

APRIL 2020

# THE COMPTON CHRONICLE



CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

VILLAGE MAGAZINE

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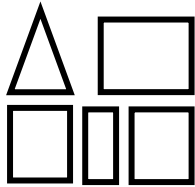
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- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- Put used tissues in the bin straight away and wash your hands afterwards
- Try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth

# THE COMPTON CHRONICLE

**APRIL 2020**

I was very aware when I was writing this editorial that things and life are changing fast due to the Coronavirus pandemic. I have removed my What's On page as it would only make you sad that you are missing out on some super events in April, most of which will now not go ahead.

Michele Gill has resigned from the Editorial Team. We thank her for the work she has done for the magazine. If you would like to join the team, please email us and we can give you further information.

Naturally, our Clubs and Societies have included their up-coming meetings in reports sent to the magazine. Make sure to check to see if any events/meetings have been cancelled before turning up. Contact details are in *The Directory*.

We hope all our readers keep well.

The closing date for news & articles  
for the May 2020 edition is

**Easter Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

Articles/News to [comptonchronicle@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:comptonchronicle@yahoo.co.uk)

Advertisers contact Amy Aylward 01295 770 749

Club News & Diary Dates [comptonchronicle@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:comptonchronicle@yahoo.co.uk)

## EDITORIAL TEAM

Amy Aylward 770 749  
Emily Kilshaw  
Jason Wise

Jennifer Cranfield 770 285  
Emma Wilkinson

Please note that the views expressed in this magazine are those of the contributor and not necessarily the views of the Editorial Team. The Editorial Team reserves the right to edit any copy received.

The cover photograph is of a gargoyle at Reims Cathedral in France taken in 2018 by Jennifer Cranfield. I think it is reacting to the current situation.

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## FENNY COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Jon Dutton 771 174 fcpc.chair@gmail.com www.fennycompton-pc.gov.uk

Clerk: Ian Wilson 0772 507 1616 fcpc.clerk@gmail.com

**Coronavirus:** Obviously the Government's announcement on 16<sup>th</sup> March has significant implications for the parish and its residents. The Parish Council want to make sure that all our residents get the help they need to get through the issues caused by the Coronavirus. We know that lots of you have already offered to help your neighbours, and we want to make sure that you get supported, and that no-one gets missed.

Our aim is to make sure that every household has a specific person or persons that they can contact if they need help with essential things like food or prescriptions. It is likely that people who are currently helping, may at some stage have to self-isolate, and we also need cover for those people.

We will also be able to act as a central point of contact with other agencies who are already reaching out to provide support and provide the latest information and guidance. If you are willing to help a few neighbours, or if you are already looking after someone, please let us know by contacting Jon Dutton at fcpc.chair@gmail.com, as soon as possible.

**Parish Council Meetings:** Meetings will continue for the time being, if sufficient Councillors are available to attend meetings. Legally we need to meet face to face in a public place and we will work around illness and isolations as best we can. Our next meeting in April is our Annual Parish Meeting, our current plan is to run this as normal although we understand many will not be able to attend.

**Flood Prevention:** There has been some progress on flood prevention. Plans are now in place to address the run-off from the Compton Buildings site, hopefully this can still be completed. Our thanks to District Councillor Nigel Rock for his work on this. Also, there are plans to jet a number of blocked culverts and drains before the end of the month.

**Clerk Vacancy:** Unfortunately, the Parish Clerk, Ian Wilson, has tendered his resignation. The role is largely home based, about 32 hours a month, and would suit someone who is well-organised, good with people and able to work independently. For more information contact the Chair, details above.

**Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Next Council Meeting**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

**at 7:30pm**

**in the Village Hall**

**Regularly check the websites & Facebook pages of the Parish Councils & the Villages for up-to-date news and information**



## **FARNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman: Peter Johnston      [www.farnboroughparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.farnboroughparishcouncil.co.uk)

Clerk: Kirsty Buttle 01295 275 372      [farnboroughpc@outlook.com](mailto:farnboroughpc@outlook.com)

The March meeting took place after *The Chronicle* had gone to press.

**Minutes:** Full Minutes are available on the Parish Council website and on Village notice boards.

**Next Meeting**  
**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020**  
**at 7:30pm**  
**in the Village Hall**

## **AVON DASSETT PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman: Trevor Gill      [www.avondassettparishcouncil.com](http://www.avondassettparishcouncil.com)

Clerk: Helen Hide-Wright      [avondassettpc@outlook.com](mailto:avondassettpc@outlook.com)

No copy had been received from the Parish Council by the date of going to press.

**Next Meeting**  
**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020**  
**at 7:30pm**  
**in the Reading Room**

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## **NAPTON AND FENNY COMPTON WARD STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Water Under the Bridge:** I have continued to follow up on this issue. Homes England, the owner of the old Compton Buildings site, and WCC Highways met on 11<sup>th</sup> March and are proposing to carry out some groundworks on the site to prevent major flows of water onto the highway, hopefully around early April. There is to be subsequent additional investigations involving BT Open Reach for the water coming out the telecoms chamber. These will be interim solutions until the site is finally developed for housing. The timing is unknown currently but I will continue to keep the pressure up on everyone involved.

**Council Budget:** The District Council determined its budget in February resulting in an increase in Council Tax of 3.59%. For a band D property this means that the District Council element rises from £139.12 to £144.12.

Stratford also collects the Council Tax for Warwickshire County Council which is a 3.99% increase, the Police Commissioner a 4.38% increase and Parish Councils. By the time these are added up the band D tax comes to £1870.99 to be paid annually. Bigger or smaller houses pay more or less according to the A-H band rating.

Individual Parishes set their own tax levels, which are called 'precepts'. So, depending where you live, there might be another amount to add to the figure above, which generally varies from zero - outside villages or for small hamlets - to just over £80 for a larger village. In the case of Fenny Compton it is £69.05, a reduction of 3.3% on last year.

