

A Fitting Memorial



ABOVE LEFT:
In loving memory of
Albert & Millicent Rose
Mintram

ABOVE:
Phill and our reporter
enjoying the view from
the memorial bench

RIGHT:
Phill Mintram at the
memorial bench
dedicated to his parents

People walking on the path around the lake may have noticed a new bench near the children's playground bearing the inscription "M. R. Mintram and A. A. Mintram – Rest in peace". This bench has been provided by Phillip Mintram in memory of his parents, Millicent Rose and Albert Arthur Mintram.

Rose and Albert Mintram hailed originally from Old Woking but spent much of their lives in Maybury where they raised their family. Albert died around 1990 and in 1999 Rose moved to Bainton Mead in Goldsworth Park where she lived for the next 10 years before she, too, passed away.

Phill described them as wonderful parents and said that he wanted to create a lasting memorial that would be more pleasant to visit than the usual plaque at St Johns Crematorium. A bench in lovely spot on the lake bank was the answer and a redundancy payment last year enabled him to realise his wish. He hoped that visitors to the lake would be able to enjoy this tribute to his loving parents for many years to come.

Phill, who had not visited Goldsworth Park for some while, said that he was very impressed by the improvements to the lake; it was all much greener and there was less litter than he remembered.

He wanted to record his thanks to Nick Roach at Woking Borough Council, who had helped with the planning and to Earth Anchors who had made and installed the bench.

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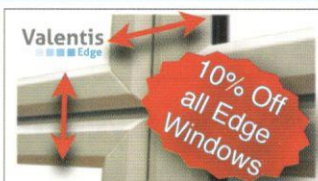
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Councillors' Surgeries

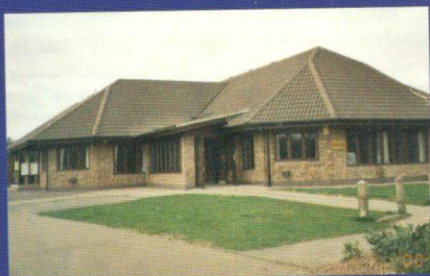
The Goldsworth Park Councillors hold a surgery from 10am-11am on the first Saturday of every month (except August) at Strollers, accessed from the path between the shops and the lake.

Goldsworth News distribution

Distribution of Goldsworth News is arranged by Mrs Linda Hill. Her details are: Linda Hill, 5, Newsham Road, Goldsworth Park Tel: 01483 835183

Email: hillinda5@googlemail.com
 The G.P.C.A. is always looking for people who can spend a little time each month to distribute copies of Goldsworth News to areas around the park not already covered.

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County Council Report

Diana Smith,

County Councillor for Knaphill and Goldsworth West



The civic year starts in May, straight after the local elections. In Woking a third of Woking Borough Council seats are 'up' each year for three years, but next year there are 'all up' County Council elections, when everyone who wants to go on being a County Councillor has to fight for their seat.

This makes a difference to the pace of and tone of political business. The party in power will be focused on achievements and good news stories, while in the opposition we find ourselves increasingly focusing on evidence of failure and lost opportunities.

Lunch

As usual, I must thank you as tax-payers for the formal 'Surrey County Council AGM Luncheon' after Full Council early in May, with poached salmon, fresh strawberries, and a 'local Surrey cheeseboard'. I'm glad to say that your hospitality is being much less tested than in my early years as a County Councillor. Alcoholic drinks are no longer served during working hours, so now we had a very pleasant fruit drink instead of wine. And even this level of service and fancy food is no longer a frequent occurrence.

Jobs for the girls

The 'Annual Meeting' is when Committee places are allocated, along with positions such as Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs. Places on Select Committees have to be allocated proportionally to the strength of political parties, but positions of responsibility do not. At one time opposition members held some of these positions, but the current administration has kept them exclusively for the Conservatives.

