

COMPTON

NEWS



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PUBLISHED BY COMPTON VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

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Compton residents should have received a letter from **SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL** advising there will be two four-hour sessions in Compton Village Hall for viewing the latest traffic calming plans and providing views. These include village gates, a 20 mph section at the western end, low raised tables at either end, and at some junctions, together with some pedestrian and crossing improvements. The dates are Monday 3 February 4pm to 8pm AND Wednesday 5 February 11am to 3pm.

It is vital that Compton residents attend one or other meeting, consider the plans and give views at one of the sessions as well as online at <https://comptonvillage.commonplace.is> where the plans will be available from 3 February. When giving views, please do consider and comment on the implications for the village as a whole as well as for your particular location.

Compton Parish Council and the **Compton Traffic Group** have a long history of engagement with Surrey County Council and Surrey Police regarding the adverse impacts to the village residents of high traffic volume, excessive speeding, lack of driver care and poor paths and pedestrian crossing layout. This has included Speedwatch teams from 2008, three Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) purchased by the Parish and installed in 2010, and speed surveys undertaken in 2015, 2018 and 2023.

The possibility of installing average speed cameras as an option to physical highway works has been discussed with the authorities for several years. Last year it was thought this would be offered but it is understood that option has now been withdrawn. Parish Council and the Traffic Group continue to lobby to have that option made available. The story on average speed camera lobbying to date can be read at <https://www.cameras4compton.com/>.



COMPTON VILLAGE FETE 2025 will be held on Saturday 17 May, 12pm to 4.30pm. Come along and enjoy a fantastic afternoon of traditional Fete fun for all ages. Facebook users can find the latest fete news at www.facebook.com/ComptonVillageFete.

Proceeds will be shared between various village causes, including the ALLOTMENTS, COMPTON CLUB, COMPTON LITTLE THEATRE, COMPTON NEWS, ST NICHOLAS CHURCH, COMPTON VILLAGE HALL, plus Village projects and a chosen charity, which will soon be announced.

The Compton Fete Committee is ALWAYS seeking volunteers. Please email elenidhafcoleman@gmail.com.

Save the date for the **COMPTON VILLAGE PRE-FETE FAMILY FUN DAY**, on Friday 28 March, Compton Club from 5pm. The fun includes creative fun for the children and will also be a drop-off point for any donations for the Fete stalls. Thinking of volunteering? Come along and meet the team on the afternoon.

COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL is organising the annual litter pick on Saturday 22 March. It starts at 10.30am, at the **Compton Club**, and volunteers can return there for hot soup and rolls at midday. Many hands make light work of clearing all the rubbish discarded around Compton over the past year so please join. It is a social occasion and helps to make the village look spring-ready. Litter pickers, high-viz jackets and bin bags are provided, but please bring your own gloves.

- The next PC meeting is on 19 March, 7pm, Pucks Oak Barn.
- The Annual Parish Meeting is on Wednesday 7 May at 7pm, Compton Club. This is an opportunity to find out Compton PC's plans for the coming year, whilst enjoying a drink and a light supper.



COMPTON PHONE BOX raised £2,521 (83 individual donations) for the *Phylis Tuckwell* hospice charity with its 'Santa Claus down the chimney Christmas' and 'Red Riding Hood Panto' installations.

Thanks in particular go to **Hans Christmas Andersen** for the beautiful tree and **All for Love London** for help with the decorations. Most of all, thank you to all the people who have supported the phone box over the last year and helped achieve such a great amount for local hospice charity *Phylis Tuckwell*.

Spiceall resident **Laurie Hill** is part of *Phylis Tuckwell's* At Home team. In November 2024 she was awarded the **Queen's Nurse** status from the **QUEEN'S NURSE INSTITUTE**. This annual award is granted once a year to a limited number of nurses who demonstrate a commitment to high standards of care and practice. The title is a recognition of a nurse's commitment to learning, leadership and excellence in healthcare. Congratulations, Laurie.

2025 subscriptions to **COMPTON VILLAGE ASSOCIATION** are **NOW DUE**. Subscriptions remain the same as previous years: **£4** per family or **£2** for individuals and Senior Citizen couples. Many of you generously include a donation in addition to this modest subscription, which is very much appreciated.

