

SOLIHULL BID NEWSLETTER 2019



Welcome to the Spring BID newsletter!

We have such an exciting year ahead lined up for you that we wanted to share the news and dates in advance so read on to find out more.

2019 also marks the year that we go to renewal ballot and in November this year you will be given the opportunity to vote for the BID to continue into a third term.

If you want a reminder of all the projects areas that we work on there are many ways to do this.

- Visit www.solihullbid.co.uk
- Speak to a friendly Town Host
- Call or text Melanie on 07969891826 or email melanie@solihullbid.co.uk
- Email Johnt@solihullbid.co.uk

We really do want to hear from you about what you would like to see us working on for the third term, don't delay and get in touch today.

All our events and new projects are included in the rest of the newsletter but I hope that you will all come along and say hi at our very first free to attend Business Expo at the Crowne Plaza Solihull on the 27th March any time between 10am and 4pm, Lots of great workshops, contacts, training opportunities, and a free reusable hessian tote bag for those attending too! Simply register online at the BID website and we will see you there.

I look forward to seeing or hearing from you and best wishes for an amazing 2019.

THE BID CARD - THE APP HAS ARRIVED!

We're delighted to announce that our new Solihull BID app is now live for both Android and Apple devices! Left the house or office in a rush? Don't worry! Our free app allows you to discover the full range of Solihull BID Card offers on the move.

We have offers and discounts in over 125 businesses in the BID area so fill your boots and save some cash in the process!

The app can easily be downloaded from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store on your phone.

Don't have a BID card yet? You can get your BID card by applying online or from one of our Town Hosts at the Solihull BID Gazebo on the High Street every Thursday between 12pm - 3pm.*

*this may be weather dependent, please keep an eye on the Solihull BID social media for updates.



WWW.SOLIHULLBID.CO.UK
0121 285 1370

FORUMS

This year we are inviting the businesses and employees within the Solihull BID area to join our forums. The forums are run bi-monthly for an hour at 3pm. You will be able to hear first-hand the plans for each project and will be able to input your own ideas, working with the BID to help and benefit the town centre and its businesses. If this sounds up your street and you or a colleague are interested in attending, please email Melanie to register your interest. melanie@solihullbid.co.uk

You can choose from (or attend all?!) of the below -

- Safe and Secure and Evening Economy
- Events/Festivals
- Professional Services and Office sector (PSOS)



WE WANT YOU!

EVENING GUARDIANS

High-profile 'Evening Guardians' have been recruited by Solihull BID from Solihull based security specialist ESG Security, to provide a reassuring presence in the town centre on Friday and Saturday nights. The Guardians patrol Solihull town centre between 8pm-1am on Friday and Saturdays and help to reinforce the message that anti-social behaviour and crime at bars, restaurants and clubs will not be tolerated.



Working alongside venue door staff and West Midlands Police PCSOs, early feedback for the new patrols has been 'overwhelmingly positive'. The Guardians are fully trained to diffuse incidents using safe restraining techniques. The duo wear lapel video cameras and are connected to relevant radio and CCTV networks. A report is prepared at the end of every weekend which details incidents. This is shared with the BID and police to help report crime hot-spots.

SOLIHULL BUSINESS EXPO 27th March 2019



We are launching the very first Solihull BID Business Expo on the 27th March at the Crowne Plaza, Homer Road, Solihull. We are aiming to make things a little different from standard 'Expos' with free corporate headshot opportunities, free business wear styling advice, chances to win free mental health first aid workshops within your business, one to one PR sessions and Solihull Radio are also offering an amazing business advertising prize on the day. Check out the website for more offers and prizes as they arrive. You'll also be able to meet some of our amazing Solihull businesses and attend free workshops. Google Digital Garage are partnering with us for the event too so I really hope that you can come along and say hello. Check out one of the Google workshops #IamRemarkable which strives to empower women and underrepresented groups to speak openly about their accomplishments in the workplace and beyond. You will find more information on www.solihullbid.co.uk and a link to register - I look forward to seeing you there!

SING SOLIHULL CHOIR

Sing Solihull are a friendly group that meets weekly under the direction of the talented Anya Small. This choir is aimed at new or existing adult singers of any age or ability. It is £5 per session, but completely FREE for BID card holders. Learn how to sing and harmonise plus meet new people in this feelgood group. They meet every Thursday, 1pm at The Core Theatre, get your tickets from The Core Theatre Box Office.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

LEGO® BRICKS 16th - 20th April 2019



Get creative this Easter with Solihull BID and LEGO® bricks! Children will be able to enjoy an egg-citing Easter holidays in Solihull as Bright Bricks come to town. Let your little ones enjoy the DUPLO Brick Pit or unleash their creative side as they make a LEGO® bricks bunny or chick - there is something for all ages and let's face it, everybody loves LEGO® bricks! Their bigger DUPLO bricks have been a favourite for decades and are ideal for toddlers and younger children that want to have fun whilst giving parents peace of mind. The DUPLO Brick Pit will be in Mell Square from Tuesday, April 16th until Saturday, April 20th so there's no excuse to miss it!

