

COMPTON

NEWS



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COMPTON HELPS BT PROMOTE RED PHONE BOXES AS COMMUNITY ASSETS

Several "adopted" red phone boxes around the UK, including Compton's very own, have been mentioned by BT in its campaign to encourage communities to take advantage of its kiosk adoption scheme.

Compton phone box is one of 7200 that have been adopted by communities across the UK since 2008 and BT wants to see the remaining 1000 adopted in the run-up to the 100-year anniversary of architect **Sir Giles Gilbert Scott's** iconic design, winning a competition in 1924.

The Compton phone box, which was bought by **Compton Parish Council** a few years ago, has been acknowledged by BT for its "quirky decorations" to mark special occasions. Village resident and parish councillor Chris Sharples first decorated the kiosk, after its restoration by another local resident, to mark Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's 2018 wedding. Compton phone box, in its various guises, has featured in news stories all over the world and has become a local fixture. The interest generated has helped to support a range of causes, including the homelessness charity Crisis and local food bank Godalming & Villages Community Stores. If you know of anyone who lives somewhere with an unloved red phone box, do pass this issue on. "Phone boxes are generally located in the heart of communities, so I'd urge others to adopt redundant kiosks in their area and turn them into a community asset," says Sharples.

<https://newsroom.bt.com/as-red-phone-box-approaches-100th-birthday-bt-reveals-1000-kiosks-up-for-grabs/>

COMPTON BOOK IN THE WORKS

While **Fiona Curtis** was Chair of the Parish Council, she collected boxes of snippets, photos and ephemera relating to Compton. She's collating and reproducing these in a book about the village and its recent history. Ahead of the book's completion, Fiona is seeking old images or items of interest such as newspaper clippings, property deeds and so on. All contributions will be acknowledged and should be sent to fionacurtis@btinternet.com. To keep it focused, the book is limited to a timeline and includes entries on those who have been officially recognised in one way or another. If you are one of these people and wish to ensure your contribution is included (especially if your award was pre-2012) please contact Fiona before mid-September. Likewise, contact her if you do not wish to be included or you wish to see a preview of anything that might relate to you.

During the summer holidays, local residents were informed by **Waverley Borough Council** that a planning application had been filed for 27 new affordable dwellings on land on the road called "Binscombe", between the *Green Lane* and *The Avenue* junctions. The planning application can be found directly at <https://tinyurl.com/Binscombe-development> or visit www.waverley.gov.uk/planning and search with the reference *WA/2023/01714*. The deadline for objections or any general comments is Saturday 2 September. Binscombe, a Medieval hamlet, first recorded in 1227, is a unique and ancient part of Surrey with its own special character and is worth protecting. This development will cause harm to the setting of heritage assets, including the Binscombe Conservation Area, about 30 metres from the site, and the listed buildings on three sides, including Brickfields, Compton. Four years ago, an application to build fewer houses was rejected by Waverley and the Independent Government Inspector, mainly on the grounds of its harm to the historic setting. Furthermore, the field forms part of Compton Marsh and is susceptible to flooding. The scale and intensity of the proposal is unprecedented in Binscombe. It would double the size of the village and will include 57 new parking spaces. Traffic to and from the development will be routed through the narrowest part of Binscombe where the road is only 4.3 metres wide with no pavement.



Compton Parish Council's next meeting is on Wednesday 20 September, at 7pm,

Puck's Oak Barn. The agenda includes traffic matters, planning applications, the playground, the local plan and other items of local interest. Residents are welcome to attend.



- ◆ Since the meeting held at the **Compton Club** in July, following its temporary closure, we want to thank those who attended and share some updates. The Club's committee has been looking for a business to rent half of the facility and is making progress in this endeavour.
- ◆ We are also investigating changing the Club's structure into a charitable organisation as this would open us up for potential grants and funding which should help us to re-open in a more sustainable way, to benefit the community.
- ◆ Lastly, if anyone could help with any gardening at all while the Club is closed, it would be appreciated. If you can spare some time, please get in contact via email to timcarter405@gmail.com.