This power of patronage is a powerful tool in developing political skills – for example Linda Kemeny, elected County Councillor for St. Johns and Brookwood in a by-election less than a year ago, became Vice Chairman of the Adult Social Care Committee, and I suspect will go further. ('Adult Social Care' may not sound significant, but Surrey spends about six times as much on the old and the vulnerable as on roads.)

The Chairmanship of the Council is always held by a Conservative. Lavinia Sealy was reappointed this year. I generally have a great deal of respect for Lavinia's sincerity, intelligence, and benevolence, but her summary of 'what was important in the last year' was framed around royal visits, from the major royals downward, and 'as always, we had the Duke of Kent coming to an enormous number of things.'

Money for what matters to us

Maybe I'm the one out of step. In the March SCC Woking Local Committee meeting I was the only Councillor to be disconcerted by the bid for £2,700 from Horsell Residents Association for a Jubilee Street Party of which, for example, £350 was for historical research and IT. I think my objections seemed petty to other Councillors. However the GPCA has given up the idea of a celebratory Jubilee 'Big Picnic' around the lake for lack of support, so maybe I'm not entirely out of line with opinion in our area.

If you're part of an organization that has a good idea for a project to 'promote the social, economic or environmental well being of the people of Woking', please contact me for the criteria and an application form. We've got £12,615 for each County Councillor plus £35,000 capital for the Committee to allocate before next April.

Lakers Again

I took Nick Wilson, Surrey's 'Strategic Director for Children Schools and Families' to Lakers at the end of May. Members of the Corporate Leadership Team are each linked to a number of County Councillors, so that we can show them the good and the bad of Surrey services at ground level. Woking YMCA is supposed to have been running centre-based youth work there since April.

We had a good discussion with Hannah Addison, their Development Officer, who said a new youth worker for Lakers has been appointed, but has still to move to Surrey. Nor are the needed part-time workers in place. For the moment, Surrey's own Youth Worker, Rebecca Wain, is still running some sessions at Lakers instead of moving, as planned, to Surrey County Council's Youth Support Service.

New arrangements for Lakers should include an advisory steering group with a range of people from the community, including young people, to allow their input. It should also make it easier to get information back to you.

Diana Smith can be contacted by e-mail on Diana.smith@surreycc.gov.uk, telephone 07971665037, through her website <http://dianasmith.mycouncillor.org.uk> or on Twitter @CllrDS



Cycling Glory for Willow Sculptures



Nazia Hossain and Chloe Kent from Sythwood School with the Year 6 Willow Sculpture cyclist

Up to 5,000 schoolchildren from 15 schools from around Woking, and located along the Olympic Men's and Women's Cycle Road Race route, have been working with local artist, Sara Holmes, to create a 'peloton' of over 50 willow cyclists.

Woking's Willow Sculpture project received an "Inspire Mark" granted by the London 2012 Inspire programme. The London 2012 mark, awarded by the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games, recognises innovative and exceptional projects that are directly inspired by the London 2012 Games.

The project, which started in October 2011, is on track to weave its way into local history books when the unique 'willow wonders' are displayed along the Borough's

leg of the Olympic Cycle Road Race route on Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 July – the opening weekend of the London 2012 Games.

As a lasting legacy to the Games and the project, each carefully crafted sculpture will be returned to the participating schools and displayed for future generations to enjoy and mark the events.



GOLDSWORTH LETTERS

Dear Editor,

I read with interest the article "Keep Goldsworth Park Sparkling" & agree whole heartedly with the comments made. I live in a small close of three & four bedroom houses where some residents have not cleared the leaves at all from their front gardens or drives while other consider it acceptable to use leaf blowers to clear their own leaves into the road or through hedges into walkways. The few houses that do clear their leaves are fighting an ongoing battle thanks to the selfish thoughtless neighbours.

