

GO
GODALMING

Supporting & promoting
Godalming to benefit
the Community



Annual General Meeting & Open Meeting

Godalming Baptist Church

12:15 for 12:30pm

Thursday 23rd March 2023

THE *GO GODALMING* ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & OPEN MEETING

to be held on

Thursday 23 March 2023

at the Baptist Church Hall, Queen Street, Godalming

12:15pm for 12.30pm

A G E N D A

- 1. Welcome and apologies for Absence**
- 2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 30 March 2022**
- 3. The Chairman's Report** **Simon Crowther**
- 4. Report by the Treasurer** **Andrew Bolton**
- 5. Report by the Membership Secretary** **Roger Barnett**
- 6. Band Concerts Update** **Joy Poulter**
- 7. Tabled Reports from Members & Affiliated Groups**
 - Sport Godalming** **John Sandy**
 - Godalming in Bloom** **Anne Eve**
 - Churches Together** **James Rattue**
 - Youth/Canoe Activities** **Peter Harris**
 - Godalming Museum** **Jackie Tickner**
 - Chamber of Commerce** **John Taylor**
 - Godalming Trust** **Pam Talbot**
 - Godalming Film Society** **Stephen Smith**
 - Go Sing/Go Perform** **Anne Gray**
 - Relaxed Cinema/ Repair Café** **Ian Coult**
- 8. Election of Officers**
- 9. Presentation by Vicki Connor - The Community Store**
- 10. The Mayor of Godalming**
- 11. Any Other Business**

THE GO GODALMING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on Wednesday 30 March 2022 at The Baptist Church, Queen Street, Godalming

The Chairman, Simon Crowther, warmly welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Those Present:

Simon Crowther (Chairman) Andrew Bolton (Treasurer), Joy Poulter (Godalming Bandstand), John Sandy (Sport Godalming) Pam Talbot (Godalming Trust), Ian Coult (Godalming Film Society), Anne Eve (Godalming in Bloom and Secretary), Roger Barnett (Membership Secretary), Anne Gray (Go Sing/Go Perform), Peter Harris (GG Youth Canoe Club), Greg Holden (Chamber of Commerce), Michael Steel (Mayor of Godalming), Cath Lovell, Tom Manning (Youth Services Officer, Godalming Town Council)

Apologies.

Gillian Martin (Churches Together), Jacky Tickner (Godalming Museum) John Taylor (Chamber of Commerce), Tom Grillo, Tony Bennewith, Joan Heagin, Elizabeth Ayers, Rose Turk, Liz Wheatley, Liz Coult.

The meeting opened with a talk by Tom Manning, Youth Services Officer on his plans to support the youth of the area through various initiatives e.g., the Arts and Sport. There is a newly refurbished Youth Centre at the Broadwater Community Centre which will be a drop-in centre, open daily for 11 – 18-year-olds with a maximum of 25 at any one time. There will be a music studio and a computer room. Up to seven members of staff will be in attendance. The centre was due to open after Easter.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 23 March 2021

Approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman, Simon Crowther.

1. Report by the Chairman – Simon Crowther (Tabled)

A big welcome to you all to our Annual General Meeting and to our Town Mayor Michael Volunteering in all sectors had been hard hit by the Coronavirus, and the pandemic had killed off GOLO. The Cellar had moved and reopened and was doing well. The Farncombe Spring Fair would be held at St. Johns Church on 7 May. The Go Godalming Tea Towels had sold out, resulting in a surplus of £250, which had been donated to The Film Society to sponsor a screening for Relaxed Cinema. Simon outlined the plans for H.M, The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Finally, I have been in the Chair for ten years now and really think that it is time for some fresh blood – fresh ideas and a fresh vision for our organisation – so would reiterate that I am not off yet but it would be helpful to resurrect the role of vice-chairman possibly with a view to taking the helm this time next year...if you know of someone who might be interested in coming into our organisation, please let me know.

The website – www.gogodalming.org.uk – features all members of the association and please make use of this site to tell me when there are events to be publicised so we can tell everyone what your group is doing and when – this is our window to the local community.

