



Supporting Our Community

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

STAYCATION, A HOWLING SUCCESS!

Residents of Godalming were certainly kept busy during Godalming Town Council's Staycation week (4-12 August). Starting with Staycation Live Music Festival on Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 August, visitors enjoyed the glorious weather whilst listening to some eclectic bands and performers down by the river.

Throughout Staycation week there were many new activities as well as old favourites, for residents to enjoy. This year, three Street Dance classes were introduced and a new creative writing class held at The Pepperpot, which produced some sterling work. Children and adults learnt to play Bridge and other card games, there was a tree planting workshop as well as a craft workshop making mini wooden beach huts from reclaimed materials and two Tai Chi classes. Residents could be found enjoying and learning new things including flower arranging demos, ukulele playing, learning to play a brass instrument, tennis, fun cookery classes, football, cricket, handbell ringing, tennis, fishing, bowling, swimming and canoeing. A big success was the intergenerational afternoon where seniors and young people alike got together to play traditional games, enjoy cake, reminisce and hear a talk from a local resident about her WWII experiences.

Godalming Town Council is one of the few local councils in the UK to organise such an extensive Staycation programme for its residents. Over the last 9 years, the community has supported Staycation and this year was no exception, with residents saying:

"I'd like to say a massive thank you for Staycation!! Wow another great year, Ukulele's - well I've not played an instrument since school, can't say I did it well but I did it and again friendly welcoming people!"

"Stone painting with the WI was welcomed with children, people keen to share ideas and speak to others. All in all the community came together and showed us how well they enjoy their crafts, hobbies with smiles. Giving up their time to share events is what life should be about and Godalming did it with style-thank you all".

Follow Us on:



"I just wanted to say how good Staycation is so far this year - well done!! My son loved the canoe taster on Saturday", another wrote in to say "These events are fab. My daughter loved the ballet session yesterday".

"I just wanted to let you know that we attended a kids' ballet Staycation workshop this morning. The teacher was wonderful with the children, long may it continue!"

Godalming Town Council's end of Staycation event was **Dogalming**, a fun Dog Show and Fete held at Aarons Hill Recreation Ground. Canine Partners started the show by putting on a demonstration with their superb dog Warwick showing how assistance dogs can help transform the lives of people with disabilities. The entry money for the dog show was donated to Canine Partners and Gemma Tupper from Canine Partners said "It was a great event and the money raised will go towards training a new puppy".

Dogalming had over 60 canines of varying breeds and ages enter into the dog show categories and the winners of each were entered in to the Best in Show. Winner of the Best Puppy was Frankie the Dachshund, Jeffery the Bassett Hound delighted everyone again this year winning the Best Dressed category as Dolly Parton with Benji the pirate coming a close second. The Best Family dog was won by a delightful Mongrel called Bambi and Best Veteran was won by Murphy, a Cocker Spaniel. The overall Best in Show Winner was Bambi. The judging panel included Godalming Pet Doctors Vets, Simon Smith and Shannon Goss who said "it was an excellent and well run event with dogs and owners having fun, we love coming to Dogalming".

Godalming Town Council would like to thank Nestle Purina who sponsored a wide variety of prizes including Dentalife Stix, which were given to everyone who entered the show as well as other dogs who were just visiting. The main prizes included 12.5kg bags of dog food, which were bigger than some of the dogs!

The Mayor of Godalming, Cllr Nick Williams along with the Mayoress Jeanne Williams who were on hand to witness events said, "Dogalming was well attended by local residents and their dogs; it had a great community atmosphere and we hope to do the same next year. It has been a very rewarding Staycation week seeing all of the activities offered to our residents and it has been great fun trying some of them out. I'd like to say a huge thanks to everyone who made us so welcome"

Godalming Town Council is indebted once again to everyone involved in Staycation especially to the many volunteers who gave up their time to help at the 73 events which took place throughout Godalming Staycation week.

Ends...

Follow Us on:



Notes to Editors: Staycation was introduced to Godalming in 2010, this year over 70 activities were arranged for local residents of all ages to try. Traditionally there has always been an end of year "Fete". Godalming Town Council has confirmed it will be running Dogalming again for 2019 and that Staycation week 2018 will run from Saturday 3 to Sunday 11 August 2019

For more information on this release or images, please contact community@godalming-tc.gov.uk

Release Date: 13 August 2018

Follow Us on:

