

# GOLDSWORTH NEWS

June 2021 – Issue 176



## Summer edition

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Goldsworth Park  
Community Association C/O  
[www.ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk](http://www.ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk)

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# GOLDSWORTH NEWS

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

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Published by the

**Goldsworth Park Community Association CIO**

Designed and printed by Knaphill Print

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## DISTRIBUTION

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Email: hilllinda5@googlemail.com

Please submit articles for the next edition to: editor@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk

## GPCA CIO MEETINGS

Meetings to be announced subject to pandemic restrictions. Membership of the GPCA is required to receive details of forthcoming meetings. Details of how to join are on page 8.

## LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Councillors: Ann-Marie Barker WBC, James Sanderson WBC, and Lance Spencer SCC (Lib Dem). Chitra Rana WBC, Saj Hussain SCC (Conservative).

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# Views from the Chair

**It is good to be writing for a printed issue of Goldsworth News again.**

The easing of lockdown restrictions allows for some welcome changes in behaviour – meeting friends and family members again and giving them a hug – but I am also aware of some less welcome behaviour.

When the first easing occurred at the end of March, there was an impromptu party on The Point by the lake which resulted in a huge quantity of litter, beer cans, bottles, etc. When I went out with my litter picker and black bin sacks, I found it had all been cleared away by one of the angling club's bailiffs – thank you.

Shortly afterwards, I saw a post on Nextdoor from someone who commented on the rubbish and said that the council was falling down on their job of clearing litter – what was he paying his council tax for? I responded that the council arranged for the bins around the park to be emptied every day and that people should take their litter home with them if the bins are full. I am sorry to say that he thought I was being unreasonable!

I hope that the next easing of restrictions will not lead to more littering in our lovely park. Litter continues to be a problem and we held a community litter pick only recently. Well over 40 people turned up, half of them children which was great to see, and we collected 24 bin sacks full of litter. Although we all enjoyed the community spirit and will do it again, it should not really be necessary.

The next GPCA CIO public meeting is scheduled for July 21 and I hope that we will be able to meet face-to-face at Goldwater Lodge. I will contact all members with an update before then.

If you have any issues of general concern or would like to be involved in the work of the GPCA CIO, please contact me through this magazine or at [chair@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk](mailto:chair@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk)

• PLANS are being drawn up for the GPCA to produce a calendar for 2022 with photographs illustrating all aspects of our community.

If you would like to submit a photo for consideration please email it to [community@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk](mailto:community@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk)

[www.ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk](http://www.ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk)

Irene Watson, GPCA Chair



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## Pickers out in force

**THE community litter pick, postponed on April 17 due to Prince Phillip's funeral, went ahead on Saturday May 1.**

Over 40 volunteers, all observing Covid-19 restrictions, took part in the clean up of recreation areas, through routes and residential roads. Our thanks to Serco for collecting the bags of rubbish after the pick.

More residents are organising personal litter picks which is good to see. The GPCA have picking sticks and high-viz vests available to borrow. Please contact [chair@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk](mailto:chair@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk)



SHOWING THE WAY — young pickers Amelia, Cameron and Sebastian Hartley

# We must respect Park's wildlife

By Bob Challoner  
NGP Project Manager

**I AM sure you are aware of the woodland path created by Thames Water last year and it is being well used by walkers, particularly by families.**

Thinning of trees and removal of cherry laurel on each side of the path is allowing more sunlight to penetrate, hopefully encouraging growth of more ground cover which will benefit wildlife.

Further clearance of the invasive laurel is expected later this year. The woodland owners Thames Water, along with Woking Council, will be coordinating their future management efforts and I will be discussing with them how local residents can assist.

Sadly, there has been some abuse recorded, including littering and one attempt at starting a fire. Please avoid disturbing the log and branch piles which provide habitats for insects and refuges for amphibians, reptiles and small mammals.

