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# Goldsworth News

Goldsworth News is the magazine of the Goldsworth Park Community Association, published bi-monthly and distributed free of charge to approximately 5000 dwellings and organisations throughout Goldsworth Park and the surrounding area.

Acting Editor Sub Editor & Chairman Design & layout Advertising

Jeremy Hodge Irene Watson Fat Crow Design Fat Crow Design

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#### News copy for the next issue must be submitted by Friday, 13th June 2014

By post: 37 Willowmead Close, Goldsworth Park, Woking GU21 3DN e-mail: goldsworthnews@yahoo.co.uk

#### Distribution

Mrs Linda Hill. 5 Newsham Road. Goldsworth Park 01483 835183 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.

#### **GPCA Meeting**

The next meeting is 7pm, Wednesday 14 May in the Dianthus building by the lake. Please email the chairman if would like to receive the minutes every month: chairman.gpca@ ntlworld.com

#### Disclaimer

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# From the Chairman

#### Goldwater Lodge

Now work has started on the repairs to the building, things are moving fast - you might have seen the crane removing the roof steel. This has also been noticed by unwelcome visitors and there have already been thefts of materials from the site. I hope this will not

cause any delays, as Toad Hall would like to be back in operation

in time for the new school year in September, and the Council is trying to ensure this can happen. Work on the GPCA Hall may be delayed as a result.

Thank you to all those who have made suggestions about the Hall facilities (see some of these on our letters page); we are incorporating improvements where we can. We are so confident we will be back that we



are planning our grand re-opening and taking bookings for next year.

#### The Big Pull Together 2014

After the success of last year's event, our neighbourhood Police team is planning to repeat the experience in September. Wouldn't it be great if this coincided with our re-opening?

We are looking forward to a real community event involving lots of local organisations and people. The Police did an excellent job organising last year's event but they'd love to get ideas from more people this time. Do you have a little spare time to help plan the details or set up stalls on the day? Email chairman.gpca@ntlworld.com.

#### Coffee shop for Goldsworth Park Centre

It appears Goldsworth Park Shopping Centre may soon get a Costa coffee shop. A planning application (No. 2014/0295) has been made to divide Martins the Newsagents and create a separate space for a restaurant/café with outdoor seating next to the Hospice Shop. Let's hope we have a good summer in which to enjoy this new addition to the Centre. Irene Watson, GPC A Chairman

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If you have something you'd like to say, please write to the editor: goldsworthnews@yahoo.co.uk

#### Disabled toilet at the Lodge 1

There must be many active seniors who need access to toilets whilst out walking. As a regular walker around the lake and park, I deplore this lack. Thanks to thoughtless vandals, previous efforts in this regard were abortive. Before the final design is cast in stone, I would put forward a plea for the benefits of disabled persons. If just one toilet could be made available for Radar key-holders, it would be such a blessing. In all the years I have held such a key, I have only come across one such toilet; sadly, it was padlocked shut!

Tricia Lawrence Torridon Close

#### Disabled toilet at the Lodge 2

I would like to ensure that facilities for disabled people are incorporated right at the beginning of the developments and not left to negotiations at the end. The main facilities which would make the Lodge accessible would be: 1)Level entrances and exits. 2) Electric-operated main entrance doors. 3) An accessible "Changing Places" toilet: www.changing-places.org.

Christina Candev

#### Notices

**New Goldsworth News** delivery volunteers are needed in Brookfield, French's Wells, Collier Close, Nethercote Ave and Cobbetts Close. Please contact Linda Hill if you can help: hilllinda5@googlemail. com. The editor would like to take this opportunity to thank all our distributors, without whom the magazine would be impossible, and to say a special thank you to Linda, who organises all of the deliveries.

There will be a **Goldsworth News** 

even an apiary at the site providing pollination.

drop-in meeting at the Dianthus building, in the upstairs meeting room, on Saturday June 7. Everyone is welcome. Come along between 4 and 6pm if you want to volunteer to take on a small task, talk about your regular column or have ideas for the magazine and

Volunteer copy editors are needed for the Goldsworth News. If you can rewrite press releases to create stories

our online presence. Or

email your questions to

goldsworthnews@yahoo.

that are easy to read and entertaining, and you have a few minutes to spare every two months, please email goldsworthnews@yahoo. co.uk or come to the drop-in meeting.

