

Spring Newsletter 2017

# THE GODALMING TRUST



View of Church Street taken from a drone

*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.

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Registered Charity No. 263033

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## **Officers and Committees**

President	Christopher Robinson
Vice Presidents	Alan Brown Ron Musk
Executive Committee	Pam Talbot – Chairman Jacqui Springsguth – Vice Chairman Valerie Venton – Secretary Colin Venton – Treasurer Bridget Bagnall Caroline Hopkins Gareth Munro Colin Swait
Planning Committee	Colin Swait - Chairman Gareth Munro Jacqui Springsguth Bridget Bagnall Keith Powell – co-opted
Civic Design Awards Committee	Gareth Munro – Chairman Colin Swait
Heritage Open Days Committee	Pam Talbot - Chairman Caroline Hopkins Jeni Goddard – co-opted

## Chairman's Report

This is my first Chairman's report, having taken over from Angus Palmer, who was Chairman for 5 years and on the Committee for a total of 15 years, as Treasurer before becoming Chairman.

I would like to welcome Bridget Bagnall to the Executive Committee. What has been happening? In September 2016 we were able to reinstate our Civic Design Awards. This was taken up admirably by Gareth Munro. The presentations were made at our AGM just prior to the Heritage Open Days. The awards were then displayed in the Pepperpot for the weekend.

We have to thank Stephen and Jeni Goddard for their continuing invaluable help in contacting the various properties and producing the programme for the Heritage Open Days (HOD). As it is an international event people are coming from further afield, hence the properties that local people have seen at the ticketed venues continue to be a 'sell out'. We continue to look for new properties but it is not easy to persuade people to open their buildings. Stephen also does his town walks which have a slightly different emphasis to the monthly summer ones. We will miss the vicar's ghost walks, which apparently resembled the Pied Piper of Hamelin, with streams of people following him down the streets! Caroline Hopkins initiative for distributing programmes to local schools has encouraged a younger audience for the weekend. The Pepperpot was particularly well attended by families, possibly the design award to the Pepperpot play house at Moss Lane School being the incentive for this. We are always grateful for help with stewarding during the weekend so if you have an hour or more to spare on 9/10 September 2017 please contact the Chairman (details below) and you can often get to look round the property if you have not seen it already.

The lecture, by Robin Stannard on Thackeray Turner, in the RIBA 'Love Architecture' theme was a new venture and started off the HOD weekend. We have to thank the Godalming Masonic Centre for providing their hall for the event as part of the Masonry in the Community Programme. We are grateful to Godalming Town Council who gave us a grant towards publicity for the Heritage Weekend and also for sponsorship from Munro Studios.

The summer walks continue to be popular and the programme for this summer is listed in 'Future Events'. Hugh Turrall-Clarke continues to support the Trust by leading them and we are grateful for his help.

We are planning to launch the series of short animated films, made by Munro Studios, at the 2017 AGM.

There are reports from the Treasurer (Colin Venton) and Planning Sub Committee (Colin Swait) below. Jacqui Springsguth has been working on the Godalming Trust website and it is now up to date. Gareth Munro adds items to our Facebook page.

We have recently made a donation towards the costs of the 'Blue Plaque' for Jack Phillips which was unveiled on 11 April 2017 at the Cooperative Funeral Care in Farncombe Street, which is near where his home stood. Historic England have delegated Blue Plaques to local civic societies, the Haslemere Society has put up quite a number, so Godalming Trust will consider nominations for additional ones in the area.

I would like to thank all of the Executive Committee members for their hard work and support. However, after 5 years our Honorary Secretary, Val Venton, has formally noted that she wishes to stand down at the AGM in September 2017. We are indebted to her for producing the agenda and minutes of our meetings and generally helping with the administration and business of the Exec Committee. For the Trust to continue to function, we need a couple of additional Committee Members. For further details please contact me by email or phone ([info@thegodalmingtrust.org.uk](mailto:info@thegodalmingtrust.org.uk) or 07778 408701). We are looking forward to another busy and successful year in 2017 and would like to thank you, the members, for your continued support.

Pam Talbot MBE  
Chairman



## **Membership Report**

Currently we have 85 single members, 195 family members, 2 corporate members and 114 life members which is similar to last year.

We are going to make a bigger effort to attract members at the Heritage Open Days as our membership profile is weighted heavily at the more mature end!

If anyone knows of any members who have recently passed away please could they let the secretary know or leave an e-mail on The Godalming Trust's website at [info@thegodalmingtrust.org.uk](mailto:info@thegodalmingtrust.org.uk). It is very distressing to receive incorrect communication at difficult times like these. It would be very helpful to us if a family member or spouse or partner could inform us and we can respond appropriately.

