

**GPCA
AGM 20th
November!**

See page 8

St Andrews 25 years and growing!

A glorious gathering ensured that St Andrews Church kicked off their Silver Jubilee celebrations on the weekend of the 12th and 13th October with an atmosphere of excitement.

The congregation were not only joined by people who were part of the church when it was first built all those years ago, but also some honoured guests. These included the first vicar and the founding inspiration for the church, Canon Andy Knowles and his wife Diane; Rev. Jimmie Song, former vicar of St. John's Church; Jonathan Lord MP; and the Mayor of Woking, Cllr. Anne Roberts.

Continued on page 4



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e-mail: goldsworthnews@yahoo.co.uk

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E-mail: hilllinda5@googlemail.com

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.

Police Surgeries

The local Safer Neighbourhood Team will hold their next meeting at Strollers, near Waitrose next to St Andrews Church, on Wednesday, 13th November 2013 at 12:00.

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Please read & recycle

It's good to be back!



I want to give a big Thank You to Irene Watson and Jeremy Hodge for holding down the fort while I was abroad for my baby girl's

Christening in August. I was very impressed with the magazine they put together and the three of us will continue to bring you a quality community magazine Goldsworth Park can be proud of.

What's different this month?

Our ardent readers may notice that we don't have a recipe article or Sudoku this month. I can assure our readers that this was purely due to space constraints and we will include recipes in future issues as and when space allows.

Fun and celebrations galore

St Andrews Church's Silver Jubilee celebrations produced lots of laughter, tasty food, good conversation, lots of reminiscing over the last 25 years and heaps of praise and prayer for the next 25 years. I was honoured to be invited to this event and would like to thank everyone for making my family and me feel so welcome. Recently, there seem to be a lot of smiles emanating from all the youngsters at Lakers. No wonder if you see everything they have

been up to lately. Our journalist, Jeremy Hodge, reported that he had a lot of fun at their Community Games day and I was proud to witness Sandie Bolger, Lakers' Manager, receive an community award during a recent Full Council Meeting. I would encourage anyone with children aged 11-19 years to try out their youth drop-in centre.

Please join us!

The Goldsworth Park Community Association (GPCA) will be holding its Annual General Meeting on the 20th November (7:30pm) in the Dianthus Building. I would like to invite all residents who are interested in what is happening in our community to join us for this meeting. The Woking Borough Council's Chief Executive, Ray Morgan will also attend the meeting to give residents an update of the burnt out Goldwater Lodge building next to the lake.

Looking forward to seeing all of you there!

See you in 2014...

Our next issue will be out in the New Year so from all of us here at the Goldsworth News Team, I would like to wish our readers a warm and hearty Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year! Do not forget to keep sending us your stories and photos and we look forward to keeping you informed and entertained in 2014!

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St Andrew's Jubilee - 25 years and growing!

(Continued from cover)

Tea, coffee and cake awaited guests upon their arrival at 11am, followed by a scrumptious hog roast lunch. The afternoon culminated in a service of *Thanksgiving for the Past* which included Canon Andy Knowles and others reminiscing with stories from the church's earlier years. Peter Wells, who has been a member of the congregation since it opened, said:

"The stories we heard here today made us realise how much we have to thank the Lord for this church and its people."

Sunday saw the second day of celebrations start off with a service which looked *Forward to the next 25 years*. Rev. Daniel Natnael, curate of St. Andrews, led the service. He was joined by the current vicar, Canon Richard Cook, who preached

an inspiring message and the founding vicar, Andy Knowles, led the communion service.

The celebration weekend ended on a high with the burial of a time capsule containing mementos of the event being buried with the hope that it will be dug up in 25 years time to kick-off the celebrations for the Golden Jubilee!



GOLDSWORTH LETTERS

Note from Editor: Readers will remember reading in our last issue Cathy Bell's letter announcing her plans for a sponsored Kilimanjaro trek to raise money for Woking & Sam Beare Hospice in memory of her late husband, Jim.

THANK YOU - Kilimanjaro Trek a great success!

Thank you for supporting my Kilimanjaro trek. I am delighted to tell you that with your generous support my sponsorship will exceed £7,000 for Woking & Sam Beare Hospices.

Trekking Kilimanjaro was an extreme challenge and there were a couple of times during the night time ascent that I thought I wouldn't be able to do it. Without your support I would not have reached the summit – you have all been so generous, I couldn't let you down.

I'm afraid I don't look very happy about reaching the summit. It was an emotional moment for me. There was no sense of achievement but I am happy to have been able to do something to help support the hospices, with your kind and generous sponsorship.

Cathy



Woking Lions Club Launches "Project Wenceslas – to help people in fuel poverty"

This winter Woking Lions Club has decided to follow the steps of our sister Club in Farnham and other Lion Clubs in west Surrey to turn ourselves into *Good King Wenceslas* with your help.

