



Number 333 – December 2017

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## SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup>, FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> & SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2018

Compton Little Theatre's annual pantomime is written and directed by Eleanor Balchin and promises to be another rip-roaring success, something to look forward to after the festive celebrations of Christmas and the New Year.

The King is dead, long live The Queen! But which one? Deep in the Enchanted Forest, on a quest to remain the fairest of them all, the Queen Regent and her Magic Mirror plot to destroy the Princess Snow White before she comes of age and claims the throne of Compton. Fortunately, the handsome Prince Derek and his trusty sidekick Sir Geoff are on hand to save the day. Armed only with their wits and a series of dazzling show tunes, they recruit a crack team consisting of a nursemaid, a woodland creature and seven diverse ex-performers, who may not be as vertically challenged as their name suggests, and who prepare to battle the forces of evil. Will they succeed in taking back the Kingdom? All will be revealed in Compton Village Hall!

*There are four performances in Compton Village Hall on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January, at 8pm each evening (doors open 7.30pm) and a matinée on Saturday at 2.30pm (doors open 2pm). Tickets are £10 each for all performances and are available from the Box Office on 07964 515103, or online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/CLT](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/CLT). For postal bookings, send your request with cheque, payable to 'Compton Little Theatre', and a stamped self-addressed envelope to CLT Box Office, 49 The Oval, Godalming GU7 3JZ.*

Why not enjoy a meal prior to the show at Lemongrass next door to the Village Hall?

Ideal for supper before the evening show or lunch before the Saturday matinée.

Booking is essential on 01483 810594, making sure you indicate that it's 'pre theatre'.

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

**GUILDFORD'S LOCAL PLAN.** On 21<sup>st</sup> November, Guildford Borough Council voted in favour of submitting the draft Local Plan and all supporting documents to the Secretary of State. Only seven Councillors voted against the Plan and three abstained. Shalford's two Borough Councillors were among those who voted for the Plan.

Five of the six public speakers spoke in opposition to the Plan, and four of these were representatives of the *Save Hog's Back* campaign group. Two of the *Save Hog's Back* speakers were interrupted by the Chairman during their speeches, and one was not allowed to finish on the grounds that the speech was focused too much on the University and was not relevant to the Local Plan.

The future of Guildford and the Blackwell Farm site is now in the hands of the Planning Inspector, and Compton Parish Council, along with Worplesdon Parish Council, will be preparing strong arguments for withdrawing the Blackwell Farm site allocation from the final Local Plan in the forthcoming Public Examination, due to take place in May 2019.

The full meeting can be viewed at [https://guildford.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast\\_interactive/316383](https://guildford.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/316383).

It will not have gone unnoticed that the **POST OFFICE AT SIMRAN'S IN FARNCOMBE** has been closed for some weeks. The root problem lies with the Horizon software system, which controls the ATM machines. The Post Office denies that there is any problem with the system but is being taken to court in a class action representing over 500 sub-postmasters who say they have been falsely accused of fraud. It seems very strange that the Post Office implies that so many of its sub-postmasters are engaged in significant fraud, yet it prosecutes so few of them. In the meantime, Farncombe residents, plus Compton residents, are left without Post Office services, which is also affecting trade in the various retail outlets as Post Office customers are forced to go elsewhere, for example to Godalming, and therefore do their shopping there at the same time. Look out for a petition which has been raised about the situation, to be presented to Post Office Counters. Remember, the Post Office is not privatised – it remains in public hands and it belongs to us.

◆ **CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES** are on sale now until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at **GODALMING MUSEUM**. The sale of Cards for Good Causes benefits 34 charities, including local favourites Chase, GUTS and the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice. For every pound spent, at least 70p goes to the charity.

*Godalming Museum, at 109 High Street, by the Pepperpot, is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm*

◆ **GREYFRIARS CHRISTMAS CELLAR DOOR.** The Shop at Greyfriars Vineyard on the Hog's Back will be open six days a week in the run up to Christmas. Saturday openings will include free tastings of selected wines and free mince pies. There is also a new selection of wine accessories, gift boxes and sparkling wine glasses for sale. Monday to Friday 9am to 3pm, Saturdays 9.30am to 2pm except Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Sundays closed.