Some of you may have spotted a fox during the day in and around the woods and North Meadow. It is unusual to see foxes during daylight hours (they are generally nocturnal hunters) and it is surprising to see it out and about with so much human activity in the area.

There was a flurry of posts on Nextdoor at the beginning of May after someone witnessed a group of youths throwing stones at the fox. I have also seen it being chased through the wood by an equally mindless teenager.

One of Natural Goldsworth Park's objectives is to encourage residents and others to engage with, understand and respect the area's natural habitats and wildlife. However, that engagement must be tempered, so if you see the fox or any other wildlife whilst out and about:

- Watch and enjoy from a distance but do not approach, disturb, chase or otherwise interfere with it.
- Do not feed wild animals. They are there because there is sufficient natural food for their survival and do not need human food supplements. Feeding repeatedly can reduce their natural wariness of humans.
- It is a criminal offence under the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996 to commit any act of cruelty on a wild mammal, punishable by fines or imprisonment.
- If you do see anything amounting to cruelty please report it to the police or the 24 hour RSPCA Animal Cruelty hotline on 0300 1234 999.
- If you see an animal injured or visibly unwell, report it to the RSPCA on the number above or to the Wildlife Aid Foundation 24 hour emergency hotline 01372 360404 [www.wildlifeaid.org.uk](http://www.wildlifeaid.org.uk)



DAY TRIPPER — the Park's North Meadow fox

Picture: SUE CAIN



OUR WOODLAND WALK

Picture: BOB CHALLONER

As mentioned in the last edition of this magazine a small team of residents and I have been reviewing the aspirations for the North Meadow and woods set out in the Natural Goldsworth Park 2016 Vision Statement. My sincere thanks go to Celia Young, Liz Wilkinson, Barry Allen and Roger Westcott for their time and valuable contributions.

All the review documents are posted on the NGP page of the GPCA website [www.ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk/park-life/natural-goldsworth-park/](http://www.ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk/park-life/natural-goldsworth-park/) Do have a look and drop me an email at [projects@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk](mailto:projects@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk) if you have any thoughts or comments.

Surveys of reptiles and amphibians by Surrey Amphibian and Reptile Group, and of mammals by naturalist and wildlife photographer Robyn Dean are being arranged for later this year.

The mammal surveys are provisionally arranged to take place over the first and last weeks of August, dates to be confirmed. Robyn will provide full training in trapping techniques and recording, probably over the two weekends before the first survey session. Would you be interested in assisting with the trapping and recording (bearing in mind this involves late evenings and very early mornings)? If so, please email me at [projects@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk](mailto:projects@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk) to register your interest. Note this activity is not suitable for young children. Places will be limited, so it will be first come, first served. More information to follow on Facebook and Twitter.

I am hoping the specialists can develop some citizens' science projects to run alongside the surveys and expand our understanding of wildlife diversity and abundance across the Park as a whole. Please keep an eye out on the Facebook and Twitter pages if you are interested in participating.

The NGP Facebook and Twitter pages are regularly updated with residents' photos of the plants and wildlife found around Goldsworth Park and I invite you to share your photos or reports of any interesting wildflowers or wildlife you encounter in your gardens or during your travels through the Park.



**Next GPCA meeting Wednesday July 21, 7.30pm, venue TBC**

# Cycle track cash boost

**A BID for funding to upgrade the cycle track on the recreation area has been successful, the Goldsworth News understands.**

Woking Cycling Club and Woking Council made a joint application to British Cycling, which has funds available for Go-Ride projects to create dedicated facilities where people can learn cycling skills in safe, traffic-free environments.

The project will be the first dedicated bike facility in the Borough of Woking by developing an existing area that is used by both residents, visitors and the Charlotteville Rascals.

The existing tracks are worn direct tracks in the grass and make use of existing undulations for variety. The tracks exist through a combination of usage by riders, formal coaching and racing activities and selective grass cutting by the council.

