

GOLDSWORTH NEWS

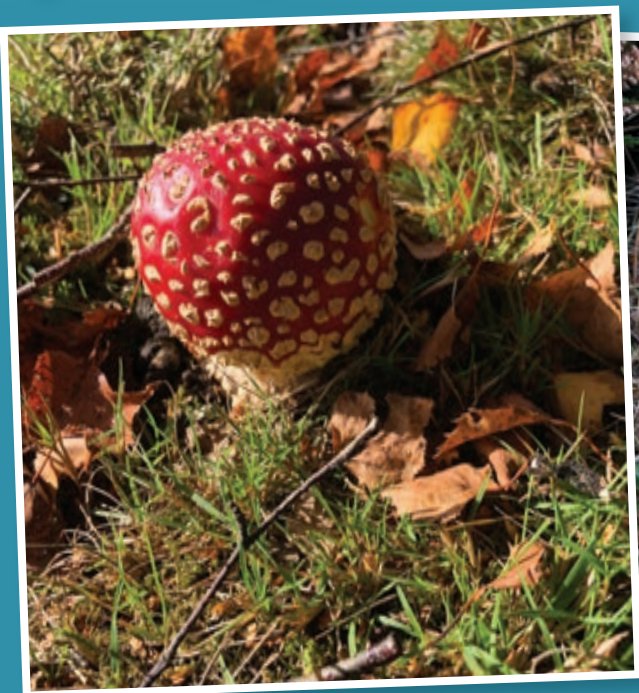
November 2025 – Issue 194

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Community Association CIO
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Winter edition



Photos: Pam Taylor.



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Saturday 29th November
12pm - 4pm

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12.00pm - 4.00pm
Christmas Market

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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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**Chris Taylor (Editor)
and Royer Slater.**

editor@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk

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If you would like to provide an article for the next edition please contact the editor by 14th January 2026. The copy date for articles and "Diary Dates" entries is Monday 31st January 2026.

Email: editor@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk

GPCA CIO MEETINGS

Next public meeting April 2026 – Date TBA.

Membership of the GPCA is required to receive details of forthcoming meetings.

Contact community@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk for information on how to join.

LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Ann-Marie Barker WBC (Lib Dem)

Martin Sullivan WBC (Lib Dem)

Stephen Oades WBC (Lib Dem)

Lance Spencer SCC (Lib Dem)

Saj Hussain SCC (Conservative)

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Views from a Trustee

Despite the weather cooling a little, I am pleased to report that our recent litter pick was fairly well attended and, as well as some regular faces, it was lovely to have some of the Woking Litter Warriors with us, and also Ryan (our DofE litter picker) and his mum. Ryan has just completed his full year of litter picking for us and, as I write this, he is about to complete his DofE Gold level – well done Ryan and a big thank you from all of us for a job very well done!!

We will hold our next litter pick in the new year – please keep your eyes peeled on our Facebook page Goldsworth Park Community Association (GPCA) for dates for this and also a Quiz which will be back by popular demand!

Thank you to St Andrews for organising another beautiful Remembrance Service at which our trustee Bob was honoured to lay a wreath. It is always lovely to see such a crowd of all ages at this special gathering.

As we whizz towards the festive season, we are busy organising the Christmas tree which has once again been kindly donated by Waitrose. The lights will be switched on by an extra special guest with the usual Christmas Carols just after 4pm following the Christmas Markets at the Hospice and St Andrews on Saturday 29th November. Do join us after your shopping if you can.

The GPCA have arranged a bit of extra fun for the children at the Generation Centre at the market between 2pm and 4pm with one of Santa's elves joining them for fun and games, courtesy of Koala Kids Parties, so do bring them along before or after their visit to see Santa at the Hospice market!

There is a lot more we would like to be doing within the community but we are very thin on the ground for helpers so would really welcome anyone who would like to explore being involved in the work of the GPCA. Many hands make light work!! Please contact me at social@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk for an informal chat.

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyful Christmas from all of us at the GPCA.

Dueyna

If you would like to be involved with the work of the GPCA please contact the GPCA Community Officer on community@ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk

@ourgpca

facebook.com/groups/goldsworthpark

www.ourgoldsworthpark.org.uk

Volunteer GPCA News deliverers sought

Do you fancy volunteering to deliver Goldsworth News to your neighbours?

