

Goldsworth Park Goes Olympic

We might not have had the torch or the cycling in Goldsworth Park but, in our own way, we have embraced the Olympic spirit. Here are some of the stories residents have to tell:

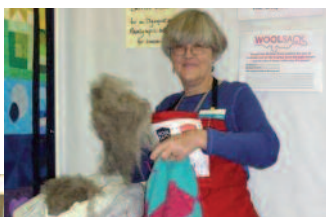
Irene, part of the Woolsack Project, said - For a year or more, I have been involved in this Inspire project which enabled thousands of people to get involved in the Olympic and Paralympic Games by making cushions from British wool to be given as welcome gifts to the athletes. Regulars at Strollers craft group and U3A knitted cushions and wrote their personal messages on gift tags.

After months of stuffing cushions with wool, my role changed to that of getting the cushions to the athletes and, at times, I had hundreds of cushions in my house! I visited teams from GB and other countries including the GB women's wheelchair basketball team at Stoke Mandeville, the GB rowers at Caversham Lakes, the US diving team en route at St Pancras station, the Belize Team at

Claridges, South African canoeists at Royal Holloway College and gymnasts from 70 nations at Greenwich. The most exciting visit was to the Olympic Village to present cushions to the Polish Team.

It has been really great to watch the athletes I had met and given cushions to competing in their events and even more exciting when they won medals. The Rowing was particularly

RIGHT:
Stuffing
cushions



**LEFT: GB
women's
wheelchair
basketball team
choosing their
cushions**

**BELOW: GB
Rowers with their
cushions**



Strollers' craft group

exciting as I had met all the Gold Medal winners. I am going to the Paralympic rowing and I hope that the GB team does as well there.



Exchanging gifts with the Polish Ambassador and Chef du Mission

David, who watched the Torch Relay, said - I was not that interested in the Olympic Games when the plane carrying the flame landed in Cornwall but, as time went by and the images of crowds watching the Torch passing through various towns and cities were shown every day, I became more interested. When the Torch came to Surrey, I realised that, if I didn't go, I would regret it. From Woking station, I took a train packed with excited families with union jacks and plastic Olympic torches to Godalming. There was a great atmosphere with everyone cheerful and some getting in the mood by downing glasses of beer and bags of chips!

After a 40 minute wait, the police vehicles followed by the official Olympic relay vehicles came through. Finally the torch bearer, Roger Black, appeared and everyone cheered and waved their flags. I raised my camera above my head, pointed it in the direction of the torch and pressed the button, knowing that if I delayed I would have missed an opportunity to record a moment of history.

It was all over in 30 seconds. People gradually dispersed. I walked round the town a little bit and eventually went into a pub for a glass of beer and a bag of crisps.



**Roger Black
with the
torch in
Godalming**

Continues on page 4

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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: hilllinda5@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

Recess

The last meeting of Full Council was mid-July, the next is mid-October. For the ordinary County Councillor August is holiday month, with the regular cycle of Select Committee meetings, such as the Education Committee, the Transport and Environment Committee, and the Local Committees not kicking in until September.

In Woking we've got an extra Woking Local Committee meeting on the 6th of September, when we're being asked to approve outline plans of how Woking's share of nearly £20M from the government's Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) will be spent, which is why I have 85 pages of Committee papers with me in Cornwall as I write this column.

A complicated £20M

Surrey had to compete for Local Sustainable Transport funding against other Local Authorities. The preliminary stage saw Surrey awarded £3.95M in July 2011. This summer the second stage, described as the 'large bid', brought an offer of £14.304M from the Department for Transport in return for carrying out approved schemes. We had asked for £16M and Surrey County Council will be expected to find the remaining £1.696M. This is still a very good deal, and Surrey is one of only 13 Local Authorities with schemes included in the first tranche of funding.

