

WGRA Westgate Residents' Association

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

Bulletin October 2022

CONTACT US:

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HM Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022

We were all shocked to hear the news of the death of HM the Queen on Thursday 8 September 2022, so soon after we celebrated Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in early June with another wonderful Westgate Street Party.

Many of us met together on Westgate, at the bottom of Mount Lane, at 8.00 pm on 18 September, the eve of her funeral, to observe the national one-minute silence. Her reign was of unparalleled length, and we grieved as a Nation for a woman who had selflessly pledged her life to this country and the commonwealth.

The proclamation of HM King Charles III took place on the steps of County Hall at lunchtime on Sunday 11 September for the people of the County of West Sussex, and the Mayor of Chichester, Councillor Julian Joy, read the same proclamation outside our 18th century Council Offices in North Street at 3.00 pm for the people of this city.

Southern Access Road (SAR)

Chichester District Council organised a briefing for both District Councillors and the general public by White House Farm developers, Miller Vistry (MV), on 29 September 2022. The event was chaired by the Chief Planning Officer, Andrew Frost.

We did not hear anything new from MV, but it was very clear that members of the public present are furious about the current plans for the junction at the bottom of Sherborne Road where it meets Westgate and the SAR for all the reasons which we have discussed at length: road safety, congestion, capacity, and pollution. Questions were asked and comments made by WGRA residents Julia Smith, Helen Solly, Desmond Evans and me.

I was heartened by WSCC's representative who stated several times that they had yet to receive the final planning application and that the proposals for the junction would be subject to lengthy scrutiny and road safety audit. And in fact we have been informed this evening by WSCC that Jubb's (MV's highways engineers) Road Safety Audit now states that the Westgate shared pavement scheme is unsatisfactory confirming Chi Cycle's earlier assessment that the proposals do not even meet the minimum Department for Transport safety standards.

Hope springs eternal for a more satisfactory solution to the issues which this junction throws up!

Your response to the SAR proposal

There is still time to register your objections to the proposed SAR junction. Individual responses are all that count, so in fact all adults over 18 in a household can voice their objections to the scheme. Another copy of the September Bulletin is attached to remind you of points you may choose to consider in your response. You can either send it in by email to dcplanning@chichester.gov.uk quoting planning application **22/01485/OUTEIA** or via the planning portal at <https://publicaccess.chichester.gov.uk/online-applications>

Sarah Quail

A Date for your Diaries – Thursday 3 November 2022 **Meet on the Street about the traffic in Westgate**



On Thursday 3 November we are planning a Westgate ‘Speed Awareness Action Day’ – following in the footsteps of a successful week of activity in June 2018 pre-Covid.

With the weather drawing in, we invite you to come along and join a core group on Westgate between **7.50am-9am and 2pm-3pm on Thursday 3 November** to help draw attention to Westgate as a community and the problems of speeding on our road and rat-running to cut through to/from the city. Our presence coincides with school run and commuting times. If we get more guaranteed support, we can offer some other times on the day to be out on the street. We will invite our councillors and see if we can get into the press.

We plan on running a speedwatch radar gun session on the pavement outside No.19 Westgate while at the same time gathering between Nos. 89 and 91 Westgate (back entrance to the college) and possibly, depending on numbers, also by Mount Lane. Please bring along a mug of tea/coffee and join us even for a bit, wearing a yellow high-viz jacket if you can, although we will have some spares. We aim to simply have a presence on the road, with some signs/placards to hold up (e.g. “People live here”, “20mph area”, “No HGVs”, “Please Drive Slowly”). This is not a formal WGRA event, you attend at your own risk and will sign a risk assessment on arrival, we will carry out a traffic count and collect traffic information, but above all we know that the sight of someone in a yellow jacket with a clip board has a marked effect on drivers and reminds them that people live here!

If you would like to be involved or just plan to pop along on the day, please email me directly at stephenandjulia@hotmail.com or pop in to No. 66. Hope to see you there!

Julia Smith

AGM – Saturday 19 November at 10am at St. Wilfrid’s Community Hall

Don’t forget to note the date of this year’s AGM. The meeting will be followed by coffee, tea and cakes and a chance to chat. We would be very grateful for donations of cakes on the day. Please contact Kathryn on kellagher@fastmail.co.uk if you can help. Thank you.

The agenda and all relevant papers will be sent out at the beginning of November. Our new financial year begins at the AGM so why not take time now to renew your membership. Your £10 subscription can be paid by cash or cheque (made out to Westgate Residents Association) at the AGM, or by hand to 72, or 44 Westgate, or 6 Tannery Close or by bank transfer anytime. Details below:

A/C name: Westgate Residents Association

Sort Code: 309028

A/C No: 69382160

Ref: Your surname plus street number



Christmas Celebrations 2022 – Wednesday 14 December

We know it’s only October, but the Social Committee is already busy planning our Christmas Celebrations so save the date! This year there will be Carols and mulled wine at the Chichester Arts Centre (formerly known as St Bartholomew’s Church) from 5.45pm, followed by dinner at the Crate and Apple from 7.45pm. A flyer is attached to this email while paper copies will be delivered to your door over the next few weeks. Pre-ordering and pre-payment for the dinner is essential – all details are also at the end of this Bulletin.

