



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

“BLUE PLAQUE FOR JACK”

The latest plan by the Farncombe Initiative group to come to fruition is the brain child of Farncombe Initiative member and local resident Paul Devereaux. When Paul joined the group with an idea to have an English Heritage blue plaque dedicated to Jack Phillips, Wireless Operator aboard RMS Titanic, sited at the place of Jack's birth in Farncombe: he did not realise it would become a reality. Now, the Farncombe Initiative Group, has collaborated with the Godalming Trust and Co-operative Funeral Care to erect a blue plaque at the site of his birthplace.

The historic blue plaque will be officially unveiled at the Cooperative Funeral Care site in Farncombe Street, Farncombe by Godalming Town Council's Mayor Cllr David Hunter and Chair of the Godalming Trust, Pam Talbot.

Cllr David Hunter, Godalming Town Mayor said “Godalming Town Council is delighted to see this plaque installed to honour this most famous of Godhelmians, and I would like to thank all those involved in making this happen”.

Pam Talbot, Chair of Godalming Trust said “The Godalming Trust is pleased to have been able to make a substantial contribution to the Blue Plaque marking the site of Jack Phillips birth place. This is only the second plaque we have been asked to fund. We will welcome interesting and viable proposals for blue plaques to celebrate prominent individuals and mark other significant historical associations in Godalming, Farncombe and adjacent parishes.”

Amanda Le Boutillier, co-author of Phillips Memorial Park, an Arts and Crafts Movement Tribute to a Hero of the Titanic, said I think the plaque is a lovely idea and it's so great that you will be unveiling it on Jack's 130th birthday”.

David Humble, Principal Funeral Director at Co-op Funeralcare said: “Jack Phillips is deemed an honorary member of the Farncombe community and the unveiling of the blue plaque at Co-op Funeralcare allows his memory to live on. We were delighted to be asked to participate in the unveiling and are looking forward to welcoming local residents along as we celebrate the rich historical background of the area.”

The unveiling takes place on 11th April 2017 at 11.00am in Farncombe Street, Farncombe 130 years after Jack's birthday and the ceremony will be marked with a dove release.

Ends....

Notes: For Editors Photographs available on request

For more information on this release, please contact Suzie Gortler Godalming Town Projects Coordinator
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