

COMPTON

NEWS



Number 392 – February 2023

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Plans are underway for **Compton Village Fete 2023**, Saturday 13 May, 12 noon until 4.30pm. A jam-packed programme promises fabulous entertainment suitable for all ages, plus wonderful stalls organised and run by our local community. Proceeds will go to local causes (St Nicholas Church, Compton Club, Allotment Association, Village Hall and Compton Little Theatre), plus this year's chosen local charity, **Godalming & Villages Community Store**. Here's how you can help make the day a big success:

☞ Save the date and bring your family and friends.

☞ Follow and share our Facebook page [@ComptonVillageFete](https://www.facebook.com/ComptonVillageFete).

☞ Grand Draw – Could you donate a fabulous prize? Or perhaps you know of a local business, trade, organisation or talented crafty individual who might want to donate one (all donors will be promoted on the Fete flyer).

Contact wellsmiranda@icloud.com and Sarah.metcalfe17@gmail.com.

PRIZES

BRIC A BRAC

BOTTLE TOMBOLA

PICK A CARD

TEDDY TOMBOLA

Several stalls rely on **generous donations** of unwanted Christmas gifts, books, bottles, teddies, kids clothes as well as toys and items small enough to fit on a playing card.

☞ To donate bottles/cans/cartons that didn't get drunk during Dry January (not to mention those unopened toiletries from Christmases past), please drop them with Jill Eyles at Compton Grange, The Avenue (leave in the covered wood store at the side of the garage).

☞ Are stuffed toys getting under your feet? Then donate any surplus ones to the Teddy Tombola, where they can find a new home. **Every ticket is a winner!** Contact Sarah.metcalfe17@gmail.com.

☞ Planning to sort through the kids' wardrobes, ahead of spring? Please put any potential preloved clothes and shoes aside for now.

☞ Help set up or clear on the day? Run a stall? Offer an hour of your time? We're always looking for volunteers to ensure the day is a success. Contact wellsmiranda@icloud.com.

There is a **Pre-Fete Family Fun Day** taking place on Friday 14 April, from 4pm, at the **Compton Club**, featuring:

◇ Teddy Bear Hunt.

◇ Compton Fete 2023 poster colouring competition, judged by Chris Sharples. Winners will be displayed at **The Old Kiln, Watts Gallery, 5-12 May** and also given unlimited bounces on the bouncy castle on Fete Day!

◇ Opportunity to buy tickets for the Grand Draw and drop off ticket stubs that will be sent out with the **Compton NEWS**.

◇ Drop off point for any (or all!) of the items requested above.

◇ Friendly faces to guide you to the volunteer sign-up sheet.

It will be a fine opportunity to enjoy the lighter evenings with your neighbours. We hope to see you there!



◆ A review of the **Compton Club's** Bylaws took place during the first committee meeting of 2023. We're delighted to say that dogs are now permitted inside. In addition, we are happy for members to order food deliveries for consumption at the club. For all the bylaws, email: info@comptonclub.co.uk.

◆ **20% DISCOUNT** on function room hire for bookings in February.

◆ Masks & Mojitos Night — Audreys Tropic Adventure & Guests will be providing face masks, and serums (Tropic is an award-winning vegan, cruelty-free skincare and makeup brand) and mojitos (and mocktails) for £15pp. Jane & Sophie will be providing 15 minute hand, foot or shoulder massages for an additional £10pp. Friday 10 February, 7.30pm-9.30pm. To book contact Kayleigh, events manager, on [07983 395891](tel:07983395891) / events@comptonclub.co.uk.

◆ The Club will be hosting the **Gag House Comedy Club** (team behind Guildford Fringe Festival) on Friday, 3 March, 8pm (bar opens at 6pm). To book, visit www.GagHouseComedy.com / 01483 361101.

◆ **BINGO** dates are Saturday 7pm, on 4 and 17 February.

Visit www.comptonclub.co.uk for details about ALL the Club's February events, news and more.

