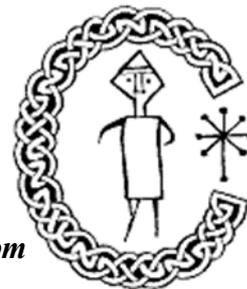


COMPTON

NEWS



Number 423 – March 2026 Village Website: www.compton-surrey.co.uk

PUBLISHED BY COMPTON VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

Editor: Sara Verbruggen, Brickfields, New Pond Road, GU3 1HZ. sara@vbfreelance.com

Distribution: Jane Turner. janeturner@mac.com / 07763 146448



Just two and half months to go until Compton Fete 2026 folks, on Saturday 9 May, 12pm to 4.30pm. The Fete Committee has been busy so far, with some great developments to share with you all.



COLOURING COMPETITION. Our annual children's colouring competition is back! Collect a ready-to-colour Compton Village Fete poster from COMPTON CLUB until Friday 10 April. Post your entries in the Club's letterbox. Winners will receive free bounces on the bouncy castles at the Fete, have their artwork displayed at Compton Club and be part of the official fete marketing campaign.

TEA SHOP RETURNS TO THE FETE. We're extremely pleased to announce that GODALMING AND VILLAGES COMMUNITY STORE will be returning to provide a warm and welcoming space at the Tea Shop, hosted within the Compton Club. Your wonderful and delicious home-baked donations are anticipated. Godalming and Villages Community Store provides food and essential items to those in need in our community.

2026 CHARITIES. Alongside Godalming and Villages Community Store, this year we are proud to support ACTION FOR CARERS SURREY, a charity providing vital information, advice and practical support for unpaid carers across Surrey.

HOW FETE PROCEEDS ARE SHARED. People often ask how fete funds are distributed. COMPTON VILLAGE ASSOCIATION plans to allocate proceeds from the 2026 fete as follows:

- Allotments: 50% plant sales plus 10% of surplus funds
- Compton Club: 50% beer sales plus 20% of surplus funds
- St Nicholas Church: 50% cake stall sales plus 20% of surplus funds
- Village Hall: 20% of surplus funds
- Compton Little Theatre (CLT): 10% of surplus funds
- Godalming and Villages Community Store: 50% Tea Shop sales plus 10% of surplus funds
- Action for Carers Surrey: 10% of surplus funds

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. Volunteering for the fete is a wonderful way to meet neighbours, get involved in village life and help make this special day happen. If you would like to help, please contact Leni, elenidhafcoleman@gmail.com.

GRAND DRAW PRIZES. We are seeking prizes for our popular Grand Draw. If you or your business would like to donate a prize, please contact Sarah Metcalfe, sarah.metcalfe17@gmail.com.

BOUNCY CASTLES SPONSORSHIP. Our bouncy castles are always one of the most popular attractions. We are keen to keep prices affordable so that all children can take part, but covering the hire costs each year is becoming increasingly challenging. Could your business sponsor this much-loved attraction and support a fantastic community event? Sponsors will be recognised in fete publicity and on the day. Interested? Please contact Miranda, wellsmiranda@icloud.com.

SILENT AUCTION. An exciting new way of placing bids will debut ahead of this year's Fete. Discover more in the April issue of *Compton NEWS*.

To keep up to date on all Fete news, check out www.facebook.com/ComptonVillageFete



COMPTON TRAFFIC CALMING UPDATE. SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL officers eventually presented detailed plans for traffic calming measures on Monday 26 January. The key elements remained 20mph zones in Down Lane and on the B3000 from the roundabout to Spiceall, raised platforms at Down Lane, Spiceall and Polsted Lane junctions with regular speed cushions in between, a zebra crossing near St Nicholas Church — with no measures for the eastern half of the village. COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL and its traffic committee is seeking to represent the best interests of the whole village in this matter and several aspects of the current proposals pose considerable difficulties. Therefore there have been discussions with both our MP, **Sir Jeremy Hunt**, and our County Councillor, **Matt Furniss**. As a result it has been agreed to seek a further review with the SCC officers concerned to explore amendments to the scheme. This will be pursued as a matter of urgency with the hope of being able to present an amended scheme at the **Annual Parish Meeting** due to be held at COMPTON CLUB on Wednesday 15 April at 7pm.

