrance Service, 10.45am** | Our annual Act of Remembrance outside Goldsworth Park Health Centre. Please join the GPCA, St Andrew's Church and Goldsworth Park Scouts and Guides as we remember the service and huge sacrifice of the forces who fought for our freedom. The service is preceded by a half-hour Remembrance-themed service within St Andrew's Church starting at 10am.

■ **SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER Tearfund Big Quiz Night in Andy's Community Cafe: arrive by 7.15pm for prompt start at 7.30pm** | St Andrew's is one of hundreds of churches simultaneously joining in Tearfund's annual fundraiser quiz. Snacks and hot drinks available. Bring your own soft drinks. Family-friendly (secondary school upwards). "Pay as you feel" donations towards Tearfund's work in fighting poverty. Please preregister your team or that you'd like to be teamed up with others: email community@standrewsgwp.com or call the church office on 01483 723879. For details of Tearfund's work see www.tearfund.org

■ **SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER Messy Church, 3pm – 5pm** | Join us for fun, crafts, games, songs and food. Aimed at families with children aged 4-10 (primary school age), but older/younger siblings are welcome). St Andrew's Church, GP Centre.

December

■ **MONDAY 2 DECEMBER Seniors' Tea, 2pm** | Free event (donations accepted). Guest speaker to be announced. In Andy's Community Café (within St Andrew's Church). Booking essential: please call 01483 727834 or email pastoral@standrewsgwp.org



Seymours in Woking are thrilled to announce our relocation to a new, modern showroom office in the Victoria Place shopping centre!

The move marks a significant milestone in the company's growth as Seymours continue to serve the Woking community with residential Sales & Lettings.

This 3,000 sq ft flagship office space has been designed with the utmost care and attention to detail to ensure that it is one of the most environmentally friendly and technologically advanced estate agency offices anywhere in the UK. We have invested in state-of-the-art equipment alongside creating a luxurious and welcoming atmosphere where buyers and sellers can relax and discuss their property needs in a 'first class' environment.

This new prominent position in Woking, is not only perfectly placed centrally within our growing 20 office network and reflects our unrivalled reputation and expertise in the Surrey property market, but also offers our clients a unique opportunity to showcase their properties in the best possible light and allows them to be able to come in and enjoy a comfortable and confidential consultation with one of our experienced property partners.

We would be delighted for you to come and see our new home at Victoria Place, pop in for a coffee, feel the Seymours difference for yourself and discuss how we can become your property partner.



Seymours Woking

3a-3b Commercial Way, Woking, GU21 6XR
01483 757700 | seymours-estates.co.uk

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