Bainton Mead

Age Concern Woking has moved from the fire station to Old School Place, Westfield, GU22 9I Y.

Prince Rupert's Blew Regiment of Foote, of the Sealed Knot re-enactment society, is looking for new recruits. Visit www. princerupertsbluecoats. org.uk to find out more.

#### Charity at the heart of the Park

We are HeartBeat Support Woking, a registered charity that meets in Goldsworth Park. We support recovering heart patients, their families and carers. We raise funds (more than £75,000 since we started 11 years ago) for local services and are now collecting for a much needed relatives' room in Coronary Care.

In 2012, along with the other St Peter's volunteers, we were awarded the Queen's Award for Volunteering (the group equivalent of an MBE). We hope to give you more updates about our work in the future.

Cliff Butler

Is there some news from Goldsworth
Park that we haven't reported? Make sure we don't forget next time; email goldsworthnews@ yahoo.co.uk. The deadline for the next edition is 13th June.

#### Wanted: a new orop

A small group from the then Residents' Association formed the Allotments Society 37 years ago. They laid out new plots in Westfield on an old Council household tip. Over 18 years that site produced not only excellent crops but many hundreds of bottles, jars and other artefacts.

In 1995 the Allotments Society moved to a purpose-built 90-plot site in Sheets Heath Lane, Brookwood, because the Westfield site was deemed dangerously polluted. Excellent crops of vegetables, fruit and flowers are still the order of the day, without the bottles and jars. There is

However, the number of gardeners from Goldsworth Park has dwindled to a handful and there are full and half plots waiting for new members. If you are interested in growing your own, in great surroundings, give me a ring on 01483 821974.

John Arkinstall, Chairman 6PA8



## Calendar

#### lay

11 Woking bikeathon, Woking Park, 10am; www. wokingbikeathon.co.uk; hurry to gather sponsorship and apply

- 14 GPCA meeting all welcome; Dianthus building, 7pm
- 18 Visiting locos day at Mizens railway, 2-3pm; www. mizensrailway.co.uk
- 22 Elections for Goldsworth East (in the Generation Centre), Goldsworth West (in the Dianthus building) and the European Parliament

#### June

- 7 Goldsworth News drop-in meeting; Dianthus building, upstairs meeting room, 4-6pm
- 7 Epworth Choir D-day concert, Guildford Cathedral see right
- 7-8 Goldsworth Park Rangers annual tournament see right
- 13 Deadline for July Goldsworth News content
- 19 Police panel meeting, Dianthus building
- 20 Woking & Sam Beare Hospices Midnight Walk – see page 8
- 21-22 Surrey Youth Games at Surrey Sports Park in Guildford; www.woking.gov.uk/ syq2014
- 28/29 Ramadan expected to begin

#### July

- 4 Goldsworth News published
- 5 Beaufort summer fair, 12-3pm
- 6 Woking Hospice dragon-boat racing on the lake see right
- 11 Recycle for Woking Awards, HG Wells Conference Centre, Woking: www.woking.gov.uk/ everydayheroes
- 19 Knaphill village show: www.knaphillshow.org
- 26 Horsell village show: horsellvillageshow.co.uk

#### Community Youth Football Festival – June 7-8 by Andy Morgan

2014

June 7-8
by Andy Morgan
Goldsworth Park Rangers

FC is very pleased to

invite you to our 2014 Community Youth Football Festival. The event will be held at Goldsworth Park Recreation Ground on Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 June, starting at 9am both days. There will also be a barbecue, a bouncy castle and face painting.

We are also proud to be hosting the Simon Hedley Mini Football Festival, for Surrey Primary League under-seven, under-eight and under-nine age groups within our own tournament this year.

Entry will be £2 per family, and a programme of events is included in the price.

#### Epworth Choir D-day concert - June 7

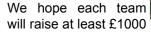
Epworth Choir will be performing a concert to commemorate the 70th anniversary of D-day at Guildford Cathedral on Saturday 7 June at 7.30pm, to support the work of the British Royal Legion.

