



Number 372 – April 2021

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WELCOME BACK TO A PRINTED COPY OF THE NEWS - THE FIRST SINCE MAY LAST YEAR!

This month, we are distributing tickets for the **GRAND DRAW**, which is all that remains of the village Fete for the second year. Last year, the profit from the Grand Draw was shared between the “Unsung Heroes” whom you nominated, who helped to keep Compton running in such difficult times. After deducting expenses, the incredible sum of £2,385 was raised for this purpose, which beat any surplus made previously by the Grand Draw. This year the profit will be divided between village organisations which have struggled during the various lockdowns and include the Allotments, the Compton Club, Compton Little Theatre, St Nicholas Church and the Village Hall. Let's see if we can match last year – or do even better!

The top three prizes are:

First Prize - £300 CASH

Second Prize - Superior Room for 2 at the Withies for 1 night, including dinner and breakfast

Third Prize - £50 voucher for the Thai Kitchen Compton and 2 bottles of Champagne

The list of prizes reported in last month's NEWS is being added to with yet more exciting offers. The full list will be given in next month's NEWS.

You can buy your tickets by filling out the stubs enclosed with this NEWS and returning them to David Hunt, Poplar Cottage, The Common, Compton GU3 1JF. Cheques payable to *Compton Village Association*.

Alternatively, you may prefer to buy tickets without leaving your house! Transfer the appropriate money to the Compton Village Association Account at Lloyds Bank: Sort Code 30-93-49, Account No. 00115047 (business account) giving **GD** as the reference. Then just email David at david.hunt0808@gmail.com (please note, the dot between david and hunt is important!) giving your name and phone number (**this is important so that we can contact you to give you the good news!**) and we will do the rest!

If you have **prizes you'd like to donate**, or require **extra Grand Draw tickets**, contact Miranda Wells, Chairman, Compton Village Fete Committee, wellsmiranda@icloud.com, Tel: 07989 441927. The draw will take place on Saturday 15th May at 4pm at The Old School and all winners will be contacted soon thereafter.

Don't hold back! Your chances of winning a prize in the Compton Grand Draw are far greater than winning on the Lottery and the local organisations we are supporting will be lucky winners too!

“NextDoor Compton” – Watch out!

Many properties in the village will have received a letter through the post very recently advertising the merits of using a free App called *NextDoor Compton*. Shackleford also recently received their second marketing approach from *NextDoor*, virtually identical to the one just received in Compton, and they immediately sent out a note to the village advising people to take care. In this note, they contradicted the messages in NextDoor's mailshot and said that Shackleford is absolutely NOT using this App. There definitely aren't 800 posts and there aren't any current safety issues in the village, as claimed in the NextDoor mailshot. There was a good summary in a recent article in Buzz Feed News, which referred to *NextDoor* becoming “the platform for Scammers to rip off your parents. It is a great place to complain about a neighbour's barking dog. It's also a petri-dish for low-level crime”. So beware – don't be tempted. Stay safe!

* * * HELP NEEDED! * * *

* **Someone to help assemble small electrical items.** A little fiddly but no experience necessary. Totally flexible hours, either working from home or in a small office in Compton. Hourly rate.

and

* **Handy person to fix/sand/paint small bits of furniture.** Again, totally flexible hours either working from home or in a small office in Compton. Hourly rate.

If you can offer to help with either of these, contact Julie on 07775 852671 or email Julie@lolapalooza.co.uk.

PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL LITTER PICK. Thank you so very much to all those wonderful people who gave up a blustery but sunny, early spring Saturday morning to take part in our annual **Litter Pick** around the parish. In these strange days, it was nothing like our usual litter pick - no parish council litter pickers or hi-viz jackets, no greeting and sending people on their way, and no soup to say thank you! But, nevertheless, we had a fantastic turnout of over 25 people who were all prepared to go it alone once they had been allocated a patch and who, as always, collected an enormous amount of rubbish. Some of it people took home, some is waiting for Guildford to come and pick it up. You were all completely amazing - such good spirits and a can-do attitude. It's amazing what we can do, even in a lockdown.