A reminder to those who have yet to pay their **2026** subscriptions to COMPTON VILLAGE ASSOCIATION. **£4** per family or **£2** for individuals and Senior Citizen couples. Please refer to the February issue for details of what your subscription supports.

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 **2026 Sub**. Use the form enclosed with last month's *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**.

Included in this month's *NEWS* is the **2026 Guide to Useful Addresses** for Compton Village. This is updated throughout the year so if you would like another copy further on, contact **Jane Turner**, janeturner@mac.com.

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



You are very welcome to all our services and events, particularly during Lent.

✠ **Muddy Church** A space for wandering & wondering with God for all the family on the first Sunday of each month at 10.30am (term-time only).

✠ Toddler group **Fledglings**, every Monday (term-time only) at 9am at *Puck's Oak Barn*.
fledglingscompton@gmail.com.

✠ **Inside Out** meets Saturday 7 March 10am to 12 noon to keep the church & churchyard looking good. Just turn up or contact stnicholascompton.wardens@gmail.com.

✠ **Bell ringing** Sunday service ringing is 9.50am to 10.30am (first Sunday of every month it is 5.30pm to 6pm instead). Bell ringing practice alternate Tuesdays 10am to 12pm. Practice sessions can be arranged at other times to suit those who cannot manage a weekday morning. 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.

SERVICES

Sunday 1	<u>10.30am</u> Muddy Church, <i>Spring is in the Air</i> .	Sunday 22	<u>10.30am</u> Holy Communion
	<u>6pm</u> Evensong, St David's Day themed*	Sunday 29	No morning service
Wednesday 4	No service		<u>6pm</u> Palm Sunday Evensong
Sunday 8	<u>10.30am</u> Holy Communion	Easter Sunday	<u>10.30am</u> Easter Sunday all ages
Sunday 15	<u>10.30am</u> Mothering Sunday Holy Communion	5 April	celebration with Easter Egg Hunt.

* Choral Evensong includes music by Welsh composers THOMAS TOMKINS, ELFED MORGAN and HUBERT PARRY.

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



COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL is organising the village litter pick on Saturday 21 March. It starts at 10.30am at *Compton Club*. Volunteers can reconvene there for warm soup at midday afterwards. Litter pickers, bags and hi-viz supplied. Please bring your own gloves and wear sensible footwear. - The 2026 **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held on Wednesday 15 April, 7pm at *Compton Club*. Dates of upcoming Parish Council meetings are on the back page.



Compton Little Traitors + AGM with drinks and nibbles. On the night CLT will share news about forthcoming productions and social events for 2026. This will be followed by a Traitors-themed game. Can you spot a liar, or do you think you can deceive your friends to steal the winnings?

Email info@comptonlittletheatre.org.uk if you would like to take part or to find out more. Wednesday 11 March, 7pm, *Pucks Oak Barn*.

Quiz night ahoy! Jo Ayshford and Rhona Wilkie will once again be hosting their legendary quiz night at the Village Hall, plus a raffle with fabulous prizes. Tickets are £14 each which includes a two-course supper. There is also a pay bar. Teams of six, maximum. Email Rhona Wilkie at info@comptonlittletheatre.org.uk to enter your team, book tickets and to provide dietary requirements. Saturday 25 April, *Compton Village Hall*, Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start.



SEW LIKE A PRO. A couple of places remain on the evening course for creating beautiful soft furnishings for the home. Meet budding sewing bees and explore your potential for creating cushions, blinds, curtains and lampshades. You only need basic sewing skills and a thirst to be creative. Classes take place at **COMPTON VILLAGE HALL**: Tuesday, 6pm to 9pm, 3, 10, 17, 24 March.

Alternatively, reserve your place for sessions running through April/May. Evenings: Tuesday, 6pm to 9pm, 21 & 28 April, 5 & 12 May. Daytime: Wednesday, 10am to 1pm, 22 & 29 April, 6 & 13 May. Each four session course: £120. Sewing machines provided for those who don't have their own to bring along. Students will need to provide materials (fabric etc). To find out more and reserve a place, contact Michelle at michellecalvert58@gmail.com / 07966 471561.



