



PRESS RELEASE FROM GLOUCESTERSHIRE MARKET TOWNS FORUM www.glosmtf.org.uk

A membership organisation representing Chipping Campden, Churchdown, Cinderford, Cirencester, Coleford, Fairford, Lechlade, Nailsworth, Newent, Northleach, Stonehouse, Stow-on-the-Wold, Tetbury, Tewkesbury, Winchcombe, Wotton-under-Edge

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Street Fair receives £1,000 cash boost from Market Towns Forum

A new Street Fair is set to bring crowds flocking to Winchcombe this Summer, helping to promote the town and its local businesses, thanks to a £1,000 grant from Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum.

The major event planned for Bank Holiday Monday, May 30, will involve closing off part of the town centre to traffic to make way for stalls and street entertainers.

The Street Fair is being organised by Winchcombe Business Forum to round off the town's first six-day Festival of Music and Arts. If successful it could become an annual event. GMTF's grant has allowed the Business Forum to employ a professional organiser to promote and deliver the Fair.

Roger Paine, chair of Winchcombe Business Forum, said the idea for the event came from a series of focus groups, which identified the need for a major community event to promote the town. "The Street Fair will be a major boost for the town but we couldn't have done it without the £1,000 grant," he said. "It's absolutely key to it."

On the day North Street and the market square in Abbey Terrace will be closed to traffic to make way for stalls.

"The nice thing is that these two areas of stalls are linked together by part of the main shopping area, so visitors will be passing back and forth by our shops and restaurants," he said.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for retailers to benefit from extra visitors on Bank Holiday Monday and we're expecting the streets of Winchcombe, the pubs, shops and restaurants all to be buzzing with activity."

Last year the town's 'Walkers are Welcome' festival, which in 2011 is part of the same week-long celebration, also received £1,000 from Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum's Development Fund, which market town members of the Forum can apply for. GMTF www.glosmtf.org.uk is a membership organisation of the county's rural towns and large parishes, offering its members networking, support and funding through its Development Fund and Technical Assistance schemes, to help regenerate their rural communities.

Ends

Notes:

The Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum www.glosmtf.org.uk is a membership organisation of the county's rural towns and large parishes, offering its members networking, support and funding through its Development Fund and Technical Assistance schemes, to help regenerate their rural communities. Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum chair, Pearl Stokes on 01452 712058 or pearl.stokes@ukgateway.net

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