HELP KEEP COMPTON TIDY

The **annual litter pick** takes place on Saturday 11 March, starting at 10.30am at the **Compton Club** and finishing back there for soup and rolls at midday. Litter pickers, high-vis vests and rubbish bags will be supplied, but do bring your own gloves and wear sturdy shoes/boots.

COMPTON & LITTLETON WILL BE MARKING THE CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III ON SATURDAY 6/SUNDAY 7 MAY, WITH ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY GUILDFORD FRINGE FESTIVAL ON THE VILLAGE GREEN.

DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN MARCH'S ISSUE.

David Haskins – RIP

We were very sad to learn of the unexpected death of David Haskins just before Christmas. David was born in London. His father was a Naval Surveyor and they moved to New Zealand when he was quite young but he was sent back to boarding school in England when he was 16. David had been a long-time resident of The Coach House in Polsted Lane with his wife Belinda. When Belinda became ill with dementia some years ago, David cared for her with untiring devotion and patience until she had to be admitted to a care home. After she died, he moved to Portsmouth to a beautiful flat overlooking the sea which he loved and where he was very happy.

David was a man of many talents, playing drums, clarinet, guitar and piano to a high standard. His group, *Walk Don't Run*, played at the Fete several times. He was delighted to be chosen, with his band, to play at the 2012 London Olympics and was so disappointed on watching the replay afterwards to find that the cameras panned away just as he came on! Perhaps he will be best remembered for his skill on the bagpipes, much in demand in Compton, and elsewhere, for piping in the haggis on Burns Night. He taught the bagpipes at Gordon's school.

Despite being among the top electronic map makers in the early days of the technology, and enjoying legendary status for his work at BT, David never lost his ability to explain complex issues, patiently and clearly. He taught computer studies at Kingston Polytechnic (now Kingston University). He was a stalwart supporter of the Prostate Project, with much of his voluntary work taking place behind the scenes, which included building a bespoke supporter database and advising on GDPR and various IT issues.

David contributed hugely to life in Compton in many ways. He was an early participant in Compton Little Theatre, making scenery and treading the boards. He was memorable as the Rev Ely Jenkins in *Under Milk Wood* in 1993 and he played a decidedly eccentric psychologist in *The Caine Mutiny Court Martial* in 2003. He regularly attended yoga classes in the village until Belinda's condition worsened.

David was a Parish Councillor, serving for a time as Chairman, and was Treasurer of the Compton Club. He wrote his own program to present the digital traffic data gathered by the Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) in the village and was often seen up a ladder relocating the signs or zapping passing motorists with the speed gun. David was a keen cyclist and he and Belinda loved their Compton allotment where he spent many happy hours. At one time he was very recognisable by his signature beret, probably picked up on one of his many trips to France.

David was never afraid to speak his mind, sometimes quite forcefully, but he always had the interests of the village at heart, receiving the Mayor's Award for services to the community in 2014. He was a fine man and a good friend. His sage advice, fabulous sense of humour, grace and humility will be sorely missed by many.

His funeral will be on Thursday 23 February at 10.30am at **The Guildford Crematorium**, followed by the **Tithe Barn at Loseley**. *All his many Compton friends are welcome to attend and to celebrate his life afterwards in the Tithe Barn.*

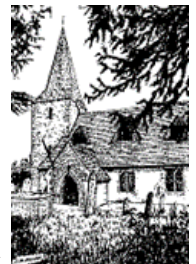
† † † WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY AT ST NICHOLAS CHURCH? † † †

Are you looking to make a difference in our community? St Nicholas is recruiting a new administrator to support our wonderful village church. £13 per hour/8 hours per week. Interesting, flexible role with a fantastic boss! You'll be mostly working from home, with timings to suit you (term time only if required).

Please contact Rev Sally: stnicholascompton.lector@gmail.com / 07778 681664.

How many times can you flip a pancake? Did you know Pancake Day is also called Fat Tuesday? The church is hosting a PANCAKE PARTY at the **Compton Club**, on Sunday 19 February from 4.30-5.30pm. Games, a quiz and pancakes. Free to all. Please book at fledglingscompton@gmail.com / 07779 022419.