I hope that one family, who did an incredible stretch of the New Pond Road, won't mind me quoting their email to me afterwards, which summed up the whole day to me: "We had a great morning litter picking! 10+ bin bags with some unbelievable finds - most unusual probably being a rubber duck and a toy mouse! Family of 5 had a brilliant day out in lockdown".

And especial thanks to the A3 slip road team, who took their lives in their hands to clear this road. I am not sure how many bags of rubbish they collected, but it looked like at least 20 to me - and a lot of Irn Bru cans, apparently - someone in need of an early morning pickup, with no social conscience. My gratitude especially to the resident who organises this particular area of litter picking, and who also takes the bags of rubbish collected by other litter pickers to a central place. I know how hard you work on this, and on other parish matters. My special thanks to you.

I also want to say thank you to one of our residents who has used some of his time on furlough to litter pick his way around the parish. He collected an incredible amount of rubbish single-handedly and we are so grateful to him for this, and also for his help towards finding strategies to slow traffic down on the B3000 through the village.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS. The Regulations arising out of the Covid Act 2020 allowed Parish Councils to meet remotely, in order that we could continue with the normal business of the Parish. This is what we have done for the last year, as far as we could, with obvious exceptions such as the Annual Parish meeting, which was cancelled in the early days of the pandemic. The sunset clause in the Act means that it will not be possible for Parish Councils to make any legal decisions in any remote meetings after 6th May, even though it is not, at that stage, legally possible to meet in public. The Government have made it clear that they cannot make time for any further primary legislation and so we have to be inventive. We will therefore hold our **Annual Statutory Meeting** on the **6th May at 6pm**, in order that we can conduct the legal business of this meeting and hope that, by the next meeting on 21st July, we are able to meet in public without restrictions.

Joanna Cadman, Parish Clerk

Tel: 01483 268627 or 07711 566458. Email: joanna@joannacadman.com

→ → → RECENT UPDATES! ← ← ←

The best way to keep up with the rapidly changing picture of what's happening and what isn't is to check the individual websites. See below for news from some venues who have been in touch:

→ **THE WITHIES** are delighted to be opening their fairy tale, sunny garden, heated marquee and quaint cloisters from Monday 12th April. They will be open from Monday to Saturday 11am to 11pm, and Sunday 12 noon to 4pm, for lunch, afternoon tea and dinner. Full details will be available on their website www.thewithiesinn.com after Easter weekend. They are, however, currently taking bookings via telephone, email and Open Table. Tel: 01483 421158. Email: withiesreservations@gmail.com.

The last day for takeaways will be Easter Sunday, 4th April. Why not enjoy the Best of British Lamb or Beef as a last hurrah! Call 07817 225501.

→ **FARMM SHOP AND CAFÉ, MELLERSH FARM.** From Thursday 1st April they will be back to their 9am to 5pm trading hours for both the Farm Shop and the Coffee Shop. From Monday 12th April, if all continues to go well, they will be open for outside hospitality for the Coffee Shop.

→ **THAI KITCHEN.** Their rental agreement with the Club runs until 8th July so they will continue as before for the moment. They are also thinking of doing a café with lunches including sandwiches, great coffee, cakes and maybe Thai salads. They would welcome input from Compton residents as to what might work for them. If you have any thoughts or suggestions, email Paul on info@thaikitchencompton.co.uk.

→ **GREYFRIARS VINEYARD** will resume their tour activities from Saturday 17th April and the shop is reopening on Wednesday 14th April, 10am to 4pm Wednesday to Saturday. Tour tickets and Local Artisan Tastings (Gin & Fizz, Cheese & Wine, Chocolate & Wine) can be purchased now on their website – www.greyfriarsvineyard.co.uk.

→ **KD FINE ART** hope to re-open on Monday 12th April. The shop is fully stocked and they have hundreds of prints for sale, not to mention their superb picture framing service.

→ **THE COMMUNITY FOOD STORE** collection point at the **TELEPHONE BOX** continues to operate on Sundays from 8am to 5pm.