At the budget debate I spoke in support of three particular elements, one of which was passed and two were not. I supported the 'ring fencing' of income from business rates from green energy schemes for expenditure on climate change related expenditure. I also wished to see a one-off grant to the Citizens Advice Bureau. Although this grant would nominally add 0.3% to this year's budget, evidence shows that CAB activities are often self-funding by helping vulnerable persons becoming less dependent on benefits. Both items were voted down by the ruling group. I also supported the inclusion of continued improvement in rural transport for those areas not well served by public transport, but requested the existing arrangements be reviewed to get better service for this area. This was agreed.

**Introduction of Charges for Collecting Green Waste:** At the Council meeting, I seconded a motion to defer the introduction of these charges because I felt neither the financial nor environmental case had been made. Since the previous Council meeting, two windfalls have been received that exceeded expected income and the full (three year) 'settlement' from central Government is not due until July. To me, it seems sensible to delay until the full financial picture is clear as the extra money that has come in is already much more than the projected savings for next year. For a resident who has one bin, a £40 charge is equivalent to making the Stratford Council tax rise more than 30%. Our proposal to defer and review the introduction of charges was voted down by the ruling administration.



**HS2:** After receiving a complaint and concerns about the future potential for traffic through villages I have approached HS2 contractor Eiffage Kier. I had spoken to them a few months ago about this and I am pleased to say they are presently trialling a system to track vehicles. Please note down any registration numbers of problem vehicles and report them to the HS2 help line 08081 434 434.

**Coronavirus:** Some news on District Council activity around the Coronavirus outbreak. Council functions are working normally but many staff are working from home where they can. All Council meetings, starting with the Planning Meeting that was due recently, have been postponed. This might delay a very few planning applications that were due to be considered by committees. Work is going on to enable remote meetings to take formal decisions - this is not presently allowed by the law.

A number of actions are in process on business rates to help local businesses as follows. Businesses in the retail, leisure and hospitality sectors including hotels, restaurants and coffee bars with a rateable value of less than £51,000 will not pay business rates in 2020/2021. The discount that pubs receive on their business rates will increase from £1,000 to £5,000, as long as their rateable value is below £100,000. Business rate bills have been issued at zero or with the £5000 reduction where appropriate. All businesses currently eligible for small business rate relief, will receive a one-off grant of £3,000.

There are new announcements coming out every day. I express my personal thank to individuals and communities that are showing great mutual support in these difficult times. If you feel I can help, please contact me.

Cllr Nigel Rock *Contact details in The Directory*  
nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk

### **FENNY COMPTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

[fennycomptonnp.co.uk/consultations/formal-consultation-2020/](http://fennycomptonnp.co.uk/consultations/formal-consultation-2020/)

A public consultation on the Fenny Compton Draft Neighbourhood Plan 2011-2031 will open on Monday April 6<sup>th</sup> and close on Friday May 22<sup>nd</sup>. See the website to view the document together with an executive summary and comment form address above.

There will also be a few copies of the Plan to read at The Merrie Lion, together with copies of the executive summary, and a box for written comments. Comments should be sent to [john@fennycomptonnp.co.uk](mailto:john@fennycomptonnp.co.uk)



### **JUST A BITE**

Just a Bite will be held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April from 12 noon to 1:30pm in Fenny Compton Village Hall. A light lunch of homemade soup, roll and cheese. The cost is £3.50 with tea, coffee, and homemade cake also available. This is in aid of church funds and everyone is welcome.

## FARNBOROUGH 1535 – THE PLAGUE ARRIVES

To me the spring of 2020 feels like a phoney war as we watch the apparently inexorable spread of the Coronavirus from places that we do not know to places that we do and, probably, shortly from people that we do not know to people that we do. Today our faith is firmly placed in science, modern medicine and mathematical modelling, but things were very different in the Middle Ages when plagues swept backwards and forwards across Europe, changing the outcome of wars, inconveniencing the travel plans of the rich and killing indiscriminately.

I have found few traces of plague in the archives, but there are two letters about what was obviously a serious outbreak in Farnborough in 1535. To set the scene, in 1535 Henry VIII was on the throne, Anne Boleyn was nearing the end of her life, five Carthusian monks from London's Chaterhouse were hung drawn and quartered and Cardinal Fisher beheaded for refusing to accept Henry VIII as the head of the Church of England and Thomas Cromwell, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Master of the Rolls and Visitor General of the Monasteries, was in the ascendant.

In Farnborough health, rather than politics, must have been the most immediate concern, as a letter of 22<sup>nd</sup> February reports that George Raleigh, Lord of the Manor... *"was on Wednesday 'enoyled' likely not to escape the disease. His wife and five or six of his servants have died of it. I write now for fear of writing too late."* The 22<sup>nd</sup> was a Friday, so George had received the Catholic sacrament of Extreme Unction two days before the letter was sent. The picture is of a devastating outbreak in one household in the village, but where there are six or seven victims and the Lord dying in one household, it is hard to believe that there were not other cases in the village, unremarked, because irrelevant to the purposes of the writer. The second letter is more positive, being written on the 19<sup>th</sup> February 1536 by George Raleigh himself, following a remarkable and unexpected recovery.

So, what are these letters? Perhaps unsurprisingly, they are not political, but nor are they health-related, rather they are both unashamedly economic in motive, aiming to build or protect fortunes. In the first, John Wellesburn writes to Thomas Cromwell to ask the King for the wardship of the heir of George Raleigh, who is described as "a man of 300 marks of land and more". There was money to be made from a wealthy ward. But Wellesburn was on the make and did not stop with this relatively innocuous request, moving on to openly propose a broader business relationship with Cromwell, namely that they share equally anything that Cromwell can persuade the King to give him. Wellesburn was clearly aspiring to a wealthy future, perhaps unlike his past: while an ambassador to France in 1530 he complained that if he had to stay there longer, he would need to be given more money for additional clothes. Cromwell's position clearly gave him the power to arrange wealth and Wellesburn, through his involvement in raiding religious institutions in 1529 as a King's Commissioner, may have had the correct idea about the fortunes that would be made from the coming expropriations of Church lands.