The Village Association is a non-profit organisation and is responsible for many village publications and services: Village Website • Village Projects in conjunction with the Parish Council • Village Fete • Welcome Pack for newcomers to the village • Guide to useful phone numbers • Managing the minibus, *Compo*, in accordance with the joint venture agreement with the Watts Gallery • Compton NEWS (Whether you receive the NEWS by hand through your door, in the post or by email, your contribution is truly valued and very welcome).

PAYMENT METHODS

- Bank transfer to the **Compton Village Association** account at **Lloyds bank: Sort Code 30-93-49, Account No. 00115047. Business account**. Please use the reference **2025 Sub**.

- Use the form enclosed with the News - either a printed copy or electronic if you receive this by email - to send your subscription to the **Treasurer, David Hunt**, at *Poplar Cottage, The Common, Compton, Guildford GU3 1JF*. Cheques payable to **Compton Village Association**.

† WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY AT ST NICHOLAS CHURCH? †



It was great to see so many of you in church over Christmas. As we start a New Year, you are very welcome to continue to join us as we meet together. All events and services are free. More details can be found on www.stnicholascompton.org.

- † **Muddy Church**, a space for all for wandering & wondering with God, is on the first Sunday of every month (except school holidays). It returns on Sunday 2 February at 10.30am.
 - † Toddler group **Fledglings** is on Mondays, 9am (term-time) at *Pucks Oak Barn*. Contact: fledglingscompton@gmail.com.
 - † **Inside Outside** meets on Saturday 1 February and Saturday 1 March, 10am to noon to keep the church and churchyard looking good. Contact stnicholascompton.wardens@gmail.com.
 - † **Bell ringing** practice is once or twice a month on Tuesdays at 10am, with bell ringing on Sundays from 10am to 10.30am. Contact phil.gorton@btinternet.com.
 - † **Baptisms, weddings & funerals**: Please contact our Rector, Sally, if you would like to mark a family milestone at St Nicholas.
 - † If you would like someone to pray for you or with you, contact our Rector, Sally: stnicholascompton.lector@gmail.com. Confidentiality will be respected.
- Thanks & blessings, Revd Sally Buddle*

February

Sunday 2 10.30am Muddy Church —
All You Need Is Love
6pm Evensong

Wednesday 5 10.30am Book of Common Prayer
Holy Communion

Sunday 9 10.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 16 10.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 23 10.30am Holy Communion

March

Sunday 2 10.30am Muddy Church —
Spring is in the Air
6pm Evensong

Wednesday 5 10.30am Ash Wednesday, followed by the
first Lent group at the Rectory

Details of all Church services can be found at
www.stnicholascompton.org

Wild About Compton

Phil Gorton is the recipient of a *Lifetime Membership Award* from **SURREY WILDLIFE TRUST (SWT)**. It is an acknowledgement of the years of quiet dedication he's poured into the site at *Pucks Oak Barn* in his role as a Volunteer Warden. **Clare O'Reilly**, who is the Conservation Manager for Central Surrey for SWT and manages Pucks Oak, along with the other *McAlmont Reserves* in the area, made the nomination.

Congratulations to Phil, who does so much for the village, including laying hedges, helping in the churchyard, bell ringing, house histories, in addition to his work at Pucks Oak.

Clare is also keen to talk more about the Reserves in the area and the work of her team. She hopes to inspire and encourage people to join SWT's volunteer sessions. Further details about these events will be published in the coming months.

Greeting from St Nicholas' organ bench. Richard Dacey

is the new Organist and Choir Director at **ST NICHOLAS**. He'll be playing the beautiful *Kenneth Jones* organ on Sunday mornings at 10.30am and at Evensong on the first Sunday of the month. Richard studied music at the RCM in London and has enjoyed a varied career as a teacher, performer and music theatre vocal coach. He's also chairman of the **VIVACE CHORUS** in Guildford.

If you are interested in joining the choir at St Nicholas, then now is the time as the Choir Director is hoping to provide opportunities for young people to gain experience in singing, organ-playing and performing in junior workshops and concerts. The church building is an inspiring venue for the arts and there are plans to organise a concert series in the village on a regular basis, hence the need for more singers. Email stnicholascompton.organist@gmail.com or come and chat to Richard after a service in church on Sunday.



