



Spoke Shave



Benefit: Warmer and Quieter

Type: Window upgrade

Listing: Grade II

Mr and Mrs Golds live in a 600 year old house in Chiddingstone, which is one of Kent's oldest and most picturesque villages. Their home lies on a main country road connecting local villages and just a stone's throw away is a lively local pub.

Despite the Grade II Listing, the previous owners had, at some point, replaced the original windows for single glazed crittal units, which looked out of keeping with the rest of the property. Therefore, fifteen years ago, the couple decided to replace all the windows, with a design and feel more akin to the originals. Single glazed oak framed leaded lights were installed throughout.

Although new windows were fitted, they did little to eliminate the draughts and keep the heat in. Plus with only single glazing acting as a noise barrier, Mr and Mrs Golds would be disturbed at closing time, when people were leaving the pub and could always hear the passing traffic.

Whilst browsing through a copy of The Listed Property Owners Club Magazine, Mr Golds noticed an article by Selectaglaze about a recent project in a Listed house in Oakham, so they decided to investigate secondary glazing for their own home. "I was most impressed with the service received throughout the process. Everything was clearly explained and all our queries and concerns answered" said Mr Golds.



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As you can imagine in a timber framed house which is this old, it has a lot of quirks and irregularities. The floors slope and the window reveals are far from being square and true, which makes a project like this technically demanding. Detailed measurements were taken to instruct the timber shop to produce exacting timber grounds to which the secondary glazing would be installed. The fitting process also required good craftsmanship to scribe the timber to fix into the reveals.

A total of eight units were manufactured in the slimline Series 10 two and three pane horizontal sliding range. Time was taken to decide on the right colour to ensure the new additions would blend in and complement the interior décor and the primary windows. At the front of the house, the secondary glazing was finished in a light oak wood grain effect and at the rear of the property in the modern extension, sleek white units were installed.

"We are very happy with the final products. They really complement the primary oak framed windows – so much so that our friends didn't even notice them when they visited. We had to point them out! The most noticeable improvement so far has been the reduction in noise – we don't even notice the traffic now."

Well insulating and well-designed secondary glazing can reduce noise disturbances by up to 45dB and even more if specialist frames and glass is used. Owing to high performing seals and a tightly installed system, air gaps are reduced which practically eliminates draughts and reduces heat loss.