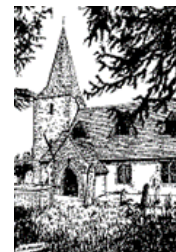
Tim Carter, Treasurer



On Sunday 10 September **Puttenham Barn** is open to visitors as part of the Heritage Open Days festival. This beautifully restored Surrey barn — "A vernacular 18th century farm with good weatherboarded barns", as described by Pevsner — now operates as a charity-run eco-friendly bunkhouse for walkers and cyclists. Visitors are welcome any time between 11am and 4pm. No need to book. Address: *The Street, Puttenham, GU3 1AR* (entrance opposite the church).

- We are also looking for volunteer wardens to overnight at the barn and look after our guests. Our next warden training date is Saturday 2 September. Anyone interested in visiting the barn or volunteering should ring *01483 811001* or email support@puttenhambarn.uk.

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



- † Save the Date! We'll be organising a family-friendly **Light Party** on Friday 27 October. All are welcome. More details to follow.
- † Our Toddler Group, **Fledglings**, restarts on Monday 4 September with a visit to **Mane Chance** and then from 11 September it will meet on Monday mornings from 9.30am (term time) at **Pucks Oak Barn**. Contact Catherine at fledglingscompton@gmail.com / 07779 022419.
- † We are now running a **Forest pre-school** as well as offering play space for younger children. All parents and carers with babies or pre-schoolers are welcome.
- † We run **Muddy Church** outside in the churchyard on the first Sunday of each month in term time, when the focus is on enjoying the environment and using natural materials as we celebrate God's love.
- † **Inside Out** meets on Saturday 2 September and Saturday 7 October, from 10am to 12 noon to keep the church and churchyard looking good. Please come along, if you can spare any time.
- † If you would like someone to pray for you or with you, please contact our Rector Sally: stnicholascompton.rector@gmail.com. Confidentiality will be respected.

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Sunday and midweek worship

Sunday 3	<u>10.30am</u> Muddy Church Harvest – free fun outside for families and children <u>6pm</u> Evensong		
Wednesday 6	<u>10.30am</u> BCP Holy Communion	Sunday 17	<u>10.30am</u> Harvest Celebration
Sunday 10	<u>10.30am</u> Eucharist	Sunday 24	<u>10.30am</u> Eucharist

Thanks & blessings, Revd Sally Buddle

⌘⌘ Wild About Compton ⌘⌘

⌘ **St Nicholas** church warden **Mike Winterbotham**, who is an engineer by profession, would be happy to meet residents who are interested in exploring energy efficient ways of heating and lighting to reduce their homes' carbon footprint and energy costs. Please contact him via the Church Office initially: stnicholascompton.office@gmail.com.

⌘ **Want to try forest bathing?** Swimsuits are not required. Forest bathing is a slow and mindful walk in the woods, opening up all your senses and slowing down your mind. It is an immersive experience, noticing the sights, sounds, smells and textures of the forest. Francesca Fryer Rigden from Roots for the Future, a Godalming-based community interest company, is working towards becoming a **Forest Bathing Institute** qualified Forest Bathing Guide. To achieve certification, she is running free practise sessions near the Godalming area in the coming weeks. In order to learn from these sessions and to create case studies that can be assessed, those who attend will be required to fill out feedback forms in return for the free session. Apart from it being a beautiful and relaxing experience, the best part is that forest bathing is scientifically proven to make us feel better. Research shows that breathing in the compound phytoncide, which is emitted by trees, whilst forest bathing, regulates heart rate, blood pressure, boosts immunity, releases endorphins and improves mental wellbeing. To find out more and access the sign-up form visit: <https://rootsforthefuture.co.uk/want-to-try-forest-bathing/>.

MILFORD PROBUS CLUB's talk this month is by **Practical Action**. The organisation's goal is "A world that works better for everyone". It sounds idealistic, but the speaker will give examples of how practical changes really can improve lives in parts of the world with scarce resources. Smallholder farmers can earn a living in harmony with the environment. Parents can cook nutritious family meals. Businesses, schools and clinics can get the electricity they and their communities need. And women entrepreneurs gain confidence and skills to build profitable businesses. Practical Action is changing lives. Come and learn how and ask questions. Lunch at 12.30pm (pre-lunch drinks from 12pm), followed by the talk, takes place on Friday 15 September at **Godalming Masonic Hall, GU7 1RQ**.

