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Welcome to your community magazine

Hi Everyone

Well we are still in strange times, although getting a little bit back to normal, whatever normal is these days. I haven't been brave enough to go out to eat yet however, I have had more than a few takeaways from our local establishments which have all been delicious. Needless to say, I'm now wearing my bigger size shorts. One of the draw backs to lockdown!!!

A lot of people have taken this time to de clutter their homes, decorate, sort the garden and generally have a good tidy. Some have decided to sell up and move to pastures new.

The property market is now on the move again, less stamp duty to pay has helped too. Talking to the local experts they say they are extremely busy at the moment.

We have put together a property section, to help you with all things to be done in and outside the home. From, staging your home for selling, getting the edge on everyone else, tiling, plumbing, bathrooms, cleaning, furniture making, gardening. We have loads of fabulous local businesses that can help you with every aspect of your property improvement. Please give them a call.

There are lots of our local businesses open now, not quite the same as before but still ready and willing to trade. Let's make sure we support them as much as possible. We live in such a lovely place; it would be a shame to lose them.

WoW has a new address; we have moved too. We are now at the **Old Counting House, 82e High Street, Wallingford OX10 0BS**. Please send all correspondence to our new place.

Hopefully, we will now be back to normal printing each month. Again, I would like to thank all our distributors, deliverers and volunteers who are making this possible. We would not have a magazine without them.

So, until next month.

Have fun but stay safe

Naomi x

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PLEASE SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

A big thank you goes out to all the local businesses that have
advertised and supported the Window on Wallingford Magazine

PureBoating



After a delayed start to the season PureBoating have finally kicked off providing electric boat hire out of Wallingford. Neither Covid nor a few weekends of rain have deterred the public and we have seen a big demand as people have been released from lockdown and look for ways to enjoy the river that we are blessed with here in Wallingford. So at PureBoating we have been looking at what else we can offer and other innovative ways to enjoy the river...

Having teamed up with The Beetle and Wedge in Moulsham we have now bought our first 'electric power assisted pedalo' (as far as we know the first in the country!) The electric bike of the water, fittingly called 'The Wedge', is thoroughly luxurious and we will be offering evening trips for two with a bottle of the The Beetle and Wedges' own champagne. As well as this we will be running Sapphire Rose out of the The Beetle and Wedge. A new boat to the PureBoating fleet she is a stunning launch with varnished decks, seating eight she will come with a skipper to make your cruise effortless. What a way to spend an evening with a cruise before a meal at the newly renovated The Beetle and Wedge! Currently undergoing a touch-up in the yard, she will be available for August.



As always, all boats can be booked online at www.PureBoating.co.uk/booking/
We look forward to seeing you all on the water!

Wildlife on a guided walk.

The difficulties of COVID 19 have been numerous, but local communities have risen to the challenges in so many ways, and in Wallingford we are no exception. In addition, we have also seen a positive by-product from this period of time; the growth of appreciation by many for our countryside and our wildlife.

I live in a local village, and I started a wildlife group called **Goring Gap Wildlife** on facebook completely un-related to the current events unfolding. I have been a keen bird enthusiast for many years and have shared my passion for birds and wildlife with friends and loved ones over this time. This developed into wildlife photography, I have been thankful for the many positive comments that I have received about my photos.

This showed an appetite to learn and appreciate our surroundings was clearly there. So I have started **Goring Gap Wildlife Walks** (www.goringgapwildlifewalks.co.uk); which offers a range of services and which I hope will be a great "activity to do" recommendation for people who have friends to visit, or for local businesses who want to have an experience with a difference to offer to their guests.

Group Walks

The main offering is my group walks being a choice of three routes as small group walks, which showcase our amazing countryside on the doorstep but allow you to really see, hear and learn about the wildlife within in – particularly birds. So much to be seen that you might not notice!

These can also be something for visitors you have, or something to offer to guests that stay with you if you are a local business.

At Home Tutorials

I also offer at home wildlife and birdlife tutorials – these have proven to be more popular than I expected, as a number of people are looking for 1 to 3 hours in the comfort of their own garden or grounds, and to be assisted with identifying what they are seeing and hearing. Some are early starts as there is a desire to have the dawn chorus bird song identified! These are a great way to expand your knowledge and appreciation.

Photo Tutorials

Finally, there is also the opportunity for photo tutorials. As a keen amateur photographer, I have learned a lot in recent years about camera set up and kit choice, mastering a shot re lighting and composition. Birds are particularly difficult to photograph given their ability to move at speed! And there is a talent to editing afterwards to get the best of your shot.