To win the money Surrey had to put forward projects to reduce carbon emissions and 'promote economic growth by encouraging alternative modes of transport to the private car'. The latter generally boils down to cycling, bus services, and walking. The money is shared between Woking, Guildford and the Reigate/Redhill conurbation, because they are transport centres serving relatively large populations.

Considering the potholes in Lockfield Drive and the surface water flooding at the Amstel way roundabout after heavy rain I can understand people who question why Surrey can afford to build cycle lanes or improve the 'real time' bus information system when it can't keep roads in good repair or improve drainage. But in fact Surrey is constrained by the way money is allocated by the Department for Transport.

Taking a wider view, changing weather patterns are giving us more frequent exceptionally heavy rain, almost certainly related to greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. This naturally makes potholes and flooding worse. Increased traffic also wears out roads faster. Mending the potholes while doing nothing about congestion and

greenhouse gas emissions is not tenable in the longer run.

In practical terms, LSTF money is extra cash for doing useful things that we wouldn't have otherwise, and Surrey's transport experts will jump through the hoops the Department for Transport sets to get it. It's particularly important to be ready to spend the money when we're given it, which will be over the next three years. Timings are uncertain but if we can't spend it within given time limits we'll lose it. The sensible approach is to have a number of schemes ready to run. Schedules are very tight – hence the need for a Special Meeting, and getting the Woking Local Committee's approval on the 6th September rather than waiting for our scheduled meeting on the 26th.

What's in it for Woking?

Although it's more to do with business growth than changes in means of transport, the biggest single project is the 'Sheerwater Corridor Improvement Scheme', which has been costed at £4M but is being subsidised to the tune of £1M from the new LSTF money. It will create a route more or less through the present Monument Road East and go on to Albert Drive, giving better access to the Business Parks for traffic from the M25 and M3, and avoiding the narrow and congested route through Eve Road and Arnold Road.

For Goldsworth Park, one of the best effects of the LSTF money coming in should be that the long-awaited pedestrian crossing near Sythwood school is scheduled for construction in 2012/13, because it will count as part of the 'match funding' from Surrey.

From the new money, in the coming year we'll benefit from general improvements to bus routes, possibly including 'smart' traffic lights that will give priority to buses going through Goldsworth Park into Woking.

As an example of the more modest changes planned, there's already been an under-publicised improvement to the 'Real Time' system so that information about the next bus due at any particular bus stop can be picked up on a mobile phone. I know one person who uses it, but details of how to do so are only on the SCC and Traveline websites; they need to be displayed on the bus stops if the system is going to be as successful as in other parts of the country.

Diana Smith can be contacted by e-mail on Diana.smith@surreycc.gov.uk, telephone 07971 665037, through her website <http://dianasmith.mycouncillor.org.uk> or on Twitter @CllrDiS

Remix Voices



Want to sing in a new contemporary choir?

Remix Voices has had a choir in Woking for three years and at present has about sixty singers who sing a selection of the very best popular songs from the 60's to the present day, and have reached a high musical standard. Anyone who loves singing can now join the new Remix Voices choir, called Premix, which will be starting rehearsals in September, at Goldsworth Primary School, Woking. The new choir is being set up to enable new singers to learn the techniques and catch up on the songs which singers in Remix Voices have already learnt.

If you feel that it could be a little daunting to join an existing choir, then this is the perfect way to ease you in gently with a group of people who would all be new to the choir. There is no audition, just lots of encouragement and help to make you feel comfortable, and plenty of time to feel confident before becoming part of Remix Voices. Whether you have sung in a choir before or not, Dave and Beth Smith, who run Remix Voices, would be more than happy for you to come along for a free trial rehearsal.

Please contact beth@remixvoices.com for further details, or see the website www.remixvoices.com



Long awaited action on Lockfield Drive

Wolf Ehlers (Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator) writes that, after more than 4½ years of trying to get work completed on the remaining section of Lockfield Drive - between Robin Hood roundabout and the Kirkland Avenue roundabout, he can now report that resurfacing work has now been approved by Surrey County Council Highways and should be completed before Christmas 2012. County Councillor, Mrs Diana Smith, has been very supportive of his efforts.