Raleigh's letter is also one pleading for Cromwell's assistance. While Wellesburn thought Raleigh's estates extensive enough to bother about, Raleigh himself tells Cromwell that a large part of his income - £60 from lands in Warwickshire and Gloucestershire and £40 from Ireland - came to him through his dead wife's first husband, Sir Thomas Fitzgarethe, and that with her death they now descended to Sir James, Sir Thomas' brother and heir. The question is simple: could Cromwell write to Sir James, asking for the incomes during his lifetime?

We do not know the outcome of the second request to Cromwell, but Raleigh was hardly a pauper and quickly got married again and well to Anne Ernley, of the powerful Wiltshire family, from whom he seems to have received estates in Wiltshire and the Isle of Wight. He then settled down to the normal role of the gentry locally to his estates in Wiltshire, Warwickshire and Oxfordshire, but he also provided troops, 16 infantry, to Henry's war effort against France in the early 1540s. It is very likely that some, at least, of these men were from his estates in Farnborough, Avon Dassett, Mollington and Claydon. They may well have been involved in the siege of Boulogne in 1544, as they are recorded as receiving wages in that year, and, if so, they could have had another brush with the plague in Boulogne, where following the English victory, the 1,200 labourers who were shipped in in January 1545 to refortify the town were reduced, through sickness and death, to just 300 by June.

R Khive

### **FENNY COMPTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

**Your Village Needs You:** Neighbourhood Watch plays a vital part in communities across the county. Aside from being informed and informing about crime and issues in your area, Neighbourhood Watch keeps community spirit and community engagement alive. If you would like to know more, please contact your local NW group; contact details in The Directory or [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk)

**House Burglaries:** Recent burglary trends have shown that lock snapping has become a more common way of breaking into houses. This method requires no skill from the criminal and can be done with almost no noise and therefore not alerting residents or neighbours. This method can be used on Euro Lock Cylinders which are typically fitted in UPVC, composite and aluminium doors. The Master Locksmiths Association have guidance to ensure your door locks are 'anti-snap' on this link [bit.ly/39IAWX6](https://bit.ly/39IAWX6) Further advice is also available on the Police force website [bit.ly/3cWmay2](https://bit.ly/3cWmay2).

**Cybersafe Warwickshire:** The March newsletter includes: Coronavirus scam costs victims over £800k in one month, Tesco to issue 600,000 new Clubcards over a security issue and DVLA warns motorists to be aware of scams. The link to the newsletter is [bit.ly/38PS2RH](https://bit.ly/38PS2RH)

Please share your scam/crime experiences with your neighbours – email [watch@fcvh.org.uk](mailto:watch@fcvh.org.uk) or post on NextDoor [nextdoor.co.uk](https://nextdoor.co.uk).

## LETTER FROM THE VICARAGE

At the beginning of March, I attended the last service to be held at Knightcote Methodist church. Over the last few years, I have had the pleasure of worshipping with this church community and I was very sad to find that it was closing. Closing a church is a tragic, heart-breaking and deeply sad phenomenon. At the moment, we do not hear much about the closing of churches, but I fear that soon this will become a regular phenomenon. Churches are not only sacred places where people have worshiped for generations but are also often beautiful, old, historical, and hugely important buildings. In my opinion, churches closing are only really acceptable when they result from people completely abandoning a church but when asked the question why they close, the answer is always the same. Those attending church are slowly dying out and there is no replacement, there is no money to maintain the churches, not enough parishioners to do the organising and administration or the ministers to serve these communities.

You may have a Christian faith but not attend church on a regular basis. Many would like church to be there for special, seasonal, or family services such as weddings, christenings, funerals, Christmas etc. But do you realise that for that to happen there needs to be a group of willing parishioners that the funding comes directly from or who fundraise and do all that is necessary to keep the church doors open? This is not done by a central body. It is all done locally!

Local parish churches are independent charities, and the members of the Church Council, the PCC, are trustees. There are many costs involved in operating a parish church, both running costs eg energy bills, capital costs eg building works, and Parish Share which is a donation by the parish to fund their Vicar. In addition to the church services we are involved in activities in the school which include a weekly assembly alternating between our children's ministry team leading Open the Book and me the Vicar, running Fenny Compton Tots & Toddlers; Just-a-Bite lunches; Lego Club in Northend and helping run Farnborough Teas, to name a few of our activities.

I would like to thank those of you who already support the churches financially and actively but, sadly, we need more help to save us from following in the shoes of Knightcote Methodist church.

What can you do to help keep our churches open? Please contact me if you would like to:

- \* come to church but the services seem outdated or not what you would like. We are open to suggestions for new services, Christian worship, and activities. But we may need your help to action this!
- \* know more about the Christian faith and church
- \* help support the churches maintenance and administration
- \* financially support the upkeep of the church and its activities on a regular basis

I send love and blessings to our Methodist friends and thanks for their help in our hour of need when the lead on Fenny Compton Church was stolen.

*Rev'd Nicki*

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## APRIL 2020 DIARY .....

<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>1</b>	9:45am-11:45am 11:00am-1:00pm 12:00pm	RECYCLING COLLECTION Tots & Toddlers Group - FC Village Hall Coffee Morning - AD Reading Room Dasset Men's Club - Merrie Lion, FC
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>2</b>		
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>3</b>		SPRING SCHOOL TERM ENDS
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>4</b>		
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>5</b>	9:00am 10:30am 5:00pm	PALM SUNDAY BCP Communion - Northend Morning Prayer – Farnborough Songs of Praise - FC St Peter & St Clare
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>6</b>	7:30pm	Avon Dasset PC Meeting – AD Reading Room
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>7</b>		Compline - FC St Peter & St Clare
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>8</b>	7:30pm 7:30pm	WI - FC Village Hall Compline - Farnborough
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>9</b>		
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>10</b>	7:00pm	GOOD FRIDAY Group Service - Northend
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>11</b>		
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>12</b>	8:15am 9:30am 10:30am 9:00am-12:00pm	EASTER SUNDAY BCP Communion - Farnborough Easter Communion - FC St Peter & St Clare Family Easter Service - Northend Fenny Compton Footpath Group – <i>see article</i>
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>13</b>		EASTER MONDAY
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>14</b>	2:30pm 6:00pm	Over 60s - FC Village Hall Bridge Club - Yew Tree, Avon Dasset
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>15</b>	7:30pm	RECYCLING COLLECTION WI Italian Night - FC Village Hall
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>16</b>	11:00am	AD Walking Group - Yew Tree, Avon Dasset
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>17</b>		
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>18</b>	7:30pm	Rural Cinema – FC Village Hall – <i>see article</i>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>19</b>		
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>20</b>	7:45pm	SUMMER SCHOOL TERM STARTS Fenny Compton PC Meeting - FC Village Hall
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>21</b>	7:30pm	AD Gardening Club – F'boro Village Hall
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>22</b>	9:45am-11:45am	Tots & Toddlers Group - FC Village Hall
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>23</b>		ST. GEORGE'S DAY
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>24</b>	10:30am-12:00pm	Carers4Carers - Kinton Village Hall