Nature playgroup **Fledglings**, for 0-4s, meets every Monday, term time, at Pucks Oak Barn from 9.30am. Contact Catherine at fledglingscompton@gmail.com / 07779 022419.



Sunday 5 February 8am – Holy Communion
(Book of Common Prayer)
6pm – Evensong

Sunday 19 February 10.30am Parish Holy Communion

Sunday 26 February 10.30am Parish Holy Communion

Sunday 12 February 10.30am Parish Holy Communion

Thanks & blessings, Revd Sally Buddle



The term of office of members of **Compton Parish Council** ends in May, when elections are held for new councillors for the new four year term. If you are interested in becoming one, please consider attending the next meeting, on Wednesday 15 March. The Parish Clerk can be contacted for more information.

The Parish Council meets six times a year (January, March, May, July, September and November), at 7pm in Pucks Oak Barn.

The **Annual Parish Meeting** takes place on Wednesday 19 April, 7pm, at the Compton Club. Food and drink will be available on the evening, where we will be asking for residents' input and feedback on traffic calming plans for the village. Thoughts on the children's playground and what locals would like to see installed are also on the agenda. While surfacing for the playground is in need of attention, it is potentially a costly upgrade. The meeting is an important opportunity to decide on priorities. Please send your thoughts to the Clerk joanna@joannacadman.com. For more information, visit www.comptonparishcouncil.co.uk.



Review of CLT's ROBIN HOOD

This was a jolly and lively retelling of the tale of *Robin Hood and his Merry Men*. The panto was written by **Frazer Woodhams** and **Fred Pollard**, who played Nanny Fanny and Prince John respectively — their jokes were very funny! There is nothing quite like panto in a village hall, and Compton's is a fine example, with a separate bar and raised seating at the back. The rear entrance allowed performers to process through to the stage and be right among the audience. Lighting was used effectively throughout and sound was good. Costumes were excellent, with especially fine headgear. The Prince's striking blue sparkly tights and Will Scarlett's splendidly scarlet outfit stay in my mind. The heralds, the villagers, the archers, indeed everyone, looked the part — a great effort from the costume department. The creations sported by Nanny Fanny, and they were many, each one more spectacular than the last, were a triumph! That includes the hair and makeup — however did she manage to get those eyelashes on? Friar Tuck deserves a mention, as he had his hair especially cut for the show in order to raise money for a charity.

Compton Little Theatre is very lucky to have a great set painter in Pat Williams. The forest set was effective, with rocks to hide behind and a trapdoor to hide things in. The Sheriff's office was also great, with various colourful wall hangings, and later, in the Hall, colourful banners. The County May Fayre set was also super. Along with costumes and makeup, sets do help create that world of magic for the young audience. Props, of course, were many, spanning baskets of wares that the peddlers carried, amazing extending trumpets for the heralds, a set of stocks, protest banners against the Wax Tax and the Axe Tax, an archery target and many more.

The production started with the villagers gathering to grumble about the Sheriff's constant raising of taxes, and the fact that he was finding ever more preposterous taxes to implement. Young peddlers appeared, offering their various wares, and singing a cleverly adapted song as they did so, based on 'These Are A Few Of My Favourite Things'. They received well-deserved applause. We met Maid Marion and her astonishing Nanny Fanny. Friar Tuck, we discovered, liked a drink, as he rather cleverly tumbled off a bench outside the pub. The Sheriff was exceedingly well played by Kevin Drury who made a marvellously threatening villain, though with his clumsy hopeless henchmen, Hammer and Tongs (Helen Bracher and Mandy Scully) one did rather wonder whether he'd be able to carry out all his dastardly threats! He had designs on Maid Marion (Isabel Moore), both in terms of her person and her fortune, and aimed to make her his bride. She seemed feisty enough though, and one felt she knew Robin Hood would save the day. The outlaws were an endearing bunch with Zack Taylor (Robin Hood) ably leading his Merry Men: Alan a Dale (Freddie Cox), Friar Tuck (Stephen Pugh), Will Scarlett (Luke Bevan), Much (Henry Moore) and Little John (Sean Lyttle), as they schemed first to rob the Sheriff of the taxes his men had collected, and later to rescue Maid Marion from the clutches of the Sheriff, and get him removed from his post.

