

# WGRA BULLETIN

## WESTGATE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

November 2020

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### Westgate Residents Association

Chichester

*working for:*  
Westgate,  
Henty Gardens,  
Mount Lane,  
St Bartholomew's Close,  
Tannery Close

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## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

As we know, Remembrance Sunday this year is going to be very different due to Covid 19 restrictions. The City Council is not organising a large parade as in previous years but is providing a framework for remembrance on this solemn occasion.

We ask that people strongly consider remembering from home this year and after the Two Minute Silence to show their appreciation for all those who served their country and especially who made the supreme sacrifice. If you intend to come to the War Memorial at Litten Gardens to pay your respects or to lay a wreath on Remembrance Sunday, please consider doing this throughout the day and not just at 11 am. The Mayor and a representative of the Lord Lieutenant will be laying a wreath after the Two Minute Silence at 11 am and a short and simple act of remembrance will take place. Any music played will be pre-recorded and there cannot be any singing.

Later in the day, the City Council will be publishing a video containing a pre-recording of the **full** service of remembrance, including recollections by veterans and appropriate music. Please do check out the City Council's website for this [www.chichestercity.gov.uk](http://www.chichestercity.gov.uk).

Please note that some live filming will take place on the day. We ask that you respect social distancing and allow the commemoration and the filming to proceed without interruption

Thank you for your co-operation at this challenging time, it is very much appreciated.

## WESTGATE HELPERS

**07731 198693 – [westgatehelp2020@gmail.com](mailto:westgatehelp2020@gmail.com)**

The Westgate Helpers are up and running again – in fact, we never really stopped.

As we move into a second national lockdown, it may be that you will need help with shopping or picking up prescriptions or walking the dog. Your neighbours are here and happy to lend a helping hand. Please contact us on the telephone number above or by email.

We intend to produce a newsletter in a few weeks with any information you may need, as well as with items to brighten your day and we are looking at ideas for how we can keep the street cheerful. Not all the ideas will appeal to every household, but we hope there will be something for everyone in the run up to Christmas.

If you have any ideas for the newsletter, or for our Westgate community, please don't hesitate to send them in to the email above.

**Best wishes and stay safe — from Kathryn, Louise, Bridget and Julia.  
Email [westgatehelp2020@gmail.com](mailto:westgatehelp2020@gmail.com)**



### We need YOU for the December Challenge



This is an ECHO project (Enabling Communities with Help and Opportunities)

At Christmas time families in need and the homeless need our help probably more than at any other time in the year.

The Rotary Club of Chichester Harbour distributes Christmas sacks to over three hundred families each December, but we can do it only with your help.

If you are able to donate any of the items below, it would help to make the festive season a little less painful. We need:

**Gifts for boys and girls aged between 6yrs and 12yrs**  
**New socks, pants and knickers for children and adults**  
**Personal hygiene products for men and women**  
**Sweets, chocolates and tins of biscuits**  
**Wrapping paper and sellotape**  
**Men's warm hats and gloves and women's gloves**  
**Cash donations for vouchers for Christmas lunch**

Please telephone Ruth Bradley to arrange collection of gifts on 07766 040905  
The Rotary Club of Chichester Harbour



## Walk-in Covid testing site in Chichester

The new NHS Test and Trace walk-in test site is now operating in Northgate car park, Chichester. Please be aware that this is available on an appointment- only basis. The majority of the car park is open to commuters, residents and visitors as usual. Testing is available to anyone with coronavirus symptoms and you can book a test by visiting [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or by calling 119.

### Self-isolation payments from CDC

If you are on a low income and have been instructed to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace since 28 September, you may be eligible for a self-isolation payment of £500. To help stop the spread of coronavirus, people across England are now required by law to self-isolate if they test positive for the virus, or if they are instructed to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace. The self-isolation support payments are there to help people on low incomes and to encourage people to self-isolate if instructed. We are processing applications and issuing these payments on behalf of the Government. To find out if you are eligible please see <https://www.chichester.gov.uk/testandtracepayments>

### Claim tax back for working from home because of Covid

If you have been asked to work from home because of coronavirus then you can claim tax back on this. You cannot claim if you choose to work from home. You'll get tax relief based on the rate at which you pay tax. Find out more at <https://www.gov.uk/tax-relief-for-employees/working-at-home>

### Help towards the cost of heating your home

If you are on a low income, then the Government's Warm Home Discount could save you £140 off your electric bill. Check with your electricity provider to see if you are eligible. You can find out more at <https://chichester.westsussexwellbeing.org.uk/topics/healthy-home/wellbeing-home> or call our Wellbeing team for free friendly energy advice to help you stay warm and well this Winter on 01243 521057.

### West Sussex Affordable Energy schemes

The West Sussex Affordable Warmth Partnership, a collaboration of the district and borough councils in West Sussex, have produced a handy newsletter highlighting some of the schemes available to help residents save money on their energy bills this winter. You view this at [https://mcusercontent.com/6f7b5333def1cb1586f053351/files/607b6b35-167a-4030-865a-ce13379fed84/WS\\_Affordable\\_Warmth\\_Newsletter\\_Sept\\_2020.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/6f7b5333def1cb1586f053351/files/607b6b35-167a-4030-865a-ce13379fed84/WS_Affordable_Warmth_Newsletter_Sept_2020.pdf)

# **Community Speed Indicator Device (SID) - we need your support now!**

## **Background**

Some residents will recall WGRA's ongoing attempts to tackle speeding - our Westgate Action Week in 2019, our Community Speedwatch using a hand-held speed gun, and our previous work to try and get our own Speed Indicator Device (SID) on Westgate's lampposts.