## LES WILLIAMS, R.I.P – 1936-2017

We were sad to learn of Les Williams' death on 9<sup>th</sup> November at the age of 81. Les lived with his wife Joan in Spiceall during the 1980s and 1990s and was a hard-working member of the Compton community, serving on the Parish Council and the Village Association Committee. He was a keen bowler, as well as an enthusiastic supporter of Compton Little Theatre. He performed many roles in the group's early days and also devised the template to print CLT's tickets, which is still used today! However, Les will be chiefly remembered as the instigator of the **Compton NEWS**, which he started in May 1988. He produced 79 issues until Jane Turner took up the challenge in October 1995, and we are now up to No. 333 – a wonderful legacy.

Les's main employment during his working life was in Market Research. After being made redundant, while living in Compton, he taught computing in Godalming Library, when the Internet was in its infancy. Following his retirement to Devon, he again taught computing to 'Silver Surfers' on a voluntary basis and also continued playing bowls with the local club. He became a Councillor for Ivybridge Town Council, serving for four years, and was also involved with the local drama group, becoming involved in community life there as he did in Compton. He and Joan bought a caravan which was based at Wadebridge in Cornwall and they had many enjoyable holidays there.

Les's health had not been good for the past few years, following a mild stroke in 2013, and he gradually deteriorated this year but he was well enough to meet his first great-granddaughter who was born in March. We send our love and sympathy to Joan and to the rest of his family.

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### POST-CHRISTMAS RECYCLING

★ Guildford Borough Council has **CHRISTMAS TREE** recycling depots until Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January at **Artington Park & Ride** and **Onslow Village Hall Car Park**. Remember to remove all decorations.

★ **CHRISTMAS CARDS** can be left in the recycling bins at **Marks & Spencer in Guildford High Street** until Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January, supporting The Woodland Trust. For every 1,000 cards recycled, M&S will plant a tree in the UK. **Sainsbury's in Godalming** is also collecting Christmas cards until Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January, helping to raise funds for the Forest Stewardship Council. **Compo shoppers on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> might find this useful.**

★ If you have been keeping **USED STAMPS**, please let Jane Turner know, details above. She gives them to the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice and will collect.

★ There are bound to be **SURPLUS GIFTS** which are looking for a good home! Jane Turner will happily accept these to use in local raffles and for prizes, such as Compton Club and Compton Little Theatre. Again, she will collect.

★ Finally, **glitter can't be recycled**. A lot of Christmas wrapping paper and cards contain metal in the form of glitter or decoration and sadly this is unsuitable. Put it out with your refuse, not with the recycling.

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### WATTS GALLERY NEWS

● The **HELEN ALLINGHAM EXHIBITION** opened in November and runs until Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February. Having trained at the Royal Academy Schools and the Slade, Helen Allingham initially worked as a graphic artist, creating the illustrations to Thomas Hardy's *Far From the Maddening Crowd*, some of which are on display. Famed for beautiful cottages and garden scenes, her watercolours capture unspoiled Surrey landscapes and rural cottage architecture and interiors in exquisite detail. A friend of gardener Gertrude Jekyll, the exhibition also features Allingham's vibrant images of Jekyll's experimental planting at Munstead Wood.



● The bronze of Watts's gigantic sculpture **PHYSICAL ENERGY** is now on display in the courtyard of The Royal Academy in Piccadilly, where it will remain until the end of March 2018 before – hopefully – being brought to Compton and installed on the hillside overlooking Limnerslease and the Gallery. The day it arrived in London, proudly standing on the back of an enormous flat-bed truck driving slowly along Piccadilly very early on a Sunday morning, was tremendously exciting for the handful of onlookers from the Gallery who had gathered to watch. The way the truck was reversed through the arch into the Academy courtyard was masterful and watching the giant bronze being lifted up and moved on to the plinth waiting for it was heart-stopping! It is a spectacular sight and well worth a visit, to break up your Christmas shopping!