This project is designed with the help of our local CAB to enable those seniors who receive the winter fuel allowance and can manage without it, to pay it into a special account set up by the CAB in Woking. The CAB will then use this income to pay the fuel debt for local people who are in fuel poverty i.e. behind with their payments or are struggling to meet the cost of heating and lighting their homes.

The fund will be controlled by the CAB, and Woking Lions will not be aware on whose behalf the payments are made as a matter of privacy. We would be delighted if any readers of this letter would be prepared to donate part or all of their winter fuel allowance to this good cause. If they do my colleagues and I would like to thank you in advance if you are able to contribute to this good cause.

Any cheques should be made payable to **Woking Lions – CAB** which is being set up with the Woking Citizens Emergency Fund and posted to our Hon Treasurer at 19 Lych Way, Horsell, Woking, GU21 4QG, so that we can record and acknowledge your helpful contribution to this initiative to help our fellow residents who are in financial difficulties during the coming winter months in the Woking area.

Our sincere thanks to you and your help with this project,
Roger N. Chamberlain
President
Woking Lions Club

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On a sunny day in September, Lakers Youth Club hosted the first Goldsworth Park Community Games, one of a series of events held across the country to bring the legacy of the Olympic Games to local areas. The day revolved around a triathlon with a difference; a tag-team race around the lake which started with a mile's worth of cycling on an exercise bike, followed by a sprint around Goldsworth Park lake and ended with a three-legged race to the finish line. The winning team and runners-up received special trophies to commemorate their achievements.

The young organisers and fundraisers, Chloe Edmunds Finch, Gina Marie Munday, Megan Rogers and Alana McSkimming, are all members of the Lakers steering group. Chloe wanted to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support, inspired by her best friend's grandmother's battle with cancer. The day before, Chloe and her team were joined by Sandie Bolger, the manager of Lakers, in the youth centre's kitchen to prepare a mountain of sausage rolls, cupcakes and cheese straws ready for sale at the cake stall. Chloe and Gina also handed out flyers at Waitrose to publicise the event. The organisers were all given certificates to thank them for their efforts.

In true Lakers tradition, the young people also spent some time on the day creating new graffiti on the basketball court, replacing faded old tags with their own. Other activities included a barbecue, a bouncy

castle, tombola and a raffle. At the end of the day, local dignitaries drew raffle tickets and very few people went away without a prize.

Enthusiastic praise came from Gina on behalf of all the young people, when she stood up at the end of the day to thank the Lakers staff and volunteers. She said: "We couldn't have done it without every single adult who comes every day and pitches in. It's a great place to come and we love it. Thanks!"

Lakers Youth Club, near Waitrose, focuses on 11-19 year olds and offers drop-in sessions, socialising and activities in a safe environment. It celebrated its 20th birthday party in March this year.

Goldsworth News journalist, Jeremy Hodge, had this to say about the event: "I live close by and occasionally hear enthusiastic shouts and laughter as I walk past the basketball court, but I'd never realised what a vibrant community the staff and young people have built up in this secret world hidden in the woods. After spending a day in the infectious friendly atmosphere, I would recommend it to any young person. Call 01483 743775 to find out more."

Congratulations to the young people's steering group and all the staff and helpers at Lakers for organising a fun day that raised £206.77, of which £125 has been donated to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Note from Editor: Are you organising an event in the near future? Let us know at goldsworthnews@yahoo.co.uk.



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At recent GPCA meetings, a number of residents have asked about the lake - how it is managed, who can use it, when it will be used, how often, who by and other pertinent questions. It seems that many people are unsure about what is going on, particularly since the Dianthus Building opened, and so the GPCA agreed to write a short article to explain the situation.

The lake is owned by Thames Water and leased to Woking Borough Council for recreational use and water activities including fishing. In order to operate on the lake, users must have a licence from the Council and Thames Water. Anglers must have a Rod Licence from the Environment Agency and a permit from the Council. The recent improvements to the environment round the lake have been made by volunteers with support from the Council, the Environment Agency, Thames Water, Surrey County Council, Waitrose and many members of the public. Woking Borough Council co-ordinates activities on Goldsworth Park recreation ground and the lake through regular meetings of all the users.

When the Dianthus Building, managed by the Dianthus Trading Community Interest Company, opened there were rumours about the commercialisation of the lake and fears about its over-use. In response to these concerns, the Council developed a Water Activities Use Plan in consultation with Thames Water, the Environment Agency and all the users of the lake. In summary, the Plan broadly reflects the use which had been agreed over time and facilitates the requirement of the Council's Green Spaces Development Plan to see more boating activity on the lake.

