

# GOLDSWORTH NEWS

June 2023 – Issue 184

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## Summer edition



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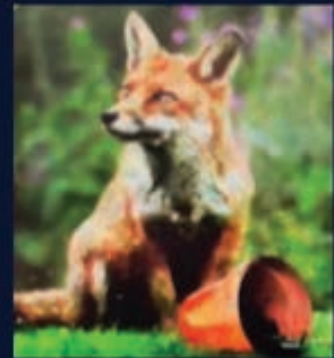
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# GOLDSWORTH NEWS

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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editor@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk

## GPCA CIO MEETINGS

Next public meeting October 2023

AGM date TBC.

Membership of the GPCA is required to  
receive details of forthcoming meetings.  
Contact chair@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk for  
information on how to join.

## LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Ann-Marie Barker WBC,  
Martin Sullivan (Lib Dem),  
Stephen Oades WBC and  
Lance Spencer SCC (Lib Dem).  
Saj Hussain SCC (Conservative).

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# Views from the Chair

I AM pleased to report that following the GPCA's appeal for more residents to become involved in running the association that two new trustees, Dueyna Chinere and Steve Davies, have been appointed.

Dueyna is experienced in fund raising and event management and Steve is the Chair of Goldsworth Care, the organisation that arranges transport for those in need to doctors, hospitals, dentists, shops etc.

Dueyna has already compiled a survey for residents asking if there are any events you would like the GPCA to consider organising.

Surrey County Council's plans for respite accommodation for adults with learning disabilities and/or autism on the Lakers site sparked a lively debate at the GPCA public meeting in April. The publication of the plans for the eight-bedroom building came as something of a surprise, as at recent GPCA meetings Surrey councillors had suggested that there would be some provision for youth on the site along with accommodation for care-leavers.

The GPCA trustees have posted a comment on the consultation website (now closed) in which we question the suitability of the site for respite accommodation in a busy central area, the compatibility of the building design to the surroundings and the lack of parking provision. SCC says it will consider all feedback before making a planning application. We await their decision with interest.

On another county matter Surrey are in the process of recruiting a local area coordinator for Goldsworth Park, a role that exists in other areas such as Sheerwater. The successful candidate will aim to guide residents in need how they can live their best lives in the community.

GPCA secretary Celia Young has announced she will be retiring from the role at the AGM in October. If you are interested in the post or would like to know more about what it entails please contact me at the email address below.

To finish, can I offer my thanks to the GPCA members who manned the refreshment and cake stalls in The Lodge during Woking Hospice's Dragon Boat races to help make the day a success for such a good cause.

George Binyon

chair@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk



@ourgpca



facebook.com/groups/goldsworthpark

# Volunteer GPCA News deliverers sought

YOUR help is urgently needed to deliver, just 4 times a year, the Goldsworth Park News. If you live in or near one of the roads listed below please volunteer today to ensure GPNews, which is run totally by volunteers, continues to be received and enjoyed by your fellow residents.

GPNews will be delivered to your door by our dedicated volunteer coordinator Peter and will only take a few minutes of your time to deliver. I am sure you will find supporting your local community enjoyable – you could even meet a fellow resident you have not spoken to before. Since the Spring edition two new volunteers have come forward to which a huge thank you is owed but sadly a couple have had to retire.

The following roads require volunteer deliverers: Bankside, Caradon, Dene Place, Selby, Wyndham Road, Nethercote, Lombardy, Staveley Way, Roundthorn Way, Conista Court, Queendale Court, Blencarn, Littlemead, Venton Close, Bardon Walk, Lidstone Close, Watercress Way, Quintrell Close, Hawkswell Close, Hawkswell Path, Winnards, Fairbourne Close, Abercorn Way.

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# Lakeview Community Centre

THERE'S a lot happening for those living on the Lakeview Estate in Goldsworth Park, and many plans in the pipeline which will benefit the Lakeview community in future.

Lakeview residents are supported by the Lakeview Community Action Group (LCAG), based at the Lakeview Community Centre in Tracious Close, off Sythwood. LCAG is a registered charity formed in 1996 that has run many community groups and events, such as the annual Lakeview Summer Funday and litter pics.

James Sanderson, chair of LCAG, said: "There are a lot of exciting plans for the Lakeview Community Centre following a very successful Open Day last October, attended by over 60 people. The Centre is a new building that opened in 2017, replacing an older building on the same site. It is designed for the use of the local community and is currently being used by a number of local groups."

The Centre is managed by Woking Borough Council and is also available for private hire. There are close links with the Salvation Army (located nearby in Sythwood), St Andrew's Church (at the Goldsworth Park Shopping Centre) and also with Sythwood School.

James added: "LCAG has been working with ROC Woking over the last 18 months to help promote and expand community activities at Lakeview. ROC Woking was founded in 2020 and has three Action Teams: the first tackles social isolation and loneliness, the second mental health and wellbeing, and the third attends to the needs of youth."