2. Report by the Treasurer – Andrew Bolton

The figures for both Go Godalming and The Bandstand were tabled and are attached. The main item of both income and expenditure was insurance, which has been reduced this year. As Simon reported, the tea towels sold out, leading to a donation to Relaxed Cinema. The bandstand concerts had been successful and had made a good surplus. The mayor complimented all those involved with the concerts for their hard work.

3. Membership Report for the Go Godalming Association – Roger Barnett

It was hoped that the losses over the last few years would be reversed.

***New members are always welcome! Please ask for details and an application form - just telephone 01483 423467 or email membership@gogodalming.org.uk

4. Bandstand Concerts – Tabled report from Joy Poulter

There had been 3 concerts during 2020 which had been streamed. A reduced programme was run in 2021, which had been well received. This year's programme would appear shortly and would run from 1 May to 18 September. There would be a special Jubilee concert on 5 June. All those who helped with refreshments etc. were thanked for their hard work. It was suggested that the children of Moss Lane School be invited to perform a Maypole Dance for the first concert on 1 May.

5. Tabled Reports from Members and Affiliated Groups

Sport Godalming Report – John Sandy

John spoke to the report. The AGM had been held recently. The Godalming Run would be held on 22 May. The success achieved by Yasmina Hasan in bowls was highlighted. As part of the Jubilee celebrations there would be a Sport for All event, featuring a number of sports for people to try.

Sport Godalming had also received a legacy and deliberations are ongoing on the best way of using this.

Godalming in Bloom – Anne Eve

All competitions for 2020 and 2021 were cancelled because of Covid, but the sponsors have all agreed to carry their sponsorship through and there will be a full programme for this year, with prizegiving on 8 July.

Churches Together – Gillian Martin

The report, having been tabled, was taken as read.

Canoe Club – Peter Harris

Despite Covid, the Club had managed to run several sessions in both 2020 and 2021. 8 young people had qualified as Junior Instructors, and a further 6 would do their foundation training shortly. 8 had qualified for Stand-Up Paddle Boards.

There had been trips to the Nene White Water Centre. The Club would be involved in Sport for All for the Jubilee, and for Staycation in August. Club night is on Thursdays.

Godalming Museum – Jacky Tickner

The tabled report was taken as read. There were 3 slide projectors and 2 screens available if anyone could utilise these.

Godalming and District Chamber of Commerce – Greg Holden

The last couple of years had been very difficult, but some big names would be opening shops soon and things were generally improving, enabling more networking to take place face to face. There would be a Food Festival on 3 July. The Business Development initiative will be going ahead.

Godalming Trust – Pam Talbot

Pam spoke to her report and announced that Guided Walks would resume on the second Saturday of May, June, July, and August. Heritage Weekend would be 17 and 18 September. There was a need for more volunteers, so if anyone is interested, please contact Pam.

Godalming Film Society – Ian Coult

Ian spoke to his report. Covid had prevented film screenings in the Borough Hall, but films have been streamed to members' homes instead. Attendance was back to 60% of pre-Covid figures. 'Relaxed Cinema in Godalming' continues, with 'Grease' as the next film. The Society was grateful for the donation of the tea towel profits and plans for more funding were ongoing.

Go Perform/Go Sing – Anne Gray

The group would be performing for the Jubilee on 2 June.

Election of Officers

Chairman	Simon Crowther
Treasurer	Andrew Bolton
Membership Secretary	Roger Barnett
Secretary	Anne Eve

The Committee – Elected en-bloc

The above Officers were proposed and seconded and approved unanimously.

Any Other Business

It was reported that the Godalming/Mayen twinning group would host a visit from 31 July, with a 40th anniversary dinner at the Masonic Hall on 6 August.

The Chairman invited the Mayor, Councillor Michael Steel, to speak.

The mayor thanked the meeting for inviting him. He was looking forward to hosting the group from Mayen. He reminded the meeting that it was 28 years ago that he had started the Go Godalming Association to promote activities in the town. It was hard to find volunteers these days, and he thanked all those who gave their time.

The Chairman thanked the mayor for his words.

There was no other business, and the meeting was closed at 14.05.