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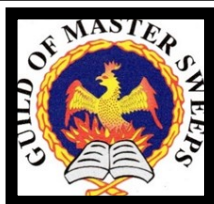
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April is  
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# CHILDREN'S

## What's up in April?

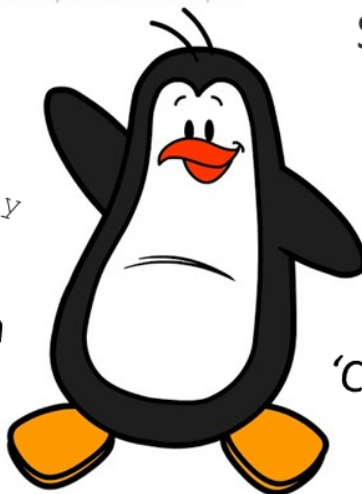
21<sup>st</sup> April is the Queen's Birthday

23<sup>rd</sup> April

Shakespeare's birthday  
AND St. George's Day

22<sup>nd</sup> April  
Earth Day

25<sup>th</sup> April  
World Penguin Day



Why shouldn't you write a  
book on penguins?  
'Cos paper is much easier!

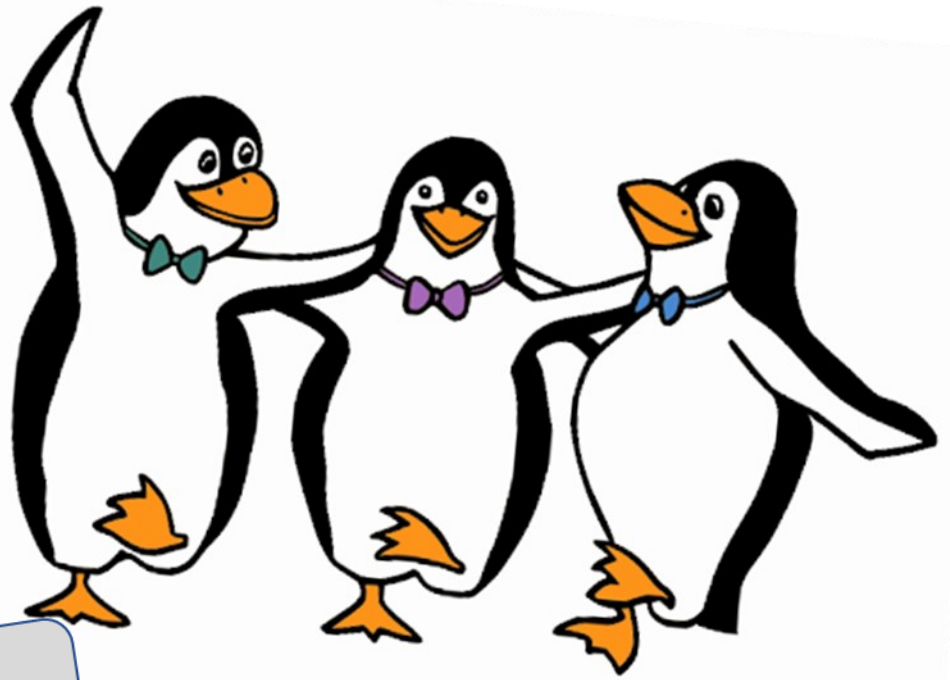
Why don't penguins and  
polar bears get on?  
'Cos they're polar opposites!



Life of Bear – Bull dog spirit By Emma Wilkinson

# PAGES!

Why are penguins  
so good at using  
computers?  
'cos they've got  
webbed feet!



I Know all about.....  
Penguins!

Since 25<sup>th</sup> April is World Penguin Day, what better time to gen up on our Penguin facts!  
Penguins can swim faster, and dive deeper, than any other bird. The fastest species of penguin is the gentoo, which can swim at up to 22mph!

In some species of Penguin, when a male courts a female, it usually offers rocks as a gift!  
The name penguin was originally given to the now-extinct great auk, which was a large, flightless, black and white bird.

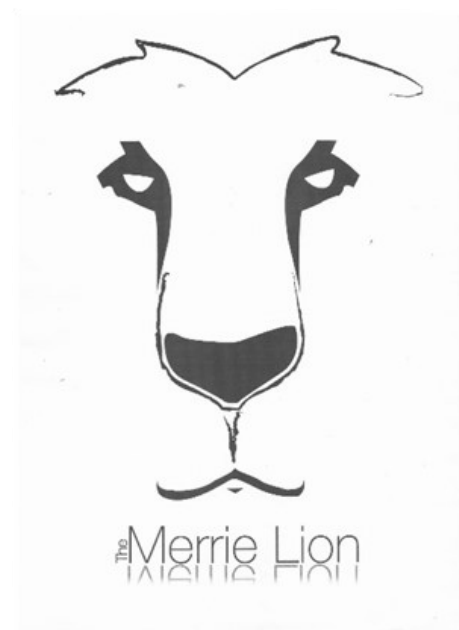
Penguin droppings (known as guano) can vary in colour depending on what they eat. Eating fish results in white guano, and eating krill turns it pink!

