

*Free- pick me up!*



# heritage open days

## THE PROGRAMME GODALMING & ENVIRONS

*SATURDAY 18TH TO SUNDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2021*



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

## HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

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 theme for this year's Heritage Open Days is 'Edible England' – the food and drink special to an area. This has set us quite a challenge insofar as in this day and age there is no one drink or food for which Godalming is notorious. Historically our pubs and brewing were renowned and it is understood that the Godalming biscuit was favoured at funerals – so far we have not been able to find a recipe, but perhaps a visitor may know something about them. Also a book published in 1718 notes that Godalming was well known for liquorice, carrots and fish (pike in particular). In 1793 a Quaker family called Sweetapple (who were paper makers at Catteshall Mill) produced a recipe book which included over 30 recipes including Quaking Pudding (a sort of panna cotta probably), several for pickling and drying mushrooms and many other savoury and sweet dishes.

This local programme is correct at time of going to press, but please note that the COVID-19 situation may mean that changes and cancellations will need to be made at short notice and anyone intending to visit or apply for tickets should check the Heritage Open Days website below, particularly before travelling, if there are any restriction in place. The website will be kept up to date up to and including the weekend. We ask visitors to comply

with any Government requirements for face coverings, distancing etc that apply at the time. We will also post any last minute changes in Godalming Museum and the Peppercot 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. Godalming was also the first town in the world to have a public electricity supply.

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 21st August. Please make sure that you arrange collection of your tickets at least 30 minutes before the tour ON THE DAY.*

### 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 we are including one of his illustrations as a tribute to him and to Stefan Reynolds at Vantage Publishing 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 & Peppercot and on [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk).*



## • AT A GLANCE

Venue	Ticket needed?	Saturday	Sunday
The Pepperpot		10am-5pm	10am-4.30pm
Godalming Museum		10am-4pm	10am- 4pm
3 Church Street	Yes	Tours at 10.30am and 12 noon	
Bell Ringing	Yes	3pm & 4pm	
St Peter & St Paul Church		10am-5pm	12 noon-4pm
Christian Science Church		10am-4pm	
Godalming Masonic Hall		10.30am-3.30pm	11am-3pm
The Meath	Yes	Tours at 10.30am, 11.45am & 1.15pm	
Skillway Craft Workshops		9am-12 noon	
St John's Church, Farncombe		10am-12 noon	2pm-4pm
Farncombe C of E Infants School		11am-1pm (Tours at 11.15am & 12.15pm)	
Unitarian Chapel, Meadow		11am-4pm	
Charterhouse School	Yes	Tours at 10am, 12.30pm & 2.30pm	
Prior's Field		10am-3pm	
St Nicholas Peper Harow Church		Tour at 11.45 am	
Busbridge Church		1pm-4pm	1pm-4pm
Barrow Hills School		Tours at 10am-11am & 11.30am-12.30pm	
Rake Court	Yes		Tour at 3pm
St Peter's Church, Hambledon		10am-4pm	1pm-4pm
St Peter's Church, Hascombe		9am 4pm (Talk at 3pm)	9am-4pm (Service at 10am)
King Edwards School, Witley	Yes		Tours at 1pm & 3pm
St Mary's Church, Chiddingfold			12 noon-4.30pm
St Michael & All Angels Church, Thursley		11am-4pm	
St John the Baptist Church, Wonesh		10am -1pm	
Town History Walk			10.30am-12 noon
Music in the Park, The Bandstand			3pm onwards 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 present 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, an exhibit showing some buildings with more history than might be first apparent and also the Godalming Museum display of a timeline of the town's history.

Open courtesy of Godalming Town Council.