The desperate Nanny Fanny, (desperate in more ways than one!) joined up with the outlaws as they tried to rescue Maid Marion, and Little John promptly fell for her, which was of course reciprocated. Frazer Woodhams made a superb Dame and we especially enjoyed his duet with the great Little John of 'Islands in the Stream'.

There were all kinds of good songs in this panto. I was able to note Robin and Little John's duet of 'You're Amazing, I'd Do Anything For You', which I think was their dreaming of Maid Marion and Nanny Fanny. 'We're Men In Tights' was a great song by the outlaws and there were many others, often accompanied by well-choreographed dances. The jokes were delivered with good comic timing. The appearance of Prince John (Fred Pollard) was a delight, a great performance from him, he also had a good song and of course he finally sacked the Sheriff. We had some community singing with 'I Am The Music Man', achieved by four performers on four different instruments from four corners of the hall. All in all, this was a jolly afternoon's Compton treat, well directed by **Alison Lawrence**, and well performed by all with great gusto. **Well done, team!**

Contributed by Pauline Surrey, NODA South East Region rep

♪ **CONSERVATOIRE CONCERTS** is organising a flute and guitar recital by **Katie Sazanova** and **Hannah Woollacott** on Saturday 11 February, 7pm, at Godalming Baptist Church. Programme includes works by Elgar, Faure, Piazzolla, Villa-Lobos and more. Book via www.conservatoireconcerts.org.uk or email suzanne.cacciottolo@gmail.com. This is a FREE concert with a retiring collection towards musicians' fees and expenses.

BEAT AT THE BOILER ROOM

WITH **XHOSA COLE** Friday 17 February, from 7pm

Since winning a BBC Young Jazz Musician award in 2018, **Xhosa Cole** has established himself in the premier league of UK jazz saxophonists. "A young player with formidable technique and a solid grasp of the post-John Coltrane African American tradition" — *All about Jazz*.

GUILDFORD JAZZ

ALEX CLARKE

Wednesday 8 February, from 7.15pm, Guildford Cricket Pavilion.

Alex Clarke is one of the most in-demand and versatile young saxophonists emerging on the British jazz scene. Her quartet's latest album, 'Only A Year', features a mix of standards, original compositions and music by the likes of Phil Woods and Erroll Garner. With Rob Barron (piano), Dave Green (bass), Clark Tracey (drums).

JAMES PEARSON

Thursday 23 February, from 8pm, Performing Arts Studio, Surrey University.

James Pearson is the Artistic Director at Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club. In this tour through jazz piano greats, James and his trio take us to the music of Oscar Peterson, Fats Waller, Jelly Roll Morton and more.

Booking: guildfordjazz.org.uk

Godalming Theatre Group (GTG) is taking bookings for "**Kipps — the New Half a Sixpence**", by arrangement with Cameron Mackintosh. Julian Fellowes (Downton Abbey) has added his magic touch to this much-loved musical, while Stiles and Drewe's brilliantly infectious new score complements the original David Heneker classic. When Arthur Kipps unexpectedly inherits a fortune that propels him into the upstairs, downstairs world of English society, it confuses everything he thought he knew about life. Tuesday 28 March until Saturday 1 April, at the Ben Travers Theatre, Charterhouse. Box Office: gtguk.com. For group bookings of 20 or more call the box office on 07402 484 484.

WATTS GALLERY NEWS



- ✦ We're hosting a unique event at our Historic Galleries on Friday 24 February. An evening of film and conversation will be topped by a musical performance from the lauded **Atchison Quartet**. Perfect for music lovers!
- ✦ Join us for our final month of *Dreams and Stories: Modern Pre-Raphaelite Visionaries*. Co-Curator **Dr Alice Eden** will be giving a talk at 12pm on Thursday 16 February on the theme of spirituality in the exhibition.
- ✦ 13–18 year olds can join artist **Tom Voyce** for a day of sketching and painting in his “A Sense of Place” landscape workshop this February half-term.
- ✦ Artists’ **Tom Voyce** and **Grace Ellen** will sit down with Watts director **Alistair Burtenshaw** to discuss their inspirations and methods of working on Wednesday 15 February.
- ✦ Finally, join us for family fun this February half-term for **Make Space** workshops, drawing activities, and more, every day of the week. There is something suitable for all ages.