Regarding our SID ambitions - West Sussex County Council Highways (WSCC) was not supportive - in part as there has been no fatality on our road(!) and their view that the impact of SIDs is diminished if there are too many in an area. However, WSCC agreed to a SID in Fishbourne village (which you may have seen) and has now agreed to work with the City Council and local communities on agreeing to two roving devices in the City. WGRA cannot go it alone, so our best chance of getting a SID on Westgate is the following.....please act now if you can.

## **Proposal**

Our committee is supporting an initiative led by Parklands Residents' Association: to work with the City Council to purchase two SIDs for Chichester City, that different neighbourhoods, and streets, can use and rotate as required. We do not have to raise all of the cost (up to £5000) nor have all the hassle of coordinating volunteers to move it around, change batteries etc. Westgate could expect to have a SID about every 6 months for a fortnight.

## **Good news so far....**

The City Council and their Finance Committee agreed last week to fund one SID in full. The other SID needs to be funded by the community. Further support is available from the WSCC Local Committee which meets in November. It has funding for community-backed applications which need to include evidence of public support.

## **How do Westgate residents pledge to support?**

A Spacehive online crowd-funding page has therefore been launched and is collecting pledges from the public. Using Spacehive is a secure way to pitch your support for the SID to WSCC. All you need to do is register on the Spacehive site and make a small pledge (between £2 and £10) which will demonstrate your support for the project. Lots of small pledges are more powerful than a few big ones. For the price of a coffee, you can lend your support to get these SIDs up and running around central Chichester!

If you think this is a good idea, please act now – the initial deadline is Friday 6 November. The Spacehive page will remain open until 2nd December when the project will either be funded or not but our early response is key.

Register at <https://www.spacehive.com/community-safety-drive---chichester> and make your pledge by creating a one-off direct debit with Go Cardless (it takes 2 minutes, no one sees your bank details, it is secure etc) Donations will only be taken from your account when a fundraiser either meets its target or not. ie December

Please pledge – the community must show its support and lots of small backers will count for more than a few bigger donations and hopefully WSCC will make up the difference.

## Community Speedwatch - Message from David Thornley


As mentioned above we have previously had a Community Speedwatch group setup in conjunction with the Police to identify speeding drivers. There's nothing like a few yellow jackets with a radar speed monitor to deter excessive speed!

The way it works is that we identify speeding drivers who are then sent a warning letter by the Police, if they persist the Police take further action. It's been very successful in Sussex and is now being rolled out nationwide. I should add that this complements the Speed Indicating Devices (see above) that advise drivers of their speed.

I'm rebuilding the team of operators after their activities lapsed over the past year and would appreciate some help. I need more volunteers willing to spend an hour or two once a month operating the device in pairs. A regular presence is needed to have a lasting effect. It's not onerous, you do have to learn how the scheme works but there's a good on-line learning facility. It only takes a couple of hours to pass the test and be qualified as an operator.

For more information go to the website at [www.communityspeedwatch.org](http://www.communityspeedwatch.org). or contact me by email, [david@thethornleys.net](mailto:david@thethornleys.net)

There's been a great deal of interest in reducing excessive speed in Westgate, this is how we can make it happen!"



'The Livestock Markets of Chichester' commemorates Chichester's history as a market town, and will open at the **Novium Museum** on Saturday, 24 October 2020, exactly 30 years since the Chichester livestock market closed.

Chichester has been a centre for trade since the Roman period. Livestock sales were held in the streets of Chichester from medieval times onwards. In 1872 Chichester Cattle Market opened near Eastgate Square and livestock sales were transferred there. Market day sales soon grew in importance and by 1900 Chichester Market was described as 'the largest in the South of England'. It was not until the 1980s that the future of Chichester Cattle Market became uncertain, following a decline in its trade and debate about the future of the market site. The last livestock market in Chichester was held on 24 October 1990.



Message from the  
Leader of Chichester District Council

## District Dispatch

As coronavirus cases continue to rise across the country, it is worth regularly checking the government's postcode checker to find out the latest alert level, not only locally, but for anywhere else you plan to visit. You can find this at [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

The situation is changing rapidly and so we would urge you to keep an eye on our website, [www.chichester.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/coronavirus), sign up to our email newsletter at [www.chichester.gov.uk/newsalerts](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/newsalerts) and follow our social media pages to keep up to date with the latest advice.

What you can be assured of is that we are working very closely with our partners. A huge amount of work is going on across all public services to support our communities and keep people safe – and I just would like to say thank you to all of them. We can all support this work by playing our part by washing or sanitising our hands frequently; making sure that we wear a face covering in enclosed spaces; and making sure we keep a distance of two metres between ourselves and others. I know that we are all fed up and exhausted by this situation, but it is vital that we follow the Government's guidance and keep our families safe. By working together and supporting one another, we will get through this.

I'm pleased to say that the new NHS Test and Trace walk-in test site is now operating in Northgate car park, Chichester. Please be aware that this is available on an appointment-only basis. The majority of the car park is open to commuters, residents and visitors as usual. Testing is proving an effective way to contain the virus and so this facility will play an important role in keeping us safe. Testing is available to anyone with coronavirus symptoms and you can book this by visiting [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or by calling 119.

If you haven't already done so, please also consider downloading the NHS Covid-19 contact tracing app. It's the fastest way of knowing when you are at risk of coronavirus. The quicker you know, the quicker you can alert your loved ones, and your community. The more people that sign up to the app, the better we can control coronavirus. The app also provides you with a symptom checker, which helps you to determine if you need a test. If you do, it then gives you the option to book one. The app is free to download from the App Store and Google Play.

Please take care and stay safe.

Cllr Eileen Lintill

Leader of Chichester District Council

***If you do not wish to receive further communications from the WGRA, please contact the Secretary, Bebette Jones at 6 Tannery Close or [sec.wgra@gmail.com](mailto:sec.wgra@gmail.com)***