Donna Ockenden

April 2018



Your FREE weekly independent newspaper

Friday, March 30, 2018

www.chichesterpost.co.u





Cycling ban proposed in city

BY KELLY WICKHAM

PERMISSION has been granted by Wes Sussex County Council to advertis a proposed traffic order, to extent the prohibition of cycling within the pedestrian precinct in Chichester circentre.

entre. The current ban is betwe of 9.30am and 5.30pm, Monday to Saturday, and this proposal will see this extended to Sundays between the same hours.

sensitive approach involving the use of sign "Share with Care". Sarah Sharp, co-ordinator of ChiCycl Chichester's cycle campaign said: "It use of a sign would be a more sensib share the space with due consideration of pedestrians.

"It makes sense to dismount when the streets are full of people but banning

need causes ill feeling.

"In my view, this cycling ban is not properly thought through and comes at a time when we need to invest properly in our cycling infrastructure, not make

it harder for people to get about by bike.
"It shows how out of touch the council
is with the needs of real people who want
to get about safely on their bikes.
"A more innovative approach should be
taken instead of applying weekday rules
to Sundays. Money should be invested
where the risk to life is greatest - how
many of our dangerous junctions have



Award for acts of kindness

BY KELLY WICKHAM

kelly.wickham@sussexpost.co.uk

A YOUNG girl has received an award for her selfless acts of kindness for the homeless in Chichester

As reported in the Chichester Post, Phoebe Ockenden received the Young Citizen's Award at the Chichester City Council Awards for her work with homeless people.

Phoebe was introduced by Cllr Trevor Tupper on Thursday, March 8, at the award ceremony. He said: "Phoebe has done an amazing job with her age and disability. She is a great asset and an outstanding person to receive the nomination and well deserved winner of the award."

Mayor Cllr Peter Evans said: "It was a pleasure to present Phoebe with her award. Phoebe has overcome many obstacles with the aid of her mother to help other people who are less fortunate than herself in being homeless in our city.

homeless in our city.

"Phoebe has shown that young people do care about their city and all people that live within it, it is especially poignant that Phoebe has overcome her own disabilities to help others."

Phoebe, aged 13, was born with a benign hydrocephalus which left behind learning disabilities. Her mum, Donna started the homeless project informally in 2016, when they moved into the centre of Chichester and realised for the first time there was a homeless problem.

She said: "I used to walk past people in sleeping bags on my way home from the station and felt that as they were my neighbours, (living close to me) I should do something to help."

Throughout 2016 Phoebe, her sister,

Throughout 2016 Phoebe, her sister, Caiti, and Donna would take out extra food from their family meal on plates and share it. By late 2016, it was clear more was needed and so in January, 2017, the *Four Streets Project* was born.

Now, with 26 volunteers, they distribute food, water, hot soup and any other necessities homeless people might need such as dry socks, sleeping bags and toiletries.

Donna said: "Our volunteers come from all walks of life, many from either health, education and social care. Our food comes from either Pret or Eat.

"They donate fresh but unsold food every evening and our water comes from Fenwicks, the café in Priory Park. Purchases Restaurant in North Street supply homemade soup from local vegetables.
"Phoebe has been involved since day

"Phoebe has been involved since day one helping to deliver food and supplies, always with adult supervision.

always with adult supervision.
"Due to her illness, she is a bit slower getting around but that's OK. She has a trike with a large basket and frequently cycles around the pedestrianised area.

"I feel very proud of Phoebe as despite being born with significant difficulties she has always worked really hard to overcome them. I am very proud of her for being nominated and having won the award.

"Being homeless could happen to any of us, many people are in temporary short term employment, there is less job security, housing is expensive and in short supply.

"Phoebe continues to work hard to be the best she possibly can and that she will be happy, while being the best she can. The kindness and compassion for others that she has been blessed with will continue to grow and develop as she grows up."

For more information visit the Facebook page @fourstreetsproject

