

*Free- pick me up!*



# heritage open days

## THE PROGRAMME GODALMING & ENVIRONS

***SATURDAY 16TH TO SUNDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2023***



***Heritage Open Days in Godalming & Environs are organised by The Godalming Trust***

Established in 1994 Heritage Open Days are England's contribution to a Pan-European event initiated by the Council of Europe (not the EU). The central principle is to offer free access to buildings which are normally closed to the public but now it includes tours and events which bring local history to life. Heritage Open Days is coordinated



nationally by the National Trust with support from players of People's Postcode Lottery. Locally, it would not be possible without the support of individuals, businesses and organisations who give up their time to pass on their knowledge and enthusiasm for both the buildings and their associated history.

The national theme for this year's Heritage Open Days is 'Creativity Unwrapped' celebrating creativity in its widest sense – art, music, drama, literature, architecture and design to name but a few. Many of the properties open show some links to the theme and Godalming and the surrounding area has strong links to the Arts and Craft movement.

This local programme is correct at time of going to press, anyone intending to visit or apply for tickets should check the Heritage Open Days website below for any changes, particularly before travelling. The website will be kept up to date. We ask visitors to comply with any requirements at the open properties and events. We will also post any last minute changes in Godalming Museum and the Pepperpot during the weekend.

Heritage Open Days is a national event see [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk) for details of other properties open and of National Trust properties that are freely open during the festival.

Godalming was founded in Anglo-Saxon times; the earliest known reference to it is in the will of King Alfred in about 890.

It started as two settlements, one near to the Parish Church which grew out towards the High Street, the other near the wharf. The rivers and water courses along with the fertile ground and wooded surrounding area made it a good place to settle. Sheep and cattle were grazed in the more sandy soil out of the river valley.

So at first glance Godalming is much like any other Surrey town, but if you know where to look, you can see signs of its industrial past with its wool trade, framework knitting, leather processing, paper making and stone quarrying. During the 18th and 19th centuries it was more like a northern mill town with a big industrial presence and a large number of non-conformist religions catering for the workers. From the 17th century until the mid-19th century and the arrival of the railway, it was a major coaching stop on the London to Portsmouth route. The railway led to growth of Godalming and Farncombe with housing for London commuters.

Whatever you choose to do or see this weekend, enjoy this insight into our rich Heritage.

**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**

*The symbol • means that tour tickets must be booked in advance. They will be available from Godalming Museum 01483 426510 from Saturday 19th August 2023 at 10am. Please make sure that you arrange collection of your tickets at least 30 minutes before the tour ON THE DAY. As there are limited numbers of places available if you are unable to attend please return your tickets to the Museum so that they can be reallocated.*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND THANKS**

The Godalming Trust wishes to thank Godalming Town Council for their continued support in the promotion of the Heritage Open Days programme. They are also grateful to Godalming Museum for the distributions of the tickets, to Jeni Goddard for allowing us to use Stephen's sketches in publicity material and to Stefan Reynolds at VantagePoint for setting the programme. And finally thank you to all those who welcome people to their buildings and events over the weekend without whom there would be no Heritage Open Days.



*Neither the Godalming Trust nor any of its representatives can accept any legal responsibility for any accidents or incidents that might occur during HODs. This programme is correct at time of going to press, any changes will be posted in the Museum and Pepperpot during the weekend and on [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk).*

## • AT A GLANCE

Venue	Ticket needed?	Saturday	Sunday
The Peppertot		10 am - 4 pm	10 am - 4 pm
Godalming Museum		10 am - 4 pm	10 am - 4 pm
St Peter & St Paul Church		10 am - 4 pm	1pm – 4pm
Bell Ringing	Yes	2 pm	
Quaker Meeting House		10 am - 3pm	
Rake Court	Yes	Tour at 3.30 pm	
Godalming Masonic Centre		10.30 am - 3.30 pm	
Ladywell Convent & The Franciscan Centre	Yes	Tours at 2 pm, 2.30 pm & 3 pm	
Unitarian Chapel, Meadow		11 am - 4 pm	
Christian Science Church		10 am - 1 pm	
St John the Baptist Church, Wonersh		10 am - 1 pm	
Busbridge Church		10 am - 4 pm	1 pm - 4 pm
St Peter's Church, Hambledon		10 am - 4 pm	1 pm - 4 pm
St John The Evangelist Church, Farncombe		10 am - 12 noon	2 pm - 4 pm
St Peter's Church, Hascombe		9 am - 4 pm (Talk at 3 pm)	9 am - 4 pm
St Michael and All Angels Church, Thursley		11 am - 4 pm	
St Mary and All Saints Church, Dunsfold		2 pm - 5 pm	2 pm - 5 pm
Charterhouse	Yes		Tours at 10 am, 12.30 pm & 2.30 pm
Skillway Craft Workshops		9 am - 12 noon	
King Edwards School, Witley	Yes		Tours at 1 pm & 3 pm
Barrow Hills School		Open 2pm -4pm-Tours at 2 pm & 3 pm	
Town History Walk			10.30 - 12 noon
Bargate Stone Walk		10.30 – 12 noon	
Music in the Park - Godalming Trust Concert			NB Sunday 10th September 3 pm - 5 pm

