

# THE PROGRAMME

## GODALMING & ENVIRONS

SATURDAY 14TH TO  
SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

Organised by The Godalming Trust



Established in 1994 Heritage Open Days are England's contribution to a Pan-European event. 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. In Godalming the first recorded programme for the Heritage Open Days was in 1995. Four properties were open then and today there are more than 20 properties and events during the weekend.

The theme for this year's Heritage Open Days is 'People Power' – the ability of local

communities, groups and individuals to evoke change. People Power can be demonstrated in many ways and a number of the buildings open show some of these whether by philanthropic acts of previous owners, public subscription to build them or charities making a difference to people's lives.

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 mid-19th century and the arrival of the railway, it was a major coaching stop on the London to Portsmouth road. The railway led to growth of Godalming and Farncombe with housing for London commuters. Godalming was also the first town in the world to have a public electricity supply.

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

**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**

This symbol means that tour tickets need to be booked in advance. They will be available from Godalming Museum 01483 426510 from 10am on Saturday 17th August.

### PEOPLE POWER AT GODALMING MUSEUM

Discover the people who have shaped the town and surrounding area; the People's Gallery at Godalming Museum tells the stories of over 400 individuals, ranging in date from King Alfred the Great to the present day; all nominated by members of the public for their contribution to the local area. Get involved in this lively community museum: whether by nominating your own local hero; enjoying the activities and displays throughout the medieval building; delving into the records in the local studies library; taking a break with a coffee or tea in the exhibition gallery or courtyard garden; joining the Friends or volunteering.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** the upper galleries have been transformed with a new knitting workshop and Victorian kitchen and many treasures from the collection are on display for the first time.

On SATURDAY there will also be an art exhibition by Studio 12

**TUESDAY to SATURDAY 10am till 5pm.**

*Extra opening for Heritage Open Days SUNDAY 10am till 4pm. Refreshments available*  
**FREE – JUST TURN UP**



### THE PEPPERPOT

Godalming's old Market House and Town Hall was 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 present council offices were

built in 1908, it then became the town Museum until that moved over the road in 1987. Come and see the newly refurbished interior, including an exhibit showing a timeline of the town's history by Godalming Museum and Godalming in Film will be shown throughout both days – an animation of past and present photos by Munro Studios. Open courtesy of Godalming Town Council.

**Open SATURDAY and SUNDAY 10am till 5pm**

**FREE – JUST TURN UP**

**FREE TO EXPLORE**

### 3 CHURCH STREET

*Nye Saunders Ltd, Chartered Architects.* A three storey oak framed former town house, just over 460 years old, jettied on two floors with decorative ogee curved braces.

*Tours on SATURDAY at 10.30am and 12 noon. Including 'from acorn to acrow-prop' the complete history of oak timber framed buildings. Please note that there are steep and narrow stairs to negotiate for these tours*

**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**

**THE STAR, CHURCH STREET**



One of the few survivors of Godalming's many pubs and breweries, the Star is a mainly 18th century house with 16th century origins; it became a pub soon after the Beer Orders Act of 1830 when the Government encouraged a switch to wholesome English beer from the evils of Holland's gin.

*Tours on SATURDAY at 11am and 12 noon*

**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**

**QUAKER MEETING HOUSE THE MINT, MILL LANE**

The Society of Friends, or Quakers as they are known, has a long history in the Godalming area. Less than two miles away, in Binscombe, is a Quaker Burial Ground used from 1695 to 1720 and Fox's Barn, so called because the Society's founder, George Fox, preached there in 1655. 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.

*Open SATURDAY 10am till 4pm*  
**FREE – JUST TURN UP**

**CHURCH OF ST PETER & ST PAUL**

*'Where all are welcome!' Come and walk through history at Godalming's Grade I 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 and SUNDAY 10am till 5pm. Guided tour at 3pm on*

*SUNDAY. NADFAS (now the Arts Society) children's trail available. Services on SUNDAY at 8am (BCP Holy Communion), 10am (Choral Eucharist) and 6.30pm (Evensong)*  
**FREE – JUST TURN UP**

**BELL RINGING**



The bell tower of SS Peter & Paul will be open on Saturday 14 September. 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.