Penguins can cope with drinking salt water because they have special glands that drain the liquid out of the nose and expel salt.  
So now you know!

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<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>25</b>		
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>26</b>	9:00am 10:30am 10:30am 2:30pm	BCP Communion - FC St Peter & St Clare Communion - Farnborough Morning Prayer – Northend Bowls Club Open Session
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>27</b>		
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>28</b>	7:30pm	Bridge Club - Yew Tree, Avon Dassett
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>29</b>	9:45am-11:45am	RECYCLING COLLECTION Tots & Toddlers Group - FC Village Hall
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>30</b>		

<b>METHODIST CHURCH FENNY COMPTON</b>	
<b>SERVICE : WEEKLY ON SUNDAYS AT 10:30AM</b>	
<b>COFFEE MORNINGS : WEEKLY ON FRIDAYS AT 10:15AM UNTIL MIDDAY AT THE METHODIST CHURCH SCHOOL ROOM</b>	

<b>MOBILE LIBRARY TIMES</b>		
<b>FENNY COMPTON</b>	<b>AVON DASSETT</b>	<b>FARNBOROUGH</b>
Station Road; Grants Close	Roman Catholic Church	Village Hall Car Park
17 <sup>th</sup> April	17 <sup>th</sup> April	21 <sup>st</sup> April
1:50-2:15pm; 2:20-2:45pm	3:05-3:25pm	10:00am-10:20am

<b>POST OFFICE OPENING TIMES</b>		
<b>AVON DASSETT</b>	<b>FENNY COMPTON</b>	<b>NORTHEND</b>
Monday & Wednesday 9am-10am	Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-10am	Monday & Wednesday 9am-1pm

<b>FENNY COMPTON BOWLS CLUB NIGHTS</b>
<b>WEEKLY ON FRIDAYS AT 6:30PM</b>

<b>FARNBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL</b>
<b>VILLAGE TEAS : WEEKLY ON WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS FROM 2:30PM UNTIL 5PM</b>
<b>COFFEE MORNINGS : WEEKLY ON TUESDAYS FROM 10:30AM UNTIL MIDDAY</b>

<b>KINETON CATHOLIC CHURCH MASS</b>
<b>WEEKLY ON MONDAYS AT 10:00AM AND SUNDAYS AT 11:00AM</b>

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***"If you can measure it, you can manage it"***

**'B LEGAL, B SAFE, B DS'**

## DASSETT MEN'S CLUB

The March meeting was a full house in Avon Dasset Reading Room. The speaker was Nick Ward. This was a return visit for Nick and his talk was on the five Royal Guards Regiments. This presentation was superb with uniforms, march tune and drumming demonstration.

The meeting on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April is a member's social meeting at The Merry Lion Fenny Compton from noon.

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May meet at The Merry Lion Fenny Compton at 10:30am for a trip to Prescote Hill climb, home of the Bugatti Club. A £5 deposit to be paid at the April meeting.

## WI

Our March speaker Sarah Westmacott enthralled us with tales of her first and subsequent attempts to set up her own hive and keep a thriving colony of honey bees.

Unfortunately, our quiz team has not progressed to the next round of the Warwickshire WI's Annual Quiz.



Some of our members were due to attend Warwickshire Federation AGM this month however it has been postponed to later in the year due to the Covid19 outbreak. Hopefully things will have returned to normal in time for our meeting at 7:30pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April in Fenny Compton Village Hall when we will be having a talk on '*Meningitis: A Life-Changing Experience*'.

We are hoping for a great evening when Kineton and Bishops Itchington WIs join us for an Italian night on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April. The Craft Group continues on Wednesday mornings.

Guests are welcome to any of our meetings, anyone requiring further information can contact our Secretary. *Details in The Directory.*

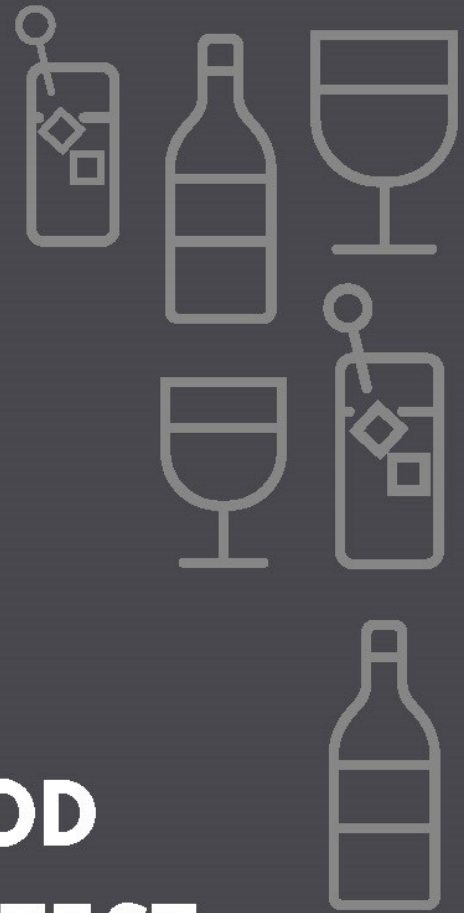
## CARERS4CARERS

The Carers4Carers monthly meeting will be at 10:30am–12noon on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April at Kineton Village Hall Mill Street Kineton CV35 0LB. This month our Members and Companionship Groups are looking forward to the British Motor Museum's reminiscence session on 'Making New Memories'. Please let us know in advance if you will be attending with your loved one. Due to the changing situation and advice around Covid-19/Coronavirus, please check our website [www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk](http://www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk) or call for up-to-date information on whether this will go ahead. New members are always very welcome. For more details, including help with transport, phone Gillian on 01926 640 203 or 07947 893 504.

## OVER 60S

There was no meeting in March. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 2:30pm in Fenny Compton Village Hall and will take the form of a General

**Over 60s** Knowledge Quiz devised by Deborah Lea. Please come along and join us for afternoon tea with sandwiches and homemade cakes, you will be made most welcome.



