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Supplied in MS word. Please provide any photos or images including logos separately (jpeg files) that you would like in your article.

Deadline date to submit: 8th March

Editor: Naomi Reddyhoff

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info@windowonwallingford.co.uk

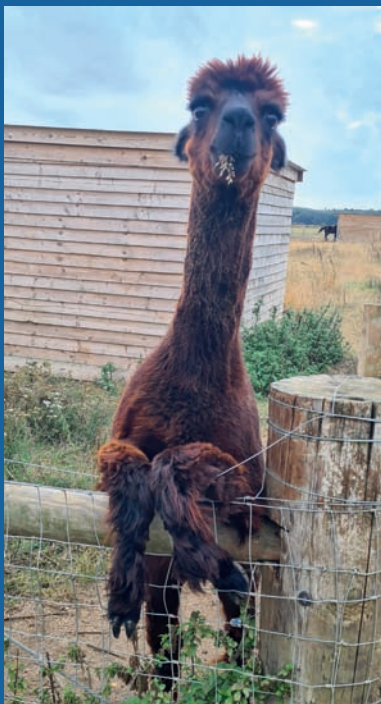
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Adverts will continue to run unless cancelled.



Last months cover star.
 Alpaca at Bishops Court Farm,
 Dorchester. Photo by Julie Bywater

Hello Everyone.

March already, Mad March Hares, Red Nose Day, British Summer Time Starts, Sunday 26th of March, so don't forget to put your clocks forward an hour. Spring is here!!! A beautiful time of year.

Lots going on in Wallingford as usual, you can find it all out in your fabulous WoW Magazine. Everybody needs a bit of "WoW" in their lives!!!

If you feel passionate about how things are run in our wonderful Wallingford and want to feel you are making a difference why not become a councillor? Find out how and why on page 13.

Wallingford Radio is celebrating its first year on FM, serving the local community. One of their Directors Liam is undertaking a fundraising challenge - cycling from Wallingford to our twin town of Luxeuil le Bains in France and Bad-Wurzach in Germany from the 25th March to 1st April. Find out how to get involved and support Liam on page 7.

Remember this is your Community Magazine so if you have any interesting stories or events you want to let everyone know about get in contact with us. info@windowonwallingford.co.uk

I ask this every month, but we are still in need of some extra volunteers for the magazine distribution. Just 2/3 hours a month would mean a great deal to us please seriously think about it.

So, enjoy March and the start of Spring, we will see you in April. Have fun, stay safe.

Naomi xx



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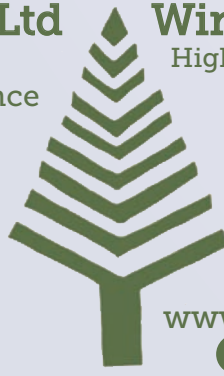


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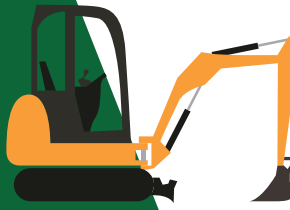
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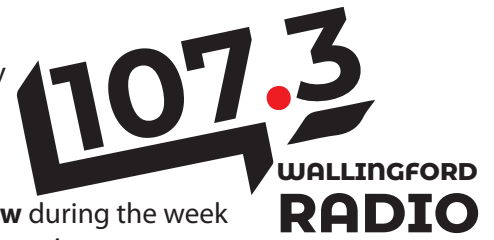
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Wallingford Radio

Wallingford Radio is excited to celebrate it's first year on FM serving the local community. We've settled in to our studio on Ayres Yard and are in the process of growing and reaching out to more of the town to better serve this amazing community.



We now have live shows 7 days a week, all available on 107.3FM. **Our breakfast show** during the week covers a wide range of topics (8 - 11am weekdays) while our specialist shows in the evenings cover everything from Ska and Reggae to 80s and 90s.

Over the weekend we mellow out with **Tom and the Hall of Sound**, so if you haven't given us a listen yet why not give us a go!

