

# WELCOME TO THE 12TH WANTAGE SUMMER FESTIVAL

This Summer Festival again offers entertainment for the whole family and is very successful as it offers a low cost platform for the abundant creative talent in Wantage, Grove and communities across the south of the Vale. As well as performances, there are workshops, demonstrations, exhibitions and historical walks. Also there is a large input from the young people in the community with Rock in the Park.

I am certain you will enjoy this month long Festival and I thank our sponsors, all the participants and those who work long and hard putting the programme together.

**Jim Moley - Festival Chairman**

## FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 8.00PM FOLK FOR MS/WHITE HORSE CEILIDHS FOLK FOR MS CEILIDH

As a warm up to Wantage Festival the first Folk for MS Ceilidh features nationally renowned English Ceilidh Band 'Random' with caller Will Hall. Their gutsy, melodic, folk-rock interpretation of tunes with traditional roots, creates scintillating but subtle ceilidh music that will make you want to dance - a 'not to be missed' event! **OLD MILL HALL, Grove £7.50 Adults, £5 under 16 years**

## SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 11.00AM FESTIVAL OPENING

Wantage Silver Band & Morris Men in front of the BEAR HOTEL, Wantage **FREE**

## SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 8.00PM-12.00AM FOLK FOR MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS FOLK FOR M.S. CHARITY CONCERT

Magnificent folk music concert featuring UNLEDGED, SPIRE and others to be announced (check website for details). An evening of top quality entertainment with some of the country's top folk performers. 18th Annual Folk for M.S. charity concert - over £30,000 raised to date. Licensed bar, Raffle, Hot & Cold Food available. (www.FolkforMS.org) **OLD MILL HALL, Grove £10 Adults, £5 under 16 years**

## SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 3.00-5.00PM WORKSHOP / 7.45PM CONCERT CHRISTMINSTER SINGERS THE WEST GALLERY STORY

The Christminster singers are Oxfordshire's 'West Gallery' choir, performing the style of village church music popular in Thomas Hardy's Wessex. It is robust and rhythmic singing with harmonies and counterpoint, and relates more to folk music than later composed church music for chancel choir and organ. Our programmes are tailored to suit the audience and occasion, including local, seasonal and historical items, musical interludes and accompanied pieces. The Workshop will give participants the opportunity to try singing in harmony, music will be provided, no previous experience necessary. **WANTAGE PARISH CHURCH £8 Concert (£6 Con), £6 Workshop (£5 Con), £12 both (£9.50 Con)**

**TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 10.00AM-12.00PM  
THE STAMP ATTIC  
MAKING CARDS WITH RUBBER STAMPS**  
Come and learn how much fun cardmaking with rubber stamps can be. Make approx. 4 cards to take home with you and meet other crafty people for a fun morning.  
**THE STAMP ATTIC, 9 Arbery Arcade, Wantage Market Place £10 (Book direct with shop or 01235 760821)**



## TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 10.30AM-12.00PM RIDGEWAY HANDBELL RINGERS DEMONSTRATION OF HANDBELL RINGING

The Ridgeway Handbell Ringers is a group of ladies who enjoy making music. They play on handbells especially made for them by Whitechapel Bells in London. They obtained a grant from "Awards for All" in 2002 which celebrated the Queen's Golden Jubilee. **VALE & DOWNLAND MUSEUM, Wantage FREE**

## TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 7.30PM WILTS AND BERKS CANAL TRUST GUIDED CANAL WALK - WEST CHALLOW TO GROVE

Join us for a guided walk from West Challow to Grove, along the historic Wilts & Berks Canal. Learn on the way a little of the history of the canal and current plans for its restoration. Please wear suitable shoes for walking. **MEET AT WEST CHALLOW VILLAGE HALL FREE**

## WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 7.00PM THE DOLPHIN GALLERY PICTURE FRAMING AND MOUNT CUTTING WORKSHOP

Bring along a picture or photograph and learn how to mount and frame. Get ideas - perhaps enhance your old pictures/photographs. To book - telephone Patrick O'Leary on 01235 763030 **THE DOLPHIN GALLERY, Wantage Market Place Price: Cost of Materials**

## FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 9.00PM FOLK IN THE ABINGDON ARMS

Come along to this traditional music 'jamming' session to join in or just listen. Everyone welcome, singing or playing, anything goes, even if it's not traditional! **THE ABINGDON ARMS PUBLIC HOUSE, Wantage FREE**

## SATURDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 10.15-10.45AM FOR PRE-WALKERS AND 11.15-11.45AM FOR PRE-SCHOOL FAMILY SESSION (BABIES UP) NCT WANTAGE

NCT Singalong for pre-walkers and pre-school families. Your local NCT is running Saturday Singalong for children and parents/carers. Come along, have fun singing and make lots of noise! **WANTAGE CIVIC HALL £2 per family per session, on the door**

## SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2.30-5.00PM LETCOMBE BROOK (WANTAGE) CHARITABLE TRUST PROMENADE IN THE BETJEMAN PARK

Partake in events including a storyteller to capture your imagination. There will be opportunities for children to draw and learn about the history of the area. From 2.30 there will be people on hand from the local community who will be relating information about the flowers and trees you see around you. Cream teas will be on sale nearby. **BETJEMAN MILLENNIUM PARK behind the Lamb Public House, Mill Street FREE**

## SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 12.00-6.00PM LAINS BARN JAZZ JAZZ ON A MIDSUMMER DAY

The 16th Jazz on a Midsummer Day will feature the 'Pete Allen Jazz Band', the 'Chris Walker Quintet with Dave Shepherd' and the 'Big Bear Stompers'. Bring a picnic and enjoy the atmosphere and surroundings of Lains Barn with three of the UK's top bands. **LAINS BARN £14 (advance from the Museum or phone 01993 811678), £16 on the door. Children of School age free**

## TUESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 10.00AM-12.00PM THE STAMP ATTIC MAKING CARDS WITH RUBBER STAMPS

Come and learn how much fun cardmaking with rubber stamps can be. Make approx. 4 cards to take home with you and meet other crafty people for a fun morning. **THE STAMP ATTIC, 9 Arbery Arcade, Wantage Market Place £10 (Book direct with shop or 01235 760821)**

## TUESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 7.30PM WANTAGE CAMERA CLUB AUDIO VISUAL SPECTACULAR

A firm favourite in the Festival calendar. The Audio Visual group of the Wantage Camera Club presents a highly entertaining programme of images set to voice and music. The subject matter is often of local interest but some guest productions may be included. All the AV's will be presented digitally and will include some award winning sequences. **METHODIST CHURCH HALL, Newbury Street, Wantage £2.50 (no Concessions)**

## WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2.30PM THE VALE & DOWNLAND MUSEUM TRUST FACES OF OXFORDSHIRE - FAMILY FACES PROJECT

Find out more about the Oxfordshire Family History Society and its exciting 2007 family history project for the Oxford Millennium Celebrations. Speaker: Tony Hadland. **THE VALE & DOWNLAND MUSEUM, Wantage FREE (space limited so please book in advance from the Museum Reception Desk)**

## WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 7.00PM THE DOLPHIN GALLERY PICTURE FRAMING AND MOUNT CUTTING WORKSHOP

Bring along a picture or photograph and learn how to mount and frame. Get ideas - perhaps enhance your old pictures/photographs. To book - telephone Patrick O'Leary on 01235 763030 **THE DOLPHIN GALLERY, Wantage Market Place Price: Cost of Materials**



Wantage Silver Band

# 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE-8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2007 ART \* MUSIC \* CRAFTS \* WALKS \* FAMILY FUN



- \* Wantage Town Square
- 1 Vale & Downland Museum
- 2 Dolphin Gallery
- 3 Wantage Civic Hall
- 4 Wantage Parish Church
- 5 Wantage Library
- 6 Betjeman Park
- 7 St John Vianny Church
- 8 Abingdon Arms
- 9 Methodist Church Hall
- 10 Wantage Recreation Ground
- 11 Millbrook School Hall
- 12 Charlton Centre
- 13 Lains Barn
- 14 Old Mill Hall, Grove
- 15 Grove Village Hall
- 16 King Alfred's Centre Site
- 17 Masonic Hall
- 18 The Stamp Attic
- 19 West Challow Village Hall
- 20 Letcombe Regis Village Hall

**TICKET SALES 01235 760176  
VALE & DOWNLAND MUSEUM**  
Monday to Saturday 10.00am - 4.30pm

Photographs by Peter Kent & Greta Thornbory.

**WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 8PM THE BEAR HOTEL, 9PM THE ABINGDON ARMS, WANTAGE**  
**ICKNIELD WAY MORRIS MEN**

Icknield Way Morris Men will dance outside the Bear, Wantage at 8pm then move on to the Abingdon Arms at 9pm for more dancing, music, singing and drinking. Come along and join in with the fun. For more details see [www.icknieldwaymorrismen.org.uk](http://www.icknieldwaymorrismen.org.uk) **FREE**

**THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 10.30AM-3.30PM**  
WANTAGE FLOWER CLUB  
**DEMONSTRATIONS OF FLORAL ART**  
VALE & DOWNLAND MUSEUM, Wantage **FREE**

**THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 7.45-10.00PM**  
WANTAGE FOLK DANCE CLUB  
**STRICTLY COME COUNTRY DANCING - AN INTRODUCTION TO COUNTRY DANCE**

