

WESTGATE HELPERS NEWS

A newsletter brought to you during the Covid-19 crisis

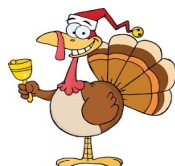
ISSUE 17

16TH NOVEMBER 2020

Top stories in this newsletter



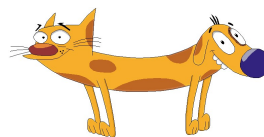
How to donate to
Chichester Foodbank



Crate and Apple
Christmas dinner



Mask Mishap
stories



Pet pics



Advent Calendar
Windows

Westgate Helpers - 07731 198693 – westgatehelp2020@gmail.com

Well, here we are again!

It was all looking so gloomy with Lockdown No. 2 only a week in, and then big talk on the vaccine which could make all the difference, although probably not for a little time! What it does mean though is that we can begin to talk about the Street Party for 2021 with plans to hold it on the 12th June, in time to celebrate the Queen's 95th birthday. Save the date – more information to follow at a future date.

For those of you who missed attending a Remembrance Day service this year, you might like to go to <https://chichestercity.gov.uk/remembrance/remembrance-sunday-8-november-2020/> where you can see Chichester City Council's video of an alternative commemoration. It felt even more poignant this year with the sparse events and isolated attendees.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you need any help whatsoever, from shopping and collecting medicines to walking your dog or having a chat.



Mask Mishaps

We would love to hear your stories about the funnier side of lockdown and mishaps when wearing your masks to make us all smile. If you have a story, either about something that has happened to you or to a member of your family, or a friend, then please do write to us at the usual email address – westgatehelp2020@gmail.com

The best stories will be published in the next newsletter in about 2 weeks. Thank you for sharing!



Westgate Foodbank appeal

This December, Chichester Foodbank are asking for community support. A Westgate and surrounding area initiative has been organised to donate what we possibly can, at this difficult time for local families in need.

What is needed?

- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Jam, Marmalade, Spreads
- Teabags, small packs of 40
- Tinned green beans
- Tinned mixed vegetables
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned meat
- Tinned potatoes/ Instant mash
- Vegan specific foods, eg, pasta sauces

Where to take it?

Please take your items to Bridget and Colin Hicks where you can leave donations in their covered porch. They live at The Cottage, which can be found up the side alley between No 11 and No 15 Westgate.

Alternatively, Bridget has kindly offered to collect any donations directly. If this option is preferable, please contact her on 07973 285253.

Deadline:

Donations to be left by November 29th very latest please, for charity collection morning of Monday 30 November.



Joke space filler! courtesy of Raheem Higham

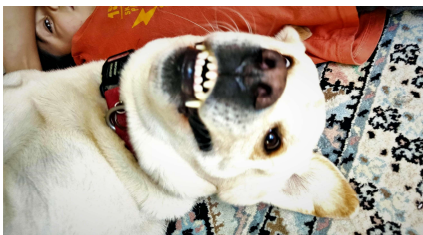
There was an explosion in a cheese factory near my school last week.....
there was de-brie everywhere!

Pet photos

For those of you with pets we thought it might be fun to publish photos of your furry friends to keep us amused.

Do send them in to westgatehelp2020@gmail.com and we'll publish as many as we can in the next newsletter to keep people smiling.

Here are two of mine to start you off..... how is this comfortable Mack? I wish my spine was that flexible. The smile below is because he's playing with his favourite human!



Crate and Apple Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 16th December

The pub has been booked by the Beaux Belles for the Christmas party which starts at 7pm. The rules will, of course, be Covid compliant.

With current restrictions on hospitality, and depending on whether the pub is able to reopen, the maximum is 60 people. You must be sat at allocated tables of no more than six and must remain seated throughout (unless visiting the toilets). There can be no swapping between tables! Please make up your own tables or, for those on their own or short of six, please tell Lisa when you book and she will endeavour to sort out seating arrangements. The pub will need one contact name and number for each table so that they can be compliant. Face coverings must be worn when entering/exiting the building or when not sat at a table.