Proposals are for a series of all-weather interconnected tracks that can be used as an open-access facility for the whole borough. The design reflects the need for the development to be in keeping with existing recreation ground users and ecology. It retains mature trees and offers potential

for landscape and ecology enhancements through careful planting. Its position also allows continued usage of adjacent areas of the recreation ground to support specific events such as the Go-Ride Races.

Go-Ride is British Cycling's development programme for young people. Go-ride skills coaching sessions are run in a traffic free environment to develop the core skills for fun, safe and fast cycling.



ON YOUR MARKS — the track is popular with youngsters

Picture: Charlotteville Cycling Club

## In memory of Roy Anders

**THE GPCA made a donation to the British Lung Foundation in memory of Roy Anders who died in January aged 85.**

Roy had been the caretaker and cleaner of the community hall for 11 years and regularly attended our meetings. He was also Chairman of the Goldsworth Park Angling Club. A popular figure, Roy suffered from COPD and died from respiratory issues complicated by Covid 19.

The British Lung Foundation sent the GPCA this letter:

*Dear all our friends at Goldsworth Park Community Association.*

*Thank you very much for your generous donation of £50 in memory of Roy Anders. Our thoughts are with you all and Roy's family. We are extremely grateful to you for thinking of our work.*

*We're the only UK charity looking after the nation's lungs. We offer hope, help and a voice.*

*It is the generosity of individuals like you that will allow us to reach our goal that, one day, everyone will breathe clean air with healthy lungs. Donations made in memory are extremely valuable to us and we recognise their very personal nature so on behalf of everybody here thank you again for your kind support.*

*Yours sincerely, Katie Kelly Watkins, Supporter Care Officer, Supporter Care Team. Email: donations@blf.*

• Following the GPCA's donation of £100 to Goldsworth Park Guides for the purchase of personal-use stationery, we have gifted the same amount to the Cubs and Scouts, based at the Generation Centre. They have also purchased stationery.



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# A personal view

Royer Slater



## GREETINGS, fellow villagers of Goldsworth Park village.

Village? Doubtless you're not accustomed to hearing Goldsworth Park described as such – but why not? Residents of neighbouring Woking wards – St John's, Knaphill and (especially) Horsell – are insistent theirs is a village, and – dare I say – many are rather smug about it. Let's claim the same prestige.

Villages have a romanticised concept, bringing to mind a rural small community with a collection of houses around a central square, and a friendly community atmosphere. I understand why many Woking residents cling to the idea that they live in a "village" rather than a district of a town of 100,000 people.

Goldsworth Park can't claim to be rural, but neither are those neighbouring wards – Horsell is slap-bang against Woking town centre. However, Goldsworth Park village is undoubtedly a vibrant self-contained community: it has schools and a village centre with shops, a church, a health centre and a pub.

Unlike our neighbours, Goldsworth Park village didn't develop over time in a haphazard way but was designed to be "open" and beautiful, with skilful landscaping, open parkland, wide green spaces everywhere and abundant trees, both native and ornamental varieties.

We may not have a village pond or village green, but we have a picturesque lake and recreation grounds which visitors come to enjoy from many miles away.

I also submit, fellow villagers, that according to the City Population website, Goldsworth Park village occupies a much smaller area (1.699 km<sup>2</sup>) than any of our three neighbouring "villages", especially compared with Horsell ward (sprawled across 9.542 km<sup>2</sup> because it includes Horsell Common), but also against St John's (4,055 km<sup>2</sup>) and Knaphill (4.655 km<sup>2</sup>).

Furthermore – I won't bore you with more numbers – the same website states the population of Goldsworth Park village is lower than those three neighbouring wards. (The figures are estimates based on the 2001 and 2011 censuses.)

I hope that's settled it. In future, when you tell people where you live, proudly say Goldsworth Park village. Find an excuse in the conversation to tell them again. Include it in your postal address. Don't let snuffy residents of neighbouring "villages" who believe theirs is the real deal, persuade you it's otherwise.

I wish all my fellow villagers a wonderful summer.