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## FENNY COMPTON FOOTPATH GROUP

In February the plan was to replace a rotten wooden bridge on the footpath to Farnborough at the Parish boundary then have our annual winter breakfast, but storm Dennis was forecast so we postponed for a week. Storm Dennis was not that big a deal locally, but the following Sunday started cold and wet. The new wooden bridges are supplied in kit form by Warwickshire County Council; to assemble it you drill holes and bolt it together. This one was 3.6 metres long and is not a full bridge but a 'ditch crossing' which is simpler, open rather than stile ended and only has a single handrail. The first part of the job was to transport it to the site from my house. Moving it along The Slade in my van was easy enough but then we had to carry it about 500 metres along a soggy headland in the rain. The 4 main rails are the heaviest part; two people are needed to carry each one. After many trips up and down we had the kit at the site including two 20kg bags of concrete and all the tools. The old bridge was removed. We assembled the new one then fixed it in position. We aim to finish by noon, and I thought we would have an early finish, but we were only finished by 1 o'clock so we postponed the breakfast until next time. It was the first major project we have done for a long time, but it felt like most of the effort went into getting the bridge to the site and taking the old one away. I am still aching 3 days later. It was hard work and we had earned the breakfast, but it will have to wait until March.

You can also follow us on Facebook where there are 'before and after' photos. We generally meet on every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday from 9am to 12noon.

Brian Peers *Contact details in The Directory*

## RURAL CINEMA

This month's film will be *Judy* on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 7:30pm, doors open at 7:00pm. Please email [cinema@fcvh.org.uk](mailto:cinema@fcvh.org.uk) or text 07850 630 401 if you would like to reserve seats. The normal ticket price is still just £3. By joining our email list, you have an opportunity to suggest and vote for your preferred films. For latest information see the Events Blog - [fcvhevents.blogspot.co.uk](http://fcvhevents.blogspot.co.uk).



## FARNBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL TEAS

Farnborough Village Hall are delighted to celebrate our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year of providing home-made teas to residents and visitors to the area commencing on Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup> at 2:30pm. We have additional seating in the garden area and really hope for a good summer where it can be enjoyed by people of all ages including dogs. If you would like to take part and be part of the team occasionally for a couple of hours, please contact Anna on 690 723, Pam on 690 170 or Alison on 690 831 we would love to see you. All proceeds go towards the upkeep of the Village Hall and the Church.

In addition, we have a very popular selection of books for all tastes so do drop in and re-stock your library at home, no charge but a donation is always welcome.





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## **UBUS COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SERVICE**

Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Warwickshire County Council have suspended the UBUS community transport service from Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March until further notice. This decision follows the briefing from Government on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March asking over 70s to protect themselves from Coronavirus by staying at home. The Councils trust passengers understand that this decision has been made with their health in mind.

## **ABACUS**

We have had a busy time learning our Easter songs, and making lovely things to give our mums on Mother's Day. We are going into Reception once a week and having a story and songs with the reception teacher and children. Hopefully we will be able to spend a lot more time outside in our ever-developing outdoor area.

Our new fundraising idea is our Loan a Book scheme. For a small fee we have a lovely selection of books which the children can borrow. This helps raise funds and hopefully encourages the children's interest in books. These are available at the Pop-Up Cafe on Fridays in The Village Hall but there is no obligation to visit the café.



We are already registering children for September so please call or drop in and have a look round and see how the children learn through play. We look forward to seeing you.

## **BOWLS CLUB**

After a very successful season last year where we finished second in the Kineton and District League we are now preparing for the new campaign.

To start the season, we are holding an open session on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 2:30pm. If you are interested and would like to have game, please come along and try. If you are not sure, here is my story - until two years ago I had never played but have now enjoyed two years playing matches and am now Club Secretary.



So come along and have go!

Alan Payne *Contact details in The Directory*

## **CARS AT THE SPA**

Save the date. Sunday 28th June. Classic Car Show at the Royal Pump Room Gardens, Leamington Spa. Free public entry 10:30am-4pm. Food and drink, live entertainment, and picnic area. This is being organised by Rotary Club of Royal Leamington Spa, raising money for local charities. All details including car entries at the website [carsatthespa.co.uk](http://carsatthespa.co.uk).

## **HOME LIBRARY SERVICE**

Are you a reader who is housebound and would like library books and audio CDs delivered to your door? Contact the Library Service on 01926 851 031 or email [mobilelibraryservice@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:mobilelibraryservice@warwickshire.gov.uk). This is a free service. If you can access the Internet remember that your library card allows access to Ebooks, Eaudio, Enewspapers & Emagazines.





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## COMPTON VERNEY

Brand new for the 2020 season, Compton Verney states that dog walking is now permitted in the 120 acres of Compton Verney parkland. See the website [www.comptonverney.org.uk](http://www.comptonverney.org.uk) for full details, entry fees, and current exhibitions.

### POP UP CRAFT & PRODUCE MARKET - VE DAY SPECIAL

The next pop-up market will be a very special one! It will be held from 9am-11:30am on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May at The Yew Tree Avon Dassett as part of the village commemorations for the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

In addition to all the wonderful food and craft stalls there will be a sing along of 1940s songs with our very own pianist Sally Crompton. Local children will be accompanying the singers. The Yew Tree will be serving hot drinks and breakfast rolls. Please come along and support - the chosen charity for this market is The British Legion.

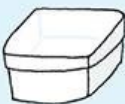
### VE DAY CELEBRATION - FARNBOROUGH

VE Day will be commemorated on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May which begins the official early May Bank Holiday weekend. As with all national celebrations, Farnborough Village Hall Committee has this time decided to hold a special Afternoon Tea from 2:30pm to which all residents of the village are invited, invitations will be sent out shortly. We do hope that you and your family will come and enjoy lovely home-made fare, music from that era and children's games, weather permitting.

## How to build a mini wildlife pond

### You will need:

- a watertight container\*



- old bricks, rocks and pebbles



- pond plants



- spade



\* Is there anything that you can upcycle? It could be an old washing-up bowl, sink or even a plant pot. Aim for 20-30cm deep.