We'll be out in person throughout the year at the Car Rally, Bunkfest and Fireworks, as well as covering the local elections in May. Our interview show Have Your Say will be speaking to the local MP in March, so get your questions in to local@wallingfordradio.co.uk

Celebrating our first year on air, one of our Directors Liam is undertaking a fundraising challenge - cycling from Wallingford to our twin town of Luxeuil le Bains in France and Bad-Wurzach in Germany from the 25th March to 1st April. Visit wallingfordradio.co.uk or tune in to the breakfast show to follow his progress and to possibly donate to keep your local community radio going. www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/wallingfordradio2

If you have an idea or suggestion for something you'd like to hear from what is YOUR community radio, let us know! Write to us at Unit 8, Ayres Yard, or email local@wallingfordradio.co.uk

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Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo

The choirs of three schools in Wallingford are teaming up with the junior singers of **Wallingford Parish Church Choir** for an afternoon workshop and performance of Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo. **Children from St John's, St Nicholas and Fir Tree schools** have been learning the songs in school, ready for some joint rehearsals and final show at **4:30 pm on 11th March in St Mary's Church.**



The idea for the project came from two of the church's junior choristers, **Charlotte and Alice Hull**. Having learned a few of the songs in Junior Choir, they had a vision of staging it during an open rehearsal with other children and young people. To do their ideas justice, it was decided to open this up to schools and involve as many children as possible. Planning has been going on for months, but preparations have really been stepping up since Christmas. Staff in the schools have been enthusiastically teaching the songs and coming up with ideas for costumes and props. Hannah, the children's worker at St Mary's, is helping schools to make costumes. Charlotte has been choreographing actions and dance. Alice and her mum Linda have been designing the set. Children all over Wallingford have been learning the songs – some of them are real earworms! – and everyone is looking forward to putting it all together on 11th March.

The collaboration between the schools has been wonderful, with much sharing of ideas and expertise. There is a lot of fun in the preparation, and we're all hoping it will be a great show too. **For anyone coming to watch, there will be a retiring collection for the Wallingford Food Bank.**

Warborough & Shillingford Cricket Club

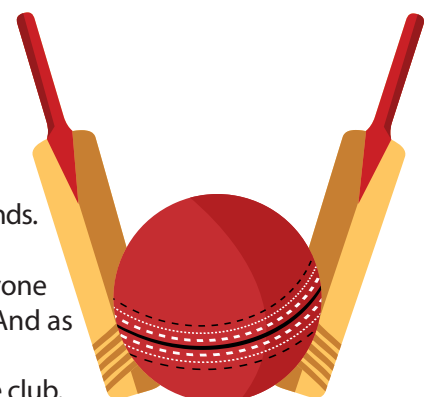
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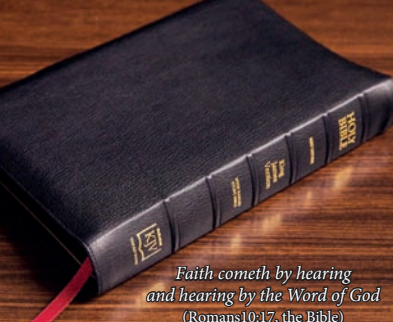
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Wallingford Accessible Boat Club is recruiting

If you like boats and boating or helping others to do so, this is for You

Wallingford Accessible Boat Club (WABC) is seeking to recruit several additional part-time volunteers to enable our Wallingford-based charity to expand its operations capacity in 2023.

WABC aims to enable disabled and less mobile people from our area and adjoining districts to get out and about on our lovely River Thames on our Wheelyboat, WOW-one, a purpose built flat-bottomed craft with a drop-down bow that caters for both ambulant and wheelchair users alike.

To enable us to handle the increased numbers of passengers we anticipate this coming season we need to recruit additional volunteers. We have much to offer – a happy, fun loving environment, great company and the satisfaction of making a real difference to the lives of the disabled community.

We are looking to recruit the following part-time positions:

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Marketing Officer. To support our Marketing Director with the development of marketing collateral, social media activities, website maintenance, support of our fundraising activities as well as general market communications. Time requirement approximated at 4 hours per month. The role would suit either an experienced marketer seeking a satisfying environment to apply their skills or a trainee looking to develop their experience.