If so please get in touch with Peter Hill, 01483 835183, peter.hill3@ntlworld.com

The following roads are currently covered by The Editor who would welcome your support to take on delivery to: Tolvaddon Close, Veryan, Ridsdale Close, Blencarn Close, Littlemead, Silversmiths Way, Hawkswell Close and Hawkswell Path.

Goldsworth News 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.

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Editor's jottings

With the clocks having changed are your thoughts turning towards the upcoming Festive Season? I know mine are!

There's so much going on right on your doorstep. Please take a moment to look at the Christmas posters on page two giving details of the Goldsworth Park Christmas Market and the Woking & Sam Beare Hospice Christmas Market, both on Saturday 29th November. How about making a note of the date in your calendar?

Continuing the Christmas theme, take a look at page 5 to see what is taking place at St Andrew's Church over the Christmas period – you will find something for all the family.

Warm Welcome Space is once again operating at the café in St Andrew's. For times please see Dates for your Diary on pages 10 and 11. Hot drinks, social and craft activities are on offer plus advisors from Homestart and the Citizens Advice Bureau.

For budding artists, Woking & Sam Beare Hospice is hosting its third *Inspiration for Life* Art Exhibition. The exhibition will take place over a three-week period at The Lightbox in Woking from 4th–22nd February 2026 and open daily to the public. But to be a success they need your paintings. The Hospice would love to hear from you, whether you are a professional, a talented amateur or a young artist. There will be a cash prize of £500 for the artist's work that shows most talent and best encapsulates the theme of the exhibition: 'Inspiration for Life'. Entries can be submitted until 31st December 2025 – scan the QR code on the poster on the right for full details.

Woking & Sam Beare Hospice is again hosting its *Light Up A Life* services during the lead up to Christmas. There will be a non-religious service at the Hospice on Friday 28th November from 5pm to 6pm, held outside in a marquee so please wrap up warm. Before this service at 4pm you are invited to join a Reflective Walk around Goldsworth Park Lake at dusk with your candle; the walk is just 1km and easily accessible for wheelchairs and buggies. You will return in time for a hot drink before the service at 5pm. There will also be a service at St Andrews Church, Goldsworth Park, on Sunday 23rd November from 3pm to 4pm and then at St Dunstan's Catholic Church on Sunday 7th December from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. All three services are free to attend and open to everyone, even if your loved one was not cared for by the Hospice. You'll need to register to let them know that you will be coming as space may be limited: visit wsbh.org.uk/lual24 or call the Supporter Care Team on 01483 881752.

On 27th November the Hospice will switch on the lights on its Memory Tree, which is decorated with Memory Stars, each carrying a special dedication to a loved one. This is always a treasured addition to The Hospice Café over the Christmas period. Memory Stars can be downloaded from www.wsbh.org and are welcome from anyone in Goldsworth Park or the wider local community.

Surrey County Council's popular tree giveaway events are back with 4,000 free trees up for grabs at locations around the county. Surrey residents can visit a number of community recycling centres (CRCs) to collect a free tree to plant at home. Sadly the nearest for us is Chertsey. The CRCs will open their doors from 9am to 4pm on Friday 28 November, Saturday 29 November and Monday 1 December. A mix of small and medium native tree species, such as crab apple and hazel, are being donated. All trees are given away with aftercare guidance and should be planted within seven days. Pre-booking is required to help manage demand and avoid disappointment: visit customer.surreycc.gov.uk/crc_tree_giveaway.

To close I wish you all an enjoyable Festive Season. Take care, stay warm and stay safe.



Photo: Pam Taylor.

Woking & Sam Beare
Hospice and Wellbeing Care

'Inspiration for Life'

Art Exhibition at
The Lightbox, Woking
4th - 22nd February 2026

Call for Artists

£500 Cash Prize

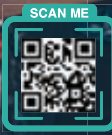
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Sunday 30th November 3:00pm

Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 14th December 6:30pm

Christingle Service

Wednesday 24th December 4:00pm

'Midnight' Communion

Wednesday 24th December 11:15pm

Christmas Day Celebration

Thursday 25th December 10:00am



CHRISTMAS *at* St Andrew's

www.standrewsgwp.org

Goldsworth Park Scout Group



By Akela (Hilary) CUB Leader

1st Goldsworth Park Scout Group 2025 Winter Update

We have been on Goldsworth Park for over 45 years and hold our regular weekly meetings at the Generation Centre, just behind St Andrews Church. We now have 4 sections with our new Squirrels starting this September to join our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Each of the sections are running great, full and fun packed meetings as well as taking part in District, County and International activities.