With postage costs rising yet again we would love to have your e-mail address if you have one and you think we don't have it. E-mails are so cost effective for us as sending postal communications is now so expensive when we send them in any number. Unusually we only have e-mail addresses for about a quarter of our membership and if you think we do not have your e-mail address please could you e-mail our secretary at [val.venton@gmail.com](mailto:val.venton@gmail.com).

Colin Venton  
Membership Secretary

## **Treasurer's Report**

Once again we have had a fairly stable financial year and our finances continue to remain healthy. The two larger financial outlays have been for the Civic Design Awards and a contribution to a blue plaque.

In September 2016 we were pleased to be able to hold the Civic Design Awards, as in 2014 we did not do so due to a lack of suitable buildings for making an award. We spent £240 on certificates and display matter.

Godalming Town Council asked us for a donation towards a blue plaque to recognise Jack Phillip's home in Farncombe and the committee decided to give the council a donation of £250.

With councils continuing to be financially constrained by the government it is to their merit that Godalming Town Council have continued to be generously supportive of the financial costs of the Heritage Open Days to the same amount as in previous years.

I am again going to ask members to check whether they Gift Aid their membership fees to us as we get an extra 25% in fees at no cost to yourselves. The process of application is very simple and straightforward and does not entail any financial disclosure on your part.

The cost of postage has again risen recently and to send a second class letter now costs fifty-six pence. This is a considerable financial burden on us and I would urge as many members as possible to please consider paying their membership fees by bank standing order. Many do already and I thank them for that but we do have a significant number who do not.

Finally I must thank members for their continued support of the Godalming Trust through their membership fees and a special thank you to those who pay over and above that which is due.

Colin Venton  
Honorary Treasurer

### **The Civic Design Awards 2016 from The Godalming Trust**

12 excellent developments have won awards in this years' Civic Design Awards from the Godalming Trust.

At the ceremony, Godalming Town Mayor, Councillor David Hunter, presented awards to the following winning recipients:

Category: Retail Refurbishment  
Fat Face by Box of Frogs  
Hambleton Village Shop

Category: Refurbishment  
The Rotunda, The Burys Godalming. By Elspeth Beard Architects  
Ladywell Tythe Barn, by Elspeth Beard Architects

Category: Environmental Improvement  
PepperPot play area, Moss Lane School by Flights of Fantasy  
Holloway Hill Recreation Ground, Waverley Borough Council, by  
Flights of Fancy

Category: Extension(s)  
Goose House, Brook by Nye Saunders Architects  
The Old Barn, Peperharow, by Nye Saunders Architects

Category: Community  
Wilfrid Noyce Centre, Godalming Town Council

Category: New Building  
Waverley Borough Council Affordable Housing - Station Road  
Godalming, by Churchill Hui  
Linden Homes, Catteshall Lane by OSP Architecture.  
Mare Pond Farm, Markwick Lane. Ian Adam-Smith.

Category: Highly Commended  
Waverley Borough Council Affordable Housing, Station Road,  
Godalming by Churchill Hui

The Godalming Trust celebrate architecture and development in the area with the Civic Design Awards. These are awarded bi annually to outstanding design of new buildings, sympathetic restoration of old buildings, enhancements to the environment and general ambiance of the area.

Caroline Hopkins, Co-founder of Munrostudios and Godalming Trust  
Committee member comments:

‘The Civic Design Awards celebrate excellent design throughout the area. Over a two-year period, all planning applications are considered for an award. From this list, the finalists and then winners are judged and picked by the Godalming Trust Committee. We are really pleased that this year’s task of choosing the final 12 winning designs, was such a difficult one, due to the high standard. We felt all winners, really stood out. In particular, we are thrilled that Waverley Borough Council Affordable Housing, Station

Road, won the coveted Highly Commended Award and is also in such a prominent position in Godalming.’

Some of the Winners illustrated:

**Civic Design Awards 2016**  
Category of Extensions



These are awarded biennially to outstanding design of new buildings, sympathetic restoration of old buildings, enhancements to the environment and general ambience of the area.