Last November LCAG restarted its mental health support group **Lift Up Together**, held on Thursday afternoons from 12pm to 3.30pm, with over 20 regular attendees. "It is a social self-support group which tries to destigmatise mental health issues in a safe environment," explained James. "We provide lunch, newspapers and magazines and activities such as bingo, quizzes and games. The lunch has become an important

part of our group for our members as we provide and warm balanced meal especially during the current cost of living crisis.

"More recently, **Woking Youth** has started running a youth drop-in at the Centre from 6.30pm to 8.30pm on Wednesday evenings, aimed at young people aged 11 to 19. The website for Woking Youth ([www.wokingyouth.org.uk](http://www.wokingyouth.org.uk)) has more details. They are looking for volunteers to help at their sessions: if you feel this might be for you please contact Adam Davey by email at [admin@wokingyouth.org.uk](mailto:admin@wokingyouth.org.uk)."

THE LCAG hasn't forgotten primary school-aged children. "We are hoping very soon to welcome back Little Minions, which is the Lakeview community youth club for those in school years 1 to 3 and also 4 to 6. Little Minions is looking for more volunteers so it can reopen. It ran very successfully with good attendances on Friday afternoons prior to the COVID lockdown. It offered various activities trying to expand the children's imagination and creativity, as well as refreshments.

"The Lakeview Centre also hosts the **Bangladeshi Cultural Association**, which holds daily prayers and conducts various other community activities including fitness classes, language lessons and children's groups. Contact the BCA Secretary, Naz Hussain, at [mynaz@hotmail.com](mailto:mynaz@hotmail.com) or 07547 291488 for more details."

In January Lakeview welcomed Foodwise, which provides free cookery skills training courses that help prepare and cook nutritional food and make food budgets stretch further. James added: "All the equipment and food is provided for each session and course members can take the meal they have prepared home with them. Foodwise courses run for six weeks: the latest course was on Tuesday mornings from 16 May to 27 June, with a break for half term." For full details visit [www.foodwisetlcare.com](http://www.foodwisetlcare.com).

Saturday 12th August sees the return of the **Lakeview Community Fun Day**, from midday and 4pm. "There will be lots of activities for the whole family," said James. "It will be held outside, near the Lakeview Community Centre (weather permitting), with some indoor activities too. Everyone is welcome!"

Finally, James added: "We are looking into the possibilities for the local community to be more involved in managing the Centre. We are also in the process of updating the LCAG website to make it easier for people to find out more and get in touch.

"If readers have any questions, or would like to find out more, please email LCAG at [admin@lakeviewcentrewoking.org.uk](mailto:admin@lakeviewcentrewoking.org.uk). And if you are interested in hiring the hall at the Centre, please contact Woking Council directly at [centres.enquiries@woking.gov.uk](mailto:centres.enquiries@woking.gov.uk)."



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# From the Lakeside



■ Roger Westcott is Goldsworth Park Angling Club secretary and fishing bailiff working in partnership with Woking Council to oversee fishing, monitor fish stocks and other wildlife, and keep the area clean and tidy.



**DON'T** you just love this time of year, there is so much happening out there in the wilds. **SPRING** the perfect word where all life springs into action after the harshness of winter where much becomes a state of lifeless dormancy until just one missing ingredient is reinstated to the mix, warmth, and the rejuvenation of life kick starts back into life once again.

From the greys and browns of winter the trees, shrubs and perennials burst into fresh greens and yellows, pink and white blossoms Birds singing, the buzzing of insects and we too feel vitalised and refreshed by the longer warmer days of spring taking off our winter coats and getting out into the sunshine to go for a nice stroll or potter about in the garden Oh the garden, now there is plenty to do out there this time of year.

The same applies to the lake. The guys from the fishing club on the weekend of the 15th and 16th April worked hard round the lake planting lily into the two boats we sank earlier in the year. You will see that for now they are fenced off – this is to protect the young plants from predation of birds until they are established which will take a couple of years or so if all goes well. They also top dressed all the platforms with woodchip and trimmed some of the under growth where necessary along with litter picking and general tidying. This all helps to keep our lake a place of beauty to be enjoyed by so many and not just us humans.



Photo taken by Matt Hunt

Around the 6th April our resident Pen swan laid her first egg so we quickly fenced off the nest area which is situated on the point of the lake. This was in order to protect her and leave in peace whilst she incubates which takes up to 36 days. Despite the fence being broken down would you believe 4 times by youths on the early morning of the 15th May Mr and Mrs swan became the proud parents of 3 little fluff balls. Let us wish these 3 little cygnets do well and reach adult hood.

However they are not the only ones with new families on the lake – Moorhens, Coots and even Greylag geese are busy either still sitting or have young families to feed and tend too. Not to forget the fish who have over the last couple of weeks been spawning in the margins. Pike and perch were the first followed by the bream and towards the end of May into June once the water reaches temperatures of around 60f -15.5c tench and carp should start their breeding cycle. Despite the lake being in a very busy urban area all this activity of new life takes place – what a joy to be able to observe.

And finally on occasion we do see something a bit different, oddities if you like, take a look at this goose in the picture.

