

Spring Newsletter 2021

# THE GODALMING TRUST



The new Town Council Offices and more prominent Museum entrance and High Street display area.

*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 Bridget Bagnall – Secretary Richard Gidlow – Treasurer Graham Kimber Pauline Scarsbrook Colin Swait
Planning Committee	Colin Swait - Chairman Bridget Bagnall Mike Poulter
Civic Design Awards Committee	Vacant – Chairman Mike Poulter Colin Swait
Heritage Open Days Committee	Pam Talbot - Chairman Colin Swait Bridget Bagnall

## Chairman's Introduction – Spring 2021

Welcome to our Spring newsletter. I do hope you have stayed safe and well over the winter and with the new season and easing of restrictions are looking forward to the coming months.

Along with many other organisations, you will appreciate our ability to undertake any activities in the last year have been limited. However, our Planning Sub Group has continued to keep a close eye on all the applications submitted to Waverley Borough Council during the year (see report on page 5 ), and I would like to thank all those members who supported the ZOOM AGM which took place in November. It was good to 'see' you all there.

As for 2021, the Executive Committee is optimistic that some of our events will take place though all plans will be dependent on any Government guidelines or restrictions at the time and may need to be rescheduled at short notice. Indeed, we hope to restart our popular Town History walks in June and continue through to September and are very positive that some Heritage Open Days properties and tours can go ahead between 17-19 September. Certainly our participants are keen to open their properties if they can and we shall be looking to see how we can embrace the national theme of 'Edible England'.

Godalming, these days, is not known to be famous for having a food named after it but we have recently discovered The Godalming Biscuit – a funeral offering which was made locally and for which we are still to find a recipe. Also, in the 17C, the town was famous for its liquorice, carrots and fish and, of course, we have a strong brewing tradition. With these in mind and any other suggestions that are forthcoming, from you, our members, we are sure we are able to find links to the Edible theme. A number of you offered to help over Heritage Weekend in 2020 for which we were very grateful. This year we may well see the need for additional stewards in order to maintain any necessary social distancing etc. and, if so, I hope you are still happy for us to contact you.

The other event put on hold last year was the Civic Design Awards. There are a number of potential properties for the various categories and we hope that we can make some awards at our AGM, the date of which is Thursday 28 October 2021. Please let Colin Swait know of any

building or 'town scape improvement scheme' that you think should be included for consideration.

As I have previously mentioned your Committee is concerned about the future of The Godalming Trust as the past year without any activities has limited our profile and the opportunity to attract new members or increase the Committee. We do really need new ideas and activities. I hope that those who did express an interest in joining the Committee will still be interested, but we felt with so little happening it was not constructive to include them in our ZOOM meetings as this would not be representative of our annual events and need for assistance. We would still like to hear from anyone interested in working with the Committee in either a formal or informal role.

Finally as a bit of fun to test your knowledge of Godalming, Bridget has come up with the crossword on page 7 with the answers on page 10. If you have any comments, suggestions please do get in touch.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Our finances continue to remain healthy. There has been little activity this year with regard expenditure other than the normal administrative expenses we have to incur each and every year. Membership remains stable and therefore so does our Income.

Due of course to the pandemic, the anticipated expenditure that we were expecting to make re Two possible Blue Plaques and Sponsoring in some way the flowers that are displayed each year in Godalming High Street, did not take place nor did incurring expenditure relating to our Design awards programme.

The Design awards we are now hoping will take place this coming year.

So as times are without doubt difficult for all Charitable voluntary organisations, we as a committee decided to make a couple of donations to other local Charities. We gave £500 each to The Godalming Museum, to assist with making more of their resources available on line

and to St Marks Community Food Bank who have seen a much increased need for their service during the pandemic.

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.

Richard Gidlow  
Honorary Treasurer

### **Newsletter Contributions**

We are happy to have newsletter items from members who have researched buildings or people associated with Godalming and the surrounding area. If you have anything please send it in and we will try and include in our next publication.

### **Stephen Goddard 1962-2021**

We were sorry to hear that Stephen died on 29 March. He and Jeni organised Heritage Open Days until 2017, his artwork illustrated the programme and tickets and his town walk over the weekend attracted many participants. The Godalming Trust will always be grateful for the hard work they put in to running the event. We send our deepest sympathies to Jeni.

### **Planning Committee Report**

I am grateful to my committee who are, Bridget Bagnall, Mike Poulter and myself with Pam Talbot joining us from time to time.

We meet regularly, every three weeks, and review planning applications submitted to Waverley Borough Council.

On most occasions this year we have reviewed online when there has been little to discuss but still researched fully and during the present crisis, this is what we shall continue to do.

Since the AGM , we have reviewed the various applications and have recently been concerned on the size and scale of the Mole Country Stores in Brighton Road(Erection of 2 buildings and alterations to

existing listed building to provide 53 assisted living units) although not the principal of this type of development in this location.