**The Old Barn, Peperharow: Nye saunders**

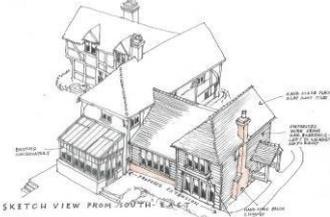
This is a responsive and striking design for a sensitive site. The Old Barn is located at the heart of Peper Harow Park and is grade II listed. The original building appears to be a late sixteenth century timber framed barn. The timber roof trusses are of simple agricultural design with collar, tie and pair of struts. Between the trusses are staggered butt purlins which are typically found in post medieval C16th buildings. In respect of this, a single storey ground floor extension with little impact on the fabric of the historic building has been developed. The architect sought to visually create a separate building structure which is lightly connected back to the main barn in such a way that it suggests the extension is an old outbuilding addition (milking parlour, feed store, cow byre or similar) with the small pitched linking roof appearing as if it were a small covered walkway which has since been infilled with modern highly transparent low-iron glazing.




**Civic Design Awards 2016**  
Category of Extensions



These are awarded biennially to outstanding design of new buildings, sympathetic restoration of old buildings, enhancements to the environment and general ambience of the area.



**Goose House, Brook: Nye saunders**

Goose Cottage is a timber framed, family home and was listed Grade 2 in 1986. The original wing of the house dates from the 15th century and a timber framed and brick west wing was added in 1936. The extension and renovation build at Goose Cottage in Brook has been sympathetically and beautifully designed. The two storey extension follows the traditional form of the existing house in a barn like oak boarded cladding. The upper floor is jettied at the north with a gable above, and the south end has a hipped roof. To reduce the impact of the extension on the Listed building, the ground floor level of the two storey extension block is dropped one step below the present internal floor. The link between the old and new building has an asymmetrical roof with a short slope on the north side above the gallery landing and a long cat-side slope on the south above a single storey south wall to the family room. The north wall has been built using green oak framing and lime rendered infill panels. Throughout, the build, all materials used have been chosen to complement the existing building. This is a stunning extension and a joy to see Listed architecture so respectfully renovated.






# Civic Design Awards 2016

Category of Refurbishment

These are awarded biennially to outstanding design of new buildings, sympathetic restoration of old buildings, enhancements to the environment and general ambience of the area.



**The Rotunda, The Burys: Elspeth Beard Architects**

Two unique apartment houses, refurbished and presented to a high specification, retaining a wealth of original features. The Rotunda is a Grade II Listed building built circa 1883 adjoining the Congregational Church; designed specifically as a school by the renowned Architect and Borough Surveyor, Samuel Wellman (1846 – 1923). The circular design of the school was intended to accommodate up to 400 pupils allowing for reciprocal views of the teacher and children. An ornate galleried upper level with detailed wooden balustrades encompasses the entire dome and leads to the two upper bedrooms which are bright and airy with high ceilings unique stone arched shaped windows. Original stained glass windows illuminate the entire area including a mezzanine space; ideal as a study.



**Lady Well Tythe Barn: Elspeth Beard Architects**

The Tythe Barn originally formed part of Old Ashstead Farm and was built in the late 18th century using tailings from the local Bargate stone quarry, which gives it the intricate stonework facade. Originally, its function was as an agricultural barn, divided into 4 sections with the upper levels for the harvesting of grain and threshing process and the lowest section to keep cattle in the winter months. The barn was converted in the late 1980s to a residential dwelling. The internal refurbishment comprises a very impressive main reception hall/dining room vaulted to the rafters, whilst the central section of the barn has extensive oak beams and exposed Bargate stone. Elspeth Beard Architects has created a stunning new feature staircase which serves 3 bedrooms with a new floor plate to increase the size of 2 of the bedrooms at 1st floor level. An added benefit is that it improves the circulation space considerably. The interior redesign combines minimal impact on the heritage asset whilst enhancing Tythe Barn with a contemporary, beautiful, yet sympathetic design.



# Civic Design Awards 2016

Category of New Building

These are awarded biennially to outstanding design of new buildings, sympathetic restoration of old buildings, enhancements to the environment and general ambience of the area.



**Waverley Borough Council, Affordable Housing: Churchill Hui**

From the outset, the intention was to design a high quality scheme that reflected its environment. This meant it needed to sit comfortably within the beautiful and historic context of Godalming. Waverley Borough Council working with Churchill Hui achieved this with the Station Road, Godalming development. Comprising 14 dwellings it has fused a mix of visually pleasing, two and three storey residences. The mix of building type: flats, maisonettes, and houses relate in a more sympathetic manner to No 1 Deanery Place by offering more separation between buildings. As this corner of the site is a key visual point, due to it being located opposite Westbrook Road, the building was set back into the site. This means that the siting also relates to the current property's footprint on the site, whilst also being respectful to the neighbouring properties along Deanery Place. The buildings are linked by an access corridor which forms a visual feature on the site. The importance of the nearby impressive church spire as a visual landmark within the town meant a redesign of the roofs of the buildings to ensure that a view of the church spire was maintained from station road. This attention to detail has ensured that eye catching, affordable dwellings have been successfully built. We are confident they will provide high quality, sustainable homes that address the local housing need for affordable properties.



