



COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL BRIEFING NOTE

September 2026

Gallery Update

We have had a busy summer of activities across Watts Gallery including hosting the first Guildford Book Festival Children's Festival, activities on our lawn with the public helping to create a sunflower artwork as well as welcoming a range of artists into our Artists in Resident studio. Alongside this The Art of Wallpaper: Morris & Co has continued to welcome visitors.

We are taking part in Heritage Open Days over the weekends of 12 and 13 and 19 and 20 September which will give people free access to our site. Guildford Borough Council are running vintage busses on Sunday 20 September which will come from Guildford, up the Farnham Road, down to the Gallery and then through Compton and back along the 281 Horsham Road through Shalford into Guildford. We are hoping for two busy weekends with lots of people coming to see us.

Chapel

The continued heatwaves over the summer meant that we had to keep areas of the chapel closed with the increased risk of summer limb drop. We know this has proved difficult for people who are trying to access graves, but we have managed to open up routes through to most of the cemetery.

We're continuing to work with our arboriculturists to look for ways to reduce the risk of summer limb drop and now the temperatures have dropped and we're starting to get some rainfall we should be able to remove all restrictions within the next couple of weeks.

It appears that hotter, dryer summers are going to be a feature of UK weather which means that there will need to be careful management of the trees moving forward.