

WGRA Westgate Residents' Association

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



Bulletin May 2024

CONTACT US:

Chair: sq.westgate@gmail.com

Secretary: sec.wgra@gmail.com

Website: www.westgatera.org.uk

Community Liaison Group (CLG)

At long last, the Minerva Heights developers, Miller Vistry (MV), convened a meeting of the Community Liaison Group. Representatives included members of the four Residents Associations affected by Phases 1 and 2 of the Minerva Heights development: East Broyle, Parklands, Westgate and West Walls Residents Associations, Representatives of the City Council (CCC), District Council (CDC) and West Sussex County Council (WSCC), the Cycle Forum, the Chichester Conservation Area Advisory Committee and a representative of the Tree Wardens were also present. We met at the Baptist Church in Sherborne Road.

What did we learn? Well, to be honest, not a lot! Your Secretary, Bebette Jones and Committee member, Julia Smith represented the Westgate residents, and I wore several hats: as your City and District Councillor, and as Chair of the Westgate Residents Association.

We learned that work will begin on the Dutch Roundabout by the end of May but as it is May now, we think work is more likely to begin in June. And with luck, work will begin shortly afterwards on repairing the pavements in the Westgate narrows. We also learned that there has been massive new planting of trees in the Platinum Jubilee Country Park by Centurion Way as you will have noted that many of the previously planted trees died last summer.

We are not at all satisfied with elements of the new roundabout at the bottom of Sherborne Road where it meets Westgate, and Bebette Jones said so. The layout is confusing, and you will have noted that local residents have put their own protective coverings on those parts of the flashing belisha beacons which disturb their sleep. We also learned that MV expect WSCC to restore the grass at the corners of the new roundabout. It will be interesting to see quite how long this will take WSCC.

Questions were also asked about the proposed move of Jessie Younghusband School to Minerva Heights, the inadequacy of the Broyle Road infrastructure to support mothers and children making their way to and from school and the maintenance of the board walks in the Country Park. I am pleased to report that the costs of maintenance will be borne not by CDC but by the residents of Minerva Heights! There were also a number of questions from Cycle Forum members about the inadequacy of the layout on the Sherborne Road and Westgate roundabout for cyclists and, most importantly, that someone needs to take note that such has been the growth of weeds as you turn from Tesco left onto Lower Sherborne Road that you can no longer see the pedestrian crossing just inside this junction!

Sarah Quail

Reminder of Road Closure for Carriageway Resurfacing

Orchard Street (between St. Paul's Road and Joy Lane) in Chichester is due to be closed on Tuesday 7 May until Wednesday 8 May 8pm until 6am

St. Paul's Road (between A286 Churchside to the roundabout at Old Broyle Road) in Chichester is due to be closed on Thursday 9 May until Friday 10 May 8pm until 6am

The works are weather dependant and subject to change.



Westgate Summer Garden Party at the Chichester City Arts Centre Saturday 13th July 3pm – 6pm

We hope this date is already in your diaries! Come along and join friends and neighbours at this super summer event. Please bring a plate of sandwiches, cakes or scones to share and refreshments of your own choice. There will be a complimentary glass of Pimms and unlimited tea included in the ticket price of £5 per person. We would be grateful if you could book early to help us with planning!

As always, volunteers would be appreciated to help set up and clear away.

You can book and pay by bank transfer (BACS):

A/C name: Westgate Residents Association **Sort Code:** 309028

A/C No: 69382160

Ref: Your surname and street number please

Or put £5 cash per person in an envelope through the door of No. 42 Westgate. Don't forget to note your name and address on the envelope.

The Westgate Residents' Social Committee is very keen to provide the Westgate community with access to a life-saving defibrillator. We need to raise £1,500 and all profits from the summer garden party will go towards this very worthy cause.

The Westgate Story – Westgate Historical Archives

"Dear Resident,

I circulated a number of copies of the Westgate Story last month and I heard yesterday that you have been very generous and over £200 has been donated to St Wilfrid's Hospice in memory of Amanda.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU.