Please do visit the website (www.goringgapwildlifewalks.co.uk) or the facebook page (www.facebook.com/pg/GGWildlifeWalks) and contact me for any information, or to arrange a walk or session to suit you or your family!

Steven Gozdz

THE Beetle & Wedge

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COMING SOON

We are still under refurbishment, but the wait is nearly over. It will not be long before we announce our opening date and you can experience the New Look Beetle & Wedge Boathouse.

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These clients all need a little help with their interior design, to ensure their home is looking its absolute best when the photographer arrives. We do this using as much of the client's furniture as we can, but may suggest alternative items, areas to be tidied and repairs to be made. There is a cost, but it will be less than your first drop in price.

We also work with a number of builders and developers who have an empty property where it can be very difficult for buyers to imagine living there. We supply fabulous furniture and accessories on a hire basis, then we dress the empty rooms to give them a purpose, a sense of size and lots of appeal. After all, you want buyers to see how easily they could live in your property!

Stunning show homes are also something we create for our client's then, as sales complete we can move the show home from one plot to the next. Finally, we supply turnkey furnishing solutions for landlords, air b&b's and holiday homes.

Whatever your property, budget or timescale, we have a design solution. Give Fiona a call to have a chat and we'll get you moving!

Some examples of our work:



These were taken in a variety of properties throughout the country, some were new builds and others are more traditional, older properties.

Some were part furnished, therefore we've used a combination of both the Client's furniture and Fushia Design furniture. Other properties were empty and everything was brought in on a short term hire basis.

Before and after pictures on following page, with more on our website www.fushiadesign.com

You can see 2 different examples here:

- **The transformation from a cluttered room to one ready for the housing market**
- **An empty room dressed, to give a sense of purpose and style**

Everything we've shown so far uses actual furniture that you can touch and feel, but we also offer 'virtual' property staging. But what is it and how does it work?



Some examples of virtual staging.

Before and After Shots:



Using good quality photographs, our digital interior specialist will place virtual furniture throughout the property. Next, the rooms will be styled using virtual rugs, bedding, throws, cushions, wall art, etc, in fact everything we normally use when furnishing a property.

We work virtually on empty properties, houses full of furniture and those in need of a little work. We can paint the walls, change the floorcoverings or replace the furniture, to give you pictures of your property looking so much better.

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The Comrades Club

We are pleased to announce that the Club will be reopening from Saturday 4th July, although there will be a few changes.

Our new opening hours will be:

Wed – Sat 3 – 9pm

Sun 12 – 3pm.

All drinks must be consumed outside only.

We are open to Members only, no guests, so please ensure you have your membership card with you. As we have to record who has been on the premises, we will be checking membership cards and numbers so we can link up with the details we currently hold for you. If you have recently changed any of your contact details, please let us know.

The Car Park will be closed.

There will be a one way system in and out of the Club for people to order, pay and use the toilets as necessary.

There will be no snooker, TV, newspapers, food or gambling machines as members will not be encouraged to linger inside the Club.

Card payments are preferable but cash will still be accepted if necessary.

Most importantly, please DO NOT come to the Club if you, or anyone you live with, are showing any symptoms of Covid 19.

We are aware that these new ways of working will not be popular with everyone but for the safety of members and staff, we feel they are necessary at the moment. Regulations will be frequently reviewed and reassessed.

Best Wishes, The Board of Directors

The Window on Wallingford has moved.

Here is our new address – please send all correspondence to our new home from now on.

**Window on Wallingford Magazine
The Old Counting House**

**82E High Street, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 0BS
All other contact information remains the same.**

PLEASE SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

A big thank you goes out to all the local businesses that have advertised and supported the Window on Wallingford Magazine

Statement from the Corn Exchange Wallingford board about the reopening of the venue.

"Well, what a year it has been. Everyone at the Corn Exchange in Wallingford hopes that you are keeping safe and well and now that lockdown is easing, we want to update you on our plans.

You will have heard that the Government has authorised cinemas to open from 4th July 2020, but there is still no date for when theatres will be allowed to re-open for live performances. Because we provide both cinema and theatre, this means we will only show films when we first re-open.

We are totally committed to the health, safety and well-being of our fantastic volunteers and our loyal and supportive audience, and are working hard to ensure we make the Corn Exchange as safe as possible for all our visitors. We are taking professional Health & Safety advice on how best to modify our unique building, create Covid19-safe procedures and ensure everyone is fully trained. We will also be using this enforced shut-down period to complete our annual maintenance tasks.