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

On Tuesday 14 February, **THE ARTS SOCIETY WOKING**'s talk will be on **Sadler's Wells**, which has been a part of London's theatrical history for more than three centuries. Follow the unique story of “The Wells” which includes pony racing, naval warfare, Shakespeare with Sir John Gielgud, as well connections with opera and dance and the roots of today's Royal Ballet companies. The talk will be given by **Nigel Bates**, who has been a performer for more than 40 years, including Principal Percussionist with the Royal Opera House Covent Garden's Orchestra and eight years as the Music Administrator of The Royal Ballet. 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. Visit: <http://wokingdfas.org.uk/talks-arts-society-woking-2023.htm#February>

THINKING OF SWITCHING TO AN ELECTRIC CAR THIS YEAR?

Cheaper to run than petrol and diesel cars, EVs' zero tail-pipe emissions leave the neighbourhood breathing more easily too. Local business **EV Experts** aims to help consumers and businesses switch to electric and get the best out of their EV, from its store on the A3 (southbound), next to American Golf. At EVE find over 40 nearly new and pre-owned electric cars, from entry level to premium, plus finance, part-exchange options and advice on installing home charge points. EVE has achieved the Gold Trusted Service Award from Feefo and was awarded Used EV Retailer of the Year at the Motor Trader Independent Dealer 2022 awards. To speak to Estelle and the team, visit www.evexperts.co.uk or search on Facebook.

Child's kitchen for sale, with pots and pans. £10.00.
07593 528806.

Second hand glazed oak doors. £500 ONO. Frame 207cm (H). Door 196cm (H). Frame 171cm (W). Door 161cm (W). Threshold 180cm. **07900 303220.**

NORMANDY VILLAGE SHOP & CAFÉ — OPENING SOON

Following a successful fundraiser, the villagers of Normandy have built a beautiful shop and café, located at Manor Fruit Farm, off Glaziers Lane, near the Village Hall. Construction is nearing completion ready for final fit-out. On Sunday 26 March, the builders will hand the shop over to the village. However, there is still an enormous amount to do in the next couple of months that we simply cannot manage all on our own. If you have some free time and think you can help, in any way, please get in touch or attend the upcoming volunteer networking meeting on Friday 24 February, 7pm, Normandy Cricket Club. Email contact@normandyshop.co.uk / **07545 963157**.

DATES FOR FEBRUARY

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

Compton Club open 7pm to 11pm, Thursday, Friday & Saturday.

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

Pilates, Compton Club, Tuesdays, 9.45am-10.45am.

Bingo, Compton Club, Saturdays 7pm, 4th and 17th.

Fledglings, Pucks Oak Barn, Mondays, 9.30am.

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Weds 8th – Alex Clarke, Guildford Cricket Pavilion, 7.15pm.

Fri 10th – Masks & Mojitos, Compton Club, 7.30pm.

Sat 11th – Conservatoire Concerts, Godalming Baptist Church, 7pm.

Tues 14th – “Sadlers Wells”, Normandy Village Hall, 10.30am.

Sun 19th – Pancake Party, Compton Club, 4.30pm.

Fri 17th – Xhosa Cole, BEAT, Boiler Room, from 7pm.

Thurs 23rd – David Haskins funeral, Guildford Crematorium, 10.30am.

Thurs 23rd – James Pearson, Performing Arts Studio, University of Surrey 8pm.

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March dates

Fri 3rd – Gag House Comedy Club, Compton Club, from 6pm.

Sat 11th – Annual litter Pick, Compton Club, 10.30am.

Weds 15th – Compton Parish Council Meeting, Pucks Oak Barn, 7pm.