Another longstanding issue has been the repeated flooding at the Robin Hood Roundabout and Wolf is pleased to inform you all that signage is in place advising of 'Drainage Investigation Work' to be carried out between 3rd and 7th September 2012 and is likely involve lane closures. Depending on what is found to cause obstructions, this could well be the beginning of the end of the flooding

Local Policing News

3

Panel Meeting

The next Goldsworth Park Police Panel Meeting will be held on Thursday 25th October 2012 at 7pm at the Goldwater Lodge, Wishbone Way. This is an opportunity to meet the team and to discuss any issues that are causing you concern.

Make visiting the lake enjoyable

With the warmer weather finally here, the team have noticed a number of persons swimming in the Lake at Wishbone Way. Please can we remind all visitors to the Lake that swimming is not permitted. This is a byelaw and persons found swimming in the lake shall be liable to a summary conviction, a fine not exceeding £500 and may also be asked to leave the area. Swimming in the lake can be dangerous for those swimming and for the wildlife in the lake.

We also request that no BBQs are held at the lake and no alcohol consumed. If you are visiting and having picnics then can we remind you to place your rubbish in the bins provided or take your rubbish home with you, so that we can all enjoy the lake.

Speeding in the Park

The local team have recently noticed speeding motorists going around Goldsworth Park. PC 40442 HART and PC 40198 BARRETT held a speeding operation on Saturday 11th August 2012 in Goldsworth Park to deal with this issue. It was a successful day and 14 drivers were dealt with for speeding offences.



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Bradley Wiggins in Hersham

Peter, explaining that his choicest memory of the Games was the Cycling Time Trial, said: We'd been looking forward to it since we discovered that the course was passing our elder daughter's home in Hersham. It would be a day for a party but it was more than that - Bradley Wiggins, scarcely a fortnight after winning the Tour de France, was going for gold!

Our daughter issued an open house invitation and there were family and friends from as far away as Birmingham and South Wales. Everything had been carefully arranged: a barbecue, activities for the kids, the TV tuned to the cycling so we could monitor progress and out front, suitably bedecked with flags, the Olympic Games!

After lunch, we waited for the first of the riders. A neighbour had brought the order of competitors and was calling out who was coming next. 37 riders from 29 countries pedalled past, each to a rousing cheer, but the loudest cheers of all were reserved for Team GB's Chris Froome and, of course, "Wiggo".

By the time he had passed, some of the riders were arriving back at Hampton Court, so the TV attracted a large crowd. Tension mounted as Wiggins stormed through Kingston and on to the finish. Pandemonium ensued, at Hampton Court, at Hersham and, no doubt, in homes all over the country: Bradley had taken the gold and Chris the bronze. So that's our special Olympic memory, watching an assortment of cyclists, motor-cyclists and cars using a public road. Put like that, it sounds a bit dotty. You had to be there, really - and we were.

Liz, an actor in the opening ceremony, said - Where were you at 9pm on Friday 27th July 2012?



This green and pleasant land

After weeks of rehearsals, I was finally at one of the entrances to the Olympic Stadium in Stratford listening to the national anthems of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland waiting for the command "Go Strike Go!" I emerged to remove turf, hedges and crops from the green and pleasant land, stopping to remember the young men who lost their lives fighting for their country, and then joined the weavers at the massive looms as the industrial revolution took hold. Minutes later, I marvelled at the amazing and emotional sight of the newly forged Olympic ring rising up to join the other 4 glowing overhead.

I left the Olympic Park by the back entrance on a red London bus filled with 17th century working men and women and 20th century nurses - off to the pub to party!

So how do you follow that? Well, I volunteered for the Paralympics so watch this space..."