COMPTON CLUB ♦ Rugby Six Nations, from 4pm, Saturday 7 March ♦ **Rugby Six Nations**, from 7pm, Saturday 14 March ♦ **Women Who W(h)ine**, from 7pm, Thursday 19 March. Come on the night or email Jane Turner to confirm attendance,

jane.turner@mac.com. Check out www.comptonclub.co.uk or <https://chat.whatsapp.com/JnU4sdkaxZRH7RZz6eotm>.

Spring is here and **OLD BARN ANTIQUES** stocks an array of alternative gifts for Mother's Day, Easter, birthdays and other occasions. Why not pay a visit? Located opposite **ST NICHOLAS CHURCH**, on *The Street*, the shop stocks a wide collection of antiques and quirky items with welcoming and helpful staff. Opening times are Thursdays to Saturdays, 10am to 4pm.

MILFORD PROBUS CLUB's upcoming lunch & talk is on Friday 20 March. After lunch, members of the Club and visitors (growing in number and always welcome) will learn from **Steve Stanley** about a fascinating but often misunderstood period of British history. Between the fall of the Roman Empire and the start of the Viking invasions, the Irish, Picts, Britons and Anglo-Saxons competed, developing a distinct cultural heritage. This is sometimes described as the time of the Celtic Church.

Steve will discuss how religious change and conversion drove cultural development against a background of political competition. A retired criminologist, he has degrees in history, social research and classical studies. He is also a popular and impressive speaker, who has given talks on the Silk Trade in Roman times and the Fall of the Roman Empire. Lunch is at 12.30pm (pre-lunch drinks from 12pm). *Godalming Masonic Hall, GU7 1RQ*. Visit www.milfordprobus.com or book lunch (book eight days before) with Miranda O'Brien: miranda.obrien@btinternet.com / 01483 423398.

The Club's activities include organised outings ending at a pub. Established in 1999, it has welcomed women members since 2016 and now has a female president.

On Thursday 19 March **LES**

AMITIÉS FRANÇAISES' guest speaker **Annie Kearn** will give an illustrated talk (in French) on the history of the French Navy from the 13th to the 18th Century. The lecture is also on Zoom (link to be emailed) for those unable to reach Godalming on that day.

Talks are from 7.30pm to 9pm at the *Wilfrid Noyce Community Centre, Oglethorpe Hall, Crown Court Car Park, GU7 1DY*. Les Amitiés Françaises always welcomes new members. Talks are in French. www.amitiesfrancaisesgodalming.com.

Retired or retiring soon? Why not join **PROBUS CLUB OF GODALMING**, a friendly group of retired professional men who meet monthly in Godalming for lunch followed by a speaker. We also meet every month in a local pub for coffee and a chat. We have walking, petanque and 10-pin bowling groups, organise outings and an annual Christmas lunch. For more information visit our website www.godalmingprobus.com or e-mail our Secretary at pcgcommittee@gmail.com. Our next lunch will be on Friday 10 April. **Ian Worley** will speak on 'Racing Through The Southern Ocean', telling us about his experiences whilst racing around the world on 'Great Britain II' in the 1977-78 Whitbread round the World Race.

♪ MUSIC ♪♪ MUSIC ♪

♪ **CONSERVATOIRE CONCERTS** has the pleasure of hosting two wonderful local concerts this month. On 7 March, two Maltese students from *Cambridge University* – **Daphne Delicata** (piano) and **Iona Azzopardi** (viola) – will be performing a Piano and Viola Recital. Their programme includes BRAHMS' *Sonata Op. 120* and SCHUMANN's *Märchenbilder Op113: Viola and Piano*. Other solo works on piano will include CHOPIN's *Fantaisie in F minor* and BEETHOVEN's *piano sonata op. 90*. A Cello and Piano Recital takes place on 28 March. **Daniel Bradon** (cello) and **Julian Milford** (piano) will perform works by SCHUMANN, BOCCHERINI, PROKOFIEV and more. Both concerts are held at *Godalming Baptist Church GU7 1BA* and start at 7pm. Booking on www.conservatoireconcerts.org.uk. Admission free with a retiring collection. Your generous donations are much appreciated.