We have also objected to the latest Westbrook Mills application applying for Outline permission for a 67 unit retirement scheme (including 30% affordable) with all matters reserved including new vehicular exit and associated parking and landscaping. This is in the Green Belt and on the flood plain..

Colin Swait  
Chairman Godalming Trust Planning sub-committee

### **Civic Design Awards**

The Godalming Trust will be running it in 2021.

The Godalming Trust Design Awards Committee is currently reviewing possible nominations for the biennial Civic Design awards due to be presented this October, subject to the Coronavirus epidemic regulations not being in force. A new development or the refurbishment of an existing building which you admire could be a potential candidate for an award. To help us draw up a shortlist, we invite you to nominate any building or feature you think worthy of consideration, in the following categories:

- New building
- Refurbishment
- Environmental improvement
- Shop front
- Extension(s)
- Special award, for something which does not quite fit any of the above

If possible, a photograph supporting your nomination would be appreciated.

Please submit suggestions before 31 May 2021.

Any suggestions of potential projects to be entered into the various categories, please contact Colin Swait 14 Ivybank, Nightingale Road, Godalming. GU7 2JE – email [colin.swait@btinternet.com](mailto:colin.swait@btinternet.com)

The Godalming Trust  
Crossword Clues

Across:

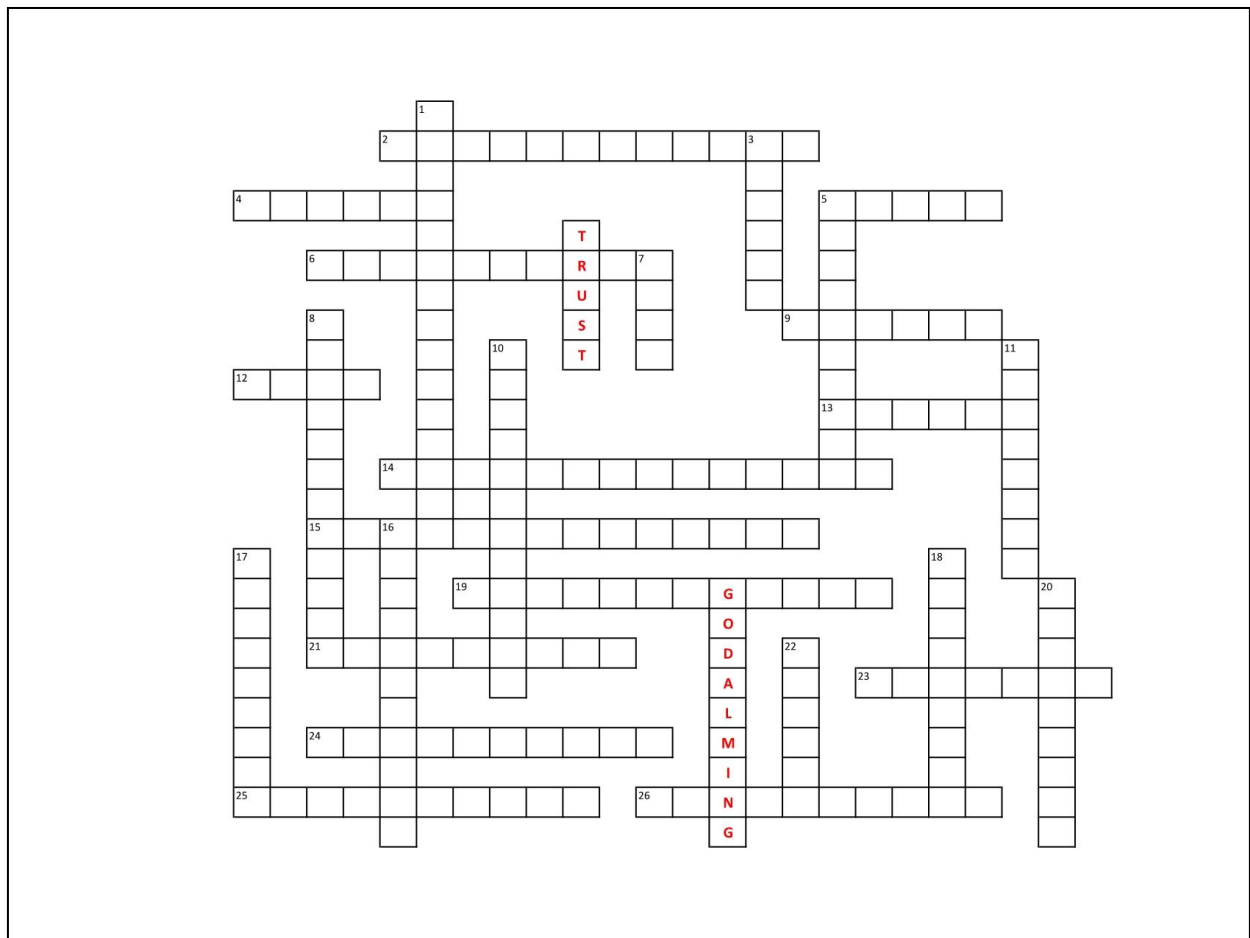
2. Radio operator until 1912 (4/8)
4. Our River (3/3)
5. Meaning 'of the town' (5)
6. The by-pass dissects the Road from the Estate (10)
9. Blueprint of the finished article (6)
12. Upon which we build (4)
13. The prizes for excellence (6)
14. 'Our' famous landscape/garden designer (8/6)
15. Now a house of residential care and education (9/5)
19. Stops of old on the London/Portsmouth Road (8/4)
21. Usually yellow on the beach but not as a subsoil (9)
23. You might be stopped from drinking here (7)
24. Now known for swimming, fishing and recreation (10)
25. Often for shopping above the road (4/6)
26. Perhaps a Polo or Humbug on the Tarmac (4/6)