Squirrel Dray (4yrs – 6yrs) have taken part in their first Remembrance Parade

Beaver Colony (6yrs – 8yrs) have taken part in Science day, Reach for the Stars, Remembrance Parade, Group camp, JOTA, County run Beavers Go Wild and Beavers Fun Day.

Cub Pack (8yrs – 10yrs) have taken part in Back to Basics Camp, Group Camp, Pod's Sleepover, District Sports evening, District Science day and Remembrance Parade.

Scout Troop (10yrs to 14yrs) have taken part in JOTA, Group camp, Remembrance Parade, County Scoutabout along with International Camps in Kandersteg Switzerland and Ypres Last Post in Belgium.

We also now host on Wednesday evenings a new **Woking District Explorer Unit** named 'Argonauts' which launched in Goldsworth Park on 10 September for young people aged 14–18. We meet

weekly to take on adventures that build confidence, teamwork, and leadership — from camping and hiking to community projects, creative challenges, and even survival skills. Explorers are part of the wider Scouts family, giving teenagers the chance to shape their own programme, earn awards, and have fun while learning valuable life skills. If you or someone you know would like to join, get in touch at argonauts@wokingscouts.org.uk.

Why we do it Scouting is about the small things, from helping with washing up to walking around the lake looking out for bats. The sleepover where you learned to toast marshmallows in the car park, or the time you found a planet in the night sky. With a varied programme of meetings and events our Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers enjoy learning though having fun, gaining life skills, developing confidence and so much more. As an ex-scout recently commented "lifelong memories of the best time of my life".

Within all the sections we have a waiting list for the young people and this could be reduced if we opened more units. As an adult volunteer scouting really is one of the most rewarding, eye opening and fun things you can do, with options for everyone no matter how much time you can give. From one or two nights per term, to helping with the admin behind the scenes, or right up to going for a full leader role; we would love to hear from you.

Do you have time to spare? Do you have life skills to pass on?

Do you want to join us and experience something that money can't buy?

If you want to give scouting a try please reach out to our Group Volunteer Lead Dave for an initial chat with no commitment needed – who knows where it will take you? Please contact Dave on gsl.gpark@gmx.com

If you have any Generation Centre Hall or Baden Powell Room booking enquiries please contact Sylvia on 01483 766001.

Akela (Hilary) CUB Leader



Goldsworth Park Girlguiding



It's been an exciting few months for the Girlguiding community in Goldsworth Park, with local Brownies and Guides getting stuck into a fantastic mix of outdoor adventures and festive preparations! Earlier this term, the girls embraced the great outdoors with a series of water-based activities and bushcraft sessions. From paddling and raft-building to learning practical survival and teamwork skills, everyone enjoyed a chance to explore nature, make new friends, and gain confidence in the fresh air.

Now, as we head towards the festive season, the units are already full of Christmas cheer. The Rainbows and Brownies are busy rehearsing for their special Christmas Show on 23rd November, where parents can look forward to an afternoon of songs, sparkle, and seasonal fun – complete with plenty of tinsel and festive spirit!

You'll also spot Girlguiding Goldsworth Park out and about in the community this month, with multiple stalls at the



Goldsworth Christmas Market on 29th November. Come along to say hello, enjoy some festive treats, and support local Guiding activities.

To top it all off, several groups will be heading to the Woking pantomime in December – a well-deserved celebration after such a busy and successful year of adventure, teamwork, and community spirit.

It's wonderful to see so many girls getting involved, learning new skills, and having fun together. Girlguiding in Goldsworth Park continues to thrive, thanks to the dedication of its volunteers and the enthusiasm of every young

member. If you would like to get involved in any way, please do register your interest online or contact us on: gpbrownies4@hotmail.co.uk

In terms of the joint ventures with the scouts we have had a really successful scarecrow hunt, with 19 scarecrows to find in the area and selling over 80 maps, an amazing amount for the first one.

We also sold poppies in the area for British Legion and attended the Remembrance service.



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News from St Andrew's by Revd Scott Smith

Greetings

'A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices.' Perhaps you recognise these lines from the Christmas carol, 'O Holy Night'? It's that time of year when our thoughts turn towards Christmas – and our plans for where, how and with whom to spend it are finalised.