Open **SATURDAY** 10am till 5pm and **SUNDAY** 10am till 4.30pm

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

## • GODALMING MUSEUM

Happy 100th birthday to Godalming Museum, founded in the Old Town Hall or Pepperpot in 1921. Explore the Arts and Crafts Gallery and Garden, the Living Landscape Gallery and the new Local History Galleries. Discover some of the 100 favourite objects nominated for the museum's centenary celebrations and nominate your own favourite. We will also be showing the exhibition, Godalming's Secret Cemetery. Circumstances restricted access to this when it was first displayed in August



this fascinating account of the discovery and excavation of a unique Saxon cemetery in Godalming and to discover what it can tell us about the town's first inhabitants. Come and help us celebrate 100 years of a museum for Godalming, Farncombe and the surrounding area

Open **SATURDAY & SUNDAY** 10am till 4pm  
**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

## • 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"

## HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

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

#### • BELL RINGING

The bell tower of SS Peter & Paul will have tours on Saturday 18 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.

Tours SATURDAY at 3pm and 4pm (lasts about 1 hour). Please note for safety reasons under 18s must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

### 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 till 5pm and SUNDAY 12 noon till 4pm.

FREE - JUST TURN UP

#### • CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

6 Ockford Road, Godalming GU7 1QY

There will be guided tours of the church building throughout the day. The new 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 day, and the opportunity to go into the organ chamber and see the workings of the instrument.

Open SATURDAY 10am to 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, and a new Masonic hall was built along the Ockford Road. Although just over 30 years old, the "new" building contains several features from its 1886 predecessor, including the fireplace, two beautiful stained glass windows, several ornate chairs and various masonic items, which are still in use in the Temple. During the last 15 months the Hall has been completely refurbished and redecorated and is now much lighter and brighter. The Hall and the temple will be open and various forms of masonic regalia will be displayed. Local freemasons will be on hand to talk with visiting guests and to explain the significance of various items in the temple, and of course, to respond to guests questions. Ample FREE car parking is available Open SATURDAY 10.30am to 3.30pm and on SUNDAY between 11am and 3pm  
FREE - JUST TURN UP

#### • THE MEATH Epilepsy Charity



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 to live as independently as possible and to lead a fulfilled life. Visitors will see a small section of the main house, the walled garden, Victorian chapel and at the end of the tour, refreshments will be available while you take in the display of photographs and memorabilia of Westbrook and The Meath. Please note that the tour will mostly take place outside. There will also be an opportunity to find out more about the current work of this dynamic local charity which, in its

128th year, remains at the very heart of the Godalming Community.

Tours on **SATURDAY** at 10.30am, 11.45am and 1.15pm. Refreshments available and the Meath's range of delicious preserves will be on sale. Donations welcome.

**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**

#### • SKILLWAY CRAFT WORKSHOPS

At Nightingale Road Cemetery Skillway (Charity) is a project begun in 1997 which provides mutual 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 until 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.

Open **SATURDAY** 10am till 12 noon.

Open **SUNDAY** 2pm till 4pm

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

#### • FARNCOMBE Cof E INFANTS SCHOOL

Grays Road Farncombe

The school was built in 1905 on the initiative of Canon Bowring, and it is suspected, with good reason, 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 with a recent (2015) addition as numbers in each year increased. The school is now oversubscribed and generally only those living within 500m are granted a place.

Open **SATURDAY** 11am to 1pm. Tours at 11.15am and 12.15pm, but people are welcome to drop in at any time between opening hours above

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

#### • UNITARIAN CHAPEL, MEADOW

This Grade II listed chapel was completed in 1789 in the modest style of a dissenting

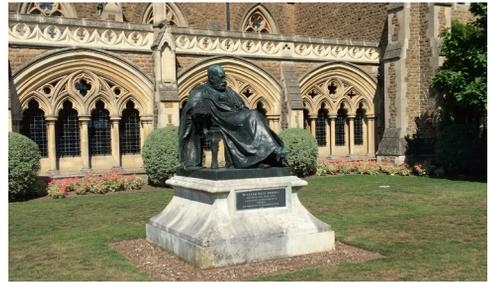
meeting-house, with the later addition of an internal balcony and adjoining cottage. Built of brick and finished with stucco, it is set back from the road to avoid unwelcome attention at a time when religious dissent was highly unpopular. It houses a full-immersion underfloor baptistry in keeping with its General Baptist origins, which will be open for viewing. The chapel has a rich social history, including early provision of a school for poor children and a lending library for adults – believed to be the first in Godalming.