And for the slightly older youngsters, there is a make and take event being held inside Touchwood on the 19th April and in the Mell Square gazebo on the 20th April. There will be 100 LEGO® bricks bunnies and LEGO® bricks chicks waiting to be built and taken back to their forever home (the LEGO® bricks make and takes are on a first come, first served basis so do get there early to make sure you get your place!). So,

make sure you note down the dates in your diaries and hop down to Solihull town centre for some LEGO® bricks making fun!

The Easter activity will also be supported by the first ever Spring Fayre, satisfying all your food and drink needs.

*This event is not an official LEGO® event and is not sponsored, endorsed or otherwise supported by the LEGO® Group. The LEGO® Group do not accept any responsibility for any unforeseen outcomes linked to the event.

SOLIHULL'S FASHION SECRET 27th April 2019

Discover Solihull's Fashion Secret! We know how easy it is to sit at the laptop surfing the retail offers, but Solihull has something unique to drag you from the sofa to the store - our experts. From our well-known brands to our cosy Boutiques the Solihull experience includes the wealth of specialist knowledge in the fashion retail and beauty industry.

To celebrate this we are bringing you the ultimate fashion event this April - book in online to have a personal consultation with our beauty and hair experts, Solihull's fabulous stylists will be on hand to offer you the best style advice, ITV Newsreader, Sameena Ali-Khan will be on stage talking to a variety of our retailers, whilst they style her, talk through beauty trends and hair tips, and you can enjoy all of this with a glass of fizz in hand, goodie bag and a fashion secret trend and spend booklet.

Guys... we haven't forgotten about you, Clements and Church will be on hand with top tailoring tips, and Everyman Barbers will leave you looking sharp with their award-winning barbering skills. To see full times and details of demonstrations, find out about sample sessions and how to get your goodie bag visit the Solihull BID website. WWW.SOLIHULLBID.CO.UK - Save the date 27th April!



BATFAST 1st June 2019

To celebrate the Cricket World Cup coming to the UK. We have teamed up with BatFast to bring an exciting Cricket simulator into the town centre. If you head to Mell Square between 10am and 4pm, you will be able to have a free go on the high-tech cricket simulator. Put your cricket skills to the test or if you are a novice, jump at the chance to have a go at picking up a bat for the first time. Can you get the best score? More details can be found on www.solihullbid.co.uk.





SOLIHULL SORT OF JAZZ FESTIVAL

19th - 21st July 2019

The much-loved Jazz Festival is back in Solihull. Enjoy a great selection of bands on the main stage in Mell Square, and tingle your taste buds with a selection of foods from around the world at the accompanying Continental Street Food Market. The fun doesn't stop there, enjoy a range of funky beats in a selection of Solihull's finest venues. We are bringing the music, street food and drinks, all we need now is for you to bring your best dance moves. Get the date in your diary and we will see you there. Look out for more details about bands and times on www.solihullbid.co.uk

SOLIHULL FOOD FESTIVAL

27th - 29th September 2019

Your favourite food festival is back for another year and it's going to be the best one yet. Look out for free live cooking demonstrations, live music, street food from all over the globe, bars, children's entertainment, voucher booklets and so much more. You will not want to miss out. Keep an eye on www.solihullbid.co.uk for more information and save the dates now!



SOLIHULL BID EXCELLENCE AWARDS

21st November 2019

The Solihull BID Excellence Awards heads into its 5th year. Outstanding employees and innovative companies are given the chance for their moment in the spotlight. Look out for the applications opening in the spring. This year we have made it easier to apply, with an online application form. Visit www.solihullbid.co.uk for more details. The event is sponsored by Touchwood, Solihull College & University Centre, Phoebus Software and BNP Paribas Personal Finance. Keep an eye on www.solihullbid.co.uk for more details and to apply.



FESTIVE FEAST AND FREE OUTDOOR CINEMA

16th - 22nd December 2019



The Festive Feast will be back for another year. Get your last-minute stocking fillers and a tasty bite to eat for lunch. Also look out for the return of the free outdoor cinema.



We know how much you value our hosts, don't forget if you need assistance you can catch our friendly hosts on their mobile - 07531 091 952 or you can give us a call at the office on the number below. For any other enquires please call or send us an email - all BID Team emails can be found on the Solihull BID Website.

WWW.SOLIHULLBID.CO.UK | 0121 285 1370