Our traditional dance is probably the most varied in the world. Come along to this introductory session led by specialist caller, Ivan Aitkin with live music and including light refreshments. If you can put one foot in front of another you can become a dancer in an enjoyable friendly atmosphere. CHARLTON CENTRE, Harcourt Road, Wantage **£1.50 (no Concessions) Pay at Door**

**THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> TO SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 7.30PM**  
STAGELIGHTS THEATRE GROUP  
**A TOMB WITH A VIEW - NORMAN ROBBINS**

'A tomb with a view' is a comedy thriller. In a sinister old library presided over by a portrait of a mad-eyed old man, a dusty lawyer reads a will to a sinister looking family. By the end of the play there are more corpses than live members left. OLD MILL HALL, Grove **£6.00 (£5 Concessions)**

**SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 7.30PM**  
THE WANTAGE ORCHESTRA  
**WANTAGE YOUNG SOLOISTS**

A concert featuring young soloists from Wantage and the surrounding area accompanied by the Wantage Orchestra. Wantage is a musically rich area and many young people play at a very high level and excel at festivals like the Wantage Music Festival. You will have the opportunity to hear some of these people tonight. PARISH CHURCH, Wantage **£7 (£5 Concessions)**

**TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 10.00AM-12.00PM**  
THE STAMP ATTIC  
**MAKING CARDS WITH RUBBER STAMPS**

Come and learn how much fun cardmaking with rubber stamps can be. Make approx. 4 cards to take home with you and meet other crafty people for a fun morning. THE STAMP ATTIC, 9 Arbery Arcade, Wantage Market Place **£10 (Book direct with shop or 01235 760821)**



**TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 7.30PM**  
WILTS AND BERKS CANAL TRUST  
**GUIDED CIRCULAR WALK - WANTAGE, GROVE & EAST CHALLOW**

Join us for a guided circular walk around Wantage, Challow and Grove taking in the historic route of the Wantage arm and main line of the historic Wilts and Berks Canal. Learn some of the history of the canal and the current plans for its restoration. Please wear suitable shoes for walking. MEET AT WEST CHALLOW VILLAGE HALL **FREE**

**WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2.30PM**  
THE VALE & DOWNLAND MUSEUM TRUST  
**WANTAGE IN PICTURES**

Well known local historian, Irene Hancock, gives an illustrated talk on Wantage in bygone days. THE VALE & DOWNLAND MUSEUM, Wantage **FREE (space limited so please book in advance from the Museum Reception Desk)**

**WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 7.30PM**  
PANDEMONIUM, DOMINO PLAYERS, VALE ISLANDERS, ICKNIELD MORRIS  
**CELEBRATING 1000 YEARS OF OXFORDSHIRE - WITH TRADITIONAL MUSIC, DANCE AND READINGS**

Join in the fun, celebrating Oxfordshire's millennium, with traditional music, dance and readings from the County: Pandemonium singing Oxfordshire ballads and rounds, traditional dance with Icknield Morris and the Vale Islanders, and the Domino Players sharing a selection of readings from the wealth of Oxfordshire literature. Audience participation encouraged! LAINS BARN **£5 (Concessions £4)**

**FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 7.30PM**  
WANTAGE MALE VOICE CHOIR & BLUE TONES (MILLBROOK SCHOOL CHOIR)  
**BLUE TONES & FOUR PART**

A concert featuring the combined talents of two well known local choirs, with voices which span two generations. MILLBROOK SCHOOL, Grove **£4 (£3 Senior Citizens & Students) under 12 years Free**

**SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 10.30AM-12.30PM**  
PANDEMONIUM  
**PANDEMONIUM AT THE MUSEUM**

Foot-tapping tunes, soulful ballads, chorus songs and lots of audience participation, with Wantage's own folk band Pandemonium. Come along and join in the fun over a cup of coffee. Traditional music played on melodeon, concertina, guitar, mandolin, fiddle, flute and recorder. Fabulous vocals too! Not to be missed! VALE & DOWNLAND MUSEUM, Wantage **FREE**

**SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 12.30-2.00PM**  
ST DENYS' HANDBELL RINGERS  
**A WORKSHOP WITH ST DENYS' HANDBELL RINGERS**

The St Denys' Handbell Ringers will demonstrate tune ringing using different methods such as 'in-hand' and 'off-the-table'. Members of the audience will be invited to participate. It is not necessary to be able to read music as the team plays from a numerical system. MASONIC HALL, Wantage **FREE**

**SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2.30PM 'COME AND SING', 7.30PM CONCERT**  
WANTAGE CHORAL SOCIETY  
**COME AND SING HANDEL**

Come and spend an enjoyable afternoon rehearsing with Wantage Choral Society, then bring your friends to the evening concert of Handel Coronation Anthems. Singers should pre-book a Come and Sing ticket, music hire cost included, by 16th June. For further information and an application form please telephone 01235 763075 or see [www.wantagechoralsociety.co.uk](http://www.wantagechoralsociety.co.uk) PARISH CHURCH, Wantage **£10 Singers, £10 Audience (£8 Concessions)**

**TUESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY 10.00AM-12.00PM**  
THE STAMP ATTIC  
**MAKING CARDS WITH RUBBER STAMPS**

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**THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JULY 7.45-10.00PM**  
WANTAGE FOLK DANCE CLUB  
**THE DANCES OF JANE AUSTEN'S 'PRIDE AND PREJUDICE'**

An opportunity to try the dances of Jane Austen's time in a friendly atmosphere with live music and including light refreshments. A workshop of dances researched from the time in period atmosphere. No previous experience needed. Period dress optional. CHARLTON CENTRE, Harcourt Road, Wantage **£1.50 no Concessions. Pay at Door**

**FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JULY 7.30PM**  
THE LETCOMBE SINGERS  
**CONCERT VERSION OF GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S 'THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE' WITH SUPPER**

The Pirates of Penzance, Gilbert's story of a young man accidentally apprenticed to the trade of piracy, has everything: Rollicking Pirates, Plodding Policemen, a Modern Major General, a coloratura soprano, elaborate muddles over leap years and an improbably happy ending, washed down with wonderful, lively music. METHODIST CHURCH HALL, Newbury Street, Wantage **£8 (£6 Concessions) including supper**

**SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 12.00-3.00PM**  
THE MAD HATTERS  
**MUSIC IN THE MUSEUM**

The Mad Hatters are a four piece barn dance, ceilidh and concert band with a musical line up that includes cello, guitar and two multi-musicians playing fiddle, melodeon, accordion, concertinas, mandola and mandolin. We will entertain you with traditional music mainly from English origin but also Irish, Scottish, European and American. VALE & DOWNLAND MUSEUM, Wantage **FREE**

**SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 1.00PM-11.00PM**  
THE SWEATBOX  
**SWEATBOX ROCK IN THE PARK**

Wantage Sweatbox present the very best of live local jazz, blues, folk and rock music in the Park. MANOR ROAD RECREATION GROUND, Wantage **FREE**

**SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 7.30PM**  
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# EXHIBITIONS

**SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE TO SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE (LIBRARY OPENING TIMES)**

WANTAGE CAMERA CLUB  
**AN EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINTS**

Wantage Camera Club will exhibit a variety of colour and black & white prints produced by members in recent years. Apart from prints obtained by traditional means the club has many members whose work will illustrate the high quality of print that can be obtained at home using digital camera and ink jet printers. WANTAGE LIBRARY **FREE**

**SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE TO SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

WANTAGE FLOWER CLUB  
**FLORAL EXHIBITS BOTH TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY**

Exhibits of Floral Art both traditional and contemporary will be displayed in the foyer at the Wantage Civic Hall throughout the festival. WANTAGE CIVIC HALL **FREE**

**TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL**

THE VALE & DOWNLAND MUSEUM TRUST

**FACES OF WANTAGE**

Paintings by local artists together with contemporary and historic photographs of local people will be exhibited alongside 200 wooden character spoons created by the Oxfordshire Spoon Race Project. An imaginative celebration of the Vale of the White Horse's inhabitants, this exhibition is the Museum's contribution to the Oxfordshire 2007 Festival. THE VALE & DOWNLAND MUSEUM, Wantage **FREE**

**MONDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JUNE TO SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY (LIBRARY OPENING TIMES)**

WANTAGE ART GROUP  
**SO WHAT DOES WANTAGE ART GROUP DO?**

A self portrait of Wantage Art Group showing what we do. There will be examples of our work and details of our activities. WANTAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY **FREE**

**SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 10.00AM-4.00PM**

WANTAGE SILVER BAND  
**BRASS MUSIC WORKSHOP**

The Wantage Silver Band presents a Brass Music Workshop led by Philip Harper, the internationally renowned conductor and composer, and intended for players of varied levels of experience. All players of Brass Band instruments (including percussion) are invited. Details from Eileen Sykes 01235 767541 (email [aesykes18@btinternet.com](mailto:aesykes18@btinternet.com)) or from the Museum. KING ALFREDS' SCHOOL CENTRE SITE, Wantage **£2**

**SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 1.00PM-7.00PM**

THE SWEATBOX  
**SWEATBOX ROCK IN THE PARK**

Wantage Sweatbox present the very best of live local jazz, blues, folk and rock music in the Park. MANOR ROAD RECREATION GROUND, Wantage **FREE**

**SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 6.00PM**  
**FESTIVAL EVENSONG**

A traditional Choral Evensong in the beautiful setting of Wantage Parish Church, celebrating the end of the Festival. PARISH CHURCH, Wantage **FREE**