Fundraising Officer. To support our Fundraising Director with our efforts to raise the vital funds needed to support our charitable organisation. Activities to include public cash collections, third-party events for the benefit of WABC, grant aid activities, support of our sponsors and any other fundraising initiatives that may arise from time to time. Time requirement approximated at 4 hours per month. The role would suit either an experienced fundraiser seeking a satisfying environment to apply their skills or a trainee looking to develop their experience.

If you are interested in any of the above roles or wish to support WABC in other ways, do please get in touch with John Jenkins. We are keen to move forward speedily .

John Jenkins MBE, Trustee, Wallingford Accessible Boat Club

Mob: 07976 297835

Email: john.jenkins@wabc.org.uk

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Wallingford Library

People in Wallingford protest against pollution of our river

Date of event: Saturday 28th January 2023

At the end of January, local residents protested against the dumping of raw sewage into our river and installed satirical blue plaques in Wallingford to highlight the shocking state of our waterways.

Local people unveiled the blue plaques as part of a **National Day of Action** all over the UK. In Wallingford, people gathered in the Marketplace, walked along St Mary's Street, down the High Street, onto the bridge and down the steps to the river. They walked back to the Marketplace on the same route singing all the way. Their voices filled St Mary's Street. It was fantastic to see so many people sharing this common concern: the health of our river and its impact on the environment and the wellbeing of the people of Wallingford and the surrounding area.

Locally, similar blue plaques were also placed in Henley-on-Thames, Goring, Streatley and Pangbourne.

Wallingford resident, Dr Lin Rolfe, 67, retired biologist and grandmother said, *"It's revolting how much raw sewage has been dumped into our rivers. These plaques draw attention to the government's failure to protect our waterways from pollution, failure to protect wildlife and failure to protect our health."*

Chris Colborne, 54, a technician from Blewbury said, *"When I see the rare chalk streams in my village, it's depressing to realise that these clear waters are destined to be spoiled the moment they join the open sewer that the Thames has become again. In my lifetime, the river became the cleanest it's been for centuries, with long-lost creatures returning and thriving. Now that progress is being reversed. It's hard to take."*

Jane Ray, 60, from West Berkshire Open Water Swimmers (WBOWS) said, *"Swimming in the river is the one thing that really helps with my physical and mental well-being. Now it just makes me angry as the releases of sewage make it unsafe to swim. This shouldn't be happening pretty much every time it rains over the winter"*.

The government and the water companies aren't going to clean up unless ordinary people put pressure on them. We can't do this alone. We need everyone who cares about our rivers and seas to stand up and speak out. January was just the first part of a bigger campaign to protect nature and our waterways. Look out for further campaigning events!

You can join in by signing up to <https://actionnetwork.org/forms/dirty-water>

Lin Rolfe and Kate Fenn





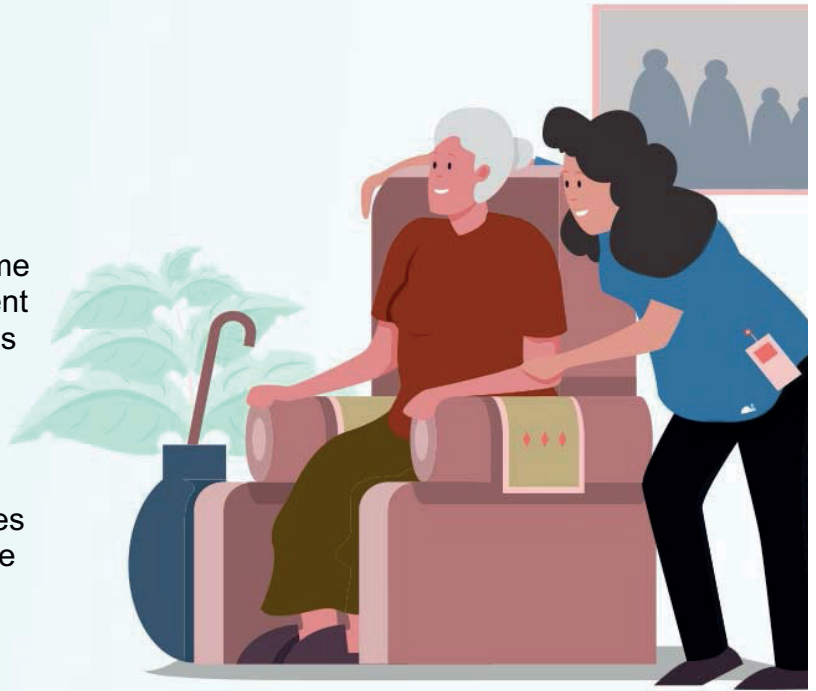
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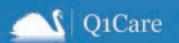