## THE PEPPERPOT

Godalming's old Market House and Town Hall, built by public subscription in 1814 to replace the ruinous medieval structure. Designed by local architect John Perry, it has survived several attempts to knock it down for road improvements and has become the "trademark" of Godalming. The seat of the town's politics until the larger council offices were built in 1908, it then became the town Museum until it moved in 1987. Come and see the High Street and Church Street from a different viewpoint, and also the Godalming Museum display of a timeline of the town's history. *Open courtesy of Godalming Town Council.*

**Open SATURDAY 10am-4pm and SUNDAY 10am-4pm  
FREE – JUST TURN UP**

## GODALMING MUSEUM

Join us at Godalming Museum and explore the local history of our delightful town. Visit the Arts and Crafts Gallery, learn about Gertrude Jekyll the "mother" of English gardening and her long-time collaborator Edwin Lutyens the Architect of the Cenotaph. Our Living Landscape and Local History Galleries are full of information about the way the town has developed since prehistoric times, about Jack Phillips our famous son, the heroic radio operator of the Titanic and other notable residents from this area. Relax in our café, which serves a range of hot and cold drinks,

or in our peaceful walled garden, which is designed in the style of Gertrude Jekyll. Our summer exhibition will be a family-friendly exploration of the creatures that live "Under the Sea". We will have plenty of crafts and activities running alongside the exhibition to keep your little ones entertained. We are also delighted to be hosting renowned Titanic expert, Mandy Le Boutillier, who will be offering lectures throughout the day on Saturday 16th September titled "Jack Phillips – Postcards Home". The lectures will take place at 11.30am, 1.30pm, 3.30pm and will last for around 45 minutes (No booking required).

**Open SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, 10am-4pm  
FREE – JUST TURN UP**

## • BELL RINGING

The bell tower of SS Peter & Paul will be open. In the summer of 2017 we installed an entirely new ring of eight bells and we are very pleased with them. Come and visit the ringing chamber and hear for yourself how good the new bells sound. There will be a short talk about English church bell ringing and a demonstration of this ancient art, more-or-less unique to the UK. *Please note, for safety reasons, under 18s must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and that access is via a steep, narrow staircase.*

**On SATURDAY at 2pm (lasts about 1 hour).**

**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**



### CHURCH OF ST PETER & ST PAUL

'Where all are welcome!'. Come and walk through history at Godalming's Grade 1 Listed parish church. There has been a church here since Saxon times. Stones from the church font, the earliest in England, dating from 820 to 840 are on display. The Normans added a short tower and the distinctive oak framed, lead covered spire was in place by 1375. Over the centuries the church has expanded to meet the demands of a growing population with a number of refurbishments throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, the last major changes being done with the help of Sir Gilbert Scott in 1878.

**Open SATURDAY 10am-4pm and SUNDAY 1pm-4pm**

**FREE – JUST TURN UP**

### QUAKER MEETING HOUSE

**The Mint, Mill Lane, Godalming**

The Religious Society of Friends, or Quakers as they are known, has a long history in the Godalming area. 2014 was the tercentenary of the Meeting Room, built from the ruins of a cottage called Goreways in 1714. The other building, originally a stable, is believed to date from the 1600s. Less than two miles away, in Binscombe, is a Quaker Burial Ground used between 1659 and 1790, and Fox's Barn, so called because the Society's founder, George Fox, reputedly preached there in 1655. Creativity is a key component in Quaker life. Prominent Quaker artists include Benjamin West, known as the American Raphael and Charles Holden, the architect who designed some of the London Underground's most iconic stations. Other Quakers known for their creative output include musicians Joan Baez and Bonnie Raitt, and actress Judi Dench. The Quaker Tapestry in Kendall consists of 77 panels and was created over a period of 15 years by 4,000 people - aged between 3 and 93 years. A Godalming Quaker will be on hand to explain the history of Quakerism in Godalming, the history of the buildings and the site.

