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In June, the Chairman and the Clerk of COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL met with **Alexander More-Molyneux**, during which he made a number of points about the tree felling operations near Spiceall, including Bummoor Copse:

- The removal of trees suffering from ash die-back required large machinery due to crew safety issues.
- The overall operation needed to be large enough to pay for itself through the sale of timber, and was a “cost covering exercise” rather than a profitable venture.
- No more than 25% of the wood in total has been felled.
- The alder has been coppiced so will re-grow.
- The overall aim is to replant in native broadleaf (later in the year) rather than some of the non-indigenous species that were there, while relying on some natural regeneration.
- Loseley is planning a “buffer area” behind Spiceall to avoid the problems of large trees overhanging the gardens there.
- Young trees will be protected from deer in smaller pockets rather than trying to fence off the whole area.
- Loseley did look at alternative access points into the wood that were offered by neighbouring properties but decided these would cause more problems than they solved.
- Concerning the watercourses, Alexander More-Molyneux said he was surprised there was still a problem and promised to check and follow up with the contractors.

Ongoing communications with the village of Compton were also discussed, which Alexander More-Molyneux expressed a desire to improve. He has a regular slot on the Artington Parish Council meetings where the community is kept abreast of activities occurring on the Estate and Alexander said he is happy to do something similar for Compton. He will be asked for a statement for Compton Parish Council’s September meeting, which will be included in the agenda papers and will appear on the Parish Council website. Alexander will also provide a statement on immediate plans for the wood later in the autumn.

The full statement is available on the Parish Council’s website, as an inclusion in the annexes for the July meeting, which can be found at www.compton-pc.gov.uk.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 17 September, at 7pm, Pucks Oak Barn. Everyone is welcome to attend. Visit www.compton-pc.gov.uk for more information.

Compton traffic calming update. The COMPTON VILLAGE representatives had an initial meeting with SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL (SCC) on Thursday 7 August to discuss their outline traffic calming proposals including 20mph and 30mph zones, village gates, a mix of raised tables and speed cushions and pedestrian access measures. The SCC Highways design team will prepare a detailed scheme to be discussed at the next meeting of this stakeholder working group (date not yet fixed). It will report to the village in more detail at that stage. We understand that minutes of these meetings will be placed by SCC on <https://comptonvillage.commonplace.is/>.

By the end of September, the *Village Hall* will emerge from several weeks of intense activity and hard work having been completed redecorated, inside and out, and a new kitchen installed and equipped with a catering-size oven and a deep freeze.

The redecorating has been carried out by **Paul McCann** of Westbrooke Decorators who has had to juggle with hirings that couldn’t be moved and the ongoing works in the kitchen. It has been done to a high standard. The iron railings have been rubbed back to the original metal and given three coats of appropriate gloss paint, the exterior doors and woodwork treated with at least three coats of paint. Walls, ceilings and windows in the main hall, the committee room and the toilets were given a new lease of life. We cannot praise Paul highly enough for his professionalism and the quality of his work. Wren kitchens has supplied and installed the kitchen. The gas supply has had to be upgraded to take account of the larger hob and oven. As expected, all this work has come at a considerable cost and has been made possible by the generous contributions over the years by the Village Association from the proceeds of the Fete.

The village can be proud of this valuable asset which is well managed by a team of dedicated and enthusiastic Trustees. It is regularly hired out, at very reasonable rates, particularly if you are a Compton resident and enjoy a concession! Weddings and parties, meetings, seminars and classes, are all accommodated. To hire the Hall, contact cvhbookings26@gmail.com.