Community Speedwatch



After an extended summer break, we had hoped to restart Speedwatch radar gun monitoring on Westgate but unfortunately, we are very short of active volunteers to carry out regular sessions. It would be a shame to stop now as it’s a good reminder to motorists to slow down on our streets and our efforts were much appreciated judging by comments from pedestrians.

But it has to be a community effort - so please, we need your help! Training is online but we are here to help you through it. Please contact Bebette on 07791 237502 sec.wgra@gmail.com if you want to join our very friendly team of volunteers and keep Speedwatch going!

WGRA Coffee Morning

We're too late to remind you of the October coffee morning (sorry!) but next month it's on **Saturday 5 November** at the Crate & Apple at **10am**.



The Chichester City Arts Centre is now open!

The Chichester City Arts Centre is a new arts and community hire venue set in the former church of St Bartholomew's, a 200-year-old late Georgian grade II listed building. The Centre has a Main Hall, a reception area in the old Vestry, a disabled toilet, a small kitchen, and a shower/toilet. Upstairs there is a small gallery complete with the original church organ. The Centre is also the home of the Rosemary Bell Academy of Dance, a Royal Academy of Dance registered ballet school.

We are fortunate to be able once again to have the WGRA Christmas carol sing-a-long in this lovely building.



MacDonald Gill: Charting a Life

The West Sussex Record Office is celebrating the life and work of Sussex-born artist MacDonald Gill. He was an architect, mural painter, letterer, and graphic artist in the first half of the 20th Century, best known for his pictorial maps. There is a temporary display of his work at the Records Office from **Tuesday 20 September to Friday 14 October**. For more information click on:

<https://westsussexrecordofficeblog.com/2022/09/06/macdonald-gill-charting-a-life/>

The Records Office runs regular Tuesday evening talks and a full list of upcoming events can be seen at:

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/leisure-recreation-and-community/history-and-heritage/west-sussex-record-office/whats-on-at-the-record-office/>



Arun & Chichester Citizens Advice – Cost-of-Living-Survey

WGRA have been asked to share a CAB questionnaire. They are looking at how the cost-of-living crisis is affecting the residents of Arun and Chichester. If you would like to take part, please click on www.arunchichestercab.org.uk

Supporting You: Chichester District Council

CDC have simplified information and brought it all together in one place to help anyone struggling to pay bills, or feeling isolated or are concerned about rising energy costs. This can be found here:

<https://www.chichester.gov.uk/supportingyoucampaign>



Help with cost of living pressures

Toys Wanted

Rotary Global Hub are looking to add to their popular array of Pre-Owned, Second-Hand and 'Pre-Loved' **TOYS** donated from happy homes which can then be passed on to families through their Chichester Christmas Market Stall (open 4-6th December) to help with family Christmas expenses.

Contact: Doug Price on 07980 239227 or email: dougprice222@gmail.com



On the buses!

#WestSussBus would like to hear your views on how your local buses are doing. Would you like smaller, less noisy and less polluting buses on Westgate? Why do Bishop Luffa buses travel down Westgate? How can we ensure any new bus routes from Whitehouse Farm do not run along Westgate?

Please visit their website to give your feedback and take part in their latest survey.

<https://yourvoice.westsussex.gov.uk/westsussbus>

Here are details of our Christmas celebrations – a flyer is also attached to this email and you will receive a paper copy at your door shortly as well.



**Westgate Residents Association:
Christmas Celebrations 2022
Wednesday 14 December**

**Carol Singing at Chichester Arts Centre,
off Mount Lane
(formerly known as St Bartholomew's Church)**

5.45pm Doors open for a mince pie and a glass of mulled wine.

6.15-7.15pm Carols and Christmas readings, with Alan Thurlow, retired organist from Chichester Cathedral

There will be a collection at the door to cover costs of refreshments. Our grateful thanks to Rosemary Bell of The Chichester Arts Centre, who is generously giving us the booking free of charge.

We are due to finish the Singalong at 7.15pm when those who have booked will make their way to the Crate & Apple for the Christmas meal.

Christmas Dinner at The Crate and Apple

*Welcome drink from 7.15pm, Dinner served from 7.45pm.
£25 a head for a welcome drink, a main course and a dessert.*

Booking, pre-ordering and payment in advance essential as numbers are limited.



Booking arrangements

For the Carol Singing

This is donation only, to help cover the costs of refreshments. Please let us know if you would like to attend, to help us plan accordingly!

For The Crate and Apple

Payment is in advance: put your booking slip and cash only (sorry no cheques) in an envelope and post it through the letterbox of 42 Westgate, Nikki Clarke (any queries, email nixclarke3@gmail.com).

Final orders to be with Nikki by Monday 5 December

We will email you a receipt

Booking Slip

Name:

Telephone/email:

House number/street:

Numbers for Carol Singing at Chichester Arts Centre:

Numbers for the meal at the Crate and Apple:

Total amount of money enclosed (cash only):

Menu choices per person for the Crate and Apple:

Mains	Name (s)
Roast turkey crown with trimmings	
Braised blade of beef with Yorkshire pudding	
Seabass fillet, leek, wild mushroom, mussel & cider sauce	
Roasted butternut squash, spelt, wild mushrooms & chestnut	
Desserts	
Christmas pudding, brandy sauce	
Baileys & chocolate cheesecake	
Clementine & cranberry crumble	