Thank you to everyone who came to watch *Red Riding Hood* in January. **COMPTON LITTLE THEATRE** had great fun bringing it to the stage and hope all the audiences enjoyed it. CLT is thinking about its next production, so watch this space. In the meantime, there will be upcoming social events. CLT also plans to hold its next AGM within the next few months. More information to follow. To stay up-to-date with news, events, social activities, auditions and performance dates, join CLT's mailing list by emailing committee@comptonlittletheatre.org.uk.



COMPTON CLUB's financial year ended on 30 September 2024 and despite only being open from March 2024, the Club made just under **£2,000 profit**, which shows the new business model is working. Thanks to all members who have supported Compton Club by spending at the bar.

During the Club's AGM on 6 December, the following team were re-elected: **Tim Carter** (Chairman), **Paul Webb-Jones** (Treasurer), **Humphrey Cox** (acting Secretary), **Will Wells** (Committee Member).

The Club's New Years Eve party culminated in the Club's best night for takings and the Committee is working on events for 2025, which will be communicated soon. The club is open every Thursday and Friday evening and some Saturdays. Weekly opening times are shared on WhatsApp. Find out more about the Club, its events and how to join the WhatsApp group by visiting www.comptonclub.co.uk.

♪ MUSIC ♪♪ MUSIC ♪♪ MUSIC ♪♪ MUSIC ♪♪ MUSIC ♪♪ MUSIC ♪♪ MUSIC ♪♪ MUSIC ♪♪ MUSIC ♪♪ MUSIC ♪

♪ **CONSERVATOIRE CONCERTS** is organising a Violin and Harp Concert on Saturday 8 February, 7pm, at *Godalming Baptist Church, GU7 1BA*. Anna Zaffagni (violin) and Isabel Eberhardt (harp) will be performing a programme featuring well-known and favourite pieces by DEBUSSY, SAINT-SAËNS, TELEMANN, BACH-GOUNOD and more. To book, visit <https://conservatoireconcerts.org.uk>. Admission is FREE with a retiring collection towards musicians' fees and expenses.

♪ **GODALMING CHORAL SOCIETY**, under talented conductor **George de Voil**, is performing Mendelssohn's choral masterpiece *Elijah* with professional orchestra and soloists in the beautiful **MEMORIAL CHAPEL** at **CHARTERHOUSE SCHOOL** on Sunday 30 March 2025. *Elijah* was one of MENDELSSOHN'S last compositions, but still full of youthful vigour and music, magnificently dramatising the life of the prophet. He died the following year, aged only 38. First performed in 1846 and well-loved in its time, its popularity declined in the last century as it was thought over dramatic. Recently revived, the piece is again regarded as a success. Mendelssohn's most monumental oratorio brings the bible story to life with operatic gusto. Come and be swept away. For further information and tickets, visit www.godalmingchoral.org.uk.

GUILDFORD JAZZ

Jo Fooks Quartet

Wednesday 5 February

Born in Edinburgh, saxophonist Jo Fooks was named 'Young Scottish Jazz Musician of the Year' in 1992, which led to study at the Guildhall and a scholarship to Berklee School of Music's summer jazz programme. Subsequently, she received an invitation from British trumpeter Humphrey Lyttelton to join his band, touring all over the UK. Citing Humph's "fun-filled and melodic" approach as a major influence (along with Illinois Jacquet, Sonny Rollins, Dexter Gordon & Cannonball Adderley), Jo's big, bright sound has also been compared to iconic players such as Stan Getz.

8pm

Guildford Pavilion, Woodbridge Road, Guildford, GU1 4RP.

Dele Sosimi Afrobeat Quintet

Friday 14 February

Dele Sosimi, the Nigerian-British Afrobeat Ambassador, Musician and Educator, has been at the heart of the global Afrobeat scene since relocating to the UK in December 1995. Having started his musical career with Fela's Egypt 80 band in his teens, he then teamed up with childhood friend, Fela's son Femi Kuti (back in the late eighties) to kick start the Positive Force - touring, recording and performing worldwide. Over 40 years later, he remains a tireless ambassador for the unique musical movement all over the world.

7.45pm

The Boileroom, Stoke Fields Guildford, GU1 4LS

There are more gigs in February so visit www.guildfordjazz.org.uk to find out more and to book

After a friendly lunch, on Friday 21 February members of **MILFORD PROBUS** and visitors (always welcome) will have a talk by **Kevin Foo**, who has worked in mining as scientist, miner, mill operator, manager and director. This includes the process development of gold, tin and base metal refractory ores, a 10-year diversion into the oil and gas industry, and 30 years as an entrepreneur in these fields. In addition to its local impact, mining has a clear connection with climate change which will be explored.