Chairman's report to the Go Godalming Association



A BIG welcome to you all to our Annual General Meeting and to our Town Mayor Shirley Faraday and to our speaker Vicki Connor.

Our speaker Vicki is the co-founder of the Community Store in Farncombe and is accompanied by her colleague Terry Jeffreys.

Annual General Meetings are a time when we look back over the last year and celebrate our achievements, elect our officers, and look forward to our next year's activities... You will be hearing from our executive and affiliated groups on how they have 'bounced back' from the past pandemic years and what the future offers.

We have a Coronation to celebrate in May and thoughts have been shared on what we might, as an association, give to the local community – from earlier conversations about Coronation Mugs (to keep in line with previous Town celebrations and the giving of mugs to local school children – see the photographs in the Pepperpot...) but we soon realised this was far too expensive so another thought was to donate some picnic benches to be placed in the Phillips Memorial Park – conversations with Waverley's Parks and Countryside department are on-going...

We like to get out and about and probably the best way we can do this is to exhibit at a local fair – on **Saturday 29th April** Rotary in Godalming are organising a Spring Fair on the Burys Field and Go Godalming has applied for a 'pitch' which all member groups can join us to promote whatever they are doing or make the local community aware of who they are and what they do etc...

At that time of year, we used to enjoy the St John's Parish Church Spring Fair on the Burys Field but this will be held at the Parish Church in Farncombe on **Saturday 20th May** – some of us attended this new venue for the event last year and can confirm it is a pretty lively affair... so we will be back - put the date for this and the Rotary Spring Fair in your diaries please.

We are going to sponsor one of Joy's 'Music in the Park' concerts – we have selected **Sunday 28th May** as the date and will be there for 'Squeezebox' – again this is an opportunity to 'sell' Go Godalming to the dedicated music lovers who attend these events – let's hope for sunny and warm weather!

I am pleased to report that the association is in the safe hands of its executive and really appreciate the support that member groups have shown us.

Our secretary Anne keeps us all in order and focussed on what we should be doing! Roger keeps the membership ticking along nicely and Andrew Bolton looks after the money!

I have been in the chair for longer than I care to remember and now think that it is the time for some fresh blood – fresh ideas and a fresh vision for our organisation – so this is it from me and I will stand down at our next AGM in March 2024.

Our website – www.gogodalming.org.uk – features all our member groups and yet another plug from me - please make use of this site and to tell me when you have events to be publicised so we can tell everyone what your group is doing and when – this is our window to the local community and way beyond that...

As I have said before (many, many times...) this is a fantastic and unique association - all these groups, be it our main organisations or affiliated members - all are run voluntarily by people who care about our community & more than ever now, all of us together can make Godalming the Town it was and will be again and a place to be proud of.

Simon Crowther, Chairman

Treasurer's report to the Go Godalming Association



The Go Godalming Association Income and Expenditure Account For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Income		
Donations		
Subscriptions	740	760
Contributions to Insurance	800	760
Tea Towels	0	73
Total Income	1,540	1,593
Expenditure		
Insurance	961	905
Hall hire and catering (net)	25	
Website	0	83
Grant	250	
Tea towels		
Publicity	200	200
Total expenditure	1,436	1,187
Excess of (Expenditure)/Income for the year	104	405

Balance Sheet

Current Assets		
Cash at bank	3,358	3,254
	3.358	3,254
Bandstand Fund		
Balance brought forward	3,254	2,849
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	104	405
Balance carried forward	3.358	3.254

Bandstand Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
Income	£	£
Band Sponsorship	4,900	4,507
Collections	5,363	4,445
Interest	1	0
Total income	10,254	8,952
Expenditure		
Bands	6,100	5,754
Annual Payment to Council	57	55
Insurance contribution	200	190
Printing and copying	433	665
Donations	1,409	886
Website	100	50
Rubbish Collection	56	37
Sundry (Joy's expenses)	0	119
Total expenditure	8,354	7,757
Excess of (Expenditure)/Income for the year	1,910	1,195

**Bandstand Balance
Sheet**

Current Assets		
Lloyds current account	8,105	6,196
Lloyds instant access	2,125	3,124
	10,230	8,320
Bandstand Fund		
Balance brought forward	8,320	7,125
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	1,910	1,195
Balance carried forward	10,230	8,320

Andrew Bolton

Membership Secretary's report to the Go Godalming Association



Below was the situation at the end of 2022.

