





NEWS

- Autumn 2017 -





The Mayor of Godalming

The role of Mayor is steeped in tradition and ceremony. The Mayor represents Godalming with the insignia of the mace (which was donated to Godalming by Charterhouse School in 1937), robes and chains of office.

The Mayor connects the present day with history and acts as a symbol of continuity. In the 19th Century the choice of Mayor was very restricted, but today's first citizen can and does come from any class, gender or ethnic background, reflecting the society we live in.

The Mayor is the first citizen of the town; within the town he or she has precedence over all but the members of the Royal Family, the Queen's deputy, the Lord Lieutenant and Mayor of Waverley if he or she is present. In their civic role the Mayor meets with individuals and communities to honour them for their contribution to the life of the town and to promote civic pride.

The role of the Mayor is distinct from that of a councillor and the Mayor acts in a non-political manner when carrying out the civic role. The many engagements undertaken by the Mayor act as a link



between the various groups and organisations in the town. The Mayor can share the views of the community with the Council and can also take the Council's message out into the community and work towards achieving the Council's Social, Educational and Economic aims.

There are certain events which have a town-wide significance and incorporate ceremonial elements including the annual Civic Service. This year's Mayor, Councillor Simon Thornton, has conducted many and varied

engagements within our community, including his Civic Service, which he chose to hold this year as a secular civic service in the Wilfrid Noyce Centre. As well as the traditional procession by Councillors and the Mayoral Promise to our community, this service saw contributions from both our local Secondary Schools as well as St Hilary's School, Moss Lane Infant School and Godalming Sixth Form College.

If you wish to invite the Mayor to your community event please contact the Mayor's Secretary who can be contacted on 01483 523575 office@godalmingtc.gov.uk or visit godalming-tc.gov.uk/Mayor/ for an online booking form.

Photos at top by Phil Kemp. www.theshutterbox.co.uk



Public Toilets in Godalming



As readers of Godalming Town Council's newsletter will be aware, Waverley Borough Council took the decision earlier this year to close the

toilet facilities in Crown Court, Godalming and North Street, Farncombe along with the toilet facilities in Haslemere. As far as Godalming is concerned, this just leaves the public toilets in Broadwater Park open.

The Town Council has made strong representations on behalf of Godalming's residents for the Borough Council to reconsider its closure decision, however, the budget pressures faced by Waverley Borough Council means it is unable to continue to provide these public convenience facilities.

Godalming Town Council is now faced with the difficult decisions of whether it is able to take on these facilities and re-open them for public use. At the time of going to press the Town Council had written to Waverley Borough Council to seek possible long term solutions. If a workable resolution can be found, the cost of providing the public toilet facilities will fall to the Town Council.

Taking on the toilets poses a dilemma for the Town Council as it does not have scope within its current budget to fund this extra service, meaning that it will have to very carefully consider the potential for having to increase its portion of the Council Tax in order to facilitate these services.

As negotiations between the Town Council and Waverley continue, please keep an eye on our website at www.godalming-tc.gov.uk for updates on the situation.

Other Town Dates for your Diary

Proms in the Park

Godalming Bandstand 5pm on Saturday 9 September 2017 with The Massed Band of Farnham and Haslemere & Farnham Corps of Drums

Heritage Open Days

At venues all over the town and surrounding areas Saturday 9 and Sunday10 September 2017

• Farmers' Market

Godalming High Street 10am on Saturday 23 September 2017 and again on Saturday 28 October 2017

Remembrance Sunday

Parade departs The Burys at 10.25am, marching to the War Memorial (Phillips Memorial Park) for a service of Remembrance at 10.45am on Sunday 12 November 2017

• Christmas Festival & Lights Switch-On

Godalming Town Centre from 10am on Saturday 25 November 2017 (Lights Switched-On at 5pm)

• Town Day including Blessing of the Crib & Town Carol Service

Godalming Town Centre from 10am on Saturday 9 December 2017 Blessing of the Crib at The Pepperpot at 3.30pm, Carol Service at Ss Peter & Paul Church at 4pm)



Godalming Musical Firework Extravaganza Friday 3 November



Following the success of the inaugural Community Firework Display and torch-lit procession held at The Burys, Godalming Town Council and its community partners — Rotary in Godalming, Round Table, 41 Club and supported by Waverley Borough Council, is delighted to announce that this year will see the event returning to the town with "Disco Inferno" themed fireworks to be held on Friday 3 November.

The firework and funfair site will open at 6pm and the firework display will be set off at 8pm. Why not begin the evening by taking part in the torchlit procession? The procession starts from the bottom of Church Street. Torches will be available to buy from 6pm and at 7.15pm the procession will set off, via the High Street, for The Burys. Once the procession arrives at The Burys, the fireworks will dance to the sound of "Disco Inferno", where you can enjoy the fireworks, the fun of the fair and some tasty street food.

The only place to see and hear all the firework show will be on The Burys Field.

This will be a great evening by the community for the community. Only those on The Burys Field will be able to see the fireworks 'dancing to the music'.

Tickets are limited and are available for purchase in advance at www.godalming-tc.gov.uk/fireworks. Great value family tickets at £15.00 are available for

two adults and up to three children under 16 years old, which will give you entry to the fireworks and funfair and to take part in the torch-lit procession. Just print out your ticket and bring it to either Crown Court or Church Street to get your entry wristbands.

Individual adult tickets £6.40, children's (under 16 years old) tickets £3.50 are also available. Child ticket holders must be accompanied by an adult ticket holder.

Stop Press:

Bonus family tickets with a free procession torch, sponsored by Godalming Chamberr of Commerce, are now available.

We need your support to make this event a success. Profits from the event will help Godalming Rotary Clubs and Godalming Round Table continue assisting local charities and good causes.

Entry and exit from Crown Court Car Park will be limited between 7.15pm and 8.30pm; other car parks are available throughout the town (Waverley Borough car parks are free after 6.30pm), but the best way to travel is on foot!

Ticket holders who have mobility or other special requirements are requested to contact the Town Council prior to 3 November to discuss access arrangements.

The fireworks are being sponsored by Godalming & District Chamber of Commerce.

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