Yours sincerely,

A concerned Goldsworth Park resident

Note from the Editor: Volunteers from St. Andrews Church will be litter picking around Goldsworth park as part of their **Hope Week** programme (4th-10th June). Please contact St. Andrews Church (010483 723879) if you want to help with this initiative. Some of the other activities during this week also include a free carwash, free gardening, painting or tidying up and a free barbeque, to mention a few.

Summer Fairs are here!

Beaufort Primary School

Saturday - 16th June

12 - 3pm

Friends of Beaufort would like to invite everyone to this year's Summer Fair. Come and enjoy the fun-filled stalls, rides and delicious food!



Sythwood Primary School

Saturday - 23rd June 2012

12 - 3pm

Sythwood Primary School will bring the seaside to you at its summer fair this year. Come and ride on the donkeys, jump on the bouncy castles and enjoy an ice-cream, doughnut or candyfloss! Traditional entertainment will be mixed up and newer activities will ensure fun for all the family. Try your hand at a hooping a coconut or panning for gold. Perhaps you might get lucky and win the main draw or pick up a prize on a tombola. Refreshments will be available including a barbeque. There's sure to be something for everyone and all are welcome!

Goldsworth Primary School

Saturday - 30th June

12 - 3pm

Come and join us for our Olympic Themed Summer Fair filled with fun active activities and laughter to be had by all.

Local resident PowerWalks for Breast Cancer

3



Team Hooters - Sue Kirbell, her daughter Vicky and best friend, Sarah Smeesters

On May 12th, Goldsworth Park resident, Sue Kirbell, took part in the MoonWalk London 2012 and power-walked 26miles 385yards overnight in a decorated bra to raise money for Breast Cancer Research. She was walking as part of **Team Hooters** with her daughter Vicky and her best friend, Sarah Smeesters.

walkthewalk
uniting against
breast cancer

This year's event, hosted by the charity Walk the Walk, was a

very special year for the charity as they celebrate 15 years of MoonWalking. Over 17,000 women and men took part in their chosen challenge wearing beautifully decorated bras, the trademark of the charity. Hyde Park was transformed into a 'Rock and Roll' extravaganza as the footsteps of Power Walkers came together and united against breast cancer at midnight by doing a marathon or half marathon.

Sue would like to say a huge "THANK YOU" to her friends and all her FunWay2Fitness class members who have helped her to raise £800 so far for this fantastic cause.

Note from the Editor: I first met Sue a few years ago when I visited her FunWay2Fitness class at the Goldwater Lodge. Passionate about healthy living, Sue runs workout classes for young and old - the 60+ class is a big hit! For more information, please give Sue a call on 07811 566096 and who knows, maybe next year we can enter a Goldsworth Park team for MoonWalk!



From the Editor

Time for Celebrations

I'm Back!

I would like to thank Irene Watson for standing in for me as Editor for the May edition of our magazine. I think you will all agree with me that she did a fantastic job and it is very comforting to know that I can gladly hand-over the magazine to her in times of crisis. Thank you very much Irene!

The month of June will see a lot of celebrations from School Fairs to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. I would like to invite all our readers to please send in any photos about any of their celebrations this month. It does not matter if it is a small gathering in the garden or a big street bash, please share it with us. I would also welcome any photos of special decorations you may prepare for the big days. Come on Goldsworth Park -

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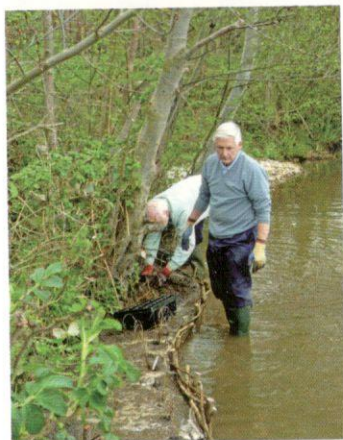
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Roger Westcott is one of the voluntary fishing bailiffs appointed by Woking Borough Council to oversee fishing, monitor fish stocks and other wildlife, and keep the area generally clean and tidy.