Businesses/Organisations -

The membership at the end of 2022 was 41 compared with 41 at the end of 2021. This was due to the loss of two members and the gain of two new members.

The current list of business/organisation members is attached.

Individuals -

The membership at the end of 2022 was 50 compared with 50 at the end of 2021. There were no losses or new members.

The voluntary donations over and above the basic minimum subscription requested amounted to £70 in 2022.

***More new members are always welcome! Please ask for details and an application form - just telephone 01483 423467 or email

membership@gogodalming.org.uk

Roger Barnett

Bandstand report to the Go Godalming Association



2022

We are delighted to let you know that we had an amazing season of concerts in 2022. It was a very warm summer and large audiences were attracted to the concerts in our beautiful park.

We held 22 Concerts including 2 on a Saturday afternoon. The Sunday concerts alternated between popular music and the more traditional Brass and Concert bands. Included in the programme was a very successful Bumper Jubilee Concert which featured three acts, Godalming Band, The Nefarious Picaroons and Cryin' Out Loud.

We held only 2 concerts in the church, one of these because the weather was considered to be **too hot** for Godalming Band to play on the Bandstand.

Once again the refreshments for sale and the Ice Cream Van have been a very popular addition to the concerts. Anita has continued to sell very scrummy cakes/teas and coffees and the Ice Cream sales over the summer have been shared between Godalming Delights and The Cellar.

2023

As I write this the programme of concerts for 2023 is almost completed. We are just looking for a few more sponsors and then it will go to print. Once again, we have a very extensive programme running from 30th April to 17th September. The programme includes a Coronation Celebration Concert on the Sunday following the Coronation and our regular Proms in the Park in early September. We look forward to another successful year.

Bandstand Concerts for 2023

30 April	May Day Celebrations – Fleur de Lys Morris Dancers and Stockbrokers Belt Ceilidh Band
7 May	Celebration Coronation Concert – Godalming College Band, Rock Choir, Cryin' Out Loud – sponsored by Town Council
13 May	Charterhouse Jazz Band
14 May	The Nefarious Picaroons – sponsor Vantage Point
21 May	Big and Brassy
28 May	Squeezebox – sponsor Go Godalming
4 June	Horsham Borough Band
11 June	Twenty-five miles – sponsor Dragonfly Office Interiors
18 June	The True Deceivers
24 June	A Touch of Musicality (Not Music IT Park)
25 June	Junction 4 Big Band – sponsor Shipleys LLP
2 July	Rockin' Rogers – sponsor GH Price Plastering
9 July	Rotary Concert Rock Choir & Duo – sponsor Godalming Delights
16 July	Godalming Band – sponsor Blue Dot Printers
23 July	Claire Phoenix and Nomadic
30 July	Anthony's Allstars
6 August	Staycation
13 August	Cryin' Out Loud – sponsor Godalming Carpets
20 August	Slinfold Concert Band
27 August	Blues Café
2 Sept.	Proms in the Park & Rock Choir – sponsor Grillo LLP
3 Sept.	Alder Valley Brass
10 Sept.	The Lost Roberts – sponsor Godalming Trust

Sport Godalming's report to the Go Godalming Association



An extract from the CHAIRMAN'S REPORT to their forthcoming AGM

This report reflects on what we did in 2022 and a little bit on what we are planning this year – 2022 wasn't quite 'back to pre-COVID days' but I can summarise what we did enjoy...

On Sunday 22nd May, after a delay of a couple of years, the Godalming Run finally celebrated its tenth anniversary at the Phillips Memorial Park. This is a great community event – as well as some 500 runners competing in 10K, 5K and a 1K fun run, there are an army of volunteers taking registrations, being on the various parts of the routes to direct and encourage and at the finish, giving out drinks and medals, not to mention all the families and friends coming out to support the runners.

