



Supporting Our Community

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

CELEBRATE GODALMING MUSEUM'S CENTENARY WITH "MY FAVOURITE THING"!

Godalming Museum is 100 years old! In January 1921 the former Borough of Godalming founded a public museum in Godalming's Old Town Hall, also known as The Pepperpot. Although the museum's collection is now looked after by The Godalming Museum Trust, in 2017 the town's museum service returned to its local roots when Godalming Town Council took responsibility for the museum building and staff. Having moved across the road from The Pepperpot into a 15th century timber-framed building, Godalming Museum is still going strong and is now planning to celebrate its centenary.

Although the museum's doors are currently closed due to the pandemic, celebrations will start online, with "My Favourite Thing", a series of short videos looking at favourite objects in the collection. The Mayor of Godalming, Councillor Penny Rivers, chose the wonderful Godalming Town Clock as the first object. Other items in the series have been chosen by museum visitors, Trustees, volunteers and staff. Museum Curator, Alison Pattison, hopes to reach a total of 100 videos, one for each year of the museum's existence. "The whole point of the museum", she says "is to bring people together with the collections. I am fascinated by the choices people have made and by the reasons why these objects are special to them. As well as being of historical significance, many objects have a personal or creative resonance, opening doors for the memory or the imagination."

If you would like to nominate your favourite object please email Alison at museum.curator@godalming-tc.gov.uk or ring 01483 426510 to let her know which is your favourite and why.

"My Favourite Thing" videos will be shared on the Museum's Facebook page and website. To find out more about the past, present and future of Godalming's 100-year-old museum go to the museum's website www.godalmingmuseum.org.uk. You can also visit the online shop for local history books, themed gifts and to explore many fascinating historical photographs. Follow the museum on Facebook www.facebook.com/godalmingmuseum to see daily posts of photographs from the collections.

Ends....

For more information on this release or images, please contact: Suzie Gortler

Email: community@godalming-tc.gov.uk

Tel: 01483 523075

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Notes to Editors:

Founded by the Borough of Godalming, the museum was run by a Museum Committee which included Councillors, representatives of local schools and local historians and enthusiasts. In 1974, the museum was one of the services taken over by the new District (later Borough) of Waverley. The Godalming Museum Trust (a registered charity) was formed in 1985 and two years later the museum moved across the road from The Pepperpot to its current home at 109a High Street. The museum tells the story of Godalming and the surrounding area from earliest times to the present day. There is a particular focus on the work of Arts & Crafts garden designer Gertrude Jekyll and architect Sir Edwin Lutyens and the museum garden is a living demonstration of their principles of design.

The museum is supported by volunteers, who pride themselves on their friendly welcome and, in normal times, offers a local studies library, exhibitions and events programme, café and museum shop.

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