† † † ST NICHOLAS CHURCH † † †



Happy Easter on Sunday 4th April! There are services in church on Easter day at 8am and 10.30am, and a Zoom Sung Evensong service at 6pm. Services in church will also be available on Zoom. Email the Parish Office to book a place in church or to receive the link for Zoom. stnicholascompton.office@gmail.com or phone 07930 436527.

Services in April are as follows:

- Thursday 1st – Maundy Thursday.** Church open from 11am to 1pm. 6pm Maundy Thursday Eucharist and preparation for Good Friday. Zoom only.
- Friday 2nd – Good Friday.** 10.30am Service of the Word (Zoom only), after which the church is open until 1pm.
- Sunday 4th – Easter Sunday.** 8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) in the church and Zoom; 10.30am Holy Communion in the church and Zoom; 6pm Easter Choral Evensong with hymns, Zoom only so that hymns can be sung.
- Sunday 11th – 10.30am** Holy Communion (in church and Zoom)
- Sunday 18th – 10.30am** Holy Communion (in church and Zoom)
- Sunday 25th – 10.30am** Holy Communion (in church and Zoom)

◆ ◆ ◆ A BIT OF THIS AND A BIT OF THAT ◆ ◆ ◆

◆ **Phil and Sally Gorton** have made a slideshow of **COMPTON CHURCHYARD**, at St Nicholas Church, which has a profusion of flowering plants in the Spring. Untouched by agriculture or herbicides for over 1000 years, it is a place of delicate beauty. You can find it on Youtube.com – search for “ancient grassland Compton churchyard”. They are also preparing a new Compton history website which will be ready soon. Watch this space!

◆ **COMPTON PHONE BOX** was approached by **The Rocking Horse Nursery** in Godalming to ask if the children could help with one of its projects. Comic Relief Red Nose Day proved the perfect opportunity. The children, aged 2 to 5, created over 35 funny faces to decorate the box.

A QR code and link on the @comptonphonebox account allowed an astonishing **£1,485** to be raised. £600 of this was sponsorship from the Nursery, £100 from a £2 donation on every Red Nose order from the Thai Kitchen Compton and £200 from the Instagram auction of the Stevie Wonder artwork, used on the Valentine’s Day box. In December, the Watts Gallery took over the phone box and publicised the appeal for the community-based outreach work they do. And the Christmas collaboration with St Nicholas Church netted £515 for our local Children’s Hospice, *Shooting Star Chase*. The use of the Just Giving App enabled Gift Aid to be claimed. Compton Phone Box would like to say a very special THANK YOU to everyone involved and anyone who supports and enjoys the installations.

◆ Tickets for the **ANNUAL TULIP FESTIVAL** at **Dunsborough Park, Ripley**, are now available on line. This runs from Thursday 8th to Saturday 24th April, with the gardens being open for two sessions on each of the days open – Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays only. Pre-booking is essential. Details can be found on www.dunsboroughpark.com. On Tuesday 13th, refreshments – tea, cold drinks and pre-packed home-made goodies - will be available, with donations to Shooting Star Children’s Hospices, organised by the Godalming Group of Friends.

COMPTON CLUB

The Club is looking forward to opening its doors again on Monday 17th May. To celebrate its return, on Friday 21st May there will be a big BBQ with Live Music, featuring a duo called DEUCE and with Celebrity Guests popping in. Drinks will be served via table service and the evening will run from 7pm to 11pm.

But before that, as an additional treat, there will be a “Soft Opening” on Friday 16th and Saturday 17th April, with a marquee on the front patio with tables and chairs, and waiter service providing drinks.

Other events such as Quizzes and Bingo will commence in May, and a What’s On will be published shortly. Keep an eye on the Club Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ComptonClub.

The first major event after that will be the revival of the postponed New Year’s Eve party. This will now be on Saturday 17th July, starting at 7.30pm. The fabulous *Flat Top Band* will be live on stage, plus Guest DJs. Tickets are £20 per head which will include hot food. All tickets bought for the original event will be valid. To book tickets, and to inform the Club that you will be using your original, phone: 01256 851202, 07743 572465 or 07900 156637.