With rehearsals well and truly underway, CLT is excited to bring you **Bunkered** by **Lynn Brittny**, a wonderful evening of comedy at *Compton Village Hall*. Performance dates are Thursday 9 to Saturday 11 October. We are not able to offer a meal this year but you are invited to make an evening of it and bring your own food (including any cutlery and plates) to enjoy before the performance in our relaxed cabaret seating arrangement. Doors open at 6.45pm and the performance will start at 7.45pm. There will be a pay bar offering a wide range of beers, wine and soft drinks. Please DO NOT bring your own drinks as this will invalidate our alcohol licence. Tickets are £12 via www.ticketsource.co.uk/clt or email tickets@comptonlittletheatre.org.uk. We look forward to seeing you there. Please get in touch if you are interested in helping backstage on this production. Email info@comptonlittletheatre.org.uk.



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

Special Event — **TEA AT THREE**. Join us on Sunday 28 September for coffee, cakes & crafts from 3-5pm in the Church. All welcome, free entry.



✠ **Muddy Church** recommences on Sunday 7 September. Our time for wandering and wondering with God is held on the first Sunday of every month at 10.30am (term-time only).

✠ Toddler group **Fledglings**, which runs during term-time, resumes on Monday 8 September, at 9am at *Puck's Oak Barn*. Contact fledglingscompton@gmail.com.

✠ **Bell ringing** practice is held 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: stnicholascompton.rector@gmail.com.

Confidentiality will be respected.

Thanks & blessings, Revd Sally Buddle

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 3 10.30am BCP Holy Communion
 Sunday 7 10.30am Muddy Church
6pm Evensong

Sunday 14 10.30am Harvest Festival
 Sunday 21 10.30am Holy Communion
 Sunday 28 10.30am Holy Communion
3pm Tea at Three

Visit our website for full details of upcoming services & events: stnicholascompton.org.

So near, so FARNCOMBE COMMUNITY GARDEN. Sited on the edge of Farncombe on Summers Road, this project was the dream of a group of doctors at Binscombe Medical Centre around six years ago. From a forgotten, weed covered, tussocky field surrounded by thick brambles, it has now become a useful and productive place.

The garden officially opened its gates in 2023 and since then has been going from strength to strength with local volunteers, public visitors and groups. Our pavilion is perfect for indoor events and during the colder months we offer craft activities for our volunteers in a warm space. It is also the hub for serving drinks and cakes!

In the 2.5 acres, we have a varied vegetable garden and a natural pond. Our woodland area is wonderfully lush all year round. A central grassy area is mown to allow for activities while there is also a sensory garden, an exciting "hill" to climb, a woodland walk, beehives and a fire pit.

As we gain more volunteers, we hope to extend opening hours. Do drop along for a visit; you never know, you might like to join us in this very special project. Wednesday 1pm–3pm. Friday 10am–12pm. Saturday 10am–12pm Summers Road, Farncombe, GU7 3BF. For more information please visit www.farncombecommunitygarden.org.



A big "thank you" from GODALMING & VILLAGES COMMUNITY STORE. Cheese straws and sausage rolls are big favourites in Compton. This revelation came when we ran the Tea & Cake stall at the fantastic Fete back in May. Savoury treats are as popular as delicious cakes. The village has been consistently generous to Godalming & Villages Community Store food bank. This year we received £1,394 which will buy fruit & veg for 'customers' as well as fridge and freezer items which most food banks don't offer. Our team enjoyed our time at the Compton Club even if we needed a sit down and something stronger than tea afterwards! We were given so many delicious savoury options, biscuits and cakes by the great village cooks. As more and more were delivered we thought we'd never sell them. But we did. Thank you Compton for your large donation.

Annie Barker, Trustee/Volunteer

SURREY POLICE BAND presents ***A Night at the Proms*** on Saturday 27 September, 7pm at *Normandy Village Hall, Normandy, Surrey, GU3 2DD*. The annual concert — in aid of the Chief Constable's chosen charity — promises to be an entertaining evening of music with a traditional flag waving finale. Doors & licensed bar open 30 minutes prior to the performance. Free Parking. Tickets: £10 adults, £5 under 16s, FREE for under 5s. Book tickets by calling the Box Office on 0333 666 3366 or visiting www.surreypoliceband.org.uk.