The Opening Ceremony © 2007-2012 The London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games Limited

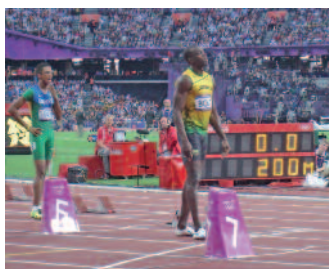
Lyn, a volunteer with the Hockey Teams, said - Volunteering as an Athlete Service team member sounds really important but, for the first two weeks, it involved showing the players and officials where the changing rooms and the pitches were, escorting them to each area and a lot of standing around while the players trained. During the Olympics, an added duty was to keep the athletes secure while they watched other team matches, which gave me the added bonus of being able to watch the games as well. It got more exciting nearer the medal matches and my final Friday (after four weeks) was really great when GB won a Bronze medal; the Team was really excited and we were able to see and touch the medals. The Netherlands won the Ladies Gold and again we got to see and touch a Gold Medal.

Looking back, the experience was once in a life time and the Olympic Park was wonderful, I really enjoyed walking through the park everyday, dodging spectators of all nationalities.



The GB Hockey Team with a special guest

Rich, in the audience, said - We had the usual problems when we tried to buy tickets - we'd get all the way through the on-line process only to be told that there were no tickets available right at the end. It was very annoying and we almost gave up. This went on and on until one day my wife was looking for tickets again, when the screen refreshed and it said that tickets were available for the athletics. She went through the same process thinking it would end without luck but we were lucky and managed to buy 4 tickets. We had no idea what events the tickets were for only to discover that they were for the Sunday night, with 6 finals including the women's 800m and the men's 100m - so we saw Usain Bolt win a Gold Medal. It was also my son's birthday party that day so a real bonus. Getting there was so easy, no problems at all. It seemed the organisation was planned so well - no queues for food or the loos, easy to get to the seats, great volunteers to help you find your way around. A great day we will never forget.



Usain Bolt

Ali, Nurse Practitioner, said: I was a member of one of the Field of Play Recovery Teams for the Athletics - a team consisting of a Sports Medicine Doctor, an Anaesthetist, Nurse and a Paramedic, all volunteers, who were responsible for providing any emergency care needed by the athletes. Our role was to treat any athletes injured whilst competing and remove them from the track/field as quickly and safely as possible. Our services were required on several occasions for a variety of injuries but fortunately we never needed to put into practice the more

serious action plans. The track officials did not want us attending every athlete who lay down after their race just because they were tired, so sometimes we were asked to get the athlete to move themselves off the track so the next race could start!

It was amazing to sit track side whilst all the top athletes ran past. I was positioned at the finishing line for several sessions, including the first Saturday evening, when Mo Farah, Jess Ennis and Greg Rutherford won their Gold medals. It was hard to remain professional and not jump up and down like the crowd and I was at the 200m start when Usain Bolt was running, so I gave my camera to someone in the crowd to take photos.

I have come away with so many stories and memories, far too many to write down in this piece. It really was a week I will never forget.

Beaufort School held an Olympic music and learning extravaganza where the children were treated to several fun



Olympic Flag Parade

Olympic workshops, followed by an opening ceremony with a procession around the school field and back into the hall. The children, waved flags, played instruments from different continents and walked as a united school. To conclude the work, a child used an Olympic 'torch' to light the 'Olympic flame' in our school hall, whilst music was played. A fun learning experience was had by all.

Beaufort's children were asked to bring in a silver coin in exchange for being allowed to wear their team T-Shirt colours for the day and this collection will be sent on to AFRIKAYA, which supports building a better future through education. Afrikaya's vision is to build, equip and maintain nursery schools in The Gambia, to give hope to the children, their families and give communities the chance to take



control of their lives and end their poverty through education.

Olympic Flag Parade



FROM THE LAKESIDE – SEPTEMBER 2012

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.