It's a Leucistic Egyptian goose or so I'm informed. Please don't ask me what leucistic means, I've not a clue, even my computer red lines it, so if any of you have any information please do let me know by email to editor@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk who will pass me your thoughts – I look forward to hearing from you.

ROGER



Photo taken by Matt Hunt



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**Goldsworth Park  
Lake and Footpath**



## Please be a responsible dog owner

**Respect other lake users and wildlife at all times**



Keep dogs on lead

Bag and bin it

No swimming

**Thank you**



# News from St Andrew's by Revd Scott Smith

## Greetings Goldsworth Park!

THE last time I wrote, for the Spring edition, Goldsworth Park was enveloped by freezing fog. Three-months on and we're still yet to experience any prolonged spell of warmth. However, this is the Summer edition of Goldsworth News, and so, by the time it arrives with you, we will, hopefully, be experiencing some warmer weather.

The pace of life can be unrelenting, can't it? It can often feel like we're bouncing from one thing to the next with little time to catch our breath in-between. Believe it or not, but before the invention of the lightbulb (thanks, Edison), the average person slept for eleven hours. The average nightly sleep in the UK is now currently down to just six hours a night.

In 2007, Apple released the iPhone into the world. Shortly after followed Facebook and Twitter. In the same way that the electric lightbulb changed the way we live, sixteen-years on from the iPhone and it's hard to remember a world when we didn't have a computer in our pocket. There have been benefits, of course, but there have also been some disadvantages.

Notably, we are reachable all the time, with notifications buzzing and pinging, constantly demanding our attention. A recent study even found that just being in the same room as our phones (even if they are turned off) 'will reduce someone's working memory and problem-solving skills.'

So what are we to do? Well the Summer offers us (if we're fortunate enough) the opportunity to stop, to rest and to take delight in things that we often don't have the time for at other times. To stop bouncing from one thing to the next.

Over the last few years, I've been looking to rediscover the principle of sabbath, (a day set aside for rest), and to build that Summer 'feeling' into each week. You might recall that in the creation stories in the Bible, on the seventh 'day,' God rests. For humans though, created on the sixth 'day,' our starting point is a day of rest - sabbath rest.

Before we do anything, before we achieve anything, we rest (in relationship with a loving God).

The practice of sabbath helps us to learn to embrace our limits, and to let go of the illusion that we are indispensable to the running of the world. It reinforces the truth that we aren't what we do. The far more interesting question is, who are we becoming?

A weekly practice of sabbath encourages us to stop, to rest, to delight and to worship.

- To stop, as I've said, recognising that we are limited people.
- To rest, to engage in activities that restore and replenish us (taking a nap, going for a walk, reading, enjoying hobbies or playing sport).
- To delight, to enjoy all that the world has to offer. What are the things that bring us joy and delight?
- To worship, to take time to contemplate all the good things that we can enjoy.

Over the last few years, I've tried to incorporate some of these principles and practices into my weekly schedule, to enable my body to catch-up with itself. In this Summer period, I hope you'll find the time to stop and to rest, to switch-off and to catch-up with yourself, to catch your breath and stop bouncing from one thing to the next, as you seek to find the answer to the more important question, who am I becoming?

If you want to explore the theme of living a slower, simpler life further, then you might enjoy *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry*, a book by John Mark Comer.

**A Sabbath Prayer** (drawn from Lectio-365)

May this day bring sabbath rest to my heart and my home.

May God's image in me be restored, and my imagination in God be re-storied.

May the gravity of material things be lightened, and the relativity of time slow down.

May I know grace to embrace my own finite smallness in the arms of God's infinite greatness.

May God's Word feed me and His Spirit lead me into the week and into the life to come.

With all that being said, life at St Andrew's Church continues apace, and there's something for everyone. You can find out more about our Sunday Services, Weekly Toddler and Baby Groups, Art Club and more on our website [www.standrewsgwp.org](http://www.standrewsgwp.org)

Here is a flavour of some of the other things you might be interested in over the next couple of months. You'd be very welcome to come along, and we'd love to meet you.



## June

■ **Saturday, 10th Repair Cafe** | Woking Environment Action (WEAct) will be running the first Woking Repair Cafe event on Saturday, June 10th from 10am - 1pm at Andy's Community Cafe. There is a great team of volunteers offering free repairs for electrical, mechanical, furniture, toys, clothing and textiles. Only items that can be carried by one person will be accepted and no petrol-driven items should be brought for safety reasons. If possible, do email the team what you are planning to bring at [wokingrepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:wokingrepaircafe@gmail.com)

■ **Sunday, 11th Messy Church** | Crafts, activities, music and food. All ages welcome. Starts at 3pm.

■ **Saturday, 17th A Summer Fair** (in partnership with Goldsworth Park Guides) | 10am-3pm in and around the church and Generation Centre. Market stalls, Live entertainment, Food and fun!

## July

■ **Saturday, 1st Youth Encounter** | Engage Woking is working with youth workers from local churches to host 'Encounter' - a new free event (to be held at Trinity Methodist Church, Brewery Road), for young people to gather, explore the Christian faith, and have an opportunity to encounter God for themselves. There will be upbeat worship and guest speaker, writer and radio presenter Justin Brierley, will help them explore the theme 'What's the Point?'