♪ **GODALMING CHORAL SOCIETY** will perform *King Arthur*, by HENRY PURCELL at *St John's Church Farncombe, GU7 3EJ*, on Saturday 18 April, from 7.30pm. Purcell (1659 to 1695) lived in the turbulent times of the Restoration. JOHN DRYDEN's libretto deals not with Camelot and the Round Table but with a Celtic-British King Arthur and his battles against the Saxon invaders. This amazing work contains some of Purcell's most lyrical music, using adventurous harmonies, and including the famous Frost Scene and the ravishing aria *Fairest Isle*. The performance will include only the captivating music of this dramatic masterpiece, not the spoken roles. Conductor **George de Voil**, who is directing the semi-opera, says: "We invite you to enter the world of Saxons vs Britons in our performance of this dramatic masterpiece. Pick a side... and follow the exploits of kings, magicians and evil spirits through the peerless music of Henry Purcell, one of our nation's most treasured composers." Tickets, £20 (free for under 18s,) from *Record Corner, Pound Lane, Godalming*, from www.godalmingchoral.org.uk or at the door.

Lunchtime Jazz

Monday 2 March

For over two decades tenor saxophonist **Alex Garnett** has been one of the leading saxophonists in the UK and mainland Europe, being instantly recognised by his dark, husky sound. A versatile musician, he is a long-standing member of **RONNIE SCOTT'S ALL-STARS** and much in demand as a session and studio saxophonist, with countless recording credits. He is also a highly successful jazz composer and arranger. With **Paul Edis** (piano) and **Marianne**

Windham (bass).

2pm
Guildford Institute

'Copperfield'

Thursday 5 March

This Jazz Suite takes the audience through the characters and scenes of CHARLES DICKENS' novel *David Copperfield*. After each sketch, presented with **Alan Barnes'** engaging humour, eight virtuoso musicians will bring the characters and scenes vividly to life. One of the UK's finest jazz musicians, winning numerous awards, Alan Barnes is also an outstanding composer and arranger, with two previous, brilliant jazz suites playing to packed houses at the **EFG LONDON JAZZ FESTIVAL**.

8pm

Surrey University
Stag Hill GU2 7XH

Alex Clarke

Thursday 26 March

A very special evening celebrating the 15th Anniversary of **GUILDFORD JAZZ**, with a rare all-female quintet featuring saxophonist **Alex Clarke**, a finalist at the *BBC Young Jazz Musician of the Year 2020*, winner of the *Rising Star* category in the 2019 British Jazz Awards and *Jazz Newcomer of the Year* nominee in the 2021 & 2022 Parliamentary Jazz Awards. With **Andrea Vicari** on piano, **Sophie Alloway** on drums, **Marianne Windham** on bass and **Emily Windham** on vocals.

8pm

Guildford Pavilion
Woodbridge Road GU1 4RP

Jazz Samba at *Cranleigh Arts Centre GU6 8AS*, 7.30pm to 10pm on Friday 20 March. Jazz Samba takes its inspiration and name from **STAN GETZ** and **CHARLIE BYRD'S** ground-breaking bossa nova album, which topped the album charts on its release in 1962. Led by the outstanding tenor saxophonist **Mark Crooks** and the award-winning guitarist **Nigel Price**, this is a joyful celebration of the blending of Brazilian rhythms, jazz sensibility and the majestic compositions of **ANTONIO CARLOS JOBIM**, **Joao DONATO** and **SERGIO MENDES**. With **John Cervantes** (piano), **Marianne Windham** (bass) and **Demi Garcia Sabat** (drums). Tickets £20.50 (discounts for Guildford Jazz members - visit www.guildfordjazz.org.uk for the discount code) phone the Box Office 01483 278000 or visit boxoffice@cranleigharts.org.

WATTS GALLERY NEWS FOR MARCH



This month, **WATTS GALLERY** is celebrating *Women's History Month* so come and visit our **Women of Influence** exhibition and check out the exciting array of events across the site in March. Don't forget that the gallery's monthly 'pay if and what you can' day is on Wednesday 4 March. In addition, enjoy free entry to the site on 13 and 14 March by showing a National Lottery Ticket, Instant Win Game or scratch card.