In general terms, the Sea Cadets may use the lake on Monday and Thursday evenings and on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays all day. The St Johns Scout Group may use the lake on Saturday mornings. Woking Model Yacht Club may use the lake on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Anglers may fish all year round from the platforms other than Platform 10 when the Model Yacht Club is active and Platform 37, the boat launching platform. The major change is that Dianthus Trading may arrange for other groups to use the lake at any time when the regular users are not using it, for up to 24 hours each week.

There are general restrictions affecting all users: - permitted activities are sailing, rowing, and canoeing/kayaking although it has been agreed that the Sea Cadets can use windsurf boards on a 3 month trial basis, most activity will take place between April and October with limited use during the winter months, no boating activity after dark, no power boats except safety

boats, no swimming other than as part of capsizing drills, a limit of 30 boats on the lake at any one time, no sailing within 10 metres of the bank or 20 metres of a platform where an angler is fishing, no boating in the wildlife zone.

The provisions are not set in stone and the arrangements reflect the good working relationships which have developed between all the users. The Sea Cadets may use the lake on a few other occasions by giving notice to other users; the Model Yacht Club may hold regional events by arrangement with other users; the GPCA may have the lake for Let's Go Fishing days with the agreement of the other users. These informal arrangements have worked well recently and there is a notice board where advance notice of events can be posted, enabling anglers to avoid areas where there is boating activity.

The GPCA was initially concerned about the potential for the over-use of the lake and the consequent effects on the wildlife but it has been agreed that the whole situation will be monitored and reviewed in 12 months time. Watch this space!

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GPCA Annual General Meeting

7.30pm on Wednesday, 20th November 2013
in the Dianthus Building, Wishbone Way, GU21 3RT

The Goldsworth Park Community Association is holding its Annual General Meeting at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 20th November 2013 in the Dianthus Building. All residents are encouraged to attend to hear about the Association's activities and to discuss issues affecting Goldsworth Park.

In view of the situation following the arson attack on Goldwater Lodge, we have invited **Ray Morgan, Chief Executive of Woking Borough Council**, to come and explain to residents about the delays and the plans for the future. He has accepted.

All residents are entitled to nominate and vote for Officers and members of the Association's Committee for the coming year. This is particularly important as a new Chairman must be elected this year.

To make a nomination, please complete the nomination form and return it to the Secretary, Irene Watson, at 37 Willowmead Close, Goldsworth Park, Woking, Surrey GU21 3DN or email your nominations to secretary.gpca@ntlworld.com by **Monday, 18th November 2013**.

Nomination Form

I wish to make nominations for the following positions:

POSITION	INCUMBENT	NOMINATION
Chairman	Ian Rickard (standing down)	
Vice Chairman	vacant	
Treasurer	Peter Hill	
Secretary	Irene Watson	
Committee Members		

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New volunteers for Goldsworth Care



All smiles from Pat Checksfield and Marian Alden as another volunteer signs on the dotted line

Our local Good Neighbour group, Goldsworth Care, signed up eight new volunteers during its recent month-long recruitment drive.

Chairman Marian Alden said, "This really strengthens our team. We are so grateful to everyone who has come forward and grateful too to our existing members who have worked so hard on this campaign."

Most of the new recruits signed up at a Meet and Greet Morning on 15th October - the culmination of the programme of posters, press releases and leaflets - where they met various members of the Goldsworth Care team and were briefed on the group's activities.

Pat Checksfield, Volunteer Coordinator, told us, "It's been a

successful campaign and we'll be better equipped to serve our clients. Anyone who wants some neighbourly help getting out or around the home can get details any weekday morning on the Goldsworth Care helpline, 07751 801587."

Note from Editor: I would like to personally thank all the volunteers who joined this valuable group in our community. It is not always easy to find volunteers for all our groups in Goldsworth Park and praise should be given to the organisers of this event and their success.

Scouting for rubbish

Earlier this year, Cub Scouts from St Andrew's Cub Pack did their good turn by picking litter from around Goldsworth Park lake. Armed with litter pickers on loan from Woking Borough Council, the 15 cubs managed to fill several bags of rubbish with paper wrappers, bottles, cans and even a discarded car indicator housing.

After a short refreshment break, the Guides, Brownies, Rainbows, Beavers and Scouts of Goldsworth Park, all joined together for a collections event to raise funds for the Generation Centre, which houses the groups and was in need of some work to keep it up to date and fully equipped.

A grand total of £388.58 was raised and the Scouts would like to express their thanks to the public for their generosity.

Goldsworth Park Scout Group meets at the Generation Centre (behind St Andrew's Church) on Wednesdays and Thursdays. For more information, please contact Christine Evans, Group Scout Leader on 01483 727490.