Milford Probus is a club for retired and semi-retired business and professional men and women who enjoy convivial company, informative talks and wider activities, including outings and walks (ending in a fine pub). Prospective members are welcome to join lunches as paying guests before committing to membership. Those interested should visit www.milfordprobus.com or book a lunch (book the Monday before please) with Jon Warnke: jgwarnke@btinternet.com / 07818 602699.

Sandra's Yoga classes have relocated to the *Village Hall* and will start on Thursday September 7 and Friday September 8 at the usual time of 10.30–12pm. There are two classes per week, on Thursdays and Fridays, with breaks for CLT and half-term. Newcomers are welcome, but do contact Sandra on *07759 002981* to check availability of spaces.

Calling "Compo" volunteers. The team that organises "Compo", the village's community bus service, is always looking for people with some spare time during the week who could join its pool of drivers. Interested? Contact **Jon Maslin** at j_maslin@hotmail.com or **Richard Paxton** at paxtonrichard@gmail.com.

Conquest Art believes everyone has a creative spark within and that this creativity can bring relaxation, the satisfaction of achievement and help boost self-esteem. The charity runs a friendly art group for people with any level of physical disability, led by practising artists. No previous experience needed. Materials provided. £3 per session, which run every Thursday 10.30–12.30pm, in term time, beginning on Thursday 21 September, at **Godalming United Church, GU7 3DU**.

BARGAIN BASEMENT

Blue/grey Onyx Eternity lady's golf set for sale. Never been used/excellent condition. The bag contains 1, 3 and 5 woods with padded covers plus 5, 6, 8 and 9 irons, pitching iron, sand wedge and putter. Set includes matching rain cover and 18 golf balls in very good condition, half of which are Titleist. Seller can deliver locally for free or set is available for collection from address in Milford. **£100**. Call 07825 787969 or email liz.leah@hotmail.com.



◆ Join CLT for a **PICNIC** on Saturday 9 September, from 12.30pm. This will be a great opportunity for a get together and post-summer catch up. Everyone is welcome to this free event – just bring your own picnic and drinks! Venue and more details to follow. For more info, please email committee@comptonlittletheatre.org.uk.

◆ Rehearsals are under way for our October dinner and drama production, **MURDERED TO DEATH** by **Peter Gordon**. This hilarious spoof is in the best *Agatha Christie* whodunnit tradition. It is set in a country manor house in the 1930s, it has a rich and varied cast of characters. Will you work out who the murderer is? This year, CLT is delighted to be supporting the charity *Home-Start Guildford*. CLT dinner and drama, evening performances 5–7 October, 7.15pm. £22 which includes a 2-course meal. Email tickets@comptonlittletheatre.org.uk or call/text *07964 515103* to book.

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♪ **GODALMING CHORAL SOCIETY** is rapidly approaching the pinnacle of its year with a special joint performance of the wonderful *Verdi's Requiem* on Saturday 23 September, 4.30pm at the iconic *Theatre in the Woods at West Horsley Place*, the home of **Grange Park Opera**. The Society will be performing with the **Epworth Choir** and the **Oxshott and Horsley Choral Societies**. It will be an exciting, special concert, not to be missed! Tickets are £35, £25 and £15 for under 18s, all including a drink. They're selling fast and are available from www.thelittleboxoffice.com/gcs. Any queries or to book wheelchair accessible seats or seats with level access, please e-mail tickets@godalmingchoral.org.uk.

♪ **CONSERVATOIRE CONCERTS** is back in September, starting the season with the *Rising Stars Concert* featuring violinist **Korney Sheldunov** and cellist **Hugo Svedberg**. They will be performing solo pieces, duos and a *Clara Schumann* trio with pianist **Miho Kawashima**. The performance is on Saturday 16 September, 7pm at *Godalming Baptist Church*. Booking is via www.conservatoireconcerts.org.uk. Admission is free with a retiring collection towards musicians' fees and expenses.

GUILDFORD JAZZ

FRASER SMITH: TIP TOP!

