

GO
GODALMING

Supporting & promoting
Godalming to benefit
the Community



AGM & OPEN MEETING

Tuesday 23rd March 2021

THE **GO GODALMING** ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & OPEN MEETING

Tuesday 23rd March on ZOOM

6:45 for 7PM

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 13 March 2019.
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 Gillian Martin
 - Youth/Canoe Activities Peter Harris
 - Godalming Museum Jacky Tickner
 - Godalming Operatic Society Zoe Cantrill
 - Chamber of Commerce John Taylor
 - Godalming Trust Pam Talbot
 - Godalming Film Society Ian Coult
8. Election of Officers
9. Any Other Business
10. A talk on the Community Store by Andy Jeffery – Town Clerk
11. Final thoughts from our Town Mayor – Penny Rivers

To join the meeting – please click on the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84392458635?pwd=L0pSMIN5cVl5RTVyeDI4ZitEYVdYdz09>

Meeting ID: 843 9245 8635

Passcode: 188363

Chairman's report to the Go Godalming Association



A BIG welcome to you all to our Annual General Meeting and to our Town Mayor Penny.

Tonight, like so many other events, we are seeing each other on our screens or our tablets or our mobile 'phones – some years ago, this technology was not available to us and had we then found ourselves in such unforeseen circumstances, this meeting would not have taken place.

Indeed, it did not take place last year as the pandemic struck us just at that time, so all our groups planned events were put 'on-hold' and as the year progressed, got cancelled... so that was 2020.

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.

So, this year's meeting is a bit different but hopefully our various groups will be able to give us some cause for enthusiasm once the current round of restrictions ends.

I am pleased to report that the association is in the safe hands of its executive and although we have not met since January last year, we have managed to keep in touch 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 we said goodbye to Tony Bennewith after many years of looking after our accounts and welcomed Andrew Bolton into the treasurer's role.

I have been in the chair for eight years now and really think that it is the time for some fresh blood – fresh ideas and a fresh vision for our organisation – so would reiterate that although I am not off yet, 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.

This year we have seen a surge of volunteering from all sectors of our community and probably best represented by the community food store at the Wilfrid Noyce Centre – this has been and still is a lifeline to many families and I could not think of anyone better to talk about this than our Town Clerk Andy Jeffrey – we will hear from him at the end of the meeting.

2020 saw the demise of the Godalming Lottery – GOLO - although this splendid initiative had been struggling a bit over the last couple of years, it still managed to support local good causes on a regular basis and in the eleven and a half years it distributed over £50,000...

The lockdown really killed it as a large sales percentage came from our public houses – however one day the team will get together again and share a drink and memories which of course we have been unable to do.

2020 also saw the Cellar Café close its doors in Crown Court in March after some 40 years but to re-open in October in the old staff café in Waverley. However, many of our High Street shops have not been so fortunate and closed their doors not to re-open – we hope for better times to come for our Town.

Other Go Godalming group activities also stopped – the Bandstand concerts – Godalming in Bloom’s summer programme – Sport Godalming’s annual run - these all suffered, although our Canoe Club were able to take to the water between lockdowns. We also have now missed two Farncombe Parish Church Spring Fairs not to mention local Town events!

Our website – www.gogodalming.org.uk – features all our member groups and yet another plug from me - please make use of this site and 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...

A date for your diary – Sport Godalming’s AGM and Open Meeting takes place in a couple of days’ (25th) again via Zoom – full details can be found on their website.

And do you remember the ‘Godalming Alphabet’ tea towels that we had made a couple of years ago? Well, we have sold three-quarters of the stock and I still have 25 here - so if you would like one or two or more... let me know, they are unique! And only £7.50 each with £2.50 going to charity.

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 and 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

OFFICER’S REPORTS

Treasurer’s Report



Like many other organisations our activities were severely curtailed by Covid 19.

