

OUT & ABOUT IN JANUARY

St Lawrence Church, Alton.

Alton Organ Society - Tue 9 at 8 pm.

Fourth organ concert in Alton Organ Society's 51st year given by Jonathan Hope, Assistant Director of Music at Gloucester Cathedral. Admission £10 at the door. For more information see www.altonorgansociety.co.uk

Chawton Village Hall.

Chawton WI meeting - Wed 10 at 7:30pm.

Paul Fenwick will talk about *The Memories of Alton Project*. Visitors welcome. Contact 07858 806943 or 07887 690400 for more information. chawton_wi@outlook.com

Chawton House Library, Chawton, GU34 1SJ.

Evening Orchard Wassail - Wed 17 at 6:30pm.

A magical night of merrymaking following the ancient tradition of the Orchard Wassail held on old Twelfth Night (17 January according to the old Julian calendar). Tickets £15 (Children £7.50). www.chawtonhouse.org

Community Centre, Alton.

Renewable Energy - bringing it all together at local level - Wed 17 at 7:30pm.



Roger Munford will talk about smart grids, microgrids, community energy, solar, battery storage and how it all fits together in the home and in the national grid. Free entry. Bar. All welcome.

Alton U3A Monthly Lecture - Fri 19 at 2 pm

Around the World in 80 Plays. Brian Freeland will talk about his many years working in drama and dance with numerous well known theatre companies around the World. All welcome.

Curtis Museum, Alton.

Alton Town Walk - Sat 20 at 11 am.

A guided walk around Alton where you will learn about the town's historic sites. Organised by Alton Community Association. £3 for adults and 50p for children (age 5 - 16). More information from the Community Centre. (01420 85057).

Medstead Village Hall.

New Year Rock 'n' Roll Show - Sat 26 at 7:15pm.

Hit the Limelight present 'The Toledos' with an authentic 50's & 60's sound, epitomising a bygone era of cool, dressed in sharp suits and skinny ties. Dance the night away or just enjoy the music. Licensed bar. Tickets £8 in advance only from The Handy Stores, Medstead or 01420 562378. www.medstead.org/shows

Holybourne Theatre, London Road, GU34 4EL.

Dick Whittington - Sat 27 & Sun 28 at 6 for 6:30pm.

A seasonal present for the whole family, all wrapped up with some cracking songs, amazing spectacle and lots of laughs. The tale of a poor boy making good - thanks to his clever moggie. Come with us on a fast and furious romp through old London town to mysterious Morocco via exotic Basingstoke (and a shipwreck in shark infested waters) in the company of a glamorous hero and heroine, saucy dame, singing mice, thieving rats, a mad Empress and the best villain of them all... King Rat! Tickets £8 from Wildly UpBeat Printers, Alton or online. www.holybournetheatre.co.uk

For inclusion of your event in this feature send details by email to Editor@fourmarksnews.co.uk to arrive by 12th of the month prior to publication.

Gilbert White's House, Selborne

2018 Antarctic Lectures- Wed 24 at 7pm.

Ever wondered what it is like to walk to the South Pole? In November 2015 Julian Thomas, newly appointed as Master at Wellington College, and with a passion for outdoor trekking and climbing, walked from the coast of Antarctica to the South Pole. He set off in late November and reached the South Pole on 9th January 2015 (at the same time of the year but somewhat quicker than Captain Scott's team). His talk will explore how the Antarctic takes you to extremes in so many ways, not just in terms of temperature. Tickets £15 www.gilbertwhiteshouse.org

Phoenix Theatre, Bordon GU35 0LR

Alladin- Thu 18 to Sat 27 at 7.30pm

Climb aboard a magic carpet and let The Phoenix Players transport you to a world of wonder and spectacle! Join our hero Aladdin on his thrilling quest to outwit the evil magician Abanazer, marry the beautiful Princess Jasmine and earn his fortune; all with a bit of help from the legendary Genie of the Lamp! Giggle at Wishee Washee's gags, marvel at Widow Twankey's fabulous frocks and immerse yourself in a story of magic, love and adventure.

Featuring toe-tapping numbers, dazzling effects and comedy by the lamp-load, this panto is everything you could wish for! Tickets £10 (concessions £9).

www.phoenixarts.co.uk

The Anvil, Basingstoke, RG21 7QR

Charity Concert - Sun 28 at 3pm.

The Rotary Club of Basingstoke Deane present the full concert Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines who will perform a selection of well known pieces accompanied by The Royal Corps of Drums, who will combine to make this a majestic and very memorable event. Early booking advised. www.anvilarts.org.uk



FEBRUARY EVENTS

Eggars School, Alton, GU34 4EQ

FebEx2018 Model Railway Exhibition - Sat 3 & Sun 4

The exhibition is a general purpose railway modellers meet, providing a friendly family atmosphere for people to see the railway modellers art in its many forms. The exhibition runs from 10:30am on both days, finishing at 5pm on Saturday and 4pm on Sunday. Cost £4.50 (accompanied under 16s free) www.altonmrg.co.uk/febex



St Lawrence Church, Alton.