We organise the run alongside the Waverley Harriers Running Club and Godalming Town, Waverley Borough, and Surrey County Councils. Once again, the event was generously sponsored by Charterhouse School which celebrated 150 years in the town. All the proceeds, after costs, have been set aside for 'Go for Gold' and other grants supporting our local athletes in their endeavours.

On Friday 3rd June we put on a 'Sport for All' day, which started its planning the previous autumn and this was part of the Town's celebrations for the Queen's Platinum jubilee. And it happened ... and did it happen...! We had lots of member clubs involved and other sporting groups and individuals offering demonstrations, games, and taster sessions, as well as local concessions and a climbing wall, arranged courtesy of the Town Council... probably a couple of thousand attended on the Phillips Memorial Park – and the whole event was FREE...

This showcased Sport Godalming to the Town and is testament to our commitment to the community and... it was a great success.

Also in June, we finally were able to organise the Simon Steel Legacy. As you may be aware from earlier meetings, this arose and was financed from a bequest from the late Simon Steel. Sport Godalming, in partnership with the Surrey Cricket Foundation, who run a Waverley wide junior school cricket competition for years 5 & 6 children, we part sponsored the three matches for boys and girls held at Farncombe CC. Sport Godalming provided the three winners with shields (Year 5 winners Busbridge - Year 6 winners Wonersh & Shamley Green & Godalming winning the girls competition) and all the

participants were given medals. We think, with the funds we received, this legacy in its present form could last for the next ten years.

Through 'thick and thin' and avoiding all those nasty bugs, Graham Robinson has managed to run the 'Sport Godalming Bowls Championships' again... and in August, I went along to Wonersh Bowls Club to watch the finals and to present the trophies. A really good evening – I have been going to these for so long that I am almost part of the Bowls fraternity... our old friend Alex Neil won the men's final comfortably for the fifth time and debutante Chelsea Macfarlane won the ladies cup in a seesaw and absorbing match.

And to our Sports Awards on Friday 25th November – again for the first time since 2019 and again at the Wilfrid Noyce Community Centre. In the company of deputy mayor of Waverley Penny Rivers and immediate past mayor of Godalming Michael Steel, a packed house enjoyed an evening of good sporting stories & achievements from our many local teams and individuals – our 'guest speaker' was Guildford Hockey Club's Dan Fox, who joined in with many of the presentations and gave us all a very interesting and inspirational talk.

Mention should also be made of Bill Braid – our treasurer – who steps down from this role at our AGM... Bill has been in post for many years and it's his meticulous stewardship that has kept us all on the 'straight and narrow'. In past days, Bill has been our chairman, our secretary, and of course a trustee – it was his efforts that got us registered as a charity.

However, all these events we organise are built around team involvement, so my thanks to all those involved with Sport Godalming for their on-going commitment.

So, looking forward to this year...

As many of you will be aware, the Broadwater Park Golf Club closed about four/five years ago due to waste coming up through the earth (it was originally built of a landfill site) but at the time, with approved plans to up-grade. A change of local government at Waverley Borough Council saw the proposed new lease to the land being withdrawn. During this period there has been lengthy legal negotiations between the council and the former tenants. This now appears to be coming to an end.

Waverley Borough Council called a meeting with all sports clubs that currently use Broadwater Park and all other interested clubs and organisations, in the Godalming area, at the end of January with a view to collecting information and suggestions that could be incorporated on the site. The initial period for consultation ended on February 28th.

Planning permission will be required and this is expected to take a minimum of one year due to many agencies having to be consulted. The start date for all of this is unknown and it may be several years before work can commence and nothing of course can proceed until the site is re-capped.

With COVID and the shutdowns experienced over the past couple of years, we have been unable to run our annual 'Go for Gold' funding programme as simply we did not have the funds generated from the events we organise, like the Godalming Run, which will happily happen again on **SUNDAY 21st MAY** and that of course is a major source of income for this initiative. At our Open Meeting, we will meet those athletes who we can support and hopefully hear from on the night as to what 2023 holds for them.

We hope we might be able to re-start our series of 'schools challenges' again in the summer and also the Simon Steel Legacy cricket series that started last year – there may be other things in the pipeline... we will see!