**Open SATURDAY 10am-3pm**

**FREE – JUST TURN UP**

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

**6 Ockford Road, Godalming GU7 1QY**

There will be guided tours of the church building throughout the morning. The church was the overall winner of the Godalming Trust Civic Design Awards 2018. There will be a small exhibition illustrating the construction of the church and the design of the interior. There will be music on the Rushworth and Dreaper pipe organ (brought from the old church) throughout the morning, and the opportunity to go into the organ chamber and see the workings of the instrument.

**Open SATURDAY 10am-1pm**

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

### GODALMING MASONIC HALL

**Ockford Rd, Godalming GU7 1RQ**



The original Masonic Hall in Godalming was built around 1888 in South Street and was replaced by the current Masonic Centre, opposite the Inn on the Lake in 1988, when the Council undertook a major redevelopment of the town centre to relieve traffic congestion in the High Street. Whilst the

current Masonic Centre is only some 35 years old, it was significantly refurbished internally during the COVID pandemic. Despite this refurbishment it continues to showcase several features from the original building, including the large stone fireplace (above), two beautiful stained glass windows, several ornate chairs and a variety of other masonic items still in regular use in the temple today. In this Coronation year it is worth noting that when a former Prince of Wales became King Edward VIII in January 1936, he was, at the time, the current Worshipful Master of Friendship & Harmony Masonic Lodge that now meets at Godalming. He famously abdicated in December that year. This year's Heritage theme of "creativity unwrapped" is well suited to freemasonry given the number of members, who are and were, world famous in this very broad field. Our talks in the temple will refer to some of those whose creativity remains with us in so many different ways. Local freemasons will be on hand to answer questions on these and other topics of masonic interest. *Ample FREE car parking on site.*

**Open SATURDAY 10.30am-3.30pm**

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

## • LADYWELL CONVENT & THE FRANCISCAN CENTRE LADYWELL

**Ashted Lane, Godalming, GU7 1ST**

First occupied in 1911 and previously known as Tuesley Court, the building was designed by London architect Sir Guy Dawber in an Arts and Crafts style, constructed of Bargate stone and set at intervals with leaded windows. In 1956 the house was purchased by the Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood as their Motherhouse. Since then, the convent has been extended sensitively in the style of the original building and a magnificent chapel was added, with striking mosaics imported from Italy. In 2019, an extensive renovation project commenced, during which further examples of the original Arts & Crafts features were discovered within the Main House. The new Franciscan Centre, Ladywell is open. The mission of the Centre is to promote the values of St Clare & St Francis of Assisi in the world today and preserving the legacy of the Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood.

**Tours on SATURDAY at 2pm, 2.30pm and 3pm.**

**(Tours are about 1 hour in duration)**

**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**

## SKILLWAY WORKSHOPS

**at Nightingale Road Cemetery, Deanery Road, Godalming, GU7 2PG**

Skillway (Charity) is a project begun in 1997 which provides mutual craft skills training, by professional skilled craftsmen supported by volunteers, who have an innovative and quite unique approach to teaching young people practical skills. It aims to raise employability, self-esteem and motivation to teenagers. It is housed in The Old Chapel (Grade 1 Listed) within the classic Victorian Nightingale Cemetery, where the Jack Phillips memorial stone can be seen next to the caretaker's garden. A copy of the cemetery records will be available for reference.

**Open SATURDAY 9am-12 noon**

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH FARNCOMBE

Built in 1849 in response to the rapid population growth created by the railway. Designed in the early English Gothic style by Sir George Gilbert Scott. There is a tablet in memory of John George (Jack) Phillips, the wireless operator on the Titanic, as he sang in the church choir as a boy.

**Open SATURDAY 10am-12 noon and SUNDAY**

**2pm-4pm**

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**



## UNITARIAN CHAPEL

**Meadrow, Godalming GU7 3JB**

This Grade II listed chapel was completed in 1789 in the modest style of a dissenting meeting-house, with the later addition of an internal balcony and adjoining cottage. Built of brick and finished with stucco, it is set back from the road to avoid unwelcome attention at a time when religious dissent was highly unpopular. It houses a full-immersion underfloor baptistry in keeping with its General Baptist origins, which will be open for viewing. Plain on the outside, it was a hive of activity and creativity within, reflecting its ministers' and members' deep commitment to social development – providing a school for poor children and a lending library for adults (believed to be the first in Godalming), and creating its own classical “String Band”.