- 1 Choose a spot. Your pond will need light, but not full sunlight all day. You can dig a hole and sink your container, or just have it sitting on top.

- 2 If the container isn't watertight, eg. an old plant pot, then add a piece of pond liner.

One vertical growing plant that reaches out of the water e.g. flowering rush

- 3 Add a layer of gravel and rocks.

- 4 Fill your pond with rainwater (tap water contains chemicals).

- 5 Start planting... you only need two or three plants.

- 6 Now watch and wait! Wildlife will come to your pond of its own accord.



Use logs or stones to create a range of depths and a slope for creatures to climb in and out

One submerged plant e.g. hornwort or spiked water milfoil

Illustration: Corinne Welch  
© Copyright Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts 2019 and Royal Horticultural Society 2019

## AVON DASSETT GARDENING CLUB

The April meeting of Gardening Club will be held in Farnborough Village Hall on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 7:30pm. Sue Bedwell will be joining us to talk on *Making More of your Plants*. Those who have heard Sue speak in the past, will know how very knowledgeable and entertaining she is. The competition for the month is Best Selection of Spring Flowers. If you would like to join us, you will be most welcome.



## VIOLIN CONCERT

Apologies for this belated review but would like to take the opportunity to say what a superb violin concert it was in Fenny Compton Village Hall on 8<sup>th</sup> February last. Congratulations must be given to all the children who gave fantastic performances either as a group or as a soloist. More astonishing was the fact that some of the youngest children were not much bigger than the violin itself yet they played so, so, well. A wide range of music was performed including a piece from Swan Lake, which was just brilliant, literally bringing the house down! There was not a dry eye in the house, parents were bursting with pride and the audience in awe! All the hard work and practising paid off! It must have been a very nerve-racking experience to play in front of a packed hall, yet the children's concentration and confidence, never faltered.



Congratulations and thanks must be given to Veronique, the children's most remarkable and enthusiastic music teacher, whose dedication is such that she gives music lessons free of charge, in order that all children can have the chance to learn to play, should they wish to. A special thanks too to all helpers and accompanists who worked and played so brilliantly. Thanks too to all the folk who made and served the delicious cakes and sandwiches afterwards, which were the icing on the cake so to speak, after such a fantastic afternoon. Finally, thanks to the video recorder for making such a wonderful film of the concert. Congratulations and thanks again to you all.

Brian Hague

## MUSIC & ART POP-UP CONCERT

A Music & Art Pop-Up Concert will be held at St Peter and St Clare Church Fenny Compton on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May. Doors open at 7pm for a 7:30pm start. Tickets £10 to include a glass of wine/soft drink. Proceeds in aid of Church Fabric Fund. To book contact Lesley Bosman 07813 299 194.



Damian Clarke plays and sings with two very unusual instruments; the beautiful, ringing tones of the ancient Hammer Dulcimer and the evocative, stirring sound of the medieval Hurdy Gurdy. His paintings will be on show in the Church 4pm-7pm with free entry. All ticket proceeds and a percentage of any Art/CD sales go to the Church funds.



# Coronavirus The Snake In The Grass

Roy W Jenkins

Just another challenge our World has to face,  
A nasty virus has now entered the human race.  
Invisibly and silent like a Snake in the grass  
Coronavirus waits for a victim to pass.

Young or old, black or white  
Will attack its victim by day or by night  
To fight this unforeseen invader  
We must unite to find out its behaviour.

In the meantime, it has the upper hand  
Being so new we cannot understand  
But what we do know it can make us very ill  
Those that are aged and poorly it can even kill.

So please take care and be aware  
The snake in the grass is somewhere out there.  
Take precautions do not let it strike,  
Kill the bug before it starts to bite.

Wash your hands frequently so they say  
And disinfectant to keep Coronavirus from its prey.

An Anthology of Short Stories by Roy W Jenkins is on sale at The Merrie Lion. The cost is £4, £2 of which will be donated to The Village Hall.

## **MARIE CURIE CHARITY**

Terminal illness charity, Marie Curie, announced that all its upcoming public collections across the UK as part of its Great Daffodil Appeal were cancelled due to the Coronavirus situation.

Marie Curie has estimated that it will lose £1 million from these vital collections alone – with further losses coming from many other cancelled fundraising activities and events. This will impact the charity's work, which is going to be more important than ever over the coming months as the NHS focuses on the coronavirus.

In light of this, the charity is urgently asking people to get involved in the Appeal via other ways to help its nurses care for more people including donating online - [mariecurie.org.uk/donate](https://mariecurie.org.uk/donate) or via text-to-donate - text DAFF to 70111 to donate £5.

## **FENNY COMPTON SURGERY**

[www.fennycomptonandsheningtonsurgery.nhs.uk](http://www.fennycomptonandsheningtonsurgery.nhs.uk)

**Coronavirus:** Please do not book a GP appointment or attend the surgery if you have symptoms associated with coronavirus including a new continuous cough and a high temperature. You are advised to stay at home.

If your symptoms are serious, or get worse, NHS 111 has an online Coronavirus service that can tell you if you need further medical help and advise you what to do. Only call 111 direct if you cannot go online at [www.nhs.uk/111](http://www.nhs.uk/111) or are advised to do so by the online service.

Google 'NHS Coronavirus' for up-to-date information and advice from The National Health Service. Keep washing your hands.

**Extended Hours Service:** From Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, the extended hours service changed to Monday evenings because of patient feedback. Face to face and telephone appointments are available after 6:30pm to those patients who might struggle to attend during the day. Please be advised it is not an emergency service and no other services are available at the time including dispensary.