We are hoping to negotiate the traditional Christmas menu (with a fish/veggie alternative) for approx. £25 per head – drinks extra! This will be payable at the time of booking, will be non-refundable and you need to select your choice at the same time.

As the C & A is 'virtually' shut until 3rd December the arrangements are, therefore:

- 3rd December – Decision on whether to go ahead and detailed arrangements
- Until then please arrange tables of 6 for the night with your friends
- 3rd December or thereafter - Call 01243 539336, or email lisa@crateandapple.co.uk to make your bookings. Payment arrangements can be agreed at the time.

So, fingers crossed – we need a celebration!!



Chichester Festival Theatre

Whilst we may not be able to welcome you to the Theatre in person under the current lockdown, we're delighted that we can share with you online some of the performances that were due to take place this month.

Next **Wednesday, 18 November** at 2.30pm we will be live streaming **Sheila Hancock** in conversation with writer and broadcaster **Edward Seckerson** about her life in musical theatre, illustrated by treasured recordings.

The following week on **Wednesday 25 November** at 2.30pm, Edward Seckerson returns with another online event, talking to much-loved singer and actor **Michael Ball**. This will be followed at 7.30pm with **Joe Stilgoe: Out of the Shed**, playing his own songs as well as classics from Joni Mitchell to Cole Porter in a concert live streamed from the Festival Theatre stage.

Tickets for all of these events are available to book online at <https://www.cft.org.uk/>



Advent Calendar windows

This year, we thought it would be fun to organise an Advent Windows Calendar.

The plan is to allocate a number to volunteers who will put up a Christmas window decoration on their allotted day in December, clearly visible to people passing by on the street and preferably back lit so it can be seen in the evenings. The person allocated 1st December will "open" their window on 1st December and keep it there for rest of the Christmas season.

Kathryn Kellagher will co-ordinate the scheme and has some gold numbers ready to hand out to volunteers. The decorations don't have to be complicated – just something festive that will cheer everyone up and remind everyone of Christmas.

There have already been some volunteers but this is definitely a case of the more, the merrier! Please email Kathryn at westgatehelp2020@gmail.com with your house number so she knows where to drop off the gold numbers. You could also telephone her on 07809 668640 if you would prefer to pick them up from her house.



Support Local this Christmas

The Countdown to Christmas campaign is back. This year has been difficult for all of us, especially local businesses and arts, culture and heritage organisations, and so everyone is being encouraged to do their bit this Christmas and support local businesses.

Due to the national restrictions introduced by the Government, the initial stage of the campaign will focus on encouraging people who may be looking to buy unique and beautiful gifts during November to support local businesses by using their delivery and click and collect services, and to support local deliveries and takeaways. Once the restrictions are lifted and businesses can reopen their doors, the second stage of the campaign will shine a light on the many reasons to visit and shop in one of the district's fantastic High Streets.

The Chichester Observer have created a handy list of businesses (<https://www.chichester.co.uk/business/these-trusted-chichester-businesses-are-offering-shopping-during-lockdown-3029810>) offering shopping opportunities in a different way during the current national restrictions.

Visit Local

As well as encouraging as many people as possible to support our High Streets and local businesses, Chichester Council are shining a light on the many arts, cultural and heritage organisations in the district that you can visit when the current coronavirus restrictions are lifted.

'What's On' online events calendar

As you will know, things can change quite rapidly at the moment, so rather than including printed What's On listings in the resident's magazine, 'Initiatives', they are taking a different approach by launching a new online events calendar.

This means that you can access the very latest information and won't miss out on any Christmas activities taking place across the district once the coronavirus restrictions are lifted. <https://www.chichester.gov.uk/whatson>

Best wishes and stay safe — from Kathryn, Louise, Bridget and Julia.
Email westgatehelp2020@gmail.com