Planting marginals

From mid April through to the end of May, we have been very busy at the lake-side planting thousands of new plants ranging from bluebell, primrose, cowslip and great willow herb on the banks to an array of marginals within the wildlife area as well as on the island and along parts of the south bank. Some of the more delicate plants, you will note, have been temporarily fenced off to protect them from grazing birds. We are also reintroducing broad leafed pond weed. This sub-aquatic once flourished here, with its spear shaped leaves and pretty pink spire-like flowers forming rafts much loved by dragon flies and damsel flies. It may take a year or so before we know if it has taken; fingers crossed that it will.

You may have noticed that, a few weeks ago, several large "molehills"



Dealing with a molehill

appeared round the lake. We had some 22 tons of soil brought round from near the hockey pitches. However, all but one hill has now gone. Some parts of the bank had been under cut and needed back filling to create a growing medium for the new plants. Once established, the roots will help to cut down on further erosion whilst adding to the habitat already achieved. I'm glad we got it done before the hot spell – digging in that heat doesn't appeal!

Despite spring being a washout weather-wise, the lake and surrounding area has played host to many nesting birds – broods of coots, moorhens and ducks everywhere. Tens of thousands of tadpoles line the margins along with shoals of fish fry, all setting out on the adventure of life.



A family of Coots

As for our resident pair of swans, there is no news yet of whether they have successfully raised any cygnets this year but, if they do return with a new family, battle is sure to ensue. At present, there no less than NINE yearling swans on the lake; with our cob busy elsewhere, interlopers have come and set up residence. This may delight us but won't please our bully-boy male. We will be keeping a very close eye on developments.

With all this abundance of new life, I have noticed an increase in the number of cats patrolling the banks. I am always asking dog owners to act responsibly by keeping their pets under control and out of the water but cats are more likely to catch and kill young birds out of instinct. The easiest way to help prevent such activity is to fix a bell to

the cat's collar. So cat owners, whether you live near the lake or not, please treat your cat to a bell – it will save lives.

Our anglers have been enjoying some excellent sport. Tench and Bream have showed well and good numbers of our much prized Carp have made an appearance, bringing smiles of delight in front of the camera before gently returning the catch to its watery home.

I hope you have been reading the letters submitted to this magazine recently regarding litter and how some residents have taken it upon themselves to do something about it by getting out there and clearing the mess up. I am sure you will join me in thanking them those individuals for helping to make our Park an altogether cleaner and safer place to live. The best way to show our gratitude is to do our bit by using the litter bins provided, by joining one of our litter pickers or by reporting litter "hot spots" to Woking Borough Council who will get Serco to deal with it. Together we can and will make a difference.

On 4th August, we will be holding our 4th "Let's go Fishing" free angling coaching event, open to beginners of age 7 plus and for those who want to brush up their skills. If previous events are anything to go by, it will be a great success, so check the full advertisement and book your place now to avoid disappointment.

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The Stanley Blacks to headline Party in the park

Celebrate Woking is delighted to announce that local indie band, **The Stanley Blacks**, will headline at Party in the Park on Saturday, 7 July in Woking Park.

Fresh from their recent LA tour, the band will be joined by local songwriter, **Kif James**, music from former member of The Jam, jazz from **The Claire Phoenix Band** and swing from **Charley Farley** Sunday and many more.

Speaking about the upcoming family friendly event, The Stanley Blacks said: "We are really looking forward to playing at Party in the Park. It's like a homecoming for us and really makes us proud to be playing in the town we're from."

At the heart of this free, inclusive event in Woking Park will be a whole host of activities, demonstrations, performances and workshops taking place within themed zones and tents, catering for all age groups and tastes.

Young people, or the young at heart can enjoy live beatboxing, graffiti and freestyle football demos in the vibrant Youth Tent. There will be a top street magician and professional stunt bike artist entertaining the crowds and food lovers will also be spoilt for choice with an array of home-made cuisines on offer from local caterers and restaurants. Alternatively, drop in to our traditional British Tea Tent for lunch or a spot of afternoon tea, and then Waltz the afternoon away during one of the many Tea Dance sessions.