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Join Our Wallingford Information Day!

The event will be held on 14th March from 10:30 - 13:00 in the Wallingford Library.

The event will feature:

- Equipment demonstrations
- Discussions about the services that we offer
- Upcoming events
- Volunteering opportunities
- Planning for a new social group in the area

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Wallingford town Council is a locally elected group of 16 people from a variety of backgrounds who volunteer their time as Councillors for the Wallingford area. We are very proud to have kept the town council politically neutral for the last 600 years and therefore we sit at 16 individuals doing the best we can for the town we love. There are 12 full council meetings over the course of the year each one lasting no more than three hours, in addition there are a number of sub committees within the council who focus on things such as, tourism and economic, parks and gardens, Finance, Planning and various others. You need to be over 18 years of age but there is no upper limit and local residents or business owners are welcome to stand for election.

The time is fast approaching when Wallingford is asked to elect a whole new Town Council as well as two new District Councillors. We are very excited to bring in some fresh innovation and would ask as many of you that can spare the time to consider stepping up to the role of a councillor. We actually have a lot of fun, most of the time and it is a great honour to be at the heart of the decisions that affect our Town and join in our civic and ceremonial events.

If you think you could spare the time and have something to offer the community please write to the town council office, or email cllr.sue.hendrie@wallingfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

Why not come along to one of the events we will be organising in the run-up to elections to explain what we do at all levels of local government.

Thursday 2nd March – 19:00 until 20:00 – Town Hall – ‘Have a chat’

[#makeachange](#) [#wallingforduk](#) [#wallingfordtowncouncil](#)

One of the key aims of the u3a movement is to provide opportunities for people to socialise and make new friends. Our monthly coffee mornings are very popular and we had rather outgrown our previous venue. At the suggestion of a new(ish) member we moved the venue to the Methodist Church in St. Leonards Square on a trial basis. This has proved so successful and popular that we have now decided to make this a permanent move.



The new year has started with quite a number of people joining us, and benefiting from paying no subscription until our renewals in April. Despite recent inflation we are hopeful that we can keep this at the current amount for another year.

The annual “Celebration Lunch” was very successful and this year’s outings will commence with a visit to the tank museum at Bovington. Trips to Chelsea Hospital and Highclere Castle will follow this. During the past year our talks have covered a wide variety of subjects including history, wildlife, fashion and poisons. This year promises to be just as interesting and varied. **Our talk on 15 Feb will be about the music of Gilbert and Sullivan and on the following month the wicked wit of Winston Churchill.**

Monthly coffee mornings are held on the 1st Friday of the month from 10.30am to noon and are an opportunity for members to get together, and for potential members to find out about our activities. **Our speaker meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday at St. Mary-Le-More church at 2pm.**

To find out more about this u3a please visit our website at: www.wallingfordu3a.org where you will find contact links.

Neil Kelly
u3a Committee



WHAT'S ON

AT THE CORN EXCHANGE, WALLINGFORD



CINEMA

Tickets £10 for Adults and £5 for under 15s unless otherwise stated.