**The Go Godalming Association
Income & Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31 December 2020**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Income		
Donations 100 Subscriptions	905	790
Contributions to Insurance	1,100	1,150
Tea Towels	53	473
Total income	2,058	2,513
Expenditure		
Insurance	1,200	1,142
Hall hire and catering (net)		68
Website	117	280
Print, postage, and stationery	120	76
Spring fair fete	30	30
Tea Towels		469
Publicity	200	
Total expenditure	1,667	2,065
Excess of (Expenditure)/Income for the year	391	448
Balance Sheet		
	2020	2019
	£	£
Current Assets		
Cash at bank	2,849	2,458
	2,849	2,458
Bandstand Fund		
Balance brought forward	2,458	2,010
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	391	448
Balance carried forward	2,849	2,458

We collected slightly more subscriptions, most before lockdown started, the other main item of income and expenditure was the insurance. We have taken steps to reduce the cost in 2021.

**Bandstand Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31 December 2020**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Income		
Band sponsorship	640	4,100
Collections		3,530
Interest	1	1
Total Income	641	7,631
Expenditure		
Bands	200	6,650
One off free concert	450	
Annual payment to Godalming Town Council		676
Insurance contribution	225	250
Printing and copying		244
Electricity		180
Godalming PC		500
Proms material		350
Website	79	178
Sound services		34
Helpers outing		50
Loos for Do's		117
Sundry (Joy's expenses)		243
Total expenditure	954	9,472
Excess of (expenditure)/income for the year	(313)	(1,841)

Bandstand Balance Sheet

	2020	2019
	£	£
Current Assets		
Lloyds Current Account	5,001	5,315
Lloyds Instant Access	2,124	2,123
	7,125	7,438
Bandstand Fund		
Balance brought forward	7,438	9,279
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(313)	(1,841)
Balance carried forward	7,125	7,438

Very little happened in 2020 but we did have an online concert which cost a bit to organise.

Andrew Bolton
Treasurer



Membership Report

The final situation was as follows:

Businesses/Organisations -

The membership was 47 compared with 50 at the end of 2019 – a net decrease of 3.

There were no new business/organisation members during 2020

The list of business/organisation members can be found overleaf.

$$50 + 0 - 3 = 47$$

Individuals -

The membership was 56 compared with 58 at the end of 2019 - a net decrease of 2

There were no new individual members during 2020.