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From the Lakeside

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

During September, we spent several afternoons armed with saws, pruners and shears, having a long overdue tidy up around the lake. The key objectives were to check reed growth, tidy the platforms and cut back overhanging branches. Many of the trees had overgrown the footpath and were becoming a danger to passers-by, particularly the willows which have become weak and spindly. Also, in some areas, light was becoming heavily restricted, causing the marginal plants to die back. You may notice that, at the western end of the lake, most of the saplings have been cut to ground level, particularly along the water's edge. This is in preparation for the final platform which will be situated just to the right of the drainage outlet near the Dianthus Building. This platform is mainly for the Sea Cadets' use, to give them safe access to the water. It is hoped that work will start very soon and once it is completed, the bank will be replanted with reeds, etc., to blend in with the overall scene. Despite, at the time of writing, three piles of cut timber still remain awaiting chipping, I must thank the lads from Serco for dealing with this aspect of the job, keeping the Park safe and tidy. As soon as they have a free moment, I am sure they will deal with them.

Now, hands up; how many of you regular visitors to

the lake have had the privilege of seeing kingfishers – some of you I am sure. Since August, there have been almost daily sightings of two or possibly more birds darting from tree to tree and even clinging to the face of the kingfisher bank. Now the trees are shedding their leaves, your chances of a glimpse of blue are much improved. Key areas to watch are, I'm pleased to say, close to the newly built Kingfisher Bank. Maybe, just maybe so watch this space.

You may remember me using the phrase "build it and they might come". Well, not one but two new species can be added to our wildlife list; a grass snake and, would you believe, a badger, reported by one of our night anglers after it gave him a bit of a shock as it came sniffing round his "bivvie" in the small hours. Poor thing, the badger that is; perhaps he had been reading the papers and was looking for somewhere safe to live.

I wonder what more delights we can expect – who knows? If you spot the unusual, please let me know. Photos would be great. Just drop a line to the editor or email her. Thanks and keep your eyes open.



Goldsworth Park Rangers celebrate 30 years of helping youngsters



Providing youngsters from the Woking area with somewhere to play in a safe and friendly environment was the aim when Goldsworth Park Rangers sprang to life in 1983.

Now, 30 years on, they will embark on a new season with 20 teams which include boys and girls from U7 to U17 and an U6 youth development programme.

It was Dick Wright, the current president, and Keith Bellamy who formed the club, who staged their first training session at Beaufort School on January 6, 1983. At the inaugural annual meeting four months later they took on the official roles of chairman and secretary respectively and were joined by Chris Bennett as treasurer.

Wright and Bellamy managed the first GPR side, at U12 level, which competed in the West Surrey Boys League and they admitted it was a steep learning curve for all.

But the next campaign was easier, having switched to the Guildford, Shere & District League when they reached the U13 Invitation Shield

final.

By then two more teams had been started, at U10 and U12 level, the club flourishing and the younger group including Ben Hollioake, who went on to play cricket for England.

Securing training facilities at the nearby hockey club helped and an enthusiastic committee proved to be a major boom as two girls' teams were established too, playing against the likes of Southampton and Reading.

By 1997 the boys who started it all at U12 level were U17s and entered the adult Surrey & Hants Border League, where they rapidly marched up from third division to first.

Two more teams were added to harness the rich supply of talent coming through the youth section and the rich dividend saw a run of honours which included a famous double in 2002-03 in which the second division title was augmented by beating White Lion Redhill 4-2 to claim the Surrey Premier Sunday Cup.

Bellamy moved to Australia in 1985

but Wright and Bennett remained heavily involved, with the latter running teams from U10s to adults during his time.

Among the many others who have made invaluable contributions are John Anderson (secretary for 15 years), Dick Bailey, Barry Allen, Geoff Taylor, Chris Wright, Mick and Penny Burningham, Dave and Kath Langran and Ashley Brabrook and Gary Bolt, GPR's longest serving treasurer.

"There are many others who have contributed to the club, be it managing teams, serving on the committee or taking on other responsibilities and we are indebted to these for helping make Goldsworth Park Rangers the success it is today," said Wright.

The committee nowadays is chaired by Lee Swain with Lorraine Walton as secretary and Alex Grant the treasurer, who liaise with the many managers and assistants. GPR achieved FA Charter Standard and became a registered charity in 2011.

Wright added: "We are proud of our successes but primarily we are a club run for the benefit of local youth, whatever their standard. We try to include everyone that comes along and shows the right spirit and enthusiasm and winning trophies remains a bonus."

Children of all ages are welcome to join the club, who play at Goldsworth Park Recreation Ground. In particular children in Reception and Year 1 school years, at school are welcome to turn up any Saturday and join the fun with the under 6's. For more details please visit, <http://www.gprfc.co.uk/> or email chairman@gprfc.org

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e: Franco@seymours-woking.co.uk

e: John@seymours-woking.co.uk

www.seymours-estates.co.uk



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