As I write, John Lewis have just launched their 'Countdown to Christmas' campaign drawing on the 90's club classic, 'Where Love Lives' in the hope that a heady hit of nostalgia will get us consumers into the festive mood. And whilst a beautifully wrapped present is nice to receive - perhaps even brain-meltingly exciting if you're aged under 11 - ultimately it's spending 'quality-time' with people we love that will be the best part of Christmas for many of us. And whilst John Lewis are right in saying that our hope lies in love (I'll take you down, deep down where the love lives), after all the decorations are packed away for another year, we find that our hope truly lies in knowing we are loved by God.

The good news that we celebrate every Christmas is of a love come down, a love that was born and shares in our experience – even in our weariness.

In all our Christmas celebrations at St Andrew's, we look to remind ourselves of the truth that whatever we face, whatever comes to pass, we are not alone – that we never have to face the hardest things in life alone.

God is present to His world.

God comes to us.

God comes to this earth, to this people, and he comes as one who is with us and for us.

Ultimately, at Christmas we discover that it's in and through relationship with this loving God (revealed in Jesus) that we once again find that 'thrill of hope' that makes sense of life. And if you're looking to make sense of life, or are feeling weary or that life is hopeless, we'd love to invite you to join us at an Alpha course we are running that begins on January 14th, 2026. If you've not heard of Alpha it's an opportunity to have conversations about faith, life and God, as we watch a series of short-films together, and as you bring any questions you might have about the Christian faith.



You are warmly invited – we'd love to see you there. Do drop me an email at alpha@standrewsgwp.org for more information or to sign up.

As well, and as you might expect, throughout December we'll be gathering and celebrating together in lots of different ways. You are warmly invited to join in.

Our Christmas Services & Events:

Saturday, 29th November 12pm-4pm Christmas Market

Join us at our community-centred Christmas market, hosted by your local church, Girl-guiding groups and Goldsworth Park Community Association. Shop for lovely handcrafted gifts and enjoy delicious drinks and treats, all whilst supporting local charity groups.

Sunday, 30th November 3pm Christmas Messy Church

Come and join us for fun, crafts, games, worship and food at our Christmas Messy Church. (Aimed at families with children aged 4-11 (primary school age), but older/younger siblings are welcome)

Saturday, 6th December 7:30pm Andy's 'Out of Hours' Christmas Special

Live music and entertainment with a licensed bar and food. Tickets are FREE. Please book online: tinyurl.com/andysooh

Sunday, 14th December 6:30pm Carols by Candlelight

A service of Carols and Readings

Wednesday, 24th December 4pm Christingle Service

A fun-filled service for all the family (from pre-schoolers to grandparents!). With songs, a nativity and Christingles.

Wednesday, 24th December 11:15pm 'Midnight' Communion

Join us for a service of Carols and Communion as we welcome in Christmas together.

Thursday, 25th December 10am Christmas Day Celebration

A fun-filled service for all the family as we celebrate the birth of Jesus – Happy Christmas!

Whatever this Christmas holds for you, (whether you celebrate or not), my prayer is that you might know that you are not alone; that God knows you, loves you, is with you and is for you and that you might discover and truly experience that 'thrill of hope' once again this Christmastime.

With warmest wishes and every blessing for Christmas and the year ahead.

Scott



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News from Ann-Marie Barker



10 Facts on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

1. The county of Surrey will be split into 2 new Councils in future. These new councils will replace 11 districts/boroughs and the county council.
2. Woking will be part of a West Surrey council along with Guildford, Runnymede, Spelthorne, Surrey Heath and Waverley.
3. West Surrey will stretch from Staines in the north to Haslemere in the south.
4. The new council will be responsible for the services currently provided by Woking Council and Surrey County Council.
5. We get to vote in elections to the new council in May 2026.
6. West Surrey will have 90 councillors.
7. Woking will elect 14 councillors to the new council across 7 divisions.
8. From May 2026 to April 2027 the new council is a 'shadow' authority. It sets itself up and recruits staff. Woking Council and Surrey County Council continue to run local services.
9. From April 2027 our council will be West Surrey.
10. In future there is likely to be an elected Mayor of Surrey (like the Mayor of Manchester or Birmingham), who will have

strategic responsibilities covering areas such as transport, economy and skills. There is currently no timetable for this.

Debt relief – Government has agreed £500 million in debt relief for Woking. This is the first tranche of payment to clear Woking Council's unmanageable debt. The Council needs to continue its strategic asset disposal programme, selling land and property bought in the past. When it is clear how much these sales will return it is anticipated there will be further government relief.