I'm sure that many of you will have noticed that the island has been moved further out into the top bay of the lake and has had a bit of a makeover. The reasons for this are twofold: firstly, the island has been under attack this year from Canada geese who, in their dozens, have pecked most of the plants out and destroyed the coir base; secondly, its position was a hazard for fisherman, their lines and particularly for fish. Shortly after the island was installed, a storm blew it into the bay to a position where any large fish hooked in that area could get entangled in the anchor chains, resulting in the possible death of the fish. Moving the island to a safer distance further out will help to avoid this happening.

We hope that, in its new location, re-coired and planted, and with a perimeter fence, the island will do much better – but only time will tell. The perimeter fence is there to deter the geese but the small birds such as coot and moorhen are still able to gain access to the island.

Our pair of swans did not return with their family this year although up to a dozen young birds have been visiting the lake. At present,



Grebe and chick

three remain and appear to have settled well so perhaps it was time for new blood on the scene. At last, our pair of Great Crested Grebe has managed to rear one chick – at the fifth attempt! The chick is growing well and getting fat from all the attention it is getting from both mum and dad and no siblings to compete with.

As for the Wildlife Area, I can't believe how well it has established; all the new plants have taken well despite the dry spring and there is plenty of evidence of all sorts of animals taking up residence, for example, hedgehogs are already using one of the log piles. We are still hoping to build the Kingfisher bank this year although finance is tight. I will keep you all updated as things progress.

And finally, a reminder to all our fishermen – you will

note that I have put up a few signs round the lake stressing the importance of ensuring that all nets, unhooking mats, slings, etc., are completely dry before fishing the lake. This is to make sure that water-borne diseases are not transferred from one body of water to another. The same rule applies to everyone whether you fish or not; it is all too easy to inadvertently transport disease from place to place, for example, you may be tempted to put unwanted fish or plants or even frog spawn from a pond into a lake or river, not realising how dangerous it is to the environment. It can result in the death of native species, so please, please, think before you act.



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ABOVE: Towing the island

BELOW: The island in its new place



Blackberry Coulis



The blackberries are ripening beautifully right now so how can we make the most of this abundant – and free – fruit? I gave you the recipe for my favourite bramble jelly a year or so ago and now here is a recipe for blackberry coulis. Coulis is a smooth puréed sauce served with a pudding such as ice cream, lemon tart, or a cheesecake.

You will need

- 250g blackberries
- the juice of an orange or a lime or, if you want to add a little lift, 50ml/2fl oz crème de mure (blackberry liqueur)
- 30 - 50g golden caster sugar

Method

Put the blackberries, juice or crème de mure and 30g of the sugar into a saucepan and slowly bring to a simmer and cook for 5 – 6 minutes until the fruit is soft, mashing it while it cooks.

Take off the heat and pour the fruit into a fine-meshed sieve. Push the fruit through with the back of a spoon, collecting the liquid. You could take a short cut and use a blender or food processor and whizz to a pulp but you will still need to strain the pulp through a fine sieve, rubbing the juice through.

Discard the pulp then taste the purée and adjust the sugar, if needed. Remember that a coulis should be tart, to contrast with the generally sweet confection it's served with. The purée will thicken a little as it cools.

Coulis will keep for 2 – 3 days in a fridge or can be frozen.

Archaeological Dig



archaeological literature as Parley Brook or Brockhill, is one of the most important Late Upper Palaeolithic (c. 11,000 to 9,000 BC) archaeological sites in the whole of Britain. In the 1920s, a collection of over 1,500 very distinctive flint tools worked by early prehistoric man immediately after the end of the last Ice Age was collected in a field here.

The nationally important collection of flint artefacts was donated to the British Museum

On Saturday, 29th September, the Surrey Archaeological Society is planning to dig two 1m by 1m test-pits close to the prehistoric deposits in the north-east corner of the playing field area. They will be back filled on the same day. Back in April, the Society planned to dig four or five test pits near the margin of the recreation ground at Goldsworth Park where it borders the back gardens in Darvel Close (e.g. close to OS grid reference 498245,159481) but could not complete the programme because of bad weather.