● Talking of Christmas shopping, the **SHOP AT THE GALLERY** and at **KD FINE ART** have a wide selection of unusual and exciting items and books to tempt you. Use the voucher at the end of this NEWS to take advantage of a 20% discount on all your purchases in the Gallery shop up to Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December. And then enjoy a hot chocolate and a scone, or a famous Welsh Rarebit, at the Tea Shop to warm you up!

● The selling exhibition of **BRITISH LANDSCAPES** in the Watts Contemporary Gallery, above the shop, is also a tempting source for Christmas presents. Framed and unframed prints are available, at reasonable prices, and of course KD Fine Art is on hand to frame your purchases for you!

*For information about events and to book tickets, phone 01483 813593 or visit [www.wattsgallery.org.uk](http://www.wattsgallery.org.uk)*

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★ ★ ★ ★ **BARGAIN BASEMENT** ★ ★ ★ ★

**FREE:** Second-hand 7ft artificial **Christmas Tree**, to be given away to a worthy cause such as a charity,

shelter, children's hospital or hospice. Call Lesley on 07468 615540 if you can suggest a deserving recipient.

**A HELPING HAND FOR A FRIEND IN NEED!**

**DRIVER WANTED** for the next 6 months for occasional journeys (50 mile radius) on an *ad hoc* basis. Cash payment. Own car required. *Contact Ian Timberlake, Tyrone Cottage, Compton – [itimbers@yahoo.com](mailto:itimbers@yahoo.com), phone 07764 682018.*

A semi-old fossil needs quarter-time secretarial/PA, bookkeeping/banking/teacher of computer 'things' and androids (what are they?!) all round organiser. Possibly for 6 to 9 months or as long as it takes to sort out the mess she has got into! *Call Lesley on 07468 615540 if you can be a Good Samaritan and help her out.*

➤ ➤ ➤ ➤ **THINGS TO DO** < < < <

➤ South West Surrey Conservative Association, Milford Branch, invites you to a bumper **CHRISTMAS CRACKER 2017** with entertainment for all the family on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December from 7pm at Chimneys, Lower Moushill Lane, Milford (by kind permission of Baroness Bottomley), with Master of Ceremonies Sir Peter Bottomley. *Tickets are £12, to include mulled wine and mince pies, and are available from Jennifer Leigh on 01483 420025, [jenniferl@leigh45.net](mailto:jenniferl@leigh45.net).*

➤ **MANE CHANCE CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING** in the Sanctuary Barn at Monkshatch is on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December from 10am to 3pm. A florist from Oxshott will teach the art of making a festive wreath. All materials will be provided, along with a seasonal light buffet. Tickets are £50. Numbers are limited and must be pre-booked by emailing [tickets@manechancesanctuary.org](mailto:tickets@manechancesanctuary.org).

➤ **THE MAN IN THE MOON** Children's Theatre Company is returning to the stage of The Electric Theatre with **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**, featuring a young cast filled with plenty of local talent, on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>, Friday 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December, at 4.30pm & 7.30pm on Thursday & Friday, and 2.30pm & 7.30pm on Saturday. The Man in the Moon provides locally based drama workshops for children aged 5 to 18 years. Since their founding in 1990 (in Compton Village Hall!) they have produced over 40 captivating productions at The Electric Theatre. For more information, contact Paul Branch on 01428 644633, or email [paul@themaninthemoon.co.uk](mailto:paul@themaninthemoon.co.uk). *Tickets are £12.50 each, Concessions £10, and are available from the Theatre Box Office on 01483 501200 or visiting their website at [www.electric.theatre](http://www.electric.theatre). Book four or more seats to get £2 off Full Price and 50p off Concessions.*

➤ **CHRISTMAS CAROLS FOR ANIMALS!** Everyone is invited to a short Carol Service, led by the Rev. James Rattue, Rector of St John's Farncombe, on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm at St Francis Church, Littleton.  It will be followed by a walk to Orange Court Farm, to sing carols to the sheep in the barn, and then back to the church for mulled wine and mince pies. Everyone is most welcome, with children and friends. Wrap up warm, bring a lantern or torch, and wear appropriate footwear for the weather!

