



Supporting Our Community

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

THE COUNTESS OF WESSEX'S FOURTH VOLUNTEER VISIT TO THE GODALMING & VILLAGES COMMUNITY STORE

Godalming Town Council and Volunteers of the Godalming & Villages Community Store, located in the Wilfrid Noyce Centre, were once again delighted to welcome Sophie, The Countess of Wessex GCVO on her fourth volunteer visit to the store on Tuesday, 16 March 2021 ("Trolley Tuesday").

"Trolley Tuesday", organised by Godalming Town Council, is the main donation day for the Community Store. When the trollies start to arrive with the bulk of Community Store donations, The Countess sets to work alongside store volunteers, helping to unload, sort and check the newly donated items before arranging them on the shelving.

On her previous visits The Countess has learned of the difficulties faced by many people during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of the Community Store's customers are people who would never have thought they would ever need to use a food bank or similar.

The Countess met with a few users of the Community Store and members of the public bringing in their donations on various occasions as well as working in the Store itself. The Countess has spent time chatting to and thanking volunteers and staff for their time.

One of the store volunteers said: "She was so lovely! So down to earth and friendly and really enthusiastic about the Community Store and helping people."

Images: Courtesy of a Community Store Volunteer

Ends...

Editors' Notes:

The Community Store is run by Godalming Town Council and volunteers from the Godalming & Farncombe Coronavirus Assistance Group. The Community Store first opened its doors on 20 April 2020 and since then has provided 32,319 days' worth of food, and supported 2,673 adults and 1,944 children who have found themselves in difficult circumstances during the pandemic. The Community Store can assist with free basic food items, including fresh and frozen produce, personal hygiene, sanitary and domestic cleaning items. The Store is supported by Godalming Town Council and many local businesses. Trolley Tuesday, organised by Godalming Town Council, is the main donation day for the Community Store. Shopping trollies loaned by Waitrose Godalming, are placed at locations throughout Godalming, Farncombe, Milford and Compton every Tuesday morning and later collected and taken to the Wilfrid Noyce Centre where volunteers sort the donations for use in the Community Store. <https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/community-store/>

For more information on this release please contact: Suzie Gortler

Email: community@godalming-tc.gov.uk

Tel: 01483 523075

Release Date: 25 March 2021

Follow us on:

