

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

27 MARCH

Evening with football legend
Graeme Souness.
Hosted by Dementia Support
Chichester Harbour Hotel

18–25 APRIL

English Tourism Week

23–30 MAY

Roman Week

10 MAY

Inflatable 5K Run
Oaklands Park

28–30 MAY

Festival of Flowers
Chichester Cathedral



SHOP FRONT GRANTS FROM CHICHESTER DISTRICT COUNCIL

There is still some funding left for Shop Front Grants. Any business that attended the recent Retail Mentoring workshops is eligible to apply for a grant.

There are rules and requirements to ensure that any renovation meets the guidelines, so make sure you check before you make an investment. For more details on eligibility and how to apply for a grant, contact CDC Business Advice and Support on business.support@chichester.gov.uk or call **01243 534669**.

CAR PARKING CHARGES

There has been a lot of debate and discussion about car parking charges in Chichester. Our Chairman, Colin Hicks was recently interviewed by BBC South Today on the subject. To read about our views on increased charges please visit our news page.



GOING GREEN IN CHICHESTER

The Sustainable Business Partnership CIC offers Chichester businesses the chance to network with other organisations with environmental goals and offers a series of events to

improve sustainability, including staff training, energy saving workshops and assessments to help your business cut its carbon footprint. Find out more online at sustainablebusiness.org.uk

Chichester BID is the trading name of the Chichester City Centre Partnership, a registered company in England and Wales no 07961000 VAT reg no 139304813

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Please remember, this is your
BID and your voice, so we
would love to hear from you...

EXTRA SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES WITH GREEN GOALS

The University of Brighton has launched the Green Growth Platform as another way to help businesses that deliver green products and services, and organisations looking to minimise their impact on the planet. The innovation network provides access to university facilities and expertise including advice, coaching and workshops on the commercialisation of green solutions. Whether you're just starting out with a new solution or looking to take your business to the next stage, the Green Growth Platform, which is part of the South East Regional Hub of Clean Growth UK, may have the resources to help you achieve your goals.

To find out how to get involved, contact business.support@chichester.gov.uk or call **01243 534669**.



After the recent bad weather, many people have been concerned about the homeless in Chichester. The council runs bi-annual Diverted Giving Campaign events in partnership with homeless charities. At the events, you can find out more about the services delivered by the council and charities, and the best way to donate your time or resources to help those in need.

WHY CAN'T I GIVE DIRECTLY TO ROUGH SLEEPERS?

Many people believe they are doing a good thing by giving rough sleepers money, but begging is illegal and doesn't offer a permanent solution to homelessness. Because of the money they make, rough sleepers will often turn down offers of help from support services, instead choosing to remain on the streets.

Additionally, some beggars are not homeless and beg because it is financially rewarding. Although it is entirely your decision if you wish to give to beggars; if you want to help people to engage with the services that can offer accommodation and other resources then donating to your chosen charity will not only support the work they do but has the ability to help more than one individual.

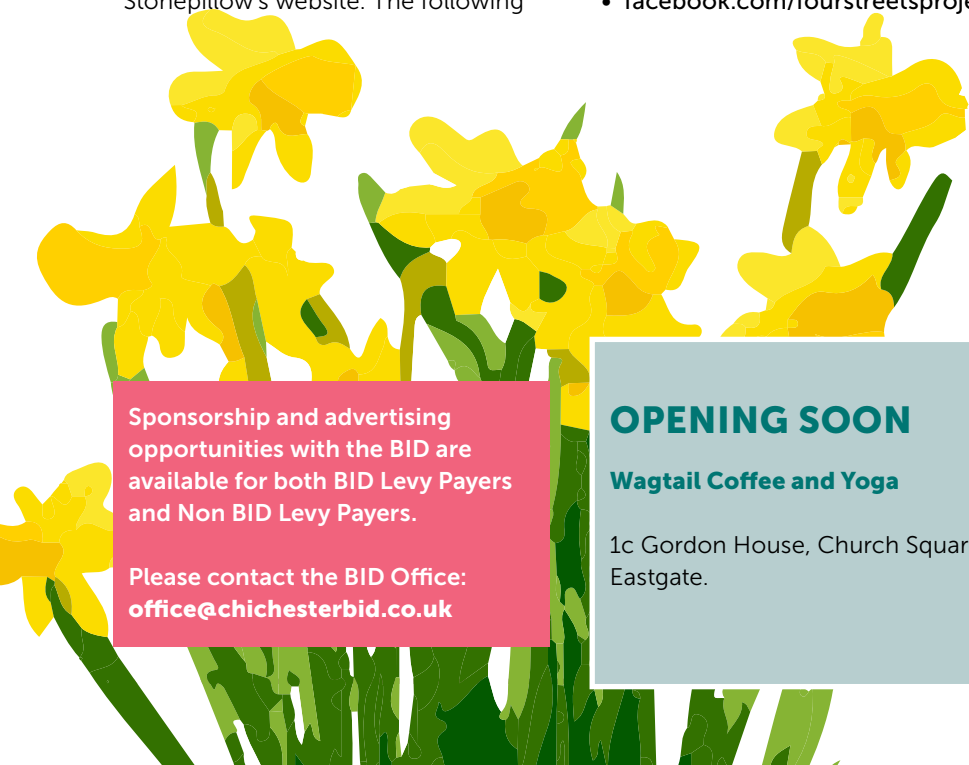
HOW CAN I HELP ROUGH SLEEPERS?

Donations to local charities of food, toiletries, household items, clothing, etc. help support vital services, such as Stonepillow and lunch clubs, to carry out work in the community. A list of most needed items can be found on Stonepillow's website. The following

list of local charities and groups will also provide more information on the best way to donate.

- stonepillow.org.uk
- heartchichester.church
- cityangels.org.uk
- facebook.com/fourstreetsproject

If you are concerned about an individual rough sleeping, please fill in the details on www.streetlink.org.uk. This referral will go directly to CDC Outreach Workers, who will attempt to find the individual and assess their needs.



Sponsorship and advertising opportunities with the BID are available for both BID Levy Payers and Non BID Levy Payers.

Please contact the BID Office: office@chichesterbid.co.uk

OPENING SOON

Wagtail Coffee and Yoga

1c Gordon House, Church Square, Eastgate.



ENGLISH TOURISM WEEK: 18-25 APRIL

English Tourism Week is an annual celebration, highlighting the vast contribution of tourism to the UK economy. It is one of the few sectors alive in every part of the country, and which touches everyone – visitors, residents, businesses and destinations.

Visit Chichester are using the week to shine a light on the Chichester District as a destination. There

will be online activity showcasing the wealth of attractions on offer to visitors and we would love for our city centre businesses to get involved.

From blogs and social media content to competition prizes, please do contact Visit Chichester if you would like to get involved:

visitchichester.org/english-tourism-week-2020

FASHION RECYCLING

Dartagnan Menswear and Little London Boutique have teamed up with St Wilfrid's Hospice for a new campaign encouraging customers to return unwanted items, which will then be resold through St Wilfrid's shops. The partnership is aimed at reducing the amount of clothes ending up in landfill whilst also helping to boost funds raised by the charity. Items should be donated to: St Wilfrid's Hospice, Charity Boutique, South Street, Chichester, PO19 1EL.

VE DAY 2020

Friday 8 May marks the 75th anniversary of VE Day, honouring the day that fighting against Nazi Germany in Europe came to an end during WW2.

If you have any plans to commemorate this landmark occasion, please do let us know by emailing JHockley@chichesterbid.co.uk and we will help promote any events.

Please note: Normally the early May Bank Holiday falls on the first Monday of the month but has this year been moved to coincide with VE Day on Friday 8 May.



AN EVENING WITH FOOTBALL LEGEND GRAEME SOUNESS

Dementia Support is delighted to be hosting an exciting evening with footballing legend Graeme Souness on Friday 27 March, at Chichester Harbour Hotel.

Graeme will be discussing his distinguished and successful career, which has spanned over 40 years, as a football player, manager, and now currently as a Sky Sports pundit. There will be a focus on Graeme's tales from the world of football as well as his thoughts on new research linking dementia and football, and how it might affect the game in the future. Find out more and book tickets eveningwithgraemesouness.eventbrite.co.uk

WHY NOT GET THE NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY?

Sign-up to the Chichester BID newsletter to receive the latest BID news straight to your inbox. Signing up is easy, just complete the form in our website footer chichesterbid.co.uk

UNIVERSITY OF CHICHESTER HOT HOUSE/ INVEST 4 PROGRAMME

Spring 2020 sees the launch of a new, three-year Business Support Programme for non-retail businesses.

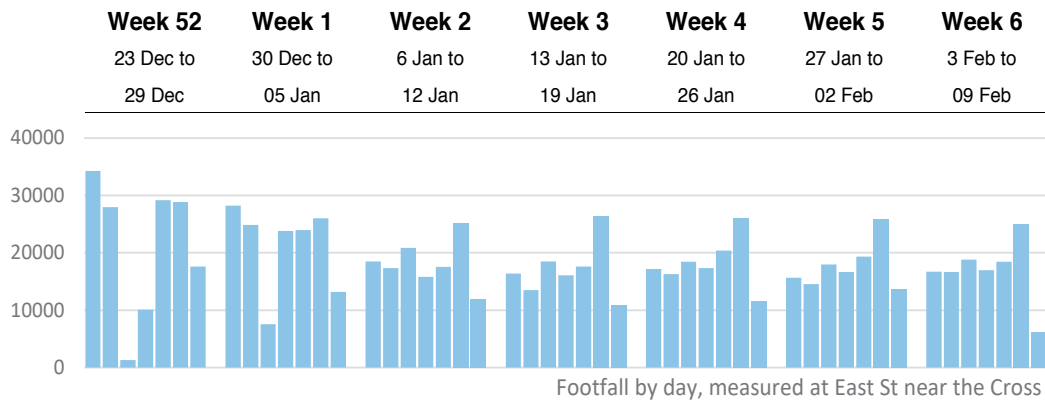
The initiative brings together six specialist support providers to fill a gap in existing business support provision. The £11m project designed to drive economic growth in the city includes Productivity and Growth Support; Access to Finance Support;

Monetisation of Innovation; Leadership and Management Development; Start Up Support and the Invest 4 Grants Programme. Grants range from a minimum of £2,000 and a maximum of £170,000 and the specialised support available includes workshops, bootcamps, peer-to-peer groups, and business mentoring sessions. The project aims to support more than

1,000 firms of all sizes and a further 500 start-up entrepreneurs to improve productivity and innovation.

If you would like to know more about the project and how it may be able to help your business, please send an expression of interest to Gareth Sear at hothouse@chi.ac.uk and g.sear@chi.ac.uk.

CHICHESTER IN NUMBERS



Footfall

East St

Week-on-Week
%age Change

▼ 23% ▼ 1% ▼ 14% ▼ 6% ▲ 7% ▼ 3% ▼ 4%

Weather

Typical conditions



10



7



10



9



4



10



7

Retail Sales

Week-on-Week

▼ 1.7% ▼ 12.1% ▼ 12.7% ▼ 3.2% ▼ 2.5% ► 0% TBC

Retailer Survey

Online sales returns continue to be larger by volume than store bought returns

No	Yes
16.7%	33.3%
50.0%	50.0%

Stock levels of autumn / winter were less this year ensuring a speedier sale period

57.1%	42.9%
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The cold weather had a positive impact upon autumn / winter stock sales

50.0%	16.7%	33.3%
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Sales in February will be up on last year

37.5%	25.0%	12.5%	25.0%
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Vacancy Rates

	Jan '19	Apr '19	Jul '19	Oct '19	Jan '20
Chichester	6.3 %	8.2 %	7.9 %	7.7 %	9.1 %
South East	8 %	8.5 %	8.2 %	9.2 %	9.7 %
UK	9.9 %	10.2 %	10.3 %	10 %	9.8 %

Vacancy figures are collected quarterly based on retail properties in the BID area.

Sales figures are collected Sun-Sat.

Report produced by Noggin for Chichester BID.

Weather provided by darksky.net. Icons @adamwhitcroft