Because we are all volunteers, this will take us some time, so we will not be re-opening until at least the beginning of September 2020. Re-opening will also depend on the status of the virus and government guidelines at the time. We will update you on any further developments as and when we have them. We will also be eagerly awaiting advice from the Government on when we can resume live performances and theatre.

We are incredibly grateful for your support and passion for the Corn Exchange, and we look forward to welcoming you back to our wonderful and sorely missed venue."

I, on behalf of the Board, will be in touch with our very important volunteers very shortly to ensure everyone understands what is involved in the process.

Julie Grimshaw

Music at St Peter's Wallingford

Sadly we've had to cancel the remaining concerts in our summer season, as there's no prospect of live music with viable audience numbers in St Peter's at the present time. On the positive side, we've dug deep to pay the artists we booked a cancellation fee as professional musicians are really struggling. And we've already re-engaged most of them to come and play next year. You'll find the latest news at **www.musicatstpeterswallingford.org.uk** or call me Roger Morgan on **01491 837494**. Roll on May 2021 for us!

Kind regards

Roger Morgan for Music at St Peter's

Do you have a flat to rent in Wallingford?

You could help vulnerable young people thrive and have guaranteed rent for five years.

Local charity, Connection Support, are seeking one-bedroom self-contained flats in Wallingford for young people (18-24 years) who cannot live safely in a shared environment. They need a safe, quiet space, where they can be looked after by specialist support workers while they make a fresh start in life.

These young people wish to live independently and get on with their lives but need help to do that. Connection Support have the expertise in providing tailored support to each client. They will help them develop their independent living skills and find employment, education or training.

For example, Dan is 19 years old and has recently left the care system. He is keen to return to education with a view to starting an apprenticeship as a plumber. What he needs is a quiet space where he can study, relax, feel safe and have a place to call home. Wallingford is ideal with good transport links for college and positive social activities in a strong community. He will meet with his Support Worker most weekdays for emotional support and practical guidance and will be able to call them in between visits when he needs to. Do you have a one-bedroom unfurnished flat for Dan?

Connection Support offer a five-year contract to landlords and guarantee the rent for that period. They also take care of any routine maintenance and repairs which means little hassle for a landlord. All young people would sign up to behavioural ground rules before moving in and the charity's support workers engage positively with neighbours and take any form of antisocial behaviour extremely seriously.

If you're a landlord seeking guaranteed income and an opportunity to help young people thrive please contact Fiona at Connection Support on ypsa@connectionsupport.org.uk

The charity can start to rent immediately and are keen to build relationships with private landlords, so please get in touch. For more information about Connection Support please visit connectionsupport.org.uk

LANDLORDS

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Citizens Advice can help you through financial difficulties

If you are facing financial problems in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, Citizens Advice can help find a way forward.

Citizens Advice research has revealed that currently over 13 million people are unable to pay, or expect to be unable to pay, at least one of their household bills. These bills are higher than usual in any case because the population is spending more time at home during the lockdown. For 11 million of these people, a missed bill could have drastic consequences: eviction, the bailiffs, or disconnection.

It is vital that you do not give way to despair, feel isolated with your problems and consider that you have to solve them all by yourself. For instance, Citizens Advice can help maximise your income with a benefit check if your working hours have dropped or if you are made redundant. We can help you decide on the best way to manage your debts in your individual situation. **Get in touch with us by telephone on Adviceline (0300 330 9042). There is also a lot of useful information on our website <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk> where you can also chat online.**

British Modern Military History Society

Welcome back to the British Modern Military History Society.

Our last talk just before lockdown in March seems a lifetime ago, as we suspended our monthly talks in Woodcote due to COVID19. However, I am delighted to advise that BMMHS is now back up and running.... However with one major change. **For the rest of 2020, we will be holding virtual talks by Zoom twice a month until Christmas.**

Our meetings will not now take place in Woodcote as before until **our planned restart in January 2021** when we shall follow Government guidelines on safety and social distancing.

Details of our Zoom talks can be found on our website www.bmmhs.org and we have a full programme.

Contact us on zoom@bmmhs.org to register for these Zoom talks and the log-in details will be emailed to you on the morning of each talk. A donation of £5 is requested for each talk to help keep BMMHS going to cover things such as speaker costs and licence fees.

Keep safe, and we look forward to seeing you at our Zoom talks, and our monthly meetings when we return in January.

Andy Cockeram, Chairman, BMMHS

Wallingford Local Producers Market

WLPM re-started in the Centre 70 car park last month with food stalls only. The market is on every Saturday in August from 10am to 12 noon in the car park by the Kinecroft, just off Goldsmith's Lane.