Have you looked at our website recently? www.sportgodalming.org.uk - this is kept up to date by Phil Kemp – we always like feedback on what we do and any thoughts on the website are always appreciated.

So that is our 2023 and this will conclude with our Sports Awards evening at the Wilfrid Noyce Community Centre on **FRIDAY 17th NOVEMBER** - so another date for your diary.

Please come and support us at all these events – remember we are doing this because we care passionately about all sports and, whenever possible, are promoting those individuals, be it elite or just starting on that ladder, as well as listening to our clubs and helping them, if we can when they ask us... Sport Godalming is a well-respected and well-run outfit, involving itself in our local community with a cross-section of sportsmen and women as part of our team. We counsel and lobby for our members and provide information as well as grants where possible, both large and small, to help athletes in their pursuits of sporting excellence.

Simon Crowther

Godalming in Bloom's report to the Go Godalming Association



After two years lying dormant, it was good to be back in 2022. The standard of entries was as high as ever, and we were delighted to welcome some new participants. Most of the schools took part, and the enthusiasm shown by the young horticulturists was very encouraging. We hope that this year's competition will be equally well supported, with entries for the Gardens section in by 1 June.

Anne Eve

Churches Together report to the Go Godalming Association



In common with other organisations, we have spent the past year gradually returning to life as normal following the pandemic. It has been good to meet in person again. As an ecumenical umbrella body we are not at the same level as before – our member churches are naturally focusing on nurturing and rebuilding their own communities. But we will get there.

In this context it was heartening for us to run a full programme of events both inward-facing and outward-facing. Our public events in 2022 included the Service of Witness on Good Friday in Godalming High Street in April, the Jubilee Songs of Praise in June, Worship in the Park at the Staycation Festival in August, Christmas Together in the Wilfrid Noyce Centre in December, and the Christmas Day Lunch in Godalming Baptist Church. We were also pleased to come together as churches for a Service of Healing in October 2022 and a United Service in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January 2023.

We have also provided a Prayer Breakfast in most months, taking it in turns to host, and we have started a monthly ecumenical contemplative prayer group meeting at St John the Evangelist church in Farncombe.

We were pleased to continue funding the Trinity Trust Team, to support their valuable work with children and young people in schools and the community.

If anyone would like to know more about our activities, please visit our website at <https://www.godalmingchurches.org/>.

James Toon

Go Godalming Youth Canoe Club's report to the Go Godalming Association



The club has had a successful year after the couple of years of enforced lockdown by people who think lockdown should apply to those who put them into office but not themselves.

Some of us old gentlemen are reaching their sell by date and becoming inflected with parts of their body seizing up or not working properly, so we need to have young blood coming through to carry on a 20-year-old club.

We had six of the young people qualify for their initial instructor's course last season, so have been using these new instructors to take a few members out to show strokes too, with us old gentlemen paddling down to see that they are carrying out the brief given to them, we have had some very complimentary comments from parents of the young people the girl and guys have instructed.

In 2022 we organised another Foundation Safety and Rescue Training (F.S.R.T) course, this is needed to progress to the instructor training. 8 young people who passed this are now awaiting their instructor course. Two of our young persons who could not attend the course went to a commercial company to qualify, one of whom used the commercial company to take his instructor's ticket.

We have been able to offer more access to Stand Up Paddle Boards (SUP's) following a Grant. The club now has 8 SUP's 6 inflatable ones and 2 rigid ones, on a Thursday the young people all wish to have a go on them.

The Thursday evenings club nights were very well attended, with a maximum of 32 young people on the warmer evenings. Some wish to learn and improve, a few attend and use the sessions as a social, we encourage them to progress but do not force any to do strokes they are uncomfortable with. The AGM and Awards evening in October saw Joseph awarded the best achiever of a new paddler for the year.

We organised a taster session on the Town's Queens Platinum Jubilee Day at the Phillips Memorial fields. We were going to operate from 10:00 to 16:00, on arrival just after 09:30 there were clients awaiting the start and at 15:30 we had to have Stewards placed on the rear of the queue to stop anyone else joining the queue. A successful day overall and over 200 people got onto the river.