Tickets (£20 or £15, and £10 for students and children) can be obtained from the website: www.epworthchoir.org.

#### Woking Hospice Dragon Boat Charity Challenge – July 6

Don't miss the first Woking & Sam Beare Hospices Dragon Boat challenge on Goldsworth Park Lake. Only 35 teams can take part in this inaugural event, and places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

Recruit a team of 16-20 people who are up for the challenge of racing across Goldsworth Park lake. Choose a name, then register at www.wsbhospices. co.uk.



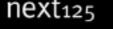
in sponsorship. That's just £60 a person (with a full team of 20) for this epic event in aid of your local hospices. All equipment and training will be provided on the day. For any further information, please contact the fundraising team on 01483 881752 or email fundraising@wsbhospices.co.uk.



# St Andrew's Holiday at Home – August 19 and 21

Over-55s can take a two-day "holiday at home" in August, hosted by volunteers from St Andrew's Church. Activities and entertainment will include crafts, games, quizzes and old-time music hall singing. The cost for Tuesday August 19 is £10, while Thursday 21 – which includes a horse-drawn canal boat trip with cream tea – is £12. Lunches are included.

For details, go to www.goldsworthpark. org.uk, visit the church office or phone 01483 723879 (weekday mornings).





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It was surprising that, despite the missing Malaysian aircraft, the crisis in Ukraine and the loss of the Korean ferry, not to mention the Royal tour, the press still found time and space last month to feature a "rogue" public toilet in Goldsworth Park.

After articles in the local Woking News & Mail and Advertiser, the nationals picked up the story and the Telegraph, Times and Daily Mail all had pieces exaggerating aspects they found amusing, but missing the point! BBC Radio Surrey did an interview with me and I was also contacted by BBC Coventry & Warwickshire. TV's Channel 5 programme The Wright Stuff mentioned it, as did Channel 4's Good Morning, again focusing on the horror stories.

#### Losing our local public toilet

The real story is that Woking Borough Council is planning to remove the blue automated "super-loo" from its position near the playground and not replace it with any other facilities because it had been vandalised continually in the five years since it had been installed and it was "under-used".

The GPCA had campaigned for many years to get a toilet for the recreation ground but were not happy with what was finally installed. This is an area known for a high level of vandalism so it's not surprising that the toilet has been out of order for almost as much time as it has been working. Had the Council also installed CCTV cameras in the area, as the GPCA requested, after windows in Goldwater Lodge were broken six times in as many months and lead stolen from the roof, there may not have been so many problems.

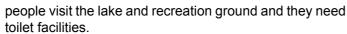
While collecting signatures on the petition, stories emerged that help explain the apparent under-use of the facility. Because of the vandalism, a lot of people did not know whether the super-loo would be working properly; others thought it cost money to use. Many were frightened the door would open while they were inside or lock them in. To balance these horror stories, there were people who liked the fact that it was very clean.

#### **Public support**

The Council says its aim is to provide clean public toilets. in a good state of repair, open at convenient times and in

locations to satisfy demand. The GPCA believes there is a demand in Goldsworth Park – at least as much if not more demand than is found in every other park in the borough, all of which have traditional public

The demand for public toilets in Goldsworth Park has, if anything, grown over the past few years. Regular day to day use of the area is increasing and there are more special events taking place, all encouraged by the Council. Hundreds of



A Woking Borough Council spokesperson said: "The Council understands the need to provide public toilet facilities across its public spaces and recreation grounds. Since its installation at considerable cost to the Council, the automatic public toilet at Goldsworth Park Recreation Ground has been a continued target of vandals, which has meant that the majority of time the toilet has been out of use.

"After contacting key stakeholders, including Goldsworth Park Community Association, and given the fact that the contract to provide this toilet expires in July 2014, it was agreed that the Council would remove the automatic public toilet.

"This has presented the Council with an appropriate opportunity to review public toilet provision within the area and consider how best to meet the future requirements of park users and the wider community before any decision

In the meantime, pressure must be kept up to ensure that Goldsworth Park is not left without a public toilet.

You can still sign the petition at petitions.woking.gov.uk/ convenience. Email goldsworthnews@yahoo.co.uk and tell us your views.