Sunday, 12th March, 7:30pm
 Monday, 13th March, 7:30pm
 Tuesday, 14th March, 7:30pm
 Wednesday, 15th March, 2:30pm
 Wednesday, 15th March, 7:30pm
 Thursday, 16th March, 7:30pm
 Friday, 17th March, 7:30pm
 Saturday, 18th March, 7:30pm
 Sunday, 19th March, 7:30pm
 Monday, 20th March, 7:30pm
 Tuesday, 21st March, 7:30pm
 Wednesday, 22nd March, 2:30pm
 Thursday, 23rd March, 7:30pm
 Friday, 24th March, 7:30pm
 Saturday, 25th March, 2:30pm
 Saturday, 25th March, 7:30pm
 Tuesday, 28th March, 7pm

The Son (15)
 The Son (15)
 Women Talking (15)
 Women Talking (15)
 Women Talking (15)
 Roman Holiday (U) 70th Anniversary
 What's love gotta do with it? (12A)
 What's love gotta do with it? (12A)
 What's love gotta do with it? (12A)
 Saint Omer (12A)
 Till (12A)
 Till (12A)
 The Middle Man (12A)
 The Middle Man (12A)
 Marcell, the Shell with Shoes On (PG)
 Marcell, the Shell with Shoes On (PG)
 Heathers, The Musical (15)

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Photos by Mark Brome



We are looking forward to Wallingford Museum's opening on March 1st for the 2023 season. Through out the closure period the team have been busy creating not one but two new exhibitions.

This year, 2023, The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) are celebrating 50 years since their foundation. Our first exhibition, reflects TWHAS's development from its early beginnings through to the establishment of the museum and the impact of the historical and archaeological research on the heritage of the town. All by volunteers, awarded in 2019 the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

House Detectives: history behind the door

The houses in this exhibition have been chosen to reflect the changing development and use of houses in Wallingford, from the medieval period to the 20th century. (Including a fictional fun mystery house.)

On your journey through the museum you will discover how we became house detectives and how you could become one to!

Look out for **Wallingford's Guided Historic Town Walks** starting again.

Each walk is led by an expert guide from The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society, exploring the backstreets and bringing to life the history of the town and its buildings from Saxon times to the present day.

To find more information, request special group tours and find out about all museum events, please visit www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk

Museum Bookshop

We have an excellent selection of good second-hand books (both fiction and non-fiction) at sensible prices. We look forward to seeing you - it's free to browse!

The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society

www.twhas.org.uk/meetings-programme.html for the 2023 talks programme.

Sue Wright
Wallingford Museum

Benson Choral Society

Mendelssohn's Elijah – first choice for Benson Choral's new MD Steven Grahl

Singers in Benson Choral Society are in high spirits as they rehearse for their spring concert under their new Musical Director Steven Grahl. Steven is already Director of Music at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford and takes on Benson to widen his portfolio.

Mendelssohn's Elijah is an inspired choice by Steven for his first concert with us. It's at the heart of the British choral tradition, premiered at the 1846 Birmingham Musical Festival and conducted by Mendelssohn himself at the height of his powers. It was an immediate success and remains so today. It's a great and dramatic story.



There are many fine moments for chorus and soloists, and this impressive oratorio is a pleasure for singers and audience alike. We have a fine quartet of soloists, among them Giles Underwood in the title role who guest-conducted BCS last term.

We are accompanied by the West Forest Sinfonia, and the performance promises to be memorable.

The concert takes place at 7.30pm on Saturday 18 March in Dorchester Abbey – tickets are £18 and £15 and can be booked online at www.bensonchoralsociety.org.uk. Early booking advised.

WHAT'S ON...

Wallingford Photographic Club

Wallingford Photographic Club enjoys spring with a mix of online and in-person meetings (at Crowmarsh Pavilion). Our inclusive club allows people of all ages and levels of experience to learn how to improve their photography through conversations with other members, presentations by visiting speakers, practical evenings and competitions.

The club meets every Thursday at 7.30pm for an 8pm start (7.45pm for online sessions and competitions).

March opens with an inter-club competition (in Abingdon on 2nd) then a members' evening on the 9th at the Pavilion.

Then we have consecutive online meetings: **Rod Bird "What photos mean"** (why photos are taken, rather than how; **16th**) and **Alison Mees "Living the African Dream"** (wildlife photos and stories from the bush; **23rd**)- each hosted via Zoom. For the **30th March we return to the Pavilion** when **Mark Seymour "Street and Travel Documentary Photography"**.

