THE GODALMING TRUST

Spring Snippets 2024



This short update is being issued as many members will be expecting a Spring Newsletter, particularly if they didn't attend the AGM last September. At that meeting it was decided to bring this year's AGM forward to 2nd July 2024, and as such that made the issuing of the previous practice of 2 newsletters covering the years activities in April and August, somewhat of a duplication. Therefore, we will be sending out papers, including the usual annual reports, for this year's AGM in early June along with other news.

A second Newsletter will hopefully be forthcoming towards the end of the year.

First some other dates for your diary. The guided Godalming history walks will take place on the following Saturdays, 11th May, 8th June, 13th July and 10th August. All start at the Pepperpot at 2.30pm and are free, just turn up.

For those members who pay annually by cheque or bank transfer subscriptions are due on 1 April. For those who joined after 1^{st} January 2024, you do not need to pay until April 2025. (Individual Membership £8, Joint £12 are minimum rates). Please send cheques to: Membership Secretary, The Godalming Trust, c/o 109 Peperharow Road, Godalming GU7 2PN.

The cost of postage is ever increasing and if you presently receive information by post but would be happy to receive it by email please let Graham Kimber know (email below).

The Godalming Museum and The Godalming Trust Summer Lunch in on Tuesday 28th May and will be held at Jordans in Eashing, courtesy of Mr and Mrs Anthony Isaacs, tickets are £40

per person, if you wish to attend please contact Graham Kimber as soon as possible (gkimber@btinternet.com)

Heritage Open Days are on 14th and 15th September 2024. A range of properties have agreed to open again this year and we are hoping for a couple of new ones. The programme will be on our website in early August and in printed form at venues around the town; tickets for booked tours and visits will be available at Godalming Museum at a date to be confirmed in Annual Report and Newsletter (see above).

As noted above the AGM is on 2nd July 2024 at the Masonic Hall, Ockford Road, Godalming at 7.30pm. Mattew Slocombe, Director of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, who was to have spoken at the AGM last year will be giving a talk entitled *The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings: its history, ideas, connections to Godalming and current Old House Project*.

There have been insufficient projects put forward for Civic Design Awards this year. It is almost certainly an effect of the pandemic and Waverley Borough Council's delay in determining planning applications. Although the latter has now improved it takes some years from planning to completion for most projects. Perhaps by next year there will be more projects completed.

The Planning Sub Committee continues to review all applications on a regular basis, although not usually commenting on Tree Preservation Orders and small domestic projects. It was disappointing to hear that Waverley Borough Council approved the application to build at Binscombe, adjoining the conservation area and alongside listed buildings, especially so, after a Planning Inspector had previously upheld a decision to refuse an earlier application. The present application is for solely affordable housing, but we shall keep a close eye that no material changes are made to this application.

We are pleased that the picnic bench has been installed in the Phillips Memorial Park and hope both Trust members and the public can enjoy using it.

Mallory Plaque. We are working with the George Mallory Foundation and hope to install a plaque on the centenary of his death in June this year at the house where he lived with his wife (Ruth Thackeray Turner) and children.

The Trust was pleased to be included in stakeholder workshops of the National Trust following their acquisition of Munstead Wood. This house and garden were the first of many collaborations between Gertrude Jekyll (her own home and garden) and Edwin Lutyens. We have also been invited to events at Winkworth Arboretum to see how the new Visitor Centre and Café is progressing.

Please do get in touch if you want more information on any of the above items or can help at all.

Working to maintain our heritage and quality of life

The Godalming Trust is an independent body, not funded by the Councils, and all activities are organised and staffed by volunteers. Its campaigning role needs the financial support and interest of all those who care for the Godalming of today and tomorrow.