➤ **WELCOME IN THE NEW YEAR WITH YOUR FRIENDS AT COMPTON CLUB** on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December. The evening starts at 7pm with the first hour dedicated to the children, with music, fun and games for all ages, organised by the leader of Farncombe Brownies and her team. This will be followed by a Disco with music through the decades, a grand raffle and a finger buffet. The evening ends at 12.30am. The cost is only £6 per adult and £3 per child up to and including 10 years. There is a Licensed Bar at the Club and everyone is invited to bring a plate of finger food, which will be added to the buffet to help keep the cost low. Dress code: smart party attire preferred. *Tickets are available from Compton Club on 810268 or from Julia Foster on 01483 415023.*

➤ **MANE CHANCE NEW YEAR'S DAY WALK**. Start the New Year with an enjoyable and fun-filled walk around Mane Chance Sanctuary in Compton on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January, 10am to 12 noon. A two-mile walk, or shorter if you prefer, around the farm to work off those extra inches and see the beautiful horses, ponies, chickens and countryside. Bacon Butties and Hot Chocolate to help along the way! Children's Quiz and lots of fun. £3 Adults, £1.50 Children over 5. Pre-book for discounted rates of Adults £2, Children £1, by emailing [tickets@manechancesanctuary.org](mailto:tickets@manechancesanctuary.org).

➔ ➔ ➔ **CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OPENING TIMES** < < <

**KD FINE ART** at Watts Gallery: Close at 5pm on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December and open again at 10.30am on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> December.

**WATTS GALLERY, STUDIOS AT LIMNERSLEASE, SHOP AND TEA SHOP:** Closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Open the rest of December, including New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

**ST NICHOLAS CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER**



**SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup>** – 6pm Advent Carols

**SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup>** – 8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer); 9.30am Holy Communion

**TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup>** – 3pm Carols at Robertson Nursing Home; 6.30pm-8pm – Carols at the Withies

**WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup>** – 3pm Carols at Eastbury Manor Nursing Home

**SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup>** – 6.30pm Carol Service

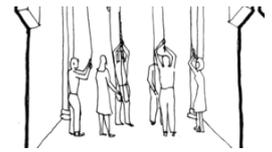
**SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup>** – 4pm Crib Service †; 11.30pm First Communion of Christmas

**MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup>** – **CHRISTMAS DAY**. 8am Holy Communion (1662); 10am Village Service

† It would be wonderful for as many families and children as possible to join in the **Crib Service** on Christmas Eve at 4pm. There will be a short Nativity Play with lots of singing lasting about 45 minutes and there are some lovely new costumes for the children to wear. Turn up on the day for a 4pm start!

**RING OUT THE BELLS!**

"... E'EN SO HERE BELOW, BELOW, LET STEEPLE BELLS BE SWUNGEN ..." We've all sung this Carol at one time or another but how many people actually think about how it's done and who can do it? I first took up **BELL RINGING** in my teens, gave it up after a few years, returned to it some years later and after an even longer gap of 33 years, answered a call in the *Compton NEWS* at the beginning of this year that said "**Bell ringers wanted**". I went along to a Tuesday practice night not quite knowing what to expect after all this time. Would I remember what to do, and even more importantly, would I still be able to do it? I needn't have worried! I was made very welcome by Phil and the others and as soon as I got hold of the rope, I was amazed to find that I instinctively knew how to ring.



By the next practice night I was joining in with the other ringers for rounds and call changes and very soon after that, from the depths of my memory, I had managed to dredge up change ringing. Now I'm totally hooked. I go to practice at St Nicholas church, Compton, every Tuesday (ring for Sunday service when we have enough ringers) and practice at other towers when time allows.