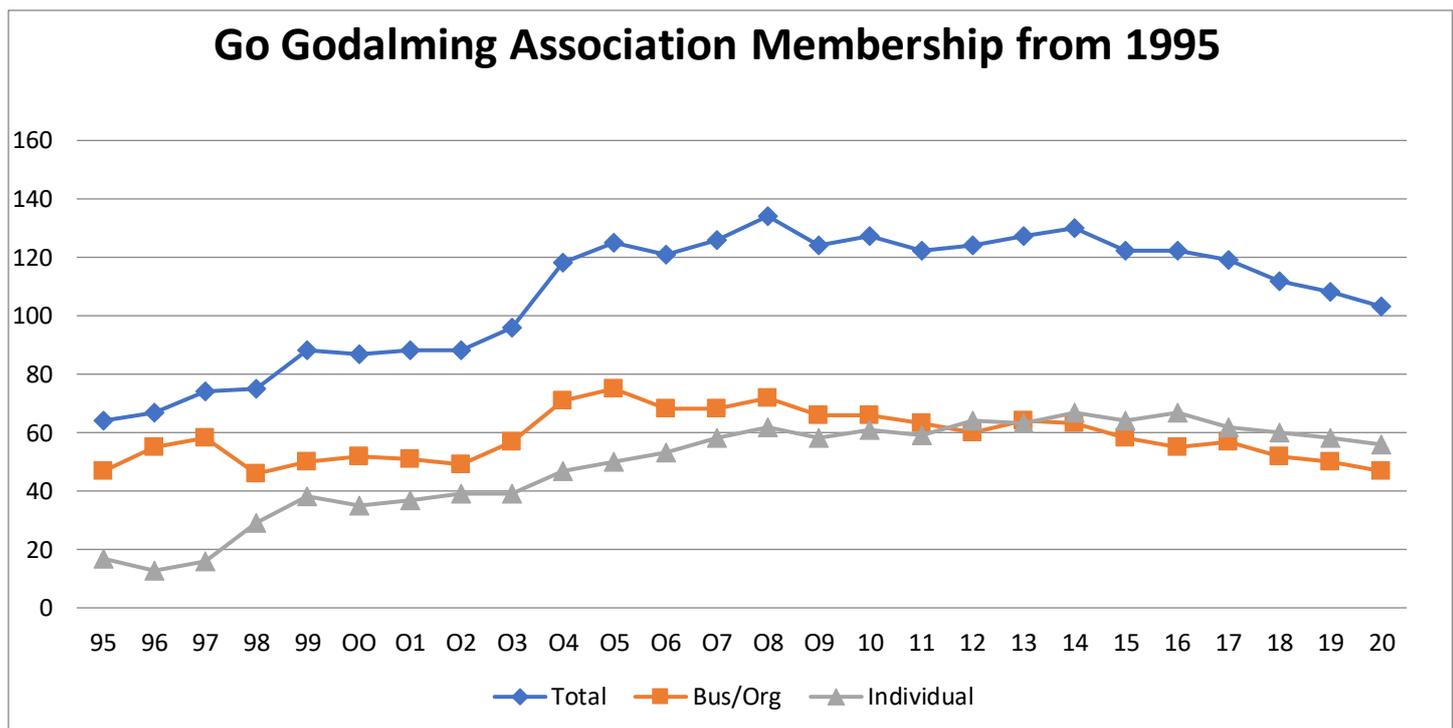
$$56 + 0 - 2 = 58$$

As in previous years, renewal invitations have included an invitation to give an additional voluntary donation over and above our very-small basic membership fees. Our thanks to all those who have responded, and this resulted in an extra £95 income for 2020.

The voluntary additional donations with memberships for 2021 currently stand at £70.

An organisational membership list is shown on our website.

***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
Membership



Band Concerts

2020 was the 1st year since 2005 without a Summer Season of Bandstand Concerts, although we were able to reach out by putting 3 virtual concerts online last summer.

However, Good News for Summer 2021! After discussions with our Town Clerk, we are planning our first concert on Sunday 27th June. This is the first Sunday after 21st June, which is the first date on which Step 4 of the Government's Removal of Lockdown restrictions might take place. It could therefore still be subject to change. However, all signs are good.

This first concert will be advertised as a Bumper Bandstand Concert as it will feature both Godalming Band and The Salts Sea Shanty Folk Band who are a firm favourite with Godalming.

As it is anticipated that we will have a large crowd to this concert, the Town Council are going to help with additional stewarding and rubbish collection.

The response from the Bands has been rewarding. The Concert planned for the following week, 4th July, features Rock Choir and Azure Rock Band. I tentatively asked Tom, the Director of Rock Choir whether both the Choir and the Band would be well enough rehearsed because of Lockdown restrictions and his typical upbeat response was "Joy, we'll **make** it happen!"

Joy Poulter
Concert Organiser

Other reports from Member groups



The following is an excerpt from my chairman's report to the AGM.

When I wrote my report in January last year, we were full of plans for the year ahead and were only vaguely aware of a nasty virus somewhere in China in a place we had never heard of... and then the world fell apart...

Like Go Godalming, we did not hold an open AGM either – we had planned for this only days before the first lockdown, so the previous minutes, accounts and elections were all conducted over email – and all happily approved I am pleased to say.

Twelve months later, we will have our AGM face-to-face... but by Zoom – twelve months ago, most of us had never heard of Zoom... now we are all (well most of us...) Zooming on a regular basis.

But we have not been sitting here looking out of the window wondering when we might be allowed to take part in some sport, so let me give you a brief snapshot of what we have been up to...

Our Go for Gold awards were made to five worthy recipients – Alex Cant (Lacrosse) Christopher Carson (Kayaking) Yasmina Hasan (Bowls) Helen McClure (Triathlon) and Toby Roberts (Climbing) - you can read their resumés on the website.

We heard in May that we had not been awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service – obviously, this was a disappointment but if nothing else, it drew our team closer together, and overall, I think, irrespective of either being awarded such an honour... or not, gave us all a far better perspective of why we are doing what we are doing and to that end, I was grateful for that opportunity.

The pandemic stopped everything – we had hoped that the long awaited 'Park Run' which we have supported from the day it was announced three years ago... one would have thought by now this would have been firmly in the calendar but alas still no news...

Another casualty is the Golf Club on Broadwater Park – one thing that Sport Godalming does do is 'fight individual's or team's corner against bureaucracy' – in this case a thriving club, temporally closed due to waste coming up through the earth (it was originally built of a landfill site) but with approved plans to up-grade.

