



# NEWSLETTER

March 2025

Saffron Walden Initiative is registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee which means it is a Company with no shares and can be regarded as non-profit making. The Board is elected by the Members. There are currently 169 registered Members.

In the previous 12 months the Initiative arranged a number of **events for members** including visits to Uttlesford Food Bank, Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences in Cambridge, Saffron Walden Golf Club, Great Thurlow Hall Open Gardens, Curwen Fine Art Printmaking Studios and Gallery and the Saffron Walden Almshouses.

Events for the wider community which took place in the last 12 months were:

On August Bank Holiday Saturday 2024 the Initiative ran a successful 21<sup>st</sup> free **Dance in the Square** organised by Jacqui Portway supported by Tim Atkinson from Fairycroft House, Andrew Green and a record number of Initiative member volunteers. The event featured the Essex band The Rolling Clones supported by singer Marc Salmon and was only made possible thanks to the practical support of Terry Frostick from the Town Council, the Market Traders and a grant from the Town Council.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Winstanley Christmas **Shop & Business Windows** competition held in November 2024 was supported by the Town Council and won by St Elizabeth's of King Street. The event was sponsored by Saffron Hall and helped promote the town and what's on offer here.

The 21<sup>st</sup> Winstanley **Christmas Late Night Shopping** was held on 6th December 2024 and opened by the Mayor Derek Eyke. Over 35 traders and charities were spread around the Market Square and King Street and there was a live stage throughout. The weather held and lots of families enjoyed Father Christmas, who gave out 250 presents freely. Volunteers from the Initiative and Saffron Walden Arts Trust were assisted tirelessly by Mark, Carl & Dave from the Town Council, Three D events and Tim Atkinson from Fairycroft House. The Town Council was also one of the sponsors.

The Initiative's **main objective** going forward is to address the needs of the town and promote it and is grateful for the support of the Town and District Councils.