Bride-to-be Sarah Hickman lost 16 inches from her long locks in the name of charity – just two weeks before her wedding to Steve Glaister at St Andrew's on Saturday April 5.

The new Mrs Glaister donated her hair to the Little Princess Trust charity, which helps children suffering hair loss, such as those going through cancer treatment. "They will turn my hair into one or, hopefully, two wigs for brave children who need it more than I do," she explained.

"Each wig costs around £350 to make, so I hope to raise at least £700 for the charity from sponsors." In fact, as this Goldsworth News goes to press, she has already raised over £800 for the charity.

She said. "I've been told many times I must be mad - but it is just hair. I can choose my hair length, but there are little girls and boys who don't have that choice and who need my hair more than I do!" Donations for the Little Princess Trust charity can be made online at www.justgiving. com/sarah-hair-chop.



## What a relief! Photos from Woking News & Mail



In March, more than 250 runners hit the ground running in Goldsworth Park to raise money for Sport Relief. Entrants ran one, three or six miles to in aid of disadvantaged people in the UK and

Woking Football Club's KC Kat led a group warmup before the racing and Cllr Anne Roberts, the Mayor of Woking, was on hand to sound the start of each race and deliver medals at the finish line. Woking's Everyday Heroes lined the route, supporting runners and encouraging residents to recycle as part of the Council's campaign.



# Cross-country kids

cross-country racing took place in Goldsworth Park. More competitions across a range of sports over the year. than 700 runners between the ages of 7 and 11 took part, from 14 schools in the area. The competition was run by Wasps (Woking Area Sports Primary Schools),



Over three weeks in March, the Woking primary schools a confederation of schools in Woking which stages







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## Wind, water and fire-breathers at Woking Model Yacht Club by Simon Jeffs



On March 9, a crew of 19 skippers introduction took part in Woking Model Yacht Club's first Open meeting of 2014.

Visitors from clubs as far afield as West Yorkshire, East Sussex, Cambridgeshire and Hampshire arrived for a beautiful sunny day at Goldsworth Park lake. The weather was perfect, with steady

winds and sun throughout, ensuring many exciting hours racing on the water.

Of the 19 entrants, 16 were Dragon Force 65 boats, which came home in the first three places. This model is a perfect

to the sport. available for £150, around with just a modest amount of rigging needed in order to get you afloat quickly.



Find out more at www.woking-myc.org.uk

## Guides and Scouts by Claire Storey

associated with fun, challenge and adventure, but a key part of both organisations is the Promise that each person makes to help other people. The youngsters of Goldsworth Park Guides and Scouts have recently shown their commitment to this very important pledge by taking part in fun activities while raising money for money. Other Brownies came up charity.



Scouting and Guiding are most often On Tuesday March 11, the 2nd Goldsworth Park Brownies held a fundraising evening for Macmillan Cancer Support. They raised £200, thanks to the support and generosity of parents and friends. To support her mum who was running in the London Marathon, one Brownie had suggested a cake sale to raise more with more ideas, and they organised an event where, as well as the cake stall and its delicious goodies, there were tombolas, lucky dips and other games.

The 1st Goldsworth Park Scout Group raised money for the Sports Aid charity by cycling or running around the lake in fancy dress. Postman Pat, Batman and Robin and even a pig from the Angry Birds video game took to the Park on foot and bike. They had all

planned to complete three laps of the lake but the cyclists decided to carry on and completed five laps in total. Energy levels were replenished with hot chocolate back at the Generation

1st Goldsworth Park Cubs were not to be left out. They raised funds for the British Heart Foundation through a sponsored skip. Not only did many of the Cubs learn how to skip, they learnt about heart health and fitness too.

Well done to all of the boys and girls who took part in these activities an excellent demonstration of the Promise in action.

There are currently a couple of vacancies in the Cub pack. If you know of a child aged between 8 and 10 who would like to join, call Hilary on 01483 766908.

# Dragon boat racing and midnight walking with the Hospice

Lorraine Weedon from Woking & Sam Beare Hospices has The Midnight Walk is a ladieskindly agreed to keep us up to date about the Hospices' relocation and other activity.