**Open SATURDAY 11am to 4pm. Refreshments available.**

**FREE – JUST TURN UP**

## • CHARTERHOUSE

One of the country's great public schools, founded in 1611, Charterhouse has now been on its current site for 150 years, having moved away from insalubrious surroundings in London in 1872 to new greener surroundings on the outskirts of Godalming. Guided tours will include the historic South African Cloister, Memorial Chapel, the Main Hall, the Library and Scholars' Court. In keeping with this year's national theme, ‘Creativity Unwrapped’, the tours will include particular mention of Old Carthusian musicians, artists, architects and writers..

**Tours on SUNDAY at 10am, 12.30pm and 2.30pm. (Tours take a little over 1 hr).**

**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**

## BUSBRIDGE CHURCH (ST JOHN THE BAPTIST)

This special little Victorian Gothic Revival church is a treasure trove of designs by the grand designers of the day. Designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott, it has a remarkable metal chancel screen by Edwin Lutyens, who also designed the WWI memorial and the Jekyll

family memorial. There are lovely stained glass windows by Edward Burne-Jones for Morris & Co, and later ones by A K Nicholson. The cobbled paths may have been designed by Gertrude Jekyll, who was an active church member. The graveyard also has some interesting occupants. There will also be information on the graveyard and a quiz for children.

*The Yew Tree Café in the churchyard is open 10am-2pm and until 2.30pm for takeaway on Saturday only.*

**Open SATURDAY 10am-4pm and SUNDAY 1pm-4pm.**

**FREE – JUST TURN UP**

### ST PETER'S CHURCH, HAMBLEDON

The first mention of a church at Hambledon is in 1291, but St Peter's was almost entirely rebuilt in 1846. Set in beautiful countryside and a stone's throw from the Greensand Way, this Grade II listed church is built of Bargate stone, with ashlar dressings and Welsh slate roof and a mostly chalk interior. In the churchyard there are two immense and ancient yews, the larger of which measures 30ft in circumference and is hollow. Across the footpath is a disused lime kiln, a reminder of Surrey's past brickmaking industry.

**Open SATURDAY 10am-4pm and SUNDAY 1pm-4pm**

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

### • RAKE COURT

#### Station Road, Milford GU8 5AD

Rake Manor (formerly Rake House, the home of the owner of Rake Mill — hence Milford) is a fine Tudor brick and timber building. From c.1880, what is now Rake Court was gradually added to the old house to form a Kitchen wing, together with a Billiards/Music Room. The architects for these additions include Lutyens and Baillie Scott. Visitors will get a view of the house from the outside & the lake. Only the Billiard Room will be open inside the house where we have an exhibition of art by Alfred Bestall of Rupert Bear fame. *Car parking is available in the courtyard. The garden is suitable for wheelchair access but the Billiard Room is not.*

**Tour on SATURDAY at 3.30pm**

**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**

### BARROW HILLS SCHOOL

#### Roke Lane Witley GU8 5NY

Great Roke, the principal building of Barrow Hills School was built in 1909 in the Arts and Crafts Style. The house was designed by the architects Buckland and Haywood Farmer and it has been said to be the most ambitious house undertaken by the partners

and it is arguably one of the finest houses produced by the Birmingham Movement. Plaster work is by Catterson-Smith Jnr. Visitors will be able to see the garden originally designed by Gertrude Jekyll, but since substantially altered.

**Open SATURDAY 2pm-4pm, tours at 2pm and 3pm FREE - JUST TURN UP**

### • KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL WITLEY

The School was founded in 1553 in the City of London and has a history which represents the cornerstone of its renowned links with the City. Initially housed within Bridewell Palace on the banks of the River Thames by Royal Charter of the boy King Edward VI, the mission of the parent foundation – Bridewell Royal Hospital – was to home and educate poor children living in London. In 1830 the Foundation moved to Southwark where a new House of Occupations was opened. Greater emphasis prevailed on the education of the children rather than the reforming of character. Children aged 8 to 18 were accepted from the City, county of Middlesex and the Borough of Southwark. In 1860 a new charity scheme for the Bridewell Royal Hospital was set up and the House of Occupations was renamed King Edward's School. In 1867 the school relocated to Witley allowing pupils to benefit from fresh air and the green countryside of Surrey. Situated in 100 acres of Surrey countryside, the School has over 400 day and boarding pupils. The strapline is 'United by Diversity since 1553'. In September 2022, our new and innovative Academic hub and Reception area, containing a Learning Resource Centre, opened and will be followed by our new Upper Sixth Form House which has been designed as a stepping stone to university education. The tours will start at Reception situated off the Gurdons Lane entrance to the school. The tours are available to children but inaccessible to people with certain disabilities as there are some stairways. *Car parking and toilets are available.*