WATTS GALLERY NEWS



In line with Government guidance, the Gallery is currently planning on reopening the **Shop**, the **Tea Shop** (takeaways only), the **Chapel** and the **grounds** on Monday 26th April. The **Watts Contemporary Gallery**, above the shop, featuring the new exhibition – *Together* by Anita Klein, with works of art for sale – will reopen on Saturday 1st May. Indoor table service at the **Tea Shop** will be available from Monday 17th May.

The **Historic Galleries** are expected to reopen to the public on Monday 17th May, with a last chance to see the temporary exhibition *Art in Action* before it closes on Sunday 23rd May.

Limnerslease and Watts Studios are temporarily closed and will reopen in the summer of 2021. More information will be available on the website in due course.

● ● ● COURSES ● ● ●

● AN INTRODUCTION TO THE AESTHETIC MOVEMENT

Mondays 12th, 19th & 26th April, 10th & 17th May, 11am to 12.15pm

Led by Hilary Underwood

£60 full course (Friends £54); £12 Single lecture (Friends £10.80)

Online via Zoom

Most Victorian art was about sentiment, narrative and morality. But from the 1850s onwards, a few artists, writers and designers questioned this. They advocated ‘art for art’s sake’ and created some of the era’s most poetic, sensuous and elegant artefacts.

From Millais and Rossetti to Burne-Jones, Whistler and Watts, this course will introduce you to key artists, artworks and ideas in The Aesthetic Movement.

● DISCUSSION & DRAW

Fridays, 9th April to 7th May, 11am to 12 noon

Course leaders: Ruth Williams & Nerissa Taysom

£6.00 per session (Friends £5.40)

Online via Zoom

An informal discussion and draw for all abilities.

Explore the drawings of G F Watts before responding with your own work in this short, artist-led session. Ideal for anyone new to talking about art or drawing, who is looking for a regular sociable club.

You will need a sharp pencil, paper and a rubber for each session.

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT EVENTS

Would you like to learn more about the Watts Gallery, meet new people and contribute to your local community? We are currently recruiting new volunteers to join our team. From welcoming visitors into our historic galleries to gardening in our extensive estate, our volunteers provide vital support. Join us at an online recruitment event to find out more.

Sunday 11th, 11am to 12 noon and Tuesday 20th April, 3pm to 4pm.

Email Tom Layton on tom.layton@wattsgallery.org.uk for information on how to book your place.

DIARY DATES FOR APRIL

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

Friday, Saturday & Sunday – Withies Takeaway. Fri & Sat 11am to 9pm; Sun 11am to 4pm

Thursday, Friday & Saturday – Thai Kitchen Takeaway, Compton Club, 5pm-9pm

Friday & Saturday evening – Roots & Seeds Vegan Takeaway from Farncombe. Tel: 07383 643619

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Sun 4th – Easter Sunday

Thurs 8th– Sat 24th – Tulip Festival, Dunsborough Park

Sun 11th – Volunteer Recruitment Event, Watts Gallery 11am-12 noon (Zoom)

Mon 12th – KD Fine Art reopens

Mon 12th – The Withies open for outdoor service

Fri 16th & Sat 17th – Compton Club “Soft Opening”

Tues 20th – Volunteer Recruitment Event, Watts Gallery, 3pm-4pm (Zoom)

Tues 20th – Deadline for the May NEWS

Mon 26th – Watts Gallery Shop, Tea Shop (takeaways only), Chapel and Grounds open

MAY

Sat 1st – Watts Contemporary Gallery opens

Mon 17th – Compton Club reopens

Mon 17th – Tea Shop indoor table service begins

Mon 17th – Watts Gallery historic galleries open

Mon 21st – BBQ and live Music, Compton Club, 7pm

Happy Easter to all our readers!

Keep sending in the news. The Compton NEWS is for you - no news, no newsletter!