## Air ambulance in bid to save Dom



**THE family of Dominic Ellis, flown to hospital by helicopter from North Meadow on Sunday May 2 have asked for donations to be made to the Kent, Surrey and Sussex air ambulance service in his memory.**

Sadly, Dominic, 57, of Willowmead Close, died in St George's Hospital, Tooting, on May 7 as a result of the stroke he suffered at home.

Dominic, who had lived on Goldsworth Park since 1985, was an organ donor and his family take comfort from the fact that he will be helping others in need. He was committed to charitable work and had run four marathons for good causes.



His funeral was held at Guildford Crematorium on May 26.

Dominic is survived by his wife Linda, two daughters and three grandchildren. Linda praised the professionalism of the crew who battled so hard to save Dominic.

Donations to the air ambulance charity can be made via the following link: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Dom-ellis63>



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# Around the lake

**IN April, Goldsworth Park Angling Club secretary Roger Westcott decided to clean the information board in the northern end of the lake which had got dirty over the winter.**

It took quite a lot of scrubbing but the effort was worthwhile. As he had his waders on, he took the opportunity to clear the rubbish which had been thrown over the fence into the area where the swans used to nest.

It was hoped the swans would nest in the wildlife area this spring as they kept returning to the same spot but it seems as if it was just for a nap in the afternoon sun. Other wildfowl have successfully nested and a pair of coots are raising chicks.

There have been many comments about the rubble from the boat ramp and woodchips spreading over the area near

the children's playground. The angling club arranged for the woodchips to be used to top-dress the platforms and the rubble to be removed. The ground was cleared and should be seeded soon and the club commissioned a compound for the woodchips that Serco provides. Let's hope that this solves the problem.

The lake footpath has proved very popular with residents taking exercise during lockdown with most walkers observing social distancing. Unfortunately dogs not on leads continue to cause problems, worrying wildfowl, but more seriously scaring small children. It is an offence not to have a dog under control whatever its size. Please take note of the signs around the lake, keep dogs on a lead and be a responsible owner.

• Roger Westcott's regular *From the Lakeside* column will be back in the autumn.



*WADING IN — Roger tackles the information board*

## It's picnic time!

**PICNIC tables, benches and litter bins funded by Woking Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) have been installed on the lake bank and recreation area.**

The CIL is a charge that local authorities can set on new development in order to raise cash to help fund the infrastructure, facilities and services of an area.



*PRIME SPOT — GPCA secretary Celia Young (left) and Chair Irene Watson at the lakeside table*

The design of the tables will allow wheelchair or mobility scooter users to use the tables. All residents will benefit from these facilities but they will be particularly appreciated by those who have little or no garden or live in flats or maisonettes.

GPCA Chair, Irene Watson, said: "The picnic tables and benches will be a great addition to the park."

The CIL allocation for the Goldsworth Park ward stood at £7,489.99 up to September 30 last year.



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# A day to say thank you

**I AM not good with needles. So when I got called for my Covid vaccine I was hoping to scuttle in and out as quickly as possible to get it over and done with.**

I'd watched people on the telly having their vaccines (without looking at the needle, obviously!) to try to work out if it was going to hurt. Not one of them flinched! But I wasn't convinced. Perhaps they had just filmed the really stoic? Was I going to be the only one in Woking who made a bit of a fuss?

On the day, I was shown in by wonderfully calming volunteers. I waited my turn (deep breathing) and was shown to my vaccination booth by a smiling usher. 'Are you my local vicar?' she asked. 'I've never met you, but I feel like I know you because I've read your words in Goldsworth News!' Just like that I was distracted and it wasn't long before the needle was going in to my arm. I didn't even notice! I left the vaccination centre thanking God for welcoming volunteers and friendly, distracting parishioners.

The Bible instructs us to give thanks in every circumstance, because that is God's will (1 Thessalonians 5.16-18). I am sure that includes being thankful in a continuing global pandemic. Not for the situation itself, of course, but for the people that help you get through it.