Brockhill – As reported in the last newsletter Brockhill was sold to a developer, who proposed building a care home. The developer then sold the site to Lidl. To date there has been no planning application for the site but the Brockhill building is now sadly demolished. The solar panels on the building were beyond repair and could not be reused.

Lakeview works – Planning permission has now been granted for fire safety works on maisonettes in Lakeview. Works will begin in the spring and will also involve improvement works on roofs and windows.

A personal view

Royer Slater



'Tis the season for "The holly and the ivy"! It's a popular carol at Christmas when we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. But why "holly" and "ivy"? What's the origin of this popular song?

The carol includes Christian symbolism dating back to medieval times. Holly, ivy and mistletoe are "evergreens" – they retain colour through the winter – so were used as decorations in homes and churches at this time of year, and also represented eternal life. Meanwhile, holly's brightly coloured green leaves and berries inspired an association with the Christian festival celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ.

In addition, the sharpness of holly leaves reminded Christians of the crown of thorns worn by Jesus at his crucifixion, while the red berries are a reminder of the drops of blood he shed for our salvation. It's also been suggested that the leaf shape resembles flames, which can represent God's burning love for his people, but personally I think that's stretching symbolism too far!



Photo: Pam Taylor.

represents loyalty and unity, thanks to the way it holds on tight to things, such as a tree or wall, sometimes binding two plants together; this, together with ivy's evergreen nature, signifies constancy. (I must remember to present some to my wife!)

Some scholars believe the Christian references and symbolism in the carol were grafted onto an earlier, pagan song: the line "of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown" could be a reference to a Druidical figure, the "Holly King", or "the lord of the winter wildwood". The Holly King and Oak King were personifications of winter and summer, engaging in battle during the cycles of the year, each overcoming the other during winter and summer respectively.

It's suggested that the "rising of the sun" in the carol's chorus refers to the lengthening of daylight hours after the winter solstice (21 December). "The running of the deer" may refer to the female reindeer, which keeps its antlers in winter and leads the herd, an ancient association with motherhood and fertility, with the antlers as the tree of life, bringing life and green back to the earth.

There have been many variants of "The holly and the ivy" which differ significantly from the popular version today. Such variation is typical of ancient folk songs that were not written down but handed on through generations as an oral tradition, often changing as they were passed on. Not only did the words change over time but it is likely to have been sung to various folk melodies. When handed down within localities, unique versions with distinct lyrics and tunes evolved in some parts of the country.

The version of "The Holly and the Ivy" we sing today, with the popular melody, was collected by the avid folk song collector Cecil Sharp and published in his 1911 collection *English Folk-Carols*. Sharp says he heard it sung by Mary Clayton of Chipping Camden in Gloucestershire. However, versions had already been published in song collections in the 19th century. Those known to us only acknowledge its inclusion in "an old broadside, printed a century and a half since" (so, around 1711). But as I said earlier, it is much, much older than that.

That concludes the history lesson. I've unpacked my guitar: now please clear your throat and join me in a hearty rendition of this long-lived Christian carol!



Photo: Pam Taylor.

Just as holly represents Jesus, ivy is said to represent Jesus's mother, Mary. And ivy

Dates for your diary



Regular Events

**Events marked with an asterisk, and possibly others too, may take a break during school holidays. We recommend checking with the organisers.*

■ **WARM WELCOME Tuesdays, drop in 9am-midday** | Friendly chat and company on in Andy's Community Café at Goldsworth Park Centre. Free entry and with free tea, coffee and biscuits.

■ **COFFEE AND CHAT First, third and fifth Tuesdays of each month, drop in 10.30am-midday** | Conversation and company at **Warm Welcome** in Andy's at Goldsworth Park Centre. Church pastoral assistants are available to offer support to those struggling in any way.

■ **TODDLER GROUPS Mondays and Wednesdays, drop in 10am-11.30am*** | With toys and ride-ons, crafts and singing. Run by St Andrew's Church during school term times, in A2 Youth & Community Centre (next to the church). These are drop-in groups but entry may have to be restricted if max number is reached. Optional donation £2 per family. Details: email toddlers@standrewsgwp.org

■ **BUMP & BEYOND Fridays, drop in 10am-11.30am** | Relaxed group for parents-to-be and parents with babies not yet walking. Offers support and opportunities to make friends and share experiences. Fun for babies with toys and activities. Run by St Andrew's Church in Andy's Café (or the A2 Centre if there is an event in the church). Optional donation £1 per family. Details: email bumpandbeyond@standrewsgwp.org

■ **SING GOLD Wednesdays, 2pm to 3.30pm** | Goldsworth Park's Community Choir meets to have fun singing songs of all kinds in the Chapel at St Andrew's Church, GP Centre.