The ringers are a very friendly crowd and after bell ringing practice, there is drinking practice (not compulsory) in the Good Intent at Puttenham. Bell ringing is a fascinating hobby, an ancient art with strange terminology and a great way of making new friends. There's no minimum or maximum age, although you probably need to be at least 11 to be tall enough and strong enough, and also not have a problem with ladders or trapdoors as this is how we access the ringing chamber. No musical talent whatsoever is required either and it's really good exercise without going to the expense of joining a gym!

If you fancy giving it a try, do come and join us - or who knows, there may even be some "ready made ringers" like me out there! Contact Phil Gorton, Tower Captain, on 01483 420763, [phil.gorton@btinternet.com](mailto:phil.gorton@btinternet.com).

*Contributed by Anne Nixon*

- ◆ To hear the **BELLS RING OUT ON CHRISTMAS MORNING** is very special but, as is often the way at this time of year, some of the band of bell ringers will be away. If there are any lapsed ringers in the Parish who could come out of hiding or if any of your Christmas guests are ringers, all would be welcome at 9.30am to ring for the 10am service at St Nicholas Church, Compton. Give Phil Gorton a call on 01483 420763

**DIARY DATES FOR DECEMBER**

**TUESDAYS** – Bell Ringing Practice, St Nicholas Church, 8pm

**THURSDAYS** – Art Class, The Old Barn, 10am-12 noon

**FIRST & THIRD THURSDAYS** – Parish Clerk available in the Pottery Office, Watts Gallery, 1.30pm-3.30pm

Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> – Bingo, Compton Club, 8pm

Wed 6<sup>th</sup> – Tower Café, Puttenham Church, 2.30pm-4.30pm

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Cracker 2017, Chimneys, Lower Moushill Lane, Milford, 7pm

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, COMPTON CLUB, ARRIVE FOR 7.30PM**

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> – *Mike's Music*, Compton Club 8pm

Sat 9<sup>th</sup> – Wreath Making, Mane Chance Sanctuary, 10am-3pm

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> – Coffee Morning Christmas Lunch, Old Barn

Thurs 14<sup>th</sup>, Fri 15<sup>th</sup>, Sat 16<sup>th</sup> – **A Christmas Carol**, Man in the Moon Theatre Company, Electric Theatre  
Sat 16<sup>th</sup> – Bingo, followed by Christmas Raffle, Compton Club, 8pm

**WED 20<sup>th</sup> – DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY 2018 NEWS**

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> – Tower Café, Puttenham Church, 2.30pm-4.30pm

Fri 29<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Carols for Animals, St Francis Church, Littleton, 5pm

Sun 31<sup>st</sup> – New Year's Eve Party, Compton Club, 7pm-12.30am

Mon 1<sup>st</sup> **JANUARY** – New Year Day's Walk, Mane Chance Sanctuary, 10am to 12noon

Thurs 18<sup>th</sup>, Fri 19<sup>th</sup>, Sat 20<sup>th</sup> – CLT's **Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs**, Compton Village Hall



**VISIT THE WATTS GALLERY SHOP FOR LOTS OF UNIQUE CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS.**

**Bring this voucher with you to receive a discount on your purchases.**

**20% off all purchases**

Excludes purchases in the Watts Contemporary Gallery

Voucher is valid for ONE transaction up to and including 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2017

*If you haven't already taken advantage of the discount offered to Compton residents by Kevin Shepherd for tree work, now is your last chance! The Village Association is very grateful to Kevin for sponsoring the Compton NEWS for six months. December is the last month this offer is available, so don't delay!*

**K SHEPHERD & SON**

**Compton's local Tree Surgeon & Forestry Contractors at Sandy Lane Farm**

**Email: [kshepherdforestry@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kshepherdforestry@yahoo.co.uk). Tel: 01483 428956 or 07860 698655**

**[www.kshepherdforestry.co.uk](http://www.kshepherdforestry.co.uk) and [www.direct-logs.com](http://www.direct-logs.com) and Facebook  
10% discount on any tree work carried out over £100 with production of this voucher  
Compton NEWS offer. Valid until end December 2017.**