Why You? Why God?' Various activities will be available to enjoy as a response, including sports, art, a prayer labyrinth and a quiet reflective space.

Younger youth (school years 7-9) will meet from 3pm to 7pm and older youth (school years 10-13) from 6pm to 10pm, with food served during the 6pm-7pm overlap.

To book a FREE place, visit <https://tinyurl.com/encounter-free>

To read about the speaker Justin Brierley visit: [justinbrierley.com/about](http://justinbrierley.com/about)

## August

■ **Tuesday, 1st Coffee & Chat** | Conversation & company in the comfort of Andy's Community Cafe from 10:30am-12 midday.

■ **Saturday, 5th Andy's 'Out of Hours'** | Live music and entertainment in the comfort of Andy's Community Cafe, with a licensed bar and food. Starts at 7:30pm. Tickets are FREE (Donations accepted) but book here [tinyurl.com/andysooh](http://tinyurl.com/andysooh)

■ **Sunday, 27th Family Games Afternoon** | Fun activities for all (Giant Jenga/Connect 4, Pool table, activities for Toddlers) with refreshments and ice-cream. 2-4pm. Contact [community@standrewsgwp.org.uk](mailto:community@standrewsgwp.org.uk) for more information.

■ **Monthly every 1st and 3rd Tuesday – Coffee & Chat** – Conversation and company in the comfort of Andy's Community Cafe from 10:30am-12 midday.



# The Basingstoke Canal

By the Editor GPNEWS

**MANY** of us will have enjoyed walking along the Basingstoke Canal so I decided to find out more by contacting the Basingstoke Canal Society. From the canal bank there is much to enjoy – if you stop and look around there is such a variety of wildlife to see and natural environment to enjoy.

The Basingstoke Canal began construction in 1792 and only took 4 years to complete. It was never particularly successful as a commercial venture and with the coming of the railways quickly fell into decline. By the early 1960's the canal was virtually derelict and there were proposals to sell parts off for development. The Basingstoke Canal Society (BCS) was formed in 1966 and after much campaigning persuaded the County Councils to purchase the remaining 32 miles in the early 70's. There followed many years of restoration, much of which was carried out by the society's volunteers and finally in 1991 the restored canal was formally opened. Today the canal continues to be jointly owned by Surrey and Hampshire CC's and the Society plays an active role in promoting and campaigning for the sustainable future of the canal as a navigation and public amenity.

The BCS run two trip boats on the canal, one from Woking and the other from Odiham. Monies raised from the trips help

fund the maintenance and improvement works undertaken by more than 250 volunteers.

The BCS trip boat "Kitty" operates from Woking wharf every weekend with three trips a day. The 2.45pm trip features a "Cream Tea" and is proving very popular. Bookings can be made on the website at [www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk](http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk)

There are plans to replace Kitty with a new electric trip boat and the BCS welcome donations towards this project.

For those who enjoy some real history right here linking Goldsworth Park to St John's is a bridge over the Basingstoke Canal. Built in about 1790 it is known variably as Goldsworth Bridge and Langman's Bridge. You can find it is situated on Langman's Lane, to the east of a flight of locks known as St John's flight. The bridge is constructed as a single semi-circular arch of red brick and measures about 12m across and 3m wide. There are parapets of convex shape on both sides. The bridge formed part of the original build of the Basingstoke Canal completed in 1794, which connected Basingstoke with the River Thames at Weybridge via the Wey navigation. Tim please insert the picture of Langman's bridge here. Picture by George Binyon

The Basingstoke Canal is a huge asset to our community being enjoyed by many



thousands of people be they walkers, boaters, cyclists or nature lovers but it is under threat. Council budgets are being cut and the necessary funding to keep the canal as the beautiful space we all enjoy is not sufficient.

The BCS provide both volunteer and financial help to keep the canal alive but more members are always welcome. In rain or shine the Basingstoke Canal is the "green gym" on our doorstep. Consider becoming a member, make a donation or just go on a boat trip to ensure that this waterway can continue to be enjoyed. All information needed can be found on the website [www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk](http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk)



**The Basingstoke Canal Society**

**KEEP YOUR CANAL ALIVE!**  
For everyone's health, habitat and local economy

**Feel healthier!**  
Use the "green gym" where you can walk, run or cycle for free, taking care of your physical and mental health.



**Feel happier!**  
Study shows spending time by a canal can make you feel happy - shelter in the sun or navigating the rain.



**Appreciate nature!**  
Support the biodiversity and the variety of nature the canal brings to your doorstep and future generations to come.



Find out more on donating or become a member of the Basingstoke Canal Society



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# A personal view

Royer Slater



**BUTTERFLIES: don't we just love them! Their appearance in spring is a sign of warmer, sunnier weather.**

We love their beauty, especially their delicate wings and bright colours in the summer sun. And as we relax in the warm weather it's uplifting to watch butterflies fluttering from flower to flower in search of nectar.