On Thursday 18 September, 7.30pm until 9pm, **LES AMITIÉS FRANÇAISES'** guest speaker **Clare St Lawrence** will give a talk on her time in the town of Vienne located in the Isère region.

Les Amitiés Françaises is part of a thriving French circle. To book, visit www.amitiesfrancaisesgodalming.com.

Talks take place at the **WILFRID NOYCE COMMUNITY CENTRE**, *Oglethorpe Hall, Crown Court Car Park, Godalming, GU7 1DY*.

On Friday 19 September the **MILFORD PROBUS CLUB** post-lunch talk will discuss how the Cold War of the 1960s has uncomfortable resonances with today. While much of Britain embraced the "swinging sixties", the threat from an aggressive Soviet Union was deadly serious. The Royal Air Force's role in countering that threat included a formidable nuclear deterrent provided by Britain's V Bomber Force, capable of being airborne in two minutes. One of the crew members is speaker **Andy Richardson**. Come and hear what he has to say. Lunch and talk just £32. Lunch is at 12.30pm (pre-lunch drinks from 12pm). Visit www.milfordprobus.com or book lunch (book the Monday before) with Miranda O'Brien: miranda.obrien@btinternet.com / 01483 423398.

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♪ **CONSERVATOIRE CONCERTS** opens its 2025-26 concert season with the annual ***Rising Stars Concert*** on Saturday 13 September, 7pm at *Godalming Baptist Church*. The concert will feature some of the talented students studying at the specialist Purcell School. **Julia Majewska** (violin), **Ostap Hrudovyi** (bassoon) and **Trevor Tong** (French horn) will be accompanied by staff pianist **Debbie Shah**. This concert always promises to be a stunning showcase of these brilliant musicians studying at Purcell School. Book your seats at www.conservatoireconcerts.org.uk. Admission FREE with a retiring collection towards musicians' fees and expenses.

♪ **GODALMING CHORAL SOCIETY** invites Compton residents to participate in an ***Open Evening of Joyful Singing*** on Tuesday 9 September at 7.20pm at the *Wilfrid Noyce Centre, GU7 1DY*. Rehearsals will be starting for the *In Memoriam* concert on Saturday 29 November. This will feature work by FAURE, ELGAR, DURUFLE, IRELAND and JOHN WILLIAMS. All comers are welcome, including beginners, enthusiasts and professionals. As a choir, we are friendly, keen and dedicated; we enjoy a broad range of music and share a love of choral singing. New members are always welcome. There is no audition and you will be well supported in becoming familiar with the choir and its practice. We look forward to seeing you there. Pauline, who is our contact membership secretary, will be happy to answer any questions at p.powlesland@btinternet.com.

GUILDFORD JAZZ

Big Swing Showcase Saturday 13 September

Big Band music showcasing two local bands. 'Junction 4' are a dynamic 18-piece ensemble performing everything from 1930s swing to modern chart hits. 'Rhythm and Groove' are an 18-piece outfit with a wide repertoire ranging from the swing of Benny Goodman to more modern composers.

Free entry, all welcome.

2pm

*Guildford Castle grounds
Castle St, GU1 3SX.*

Matt Skelton's Blackhawk Quintet Wednesday 17 September

An evening of cool jazz in tribute to the legendary drummer Shelley Manne, one of the greats of the 1950s West Coast jazz scene. The stellar line-up comprises Jim Davison (trumpet), Mark Crooks (tenor sax), Leon Greening (piano), Conor Chaplin (double bass), and Matt Skelton (drums & leader).

8pm

*Guildford Pavilion
Woodbridge Road GU1 4RP.*

The Alvar Tree Frogs Sunday 21 September

Traditional jazz from a band that was formed on Alvar Street, New Orleans, where one night its founder members listened to the tree frogs singing and decided to form a band that would breathe life into the music that made the streets of New Orleans a place to dance and party. Free entry, all welcome.

2.15pm.