*On SATURDAY at 3.30pm (lasts about 1 hour). Please note for safety reasons under 18s must be accompanied by a parent or guardian*

**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**

**THE MEATH Epilepsy Charity**

Come and discover the rich tapestry of history at Westbrook Place, a beautiful large Georgian house with a mostly 19th century interior. From 1718 until his death in 1785 it was the home of General James Oglethorpe, founder of the state of Georgia. In the 19th century its owner was Lord Brassey, builder of the Portsmouth Direct Railway which passed through the grounds. In 1891 the Countess of Meath bought it and opened a 'Home of Comfort for Epileptics', looking after girls and young women with epilepsy. The Meath Epilepsy Charity continues that work today but now supports both men and women who live with complex epilepsy and associated disabilities with a progressive pathway of care. Visitors will see the main house, the walled garden and the chapel where there will be a display of photographs of the Meath. There will also be an opportunity to find out more about the current work of this dynamic charity which in its 127th year remains at the very heart of the Godalming Community.

*Tours on SATURDAY at 10am, 11.30am and 1.15pm. Refreshments available. Donations welcome*

**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH**

6 OCKFORD ROAD, GODALMING GU7 1QY



There will be guided tours of the new church building and also an opportunity to see some mementoes of the old church. The pipe organ from the old church has been kept in storage during the rebuilding and should be reinstalled by September. There will be informal organ recitals at intervals during the day. The new church was the overall winner of The Godalming Trust Civic Design Awards 2018.

*Open SATURDAY 10am till 4pm*  
**FREE – JUST TURN UP**



**GODALMING MASONIC HALL**

In 1988, the construction of a new road to relieve traffic congestion in the High Street necessitated the demolition of the old Masonic Hall in South Street, so a new Masonic Hall was built along the Ockford Road. Although just over 30 years old, it includes several features from its 1886 predecessor, including the fireplace and several ornate chairs, which are still in use in the Temple. The Hall including the Temple will be open and various items of Masonic regalia will be displayed. Local freemasons will also be on hand to talk with visiting guests and explain the significance of various items in the Temple. Ample car parking available.

*Open SATURDAY 10.30am till 3.30pm and SUNDAY 11am till 3pm*  
**FREE – JUST TURN UP**

**SKILLWAY CRAFT WORKSHOPS**

**At Nightingale Road Cemetery**  
Skillway (Charity) is a project begun in 1997 which provides manual craft skills training, taught by volunteer skilled craftsmen to raise employability, self-esteem and motivation in teenagers. It is housed in The Old Chapels (Grade II Listed) within the classic Victorian Nightingale Road Cemetery, where



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 till 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 RA. 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. Small display 'Farncombe Then and Now'.

*Open SATURDAY 10am till 12 noon.*  
*Refreshments available*  
*Open SUNDAY 2pm till 4pm*  
**FREE – JUST TURN UP**

### FARNCOMBE CofE INFANTS SCHOOL

GRAYS ROAD, FARNCOMBE  
The school was built in 1905 on the initiative of Canon Bowring, and, it is suspected with good reason, his financial support, to accommodate the growing number of pupils in the St John Street School. Originally it opened as a school for boys only. The boys later moved back to the main building with educational changes to mixed classes, and the building was adapted to house the infants school. It was extended in the 1970s, again in the 1980s and again very recently (2015) as numbers in each year increased. The school is oversubscribed and, generally, only those living within 500m are granted a place.

*Open SATURDAY 11am till 1pm.*  
*Tours at 11.15am and 12.15pm, but people are welcome to drop in at any time between opening times above*  
**FREE – JUST TURN UP**

### CHARTERHOUSE

One of the country's great schools, founded by Thomas Sutton in 1611. In 1872 they moved away from insalubrious surroundings

in London to a new site on the outskirts of Godalming. Guided tours include the South African Cloisters, the Founder's Chapel, the Memorial Chapel, the Main Hall, the Library and the Scholars' Court.

*Tours on SATURDAY at 1pm and 3pm*

**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**

### PRIOR'S FIELD

PRIORSFIELD ROAD, GODALMING GU7 2RH

Prior's Field, an Arts and Crafts original house designed by architect Charles Francis Annesley Voysey, will be open to visitors on Saturday 14th September. Prior's Field was opened as a progressive school for girls in 1902 by Julia Huxley, mother of the biologist Julian Huxley, mother of the biologist Julian Huxley, and novelist Aldous Huxley. W.B. Yeats, Lewis Carroll and George Bernard Shaw were all family friends. On your self-guided tour, you will see the school's picturesque Rose Garden - designed in consultation with Gertrude Jekyll, the Edwardian extension designed by Voysey's pupil Thomas Müntzer, photos and film from the school's Archive and other parts of the school with historical interest. Children can take part in a 'Heritage Hunt'.