Children can be entertained and inspired with butterfly-related challenges. The Butterfly Conservation charity's web site ([butterfly-conservation.org](http://butterfly-conservation.org)) has free downloadable resources, video lessons and activities for children, from home-made mobiles to creative colouring. There's also a "make your own butterfly kite".

They can look out for butterflies and moths in even the smallest of green spaces and hunt for caterpillars in the undergrowth, and then try to identify what they find. If you're stuck, there's a helpful spotting guide on the Butterfly Conservation web site.



As well as delighting us, butterflies and moths are important to wildlife. Butterflies and their caterpillars are vital food for birds like robins and blue tits as well as bats. Butterflies play an important role in pollinating plants and crops, and are vital in maintaining the balance of nature.

However, a report published this past winter revealed that 80% of butterfly species in the UK have declined since the 1970s. "The State of the UK's Butterflies 2022" report is a sobering read. There are winners and losers but, on average, UK butterflies declined by 6% at monitored sites and lost 42% of their distribution over the period 1976-2019.

The 28 page report is an interesting read if you are in any way interested in wildlife. It reveals which are the winners and losers for each of the UK's 59 species of breeding butterflies. It includes breakdowns for each of our four home nations, but doesn't break down results into English regions. However, I was able to make deductions about the local picture. In Surrey we are lucky to have a variety of specialist habitats, such as flower-rich grassland, chalk downs, heathland and woodland, each the home of specialist species. The report says that as a group the numbers of species restricted to particular habitats has decreased by over one-quarter (27%) and their distribution by over two-thirds (-68%) since 1976.

Butterfly Conservation says decreases in butterfly populations on these scales are a huge cause for concern, as butterflies are an integral part of the UK ecosystem and their decline is a clear warning signal of a wider biodiversity crisis. But it is not all bad news: Butterfly Conservation's report shows that its targeted conservation work has been very effective at halting declines.

You can help butterflies too if you have a garden. Gardens can act as important stepping stones between nature reserves and other natural habitats by offering abundant supplies of food plants.

Adult butterflies and other pollinators feed on nectar that they will take from a wide variety of wild and garden flowers. The nectar provides butterflies and moths with energy to fly and find a mate. In spring, it helps butterflies refuel after

winter hibernation or a gruelling journey to Britain from southern Europe or Africa. In autumn, nectar helps butterflies and moths to build up their energy reserves so they have the best chance of surviving hibernation or the journey back to warmer climes.

A garden with butterfly-friendly plants will attract many species of butterfly. With the right food plants, butterflies will lay eggs for the next generation: the more we grow for them, the more butterflies there will be. And the more caterpillars you have, the more birds you are likely to attract to feed on them.



The Wild About Gardens web site ([wildaboutgardens.org.uk](http://wildaboutgardens.org.uk)) has lots of tips for wildlife-friendly gardening. And there's lots of advice on helping butterflies on Butterfly Conservation's web site ([butterfly-conservation.org](http://butterfly-conservation.org)), where you can also download a copy of "The State of the UK's Butterflies 2022". The site also encourages you to report your own butterfly sightings, which helps scientists understand how different species are faring across the UK.

Getting close to nature is proven to be good for our mental health and well-being. So I hope you can spend some time relaxing and enjoying the nature around you this summer – especially the butterflies!

## Grass Verge Cutting

By the Editor GPNNews

Are you, perhaps like many local residents, including myself, wondering why many of the grass verges, grassed areas and some gardens are covered in long grass? Well, I decided to investigate and found that in 2023 **No Mow May** came back. The benefit of No Mow May is not just to give us time to undertake other tasks in the garden but principally to help the wildlife thrive. So hopefully all you did in May to your grass is... nothing. The aim of the initiative was to bring another boost of much-needed nectar to pollinators across gardens, parklands and verges. If you took part I hope it will be successful and bring increased wildlife to your garden. By the time you read this article I will have cut my grass. I did enjoy watching the wildlife in this different environment plus of course enjoying the break from mowing.

As to our grass verges etc I did contact Woking Borough Council who responded with "As residents may be aware the responsibility

for grass cutting of Highway verges, and maintenance of Highway trees has been taken back by Surrey County Council and is no longer within the remit of Woking Borough Council." Further information can be found in this link which I accessed and raised an enquiry with Surrey CC asking when the verges will be cut.

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roadworks-and-maintenance/trees-grass-and-hedges/grass>

Woking BC further responded advising that there are however pockets of land that are still the responsibility of Woking Borough Council, so there are exceptions. Woking BC informed "We (Woking BC) do identify some sites that we manage around the borough for No Mow May, though also have many others already on a reduced mowing schedule for biodiversity anyway. This includes areas around Goldsworth Park Recreation Ground, most notably the meadow." More information is available on this link [Wildflowers in Woking](#) | Woking Borough Council which you may find of interest.



