

Market Report 18 March 2024

Spring Market - our first Spring into Spring Event: We have booked in 34 stallholders with a range of charities, local community groups and services (the Library has a stall this time, for example) as well as food, drink, arts, crafts and an author with her books. The George is part of the event for the second time. Additionally, there has been much better support from the local businesses, with R & S and Cafe 46 in particular going out of their way to advertise the event with our posters and word of mouth from their staff to their customers.

We are hoping to launch TWO monthly markets in the months April - November, one on 1st Saturday and the other on 3rd Saturday. Interest in the Makers' Market is fairly steady with the Food & Drink market a bit slower to start with (though there has been some feedback from businesses wanting to visit an event prior to thinking about joining though their calendars for this season are allocated). We're taking advantage of the opportunity on Saturday to advertise the events more widely to just the kind of audience who are interested, as well as via the usual routes: Website, Round Robin, local 'events' magazines (where ads are free), noticeboards and library.

We now have a small group of folks willing to help out setting up the markets, so grateful mentions to:

- Ian Webster
- Alison Montgomery
- Michael McDaid
- Simon Harrington

Plus super helpful councillors at set up times.

The Wednesday market is becoming less viable with traders becoming unreliable and footfall diminishing. We will be considering its future over the next couple of months.