During August the produce available will include local, pasture-fed beef and lamb from the Earth Trust meadows. Emma Blomfield is the shepherd-cum-cowgirl who runs Emma's Ewesful Acres, and she certainly hasn't been resting while everyone else was in lockdown. Cattle and sheep need looking after, so there was no 'working from home' for Emma. In fact her online deliveries increased during the last few months, but she's looking forward to see her Wallingford customers at all the markets in August.

Other stalls at WLPM include The Witches Kitchen from Woodcote. Klaire Silver has not stopped baking during the last few months, making weekly deliveries of gluten free and vegan products include cakes, flapjacks, brownies and cookies to her Wallingford customers. She will be at WLPM on 1st, 15th and 22nd August.

The two vegetable growers who take turns at WLPM are Mark Stevenson from The Clays at Warborough and Matthew Livingston from Ensou Farm at Little Haseley. Both farmers have a wide range of produce this summer, all home grown from their land and some from neighbouring organic farms.

The Cheese Matters stall will have delicious Sinodun Hill and Brightwell Ash goat cheeses from Norton & Yarrow, the award-winning cheese-makers based at North Farm, Shillingford. At the start of lockdown Fraser and Rachel were distraught because their restaurant clients disappeared overnight, they had chillers full of cheeses, and Anglo Nubian goats just about to kid. They feared for the future of their business, but like so many they pivoted to meet the local demand via WLPM and other local shops for their delicious goat cheeses. Thank you to all WLPM customers who continued to order cheese via our digital market. You've helped to keep local cheese-makers in business!

If all goes well, we hope to expand into the Centre 70 building with our craft stalls. Keep up to date with the WLPM on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wallingfordlocalproducersmarket/>

Wallingford Country Market

NOTE FROM CHRIS.

I NEED TEXT FOR THIS PIECE. THANKS. ONLY HAD COVER NOTE



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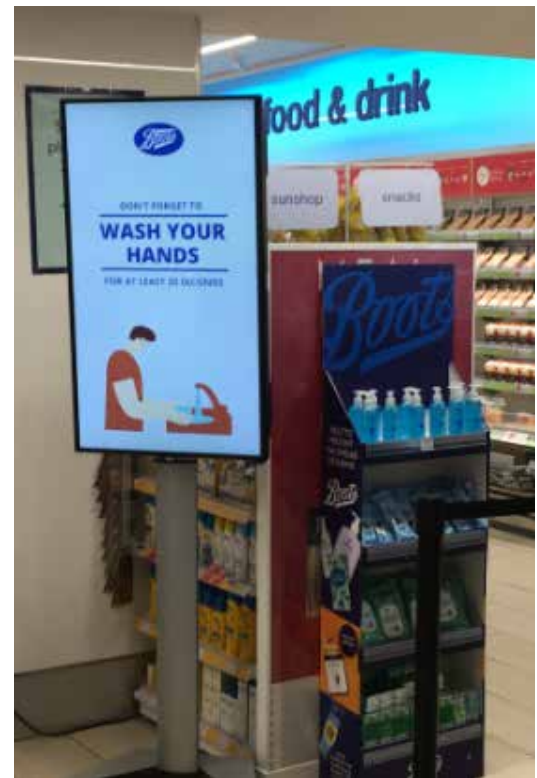
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Digital is the new normal

Embrace digital signage in your business for instant, effective communications. The Covid-19 pandemic has been such a strange time for most of us so far, adding layers of complexity to ordinary tasks, changing the way we go about our daily lives. Social distancing, sanitising, hand-washing all adding to the complication and time consumed.

It's no surprise that many of us have replaced actual physical daily activities with digital versions which allow us to keep safe in our homes. Use of on-line shopping and videoconferencing using apps such as Zoom and Houseparty has soared including amongst the technophobes who had previously dismissed it as too difficult and impersonal.

Having experienced the convenience of digital we are finding ways to make it work for us. As we come out of lockdown it won't take over completely from old habits but it will play a key role in improving the way we live. Digital is firmly part of the new normal.



On the high street, within business environments, hospitals, on campuses and in schools digital is being adopted as a quick and simple way to communicate important messages, increase brand awareness and keep in touch with customers and staff, simply known as digital signage. Our growing personal familiarity with digital inspires confidence that we can easily pick up the skills needed to be successful with this technology in the workplace. Indeed, the content management systems are increasingly intuitive as the workforce becomes more digitally savvy through use of apps on mobile phones and tablets.

For local business – commercial or retail – interested in accessing the benefits of digital signage contact SPC Group on 01491 651392 for advice and current deals, whether permanent or temporary installation.

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