The Guildhall

131 High Street, Guildford GU1 3AA.

Visit www.guildfordjazz.org.uk to find out more and to book

STEP, CYCLE, SIP — SAVE SURREY'S CHURCHES! The SURREY CHURCHES PRESERVATION TRUST (SCPT) invites everyone to join the annual ***Ride & Stride*** on Saturday 13 September. This much-loved event is open to all, whether you're a keen cyclist, a casual walker, or simply someone who enjoys a good coffee morning with friends. The aim is simple: to raise money to protect Surrey's historic churches. Half of what you raise goes straight to your chosen church and the rest helps fund repair and conservation grants across the county. Since it began, Ride & Stride has raised over £500,000, directly supporting church buildings at the heart of our communities. This year, SCPT has more grant funding available than ever before—up to £3,000 per church—but to benefit, each church's supporters must take part. Even the smallest event can unlock vital funding. So step out, cycle on, or put the kettle on—every effort counts. Find out more at: www.surreychurchespreservationtrust.org/ride-stride/.

If you love spending time in charity shops, why not consider volunteering in one? Local hospice care charity **PHYLLIS TUCKWELL** is looking for volunteers to serve customers in its Cranleigh shop, which sells donated preloved items.

"Our Cranleigh shop sells quality, high-end fashion and collectibles," said Julia Morpeth, voluntary services manager at Phyllis Tuckwell.

As well as clothes, shoes and accessories, the shop also sells books, DVDs, games and household items. All of the money it raises goes directly towards helping fund the vital palliative and end of life care that Phyllis Tuckwell provides to over 250 local patients, relatives and carers every day. As the NHS/Government only covers around 25% of costs, the charity has to raise over £25,000 every day to provide this care, and its shops and volunteers help greatly in this regard.

To find out more, contact Phyllis Tuckwell's Voluntary Services Team on 01252 729400 or email voluntary.services@pth.org.uk.

Have your say on Surrey's Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL has launched a public consultation on its draft *Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)*, a plan to protect and restore nature across the county, shaped by input from local communities, environmental organisations, landowners and health professionals.

From ancient woodlands and chalk grasslands to historic parklands and the Surrey Hills, Surrey is home to some of the most treasured landscapes in the country. But nature is under pressure, and it's time for a joined-up approach to help it thrive.

The draft strategy:

- Outlines key priorities for nature recovery
- Maps Surrey's most valuable areas for wildlife
- Identifies opportunities to improve habitats and deliver wider environmental benefits such as cleaner air, flood resilience and access to green spaces

The consultation runs until 25 September 2025. Have your say by visiting the link here: <https://tinyurl.com/5bd62r5d>.

The final strategy will be completed by the end of the year, for Surrey County Council's Cabinet to review by early 2026.

Sandra's Yoga Classes have resumed at the *Village Hall* on Thursday & Friday mornings, 10.30am-12 noon. Suitable for all ages and abilities and drop-in is available.



On Thursday 31 July **Alistair Burtenshaw**, Brice Director and Chief Executive of WATTS GALLERY TRUST, stepped down after eight years leading Watts Gallery. A new Director will be appointed in due course. **Henry Anaele** and **Madeleine Henderson** are acting as interim Co-CEOs.

Full announcement: www.wattsgallery.org.uk/press/alistair-burtenshaw-steps-down-as-brice-director-and-chief-executive.

The whole Watts Gallery site, including Café and Shop, is now closed on Mondays & Tuesdays (except for Bank Holidays). Watts Cemetery Chapel will continue to remain open for visitors daily. The whole site, including Chapel, will be closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day.

✦ There isn't long left to discover artworks by members of the SOCIETY OF GRAPHIC FINE ART at *Watts Contemporary Gallery*, on display until Sunday 7 September.

✦ Opening on Thursday 11 September, *Watts Contemporary Gallery* presents an exhibition of satirical cartoons by *The Times* newspaper's very own **Peter Brookes**. **Peter Brookes: Political Cartoonist of The Times** will be on display until Sunday 23 November. To celebrate the opening of the exhibition, join Peter Brookes for a special evening in conversation with journalist and broadcaster, **Martha Kearney** on Wednesday 10 September.