Alton Organ Society - Tue 6 at 8 pm.

Fifth organ concert in Alton Organ Society's 51st year given by Katherine Dienes Williams, Organist and Master of the Choristers at Guildford Cathedral. Admission £10 at the door. For more information see www.altonorgansociety.co.uk

Four Marks Village Hall.

Saturday Night Dancing - Sat 17 at 8 pm

Ballroom, Latin and Party Sequence dancing. Tickets £6.50. Please reserve in advance from Alan Amor on 07758 589441 or email alanamor@ymail.com. Further dates for 2018: 17 Mar; 5 May.

Alton College, Old Odiham Road, Alton
Alton Winter Beer Festival - Fri 16 7pm to 11pm
Sat 17 11am to 3pm & 7pm to 11pm

Beer, cider, wine, food and live music make for a fabulous evening out among people who love a great time whilst raising money for local charities. The Alton Beer Festivals are very popular and are always a sell-out. It is essential to buy tickets in advance. Tickets £7.50 per session (£5 Sat evening). www.altonbeerfestival.co.uk

Allen Gallery, Church Street, Alton.
Southern Steam in the 1960s - Thur 1 to Thur 1Mar.
 An exhibition consisting of a selection of black and white framed photographs chosen from the significant number bequeathed to the Mid Hants Railway Watercress Line by the late Tim Carbury. The prints will also be for sale.

Curtis Museum, Alton.
Alton Town Walk - Sat 17 at 11 am.
 A guided walk around Alton where you will learn about the town's historic sites. Organised by Alton Community Association. £3 for adults and 50p for children (age 5 - 16). More information from the Community Centre. (01420 85057)

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ACROSS DOWN

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| 1 Dispirit (6) | 1 US currency (6) |
| 4 Verifies (6) | 2 Large aeroplane (5,3) |
| 9 Satirical attack on a person (7) | 3 Laborious task (5) |
| 10 Performer of gymnastic feats (7) | 5 Cause to absorb water (7) |
| 11 Positively charged electrode (5) | 6 Crustacean (4) |
| 12 Toy bear (5) | 7 Soldier who keeps guard (6) |
| 14 Live by (5) | 8 Inescapable (11) |
| 15 Silk fabric (5) | 13 Deceiving (8) |
| 17 ____ Arabia: country (5) | 14 Having sharp corners (7) |
| 18 Agitate (7) | 15 Military engineer (6) |
| 20 Inclination (7) | 16 Long narrow hilltops (6) |
| 21 Implement change (6) | 17 Sum of money wagered (5) |
| 22 Equine sounds (6) | 19 Repeated jazz phrase (4) |

Answer is on page 29



The Medstead Players

Nita Simpson

www.medsteadplayers.co.uk

The Christmas frantics seem to be taking all my time at the moment. Cards to write, pressies to wrap and mince pies to make. Phew, I sometimes wonder if it is all worth it.

What was worth it was turning out on a very frosty night and spending longer defrosting the car than the journey itself, to watch the spiffingly, surprisingly, specially, scrumptiously, spectacularly scintillating **Old Time Music Hall**.

The village Hall rang out loud and true with the audience heartily joining in the singing of 'Down at the Old Bull and Bush', 'My Old Dutch' and 'Your Baby Has Gorn Daan The Plug 'Ole', to name but a few. 'An Eastern Snake Dance', a 'Misty Lighthouse Thriller' and finding out what a 'Recumbent Posture' was added to the humour, pathos and just general enjoyment of all acts too numerous to mention here. Thank you to all who supported us and well done to Director Jenny Overy and her cast and crew.

Our Christmas Social Night took the form of a play reading for the Spring Production of '**Spiritually Speaking**', followed by a wonderful array of Mulled Wine and Christmas fayre. We also had a showing of the highlights of the Old Time Music Hall as few of us had been able to see it in all its glory.

The **Spring 2018** production will be a light hearted **ONE ACT** play '**SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING**' again followed by a Super Two Course Supper and a quiz.

If you have any interest in theatre be it backstage, set building or indeed acting, please contact Medstead Players Secretary Nita Simpson on 01420 562342. Or take a look at the website.

Dates for your diary:

The New Year Fun and Frolics Night will be a curling extravaganza, with a light supper on **Friday 2nd February from 7.30 onwards**. If you have any interest in joining Medstead Players, be it treading the boards yourself or helping backstage or even just want to know what we do, please do come along for a chat and an exciting game of curling.

Call Marion on 01420 562853 by Monday 29th January at the latest for a place. Your supper will be provided but do feel free to bring your own drink.

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all of our supporters, friends and families. May 2018 bring you all you desire yourselves.

The next issue of **FOUR MARKS NEWS** will be published on **Thursday 1st February 2018**.

Contributions, including letters on local topics of interest and details of forthcoming events, are always welcome and should reach the Editor, **14 Lymington Rise, Four Marks, GU34 5BA** no later than **15th January** or you can email editor@fourmarksnews.co.uk.

We look forward to hearing from you!