## **NATIONAL TRUST**



**National Trust**

Following the increasing numbers of safety measures advised by the government to limit the spread of the new Coronavirus, COVID-19, the National Trust plans to keep as many of its parks and gardens open and free of charge to encourage the nation to enjoy open space, while observing social distancing measures. The National Trust's houses, cafés and shops closed on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. For full details of what is open in our area see the website [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)

## **AQUEOUS**

There has been some positive progress to report this month. Firstly, some fallen Willow trees downstream of the surgery have been cleared reducing any back up and ensuring the watercourse flows out of the village without restriction. Secondly, following reports to Aqueous by residents, the County Council will be undertaking investigation, jetting and cleaning work in Memorial Road and Bridge Street to clear the drains and culverts.

We have also been working with Cllr Nigel Rock to investigate the surface water flooding around the surgery. The surface water design within the Ridge Way development itself seem to operate as designed. The source of the problem is associated with the ditch alongside and behind Cotters Croft which has an inadequate outlet which results in flooding during heavy rainfall. Liability for this remains uncertain and is being investigated further. Once this is established options for resolution can be developed.

A further meeting with the County Council has been set up for April so hopefully there will be further developments to report next month.

## Cornwall Holiday Cottage – Carpenters Cottage, Langore!

We used to live in Fenny Compton and came down to Cornwall in 2018. We have a holiday let, Carpenters Cottage which is a beautiful Grade II listed cottage, full of character with slate floors, low beams and even lower doorways! The cottage is approximately 3 miles from Launceston, the historic original capital of Cornwall. Carpenters is ideally situated for exploring North Cornwall's beaches & coastal villages. The nearest beach is 12 miles away and we have Dartmoor and Bodmin moor on our doorstep. We cater for two adults and welcome two well behaved pets. For further details, please contact Carol or Rolf on 07506 413 489. Thank you for your interest. ☺





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<p><b>Monday</b> Adult Ballet Fitness (no exp req) 10.45am - 11.45am Dance Fitness (Over 50's) 11.45am - 12.30pm</p> <p><b>Saturday</b> Prima Ballerinas (3-5 yrs) 9.00am - 9.45am Gymnastics (3-6 yrs) 9.45am - 10.15am Intro to Ballet (5-7 yrs) 10.15am - 11.15am Gymnastics 2 (6-8 yrs) 11.00am - 11.30am Pre Primary Ballet (7-9 yrs) 11.30am - 12.15pm Primary Ballet (9-10 yrs) 12.15pm - 1.00pm</p>	<p><b>Saturday</b> Primary Modern &amp; Street (6-9 yrs) 1.00pm - 1.30pm Gymnastics 3 (8 yrs+) 1.30pm - 2.00pm Grade 1 Ballet (10-11 yrs) 2.00pm - 2.45pm Grade 1 Modern (10-12 yrs) 2.45pm - 3.15pm Grade 2 Ballet (11-12 yrs) 3.15pm - 4.00pm Grade 2 Modern (13 yrs +) 4.00pm - 4.30pm Grade 3 Modern (14 yrs+) 4.30pm - 5.00pm Grade 3 Ballet (12-13 yrs) 5.00pm - 5.45pm Grade 4 Ballet (14 yrs+) 5.45pm - 6.30pm</p>
---	--

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Evening Surgery Mondays 6:30pm-8pm

Dispensary open Weekdays (except Thursday) 9am-noon & 3pm-5:30pm - Thursdays 9am-1pm

**Out of Hours Emergency 0870 225 5858 NHS Direct 111**

## ABACUS PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY

Jocelyn Lewry 771 050

## ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

Roly Whear 770 162

## AQUEOUS

Alan Payne 770 173

## BOWLS CLUB

Alan Payne 770 173

## BROWNIES

Helen King 770 188

## CHURCHES

### CATHOLIC CHURCH KINETON

Fr David Tams 01608 685 259

### METHODIST CHURCH

Revd Peter Powers 0741 328 155

Rep: Linda Coleman 770 679

### PARISH CHURCH

Rev Nicki Chatterton 07769 871 237  
chat2rev.nicki@gmail.com

Keith Distin AD/FC 770 118

Lesley Bosman AD/FC 770 976

Fiona Russell-Perry Farn 690 039

### COLTS FOOTBALL CLUB

David Finch 770 026

### COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

transport:vasa.org.uk 01789 262 889

### COUNCILLORS COUNTY

Bob Stevens FC/Farn 01926 814 031

Chris Williams AD 770 792

### COUNCILLORS DISTRICT

John Feilding AD/Farn 678 390

Nigel Rock FC 07971 343065

### DASSETT MEN'S CLUB

Mike Forbes 690 900

### DASSETT SCHOOL

Head: Suzanne Corry 770 267

Chair of Governors: Hester Stevens

Friends of the Dasset School

Melissa Hartwell 07740 492 349

### FARMING COMMUNITY

Mik Squire 770 590

### FÊTE COMMITTEE AD

Michele Gill 690 987

## FIRE STATION

Sub Officer Tony Thornton 07500 770 674

## FOOTBALL CLUB

Steve Dixey 770 138

## FOOTPATHS GROUP

Brian Peers 770 644

## GARDENING CLUB AD

Gill Lewis 690 643

## GOLF SOCIETY

Derek Maries 07968 439363

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

fennycomptonnw.blogspot.co.uk

stratfordnw.blogspot.co.uk

Lily Hope-Frost AD 690 472

Keith Hicks FC 236 448

Andrew Campbell Farnbro' 690 776

## OVER 60s

Carol Walker 770 410

## PLAYING FIELDS GROUP - FARNBOROUGH

Keith Binding 690 390

POLICE 101

## SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

01926 684 984

## SCOUT GROUP

Chris Revitt 770 871

Crevitt@gmail.com

## SPORTS FIELD FC

Bookings: Melvin Smart 770 612

## TOTS & TODDLERS

Nicki Chatterton 07769 871 237

chat2rev.nicki@gmail.com

TRANSPORT UBUS 01789 264 491

## VILLAGE HALLS

### FENNY COMPTON

Bookings: 07947 711 707

fcvh.org.uk/hiring

### FARNBOROUGH

farnboroughwarwickshire.co.uk/bookings

Bookings: Anna Massen 690 723

### AVON DASSETT READING ROOM

Bookings: Jenny Sherriff 690 416

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Deborah Lea 770 652