**Linden Homes, Catteshall Lane: OSP Architecture**

A superb collection of new homes in Godalming, near the river. These brand new homes consist of beautifully designed 2, 3 and 4 bedroom houses as well as 2 bedroom apartments, some of which overlook the picturesque River Wey and meadows beyond.



## **Planning Committee Report**

Members of the committee are Jacqui Springsguth, Gareth Munro, Bridget Bagnall, Keith Powell and Colin Swait. We meet regularly, usually every three weeks, and review planning applications submitted to Waverley Borough Council.

For the most part, this comprises the majority being extensions to existing houses in residential roads, with less people moving. This obviously affects neighbours with the disruption building brings. We continue looking at Office blocks which have been standing empty and are now able to be converted into apartments when they have been unable to be let commercially. I repeat what I said last year that the loss of local employment is sad to see and we continue to be concerned on the lack of planning for traffic management, which is the responsibility of Surrey County Council. It is noticeable that traffic from Catteshall Lane, feeding into the gyratory system is causing problems at peak times.

In the town centre, we continue looking at changes to listed buildings, to use the space above shops which have been left empty, now being converted to residential flats, with very little effect to the “street scene”.

The conversion of the former offices of Penningtons on the corner of Brighton Road and Croft road has now been completed, whilst Prime Place has speeded up and there are now residents in the first block.

Where appropriate we make comments to Waverley which so far this year has been 5 planning applications.

The facility to inspect the files has now largely been replaced with all the information now online and we have coped well with this, as well as bringing more hardcopy to the meetings.

My thanks to the committee for their continued interest, enthusiasm and support.

Colin Swait

Chairman, Godalming Trust Planning Committee

## **Forthcoming Events 2017**

Town Walks will take place on the following Saturdays 13<sup>th</sup> May, 10 June, 8 July, and 12 August. All walks start at the Pepperpot at 2.30pm. It is free and no booking is required, just turn up. More details will appear in Vantage Point and our website.

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2017. Godalming Museum and Godalming Trust Summer Lunch at Priors Field School. Invitations will be sent out later.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017. The Godalming Trust AGM at the Godalming Masonic Centre.

Saturday and Sunday 9/10 September 2017. Heritage Open Days

Sunday 10 September 2017, The Godalming Trust concert at the Bandstand.

The 2017/2108 Lecture Series with Godalming Museum dates are not yet finalised.

### **Out of the Blue!**

A few weeks ago an email dropped into my in box with an unfamiliar address and an attachment. I glanced at the message without opening it and found my name had been picked up in Melbourne, Australia, from the town walks publicity. The attachments were two photos of the Cornmeter, Church Street in 1962. The sender was also asking for information on the shops in Church Street at that time.

Well, as coincidence would have it, my father kept London Stores, the shop next door to the Cornmeter, from the early 1960s and so I could remember quite a lot of the surrounding businesses. It turned out that the sender, Malcolm Savage, the son of the first owner of the Cornmeter, remembered my father and also some of the other characters in Church Street. It was amazing the range of shops in Church Street at that time. Two cafés at different ends of the spectrum, a shop selling and repairing bicycles, a betting shop to name a few. Apart from the Cornmeter, the shops that haven't changed in over 50 years are the antique shop and the ladies hairdressers!

As if one coincidence wasn't enough, my maternal grandparents kept the Cornmeter when it was a pub in the 1920s. I always regret that I know little of that part of my family history and my mother's family

that would have known are all now dead. Unfortunately, I cannot find any photographs of their time there.

Hugh Turrall-Clarke was interested to see that Strouds, on the corner of Mint Street, was still rendered in 1962, today the oak beams are exposed.

Pam Talbot



© Malcolm Savage, Melbourne

### Stop Press!

Colin Venton, our Treasurer has tendered his resignation and will step down at the AGM. We urgently need someone who is prepared to take on this role. The day to day activities are light. At present the Treasurer also acts as Membership Secretary to collect subscriptions, claim Gift Aid etc, but this could possibly become a separate role. If you can help or would like more information, please contact Pam Talbot, the chairman, or any member of the Executive Committee.

Should you wish to contact the Trust on any issue please write to Valerie Venton, Honorary Secretary, at [val.venton@gmail.com](mailto:val.venton@gmail.com) or 1A Ockford Ridge, Godalming, Surrey GU7 2NP.

The Godalming Trust is a Registered Charity No. 263033 and the Website is [www.thegodalmingtrust.org.uk](http://www.thegodalmingtrust.org.uk)