# ► Goldsworth Care Helps People

By Sue Waters Goldsworth Care

FOR many individuals in our community, getting to and from important appointments can be a real challenge. This is when local community support group, Goldsworth Care, can offer help. Goldsworth Care (GC) is a non-profit voluntary organisation run BY and FOR Goldsworth Park residents. Volunteers provide transport and other forms of help to people who contact the GC phone line. This could be a return trip to a precious appointment with a doctor or at a local hospital or to other destinations; or it could be practical assistance with shopping, or other ad hoc requests, where possible.

## YOU CAN JOIN THE GC TEAM

Goldsworth Care needs more people to join its pool of volunteers in making others' lives easier. Two specific roles are Drivers and Duty Officers. Increasing transport requests means extra Drivers are crucial to ensure clients make it to and from their important destinations. Drivers need to be reliable, compassionate, have a valid driving licence and will have to have

a DBS check. GC pays a flat rate mileage and clients are asked for a donation.

Duty Officers answer the GC phone from their home during live hours, 10am to 12 noon weekdays. They then liaise with available volunteers and clients to meet the clients' needs. All volunteers choose how many and which days they can be available to help, and training is given in the simple paper based system.

## YOUR NEXT STEP IS EASY

Call Goldsworth Care on 07751 801 587 to talk about how you'd like to help.

By volunteering you can make a meaningful impact on the lives of others in the community. You'll meet new people and be part of a team – and regular GC team coffee mornings offer friendship and mutual support too. We hope to hear from you.

Go on, you know you want to.....

CALL GOLDSWORTH CARE - 07751 801 587.

# ► The GPCA Calendar 2024

**FOLLOWING positive response at the last GPCA meeting The Goldsworth Park Community Association will be producing a calendar for 2024 and photographs of scenes in Goldsworth Park are required please. Pictures from all over the Park will be considered but must be in landscape format and, hopefully, over 1Mb. Each photograph used in the new calendar will carry the name of the photographer. The lake is always a popular subject but other subjects would be most welcome.**

This year we hope to be holding a competition for the children of Goldsworth Park and the best picture will be used in the new calendar.

Please send photos to Bob Cowell at **community@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk** by 15th September 2023.

It is worth noting that, after the success of the 2022 calendar it was hoped that this would be repeated but sales were less than half of those sold last year and we had no profit to give to local charities. Hopefully, response will be better for 2024.

# ► Goldsworth Park Girlguiding

**ON the 17th June Goldsworth Park Guides, in partnership with St Andrew's Church, is running a Summer Fair. All the activities take place between 10am to 3pm in and around the Church and Generation Centre. There will be a variety of stalls and side shows, live entertainment, yummy food. Entry is free so why not come along and join in the fun.**

Goldsworth Guiding has a range of units which are Rainbows (5-7 years), Brownies (7-10 years) and Guides (10-14 years) that take place throughout the week during term time. The units meet on a Monday, Tuesday or Friday depending on the age group. Daytrips, sleepovers, and camps are often offered as fun optional events which are additional to the regular weekly meetings.

If you or someone you know is looking to join Goldsworth Guiding either as a young person or as an adult support to find out more please get in touch email [gpbrownies4@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gpbrownies4@hotmail.co.uk) or register to join via this link <https://go.girlguiding.org.uk/join-us/join-as-ember/gpbrownies4@hotmail.co.uk>





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# Lions Martian Race Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023

By the Editor GPNews

**TAKING** place on Horsell Common on Sunday the 25th June 2023 Woking Lions, with the help of Horsell Runners, has organised a number of runs of different lengths catering for all ages and abilities. The various events are a 2K Kids Fun Run, a 5K, 10K or for the more adventurous a 21K race. If you or your family enjoy running why not take part – I am sure you will enjoy the experience.

The sandpits on Horsell Common are famously the site where the Martians first landed in the H G Wells novel The War of the Worlds. The route of the races, now in their sixth year, goes through these historic sandpits which of course is why the races are called The Martian Races.

The Martian Races are organised and run completely by volunteers with all proceeds being distributed to local charities.

Have I wetted your appetite? If so all the details, including how to enter, can be found at <https://www.martianrace.org/>

## Dragon Boat races came back!

By the Editor GPNEWS with input provided by Woking Hospice.  
Photos by Pam Taylor

**THE** Woking & Sam Beare Hospice popular Dragon Boat Races and Family Fun Day returned to Goldsworth Park lake on Sunday May 14 – what a return it was. The day commenced with the Chinese Association performing a traditional Dragon Awakening ceremony which set the tone for the day. The dragon is now affectionately known as Aimee.

As some teams expertly rowed in unison with one another, others splashed and laughed their way through as they struggled to find their stride. Their enthusiasm was contagious as people cheered them on from around the lake. Record numbers of spectators spread across the shoreline as the sun shone down from the welcome blue skies.

The excitement of the racing concluded with F3 UK being the winning team. F3 UK's three competitors in the final were Team Natta, Odin's Wet Whiskers and Derek's Dragons.