**Tours on SUNDAY at 1pm and 3pm**



**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**

**ST PETER'S CHURCH, HASCOMBE**

Grade II listed and consecrated in June 1864, built to replace the derelict old church, believed to have been built around 1220. Designed by Henry Woodyer in the general style of the 13th century, it is built of Bargate stone, quarried within the parish, with a shingled bellcote. Many

items were salvaged from the old church including the 1690 Purbeck Marble font, much of the wood in the porch and the oak chancel screen. Theme: Arts & Crafts & Architect Henry Woodyer. *Services on [www.hascombe.com](http://www.hascombe.com). NADFAS (now the Arts Society) children's trail available*

**Open SATURDAY and SUNDAY 9am-4pm. Tour with short talk on SATURDAY at 3pm  
FREE - JUST TURN UP**

**ST MARY & ALL SAINTS CHURCH, DUNSFOLD**

William Morris called this church 'the most beautiful country church in all England'. This late 13th century church, with its 15th century bell tower retains many of its original features, including fragments of wall paintings, the original door and rare early

15th century pews. The ancient Holy Well nearby was reputed to cure eye diseases. *Tours and talks, local history display and demonstration of bell ringing, with a live video link of the bells in action. Children's activities and refreshments available.*

**Open SATURDAY and SUNDAY 2pm-5pm  
FREE - JUST TURN UP**

**ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH, THURSLEY**

This Saxon church dates back to 1030. See the 11th century windows, still containing the original oak frames, and its 14th Century timber bell-turret with shingled spire, which stands upon an enormous timber frame. In the churchyard there is a nationally important set of table tombs and also the famous Sailor's Stone, which commemorates the nearby murder of an unknown sailor by three fellow travellers in 1786 and a monument designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.

**Open SATURDAY 11am-4pm. Refreshments at 12pm  
FREE - JUST TURN UP**

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, WONERSH AND WONERSH VILLAGE WALK**

Why not make Wonersh, Surrey your destination on Saturday 16th September. While there you can combine a visit to the Grade II listed Church of St John the Baptist with a 45 minute self-guided walk "Exploring Historic Wonersh" (a Platinum Jubilee project). St John's Church, probably originally Saxon, was re-built shortly after the Norman Conquest in the eleventh century, with additions made until the fifteenth century. Major rebuilding "in Meeting House style" was undertaken by Lord Grantley in 1793, after a fire, and further restoration took place in 1901 under Sir Charles Nicholson. Nevertheless, the core is still the Norman church. Members of Wonersh History Society will be on hand to answer questions. The free leaflet guides visitors around the centre of the pretty village of Wonersh taking in many of its fascinating older buildings, and can be picked up at the Church on Saturday morning. *Tea and cakes, wheelchair access, car parking and toilets are available at the Church.*

**Church open SATURDAY 10am-1pm  
FREE - JUST TURN UP**

**TOWN HISTORY WALK**

Enjoy two guided walks this weekend.

First on Saturday, a walk around the town guided by Hazel Morris and John Bennett to look how Bargate, the local stone, influenced the character of the town over many centuries.

**Meet outside the Richmond Arms on SATURDAY at 10.30am  
FREE - JUST TURN UP**

On Sunday a guided history walk around Godalming looking at its wider and sometimes surprising heritage through its buildings with Graham Kimber and Pam Talbot.

**Starting under the Pepperpot on SUNDAY at 10.30am  
FREE-JUST TURN UP**

**MUSIC IN THE PARK AT THE BANDSTAND**

At the Phillips Memorial Park Godalming.

**SUNDAY 3pm-5pm**

For full programme see [www.godalmingbandstand.co.uk](http://www.godalmingbandstand.co.uk).

The Godalming Trust sponsored concert is on **Sunday 10th September from 3pm-5pm.  
FREE- JUST TURN UP**



Registered Charity No. 263033



**THE GODALMING TRUST** is a voluntary organisation working to maintain our heritage and quality of life in Godalming and Farncombe by promoting high standards of planning, conservation and regeneration.

Godalming and its surrounding lands are special. Set in the valley of the River Wey, with its unique Lammas Lands, the town is a vibrant place which retains a sense of community and attracts many visitors.

The Godalming Trust exists to bring together all who are interested in the town and its environs, aiming to stimulate interest in their history and character, and to promote a healthy sustainable balance between preservation of ancient buildings and new developments in building and landscaping.

The Godalming Trust is an independent body and all activities are organised and staffed by volunteers. Its campaigning role needs the financial and practical support of all those who care for the Godalming of today and tomorrow.

Please pick up an application form to join The Godalming Trust during Heritage Open Days. You can also download one from our website which contains much more information about us at:

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