Thursday 7 September 2023, 8pm at Guildford Pavilion

Upcoming star Fraser Smith is a saxophonist whose debut album, *Tip Top!*, is a fully acoustic, "classic" jazz quartet recording firmly stationed in the style of Dexter Gordon, Illinois Jacquet, Stanley Turrentine and Al Cohn. "Original tunes which take the virtues of 50s and 60s hard bop and soul jazz and infuse them with a youthful enthusiasm born of the 21st century" – *Ian Mann, Jazz Man*.

Pre-gig menu from Mandira's Kitchen.

BEAT: TOM FORD

Friday 22 September, 7.45pm at The Boileroom, Stoke Fields, GU1 4LS

Fusing jazz, funk, bossa nova and hip-hop, Tom Ford originally made his name as a singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, working alongside artists like Poppy Ajudha, Col3trane and Reuben James. He appears at the Boileroom in his own quartet with **Alex Chase** (vocals) **Nathan Shingler** (drums) **Robin Mullarkey** (bass). Support: **Knats** - dance music from jazz, drum and bass, house and gospel.

Booking: guildfordjazz.org.uk

KIRK LIGHTSEY QUARTET

Thursday, 28 September 2023 at 8pm, at the University of Surrey GU2 7XH

Kirk Lightsey is a legend of the jazz piano. He was born in Detroit in 1937 and grew up immersed in that city's rich musical culture. He is joined this evening on one of his few UK dates by a fine quartet featuring fellow Paris resident, the great US drummer **Sangoma Everett**, long-time associate **Steve Watts** on bass and the exciting young tenor saxophonist **Alex Hitchcock**. "The veteran virtuoso pianist proves he's still in fine form with a sparkling swinging set" - *JazzWise*.

GODALMING MUSEUM

- The family-friendly exhibition on the theme of **Under the Sea** continues until Saturday 23 September.
- **Milford Artists' Autumn Exhibition** takes place from Tuesday 26 September to Saturday 14 October, showcasing unique and colourful artworks inspired by subjects both locally and abroad. The group meets on Tuesday evenings from September to May at *Milford Village Hall* and new members are always welcome.
- **Surrey Guild of Craftsmen** members are selected professional craftsmen and designer-makers of contemporary and traditional applied arts. A rotating display of works by members of the Guild will be on display throughout the year and are available to purchase.
- **Godalming Museum Coffee Club** meets from 11am to 1pm on the third Monday of each month, giving Godalming residents and locals the chance to share memories and build new friendships. All are welcome.
- **Godalming Museum Fundraising Quiz** is on Friday 29 September, 7pm at the *Wilfred Noyce Centre*. Tickets £5 per person. Teams are a maximum of six and are welcome to bring their own food, while drinks can be purchased from the bar. Book by contacting *01483 426510* or emailing museum.volunteers@godalming-tc.gov.uk. All money raised will go towards supporting the museum.
- **Godalming Museum** opening times have changed to Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 4pm. Visit www.godalmingmuseum.org.uk or ring *01483 426510* with any queries.



WATTS GALLERY NEWS



- ✦ Explore the captivating fusion of paintings and sculptures inspired by landscapes around us, at **Formations: Fiona Millais and Lucy Lutyens** in the *Watts Contemporary Gallery*, from 7 September to 29 October. All works for sale, Free entry.
- ✦ On Saturday 9 September learn about the unique history of **Watts Gallery – Artists' Village**. Enjoy free entry and site tours to discover the heritage of the Arts & Crafts gem.
- ✦ Don't miss the chance to visit the studio of our talented artist-in-residence, **Lauren Thompson**, where she specialises in captivating portrait photography. Sundays 20, 27 August and 3 September, from 10am to 4pm.
- ✦ Unleash your creativity and master the art of pottery in a six-week course led by ceramist **Luisa Cacciotti** – suitable for all skill levels! Running on Thursdays 14, 21 and 28 September and 5, 12 and 19 October, from 10am to 1pm.
- ✦ Join us for two enlightening talks by photo historian **Denis Pellerin**, co-curator of the Brian May Archive of Stereoscopy, as he delves into the depiction of Victorian working-class women on Wednesday 13 September and a journey through the Victorian art world on Wednesday 27 September.
- ✦ Dive into the world of stereoscopy at the **Victorian Stereoscope Parlour Evening**, a special after-hours event on 4 October with exhibition co-curators, **Emily Burns, Denis Pellerin and Rebecca Sharpe** from the Brian May Archive of Stereoscopes.