- ✦ Photographer **Emma Brown** will be running tintype studio sessions, so don't miss the special opportunity to capture your individual or family portrait using this historic technique on Sunday 1 March.
- ✦ Textiles conservator **Rebecca Bissonnet** will be hosting a talk on the beloved 'Green Dress' worn by VIRGINIA DALRYMPLE in G F WATTS'S 1872 portrait of her, sharing behind-the-scenes insight on the conservation process. Talk takes place on Wednesday 4 March.
- ✦ On Friday 7 March enjoy an exclusive, immersive performance in the Women of Influence exhibition by actress **Charity Wakefield**, written by **Laura Hart**. The performance, titled 'Pattledom' and inspired by the PATTLE sisters, will be followed by a Q&A with Charity and Laura.
- ✦ Step behind the scenes at Watts Gallery on Thursday 12 March for a special 'An hour in the archive' talk and tour. This exclusive event offers a rare opportunity to explore collection items and artefacts rarely seen by the public and hear more from Curatorial Advisor, **Hilary Underwood**.
- ✦ A one-day symposium on Wednesday 25 March explores the role of sisters in the arts during Victorian Britain. Connect with scholars, art historians, and enthusiasts interested in familial, creative and political sisterhoods of the nineteenth century. Discover the era's fascination with what has been called the 'sororomania' of Victorian Britain, featuring speakers from WATTS GALLERY, SURREY UNIVERSITY, Oxford's ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM and more.
- ✦ **Finally, Watts wants to hear from you.** We are always open to blog contributions from our staff and volunteers, but we would also like to open the floor to our local community. If you have a special Watts Gallery-related story or memorable moment that you would like to share and feature on our blog, please email marketing@wattsgallery.org.uk.

For more information and to book tickets, visit wattsgallery.org.uk/whats-on

On Tuesday 10 March, **ARTS SOCIETY WOKING'S** talk is *The Creation of the BBC*. The lecture will investigate the invention and use of radio at the start of the 20th Century and reveal how the medium was first used as a form of mass communication. It will then explore the early days of the BBC and some of the people who were vital to the success of the new company, its relationship with the Government and the concerns about the power of this radical new form of communication. The talk will be given by **Nick Salmond**.

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-2026.htm



GODALMING MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS IN MARCH

Blue Sky Artists exhibition. Monday 2 March until Saturday 21 March.

Resonance — Exploring the abstract harmonies of Nature, Universe & Soul. Running from Tuesday 24 March to Saturday 18 April, the exhibition presents fluid acrylic paintings on canvas that blur the boundaries between land, sea and sky inspired by the rhythms of nature and the vastness of the universe.

The Rabbit Woman of Godalming — A lecture by historian **Julian Humphrys**. Three hundred years ago this autumn, Godalming found itself at the centre of a remarkable medical scandal when a local woman, Mary Toft, announced that she had given birth to a litter of rabbits. Needless to say, her claim would be uncovered as a hoax but not before it had taken in some of the country's most eminent physicians. In this illustrated talk, Julian will tell us more about this extraordinary episode in local and national history. The lecture is on Friday 27 March, starting at 7.30pm at the *Wilfrid Noyce Community Centre, GU7 1DY*. Contact the Museum for further details and tickets.

Godalming Museum is open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 4pm. www.godalmingmuseum.co.uk / 01483 426510.

REGULAR DATES

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

Compton Club, Spiceall, Thursdays & Fridays, from 7pm.

Sue's Progressive Pilates, Godalming Unitarian Chapel, Tuesdays, 9.45am.

Parish Council - Puck's Oak Barn, Wednesdays, 15 April (Annual Parish Meeting at Compton Club), 20 May, 15 July, 16 September, 18 November, 7pm.

Deadline for APRIL Compton NEWS — **Friday 20 March**.

St Nicholas Sunday service bell ringing, 9.50am-10.30am (first Sunday of every month, 5.30pm-6pm instead).

Watts Gallery Shop & Tea Shop. Wednesdays to Sundays and Bank Holidays, 10am.

Watts Cemetery Chapel. Open daily, 10am.

KD Fine Art (on Watts site). Monday to Saturday, 10.30am.

Old Barn Antiques. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10am.

Compo minibus service, every Tuesday morning to Sainsbury's (Godalming). Departs 9.15am and returns at 11.15 to 11.30am. Phone Margaret Cox, 01483 810158.