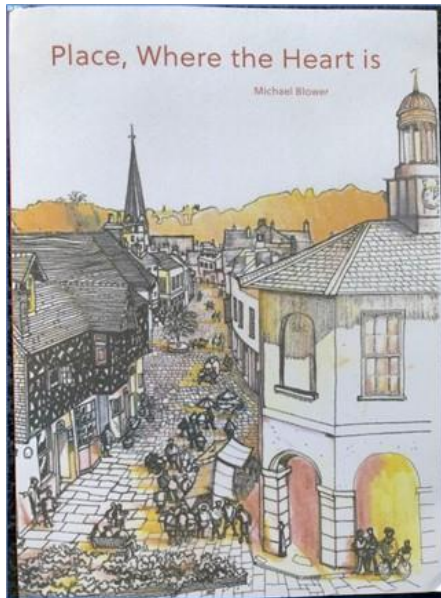


Down:

1. Sisters gather here (8/7)
3. Buildings or locations (6)
5. One of the town's mills (10)
7. It brought early wealth to the town (4)
8. His recreation ground remains (5/7)
10. An educational establishment moved from London (12)
11. A primary school is here (4/4)
16. A small home, chilly in winter (11)
17. Especially lovely in spring and autumn (9)
18. Community transport crossing (9)
20. An inclined Woodland Estuary (5/4)
22. 1<sup>st</sup> August (6)

Can you spot one of the Trust's activities too?





**‘Place, where the heart is’.** Michael Blower, 2020 published by The Blower Foundation.

A few weeks ago I was delighted to receive a copy of the above book from the author. It is a charming publication by the well-known architect, Michael Blower, comprising sketches of Godalming made over 60 years, along with architectural notes and quotes from a poem ‘The White Cliffs’ by Alice Duer Miller.

Michael was a founder member of The Godalming Trust but although he moved to Farnham in the 1970s he continued to visit and sketch Godalming.

The front cover shows Michael’s idea for the pedestrianisation of Church Street made in 1967. It also has his designs for a ‘town cross’ and an April fool’s joke published in the Farnham Herald showing the Pepperpot moved to Castle Street Farnham! All through the book are pen and ink and watercolour sketches, along with observations and notes by the artist.

It is privately published by The Blower Foundation for Cultural Connection and is not available commercially, although the book itself says it is published both in hard copy and on line I have been unable to find the on line version so far. The website is [www.blowerfoundation.org](http://www.blowerfoundation.org) where it says there is an on-going project to add his sketchbooks etc so perhaps by the time you read this review the book may be available on line. The author was also planning to donate a copy to Godalming Museum Library when it reopened.

Pam Talbot

**Provisional Dates for your diary** (will be published in Vantage Point and on our website)

Town Walks

June 19<sup>th</sup>

July 17<sup>th</sup>

August 14<sup>th</sup>

Then something in September over HOD 18/19<sup>th</sup>

Heritage Open Days

17-19 September 2021

There is no information on the Godalming Museum and Godalming Trust Autumn/Winter Lecture Series at the present time, we should have details for our Annual Report later in the year.

Crossword Answers:

Across:

2. JACK PHILLIPS
4. THE WEY
5. CIVIC
6. PEPPERHAROW
9. DESIGN
12. LAND
13. AWARDS
14. GERTRUDE JEYKLL
15. WESTBROOK HOUSE
19. COACHING INNS
21. GREENSAND
23. BARGATE
24. BROADWATER
25. HIGH STREET
26. MINT STREET

Down:

1. LADYWELL CONVENT
3. PLACES
5. CATTESHALL
7. WOOL
8. CANON BOWRING
10. CHARTERHOUSE
11. MOSS LANE
16. SUMMERHOUSE
17. WINKWORTH
18. BUSBRIDGE
20. FRITH HILL
22. LAMMAS

Should you wish to contact the Trust on any issue please write to Bridget Bagnall,  
Honorary Secretary, 2 Brook House, New Pond Road, Compton GU3 1JL

[info@thegodalmingtrust.org.uk](mailto:info@thegodalmingtrust.org.uk)

The Godalming Trust is a Registered Charity No. 263033 and the Website is

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