■ **WOKING YOUTH Wednesdays, 6.30pm-8.30pm** | Drop-in for young people aged 11-19 in Lakeview Community Centre, Tracious Close. See www.wokingyouth.org.uk for details. Volunteers needed to help at sessions: for info please email admin@wokingyouth.org.uk

■ **YOUTH EVENING Alternate Fridays, 7.30pm-9pm*** | For young people aged 11-16, with games and activities, and a termly trip out. Run by St Andrew's Church in the A2 Youth & Community Centre at GP Centre. For information and dates email youth@standrewsgwp.org.

■ **LIFT UP TOGETHER Thursdays, 12pm-3.30pm** | 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, in Lakeview Community Centre, Tracious Close.

■ **ANDY'S COMMUNITY CAFÉ Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10am-12pm (during term times)** | We serve great barista coffees, a selection of teas, scrummy cakes and toast. Toddler-friendly play space with train track, books and toys, free Wi-Fi, comfy sofas or tables to work from, dog friendly. Andy's is on the ground floor at St Andrew's Church, GP Centre, GU21 3LG. Details: www.standrewsgwp.org/andys

■ **CRAFT GROUP Thursdays, 10am-11.30am*** | With a variety of craft activities in Andy's Community Café. Materials provided, all FREE.

■ **ART GROUP Thursdays, 10am-12pm** | Creativity, conversation and coffee. All abilities welcome. Meet and make friends in Andy's Community Café. Materials provided, all FREE. The event does not take place when the leader is away, so it's recommended you check with the St Andrew's Church office on 01483 723879.

■ **THE LIGHTBOX – Tuesdays to Sundays, times vary (closed Mondays and Bank Holidays)** | Art exhibitions (changed regularly), Woking's Story (museum) plus workshops for adults and families with young children. visit thelightbox.org.uk or call 01483 737800.

■ **WOKING REPAIR CAFÉ operated by Woking Environment Action (WEAct).** | Volunteers offer free repairs for small electricals/mechanicals, battery-operated clocks, ceramics, small items of furniture, toys, computers, garden tools, clothing and textiles. Donations welcome to help cover running costs. Only items that can be carried by one person will be accepted. No petrol-driven items. If possible, email beforehand with details of what you wish to bring: wokingrepaircafe@gmail.com. Open 10am; last entry 12.30pm, monthly on Saturdays: **6th December** Old Woking Community Centre GU22 9AT; **10th January** Trinity Methodist Church GU21 4LH. See wokingenvironmentaction.com for later dates.

Diary Dates

November

■ **SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER Woking & Sam Beare Hospice "Light Up A Life" service at St Andrew's Church, 3pm-4pm** | An opportunity to remember a loved one (or ones) we have lost. Free to attend and open to all, even if your loved one was not cared for by the Hospice. Please register online at wsbh.org.uk/lual24 or call the Supporter Care Team on 01483 881752 to let them know you will be going.

■ **FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER Woking & Sam Beare Hospice "Light Up A Life" service in a marquee at the Hospice, 5pm-6pm** | As above, but non-religious. Preceded at 4pm by a Reflective Walk around the Lake at dusk with a candle. Free to attend and open to all. Please register – see preceding entry.

■ **SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER Goldsworth Park Christmas Market, 12pm-4pm** | Shop for lovely handcrafted gifts and enjoy delicious drinks and treats, all whilst supporting local charity groups. Games, entertainment, food, market stalls and more. In and around the Church and the Generation Centre at Goldsworth Park Centre. Hosted by St Andrew's Church, Girl-guiding groups and GPCA. Free entry.

■ **SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER Woking & Sam Beare Hospice Christmas Market, 1pm-4pm** | Craft stalls, Santa's grotto, mulled wine and more. At The Hospice on Goldsworth Park. All funds raised support the work of The Hospice.

■ **SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER Messy Church, 3pm-5pm** | Join us for fun, crafts, games, songs and food. Aimed at families with children aged 4-10 (primary school age), but older/younger siblings are welcome). St Andrew's Church, GP Centre.