Most people think of Goldsworth Park as a (relatively) modern development but a small area here, known variously in

where, known as "The Lawson Collection", they still repose in one of the Museum's stores. Unfortunately the flint artefacts have never been properly published, although their existence has been referred to in leading academic reports on the Late Upper Palaeolithic period in Britain. It has long been an aim of the two local archaeological societies that the flints be properly published in an appropriate academic journal and now this long-held aim may now be coming to fruition. A professional archaeologist, William Mills, is proposing to study the material as part of his dissertation for a post-graduate degree at Oxford.

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Celebrate The Lightbox's 5th Birthday

The Lightbox



The Lightbox gallery and museum in Woking, Surrey is celebrating its 5 year anniversary with a family-fun Birthday Party on Saturday 15 September 2012, 12.00pm – 5.00pm, to which everyone is welcome. Join The Lightbox Team for an afternoon packed with fun activities, all FREE of charge

At the Birthday Party visitors can enjoy taking part in some

traditional garden games and young ones can have a play on a bouncy castle in The Lightbox's beautiful canal-side courtyard. There will also be a drop-in 'Party Flags' family workshop in the Education Studio (1.30pm - 4.00pm), an opportunity to get involved in some face painting (1.00pm – 3.00pm) and Mr. Fizz will be stopping by at The Lightbox to do some balloon modelling (12.30pm - 3.30pm). What's more, free ice lollies will also be up for grabs.

With the current exhibitions 'From Mummies to Motorbikes: 150 years of culture, collecting and commerce on Oriental Road' and 'The Ingram Collection: Celebrating Football' also on show, The Lightbox's 5th Birthday Party will be the perfect excuse to make a day of it and see these exciting exhibitions before they close whilst taking part in the festivities of the day.



Face painting fun at The Lightbox

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ST ANDREW'S NEWS

7

On Your Marks

Over 30 children had three days of fun at the action-packed, fast-moving 'On Your Marks' holiday club at St Andrew's Church on Goldsworth Park.

They enjoyed activities including games, crafts, music, drama and Bible stories. The club had a 'global games' and ran on three successive days, each of which featured a different sport and a story about Jesus from Mark's Gospel. Each 'athlete' was awarded a medal and a booklet on the third day.



On your Marks Holiday Club



Closing Ceremony

A closing ceremony was held as part of the Sunday morning service at St Andrew's. The youngsters celebrated what they'd done during the week and sang a special 'One your marks' song. Each athlete was then presented with a certificate.

Holiday at Home

This years Holiday at Home was held for one day on 14th August



Air Ambulance talk

and was attended by 30 people. The theme was "Come Fly with Us" so the attendees became "passengers" and the helpers were the "crew". The day started off with the usual flight safety notices with the crew indicating where the exits and toilets were, both in the A2 and the main church lounge. The morning talk by Annette from the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Trust was most interesting and highlighted to us the need for such a service. Afterwards, there was the opportunity to make and fly paper aeroplanes – the ones which followed the rules flew furthest!



Crafts and Quizzes

After a delicious lunch, we were ready for the afternoon activities. Our second talk of the day was entitled "Wildlife on Goldsworth Park Lake" and given by Roger Westcott. He highlighted all the work that he had carried out during the previous months with the help of volunteers and showed pictures of the wildlife to be found around the lake. There were quizzes and word searches afterwards and the frustration for some people ended when the answers were given just before the day ended.

The committee thank everyone for their kind words in appreciation of the day and remind all our "passengers" that they are invited to our Holiday at Home reunion Songs of Praise service which will be held at St Andrew's on Sunday 7th October 2012 at 3.00pm.

For details of services and activities at St Andrew's and its Youth Centre visit www.goldsworthpark.org.uk, phone the parish office on 01483 723879 (office hours weekdays 9.30am - 12.30pm) or call at the St Andrew's Coffee Shop, 10am - 2pm Tuesdays to Fridays.

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