Wallingford Art Club

Live art demos are well and truly back at Centre 70 with Wallingford & District Art club with portraiture being in the spotlight on **Tuesday 21st March, at 7.30pm**. Mark Fennell, a professional artist and tutor based in Bucks, will be demonstrating how he paints a portrait in oils using a palette knife. This promises to be an inspiring and entertaining evening especially as we can now enjoy it in the company of other like minded art enthusiasts and artists. The demo is free for club members and £3 for visitors.

If you would like any information about this friendly art club please email admin@wallingfordartclub.org.uk or check out our website at www.wallingfordartclub.org.uk

There are a lot more demos, workshops and plein air events planned for the year so this could be a great time to join.

Henley and District Stamp Club

At the Henley stamp club, we have our annual auction where you will be able to obtain fantastic philatelic material. This year we can proudly announce that we have over 800 lots of excellent quality.

To learn more about stamps and postal history why not visit us at Bix one Wednesday evening?

You can then meet people who find postal history and the story of stamps fascinating too.

Wednesday 8th. March – Stamp Auction.

Wednesday 22nd. March – Guest speakers from High Wycombe.

Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at Bix Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Visitors and new members are very welcome.

Further details can be obtained by phoning Brian on **01491 681739** or on our website: - www.henleyphilatelic.org.uk

St Mary's Church "Health Information Morning," Saturday 25th March

Wallingford Patient Participation Group (PPG) is organising a Health Information Morning. The PPG consists of a number of patients who represent everyone registered with Wallingford Medical Practice. Anyone is welcome to join the group for quarterly meetings to discuss matters on behalf of the 17,500 patients. They also organise events covering various health topics which are open to all.

At this busy time for the NHS, it is important for us all to look after our own health. To support this, the PPG have arranged for a wide range of health organisations to be in **St Mary's Church in Wallingford Market Place on Saturday, 25th March, 9.30 – 12.00 pm**. Refreshments will be on sale and members of the PPG will be available to talk with you.

Don't let this opportunity pass you by, whatever issues you may have. Put the date in your diary!

Cholsey Repair Café

Cholsey Repair Café continues to offer its services on the third Saturday of odd-numbered months, with its next event on **Saturday 18th March, from 11.00 to 13.45**. A wide variety of repairs can be attempted, from bicycles to toasters and torches to garden shears. Repairs and advice are free but a small donation towards operating costs is appreciated and the cost of replacement parts must be covered. This very popular voluntary service can be busy at times but the rush has usually died down by about 12.15.

Wallingford Allotments and Gardens Society (WAGS)

From now until the end of July, the WAGS Garden Store is open every **Saturday 11am-12 noon** in **Centre 70 near the Kinecroft** and car parking is available. The store is run by volunteers and is for the benefit of our local community of gardeners and allotment holders. We have seed potatoes and onion sets, peat-free composts, fertilisers and nutrients, weed and bug control, plants supports, plant canes, labels, grass seed, netting, membrane, fleece, ornamental bark and MORE! Come along and join or renew membership at £4 for the year per household.

We also have the Dobies Seed and Plant catalogue available with a members discount code on seed orders.

Our news and updates are posted on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WallingfordAGS/> or get in touch by calling our Chairman Sandra on Tel **01491 836527**. Happy Growing and roll-on the warmer weather! **Jayne Page on behalf of the WAGS Committee**

I would like to introduce you to Wallingford U3A (University of the Third Age). Our name does not imply that members have academic qualifications. We are a branch of a national organisation which exists to advance the general education of people who are not in full time employment and membership is open to all.



We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 2 pm at Crowmarsh Village Hall.

Speakers cover many topics of interest and members are encouraged to ask questions at the end of the talk. We then serve tea and biscuits giving an opportunity to chat and catch up with news.

Once a month, during Spring and Summer, we organise a day coach outing to places of interest. In June and December matinee theatre visits are arranged, usually to the Mill at Sonning. Annually we ask an Agent to arrange a 5 day holiday in the UK. This year we are visiting Chester and North Wales in July.