Best wishes,

Richard Brownfield

PS. If anyone else would like a copy please let me know at brownfield@uwclub.net"

Tony Schofield



We were very sad to hear of the recent death of Tony Schofield, a long time Westgate resident and former Treasurer of the Westgate Residents' Association. His funeral is to be held at the Chichester Crematorium on Friday 24 May at 3.30pm. A few words from neighbours.....

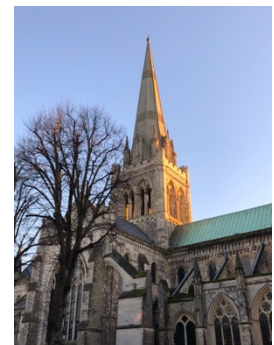
"we last saw Tony at the Crate and Apple coffee morning in April. He was, as ever, full of life and jokes and dressed with a nautical flair. He was always interesting to talk to and was a kind neighbour. He and his lovely wife Helen were two of the stalwarts of Westgate. Westgate has lost a wonderful character and we will miss him"

"what a legend, a funny, loving and eccentric individual. He shall be sadly missed in our community"

Chichester Cathedral to host major fire service training exercise

Emergency services are holding a large training exercise in Chichester on Monday 20 May 2024. During this time, several road closures will be in place from 7pm until 11pm with limited access for residents.

Firefighters will simulate a major fire at Chichester Cathedral, and there will be a significant amount of smoke issuing from the landmark. This will test the emergency procedures that are currently in place for incidents involving the cathedral. Partner agencies (including Sussex Police, South East Coast Ambulance Service and West Sussex Highways) will immerse themselves in a real-life operational situation and work together to resolve the training scenario.



Residents are invited to come along during the training exercise and watch the exercise unfold. The best viewing points will be found at the city cross (East Street side, in front of HSBC bank) and in front of the old House of Fraser building.

For more information, click on: <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/campaigns/chichester-cathedral-training-exercise/>

Chichester Open Studios – Art Trail



Chichester Open Studios will be open on 18th, 19th, 25th, 26th, and 27th May. This is an ideal opportunity to meet local artists in person in their own creative worlds and we have two talented Westgate residents, Rosy Turner at 72a Westgate and Diane Henshaw at 93 Westgate, taking part and they would love to welcome neighbours to see their work. Note that only Rosy will be open on 27th May. For details of all the participants and venues please click on: <https://chichesteropenstudios.org/>



Picnic in the Park – a celebration of the Brewery Field Sunday 21st July 12noon until 3pm

Bring a picnic and join neighbours, friends and families for a fun afternoon in Brewery Field.

The event is being organized by Transition Town Chichester in partnership with the Parklands, West Walls and Westgate Residents' Associations.

Transition Town Chichester (TTC), for those who aren't familiar with them, is part of the international Transition Town movement around the world who are taking action locally to mitigate the effects of climate change. TTC encourages and supports local people and organisations to reduce carbon emissions, protect biodiversity, reduce waste and transition to a sustainable and inclusive community. For more information on the many activities and projects TTC support, please visit their website: www.transitionchichester.org or contact them at info@transitionchichester.org



New Classes starting at the Chichester City Arts Centre

Contact Karen direct for information and booking.

Festival season approaches!

From 15 June to 21 July the [Festival of Chichester](http://www.festivalofchichester.co.uk) is bringing around 100 events to the city in a month-long celebration of the arts from classical concerts to theatre to a range of talks, poetry and guided walks.

For the full program see: <https://festivalofchichester.co.uk>

Dinosaurs: Hungry Hatchlings at the Novium Museum 11 May to 9 November

Roaring into Chichester is a new exhibition which will showcase how even the largest dinosaurs started life as eggs and tiny hatchlings. For details and to book, visit: www.thenovium.org/dinosaurs

Chichester Roman Week 27 May – 1 June

Led by the Novium Museum, the annual week-long celebration of Chichester's Roman heritage marches into the city with exciting events across the district and beyond. For a full list of events please visit: www.thenovium.org/romanweek

And don't forget our.....

WGRA Monthly Coffee Morning - Saturday 1st June 10-11am at the Crate & Apple

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