As a member club, we have been in close touch with them over the past year and posed questions at Waverley council level – like the Park Run, we have no answers and it does appear to me that things like good exercise, which are paramount to good health, both mental and physical, seem to be overlooked – I do hope that both issues are resolved sooner rather than later, and that sport will not be ignored and will be the ultimate winner.

We have a new website - this was launched at the end of last year – have a look at it – www.sportgodalming.org.uk

In January 2021, we were gifted a legacy, which was from someone we knew well and who was a keen local sportsman. When you get something special like this, you think long and hard on the best way to use it – maybe giving a talented youngster the opportunity to blossom by way of professional coaching or an annual award in that person's memory - not something to decide on in a hurry so we will keep you posted.

So that is our 2020... and to be realistic, probably our 2021 as well... as to date our Godalming Run is cancelled and without sport, probably our sports awards will go the same way – hopefully, we will be able to squeeze in our Bowls finals again in the late summer, but like last year, it will probably be the only Sport Godalming event.

Simon Crowther



Godalming-in-Bloom was another programme that was wiped out this year and what a summer it was for our gardens... however my thanks to all our supporters who asked us to carry forward their sponsorship or who guaranteed same for next year – this means we will start our 2021(or even 2022?) programme fully funded.

Anne Eve



A YEAR OF CHANGE.

Rev. Hannah Moore – Elstead, Thursley, Shackleford and Peperharow churches and Rev. Ian Maslin – Hascombe and Dunsfold churches are now both settled in their ministries. Rev. Sandra Platford, Godalming Baptist Church, has recently resigned through ill health and Rev. Jane Vlach, Godalming Parish Rector will leave in May, also through ill health. Rev Maggie Stirling Troy, curate at St. John's Church, Farncombe retires in July and is moving from the area. David Preece, curate at Busbridge Church has moved on and Patrick Samuels, currently training, will join that team later this year.

We are making plans for a Good Friday Pilgrim Trail with 9 churches taking part and look forward to being able to plan events later in the year which are "live" and not "zoom".

Gillian Martin

The Go Godalming Youth Canoe Club



2020 was a bit like the Hokey-Kokey, COVID locks you in Boris lets you out you isolate and worry what's it's all about.

A funny old year. Started so well for the young people with a trip down to Cardiff to do the international White-Water Centre.

We then we had six of them lined up to do their initial instructor's course!

Overall, we managed 6 weeks on the water and that was it again. We are having a ZOOM meeting on Monday 22nd to work out what we are able to do come Easter.

During the Pandemic the Club supported the Community Shop with donations and one of our instructors delivering Eggs, not Chocolate ones either

Not much more to report

Peter Harris



In March 2020 the museum closed its doors. All planned events had to be cancelled (including lectures, school and group visits, exhibitions, the Summer Lunch and a trip to Chichester) and we had to let our volunteers and supporters know. We had to find new ways of working overnight. The Town Council provided IT equipment for us to work from home and we set up a protocol so that we could safely visit the museum periodically to check on the

building and collections and pick up messages and post. Each time we took on a new task, we were reminded just how much the volunteers do behind the scenes. Throughout the year, we have tried to keep in regular touch with the volunteers and Friends.

We wanted the museum to play a role in supporting its community during lockdown and felt that what we could offer was the distraction of history; the pleasure of taking your attention off the present day for a while and discovering something surprising or engaging in local heritage. This was how the museum's first lockdown videos came about, posted daily on Facebook, and also copied to the museum website.

<http://www.godalmingmuseum.org.uk/index.php?page=videos-on-facebook> .

Once schools reopened, we continued to offer our school loan box service, with a quarantine period between loans, and our enquiries service was in great demand. We also received generous donations to the collections as a result of lockdown clearouts.

It was lovely to welcome visitors back in August, September and October, even through masks and Perspex shields. With pre-booking, limited access and fewer opening hours, we opened with the *Secret Cemetery* exhibition, drawing on material generously shared by the Surrey County Archaeology Unit and the University of Roehampton, and funded by Waverley Borough Council, the Surrey Archaeological Society, Godalming Rotary and Round Table.