At the Town Staycation event the taster session we operated on the Saturday of the event from 10:00 to 15:00 saw 127 people get onto the water. We had a visit from The Town Mayor who even had a go and took the time to speak with a young girl who was being pushed into the event by a parent, the young lady ended up have a go with all three craft, Canoe, Kayak & SUP. Taster sessions are open to all ages. This year our youngest on the water was 10 months old and the oldest was a sprightly young lady of 82.

On the Monday to Friday, we ran the usual Canoe/Kayak/SUP course and had 19 young people sign up for the course.

We have had our pool sessions over the winter at Charterhouse Pool. Thanks for this must go to Tim Ostle for allowing us to use the facility, it allows the young people to hone their rolls and rescues and those who are apprehensive of capsizing in the river to capsize first in the pool.

We had been sending a team along to the Tandridge Leisure Centre on a Sunday evening to take part in the Canoe POLO league Tandridge Canoe Club run. Last summer on our first try, where we started a couple of weeks later than the other teams we came third out of eight teams and the Autumn league saw them go one better with a second.

On February 26th 6 young people were taken down to the Cardiff International White-Water Centre for the day where the flow of water starts at 4 cumecs and then raises to 6 then 8 cumecs of flow, a superb time was had by all and photos can be seen on our Facebook page

As this is our 20th Anniversary, we are looking at doing a trip to celebrate the event.

We have already been approached by Witley Guides and Brownies to run two wet evenings for the young ladies.

We will be carrying out the Staycation taster session on the first Saturday in August and the week's Staycation Canoe Course the first full week in August.

Peter Harris

Godalming Museum's report to the Go Godalming Association



We were sad to lose Angela Pattinson, Curator of the Museum for the last 24 years, but welcome her successor Rhiannon Jones. The long-awaited refurbishment of the Resources Room was finally completed and is now the home of the permanent Jack Phillips exhibition. We are extremely fortunate to have been gifted on permanent loan the outstanding collection of postcards sent by Jack to his sister. It is hoped that this will become a resource for local schools.

There has been an interesting programme of exhibitions and talks, and this will continue over the next few months.

Jackie Tickner

Godalming Chamber of Commerce's report to the Go Godalming Association



The Chamber is still involved with the regeneration of Crown Court project. The Chamber has held its AGM and have 2 new committee members, they are both 20 years of age, so youth is good for modern technology!

We are still working with the BID application and now we have a Godalming BID website and project Manager.

The Godalming Classic Car show on the 2nd July has been booked at the Burys with 50 Classics attending. This is also the date for the Food Festival.

John Taylor

Godalming Trust's report to the Go Godalming Association



We started the year optimistic that we would be able to get back to 'normal' with our events. In March/April the programme for the Heritage Open Days was started and there was much enthusiasm by people to reopen without Covid restrictions in 2021. One venue decided not to open but we were pleased to welcome back Ladywell Convent who had been closed for several years while the building was subject to major refurbishment. Well worth a visit to see the attention to detail of the arts and crafts movement to the refurbishment.

The guided town history walks started in May and were well attended throughout the summer. A first was that the August walk had to be postponed due to the extreme heat weather warning. The town has little shade on the best of summer days and it turned out to be a wise decision. The walk was rescheduled for October and we had a good response.

Having hoped that all would run smoothly the death of the Queen on 9 September resulted in some of the properties pulling out of Heritage Open Days, only one was a ticketed venue so it was really difficult to get the message out about which were closed despite putting a clear message in the programme to check the national website for any late changes to the programme. Both the Museum and Godalming Town Council supported us in getting the news out. We had only one complaint from someone who had turned up and found a venue closed. Covid and other problems meant we struggled to get enough stewards for the Pepperpot and other venues who asked for assistance.

The AGM took place on 27 September, again hit by Covid, which resulted, apparently, with a much lower attendance which was a shame as the film shown by Circle 8 films on the history of the road through Hindhead and the eventual opening of the tunnel was really fascinating. The Chairman was ill and the meeting was chaired by the Vice Chairman.