This year, July 4 has been chosen as national Thank You Day. Matron May Parsons, who delivered the first Pfizer Covid jab is one of the people who came up with the idea. 'We are not always great at saying thank you,' she says, 'and this day helps us to be part of changing that.' Gary Lineker, Ainsley Harriot, Judy Dench, Steve Backshall and Julie Siddiqi are all backing the day.

Who would be on your thank you list? In Goldsworth Park we might like to shout out a thank you to all our shop workers for keeping open for us, the carers at Brockhill looking after older people when we couldn't get in to visit, the nurses and doctors in the hospice for their exceptional care, the teachers at Sythwood and Beaufort Schools, our posties and bin men and women... our neighbours? Perhaps we don't need to wait until July. Let's get a head start in thankfulness. I'll be back at the vaccination centre soon for jab number two – not a bad place to start saying thank you.

Please stay safe, Goldsworth Park, and thank you for being a great place to be a vicar, Kate.

*Kate is Vicar at St Andrew's Church*

Rev'd  
Kate Wyles



St Andrew's  
Church



PASS IT ON!  
SUNDAY 4th JULY  
#THANKYOU DAY

## Lodge Covid test site closes

**GOLDWATER LODGE closed as one of Surrey's Covid symptom-free targeted testing sites on May 28.**

All of the county's symptom-free sites are now closed. Use of the facilities was low, with the vast majority of residents choosing to collect their tests, or order them for home delivery.

Anyone over the age of 18 can collect a home testing kit or order on the Gov.UK website. Goldsworth Park residents can pick up kits from Boots Pharmacy in the shopping centre.

Once a home test has been completed every result (positive, negative or void) should be reported to NHS Test and Trace, on the same day you take the test.

Full details on home testing are available at [Surreycc.gov.uk](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk)

## Join the GPCA and get a vote

**THE GPCA switched its status to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in October 2019 and one of the Charity Commission requirements is that we keep a membership register.**

Residents can sign up as members and be recorded on the register. Those who do will get invitations to meetings, minutes, the annual report and accounts for the AGM plus relevant information and, more importantly, be able to vote for the trustees, and on issues such as approving any changes to the constitution.

To apply for membership, all you need to do is send a request giving your name, email and postal addresses and telephone number(s) to [chair@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk](mailto:chair@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk) or to Chair, GPCA CIO, 37 Willowmead Close, Woking GU21 3DN.

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# Ian 'honoured' by naming tribute

CENTRE STAGE — Ian Eastwood (right) and David Bittleston



**WOKING'S new £26million leisure centre has been named the Eastwood Centre in honour of former Woking councillor and Goldsworth Park resident Ian Eastwood.**

The Sheerwater facility will open to the public later this year once the exterior works have been completed and each fitness area has been kitted out with the latest equipment.

During his time as a councillor, Ian campaigned passionately for better sports facilities.

In April 2018, the council voted to release the funds for the construction of a community-use leisure centre and swimming pool, and two months after Ian's retirement from local politics in May 2019, work started on site.

Two years on and almost complete, key features of the new leisure centre include:

- A 25-metre pool with 68-seat viewing gallery, steam room and sauna.
- Teaching pool with moveable floor and hoist.
- Five-court sports hall with dividing wall and underfloor heating.
- Two climate-controlled studios with sprung floors.
- 65 station gym with group cycling studio.
- Full-size floodlit 3G football pitch with covered spectator seating for 100 fans.
- Two grass football pitches and a junior rugby pitch.
- Five outdoor tennis courts and four netball courts.

- Flexible use changing facilities, two Changing Places Toilets and wheelchair accessible facilities throughout the building.
- Multi-purpose function room with bar facilities, which can be used as a club room by local sports teams or as an additional studio space.
- Ground level café with view of the teaching pool.
- Car park with disabled parking bays, electric vehicle charging points and bicycle storage.