Milford Probus is a club for retired and semi-retired business and professional men and women who enjoy comradeship, informative talks and wider activities. Lunch is at 12.30pm (pre-lunch drinks from 12pm), *Godalming Masonic Hall, GU7 1RQ*. If interested, visit www.milfordprobus.com, or book a lunch (book the Monday before please) with **Jon Warnke** (jgwarnke@btinternet.com/07818 602699).

On Thursday 27 February, from 7.30pm until

9pm **LES AMITIÉS FRANÇAISES** is hosting a lecture in French. Germaine Jones will talk about the origins of the most well-known French symbols and emblems. To find out more, visit

www.amitiesfrancaisesgodalming.com.

Talks take place at the *Wilfrid Noyce Community Centre, Oglethorpe Hall, Crown Court Car Park, Godalming, GU7 1DY*.

COMPTON TRIPTYCH REUNITED AT GODALMING MUSEUM

In 2011, sculptor **Jon Edgar** searched for Compton clay to work on a head of former curator of the **WATTS GALLERY, Richard Jefferies**. Jon came across *Brickfields Pottery*, the home of artist/potter **Mary Wondrausch** (1923-2016; her self-designed grave and relief panels are worth visiting at the top of the **MEMORIAL CHAPEL** grounds, in Compton cemetery).

Mary offered a bag of clay quarried from work on the foundation of her house but Jon felt it would be a sacrilege not to use the material for a sitting with the remarkable woman he had just met. This posed a dilemma. Having previously used the idea of three linked heads, he felt it appropriate to think of a third head to create a Triptych for Compton. An appeal was launched in the *Compton NEWS* and a number of candidates, both living and historic, were suggested. Jon thought it fairest to select solely on the strength of feeling in the Parish as all suggestions were equally sincere. This meant that he had not even seen the subject prior to starting the head, which made it more interesting. **Jane Turner**, described as a "village stalwart", turned out to be the chosen candidate for the third head.

The three heads were part of The Living Clay exhibition at the **LEWIS ELTON GALLERY** at the University of Surrey. Subsequently, the head of Richard Jefferies was displayed at the entrance to the newly named Richard Jefferies Gallery in the restored Watts Gallery in 2011. After it was removed, the three heads went their separate ways on various loans. The three terracottas have now been reunited and have been acquired by **Godalming Museum** for perpetuity.

Jon has a new carving at **WINCHESTER ARC'S** *Every Step of the Way* exhibition between April and July; his 'Portal' carving (2013) sits on the old A3 route at Hindhead.





✦ Discover captivating illustrations and sketches by **CICELY MARY BARKER** in *Flower Fairies™: The Magical World of Cicely Mary Barker* and follow the magic into the Watts Gallery woodlands with an outdoor Tree Fairy Trail. Explore the exhibition in more depth with a lunchtime tour on Thursday 6 February by Exhibitions Curator, **Corinna Henderson**. Exhibition runs until Sunday 27 April 2025.

✦ A new exhibition is coming to **WATTS CONTEMPORARY GALLERY**. The *Spirit of Charleston* features the works of 10 artists embracing the exuberant spirit of **CHARLESTON FARMHOUSE**, in Lewes, created by the **BLOOMSBURY GROUP's Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant** in the early 20th Century. Discover vibrant colours and playful patterns. From Thursday 6 February until Sunday 6 April 2025.

✦ Learn tips and tricks to bring your sketchbook pages to life on Saturday 8 February with the monthly Saturday sketch workshop. Be inspired by the Watts Gallery grounds and collection.

✦ February half term is fast approaching, so round up the kids and head to Watts Gallery for some fairy-tastic family fun, from decorating fairy doors and wing embossing at Flower Fairies Family Days, to creating your own fairy tea party during the weekly Clay Club. See website for dates and times.

✦ Watts Gallery's five-week pottery course with ceramicist **Luisa Cacciotti** returns on Tuesday 25 February, with weekly sessions running through to Monday 25 March. Learn a range of hand building techniques, as well as getting the opportunity to throw on the potter's wheel.