We planned to re-open after the end of the *Secret Cemetery* exhibition, but the second lockdown put paid to that. We agreed to stay closed at least until Easter and to focus on delivering services online. Again events overtook us, as the country entered its third lockdown in January. On the current plan, museums will not be able to open again before 17th May. We hope to open then with an exhibition detailing the history of the museum, in this, its centenary year. We will advertise the re-opening details as soon as we can. Our website will be kept up to date.

Since October we have set up a small online shop:

<http://www.godalmingmuseum.org.uk/index.php?page=the-shop> .

We are developing online services for schools with the support of the Godalming Trust, and are planning our first online lecture for 31st March. Tickets available now from the online shop. Alison does regular Facebook posts of photographs from the collection alongside present-day versions of the same views. Since January, these have been interspersed with videos of people's favourite objects in the collections, in honour of the museum's centenary.

We are very grateful to all who have supported the museum over the last year, including our colleagues at Godalming Town Council and the museum trustees and volunteers. It is already clear that 2021 brings its own challenges, but we are looking forward to reopening in mid- May.

Alison Pattison and Angela Terelak.



Last year was a difficult year for the Chamber and everyone because of Covid, as a recovering victim of the Covid (March to September) the Chamber decided to update our website which has taken a long time.

We had our AGM with zoom and was successful with all officers remaining to stay. The Food Festival we have cancelled for July, but we are looking into moving it to September depending on lockdown.

We have every 6 weeks a zoom meeting with Waverley and the other 3 Chamber under Waverley, which are very successful for seeing how the other Towns operate. The BID situation was suspended but we are hoping to move it forward in September.

We reduced our membership subscriptions for the year and has been very good with people returning to join.

I do not want to build him up too much but our relationship with the Town Council and Andy Jeffery again has been so good because he wants the Town to survive!

John Taylor



Along with most other organisations our ability to undertake any activities in the last year has been virtually zero. However, our Planning Subgroup have continued to keep a close eye on all the applications submitted to Waverley Borough Council during the year. There have been some changes to permitted development introduced and others out for consultation which will restrict what action can be taken on some applications.

We were pleased to see many of our members at our AGM which took place by ZOOM in November 2020, this was later than usual as we had hoped that things might have been easier by then, which of course they weren't and we were heading back into lockdown.

Our hopes for 2021 are that we can restart our popular Town History walks in June and continue through to September and that Heritage Open Days can go ahead in some form 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 Britain'. The other initiative put on hold last year was 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 yet to be agreed.

We are concerned about the future and a whole year without any activities has limited our publicity to attract new members and increase the Committee. Those who did express an interest in joining the Committee I hope will still be there when we meet in person again. We felt with so little happening it was not constructive to include them in our ZOOM meetings as it would not be representative of our annual events.

Pam Talbot



Just like all other groups, the GFS has been prevented by the COVID pandemic from holding film screenings in the Borough Hall. However, with the amazing technical skills of one of our committee members, Paul James, we have been able to stream films to our members in their homes and as result, we have not missed a single Tuesday of planned film enjoyment since the start of COVID a year ago.

To achieve this several of our committee members have had to work very hard on both the technical issues of streaming to a wide variety of receiving devices as well as the commercial issues of obtaining licences to do private streamings. We are most grateful to them for the many hours of voluntary work done.

Looking forward, we hope that with effective vaccinations and the virus in retreat, we have a sporting chance of being back in the Borough Hall for communal screenings next season starting in September 2021. If we can start the GFS screenings again, we will also be looking to screen some films under the Relaxed Cinema in Godalming umbrella, chosen for those with conditions that prevent them going to regular cinemas. Watch this space and the GFS website.

Ian Coult

At this time, we have our election of officers for the next year – all have advised that they are prepared to stand again for another year- they are:

Simon Crowther - Chairman – chairman@gogodalming.org.uk

Anne Eve – Secretary – secretary@gogodalming.org.uk

Roger Barnett – Membership – membership@gogodalming.org.uk

Andrew Bolton – Treasurer – treasurer@gogodalming.org.uk



We are always happy to have new members of the association – be it individuals or groups, so please contact Roger Barnett if you would like to join us.

Andy Jeffery will now give us a short talk about the 'Community Store'.

Finally, we welcome our Town Mayor Cllr. Penny Rivers to say a few words to conclude our meeting.