For younger children, a visit to the Children's Zone is a must! The free programme will include music workshops, circus skills, creative craft workshops and a range of bouncy inflatables whilst football enthusiasts and Wimbledon wannabees can learn new sporty skills in the Sports Zone.

So come on down to Party in the Park from midday to 7pm on Saturday 7 July and join in the fun!

For more information on Celebrate Woking's Party in the Park event, please visit www.celebratetwoking.info

Free Cavity Wall & Loft Insulation

The Council recently delivered letters regarding free home insulation to residents. If you missed this information or did not receive a letter please contact Sara Winnington on Tel. 07983 707729 or sara.winnington@ecsc.uk to check if you qualify for this service.



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Reducing Bicycle Crime

Recently The Goldsworth Park Safer Neighbourhood Team have noticed an increase in Bicycle thefts. Bikes are being stolen from unsecured garden sheds and those left unsecured outside the gardens.

By following some simple advice, you will lessen your chances of becoming a victim of bicycle crime.

Marking and tagging

- A number of marking and tagging systems are available to help safeguard your bicycle.
- Ensure the mark/tag is clearly visible, so a potential thief will see it.
- Ensure the mark/tag is secure - use a tamper-resistant label or an inaccessible electronic device.
- Ensure the bike is marked/tagged both on the frame and in another location that's not clearly visible.

Out and about

- Always lock your bicycle- even when leaving it for just a few minutes.
- Lock your bike to an immovable object, such as a bike rack or solid street furniture. Park it safely and considerably - without creating a hazard or obstruction to pedestrians or other road users.
- Secure removable parts and lock wheels and frame together. Remove quick release seats, panniers and bike computers.
- Avoid parking your bike in isolated or dimly lit areas.
- Don't leave an expensive bike in the same place on a regular basis. This will prevent it from being noticed and stolen to order.

At home

- Bicycles are often taken from their owner's home. Reduce the likelihood of this happening by storing your bike in a locked garage or shed and keeping it out of view at all times.

Crime Prevention Stall

The Goldsworth Park team will be holding Crime Prevention Stalls outside Goldwater Lodge, Wishbone Way on the following dates:

Thursday 7th June 2012- 3pm-6pm
Saturday 9th June 2012 - 12pm-3pm

This is an opportunity for you to have your Bicycles marked and registered to reduce property crime and improve your chances of getting your property back if it is lost or stolen. You will also be able to register other items such as Laptops, phones, IPOD'S, and be able to purchase shed alarms at the stall to help secure your garden sheds.

The team look forward to meeting you on the day.

New Edition To The Team



My name is Matt Hart and I am a new NSO to the Goldsworth Park Safer Neighbourhood Team. Prior to joining Surrey Police I spent 5 years in the security industry undertaking many different roles. This provided me with a good level of experience and a platform to apply to Surrey police.

I joined Surrey Police at the beginning of 2011 where I initially spent 6 months attached to the Target Patrol Team, following this I moved to CID.

I left this role and joined the Woking Safer Neighbourhood Team in 2012 and am now one of the NSO's for the Goldsworth Park area.

Becoming a police officer is always something that I wanted to do due to the variety of jobs and challenges that I can face on a daily basis and the difference I am able to make to peoples lives.

One of the best things about being an NSO is the close working bond you are able to make with the local community and this puts me in a better position to make a difference.

Goldsworth park is a diverse community and for me that makes the role of being an NSO that more interesting and enjoyable. So far I have only spent a short time in Goldsworth Park but the first thing you notice is that it is a densely populated area with a strong community spirit

I like to take a pro active approach to the job and will be out in the Goldsworth Park area tackling anti social behaviour as well as other local issues raised to me by residents.