Open **SATURDAY** 11am till 4pm.

Refreshments available.

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

#### • CHARTERHOUSE



One of the country's great schools, founded 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.

Open **SATURDAY**, tours at 10am, 12.30pm and 2.30pm

**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. Prior's Field was opened as a progressive school for girls in 1902 by Julia Huxley, mother of the biologist Julian Huxley and novelist Aldous Huxley. W. B. Yates, Lewis Carroll and George Bernard Shaw were family friends. Visitors can take a self-guided tour of key areas of the house and its Edwardian extension designed by Voysey's pupil, Thomas Muntzer, with a look at the beautiful gardens designed in consultation with Gertrude Jekyll. The Prior's Field Archivist and knowledgeable stewards will be on hand during the day.

Open **SATURDAY** 10am to 3pm. Refreshments available

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

## HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

### • ST NICHOLAS PEPER HAROW CHURCH - "A HIDDEN GEM!"

Peper Harow, Off Elstead Road GU8 6BQ



Grade II listed church dating back to the fifteenth century, remodelled in the 1840s by architect A W N Pugin, probably best known for his work on the Houses of Parliament, with further work in the 1870s by Thomas Jackson who was knighted for his saving of Winchester Cathedral from collapse by the use of a diver to secure the foundations, and recently restored following a disastrous fire in 2007.

Tour on **SATURDAY** at 11.45am (church not otherwise open except for services). A short walk away there is a tour of St Mary's Shackleford church at 10.30am (for more details see the Guildford programme on the Heritage Open Days website mentioned above). Wheelchair accessible.  
**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** 1pm-4pm and **SUNDAY** 1pm-4pm  
**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

### • 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 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 gardens originally laid out by Gertrude Jekyll, but since substantially altered.  
Open **SATURDAY**, tours at 10am-11am and 11.30am-12.30pm  
**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.

Tour on **SUNDAY** at 3pm

**FREE BUT PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED**

### • 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 till 4pm

Open **SUNDAY** 1pm till 4pm

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

### • 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 4pm.

Tour with short talk on **SATURDAY** at 3pm.

Service on **SUNDAY** at 10am. NADFAS (now the Arts Society) children's trail available. **FREE - JUST TURN UP**

#### • KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL, WITLEY



The school was founded over 150 years ago 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 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, here greater emphasis prevailed on the education of children rather than reform 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 was relocated to Witley allowing the pupils to benefit from the fresh air and green countryside of Surrey. The tours will start under the Archway at the entrance to the School. The tours are available to children but inaccessible for people with 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 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 1 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 12 noon-4.30pm**

#### • 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 Tomb, 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 till 4pm**

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

#### • ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, WONERSH

The Grade II\* listed 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 "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. There is also a Historic Trail for children to follow within the church.

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

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**

#### • TOWN HISTORY WALK

Enjoy a guided history walk around Godalming with Graham Kimber and Pam Talbot. Lasts about 1½ hours.

**Starting from under the Pepperpot on SUNDAY at 10.30am**

**FREE - JUST TURN UP** [numbers might need to be limited]

#### • MUSIC IN THE PARK AT THE BANDSTAND

At the Phillips Memorial Park Godalming  
Featuring Backwards Creek

**SUNDAY at 3pm-5pm**

**FREE - JUST TURN UP**



Registered Charity No. 263033

Darren Alford



Ian Macfadyen



**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 support and interest 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)

## Stephen Goddard 1962-2021

Stephen Goddard died in March, many will remember his amazing town walks, his illustrations such as this and he and Jeni's work over many years organising the Heritage Open Days.



This programme was designed and produced by Vantage Publishing Ltd. [www.vantagepublishing.co.uk](http://www.vantagepublishing.co.uk)  
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