All being well the event will take place in 2024 – for further information contact [events@wsbh.org.uk](mailto:events@wsbh.org.uk)



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# Dates for your diary



## Regular weekly Events

■ **TUESDAYS Coffee & Chat** | Conversation and company in the comfort of Andy's Community Café (within St Andrew's Church at Goldsworth Park Centre) from 10:30am-12 midday.

■ **MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS\* Parent & Toddler Group** | With toys and ride-ons, crafts and singing. FREE (optional donation £2 per family). Run by St Andrew's Church and held in the A2 Youth & Community Centre (next to the Church). This is a "drop-in" so entry may be restricted if max number is reached. School term times only. Details: email [toddlers@standrewsgwp.org](mailto:toddlers@standrewsgwp.org)

■ **FRIDAYS\* Bump & Beyond** | Relaxed group for mums-to-be and mums with babies not yet walking. Offers support and opportunities to make friends and share experiences. Fun for babies with toys and activities. FREE (optional donation £1 per family). Run by St Andrew's Church and held in Andy's Community Café. This is a "drop-in" so entry may be restricted if max number is reached. Details: email [bumpandbeyond@standrewsgwp.org](mailto:bumpandbeyond@standrewsgwp.org)

■ **WEDNESDAYS Woking Youth** | Drop in for young people aged 11-19 from 6.30pm to 8.30pm on Wednesday evenings in Lakeview Community Centre. See [www.wokingyouth.org.uk](http://www.wokingyouth.org.uk) for details. Volunteers needed to help at sessions: for info please email [admin@wokingyouth.org.uk](mailto:admin@wokingyouth.org.uk)

■ **THURSDAYS Lift Up Together** | Social self-support group aiming to destigmatise mental health issues in a safe environment. With lunch, newspapers and magazines and activities such as bingo, quizzes and games. 12pm to 3.30pm in Lakeview Community Centre.

■ **THURSDAYS\* Craft Café** | With a variety of craft activities in Andy's Community Café from 10am-11.30am. Materials provided. FREE. During school term times only.

THURSDAYS\* Art Group | Creativity, conversation and coffee. All abilities welcome. Meet and make new friends, in Andy's Community Café from 1pm-3pm. Materials provided. FREE. School term times only.

\* Not during school holidays

## June

■ **SATURDAY, 3 JUNE Andy's 'Out of Hours'** | Live music and entertainment in the comfort of Andy's Community Cafe, with licensed bar and food. Starts 7:30pm. Tickets FREE (donations accepted) but book here: [tinyurl.com/andysooh](http://tinyurl.com/andysooh)

■ **WEDNESDAY 7 JUNE Hearing aid clinic** | NHS hearing aid general maintenance including cleaning retubing, general advice and free NHS batteries. Drop in from 1pm-3pm at St Andrew's Church. Free service run by NHS-trained volunteers from St Andrew's Church. For details visit [www.standrewsgwp.org/hearing](http://www.standrewsgwp.org/hearing)

■ **SATURDAY, 10 JUNE Repair Cafe** | Woking Environment Action (WEAct) will operate the first Woking Repair Cafe event from 10am to 1pm in Andy's Community Café, with a team of volunteers offering free repairs for electrical, mechanical, furniture, toys, clothing and textiles. Only items that can be carried by one person will be accepted. No petrol-driven items for safety reasons. If possible, email beforehand with details of what you wish to bring: [wokingrepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:wokingrepaircafe@gmail.com)

■ **SUNDAY, 11 JUNE Messy Church** | Crafts, activities, music and food. All ages welcome. Starts at 3pm in St Andrew's Church.

■ **SATURDAY, 17 JUNE Summer Fair** (St Andrew's Church in partnership with Goldsworth Park Guides) | 10am to 3pm in and around the Church and Generation Centre. Market stalls, live entertainment, food and fun!

■ **SUNDAY, 25 JUNE Martian Race on Horsell Common** | Organised by Woking Lions, with various lengths: 2km (kid's fun run), 5km, 10km or 21km. The route passes the sandpits immortalised as the Martians' first landing site in HG Wells' novel The War of the Worlds. Register, get sponsors and have fun. Proceeds will be distributed by the Lions to local charities. For full details visit [www.martianrace.org](http://www.martianrace.org)

## July

■ **SATURDAY, 1 JULY Youth Encounter** | A FREE event for young people to meet and explore the Christian faith. Organised by Engage Woking (based in Goldsworth Park), with youth workers from local churches. Upbeat worship, guest speaker (writer and radio presenter Justin Brierley) and response activities (sports, art, prayer labyrinth and quiet reflective space). School years 7-9 meet 3pm-7pm, school years 10-13 from 6pm-10pm. Food served during 6pm-7pm overlap. Venue: Trinity Methodist Church, Brewery Road. To book visit <https://tinyurl.com/encounter-free>

■ **WEDNESDAY 5 JULY Hearing aid clinic** | NHS hearing aid general maintenance including cleaning retubing, general advice and free NHS batteries. Drop in from 1pm-3pm at St Andrew's Church. A free service run by NHS-trained volunteers from St Andrew's Church. For details visit [www.standrewsgwp.org/hearing](http://www.standrewsgwp.org/hearing)

## August

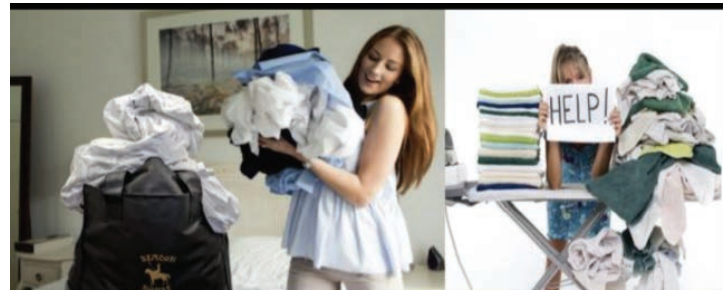
■ **WEDNESDAY 2 AUGUST Hearing aid clinic** | NHS hearing aid general maintenance including cleaning retubing, general advice and free NHS batteries. Drop in from 1pm-3pm at St Andrew's Church. A free service run by NHS-trained volunteers from St Andrew's Church. For details visit [www.standrewsgwp.org/hearing](http://www.standrewsgwp.org/hearing)

■ **SATURDAY, 5 AUGUST Andy's 'Out of Hours'** | Live music and entertainment in the comfort of Andy's Community Cafe, with licensed bar and food. Starts 7:30pm. Tickets FREE (donations accepted) but book here [tinyurl.com/andysooh](http://tinyurl.com/andysooh)

■ **SATURDAY 12TH AUGUST Lakeview Community Fun Day** | Lots of activities and stalls (including face painting) for the whole family, outside near the Lakeview Community Centre (weather permitting) as well as indoor activities too. 12 noon to 4pm.

■ **SUNDAY, 27 AUGUST Family Games Afternoon** | Fun activities for all (Giant Jenga/Connect 4, Pool table, activities for Toddlers) with refreshments and ice-cream. 2-4pm. Email [community@standrewsgwp.org.uk](mailto:community@standrewsgwp.org.uk) for more information.

If you would like your event to be included in the next edition of Goldsworth News please email: [editor@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk](mailto:editor@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk) with the details. The editor will see if they can be included.



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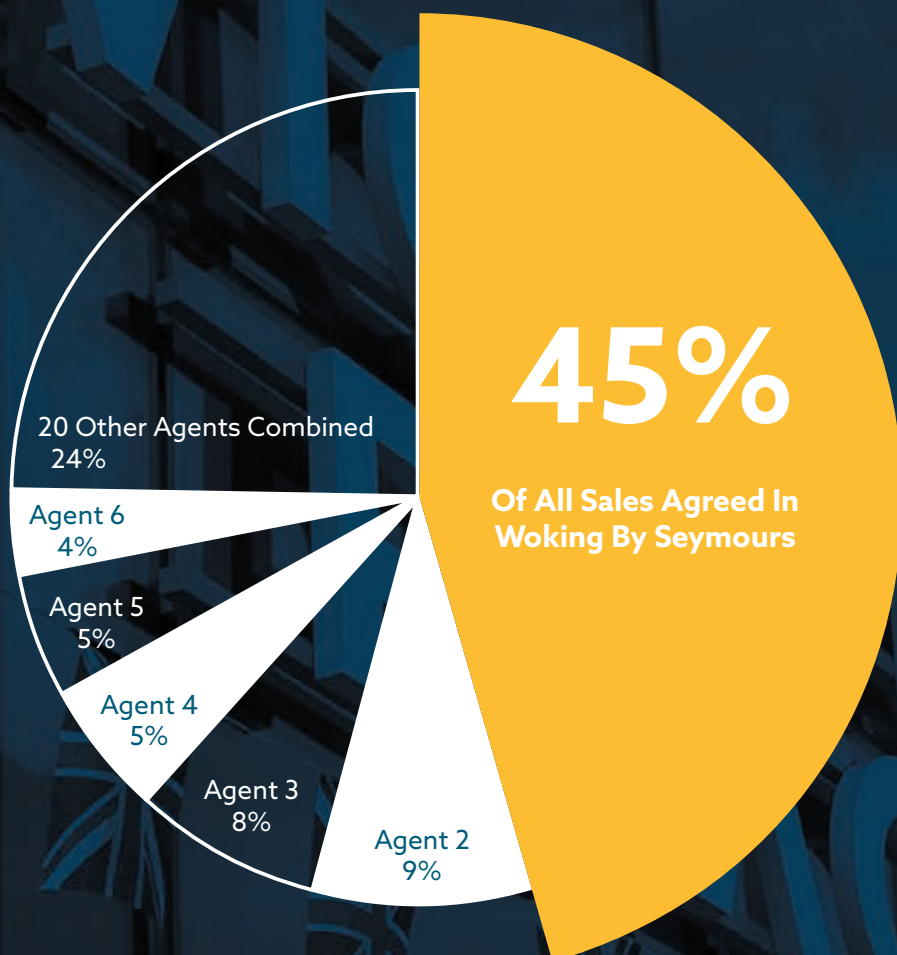
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