

WGRA Westgate Residents' Association

Westgate, Henty Gardens, Mount Lane, St. Bartholomew's Close, Tannery Close

Bulletin – June 2021

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Hi everyone! We hope you are all enjoying this lovely early summer weather. Listed below are reminders of various local social activities for June and July. Don't forget that you can catch up with previous Bulletins at any time on our website: www.westgatera.org.uk

PAVEMENT WORKS, WESTGATE - UPDATE

This work to redo the pavements on the Western end of Westgate is still underway but by way of an update, there had been some concerns from residents about the finish of the new pavements and also the inconsistency of some of the work along a few of the driveways. The line of some driveways has ended up very angular in some places, with an edge to the new tarmac which is potentially uneven and the resulting look up the street is not entirely aesthetic!



One of our committee members has been in touch with West Sussex Highways to check on this and had a helpful reply. They have confirmed that in situations like this, the surface should be finished at a straight line across the driveway, wall to wall. Where the team have to follow joints in the old tarmac, they cannot lay the tarmac onto a dirt base e.g. gravel. However, all agree that the pavements should be an even width and these anomalies addressed, so West Sussex have committed to rectify this, if necessary, by returning to lay a solid base on which to lay the tarmac across the affected driveways. This work will probably be tied in with the next phase of work in the area in Sherborne Road in July, but they have committed to achieving straight lines across the driveways wherever possible.

Regarding the finish of the surface itself, the tarmac material used is apparently unusual in that, when first laid, it does take some time to "bed in" and reach its final state. When first laid, it is rough, soft, and has a very dark colour. These features will however improve with time and use, and the surface should smooth out, harden, and lighten in colour. Given the summer weather and the relatively large number of pedestrians, for most areas this should take about 1 to 3 months apparently.

Given the softness of the new surface when first laid, it is prone to marks like tyre marks and animal paw prints. We are told that most of these marks should lessen as the material beds in and the surface is used, and any surface damage should not impact the safety or longevity of the surface. If there is any damage or graffiti, this can be reported and repaired.

For any concerns about highways or highways works, you can contact Love West Sussex online and easily report this and upload photos. <https://love.westsussex.gov.uk/reports/home>

Westgate's Relief from Lockdown Party – 21 June 2021

The Beau Belles confirm that, subject to the Government's final decision on the ending of lockdown, our party will go ahead to celebrate with friends and neighbours.



- Date: **Monday 21 June 2021**
- Time: **6.30 – 8pm in the Crate & Apple**
- The pub Garden is reserved exclusively for WGRA
- Pay Bar will operate all evening
- Tables and chairs will be available for all
- Food by individual order
- Name badges will be ready on arrival – to help us remember our friends!

The party is already booking up fast so RSVP to Nikki Clarke (No. 42 Westgate 07958 255637 nixclarke3@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend 2–5 JUNE 2022

Now that the details of the Platinum Jubilee Weekend have been announced, the idea of a Westgate Street Party this year on Saturday 21 August has been abandoned in favour of a really big Celebration over the Platinum Jubilee weekend in 2022. **So please save the date in your diaries for:**

The Westgate Platinum Jubilee Street Party on Sunday 5 June 2022



Parklands & Westgate Open Gardens

Saturday 12th June, 11am to 5pm.

About 18 gardens will be open to the public. Tickets £2.50 per adult available on the day from the Lighthouse (Fish & Chips Shop) and 8 Sherborne Road. *Please note tickets are no longer available from No.64 Westgate at mentioned in the May Bulletin.*

In addition to visiting the gardens, there will be an opportunity to talk to local Tree Wardens, one garden will be hosting a BioBlitz

for people to explore some smaller garden creatures, and there will be a children's trail. Homemade cakes will be sold at the Lighthouse from 2pm.

For a map and details of gardens on show please go to: http://www.pra-chi.org.uk/gardens_2021.html

WGRA Regular Social Events



The Monthly Saturday Coffee Mornings at the Crate & Apple will begin again on Saturday 3 July at 10am. Come along for an hour or so for a coffee and chat with neighbours.

The Knitting and Social Group are restarting with a reunion coffee morning at the Crate & Apple on Monday 5 July at 10.30. All very welcome!



Bavardage au Pub – enfin! A message from Jane Davies:

“I’m planning Bavardage au Pub on Monday 28 June, 6.30pm at the Crate & Apple. We will know by 21 June what, if any, restrictions might apply but I think we’ll feel more comfortable in the garden. It’s been a long time and I really look forward to us all getting together again. Hoping you are all well and enjoying the warmer weather. A bientôt! Jane (07792 708229)”

Community Speedwatch Update

With the relaxation of lockdown measures there has been a noticeable increase in traffic along Westgate, and not surprisingly, instances of excessive speed. Fortunately, we've now resumed the Community Speedwatch monitoring sessions that have such a noticeable effect on speeding drivers.



We held several sessions in May which made it clear that we want motorists to stick to the 20mph limit. On each occasion several drivers were reported to the Police as they were well over the limit and will receive warning letters.

To be able to hold more sessions we really do need some more volunteers to act as operators. A regular presence sends a clear message to drivers to slow down which is what everyone wants to happen. It's not onerous, an hour or so a month makes a great deal of difference. The training is straightforward and the reception we get from pedestrians helps to make it worthwhile.

For more information go to the website at www.communityspeedwatch.org or contact me, David Thornley, by email, david@thethornleys.net

Help Maintain a Unique Piece of History and Have an Enjoyable Day Out.

The Oyster Boat Terror in Emsworth is what remains of the once booming local oyster Industry. The shells from this activity have been used by past Westgate residents as they've been found in the foundations of several houses. Terror is now back in action so for just £25 you can have a two-and-a-half-hour sail around the harbour in this restored Victorian sailing boat; it's a wonderful experience. Go to www.oysterboatterror.org.uk or contact David Thornley at david@thethornleys.net for more details.



If you do not wish to receive further communications from the WGRA, please contact the Secretary, Bebette Jones at 6 Tannery Close or email sec.wgra@gmail.com