Ian praised the facilities during a visit to the centre. He told *Goldsworth News*: "I think it's a great honour to have something like that named after you, the quality that it is. And I'm honoured that somebody thought I'd done enough to earn that. I'd been a councillor for 28 years and was always involved in the leisure side of things."

Former councillor David Bittleston, who was Lead Member for the Sheerwater Regeneration Project, said: "Throughout his time on the council, Ian championed every aspect of sport and served on every committee which had an influence in this area. Everybody on the council looked to Ian to advise on matters relating to sport."

"From the amazing play area in Woking Park to the Sportsbox on Egley Road, Ian and I worked as a team to deliver the biggest increase in sports infrastructure Woking has ever seen. Up until his retirement as a councillor, Ian was very much involved in the planning and design of this magnificent leisure centre, so I can't think of a more

fitting name for the building, or a better way to acknowledge his impact on the borough's health and wellbeing."

Ian represented the Goldsworth Park and Goldsworth West Wards from 1991 until his retirement in May 2019. He was Mayor in 2000.

Still an active member of the GPCA, Ian managed the bar in Goldwater Lodge until the lease was transferred to Dianthus Trading in 2018.




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# Our aims for the Park

Election winners have their say



## Saj Hussain

CONSERVATIVE Saj Hussain recorded a double success in the May 6 local elections, being re-elected to Surrey County Council for Knaphill and Goldsworth West and to Woking Council for Knaphill.

Saj will continue as deputy mayor of Woking for another year.

Cllr Saj said: "I'd like to thank all those who elected me back on to Surrey County and Woking Councils and for the work and cooperation of the GPCA.

"The priority at the moment on Goldsworth Park is youth development with the full demolition and rebuilding of the fire damaged Lakers Youth Centre. The upper floor or floors of a new building have been earmarked for care-leaver accommodation and a charity is currently assessing what is needed for the rest of the development.

"Parking is an issue on Goldsworth Park and where needed more double yellow lines will be introduced at junctions to improve visibility and safety.

"I plan to extend the community speedwatch to Goldsworth Park and will be inviting interested residents to attend training when Covid restrictions allow.

"With the growing number of electric cars on the road I will be looking into getting some charging points installed, possibly in the shopping centre car park.

"I will have no problem working with Lance Spencer at Goldsworth East. It's more about personalities than politics at a local level. I tend to work better with the opposition anyway!"



## Ann-Marie Barker

LEADER of the Liberal Democrats on Woking Council, Cllr Ann-Marie Barker was re-elected for the Goldsworth Park Ward.

She told *Goldsworth News*:

"I am honoured that Goldsworth Park voters have put their trust in me to continue as a local representative."

Looking ahead to her new term of office Cllr Barker outlined some of the issues that need addressing. She said: "The move to electric vehicles will be challenging for many in Goldsworth Park as they rely on communal car parks. Having spoken to people interested in getting electric cars before and during the election I want to see if the council can help to get residents access to electric vehicle charging points.

"We have so many trees that make Goldsworth Park a green and pleasant environment, but they do need to be managed. I want to be sure there is a full management plan in place and residents are aware what tree work is being done and when.

"Fly tipping is a blight on our lovely area. I plan to arrange "bring out your junk" days so people can swap things they don't want any more. At the end of the day anything left will go in a skip.

"Parking space is at a premium. I would like to see spaces marked out for optimum use and additional spaces created."



## Lance Spencer

PARK residents who live in the Goldsworth East and Horsell Village Ward have a new face representing them on Surrey County Council — Lance Spencer.

Liberal Democrat Lance ousted incumbent Conservative Colin Kemp, deputy leader of the council.

Cllr Spencer posted the following on the LibDem website: "I have lived in the area for over 35 years and have lived in the Horsell community for the last 11 years.

"I am married with grown up children, the youngest of whom attended Woking High School. I bring the experience of bringing up three children and being a foster carer to two teenage children.