✦ Unleash your inner potter with an exciting array of ceramic workshops and courses for all skill levels. Enjoy one-off workshops focusing on different techniques on Friday mornings, and try your hand at the potter's wheel with throwing taster sessions on Thursdays. Or, develop your skills with our five-week pottery courses. Our hand-building course begins on Friday 5 September and the beginners' throwing course starts on Wednesday 10 September.

✦ There are other ways to get creative at Watts Gallery this month too. Join our inspired "At Watts" session on Saturday 20 September and take part in an artist-led workshop, or take part in a sculpted caricature masterclass with **Jethro Crabb** on Saturday 27 September.

✦ Watts Gallery is taking part in the **GUILDFORD FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS!** Join us on Thursday 25 and Sunday 28 September in Guildford for a ceramic workshop. See website for details and locations.

www.wattsgallery.org.uk.

On Tuesday 9 September, **ARTS SOCIETY WOKING's** talk is **Puccini. From Opera to Popular**. The music of Puccini is instantly recognisable, even to those who don't know his name or anything about opera. How has this happened? **John Snelson's** lecture traces how Puccini's music has spread from the opera house into global culture. Music and film will be included.

John has been fascinated by musicals all his life and is a leading expert in British musical theatre (the subject of his PhD). His publications include *Reviewing the Situation: The British Musical from Noël Coward to Lionel Bart* (Bloomsbury), *How to Enjoy Opera* (Oberon/Bloomsbury), *Andrew Lloyd Webber* (Yale University Press) and chapters in many authoritative reference works. John has given talks for, among others, the ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA, THE GARSINGTON and GLYNDEBOURNE festivals and for BBC radio.

Talks start at 10.30am but doors open 9.45am for tea, coffee & biscuits. **Normandy Village Hall, GU3 2DT**. Members may bring a visitor, who may want to make a donation to the Society of **£10**.

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



GODALMING MUSEUM is hosting **The Great Godalming Quiz-off** on Friday 19 September, 7pm at *Wilfred Noyce Community Centre, Crown Court, High Street, Godalming GU7 1DY*. Join us for a lively evening of trivia, historic knowledge, laughter and community spirit. Spaces are limited, so gather your team and book your spot today. Every ticket sold helps support and preserve our treasured Museum. Visit Godalming Museum where tickets can be purchased at the front desk.

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

DATES FOR SEPTEMBER

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, from 7pm.

St Nicholas services, 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th Sunday, 10.30am.

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Tues 9th – Godalming Choral Society, Wilfrid Noyce Centre, GU7 1DY, 7.30pm.

Sat 13th – Ride & Stride to save Surrey's Churches!

Sat 13th – Guildford Jazz, Guildford Castle grounds, GU1 3SX, 1.30pm.

Sat 13th – Conservatoire Concerts, Godalming Baptist Church, GU7 1BA, 7pm.

Wed 17th – Parish Council Meeting, Pucks Oak Barn, 7pm.

Wed 17th – Guildford Jazz, Guildford Pavilion, GU1 4RP, 8pm.

Thurs 18th – Les Amitiés Françaises' talk, Wilfrid Noyce Community Centre, GU7 1DY, 7.30pm.

Fri 19th – Milford Probus Club, Godalming Masonic Hall, GU7 1RQ, from 12pm.

Fri 19th – Great Godalming Quiz-off, Wilfrid Noyce Community Centre, GU7 1DY, 7pm.

Sat 20th – COMPTON NEWS OCTOBER ISSUE DEADLINE.

Sun 21st – Guildford Jazz, The Guildhall, GU1 3AA, 2.15pm.

Sat 27th – Surrey Police Band concert, Normandy Village Hall, GU3 2DD, 7pm.

Sun 28th – Tea at Three, St Nicholas Church, 3pm.