Good progress has been made since the November announcement of our plans to create a new hospice in Goldsworth Park.

A project development team, led by chief executive Nigel Harding, is briefing the architects to ensure the new hospice becomes a centre of excellence. Requirements include maximising access to daylight and outdoor space for patients and their families while preserving their dignity and a commitment to making the hospice as sustainable as possible. Plans are being finalised and we expect building work to start later in the year.

Last issue I spoke of engaging with the community, and we will certainly be making a splash at Goldsworth Park lake on Sunday July 6, when we hold the Dragon Boat Charity Challenge. Find out more on page 5.

One of the Hospices' other big fundraising events takes place on June 20 at Mercedes-Benz World in Weybridge.

only, 8-mile trek that starts at 10pm. It's a great evening for family, friends and colleagues to get together and raise money for our Hospices. Hundreds of females aged from 13 to 80 take part each vear and the Goldsworth Park community are no exception. Since the event began, 152 ladies from GU21 3 postcodes have completed the walk and between them raised £39,000. What a fantastic effort!

Stay up to date with the Hospices' news by visiting www.wsbhospices.co.uk.



## A personal view, by Royer Slater



about the Park in the March issue of Goldsworth News struck a chord with many readers: "It's a great place to live."

The Park people I meet are generally a happy lot, and feel lucky to live here. Front gardens look glorious this spring: why go to show gardens when you can see

a jaw-dropping variety of plants and blooms during a stroll on the Park?

The Guides and Scouts are thriving. Woking Sea Cadets has 60 boys and girls. Lakers youth centre is a great success. Its top-notch status was recently officially recognised with a Second Star award - see below. The

From what I hear, my comment Youth Leader, Sandie Bolger, encourages the young people to play a big part in how the club is run.

> Turnouts at St Andrew's parish church services are increasing steadily among all age groups, especially families with young children. The Easter Sunday service this year attracted the 30-year-old church's largest-ever congregation. Its Coffee Shop café has seen many more customers since it started opening every weekday from 9am to 4pm. And nearby Strollers drop-in centre for retired and disabled people provides tea, coffee and refreshments in a friendly, caring environment.

> Yes, there's a lot happening on Goldsworth Park. It IS a great place to live!

> We want to know your point of view. Send your comments on life in Goldsworth Park to me at parklife@wordsmart. org.uk or to the editor at goldsworthnews@yahoo.co.uk.



Metal thefts





Catching thieves and speeders

Over recent weekends, metal has been removed overnight

from the construction area of Toad Hall Nursery and

Two men charged with theft from vehicles

shortly after, and charged on March 26.



PC 40198 PCSO 14849 Emma Robinson Sarah Wentworth



PCSO 15004

Stars come out for Lakers

The hard work of the young people, staff and volunteers at Lakers youth centre has been recognised with the awarding of a Second Star under the National Youth Agency's Quality Mark scheme. This scores how the club performs against numerous standards - Lakers achieved nearly 100%. The centre is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings at Goldsworth Park Centre.

For details call youth leader Sandie Bolger on 01483 727253 or email sandie.bolger@surreycc.gov.uk.







or a well lit area.

On Tuesday March 8, the Safer Neighbourhood Team conducted a speed-enforcement operation on a number of roads across the Park. Six driver referrals were issued to drivers, and one male was reported for travelling at 40mph on Kirkland Avenue.

The local team will continue to hold regular speed-monitoring sessions to remind residents that Goldsworth Park is a 30mph zone, and challenge

those who exceed this speed.

Note from the editor: PCSO Sarah Wentworth , who writes these articles, is moving to a new policing role in the town centre. The Chairman would like to thank her for all her help with the magazine, organising the Big Pull Together and protecting our community, and wish her luck in the new job.



mail: ben@willowmeadhomesItd.co.uk www.willowmeadhomesItd.co.u

# 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.

Spring - don't you just love it? After such a long, wet winter, we all get a taste of the feel-good factor. We moan about putting the clocks back in autumn but when we put them forward again at the end of March, it's a wake-up call for every living thing. Trees burst into leaf, daffodils wave their bright yellow heads, everything looking fresh and new - even we cast off our winter coats and put a smile on our faces. That's the feel-good factor!