"Most recently I have trained to be a debt coach, which has given me a great insight into the difficulties faced by those most in need in our communities.

"The challenges faced across Surrey are complex and require both local knowledge and a broad experience. Horsell Village and Goldsworth Park are unique communities and have very specific needs and opportunities.

"My focus will be on community, care and climate. Each is immensely challenging, but without clear direction, based on local experience, we will not be able to hand over to our children and their children a community where they can live life to the full."

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# Life's looking up at Brockhill

**THE sun is shining, the birds are singing and life is definitely on the road to recovery and this is certainly true for the tenants of Brockhill, Woking Council's independent living and extra care scheme on Clifton Way.**

We have been following the Government's roadmap and taking tentative and welcomed steps out of lockdown over the past few months. The first milestone was re-opening the communal areas.

It was wonderful to have the lounge open again serving fresh coffee and cakes over a friendly game of bingo. I say friendly, our tenants are extremely competent bingo players and when we are playing for house all gloves are off!

We were also able to re-open the dining room, up until this point we had been serving meals to tenants' flats but it was wonderful to have them back in the dining room, albeit with reduced numbers and abiding by Covid regulations.

One of the most challenging parts of lockdown for our tenants was their lack of physical and social contact with family and loved ones. Our desire to combat this whilst still ensuring our tenants' safety was a tricky path to navigate but with the introduction of our visitors' pod and then in turn garden visits we were able to resume some normality.

We are now able to take this a step further with nominated visitors and lateral flow testing. We were incredibly fortunate to have had the testing centre at Goldwater Lodge on our doorstep. We are still a long way from being able to open our doors to all, but we are most certainly heading in the right direction.

Although we are delighted that things are returning to normality after what has been a very difficult time we have definitely learnt new skills. For example I don't think a Zoom quiz will be leaving our social diary any time soon and we have a virtual sing-along coming up with the children of Peter Pan Nursery and Forest School. The resilience and bravery of all during the pandemic has certainly been a positive that we will be taking away from this experience.

So as we continue to navigate the Government's roadmap, in line with specific guidance for extra care settings, we are focusing on the future and all we can achieve. We celebrated Dementia Action Week last month with a host of events for tenants as well as showcasing the council's services out in the community.

*Michelle Chilcott, Independent Living & Extra Care Manager*

## Scouts' toilet-twinning target

**THE 1st Goldsworth Park Scouts have embarked on a fund raising scheme to twin 20 toilets on the Park with toilets in deprived areas all over the world.**

Toilet twinning funds the work of international relief and development agency Tearfund. Donations are used to provide clean water, basic sanitation, and hygiene education.

The Scouts have already raised £579, enough to twin nine toilets, with a fun run around Goldsworth Park lake. They are now looking to encourage 11 local organisations and businesses to contribute the £60 it costs to twin a toilet and reach the target of 20.

*FLUSHED WITH SUCCESS — Mark Hartland hands a twinning certificate to Cllr Barker along with Cllr James Sanderson*



When a toilet is twinned a certificate is issued with a photograph and GPS coordinates so the twin abroad can be viewed on Google Maps.

Mark Hartland, 1st Goldsworth Park's Assistant Scout Leader, said: "Our scouts have now decided to set a new challenge and raise enough to twin 20 toilets in Goldsworth Park with 20 from all over the world, spread the word about what we are doing and involve the local community.

"To help us launch this new campaign we have gained the support of Woking's Goldsworth Park Ward councillor Ann-Marie Barker who has accepted the first of our 20 certificates so that she may display it proudly and twin the first latrine."

Cllr Barker said: "I was delighted to accept a toilet twinning certificate from Goldsworth Park Scouts. Sanitation is a huge issue worldwide, particularly for women, who are put at risk by having to use toilets in the open, late at night."

The World Health Organisation estimate that two billion people don't have somewhere safe and hygienic to go to the toilet.

For more information about Toilet Twinning visit [www.toilettwinning.org](http://www.toilettwinning.org)



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