*Open SATURDAY 10am till 3pm, toilets, very limited disabled access, refreshments, parking*  
**FREE – JUST TURN UP**

### SHACKLEFORD & PEPPER HAROW HISTORICAL WALK

A tour of the two villages of Shackleford and Peper Harow, following a route that covers two churches designed by the eminent Victorian architects, Gilbert Scott and Pugin, a railway station that never was, William and Mary and Arts & Crafts houses, a WWII campsite, the hidden village of Peper Harow with its mansion house enlarged for the Kaiser and much more.

*Walk SATURDAY 11am - Meet at St Mary's Church Shackleford. PLEASE NOTE - Unfortunately the walk is not suitable for wheelchair users*  
**FREE – JUST TURN UP**

### 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 WW1 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.

*Open SATURDAY and SUNDAY 1pm till 4pm*

**FREE – JUST TURN UP**

**FREE TO EXPLORE**

### 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 architects Buckland and Haywood Farmer and has been said to be "the most ambitious house undertaken by the partners and is arguably one of the finest large houses produced by the Birmingham movement". Plaster work is by Catterson-Smith Jnr. Visitors will be able to see the gardens, originally laid out by Gertrude Jekyll, but since substantially altered.

*Open SATURDAY 2pm till 3.45pm.*  
*Tours on SATURDAY at 2pm and 3pm. Visitors to report in to school reception area.*

**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.

## HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

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 till 4pm  
Open SUNDAY 1pm till 4pm  
FREE - JUST TURN UP*

### RAKE COURT, STATION LANE, MILFORD

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. *Tours on SATURDAY at 2pm and 3.30pm.*

**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.

*Open SATURDAY and SUNDAY 9am till 6pm. Tour on SATURDAY at 3pm plus small exhibition of 'Life in Hascombe Then and Now'. Services on SUNDAY at 10am & 6.30pm. NADFAS (now the Arts Society) children's trail available  
FREE - JUST TURN UP*

### ST MARY'S CHURCH CHIDDINGFOLD

The church building is undoubtedly one of the landmarks that makes Chiddingfold special. The first recorded building on the present site was c1180, but there were probably people gathering in this spot for worship many years before. The building is Grade I listed and unique amongst other listed buildings in the village. However, the church is no monument or museum! Throughout its history it has been and still is today, home to a thriving Christian community who meet together for worship and who reach out in service to our village and the wider world. St Mary's is an Inclusive Church.

*Open SUNDAY only between 11am-4pm. Tours and refreshments  
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

'Unknown Sailor' has a gravestone, which commemorates his murder nearby by three fellow travellers in 1786. There is also a monument designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens. There are books and pamphlets in the church that chart the history of the church through the ages to give visitors more information.

*Open SATURDAY 9am till 4pm and SUNDAY 12 noon till 4pm  
FREE - JUST TURN UP*

### ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, WONERSH GU5 0PG

The Church of St John the Baptist, Wonersh, Surrey, probably originally Saxon, was re-built shortly after the Norman Conquest in the eleventh century with additions made until the fifteenth century. Major rebuilding took place in 1793 and restoration in 1901, however the core is still the Norman church. There will also be bell-ringing taking place for part of the open session. Members of Wonersh History Society will be on hand to answer questions. There is also a Historic Trail for children to follow within the church.

*Open SATURDAY 10am till 1pm. Wheelchair access, car parking, toilets and refreshments are available at the Church.*

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

### TOWN HISTORY WALK

Enjoy a guided history walk around Godalming led by Stephen Goddard. Lasts about 1½ hours. Starting from under the Pepperpot.

*SUNDAY at 10.30am  
FREE - JUST TURN UP*

**FREE TO EXPLORE**

### 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 Stephen Goddard for allowing us to use his sketches in publicity material and to 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.

**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. Please pick up an application to join during Heritage Open Days or download one from our website at [www.thegodalmingtrust.org.uk](http://www.thegodalmingtrust.org.uk). Charity No. 263033.

This programme is correct at time of going to press, any changes will be posted in the Museum & Pepperpot and on the Godalming Trust website [www.thegodalmingtrust.org.uk](http://www.thegodalmingtrust.org.uk).

*Neither The Godalming Trust nor any of its representatives can accept any legal responsibility for any accidents or incidents that might occur during HODs.*

