

Plans under way to celebrate Goole's bicentenary

Organisations from across Goole are coming together to organise an epic year long birthday bash to mark Goole's 200th anniversary.

Taking place in 2026, Goole will be turning 200 in style, with plans for a huge range of arts, culture and leisure events already in the pipeline to celebrate all the things that make our little corner of Yorkshire so unique.

A Goole 2026 working group has been established to co-ordinate, support and plan events for the bicentenary.

It's membership includes representatives from a number of local arts, culture and community organisations, the Goole Times and individuals who want to use their combined resources to make Goole 2026 happen.

Local historian, Stephen Walker has been appointed as the chair of the group and is heading up plans for a year long programme of events to mark the anniversary.

A trustee of Goole Civic Society, Yorkshire Waterways Heritage Society and a member of the Goole First World War Research Group, Stephen is a self-proclaimed 'Goolie', being a season ticket holder for Goole AFC and collector of Goole memorabilia.

Stephen said: "A common theme throughout Goole's history is that it has always celebrated its key events and anniversaries in a grand style. Goole's 200th birthday is its next big milestone and I think that long established traditions should be upheld.

"Goole should commemorate its bi-centenary in style and celebrate its successes and history. Why shouldn't Goole be visited by the King, have the Red Arrows Fly over or have its own Monopoly Board. To use the old Goole Grammar School motto, 'Alta Pete' - aim high!"

After receiving feedback and suggestions from local residents and community groups, a wish list of events for the bicentenary has been drawn up and partners at East Riding Council are looking at grant opportunities to help fund the events.

The group want to launch Goole 2026 as a brand to promote existing events and add in new events throughout 2026 so that the year celebrates all that is good about Goole and promote it as a place to visit.

The big objective is to host a festival in July 2026 with hopes of a flotilla, street party, music, and a Royal Visitor to open proceedings. Other suggestions include a Goole Community Cook Book, 2026 Memorabilia, sporting events and much, much more.

As plans progress, there will be further public consultation events, including in the Goole Times, where people will be able to provide feedback on the project ideas.

Speaking about the next steps the group will be taking, Stephen said: "Over the coming weeks the group will set an agenda for making events happen, explore what grants opportunities are available and what our member organisations can achieve. As chair of the group it is my aim to try and make as many things as possible on the group's project list happen or have a good go trying."

All members of the public are welcome to join the group, and meetings are open to members of the public who wish to find out more.

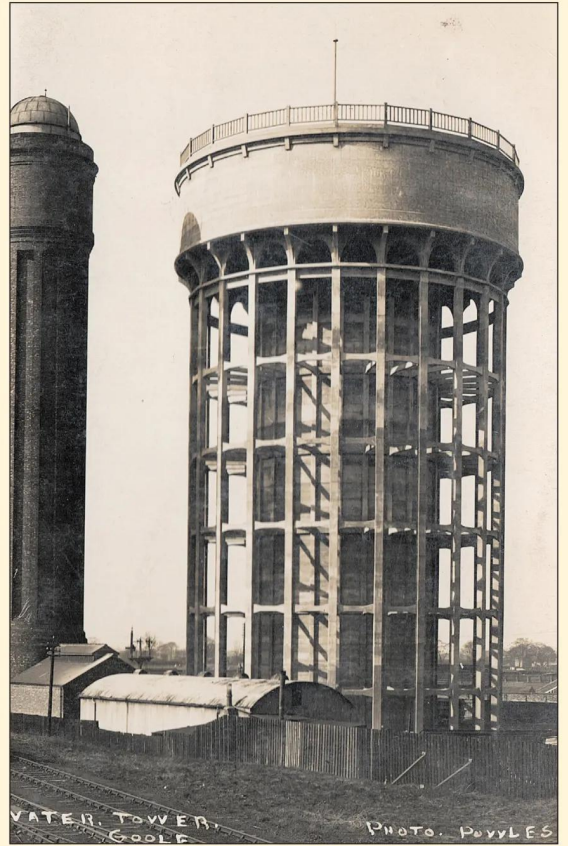
Details of meetings will be published in the Goole Times and on the Goole 2026 Facebook Group.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 13 from 11am to 12.30pm at the meeting room in Junction, Paradise Place, Goole.


RIGHT: The official programme of events from Goole's Centenary Celebrations. (29-01-119 SU)

ABOVE RIGHT: Plans are in the pipeline to make Memorabilia of some of Goole's famous landmarks. (29-02-122 SU)

BELOW: The bicentenary events will commemorate Goole's rich history. (29-02-124 SU)



1826 - 1926.



Goole
Centenary
Celebrations

JUNE 27th to JULY 3rd,
1926.

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Official
Programme.

Price TWOPENCE.

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