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6 COOK'S CORNER

This pie was cooked for me and my friends recently by an American visitor and it received such rave reviews, that I got the recipe to share with you



Rhubarb and Strawberry Pie

Crust

350g / 12ozs plain flour
2½ teaspoons sugar
¾ teaspoon salt
75g / 3 ozs chilled solid vegetable shortening
75g / 3 ozs chilled unsalted butter
Cold water to mix – about 10 tablespoons
or you could buy ready made shortcrust pastry

For filling

675g / 1½lbs untrimmed weight rhubarb
450g / 1lb strawberries
150g / 6ozs golden brown sugar
1 heaped tablespoon cornflour
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Method

Make the pastry by lightly rubbing the shortening and butter into the flour and salt until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs then add the sugar. Blend in enough cold water, 2 tablespoons at a time, to form moist clumps. Gather dough into ball and chill until ready to use.

Preheat oven to 200°C / 400°F / Gas mark 6.

Trim the rhubarb and cut into ½

inch thick slices. Hull and slice the strawberries if large or halve if small. Mix the fruit with the sugar, cornflour and cinnamon in a large bowl.

Remove the pastry dough from the fridge (or packet), cut in half and form each half into a flattened circle. Roll one circle of dough into a 11 – 12 inch circle and carefully transfer to a 9 inch pie dish. Trim so that the overhang is about 1 inch.

Pile the filling into the pastry case.

Roll out the second circle of dough into 10 – 11 inch circle and cut into fourteen ½ inch-wide strips. Arrange 7 pastry strips over the filling, spacing evenly. Form a lattice by "weaving" the remaining 7 pastry strips in the opposite direction to the first. Trim ends of the pastry strips even with overhang and fold the overhanging bottom layer of pastry back over the ends. Crimp the edges decoratively.

Brush the pastry with milk and sprinkle on a little sugar.

Place the pie on a baking tray and bake for 20 minutes then reduce the temperature to 180°C / 350°F / Gas mark 4 and bake for a further 30 minutes until the pastry is golden and the juices bubble.

Let the pie cool before serving and the juices will gel.

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Wild life on
Goldsworth Park Lake
by Roger Westcott

Fun in a Bun



For many years, residents have bemoaned the fact that there was nowhere to get a cuppa or a snack when walking round the lake or taking their

children to the playground. Park residents Jo and David Tapp have responded to this need and are now providing hot and cold drinks, snacks and food throughout the day from their trailer parked near the children's playground. Trading under the name Big Jo's Fun in a Bun, they offer a much needed service to the area. I am sure that the night fishermen will relish the

breakfast bun – bacon, sausage and an egg in a bun.

Good luck, Jo and David, with your new venture.



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A big "Thank You" from Outgoing Mayor ⁷

Mayor for Woking 2011/12, **Cllr. Ken Howard**, invited outstanding members of Woking's community to celebrate their achievement on Friday, 27th April at the Mayor's annual Civic Reception. The awards took place during one of his last big Mayoral events before handing over his status to the new Mayor.

The event, which recognises the dedication of Woking residents, was held at H.G. Wells Conference and Events Centre, where the Mayor announced **Woking's Eminent Citizen for 2012** and the winners of this year's **Young People's Civic Award Scheme**.



Eminent Citizen – Pauline Eastwood

Pauline was presented with the Eminent Citizen's award in recognition of her tireless work for the community.

She has been involved in helping with Woking Hospice's car raffle for the past 10 years and has helped the hospice since Mr Lofting was Mayor in 1990-91.

As a member of Lions International since 2001, she has served (Chaired) on the Services Committee, raising funds for worthy causes, both locally and abroad.

Pauline delivers collection boxes and poppies for the Poppy Appeal to various organisations and companies within Woking, collecting them at the end of the appeal.

She is President of the Cadet section of St John's Ambulance Woking and since 2001 has attended committee meetings, supported the cadets with fund raising and attended and presented at Award ceremonies.

Pauline is involved with the Red Cross, collecting through Lions International for natural disasters.

Pauline also collects funds in support of Woking Shop Mobility and has supported Councillor Eastwood with his various charities over the years and during his Mayoral year. She was awarded Soroptimist Woman of the Year 2010 for her Charity work.



Young People's Civic Award Scheme

Now in its sixteenth year, the Young People's Civic Award Scheme aims to reward young people who make an outstanding contribution to the community in Woking and whose work or achievements may not normally be recognised. The judging panel included representatives from Woking Borough Council, Woking Youth Council, Surrey Police, and the voluntary sector.

The winners of this year's Young People's Civic Award Scheme are below.

Outstanding Contribution to the Community – Emma Stone

Emma started volunteering for Link Leisure, a local charity for children and adults with a learning disability, at the age of just 14. Despite being very shy and quite nervous at first, Emma

demonstrated a calm and caring nature towards the children. She has shown maturity beyond her years and often deals with some very difficult situations. Emma never falters or complains and is an extremely dedicated and reliable volunteer, which is vital when working with children with learning disabilities. An invaluable member of the Link Leisure team, she also gives advice to new volunteers.

Outstanding Achievement – Nathan Novelli

Nathan has been working hard over the past year to set up a drama school for local children and young people in the community. Mega Theatre opened in September 2011 and classes are run every Wednesday at the Maybury Centre for children and young people, aged between 4 and 16 years old. The first Mega Theatre students recently entered their London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art examinations and achieved a 100% pass rate, a fantastic result. Nathan has organised some impressive opportunities for the students in 2012, including performing in the 'Voice in a Million' concert at Wembley Arena in February, to help raise awareness for children in care. He is also negotiating a slot at the Horsell May Fayre so the children will be able to perform in front of the local community. Through his exceptional dedication, passion and hard work, Nathan has set up an affordable and accessible theatre school in the Borough.

Triumph Over Adversity – Lewis Tapp

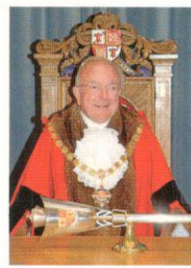
Lewis attends St John the Baptist Catholic School and whilst suffering from ulcerative colitis has demonstrated outstanding courage and will power, persevering with his condition and maintaining a positive attitude. Despite spending hundreds of hours between St Peter's Hospital in Chertsey and London's Great Ormond Street Hospital at the peak of his illness, Lewis showed remarkable determination to attend school when he was able. Lewis is now attending school full time and is determined to achieve his aim of going to college and studying aeronautical engineering, despite needing to undergo further surgery after his GCSEs.

The Mayor of Woking presented each winner with a glass trophy, a certificate, a cinema ticket for two people (sponsored by the Ambassadors) and a £20 gift card (sponsored by Debenhams).

Speaking about the awards, the Mayor of Woking, Cllr Ken Howard, said: "Congratulations to all of this year's winners, who show such tireless dedication in their hard work and commitment. They set a fantastic example to others in the Borough. I am very proud that the Council is continuing to honour the commitment of these individuals through the Young People's Civic Award Scheme and Eminent Citizen award."

"Hello" to Woking's New 39th Mayor!

On Thursday, 17th May 2012, Cllr Michael Smith was elected as Woking Borough's 39th Mayor at the official Mayor-Making Ceremony, which took place at the Civic Offices during the Annual Meeting of Woking Borough Council.



local politics from an early age and had a strong link to Knaphill, having worked in and subsequently acquiring Darby's Chemist. I sensed an opportunity to raise the profile of Knaphill within the Borough when there was a by-election for a Councillor."

Having retired from work in Knaphill, and after seven years as a Councillor, Cllr Smith planned to step down but was then invited to stand as the Conservative candidate for Horsell East and Woodham, an area in which he has a strong personal interest. He was elected in 2004 and continues to enjoy representing the views of this ward on the Council.

Since being elected, Cllr Smith has served as Chairman of the Planning and Licensing Committees and Vice-Chairman of the Executive, as well as being a contributor to a vast array of Working Groups.

Aside from his political roles, he has also acted as non-executive board member of several health authorities, chaired many independent reviews of patient care, is a member of the Council of Governors of the Ashford and St Peter's Trust and the Surrey Borders Mental Health Trust, is a School Governor at Winston Churchill School and has served

Born and bred in Woking, Cllr Smith was the first elected Independent Councillor for Knaphill in 1997. He explains: "I had a keen interest in national and

on the board of two local charities.

With such an action-packed year ahead, with the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, it's no surprise Cllr Smith is excited about the celebrations in the Borough during his Mayoral year. He said: "I look forward to the challenges it brings. I have been invited to some street parties, Jubilee parties at the Centres for the Community and Celebrate Woking events, all of which are a fantastic opportunity to celebrate."

Talking about his interests, he said: "I am a keen gardener, theatre-goer, traveller and reader. I am anticipating this year will be very busy indeed and am looking forward to attending the many events in the Borough."

During his mayoral year, Cllr Smith's chosen charity is **Macmillan Cancer Support**. Speaking of the charity, he said: "Macmillan is a wonderful charity with enthusiastic local support. Its best known role is in the practical support and care offered to sufferers from cancer, but there is another important aspect to its work; the support and advice given to carers and families of patients."

"Approximately one person in three will be affected by cancer during their lifetime and I urge the residents of Woking to help me in helping Macmillan raise funds for them to continue and expand their work."

During the Mayoral year, Cllr Smith will be supported by his wife, **Cllr Anne Murray**, who whilst acting as a Borough Councillor will assume the role of Mayoress, escorting him to a wide range of events and functions.

Woking's Deputy Mayor this year is **Cllr Anne Roberts**, currently a Liberal Democrat Councillor for Byfleet.

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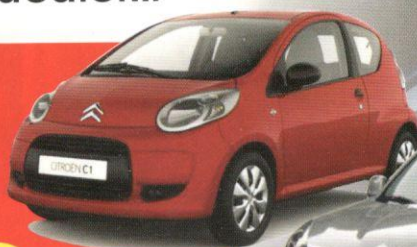
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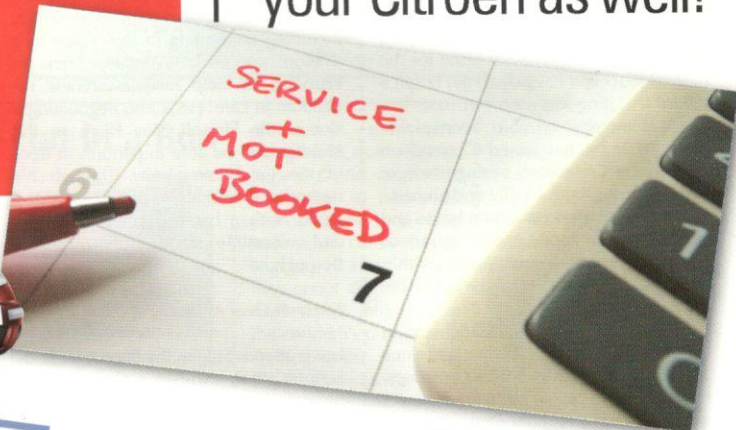
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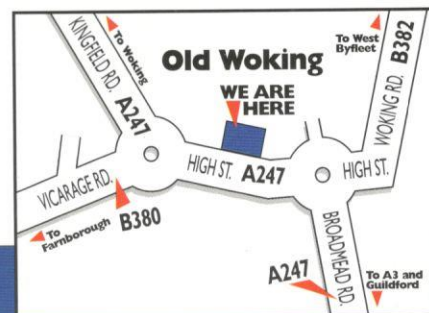
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