



Week-long festival as a lead-up to town regatta

AN EDINBURGH-style festival is coming to town this summer, with organisers excited at their week-long project to "Love Marlow".

A sprawling celebration of life in the town will be held in the week leading up to Marlow's big summer party, the Town Regatta weekend, on June 13 and 14.

Residents, businesses and groups in the town have already signed up to run events during the festival, which will be called Love Marlow and is the brainchild of Churches Together in Marlow.

Events booked so far include a mass picnic in Higginson Park, free taster events at Longridge, a Saddle Safari fun cycle ride, lectures, exhibitions and concerts.

And musicians are planning to set up at the main entrances to the town, including Marlow station, to welcome people to the extravaganza during the week.



Dave Jones is heading a team to launch a Love Marlow festival which will run up to the regatta in June.

Dave Jones, who is co-ordinating the project, says the team is throwing down the gauntlet to Marlovians to get involved and hold their own event promoting everything that makes Marlow great.

He said: "Churches Together used to organise 'Hope in the Park', and I was talking with other ministers in the town and suggested going bigger and better and

calling on the town to put on an Edinburgh-type festival.

"So we embraced it. We are providing a platform for the town and inviting everyone to do stuff that is good, creative and full of life and we want to celebrate life here.

"The regatta is great, and we want to add to that."

Love Marlow is set to run from June 8 to 14, and will culminate with the Town

Regatta, which begins on Saturday, June 13.

So far, sports events, live music, art displays, drama, craft workshops, children's activities and opportunities to help the elderly and vulnerable have all been organised.

Speaking at the Mayor's Civic Service on Sunday, Rev Dave Bull of All Saints Church echoed Mr Jones' excitement for the week-long party.

He said: "We are getting together all sorts of groups to strengthen relationships in our community, shops business, churches, residents and community groups all joining together all that community spirit.

"We saw it during the floods, during the Olympics and the Jubilee, and we're trying to make that something we don't just see on those special occasions but week in week out throughout the year."

To get involved, visit www.lovemarlow.co.uk

Council leader steps in to replace bench

A BENCH torched by vandals a year ago has finally been replaced after a councillor stepped in to pay for a new one.

Residents had complained

and a useful stop-off for elderly and infirm people on their way into the town.

"We're delighted to be able to reinstate it with the help of the Ward Budget Fund at the Ward Budget Council, Wexham District Council, on behalf of





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Friendship : fun : belonging : a helping hand

Authentic Christianity, faithful to the spirit of the Gospel, is not achievable if people in Christian communities have a weary and half asleep faith, without any thrill of excitement, a faith shut up within the walls of their hearts or church buildings. This is the danger that might materialize if the church grows old and accustomed to caring only about itself rather than flinging open it's doors and facing the challenges of the world. It doesn't matter if the church fails on the way... heavy handedness, intransigence, hypocrisy, and other short comings need to be abolished as they undermine our credibility. (Cardinal Vincent Nichols)