December

■ **MONDAY 1 DECEMBER Seniors' Tea, 2pm-4pm** | Free (donations accepted). Guest speaker to be announced. In Andy's Community Café (within St Andrew's Church). Booking essential: please call 01483 727834 or email pastoral@standrewsgwp.org

■ **WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER Hearing aid clinic: drop in from 1pm-3pm** | NHS hearing aid general maintenance including cleaning retubing, general advice and free NHS batteries. St Andrew's Church, GP Centre. Free service run by NHS-trained volunteers. For details visit www.standrewsgwp.org/hearing

■ **FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER Trefoil Guild, 7.30pm-9.30pm** | Monthly meeting for current and past Guiders who enjoy meeting like-minded folk. The Generation Centre, GP Centre, Denton Way. Details: call the church office on 01483 723879

■ **SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER Woking Borough Council Councillors Surgery 11am-12pm** | Meet your local councillors in Quackers Café, Wishbone Way, Woking GU21 3RT.

■ **SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER Andy's 'Out of Hours', 7.30pm-10pm** | Live music and entertainment with licensed bar and food. Tickets FREE (donations accepted). Please book here: tinyurl.com/andysooh

■ **CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST ANDREW'S CHURCH –**
All in the upstairs Worship Area: see page 8 for details

January 2026

■ **WEDNESDAY 7 JANUARY Hearing aid clinic: drop in from 1pm–3pm** | NHS hearing aid general maintenance including cleaning retubing, general advice and free NHS batteries. St Andrew's Church, GP Centre. Free service run by NHS-trained volunteers. For details visit www.standrewsgwp.org/hearing

■ **FRIDAY 9 JANUARY Trefoil Guild, 7.30pm–9.30pm** | Monthly meeting for current and past Guiders who enjoy meeting like-minded folk. The Generation Centre, GP Centre, Denton Way.

■ **SATURDAY 10 JANUARY Woking Borough Council Councillors Surgery, 11am–12pm** | Meet your local councillors in Quackers Café, Wishbone Way, Woking GU21 3RT.

■ **TUESDAY 13 JANUARY Sacred Songs, 11am–11.45am** | We'll sing a popular hymn, explore the story behind it and the meaning behind the words. There will also be time to chat. St Andrew's Church, GP Centre. Details: emailcommunity@standrewsgwp.org or call 01483 723879.

February

■ **WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY Hearing aid clinic: drop in from 1pm–3pm** | NHS hearing aid general maintenance including cleaning retubing, general advice and free NHS batteries. St Andrew's Church, GP Centre. Free service run by NHS-trained volunteers. For details visit www.standrewsgwp.org/hearing

■ **FRIDAY 6 FEBRUARY Trefoil Guild, 7.30pm–9.30pm** | Monthly meeting for current and past Guiders who enjoy meeting like-minded folk. The Generation Centre, GP Centre, Denton Way.

■ **SATURDAY 7 FEBRUARY Woking Borough Council Councillors Surgery, 11am–12pm** | Meet your local councillors in Quackers Café, Wishbone Way, Woking GU21 3RT.

■ **SATURDAY 7 FEBRUARY Andy's 'Out of Hours', 7.30pm–10pm** | Live music and entertainment in the comfort of Andy's Community Café, with licensed bar and food. Tickets FREE (donations accepted) but book here: tinyurl.com/andysooh

■ **SUNDAY 8 FEBRUARY Messy Church, 3pm–5pm** | Join us for fun, crafts, games, songs and food. Aimed at families with children aged 4-10 (primary school age), but older/younger siblings are welcome. St Andrew's Church, GP Centre.

■ **TUESDAY 10 FEBRUARY Sacred Songs, 11am–11.45am** | We'll sing a popular hymn, explore the story behind it and the meaning behind the words. There will also be time to chat. St Andrew's Church, GP Centre. Details: emailcommunity@standrewsgwp.org or call 01483 723879.

■ **SATURDAY 14 FEBRUARY Repair Café, 10am–1pm (last entry 12.30pm)** | At Andy's Community Café in St Andrew's Church. See details under "Regular events" (above).

■ **MONDAY 16 FEBRUARY Seniors' Lunch, 1pm** | Free (donations accepted). Guest speaker to be announced. In Andy's Community Café (within St Andrew's Church). Booking essential: please call 01483 727834 or email pastoral@standrewsgwp.org

March

■ **WEDNESDAY 4 MARCH Hearing aid clinic: drop in from 1pm–3pm** | NHS hearing aid general maintenance including cleaning retubing, general advice and free NHS batteries. St Andrew's Church, GP Centre. Free service run by NHS-trained volunteers. For details visit www.standrewsgwp.org/hearing

■ **FRIDAY 6 MARCH Trefoil Guild, 7.30pm–9.30pm** | Monthly meeting for current and past Guiders who enjoy meeting like-minded folk. The Generation Centre, GP Centre, Denton Way.