Members are encouraged to join our monthly Group activities which include Book Reading, Current Affairs, Scrabble & Poetry Reading. Meetings are generally held in members' houses. We also organise, at regular intervals, Sunday lunches at local pubs.

We pay an annual subscription which is currently £18. A monthly Newsletter is e-mailed to members and information is also available on our website u3asites.org.uk/wallingford

We would be very happy to welcome new members living in Wallingford and the surrounding villages. Why not come along, as a Visitor, to one of our monthly Wednesday meetings. Feel free to phone me on **01491 838478**

Lee Selman (Chairman)

Meadows Morning Market Bounces Back

Market kicks off 2023 with 25th March event after Winter break

'Meadows Morning Market', the business venture created by two keen market lovers, is re-emerging from its winter break on Saturday 25th March with the kick-off event once again being held at The Great Hall, Cholsey Meadows. Many of the regular stallholders are once again ready and eager to go!

In its relatively short life, the 'Market' as it is fondly known, has grown in popularity and regularly features 20-25 different stallholders marketing a wide range of products attracting upwards of 200 or so shoppers from far and wide, all over Oxfordshire and Berkshire, during its **9am-1.00pm Saturday morning opening hours.**



Janine Wolfe, one of the two co-founders and business partners enthused: *"All of us involved are really excited by the events we have planned for the coming year. We expect the business climate to ease as the months go by and more participants - customers and stallholders - to get involved. What is particularly exciting is the wide range of goods that are on offer - from foodstuffs to stationery, books to jewellery and ladies fashion to farm products - and if anything, we anticipate this list will grow even broader with each Market."*

A total of 6 markets are planned this year - 3 in the Spring with the Saturdays 25th March, 29th April, 27th May followed by 3 in the Autumn with the Saturdays 30th September, 28th October and 25th November (Christmas event).

Janine Wolfe continued: *"We really look forward to welcoming our many friends, stallholders and customers, back to our market on 25th March. We have a lovely, friendly community which we truly value - its what makes the Market so much fun for everyone!"*

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Spring is sprung! The nights are drawing out, the sun is shining, and the twinkle is returned to the surface of the Thames as it winds lazily through Wallingford’s historic heart. [Disclaimer: I’m writing this in February, looking out onto a frosted lawn, and am using only optimism to assist my meteorology.] But even if, by quirk of fate, you receive this Window on Wallingford in the rain, you can rest assured that spring is springing somewhere, and is bound to reach us soon.

As such, it is my very great pleasure to introduce you to a new wine in our repertoire, probably the most exciting new wine I’ve tasted this year. It isn’t ancient, or expensive, or designed for years of cellaring. It’s not a rosebush, growing stronger and more interesting year on year. This wine is a daffodil: it pokes its head out in sunny times, is enjoyed by absolutely everybody who experiences it, and doesn’t hang around to become boring. That isn’t to say this kind of wine is easy to produce – if it were, we wouldn’t be so excited. But this wine manages to be absolutely lovable – spilling over with juicy fruit, vibrant with a fresh acidity that bewitches the tastebuds and demands another sip.

It’s made predominantly of Verdejo, a fresh and juicy grape that is the hallmark of this region in north central Spain, whose warm dry summer days and cool evenings are perfect for packing fruit flavour into the grapes, while retaining that appealing tingle of fresh acidity. There’s a subtle hint of stony minerality in the background, but if you stop to assess it beyond ‘delicious’, you’re mostly going to be captivated by the sheer volume of fruit that bursts from the glass.

But that’s not to say it’s simple. The Sanz family have been producing wine on their gravelly vineyards just east of Portugal for over 150 years, and make arguably Rueda’s finest expression from ancient, pre-Phylloxera vines. So while this wine is made to be enjoyed young, it’s made by somebody who really knows what they’re doing – as though Beethoven had written a three minute pop song.

I know that my 2023 is a year of many celebrations, and I know that this bottle is going to feature at many of my favourite events. Wherever you find sunshine this spring, I hope you have a chance to sample this bottle, and love it as much as I do. Cheers!



Michael Jelley is the Director of Grape Minds Wallingford

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