After the AGM and messages of thanks to all those involved in Heritage Open Days the business quietens down, though a watching brief is maintained on the planning applications.

Now it is March 2023 the year starts off with contacting all the potential properties for Heritage Open Days and starting to get together all the information needed for the national website. The programme has to be ready for the publisher by mid June and all the entries on the website by 31 July. There may be a reopening of a property this year and an additional walk but mostly the programme will be as last year.

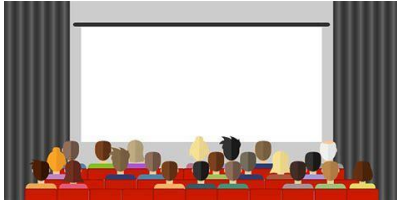
The guided town history walks will be on May 13, June 17, July 8 and August 12.

2023 should be the year for our Civic Design Awards, but the pandemic has delayed planning applications and building projects and there may not be any suitable projects to consider. We can make a decision following an appeal in our Spring newsletter.

We are desperately seeking new Committee members to help us deliver our aims and objectives as we are stretched to the limit.

Pam Talbot

Godalming Film Societies report to the Go Godalming Association



The Society is now into its 16th year. Membership suffered inevitably during the pandemic but is recovering and is now over 200.

We began our 16th season at the Borough Hall on 6th September with “The Phantom of the Open”, attended by 115 members and introduced by Scott Murray, one of the authors of the book on which the film is based. The major innovation this season has been to devote one evening, on 24th January, to showing a selection of short films. This was extremely well received and showed the variety of scenarios, moods and ideas that can be achieved in this medium.

Due to the impact of COVID on our membership and finances, we have suspended GFS Awards for this year and also our previously annual Film Festival. We hope to revive these in future seasons.

Our operations depend heavily on the Borough Hall as a venue and on the equipment we assisted Waverley BC to acquire. As regular users we recognise that the Borough Hall needs significant refurbishing for which money has to be found and we support the Council’s commitment to this, without prejudice in regard to any specific proposal.

Stephen Smith

Go Perform/Godalming Operatic report to the Go Godalming Association



There had been recent performances of The Pirates of Penzance in Leatherhead and Godalming, and some concerts in December. Several members of the committee had retired, but it was hoped that links could be forged with the Music Department at Surrey University.

Anne Gray

Relaxed Cinema's report to the Go Godalming Association



Our programme of film screenings in the Wilfrid Noyce Centre is up and running again after the pandemic, every other month, and targeted at those not able to enjoy films in normal cinemas. The films we show are normally musicals, as there is good evidence that those with dementia are better able to follow the often simple story lines and remember the music.

Our most recent screening in January was Mamma Mia: Here We Go Again and was enthusiastically watched by 44 guests. Just for a change we will screen a Pink Panther film in March, which we understand has gone down well at other similar screenings.

Whilst we need to generate about £200 to cover our costs for each screening and were most fortunate to receive a donation from Go Godalming last year, our screenings over the next year have been covered by a grant from the Community Foundation for Surrey. This has relieved us of the fundraising pressure for a few months.

We are supported by many volunteers from the Film Society as well as Godalming Town Council. How lucky we are in Godalming to have so many willing volunteers.

Repair Café's report to the Go Godalming Association



I expect by now you are aware that we have a repair café in Godalming. The cafe operates from the small rooms of the Wilfrid Noyce Centre on the 4th Saturday morning of each month. People bring their broken household items to the café and are introduced to volunteers who help them fix their items, in most cases. Sometimes the item is unfixable but across the nearly 200 items so far brought in, the unfixable rate is just 18%.

The Café provides the fixing service, as well as tea, coffee and cake for free. Owners are welcome to make donations if they wish.

We opened for a trial run in June 2022 and have now had a total of 8 sessions. We have a total of about 30 volunteers of which around 20 are providing craft, technical or IT assistance to owners to help get their broken items fixed. The atmosphere in the café is very jolly and everyone comments about how lucky we are to have so many people offering their time and skills for the benefit of others.

Once again, we benefit hugely from the support of Godalming Town Council.

Both reports compiled by Ian Coult