DON'T FORGET, COMPTON RESIDENTS GET 50% OFF ADMISSION! VALID WITH A PROOF OF ADDRESS.

www.wattsgallery.org.uk.



GODALMING MUSEUM has several exhibitions running in February:

- **Blue Sky Artists**. Tuesday 7 January to Saturday 15 February. A small group of local professional and semi-professional artists who exhibit together at various UK venues in London and across the south of England.

- **Charterhouse Art Takeover in Godalming**. Tuesday 18 February to Saturday 15 March. Throughout the month of February, **CHARTERHOUSE SCHOOL** is showcasing artwork created by year groups from 9 to 12. From textiles to photography and painting, there is a diverse range of ideas and media within the exhibition. Charterhouse students have worked extremely hard to produce wonderfully creative and exciting pieces. Visit **Godalming Museum** to see a body of the students' work, along with a list of other exhibiting venues.

- **Lecture: Surrey and the New Space Revolution** by **Professor Craig Underwood**. *Wilfrid Noyce Centre*. Friday 21 February, 7.30pm-9pm. Underwood is Emeritus Professor of Spacecraft Engineering at the **UNIVERSITY OF SURREY**. His lecture tells the story of how Surrey pioneered the "New Space" revolution.

Godalming Museum is open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 4pm. It is located next to the Town Council offices, by the Peppercot, *109A High St, GU7 1AQ*. Visit www.godalmingmuseum.co.uk / 01483 426510.

On Tuesday 11 February, **ARTS SOCIETY WOKING's** talk is **New Dawn. A Memorial for Women's Suffrage, Houses of Parliament**. Speaker **Mary Branson** is best known for her large-scale conceptual light installations, particularly the iconic *New Dawn 2016* sculpture in the **HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT**, which celebrates the centenary of the Suffrage movement and is the first permanent piece of contemporary abstract art in the **PALACE OF WESTMINSTER**. She has created works for the **LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS**, **THE MAGNA CARTA MEMORIAL** at Runnymede, **ROYAL HOLLOWAY UNIVERSITY** and more recently *Harvest*, a huge site-specific installation at **BOX HILL, SURREY** in collaboration with the **NATIONAL TRUST**. Branson is an award-winning print maker, a choreographer for performance and dance events, and a mentor and public speaker, having lately returned from a lecture tour to New York and Washington DC. She has held a number of artistic residencies, including for Parliament and HM Prison service, where she led an art group for women prisoners. Branson is artist in residence at **WATTS GALLERY**. Talks start at 10.30am but doors open 9.45am for tea and coffee. The venue is **Normandy Village Hall, GU3 2DT**. Members may bring a visitor, who may want to make a donation to the Society of **£6**.

www.wokingdfas.org.uk/talks-arts-society-woking-2025.htm

DATES FOR FEBRUARY

Sandra's Yoga, Compton Village Hall, Thursdays & Fridays, 10.30am-12 noon.

Fledglings, Pucks Oak Barn, Mondays, 9am (term-time).

Compton Club, Spiceall, Thursdays/Fridays, 7pm to 10pm.

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Mon 3rd – Compton traffic calming plans review, Village Hall, 4-8pm.

Wed 5th – Compton traffic calming plans review, Village Hall, 11am-3pm.

Wed 5th – Guildford Jazz, Guildford Pavilion, GU1 4RP, 8pm.

Sat 8th – Conservatoire Concerts, Godalming Baptist Church, GU7 1BA, 7pm.

Tues 11th – The Arts Society Woking's talk, Normandy Village Hall, 10.30am.

Fri 14th – Guildford Jazz, The Boileroom, GU1 4LS, 7.45pm.

Thurs 20th – **COMPTON NEWS MARCH ISSUE DEADLINE**.

Fri 21st – Milford Probus Club, Godalming Masonic Hall, GU7 1RQ, from 12pm.

Thurs 27th – Les Amitiés Françaises' talk, Wilfrid Noyce Community Centre, GU7 1DY, 7.30pm.

◇◇ March ◇◇

Sat 22nd – Annual litter pick, Compton Club, 10.30am.

Fri 28th – Pre-Fete Family Fun Day, Compton Club, 5pm.

Sun 30th – Godalming Choral Society 'Elijah', Charterhouse School Memorial Chapel, GU8 6AZ, 7pm.