■ **SATURDAY 7 MARCH Woking Borough Council Councillors Surgery, 11am–12pm** | Meet your local councillors in Quackers Café, Wishbone Way, Woking GU21 3RT.

■ **TUESDAY 10 MARCH Sacred Songs, 11am–11.45am** | We'll sing a popular hymn, explore the story behind it and the meaning behind the words. There will also be time to chat. St Andrew's Church, GP Centre. Details: emailcommunity@standrewsgwp.org or call 01483 723879.

■ **SATURDAY 14 MARCH Indoor Car Boot Table Top Sale, 9pm–12.30pm** | Free entry for buyers. The Generation Centre (next to the church) at Goldsworth Park Centre, GU21 3LG. Sellers: Contact Akela on 07762 935300 to reserve your table. £10 per space; set up from 8am; local parking available.

Local Organisations in Goldsworth Park

■ **GOLDSWORTH PARK GUIDES AND SCOUTS –**
See article on page 6

■ **GOLDSWORTH PARK RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB**

Grassroots football opportunities for boys and girls, based at Goldsworth Park Recreation Ground. Details: visit gprfc.org or email clubsecretary@gprfc.org

■ **SEA CADETS WOKING**

Through activities and adventures, we learn teamwork, respect, loyalty, self-confidence, commitment, self-discipline, honesty and how to be the best version of ourselves. We meet at the Dianthus Building, Wishbone Way GU21 3RT. Details: visitsea-cadets.org/woking or email info@wokingseacadets.org.uk or call 01483 901909.

■ **WOKING HOCKEY CLUB**

With many teams (men's, ladies, mixed, youth and touring sides), plus "back to hockey" sessions, the clubs offer hockey to players of any ability. Details: www.wokinghc.com or email secretary@wokinghc.com

■ **GOLDSWORTH PARK BADMINTON CLUB**

The club seeks new members who currently play or are thinking of restarting badminton. Meets **Saturdays**, 1pm–3pm in Woking High School Sports Hall. Details email paulrussell01@aol.com

■ **FOSTERS BADMINTON CLUB**

A mixed, friendly and competitive club for those looking for competitive badminton. Meets **Mondays**, 7pm to 9pm in Woking High School Sports Centre. Details email dave@daveglynnmanagement.co.uk

■ **ST ANDREW'S CHURCH**

Goldsworth Park's friendly, community-focussed parish church, at the heart of Goldsworth Park near the shops. Our church family is made up of all ages and backgrounds from a variety of nationalities and cultures. We'd love to welcome you at a Sunday service in our upstairs Worship Area (we have a lift!) or during the week at our many events downstairs in Andy's Community Café. Details: www.standrewsgwp.org email office@standrewsgwp.org or call 01483 723879.

■ **SALVATION ARMY**

We invite you to join with us on Sundays at 11am for our worship meeting. In addition, we offer many programmes at our Community Church throughout the week so please know that you're welcome at The Salvation Army Community Church, Sythwood, Woking GU21 3BE. For details visit www.salvationarmy.org.uk/woking or email woking@salvationarmy.org.uk or call 01483 793704.

■ **LAKESIDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

Meets Sundays at 10am for worship, teaching and Holy Communion in the Dianthus Building in Wishbone Way, GU21 3RT. Other meetings during the week include Holy Communion, prayer and house groups. For more information visit lcfwoking.wixsite.com/lakeside or email lcf_woking@hotmail.co.uk or call 01483 870045.

■ **GOLDSWORTH CARE**

A good neighbour scheme offering help to residents who find it difficult to get around. Volunteer drivers take clients to health centres, shops etc and wait to take them home again. They may also do shopping for housebound people. For details, registration and to request a pick-up call 07751 801587, Monday-Friday, 10am–12 noon.

■ **WOKING SHOPMOBILITY**

Hires out mobility scooters, power chairs and manual wheelchairs to help access Woking town centre shops and amenities. Also rents out manual wheelchairs and travel scooters for holidays and day trips. Blue Badge not necessary. Details: call 01483 776612, visit wokingshopmobility.co.uk or email wokingshopmobility@gmail.com

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Partner



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