The fact is that, like the clocks, all forms of life take a leap forward in spring. The birds are nesting, small mammals are rearing new families, fish are spawning – a new year with new life all around for us to enjoy. And where better to observe some of nature's magic than on and around the lake; wherever you look, there is something to catch your eye. Thousands of tadpoles wriggling in the margins, coots, moorhens and great crested grebes nesting on branches hanging into the water, and although the island has not flourished as I hoped it would, several birds have made good use of it to rear their broods

We had hoped that a pair of swans would nest this year as there was plenty of courtship and territorial behaviour, but, to date, no positive signs of nest-building have been seen. I'm only guessing but most, if not all, of the swans are still quite young and haven't honed their skills yet – if you know what I mean.

Within the next few weeks, as the water warms, you will see great shoals of bream, roach, tench and carp coming in from the depths to lay their eggs among the reeds lining the banks.

What about our little wild corner, you may wonder: have the kingfishers used the "des res" bank? Not yet, is the answer for now. Having said that, something has nested in one of the holes – not sure what, maybe a robin or a tit or a wren - I will be keeping a watchful eye on it. There are



several families in the bird boxes, some of which have already fledged. One family of

robins have grown as fat as barrels begging fishermen for red maggots. All in all, the lake and surrounding area is a hive of activity.

I was contacted by Local Agenda 21, a group of conservationists who had heard of our ventures on and around the lake from Woking Borough Council and asked if we would like an owl nesting box. Seeing as tawny owls have been seen and heard in the Park, I was keen to say yes, so I met with Charles Barber, one of their representatives and, after a stroll around the area and a cup of tea, we came up with what we hope will be the perfect location. So, in a few weeks time, it looks like I'll be up a ladder again - that will be a hoot! Watch this space over the coming years to see whether we attract any tenants.

Finally, you will note that, with the help of Serco, we have put some 40 bales of barley straw in the water. This is done every year to combat blooms of algae, which can be a problem as the water warms, depleting the oxygen levels, and causing skin and breathing difficulties if ingested. The bales also make good roosting points and provide nesting material for the birds.

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## **Council News**

#### Housing magic

A new online service that provides comprehensive housing options advice has been launched by Woking Borough Council. The Housing Options Wizard helps users based on circumstances and generated a personalised action plan. Visit www. wokinghousingoptions. org.uk. Computer terminals and internet access are available at the Council's Civic Offices and most local libraries.

#### Electric cars get a boost

Electric vehicle owners

can now charge for free, thanks to charge points in town centre car parks. The six points use low-carbon electricity generated via the town centre Combined Heat and Power station and are located in dedicated parking bays on level 2 of the Yellow Shoppers, in Brewery Road and in Victoria Way car parks.

Join the Charge Your Car (CYC) scheme for just £10 for access to network. Call 650500 or visit www.chargeyourcar.

#### Get in the Games

It's not too late to sign up for the free sports coaching sessions taking place in the build-up to the Surrey Youth Games, being held at Surrey Sports Park in Guildford on the weekend of June 21-22. The tactics and skills sessions in a large range of sports for children aged between 7 and 15, will continue until June. To find out more.

all points on the CYC visit www.woking.gov.uk/ syg2014.

#### Have your say

You still have time to view and comment on the new council plans around affordable housing and hot-food takeaways. Visit www.woking2027.info before May 8.

> Is there some news we haven't included? Make sure we don't miss it next time email goldsworthnews@ yahoo.co.uk









# 01483 474900 sales@knaphillprint.com

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# Seymours. A class above the rest

Whilst we have grown our office network throughout West Surrey, we continue to create value through providing an unparalleled level of service and a personal touch that other estate agents cannot offer.

Not only are we proud of our heritage, but we are proud to have retained our core values for over 21 years.

Seymours was founded with a single, powerful vision: to deliver **first-class estate agency and continuity of service** that only the owners of a business can provide.



Over two decades later, this vision still remains at the very heart of Seymours.

> Franco Orlando, Partner Seymours Woking 12 Commercial Way Woking GU21 6ET

> > Tel: 01483 757700

#### Seymours.

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