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO BOOK TICKETS: www.wattsgallery.org.uk

On Tuesday 12 September, **THE ARTS SOCIETY WOKING's** talk will be on **Gilded Glories – The fascinating history of gilding**. The art of beating gold leaf and gilding dates back to ancient Egypt. Gold leaf is nearly 500 times thinner than aluminium foil and traditionally craftsmen pounded gold for hours to create sheets thin enough to cover the most finely detailed surfaces. For over 22 centuries from Tutankhamun's sarcophagus to Rachel Whiteread's gilded frieze for the Whitechapel Gallery, skilled artisans have exploited paper-thin metal leaf to enrich materials such as wood, metal, marble, leather, paper, glass, porcelain, and textiles – even food and drink. Artists and craftsmen have illuminated manuscripts and icons, decorated noble houses from top to bottom, adorned domes inside and out, embellished erotic canvases and gilded chocolate and schnapps.

The speaker is **Joanna Mabbutt**, Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers and Freeman of the City of London. Originally a trained singer, pianist and orchestra administrator, Jo is now a decorative artist who gilds antique lace and crochet, combining with hand printing and painting. She works to commission, sells through galleries and exhibitions, and collaborates with other designers.

Talk starts at 10.30am but doors open at 9.45am for tea and coffee, at Normandy Village Hall, Guildford GU3 2DT. Members may bring a visitor, who may want to make a £5 donation to the Society. <http://wokingdfas.org.uk/talks-arts-society-woking-2023.htm#>

Philip and Sally Gorton have added some new items to their **COMPTON HISTORY** website, www.compton-history.uk. On the Landscapes page, there is an article about the extractive industries of the parish, including a bit about the Compton Caves, and another about the London to Southampton turnpike road. On the People pages are two "churtyard" biographies of Patience Atfield, one of the poorest people in Victorian Compton, and William More-Molyneux, the rector's son, who died in the 1847 wreck of *HMS Avenger*. Also included are photos of the Darby and Joan Club in the 1960s and Compton School pupils and Miss Mason, the head teacher, from the late 1940s. Philip and Sally are keen to hear from anyone who can put names to the faces. If you can help, they can be contacted via the website www.compton-history.uk or on 01483 420763.

DATES FOR SEPTEMBER

Godalming Community Food Store, Compton Telephone Box, Sundays 8am-5pm.

Yoga, Compton Village Hall, Thursdays & Fridays, 10.30am-12pm.

Fledglings, Pucks Oak Barn, Mondays, 9.30am.

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Thurs 7th – Guildford Jazz, Guildford Pavilion, 8pm.

Sat 9th – Watts Gallery – Artists' Village, free entry and site tours.

Sun 10th – Puttenham Barn open day, The Street, Puttenham, 11am to 4pm.

Mon 11th – First of Man in the Moon drama Monday workshops, Shalford Village Hall.

Tues 12th – The Arts Society Woking's talk, Normandy Village Hall, 10.30am.

Fri 15th – Milford Probus lunch & talk, Godalming Masonic Hall, 12pm.

Sat 16th – Conservatoire Concerts, Godalming Baptist Church, 7pm.

Weds 20th – Parish Council meeting, Puck's Oak Barn, 7pm.

Weds 20th – Deadline for October issue of the NEWS.

Thursday 21st – First Conquest Art's Thursday sessions, Godalming United Church, 10.30am start.

Fri 22nd – Guildford Jazz – Beat, The Boilerroom, Guildford, 7.45pm.

Sat 23rd – Godalming Choral Society's Verdi's Requiem, West Horsley Place, 4.30pm.

Thurs 28th – Guildford Jazz, University of Surrey, 8pm.

Fri 29th – Godalming Museum Fundraising Quiz, Wilfred Noyce Centre, 7pm.

◇◇◇◇ **October** ◇◇◇◇

Thurs 5th to Sat 7th – CLT's October dinner and drama, Village Hall, from 7.15pm.

Fri 27th – Light Party at St Nicholas Church.